

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 Castle grounds walkover survey

Previous surveys of the castle grounds include a plane table survey as part of the BBAP in 1987, which recorded the extent of the wider settlement remains. More recently, drone survey and ground-truthing (Canmore [SC 1574488](#)) was completed by Historic Environment Scotland (HES, Dixon 2016; Cowley et al 2018) identifying the detailed settlement remains in the immediate vicinity of the castle, and an enhanced phasing of the castle itself. During the Contextualising Hume Project, field survey was completed in the land immediately surrounding Hume Castle, and owned by HCPT. The purpose of this walkover survey was to provide specialist training to volunteers on how to identify and record archaeological sites and monuments in the landscape. It also allowed for condition assessment of the identified monuments, and the identification of sites suitable for excavation. The land was systematically walked by a HARP team member and project volunteers.

During the field survey, 54 sites were identified and recorded in the study area (Illus 3). Of the 54 sites identified the most common encountered were interpreted as terraces (18) and buildings or building platforms (12). Ten banks were identified, as well as five potential wells. One ditch, two walls, and two trackways were revealed, whilst one cairn and one drainage feature were also identified. The features were spread throughout the study area, but the largest concentrations of features were located to the west and south-west of the castle.

On comparison with the HES survey results it was possible to reconcile the more ambiguous platforms or terraces identified in the walkover survey with buildings and terraces previously recorded. Whilst the majority of the sites recorded during this walkover survey had been previously identified, it was not possible to identify all of the sites recorded in the drone survey. This was mainly due to vegetation cover and difficulty to pick up subtle elevation changes whilst surveying at ground level. In particular, areas of rig and furrow cultivation to the south-east of the castle and a building directly to the NNW of the north-western corner of the castle could not be identified during this walkover

survey due to vegetation cover. The combination of drone and traditional walkover in the previous HES survey was able to provide a more complete set of results (Cowley et al 2018: 9–10).

In general, the topography, vegetation cover, and visible remains of the sites made it difficult to fully understand the complexities of each area of the former village. It was, however, possible to identify a small number of distinct building footings, which allowed for targeted excavation and a greater analysis of the structural remains of the former village.

3.2 Kirkyard survey and condition assessment

Michelle Gamble

A survey and condition assessment of the gravestones situated within Hume Kirkyard was completed as part of the project. The purpose of this work was to provide a baseline condition of the monuments in order to allow an opportunity to assess potential risks to the monuments, and to be able to assess the rate of potential deterioration. At the same time, the survey provided an opportunity to record extant monuments and compare the information to previous monument inscriptions recorded by the BFHS in 1994 (BFHS 1994). The earlier survey work did not, however, record all of the gravestones in the kirkyard (in particular the more recent gravestones on the southern side of the kirkyard), nor did it record the location of each gravestone, and so direct statistical comparisons have not been possible (Gamble 2022).

The kirkyard is entered from the west and is defined by a drystone wall, with the only mortar bonded sections of wall being the stone pillars of the gated entrance. The northern wall of the kirkyard partially acts as a retaining wall for the higher ground level in the field adjacent to the north. There are effectively two levels within the kirkyard with the remains of the old kirk to the north, sloping southwards to a lower level where new graves are being inserted. The kirkyard is partially lined with mature trees, the roots of which are impacting on some of the gravestones. There is also ivy growing on the walls of the kirkyard, most notably on the north wall where two memorials are inserted. There is no defined or formal path, however, there is a well-trodden stretch of grass that acts as an informal path to the more recent burials.

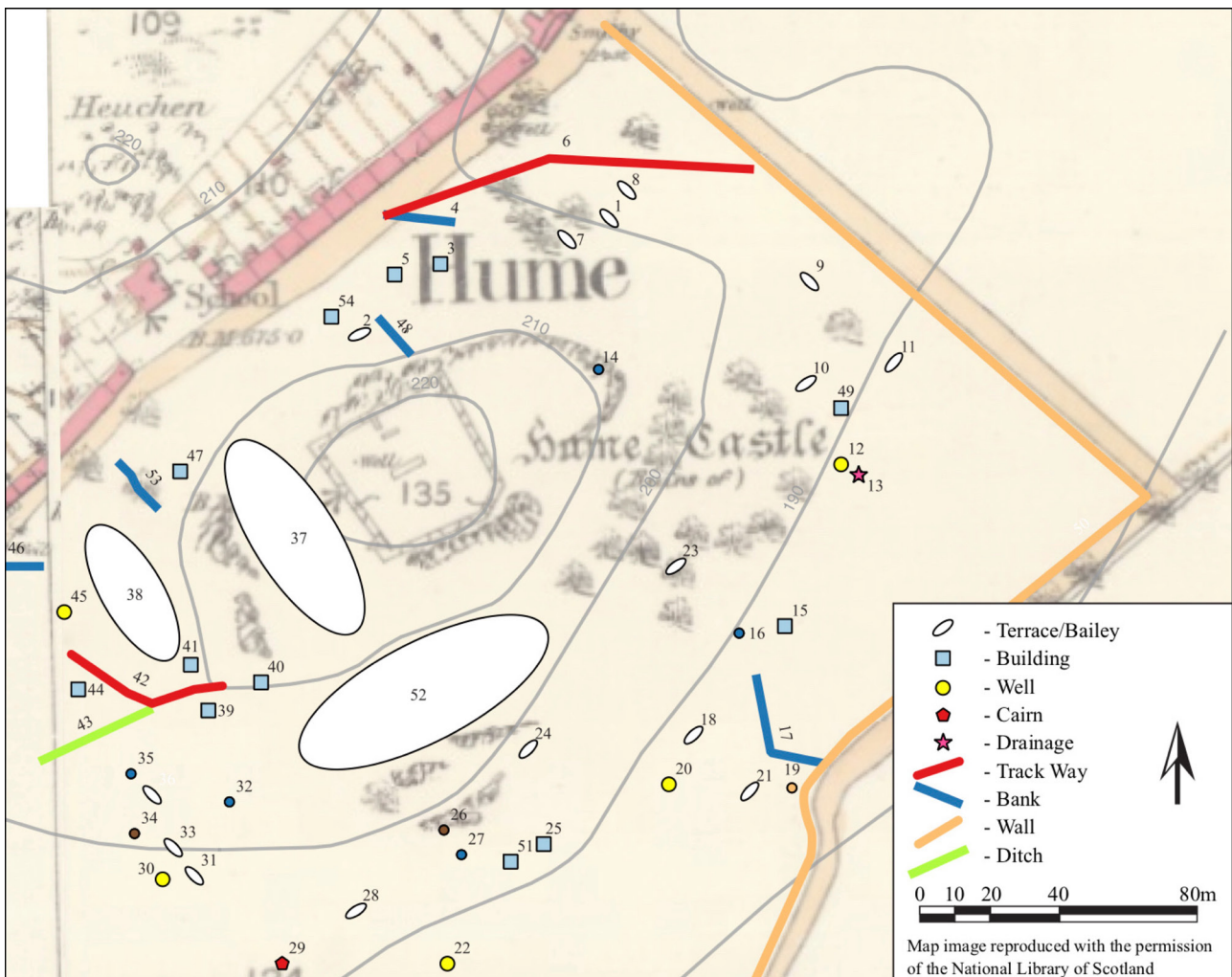
The footings, or footprint, of the former kirk are located towards the northern centre of the kirkyard, visible as an elevated mound with a significant slope towards the south, and are affected by a large yew tree growing at their eastern end. A burial enclosure located adjacent to the west of the former Earl's Aisle now only partially remains, with the northern portions still intact and a collection of well-established trees and a large holly bush growing there. Two further burial enclosures are located along the north wall of the kirkyard (Illus 3).

The south-east corner of the kirkyard is characterised by a low mound containing trees and surrounded by a low drystone wall, the 'Pest Knowe'. The south-west corner of the kirkyard is heavily overgrown with vegetation, and no visible monuments or gravestones are present, however,

there does appear to be stonework or rubble remains within this area, and it appears to be used as a dumping ground by Scottish Borders Council (SBC) for grass cuttings and waste material.

