



Biggar  
Archaeology  
group

Bringing the past to the present

**Clydesdale Project**

# **Millhill of Wandel**

**Survey and excavation**

**May 2019**

## Millhill of Wandel NS 95230 27596

### Canmore Ref 73499

The settlement adjacent to Wandel Mill is depicted on Roy's Military Survey of Scotland, 1747 but on no subsequent maps. The OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition, 1858, merely shows Old Wandel Mill. An alternative access road from Woodend to Wandel Mill is depicted by Forrest and Thomson. Canmore refers to a farmstead of an unassigned period. Documentary evidence comes from the Register of the Great Seal of Scotland, 1558 wherein three merklands (land to the value of three merks or 3X13/4d Scots) were occupied by Archibald Goodfellow and one by Thomas Symsoun and the testaments of Agnes Watson (1638) and Alexander Frizell (1733). See Appendix II.

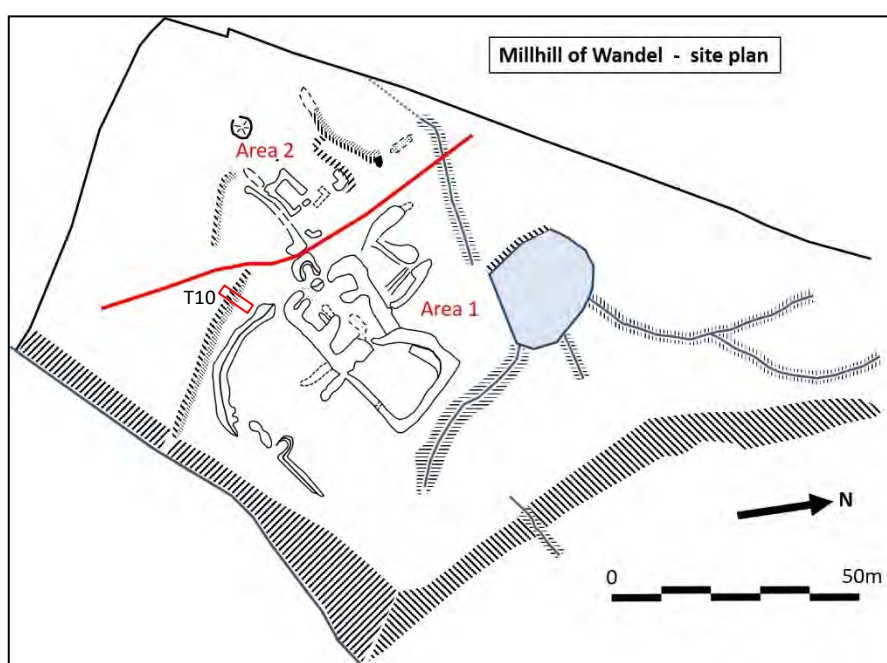


Fig. 1

### Area 1

Work started on 12 May 2019 with a survey of the most prominent features at 1:100 as identified by field walking and aerial images on Canmore. This identified a set of banks and natural features (see Fig. 1). A modern drainage system and pond were included. A further detailed survey at 1:20 was carried out at a bank complex where several small cell enclosures were identified around NS 95247 27579. Most banks were approximately 0.5m high and 3m wide. This allowed an assessment of where diagnostic trenches would be dug. A number of other distinct banks were identified. Drone photography assisted the identification of the site features (Fig. 13).

The small banks and enclosures in the western part of area 1 suggested houses and/or stock enclosures. The eastern areas were much larger which suggests cropping areas with banks to exclude animals.

Adjoining the NW side of the main bank is a series of banks creating an enclosed space 30m x 15m and within this several small cell enclosures were identified which may have been dwellings or stock

enclosures. There is an entrance at the SW end with an external bank which may have provided protection from the weather. Inside there are three compartments connected by central openings. The larger compartment at the NE end is 15m in length, the other two are around 7m.

Excavation began 14.7.2019 after permission was gained from Douglas Telfer, the landowner.

The junction where the central bank meets a short earth bank which extends 5m into the enclosure from the SE side was examined in Trench 6. The 3.0x1.0m trench explored the junction of the two banks, each c.500mm high. The bank to the SE was stone-less to depth of 500m. The NE-SW bank is made from compacted earth with quite large (c250mm) stones in the core.

Leading away from the large bank to the NW are four shorter banks which form part of the assumed enclosure, and were explored in trenches T1-T4.

At the SW end of the enclosure, trench 2 (5.0x0.5m) exposed two parallel banks, 250mm high and close together, the inner one is of predominantly earth construction, and quite light in colour but the outer bank had many more stones. Between the two the soil is darker and stone-less and on the outer side more stones were found in darker soil which suggests tumble into a former ditch.

Between the two smaller compartments, trench 1 (4.0x0.5m), showed the bank was of compacted, light coloured, largely stone-less soil and with darker soil at both sides. In addition along the SW side of the bank large, flat stones were found carefully placed on edge in five parallel lines. The trench was extended laterally at this point to reveal a stone-lined trough 500x300mm dug into the old ground surface.

Between the largest area at the NE end of the enclosure and the small compartments is another earth bank (Trench 3, 5.0x0.5m) 200mm high, of compacted subsoil topped with medium sized stones, many of which have fallen to the sides, or possibly been pulled down subsequently to level the site.

Within the central, small compartment a test pit (T11, 1.0x1.0m) exposed topsoil to a depth of c.150mm above the old ground surface (ogs).

At the NE end of the larger compartment, the bank (T4, 2.0x0.5m) 200mm high, was again of earth and stone construction but on the outer, NE side there is dark, waterlogged soil leading to the water table at a depth of c.650mm.

On the NW side of the enclosure and large compartment there are adjacent two banks (T5, 5.0x0.5m). The inner bank 700mm high is dark grey stone-less medium. The outer bank 650mm high is soil and stone construction. On the outer, NW side, the sloping ground becomes waterlogged.

Within the large NE compartment a test pit (T12, 1.0x1.0m) exposed topsoil to a depth of c.100mm to a waterlogged gley which in turn lay 380mm above the ogs.

On the SW side of Area1 and on the SE side of the main bank the banks followed the natural break of slope. The inner one enclosed an area too big for a building and more appropriate for crops, and the other outer bank enclosed a much larger area.

The inner bank 600mm high is constructed of earth and medium stones with a 1.0m wide core (T8, 5.8x0.5m). The natural slope is exposed on the outside or SW of the bank. On either side is dark soil with several stones from tumble, especially on the downside to the SW.

Inside the enclosed area a test pit (T9, 1.0x1.0m) showed quite dry topsoil to a depth of c250mm above the ogs. This would be consistent with ground suitable for growing garden crops.

The outer bank, 550mm high and c.1m wide, is constructed almost entirely of stones. On the SW, outside of the enclosure the natural slope and ogs are visible with stones as revetment or tumble lower down. On the inside, NE side of the bank is a ditch, later filled with stones. The bottom of the ditch is 500mm below the ground surface whereas the natural ogs on the outside is 250mm below.

An additional trench, T7 was opened in 2019. The initial 1m<sup>2</sup> trench was opened to the south-west of the bank complex (NS 95202 27575) subsequent to the discovery of metal-detector finds in this location (M5, 7) where a cobbled area was revealed. This was extended to an 'L'-shaped format and further cobbling revealed. This was continued and expanded in 2020. Another cluster of metal detector finds emerged in the close vicinity.

The standard method for constructing the banks seems to involve using the turf and topsoil from either side of the line of the bank down to the ogs and using any stones that were uncovered. Some banks have very few stones.

In the case of the more prominent banks, especially the central bank and the field enclosures to the south, considerable amounts of stone were used to form the core of the bank.

In places, a deeper trench or ditch was dug on one side of the bank. This would have increased the height and provided a greater barrier to livestock. In other places the ditch would have assisted with drainage.

Where there is a scatter of medium sized stones around the banks it is difficult to determine whether this is original revetment, or tumble from the top of the bank. It may also be the result of later action to level the site.

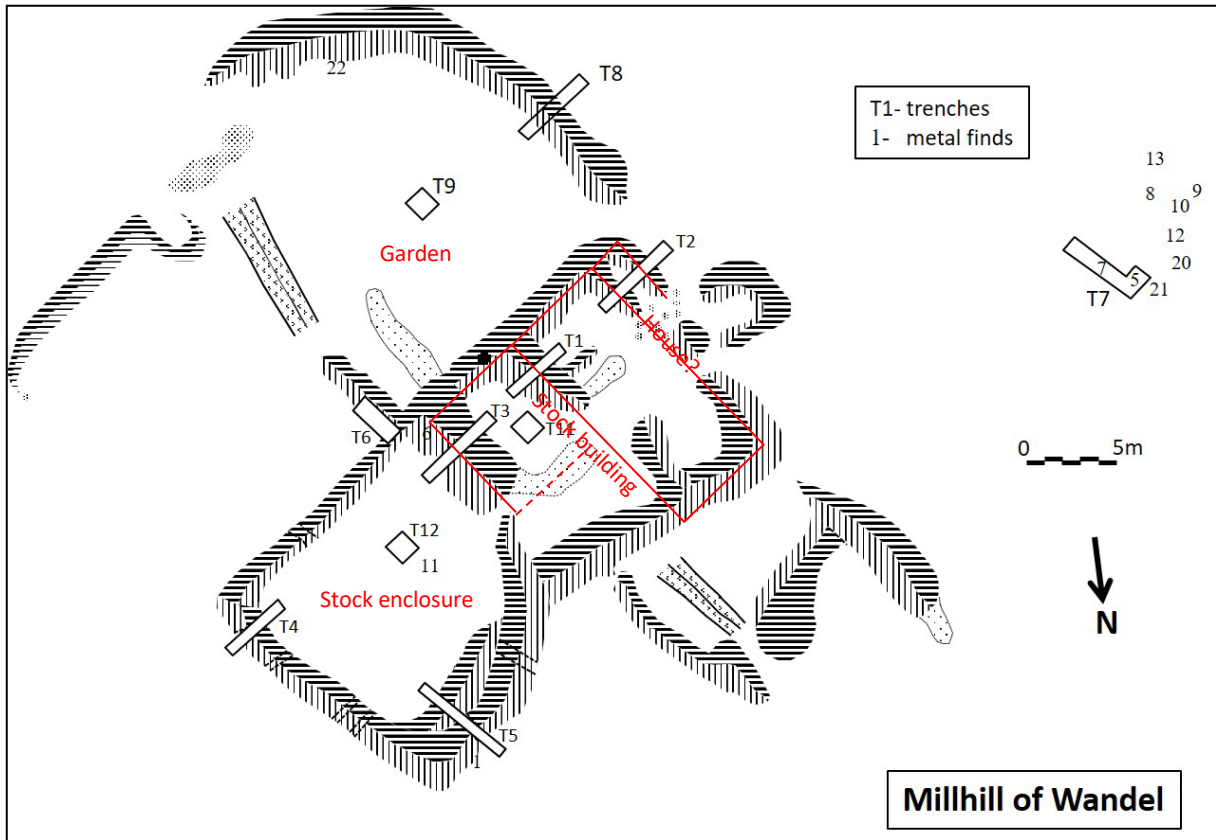


Fig. 2 Millhill of Wandel – Area 1 - surveyed banks and location of trenches

**Trenches (Fig. 2)**

- 1 Figs. 3 and 4. 4.0x0.5m. The 0.54m high bank was composed of largely stoneless soil and appeared to be supported by an embedded stone revetment at the southern end. The stones in the revetment had been placed vertically in five or six parallel lines. The trench was later extended to reveal a stone-lined trough with incidental packing stones.

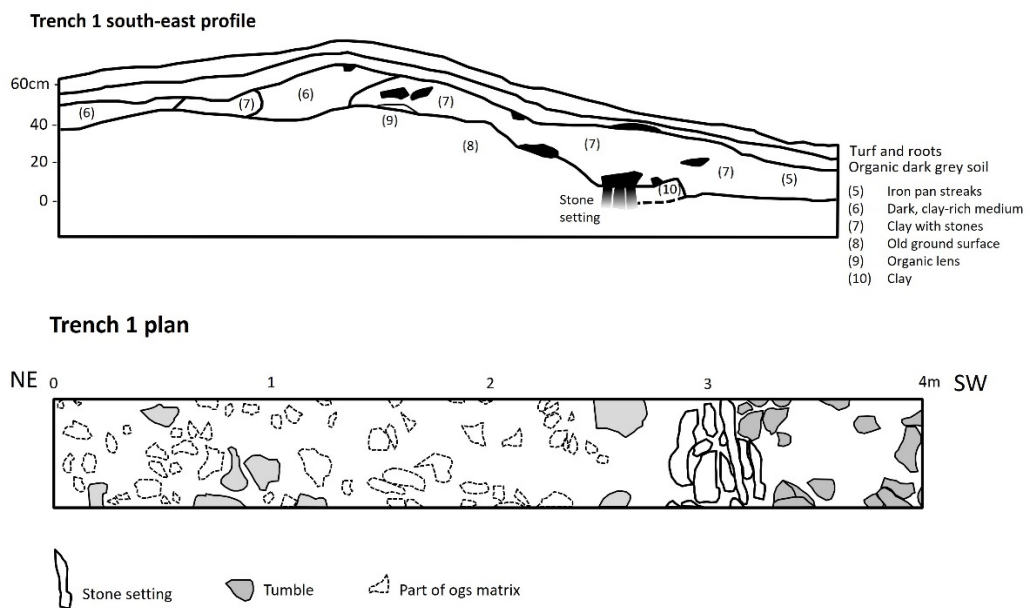


Fig. 3 – Trench 1 profile and plan



Fig. 4 Stone setting at south-western end of

trench 1 later revealed as a stone-lined trough

- 2 5.0x0.5m. (Fig. 5). A 0.25m high bank composed of largely stoneless soil but with distinct clusters of c.120mm diameter sub-angular stones c. 1.5m distant from the centre of the trench. These may have been tumble from the bank.

