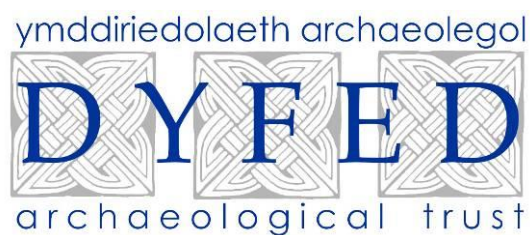


# LAND AT COED Y PIA, MEIDRIM CARMARTHENSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services  
For: Keith and Pearl Powell





## DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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July 2016

# LAND AT COED Y PIA, MEIDRIM, CARMARTHENSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Gan / By

**James Meek**

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**LAND AT COED Y PIA, MEIDRIM, CARMARTHENSHIRE**  
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

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**LAND AT COED Y PIA, MEIDRIM, CARMARTHENSHIRE**  
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**SUMMARY**

*A planning application was submitted to Carmarthenshire County Council, for the erection of a new two storey dwelling on land adjacent to Coed Y Pia, Meidrim, Carmarthenshire (Planning Ref: W/32289). Due to the potential for archaeological remains to be present within the development area, the archaeological advisors to the Local Planning Authority recommended that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. Keith and Pearl Powell commissioned DAT Archaeological Services to undertake the watching brief.*

*The development site lies close to the grade II listed building of St David's Church in Meidrim, which is thought likely to have had early medieval (pre-1086AD) origins. It is possible that early settlement was focussed around the church, potentially from the early medieval period through to the present day. 'Meydrin' is mentioned in the 1326 Black Book of St Davids, demonstrating that the village was certainly well established by that time. The church is considered likely to lie within a former Iron Age promontory fort which sits on top of the rocky outcrop of Meidrim Shales, with steep drops to the north, east and southeast. The position would have had a commanding view over the river to the east and associated roads or tracks which could have had prehistoric origins. The line of Llanboidy road, and that towards Carmarthen are the suspected route of a Roman road (although not proven), that is probably a perpetuation of an earlier route way.*

*The watching brief was undertaken on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 during ground reduction works and the excavation of foundation trenches for the proposed dwelling. The ground reduction works were carried out using a small 360° excavator fitted with a flat bladed bucket. The foundations were excavated with the same machine fitted with a toothed bucket.*

*The central part of the site, over which the majority of the proposed new building was to be erected, was covered with very thin topsoil overlying the natural shale bedrock. The watching brief indicated that this area had been previously levelled. The retaining wall along the western boundary was built directly upon the exposed bedrock. The bedrock dropped along the southern edge of the site and along its northern edge. Retaining walls had been built to the north and south where the natural ground level dropped, behind which material had been infilled to raise the ground level up to that of the exposed bedrock in the centre of the development plot.*

*No evidence of archaeological activity of the Iron Age, early medieval or medieval periods was found at the site, despite the identified potential for such remains to be present. Other than a few sherds of later post-medieval pottery, the only finds from the site were of modern date. It is possible that the previous levelling works within the site area had removed any earlier remains that may have been present.*

*Although no significant archaeological remains were revealed within the development area, there is still potential that significant archaeological deposits could be present in its vicinity.*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

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

- 1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Keith and Pearl Powell to provide an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the construction of a single two storey dwelling on land adjacent to Coed Y Pia, Meidrim, Carmarthenshire (NGR SN 28819 20837).
- 1.1.2 The requirement for the watching brief was placed on the development as a condition on planning permission (W/32289) following advice from the archaeological advisor's to the planning authority (Development Management section of Dyfed Archaeological Trust). The condition states:
- 'No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority'.*
- 1.1.3 Following discussion with the Development Management section, it was agreed that a watching brief during groundworks at the site would be an appropriate form of mitigation. A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared and approved by the planning authority prior to the works commencing.
- 1.1.4 The archaeological condition has been placed upon the development as the site lies very close to the grade II listed building of St David's Church, which is thought likely to have had early medieval (pre-1086AD) origins. It is possible that early settlement was focussed around the church, potentially from the early medieval period through to the present day. The church may also be sited within a former Iron Age promontory fort which sits on top of the rocky outcrop of limestone, with steep drops to the north, east and southeast. The line of Llanboidy road is the suspected route of a Roman road (although not proven).

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

- 1.2.1 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) for a watching brief was prepared by DAT Archaeological Services, which was approved by the archaeological advisor to the planning authority prior to the commencement of the works. The project objectives were:
- Provision of a written scheme of investigation to outline the methodology by which DAT Archaeological Services will undertake the watching brief.
  - 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 groundworks.
  - To appropriately investigate and record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the groundworks.
  - To produce an archive and report of any results.
- 1.2.2 The overall work was summarised as: *"Archaeological attendance during ground works associated with the proposed construction of a new dwelling on land adjacent to Coed Y Pia, Llanboidy Road, Meidrim, Carmarthenshire which are likely to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains. Appropriate investigation and recording of any such remains will be undertaken if revealed. A report and archive of the results of the works will be prepared."*



- 1.2.3 The archaeological works were undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* and their codes of conduct (CIfA 2014).

### 1.3 Report Outline

- 1.3.1 This report describes the location of the development works along with its archaeological background, and 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 (HER) are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR). Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) 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 rear of the report.

### 1.5 Illustrations

- 1.5.1 Photographic images are to be found within the report. Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale.

