

Y STABL FACH, CILCENNIN, CEREDIGION: HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust
For: Rachel Miller



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RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2017-64
RHIF Y DIGWYDDIAD / EVENT RECORD NO. 111143

Hydref 2017
October 2017

Y STABL FACH, CILCENNIN, CEREDIGION: HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

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SUMMARY

DAT Archaeological Services in response to a request from Ms Rachel Miller were commissioned to undertake an archaeological scheme of historic building recording works at the [property known as Y Stable Fach (PRN 57763), in the village of Cilcennin, Ceredigion (SN52089 60163). The requirement for a scheme to record the building prior to its renovation has been placed upon the development by Ceredigion County Council (Local Planning Authority) following advice from their archaeological advisors, Dyfed Archaeological Trust- Heritage Management.

A discussion with the archaeological advisor to the LPA revealed that in this instance it was a Level 1 record that was required, as defined in Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to best recording practice (Historic England 2016). This level of record is essentially a basic visual record, with annotated floor plans, supplemented by information needed to identify the building's location, age and type.

The building is not a scheduled monument but it is Grade II listed (LB Ref 17528). The building is recorded on the Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record (HER) under the record number (PRN 57763) but this references its listing and gives no further description. It is not recorded on the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales National Monuments Record.

Y Stabl Fach is one of a terraced row of 19th century cottages situated on the north side of the Cilcennin village opposite the parish church. The building was redundant and in a poor state of repair at the time of the survey. The Level 1 survey of the building has produced an appropriate record of the structure; the results of which are presented within this report.

INTRODUCTION

Project Background

DAT Archaeological Services in response to a request from Ms Rachel Miller were commissioned to undertake an archaeological scheme of historic building recording works at the property known as Y Stable Fach (PRN 57763), in the village of Cilcennin, Ceredigion (SN52089 60163). The requirement for a scheme to record the building prior to its renovation has been placed upon the development by Ceredigion County Council (Local Planning Authority) following advice from their archaeological advisors, Dyfed Archaeological Trust- Heritage Management (DAT-DM).

Condition 6 on the planning decision notice (Planning reference A150325) states:

Development shall not begin until an appropriate photographic survey of the existing buildings(s) has been carried out in accordance with guidelines provided by the Local Planning Authority's archaeological advisors – Dyfed Archaeological Trust- Heritage Management. The resulting photographs shall be approved by the planning authority prior to the commencement of development and deposited with the regional Historic Environment Record, held and maintained by the Dyfed Archaeological Trust, the Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, SA19 6AF.

A discussion with the archaeological advisor to the LPA revealed that in this instance it was a Level 1 record that was required, as defined in Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to best recording practice (Historic England 2016). This level of record is essentially a basic visual record, with annotated floor plans, supplemented by information needed to identify the building's location, age and type.

A written scheme of investigation was prepared by DAT Archaeological Services which outlined the methodology by which the historic building works would be undertaken, which was approved by DAT-DM.

The historic building recording has been undertaken in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological investigation and recording of Standing Buildings and Structures* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 1996, revised 2001 & 2008).

Site Location

The building is located in the village of Cilcennin, Ceredigion (SN52089 60163, Figure 1). It is part of a terraced row of three cottages situated on the north side of the village, stepped up a steep slope and abutting rear of the Commercial Inn.

The building was empty at the time of the survey, and cleared of all internal fittings.

Scope of the Project

The Building Recording was designed to record the existing fabric of the main three structures (at the time of the survey) through a combination of a photographic survey of the interiors, along with site notes, drawings and historic research.

Report Outline

This report describes the location of the site, its known archaeological and historical background and photographs of the site. Sources are referenced within the text or as footnotes.

Abbreviations

Regional Historic Environment Record – HER; Primary Record Number – PRN; National Grid Reference – NGR; Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust – GGAT; Written Scheme of Investigation – WSI.

Illustrations

Record photographs are included throughout the text. Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale and are illustrative only.



Figure 1: Location plan of the development site (red dot), based on the Ordnance Survey.

