



*Archaeological Evaluation Report for
land adjacent A4080, Brynsiencyn*

By

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For

Williams Homes Ltd

July 2024

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land adjacent A4080, Brynsiencyn*

Client:	Williams Homes
Local Authority:	Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn (Anglesey County Council)
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Cynhaliwyd gwerthusiad archeolegol ar dir ger yr A4080 ym mhentref Brynsiencyn gan Ethan Ellis o Athena Archaeology ar ran Williams Homes Ltd, rhwng 8fed a 12fed Gorffennaf 2024. Dechreuwyd y gwerthusiad hwn yn dilyn ymgynghoriadau rhag-gynllunio gyda Heneb: Gwynedd Archaeological Gwasanaeth Cynllunio (Heneb: GAPS), a oedd yn argymhell rhaglen liniaru. Roedd y gwerthusiad yn cynnwys sampl cloddio 4% o'r safle, yn cynnwys saith ffos 30-metr wrth 1.8-metr a dwy ffos 15-metr wrth 1.8-metr, wedi'u gosod yn strategol i orchuddio sampl gynrychioliadol o'r ardal.

Nid yw'r safle, sydd wedi ei leoli ym Mrynsiencyn, o fewn ardal gadwraeth ac nid yw'n cynnwys unrhyw Henebion Cofrestredig o dan Ddeddf 'Henebion Hynafol ac Ardaloedd Archeolegol 1979,' Adeiladau Rhestredig o dan Ddeddf Cynllunio (Adeiladau Rhestredig ac Ardaloedd Cadwraeth) 1990,' Cofrestredig Meysydd Brwydrau, Parciau a Gerddi Hanesyddol, ac nid yw ychwaith yn rhan o Safle Treftadaeth y Byd.

Dengys dadansoddiad o fapiau hanesyddol o'r 19eg ganrif i'r presennol fod y safle wedi cadw cymeriad gwledig, gydag ychydig iawn o newidiadau dros amser. Fe'i nodweddwyd fel dwy borfa hyd at Fap AO 1973.

Nodwyd nodwedd ffos is-linellol yn ymestyn mewn aliniad gogledd-orllewin-de-ddwyrain trwy Ffosi 4, 6, 7, ac 8. Roedd y ffos hon yn torri drwy'r isbridd a'r haenau naturiol yn gyson, gan awgrymu mai ymyriau diweddarach ydoedd. Roedd y llenwad ffosi yn unffurf ar draws y ffosi hyn, yn cynnwys silt clai brown canol-goch gyda chynhwysiad carreg cymedrol a thystiolaeth o weithredu gwreiddio. Mae aliniad a nodweddion y nodwedd hon yn awgrymu y gallai fod wedi gwasanaethu fel ffin amaethyddol, llystyfiant o bosibl, a gyflwynwyd yn ddiweddarach, ac mae'n absennol o fapiau AO. Nid oedd gweddill y ffosi yn dangos unrhyw nodweddion archeolegol a chawsant eu cloddio i'r gorwel naturiol.

ABSTRACT

An archaeological evaluation was conducted at land adjacent to the A4080 in the village of Brynsiencyn by Ethan Ellis of Athena Archaeology on behalf of Williams Homes Ltd, from 8th to 12th July 2024. This evaluation was initiated following pre-planning consultations with Heneb: Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (Heneb: GAPS), which recommended a program of mitigation. The evaluation involved a 4% excavation sample of the site, comprising seven 30-meter by 1.8-meter trenches and two 15-meter by 1.8-meter trenches, strategically placed to cover a representative sample of the area.

The site, situated in Brynsiencyn, is not within a conservation area and does not include any Scheduled Monuments under the 'Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979,' Listed Buildings under the 'Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990,' Registered Battlefields, Historic Parks and Gardens, nor is it part of a World Heritage Site.

Analysis of historical maps from the 19th century to the present indicates that the site has retained a rural character, with minimal changes over time. It was characterized as two pastures until the 1973 OS Map.

A sub-linear ditch feature was identified extending in a northwest-southeast alignment through Trenches 4, 6, 7, and 8. This ditch consistently cut through the subsoil and natural layers, suggesting it was a later intervention. The ditch fill was uniform across these trenches, consisting of mid-reddish brown clayey silt with moderate stone inclusions and evidence of rooting action. The alignment and characteristics of this feature suggest it may have served as an agricultural boundary, possibly vegetational, introduced at a later stage, and is absent from OS maps. The remainder of the trenches showed no archaeological features and were excavated to the natural horizon.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. SITE SPECIFIC

- 1.2. The following Archaeological Evaluation Report (AER) has been prepared by Ethan Ellis of Athena Archaeology on behalf of the client Williams Homes Limited.
- 1.3. The fieldwork was carried out by Ethan Ellis from Monday 8th to the Friday 12th of July 2024.
- 1.4. The site location is located d on land adjacent the A4080, Brynsiencyn, Llanfairpwllgwyngyll, LL61 6UW (Figure 1 & 2). The site centres around National Grid Reference (NGR) 247939, 367276.
- 1.5. The site code allocated by Athena Archaeology is 23-1005 and the event number allocated by Heneb: GAPS is PRN: 46830.
- 1.6. A total of eight trenches measuring 30m by 1.8m were excavated across the site at predetermined locations (Figure 12-13) as agreed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Ellis 2024).
- 1.7. All works were carried out in line with the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Ellis 2024) and in conjunction with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (CIFA 2020).

2. SITE BACKGROUND

2.1. LOCAL AND NATIONAL FRAMEWORKS

2.1.1. The Historic Environment (Wales) Act (Welsh Government, 2016) represents the latest legislation governing the management of the Historic Environment in Wales. This act introduces amendments to two key pieces of UK legislation, namely the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The Act is guided by three primary objectives:

- to give more effective protection to listed buildings and scheduled monuments;
- to improve the sustainable management of the historic environment; and
- to introduce greater transparency and accountability into decisions taken on the historic environment.

2.1.2. In the assessment of planning applications, Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn (Anglesey County Council) is bound by Welsh Government Planning Policy Wales (February 2021) Section 6.1, and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: the historic environment (2017).

2.1.3. The local authority, Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn (Anglesey County Council), seek impartial advice on matters related to archaeology and the historic environment from Heneb: Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services (Heneb: GAPS).

2.2. SATUTORY DESIGNATION

2.2.1. The site does not lie within a conservation area, nor does it contain any Scheduled Monuments under the 'Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, Listed Buildings under the 'Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, Registered Battlefields, Historic Parks and Gardens or World Heritage Sites.

2.2.2. There are no Scheduled Monuments on site although there are several sites within the vicinity of site that are of interest.

2.3. TOPOGRAPHY

2.3.1. The site is located immediately east of the A4080 through road, north of the village of Brynsiencyn, encompassing a parcel of land measuring 1.07-hectare. It is bordered by residential houses southeast and east and further fields to the north and northeast.

2.3.2. The site has a gradual slope southwestwardly, reaching a peak of approximately 38 meters above Ordnance Datum (aOD) and a low point of around 35 meters aOD to the southwest.

2.4. GEOLOGY

2.4.1. The British Geological Survey records indicate that the site consists of Clwyd Limestone Group - Limestone. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 346.7 and 329 million years ago during the

Carboniferous period. With Till, Devensian – Diamicton, sedimentary superficial deposit formed between 116 and 11.8 thousand years ago during the Quaternary period. (BGS 2024).

2.4.2. It is important to note that the data from GeoIndex is of limited quality and should be treated as a general reference for understanding the site's geological composition.

2.5. PREVIOUS WORKS

2.5.1. No previous archaeological investigations have been documented for this site.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1. GENERAL CONSIDERATION

3.1.1. The purpose of an archaeological evaluation as defined by the Chartered Institute for Archaeological Field Evaluation (CIFA, 2020) as is to gain information about the archaeological resource within a given area or site (including its presence or absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality), in order to make an assessment of its merit in the appropriate context, leading to one or more of the following:

- The formulation of a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of the resource,
- The formulation of a strategy to mitigate a threat to the archaeological resource,
- The formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research.

3.2. AIMS

3.2.1. The specific aims of the project were:

- Identify Archaeological Remains: Conduct intrusive groundworks to ascertain the presence or absence of archaeological deposits or remains within the designated area of the site, and interpret the form, function, and significance of the identified archaeological features.
- Recording and Surveying: To document the characteristics, date, location, and preservation of any archaeological remains within the designated area of the site and document through on-site record, photographs, and the use of a total stations or GPS surveying equipment to accurately document the layout and features of the evaluation trenches and archaeological remains, and to disseminate the information in an appropriate format, contingent on the outcomes of the investigations.
- Preservation and Retrieval of Finds: Ensure that all archaeological remains and artifacts encountered during the investigation are preserved by record. Any finds should be carefully retrieved, documented, and properly stored for further analysis and interpretation.
- Investigation and Interpretation: Investigate and interpret the form, function, and significance of the archaeological features present on the site. This includes understanding the historical activities and contexts related to recovered features and their function.
- Sign off Recording on-site: After the recording is completed on-site, sign off on the documentation, ensuring that all important details have been recorded accurately.
- Further research: To align with the Northwest Wales regional framework and contribute to the wider historic environment.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1. APPROACH

- 4.1.1. All activities during the archaeological evaluation at the site adjacent to A4080 Road, Brynsiencyn, were conducted in strict accordance with the ethical guidelines outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) Code of Conduct (CIfA, 2021). The procedures followed were also fully compliant with the CIfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (CIfA, 2020). Moreover, the work was performed in alignment with the stipulations detailed in the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Ellis, 2024).
- 4.1.2. The archaeological evaluation involved excavating nine trenches, each measuring 30 meters by 1.8 meters. Trenches 7 and 9 were excavated to dimensions of 15 meters by 1.8 meters. Initially, a 5-ton tracked excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket (1.8 meters wide) was deployed under the northwest-southeast extending V11 overhead service in trenches 1, 2, and 4. In areas without overhead services, a 13-ton tracked excavator was used. Following machine excavation, thorough hand-cleaning of representative sections was conducted. Archaeological features, such as a ditch identified in trenches 4, 6, 7, and 8, were meticulously cleaned and recorded. Trenches 4 and 8 featured half-sectioned ditches, which were documented accordingly.
- 4.1.3. The trench locations were tied into the National Grid. Trenches were staked out using a Leica Viva GPS and surveyed prior to excavation.
- 4.1.4. Machine excavation continued until the uppermost significant archaeological horizon was encountered or the natural substrate was reached. An archaeological feature in the form of a ditch was observed and encountered extending northwest-southeast within trenches 4, 6, 7, and 8.
- 4.1.5. The ground surface was removed in spits of no deeper than 200mm to facilitate a detailed analysis of potential archaeological layers below. The topsoil was separated from the subsoil and natural and later backfilling of upcast material in reverse order.
- 4.1.6. As part of the documentation process, digital-coloured photographs were captured with a minimum resolution of 12 megapixels, aligning with the guidelines outlined by Historic England (Historic England 2015). These photographs were systematically taken at each trench end, providing a comprehensive visual record of the site. Additionally, representative photographs along each trench elevation were captured, covering a width of 1 meter. Hand drawings of the representative sections were created at a scale of 1:10. These scaled drawings offer a detailed representation of the stratigraphy identified during the evaluation.

- 4.1.7. Trench 6 underwent a minor adjustment, being relocated to a northeast-southwest alignment instead of its original northwest-southeast orientation. This change was made to avoid impacting vegetation and potential nesting birds, as advised by the environmental consultant.
- 4.1.8. Additionally, Trench 7 was modified to accommodate the revised Trench 6, reducing it to two 15-meter-long sections, resulting in the formation of an additional trench, designated as Trench 9. These modifications did not compromise the project's objectives.
- 4.1.9. Furthermore, Trench 2 was relocated marginally north-westward by approximately 2 meters to avoid the dip tube used for porosity testing conducted prior to excavation works. The adjusted trench locations were accurately surveyed using GPS equipment
- 4.1.10. All works were undertaken by an appropriately qualified and experienced archaeologists. All trenches were excavated using appropriately sized plant.

5. HISTORIC BACKGROUND

5.1. BRYNSIENCYN HISTORY

- 5.1.1. As is conventional within the Welsh dialect, place names often reflect the history or geographical characteristics of their locations (Matthews 2020). The name Brynsiencyn means 'hill of Siencyn' (Jones & Rowlinson 2015). Historical records show that the owner of a croft called Bryn Siencyn in 1587 testified that his grandmother was Mallt ferch Siencyn. The pronunciation of the name has evolved over time, with variations including Bryn Sienkyn (1587), Brynshinkin (1662), Bryn Shenkin (1725), and Bryn-Siencyn (1891) (Owen & Morgan 2008, p. 54).
- 5.1.2. Historical activity around Brynsiencyn dates to the prehistoric era. Among Anglesey's earliest known sites are remnants from the Mesolithic period, evident in the discovery of flint and chert tools scattered across the region. The subsequent Neolithic era saw the advent of farming, the establishment of permanent settlements, and the construction of burial tombs and pottery. Notable Neolithic sites like Castell Bryn Gwyn and Perthi-Duon Burial Chamber underscore the enduring significance of the area (Lynch 1970).
- 5.1.3. In 1882, a group of Bronze Age burials was discovered in a field belonging to Cae Meini, revealing 32 cremation burials within a circular arrangement. Artifacts included urns, a bronze pin, and a Middle Bronze Age pygmy cup. Standing stones and other burial sites from this period further underscore the region's historical importance.
- 5.1.4. The Iron Age left its mark with sites such as Caer Idris Hillfort and the Pont Sarn-Las Hut Group. These sites, typically consisting of roundhouses and defended enclosures, suggest a well-organized community structure. Some sites continued to be used into the Roman period, indicating continuity in settlement patterns.
- 5.1.5. Brynsiencyn was significant during the Roman era, evidenced by the Tai Cochion settlement along the Menai Strait. Excavations revealed a well-organized settlement with numerous buildings and a network of roads, indicating a high-status community. The presence of Roman artifacts at Caer Leb, a rectilinear enclosure west of Brynsiencyn, suggests continued occupation and integration into the Roman economy (Hopewell & Smith 2012).
- 5.1.6. During the medieval period, Brynsiencyn witnessed continuous habitation and the emergence of notable archaeological sites. Discoveries such as the groat from the reign of Henry V or VI at Caer Leb affirm medieval occupation in the area. Additionally, historical evidence suggests significant medieval activity across Anglesey during the 13th century. The construction of Edward I's ring of castles, including renowned fortifications like Caernarfon and Beaumaris nearby, underscores the strategic significance of the region during the conquest of Wales (CADW 2021).
- 5.1.7. In the mid-19th century, Brynsiencyn experienced economic shifts as residents sought employment in the Snowdonia quarries. Despite these changes, the village retained much of its

traditional character due to minimal housing development. Notable buildings from this period include St. Nidan's new church, built in 1839, reflecting the architectural style and cultural developments of the time (Jones & Rowlinson 2015).

