
Billington's Bros Ltd
Llanrwst Rd
Conwy



Archaeological Assessment

GAT Project No. 1864

Report No. 562

January 2005

Billington's Bros Ltd, Llanrwst Rd Conwy

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Report No. 562

Prepared for Capita Symonds

January 2005

By

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Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

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BILLINGTON'S GARAGE, LLANRWST ROAD, CONWY

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT (G1864)

Summary

An archaeological assessment has been undertaken of an area of land south of the town wall at Conwy presently occupied by Billington's Garage. No known sites of archaeological interest are known to exist within the study area, though a former tide mill and causeway lay immediately adjacent to the north. The study area lies close to the medieval town walls and castle of Conwy, and within the designated 'essential setting' area of the World Heritage Site. The site also lies within a Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales. Recommendations are made for sensitive re-development following consultation with Cadw.

1 INTRODUCTION

Capita Symonds have asked Gwynedd Archaeological Trust to undertake an archaeological assessment of a plot of land, centred on SH 783773, south of Conwy, and currently occupied by Billington's Garage (see fig 1).

A brief has been prepared for this project by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (D949) (see Appendix 1). The assessment has been conducted to a level specified in the Brief, and according to the guidelines specified in *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1994, rev. 1999).

2 SPECIFICATION AND PROJECT DESIGN

An initial 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 of the area of interest in order to assess the likely impact of the scheme on the archaeological and heritage features within the area. The importance of known archaeological remains was to be assessed and areas of archaeological potential to be identified. Measures to mitigate any impact on the archaeological resource were to be suggested.

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

- a) *to identify and record the cultural heritage of the area to be affected*
- 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 recommend ways in which damage to the cultural heritage can be avoided or minimised*

3 METHODS AND TECHNIQUES

3.1 Desk-top Study

Consultation of maps, computer and written records and reference works relating to the study area and its environs, which make up the Sites and Monuments Record, was undertaken at Gwynedd Archaeological Trust. Records (including early Ordnance Survey maps, tithe maps and schedules, estate maps and papers and reference works - see bibliography) were also consulted in the library and the archives of the University of Wales, Bangor, and the county archives at Llandudno.

3.2 Report

All available information was collated, and, where relevant, sites were allocated to a category of importance as defined below. Recommendations for further evaluation are given in the relevant sections of this report.

The categories listed below follow the guidelines given in *Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology* (Welsh Office circular 60/96). The allocation of a site to a category defines the importance of the archaeological resource of that site.

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

Category A - Sites of National Importance.

This category includes Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM's), Grade I and II* (and some Grade II) Listed Buildings and sites of similar quality, i.e. those which would meet the requirements for scheduling or listing at the top two grades. There is a presumption in favour of preservation of all such sites and their settings should they come under threat. Such sites might include those that survive principally as buried remains.

Category B - Sites of Regional Importance

This includes sites that would fulfill the criteria for listing at grade II (if a building), but not for scheduling (if a relict archaeological site). Nevertheless, such sites are of scheduling or listing (grades I or II*), 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

These sites are not of sufficient importance to justify a recommendation for preservation if threatened, but nevertheless merit adequate recording in advance of damage or destruction.

Category D - Minor and Damaged Sites

These are sites, which are of minor importance, or are so badly damaged that too little remains to justify their inclusion in a higher category. For these sites, rapid recording either in advance or during destruction, should be sufficient.

Category E - Sites needing further investigation

Sites, the importance of which 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.

Definition of field evaluation techniques

Field evaluation is necessary to allow the reclassification of the category E sites, and to allow the evaluation are areas of land where there are no visible features, but for which there is potential for sites to exist. Two principal techniques can be used for carrying out the evaluation: geophysical survey and trial trenching.

Field visit

This part of the assessment involves visiting the study area and its environs, assess any sites identified during the desk-based study, and to assess any other sites which may exist as above ground features. All sites noted are photographed and their present condition recorded.

Geophysical survey

This technique involves the use of a magnetometer, which detects variation in the earth's magnetic field caused by the presence of iron in the soil. This is usually in the form of weakly magnetised iron oxides, which tend to be concentrated in the topsoil. Features cut into the subsoil and back-filled or silted with topsoil contain greater amounts of iron and can therefore be detected with the gradiometer. Strong readings can be produced by the presence of iron objects, and also hearths or kilns.

Other forms of geophysical survey are available, of which resistivity survey is the other most commonly used. However, for rapid coverage of large areas, the magnetometer is usually considered the most cost-effective method. It is also possible to scan a large area very rapidly by walking with the magnetometer, and marking the location of any high or low readings, but not actually logging the readings for processing.

Trial trenching

Buried archaeological deposits cannot always be detected from the surface, even with geophysics, and trial trenching allows a representative sample of the development area to be investigated. Trenches of an appropriate size can also be excavated to evaluate category E sites. These trenches typically measure between 20m and 30m long by 2m wide. The turf and topsoil is removed by mechanical excavator, and the resulting surface cleaned by hand and examined for features. Anything noted is further examined, so that the nature of any remains can be understood, and mitigation measures can be recommended.

Definition of Mitigatory Recommendations

Below are the measures that may be recommended to mitigate the impact of the development on the archaeology.

None:

No impact so no requirement for mitigatory measures.

Detailed recording:

Requiring a photographic record, surveying and the production of a measure drawing prior to commencement of works.

Archaeological excavation may also be required depending on the particular feature and the extent and effect of the impact.

Basic recording:

Requiring a photographic record and full description prior to commencement of works.

Watching brief:

Requiring observation of particular identified features or areas during works in their vicinity. This may be supplemented by detailed or basic recording of exposed layers or structures.