3.2.1 Results

A total of 120 memorials or gravestones were identified and recorded during the kirkyard survey. Each memorial was documented during a plane table survey to record its location, and recorded by completing Gravestone Recording Form: Incorporating Condition Survey forms, produced by the Council for Scottish Archaeology as part of their Carved Stones Advisor Project (Buckham 2006) Each memorial was recorded in detail as to its fabric, situation, inscription or other decorations, condition, and other aspects of its surrounding



Illus 3 Results of walkover survey in Hume Castle grounds overlaid on the Ordnance Survey 25 inch-to-the-mile first edition (Image by Heritage and Archaeological Research Practice)

landscape which may have bearing on its preservation. A photographic record was completed for each gravestone, with at least a general record shot of each; where appropriate, further detailed photographs were taken of distinct features.

The vast majority of the memorials are headstones (upright monuments denoting a burial location), with 87.5% (105/120) falling into this class of monument. This is followed by ledger or flat stones with 4.2% (5/120) and by a combination of headstone and flat stone with 3.3% (4/120). There were two wall monuments recorded (1.7%). Other than the two memorials built into a wall, the rest are free-standing with 4.2% (5/120) enclosed by a structure or fence and the other 94.1% (113/120) having no enclosure. The majority of the gravestones are made of various colours of sandstone (74.2%, 89/120) – predominantly grey and pink/red, with some yellow. Granite is the next most popular stone type, with 22.5% (27/120) in both pinks and greys. Finally, there are two marble stones (1.7%) and one of gneiss (0.8%). This leaves only one marker, which was a wooden cross. There does not appear to be any spatial or temporal relationship associated with stone type. Only the marble monuments can be grouped closely by date, to either the 20th or 21st centuries, but with only two headstones in this group it is too small a sample size to hold any significance.

With regard to the nature of the inscription technique, 82.5% (99/120) are inscribed with either text and/or images, a further 10.8% (13/120) are inlaid, 1.7% (2/120) are in relief, 4.2% (5/120) have no inscription visible, and 0.8% (1/120) are unclear in the technique used. Most memorials are inscribed on the east-facing side (69.2%, 83/120), with a smaller number inscribed on the west-facing side (14.2%, 17/120), and only a few on both their east- and west-facing sides (3.3%, 4/120). There are no memorials with text or decoration on their north face and only seven (5.8%) display an inscription on their south face. The upper face only displays text or decoration in five cases (4.2%). Four memorials had fallen over and in three cases the inscribed face was not visible. It was, therefore, possible to observe the inscribed face in 97.5% of the stones. The readability of the inscriptions varied, however, it is clear that the older monuments have suffered more weathering than the newer ones, and thus most of the instances where the inscription is no

longer legible involve older memorials. This has been found to be the result of both erosion of some of the inscriptions, as well lichen growth, with at least one instance of lichen growth making the inscription completely unreadable. This is also evinced when the memorial inscriptions are compared with those recorded by the BFHS in 1994, when more detail could be recorded on a number of the gravestones. It must be noted however, that the earlier survey work will have included rubbings. During this survey and recording no rubbings were taken, and no intensive cleaning was undertaken of the gravestones so as not to risk further damage or erosion.

There is a legible name (or names) on 96 of the memorials (80%). Of the 24 without at least one legible first or second name, one memorial displays only relief carving and no text, and another memorial simply bears a small plaque that says, 'In Loving Memory'. The most common name now visible, appearing on 15 gravestones, is 'Bell'. This is probably representative of both the surname, 'Bell' and the visible part of the forename, 'Isabell' or, 'Isabella' which were identified collectively on ten gravestones in 1994 (the surname 'Bell' was only recorded on two). This is followed by, 'Leitch' (also, 'Litch', 'Veitch', 'Vitch') recorded on nine gravestones (previously recorded on 12 different gravestones). Most of the memorials display more than one name, where text is legible. Along with the names of individuals, the location of where they lived or were from, or even died, is recorded in over 100 cases on 68 memorials. The vast majority of places listed are within the Hume Parish boundaries, however, in later 19th and 20th century memorials places as far as the USA are recorded, and several people are listed as having died in Royal Edinburgh Infirmary.

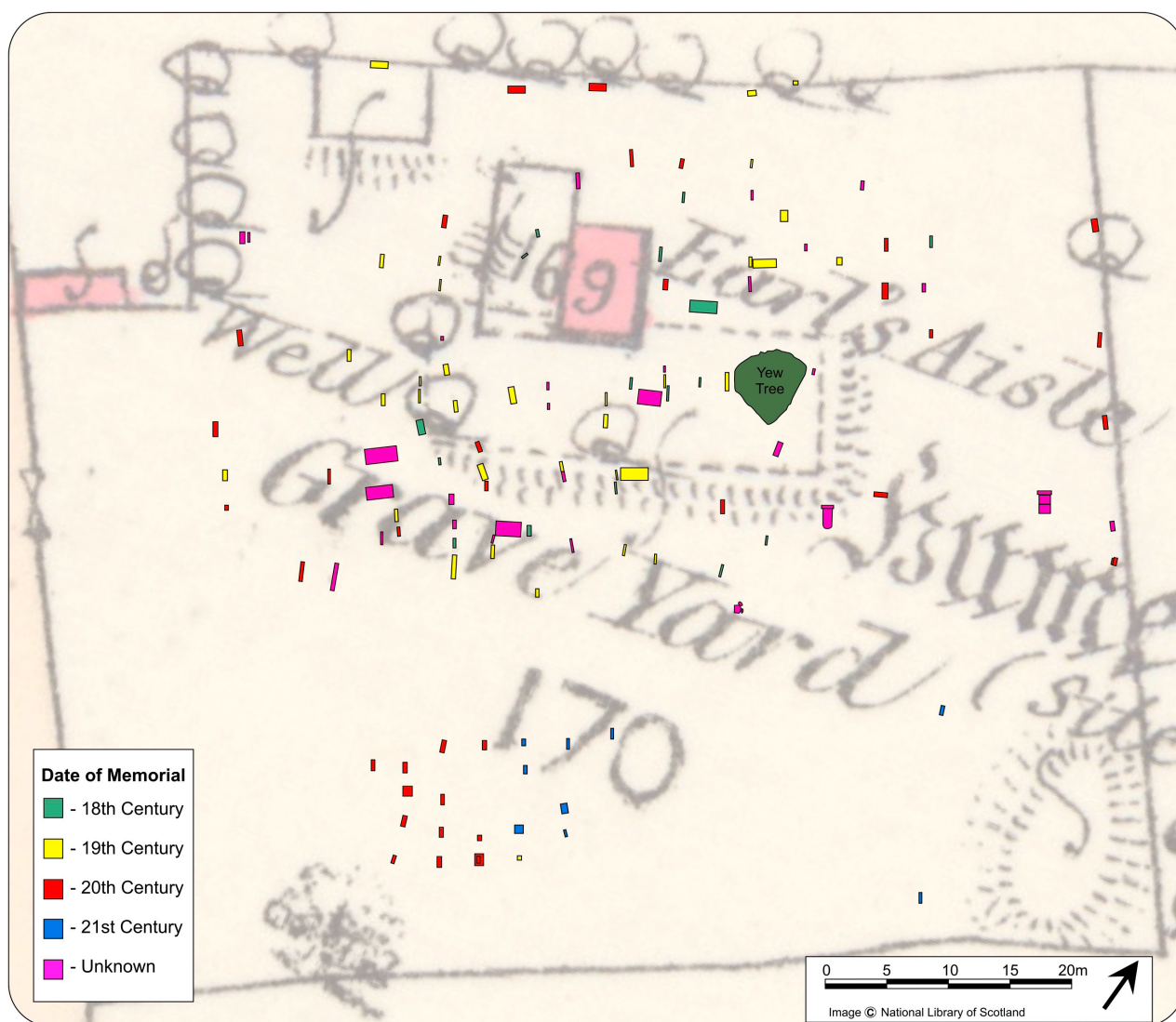
Of the gravestones recorded, 81.7% had an identifiable date, although in several instances only a general century could be assigned. Therefore, 22 monuments could not be assigned a date due to weathering and erosion of the inscription, or collapse of the monument preventing observation of the inscription. Where the inscriptions are worn away, it is sensible to assume that these monuments date to before the 20th century – most likely the 18th or 19th centuries. The earliest date on a memorial, that can be conclusively identified, is 1703 (first legible date on a memorial). Only one

gravestone in the 1994 survey displayed an earlier date, with a tabletop gravestone recording a death in 1647 (BFHS 1994: 43). The inscription on this gravestone is no longer visible. The most recently erected memorial in the kirkyard dates from 2019, reflecting the continual use of the cemetery for over 300 years.

