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# Arts and Innovation Centre Bangor

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Image: <http://www.bangorcivicsociety.org.uk/pages/hisso/ub/sc1.htm>. *The University of North Wales booklet*, March 1930, p 3

GAT Project No. 2025  
Report No. 740  
May, 2008



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Report No. 740

Prepared for Bangor University

May 2008

By  
Andrew Davidson

Illustrations by Tanya Berks



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# Arts and Innovation Centre Bangor

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# **ARTS AND INNOVATION CENTRE, UNIVERSITY OF WALES, BANGOR**

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT (G2025)**

### **SUMMARY**

*An archaeological assessment has been carried out prior to the proposed redevelopment of a c.2.5ha plot, centred on SH 579722, to the north of Deiniol road and east of Glanrafon Hill, to create an Arts and Innovation Centre. The proposed site encompasses several upstanding buildings including the former refectory, students union building and theatre. Within the site is the North Wales War Heroes memorial arch (listed grade II), whilst immediately adjacent lie the Grade I listed university buildings designed by H T Hare and built 1907-11. The assessment has identified 11 sites within the development area of which 3 are of regional importance, 3 of local importance, and 4 are of low archaeological importance. Mitigation recommendations are given based upon the importance of the site and the proposed impact, ranging from preservation in situ to basic recording.*

*It is recognised that our knowledge of the buried archaeological remains within the surviving Bishop's park are not sufficient to allow full mitigation recommendations to be made. A programme of field evaluation is therefore recommended to be undertaken in advance of any direct impact.*

*It is recommended that indirect impact upon the adjacent University buildings is minimised, and that views to and from the main college and terrace are retained.*

### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust has been asked by the University of Wales, Bangor, to carry out an archaeological assessment in advance of the proposed redevelopment of a c.2.5ha plot centred on SH 579722. The area is located on the north side of Deiniol Road, and east of Glanrafon Hill, and encompasses the present Students Union, Refectory, Theatre and part of the college park. It is proposed to remove the existing buildings, with the exception of the memorial arch, and to build a new Arts and Innovation Centre (Figure 1).

### **2.0 SPECIFICATION AND PROJECT DESIGN**

Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service has prepared a Brief for this project (ref. D1196) which is reproduced in Appendix I. 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).

The assessment is to consider the following:

- The nature, extent and survival of archaeological sites, structures, deposits and landscapes within the proposed development.
- The history of the site.
- The potential impact of any proposed development on the setting of known sites of archaeological importance.
- A methodology for non-intrusive survey and or 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.

The project has been undertaken according to guidelines specified in *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1994, rev.1999). The basic

requirement was for a desktop survey and field search of the proposed area, in order to assess the impact of the proposals on the archaeological features within the area concerned. The importance and condition of known archaeological remains were to be assessed, and areas of archaeological potential and new sites to be identified. Measures to mitigate the effects of the improvement work on the archaeological resource were to be suggested.

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

- *to identify and record the cultural heritage of the area to be affected;*
- *to evaluate the importance of what was identified (both as a cultural landscape and as the individual items which make up that landscape); and*
- *to recommend ways in which damage to the cultural heritage can be avoided or minimised.*

A full archaeological assessment usually comprises 6 phases:

- 1) *Desk-top study*
- 2) *Field Search*
- 3) *Interim Draft Report*
- 4) *Detailed Field Evaluation*
- 5) *Final Draft Report*
- 6) *Final Report*

This assessment has covered the work required under 1, 2 and 3, and recommendations are made for any field evaluation required.

### **3.0 METHODS AND TECHNIQUES**

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

This involved consultation of maps, computer records, written records and reference works, which make up the Regional Historic Environment Record (HER), located at the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Bangor. The archives held by the University of Wales, Bangor, were also consulted. A recent urban characterisation study has been undertaken within Bangor, and the results from that study have been partly incorporated into this report (Davidson 2007).

#### **3.2 Field Visit**

The field visit was carried out on 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008. The aim of the field survey was to inspect the development area (Figure 1) and to assess the possible impact of the development on any archaeological remains identified during the desktop study. The present condition of the sites were recorded and the results are given below.

#### **3.3 Report**

The available information was synthesised to give a summary of the archaeological and historic background and of the assessment and recommendations, as set out below. The separate features, their evaluation and recommendations are listed separately, and a summary of the overall assessment of the area is given at the end.

### **4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

#### **4.1 Geology and topography**

Bangor lies within a narrow steep-sided valley through which runs the river Adda. The rocks on either side of

the valley belong principally to the Arvonian period of the Lower Cambrian, and form part of the Bangor Ridge, which runs from Bangor to Caernarfon. The valley was probably formed by volcanic faulting during the Caledonian Orogeny, and its shape accentuated during glaciation. Carboniferous limestone lies north of the Bangor ridge, alongside the Menai Strait.

## 4.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

Note: each identified site described here is listed in the Regional Historic Environment Record with a unique Primary Record Number (PRN).

### 4.2.1 Prehistoric/Roman

The evidence for prehistoric occupation within the valley is slight, and is derived from casual finds. No structural evidence of settlements of prehistoric or Roman date has been found to date. To the south of Bangor mountain, however, on the relatively level and free-draining lands between the Cegin and Ogwen rivers, settlements and ritual monuments of Neolithic to Roman date have been excavated (Lynch and Musson 2004; Kenney forthcoming), and more are coming to light through aerial photography (Driver 2005).

Layers of burnt stone, thought to be of prehistoric date, have been found in silts alongside the route of the River Adda below the cathedral during recent excavation in advance of repairs to the present culvert (Smith forthcoming). Though the full nature of the evidence has yet to be ascertained, this find raises the potential for the recovery of prehistoric material from elsewhere in the valley.

### 4.2.3. Early Medieval

It is within the Early Medieval period that evidence for settlement becomes more certain. This is associated with the establishment of the religious settlement that was to become an important monastic centre, and later the Cathedral church for the diocese of Bangor.

Bangor is a word used to describe the horizontal plaited rods at the top of a wattle fence, and was still in use in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when it could be defined as ‘wattling rods thicker than the rest of the dead boughs, which are used on top to fasten the sett in making a thorn hedge’, *Geiriadur Prifysgol Cymru, Cyfrol 1, A-ffysur*, 254; Lewis 1815, 28). It is thought that the term was applied to the enclosure around the monastery (the *vallum*), and later came to signify the church itself. There were at least two other monasteries called Bangor, namely Bangor on Dee and Bangor in Northern Ireland. When the death of the patron saint, Deiniol, was recorded in the *Annales Cambriae* in the year 584 it was described as the ‘burial of the Daniel of the Bangors’ (Morris 1980, 45). His fame must certainly have spread to Ireland, for he is included within a list of saints from Ireland, the *Martyrology of Tallaght*, compiled about 830, which gives the feast day of Deiniol on the 11 September (Best and Lawlor 1931, 70). A late copy of the life of Deiniol has survived, and his name appears in other Saints lives, but little about his life is known with any certainty (see Baring-Gould and Fisher 1907-13, Vol II 325-31 and Vol IV 387-93; also Roberts 1994 and Bartrum 1993, 191-2).

The monastery suffered in 632, when, according to the *Annals of Ulster* ‘*Bennochor moer in Britannia*’ (Bangor the great in Britain) was burnt (Mac Airt and Mac Niocaill 1983, 116-17). Though the site of the original monastery cannot be known with certainty, it is reasonable to assume that it was located within the enclosure which is clearly shown on Speeds map of 1610, and which is still preserved today in the present street pattern. This hypothesis can be partly confirmed by archaeological evidence. A curving ditch, located on the east side of the cathedral cemetery, contained fills within the date range AD 540 – 769 (Longley 1995, 56). A cemetery to the east of this was in use earlier than a ditch which contained fills within the date range AD 781 – 1019. The full extent of the cemetery is not known, but the excavations identified seventy six graves, all simple dug graves, though they were severely truncated and the surface from which they had been dug did not survive. The acid soils had removed nearly all the skeletal remains (*ibid*, 61-5).

A range of historical and archaeological evidence (Edwards 2006; Davidson 2007, 6-7) confirms the continued existence of a monastery at Bangor prior to the 12<sup>th</sup> when a new cathedral was built.

### 4.2.4 Medieval Bangor

The rise to power of Gruffudd ap Cynan was followed by a period of relative political stability. Bishop David was appointed to Bangor in 1120, and the construction of the first cathedral is usually attributed to his episcopacy. The burial of Gruffudd ap Cynan in the cathedral in 1137 indicates that, if not finished, the east end at least must have been completed by then.

