



Ty Yd Building Plot, Land Opposite Glandwr Chapel, Glandwr, Pembrokeshire.

Archaeological Watching Brief



By

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June 2023

HRS Wales
Report No: 271

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Ty Yd Building Plot, Land Opposite Glandwr Chapel, Glandwr, Pembrokeshire.

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Prepared for:

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On behalf of:

Date: June 2023

HRSW Report No: 271



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Non Technical Summary

The following report presents the results of an Archaeological Investigation at the proposed site of a permitted two plot residential development known as Ty Yd, located directly opposite the Glandwr Chapel Cemetery, Glandwr, Whitland, Pembrokeshire (centered on OS grid reference SN 1911 2856).

The specific objective of this work was to inspect the site with respect to its archaeological potential following unsupervised work undertaken at the site in 2006.

On arrival at the site it was clear that the turf and top soil strip across the entire site had already been undertaken over 16 years ago in 2006, the entire site now having been re-turfed over and used as a garden area.. Also, the site entrance and the low parking area had also been raised and covered in shingle. Behind the two building plots the resulting turf and top from the stripping work in 2006 was being stored.

A site visit was also made to the Glandwr Chapel to inspect the Early Medieval Inscribed Stone set in the cemetery and photos of the stone were appropriated.

Although the entire proposed development site had already been stripped of turf and sub spoil in 2006, over 16 years ago, thus removing and destroying potentially crucial archaeological deposits from the site, it is clear from the apparent history of the Early Medieval Inscribed Stone that now stands in the Glandwr Chapel cemetery, that there was probably only a slight chance that any Early Medieval remains or even prehistoric remains were present at the proposed development site, especially given that the stone was first recorded at Let-wen Farm some 1km distant to the northwest.

Given that the entire site has already been party to turf and top soil stripping in 2006 without archaeological supervision, it is concluded that it is very unlikely that significant buried remains or even any buried remains exist at the site, therefore it was concluded that any further archaeological intervention would be unnecessary.

Crynodeb Annhechnegol

Mae'r adroddiad a ganlyn yn cyflwyno canlyniadau Ymchwiliad Archeolegol ar safle arfaethedig datblygiad preswyl dwy lain a ganiateir o'r enw Tŷ Yd, a leolir yn union gyferbyn â Mynwent Capel Glandwr, Glandwr, Hendy-gwyn ar Daf, Sir Benfro (yn canolbwyntio ar gyfeirnod grid OS SN 1911 2856).

Amcan penodol y gwaith hwn oedd archwilio'r safle o ran ei botensial archeolegol yn dilyn gwaith heb oruchwyliaeth a wnaed ar y safle yn 2006.

Wrth gyrraedd y safle roedd yn amlwg bod y tyweirch a'r rhimyn pridd uchaf ar draws y safle cyfan eisoes wedi ei wneud dros 16 mlynedd yn ôl yn 2006, gyda'r safle cyfan bellach wedi'i ail-dywarchu a'i ddefnyddio fel gardd. roedd mynedfa'r safle a'r maes parcio isel hefyd wedi'u codi a'u gorchuddio â graean. Y tu ôl i'r ddau lain adeiladu roedd y tyweirch a'r top a ddeilliodd o'r gwaith stripio yn 2006 yn cael eu storio.

Ymwelwyd safle hefyd â Chapel Glandwr i archwilio'r Maen Arysgrifedig o'r Oesoedd Canol Cynnar a osodwyd yn y fynwent a chafodd lluniau o'r garreg eu hatafaelu.

Er bod y safle datblygu arfaethedig cyfan eisoes wedi'i dynnu o dyweirch ac isrwail yn 2006, dros 16 mlynedd yn ôl, gan ddileu a dinistrio dyddodion archeolegol a allai fod yn hollbwysig o'r safle, mae'n amlwg o hanes ymddangosiadol y Garreg Arysgrifedig Ganoloesol Gynnar sydd bellach. ym mynwent Capel Glandwr, mae'n debyg mai dim ond ychydig o siawns oedd bod unrhyw olion Canoloesol Cynnar neu hyd yn oed olion cynhanesyddol yn bresennol ar safle'r datblygiad arfaethedig, yn enwedig o ystyried bod y garreg wedi'i chofnodi gyntaf yn Fferm Let-wen rhyw 1km i ffwrdd i'r gogledd-orllewin.

