

A55 TAI'R MEBION ENABLING WORKS: WIG FARM ACCESS TRACK

Archaeological Watching Brief



Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

A55 TAI'R MEBION ENABLING WORKS: WIG FARM ACCESS TRACK

Archaeological Watching Brief

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Prepared for: Ymgynghoriaeth Gwynedd Consultancy

June 2019

Written by: Michael Sion Lynes

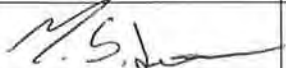
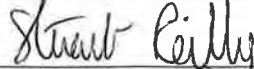
Front cover image: Trial pit 2 excavated to natural (G2617_007)

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Plate 8: Working shot of second strip along track; View from SW - scale: Not used. (archive reference: G2617_008).

Plate 9: Working shot of final strip along track; View from SW - scale: Not used (archive reference: G2617_009).

Plate 10: Working shot of final strip along track; View from SW - scale: Not used (archive reference: G2617_010).

Plate 11: Shot of proposed track to Wig Farm after turf and topsoil removal; Shot from NE - scale: 2x1m (archive reference: G2617_011).

Plate 12: Shot of proposed track to Wig farm after turf and topsoil removal; Shot from SW -scale: 2x1m (archive reference: G2617_012).

CRYNODEB ANNHECHNEGOL

Comisiynwyd Ymddiriedolaeth Archeolegol Gwynedd (GAT) gan Ymgynghoriaeth Gwynedd Consultancy (YGC) i ymgymryd â briff gwyllo archeolegol i fonitro strîbed pridd rhan o'r trac mynediad i Wig Farm, Abergwyngregyn. Mae'r trac newydd yn rhan o'r gwaith galluogi ar gyfer cynllun gwella'r ffordd yr A55 Abergwyngregyn i Tai y Meibion. Mae'r gwaith yn ymestyn am tua 60m i'r gogledd-ddwyrain o'r "Ffordd Rufeinig" gyda'r fynedfa tua 200m i'r gorllewin o Fferm Crymlyn.

Ni ddaethpwyd o hyd i unrhyw weithgaredd archeolegol yn ystod y briff gwyllo a oedd ond yn golygu tynnu tywarchen a rhywfaint o uwchbridd fel y gellid adeiladu'r trac i fyny.

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) was commissioned by Ymgynghoriaeth Gwynedd Consultancy (YGC) to undertake an archaeological watching brief to monitor the soil strip of a section of the access track to Wig Farm, Abergwyngregyn. The access track is part of the enabling works for the A55 Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion road improvement scheme. The works extend for approximately 60m north east from the "Roman Road" with the entrance located approximately 200m west of Crymlyn Farm.

No archaeological activity was found during the watching brief which only required the removal of turf and a small amount of topsoil so that the track could be built upwards.

1 INTRODUCTION

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) was commissioned by Ymgynghoriaeth Gwynedd Consultancy (YGC) to undertake an archaeological watching brief to monitor the soil strip of a section of the access track to Wig Farm, Abergwyngregyn (Figure 01). The access track is part of the enabling works for the A55 Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion road improvement scheme. The works extend for approximately 60m north east from the "Roman Road" (Figure 02; YGC Drawing No. 5055/GA/204), with the entrance located approximately 200m west of Crymlyn Farm, NGR SH 63652 71541 (Figure 03).

This watching brief was the latest in a program of archaeological fieldwork conducted by GAT for the A55 road improvement scheme which included pre-commencement trial trench evaluation in 2016 (McGuinness 2016: GAT Report 1323), a watching brief conducted in 2017-18 (Ryan Young and Reilly, 2018: GAT Report 1432) and a watching brief of the translocation of a hedgerow along a section of the "Roman Road" (Oattes and Roberts, 2019: forthcoming).

The topsoil strip of the track access was undertaken by Jones Bros Civil Engineering UK on Thursday 16th May 2019 and lasted one working day.

The watching brief was monitored by the Gwynedd archaeological Planning Service (GAPS); the content of this report and all subsequent reporting by GAT must be approved by GAPS prior to final issue.

The watching brief was completed in accordance with the following guidance:

- Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014);
- Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage, 1991);
- Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide (Historic England, 2015); and
- Guidelines for the creation and deposition of the digital archive as set out in *Archaeological Archives- A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (English Heritage *et al.* 2011) will be followed.

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust is certified to ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 (Cert. No. 74180/B/0001/UK/En) and is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and a member of the Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers (FAME).

1.1 Fieldwork Aims and Objectives

The key aims and objectives of the watching brief was to:

- Identify and record any archaeological activity identified during the enabling works. Archaeological activity within the local area has included prehistoric (Late Neolithic earth oven), Roman (Canovium to Segontium Roman Road), medieval (medieval township at Wig Farm) and agricultural activity, and the objective would be to establish the date and nature of any archaeological remains identified within the translocation route and assess their implications for understanding the historical development of the area, in conjunction with the known archaeological record; and
- If no archaeological activity was identified, establish why this may be the case.

1.2 Historic Environment Record

In line with the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record (HER) requirements, the HER was contacted at the onset of the project to ensure that any data arising is formatted in a manner suitable for accession to the HER and follows the guidance set out in *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (The Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018). The HER was informed of the project start date, location including grid reference, estimated timescale for the work, and further relevant information associated with the project.