While there is a wide range of visible dates from the early 18th century to the early 21st century, the majority present a date from the 19th century or early 20th century. Thirty-six of the monuments (30%) date from the 20th century with the vast majority of these, 33 (91.7%), dating from 1979 or earlier. Thirty-four of the monuments (28.3%) date from the 19th century, from 1800–1899. Finally,

there are 17 monuments (14.2%) which date from the 18th century. The rest, 9.2%, date from the 21st century.

Dates were recorded based on different criteria: The date the stone was erected (earliest 1800, latest 1894); the year of death of the first person mentioned on the stone (earliest 1724, latest 2018); and the first legible date on a gravestone (earliest 1703, latest 1991). With an earliest legible date of 1703, and only one gravestone displaying an earlier date (1647) in the 1994 survey it is probable that none of the visible gravestones in the kirkyard date to the time that the kirk was in use, and it is also possible that the kirkyard was not left unscathed at the time of the destruction of the castle in 1651. The



Illus 4 Layout of Hume Kirkyard with locations of gravestones categorised by date (Image by Heritage and Archaeological Research Practice)

positions of the gravestones are also of interest, with those dating from the early 18th century positioned around the footprint of the kirk, and no burials located its footprint until 1757, over 120 years after it was recorded as being in a ruinous state (Gunn 1899: 218). The majority of the currently visible burial monuments within the footprint of the kirk date from the 19th century, and none are from the 20th century or later (Illus 4).

3.3 Geophysics

Iain Pringle

Geophysical survey (magnetometry) was completed in Hume Kirkyard and its adjacent Glebe fields using a Bartington Grad601–2 Dual Fluxgate Gradiometer. The grids were marked out by hand using 60 metre tapes, covering a total area of 2.15 hectares. The collection of magnetic data using a north-south traverse is preferable for a magnetic survey, as enhancements to the magnetic field caused by buried features are mapped increasingly stronger the closer the traverse direction can get to a magnetic north-south direction (Breiner 1999). On this occasion magnetic data was collected on a north-west/south-east alignment due to the orientation of the survey grids and the available area. Data was collected by making successive parallel traverses across each grid in a zigzag pattern. The data collected from the survey was analysed using Terrasurveyor 3.0.33.6. The resulting data set plots are presented with positive nT/m values and high resistance as black and negative nT/m values and low resistance as white. The data sets were processed using clipping, de-stripping, and de-staggering.

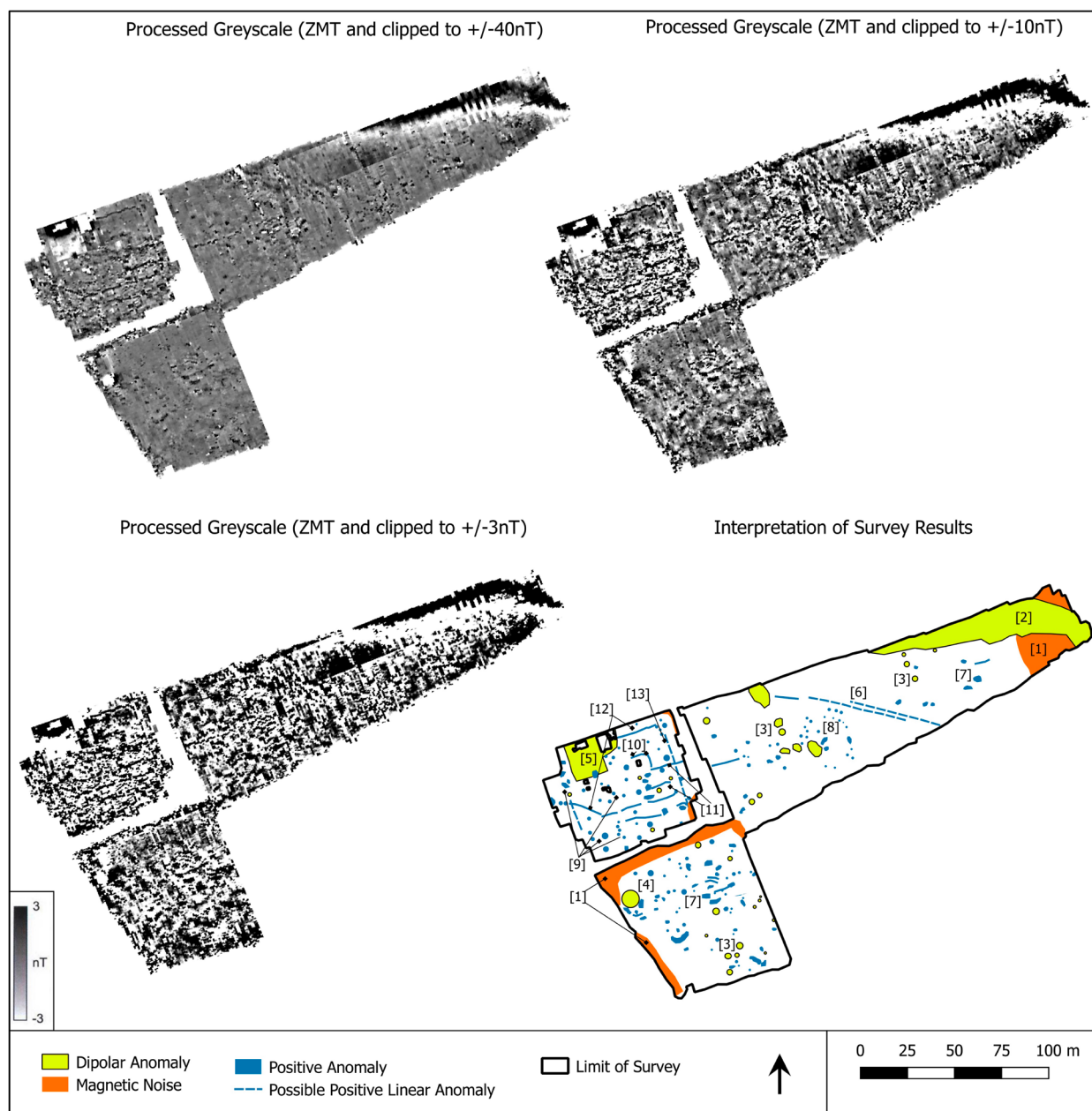
The clipping process is used to remove extreme data point values which can mask fine detail in the data set. Excluding these values allows the details to show through. The de-staggering process compensates for data correction errors caused by the operator commencing the recording of each traverse too soon or too late. It shifts each traverse forwards or backwards by a specified number or intervals. Plots of the data are presented in processed linear greyscale with any corrections to the measured values of filtering processes noted and as separate simplified graphical interpretations of the main anomalies detected.

3.3.1 Results

For the purposes of interpreting the anomalies, the survey data was processed to the values of -3 to 3 nT/m, -10 to 10 nT/m, and -40 to 40 nT/m. This enhances faint anomalies that may otherwise not be noted in the data. The survey results revealed a number of anomalies across the data set and these are discussed in turn and noted as single- and double-digit numbers in square brackets (Illus 5). Immediately noticeable are the areas of magnetic noise around the edges of area [1], especially within the Glebe fields. The magnetic noise around these areas is the result of wire fences that surround the fields. Also easily visible is the large dipolar linear anomaly [2] orientated north-west/south-east across the eastern end of the area. This produced readings between -100 to 100nT/m and is in all likelihood caused by a modern service running through the area. Scattered throughout the area are a number of strong and weak dipolar responses [3]; the characteristic dipolar response of pairs of positive and negative 'spikes' suggest near surface ferrous metal or other highly fired material in the soil. The large dipolar anomaly in the southern field [4] was caused by a metal feed trough used to feed cattle.

Within the kirkyard, along the northern edge, a number of large dipolar responses surround areas that were not able to be surveyed [5]; these were the result of large grave plots surrounded by iron railings. Aligned through the eastern Glebe field, a number of positive linear anomalies [6] gave readings between 10 and 20nT/m and are probably the result of modern agricultural activity within the field. Scattered throughout the fields were also numerous amorphous positive anomalies [7] producing readings between 10 and 30nT/m, possibly representing former pits and filled in hollows.

