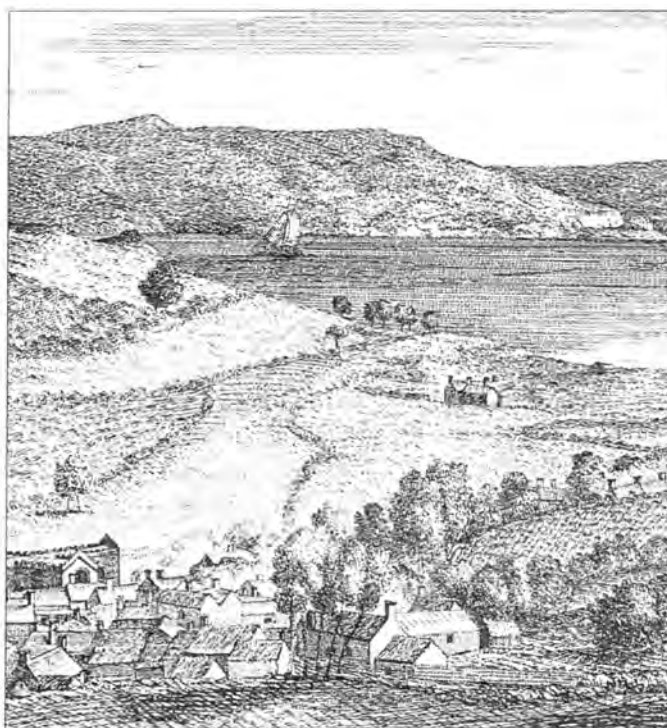

Crosville Bus Station, Beach Road, Bangor



GAT Project No. 1845
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June 2004

Crosville Bus Station, Beach Road, Bangor

Archaeological Assessment (G1845)

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Crosville Bus Station, Beach Road, Bangor

Archaeological Assessment (G1845)

Summary

This assessment considers the significance of, and impact upon, the archaeology within an area proposed for development at the site of the Crosville Bus Station, Beach Road, Bangor.

The site occupies a low-lying, level piece of ground, close to the shoreline at Beach Road, where the Afon Adda, now culverted, enters the sea.

Within the last four centuries this area had seen little development. During the early nineteenth century both banks of the stream could be mapped as meadow land even though commercial, local industrial and residential developments were spreading across Hirael to the south-east and Garth Point immediately to the north-west. The principal reason for the lack of development is that the land on which the area under review stands, once formed part of the extensive 'Friars' Estate', in the hands of the Trustees of Bangor Grammar School.

In 1898 this land was sold and, during the first half of the twentieth century, a programme of primarily residential construction ensued. The bus depot which now occupies the proposed development area was first developed as a commercial depot around 1930.

However, during the period from around 1250 to 1538 the Dominican Black Friars of Bangor were an important presence in the town. There is strong evidence to suggest that their first friary, including a church, cloister, burial ground and ancillary buildings lay within a precinct, near the shoreline at the mouth of the Adda. There is further evidence to suggest that, following a fire towards the end of the thirteenth century, the church was rebuilt. This rebuilding may have provided the opportunity for relocating the friary closer to the town, leaving the former site to be remembered by later generations as Plas yr Hendy.

Archaeological recording by Harold Hughes in 1899 and 1900 produced very important information on the presence of substantial foundations and ornately decorated sepulchral slabs of the thirteenth century in the immediate vicinity.

This report considers the evidence for a friary, its significance and location and makes recommendations in respect of the potential impact of the development proposal on the archaeological remains.

Introduction

It is proposed that a development should take place in respect of an area of approximately 6,500 square metres on the site known as the Crosville Bus Station, Beach Road, to include 29 dwellings with parking space.

An archaeological assessment has been requested to assess the level of impact of the proposals upon any archaeological remains that may exist upon the site. Gwynedd Archaeological Trust has been asked by have been asked by Watkin Jones & Sons Ltd to undertake the archaeological assessment. A detailed brief has been prepared for this work, by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (D866, and this is included as an appendix to the report). The assessment has been conducted to a level specified in Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1994, rev. 1999).

Assessment brief

The requirement is for a desk-top survey and field search in order to assess the impact of the proposals on the archaeological and heritage features within the proposed development area and close enough to it to be affected.

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust's proposals for fulfilling these requirements are as follows:

- 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); and

c) to recommend ways in which damage to the cultural heritage can be avoided or minimised.

It is possible that certain features will be not be capable of being assessed by a desktop and field visit, and that subsequent field evaluation may be necessary in the form of trial excavation or geophysical survey. This report will contain recommendations for any field evaluation required.

Methods and Techniques

Desk-top Study

The desk-based assessment has involved a study of the SMR information for the study area. This has included an examination of the core SMR, and secondary information held within the record which includes unpublished reports, the 1:2500 County Series Ordnance Survey maps, and the National Archaeological Record index cards. Secondary sources were examined, including the Inventory of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments, and works relating to the City of Bangor. Relevant journals, including *Archaeologia Cambrensis* and *The Dominican* were studied. Listed Buildings Records and Scheduled Ancient Monument Records were checked. Calendars of administrative documents and relevant correspondence were searched. Primary records (including tithe maps and schedules, estate maps, leases and rentals) were examined at University of Wales Bangor, the County Archives in Caernarfon and the National Archive in the Public Record Office, Kew. This assessment took into account the findings of a previous assessment and evaluation undertaken in 1992 (GAT Report 37).

I am grateful to the staff of the County and University Archives at Caernarfon and Bangor for access to relevant documents.

Field Search

This was undertaken on 18 June, 2004, when the site was walked, and the interior of the garage searched.

Report

All available information was collated. The site was then assessed against the categories listed below. These are intended to give an idea of the importance of the site and the level of response likely to be required, for ease of reference. A description of the site and specific recommendations for further evaluation or mitigatory measures, as appropriate, are given in the relevant sections of this report.

In some cases, further investigation may result in a site or 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 Annex 3 to Welsh Office Circular 60/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology.

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 fulfill 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.

Impact

The following terms define the levels of direct impact used within this report upon the archaeological resource, and upon each of the archaeological sites:

None: There will be no impact upon the feature.

Negligible: This is used where the impact is marginal, and would not by the nature of the site cause irreversible damage to the remainder of the feature, for example a linear feature such as a wall, or a large silt deposit which is only being marginally disturbed.

Moderate: This is used when impact would affect less than half the feature concerned, and the remainder would retain its intrinsic archaeological value.

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

Existing statutory protection

The site subject to the current development proposal does not fall within a Conservation Area.

Scheduled Ancient Monuments and

There are no scheduled Ancient Monuments within or immediately adjacent to the area of development.

Listed Buildings

There are listed buildings within the vicinity of the development area as follows.

No.80 Ambrose Street / Beach Road

(On the corner of Beach Road and Ambrose Street, facing the foreshore). Reference 42/A1(6) rec. no.3943. NGR 258700 372600

Grade 2

Shown on John Wood's 1834 map. Late Georgian 2-storey structure with 3-window rubble elevations, symmetrical to main front. Slate roof and brick chimney stacks. A slate plaque states that John Richards, composer, lived in this house (1834-1901).

Former Garth Primary School, Garth Road (British School).
Reference 42/A/46 rec. no.3988. NGR 258408 372898

Grade 2

Near the north end of the street, facing along Beach Road. Low railed forecourt. Built in 1848 as the British School (that is, Methodist, as opposed to Anglican 'National Schools'). Became a Board School in 1871 and was closed c. 1946. Now in use by sports clubs. Symmetrical single storey rubble front in Tudor style with Penmon dressings; slate roof and cement rendered chimney stacks. Included as a rare survival of a mid C 19 British School, in a town location and not significantly altered.

Nos.1-20 Seiriol Road

Reference for no. 1 (group value with 2 to 20): 42/A/161(6) rec. no.4102 NGR 258500 372700

Grade 2

Planned terrace between Beach Road and Totton Road. Small railed forecourts. Single storey and attic terrace with a symmetrical gables to the reflected pairs. Pebbledash elevations, local slate roofs and pebbledash chimney stacks.

These houses were the work of the Bangor branch of The Christian Order in Politics Economics and Citizenship (COPEC) who campaigned for a nation-wide improvement in housing conditions. Following a regional conference and survey in 1926 and 1927 the Seiriol Road site was acquired. The houses became a model for social housing. Designed by the well known local architect Herbert L North (and otherwise colleague of Harold Hughes) and built by Richard Owen in 1927.

SMR search

There is one archaeological site on the Regional Sites and Monuments record which extends into the area of the development proposal.

PRN 2300 The site of the early Dominican Friary at Bangor.

The NGR is given as 258610 372740 whereas the central area of Harold Hughes' discoveries which generated this record should more accurately be given as 258570 372779, some 55m to the west.

This is an important monument and the nature of the site, its location and its significance will be discussed at length in the body of this report.

Historical context

The only significant archaeological remains on the site of the proposed development are those believed to be associated with the first house of Dominican Friars at Bangor.

The Friars

The monastic movement originated in the eastern Mediterranean during the late third and fourth centuries AD. By the sixth century monastic communities are documented in western Britain and Ireland, the primary influences emanating from southern and western France. Monasticism was introduced into Pagan Anglo-Saxon southern England at the turn of the sixth to seventh centuries by direct contact with papal emissaries from Rome. Northern England was strongly influenced by contact with the Iona community which itself was an Irish plantation. During the course of the early middle ages monasticism spread widely throughout Britain in various manifestations and in varying degrees of adherence to the movement's guiding principles.

The principal characteristics of monasticism are: a removal from the life of the secular world; a communal life within a community of monks (although somewhat paradoxically, the early impetus behind monasticism could place equal emphasis on the solitary, eremitic, life) and adherence to a 'rule' which governed this life. Originally the rule would be set by an abbot, the leader of the community, but increasingly and almost universally, the rule formulated by the sixth-century Italian monk Benedict of Nursia, came to be adopted. Adherents to this rule are, therefore, Benedictine monks (Ferguson, 1990 *passim*).

It is important, in the context of the present assessment, that the distinction between monks and friars, should be clear as this distinction has implications for the interpretation of the archaeological evidence.

During the twelfth and thirteenth centuries religious reform swept across western Europe. In England, following the Conquest, Norman rulers introduced reforms which influenced religious houses in Wales. Certain tenurial and procedural practices within religious communities were considered to be in decay and inappropriate. Furthermore, influential Continental monasteries such as Cluny and Cîteaux, both Burgundian houses, attracted considerable patronage and developed a formidable organisational infrastructure. During the twelfth and thirteenth centuries several daughter-houses of these monasteries were established. Over 100 monasteries associated with Cluny and Cîteaux alone had been founded in England and Wales by the second decade of the thirteenth century. Twelve Cistercian abbeys were established in Wales during this period. (Knowles and Hadcock, 1971, *passim*)

At a time when the expansion and monumental building programme of the great monastic orders was reaching its zenith, the orders of friars began to make an appearance. Chief among them were the Franciscans (the Friars Minor or Grey Friars) and the Dominicans (Friars Preachers or Black Friars), each named after their founder, St. Francis and St. Dominic respectively. Friars were mendicants, that is they relied on charity. They had taken a vow of poverty and possessed no personal wealth. They were preachers, apostolic in their cause, which was, in the case of the Dominicans, the conversion of heretics. St. Francis' mission was a spiritual sharing of his mystical vision. They also recognised the value of philosophical enquiry and their influence on learning was considerable, producing some of the greatest thinkers of the age. For these reasons they established themselves in towns, or on the edge of town, almost invariably major centres of commerce, learning or ecclesiastical administration – regional capitals and cathedral cities. There they found an audience for their preaching and a source of funding through gifts and benefactions. In each of these respects, the mendicant friars stand in marked contrast to, for example, the communities of Cistercian monasteries.

The first friars arrived in England in the 1220s. Within a decade there were friaries in towns on the Welsh border at Hereford (1228), Bristol (1230), Gloucester (1230), Shrewsbury (1232) and Chester (1236). The earliest Welsh friary was established at Llanfaes, in about 1238 where Joan, wife of Llywelyn ap Iorwerth, 'was buried in a consecrated enclosure on the shore-bank' and where, after, 'Bishop Hywel consecrated a monastery for the Barefooted Friars (the Franciscans) to the honour of the Blessed Mary. And the Prince built it all at his cost for the soul of his Lady' (Brut y Tywysogion, Peniarth MS.20 s.a. 1237).

