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Archaeological evaluation and small scale excavation between Gisla and Enaclete, Uig, Isle of Lewis

Application Reference: 07/00382

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PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET (GERL08)

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SUMMARY

Headland Archaeology conducted an evaluation and small scale excavation of selected features between Gisla and Enaclete on the Isle of Lewis. The aim of the work was to test the archaeological potential of land intended for road upgrading and improvement. The evaluation areas had been previously identified by desk-based assessment and walkover survey. The work was commissioned by Comhairle nan Eilean Siar and a specification was agreed with the Western Isles Archaeological Service.

A total of sixteen trenches were excavated and thirty-three cores were taken across six different areas. Test pits were excavated in the location of twenty of the cores, where the ground was stable for deep excavation. The trenches, cores and test pits established that deep peat was present in pockets across the identified areas, and some areas contained only very shallow peat. None of the peat seen was the blanket peat typical of much of the Western Isles. It can be characterised as basin peat and is unlikely to mask any early prehistoric features There is a low potential for previously unrecorded remains to be present in these areas.

Sections excavated across three known stone dykes or paths established that they post-date the peat formation and are post-medieval in date. One of the features is likely to be a path across the peat rather than a stone wall.

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

An archaeological evaluation and small-scale excavations of a number of stone dykes were undertaken along the route of a 4km stretch of road intended for upgrading between Gisla and Enaclete, on the Isle of Lewis in the Western Isles. The fieldwork took place from the 1st - 4th April 2008 and the project was commissioned by Comhairle nan Eilean Siar.

These works were undertaken to satisfy a planning condition (Planning Ref. 07/00382) for the upgrading of the road. The work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Headland Archaeology Ltd based on a specification prepared by the Western Isles Archaeologist. The WSI was agreed with the Western Isles Archaeologist in advance of work commencing. As a result of various issues with conditions on the ground, some aspects of the methodology were altered, and this was done with the agreement of the Western Isles Archaeologist.

2. BACKGROUND

A 4.5 km section of road between Gisla and Enaclete in Uig, Isle of Lewis is proposed for a widening and realignment project. An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment and Walkover Survey was undertaken in 2007 by ARCUS (Davies, 2007), which identified all known sites of cultural heritage importance along the route and indicated areas which might have potential for buried archaeological remains to be present. Parts of the route were likely to contain deep peat deposits, which could mask earlier land surfaces.

The section of road in question skirts along the eastern edge of Loch Roag Beag on the west coast of Lewis (Illus 1). It runs through Gisla and Enaclete, two small townships comprising a handful of houses each, with upland farmland surrounding them. The road upgrade would involve the widening of much of the road, with the northern part of the road bypassing the Enaclete settlement on its western side.

The route of the development is characterised as a typical upland landscape, with areas of outcropping bedrock, and extensive peat deposits between these. Due to the hilly nature of the area it was not clear from a visual inspection if the peat was blanket peat similar to that seen over much of the island or rather pockets of basin peat formed between the substantial rock outcrops.

The desk-based assessment and walkover survey identified a total of 47 known or potential archaeological sites, most of which could be dated to the post-medieval or modern period. This reflects the more recent history of the area, with Gisla and Enaclete likely to originate as townships in the post-medieval period; certainly they appear on a map from 1821. A number of horizontal water mills of a similar date were also identified along the route. Of the known sites in the vicinity of the route, five lie within the extent of the proposed routes.

The desk-based assessment and walkover survey established that there were a number of areas where sites were present which might be directly impacted by the proposed road, or where deep peat was present and previously unrecorded features might be present. These were recommended for testing through trenching.

3. OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

3.1 OBJECTIVES

The objectives were:

- To establish the potential for archaeological remains below or within the deep peat deposits identified in the Archaeological Assessment and Walkover Survey
- To assess the importance of any identified remains in terms of minor, local, regional or national importance
- To excavate sample sections through three known archaeological sites and record their nature, extent and level of survival

3.2 METHOD

3.2.1 Laying Out

The total area subject to evaluation covered 31000m². A 10% sample of this was to be trial trenched. The on site work comprised two separate phases of work, undertaken consecutively. The outlines of the areas of evaluation identified in the methodology were laid out physically on the ground. This was done using a total station and on-site PC equipped with CAD software.

3.2.2 Trial Trenching

An indicative trench plan was agreed with the Western Isles Archaeologist prior to arrival on site, with the trenches spread proportionally across the areas of deep peat identified. This comprised 1550m of linear trenching 2m wide. All excavation was undertaken by a 13 ton tracked excavator equipped with a 2m wide flat ditching bucket, working under the direct guidance of an archaeologist.

3.2.3 Sample Excavation

Sections were excavated through the three known stone dykes at the north of the route, using a 13 ton tracked excavator equipped with a flat ditching bucket. These were then expanded into test pits to assess the depth and nature of the deposits below.

3.2.4 Alterations to method

Following an onsite assessment during the laying out phase of work, it was recognised that parts of the areas identified as 'deep peat' were not necessarily such and that outcropping rock within some of these rendered them unsuitable for trial trenching. On agreement with the Western Isles Archaeologist, it was decided that the size of the sample could be reduced as appropriate where outcrops were present, as long as a suitable coverage was achieved of the remaining peat. Areas of outcropping rock within the northern part of the route are shown on Illus 2.

