

**ST INA'S CHURCH, LLANINA,  
CEREDIGION:  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING  
BRIEF 2014  
(NGR SN 4049 5982)**



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services  
For: Hook Mason Ltd



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**ST INA'S CHURCH, LLANINA,  
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
2014**

Gan / By

Charles Enright and Edward Davies

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**INVESTOR IN PEOPLE**  
**BUDDSODDWR MEWN POBL**

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf  
Neuadd y Sir, Stryd Caerfyrddin, Llandeilo, Sir  
Gaerfyrddin SA19 6AF  
Ffon: Ymholiadau Cyffredinol 01558 823121  
Adran Rheoli Treftadaeth 01558 823131  
Ffacs: 01558 823133  
Epost: [info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk)  
Gwefan: [www.archaeolegdyfed.org.uk](http://www.archaeolegdyfed.org.uk)

*Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited*  
*The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo,*  
*Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF*  
*Tel: General Enquiries 01558 823121*  
*Heritage Management Section 01558 823131*  
*Fax: 01558 823133*  
*Email: [info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk)*  
*Website: [www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk)*

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**ST INA'S CHURCH, LLANINA, CEREDIGION:  
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**ST INA'S CHURCH, LLANINA, CEREDIGION:  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**SUMMARY**

*DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Hook Mason Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the ground works associated with the construction of an extension and associated drainage works at St Ina's Church, Llanina, Ceredigion.*

*The church is located in very close proximity to the foreshore, on the point between Cai Bach and Newquay. The dedication to St Ina is most likely a Celtic dedication to a local saint. This Celtic dedication and the coastal location of the church and churchyard are suggestive of a possible early medieval foundation.*

*In 2009 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by DAT Archaeological Services within the area of the planned church extension and this revealed evidence of five inhumations and that articulated skeletal material was present at a minimum depth of 0.30m.*

*Following the evaluation findings and discussions with the archaeological advisor to the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) it was considered necessary to implement archaeological monitoring in the form of a watching brief during ground works for the extension, as these works could potentially expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains including burials. Although no earlier building structures were discovered during the evaluation there was considered potential for the survival of archaeological remains associated with the former early medieval chapelry that is recorded at this site.*

*The archaeological watching brief took place during the periods 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> August and the 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2014. During the watching brief evidence of inhumations was observed.*

*The top of at least six probable grave cuts were observed during excavation of the trench arch, but these were not further disturbed by the ground works and any human remains contained within were left untouched. Additional evidence of inhumations was found in the area of the building extension where at least 20 commingled individuals were located within dark brown silty clay containing pieces of slate, post-medieval pottery and building rubble. Additional commingled human bones were found within the harvest tank excavation; these bones appear to be within a dark layer of soil lying below the topsoil, possibly filling a shallow depression whose limits lie outside of the observed trench. No physical relationship between the burials in the two excavation trenches could be ascertained. It is possible these bones have been re-deposited after their original burials were disturbed; perhaps during the construction of the present church in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. This suggests they represent a phase of burial possibly associated with an earlier pre 19<sup>th</sup> century phase of church building.*

*No human remains were removed from the site and all recovered remains were interred elsewhere within the consecrated ground of the graveyard.*

*No archaeological evidence of any earlier structures was observed during this watching brief but this does not negate their potential to exist in the wider area of the development.*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Project Commission**

- 1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services Services were commissioned by Hook Mason Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works associated with the proposed construction of an extension to the existing church and associated drainage works at St Ina's Church, Llanina, Ceredigion.
- 1.1.2 The requirement for an archaeological watching brief was placed on the works following advice from the archaeological advisor to the Diocesan Advisory Committee as the proposed works have the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains associated with the church and earlier structures and burials.
- 1.1.3 The purpose of a watching brief, as laid down in the IFA S&G AWB is:
- To allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works.
  - To provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment.

### **1.2 Scope of Project**

- 1.2.1 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for a watching brief was prepared by DAT Archaeological Services prior to the commencement of works. The WSI was commissioned by Hook Mason Ltd and was drawn up following consultation with the archaeological advisor to the Diocesan Advisory Committee. The WSI outlined methodologies for:
- Provision of a written scheme of investigation to outline the methodology by which the watching brief should be undertaken.
  - To identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
  - To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
  - To appropriately investigate and record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground works.
  - To produce an archive and report of any results.

### **1.3 Report Outline**

- 1.3.1 This report provides a summary and discussion of the archaeological watching brief and its results.

## 1.4 Abbreviations

- 1.4.1 Sites recorded on the Regional Historic Environment Record<sup>1</sup> (HER) are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR). Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services – DAT-FS; Dyfed Archaeological Trust Heritage Management – DAT-HM; Scheduled Ancient Monument – SAM; Written Scheme of Investigation – WSI; RCAHMW – Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales

## 1.5 Illustrations

- 1.5.1 Printed map extracts are not necessarily produced to their original scale.

## 1.6 Timeline

- 1.6.1 The following timeline (Table 1) is used within this report to give date ranges for the various archaeological periods that may be mentioned within the text.

