Land adjacent to St Twrog's church Llandwrog, Gwynedd

Desk Based Research & Strip, Map & Record



By
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Report No. 1107

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Desk Based Research & Strip, Map & Record

Prepared For: Ms Lois Pryce

Edited by:	
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Position:	
Date:	

Authorised by:

Signed:

Position:

Date:

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Report No: 1107

Date: April 2013

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Non-Technical Summary

This report results from work undertaken by Archaeology Wales Ltd (AW) for Ms Lois Prys. It draws upon the results gained by supporting desk based research and an archaeological strip, map and record on land adjacent top St Twrog's church, Llandwrog, Gwynedd, as part of the submission of a planning application for the construction of a single residential property The work highlighted a lack of significant archaeological features in the area and showed that the site has previously been in use as a piggery.

Introduction

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 In November 2012 Archaeology Wales Ltd (AW) carried out supporting desk based research and an archaeological strip, map and sample on land adjacent to St Twrog's church, Llandwrog, Gwynedd. The assessment area measures approximately 644 square metres and is centred on NGR SH 45147 56054 (Figs 1&2). The local planning authority is Gwynedd County Council and the planning application number is CO8A/0525/17/LL.
- 1.1.2 A specification for the work to be undertaken was drawn up by Chris E Smith (AW) which was subsequently approved by Jenny Emmett, Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service's Development Control Archaeologist.

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The underlying solid geology of the site is composed of Lower Cambrian Rocks (Undifferentiated), consisting of interbedded sandstone and conglomerate (Geological Survey Map, 2001).
- 1.2.2 The site is located in the centre of the village of Llandwrog. The village is located at approximately 16m above ordnance datum with the land rising gradually to the east. The village lies 1.57km from the coast and 3.5km to the north west of the larger urban centre of Penygroes.

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 1.3.1 The development plot is situated within the historic village centre of Llandwrog, adjacent to the Grade II* listed church of St Twrog. The church dates from 1858 and replaced a medieval foundation. The present church is thought to occupy the footprint of the medieval building.
- 1.3.2 The curvilinear boundary of the medieval churchyard has been retained and it is possible that evidence of an outer enclosure survives in adjacent land.
- 1.3.3 Cartographic evidence suggests some remodelling of the site during the post medieval period, possibly as part of the replanning of Llandwrog as an estate village in the mid-

- 19th century by Lord Newborough. However, the church would have been a focus for activity during the medieval period.
- 1.3.4 Prior to the work being undertaken the site was left as an open, grassed, area adjacent to the churchyard wall since its use as a piggery ended (Jones Pers comm).

2 Aims and Objectives

2.1 Supporting Desk Based Research

- 2.1.1 The supporting desk based research was undertaken to:
 - Gain an understanding of the likely archaeological features and their distribution within the assessment area.
 - To place the results of the work in their historic context.
 - To aid and inform any future archaeological work undertaken on the site.

2.2 Strip Map and Sample

- 2.2.1 The Strip, Map and Sample was undertaken to:
 - Establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within and immediately surrounding the area of proposed development
 - Determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present
 - Establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological features and deposits
 - Produce a record of the features.

3 Methodology

3.1 Supporting Desk Based Research

- 3.1.1 As part of the supporting desk based research, the following repositories were consulted for readily available information:
 - A search of the regional HER database for the locations of all known archaeology (Monuments, Events) within a 200m radius of the centre of the assessment area was undertaken.
 - The National Library in Aberystwyth was consulted for tithe maps and apportionments, Ordnance Survey and Estate maps as well as relevant published material pertaining to the site. Envirocheck online mapping and the OS Mastermap were also consulted for readily available historic maps of the assessment area.

- Cadw's listed building and scheduled ancient monument database was also consulted for the locations of protected sites.
- The online database of the Portable Antiquities Scheme was also consulted for finds recovered from the area.

3.2 Strip, Map and Sample

- 3.2.1 The removal of overburden deposits across the site was undertaken by a mechanical excavator under close archaeological supervision. The strip was undertaken to the top of archaeological features or the natural horizon.
- 3.2.2 A 2m wide strip of ground adjacent to the base of the churchyard wall was left *in situ* so as to prevent undermining of its foundations.
- 3.2.3 All archaeological features were excavated by hand.
- 3.2.4 The on-site work was undertaken by Ian Davies. The overall management of the project was undertaken by Chris E Smith (MIfA). All areas were photographed using high resolution digital photography.
- 3.2.5 All on-site illustrations were undertaken on drafting film using recognised conventions and scales (1:10, 1:20, 1:50) as appropriate.
- 3.2.6 All works were undertaken in accordance with the IfA's *Standards and Guidance: for an archaeological watching brief* (2008, revised 2011) and current Health and Safety legislation.