The GAT HER Enquiry Number for this project is GATHER1112 and the Event PRN is 45431.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

GAT completed an Assessment of the Significance of the Impact of Development on Historic Landscape report (McNichol 2015a: GAT Report 1257) and a heritage desk based assessment report (McNichol, 2015b: GAT Report 1258) of the A55 (T) Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion Improvement in 2015. The desk based assessment report included recommendations for trial trenching, prior to any other work on site at two potential sites within the scheme footprint: the proposed site of a medieval township at Wig (Primary Reference Number 6811) and the proposed route of the Canovium - Segontium Roman Road to the south of Tai'r Meibion (National Primary Reference Number 405340). Four trial trenches were excavated, three at Wig Farm and one at Tai'r-meibion. No evidence for medieval settlement was identified at Wig Farm, whilst Trench 04 at Tai'r Meibion revealed evidence for two modern drains and a stone and earth field boundary bank of unknown date; no evidence for the Roman Road was encountered within the confines of the trench (McGuinness 2016: GAT Report 1323).

GAT subsequently completed an archaeological watching brief during the A55 Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion improvement works along the south side of the A55 (Ryan Young and Reilly, 2018: GAT Report 1432). The watching brief was completed between February 2017 and January 2018 and was followed by post-excavation assessment and analysis of a prehistoric pit identified during the works towards the Abergwyngregyn end (Figure 02). The pit contained heat fractured stone and fragments of charcoal; the latter were submitted for radiocarbon dating that produced a date range within the Late Neolithic.

In early 2019 GAT undertook a watching brief during the enabling works for the A55 Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion road improvement scheme in fields and along the roadside to the north of an 874m length of highway known as "Roman Road". Archaeological activity was limited to evidence of Penrhyn Estate management, represented by a former clawdd and culvert; with the clawdd, as suggested by historic map evidence, to have been in use until the early twentieth century, when it was replaced by a realigned boundary.

3 METHODOLOGY

The watching brief was completed on the 16th May 2019 and was documented with GAT pro-formas. All monitored groundworks were completed by Jones Bros Civil Engineering UK.

Photographic images were taken using a digital SLR (Nikon D3100) camera set to maximum resolution (4608 x 3072 14.2 effective megapixels) in RAW format; a photographic record was maintained on site using GAT pro-formas and digitised in Microsoft Access as part of the fieldwork archive and dissemination process. Photographic images were archived in TIFF format using Adobe Photoshop; the archive numbering system was G2617_001 to G2617_12 (cf. [Appendix II](#)).

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

As part of the enabling works for the A55 Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion road improvement scheme, an archaeological watching brief was carried out to monitor a soil strip for a new access track to Wig Farm in May 2019 and lasted one working day. The soil strip was undertaken by a 360° excavator fitted with a toothless bucket and the section covered under the watching brief was 60m in length by 14m in width. The strip was excavated to the desired depth under the supervision of an archaeologist; once it was established that there were no archaeological features the section of track would then be built up on.

4.2 Section 1 of Track

The new track leading to Wig Farm was located on the northern side of what is referred to as the 'Roman Road' and to the south of the A55 dual carriageway (Plate 1 and 2).

The track is orientated NE-SW, a length of 60m and a width of 14m (Plate 11 and 12). The length of 60m was due to a mature elm tree within its path and further ecological permission would have to be granted prior to the continuation of the remaining section of the track leading down to the farm (Plate 1).

The track was excavated down to a depth of between 0.1m to 0.25m along its length (Plate 8). On the southern side of the track a shallow V-ditch trench was dug along its length which had a depth of 0.35m and a width of 0.7m (Plate 4 and 5). The drainage ditch did not uncover anything of archaeological interest. The topsoil within the area was fairly shallow and consisted of mid-brown sandy silt with poorly sorted sub rounded stone inclusions (0.02-0.05m) and rooting throughout. Some subsoil was present within the base of the V-ditch and consisted of mid-light brown sandy clayey silt with poorly sorted sub rounded stone inclusions, 0.02-0.05m in size. The excavation did not reveal anything of archaeological significance within the stripped area. This was primarily due to the relatively shallow nature of the excavation work for the access track.

After the topsoil strip was conducted, the strip was then built up with redeposited natural and furthermore a layer of stone on top to create the hard standing metaling of the track.

5 CONCLUSION

GAT was commissioned by YGC to undertake an archaeological watching brief to monitor the soil strip of a section of the access track to Wig Farm, Abergwyngregyn. The access track is part of the enabling works for the A55 Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion road improvement scheme.

The area of the watching brief revealed no archaeology and this was likely due to the shallowness of the excavation. There is potential though for archaeology below the surface of the track laid to date and the remaining groundworks associated with the track should be monitored given the potential for archaeological activity, in particular the proximity of a section of proposed route of the Canovium - Segontium Roman Road.

6 SOURCES CONSULTED

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief*

English Heritage, 1991, *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*

English Heritage, 2011, *Archaeological Archives- A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*

Historic England, 2015, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*

McGuinness, N, 2016, *A55(T) Abergwyngregyn To Tai'r Meibion Improvement: Pre-Commencement Archaeological Evaluation*, GAT Report 1323

McNichol D, 2015a, *Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion Improvement: Assessment of the Significance of the Impact of Development on Historic Landscape*, GAT Report 1257

McNichol D, 2015b, *Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion Improvement: Desk Based Assessment Report*, GAT Report 1258

Ryan Young C, and Reilly S, 2018: *Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion Improvement Scheme: Mitigation Report*. GAT Report 1432

The Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018, *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)*



Plate 1: Pre-commencement shot of area to be topsoil stripped; View from SW - scale: 2x1m. (archive reference: G2617_001).



