

DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST LTD

REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSED MAIN
SUPPLY SCHEME AT BRECHFA MOUNTAIN, CARDIGANSHIRE (CON9412)

DAT PRN 28242

Client: Dwr Cymru

Project Officer: Neil Ludlow

Report by: Neil Ludlow

Dated: 17 October 1994

Dyfed Archaeological Trust
Shire Hall
Carmarthen Street
LLANDEILO
Dyfed SA19 6AF
Tel: 0558 823121

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1.0 RECOMMENDATIONS (prepared by Curatorial Section)

1.1. The Report gives a full Report on archaeological and historic landscape concerns within, or in the close vicinity of, the route corridor for the proposed Mains Supply Scheme.

1.2. Provided that there are no changes to the route, and that the possible archaeologically sensitive areas are noted by the Contractors, there is no need for any further action regarding archaeological interests.

1.3. Should any unexpected features or material come to light during construction, it is recommended that the Scheme Engineer consult the Trust. It might therefore be advisable to build in a small contingency element to cover the cost of a site visit by an archaeologist during the course of the works.

Heather James, BA FSA
Principal Archaeological Officer (Curatorial)

2.0 INTRODUCTION

Details of a proposed main supply scheme at Brechfa Mountain, Cardiganshire, were forwarded by Teifion Rees of Dwr Cymru to Dyfed Archaeological Trust for comment on 20 June 1994.

Following an initial assessment of the scheme by the Curatorial Section of Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Dwr Cymru were advised of the need for a detailed archaeological desk-top assessment of the project to be prepared in order for detailed mitigatory measures to be drafted. Subsequently, in a letter dated 25 July 1994, Dwr Cymru confirmed that it wished the Trust to undertake the detailed assessment of the scheme.

This report, prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust's Field Section, is intended to provide Dwr Cymru with sufficient information to assess the likely impact of the proposed works upon the archaeological resource and to take this into account as a material consideration in the determination of appropriate mitigatory measures.

The Trust's Curatorial Section provided a standard brief for this report and will advise Dwr Cymru on its findings and recommend further action if deemed necessary.

2.1 Methodology; content and scope of archaeological assessment

The primary stage of assessment of the archaeological implications of any scheme involves consultation of Dyfed Archaeological Trust's Sites and Monuments Record for the area affected by the proposed scheme.

Dyfed Archaeological Trust's Sites and Monuments Record is designated as a County Sites and Monuments Record in the Welsh Office Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16).

Consultation of the Sites and Monuments Record will establish whether any known sites or monuments are affected by the scheme. However it is important to appreciate that the Record is not and cannot ever be a complete record of all traces of human activity in the landscape. It is rather a record of past archaeological work.

Consultation of the Record is therefore followed up by a rapid search of relevant map and documentary sources, both published and manuscript. All assessments carried out by Dyfed Archaeological Trust contain a full list of sources consulted.

All available aerial photographic collections held by the Trust are consulted and, if judged necessary, collections held by other bodies will be consulted. If sites or landscapes with special interest are affected the Trust would wish to consult the appropriate period or site type specialists or societies.

All desk-top assessments involve a field visit or visits to the scheme area by a professional archaeologist to check whether any previously unknown sites or monuments are affected by the scheme and to assess the overall landscape history of the area.

2.2 List of sources consulted

unpublished

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Sites and Monuments Record.

'The Parish of Llanfihangel a'r Arth', Tithe map and apportionment, 1839.

'The Parish of Llanfihangel Rhos-y-corn', Tithe map and apportionment, 1838.

'The Parish of Llanwenog', Tithe map and apportionment, 1843.

'The Parish of Llanwnnen', Tithe map and apportionment, 1844.

'The Parish of Llanybyther', Tithe map and apportionment, 1841.

Ordnance Survey, 'Original Survey Drawings', sheet 186, 1811, revised 1832, 2" to the mile.

aerial photographs

Copies held in the National Monuments Record, RCAHM, Aberystwyth

(RAF)

CPE/UK/2319 5151-5153, 5099-5101 (1948)

CPE/UK/2342 5153-5154, 5045-5046 (1948)

published

Cambrian Meeting, Lampeter, 1878, *Llanybyther Parish Church*, Archaeologia Cambrensis Fourth Series, Vol. IX.

Chater, A. O., 1977, *Early Cardiganshire Gravestones*, Archaeologia Cambrensis, Vol. CXXXVI.

Gwili Railway Preservation Society, 1990, *Guide to the Gwili Railway*.