Avoidance:

Features, which may be affected directly by the scheme, or during the construction, should be avoided. Occasionally a minor change to the proposed plan is recommended, but more usually it refers to the need for care to be taken during construction to avoid accidental damage to a feature. This is often best achieved by clearly marking features prior to the start of work.

Reinstatement:

The feature should be re-instated with archaeological advice and supervision.

4 RESULTS OF ASSESSMENT

4.1 Topographic description

The medieval castle and borough at Conwy were constructed on the west bank of the R Conwy, on the east end of a ridge of Silurian gritstone. To the south lies the valley formed by the R Gyffn, a tributary of the Conwy. The sloping ground to the north and west was defended by the town walls. The study area lies adjacent to and below the castle walls, on the south bank of the R Gyffn. This was a low lying, relatively marshy area, and of

little use for settlement, though three water mills were situated on the river, one of which may of lain on or close to the study area. The borough was constructed at the lowest crossing point of the Conwy, a site of strategic significance, recognised earlier by the construction of Deganwy castle on the east side of the river.

4.2 Archaeological and historical background

Though there is ample evidence for prehistoric activity within the surrounding area, particularly on the higher sides of the Conwy Valley, the closest major settlement is the hillfort and related settlements on Conwy Mountain some 2 Km west of the town, and the only evidence for activity closer to medieval Conwy is a bronze flat axe found on the west slopes of castle rock, and dating from the earlier Bronze Age (c. 1800 BC) (Hemp 1939).

The R Conwy forms a major physical boundary, and consequently was used as a political and military boundary at different times. The Romans chose to defend the crossing further some 7.2Km south at Caerhun where they built a Roman fort, and in the 11th century a motte was erected 1.8Km to the north of the fort. However, the northern section of the river was initially defended by a castle on the east bank at Deganwy, where settlement may date back to the 5th or 6th century. This castle was finally destroyed in 1263, and when Edward I decided to establish a military stronghold in Conwy he chose the west bank of the river, a site already occupied by a Cistercian monastery, that had been founded c. 1198. Though only the church now remains from the period of monastic use, evidence suggests the monastic buildings lay north of the church, towards the present high street. The monks were given a new site up-river of Conwy, at Maenan, alongside an existing grange.

The town and castle of Conwy were constructed as a part of Edward I's subjection of Wales following the death of Llywelyn ap Gruffydd in 1282 and the defeat of his brother in 1283. The ring of castles included Flint, Caernarfon, Harlech and subsequently Beaumaris. Construction of Conwy castle was started in 1283, and was largely complete by 1288 (history and descriptions of the castle and town walls can be found in Toy 1937, Hughes 1938, Hemp 1939, RCAHMW 1956 and Taylor 1963; for a summary of the history of the medieval borough see Soulsby 1986).

The history of the castle in the later Middle Ages is described as one of 'long periods of neglect, interspersed with periodic attempts to arrest the decay' (Cadw 1990, 9). In 1627 the whole building was in decline and dangerous to enter. The castle was re-fortified during the civil war, the work arranged and paid for by John Williams, initially on behalf of the King, but following lack of recognition of his hard work, he switched sides to help the Parliamentary forces. After the civil war the castle was returned to the ownership of the third Lord Conway, who, in 1665, proceeded to strip the castle of its lead and timber (Cadw 1990, 10).

In 1826 Telford's road and new suspension bridge were opened, and it is likely that the arched opening through the town wall between the castle and the mill gate was created at this time. Hyde Hall, writing in the early years of the 19th century records a road running west from this point to serve Bennarth, though the Gyffin road still ran further west (Hyde Hall). In 1848 the railway and tubular bridge were built on the south side of the castle and town wall, though further west the railway passed through the town walls, where a wide Tudor style opening was constructed.

4.2.1 The study area

The study area is located to the south and east of the mill gate, constructed 1285-6 as part of the town defences. This gate was so-called because it gave access to the town mills, of which there were at least two, and possibly three. The lower mill was a tide mill, whilst the upper mill lay closer to the church of Gyffin, and took its power source from the river. In 1296 it is recorded that a new mill and leat were constructed at Gyffin for £8.19sh.5d (Taylor 1963, 350). This may have been because the town mills are recorded as being destroyed during the uprising of Madoc ap Llywelyn in 1294. Lewis says that the mills were still in a ruinous state in 1307, but rebuilt some time before 1316 (Lewis 1912, 190). The mills were granted to the burgesses, and were subsequently inherited by the borough, remaining in use until the end of the 18th century.

In the early 19th century a new opening was made in the town walls between mill gate and the castle. It led initially to the estate and house of Benarth, across a bridge over the R Gyffin called Pont Pensarn. The estate was improved, and a new house built in classical style in 1790 for Samuel Price of Lincoln's Inn Fields. When the railway was built the road leading from Mill Gate to Gyffin was closed, and the southern Benarth road over Pont Pensarn was extended to meet the original Gyffin road on the south side of the river.

The study area lies on the south bank of the Gyffin, and on the west side of Pont Pensarn. The site is currently occupied by a garage and workshops of later 20th century date. For the first half of the 20th century the site east and west of the bridge was a timber yard (as shown on the 1900 OS map). The site was later used as a cattle market, though the exact dating of change from timber yard to cattle market and later garage has not been fully established. The present buildings, from their style of construction, all appear to date from around the middle of the 20th century.

The word sarn (within the name Pont Pensarn) refers to a causeway, and it is possible that this causeway once formed the dam of the lower or tidal mill. Several references refer to the dam associated with the Salt or Tide mill. For example in 1610 Dorythee Edward was 'drowned att the Salte myll Dame' (quoted in Tucker 1960, 96), and in the Borough Records are a series of 18th century accounts of the town mills that show the salt mill was considerably more profitable than the upper mill. In 1704 repairs are recorded being undertaken to the dam of the salt and malt mills, implying a malt mill lay close-to the salt mill (the accounts are in Conwy Record Office, XB2/2 and XB2/3). These accounts show the mill was operating until the latter years of the 18th century. References after that date are less obvious, and the construction of the railway in the mid 19th century would certainly have had a major impact on the mill.

