Proposed Pumping Station, Rhiwgoch, Harlech



Assessment Report

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Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Craig Beuno, Ffordd y Garth, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2RT

PROPOSED PUMPING STATION, RHIWGOCH, HARLECH AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

GAT Project no. G2064

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Prepared for Egniol Consulting on behalf of Dŵr Cymru/Welsh Water

By J Kenney

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Cover: View of area proposed for the pumping station

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd

G2064 PROPOSED PUMPING STATION, RHIWGOCH, HARLECH

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

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PROPOSED PUMPING STATION, RHIWGOCH, HARLECH (G2064)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

SUMMARY

An archaeological assessment was carried out in advance of a proposed pumping station near Harlech. Some features of local importance, including a baptismal well, were identified near the site but no archaeological features were identified within the development area. However, a possible hut platform was found adjacent to the development area and there is potential for buried archaeology on the site. It is recommended that a strip, map and sample mitigation procedure be carried out on the area to detect and record any potential buried archaeology.

1. INTRODUCTION

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) was asked by Egniol Ltd on behalf of their clients Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water to carry out an archaeological assessment in advance of a proposed pumping station near Harlech (figure 1). The site is a small area (about 20m by 10m) on the south side of the road from Harlech to Rhiwgoch. The area of the works is indicated on drawing C-XC-4002, issued by Dŵr Cymru (appendix III). This shows a valve complex extending beyond the proposed land purchase area, but the valve complex is to be inserted on the line of an existing pipe, where the ground is already disturbed.

The pumping station is part of upgrading works being carried out on the Harlech water supply system. These included a new link main from Llanfair to Harlech, a new water treatment works at Rhiwgoch and replacement of the raw water pipe from Llyn Eiddew Mawr to Rhiwgoch. All sections of the work have been preceded by archaeological assessments, strip and map evaluation was carried out on the link main and evaluation trenches followed by full excavation of some features is taking place on the water treatment site. Further background information can be found in these reports: Evans 2008a (GAT report 753); Evans 2008b (GAT report 754), and Kenney 2009 (GAT report 775).

2. DESIGN BRIEF AND SPECIFICATION

A detailed brief has not been prepared for this scheme, but advice has been received from the National Park Archaeologist, and a project design has been written using a relevant generic brief. This desk-based assessment follows the project design, which conforms to the guidelines specified in *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1994, rev. 2001 and 2008).

A desk-based assessment is defined as 'a programme of assessment of the known or potential archaeological resource within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. It consists of a collation of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely character, extent, quality and worth of the known or potential archaeological resource in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate' (*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment*, IFA 2008, 2).

The aims of the assessment are:

- to identify and record the cultural heritage within the defined study area;
- to evaluate the importance of what has been identified;
- to recommend ways in which impact upon the cultural heritage can be avoided or minimised.

To comply fully with the aims expressed above it can be necessary to undertake a programme of Field Evaluation following the Desktop study and Field Visit. This is because some sites cannot be assessed by desktop or field visit alone, and additional fieldwork is therefore required. This typically takes the form of geophysical survey or trial excavation, although measured survey is also a possible option. A full programme of assessment and evaluation may therefore consist of:

- Desktop study
- Field walkover
- Initial report
- Field evaluation
- Draft report
- Final report

This phase of the project concerns the first three phases only, and recommendations will be made for any field evaluation required.

3. METHODS AND TECHNIQUES

3.1 Desk top study

The desktop study comprised the consultation of maps, documents, computer records, written records and reference works that form part of the Historic Environment Record (HER), located at Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT), Bangor. The HER includes Cadw's information on listed buildings, and also holds copies of documents from the Mostyn Collection in the Bangor University Archives. The archives held by the Meirionnydd Record Office, Dolgellau were consulted, particularly for information from the relevant tithe maps. Copies obtained by GAT of aerial photographs from the collection at the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) were examined. Published and unpublished papers on the area and on relevant aspects of archaeology in North Wales in general were consulted to gain a broader understanding of the study area. In particular the assessment reports carried out for other Dŵr Cymru works in the area have been used for background information (Evans 2008a (GAT report 753); Evans 2008b (GAT report 754), and Kenney 2009 (GAT report 775)).

Appendix I contains a list of sites, buildings and find spots listed in the GAT HER and Cadw's register of listed buildings around the proposed development area. These sites are located on figure 1. The numbers marked on figure 1 are PRNs (Primary Record Numbers) identifying the sites on the HER, NPRN (National Primary Record Numbers) identifying the sites on the National Monuments Record and listed building record numbers.

3.2 Field Search

The field search was undertaken on 5th February 2009. Despite the snow over much of the country on that day the development area was largely free of snow. The development area itself was under short grass and visibility very good for identifying subtle earthworks. The southern end of the field was over grown with bracken and gorse and scattered with boulders, whereas near the road the field had been improved and stones removed. The whole field in which the development area is located was inspected for earthworks.

At the eastern end of the field, near Cae Du, a line of stones was noted (figure 8). This superficially resembled the foundations of a stone wall, but is probably the backfill of the water pipe installed in this field in 2000. The feature is within a naturally stony area and the stones seem loose and disturbed. It has not yet been possible to confirm this identification although Dŵr Cymru plan NP0910088.108 (appendix IV) shows the pipe route heading in the right direction. Due to this identification this feature has not been give a feature number in section 4.4 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.

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 in Appendix II.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

4.1 Topographic description

The proposed development area lies on a plateau above the town of Harlech at c. 101m OD. The ground rises to the east and the site overlooks the coastal plain and Cardigan Bay to the west. The site is bounded by a narrow road on its northern side and is located in the corner of a field, just east of a small reservoir. The field is rough pastureland.

This landscape is defined by the Cambrian rocks of the Harlech dome (Bowen and Gresham 1967, 1), which the British Geological Survey describes as Cambrian shales, sandstones and quartzites (BGS 1930). The upper part of the town and castle of Harlech stand on a rocky shelf, which falls steeply to the former shoreline, masked by the sands of Morfa Harlech. The soils have developed on boulder clay and exposed undifferentiated drift, but this is probably quite shallow as bedrock outcrops near the site. There are numerous boulders on the surface of the fields were these have not been cleared for agriculture.

4.2 Archaeological and historical background

The previous assessments (Evans 2008a, Evans 2008b and Kenney 2009) carried out for other stages of this project have discussed the archaeological and historical background of the area and this report will concentrate on those aspects directly relevant to the development area. See figure 1 for the location of sites mentioned.

4.2.1. Prehistoric and Roman period

No Mesolithic sites are known in the area but there is some environmental evidence for early forest clearance (Chambers and Price 1988). Neolithic activity is represented by chamber tombs, but all of these are to the south of the study area (Bowen and Gresham 1967). Bronze Age standing stones may mark a routeway over the hills to the Trawsfynydd Basin (Gresham 1967 and Lynch 1984, 34-35), and burial cairns and cists survive, mainly in the uplands (Lynch 1984; Bowen and Gresham 1967, 88, and Kelly 1982, 132). Occasional objects dating from the Bronze Age have been found including a hoard of palstaves (PRN 2906) and a gold torque (PRN 2896) from Harlech (Bowen and Gresham 1967, and OS card SH 53 SE 3).