Ordnance Survey, 1:2500 First Edition, Cardiganshire, Sheets XLI. 3, XLI. 7, XLI. 11, 1888.

Ordnance Survey, 1:2500 Second Edition, Cardiganshire, Sheets XLI. 3, XLI. 7, XLI. 11, 1905.

Ordnance Survey, 1834, *Index to Tithe Survey*, Old Series, Sheet 57, 1" to a mile.

Price, M. R. C., 1986, *The Whitland and Cardigan Railway*.

RCAHMS, 1917, *An Inventory of the Ancient Monuments in Wales and*

Monmouthshire, County of Carmarthen.

Rees, W., 1932 *South Wales and the Borders in the XIV Century*, NW Sheet.

Rural Surveys Research Unit, 1988, *The Common Lands of England and Wales*, Carms. 4.

Yates, W. N., 1972, *Non-Celtic Pre-Reformation Church Dedications in Carmarthenshire*, The Carmarthenshire Antiquarian Vol. VIII.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGY

3.1 Summary

The proposed scheme lies in 2 discrete areas. The S section crosses the summit of Mynydd Llanfihangel Rhos-y-corn in an area of unenclosed Grade 5 land, upland pasture and heath. The route follows an unclassified road almost in its entirety and although Crug Penyrheol round barrow lies nearby, no archaeological sites are affected by this part of the scheme.

The N section of the scheme passes N-S across an area of gently rolling landscape, characterised in the main by a pattern of large regular fields. Field boundaries are depicted as more-or-less identical to today's on all 3 tithe maps for the assessment area ('The Parish of Llanwenog', Tithe map and apportionment, 1843; 'The Parish of Llanwnnen', Tithe map and apportionment, 1844; 'The Parish of Llanybyther', Tithe map and apportionment, 1841); unfortunately the first two do not include information on contemporary land use. Today it is all pasture, much of it improved, with areas of 'landscaped' hedgerow planting at the far S of the route. The route begins at the N foot of the steep scarp of Mynydd Llanybyther, crossing a dismantled railway (28222) to enter the alluvial floodplain of the River Teifi and passing Llanybyther parish church (738) before ascending a gentle hill. Towards its N end the route descends to cross a small valley, climbing again briefly to terminate at Cross Inn (28232), a probable former long-house. Few archaeological sites are affected.

The sites are listed below from S to N.

3.2 Register of archaeological sites and areas of archaeological interest

The reference numbers in the following catalogue are those allocated in the Dyfed Sites and Monuments Record. These numbers are shown on the following annotated engineer's maps.

17083. (SN 5066 3467) Ffynnon-las. Springs. The scheme begins near a group of 3 springs/wells, on the edge of the unenclosed common land of Mynydd Llanfihangel Rhos-y-corn adjacent to Ffynnon-las farm. (Drawing f1634104)

The route crosses country for a short distance before following the unfenced road across Mynydd Llanfihangel Rhos-y-corn.

13694. (SN 504 353) Mynydd Llanfihangel Rhos-y-corn. Common Land. The summit of Mynydd Llanfihangel Rhos-y-corn crossed by the route is a block of common land, now Grade 5 heath and rough pasture. Its origins as a common probably lie in the medieval

period; Rees, 1932, depicts the entire surrounding area as a part of the vast Glyncothi Forest, all common land. (Drawing f1634104)

712. (SN 5023 3547) Crug Penyrheol. Round Barrow, or burial mound from the Bronze Age. In form a cairn, now turf-covered, 15m in diameter and 0.5m high. A trig pillar has been erected at the centre of the mound (RCAHM, 1917, 137 no.409).

The route passes 100m from Crug Penyrheol, and follows an existing road and it is unlikely that the environs of the barrow will be affected. (Drawing f1634104)

This section of the route terminates at an existing 6" AC main. The second section begins adjacent to the A485 near Llanybydder.

17240. (SN 5194 4320) Quarry. The section begins near a former limestone quarry cut into the steep slope of Glan-tren Wood. Marked on Ordnance Survey 1:2500 Sheet XLI. 11 first edition of 1888, but disused on the second edition of 1905. The former quarry is not affected by the scheme. (Drawing f1634103)

28222. (SN 54 SW). Railway. The pipeline route crosses a single track railway, now disused.