It has not been possible to locate the site of the former tidal mill accurately. It is probable that the bridge at Pont Pensarn marks the site of a dam or weir that would have held back the tidal water. In which case the mill would have been situated somewhere on the causeway. The Buck Brothers drawing of 1742 shows a very clear view up the Gyffin, and there are clearly indicated two buildings below the mill gate which may be the salt mill and malt mill, though no dams or leats are shown. A view of the town in 1600 does not show any buildings in this location. A map surveyed in 1776 but with annotations of 1810 does show a series of enclosures north of Post Pensarn (labelled AA, A and B) with an unlabelled enclosure to the south that includes a small building alongside the river (fig 2). This could be the former mill building, and the enclosures may have been created from the former mill pool between 1790 and 1810. Neither the tithe map nor the first OS map of 1889 indicate the site of any mill building. At the time of the tithe map schedule (1846 for Gyffin, 1848 for Conwy) the land on both sides of the river at Pont Pensarn was owned by Lady Jane Silence Erskine (formerly Jane Silence Williams, who inherited the Pwll Crochan estate (Colwyn Bay), and married Sir David Erskine). By the time of the first edition OS map of 1889 the land south of the river, incorporating the present study area, was a timber yard. A photograph of the 1880's clearly shows this use (fig 11).

former
tidal
mill
PEN
29710

former
timber
yard
PEN 29711

4.3 Results of the desk-top study

4.3.1 Statutory protection and environmental designations

The study area contains no sites recorded within the Sites and Monuments Record maintained by the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust. However, the area lies immediately adjacent to the town walls and castle that are Scheduled Ancient Monuments and in State Care. The castle and walls are also part of the World Heritage Site (The castles and town walls of Edward I in Gwynedd), and the study area lies within the defined 'essential setting', though outside the boundary of the World Heritage Site. To the south of the study area lies Benarth Hall, listed as grade II in the non-statutory defined *Register of Landscapes, parks and gardens of special historic interest in Wales* (Cadw/Icomos 1998). The study area lies within the non-statutory Creuddyn and Conwy historic landscape (*Register of landscapes of outstanding historic interest in Wales*).

It is recommended that Cadw should be consulted concerning any future development within the study area.

4.3.2 Archaeology of the site

The structures presently on site are mid-20th century buildings forming the present garage. None of the structures, from their style of construction, appears to date from the use of the site as a timber yard. Any buried archaeology is likely to have been destroyed by the construction of the present buildings, and by the former use of the site as a timber yard. Evidence would suggest that the remains of the former mill lay on the north bank of the present river, either under or immediately south of the railway line, though a suitable site also exists slightly west, between the bridge and carpark, but again on the north bank of the river, and outside the present study area.

garage &
workshops
PEN
29712

4.3.3 Recommendations for mitigation

It is recommended that future development of the site is designed in consultation with Cadw in order to minimise any impact upon the Edwardian castle and borough. It is also recommended that a watching brief be maintained

during relevant periods of construction, specifically to look for information relating to the former tide mill and causeway.

5 BIBLIOGRAPHY

5.1 Archival sources

5.1.1 Conwy Record Office

Caernarfon county series 25" ordnance survey IV.12, IV.13, IV.16 (1890, 1900)
Tithe map of Conwy and Gyffin
Borough Records

5.1.3 University of Wales, Bangor, dept of mss

UWB General 2383

5.2 Published Sources

Cadw 1990 (3rd edition) *Conwy Castle and Town Walls*.

Cadw & Welsh Assembly Government, 2004 *World Heritage Site Management Plan: The Castles and Town Walls of Edward I in Gwynedd*.

Ellis, S., & Mather, H., 1998 *Images of Wales: Conwy County Borough*; Stroud.

