

# **PROPOSED PRIMARY SCHOOL AT DREFACH, CEREDIGION: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT APPRAISAL NGR SN 5020 4576**



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services  
For: Ceredigion County Council.



**DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST**

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Gan / By

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# **PROPOSED PRIMARY SCHOOL AT DREFACH, CEREDIGION: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT APPRAISAL**

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## **PROPOSED PRIMARY SCHOOL AT DREFACH, CEREDIGION: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT APPRAISAL**

### **SUMMARY**

*DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Ceredigion County Council to prepare a Historic Environment Appraisal to provide information about the potential effects of a proposed primary school at Drefach, Ceredigion upon the historic environment. This report will be used by planners to make an informed decision on the proposal with regards to archaeology and the historic environment.*

*The proposed primary school is located on agricultural land lying immediately to the south of the A475 in the centre of Drefach, a village approximately 8km west-southwest of Lampeter. The school will be located at NGR SN 5020 4576.*

*There are 4 Listed Buildings and an additional 16 sites of archaeological interest recorded within 1km of the proposed school. Of these the most significant is Llanwenog church – a Grade I Listed Building of possible early medieval foundation which overlooks the development area.*

*A site walkover survey was conducted on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2015 in order to assess the physical and visual impacts of the development on the 20 recorded heritage sites. It was concluded that there would be no physical impacts on any known archaeology within the development area. There is a small possibility that prehistoric archaeology could be present at the site due to a Neolithic enclosure and findspot being located nearby. Most of the recorded archaeology in the area is protected from visual impact by local topography, tree cover and other buildings. Llanwenog church is the only significant cause for concern, and the walkover survey was able to establish that, despite its elevated position overlooking the development area, the visual impact upon this Grade I Listed Building would be negligible.*

*Due to the minimal risk of disrupting buried archaeology at the site it is recommended that no further archaeological mitigation needs to be taken during the construction phase of the school. The final decision for any further programme of archaeological works lies with Ceredigion County Council.*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Project Proposals and Commission**

1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Ceredigion County Council to prepare a Historic Environment Appraisal to provide more information about the potential effects upon the historic environment of a proposed primary school on land in Drefach, Ceredigion. The resulting report will enable the planners to make an informed decision on the proposal as regards to archaeological and historic environment issues.

1.1.2 The proposed school is located within a field of agricultural land lying immediately to the south of the A475 opposite the B4338 Cwrtnewydd road junction.

The proposed school site is located at NGR SN 5020 4576, extends for approximately 220 metres due south parallel to the east bank of Nant Cledlyn, and is approximately 150 metres wide at its greatest extent.

1.1.3 The appraisal has been produced in accordance with a generic brief supplied by the Planning Services section of Dyfed Archaeological Trust.

### **1.2 Scope of the Project**

1.2.1 The appraisal is presented as a fulfilment of a Written Scheme of Investigation (Appendix 1) working to a brief provided by the archaeological advisors to the planning authority (the Planning Services section of Dyfed Archaeological Trust). This appraisal is not a full desk-based assessment of the potential historic environment resource. Rather, it is a more rapid piece of work involving readily available information to assess the historic environment potential.

1.2.2 The results are intended to identify the extent and character of the known and potential archaeological resource, to assess the likely and potential impacts of the scheme on that resource and, if required, to outline a possible programme of further works to mitigate those impacts. The appraisal should be seen only as the first stage of the archaeological process and does not include the possibility that further archaeological input may be required prior to, or during, the proposed development.

1.2.3 The proposed school lies within the planning jurisdiction of Ceredigion County Council.

1.2.4 The historic environment appraisal was limited to the resources held in the regional Historic Environment Record (HER), a site visit and on-line resources.

1.2.5 Considering the potential size and nature of the proposed wind turbine a 1km radius search area was considered sufficient with which to evaluate visual effects on designated archaeological sites and elements of the historic environment (Scheduled Ancient Monuments, registered Historic Landscapes, registered Parks and Gardens, Grade I and II\* Listed Buildings). A 1km radius search area was also used to establish buried archaeological potential using information held on the Dyfed Historic Environment Record and the RCAHMW National Monuments Record.

### 1.3 Abbreviations

1.3.1 All sites recorded on the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR). Sites recorded on the National Monument Record (NMR) held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) are identified by their National Primary Record Number (NPRN). Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM). Altitude is expressed to Ordnance Datum (OD). References to cartographic and documentary evidence and published sources will be given in brackets throughout the text, with full details listed in the sources section at the end of the report.

### 1.4 Illustrations

1.4.1 Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale.

### 1.5 Timeline

1.5.1 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 – 4,000 BC  |             |
| Neolithic –                          | c.4,000 – 2,300 BC    |             |
| Bronze Age –                         | c.2,300 – 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>1</sup> –  | 1536 – 1750           |             |
| Industrial Period –                  | 1750 – 1899           |             |
| Modern –                             | 20th century onwards  |             |

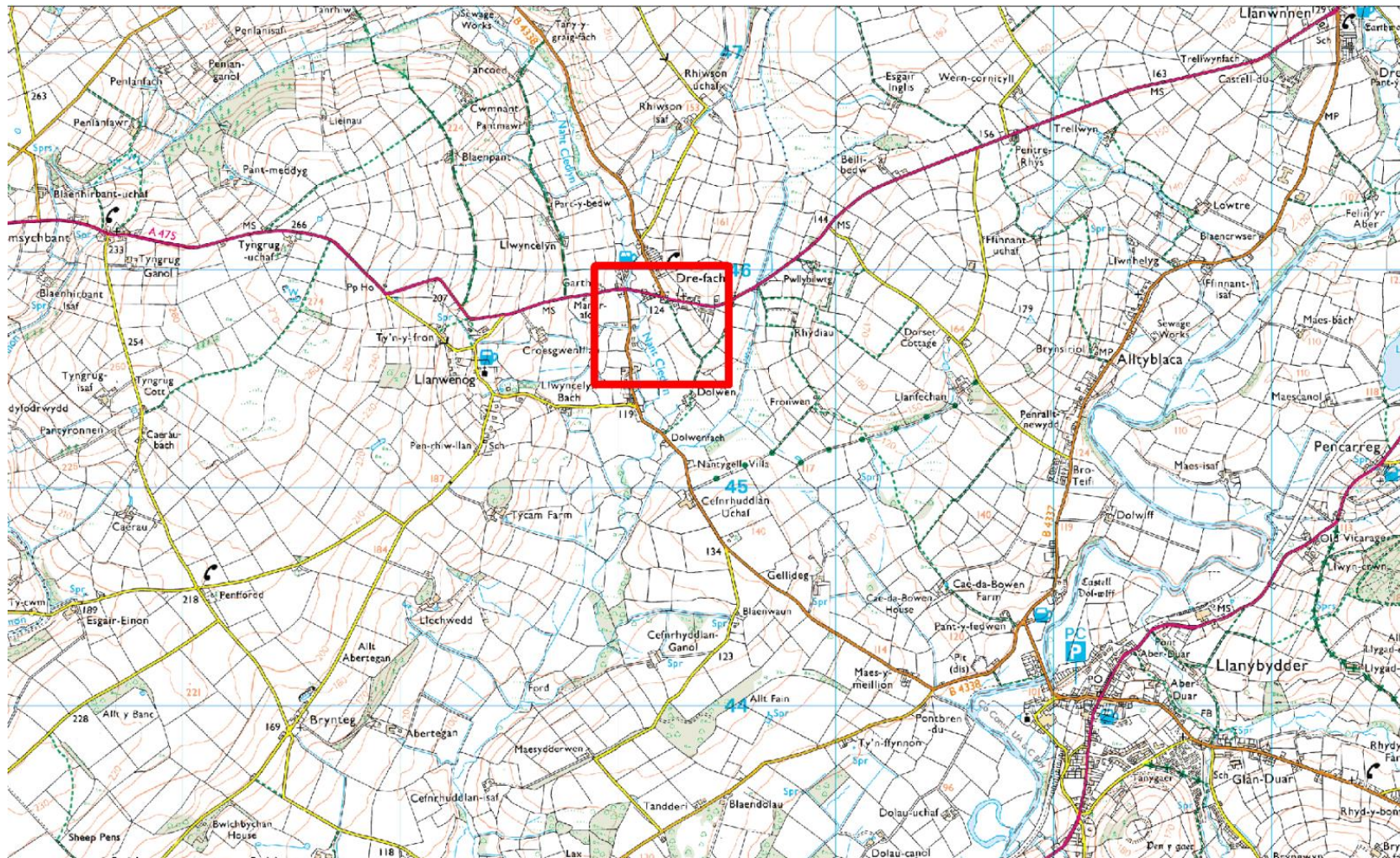
**Table 1:** Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales.

