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DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST LTD

REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED WATERMAIN RENEWAL SCHEME CAPEL IWAN - CRUGYGORLLWYN - FIVE ROADS (CON 93/26)

Client: Dwr Cymru

Project Officer: K. Murphy

Report by: K. Murphy and P. Sambrook

Dated: 25 January 1994

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unpublished

aerial photographs

published

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1.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

This Report on the Archaeological impact of the proposed Pipeline has been forwarded by the Contracts Section of Dyfed Archaeological Trust for comment.

1.1 It is recommended that a Watching Brief be maintained by a qualified archaeologist on the following section of the Capel Iwan - Cruggorllwyn - Five Roads watermain renewal scheme:

1.1a Sheet 1

The mill race noted in the Assessment will be partly affected by the Scheme and a record should be made of any section or structural evidence exposed. The two mounds 14954 and 14970 are likely to be directly affected by the Pipeline and therefore a watching brief is deemed necessary to record their nature and structure.

1.1b. It is not thought necessary to conduct an Archaeological Watching Brief on the remainder of the course of the line. However, the Curatorial Section of the Trust would like to be informed should any unexpected find or feature be revealed.

Note.

Although not part of the present scheme assessed here, it was reported to the Curatorial Section by the Contracts Section that encroachment and possibly damage had taken place to the Scheduled Ancient Monument, our site no. 2293, Cruggorllwyn Bronze Age Round barrow during recent Dwr Cymru work on the Reservoir. Once again attention is drawn to the archaeological sensitivity of the environs as well as the monument itself.

Heather James, Principal Archaeological Officer (Curatorial), Dyfed Archaeological Trust

26 January 1994

2.0 INTRODUCTION

Details of a watermain renewal scheme from Capel Iwan to Five Roads were forwarded by Dwr Cymru's Development Officer to the Dyfed Archaeological Trust for comment on 20th December 1993.

Following an initial assessment of the scheme by the Curatorial Section of the 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 18th January 1994, Dwr Cymru confirmed that it wished the Trust to undertake the detailed assessment of the scheme.

This report, prepared by the 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 on appropriate mitigatory measures.

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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 to be 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: 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 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's Sites and Monuments Record.

Carmarthen record Office, Cawdor Vaughan Collection, map books 5855, 8660.

National Library of Wales, MS vol 84 (PE 965), 'Plan of the Llangeler, Penboyr and Kilrhedin Inclosure', 1866, survey 1875.

Ordnance Survey, 'Original Survey Drawings', sheet 187 (1811-12) 2" to the mile.

'The Parish of Kilrhedyn', Tithe Map and Apportionment (1840-1).

'The Parish of Penboyr', Tithe Map and Apportionment (138-40).

aerial photographs

RAF 106G/UK 1471 3255-65 and 6258-64, 1946, copies held by DAT.

Meridian 230 30810-14, 37517-23 and 10934-42, 1956, copies held by DAT.

published

Jones, F., 1987 Historic Carmarthenshire Houses. Carmarthen.

Ordnance Survey, 1:2500 First Edition, Carmarthenshire, Sheets XIII.14 (1889), XXII.3 (1889) and Second Edition, Sheet XXII.3 (1906).

Ordnance Survey, 1831, Index to Tithe Survey, Old Series, Sheet XLI, 1" to a mile.

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

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGY

3.1 Summary

At the extreme western end of the scheme the proposed main cuts across an old mill race. However, here the proposed main will be within the present road and minimal damage to the race will occur. Two mounds, 14954 and 14970, will be directly affected by the proposed main. The exact nature of these mounds is unclear from surface evidence. Their location, adjacent to a stream, perhaps indicates that they are prehistoric burnt mounds; they may be, however, of more recent origin. The proposed main then skirts but does not directly affect the site (10741) of a possible medieval or post-medieval deserted village. This site is evidenced by a complex series of earthworks. The only other area of archaeological interest to be directly affected by the proposed main is the site of a building, 19432. The eastern end of the proposed mains run within a roadside verge. This road was created in c.1866 during enclosure of common land, but follows the course of a pre-existing track.