The railway line from Pencader Junction N to Lampeter was opened by the infamous Manchester to Milford Railway Co. on 1 June 1886, with a station at Llanybyther. The company's ambitious plan was for a railway link between Manchester and the new deep water port at Milford Haven via Crewe, Mid Wales and Carmarthen; however, when the company went into liquidation in 1880 the line extended no further N than Aberystwyth. The company continued operations under the control of the receiver, running 4 trains daily between Pencader and Aberystwyth, until it was absorbed into the GWR network in 1906. The line ceased carrying passenger traffic in 1965; however, freight services continued until 28 September 1973 when the entire line was finally closed. (Drawing f1634103)

The pipeline route skirts the W boundary of Llanybyther parish church (738, below) in an area of water meadows on the E bank of the Teifi. A former river channel is clearly visible on the ground immediately W of the churchyard.

738. (SN 5188 4393) St. Peter's Church, Llanybyther. The proposed route skirts the churchyard of St. Peter's Church, the parish church of Llanybyther.

The present church is largely 19th century, having been extensively rebuilt in 1885; the fabric is, however, uniformly carboniferous limestone with oolitic limestone dressings. The

tower, and the remains of 1 window seen in the interior of the nave, alone survive from the medieval period. Now comprises nave, chancel, W tower, N transept and S porch. The battered tower is of 4 stages above a plinth and string course. It displays a stair turret on the NE corner, looped in every stage. On the ground floor is the 2-centred arch W door with simple voussoirs and no dressings. Above it on the 1st floor is a 2-light window, apparently re-used and of 15th century pattern. There is a loop in the N and S walls. The 2nd floor is lit by a simple loop in each wall, the 3rd floor by a similar 2-light window, apparently original 15th century work, in each wall. The parapet is corbelled but has lost its battlements. The nave is of 3 bays each lit by a 2-light simple lancet window save at the SW where entered via the porch. There is a N transept at the junction between nave and chancel lit by a window in the N wall displaying plate tracery, incorporating a quatrefoil, beneath a hood mould. The chancel is of 3 bays lit by similar 2-light windows to those in the nave, and a large E window of 3 lights, with geometrical tracery incorporating a central cinquefoil flanked by trefoils, beneath a hood mould. All roofs are slate.

The church was in disrepair bt 1710 (RCAHM, 1917, 205 no.603) but the pre-restoration arrangement is described in 1878 (Cambrian Meeting, 1878, 344) when the church comprised a nave, chancel and battlemented W tower, the basement of which formed the main and only entrance. There was a broken font lying on the floor supplanted by a stoup; the present font dates from 1933. A decorated window in the N wall of the nave implied the former presence of a rood loft.

The small churchyard might be seen as circular in outline, which may indicate pre-Norman origins, but is rather irregular. There is a pronounced bank on the N and E sides supporting a hedge containing hawthorn, elder, ash and hazel; it is, however, revetted by a (rebuilt) wall of indeterminate date. The remainder of the periphery is unbanked and to the W displays yew, horse chestnut and beech. It has been suggested that the 'peter' dedication is a corruption of an earlier celtic name St. 'Pedyr', but there is no evidence for this (Yates, 1972, 58-9). The churchyard contains an interesting and very early gravestone, an altar slab to Evan Thomas (d.1760), with 4 carved angels (Chater, 1977, 135). There is no evidence to suggest that the churchyard was ever extended at any point in the past; however, this was a fairly common practice and it may have occurred at Llanybyther, and in the area crossed by the proposed route. (Drawing f1634103)

Llanybyther was a medieval trading centre within the Welsh commote of Mabelfyw, in Cantref Mawr (Rees, 1932).

28223. (SN 5175 4440) Pant-y-fedwen. Farm. Marked on Ordnance Survey 'Original Survey Drawings' of 1811 and much as today on 'The Parish of Llanwenog', Tithe map and apportionment, 1843.

The farm comprises 3 ranges on the N, W and E sides of a rectangular yard. The W range includes the house, which has been empty for the last 8 years. The present structure is later 19th century, of 2 storeys and 3 bays in limestone construction. Central door and 5 windows in facade, all with segmental brick heads. Slate gable roof, with brick end chimneys. An adjoining byre to S, also of limestone, is earlier - 18th century? Also 2 storey, with an end door on the first floor reached by a flight of stone steps. Large entry in E wall beneath a timber lintel with adjacent smaller doorway, and a small square headed window above. Slate gable roof.

The E range consists of a single storey, 4 bay cattle shed also in limestone. # doorways to W (1 blocked) and a large entry, all with timber lintels. Ruined lean-to on S wall. Tin gable roof. Probably 18th century.

The tin barn and sheds forming the N range are on the site of earlier buildings.