John Speed's map of 1610 indicates the areas that were built up by then, and identifies the principal features that made up the town by the end of the medieval period. Dominating was the cathedral church within its enclosure. The High Street curved around the south side, as it still does, and west up the hill along one of the principal roads. The market place is shown on the corner of Glanrafon, outside the cathedral gates. To the east, the town ended where the clock now stands. Between the town and the sea lay the Friary, and beyond again the harbours of Porth Cegin and Porth Ogwen. The Bishops palace lay north of the R. Adda, across from the cathedral. The other principal church members all owned houses in Bangor, and 17<sup>th</sup> century evidence suggests that the house of the archdeacon of Bangor lay where Penrhyn Hall now stands, and alongside Capel Gorfyw. The house of the archdeacon of Anglesey was on the site of the present post office, and that of the archdeacon of Meirionydd on the site of St Paul's School in Sackville Road (Carr 1994; Willis 1721, 283-8). Two other churches, Capel Gorfyw and Llanfair Garth Branau were established within or close to the town, though Speed does not specifically show these.

Browne Willis described the town in 1721 consisting 'of one long street and two small ones, and has sixty eight houses besides the Bishop's Palace and Deanery, most of which are slated' (Willis 1721, 40). The two small streets were Glanrafon and Lon Popty. Glanrafon is shown on Speed's map as being developed, whilst both are depicted with houses on Leigh's map of 1768 (UWB Penrhyn Maps 75). A small market was held every Friday, and three annual fairs (Willis 1721, 49). Many of the buildings on the High Street were rebuilt in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, though two which retain 18<sup>th</sup> century features are the former Vaynol Arms at 137 High Street, and the former Goat public house at 120 High Street (RCAHMW 1960, 15-16). Another 18<sup>th</sup> century house is Tan yr Allt built in 1755 for John Ellis, Archdeacon of Merioneth. Eighteenth century maps show it alongside the road that led up Glanrafon Hill, with formal gardens on the sloping ground down towards the river on the south side, under the present Thoday building. It is built in classical Georgian style, with 2 storeys and basement, and has a hipped roof and central door reached by a double flight of stone steps, with symmetrical flanking windows. It was at one time the student union, but is no longer used because of its poor structural condition, and the windows are boarded up. (RCAHMW 1960, 15; Cadw 1988, 38).

The description of Bangor by Willis, and the depiction of the town in 18<sup>th</sup> century illustrations, reveals a relatively small settlement with between 100 and 200 houses and a population of 500 to 1000. During the 18<sup>th</sup> century, however, changes occurred that were to transform Bangor. The first of these was the appointment of a sub-postmaster at Bangor in 1718. Whilst it is very probable the mails had regularly passed through Bangor prior to this, the official route was across the Lavan Sands to Beaumaris, which avoided the need to pass over Penmaenmawr, a dangerous part of the route. The adoption of the Porthaethwy ferry as the official postal route, and the establishment of a sub-postmaster in Bangor now ensured the town lay on the principal route between London and Dublin (Pritchard 1956; 1963). This would have considerably raised the number of travelers passing through, with the subsequent need for inns and other services. The Castle inn, sited in the centre of town, had 17<sup>th</sup> century origins and Willis in 1721 states that 'Bangor is well accommodated with inns' (Willis 1721, 50). The improvement of roads by turnpike trusts during the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century ensured a steady increase in numbers passing through. The importance of the road is highlighted by a number of contemporary writers, including John Evans, who, writing before the construction of Telford's new road, cites the 'great road between Dublin and London' running through Bangor as an incentive to live there (Evans 1812, 446).

#### *4.2.5 Late 18<sup>th</sup> century development to 1900*

Though a significant development, the presence of the London to Holyhead road through Bangor would not have been a sufficient catalyst for the subsequent dramatic growth of the town. It was instead the development of the slate quarries by Richard Pennant that was to be the greater force for change, and the associated need to transport the slates. These were sent by ship to market, and the subsequent development of the port at Abercegin provided much of the demand for labour and the incentive to invest in new housing and

industry. The harbour was developed from 1780, and was served by a tramway opened c. 1800 (Boyd 1985). In addition to the quarries, Pennant also developed subsidiary industries including a flint grinding mill and a factory for the production of writing slates.

The growth of the port and quarries created the demand for a myriad of service industries, including shipbuilding, sail making, iron founding, smithing and timber yards, as well as slate yards for the processing of slate products. This all resulted in an increased demand for labour and new housing, and the areas of Hirael and Dean Street were developed.

In tandem with the growth of new industry was the growth of Bangor as a resort. The new Holyhead road made travel there easier, whilst still an adventure, but an even easier mode of travel were the steamers from Liverpool. These started operating from 1822, and proved immensely popular. Hotels and lodging houses increased in number, and bathing places were constructed. Lord Penrhyn built his own bath house c. 1808, reached by a short pier, with hot and cold baths, and the Penrhyn Arms advertised its own bathing machines in 1817. John Roberts built a bathing house in Garth sometime after 1805, though this seems to have closed by about 1840, possibly when new baths were built at Silliwen in 1835 (Jones 1975).

John Wood's map of 1834 does not deign to show Upper Bangor or Glanadda – no development had taken place there, and this is confirmed by the Tithe map of 1841. By 1854, however, the position was very different, and rows of terraced houses, including Victoria Street and Albert Street, lay west of the Holyhead Road. Other houses, of higher social standing, were being built on Glanrafon Hill and along what was to become College Road, and Menai View Terrace was built 1850-54. Several larger houses, such as Bryn y Mor, were built overlooking the Menai Straits. There was still little development at West End and Glanadda, though this is where the railway station had been constructed in 1848 which was to be the catalyst for the next phase of growth. The labour required for the construction of the tunnels through the two ridges, and the bridge across the Straits, would have considerably raised the population, and provided a boost to the local economy, but this was maintained not just by the additional business brought about by the railway, but by the establishment of the maintenance team for the Chester and Holyhead Railway at Bangor. A workforce of some 400 was employed, and new houses were built for them in Upper Bangor, Westend and Glanadda.

A shift in focus occurred with the building of the railway, and new hotels were built to serve passengers arriving at the station. The Penrhyn Arms, left stranded at the east end of the valley, was now supplanted by a new range of hotels, including a complete row opposite the station, and more particularly the British Hotel on the upper end of the High Street, built 1851.

#### *4.2.6 1900 to the present*

The development of Bangor in the twentieth century is dominated by two themes. The first is the growth of colleges of higher education. The genesis of this belongs in the 19<sup>th</sup> century – the Normal College was founded in 1858, and moved to its new site overlooking the Menai Straits in 1862; St Mary's college moved to its site alongside Lôn Pobty in 1891, though the college had been founded in Caernarfon in 1846. Meanwhile in 1888 a new University, housed in the former Penrhyn Arms hotel, had been founded (see Williams 1985 for details). The sale of the Penrallt estate provided the ideal site for the construction of new University buildings, and these, designed by Henry Hare, completely altered the townscape of Bangor when the new college was constructed on the ridge overlooking the town. The expansion of the Normal College, in arts and crafts style, was also designed by Hare, and construction of both university and college was complete by 1911. In 1899 Friars school was moved to new premises on Ffriddoedd Road, in what was then open countryside, and to a building designed in Elizabethan style by John Douglas. This move freed up land within the valley for the development of Bangor.

The second strand was the development of social housing schemes, often linked with the demolition of 19<sup>th</sup> century terraced workers housing (this subject is covered in detail in Jones 1985). The Borough Council maintained an ambitious programme of slum clearance and house building between 1905 and the 1960's, the two single largest developments being Maesgeirchen and Coed Mawr. The council's programme of building developed greater significance after 1926, and despite a temporary halt during the Second World War, continued during the 1940's, 1950's and 1960's. During the pre-war period the Dean Street area was

completely re-developed, and after the war attention shifted to Hirael. A number of large new housing estates were established on former farm land, such as those at Maesgeirchen, Maes Tryfan, and Coed Mawr, whilst smaller areas within the existing town were developed, including Maes Isalaw alongside Hirael. The new housing was largely designed by the council's surveyors, John Gill to 1924, T P Francis to 1929, and then most significantly B Price Davies, who oversaw a large part of the re-development programme, and was responsible for 'the sensitive arrangements of houses of differing sizes, height and block lengths on attractively laid out estates' (*ibid*, 189).