5.2. MAP REGRESSION

5.2.1. The 1843 Tithe Map of Llanidan Parish, Anglesey, illustrates the site area divided into two pastures, separated by a boundary running northeast-southwest. The southwestern field is labelled as 293 and named Cae Tan Ty, while the northeastern field is labelled 296 and named Cae Canol. Both pastures are owned and occupied by Elizabeth Edwards. Adjacent to the northwest pasture is another pasture, field number 292, which is arable land with a building complex, likely a domestic structure. This field is owned by George Irby, Lord Boston, and occupied by Catherine Owens. The building's footprint is situated where the current dwelling stands, suggesting it may be the same structure. To the west of pasture 293, there is a road depicted running northwest-southeast, following the path of the present A4080 road. South of the site and pastures 293 and 296 are two smaller pastures, labelled 294 and 295, also owned and occupied by Elizabeth Edwards. In pasture 294, located to the southwest of the site, two building complexes are shown, corresponding to the footprints of current buildings. An access road extends from the northwest-southeast road, running northeast-southwest alongside pastures 293 and 296, following the route of the present-day access road. To the northeast and in the surrounding area, there are additional pastures, indicating the presence of agricultural and arable lands.

5.2.2. The two pastures shown on the 1843 Tithe Map of Llanidan Parish are also present on the 1888 OS Map. The surrounding area has undergone minor changes, including altered boundaries and a cluster of buildings to the south, which appear to have their own pastures, possibly gardens, and were likely dwellings. The building located to the north of the site within pasture 292 on the 1843 Tithe Map is still present on the 1888 OS Map. Some buildings, possibly dwellings, are seen along the road west of the site.

5.2.3. The 1900 OS Map shows little change from the 1888 OS Map. The site consists of two pastures labelled Ty'n-y-cwrt, which translates to "house in the courtyard," likely referring to the cluster of buildings in the pasture to the northwest of the site, evident on both the 1843 Tithe Map and the 1888 OS Map.

5.2.4. As reflected on the 1925 OS Map, the site remains largely unchanged from previous maps, with the two pastures still clearly defined. The access road running alongside the pastures continues to follow the same route as the present-day A4080 access road, ensuring connectivity within the site. The nearby fields and buildings, including those in pasture 292, remain consistent with their historical footprint.

- 5.2.5. By 1949 OS Map, the map shows slight changes in the surrounding areas, but the site itself continues to be divided into two pastures. The road infrastructure is maintained, and the agricultural layout of the pastures is preserved. This period also sees the development of additional structures nearby, possibly indicating minor expansions or modernisation and urbanisation.
- 5.2.6. The 1953 map reaffirms the enduring presence of the two pastures, with the boundary line and access roads remaining intact. Agricultural activities likely continue to dominate the site, with no significant changes to the land use pattern.
- 5.2.7. The 1963 map shows the site maintaining its two distinct pastures and the same boundary lines. The surrounding infrastructure, including buildings and roads, remains largely unchanged, indicating a stable and ongoing agricultural use.
- 5.2.8. By 1973, the site continues to be represented as two distinct pastures with minimal alterations to the physical layout. Additionally, a label on the northwest-most side of the site indicates a "Path," marking the presence of a possible public footpath.

6. EXCAVATION RESULTS

6.1. FINDS

- 6.1.1. To maintain coherence, the evaluation results are presented trench by trench in numerical order.
- 6.1.2. In all trenches, a consistent stratigraphic sequence was observed: a turfed topsoil layer overlaying a subsoil layer, which in turn overlay natural geological deposits. Trench 1 additionally demonstrated a colluvial layer situated above the natural and below the subsoil layer.
- 6.1.3. Located along the northeast side of the site area was a northwest-southeast aligned ditch, observed in trenches 4, 6, 7, and 8. This feature consistently cut through the subsoil and natural layers, indicating a later intervention. The ditch demonstrated a uniform fill composition throughout these trenches and maintained alignment along the same axis. The significance of this ditch feature will be discussed in detail below.

6.2. TRENCH 1

- 6.2.1. Trench 1 consisted of a topsoil layer (1001) that comprised a mid-reddish brown, clayey silt composition containing occasional stone inclusions with evidence of rooting action. The overall depth measured 0.48 meters. Directly below the topsoil layer (1001) was a subsoil deposit (1002) characterized by a light brownish yellow clayey silt composite which included occasional stone inclusions and demonstrated some rooting action. This layer was 0.38 meters in depth (Plate 1-3).
- 6.2.2. Directly below the subsoil deposit in Trench 1 was a colluvial layer (1003). This layer was characterised by a mid-brownish grey clayey silt composite at a depth of 0.28 meters. It included a moderate amount of stone inclusions and was firm. Some rooting action was present. The location of Trench 1, positioned at the northwestern end of the site where the topography of the landscape declines northwestwardly, explains the presence of the colluvial layer at this end of the site, observed only in this trench.
- 6.2.3. The colluvial layer (1003) lay above the mottled silty clay natural layer (1004), which consisted of mid-brownish yellow and brownish grey areas. This natural layer comprised a moderate amount of stone inclusions, with the rare boulder up to 0.80 meters in size. To clarify the distinction between the colluvial and natural layers, a sondage was created at the northwestern end of the site, confirming their respective characteristics (Plate 4).

6.3. TRENCH 2

- 6.3.1. Trench 2 featured a topsoil layer (2001) with a mid-reddish brown clayey silt composition, occasionally including small stones, at an overall depth of 0.40 meters. Situated below the topsoil layer (2001) was a subsoil layer (2002) with an overall depth of 0.18 meters, comprising a light brownish yellow clayey silt composite with occasional stone inclusions and evidence of rooting action (Plate 5-7).

6.3.2. Directly below the subsoil layer (2002) was the natural mid-brownish yellow and brownish grey silty clay layer, which had a moderate amount of stone inclusions. The depth of the stratigraphy was greater on the southernmost side of the site, where the topography began to slope northwestwardly.

6.4. TRENCH 3

6.4.1. Trench 3 replicated the stratigraphic sequence observed in Trenches 1 and 2. The topsoil layer (3001) had a mid-reddish brown, clayey silt composition with occasional stone inclusions, and an overall depth of 0.59 meters.

6.4.2. Below the topsoil layer (3001) was the subsoil layer (3002), which comprised of a light brownish yellow, clayey silt composite characterised by a moderate amount of stone inclusions. This subsoil layer reached an overall depth of 0.24 meters.

6.4.3. Beneath the subsoil layer (3002) was the natural mid brownish yellow and brownish grey silty clay layer (3003), which comprised a moderate amount of stone inclusions. Additionally, this natural layer contained rare boulders measuring up to 0.90 meters in size (Plate 8-10).

6.5. TRENCH 4

6.5.1. The topsoil layer in trench 4 (4001), shared similarities with previous trenches, featuring a mid-reddish brown, clayey silt composition with occasional stone inclusions, at an overall depth of 0.39 meters. Below this, the subsoil layer (4002) was characterised by a light brownish yellow clayey silt with a moderate amount of stone inclusions, extending to a depth of 0.24 meters.

6.5.2. Beneath the subsoil layer (4002) was the natural mid brownish yellow and brownish grey silty clay layer (4003), which contained a moderate amount of stones and occasional boulders up to 0.85 meters in size (Plate 11-13).

6.5.3. A northwest-southeast aligned ditch [4004] was uncovered approximately 9.5 meters from the eastern edge of Trench 4 (Plate 14-17). This ditch measured 1.26 meters wide and 0.40 meters deep and extended beyond the limit of excavation of Trench 4 in length. The ditch comprised of a single fill (4005), which consisted of mid-reddish brown clayey silt with a moderate amount of stone inclusion with evidence of rooting action. The ditch had steep concaving sides and the base mostly flat but irregular in places due to rooting penetration.

6.5.4. No finds were uncovered within the ditch fill (4005). The ditch truncated both the subsoil layer (4002) and the natural layer (4003), suggesting it was a later intervention. The extent of rooting and the truncation of the subsoil layer suggest that this feature might represent a vegetated boundary introduced at a later stage. Its absence on any OS maps, coupled with its alignment through Trenches 6, 7, and 8, implies it may have been used as a boundary for agricultural purposes.

6.6. TRENCH 5

6.6.1. Trench 5 presented a topsoil layer (5001) identical to the characteristics of previous trenches, displaying a mid-reddish brown, clayey silt composition with occasional stone inclusions, at an overall depth of 0.31 meters. The subsoil layer (5002) situated beneath (5001) was a light-brownish yellow, clayey silt composite, characterised by a moderate amount of stone inclusions, reaching an overall depth of 0.42 meters. The natural mid brownish yellow and brownish grey silty clay layer (5003) beneath (5002) stratigraphically and physically, comprised a moderate amount of stones (Plate 18-20).

6.7. TRENCH 6

6.7.1. The topsoil of trench 6 (6001) comprised of a mid-reddish brown, clayey silt composition, comprising of the occasional stone inclusion, at an overall depth of 0.38 meters. The subsoil layer (6002) located beneath topsoil layer (6001) was characterised as a light-brownish yellow, clayey silt composite with a moderate amount of stone inclusions, extending to an overall depth of 0.26 meters. The natural mid brownish yellow and brownish grey silty clay layer (6003) below (6002) contained a moderate amount of stones inclusion (Plate 21-23).

6.7.2. A northwest-southeast aligned ditch (6004) was uncovered approximately 5.8 meters from the western edge of Trench 6 (Plate 24-25). This ditch measured 1 meter in width and extended beyond the limit of excavation. The ditch comprised a single fill (4005), consisting of mid-reddish brown clayey silt with evidence of rooting action. The ditch in Trench 6 was not excavated, as samples in the form of excavation were taken from its sections in Trenches 4 and 8.

6.8. TRENCH 7

6.8.1. Trench 7 demonstrated consistency in the topsoil layer (7001), characterised by a mid-reddish brown, clayey silt composition with occasional stone inclusions, at an overall depth of 0.45 meters. The subsoil layer (7002) situated below the topsoil layer (7001) comprised of a light-brownish yellow, clayey silt composite, with a moderate amount of stone inclusions, extending to an overall depth of 0.16 meters. Below the subsoil layer (7002), was a natural layer (7003) that was characterised by a mid brownish yellow and brownish grey silty clay with moderate amount of stone inclusion (Plate 26-28).

6.8.2. A ditch (7004) was discovered at the southern end of Trench 7, aligned northwest southeast (Plate 29-30). This ditch was 1 meter wide and extended beyond the excavation limits. It was filled with a single deposit (7005) of mid-reddish brown clayey silt, showing evidence of rooting action. In section, the ditch continued to truncate the subsoil layer (7002), indicating a later intervention. The ditch in Trench 7 was left unexcavated as a sample excavation were collected from Trenches 4 and 8.

6.9. TRENCH 8

6.9.1. Trench 8 demonstrated consistency in the topsoil layer (8001), characterised by a mid-reddish brown clayey silt composition with occasional stone inclusions, at an overall depth of 0.40 meters. The subsoil layer (8002) situated below the topsoil layer (8001), comprised of a light-brownish yellowish, clayey silt composite, with a moderate amount of stone inclusions, extending to an overall depth of 0.32 meters. Below the subsoil layer (8002), was the natural (8003) that was characterised by a mid-brownish yellow and brownish grey silty clay with moderate amount of stone inclusion (Plate 31-33).

6.9.2. The northwest-southeast aligned ditch observed in Trenches 4, 6, and 7 continued through Trench 8 along the same axis. The ditch (8004) was located approximately 10.8 meters from the western edge of Trench 8 (Plate 34-37). This ditch was 1.93 meters wide and 0.46 meters deep, extending beyond the limit of excavation. It consisted of a single fill (8005), made up of mid-reddish brown clayey silt with a moderate amount of stone inclusions and evidence of rooting action. The ditch had gradually concaving sides and an irregular-shaped base.

6.9.3. No archaeological finds were found within the ditch fill (8005). The ditch cut through both the subsoil layer (8002) and the natural layer (8003). The extent of rooting and the truncation of the subsoil suggest that this feature might represent a vegetated boundary introduced at a later stage. Its absence on OS maps, along with its alignment through Trenches 4, 6, and 7, implies it may have been used as a later agricultural boundary system.

6.10. TRENCH 9

6.10.1. Trench 9 consisted of a topsoil layer (9001), characterised by a mid-reddish brown, clayey silt composition with occasional stone inclusions, at an overall depth of 0.47 meters. The subsoil deposit (9002) below (9001) was characterised by a light brownish yellow, clayey silt composite with moderate amount of stone inclusions at a depth of 0.22 meters. The natural mid brownish yellow and brownish grey silty clay layer (9003) beneath (9002) contained a moderate amount of stones (Plate 38-40).