O ystyried bod y safle cyfan eisoes wedi bod yn rhan o'r tyweirch a'r stripio pridd uchaf yn 2006 heb oruchwyliaeth archeolegol, daethpwyd i'r casgliad ei bod yn annhebygol iawn bod olion claddedig sylweddol neu hyd yn oed unrhyw weddillion claddedig yn bodoli ar y safle, felly daethpwyd i'r casgliad bod unrhyw olion claddedig pellach. byddai ymyrraeth archeolegol yn ddiangen.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The following report presents the results of an Archaeological Investigation at the proposed site of a permitted two plot residential development known as Ty Yd, located directly opposite the Glandwr Chapel Cemetery, Glandwr, Whitland, Pembrokeshire (centered on OS grid reference SN 1911 2856).
- 1.2 The specific objective of this work as to:
- Inspect the site with respect to its archaeological potential following unsupervised work undertaken at the site in 2006.
- 1.3 The Technical Appendices for this report contains the following information:
- Appendix I: Figures;*
- Appendix II: Photographs*
- Appendix III: Archive Cover Sheet*

Site Location & Description (see Figures 1 - 4)

- 1.4 The field opposite Glandwr Chapel, Glandwr, Whitland, Pembrokeshire is positioned on the south side of the road and lies at a height of approximately 108m AOD and centred on OS grid reference SN 1911 / 2856. Currently the proposed development site is enclosed with post and wire fencing with modern agricultural gates at the entrance to the site. The planning application is dated 2006 and ground work on the site was undertaken in 2006 without any commitment to the stipulated archaeological planning condition. As such the site was stripped in 2006 by the former owner of turf and top soil and the access area covered in stone shingle. The stripping of the footprint of both building plots was also undertaken in 2006 and mounds of spoil lie at the rear of the enclosed area. Given that over 16 years have now passed since the initial planning decision notice was issued and groundwork was undertaken unsupervised, the site has now returned to being turf covered and now forms part of a garden area serving a mobile home with the registered address Ty-Yd, Glandwr, Whitland, Pembrokeshire, SA34 0XY.
- 1.5 In terms of archaeology, the site is located opposite Glandwr Chapel (PRN 4953) an independent chapel built in 1712, and within the grounds of the cemetery is an Early Medieval Inscribed Stone of probable 5th-early 6th century date, with a secondary double ring-cross added in the 7th-9th century. The stone was first recorded on Let-wen Farm at NGR SN 174 292 (see PRN 46815 for findspot) within an area that may have Bronze Age cremation associations, the stone possibly having been reused. In c.1870 the stone was moved to Tre Hywel Farm (NGR SN 1842 2863) where it was used as a gate-post, before the Oghams and cross were noted in 1908. It was moved to its present location at Glandwr in 1911. Ogham is an alphabet that appears on monumental inscriptions dating from the 4th to the 6th century AD, and in manuscripts dating from the 6th to the 9th century. The Ogham alphabet is predominantly formed by the incising of short inscribed lines in sequences, each sequence representing a letter e.g III, or //III/, or II. It was used mainly to write Primitive and Old Irish, and also to write Old Welsh, Pictish and Latin.

- 1.6 In view of the proposed development area, being located within a landscape that has early medieval and even Bronze Age associations, there is the chance that buried archaeological features could once have extended into the application area where any ground works for the proposed development could reveal and destroy buried archaeological remains.