<sup>1</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

## **2. LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 2.1 The proposed school site lies on a gentle southwest facing slope overlooking the Nant Cledlyn brook a short distance to the west, itself a tributary of the River Teifi which it joins approximately 2.5km to the southwest. Drefach village is situated on the A475 8km west southwest of Lampeter, and 10km northeast of Llandysul.
- 2.2 The site lies at approximately 120m OD, at NGR SN 5020 4576 (Figure 1).
- 2.3 The site is currently used for sheep grazing and can be classified as improved pasture.

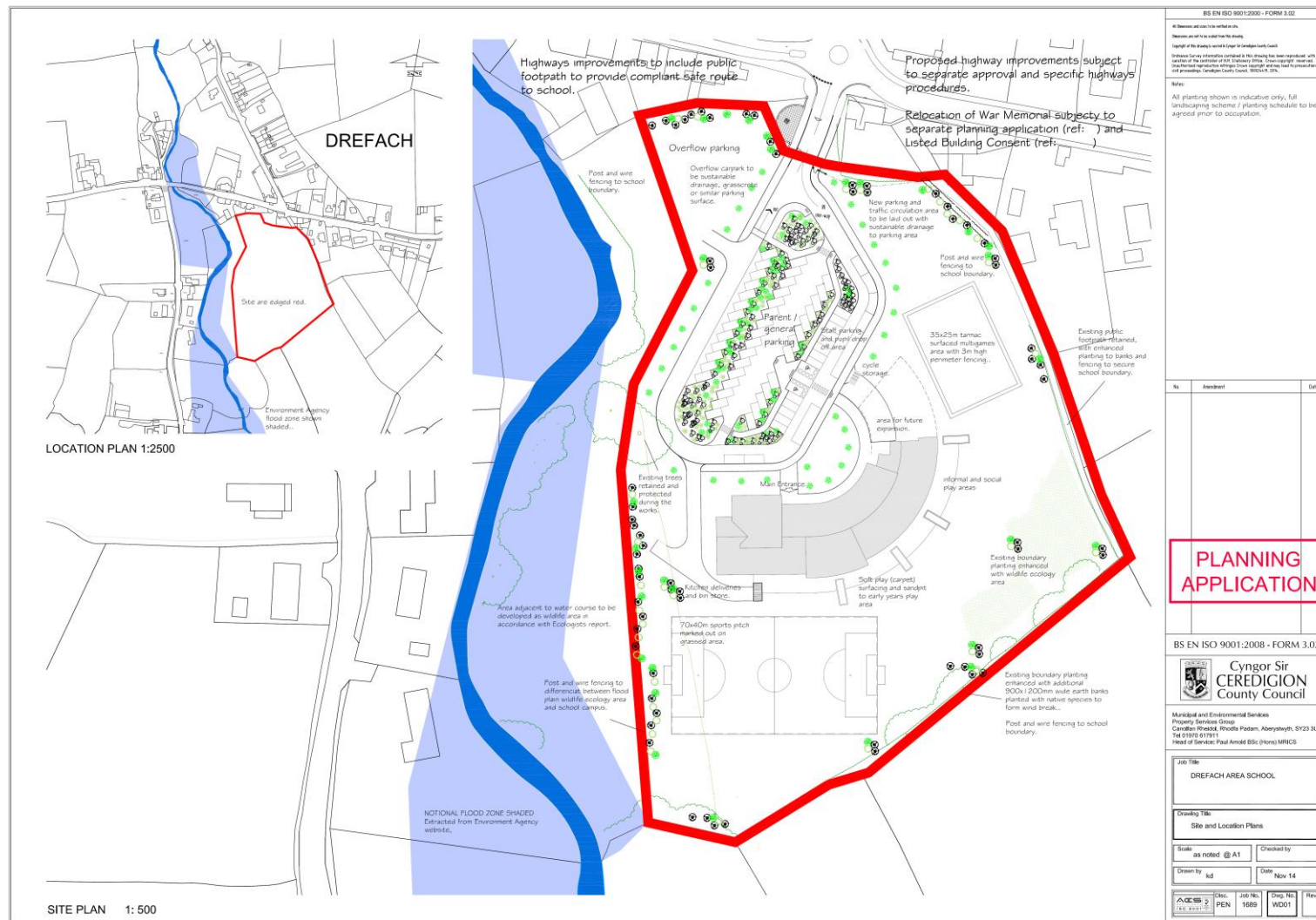




**Figure 1:** Location map based on the Ordnance Survey.

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**Figure 2:** Development plan showing the location of the proposed new school build (plan supplied by client).

### **3. METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1 This Historic Environment Appraisal followed the required methodology laid out in the written scheme of investigation, which was prepared in response to a generic brief prepared by DAT Planning Services (Appendix 1).

#### **Desk Top Study**

- 3.2 Computer-based and other resources within the regional HER were consulted in the preparation of this document. Sufficient information was consulted to inform comment on the goals of the assessment. These resources were used to assess and illustrate what the likely effects of the proposals upon the historic environment might be.
- 3.3 Designated historic environment assets (Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Historic Landscape Characterisation Areas, Historic Parks and Gardens) were identified within a 1km radius centred on the proposed school site. Grade I, II and II\* buildings within 1km were identified. The potential visual effects of the proposed new school on the settings of the designated sites within this area were then evaluated.
- 3.4 Non-designated archaeological and historic sites were identified within a 1km radius centred on the proposed school site. This area was considered sufficient to enable an assessment of the archaeological potential of the development area to be made.

#### **Site Walkover Survey**

- 3.5 A site visit was undertaken on the 2nd March 2015. The site could not be walked over in its entirety due to access restrictions but was viewed from the public footpath immediately inside the eastern boundary and from the war memorial in Drefach village. The visual impact on the wider area was also considered and suitable viewpoints sought out. Photographs were taken and field observations recorded in note form.

## **4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **4.1 The Historic Landscape**

- 4.1.1 The site of the proposed new school does not lie within the boundaries of any Historic Landscape Categorisation Area recorded on the Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales (Cadw 1998). The nearest is that of the Afon Teifi valley which lies approximately 10.5km to the southwest (HLC Reference HLW (D) 14).
- 4.1.2 No Conservation Areas lie within a 1km radius of the proposed school.
- 4.1.3 No registered Parks or Gardens lie within a 1km radius of the proposed school.

### **4.2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments**

- 4.2.1 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within a 1km radius of the proposed school.

### **4.3 Listed Buildings**

- 4.3.1 There is one Grade I, two Grade II, and one Grade II\* listed buildings within a 1km radius of the proposed school site. Their descriptions are listed below and Figure 3 shows their locations in relation to the proposed development.