Along with the amorphous positive anomalies in the eastern Glebe field were a series of smaller positive anomalies in a circular shape, giving readings of 20nT/m [8]. These anomalies are characteristic of postholes and may represent a former feature within the site. The positive anomalies in the kirkyard [9] mainly gave similar readings of 60 to 80nT/m, with some giving a lower reading of 40nT/m. These were caused by the graves, most of which are marked by gravestones. Scattered throughout the graveyard were occasional dipolar anomalies that suggest near surface



Illus 5 Geophysical results and locations of identified features (Image by Heritage and Archaeological Research Practice)

ferrous metal and are likely caused by coffin furniture.

The positive linear features in the centre of the graveyard [10] produced readings between 20 and 30nT/m and represent the outline of the former kirk, which can be seen on historic maps, and are still visible as earthworks. Of particular interest are the east/west linear anomalies to the south-east of the footprint of the kirk [11] which may represent a different structure.

Aligned east/west, parallel with the northern wall of the graveyard, and entering the kirkyard from the west are positive linear anomalies producing

readings between 10 and 20nT/m [12], which represent part of a former gravelled path that ran through the kirkyard; this is also represented by the north-west/south-east aligned linear anomaly in the northeast corner [13], which produced readings between 10 and 30nT/m.

3.3.2 Conclusion

Throughout the site, the survey identified a number of features relating to the current kirkyard and former kirk. The kirkyard area is characteristic of

a heavily disturbed site, which is expected due to its prolonged use as a graveyard, and there are also numerous positive and dipolar anomalies producing similar responses, which are the result of the graves and the possible coffin furniture. Also within the kirkyard are a number of linear anomalies that correspond with the foundations of the former kirk, and further linear anomalies that may represent a different structure.

In the surrounding Glebe fields, two areas were identified as being of particular interest; some of the positive anomalies in the areas immediately surrounding the kirkyard produced very similar results to the graves there and may represent graves beyond the current boundaries of the kirkyard; and towards the centre of the eastern Glebe field a series of positive anomalies form a circular shape, which possibly represented the remains of prehistoric structures (Illus 5).

3.4 Excavation in the Glebe fields and Hume Village

Excavations during the Project were designed to include investigations outwith the castle and its immediate vicinity, and to investigate the potential for occupation during different time periods than that of occupation of the castle. For this part of the project two trenches (each measuring 3×6m) were excavated within the eastern Glebe field, and were positioned based on the results of the geophysical survey to investigate the possible negative features forming a circular shape in this area (Illus 6). A second area of excavation involved a 1×2m test pit in the garden of West End Cottage, Hume, located on the position of a probable 19th or 20th century workshop that had previously been attached to the western gable of the cottage (Illus 7).

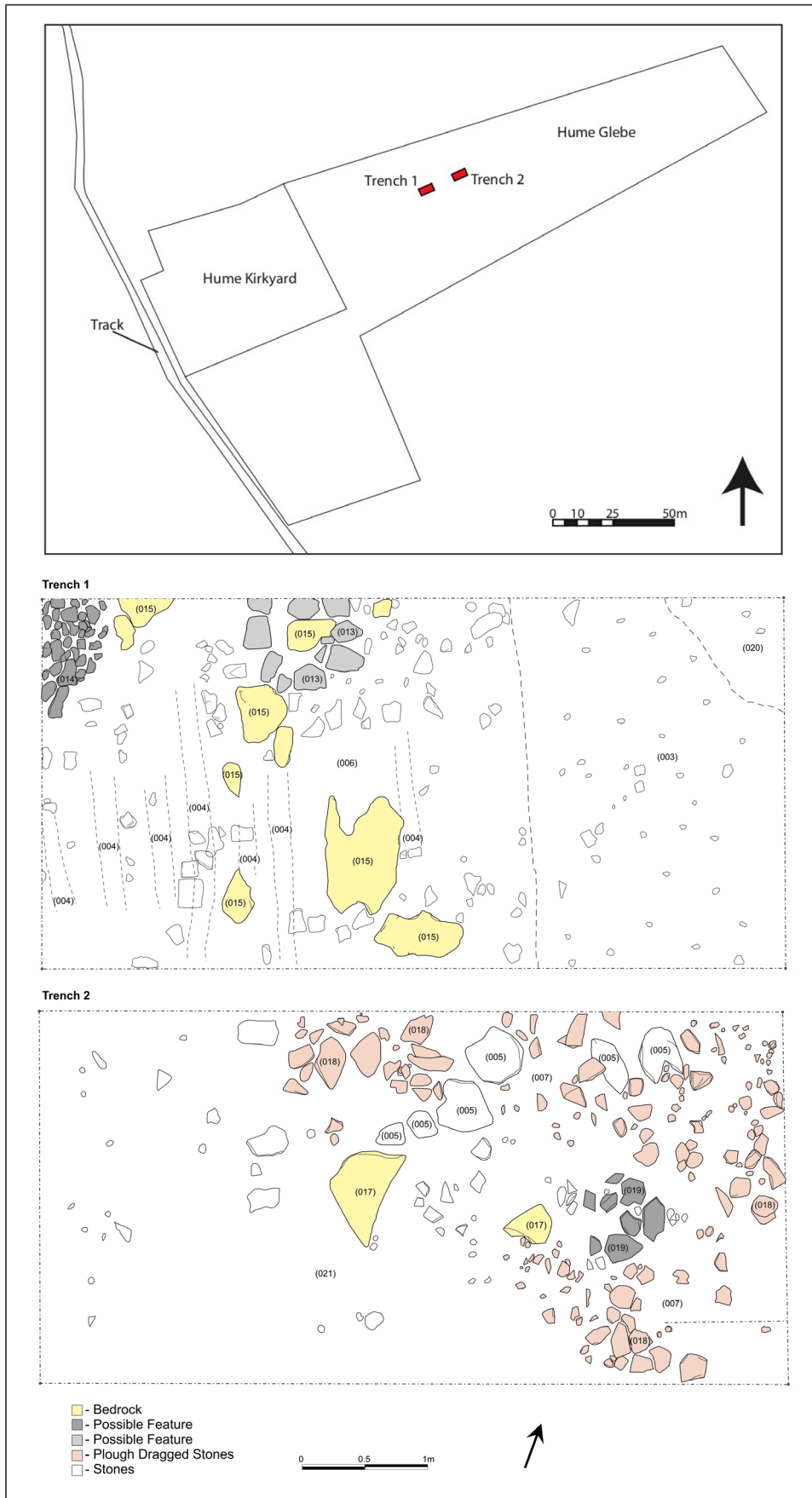
3.4.1 Excavations in the Glebe

The Glebe fields have been almost exclusively used for cattle grazing over the last 50 years, but there is clearly visible rig and furrow, running roughly north-west/south-east, across the entire field. There were clear distinctions between the soil of the rigs (Contexts 003 and 002 in Trench 1 and Trench 2 respectively) and the furrows (C006 and 007 in Trench 1 and Trench 2 respectively).

