



# DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST LTD



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## IMPROVEMENT WORKS AT **TY PEDWAR DRWS** CROESGOCH, PEMBROKESHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Project Record No. 32580

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**Commissioned by:** Dyfed County Council (Highways & Transportation Department) Haverfordwest.

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**CROESGOCH, PEMBROKESHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON IMPROVEMENT WORKS AT TY PEDWAR  
DRWS**

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Summary

The proposed improvement works to the A487 at Ty Pedwar Drws, Croesgoch, Pembrokeshire, lies close to the site of a 'megali-thic' structure, of possible prehistoric date, located within the garden of Trevigan Gallery.

### 1.2 Planning History

At a public inquiry held into the above mentioned improvement works, the landowners referred to the possibility of items of archaeological interest being situated within the area of their garden.

The Dyfed Archaeological Trust's Field Operations Section was informed of the commencement of the works by DCC Highways and Transportation Department, Haverfordwest. They were advised that an archaeologist from the Trust would be visiting the site to carry out a watching brief. The site was visited twice on 19 and 22nd March 1996.

### 1.3 Content and scope of the watching brief

An archaeological watching brief is defined by the Institute of Field Archaeologists as a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during an operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons - normally a development or other construction project - within a specified area where archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report.

The watching brief will be intended to allow, subject to resources, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits in advance of their disturbance or destruction and to provide an opportunity, if necessary, for the watching archaeologist to alert all interested parties to the presence of an archaeological find for which the resources allocated to the watching brief are insufficient to support satisfactory treatment.

The watching brief is not intended as a substitute for contingent excavation.

The client will be supplied with 3 copies of an archaeological report of the results of the watching brief. The report will be fully representative of all the information recovered. Normally it will be read in conjunction with a desk-top assessment for the scheme which provides the historical framework for the watching brief. A copy of the report will also be deposited with Dyfed Sites and Monuments Record.

#### 1.4 Purpose and methodologies of the watching brief

The purpose of the watching brief is to undertake as complete a record as possible of any archaeological features affected by the client's scheme of works. In the case of larger archaeological sites it will seldom be possible or necessary to undertake a record of the entire site; the record will be undertaken only on those areas of the site that may be affected.

The primary stage of the watching brief for any scheme normally involves consultation of the desk top assessment for the scheme and/or consultation of Dyfed Sites and Monuments Record, which is maintained by Dyfed Archaeological Trust's Heritage Management Section, for those sites affected by the scheme.

The client will normally advise Dyfed Archaeological Trust's Field Operations Section of any changes in the proposed works resulting from their consultation of the desk top assessment, and of any sites which may still be affected by the scheme. The client will also provide the Field Operations Section with a proposed schedule of works in order that a full field study may be performed on any affected site prior to the commencement of the works.

Work on or around those affected sites will be subject to the watching brief. The work will be closely observed by an archaeologist from the Field Operations Section who will also undertake a full drawn, written and photographic record of any archaeological features which may be disturbed by the scheme, and any artefact or find exposed during the works. Recording will be carried out where necessary and when convenient: it is the Field Operations Section's aim to minimise any disruption to the client's schedule. However, if archaeological features may be lost during the scheme, it may be necessary for the Field Operations Section to request a postponement of the works in order that the archaeology may be recorded. Larger areas affected may require fuller excavation and/or survey.

## 2.0 RESULTS OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

### 2.1 Site location

The area of the improvement works consists of the northern boundary of the garden of Ty Pedwar Drws.

A 20m length of bank was machined back 3m to facilitate the widening of the A487 at this point. The excavated area, the resulting 1.7m deep section and the remaining area of garden were examined for archaeological evidence.

### 2.2 Site history

The presence of a megalithic structure (Dyfed SMR PRN 13191) came to light when, during fieldwork in NW Pembrokeshire a representative of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust, T.A. James, called at the Trevigan gallery belonging to Mr J Knapp-Fisher, at Croesgoch. An erect quartz boulder, of which 1.0m exposed, was noted in his back garden immediately adjacent to the north side of the hedge boundary.

The boulder had discovered some 20 or so years previously when the owner was cutting back a hedge to enlarge his garden. The stone clearly predated the hedge and was associated with an interesting arrangement of smaller rocks set in a curving line (kerbing?), the larger stone being set within this line. A second 'outer' line was also noted.

The arrangement does not comply with any parallel in prehistoric sites, but it could belong to a much larger monument such as a stone circle.

### 2.3 Observations

The excavated area and the resulting section were examined for archaeological features.

