

Archaeological Evaluation

New house site 50m SW of Tradewinds,
Campmuir , Perth and Kinross



General Roy's map of the temporary camp at Lintrose (Campmuir) (© Trustees of the National Library of Scotland)



25th October 2015

Introduction

This programme of archaeological evaluation was carried out for Mr Eddie Crookston to satisfy the archaeological condition on the planning consent for this development, as noted by Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust in the Terms of Reference to Planning Application 15/00973/FLL, dated 4th September 2015. As a first step the digging of two engineers test pits were monitored by the author on 29th September 2015, the evaluation was then undertaken by the author on 7th and 8th October 2015 (Site Code LINT02), weather conditions became very wet on the 7th and were bright and sunny on the 8th.

Archaeological Background (Illus 1 to 3)

The proposed development site lies within an area that is considered to have archaeological potential given its location within the Roman Temporary Camp of Lintrose ("Campmuir"), with the line of the western boundary of the camp running through the western portion of the plot (see Illus 2 and 3). The temporary camp consists of a large rectangular enclosure (approx. 32 hectares) defined by a ditch and bank and would have been used by the Roman Army nearly 2000 years ago.

Part of the defensive bank survives on the northern side of the camp, and other sections of the boundary ditch have been traced as cropmarks by aerial photography. A section of ditch and associated features within the camp were excavated at Muirside in 2003-04 (Cachart 2004, 107) and parts of the camp interior were examined during Watching Briefs at land West of Hillview in 2011 and at 30 Holding in 2012 (Hall 2011, Hall 2012). Recent archaeological investigations of a temporary camp at Kintore (Aberdeenshire) has revealed that the name 'camp' is misleading, and that the camps could be in use for much longer periods of time than the name might suggest, however, to date, from the small number of investigations that have taken place at Campmuir, little relating to the Roman occupation has been recovered.

Engineers Test Pits (Illus 4)

The digging of two engineers test pits were monitored by the author on Tuesday 29th September. Test pit 1 lay within the footprint of the proposed new house measured 2.4m by 1.3m and located natural orange brown sandy clay below turf and loose rubble at a depth of 0.50 m. Test Pit 2 lay just outside the house footprint on its Eastern side measured 1.9m by 1.10m and located natural orange brown sandy clay below turf and hardcore at a depth of 0.35m. No finds were recovered from either of these test pits.

Site Evaluation (Illus 4)

The Terms of Reference for this evaluation requested an 8% sample of the development area and with that in mind three trenches measuring 21m by 2m (A), 5m by 4m (B) and 5m by 4m (C) were opened. A fourth trench measuring 20m x 2m was opened outside the development area for a soakaway and this was also recorded.

Trench A (Illus 5 to 13)

This trench measured 21m by 2m and lay at the south western side of the development area in a location that was intended to cross the projected line of the western defence line of the camp. A dark brown black topsoil (100) was machined off across the entire length of the trench. This deposit was 0.55m thick at the western end of the trench and 0.30m thick at the eastern end. 100 overlay 102 a compact brown sandy clay with occasional stones that appeared to fill a cut feature (112) in 103 a orange brown sandy clay (natural). 100 also overlay 101 a light brown sandy clay which overlay the top of natural 103, 104 a dark brown silty clay with occasional stones and charcoal flecks, 106 a dark brown silty clay and 108 a light brown sandy clay and abundant burnt stone. 104 filled square cut 105, 106 and 108 filled smaller cuts 107 and 109. These four features were half sectioned in an attempt to find any dating evidence. Linear cut 112 was only 0.07m deep and had another slightly deeper linear cut (111) running inside it. The only dating evidence recovered from fill 102 was a single sherd of 19th century Whiteware pottery. Posthole 105 was very square in shape and 0.15m deep, no dating evidence was recovered from it. Postholes 106 and 107 were both only 0.06m deep and produced no finds.

Trench B (Illus 14)

This trench measured 5m by 4m and lay at the western end of the proposed footprint for the new house. Concrete floor (200) was 0.16m deep and was machined out to reveal a deposit of medium to large stone cobbles (204), a grey silty clay (201) which filled a linear cut (202) and 203 an orange brown silty clay (natural) at a depth of 0.16m. Cobbled 204 were lifted to expose a grey brown silty clay (203) which produced a piece of Redware drainage tile and an iron bucket handle.