Reproduced from the 2007 Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd., The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF. Licence No 10002093

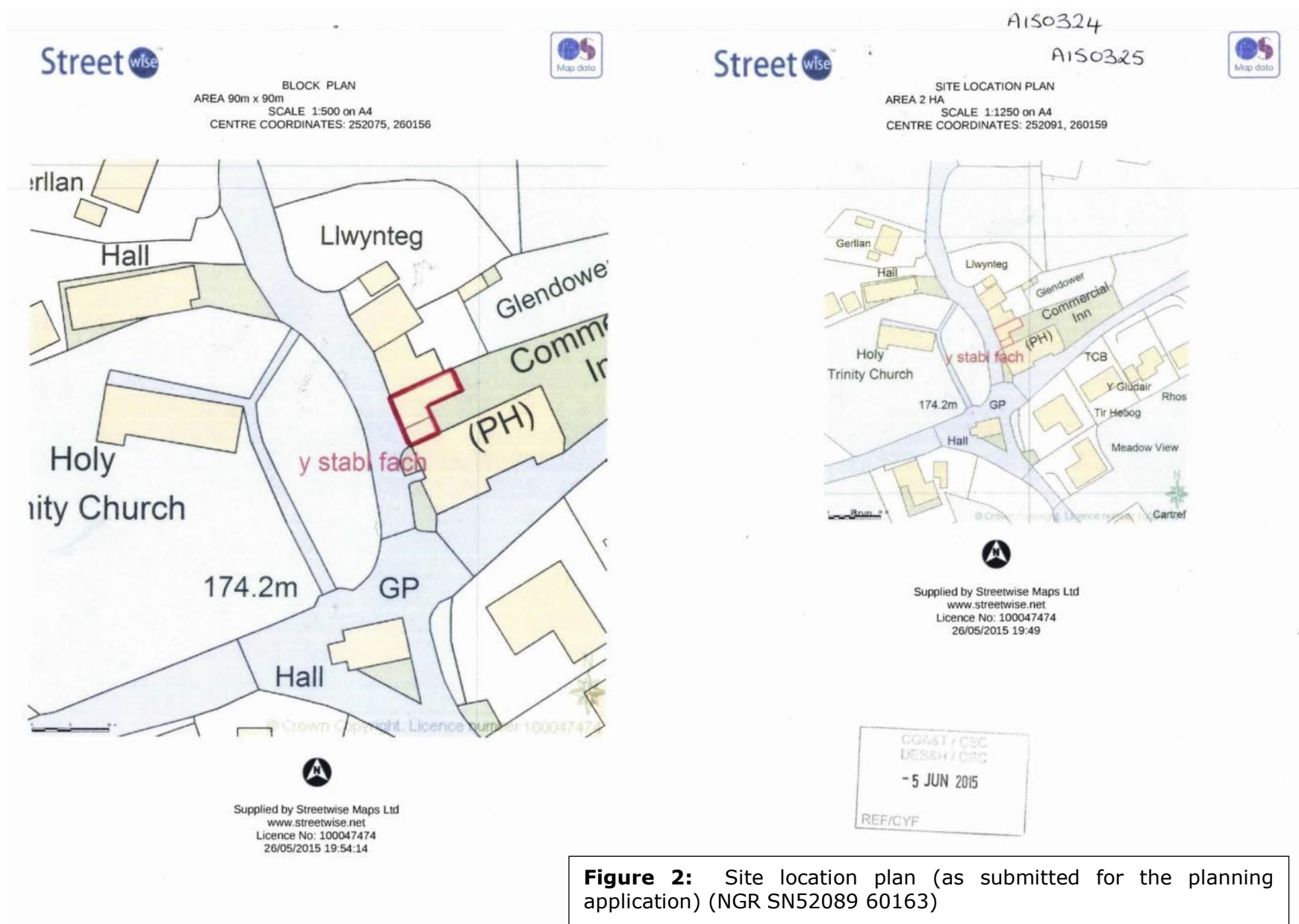


Figure 2: Site location plan (as submitted for the planning application) (NGR SN52089 60163)

METHODOLOGY

The historic building recording scheme has been undertaken to a Level 1 standard as defined in the English Heritage '*Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*' (2006). This level of recording is described thus:

Level 1 is essentially a basic visual record, supplemented by the minimum of information needed to identify the building's location, age and type. This is the simplest record, not normally an end in itself but contributing to a wider aim. Typically it will be undertaken when the objective is to gather basic information about a large number of buildings – for statistical sampling, for area assessments or historic landscape characterisation, for a pilot project, to identify buildings for planning purposes, or whenever resources are limited and much ground has to be covered in a short time. It may also serve to identify buildings requiring more detailed attention at a later date.

