

### Land to the rear of Cylch Peris, Llanon, Ceredigion, SY23 5HN

Archaeological Strip, Map and Excavate



By Jerry Bond, BA ACIfA

> Report No. 1871

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# Archaeology Wales

## Land to the rear of Cylch Peris, Llanon, Ceredigion, SY23 5HN

Archaeological Strip, Map and Excavate Report Prepared For: Morgan Construction Wales

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#### Non-Technical Summary

Archaeological mitigation involving a programme of Strip, Map and Excavate (SME) was undertaken at the site on land to the rear of Cylch Peris, LLanon, Ceredigion over a period of 4 days during February 2020.

A geological feature comprising a periglacial palaeochannel was recorded as were three field drainage features. Two of the field drains comprised stone filled gullies and may be post-medieval in date. The third contained a ceramic pipe covered in stone aggregate within a vertical sided cut of a modern date.

A linear anomaly identified through earlier geophysical survey was shown to be the result of a variation in the underlying geology.

#### Crynodeb Annhechnegol

Cynhaliwyd gwaith lliniaru archeolegol a oedd yn cwmpasu Stripio, Mapio a Chloddio ar y safle ar dir y tu cefn i Gylch Peris, Llanon, Ceredigion, dros gyfnod o 4 diwrnod yn ystod mis Chwefror 2020.

Cofnodwyd nodwedd ddaearegol yn cynnwys sianel balaeo amrewlifol, yn ogystal â thair nodwedd draenio caeau Roedd dau o'r draeniau cæau yn cynnwys ceunentydd wedi'u llenwi â cherrig, sydd o bosibl yn dyddio i'r oes gyn-ganoloesol. Roedd y trydydd yn cynnwys pibell seramig wedi'i gorchuddio â graean o gerrig o fewn toriad modern ag ochr fertigol.

Dangoswyd bod anomaledd unionlin a nodwyd drwy arolwg geoffisegol yn ganlyniad i amrywiaeth yn y ddaeareg waelodol.

#### 1. Introduction & Planning Background

This report details the results of a programme of archaeological mitigation (archaeological strip, map and excavate) undertaken in association with proposed works for the construction of a new residential development on land to the rear of Cylch Peris, Llanon, Ceredigion, SY23 5HN (henceforth– the site), centred on NGR SN 51886 67457 (Figure 1). The local planning authority is Ceredigion County Council (henceforth– CCC), and the planning application number is A190018. The work was undertaken as part of phased predetermination mitigation works associated with the planning application.

In February and March 2019 Archaeology Wales (henceforth- AW) conducted a geophysical survey on the site (Muller, 2019), as requested by Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Development Management (henceforth– DAT-DM) prior to determination of any further mitigation requirements. The results of the survey noted a faint linear anomaly in the south-western area of the site, characterised by a band of magnetically positive responses. The feature runs north-west to south-east for approximately 50m, and then turns ninety-degrees to the north-east for approximately 15m. No other features were identified, although the site lies in an area with archaeological potential.

Consequently DAT-DM have requested that further archaeological mitigation should be carried out, comprising an archaeological strip, map and excavate across the area of the feature identified in the geophysical survey, with a possible archaeological watching brief on the remainder of the development groundworks if required.

The fieldwork was supervised by Jerry Bond BA (Hons), ACIfA, (AW Project Archaeologist) between the 13<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020. This report has subsequently been prepared by Jerry Bond. The Project was managed by Dr John Davey MCIfA (AW Project Manager) at the request of Morgan Construction. The purpose of the archaeological mitigation was to provide CCC with sufficient information regarding the nature of archaeological remains on the site of the development, the requirements for which are set out in Planning Policy (revised edition 10, 2018), Section 6.1 and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment (2017).

All work was undertaken to the standards and guidance set by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014). AW is a Registered Organisation with the CIFA.

#### 2. Site Description & Archaeological Background

The proposed development site, which covers an area of approximately 1.5 hectares, extends across the southern half of an agricultural field on the northern edge of Llanon, in Ceredigion (Figure 2). The archaeological strip, map and excavate took place in the southwestern part of the site, over an area measuring approximately 30m by 55m (Figure 3). In general, the field has been used as improved pasture and arable land in recent years. It is bounded by hedgerows, and slopes gradually down to the west. To the south the site is

bordered by residential development along Cylch Peris, to the west the site is bordered by the A487, with agricultural land beyond. Agricultural land extends to the north and east. An overhead cable crosses the southern edge of the field.

The site lies at approximately 30mOD. To the east the land continues to rise, eventually reaching a high point of 150mOD approximately 1.3km to the east. To the west the land continues to fall gradually until it meets the Ceredigion coast approximately 800m to the west. Approximately 100m to the south the Afon Peris, a relatively small watercourse, winds east – west towards the coast. The small settlement of Llanon is largely laid out along the main road to the south of the Peris, with offshoots along Stryd-yr-Ysgol to the east, and Stryd-yr-Eglwys to the west, which leads to St Ffraid's church and the small settlement of Llansantffraid around it.