Plate 2: Pre-commencement of shot of area to be topsoil stripped; View from NE - scale: 2x1m. (archive reference: G2617_002).



Plate 3: Working shot of topsoil strip; View from SE- scale: Not used. (archive reference: G2617_003).



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Plate 6: Working shot of turf/topsoil strip; View from SW - scale: Not used.
(archive reference: G2557_006).



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Plate 10: Working shot of final strip along track; View from SW - scale: Not used (archive reference: G2617_010).



Plate 11: Shot of proposed track to Wig Farm after turf and topsoil removal; Shot from NE - scale: 2x1m (archive reference: G2617_011).



Plate 12: Shot of proposed track to Wig farm after turf and topsoil removal; Shot from SW - scale: 2x1m (archive reference: G2617_012).

FIGURE 01:

Overall scheme extent and the location of assets in proximity to the Enabling Works

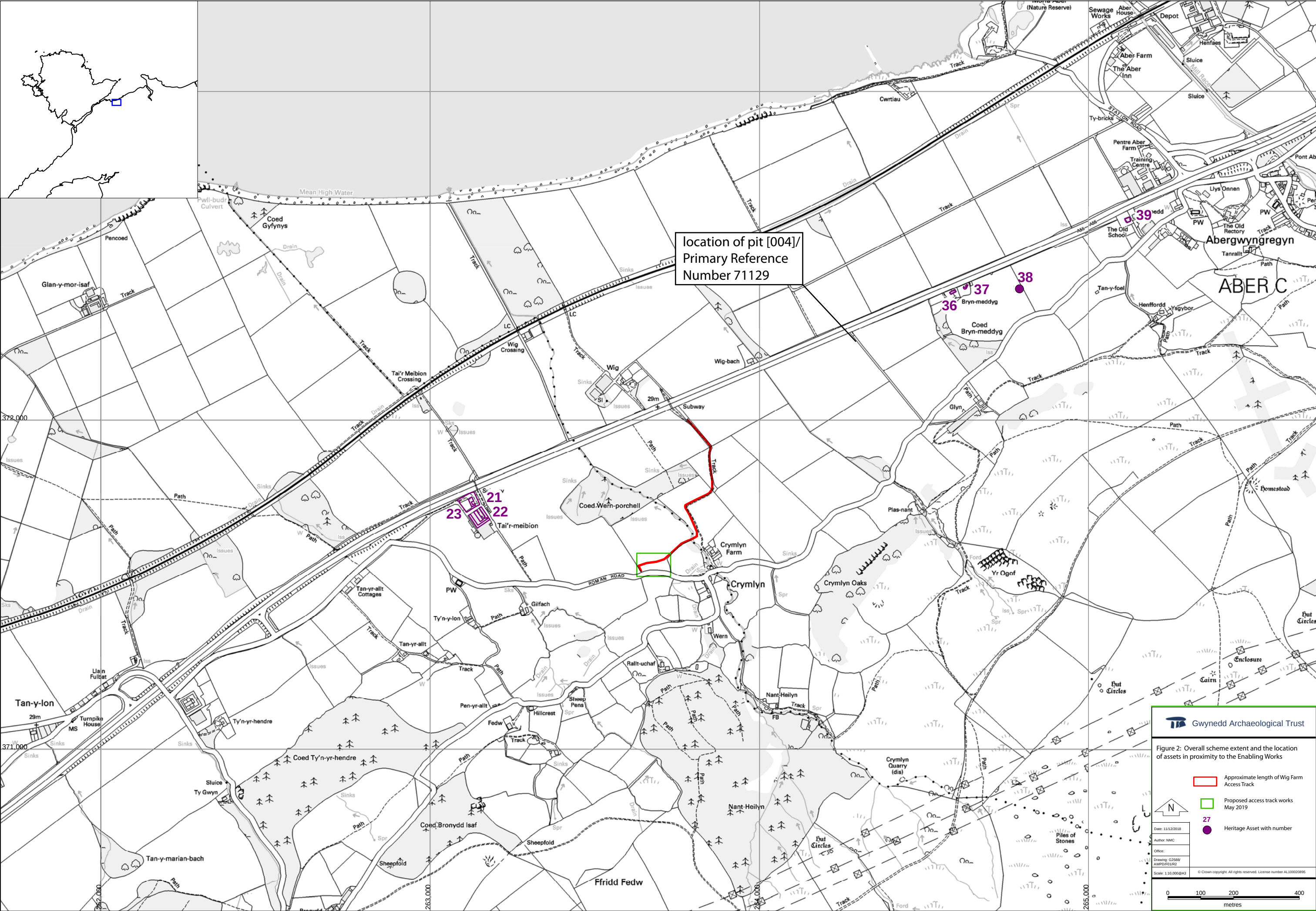


FIGURE 02

Reproduction of YGC Drawing No. 5055/GA/204

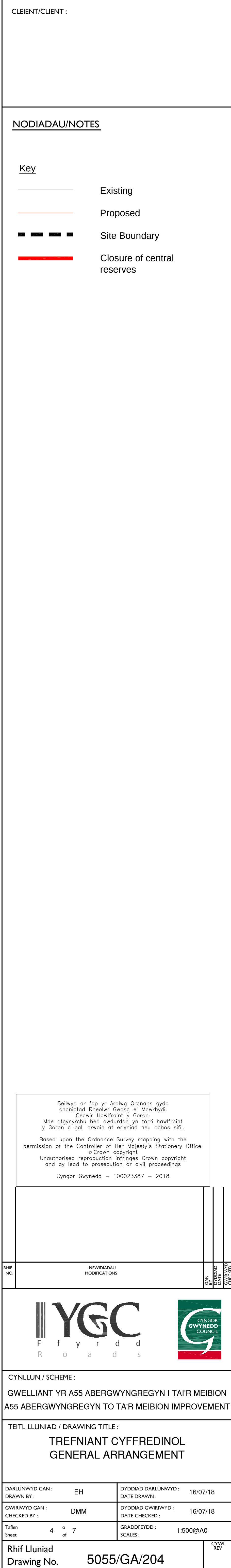
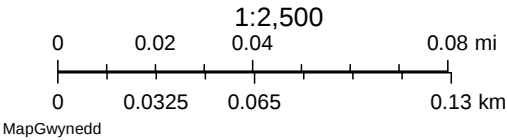