3.3 Finds

3.3.1 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context.

3.4 Palaeo-environmental evidence

3.4.1 No deposits suitable for environmental sampling were encountered during the course of the excavation.

4 Supporting Desk Based Research Results

4.1 Cartographic Analysis

- 4.1.1 The 1889 25 Inch OS map (Fig 3) shows the assessment area as being undeveloped at this time. It is depicted as a polygonal enclosure butting the east side of the churchyard wall.
- 4.1.2 The 1900 25 Inch OS map (Fig 4) shows largely the same information as the 1889 edition though a small square structure appears to have been added butting the northern edge of the assessment area. No further changes were noted.

- 4.1.3 The 1918 25 Inch OS map (Fig 5) shows that a small building adjacent to the southern edge of the assessment area has been added. No further changes were noted.
- 4.1.4 The 1977 25 Inch OS map (Fig 6) shows two further structures within the assessment area. One is a small square structure adjacent to the churchyard wall whilst the second is a larger, rectangular, structure within the north east corner of the assessment area. No further changes were noted.

4.2 Cartographic Analysis Summary

4.2.1 The assessment area has remained largely open from at least 1889 onwards with the gradual addition of small structures between 1900 and 1977. The two small structures added to the southern half of the assessment area between 1918 and 1977 are no longer standing.

4.3 HER Data

- 4.3.1 A search of the regional HER returned only 10 recorded sites within a 200m radius of the assessment area. When combined with a search of Cadw's listed building database a total of 30 sites within a 200m is shown (some sites are duplicated in the two databases) (Fig 7). All 30 sites are listed below:
 - LB 3780 Rose Cottage Post medieval
 - 3 LB II No.s 3781-3–1,2 & 3 School Cottages–Post medieval
 - LB II No. 3779 Cae'r Eglwys Post medieval
 - 6 LB II No.s 3784-9 Caer Llwyn Cottages Post medieval
 - 2 LB II No.s 3772-3 1&2 Church Cottages Post medieval
 - 5 LB II No.s 3774-8 1-5 The Crescent Post medieval
 - LB II No. 3685 Harp Inn Post medieval
 - 2 LB II No. 22427-8 Llandwrog Water Troughs Medieval
 - PRN 15704 Llandwrog Landscape Multiperiod
 - LB II* No. 22417 St Twrog's Church Post medieval
 - LB II No. 22406 Ysgol Llandwrog Post medieval
 - LB II No. 22408 Cemetery walls and gates Post medieval
 - LB II No. 22416 Sundial in churchyard Post medieval
 - LB II No. 22418 St Twrog's churchyard wall Post medieval
 - LB II No. 22420 No. 1 Sea View Post medieval

- LB II No. 22422 No. 2 Tir Larll Post medieval
- LB II No. 22421 No. 3 Post medieval

4.4 Summary

4.4.1 The HER and LB data shows that, within a 200m radius of the assessment area, the vast majority of recorded sites relate to Post-medieval cottages. Medieval features are bound to be present within the village (such as LBs 22427-8) as the church is believed to be located on the site of a much earlier foundation.

4.5 Supporting Desk Based Research Summary

- 4.5.1 The supporting desk based research has shown that the assessment area has remained largely open from 1889 onwards but has seen small scale construction of buildings between 1918 and 1977, some of which were demolished between 1977 and 2012.
- 4.5.2 Data from the HER has shown no recorded archaeological sites/activity within the assessment area with data outside the assessment area largely being restricted to post medieval cottages.
- 4.5.3 The client has stated that the area has been in use as a piggery (Jones, Pers comm). An agricultural use such as this would be consistent with the erection of small structures as seen on the cartographic sources.