#### **4.3.2 *Listed Building Ref: 9817 – St Gwenog’s Church***

Approximately 0.76km to the west of the development area is the Grade 1 listed building St. Gwenog’s Church in the village of Llanwenog. This is a medieval church of possible early-medieval origin. The church is on an east facing slope overlooking Drefach village at a height of approximately 30 metres above the development area. It is described thus in the Cadw Listed Building Database for Wales -

**History:** Medieval church, the only one dedicated to St Gwenog. Late C14 and late C15, the tower added after 1485 for Sir Rhys ap Thomas (d 1525) of Dinefwr and Carew, whose arms it bears. Repairs 1985 and 1993 by R. Clive-Powell. The interior has a C15 barrel roof exceptional in the county and much carved woodwork of high quality made between 1889 and 1924 by Colonel Herbert Davies-Evans of Highmead to designs by him and by his wife Mary. Col Davies-Evans was assisted by the vicar, the Rev John Morris, the curate the Rev. Henry Jones, and most notably, between 1914 and 1919, by an accomplished Belgian carver, Joseph Reubens of Bruges.

**Exterior:** Rubble stone with slate roofs, and (1993) coped gables. W tower, nave, chancel, SE chapel and NE organ chamber. Tower is of larger squared stones than rest of church. High battered plinth with rounded string-course, slight batter to main wall, moulded course under battlements. NE stair tower, raised higher with corbelled battlements. Gargoyle faces at corners of tower and stair tower. Plain C15 flat-headed 2-light bell-openings with hoods, blocked to W. Small plain lancets mid-height on W and S. Moulded W door with carved head keystone and hood with head stops. Segmental pointed arch within to c1900 double panelled doors. Above plinth is a shield with carved portcullis. Above is small late C15 3-light W window, flat-headed with hood and carved stops, one with Tudor rose. Plaque with arms of Sir Rhys ap Thomas within Garter, deep hood or frame with carved rose and face. Nave straight joints suggest that it predates tower. S side traces of roughcast and fine later C14 2-light window with cusped ogee heads and ogee quatrefoil. N side has two late

C19 copies of this window, made by Col Davies-Evans with the vicar and curate. SE chapel is separately roofed, blank W wall with 1913 plaque recording removal of Crucifixion carving now inside. S side has battered plinth, pointed doorway and 2-light window with pointed lights and C15 flat head. E end has massive SE corner stone and C15 single light, off centre. Chancel has SE stone rainwater spout, 1993. Late C15 3-light pointed E window, late Gothic tracery, and hood. N organ-chamber has mid C19 stone Y-tracery to the N window.

**Interior:** Tower: Rough stone pointed vault, flattened arch to stair door N. Medieval stoup S, reset 1922. Oak inner doorcase, c1900, with big ribbed coved top and paired octagonal side shafts.

Tower arch is cemented, 4 medieval small carved heads reset in sides. Five broad slate steps down into nave. Nave and chancel: Exceptional single late C15 oak plaster-panelled barrel roof in 72 squares, with deep moulded cornice. Plastered walls. Two late C17 or C18 black-letter panels on N wall, the Commandments and part of Creed in Welsh. A crest of Lloyd of Coedlannau said to have been found at the same time seems to have gone. Two broad pointed arches from nave and chancel to SE chapel. N organ chamber with roof panelled to match C15 roof. SE Chapel also has matching roof, probably late C19.

Fittings: Exceptional C12 or C13 font with 12 crudely carved faces right around broad bowl. Reredos, panelling, altar and rails, 1959 sub-classical, probably by A.D.R. Caroe. In the reredos, stone small Crucifixion oval panel, possibly C14, similar to roundel at Llanwnen. Very large and fine 5-bay screen with complex tracery and vaulting, deep coved cornice and sunburst cresting, carved by Reubens and Col. Davies-Evans, dated 1915. Pulpit carved by Col. Davies Evans, hexagonal with open pointed traceried panels and quatrefoil short legs. Lectern, Welsh dragon squatting on a large coronet, dated 1922. Handsome pews made by the estate carpenter, William Evans, Bryngwenog, with open backs and some 34 elaborately carved bench-ends, designed by Mary Davies-Evans and carved 1914-19 by Reubens.

Monuments: Nave N: Col Herbert Davies-Evans (1842-1928). Nave S: Herbert Evans of Highmead (d1787), and Anne Evans (d1807), marble plaque with sarcophagus 1807 by Foster & Co of Bristol. Lady Anne Griffies Williams, c1800, with finely carved Adamesque urn. Chancel S: Thomas Bowen of Waunifor, (d1805) and his wife (d1829), black and white marble framed plaque, by Foster & Co of Bristol.

Stained glass: W 3-light made by Col Davies-Evans at Highmead c1900. SE chapel S 2-light late C19 Baptism.

**Reason:** Listed as the most complete medieval church in Cardiganshire, with fine late C15 roof and tower.

#### 4.3.3 **Listed Building Ref: 18370 - Milestone**

The Grade II milestone alongside the A475 lies approximately 0.45km to the west of the proposed school site. It is described thus in the Cadw Listed Building Database for Wales –

**History:** Early C19 milestone on the Cardigan to Lampeter road.

**Exterior:** Free-standing white-painted milestone with slightly curved top approximately 1m high by 40cm wide by 20cm deep. Inscription reads:

TO CARDIGAN 24 MILES Bench-mark below inscription.

**Reason:** Listed for its historic interest as a survival of early road transport history of the region.

#### 4.3.4 **Listed Building Ref: 18371 – War Memorial**

The closest listed building to the proposed school site is a Grade II war memorial which is immediately adjacent to the site. It is described thus in the Cadw Listed Building Database for Wales -

**History:** War memorial of c1922 probably made by E. Jones of Llanybydder. Similar to those at Aberbanc, Cribyn, Ceredigion and Pencader Carmarthenshire

**Exterior:** White marble statue of soldier at ease with rifle by right side and left leg slightly raised on cannon. Standing on bi-colour granite tall pedestal. Grey plinth, two-step with moulded top and affixed pink granite 1939-45 memorial plaques. Battered pink granite shaft with inscription to front and names to sides and big grey granite corniced cap chamfered back to square plinth for statue.

**Reason:** Listed for special historical interest.

#### 4.3.5 **Listed Building Ref: 18374 - Rhiwson Uchaf house-and-byre**

0.99km north northeast of the proposed site is the Grade II\* listed Rhiwson Ichaf house and byre. It is described thus in the Cadw Listed Building Database for Wales -

**History:** Mid to later C17 long-house with end-entry to house from within byre attached to S. Marked on 184? Tithe map.

**Exterior:** Whitewashed rubble stone with corrugated iron roofs over thatch, and roughcast stone end stacks, larger to S. Two-storey, long farmhouse range to N with irregular fenestration and no external door. Lower byre downhill to S. W front to field has first floor small-paned 16-pane fixed window to left, and c1900 4-pane horned sash with slate sill to right. Possible blocked window between. Ground floor has two large windows, c1900, missing sashes with slate sills and narrow centre c1900 4-pane horned sash. Oak lintels. E front, to yard, has small fireplace window to left, two first floor c1900 4-pane horned sashes to first floor centre and right. Ground floor dairy window 2-light unglazed to ground floor right of centre. Oak lintels, slate sills. Lean-to on N end with stone wall on W, the rest timber with zinc roof.

