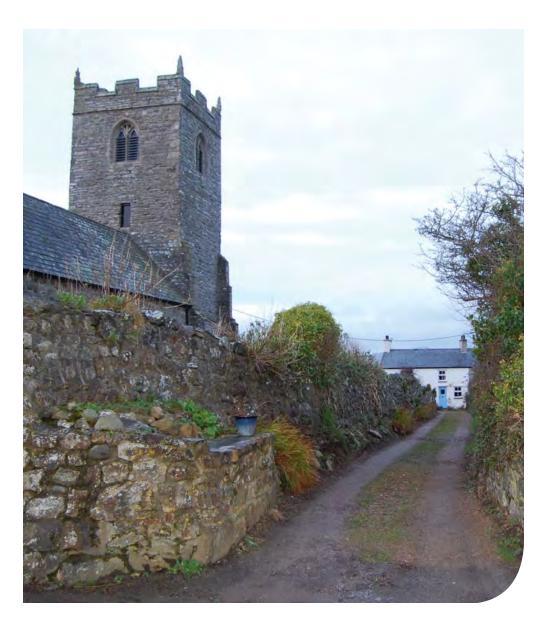
# St. Engan's Parish Church Llanengan, Gwynedd

Archaeological Watching Brief





## St. Engan's Parish Church Llanengan, Gwynedd

## **Archaeological Watching Brief**

Project No. G2294

Report No. 1091

Prepared for: Derwen Llŷn Ltd.

December 2012

Written by: Spencer Gavin Smith

Illustration by: Macsen Flook

Cyhoeddwyd gan Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd Craig Beuno, Ffordd y Garth, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2RT

Published by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Craig Beuno, Garth Road, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2RT

## **Figures**

Figure 01: Llanengan, location plan

**Figure 02:** 1st edition Ordnance Survey Map (1889) Sheet XLV.9

Figure 03: 2nd edition Ordnance Survey Map (1900) Sheet XLV.9

Figure 04: 3rd edition Ordnance Survey Map (1918) Sheet XLV.9

## **Plates**

- Plate 01: View east of the churchyard of the parish church of St. Engan the light grey patch of concrete visible by the base of the church tower marks the exit point of the electrical cable and ducting from the church.
- **Plate 02:** TP01 as excavated by Derwen Llŷn Ltd. Electrical cable ducting visible in bottom of pit.
- **Plate 03:** Two Quartz pebbles (70mm and 40mm maximum dimensions respectively) recovered from TR01.
- **Plate 04:** View north across TR01 showing the difference between the topsoil and subsoil of the western and eastern ends of the trench.
- Plate 05: Large stone (0.50m x > 0.20m) visible in the bottom of TR01 the southern edge of the stone lies directly under the concrete kerbing.
- **Plate 06:** View east along TR01 with one of the ceramic drainage pipe collars visible to the right of the scale.
- **Plate 07:** View south along TR02 with broadened section to the right of the image.
- Plate 08: View east of topsoil against south face of north wall of the churchyard note the mortar spread within the topsoil.
- Plate 09: View south of external face of north wall of the churchyard the exit of the electrical cable ducting is visible as the slot in the centre of the image.
- Plate 10: View north of inside of north wall of the churchyard.
- Plate 11: View west along north wall of the parish church- the downpipe is above the drain alongside the church, with the scale marking the position of the large stone in the bottom of TR01

## ST. ENGAN'S PARISH CHURCH, LLANENGAN, GWYNEDD

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Prepared for

Derwen Llŷn Ltd

December 2012

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

# ST.ENGAN'S PARISH CHURCH, LLANENGAN, GWYNEDD ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

## Prepared for Derwen Llŷn Ltd, December 2012

SUMMARY	3
1. INTRODUCTION	4
2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	5
3. METHODOLOGY	6
4. RESULTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF	7
4.1 Test Pit TP01	7
4.2 Trench TR01	7
4.3 Trench TR02	8
5. INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSION	10
6. SOURCES CONSULTED	11

### **SUMMARY**

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) was commissioned by Derwen Llŷn Ltd to complete an archaeological watching brief during the installation of an electrical cable and associated ducting in the churchyard of the parish church of St. Engan, Llanengan, Gwynedd (NGR SH29392703).

Two trenches **TR01** and **TR02** were opened at right angles to each other joining at their western and southern ends respectively, with **TR01** running parallel to the north wall of the nave and north churchyard wall and **TR02** running from the western end of **TR01** to a point on the north churchyard wall.

**TR01** revealed construction debris from the renewal and repair of the church fabric in its upper layer at the eastern end and two quartz pebbles, associated with early medieval burial traditions were also found.

**TR02** revealed the construction phasing of the churchyard wall to the north of the church, revealing a broad lower section had been constructed, with a narrower upper section and the earth subsequently embanked against it.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) was commissioned by *Derwen Llŷn Ltd.* to complete an archaeological watching brief during the installation of an electrical cable and associated ducting in the churchyard of the parish church of St. Engan, Llanengan, Gwynedd (NGR **SH29392703**; **Figure 01** & **Plate 01**). The watching brief was undertaken on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2012.

Derwen Llŷn Ltd. drawing number **RCJ/LJ01**, indicated a single trench would be cut diagonally north-west across the north side of the churchyard from a point midway along the north wall of the church tower towards the churchyard boundary wall. The accompanying letter **RCJ/LJ** stated the trench would be 600mm deep and 300mm wide and would be approximately 25m long.

Reference was made to the guidelines specified in *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (Institute for Archaeologists, 1994, rev. 2001 & 2008; <a href="http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/ifa\_standards\_watching.pdf">http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/ifa\_standards\_watching.pdf</a>).

The content of this report must be approved by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services.