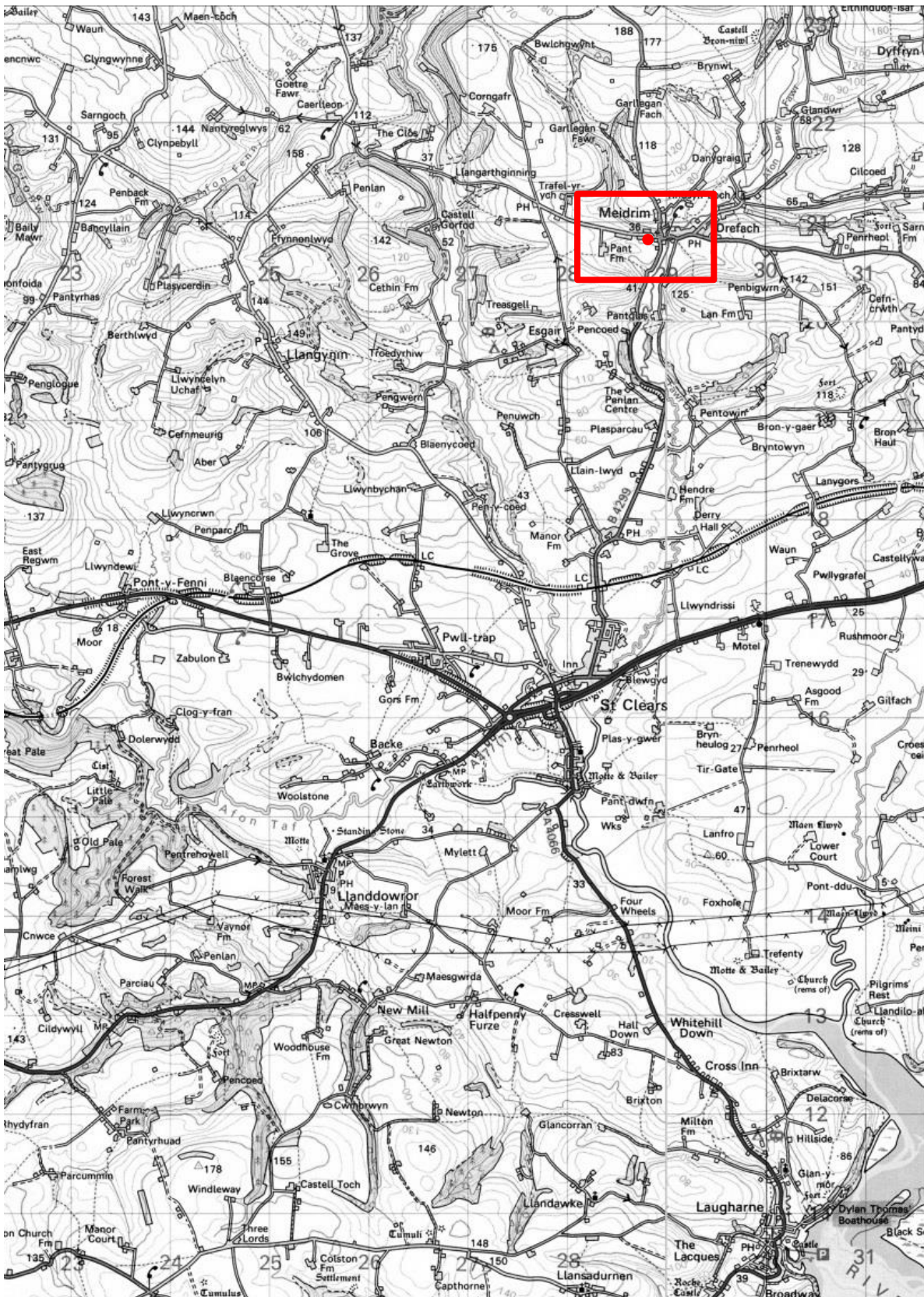
### 1.6 Timeline

- 1.6.1 The following timeline 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>1</sup> –	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period –	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20 <sup>th</sup> century onwards	

