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Archaeological Assessment Report No. 2,
Sigginstown Castle, Sigginstown, Co. Wexford.

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Clients:
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1. Introduction

Planning permission has been applied for by Liz & Gordon Jones for the renovation, extension and return to use as a private dwelling of a sixteenth century tower-house, an attached late seventeenth/eighteenth century house and associated outbuildings at Sigginstown, Co. Wexford (monument ref: WX053-001 & WX053-001001) (figs. 1 & 3). The tower-house and attached house are recorded archaeological monuments afforded statutory protection under the National Monuments Acts (1930-2014).

Preliminary archaeological assessment of the site was undertaken in November 2016 under licence 16E0519 issued from the Department of Culture, Heritage & Gaeltacht and an archaeological report was submitted as part of the planning application. The archaeological report recommended further archaeological assessment of the site.

A Request for Further Information was issued by the Planning Authority in March 2018, and this required the following:

Revised Archaeological Impact Assessment which contains the following information.

Archaeological

- **Further archaeological testing within the proposed development area where groundwork's are proposed, proposed testing strategy shall be based on the site layout, plans and engineering drawings provided by the applicant.**
- **Where archaeological material / features are shown to be present, preservation in situ, revision of site layout to establish 'buffer areas' and apposite mitigation measures included in the Revised Archaeological Impact Assessment.**
- **Engineering design details and specifications for the new floor area are not provided in the Archaeological Impact Assessment and as a result a archaeological strategy cannot be finalised without this information.**
- **Proposed plans and engineering details relating to the proposed reduction of current floor levels within the tower house and 17th Century house shall be provided to the archaeologist and archaeological mitigations in this regard shall be outlined in the revised Archaeological Impact Assessment report.**

This document forms the report of the further archaeological testing of the site requested by the Planning Authority. It is organised under a number of headings relevant to the fieldwork and research carried out and an Impact Assessment has been included addressing the impact of the development as a whole on the archaeological heritage of the site.

Recommendations are outlined in Section 7. It has been recommended, in line with statutory guidelines, that archaeological excavation and preservation by record be undertaken where there is a proposed construction impact, namely in the following areas:

- Ground floor of tower house for insertion of new floor
- Ground floor of attached house for insertion of new floor
- Area of proposed extension on north side of attached house
- Ground floor of agricultural building for insertion of new floor and walls
- Driveway
- Areas required for service installation and drainage

In addition it is recommended that archaeological monitoring be undertaken of all proposed construction works such as temporary and enabling works, drainage trenches and service runs, as well as clearance of the tower-house wall tops for any reconstruction of the crenellations.

2. Archaeological & Historical Background

The archaeological and historical background has been detailed in the previous archaeological report.

3. Landscape and Phasing of Buildings

The tower-house at Sigginstown has been dated by radiocarbon dating to the sixteenth century. The attached house was originally built in the late seventeenth century and contains North Devon gravel tempered ware in the walls. Test excavation has uncovered both pantile and glazed ridge tile fragments indicating the form of the original roof of this building and it is likely that the late seventeenth century building, with its steeply pitched roof, contained dormer windows.

The east front of the house was remodelled, probably sometime in the late eighteenth century, and the house became slated with a brick front containing many windows. The struck joints of the east front show that the brick front was probably originally exposed and the lime render was a later introduction. The interior of the house contains wall footings and the remains of corner fireplaces at current ground level, with some architectural elements protruding above ground level.

The attached house sits on-top of an earlier wall on its western side. This wall appears to be earlier and is interpreted as the line of the bawn wall of the tower-house (see phase 1 testing report). The agricultural building on the north-east side of the attached house cannot, as yet, be dated. It may also however be a re-modelled element of an earlier bawn wall. The surviving eastern gable abuts the long axis of the building which contains no windows or other features to aid interpretation (figs. 4-6). A red-brick doorway at the western end of the long axis wall is an inserted feature. The length of this building also corresponds with the presence of archaeological features shown in the geophysical survey of the site by JM Leigh Surveys which identified an enclosure at this location.

Geophysical survey of the site also showed a number of other potential archaeological features. A number of these, identified as 'trends' in the geophysical survey report, are likely to be archaeological in origin and represent linear features.

The tower-house complex is situated within a number of field boundaries which are shown on the first and second edition Ordnance Survey maps. Of note amongst these is a small rectangular area immediately to the north of the agricultural building. This is a low-lying wet area which is defined by water-filled ditches (fig. 24). It measures c. 22m east to west by 16m north to south and is defined by a low bank at the south side, the remains of a boundary visible on the first edition Ordnance Survey map. This rectangular area has been high-lighted on fig. 3 and may be of archaeological significance as a pre-tower-house enclosure.

In summary, the site contains medieval features (as evidenced by the recovery of medieval pottery during archaeological testing), a possible medieval site such as a moated site (as evidenced by the rectangular enclosure and features shown in the geophysical survey / archaeological testing of the site), a sixteenth century tower-house within a bawn and a seventeenth century house with eighteenth century modifications. The ground level around the complex was altered for agricultural reasons after the abandonment of the house in the early twentieth century.

4. Archaeological Testing

Archaeological testing of the site under licence 16E0519 has been undertaken in two phases. Phase 1 is summarised below and Phase 2 is outlined in detail.

Phase 1

Phase 1 testing was undertaken in November 2016 and consisted of the excavation of a series of 6 hand dug test pits and a number of machine excavated percolation pits. Archaeological features and deposits were noted in the test pits and floor plan of the attached house was surveyed (fig. 7). The ground floor contained two distinct rooms, each with a corner fireplace made of redbrick. There is a corridor at the northern end of the house, leading to an external doorway through the western wall. There is also a corridor leading to the doorway of the tower house which was blocked in the 20th century. The mid-western portion of the house contained a large staircase, which is evidenced by the arrangement of openings in the western wall and the arrangement of joists on the first floor. Other footing fragments of brick walls are evident within the house and a large flat stone is situated close to the northern fireplace. All of these features are situated at or slightly above current ground level within the building.

In addition, dating material was found in the western wall of the house close to the southern doorway. This dating material comprises 4 pieces of North Devon Gravel Tempered Ware which was used as pinnings in the masonry. These pieces of broken pottery are visible at just above eye level. This material fits in well with a date for the house at the end of the 17th century or the early 18th century, this date is also relevant for the redbrick corner fireplaces.

Testing within the house showed a stone setting in Test Pit 3. Immediately to the east of the house excavation of Test Pit 5 showed the depth of the cobbled yard and shows that the ground level has been increased here for agricultural purposes.

Test Pit 6 was located outside the western wall of the attached house. The wall of the house is sitting on top of an earlier wall foundation which can be seen running the entire length of the western wall at existing ground level. The earlier wall lies at a slight angle to the western wall of the house and may be interpreted as a separate feature, most likely the wall of a bawn enclosure. It measures between 0.7-0.8m in width and is composed of large stones. The western wall of the house measures 0.6m wide and the redbrick eastern wall is 0.5m wide.

Six percolation pits were excavated at a distance of 60m to the north-east of the castle. All of the pits measured 2.5m in length by 1.2m in width x 0.6m deep. Probable archaeological

deposits were uncovered in three of the six test pits. These deposits took the form of compact charcoal rich silty clays and are likely to be the remains of ditches or refuse pits associated with the castle or house. There was no impact on the identified deposits as excavation of the pits was halted when they were uncovered. The pits were subsequently recorded and backfilled.

Phase 2

Phase 2 archaeological testing was undertaken on the 14th-16th May 2018. A total of 14 test trenches were excavated by machine in areas of anticipated construction impact (figs. 8-23). Two machines were used; a 13 tonne tracked machine and a 3 tonne mini-digger. All of the excavated trenches contained archaeological material or deposits.

