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# **Trac Ty Croes, Ynys Mon: Archaeological Watching Brief**

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## **Archaeological Watching Brief 2006**

**GAT Project No. 1917**

**Report No. 650**

**October 2006**

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## **Archaeological Watching Brief**

**Report No. 650**

**Prepared for Meyrick Estate Management Ltd.**

**October 2006**

**By**

**John Roberts**

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# Trac Ty Croes, Ynys Mon: Archaeological Watching Brief

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## ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

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# Trac Ty Croes, Ynys Mon: Archaeological Watching Brief

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# Archaeological Watching Brief: Trac Ty Croes (G1917)

## SUMMARY

*An archaeological watching brief has been undertaken in advance of proposed alterations and developments at the Anglesey Circuit, Ty Croes. The site was formerly a Ministry of Defence (MoD) Military Camp, established in 1942 and closed during the 1970's, which was used for the test firing of anti-aircraft (AA) weapons and surface-to-air missiles (SAM). In 1997 the Anglesey Circuit (Trac Môn) was opened as a championship motor racing circuit, utilising much of the land formerly used as the military camp.*

*The watching brief identified remnants of former MoD buildings towards the centre of the development area and evidence for the demolition of other MoD buildings towards the north of the SAM emplacements. The two large enclosed fields at the eastern and southern end of the development, which had previously remained undeveloped, did not contain any substantial features, although part of a clawdd (stone-lined) wall was identified at the southern end of this area.*

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Meyrick Estate Management Ltd has commissioned Gwynedd Archaeological Trust to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the alterations and developments at the Anglesey Circuit, Ty Croes, Ynys Môn. The development is centred on NGR SH 333691 and the affected area is indicated on the site plan (Figure 1). The development area contains remnants of a 20<sup>th</sup> century MoD Military Camp, including gun emplacements, a transport network and redundant workshop buildings.

The development includes plans to alter the current layout of the track as well as to extend the track length to include two adjacent fields to the east of the current site, covering an area of c.46ha. The development proposal is shown on Capita Symonds Drawing No. 59168/RC/25 (Rev 4; see Figure 2).

An archaeological assessment was undertaken in March 2002 by The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT Report no. 426). The principal archaeology on the site was identified as that associated with the military camp, and, whilst a number of prehistoric and medieval sites were identified within the locale, there were none within the development area. This was followed by a programme of archaeological mitigation undertaken by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust in May 2006 (GAT Report No. 642). A total of fourteen features were inspected and recorded: this included the former MoD building (PRN 15160), a series of surface-to-air missile (SAM) emplacements (PRN 15160) and an agricultural building thought to be a re-used MoD building.

Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service has prepared a Brief for this project (ref. D458; reproduced in Appendix). A project design was prepared conforming to the requirements specified within the Brief, and in the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1995, rev. 1999).

## 2.0 SPECIFICATION AND PROJECT DESIGN

The basic requirement was for a watching brief of the development area during groundworks, in order to identify and record any archaeological features within the area concerned. The importance and condition of known archaeological remains were to be assessed and areas of archaeological potential identified. Measures to mitigate the effects of the construction work on the archaeological resource were designed (Appendix I).

An inspection of the revised layout of the race circuit reveals that there will be considerable alterations to the outline of the track as well as the surrounding landscape. The track itself will be considerably longer, expanding much further southwards and westwards from the original layout. Figures 1 and 2 show the current location of the racetrack as well as the proposed layout for the new track. The main entrance and the race control centre and marshalling point will remain, as will the length of track running south then west from this point. The remainder of the track will be considerably altered, with a series of chicanes (tight serpentine curves) and long stretches of track leading the race back to the marshalling point, then eastwards following an extensive loop incorporating the entire eastern end of the site. The main access road to the circuit will be replaced.

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

- Intermittent observation of non-archaeological excavation works within the specified areas;
- A drawn, written and photographic record of any archaeological structures and deposits that may be revealed;
- Preparation of a full archive report;

In accordance with *IFA* guidelines, a watching brief is defined as an opportunity to allow, "within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works" (*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1995, rev. 1999). Subsequently, a watching brief is divided into several categories: comprehensive (present during all ground disturbance), intensive (present during sensitive ground disturbance), intermittent (viewing the trenches after machining), or partial (as and when seems appropriate) (*ibid.* para. 3.2.10). For this project an intermittent watching brief of the groundworks was required (GAPS Ref. D458: para. 4.0)

### **3.0 METHODS AND TECHNIQUES**

The watching brief was undertaken between the 6<sup>th</sup> of June and 21<sup>st</sup> of August, 2006.

The aim of the watching brief was to monitor the alterations and developments at the Anglesey Circuit, Ty Croes, Ynys Môn. Particular attention was to be paid to groundworks in the area adjacent to the railway, SAM and AA emplacements and military platforms (PRN 15161: Features A to L; Figure 2) and at two adjacent fields to the east of the circuit (Figure 2; Phase I Area).

*Jones Bros. Ltd* undertook the major groundworks, with additional work undertaken at the site of the former agricultural building by *Meyrick Estate Management Ltd*.

A variety of machines were used during the groundworks, including 360° tracked excavators, bulldozers and boxscrapers.

### **4.0 TOPOGRAPHY**

The existing circuit and watching brief area occupy a broad coastal headland projecting from the south-western edge of Ynys Môn, to the north of Aberffraw Bay. The site is c.2.0km west of the village of Aberffraw and occupies an area of c.46ha. The site stands between 20 and 40m above Ordnance Datum. It is located to the north and west of a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI): Tywyn/Aberffraw and is part of the Anglesey Coastline Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

### **5.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

#### **5.1 Archaeological and historical background**

(Reproduced from GAT Report 642; for a detailed archaeological and historical background cf. CPAT Report No. 426).

