

# WHITLAND TO HENLLAN AMGOED WATER MAIN



Paratowyd gan Archaeoleg Cambria  
Ar gyfer Dwr Cymru

Prepared by Cambria Archaeology  
For Welsh Water



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# ARCHAEOLEG CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

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## WHITLAND TO HENLLAN AMGOED WATER MAIN

Gan / By

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## **SUMMARY**

*Welsh Water/Dwr Cymru are proposing to construct a new water main between Whitland and Henllan Amgoed, Carmarthenshire. This desk-based study identifies the archaeological resource of the proposed water main route and assesses the impact of construction on that resource. Sites only of post medieval date will be affected by construction. Apart from a bridge in the village of Cwm-felin-boeth all of these sites are of local importance. The bridge is of regional importance, and this is highlighted in the report. Limited recommendations are made for protection and restoration of the sites and landscape components to be affected by construction of the water main.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

Following consultation with Welsh Water/Dwr Cymru The Heritage Management Section of Cambria Archaeology recommended that an archaeological desk-based assessment should be undertaken on the route of a proposed water main between Whitland and Henllan Amgoed. Welsh Water accepted this recommendation, and they commissioned the Field Section of Cambria Archaeology to undertake the assessment in February 2005.

The assessment has been guided by *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments* (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1999).

## **THE STUDY AREA**

The proposed new water main will run from just north of Whitland, Carmarthenshire (SN198175), pass through the village of Cwm-felin-boeth, past the settlement of Henllan Amgoed and terminate to the east of the hamlet of Hiraeth (SN176214), which is a distance of c. 4.9km. For most of its course the proposed water main will run within fields alongside their boundaries with public roads. However, in Cwm-felin-boeth, and immediately to the north and south of the village, the water main will follow the course of the public road. The ground at the southern end of the water main lies at approximately 70m; it then falls away to 50m to the village of Cwm-felin-boeth and then slowly climbs to over 130m to the north. The overall landscape is one of fields of pasture and dispersed farms. For part of its course, particularly through Cwm-felin-boeth and for 1.4km to the north, the new water main follows an existing pipe. Elsewhere it is a new construction.

For the purpose of this study only the area along and close to the new water main has been considered. An appraisal of sites and monuments close to the new main has been made, but they are not included in this report unless it is considered likely that they will be affected by construction.

## **METHODOLOGY**

This is essentially a desk-based study. The following sources have been consulted:

The County Sites and Monuments Record housed with Cambria Archaeology.

Cartographic sources and other material such held by Cambria Archaeology.

Databases compiled by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments in Wales (RCAHMMW) and Cadw.

Vertical and oblique aerial photographs held by the RCAHMMW and Cambria Archaeology.

A site visit was undertaken. As most of the course of the proposed water main runs alongside public roads, it was not necessary to enter privately-owned land to undertake the visit. The purpose of the visit was to:

Review the current state of archaeological features and deposits identified during the documentary research.

Identify new archaeological features and deposits, or areas that may contain them.

Carry out rapid recording of archaeological sites, features and deposits by photography, site notes and sketch plans, if required.

Assess the vulnerability of archaeological sites, features and deposits to the proposed redevelopment of the site.

All new sites identified have been entered onto the Regional Sites and Monuments Record and allocated a unique Primary Record Number (PRN). These numbers are used in this report. Descriptions of previously known sites have been updated where relevant.

## **THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE**

### **The Historic Landscape**

The proposed water main will pass through a landscape of fields and dispersed farms and cottages, as well as the small village of Cwm-felin-boeth. This is a typical mid Carmarthenshire/Pembrokeshire landscape, the origins of which are not known. Historic maps, however, show that this landscape had achieved its present form by the 1840s (and probably several decades, if not centuries, earlier) and since then has not changed apart from in detail. There has been some loss of settlement since the 1840s along the western edge of Cwm-felin-boeth and in open country, but several new dwellings, mostly dating to the late 20th century, have recently increased the housing stock. Some field boundaries recorded on historic maps have been removed to create larger fields for ease of working with modern machinery. Field boundaries are an important component of the historic landscape. In this area they consist of earth banks 2m to 3m wide and up to 1m high and topped with well-maintained multi-species hedges.

### **Prehistoric sites**

There are no known prehistoric sites on the course of the proposed water main. There are, however, finds of Neolithic artefacts, several possible Bronze Age standing stones, and several Iron Age hillforts and defended enclosures within a kilometre of the route, indicating a settled and intensively used landscape in the later prehistoric period.