Trench C (Illus 15)

This trench measured 5m by 4m and lay at the eastern end of the development area just outside the proposed house footprint. 0.04m of turf (300) was machined off to reveal a 0.11m thick layer of hardcore and stones (301) and 302 an orange brown silty clay (natural) at a depth of 0.15m. There were no finds from this trench.

Trench D (Illus 16)

This trench measured 20m by 2m and lay to the south of the development area. 0.48m of brown silty clay (400) was machined off to expose 403 an orange brown sandy clay (natural) along the entire length of the trench. At the northern end of this trench a group of linear cut features (402) filled with a black brown silty clay (401) were located running on a NNE-SSW alignment. There were no finds from this trench.

Finds and samples

Ceramics

Trench A produced 5 sherds of abraded unglazed micaceous Redware pottery from context 101 which is of a Post Medieval date and from context 102 a single rim sherd of Whiteware pottery with blue decoration of 19th century date.

Trench B produced a piece of Redware field drain of 19th/20th century date from 205.

Metalwork

A fragment of iron bucket handle was retrieved from context 205 in Trench B, this is of early modern date.

Samples

Charcoal samples were taken from contexts 102 and 110 in Trench A.

Conclusions

Trenches B and C which were opened in the footprint of the proposed new house and just outside, located natural orange brown sandy clay at 0.16m and 0.15m below modern ground level respectively. Trench B contained the foundations of the former piggery which stood on this part of the site and in Trench C the ground had previously been levelled to form a courtyard area. Trench D located ploughsoil above natural orange brown sandy clay at a depth of 0.48m. No evidence relating to the Roman temporary camp was recovered in any of these trenches.

In Trench A the northern edge of a shallow linear feature (112) was exposed and partially sectioned, its top fill (102) produced a single sherd of 19th century whiteware pottery. A slightly deeper linear feature 111 was located within 112, this was filled with 110. A square posthole (105) and two smaller postholes (107 and 109) were also located and these appeared to be associated with the

linear feature. None of these features produced any finds, charcoal samples were taken from 102 and 110.

Shallow linear feature (112) in Trench A runs at a slight angle to the projected camp defence line and the limited dating evidence recovered suggests a Post Medieval date for all the cut features in Trench A. It is possible that they may be associated with an earlier agricultural boundary line or the course of the early road from Perth to Coupar Angus which is shown crossing the site on Roy's 18th century map of the camp (Illus 3).

Recommendations

Evaluation of the area of the house footprint located no evidence relating to the Roman temporary camp, considerable ground disturbance had taken place due to the construction of a piggery on the site. Evaluation of the area crossed by the line of the pipe to the soakaway located a linear feature and apparently associated postholes and the limited dating evidence retrieved suggests that these features are liable to be of post medieval date. Monitoring of the digging of the strip foundation trenches for the new house confirmed the stratigraphic sequences recorded in trenches B and C. Following this evaluation and watching brief it is recommended that no further archaeological works are required.

References

Cachart, R 2004 '30 Holding, Coupar Angus' *Discover Excav Scot* Vol 5, 107

Hall, D W 2011 'Watching Brief on new house West of Hillview, Campmuir'

Hall, D W 2012 'Archaeological watching brief, 30 Holding, Lintrose, Perth and Kinross'

Both the above client reports are available at

[http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/greylit/browse.cfm?unit=Derek Hall](http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/greylit/browse.cfm?unit=Derek%20Hall)

Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank John the machine driver and Eddie Crockhart for their help and interest in this piece of work.

Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Perth and Kinross
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Land 40m W of Tradewinds, Campmuir
PROJECT CODE:	LINT02
PARISH:	Kettins
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR(S):	Derek Hall
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Derek Hall, archaeologist and ceramic specialist
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	N023NW 5
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Roman Temporary camp
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NN 7732 2104
START DATE	7 th October 2015
END DATE	8 th October 2015
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	Three trenches were opened inside the proposed development area for a new house and associated drainage trenches, a fourth trench which was dug for a soakaway was also monitored. No archaeological evidence relating to the Roman temporary camp was located. In one of the trenches a linear feature and postholes was recorded and interpreted as possibly being either the former road line from Perth to Coupar Angus shown on 18 th century maps or an agricultural boundary.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr Eddie Crockhart
CAPTIONS FOR ILLUSTRS	N/A
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	34 Glenfarg Terrace, Perth, PH2 0AP
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended)	NMRS
EMAIL ADDRESS:	Derek.hall1@blueyonder.co.uk