Planning Background

- 1.7 A planning application for the proposed works was submitted to Pembrokeshire County Council (henceforth PCC) on the 24th March 2006 (Ref: 05/1585/PA) by WR Evans, Trelyn Homes, Vlaenwaun Twr, Trelech, Carmarthen. The agent being Archi-Tec, 16 North Road, Cardigan, Ceredigion. Planning permission was granted soon after but with the following archaeological condition (No.11):

"The developer shall ensure that a suitably qualified archaeologist is present during the undertaking of any ground works in the development area so that an archaeological watching brief can be conducted. The archaeological watching brief shall be undertaken to the standards laid down by the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The Local Planning Authority shall be informed in writing at least two weeks prior to the commencement of the development of the name of the said archaeologist.

Reason: *To ensure that finds are properly recorded.*

- 1.8 For some reason or other, work started on site in 2006 without an archaeologist on site and such offered no acknowledgement of the planning condition. Work also stopped soon after site clearance in 2006 for reasons unknown. The current site owner, James Bellarby, wishes to re-open the site and continue with the permitted development and commissioned HRS Wales to write up and submit a required Written Scheme of Investigation and to undertake a site visit to investigate the character of the site.

Development Proposals

- 1.19 In order to install the new mine-flow gauging chambers, work will involve:
The development proposed to strip turf and top soil from the site for the erection of two two-storey dwellings along with associated drainage services.
- 1.20 Groundwork was to entail the stripping of turf and top soil from the site and the cutting of new foundations and the cutting of new service trenches.

Geology

- 1.22 The geology of the area falls within the Undifferentiated Arenig Rocks consisting of Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone.

2 Aims & Objectives

- 2.1 The aims of the intended archaeological watching brief, as defined by the ClfA (2014) were to:

- Allow a rapid investigation and recording of any archaeological features that are uncovered during the proposed groundwork.
- Provide the opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief are not sufficient to support the treatment to a satisfactory or proper standard.

3 Methodology

Site Investigation

- 3.1 The archaeological investigation of the site was undertaken by HRS Wales staff using current best practice on the 23rd May 2023.
- 3.2 All work was carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist with relevant level membership of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) and followed the CIfA Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief (CIfA 2014).
- 3.3 Any recording required was to be carried out using HRS Wales recording systems (pro-forma context sheets etc), using a continuous number sequence for all contexts.
- 3.4 Where considered necessary plans and sections were drawn to a scale of 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 as required and related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.
- 3.5 All features identified were tied in to both the OS National Grid and all local site and ground plans.
- 3.6 Photographs were appropriated in digital format, using a 24 mega-pixel DSLR camera in RAW format, to be exported later to TIFF format.

4 Results of Investigation (see Photo Plates 1- 5)

- 4.1 The archaeological site investigation was undertaken on the 23rd May 2023
- 4.2 On arrival at the site it was clear that the turf and top soil strip across the entire site had already been undertaken over 16 years ago in 2006, the entire site now having been re-turfed over and used as a garden. Also, the site entrance and the low parking area had also been raised and covered in shingle. Behind the two building plots the resulting turf and top from the stripping work in 2006 was being stored.
- 4.3 A site visit was also made to the Glandwr Chapel to inspect the Early Medieval Inscribed Stone set in the cemetery and photos of the stone were appropriated.

5. Conclusion & Recommendations

- 5.1 Although the entire proposed development site had already been stripped of turf and sub spoil in 2006, over 16 years ago, thus removing and destroying potentially crucial archaeological deposits from the site, it is clear from the apparent history of the Early Medieval Inscribed Stone that now stands in the Glandwr Chapel cemetery, that there was probably only a slight chance that any Early Medieval remains or even prehistoric remains were present at the proposed development site, especially given that the stone was first recorded at Let-wen Farm at NGR SN 174 292 (see PRN 46815 for findspot) some 1km distant to the northwest.
- 5.2 Given that the entire site has already been party to turf and top soil stripping in 2006 without archaeological supervision, it is concluded that it is very unlikely that significant buried remains or even any buried remains exist at the site, therefore it was concluded that any further archaeological intervention would be unnecessary.

