

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE  
A499 LLANWNDA – ABERSOCH  
IMPROVEMENT

ABERDESACH - LLANAELHAEARN

REPORT NO. 298

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

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PREPARED FOR

GWYNEDD COUNCIL

April 1998

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# **ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE A499 LLANWMDA TO ABERSOCH: ABERDESACH TO LLANAEHLAEARN (G1514)**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Gwynedd Council Highways and Engineering Department is proposing to widen and improve approximately 8.1 km of the A499, running from Aberdesach to Llanaelhaearn as part of the Llanwmda to Abersoch improvement scheme.

The proposals are to be accompanied by an Environmental Statement, and Gwynedd Archaeological Trust was contracted by Gwynedd County Council to undertake an archaeological assessment of the route, to be presented as part of the Environmental Statement.

## **2. ASSESSMENT BRIEF**

A report was requested from Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, assessing the likely archaeological impact of the plans and suggesting mitigatory measures.

The basic requirement was for a desk-top survey and field search of the corridor of interest in order to assess the impact of the proposals on the archaeological and heritage features within the road corridor and close enough to it to be affected. The importance and condition of known archaeological remains were to be assessed and areas of archaeological potential and new sites identified. Measures to mitigate the effects of the road scheme on the archaeological resource were to be suggested.

The assessment was to be carried out in accordance with the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges Volume 11, Section 3, Part 2, Cultural Heritage, June 1993 (incorporating amendment number 1, August 1994).

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust's proposals for fulfilling these requirements were:

- a) to identify and record the cultural heritage of the area to be affected by the proposals
- b) to evaluate the importance of what was identified (both as a cultural landscape and as the individual items which make up that landscape)
- c) to propose ways in which damage to the cultural heritage could be avoided or minimised.

This was to be achieved through a desk-top study and initial fieldwork, followed by additional fieldwork where identified as appropriate.

## **3. METHODS AND TECHNIQUES**

### **3.1 Desk-top Study**

Consultation of maps, computer records, written records and reference works, which make up the Sites and Monuments Record, was undertaken at the Trust. Records (including early Ordnance Survey maps, tithe maps and schedules and reference works - see bibliography) were also consulted in the library and the archives of the University College of North Wales, Bangor, and the County archives at Caernarfon. Aerial photographs held by Gwynedd Council.

### **3.2 Field Search**

The fieldwork was undertaken between 16<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> March 1998 by a member of Trust staff. Conditions were generally good for fieldwalking, most of the land being under pasture and the weather being mainly dry. Recent heavy rain had caused some flooding and waterlogging in low-lying areas. The preferred line was examined in detail, and the condition of the sites outside the line was recorded. Light and visibility were good and the whole of the proposed route was walked.

Wherever possible, farmers were consulted in case they held any information pertaining to their land.

Sites identified were marked on 1:10,000 maps as accurately as possible without surveying. Written descriptions were made of all sites and a photographic record of the more important features was produced.

### 3.3 Report

All information was transferred onto maps at a scale of 1:1,000 for ease of reference. The sites were then assessed and allocated to the categories listed below; further investigation may result in sites being moved into different categories.

The criteria used for allocating sites to categories are based on those used by the Secretary of State when considering ancient monuments for scheduling; these are set out in Welsh Office Circular 60/96 *Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology*.

### 3.4 Categories

The following categories were used to define the importance of the archaeological resource.

#### *Category A - Sites of national importance.*

Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings and sites of schedulable or listable quality, *i.e.* those which would meet the requirements for scheduling (ancient monuments) or listing (buildings) or both.

Sites which are scheduled or listed have legal protection, and it is recommended that all Category A sites remain preserved and protected *in situ*.

#### *Category B - Sites of regional or county importance.*

Sites which would not fulfil the criteria for scheduling or listing, but which are nevertheless of particular importance within the region.

Preservation *in situ* is the preferred option for Category B sites, but if damage or destruction cannot be avoided, appropriate detailed recording might be an acceptable alternative.

#### *Category C - Sites of district or local importance.*

Sites which are not of sufficient importance to justify a recommendation for preservation if threatened.

Category C sites nevertheless merit adequate recording in advance of damage or destruction.

#### *Category D - Minor and damaged sites.*

Sites which are of minor importance or so badly damaged that too little remains to justify their inclusion in a higher category.

For Category D sites, rapid recording, either in advance or during destruction, should be sufficient.

#### *Category E - Sites needing further investigation.*

Sites whose importance is as yet undetermined and which will require further work before they can be allocated to categories A - D are temporarily placed in this category, with specific recommendations for further evaluation. By the end of the assessment there should be no sites remaining in this category.

### 3.5 Definition of Impact

The impact is defined as *none, slight, unlikely, likely, significant, considerable or unknown* as follows:

#### *None:*

There is no construction impact on this particular site.

#### *Slight:*

This has generally been used where the impact is marginal and would not by the nature of the site cause irreversible damage to the remainder of the feature, *e.g.* part of a trackway or field bank.

*Unlikely:*

This category indicates sites that fall within the band of interest but are unlikely to be directly affected. This includes sites such as standing and occupied buildings at the margins of the band of interest.

*Likely:*

In some instances the site in question would not fall within the area to be directly affected by the proposed road, but would fall within the construction area and therefore may, subject to its nature, be removed or damaged.

*Significant:*

The partial removal of a site affecting its overall integrity. Sites falling into this category may be linear features such as roads or tramways where the removal of part of the feature could make overall interpretation problematic.

*Considerable:*

The total removal of a feature or its partial removal which would effectively destroy the remainder of the site.

*Unknown:*

This is used when the location of the site is unknown, but thought to be in the vicinity of the proposed road.

### **3.6 Definition of Mitigatory Recommendations**

The alignment of the proposed improvement avoids as far as possible sites of archaeological interest. Where a site is affected, mitigation measures will be included in accordance with current Welsh Office Highways Directorate policies for rescue archaeology.

For the purposes of this report the mitigation and rescue archaeology proposals as suggested by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust have been summarised as:

*None:*

No impact so no requirement for mitigation measures.

*Avoid*

Where possible, the site should be excluded from the proposed road improvement works. This is used where the site is of high archaeological value, and so should be preserved, or where there appears to be no need to have an impact upon the site. However, other (e.g. engineering) factors may need to override this recommendation for sites of lower archaeological importance, so recording is recommended as an alternative.

*Detailed recording:*

Detailed recording requires a photographic record, surveying and the production of a measured drawing prior to the commencement of the works on site.

Archaeological excavation works may also be required depending upon the particular feature and the extent and effect of the impact. Some of the sites would require dismantling by hand, to provide a detailed record of the method of construction and in the case of a listed structure, the salvage of materials for re-use and re-building.

*Basic Recording:*

Recording by photograph and description requires a photographic record and written description, and limited measured survey where applicable.

*Watching brief:*

At the commencement of the improvement works on site, all sites affected by the works would need to be observed at relevant stages of construction.

## **4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **4.1 The Archaeological Background**

#### *4.1.1 Topography*

The primary topographic elements are the narrow strip of coastal land between the sea and the higher ground to the east. The road runs along the coastal strip, and in places divides the uplands on the east from the lower lying coastal farmland on the west. The lower land is primarily divided into pasture fields with accompanying farmsteads. East of the road the land rises steeply towards the crags of Gyrn Goch, Gyrn Ddu and Moel Penllechog, where two granite quarries have been cut into the cliffs.

Three distinct types of field pattern are visible along the coastal strip: a few examples of small, regular grid fields are visible at the west end of the corridor below Moel Penllechog and the granite quarry on Gyrn Ddu. These patterns are usually associated with late enclosure and are here presumably linked with quarry workers' holdings. The majority of the area is divided into medium size, regular field patterns of which are typical of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century improvements, some of which have been linked in more recent years to create larger fields. Elsewhere, notably at the foot of the slope of Gyrn Ddu, there are the remains of an older, irregular system of field enclosures, many of which are unimproved. This same area is dominated by industrial archaeological remains.

There are two nucleated settlements within the study area: Clynnog and Llanaelhaearn, both of which have ecclesiastical origins in the Early Medieval period, and two later concentrations of housing at Aberdesach and Gyrn Goch.