Level 1 surveys will generally be of exteriors only, although they may include superficial interior inspection for significant features. Only if circumstances and objectives allow will any drawings be produced, and these are likely to take the form of sketches.

To supplement the on-site survey a review of information held at the DAT HER and local studies library will be undertaken. The on-site survey will then complete the relevant tasks outlined below, where possible, to ensure that the record is completed to the Level 1 guidelines, building on the known information. Only photos taken during this survey will be included within the site archive and report.

Based on the Level 1 record as defined in the English Heritage guidelines (2006) the following will be undertaken:

Written Record

- The building's precise location, as a National Grid reference and in address form.
- A note of any statutory designation (listing, scheduling or conservation area). Non-statutory designations (historic parks and gardens registers, local lists etc) may be added.
- The date of the record, the name(s) of the recorder(s) and, if an archive has been created, its location.

Drawn Record

- Sketched plan, section, elevation or detail drawings (if a more thorough drawn record is not made). Sketches may be roughly dimensioned.

Photographic Record

- A general view or views of the building (in its wider setting or landscape).
- The building's external appearance. Typically a series of oblique views will show all external elevations of the building, and give an overall impression of its size and shape.
- The overall appearance of the principal rooms and circulation areas.

RESULTS

Location

Y Stabl Fach is a small terraced cottage located in the village of Cilcennin, Ceredigion at NGR SN52089 60163 (Figures 1 & 2).

Address: Y Stabl Fach, Cilcennin, Ceredigion SA48 8RF

The survey was undertaken by Fran Murphy of DAT Archaeological Services on Tuesday 17th October 2017.

The building is redundant and in a poor state of repair at the time of the recording. Access is through the rear door to the ground floor that has been cleared internally. There is no access to the 1st floor.

The front elevation of the building (Figure 4, Photo 1) shows a central door with a ground floor window either side of the door and two upper windows. Both the door and all four windows have been blocked in with concrete blocks and bricks.

To the rear a wooden beam has been inserted into the back wall to create an open entranceway possibly for a cart or carriage (Photos 4 & 5). To the north of this is a door opening with a wooden door *in situ* (Photos 4 & 9). All the windows and doors have wooden lintels and the windows have stone sills. A modern garage has been built in the recent past to the north of the doorway. There is no access between the garage and the cottage.

Another door opening with a wooden door *in situ* can be seen above the garage that would have given access to the 1st floor (Photos 2, 17 & 19). There are no window openings in the rear wall.

Internally the ground floor is divided into two areas by an internal east-west wall (Figure 5, Photo 18). This wall is not tied in to either of the cottage's outer walls and would appear to be a later addition.

It is not known at what point the cottage became a stable/cart house or whether it was ever used as a domestic cottage.

A post card of the 1930s shows the cottage before its front windows and doors were blocked in. The postcard is visible on the Cilcennin Cyntaf website at:

<http://www.cilcennin.wales/cilcennin-postcards/>

Statutory designation:

Y Stabl Fach; 'the small stable' in English, is one of a terraced row of 19th century cottages situated on the north side of the Cilcennin village opposite the parish church. The terraced row is stepped up a steep slope and abuts the rear of the Commercial Inn to the south (Figure 2). Two of the terraced row, Y Stabl Fach and Glendower to the north, are Grade II listed together (LB Ref 17528).

The listing describes the cottage thus:

Attractive vernacular group with regional character in good village setting opposite the churchyard.

Mid C19. Only a single cottage shown on site by the 1840 Tithe map, occupied by Elinor Davies and owned by David Lloyd and Lewis Morgan. The upper cottage (Y Stabl Fach) has long been uninhabited.

Two cottages of a terrace of three, both with different finishes. Slate roofs. Slated barges to upper cottage. Rubble party chimney stack with stone tabling: also rubble stack to right, shared with taller rear wing of the Commercial Inn.

The upper cottage (Y Stabl Fach), between Glendower and the Commercial Inn has painted rubble 3-bay facade offset to right. All openings blocked with

concrete blocks. Two upper windows with timber lintels and stone sills. Ground floor windows and central door with cambered stone voussoired heads.

Non-statutory designation:

The buildings are recorded on the DAT Historic Environment Record (HER) under the record number (PRN 57763) but this references its listing and gives no further description. It is not recorded on the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales National Monuments Record.

The first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889 (1:2500) shows the terrace of buildings to the east of the church (Figure 3). As described in the listing detail the earlier 1840 Cilcennin tithe map shows one building at this location opposite the church but it is not clear which of the later terraced buildings it could represent.