**Trench 2**

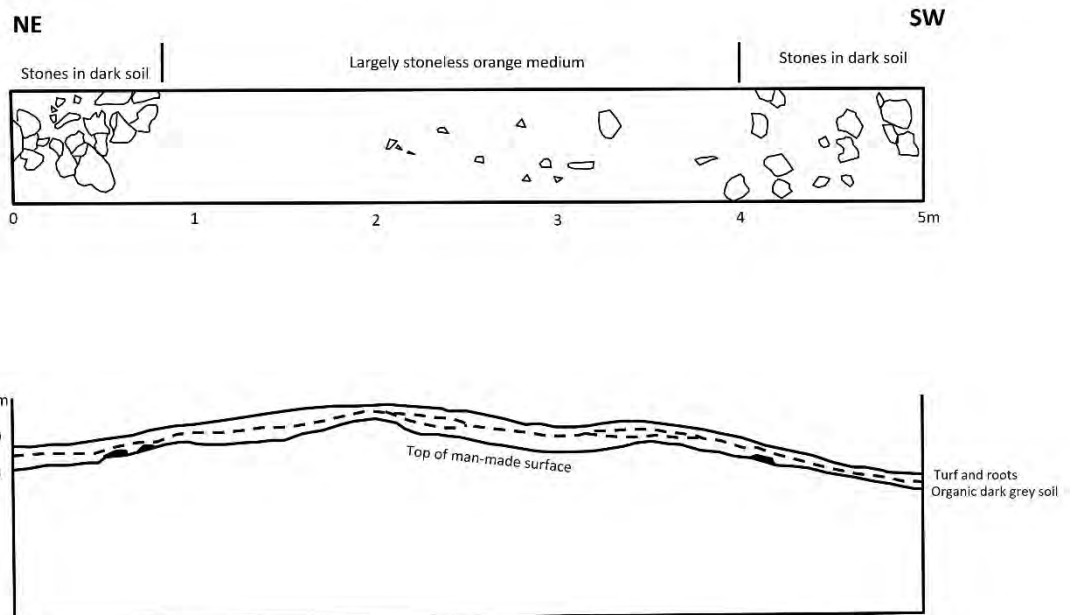
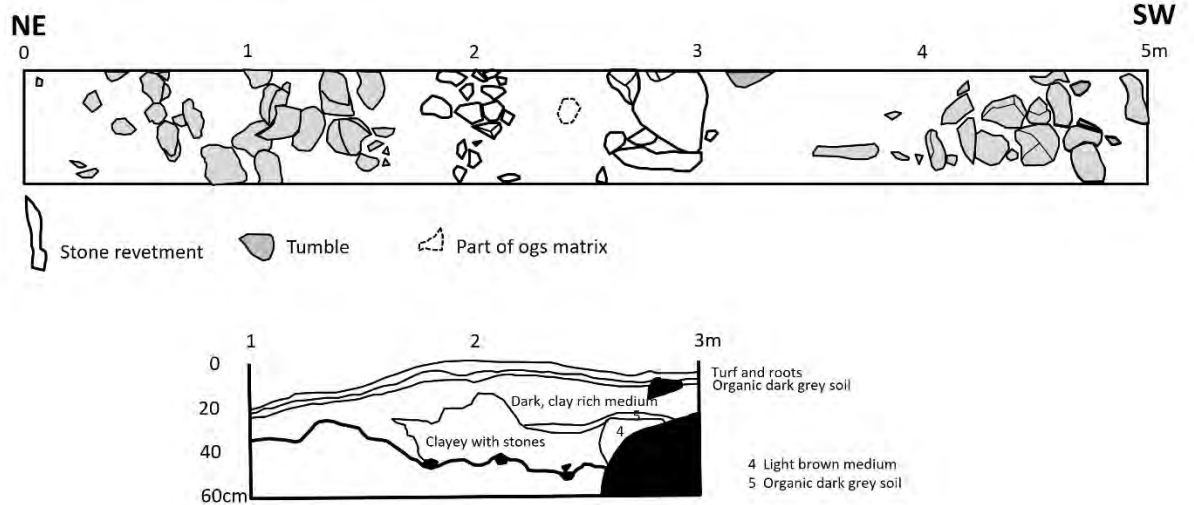


Fig. 5 – T2 plan and profile

- 3 5.0x0.5m. (Fig. 6). A 0.2m bank composed of dark stony soil with two stone revetments 0.5m from the centre and a stone tumble scatter extending to 2.5m on either side of the centre. Angular sub-stones were found throughout.

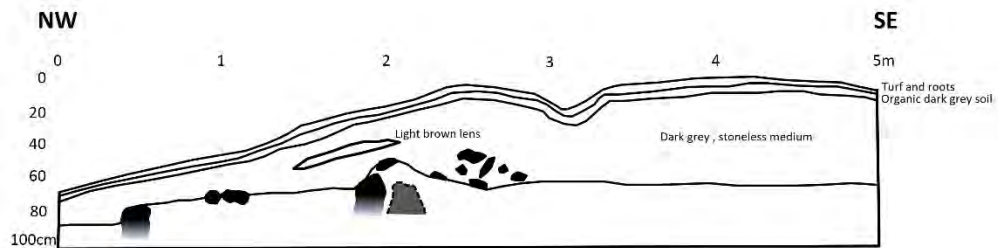
**Wandel trench 3 plan and profile**



*Fig. 6 – T3 plan and profile*

- 4** 2.0x0.5m. A 0.2m high bank on northern edge of the system with 0.6m stone core, stone-less soil cap and a scatter of stone-less soil extending to full length of trench. The water table was reached at depth of 0.65m.
- 5** 5.0x0.5m (Fig. 7), cutting across two banks, the inner bank was 0.7m high and of dark grey stone-less medium. The outer bank was 0.65m high with 15cm diameter stone core and light brown stone cap. The water table was reached at the bottom of western edge.

**Wandel trench 5 profile**



*Fig. 7 – T5*

*profile and photo*

- 6 3x1m (Fig 8) at the junction of two banks 0.5m high. The eastern bank branch was stoneless to a depth of 0.5m. The NW-SE bank was of 250mm diameter stone construction with soil infill.

**Trench 6**

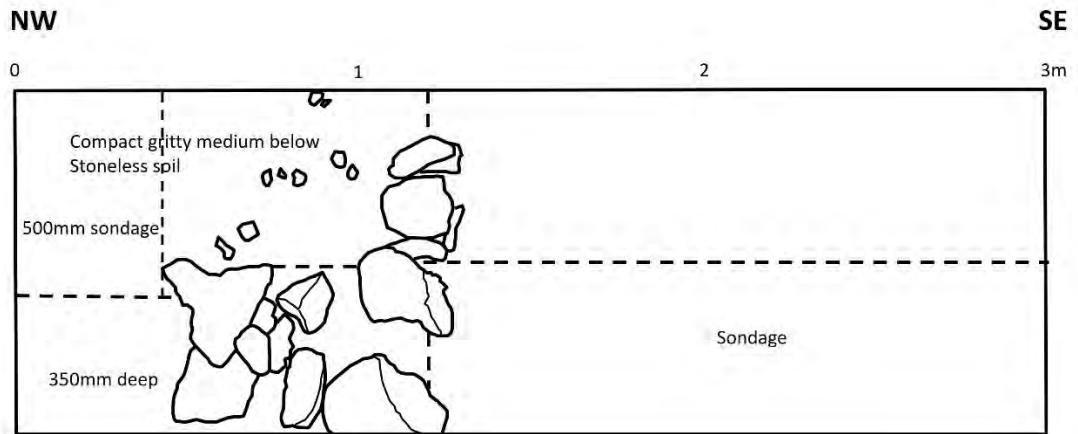


Fig. 8 – T6 plan

- 7 See Area 2.
- 8 2.8x5m. (Fig. 9). The bank was 0.6m high. The trench cut through the inner south-eastern embankment revealing a 1.0m wide core of compacted brown and beige material with stone which had been built on top of the ogs and emphasised the natural break of slope. Considerable tumble was located c.1.5m downslope on the southern side.

**Trench 8**

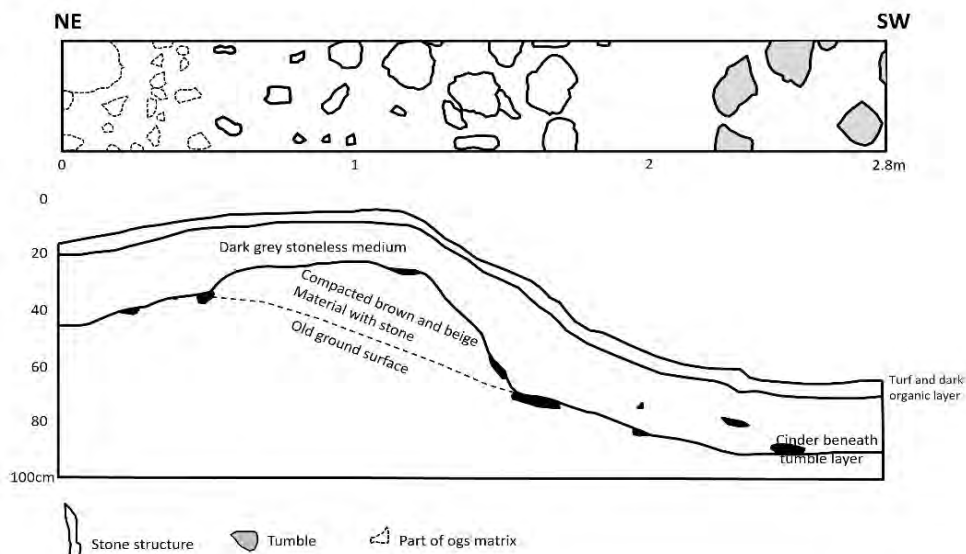


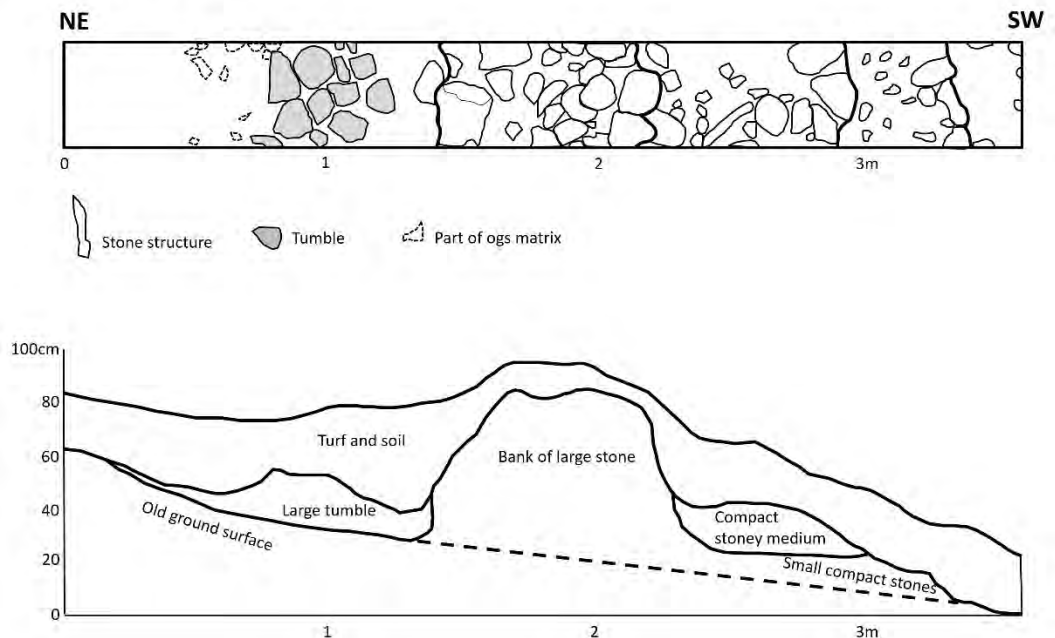
Fig. 9 – T8 plan and profile

- 9 1x1m. A trial trench located in centre of the south-eastern enclosure exposed a 0.3m depth of dark organic soil to ogs.



- 10** 3.6x0.5m. (Figs 1, 10, 11). A 0.55m high bank of the outer south-eastern enclosure. Central core consisted of large, compacted stone and earth c.1m wide with substantial tumble to the north. Further smaller compacted stone revetted the bank on the southern side.

**Wandel trench 10**



*Fig. 10 – T10 plan and profile*



*Fig 11 – T10, looking NE*

- 11** 1x1m trial pit was opened in the enclosure between trenches 2 and 3. It was shallow with 0.2m depth of soil to ogs. Stone scatter at northern end was possibly tumble from T3 bank.
- 12** 1x1m trial pit (Fig. 12) in the enclosure between trenches 3 and 4 had 0.35m depth of gley soil to ogs and the water table. (Sondage and sub-sondage were cut through featureless gley).



*Fig. 12 – T12*

Notable **finds** from area 1 (See Appendix 1) included three sherds of green-glaze post-medieval pottery from trench 3. Trenches 5, 6 and 8 produced fragments of clay pipe stems. Three flakes of worked chert (the significance of which will be discussed later) were retrieved from the area and a piece of red haematite with wool fibres attached used for sheep marking was found in trench 2. Overall, and in contrast to area 2, there was a dearth of finds.



*Fig. 13 – drone photography looking NE*

## Conclusion

The largely stoneless nature of the excavated banks suggested structures composed of turf banks. The substantial revetment of T1 and the clay and stony cores of Ts 2 and 3 suggested that these were wall structures of buildings. The tumbled stone on the flanks of T3 suggests a more substantial wall with these stones incorporated in the turf matrix. A house is likely to have occupied the area between Ts 1 and 2 with stock sheds to the north-east and south-west of this building. Although some slate was found in T2, there was not enough to suggest its use for roofing or flooring. The lack of a floor surface at T11 may indicate a non-domestic use and the more substantial wall at T3 suggests stock protection. The deep, dark organic soil at T9 is likely to be the product of domestic subsistence gardening. The gley at T12 would suggest stock rather than crop enclosure in this location.

## Area 2

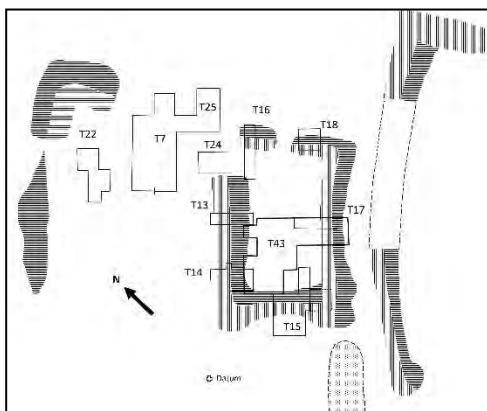
*This area is relatively high, level and dry, with low lying wet land around and sloping ground at the north-east and south-west sides.*

Consequent to the discovery of several metal finds and a cobbled area in trench 7, a comprehensive survey of area 2 was undertaken in March 2020. The plane table survey at 1:20 recorded a number of low banks which were assumed to be the sites of buildings or cropping enclosures created at different periods.