7. TRAFORDAETH A GASGLIAD

7.1. CASGLIAD

- 7.1.1. Mae canlyniadau'r gwerthusiad archeolegol ar draws y safle yn dangos dilyniant stratigraffig cyson ar draws y ffosydd, gan ddangos patrwm cydlynol o uwchbridd, isbridd, a dyddodion daearegol naturiol. Nodweddid yr haen uwchbridd ym mhob ffos gan silt clai brown canol-goch gyda chynhwysiant carreg achlysurol, yn amrywio ychydig o ran dyfnder ond yn dangos nodweddion unffurf. O dan hwn, roedd yr haen isbridd yn nodweddiadol yn cynnwys silt clai melyn brown golau gyda rhywfaint o gynhwysiant carreg. Roedd yr haen naturiol o dan yr isbridd yn cael ei nodi'n gyson fel clai siltiog melyn-frown canol-frown a llwyd brown, yn cynnwys rhywfaint o gynhwysiant carreg. Roedd presenoldeb haen golifol (1003) yn Ffos 1, wedi'i lleoli uwchben yr isbridd naturiol ac o dan yr isbridd, yn unigryw i'r ffos hon. Mae hyn yn awgrymu prosesau daearegol lleol, yn debygol oherwydd llethr gogledd-orllewin y safle.
- 7.1.2. Nodwyd nodwedd ffos is-linellol yn ymestyn mewn aliniad gogledd-orllewin-de-ddwyrain, trwy Ffosydd 4, 6, 7, ac 8. Roedd y ffos hon yn torri drwy'r isbridd a'r haenau naturiol yn gyson, gan ddangos mai ymyriad diweddarach ydoedd. Roedd y llenwad ffosydd yn unffurf ar draws y ffosydd hyn, yn cynnwys silt clai brown canol-goch gyda chynhwysiad carreg cymedrol a thystiolaeth o weithredu gwreiddio. Mae aliniad a nodweddion y nodwedd hon yn awgrymu y gallai fod wedi'i defnyddio fel ffin amaethyddol, llystyfiant o bosibl, a gyflwynwyd yn ddiweddarach, ac nid yw'n amlwg o fapiau AO.
- 7.1.3. Ar draws pob ffos, ni ddarganfuwyd unrhyw arteffactau arwyddocaol. Mae'r diffyg darganfyddiadau archeolegol hwn, ynghyd â'r stratigraffeg gyson, yn awgrymu ei bod yn debygol nad oes neb wedi tarfu ar yr ardal ar wahân i addasiadau amaethyddol diweddarach, megis y nodwedd ffos is-linellol wedi'i halinio rhwng y gogledd-orllewin a'r de-ddwyrain a leolir ar ochr ogledd-ddwyreiniol y safle. Mae'r canlyniadau a gafwyd o'r cloddiad ar y cyd â data mapio, yn dangos tirwedd ddigyffwrdd sydd wedi'i defnyddio at ddibenion amaethyddol, o bosibl pori.

8. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

8.1. CONCLUSION

- 8.1.1. The results of the archaeological evaluation across the site indicate a consistent stratigraphic sequence across the trenches, demonstrating a coherent pattern of topsoil, subsoil, and natural geological deposits. The topsoil layer in all trenches was characterised by mid-reddish brown clayey silt with occasional stone inclusions, varying slightly in depth but showing uniform characteristics. Below this, the subsoil layer was typically composed of light brownish yellow clayey silt with a moderate amount of stone inclusions. The natural layer beneath the subsoil was consistently identified as mid-brownish yellow and brownish grey silty clay, containing a moderate amount of stone inclusions. The presence of a colluvial layer (1003) in Trench 1, situated above the natural and below the subsoil, was unique to this trench. This suggests localised geological processes, likely due to the north-westward slope of the site.
- 8.1.2. A sub linear ditch feature was identified extending in a northwest-southeast alignment, through Trenches 4, 6, 7, and 8. This ditch consistently cut through the subsoil and natural layers, indicating it was a later intervention. The ditch fill was uniform across these trenches, consisting of mid-reddish brown clayey silt with moderate stone inclusions and evidence of rooting action. This feature's alignment and characteristics suggest it may have been used as an agricultural boundary, possibly vegetational, introduced at a later stage, and is absent from OS maps.
- 8.1.3. Across all trenches, no significant artifacts were uncovered. This lack of archaeological finds, combined with the consistent stratigraphy, indicates that the area has likely remained undisturbed aside from later agricultural modifications, such as the observed northwest-southeast aligned sub linear ditch feature located on the northeastern side of site. The results obtained from the excavation in conjunction with mapping data, indicate an undisturbed landscape that has been utilised for agricultural purposes, possibly grazing.

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10. TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

Trench 1



Plate 1 - Trench 1 Northwest facing photo



Plate 2 - Trench 1 East facing photo



Plate 3 - Trench 1 South facing photo of representative section



Plate 4 - Trench 1 South facing photo of sondage section

Context	Trench 1 : Description	Interpretation	Finds Type	Dimensions (WxLxD)
(1001)	Mid reddish-brown, clayey silt, overlain by turf, with occasional stone inclusion throughout	Topsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.48m
(1002)	Light brownish yellow, clayey silt, with occasional amount of stone inclusion	Subsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.38m
(1003)	Mid brownish grey, clayey silt, with moderate amount of stone inclusion	Colluvial	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.28m >
(1004)	Mid-brownish yellow and brownish grey, silty clay with moderate amount of stone inclusion and rare boulder	Natural		W-1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.36 >

Trench 2



Plate 5 - Trench 2 South facing photo



Plate 6 - Trench 2 North facing photo



Plate 7 - Trench 2 West facing photo of representative section

Context	Trench 2 : Description	Interpretation	Finds Type	Dimensions (WxLxD)
(2001)	Mid reddish-brown, clayey silt, overlain by turf, with occasional stone inclusion throughout	Topsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.40m
(2002)	Light brownish yellow, clayey silt, with occasional amount of stone inclusion	Subsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.18m
(2003)	Mid-brownish yellow and brownish grey, silty clay with moderate amount of stone inclusion	Natural		W-1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.16 >

Trench 3



Plate 8 - Trench 3 Northeast facing photo



Plate 9 - Trench 3 Southwest facing photo



Plate 10 - Trench 3 Southeast facing photo of representative section

Context	Trench 3 : Description	Interpretation	Finds Type	Dimensions (WxLxD)
(3001)	Mid reddish-brown, clayey silt, overlain by turf, with occasional stone inclusion throughout	Topsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.59m
(3002)	Light brownish yellow, clayey silt, with occasional amount of stone inclusion	Subsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.25m
(3003)	Mid-brownish yellow and brownish grey, silty clay with moderate amount of stone inclusion	Natural		W-1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.30 >

Trench 4



Plate 11 - Trench 4 Northeast facing photo



Plate 12 - Trench 4 Southwest facing photo



Plate 13 - Trench 4 Southeast facing photo of representative section



Plate 14 - Trench 4 Northwest facing photo of ditch [4004]



Plate 15 - Trench 4 Northeast facing photo of ditch [4004] pre-excitation



Plate 16 - Trench 4 Northwest facing photo of ditch [4004]



Plate 17 - Trench 4 Northwest facing photo ditch [4004]

Context	Trench 4 : Description	Interpretation	Finds Type	Dimensions (WxLxD)
(4001)	Mid reddish-brown, clayey silt, overlain by turf, with occasional stone inclusion throughout	Topsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.39m
(4002)	Light brownish yellow, clayey silt, with occasional amount of stone inclusion	Subsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.24m
(4003)	Mid-brownish yellow and brownish grey, silty clay with moderate amount of stone inclusion	Natural		W-1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.21 >

Trench 5



Plate 18 - Trench 5 Southwest facing photo



Plate 19 - Trench 5 Northeast facing photo



Plate 20 - Trench 5 Southeast facing photo of representative section

Context	Trench 5 : Description	Interpretation	Finds Type	Dimensions (WxLxD)
(5001)	Mid reddish-brown, clayey silt, overlain by turf, with occasional stone inclusion throughout	Topsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.31m
(5002)	Light brownish yellow, clayey silt, with occasional amount of stone inclusion	Subsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.41m
(5003)	Mid-brownish yellow and brownish grey, silty clay with moderate amount of stone inclusion	Natural		W-1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.22 >

Trench 6



Plate 21 - Trench 6 Southwest facing photo



Plate 22- Trench 6 Northeast facing photo



Plate 23 - Trench 6 Southeast facing photo of representative section



Plate 24 - Trench 6 Northwest facing photo of ditch [6004]



Plate 25 - Trench 6 Northwest facing photo of ditch [6004]

Context	Trench 6 : Description	Interpretation	Finds Type	Dimensions (WxLxD)
(6001)	Mid reddish-brown, clayey silt, overlain by turf, with occasional stone inclusion throughout	Topsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.37m
(6002)	Light brownish yellow, clayey silt, with occasional amount of stone inclusion	Subsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.26m
(6003)	Mid-brownish yellow and brownish grey, silty clay with moderate amount of stone inclusion	Natural		W-1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.23 >

Trench 7



Plate 26 - Trench 7 South facing photo



Plate 27 - Trench 7 North facing photo



Plate 28 - Trench 7 West facing photo of representative section



Plate 29 - Trench 7 West facing photo of ditch [7004] section



Plate 30 - Trench 7 Northwest facing photo of ditch [7004]

Context	Trench 7 : Description	Interpretation	Finds Type	Dimensions (WxLxD)
(7001)	Mid reddish-brown, clayey silt, overlain by turf, with occasional stone inclusion throughout	Topsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.45m
(7002)	Light brownish yellow, clayey silt, with occasional amount of stone inclusion	Subsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.16m
(7003)	Mid-brownish yellow and brownish grey, silty clay with moderate amount of stone inclusion	Natural		W-1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.08 >

Trench 8



Plate 31 - Trench 8 Southwest facing photo



Plate 32 - Trench 8 Northeast facing photo



Plate 33 - Trench 8 Northwest facing photo of representative section



Plate 34 - Trench 8 Northeast facing photo of ditch [8004]



Plate 35 - Trench 8 Northwest facing photo of ditch [8004] section



Plate 36 - Trench 8 Northwest facing photo of ditch [8004] excavated section



Plate 37 - Trench 8 Northwest facing photo of ditch [8004] excavated section

Context	Trench 8 : Description	Interpretation	Finds Type	Dimensions (WxLxD)
(8001)	Mid reddish-brown, clayey silt, overlain by turf, with occasional stone inclusion throughout	Topsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.41m
(8002)	Light brownish yellow, clayey silt, with occasional amount of stone inclusion	Subsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.32m
(8003)	Mid-brownish yellow and brownish grey, silty clay with moderate amount of stone inclusion	Natural		W-1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.23 >

Trench 9



Plate 38 - Trench 9 North facing photo



Plate 39 - Trench 9 South facing photo



Plate 40 - Trench 9 West facing photo of representative section

Context	Trench 9 : Description	Interpretation	Finds Type	Dimensions (WxLxD)
(9001)	Mid reddish-brown, clayey silt, overlain by turf, with occasional stone inclusion throughout	Topsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.47m
(9002)	Light brownish yellow, clayey silt, with occasional amount of stone inclusion	Subsoil	/	W – 1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.22m
(9003)	Mid-brownish yellow and brownish grey, silty clay with moderate amount of stone inclusion	Natural		W-1.8m > L – 30m > D – 0.29 >