6 Acknowledgements

Thanks to; James Bellarby for allowing access to the site for inspection..

7 Bibliography

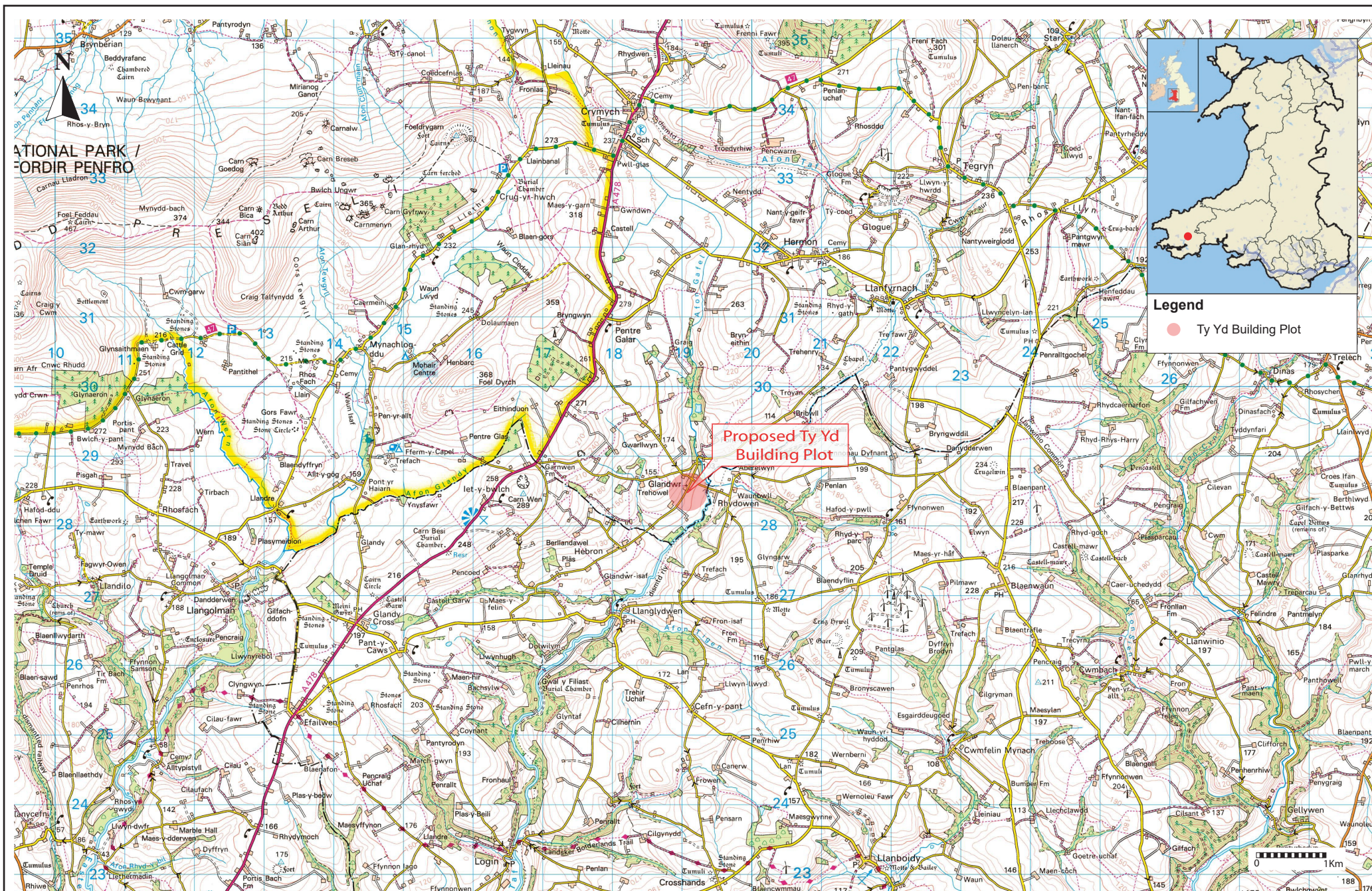
Lewis, S, 1833. *Topographical Dictionary of Wales*.