Shortly after the survey, Covid 19 restrictions curtailed the excavation of area 2 until July 2020 and the opening of trenches 13, 14 and 15.

## **Building 1**

The survey had indicated the possible outline of a structure measuring approximately 4.5x7m.



*Fig 14 – building 1 trenches*

Trenches 13 and 14 were cut across the north-eastern bank of the defined area and trench 15 across the south-western bank, each initially measuring 2x0.5m.

**T13** was a perpendicular 2x0.5m cut through a bank running north-east to south-west and a possible building wall. A 1m wide loosely consolidated stone matrix overlay an earth bank 300mm high.

When the stones were removed, the ogs was at a shallower depth on the NW side than the SE. Medium sized (c.10-15 cm) stones were mainly concentrated on the NE side of the bank, either as tumble or more likely, as revetment or protection on the exterior as the bank was constructed at the top of sloping ground (Fig 15).



*Fig 15 – T13 looking W*

**T14**, a 2.0x0.5m trench, parallel to and 2m SW of T13. It confirmed the stone and clay bonded construction to 15cm above ogs. A trench extension of 0.5m at the south-west was added (Fig 16). A coal-rich layer was found at a depth of 18cms along the north-west side (Fig 17), indicating that the ground had been disturbed to a greater depth on that side, as in T13. Embedded in the bank was a large fragment of green glaze pottery.



*Fig 16 – T14 looking N*



*Fig 17 – T14 looking E*

These trenches indicated the construction of earth and turf banks or walls with some clay bonding. The distinct coal deposit at the north-western edge of the trench suggested a storage area on the outside of a building. Inclusions of large fragments of green glaze pottery within the clay bonding of trench 14 (Fig 18) suggests the use of detritus from a previous settlement, possibly area 1, in the construction of this building.



*Fig 18 – green glaze pottery bonded in clay/turf wall*

**T15** revealed a similar construction on the south-western wall of the assumed building. An initial 2.0x0.5m NE-SW trench exposed an earth bank running NW-SE and believed to be the western end of the building (Fig 19). The bank was consolidated stone and clay.



*Fig 19 – T15 looking S*

The survey had suggested a gap in the north-western bank of the structure.

**T16** (2.5x0.5m) was opened along a length of the NW bank and through the gap. (Fig 20) The bank replicated the construction techniques exposed in Ts 13, 14 and 15 and the gap revealed the entrance to the building. T16 also exposed the turn in the wall of the structure showing the position of its north-eastern wall.



*Fig 20 – T16 looking W with T13 in background*

**T17** (2x0.5m) attempted to discover a south-eastern wall but only a slight inflexion above the old ground surface was detected. There was no evidence of a wall to the south or east.

#### **Inside the building**

**T18**, a 1.0x1.0m trench to the south of T16 was estimated to have been in the centre of the building. The ogs was exposed soon after turf removal and there were no finds. This is consistent with the interior of an early building.

**T43** (Fig21) was excavated to explore the interior corner of the building determined at T14. Initially 1x1 m in the SE corner, and then later enlarged to 1.5 x 1.5 m. This extension revealed very hard packed N-W earth bank and a stony bank on the SE side. Two large flat stones, 400x300 and 300x300, at 200mm depth with stone packing to one side were exposed. Small areas of coal were distributed throughout. A large fire pit packed with partially burnt coal was excavated to a depth of 300mm, the pit measuring c.600x500 but separated by a narrow ridge of ogs into 3/5 and 2/5 portions. A burnt soil shelf extended to the north-east. The large stones described above possibly indicated a shelf above the fire pit.



*Fig 21 – T43 looking W. Stone shelf in*

*SW corner; fire pit in foreground.*

#### **Outside N entrance to Building 1**

Trenches 7, 24, and 25 were on the north-western edge of area 2 and assumed to be immediately outside Building 1 near the entrance found in T16.

**T7** had been opened in season 2019, where metal detecting (see Fig. 2) led to uncovering an extensive area of medium sized (c.150mm) uneven sub-angular stones, presumably imported from elsewhere. This differed from Area 1 where very few stones were found. In 2020 T7 was extended to determine the extent of the large stones. The large stones occupied the low lying area, but were not found where the ground surface rose to the NE and the SW (Fig 22).



Fig 22 – T7 looking SE with Ts 24, 25 in

*background*

**T24**, initially 1.0x1.0m, higher up the gentle slope to the NW of T16, and SE of T7 exposed more medium (c.150mm) stones. The stones were irregularly shaped but closely arranged. This suggested a continuation of the layer of stones found at T7. The area of stones followed the rising ground and approached the earth bank to the S, joined T13 and formed a revetment. The revetment stones were removed here to expose the underlying surface of the earth bank.

**T25**, initially, a 1.0x1.0m trench, NE of T16, was extended and combined with T7, 16 and 24, and later connected with T23 further to the NE. This trench exposed more medium stones (c.150mm) on the rising ground towards the earth bank uncovered in T13 and T16. Sondages showed the ogs at a depth of 0.4m in the eastern one and 0.3m in the western indicating that much of the bank was man-made. They also confirmed that the stones were probably revetment cladding on the N face of the bank and with none found deeper (Fig 23). This revetment continued around the northern part of the site exposed in trenches 26, 27 and 23.



Fig 23 – T25 sondages

These trenches revealed substantial cobbling with the most tightly packed on the lower ground to the north. The slope up to the building was covered with less well-rounded cobbles and indicated a revetment which extended around the rest of the north-west and north-east of the site.

On the joining of trenches 7, 24 and 25 a well-defined curving path, where the stones appeared more worn and smooth (Fig 24), was revealed leading to the entrance of the building and eventually a potential doorstep was uncovered (Fig 25). The entrance was 900mm wide and 150mm lower on inside.



*Fig 24 – path to entrance of building 1*



*Fig 25 – entrance step to building 1*

In this large area outside the building, as the stones are very uneven and irregular in shape, they may have been covered in a layer of soil. In addition to providing the base to a wide area, the large stones also formed a drainage channel from the NW (Fig 26) and emerging at the eastern side of the site. The need for such drainage was demonstrated after a period of heavy rain.





*Fig 26 - Ts 7, 24, 25 looking SE. Cobbling, path, NW wall and entrance to building 1*

**T22** was a separate trench beyond the NW end of the combined area to determine the extent of the reinforced stone surface. This exposed a scatter of medium stones, less densely packed than in T7, and possibly because it lies slightly higher it is therefore drier.

### **Outside Building 1 – South**

**T15.** The trench extension revealed more stones in loose soil immediately to the west and outside the building. As the stones and soil were removed two post holes, (c.70mm diameter, c. 230mm apart) became apparent (Fig 27). The trench was extended 0.5m to the south in an attempt to follow the line of post holes and a further 1.0m to the northwest where an area of larger stones, some exceeding 300mm was exposed.



*Fig 27 – T15 looking SW, post holes*

At the south side of the initial trench, a 1.0x1.0m pit uncovered two more holes with dark soil in line with the two post holes, however these were shallower and much less well defined and may be the result of animal activity or roots.

Continuing south, a 1.5x1.5m trench exposed another area of stones where a metal heel plate from a boot was found.

When the upper layer of stones was removed in the SW corner at a lower level, a feature with flat stones, some arranged vertically, appeared near the post holes (Fig 28). This feature had flat stones on three sides and when one lying horizontally was lifted, another forming the base was exposed.

The dimensions were approximately 500mm in length, 300mm tall and 250mm wide. It appeared to be a stone lined trough with presumably at one time, a hide or skin as an inner lining to contain water.



*Fig 28 – T15 stone trough outside SW wall of building 1*

A large sherd of brown glazed redware pottery was found nearby (Fig 29).



*Fig 29 – redware pot sherd*

The largest stone at the higher layer had curved score marks on the upper surface, either made intentionally, or more likely, by the point of an implement such as a plough (Fig 30). This stone was aligned with western side of the stone trough.



*Fig 30 – marked stone*

### Outside Building 1 – north-east

**T23.** (Fig 31). At the top of the slope where the ground surface levelled, another stony surface emerged. This stone layer included a large flat stone flanked by stoneless soil – possibly a robbed path. There were other stones at greater depth (c.160mm lower) from a possible earlier period. The level surface covered with stones is assumed to have been outside one of the buildings believed to be on this site.



*Fig 31 – possible pathway*

**T41** (Fig 32) examined a plateau to the north-east of building 1, between it and building 2. It revealed an homogenous cobbled area. The removal of a small sample of the cobbling uncovered an earlier surface with brown glazed redware pottery. A piece of hand-made brick with frog interlocked with the greywacke cobbles suggested the area had been reconstructed in the early nineteenth century.



*Fig 32 – T41 looking NE. Cobbled plateau between buildings 1*

*and 2*

**Boundary around the north and east of Area 2.**

This section of the report covers the area of sloping ground around the northern and eastern sides of Area 2 which was exposed during the season 2020. Where the sloping ground extended further or was steeper, it was surfaced with revetment stones. At places on both sides the slopes were topped with an earth bank which may have been the wall of a building.

**T26** A radial trench, 2.0x0.5m, was cut in a north-south direction, to examine the turn in the slope that was cleared in trench 25. The stones (c.100mm on the surface of the slope continued down the full length of the trench (Fig 33) and in test pits extending 2m further away to the north and at the bottom of the slope, and also in one test pit to the west of them. The stones were not found in a third test pit 1m further away to the north.



*Fig 33 – T26 looking S – revetted slope with T25 in background.*

**T27**, 1.5x0.5m, followed the slope as it curved around the higher ground to the east (Fig 34). Surface stones were confirmed again along the trench and in the test pit 1m down the slope. Very few stones were found in the next test pits, at 1m to the north at the base of the slope, and another midway between the lower pits of T26 and T27.

**T23**, 4.0x0.5m running in a W to E direction, followed the slope on the east side of the site confirming the stone facing of the slope, and also in the lower test pit (T23.10).



*Fig 34 – T27 looking S with T23 in background.*

**T31.** The initial area was extended E with an overlapping 1x1m trench which had loose stone revetment on the east side, similar to that found in T23, T29 and T30 (Fig 35). The shape of the bank suggested an external corner of a building or enclosure which was examined later. Finds included chert, coal fragments, clay pipe stem, green bottle glass and a green glazed pot rim.



*Fig 35 – T31 looking W – continuation of revetted slope and corner of building 2.*

**T29,** 2.0x0.5m was cut in a SW to NE direction. The trench was on the eastern side of the site, 5m south of trench 23 and examined the slope on the east side of an earth bank (Fig 36). The surface stones continued as before, although not as closely packed, possibly because the slope was not as steep as the northern end. Two test pits down the slope showed a further reduction in the number of stones. The earth bank at the top of the slope was assumed to be the wall of a building, to be examined as 2021T.

**T30.** 2.0x0.5m also in a W to E direction 3m south of trench 29 (Fig 36), and from the top of the ridge and down the east side of the earth bank. The surface stones continued as before, again not as tightly packed as the slope reduced in height.



*Fig 36 – Ts 29(r) and 30(l) looking W – continuation and diminution of revetment*

**T40.** Pit 0.5 x 0.5 was cut on the crest of the ridge between T 29 and T30. Only a few surface stones were revealed.

**TP1&2.** Two test pits at the top of the bank were opened further south in a line from T29 and T30 as the slope became negligible. They confirmed the continuing reduction in stones. The first had a few stones and the ogs was reached at 200mm depth, the second had even fewer. These test pits were

later extended westwards to investigate earth banks in the SW of the site, and they became T32 and T35.

## Building 2

**T31.** An initial 1.0x1.0m trench was opened to reveal a curving bank with loose stone revetment on the north side (Fig 35). This area was extended E with an overlapping 1x1m trench which also had stones on the east side, similar to that found in T23, T29 and T30. The shape of the bank suggested an external corner of a building or enclosure (Fig 36) Finds included chert, coal fragments, clay pipe stem, green bottle glass and a green glazed pot rim.



*Fig 36 – T31(l) and T28 (r) looking SE –*

*corner and NW wall of building 2*

**T28,** initially was a 3.0x0.5m trench running N-S across an earth and stone bank (Fig 36) at the southern end of the trench. There was a suggestion of another bank at northern end or alternatively that the lower area between was an access point to the main site. This trench was later extended south (see 2021T) and also east to join T31.

**T39.** Two overlapping 1m x 1m trenches connected to the W extension of T28, and exposed a low bank with extensive covering of stones on the north and west sides. The bank appeared to be curving from E-W to N-S. Finds included chert and glass.

A paved structure containing a hearth (Fig 37) was exposed on the SW side of the trench which later was revealed to be in the interior of building 2. This structure became incorporated into trench 2021T in the following season.



*Fig 37 – T39 looking NE – internal hearth feature, internal corner*

*of building 2*

These three trenches are further described later in the context of a field bank which was constructed subsequent to the abandonment of the building but may have used the NW wall structure as part of the bank.

**T37.** The trench 2.0 x 0.5m N to S was an attempt to find the southern wall of Building 2. It exposed a few medium, 100-150mm, stones lying on a low bank of compacted soil running east to west perpendicular to the previous boundary bank (Fig 38). The finds were pieces of thin, clear glass, with fragments of coal and chert.



*Fig 38 – T37 looking W – eastern wall of building 2 with T39*

*in background*

**T38.** The trench 3.0 x 0.5m ENE to WSW was cut perpendicular to T37 (Fig 39) to uncover another bank or perhaps a side of another building. It was extended to join T37 and exposed a bank of compacted soil, 10cm below ground surface. The finds were chert, coal, glass and a green glazed pot sherd.