#### *4.1.2 Prehistoric*

Settlements and burial sites of the Prehistoric period are known close to the corridor of interest, although not within it. On the lower lying ground of the coastal belt lie two megalithic chambered tombs of the Neolithic period. One is located on a ridge top near Bachwen to the south-west of Clynnog Fawr at SH40764947 (PRN 101 and SAM Cn 8). It consists of a rectangular chamber formed by three original and one modern upright with a roughly triangular cap stone of c. 3m x 2m, the upper surface of which is covered in artificial cup marks. On a slight mound to the south-east of Aberdesach at SH43005107 is the Penarth burial chamber (PRN 199 and SAM Cn 78). This consists of the remains of a rectangular chamber 1.6m long formed by three supporters and a fallen cap stone measuring 3.2m x 2.4m x up to 0.85m thick.

To the west of Penarth burial chamber is a cairn (PRN 197) occupying a small mound 0.5m high and 7m diameter. In 1910 a stone cist was found in the centre containing the fragmentary bones of a child and sherds of Prehistoric Beaker ware.

Several mounds of burnt stone have been found in the area, signifying activity within the later Bronze Age (2000 – 1000 BC) (PRNs 102, 200 & 1373).

The fragmentary remains of three round huts (PRN 196) are located just to the south of the Penarth burial chamber at SH42775082. These form the only Prehistoric settlement remains on the lower ground, but their presence suggests other settlements formerly existed, but that all upstanding traces have been removed during by agricultural practices. Other scattered huts and field systems of the Iron Age exist at several locations in the marginal uplands (e.g. PRN 217 and 604).

#### *4.2.3 Roman period*

The Roman period is not well represented on the ground but many of the Iron Age settlements which abound in the area are assumed to have continued in occupation throughout the period. The Roman military road from Segontium (Caernarfon) to Pen Llystyn (Bryncir) lay to the east of the Clynnog hills. A hoard of Roman coins have been found to the north of the area of interest near Groeslon.

#### *4.2.4 Medieval*

The area was formerly in the Medieval Commote of Uwch Gwyrfa in the Cantref of Arfon. Medieval townships are known to have existed at Pennardd, Clynnog Fawr and Elernion. Medieval parish churches are at Clynnog Fawr and Llanaelhaearn. The location of the commotal centre is uncertain (Bassett & Davies 1977, 71).

Clynnog Fawr was an important ecclesiastical centre during the Medieval period. Tradition says St Beuno received the endowment of Clynnog in 616 AD from Cadfan, (Hyde Hall 1952, 214). It developed, like Bangor and Aberdaron, into a Clas, or mother church, and became a place of pilgrimage. Following the conquest, Clynnog became a collegiate church with extensive land holdings, although by the late 15th century many of



these had been sold to pay for the building of the new church. This church remains one of the finest parish churches in north-west Wales.

Ffynnon Beuno is located on the outskirts of Clynnog Fawr at SH41324945 and probably dates to the late 15th century (PRN 103 ). It consists of a stone basin enclosed on three sides by a step with stone benches on the north-east and south-west sides. The roughly dressed and coursed enclosing wall has 18th century coping and other details. It had a reputation for healing as late as the 18th century when patients were dipped in the well and laid overnight on rushes on a tomb in Capel Beuno (Baring-Gould 1908 & Jones 1954).

The church at Llanaelhaearn has a 12th century nave, a 14th century chancel window and 16th or 17th century transepts but the whole building was restored in 1892 (Davidson 1997 & PRN 6937). Pennant visited the village and church at Llanaelhaearn during his 18th century tour of Wales but only commented on the 'fine well, once much frequented for its reputed sanctity' (Pennant 1991, 217). The well is located to the south of Llanaelhaearn at SH38424462 outside the proposed road improvement (PRN 2232). The church and associated well are dedicated to St Aelhaearn who was closely associated with St Beuno at Clynnog. Two 5th or 6th century inscribed stones are located at Llanaelhaearn (Nash-Williams 1950, 88-89). One roughly hewn pillar stone bears the Latin inscription 'ALORTVS ELMETIACO HICIACET' *Aliortus the Elmetian lies here* commemorating a man who died away from his home in Yorkshire (Nash-Williams 1950, 88 & PRN 1564). It is now mounted on the north wall of the north transept in Llanaelhaearn church. Another pillar stone (PRN 1563) 1m x 0.4m wide, bears the Latin inscription 'ME . LI . TV (C?)' Other Medieval inscribed stones are located in the churchyard, one has a shallow impression of a rude cross with a long shaft on its east face (PRN 1565) while an igneous boulder incised with a Latin cross is used as a gate post at the back of the vicarage (PRN 1567). An upright stone 1.3m high standing 35m south-west of the nave is possibly an early medieval gravestone (PRN 1566). Another stone incised with the capital letter 'M' disappeared after reconstruction of the churchyard wall in 1975 (PRN 1568).

A number of ruined houses lie in the marginal ground east of the road which are probably the remains of Medieval settlement.

#### 4.2.5 Post medieval period

Many of the buildings on the tithe maps of the 1840s are still present on the modern OS maps although the names of some have changed. The remains of buildings no longer identified may still be visible on the ground. The 16th century portion of the Grade II Listed Building at Eiernion is incorporated in the later house. It belonged to Jones of Werglod Fawr in the early 19th century (Hyde Hall 1952, 216). The St Beuno Inn, now The Coach Inn, above the main road in the centre of Clynnog Fawr is also a Grade II Listed Building. It was a substantial coaching inn with early 17th century origins, which was remodelled in the 19th century with a south wing added in 1912. Other Grade II Listed Buildings in Clynnog Fawr are the houses of Cwrt, Bodfasen and Pant Glas Uchaf, the butchers' shop of Hugh Jones and the doorway at Lleuar Fawr. The Grade II Listed Building, Tyddyn-hen, lies to the west of the road corridor and a hovel at Tan-y-Bwlch, a rare surviving example of vernacular peasant construction is found in upper Clynnog.

#### 4.2.6 Roads

There was a principal route from Caernarfon to Nefyn going through Clynnog Fawr from at least the 13th century which probably followed the same route as the present A499 (Bassett & Davies 1977, 78), and which had formed part of the pilgrim route to Bardsey from Early Medieval times. In 1768 Caernarvonshire Turnpike Trust was formed and a turnpike road branched off the principal Caernarfon to Tremadog route at Llanwnda going through Clynnog and Llanaelhaearn to Pwllheli with a toll gate at Llanaelhaearn (Pritchard 1956). This road opened up the remoter areas of the Lleyn peninsular and by 1811 there were regular goods services to Pwllheli and by 1822 a coach to accommodate the 'gentlemen and clergy of Lleyn and Evionydd' was running between Bangor, Caernarfon and Pwllheli (Dodd 1925, 145-146). By 1840 the toll gate at Llanaelhaearn was replaced by the two gates at Clynnog and Maes Mawr, near Pwllheli (Pritchard 1956, 69). The Trust remained in power until 1882

#### 4.2.7 Industrial Background

A manganese pit and a disused quarry were shown on the 1900 1:2500 OS map close to the road just south of Clynnog Fawr. Two lime kilns were located near the coast to the north of Clynnog Fawr with a third on the coast to the south-west (OS 1:10000).

Several small granite sett quarries operated to the south-west of Clynnog from SH393465 to SH400471 between 1864 and 1947. Four small quarries amalgamated in 1903 to become Tan-y-Graig. Both Tan-y-Graig and Tyddyn Hywel, to the east, started with short 2 foot gauge incline railways down to the road but these were later extended to form longer systems with four inclines connecting the quarries to two piers on the coast (Boyd 1981, 264-268). By 1916 all the quarries were in common ownership and the railways were replaced by an aerial ropeway to a new pier (Bradley 1992, 409).

#### **4.3 Existing statutory protection**

Two scheduled ancient monuments lie within the corridor:

Cn 62 10<sup>th</sup> century sundial in Clynnog Churchyard

Cn 91 Ffynon Beuno (Site number 79 in the Gazetteer)

The following buildings are Grade II listed:

Fynnon Beuno: 18<sup>th</sup> century walls surrounding earlier well (79 in the Gazetteer).