Trench 1

Trench 1 was situated at the western end of the proposed driveway and measured 15m in length. Topsoil (C101) was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.3m where orange sandy clay subsoil was encountered. Topsoil contained a single piece of glazed pottery. The following features were uncovered:

C102 Possible pit or posthole contained charcoal rich fill. 0.15m in diameter.

Trench 2

Trench 2 was situated to the west of trench and measured 18m in length. Topsoil (C101) was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.3m where orange sandy clay subsoil was encountered. The following features were uncovered:

C103 3m wide metallised surface located 0.1-0.15m below the present ground surface. Surface composed of compacted small stones. No artefacts retrieved from uncovered portion.

C104 Gully located immediately to east of C103. 1.3m wide x 0.3m deep. Located 0.2 below present ground surface.

Trench 3

Trench 3 was situated in the location of the proposed driveway and measured 15m in length. Topsoil (C101) was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.3m where orange sandy clay subsoil was encountered. The following features were uncovered:

- C105 Very waterlogged area which filled with water on excavation. It was unclear whether this is a ditch, but it probably is. Appeared for a length of 5m with brown silty clay and charcoal flecking.
- C106 Stoney surface which may be the remains of a building.
- C107 Waterlogged area which filled with water on excavation. Possibly a ditch.
- C108 Shallow gully.
- C109 Shallow gully.
- C110 Shallow gully.

Trench 4

Trench 4 was situated in the location of the proposed driveway and measured 15m in length. Topsoil (C101) was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.3m where orange sandy clay subsoil was encountered. The following features were uncovered:

- C111 Large ditch apparent at a depth of 0.23-0.3m below present ground level. A small section was excavated at the edge to a depth of 0.5m. Not bottomed.

Trench 5

Trench 5 was situated in the location of the proposed large-scale drip percolation area and measured 23m in length. Topsoil (C101) was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.3-0.4m where orange/brown sandy clay subsoil was encountered. The following features were uncovered:

- C112 Furrow.
- C113 Gully.
- C114 Ditch, measuring c. 3m in width, associated with ditch C115 which either cuts or is cut by it. Filled by mid brown clay.
- C115 Ditch, measuring c.4m in width, associated with ditch C114 which either cuts or is cut by it. Filled by mid brown clay. Contained medieval pottery.

Trench 6

Trench 6 was situated in the location of the proposed large-scale drip percolation area and measured 20m in length. Topsoil (C101) was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.3-0.4m where orange/brown sandy clay subsoil was encountered. The following features were uncovered:

- C116 Possible ditch? Deep area of soil at south end of trench, contained early post-med pottery.
- C117 Furrow, contained 17th century pottery.
- C118 Gully 1.2m wide.
- C119 Feature unclear, possible ditch, 1.3m wide. Contained 17th century pottery.

Trench 7

Trench 7 was situated in the location of the proposed large-scale drip percolation area and measured 21m in length. Topsoil (C101) was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.3-0.4m where orange/brown sandy clay subsoil was encountered. The following features were uncovered:

- C120 Possible ditch.
- C121 Furrow.
- C116 Possibly a continuation of C116 in Trench 6.
- C122 Furrow. Contained glazed pottery.
- C123 Possible ditch.

Trench 8

Trench 8 was located 2.5m to the west of the western wall of the attached house and measured 6m in length. Topsoil (C101) was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.1m where the following features were uncovered:

- C124 Redeposited clay with a depth of 0.1-0.2m underlying topsoil and overlying cobbled surface C125.
- C125 Cobbled surface, partially exposed beneath clay C124. Contained base of small glass bottle, 17th/18th century.
- C126 Possible pit at north end of Trench 8. Contained dark charcoal fill but became very wet on excavation so could not be investigated further.

Trench 9

Trench 9 was excavated in the area of the septic tank and measured 4m in length. Topsoil (C101) was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.3m where the following features were uncovered:

- C127 Layer of medium sized stones bedded in clay beneath 0.3m of topsoil. Overlay C128. Contained glazed ridge tile.

C128 Fine metalled surface at 0.5m deep. Contained glazed pottery.

Trench 10

Trench 10 was located 2.2m to the east of the eastern wall of the attached house and measured 5m in length. Topsoil (C101) was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.4m where the following features were uncovered:

C129 Cobbled surface located 0.4m below present ground level.

Trench 11

Trench 11 was located in the area of the agricultural building and measured 6m in length. Topsoil (C101) was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.35m where the following features were uncovered:

C130 Redeposited clay situated 0.35m below topsoil. Contained 19th century white-glazed pottery.

C131 Lime-mortared stone wall exposed for a length of 1.2m, underlay C130.

C132 Pit with red brick cutting C130, 0.6m diameter.

Trench 12

Trench 12 was located in the agricultural building and measured 6m in length. Topsoil (C101) was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.25m where the following features were uncovered:

C133 Layer of cobbles set in clay at 0.2-0.25m below present ground level.

C134 Layer of rougher cobbles to the north of C133.

Trench 13

Trench 13 was located in the space between the attached house and the agricultural building and measured 4.5m in length. Topsoil (C101) was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.1m where the following features were uncovered:

C135 0.7m wide clay bonded wall located immediately below the topsoil.

Trench 14

Trench 14 was located in the area of proposed pathway to the north of the attached house and measured 6m in length. Topsoil (C101) was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.1m where the following features were uncovered:

C136 Length of wall uncovered immediately underneath topsoil.

C137 Compacted surface containing eighteenth century glass bottles, clay pipe stem and pottery.

Summary

The excavation of a series of test trenches in areas of proposed construction impact has uncovered archaeological features and deposits in all areas of investigation. Artefacts associated with the features date mainly to the post-medieval period contemporary with the use of the tower-house and attached house, however several sherds of medieval pottery have been recovered indicating use of the site before the construction of the tower-house. The roof tiles (glazed ridge and pantile) indicate the form of the roof of the seventeenth century house.

Trenches 5-7, excavated in the area of the proposed percolation area, show the presence of several linear features (ditches and gullies) which contain both medieval and post-medieval archaeological artefacts.

Areas investigated close to the house (Trenches 8, 9, 10 and 14) show a succession of cobbled and metalled surfaces which have been covered over as a result of the return to agricultural usage of the site.

Excavation in the area of the agricultural building (trenches 11 and 12) show an earlier wall and cobbled surfaces.

5. Artefact Catalogue

The table below lists the artefacts uncovered from both phases of archaeological testing (figs. 25-28).

Registration No:	Location:	Context:	Description:
16E0519:1:1	Test pit 1	C1	Horseshoe; length 146.4mm, width 129.6mm.
16E0519:1:2	Test pit 1	C1	Iron boot heel fragment. External width of 44.2mm, length 40mm.
16E0519:1:3	Test pit 1	C1	Clay pipe stem fragment; diameter

			6mm, length 23.1mm.
16E0519:7:1	Test pit 3	C7	Broken curved metal object; width 40.6mm, length 125.4mm.
16E0519:9:1	Test pit 4	C9	Blue-patterned white-glazed pottery frag; thickness 1.9mm.
16E0519:9:2	Test pit 4	C9	Blue-patterned white-glazed pottery frag; thickness 2mm.
16E0519:9:3	Test pit 4	C9	Purple-patterned white glazed pottery frag: thickness 6.3mm
16E0519:10:1	Test pit 5	C10	Glass frag
16E0519:10:2	Test pit 5	C10	Glass frag
16E0519:10:3	Test pit 5	C10	Blackware sherd: 8.7mm thickness.
16E0519:10:4	Test pit 5	C10	Clay pipe stem frag: 6.3mm diameter.
16E0519:10:5	Test pit 5	C10	Pottery frag.
16E0519:10:6	Test pit 5	C10	Broken metal object.
16E0519:10:7	Test pit 5	C10	Large base sherd of Blackware
16E0519:10:8	Test pit 5	C10	Roof tile? Sherd.
16E0519:11:1	Test pit 5	C11	Piece of decorated lime moulding from house.
16E0519:11:2	Test pit 5	C11	Nail.
16E0519:11:3	Test pit 5	C11	Nail.
16E0519:11:4	Test pit 5	C11	Glazed floor tile? Medieval?
16E0519:13:1	Test pit 6	C13	Pantile; 100.6mm wide, 14.8mm thick, length 230mm.
16E0519:14:1	Test pit 6	C14	17 th / 18th century glass frag.
16E0519:14:2	Test pit 6	C14	17 th / 18th century glass frag.
16E0519:14:3	Test pit 6	C14	17 th / 18th century glass frag.
16E0519:14:4	Test pit 6	C14	17 th / 18th century glass frag.
16E0519:14:5	Test pit 6	C14	17 th / 18th century glass frag.
16E0519:14:6	Test pit 6	C14	17 th / 18th century glass frag.
16E0519:14:7	Test pit 6	C14	Blackware sherd.
16E0519:14:8	Test pit 6	C14	17 th century pottery, yellow glaze.
16E0519:16:1	Surface	C16	Tile fragment; width 47.2mm, length