The underlying bedrock of the proposed development area comprises mudstones and sandstones of the Trefechan Formation, with the rising ground to the east part of the Mynydd Bach Formation. The bedrock is overlaid by mixed alluvial deposits along the route of the Afon Peris to the south, with Devensian diamicton to the north. (BGS, 2019).

A number of prehistoric sites are recorded in the surrounding area, including an Iron Age cropmark enclosure and a Neolithic findspot. Immediately to the west of the site also lies an undated double-ditched enclosure.

A number of Iron Age enclosures are recorded, both as visible earthworks, and as cropmarks, around the northern edge of Llanon, including Troed-yr-rhiw enclosure (PRN 763) lying on higher ground overlooking the site to the east. To the west the aforementioned St Ffraid's Church (PRN 50152) may have early medieval origins ands first mentioned in 12th century documents. Llanon would also appear to be centred on a medieval settlement (PRN 12771), and an extensive system of strip field agriculture, typically medieval in origin, is still visible to the west of the village. A WWII prisoner of war camp was located to the south of the development area.

#### 3. Objectives

The objective of the archaeological mitigation was to identify, excavate, record, and analyse any significant archaeological remains that were disturbed by the proposed development. As any such remains would be removed by development, preservation by record is required. This approach should help understand the broad pattern of settlement dynamics and how key elements of the archaeological landscape relate to each other spatially, functionally, and chronologically.

The strip, map and excavation works were undertaken in phases. The first phase being the strip, or removal, of overburden to an agreed level. This was followed by planning of all revealed archaeological deposits and features. Following planning, sample excavation was

undertaken to establish a required understanding of the nature of the archaeology and its chronology. The results were discussed with DAT-DM to determine if any further mitigation work was required, such as further excavation, or an archaeological watching brief during the remainder of the development works.

A full site archive will be produced, including project records, artefacts, ecofacts and any other sample residues and summaries of the context, artefact, and environmental records.

#### 4. Strip, Map & Excavation Methodology

The strip map and excavate (SME) at Clych Peris LLanon was undertaken over four working days between 13th and 18<sup>h</sup> February 2020.

The area to be stripped was rectangular, aligned approximately north-west to south-east, and measured 55m long x 30m wide. It was stripped using a toothless grading bucket fitted to an 8.5 ton tracked 360<sup>o</sup> mechanical excavator, provided by the principal contractor, Morgan Construction.

The development area was stripped of modern overburden, comprising topsoil and plough soil, under close archaeological supervision in spits of no more than 100mm, to the top of the archaeological horizon or the natural deposits, whichever was encountered soonest (plate 1). If archaeological remains were found to be present cutting through soil layers that conceal lower archaeological horizons, then the upper levels were mapped and investigated prior to their removal to the lower levels. Machines were not be allowed to track over the stripped area until the fieldwork has been completed in these areas. The supervising archaeologist monitored the movement of plant on the site. Spoil heaps were stored at least 1m from the edge of excavation areas.

The machine stripping provided the required clarity to accurately identify archaeological features and deposits, and the resulting surface was hand cleaned using hoes and/or pointing trowels, as appropriate, to prove the presence, or absence, of archaeological features and to determine their significance. All such features were recorded, and sample excavated. Sample excavation was undertaken to establish whether features were indeed archaeological in nature or not.

All archaeological features and deposits were mapped and recorded as per the methods laid out in section 7. Features and deposits were recorded in close sequence to the stripping. Exposed surfaces were regularly monitored to identify any further features that might become apparent through weathering. Sufficient levels were also taken across the site to support future topographic modelling.

Once the required area had been stripped and mapped and an initial on-site assessment of the archaeology carried out, DAT-DM and the client were consulted to determine the scope of subsequent investigation.

#### 5. Results (Figures 4 and 5)

The initial machine strip removed approximately 0.2m thickness of plough soil (1000) in an even layer across the site (plate 1). The plough soil comprised a dark grey brown clay loam, sealing all archaeological features. This plough soil also lay directly above underlying natural geological deposits.

The underlying geology across the site was recorded as two distinct contexts, one each for the natural clean silty clay subsoil and the other for the bedrock. The bedrock (1008) was a very compact pale grey green mudstone located in irregular outcrops across the site area. The natural subsoil (1001) comprised a firm, mottled mid red brown & dark grey brown silty clay with patches of frequent stones and stone free areas. Both remained unexcavated.