**Table 1:** Archaeological and historical timeline for Wales

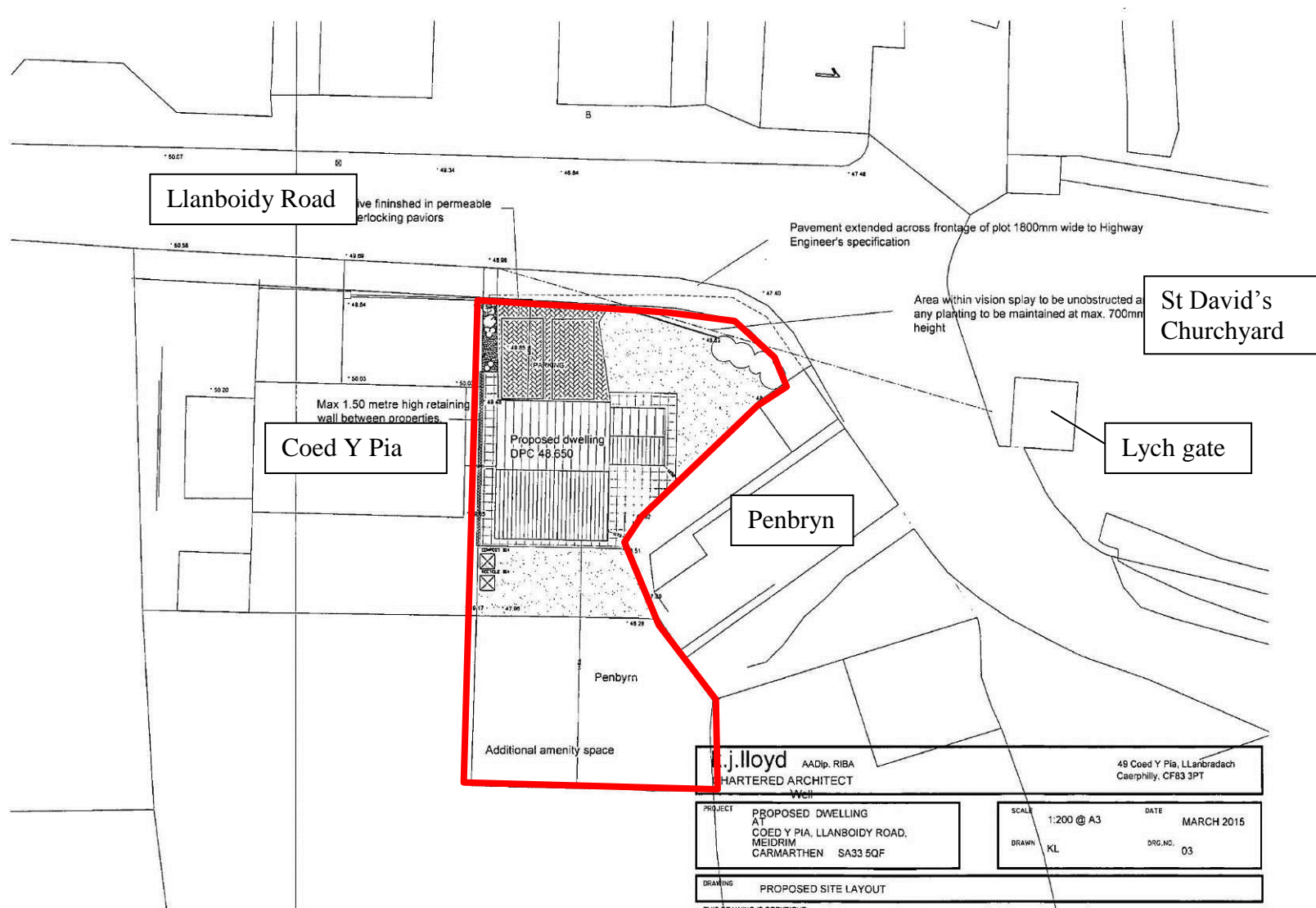
<sup>1</sup> The post-medieval and industrial periods are combined as the post-medieval period on the Regional Historic Environment Record as held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust



**Figure 1:** Location map showing Meidrim within the red boundary and the site area as a red dot

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**Figure 2:** Site location plan (taken from Carmarthenshire County Council Planning website), showing site location within red boundary and proposed new dwelling

## **2. THE SITE**

### **2.1 Location and Topography**

- 2.1.1 The development site lies on a piece of undeveloped land between Coed Y Pia to the north and Penbryn to the south on the south side of Llanboidy Road, Meidrim, Carmarthenshire (SN 28819 20837, Figures 1 & 2).
- 2.1.2 The site area is relatively level, with a steep drop to the south at its southern boundary, and a drop down to the level of Penbryn to the east. Previous groundworks at the site were evident, with the existing building of Coed Y Pia to the west being on a slightly raised level. Llanboidy Road to the north rises up from the steep hill east of the church, curves around Penbryn and then continues to rise towards the west. The ground level within the frontage of the property boundary was higher than road level to the east, but roughly similar at its northwestern end.
- 2.1.3 The bedrock of the area is Hendre Shales formation, sedimentary bedrock (based on information from the British Geological Survey <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> accessed on 14/07/2016). The superficial geology is not recorded, nor were any seen during the watching brief.

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

- 2.2.1 No archaeological sites are known to exist directly within the proposed development area; however a search of the Regional Historic Environment Record database revealed that a total of sixteen sites of archaeological and historic interest are located within a 250m radius centred on the development area (Figure 3). These are listed in Table 2 below.
- 2.2.2 The earliest site recorded is that of the possible Iron Age hillfort within which the present church of St David's sits (PRN 3973). This theory is based on the topographic location of the church, and the presence of a larger bank around the churchyard close to the lych gate. The churchyard may also have early medieval origins, possibly mentioned in the possible pre-Conquest text of the 'Lives of St Brychan'.
- 2.2.3 The church of St David's, Meidrim (PRN 3972) is a medium sized church, which contains around 75% of pre 19<sup>th</sup>-century core fabric within its build. It has medieval origins and as noted above, may have been first established in the early medieval potentially due to the St David's dedication
- 2.2.4 The place name of 'Meydrin' is recorded in the 1326 Black Book of St David's, indicating the village was well established by the 14<sup>th</sup> century (PRN 12776).
- 2.2.5 Beyond the buildings on the opposite side of the Llanboidy Road from Coed Y Pia, the land drops steeply down and at the bottom of this slope lies an area of former common land, which may have been allocated as such in the medieval or post-medieval periods (PRN 13800). In the later 19<sup>th</sup> century part of this land was used to build a series of almshouses comprising 8 independent rooms possibly for 8 families (PRN 270). The building now forms a single dwelling.
- 2.2.6 The remainder of sites recorded on the HER are of post-medieval date; including a findspot from close to the church, from where a 16<sup>th</sup> century candlestick was found (PRN 7416). The 19<sup>th</sup> century vicarage of Meidrim lay to the northeast of Coed Y Pia, on the northern side of Llanboidy road, close to the site of the existing vicarage (PRN 15123). The Bethel Chapel

which also lies to the north, but beyond the slope (PRNs 15125 & 61476) is a grade II listed chapel of later 19<sup>th</sup> century date. Other grade II listed buildings within 250m of the development site include The Close (PRN 61477) located on the Trelech road to the north, and two of its outbuildings (PRNs 61478 & 61479).