Trial trenching began at the north of the scheme and progressed south. At the north end of parcel 3, it was recognised that the peat present was deep and unstable. Strip trenches did not remain open for any amount of time, and backfilled trenches presented potentially hazardous 'soft' spots. It was decided to evaluate areas of deep peat using a peat core to test the depth and make-up of the ground, and where it was likely that natural subsoil could be reached by

machine excavation to follow this up with test pits measuring 2m by 2m and machine excavated down to subsoil. Sampling of the remainder of areas for testing was completed in this fashion where strip trenching was not possible.

3.3 RECORDING

All recording followed Headland Archaeology Ltd standard procedures and was in accordance with the codes of practice of the Institute of Field Archaeologists. All trenches, test pits, cores, contexts and environmental samples were given unique numbers and all recording was undertaken on pro forma record cards that conform to accepted archaeological norms. All stratigraphic relationships were recorded.

Colour transparencies and black and white print photographs were taken to record archaeological contexts and to illustrate the progress of the trial trenching. A graduated metric scale was clearly visible in record photographs of contexts. All photographs were recorded by individual print number and included information on the context and direction taken.

An overall site plan at an appropriate scale and relative to the National Grid was recorded by digital survey using a total station linked to an onsite PC equipped with CAD software. Sections through individual features were drawn by hand at an appropriate scale.

3.3.1 Samples

Archaeological deposits were sampled as appropriate in accordance with standard environmental sampling practice. Bulk samples were taken for wet sieving and flotation; these were processed and analysed.

4. RESULTS

4.1 TRIAL TRENCHING, CORING AND TEST PITTING

Sixteen trenches were excavated within the areas to be tested along the route. Thirty-three cores were taken and of these, twenty were followed by machine test pitting. In total, a sample of 510 linear metres was excavated, equating to 1020m^2. Full detailed descriptions of each trench, core and test pit can be found in Appendix 1. Results are summarised below.

Parcel 1

The trench excavated in Parcel 1 did not encounter any deep peat deposits, with a thin deposit of peaty topsoil and turf lying directly on subsoil. No archaeological finds or features were present.

Parcel 2

Trenches excavated in Parcel 2 were located to avoid the relatively extensive areas of outcropping rock, while still achieving a broad sample of the depths and character of deposits present. On the whole, the trenches in this parcel illustrated an area of underlying bedrock, in places covered with a very thin layer of peat; the depth of peat was usually between 0.2m and 0.4m. However, in Trench 2, the peat was found to be almost 1m deep and in Trench 7 it was 1.5m. Clearly, between the outcrops of rock there are deeper hollows that the peat has filled. No archaeological finds or features were present.

Parcel 3

Trenches were initially excavated in Parcel 3, but it quickly became apparent that the peat deposits were deep and unstable and strip trenching was inappropriate. Therefore, cores were taken over the whole area and then locations that could be safely accessed by machine were test pitted.

The trenches, cores and test pits all revealed a similar range of results. Peat was present over the majority of the area, although there was some outcropping rock at the northern end. The depth of peat varied from around 0.5m to over 2m, with much of the middle part of the parcel having peat deposits over 1m in depth. The peat was found to be slightly shallower towards the west and south of the area, where it encountered further rock outcrops. A narrow band of deeper material cut through this shallower material at the southern end (Illus 3).

Broadly speaking, the peat was uniform in consistency throughout its depth, although bands of different coloured peat could be identified. These are likely to relate to either wetter or drier periods during the peat formation and are not archaeologically significant. There were areas where bands of darker peat were present, but these did not appear to represent archaeologically significant horizons. The range in depths of peat (shown in Figure 3) within what is a relatively narrow corridor reflected the underlying geology of this area; the peat fills the basins between areas of outcrop, and the peat's depth changes according to the slope of the underlying bedrock.

One of the sites identified by the desk based assessment lay in Parcel 3 - Site 34, a stone dyke or path. A section was excavated across this feature and it was seen to comprise a layer of flat slabs overlying the same sequence of peat deposits seen in the rest of the area (Plate 1). The feature appears to sit on top of a wide bank, but this appears to have developed over time as a result of erosion of the peat on either side of the stones. While some of the stones had slipped down into the peat due to this erosion, it is clear that the stones post-date the peat's formation. The most likely explanation for the feature is a relatively recent path, perhaps laid down by a local farmer, to allow easy access across the boggy ground. This is supported by the observation that the path peters out at the western end at the same point the peat basin ends.

In the south of Parcel 3, a section was also excavated through another stone dyke (Site 33, Davies 2007). This revealed that the wall had collapsed, with little of its original structure remaining (Plate 2). The section showed a series of stones above each other, but with no obvious structure to them. They clearly sat above the peat, although one had collapsed into it. The width of the dyke was 0.6m.

In the process of laying out the area, a small previously unrecorded cairn was identified in Parcel 3, lying at the bottom of one of the largest rock outcrops. It measured 2.5m in diameter and stood c0.7m high. No intrusive investigation was made, but it appeared to lie on the surface of the surrounding peat and is likely to be a clearance cairn of fairly recent date.