Context index

Trench A

- 100 Dark brown black topsoil
- 101 Light brown sandy clay
- 102 Compact brown sandy clay with occasional stone (fill of cut 112)
- 103 Orange brown silty clay (natural)
- 104 Dark brown silty clay with occasional small stones and charcoal flecks (fill cut 105)
- 105 Square cut feature (posthole)
- 106 Dark brown silty clay
- 107 Small subcircular cut feature (posthole)
- 108 Light brown sandy clay and abundant burnt stone (fill of cut 109)
- 109 Small subcircular cut feature (posthole)
- 110 Dark brown silty clay (fill of cut 111)
- 111 Linear cut in base of cut 112
- 112 Cut feature running through trench A

Trench B

- 200 Concrete floor
- 201 grey silty clay (fill of 202)
- 202 Cut for drain
- 203 Orange brown silty clay (natural)
- 204 Large cobbles
- 205 Grey brown silty clay

Trench C

- 300 Turf
- 301 Hardcore and stones
- 302 Orange brown sandy clay (natural)

Trench D

400 Brown silty clay

401 Black brown silty clay

402 Linear cut features (plough furrows)

403 Orange brown silty clay (natural)

Finds List

Trench A

Context 102 1 sherd of glazed Whiteware pottery with blue decoration

Context 101 5 sherds of unglazed Redware pottery

Trench B

Context 205 1 fragment of Redware field drain

Context 205 1 fragment of iron bucket handle

Sample List

Context 102 Charcoal sample

Context 110 2 Charcoal samples

Illustration List

Illustration 1 Site Location (red circle) (based on Ordnance Survey map Crown Copyright 2012. All Rights Reserved. Licence number 100049628)

Illustration 2 Location of site on General Roys map of 1747-1755 (© Trustees of the National Library of Scotland)

Illustration 3 Site location (red dot) shown on Second Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1862 (© Trustees of the National Library of Scotland)

Illustration 4 Location of evaluation trenches (based on supplied architects drawing)

Illustration 5 Plan of cut features located in Trench A

Illustration 6 Sections of excavated features in Trench A Scale 1:10

Illustration 7 Trench A looking south west

Illustration 8 Trench A looking West showing cut features prior to excavation

Illustration 9 Trench A looking South East, edge of cut feature 112 indicated by red arrows

Illustration 10 Section across edge of cut 112 looking South West showing linear cut 111 in base

Illustration 11 Half sectioned posthole 105 looking South West

Illustration 12 Half sectioned posthole 107 looking South West

Illustration 13 Half sectioned posthole 108 looking South West

Illustration 14 Trench B fully excavated looking North West

Illustration 15 Trench C fully excavated looking South

Illustration 16 Trench D fully excavated looking South, plough furrow visible in foreground