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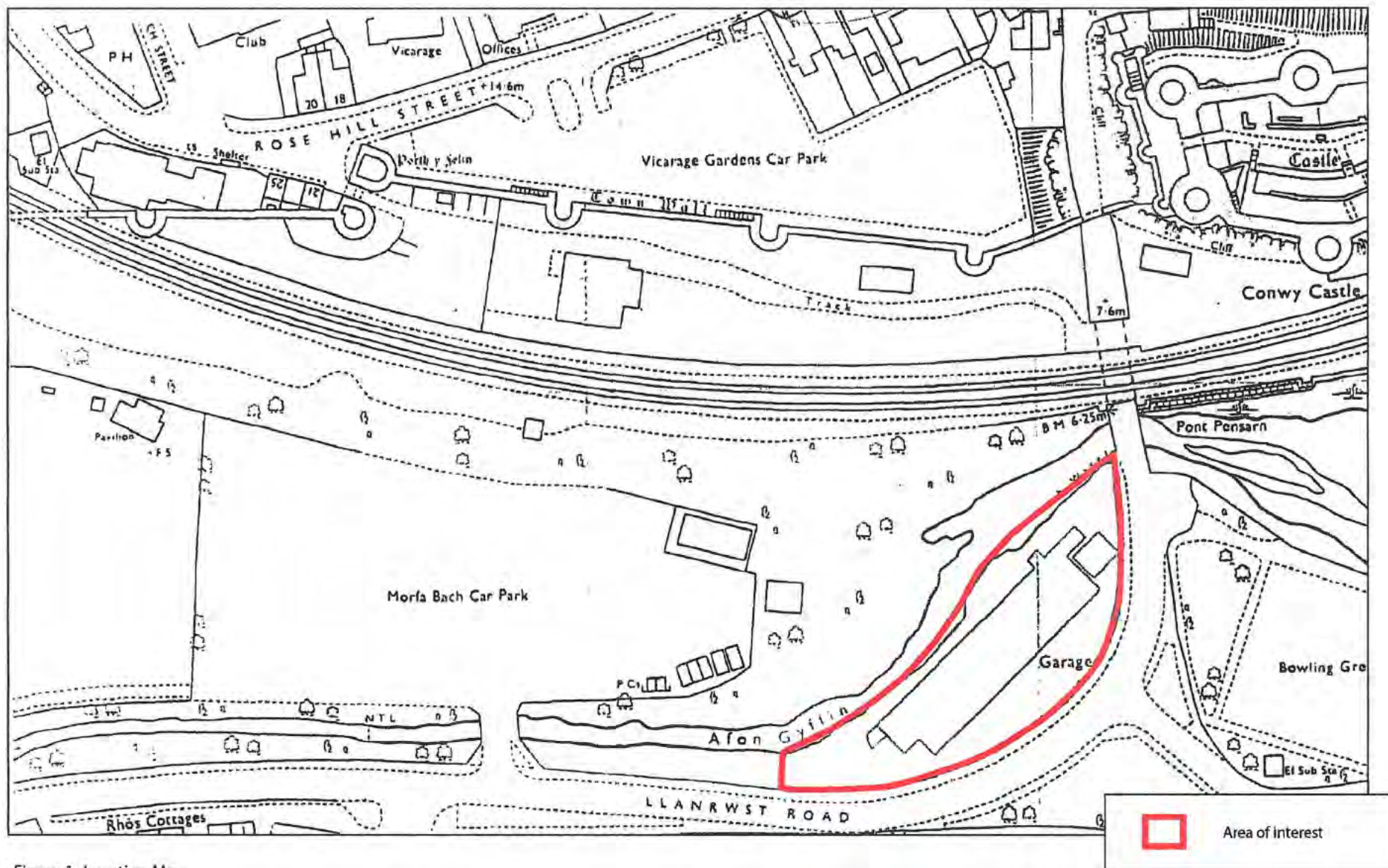


Figure 1. Location Map

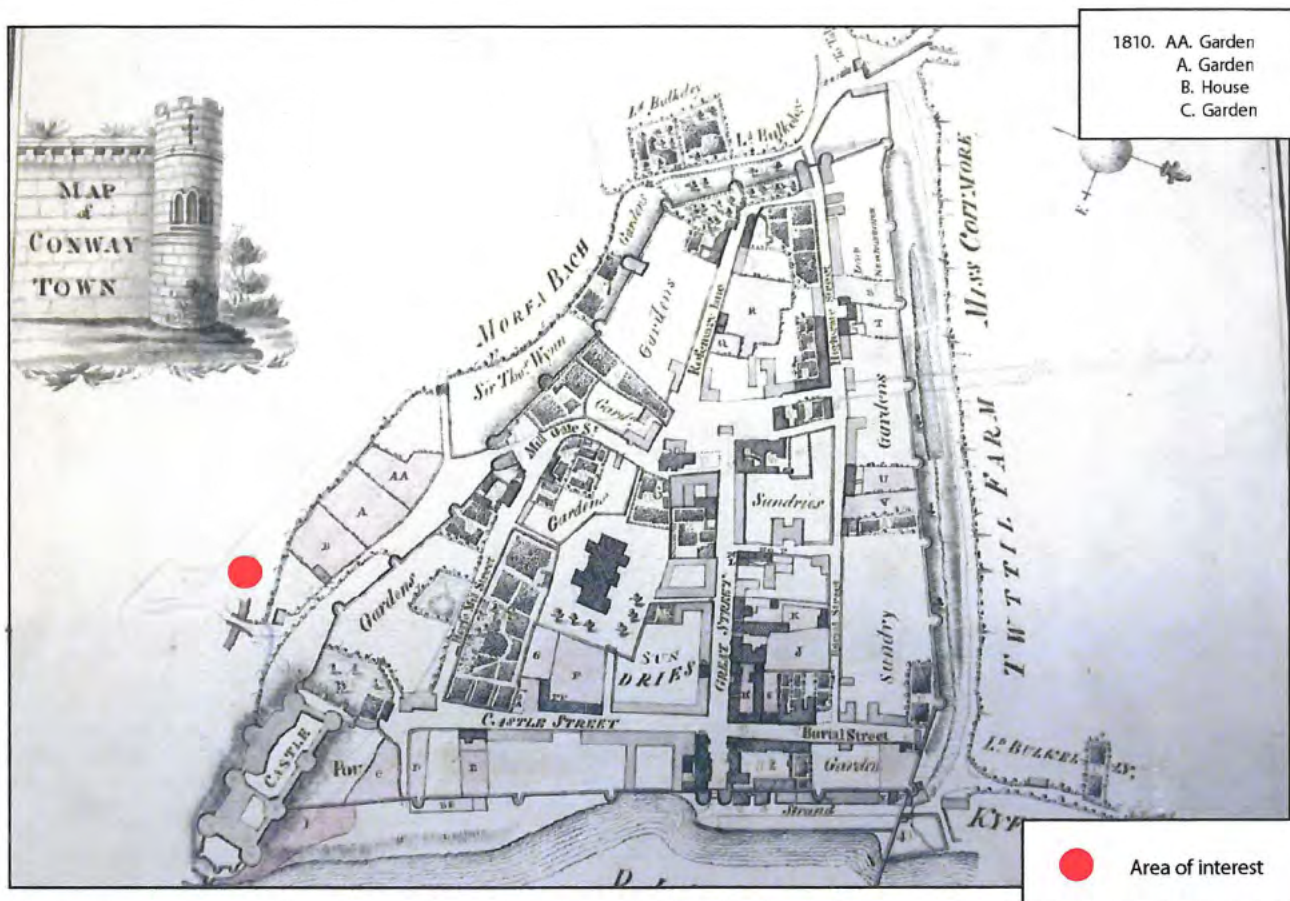


Figure 2. Bangor Manuscript 2383. Map of Estates, property of Owen Holland. Esq. By A. Bowdler. 1776. Annotated 1810. (coloured pink). Map of Conwy Town. Pg 40. Map 1.