Parcel 4

Much of this area was occupied by outcrops, but some strip trenching was possible. A total of five trenches were excavated, along with a section excavated through a section of dyke. Five cores were taken and of these three were followed by test pitting. A further two test pits were excavated without coring taking place.

The trenches located in the north of the area established that peat was not present over this part of the landscape. Generally turf and topsoil less than 0.3m in depth directly overlay the bedrock. Further to the south, and in the hollow below one of the outcrops, test pits and cores established a pocket of deep peat over 2m deep in places. Again the peat was fairly uniform with occasional darker bands that are of no archaeological significance. At the very south of Parcel 4, a single core of depth 0.7m indicates that the peat was getting shallower.

A section was excavated through a stone dyke in Parcel 4 (Site 32, Davies 2007). This dyke appeared more intact than Site 33 and this was reflected in the section (Plate 3). While no specific coursing could be identified, there were several stones sitting on top of each other, with the wall apparently being c0.6m in width. Again, the dyke had slumped slightly into the peat, but it sat on top of the peat and must post-date it.

To the south-west of the outcropping rock in Parcel 5, an additional section of possible dyke/path was identified during the course of the evaluation. The feature ran for 19.6m in a south-western direction and appeared as a line of large flat stones lying on the peat. Intrusive investigation of the feature did not take place, but a peat scar cut through the feature and the section would suggest that the slabs post-date the peat and that this is a path across the bog, similar to Site 34.

Parcel 5

Parcel 5 could not be trenched due to the presence of numerous service cables running through the area. One test pit was excavated where services were known not to be present while the remainder of the area was tested through coring. A small area of outcropping rock was present.

The test pit and cores indicated the presence of peat between 1m and 1.5m in depth. At the southern end of the parcel, the peat was becoming shallower, with Core 32 producing depths of 0.3m onto bedrock.

The peat seen in the cores was uniform with no variation with depth.

Parcel 6

Much of the southern end of Parcel 6 was occupied by outcropping rock. Two trenches were excavated in the available area and Trench 14 showed peaty topsoil only 0.3m in depth directly over bedrock, Trench 15 slightly further to the east revealed very soft wet peat deposits up to 1m in depth over bedrock.

5. DISCUSSION

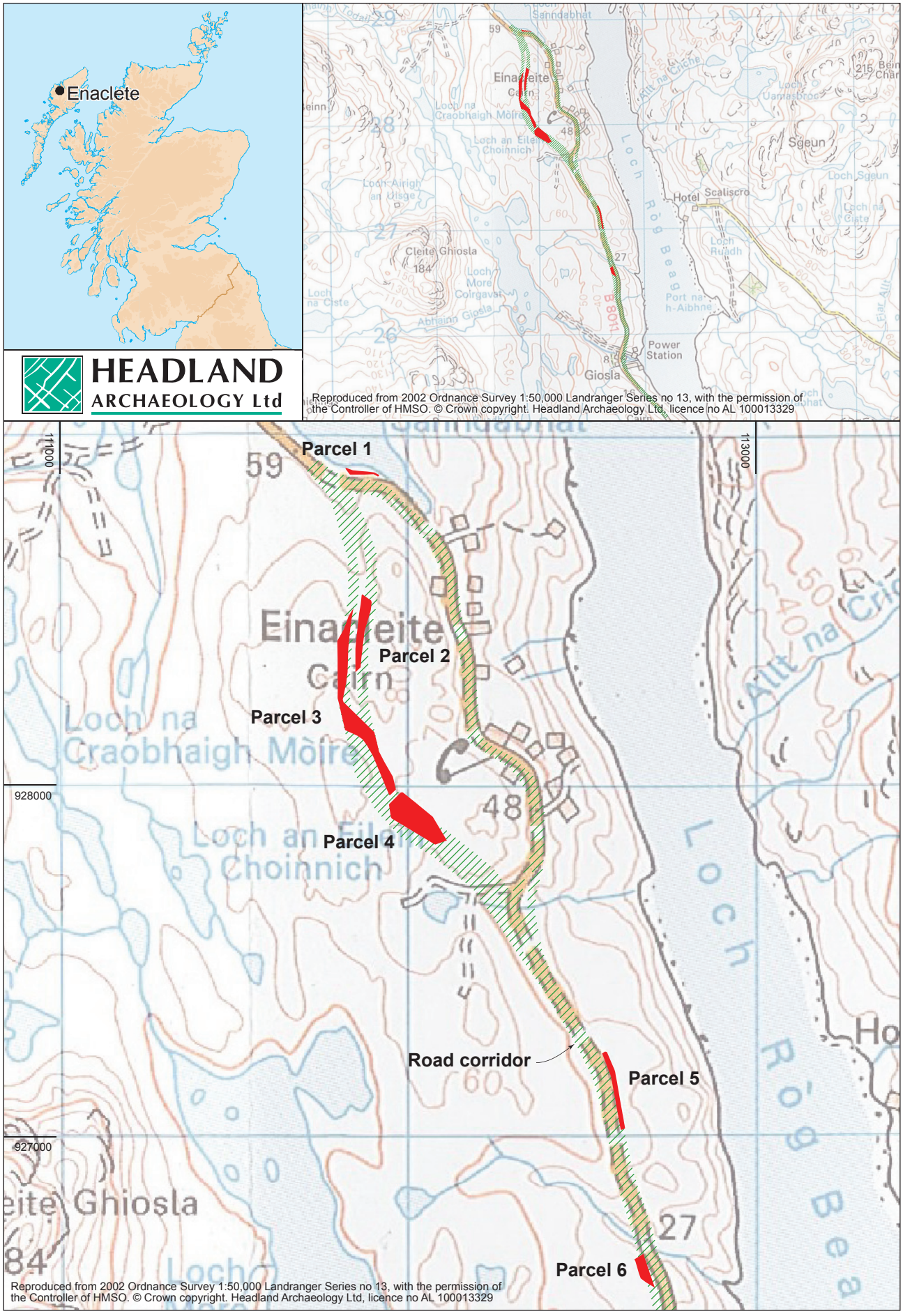
The evaluation established that there were areas of deep peat present within the route, but that some areas identified in the desk assessment and walkover as having deep peat were actually very shallow. In all the areas where peat of any depth was tested, it was seen to directly overlie natural subsoil in the form of clayey gravel or bedrock. No evidence for any buried ground surfaces was identified and it is likely that the peat can be characterised as basin peat filling up hollows between areas of outcropping rock rather than blanket peat which could conceal earlier archaeological features or landscapes.