The military camp at Ty Croes was set up originally in 1942 as a school for heavy anti-aircraft (AA) gunnery. The main weapon used was the 3.7" Vickers AA gun, which fired within a range danger area of 28,000 yards out to sea from the gun emplacements. Radar and radar defeating devices were also tested at Ty Croes (Explosive Ordnance Risk Management. *Ty Croes Anglesey: Historical Desktop Study* Report 0103 EGN Tycroes 01: 08).

The gunnery practice used target planes: radio-controlled versions of the Tiger Moth bi-plane, known as "Queen Bees", which were flown from RAF Bodorgan under the control of No.70 Group Army Co-operation Command (Sloan 1992: 70). The AA guns were located at three firing points along the coastline. The northernmost firing point was arranged as a 4-5 anti-aircraft gun battery, whilst the two remaining points were single gun firing emplacements (Explosive Ordnance Risk Management. *Ty Croes Anglesey: Historical Desktop Study* Report 0103 EGN Tycroes 01: 08).

The southernmost of these two single firing points is still visible as a rectangular concreted area and is recorded below as Feature L (para. 5.2; Figure 1). The other two firing points are outside the development area.

The location of the main infrastructure buildings was in the centre of the camp. The plans for these buildings were reproduced in the report for Explosive Ordnance Risk Management. *Ty Croes Anglesey: Historical Desktop Study* Report 0103 EGN Tycroes 01: Annexe B (Figure 3) and they include the location of the accommodation blocks, the classrooms and the stores for the camp. None of these buildings are still standing as the area was landscaped during the construction of the Ty Croes race circuit and all that remains is a triangular shaped enclosed area north of the race track control centre (see Figure 1).

Ty Croes was subsequently used for the testing of surface-to-air missiles (SAM), with plans drawn up in 1959 for a more extensive military complex, including assembly and storage buildings for the missiles. These buildings were mainly located in the centre of the camp (and since removed). It is also likely that the majority of the outlying structures still in existence were built during this period. This would include the network of concrete roads that cross the site to the west of the racetrack as well as a series of buildings and concrete emplacements to the south of the racetrack. These include a storage area now used for racing tyres, a former MoD store (PRN 15160) and two concrete emplacements (PRN's 15156 and 15157; located outside the development area).

The range danger area for the remodelled camp was extended to 65,000 yards out to sea from the SAM emplacements (Explosive Ordnance Risk Management. *Ty Croes Anglesey: Historical Desktop Study* Report 0103 EGN Tycroes 01: 08.).

The SAMs tested at Ty Croes were the Thunderbird (Mks I and II), the Bloodhound and the Rapier. More limited testing was undertaken for the Blowpipe, Petrel and Skua missiles. A 105mm light artillery gun, probably the OTO-Melara Mod 56, was also trialled at the camp in the late 1960's (*ibid.*).

The camp was subsequently used for training military units in the operation of the equipment, with the final unit training completed in 1970. The camp was closed in April 1973, but saw limited military use after this when it was used as a gun target range (*ibid.*).

## **5.2 Results of the Archaeological Watching Brief**

The archive is held by GAT under the project number (G1917).

The groundwork contractors, *Jones Bros. Ltd*, separated the groundworks into three phases:

- Phase I encompassed the groundworks at the eastern and southern end of the development area, incorporating the two adjacent fields identified in the GAPS Design Brief as requiring an intermittent watching brief (GAPS Ref. D458; para. 4.7);
- Phase II encompassed the western portion of the development area and incorporated PRN 15161 and Features A to L, listed in the GAT Assessment Report 642 as part of the former military compound;
- Phase III encompassed the central and northern portion of the development area and encompassed the majority of the original racetrack as well as the "agricultural building" assessed in GAT Report 642.

The groundworks within the three phases were conducted simultaneously.

### **Phase I (Figure 2)**

This phase encompassed the groundworks at the eastern and southern end of the development area and was used as the location of the site compound. Prior to the groundworks, this area comprised two large

pasture fields enclosed by *clawdd* field boundaries (PRN 15,152; Figure 2). The *clawdd* field boundaries were earthen banks lined with stone, standing c.1.5m high (Plate 1 includes a section through the north-south aligned *clawdd*). To the north and west of this area was the original Ty Croes track as well as a network of access roads and a large parking area for the racetrack vehicles. The intention of the development was to extend the racetrack through the two fields by removing the *clawdd* boundaries and stripping the topsoil. This area had remained undeveloped during the operation of Ty Croes as a military compound and the assessment of the site suggested the potential for prehistoric remains and also identified lynchet earthworks indicative of medieval farming (PRN 15,154; Hankinson R and Silvester, R, 2002).

The groundworks began with the removal of the central *clawdd* and the construction of the site compound. The location of the compound was stripped using a 360° excavator. The excavator only removed the turf and a limited amount of the topsoil and did not expose the subsoil, thus negating any chance to identify latent archaeology. The excavated material was then stockpiled to the side of the compound. A breach was also made through the north-south aligned *clawdd* for site machinery to access the compound (Plate 1). The remainder of Phase I was stripped using a combination of box scrapers, 360° excavators and bulldozers, with the boxscrapers initially removing the topsoil and the other machines stockpiling the stripped material. The consequence of using boxscrapers was that there was a constant flow of traffic across the stripped areas making a visual inspection of the ground very difficult (Plate 2). Moreover, the initial stage of stripping did not expose the subsoil. The only identified feature comprised two parallel lines of closely set stones located at the extreme southern end of the site. The stones were aligned on a general west to east alignment with a total length of 32.0m. The stones were set 2.25m apart and were identified as the remains of a former *clawdd* wall (Figure 2; Plate 3). No other features were identified within Phase I.