In all there were ten convents of friars throughout Wales between 1221 and 1538. There were three Franciscan houses (Llanfaes, Carmarthen and Cardiff), five Dominican houses (Rhuddlan, Bangor, Brecon, Haverfordwest and a second convent in Cardiff), a Carmelite house in Denbigh and an Augustinian house in

Newport. All suffered the fate of the surviving monasteries between 1536 and 1538 when religious houses were suppressed, their movable goods removed and their fabric pillaged for building materials, or else leased out to private individuals for their own use.

Friary Buildings

During the thirteenth century, when groups of friars arrived in a particular town, their premises were no more ostentatious than might be provided for by the gift of one or two properties and a garden, by one or more benefactors. Often the nature of the premises constrained the layout of their buildings and the friars made do with small chapels and oratories (D. Knowles and R. N. Hadcock, 1971, 34). By the end of the century, however, they began to build larger churches. Friary burial grounds became popular places of burial, and donations, in respect of burial, enhanced funds. Rich patrons, wishing to be buried in the new Friary churches, found the money for the foundation of chantries (Knowles and Hadcock, 1971, 34).

Demolition or reuse at, or soon after, the Suppression has resulted in a significant loss of information in respect of the layout of Friary complexes. Nevertheless, there are indications from Cardiff, Carmarthen and Llanfaes that a structured plan might be expected, especially in contexts where a density of existing buildings is not a constraint on layout. This is the case at Llanfaes where, at a site close to the shoreline, on the periphery of the town, a quite extensive precinct of around three hectares has been suggested (D. Longley, Archaeological Assessment at Llanfaes, 1991, GAT report 29 see also John Speed, map, 1610). The average friary precinct might be expected to extend over 2 -2.5 ha., particularly in areas already built up by the thirteenth century. Guildford friary (see below), for want of space, lay outside the town ditch but, for that same reason, was able to acquire and enclose a precinct of around 4ha on the bank of the river Wey (Poulton and Woods, 1984, 39). Similarly, there is room for manoeuvre at the postulated friary site at Beach Road, a very similar situation to Llanfaes.

Religious houses, notwithstanding eccentricities and the constraints of space and water supply (for drinking, sanitation, waste disposal and cooking) very frequently adopted a traditional and recognisable plan in the arrangement of buildings. This is true of friaries as it is of monasteries (R. Fawcett, *Scottish Abbeys and Pories*, 1994). The principal buildings, which formed the nucleus of the complex, were the church (comprising a nave for the congregation and an extended choir and chancel for the friars). Attached to the nave of the church would be a cloister, an open space flanked by covered walkways. Very often, but not invariably, the cloister and domestic buildings would be placed on the south side of the church to catch the light. A sacristy, for religious vessels and books and as a vestry, would also be attached to, and accessible from, the church, and a chapter house might be provided for meetings of the religious community. Both the sacristy and the chapter house were often incorporated into the east range of the cloisters. Other buildings or rooms for cooking, eating and sleeping would also be included in the group as might any structures associated with the maintenance and support of the Friary. At Bangor, for example, an inventory of items on the premises at the time of its surrender to the Crown in 1538, mentions, in addition to the choir of the church, the prior's chamber, a kitchen and a buttery. At Llanfaes, a vestry (that is, the sacristy), a brewhouse, kitchen, hall and storehouse. There was also corn on the ground and sheep.

The core of the Friary is likely to have been enclosed by a wall and to have had an entrance or gatehouse. Such enclosures or precincts are shown on John Speed's maps of Carmarthen and Llanfaes and Norden's map of Guildford (John Speed, *Theatrum Imperii Magnae Britanniae*, Carmarthen and Anglesey; reproduced in N. Nicolson and A. Hawkyard, *The Counties of Britain*, a Tudor Atlas, p.236 and 219; Norden reproduced in Poulton and Woods, 1984, 6). Excavations at Llanfaes in 1991 identified what might be a surviving length of the wall of that friary, 1.2m wide (Longley, Archaeological Assessment at Llanfaes, GAT report 29).

The Dominican Friary, Bangor

The precise date of the foundation of Bangor Friary is unknown. However, it is likely to have been established close to 1251. There were, however, Dominicans in Gwynedd before that date as two Dominicans, Anian and Adam, are recorded as witnesses to a grant of land to Penmon Priory (Augustinian Canons), in 1237 (R.C. Easterling, *Arch Camb* 1914, 323-356). In 1251 Henry III commanded Alan la Zuch's justice of Chester, to allow the Friars Preachers and their men to cross freely and without impediment, the water of Gannoc (that is, the Conwy ferry crossing at Deganwy) and otherwise carry victuals and all things necessary for the friars' work within his area of jurisdiction (Cal. Close Rolls Hen. 35. III, s.a. 1251). This mandate sounds very much as though it relates to the period of establishing the new friary at Bangor.

Friars, in general, were showing themselves to be useful participants in the process of royal and ecclesiastical administration. The Black Friars of Bangor and the Grey Friars of Llanfaes are recorded several times in royal documents of the later thirteenth century. However, during the wars of 1276-7 and 1282-3, the allegiance of the Dominicans is uncertain. They received letters of protection and safe conduct from Edward I in 1277 (Cal. Patent Rolls Ed I s.a. 1277, July 20, 21).

Sometime before 1295 the friary burnt down. Whether by accident or act of war during the conflict of 1282-3, and by what side, is uncertain. It is known, however, that the friars of Bangor received £100 compensation for damage done to them during the war and that in 1293 Edward I required the Justice of Snowdon to provide the Friars Preachers of Bangor with thirty oaks from the Forest of Snowdon to rebuild their church 'lately burnt' at the king's gift. He also gave permission for all others who wished to give timber from their own woods for work on the church to do so, and to allow the friars to receive and carry such timber to Bangor without impediment (Cal. Close Rolls, Ed. I, s.a. 1293, March 4).

In 1300 Bishop Anian of Bangor granted one acre of land, and its appurtenances, lying in Bangor and out of the demesne land of the Bishop, to the Black Friars (Chancery Inquisitions 'ad quod damnum' 28 Ed I, C143/31/1; reproduced and translated in H. Barber and H. Lewis, *History of Friars' School*, 1901, 104-6). There were other patrons and benefactors too, notably Tudur ap Gronw of the Penymynydd line, who died and was buried in the Friary in 1311.

In 1538 the Friary was suppressed and its property surrendered to the Crown along with something like one thousand other religious houses, great and small. At the time of its surrender there would appear to have been only two friars in residence. Religious communities had been decimated during the plagues of the fourteenth century and never fully recovered. Nevertheless, while Bangor had probably been a relatively small community, two friars represent an unrealistically low population. Religious communities had seen the writing on the wall and many friars had already jumped ship, fleeing to Scotland, Ireland or the continent in advance of the expected visitation, leaving only a small number of their community in residence to sign over their premises (Knowles and Hadcock, 1971, 212). For example, larger convents like Bristol, with an average complement of thirty, only recorded five friars in 1538. Rhuddlan with 23 friars in its heyday, accounted for three friars at the Suppression.

A record survives of those items left in the Friary at the time of its surrender to the Lord Visitor and makes incidental mention of certain of its rooms and buildings. The full list is detailed in Appendix 1. It is of interest that in describing the contents of the choir, reference is made to a steeple on the church, which held two bells.

Excluded from the inventory but recorded in a letter from the Lord Visitor, Richard, Bishop of Dover to Thomas Cromwell, is a mention of two relics at Bangor. One is described as 'the holiest relic in all North Wales ... There may no man kiss that but he must kneel so soon as he see it, though it were in the foulest place in all the country, and he must kiss every stone, for each is great pardon. After that he hath kissed it, he must pay a measure of corn or a cheese or a groat or 4d for it. It was worth to the friars of Bangor, with another image which I also have, 20 marks a year in corn, cheese, cattle and money (Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic, Henry VIII, 12 (1538) Aug; reprinted in H. Barber and H. Lewis, note J, 120).

Immediately after the Suppression, the former lands of the Black Friars were leased to private individuals. In 1538 Edward Griffith of Penrhyn, who wished to have the property, described the Friary as 'the old building with little glass and no lead and only 2 little orchards (R. C. Easterling, *The Friars in Wales*, Arch Camb 1914, 323-56; Cal. Let. and Pap. Hen. VIII, 13 pt1, 1289). Edward Griffith got the lease and a survey of the lands, undertaken in the same year, identifies the component parts. They comprise:

The late house of the Black Friars at Bangor with a little parcel of land called 'the Court'.

The demesne land, including one little parcel called 'Friar David's (or perhaps, Blackfriars') Garden' annexed to the aforesaid site. One parcel called 'the Orchard'. One meadow called 'the Friars' Meadow' with a little parcel of land annexed to the same meadow called 'the Heady Place' (= ?Plas Hendy, see below). One close of arable on the east side of the King's Highway and on the south side of the aforesaid house.

There were also properties rented out within the town of Bangor, including one house with a little close appertaining called 'Broxllin' (that is, Brochlllyn), lying within the town and one little parcel called a 'Garden-Place' also lying within the town.

By 1553 the lease had passed to Roland Griffith and on his death, in that year, was sold to Thomas Browne and William Breton, two gentlemen of London. The lands described are clearly those of the 1538 survey. The property was soon to be resold to Dr. Geoffrey Glyn, a London lawyer with strong North Welsh connections. He died in 1557, leaving the old Friary lands to his brother Bishop William Glyn and Maurice Griffith, Bishop of Rochester as trustees for the foundation of a grammar school on that site. These lands, later in the hands of the Dean and Chapter of Bangor, Trustees for Bangor Free Grammar School, are mapped on the tithe apportionment survey of 1840 and correspond exactly to the extent of the Friar's Estate put up for sale in lots in 1898. It may be assumed, therefore, that the Friars Estate of the nineteenth century retains the essential extent and shape of those lands surrendered in 1538.

The Location of the Friary

There is reason to believe that during the course of around 290 years of the Friary's existence the core buildings were relocated from a site close to the shoreline at the eastern end of the Friary lands to a site closer to the town of Bangor at the western end of the Friary lands.

The evidence for the continued use of the western site and partial use of the buildings of the 1538 Friary are rehearsed in Roberts, 1957, 19-22. The location is that mapped by Speed in 1610 as the 'Free Scholle' and described by Fenton (in 1810) as at a little distance from the second Friars' School, built in 1789 and mapped on the OS 1:2500 map (1880) and on the tithe apportionment map. The latest manifestation of the Friary and the earliest Friars' School, therefore, lies between the 1789 school and the river Adda. A number of funerary memorial stones of fourteenth- and fifteenth-century date are associated with the 1789 school site.

In 1898 the Friars' Estate was put up for sale in a series of over two hundred development lots. Each lot, with the exception of a small number of 1 and 2 acre plots, was intended for private house construction. To this end, roads and back lanes were laid out and trenches dug for the provision of sewers in the area of Orme Road and Seiriol Road. Harold Hughes investigated the exposures, identified the substantial foundation of walls and several graves, including decorated sculptured sepulchral slabs (H Hughes and P Shearson Gregory, *Discoveries made on the Friars' Estate, Bangor*, Arch. Camb. 1900, 24-197). The development syndicate would not permit systematic excavation and all recording had to be made on the basis of chance discovery. Nevertheless, significant information was recovered which may be summarised as follows.

Foundations of a structure or structures were identified towards the Beach Road end of Seiriol road and in the back lanes to the north-west and south-east of Seiriol Road. These foundations were encountered at a depth of 0.6m below the contemporary ground surface and survived to a height of 1.2m.

The walls appear to represent a rectilinear complex with four parallel north-south walls, about 1.4m to 1.5m wide abutting a thicker west-east wall about 1.9m wide. A second, parallel west-east wall, about 1.8m wide, lay 8m to the south.

Hughes has plausibly interpreted the remains as, to the south, a church, on an east-west axis, represented by the two parallel west-east walls. To the north of this stood a rectangular open space, 18.3m wide which may have been a cloister, flanked on the west and east sides by roofed ranges.

Sepulchral slabs were recovered, on the same alignment as the putative church, between the two main walls, and close to the walls.

Sepulchral slabs were also recorded in an area where the supposed eastern range extends somewhat to the east. Exceptionally large masonry was identified in the west wall on the supposed western range and it was suggested that this represented an entrance.

Oriented burials representing fifteen individuals were identified in graves, but without the benefit of sepulchral slabs, over an area extending at least 25m south of the supposed church.

