Rampart Scotland Project 003:

Sheriffside, Gifford, East Lothian

Season 2: Data Structure Report

Murray Cook, David Connolly and Denise Druce
August 2012

Sheriffside, Gifford, East Lothian

Data Structure Report

National Grid Reference (NGR):	NT 55505 67739
Rampart Scotland Project No:	**003**
Prepared by:	**Murray Cook and David Connolly**
Illustration by:	**David Connolly**
Date of Fieldwork:	**April 2012**
Date of Report:	**October 2012**

Table of Contents

Abstract

This report represents the results of Rampart Scotland Project 3, Season 2: a second phase of archaeological evaluation undertaken at Sheriffside cropmark enclosure, Gifford, East Lothian in April 2012.

Two trenches were opened and all the features identified planned and recorded and a proportion excavated. A geophysical survey was also undertaken in the field surrounding the trench.

The excavations revealed a series of ditch features and post-holes from which charcoal samples for dating were recovered. No artefacts were recovered.

The location of the enclosure as defined by the excavation and geophysical survey was different to that of the aerial photograph transcription.

Special thanks to the Mackichan Trust and Eric Glendinning for their support.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1.1.1 East Lothian has a comprehensive and detailed history of excavation and research which provides an in depth background for further work. Indeed, this existing record is amongst the most detailed in the Scottish mainland. Relevant projects include the Traprain Law Environs Project, Traprain Law, Port Seton, St Germains, Dryburn Bridge, the A1 upgrade (Haselgrove 2009, Armit *et al* 2002, Haselgrove & McCullagh 2000, Alexander & Watkins 1998; Dunwell 2007, Lelong & MacGregor 2007), and the various papers in Harding's 1982 volume. However, all of this work has been undertaken on the lower lying East Lothian plain and very little undertaken on the hillforts and enclosures of the higher ground to south in the Lammermuirs.

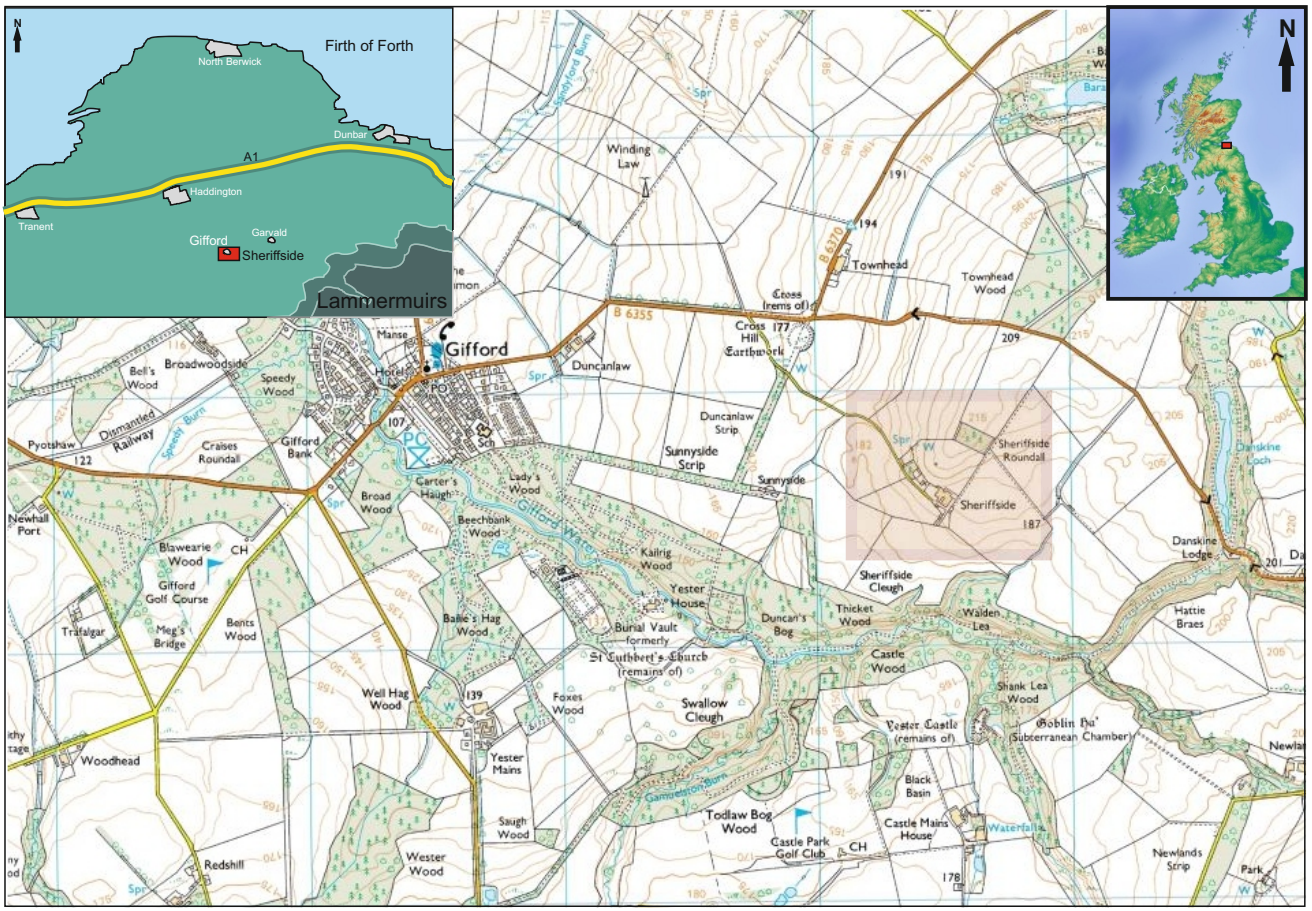
1.1.2 Rampart Scotland was designed to undertake research and excavation on enclosures and hillforts across Scotland. The Hillforts of East Lothian project was intended to do this task in the Lammermuirs in order to provide a corpus of data to compare and contrast with the existing information. To date work has been undertaken on two East Lothian hillforts, The Chesters and White Castle (Connolly & Cook 2010; 2011; Cook and Connolly 2010; 2011) and an initial season at a cropmark enclosure, Sheriffside, Gifford, East Lothian (Connolly et al 2011).