Within the natural geology an E-W aligned curvilinear channel [1002] was recorded running downhill (west) across the NW part of the site (plate 2). This is interpreted as a peri-glacial fluvial channel of approximately 40m length as exposed within the excavated area and a width of 3.5m at its widest western point, it was irregular and contained two fills, the lower fill was a very clean naturally derived deposit (1011); a pale grey mix of poorly sorted medium and large (0.1-0.3m) sub-rounded water worn stones within a matrix of loose grit and gravels measuring 0.24m deep at its thickest point. Above this, the upper fill (1003) comprised a loose deposit of dark brown silty clay of 0.1m thickness containing frequent medium sub-rounded stones (0.03-0.1m). This upper fill is interpreted as a disturbed upper layer due to ploughing across the underlying stones. This feature was sampled through a machine excavated intervention of a single buckét width (1.8m) close to its western end (Figures 4 and 5; plate 3).

A NE-SW aligned linear feature [1010] was recorded cutting into the upper fill of the palaeochannel (1003), against the NW baulk of the trench. This is interpreted as a field drain of 0.4m width, as exposed, but continuing under the NW baulk of the trench, and visible for a length of 4m. it contained a single fill, (1009); a dark brown silty clay with 80% rounded stones.

A second similar linear stone-filled feature [1004], considered to be part of the same phase of field drains as [1010], but on a different (E-W) alignment, was located approximately 0.5m to the north (plate 4). It measured 0.4 to 0.5m in width and was visible for a length of 15m within the trench. It had near vertical sides and a flat base and was excavated by hand in a single intervention of 1.5m length against the NW baulk (plate 5). It contained a single fill (1005) of 0.3m thickness, which comprised abundant medium and large sub-rounded stones (0.08-0.2m) within a dark brown silty clay matrix.

To the north of [1004], approximately parallel but separated by a distance of 2-3m, was a third field drain [1006]. It measured 0.4m wide and was visible for a length of 9m within the trench. It was partially excavated by hand within a single 1m intervention against the NW

baulk and shown to have vertical sides. The base was not seen. It contained a mixed fill (1007), 0.4m thick, and comprising a mottled, pale grey, pale yellow and dark brown silty clay overlying a layer of clean stone aggregate which sealed a ceramic field drain of 0.15m diameter (plate 6). Two sherds of 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery were retrieved from this layer. Although this feature is parallel and adjacent to stone-filled drain [1004], their different constructions suggests they date from two separate phases of field drainage.

#### 6. Finds

A small number of finds of pottery, CBM and glass of 19th or 20th century date, were recovered from the overlying plough soil (1000), as well as an unidentified ferrous object. Two further finds were recovered from the ploughsoil; a blue glass bead of uncertain date, but potentially also post-medieval; and a possible Neolithic/early Bronze Age worked flint or chert notched flake or scraper with retouched notch near the proximal end adjacent to the bulb of percussion (plate 7).

Two sherds of 20th century pottery were retrieved from fill (1007) of field drain [1006]. These comprised a single earthenware sherd and a single sherd of white ware.

Cont. No.	count	description	Weight (g)	date
1000	4	Dark brown glazed earthenware pottery sherds	118	?C19
1000	7	White and creamware, (inc. blue & white) pottery sherds	28	C19-20
1000	1	Ferrous object	16	
1000	1	Worked flint notched flake	<1	Neolithic- EBA
1000	1	Blue glass bead	<1	Post-Med
1000	1	СВМ	26	C19-20
1000	2	Bottle glass, inc. one with lettering	21	C20
1007	2	Earthenware and whiteware pottery sherds	9	C20

#### Table of finds

#### 7. Discussion

The Strip map and excavate was targeted in order to help identify and record a geophysical linear anomaly highlighted in an earlier geophysical survey report on the site (Muller, 2019). However, these excavations revealed that this anomaly was not the result of sub-surface archaeology, but rather by a clearly visible variation in the geology, that between bedrock outcrops (1008) and natural silty clay subsoil (1001). Comparison of Figures 2 and 4 shows that this variation can account for the geophysical anomaly, particularly towards the eastern half of the trench (plate 8).

A further variation within the underlying geology was noted in the NW part of the trench and, following investigation, was found to be a periglacial-fluvial channel [1002].

Three features of an archaeological nature were recorded during the excavations, all related to sub surface field drainage. Two [1004] & [1010] were of similar type, simple stone filled gullies, whilst the third [1006] contained a ceramic pipe. This latter drain is likely to be 2<sup>th</sup> century in date and contained two pottery sherds of 1<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century date within its fill. The two stone-filled field drains did not contain any dateable artefacts but are likely to date from an earlier phase of post medieval or modern drainage on the site.

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Plate 1: Working shot during Site Strip, view to the West



Plate 2: Palaeochannel [1002], unexcavated, view to East.



Plate 3: Machine Excavated slot through fill (1011) of Palaeochannel [1002], view to East.



Plate 4: Pre-excavation shot of the two parallel field drains; [1006] left and [1004] right, view to East.



Plate 5: West facing section of hand dug slot through field drain [1004], (1005) part removed, view to East.



Plate 6: Hand dug slot through field drain [1006] with ceramic pipe at base, view to west.