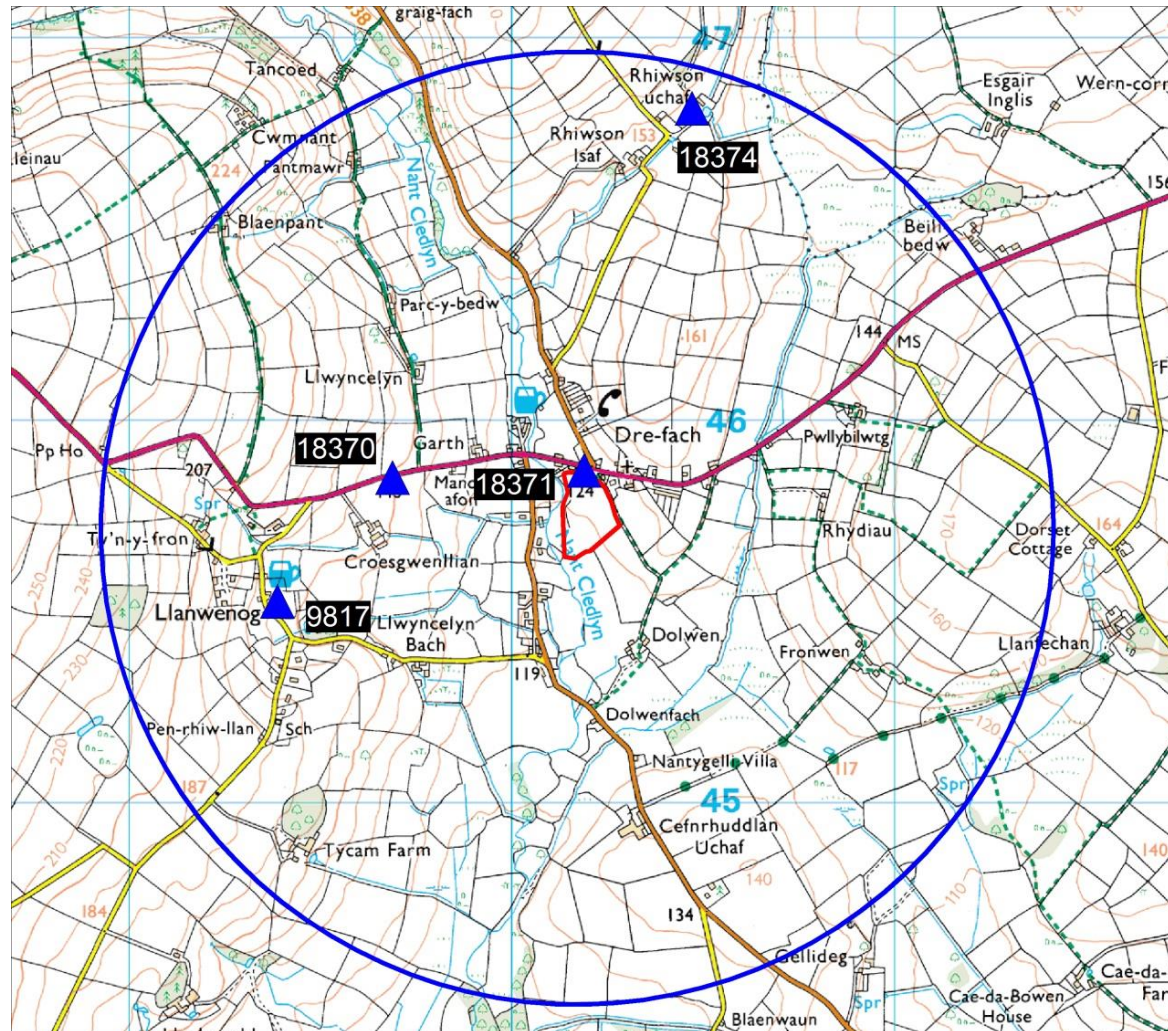
Byre has through passage adjoining S end of house, 4 doors with timber lintels to E, one to through passage only on W. S end loft window, blocked door below. Entry to house from through passage, ledged door in oak frame.

**Interior:** Three room plan. Kitchen downhill, centre stair with later C19 partitioning to E dairy, and upper end parlour. 4 heavy chamfered floor beams with chamfered oak joists and broad oak floorboards above. Kitchen has very broad fireplace with approx. 4m heavy oak lintel. Stair has short run against W wall and return to landing. Simple newels and stick balusters. Dairy has slate shallow trays on whitewashed rubble supports. Parlour has C19 partition and iron grate to fireplace. Two small cupboard recesses in N wall. Walls have extensive traces of freehand wall-paintings in black and yellow line, probably C17. Main beam has forked E end. Loft has 4 fine oak scarfed cruck trusses with double purlins, also oak, and closely-laid stick rafters carrying gorse underthatch. Two partitions with broad vertical boarding. N end fireplace.

Byre has four oak soffit pegged scarfed cruck trusses with high pegged collars and two heavy oak beams for former loft floor. Roof has gorse underthatch on closely-laid vertical sticks.

**Reason:** Listed as one of the very few long-house survivals in Cardiganshire, with scarfed trusses throughout; the survival of painted decoration in the parlour is extremely rare.





**Figure 3:** Map showing listed buildings within a 1km radius of the proposed school.

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#### **4.4 Known Archaeological Remains**

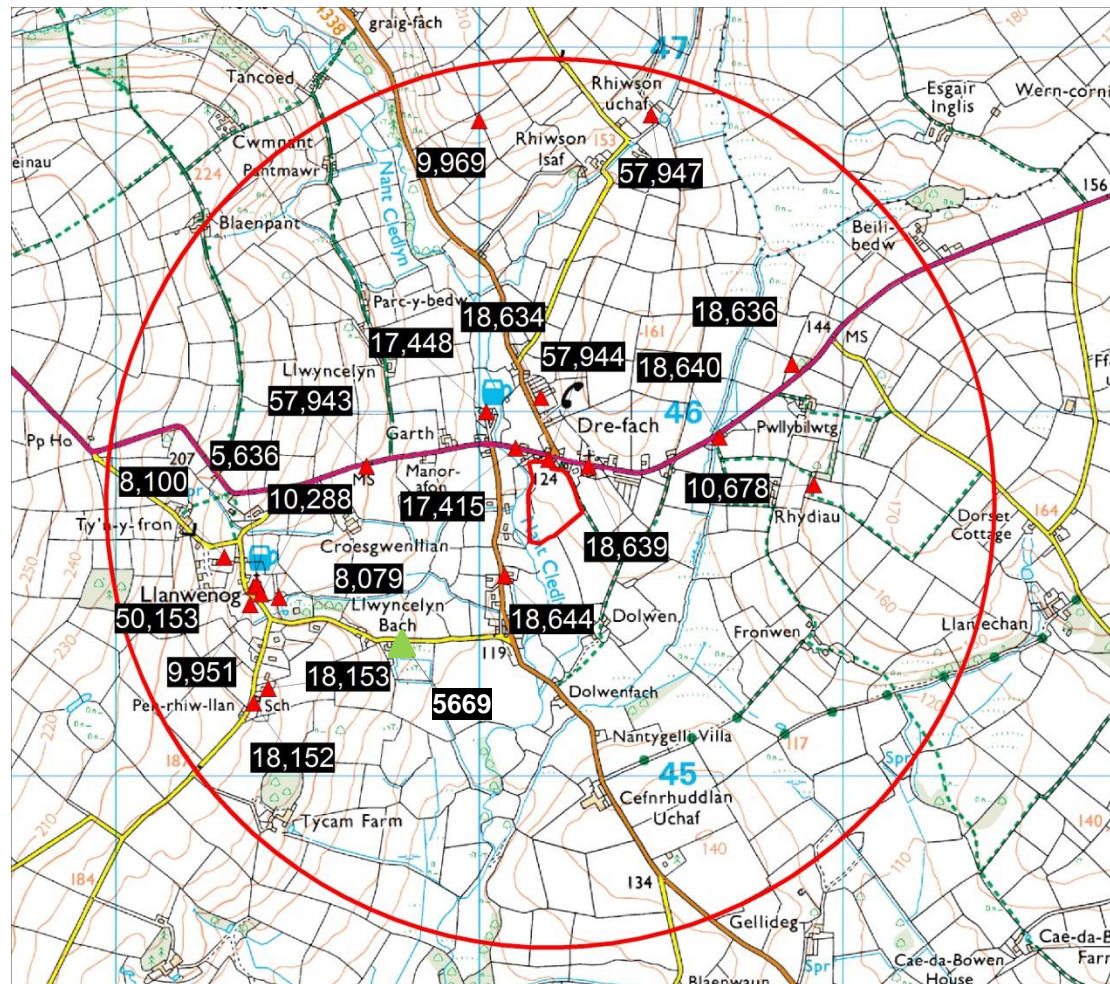
- 4.4.1 Table 2 lists the designated and non-designated archaeological and historic assets that are recorded in the regional HER within a 1km radius of the proposed school site. The regional HER records twenty sites of archaeological interest. The distribution of these sites is shown in Figure 4.
- 4.4.2 Of the 20 sites recorded in the regional HER 3 are in close proximity to the proposed school site - the chapel, the war memorial and the bridge (PRNs 18639, 57944 and 17415 respectively). All are within 100 metres of the site.
- 4.4.3 The war memorial (PRN 57944) has already been described in the previous section on listed buildings. The chapel, "Capel Bethel" (PRN 18639), and bridge (PRN 17415) were both built during the post-medieval period but no other details are forthcoming.
- 4.4.4 The other HER sites which could potentially be visually impacted upon by the development are the cluster of sites around Llanwenog village (PRNs 5636, 8079, 8100, 9951, 10288, 18152, 18153, 50153) and the factory (PRN 18644).
- 4.4.5 PRNs 5636, 8100, 10288 and 50153 all relate to the medieval church. In addition 8079 refers to the supposed site of a well with medicinal properties, the exact location of which is now uncertain.
- 4.4.6 PRNs 18152 and 18153 refer to a school and sand pit, respectively, both post-medieval in terms of period. No other details are available.
- 4.4.7 It is interesting to read the notes in Table 2 below regarding Llangwenog Church. It is apparent that the site may have been of some significance from the early medieval period onwards judging from the suggestion that it might have been the centre-piece of a group of chapels and a focal point for pilgrims. The church is dedicated to St Gwenog – an early Christian female cleric about whom virtually nothing is known. As such it is unique.
- 4.4.8 The Llanwenog cluster is on a slope overlooking the proposed site. The factory is at a similar elevation to the proposed school but is not far from the southwestern boundary of the development area.