## **Phase II** (Figure 2)

This phase encompassed the southwestern portion of the development, incorporating segments of the original racetrack and a series of features associated with the operation of the military compound (PRN 15,161). These features included a narrow-gauge railway, SAM and AA emplacements and a series of concrete storage platforms (Figure 2). These features were first identified in the assessment of the development area (Hankinson R and Silvester, R, 2002) and were subsequently recorded as Features A to L in the archaeological record of the site undertaken by the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (Roberts, J. 2006; see Figure 2 for their location). It was noticed during the recording phase that many of the features were partially obscured by vegetation and it was hoped the watching brief would identify more features within the area.

A large strip had already been cut through the area prior to the recording phase. This strip was c.25.0m long and followed part of the new track (see Figure 2). The strip exposed the full extent of Feature C and part of Feature J (a SAM emplacement and an access road respectively; see Figure 2).

The construction phase began with the stripping of an area between the SAM emplacements (Features A to E) and Feature H. Feature H comprised a rectangular concrete surface with metal rails inserted into it, whilst the SAM emplacements comprised five rectangular concrete “pads” that formerly housed Thunderbird II and Bloodhound Surface to Air Missiles. (For a detailed description of these features see Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Report 642).

This area was stripped using a bulldozer and, as with Phase I, visibility was limited and no other features were identified (Plate 5). The SAM emplacements A to E and concrete platforms F to H were then broken up using a pecker (Plate 8). This enabled a closer inspection of the various iron fittings embedded in the concrete bases of the SAM emplacements, which were noted during the recording phase (Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Report 642). These fittings were most likely anchor points for a radar controlled mounting system. It was noticed that the fittings were screwed into or attached to a metal frame set into the concrete (see Plate 9). Anti-Aircraft emplacement “L”, to the north of the SAM emplacements, was only partly removed during this phase (Plate 11), as was Feature K (a rectangular building extant at foundation level). The pecker removed feature J (redundant road), whilst the area surrounding the narrow gauge railway (Feature I) was stripped exposing the full extent of the rail line (Plate 14).



The strip line for the new racetrack, to the north of Feature J, was removed using a 360° excavator, which dug straight through the topsoil and into the natural geology. This revealed a c.20.0m long section, which contained a longer stretch of the access road (Feature J), and a sequence of demolition layers associated with the construction of the original racetrack in 1997. The material in the demolition layers included debris from the former MoD buildings that occupied the surrounding area (see Plate 13). It appeared that when they were demolished, the material was levelled and the area was landscaped.

The area incorporating the SAM emplacements and the concrete platforms was then landscaped by removing the concrete rubble and building a large bund from the topsoil stripped from the surrounding area. No other features were identified.

### **Phase III (Figure 2)**

This phase encompassed the central portion of the racetrack, as far north as the former agricultural building. This area was redeveloped during the construction of the racetrack although many of the access roads were retained. The access road visible on Figure 2 as a triangular shape was the location of a large portion of the main infrastructure buildings when the site belonged to the MoD, including the accommodation blocks, the classrooms and the stores for the camp. The UXO report of the site (Unexploded Ordnance) included an MoD plan of this area locating all the buildings (Explosive Ordnance Risk Management. *Ty Croes Anglesey: Historical Desktop Study* Report 0103 EGN Ty Croes 01: Annexe B; see Figure 3).

The aim of the groundworks was to remove the topsoil and expose the bedrock where possible as this was to be quarried for use as hardcore elsewhere on the site. The area was then to be re-landscaped in accordance with the proposed design. The topsoil strip was conducted by a bulldozers and boxscrapers and the quarrying by 360° excavators.

The strip to the south of the triangular-shaped area revealed a number of small features associated with the MoD camp. They appeared to be remnants of concrete foundations and drain inspection chambers. The foundations were too damaged to suggest any building shape (Plates 17 and 18). However, a larger foundation course was identified to the northeast (Plate 15). The feature was 25m long and 0.20m wide, orientated east to west. Attached to the concrete foundation were pieces of steel and concrete and the area was covered in demolition rubble including corrugated sheeting (Plate 16). It was most likely the remains of a pre-fabricated building and an inspection of the MoD map in the UXO report shows a long rectangular building in the same area. No other features were identified apart from pieces of drainage pipe. There was no evidence for the buildings within the triangular-shaped area.

The demolition of the former agricultural building was undertaken by Meyrick Estate Management Ltd. Prior to its demolition, the building was still in use as a machine shop and appeared to have been altered from its original function as several entrances had been closed or modified (see GAT Report 642 for a description of the building and Plates 19 and 21). The building was inspected after the roofing and corrugated iron walls had been removed. It was constructed from brick and corrugated iron with a freestanding frame of steel parts and trusses (Plates 20 and 22). It was most likely a former MoD building that had been retained when the racetrack was built and an inspection of the MoD plan in the UXO report shows a rectangular building in the same area (Figure 3).

## **6 CONCLUSION**

The watching brief identified several features associated with the former MoD camp in the centre of the development area. These were mainly remnants of building foundations and drainage activity. No substantial building remains were identified, although a 25.0m concrete foundation line was identified as one of the buildings from an MoD plan of the area. The area incorporating the SAM emplacements did not contain any other features but the demolition rubble from former MoD buildings was identified to the north along with an access road buried beneath the rubble. The previously undisturbed enclosed fields at the eastern and southern part of the site did not reveal any substantial features and there was no evidence for prehistoric or Medieval activity. The former agricultural building was confirmed to be an MoD building constructed from materials similar to those elsewhere on site, such as PRN 15,160, which was also constructed from a steel frame.