Eglwys Sant Beuno, 15<sup>th</sup> century church, 16<sup>th</sup> century chapel and a lynchgate in the church-yard (82).

The Coach Inn, Clynnog Fawr (83).

Cwrt, house at Clynnog Fawr (83).

Bodfasen, 17<sup>th</sup> century former inn and adjoining wing at Clynnog Fawr (83).

Doorway at Lleuar Fawr, Clynnog Fawr (83).

#### **4.4 Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites**

This section lists those sites which fall within the development corridor. This inevitably includes a large number of sites which will not be directly affected, such as standing buildings. The recommendations take into account the likely impact of the road, and the archaeological importance of the site. However, when the nature of a site cannot be fully interpreted without further work, then further evaluation work is recommended so that full mitigation recommendations can be made. Where the information is considered sufficient, mitigatory measures are suggested. The recommendations will only apply if the site is to be disturbed by the proposed construction. All sites can be located by reference to maps 1 to 5 included with this report.

##### **1. Extension to church-yard SH38694495**

*Category: D Impact: Unlikely*

Recent extension to churchyard.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid.*

##### **2. Tan y Allt cottage SH38594507**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

Building shown on 1839 tithe map. Well-preserved early 19<sup>th</sup> century cottage.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid.*

##### **3. Three modern houses SH38634510**

*Category: D Impact: Unlikely*

Three mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, single storey houses.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid.*

##### **4. Site of rectangular building SH38674511**

*Category: D Impact: Likely*

Rectangular building and enclosure, shown on aerial photograph. Probably destroyed during road improvements.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Watching Brief*

##### **5. Clearance cairn SH38644519**

*Category: C Impact: Likely*

Clearance cairn on river bank. Sub-rectangular outline suggests that it may overlie an earlier structure.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*



*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid or basic recording and watching brief.*

**6. Site of building shown on tithe map SH38534522**

*Category: D Impact: Unknown*

Building marked on 1839 tithe map. The site is no longer visible and may have been destroyed when the A499 was widened.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Watching Brief*

**7. Bryn Fynnon SH38414535**

*Category: B Impact: Unlikely*

Much modernised two-storey house marked on 1839 tithe map. Building retains elements of 18<sup>th</sup> century or earlier structure. The owner reported that there was originally a waterwheel on the south-eastern side of the house possibly powering machinery in a dairy. Local tradition also suggests that this was the site of a drover's inn.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid.*

**8. Terraced houses SH38394538**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

A Terrace of late 19<sup>th</sup> century houses.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**9. Pond SH38324558**

*Category: D Impact: Considerable*

A pond, recently landscaped.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: None*

**10. Milestone SH383545468**

*Category: C Impact: Likely*

A sandstone milestone, 1.1m in height and triangular in plan. Inscription as follows; CARNARVON 13M PWLLHELI 7M

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Removal and reinstatement in appropriate position if to be affected by works.*

**11. Converted cottage SH38354569**

*Category: C Impact: Likely*

Cottage, possibly mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. The western gable end has been rebuilt to include garage doors. Windows infilled.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Basic recording.*

**12. Overgrown mounds SH38244568**

*Category: E Impact: Likely*

Overgrown mounds, most probably modern clearance or dumping.

*Recommendation for further assessment: Quick assessment by trial trench.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Basic recording (depending on results of assessment)*

**13. Banks SH38364587**

*Category: C Impact: Likely*

Unimproved land containing poorly defined low banks and ditches along with some stone cleared from adjacent field. One possible roundhouse identified with an internal diameter of 7m. Area very marshy and difficult to assess. The majority of the area falls outside the road corridor.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid or detailed recording.*

**14 and 15. Penlon farmhouse and outbuildings SH38264590 & SH38254597**

*Category: C Impact: Likely*

The house and outbuildings both appear on the 1839 tithe map. The house is a substantial Victorian two storey building. The outbuildings have been recently converted into a dwelling.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**16. Possible enclosure SH38274605**

*Category: E Impact: Considerable*

Level area beside the old Trefor road. Dimensions 26mx50m. Curvilinear edge falling away into uneven boggy land. Possible earlier enclosure.

*Recommendation for further assessment: Further evaluation to include geophysical survey and trial excavation.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Dependant on results of further assessment.*

**17. Earlier line of road SH38174612**

*Category: C Impact: Likely*

A 6m wide linear raised area in scrubby woodland, presumably representing an earlier line of the road to Trefor. Ditches and standing water to either side.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid or basic recording.*

**18. Graig house and outbuildings SH38354610**

*Category: C Impact: None*

Building shown on 1838 tithe map. Now modernised.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid.*

**19. Possible cairn SH38294615**

*Category: E Impact: Considerable*

Possible cairn visible as low, 7m diameter mound in field

*Recommendation for further assessment: Geophysical survey and trial trenching.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Dependent on results of further assessment.*

**20. Possible rectangular structure SH38254621**

*Category: E Impact: Likely*

Poorly defined rectangular arrangement of stones that could be the remains of a building.

*Recommendation for further assessment: Geophysical survey, trial trenching.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Dependent on results of further assessment.*

**21. Circular stony area in field SH38284625**

*Category: D Impact: Considerable*

5m diameter stony area in field. The field has been heavily improved and a stream has been diverted. The stone may be infill for a wet area in the field.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Watching brief*

**22. Tai Newyddion SH38474644**

*Category: C Impact: Likely*

Building shown on tithe map.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**23. Possible ridge and furrow SH38364657**

*Category: D Impact: Likely*

Possible ridge and furrow detected on aerial photographs suggesting medieval agriculture. Nothing visible during field walking.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Watching brief*

**24. Cefn Buarddau old farm SH38504687**

*Category: A Impact: None*

Former grade III listed building awaiting re-survey. 18<sup>th</sup> century 2 storey 2 window stone house, with stable adjoining north.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**25. Cefn Buarddau new farm. SH38534686**

*Category: C Impact: None*

Victorian farmhouse

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**26. House SH38634684**

*Category: D Impact: None*

Mid 20<sup>th</sup> century corrugated iron clad cottage.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**27. Brynteg cottage SH38634685**

*Category: C Impact: None*

19<sup>th</sup> century single storey building extended and modernised

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**28. Tramway SH38564692-SH38704684**

*Category: C Impact: Significant*

The line of the tramway between Tan y Graig quarry and the sea can be seen to run through a cutting across the road improvement corridor. The tramway was in use between the early 1880s and 1903 when it was superseded by an aerial ropeway. See also feature 29.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Detailed recording*

**29. Tunnel SH38644687**

*Category: C Impact: Likely*

The tramway passed beneath the road via a granite and concrete tunnel. The north-western side is open but the south-eastern side is partially blocked. Access was not possible at the time of the assessment due to dense undergrowth and flooding

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Detailed recording.*

**30. Terrace SH38704690C**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

A terrace of later 19<sup>th</sup> century two storey, stone-built houses.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**31. Granite wall SH38754698C**

*Category: C Impact: Considerable*

Well-built stone walls and revetments utilising both dry and mortared local granite. The walls were built alongside the present A499 by local stone masons when the road was improved immediately before the Second World War. The road was improved as far as the field adjoining Parsal farm.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Basic recording and sympathetic reinstatement of walls where appropriate.*

**32. Track SH38834693C**

*Category: D Impact: None*

Cobbled track. Now visible as isolated 20m length of 2m wide farm track.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: None*

**33. Old field boundary SH38754696-SH38804690**

*Category: D Impact: slight*

Old field boundary detected on aerial photographs. Now barely visible in field crossed by drainage ditches.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: None*

**34. Route of old road SH38894714-SH38964734**

*Category: C Impact: Considerable.*

The route of the road running to the south-east of Parsal shown on the 1839 tithe map has changed. The earlier route can be seen as a poorly defined level area in the fields. A modern barn now stands on the site of a building shown on the tithe map.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Basic recording, watching brief.*

