

TEST PITS ON LLANBERIS ROAD  
CAERNARFON

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING

Report No. 218

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd  
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

TEST PITS ON LLANBERIS ROAD  
CAERNARFON

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING (G1426)

prepared for British Gas

by A. Davidson

August 1996

**Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Report No. 218**

# TEST PITS ON LLANBERIS ROAD CAERNARFON

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING (G1426)

### 1. Introduction

British Gas were proposing to replace an existing main on the Llanberis Road, Caernarfon. A sequence of trial pits were to be dug in advance of the replacement, and Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (Contracts Section) was asked by British Gas to monitor the digging of the test pits, and to record any archaeology which may be revealed.

### 2. Known Archaeology

A Bronze Age cinerary urn was found in 1946 during the construction of the Maes Barcer housing estate, immediately to the south of the trial pits.

The Roman fort of Segontium lies some 500m south of the test pits, and a large external settlement (*vicus*) is known to have existed around the fort. In addition the Caerhun to Segontium Roman road must have crossed the Llanberis road, although the exact location is not known.

### 3. Observations

Six pits were examined (see accompanying plan for location), on the 11 and 12 July, 1996. The pits were situated on the north side of the road adjacent to the pavement, and measured approximately 1.8m by 0.5m by 1.2m deep.

Pits 1-3 were dug through previously disturbed clay and stone, which lay directly under hardcore and tarmac. The previous disturbance had been caused by the laying of a sewer main. No archaeological finds were visible.

Pit 4 exhibited clean brown clay with some stone inclusions under 0.35m of random hardcore, which included modern brick, and tarmac.

Pits 5 and 6 were dug through clean brown clay with stone inclusions which underlay 0.35-0.45m of hardcore and tarmac.

### 4. Conclusion

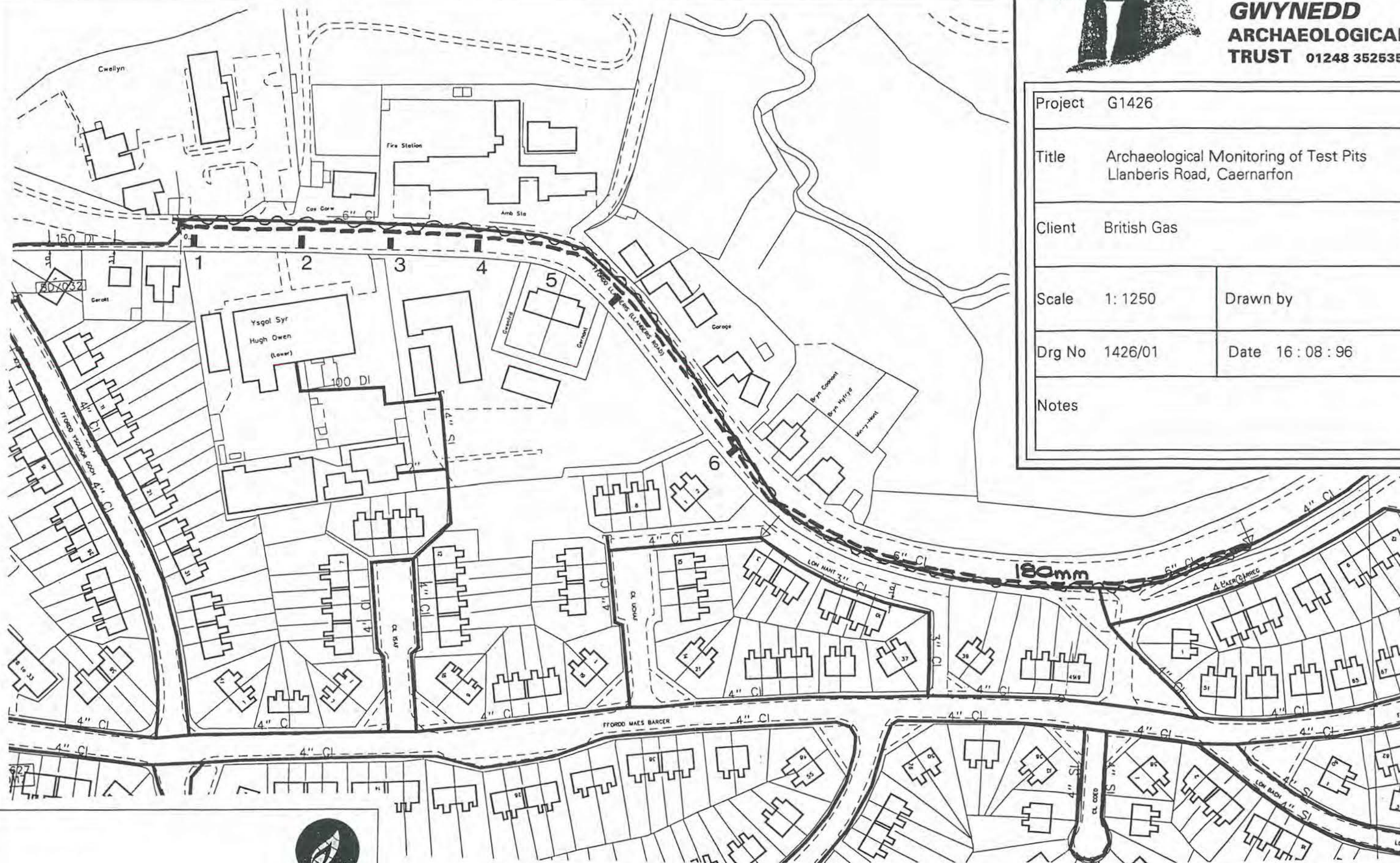
No archaeology was revealed by the digging of the test pits. The road appeared to have been constructed over natural clay, with random stone and brick forming a layer of hardcore under the tarmac. It is unlikely that further monitoring of the construction of the pipeline will reveal any additional evidence.





YMDDIRIEDOLAETH  
ARCHAEOLEGOL  
**GWYNEDD**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
TRUST 01248 352535

Project G1426	
Title Archaeological Monitoring of Test Pits Llanberis Road, Caernarfon	
Client British Gas	
Scale 1: 1250	Drawn by
Drg No 1426/01	Date 16:08:96
Notes	



**British Gas**  
TransCo



TITLE L.P. POLICY REPLACEMENT AT LLANBERIS ROAD  
LOCATION CAERNARFON



DRAWN	K.G.	A3 SCALE 1:1250	
DATE	21.6.96	DRG No	WDD8699
O.S. REF	SH 4862N		