| PRN   | Name   | Period                     | Summary   | NGR               | Distance from school |
|-------|--|----------------------------|---|-------------------|----------------------|
| 5636  | LLANWENOG PARISH CHURCH;<br>ST GWENOG'S;<br>LLANVEYNOG | Post-Medieval,<br>Medieval | Medieval parish church, large. Consists of a chancel/nave without structural division, a south chapel and a west tower. The organ chamber is early 20th century. See early medieval predecessor PRN 50153 for site description, discussion and management recommendations. NDL 2004<br><a href="#">Listed Building Ref 9817</a>   | SN 49389<br>45526 | 0.73km               |
| 8079  | FFYNON WENOG   | Medieval                   | Tradition, recorded by Francis Jones (1954), of a curative well located near Llanwenog church, the waters of which were especially beneficial to children with weak backs. The site is not recorded on historic Ordnance Survey maps or modern mapping. A record from 1931 says that the well is now covered and later, in 1975, that now only a small marsh is located at the map reference (M.Ings, from various sources, 2011) | SN 4945 4549      | 0.7km                |
| 8100  | ST GWENOG'S CHURCH                                     | Medieval                   |   | SN 493 456        | 0.73km               |
| 9951  | TY'N-Y-PORTH   | Prehistoric                | Ty'n Y Porth is a much-reduced circular earthwork enclosure situated on a moderate east-facing slope at 160m above sea level. It is clearly visible on aerial photographs of the 1950s as a circular earthwork.   | SN 4937 4547      | 0.79km               |
| 9969  | TROED-RHIW-SION  | Neolithic                  | A coarsely flaked flint axe with a polished blade and sides. It has a pointed oval section, a thin butt and measures 10.8cm x 4cm x 2cm thick. NAP 2004.  | SN 500 468        | 0.94km               |
| 10288 | ST GWENOG DEDICATION                                   | Unknown                    | Record deleted during Cadw Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Sites Project PRN 44753. Record now merged with PRN 50153. NDL 2004  | SN 494 455        | 0.73km               |
| 10678 | FFYNNON RHYDDERCH                                      | Medieval                   | Holy Well.  | SN 5092 4580      | 0.63km               |
| 17415 | BRIDGE   | Post-Medieval              | Bridge.   | SN 501 459        | 0.09km               |

|       |  |                |   |              |        |
|-------|--|----------------|---|--------------|--------|
| 17448 | DOLWINION MILL   | Post-Medieval  | Recorded on all maps back to 1895 as a corn mill but appears in records as a fulling mill.  | SN 5002 4600 | 0.19km |
| 18152 | SCHOOL, LLANWENOG                                      | Post-Medieval  | School.   | SN 4938 4520 | 0.87km |
| 18153 | SAND PIT   | Post-Medieval  | Sand pit.   | SN 4942 4524 | 0.82km |
| 18634 | BLACKSMITH   | Post-Medieval  | Blacksmiths workshop.   | SN 5017 4604 | 0.17km |
| 18636 | QUARRY   | Post-Medieval  | Quarry.   | SN 5086 4613 | 0.68km |
| 18639 | CHAPEL   | Post-Medieval  | Chapel.   | SN 5030 4585 | 0.08km |
| 18640 | BLACKSMITH   | Post-Medieval  | Blacksmiths workshop.   | SN 5066 4593 | 0.42km |
| 18644 | FACTORY  | Post-Medieval  | Maen-felin factory (woollen) as recorded on the 1889 OS map.  | SN 5007 4555 | 0.11km |
| 50153 | LLANWENOG PARISH CHURCH;<br>ST GWENOG'S;<br>LLANVEYNOG | Early Medieval | Early medieval B site, i.e. medium probability early medieval origins. Churchyard occupied by the medieval Llanwenog parish church which may be the 'Llangweithenau' that was ravaged by the Saxons in 982AD. A 'third' of the church had been granted to Whitland Abbey by the early 13th century - perhaps it was 'portionary', divided between the church and powerful laymen, thought to be a pre-Conquest practice. The tithes were also held in an unusual, ? 'Welsh' form of multiple impropriation. The churchyard was formerly circular. A continuous, curving boundary may (doubtfully) represent the remnant of a former outer enclosure encompassing the churchyard, the Ffynnon Wenog well site (PRN 8079), a boulder PRN 8100 that is known locally as the 'prayer stations' and a circular earthwork of unknown date (PRN 9951). The parish formerly contained at least three chapels-of-ease (PRNs 7516, 8217 & | SN 4938 4552 | 0.73km |

|           |                                |               |  |                   |        |
|-----------|--------------------------------|---------------|--|-------------------|--------|
|           |                                |               | 12391) - pilgrimage chapels? around a cult centre at Llanwenog? NDL 2004   |                   |        |
| 57943     | MILESTONE ON A475 E OF DREFACH | Post-Medieval | Grade II listed milestone.<br><a href="#">Listed Building Ref 18370</a>    | SN 49690<br>45850 | 0.45km |
| 57944     | WAR MEMORIAL                   | Post-Medieval | Grade II listed war memorial.<br><a href="#">Listed Building Ref 18371</a> | SN 50191<br>45869 | 0km    |
| 57947     | RHIWSON UCHAF HOUSE-AND-BYRE   | Post-Medieval | Grade II* listed house.<br><a href="#">Listed Building Ref 18374</a>       | SN 50473<br>46815 | 0.99km |
| NPRN 5669 | LLWYNCELYN-BACHJ               | Post-Medieval | Dwelling.  | SN 49756<br>45350 | 0.50km |

**Table 2:** HER sites within a 1km radius of the proposed school.

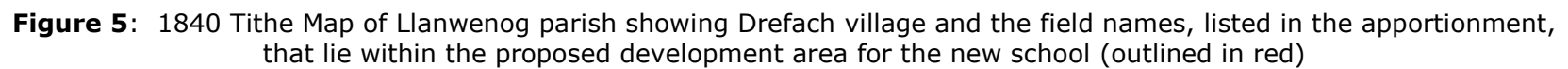


**Figure 4:** Map showing distribution of archaeological sites recorded on the regional Historic Environment Record within a 1km radius of the proposed school.