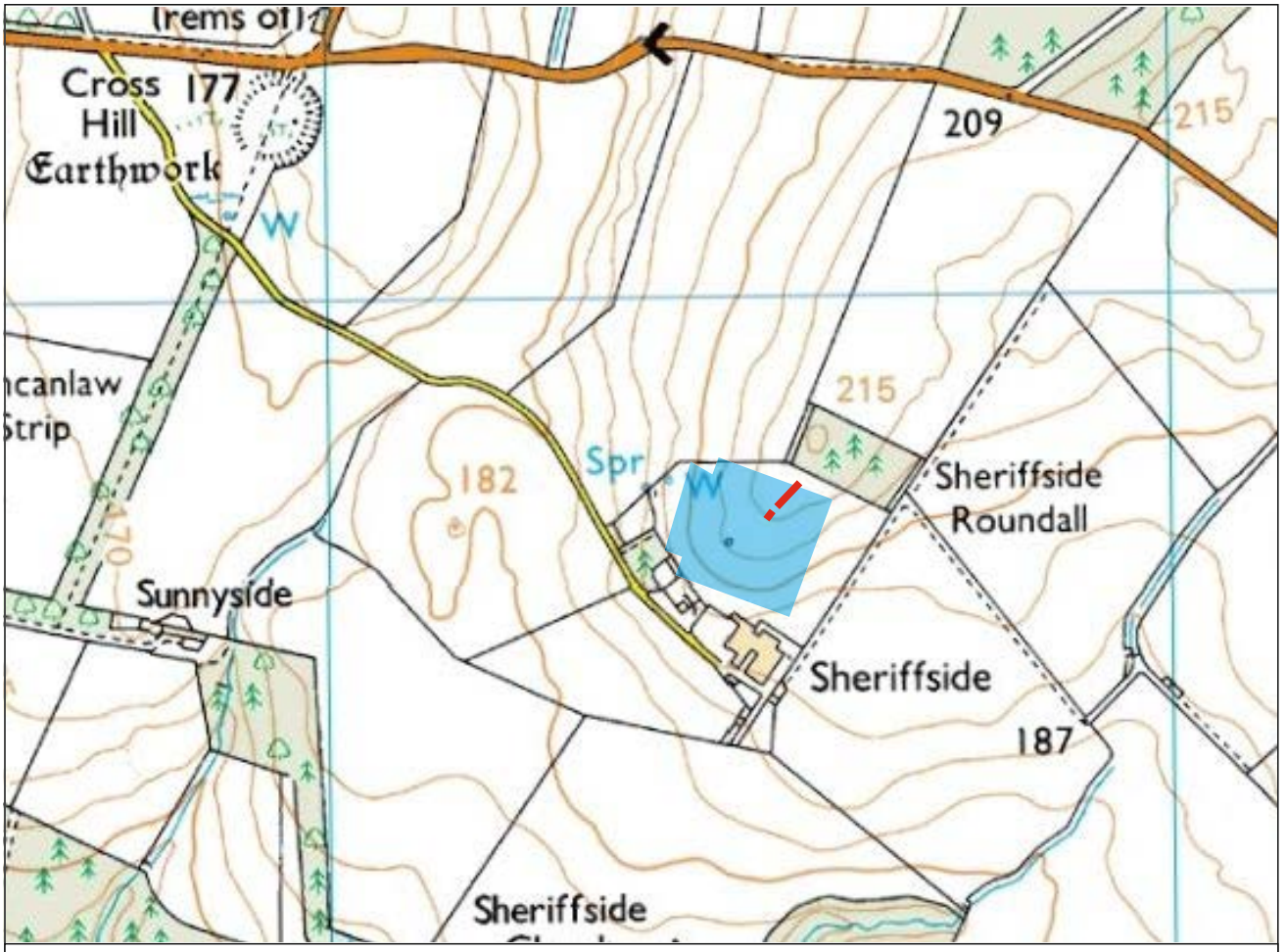
1.1.3 Sheriffside, Gifford, East Lothian comprises a double ditched-cropmark enclosure (Figures 1 and 2; NMRS NT56NE 43). The original aims of the project were to add detail to the existing rectified aerial photograph, to provide an assessment of the nature of the surrounding archaeological remains and date the enclosure. The first season consisted of a geophysical survey and the hand excavation of a single trench (1m by 22m) over the cropmark's outer enclosure ditch to recover dating evidence. However, the single trench failed to identify the cropmark features and instead identified a terraced structure. A radiocarbon date of 2030±30 BP (SUERC 35712), was obtained from a piece of alder species charcoal (pers comm. Denise Druce) from this terrace, which when calibrated to 2-sigma (92.4%) gave a date of 120 BC to AD 60.

1.1.4 The second season of the project examined another portion of the putative enclosure with the aim of establishing whether the rectified image was wrong or if the terrace had destroyed the enclosure at this location.

1.2 Location

1.2.1 The Sheriffside enclosure is located in a silage field, immediately to the north of Sheriffside Farm, Gifford, East Lothian (NT 55505 67739). The enclosure is located on the south eastern edge of small hillrange.





trench

resistivity

Fig 1: Location map

2 PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 The aims of the East Lothian Hillfort Project are four fold:

1. To increase the currently available data-set for East Lothian hillforts by additional survey;

2. to recover dating evidence of the sequence of enclosure, use and refurbishment of as many hillforts in East Lothian as can be accessed;

3. to attempt to assess the volume of activity both within enclosures and external to enclosures by test-pitting and quantification of the number of artefacts recovered;

4. to publish the individual results of each site excavation and after at least three sites have been excavate to publish a synthesis of the result.

2.1.2 Project three of the programme targeted Sheriffside, Gifford. Specifically the objectives of this programme of work were:

1. the completion of the geophysical survey of the enclosure by the *Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society* started in 2011;

2. the hand excavation of two single trenches (0.5m by 21m and 1m by 1m) over the cropmark outer enclosure ditch to recover dating evidence and to confirm the nature of the rectified aerial plot.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Geophysical Survey

3.1.1 The resistivity survey was undertaken by the *Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society* using TR/CIA area ground resistance measuring equipment. The equipment operates in the 'twin' configuration with four probes: two of the probes are mounted on a portable frame 0.5m apart and comprises one current input and one potential measurement probe. The second two probes, again one for current input and one for potential measurement, complete the two circuits; and are inserted about 1m apart and positioned so that no reading is taken with the portable frame nearer than 15m to them. All readings were taken at 1m intervals in lanes 1m wide in 20m by 20m survey grids, giving a total of 400 measurements in each grid.

