

YCCART 2019/Y25

Archaeological observations at Iwood Farm, Congresbury, 2018-19

**YATTON, CONGRESBURY, CLAVERHAM AND CLEEVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL
RESEARCH TEAM (YCCART)**

General Editor: Vince Russett



Iwood Farmhouse undergoing repointing: the front is all of one build, probably in the first quarter of the 19th century

Congresbury, Watching brief, Iwood Farm, 2019, Y25, v. 1

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Abstract

An archaeological watching brief during works at Iwood Farm, Congresbury, during 2018 revealed features of post-medieval date in a trench in the yard north and west of the farmhouse. A sample of the ceramics and glass finds from the site was retained.

The opportunity was also taken to make further records of the farm buildings, and to walk the backfill of 600m of heat-exchanger trenches in the field south of the Farm, where finds of flints of Mesolithic character, and sherds of pre-Conquest pottery, added some new dimensions to the known archaeology of Iwood.

Acknowledgements

Our thanks to Mr Stephen Lyle, the owner of Iwood Farm; to Mr Alan Collins, former owner and farmer there; to YCCCART for support through the process and to Cat Lodge, North Somerset senior archaeologist, for her patience during the long course of these works.

Introduction

Yatton, Congresbury, Claverham and Cleeve Archaeological Research Team (YCCCART) is one of a number of Community Archaeology teams across northern Somerset, formerly supported by the North Somerset Council Development Management Team.

Our objective is to undertake archaeological fieldwork to enable a better understanding and management of the heritage of the area while recording and publishing the activities and locations of the research carried out.

Site location

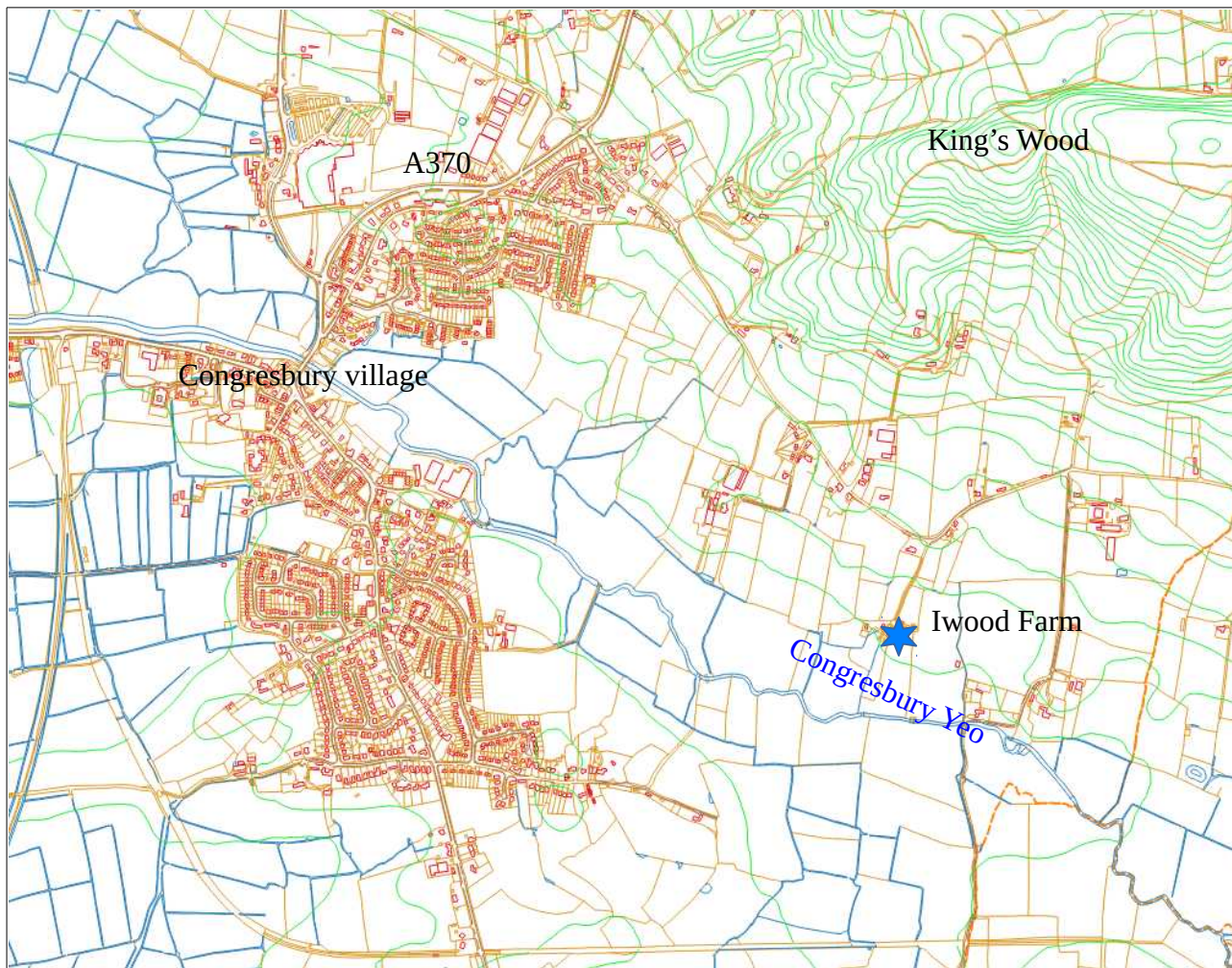


Fig 1: Location

Iwood Farm lies at ST45136326. at the end of a 200m drive south of Wrington Road, in the parish of Congresbury, in North Somerset.

Land use and geology

The whole area covered by these observations lies on the Mercia Mudstones, a soft red geology, often with bands of fractured greenish-grey sandstone. The extreme southern end of the property lies at the bank of the Congresbury Yeo, where the Mudstones are overlain by riverine alluvium (<https://www/bgs.ac.uk/data>). During the course of these observations, Iwood Farm was a private residence, although agricultural activity (pasture) continued in the neighbouring fields (see below).

Historical & archaeological context

This is covered in detail in Gill Bedingfield's thesis 'Iwood: how long has it existed as a discrete settled unit, and how did this affect it's economy?' (1996: see References below) and Dick Broomhead's parish survey (1989; 2017) of Congresbury.

The following is largely derived from the two accounts, which should be consulted for the full story.

Although some Roman occupation has been established at Iwood (Bedingfield 1996: 5), Iwood is first recorded in documentation in 1228 (Broomhead 2017: 58-9) when both the estate at Iwood, with it's mill, and the West Mill in Congresbury village, was granted with it's bond tenants (one of whom was called Maud de Ywod) to Stephen Aluet, the chamberlain of Bishop Jocelin of Bath, by the bishop.

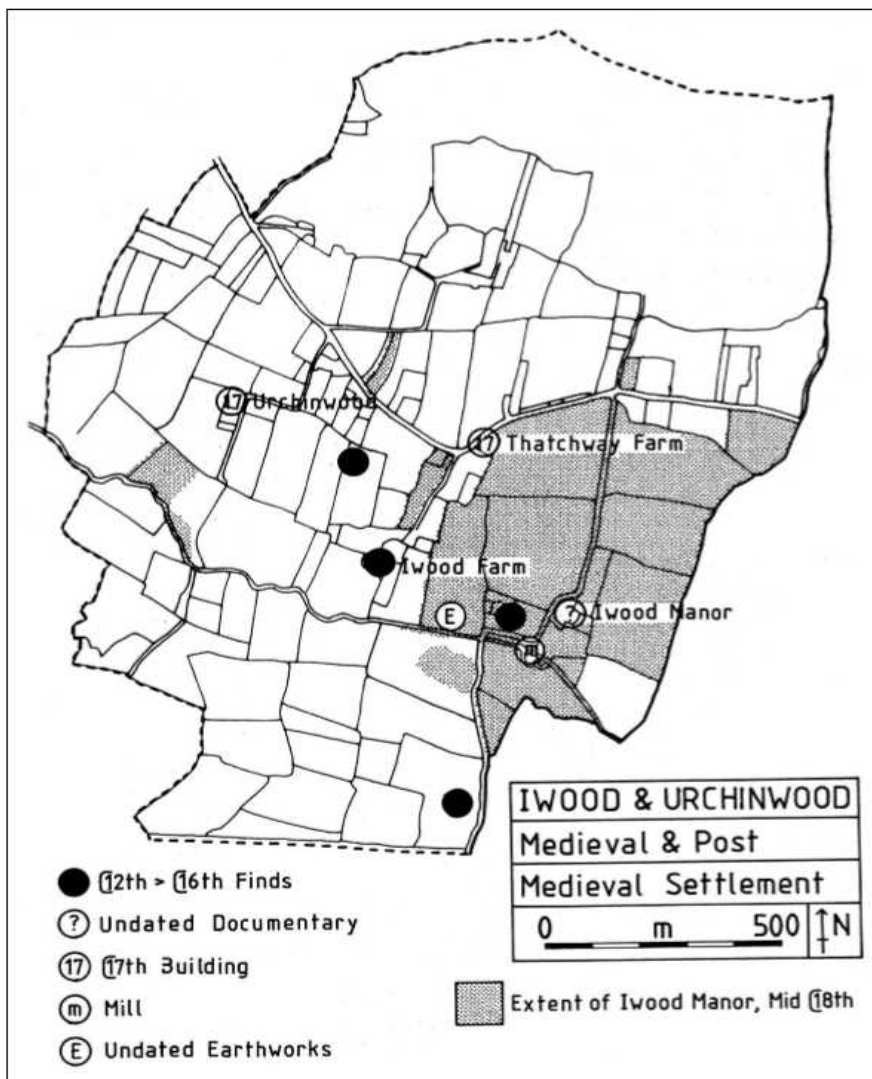


Fig 2: The estate at Iwood in mid-18th century, probably more-or-less reflecting it's medieval area (from Broomhead 2017)

A number of medieval court rolls survive for this estate (incredibly rare for such a small land-holding), but little post-medieval documentation survives until the 19th century.

One oddity that does arise from these, however, is that Iwood tenants had common rights to graze on Broadfield Down, which no other part of Congresbury did. This may imply some early connection of Iwood with the adjoining manor of Wrington, although technically, they had been separated at least since Wrington was perambulated in 904AD. This does seem unusual since Congresbury belonged to the bishopric, and Wrington to Glastonbury Abbey, two bodies which seldom saw eye-to-eye during the medieval period.

As covered in the rest of this report, there is some pottery evidence that there was medieval activity at the site now Iwood Farm, but otherwise it's story cannot reasonably be documented until the 1736-9 deWilstar maps of Congresbury.

Survey objectives and Methodology

Please see appendix 1

The report was written in Libre Office 5 Writer.

Photographs were taken by members of YCCCART, and remain the copyright of YCCCART.

Results

The excavations for the heat exchanger (southern field)

These were carried out before the formal adoption of the watching brief, in July 2018.