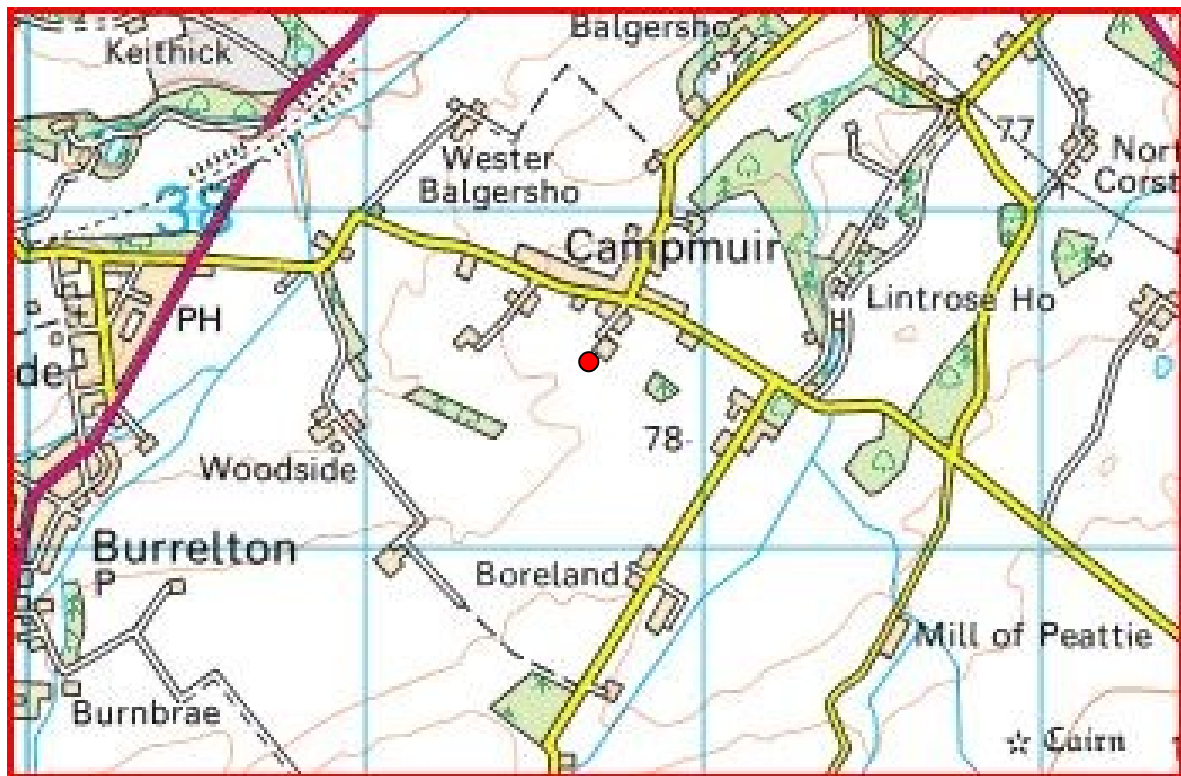


Illustration 1 Site Location (red circle) (based on Ordnance Survey map Crown Copyright 2012. All Rights Reserved. Licence number 100049628)

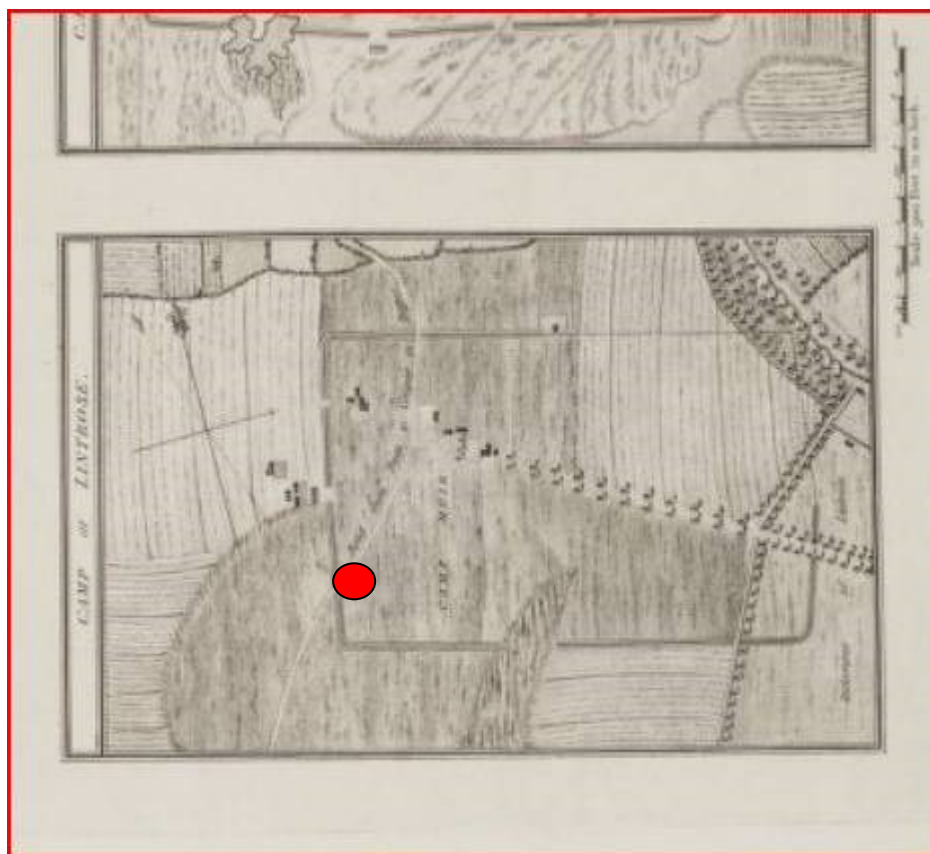


Illustration 2 Location of site on General Roys map of 1747-1755 (© Trustees of the National Library of Scotland)