Hut circle settlements and their associated field systems, most probably dating from the Iron Age and Romano-British periods, are one of the outstanding features of the archaeology of the Ardudwy Uplands. The enclosed homestead of Cefnfilltir (PRN 1053, SAM Me 98 (Bowen and Gresham 1967, 197)) lies about 500m south-east of the development area, and the extensive system of huts, enclosures and fields known as Muriau Gwyddelod (PRN 1054-56, SAM Me 10) is about 600m to the south. There is little evidence of a Roman military presence in the area, as the Roman roads run inland. However, late Roman coin hoards found at Harlech Castle and Llanbedr (Bowen and Gresham 1967) do suggest some trade or other contact between the Ardudwy area and the Roman army.

There are no known prehistoric or Roman period sites close to the development area. A strip, map and sample process was carried out by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust on the route of the link water main about 100m west of the present site. This did not identify any buried archaeological remains (Robert Evans (GAT), pers. com.).

4.2.2. Medieval Period

There is some evidence for early medieval activity in the area as two early Christian inscribed stones are built into the fabric of Llandanwg old church (Nash Williams 1950, 278-9), and two more stones of similar date have recently been found there (Davidson *per comm.*). An early foundation for the church (PRN 4790) is suggested by its original circular cemetery that is now buried by sand, though much of the present church appears to be of thirteenth century date (Davidson 2001, 343-4).

The development area lies within the parish of Llandanwg in the commote of Ardudwy (Thomas 2001). Harlech Castle (PRN 2908), built in the thirteenth century by Edward I, dominates the area, surrounded by the medieval borough. Work on the castle started in 1283 and it was completed by about 1290. The town was not walled, unlike Caernarfon, and did not thrive. Most of the town was destroyed by Owain Glyndŵr in 1404. The castle was used as Glyndŵr's headquarters until 1408-9 and was also a Lancastrian stronghold from 1461-8 (RCAHMW 1921, 59-60, Lloyd 1986).

Some of the less regular field walls, especially in the uplands, may preserve medieval boundaries and long huts and hut platforms, probably of a medieval date, can be identified as earthworks. One such feature, indicating an isolated dwelling with an associated denuded field wall, was identified during an earlier phase of the present works adjacent to the waterworks (PRN 20612 (Evans 2008b)). A slight, roughly rectangular platform (feature 05) was noted adjacent to the development area, which might represent the remains of a hut platform of medieval date. The more irregular boundaries of the field in which the development area is located could be of medieval origin, although there is no firm evidence of this.

4.2.3 Post-Medieval

The borough of Harlech failed to recover from Owain Glyndŵr's occupation. The castle was again garrisoned in the Civil War but fell after a brief siege on 10 March 1647, after which orders were given for its demolition. These were not carried out, but the castle was allowed to decay until the 18th century when it became a tourist attraction (Lloyd 1986, 36, 37). The town, however, remained poor. Fenton visited it in 1808 during his *Tours in Wales* and described it as the 'most forlorn, beggarly place imaginable' (Fenton 1917, 105). Improved communications due to the creation of turnpike trusts and then a rail link increased the town's prosperity in the mid 19th century (Lloyd 1986, 61).

The original parish church was of medieval origin and located on the coast about 3km south of Harlech. In 1839-40 a new parish church was built in Harlech and given the font, bell and dedication to Saint Tanwg from the previous church (Lloyd 1986, 66). It is a grade II listed building (record number 25501).

John Evans' 1795 map of Wales shows a short track heading east, that may suggest the road next to the development area had an 18th century origin (figure 2). In 1849 and 1856 Lord Mostyn bought much land in and around Harlech from the Cors y Gedol Estate. With the purchases came some earlier maps and one dated 1801 shows that this road did indeed lead to other tracks and to the road to Cwm Nantcol (figure 3). However, this map does not show the field in which the development site lies. The 1849 map of lands bought by the Mostyn Estate clearly shows that the study area is excluded from the lands bought. The field was not previously owned by the Cors y Gedol Estate but was owned by a small landowner named as Hugh Jones Esq. (figure 5). This map does not show fields belonging to other landowners but the tithe map of 1841 shows all lands and indicates that the shape of the fields in this area have changed relatively little since the early 19th century. Figure 4 shows part of a later 19th century copy of the tithe map with information from the 1806 enclosure award added. Pen y Bryn Common is shown marked just west of the development area. By 1841 it was divided into tiny fields with three dwelling houses on it. The houses suggest that this may have been encroachment on the common prior to the enclosure award.

The development site falls within field number 666 on the tithe map, and was part of a farm called Cae Ardd Goch; the farm house probably being the building shown on the south side of field 659. In 1841 this farm was owned by William Jones. The 1849 sale catalogue indicates that William Jones owned land to the north of the road, and presumably had sold Cae Ardd Goch to Hugh Jones by this date, or passed it on to him if they were relatives. Field 666 is named in the tithe schedule as 'werglodd' (meadow) and was used as a meadow in 1841. However many of the surrounding fields were arable and there was a pond on the western limit of the farm. Field 601, directly across the road from the development area, belonged to Lord Mostyn but was connected to the Red Lion Inn in Harlech town. The first edition County Series map (figure 6) shows that while the field pattern was much the same the fields in the area became more regularised in the later 19th century. Field 666 is still easily recognisable but some of its boundaries had changed and continued to do so in the 20th century.

Just to the west of the development site, by the side of the road, is a baptismal well built, according to a plaque, in 1841 by the 'Scotch Baptists'. This well is not marked on the 1841 tithe map, so it may just post-date the survey of the map. It is shown on the 1889 OS map (figure 6), being fed from a stream from the adjacent field, and is more neatly defined on the 1901 map (figure 7). In the Baptist tradition baptisms normally took place in the open air, but the use of a lake, river or the sea was more usual than a purpose built structure (Bassett 1977, 73). In Harlech the early Baptist community used the former mill pond near the castle (Lloyd 1986, 44).

The well was associated with Capel Rehoboth (listed building number 25508). In 1811 the Baptist community of Harlech split, with some families becoming Scotch Baptists, and the chapel was built in 1820 to

accommodate them (Lloyd 1986, 66). The chapel is shown on the tithe map in a circular enclosure. This enclosure is represented as more elongated on the 1889 map and labeled as a burial ground. Few other early 19th century buildings on this eastern side of Harlech survive. The farms of Cae Du and Cefn-filltir are on the same sites as in 1841 and probably incorporate some of the early 19th century buildings. A building shown in Tir y Felin in 1841 was ruinous but has recently been renovated. A barn south of Cae Du is still in use and is a listed building (25516). This barn was part of the farmstead of Cae Ardd Goch.

The baptismal well is currently fed from a small reservoir. This is situated in the field immediately to the west of the development site. It is not shown on the first and second edition County Series maps but is represented on the 1953 OS map, and aerial photographs show it was in existence by at least 1951. It seems to have provided water, probably for power, to a group of industrial buildings south-east of the parish church, and was the latest phase of a fairly complex series of water works used to supply this site from the late 19th century.

4.3 Statutory and non-statutory designations

The development area lies within the Snowdonia National Park and the Ardudwy Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest (HLW (Gw) 2), where it is described as 'a large, exceptionally rich and well-studied landscape, situated on the western flanks of the Rhiniog Mountains, containing extensive relict evidence of recurrent land use and settlement from prehistoric to recent times' (Cadw 1998, 76). The nearest Scheduled Ancient Monuments to the development site are the homestead of Cefnfilltir (SAM Me 98) about 500m to the south-east, the settlement of Muriau Gwyddelod (SAM Me 10) about 600m to the south, and Harlech Castle (Me 044) about 370m to the north-west. The development area is visible from the latter and could have a minor visual impact on the castle's surroundings. Eighteen listed buildings are included in appendix I, but most are within the town of Harlech and none are close to the development site, with the exception of the barn 25516.