**35. Building SH39024723**

*Category: D Impact: Unlikely*

Mid 20<sup>th</sup> century corrugated iron clad cottage.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: None*

**36. Cairn SH39234734**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

Cairn; contains some clearance but could overlie earlier structure.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid or detailed recording.*

**37. Orthostat SH39374738**

*Category: C Impact: None*

A single 1.2m high orthostat at the edge of a stony area in the field. This could be part of an earlier boundary or structure.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: None*

**38. Low banks etc. SH39384734C**

*Category: E Impact: None*

A large stony area in unimproved land. Stone has been imported to this area during the clearance of nearby fields. Poorly defined, low banks and possible structures can be seen beneath the clearance suggesting the presence of a prehistoric settlement.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: None.*

**39. Discontinuity in field boundary SH39334750**

*Category: D Impact: Unlikely*

Discontinuity in line of field boundary suggests the presence of an earlier track.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: None*

**40. Ridge and furrow SH39384752C**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

Possible ridge and furrow, evidence of medieval agriculture, could be seen on aerial photographs. Low undulations could be seen in the field during field walking.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid or watching brief.*

**41. Tram rails reused in fence SH39324758**

*Category: D Impact: Considerable.*

A length of tram rail forms part of the fence.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Basic recording.*

**42. Circular feature SH39324761**

*Category: E Impact: Unlikely*

A circular feature could be seen on aerial photographs. This could not be seen during field walking. It was noted however, that the ground was very stony in this area.

*Recommendation for further assessment: Geophysical survey and trial excavation*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: To be decided.*

**43. Quarry offices SH39404756**

*Category: C Impact: Likely*

A single-storey concrete-rendered building. Boyd's plan (Boyd, 1981) identifies this building as an office presumably associated with Tyddyn Hywel Quarry. The building is now derelict and largely inaccessible due to dense thickets of blackthorn etc.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid or detailed recording.*

**44. Hut SH39474757**

*Category: C Impact: None*

Small stone built hut, now derelict, probably associated with activities at Tyddyn Hywel Quarry in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**45. Tramway SH39424759-SH39684733**

*Category: C Impact: Significant*

The line of the tramway from Tyddyn Hywel to the sea runs in a cutting across the line of the proposed road. This could not be inspected in any great detail during the assessment as it was flooded and very overgrown. See also feature 46.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Detailed recording.*

**46. Tunnel SH39424760**

*Category: C Impact: Likely*

A tunnel built from local granite carries the Tyddyn Hywel tramway beneath the line of the present road. This feature was flooded and overgrown at the time of the assessment.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid or detailed recording in conjunction with feature 45.*

**47. Stone culvert SH39444762**

*Category: D Impact: Likely*

Stone-built culvert running under road, probably dating from the 19<sup>th</sup> century

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Basic recording*

**48. Stone footbridge SH39474762**

*Category: B Impact: Likely*

Simple stone bridge over a small fast running stream. The bridge is heavily overgrown and difficult to assess but can be seen to consist of a single 1.6m x 0.5m slab set onto dry-stone supports.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid or detailed recording.*

**49. Modern bungalow SH39364763**

*Category: D Impact: Unlikely*

A modern bungalow and associated landscaping impinges on the Tyddyn Hywel tramway at this point.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: None*

**50. Old field boundary SH39464777-SH39514773**

*Category: D Impact: Slight*

A very low bank, probably the remains of a field boundary or track could be seen to run across the line of the proposed road.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: None*



**51. Clearance cairn SH39574776**

*Category: D Impact: Unlikely*

An overgrown clearance cairn with a diameter of 5m and a maximum height of 0.5m.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**52. Linear hollow SH39544790-SH39604793**

*Category: D Impact: Unlikely*

A shallow linear hollow could be seen to run across the field. This could be a ploughed out field boundary or track.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: None*

**53. Discontinuity in field boundary SH39634799**

*Category: D Impact: Likely*

A discontinuity in the line of the field boundary reflects the line of an earlier road marked on the 1839 tithe map (feature 54)

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Basic recording.*

**54. Line of road SH39594797-SH39914832**

*Category: D Impact: Slight*

The line of an earlier road could be seen on the 1839 tithe map. This could not however be traced with any certainty during field walking.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Watching brief*

**55. Linear and curvilinear features SH39634810**

*Category: D Impact: Unlikely*

Linear and curvilinear features were detected on the aerial photographs. There is a spring and a natural break of slope in the field that could account for the above observations.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: None*

**56. Capel Seion SH39954833**

*Category: A Impact: Unlikely*

Chapel built in 1875 of local granite. Former Grade III listed building awaiting re-survey.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**57. Gwelfor SH39974835**

*Category: B Impact: Unlikely*

18<sup>th</sup> century cottage in good condition.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**58. Farm and outbuildings SH40014842**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

19<sup>th</sup> century cottage and farm buildings, well preserved and unmodernised.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**59. Cottage SH40184849**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

19<sup>th</sup> century cottage

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**60. Terrace SH40224850**

*Category: D Impact: Unlikely*  
Early 20<sup>th</sup> century two storey terrace.  
*Recommendation for further assessment: None,*  
*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**61. Victorian House SH40274852**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*  
Two storey, stone-built Victorian house.  
*Recommendation for further assessment: None,*  
*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**62. Sportsman's row SH40384858**

*Category: B Impact: Unlikely*  
A row of houses of various styles and dates comprising a two storey house probably dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, an early 19<sup>th</sup> century terrace and two Victorian stone built houses.  
*Recommendation for further assessment: None,*  
*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**63. Bridge SH40454864**

*Category: A Impact: Likely*  
Pont-y-Felin, 18<sup>th</sup> century bridge. Former grade III listed building, awaiting re-survey.  
*Recommendation for further assessment: None,*  
*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**64. Bryn Awel SH40594872**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*  
Late 19<sup>th</sup> century house.  
*Recommendation for further assessment: None,*  
*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**65. Ty Lon: buildings on tithe map SH40604879**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*  
19<sup>th</sup> century two storey house and outbuildings. Outbuildings may include an earlier cottage.  
*Recommendation for further assessment: None,*  
*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**66. Quarry SH40824903**

*Category: C Impact: Significant*  
Small steep-sided quarry identified on 1:2500 O.S. maps as a manganese pit.  
*Recommendation for further assessment: None,*  
*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Basic recording.*

**67. Plas Cae'r Pwsan SH40934915**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*  
Large house probably late 19<sup>th</sup> century.  
*Recommendation for further assessment: None,*  
*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**68. Cae'r Pwsan: buildings shown on tithe map (circa 1840) SH40974923**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*  
Modernised 18<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse and farm buildings. Former grade III listed building awaiting re-survey.  
Farm now used as scrap metal yard.  
*Recommendation for further assessment: None,*  
*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**69. Line of earlier road SH40974917-SH411744933**

*Category: B Impact: Considerable*  
The line of a road passing to the south-east of Cae'r Pwsan can be seen as a 2m wide terrace above the field boundary. This was depicted on the tithe map (circa 1840) but was not shown to continue as far as Clynnog. The obvious terrace extends as far as the road shown on the tithe map but additional lengths of road could be

seen further to the west (sites 75 and 78). The fact that the road was truncated by the 1840s suggests that it was an earlier road that had been superseded by the road that is now the A499.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Detailed recording.*

**70. Overgrown sheepfold SH41184934**

*Category: E Impact: Considerable*

A sheepfold was marked on recent O.S. maps. The area is now overgrown and impenetrable.