The section revealed that below a 0.3m depth of garden topsoil lay an undisturbed 0.6m depth of subsoil above the natural shale bedrock. No features were detected within the section.

Within the garden itself two boulders were discovered protruding through the turf. The larger (0.6m x 0.6m) protruded 0.2m and the smaller (0.4 x 0.3), closer to the southern hedge boundary of the garden, protruded 0.1m.

## 2.4 Conclusions

The larger stone does not correspond with any known parallels, and no archaeological features were encountered. in addition there is little that can be said about the two protruding stones without proper excavation. However it may be postulated that they are part of a larger structure encompassing the previosly recorded quartz boulder in the adjoining garden, a structure of possible Neolithic (New Stone Age) date, if an archaeological feature.

### 3.0 THE FINDS

Numerous items of 20th century origin were retrieved from the garden topsoil. These were discarded. No other finds were encountered.

### 4.0 REFERENCES

Dyfed Sites and Monuments Records.

Burgess, A., 1980, *The Age of Stonehenge*.

Michell, J., 1982, *Megalithomania*.

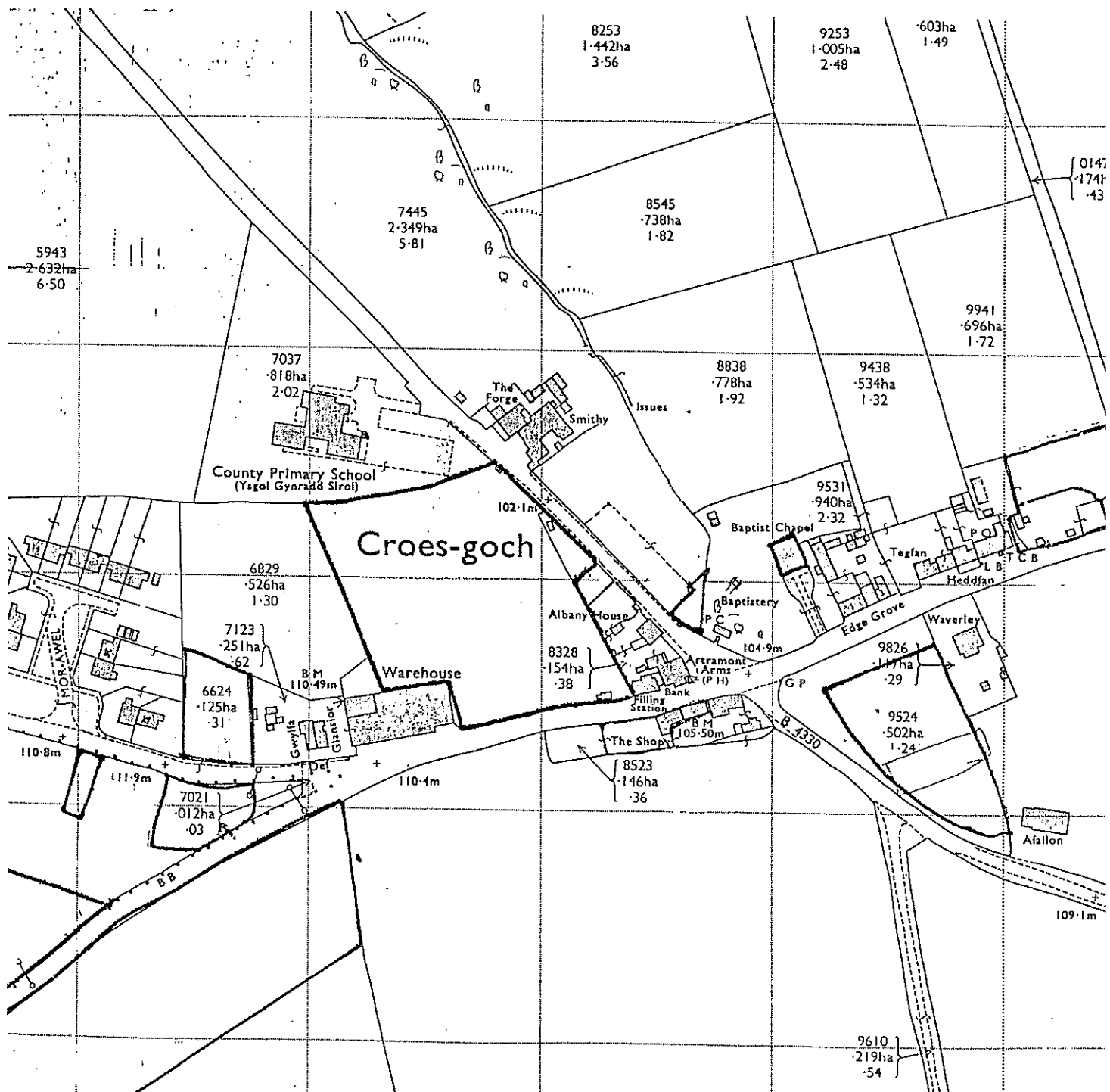


Figure 5.1



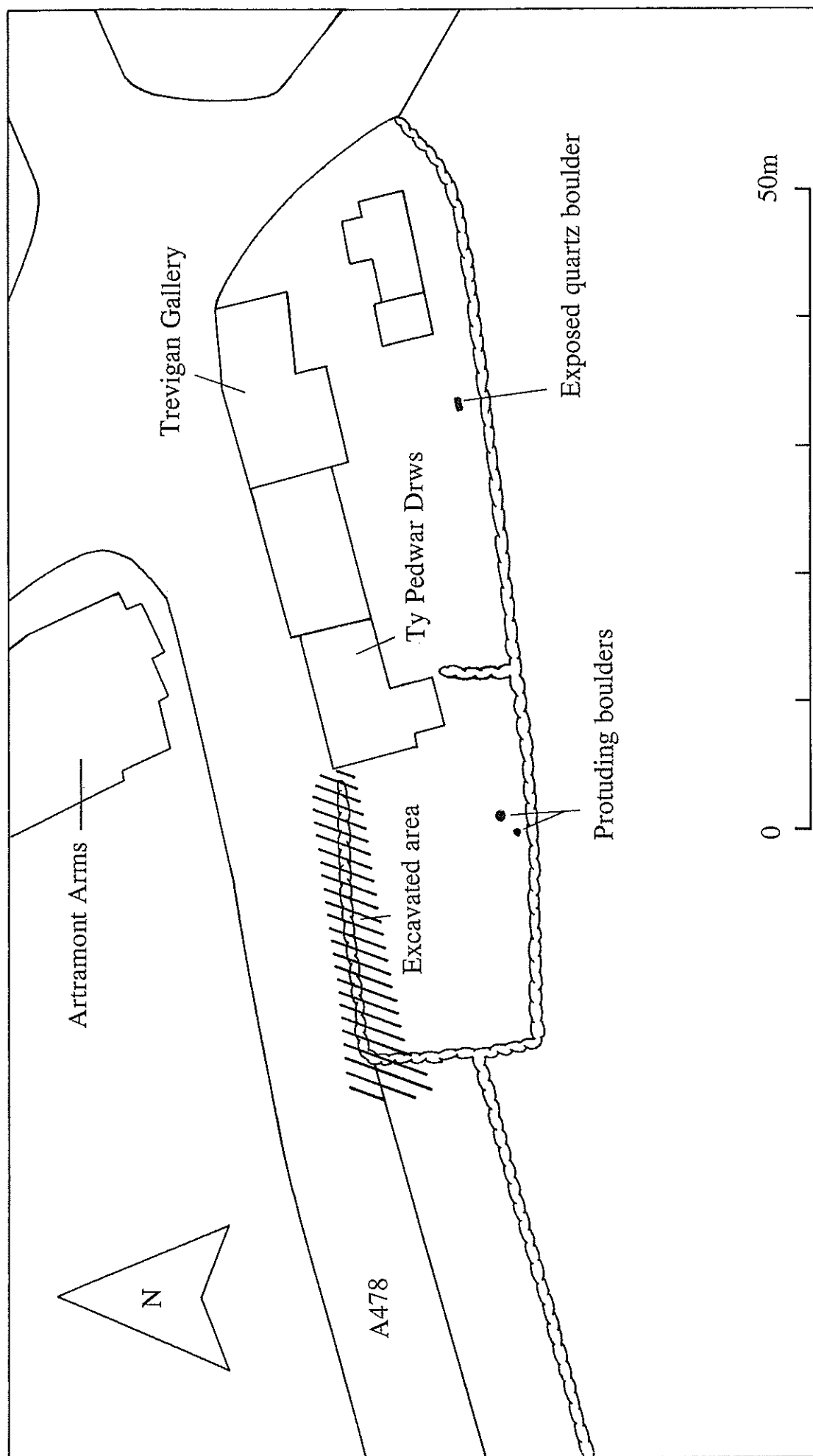


Figure 5.2