## **7 SOURCES CONSULTED**

Explosive Ordnance Risk Management. *Ty Croes Anglesey: Historical Desktop Study* Report 0103  
EGN Tycroes 01

Roberts, J. 2006, Trac Ty Croes, Ynys Môn: Archaeological Record. GAT Report: 642 Project No.  
G1917

Hankinson R and Silvester, R, 2002, Proposed reconfiguration of the Anglesey Circuit: Archaeological  
assessment and desktop study Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust Report No. **426**

# Appendix I

## DESIGN BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION

### Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service

**Site:** Anglesey Racing Circuit, Bodorgan Estate, Ynys Môn

**Applicant/Company:** Bodorgan Properties Ltd, Bodorgan Estate Office

**Date:** 28 October 2005

**National Grid Reference:** 233300, 369100

**Planning reference:** 10C33H

*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 Historic Environment Record (HER) for north-west Wales before completing their specification. Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service cannot guarantee the inclusion of all relevant information in the design brief.*

### 1.0 Site Location and Description

- 1.1. For the purposes of this brief the site comprises a c.46 Hectare plot on which a car racing circuit currently stands.
- 1.2. The proposals include plans to alter the current layout of the track as well as extend the track length to include two adjacent fields to the east of the current site (see Capita Symonds Drawing No. 59168/RC/25).
- 1.3. The current extent of the track lies within the confines of Ty Croes Army Camp.
- 1.4. The site is situated at Llangwyfan on the West coast of Ynys Môn.

### 2.0 Archaeological Background

- 2.1 The archaeological and historical background of the site has been examined in an archaeological assessment carried out in June 2001 by Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) (report no. 426).
- 2.2 The results of this study form the basis for this programme to mitigate the impact of the proposed development.
- 2.3 Historically the major influence within the study area has been Ty Croes Army Camp, which developed during the 1940s. The military relics of this period of use are scattered across the development site.

2.4	Gun emplacements, a narrow gauge railway, bunkers and buildings were identified within the archaeological assessment.
2.5	Little research has been undertaken to investigate the development of the military site, its significance, or its period of use.
2.6	The wider landscape has a rich history with many major prehistoric and medieval sites located along the coast. The Neolithic chambered cairn of Barclodiad Y Gawres on the adjacent headland and the important medieval settlement of Aberffraw lie within 2km of the study area.
2.7	<p><u>Documentation:</u></p> <p>English Heritage 2000 Twentieth-Century Military Sites – Current approaches to their recording and conservation. English Heritage Publishing Dept. Wiltshire.</p> <p>Hankinson, R. &amp; Silvester, R. J. 2002 Proposed Reconfiguration of the Anglesey Circuit, Anglesey: Assessment Report. Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust. Report 426.1 (unpublished report, copy held in the Regional Historic Environment Record for north-west Wales).</p> <p>Lowry, B. (ed.) 1995 20th Century Defences in Britain. Council for British Archaeology, York.</p>

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

- 3.1 The proposals comprise plans to reconfigure the layout of the Anglesey Circuit at Llangwyfan, Ynys Môn.
- 3.2 This is a *design brief* for a programme of archaeological works to **mitigate** the impact of the development to be undertaken following planning consent, according to guidelines set out in Welsh national planning guidance (*Planning Policy Guidance Wales 1996*) and Welsh Office Circular 60/96 (*Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology*). This programme of archaeological works will comprise a programme of recording and watching brief.
- 3.3 This *design brief* should be used by the archaeological contractor as the basis for the preparation of a detailed written archaeological *specification*. The specification must be submitted to the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service for approval before the work commences.
- 3.4 The *specification* should contain, as a minimum, the following elements:
- Non-technical summary.
  - Details of the proposed works as precisely as is reasonably possible, indicating clearly on a plan their location and extent.
  - A research design which sets out the site specific objectives of the archaeological works.
  - Reference to the relevant legislation.
  - Health and Safety considerations.
  - Monitoring procedures.
  - Field methodology.
  - Methods of recording, including the collection and disposal strategy for artefacts and ecofacts.

- Arrangement for immediate conservation of artefacts.
- Post-fieldwork methodology.
- The level and grade of all key project staff.
- Details of all specialists.
- A timetable for the proposed works including contingency costs (if appropriate).
- The intended method of publication.
- Archive deposition.

#### 4.0 Mitigation detail

- 4.1 The programme of archaeological works to **mitigate** the impact of the development will consist of two parts: recording and watching brief.

##### Recording

A comprehensive photographic recording must be made of several structures prior to demolition including:

- The ministry of defence store (PRN 15160) and associated features to the south of the circuit.
- Ty Croes military emplacements and associated structures (PRN 15161) to the west of the circuit.
- Possible military building, currently an agricultural workshop, (Previously unrecorded and has therefore not been assigned a PRN) to the north of the circuit (NGR 233280, 369100).

This record should be approximate to the Royal Commission of Historic Monuments in England (RCHME) Level 2 and should include the following elements:

- A Photographic Survey
- Measured plans
- Written description of structures
- Contextual summary of function and setting
- Preparation of full archive report

A basic record must also be made of other structures at the site that form an integral part of the landscape character of the area:

- 3 *Clawdd* field boundaries to the east of the development are to be removed.

##### Watching brief

The intermittent **watching brief** will consist of the following:

- Intermittent observation of non-archaeological excavation works within the specified areas (see 4.6 - 4.8).
- A drawn, written and photographic record of any archaeological structures and deposits that may be revealed.
- Preparation of full archive report.

- 4.2 The monitoring of works is to be undertaken in a manner that allows for the immediate cessation of development for the recording of archaeological evidence. Agreement must be reached between the archaeologist and developer in order that this is achieved.
- 4.3 Recording methodology should be in accordance with Institute of Field Archaeologists guidance (see general requirements below). Recording will comprise appropriate plans, elevation and photographs.
- 4.4 The archaeological contractor will ensure that sufficient resource is made available for a post-excavation programme to result in an archive report.
- 4.5 The report should specifically include the following:
- a) a copy of the design brief and agreed specification,
  - 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, a full bibliography of sources consulted.
- 4.6 Particular attention must be paid to groundworks in the area adjacent to the railway, gun emplacements and military platforms (PRN 15161) at the western end of the racing circuit (NGR 232900, 368600).
- 4.7 Major ground works in the two adjacent fields to the east of the circuit should be subject to intermittent monitoring. The assessment identifies a possibility that medieval or prehistoric remains may come to light.