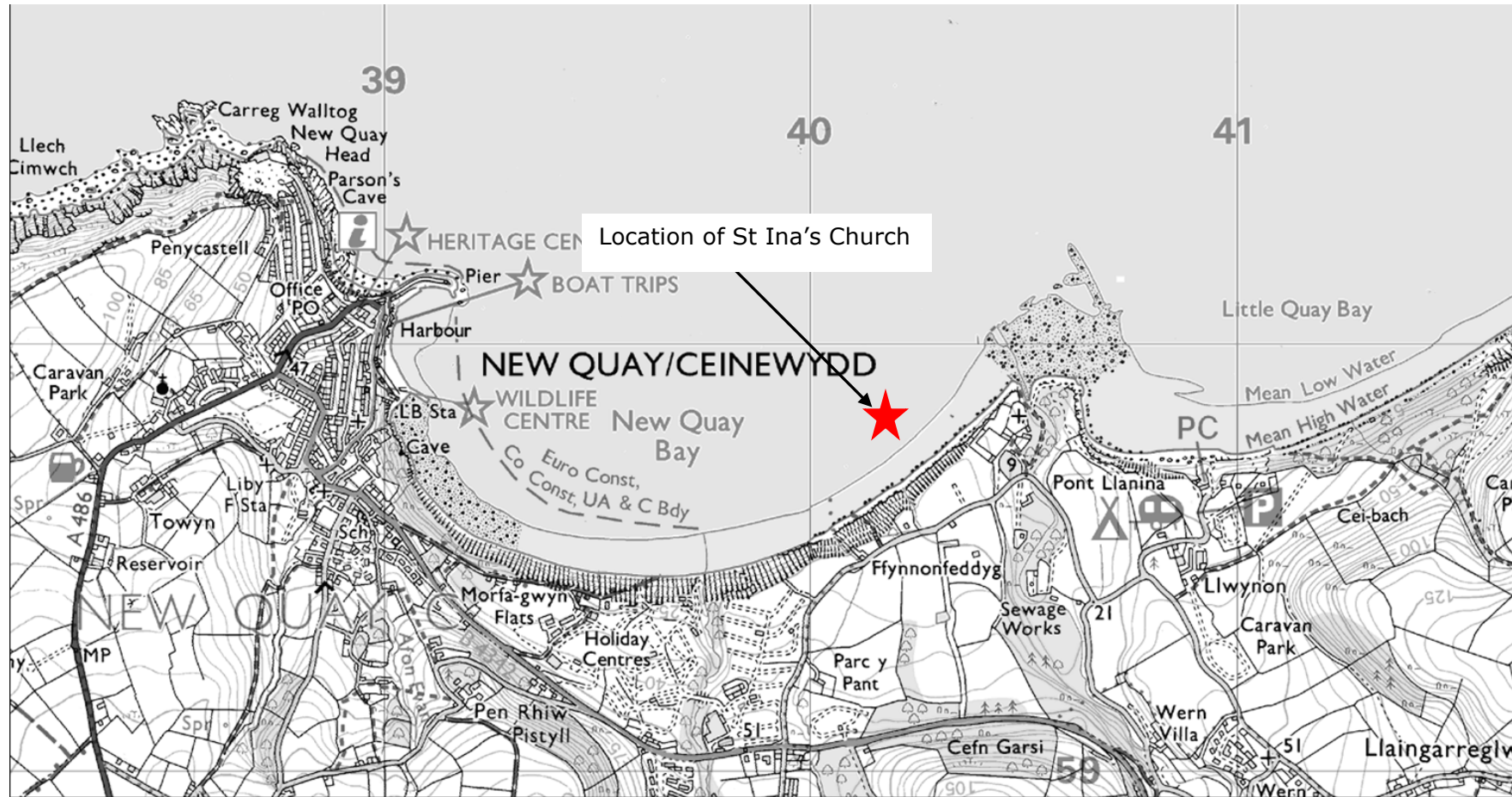
Period	Approximate date	
Palaeolithic –	c.450,000 – 10,000 BC	Prehistoric
Mesolithic –	c. 10,000 – 4400 BC	
Neolithic –	c.4400 – 2300 BC	
Bronze Age –	c.2300 – 700 BC	
Iron Age –	c.700 BC – AD 43	
Roman (Romano-British) Period –	AD 43 – c. AD 410	Historic
Post-Roman / Early Medieval Period –	c. AD 410 – AD 1086	
Medieval Period –	1086 – 1536	
Post-Medieval Period <sup>2</sup> –	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period –	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20 <sup>th</sup> century onwards	

**Table 1:** Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales.

<sup>1</sup> Held and managed by Dyfed Archaeological Trust, The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo SA19 6AF.

<sup>2</sup> The post-medieval and industrial periods are combined as the post-medieval period on the Regional Historic Environment Record as held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust

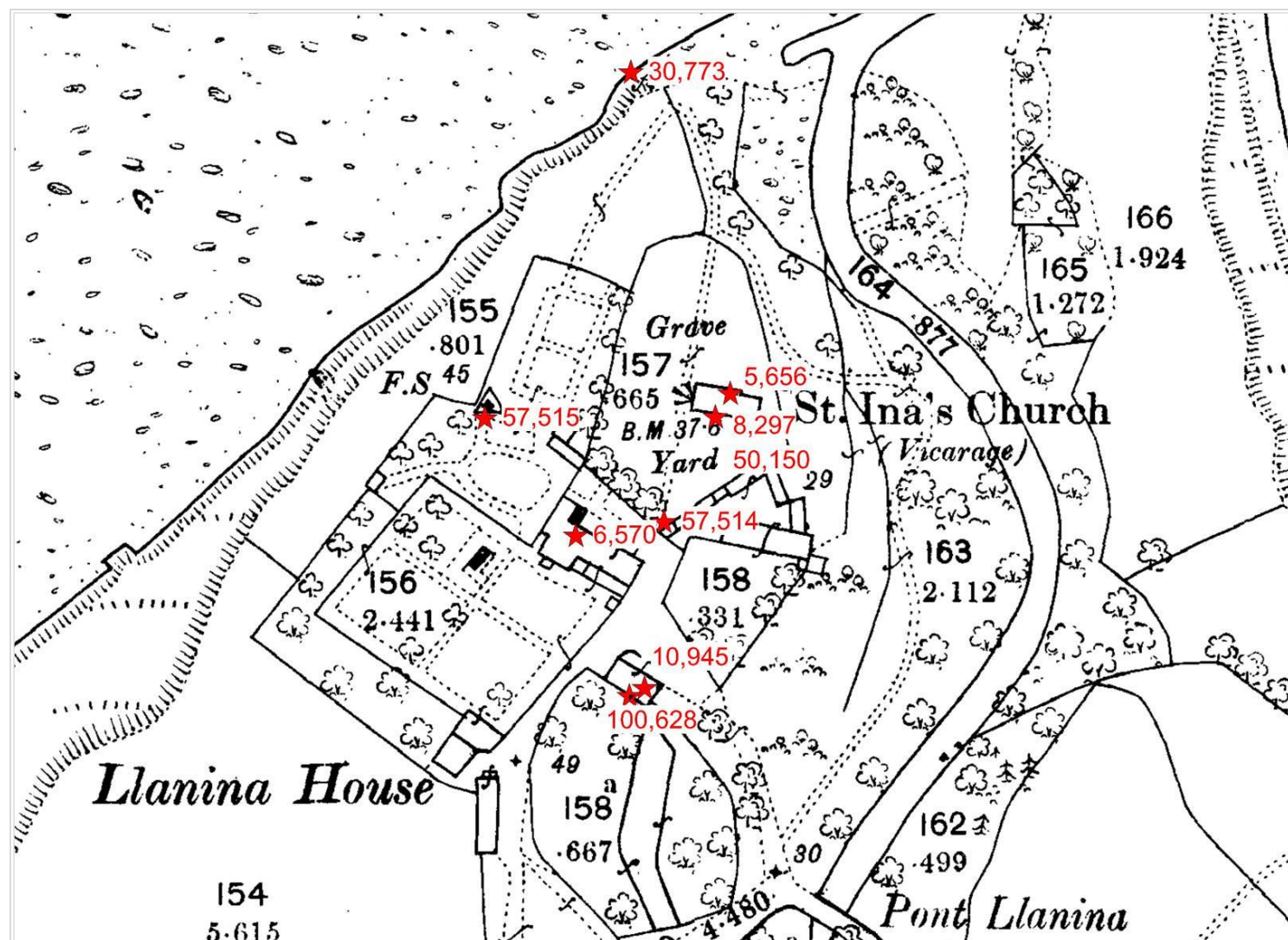




**Figure 1:** Site location map based on the Ordnance Survey 1:25, 000 scale map.

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 scale Explorer Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office,  
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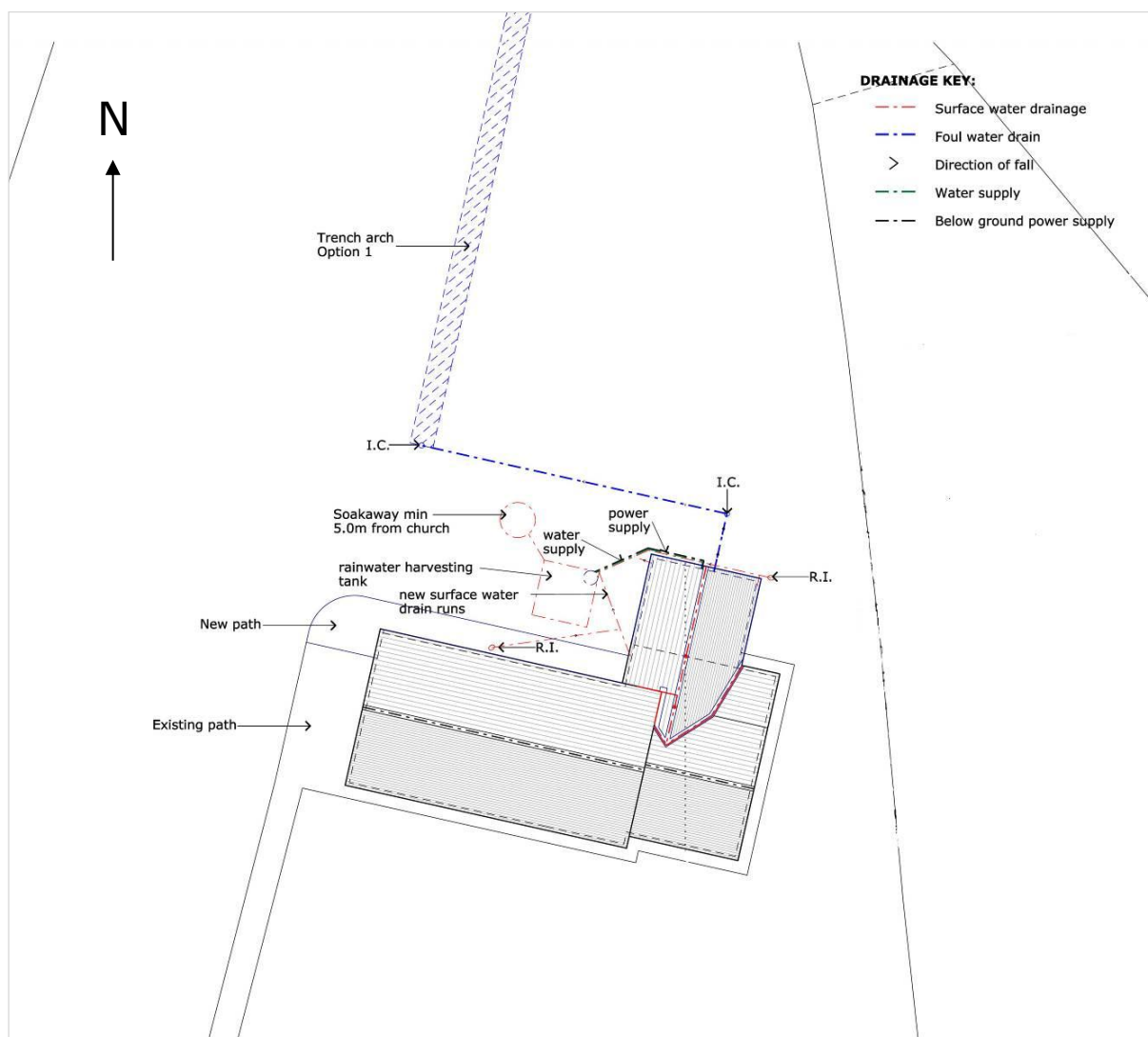