The known features within the areas, along with the two newly identified sites (the cairn and probable path), represent evidence of post-medieval activity within the area. The two dykes [005] and [008] appear to line up and may be the remains of a single enclosure wall. The side arms running off the dykes may represent further sub-division of fields. These features relate to the farming and settlement that was occurring in the area surrounding Gisla and Enaclete in the last few hundred years, and appear on early Ordnance Survey mapping (1854).

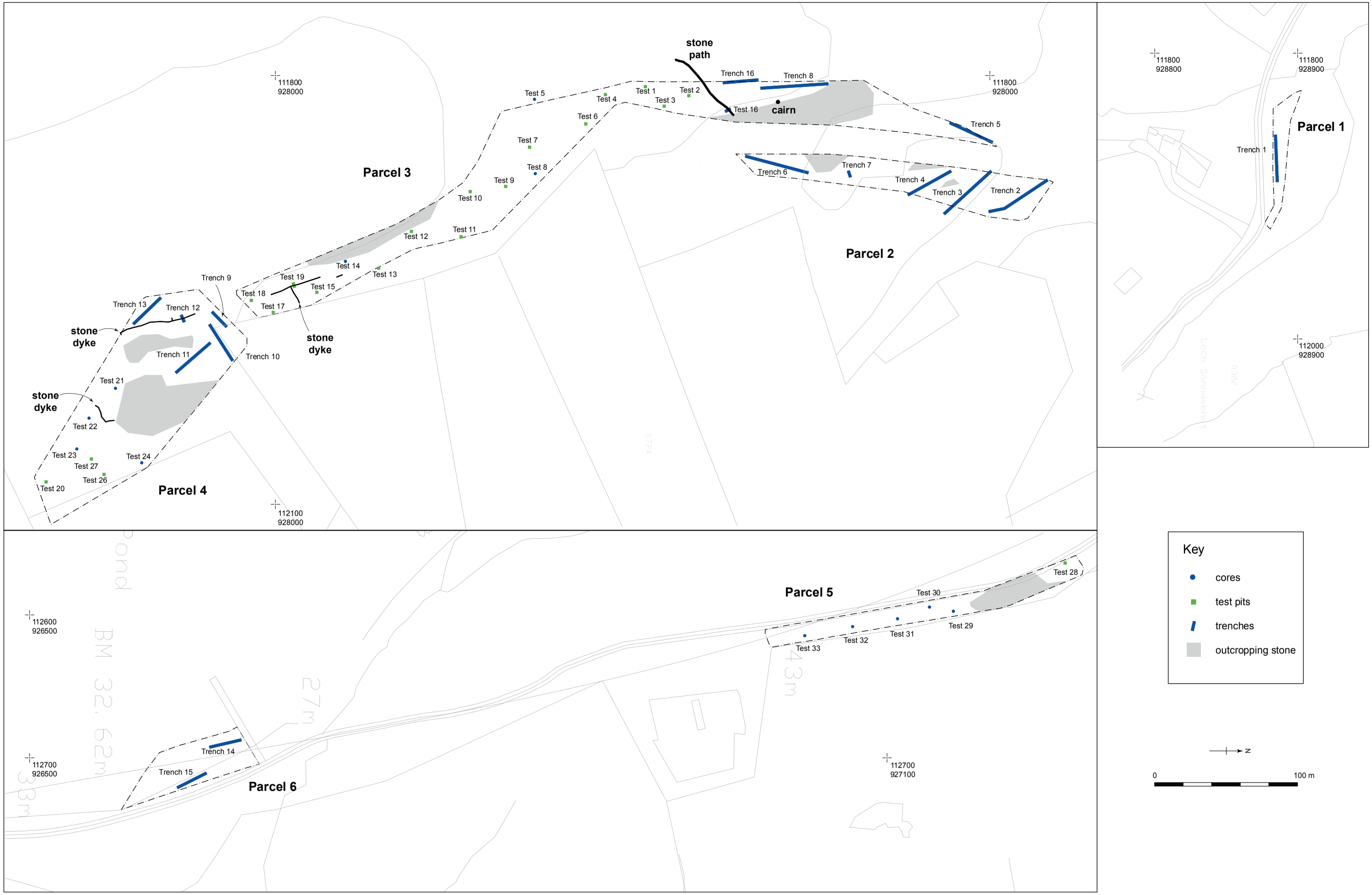
The feature initially thought to be a dyke, but more likely to be a path [001] may post-date even these features. While it could be contemporary with them, the fact it does not appear on the first edition Ordnance Survey map suggests it is later. Its very simple function as a method of getting across the undoubtedly wet and boggy ground between two drier areas makes it possible that it was laid down by a farmer or shepherd in the last hundred years. It must have been in existence for enough time that the peat on either side has eroded away, but once the surface of the peat mat is broken in any way, this could occur relatively speedily.