### 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

St. Engan's parish church, Llanengan is a very good example of a late medieval church. It consists of a nave and chancel with continuous south aisle and south porch, and a west tower (Davidson 2000, 123). The tower dates to 1534, and is dedicated to Einion, king of Wales (Haslam et.al. 2009, 432). The popularity of the church as a place of pilgrimage provided the wealth for late medieval rebuilding *c*.1520-1534 (Davidson 2000, 123).

The church was restored in 1847 by Henry Kennedy (Davidson 2000, 124) but was refused a faculty to repair roofs and walls in 1911 (<a href="http://www.churchplansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Cl%3DLLANENGAN%7Cl%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp.search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp.search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp.search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp.search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp.search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp.search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp.search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp.search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp.search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp.search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp.search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7Clmansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp.

The Ordnance Survey mapping 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> editions of 1889 (**Figure 02**), 1900 (**Figure 03**) and 1918 (**Figure 04**) respectively show that the north wall of the churchyard remained on the same alignment throughout this period, and this alignment has remained the same subsequently.

GAT completed a project design (November 2012; <u>Appendix I</u>) and identified that within or part of the churchyard of St. Engan's parish church, Llanengan (Listed Building (LB) 4304 Primary Record Number (PRN) 6975) were five Listed Building (LB) structures. These were:

- To the west of the proposed trench, two railed grave enclosures LB 19622 SH29370 27039
- The eastern side of the churchyard wall and associated gate LB 19609 SH29414
   27021
- Lychgate to the south of the parish church LB 4305 SH 2939527004

Based on *Derwen Llŷn Ltd.* drawing number **RCJ/LJ01**, it was possible that the proposed trench could impact on the location of both known and unknown grave stones and grave slabs and the inside face of the churchyard wall to the north of the church.

## 3. METHODOLOGY

The watching brief was undertaken on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2012.

- A written record of the trench content and all identified features was completed via GAT pro-formas
- All trenches recorded photographically, with detailed notations and a measured survey. The photographic record was completed using a digital SLR camera set to maximum resolution in the JPEG format.
- All test pits were opened by a Kubota KX36.3 1.5 tonne rubber tracked excavator fitted with a toothless bucket

### 4. RESULTS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

#### 4.1 Test Pit TP01

A pit 0.40m x 0.40m x 0.37m (min. depth southern side) and 0.55m (max. depth northern side) had already been excavated by *Derwen Llŷn Ltd.* prior to GAT arrival on site in order to facilitate the positioning of the 0.10m electrical cable ducting from inside the church tower to the churchyard (**Plate 02** & **Figure 01**). The pit was 0.66m east of the western buttress on the north face of the church tower and 0.60m from the north face of the church tower. This pit was recorded as **TP01** and would subsequently be extended on the western side to become **TR01**.

The topsoil was a friable very dark brown clay silt and contained a mix of inclusions including small slate fragments, fine gravel and sub-rounded stones, all 10mm or less in size. Depth of topsoil was a maximum depth of 0.35m (southern side).

The subsoil was a very dark brown clay silt and contained a similar mix of inclusions to the topsoil, although the fragments were larger and up to 20mm in size. Mortar fragments of similar character to the mortar of the church tower walls were also recorded. The depth of the subsoil recorded was 0.20m to the bottom of the test pit.

#### 4.2 Trench TR01

Dimensions: 6.00m (I) x 0.30m (w) x 0.55m (d)

In order to avoid disturbance of any known grave stones and grave slabs, Test Pit **TP01** was extended to the west by 6.00m at a depth 0.55m to become **TR01** (**Figure 01**). The turf was removed by hand-digging, before excavation was carried out using an Excavator.

From the eastern edge of **TR01** for a distance of approximately 3.10m the topsoil was of a similar character to that encountered in **TP01** and contained a range of materials to be expected with the construction, repair and renewal of building. These included broken roofing slate fragments, mortar fragments, lime (calcium oxide) fragments and small sub angular stone fragments, all less than 10mm in size. The only fragment of mortar greater than 10mm square in size was retained. The depth of the topsoil recorded was 0.35m.

The subsoil from the eastern edge of **TR01** for a distance of approximately 3.10m the topsoil was of a similar character to that encountered in **TP01** was a very dark brown clay silt and contained a similar mix of inclusions to the topsoil, although the fragments were larger and up to 20mm in size. Mortar fragments of similar character to the mortar of the church tower walls were also recorded. Two white quartz pebbles, 70mm and 40mm maximum dimensions respectively were recovered and after photographic recording (**Plate 03**) were reburied. The depth of the subsoil recorded was 0.20m to the bottom of the trench

From approximately 3.50m to the western end of **TR01** the topsoil was a much heavier clay silt and contained very few inclusions. One unidentifiable piece of charnel 40mm long, 5mm wide and 10mm deep was uncovered and reburied. One unabraded sherd of Post Medieval yellow slipware was recovered and retained. The depth of the topsoil recorded was 0.35m.

The subsoil from approximately 3.50m to the western end of **TR01** was a light brown very clean unweathered clay. No finds or features were recorded (**Plate 04**) In the base of the trench 1.20m from the west wall of the church tower was a large stone 0.50m in length and at least 0.20m wide. The stone was partially buried under the concrete kerbing which surrounds the church at this point (**Plate 05**). No attempt was made to remove the stone or record its thickness. In the base of the trench 1.60m from the concrete kerbing surrounding the church on the northern side the top of a ceramic drainage pipe was uncovered running on an almost identical alignment as **TR01**(**Plate 06**) A length of 1.80m of the top of the pipe was visible before the western end of **TR01**.

#### 4.3 Trench TR02

Dimensions: 9.00m (I) x 0.30m (w) x 0.55m (d)

In order to avoid disturbance of any known grave stones and grave slabs, Trench **TR02** was opened at a right angle to the western end of Trench **TR01** (**Figure 01**). This was to reach a point on the north wall of the churchyard in order to allow the electrical cable and associated ducting to pass under the churchyard wall. The turf was removed by hand-digging, before excavation was carried out using an Excavator.