11. FIGURES

Figure 1 : Site General



Figure 2 : Site Detail



Figure 3 : 1843 Tithe Map of Llanidan Parish, Anglesey



Figure 4 : 1888 OS Map

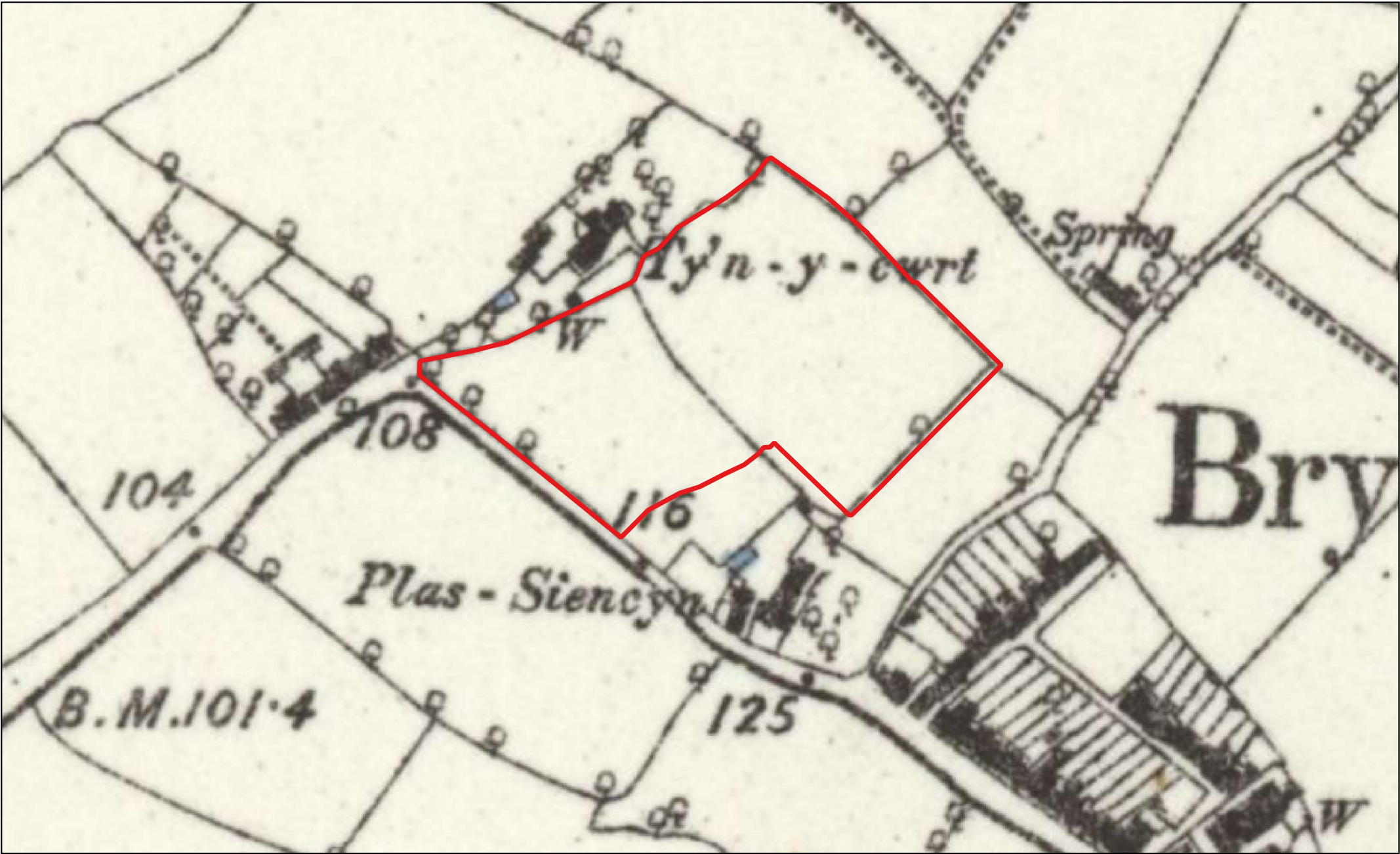


Figure 5 : 1900 OS Map

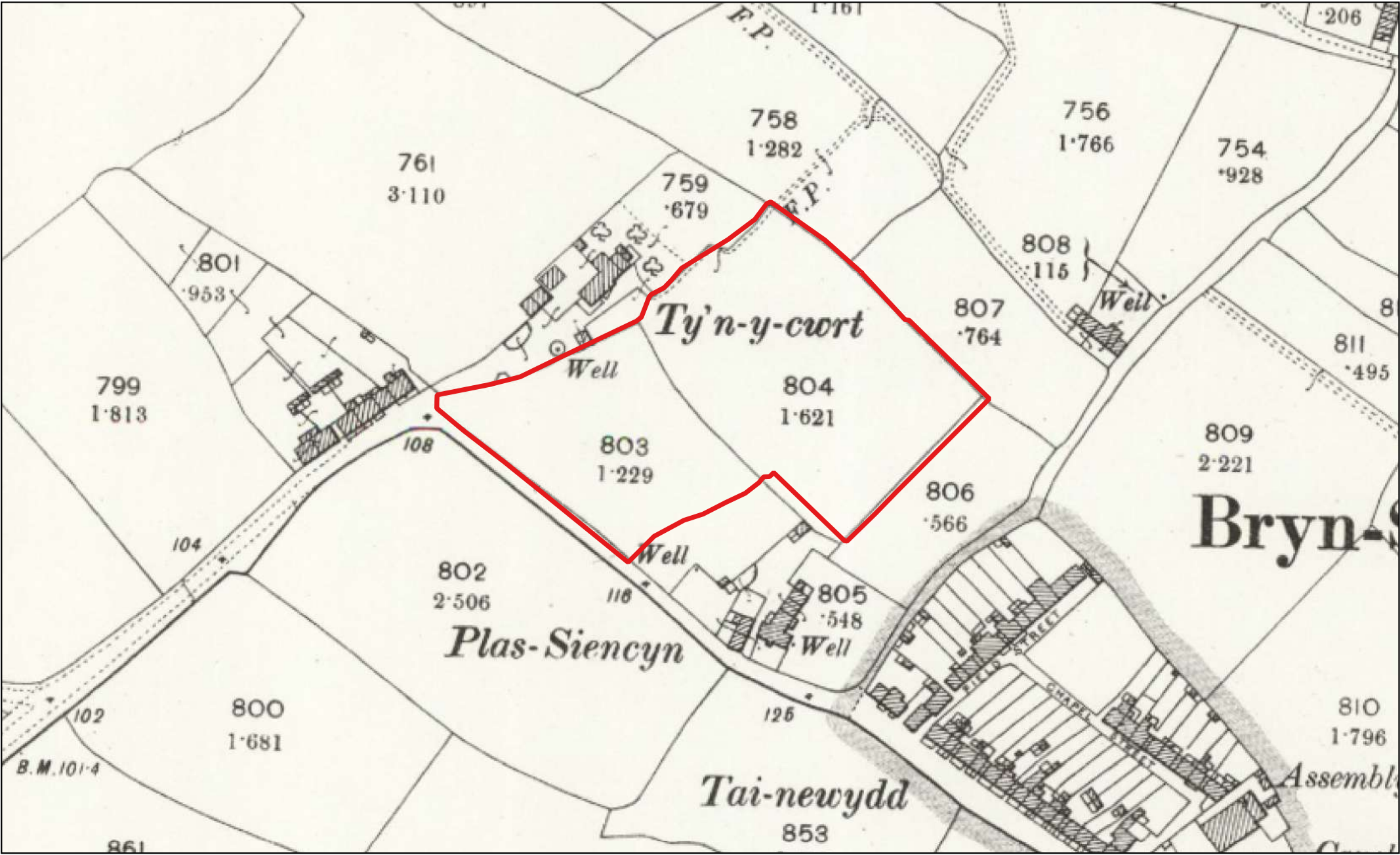


Figure 6 : 1920 OS Map

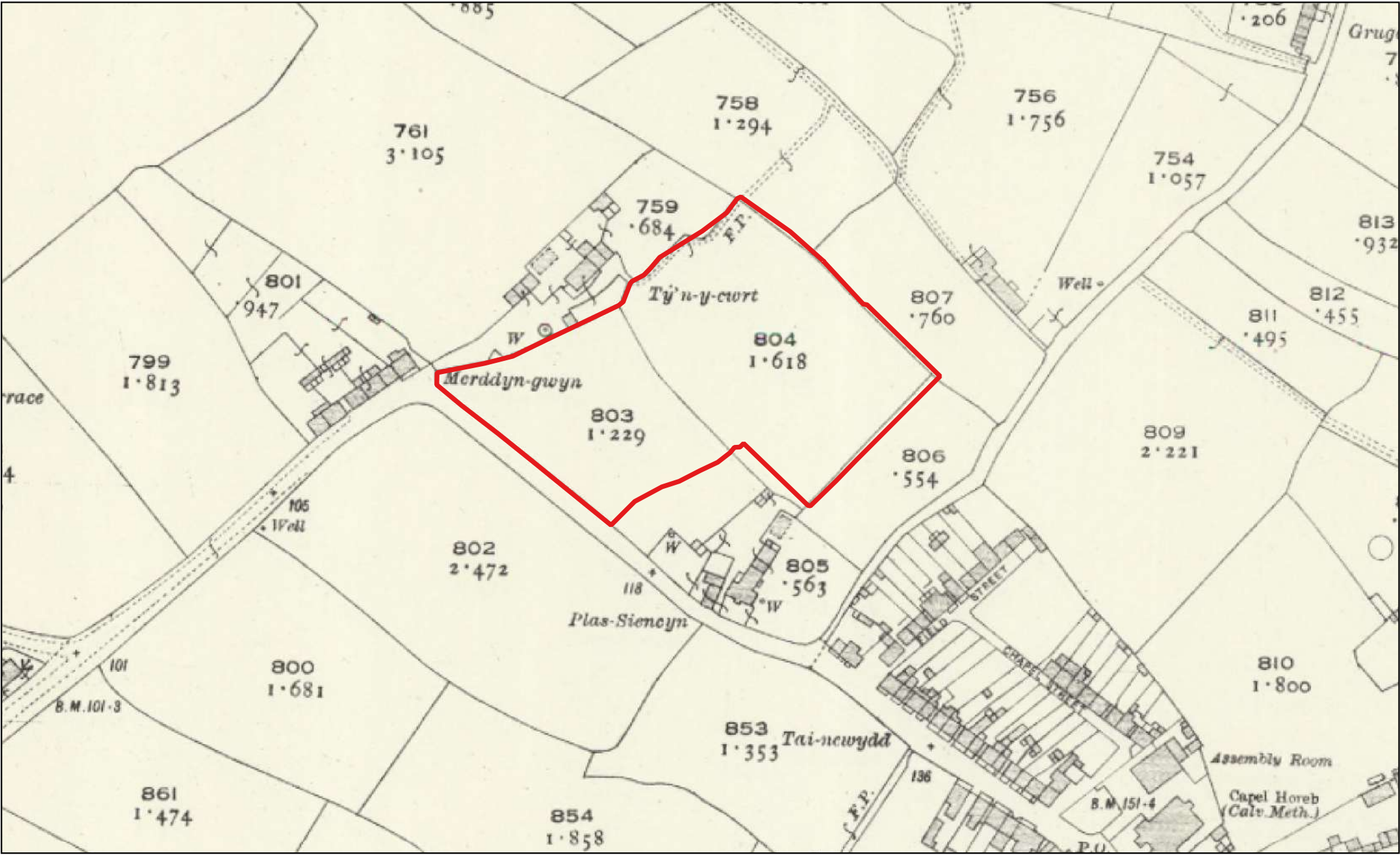
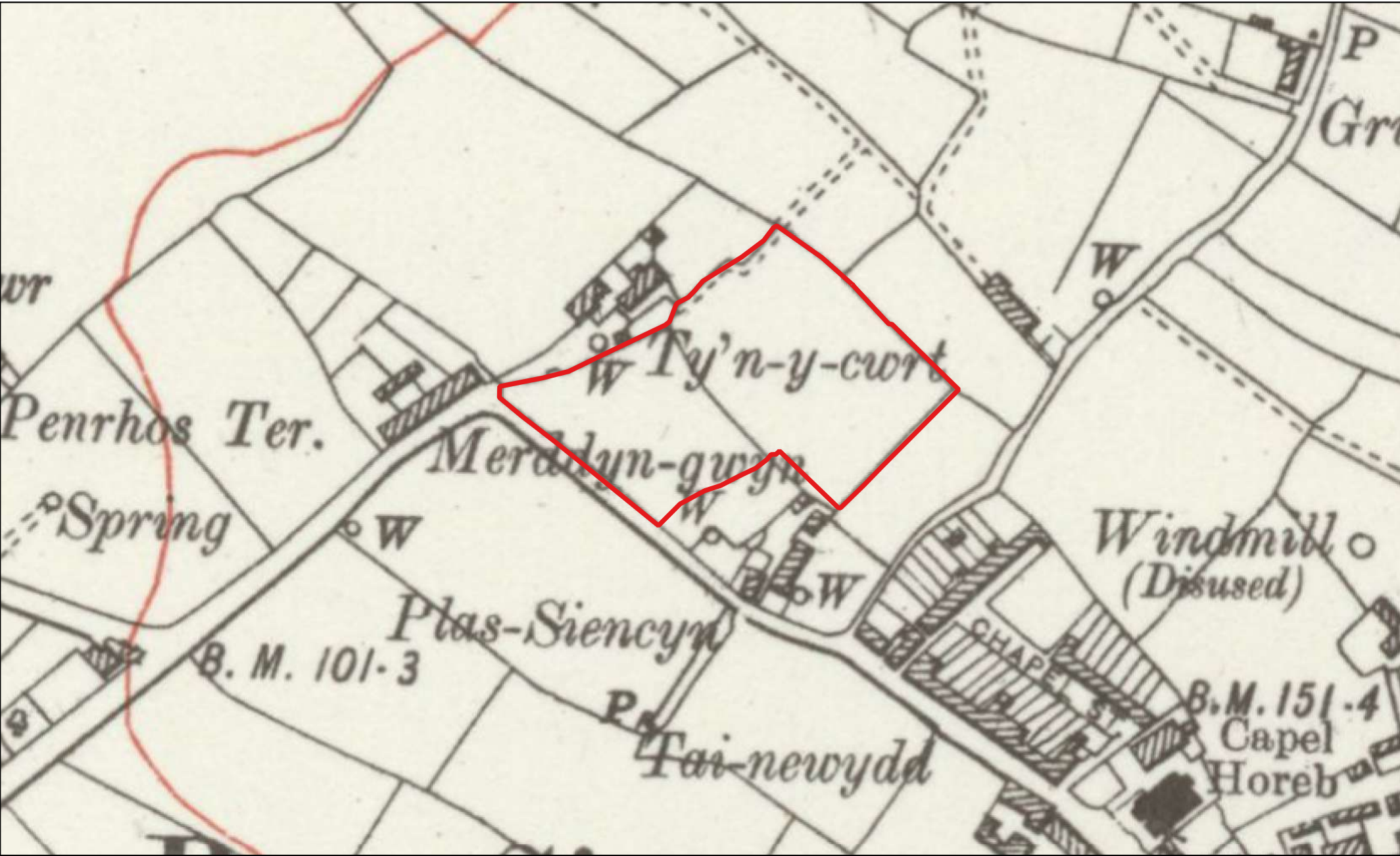


Figure 7 : 1925 OS Map



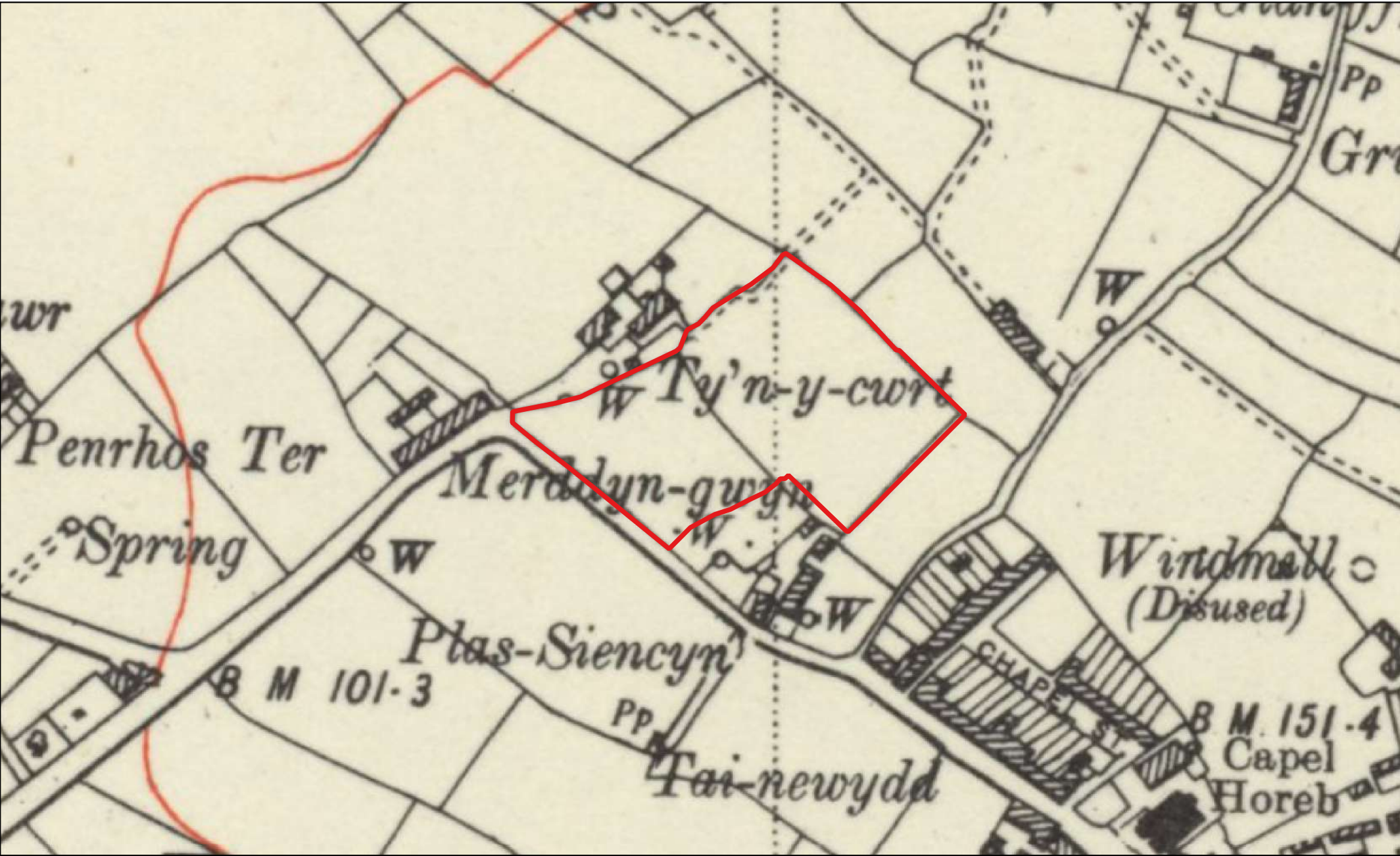
Archaeological Evaluation
23-1005 Brynsiencyn
23-1005-AER-V1.0

