

20/05/2013

106661



**LAND AT CLAWDD DU,
TYROES,
CARMARTHENSHIRE.**

NGR: SN 598 091 (CENTRED)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Report No. 955
April 2014

**LAND AT CLAWDD DU,
TYROES,
CARMARTHENSHIRE.**

NGR: SN 598 091 (Centred)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

April 2014

Report No. 955

Quality Assurance

This Document has been compiled and authorised in accordance with
AMS's Quality Procedures (BS EN ISO 9001: 2000)

Author: C. Carlsson

Date: 7th April 2014

Approved: D. King

QA Checked: R. King

This report has been compiled with all reasonable skill care and attention to detail within the terms of the project as specified by the client and within the general terms and conditions of Archaeological Management Services Ltd trading as Foundations Archaeology but no explicit warranty is provided for information and opinions stated. AMS Ltd accepts no responsibility whatsoever to third parties to whom this report or any part thereof is made known. Any such party relies on this report at their own risk. Copyright of this document is retained by AMS Ltd, but unlimited licence to reproduce it in whole or part is granted to the client and/or their agents and/or assignees on payment of invoice.

CONTENTS

Summary

Glossary

- 1 INTRODUCTION
- 2 PROJECT BACKGROUND
- 3 AIMS
- 4 METHODOLOGY
- 5 RESULTS
- 6 CONCLUSIONS
- 7 BIBLIOGRAPHY
- 8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Site Area

SUMMARY

During February and March 2014 Foundations Archaeology undertook an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks for a new photovoltaic development on land at Clawdd Du, Tycroes, Carmarthenshire (NGR: SN 598 091 (centred)). The work was commissioned by Energie Effizienz Experten GmbH on behalf of RALOS New Energy UK Ltd in response to a requirement for archaeological monitoring by Dyfed Archaeological Trust in line with Section 23 of Welsh Office Circular 60/96.

No archaeological finds or features were present within the watched areas.

None of the possible features identified in the geophysical survey (ArchaeoPhysica Ltd, 2013) were located within the watched areas, therefore, no conclusions can be drawn about the validity of the geophysical results.

GLOSSARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Archaeology

For the purpose of this project archaeology is taken to mean the study of past human societies through their material remains from prehistoric times to the modern era. No rigid upper date limit has been set, but AD 1900 is used as a general cut-off point.

CBM

Ceramic Building Material.

Medieval

The period between the Norman Conquest (AD 1066) and circa AD 1500.

Natural

In archaeological terms this refers to the undisturbed natural geology of a site.

NGR

National Grid Reference from the Ordnance Survey Grid.

OD

Ordnance datum; used to express a given height above sea-level.

OS

Ordnance Survey

Post-medieval

The period from circa AD 1500 onwards.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 During February and March 2014 Foundations Archaeology undertook an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks for a new photovoltaic development on land at Clawdd Du, Tycroes, Carmarthenshire (NGR: SN 598 091 (centred)). The work was commissioned by Energie Effizienz Experten GmbH on behalf of RALOS New Energy UK Ltd in response to a requirement for archaeological monitoring by Dyfed Archaeological Trust in line with Section 23 of Welsh Office Circular 60/96.
- 1.2 The watching brief was undertaken in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Foundations Archaeology (2013), which conformed to the principles set out in Policies BE2 and BE3 of the Carmarthenshire Unitary Development Plan (Deposit Plan November 2002), the archaeological policies of Dyfed Archaeological Trust and the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (2008).
- 1.3 This document presents the findings of the archaeological monitoring.

2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Planning permission (Ref. S/27987) has been granted by Carmarthenshire County Council for the construction of a new photovoltaic development on land at Clawdd Du, Tycroes, Carmarthenshire.
- 2.2 An archaeological assessment of the site was undertaken by Foundations Archaeology in 2012. This assessment was requested by Dyfed Archaeological Trust- Heritage Management in accordance with PPW (edition 4, 2011).
- 2.3 The assessment highlighted that the site will not contain archaeological features of sufficient significance to preclude development of the site. However the possible presence of archaeological remains would require further archaeological assessment to clarify the potential for buried archaeological evidence associated with Post-Medieval industrial, domestic and agricultural activity.
- 2.4 Two mine shafts and five previous buildings were identified within the study area. These are most likely of Post-medieval date.
- 2.5 In light of the identified presence of archaeological features within the proposed development area, Dyfed Archaeological Trust- Heritage Management required that a watching brief will be carried out during the groundworks.