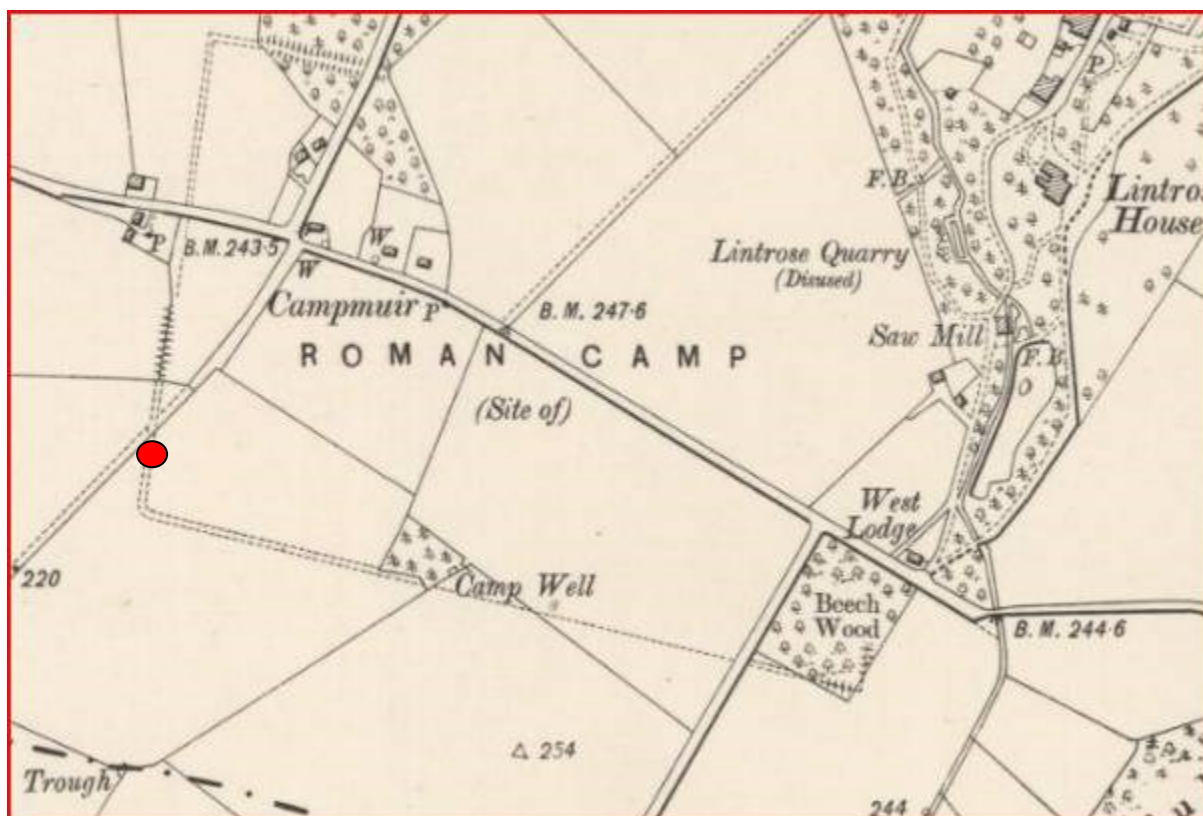


Illustration 3 Site location (red dot) shown on Second Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1862
(©Trustees of the National Library of Scotland)