4.4 The Archaeological Survey (Figure 8)

Seven features were identified close to the development area. These are shown on figure 8 and described below with recommendations for further assessment and mitigatory measures, where appropriate. These features were allocated PRN numbers and they will be added to the HER. PRN numbers of these new features are not shown on figure 8 for clarity but are listed below.

Feature 01 **Baptismal Well PRN 29309** Plates 1 and 2 SH 58455 31066 Period: Post medieval Category: C Impact: None A rectangular concrete pool with steps down into it and railings around, all surrounded by a low stone wall. To the south of the well is a higher stone wall, on which is a slate plaque bearing the inscription 'Scotch Baptist, baptismal well, built 1841' in Welsh and English. **Recommendations for further assessment:** None Recommendations for mitigatory measures: Avoid Feature 02 Reservoir **PRN 29310** Plate 3 SH 5848 3105

Period: Modern

Category: C Impact: None

A small reservoir constructed in the 20th century, certainly by 1951 but possibly in the 1920s or 30s. This reservoir seems to have been a late phase of a complex of water works supplying some buildings on the east side of the town. The tithe map marks a small round pond just east of the site of the reservoir and this was in use in 1889. The pond was fed by a stream originating on the site of the later reservoir and passing through the Baptismal Well. The water was then carried down hill by a series of regular leats and an aqueduct, apparently heading for a row of buildings immediately to the south-east of the parish church. The leat system, pond and the buildings were still in use in 1901 and there is a local memory of the buildings being a bottling plant (Davidson pers com). The 1953 map shows the reservoir having been constructed at the top end of this water supply system and it was probably constructed to improve the water supply to the buildings below, although it may also have been a general source of drinking water. The reservoir, therefore, appears to be part of the industrial history of this part of Harlech and the system as a whole is of considerable interest. *Recommendations for further assessment: None*

Recommendations for mitigatory measures: Avoid

Feature 03RoadPRN 29311

SH 5834 3107 to SH 5865 3112 Period: Post medieval

Category: D Impact: Slight

Narrow road enclosed with drystone walls. Identifiable on the 1810 map and probably dates to at least the late 18th century. Much of the surrounding land has been enclosed since that date so it is possible that the drystone walls originated in the 18th century, although they must have been constantly rebuilt. A short section of wall will have to be dismantled during the works and should be rebuilt in the same style.

Recommendations for further assessment: None

Recommendations for mitigatory measures: Reinstatement

Feature 04 Field boundaries PRN 29312 Plates 4-6

Centred on SH 5853 3100

Period: Post medieval

Category: D Impact: None

The field in which the development area is located is enclosed by drystone walls. Very little of this represents the actual boundary shown on the 1841 tithe map. The wall next to the reservoir (04a) is of recent character and is probably contemporary with the reservoir. The southern boundary walls (04b) date from the late nineteenth century according to map evidence, but the wall by the road (04c) could be older and is of a different character to the southern walls, having more rounded stones. The gateway through this wall next to the development area has substantial gateposts but has recently been damaged.

The irregular indented south-western corner of the field boundary (04d) could date from the 18th century or earlier. It no longer functions as a wall but the reduced foundations, containing some large boulders, are still visible. Similarly part of the eastern boundary (04e) is largely denuded but some very large stones from its foundations remain. The northern section (04f) of this eastern boundary is visible only as a slight linear scatter of stones.

The earlier sections of the field boundary should be avoided. Boundary 04f will have to be fenced off to ensure no accidental damage by plant. It is unlikely that other parts of the field boundary will be damaged but if this is unavoidable they should be reinstated in the same style to maintain the character of the area.

Recommendations for further assessment: None

Recommendations for mitigatory measures: Avoid or reinstate

Feature 05 Possible platform PRN 29313 Plate 7

SH 58521 31074 Period: Unknown

Category: E Impact: Potentially significant

A low roughly rectangular earthwork platform measuring about 7m by 4m and up to 0.3m in height. This is grass covered but occasional stones protrude along the edges. The top of the platform is fairly level. The regularity of this feature suggests that it may be a platform for a rectangular hut, possibly medieval in date. However, there are no clear diagnostic features and it could be a natural feature based on a bedrock outcrop. Although outside the development area this feature is very close and could easily be damaged by plant movement during construction. It is recommended that this feature is fenced off to avoid accidental damage. *Recommendations for further assessment: None*

Recommendations for mitigatory measures: Avoid

Feature 06	Clearance cairn	PRN 29314	Plate 8

SH 58579 31086 Period: Medieval?

Category: D Impact: None

A small field clearance cairn about 4m by 2m and 0.2m high. It is composed of stones dumped around a large boulder, probably natural outcropping bedrock. It is a rather rough and disordered heap of stones but well overgrown with grass and could be of some antiquity. A low (0.1m high) very straight bank near the cairn, running perpendicular to the open ditch, is probably caused by buried drainage as no maps indicate a field boundary at this location. This area should be avoided during construction.

Recommendations for further assessment: None

Recommendations for mitigatory measures: Avoid

Feature 07Wall/damPRN 29315Plate 9

SH 5853 3100 Period: Post medieval

Category: D Impact: None

To the west of the reservoir is a straight section of a thick stone-faced bank or wall about 1m high and at least 2m wide. This is 40m long and much of the middle section is collapsed. This is shown on the 1889 map, when it lay just west of a small round pond, although not forming one side of the pond. The bank remained in 1901 when the pond had gone. The bank does not join on to other walls and is not just a boundary feature. It's character suggests a dam, so it may have been a safety feature to prevent flooding down stream, and was probably part of the water supply system discussed under feature 02.

Recommendations for further assessment: None **Recommendations for mitigatory measures:** Avoid

5. SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

5.1 Summary of features identified

Most of the features listed above date from the 19th century or 20th centuries and must be considered of local or regional significance. The outdoor baptismal well is an unusual feature and of some importance to the history of the Baptist religion in Wales, but it will not be impacted upon by the works. The road and field boundaries are of interest in the development and landuse of the area, but as they are not to be significantly disturbed by the development it is unlikely that any more information will be obtained from these than can be determined from the documentary evidence.

The clearance cairn (feature 06) could be of prehistoric date but is probably more likely to be medieval or later. It represents casual stone clearance from the field. Feature 05 could be the remains of a medieval hut platform. This cannot be proved without excavation and as it is not threatened by the development this is not recommended. However, it could suggest the existence of buried archaeology within the development area. The presence of later prehistoric settlements and other prehistoric sites in the area also raises the possibility of there being buried archaeology beneath the development area. As this field was meadow rather than arable in the 19th century and any buried archaeology may have avoided significant plough damage.

5.2 Aerial Photographs

The aerial photographs inspected did not reveal any cropmarks or earthworks, but this cannot be used to demonstrate an absence of buried archaeology.

5.3 Environmental Remains and Soil Morphology

There are no obvious peat deposits within the development area, and no indication of other significant deposits. If buried archaeological features do exist on the site it is possible that environmental remains might be preserved within them.