Meanwhile the construction of private houses also continued. Whilst this took place throughout all parts of Bangor, the majority lay within Upper Bangor and between there and Garth. New civic buildings were also constructed, including the new library in 1907, designed by Dixon and Potter of Manchester, and in the same year was built the new post office, and the Tabernacle Chapel on Garth Road designed by James Cubitt. In 1896 the new pier was opened to encourage passenger trade and raise Bangor's claim as a desirable resort. Development between the town and the station continued, aided by the construction of Deiniol Road between Love Lane and the station in 1904. The axis for the development of this area was largely centred on Farrar Road, with a mixture of private and council development.

Building alongside the new Deiniol Road, particularly the north side, was dominated by the University, when new Science Buildings were erected in the 1920's. In 1936 a new Secondary School (now the University Science Library) was opened on the south side of the road.

Later developments were influenced by the rise in importance of road transport. As cars, buses and lorries increased in number, so roads were adapted to cater for them. In the 1930's many roads were widened, and Beach Road, Garth Road and Deiniol Road were adopted as the new A5, designed to take traffic from the High Street.

## **5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE STUDY AREA**

### **5.1 Introduction**

#### *5.1.1 The study area*

The study area lies on the north side of the valley, and encompasses part of the valley floor and the sloping hillside of the Aethwy ridge. The area is bounded by Deiniol Road (built 1904) to the south, Glanrafon Hill (a route in use by the medieval period, and probably older) on the west side, Penrallt Isaf on the north side (this followed the northern boundary of the Bishop's park) and a line through the College park on the east side. The western side of the area is currently occupied by the Memorial Arch, Glanrafon refectory and Students Union. The theatre fronts on to Deiniol Road in the centre of the area. The college park continues to the north and east.

#### *5.1.2 Previous archaeological work*

In 1924 the construction of tennis courts alongside Deiniol Road within the college park revealed the presence of burials and building remains. These were identified as the probable remains of the site of the medieval church of Llanfair Garth Branan (see 5.2.1 below and Hughes 1924; 1925), also perhaps called Llanfair Nant Erw (RCAHMS 1960, 12). Subsequently it was suggested that the earliest monastery lay on the north side of the valley, close by and including the structural remains, which were interpreted as monastic cells (*ibid*). Further archaeological works were undertaken in 1964 during the construction of the Students Union building and again in 1972 when the theatre was built (Alcock 1964; White 1973). Nothing of note was found during these excavations, and it is now thought the early monastery lay on the opposite side of the valley under and east of the cathedral. The site of the well known as 'St John's Well' was examined by Alcock (feature 2 below) which had formed part of the Bishop's park. It was found to be a brick chamber with drains connected to it, and it has been suggested that the chamber and drains date from works undertaken during the construction of the college in 1907-11, when the enclosure and well chamber indicated on the 19<sup>th</sup> century maps would have been demolished (Alcock 1964; White 1973). Alcock also examined two hollows in the steep slope of the park north-east of the church site. One was

interpreted as a quarry, whilst no archaeological features were found associated with the other (Alcock 1964).

## **5.2 Medieval development and up to 1900**

### *5.2.1 Church of Llanfair Garth Branan*

Browne Willis informs us that ‘besides the cathedral church ... here was formerly a parish church of St Mary, which stood on the back-side of the Bishop’s Palace, about 400 yards distant from the Cathedral; the ground on which it stood, together with the church yard, belongs to the Vicars Choral, who let it out and receive the rent of it, which is 5s 6d. ... When St Mary’s church was demolished there is no tradition, and very foundations of it ... are so perished that they cannot be traced out with any certainty. ... There have been often human bones dug up on the site of St Mary’s church and churchyard’ (Willis 1721, 46).

In 1291 it is recorded in the Pontifical at Bangor that Anian held a synod of the clergy of the diocese in the church, and the church is again referred to in 1486-7 (see Clarke 1969, 101-2 and references).

Burials were found on the lower slopes of the University grounds in 1924 during the construction of tennis courts. A total of some 14 burials were found, all aligned approximately east-west and fully extended in dug graves. Some inter-cutting of graves was noticed. Three (the excavator says two or three) of the burials had partial stone cists around the upper body, and two graves had oak blocks standing 14” in height at their head. The burials are considered to be medieval in date (12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century). Part of a grinding or polishing stone and some large iron nails were found amongst the graves (not within them) and though these are not particularly diagnostic they may originate from a settlement pre-dating the cemetery (Hughes 1924).

In the following year further work revealed remains of a rectangular stone building aligned approximately east-west, lying some 40 ft to the north of the burials. Two more burials were found north of the structure, and ‘numerous remains of bones’ to the north-west. Remains of upright slabs were interpreted as a possible cist burial pre-dating the structure (Hughes 1925).

The structural remains are of more than one phase, and consist of a long north wall aligned approximately east-west 8.3m long. Return walls at either end are not at right-angles, but form an obtuse angle at the west end and an acute angle at the east. Another north-south wall (a later insertion) lies some 5ft (1.52m) from the east end. The south ends of the three cross-walls appears to have been destroyed, as they fail to reach the remains of a longitudinal south wall which lies 11ft (3.35m) from the north wall. A thick layer of burnt material lay under the south-east part of the structure.

Finds included numerous white pebbles, fragments of three medieval pottery vessels, a spindle whorl, and broken fragments of a quernstone. The current location of the finds is not known, so it is not possible to confirm their date, but they could all be of medieval date, though the quern fragments and spindle whorl could also be earlier, and perhaps contemporary with the grinding stone found with the burials.

The walls as exposed are difficult to interpret, but seem to indicate a small building set into the sloping hill side, though the relative small size of the building and lack of right-angles at the corners is problematic. The remains lie 260 yards from the cathedral, much closer than the 400 yards stated by Willis, and it is unfortunate he is not clearer about the site where human bones had been found. Nonetheless, the presence of a cemetery here would make it the most likely spot for the church of St Mary’s, though it is not possible from the evidence available to conclude the walls are those of the church. The cut-and-fill method of constructing the terraces for the tennis courts mean there is good potential for the survival of parts of the cemetery and any related structures under those parts of the terraces which were not excavated but filled.

### *5.2.2 Later development*

The map of John Speed (1610) clearly shows the Bishop’s Palace with adjoining gardens and orchard. A road which is on the approximate alignment as the present Glanrafon Hill is shown, and on the east side of Glanrafon (our study area) the area is shown as undeveloped. No church is indicated in this area.

By the time of Wood's town map of 1834 the area is clearly marked as being owned by the Bishop, and now formed the Bishop's park. In 1802 Bishop Cleaver exchanged land in Port Penrhyn with Lord Penrhyn for land within the Bishop's Park, suggesting that the park was largely a late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century creation, undertaken in conjunction with the many improvements to the palace by respective bishops (UWB Penrhyn 811; for improvements to the palace see RCAHMS 1960, 9-10). Nineteenth century maps show the park with a perimeter path, but otherwise empty other than trees and a well. The well lay 30 ft west of the palace in a grouping of trees. It is unlikely it was the sole water supply for the palace, and may have been more of a park feature than a functional well. The perimeter path with railings still exists for part of the circuit.

The land north of the park was the Penrallt estate, an area of some 200 acres which occupied much of the Aethwy ridge from Garth Point to what was to become Upper Bangor. In the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries the land was part of the Penrhyn estate, but it passed into the hands of an illegitimate member of the family, and through marriage to the Williams of Glanrafon (Caernarfon). William Williams (1705-1769) was Attorney General for North Wales. His second wife, Hephzibah, died in 1832, after which the estate was sold. Much of it was bought by the Penrhyn estate, including the central ridge above the Bishop's park.

### **5.3 Modern development**

The Bishop's Park and Palace were sold by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1900 to Colonel Platt. A large portion of the lands and the palace were subsequently bought by the Council, who also purchased part of the Penrallt estate from Lord Penrhyn. In 1902 the Council offered their part of the Penrallt estate with six acres of the Bishop's park estate to the University College of North Wales for the construction of new University buildings. The College had opened in 1884 and initially used the Penrhyn Arms Hotel for its base, which was converted and expanded to suit its new educational purpose. The College made it clear a more permanent site was required, and the Council's offer in 1902 was their response to ensure the College remained in Bangor. Subsequently H T Hare was contracted to design the new College buildings which were opened in 1911. In the meantime the Council had built Deiniol Road through the former park which linked the station with Garth Road, and had converted the former palace into offices.