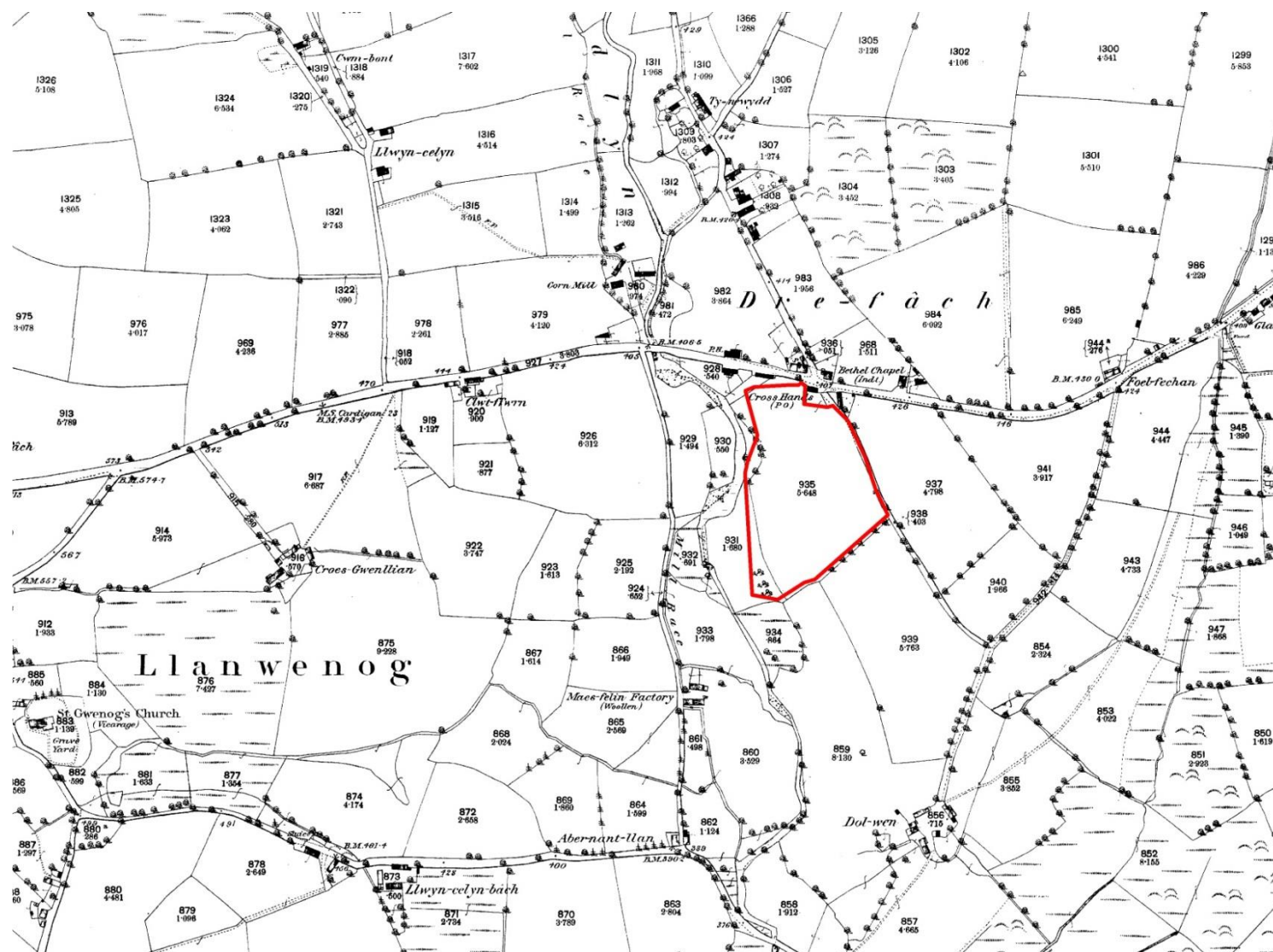
Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 scale Landranger Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office,  
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## **4.5 Historic Mapping**

- 4.5.1 The Llanwenog parish tithe map of 1840 (Figure 5) depicts fields 978 and possibly 979 within the development area of the proposed school. The tithe apportionment (1843) records these fields as Cae Pwll Carn and Ddol, respectively (as shown on Figure 5), which translate into English as Rock (or Rocky) Pool Field and Doll, the former of which has an obvious association with the nearby watercourse. Ddol however seems to be an unlikely name for a field, its direct English translation being 'doll'. While not impossible it might be more likely that the name in the apportionment is incorrect and should read 'Dol' which translates as 'meadow'.
- 4.5.2 The fields within which the proposed school is located are listed in the tithe apportionment as owned by Mary Ann Phillips and rented to Josiah Jones. There is no record of the state of cultivation.
- 4.5.3 The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey maps of 1889 and 1905, and the 6-inch Ordnance Survey maps of 1891, 1906 and 1953 were examined.
- 4.5.4 Following the sequence shown in Figures 5-7 one can see that while there was substantial change in the layout of the village from 1840 to 1889, with the centre of the village shifting south towards what is now the A475, very little change occurred from 1889 until 1953.
- 4.5.5 There is no significant change in the field boundaries within the proposed development area throughout this period, any discrepancies in the field boundaries are possibly due to inaccuracies in the original tithe map and maybe some slight alteration in the course of Nant Cledlyn over the years.