## **5.0 General requirements**

- 5.1 The archaeological recording and watching brief must be undertaken by an appropriately qualified individual or organisation, fully experienced in work of this character.
- 5.2 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 Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service and all written work attributed to an author(s).
- 5.3 Contractors and subcontractors are expected to conform to standard professional guidelines. The following are of particular relevance in this instance:-
- 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 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.
- 5.4 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.
  - 5.5 Care must be taken in the siting of offices and other support structures in order to minimise the impact on the environment. Extreme care must also be taken in the structure and maintenance of spoil heaps for the same reasons and to facilitate a high quality reinstatement. This is particularly important in relation to pasture land.
  - 5.6 The archaeological contractor must satisfy themselves that all constraints to groundworks have been identified, including the siting of live services, Tree Preservation Orders and public footpaths. Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service bears no responsibility for the inclusion or exclusion of such information within this brief.
  - 5.7 Any changes to the specifications that the archaeological contractor may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated to Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service and approved.
  - 5.8 Care must be taken in dealing with human remains and the appropriate environmental health regulations followed. Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service and the local Coroner must be informed immediately human remains are discovered.
  - 5.9 Arrangements for the long-term storage and deposition of all artefacts must be agreed with the landowner and Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service before the commencement of investigation.
  - 5.10 The involvement of Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service should be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.
  - 5.11 A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project should be prepared in accordance with standard guidance. All plans, photographs and descriptions should be labelled, cross-referenced and lodged in an appropriate place (to be agreed with Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service) within six months of the completion of the project.
  - 5.12 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 HER Officer, who will deposit the copy in the HER.

## **6.0 Curatorial monitoring**

- 6.1 The project will be monitored by the development control archaeologist at Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service to ensure the fulfilment of the brief and specifications. The development control archaeologist will normally inspect site works and review the progress of excavation reports and archive

preparation. The archaeological contractor must inform Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service in writing of the proposed start dates for the 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 *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 *Historic environment Record (HER)***

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

### **7.6 *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.

### **7.7 *Watching brief***

A formal programme of observation during non-archaeological excavation works in order to identify, investigate and record any archaeological remains which may be present, in accordance with the Archaeological Standards.

## **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.



Ashley Batten  
Development Control Archaeologist

**Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service**  
**Craig Beuno**  
**Ffordd Y Garth**  
**Bangor**  
**Gwynedd LL57 2RT**

Telephone: 01248 370926  
**Fax: 01248 370925**

## **APPENDIX II**

### **TRAC PROJECT, TY CROES**

#### **PROJECT DESIGN FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING AND WATCHING BRIEF (G1917)**

**20 April, 2006**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

It is proposed to undertake alterations and new development at the Anglesey Circuit, Ty Croes. Planning permission for the project included the requirement for an archaeological programme of work, to be undertaken in accordance with a Brief written by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (ref. D458). This project design outlines the archaeological mitigation to be undertaken in advance of and during construction works, and adheres to the conditions set out in the Brief. The design has been requested by Meyrick Estate Management Ltd and has been drawn up by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.

### **2. BACKGROUND**

An initial assessment has been undertaken of the proposed development area by Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (Report No. 426). The principal archaeology on the site is that associated with the establishment of an Army Camp during the 1940's. The area around the camp contains a number of prehistoric and medieval sites of national significance, though none have been identified within the development area.

### **3. REQUIREMENTS OF THE BRIEF**

The requirements specified within the brief are for a photographic record of three structures to Level 2, and an intermittent watching brief.

### **4. METHOD STATEMENT**

#### **4.1 Photographic Record**

A photographic record will be undertaken of the ministry of defence store (PRN 15160), the Military emplacements west of the circuit (PRN 15161) and an agricultural workshop located at NGR SH 332691. This will involve a photographic record of all principal elevations and selected features of particular interest. Landscape features will be photographed from relevant angles, to record both detail and context. The photographs will be dated and indexed, and related to a basic site plan which might be taken from a published OS map as appropriate. It is anticipated that digital photographs will form the principal record, though this may be supplemented by film photography in certain instances. A measured plan will be drawn up showing principal openings and other features, and a written description of each of the structures will be compiled to accompany the photographic record.

#### **4.2 Watching brief**

An archaeologist will be present during all significant periods of earth and hardcore moving which have the potential for revealing archaeological remains. The watching brief is to be undertaken in a manner that allows for the immediate cessation of development for the recording of archaeological evidence. This will involve close liaison between the archaeologist and the site agent and machine operators.

All stripped areas will be examined and potential archaeological sites identified; these will then be cleaned by hand trowelling or hoeing. If the features revealed can be understood and recorded with no

further work required, then they will be photographed, described and located on OS 1:2500 plans. However if any of the features are too complex to allow this, then recommendations will be made for further work, which would be in addition to the work undertaken for the watching brief. A continuous context numbering system will be used, with each context recorded on standard *pro-forma* sheets. Sections will be drawn if relevant.

#### **4.2 Environmental samples**

Relevant archaeological deposits will be sampled by taking bulk samples (a minimum of 10litres and maximum of 30 litres) for flotation of charred plant remains. Bulk samples will be taken from waterlogged deposits for macroscopic plant remains. Other bulk samples, for example from middens, may be taken for small animal bones and small artefacts.