FIGURE 03

Reproduction of May 9, 2019 MapGwynedd image



May 9, 2019



APPENDIX I

Reproduction of Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Written Scheme of Investigation, May 2019

A55 TAI'R MEBION ENABLING WORKS (G2617)
WIG FARM ACCESS TRACK

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR AN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Prepared for

Ymgynghoriaeth Gwynedd Consultancy

May 2019



Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

Approvals Table				
	Role	Printed Name	Signature	Date
Originated by	Document Author			
Reviewed by	Document Reviewer			
Approved by	Principal Archaeologist			

Revision History			
Rev No.	Summary of Changes	Ref Section	Purpose of Issue

All GAT staff should sign their copy to confirm the project specification is read and understood and retain a copy of the specification for the duration of their involvement with the project. On completion, the specification should be retained with the project archive:

Name

Signature

Date

A55 TAI'R MEBION ENABLING WORKS (G2617)

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Prepared for *Ymgynghoriaeth Gwynedd Consultancy*, May 2019

Historic Environment Record Enquiry No. GATHER1112 Event Primary Reference Number 45431

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1 INTRODUCTION

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) has been asked by Ymgynghoriaeth Gwynedd Consultancy (YGC) to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological watching brief to monitor the soil strip of a section of the access track to Wig Farm (Figure 01). The access track is part of the enabling works for the A55 Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion road improvement scheme. The works will extend for approximately 60m north east from the "Roman Road" (Figure 02; YGC Drawing No. 5055/GA/204), with the entrance being located approximately 200m west of Crymlyn Farm, NGR SH 63652 71541 (Figure 03).

This watching brief is the latest in a program of archaeological fieldwork conducted by GAT for the A55 road improvement scheme which includes pre-commencement trial trench evaluation in 2016 (McGuinness 2016: GAT Report 1323), a watching brief conducted in 2017-18 (Ryan Young and Reilly, 2018: GAT Report 1432) and a watching brief of the translocation of a hedgerow along a section of the "Roman Road" (Oattes and Roberts, 2019: forthcoming).

The topsoil strip of the track access will be undertaken by Jones Bros Civil Engineering UK on Thursday 16th May 2019 and are expected to last one working day.

The watching brief will be monitored by the Gwynedd archaeological Planning Service (GAPS); the content of this WSI and all subsequent reporting by GAT must be approved by GAPS prior to final issue.

The watching brief will be completed in accordance with the following guidance:

- Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014);
- Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage, 1991);
- Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide (Historic England, 2015); and
- Guidelines for the creation and deposition of the digital archive as set out in *Archaeological Archives- A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (English Heritage et al. 2011) will be followed.

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust is certified to ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 (Cert. No. 74180/B/0001/UK/En) and is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and a member of the Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers (FAME).

1.1 Fieldwork Aims and Objectives

The key aims and objectives of the watching brief are to:

- identify and record any archaeological activity identified during the enabling works. Archaeological activity within the local area has included prehistoric (Late Neolithic earth oven), Roman (Canovium to Segontium Roman Road), medieval (medieval township at Wig Farm) and agricultural activity, and the objective would be to establish the date and nature of any archaeological remains identified within the translocation route and assess their implications for understanding the historical development of the area, in conjunction with the known archaeological record; and
- if no archaeological activity is identified, establish why this may be the case.

1.2 Monitoring Arrangements

The watching brief will be monitored by the Gwynedd archaeological Planning Service (GAPS); the content of this WSI and all subsequent reporting by GAT must be approved by GAPS prior to final issue.

The GAPS Archaeologist will need to be informed of the project timetable and of the subsequent progress and findings. This will allow the GAPS Archaeologist time to arrange monitoring visits and attend site meetings (if required) and enable discussion about the need or otherwise for further archaeological works (if required) as features of potential archaeological significance are encountered.

The curator contact details are: **01248 370926**.

1.3 Historic Environment Record

In line with the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record (HER) requirements, the HER will be contacted at the onset of the project to ensure that any data arising is formatted in a manner suitable for accession to the HER and follows the guidance set out in *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (The Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018). The HER will be informed of the project start date, location including grid reference, estimated timescale for the work, and further relevant information associated with the project.

The GAT HER Enquiry Number for this project is GATHER1112 and the Event PRN is 45431. The GAT HER will also be responsible for sourcing the Primary Reference Numbers (PRN) for any new identified and recorded assets.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

GAT completed an Assessment of the Significance of the Impact of Development on Historic Landscape report (McNichol 2015a: GAT Report 1257) and a heritage desk based assessment report (McNichol, 2015b: GAT Report 1258) of the A55(T) Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion Improvement in 2015. The desk based assessment report included recommendations for trial trenching, prior to any other work on site at two potential sites within the scheme footprint: the proposed site of a medieval township at Wig (Primary Reference Number 6811) and the proposed route of the Canovium - Segontium Roman Road to the south of Tai'r Meibion (National Primary Reference Number 405340). Four trial trenches were excavated, three at Wig Farm and one at Tai'r-meibion. No evidence for medieval settlement was identified at Wig Farm, whilst Trench 04 at Tai'r Meibion revealed evidence for two modern drains and a stone and earth field boundary bank of unknown date; no evidence for the Roman Road was encountered within the confines of the trench (McGuinness 2016: GAT Report 1323).