*Recommendation for further assessment: Clearance of vegetation.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Dependant on further assessment.*

**71. Circular feature SH41124918**

*Category: E Impact: Unlikely*

A circular feature was detected on the aerial photographs. This could not be seen on the ground. Much of this area is, however, very overgrown.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**72. Quarry SH41174925**

*Category: C Impact: Likely*

Small, (5m x 7m) steep-sided quarry cut into contorted shale. The beginnings of a portal for a level can be seen on the southern side. This was obviously abandoned at a very early stage.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid or basic recording*

**73. Field bank or track SH41174925-SH41234928**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

This substantial terrace was detected on the aerial photographs. The area is now very overgrown but this feature is best interpreted as a field boundary or track. It is also cut by a disused track running downhill close to its north-eastern end.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**74. Camfa'r Bwth: Buildings shown on tithe map (circa 1840) SH41274933**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

House: probably later 19<sup>th</sup> century.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**75. Line of earlier road SH41214937**

*Category: B Impact: Considerable.*

The field wall is very substantial here suggesting that the road described as feature 69 continued in this direction.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Detailed recording.*

**76. Linear feature SH41174950-SH41254944**

*Category: D Impact: Slight*

A slight dip could be seen running down the field. This could be either an earlier boundary or a result of drainage works.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: None*

**77. Linear terrace SH41264942-SH41284944**

*Category: B Impact: Considerable.*

A linear terrace could be seen to run along the top of a field next to the modern A499. This is probably a continuation of the earlier road (features 69 and 75). A hollow running in a northerly direction across the adjacent field could also be a continuation of this road.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Detailed recording.*

**78. Rectangular platform SH41274942**

*Category: D Impact: Likely*

A rectangular stone-faced platform adjacent to the road obviously predates the modern stone and corrugated iron shed now standing at this point. The platform has approximate dimensions of 2m x 4 or 5m and stands to a height of 0.6m.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Detailed recording and watching brief*

**79. Fynnon Beuno SH41334946**

*Category: A (SAM Cn 91 and Grade II Listed building) Impact: Possible*

Possibly 18<sup>th</sup> century surrounding walls and steps forming sides of a rectangular well.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**80. Rectangular structure SH41404965**

*Category: E Impact: Considerable*

Foundations of a small stone-built rectangular building with external dimensions of 4m x 3m.

*Recommendation for further assessment: Trial excavation.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Dependent on results of further assessment*

**81. Plas y Bryn SH41394974**

*Category: C Impact: Likely*

Substantial Victorian house

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**82. Eglwys Sant Beuno and churchyard SH41454970C**

*Category: A Impact: (a) to buildings: None (b) to churchyard: Likely*

15<sup>th</sup> century church of St. Beuno, 16<sup>th</sup> century chapel of St. Beuno and Lynchgate in the north-east corner of the churchyard. The churchyard itself extends to within a few metres of the proposed line of the road.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid or detailed recording if there is to be any impact on the churchyard. Total avoid is however recommended.*

**83. Clynnog Fawr Village SH41504970C**

*Category: A/E Impact: U*

Clynnog Fawr was an important medieval ecclesiastical centre. The present village contains the following listed buildings:

The Coach Inn; a coaching inn with early 17<sup>th</sup> century origins

Cwrt; Two storey house, circa 1700

Bodfasen; 17<sup>th</sup> century former inn

Doorway at Lleuar Fawr

Early buildings in the vicinity of the church may no longer be visible.

*Recommendation for further assessment: Geophysical survey and trial excavation along the line of the proposed road corridor.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid of all buildings. Other measures dependent on results of further assessment*

**84. Linear and circular feature SH41534987**

*Category: E Impact: Considerable*

A linear feature running to a circular feature was recorded on the aerial photographs. Nothing is at present visible on the ground.

*Recommendation for further assessment: Geophysical survey*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Dependant on results of further assessment*

**85. Cefngwreichion SH41825013**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

Probably early 19<sup>th</sup> century cottage and semi-derelict farm buildings.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**86. Mound SH41945029**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

Mound 4m in diameter in marshy ground. Possibly a burnt mound.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**87. Lime kiln SH41895072**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

Well preserved 19<sup>th</sup> century lime kiln.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**88. Possible banks SH42315091**

*Category: E Impact: Considerable.*

Vague shapes, possibly banks were detected in the north-western end of the field from aerial photographs. The relevant area of the field was noticed to be uneven but no definite features could be seen during the assessment.

*Recommendation for further assessment: Geophysical survey*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Dependant on results of further assessment.*

**89. Pen y Bryn Bach cottage SH42485110**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

Semi-derelict early 19<sup>th</sup> century cottage.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**90. Curvilinear bank SH42485118**

*Category: E Impact: Considerable*

Slight curvilinear bank forming a hollow or enclosure with dimensions of 10m x 6m. This could be interpreted as an early enclosure or a quarry scoop.

*Recommendation for further assessment: Geophysical survey.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Dependant on results of further assessment*

**91. Cairn SH42685107**

*Category: B Impact: None*

Cairn and cist burial

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**92. Cottage SH42565120**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

Later 19<sup>th</sup> century cottage

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid*

**93. 19<sup>th</sup> century house SH42555134**

*Category: C Impact: Unlikely*

19<sup>th</sup> century house.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Avoid.*

**94. Building SH42695130**

*Category: C Impact: Likely*

Unusual 19<sup>th</sup> century building, possibly agricultural. Semi-derelict.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Detailed recording.*

**Field boundaries**

*Category D*

The pattern and nature of field boundaries are an important part of the historic landscape. Their construction, linear plan and ecological diversity can provide valuable information about the landscape and its evolution.

*Recommendation for further assessment: None.*



*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Basic recording.*

#### **Areas of unknown archaeological potential**

##### *Category E*

Previous results from similar projects has shown that many sites exist which cannot be seen on the surface. The finding of archaeological sites late in the construction programme can often cause tremendous difficulties, and it is therefore appropriate to undertake an evaluation programme which will help identify sites at an early stage. The evaluation techniques suitable are geophysical survey and trial excavation, carried out on a strategic sampling basis. This should be backed up by a continuous watching brief during the early stages of construction.

*Recommendation for further assessment: Geophysical survey and trial excavation should be carried out for a percentage of the route on open areas of agricultural land which has potential for containing sites of archaeological interest..*

*Recommendation for mitigatory measures: Watching brief.*

## **5. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **5.1 Further assessment work**

This section summarises the work which is recommended to evaluate those archaeological remains whose status and extent are not yet established, *i.e.* sites in Category E. They will be reclassified and suitable mitigatory measures suggested following evaluation.

##### *Category E*

- 12. Overgrown mounds SH38244568, *Trial excavation.*
- 16. Possible enclosure SH38274605, *Geophysical survey and trial excavation.*
- 19. Possible cairn SH38294615, *Geophysical survey and trial excavation.*
- 20. Possible rectangular structure SH38254621, *Geophysical survey, trial excavation.*
- 80. Rectangular structure SH41404965, *Trial excavation*
- 38. Low banks etc. SH39384734C, *None.*
- 42. Circular feature SH39324761, *Geophysical survey*
- 70. Overgrown sheepfold SH41184934, *Clearance of vegetation.*
- 71. Circular feature SH41124918, *None*
- 83. Clynnog Fawr Village SH41504970C, *Geophysical survey and trial excavation in the fields between the village and the line of the proposed road corridor.*
- 84. Linear and circular feature SH41534987, *Geophysical survey and trial excavation*
- 88. Possible banks SH42315091, *Geophysical survey and trial excavation.*
- 90. Curvilinear bank SH42485118, *Geophysical survey and trial excavation.*

**Areas of unknown archaeological potential** *Geophysical survey and trial excavation*

### **5.2. Mitigatory measures**

This section lists the remaining sites according to category. The categorisation attempts to quantify the importance of the archaeological resource, as suggested in the *Design Manual for Roads and Bridges* Volume 11, Section 3, Part 2.