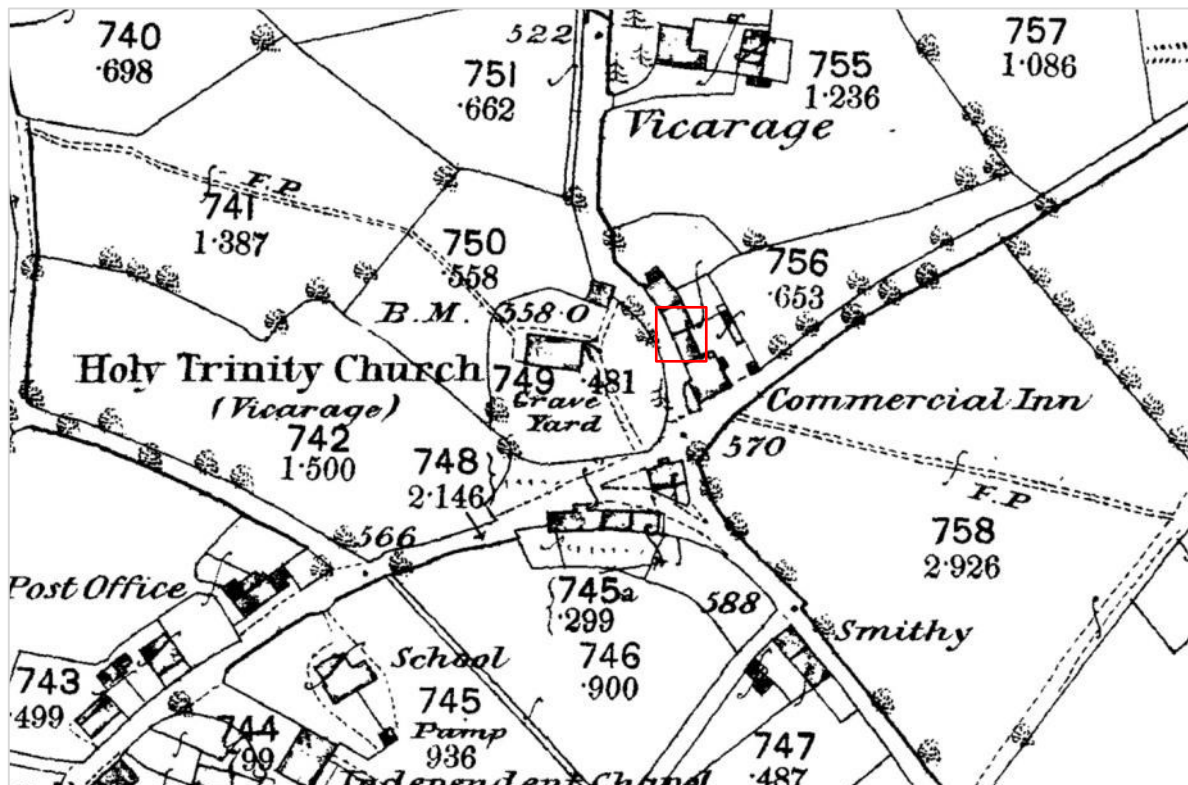


Figure 3: Extract of the 1st edition 1889 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map of showing the cottage now known as Y Stabl Fach within the red box