The two additional previously unrecorded sites also represent later activity. The small section of path has a similar purpose to [001], allowing individuals to traverse an area of wet ground. The small cairn at the north of Parcel 3 is evidence of the ongoing improvement of the land in the post-medieval period, when stones might be cleared from areas intended for cultivation. In this case, the clearance cannot ultimately have been very successful, as the surrounding ground is likely to have been too wet for cultivation and instead used for livestock.

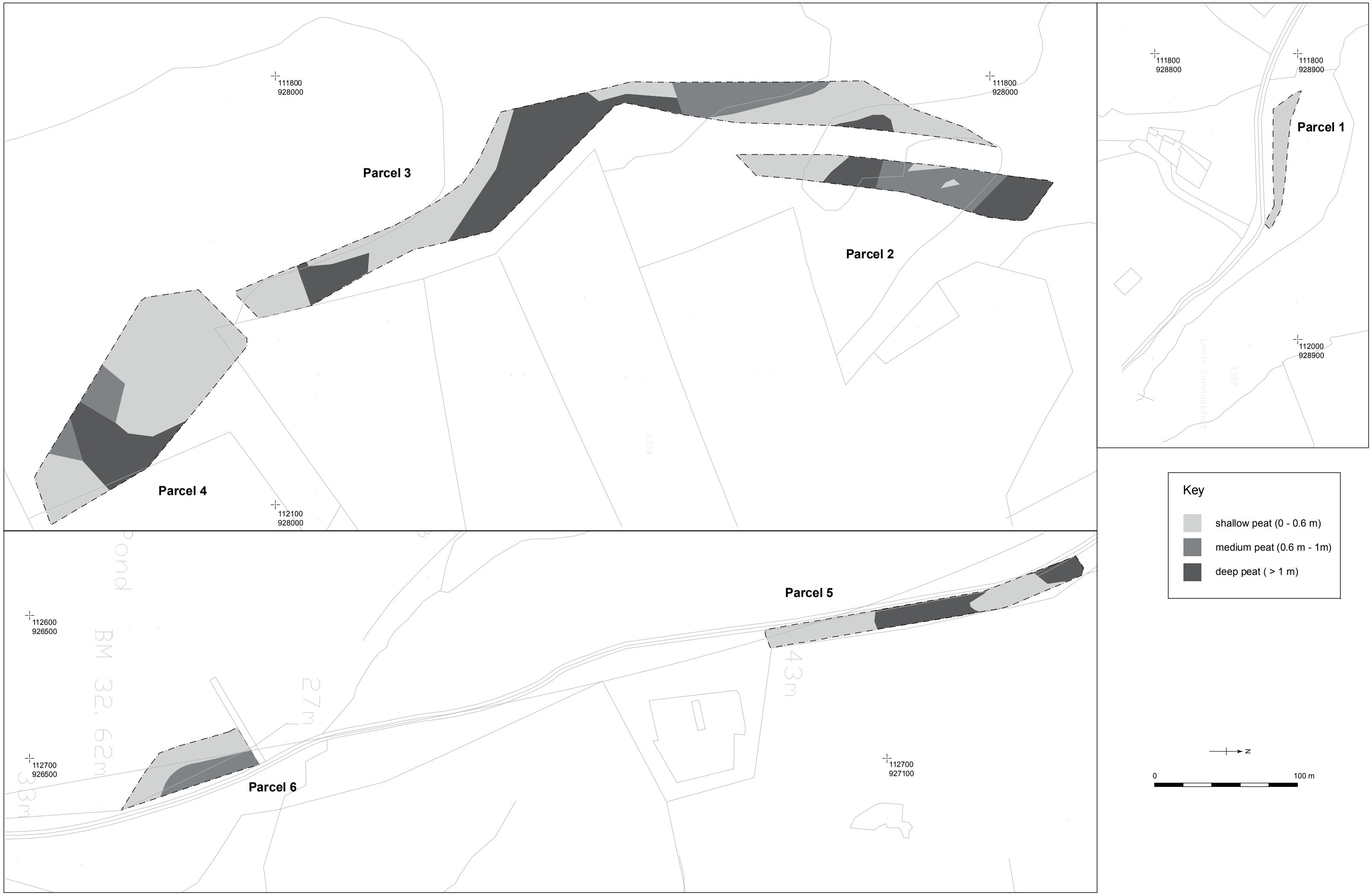
There is very little potential for there to be any early remains that are masked by the peat. The topography of the visible outcrops, the stratigraphic sequence of peat directly on to bedrock and the general unsuitability of the ground means that settlement, or indeed many other activities, would be unlikely to take place here. As with any peat deposits there remains a low archaeological potential for isolated features or finds but nothing encountered in the evaluation has raised this potential.