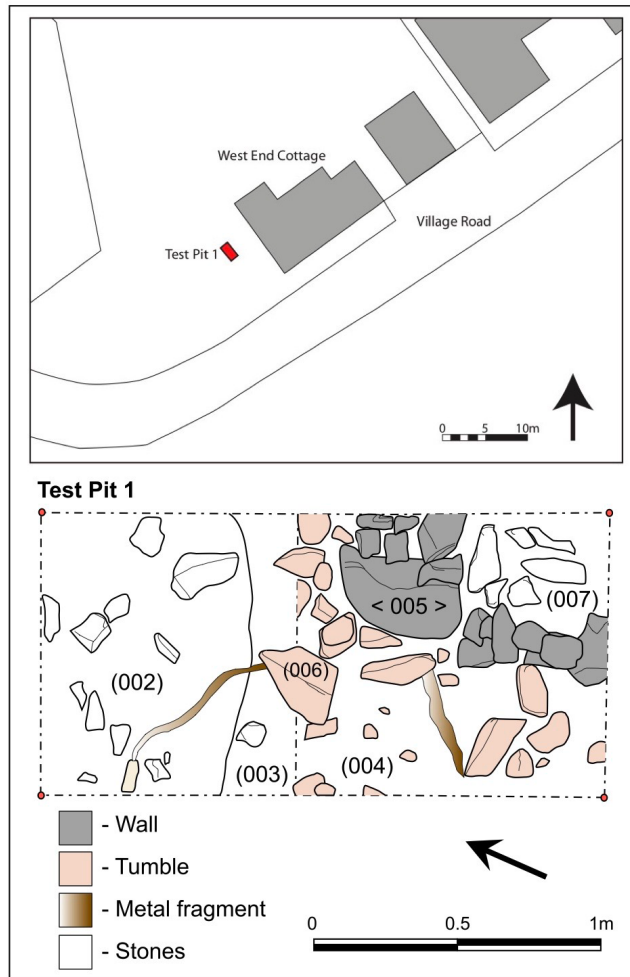
A modern ploughing event to improve and aerate the soil was evident across both trenches (C004 and 012), disturbing the earlier rigs and furrows to a maximum depth of 0.15m. The base of the rigs merged with sterile glacial tills below (C020 in Trench 1 and 021 in Trench 2), with a series of prominent stones and protrusions of bedrock in both trenches. On initial excavation the stone deposits identified in Trench 2 (C005 and 017) were found to form a circular pattern. They appeared to correspond with the anomalies identified during the geophysical survey, however, on further excavation it was determined that these stones (along with further stone deposits C018 and 019) were either naturally accumulated stones disturbed by ploughing, or outcrops of bedrock. Similar deposits of stone were identified in Trench 1 (C013, 014, 015), although none presented the circular or possible structural characteristics of those revealed in Trench 2. No significant archaeological features were therefore identified in the excavations in the Glebe field and only a small number of post medieval or early modern artefacts (all of which can be attributable to agricultural practices) were uncovered. Whilst some possible stone features were initially hypothesised, they are, in all likelihood, evidence of natural bedrock that has eroded away from the outcrop, and/or natural stones that have been dragged by ploughing. The nature of the deposits identified and the locations of the bedrock outcropping also suggest that the other similar anomalies identified in the geophysical survey are probably outcrops of bedrock.

3.4.2 Excavations at West End Cottage

The test pit in the garden of West End Cottage was excavated to locate the northern wall of a former workshop (Illus 7). Beneath a dark brown clayish loam, C002, and a mid-brown compact clay, C003, a deposit of rubble, C006, was identified, with a depth of 0.2m and identified as being associated with wall remains C005. This probable wall corner was formed of densely packed irregularly shaped cobble-sized stones, 0.55×0.94m, running south to north, and surrounded a mixed gravel deposit, C007, that may represent an internal demolition layer. The foundation remains were probably once attached to the existing western gable of West End



Illus 6 Trench locations and results in Hume Glebe (Image by Heritage and Archaeological Research Practice)



Illus 7 Test pit location and results at West End Cottage (Image by Heritage and Archaeological Research Practice)

Cottage, and may have formed the northern wall for a building or workshop. The western gable of West End Cottage shows a bulge that may be representative of the extent of the roof of the former building or structure, and the position of the possible wall remains tie into the positioning evinced on the gable wall. The excavations revealed a large amount of debris and rubbish material, including ceramics, glass, and metal fragments, all of which appear to date to the 19th or 20th centuries.

3.5 Excavation in the castle grounds

A total of two trenches and three test pits were excavated in the grounds immediately surrounding Hume Castle to investigate and better understand identified structures from the settlement, the potential eastern defences of the settlement, and a

potential former routeway leading up to the castle from the west. The trenches and test pits were positioned based on the results of the walkover survey, and the results from the previous survey work completed by HES (Illus 8). Hume Castle and its surrounding fields are a Scheduled Monument (SM387), and as such Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) was required to conduct the excavation works (case ID 300042946).

Trench 1 was located to investigate identified structural remains to the south-west of the castle, on the northern side of a possible access route up to the castle (site 41 in the walkover survey). The trench measured 4x4m, and was positioned to investigate the exterior and interior faces of the structures southern walls, whilst also being positioned in order to investigate a potential internal division. Trench 2 was located to investigate structural remains of a potential platform house with associated enclosure,



Illus 8 Trench and test pit locations in Hume Castle grounds (Image by Heritage and Archaeological Research Practice)

located to the north of the north-east corner of the castle (site 5 in the walkover survey). The trench measured 4×4m, and was positioned to cover both the exterior and interior faces of the structure's walls, whilst also investigating the relationship between the structure and a potential associated enclosure on the southern side.

Test Pit 1 was located to investigate the deposits and geology to the west of the castle, and south of the entrance gate from the castle car park. The test pit was located on the route of a modern vehicle access track and measured 1×1m. Test Pit 2, measuring 1×1m, was located to investigate the deposits and geology to the south-west of the castle at the western end of a possible entrance route leading up to the castle from the west (site 43 in the walkover survey). Test Pit 3 was located to investigate the deposits and character of a potential

defensive rampart located to the east of the castle (northern end of site 14 identified in the walkover survey). The test pit measured 3m by 1m and was orientated approximately north-east/south-west across the potential rampart in order to characterise its construction and depth.

All excavations within the trenches and test pits were conducted by hand, initially to the top of intact archaeological deposits. Where structural remains were encountered, such as wall foundations or footings, these were characterised, cleaned and recorded. Archaeological deposits such as wall tumble, in fill, or slopewash, was removed to better define and characterise any structural remains. Where floor deposits were encountered, these were cleaned, characterised, and recorded, with only a small 0.25×0.25m sample excavation conducted through the floor deposit to further

evaluate, characterise, and define their extents and construction; all such excavations had 100% of removed fills sampled for environmental processing and analysis.