#### **4.3 Human remains**

Any finds of human remains will be left *in-situ*, covered and protected, and the coroner informed. If removal is necessary it will take place under appropriate regulations and with due regard for health and safety issues.

#### **4.4 Small finds**

The vast majority of finds recovered from archaeological excavations comprise pottery fragments, bone, environmental and charcoal samples, and non-valuable metal items such as nails. Often many of these finds become unstable (i.e. they begin to disintegrate) when removed from the ground. All finds are the property of the landowner, however, it is Trust policy to recommend that all finds are donated to an appropriate museum where they can receive specialist treatment and study. At the very least the Trust would request access to the finds for a reasonable period to allow for study and publication. All finds would be treated according to advice provided within *First Aid for Finds* (Rescue 1999). Initial identification will be undertaken by Trust staff, but any additional advice would be sought from a wide range of consultants used by the Trust, including National Museums and Galleries of Wales at Cardiff, ARCUS at Sheffield and BUFAU at Birmingham.

#### **4.5 Processing data, illustration, report and archiving**

Following completion of the watching brief as outlined above, a report will be produced incorporating the following:

- Non-technical summary
- Introduction
- Specification and Project Design
- Methods and techniques
- Archaeological Background
- Description of structures
- Description of the results of the watching brief
- Summary and conclusions
- Bibliography of sources consulted.

Illustrations, including plans and photographs, will be incorporated within the report.

#### **4.6 Archive**

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project will be prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions will be labelled and cross-referenced, and lodged in an appropriate place (to be decided in consultation with the regional Sites and Monuments Record) within six months of the completion of the project. All digital data will be written to CD-ROM and stored with the paper archive.

### **5. STAFF**

The project will be supervised by Andrew Davidson, Principal Archaeologist at the Trust, who has worked in various aspects of British archaeology for 18 years, and who has been responsible for managing all contract work at the Trust for the past five years, including archaeological programmes for major road contracts, pipeline construction and new development sites. The work will be carried out by fully trained Project Archaeologists who are experienced in conducting watching briefs and working with contractors and earth moving machinery. (Full CV's are available upon request).

## **6. HEALTH AND SAFETY**

The Trust subscribes to the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) Health and Safety Policy as defined in **Health and Safety in Field Archaeology** (1999).

## **7. INSURANCE**

The Trust holds public liability insurance with an indemnity limit of £2,500,000 through Russell, Scanlon Limited Insurance Brokers, Wellington Circus, Nottingham NG1 5AJ (policy 01 1017386 COM), and Professional Indemnity Insurance for £2,000,000 per claim (policy No. 59A/SA11818791).



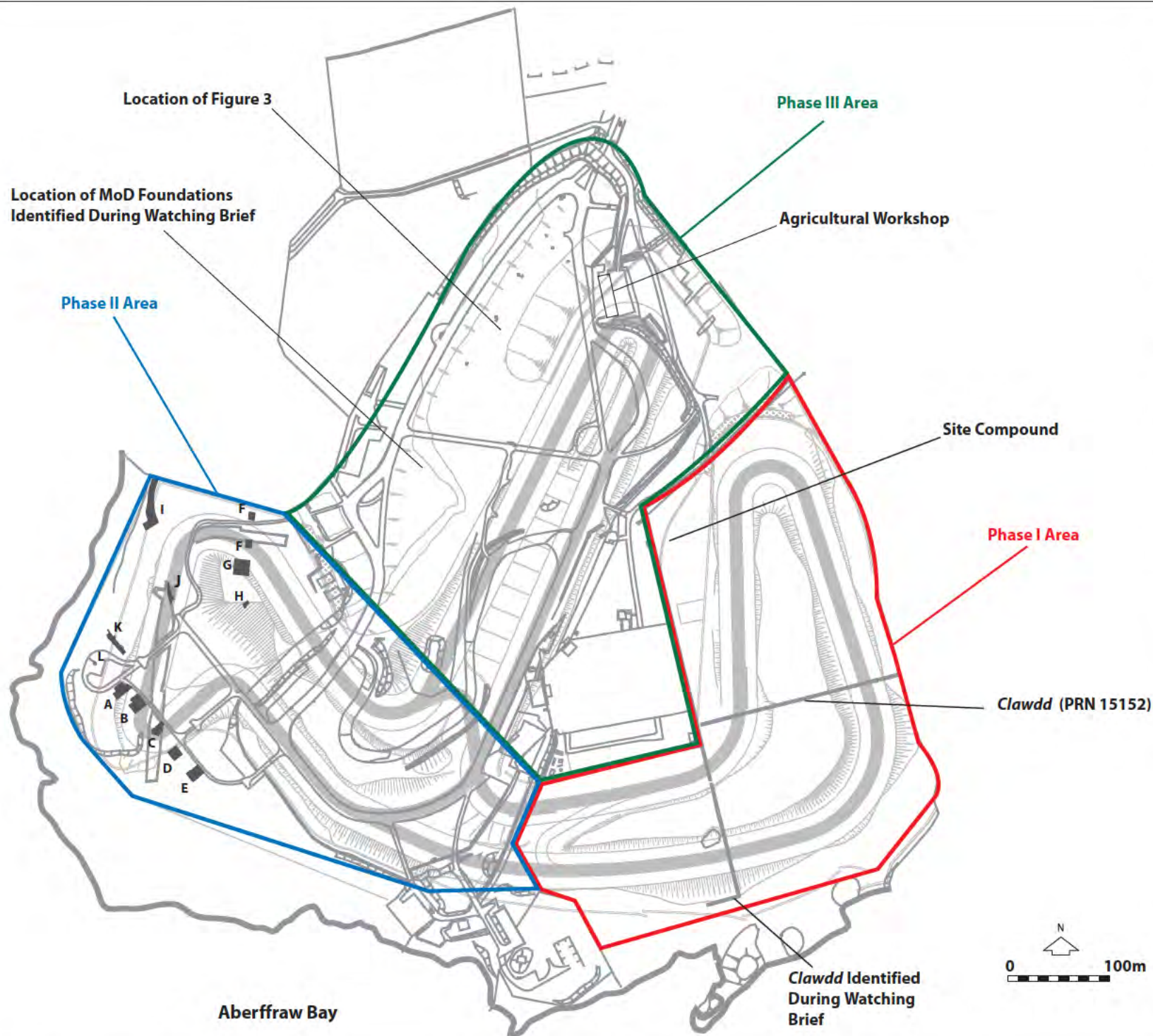
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GWYBODAETH



