

TAL-Y-WAUN, CAPEL CURIG  
PROPOSED TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENT  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Report No. 257



Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd  
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

TAL-Y-WAUN, CAPEL CURIG  
PROPOSED TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENT  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT (G1484)

prepared for Orange Personal Communications Services Ltd

June 1997

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Report No. 257

## **Proposed Telecommunications Development at Tal y Waun, Capel Curig (G1484)**

### **Archaeological assessment.**

#### **Introduction**

Orange Personal Communication Services Ltd have applied for planning permission to erect a telecommunications mast west of Tal y Waun. Peter Higham & Co, acting on behalf of Orange Personal Communication Services, asked the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust to carry out a rapid assessment of the site of the proposed development to ascertain the nature of remains noted during a visit by the local planning authority.

#### **Site location**

The site of the proposed development lies at SH 71535932, west of the farm of Tal y Waun, and alongside the stream called Nant Tal y Waun. Access to the site is partly by the existing farm track, but with a new track to link the site to the present track (marked in red on the attached map). The proposed mast site lies slightly east of the river within a modern plantation.

#### **Desktop Study**

Ordnance Survey maps at 1:2500 scale dated 1889 and 1901 were examined, and also the Tithe map for Llanllechid. Land Tax Assessments for Llanllechid were also checked. No further archive work was carried out, although records may exist in the Bangor University Archive, particularly amongst the Penrhyn Estate Manuscripts. The sites were not marked on any of the maps examined, implying they are at least older than the 18th century. The farm at Tal y Waun is shown on the Tithe map as part of the Coetmore Estate, and it is also marked on both Ordnance Survey maps. The property is listed in the Land Tax Assessments from 1793 onwards as being owned by the Coetmore Estate and tenanted by Owen Evans.

#### **Archaeology**

A number of sites of archaeological interest were noted during a rapid visual assessment of the area. These are marked on the attached map, and described below.

There are two settlements (sites A and B) and a disused track with the remains of a footbridge across the stream close to the development site. Another possible site (D) lies close to the proposed track. An additional settlement (site C) lies south of the development area.

##### **Site A**

This site is on a level plateau above the Nant Tal y Waun, 10m north-east of the proposed compound. It consists of the foundations of a rectangular long hut 8m by 3m, with an associated rectangular platform on the west side of similar dimensions. The remains of a boundary run south from the platform, with another platform visible east of this boundary, but north of the existing field wall. The remains are probably those of a medieval or early post-medieval house with associated structures.

##### **Site B**

This site is situated within the plantation, south of and below site A, and some 30m south of the proposed compound. It consists of a levelled platform with stone foundations of a structure measuring 8m by 4m. The date and function are not known, but it is probably medieval or early post medieval in date.

##### **Site C**

This site lies some 80m south of the proposed track, and north of a dry-stone built sheep-fold. It is a levelled platform measuring some 6m by 3m cut into a south facing slope. It may mark the site of a long hut of medieval date.

##### **Site D**

This is a level area which may be the site of a levelled platform of Prehistoric or later date. It lies immediately below the present field wall, and measures some 15m by 8m.