Cartographic Sources

- *Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map of 1888 (1:10560);*
- *Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition map of 1907 (1:10560);*
- *Ordnance Survey (OS Landranger 1:50,000)*
- *Ordnance Survey (OS Explorer 1:25,000)*
- *Ordnance Survey Aerial Photo (2022)*

APPENDIX I:

Figures



Project Title: Ty Yd Building Plot, Glandwr

Date: 23rd June 2023

Drawn by:

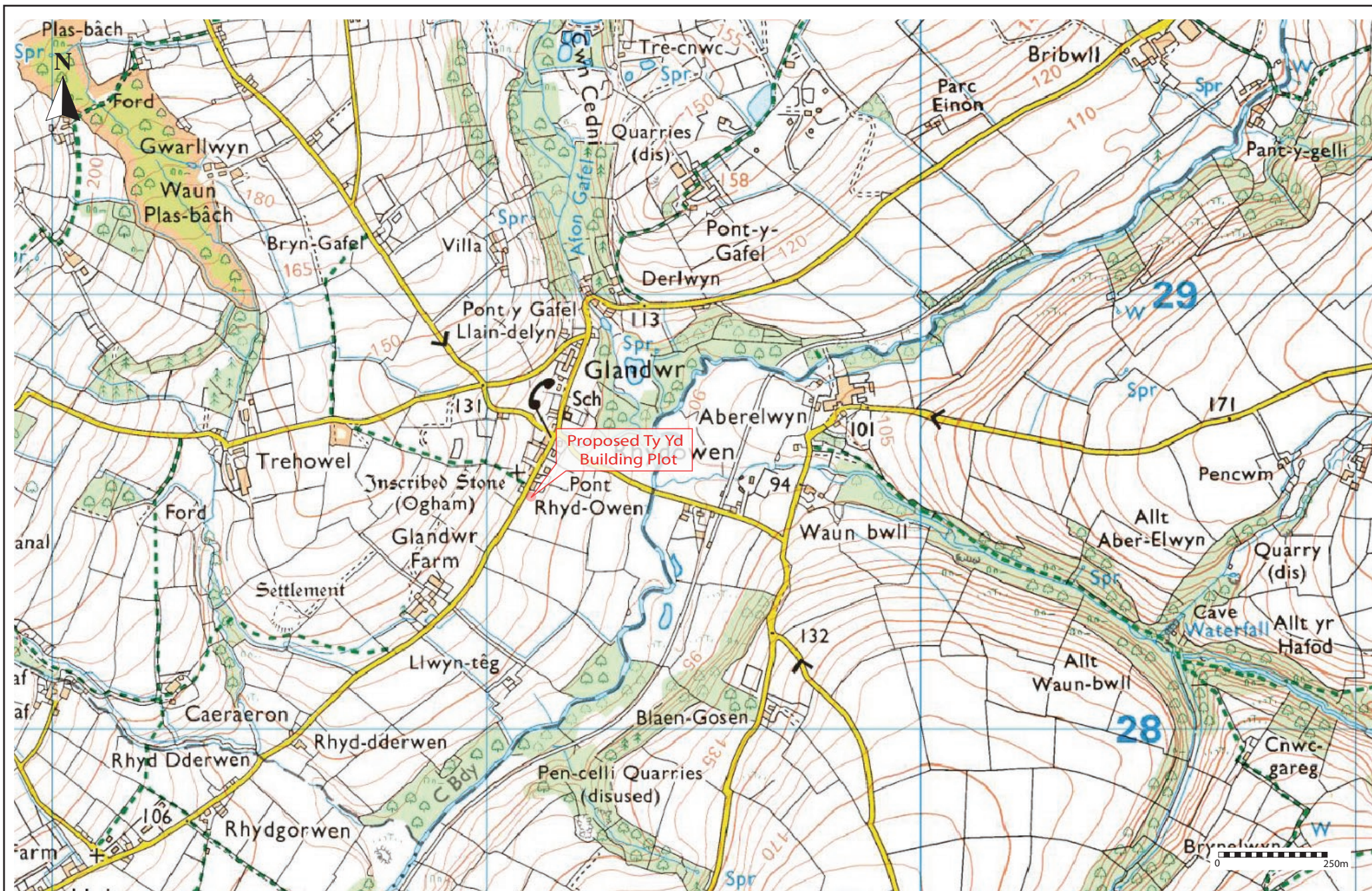
Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawing No.