Plate 7: Blue glass bead and notched lithic flake, selection of finds from (1000). Scale: 1 small square = 1mm



Plate 8: Excavated area, fully stripped showing geological variations that were picked up in the geophysical survey (Muller, 2019), view to west.

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APPENDIX I: Context Register

Cont No.	Туре	Description	Dimensions	Relation	Finds
1000	Layer	Plough soil. Dark grey brown silty Ioam, frequent mixed stones.	0.2m thick across the entire trench	Above (1001), (1003), (1005), (1007), (1008), (1009)	4 x glazed earthenware ?C19; 7 x sherds white or cream ware C19-20; 2 x glass frags c20; 1 x CBM; 1 x Fe object; 1 x blue glass bead; 1 x notched flint flake.
1001	layer	Natural subsoil. mottled mid grey brown & pale grey brown silty clay, frequent stones in patches	unexcavated	Below (1000); cut by [1002], [1004], [1006], [1010]	None
1002	Cut	Palaeochannel. Aligned E-W. Irregular.	Approx. 34m long, up to 15m wide.	Cuts (1001); below (1011);	N/A
1003	Fill	Upper fill of palaeochannel. Dark brown silty clay, very frequent rounded stones.	up to 15m wide, 0.1m thick. Extends over distance of 35m in patches	Below (1000); Cut by [1010]; above (1011)	None
1004	Cut	Cut of stone filled Field Drain. Aligned E-W, vertical sides, flat base.	0.4m wide, 0.35m deep; 15m long	Below (1005); cuts (1001)	N/A
1005	Fill	Stony fill of field drain [1004]. Abundant Sub- rounded medium stones in fine brown silt matrix.	0.4m wide, 0.35m deep; 15m long	Below (1000); Fills [1004]	None
1006	Cut	Cut for ceramic pipe. Aligned E-W, vertical sides, not bottomed	0.3m wide; 0.3m deep (not bottomed); 8.7m long	Below (1007); Cuts (1001)	N/A
1007	Fill	Fill of ceramic pipe cut [1006]. Contains ceramic pipe under stone aggregate and soil backfill	0.3m wide; 0.3m deep (not bottomed); 8.7m long	Below (1000); Fills [1006]	1 x earthenware 1 x white ware C20
1008	Nat	Geological bedrock, pale grey/green outcrops of local natural stone	Not excavated	Below (1000)	None
1009	Fill	Fill of field drain [1010]. Abundant sub-rounded	Width not fully exposed and	Below (1000);	None

		medium stones in fine brown silt matrix.	unexcavated. Approx. 9m long	Fills [1010]	
1010	Cut	Cut of stone filled linear field drain, aligned SW- NE	Width not fully exposed and unexcavated. Approx. 9m long	Filled by (1009); cuts (1003)	N/A
1011	Fill	Lower fill of Palaeochannel [1002], abundant, loose poorly sorted medium and large sub-rounded stones in a pale grey sandy grits/gravel matrix	Approx. 34m long, up to 15m wide and up to 0.25m thick.	Below (1003); above [1002]	None

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### APPENDIX II: Written Scheme of Investigation



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#### WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

#### FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION

Land to the rear of Cylch Peris, Llanon, Ceredigion, SY23 5HN

Prepared for:

Morgan Construction

Project No: 2704

January 2020



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Figure 1. Site location

Figure 2. Site location plan

Figure 3. Area of strip, map and excavate, overlaid on geophysical survey results

#### 1. Introduction & Planning Background

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details the methodology for a programme of archaeological mitigation (archaeological strip, map and excavation, and possible watching brief, if required) to be undertaken in association with proposed works for the construction of a new residential development on land to the rear of Cylch Peris, Llanon, Ceredigion, SY23 5HN (henceforth – the site), centred on NGR SN 51886 67457 (Figure 1). The local planning authority is Ceredigion County Council (henceforth – CCC), and the planning application number is A190018. The work is to be undertaken as part of the determination of the planning application.

In February and March 2019 Archaeology Wales (henceforth– AW) conducted a geophysical survey on the site (Muller, 2019), as requested by Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Development Management (henceforth– DAT-DM) prior to determination of any further mitigation requirements. The results of the survey noted a faint linear striation in the southwestern area of the site, characterised by a band of magnetically positive responses. The feature runs north-west to south-east for approximately 50m, and then turns ninety-degrees to the north-east for approximately 15m. No other features were identified, although the site lies in an area with archaeological potential.

Consequently DAT-DM have requested that further archaeological mitigation should be carried out, comprising an archaeological strip, map and excavate across the area of the feature identified in the geophysical survey, with a possible archaeological watching brief on the remainder of the development groundworks if required.

This WSI has been prepared by James Evans, Project Archaeologist, AW, at the request of Morgan Construction. It provides information on the methodology that will be employed by AW during the archaeological strip, map, and excavation, and subsequent potential watching brief. This WSI is to be approved by DAT-DM, on behalf of CCC, prior to work being undertaken. The purpose of the archaeological mitigation is to provide CCC with sufficient information regarding the nature of archaeological remains on the site of the development, the requirements for which are set out in Planning Policy (revised edition 10, 2018), Section 6.1 and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment (2017).