From the western end of **TR02** to a distance of approximately 1.00m from the north wall of the churchyard the topsoil was of a very similar character to that found in the western end of **TR01**, being a heavy clay silt containing very few inclusions. Depth of the topsoil was 0.35m deep. No finds or features were recorded (**Plate 07**).

Approximately 1.00m from the north wall of the churchyard the character of the topsoil changed to become similar in character to that in the eastern end of **TR01**, becoming more friable and containing sub-angular inclusions up to 20mm in size. Depth of topsoil varied between 0.05m 1m away from the wall and 0.65m where the topsoil met the inside face of the churchyard wall. A light grey deposit which consisted of lime (calcium oxide) and mortar fragments 1.00m long and between 0.05m and 0.15m thick lay immediately below the turf and extended down to the base of the topsoil as fragments within the soil matrix (**Plate 08**).

The subsoil from the western end of **TR02** to a distance of approximately 1.00m from the north wall of the churchyard was of a similar character to that encountered in **TR01** and was a light brown very clean unweathered clay. Depth of the deposit recorded to the base of the trench was 0.20m. No finds or features were recorded.

The subsoil approximately 1.00m from the churchyard wall in **TR02** was of a similar character to that in the southern section of the trench, but sloped down below the thicker topsoil deposit. Depth of the deposit was 0.25m. Below the subsoil was a clean orange clay natural which extended below the depth of the wall foundations; the total height of the wall was 1.60m.

A section of the inside (south) face of the north wall of the churchyard was uncovered during the excavation of **TR02**. Safe access to the base of the trench was not possible and a photograph record was made from the trench side. An area 1.60m by 0.55m by 1.30m was opened against the base of the wall in order to allow a *Derwen Llŷn Ltd*. groundworker to excavate a slot 0.20m wide and 0.30m deep under the base of the wall (**Plate 09**).

The lower 0.90m of the wall was constructed 0.75m wide, and above this was constructed 0.50m wide with capstones averaging 0.40m long and 0.30m wide. The wall was constructed of rough courses on both the inside and outside faces, with the outside face being mortar bonded. Above 0.90m on the inner face was comprised of much more irregular courses and

these were not mortar bonded (**Plate 10**). Following construction of the lower courses of the wall, the narrower width upper courses were constructed and topsoil was then embanked against the inner face of the wall to a maximum depth of 0.65m.

## 5. INTERPRETATION AND CONCLUSION

The archaeological excavation in the churchyard has been able to elucidate some evidence concerning the burial customs in the churchyard, the construction of the separate building elements of nave and west tower and the previous provision of services from the building.

The finding of two rounded white quartz pebbles from the churchyard adds to the total number of this type of find recorded from putatively early church sites. The burial of quartz pebbles within graves was recorded during the excavation of a burial at Tywyn y Capel, Treaddur Bay, Anglesey (Davidson 2009, 191). An excavation at Capel Maelog, Powys (Britnell 1990, 36) also revealed a pre-church grave marked with quartz pebbles. The use of quartz pebbles in a burial context has a much wider geographical distribution, and examples have been excavated at Kellington Church, North Yorkshire, England (Daniell 1998: 165) and Illaunloughan, Co. Kerry

http://heritagecouncil.ie/unpublished\_excavations/section12.html#Illaunloughan\_and Iniscealtra, Co. Clare, both in Ireland

http://heritagecouncil.ie/unpublished excavations/section12.html#Iniscealtra

The excavations revealed that the church is constructed on a very clean and well drained clay subsoil and natural, meaning that they were able to support the construction and subsequent reconstruction of the stone church building without the need for a sizeable foundation.

No substantial sized pieces of stone similar to the masonry used to construct the church were observed during the excavation of **TR01** and **TR02** suggesting that the dressing of the stones before their final fixing into place was not carried out on the north side of the church, however the lime (calcium oxide), mortar and slate fragments do indicate that the building has been repaired and reroofed since its construction, as attested in 1847 and again in 1937-38 (RCAHWM 1964: 3, 43).

The ceramic drainage pipe revealed in the base to **TR01** appears to connect to the drainpipe, guttering and associated drain visible on the north side of the nave (**Plate 11**). The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1918 (**Figure 04**) shows a path of some description has been added around the church after the production of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1900. The drainpipes and guttering may well have been installed between these dates, even though the faculty applied for in 1911 to carry out repairs was refused. The large stone revealed in the base of **TR01** appears to mark where the ceramic drainage pipe emerges from underneath the concrete kerbing constructed around the north side of the church.

The evidence from the north end of **TR02** has revealed the phasing behind the construction and embanking of the earth inside the churchyard against the wall, and the evidence from the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey mapping (**Figures 02, 03** and **04**) would appear to indicate that the north wall of the churchyard has not altered its alignment after the production of the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map in 1889.

#### 6. SOURCES CONSULTED

Britnell, W. 1990 Capel Maelog, Llandrindod Wells, Powys: excavations 1984-87, *Medieval Archaeology* **34**, pp27-96

Client drawings: Derwen Llŷn Ltd. Drawing No. NRCJ/LJ 01

Daniell, C, 1998 Death and Burial in Medieval England 1066-1550, Routledge, London

Llanengan Parish Church pp123-124 in Davidson, A. 2000 Historic Churches of Gwynedd – Gazetteer of Churches: Diocese of Bangor, unpublished GAT Report **390**, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Bangor

Davidson, A. 2009 Excavations at Tywyn y Capel, Treaddur Bay, Anglesey, 1997 and 2002-03, *Archaeologia Cambrensis* **158**, pp167-224

Historic Environment Record - Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Craig Beuno, Garth Road, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2RT

Llanengan - Church Plans Online

(http://www.churchplansonline.org/retrieve\_results.asp?search\_args=x%3DLLANENGAN%7 Cl%3DLLANENGAN%7Cc%3DCarnarvonshire

*Llanengan* pp43-48 in Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire1964 *An Inventory of the Ancient Monuments in Caernarvonshire*, Vol. **3** West.