GAT subsequently completed an archaeological watching brief during the A55 Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion improvement works along the south side of the A55 (Ryan Young and Reilly, 2018: GAT Report 1432). The watching brief was completed between February 2017 and January 2018 and was followed by post-excavation assessment and analysis of a prehistoric pit identified during the works towards the Abergwyngregyn end (Figure 02). The pit contained heat fractured stone and fragments of charcoal; the latter were submitted for radiocarbon dating that produced a date range within the Late Neolithic.

In early 2019 GAT undertook a watching brief during the enabling works for the A55 Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion road improvement scheme in fields and along the roadside to the north of an 874m length of highway known as "Roman Road". Archaeological activity was limited to evidence of Penrhyn Estate management, represented by a former clawdd and culvert; with the clawdd, as suggested by historic map evidence, to have been in use until the early twentieth century, when it was replaced by a realigned boundary.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

An archaeological watching brief is defined by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists as a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons 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 (CIfA, 2014). The soil strip along the initial section of the Wig Farm access track is scheduled for **Thursday 16th May** and is anticipated to last one working day. The area to be stripped will be approximately 60m in length and the soil will be stripped to a maximum depth of 0.2m.

- The watching brief will monitor the ground investigation work to the limit of excavation, defined as either an archaeological horizon, the investigation limit or the glacial horizon, whichever is encountered first;
- The soil strip will be undertaken by a 360° excavator fitted with a **toothless bucket**;
- The archaeologist must be allowed to halt the topsoil strip to investigate any archaeological deposits or features exposed and allowed sufficient time to do so;
- If additional resources are required to fully uncover and record archaeological deposits YGC, the contractor's site manager and GAT project manager will be notified;
- During the watching brief all attendances and any identified features will be recorded using GAT watching brief pro-formas ([Appendix I](#));
- Photographic images will be taken using a digital SLR (Nikon D40) camera set to maximum resolution (3008 × 2000 6.1 effective megapixels) in RAW format; a photographic record will be maintained on site using GAT pro-formas ([Appendix II](#)) and digitised in *Microsoft Access* as part of the fieldwork archive and dissemination process. Photographic images will be archived in TIFF format using Adobe Photoshop; the archive numbering system will start from **G2617_001**. When practical, a photographic ID board will be used during the watching brief inspection to record site code, image orientation and any relevant context numbers;

- Any subsurface features will be recorded photographically, with detailed notations and a measured survey (completed using a *Trimble R8* GPS unit);
- Any archaeological features/deposits/structures encountered will be manually cleaned and examined to determine extent, function, date and relationship to adjacent activity. The following excavation strategy will generally apply: 50% sample of each sub-circular feature, 10% sample of each linear feature (terminal ends and intersection points with other features will be prioritised). However, if discrete features are identified these will be 100% excavated as will any exposed segments of linear features. Features such as burnt mounds, which comprise a spread of material rather than a cut feature, will be completed in quadrants (if fully extant within the ground investigation area) or 100% excavated if present as a discrete spread. *In the event of the identification of extensive/complex remains (for example burials, structures or preserved wooden or organic artefacts), additional time, resourcing and costs may be required for GAT to complete an appropriate programme of works;*
- Any required plans or sections to be drawn at a minimum 1:10 scale using GAT A4 or A2 pro-forma permatrace;
- Should dateable artefacts, human remains and/or ecofacts be recovered, an **interim report** will be submitted summarising the results of the watching brief, along with an assessment of potential for analysis post-excavation project design (in line with the MAP2 process). *Additional time, resourcing and costs will be required to undertake any post-excavation programme of works.*

3.2 Human Remains

If any human remains identified are to be excavated, and cannot be preserved in situ this will take place under appropriate regulations and with due regard for health and safety issues. In order to excavate human remains, a Ministry of Justice licence is required under Section 25 of the Burials Act 1857 for the removal of any body or remains of any body from any place of burial. In accordance with the Ministry of Justice licence, recovered remains will be reburied once the investigation and/or assessment/analysis are complete.

Non-fragmented skeletal remains will be excavated using wooden tools and collected and stored in polyethylene bags (with appropriate references for context, grave number, et al) and placed in a lidded cardboard archive box (note: separate boxes for each grave) and stored in a suitable manner within GAT premises. If significant quantities of human remains are encountered, a human osteologist should be contacted and appointed to advise the team during the fieldwork. The osteologist will be an external appointment: Dr. Genevieve Tellier | Tel: 01286 238827 | email: northwalesosteology@outlook.com who will assist in devising the excavation, recording and sampling strategy for features containing human remains. The osteologist should also help to ensure that adequate post-excavation processing of human remains is carried out so that the material is in a fit state for assessment during the post-excavation stage. For inhumations, this will involve washing, drying, marking and packing.

If human remains are recovered that are deemed suitable for further assessment/analysis, this will be completed in accordance with the osteologist's requirements and with *Human Bones from Archaeological Sites Guidelines for producing assessment documents and analytical reports* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2017).