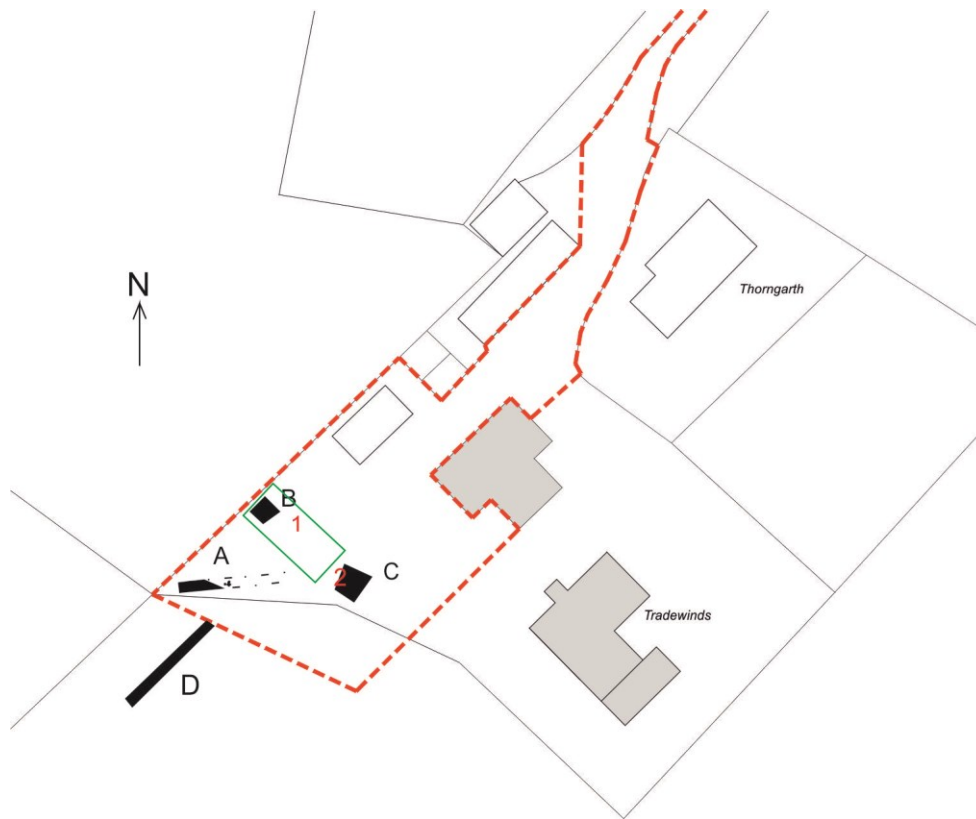


Illustration 4 Location of evaluation trenches, engineers test pits (red numbers) and house footprint (in green) (based on supplied architects drawing) Scale 1:1000

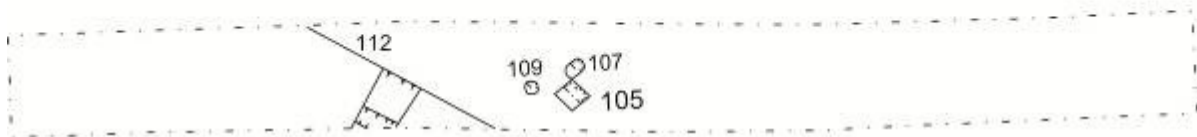


Illustration 5 Plan of cut features located in Trench A Scale 1:200

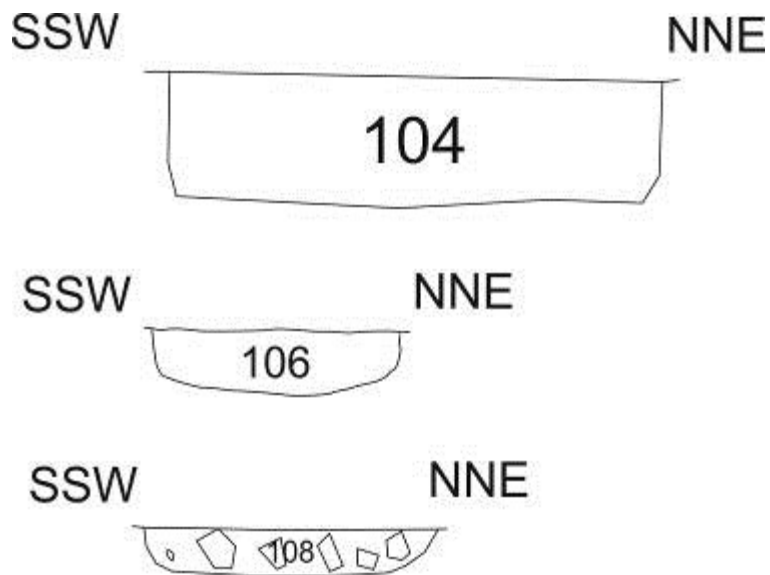


Illustration 6 Sections of excavated features in Trench A Scale 1:10



Illustration 7 Trench A looking south west



Illustration 8 Trench A looking West showing cut features prior to excavation



Illustration 9 Trench A looking South East, edge of cut feature 112 indicated by red arrows



Illustration 10 Section across edge of cut 112 looking South West showing linear cut 111 in base



Illustration 11 Half sectioned posthole 105 looking South West



Illustration 12 Half sectioned posthole 107 looking South West



Illustration 13 Half sectioned posthole 108 looking South West



Illustration 14 Trench B fully excavated looking North West



Illustration 15 Trench C fully excavated looking South



Illustration 16 Trench D fully excavated looking South, plough furrow visible in foreground