The area of park between Deiniol Road, Glanrafon Hill and the new College buildings became the College park. A memorial to the men of North Wales who were killed in the First World War was designed by D Wynne Thomas as an arch that formed an entrance into the park at the corner of Deiniol Road and Glanrafon Hill. It was opened in 1923, and is a two-storey gateway in Tudor style, designed to compliment the College buildings above.

In 1924-5 the lower slopes in the park alongside Deiniol Road were levelled to create tennis courts. The levelled terraces are still visible, though the courts were closed in the 1970's. During the construction of these courts the remains of burials and building foundations were found (see section on Llanfair Garth Branan above).

Plans for a students' union were proposed in 1949, to be built in a style similar to the gatehouse. These were subsequently abandoned. In 1957 a refectory with adjacent curved lounge was built north of the gatehouse to designs by Sir Percy Thomas and Sons. This was completed in 1963, and the construction of the Student Union building followed. The final development on the site was the Theatre built east of the Union in 1973.

In 1974 the college grounds on the slopes below the college were partially replanted, though incorporating many of the extant older trees, to a design by Dame Sylvia Crowe.

### **5.4 Gazetteer of archaeological sites within the study area**

For the location of archaeological sites within the development area see Figure 1. A category of importance is given to each site ranging through A (National), B (Regional), C (Local), D (Other) and E (Unknown). The criteria used for assessing the value of features was based upon those used by the



Secretary of State for Wales when considering sites for protection as scheduled ancient monuments, as set out in the Welsh Office circular 60/96. The categories are further defined in Appendix II.

The impact is given where known. Following the site description recommendations are made for archaeological evaluation or mitigation. Evaluation recommendations are given if the site is categorized 'E' and there is insufficient information to allow mitigation recommendations to be made. The mitigation recommendations are made in the light of the proposed impact and archaeological importance of the site. The terms used are further defined in Appendix II.

**Feature 1: Chapel Llanfair Garth Branan (PRN 3182) (SH 580722).**

**Category:** B (Regional) for surviving remains. E (Unknown) for potential buried remains.

**Impact:** Unknown

Sixteen dug burials aligned approximately east-west were found here in 1924, and the following year remains of a rectangular building and more burials were found. Sherds of three medieval vessels were found, though parts of a quern stone and grinding stone may indicate evidence for an earlier date. The cemetery and building remains are thought to indicate the church of Llanfair Garth Branan, known from historical references of 1291 and 1486/7 (See discussion in 5.2.1 above; Hughes 1924; 1925).

**Recommendations for archaeological evaluation:** *The full size of the cemetery and buildings was never located, and the description by Hughes of the construction of the courts suggests that the lower part of the terraces were not excavated but filled-in, thus preserving the archaeology. There is good potential, therefore, for the preservation of archaeology associated with this site. Any proposed development which would have a direct impact upon this site should be preceded by a programme of field evaluation to ascertain the nature, status and location of surviving remains, and to allow appropriate mitigation measures to be recommended.*

**Recommendations for mitigatory measures:** *The surviving remains to be left in situ. Recommendations for potential buried remains to be defined following evaluation.*

**Feature 2: St. John's Well (SH 579721)**

**Category:** D (Other - destroyed). **Impact:** Unknown

This site is shown on Wood's 1834 map as a circular feature surrounded by trees. The possible nature of the site becomes clearer on the 1884 OS map where it is shown as a circular enclosure with trees inside, and a basin or chamber in the lower corner marked 'W' for well. It was visited in 1950 by RCAHMW who described it as a 'holy well, now a marshy hollow at the foot of the college grounds; in modern times, however, it has been known as St. John's Well' (RCAHMW 1960, 12). The site was investigated by Leslie Alcock in 1964 in advance of construction of the Students Union. The excavator's report states 'the supposed holy well was also examined, and was found to be a brick-lined structure fed by brick drains'. Though not explicitly stated, it has to be assumed that the brick structure was subsequently demolished, as the site now lies under the pavement alongside the Student's Union. No features of pre-19th century date were noted by the excavator in the vicinity of the well. There are no known traditions associating this site with a holy well, and it is not known when it first came to be called St John's well. St Deiniol's well lay within the vicinity of Wellfield and Well Street, east of the Cathedral. It is possible that rather than a functional well it formed a feature within the Bishop's Park, and that the brick chamber was built during works to the college grounds during construction 1907-11 (see Feature 8 below), when any earlier structures would have been demolished.

**Recommendations for archaeological evaluation:** *None.*

**Recommendations for mitigatory measures:** *Watching Brief*

**Feature 3: University Tennis Courts (SH 580723-579722)**

**Category:** D **Impact:** Unknown.

The university tennis courts were constructed in 1924 in two levels into the slope. A 'cut and fill' technique was used whereby the material removed from the upper part of the slope was used to fill in the slope on the lower part to create a level platform. The courts went out of use in the 1970's, but are still visible as level terraces.

**Recommendations for archaeological evaluation:** *None.*

**Recommendations for mitigatory measures:** *None*

**Feature 4: Refectory, Curved lounge and Students Union Building (SH579721)**

**Category:** C. **Impact:** Considerable

In 1949 it was decided to build a students' union in College Park near the Memorial Arch, and plans were prepared for a building in a style similar to that of the arch. Nothing however could be done at the time, and the plans were abandoned. In 1957 it was decided to build a new refectory, with a Union to be added at a later date. A completely new design was drawn up by Sir Percy Thomas and Sons, and the building was completed in 1963. The refectory is built of a light red brick with exposed aggregate, with a low pitched roof on the north section, and a flat roof on the remainder. A curved lounge on stilts links the refectory to the Students Union building. The lounge sits over the path up to the college. The Students Union building, which was completed in 1965, is a large rectangular building in brick, of five floors with nearly continuous glass around the upper three floors and a flat roof.

**Recommendations for archaeological evaluation:** None.

**Recommendations for mitigatory measures:** Basic recording

**Feature 5: Theatr Gwynedd (SH579722)**

**Category:** C. **Impact:** Considerable

Theatr Gwynedd was built in 1973 to provide a theatre for the university and serve as the headquarters for the North Wales branch of Cwmni Theatr Cymru. The design was based on an end stage concept with a moveable screen. The dressing rooms, offices and other facilities were built below the auditorium and the stage. The auditorium provided seating for 340 people with seating being steeply ranked to give good visibility. The building is in light-orange brick, with steps rising from Deiniol Road to the doors. A forward stair wing rises right front, whilst a leaded tower at the rear left corner gives necessary stage facilities.

**Recommendations for archaeological evaluation:** None.

**Recommendations for mitigatory measures:** Basic recording

**Feature 6: North Wales Heros Memorial, Bangor (PRN 24875 ) (SH 579721)**

**Category:** B (Regional) Listed Building Grade II. **Impact:** Unknown.

A memorial arch erected 'in memory of the men of North Wales who fell in the Great War 1914-18'. It consists of a two-storey gateway in Tudor style, to match the main college building, designed by D Wynne Thomas and built in 1923. The walls are of ashlar masonry. The wide central four-centred arch has a square label and foliage carved spandrels. The building has a crenellated parapet, a cornice, and a panelled band at first floor level with sunk shields, and plinth. An oriel window projects from the first floor above the central arch, and a stair tower is located on the east side. The interior walls of the upper floor are panelled and inscribed with 8,500 names listed by parish.

**Recommendations for archaeological evaluation:** None.

**Recommendations for mitigatory measures:** Direct impact upon the monument is to be avoided. Any works in the vicinity of the monument need to ensure the setting and scale of the monument are treated sympathetically.

**Feature 7: Seventeenth century path through park**

**Category:** D. **Impact:** Considerable.

The John Speed map of 1610 appears to show a path running from the Bishop's Palace straight up the hill to the site of the present lower college gates. The lower half of this path remained in use until 1900, but by the early 19<sup>th</sup> century a right-angled bend took the upper part of the path around the perimeter of the Bishop's park (see site 8 below). The course of the path may be marked by a series of mature trees on the upper slopes, but no earthworks remain.