The pond to the S of the farmstead is shown in 1888 and 1905 (Ordnance Survey, 1:2500, XLI. 7, first and second editions), on the latter with a sluice at the W end. The pond still exists and is still wet. Very regular rectangle in plan, cut into slope at W end from which it is fed by a stream, and enclosed on downhill SE and E sides by a regular square section earth bank up to 0.5m high. Hedgebank forms N side. An opening on the S side slopes into the pond, to collect run-off from the hill to the S. Function? (Drawing f1634102)

N of Pant-y-fedwen the pipeline route crosses open country with field boundaries much as those shown on 'The Parish of Llanwenog', Tithe map and apportionment, 1843. However, the hedgerow tree planting, under the Highmead estate to which the land partly belongs, gives the fields a 'parkland' appearance.

28224. (SN 516 447) Cae Quarry. Field name on 'The Parish of Llanwenog', Tithe map and apportionment, 1843. No sign of quarry in the field. (Drawing f1634102)

28225. (SN 517 448) Cae Nursery. Field name on 'The Parish of Llanwenog', Tithe map and apportionment, 1843. Field now S facing good quality pasture. (Drawing f1634102)

The pipeline route joins an unclassified lane across the flat summit of the hill, to run alongside its E hedgebank. The lane is marked on 'The Parish of Llanwenog', Tithe map and apportionment, 1843, and may have earlier origins - species diversity in the hedgebanks is high, a 10m (30 yard) length containing no fewer than 9 species, willow however predominating.

28226. (SN 518 458) Cae Quarry. Field name on 'The Parish of Llanwenog', Tithe map and apportionment, 1843. There are irregularities in the field, which is now fair quality pasture. (Drawing f1634102)

28227. (SN 515 461) Cae dir y baily. Field name on 'The Parish of Llanwenog', Tithe map and apportionment, 1843, comprising the element 'bailliff's land'. Now rough pasture. (Drawing f1634101)

28228. (SN 517 463) Cae garreg llwyd. Field name on 'The Parish of Llanwenog', Tithe map and apportionment, 1843. the name can indicate the former presence of a boundary stone or bronze age standing stone. No evidence in field; a neighbouring field to the S displays a largish (1m) limestone boulder in its W hedgebank, where it has apparently been dumped. However, limestone does outcrop naturally in the immediate vicinity. (Drawing f1634101)

The pipeline route crosses the modern A475, shown as a medieval route by Rees, 1932.

28229. (SN 5178 4662) Ty-newydd. ?Farm/cottage. Marked on 'The Parish of Llanwenog', Tithe map and apportionment, 1843 as 'Pentre-Rhys'. Today the holding opposite is 'Pentre-Rhys', but was 'Blaenwayn-ffinnant' in 1843.

Ty-newydd is now completely gone. The area of the holding W of the A475/unclassified lane junction is now wooded, although irregularities are visible on the ground, while to the E, the site occupied by the house is now represented by 1 limestone end wall forming part of a tin shed. The outline of the house is still shown on the Ordnance Survey 1/10560 of 1964. (Drawing f1634101)

The pipeline route joins an unclassified lane leading N to Cross Inn.

28230. (SN 5176 4682) Wern-cornicyll. Marked on Ordnance Survey 'Original Survey Drawings' of 1811 and 'The Parish of Llanwnnen', Tithe map and apportionment, 1844 as 'Cornicill' (Lapwing).