3.1.2 The unit on the frame generates the 137Hz signal current that flows through the ground and the potential drop is detected by the measurement probes; the computer in the unit converts this voltage reading into a ground resistance value in ohms. The data were down loaded, to a computer and printer. The printout is in grey scale with the black and white limits chosen based upon the highest and lowest ohms readings recorded. It is normal practice to print high resistance (well drained areas and bedrock) as black and low resistance (infilled ditches and damp areas) as white.

3.1.3 A total of thirty-one 20 by 20m survey squares were undertaken at the site (Figure 2), although many of the squares were taken on slopes, there were no locations where it was not possible to carry out the survey.

3.2 Excavation

3.2.1 The field work was ran by Murray Cook, Mr David Connolly and Mr Bruce Glendinning using volunteers with a clear emphasis on providing training.

3.2.2 All excavation was undertaken by hand and according to standard Connolly Heritage Consultancy procedures. The trenches were de-turfed and excavated by hand before being reinstated. The trenches were expanded around key-features in the trench as and when required. A full photographic record was maintained throughout the project, including both before and after excavation and reinstatement. Key features within the trenches were lined with terram prior to backfilling.

3.2.3 Two trenches were excavated, the first: Trench 2 measured 21m long and 0.5m wide and was deliberately limited in width to minimise the hand excavation of blank areas. Where internal features like pits and post-holes were excavated it was extended and where deeper features were encountered it was stepped. The second, Trench 3 measured 1m by 1m and was designed to look for internal features in the enclosure.

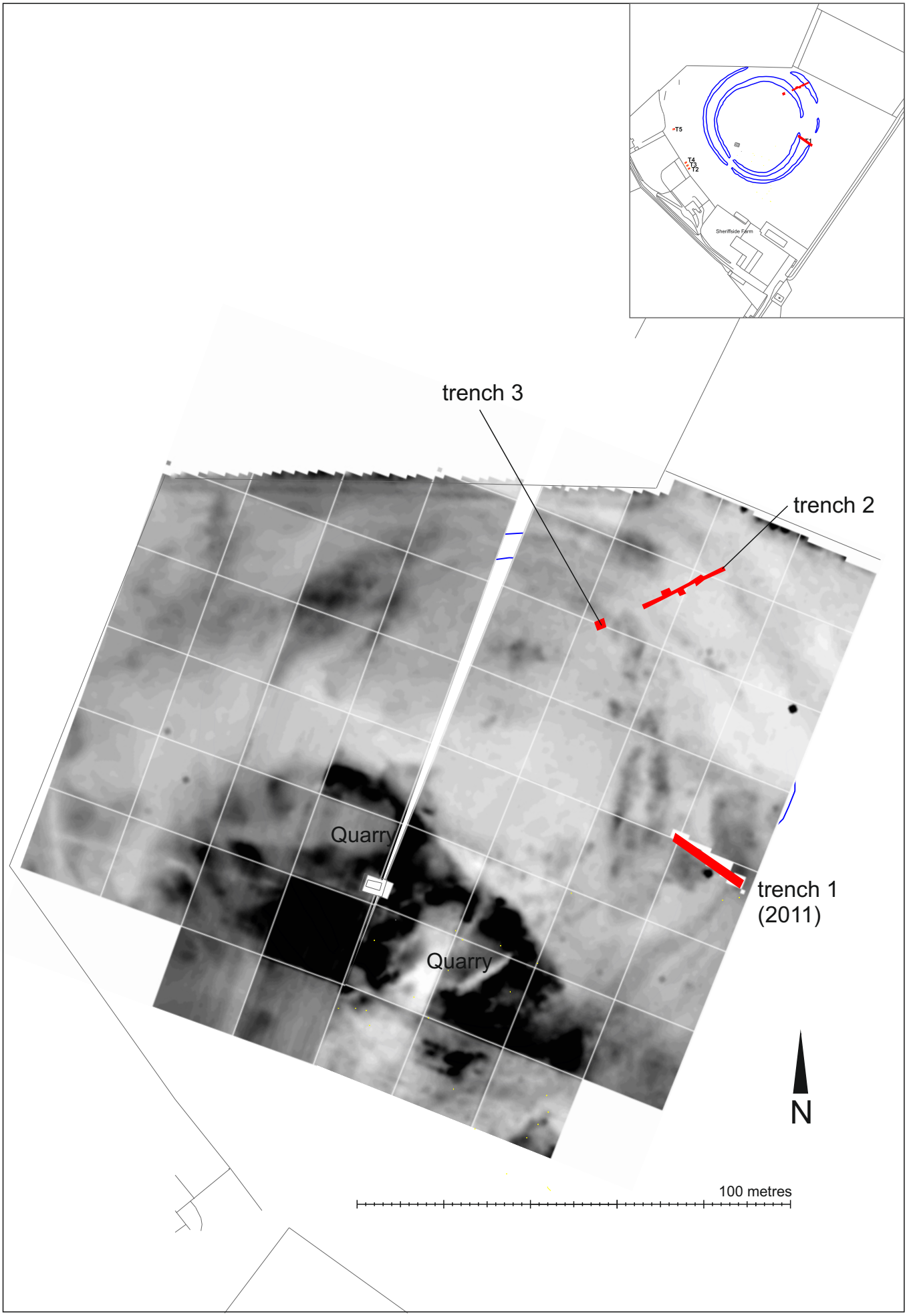


Fig 2: Location of trenches and geophysical survey results

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 The archaeological excavation and surveys were undertaken between 6th to 9th April, with reasonably dry weather conditions throughout. The following should be read in conjunction with the data presented in Appendices 1-5.