Figure 1.

Location Map (OS 1:50,000 Landranger)





Project Title: Ty Yd Building Plot, Glandwr

Date: 23rd June 2023

Drawn by:

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawing No.

Figure 2.

Location Map (OS 1:25,000 Explorer)





Project Title: Ty Yd Building Plot, Glandwr

Date: 23rd June 2023

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

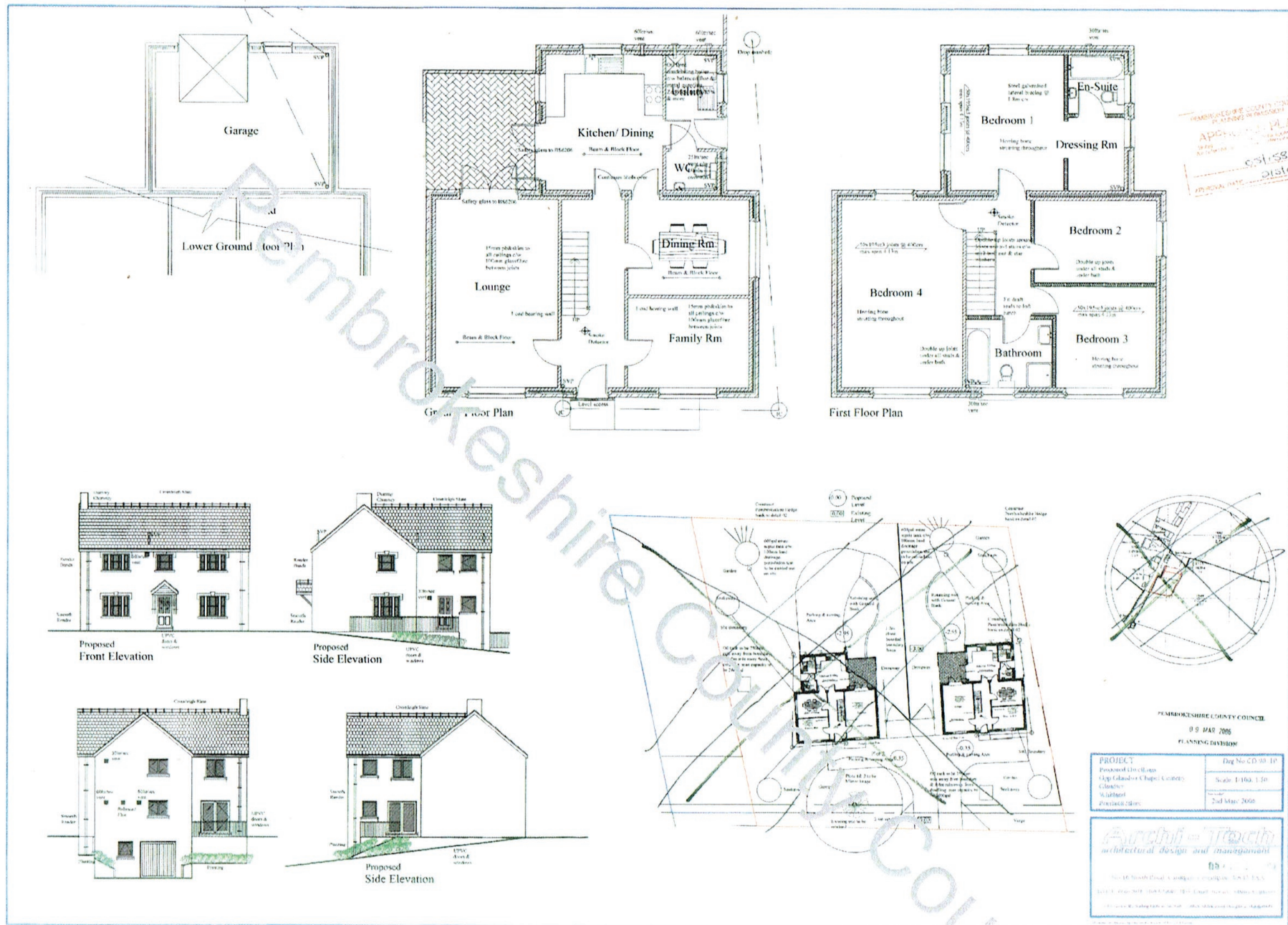
Drawn by:

Drawing No.

Figure 3.

OS Aerial Photo (2022)





Project Title: Ty Yd Building Plot, Glandwr

Date: 23rd June 2023

Drawn by:

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawing No.

Figure 4.

General Proposed Site Plans





Project Title: Ty Yd Building Plot, Glandwr

Date: 23rd June 2023

Drawn by:

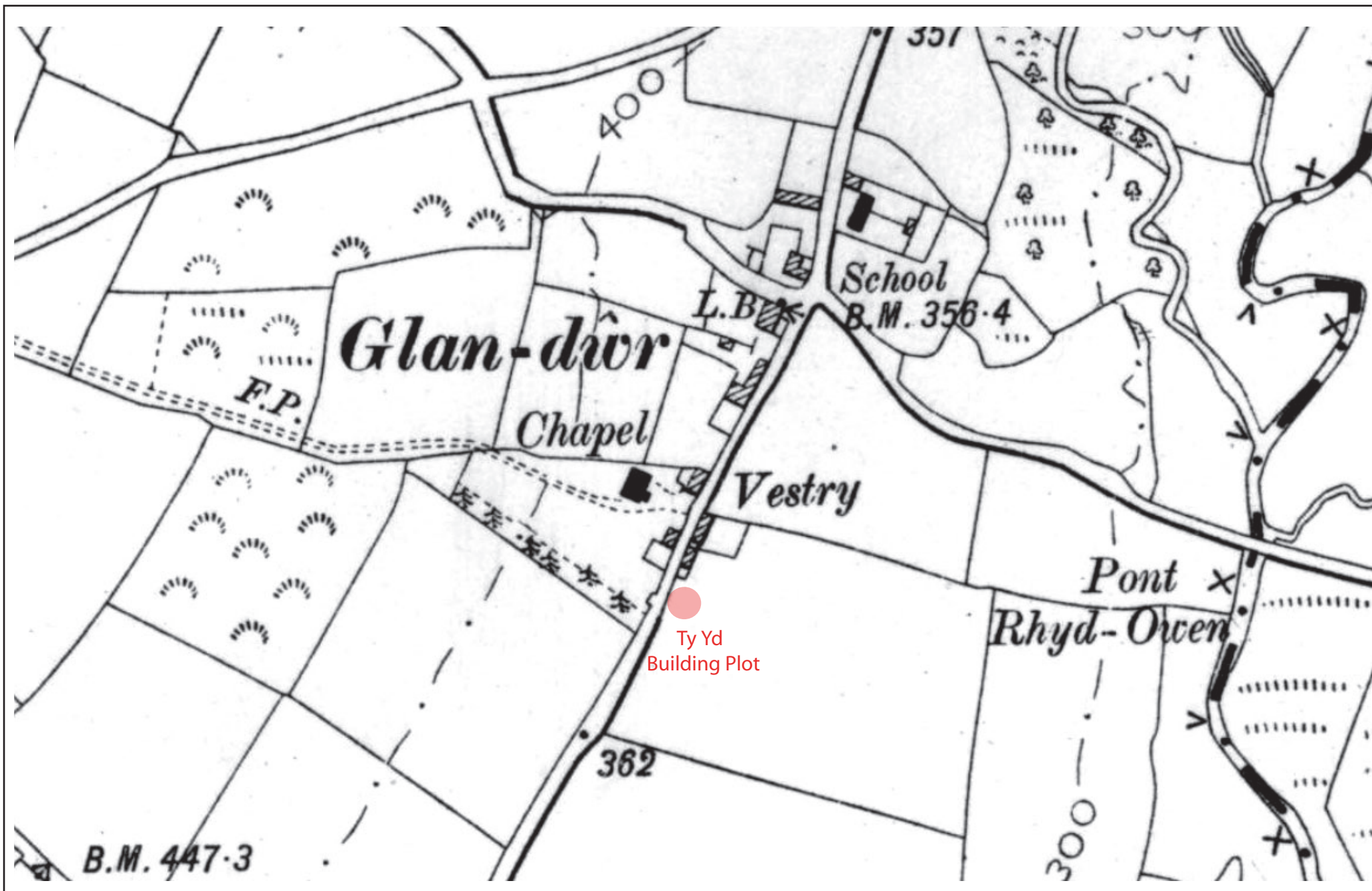
Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawing No.