Illus 1 - Gisla-Enaclete road upgrade. Site location.



GERL08 - Illus 2 - Location of trenches, test pits and cores



GERL08 - Illus 3 - Peat depths

Plate 1: NE facing section through stone path [001]

Plate 2: SE facing section through stone dyke [004]

Plate 3: NW facing section through stone dyke [008]

APPENDIX 1: Site registers

Trench Register

All trenches were 2 m wide

Tr. No	Orientation	Location	Description	Length (m)	Ave Depth (m)
1	E-W	Parcel 1	Turf and 'topsoil': 0.05m Peat: 0.2m of mid to dark brown moderately firm peat. Subsoil: dark grey clayey gravel with outcropping bedrock	34.5	0.2
2	NW-SE	Parcel 2	Turf and 'topsoil': 0.1m Peat: between 0.4 – 1.0m of mid brown peat Subsoil: only encountered at ends of trench, large boulders overlying grey sandy clay	48	0.8
3	NW-SE	Parcel 2	Turf and peaty topsoil: 0.2m Subsoil: fragmented bedrock and grey clayey gravel	45.1	0.2
4	NW-SE	Parcel 2	Turf and peaty topsoil: 0.2m Peat: 0.3m of mid to dark brown peat Subsoil: fragmented bedrock	35	0.5
5	NE-SW	Parcel 3	Turf and peaty topsoil: 0.4m Subsoil: grey sandy gravel and fragmented bedrock	31.5	0.4
6	N-S	Parcel 2	Turf and peaty topsoil: 0.3m (up to 0.5m at north) Subsoil: greyish brown boulder clay with bedrock outcrops	45.6	0.3
7	NE-SW	Parcel 2	Turf and peaty topsoil: 0.1m Peat: 1.4m of mid to dark brown very soft wet peat Subsoil: fragmented bedrock	5	1.5
8	N-S	Parcel 3	Turf and peaty subsoil: 0.1m Peat: maximum of 1.1m, with banded layers of mid brown peat and dark brown peat. Subsoil: fragmented bedrock and grey clayey gravel	47.3	0.8
9	NW-SE	Parcel 4	Turf and peaty topsoil: 0.1m Subsoil: fragmented bedrock with occasional patches of grey clayey gravel	32.4	0.1
10	E-W	Parcel 4	Turf and peaty topsoil: 0.1m Subsoil: fragmented bedrock with occasional patches of grey clayey gravel	29.2	0.1
11	NE-SW	Parcel 4	Turf and peaty topsoil: 0.15m Subsoil: grey boulder clay	14.8	0.15
12	NE-SW	Parcel 4	Turf and peaty topsoil: 0.1m Peat: up to 0.3m dark brown peat Subsoil: grey gravelly clay Contains stone dyke overlying peat	5.6	0.3
13	NW-SE	Parcel 4	Turf and peaty topsoil: 0.2m Subsoil: blueish light grey gravelly clay Peat contains occasional patches of gravelly material	25.9	0.2
14	N-S	Parcel 6	Turf and peaty topsoil: 0.3m Subsoil: dark brownish grey gravel and fragmented bedrock	23	0.3
15	N-S	Parcel 6	Turf and peaty topsoil: 0.1m Peat: at southern end of trench 0.2m deep and relatively firm, from c8m onwards is up to 1m deep, mid brown peat, extremely soft and wet, with trench edge collapsing.	23	1.0
16	N-S	Parcel 3	Turf and peaty topsoil: 0.1m Peat: at north end, sondage dug through 1.3m of mid brown peat and not bottomed, at southern end, 0.9m of mid brown peat onto fragmented bedrock	24.8	0.8