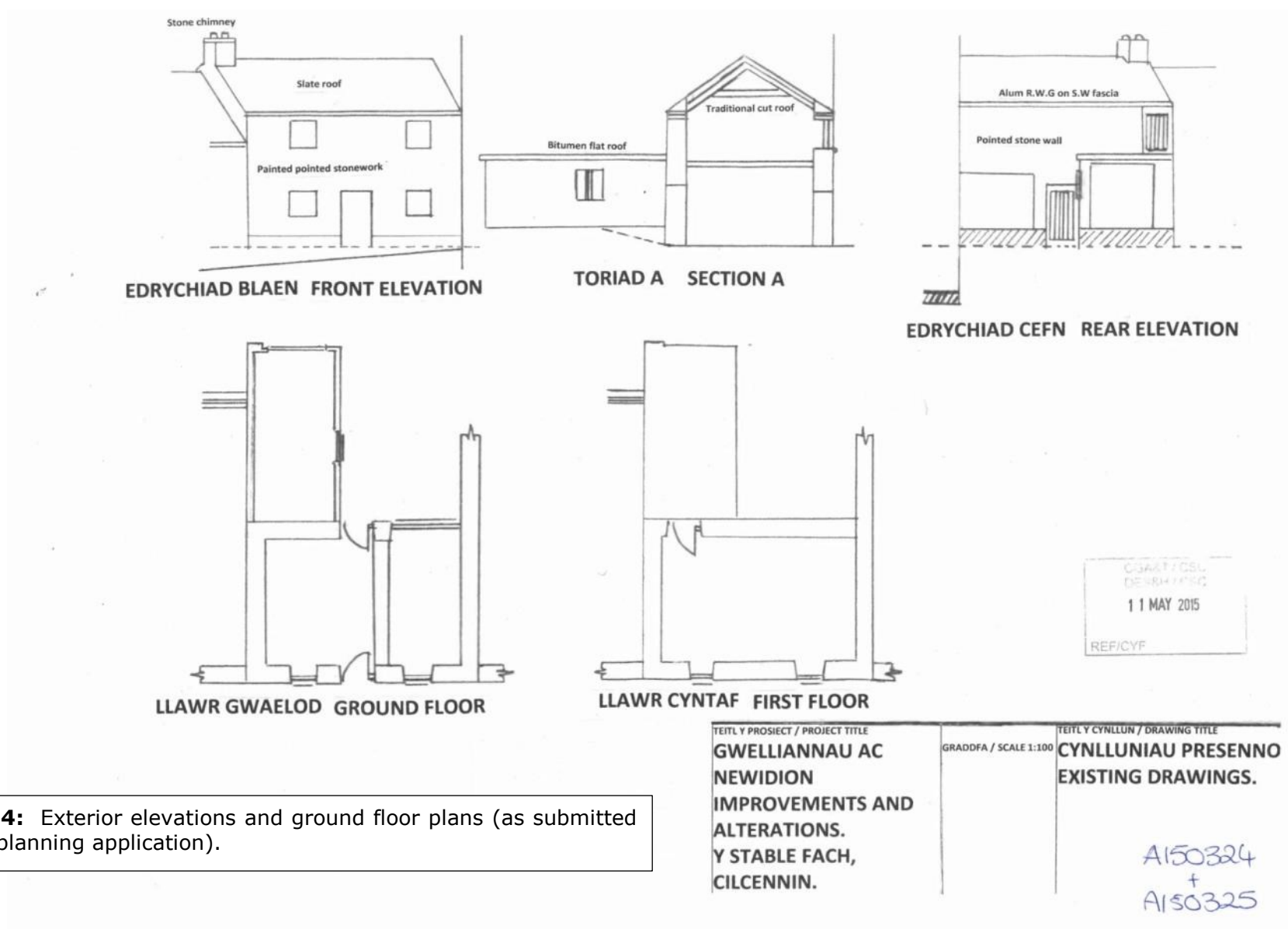


Figure 4: Exterior elevations and ground floor plans (as submitted for the planning application).