5 Strip, Map & Sample Results

5.1 Soils and ground conditions

- 5.1.1 The topsoil (1) varied across the assessment area. The southern end of the assessment area, in the vicinity of the structures marked on the 1977 OS map (since demolished) contained large amounts of rubble in the overburden deposit (2). The rubble was localised only to this area. Topsoil (1) in the remainder of the plot was composed of a silt deposit with occasional small stone inclusions up to 0.2m deep.
- 5.1.2 The ground conditions were predominantly dry throughout the course of the work though rain on the last day did result in localised puddling.

5.2 **Description (Fig 8, Plates 1-8)**

- 5.2.1 Removal of overburden deposits (1, 2) was undertaken by mechanical excavator under close archaeological supervision. The natural orange clay deposit (3) was exposed at a depth of between 0.3 and 0.4m across the site.
- 5.2.2 A total of 8 small features [4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, & 19] were located cut into the natural orange clay (3). Each was sub-rectangular, between 0.5 and 0.8m in length and 0.4m wide with the exception of [12] which appeared more amorphous in plan. The depths varied between 0.1 and 0.3m below the surface of the natural. All of the features

- contained a uniform single fill, this was composed of mottled yellow/grey silt. Also, each shared a common south east to north west alignment.
- 5.2.3 All of the features contained small amounts of modern material (Ceramic building material i.e. brick or tile, white ceramic, glass). Cut [19] contained a small amount of disarticulated animal bone.
- 5.2.4 Comparison of the animal bones to published examples (Rackham 1994, O'Connor 2000, Davis 1987) suggests they most likely belong to a piglet.
- 5.2.5 Given their relative regularity in both dimensions and spacing, the features appear likely to represent the footprint of a small 19th or 20th century lean-to structure, most likely associated with the sites former use as a piggery. No features marked on the historic maps correspond to the area the postholes were located.
- 5.2.6 No further features were noted.

6 Conclusions

6.1 **Overall interpretation**

- 6.1.1 The overall interpretation gained from the work carried out is that past activity appears to have been limited to the sites former use as a piggery. No evidence for earlier activity on the site was located.
- 6.1.2 The structures identified on the cartographic analysis are likely to represent small pig stys.

7 Acknowledgements

7.1.1 Thanks are due to Osborn Jones for liaising on-site and to Ian Davies for his on-site assistance.

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British Geological Survey. 2001, 4th Edition. Solid Geology Map, UK South Sheet.

Davis, S. 1987. The Archaeology of Animals. Routledge, London

Institute for Archaeologists. 2008, revised 2011. Standards and Guidance for a Field Evaluation.

O'Connor, T. 2000. The Archaeology of Animal Bones. Sutton Publishing, Stroud

Rackham, J. 1994. Animal Bones. British Museum Press, London

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Archaeology Wales APPENDIX I:

Figures

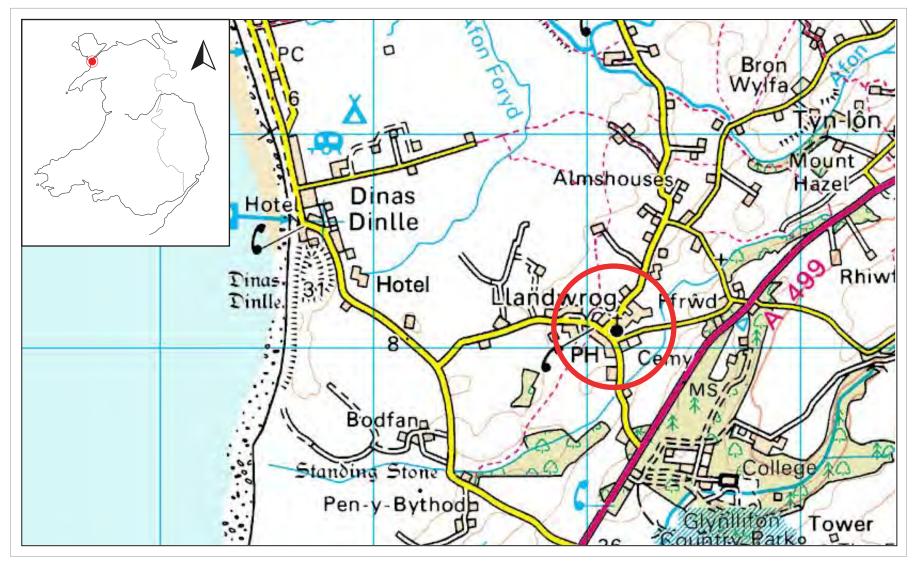


Fig 01: Map showing location of assessment area

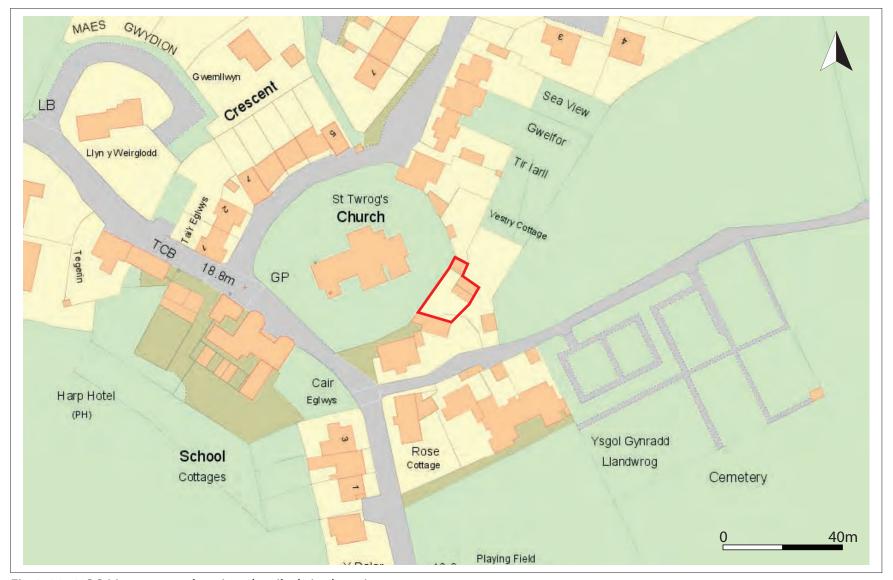
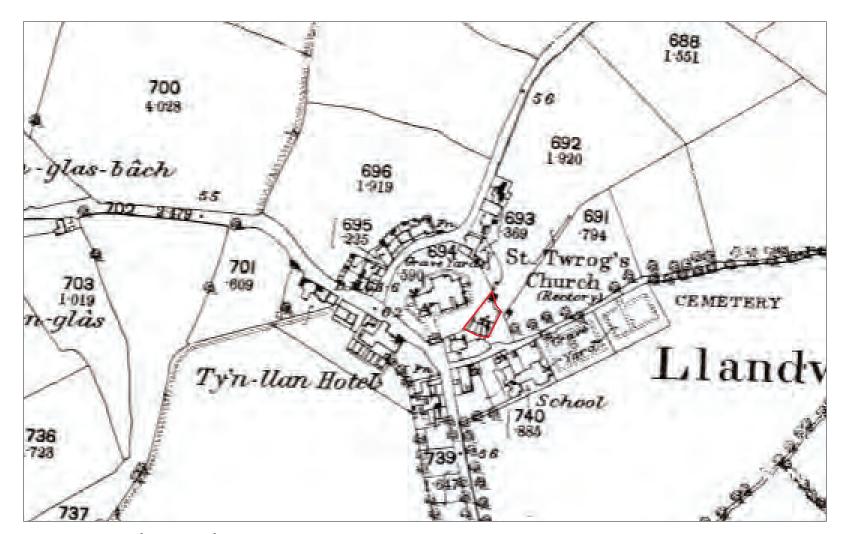


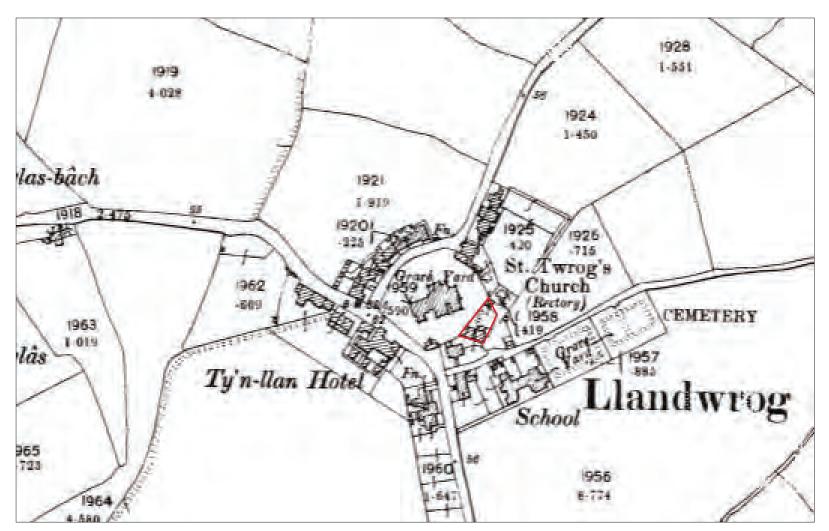
Fig 2: 2012 OS Mastermap showing detailed site location