Many fragments of lead fret from leaded lights were found inside the south wall of the supposed church, as were several fragments of plaster. The southern part of the putative south range displays many indications of burning, including charcoal, burnt tile or brick and melted lead.

Seven sculptured sepulchral slabs were recovered and one stone coffin. A small number of fragments of worked stone bearing architectural detail was also recorded. (For catalogue of slabs, see below).

Catalogue of sepulchral slabs and burials

Slabs 1, 2 and 5 were, at first stacked in the workmen's hut on site and received some damage. They were then left unprotected for a considerable time. The University College NWB conveyed them to a place of safety once permission was granted for their removal but as a result of a dispute concerning possession, the College had them moved again. From February 1899 they were in the Slate Yard of Edward Jones, Mount Street. Mr. Rowland Williams of Colwyn Bay, the contractor, then determined to present the slabs to the UCNW museum.

All slabs are coarse or medium-grained conglomerate

Slab 1 Found 1'2" below surface – no human bones associated. The head of the slab is missing and the remainder in two parts. Decoration is a stem of foliage, from which spring three-lobed leaves, running up the middle of the slab. Not later than 1300.

Slab 2 The slab is trapezoid, narrower at the base. Found 12' from Slab 1. Ornamentation comprises a foliated cross within a circle at the head end from which a stem runs down the centre of the slab to an expanded termination immediately above a pellet.

A square escutcheon overlies the stem, bearing a chequerboard design of sixteen squares of which alternate squares filled with lead. These were picked out while in the workmen's hut. A scabbard-like design occupies the portion of the slab between the escutcheon and the left hand side.

Slab 3 Found 1'9" below surface, close to the northern wall of the church. No ornamentation. 5'7" long, 1'9" wide at the head, 1'1" at the foot. Disappeared. Possible late 13th century.

Slab 4 Similar and parallel to Slab 3. 6'0" long, 1'9" at head, 1'3" at base. Broken after taken up and now disappeared.

Slab 5 In range east of 'cloister garth'. Not damaged when removed from ground but broken in two on removal from workmen's hut and subsequently in 5 pieces. Ornamentation is a foliated cross within a circle at head end, more elaborate than Slab 2, with a foliated stem running down the middle of the slab, terminating in a dragon-like creature who holds the stem in its mouth. The slab is trapezoidal, wider at the head end and steeply bevelled. The foliated stem is enclosed within a rectangular frame which corresponds to the flat uppermost surface of the slab. Possible 13th century.

Slab 6 (Found with Slab 7 in 1900 on land at which Inspector Rowlands of the Police Force was building a house. The exact location was occupied by the new kitchen fireplace of that house!). The slabs, which spent some short time at the Police Station, were bought by Colonel Platt and presented to Bangor Museum. Slab 6 is in 3 pieces. Trapezoidal, wider at the head end. Ornamentation comprises a cross of concave arcs within a raised circle, from which a plain stem runs down the centre of the slab. The spaces between the cross-arms and the circle end at either side of the stem at the junction with the encircled cross, are occupied by foliage. Thirteenth century.

Slab 7 A trapezoidal slab, wider at the head end. Ornamentation comprises a foliated eight-armed cross within a plain raised circle, from which springs a plain stem to an expanded base. The expansion at the base of the stem may be compared to that of Slab 2 except that the pellet on Slab 2 overlies the expanded base. A further, more direct comparison with Slab 2 is the presence, on Slab 7, of an escutcheon; this one with a pointed base, overlying the cross-stem and a sword behind it. The background is occupied by foliation.

Stone Coffin Near the north wall of the 'church', 5'10" long externally, 1'10" wide at head, 1'7" at foot, 1'7" deep externally, sides 4" thick. In Pen Lon Slate Yard in 1900. Conglomerate.

Worked stones (H Hughes and P Shearson Gregory, 1900, figs 4-10, pp38-9)

Worked stones include part of a string course, moulded stones, coping stones and several roofing slate fragments.

Human remains (H Hughes and P Shearson Gregory, 1900, 40-41)

Fifteen skeletons were identified of which seven were capable of examination, the remainder having been badly damaged or not fully excavated. One body lay beneath Slab 5. The skeleton was that of a muscular man in advance middle age. One grave, about 10' south of the 'church' held one adult female and two children, to the left of the adult, laid head to toe.

The style of the sepulchral slabs, ornately sculptured with designs bearing variants of a foliated calvary cross, the head of the cross encircled, is thought to be not later than 1300 in date, whereas funerary monuments of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries have been recovered from the area of the original Friars School, some 400m to the south-west (C A Gresham, 1968, *Medieval Stone Carving in North Wales*, 67-71). The evidence suggests that following the documented fire at the Friary in the late thirteenth century, rebuilding, was undertaken on a new site closer to the town but still adjacent to the bank of the Adda as the first friary had been. The work was supported by grants of land from Bishop Ainan, money, from the Crown, in compensation for war damage in 1282-3, a gift of timber from King Edward and the patronage of other benefactors such as Tudur ap Gronw of the Penmynydd line.

Several sepulchral slabs have been recorded as built into the walls of the school buildings of the rebuilt Friars' School (as it stood in 1900) and are said to have been found near the school house. Human remains have been found to the north of the school house (between it and the stream). (C A Gresham, 1968; H Hughes and P Shearson Gregory, 1900)

One fourteenth century slab, of which only a portion remains, had a cross with a floriated head. On the side of the stem is a sword, on the other an inscription in two lines reading

IORWERTH VAP
HIC IACET GRVVD

Another slab has an effigy of a lady, inferior in workmanship to the Eva Slab in Bangor Cathedral but the dress bears a resemblance, especially the head gear – possibly c.1400.

A further slab bore the inscription

HIC IACET FRATER JOANNES DE LLANVAES

There is a further piece of evidence which might be brought to bear on the location of the Friary. In the Crown survey of the late Friary lands in 1838, a parcel of land called the Heady Place is referred to. Roberts has identified this with the Henblas of later surveys (Roberts, 1957, 22). In 1576-7 Richard Fletcher demised to Roland Thomas, Dean of Bangor, a parcel of arable and meadow lying at Hir Erw ('the long acre', Hiracl) ... abutting upon the close of Hen Blas, on the north, belonging to the late religious house of Friars of Bangor ... and the seashore to the east (Baron Hill MS. 3142). Heady Place might well be Hendy Plas or Plas Hendy, becoming Hen Blas by the 1570s, with the meaning of the old Plas or the Plas where the old or former house was located. The location, near the seashore, and north of, and abutting, the tenement in Hiracl is exactly where Hughes' discoveries were made in 1889 and 1900.

The Site Under Consideration

The development area occupies 6,800 sq. m of land on the south side of Beach Road, Bangor, close to its junction with Garth Road. The site is level, low-lying at approximately 5m above OD. The western boundary of the development area is approximately coterminous with the former course of the Afon Adda, now culverted. The site is now occupied by a depot of the Arriva Bus Company.

Between the middle of the sixteenth century and the late nineteenth century the site and its immediate environs would appear to have seen no structural development except for a small building close to the shoreline, depicted on J. Lewis' engraving of 1740. The tithe apportionment map of 1840 and its accompanying schedule show large fields of meadowland flanking the banks of the Adda. The land on the south side of the river, from the present St. Mary's church to the sea was in the hands of the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral of Bangor, Trustees of the Free Grammar School and as such, successors, as holders of the land, to the Dominican Friars of Bangor. This land includes the development site. The north bank of the Adda was meadowland in the hands of the Bishop of Bangor.

In 1898 the Friars' Estate was put up for sale in 240 lots. Streets and services were laid out in preparation. Development proceeded rapidly along the new Orme Road during the first decade of the twentieth century although nothing had been built on Seiriol Road other than a solitary house (already under construction in 1900, and the location of the discovery of a sculptured grave slab) at the junction of Seiriol Road and Beach Road. However, in 1927, land on Seiriol Road was acquired by a COPEC (Christian Order in Politics, Economics and Housing) group, who proceeded to build 20 affordable, well-built houses for working class families. These were listed (grade 2) in 1988. (P. Ellis Jones, Bangor, a study in Social Morphology, UCNW Bangor MS 25607-8). In 1912 the first application from a bus company for a licence to convey passengers was made. Several companies began to operate locally and throughout North Wales but by 1935 Crosville had acquired a monopoly in the area. The company had already begun to establish depots from Holyhead to Llandudno Junction. In 1930 a depot was established in Bangor (Ellis Jones, 362-64).

The Bus Depot, Garage, Yard and Forecourt

The present building is a large rectangular garage measuring, overall, approximately 55m west-east by 35m north-south, divided, along the west-east axis, into two units. The larger western unit is approximately 35m x 34m and provides covered garage space. There is a small porta-cabin against the west wall and a small breeze-block shed adjacent. There is a sunken area, about 12m long, no deeper than 1m, parallel with and close to the west wall and approached by ramps on the north and south sides. There is a small recessed area, about 6m by 2m close to the east wall for testing apparatus. There are no other obvious or significant sunken areas within the garage space. The walls of the garage are brick and breeze-block to a height of 2m with steel shuttering above this. The walls are punctured by four large wide doors on the north side and one large door on the south side near the west corner, which gives access to the yard beyond.

The smaller unit of the main building, to the east, is in use as a workshop. There are offices placed against the north and east walls. There could be an inspection pit in this area but access was not possible, at the time of visiting, for health and safety reasons.

The roof is pitched, in three units, on a steel-framed construction across the entire garage. The roof covering is corrugated material and glass.

There is a large open yard at the rear (south side) of the building. It occupies an area 56m west-east by 40m north-south, surfaced with concrete, tarmac and gravel and is in use as a parking area. Towards the western end of the yard on the north side there is an installation for jacking vehicles with a corrugated shed adjacent. There is a slightly raised ramp in front of these installations. There are no obvious indications of deep excavation in the yard.

To the front of the main building there is a large forecourt. There is a brick-built paint store on the west side of the area and an above-ground diesel tank adjacent. There are brick-built offices flanking the eastern side of the courtyard, with a porta-cabin adjacent. There are several manhole covers in the forecourt, apparently for services.

Recommendations

The Bus Station Buildings

Category D

Impact: considerable

Recommendation

The bus depot is of social and local historical interest in the context of the development of a transport infrastructure in the region but has no intrinsic archaeological significance and no recommendation is made in respect of any further archaeological recording with regard to the standing building.

The Site of the Dominican Friary within the Development Area

Category E: needing further investigation.

Impact: potentially considerable but requires further investigation.

There is a potential considerable impact on the surviving, below-ground evidence of the thirteenth-century Dominican Friary in this location. The evidence that Harold Hughes was able to gather, despite the limitations placed upon him by the circumstances of the investigation, is persuasive. His attempt at reconstruction and interpretation of the character of the buildings does bear comparison with other friaries, including Welsh examples such as Cardiff Blackfriars and Carmarthen Greyfriars (see figs. 13-18; T James, 1988, Carmarthen Greyfriars, *Arch in Wales*, 28, 70; Poulton and Woods, 1984, figs 6, 24).

Bangor was a relatively small friary (Knowles and Hadcock, 213) and although the layout of conventual buildings, across all orders, maintains a general similarity, it might not be appropriate to compare the scale and complexity of structures with larger houses on the borders of Wales such as Bristol or Gloucester. Guildford Black Friars, however, despite its populous location, is one of the smaller friaries (Poulton and Woods, 1984, 44). Excavations in 1974 and 1978 have uncovered a reasonably complete ground plan which may be compared, in a number of respects, with the features identified by Hughes at Bangor. Guildford has an unusual, single, aisle on the south side. Bangor may also have had a single south aisle. Both have southern cemeteries and both have a cloister on the north side of the church with a chapter house, on Hughes' interpretation, projecting from the eastern range. At Guildford the building occupying the north range of the cloister is interpreted as a kitchen. The scale and proportions of the presumed cloister and its ranges, at Bangor, is in accord with the more fully-excavated examples. The nave is narrow but not much narrower than many smaller conventual churches. There is also the possibility, on the analogy of, for example, Carmarthen Greyfriars, that the southernmost structure is, in fact, the choir, with the nave extending to the west. If this is the case then the interpretation of the claustral area would need re-examination with the implication that the core buildings of the Friary extend further west, into the development area, than has been assumed. Whichever is the case there is a strong possibility that the core buildings of the thirteenth-century manifestation of the Dominican Friary at Bangor extend at least partly into the eastern part of the development area.