*Fig 39 – T38 looking SE*

*– possible S wall of building 2. T37 to left.*

**2021 T** This trench, excavated in 2021 attempted to expose the whole of the interior of building 2 and incorporate Ts 37 and 38



Fig 40 - 2021T drone image

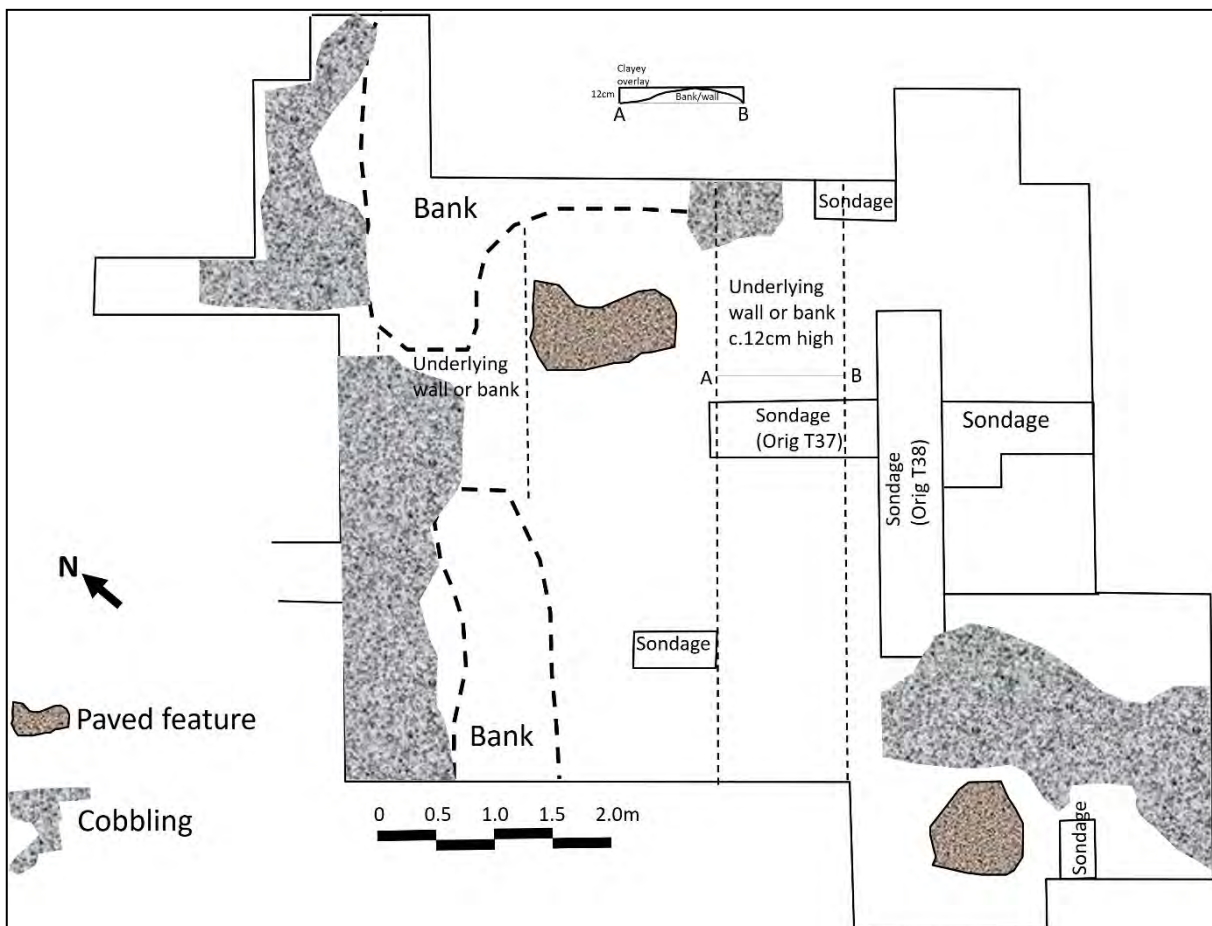


Fig 41 - 2021T plan

The survey had indicated the possibility of another building to the east of building 1 and of similar dimensions (4.5x7m). This turned out to be a complex area (Fig 40) with several features at different levels and signifying at least two periods of activity. Trenches 28 to 31 were cut at various locations across indicative banks (Fig 41). T31 determined the outside corner of a building of similar construction as building 1 i.e. earth and turf banks or walls with some clay bonding and a stone-revetment along the north-east edge. Finds included chert, coal fragments, clay pipe stem, green



bottle glass and a green glazed pot rim. Trenches 37 and 38 (Fig 42) had been cut in anticipation of finding south-eastern and south-western walls but only slightly raised features were exposed. A sondage was cut perpendicular to T38 through the original T37 which exposed an underlying low bank indicative of an earlier building.



Fig 42 - 2021T – sondage in T37

*exposing bank. T38 to left.*

The inside north-eastern corner of the building however was found to contain a hearth feature (trench 28) consisting of c.30 flat stones (c.0.8m sided) with charcoal rich deposits at the eastern end.

A consolidated earth floor surface was exposed (Fig 43) at a depth of 200mm which in turn was 330mm above the old ground surface.



Fig 43 – floor surface above ogs

Further exposure of the entire area of building 2 suggested a lower, earlier surface with the remains of the banks of a smaller, earlier building. Partial removal of the NW wall of the structure revealed an underlying wall or bank believed to be part of an earlier building. The southern corner of the building had been filled in and built up with large cobbles (Fig 41).



Fig 41 – S corner of 2021T looking W –

*boulder infill with consolidated earth floor of building 2 to right.*

A more formally cobbled area (c.1.5m<sup>2</sup>) on the south-western approach to the building may indicate the location of the entrance to the building (Fig 42).



Fig 42 – 2021 T - paved entrance

feature to building 2

Deeper excavations in the southern corner of the building revealed a rounded gravel-paved area (Fig 43).



Fig 43 – 2021T – S corner – gravel-paving and drains

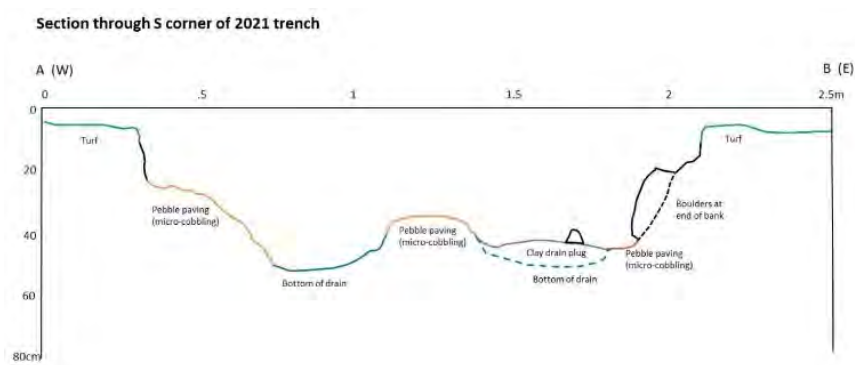


Fig 44 – section AB through

gravel paving and drains

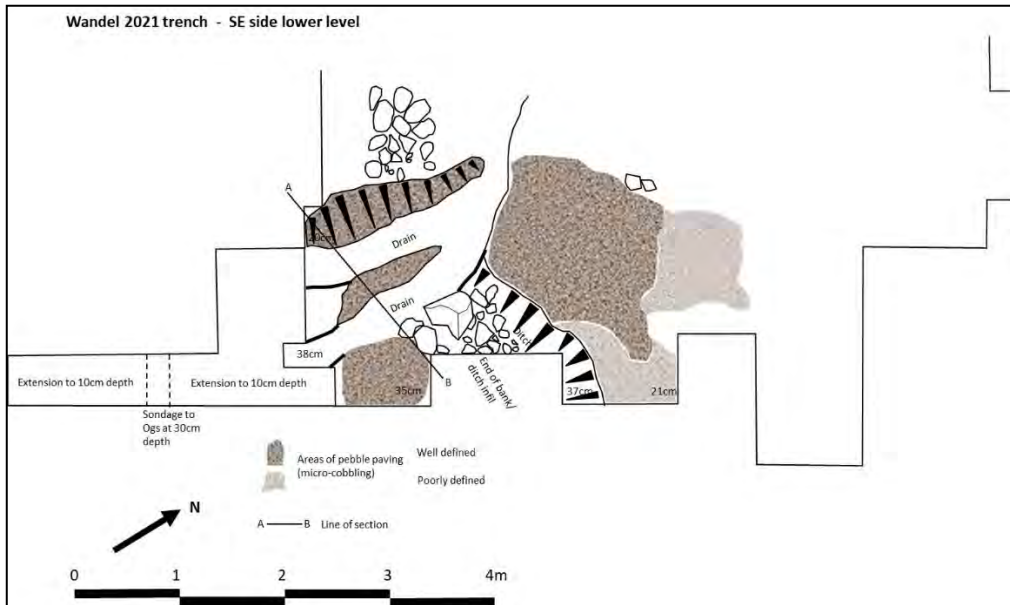


Fig 45 – plan of S corner of 2021T – gravel paving and drains outside building

The gravel paving consisted of tightly packed rounded gravel c. 40mm diameter lining a shallow depression. (Figs 43, 44, 45). This depression was further incised by two drainage channels approximately 0.3m wide and 0.15m deep, both choked with a clayey medium. The paving underlay a bank terminal described below and the depression contributed to the drainage of the land on the upper side of the bank subsequent to its original function. The paving and drains indicate a period of activity pre-dating the upper part of the building. The western terminal of an enclosure bank (Fig 46) approaching from the east featured larger boulders. The bank is probably contemporary with building 2.



Fig 46 – 2021T – bank terminal with gravel

paving and drains in foreground

## Enclosure banks

### Enclosure bank close to site of Building 1

This curving earth and stone bank runs NE to SW in the centre of Area 2 which was exposed during the season 2020 (Fig 47). At the NE end, the bank was part of a more complex structure, building 2.

In contrast to the largely stoneless turf construction of the building walls these banks were composed of a mixture of earth and stone with ditches on one side.



Fig 47 - T17 with 36 and 33 in background – looking N

– curving earth and stone bank.

### Trenches, from the north-east.

**T31.** An initial 1.0x1.0m trench was opened to reveal a curving bank with loose stone revetment on the north side (Fig 36).

**T28,** initially was a 3.0x0.5m trench running N-S across an earth and stone bank (Fig 36) at the southern end of the trench. There was a suggestion of another bank at northern end, or alternatively that the lower area between was an access point to the main site.

**T39.** Two overlapping 1m x 1m trenches connected to the W extension of T28, and exposed a low bank with extensive covering of stones on the north and west sides (Fig 36). The bank appeared to be curving from E-W to N-S. Finds included chert and glass.

**T33.** The bank of earth and stone was exposed by a NW to SE trench 1.0 x 0.5m across the ridge (Fig 48). At the S side, loose soil covered the ogs at c.3m at the N side, stones lay over a deeper, hard gravel surface. The finds were thin clear glass and a brown glazed pot sherd.



Fig 48 - T33 looking NW – earth/stone bank with deep trench to top

**T36.** The trench, 1.5m W of T33, and 1.5 x 0.5m NW to SE across the ridge exposed the bank of stone and earth, and overlaid with stone (Fig 49). This repeated the findings of T17 and T33 with a substantial bank and falling to the ogs at c.0.3m on the SE side, and through loose, damp soil to c.0.4m on the NW side. The finds were chert, ceramic, bottle glass and iron.



Fig 49 - T36 SW at top –

*consolidated stone construction*

**T17.** Initially 1.5x0.5m, extended later. It uncovered the earth bank incorporating many stones at the sides and on top. Again, the ogs on the north side was at a greater depth (0.3m) than on the south (0.2m), suggesting that the material used in constructing the bank was mainly taken from the north side, or perhaps a ditch. This trench was later extended to join T43, assumed to be inside building 1.

**T15 south.** 1.5x0.5m extension trench south of main part of T15 (Fig 50). The earth bank continued an E-W bank found in T33, T36 and T17 and continued in line as before but curving south and lower in height with fewer stones.



Fig 50 - T15 extension looking NE– SW end of bank with T17 in

*background*

The bank continued further west until it terminated and where it met another bank approaching from the south. This was investigated in 2021.

### **Enclosure banks south-west of Building 1**

The line of a shallow bank (1) extending south-westwards from the southern corner of building 1 was tested and confirmed in trenches 42 and 21.

**T21.** A 2.0x0.5m NE-SW trench, 3m west of T15 south, exposed the earth bank again.

**T42,** midway between T15 and T21 confirmed the earth bank's structure and direction.

**T44/45** (Fig 51) uncovered the end of the bank (1) where it met another bank (2) from the south-east. Large boulders marked the junction of the two banks.



*Fig 51 - T44/45. Shallow bank (1) from NE at top right. More substantial stone bank (2) from SE at bottom.*

Trenches 44 and 45 further explored this junction. (Fig 52). The termination of the eastern extending bank (2) was marked by substantial boulders but there was a scatter of smaller boulders and cobbles to the north of the bank junction. This included a quantity of loose and stone-attached lime mortar suggesting importation from another site and forming the end of the north-east extending bank (1). An area (2x0.5m) of consolidated stone extended further north and less consolidated but larger stone tailed off 2m to the north-west onto the plateau. This material included a large, tooled building stone – further evidence of imported material inconsistent with the materials used on the settlement site.



*Fig 52 - T44/45 extension. Consolidated stone on plateau*

### **Enclosure bank south of Building 2**

This section earth banks uncovered in the SE area of the site. They are assumed not to have been part of building structures but rather made as field boundaries or stock enclosures. An extended survey of a wider area indicated earth banks running in all directions and presumably built at different times.

The bank on the eastern side of the site was an extension of one assumed to be the wall of Building 2 found at trenches 29, 30, 31 and 40. Then upon investigation, another bank was found nearby.

Two 0.5m pits at 2m spacing were opened along the crest of the bank in a SSE direction, in alignment with the W end of trenches 29 and 30. These test pits were later extended south-westwards to investigate the earth banks inside the enclosure, and they became part of T32 and T35.

**TP1.** 0.5 x 0.5m pit exposed large stones 100mm below ground surface, and later joined T35.

**T35.** The trench 1.5 x 0.5m E to W across the ridge showed the continuing bank of earth and stone and a 0.5 x 0.5m pit further W exposed a cluster of medium to large stones 200-300mm below ground surface. A westward extension to 2m exposed another bank of compacted earth. This replicated the findings in T32 (Fig 53) of two banks of different construction coming close together and with the low area between them filled with stones.