**Recommendations for archaeological evaluation:** Trial excavation to ascertain status of features.

**Recommendations for mitigatory measures:** Dependant upon results of evaluation.

**Feature 8: Bishop's Park**

**Category:** B. **Impact:** Unknown.

John Wood's map of 1834 shows an area north of the Bishop's Palace which is clearly demarcated with a tree-lined boundary and perimeter path. The area is nearly coterminous with the current study area, and was known in the 19<sup>th</sup> century as the Bishop's Park. The date of its creation is not known with certainty,

but it is not shown on Speed's map of 1610. The Bishop was exchanging land in the park with the Pennants of Penrhyn in 1802, in order to consolidate his holdings, so it is possible the park was created in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, and that the exchange formed a part of this. Richard Pennant was laying out a park at Penrhyn at about that time (Cadw 1998, 252), whilst at Baron Hill in Anglesey William Emes created a park for viscount Bulkeley in 1777-9, and Humphrey Repton undertook a similar commission for the marquis of Anglesey at Plas Newydd.

There are few known features within the park, and no paths are shown crossing it. The yew tree by the possible site of St Mary's church would have been visible, as well as several oaks that survive today. Given the survival of the yew, and Browne Willis's comment that bones were regularly found on the site of the church, the location of the cemetery must have been known to the resident Bishop, though there is no evidence that the any part of the site was visible.

Within the park lay the well (feature 2). This is shown on the 1834 map, and from map evidence was certainly a feature of the park, though its exact nature cannot now be determined, but it seems to have formed a tree-lined enclosure with a well chamber at the lower corner.

Following the building of the college 1907-11 parts of the park were slowly developed, particularly the west side, by the memorial arch, refectory, students union and theatre. The park extended as far as Love Lane to the east, and new paths were laid through. A landscape design for the park was developed by Dame Sylvia Crowe in 1974, and many of the surviving trees and paths reflect her design.

**Recommendations for archaeological evaluation:** *There is potential for the survival of archaeological features within the park, of both prehistoric and medieval date. A programme of field evaluation including geophysical survey and trial excavation should be undertaken in advance of direct impact within the park.*

**Recommendations for mitigatory measures:** *Future developments should respect the existing planting and the designed vista's and views. The views from the University terrace over the city are important in linking the city and college, and these, particularly between the cathedral and main university buildings, should be retained and enhanced.*

#### **Feature 9: Perimeter path around Bishop's Park – east side**

**Category:** D. **Impact:** Considerable.

It is thought that the Bishop's park was created as a deliberate landscape feature in the late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century, and that a path was laid out around the perimeter of the park. The path remained in use until c. 1900, and is clearly marked on the town maps of 1834, 1856 and the OS map of 1889. On Wood's map of 1834 a path is shown along the later line of Ffordd Gwynedd and to a point approximately opposite the present theatre building. This part of the path is thought to be on the same alignment as that marked on Speed's map of 1610 (feature 7 above). It then turns at right-angles to the east and continues for some 60 m to the south of the walling remains thought to mark the location of St Mary's church (feature 1). It then turned towards the north and continued for a further 76m to the edge of the park which bordered the Penrallt estate (approximately to the base of the present terrace). Here it turned west and ran below Lower Penrallt Road. This length is still largely extant, and forms feature 9.

**Recommendations for archaeological evaluation:** *Trial excavation to ascertain status of features.*

**Recommendations for mitigatory measures:** *Dependant upon results of evaluation.*

#### **Feature 10: Perimeter path around Bishop's Park – north side**

**Category:** C. **Impact:** Considerable.

This is a continuation of the path along the north side of the park, but unlike feature 8 the path is still largely extant, surviving from the lower college entrance and running adjacent to Lower Penrallt Road. The path is bounded by the road revetment wall for the road on the north side and iron railings on the south side.

**Recommendations for archaeological evaluation:** *None.*

**Recommendations for mitigatory measures:** *Basic record.*

#### **Feature 11: Greenhouses and related features (site of). (SH 580722)**

**Category:** E. **Impact:** Unknown

A series of garden structures interpreted as greenhouses and related features shown on the 1889 OS map.

These lay in the area now planted with trees alongside Deiniol Road. No features are visible, but underground remains may survive.

**Recommendations for archaeological evaluation:** None.

**Recommendations for mitigatory measures:** Watching brief.

## 5.5 Gazetteer of Listed Buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments in the vicinity of the study area

### 5.5.1 Scheduled Ancient Monuments

The nearest scheduled ancient monument is the site known as 'Roman Camp' (PRN 2299), an earthwork which lies nearly 700m north of the study area. It will not be affected by the proposed development.

### 5.5.2. Listed Buildings

#### Grade I

##### PRN 11661 UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NORTH WALES, BANGOR (SH579723)

**Category:** A (National Importance) **Impact:** Unknown

The university was founded in 1884, and first established at the Penrhyn Arms Hotel. Henry T Hare was chosen, following a competition, to design a new building on the former Penrallt Estate. It was built in a 'Collegiate Tudor' style with Arts and Crafts influences. The original plan was designed around two court yards focused upon the central square tower, though the larger court yard was never completed. The building was located on the top of Aethwy ridge overlooking the city to the south, and is a physically dominating feature within the landscape. (Cadw 1988; 15-16; Clarke 1966; Williams 1985)

**Recommendations for mitigatory measures:** Direct impact upon the monument is to be avoided. Indirect impact including the setting of the site and views to and from the site is to be treated sympathetically.

#### Grade II

##### PRN 24865 TERRACE WALLS AND GATED ENTRANCE TO THE UNIVERSITY, BANGOR (SH579722)

**Category:** A (National Importance). **Impact:** Unknown

A terrace which runs the full length of the south east side of the main building; overlooking the centre of Bangor. Though listed Grade II, the category of importance is 'A' because of the associations with the Grade I listed University buildings. The walls and gate are part of the original design by Henry T Hare. The ornamental gates and metalwork are by W Bainbridge Reynolds of London. (Cadw 1988, 81)

**Recommendations for mitigatory measures:** Direct impact upon the monument is to be avoided. Indirect impact including the setting of the site and views to and from the site, particularly between the university and the town, are to be treated sympathetically.

## 6. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

*Note: full details of the proposed impacts are not currently known. The following summary might need to be updated once details are confirmed.*

### 6.1 Gazetteer features

Feature no.	Name	Importance	Impact	Field evaluation	Mitigation
1	Llanfair Garth Branan	B/E	Unknown	Trial excavation in vicinity	Preserve existing remains <i>in situ</i> .
2	St John's Well	D	Unknown	None	Watching Brief
3	Tennis Courts	D	Unknown	None	None
4	Refectory,	C	Considerable –	None	Basic Record

	Curved lounge and Union		the buildings are to be demolished		
5	Theatr Gwynedd	C	Considerable – it is to be demolished	None	Basic Record
6	North Wales Heroes Memorial	B	Indirect impact only	None	Sympathetic design of new structures
7	17 <sup>th</sup> century path	D	Unknown	Trial excavation	To be decided
8	Bishop's Park	B	Unknown	Geophysical survey and trial excavation	To be decided
9	Perimeter path (east side)	D	Unknown	Trial excavation	To be decided
10	Perimeter path (north side)	C	Unknown	None	Basic record and watching brief.
11	Former greenhouses etc	E	Unknown	None	Watching brief

## 6.2 Listed buildings in immediate vicinity

Feature no.	Name	Importance	Impact	Field evaluation	Mitigation
11661	University College main building	A Grade I	Indirect impact on setting	None	Sympathetic design to avoid inappropriate impact on setting. Retain views between college and city.
24865	Terrace walls and entrance	A Grade II	Indirect impact on setting	None	Sympathetic design to avoid inappropriate impact on setting. Retain views between college and city.

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## APPENDIX I: PROJECT BRIEF

### DESIGN BRIEF FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

#### Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service

**Site:** Theatre Gwynedd / Student Union site, Deiniol Road, Bangor, Gwynedd

**Applicant:** Dylan Roberts, Bangor University

**Agent:** Capita Symonds

**Planning Application:** Pre-application

**Date:** 10<sup>th</sup> April 2008

**National Grid Reference:** 258000 372250

*This design brief is only valid for six months after the above date. After this period Gwynedd*

*Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS) 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.*

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 a c. 2.5ha plot.
- 1.2 At present 3 buildings are situated on the plot: The 1920s war memorial - Memorial Arch, the Theatre Gwynedd building and the Students' Union complex.
- 1.3 The remainder of the site is partly wooded, landscaped parkland associated with Bangor University.
- 1.4 The site is located on the steep slope up to the University of Bangor on the north-west flank of Deiniol Road, Bangor.
- 1.5 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 Evidence of prehistoric activity has been recorded within Bangor and its hinterland with major funerary and ritual and possible settlement activity dating back to the Neolithic period having been recorded at Llandygai. Although no settlement is known within the Adda Valley before the Medieval period Later Prehistoric burnt mounds have recently been discovered on the banks of the Adda at The Deanery in Bangor.
- 2.2 The city as it exists today 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 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

- 2.3 The proposed development plot is thought to be the site of an early medieval church, Llanfair Garth Branan.
- 2.4 It was considered to be the location of Bangor's early monastic cell founded by Saint Deiniol though this is now assumed to have been focused on the Cathedral.
- 2.5 Excavations by Harold Hughes were undertaken in advance of the construction of tennis courts in 1924 and revealed an apparent early medieval ecclesiastical structure and a number of burials.
- 2.6 The full extent of the buildings and burials was not established but further bodies were revealed during engineering works in 1938.
- 2.7 Archaeological programmes during building works in 1964 and 1972 uncovered little further evidence but did highlight the high potential for features being preserved beneath the deep overburden of the hill slope.
- 2.8 The south west of the site today is dominated by two large modernist structures built during the later part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and a listed building (Record No. 3976) dating to the first quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- 2.9 The above ground remains to the north east include some stone built walls connected with the Hughes excavations and a large amount of landscaping, planting and footpaths associated with College Park.