	clean-up inside house		32.3mm, thickness 15.6mm.
16E0519:16:2	As above	C16	Tile fragment; thickness 16.4mm, length 70mm.
16E0519:16:3	As above	C16	Tile fragment; thickness 14.5mm, length 112.8mm.
16E0519:16:4	As above	C16	Rimsherd.
16E0519:16:5	As above	C16	Pottery sherd.
16E0519:16:6	As above	C16	Pottery sherd.
16E0519:16:7	As above	C16	Pottery sherd.
16E0519:16:8	As above	C16	Clay pipe bowl, 19 th century.
16E0519:16:9	As above	C16	Metal object.
16E0519:101:1	Trench 1	C101	Glazed pottery sherd.
16E0519:109:1	Trench 3	C109	Abraded medieval pottery sherd.
16E0519:115:1	Trench 5	C115	Medieval rimsherd.
16E0519:115:2	Trench 5	C115	Abraded medieval green-glazed pot.
16E0519:116:1	Trench 6	C116	Thin cream pottery sherd.
16E0519:116:2	Trench 6	C116	Orange pottery sherd.
16E0519:117:1	Trench 6	C117	Rimsherd, post-medieval.
16E0519:119:1	Trench 6	C119	North-Devon pottery sherd.
16E0519:119:2	Trench 6	C119	Orange-fabric pottery sherd.
16E0519:119:3	Trench 6	C119	Glazed orange-fabric pottery sherd.
16E0519:122:1	Trench 7	C122	Orange-grey fabric handle sherd.
16E0519:125:1	Trench 8	C125	Glass frag from very small bottle.
16E0519:125:2	Trench 8	C125	Glass frag from very small bottle.
16E0519:101:2	Trench 9	C101	Blackware sherd.
16E0519:101:3	Trench 9	C101	Orange-grey fabric, glazed pottery.
16E0519:101:4	Trench 9	C101	Orange-grey fabric, pottery.
16E0519:127:1	Trench 9	C127	Glazed decorated ridge tile.
16E0519:128:1	Trench 9	C128	Pottery; orange-fabric, handle.
16E0519:128:2	Trench 9	C128	Pottery; orange-fabric, handle.
16E0519:130:1	Trench 11	C130	Pottery; white fabric & glaze.
16E0519:130:2	Trench 11	C130	Pottery; white fabric & glaze.

16E0519:130:3	Trench 11	C130	Pottery; white fabric & glaze.
16E0519:130:4	Trench 11	C130	Pottery; white fabric & glaze.
16E0519:137:1	Trench 14	C137	Glass bottle; base fragment. 18 th century onion bottle.
16E0519:137:2	Trench 14	C137	Glass bottle; neck fragment. 18 th century onion bottle.
16E0519:137:3	Trench 14	C137	Clay pipe stem frag; 9.4mm diameter.
16E0519:137:4	Trench 14	C137	North Devon ware pottery frag.
16E0519:137:5	Trench 14	C137	North Devon ware pottery frag.

The artefacts recovered consist of metal objects (including a small iron boot-heel), lime moulding from the interior of the house, pottery from 13th /14th centuries to 19th century, glass from 18th century to 20th century, clay pipe bowl and stem fragments as well as roof and floor tiles. The roof tile includes pantile and glazed ridge tile fragments indicating the construction of the roof of the late 17th century house. Abraded 13th / 14th century medieval pottery indicates use of the site at that period.

The artefacts recovered from both phases of excavation will be cleaned, registered and sent to specialists for analysis as follows; tile – Joanna Wren, pottery – Clare McCutcheon, x-ray of metal objects – Susannah Kelly. Following collation of the specialist reports the artefacts will be deposited with the National Museum.

6. Impact of the Proposed Development

The proposed development consists of the renovation of the tower-house, attached house and the rebuilding of the agricultural building with a new building situated on the north end of the attached house. A new driveway is required to comply with sightlines and this will be located to the north-east of the tower-house complex.

The site will also require new septic services and percolation. The original percolation pits excavated to the north-east of the tower-house complex indicated that the ground was not suitable for a conventional percolation area and so a drip system was devised which would cover a very extensive area (30m x 30m). However, a sand-cell system can be used at this site. This has a much smaller footprint than the drip system with a measurement of 8.5m by 6.15m (fig. 29).

The proposed works will have an impact on the surviving archaeological deposits in the following areas:

- Driveway – features and deposits are situated c.0.1-0.3m below the present ground level. In addition parts of the proposed driveway are prone to water-logging. Excavation to firm subsoil with a drainage trench is shown on the drawings therefore archaeological deposits will be impacted on (figs. 30 & 31).
- Tower-house – insertion of new ground floor will require the excavation of c.400mm of the current ground floor surface and 250mm of the floor over the overhead vault (fig. 33).
- Attached house – insertion of new ground floor will require the excavation of up to 450mm of the current floor surface (fig. 30 & 32). The attached house contains internal walls and fireplace bases which will be impacted on. Underpinning of the existing walls is not proposed at this time however it must be noted that plans often change at construction stage and that underpinning may be necessary at a later stage.
- Agricultural building – insertion of new ground floor and foundations will require the excavation of existing deposits.
- New extension on north side of attached house – a brand new building will be constructed here to modern building regulations. Any existing archaeological deposits will be impacted on.
- Hard stands around house – it is proposed to hard landscape areas around the house. Some of these areas are wet, such as the area of Trenches 8 and 14. Specification for the car-parking area is as for the driveway and shows excavation to firm subsoil.
- Septic tank and percolation area – it is proposed to install a septic tank and percolation area to the west and north-west of the tower-house complex. Excavation will be required for this.
- Drainage and services – the installation of drainage and utility trenches, including French drains around the existing buildings will be required.
- Temporary and enabling works such as the setting up of a works compound will be required.

The greatest physical impact of the development will be from the excavation of soils for the insertion of new floors in the tower-house, the attached house, the agricultural building and

the new bedroom building. The finished floor level of the attached house is between 0 and 200mm higher than the existing interior floor level. Excavation has shown that archaeological deposits are located through-out the footprint of the house.

The percolation area has been reduced from 30m x 30m to 8.5 x 6.15m and this has reduced the impact of this feature greatly.

7. Recommendations¹

It is proposed to undertake the works at Sigginstown on a phased basis, with works to the tower-house and attached house to be undertaken first followed by the construction of the extension building and the rebuilding of the agricultural building. For works to commence the existing agricultural entrance will be used prior to the construction of the proposed new driveway. The percolation area, drainage and services will be required to be installed during the first phase.

As identified in Section 6 above, the proposed works will have a negative impact on the archaeological deposits identified and any other as yet unidentified deposits which may exist beneath ground surface.