4.2 Geophysical Survey

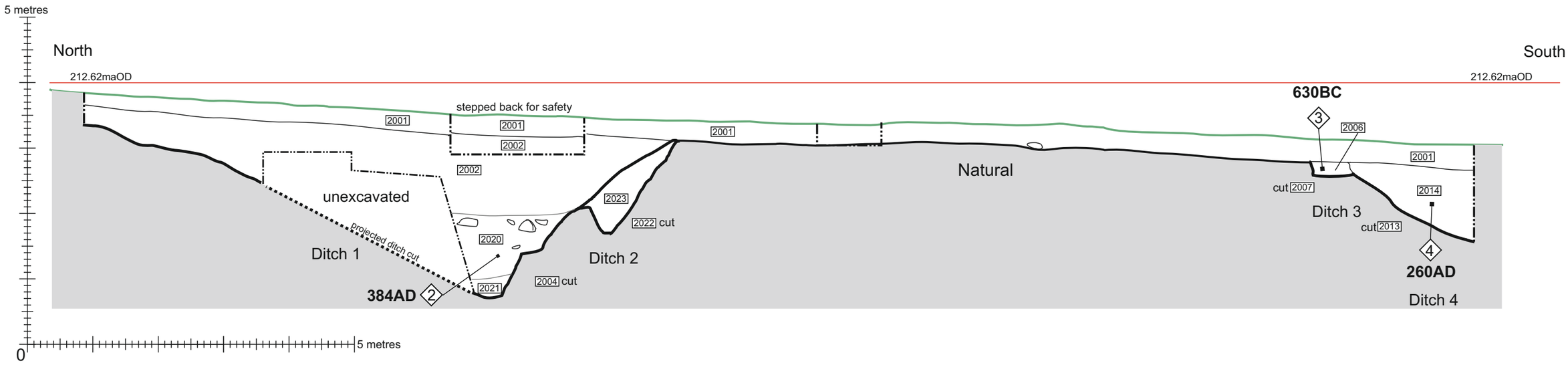
4.2.1 The resistivity clearly showed differential features across the study area. There are clear results showing both the modern quarry dug into the western slope of the hill and the pump house. The plot clearly shows the circular ditches of the cropmark enclosure.

4.2.2 The outline of the enclosure as defined by the geophysical plot is clearly different to that of the rectified plot and it may be that the rectification aligned the wrong set of features with each other and translocated the position of the enclosure.

4.3 Trenches

4.3.1 Trench 2 measured 21m long by 0.5m wide and ran north-east south-west perpendicular across the ditches as indicated by the rectified plot of the cropmark (Figure 2). The trench identified three broad sets of features: two sets of pairs of ditches orientated roughly north-west south-east (Ditches 1, 2, 3 & 4) and a Group of post-holes lying between them. The features will be described from the north-east to the south-west (Figure 3).

4.3.2 Ditch 1 [2004] comprised a substantial ditch feature measuring 2.7m deep and c 9m wide, with an even steep profile on the outer edge and a stepped profile on the inner. It was filled with three highly compacted and homegnised fills: the basal fill [2021], the middle fill [2020] and the upper fill [2002]. [2012] comprised the redeposited natural subsoil which had collapsed immediately following the excavation the ditch and measured about 0.22m thick. [2020], the secondary fill of the ditch was up to 1.7 m thick and was a highly homogenised mid-brown gravel, alder/hazel charcoal recovered from this fill gave a radiocarbon date of 1760±30 BP (*SUERC-41438*), which when calibrated to two sigma gives a date AD 211-384. The upper fill [2002] comprised a highly homogenised silty clay fill measuring up to 1.25 m thick.



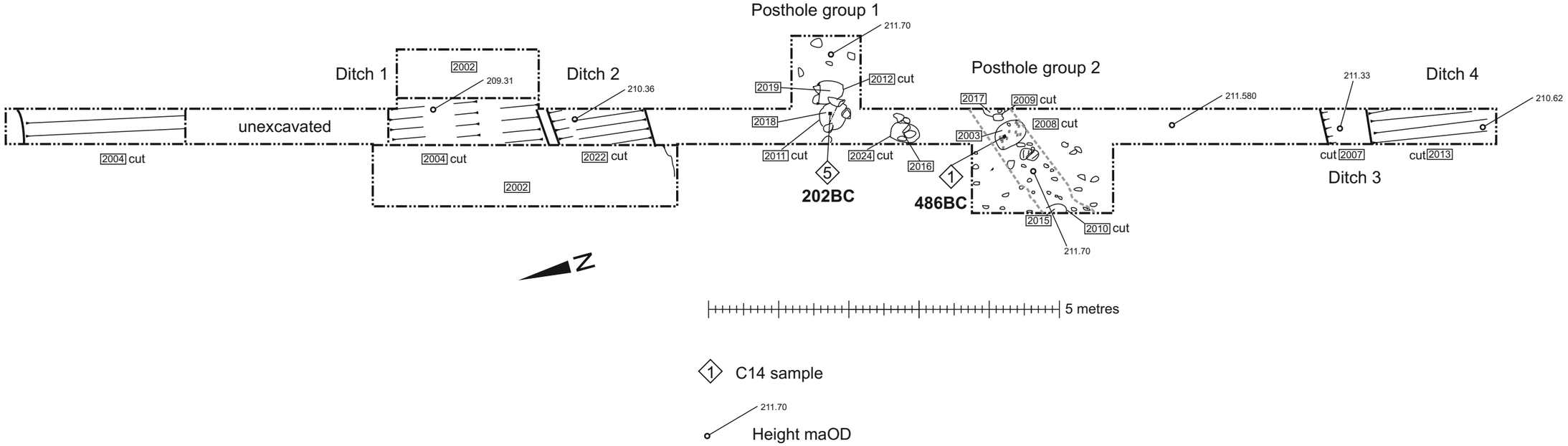


Figure 3: Section and plan of Trench 2

4.3.3 [2004] cut both the natural subsoil [2024] and an earlier feature, Ditch 2 [2022]. [2022] measured 1.4m deep and at least 1.5m wide, its fill [2023] was highly compact mid-brown clay silt with frequent inclusions of degraded yellow bedrock.

4.3.4 Both ditches were interpreted as having been rapidly backfilled and not silted up naturally given the uniform nature of the fill observed and the lack of sedimented layers.