*Fig 53 - T35; 32, 34 beyond.*

**TP2.** 0.5 x 0.5m pit revealed a compacted surface at 0.2m depth and later joined T32.

**T32.** A trench 1.0 x 0.5m on the inside slope of the bank exposed large stones in loose soil at 0.3m depth. Another 0.5 x 0.5m pit ENE at the top of the bank uncovered a firm layer of stones 150-200mm deep and rich with coal fragments. The connecting 1m consisted of a further scattering of stones 150-200mm below ground surface (Fig 54). The bank was a combination of hard packed soil and stones, with larger stones, possibly tumble, to a damp, lower level on the W side (T32.23). A further extension revealed another bank of compacted gritty material, 1m to the east. The finds were an iron ingot and green bottle glass.



*Fig 54 - T32 two*

*converging banks looking W. Stone bank/revetment to right*

**T34.** The trench 1.5 x 0.5m E to W across the ridge again revealed the bank of earth and stone although reduced in height.

These trenches revealed the structure of two eastward converging banks – the northern bank, a stony continuation of the wall of building 2; the southern bank a turf enclosure bank

## **Discussion**

These trenches were made across the ridges identified in the survey. It is now clear that these ridges are the remains of man-made banks and we know more about their construction.

Some of the trenches have features in common which allow us to draw certain preliminary conclusions.

A large bank at the E perimeter of the site runs NW to SE. The bank is constructed of stone and soil (TPs 1&2, Ts32, 34, 35, 37). It has stone revetment on the E side at the N end (Ts29, 30, 31) where the slope is greater and presumably required protection from weather and livestock. Within the trench, a lower, damp area found along the SW side of the bank (Ts32, 35, 38) suggests a ditch from which the bank material was excavated. In this low area were several large stones which may be tumble from the top of the bank. Another bank, only about 1 metre to the W, and made almost entirely of earth, converges towards the east and may have been made at a different period.

## **Peripheral areas**

### **South-west of Building 1**

**T55**



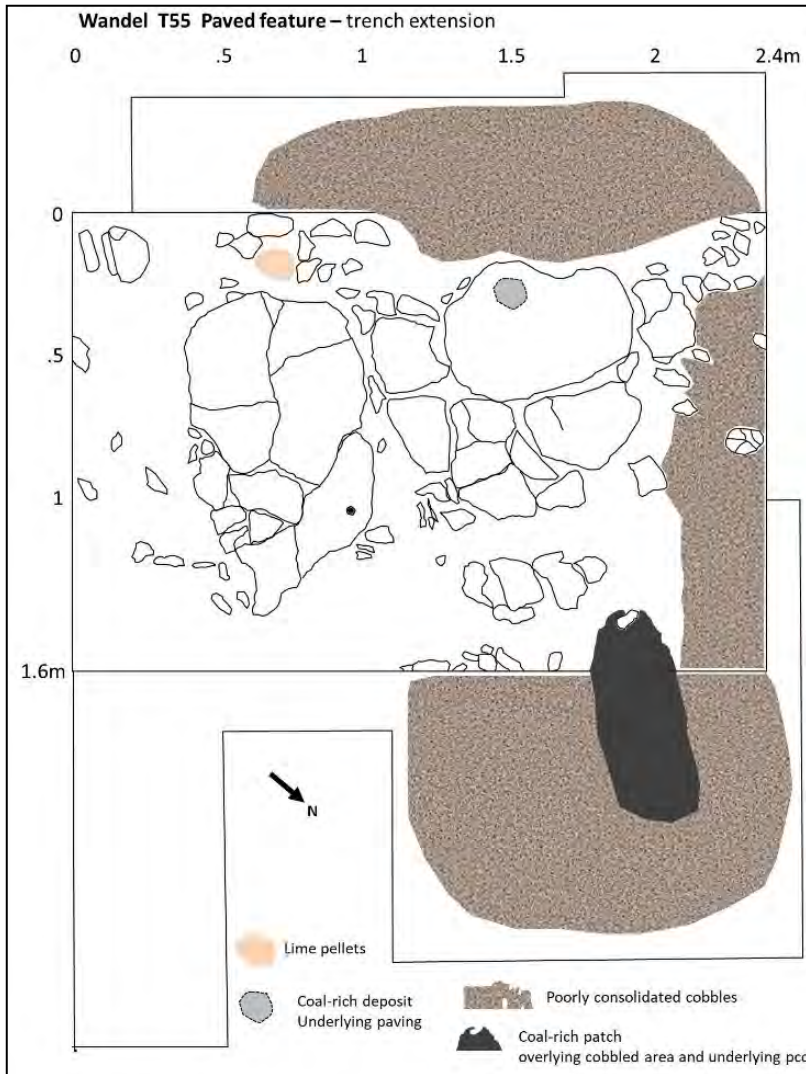


Fig 55 - T55 plan

A speculative trench was dug on the plateau to the south-west of building 1 which revealed a complex working surface (Fig 55). Two large paving stones, one shattered (0.7x0.3m and 1.1x0.5m) were surrounded by smaller paving stones (Fig 56). The shattered stone contained a counter-sunk hole. This working area was surrounded by poorly consolidated cobbles, an area 0.5m to the north underlain by a 90mm thick coal-rich patch. Some pellets of lime were found on the southern edge of the paving and seven fragments of a small iron cauldron (100mm diam) on the northern edge.



Fig 56 - T55 – paved working area. SW at top.

**T19 and T20.** Two 1.0x1.0m trenches on the level ground to the west of the site were cut at random as no sign of banks or other features were seen on the surface. T19 was 4m SW of T14. T20 was 4.5m SW of the initial T15 trench. The ogs was reached at a depth of c.100mm and there were no features or finds. Further exploratory trenches were dug at Ts 51 and 52 but no significant features were found.

### **West of Building 1**

An area to the west of building 1 was test pitted (**T48** (1x1m) a-j (0.5x0.5)) to discover the extent exterior cobbling. Rough cobbling was exposed which gradually dwindled to ogs c.3m from the building. (Fig 57)



*Fig 57 - T48 – rough cobbling*

**T48** 1x1m. Small stone cobbling 50x50mm and some larger stones 130x60mm were exposed.

To establish the extent of the cobbling, a further 11 test pits were opened to the north, south & west of T48.

Further cobbling was found in **T48d** & **T48f**, N of T48.

Test pits 'a' and 'g' were extended and joined to form **T48a/g**, 2x0.5m. The NW outside corner of the building 1 was exposed with the revetment on western side and a narrow area of ogs next to a cobbled surface.

**T48h** 1x0.5m, some cobbling along with bigger stones showing the southern extent of the cobbling.

**T48k** Initially 0.5x0.5m. Loose stone was removed, possible tumble from building 1 to the north, to expose an uneven scatter of sub-angular stones, 50-100mm. The trench was then extended to 1x1m. More stone at same depth was exposed, thought to be rough cobbling with mixed-size stone.

**T49** A 2 x 0.5m sloping trench showing areas of stone and gravel showing a NW continuation of the site revetment.

**T50** A 1x0.5m trench on the south-western edge of the site was exposed to show an accumulation of medium sub-angular stone. As this was on the south-western slope it suggested a drainage channel. The material was similar to that found 1.75m to the NE in T45c adding further evidence to the drain theory.

**T51** A 1x0.5m trench. Ogs was reached at a depth of 20cm suggesting that this was outwith the working area of the site.

**T52** A 2x0.5m trench 2m to the NE of T51 replicated its form

**T53** (2x0.5m) was cut into a bank c.5m west of building 1 to determine the nature of its construction. It was composed largely of earth with some sparse stone at the top (E end) of the bank.

**T54** A 1x1m trench exposed to explore any possible curtilage of building 2 (2021T). A scatter of small stones covered ogs at 20mm depth but no further evidence was found.

### **Boundary around the south and west.**

A series of trenches (Ts 46, 47,49) was dug around the south-west periphery of the site. These indicated tightly-packed stone revetment (Fig 58) of the south-west bank where the slope was steeper and less dense towards the gentler western end. T47E was cut into a circular depression and confirmed the presence of a small quarry to a depth of 0.53m.



*Fig 58 - T49. Revetment of slope to right*

T50 was excavated at the top of the slope perpendicular to the above and revealed stone at the top of the revetment. The cut above the stone was very dark, organic-rich soil-filled depression possible indicating an infilled trough.