**Figure 2:** Extract of 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 1:10560 1906 Ordnance Survey Map showing locations of archaeological sites in close vicinity of St Ina's church. Site descriptions are listed in Table 2.

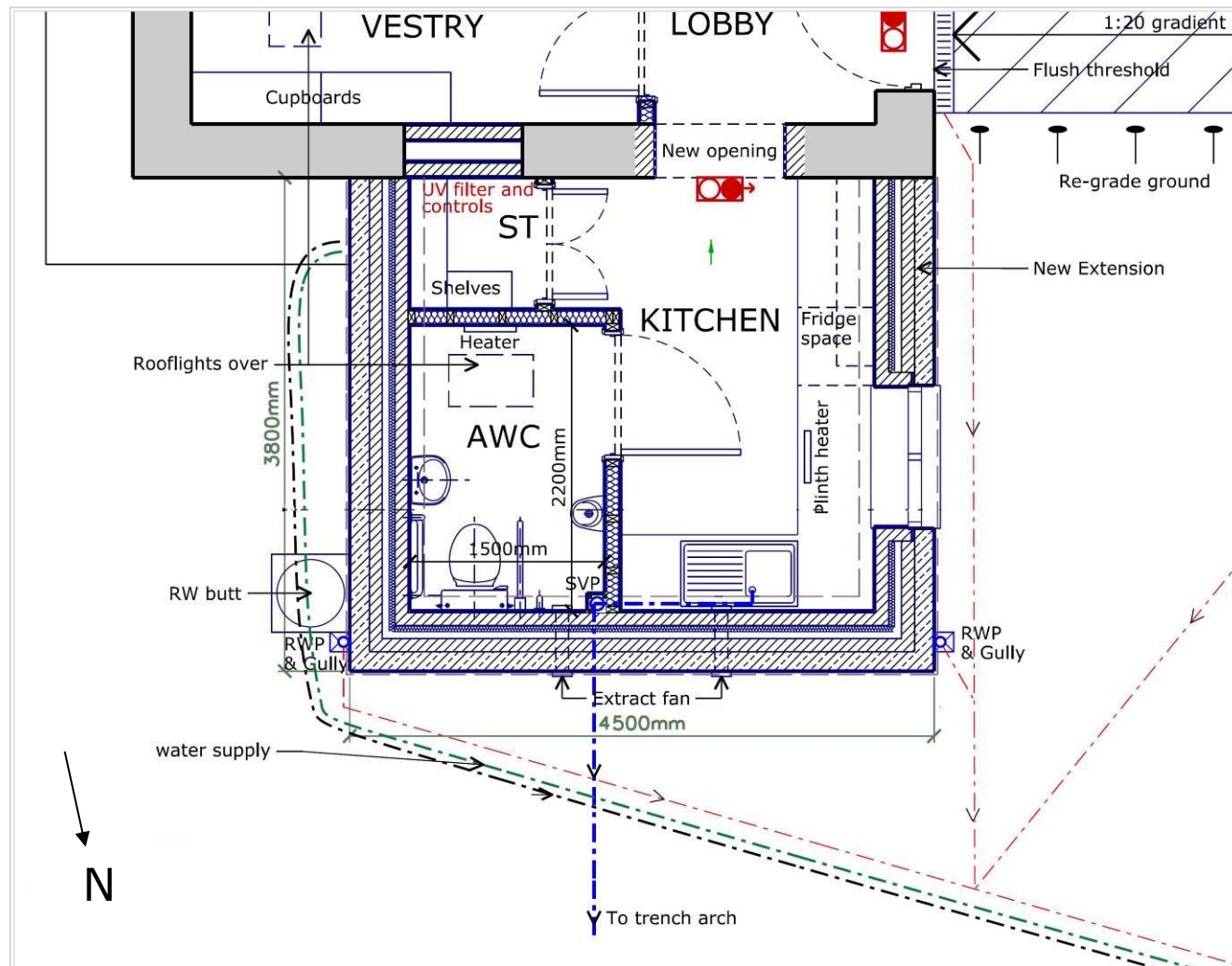
PRN	Site Name	Description	Grid Reference
5656	LLANINA PARISH CHURCH; ST INA'S	This C19 church is in the 'Celtic Style'- small and simple with a nave, chancel and bell turret. The nave and chancel are separated by a simple pointed arch. The windows are simple, pointed although the east corridor is a twin light lancet. The bell turret is capped by crenellated decoration and contains a simple bell. It was built in 1890 and restored in 1905 (church guide book). An earlier church or churches existed to seaward of the present structure. Apart from artifactual evidence within the present building there is no good, published documentary evidence for this known to the Trust, evidence is second hand and anecdotal (TCAS 1914, 54; 1915 41-42; church guide book; Cardigan's Coastal Heritage). It is suggested that the present church is certainly the third, possibly the seventh on the site. The archaeological evidence consists of material built to the fabric of the church (Coastal Heritage), a beam belonging to a rood screen, a font and a bell (church guide book), now stretches across the nave. The beam may well be the main beam supporting the top of a rood screen (although the church guide mentions an alternative foundation that it was derived from a wreck). The front is flat and has two raised mouldings top and bottom between which is a pattern of running vine leaves which dates the feature to the fifteenth century. The rear is chamfered at the base. There are six chamfered tenons for cross beams at the top and two tenons for uprights at the bottom near the ends. The font consists of a bowl stem and base. the bowl is octagonal at the top, circular at the base. The bell is apparently held for safety in the vestry (church guide book) and was not inspected. A gravestone was dredged up from the seabed and subsequently lost (Cambrian News, 17.XII 1973). GW 1995. <a href="#">Grade II Listed Building Ref: 10678</a>	SN4049459826
6570	LLANINA HOUSE	A house at Llannia is noted by William Rees (PRN 12881). The present house 6570 was built in stages from the C17 (RCAHM 1973). From the 1960's it was allowed to become ruinous (Lloyd 1986; RCAHM 1973)."a small old gentry house of great C18th charm, in its own coastal bay. Dark Oak panelling throughout.....the house came down in the 1970's. T Lloyd 1986 <a href="#">Grade II Listed Building Ref: 10680</a>	SN4045359790
8297	MEDIEVAL CHURCH OF ST INA'S	Site of medieval chapelry to Llanarth parish, which became a parish church during the post-medieval period. It was rebuilt c.1810, as post-medieval PRN 5656, on the same site, and in the same location as its predecessor, but nothing was retained from the earlier fabric. See possible early medieval predecessor PRN 50149 for site description, discussion and management recommendations. NDL 2004	SN40495982
10945	LLWYNON; LLWYN-ONN	Medieval settlement site of Llwynon, or Llwyn-onn. No trace of a medieval settlement remains above ground at this location. P Poucher 2011	SN40475975
30773	LLANINA	Three breakwaters. Breakwaters were not on the 1888 edition but on the 2nd (1905) edition	SN40475991