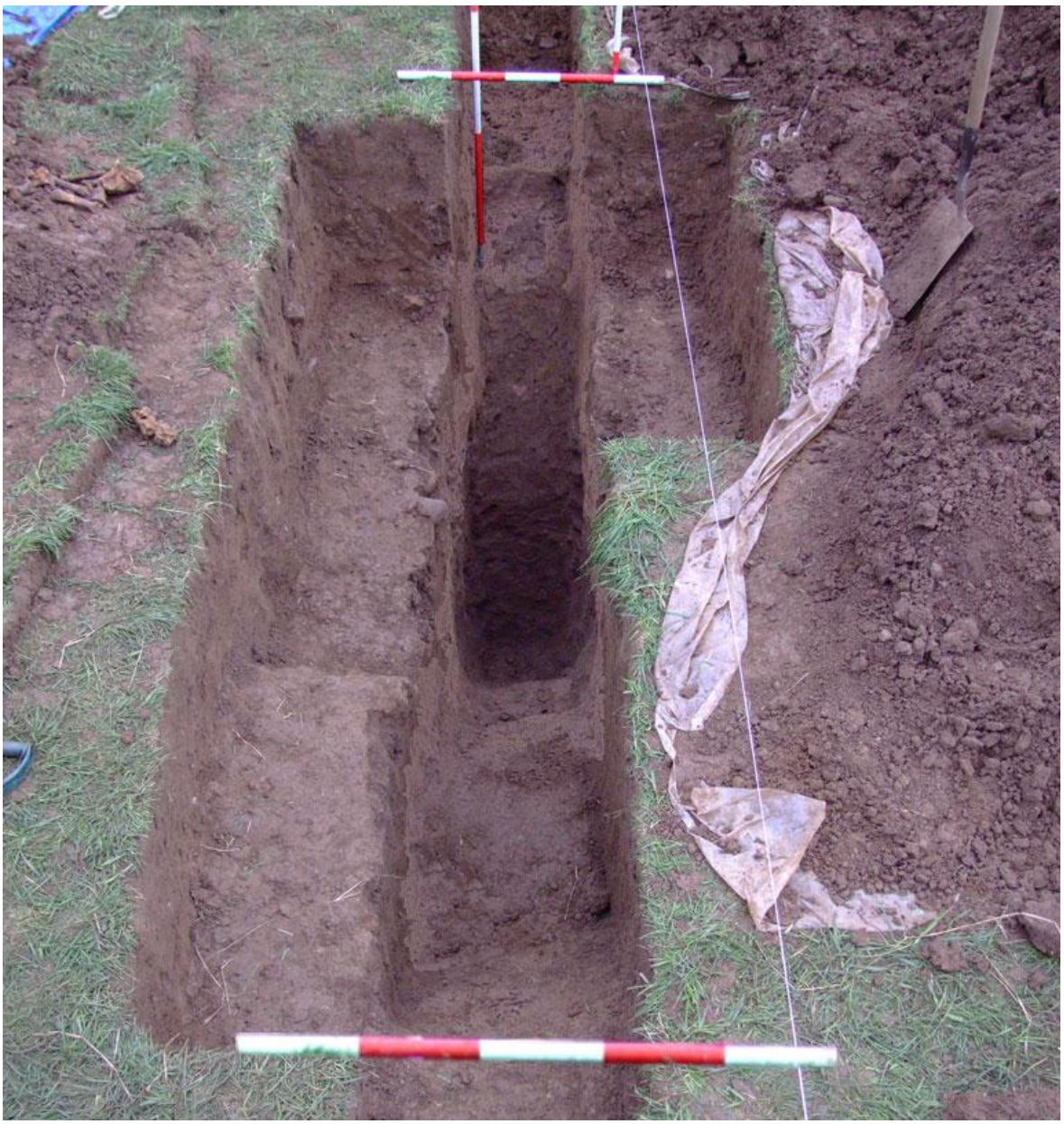


Plate 1: Ditch 1 to the northeast

Plate 2: Ditch 2 section showing cut by Ditch 1to left

4.3.5 Immediately to the south-west of Ditches 1 and 2 lay a group of six post-hole or pits ([2012]/[2019], [2011]/[2018], [2024]/[2016] Group 1), and [2009]/[2017], [2008]/[2016] and [2010]/[2015] Group 2) the latter three of which were in a rough east-west line. Only one of the features [2011] was excavated, this comprised a sub-oval post-hole with vertical sides and a flat base, it measured 0.50 m north-south and 0.32 m east-west and up to 0.32m deep. The fill [2018] comprised a dark brown silty clay with three sub-rounded packing stones and a dense charcoal layer. Oak charcoal from this feature was dated to 2215±30 BP (*SUERC-41437*), which when calibrated to two sigma gives a date 378-202 BC. Oak charcoal was also recovered from [2003] which gave a date of 2475±30 BP (*SUERC-41443*), which when calibrated to two sigma, gave a date of 766-486 BC. These features are interpreted as representing either the remains of box ramparts or palisades.

Plate 3: Posthole Group 1

Plate 4: Posthole Group 2

4.3.6 Ditch 3 was small linear features [2007]/[2006] which appeared to have been cut by the larger Ditch 4 [2013]/[2014]. Ditch 3 measured 0.6m wide and 0.25m deep, while Ditch 4 which was not fully excavated measured at least 1.8 m wide and 1m deep. [2006] comprised a mid-red brown silty clay, highly homogenised fill. Oak charcoal from [2006] gave a date of 2515±30 BP (*SUERC-41439*), which when calibrated to two sigma gives a date of 791-703 BC. [2014] was another bid brown silty clay with a homogenised fill. Willow/poplar charcoal recovered from [2014] gave a date of 1810±30 BP (*SUERC-41444*) which when calibrated to two sigma gave a date AD 126-260. It seems likely that Ditch 3, represents a palisade.

Plate 5: Ditch 3 (flat based palisade slot?) to left and Ditch 4 sloping down to right

4.3.7 Trench 3 measured 1m by 1m and was located immediately to the south-west of Trench 1 (Figure 2) within the interior of the cropmark enclosure, although no anthropogenic features were observed in this location.

Plate 6: Trench 3 – note differential natural.