Fig 3: Backfilled excavations for heat exchanger, 27 September 2018

Approximately 600m of trenches were dug in the field, and a further approximately 100m from the converter to the point of use. They were excavated with a toothed 1.2m bucket, to a depth of approximately 1.8m below ground level, reaching into undisturbed Marl everywhere.



Fig 4: The trenches in the south field: the building in the background is Iwood Farmhouse

After the trenches had been backfilled, the surfaces were field walked by members of YCCART on several subsequent occasions, after some rain washing. No archaeological structures, pits or other features were recorded when examining the open trenches.

Simultaneously, ditch clearance in the adjacent fields was watched, and two small evaluations carried out (http://www.yccart.co.uk/index_html_files/Congresbury%20Trial%20Evaluations%20Iwood%20Farm%202019-Y1%20ver%201%20.pdf)

Finds from the heat exchanger pipe trenches, Iwood Farm

These finds are all strictly unstratified, since they arose from fieldwalking the backfill of the pipe trenches. There is also the usual problem with fieldwalking, that the finds (especially ceramics) are often worn in unpredictable ways, unlike those recovered in excavations. This presents a huge problem in producing type fabric series, especially for the more friable medieval coarse wares.

All the finds were scattered more or less at random throughout the trenches, with exception of the worked flint, which seemed from impressions gathered on site, to be largely concentrated in the centre of the trench group. Other than identification, no other quantification was undertaken. See Appendix 4 for a full list of finds made.

Flint

- 1 Multi-platform core, 39mm long, 32.4gm, Wessex chalk flint, highly corticated. Subsequent heavy bruising at one end implies later use as a strike-a-light. Neo / BA
 - 2 Fragment struck from bladelet core, chalk flint, possibly Mesolithic. 40mm long, 7.7gm
 - 3 Fragment of bladelet core, possibly Mesolithic. 28mm, 6.2gm
 - 4 Snapped fragment of long blade, 27mm, 3.1gm
 - 5 Fragment struck from bladelet core, heavily patinated. 30mm, 3.3gm
 - 6 Tiny scraper in a clean brown flint, all edge worked. 19mm, 3.6gm. Neo / BA
 - 7 Tiny scraper in greyish-black flint. 19mm, 2.8gm. Neo / BA
 - 8 Primary flake in a pale brown flint, with edge damage. 34mm, 3.2gm
 - 9 Tertiary flake with subsequent edge working. 21mm, 0.9gm
 - 10 Short tertiary flake in mottled grey flint, 16mm, 1.6gm
 - 11 Heavily struck flake with much crush damage to most sides. Probably strike-a-light. 41mm, 7.9gm
 - 12 Heavily corticated flake with notch in centre of thin side. Gun flint. 27mm, 3.8gm
- A further non-struck 11 fragments, total weight 26.5gm.

Discussion

Although very few flints were recovered ($\Sigma=23$), they are an interesting group, whose points of origin can be verified to within c 100m. Several of the flints are bladelet cores, or fragments of such, which are possibly of Mesolithic origin. Two minute scrapers, each 19mm across, were also found. The gunflint and the strike-a-light, both of post-medieval origin, are also noteworthy.

Ceramics

Medieval wares

There are 19 sherds of the same coarse ware fabric, including one base angle sherd. It is hand made and with wiped, pitted surfaces, both inside and out. It is poorly mixed and contains numerous fragments of angular limestone. The surfaces range from 2.5YR/1 (black) to 7.5YR 6/8 (reddish yellow). In the current light of pottery studies in North

Somerset, it is not possible to completely rule out these being of late prehistoric origin, but they resemble more the fabrics from Cheddar Palace, especially the 'B' fabrics, and thus may well be late Saxon in origin (Rahtz 2012 (1979).

1 other coarse limestone-gritted fabric sherd, but not the same fabric as above.

There are 8 sherds of later medieval wares, of which 4 are well-enough preserved to be identifiable as Ham Green ware (including two fragments of jug strap handles), and a fifth to establish it as a Donyatt / South Somerset sherd, but the others are too small or worn to identify.

One further large large sherd of a Ham Green jug was found during examination of the new-cut ditches, on the site of the garden of the former farmhouse south of the present.

Discussion

While it is difficult to draw too many conclusions from an unstratified collection of pottery, the presence of late Saxon fabrics adds some weight to Gill Bedingfield's assertions about Saxon Iwood (Bedingfield 1996: 4-9), and presence of Ham Green jug fragments may imply a fairly high status for the site of Iwood Farm in the high medieval period

The yard trench

This trench was dug beside the north-east range of buildings at Iwood Farm, to add drainage of the conversions to the drain system on the other side of the yard (see Fig x). The trench was only 30cm wide, which caused some problems in recording, and where structures occurred (very) limited extra areas were excavated to clarify the details. The trench (due to understandable Health and Safety and Access limitations) was only available for two and a half days (12-14 April 2018).

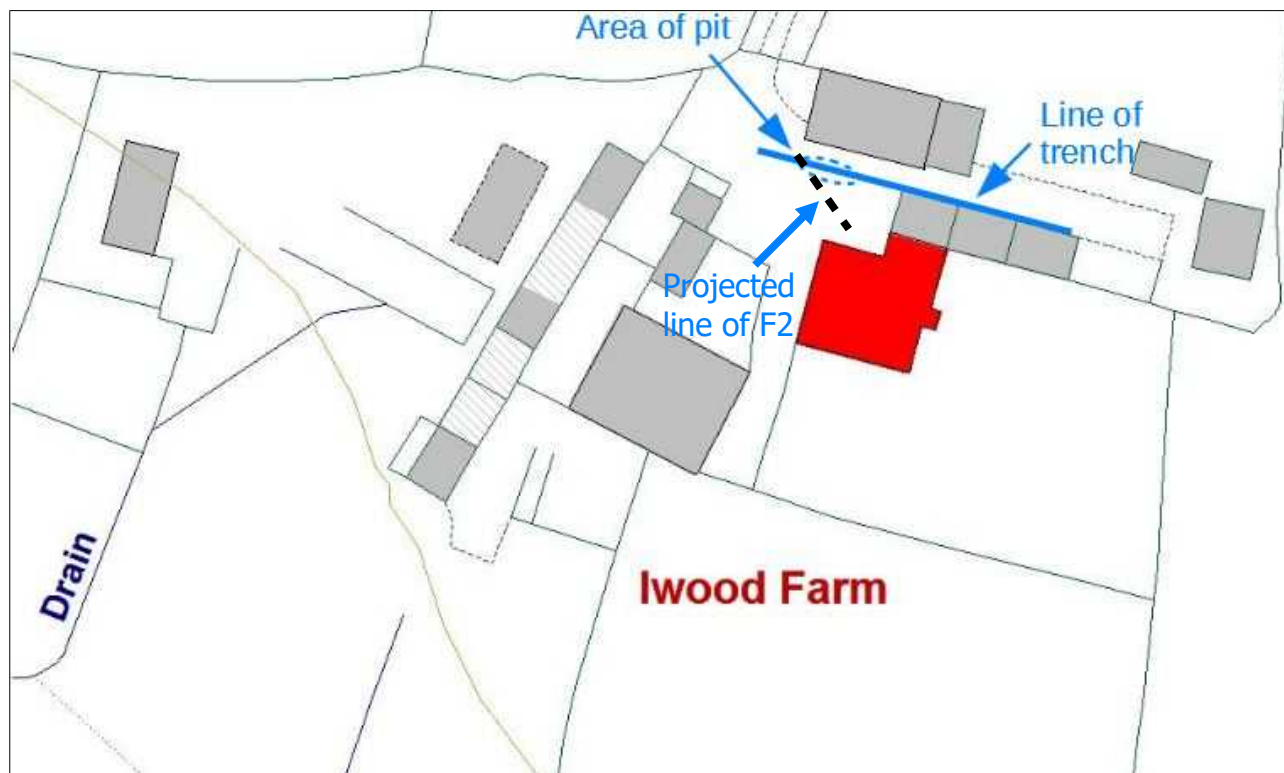


Fig 5: Position of the trench at Iwood Farm yard. The farmhouse (red) is at ST4512163259

The first days cut of the trench was immediately beside the north wall of the north-east unit. It ran the full length of the range, 19.4m, and was c 30cm wide.

This revealed the suspected late 19th / early 20th century ceramic drain run, the new trench being largely contained within the original drain construction trench (see Figs 6 & 7 below).

The trench also revealed the very shallow foundations of the range, less than 30cm below current ground level) and lying on the exposed surface of the Mercia Mudstone. This does not appear to have affected the structure of the range, as there were no visible cracks or settlement features. This seems to be a common feature of buildings in North Somerset well into the 20th century: buildings with deep foundations were either extremely large (e.g. churches) or of high status (e.g. manor houses).



Fig 6: Trench beside north-east range of buildings, 12 April 2018



Fig 7: Trench alongside north-east range (broken ceramic pipes removed) showing shallow foundations (approx. 20-30cm) by soil mark on the walls: 12 April 2018

The rest of the trench across the yard, which ran for 14.5m to a junction with previously established drain close to the yard entrance. For most of the length of the trench, the stratigraphy was simple:

North side: Two distinct phases of rammed gravel (8-10cm) overlay the natural Marl.

This was the two phases of a gravel track running between the northern 20th century prefabricated building and the north-east farmhouse range. Because of its relatively ephemeral nature, this is nowhere mapped, but it need not be earlier than 20th century,

South side: Concrete yard surface (<5cm thick), on 5-8cm hardcore gravel, on the natural Marl. Mass concreting of yard surfaces did not become frequent until after the mid-20th century, with usual surface treatment being stone gravelled surfaces (or cobbling if wealthy).

However, at approximately 8.7m along the trench (from the corner of the north-east range) some quantities of post-medieval pottery began to appear in the upcast from the trench, and the digger encountered a thick (8-10cm) Pennant Sandstone slab, which unfortunately had to be broken up to maintain the fall on the drain.



Fig 8: Pennant Sandstone slab in trench before breaking up (12 April 2018)

The rubble continued almost to the end of the trench.

The features in this rubble were cleaned and recorded in situ, and some dating evidence obtained from stratified pottery.

The lowest feature was a pit, exposed for 2m on the northern side of the trench, and extending below the depth of it. This pit (F1) contained a reddish-brown stiff clay (2.5YR 4/4) single context [7], containing quantities of charcoal and post-medieval pottery and glass (see Finds below and Appendix 4).



Fig 9: Section of F1, indicating the quantity of pottery and glass it contained

The pit was cut by walled feature F2 [11], with a subsequent rubble mass deposited against F2 and also covering the fill of Pit F1.

The fill of Pit F1 [7] contained substantial amounts of late 18th and very early 19th century pottery and glass, and including a complete clay pipe bowl of Charles Moon (Bristol) (Jackson, R. nd: 102), working 1771-1800.

The minimum amount of these features was cleaned and samples taken. It was clear that further pit remains *in situ* to the north of the trench. The pottery largely consisted of

combed and trailed yellow slipwares, East Somerset redwares (some with slipped decoration), and a few sherds of early porcelain and pearlwares. None need be earlier than 1750, and none need be later than c1830. No earlier finds were made.