Figure 5.

OS First Edition Map (1888)





Project Title: Ty Yd Building Plot, Glandwr

Date: 23rd June 2023

Drawn by:

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawing No.

Figure 6.

OS Second Edition Map (1907)



APPENDIX II:

Photo plates



Plate 01. View of entrance to Ty Yd Building Plot. Looking NE along Glandwr Road.

Project Title: Ty Yd Building Plot, Glandwr.		Photo Plate No. 01	
Date Taken: 23rd May 2023	Approx. Scale (@ A4):		
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.		



Plate 02. View of entrance to Ty Yd Building Plot. Looking SW along Glandwr Road.

Project Title: Ty Yd Building Plot, Glandwr.		Photo Plate No. 02	
Date Taken: 23rd May 2023	Approx. Scale (@ A4):		
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.		



Plate 03. View of Ty Yd Building Plot showing area already turf and top soil stripped with over subsequent turf regrowth over 16 years since work first began. Looking SE.

Project Title: Ty Yd Building Plot, Glandwr.	
Date Taken: 23rd May 2023	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plate No.
03





Plate 04. View of Glandwr Chapel with Early Medieval Ogham Stone in foreground to right.



Plate 05. Early Medieval Ogham Stone in grounds of Glandwr Chapel.

Project Title: Ty Yd Building Plot, Glandwr.

Date Taken: 23rd May 2023

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Appropriated by: RSJ

Drawing No.

Photo Plate No's.

04 - 05



APPENDIX III:
Archive Cover Sheet

ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

Ty Yd Building Plot, Land opposite Glandwr Chapel, Glandwr, Whitland, Pembrokeshire

ARCHIVE DESTINATION - RCAHMW

Site Name:	Ty Yd Building Plot, Land opposite Glandwr Chapel, Glandwr, Whitland, Pembrokeshire
Site Code:	TY/2023/WB
PRN:	-
NPRN:	
SAM No.	
Other Ref No.	HRSW Rpt No. 271
NGR:	SN 1911 / 2856
Site Type:	Unknown
Project Type:	Archaeological Watching Brief
Project Manager:	Richard Scott Jones
Project Date(s):	25th May 2023
Categories Present:	None
Location of Original Archive:	HRSW
Location of Duplicate Archive:	RCAHMW
Number of Find Boxes:	N/A
Location of Finds:	N/A
Museum Ref:	N/A
Copyright:	HRS Wales
Restrictions to Access:	None



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