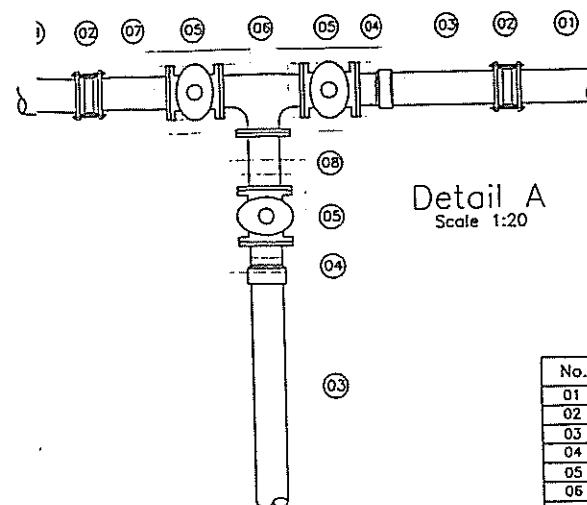
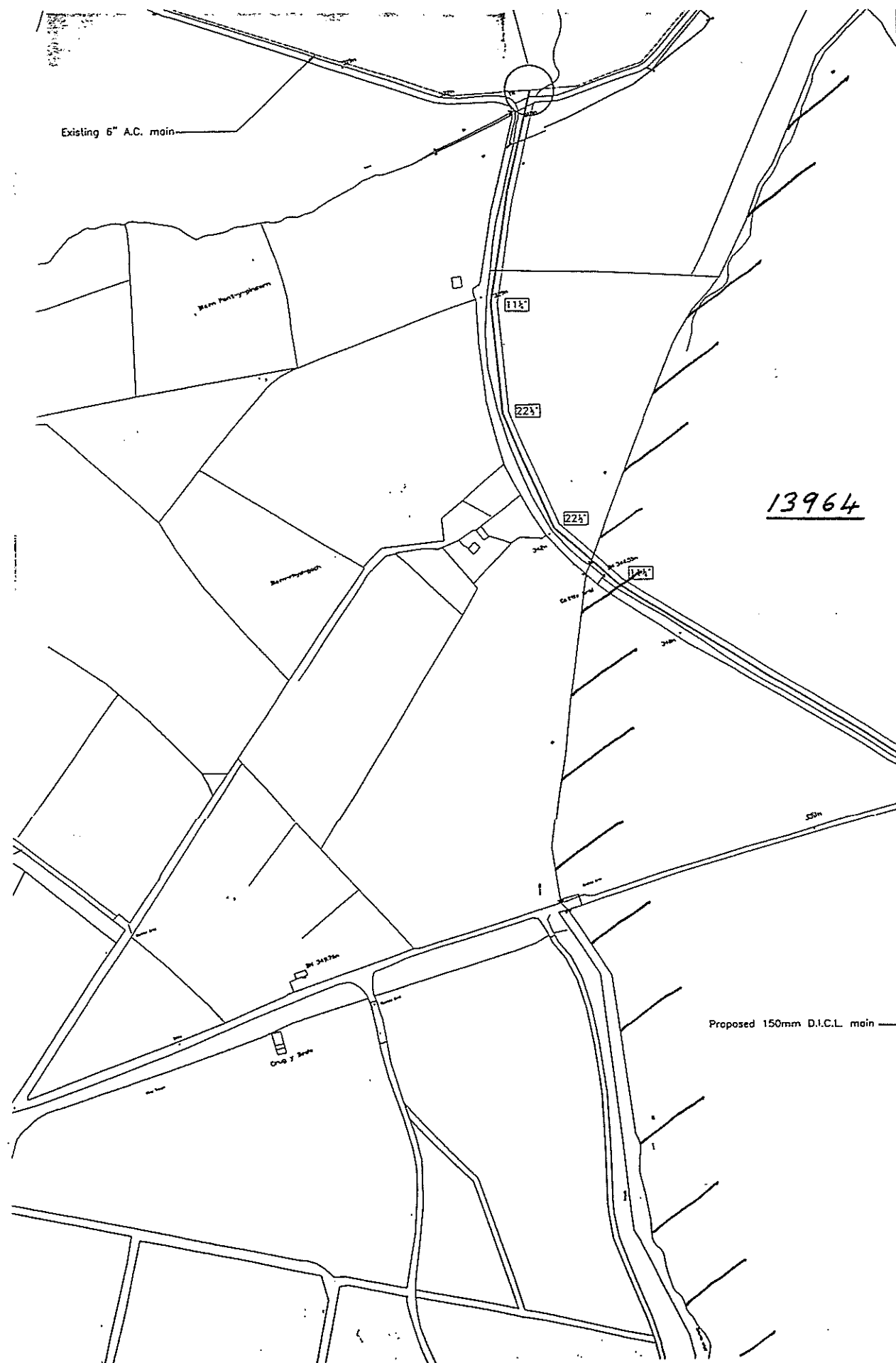
The farmhouse appears to be a rebuilt 18th century structure. The main block is of 2 storeys and 2 bays, the facade displaying 4 square headed windows with raised surrounds. Rendered throughout. The door is in a lan-to against the E gable end, also rendered. Slate gable roofs throughout. (Drawing f1634101)

The lane N of Wern-cornicyll is shown as a rough unenclosed track

on the Ordnance Survey 'Original Survey Drawings' of 1811, and in 1844 as a number of rights of way conjoining around field enclosures.