1889 25 Inch 1st Ed OS Map

Job Title:	St Twrog's
Drawing Title:	1889 OS
Date:	3/4/13
Drawn By:	CES
Scale:	DNS
Figure 03:	

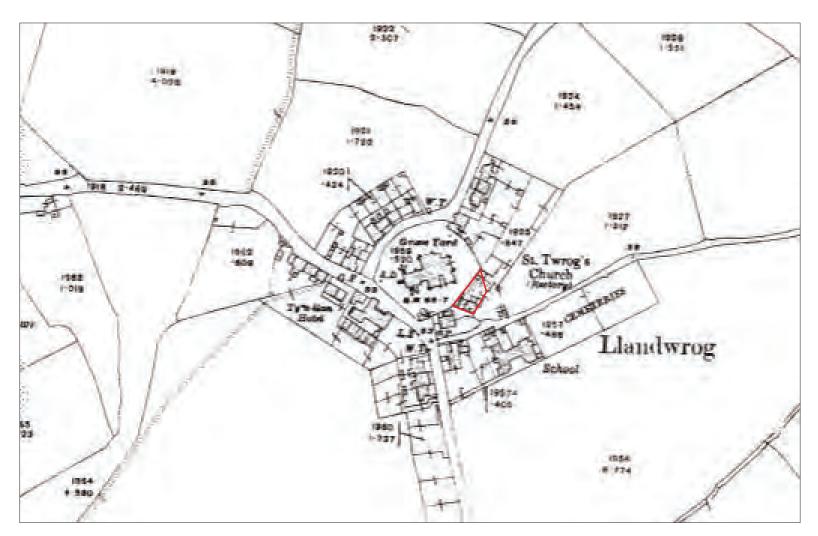




1900 25 Inch 2nd Ed OS Map

Job Title:	St Twrog's
Drawing Title:	1900 OS
Date:	3/4/13
Drawn By:	CES
Scale:	DNS
Figure 04:	

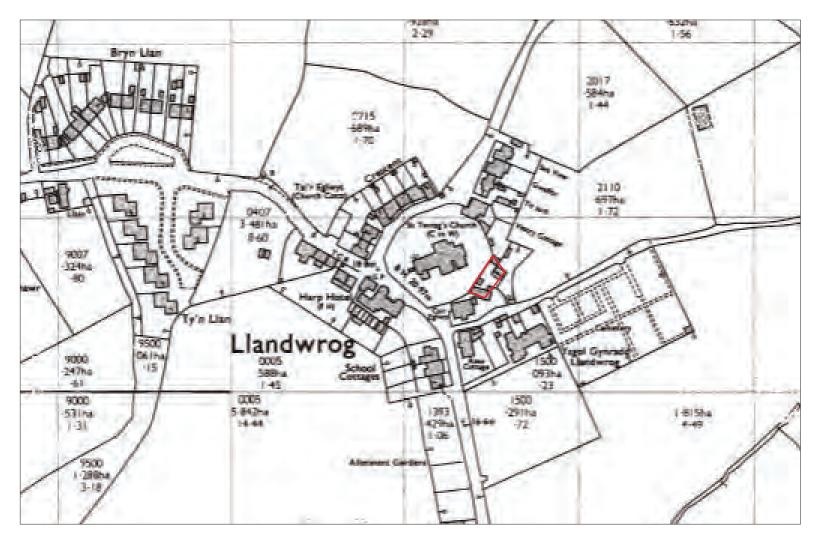




1918 25 Inch Ed OS Map

Job Title:	St Twrog's
Drawing Title:	1918 OS
Date:	3/4/13
Drawn By:	CES
Scale:	DNS
Figure 05:	





1977 25 Inch Ed OS Map

Job Title:	St Twrog's
Drawing Title:	1977 OS
Date:	3/4/13
Drawn By:	CES
Scale:	DNS
Figure 06:	