- 2.6 The study area therefore contained the potential for archaeological finds predominantly dating to the Post-medieval period. This however did not prejudice the watching brief against the recovery of data relating to other periods.

3 AIMS

- 3.1 The aims of the archaeological watching brief were to gather high quality data from the direct observation of archaeological deposits in order to provide sufficient information to establish the nature, extent, preservation and potential of any surviving archaeological remains; as well as to make recommendations for management of the resource, including further archaeological works if necessary. This was intended to allow reasonable planning decisions to be taken regarding the archaeological provision for the areas affected by the proposed works.

- 3.2 These aims were to be achieved by the pursuit of the objectives as stated below.

i) to define and identify the nature of archaeological deposits on site, and date these where possible;

ii) to attempt to characterize the nature of the archaeological sequence and recover as much information as possible about the spatial patterning of features present on the site;

iii) where possible to recover a well dated stratigraphic sequence and recover coherent artefact, ecofact and environmental samples.

4 METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 All intrusive groundworks were to be monitored and recorded in order to identify archaeological finds and deposits and these groundworks were to be carried out under the constant monitoring of an archaeologist. However, during the course of project it was decided that continuous monitoring was not necessary due to the paucity of archaeological deposits and it was therefore agreed that the northern half of the site (see Figure 2) need only be monitored on an intermittent basis. As the stripping for the access road did not penetrate through the ploughsoil, it was agreed with Dyfed that it was not necessary to monitor this.

- 4.2 Spoil tips were visually scanned for unstratified finds.

- 4.3 All excavation and recording was undertaken in accordance with Foundations Archaeology Technical Manual 3: Excavation Manual and the WSI.

5 RESULTS

- 5.1 ~~All~~ All the concrete footings for the docking stations were monitored along with the majority of the cable trenches, which were located along the field divisions during the course of the watching brief. The cable trenches were approximately 0.6m wide and were excavated to a depth of between 0.9 to 1.1m below the Modern ground level. The concrete footings were excavated within the footprint of the docking station to a depth of between 0.4 to 0.6m below the Modern ground level.
- 5.2 The stratigraphy was consistent across the majority of the observed area and comprised a natural yellow grey clay, which was sealed by a light brown silty clay subsoil, which was between 0.1 to 0.2m thick. This was in turn sealed by a dark brown silty clay ploughsoil between 0.15 to 0.28m thick. The two northernmost fields had a similar stratigraphy but were slightly clayey in texture. Occasional large stones were present within both the sub and ploughsoils across the majority of the site, but these appeared randomly distributed and were clearly of natural rather than structural origin.
- 5.3 No archaeological finds or deposits were present within the watched areas.

6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 No archaeological deposits or artefactual material were present within the watched areas.
- 6.2 None of the possible features identified in the geophysical survey (ArchaeoPhysica Ltd, 2013) were within the monitored areas, therefore, no conclusions can be drawn about the validity of the geophysical results.
- 6.3 The archive is currently held at the offices of Foundations Archaeology, but will be deposited within 12 months with the local museum. An OASIS form will also be submitted to ADS.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

ArchaeoPhysica, 2013 *Clawdd Ddu, Ammanford, Carmarthenshire. Geophysical Survey Report*. Unpublished.