##### *Category A*

- 24. Cefn Buarddau old farm SH38504687, *Avoid.*
- 56. Capel Seion SH39954833, *Avoid*
- 63. Bridge SH40454864, *Avoid*
- 79. Fynnon Beuno SH41334946, *Avoid*
- 82. Eglwys Sant Beuno and churchyard SH41454970C, *Avoid or detailed recording if there is to be any impact on the churchyard. Total avoidance is however recommended.*
- 83. Clynnog Fawr Village SH41504970C, *Category: A\E (Recommendation for further assessment: Geophysical survey in fields between the village and the line of the proposed road corridor. Possible trial trenching, depending on results of geophysical survey).*

*Avoid all buildings. Other measures dependent on results of further assessment*

*Category B*

- 7. Bryn Fynnon SH38414535, *Avoid*.
- 48. Stone footbridge SH39474762, *Avoid or detailed recording*.
- 57. Gwelfor SH39974835, *Avoid*
- 62. Sportsman's row SH40384858, *Avoid*
- 68. Cae'r Pwsan: buildings shown on tithe map (circa 1840) SH40974923, *Avoid*
- 69. Line of earlier road SH40974917-SH411744933, *Detailed recording*.
- 75. Line of earlier road SH41214937, *Detailed recording*.
- 77. Linear terrace SH41264942-SH41284944, *Detailed recording*.
- 91. Cairn SH42685107, *Avoid*

*Category C*

- 2. Tan y Allt cottage SH38594507, *Avoid*.
- 5. Clearance cairn SH38644519, *Avoid or basic recording and watching brief*.
- 8. Terraced houses SH38394538, *Avoid*
- 10. Milestone SH383545468, *Removal and reinstatement in appropriate position if to be affected by works*.
- 11. Converted cottage SH38354569, *Basic recording*.
- 13. Banks SH38364587, *Avoid or detailed recording*.
- 14 and 15. Penlon farmhouse and outbuildings SH38264590 & SH38254597, *Avoid*.
- 17. Earlier line of road SH38174612, *Avoid or basic recording*.
- 18. Graig house and outbuildings SH38354610, *Avoid*.
- 22. Tai Newyddion SH38474644, *Avoid*
- 25. Cefn Buarddau new farm. SH38534686, *Avoid*
- 27. Brynteg cottage SH38634685, *Avoid*
- 28. Tramway SH38564692-SH38704684, *Detailed recording*
- 29. Tunnel SH38644687, *Detailed recording*.
- 30. Terrace SH38704690C, *Avoid*
- 31. Granite wall SH38754698C, *Basic recording and sympathetic reinstatement of walls where appropriate*.
- 34. Route of old road SH38894714-SH38964734, *Basic recording, watching brief*.
- 36. Cairn SH39234734, *Avoid or detailed recording*.
- 37. Orthostat SH39374738, *None*
- 40. Ridge and furrow SH39384752C, *Avoid or watching brief*.
- 43. Quarry offices SH39404756, *Avoid or detailed recording*.
- 44. Hut SH39474757, *Avoid*
- 45. Tramway SH39424759-SH39684733, *Detailed recording*.
- 46. Tunnel SH39424760, *Detailed recording*.
- 58. Farm and outbuildings SH40014842, *Avoid*
- 59. Cottage SH40184849, *Avoid*
- 61. Victorian House SH40274852, *Avoid*
- 64. Bryn Awel SH40594872, *Avoid*
- 65. Ty Lon: buildings on tithe map SH40604879, *Avoid*
- 66. Quarry SH40824903, *Basic recording*.
- 67. Plas Cae'r Pwsan SH40934915, *Avoid*
- 72. Quarry SH41174925, *Avoid or basic recording*
- 73. Field bank or track SH41174925-SH41234928, *Avoid*
- 74. Camfa'r Bwth: Buildings shown on tithe map (circa 1840) SH41274933, *Avoid*
- 81. Plas y Bryn SH41394974, *Avoid*
- 85. Cefngwreichion SH41825013, *Avoid*
- 86. Mound SH41945029, *Avoid*
- 87. Lime kiln SH41895072, *Avoid*.
- 89. Pen y Bryn Bach cottage SH42485110, *Avoid*
- 92. Cottage SH42565120, *Avoid*
- 93. 19<sup>th</sup> century house SH42555134, *Avoid*.
- 94. Building SH42695130, *Detailed recording*.

*Category D*

1. Extension to churchyard SH38694495, *Avoid.*
3. Three modern houses SH38634510, *Avoid.*
4. Site of rectangular building SH38674511, *Watching brief.*
6. Site of building shown on tithe map SH38534522, *Watching Brief.*
9. Pond SH38324558, *None*
21. Circular stony area in field SH38284625, *Watching brief*
23. Possible ridge and furrow SH38364657, *Watching brief*
26. House SH38634684, *Avoid*
32. Track SH38834693C, *None*
33. Old field boundary SH38754696-SH38804690, *None*
35. Building SH39024723, *None*
39. Discontinuity in field boundary SH39334750, *None*
41. Tram rails reused in fence SH39324758, *Basic recording.*
47. Stone culvert SH39444762, *Basic recording*
49. Modern bungalow SH39364763, *None*
50. Old field boundary SH39464777-SH39514773, *None*
51. Clearance cairn SH39574776, *Avoid*
52. Linear hollow SH39544790-SH39604793, *None*
53. Discontinuity in field boundary SH39634799, *Basic recording.*
54. Line of road SH39594797-SH39914832, *Watching brief*
55. Linear and curvilinear features SH39634810, *None*
60. Terrace SH40224850, *Avoid.*
76. Linear feature SH41174950-SH41254944, *None*
78. Rectangular platform SH41274942, *Detailed recording and watching brief*

A continuous watching brief should be maintained along the whole route during relevant stages of the work.

## 6. NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

An initial archaeological assessment was carried out along the line of the proposed road, consisting of a desktop study and field walkover. The assessment was carried out in accordance with the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges Volume 11, Section 3, Part 2, Cultural Heritage, June 1993 (incorporating amendment number 1, August 1994).

The desktop study included examination of those records which make up the Gwynedd Sites and Monuments Record, held at Gwynedd Archaeological Trust. In addition, maps and archives were examined at the County Archives at Caernarfon, in the archives of the University of Wales, Bangor. Aerial photographs held by Gwynedd Council were examined.

The field walk involved one person walking the entire route of the proposed new alignment, when sites discovered from the desktop study were examined and the location of additional sites noted, and a written description made of each. All of the sites were allocated to one of five categories (ranging from A to E) and mitigation proposals were made for each.

A total of 94 sites were recorded, some of which lie just off the proposed route, but which were included because of their importance or because they lie immediately against the proposed road corridor. Sites identified within or close to the route corridor range from early prehistory to the Modern and Industrial period.

6 sites were allocated to Category A (*i.e.* national importance).

9 sites were allocated to Category B (regional importance).

43 sites were allocated to Category C (local importance).

24 sites were allocated to Category D (minor or damaged sites).

13 sites were allocated to Category E (sites needing further investigation).

The category E sites will be reclassified after further assessment. Geophysical survey allows rapid non-invasive assessment of larger features and areas of interest. The fields close to Clynog Fawr village which fall within the road corridor should be surveyed in this way in order to ascertain if there are any features associated with the medieval activity in the area. Seven smaller sites (16, 19, 20, 42, 84, 88 and 90) are also suitable for geophysical evaluation. Trial excavation is also recommended for these sites, although the quantity and location would be decided by the results of the geophysical survey. Sites 12 and 70 appear to be minor sites and require assessment by trial trenching and clearance of vegetation. Two category E sites fall outside of the band of interest and will not be further assessed unless it appears that they will be affected by the road improvements. A programme of evaluation work consisting of geophysical survey and trial excavation should be carried out on open areas of unknown archaeological potential.

Five of the six category A sites fall within the road corridor; all but one are standing buildings and should be preserved *in situ*. Clynog Fawr village has been treated as one site because all of the buildings that fall within the band of interest could be assigned to category A or B and should therefore be avoided. The churchyard of Eglwys St Beuno is very close to the line of the road. It is strongly recommended that the development does not impinge on this. Detailed survey and excavation will be required if disturbance cannot be avoided.

Four of the nine category B sites are standing buildings which should be preserved *in situ*. A further two sites are on the edge of the band of interest and can probably be avoided. The remains of a road (sites 69, 75 and 77) which appears to have fallen out of use by the 1840s and which may provide evidence about the earlier development of Clynog falls on the line of the road. Detailed recording and limited excavation will be required here in order to record both the line and the character of the road.

The most significant category C sites are associated with the late 19<sup>th</sup> century quarries in the mountains to the south-east. The office building (43) stands adjacent to the current road and requires detailed recording if it is to be affected. Two disused tramways (28 and 46) cross the line of the proposed road; the relevant sections of these should be surveyed in detail. Two stone-built tunnels carried the tramway beneath the road and these should also be recorded in detail.