		they are in place, also in place in the 1964 map. A great deal of coastal erosion has taken place - the headland has been changed in shape dramatically with the western face of the headland being the most eroded. Since 1888 the river has changed course and now flows by the graveyard at St. Ina's Church into the sea - on the 1888 the river flows to the tip of the headland, this being different to the 2nd edition map which shows the river flowing past the graveyard straight to the sea - this being same as the 1964 map. The breakwaters are approx. 60m, 110m and 40m in length. The position of the north-easterly breakwater occupied by a concrete sea wall with a modern, iron breakwater running seaward from it. The two more south easterly have also apparently been destroyed. RJP/GW. 1995.	
50150	EARL MEDIEVAL CHURCH OF ST INA'S	Early medieval D site, ie. possible early medieval origins. Churchyard occupied by the medieval Llanina church PRN 8297, a medieval chapelry to Llanarth parish, which became a parish church during the post-medieval period. It was rebuilt c.1810, as post-medieval PRN 5656. It was probably a Welsh foundation, Ceredigion remaining in Welsh hands during most of the 12th and 13th centuries, and with Llanarth was a possession of St Davids Cathedral. Possible earlier origins may be suggested by its location at the mouth of the Afon Llethi, a mere 50m from the Irish Sea coast. The medium-large polygonal churchyard occupies a level, exposed area coastal plain. It was associated with a ?medieval settlement, Llwyn-onn (PRN 10945). NDL 2004	SN40495982
57514	LYCHGATE TO CHURCH OF ST. INA, LLANINA	Grade II listed lychgate is said to incorporate stones from previous Llanina Church, and looks as if it may have been substantially rebuilt or repaired in the C20. Included for group value with church. <a href="#">Grade II Listed Building Ref: 10679</a>	SN4047659793
57515	SUMMER HOUSE TO NORTH OF PLAS LLANINA	Grade II listed summer house situated to N of mansion and W of churchyard wall. Early C19 Gothic summerhouse, part of the garden buildings of Plas Llanina, a gentry house from the C16, owned by the Jones family to 1829 and then Longcroft family. Estate was left to dereliction from 1964 and house is (1992) under reconstruction. <a href="#">Grade II Listed Building Ref: 10681</a>	SN4043059821
100628	Y BWTHYN	A post medieval house on the site of a supposed medieval settlement (PRN 10945), consisting of a three bayed two storied stone structure with slate roof. P Poucher 2011 (from Report 2011/18, PRN 100612)	SN4046659748

**Table 2:** Known archaeological sites recorded on the regional HER and RCAHMW Coflein database within close vicinity of the site of St Ina's church. Locations are shown in Figure 2.



**Figure 3:** Plan of proposed church extension and associated drainage facilities. Plan supplied by client.



**Figure 4:** Detailed plan of proposed church extension. Plan supplied by client.



## **2. THE SITE**

### **2.1 Location**

- 2.1.1 St Ina's Church is located in Llanina, near New Quay, Ceredigion (Figure 1). To the east of the Church is the mouth of the river Llethi.
- 2.1.2 The Church comprises an enclosed graveyard that overlooks the sea to the north.
- 2.1.3 The local geology forms part of the Mynydd Bach Formation – the bedrock is interbedded sandstone and mudstone. The superficial deposits are glaciofluvial deposits of sand and gravel.
- 2.1.4 The proposed works are taking place within an area of the graveyard where no marked burials are visible. However, this does not negate their potential to exist, as observed in a previous watching brief (DAT report 2009/92).