Assessment excavation in the yard to the rear of the bus depot garage in 1992 produced no evidence of any features of archaeological significance (trenches A and B, M. Ward, 1992 Report on the Archaeological Assessment at the Crosville Bus Depot, Beach Road, Bangor, p.8). However, Trench C, within the garage, produced evidence of the base of a wall, set on a natural clay surface at a depth of 2m. The wall appeared to be aligned with the course of the Afon Adda some 11m distant, to the west. A large quantity of roofing slate, comparable to that recorded by Hughes in 1889 and associated with the Friary, was identified in a clayey silt which overlay the wall. It was suggested, in 1992, that the wall might represent the enclosing wall of the Friary precinct.

Other buildings, beyond the nucleus around the church, are likely to have stood within the Friary precinct.

It is not possible to determine, with any certainty, the potential for recovery of skeletal evidence in the area of the proposed development. Ward's excavations of 1992 established that the underlying soils were clay and clayey silt with natural gravel at the base of the sequence. Hughes certainly recorded skeletal survival in his

observations of 1889-1900. This was in the area within the conventual buildings (in the 'chapter house', the south walk of the cloister, in the church itself, presumably the nave, and to the south of the church where the cemetery might be expected to lie. Burials are less likely to be found to the north of the church although the possibility remains.

Recommendation

The recommendation, therefore, is that consideration be given to further assessment by archaeological excavation to establish the presence or absence of archaeological evidence for the Dominican Friary and its appurtenances in advance of the determination of a planning application for development. It is recommended that the programme of assessment excavation pay particular attention to the eastern part of the development area in the forecourt and the garage/workshop building where evidence of the core buildings of the Friary is likely to survive and should also be designed to establish whether any ancillary buildings or other related features are present elsewhere within the development area. It is also recommended that the programme attempt to establish the nature, extent and significance of the wall identified in Trench C in 1992 and thought to represent the west wall of the Friary precinct.

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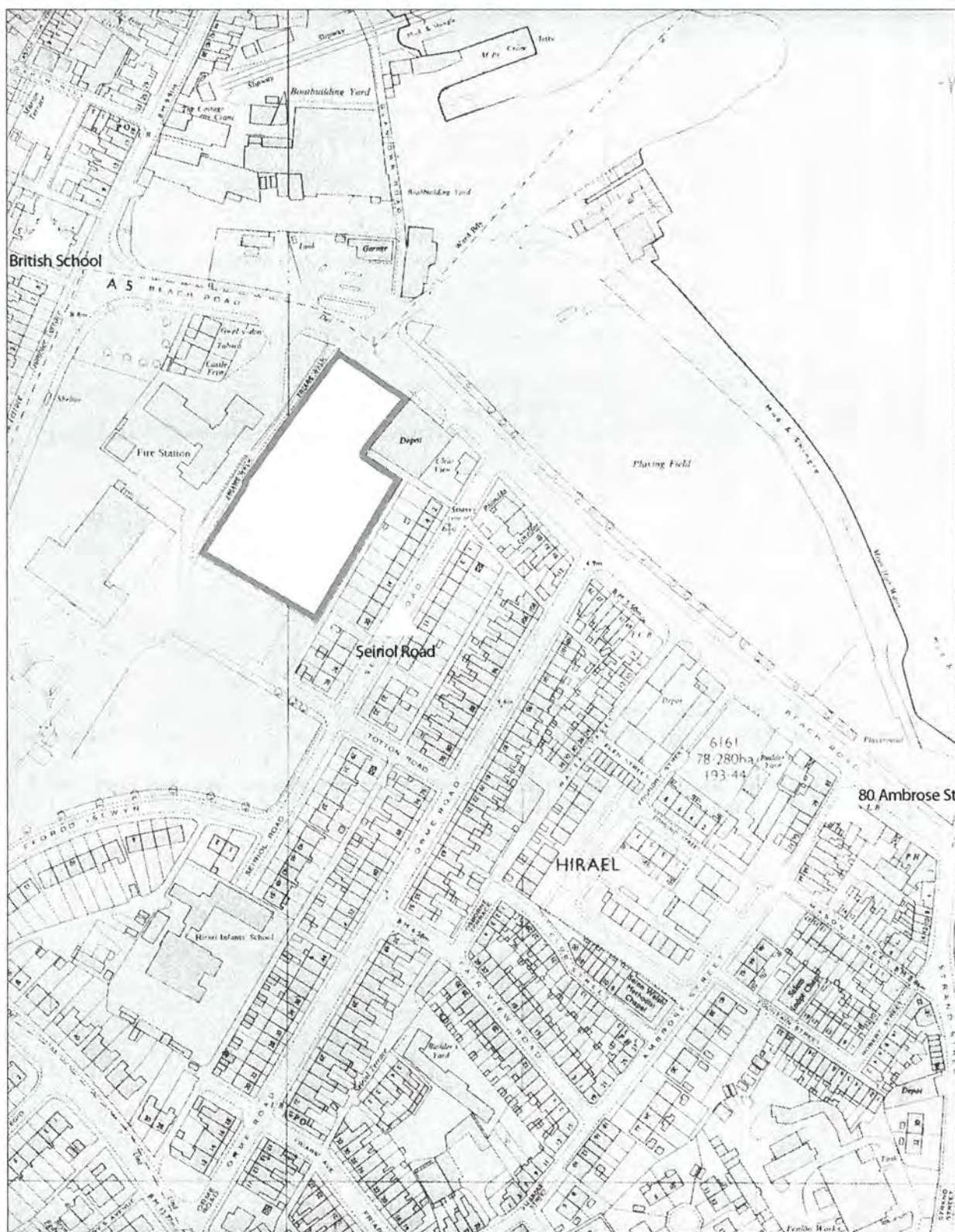
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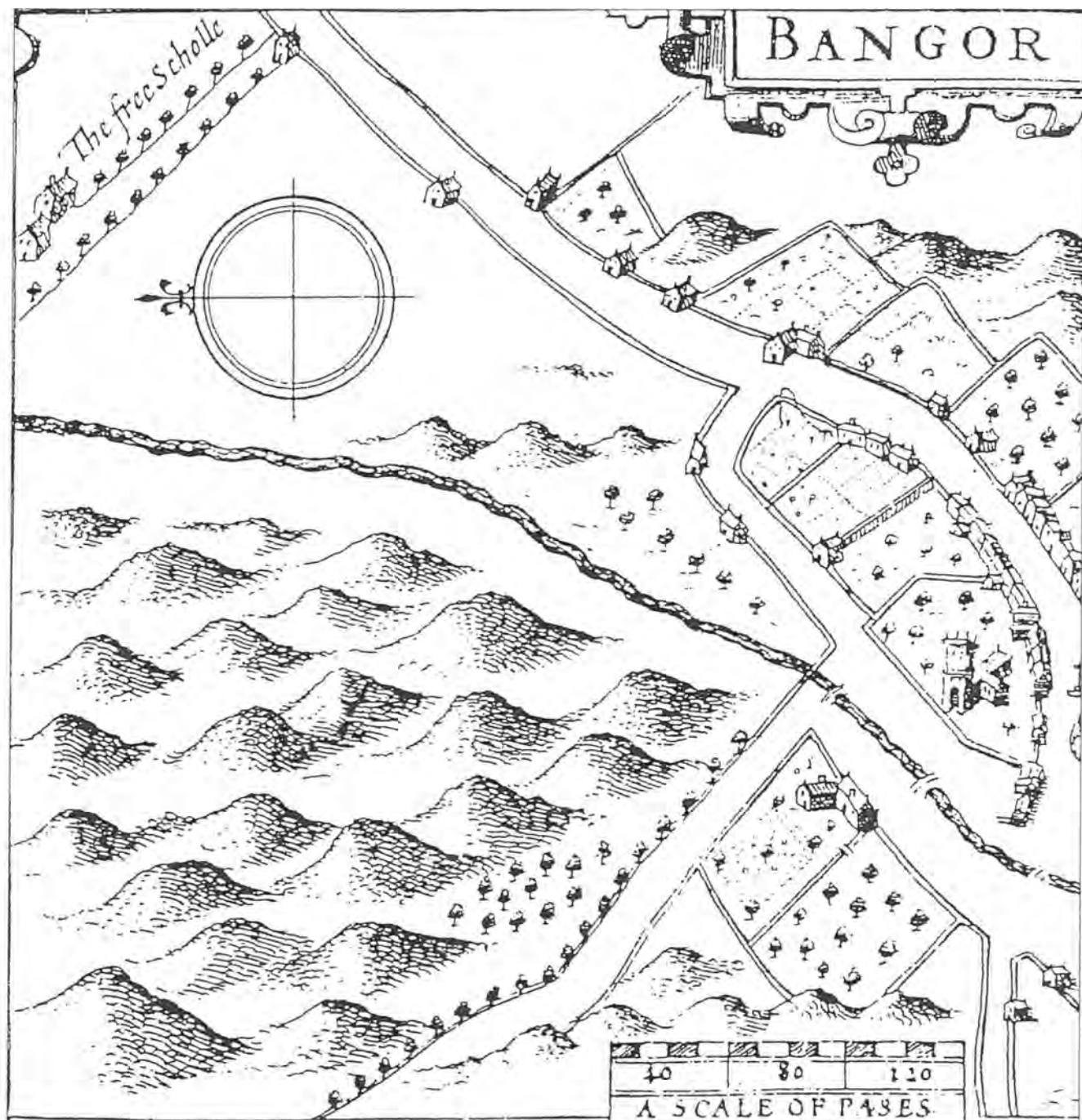
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PRO CRES 49/1748 Friars' Estate, Bangor, Sale of Land, Particulars, Plans and Conditions, 1898
PRO SC 6/HENVIII/5566 Possessions of the dissolved friaries within the dioceses of St. Asaph and Bangor 30-31 Hen VIII
PRO C 143/31/1 Anian, bishop of Bangor, to grant land in Bangor to the prior and Friars Preachers there, 28 Edward I. (Chancery Inquisitions *ad quod damnum*)

Maps

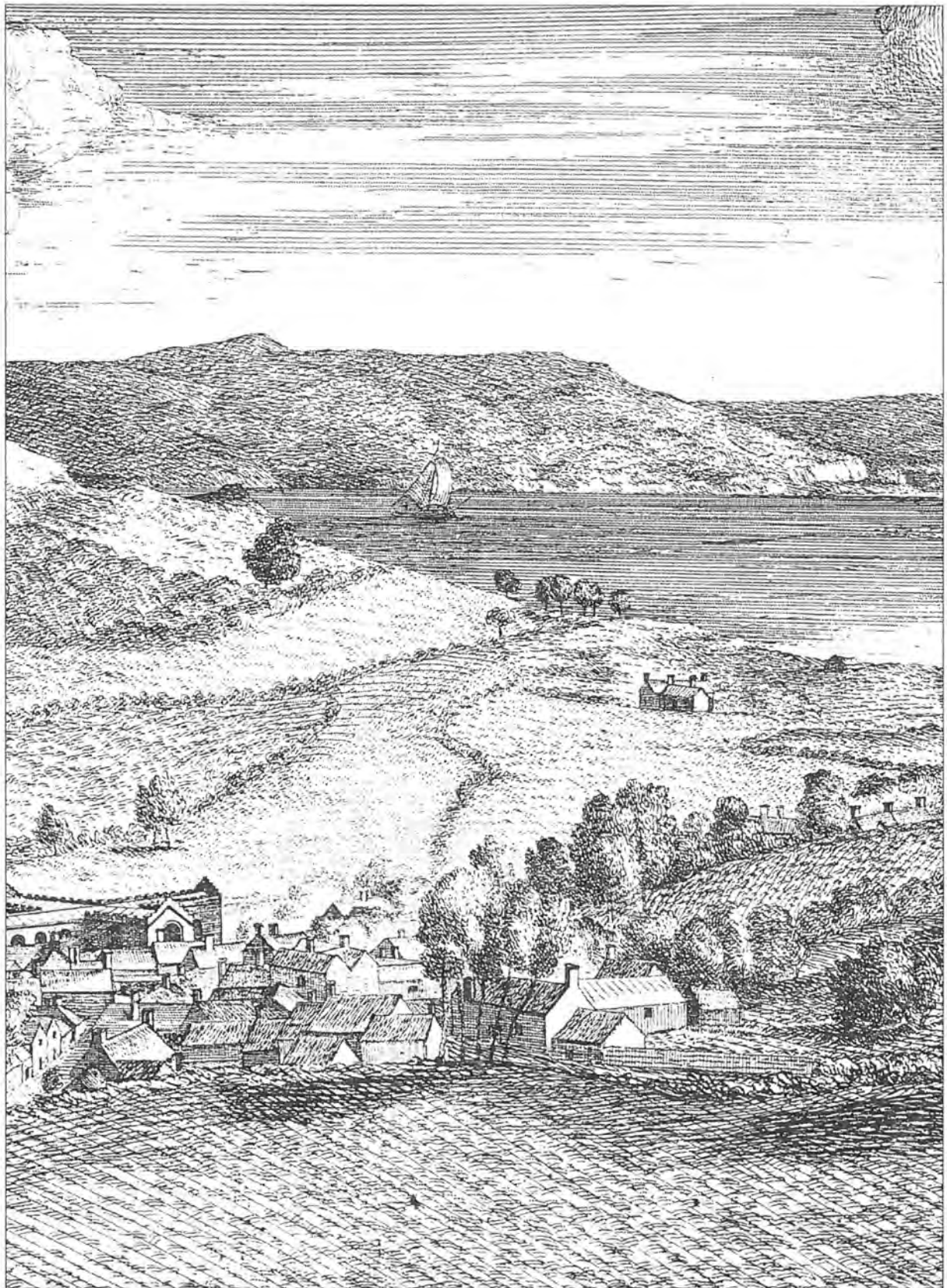
- OS 1:2500 map (1880)
OS 1:2500 map (1911)
OS 1:10560 map (1947)
John Wood map, 1834, UW Bangor archives
Tithe apportionment map and schedule, 1840, Gwynedd Record Office