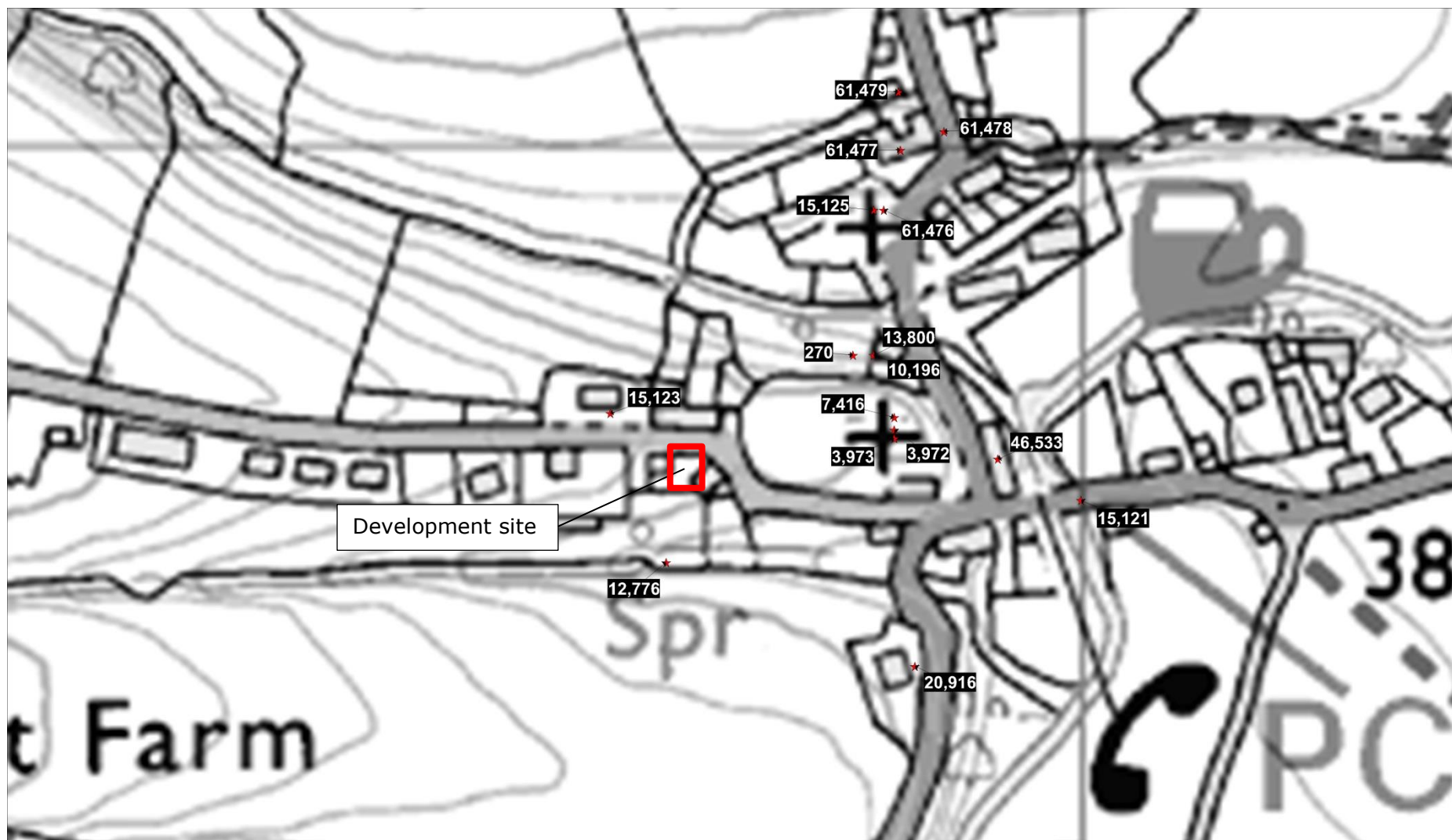
- 2.2.7 Non-listed buildings of post-medieval date recorded on the HER include the Fountain Inn (PRN 467533), Penalltiwan Cottage (PRN 20916) and the Pont Hafren bridge (PRN 15121), all of which lie to the east of the development site, downhill in the centre of the village.
- 2.2.8 Overall the known archaeology of the search area indicated that there was potential for remains associated with the possible Iron Age origins of the adjacent churchyard. The church would have been a focus for early settlement and so there was also considered a potential for early-medieval or medieval settlement remains.
- 2.2.9 A review of the first edition Ordnance Survey map published in 1889 (Figure 4) shows that the development site was undeveloped at this time. The building layout of Penbryn directly to the east of the site is shown. A small structure is shown on the Llanboidy road frontage, although what it might be is not recorded. The map shows no buildings on the southern side of Llanboidy road, but a row of small houses on the northern road front, with the larger vicarage and another building at its western end. A well is marked on the map, but its exact location is uncertain.
- 2.2.10 The 1906 OS map shows no difference in the development area or its vicinity to that of 1889. The southern side of Llanboidy Road also remains unaltered on the 1953 or 1964 OS maps. The building presently known as Coed Y Pia is shown on the 1972 OS map; named Llwyncerdd. The 1972 map marks the well as lying to the south of Penbryn.
- 2.2.11 It is known that the site has previously been used as an allotment and the ground has been cultivated. Retaining walls are present to the east (dropping down to the adjacent property) and west (rising up to Coed Y Pia). The site has been cleared of vegetation in recent times and a boundary wall to the Llanboidy Road frontage has been dismantled and re-erected slightly to the south.