### **2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background**

- 2.2.1 The following information has been extracted from the Historic environment Record (HER) held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust and the RCAHMS Coflein database.
- 2.2.2 The church is located in very close proximity to the foreshore, on a coastal spur overlooking Cardigan Bay at a height of c.12m OD between Cai Bach (east) and Newquay (west).
- 2.2.3 The dedication to St Ina is a most likely a Celtic dedication to a local saint rather than to King Ina of Wessex as has been traditionally accepted. This Celtic dedication may suggest that the site was an ecclesiastical centre established during the early medieval period between 410AD and 1066AD (Ludlow, 2004).
- 2.2.4 The coastal location of the church and churchyard (PRN 50150) is also suggestive of a possible early medieval foundation (Ludlow, 2004).
- 2.2.5 St Ina's Church is situated immediately north-north-east of the post-medieval house Plas Llanina (PRN 6570), formerly known as Llanina House. Approximately 75m to the south of St Ina's Church lies the possible location of the medieval settlement of Llwynon (PRN 10945), although no evidence of the settlement remains visible above ground (Figure 2, Table 2).
- 2.2.6 The present church (PRN 5656) is a grade II listed building (Ref 10678) and was constructed in the mid-19th century. It is constructed of local rubble stone in a 'Celtic Style'; small and simple with a nave, chancel and bell turret.
- 2.2.7 The form of the pre-nineteenth century church is unknown. The church was rebuilt around 1810, possibly on the same site and in the same location as its predecessor, but retaining nothing from the earlier fabric. The font is thirteenth century in date, and probably derives from an earlier church. Its arcaded decoration makes it one of the earliest arcaded fonts in Wales. A beam in the current west end of the nave may derive from a medieval rood screen.
- 2.2.8 The oldest legible marked burial in the graveyard is dated 1847. However, older burials may exist within the graveyard that have had their markers removed.



- 2.2.9 Approximately 75m to the south of St Ina's Church lies Llwynon, the site of a medieval settlement (PRN 10, 945). No evidence of the settlement remains above ground (Figure 2, Table 2).
- 2.2.10 The church was not a parish church during the medieval period, but a chapelry belonging to Llanarth parish in the Deanery of Sub-Aeron. By 1833 the church had become a parish church, with its living annexed to the vicarage of Llanarth.
- 2.2.11 In 2009 an archaeological evaluation was taken by DAT Archaeological Services within the area of the planned church extension and this revealed evidence of five intercutting but undated inhumations, supplying evidence of several phases of burial over an unknown period of time. Four of the graves were overlain by a layer of building debris, considered to be associated with the construction of the present day church in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### **3. WATCHING BRIEF METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Fieldwork Methodology**

- 3.1.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> August 2014, at the commencement of ground works for the footings of the church extension that had the potential to expose, damage or destroy underlying archaeological remains. The detailed scheme of works included raft foundations 60cm wide, up to 1m deep, 3.80m long on the east and west sides and 4.50m long on the northern and southern sides. Approximately 25cm of topsoil was removed from within the footprint area, prior to the excavation of the foundation trenches.
- 3.1.2 A second site visit was undertaken between the 25<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014 to observe ground work for rainwater and foul drainage leading from the proposed extension within the churchyard. Three excavations were observed during the watching brief between the 25<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> November; the trench arch, the fouling drain and the harvest tank.
- 3.1.3 The trench arch was excavated perpendicular to the church, extending 20m north across the church yard through an area containing no marked burials. The trench was 1m wide and excavated to a depth of 0.5m.
- 3.1.4 The fouling drain was excavated parallel to the church and entered the trench arch at its southern end. The trench was approximately 0.5m wide and 0.25m deep.
- 3.1.5 The harvest tank was excavated within an area approximately 3.0m x 3.0m and to a depth of approximately 1.0m.
- 3.1.6 A detailed plan of the proposed church extension and associated drainage facilities can be seen in Figure 3.
- 3.1.7 Recording of all archaeological features or deposits conformed to best current professional practice and was carried out in accordance with the Recording Manual<sup>3</sup> used by Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services.

#### **3.2 Post-Fieldwork Reporting and Archiving**

- 3.2.1 All data recovered during the fieldwork will be collated into a site archive structured in accordance with specifications in *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2007), and the procedures recommended by the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth.
- 3.2.2 The results of the fieldwork have been assessed in local, regional and wider contexts. The report includes a desk-based research element to ensure that the site is placed within its wider archaeological context.

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<sup>3</sup> Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services have adopted the Recording Manual developed by English Heritage Centre for Archaeology. A copy will be available on-site for inspection if required.

#### **4. RESULTS**

##### **4.1 Church extension works (Figure 4)**

###### **Site visits 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> August 2014**

- 4.1.1 A watching brief was undertaken during the topsoil strip in the area of the church extension (Photo 1) and after that the digging of the foundation trenches for the walls of the extension (Photo 2).



**Photo 1:** The area of the church extension after topsoil had been stripped away by machine. Photograph taken facing southwest.

- 4.1.2 Below the topsoil a layer of loose dark brown stony silty clay containing pieces of slate, post-medieval pottery and building rubble was exposed. Within this layer a large amount of disarticulated bone was revealed in an area measuring roughly 2.5m by 3.0m. Photo 3 shows the area of disarticulated bone after the removal of the topsoil. Upon investigation, this proved to be human bone, representing a number of individuals that would appear to have been re-interred into a large feature; possibly a pit or shallow depression of some sorts cut into the rubble layer (Photo 2).
- 4.1.3 As the excavation of the foundation trench necessitated some of the removal of the exposed human bones, these were excavated by hand (Photo 4) for re-burial elsewhere in the graveyard. Sufficient human remains were removed to represent at least 20 individuals, but due to their commingled nature, and the partial excavation of the pit, the remains may have represented many more.