5.4 Artefactual Potential

Artefacts are sparse on later prehistoric sites excavated in the area (Kelly 1988), and equally so on medieval rural sites, so even if buried archaeology is present few artefacts would be expected.

6. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The features listed above in the Archaeological Survey require either avoidance or, if small sections of wall need dismantling, reinstatement in the original style. The possible presence of a hut platform next to the development area and the richness of prehistoric and medieval sites in the wider area suggest that the preservation of buried archaeology on the site is possible. It is recommended that the development area be evaluated by the strip, map and sample method (see appendix II, section 4). The topsoil and any ploughsoil would be removed by mechanical excavator with a toothless bucket under archaeological supervision. The

natural subsoil would be inspected for archaeological features. Any features identified would be evaluated and if necessary fully excavated.

7. CONCLUSIONS

No specific features of interest have been identified within the development area but it is recommended that a strip, map and sample evaluation be carried out on the area to detect and record any potential buried archaeology.

8. ARCHIVE

The archive consists of copies of historic maps, notes and 32 digital images taken on the field visit. Three copies of the bound report will be sent to the SNPA archaeologist, and a further copy sent to the HER Archaeologist at the curatorial division of Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Bangor, for deposition in the Regional HER. A copy of the report will be provided to the National Monument Record, Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales, Aberystwyth.

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GAT Historic Environment Record

Ordnance Survey 25 inch First Edition County Series maps Merionethshire sheets IXX.13 and XXVI.1 (1889) Ordnance Survey 25 inch Second Edition County Series maps Merionethshire sheets IXX.13 and XXVI.1 (1901)

Ordnance Survey 1:10,560 map, fourth edition, Merionethshire sheets IXX SW and XXVI NW (1953) John Evans' Map of Wales, 1795

National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth

Cors y Gedol Estate 1849 Sale Map of the Town of Harlech (Sale Catalogues 177) LRRO 13573, tracing of tithe map of the parish of Llandanwg (1841) with information from enclosure award (1806). Created 1865.

Bangor University Archives

Mostyn MSS 8604: Map and Survey of the Parishes of Llandanwg and Llanfihangel y Traethau in the County of Merioneth 1810

Merioneth Record Office, Dolgellau

Tithe map for the parish of Llandanwg in Merionethshire 1841. Tithe Apportionment Schedule for the parish of Llandanwg in Merionethshire 1840.

RCAHMW, Aberystwyth

Aerial Photographs

Verticals RAF 540/464, frame 3007, date 20/04/1951 OS 71 234, frame 180, date 21/05/1971

Oblique RAF 58/4514P, frame 0029, date 05/07/1961

APPENDIX I: HER sites and listed buildings near the development area

Table 1. HER sites near the development area

				SAM					
PRN	NPRN	Site name	NGR	no.	Class	Site type	Period	Form	Description
					Religious,				
		Standing stone (site of) nr			ritual and	Standing			Stone block, stone slab, stone
1048	55198	Tyddyn y Felin	SH 5948 3047		funerary	stone	Prehistoric	Recorded	setting
		Hut circle + field system, nr					Early-	Stone built	
1052	55202	Tyddyn y Felin	SH 5941 3088		Domestic	Hut circle	medieval	feature	Hut - circular, enclosure, wall
		Cefnfilltir hut group				Hut circle		Stone built	
1053	55203	(enclosed)	SH 5902 3080	M098	Domestic	settlement	Roman	feature	Hut - circular, enclosure
		Muriau'r Gwyddelod				Settlement		Stone built	
1054	55204	settlement & field systems	SH 5820 3038	M010	Domestic	- enclosed	Prehistoric	feature	Hut - circular, enclosure
		B.A.gold torc - findspot, near					Prehistoric,		
2896	55256	Harlech castle	SH 5800 3100a		Object	Findspot	Bronze Age	Find only	
		Y Ffordd Wyddelig (near					Early-		
2901	55259	Muriau Gwyddelod), Harlech	SH 5902 3035		Transport	Trackway	medieval	Ap site	Trackway
		Hoard of bronze age					Prehistoric,		
2906	55263	palstaves, Harlech	SH 5800 3100a		Object	Findspot	Bronze Age	Find only	
								Standing	
2908	55265	Harlech Castle	SH 5810 3125	M044	Defence	Castle	Medieval	monument	Building
		Centurial stones, Harlech			Commemor	Stone			
2909	55266	Castle	SH 5810 3125		ative	setting	Roman	Recorded	Stone slabs
		Urn with Roman coins found							
2910	55267	at Harlech Castle	SH 5810 3125		Object	Findspot	Roman	Find only	
					Civil;				
3193	59539	Harlech medieval town	SH 5820 3110		domestic?	Town	Medieval	Buried feature	
							Post-		
3896	59266	Mill - site of, Harlech	SH 5818 3128		Industrial	Mill	medieval	Recorded	
					Religious,				
					ritual and				
3897	59267	Chapel -site of, Harlech	SH 5815 3120		funerary	Capel	Medieval	Recorded	
		Bronze sword - findspot, nr.					Prehistoric,		
3911	59281	Harlech	SH 5800 3100a		Object	Findspot	Bronze Age	Find only	
		Oven - garden of Glyndwr,					Post-		
5599	58954	High Street, Harlech	SH 5819 3113		Domestic	Hearth	medieval	Other structure	

9833	0	Harlech medieval township	SH 5850 3050	Civil	Township	Medieval	Documentary	
18257	0	Harlech - landscape	SH 5804 3109	Unassigned	Landscape	Multi-period		0
		Manganese mine, Capel			Manganese	Post-		
20506	60584	Engedi	SH 5900 3100	Industrial	mine	medieval	Other structure	Pit
		Manganese level, Rhyd Galed			Manganese	Post-		
20507	60586	nr Harlech	SH 5900 3140	Industrial	level	medieval	Other structure	Pit
		Building NE of Rhydgaled						
27708		Isaf	SH59053123		Building	Unknown		
		Building/structure SE of			Building/st			
27709		Garth-Bach	SH58953114		ructure	Unknown		
27710		Well 1 SW of Garth-Bach	SH58813109		Well	Unknown		
		Building/structure SW of			Building/st			
27711		Garth-Bach	SH58823109		ructure	Unknown		
27712		Well 2 SW of Garth-Bach	SH58863112		Well	Unknown		
27713		Well 3 SW of Garth-Bach	SH58873112		Well	Unknown		
		Enclosure (sheepfold?) E of			Enclosure/			
27714		Rhydgaled Isaf	SH58933121		sheepfold	Unknown		
		Enclosure (sheepfold?) NE of			Enclosure/			
27715		Rhydgaled Isaf	SH58943125		sheepfold	Unknown		