In order to mitigate these impacts, and in line with statutory recommendations, it is recommended that archaeological excavation and preservation by record be undertaken within any areas which will be impacted on by the proposed works. Archaeological excavation and preservation by record involves the excavation of archaeological features within a site as well as post-excavation analysis which includes all artefact analysis, specialist reports and final report compilation. The recommendations outlined here should be discussed and agreed with the National Monuments Service of the Department of Culture, Heritage & Gaeltacht, which is the prescribed body responsible for the archaeological heritage and the issuing of archaeological licences. Any archaeological excavation and preservation by record will require the issuing of an excavation licence by the Department.

Archaeological excavation will be necessary in the following areas of construction and ground impact:

- Driveway and drainage trench within driveway

¹ All recommendations made are subject to the approval of the DCHG and the Planning Authority

- Septic tank and percolation area
- All new service and utility trenches
- All ground floors of the following: tower-house, attached house, agricultural building and new extension building. In addition the floor over the vault of the tower-house will require excavation
- Hard-stands around the house for carparking and landscaping
- Pathway to the north of agricultural building connecting to driveway
- Any underpinning of existing foundations required at construction stage

Depth of excavation required:

The floor specifications are shown in fig. 31. The drawings show a maximum depth of 450mm is required for the insertion of new floors. In general archaeological excavation and preservation by record is taken to the base of archaeological features and subsoil levels. However, in certain instances, it may be possible to archaeologically excavate to a certain depth, introduce a buffer zone material, and preserve *in-situ* any further archaeological features which may be situated beneath this level. Preservation *in-situ* can only be undertaken with the approval of the Department of Culture, Heritage & Gaeltacht and is dependent on knowing the nature and extent of the identified archaeological remains as well as construction details.

Temporary and enabling works

To enable the project to begin a certain amount of temporary and enabling works will be required, such as the setting up of a works compound. Any temporary works area must be carefully planned to avoid any impact on the underlying archaeological features and it is recommended that a temporary works plan be drawn up and submitted to the project archaeologist and Department of Culture, Heritage & Gaeltacht prior to the commencement of works.

Archaeological Monitoring

It is also recommended that archaeological monitoring is undertaken of all aspects of the works, including clearance of the wall-tops of the tower-house, to ensure the recording of any previously unidentified archaeological and architectural features, deposits or artefacts.

Archaeological excavation and monitoring should be undertaken by a suitably qualified archaeologist under licence to the Department of Culture, Heritage & Gaeltacht. Method statements setting out the proposed construction phasing and excavation and preservation by record should be submitted to the DCHG in advance of any proposed works at the site.

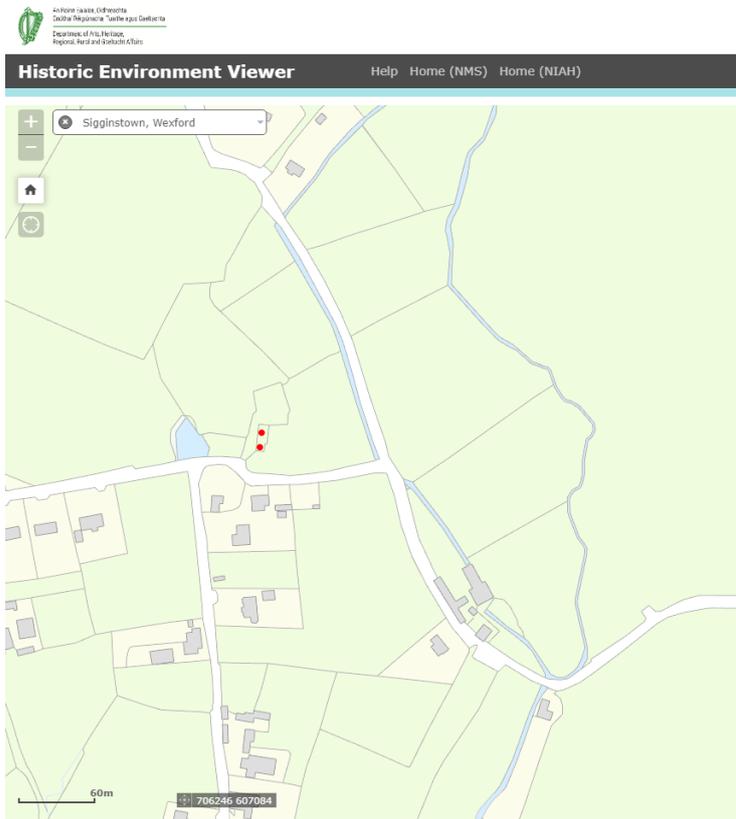


Fig. 1 Location of Sigginstown Castle.

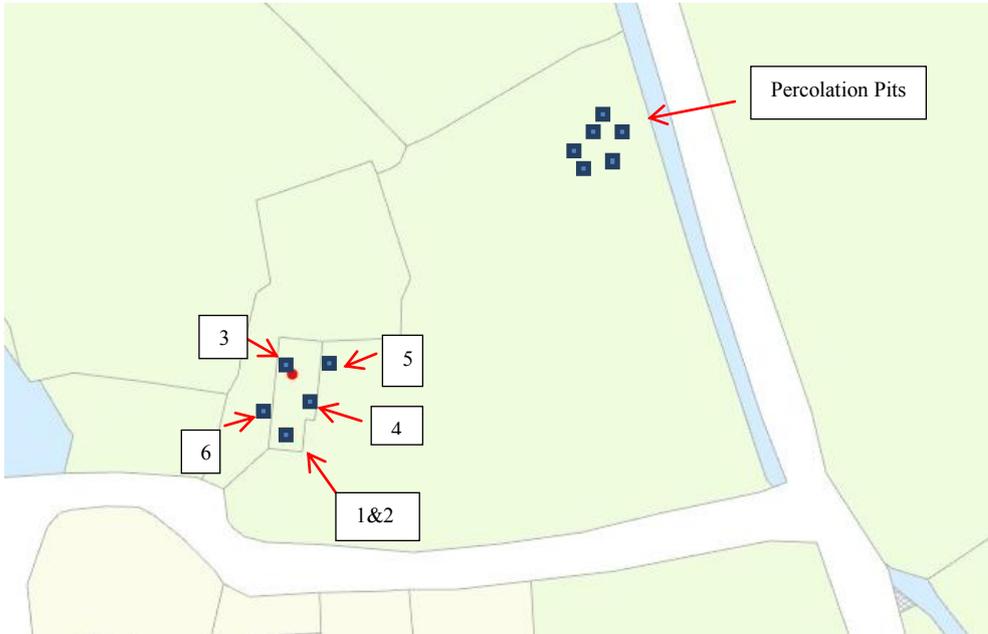


Fig. 2 Location of Test pits 1-6, and percolation pits 60m to NE of castle excavated as part of first testing phase