PRN	Site Name	Description	Period	Grid Reference
270	Meidrim Almshouse	Later 19th century almshouses consisting of two small, adjoining, two-storeyed, vernacular houses. Each house was divided into four independent rooms, each with their own fireplace and oven, door and window. The first floor was entered from the slope to the rear of the property.	Post-Medieval	SN 2889 2090
3972	Meidrim Parish Church; St David's	Medieval parish church, medium sized. Consists of chancel, nave, north and south transepts. The vestry is from 1889 and the south porch is from 1928. Grade II Listed Building	Post-Medieval, Medieval	SN 28910 20864
3973	Meidrim Parish Church; St David's Hillfort, Ditched Enclosure, Churchyard	Early medieval B site, ie. medium-probability early medieval origins. Churchyard occupied by the medieval Meidrum parish church PRN 3972. The cemetery was mentioned in the possible pre-Conquest text of the 'Lives of St Brychan'.	Iron Age; early Medieval, Iron Age	SN 2891 2086
7416	Meidrim Findspot	Approximate findspot for a 16th century candlestick, standing 15" high, found c.1900 not far from Meidrim Church.	Post-Medieval	SN 2891 2087

ERN 109354 Land at Coed Y Pia, Llanboidy Road, Meidrim, Carmarthenshire  
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10196	St David dedication	Record deleted during Cadw Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Sites Project PRN 44753. Record now merged with PRN 3973. NDL 2004 Record of the dedication of Meidrim parish church to St David.	Unknown	SN 289 209 MISLOCATED
12776	'Meydrin' Settlement	The medieval place-name Meydrin is recorded on William Rees' Map of South Wales in the 14th Century, based on its mention in the 1326 Black Book of St. Davids.	Medieval	SN 288 208
13800	Poor Law / Common Land	A small portion of common land in Meidrim village on which the Meidrim Almshouses were built in the 19th century.	Post-Medieval, Medieval	SN 289 209
15121	Pont Hafren Bridge	Stone-built, flat top bridge. Three arches, plus some drainage holes to the sides. ER Evans 27/02/84	Post-Medieval	SN 2900 2083
15123	Y Ficerdy / Vicarage	The site of the 19th century vicarage of Meidrim, as shown on the parish tithe map and late 19th century OS maps. The site is now occupied by modern houses and the original vicarage appears to have been removed at some stage. 20th century maps show a new	Post-Medieval	SN 28773 20872
15125	Bethel Chapel	The Calvinistic Methodist cause in the Meidrim area has its roots with meetings held before 1760, at Legar cottage on the Carmarthen road. The group meeting here divided with time, some members forming a new cause at Bancyfelin, others adhering to Meidrim.	Post-Medieval	SN 2890 2097
20916	Penalltiwan Cottage	This building was surveyed in 1984 in response to a planning application to replace it with a modern dwelling. A 2-storey cottage of rubble stone construction with reddish grey slate roof. The windows were of sash type, the lower ones having stone linte	Post-Medieval	SN 2892 2075
46533	Fountain Inn	Public house in the village of Meidrim. According to local tradition, Rebeccaite came here before marching to St Clears to destroy the Mermaid tollgate (probably in late 1842). One story has it that too much beer was drunk at the first meeting and the mission was postponed.	Post-Medieval	SN 2896 2085
61476	Bethel Calvinistic Methodist Chapel	Grade II listed chapel	Post-Medieval	SN 28905 20970
61477	The Close	Grade II listed house	Post-Medieval	SN 28913 20999
61478	L-Plan Outbuilding To E Of The Close	Grade II listed outbuilding	Post-Medieval	SN 28934 21008
61479	Lofted Outbuilding To N Of The Close	Grade II listed outbuilding	Post-Medieval	SN 28912 21027