3.2 Register of archaeological sites and areas of archaeological interest

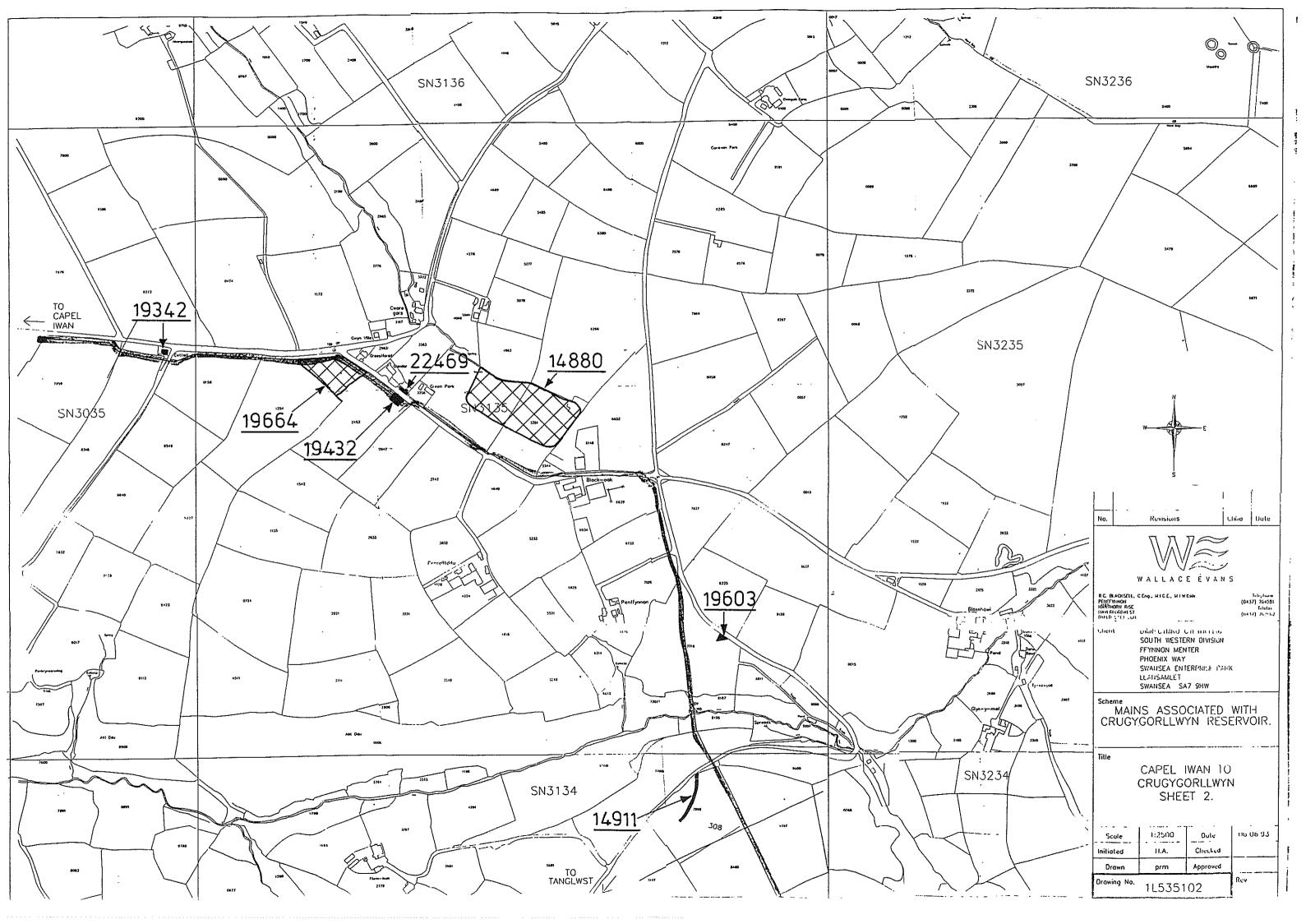
The reference numbers in the following catalogue are those allocated on Dyfed Archaeological Trust's Sites and Records. These numbers are shown on the annotated engineer's maps.