3.3 Ecofacts

Due to the existing ground conditions and the depth of the proposed works it is unlikely that waterlogged/organic deposits will be encountered. If they are however, bulk samples will not be taken by GAT from any waterlogged/organic deposits, but the GAT archaeologist will monitor and record the depth and context of the deposit or deposits. Based on initial results and potential, e.g., an extensive depth of waterlogged deposits, recourse may be made to a specialist (via Lucy Whittingham | Project Manager (post-excavation) | AOC Archaeology | telephone: 0208 843 7380 | email: lucy.whittingham@aocarchaeology.com) for advice on a palaeoenvironmental assessment and analysis strategy.

For any ecofact samples taken from human burials, this will be completed in accordance with an appointed osteologist's guidance.

3.4 Artefacts

Diagnostic artefacts will be retained for further examination and identification. Pottery sherds of 19th and 20th century date will be examined on site and the context from which they were retrieved noted but the sherds will not be retained. The artefacts will be treated according to guidelines issued by the UK Institute of Conservation, in particular the advice provided within *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 2001).

Any waterlogged artefacts (e.g. wood or leather) that are to be recovered for post-excavation assessment and analysis will be processed in accordance with *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (English Heritage, 2011) and specifically in accordance with Brunning and Watson (2010) for waterlogged wood and Historic England (2012) for waterlogged leather. In such cases an external specialist will be contacted to agree an appropriate sampling and recovery strategy via Lucy Whittingham | Project Manager (post-excavation) | AOC Archaeology | telephone: 0208 843 7380 | email: lucy.whittingham@aocarchaeology.com).

All finds are the property of the landowner; however, it is Trust policy to recommend that all finds are donated to an appropriate museum (in this case Storiol Museum and Art Gallery, Ffordd Gwynedd, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 1DT), 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. 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.

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 Portable Antiquities Scheme acts as advisor on technical matters, and may be the recipient body for the objects.

The Treasure Valuation Committee, based at the British Museum, and informed by the Portable Antiquities Scheme, 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.

GAT will contact the landowner (via YGC) for agreement regarding the transfer of artefacts, initially to GAT and subsequently to the relevant museum (Storiel Museum and Art Gallery). A GAT produced pro-forma will be issued to the landowner where they are given the option to donate the finds or to record that they want them returning to them once analysis and assessment has been completed. Artefacts will be transferred to the Storiel Museum and Art Gallery will in accordance with *Guidelines for the Preparation and deposition of Archaeological Archives: An agreement between and Gwynedd Museums Service* (Gwynedd Council, 2009).

3.5 Fieldwork Archiving

Following the completion of the fieldwork, a programme of field work archiving will be completed based on following task list;

1. Pro-formas: all cross referenced and complete;
2. Photographic Metadata: completed in *Microsoft Access* and cross-referenced with all pro-formas;
3. Survey data: downloaded using a Computer Aided Design package;
4. Sections: all cross referenced and complete (to include matrices);
5. Plans: all cross referenced and complete;
6. Artefacts (if relevant): quantified and identified; register completed;
7. Ecofacts (if relevant): quantified and register completed;
8. Context register (if relevant): quantified and register completed;
9. Site Matrix.

All data will be processed, final illustrations will be compiled and a report will be produced which will detail and synthesise the results.

4 REPORTING

Following completion of the stages outlined above, a report will be produced within one month incorporating the following:

1. Non-technical summary
2. Introduction
3. Background
4. Methods and techniques, including details and location of project archive
5. Watching Brief Results
6. Summary and conclusions (including any further recommendations – if relevant)
7. List of sources consulted.
8. Appendix I – approved GAT written scheme of investigation

Illustrations will include plans of the location, site plans and individual plans and sections of archaeological features identified as appropriate. Historical maps, when appropriate and if copyright permissions allow, will be included. A draft copy of the report will be sent to the client prior to production of the final report.

5 DISSEMINATION AND ARCHIVING

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project will be prepared. The archaeological watching brief outlined in this WSI is currently scheduled to be completed in May 2019. A draft report (or interim report) will be submitted within one month of fieldwork completion (June 2019) and a final report will be submitted to the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record, Craig Beuno, Garth Road, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2RT within six months of approval.

The following dissemination will apply:

- A digital report will be provided to the client and GAPS (draft report then final report);
- A paper report plus a digital report will be provided to the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record; this will be submitted within six months of report completion (final report only);
- A digital report and archive (including photographic and drawn) data will be provided to the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record (final report only);
- A digital report and archive (including photographic and drawn) data will be provided to the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments Wales (RCAHMW; final report only). This will be in accordance with the RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives Version 1. Digital information will include the photographic archive and associated metadata;

5.1 Historic Environment Record

In line with the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record (HER) requirements, the HER will be contacted at the onset of the project to ensure that any data arising is formatted in a manner suitable for accession to the HER and follows the guidance set out in *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (The Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018). The HER will be informed of the project start date, location including grid reference, estimated timescale for the work, and further relevant information associated with the project.

6 PERSONNEL

The project will be managed by John Roberts, Principal Archaeologist GAT Contracts Section and attended by a project archaeologist. The project archaeologist will be responsible for the watching brief, including all field management duties, e.g. GAPS liaison, main contractor liaison, osteologist or palaeoenvironmentalist liaison (if relevant). The project archaeologist will be responsible for completing the watching brief record sheets as well as all other on site pro-formas and the fieldwork archive itemised in Sec 3.7. The project archaeologist will also be responsible for submitting a draft final report (or interim report) for project manager review and approval. The report will then be submitted as per the arrangements defined in Sec 5.