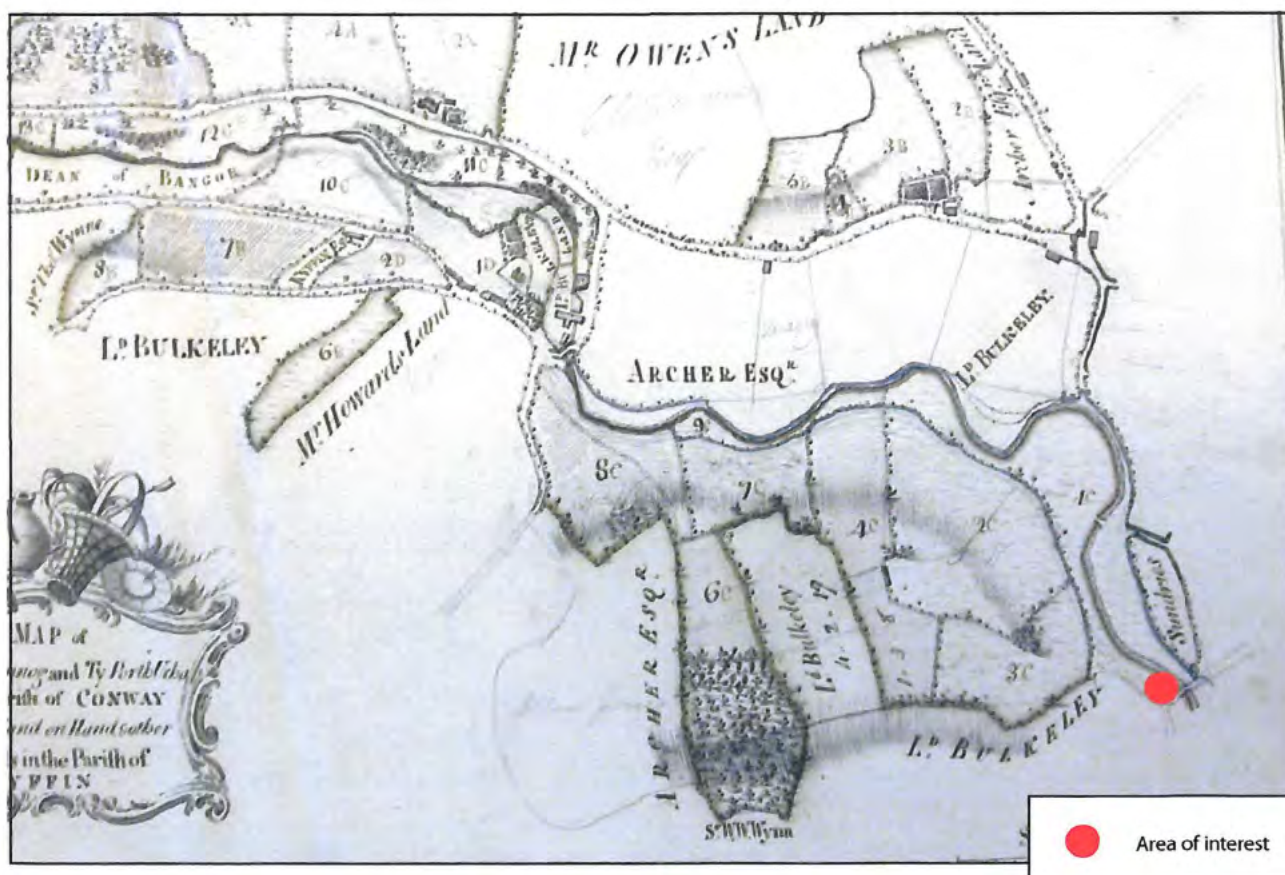


Figure 3. Bangor Manuscript 2383. Map of Estates, property of Owen Holland. Esq. By A. Bowdler. 1776. Annotated 1810. (Coloured pink). Map of Bryn Y Gynnog & Porth Ucha & land in parish Gyffin. Pg 44. Map 3.