Ordnance Survey 1mile to 25" First Edition Map Sheet XLV.9 (1889)

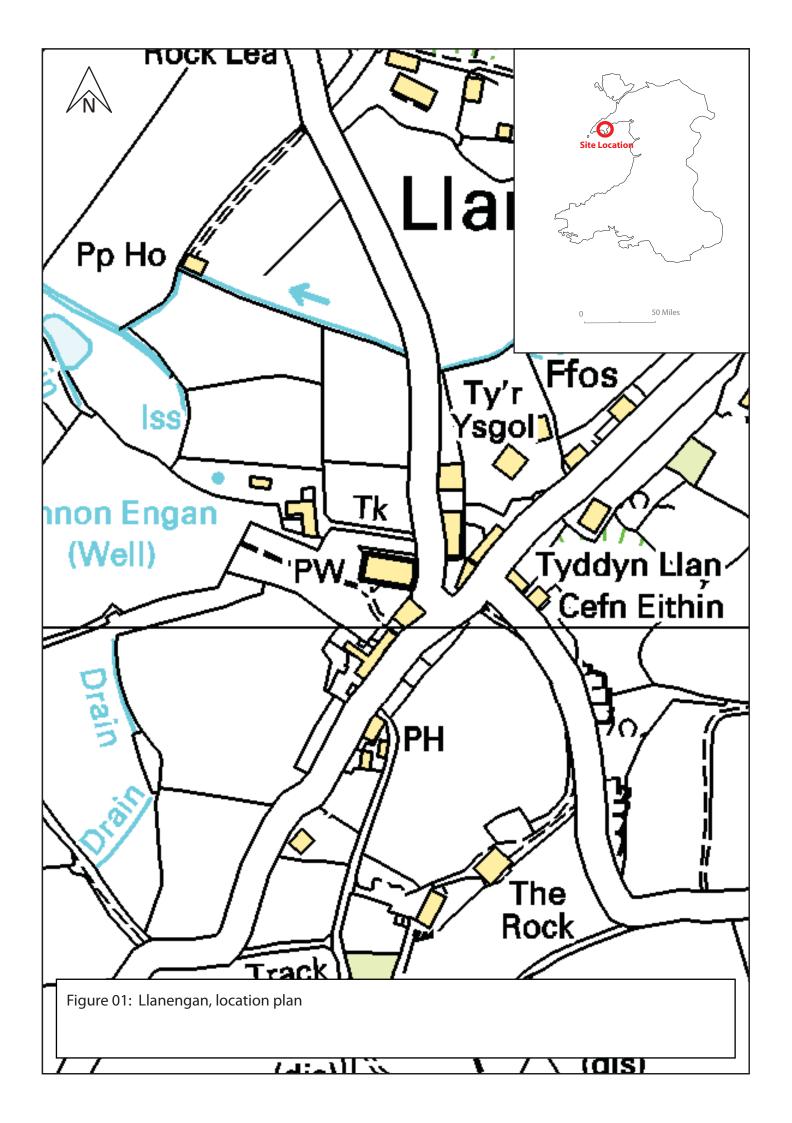
Ordnance Survey 1mile to 25" mile Second Edition Map Sheet XLV.9 (1900)

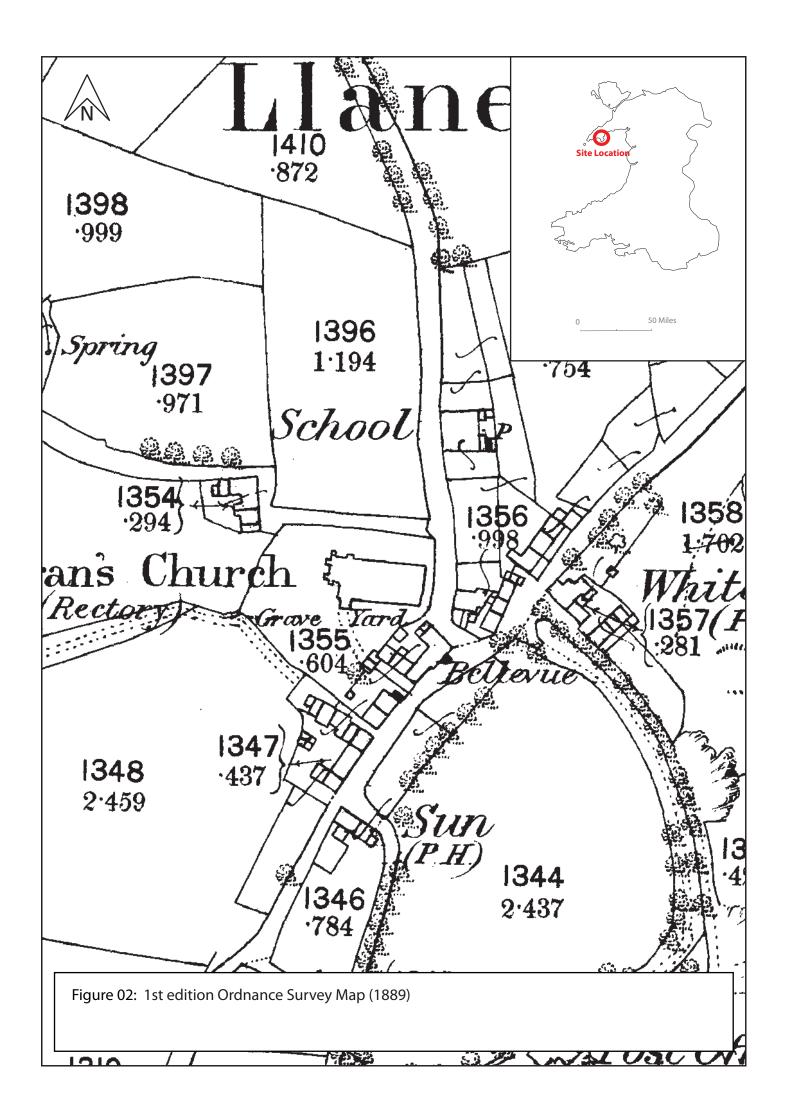
Ordnance Survey 1mile to 25" Third Edition Map Sheet XLV.9 (1918)