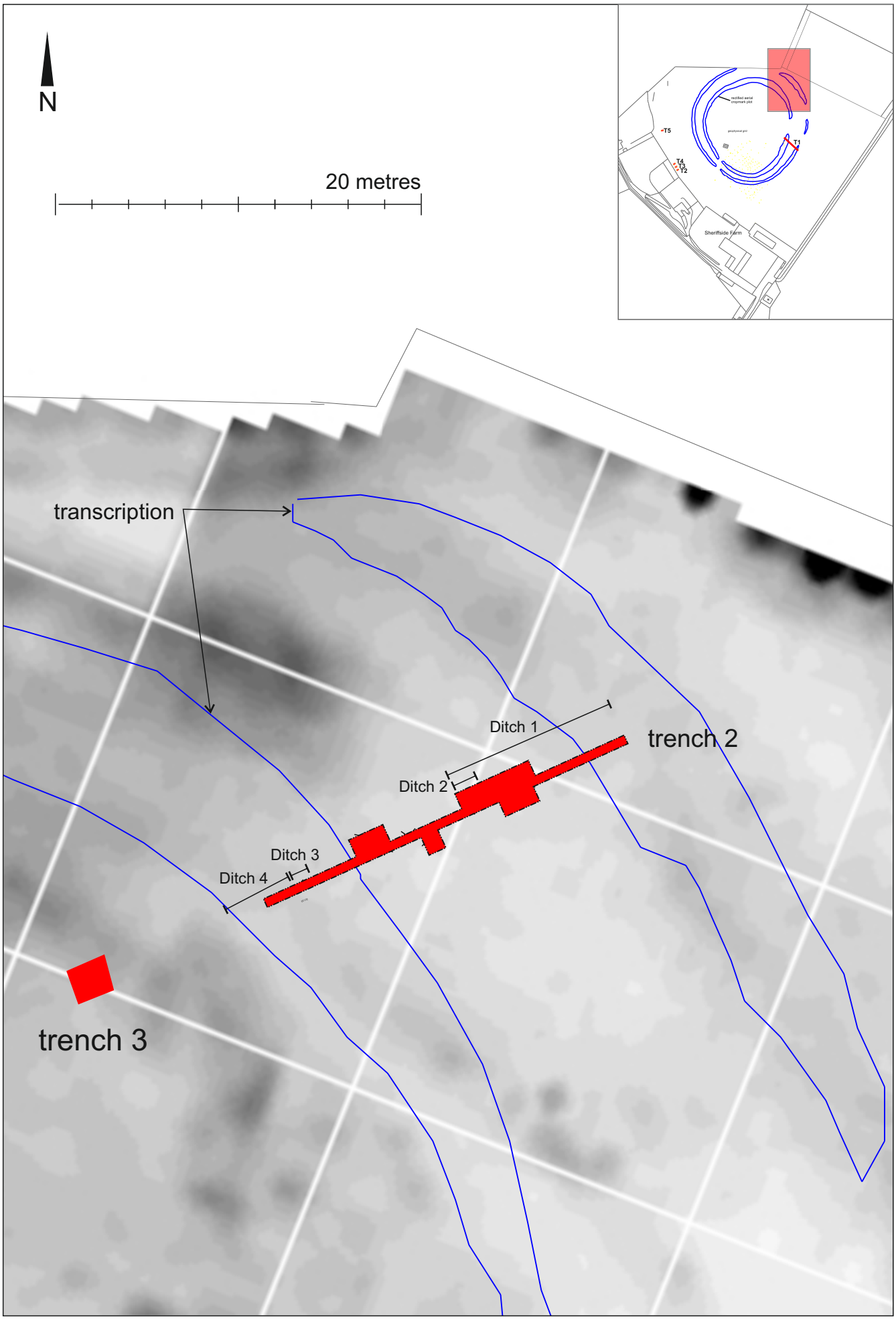


Figure 4: Location of trenches and geophysical resistivity survey in relation to aerial transcription

5 INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

5.1 Interpretation and Discussion

5.2.1 Again while limited in nature the 2012 season confirmed the presence of the enclosure via both excavation and geophysical survey, albeit in a different location to that indicated by the cropmark transcription (Figure 4). On this basis it may be concluded that the wrong elements of the cropmark were transcribed.

5.2.2 The features identified appear to reflect various phases of enclosure: ditches and lines of palisades or box ramparts over a potentially 1000 year period. Only one feature, Ditch 2, remains undated, although clearly it predates Ditch 1. It may be that Ditch 2 could be linked to post-hole Group 1, simply on proximity, although of course it could date to any other period.

5.2.3 The radiocarbon dates do not date the features, rather they date charcoal producing activity that took place in the immediate environs of the features and which subsequently became incorporated into the fills of the features. The charcoal could be older, contemporary or younger than the fills. However, it is assumed that the charcoal is roughly contemporary with the excavation of the ditches or post-holes.

5.2.4 The radiocarbon dates from both seasons indicate five broad periods of activity:

Period 1: ***c*766-486 BC: post-hole Group 2 and Ditch 3;**
Period 2: ***c*378-202 BC: post-hole Group 1 and possibly Ditch 2;**
Period 3: ***c*120 BC-AD 60: terraced settlement; (2011 excavation)**
Period 4: ***c*AD 126-260: Ditch 4;**
Period 5: ***c*AD 211-384: Ditch 1.**

5.2.5 As there is a slight overlap between the dated activity of Phases 4 and 5 it is possible that they represent one period of activity, although for the sake of argument it is assumed that they are not. On this basis, the dates clearly indicate a shifting pattern from light defence to open settlement to more heavily defended settlement, although both the duration and nature of the associated activity within the various phases of enclosure are unclear. There is of course a final phase of undated activity, the backfilling of Ditch 1. The absence of both 18th or 19th century pottery from the fill of the ditch and the site from any 18th or 19th century maps, suggests that it was backfilled before this point and the homogenous nature of the ditch fill indicates that it was rapidly backfilled, but at present there is no indication of when it was undertaken. Although, it seems more

likely that such an event took place in antiquity, certainly the absence of any organic stabilisation layer in the ditch fill indicates that it may have happened within a generation of its construction.