Site Boundary



0 50 100 m

Figure 8 : 1949 OS Map



Archaeological Evaluation
23-1005 Brynsiencyn
23-1005-AER-V1.0

Site Boundary



0 50 100 m

Figure 9 : 1953 OS Map

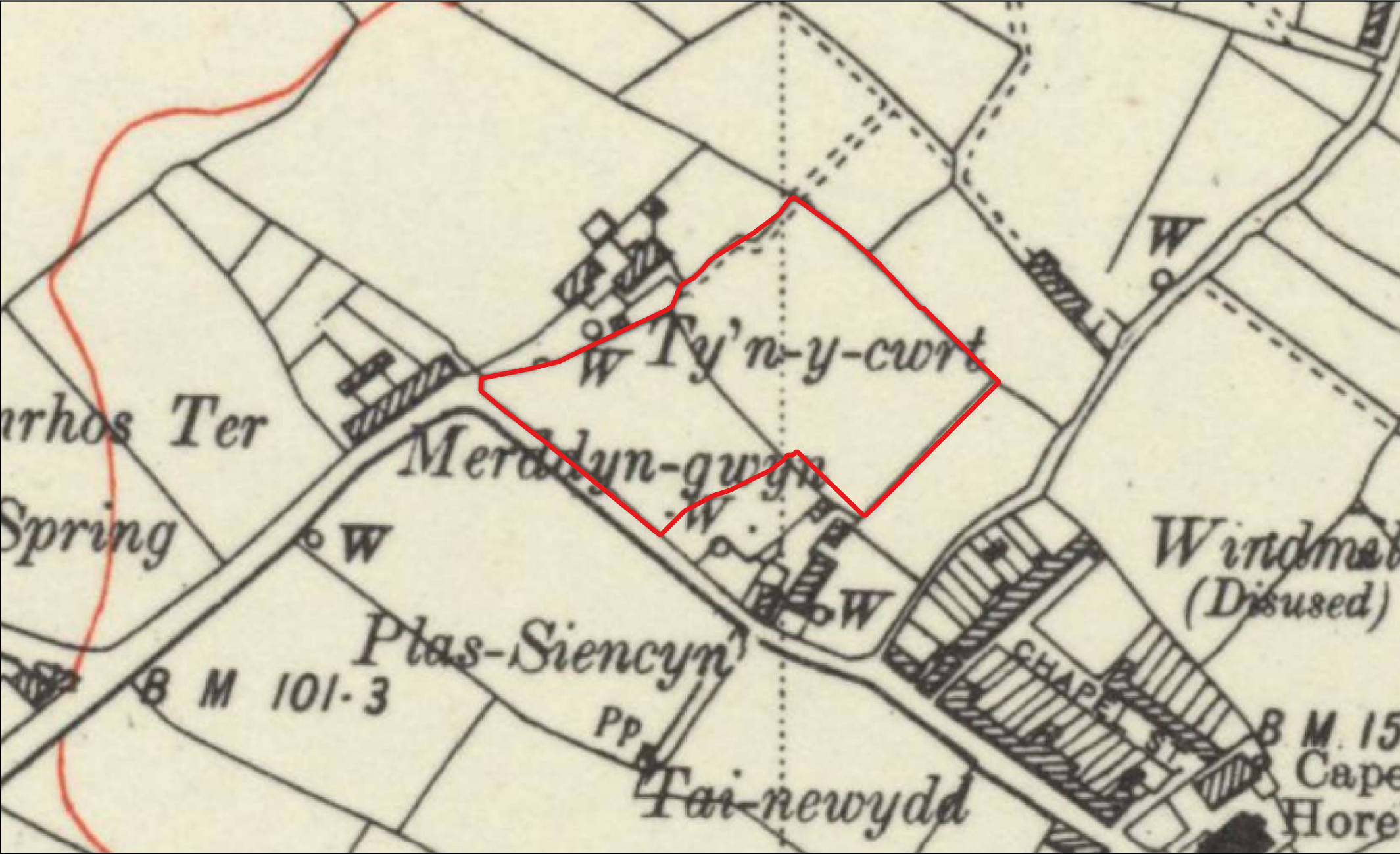


Figure 10 : 1963 OS Map

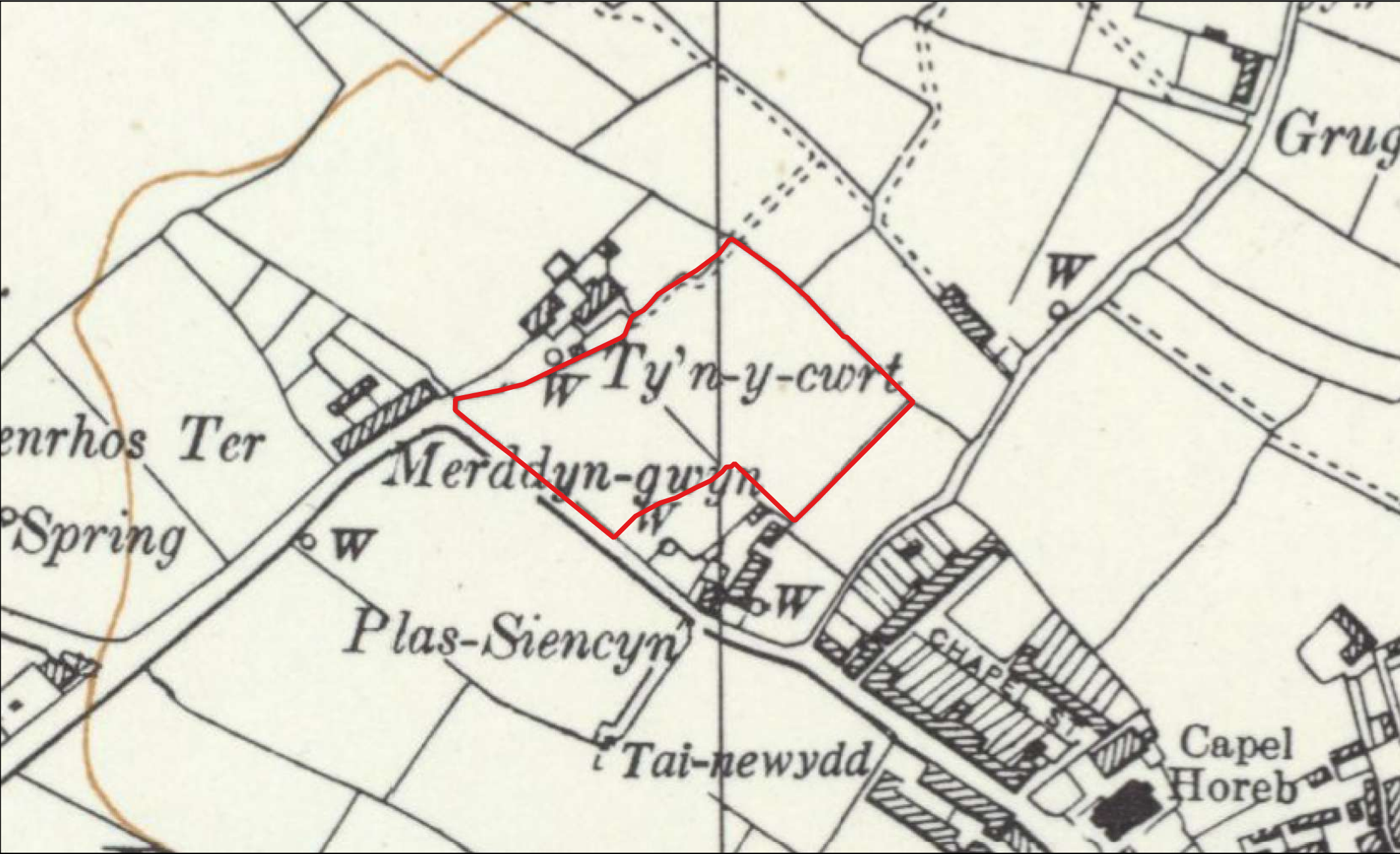


Figure 11 : 1973 OS Map

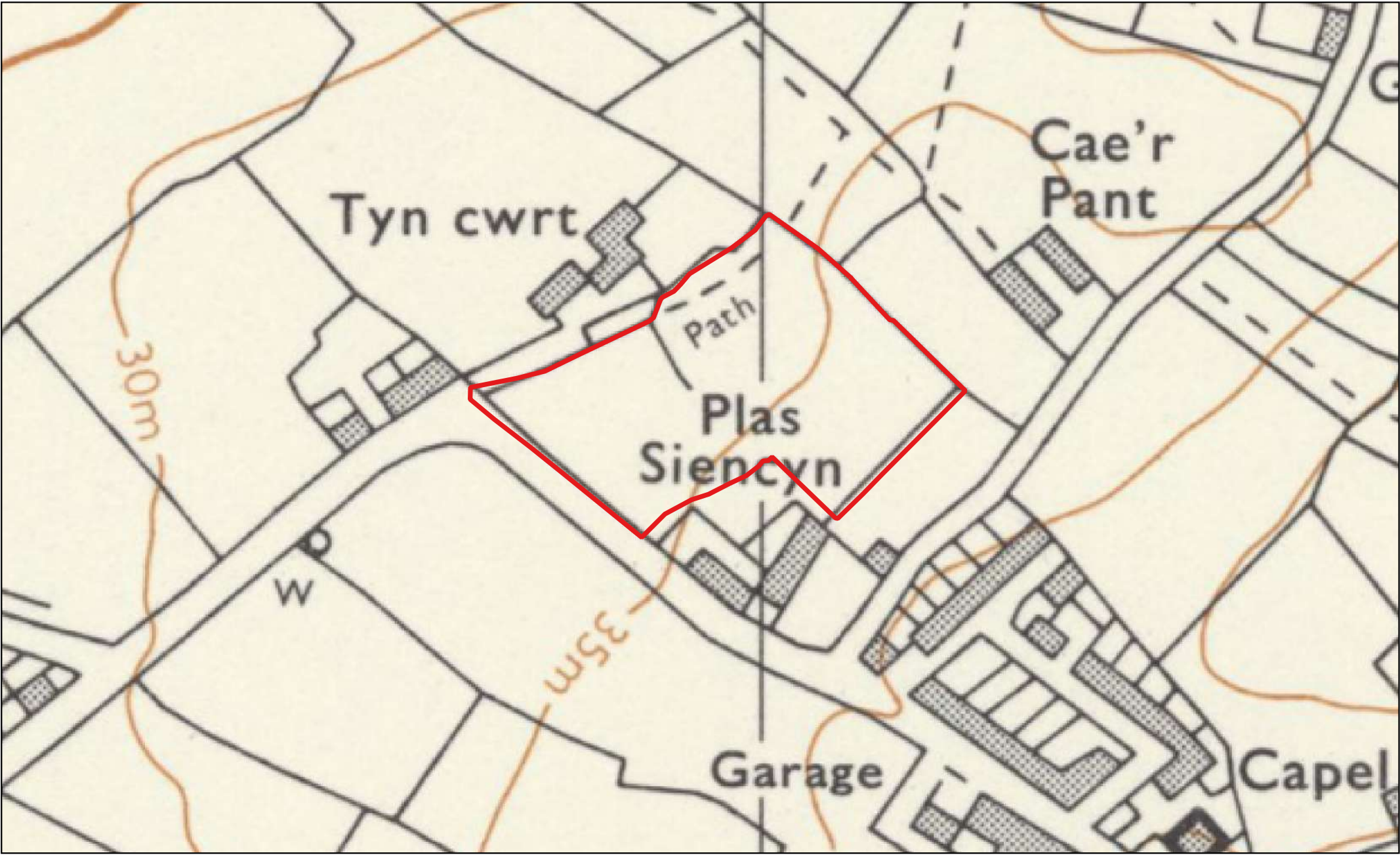


Figure 12 : Trench Location



Figure 13 : Trench Location

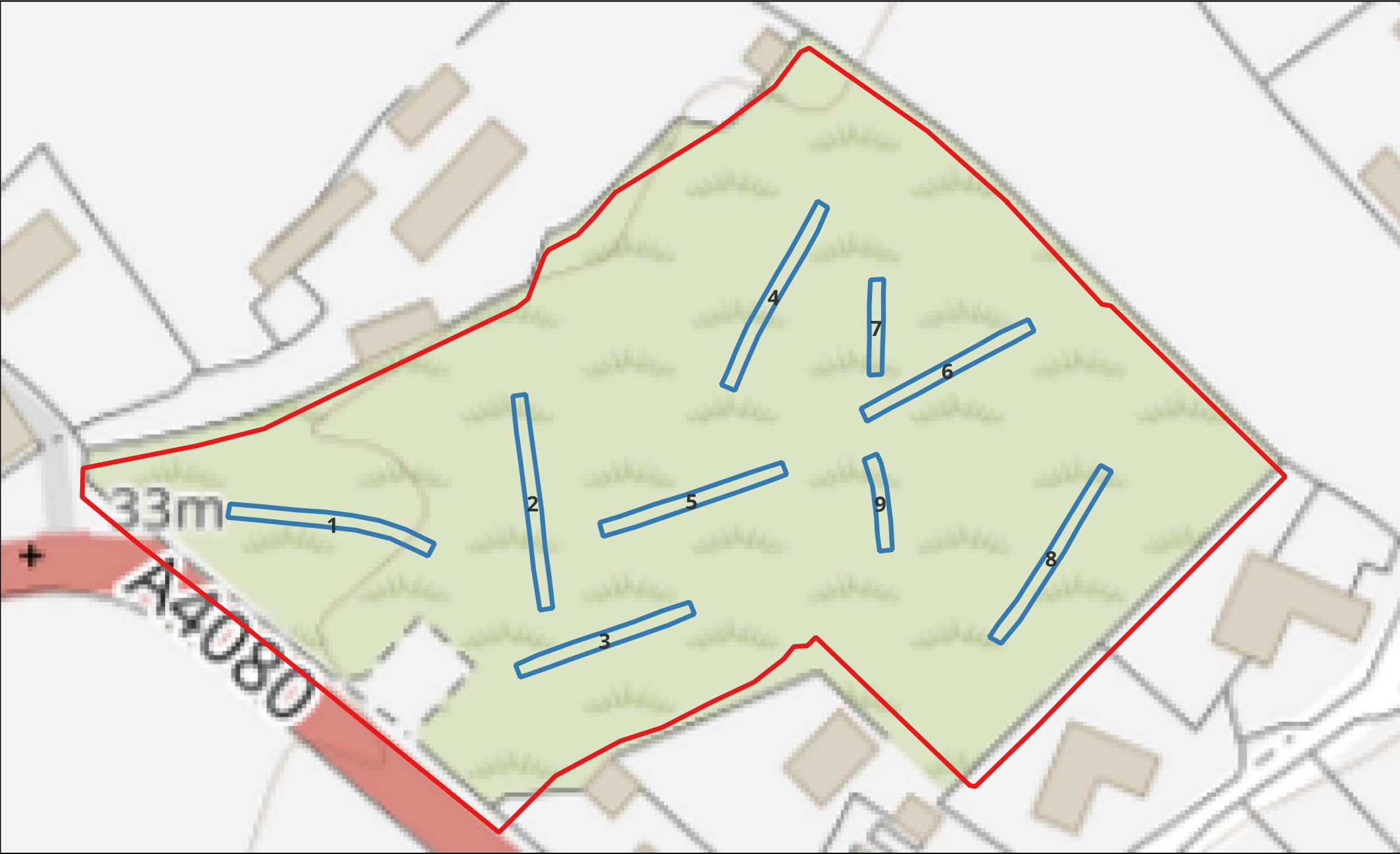


Figure 14 : Trench Location and ditch feature

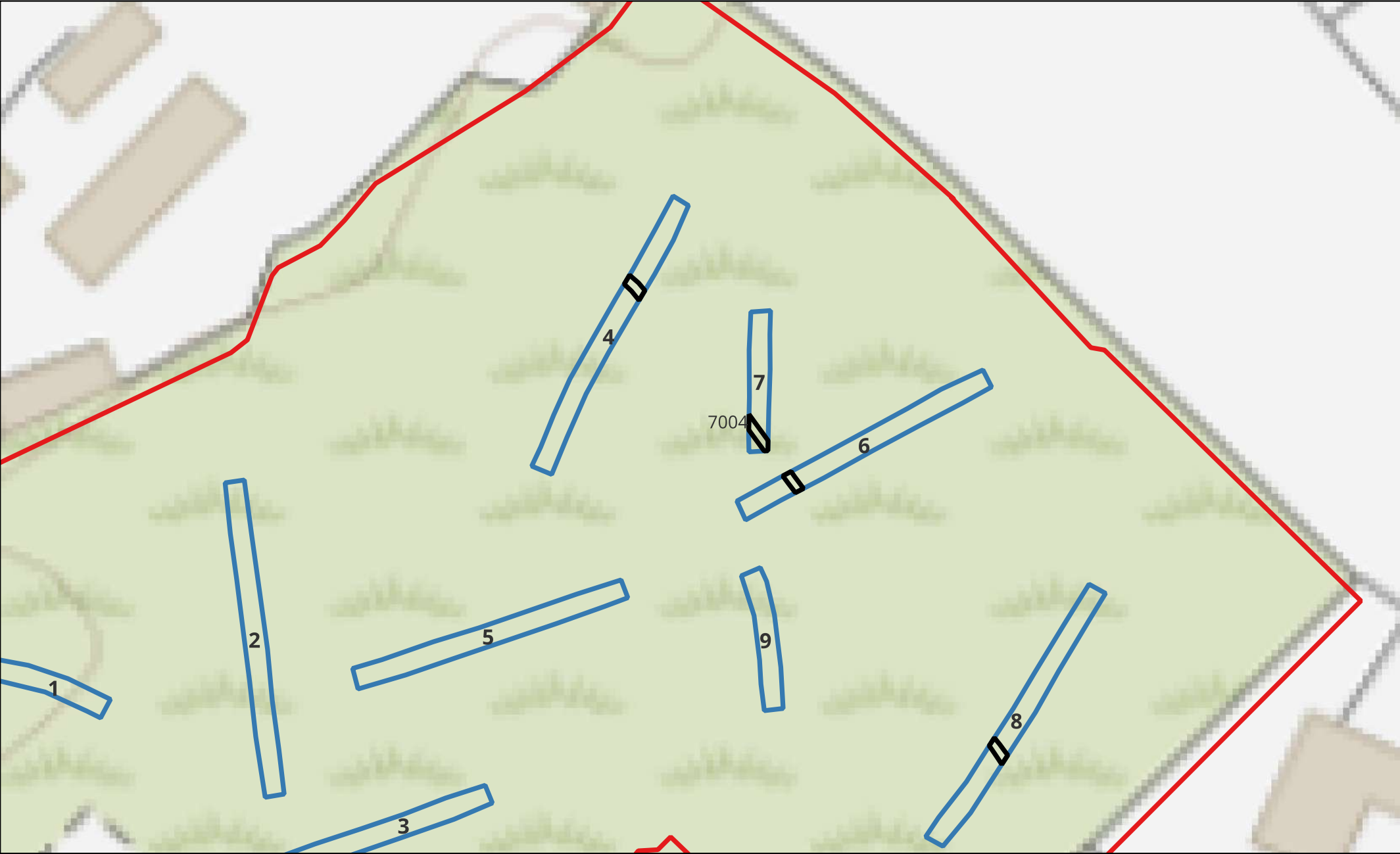


Figure 15 : Trench 4 Ditch feature [4004]