### **Roman sites**

There are no known Roman sites on the course of the proposed water main, and no known Roman sites close to the proposed route. A Roman road, however runs east to west to the south of the southern end of the proposed water main, and therefore there is always the possibility of unknown sites of this period in the vicinity.

### **Early Medieval and Medieval sites**

There are no known Early Medieval or Medieval sites on the course of the proposed water main. However, an important monument, the Parcau inscribed stone lies close to the route, and several other monuments and sites such as Henllan Amgoed Church are in the vicinity. While there is no recorded secular settlement in the area, it is highly probable that many of the farms have their origins in this period. It is also likely that at least some of the current field pattern had its origins in this period.

### **Post Medieval sites**

Several sites of this period lie on or close to the proposed pipeline, but all which will be directly affected by construction, apart from Pont Cwm-felin-boeth, are of local importance. They are listed below. Numerous sites and monuments in the vicinity are recorded for this period and, as noted above, by the 18th and 19th century most of the landscape components we see today such as farms, cottages, fields, woods, mills and chapels had been established.

### **Designated sites**

There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments or Listed Buildings on the course of the proposed water main.

### **Individual Archaeological Sites**

These are listed from south to north.

#### *54025 Quarry SN1970317919*

A quarry is marked on the Ordnance Survey 1st Ed. 1:2500 1889 map, presumably active. By the 1907 2nd Ed. map it seems to have become disused.

It is still visible on 1946 vertical aerial photographs. The area of the quarry is now (2005) part of the surrounding smooth pasture field.

*54026 Cottage SN1967817972*

A cottage is marked at this location on the 1841 Llangan Parish tithe map. It is not shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st Ed. 1:2500 1889 map. There is now (2005) no surface evidence of this site.

*19384 Quarry SN1930418627*

A quarry is marked on the Ordnance Survey 1st Ed. 1:2500 1889 map and on the 2nd Ed. 1907 map. Now (2005) not in use, it lies in woodland alongside a public road. It measures approximately 30m x 20m and is 8m deep.

*54027 Bridge SN1918519070 PONT CWM-FELIN-BOETH*

A bridge is marked at this location on the Llangan Parish tithe map and later Ordnance Survey maps. The current bridge is a low, stone-built, three-arched structure. The 'arches' formed by large stone slabs resting on masonry piers. The southern most stone slab has been replaced by concrete. The low masonry parapet walls are recent. Although it is of primitive design, this bridge probably dates to the early 19th century or 18th century.

*54028 Quarry SN 1910519231*

A quarry is marked on the Ordnance Survey 1st Ed. 1:2500 1889 map, presumably active. By the 1907 2nd Ed. map it seems to have become disused. It is now (2005) disused. A concrete storage building had been constructed on its floor. The remainder is given over to scrubby woodland. It measures approximately 50m x 40m and is up to 10m deep.

*23334 Cottage SN1909619271 TY-NEWYDD*

This cottage is shown on the Llangan Parish tithe map of 1841 and on the 1881 and 1907 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 maps. The name Ty-newydd now refers to an early 20th century house 40m to the northeast, suggesting that this cottage was abandoned soon after 1907. It still stands (2005) and has been used for storage. It is now in poor condition, and the whole has been clad in tin sheets. Its original form is thus difficult to gauge, although masonry can be seen beneath the tin.

*23333 Cottage SN1904819325 QUARRY COTTAGE*

This cottage is shown on the Llangan Parish tithe map of 1841 and on the 1881 and 1907 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 maps. This site has not been examined on the ground and therefore its current condition is unknown (2005).

*23322 Cottage SN1847219512 HENLLAN HOUSE*

This cottage is shown on the Llangan Parish tithe map of 1841 and on the 1881 and 1907 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 maps. It has now (2005) gone and the site is used for a Welsh Water installation. The dwelling has been destroyed, but the surrounding hedge-bank to the garden plot survives.

*54029 Place-name SN18461961 PARK UCHLAW PENBEDDA*

The field name Park Uchlaw Penbedda on the Llangan Parish tithe map of 1841 (field no. 512) may be of archaeological significance, the last element possibly beddau - graves. The field of 1841 is now (2005) part of a larger field of improved pasture - nothing of archaeological interest is visible.

*54030 Place-name SN18361971 PARK PISTELL CARREG*

The field name Park Pistell Carreg on the Llangan Parish tithe map of 1841 (field no. 513) may be of archaeological significance, possibly referring to a well,

perhaps a holy well. The field of 1841 is now (2005) part of a larger field of improved pasture - nothing of archaeological interest is visible.