Table 2. Listed buildings near the development area

Number	Name	Grade	History	NGR
		Ι	Harlech castle is regarded as one of the most important medieval castles in Wales and is a textbook example of concentric castle	
			design. It was built by the English King Edward I following his conquest of Wales, the main work being constructed between 1283	
			and 1289 with additions of c1295 and 1323-4; the overall cost is recorded as around £9,500 (in the region of £9.5 million in current	
			terms). Harlech belongs to a series of Royal castles designed by Edward's chief military engineer, the Savoyard Master James of St. George, which rank amongst the most highly sophisticated and innovative examples of military engineering in contemporary Europe.	
25500	Harlech Castle		Master James was himself created its first constable in 1290, and received a salary of 100 marks a year.	SH 58110 31240
	Parish Church of	II	Parish Church built 1838-40 on land provided by Sir Robert Williams Vaughan of Nannau and Hengwrt Bart., a prominent North	
25501	St Tanwg		Walian landowner and benefactor. The church superseded the former medieval garrison chapel located near the castle.	SH 58188 31024
		II	Built as the Blue Lion Inn c1830 by Sir Robert Williams Vaughan, Bart. as a speculative development designed to serve the	
			growing tourist trade. The inn was built on the site of Plas-yn-Harlech, a sub-medieval town house of the Nanney familiy (of Nannau	
25502	The Plas		near Dolgellau); the name was taken from the crest of the family, whose head, at that time, was Sir Robert. Morgan Davies and Daniel Parry are recorded as the first landlords.	SH 58119 31080
		II	Mid-Victorian shop perhaps with earlier, second-quarter C19 origins. The building (or its predecessor) is shown on the 1840	
			Llandanwg Tithe map, though its present character is third-quarter C19. The implication therefore is that the present building is a	
25503	Spar		replacement, or else a remodelling of, that shown in the map.	SH 58116 31066
25504	Harlech Pottery	II	Storeyed end chimney house, probably late C18, with C19 and C20 alterations.	SH 58122 30979

	including			
	Forecourt Walls			
	and Railings			
25505	Gweithdy Saer	Π	Former inn, probably of late C17 or early C18 origin and with C19 and C20 alterations to the facade. The inn is recorded as the Red Lion already in the middle of the C18 and remained the principal inn in Harlech until the erection of the Blue Lion c1830. In 1750 Evan Anwyl of the Red Lion, inn-keeper of Harlech' is recorded as having a personal estate valued at £137. Evan Anwyl, who died in 1759, was a descendant of the illustrious Anwyl family of Parc, one of the senior gentry families of Merioneddshire. Many early tourists and travel writers frequented the inn and were unanimous in its condemnation. The Rev. John Evans in 1798 wrote: 'this cheerless spot offered no bed nor anything better than a dirt floor strewd with a few rushes.'	SH 58203 31191
25506	Ty'r Felin	II	Storeyed sub-medieval house, probably of second-half C17 date; C19 and C20 alterations.	SH 58207 31223
25507	Bryn Tirion	II	Early Victorian vernacular cottage dated 1841; repaired and re-roofed with a town scheme grant, 1996-7.	SH 58270 31137
25508	Capel Rehoboth	II	Rehoboth, also known formerly as Capel Uchaf was built in 1820 for the Scotch Baptists, nick-named the 'batis bara a chaws' (bread and cheeze baptists). The chapel was comprehensively restored in the late C19, at which period a schoolroom was attached at the W end.	SH 58327 31195
25509	Bier House at Capel Rehoboth	II	Bier house built to serve the adjacent Scotch Baptist Rehoboth chapel, erected in 1820, and probably contemporary with it.	SH 58355 31216
25510	Crown Lodge	Π	Crown Lodge was built in 1903 for W H More to designs by the Scottish Arts and Crafts architect George Walton. More (d.1934) was the Crown Agent for Wales and was inspired to make Harlech his chief residence by the example of his friend George Davidson, the millionaire aesthete and philanthropist, who bought nearby Plas Amhurst before building Plas Wernfawr (later Coleg Harlech) in 1908.	SH 58017 30800
25511	Coleg Harlech including Terrace Revettment Walls to the W	II*	The Coleg Harlech building originated as Plas Wernfawr and was built by the millionaire aesthete and philanthropist George Davidson in 1908 to designs by the Scottish Arts and Crafts architect George Walton; a Great Hall wing, added in 1910, was destroyed by fire in May 1968. The total building costs were reputed to have been around £80,000.	SH 57828 30805
25512	Gateway, Forecourt and Screen Walls at Coleg Harlech	Π	The Coleg Harlech building originated as Plas Wernfawr and was built by the millionaire aesthete and philanthropist George Davidson in 1908 to designs by the Scottish Arts and Crafts architect George Walton; a Great Hall wing, added in 1910, was destroyed by fire in May 1968. The total building costs were reputed to have been around £80,000. The forecourt and screen walls, together with the main gateway all belong to Walton's original design for Plas Wernfawr.	SH 57853 30798
25513	Y Wern	II	Y Wern was built c1935 for the first Warden of Coleg Harlech, Sir Ben Bowen Thomas. The house was designed by Griffith Morris, architect of Porthmadog and received a CPRW award at the time.	SH 57871 30739
		Π	Cae Besi was built for the eminent american photographer Alvin Langdon Coburn to designs by the Arts and Crafts architect Griffith Morris of Porthmadog. Coburn, originally from Boston, was one of the leading photographers of his day and, through his involvement with the avant-garde photography groups the Linked Ring and the Photo Secession, became a close friend of George Davidson, European Head of the Eastman Kodak Co. Davidson moved to Harlech at the turn of the century, buying Plas Amhurst before building the nearby Plas Wernfawr (later Coleg Harlech) in 1908. A frequent visitor, Coburn eventually decided to settle and built Cae Besi a short distance from Plas Wernfawr apparently in the 1920s; this was presumably before Davidson moved to the	
25514	Cae Besi		south of France in 1925.	SH 57838 30558
25516	Field Barn S of	II		GH 50 602 20002
25516	Cae Du		Late C17 or early C18 vernacular field barn with later (probably late C19) outshut along one side.	SH 58683 30993
25517	Barn S of Ael-y- Glyn	II	Late C18 or early C19 vernacular barn, erected as a pair with the adjacent cow house; probably originally serving Ael-y-Glyn.	258343
25518	Cow House S of	II	Late C18 of early C19 verhacular barr, effected as a pair with the adjacent bow house, probably originally serving Ael-y-Glyn.	258331

Ael-y-Glyn	

Table 3. National Monument Record sites near the development area

NPRN	Name	NGR	Broad class	Туре	Status	Period	Form
	Tabernacl Welsh Baptist Chapel,						
8436		SH58143101	Religious, Ritual and Funerary	Chapel		Post Medieval	Documents
	Moreia Chapel (Welsh Calvinistic						
8439	Methodist; Moriah), Harlech	SH58153100	Religious, Ritual and Funerary	Chapel		Post Medieval	Building
	Seion Wesleyan Methodist Chapel						
0440	(Catholic Church of St David in	01150160111		C1 1			D 111
8440	Sion), Harlech	SH58163111	Religious, Ritual and Funerary	Chapel		Post Medieval	Building
8432	Jerusalem Welsh Independent	SH58283122	Religious, Ritual and Funerary	Chanal		Post Medieval	Building
	Chapel, Harlech			Chapel			L L
8433	Ainon Baptist Chapel, Harlech	SH5831	Religious, Ritual and Funerary	Chapel		Post Medieval	Building
8434	Bethel Baptist Chapel, Harlech	SH5831	Religious, Ritual and Funerary	Chapel		Post Medieval	Documents
8435	Rehoboth Baptist Chapel, Harlech	SH58333119	Religious, Ritual and Funerary	Chapel		Post Medieval	Building
0.470	Engedi Baptist Chapel,	01150062042		C 1 1			D 111
8479	Penrhiwgoch	SH59063043 SH58353105	Religious, Ritual and Funerary	Chapel		Post Medieval	Building
		(incorrect grid					
28180	Blue Lion Inn	(inconect grid reference)	Recreational	Public house		Post Medieval?	Documents
28628	Pencerrig	SH58113075	Domestic	House		Post Medieval?	Documents
20020	Pencerrig, gardens and lake,	51150115075	Gardens, Parks and Urban	House			Documents
28629	Harlech	SH5810730756	Spaces	Garden		Post Medieval?	Documents
	Plas Wern Fawr; Y Wern						
28690	Fawr/Coleg Harlech	SH57973117	Domestic	Dwelling		Post Medieval?	Not recorded
32380	Ffynnon Fair, Harlech	SH58123135	Water Supply and Drainage	Spring		Medieval?	Documents
	Harlech, medieval and later						
33155	borough	SH5809531245	Civil	Town		General	Documents
				Railway			
34941	Harlech railway station	SH58073144	Transport	station		Post Medieval	Documents
				Railway signal			
34942	Harlech signal box	SH58083140	Transport	box		Post Medieval	Documents
41010		G1150000145		Railway			
41319	Harlech station, Cambrian coast	SH58093145	Transport	station		Post Medieval	Not recorded