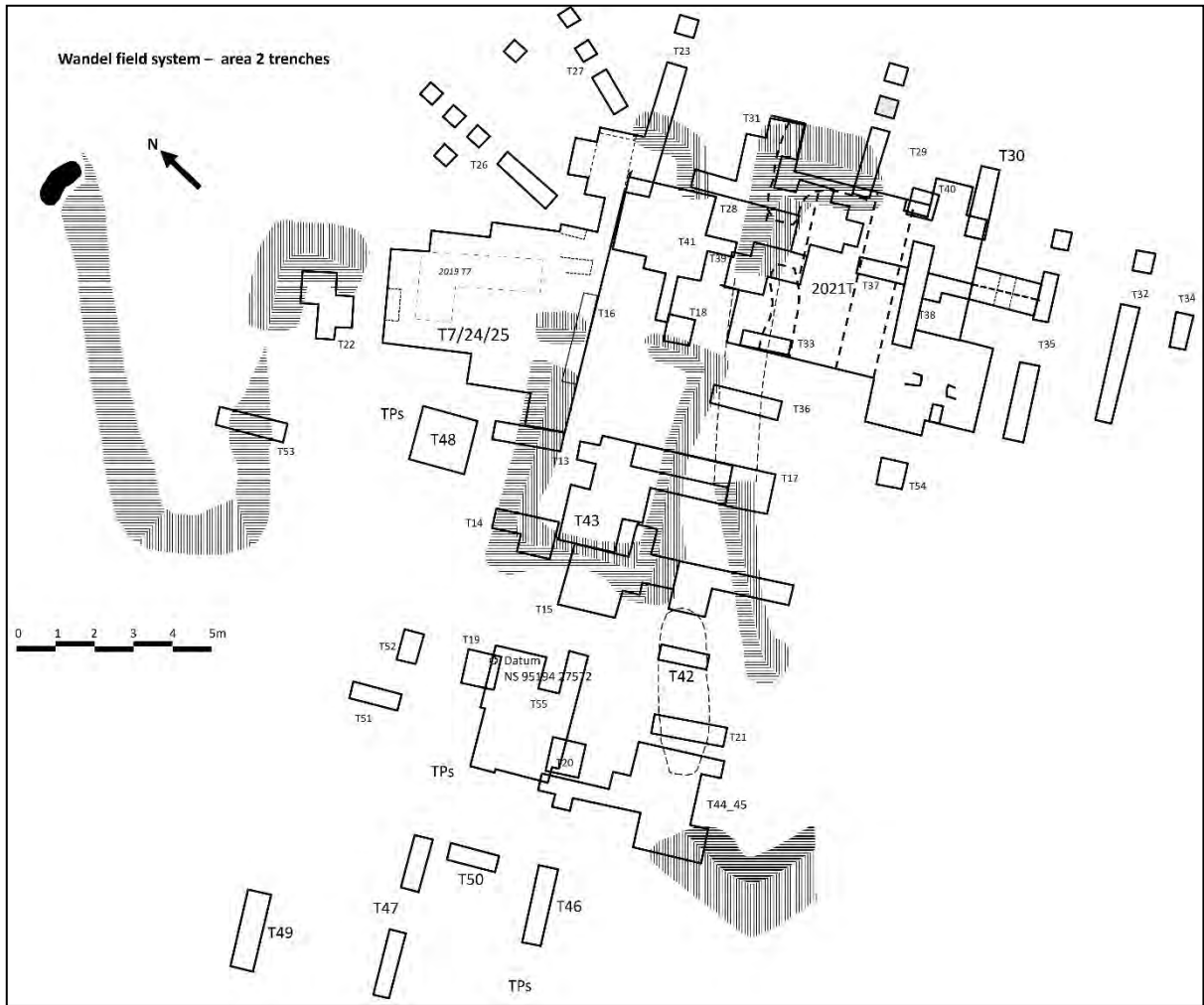


Fig 59 – Area 2 trench locations

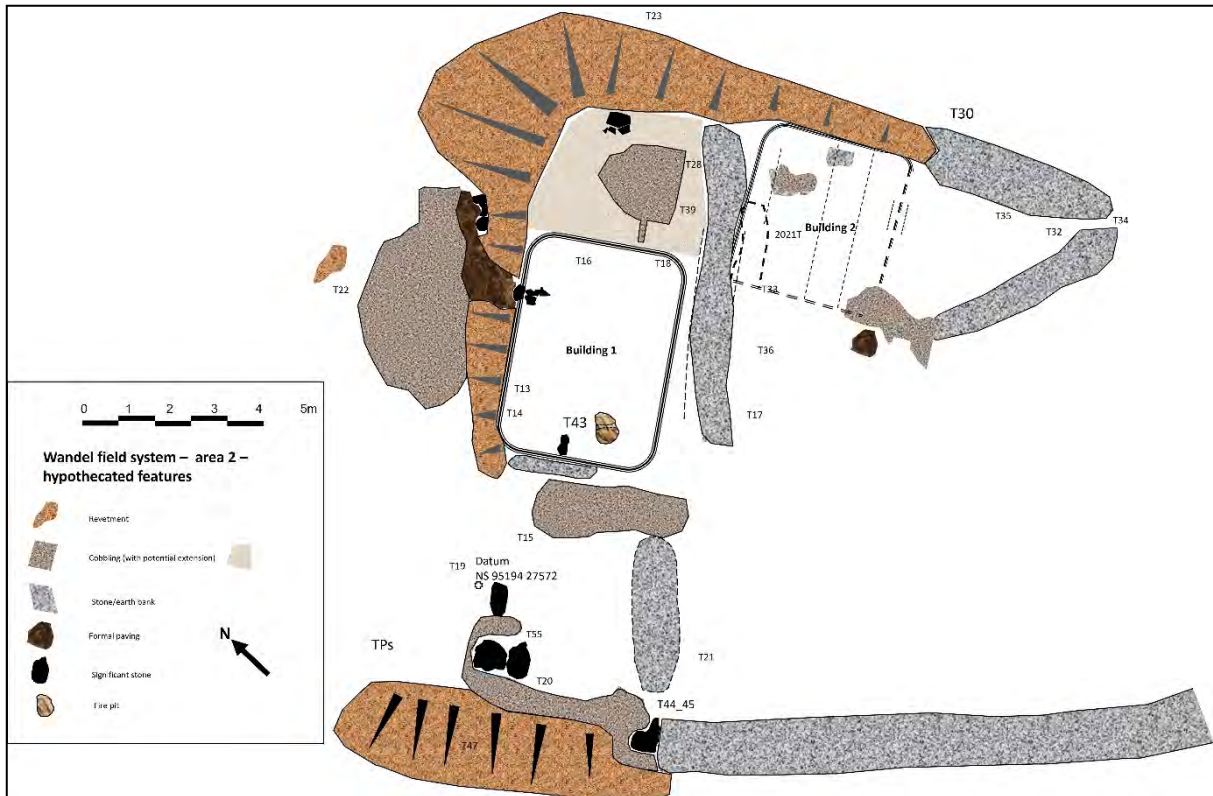


Fig 60 – post-excitation hypothecated features

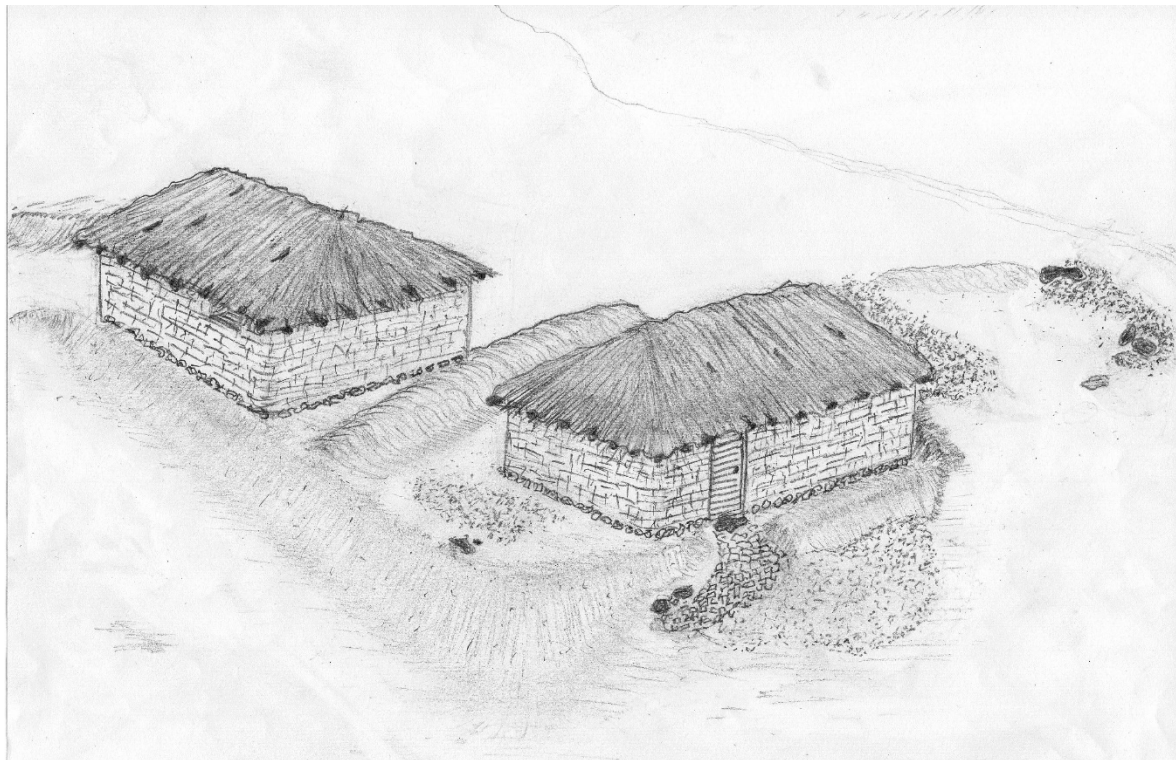


Fig 61 – artist's impression of area 2 from the north

## Appendix I

### Summary of the 1028 finds from Wandel 2019 to 2021.

Excavations revealed an extensive range of objects and materials categorized as ceramic, glass, metal, lithic, organic and geology. These included pottery, tobacco pipes, bottle and flat glass, metals, such as iron, lead, and copper alloy, prehistoric worked and adapted stone, bone and a random limestone fossil.

Whilst the provenance of *in-situ* finds assisted in formulation of site significance a high number were from non-stratified contexts above stone floor surfaces, below and within grown-over turf.

The continuing use of the site for cattle and sheep handling to date explains the presence of agricultural iron and stone items such as hand sickles, rings, hook and shackle and haematite keel/raddle, one of the latter with sheep wool attached.

More detailed non-specialist reports follow the summary table of finds by aforesaid categories.

<b>Wandel 2019 - 2022 Summary of Finds</b>						
<b>Date*</b>	<b>Ceramic</b>	<b>Glass</b>	<b>Lithic</b>	<b>Metal**</b>	<b>Organic</b>	<b>Geology</b>
2019	28	22	30	46	0	0
2020	105	61	52	44	2	2
2021	301	150	111	66	8	0
	434	233	193	156	10	2

\*2019 T1 to T12 (Area 1).

2020 T13 to T39

2021 T40 to T55

\*\* Includes metal detecting.

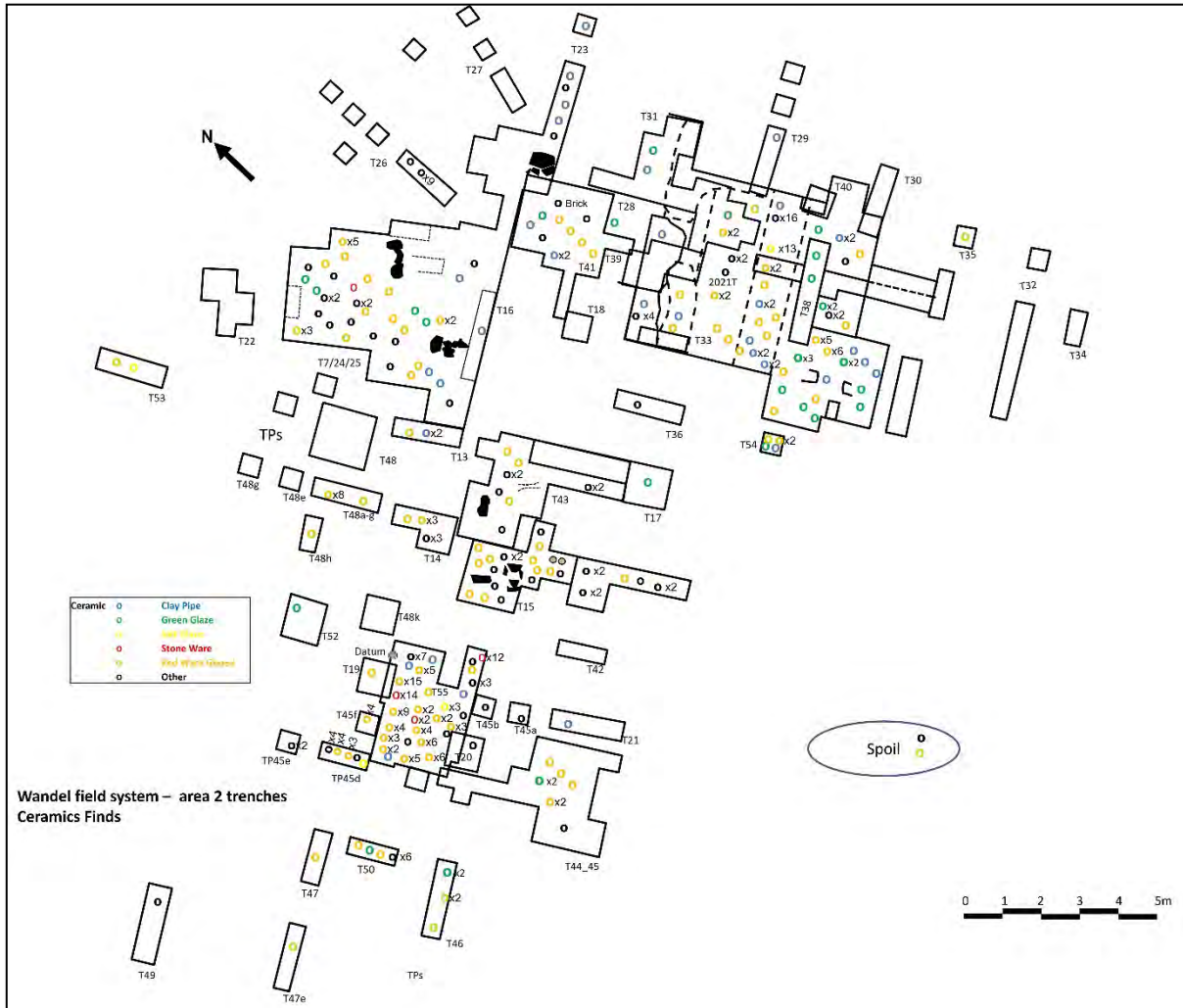
### Non-Specialist Reports.

#### Ceramics Introduction.

A total of 434 sherds of pottery/ceramics were recovered from the Wandel site.

The main group of earliest dated sherds excavated appeared to be green-glazed redware in various sizes and conditions whilst the later finds included brown/black redwares and slipwares in addition to modern white earthenware and industrial stoneware.

These finds included rim, handle and base sherds.



**Table 2. Wandel 2019 - 2021 Ceramics Report**

Description	Quantity
Scottish Post-Medieval oxidised and reduced ware green-glaze.	45
Salt-glaze	6
Tin-glaze earthenware	5
Unglazed redware	42
Gritty glazed redware	2
Staffordshire slipware	21
Black or Brown glaze red earthenware	154

Brown & White glaze	9
Blue & White glaze	4
Dark Green & White	3
Red Glaze earthenware	17
Unglazed terracotta	2
White Glaze earthenware	29
Cream & Yellow glazed stoneware	46
Creamer	3
Unglazed Ochre	1
Cream Glaze whiteware	4
Waster* (Light Pink)	1
Building Brick	1
Tobacco clay pipes (See separate report below)	39

\* Waster = reject / second quality

### **Tobacco Clay Pipe Report**

A total of 39 tobacco clay pipe fragments comprising 36 stems and 3 bowls were excavated.

Although no pipe stem fragments revealed marks, the earliest dateable finds were wide bore early C18, with a majority being later C18 narrow bore.

Of the three fragments of pipe bowl, two were of white clay and abraded with carbon deposits on the inner surfaces. The other bowl fragment was of fine clay, burnished, with a clean beige interior surface. On the upper outer wall a small incuse shield was stamped. This specimen, with no milling, would be dated around the second half of C18, and may be an early version of the much larger C19 branded shield marks. No previous marks of this type have been recorded by BAG.

### **Ceramics conclusion.**

Table 2 above traces the earliest dateable evidence from coarse green glaze to finer textures of Scottish Post-medieval oxidised and reduced wares, with partially reduced variations.

Significant findings were three large pot/jar sherds built into the north-western wall of Building No 1, in Trench 14.

Also of note, were three sherds from a shallow rimmed plate. Two of these were conjoining, being of a light blue thick ground tin-glazed earthenware with cobalt blue decoration. These were found at the bottom of a slope against a setting of stones in Trench 1.

The presence of the salt-glazed sherds as well as the Staffordshire slipware in customary brown and cream suggested mid-1700s.

Creamware variations (often late 1700s) were represented, leading into the more modern redware of which black but mainly brown glazed pots, with numerous sherds, totalled 154. The heaviest concentrations of these medium to small sherds were recovered from T55 and adjacent trenches.



Three creamer jug sherds and 42 apparently unglazed redware sherds were notably older some from the bases of large brown pots, where the glaze at the base was omitted at manufacture.

One of the most unusual later finds was an end portion of rough textured red brick with a curved frog as distinct from angular. This specimen was found in a cobbled stone setting, within T41 and may date to the early C19.

## **Bottle Report**

### Introduction.

The assemblage of mostly bottle glass also includes flat glass and a glass "bead". The bottle glass excavation confirmed a post-medieval context. In particular, neck, body and base shards were scattered across the site. A total of 233 glass shards were excavated of mainly green colours. Given the number examined, details are listed for only the most significant.

### **Wine Bottles**

The most significant find was a small part of an upper-neck, lip/rim, with a good triangular string ring all in bright yellow/green. Neck height 26mm, rim 30mm and aperture 26mm diameter, indicating a mallet type wine bottle, c.1750.

Amongst the assemblage was a part neck, rim and 3 very small shards in green, a neck and shoulder in dark green and a shard of upper sidewall to shoulder in dark green with a pronounced spiral curve. This lightly abraded shard with small bubbles averaged 85x45x5mm thick.

Part of a base/kick in dark olive green 25x45x7mm thick revealed numerous bubble inclusions. Another part-base in yellow-green with bubbles 35x30x10.4mm thick, and narrow angle to the kick. Estimated date 1730 to 1760.

Note. A high number of green bottle glass shards contained gas bubbles possibly due to composition and hand-blowing pre-mechanisation.

### **Other Interest**

An attractively striated base rim shard 33x33mm in mid green, caused by heat stress at the time of manufacture, was found at the SW end of T47E, at a depth of 400 to 500mm.

### **Flat Glass.**

Examples of colour variations included a triangular 1mm thick 50x30mm, and 8 light green of either 2mm thick x 34x35mm, or 2mm thick x 28x 20mm.

One sample appeared to have a light blue layer 3mm thick on outer surface and 1mm thick green on inner. This may be due to buried conditions or composition, as also the opaque pale blue fragment with patination and the green glass embedded in turf where accretion seems to have become bonded.

The “faceted glass bead”, 10mm diameter x 7mm length, clear, very light weight, with signs of remaining metal setting was found under the turf.