All work will be undertaken to the standards and guidance set by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014). AW is a Registered Organisation with the ClfA.

#### 2. Site Description & Archaeological Background

The proposed development site, which covers an area of approximately 1.5 hectares, extends across the southern half of an agricultural field on the northern edge of Llanon, in Ceredigion (Figure 2). The archaeological strip, map and sample recording will take place in the south-western area of the site, and it measures approximately 30m by 40m (Figure 3). In general, the field has been used as improved pasture and arable land in recent years. It is

bounded by hedgerows, and slopes gradually down to the west. To the south the site is bordered by residential development along Cylch Peris, to the west the site is bordered by the A487, with agricultural land beyond. Agricultural land extends to the north and east. An overhead cable crosses the southern edge of the field.

The site lies at approximately 30mOD. To the east the land continues to rise, eventually reaching a high point of 150mOD approximately 1.3km to the east. To the west the land continues to fall gradually until it meets the Ceredigion coast approximately 800m to the west. Approximately 100m to the south the Afon Peris, a relatively small watercourse, winds east – west towards the coast. The small settlement of Llanon is largely laid out along the main road to the south of the Peris, with offshoots along Stryd-yr-Ysgol to the east, and Stryd-yr-Eglwys to the west, which leads to St Ffraid's church and the small settlement of Llansantffraid around it.

The underlying bedrock of the proposed development area comprises mudstones and sandstones of the Trefechan Formation, with the rising ground to the east part of the Mynydd Bach Formation. The bedrock is overlaid by mixed alluvial deposits along the route of the Afon Peris to the south, with Devensian diamicton to the north. The site may extend across both the deposits (BGS, 2019).

A number of prehistoric sites are recorded in the surrounding area, including an Iron Age cropmark enclosure and a Neolithic findspot. Immediately to the west of the site also lies an undated double-ditched enclosure.

A number of Iron Age enclosures are recorded, both as visible earthworks, and as cropmarks, around the northern edge of Llanon, including Troed-yr-rhiw enclosure (PRN 763) lying on higher ground overlooking the site to the east. To the west the aforementioned St Ffraid's Church (PRN 50152) may have early medieval origins ands first mentioned in 12th century documents. Llanon would also appear to be centred on a medieval settlement (PRN 12771), and an extensive system of strip field agriculture, typically medieval in origin, is still visible to the west of the village.

#### 3. Objectives

This WSI sets out a program of works to ensure that the mitigation will meet the standard required by The Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (2014), and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (2014).

The objective of the archaeological mitigation is to identify, excavate, record, and analyse any significant archaeological remains that will be disturbed by the proposed development. As any such remains will be removed by development, preservation by record is required. This approach should help understand the broad pattern of settlement dynamics and how key elements of the archaeological landscape relate to each other spatially, functionally, and chronologically.

The strip, map and excavation works will be undertaken in phases. The first phase being the strip, or removal, of overburden to an agreed level. This will be followed by planning of all revealed archaeological deposits and features. Following planning, sample excavation will be undertaken to establish a required understanding of the nature of the archaeology and its chronology. These results will be discussed with DAT-DM to determine if any further mitigation work is required, such as further excavation, or an archaeological watching brief during the remainder of the development works.

Following all stages of the work a report will be produced that will provide a detailed account of all the archaeological work undertaken (strip, map, and excavation and watching brief). Sufficient research will be undertaken to ensure that the results of this work are properly understood, interpreted and reported.

The report will include a comprehensive assessment of the historic context within which the archaeological evidence rests and will aim to highlight any relevant research issues within regional, national and, if relevant, international research frameworks.

A full site archive will be produced, including project records, artefacts, ecofacts and any other sample residues and summaries of the context, artefact, and environmental records.

#### 4. Timetable of Works

#### 4.1. Fieldwork

A start date has yet to be confirmed, but it is considered to be imminent. The initial strip, map and excavate phase is anticipated to last around 4 days, but this is subject to continual review and amendment during the course of the works. A start date for subsequent development has not been confirmed. DAT-DM will be kept informed as to the progress of the works.

#### 4.2. Report delivery

The reporting schedule is outlined in section 8.3.

#### 5. Strip, Map & Excavation Detail

The strip, map and sample recording will be used to investigate an area measuring 30m by 40m in the south-western area of the proposed development site (Figure 3). This area is drawn around a potential feature identified from the previous geophysical survey of the site. The area will be located by means of a GPS survey equipment.