*54031 Dwelling SN18131883*

A building presumed to be a house or cottage is marked on the 1831 Ordnance Survey 1" to 1 mile map. It had gone by the tithe survey of 1864 (Henllanamgoed Parish). The field to the northeast of this site is named Park yr hendy on the tithe map (field no. 69). On the east side of the public road at this point is a double hedgebank and on the west side old, low field boundaries meet to form a small enclosure. Since abandonment the drive to Parciau Farm has been driven through this former settlement. No above ground structural elements of buildings survive.

*19460 Blacksmith's Workshop SN1801920006 OLD SMITHY*

This building is not shown on the Henllanamgoed Parish tithe map of 1864 but is present on the Ordnance Survey 1st Ed 1:2500 1889 map. Part of the stone walls of the smithy have been incorporated into an out-building of a bungalow built immediately to the east.

*11668 Place-name SN17722111 PLAS-MAEN-LLWYD*

The place-name of an abandoned farmstead - Plas-maen-llwyd - may refer to a Bronze Age standing stone. The place-name has now been transferred to a modern bungalow alongside a public road 70m west of the farmstead. There is no physical evidence for a standing stone.



## ASSESSMENT OF IMPORTANCE AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED SCHEME ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

A range of criteria will be used to consider the importance of the archaeological resource and the likely impacts on that resource in order to determine the significance of the impact and suggest possible mitigation measures.

### Importance

The importance of all sites visited will be categorised according to the following criteria:

- A** - sites of national importance - usually Scheduled Ancient Monuments and listed buildings
- B** - sites of regional or county importance
- C** - sites of district or local importance
- D** - minor sites or sites so badly damaged that too little now remains to justify their inclusion in a higher grade
- E** - sites about insufficient is known to assign them to a higher grade

### Likely impacts

The likely physical impacts of the proposed road on each site will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- Total** - complete destruction of the site
- Very severe** - loss of most of the major components of a site
- Severe** - loss of some of the major components of a site
- Medium** - loss of some components of a site
- Slight** - some loss of some minor components of a site
- None**
- Beneficial**
- Unknown**

### Impact assessment

<i>Site PRN</i>	<i>Importance</i>	<i>Likely Impact of the new water main</i>	<i>Recommendation for further work</i>
54025	D	Slight	None
54026	C	None	None
19384	C	None	None
54027	B	Slight	None
54028	C	None	None
23334	B	None	None
23333	E	None	None
23332	D	None	None
54029	E	Unknown	None
54030	E	Unknown	None
54031	C	None	None
19460	C	None	None
11668	E	None	None

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **General**

The new water main will cut across numerous hedge-banks. These should be restored to match the original, including re-planted with multi-species hedges.

### **Specific**

Great care should be taken to avoid any damage to the historic elements of Pont Cwm-felin-boeth (54027). One of 'arch' of stone slabs has already been replaced. Damage to others will devalue the historic value of the bridge.

There are no other site specific recommendations. However, there is always the possibility of unforeseeable archaeological discoveries on any engineering works. If such discoveries are made during construction then it is recommended that the Heritage Management Section of Cambria Archaeology is contacted (01558 823121).

## **SOURCES**

### **Databases**

The Regional Sites and Monuments Record, housed with Cambria Archaeology

CARN - Core Archaeological Record Index hosted by the Royal Commission of Ancient and Historic Monuments in Wales

### **Maps**

Henllanamgoed Parish tithe map and apportionment, 1846

Llangan Parish tithe map and apportionment, 1841

Ordnance Survey Original Surveyors' Drawings, Sheet 181, 1809-10

Ordnance Survey 1 inch to 1 mile, 1831. Published in book form in 1992, by Harry Margary: Lympne Castle, Kent, as *Ordnance Survey Old Series Maps Vol VI Wales*

Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 1:2500 map, 1889. Electronic version held by Cambria Archaeology under licence from the Welsh Assembly

Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition 1:2500 map, 1907. Electronic version held by Cambria Archaeology under licence from the Welsh Assembly

### **Aerial photographs**

*Vertical Aerial Photographs housed with Cambria Archaeology*

Meridian Airmaps 210/10780-82, 26177-78 and 11003-4, not dated but 1950s.

106/UK/1625, 6041-43, 1946.