GWYBODAETH  
ARCHAELOLÓGOL  
TRUST

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**Figure 1: Location Map  
Ty Croes Racetrack**



PRN 15161:

- A. SAM Emplacement
- B. SAM Emplacement
- C. SAM Emplacement
- D. SAM Emplacement
- E. SAM Emplacement
- F. Concrete Surface
- G. Concrete Surface
- H. Concrete Surface
- I. Narrow Gauge Railway and Concrete Platform
- J. Redundant Building
- K. Redundant Building
- L. Firing Point

 Layout of Revised Circuit.

YNGENHURKLAETI  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
GWYBODAETH



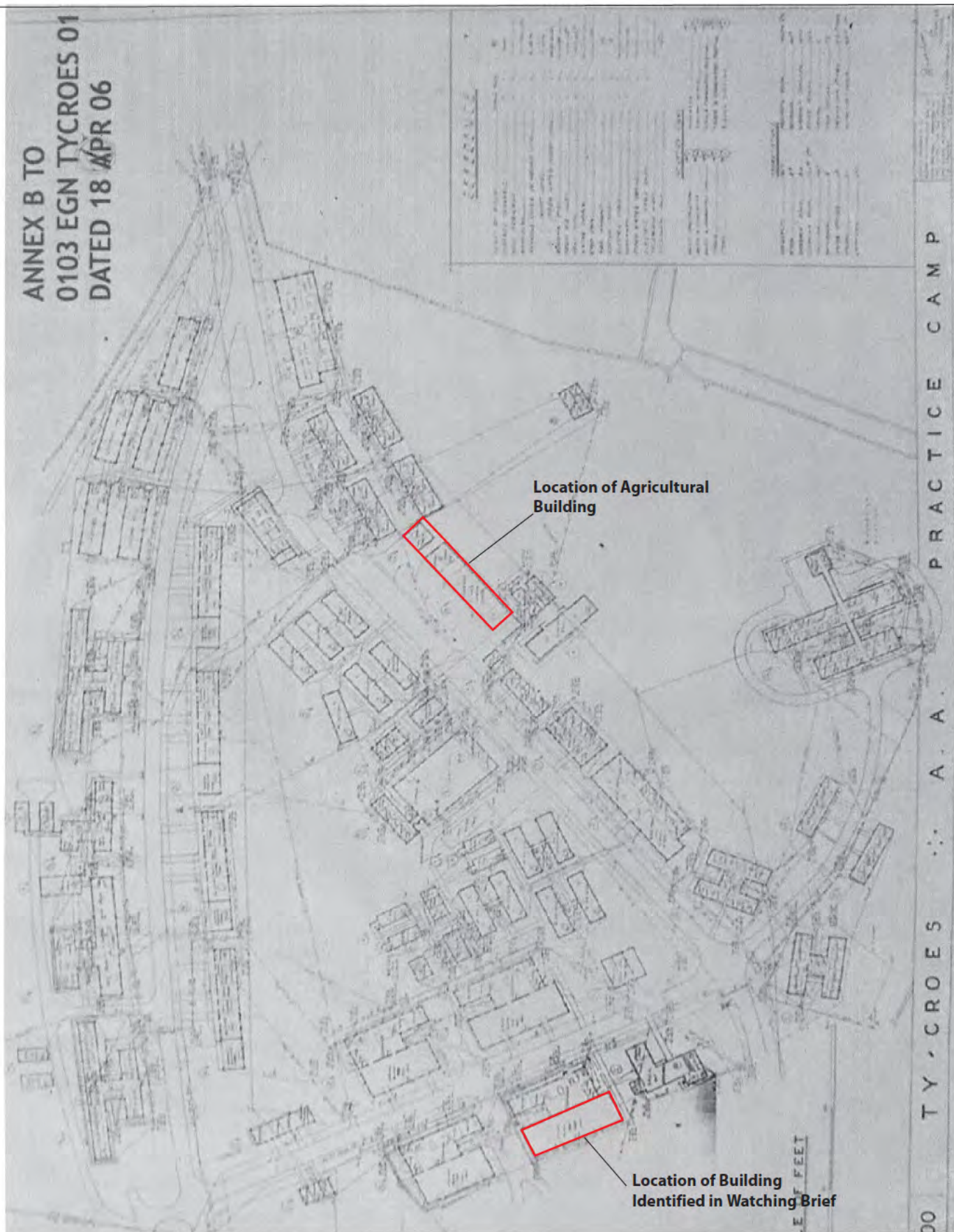
GWYBODAETH  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
TEIST

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**Figure 2: Location of Watching Brief Areas & Main Features**



ANNEX B TO  
0103 EGN TYCROES 01  
DATED 18 APR 06



YMDORRIDDOLAITH  
ARCHAIDDEOL  
GWYNEDD



GWYNEDD  
ARCHAIDDEOL  
TRIST

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**Figure 3:**  
**Infrastructure Plan of Ty Croes**  
**Military Camp**  
(Not to Scale)