Stripping will be carried out by a360° machines fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, working backwards from a single front. The development area will be stripped of modern overburden, comprising topsoil and plough soil, under close archaeological supervision in spits of no more than 100mm, to the top of the archaeological horizon or the natural deposits, whichever is encountered soonest. If archaeological remains are found to be present cutting through soil layers that conceal lower archaeological horizons, then the upper levels will be mapped and investigated prior to their removal to the lower levels. Machines will not be allowed to track over the stripped area until the fieldwork has been completed in these areas. The supervising archaeologist will monitor the movement of plant on the site and suspend operations that are potentially damaging to underlying archaeological deposits. Spoil heaps will be stored at least 1m from the edge of excavation areas.

If machine stripping does not provide the required clarity to accurately identify archaeological features and deposits, the resulting surface will be hand cleaned using hoes and/or pointing trowels, as appropriate, to prove the presence, or absence, of archaeological features and to determine their significance. All such features will be recorded, and if required, sample excavated. Sample excavation may be undertaken to establish whether features are indeed archaeological in nature or not.

All archaeological features and deposits will be mapped and recorded as per the methods laid out in section 7. Features and deposits will be recorded in close sequence to the stripping. Exposed surfaces will be regularly monitored to identify any further features that become apparent through weathering. Sufficient levels will also be taken across the site to support future topographic modelling.

Once the required area has been stripped and mapped and an initial on-site assessment of the archaeology carried out, a meeting will be held between AW, the Client and DAT-DM, either on-site or via phone (to the satisfaction of DAT-DM) to determine the scope of subsequent investigation. It is anticipated that, following this meeting, DAT-DM will either ask for further excavation, an archaeological watching brief during subsequent groundworks, or that the development can proceed without further archaeological intervention. If archaeological features are encountered, but not deemed to be high significance, then it is anticipated that they will be preserved in record through full excavation. If features of high archaeological significance are encountered, then additional mitigation measures may be required. All further mitigation will however be determined subsequent to the discussions and in agreement with DAT-DM.

#### 6. Watching Brief detail

Any archaeological watching brief, if required, will be undertaken to meet the standard required by The Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's Standard and Guidance for Watching Briefs (2014).

The Watching Brief, if required, will be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist on all groundworks associated with the development (levelling works, foundation excavations, service excavations and other associated work that could disturb sub-surface deposits containing potential archaeological material). The mechanical excavation will be undertaken by tracked 360-degree excavator(s) using a toothless ditching bucket wherever possible.

The site archaeologist undertaking the watching brief will be afforded the required access by the main contractor in order to observe and where necessary to record any archaeological remains revealed. Groundwork will not be undertaken without the presence of the site archaeologist. The site archaeologist will record finds and less significant archaeological deposits and features without significant delay to the work program.

Where significant or complex archaeological deposits or features are encountered there will be a requirement for those areas to be fenced off and highlighted to all contractors employed on the site. Machines or contractors shall not enter this area until archaeological recording has been completed. If significant archaeological features are revealed during the work a meeting between the client, DAT-DM and AW will be called at the earliest convenience.

To comply with professional guidelines, a contingency for a further limited period of uninterrupted access to each such areas and for a suitably-sized team of further archaeologists to be employed should be provided. Contingency costs will be agreed in advance before any extension to the programme commences and will follow a site meeting between AW, the client and DAT-DM.

#### 7. Recording & Archiving

#### 7.1. Recording

Recording will be carried out using AW recording systems (pro-forma context sheets, etc.) using a continuous number sequence for all contexts.

Plans and sections will be drawn to a scale of 1:50, 1:20 or 1:10 as required and related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.

All features identified will be tied into the OS survey grid and fixed to local topographical boundaries.

Photographs will be taken in digital format with an appropriate scale, using a 10MP+ camera with photographs stored in Tiff format.

The archaeologist(s) supervising the machine stripping will have access to the AW metal detector and be trained in its use.

#### 7.2. Finds

The professional standards set in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological (2014) will form the basis of finds collection, processing and recording.

Finds will be carefully excavated by hand. The excavation of fragile or particularly significant finds will be undertaken in consultation with an appropriate archaeological conservator. Finds will be bagged by archaeological context, the location of special finds and flint working deposits will be recorded three dimensionally.

All manner of finds regardless of category and date will initially be retained. These will be suitably bagged, boxed and marked. Following cataloguing and initial analysis finds of little archaeological significance may be discarded, but only after post-excavation assessment and agreement with DAT-DM.

Finds recovered that are regarded as Treasure underThe Treasure Act 1996 will be reported to HM Coroner for the local area.

Any finds which are considered to be in need of immediate conservation will be referred to a UKIC qualified conservator (normally Phil Parkes at Cardiff University).

#### 7.3. Environmental sampling strategy

Deposits with a significant potential for the preservation of palaeoenvironmental material will be sampled, by means of the most appropriate method (bulk, column etc). Where sampling will provide a significant contribution to the understanding of the site AW will draw up a site-specific sampling strategy alongside a specialist environmental archaeologist. All environmental sampling and recording and will follow Historic EnglardGuidelines for Environmental Archaeology(2011).