While it cannot be proven, it seems likely that the pit was a clearance collection, derived from the demolition of the southern farmhouse at Iwood between 1840 and 1885. The possible earlier building depicted on the 1736-9 map of Congresbury lay outside of the trench area.

Feature 2, cutting Pit F1, was a narrow feature, with flagged floor and coursed, clay-bonded parallel walls surviving to three courses on each side, the central flagged element only c60 cm wide. Below the flags was an apparent dump of large Pennant Sandstone rubble, set in a matrix of dark brownish yellow clay (10YR 6/6) [10]: unfortunately, it was not possible in the confines of the trench to establish the stratigraphical relationship of Pit F1 and this dump, but from the small amounts of pottery it contained, the 'dump' seems later than the pit F1, although it may simply be an aberrant fill of that pit.



Fig 10: Rubble 'dump' [10] under F2

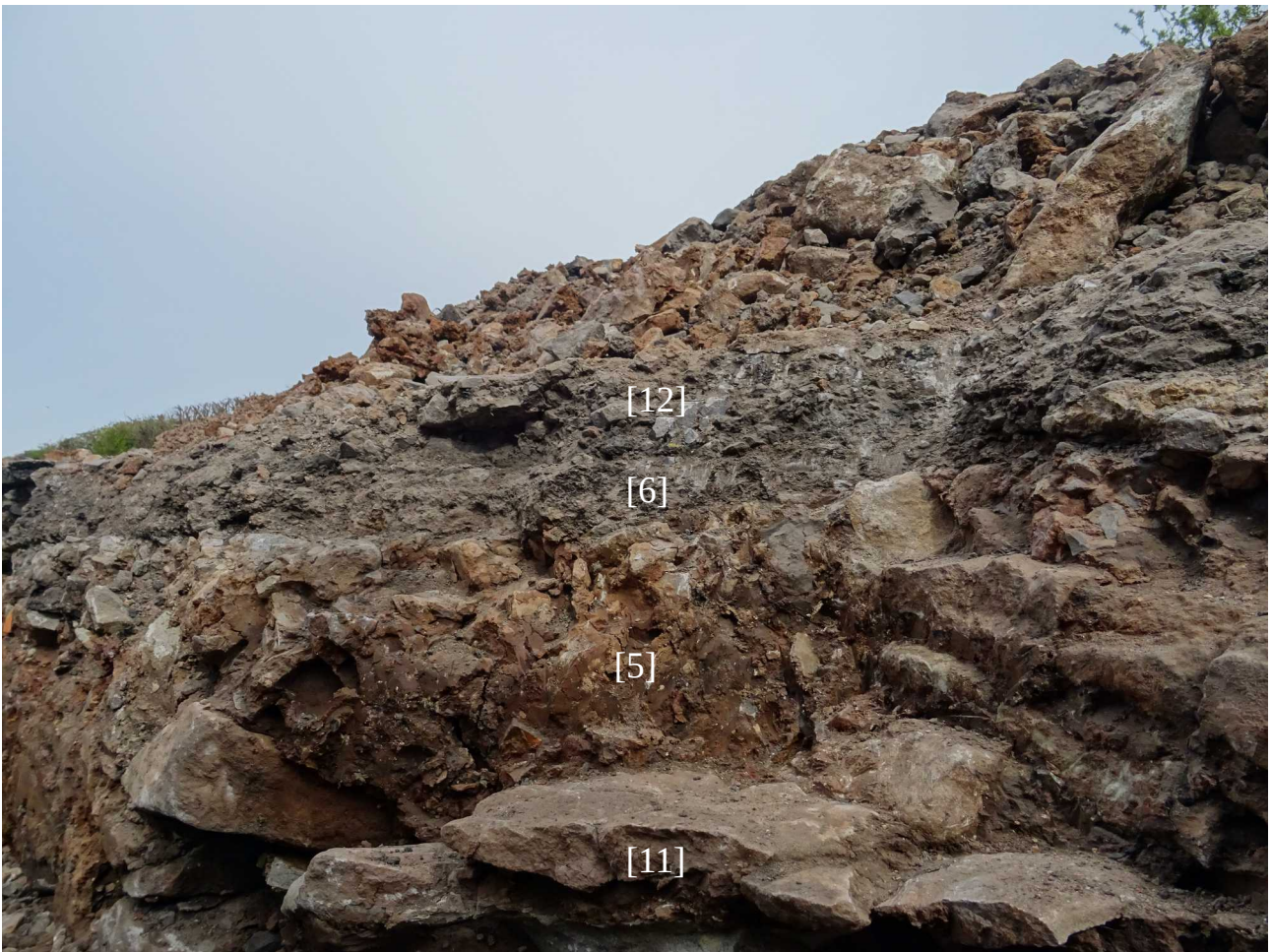


Fig 11: Fill and section of F2

The 'backfill' of F2 [5] is a stiff, almost leathery, clean clay (10YR 6.5/6), with angular fragments of stone, and few finds. It appears to be a deliberate backfill, and has no traces of cess-like material, ruling out such use as a foul water drain. From local information (per Mr Alan Collins) a foul water drain was dug by his father in the mid-20th century to drain former cowsheds to the north, but this feature seems to be running directly towards the back door of the current house, so seems unlikely to be it.

Insufficient of the feature was seen in the watching brief to establish any more likely possibilities than a culvert which has been truncated by yard works, or a path. Neither seems particularly likely.

Other recording

The Farmhouse and outbuildings

During the course of the works, the render was stripped from the Farmhouse, and it was repointed (see cover photograph). No earlier features that the current layout of windows and doors was found, and with the strictly regular lay out of the surviving 16-pane windows and central door, this would not indicate a date earlier than late Georgian (perhaps c1800) for the origins of the house, and there is nothing in the structures of the house or documentation to contradict this.

The north-east wing, with it's bead-framed windows (some with ferrimenta surviving) may be slightly earlier, perhaps mid-18th century.

The buildings had been informally recorded during the previous few years when YCCCART had been carrying out extensive geophysical surveys in the area, and an opportunity was also taken to make a photographic survey of the buildings during the watching brief. This is stored in the YCCCART archive, where (given the owner's permission) it will be available in the future.



Fig 12: West aspect of north-east range with surviving windows of cider house, November 2012

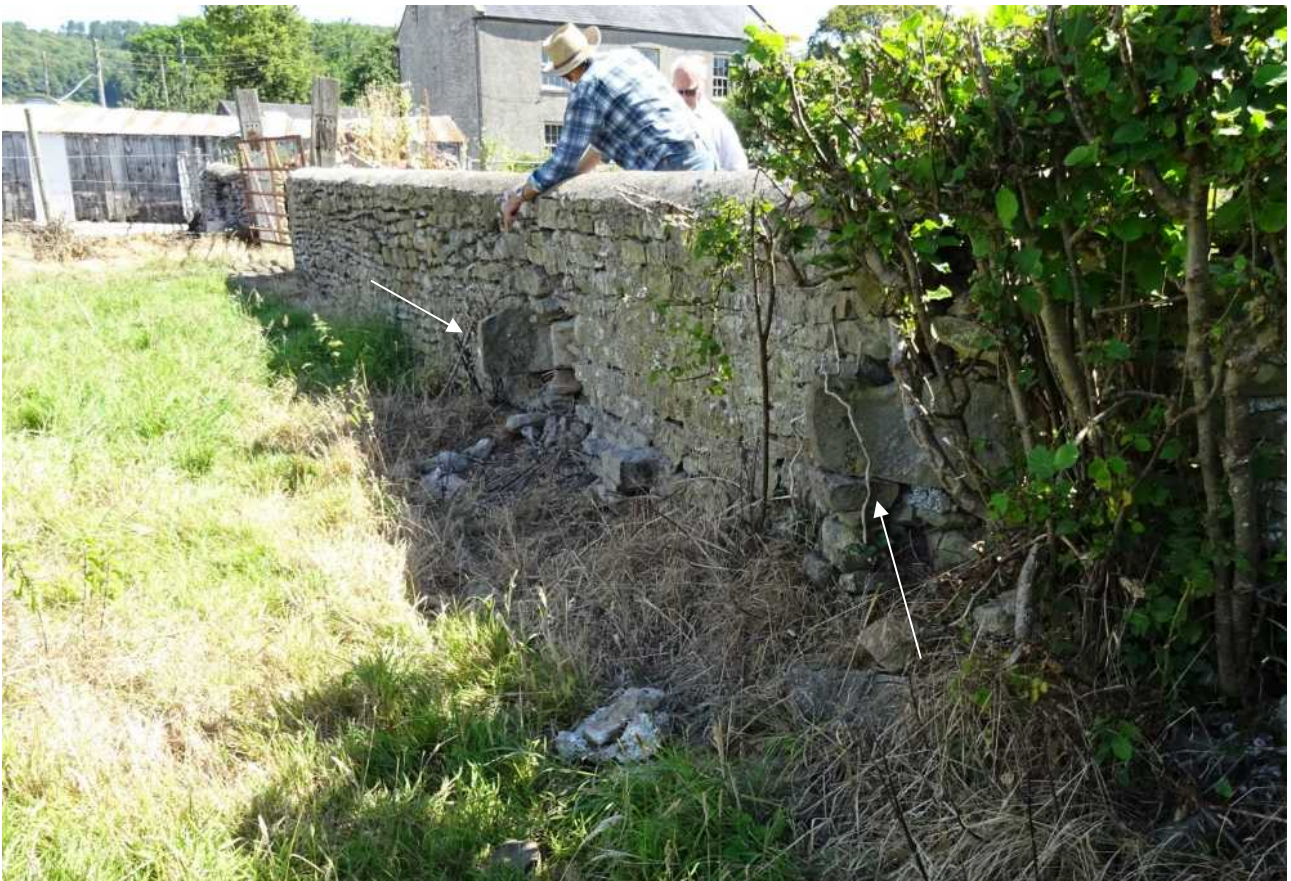


Fig 13: Parallel protruding stones (arrowed) from the north-south wall of the field south of the current farmhouse, remains of the site of the older farmhouse (see Appendix 2 below): July 2014



Fig 14: Rear view of farmhouse: July 2014

The chance was also taken (with the permission of Mr Collins, the landowner) to make a photographic record of the western outbuilding range, as a typical example of farmyard buildings of a late 20th century farm, developed by accretion rather than planning.

These buildings are of a group that is becoming increasingly rare with 'industrial' farming, particularly of livestock, on the increase, where they are often swept away without record. The photographs will be stored with the YCCCART archive, along with an explanatory note describing the function of the various buildings.

Recommendations for further work

There may be further recording at this site in the future, as other earth-moving developments are planned. If this happens, they will be monitored, recorded and published as an addendum to this report.