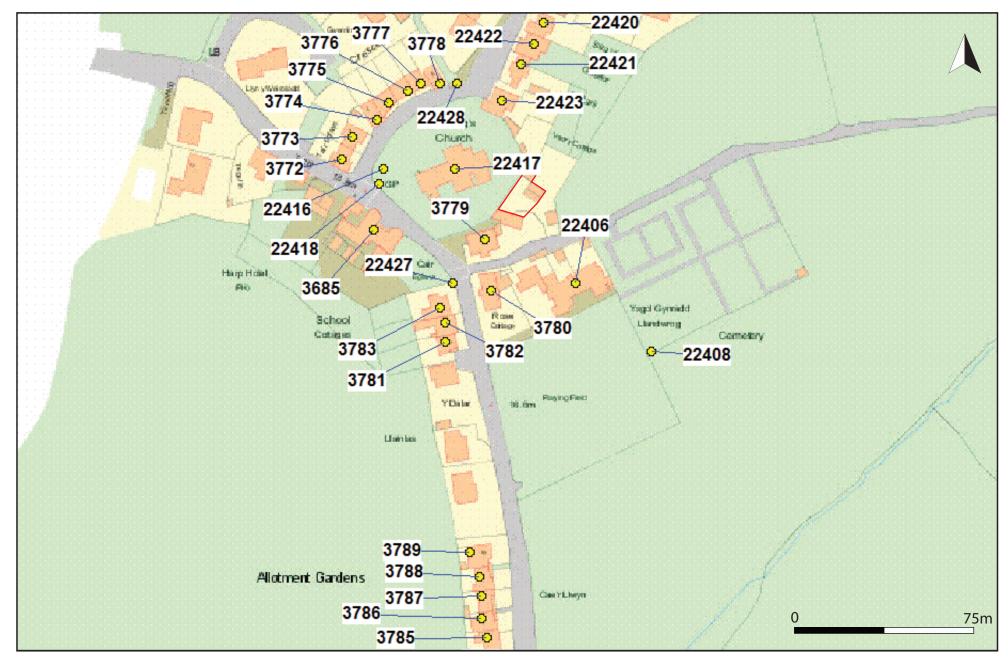
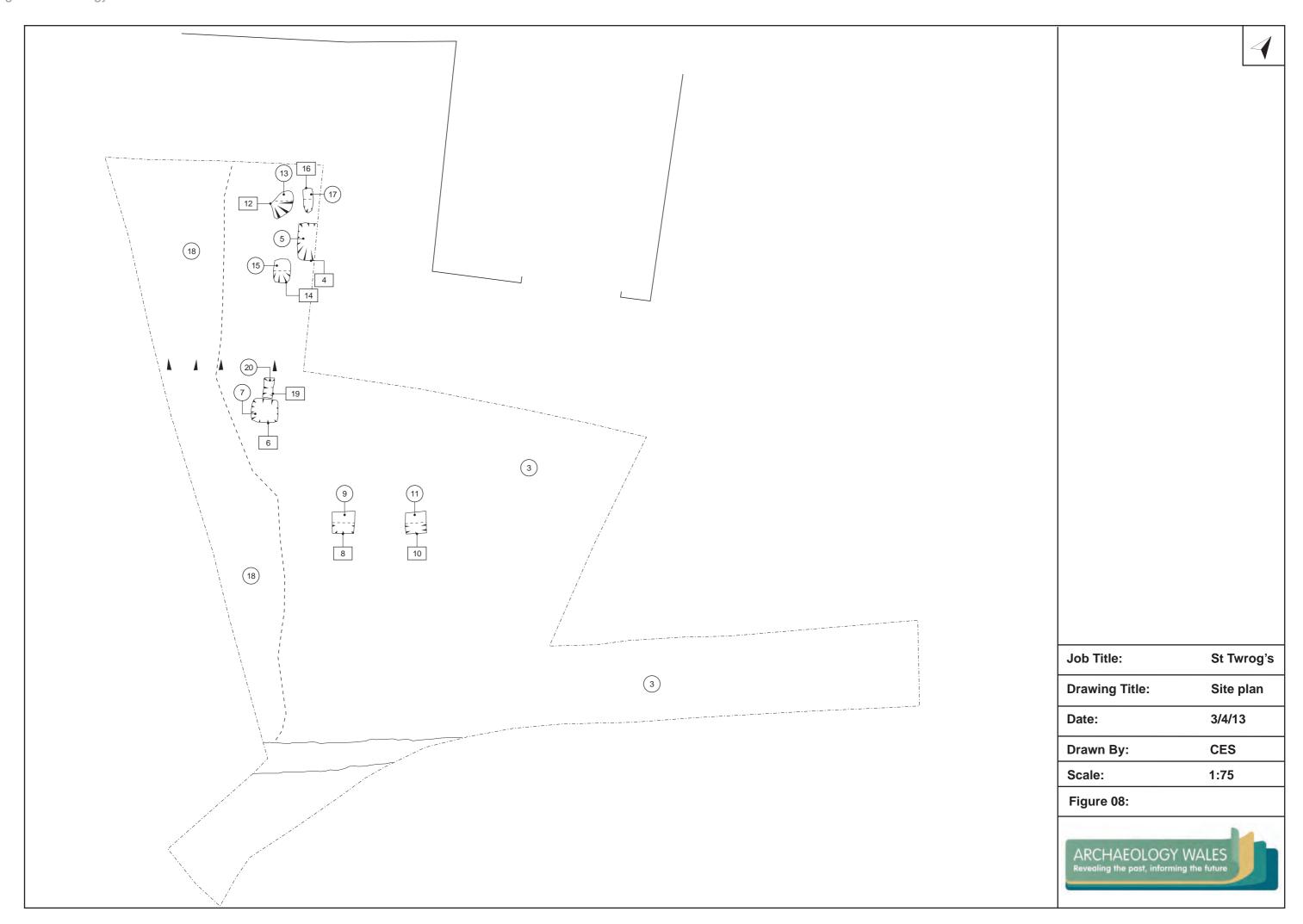