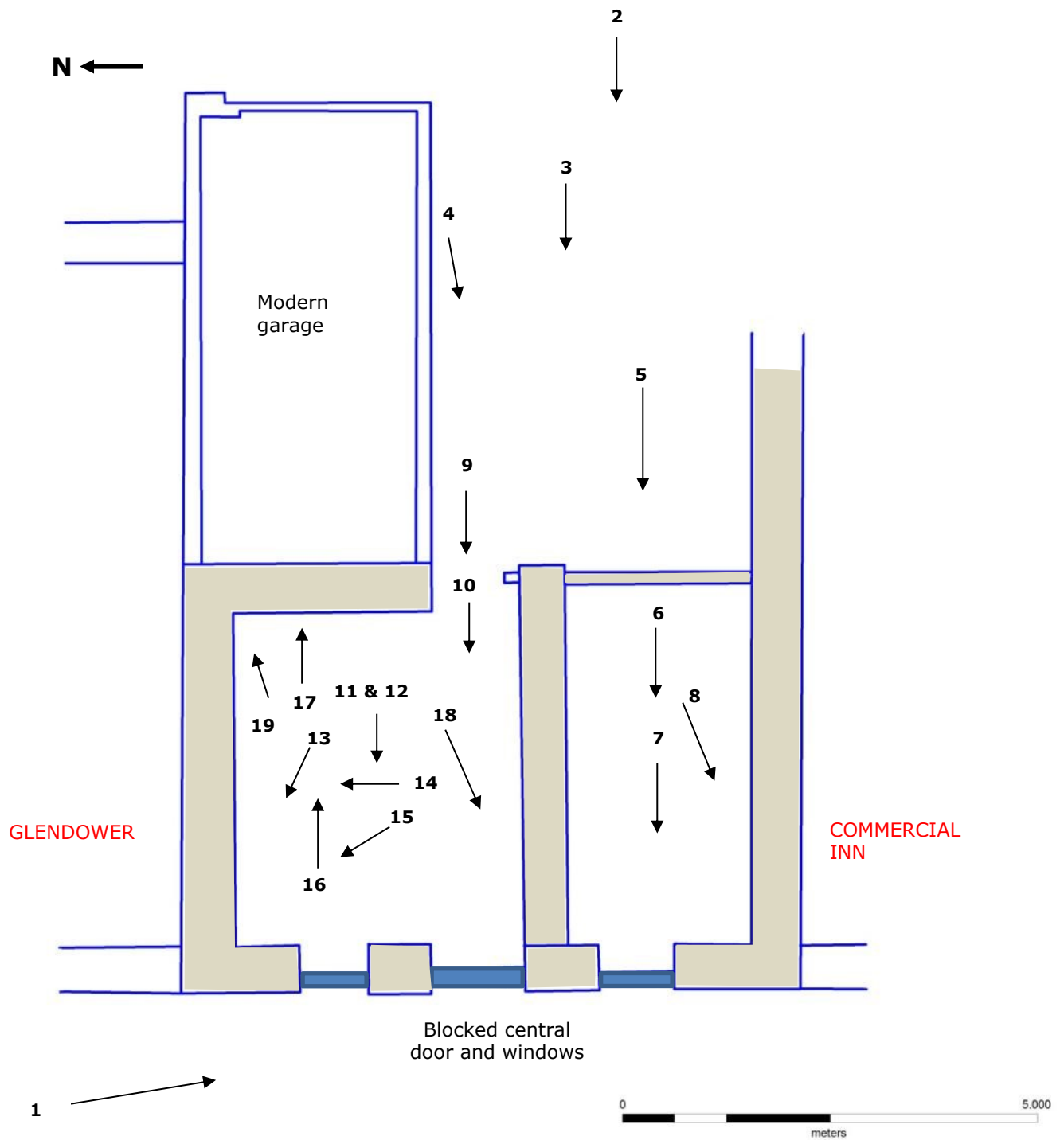


Figure 5: Ground floor layout of building showing modern garage extension, window and door openings at ground level and directions of photographs.

PHOTO SURVEY

The survey was undertaken by Fran Murphy of DAT Archaeological Services on Tuesday 17th October 2017.



Photo 1: The front exterior of the cottage.



Photo 2: The rear exterior of the cottage showing the later addition of the modern garage.



Photo 3: The rear exterior of the cottage.



Photo 4: The rear exterior of the cottage.



Photo 5: Detail of wooden lintel inserted into outer wall.



Photo 6: Internal shot of south side of cottage showing lower blocked window.
1m scale



Photo 7: Detail of blocked 1st floor south window.



Photo 8: Detail of blocked heating vent(?) within southern party wall with Commercial Inn property. 1m scale



Photo 9: Detail of wooden lintel beam above rear door.



Photo 10: Internal shot showing blocked front door and ground floor north window. 1m scale



Photo 11: Internal shot showing blocked front door and ground and 1st floor north windows and wooden joists.



Photo 12: Detail of blocked 1st floor north window.



Photo 13: Internal shot showing blocked upper north window and wooden joists.



Photo 14: The north gable end wall.



Photo 15: Internal shot of the north wall. 1m scale



Photo 16: Internal shot of east wall and rear door. 1m scale



Photo 17: Internal shot of east wall showing 1st floor rear door.



Photo 18: Internal stone wall that divides the cottage; looking southwest. 1m scale



Photo 19: Internal shot of northeast corner of cottage showing 1st floor rear door. 1m scale

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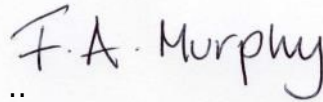
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Dyddiad / Date 23/10/2017

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

JAMES MEEK

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

Swydd / Position: **HEAD OF DAT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES**

Llofnod / Signature



Dyddiad / Date 23/10/2017

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