References

Bedingfield, G. 1996	<i>Iwood: how long has it existed as a discrete settled unit, and how did this affect it's economy?</i> Unpub MA thesis (available at http://ycccart.co.uk)
Broomhead, R. 2017	<i>Congresbury. The survey and the parish</i> (available at http://ycccart.co.uk)
Jackson, R. & Price, R. H. nd	<i>Bristol Clay Pipes</i> (Bristol City Museum Monograph 1)
Rahitz, P. 1979, reprinted 2012	<i>The Saxon and medieval Palaces at Cheddar: Excavations 1960-1962</i> Oxford 2012

Authors

Vince Russett

Date

2019-12-02

Iwood Farm, Wrington Road, Congresbury

Written Scheme of Investigation for
Archaeological Watching Brief

North Somerset Planning Ref: 17/P/1149/F



Iwood Farmhouse 2014

NGR: ST4512163259

October 2018

Client: Mr Stephen Lyle, Iwood Farm

Prepared by: Vince Russett MA (Oxon)
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Iwood Farmhouse

Iwood Farmhouse, the permitted alterations to which are the subject of this watching brief, is a complex of farmhouse, attached outhouses of broadly similar date, and numerous other structures, which largely reflect the changing economic status of agriculture in the mid-19th to mid-20th century.

The farmhouse itself appears to date from the first quarter of the 19th century, but the presence of a second farmhouse to its south was indicated on the 1840 Tithe Map of Congresbury, but which had disappeared by the time of the 1885 1st edition OS plan.

A possible third, depicted on the copy of the 1736-9 deWilstar map of the holdings of Queen Elizabeth's Hospital in Congresbury, was standing approximately beneath the yard at the western side of the modern farmhouse.

There is an added complication, in that on some earlier maps, the building now Iwood Manor is referred to as Iwood Farm.

These obviously complicate documentary study of the complex, since earlier references may well apply to the earliest farmhouses, and not the present.

A short analysis of the growth of the farm has allowed phasing and relative dating of the outbuildings and dwellings at the farm (Appendix 1) used in the preparation of this document, and which will be enhanced during the course of the work.

Introduction

Yatton Congresbury Cleeve and Claverham Archaeological Research Team (hereafter YCCART) has been requested by Mr Stephen Lyle to carry out an archaeological watching brief during works to Iwood Farm and its surroundings (hereafter 'the site') off Wrington Road, Congresbury (ST4512163259)

The site, formerly a farmstead with principally pastoral use, is now, along with some adjoining lands, changing to use as a dwelling house. It lies among largely pasture fields, with relict orchards to north and south-west.

The site lies entirely on the Mercia Mudstones at the southern foot of Broadfield Down, and immediately north of the floodplain of the Congresbury Yeo.

Material from the North Somerset Historic Environment Record, quoted by the North Somerset Senior Archaeologist indicates a number of sites of archaeological importance around the site (quote from Archaeologist's memorandum re planning application 17/P/1149/F)

- MNS1931 – Neolithic/Bronze Age flint scatters
- MNS1933 – probable Romano-British occupation south of Urchinwood Manor
- MNS1932 – Medieval pottery scatter south of Wrington Road
- MNS1945 – Medieval occupation site, Iwood Farm
- MNS1934 – Flint scatter, Wrington Road
- MNS1944 – Earthworks west of Iwood Manor Cottage (Romano-British pottery sherds found in vicinity)
- MNS5641 – Iwood Farm, Congresbury – core settlement
- MNS1940 – Neolithic / Bronze Age flints west of Iwood Lane
- MNS1941 – Romano-British occupation site west of Iwood Lane
- MNS1942 – Medieval pottery scatter west of Iwood Lane

Comments following were

It is evident from the information above that there is considerable archaeological activity in the area surrounding Iwood Farm, dating from the Neolithic right up to the modern day, with an emphasis on Romano-British and medieval occupation. Therefore, an archaeological watching brief should be undertaken during groundworks to record any features of archaeological significance in line with North Somerset Council's planning policies if this application is successful.

Proposed condition for archaeological watching brief:

No development shall take place within the site until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The programme of archaeological work should provide a controlled watching brief during groundworks on the site, with provision for excavation of any significant deposits or features encountered, and shall be carried out by a competent person(s) and completed in accordance with the approved written scheme of investigation.

Reason: To ensure that archaeological interests are properly dealt with in accordance with policy CS5 of the Core Strategy and policy DM6 of the adopted Sites and Policies Plan part 1.

Such comments were accepted by Committee, and this watching brief WSI is intended to meet our clients duties from the resulting condition.

Studies by YCCCART in the area have only increased the perceived importance of the potential heritage assets in the area.

Geophysical surveys carried out between 2010 and 2013 (<http://www.ycccart.co.uk/site%20reports.htm>) revealed a large, potentially prehistoric enclosure, now divided by a hedge into two fields (http://www.ycccart.co.uk/index_htm_files/Iwood%20C%202%203%20%20Y16%20%20edited%20final.pdf).

Earthwork survey, geophysical survey, digital terrain survey and trial excavation revealed the existence of structures of late C16 to mid-C17 at ST45226311: further geophysical surveys closer to the farmhouse revealed structures relating to an earlier farmhouse to the south-west of the current, and documentary study revealed the possible existence of a third (see Appendix 1 below).

In addition, metal detectorists have found 13th century 'long cross' silver pennies and Roman coins (largely of 4th century date) at unspecified sites in the field south-east of Iwood Farm, recorded and published by YCCCART: (http://www.ycccart.co.uk/index_htm_files/Iwood%20C%202%203%20%20Y16%20%20edited%20final.pdf)

The project is also informed by Dick Broomhead's 1980s parish survey of Congresbury (http://www.ycccart.co.uk/index_htm_files/Congresbury%20Parish%20Survey.pdf) and Gill Bedingfield's 1996 MA thesis (published under 'Iwood' at [ycccart.co.uk](http://www.ycccart.co.uk)) *'Iwood: How long has it existed as a discrete settled unit and how did this affect its economy?'*

This document is a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological watching brief prepared following consultation between YCCCART and the North Somerset Council Senior Archaeologist. It has been prepared in accordance with the relevant Standards and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014). All work will be reported in line with the guidelines in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE Historic England 2015). It will be submitted to all parties for approval prior to commencement of the works contained.

All work will be carried out in accordance with this WSI, managed overall by Vince Russett. The archaeological background to this project is contained in the paragraphs above, Appendix 1 below, and in the appropriate section of the YCCCART web site (<http://www.ycccart.co.uk/site%20reports.htm>).

Finds and archive will be deposited at the Somerset Heritage Centre as WESTM : 2018.23

Research aims and objectives

The broad aims of the Watching Brief are:

To make 'before and after' records of the dwelling house and outbuildings, by photographic and other records as necessary

To record (and if necessary excavate) any archaeological sites structures or deposits revealed during the works, where it is not possible to preserve *in situ*

The project will be informed by the South-West Archaeological Research Framework (SWARF; Webster 2007) especially

Research Aim 4: **Encourage wide involvement in archaeological research and present modern accounts of the past to the public**

Research Aim 7: **Increase and develop the recording of the built environment... (and) greater understanding of different kinds of structures and earlier active use of space**

Research Aim 43: **Address the lack of knowledge of post-medieval to modern food production**

The views and questions set out in Historic England's *Historic Farmsteads. Preliminary Character Statement: South West Region* (available at www.ahds.ac.uk) will also inform the nature of the works.

Methodology

The site subject to this Watching Brief will be recorded before commencement of works, by photographic and any other necessary means.

All earthmoving and demolition works (as approved in 17/P/1149/F) will be attended by arrangement by members of YCCART, supervised by Vince Russett, to record in detail any archaeological sites, structures and deposits revealed during the course of such works.

While major excavation is not anticipated, all machining will be undertaken under the supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist and care will be taken not to machine off seemingly homogeneous layers that may include the upper parts of archaeological features. A metal detector will be used throughout the programme of topsoil/subsoil removal and a log of its use will be kept. The resultant surfaces will be cleaned as necessary and planned.

Any hand excavation will be carefully undertaken and will follow the stratigraphy of any encountered archaeological layers, features and/or deposits. In certain circumstances

hand excavation by pick and/or mattock and shovel may be undertaken but will only be utilised in respect of homogeneous low-grade deposits. Such techniques will not be used for features such as burials, where careful hand excavation is required.

All structures and all zones of specialised activity (e.g. funerary, ceremonial, industrial, agricultural processing) will be fully excavated and all relationships recorded.

Ditches and gullies will have all relationships defined, investigated and recorded. All termini will be excavated. A sufficient length of each feature will be excavated to determine its character over its entire course, and the possibility of recuts of parts, not just the whole, of features will be considered. This will be achieved by a minimum 25% sample of each feature.

All pits will initially be half-sectioned and fully recorded. Pits may subsequently be fully excavated to facilitate 100% collection of artefact assemblages.

Post and stake holes not clearly forming part of a structure (see above) will be half-sectioned ensuring that all relationships are investigated. Where deemed necessary, by artefact content, a number may demand full excavation.

For other types of feature such as hollows, quarry pits etc., an attempt will be made to ascertain any and all relationships with/to other features. Further investigation will be a matter of on-site judgement, but will seek to establish as a minimum the extent, date and function of each feature.

For layers exposed during machine stripping, an on-site decision will be made as to the extent to which they will be excavated. The factors governing this judgement will include the possibility that they mask earlier remains, the need to understand their function and/or depositional processes, and the necessity to recover sufficient artefacts to date the deposit and to meet the project aims.

A single context recording system will be undertaken automatically within any hand excavation area.

Should any human burials or remains be encountered the Archaeological Advisor and the Coroner's Office will immediately be informed and excavation will cease until the relevant Ministry of Justice licence has been obtained.

The provisions of the Treasure Act of 1996 (amended 2003) will be observed. Should finds of precious metals such as gold and silver or other finds as defined under the Act be made, they will be reported to the local Coroner and then deposited with the Coroner's local Archaeological Advisor. Should the removal of such objects be unable to be made during the same working day, suitable and appropriate security arrangement will be made to deposit them with the local Coroner's Office.

The Archaeological Advisor will be informed at the earliest opportunity of any archaeological features or deposits worthy of preservation. They will of course be free

and welcome to visit the site at any time during the work in order to view the fieldwork whilst it is in progress.

Recording methodology

Members of YCCCART will be present at all earthmoving and / or demolition at the site.

All excavation work will be carried out in line with the recommended standards and in line with relevant CifA guidance documents (CifA 2014) and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CifA 2014).

All exposed features will be recorded according to current professional standards using the standard context record sheets and masonry sheets used by YCCCART employing a single context recording system.

All structural and other relationships will be recorded and a structural matrix created.

A full photographic record will be made of all significant archaeological features comprising digital photography (Sony DSC HX60V 21Mp). All photographs will include a scale and (if necessary) a north arrow. All photographs will be fully indexed and cross-referenced on YCCCART context sheets and photographic registers.

Where necessary, detailed structure or elevation and/or section drawings will be hand-drawn at 1:10 on plastic draughting film (Permatrace).

While it is not anticipated, if deposits suitable for environmental sampling are encountered, YCCCART will seek further appropriate advice.