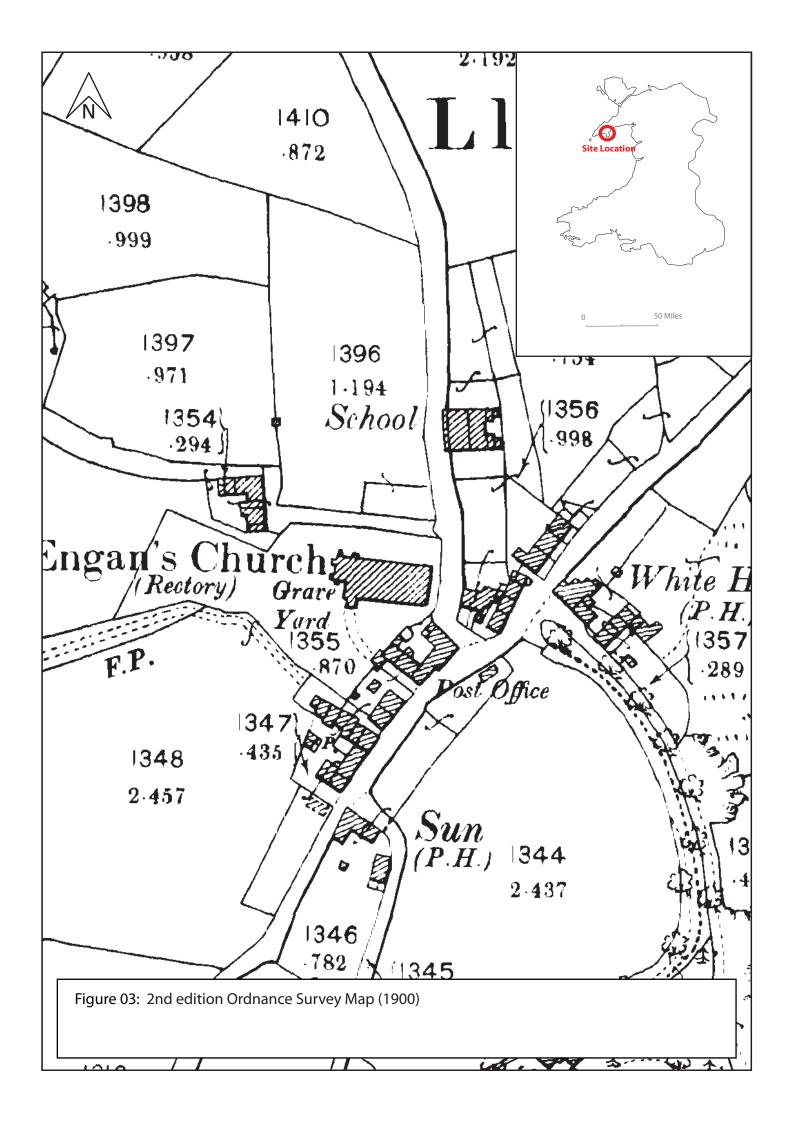
Significant Unpublished Irish Archaeological Excavations 1930 – 1997, Section 12: Early Medieval Period: Christianity 12.6 Illaunloughan, Co. Kerry http://heritagecouncil.ie/unpublished\_excavations/section12.html#Illaunloughan

Significant Unpublished Irish Archaeological Excavations 1930 – 1997, Section 12: Early Medieval Period: Christianity 12.7 Iniscealtra, Co. Clare http://heritagecouncil.ie/unpublished excavations/section12.html#Iniscealtra

Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (Institute for Archaeologists, 1994, rev. 2001 & 2008) <a href="http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/ifa\_standards\_watching.pdf">http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/ifa\_standards\_watching.pdf</a>.