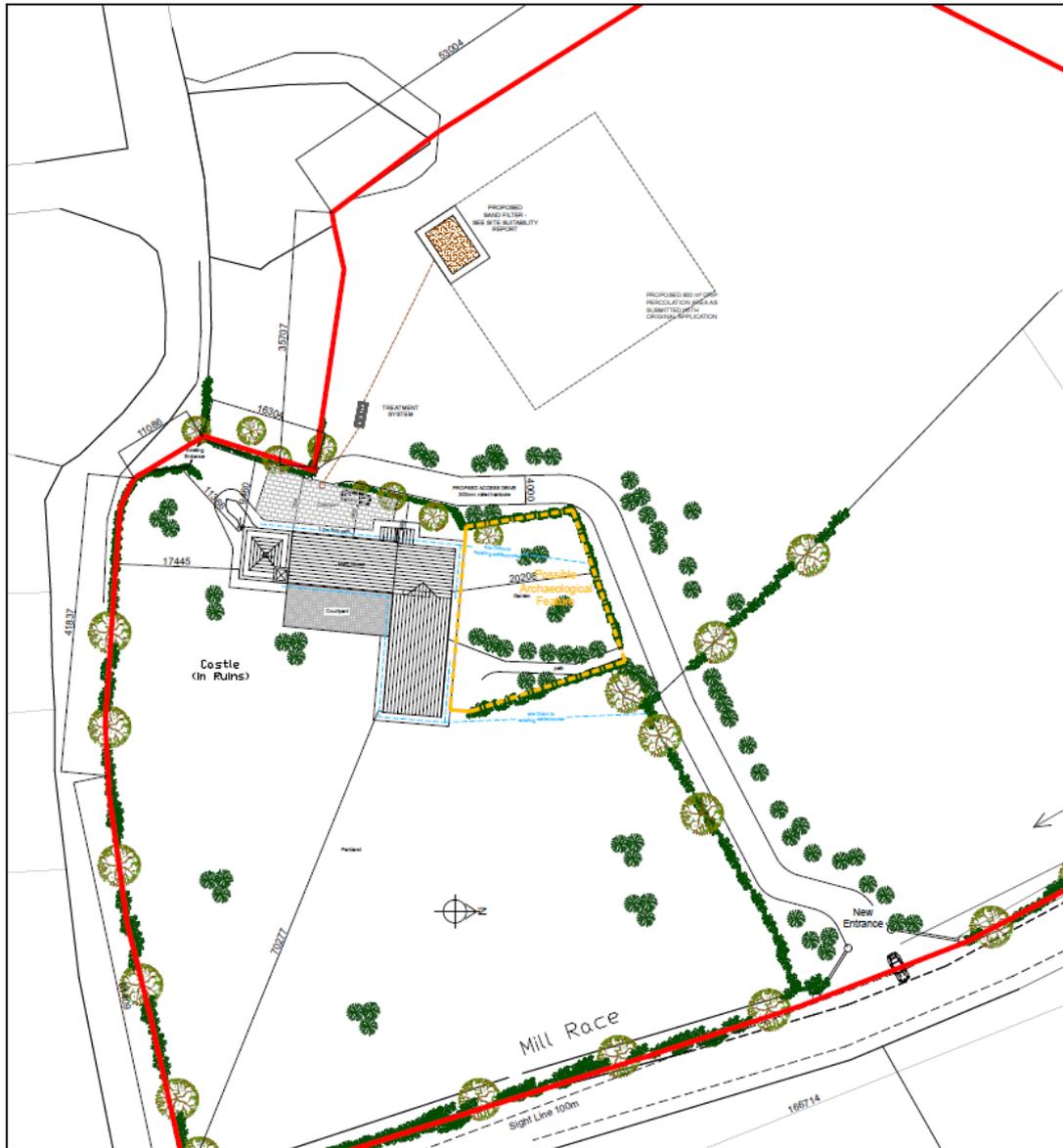


Fig. 3 Site layout & area of possible archaeological enclosure highlighted in yellow



Fig. 4 Eastern gable end of agricultural building, looking W.



Fig. 5 South wall of agricultural building, looking NW.



Fig. 6 West end of south wall, showing blocked doorway.

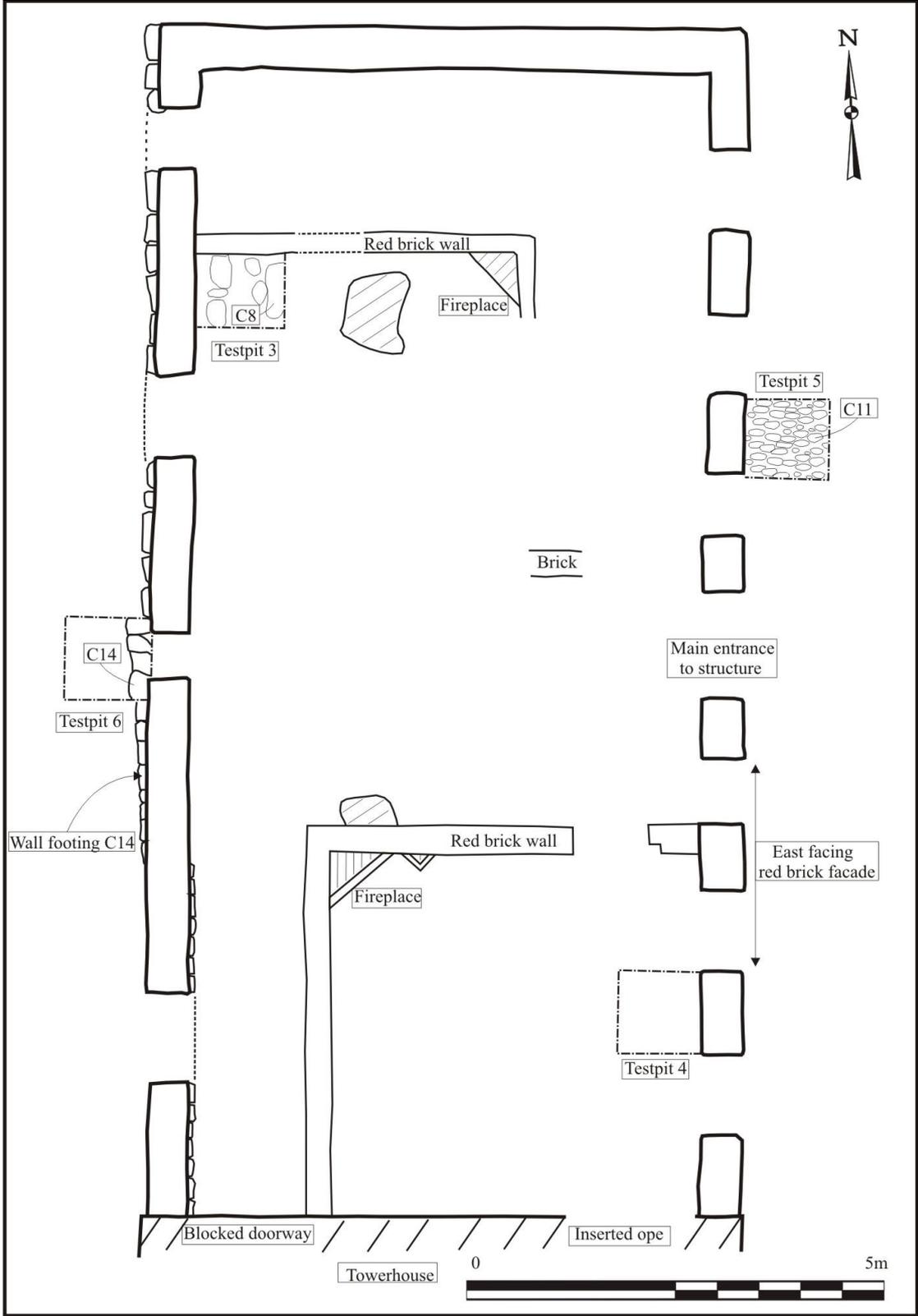


Fig. 7 Layout of attached house showing position of test pits 3-6, and location of internal features at ground level.