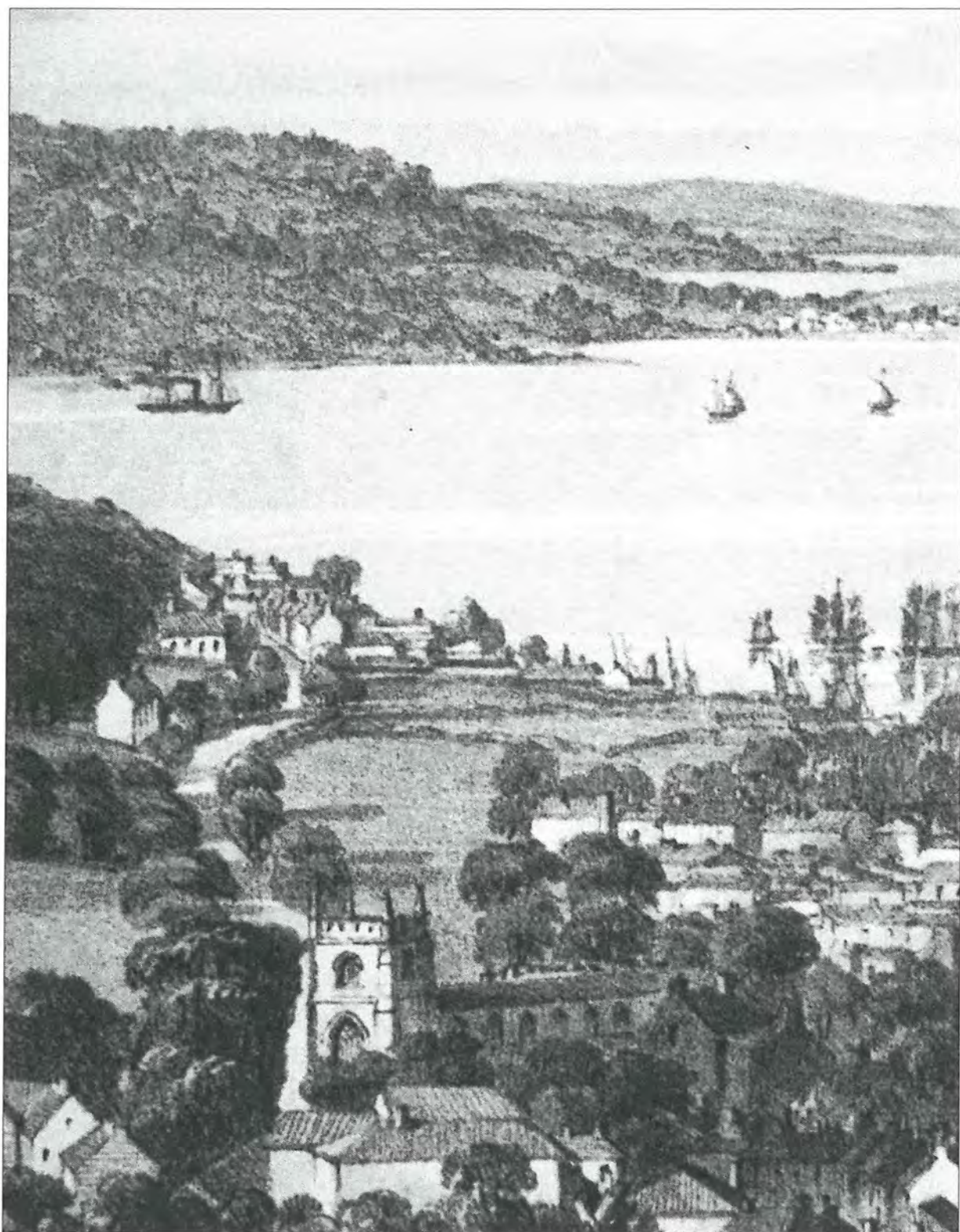
1. Location map (development site and listed buildings)



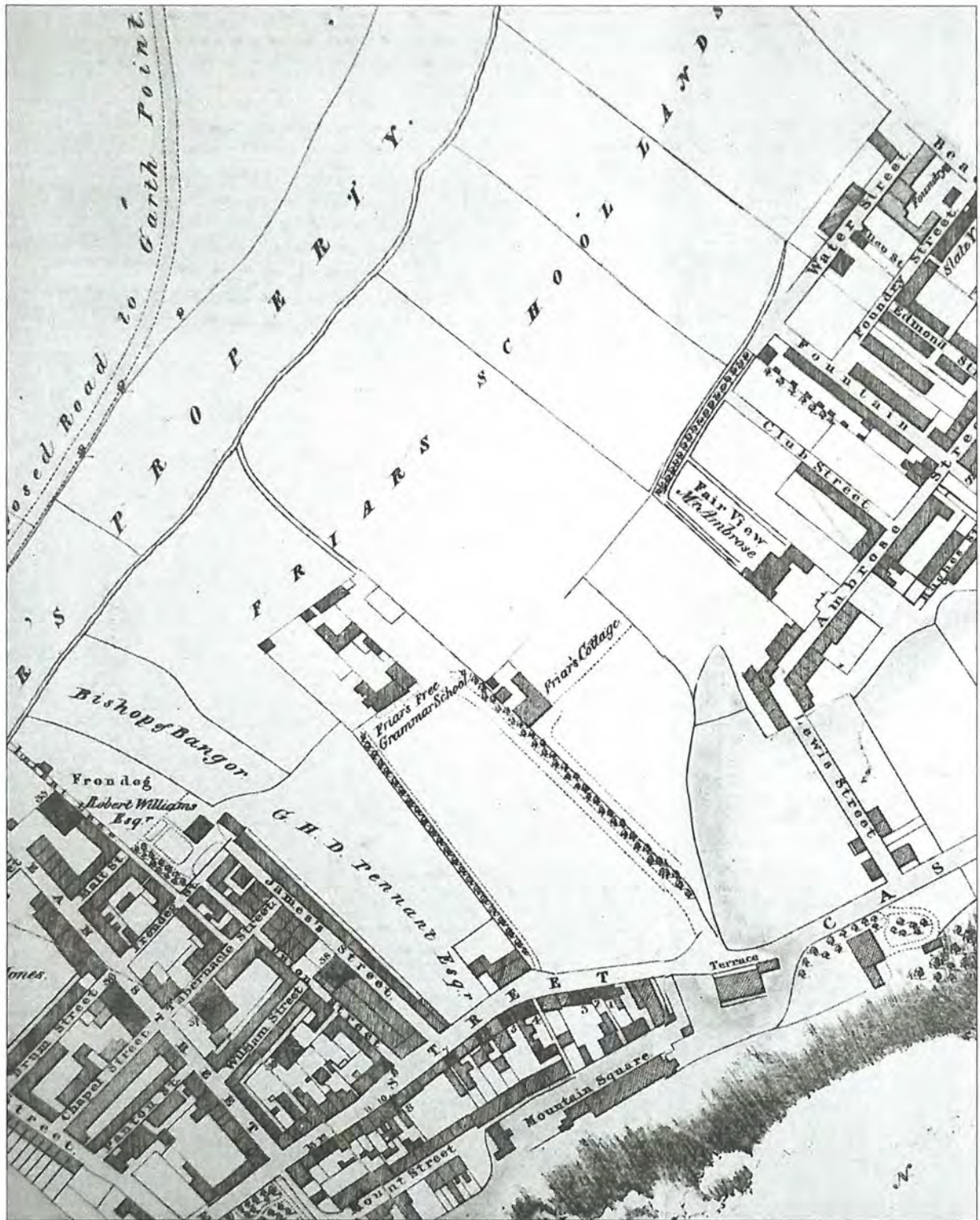
2. John Speed's Map of Bangor, showing the first Friars' School, on the site of the sixteenth century Friary.



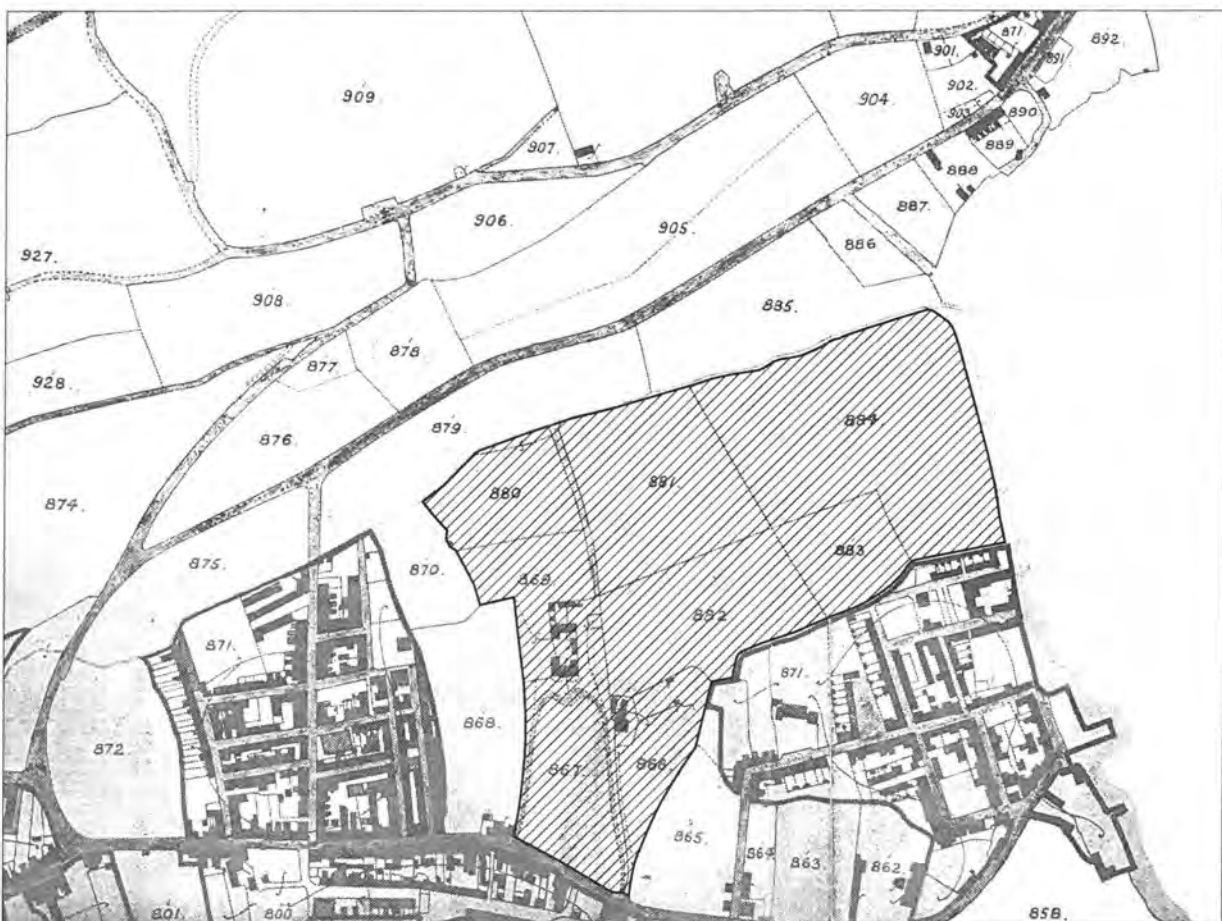
3. Engraving by J. Lewis, 1740, showing the lands of the Friars' Estate, the first Friars' School and the development area beyond.