**Left- Photo 2:**  
The excavation of  
the foundation  
trench for the  
walls of the  
church extension.  
Photo taken  
facing west.

**Right – Photo 3:**  
The spread of  
disarticulated  
human bone as it  
appeared after  
topsoil removal.  
1m scale







**Photo 4:** The disarticulated human remains being excavated by hand.

- 4.1.4 The human remains from the burial were removed to a depth to allow the excavation of the foundation trenches to proceed. The foundation trenches running around the perimeter of the area were dug to a depth of approximately 1.0m but the central area of the church extension remained at the depth reached after topsoil removal.
- 4.1.5 Within the foundation trench in the south-east corner of the extension area 2 grave cuts were revealed. These appeared to be 2 of the graves recorded by the previous archaeological evaluation; cuts [108] and [112] as recorded in 2009 (Shobbrook 2009). There was evidence that the western ends of both graves had been truncated by the large pit containing the disarticulated bone. Where the foundation trench disturbed the human remains within these 2 graves they were removed for reburial elsewhere in the graveyard.
- 4.1.6 No artefacts were recovered from any of the graves or the pit during their partial excavation.

## **4.2 Trench arch & foul water drain works (Figure 3)**

### **Site visits – 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

- 4.2.1 Excavation of the trench arch revealed a layer of topsoil very dark in colour, with an almost black appearance. The topsoil layer extended to a depth of c.0.5m where a notable contrast with much lighter subsoil was observed. The trench was excavated to the topsoil/subsoil interface which made it possible to identify a number of cut features. These features were roughly rectilinear in shape and appeared to be orientated east to west. Given these characteristics and their location it is plausible to suggest that they are grave cuts. In total at least six probable grave cuts were observed. Photo 5 shows an example of one of the probable grave cuts.

- 4.2.2 The depth of the trench arch (roughly 0.5m) was not at a sufficient depth to disturb any inhumations contained within the graves but a small number of human bone fragments (rib, distal right humerus and right proximal tibia fragments) were found within the topsoil. Presumably these had been moved around by a natural redistribution e.g. animals.



**Photo 5:** Example of probable grave cut revealed within the excavated trench arch, cutting the subsoil. Photo taken facing north. 1m scale

- 4.2.3 The foul water drain trench was excavated only to a shallow depth of c.0.25m and no archaeological features or finds were observed during its excavation.

### **4.3 Rainwater harvesting tank works (Figure 3)**

#### **Site visit –27<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

- 4.3.1 The watching brief continued during the machine excavation of the rainwater harvesting tank that involved excavating a trench approximately 2.5m square and 1.0m deep. During the excavation of the trench, below the topsoil, a notable loose dark brown silty clay layer (A) was observed at a depth of approximately 0.50m below the current ground surface at the southern end of the trench, rising to c.0.25m in the north (Photo 6). This layer was situated below the topsoil and shared similar characteristics with that of the fill of the probable grave cuts observed in the trench arch. There was no evidence to suggest that this deposit was within a cut feature but is probably more likely to be a spread of material, possibly filling a shallow depression.





**Photo 6:** North facing section of water tank trench showing the dark soil layer (A) that contained disarticulated human bone. Scale 1m

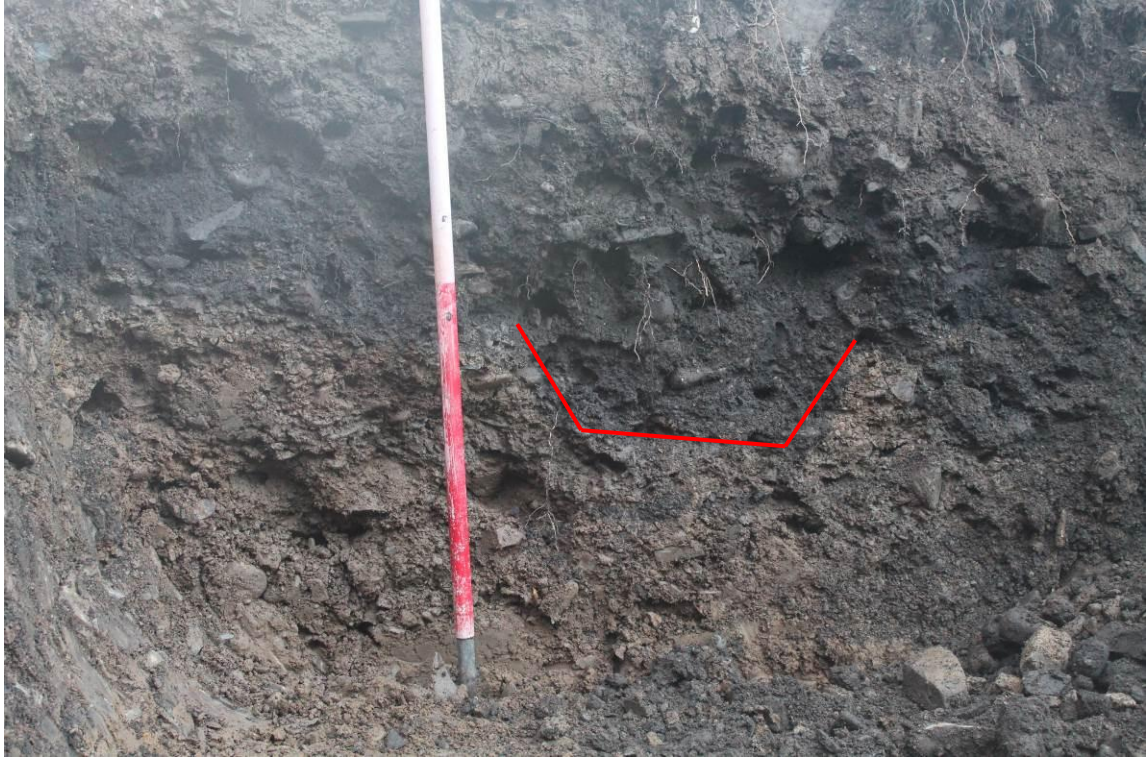
- 4.3.2 The spread of dark soil (A) was c.0.25m deep and was found to contain within it two large isolated deposits of disarticulated and commingled skeletal remains as well as smaller deposits of disarticulated bone fragments throughout.
- 4.3.3 The first deposit of human remains was found against the eastern edge of the trench and at a shallow depth of 0.25m. It consisted of mainly skulls and other upper body parts including arm bones and ribs. These appeared to be rather haphazardly placed, with one of the skulls upside down. Three relatively intact skulls were found and additional bone fragments from the frontal bone would suggest a minimum number of five individuals. Photo 7 shows one of the skulls prior to lifting; behind the skull are the disarticulated fragments of arm bones.