**Plate 1: Phase I Area: Removal of Clawdd wall during construction of Site Compound**



**Plate 2: Phase I Area: Stripping of area during Site Compound construction**





**Plate 3: Phase I Area: Former Clawdd identified during Watching Brief**



**Plate 4: Phase I Area: View North of Area during Topsoil Strip**





**Plate 5: Phase II Area: View North of Area between Concrete Platforms and SAM Area During Topsoil Strip**



**Plate 6: Phase II Area: Demolition of Concrete Platforms (Feature F)**



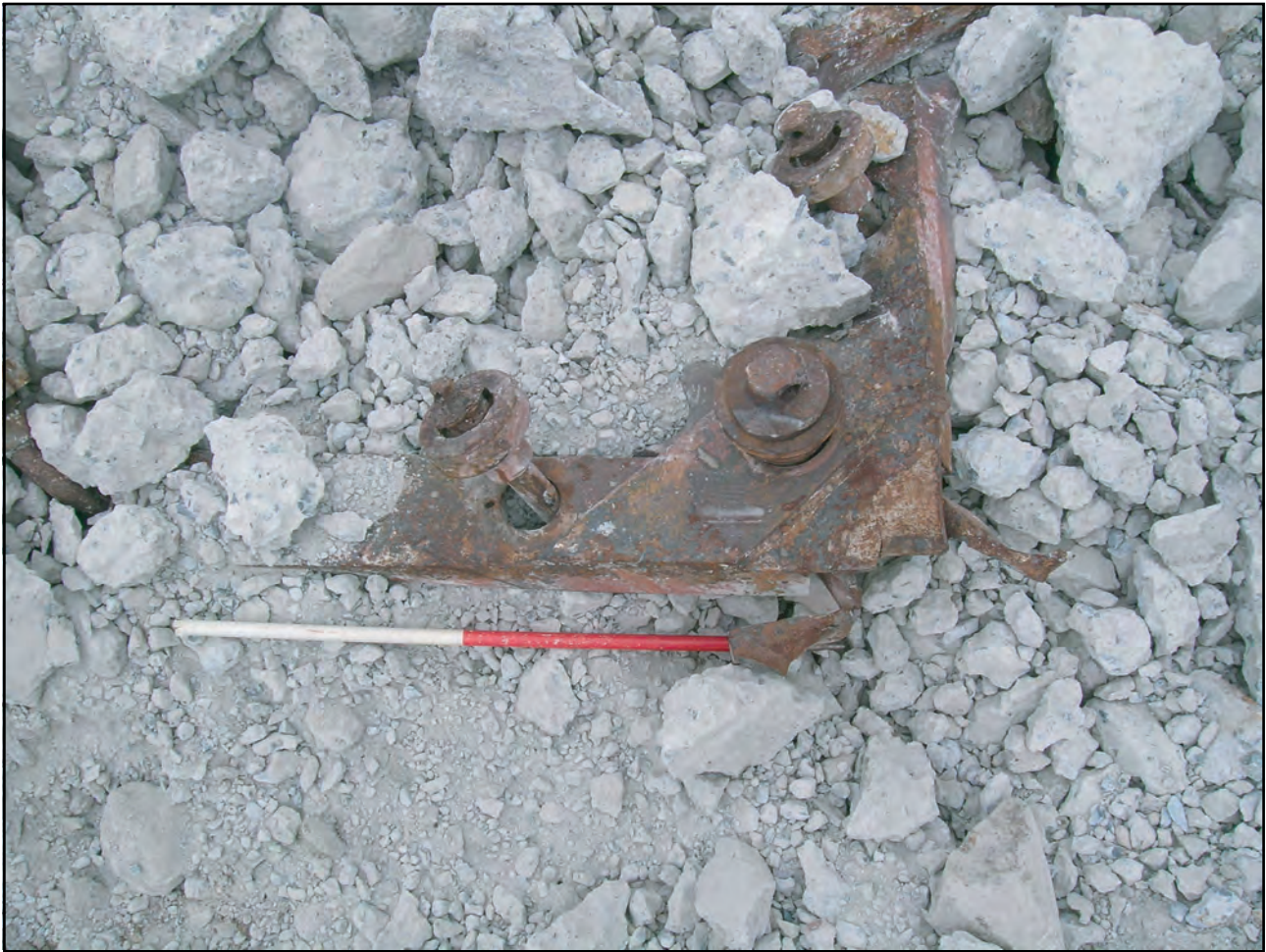


**Plate 7: Phase II Area: Demolition of Concrete Surface (Feature H)**



**Plate 8: Phase II Area: Demolition of SAM Emplacements**





**Plate 9: Phase II Area: Close-up of Metal Fittings During Demolition of SAM Emplacements**



**Plate 10: Phase II Area: Construction of Landscaping Bund**





**Plate 11: Phase II Area: Partial Demolition of AA Emplacement (Feature L)**



**Plate 12: Phase II Area: Excavation of New Racetrack Route**





**Plate 13: Phase II Area: Former Access Road (Feature J) and Demolition Layer of Former MoD Buildings visible during Excavation of New Racetrack Route**



**Plate 14: Phase II Area: Narrow Gauge Railtrack (Feature I) During Watching Brief**





**Plate 15: Phase III Area: Quarry Pit Exposing Former MoD Building**



**Plate 16: Phase III Area: Close-up of Former MoD Building**





**Plate 17: Phase III Area: Foundations of Former MoD Buildings visible during Watching Brief**



**Plate 18: Phase III Area: Drainage Inspection Chamber visible during Watching Brief**





**Plate 19: Phase III Area: Agricultural Building Prior to Demolition: North Facing Elevation**



**Plate 20: Phase III Area: Agricultural Building During Demolition: West Facing Elevation**





**Plate 21: Phase III Area: Agricultural Building Prior to Demolition: North Facing Elevation**



**Plate 22: Phase III Area: Agricultural Building During Demolition: West Facing Elevation**



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