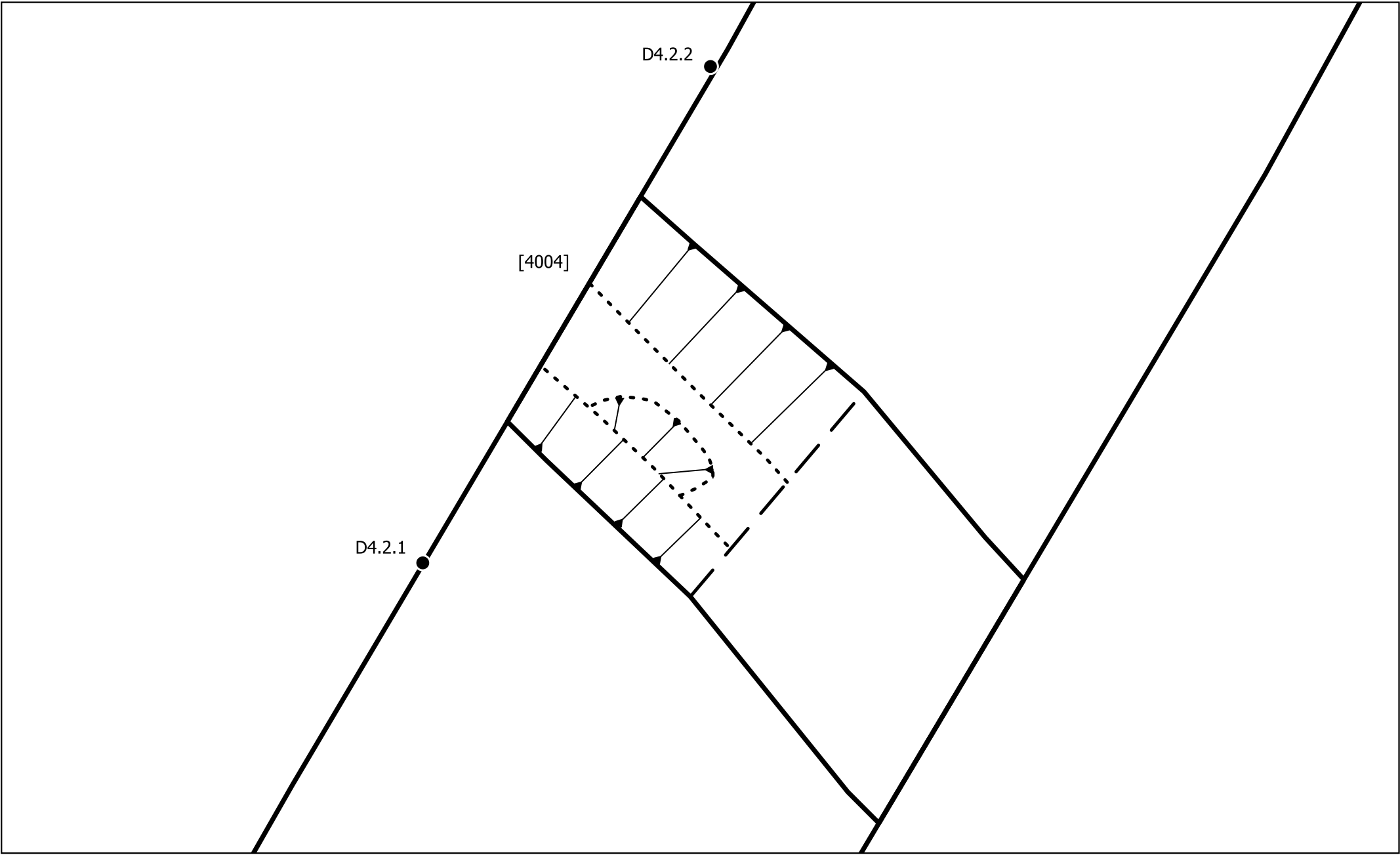


Figure 16 : Trench 6 & 7 Ditch feature

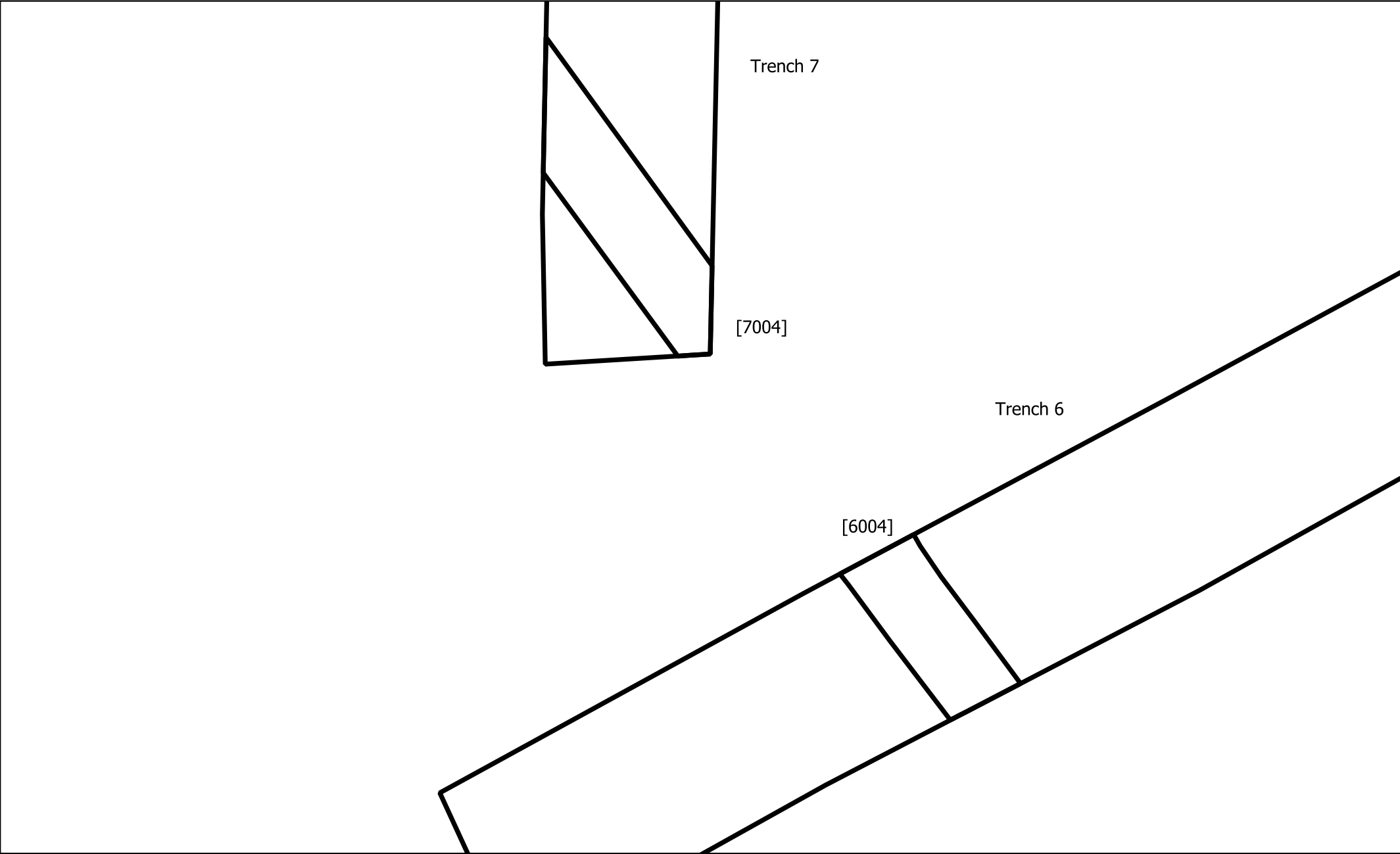
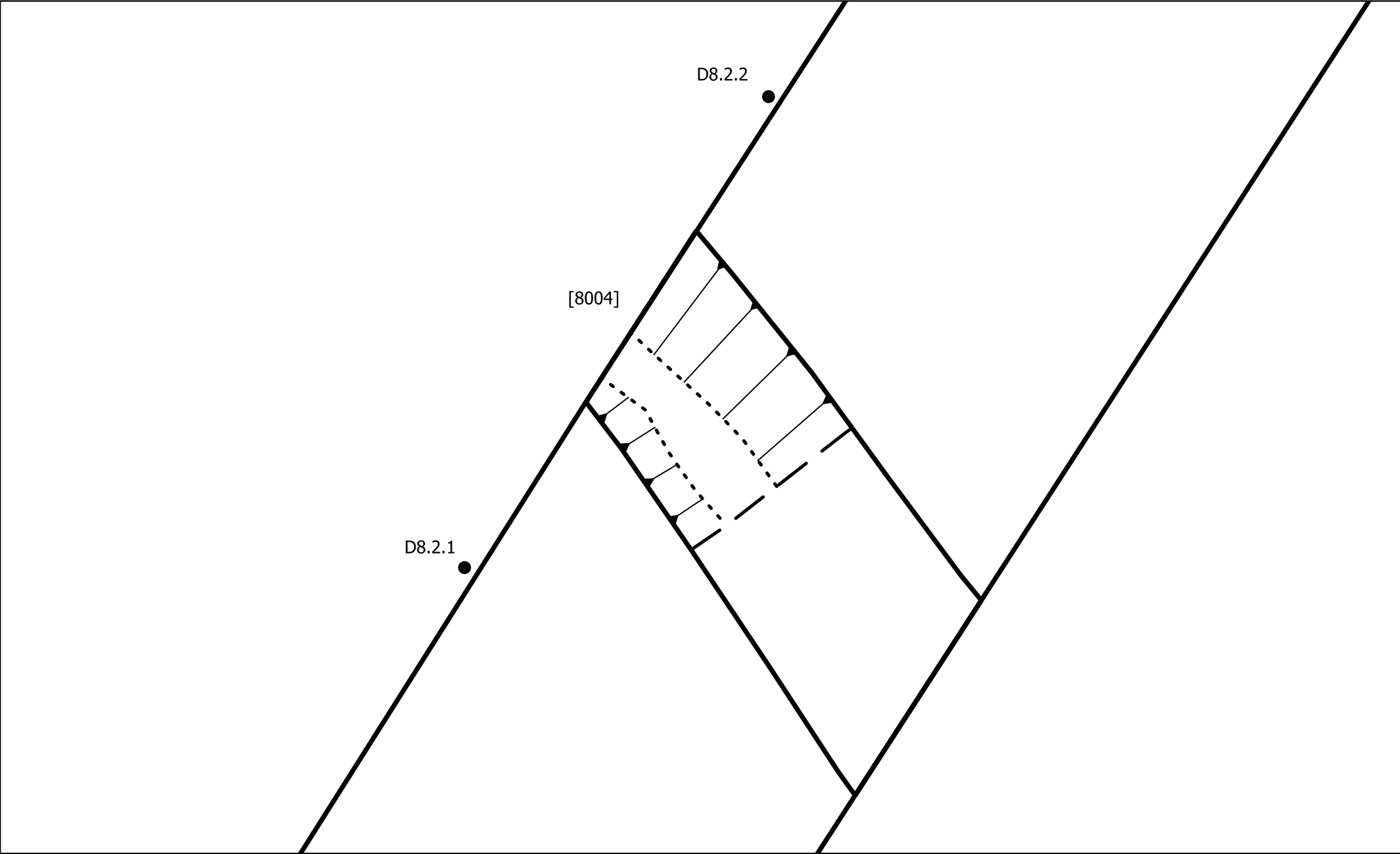