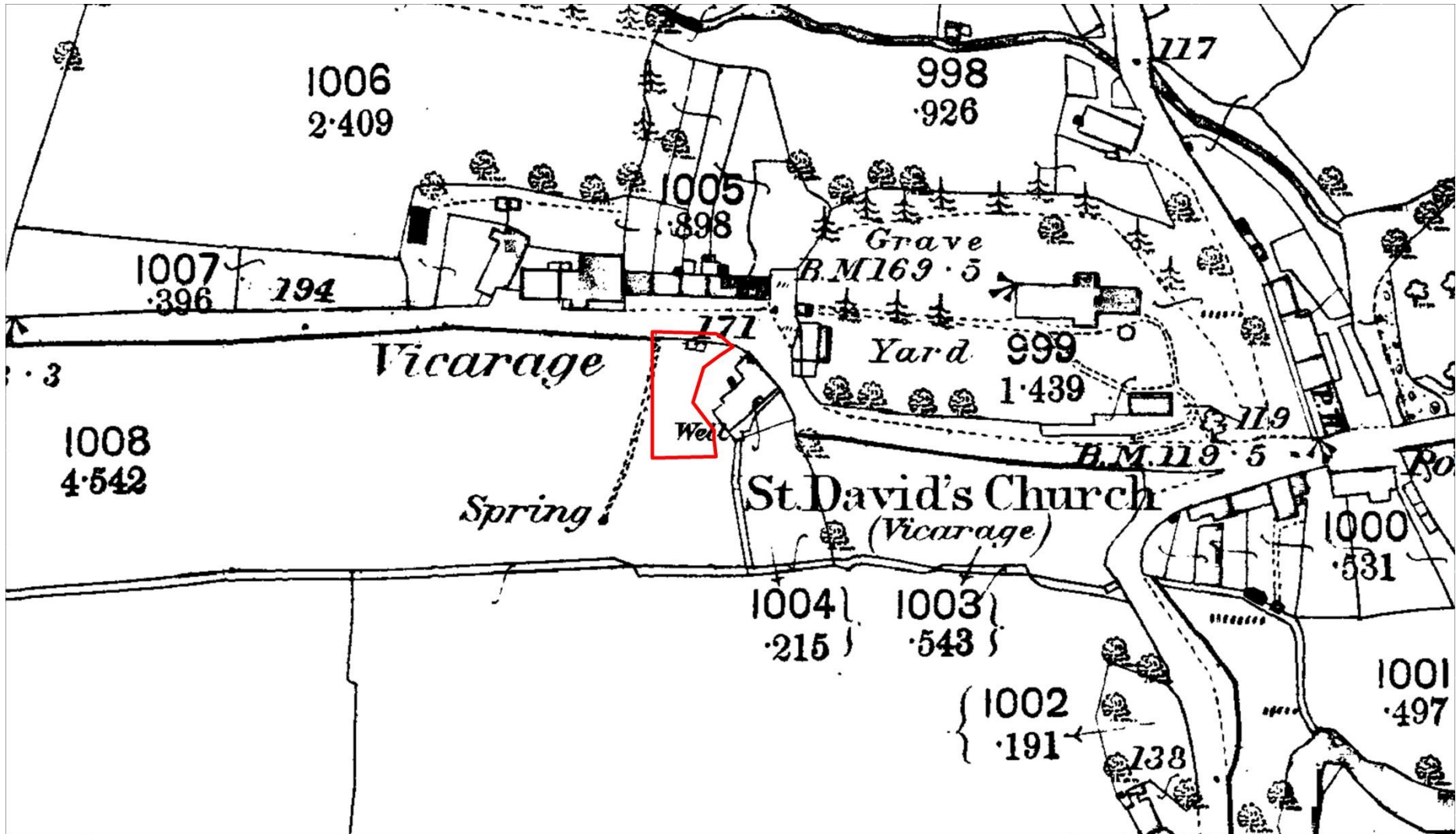
**Table 2:** Known archaeological and historic sites recorded within 250m of the site area at Coed Y Pia, Meidrim recorded on the Dyfed Historic Environment Record (illustrated in Figure 3)



**Figure 3:** Archaeological and Historical Sites recorded on the Regional Historic Environment Record (Table 2) within 250m of the centre of the proposed development, showing the site area (red box)

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**Figure 4:** Extract from the Ordnance Survey first edition map published in 1889 and approximate location of development area (red)



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

#### **3.1 Fieldwork**

- 3.1.1 A watching brief was undertaken during groundworks at the site which had the potential to expose, damage or destroy underlying archaeological remains.
- 3.1.2 Previous groundworks had been undertaken at the site during 2015, including the removal of surface vegetation. The stone retaining wall along the northern edge of the site had also been rebuilt prior to archaeological attendance.
- 3.1.3 Ground reduction work was undertaken using a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. Foundation trenches were excavated using a toothed bucket. The majority of all groundworks with the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains were observed.
- 3.1.4 All archaeological deposits revealed during the groundworks were examined and recorded to an appropriate level.
- 3.1.5 Recording of all archaeological features or deposits conformed to best current professional practice and was carried out in accordance with the Recording Manual<sup>2</sup> used by DAT Archaeological Services.
- 3.1.6 The work followed the Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief as laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014) and adhered to their code of conduct (CIfA 2014).

#### **3.2 Timetabling of Fieldwork**

- 3.2.1 The main phase of groundworks and the archaeological watching brief at the site commenced on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. A second short visit was made to the site on 1<sup>st</sup> April to observe the completed foundation layout.

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

- 3.3.1 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 2011), and the procedures recommended by the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth.
- 3.3.2 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.
- 3.3.3 A report fully representative of the results of the fieldwork has been prepared.

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<sup>2</sup> DAT Archaeological 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 AND DISCUSSION (Figure 5)

- 4.1 The initial visit to the site was made on 31<sup>st</sup> March during the main phase of ground reduction works and excavation of foundation trenches.



Photo 1: View southeast along Llanboidy Road, with churchyard wall to left and Penbryn and retaining wall around development site to right



Photo 2: View south across the development site during ground reduction works showing the retaining wall on the Llanboidy Road frontage and ground levels

- 4.2 The difference in ground levels between the development site and the adjacent property of Penbryn to the southeast and the road itself was clearly visible (Photos 1 and 2). Photo 1 shows the location of the

development site to the right, the Llanboidy road dropping to the east and the Churchyard around St Davids Church to the left.