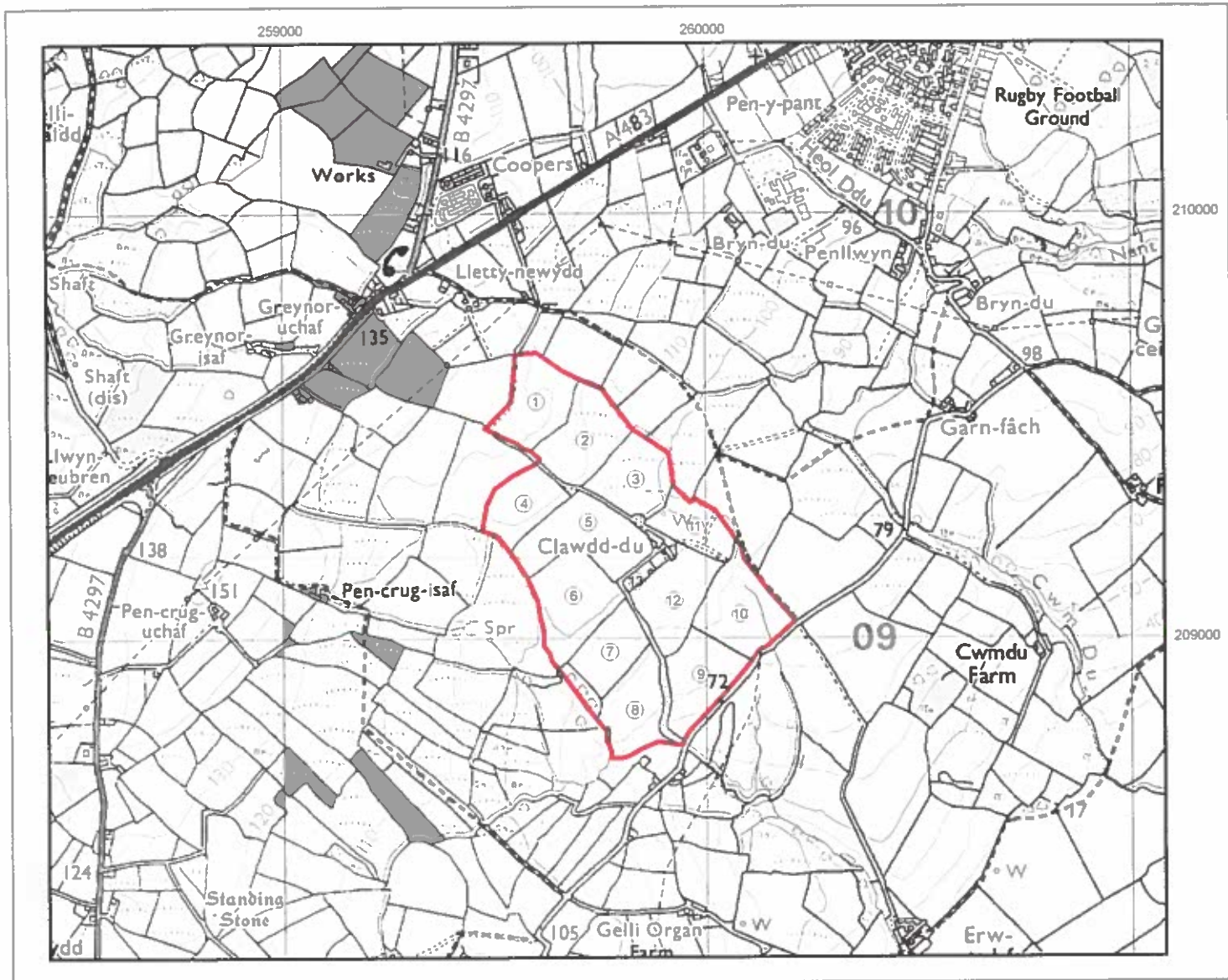
Dyfed Archaeological Trust-Heritage Management, 2013, *Standard Brief*. Unpublished

Foundations Archaeology, 2013, *Land at Clawdd Du, Tycroes, Carmarthenshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for a Programme of Archaeological Watching Brief*. Unpublished.

IfA, 2008, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*, Institute for Archaeologists, Reading.


8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Foundations Archaeology would like to thank Mike Ings and Charles Hill at Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Victoria Azancot from Energie Effizienz Experten GmbH and the on-site ground workers for their help during the course of this project.