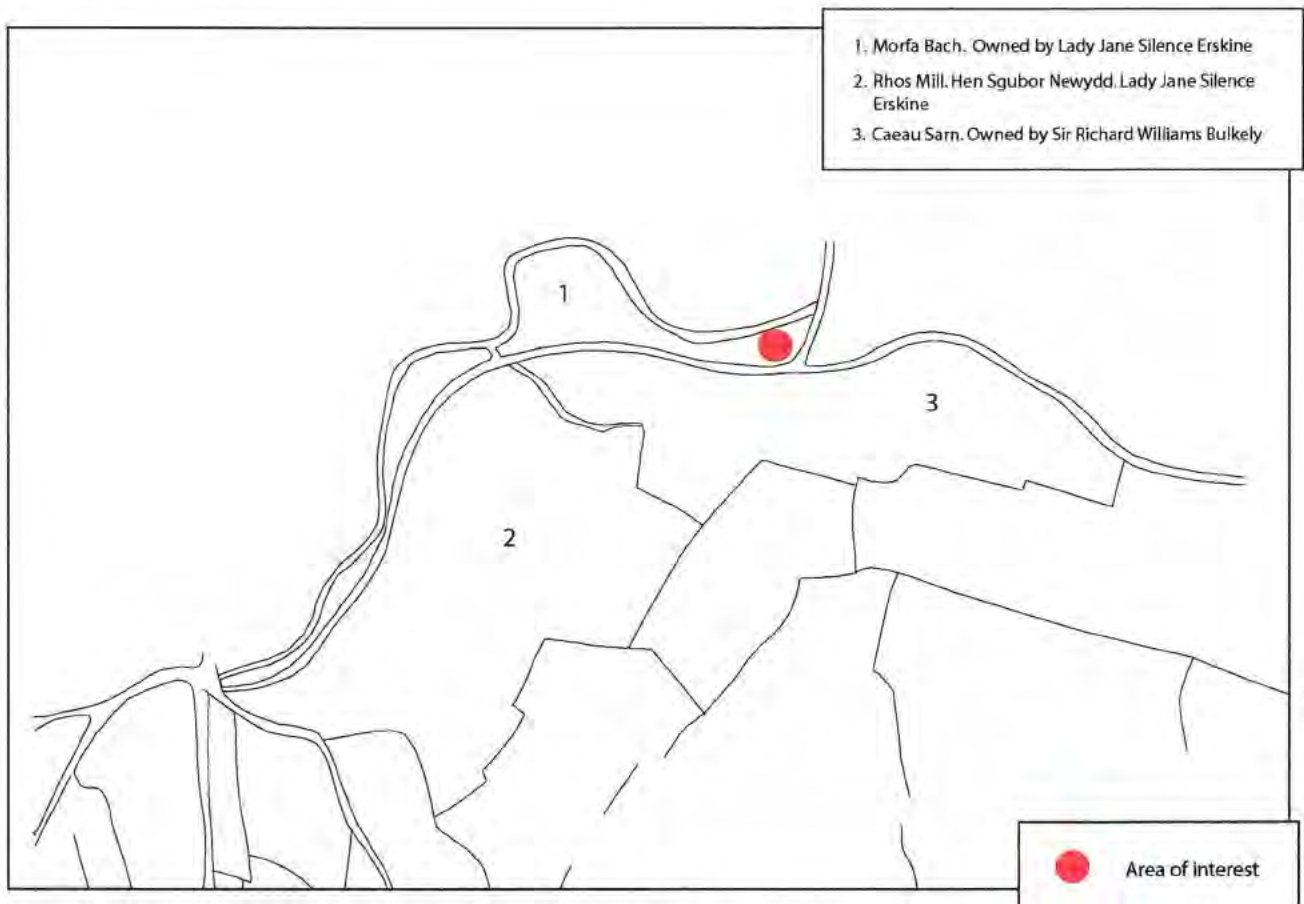


Figure 4. 1848. Gyffin Tithe Survey.

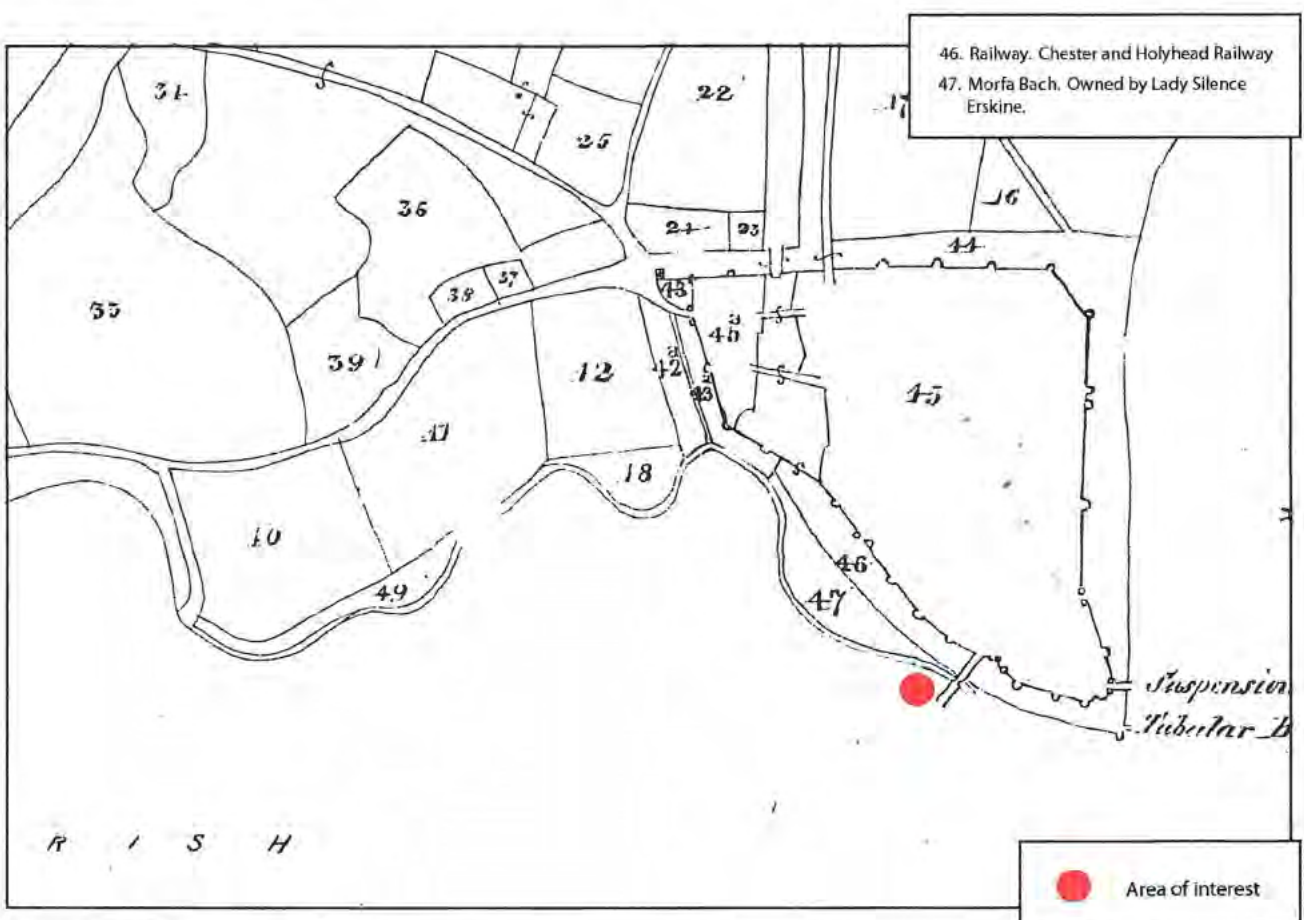


Figure 5. 1846. Conwy Tithe Survey.