Core and Test Pit Register

Core/ Test Pit No	Location	Description of core	Depth (m)	Description of test pit	Depth (m)
1	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat until hit solid stone, thought to be subsoil.	1.45	2m x 2m. Encountered 0.4m of dark brown peat over 1.1m of very soft mid brown peat, directly sitting on natural subsoil. No indication of buried ground surface.	1.5
2	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat until hit solid stone, thought to be subsoil.	0.8	2m x 3m. Encountered mid brown peat sitting directly over large boulders and gravelly clay subsoil.	0.6
3	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat until hit solid stone, thought to be subsoil.	0.65	2m x 2m. Encountered 0.4m of very dark peat over very soft mid brown peat, sitting directly on fragmented bedrock.	0.7
4	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat to a grey gritty clay subsoil.	1.4	Not test pitted due to unstable conditions.	-
5	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat to gravelly clay subsoil.	1.25	Not test pitted due to unstable conditions.	-
6	Parcel 3	Cored through peat until hit solid material, thought to be subsoil.	1.9	2m x 2m. Encountered 0.95m of very soft mid brown peat over 0.35m of firm dark brown clayey peat with root material throughout.	1.3
7	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat, with bottom 0.4m being lighter brown softer peat, hit solid stone thought to be subsoil.	1.7	2m x 2m. Encountered 1.3m of mid brown soft peat over 0.2m of dark brown soft clayey peat.	1.5
8	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat until hit solid stone, thought to be subsoil.	2.3	2m x 2m. Encountered alternating bands of dark brown and mid brown peat to a depth of 1.1m, over 1.1m of light to mid brown peat.	2.2
9	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat, with bottom 0.2m being dark brown soft peat. Hit stone at base thought to be subsoil.	1.8	2m x 2m. Encountered 1.2m of mid to dark brown peat over 0.5m of very dark brown peat	1.7
10	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat with gritty gravelly inclusions to a grey clayey gravel subsoil.	0.7	2m x 2m. Encountered 0.55m of mid brown peat with occasional lenses of gritty material, over 0.1m of dark brownish grey clayey peat.	0.65
11	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat to grey clayey gravel subsoil.	1.1	Not test pitted due to unstable conditions.	-
12	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat to gravelly subsoil. Basal 0.07m comprises a dark brown gravelly silt with small fragments of sandstone, which could represent a buried ground surface.	0.45m	2m x 2m. Encountered 0.4m of very dark brownish grey peat directly sitting on greyish brown clay subsoil.	0.4
13	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat to clayey gravel subsoil.	0.7	2m x 2m. Encountered 0.6m of dark brownish grey peat sitting directly	0.6

Core/ Test Pit No	Location	Description of core	Depth (m)	Description of test pit	Depth (m)
				on fragmented bedrock.	
14	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat with dark brown peat present from 1.7m, hit gravelly subsoil at base.	2.2	2m x 2m. Encountered 1.3m of mid brown soft peat before test pit was halted due to bedrock sloping in from side of trench. Darker peat material was just visible at 1.3m.	1.3
15	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat to a clayey gravel subsoil.	1.45	2m x 2m. Encountered 0.2m of dark brown peat over 1.1m of mid brown peat, sitting directly on fragmented bedrock.	1.3
16	Parcel 3	Not cored	-	Excavated across dyke (ARCUS site 34) and extended as test pit. Encountered 0.5m of mid to dark brown peat over 0.8m of orangey brown peat, directly onto fragmented bedrock.	1.3
17	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat to clayey gravelly subsoil. Basal 0.25m comprises dark brown gritty peat which may represent a buried ground surface.	0.75	2m x 2m. Encountered 0.5m of mid to dark brown peat over 0.1m of dark brown peat directly over light grey clayey gravel subsoil	0.6
18	Parcel 3	Cored through mid brown peat to clayey gravel subsoil.	0.5	2m x 2m. Encountered 0.4m of mid to dark brown peat over 0.1m of dark brown peat, directly sitting on light grey clayey gravel subsoil.	0.5
19	Parcel 3	Not cored	-	Excavated across dyke (ARCUS site 33) and extended to be test pit. 3m x 2m. Encountered 0.3m of mid to dark brown peat over 0.1m of dark brown peat sitting directly on light grey clayey gravel.	0.4
20	Parcel 4	Cored through mid brown peat to clayey gravel subsoil.	0.6m	2m x 2m. Encountered mid to dark brown peat directly over fragmented bedrock.	0.7
21	Parcel 4	Cored through mid brown peat until hit solid stone, thought to be subsoil.	0.95	2m x 2m. Encountered 1.0m of mid to dark brown peat directly over light grey clayey gravel.	1.0
22	Parcel 4	Cored through mid brown peat until hit solid stone, thought to be subsoil. Basal 0.15m is a layer of dark brown peat.	1.85	2m x 2m. Encountered 1.55m of mid to dark brown peat over 0.3m of dark brown peat sitting directly on light grey clayey gravel subsoil.	1.85
23	Parcel 4	Cored through mid to dark brown peat to clayey gravel subsoil, with basal 0.3m being dark brown peat.	1.0	Not test pitted due to unstable conditions.	-
24	Parcel 4	Cored through mid brown peat until hit solid stone, thought to be subsoil.	2.2	Not test pitted due to unstable conditions.	-
25	Number not used	-	-	-	-
26	Parcel 4	Not cored	-	2m x 2m. Encountered 2m of mid to dark brown peat over 0.3m of dark	2.3