Fig 7: All listed buildings within a 200m radius of the assessment area listed by LB number



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Archaeology Wales APPENDIX II:

Plates



Plate 1:View of rubble revealed during stripping of topsoil Looking north west



Plate 2: View of stripping underway. Looking north east



Fig 3: Stripping underway showing maximum depth of excavations. Looking south



Fig 4: View of stripping underway. Looking north east



Plate 5: View of cut [4] against section edge looking north east. Scales 1x2m & 1x1m



Plate 6: View of slightly shallower cut [6] Scale 1x1m, Looking north west



Plate 7: View of cuts [8] on left and [10] on right, note shared alignment Scale 1x1m



Plate 8: Photo showing spacing between posthole features, likely associated with former piggery structure. Scales 1x2m & 1x1m

APPENDIX III: Context Register

Appendix 3

Context Register

- 1. Turf/Topsoil
- 2. Mid yellow/grey silt subsoil
- 3. Bright yellow/orange sandy silt subsoil
- 4. Square cut of pit/posthole
- 5. Yellow/grey silty fill of [4]
- 6. Square cut of posthole
- 7. Yellow/grey silty fill of [6]
- 8. Square cut of posthole
- 9. Yellow/grey silty fill of [8]
- 10. Square cut of posthole
- 11. Yellow/grey silty fill of [10]
- 12. Cut of modern pit
- 13. Yellow/grey silty fill of [12]
- 14. Square cut of posthole
- 15. Yellow/grey silty fill [14]
- 16. Square cut of posthole
- 17. Yellow/grey silty fill of [16]
- 18. Natural shale/gravel
- 19. Cut of small pit/posthole
- 20. Yellow/grey silty fill of [19]

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Archaeology Wales APPENDIX IV: WSI

Specification

For Strip, Map and Sample on

Land by St Twrog's Church, Llandwrog, Caernarfon

Prepared for:
Loes Prys
Gwern Afalau
Llandwrog
Caernarfon, Gwynedd
LL54 5TF

Project No: 2088

Date: 29 October 2012

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NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This specification details the proposal for an archaeological strip, map and sample on land by St Twrog's Church, Llandwrog, Caernarfon. The proposed development comprises the demolition of the existing garage and disused barn, and conversion of the agricultural shed to form part of a new dwelling, which is to be constructed adjacent to it.

1. Introduction

The proposed development is at Land by St Twrog's Church, Llandwrog, Caernarfon (Henceforth – the site), NGR: SH 45147 56054. The development proposal has been submitted by Ms Lois Prys. The local planning authority is Gwynedd County Council and the planning application number is CO8A/0525/17/LL.