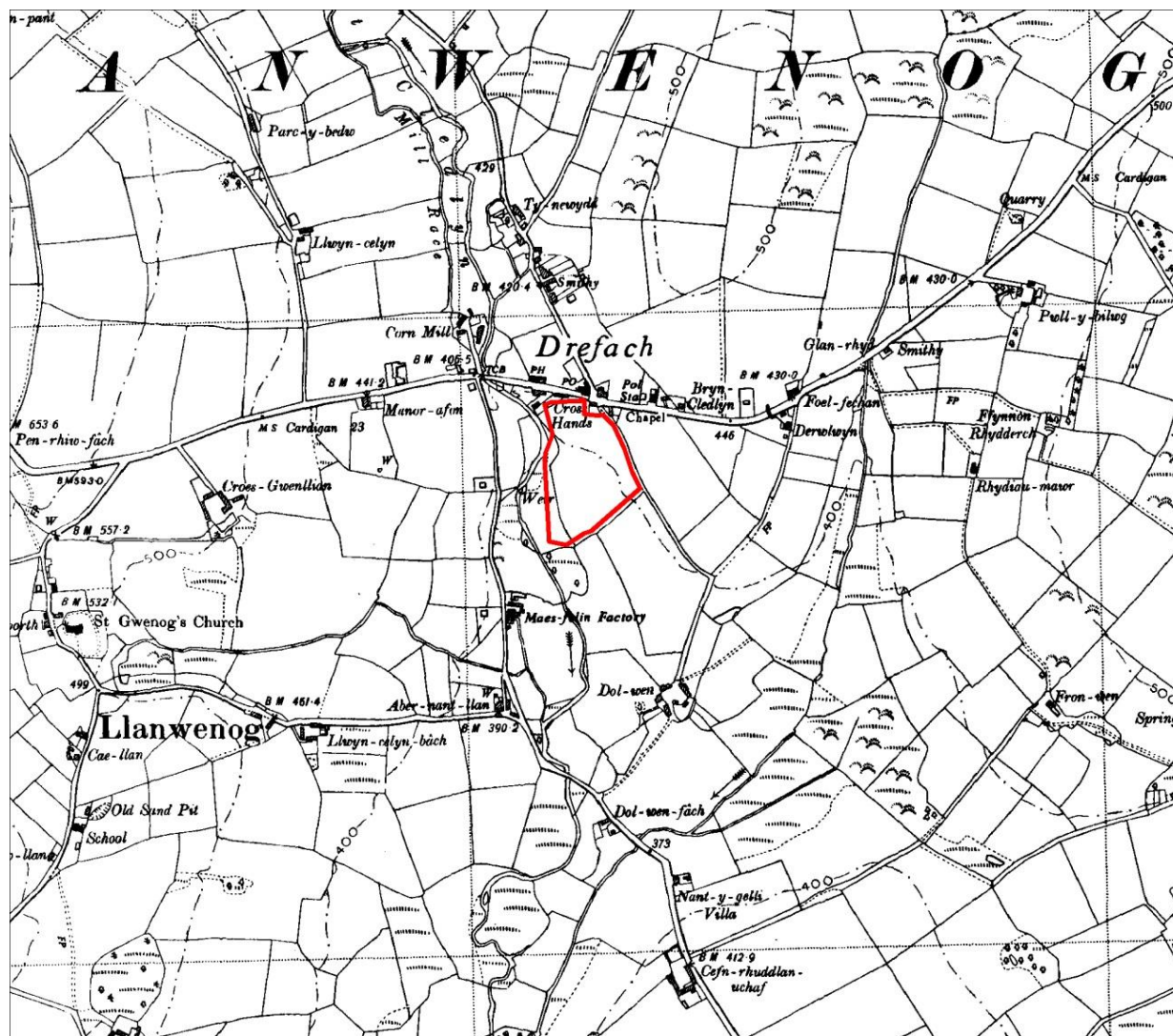






**Figure 6:** Extract of the 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1889 25" Ordnance Survey map showing Drefach and Proposed development area outlined in red. Drefach and Llanwenog from the 1889 OS map. Proposed school site marked in red.





**Figure 7:** Extract of the 1953 6" Ordnance Survey map showing Drefach and Llanwenog. Proposed development area outlined in red. Drefach and Llanwenog from the 1953 OS map. Proposed school site marked in red.

#### **4.6 Site Walkover Survey**

- 4.6.1 The site visit was undertaken in fine weather and good views were available all around. Photographs were taken from the footpath running along the eastern boundary of the site and from the graveyard of Llanwenog Church.
- 4.6.2 It was recorded that the proposed development site is currently being used as sheep pasture.
- 4.6.3 No new archaeological sites were identified during the course of the site visit within the area of the proposed development.
- 4.6.4 The most significant historical site within the 1km search area was the Grade I Listed Building of Llanwenog Church. This site was visited with a view to ascertaining the probable visual impact of the proposed development upon the church. It was apparent that trees obscured much of the landscape between the church and Drefach village and it was difficult to discern where the proposed school site lay in relation to the church.
- 4.6.5 The factory (PRN 18644) is on the west side of the watercourse Nant Cledlyn close to the proposed development but trees and hedges largely obscure the view into the development area from the building.

## **5. IMPACT OF PROPOSED PRIMARY SCHOOL ON THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT**

### **5.1 Physical Impacts**

- 5.1.1 There will be no physical impacts on any known archaeological or historic sites within the development area.

### **5.2 Buried Archaeological Potential**

- 5.2.1 The archaeological potential for hitherto unknown archaeological sites to be present within the proposed development area is considered to be low.
- 5.2.2 The school will be located on a southwest facing slope overlooking a small watercourse. It seems likely that the history of land use within the development area revolves around agriculture, most probably as pasture. However, the possibility of buried archaeology from periods that predate the 1840 tithe map cannot be completely discounted.

### **5.3 Palaeo-environmental Potential**

- 5.3.1 The site of the proposed school is unlikely to have any potential to reveal substantial deposits suitable for palaeo-environmental analysis.

## 5.4 Visual impacts

- 5.4.1 The nearest Historic Landscape to the proposed development is that of the Afon Teifi valley which, being over 10km away will not be impacted upon by the proposed development.
- 5.4.2 The Grade I Listed Building of Llanwenog Church (Listed Building Ref 9817) is 0.76km west of the proposed school site. It lies approximately 30 metres higher on an east-facing slope and will therefore overlook the school. However, the site and church are both partially surrounded by trees and the view is substantially obscured (Photo 1). During warmer months seasonal foliage will further restrict the view. Also the western edge of the school site is going to be developed as an outdoor learning/environmental area – it might be safe to assume that as this area matures any planting will act to help further obscure the school buildings.



**Photo 1:** View facing east from Llanwenog Church. The proposed school site is in the middle distance in front of the existing buildings.

- 5.4.3 The church is more conspicuous when viewed from the southeastern corner of the proposed school site (Photo 2) due to its elevated position and white exterior.



**Photo 2:** View facing west from southeast corner of proposed school site.

- 5.4.4 Visual impacts on the other Listed Buildings within the 1km HER search area can be summarized thus –

LB 18370 – Milestone – no impact.

LB 18371 – War Memorial – severe impact (Photo 3). However, it is believed that the memorial is going to be relocated to a new position off the main road adjacent to the school's entrance.

LB 18374 – Rhiwson Uchaf house and byre – no impact.





**Photo 3:** View from War Memorial facing south across proposed school site.

5.4.5 As noted previously the visual impact on other designated buildings and features is negligible or non-existent (Photo 4). The factory close to the southwest boundary of the site (PRN 18644) is almost entirely obscured by hedges and trees (Photo 5).



**Photo 4:** View facing northwest from the southeast corner of the proposed school site.



**Photo 5:** View facing southwest from the southeast corner of the proposed school site. The factory (PRN 18644) is behind the trees on the left of the picture.

## **5.5 Other Constraints**

- 5.5.1 The site does not lie in an area of ancient woodland.

## **5.6 Summary of Impacts**

- 5.6.1 There will be no physical impacts on any known archaeological sites or deposits within the development area. There is no recorded evidence of prehistoric activity within the proposed school site but the Neolithic enclosure at Llanwenog (PRN 9951) and the findspot to the north of Drefach (PRN 9969) suggest prehistoric activity in the surrounding area. However, the potential for prehistoric remains within the proposed school site should still be regarded as low.
- 5.6.2 The evidence suggests that the development area has been used for agricultural purposes, chiefly for grazing, rather than domestic or industrial purposes, although it is still possible that unrecorded archaeological sites or deposits may exist within the proposed school site.

# **6 DISCUSSION**

## **6.1 General Conclusions**

- 6.1.1 The risk of the proposed school site impacting on physical archaeology is negligible. The visual impacts are either non-existent, negligible or, as in the case of the war memorial, arguably desirable.
- 6.1.2 It is therefore the recommendation of this Historic Environment Assessment that no further archaeological mitigation is required to accompany the construction of the school.



## **6. SOURCES**

### **Published**

Cadw 1998. Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales.