41717	Pencerrig - outbuildings	SH58113075	Agriculture and Subsistence	Farm building		Post Medieval?	Not recorded
						Medieval;Post-	
43902	St Tanwgs' Church	SH58183103	Religious, Ritual and Funerary	Church		Medieval	Not recorded
93729	Harlech Castle	SH5809531245	Defence	Castle	GAM;LB1	Medieval	Complex
302729	Cefnfilltir, homestead	SH59023080	Unassigned	Settlement	SAM	Unknown	Documents
302730	Cefnfilltir, hut circle	SH59413088	Domestic	Hut circle	SAM	Early Medieval	Documents
	Muriau Gwyddelod, settlement						
401814	complex	SH58203038	Unassigned	Settlement		Unknown	Documents
403271	Plas Cafe, Stryd Fawr, Harlech	SH5811631079	Commercial	Inn; restaurant	LB2	Post Medieval	Building

APPENDIX II: Definitions of categories used for impact, field evaluation and mitigation

1 Categories of importance

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

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. In this case several areas of unknown potential have been allocated to this category. These require environmental sampling which should be carried out during the pipeline works.

2 Definition of Impact

The impact of the works 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 study area, 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 techniques

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

Geophysical survey most often involves the use of a magnetometer, which allows detection of some underground features, depending on their composition and the nature of the subsoil. Other forms of geophysical survey, including resistivity survey and ground penetrating radar might also be of use.

Trial trenching allows a representative sample of the development area to be investigated at depth. Trenches of appropriate size can also be excavated to evaluate category E sites. Trenching is typically carried out with trenches of between 20 to 30m length and 2m width. The topsoil is removed by machine and the resulting surface is cleaned by hand, recording features. Depending on the stratigraphy encountered the machine may be used to remove stratigraphy to deeper levels.

4 Definition of Mitigatory Recommendations

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

None:

No impact so no requirement for mitigatory measures.

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.

Basic recording:

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

Detailed recording:

This requires a full photographic record and measured survey prior to commencement of works.

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

Watching brief:

This is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater,

where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.

Reinstatement:

The feature should be re-instated with archaeological advice and supervision. In this project this applies to the nineteenth century field walls parts of which may have to be dismantled. It is important for the landscape character of the area that these are rebuilt in the original style. The work is to be carried out by National Park stone masons and the results are to be approved by the National Park authorities.

Strip, Map and Sample:

The technique of Strip, Map and Sample (SMS) requires the machine stripping of topsoil and ploughsoil within a defined area to layers capable of preserving archaeological features. The work is undertaken under archaeological supervision. Stripping and removal of the overburden is undertaken in such as manner as to ensure damage does not take place to surfaces that have already been stripped, nor to archaeological surfaces that have not yet been revealed.

A small team of archaeologists will be responsible for subsequently further cleaning defined areas where necessary and evaluating any potential archaeological features. The evaluation will identify significant archaeological features requiring excavation and recording. Isolated features can be recorded at this stage but complex sites which cannot be avoided will need to be excavated in detail and this will form a new phase of works.

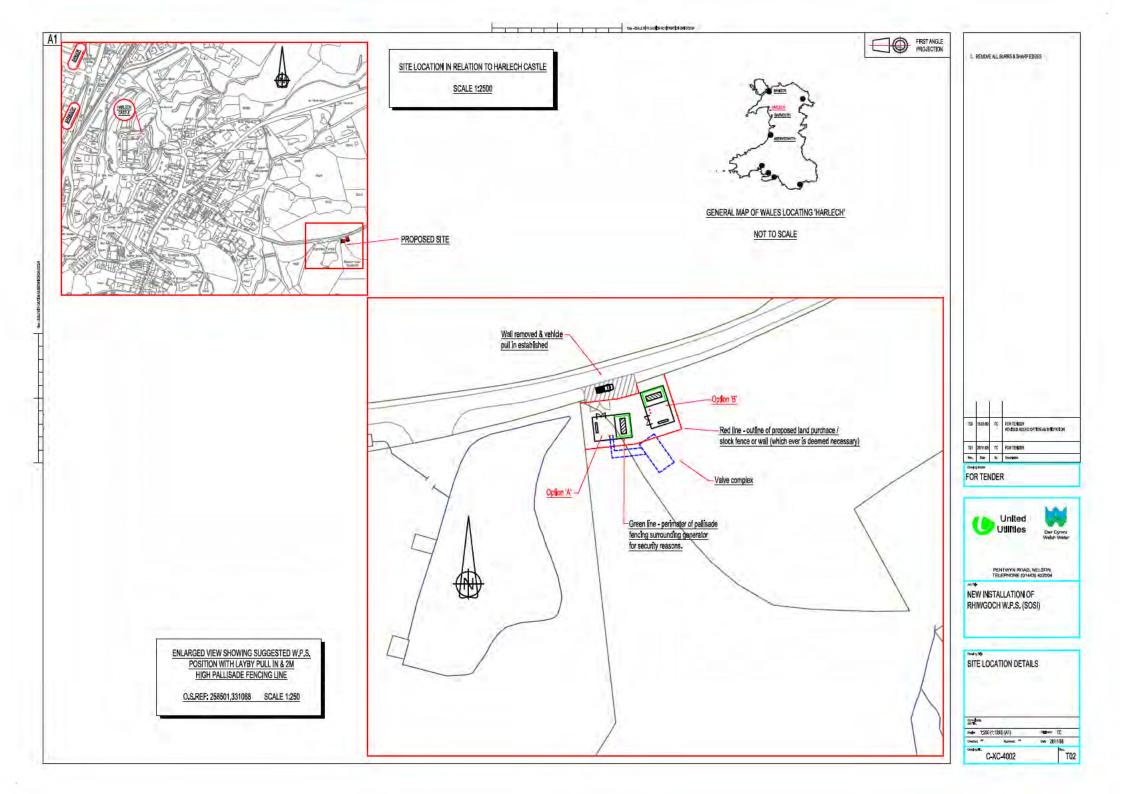
It is not always easy to identify the nature of features without excavation, therefore although strip, map and sample includes the initial assessment of features, it does not include detailed excavation should the features prove to be archaeologically significant. If a site of archaeological significance is found during the strip, map and sample process then a new design and cost estimate will be required for that site.