#### 2.10 Documentation

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

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

- 3.1 The proposed development comprises plans to entirely redevelop the site and create an *Arts and Innovation Centre*.

3.2 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**.

3.3 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.

3.4 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 or 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 4.6-4.9 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 HER, 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.
- 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.

4.5 When considering the **issue of setting** for scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings and other sites of national and/or regional significance, the HER 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.
- d) Building recording.

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 Areas of higher and lower potential should be identified to help inform future archaeological decision making and engineering / design solutions.

- 4.9 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 HER Officer should be contacted to ensure that any sites or monuments not previously recorded in the HER are given a Primary Recognition Number (PRN) and that data structure is compatible with the HER.** 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 with full dimensional and descriptive detail **including grid reference and period**

## 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).
  - Richards, J. & Robinson, D. 2000. Digital Archives from Excavation and Fieldwork: *Guide to Good Practice*. Second Edition. The Archaeology Data Service Guide to Good Practice. Oxbow Books. <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/goodguides/excavation/>
  - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1985 (revised 2006) Code of Conduct.

- The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1990 (revised 2002) Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology.
- The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 (revised 2001) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs.
- The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 (revised 2001) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment.
- The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 (revised 2001) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation.
- The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 (revised 2001) Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief.
- The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1995 (revised 2001) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation.
- The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1996 (revised 2001) Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures.
- The Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001 Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials.

- 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 the attention of the HER Officer, who will deposit the copy in the HER.
- 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 based at Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service, 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 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. Formerly known as the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR).

**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 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.

Ashley Batten

Development Control Archaeologist

**Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service, Craig Beuno, Ffordd Y Garth, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57  
2RT  
Ffon/Tel: 01248 370926 Ffacs/Fax: 01248 370925  
[ashley.batten@heneb.co.uk](mailto:ashley.batten@heneb.co.uk)**



## APPENDIX II: DEFINITION OF CATEGORIES

### 1 Categories of importance

The criteria used for assessing the value of features was based upon those used by the Secretary of State for Wales when considering sites for protection as scheduled ancient monuments, as set out in the Welsh Office circular 60/96. The definitions of categories used for impact, field evaluation and mitigation are set out below.

*Category A - Sites of National Importance.*

Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings of grade II\* and above, as well as those that would meet the requirements for scheduling (ancient monuments) or listing (buildings) or both.

Sites that 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.*

Grade II listed buildings and sites which would not fulfil the criteria for scheduling or listing, but which are nevertheless of particular importance within the region.

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

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

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

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

*Category D - Minor and damaged sites.*

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

For Category D sites, rapid recording, either in advance of 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 usually be no sites remaining in this category.

### 2. Definition of Impact

The impact of the development on each site was estimated. The impact is defined as *none, slight, unlikely, likely, significant, considerable or unknown* as follows:

*None:*

There is no construction impact on this particular site.

*Slight:*

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

*Unlikely:*

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

*Likely:*

Sites towards the edges of the proposed development, which may not be directly affected, but are likely to be damaged in some way by the construction activity.

*Significant:*

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

*Considerable:*

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

*Unknown:*

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

### **3. Definition of Field Evaluation methods**

Field evaluation is a limited programme of non-intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.

*Geophysical survey*

None invasive method of survey, usually using magnetometer or resistivity instruments.

*Trial Excavation*

Invasive method of evaluation involving the excavation of trial trenches.

### **4. Definition of Mitigatory methods**

*None:*

No impact so no requirement for mitigatory measures.

*Detailed recording:*

Requiring a photographic record, surveying and the production of a measured 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.