© Crown Copyright
Reproduced under licence AL523064A
Site Code: CDT13
Accession Code:

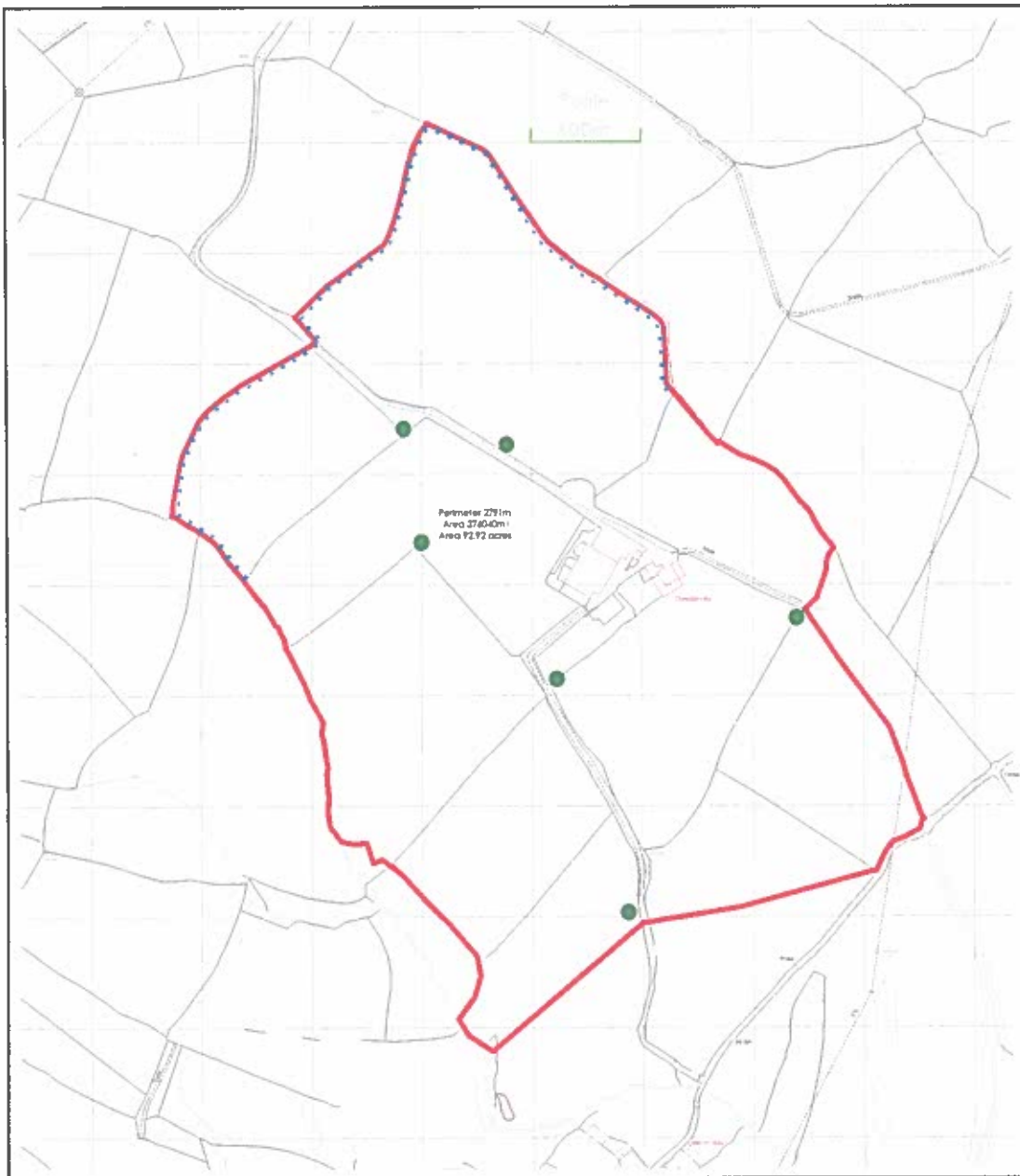
N



0m 1km

1:15000

FIGURE 1: Site Location



© Crown Copyright
Reproduced under licence AL523064A
Site Code: CDT13
Accession Code:

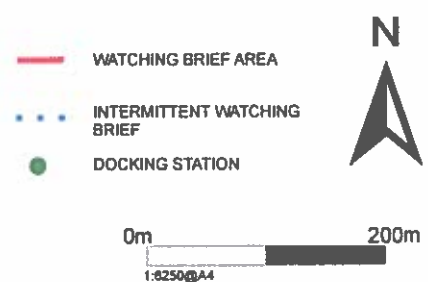


FIGURE 2: Site Area