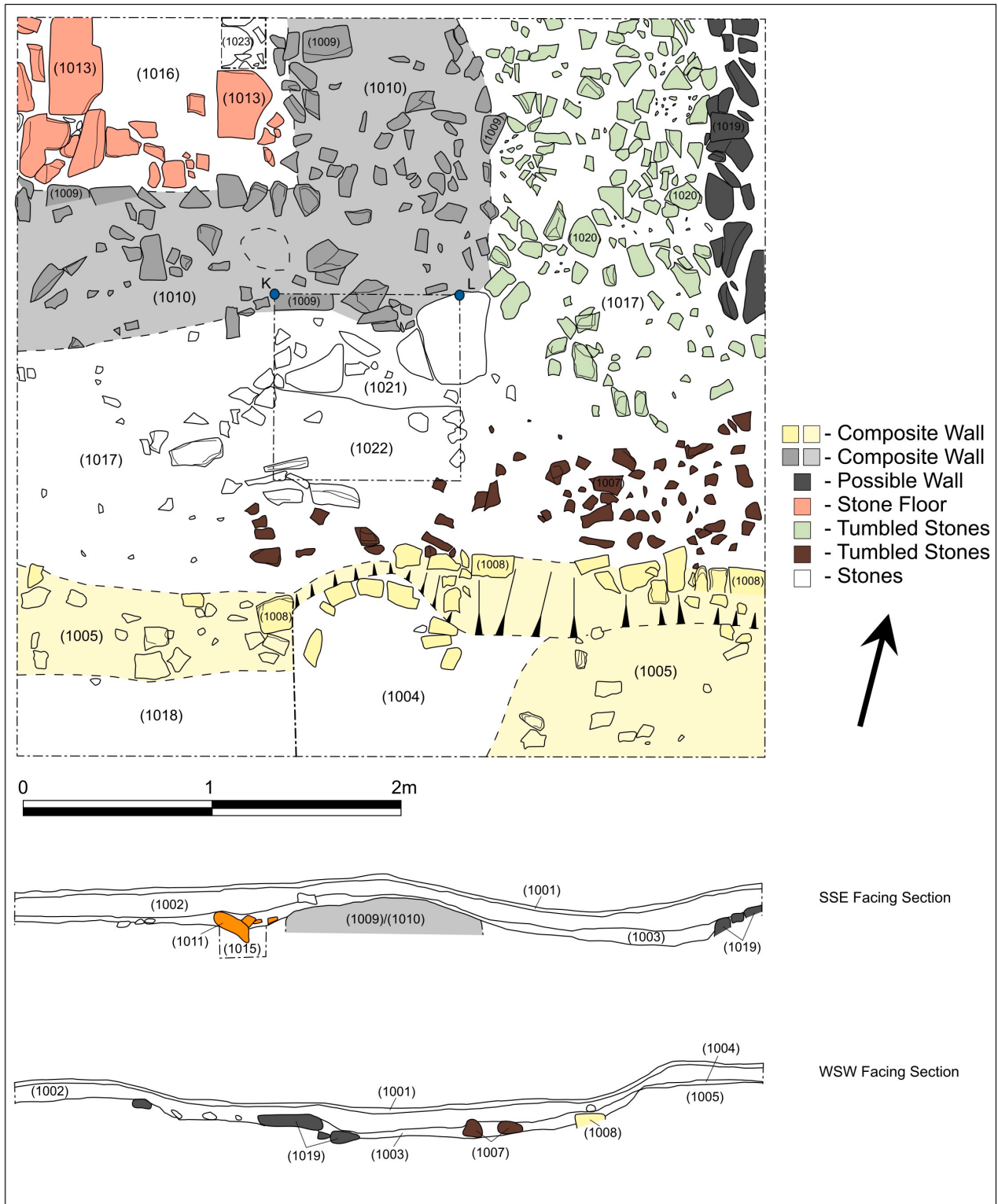
3.5.1 Excavation results in Trench 1

Trench 1 was located to investigate the possible remains of a building identified during previous aerial surveys by HES, and identified as Building 41 during the field survey (Hill 2018). The building is located at the southern edge of the potential lower bailey of the castle and on the north side of a holloway running east/west at the south-west of the castle (see Sections 3.5.5 and 3.5.6 for Test Pit 2). The building is identified in the previous surveys as being rectangular in shape, orientated approximately east/west, with an internal dividing wall running approximately north to south. The topography in the area was undulating, with visible remains of wall footings running east/west along the southern edge of the trench, and north/south along the centre of the trench.

The trench was covered with a dense turf layer, C1001, and a clay loam topsoil, C1002, that continued to a depth of up to 0.23m, with the deepest deposits located in the south-west corner of the trench. Two distinct deposits were revealed beneath, with C1003 a greyish brown clay silt and C1004 a greyish brown sandy silt. A large number of stones were also revealed in the north-west quadrant of the trench following the removal of topsoil, forming an 'L' shaped feature running into the trench from the western edge before turning 90 degrees and exiting the trench at the northern edge. On removal of C1003 in the north-west quadrant of the trench, this 'L' shaped formation of stones became clearer, with an obvious composite wall identifiable (Illus 9 & 10). The wall construction consisted of stone footings and facing constructed from undressed stonework, C1009, with a rubble and reddish orange clay core, C1010. The east/west arm of the wall measured 2.5m long and 0.9m wide, whilst the north/south arm measured 1.5m long and 1m wide, with the wall continuing beyond the edge of the trench to both the west and north. Removal of C1003 on the interior of wall C1009/1010 revealed a spread of irregular, angular stones, C1011, surrounded by a deposit, C1012, that merged with

C1003 above. Both deposits appeared to be slump and collapse that had spread north and west of wall C1009/1010. On removal of these deposits a series of large flat stones, C1013, were revealed including a large red sandstone flagstone, suggesting a laid stone floor that continued up to the edge of the wall. The stone floor did not however fully cover the internal space revealed during excavation, with a compacted peach-orange gravelly clay, C1016, identified between the large flat stones suggesting a mixed, stone and beaten earth floor. A small, 25cm, square sondage was excavated through these probable floor deposits at the north edge of the trench, adjacent to the west of wall C1009/1010. There were no floor stones at the location of the sondage, and the removal of tumble C1011 did not reveal a compacted floor surface either, however the tumbled stones in this area may have compressed or damaged the earthen surface. Beneath the floor a grey-brown sandy silt, C1015, overlay an accumulation of compacted, rounded stones, C1023.

The removal of topsoil and C1003 to the east of wall C1009/1010 revealed a linear arrangement of stones, C1019, running north/south and protruding from the eastern section of the trench. This possible wall was not fully uncovered, with it continuing into the eastern section of the trench and running out of the trench to the north, but the southern limit of the feature appears to align with the southern edge of wall C1009/1010. Between walls C1019 and C1009/1010 a deposit of tumbled stones from both walls, C1020, was identified but not removed. Beneath these tumbled stones, and to the south of wall C1009/1010 a brownish orange, gravelly sandy silt, C1017, was revealed, probably consisting of slumped and eroded material from the aforementioned walls. This deposit was investigated by a 1x1m sondage in the centre of the trench, adjacent to the south side of wall C1009/1010. C1017 continued to a depth of up to 0.2m, and contained a number of irregular, angular stones, further suggesting that this was a slumped/erosion deposit from surrounding walls, rather than a potential surface beneath wall tumble C1020. The sondage also revealed that wall face C1009 continued to a depth of up to four courses, measuring 0.3m. A potential foundation deposit, C1021, and possible old ground surface, C1022, were revealed beneath C1017, and excavation was halted at this level.



Illus 9 Excavation results in Trench 1, Hume Castle grounds (Image by Heritage and Archaeological Research Practice)



Illus 10 Post excavation photo of Trench 1, Hume Castle grounds (© Brian Turnbull)

Removal of C1003 and 1004 at the south edge of the trench revealed a linear alignment of stones, C1008, running east/west and forming the northern face of a composite wall, which was abutted by an accumulation of stones, C1007, that had in all likelihood tumbled from the wall. The wall face showed evidence of three courses, and continued to a height of up to 0.25m, with a core consisting of a mix of stone and reddish orange sandy clay building material, C1005. The wall is most prominent running east/west in the south-east quadrant of the trench but an outer, or southern, wall face was not identified, and likely extends beyond the south edge of the trench. Composite building material C1005 did not extend as far to the west as the stone wall face and the wall itself appeared to disappear, or drop off to the west, at the south-west corner of the trench. A small semi-circular formation of the stone wall face suggested a possible termination to the wall, however, this area of the trench had also been affected by animal burrowing, disturbing the preservation of the wall at this location. A probable continuation of wall fill C1005 was found beneath the levels of animal disturbance, and continued beyond the western edge of the trench, with a width of 0.45m (Illus 9).

3.5.2 Discussion of Trench 1 results

Whilst the trench was excavated to target the internal division and the southern wall of the building, the uncovered remains indicated a more complex floor plan to the building. Rather than an internal division running north to south through a rectangular building, excavations revealed an outer (southern) wall to the structure that possibly terminated towards the western end of the trench, and as such the centre of the identified rectangular building. Whilst erosion may have caused the wall to be less intact, it is also possible that the lack of wall remains indicates an entranceway into the building. The excavation did not reveal a southern face to the wall, which is probably located to the south beyond the limits of the excavation. The uncovered remains however, suggest a significant composite wall surviving to a width of greater than 1m, with a stone (internal) face and a rubble and clay infill.

To the north (interior) of this wall, a significant amount of stone collapse was identified, along with two further stone-built walls. The remains of a possible north/south wall protruded from the eastern section of the trench, with the corner of a further building, or room, indicated by an 'L' shaped composite stone and clay wall in the

north-west corner of the trench. Neither of these two walls correspond with a north/south dividing wall that had been previously suggested, and whilst excavations did not fully reveal the extent of wall C1019 in the eastern section of the trench, it appears that the southern termination of this wall, or feature, corresponds to the southern limit of wall C1009/1010.

A built floor surface was not revealed on the interior of wall C1005/1008, but there is evidence of a possible old ground surface. There is a significant amount of tumble and slumped material that was not removed during excavations, however, it is possible that what was regarded as an internal space to a building in previous surveys may be some form of courtyard or walkway leading to a complex of smaller structures (that is, formed by walls C1009/1010 and 1019) within. In this manner, the southern wall of the building may be the remains of a more significant curtain wall and this complex of structures may have related to, or been in use, prior to the destruction of the castle in the 17th century.

The internal flagstone floor uncovered on the interior of the 'L' shaped wall in the north-west corner of the trench may indicate a higher status to this part of the building than buildings that would be constructed with a beaten earth floor, and the sondage excavated through the potential floor deposits also indicated a greater depth to the remains. A probable higher status for the building is further enhanced by the presence of window glass dating to the late 17th and early 18th centuries (see Sections 3.5.6 and 4.2), as well as its location adjacent on the northern side of a former trackway or access route leading up to the castle (see Sections 3.5.5 and 3.5.6). Together, these results suggest a probable direct association with the castle complex, likely forming an outbuilding, which also showed continued occupation after the destruction of the castle.