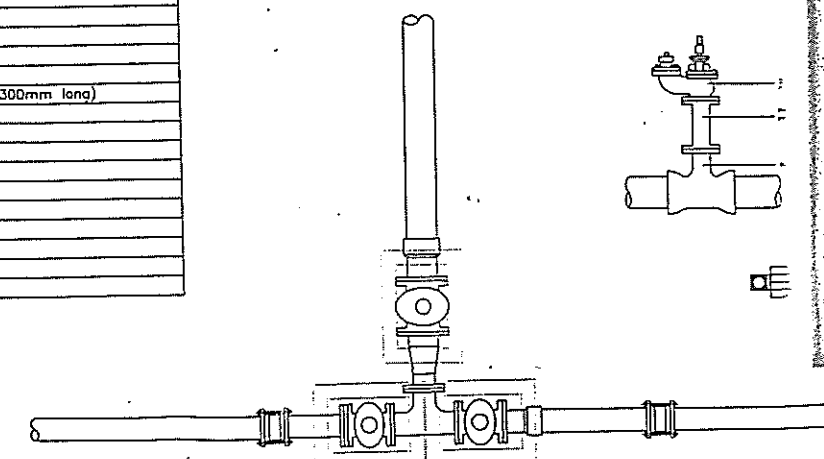
28231. (SN 516 476) Cnwch. Field name on 'The Parish of Llanwnnen', Tithe map and apportionment, 1844. The 'cnwch' element, meaning hillock, is proposed as being of Irish origin and an indicator of the extent of Irish settlement in the Early Medieval Period. (Drawing f1634101)

28232. (SN 5165 4787) Cross Inn Cottage. Marked on 'The Parish of Llanwnnen', Tithe map and apportionment, 1844, as 'Cross Inn'. A large house, Cross Inn was rebuilt c.1900 but essentially comprises 4 main elements on an E-W axis, at the core of which is probably an (earlier) post-medieval long-house; however, the interior was not observed. 2 storeys, with a variety of openings below a slate gable roof. (Drawing f1634101)




Detail A
Scale 1:20

No.	Fitting Description
01	Existing 6" A.C. main
02	150mm to 6" change collar
03	150mm D.I.C.L. pipe
04	150mm flanged socket
05	150mm D.F.S.V.
06	150mm A.F. tee
07	150mm flanged spigot
08	150mm distance piece (300mm long)
09	09
10	10
11	11
12	12
13	13
14	14
15	15
16	16
17	17
18	18