4. View of Bangor from similar perspective to fig. 2, showing development on the periphery of the Friars' Estate by 1852.



5. John Wood's map of Bangor 1830.



6. Tithe map 1840, with Friars' Estate indicated.

CITY OF BANGOR.

"FRIARS ESTATE."

Particulars, Plans & Conditions

OF SALE OF

GRAND FREEHOLD Building & other Sites

Situate in perhaps the most improving part of
the City, close to Garth, the New Pier and
the Menai Straits,

Also a most Valuable & Extensive Piece of
FORESHORE,

Adaptable for Wharves, Quays and other
conveniences of a like character,

THE WHOLE BEING

Divided into 240 convenient Lots,

With frontages to newly constructed Streets, the High
Street, Friars Road and Beach Road,

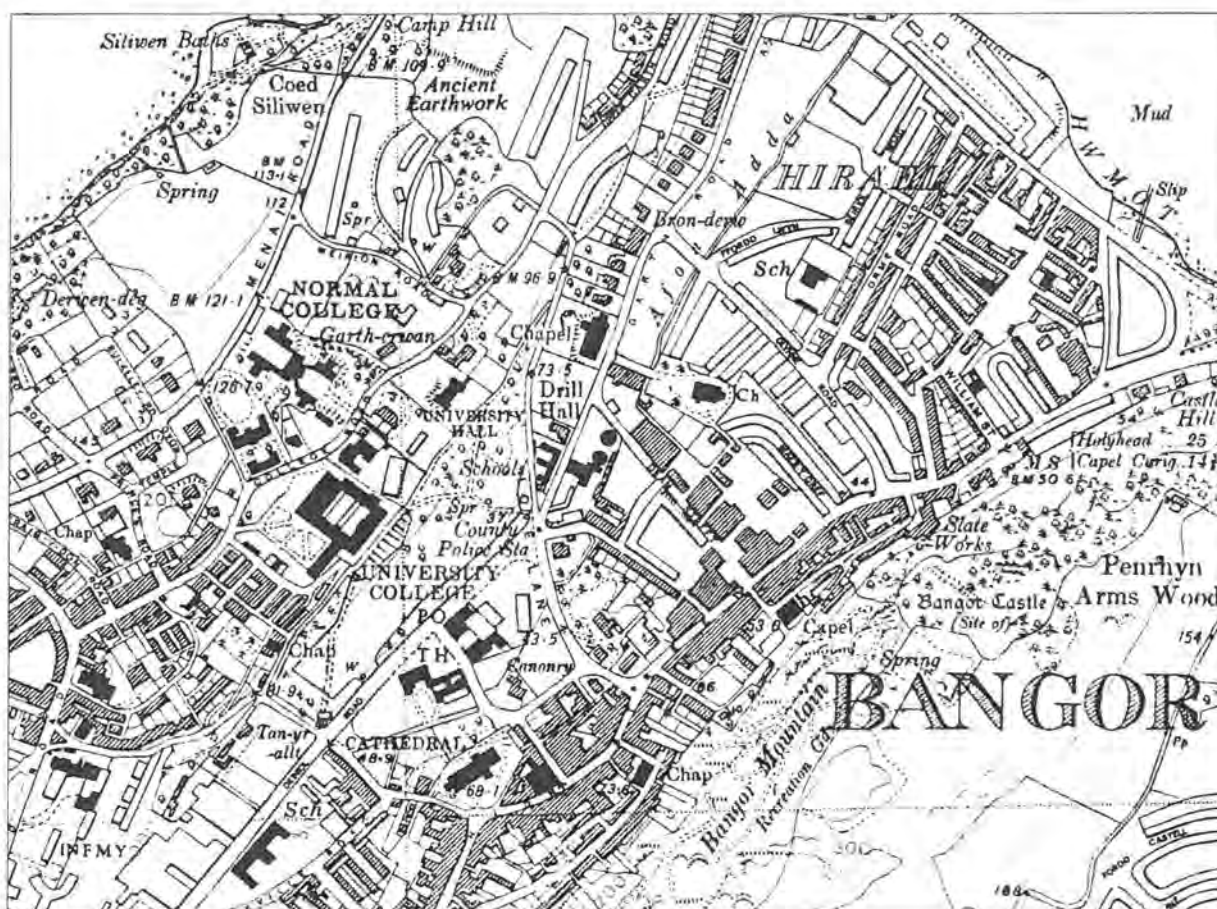
8. Friars' Estate sale of lands advertisement, 1898.



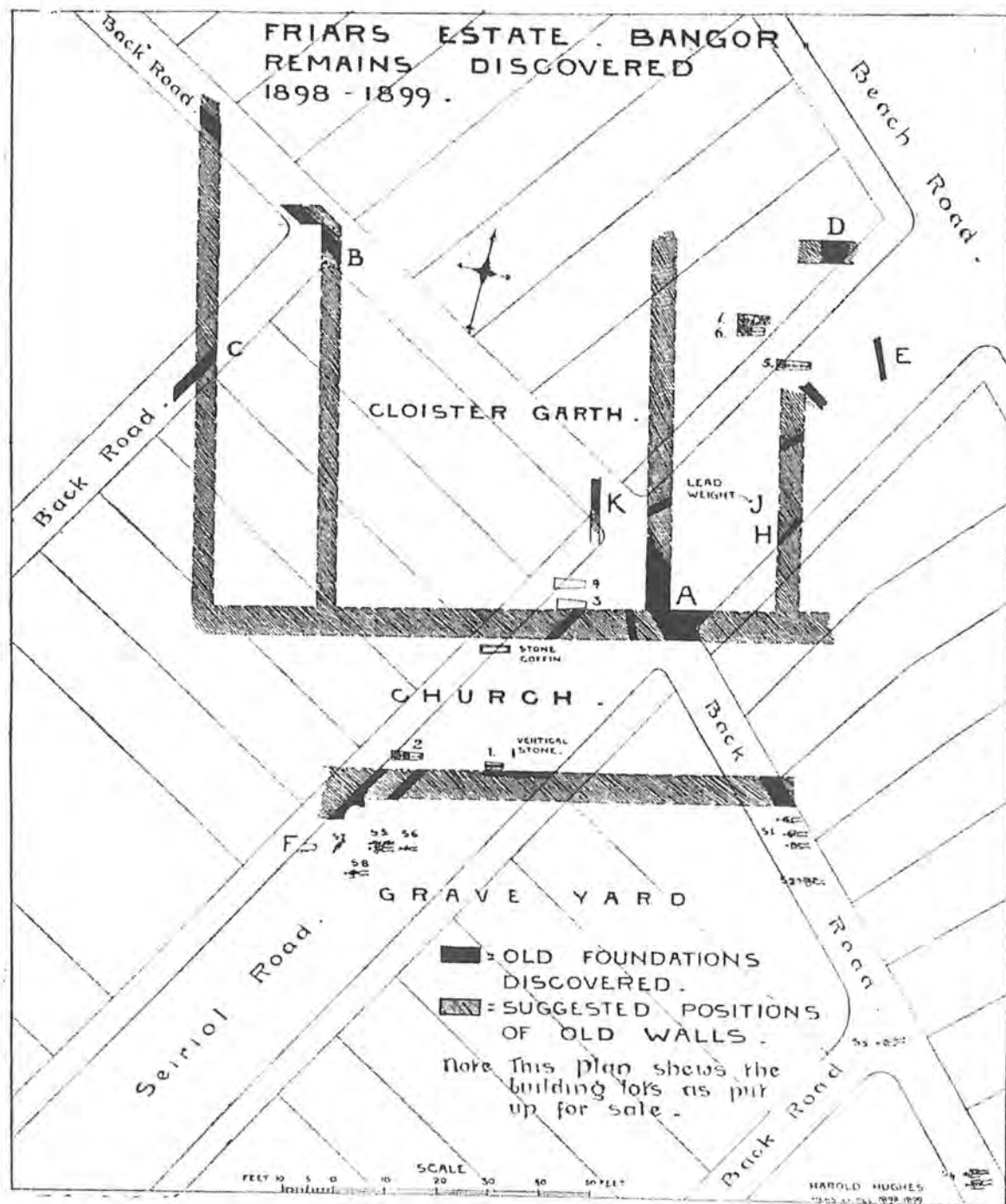
9. Map to accompany sale of Friars' Estate lands, 1898.



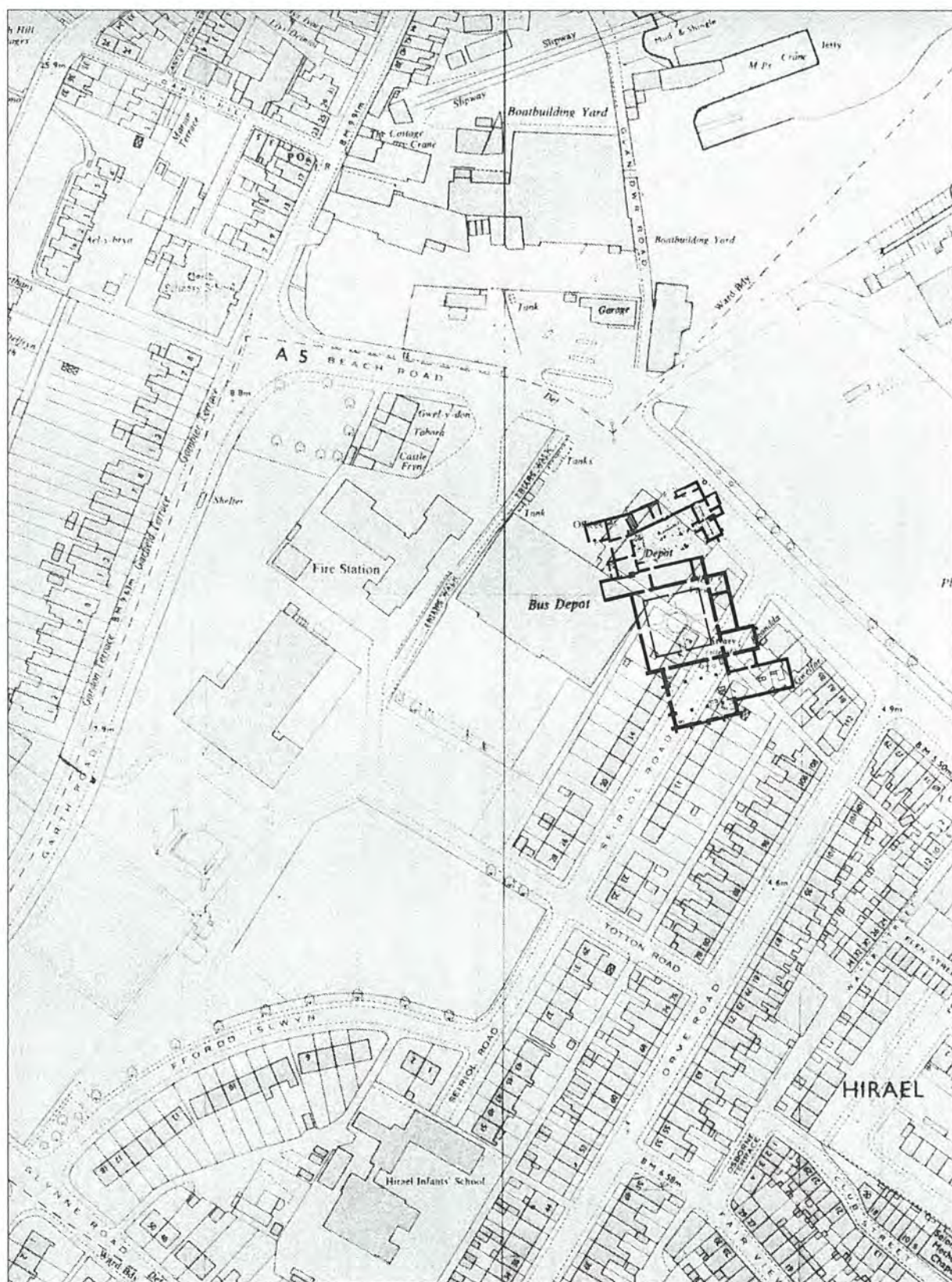
10. OS Map 1:2500 scale, 1911, showing extent of development in early twentieth century.