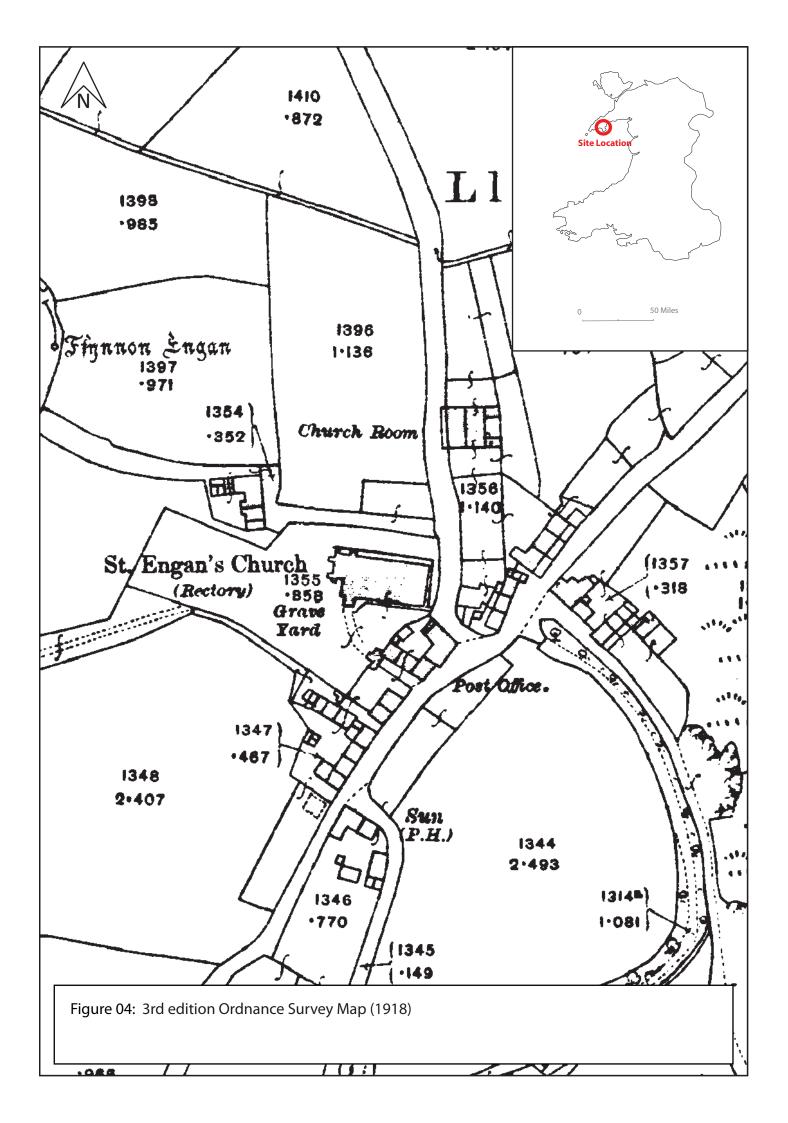




Plate 01 - View east of the churchyard of the parish church of St. Engan - the light grey patch of concrete visible by the base of the church tower marks the exit point of the electrical cable and ducting from the church.



Plate 02 - TP01 as excavated by Derwen Llŷn Ltd. Electrical cable ducting visible in bottom of pit.



Plate 03 - Two Quartz pebbles (70mm and 40mm maximum dimensions respectively) recovered from TR01.



Plate 04 - View north across TR01 showing the difference between the topsoil and subsoil of the western and eastern ends of the trench.





Plate 06 - View east along TR01 with one of the ceramic drainage pipe collars visible to the right of the scale.



Plate 07 - View south along TR02 with broadened section to the right of the image.



Plate 08 - View east of topsoil against south face of north wall of the churchyard - note the mortar spread within the topsoil.



Plate 09 - View south of external face of north wall of the churchyard - the exit of the electrical cable ducting is visible as the slot in the centre of the image.



Plate 10 - View north of inside of north wall of the churchyard.



Plate 11 - View west along north wall of the parish church - the downpipe is above the drain alongside the church, with the scale marking the position of the large stone in the bottom of TR01

## **APPENDIX I**

Reproduction of Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Archaeological Watching Brief Project Design, November 2012

## ST.ENGAN'S CHURCH, LLANENGAN

# PROJECT DESIGN FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF (G2294)

**Prepared for** 

Derwen Llŷn Ltd.

**November 2012** 

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

## ST. ENGAN'S CHURCH, LLANENGAN

# PROJECT DESIGN FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF (G2294)

## Prepared for *Derwen Llŷn Ltd.*, November 2012

1.0 INTRODUCTION	3
1.1 Background	3
3.0 METHOD STATEMENT	5
3.1 Definition of an archaeological watching brief	
3.2 Purpose of a watching brief	
3.3 Occurrence	
3.4 Methodology	
3.4.1. Archaeological Watching Brief	
5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES	
6.0 HUMAN REMAINS	9
7.0 SMALL FINDS	10
8.0 PROCESSING DATA, ILLUSTRATION, REPORT AND ARCHIVING	11
9.0 STAFF	12
10.0 HEALTH & SAFETY	
11.0 INSURANCE	14
12.0 SOURCES CONSULTED	15
COST ESTIMATE	17
FIGURE 01 - Reproduction of Client Drawing No. RCJ/LJ 01	18

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) has been asked by *Derwen Llŷn Ltd.* to provide a cost and project design for completing an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks for an electrical cable trench through the churchyard of the parish church of St. Engan, Llanengan, Llŷn Peninsula, Gwynedd (centred on NGR **SH29392703**; as located on *Derwen Llŷn Ltd.* Drawing No. **RCJ/LJ 01**). The groundworks are to be completed by *Derwen Llŷn Ltd.* and the scheme is scheduled being once the relevant permissions and archaeological contractor have been sought.

The scheme consists of the excavation of a trench for an electrical cable approximately 25m in length, 600mm deep and 300mm wide between the north wall of the church tower and the northern wall of the churchyard. The proposed methodology is to utilise a toothless bucket to carry out the excavation.

A mitigation brief has not been prepared for this work by **The Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service** (GAPS). It is recommended that the content of this design is approved by **Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service** (GAPS).

Reference will also be made to the guidelines specified in *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (Institute for Archaeologists, 1994, rev. 2001 & 2008; <a href="http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/ifa\_standards\_watching.pdf">http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/ifa\_standards\_watching.pdf</a>).

## 1.1 Background

Based on information within the regional Historic Environment Record held by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Craig Beuno, Garth Road, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2RT the following receptors were identified at the location of the proposed works and the environs:

The trench is proposed to run through the northern side of the church yard of St. Engan's parish church, Llanengan - Listed Building (LB) 4304 Primary Record Number (PRN) 6975 SH 29396 27031. To the west of the proposed trench are two railed grave enclosures LB 19622 SH 29370 27039. On the eastern side of the churchyard both the churchyard wall and associated gate are covered as LB 19609 SH 29414 27021. To the south of the church the Lychgate is LB 4305 SH 29395 27004.