Whilst excavations at Trench 1 have revealed significant structural remains, there appears to be a greater complexity to their form than first thought, and it is difficult to fully ascertain their nature through the limited exposure. Further removal of slumped and collapsed materials, and expansion of the trench to the north and east may help to provide a better understanding of these remains, and

to determine whether they were associated with the earlier castle, or whether the remains were only in use during the early modern period.

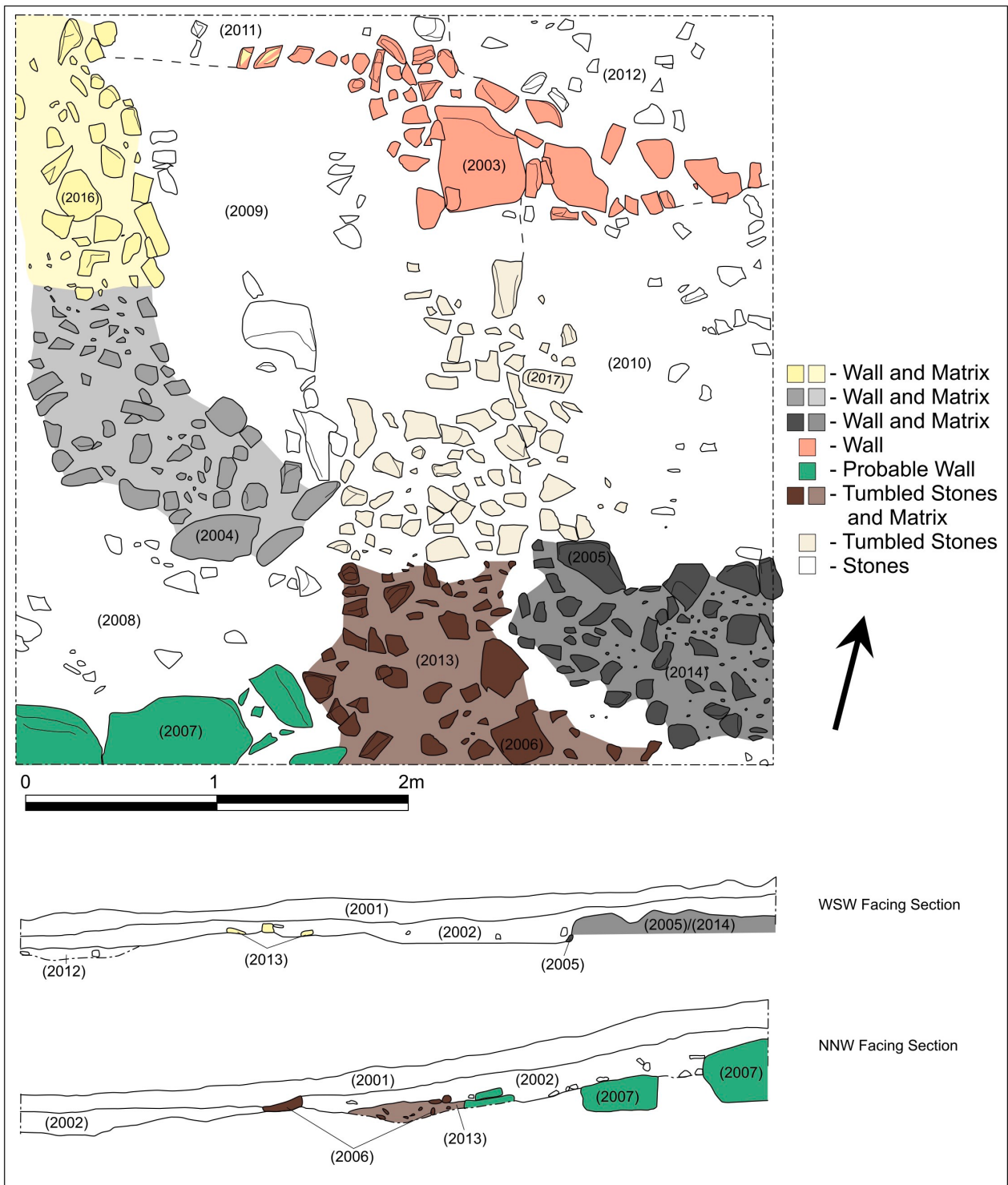
3.5.3 Excavation results in Trench 2

Trench 2 was located to investigate the possible remains of a building and associated enclosure identified during previous aerial surveys by HES, and identified as Building 5 during the field survey (Hill 2018). The identified building and enclosure are located at the base of the slope of the castle outcrop on its northern side, and opposite Lindores Cottage in the modern village.

Turf and topsoil were removed to reveal a dark, blackish brown sandy clay, C2002, that covered the entire trench, and continued to a depth of up to 0.1m. On the removal of this, further deposits and a series of stone features were identified throughout the trench, representing the walls associated with the probable building and enclosure (Illus 11 & 12). At the northern edge of the trench, wall C2003 was identified as running east/west, formed of at least two large boulders along with cobble-sized stones (*c* 15cm), and a pinkish-orange clay deposit that may have served as a mortar. This feature was partially surrounded by a sandy clay C2011 that was partially excavated to reveal a continuation of a single line of stones towards the north-west corner of the trench, probably representing a continuation of the wall, which also continued east beyond the edge of the trench.

At the west side of the trench, two linear arrangements of stones were identified (C2004 and 2016) and have been recorded separately, but probably represent different elements of the same wall. From near the western edge of the trench towards the south-east corner, the wall is curvilinear formed of cobble-sized stones, with clear facing stones on both the northern and southern sides of the wall; it also had a rubble core, filled in with tightly packed gravel. In the north-west corner of the trench it continues, but is more loosely formed with cobble-sized stones and a soil matrix.

At the south-east corner of the trench a further linear arrangement of stones, C2005, was identified as a probable wall running north-west for 1.2m, and up to 0.8m wide. The wall is probably a continuation of wall C2004, and is formed of



Illus 11 Excavation results in Trench 2, Hume Castle grounds (Image by Heritage and Archaeological Research Practice)



Illus 12 Post excavation photo of Trench 2, Hume Castle grounds (© Brian Turnbull)

facing stones on the north face with cobble-sized stones forming the bulk of the wall, surrounded by a tightly packed gravel and soil matrix, C2014. It was not possible during the excavations to fully determine whether walls C2005 and 2004 were the same feature, as areas of unexcavated stones C2006 and 2017 obscure the probable wall remains between C2004 and 2005, and in all likelihood are collapse or tumble from these walls.

Three deposits were identified between walls, C2004/2005, 2016, and 2003. A brown sandy clay C2009, orange brown sandy clay C2010, and orange brown sandy clay C2011 were similar in nature and probably represent the same deposit. Different contexts were ascribed to allow for spatial differentiation, with C2009 located between walls C2004/2016 and C2003/2017; C2011 located to the north of the western portion of wall C2003; and C2010 located between walls C2003 and 2005 to the east of wall C2017. A further dark brown sandy clay, C2012, was identified to the north of wall C2003 at its eastern end. This differentiation was ascribed to allow for potential internal spaces between the identified walls. These deposits were only partially excavated, and whilst the wall remains stand proud of them, no obvious floor deposits or surfaces were identified.

In the south-west corner of the trench, the removal of topsoil and C2002 revealed the remains of large boulders protruding from the southern section of the trench. The stones were the largest identified within the trench, up to 80cm long, and formed a linear arrangement running east/west. The stones form a possible wall, C2007, at the base of the slope of the castle outcrop and continued beyond the trench to the west, however, excavations only revealed a very small portion of this feature. To the north, between walls C2007 and 2004 a dark black-brown sandy clay C2008 was identified as a further deposit. The rich, humic nature of C2008 was very different to deposits C2009 to 2012 and probably represents older topsoil deposits, or garden soils exterior to the identified walls (Illus 11).

3.5.4 Discussion of Trench 2 results

The uncovered remains in Trench 2 largely correspond to the postulated remains identified in previous survey work. The structural remains suggest a probable wall C2003 that would correspond to the southern wall of the identified building, with walls C2016, 2004, and 2005 representing a potential enclosure wall appended to the south side of this building. No floor deposits were uncovered

associated with the walls, however the nature of the deposits identified, quantity of artefacts retrieved, and the depth of the walls suggest that any surfaces or floors are likely just below the uncovered and recorded deposits.