**Photo 7:** Skull surrounded by disarticulated and commingled bone fragments found within the dark soil layer (A).

- 4.3.4 The second largest deposit of human remains was found near the western edge of the trench at a depth of approximately 0.60m and contained mostly lower body skeletal remains including fragmented femora, tibiae and feet bones.
- 4.3.5 This dark soil layer (A) appeared to continue beyond the trench of the harvest tank so its extent was not ascertained.
- 4.3.6 One possible cut feature was observed in the west facing section of the trench (Photo 8). The cut appeared to extend from the dark layer of soil and then cuts into the natural subsoil. The dimensions of this potential cut are similar to that of the probable graves observed in the trench arch and in section it would appear to be also orientated east/west. This could be an original grave that predates the deposition of the layer of spread containing the commingled skeletal remains.





**Photo 8:** A possible grave cut (marked in red) observed in the west facing section. 1m scale

## **5. CONCLUSIONS**

- 5.1 As expected, this archaeological watching brief observed evidence of unmarked inhumations within the graveyard.
- 5.2 At least six probable grave cuts aligned east-west were exposed during excavation of the trench arch but the depth of excavations was insufficient to disturb any remains contained within and the integrity of the graves remained intact. These grave cuts had no grave markers and are most likely to be of pre mid-19<sup>th</sup> date; the date of the present church's construction.
- 5.3 Excavations for the church extension and harvest tank disturbed deposits of human skeletal material, containing the disarticulated and commingled remains of a number of individuals. Although the soils surrounding the disturbed human remains appeared similar in both trenches, the deposit within the church extension contained pieces of slate, post-medieval pottery and building rubble. No such artefacts were found in the harvest tank trench. Sufficient human remains were removed from the extension trench to suggest a minimum number of at least 20 individuals. Within the harvest tank trench the skeletal remains suggested at least five individuals present. Although further skeletal elements recovered from across both areas suggested the total number of individuals represented may be much higher.
- 5.4 Evidence would suggest that the disarticulated human remains recorded within the area for the building extension lie within a possible pit-like feature, with obvious signs of this truncating 2 individual grave cuts (cuts [108] and [112] as recorded in 2009 (Shobbrook 2009)). The full extents of the pit lay outside the limits of the extension area. The remains found within the harvest tank appear to lie within a spread of soil lying below the topsoil, possibly within a shallow depression. The remains of the individuals in both areas appear to have been buried in a rather haphazard fashion, suggesting these may be collections of re-deposited bone, perhaps originally from graves disturbed during the construction of the present church. This suggests they represent a phase of burial possibly associated with an earlier pre 19th century phase of church building.
- 5.5 Determining the full extents of the deposits containing human bone was beyond the scope of this watching brief and no physical relationship between the two areas could be determined as the trenches were not connected.
- 5.6 One possible cut feature was observed in the western section of the harvest tank extending downwards from layer (A) and cutting into the natural subsoil. The dimensions of this cut feature were similar to that of the probable graves observed in the trench arch and it is possible that it represents a former individual burial that predates the deposition of the spread of dark soil and human bone that appears to have disturbed its uppermost fill. However, this was the only possible cut feature observed; more observations would have increased confidence levels in suggesting it is a grave, so without further exploratory excavation the nature of the possible cut cannot be conclusively ascertained and unfortunately it was beyond the scope of this watching brief.
- 5.7 All archaeological bone fragments that were recovered during the watching brief were reinterred in the consecrated graveyard.
- 5.8 No evidence of earlier structures was identified during the course of the watching brief, but this does not negate the potential for archaeological remains to exist in the wider area.

## **6. SOURCES**

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### **Databases**

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RCAHMW Coflein Database <http://www.coflein.gov.uk/>

### **Cartographic**

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# **ST INA'S CHURCH, LLANINA, CEREDIGION: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

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**Rhagfyr 2014  
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Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by  
Charles Enright

Swydd / Position: Archaeologist DAT Archaeological Services

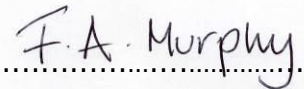
Llofnod / Signature .....  ..... Dyddiad / Date 16/12/14

Mae'r adroddiad hwn wedi ei gael yn gywir a derbyn sêl bendith  
This report has been checked and approved by

Fran Murphy

ar ran Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf.  
on behalf of Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Swydd / Position: Project Manager DAT Archaeological Services

Llofnod / Signature .....  ..... Dyddiad / Date 16/12/14

Yn unol â'n nôd i rododi gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel, croesawn unrhyw sylwadau sydd gennych ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn

As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any comments you may have on the content or presentation of this report