12627. Corn mill. Documentary records indicate that a medieval mill was located at Banc-y-felin, probably on or near the location of the present mill building (record no. 15405). The watermain will cut across the mill race. The antiquity of this race is 3068 uncertain as it is not shown on the 1841 tithe map but is in existence by 1889. (see Appendix 4.1 for detailed location map). Drawing no. FL535101.

15406. A small quarry is marked here on OS maps. Drawing no. FL535101.

14954. A mound about 1m high and c.9m diameter by the side of a stream. The nature of this earthwork is unclear, if it is an antiquity then it probably a prehistoric burnt mound. Burnt mounds seem to have been cooking places. Stones would have been heated on fires and then dropped into water-filled pits with the intention of bringing the water to boiling point and so cooking food placed in the water. Burnt mound sites are characterised by compact heaps of fire-cracked stones and charcoal up to 30m in diameter and 1m high. Pits, sometimes timber or clay-lined, hearths and remains of timber-built structures have been found in association with burnt mounds. This mound will be directly affected by the proposed mains. Drawing no. FL535101.

14970. A mound of similar dimensions and situation to 14954 above. Probably also of similar function and date. It will be directly affected by the proposed mains. Drawing no. FL535101.



- 10741. Earthworks visible on aerial photographs covering a wide area. The foundations of buildings, small closes and fields and other features are visible. The date of these remains is unknown, but it seems likely that they represent the site of a village of medieval or post-medieval date. This site is not directly affected by the proposed mains. The earthworks in field no. 3721 fade out to the west as they approach the line of the proposed main. Drawing no. FL535101.
- 19336. Blaenwaenfach. This standing building was first recorded in 1831. On the 1840-1 tithe survey it is recorded as a cottage. A well lies immediately to the south of the building. Drawing no. FL535101.
- 22471. Closglas. This standing building was first recorded in 1831. On the tithe survey of 1840-1 it is marked on the map as a building but was not noted in the accompanying apportionment. Drawing no. FL535101.
- 19342. Cwtteri. This standing building is noted on the 1840-1 tithe survey as a building with no other detail. It is now deserted and becoming ruinous. The proposed main avoids this building. Drawing nos. FL535101, 1L535102.
- 19664. On the 1840-1 tithe survey this field (no. 1028) is known as 'Park y Fynon'. This may refer to a man-made well, but is probably more likely to relate to a natural spring. Drawing no. 1L535102.
- 19432. A building is first recorded on this site in 1831. It was still standing at the time of the 1840-1 tithe survey but had disappeared by 1889. No evidence for it now survives. The proposed mains will pass through the site of this building. Drawing no. 1L535102.
- 22469. Ty-cefn. This dwelling was in existence by 1811-12. Drawing no. 1L535102.
- 14880. Cropmarks spanning two to three fields are visible on vertical aerial photographs. Their morphology is uncertain, but it seems likely that they are of geological origin rather than man-made. Drawing no. 1L535102.
- 19603. A building is marked as standing here on maps of 1811-12 and 1840-1. 1L535102.
- 14911. A length of curving bank is visible on vertical aerial photographs. On the 1840-1 tithe survey the field is called 'Bank war ffordd'; this would seem to suggest that the bank is associated with an old quarry. No evidence of the curving bank was seen during field inspection. Drawing no. 1L535102.
- 2293. Grugygorllwyn. A bronze age round barrow/burial mound. This is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. The proposed mains run some distance away from this monument. Drawing nos. 1L535103-104.

The extreme eastern end of the proposed main runs within a roadside verge. This road was created during enclosure of common land in c.1866. It was not however a completely new road as it roughly followed the course of a pre-existing and presumably unenclosed track across the common. This former road or track was stoppedup. The course of the new road and stopped-up track is clearly shown on the map in Appendix 4.2.