7 HEALTH AND SAFETY

The GAT Project Archaeologist(s) will be CSCS certified. Copies of the site specific risk assessment will be supplied to the client and site contractor prior to the start of fieldwork. 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.

8 SOCIAL MEDIA

One of the key aims in the GAT mission statement is to improve the understanding, conservation and promotion of the historic environment in our area and inform and educate the wider public. To help achieve this, GAT maintains an active social media presence and seeks all opportunities to promote our projects and results. With permission, GAT would like the opportunity to promote our work on this scheme through our social media platforms. This could include social media postings during our attendance on site as well as any postings to highlight results. In all instances, approval will be sought from client prior to any postings.

9 INSURANCE

Public/Products Liability

Limit of Indemnity- £5,000,000 any one event in respect of Public Liability

INSURER Aviva Insurance Limited

POLICY TYPE Public Liability

POLICY NUMBER 24765101CHC/UN/000375

EXPIRY DATE 21/06/2019

Employers Liability

Limit of Indemnity- £10,000,000 any one occurrence.

The cover has been issued on the insurers standard policy form and is subject to their usual terms and conditions. A copy of the policy wording is available on request.

INSURER Aviva Insurance Limited

POLICY TYPE Employers Liability

POLICY NUMBER 24765101 CHC / UN/000375

EXPIRY DATE 21/06/2019

Professional Indemnity

Limit of Indemnity- £5,000,000 in respect of each and every claim

INSURER Hiscox Insurance Company Limited

POLICY TYPE Professional Indemnity

POLICY NUMBER 9446015

EXPIRY DATE 22/07/2019

10 SOURCES CONSULTED

Brunning, R and Watson, J 2010, *Waterlogged Wood: Guidelines on the Recording, Sampling, Conservation and Curation of Waterlogged Wood* (3rd edition)

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief*

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

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014, *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2017, *Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains*

English Heritage, 1991, *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*

English Heritage, 2011, *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*

Gwynedd Museum Service, 2009, *Guidelines For The Preparation and Deposition of Archaeological Archives: An agreement between Gwynedd Museums Service and Gwynedd Council*

Historic England, 2012, *Waterlogged Organic Artefacts Guidelines on their Recovery, Analysis and Conservation*

Historic England, 2015, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*

McGuinness, N, 2016, *A55(T) Abergwyngregyn To Tai'r Meibion Improvement: Pre-Commencement Archaeological Evaluation*, GAT Report 1323

McNichol D, 2015, *Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion Improvement: Desk Based Assessment Report*, GAT Report 1258

Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales, 2015, *Guidelines for digital archives*

Ryan Young C, and Reilly S, 2018: *Abergwyngregyn to Tai'r Meibion Improvement Scheme: Mitigation Report*. GAT Report 1432

The Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018, *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)*

Watkinson, D and Neal, V, 2001, *First aid for finds* (3rd edition)

FIGURE 01:

Overall scheme extent and the location of assets in proximity to the Enabling Works