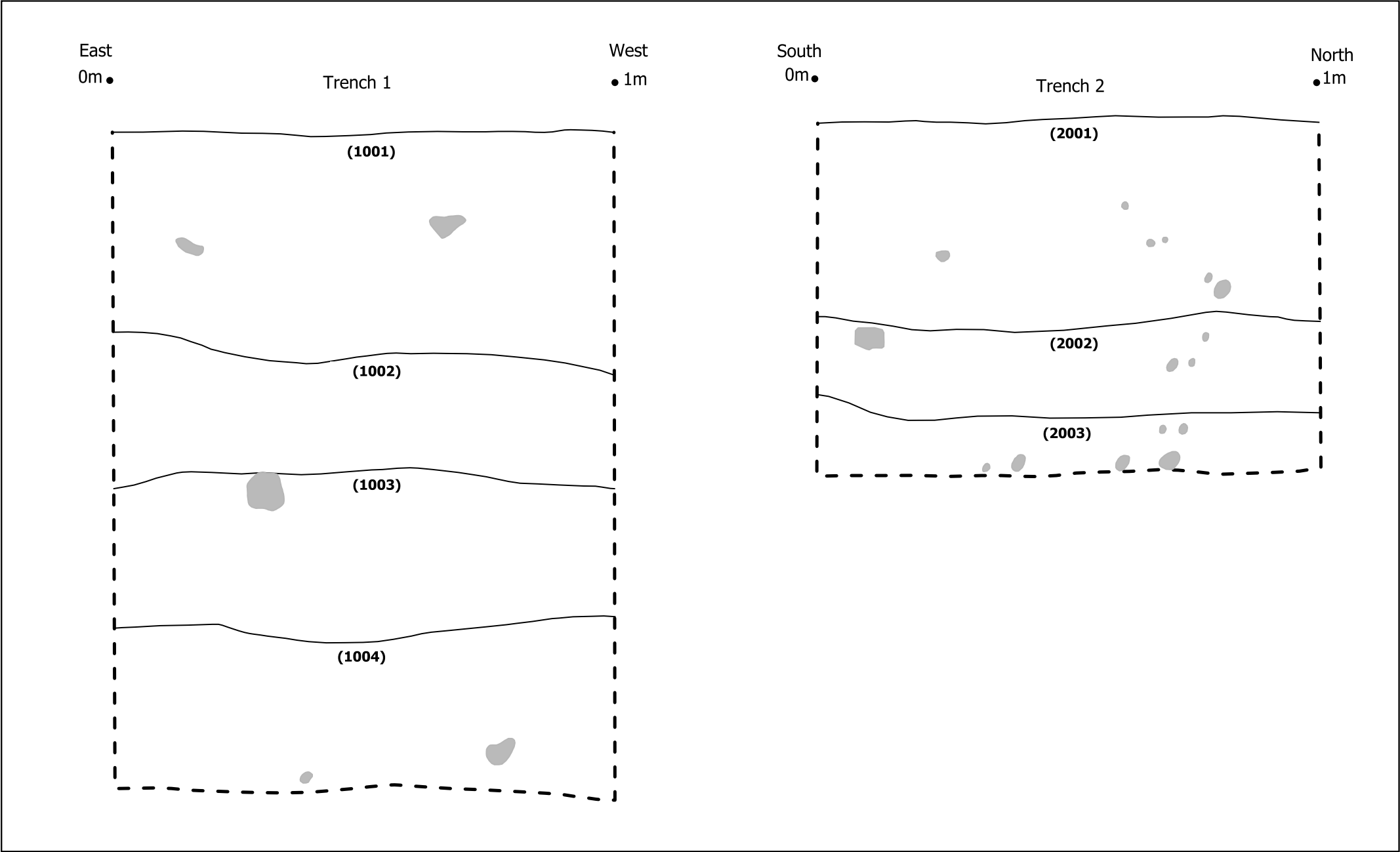


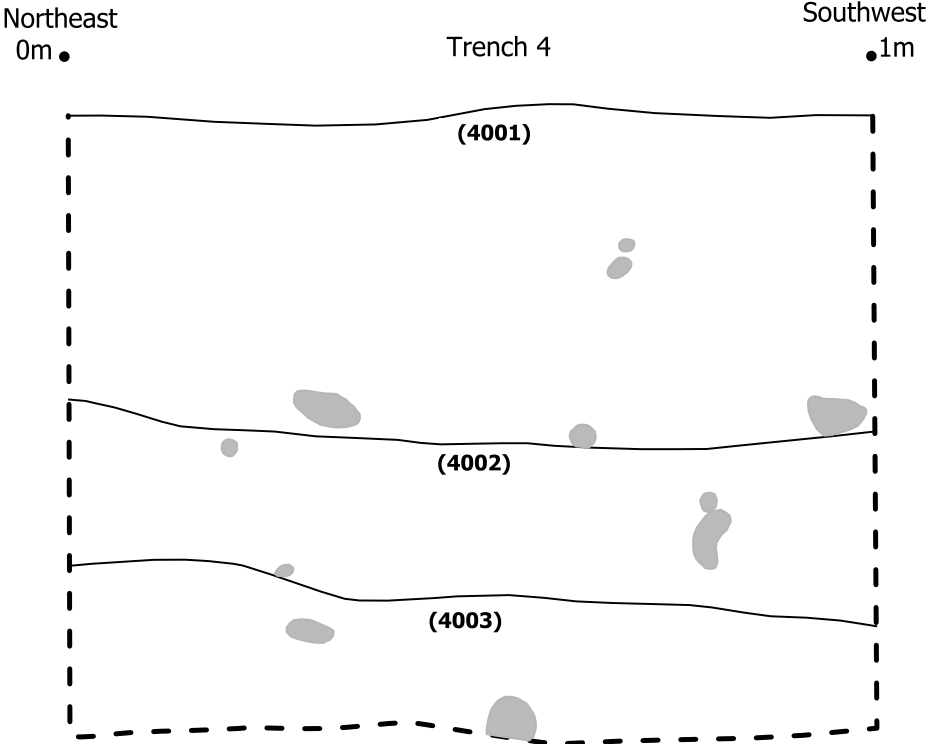
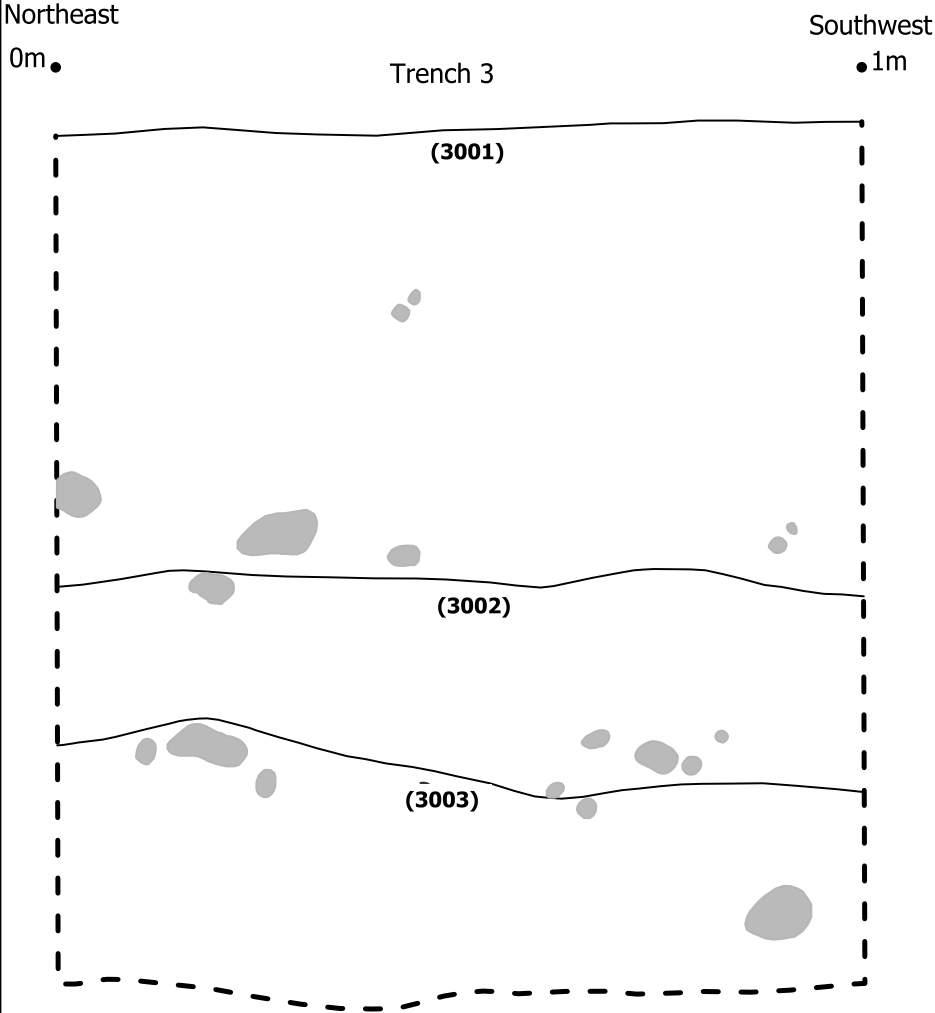
Figure 17 : Trench 8 Ditch feature [8004]