Core/ Test Pit No	Location	Description of core	Depth (m)	Description of test pit	Depth (m)
				brown peat, sitting directly on fragmented bedrock.	
27	Parcel 4	Not cored	-	2m x 2m. Encountered0.5m of mid to dark brown peat over 0.2m of dark brown peat over 0.6m of mid to dark brown peat, sitting directly on fragmented bedrock.	1.3
28	Parcel 5	Not cored	-	2m x 2m. Encountered 1.3m of mid to dark brown very soft peat sitting directly over fragmented bedrock.	1.3
29	Parcel 5	Cored through mid to dark brown peat with 0.2m of dark brown peat at base, hitting solid stone at base, thought to be subsoil.	1.2	Not test pitted due to presence of services.	-
30	Parcel 5	Cored through mid brown to greyish brown peat until hit solid stone, thought to be subsoil.	1.65	Not test pitted due to presence of services.	-
31	Parcel 5	Cored through mid brown peat to clayey gravel subsoil	1.65	Not test pitted due to presence of services.	-
32	Parcel 5	Cored through peaty topsoil until hit stone, thought to be subsoil.	0.3	Not test pitted due to presence of services.	-
33	Parcel 5	Cored through dark brownish grey peat until hit stone, thought to be subsoil.	0.65	Not test pitted due to presence of services.	-

Context Register

Context No	Description	Dimensions (m)
1	Stone 'dyke' in north part of Parcel 3, running NE-SW. Made up of a line of large flat stones, c0.5m x 0.6m. Excavation showed that the stones sat above the peat deposits and it is more likely to be a path laid across the peat, with erosion causing the distinctive bank appearance.	Length: 58.0 Width: 1.4m (incl tumble) Depth: 0.1
2	Peat underlying path [001]. Mid to dark brown spongy peat containing large amounts of organic material.	Depth: 0.54
3	Peat underlying path [001]. Very soft light orangey brown peat, containing large amounts of organic material.	Depth: 0.75m
4	Stone dyke at south of Parcel 3, running NW-SE. Comprises roughly coursed series of stones of varying size; largest is 0.4m x 0.5m x 0.1m. Heavily disturbed and appears on surface as low bank with stones protruding along its length, there is also a side arm running perpendicularly to the east. Sits above peat deposits.	Length: 36.35 Width: 0.6 Depth: 0.4m
5	Peat underlying dyke [004]. Mid to dark brown soft peat.	Depth: 0.46
6	Lense of light grey gravel within peat.	Depth: 0.06
7	Peat underlying dyke [004]. Dark brownish grey peat.	Depth: 0.06
8	Stone dyke in Parcel 4, running NW-SE. Comprises roughly shaped local stones in at least two courses, generally c 0.3m x 0.4m x 0.2m. Wall has tumbled and spread in places, but survives well in other. Side arm runs perpendicularly to the east. Sits above and within peat deposits.	Length: 55.35 Width: 0.58 Depth: 0.64

Context No	Description	Dimensions (m)
9	Peat underlying dyke [008]. Mid to dark brown moderately soft peat. Wall has sunk into peat somewhat, so peat also surrounds it.	Depth: 0.43
10	Peat at base of TP 9. Dark brownish grey moderately firm peat.	Depth: 0.5

Sample Register

Sample Number	Context Number	Description
1	010	Peat at base of Test Pit 9.

Drawing Register

Drawing Number	Section	Plan	Description
1	1:20	-	W-facing section through path [001]
2	1:20	-	SE-facing section through dyke [004]
3	1:20	-	N-facing section through dyke [008]

Photograph Register
Black and white print and colour slide

Shot No.	Direction Facing	*Description*
1	S	Pre record shot – general
2		ID shot
3	W	Trench1, Parcel 1
4	SW	Trench 2, Parcel 2 Sondage
5	SW	Trench 2, Parcel 2
6	SE	Trench 3, Parcel 2
7	SE	Trench 4, Parcel 2
8	NE	Trench 5, Parcel 3
9	N	Trench 6, Parcel 2
10	E	Trench 7 – Sondage
11	E	Trench 7 – Sondage
12	NW	Working shot (trench 8)
13	NE	General shots of site from top of hill
14	NE	General shots of site from top of hill
15	NE	General shots of site from top of hill
16	S	General shots of site from top of hill
17	S	Shot of Cairn adjacent to trench 8
18	W	Section through dyke/path
19	NE	SW facing section of test pit 3
20	S	N facing section test pit 2
21	SW	General shot of dyke/path and back filled area
22	W	View along dyke/path
23	NE	SW facing section test pit 1
24	S	N facing section test pit 6
25	SE	NE facing section test pit 7
26	S	N facing section test pit 8
27	NW	SE facing section test pit 9
28	N	S facing section test pit 10

29	N	Detail of S facing section test pit 10
30	S	N-facing section test pit 12
31	N	S-facing section test pit 13
32	NW	SE facing section test pit 14
33	E	W facing section test pit 15
34	N	S facing section through dyke/ test pit 15
35	N	S facing section test pit 17
36	NW	SE facing section test pit 18
37		Record shot
38	SE	Parcel 4, Trench 9
39	SW	Parcel 4, Trench 10
40	SW	Parcel 4, Trench 11
41	SE	NW facing section trench 12
42	SE	Parcel 4, trench 13
43	S	N facing section test pit 26
44	NW	Shot of dyke, Parcel 4
45	NW	SE facing section test pit 22
46	SW	NE facing section test pit 21
47	N	S facing section test pit 27
48	NW	SE facing section test pit 20
49	N	Trench 14
50	S	Trench 15
51	SW	NE facing section trench 28
52		Shot of test pit