- Within 200m of the proposed trench are:
  - Listed Buildings (LB) Ffynnon Engan 19608 PRN 1253 SH 29307 27079
  - o The School House LB 4604 SH 29429 27081
  - o Telephone Call-Box LB 4316 PRN 12678 **SH 29436 27005**
  - o Gorphwysfa LB 4306 PRN 12178 **SH 29392 26979**
  - The Rock LB 19610 SH 29453 26871.

Primary Record Number PRN's 11643 Llanengan Old School **SH 29290 27025** and 11520 Tyddyn Llan **SH 2940 2700** are also within 200m of the proposed trench.

## 2.0 REQUIREMENTS

The watching brief will consist of the following:

- Observation of non-archaeological excavation works.
- A drawn, written and photographic record of any archaeological structures and deposits that may be revealed.
- Preparation of full archive report.

The monitoring of works is to be undertaken in a manner that allows for the immediate cessation of groundworks for the recording of archaeological evidence, if identified.

The subsequent report should include:

- 1. A copy of the agreed specification;
- 2. A location plan;
- 3. A drawn, written and photographic record of any archaeological structures and deposits that may be revealed, including full dimensional and descriptive detail;
- 4. Discussion of the archaeological significance and research potential of any findings;
- 5. A full bibliography of sources consulted.

#### 3.0 METHOD STATEMENT

## 3.1 Definition of an archaeological watching brief

(Reproduced from IFA. 2001. *Institute for Archaeologists 1994 rev. 2001 and 2008 Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief*)

The definition of an archaeological watching brief is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.

This definition and *Standard* do not cover chance observations, which should lead to an appropriate archaeological project being designed and implemented, nor do they apply to monitoring for preservation of remains *in situ*.

An archaeological watching brief is divided in to four categories according to the *Institute for Archaeologists 2001 Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief:* 

- comprehensive (present during all ground disturbance)
- intensive (present during sensitive ground disturbance)
- intermittent (viewing the trenches after machining)
- partial (as and when seems appropriate).

An **intensive** watching brief is recommended by GAT for this scheme, monitoring the excavation of the electrical cable trench located between the north wall of the church tower and the northern wall of the churchyard.

## 3.2 Purpose of a watching brief

The purpose of a watching brief is:

- to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works
- to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all
  interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an
  archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching
  brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard
- A watching brief is not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or
  preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace,
  any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

The objective of a watching brief is:

 to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on a site.

#### 3.3 Occurrence

A watching brief may arise:

- in response to a development which threatens the archaeological resource
- as part of the planning process (within the framework of appropriate national planning policy guidance notes) and/or development plan policy
- as part of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
- outside the planning process (e.g. ecclesiastical development, coastal erosion, agriculture, forestry and countryside management, works by public utilities and statutory undertakers). A watching brief may therefore be instigated or commissioned by a number of different individuals or organisations, including local planning authorities, national advisory bodies, government agencies, private landowners, developers or their agents.

## 3.4 Methodology

## 3.4.1. Archaeological Watching Brief

- The watching brief is to be undertaken in a manner that allows for the immediate cessation of the main contractor groundworks for the recording of archaeological evidence. This will involve close liaison between the archaeologist and the site agent.
- A photographic record will be maintained throughout, using a digital SLR camera set to maximum resolution.
- Any subsurface remains will be recorded photographically, with detailed notations and a measured survey.

The archive will then be held by GAT under an appropriate project number (G2293).

## 4.0 FURTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS

- The identification of significant archaeological features during the groundworks/archaeological watching brief may necessitate further archaeological works. This may require the submission of new cost estimates to the contractor.
- This design does not include a methodology or cost for examination of, conservation of, or archiving of finds discovered during the watching brief, nor of any radiocarbon dates required, nor of examination of palaeoenvironmental samples. The need for these will be identified in the post-fieldwork programme (if required), and a new design will be issued for approval by the GAPS Archaeologist.

## **5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES**

If necessary, relevant archaeological deposits will be sampled by taking bulk samples (a minimum of 10.0 litres and maximum of 30.0 litres) for flotation of charred plant remains. Bulk samples will be taken from waterlogged deposits for macroscopic plant remains. Other bulk samples, for example from middens, may be taken for small animal bones and small artefacts.

#### 6.0 HUMAN REMAINS

Any finds of human remains will be left *in-situ*, covered and protected, and both the coroner and the GAPS Archaeologist informed. If removal is necessary it will take place under appropriate regulations and with due regard for health and safety issues. In order to excavate human remains, a licence is required under Section *25* of the Burials Act 1857 <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Vict/20-21/81/introduction">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Vict/20-21/81/introduction</a> for the removal of any body or remains of any body from any place of burial. This will be applied for should human remains need to be investigated or moved.

The groundworks will be conducted in accordance with the Disused Burial Grounds Act 1981 (<a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/18">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/18</a>) which stipulates provisions relating to works that affect recognised cemeteries. A public notification procedure is involved as well as conditions being set down involving the removal and disposal of human remains. If any tombstone, monument or memorial are exposed, they will be dealt with according to the Disused Burial Grounds Act 1981Section 2 Sub-Section 10 and the GAT site agent will record any exposed tombstone, monument or memorial in accordance with the Act.

#### 7.0 SMALL FINDS

The vast majority of finds recovered from archaeological excavations comprise pottery fragments, bone, environmental and charcoal samples, and non-valuable metal items such as nails. Often many of these finds become unstable (i.e. they begin to disintegrate) when removed from the ground. All finds are the property of the landowner, however, it is Trust policy to recommend that all finds are donated to an appropriate museum where they can receive specialist treatment and study. Access to finds must be granted to the Trust for a reasonable period to allow for analysis and for study and publication as necessary. All finds would be treated according to advice provided within *First Aid for Finds* (Rescue 1999). Trust staff will undertake initial identification, but any additional advice would be sought from a wide range of consultants used by the Trust, including National Museums and Galleries of Wales at Cardiff.