11. OS Map 1:10560 scale, 1947, but revisions to 1938 showing extent of development pre-war, including Beach Road depot.



12. Harold Hughes plan of recording work in and around Seiriol Road 1898-1899.



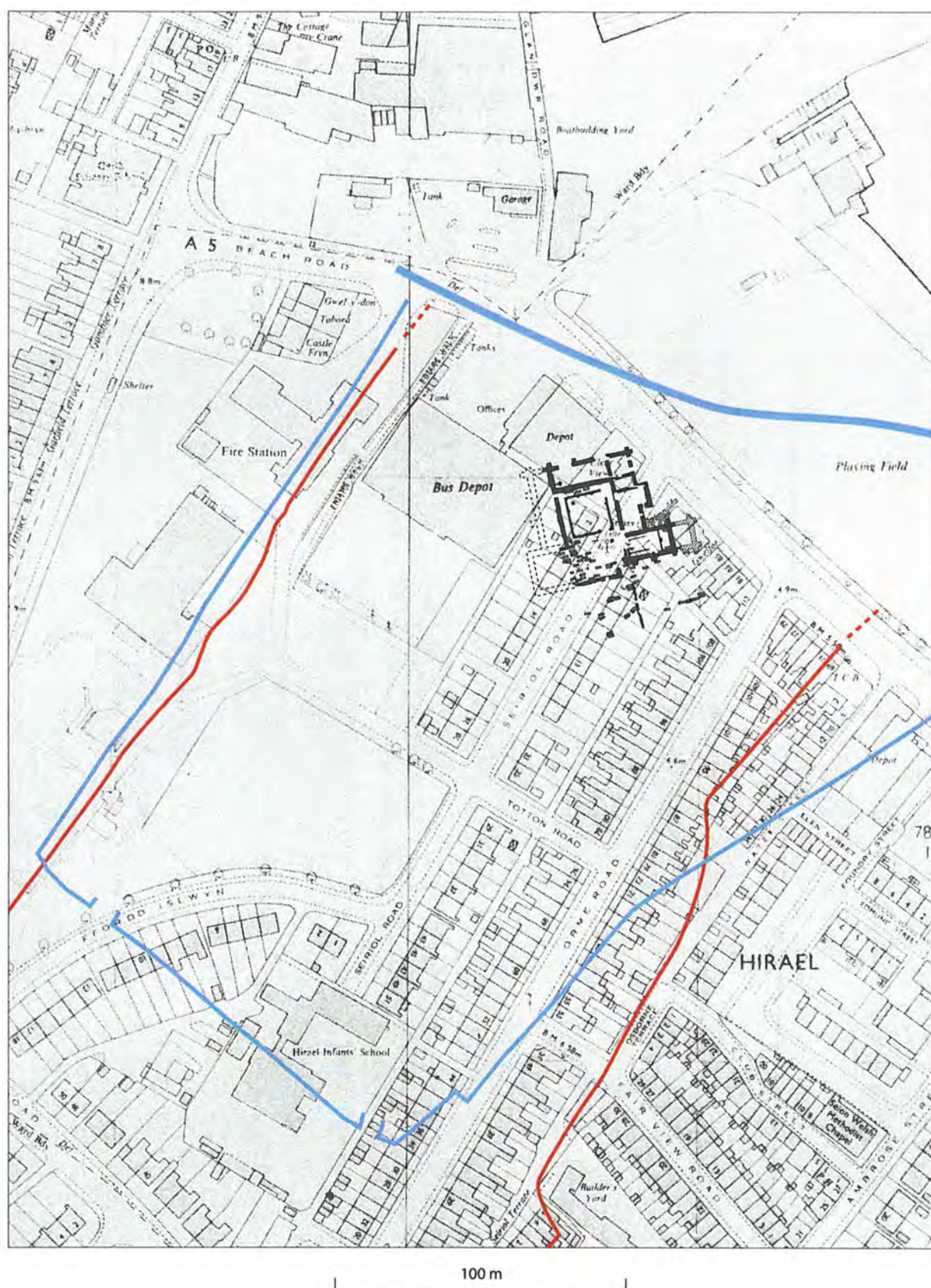
14. Cardiff Black Friars' superimposed on modern OS 1:2500 map corresponding to the features identified by Hughes.



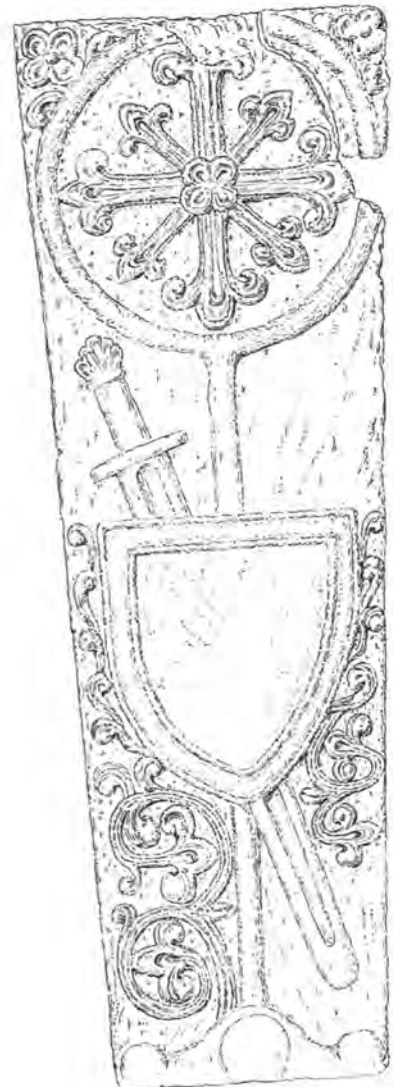
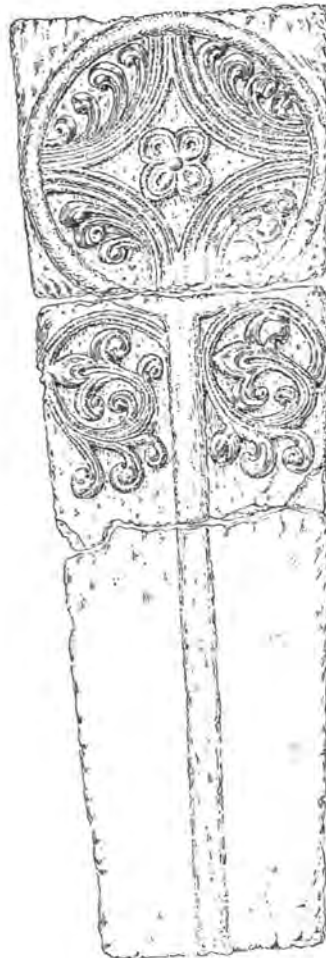
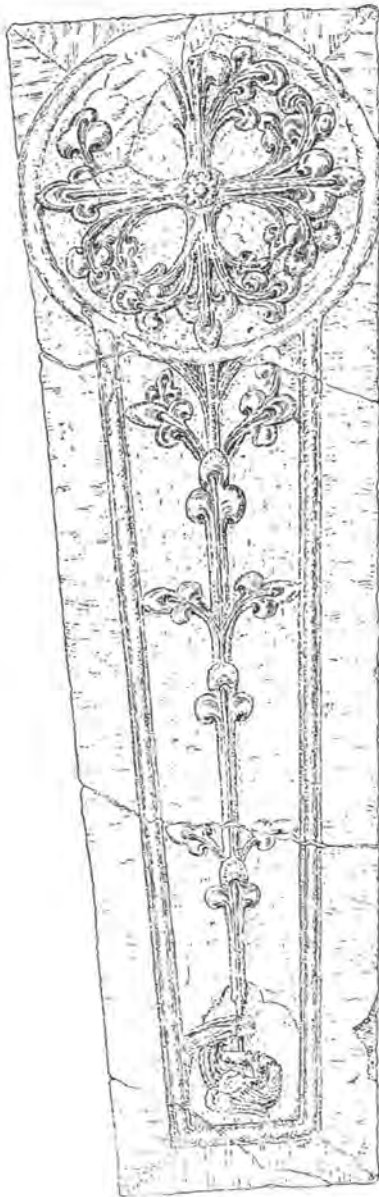
16. Carmarthen Grey Friars superimposed on modern 1:2500 map, rotated and flipped to correspond to the relationship of components suggested by Hughes.



17. Guildford Black Friars superimposed on modern 1:2500 map.

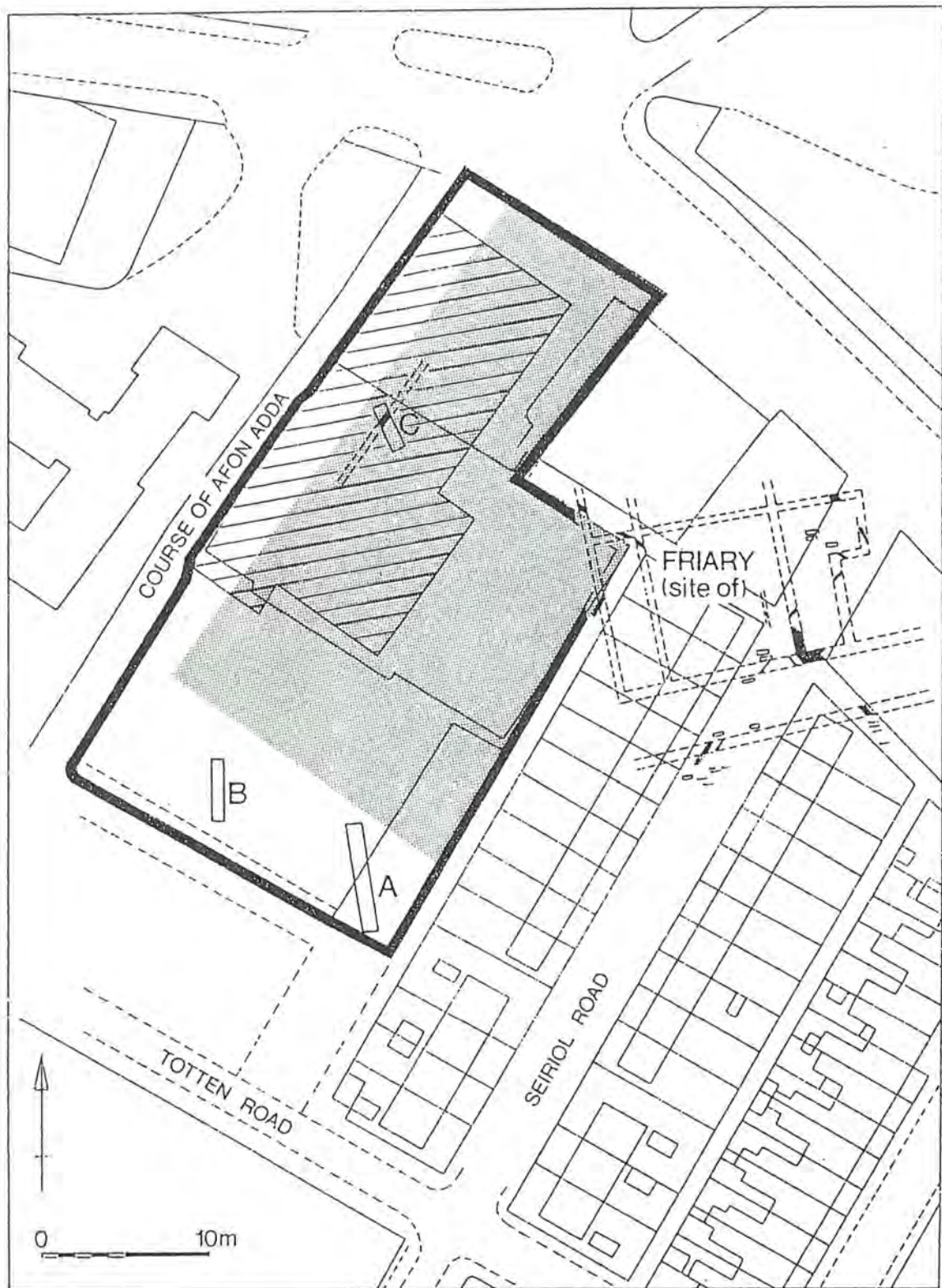


18. Guildford Black Friars superimposed on modern 1:2500 map with extent of precinct indicated in blue (rotated to accommodate Bangor topography. The boundary of Bangor Friars' estate is indicated in red for comparison).