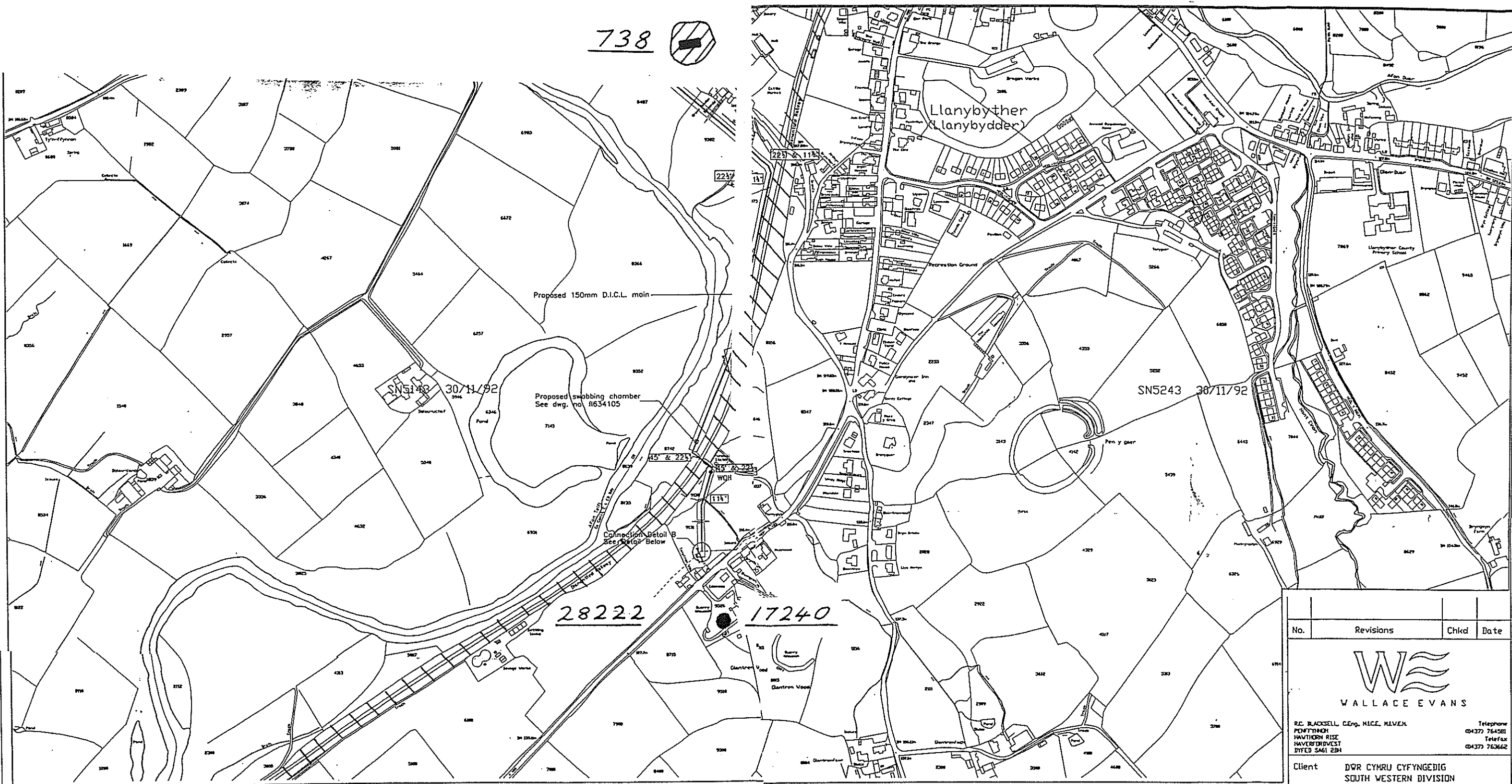


Detail B
Scale 1:20

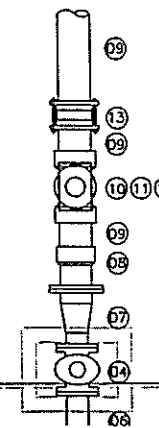
No.	Revisions	Chko
 WALLACE EVANS		
R.C. BLACKBELL CEng, MICE, NIMEX POFFYNNON HAWTHORN RISE HAVERFORDWEST DYFED SA61 2BH		
Client	DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG SOUTH WESTERN DIVISION FFYNNON MENTER PHOENIX WAY SWANSEA ENTERPRISE PARK LLANSAMLET SWANSEA SA7 9HW	
Scheme	Brechfa Mountain Main Supply Scheme	
Title	Route Plan (Sheet 4 of 4)	