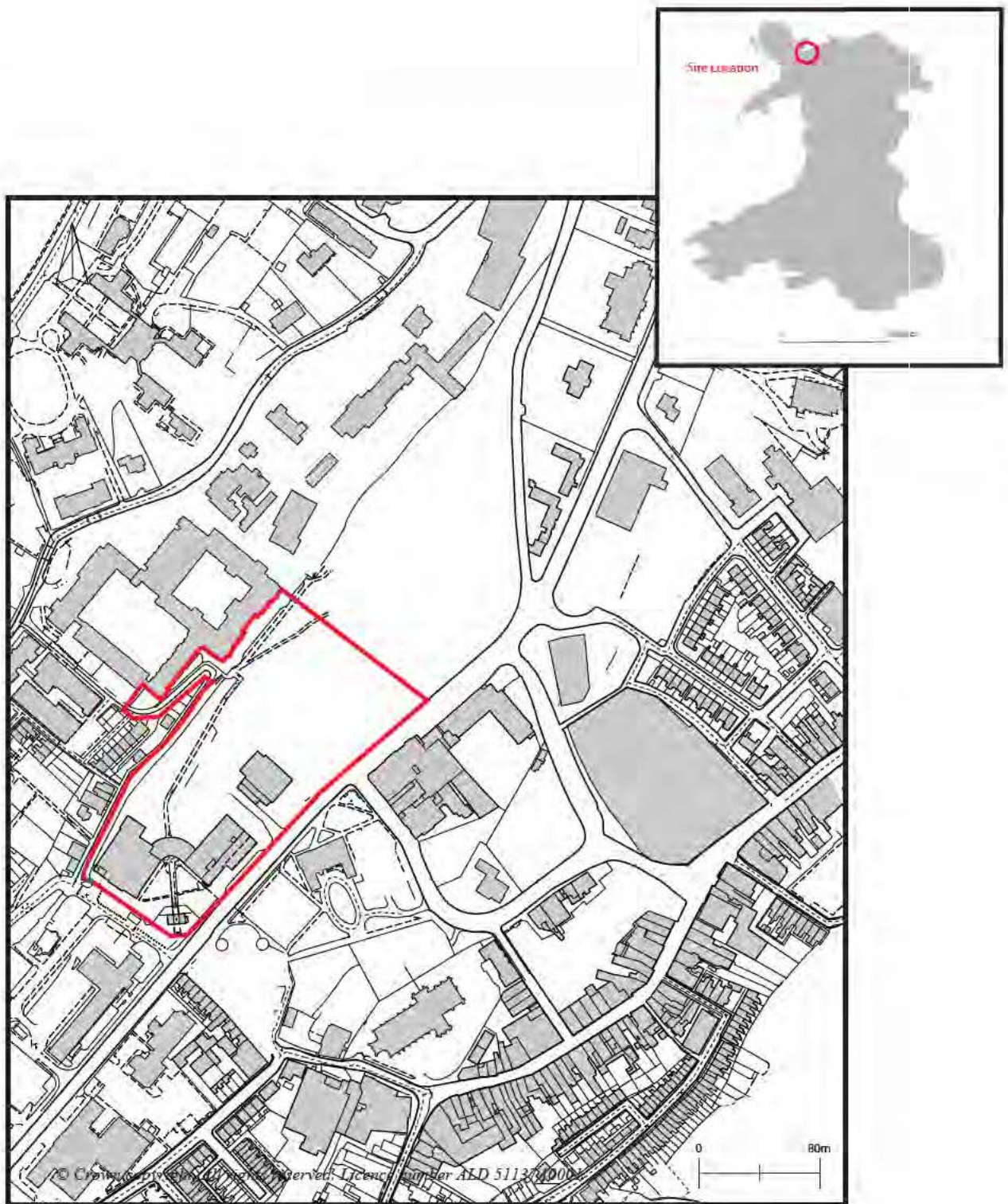
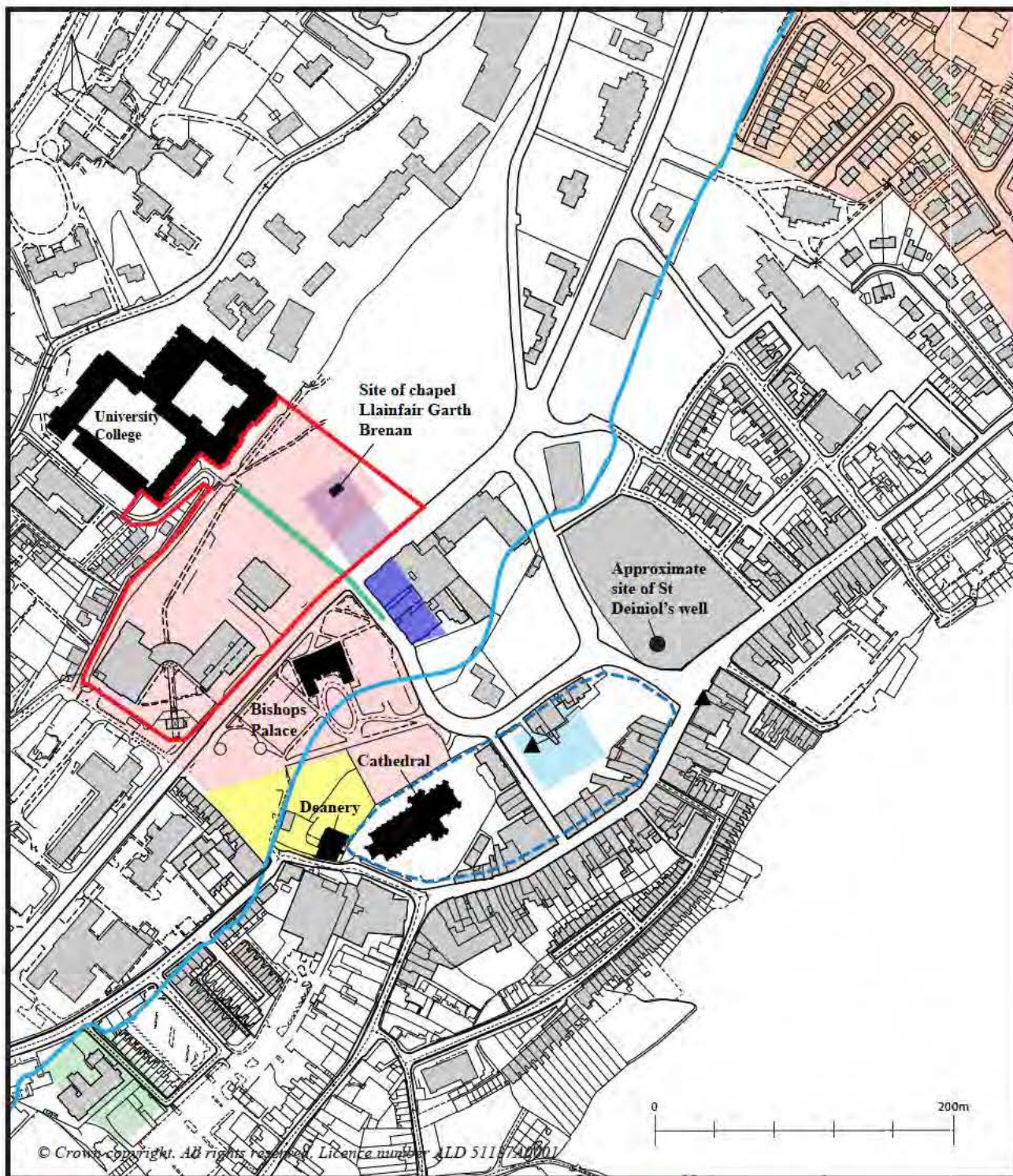


Figure 1. Proposed development location





- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <span style="border: 1px solid red; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Proposed development                     | <span style="background-color: lightblue; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Site of Capel Gorfyw and pre tenth century cemetery |
| <span style="background-color: green; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Seventeenth century path through park  | <span style="background-color: blue; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Site of Archdeaconry of Anglesey                         |
| <span style="background-color: purple; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Approximate area of cemetery          | <span style="background-color: orange; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Site of Friary   |
| <span style="background-color: lightgreen; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Site of Archdeaconry of Merioneth | <span style="color: black; font-size: 1.2em;">▲</span> Tenth century coin hoards  |
| <span style="background-color: pink; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Bishops lands                           | <span style="border-bottom: 2px dashed blue; display: inline-block; width: 20px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Suggested outline of medieval enclosure                        |
| <span style="background-color: yellow; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Deanery land                          | <span style="border-bottom: 2px solid blue; display: inline-block; width: 20px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Afon Adda   |

Figure 2. Location of medieval sites.