#### 7.4. Human remains

In the event that human remains are encountered, their nature and extent will be established, the client and DAT-DM will be informed. Measures will be put in place to ensure that any such remains are fenced off, covered and protected from deterioration and damage, and that human remains, and burial goods will be treated in a respectful manner.

Where preservation in situ is not possible the human remains will be fully recorded and removed under conditions that comply with all current legislation and include acquisition of

licenses and provision for reburial following all analytical work. Human remains will be excavated in accordance with the Chartered stitute for Archaeologist's Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains(2017). Detailed procedures for this recording and removal will be agreed with DAT-DM in advance. A Ministry of Justice Licence will be obtained before remains can be lifted, this applies to both inhumation and cremated remains.

#### 7.5. Specialist advisers

In the event of certain finds, features or sites being discovered, AW will seek specialist opinion and advice. A list of specialists is given in the table below although this list is not exhaustive.

Artefact type	Specialist
Flint	Kate Pitt / Elizabeth Walker (National Museum Wales)
Animal bone	Richard Madgwick (Cardiff University)
Clay pipe	Charley James-Martin (Archaeology Wales)
Glass	Rowena Hart (Archaeology Wales)
Cremated and non-cremated human bone	Rhiannon Joyce (Archaeology Wales) / Malin Holst (University of York)/Richard Madgwick (Cardiff University)
Metalwork	Kevin Leahy (University of Leicester)
Metal work and metallurgical residues	Dr Tim Young (GeoArch)
Leatherwork	Quita Mold (Freelance)
Neo/BA pottery	Dr Alex Gibson (Bradford University)
Prehistoric pottery	David Mullin (Freelance)
IA/Roman pottery	Jane Timby (Freelance)
Roman Pottery	Rowena Hart (Archaeology Wales)/ Peter Webster (Freelance)
Post Roman pottery	Alice Forward (Freelance) / Paul Blinkhorn (Freelance)

Post Roman finds	Alice Forward (Freelance) / Sian Iles (National Museum Wales)
Brick, tile, mortar & plaster	Martin Locock (University of Wales)
Charcoal (wood ID)	Dana Challinor (Freelance)
Waterlogged wood	Nigel Nayling (University of Wales- Lampeter)
Pollen	Rhiannon Philp (Archaeology Wales)
Charred and waterlogged plant remains	Wendy Carruthers (Freelance)
Palaeoenvironmental Analysis	Rhiannon Philp (Archaeology Wales) / Martin Bates (University of Wales – Lampeter)

#### 7.6. Specialist reports

Specialist finds and palaeoenvironmental reports will be written by AW specialists, or subcontracted to external specialists when required.

#### 8. Monitoring

DAT-DM will be contacted approximately one week prior to the commencement of archaeological site works, and subsequently once the work is underway.

Any changes to the WSI that AW may wish to make after approval will be communicated to DAT-DM for approval on behalf of Planning Authority.

Representatives of DAT-DM will be given access to the site so that they may monitor the progress of the mitigation work. No area will be backfilled or developed until DAT-DM has had the opportunity to inspect it, unless permission has been given in advance. DAT-DM will be kept regularly informed about developments, both during the site works and subsequently during post-excavation. Once the site has been stripped and mapped and an initial assessment of the archaeology carried out, on on-site meeting (if requested by DAT-DM) will be held between AW, the Client and DAT-DM to determine the scope of subsequent investigation.

#### 9. Archive & Reporting Programme

#### 9.1. Site archive

An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales 2017 (National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales) and the guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists upon completion of the project.

The site archive (including artefacts and samples) will be prepared in accordance with the National Monuments Record (Wales) agreed structure and deposited with an appropriate receiving organisation, in compliance with ClfA Guidelines (Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives', 2014). The legal landowners' consent will be gained for deposition of finds. The project will adhere to the Welsh Archaeological Trust's joint Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (2018).

#### 9.2. Analysis

Following a rapid review of the potential of the site archive, a programme of analysis and reporting will be undertaken.

This will result in the following inclusions in the final report:

- A bilingual non-technical summary
- Location plan showing the area/s covered by the watching brief, all artefacts, structures and features found
- Plan and section drawings (if features are encountered) with ground level, ordnance datum and vertical and horizontal scales.
- Written description and interpretation of all deposits identified, including their character, function, potential dating and relationship to adjacent features. Specialist descriptions and illustrations of all artefacts and soil samples will be included as appropriate.
- An indication of the potential of archaeological deposits which have not been disturbed by the development
- A discussion of the local, regional and national context of the remains by means of reviewing published reports, unpublished reports, historical maps, documents from local archives and the regional HER as appropriate.

• A detailed archive list at the rear listing all contexts recorded, all samples finds and find types, drawings and photographs taken. This will include a statement of the intent to deposit, and location of deposition, of the archive.

#### 9.3. Report to client

Copies of all reports associated with the watching brief, together with inclusion of supporting evidence in appendices as appropriate, including photographs and illustrations, will be submitted to the client upon completion, and for formal submission to DAT-DM.