Upon completion of the fieldwork, the site archive will be assembled in accordance with the guidelines set out in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (Historic England 2015). The site archive will contain all the data collected during the excavation including records, finds and environmental samples. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent.

A post-excavation assessment report including plans, digital photographs and drawings for the excavations will be prepared within six weeks of completion of the site work, subject to the production of any necessary specialist reports. It will include a record of all materials recovered and all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. It will also contain a site summary and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data.

The report will be in line with guidelines set out in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (Historic England 2015).

An Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) form will be completed at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> following the completion of the watching brief and included as an appendix.

A draft copy of the report will be sent to the North Somerset Council Archaeological Advisor in the first instance for their comments and approval. Once the report has been accepted further copies and one electronic copy in PDF format will be sent to North Somerset Council and the client as appropriate.

It has been agreed with the client that once accepted by the North Somerset Archaeological Advisor, a report will also be published on the YCCART web site (<http://ycccart.co.uk>).

Health and Safety

A Risk Assessment will be produced and agreed with the client prior to the commencement of the work. All relevant main contractor health and safety regulations will be adhered to.

Insurance

YCCART is insured against claims for:

public and products liability to the value of £2,000,000 any one event for all claims in the aggregate during any one period of insurance;

employers' liability to the value of £10,000,000 any one event inclusive of costs;

A copy of the relevant Certificate of Employers Liability Insurance will be available on site.

Monitoring

The North Somerset Archaeological Advisor will be kept aware of dates and progress of the works, to enable monitoring of such to take place.

References

Bedingfield, G *Iwood: How long has it existed as a discrete settled unit and how did this affect its economy?* accessed October 1, 2018 (<http://www.ycccart.co.uk>)

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Historic England, 2015, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*

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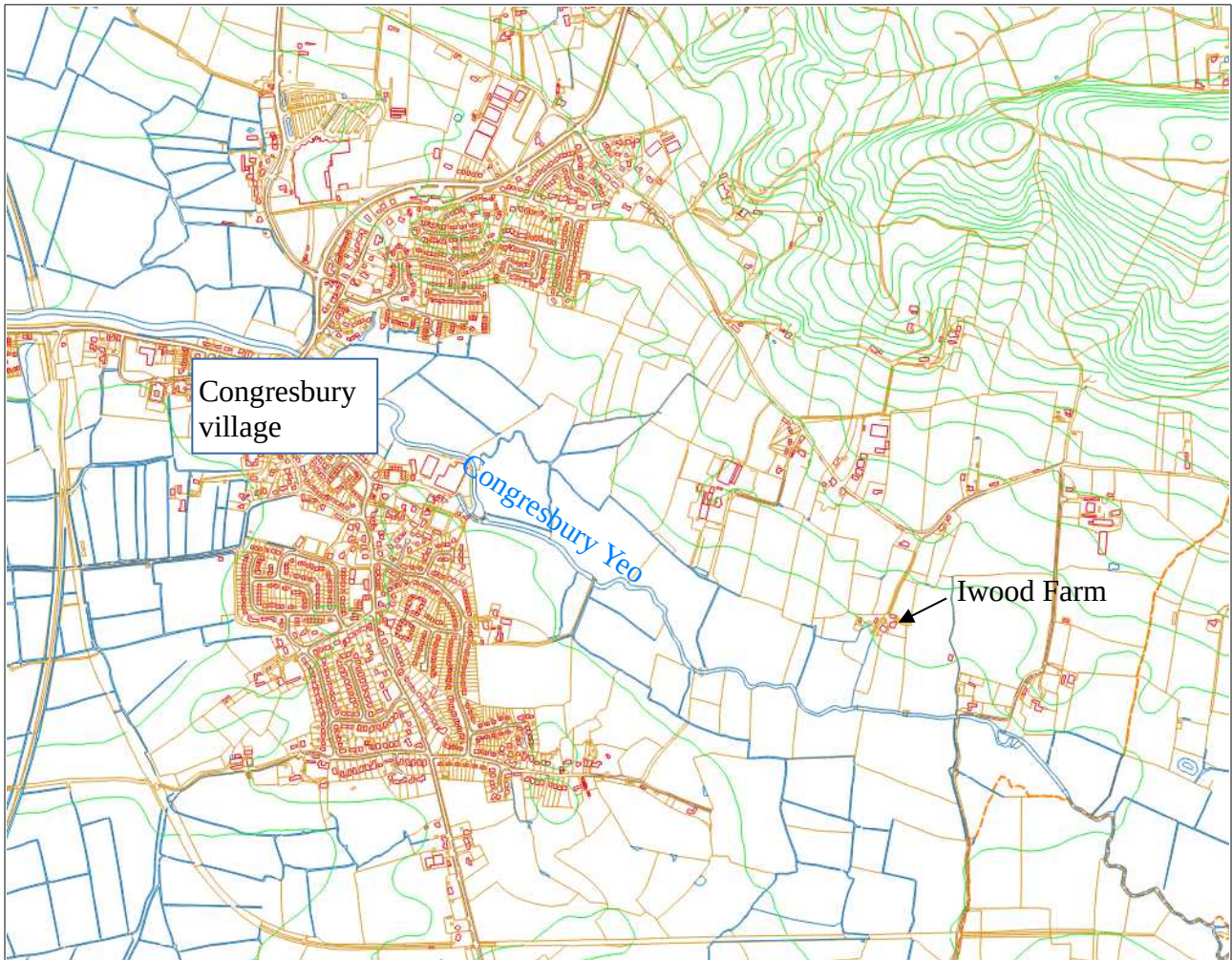
Museums and Galleries Commission, 1994 *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections*

UKIC 1990. *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage*

Webster, C 2007 *The Archaeology of South-West England; South West Archaeological Resource Assessment and Research Agenda*

In addition, reports on all previous geophysical survey, digital terrain survey, trial evaluation and recording of detectorists' finds can be accessed at ycccart.co.uk.

Location



Iwood Farm is located at ST4512163259, east of the village of Congresbury in North Somerset, and accessed by a track from the Congresbury to Wrington road to its north.

Proposals for change at the site are largely

Conversion of the rear wing outbuildings to dwelling space, as detailed in 17/P/1149/F, Design and Access statement, and Existing and Proposed Block plans (as available at <http://planning.n-somerset.gov.uk/online-applications/>)

Conversion of existing outbuilding to garage space (as above)

both with 'Ground Level Rationalisation'

Any necessary new services or associated works

Appendix 2: The farmstead in the 18th to 21st centuries

Iwood farm is first mapped in 1736-9, on the copy of the deWilstar maps in the Bristol Record Office. When georeferenced using QGIS 2.18 and mapping data, this map has proved solidly reliable.

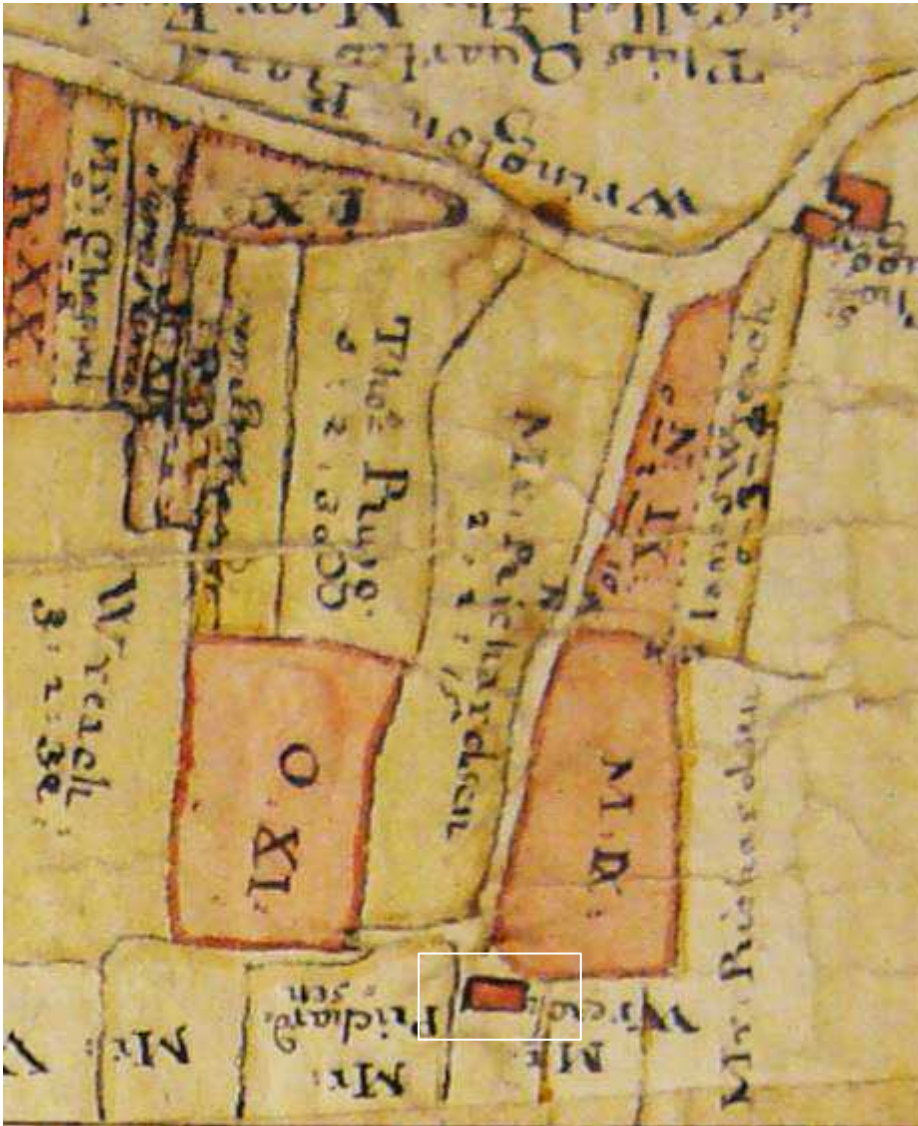


Fig 1

The 1736-9 copy plan of the 'Moorfurlong', a group of fields immediately north-west of Iwood Farm, omitted from the original maps.

Iwood Farm is the red rectangle in the lowest centre part of the map (boxed): on the original map, north direction was opposite to modern practice, hence the inverted writing in this geographically corrected map.

The map only contains the bare information that the area around the house was owned by a 'Mr Wreach', presumably the 'James Wreach' who held half a field to the NW of the farmhouse, in conjunction with a Charles Holt (hence the broken line down the centre of that field). James Wreach held no other land on the estates of Queen Elizabeth's Hospital, so there is no other reference to him in the considerable quantity of records that survive for that body's Congresbury holdings.

The map indicates a dwelling not sharing the footprint of the present house (Fig 2), thus raising the archaeological potential of that particular area.