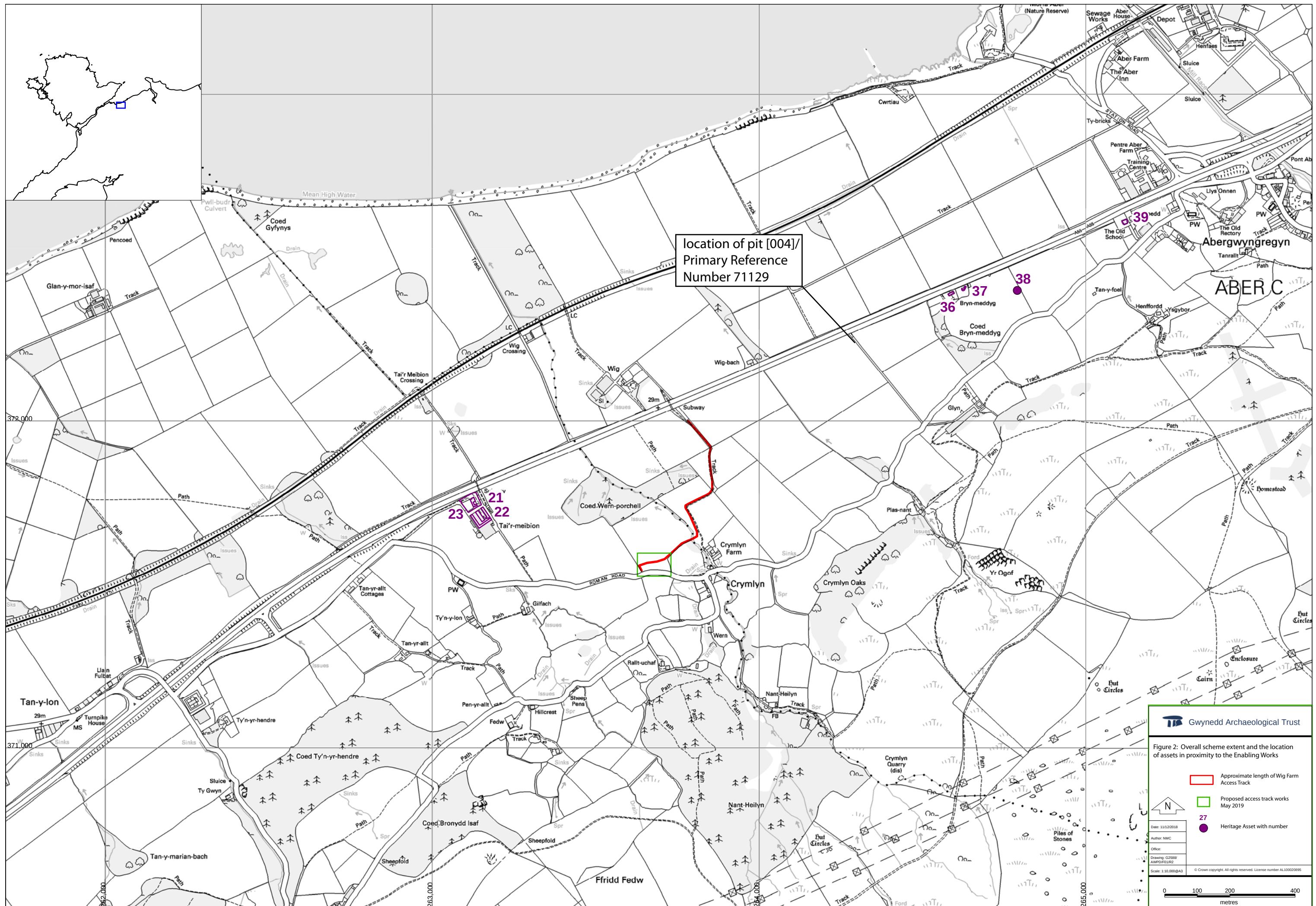


FIGURE 02

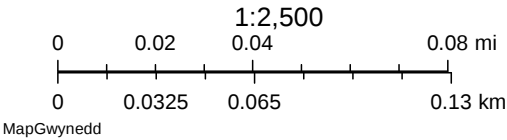
Reproduction of YGC Drawing No. 5055/GA/204

FIGURE 03

Reproduction of May 9, 2019 MapGwynedd image



May 9, 2019



APPENDIX I

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Watching Brief pro-forma

YMDDIRIEDOLAETH ARCHAEOLEGOL GWYNEDD ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST		
WATCHING BRIEF DAY RECORD		Date
Project name	Project number	Compiler
Location		
Description		
Times of travelling and on-site		
Drawn record details		
Photographic record details		

APPENDIX II

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Photographic Metadata pro-forma



Digital Photographic Record

Include main context numbers for each shot, drawing numbers for sections and any other relevant numbers for cross referencing.

Delete any unwanted photos **immediately** from the camera.

Regularly upload photographs to computer.

[illegible]

APPENDIX II

Reproduction of Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Photographic Metadata

PHOTO RECORD NUMBER*	PROJECT NAME	DESCRIPTION*	CONTEXT NUMBER (S)	VIEW FROM	SCALE(S)	CREATOR OF DIGITAL PHOTO*	DATE OF CREATION OF DIGITAL PHOTO*	ORIGINATING ORGANISATION	PLATES
G2614_001	G2617_Tai'r_Meibion_Enabling_Works_Wig_Track	Pre-commencement shot of area to be topsoil stripped.	n/a	SW	2X1 M	M.S.Lynes	16/05/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	1
G2614_002	G2617_Tai'r_Meibion_Enabling_Works_Wig_Track	Pre-commencement shot of area to be topsoil stripped.	n/a	NE	2X1 M	M.S.Lynes	16/05/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	2
G2614_003	G2617_Tai'r_Meibion_Enabling_Works_Wig_Track	Working shot of topsoil strip.	n/a	SE	not used	M.S.Lynes	16/05/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	3
G2614_004	G2617_Tai'r_Meibion_Enabling_Works_Wig_Track	Working shot of v-ditch.	n/a	S	not used	M.S.Lynes	16/05/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	4
G2614_005	G2617_Tai'r_Meibion_Enabling_Works_Wig_Track	Shot of small drainage channel/v-ditch running length of track.	n/a	SW	1X1 m	M.S.Lynes	16/05/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	5
G2614_006	G2617_Tai'r_Meibion_Enabling_Works_Wig_Track	Working shot of turf/topsoil strip.	n/a	SW	not used	M.S.Lynes	16/05/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	6
G2614_007	G2617_Tai'r_Meibion_Enabling_Works_Wig_Track	Working shot of turf/topsoil strip.	n/a	SW	not used	M.S.Lynes	16/05/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	7
G2614_008	G2617_Tai'r_Meibion_Enabling_Works_Wig_Track	Working shot of second strip along track.	n/a	SW	not used	M.S.Lynes	16/05/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	8
G2614_009	G2617_Tai'r_Meibion_Enabling_Works_Wig_Track	Working shot of final strip along track.	n/a	SW	not used	M.S.Lynes	16/05/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	9
G2614_010	G2617_Tai'r_Meibion_Enabling_Works_Wig_Track	Working shot of final strip along track.	n/a	SW	not used	M.S.Lynes	16/05/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	10

	Wig_Track				d			al Trust	
G2614_011	G2617_Tai'r_Meibion_Enabling_Works_Wig_Track	Shot of proposed track to Wig farm after turf and topsoil removal.	n/a	NE	2X1 M	M.S.Lynes	16/05/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	11
G2614_012	G2617_Tai'r_Meibion_Enabling_Works_Wig_Track	Shot of proposed track to Wig farm after turf and topsoil removal.	n/a	SW	2X1 M	M.S.Lynes	16/05/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	12



Gwynedd Archaeological Trust
Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd

Craig Beuno, Ffordd y Garth, Bangor, Gwynedd. LL57 2RT
Ffon: 01248 352535. Ffacs: 01248 370925. email: gat@heneb.co.uk