19

Bangor Friary sepulchral slabs, Hughes nos 5, 6 and 7; Gresham, 9, 5 and 6
(Illustration: Gresham, 1968)



- Area of proposed development
- Proposed site of supermarket
- Archaeologically sensitive area
- Conjectural plan of friary (after Hughes)

20.. M. Ward excavation plan, 1992, showing location of trenches.



21. *The bus depot in 2004 from Beach Road.*

22. *The interior of the main garage 2004.*

DESIGN BRIEF FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service

Site: Crossville Bus Station, Beach Road, Bangor

Client: Watkin Jones & Sons Ltd.

Date: 27 May 2004

National Grid Reference: 258560 372830

Planning applications: C04A/0225/11/LL

This design brief is only valid for six months after the above date. After this period Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service should be contacted.

It is recommended that the contractor appointed to carry out the archaeological assessment visits the site of the proposed development and consults the Regional Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) for north-west Wales before completing their specification. Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service cannot guarantee the inclusion of all relevant information in the design brief.

Key elements specific to this design brief have been highlighted.

1.0 Site Location and Description

- 1.1 For the purposes of this brief the site comprises a plot of land on the south side of Beach Road, Bangor, as shown on the site plan accompanying planning application C04A/0225/11/LL.
- 1.2 The site is currently used as a bus depot.
- 1.3 Bangor is located on the north coast of Gwynedd, within the valley of the Afon Adda, and is the largest commercial centre in Gwynedd.

2.0 Archaeological Background

- 2.1 The site of a thirteenth-century Dominican Friary was discovered at the end of the nineteenth century when the area now identified as Seiriol Road was being developed for housing.
- 2.2 The foundations of a medieval building(s) and a large number of skeletons, including several buried in graves with elaborately carved stone slabs, were found.
- 2.3 Although the full extent of the friary is not known, the conjectured layout of the building indicates that it extends into the development plot.
- 2.4 Friaries were buildings where religious men (friars) lived and worshipped, reliant on alms (charitable donations). Unlike monasteries, friaries were always built in towns, usually in the poorer quarters, in the suburbs, near to the town ditch or, as in this case, on the banks of a river, the Afon Adda.
- 2.5 The Dominican Friary at Bangor was located to the north of the main ecclesiastical centre of the city, which was focused on the cathedral.

- 2.6 Bangor owes its origins to a monastic foundation in the sixth century. By the middle of the twelfth century, the cathedral had been founded and the layout of the ecclesiastical centre appears to remain relatively unchanged from the middle ages until the rapid expansion of the town in the 19th and 20th centuries.

2.7 Documentation

The following references must be read in conjunction with this brief:

Barber, H. & Lewis, H. 1902. Reviews and Notices of Books. *Archaeologia Cambrensis* 6th Series Volume 2: 287-9

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Longley, D. 1994. Bangor Fawr yn Arfon. In S.I. White (ed.) *Bangor: From a Cell to a City*. The Friends of Bangor Museum and Art Gallery.

3.0 **The nature of the development and archaeological requirements**

- 3.1 The proposed development comprises plans to demolish an existing bus depot and erect 29 dwellings (10 flats and 19 houses) with parking.
- 3.2 This development footprint comprises an area of approximately 5,400 square metres, to comprise new housing, landscaping, parking and new vehicular and pedestrian access routes.
- 3.3 This is a design brief for an **archaeological assessment** to be undertaken according to guidelines set out in Welsh national planning guidance (*Planning Policy Guidance Wales 2002*) and Welsh Office Circular 60/96 (*Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology*). The assessment will comprise a **desk-based study** and **field visit**.
- 3.4 The object of this programme of archaeological works is to make full and effective use of existing information in establishing the archaeological significance of the site to assess the impact of the development proposals on surviving monuments or remains
- 3.5 Following desk-based assessments field evaluation work may also be required in order to further assess the presence or absence of remains, their extent, nature, quality and character before determining the appropriate mitigation strategy, whether it be preservation *in situ*, archaeological excavation or a combination of the two.

4.0 **Desk-based assessment detail**

- 4.1 This *brief* should be used by archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological *specification* (also known as a project design). The specification must be submitted to the archaeological curator for approval before the work commences.
- 4.2 The assessment must consider the following:
- a) The nature, extent and degree of survival of archaeological sites, structures, deposits and landscapes within the study area through the

development of an **archaeological deposit model**. This deposit model should reflect accurately the state of current knowledge and provide a research framework for further work if necessary. [See 4.3 below for further details]

- b) The **history of the site**. [See section 4.4 below for further details]
- c) The potential impact of any proposed development on the **setting of known sites of archaeological importance**. [See section 4.5 below for further details]
- d) A **methodology for non-intrusive survey and intrusive evaluation** to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. [See section 4.6-4.8 below for further details]

4.3 The archaeological deposit model will involve the following areas of research:

- a) Collation and assessment of all relevant information held in the SMR, including listed building records.
- b) Assessment of all available excavation report and archives including unpublished and unprocessed material affecting the site and its setting.
- c) Assessment of all extant aerial photographic (AP) evidence and, where relevant, a re-plotting of archaeological and topographic information by a suitably qualified specialist at an appropriate scale. Many of the main archaeological aerial photographic records can be consulted at the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales (RCAHMW), Aberystwyth. However, the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW), Bangor, also holds AP collections including 1940s Luftwaffe photographs, and these may be equally suited to the requirements of the desk-based study.
- d) Assessment of records held at the RCAHMW and University College Bangor, if appropriate.
- e) Assessment of the environmental potential of the archaeological deposits through existing data or by inference.
- f) Assessment of the faunal potential of the archaeological deposits through existing data or by inference.
- g) Assessment of the artefactual potential of the archaeological deposits through existing data or by inference.
- h) Assessment of all available geotechnical information for the area including the results of test pits and boreholes.
- i) Assessment of the present topography and landuse of the area through maps and site visits.

4.4 Historical research will involve the following:

- a) An analysis of relevant maps and plans. Cartographic evidence is held at the County Record Offices, including Tithe Maps, Enclosure Act Plans, Estate Maps and all editions of the Ordnance Survey. Place and field-name evidence from these sources should be considered.

- b) An analysis of the historical documents (e.g. county histories, local and national journals and antiquarian sources) held in museums, libraries or other archives, in particular local history and archives library.
 - c) An assessment of other excavated friaries in Britain, particularly Dominican friaries, for comparative analysis. See, for example, publications on excavations at Guildford, Beverley and Gloucester.
- 4.5 When considering the **issue of setting** for scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings and other sites of national and/or regional significance, the SMR should be consulted to determine if the development falls within any designated landscape areas, such as World Heritage Sites and landscape character areas. Of particular importance are the *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales*, the *Register of Landscapes of Special Historic Interest in Wales*, published by Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments in 1998 and 2001 respectively.
- 4.6 The **evaluation methodology** must consider the use of the following techniques:
- a) Ground survey within the core area.
 - b) The use of geophysical survey.
 - c) A programme of trenching and/or test pits to investigate the deposit model in more detail.
- 4.7 The evaluation should aim to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. An adequate representative sample of all areas where archaeological remains are potentially threatened should be studied.
- 4.8 The evaluation should carefully consider any artefactual and environmental information and provide an assessment of the viability (for further study) of such information. It will be particularly important to provide an indication of the relative importance of such material for any subsequent decision making regarding mitigation strategies.
- 5.0 Results**
- 5.1 The results must be presented in a report and should be detailed and laid out in such a way that data and supporting text are readily cross-referenced. The **SMR Officer should be contacted to ensure that any sites or monuments not previously recorded in the SMR are given a Primary Recognition Number (PRN) and that data structure is compatible with the SMR.** The historical development of the site must be presented in phased maps and plans comprising clearly, the outline of the site.
- 5.2 The deposit model should be presented graphically in plan and, where appropriate, in profile and at a scale that is commensurate with subsequent use as a working document.
- 5.3 Within the report an attempt should be made to indicate areas of greater or lesser archaeological significance and the sites should be ranked in level of overall archaeological importance (locally, regionally and nationally).

- 5.4 All relevant aerial photographs, re-plots and historic maps must be included and be fully referenced.
- 5.5 The report should specifically include the following:
- a) a copy of the design brief
 - b) a location plan
 - c) all located sites plotted on an appropriately scaled plan of the development
 - d) a gazetteer of all located sites, including full dimensional and descriptive detail
- 6.0 **General requirements**
- 6.1 The archaeological assessment must be undertaken by an appropriately qualified individual or organisation, fully experienced in work of this character. Details, including the name, qualifications and experience of the project director and all other key project personnel (including specialist staff) should be communicated to the development control archaeologist and all written work attributed to an author (s).
- 6.2 Contractors and subcontractors are expected to conform to standard professional guidelines, including the following:-
- English Heritage's 1991 Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2).
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1985 (revised 1997) Code of Conduct.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1990 (revised 1997) Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 (revised 1999) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 (revised 1999) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 (revised 1999) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1995 (revised 1999) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1996 (revised 1999) Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1999 Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials.
 - Museum and Galleries Commission 1994 Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections.
 - United Kingdom Institute for Conservation 1990 Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for long-term storage.

- 6.3 Many people in North Wales speak Welsh as their first language, and many of the archive and documentary references are in Welsh. Contractors should therefore give due consideration to their ability to understand and converse in Welsh.
- 6.4 Where relevant, specialist studies of environmental, economic and historical data must include a *statement of potential*. All specialist reports used in the preparation of this study must be reproduced in full in the desk-based study.
- 6.5 A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project should be prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions should be labelled, cross-referenced and lodged in an appropriate place (to be agreed with the archaeological curator) within six months of the completion of the project.
- 6.6 Two copies of the bound report must be sent to the address below, one copy marked for the attention of the Development Control Archaeologist, the other for attention of the SMR Officer, who will deposit the copy in the SMR.
- 6.7 The involvement of Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service should be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

7.0 Glossary of terms

7.1 Archaeological Contractor

A professionally qualified individual or an organisation containing professionally qualified archaeological staff, able to offer an appropriate and satisfactory treatment of the archaeological resource, retained by the developer to carry out archaeological work either prior to the submission of a planning application or as a requirement of the planning process.

7.2 Archaeological Curator

A person, or organisation, responsible for the conservation and management of archaeological evidence by virtue of official or statutory duties. In north-west Wales the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authorities is the development control archaeologist, who works to the Welsh Archaeological Trust's Curators' Code of Practice.

7.3 Archive

An ordered collection of all documents and artefacts from an archaeological project, which at the conclusion of the work should be deposited at a public repository, such as the local museum.

7.4 Assessment

A desk-based archaeological assessment (also known as a *desk-top assessment*) is a detailed consideration of the known or potential archaeological resource within a specified area or site (land-based, intertidal or underwater), consisting of a collation of existing written and graphic information in order to identify the likely character, extent, quality and worth of the known or potential archaeological resource in a local, regional or national context as appropriate.

7.5 Brief

The Association of County Archaeological Officers (1993) defines a *brief* as an outline framework of the planning and archaeological situation which has to be addressed, together with an indication of the scope of works that will be required.

7.6 Evaluation

A limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site; and, if present, defines their character and extent, and relative quality. It enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context, as appropriate. The programme of work will result in the preparation of a report and archive.

7.7 Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)

A documentary record of known sites in a given area. In north-west Wales the SMR is curated by the curatorial division of the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.

7.8 Specification

The Association of County Archaeological Officers (1993) defines a *specification* as a schedule of works outlined in sufficient detail to be quantifiable, implemented and monitored.

8.0 Further information

- 8.1 This document outlines best practice expected of an archaeological assessment but cannot fully anticipate the conditions that will be encountered as work progresses. If requirements of the brief cannot be met they should only be excluded or altered after gaining written approval of the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service.
- 8.2 Further details or clarification of any aspects of the brief may be obtained from the Development Control Archaeologist at the address below.

Emily La Trobe-Bateman
Development Control Archaeologist

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