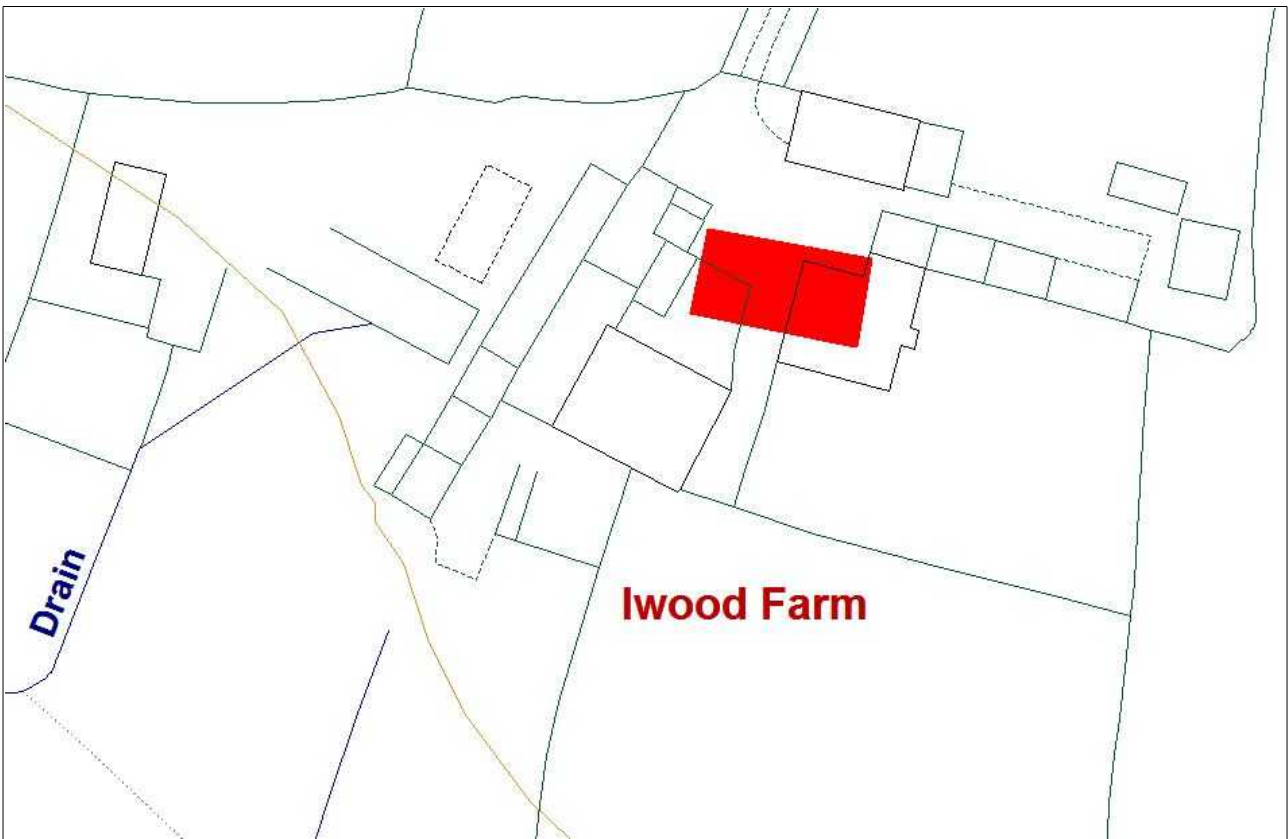


Fig 2: Mapped site of early farmhouse 1736-9



Fig 3: Tithe Map of 1840

The Tithe Map, almost exactly a hundred years later, shows a much more complex picture.

The current farmhouse, and the rear outshot that is to be converted under the current planning permission, are both present, and interestingly, are depicted on that map as domestic in use, according to the Tithe Maps colour code (red for dwellings, grey for outbuildings). The Congresbury Tithe Map does appear consistent in these colours, so the rear outbuildings may well have been regarded as part of a dwelling. The presence of a lath and plaster ceiling on the first floor of this building would also imply some potential residential use: it was not uncommon practice for farm labourers to be given accommodation in such buildings. These outbuildings were obviously of higher status than others, since their floors were slab-paved.

The second room in this wing (the 'cider house') has an *in situ* cider press, still physically connected to the ceiling, and a scrapper, which was light enough to be moved when required. This higher status may also be applied by the nature of the windows, with slight bead-decoration on their edge, and a couple of remaining security bars in place.

A second farmhouse is also shown on this map, lying south-west of the current dwelling, along with a small outbuilding, probably a toilet.

Significantly, the stone buildings later to be at the southern end of the run of farm building to the west of the dwelling were already in place:



Fig 4: Stone outbuilding in place by 1840 (September 2018)

Unfortunately, no architectural detailing survives to date this building as other than 'earlier than 1840'. Its original function is not clear, but the lack of fireplaces and the Tithe

colouring probably means it was not domestic.

Four other outbuildings were mapped, including a large one on the site of the barn proposed for conversion to garages.

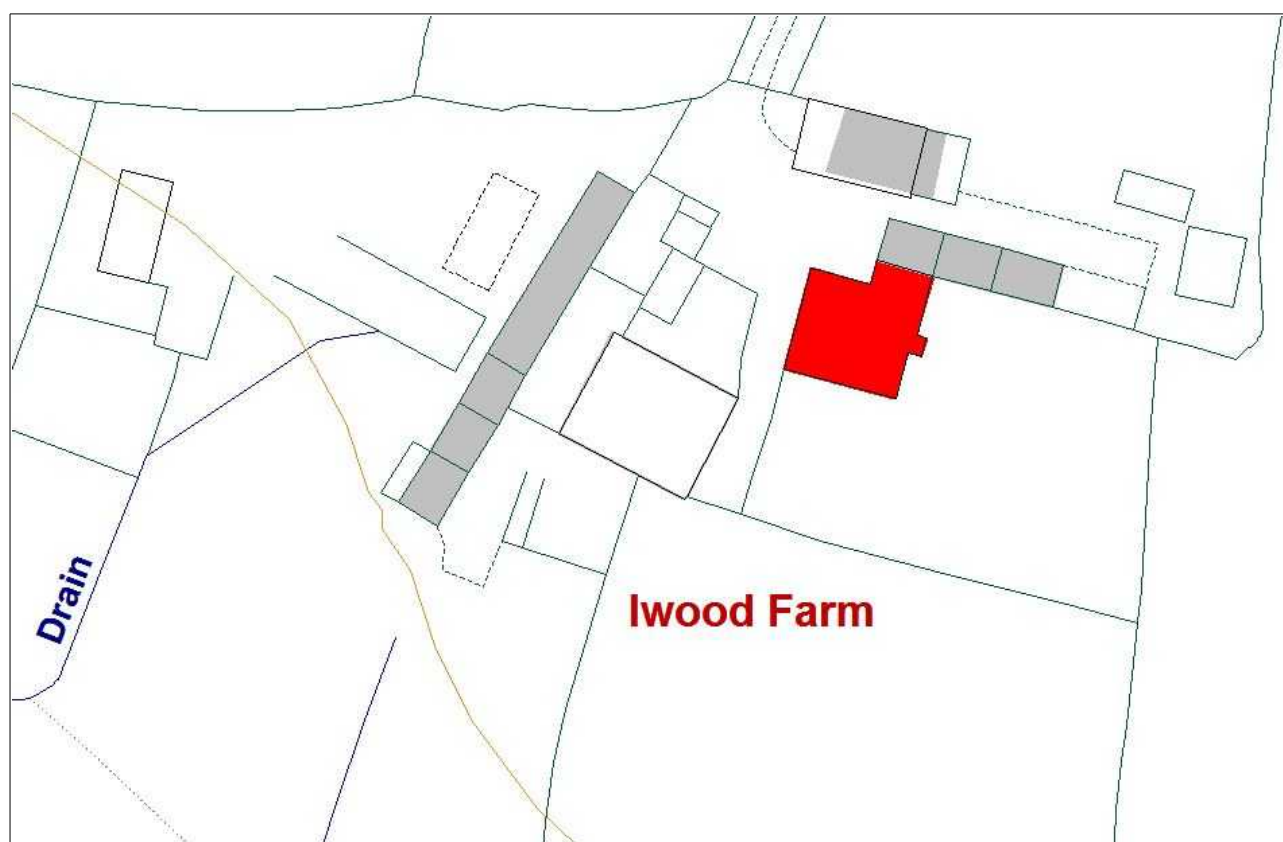


Fig 5: Iwood Farm 1885 (derived from 1st edition OS plan)

Between the Tithe Map and the 1st edition OS plan, the outbuildings to the west grew to occupy their current footprint. The outbuilding on the site of the current application for garages has changed in shape (this of course, may imply the buildings were fairly ephemeral), and the OS depicts the rear wing of the farmhouse as outbuildings.

The second farmhouse, to the south west has comprehensively disappeared by 1885.

The agricultural depression of the late 19th century (there was a 'complete failure of the harvest' in 1847 in Congresbury, as well: Cran 1983: 183) means that these added buildings are likely to be from the third quarter of the 19th century, rather than the fourth. It is noticeable, however, that Benjamin Thayer, the owner and occupier at the time of the Tithe Map, was largely a pastoral farmer, who may have weathered the depression better than the arable farmers in the area.

The layout of the farm hardly changed at all between this date, and that of the second epoch OS plan in about 1903 (below). Assuming this is not an Ordnance Survey failure, this implies that the farm contained all the buildings necessary for its work, and possibly

that the effects of the depression were being felt.

The only real changes was a slightly differing layout of the north barn, which could simply reflect the erection of lean-tos.

