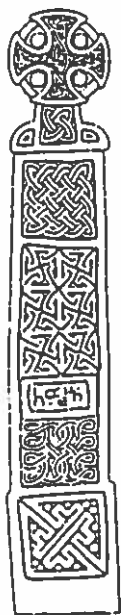


**Report on Archaeological Observation of Work carried out in  
Clynderwen, Carmarthenshire, by Laing Utilities for Welsh  
Water to July 7th 2002**



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behalf of Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water**

**1.0 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Border Archaeology undertook archaeological observation of works at Clynderwen, Carmarthenshire for Laing Utilities on behalf of Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water. A method statement outlining a programme of work was prepared prior to commencement of the programme.
- 1.2 The purpose of the archaeological observation was to assess the nature of any archaeological remains and to record as appropriate. The scheme comprised a series of small trenches. The monitoring authority was Cambria Archaeology.
- 1.3 The archaeological observation followed usual on-site procedures that complied with standards set by the Health and Safety Executive.
- 1.4 A copy of this report will be submitted to Dwr Cymru/Welsh Water with further copies supplied to Laing Utilities, Cambria Archaeology and the regional Sites and Monuments Record (SMR).
- 1.5 The programme of archaeological observation was completed on July 7th 2002. The on-site archaeological observation was undertaken by Nicola Hancox (Staff Project Archaeologist).

**2.0 GEOLOGY**

- 2.1 The drift geology of Clynderwen is a DENBIGH 1 [541j] comprising well-drained, fine loamy and fine silty soils over rock. There are also some similar soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonal waterlogging. Shallow soils and some bare rock occur locally. The solid geology consists of Palaeozoic slaty mudstone and siltstone.

**3.0 METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1 The aim of the programme of archaeological work was to locate and record any archaeological remains revealed during the course of the ground works phase.
- 3.2 A series of trenches were excavated by mechanical excavator under archaeological supervision. These trenches were excavated in order to replace the existing water main.
- 3.3 All spoil was scanned for artefacts.
- 3.4 The depth and complexity of deposits was assessed. A written record of pits containing archaeology was maintained. Photographic records of significant machine-excavated areas where archaeology was present were made in accordance with best archaeological practice. Records included an overall construction trench and site plan. A Global Positioning System (GPS) was used to locate individual pits, together with supplied detailed CAD-drawn mapping.

#### 4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL OBSERVATION

- 4.1 CL1. (NGR: SN 11956 18580) was excavated in order to locate the water main.. The trench measured 1.50m x 0.90m x 1.14m.
- 4.2 Context Description: Four contexts were identified. At the present ground level and to a depth of 0.10m was a tarmacadam road surface (001). Underlying (001) to a depth of 0.14 was a tarmacadam sub-base (002). Underlying (002) to a depth of 0.34m was a deposit of stone and gravel bedding (003). Underlying (003) to the trench base was a well-compacted, yellow-brown shale (004). *No archaeological deposits were identified.*
- 4.3 CL2 (NGR: SN 11980 18602) was excavated in order to locate the water main. The trench measured 5.85m x 0.73m x 1.10m.
- 4.4 Context Description: Four contexts were identified. At the present ground level and to a depth of 0.10m was a tarmacadam road surface (001). Underlying (001) to a depth of 0.17m was a tarmacadam sub-base (002). Underlying (002) to the trench base was a deposit of stone and gravel infill (003). In one area, the trench had cut through a well-compacted, yellow-brown shale (004), from a depth of 0.37m to the trench base, that was visible in section. Deposit (003) was clearly backfill resulting from previous utility activity. *No archaeological deposits were identified.*
- 4.5 CL3 (NGR: SN 11986 18603) (Adjoining CL2) was excavated in order to expose the water main, valves and chamber. The trench measured 3.16m x 2.00m x 1.33m x 2.33m (L-shaped). The depth reached 1.45m below the existing ground surface.
- 4.6 Context Description: Four contexts were identified. At the present ground level and to a depth of 0.10m was a tarmacadam road surface (001). Underlying (001) to a depth of 0.30m was a tarmacadam sub-base (002). Underlying (002) to a depth of 0.60m was a deposit of tar and stone (003). Underlying (003) to the trench base was a well-compacted, yellow-brown shale (004) combined with loosely compacted, stone and gravel infill. A deposit of 20th century brick and concrete, originating from the water-valve chamber, was also removed. Again, context (004) was clearly backfill resulting from previous utility activity. *No archaeological deposits were identified.*

#### 5.0 SUMMARY

- 5.1 None of the three trenches observed contained significant archaeological deposits. All three trenches showed evidence of previous utility activity. It is likely that this activity had an adverse effect on any archaeological remains on the line of the existing main.

## **6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY**

*Soils of England and Wales (1983), Sheet 5, 1:250,000.*

## **7.0 COPYRIGHT**

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