### **Database**

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record, housed with Dyfed Archaeological Trust in Shire Hall, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, SA19 6AF

RCAHMW Coflein Database

### **Cartographic**

Llanwenog Parish Tithe Map 1840 and Apportionment 1843

Ordnance Survey      1889    1:2500 1<sup>st</sup> edition Cardiganshire

Ordnance Survey      1953    1:10,560 4<sup>th</sup> edition Cardiganshire

## APPENDIX 1:

### PROPOSED NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL IN DREFACH, CEREDIGION: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT APPRAISAL: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This written scheme of investigation presents a proposed methodology for a historic environment appraisal for a proposed new primary school in Drefach, Ceredigion (NGR SN5020 4576). The appraisal has been requested by David Billingsley of Ceredigion County Council to support the planning application for the school being submitted to Ceredigion County Council.
- 1.2 The proposed new primary school is located within the village of Drefach, on agricultural land lying immediately to the south of the A475 opposite the B4338 Cwrtnewydd road junction
- 1.3 A generic brief for the required historic environment appraisal has been prepared by the archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, Planning Services of Dyfed Archaeological Trust. This document outlines the proposed methodology that will be used to undertake the appraisal and provide the information required in support of the planning application for the development.
- 1.4 The appraisal will be a primarily desk-based study of the development area, identifying any known archaeological or historical sites within the site and its environs, identifying potential setting impacts on scheduled ancient monuments or listed buildings in the vicinity, identifying any historic landscape areas that may be affected by the proposals and assessing the potential for hitherto unknown archaeological remains to be present within the proposed development area.
- 1.5 An indication of what further archaeological works might be required, if any, will also be prepared.
- 1.6 The specification is in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments* (Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), 1994, revised 2001 & 2008).
- 1.7 The Trust always operates to best professional practice. DAT Archaeological Services has its own Health and Safety Policy, and all works are covered by appropriate Employer's Liability and Public Liability Insurances. Copies of all are available on request.
- 1.8 ***Dyfed Archaeological Trust is an IfA Registered Archaeological Organisation.***
- 1.9 ***All permanent staff members of DAT Archaeological Services are CSCS<sup>2</sup> registered.***

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<sup>2</sup> Construction Skills Certification Scheme (Health and Safety Tested)

## 2. AIM AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

2.1 This document provides a scheme of works for:

***The preparation of a historic environment appraisal for a proposed new primary school in Drefach, Ceredigion (NGR SN50204576). The report will assess the potential impact the development may have on any underlying archaeological remains, if present within the area, and an assessment of the wider impact of it on the historic environment. The assessment shall be presented within a report which will be submitted with the planning application for the new school.***

2.2 Provision of a written scheme of investigation to outline the methodology by which DAT Archaeological Services will undertake appraisal.

2.3 To identify any known archaeological remains and assess the potential of any hitherto unknown archaeological deposits within the location of the water treatment works and any associated infrastructure.

2.4 To identify any known historic environment features within the wider area that could be affected indirectly by the proposed works.

## 3. HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT APPRAISAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 The historic environment appraisal will involve the preparation of a stand-alone report. The report will be prepared using relevant information from a number of sources, and will comprise a number of elements, including:

- Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record data and other relevant information (including a review of online information held on the RCAHMS Coflein site) – **1km search area**;
- Identification of any Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas or Historic Landscape Areas within or in the vicinity of the development area from information held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust, CADW and CCW – **1km search area**;
- Readily available bibliographic information, cartographic material and photographs (including aerial photographs) held at the Trust;
- A review of historic maps;
- Relevant web-based information;
- Site visit and walkover survey;
- Assessment of the archaeological potential of the area; and
- Assessment of likely impacts on any identified remains (or potential remains) or setting issues and likely requirements, if any, for further stages of archaeological work.

3.2 The proposed site visit would be undertaken to provide an assessment of the presence of any visible archaeological remains within the development area and its visibility from nearby cultural heritage features. Photographs will be taken of the development area and its environs and these will be used within the report.

3.3 A 1km (undesigned and designated sites) search area will be used to determine the presence of historic environment features within the site location for and vicinity of the proposed school. This will identify HER sites, SAMs, Listed Buildings and Historic Landscape Characterisation areas etc.

- 3.4 The following will be considered when preparing the assessment, although in some cases no such features may be present and will thus not be considered further:
- a. Scheduled Ancient Monuments {SAMs} and their settings;
  - b. Non-scheduled ancient monuments and their settings;
  - c. Listed buildings and their settings;
  - d. Non statutory Buildings of Local Importance, where this information is readily available and relevant to the proposed development;
  - e. Registered Parks and Gardens and their essential settings;
  - f. Registered Historic Landscapes;
  - g. Non-registered historic landscapes;
  - h. Buried archaeological potential;
  - i. Palaeo-environmental potential;
  - j. Hedgerows and field patterns;
  - k. Ancient woodland;
  - l. Place-name evidence;
  - m. Newly identified sites of historic importance;
  - n. Cumulative impacts
  - o. Any Tir Gofal / Glastir interests or requirements (where relevant); and
  - p. LANDMAP and landscape characterisation information.
- 3.5 A report will be prepared on the results of the assessment. This report will include information on known sites within and in the vicinity of the proposed development area. Maps of known archaeological and historical sites will be presented in the report. Photographs will be used where appropriate.
- 3.6 The report will be fully representative of the information gained from the above methodology, even if there should be negative evidence. The report will include the following:
- a) A concise non-technical summary of the appraisal results.
  - b) The report will contain at least one plan showing the site's location in respect to the local topography.
  - c) The report should list all the sources consulted.
  - d) Where necessary, the report will also contain suitably selected plans and maps (including historic maps) of significant archaeological features.
  - e) Written descriptions of all archaeological features observed during the site visit.
  - f) Statement of the local and regional context of the historic assets identified. Consideration, where appropriate, of the national Research Agenda.
  - g) An assessment of the relative value or significance of each recognised historic asset.
  - h) An impact assessment of the proposed development on the potential archaeological resource.

- 3.7 Once completed, a copy of the report will be submitted to the LPA for the consideration of their archaeological advisers. A further copy of the report should be provided to the Dyfed Archaeological Trust for deposition within the regional Historic Environment Record.
- 3.8 Where appropriate, a summary report on any new significant archaeological discovery will be submitted for publication to a national journal (e.g. Archaeology in Wales) no later than one year after the completion of the work.
- 3.9 Although there may be a period during which client confidentiality should be maintained, the report and the archive should normally be deposited in the appropriate repository not later than six months after completion of the work.

#### **4 STAFF**

- 4.1 The project will be managed by F Murphy, Project Manager DAT Archaeological Services.
- 4.2 The report and site walkover survey will be undertaken by an experienced member of DAT Archaeological Services staff.

#### **5. HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- 5.1 All permanent members of DAT Archaeological Services staff are CSCS<sup>3</sup> registered.
- 5.2 DAT Archaeological Services will carry out a health and safety risk assessment prior to the site walkover survey to ensure that all potential risks are minimised.
- 5.3 All relevant health and safety regulations must be followed where advised by the client.
- 5.4 As the site visit will likely be undertaken by a single archaeologist, it may be necessary to implement lone working procedures and contacts.

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<sup>3</sup> Construction Skills Certification Scheme (Health and Safety Tested)

# **PROPOSED PRIMARY SCHOOL AT DREFACH, CEREDIGION: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT APPRAISAL**

**RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2015/12  
RHIF Y DIGWYLLIAD / EVENT RECORD NO. 107908**

**Mawrth 2015  
March 2015**

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by

**Rhodri Kemp**

Swydd / Position: **Archaeologist**

Llofnod / Signature ..... Dyddiad / Date 10/03/2015

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 10/03/2015

Yn unol â'n nôd i roddi 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



DRAFT