*Vertical Aerial Photographs housed with RCAHMMW*

106G/UK/1625 2196-2199, 1946

106G/UK/1423, 3066-3067, 1946

106G/UK/1423, 3042-43

106G/UK/1471, 4277-4280, 1946

106G/UK/1625, 4043-4046, 1946

106G/UK/1625, 6040-6042, 1946

106G/UK/1625, 6175-6176, 1946

106G/UK/1625, 4178-4180, 1946

*Oblique Aerial Photographs housed with RCAHMMW*

005037-41 to 43

975016- 52 and 53

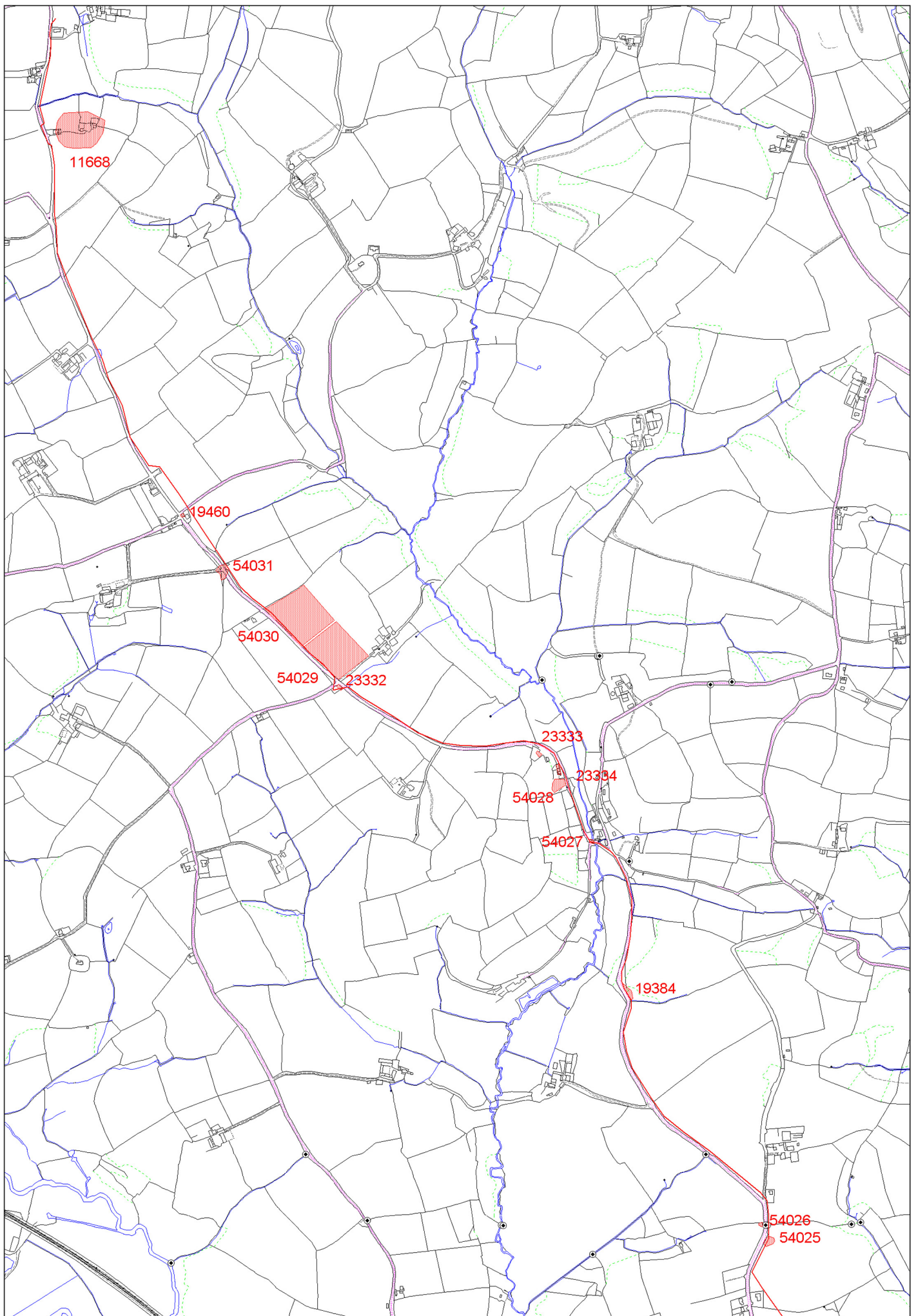
965085-42 to 53

925019-46 and 47

925012-41 and 44

965114-52





MAP SHOWING ROUTE OF PROPOSED WATER MAIN AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES Scale 1:10,000  
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**RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NUMBER 2005/25**

**Mawrth 2005  
March 2005**

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by K Murphy

Swydd / Position: Principal Archaeologist - Field Services

Llofnod / Signature ..... Dyddiad / Date 17/03/05

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

ar ran Archaeoleg Cambria, Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf.  
on behalf of Cambria Archaeology, Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Swydd / Position: Director

Llofnod / Signature ..... Dyddiad / Date 17/03/05

Yn unol â'n nôd i roddi gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel, croesawn unrhyw sylwadau sydd  
gennych ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn

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