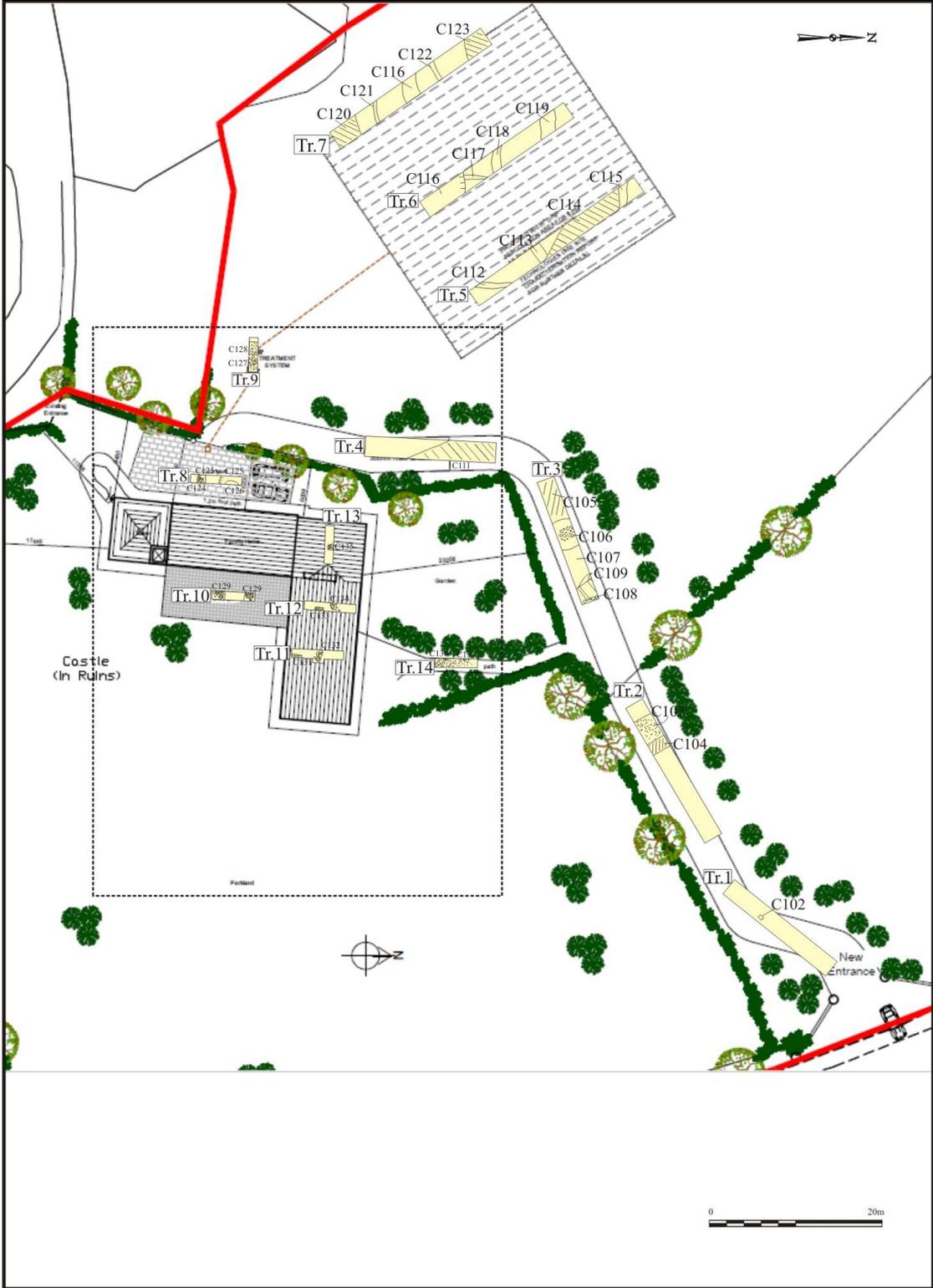


Fig. 8 Location and layout of archaeological test trenches and features

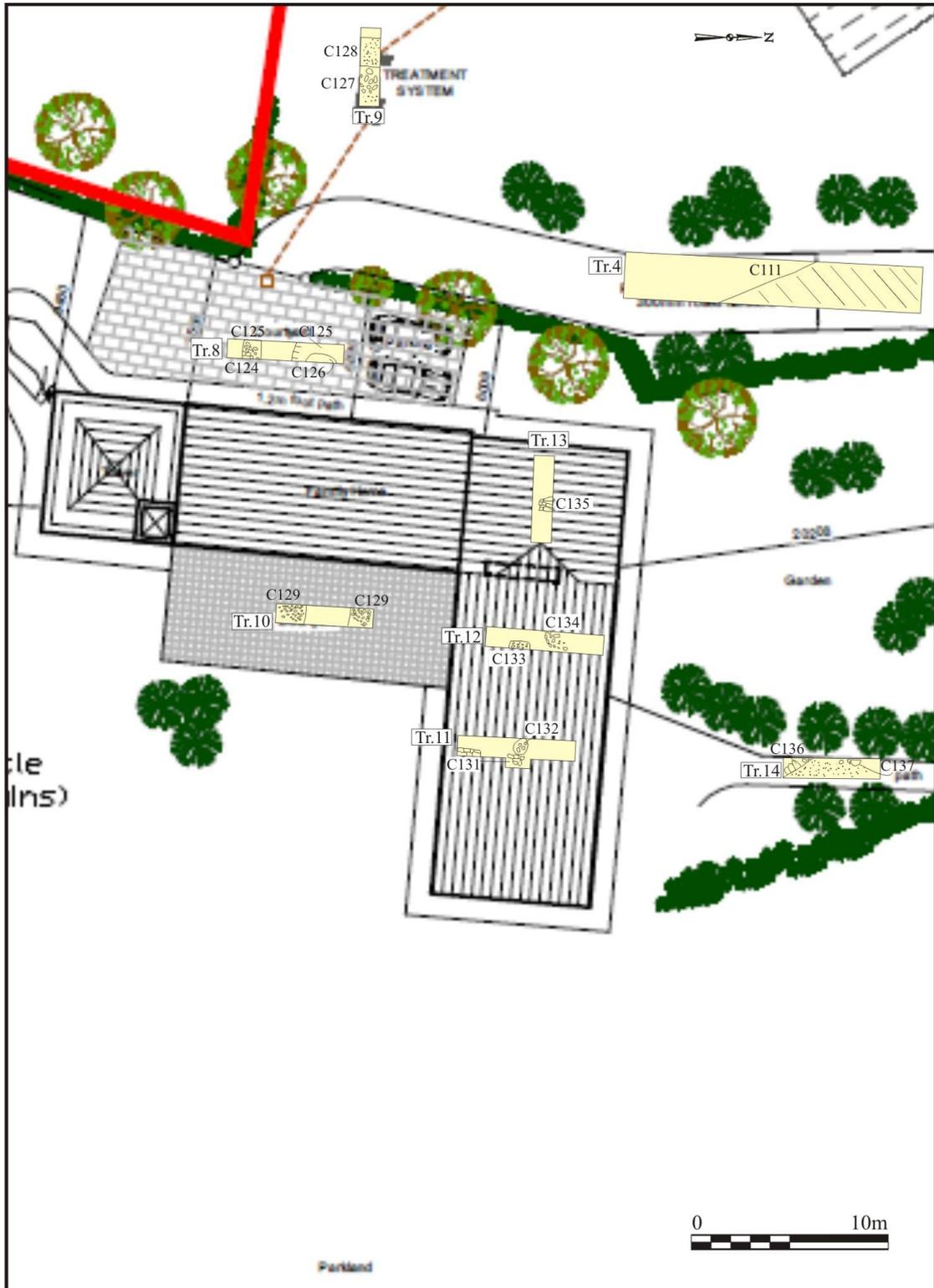


Fig. 9 Location & layout of archaeological test trenches and features within building complex



Fig. 10 Trench 1 showing C102, looking W



Fig. 11 Metalled surface C103 and gully C104 in Tr 2, looking E



Fig. 12 C106 in Tr 3, looking W



Fig. 13 C111 in Tr 4, looking SE



Fig. 14 C114 in Tr 5 looking SE



Fig. 15 Tr 6 looking SE



Fig. 16 Tr 7 looking SE



Fig. 17 Cobbled surface C125 in Tr 8, looking N



Fig. 18 Surfaces C127 & C128 in Tr 9, looking E



Fig. 19 Cobbled surface C129 in Tr 10, looking N



Fig. 20 Wall C131 in Tr 11, looking S



Fig. 21 Surfaces C133 & C134 in Tr 12 looking S



Fig. 22 Wall C135 in Tr 13, looking SE



Fig. 23 Wall C136 in Tr 14, looking S



Fig. 24 Area of subrectangular field to north of agricultural building, looking SE