The derelict 19<sup>th</sup> century building (94) close to the crossroads at Aberdesach should be planned and recorded photographically if it is to be affected.

A little more than half of the category C sites are occupied standing buildings which, although they fall within the band of interest, are unlikely to be affected.

Seven other sites including two small quarries require basic recording.

The majority of the minor sites (category D) which fall within the road corridor require only basic recording and a watching brief when the topsoil is disturbed.

Basic recording of all field boundaries is recommended.

There remains the possibility of further discoveries once ground-disturbance commences. It is therefore recommended that a watching brief be maintained during the ground disturbance and that provision be made for the adequate recording of any sites which are identified at this late stage in the development.



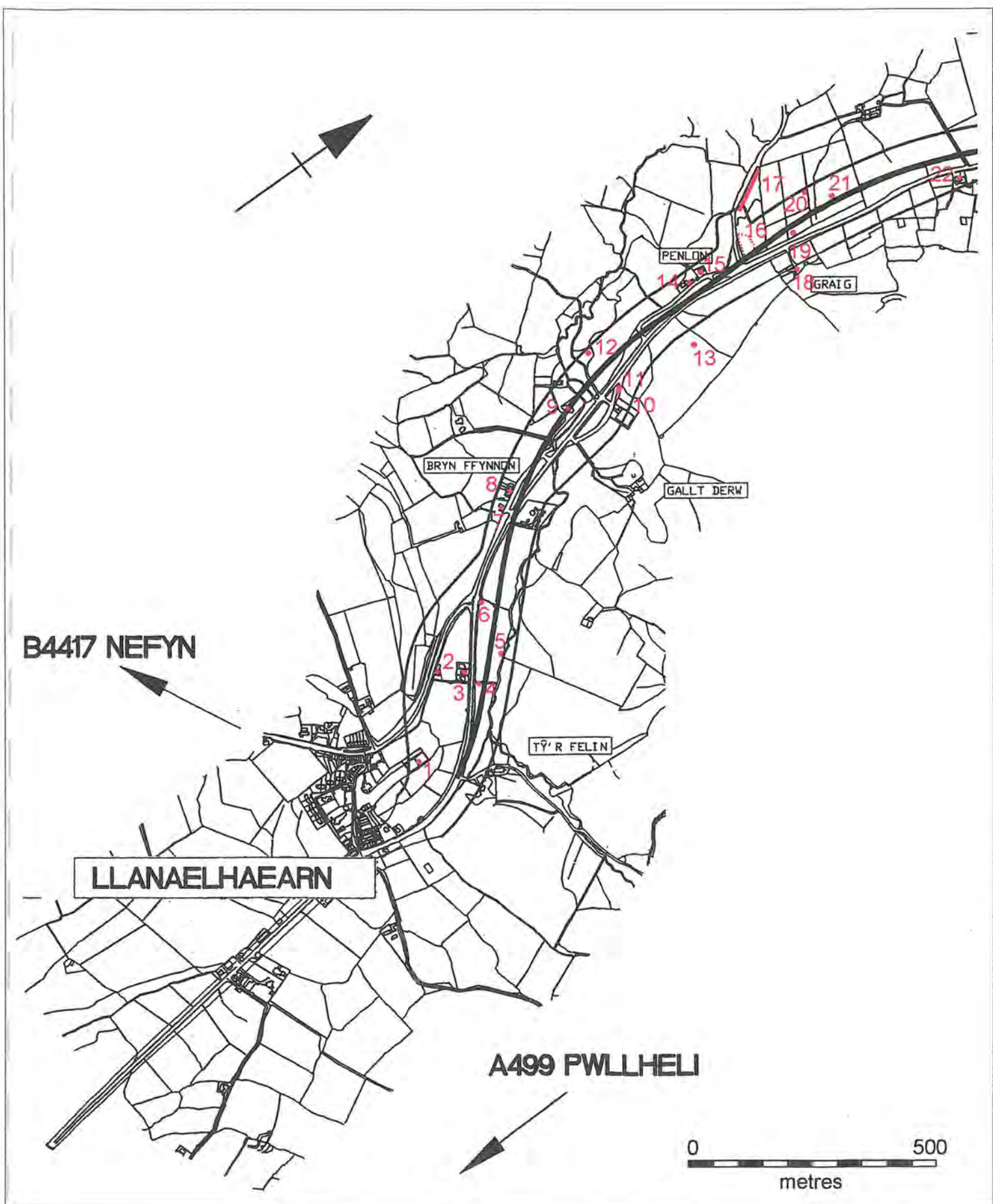
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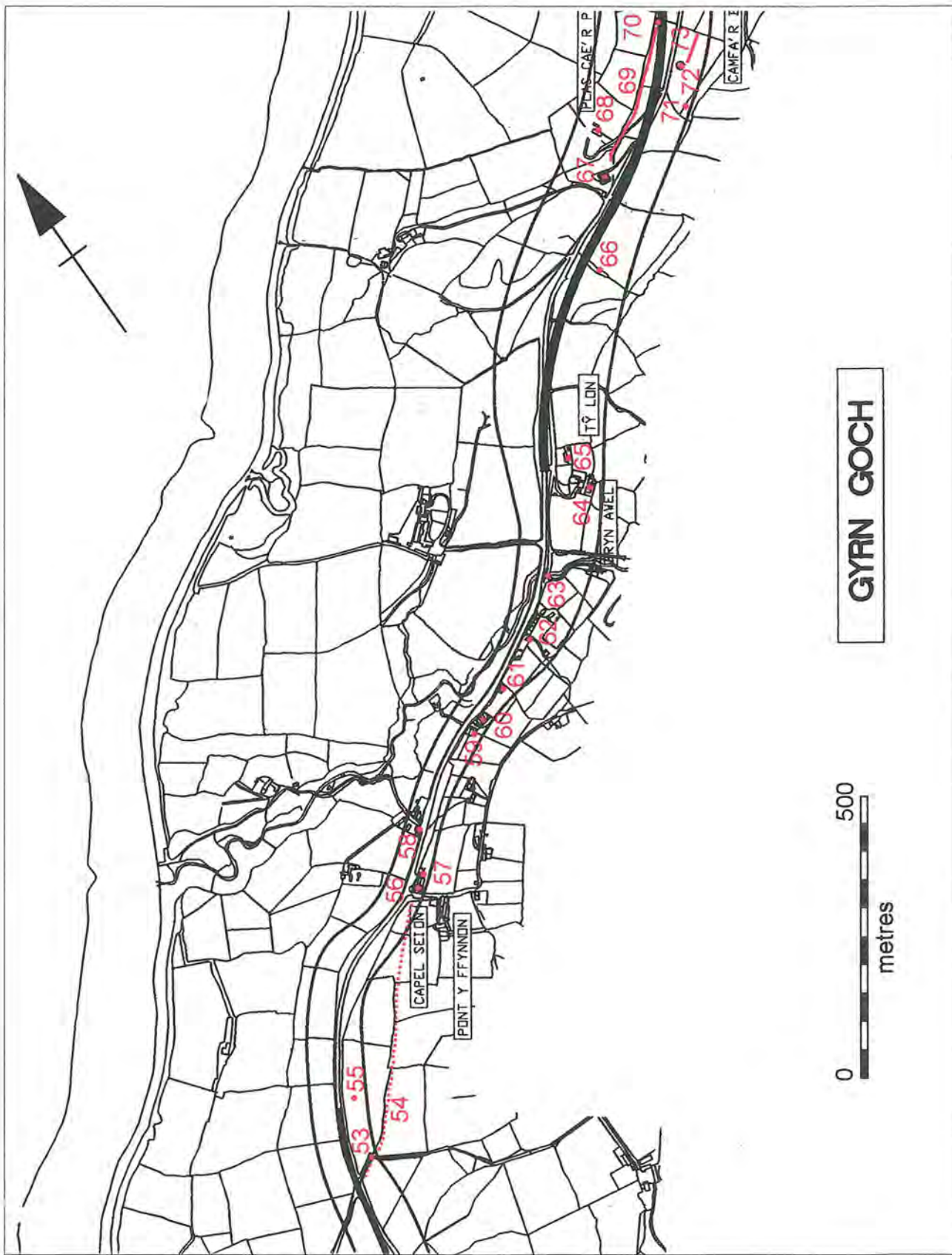
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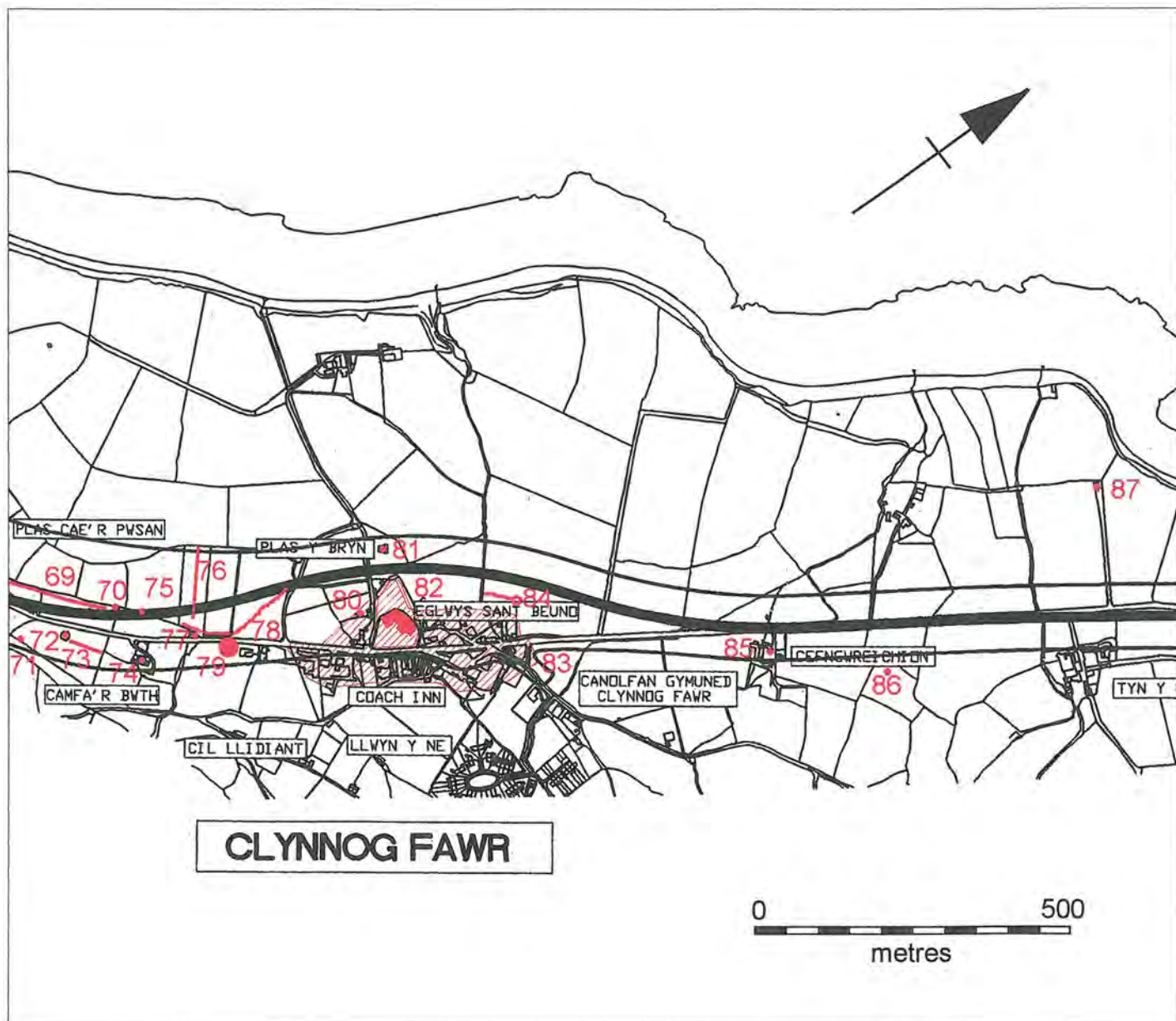