5.2.6 The overall sequence at Sheriffside contains many of the elements detected at other enclosed sites in East Lothian (Haselgrove 2009), for example Late Iron Age scooped settlement which could either be open or associated with an enclosure; Early to Late Iron Age defences; the refortification of existing sites in the Roman Iron Age. However, there are a number of key differences: for example the majority of the palisades excavated and dated in the Traprain Law Environs Project are Late Bronze Age in date, although the example from Standingstone did have an Iron Date that was dismissed by excavator as intrusive (op cit, 60). In addition, no single site appears to have had multiple phases of enclosures from the Early Iron Age to the Late Roman Iron. In addition, with the exception of Dunbar (Perry 2005, 25; Haselgrove 2009, 231), no other de novo ditches were dug in East Lothian during the Roman Iron Age. These differences do not contradict the established sequence but certainly establish the potential for previously unknown complexity to reside in unexcavated sites. Certainly more detailed examination of the comparanda reveals interesting patterns.

5.2.7 For example, the Dunbar ditch is less than half the size of Ditch 1 (Perry 2005, 25), presumably this can be taken to mean that Sheriffside was a significant location in the Roman Iron Age to Early Medieval period. The absence of Roman finds from the site, is echoed at other contemporary sites, with the exception of Traprain Law (Haselgrove 2009, 231), and certainly raises interesting questions about the function of the Sheriffside enclosure in this period.

6 FURTHER WORK

6.1 Dissemination

6.1.1 The results of this work will be synthesised and submitted to East Lothian Council, the landowner and be available on the Rampart Scotland website.

6.1.2 In addition, précis will be submitted to *DES* and *OASIS* and for publication in one of the many popular archaeological magazines or newsletters. The results of the excavation and an analysis of the conflict between the cropmark transcription and the excavation and geophysical survey will be submitted for publication in the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.*

7 CONCLUSION

7.1 The work undertaken at Sheriffside while extremely limited in nature has validated the main objective of Rampart Scotland that no one knows the nature of the archaeological resource until it has been explored. It is hoped that the Hillforts of East Lothian project and that further work will continue to yield such details.

8 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

8.1 The authors would like to thank the technical wizardry of the Edinburgh Archaeological Field Society with their geophysical expertise; the advice of the East Lothian Council's archaeological team; and last but not least the volunteers including Alex Westra, Rachel Frame, Liska Croft, Percie Cragie, Neill Shepherd, Corrie Lyell, Shona Lindsay, Stuart Gillies, Tom Neill, Collete Gavin, Waltraud Baier and all those who turned up for short sessions during the work. Eric Glendinning, David Connolly, The Mackichan Trust and Murray Cook and the various volunteers who funded the post-excavation.

9 BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Alexander, D & Watkins, T 1998 'St Germains, Tranent, East Lothian: the excavation of Early Bronze age remains and Iron Age enclosed and unenclosed settlements', *Proc Soc Antiq Scot* 128, 203–54.

Armit, I, Dunwell, A and Hunter, F 2002 'The Hill at the Empire's Edge; recent work on Traprain Law', *Trans East Lothian Antiquarian and Field Naturalists' Soc*, 25, 1-11.

Cook, M and Connolly, D 2010 *Rampart Scotland Project 001: White Castle, Garvald, East Lothian, Data Structure Report and Costed Post Excavation Research Design*, unpub rep.

Cook, M and Connolly, D 2011 *Rampart Scotland Project 001: White Castle, Garvald, East Lothian, Data Structure Report and Costed Post Excavation Research Design*, *Season 2* unpub rep.

Connolly, D and Cook, M 2010 *Rampart Scotland Project 2: Chesters, Drem, East Lothian Topographic and Erosion Survey*, unpublished Data Structure Report.

Connolly, D and Cook, M 2011 *Rampart Scotland Project 2: Chesters, Drem, East Lothian Topographic and Erosion Survey*: *Season 2*, unpublished Data Structure Report.

Connolly, D, Cook, M, Dinning, S, Druce, D, and Rocks-Macqueen, D 2011 *Rampart Scotland Project 3: Sheriffside, Gifford, East Lothian*, unpublished Data Structure Report

Dunwell, A 2007 *Cist Burials and an Iron Age Settlement at Dryburn Bridge, Innerwick, East Lothian*. Edinburgh: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (Scottish Archaeological Internet Report 24). www.sair.org.uk/sair24/index.html.

Harding, D (ed) 1982 *Later Prehistoric Settlement in South-east Scotland*. University of Edinburgh, Department of Archaeology Occasional Paper No 8, Edinburgh.

Haselgrove, C (ed) 2009 *The Traprain Law Environs Project: Fieldwork and Excavations 2000-2004*. Edinburgh.

Haselgrove, C & McCullagh, R P J (eds) 2000 *An Iron Age Coastal Community in East Lothian: the Excavation of Two Later Prehistoric Enclosure Complexes at Fishers Road, Port Seton, 1994–5*. Edinburgh (=Scott Trust Archaeol Res momogr).

Lelong, O and MacGregor, G (eds) 2007 *The Lands of Ancient Lothian: Interpreting the Archaeology of the A1*. Edinburgh: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

Perry, D 2000 *Castle Park, Dunbar: 2000 Years of a Fortified Headland*. Edinburgh: Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

Ralston, I 2006 *Celtic Fortifications*. Tempus.

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context	Trench	Feature Set	Type	Description
2001	2		topsoil	Dark brown organic rich topsoil, up to 0.4m deep
2001	2	Ditch 1	fill	Denatured grey brown mineral rich soil; few inclusions, upper fill of Cut [2004], lies over [2020]
2003	2	Group 2	-	Unexcavated fill of cut [2008]
2004	2	Ditch 1	cut	Cut of ditch with steep sides and a concave base. Measured up to 2.7m deep and c 9 m wide, It was filled with [2002], [2020] and [2021]. It cut both the natural subsoil [2024] and earlier ditch feature [2022]
2005	2		-	Unassigned
2006	2	Ditch 3	fill	Dark brown organic charcoal rich soil, only fill of cut [2007], possibly cut by cut [2013]
2007	2	Ditch 3	cut	Cut of linear slot, up to 0.6m wide and 0.3m deep, filled by [2006]
2008	2	Group 2	cut	Cut of unexcavated pit feature, filled with [2016], appears to form a line with [2010]/[2015] and [2009]/[2017]
2009	2	Group 2	cut	Cut of unexcavated pit feature, filled with [2017], appears to form a line with [2010]/[2015] and [2008]/[2016]
2010	2	Group 2	cut	Cut of unexcavated pit feature, filled with [2015], appears to form a line with [209]/[2017] and [2008]/[2016]
2011	2	Group 1	cut	Cut of possible post-hole, filled with [2018] and measuring 0.50 m north-south and 0.32 m east-west and up to 0.32m deep. Cuts underlining natural subsoil [2024]. Associated with [2012]/[2019], [2024]/[2016]
2012	2	Group 1	cut	Cut of unexcavated negative feature, filled with [2019]. Associated with [2011]/[2018], [2024]/[2016]