Fig. 25 Lime moulding



Fig. 26 Pantile and decorated ridge tile



Fig. 27 Sherds of possible medieval pottery



Fig. 28 18th century glass

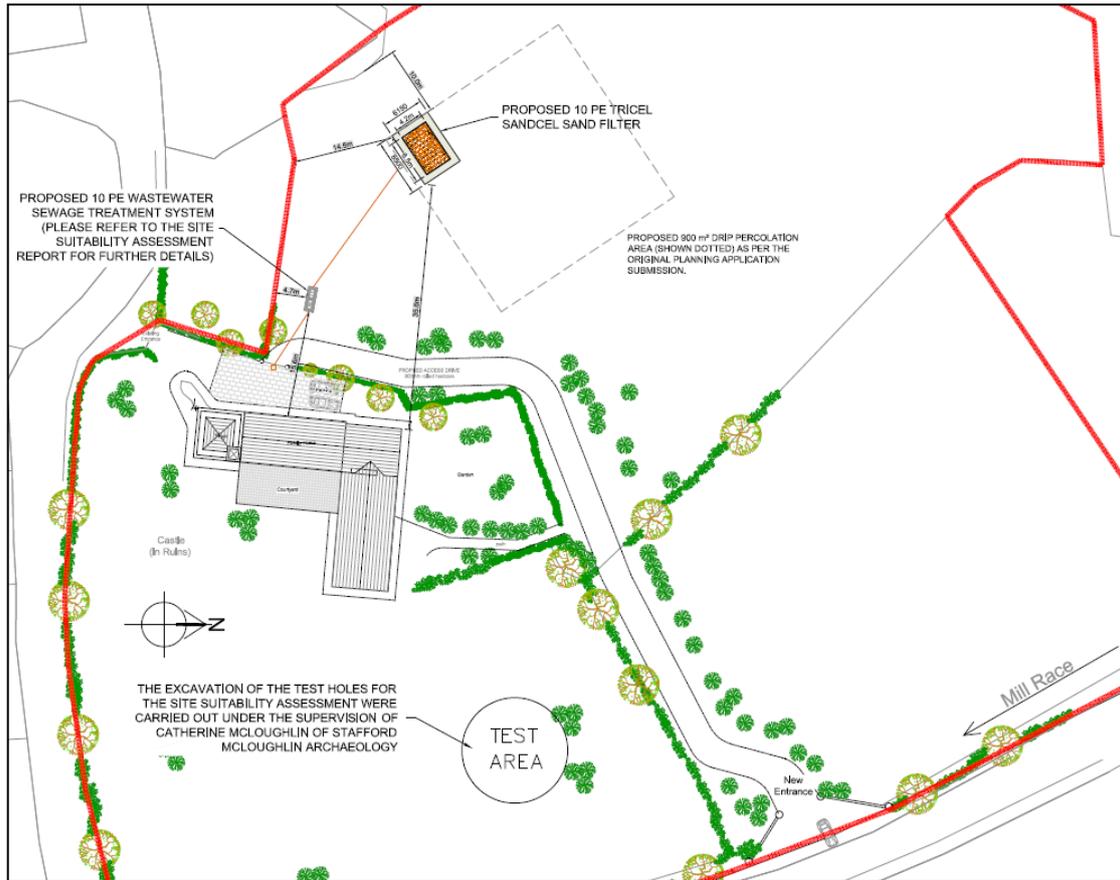


Fig. 29 Location & layout of smaller percolation area within area excavated for larger system