Map 2



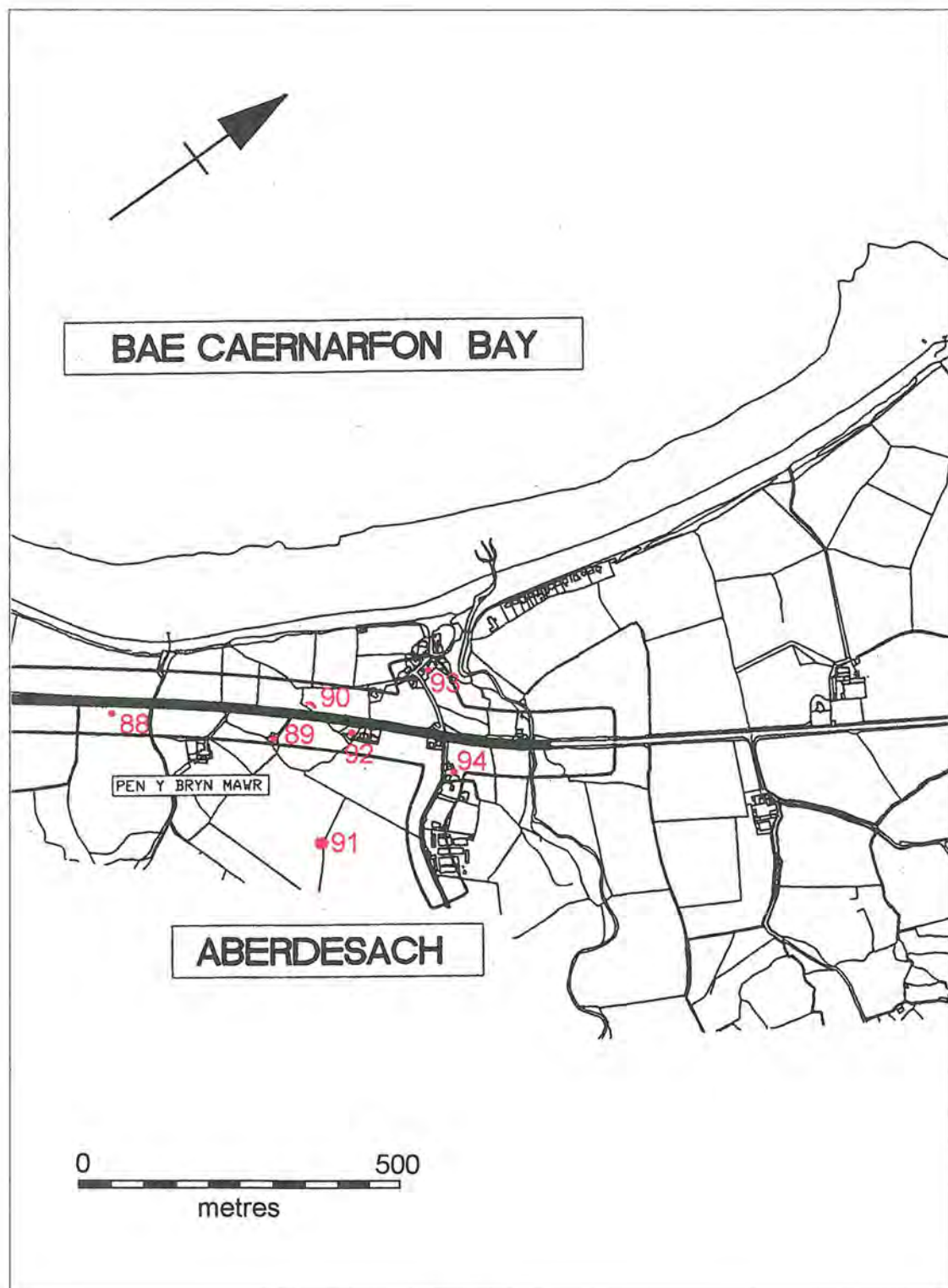


Map 3



Map 4





Map 5