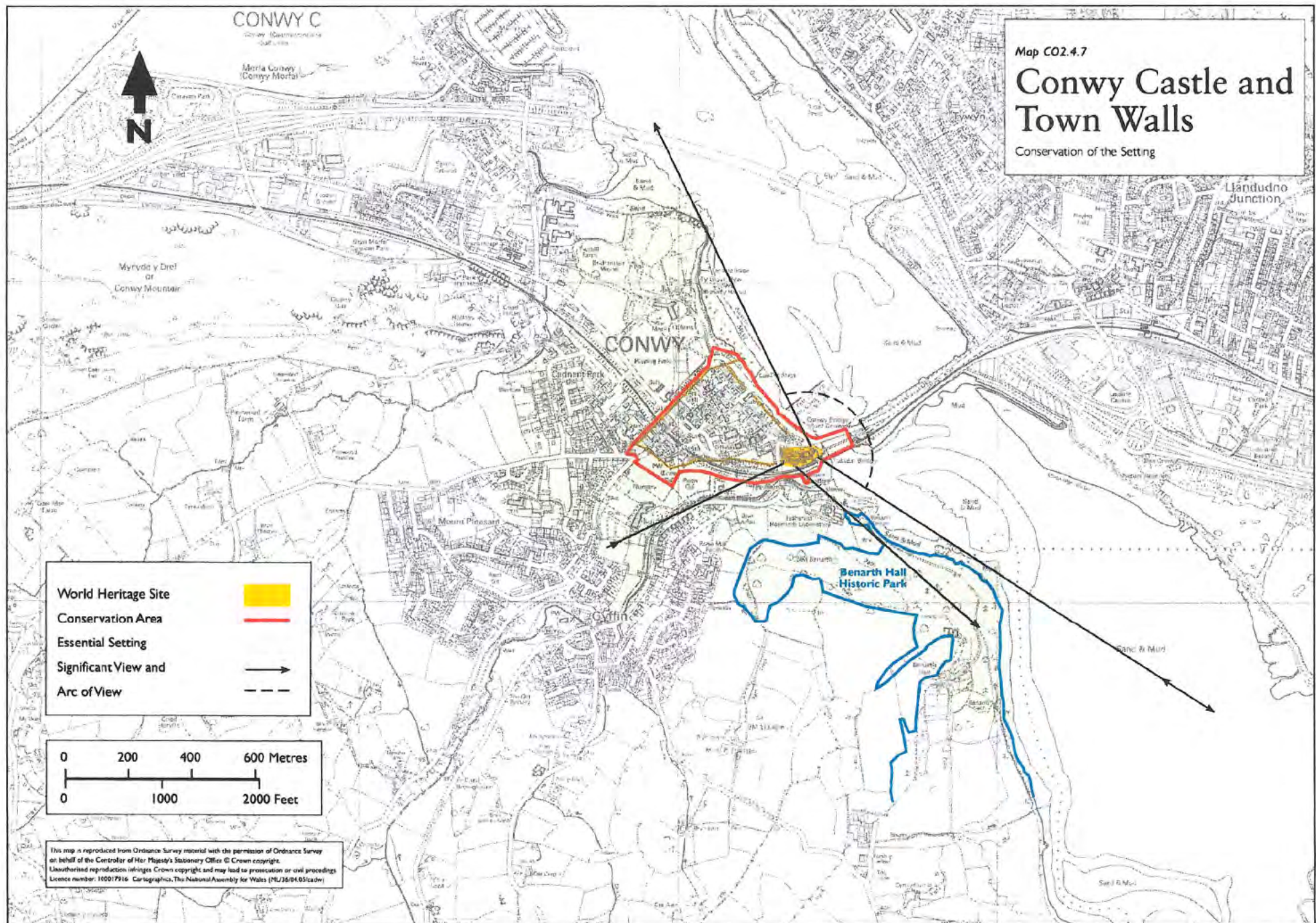


Figure 7. Map showing World Heritage Site. (CADW, World Heritage Site Management Plan, 2004)



Figure 8. Conwy, 1600. (CADW, *Conwy Castle*, 1990).