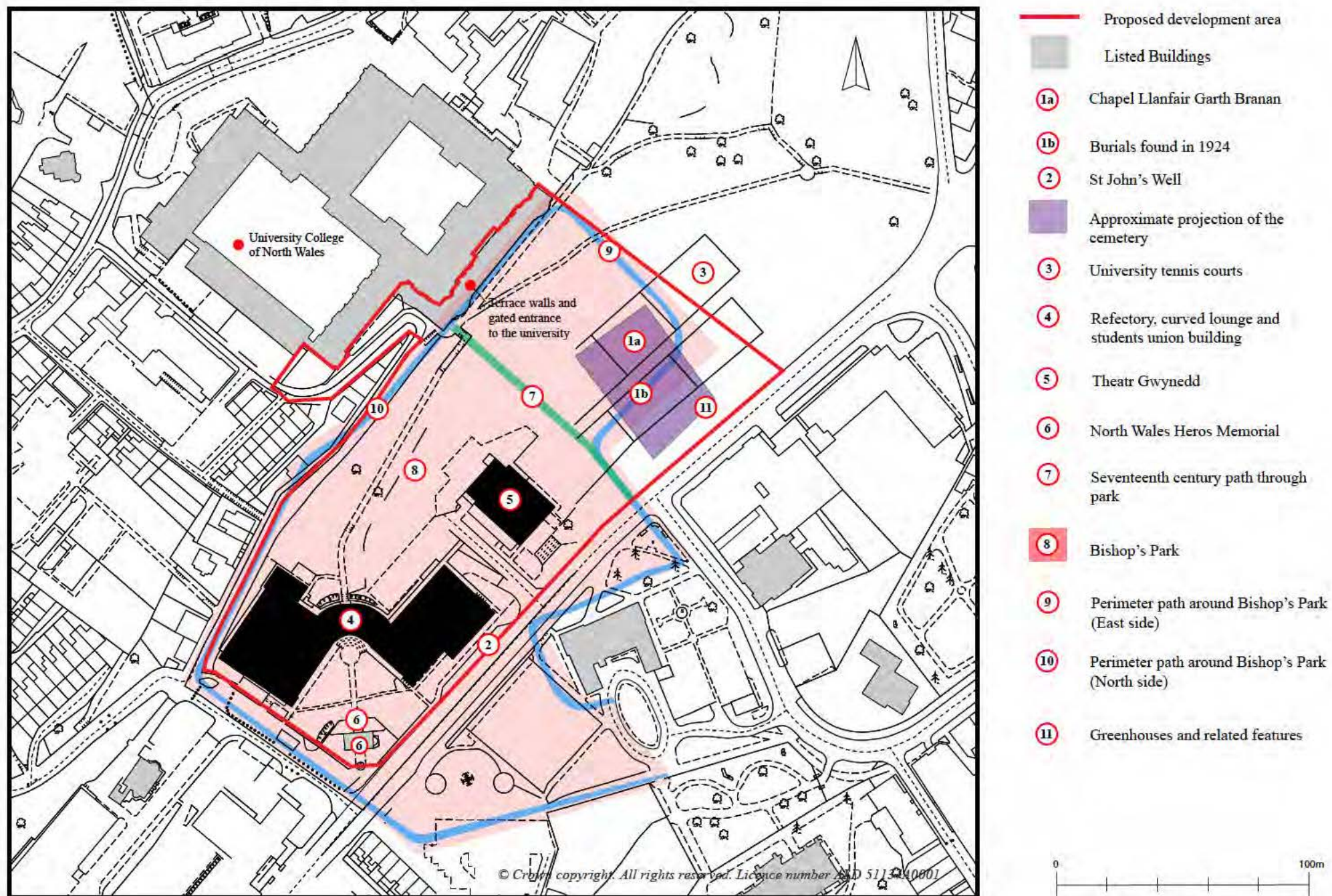


Figure 3. Location of archaeological sites within the proposed development



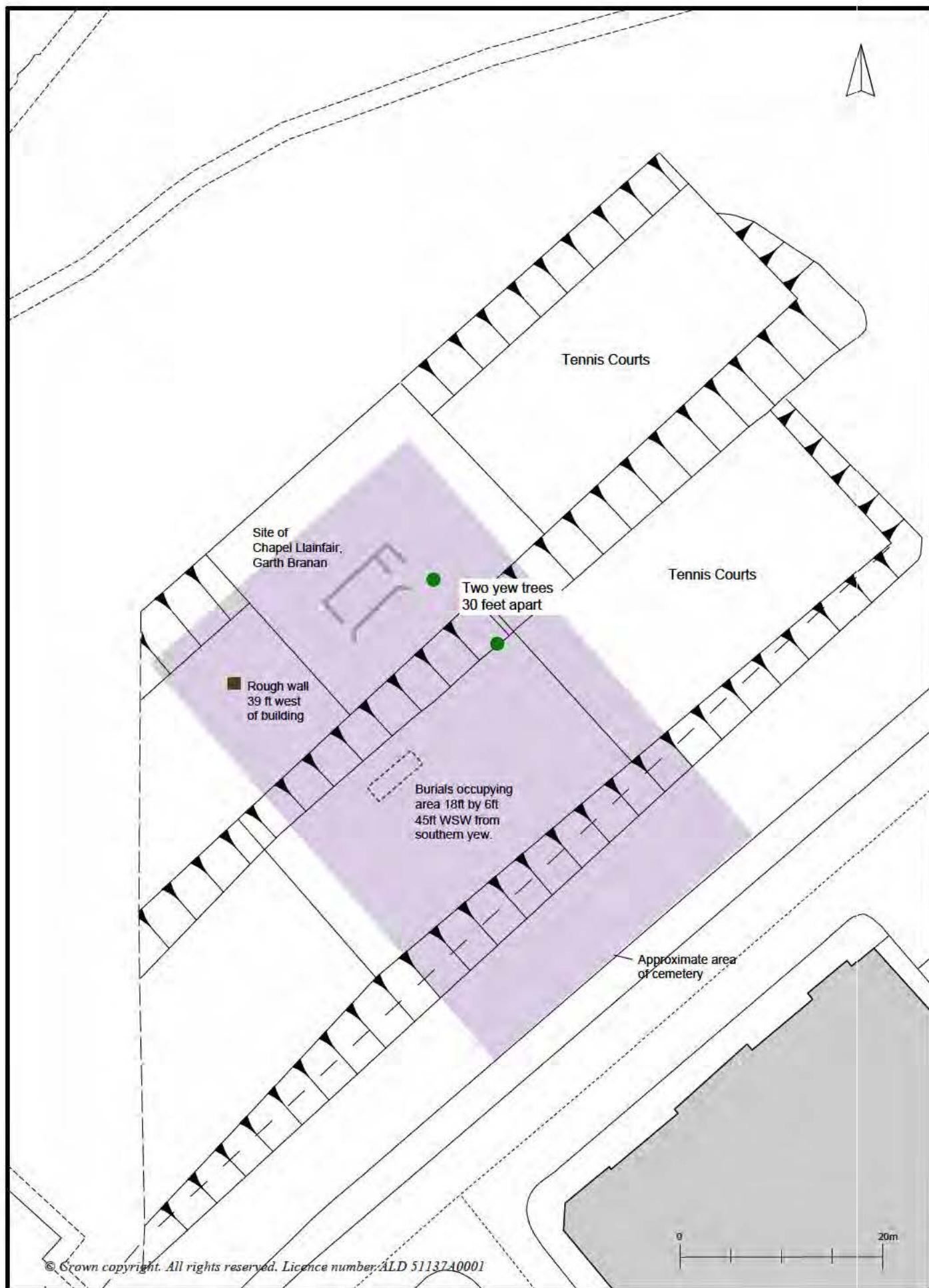


Figure 4. Location of Chapel Llainfair Garth Branau and burials found in 1924 excavation, with approximate area of the cemetery



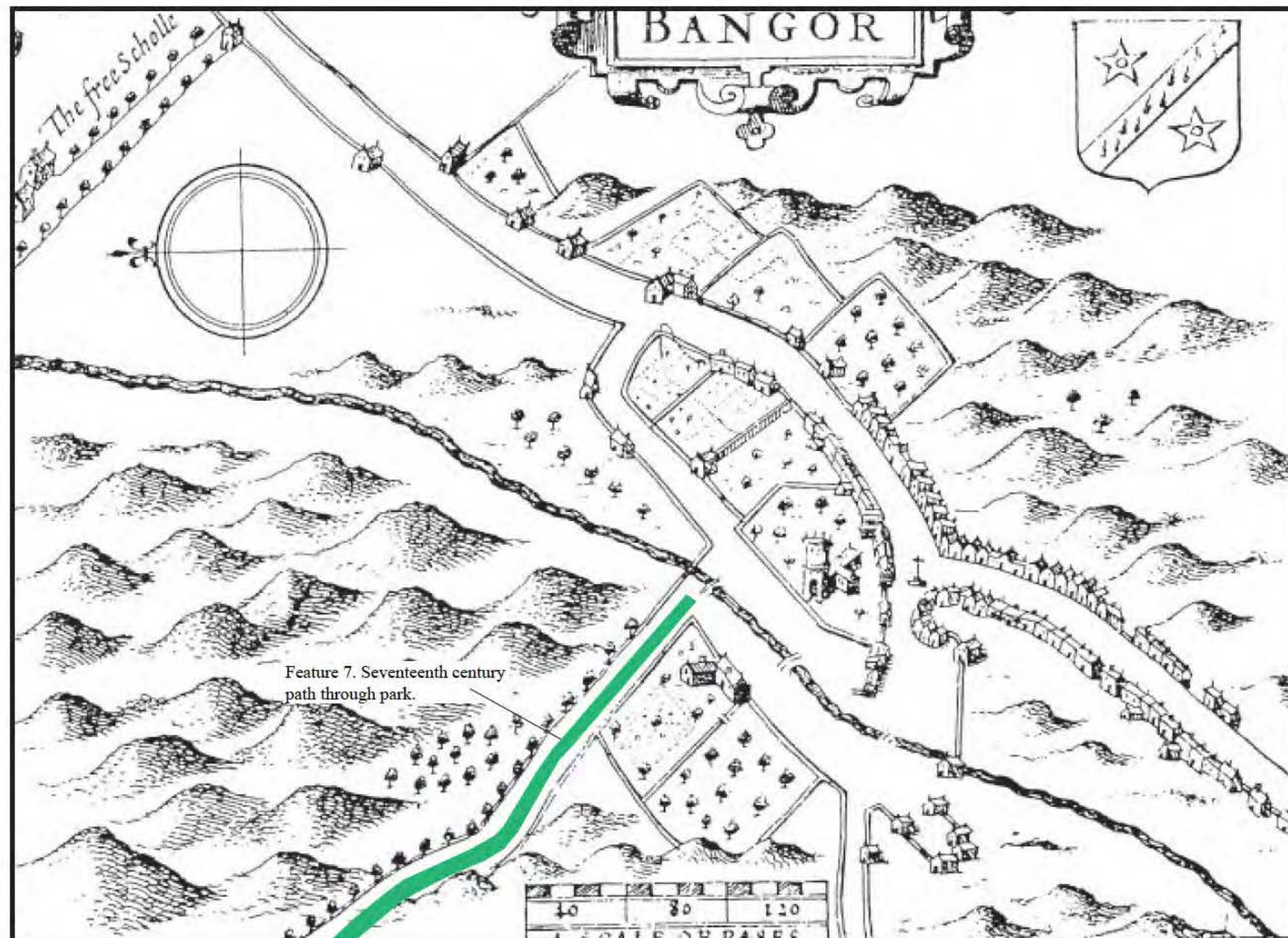


Figure 5. Map of Bangor. Speed 1610.



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
TRUST

Craig Beuno, Ffordd y Garth, Bangor, Gwynedd. LL57 2RT  
Ffon: 01248 352535. Ffacs: 01248 370925. email: [gat@heneb.co.uk](mailto:gat@heneb.co.uk)