- 4.3 The retaining wall around the northern boundary of the site had been rebuilt recently, and had been moved slightly to the south to create a better view for access into and out of the property. The wall was reconstructed in the same stone that had been taken down from the original wall. The retaining wall had previously butted against the northwestern corner of an outbuilding belonging to Penbryn, and Mr Powell confirmed that loose backfilled soil had been present behind it (the extent of the former soil cover can be seen with the staining on the outbuilding wall in Photo 2). Bedrock was exposed at the base of the wall adjacent to the road line.
- 4.4 A shallow depth of dark garden soil was removed from across the development plot (Photo 3).



Photo 3: View northwest across the development area following site strip

- 4.5 The retaining wall to the west, between the development site and Coed Y Pia, indicated a drop in ground level of almost 1m between the two (Photo 4). To the east there was a further drop, of possibly as much as 1.5m between the level of the proposed new building and that of Penybryn, although the drop was split into two terraced areas beyond the fence to the east (Photo 5)
- 4.6 Outcropping shale bedrock was exposed across the majority of the site area at the base of the initial site strip (Photos 4 & 5).





Photo 4: View west showing height of retaining wall to Coed Y Pia and outcropping shale bedrock at base of ground reduction works



Photo 5: View east across development site after removal of shallow topsoil onto shale bedrock and the fence line to Penbryn beyond



- 4.7 Bedrock was not exposed along the southern edge of the stripped development plot where a dark soil could be seen stretching across the majority of the width of the site (Photo 6).



Photo 6: View southwest across site area showing darker soil area to the south



Photo 7: View south of the southern foundation trench for the new building cut through the darker soil area with bedrock exposed in base of trench

- 4.8 The southernmost foundation trench for the new building was excavated through this dark soil area (Photo 7) which indicated that it represented a greater depth of garden soil built up over the bedrock, and that it became



far shallower to the north where the underlying bedrock could be seen clearly rising and thus presumably representing the original gradient of the natural slope (Photo 8). The dark garden soil layer was a maximum of 0.75m depth. A retaining wall was present further to the south, with the remainder of the garden level sloping down beyond this.

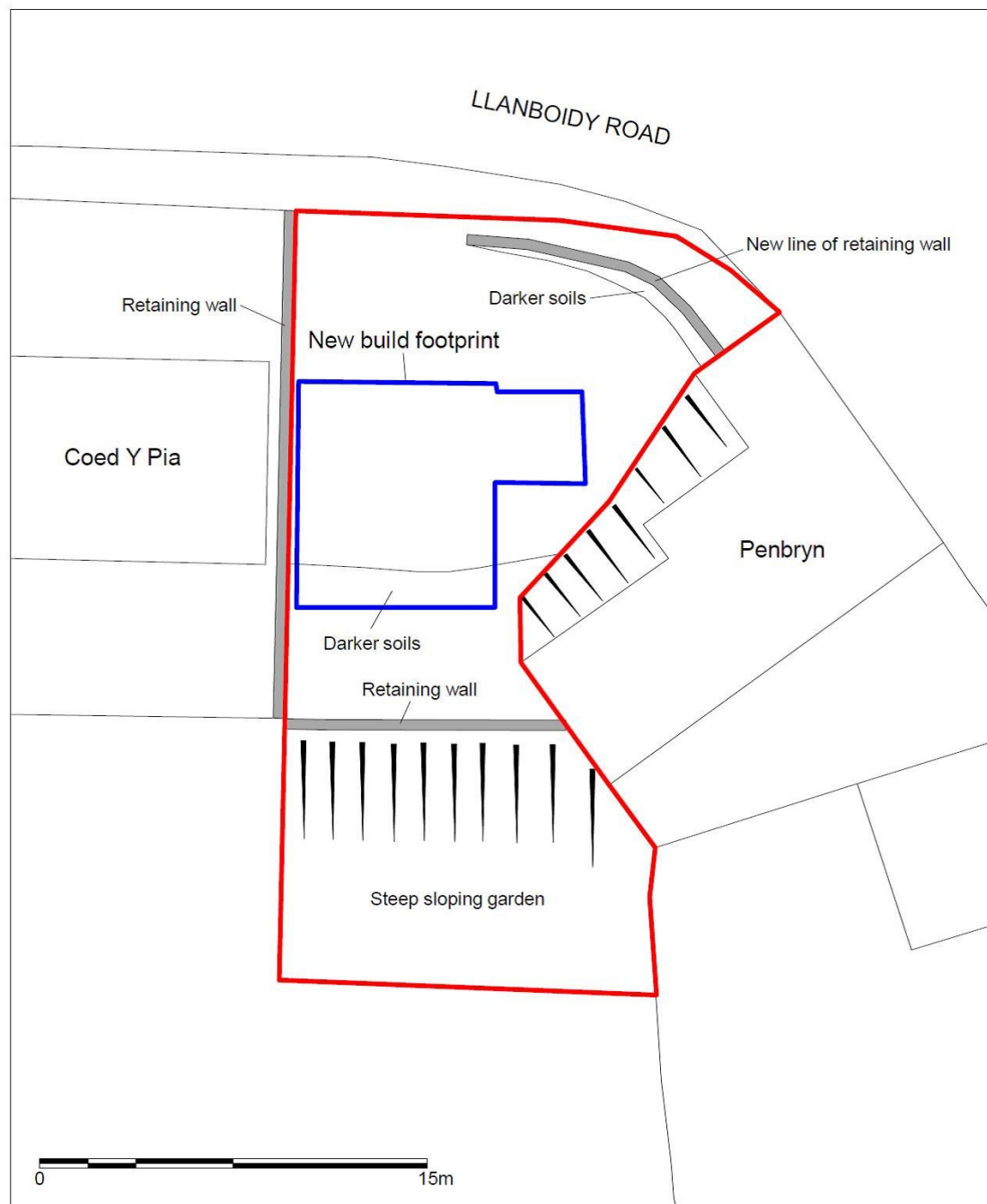


Photo 8: View west along southern end of the new building foundation showing the drop in bedrock level to the south