#### **Unexpected Discoveries: Treasure Trove**

Treasure Trove law has been amended by the Treasure Act 1996. <a href="http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/24/contents">http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/24/contents</a>

The following are Treasure under the Act:

- Objects other than coins any object other than a coin provided that it contains at least 10% gold or silver and is at least 300 years old when found.
- Coins all coins from the same find provided they are at least 300 years old when found (if the coins contain less than 10% gold or silver there must be at least 10). Any object or coin is part of the same find as another object or coin, if it is found in the same place as, or had previously been left together with, the other object. Finds may have become scattered since they were originally deposited in the ground. Single coin finds of gold or silver are not classed as treasure under the 1996 Treasure Act.
- Associated objects any object whatever it is made of, that is found in the same place as, or that had previously been together with, another object that is treasure.
- Objects that would have been treasure trove any object that would previously have been treasure trove, but does not fall within the specific categories given above.
   These objects have to be made substantially of gold or silver, they have to be buried with the intention of recovery and their owner or his heirs cannot be traced.

The following types of finds are not treasure:

- Objects whose owners can be traced.
- Unworked natural objects, including human and animal remains, even if they are found in association with treasure.
- Objects from the foreshore which are not wreck.

All finds of treasure must be reported to the coroner for the district within fourteen days of discovery or identification of the items. Items declared Treasure Trove become the property of the Crown, on whose behalf the National Museums and Galleries of Wales acts as advisor on technical matters, and may be the recipient body for the objects.

The National Museums and Galleries of Wales will decide whether they or any other museum may wish to acquire the object. If no museum wishes to acquire the object, then the Secretary of State will be able to disclaim it. When this happens, the coroner will notify the occupier and landowner that he intends to return the object to the finder after 28 days unless he receives no objection. If the coroner receives an objection, the find will be retained until the dispute has been settled.

#### 8.0 PROCESSING DATA, ILLUSTRATION, REPORT AND ARCHIVING

Following completion of the watching brief as outlined above, a report will be produced incorporating the following:

- Non-technical summary
- Introduction
- Project Design
- Methods and techniques
- Archaeological Background
- Description of the results of the watching brief
- Summary and conclusions
- Bibliography of sources consulted.

Illustrations, including plans and photographs, will be incorporated within the report.

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project will be prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions will be labelled and cross-referenced, and lodged in an appropriate place (to be decided in consultation with the regional Historic Environment Record) within six months of the completion of the project. All digital data will be written to CD-ROM and stored with the paper archive.

- one or more copies (as required) will be sent to the client
- one or more copies (as required) will be sent to GAPS
- one or two copies (as required) sent to the Historic Environment Record Archaeologist for the area (HER, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Craig Beuno, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2RT);
- copies of all key digital files on optical media should be provided to GAPS and the Regional HER, including report, photographs, scans of maps etc.
- a copy of the report and/or digital files on optical media should be provided to the National Monument Record (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales, Aberystwyth, SY23 1NJ) dependant upon their requirements.

# **9.0 STAFF**

The project will be supervised by a Senior Archaeologist at GAT Contracts Section. The work will be carried out by fully trained Project Archaeologists who are experienced in conducting watching briefs and working with contractors and earth moving machinery. (Full CV's are available upon request).

# **10.0 HEALTH & SAFETY**

The Trust subscribes to the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) Health and Safety Policy as defined in **Health and Safety in Field Archaeology** (1999).

Any risks and hazards will be indicated prior to the start of work via a submitted risk assessment. All staff will be issued with required personal safety equipment, including high visibility jacket, steel toe-capped boots and hard hat.

### 11.0 INSURANCE

Liability Insurance - Aviva Policy 24765101CHC/00045

- Employers' Liability: Limit of Indemnity £10m in any one occurrence
- Public Liability: Limit of Indemnity £5m in any one occurrence
- Hire-in Plant Insurance: £50,000.00 any one item; £250,000.00 any one claim

The current period expires 21/06/13

Professional Indemnity Insurance – RSA Insurance Plc P8531NAECE/1028

• Limit of Indemnity £5,000,000 any one claim

The current period expires 22/07/13

#### 12.0 SOURCES CONSULTED

Burial Act 1857

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Vict/20-21/81/contents

Client drawings: Derwen Llŷn Ltd. Drawing No. NRCJ/LJ 01

Disused Burial Grounds Act 1981 (http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/18)

Historic Environment Record - Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Craig Beuno, Garth Road, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2RT

Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (Institute for Archaeologists, 1994, rev. 2001 & 2008) <a href="http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/ifa">http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/ifa</a> standards watching.pdf.

Treasure Act 1996 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/24/contents

## ST.ENGAN'S CHURCH, LLANENGAN

# PROJECT DESIGN FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF (G2294)

Prepared for *Derwen Llŷn Ltd.*, November 2012

#### **COST ESTIMATE**

Watching Brief 1 member of staff @ £

Labour 1 days

£

Report, illustration and archiving @ £

Labour 2 office days

£

VAT will be added at the appropriate rate.

Please note the following:

- This price does not include any time that may be required to examine features uncovered during the watching brief. The identification of significant archaeological features may necessitate the production of a new project design and the submission of new costings to the contractor
- The Trust will not be held responsible for any delays to the work programme resulting from the discovery of archaeological sites or finds.
- The cost quoted does not include examination of, conservation of or archiving of finds discovered during the watching brief, nor of any radiocarbon dates required, nor of examination of palaeoenvironmental samples.

# FIGURE 01 – Reproduction of Client Drawing No. RCJ/LJ 01