The advantage the strip, map and sample technique is that all archaeological features will be found, so it removes all risk. It is best undertaken where the reinstatement of the topsoil is not immediately required, so that the easement does not have to be reinstated and stripped again for construction. This method typically results in the identification of a large number of features such as drains, ditches, former field boundaries, the holes caused by the removal of trees, and casual pits etc.

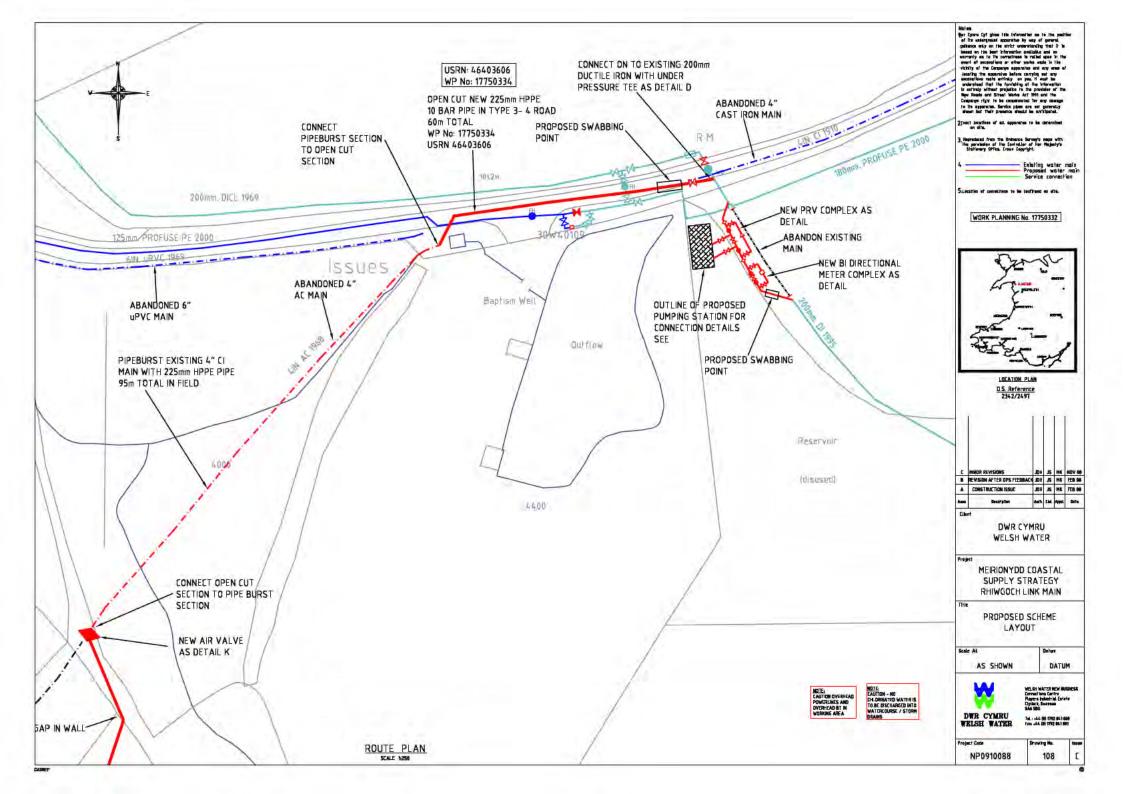
Detailed excavation:

Where the requirement for detailed recording or the results of the strip, map and sample evaluation suggest that full excavation of a features or features is necessary this would be carried out to a project design based on best practice. This normally involves the full excavation of significant small features and the partial excavation of ditches and other large features. Detailed plans and sections will be drawn, a full photographic record will be made and detailed notes will be written describing each context. The main aims are to establish the date and function of features and to establish the stratigraphic relationships between features. On a complex site this can be a long and labour intensive process.

APPENDIX III: drawing C-XC-4002, issued by Dŵr Cymru, showing location of proposed pumping station

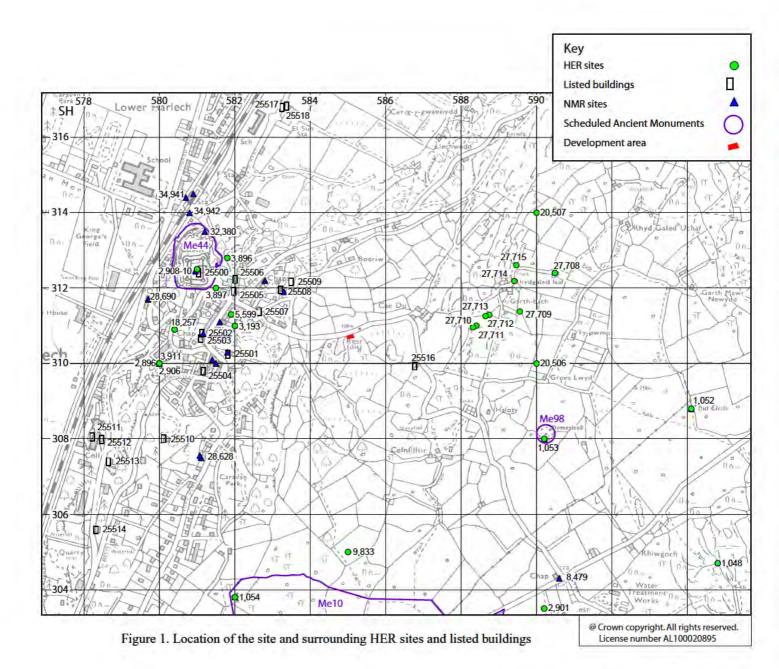


APPENDIX IV: drawing NP0910088.108, issued by Dŵr Cymru, showing routes of existing water pipes near the development area



Figures and plates





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Figure 2. Part of John Evans' Map of Wales (1795)

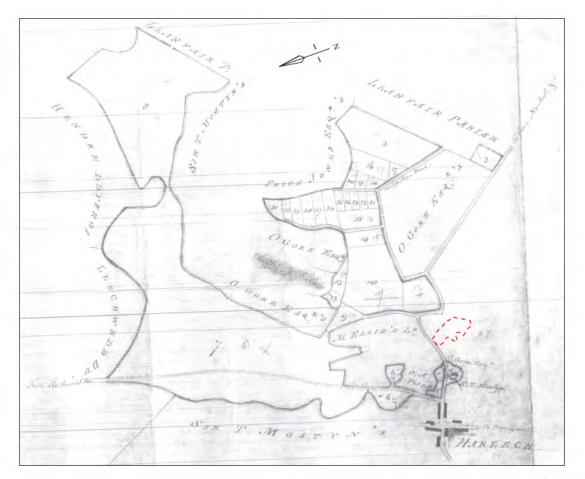


Figure 3. Map and Survey of the Parishes of Llandanwg and Llanfihangel y Traethau in the County of Merioneth 1810 (Mostyn MSS 8604). Approximate location of the field containing the study area as shown on the tithe map indicated in dashed red line.