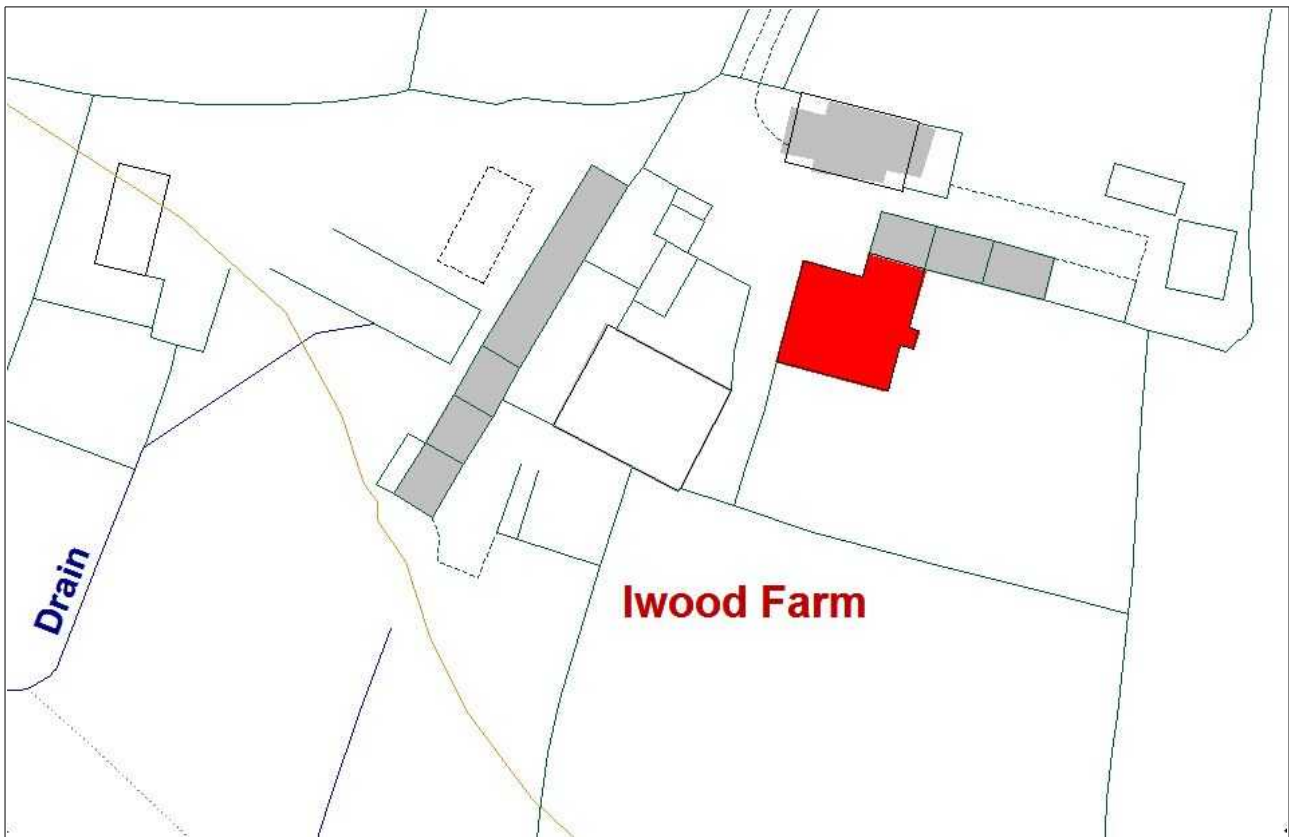


Fig 6: Iwood Farm 1903 (derived from 2nd edition OS plan)

The next available mapping of the area is not until the RAF photographs of 1946.

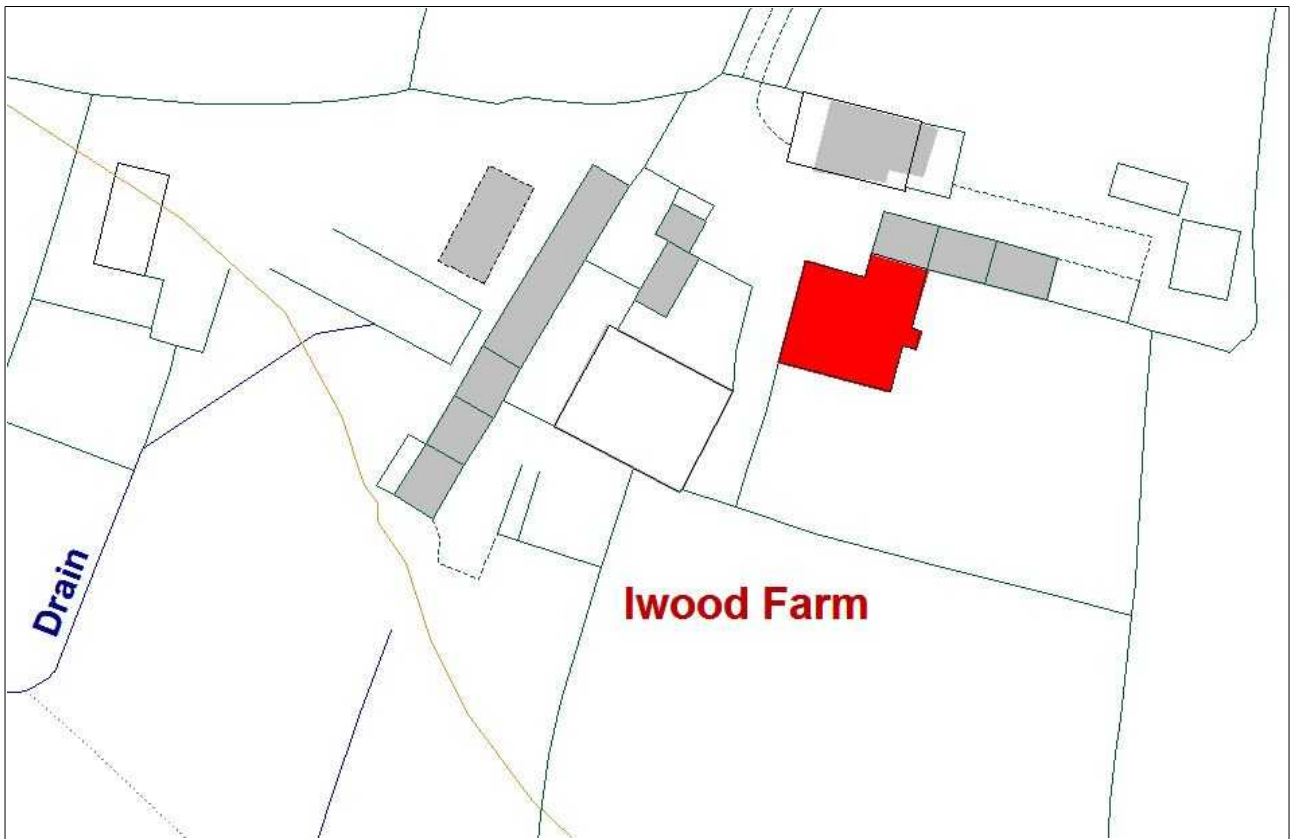


Fig 7: Iwood Farm 1946

By this time, the revival of agriculture after the increases in production during the Second World War, was resulting in more building at Iwood Farm, including two small outbuildings in the area between the west buildings and the farmhouse, and a Dutch Barn, demolished in 2017, to the west of the farmyard.

By 1973 (about the high point of agriculture in the West Country in the 20th century)

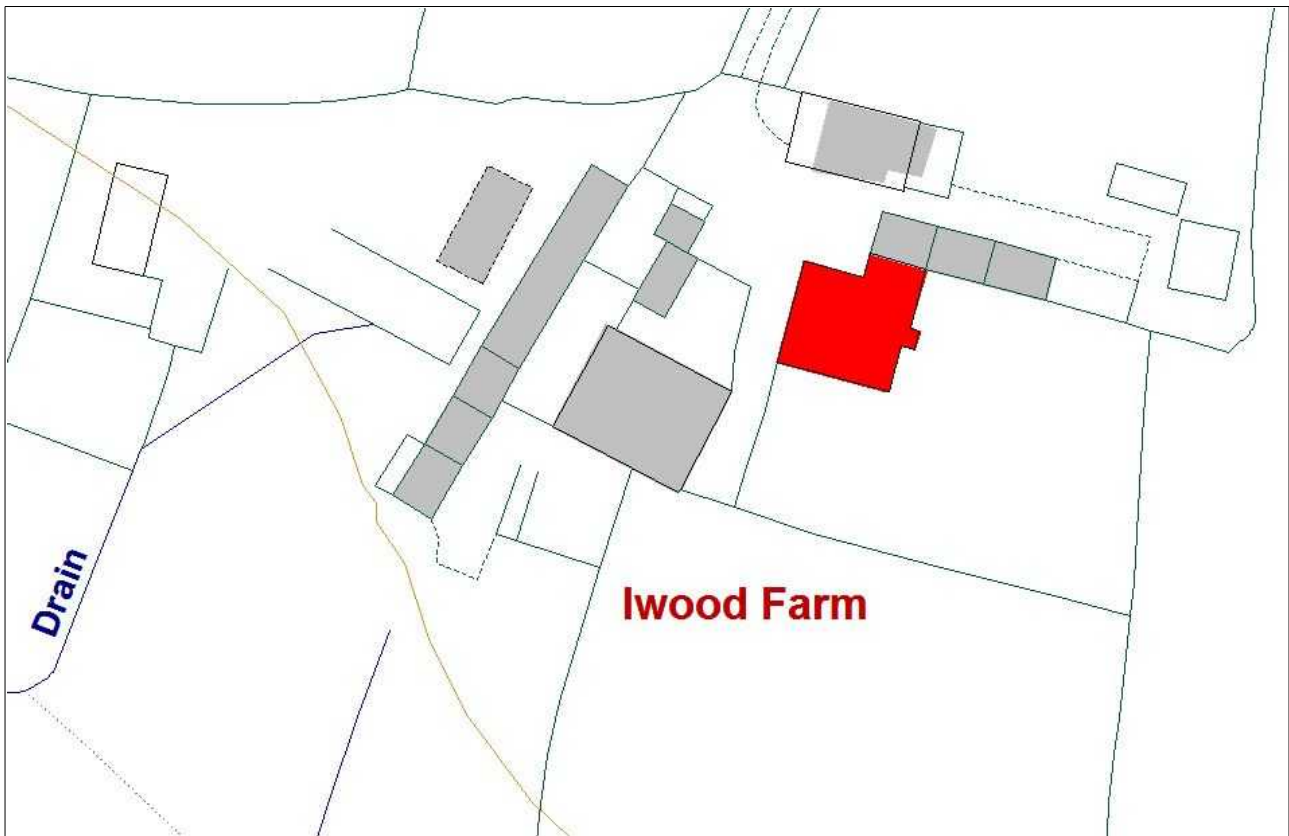


Fig 8: Iwood Farm 1973 (from OS plan)

a large wooden building, square in plan, had been erected in the south centre of the farmstead site, which contained stalls for the over-wintering of cattle. Probably around the same time, a milking bail (a structure for milking cattle, usually sited in the field) was brought to the site and established next to the stalls: it is still in place with the milking equipment intact inside.

This reflects a trend at the time for milking 'parlours' to be closer to the farmhouse, and the usual concrete yard was established at Iwood, too.

From contemporary air photographs, the structure on the site intended for conversion to garages was erected by Tincknells of Wells (plate on building) between 1975 and 1991.



Fig 9: Iwood Farm 2017 (from OS data and site visit)

A few temporary buildings, largely pole built had been erected by 2017 to the east of the site, and a further erected west of the Dutch Barn. Several of the buildings in the west run had lost their roofs by this date (hatched on the above plan).

The outbuildings are today used mainly for storage of hay and building materials.

Appendix 3

Context lists

Detailed context recording was carried out, and the full records are in the archive, to eventually be deposited at the Somerset Heritage Centre, with the finds.

- Context 1: Concrete yard surface
- 2: Cut for drain against NE range
- 3: Ceramic pipes
- 4: Fill of drain
- 5: Contents of F2
- 6: Lower gravel of track north of trench
- 7: Clay fill of pit F1
- 8: Cut for pit F1
- 9: Cut for 'dump' below F2
- 10: Contents of 'dump'
- 11: Structure F2
- 12: Upper gravel of track north of trench

Appendix 4: Finds List

Finds from the heat exchanger pipe trenches, Iwood Farm

These finds are all strictly unstratified, since they arose from fieldwalking the backfill of the pipe trenches. There is also the usual problem with fieldwalking, that the finds (especially ceramics) are often worn in unpredictable ways, unlike those recovered in excavations. This presents a huge problem in producing type fabric series, especially for the more friable medieval coarse wares.