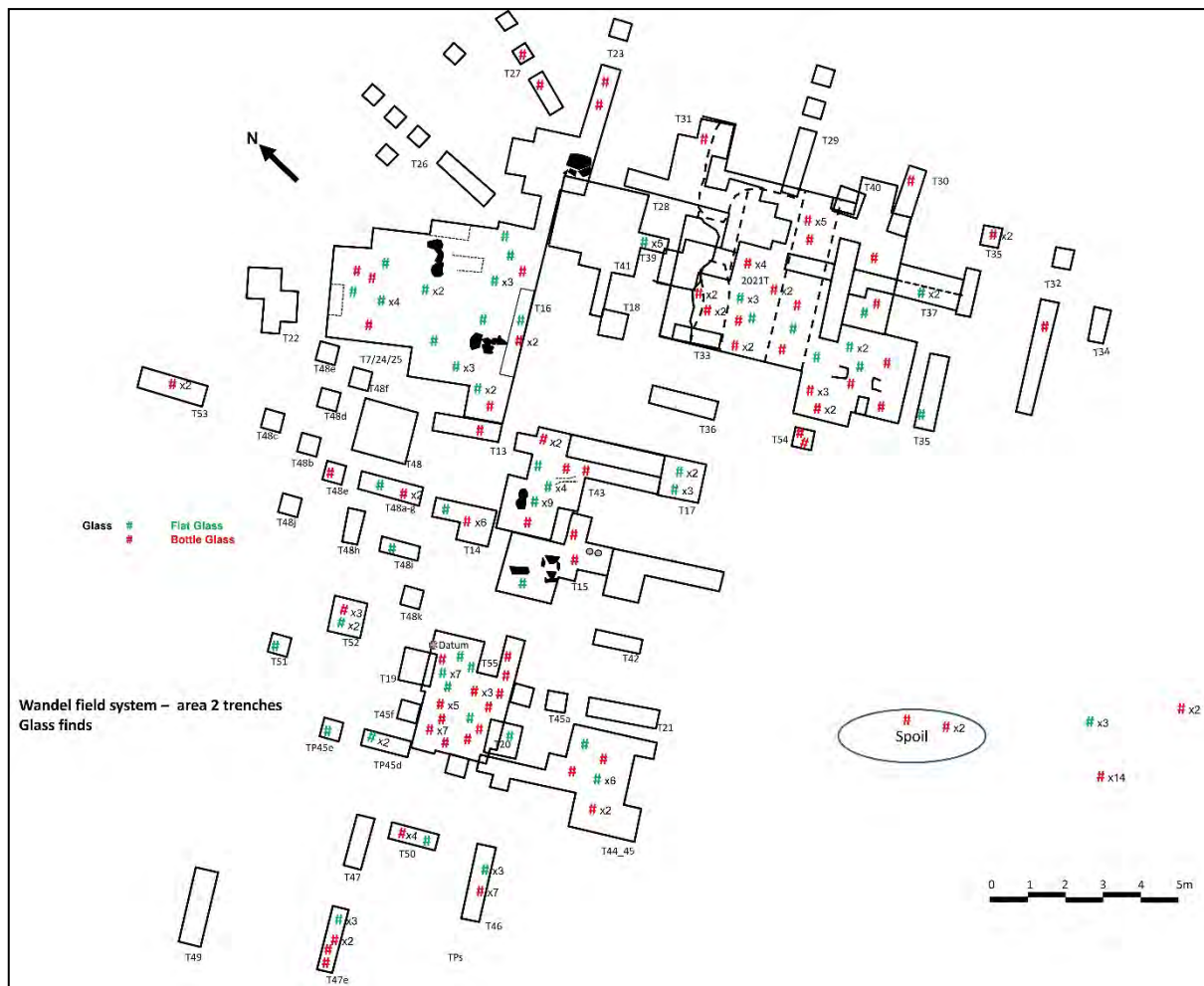
Detailed professional examination revealed a glass moulded object with one bubble and not of modern setting - probably costume jewellery and part of a setting, not a bead.

Paste jewellery and teardrop designs were Georgian fashions.

### Medicine Bottles

Amongst the bottle glass finds were a significant number of flat and a few small curved shards of clear to pale tints of green or aqua blue glass. These measured from less than 1mm to 3 or 4 mm thick. It was noted that a 1795 Act required pharmaceutical glass to be of the same crown glass standard as window glass, hence the pale colours. Earlier specimens appeared darker then progressively lighter in colour before 1795.

Building No. 2 and adjacent area revealed a large quantity of glass finds.



### Lithic Finds

A total of 193 lithic finds were recorded from this site, comprising mainly chert derivatives.

None of these could be described in their original context by reason of ground disturbance over a wide local area and periodic site alterations. The lithics were recovered from the overlying soil throughout the whole site particularly area 2, not from the ogs.

The chert finds were 126 blue/grey radiolarian worked flakes and debitage, 20 chunks/cores, 3 scrapers and one broken microlith.

The 3 worked imported flints comprised one translucent flint or agate flake, one dark flint flake and one brown flint scraper.

In addition, one chalcedony flake was found.

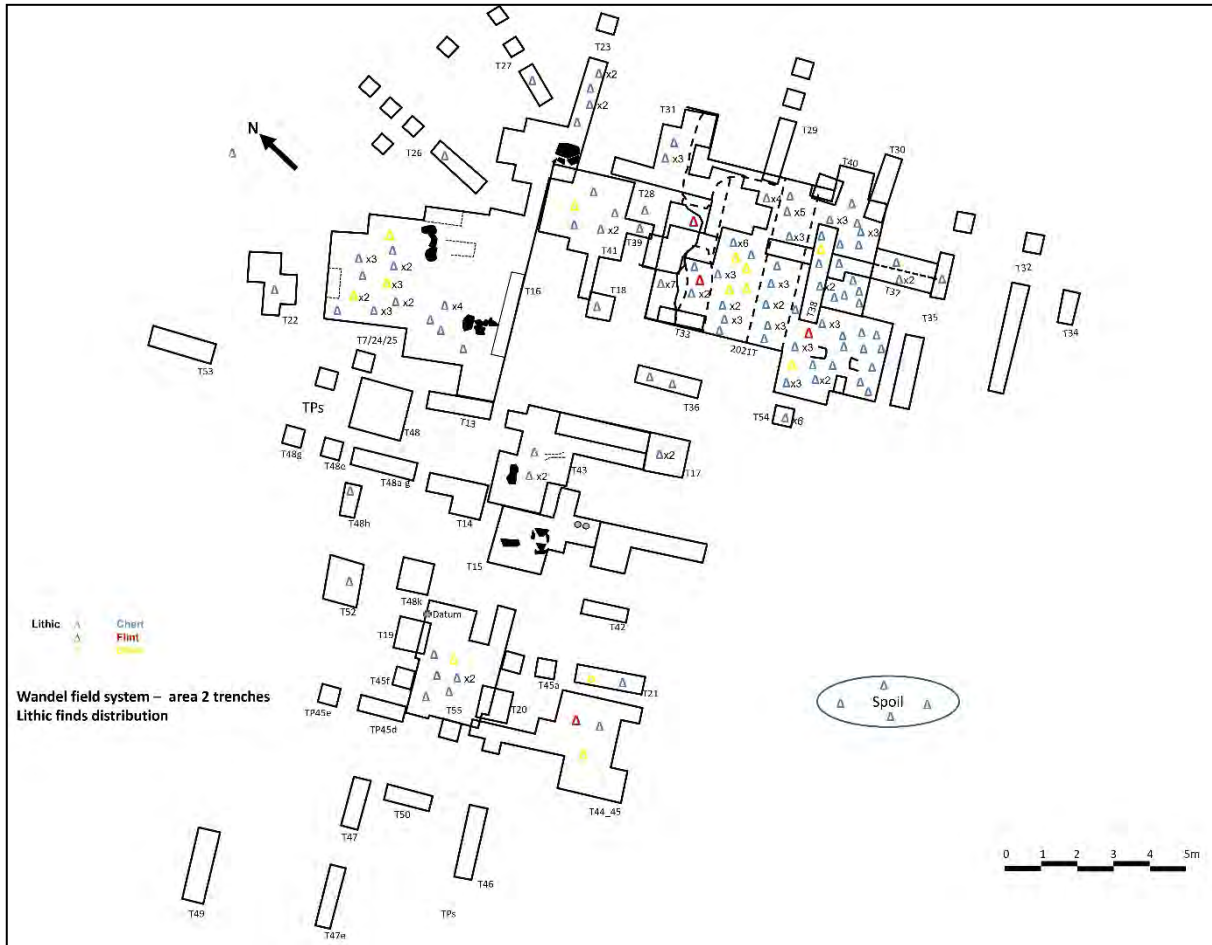
Two stone finds of interest included a semi-circular "lid" from T21 found above and at the side of a ditch, and a possible part of a shaped cover c.150mm diameter.

Also found was a teardrop shaped smoother faceted on one edge, hole for tethering and signs of use, a stone ball sub-spherical with flat facet, c.30mm diameter, weight 25g from Building No. 2 and a long cylindrical whet stone.

Other finds numbered 14 pieces of slate, 9 cannel coal (1 worked to a point), 5 sandstone chunks, 3 red keel/raddle (1 with sheep wool fibres attached), and 1 each of burnt stone and a coral fossil in limestone.

Note:- A similar fossil was discovered several years previously from the Wandel Burn further upstream.

For interest, a 65mm length teardrop shaped smoother, with possible hole for tethering at the narrow end was also found under turf in the same trench T7.



## Metal Finds

Of the 156 metal finds, 49 fragments were found by metal detection, including as follows:-

- 3 x rusted iron curved/tapered
- 5 x iron cauldron
- 1 x iron wedge solid and lightly oxidised.
- 1 x hook and part shackle
- 1 x metal strap with hole
- 1 x tack head with broken shaft
- 2 x flat iron annular rings
- 1 x metal curved and pierced with hole (NS 95197 27591)
- 8 x buttons (1 steel, 3 lead, one with hole, and 4 others)
- 1 x copper crucible (NS 95222 27549)
- 1 x buckle with articulated pin (NS 95211 27642)
- 2 x other buckles
- 1 x small thimble (NSW 95236 27541)
- 2 x lead musket balls (NS 95208 27662; NS 95225 27549)
- 1 x lead shot
- 4 x coins (3 unidentifiable)
- 1 x King George III Irish half penny (NS 95233 27570)
- 5 x unidentified iron
- 1x iron musket ball (NS 95177 27569)

### **Non-Metal Extras**

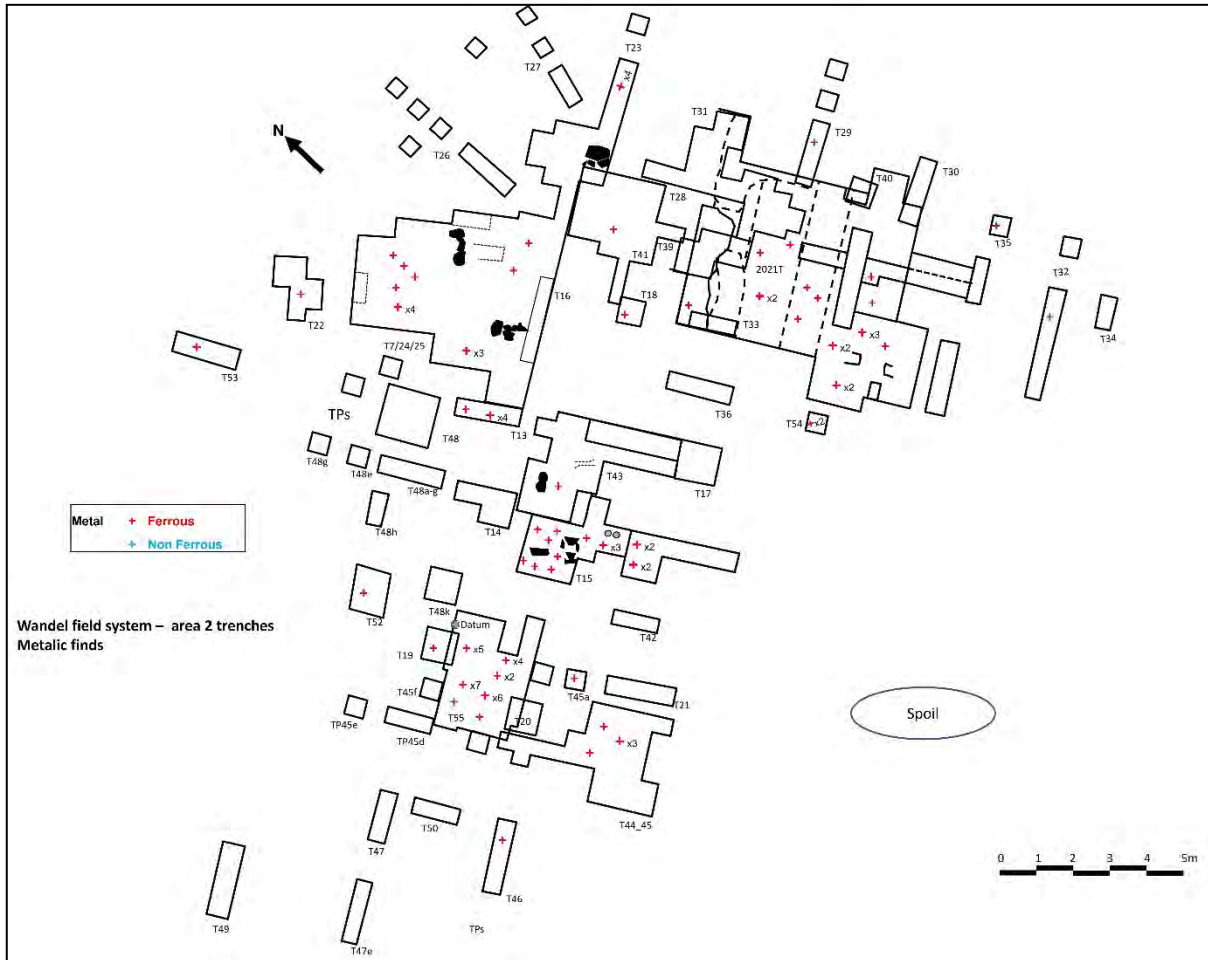
- 2 x Cannel coal
- 1 x Chert flake

The iron rings, and hook and part shackle, possibly assisted animal tethering movement. Personal items i.e. one thimble, buttons and a fine articulated buckle add to the understanding of the period.

### **Coinage.**

Of the 4 coins found by metal detection, 3 appeared well worn, defaced and indistinguishable. The other, although partially indistinct, revealed on the obverse the head of King George III and on the reverse, the outline of an Irish harp.