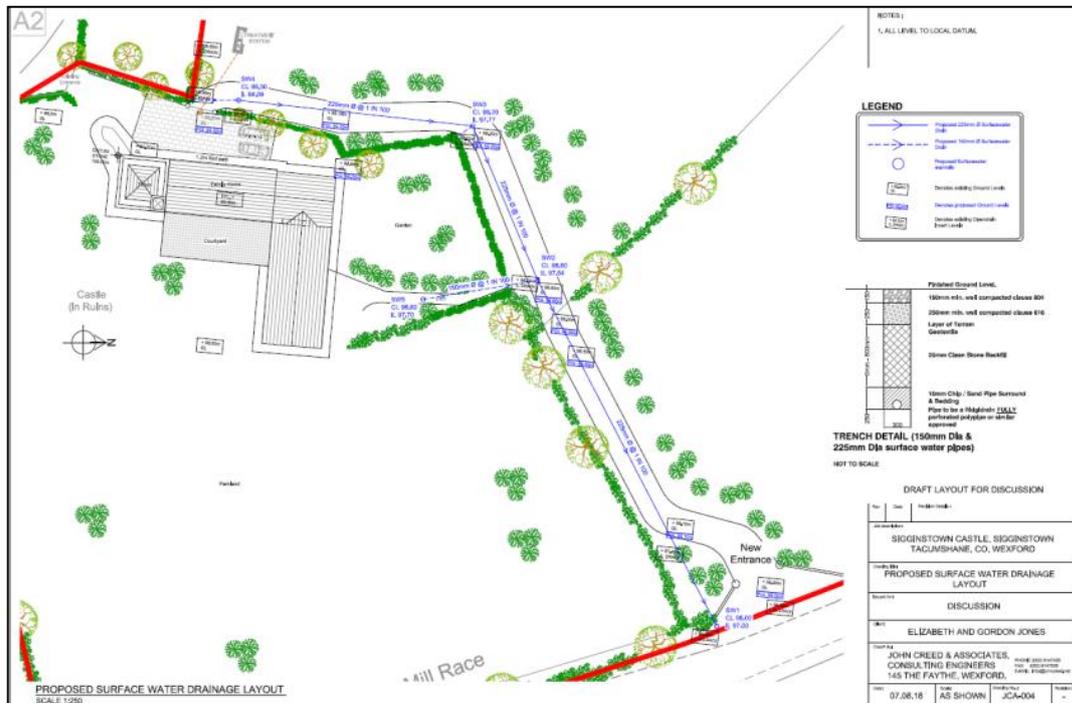


Fig. 30 Location & layout of proposed drainage

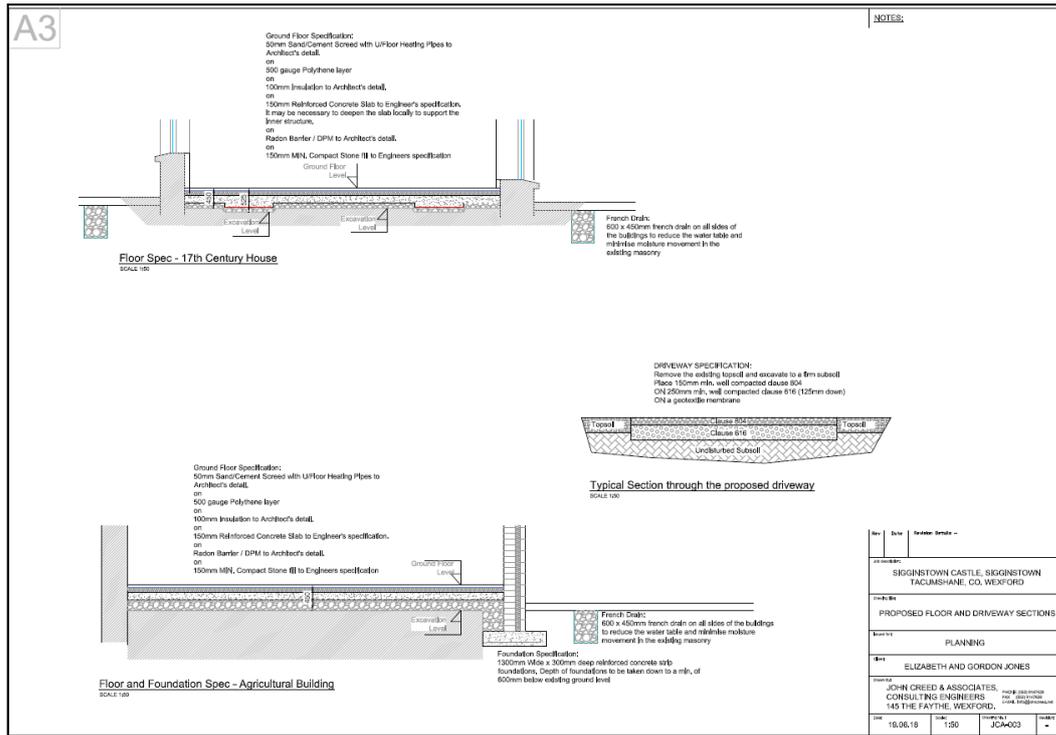


Fig. 31 Floor details and specifications

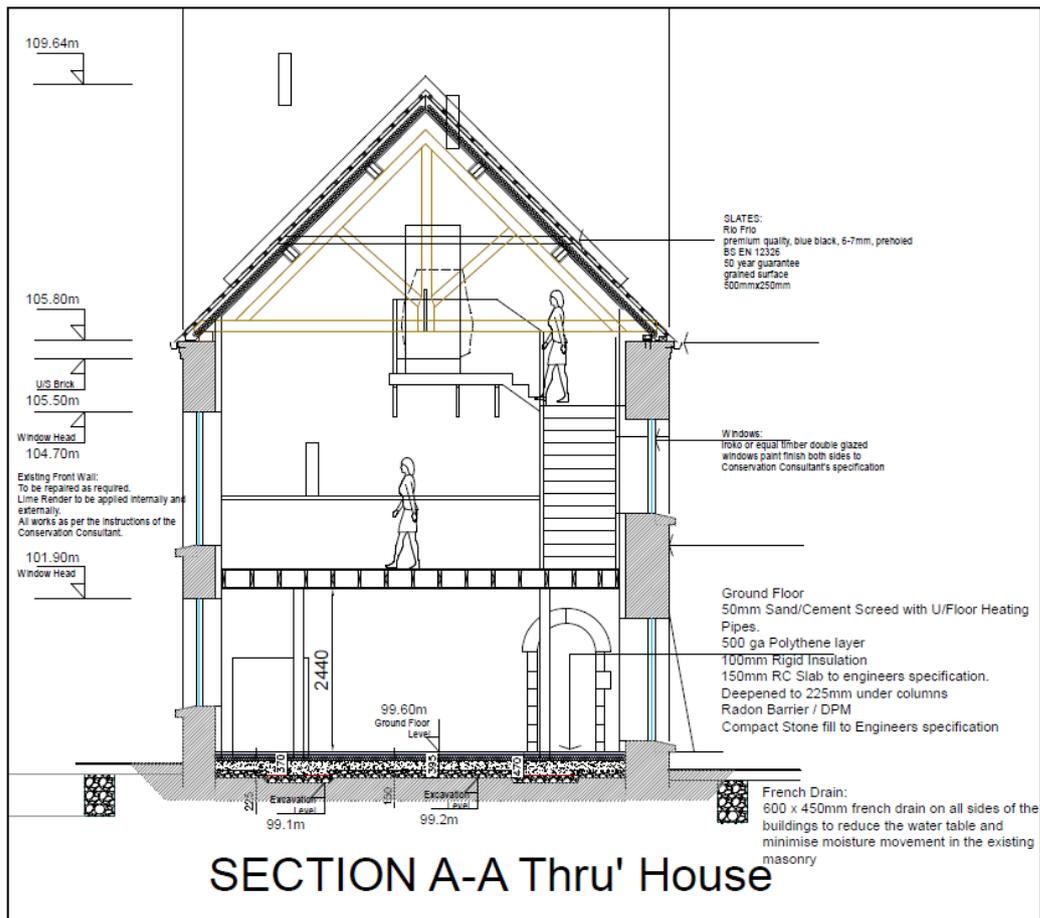


Fig. 32 Floor detail of attached house

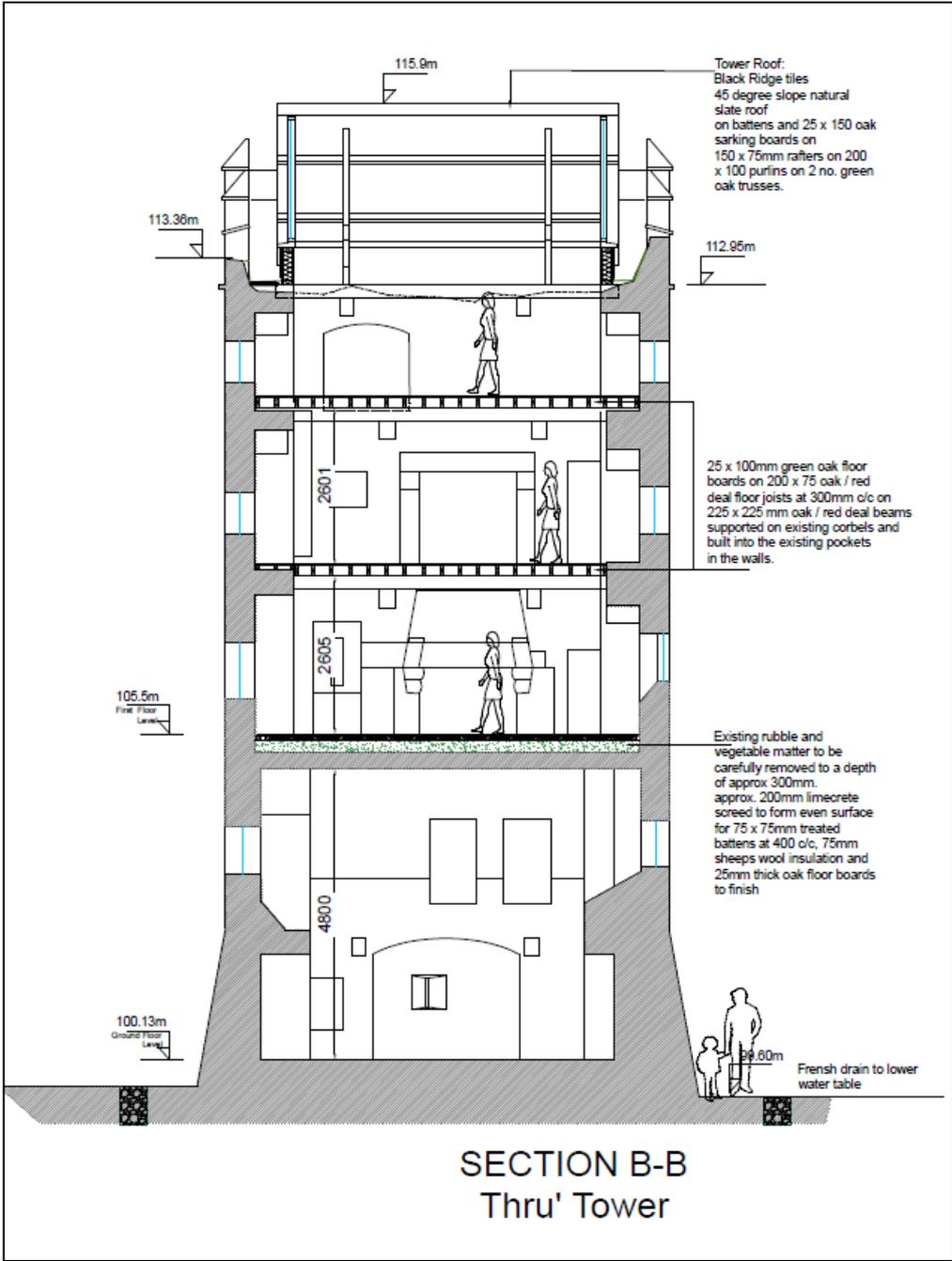


Fig. 33 Section through tower-house showing proposed floors