1:2500


738

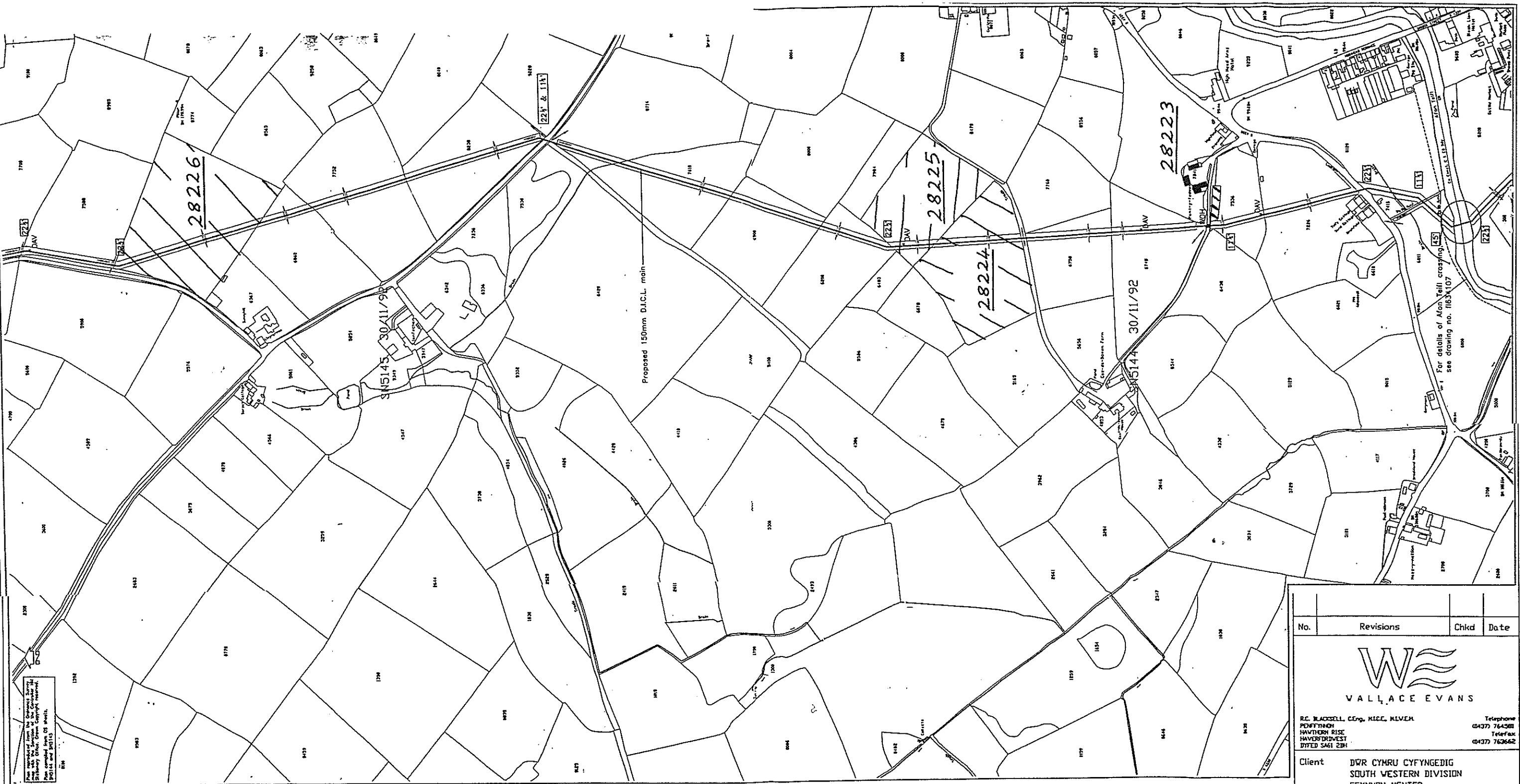



Detail B
Connection to Existing 4" Main
Scale 1:20

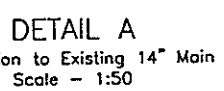
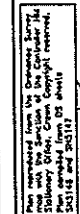


No.	Fitting Description
01	Existing 4" S.I. main
02	100mm to 4" change collar
03	100mm flanged spigot
04	100mm D.F.S.V.
05	100mm A.F. tee
06	100mm distance piece (300mm long)
07	150mm to 100mm D.F. concentric taper
08	150mm flanged socket
09	150mm D.I.C.L. pipe
10	80mm flanged off 150mm double socket tee
11	80mm distance piece (250mm long)
12	80mm D.A.V.
13	150mm V.J. coupling

No.	Revisions	Chkd	Date
 WALLACE EVANS			
<small>R.C. BLACKSELL, CEng, MICE, MIVEX POWYFYNH HAWTHORN RISE HAWTHORN INDUSTRIAL ESTATE DYFED SA61 2BH</small>			
<small>Telephone 04377 764501 Telefax 04377 763662</small>			
Client DŴR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG SOUTH WESTERN DIVISION FFYNNON MENTER PHOENIX WAY SWANSEA ENTERPRISE PARK LLANSAHLET SWANSEA SA7 9HW			
Scheme Brechfa Mountain Main Supply Scheme			
Title Route Plan (Sheet 3 of 4)			
Scale	1:2500	Date	



No.	Revisions	Chkd	Date
 WALLACE EVANS R.C. BLACKSELL, CEng, MICE, MIVEM PENYFRYD HAVTHORN RISE HAVERTHROVE DYED SAGI 2BH			
Client	DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG SOUTH WESTERN DIVISION FFYNNON MENTER PHOENIX WAY SWANSEA ENTERPRISE PARK LLANSAMLET SWANSEA SA7 9HW		
Scheme	Brechfa Mountain Main Supply Scheme		
Title	Route Plan (Sheet 1 of 1)		



No.	Filing Description
01	Existing 14" steel main
02	300mm to 14" change collar
03	300mm D.I.C.L. pipe (Cut to suit)
04	200mm flanged socket
05	350mm D.F.S.V. with integral bypass
06	150mm off 350mm A.F. line
07	350mm V.A.F.A.
08	150mm distance piece (250mm long)
09	150mm D.F.S.V.
10	150mm flanged socket
11	300mm D.I.C.L. pipe (Cut to suit)
12	80mm flanged off 150mm double socket line
13	80mm distance piece (250mm long)
14	80mm D.A.V.
15	150mm V.A.F.A.
16	100mm off 150mm A.F. line
17	150mm flanged socket
18	150mm V.A. coupling
19	100mm flanged off 150mm double socket line
20	100mm distance piece (300mm long)
21	100mm D.F.S.V.
22	100mm flanged socket
23	300mm 90° double socket bend
24	100mm D.I.C.L. pipe (Cut to suit)
25	100mm V.A.F.A.