Photo 9: Bedrock exposed in western foundation trench adjacent to Coed Y Pia retaining wall, which sits directly upon the bedrock

- 4.9 Further observation of the foundation trenches demonstrated that they were being excavated directly through bedrock. It was also noted that the retaining wall to Coed Y Pia to the west was built directly upon this lower bedrock level.
- 4.10 Along the northern edge of the site, behind the recently rebuilt retaining wall, a thin area of dark soil behind the wall was present. It is thought that this too represents a deeper depth of garden soils above the bedrock which naturally slopes to the level of the road to the north.
- 4.11 The foundation trenches at the southern end of the site were archaeologically observed, but due to the presence of the bedrock across the development area, further monitoring was not considered necessary.



**Figure 5:** Plan of development area showing features mentioned in the text

## **5. CONCLUSIONS**

- 5.1 A watching brief was carried out during groundworks associated with the construction of a new two storey dwelling on land east of Coed Y Pia and west of Penbryn, Llanboidy Road, Meidrim, Carmarthenshire. The development site lies in an area with an identified potential for archaeological remains to be present associated with the nearby church, which may have medieval or even early medieval origins. The churchyard, the boundary of which lies close to the development site, may also be the remains of an Iron Age promontory fort. Thus a condition was placed on planning permission for the development requiring an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken during groundworks.
- 5.2 Some vegetation clearance had been undertaken across the development site prior to the watching brief commencing, which is likely to have removed a fair depth of overlying soils. The site was still covered in a thin spread of topsoil material at the commencement of the watching brief, which was removed using a machine fitted with a flat bladed bucket. The soil depth removed ranged from c.0.15 to 0.05m depth.
- 5.3 No definitive subsoil layer was recorded underlying the topsoil. The natural shale bedrock was exposed directly beneath the topsoil across almost the entire footprint of the proposed new dwelling. The bedrock was mostly level across the site, with a slightly raised outcrop in the northwestern area.
- 5.4 The western boundary of the site was formed by a retaining wall which had been constructed directly upon the underlying bedrock. The bedrock level was around 1m lower within the development site than the ground level of Coed Y Pia to the west, and the fact that it appeared to be so level across the majority of the development plot suggests that it had been previously landscaped. This may have occurred when Coed Y Pia (formerly known as Llwyncerdd) was constructed in the later 20<sup>th</sup> century, forming an adjacent garden area or even preparing a plot which was never developed (until now).
- 5.5 Along the northern edge of the site was a retaining wall which had recently been rebuilt and moved slightly to the south. This ground level of the road was around 0.60m lower on the northeastern corner of the development plot than the stripped exposed within the site area. Behind the wall was an area of darker soils, which Mr Powell confirmed was redeposited topsoil similar to the material removed when the wall was moved. The implication is that the natural ground level drops towards the road and the retaining wall had originally been used to create a level plot or garden area.
- 5.6 Along the southern edge of the footprint of the new building, a further layer of dark soil was encountered overlying the underlying bedrock. The sides of the foundation trenches confirmed that the underlying natural shale bedrock sloped down towards the south, and that this was presumably the original topography of the site area. Further to the south was another retaining wall, behind which material had been dumped to level the plot in the past. The material again comprised redeposited topsoil with some stone and rubble.
- 5.7 The majority of the finds from the site were of modern date, with a few post-medieval ceramic fragments. Nothing earlier was noted.
- 5.8 There was no evidence of any archaeological features cutting into the bedrock.



- 5.9 Overall the results of the watching brief suggest that the site area had been levelled in the past. This may well have occurred when Coed Y Pia was built in the later 20<sup>th</sup> century. Retaining walls along the edges to the north and south were constructed and topsoil and other material thrown in behind to raise the ground level. The central part of the site appears to have been partially dug out to create a level surface, with areas of exposed bedrock smoothed off.
- 5.10 The watching brief did not identify any archaeological remains from the Iron Age, early medieval or medieval periods as had been considered a possibility due to the proximity of the church and churchyard enclosure. Previous levelling of the site area in the later 20<sup>th</sup> century could conceivably have removed any remains that may have been present.
- 5.11 Although no archaeological deposits were identified within the development site, it is still possible that significant archaeological remains could lie within the vicinity.

## **6. SOURCES**

### **Database:**

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

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**LAND AT COED Y PIA, MEIDRIM,  
CARMARTHENSHIRE  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST**

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

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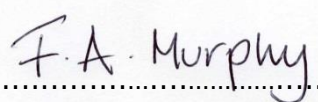
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Mae'r adroddiad hwn wedi ei gael yn gywir a derbyn sêl bendith  
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