#### 9.4. Additional reports

After an appropriate period has elapsed, copies of all reports will be deposited with the relevant county Historical Environment Record (DAT), the National Monuments Record and, if appropriate, Cadw. The report and all relevant information will be submitted to the Historic Environment Record following the guidelines and procedures laid out in the Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (WAT 2018).

#### 9.5. Summary reports for publication

Short archaeological reports will be submitted for publication in relevant journals; as a minimum, a report will be submitted to the annual publication of the regional CBA group or equivalent journal.

#### 9.6. Notification of important remains

Where it is considered that remains have been revealed that may satisfy the criteria for statutory protection, AW will submit preliminary notification of the remains to Cadw.

#### 9.7. Archive deposition

The final archive (site and research) will, whenever appropriate, be deposited with a suitable receiving institution, usually the relevant Local Authority museums service. Arrangements will be made with the receiving institution before work starts. If the archive is not acceptable the archive will be deposited with Amgueddfa Cymru National Museum Wales, Cardiff. If no artefacts are recovered then the archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW, Aberystwyth. Arrangements will be made with the receiving institution before work starts.

Although there may be a period during which client confidentiality will need to be maintained, copies of all reports and the final archive will be deposited no later than six months after completion of the work.

Copies of all reports, the digital archive and an archive index will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW, Aberystwyth.

Wherever the archive is deposited, this information will be relayed to the HER. A summary of the contents of the archive will be supplied to DAT-DM.

#### 9.8. Finds deposition

The finds, including artefacts and ecofacts, excepting those which may be subject to the Treasure Act, will be deposited with the same institution, subject to the agreement of the legal landowners.

#### 10. Staff

The project will be managed by John Davey (MCIfA) and the fieldwork undertaken by suitable qualified and experienced AW archaeologists. Any alteration to staffing before or during the work will be brought to the attention of DAT-DM and the client.

#### Additional Considerations

#### 11. Health & Safety

#### 11.1. Risk assessment

Prior to the commencement of work AW will carry out and produce a formal Health and Safety Risk Assessment in accordance with The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992. A copy of the risk assessment will be kept on site and be available for inspection on request. A copy will be sent to the client (or their agent as necessary) for their information. All members of AW staff will adhere to the content of this document.

#### 11.2. Other guidelines

AW will adhere to best practice with regard to Health and Safety in Archaeology as set out in the FAME (Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers) health and safety manual Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (2002).

#### 12. Community Engagement & Outreach

Wherever possible, AW will ensure suitable measures are in place to inform the local community and any interested parties of the results of the site investigation work. This may occur during the site investigation work or following completion of the work. The form of any potential outreach activities may include lectures and talks to local groups, interested parties and persons, information boards, flyers and other forms of communication (social media and websites), and press releases to local and national media.

The form of any outreach will respect client confidentiality or contractual agreements. As a rule, outreach will be proportional to the size of the project.

Where outreach activities have a cost implication these will need to be negotiated in advance and in accordance with the nature of the desired response and learning outcomes.

#### 13. Insurance

AW is fully insured for this type of work and holds Insurance with Aviva Insurance Ltd and Hiscox Insurance Company Limited through Towergate Insurance. Full details of these and other relevant policies can be supplied on request.

#### 14. Quality Control

#### 14.1. Professional standards

AW works to the standards and guidance provided by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists AW fully recognise and endorse the CharteredInstitute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology and the Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs currently in force. All employees of AW, whether corporate members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists or not, are expected to adhere to these Codes and Standards during their employment.

#### 14.2. Project tracking

The designated AW manager will monitor all projects in order to ensure that agreed targets are met without reduction in quality of service.

#### 15. Arbitration

Disputes or differences arising in relation to this work shall be referred for a decision in accordance with the Rules of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' Arbitration Scheme for the Institute for Archaeologists applying at the date of the agreement.

#### 16. References

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standards and guidance for the collection, compilation, transfer, and deposition of archaeological archives

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standards and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation, and research of archaeological materials

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standards and guidance for an archaeological watching brief

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McKinley, J I and Roberts, C, 1993, Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains, Institute of Field Archaeologists Techn Pap 13, Reading

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#### ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

#### Caerphilly Castle, Infiltration Test Trenches

Site Name:	Cylch Peris, Lanon
Site Code:	CPL/20/SME
PRN:	-
NPRN:	-
SAM:	-
Other Ref No:	-
NGR:	NGR SN 51886 67457
Site Type:	Proposed Housing Development on
	green field site
Project Type:	Strip, Map and Excavate
Project Manager:	John Davey
Project Dates:	February 2020
Categories Present:	Post-med/ modern field drains
Location of Original Archive:	AW
Location of duplicate Archives:	RCAHMW, Aberytswyth
Number of Finds Boxes:	-
Location of Finds:	AW
Museum Reference:	None
Copyright:	
Restrictions to access:	

# Archaeology Wales

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