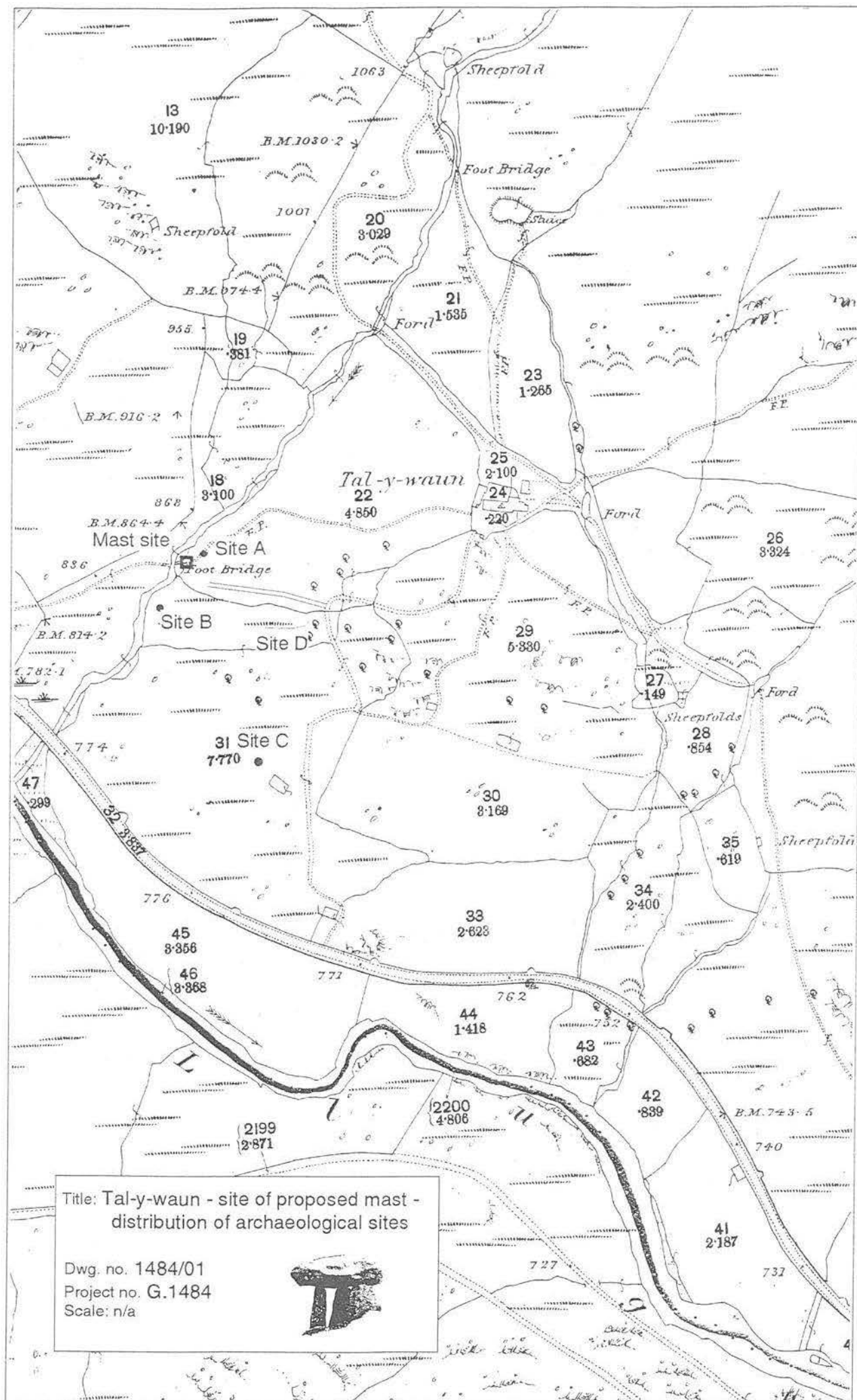
## **Recommendations**

A number of sites of archaeological potential have been noted in the vicinity of the proposed development. Site A is the most vulnerable, but care would also need to be taken to ensure the remaining sites were not damaged whilst construction work was being undertaken. The following recommendations are suggested.

That a more detailed measured survey is carried out of the area to ensure all the visible archaeology is recognised.

That all visible archaeology is clearly marked by temporary fencing to ensure accidental damage during construction does not occur.

That an archaeological watching brief is maintained during construction to ensure any underground remains encountered are recognised and recorded.



Title: Tal-y-waun - site of proposed mast -  
distribution of archaeological sites

Dwg. no. 1484/01  
Project no. G.1484  
Scale: n/a



YMDDIRIEDOLAETH ARCHAEOLEGOL *GWYNEDD* ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Craig Beuno - Ffordd y Garth - Bangor - Gwynedd - LL57 2RT. Phone (01248) 352535 : Ffacs/Fax (01248) 370925