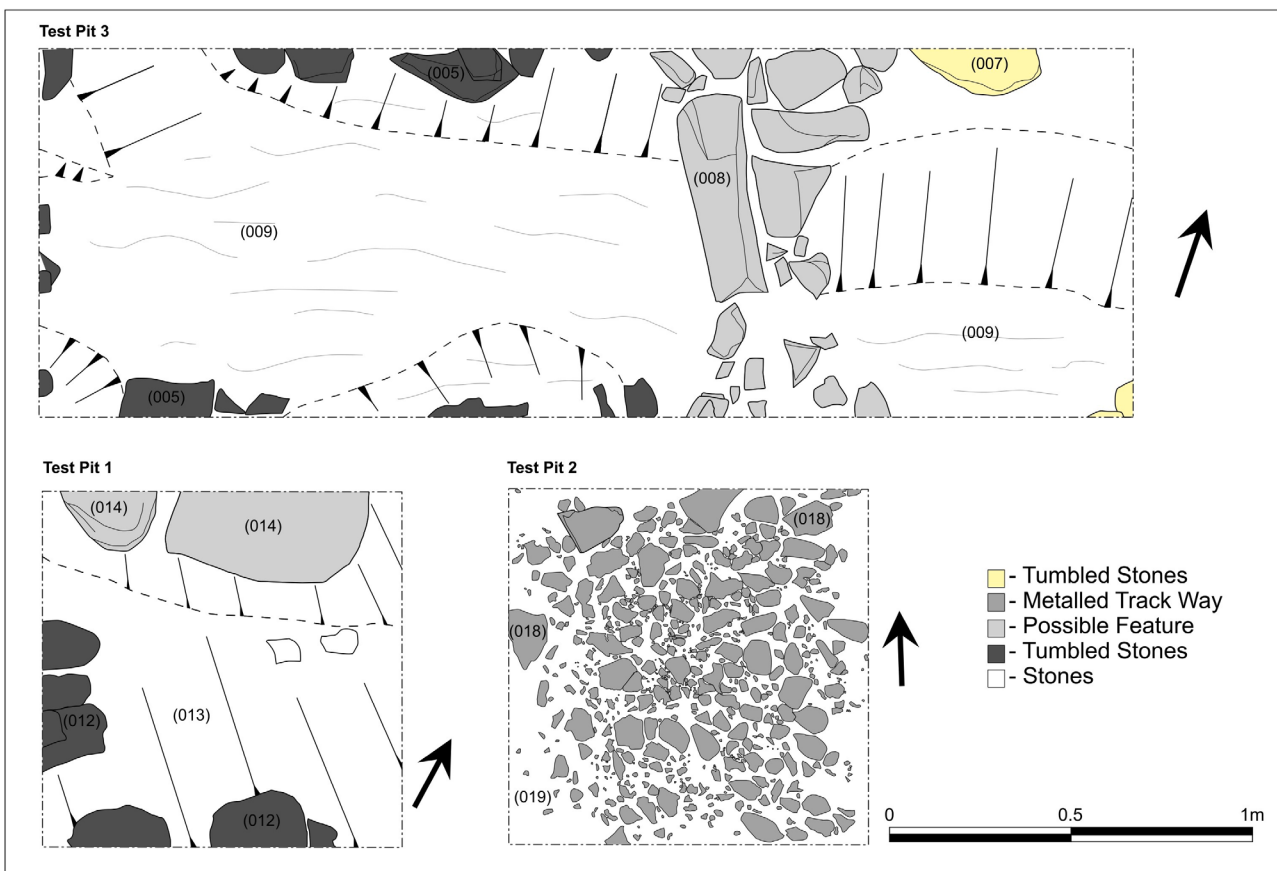
The nature of the walls was not fully determined during the excavation works, and a series of probable tumble deposits appear to be obscuring sections of walls C2004 and 2005. At the south-west corner of the trench the discovery of a series of large stones and boulders, C2007, suggest the possibility of a significant wall to the south of the identified building and possible enclosure. This wall sits at the base of a significant slope of the castle outcrop, and it is feasible that the wall was constructed to help retain material from tumbling downslope towards the building.

3.5.5 Excavation results in the test pits

Test Pit 1 was located to the west of the castle, and south of the entrance way into the castle grounds

from the car park, positioned adjacent to the modern path that leads visitors up to the castle. The test pit was located to investigate the deposits at this location in order to test the suitability and feasibility for potential future service works (electricity) leading up to the castle. Beneath topsoil and slopewash deposits, eroding bedrock, C013, was revealed and showed evidence of iron panning. The bedrock had a gradual slope downwards to the north-west, and had clear sections of eroding or broken off stones that were contained in the slopewash above (Illus 13).

To the south-west of Test Pit 1, Test Pit 2 was located between two east/west orientated bedrock outcrops, which formed a natural holloway. The test pit was positioned to investigate the potential for a former trackway leading up to the castle from the south-west. On removal of turf, topsoil, and a rich, mid-greyish brown clay silt, a layer of compacted cobbles and gravel, C018, was revealed. The deposit was surrounded by/compressed into a compacted brown sandy silt matrix/bedding deposit C019 and



Illus 13 Excavation results in test pits, Hume Castle grounds (Image by Heritage and Archaeological Research Practice)

probably represents the metalled surface of a former track located within the Holloway (Illus 13).

On the eastern side of the castle, Test Pit 3 was positioned to investigate the deposits and character of a bank (potentially part of the castle defences) identified in previous surveys. The test pit measured 3×1m and was orientated approximately north-east/south-west, with the natural slope of the ground running downslope from west to east. Removal of turf and topsoil revealed an extensive deposit of irregular stones, C005, surrounded by an orange brown sandy loam, C006, with the stones and soil deposit continuing to a depth of up to 0.21m. The stones were mostly concentrated in the western two-thirds of the test pit, and appeared to hit an abrupt end 2.2m from the western end of the excavation area. The stones showed no structural form, and appeared to be naturally tumbled stones from upslope to the west. This abrupt edge was characterised by a large boulder, and some smaller cobbles, C008, that appeared to form a linear arrangement running across the test pit in a north-west/south-east orientation. This alignment of stones was 0.4m wide and continued beyond the edge of the test pit to both the north-west and south-east. These stones were left in situ, potentially representing the remains of a small wall. To the east of this linear arrangement was a further collection of tumbled stones, C007. On removal of the deposits of tumbled stones, thin deposits of silty clays, C003 and 004, were found to overlie crumbly orange stone bedrock, C009, visibly eroding and having been laid down in east to west planes as identified in Test Pit 1. The bedrock was found to slope significantly downwards to both the east and north, indicating that the larger stones of C008 were located in a deeper area of C004 than any of the surrounding stones of C005 and 007, and may have settled naturally, having tumbled downslope from the west rather than being purposefully built (Illus 13).

3.5.6 Discussion of test pit results

Excavations in Test Pit 1 did not uncover any significant archaeological remains. The test pit revealed a bedrock outcropping only 30cm below ground surface at this part of the site, also indicating stone tumble from upslope to the east likely associated with erosion, however it cannot be ruled out that the tumbled stones may have been associated with the destruction of the castle and associated features.

The topography and bedrock outcropping, creating a natural holloway at the location of Test Pit 2, suggested the possibility of a trackway leading up to the south-west of the castle. This was confirmed by excavation following the discovery of metalled surface C018, and whilst only a small portion of the surface was uncovered in the test pit, it is likely that the track continues up the holloway and passes adjacent to the south of the structural remains in Trench 1. As the test pit was only 1×1m, it was not possible to identify the full dimensions of the trackway, or whether there was any evidence of drainage or cart ruts associated with it.

The large number of stones revealed in Test Pit 3 probably tumbled down the natural slope from the castle, tumbling west/east. The remains of a possible wall, C008, were recorded as running across the test pit north-west/south-east, these may correlate with the remains of a bank identified during the previous drone survey. The nature and topography of the exposed bedrock however, indicate that these stones likely came to naturally rest in a deeper hollow than those further upslope, potentially acting as a natural barrier to proceeding tumble, rather than having been formally built as a wall or boundary. These remains did not seem to indicate any evidence of castle defences, or associated boundaries, and are likely a reflection of the natural topography at this part of the site. The amount of tumbled stone located in this area however, suggests that the stone deposits may relate to the destruction phase of the castle.