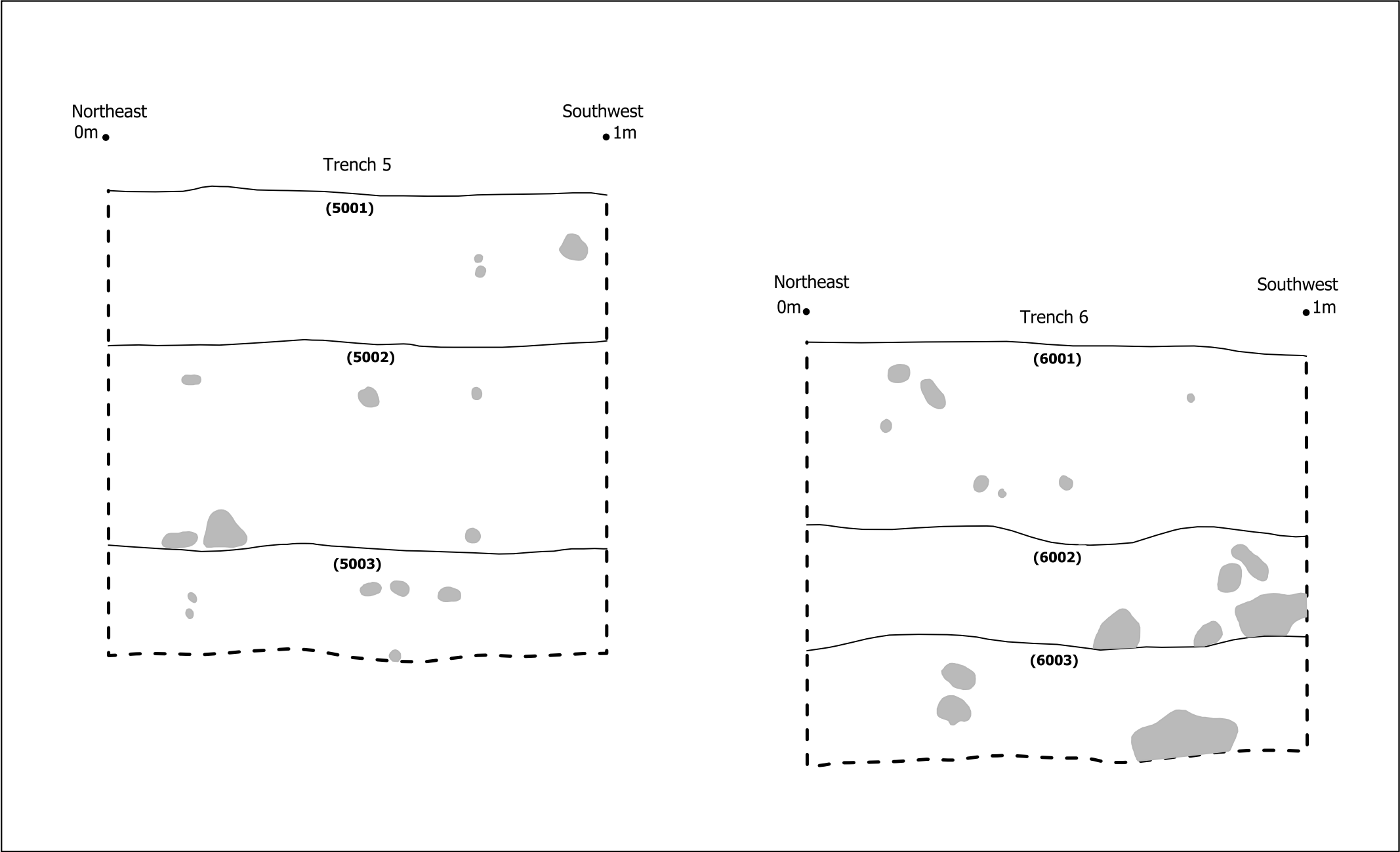
Representative Section



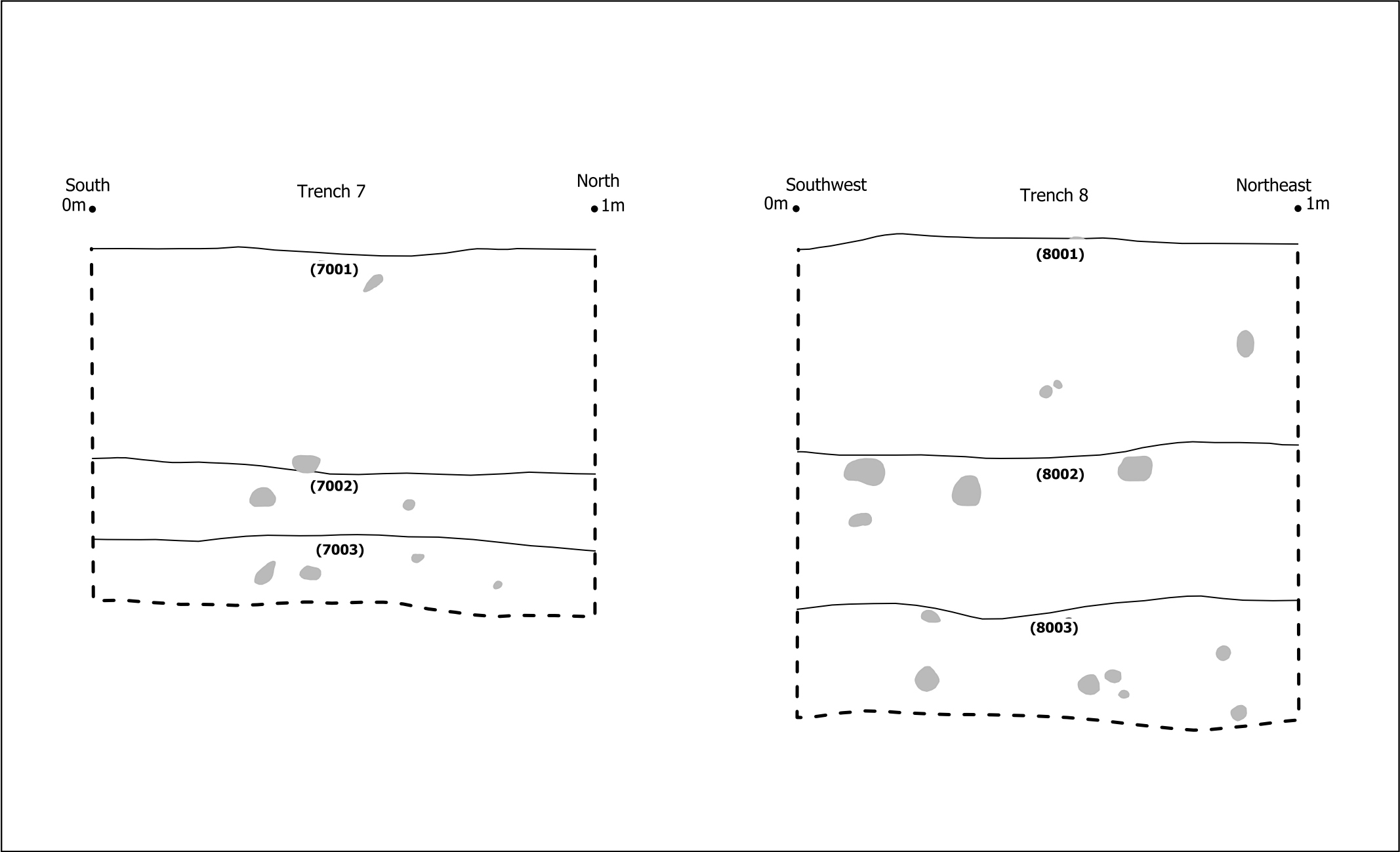
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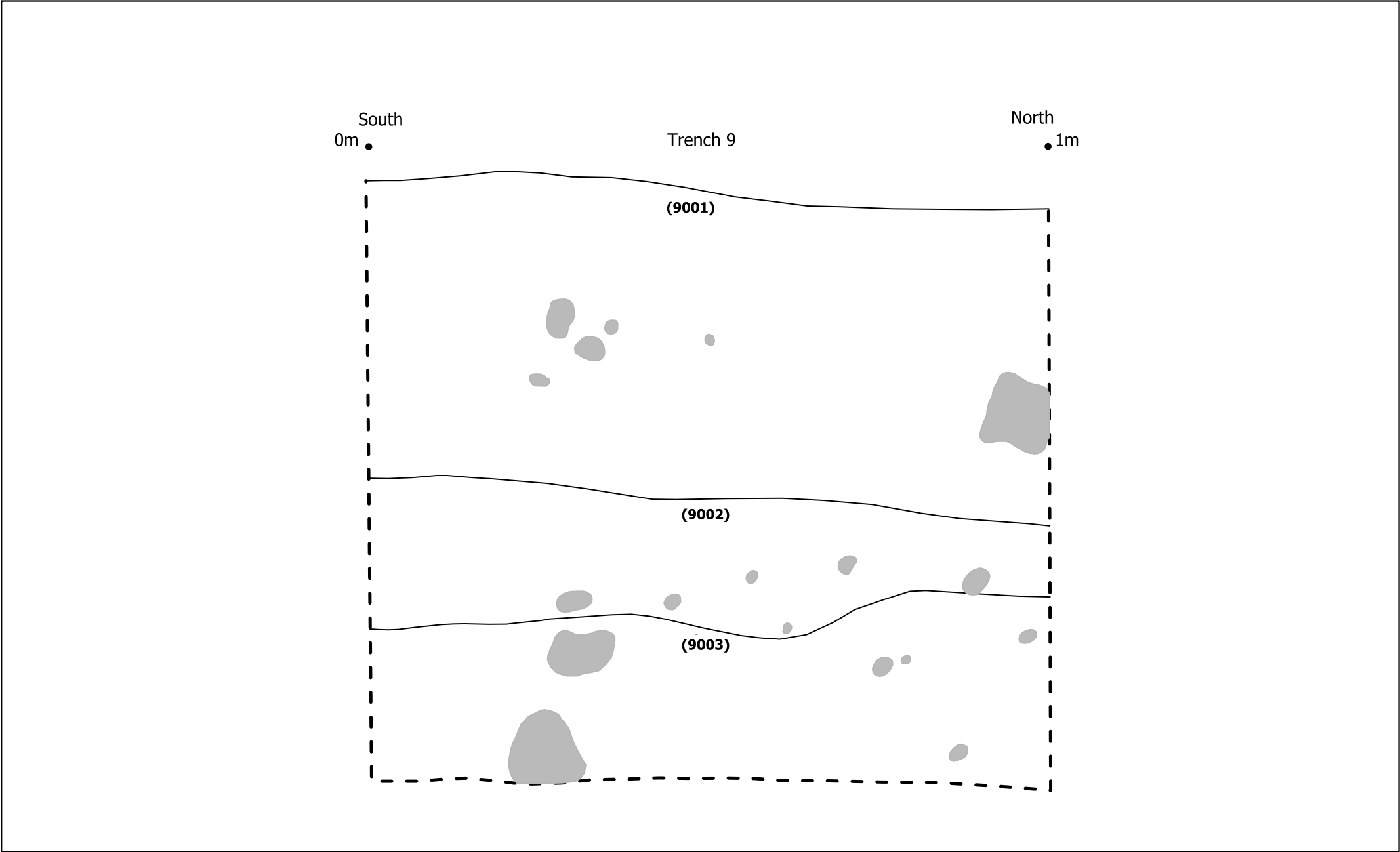
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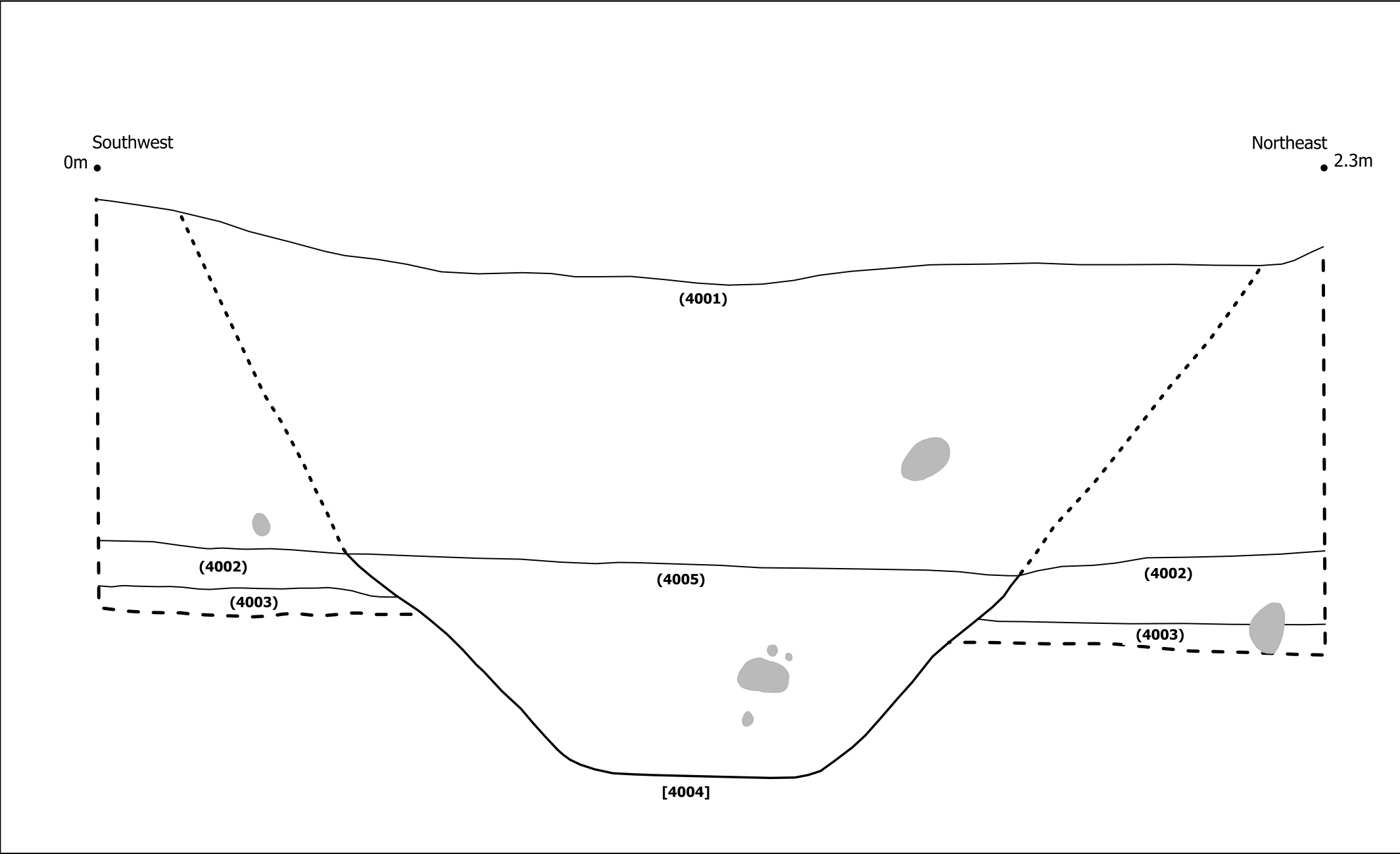
Representative Section



Representative Section



Representative Section



Representative Section