Context	Trench	Feature Set	Type	Description
2013	2	Ditch 4	cut	Cut of ditch feature, not fully excavated, even sided and measuring at least 1.8 m wide and 1m deep. Filled with [2014], cuts underlying natural subsoil [2024] and possibly [2006]
2014	2	Ditch 4	fill	Denatured grey brown soil, with some charcoal inclusions, fill of cut [2013], up to 1m thick. Not fully excavated.
2015	2	Group 2	fill	Fill of unexcavated negative feature [2010]
2016	2	Group 2	fill	Fill of unexcavated negative feature [2024]
2017	2	Group 2	fill	Fill of unexcavated negative feature [2009]
2018	2	Group 1	fill	Mid-brown fill of [2011], up to 0.32m thick
2019	2	Group 1	fill	Fill of unexcavated negative feature [2012]
2020	2	Ditch 1	fill	Middle fill of cut [2004] gravel rich grey brown soil, up to 1m thick
2021	2	Ditch 1	fill	Basal fill of cut [2004] compact mid reddish brown silty clay up to 0.3m thick
2022	2	Ditch 2	cut	Cut of linear slot filled with [2023], measures 1.4 m deep and 1.5 m wide.
2023	2	Ditch 2	fill	Fill of cut [2022] grey brown soil with some gravel inclusions, quite hard packed. Cut by [2004]
2024	2	Group 1		Cut of excavated negative feature, filled with [2016]
2025	2		Natural	Underlining natural subsoil, ranges from clay to red gravel
Context	**Trench**	**Feature Set**	**Type**	**Description**
3001	3		Topsoil	Dark brown organic rich topsoil, up to 0.4m deep
3002	3		Natural	Underlining natural subsoil, less gravels and red brown
3003	3		Natural	Underlining natural subsoil, lighter red brown frequent gravels

APPENDIX 2: DRAWING RECORD

Drawing No	Trench	Scale	Type	Description
1	2	1:50	Section	West facing section of Trench 2
2	2	1:10	section	North facing section of post-hole [2011]
3	2	1:20	plan	Detailed plan of Group 2 ([2009]/[2017], [2003]/[2003], [2010]/[2015])
4	2	1:20	plan	Detailed plan of Group 1 ([2012]/[2019], [2011]/[2015], [2024]/[2016]

APPENDIX 3: SAMPLE RECORD

Sample	Context	Trench	Description
1	2003	2	Charcoal sample, from top of possible post-hole
2	2020	2	Charcoal sample, from 1.7m down into fill of ditch
3	2006	2	Charcoal sample, from 0.3m down into fill of ditch
4	2014	2	Charcoal sample from 1m into fill of ditch
5	2018	2	Bulk soil sample from fill of feature

APPENDIX 4: PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

No	Context	Direction to	Trench	Description
1	[2008]/[2003]	Vert	2	Possible post-hole [2008]/[2003]
2	[2024]/[2016]	Vert	2	Post-hole [2024]/[2016]
3	[2006]	SW	2	South half of Trench 2 with ditch fill [2006] in background and possible post-holes [2024]/[2016] and [2008]/[2003]
4	[2004]	SW	2	North end of Trench 2 showing ditch cut [2004]
5	[2004]	SE	2	North end of Trench 2 with oblique view of ditch cut [2004]
6	[2004]/[2002]	SE	2	Northwest facing section of Trench 2 showing oblique view [2004]/[2002]
7	[2011]/[2018], [2012]/[2019]	SE	2	Northwest facing section of Trench 2 showing [2004]/[2002]
8	[2008]/[2003], [2009]/[2017], [2010]/[2015]	NW	2	Features [2008]/[2003], [2009]/[2017], [2010]/[2015]
9	[3002] and [3003]	SW	3	Trench 3 after removal of topsoil [3001] showing [3002] top left and [3003] bottom right
10	[2004]	NE	2	Ditch cut [2004]
11	[2022]/[2023]	SE	2	Trench 2 showing [2004]/[2023] cut by [2004]
12	All features in southern half of trench	SW	2	Southern half of Trench towards features [2012]/[2019], [2011]/[2018], [2024]/[2016], [2009]/[2017], [2008]/[2003], [2010]/[2015] in foreground and [2007]/[2013] in background

APPENDIX 5: DISCOVERY AND EXCAVATION IN SCOTLAND REPORT

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Lothian
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME	Rampart Scotland: Sheriffside Season 2
PROJECT CODE:	003
PARISH:	GARVALD AND BARA
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Murray Cook and David Connolly
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rampart Scotland
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Research Keyhole Excavation
NMRS NO(S)	NT56NE 43
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Ditched enclosure
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NT 55505 67739
START DATE (this season)	April 2012
END DATE (this season)	April 2012
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	NA
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	Rampart Scotland Project 3, Season 2 comprised a second phase of archaeological evaluation undertaken by at Sheriffside cropmark enclosure, Sheriffside, Gifford, East Lothian. Two trenches were opened at Sheriffside. All the features identified within the trenches were planned and recorded an a proportion excavated. The work was carried out during April 2012. A geophysical survey was also undertaken in the field surrounding the trench completing the full resistivity record. The excavations revealed a series of ditch features including a 9 metre wide and 2.80m deep ditch and post-holes from which charcoal samples for dating were recovered ranging from the 7th century BC – 4th century AD. No artefacts were recovered. Geophysical survey was also undertaken and showed the full extent of the enclosure which was notably different to the rectified aerial photograph from which the site was first identified.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	Further fieldwork and post-excavation
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	--
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Rampart Scotland
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	6a Gladstone Place, Stirling FK8 2NN
EMAIL ADDRESS:	murraycook35@hotmail.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS

RAMPART SCOTLAND FIELDSCHOOL








Fieldschool - Research - Training - Discovery
A multi-disciplinary accessible investigation into Scotland's Prehistoric archaeology

Learn more: www.rampartscotland.com