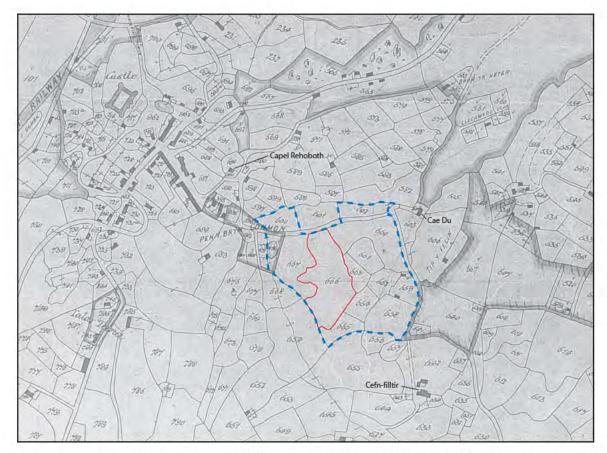


Figure 4. tracing of tithe map of the parish of Llandanwg (1841) with information from enclosure award (1806). Created 1865 (LRRO 13573). Field containing development area marked in red, the boundaries of the farm of Cae Ardd Goch are marked in dashed blue.

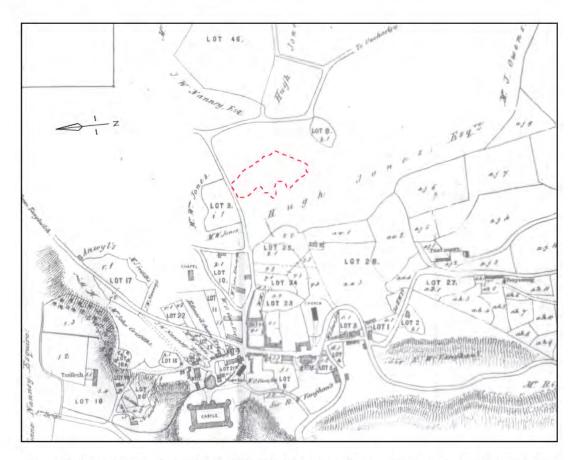
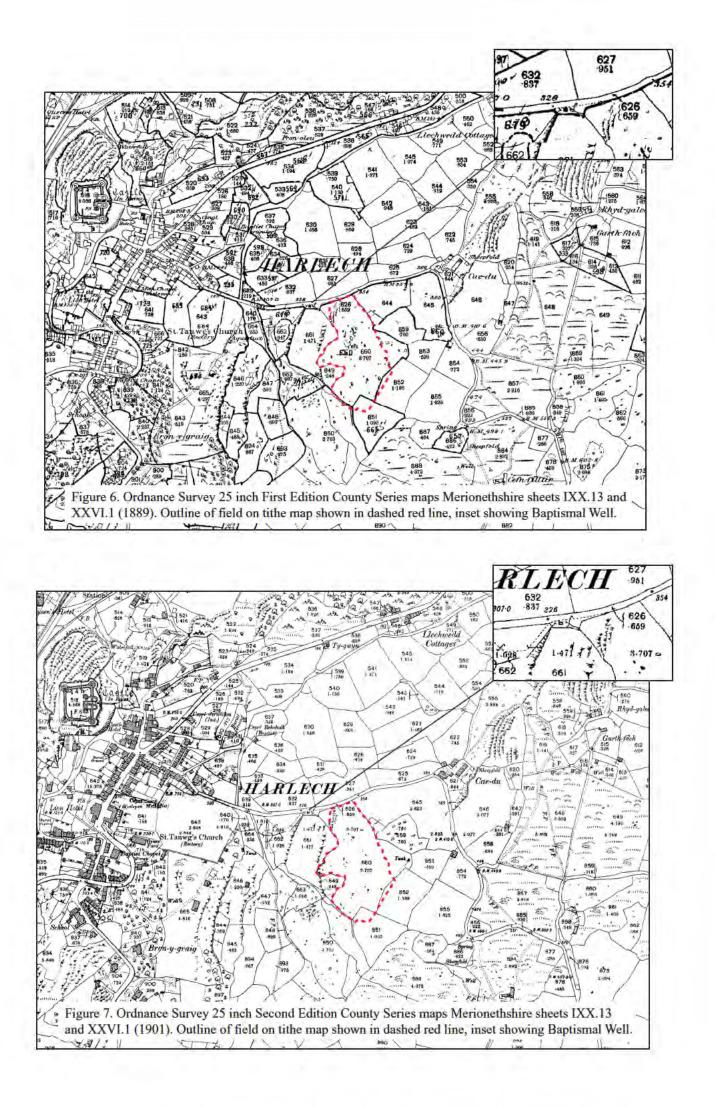


Figure 5. Part of Cors y Gedol Estate 1849 Sale Map of the Town of Harlech (Sale Catalogues 177). Approximate location of the field shown on the tithe map indicated in dashed red line.



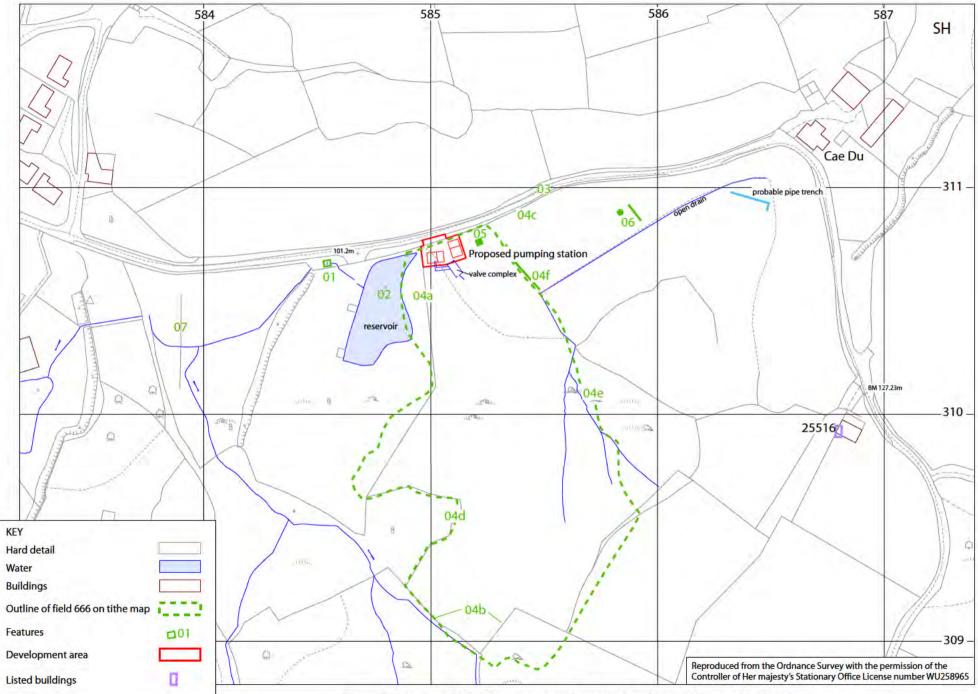


Figure 8. Location of development area and surrounding features discussed in the text



Plate 1. Feature 01, baptismal well, from NW



Plate 2. Feature 01, baptismal well, from E



Plate 3. Feature 02, dam and entrance to reservoir, from NW



Plate 4. Feature 04c, wall near road, from E



Plate 5. Feature 04d, denuded wall from N



Plate 6. Feature 04f, denuded wall, from NW



Plate 7. Feature 05, possible hut platform from W



Plate 8. Feature 06, clearance cairn, from E



Plate 9. Feature 07, possible dam, from SW



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GWYNEDD ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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