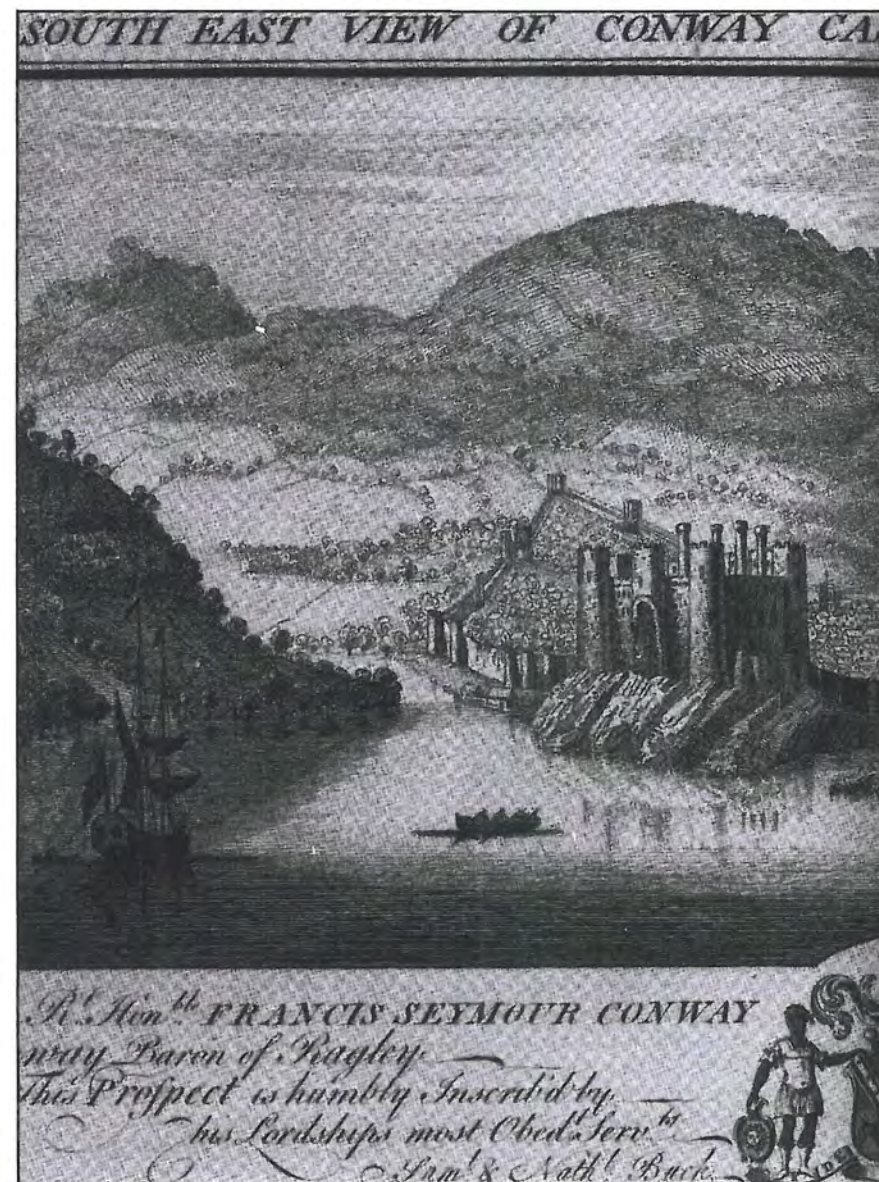


Figure 9. South east view of Conwy. Buck Brothers. 1742.



Figure 10. A view of Conwy Castle, Sandby. P, 1770. (CADW, *Conwy Castle*, 1990)



Figure 11. Conwy Castle and the Chester and Holyhead Railway, 1880. (Ellis, S & Mather, H, *Images of Wales, Conwy County Borough*, 1998).

APPENDIX I

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BRIEF

DESIGN BRIEF FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service

Site: Billington's Bros. Ltd / Garage Site, Llanrwst Road, Conwy

Client: Capita Symonds Ltd, Clarendon House, Stamford New Rd, Altrincham

Date: 13 December 2004

Planning Reference: Pre-application

National Grid Reference: 278291, 377342

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 proposed development comprises an area of land sandwiched between the Afon Gyffin and Llanrwst Road, just outside the town wall to the south of Conwy.
- 1.2. The site is currently used as a garage.
- 1.3. Conwy is located on the north coast of north-west Wales, at the mouth of the Afon Conwy.

2.0 Archaeological Background

- 2.1 The origins of Conwy in its present form date back to the conquest of Wales by Edward I in 1283: Conwy Castle was one of four castles with associated boroughs established in north-west Wales at that time (the others being Beaumaris, Caernarfon and Harlech).
- 2.2 The building currently located on the site was constructed between 1915 and 1953. The site was originally used as a cattle market before becoming a garage. Buildings existed on the plot prior to the publication of the 1891 Ordnance Survey map and the area is identified as a timber yard on the 1901 map.
- 2.3 The status of Conwy as a site of international importance has been formally recognised by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in its designation as a World Heritage Site. The castle (C004) and town walls (C014) are protected as nationally important sites by their designation as Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM).

2.4 Documentation

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

- Cadw 2004. World Heritage Site Management Plan: The Castles and Town Walls of Edward I in Gwynedd: 23-29 & 64-69
- Davidson, A. 1997. *Conwy Quay: Archaeological Assessment*. Bangor: Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Ltd.
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- Smith, G. 2002. Cadnant School, Conwy: *Demolition and Landscaping – Archaeological Watching Brief*. Bangor: Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Ltd.
- Soulsby, I. 1983. The Towns of Medieval Wales: a study of their history, archaeology and early topography: 110-115. Sussex: Phillimore.

3.0 The nature of the development and archaeological requirements

- 3.1 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**.
- 3.2 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
- 3.3 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*. 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 effecting 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 must 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.

- 4.4 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.
- 4.5 The **evaluation methodology** must consider the use of the following techniques:
- a) Building recording.
 - b) Ground survey within the core area.
 - c) The use of geophysical survey.
 - d) A programme of trenching and/or test pits to investigate the deposit model in more detail.
- 4.6 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.
- 4.7 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 Results

- 5.0 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.
- 5.1 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.
- 5.2 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).
- 5.3 All relevant aerial photographs, re-plots and historic maps must be included and be fully referenced.
- 5.4 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 with full dimensional and descriptive detail including grid reference and period

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 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.

Glossary of terms

- 7.0 *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.
- 7.1 *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.
- 7.2 *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.
- 7.3 *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.
- 7.4 *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.
- 7.5 *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.
- 7.6 *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.

7.7 *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 Further information

- 8.0 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.
- 8.1 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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