- Wa35.** Farthing? Copper, worn, thin pitted and eroded. 4 g, 23mm diameter. 0.75mm thick. Indistinct.
- Wa36.** Halfpenny? Copper, worn, verdigris, thin and pitted both sides. 7g. 27mm diameter. 1mm thick. Indistinct.
- Wa37.** Halfpenny. Copper, worn but visible. 7g. 27mm diameter. 1mm thick.  
Obverse laurel bust King George III facing right and inscription GEORGIVS III REX  
Reverse. Irish harp outline. Remainder indistinct. Date 1766? If so, Irish issue.
- Wa39.** Halfpenny? Copper, less worn, defaced. rubbed, polished and scored both sides. 10g. 28mm diameter. 1.5mm thick. Suggestion of a head on obverse? and Britannia on reverse?



### **Metal Finds (Conclusions)**

Of the 107 individually trowelled metal finds, a significant quantity were either corroded, encrusted on stones, or broken.

Apart from the accumulation of nails throughout the site, the presence of tools and objects confirm working life in a post-medieval pastoral environment.

For example, three curved hand sickle blades were excavated, two from T15 within Building No. 1 and the other from T46.

Others included:-

A hollow fish-tail end inset for a wooden handle tool or door hinge, 85mm in length.

Also from T15 finds included a forked part of a pot-hanger or fence retainer 100x15x10mm thick.

T55 finds included a flat paved stone with a hole bored through. Found in close proximity to a cluster of seven broken fragments of an iron cauldron, each measuring from 60x40 to 80x 50mm.

Other interesting finds included an iron strap, loop, possible chain link and door pin, 105x40mm, which was found under the turf.

A 15mm diameter domed item of mixed metal attaching point and a small iron ingot encrusted with stone. This was found in Building No. 2.

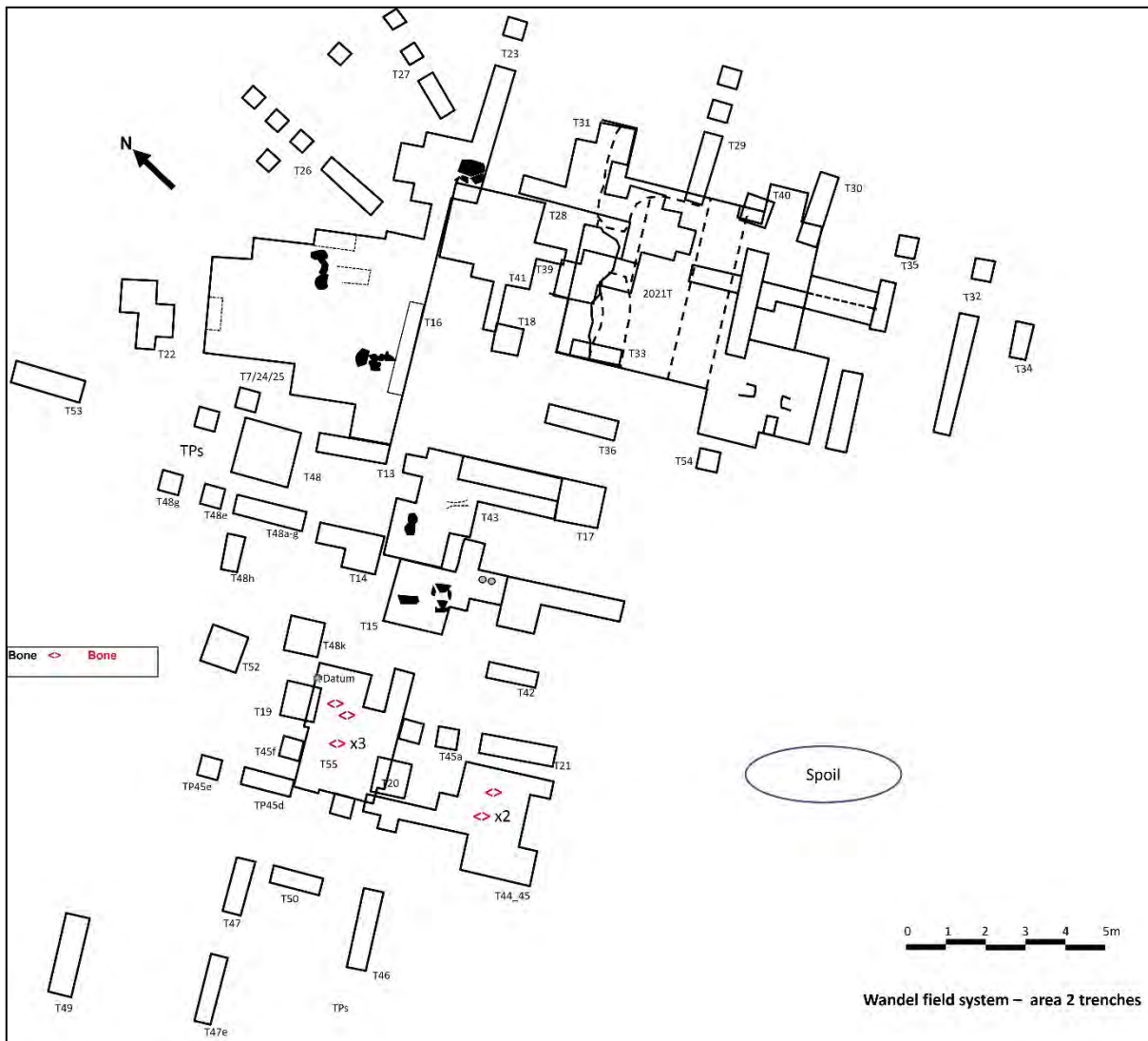
### **Other Finds/Samples.**

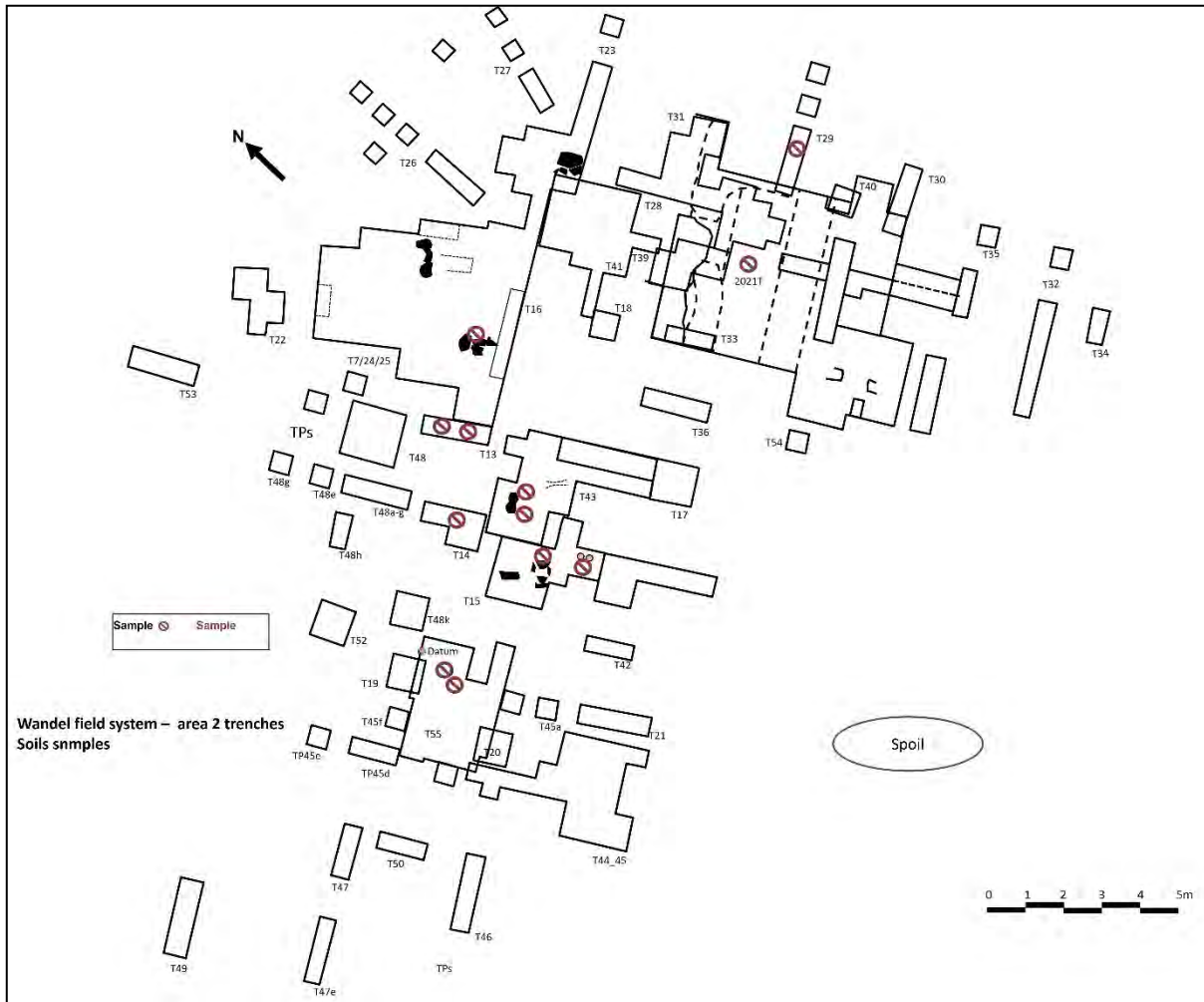
A total of 10 organic and two geology samples were recorded as follows:-

Organic : 8 bone fragments, 5 from T55, and 3 from surrounding trenches but unlike other finds were restricted to this area and absent from the rest of the site.  
Recognisable were part of a medium size scapula and a small rib.

Geology: 1 x Greywacke pebble 40x25mm with inclusions from T25.  
1 x Felsite? cobble chunk from T24. This type of rock can be found in the local Tinto Hills.

Soil samples soil samples were taken from T24 (door-post slot), T29 E side of building 1, T13, T14 (coal deposits), 2021T (hearth), T15 and T25 (carbon-rich layer).





## Appendix II

### Agnes Watson and Alexander Frizell testaments

The Commissary Court of Lanark provides us with an exceptional insight into the lives of the tenants of Millhill of Wandel. The testaments of Agnes Watson, 1638 and Alex Frizell, 1733 have been examined.

Agnes Watson at the time of her death had the following assets:

One cow, two young cows, one mare, 25 old sheep with ten lambs, three bolls<sup>1</sup> of oats, three firlots of bere barley and other household goods with a total value of £135.

She was indebted to the Marquis of Douglas, Bessie Guidfallow of Robertson, John Stoddart of Millrig, Bessie Partoun of Hartside, James Park of Robertson and William Fleming of Lamington to a total debt of £56 1/8d.

The seventeenth century was a cold period in Scotland with many upland farms abandoned as a result of crop failure. Millhill of Wandel sat at an altitude of 240m just below the critical altitude necessary for the ripening of oats. Dry storage would have been necessary for the storage of oats



and barley, but the quantities listed in the testament suggest that this could be achieved within the dwelling-house. 'Stabling' for the mare would have been needed.

The late Alexander Frizell had 153 items sold by roup in his 1733 inventar which fetched a total of £169 17/6d. The items included several creels, wool combs, bere and pease, four chairs, two tables, three bibles, other books, three beds, lots of bedding, fabric and clothing, tools, a horse, a cart, a cow, two lambs and four old sheep. Frizell's debts however amounted to £155 9/6d. His creditors were George Murray, Woodend for rental of Millhill of Wandel, William Roger, Biggar for tobacco, Robert Forrest for meal and labour, Dr John Wilson, Douglas for drugs etc. and James Melrose of Persilands, Biggar for meal.

Frizell's nearest of kin were Gilbert and Anthony Frizell of Coulter.

Both testaments reflect the workings of a subsistence economy. The cattle were for milk rather than beef.

<sup>1</sup>Firlot = 20 dry litres. 4 firlots = 1 boll.

## REFERENCES

Old Statistical Account for Scotland, 1790s and General Review of Agriculture for Peeblesshire, 1802 refer to neighbouring parishes having routine practice for earth embankments (sod dykes) to protect crops and enclose stock for one season then levelled at the end of the season.

### **Devine, TM 2019 The Scottish Clearances Penguin Books**

Since the 1750s the introduction of large sheep walks in upland parishes of South Lanarkshire could lead to a more rapid collapse in small tenant numbers e.g. the union of farms in the district of Wandel where 4000 out of 5000 acres were devoted to sheep pasture. This was reflected in the OSA for Lamington and Wandel Parish where a population of 599 in 1755 had reduced to 417 by 1790s.

**Murdoch, R - Bottle Reports** - BAG - Glenochar and Smithwood, Chapelgill, Logan and others.

### The Scots Dialect Dictionary 1988

Metal Objects - Cackers - the calker of a horseshoe; the iron shod of a clog or shoe.

Iron Clog Theory. - These iron horseshoe shaped plates were fixed/ nailed to the soles and heels of wooden clogs for protection against working conditions found in agricultural, weaving and factory activities from medieval, post medieval gaining prominence during Industrial Revolution 1840s - 1920s to present.

NMS et al - Concealed Shoes - burying under floors widespread from Europe to Colonies included cottages and farms. Practises evolved from Neolithic Orkney (Westray Wife) to present day (leaving

coins in rooms on departing properties). Reasons may include communication with ancestors, ward off evil spirits, bring good luck to Handsel the building or the depositor making a personal statement, trade etc. May have been the same for cackers.

James, Heather F - Rare Late Medieval Rural Site Laigh Newton - Canmore Listed D 295646, NGR NS 5937 3684 Soc of Antiquaries and SAIR 65 2017

### **Places of Interest on the Southern Upland Way - Medieval Sites**

42 Over Kirkhope NT 209 122

45 St Mary's Loch NT 260 228

49 Dryhope Rig NT 266 257

50 Opposite Blackhouse Tower NT 280 272

### **Other References**

Old Parish Registers 1553- 1854 with overlap

Surviving Kirk Session Records Lamington and Wandel

Births 1656-1660, 1693-1708, 1715-1728 and 1738-1854

Marriages 1645-1795 and 1822-1854

Deaths 1702-1799 and 1837-1854

Michele Aitken, Ian Cunnington, Brenda Dreghorn, David Drury, Bill Glass, Ann Matheson, Jim Ness, Lex Yuill 2023.