All the finds were scattered more or less at random throughout the trenches, with exception of the worked flint, which seemed from impressions gathered on site, to be largely concentrated in the centre of the trench group. Other than identification, no other quantification was undertaken.

Flint

- 1 Multi-platform core, 39mm long, 32.4gm, Wessex chalk flint, highly corticated. Subsequent heavy bruising at one end implies later use as a strike-a-light. Neo / BA
 - 2 Fragment struck from bladelet core, chalk flint, possibly Mesolithic. 40mm long, 7.7gm
 - 3 Fragment of bladelet core, possibly Mesolithic. 28mm, 6.2gm
 - 4 Snapped fragment of long blade, 27mm, 3.1gm
 - 5 Fragment struck from bladelet core, heavily patinated. 30mm, 3.3gm
 - 6 Tiny scraper in a clean brown flint, all edge worked. 19mm, 3.6gm. Neo / BA
 - 7 Tiny scraper in greyish-black flint. 19mm, 2.8gm. Neo / BA
 - 8 Primary flake in a pale brown flint, with edge damage. 34mm, 3.2gm
 - 9 Tertiary flake with subsequent edge working. 21mm, 0.9gm
 - 10 Short tertiary flake in mottled grey flint, 16mm, 1.6gm
 - 11 Heavily struck flake with much crush damage to most sides. Probably strike-a-light. 41mm, 7.9gm
 - 12 Heavily corticated flake with notch in centre of thin side. Gun flint. 27mm, 3.8gm
- A further non-struck 11 fragments, total weight 26.5gm.

Discussion

Although very few flints were recovered ($\Sigma=23$), they are an interesting group, whose points of origin can be verified to within c 100m. Several of the flints are bladelet cores, or fragments of such, which are possibly of Mesolithic origin. Two minute scrapers, each 19mm across, were also found. The gunflint and the strike-a-light, both of post-medieval origin, are also noteworthy.

Ceramics

RB

- 23 sherds Congresbury Ware, including 4 rims and 2 bases
1 fragment mortarium, probably Shepton Mallet

1 other u/k redware sherd

Medieval wares

There are 19 sherds of the same coarse ware fabric, including one base angle sherd. It is hand made and with wiped, pitted surfaces, both inside and out. It is poorly mixed and contains numerous fragments of angular limestone. The surfaces range from 2.5YR/1 (black) to 7.5YR 6/8 (reddish yellow). In the current light of pottery studies in North Somerset, it is not possible to completely rule out these being of late prehistoric origin, but they resemble more the fabrics from Cheddar Palace, especially the 'B' fabrics, and thus may well be late Saxon in origin (Rahtz 2012 (1979)).

1 other coarse limestone-gritted fabric sherd, but not the same fabric as above.

There are 8 sherds of later medieval wares, of which 4 are well-enough preserved to be identifiable as Ham Green ware (including two fragments of jug strap handles), and a fifth to establish it as a Donyatt / South Somerset sherd, but the others are too small or worn to identify.

One further large large sherd of a Ham Green jug was found during examination of the new-cut ditches, on the site of the garden of the former farmhouse south of the present.

Discussion

While it is difficult to draw too many conclusions from an unstratified collection of pottery, the presence of late Saxon fabrics adds some weight to Gill Bedingfield's assertions about Saxon Iwood (Bedingfield 1996: 4-9), and presence of Ham Green jug fragments may imply a fairly high status for the site of Iwood Farm in the high medieval period

Transfer printed and white wares

17 sherds industrial white wares, including 3 rims (2 plates, 1 small bowl) (19th - present)

9 sherds transfer printed wares, blue and green (19th)

1 fragment English white stoneware bowl foot rim (?18th)

1 complete handle of small creamware cup, probably late 18th.

Not weighed.

Ceramic building materials

1 fragment of daub / hand made brick, one flat surface. 30.8g, max width 3.5cm

13 fragments post-medieval roof tile, 2 fragments cement tile

Post medieval 'fancy' wares

18 sherds cups/porrings, including 4 rims and 2 handles; 1 rim sherd small press-moulded dish (yellow combed and trailed slipwares).

1 small sherd Westerwald stoneware mug (1690-1740)

3 small sherds manganese glazed tankards (c1800)

3 small sherds tin-glazed bowls (Bristol, probably 1780-1850)

Post-medieval glazed redwares

6 sherds East Somerset wares, 17th/18th, including 3 sherds rod handle, and one splayed foot of 18thc jar
2 small sherds 'Cistercian-type' wares, both fragments of tygs (17th)
2 sherds Barnstaple ware (one gravel-free, one not)
8 sherds South Somerset red wares, 1 side of large puncheon, 18th-19th centuries
4 specks too small to identify

Clay pipe

4 fragments stem, none earlier than 1700
1 small fragment of bowl, probably C18
1 spur 'S' on one side, other damaged

Other

Biofacts

3 fragments of bone (including one scapula)
4 teeth (2 sheep, 1 horse, 1 unidentified)

Glass

6 small fragments post-medieval green bottle glass
3 small glass phial / bottle fragments
4 small fragments window glass, one early
1 unidentifiable clear glass chunk
1 fragment of accumulator side

Stone

1 small flint pebble, broken, not worked
1 Pennant Sandstone fragment with slight edge wear from honing
1 heavily used broken Pennant Sandstone hone

Iron

1 large square head and shank handmade nail, 58mm

Grot

1 sherd fine concrete
3 fragments clay pigeon rims
3 small stones
One fragment thin white plastic

Finds from the yard trench

Context	Find type	No.	Wt (gm)	Average	Notes
5	Clay pipe	5	11.0	2.2	Five stem fragments, none need be earlier than 1750
5	Ceramics	1	4.8	4.8	Belly sherd of Wanstrow jug. Probably mid-18th
		1	6.4	6.4	Rim sherd of 'blacking' jar, probably c1850
		1	17.7	17.7	Sherd of internally-glazed NDGT jar, c1650
		5	9.5	1.9	Transfer printed wares, early so probably 1800-1850
		7	20.9	2.92	Early white-glazed wares, 1780-1850
		1	0.5	0.5	Mocha ware, c1850-80. Small enough to be intrusive.
		6	20.4	3.4	Yellow combed and trailed slipware, includes rims of 2 hollow vessels; 1 base sherd of such; 1 small sherd of PMD, and 1 indeterminate
		15	285.1	19.0	Late Somerset redwares, including 2 sherds large internally glazed chamber pot; 11 sherds large internally glazed bowls/puncheons; 1 possible Wanstrow glazed 'slab' fragment, possibly from dripping tray (?17th), otherwise probably all 19th century
		2	16.8	8.4	1 fragment rooftile, 1 brick (probably both 19th century)
5	Glass	3			Fragments of post-medieval bottles, including 1 squat neck and shoulder of bottle with applied string-rim, potentially later 17th century; 2 body sherds of possibly Victorian date; 4 minute fragments of modern clear glass, probably intrusive.
5	Bone				4 teeth, including horse and cow;

					4 joining fragments of jawbone, 4 other fragments. No obvious butchery marks.
7	Ceramics	1	1.6	1.6	1 edge sherd 'Queens ware' plate, 1750-80
		4 1	191.9 64.9	47.9	4 sherds late Somerset red ware, large vessels including 3 joining sherds of base; all internally brown-glazed. Probably 19th century
		5	73.9	14.8	Sherds of smaller late Somerset red wares, all internally brown-glazed. Probably 19th century.
		1	11.7	11.7	DGTW. Base sherd of small internally glazed jar. Possibly c1700.
		2	16.4	8.2	Later white glazed wares. Two later 19th century rims, one a chamber pot
		4	19.8	4.9	Combed and trailed yellow slipware; 1 edge of PMD, 2 rim and one body fragment of hollow wares
		2	5.2	2.6	2 sherds of Wanstrow slip-decorated body sherds, possibly intrusive
7	Clay pipe	2	14.5	7.25	One complete bowl with spur of Bristol maker Charles Moon, one fragment stem
7	Bone	6	33.1	5.5	1 tooth; 5 other fragments
7	Glass	9			6 fragments of shoulder of late 17th century bottle; two body sherds early Victorian bottle (? c1850); 1 clear window glass fragment with surviving edge from crown; 1 base of small aqua 'apothecary's bottle' (and many tiny fragments). Pre-1880s
U/S	CBM	3	218.2	72.7	Includes 1 corner of hand-made brick, probably 18th century

	Glass				10 fragments bottles, c1750; 1 neck of small aqua bottle with broken rim, 1 sherd and 1 base of 'apothecary's bottles'
	Bone				1 large tooth (horse) and 4 other fragments
	Ceramic				'Helpers' retrieved: 31 fragments of plain white wares, including 4 sherds of a 'Queens ware' dish 4 fragments of pearl ware 3 fragments of early hard-paste porcelain 3 unidentified decorated fragments, probably of later date 1 fragment of Westerwald stoneware 1 fragment of 20th century imitation Westerwald stoneware 1 mug base fragment with chequer decoration in four colours
	Yellow slipwares				11 sherds hollow vessels, all trail-decorated; 18 sherds of PMD, including 10 from one dish, 2 from one 'tray' with straight pie-crust edge, 2 others from PMD with two-tone decoration. The fabric of all sherds is decidedly pink, and so probably of Bristol origin. The soil attached to all of these sherds is recognisable as that from pit 1 [7].
	Miscellaneous red wares				These consist of large fresh sherds of late Somerset redwares, with 'industrial' glaze, and mostly puncheons or large bowls. 7 sherds of earlier Wanstrow type vessels were found although their wear state suggests they were in the soil as sherds when the pit was filled

A note on nomenclature

Late Somerset redwares are the large vessels, usually puncheons or bowls, made for domestic use between about 1800 and the 1930s. While there clearly are different sources, no overall study of fabric or vessel types has been made in Somerset, although examples are illustrated in Bridgwater brickyard catalogues, and many other brickyards may have taken up manufacture of these large vessels, such as that at the Chandos glass cone in Bridgwater. They are largely for domestic use, such as storage as dry goods, pickles and so on. In agricultural terms, there were essential for such tasks as scalding cream and cheesemaking.

PMD - Press-moulded dish DGTW - Devon gravel tempered ware

Context 7 can be identified as earlier than context 5 by the finds, as well as the stratigraphy. As stated in the main body of the report, it looks like the pit contains nothing that need be later than (say) 1830, while the small group recovered from context 5 (the fill of F2) could be as much later as c1900.

The ceramic finds are all of well-known types, with little to be gained by extensive illustration, since most of them are to all intents and purposes, unstratified. The flints will eventually be illustrated in a forthcoming resume of prehistoric flint work in the YCCCART study area.