The proposed development site comprises a plot of land to the east of St Twrog's church, Llandwrog. The plot measures approximately 644 square metres.

This specification has been prepared by Chris E Smith (MIfA), Project Manager, Archaeology Wales Ltd (Henceforth - AW) at the request of Ms Lois Prys. It provides information on the methodology that will be employed by AW during an archaeological strip, map and sample at the site.

The purpose of the watching brief is to provide Gwynedd County Council with the information that they have requested from Ms Prys, the requirements for which are set out in Planning Policy WALES (revised July 2010), Section 6.5, and Welsh Office Circular 60/96. The work is to ensure that all buried artefacts and deposits are fully investigated and recorded if they are disturbed or revealed as a result of activities associated with the development.

The details set out in this specification follow information provided by Jenny Emmett, Development Control Archaeologist, Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS). GAPS, in its capacity as archaeological adviser to Gwynedd County Council, has recommended that an archaeological strip, map and sample is undertaken.

All work will conform to Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Excavation (IfA 2008), and be undertaken by suitably qualified staff to the highest professional standards.

2 Site description

Disused agricultural sheds and a domestic garage currently stand within the site, while the remainder of the site is overgrown. Llandwrog is situated on the north coast of the Llŷn Peninsula 6 miles south-west of Caernarfon, on the north coast of Gwynedd.

The development plot is situated within the historic village centre of Llandwrog, adjacent to the Grade II* listed church of St Twrog. The church dates from 1858 and replaced a medieval foundation. The present church is thought to occupy the footprint of the medieval building.

The curvilinear boundary of the medieval churchyard has been retained and it is

possible that evidence of an outer enclosure survives in adjacent land.

Cartographic evidence suggests some remodelling of the site during the post medieval period, possibly as part of the replanning of Llandwrog as an estate village in the mid 19th century by Lord Newborough. However, the church would have been a focus for activity during the medieval period and there is a high potential for below ground deposits to survive in the development plot.

3 Method Statement for a Strip, Map and Sample

A strip, map and sample complying with the IfA Standards and Guidance on Excavation (2008) will be completed in all areas which will be subject to ground disturbances associated with the development.

The strip, map and sample is intended to ensure that all buried remains will be fully investigated and recorded if they are revealed.

<u>Methodology</u>

Prior to the strip map and sample, limited desk based research will be undertaken. This will include:

- consultation of the regional Historic Environment Record (HER)
- relevant published and unpublished sources (e.g. from regional or specialist journals, excavation reports, etc)
- relevant cartographic, illustrative and historical sources pertaining to the historical development of the site

The on-site archaeologist will be present during the soil strip on <u>all areas to be impacted by groundworks</u>. The soil strip will be undertaken to the top of archaeological features or the top of the natural deposits.

A 2m wide strip of soil adjacent to the base of the cemetery wall will be left *in situ* so as not to undermine the walls foundations.

Exposed linear features will be 20% sampled (with particular attention paid to any junctions with other linear features). All pit and posthole features will be subject to 50% excavation. Features of significant archaeological interest may require 100% excavation. All features will be recorded prior to and after excavation.

Recording will be carried out using AW recording systems (pro-forma context sheets etc), using a continuous number sequence for all contexts.

Written, drawn and photographic records of an appropriate level of detail will be maintained throughout the course of the project. Digital photographs will be taken using cameras with resolutions of 14 mega pixels or above.

Plans and sections will be drawn to a scale of 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 as required, and these will be related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.

Artifacts

Archaeological artifacts recovered during the course of the excavation will be cleaned and labelled using an accession number which will be obtained from the local museum.

A single number sequence will be allocated to all finds. The artifacts will be stored appropriately until they are deposited with the museum.

All artefacts recovered during the project will be retained and be related to the contexts from which they were derived. All typologically distinct and closely datable finds will be recorded three-dimensionally.

The evaluation will carefully consider any artefactual or economic 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 significance of such material for any subsequent decision-making process regarding mitigation strategies.

Any finds which are considered to be in need of immediate conservation will be referred to a UKIC qualified conservator (Phil Parkes of Cardiff Conservation Services).

A catalogue by context of all artefactual material found, quantified by number, weight, or both, and containing sketches of significant artefacts will be compiled.

Pottery will be analysed to the standards outlined in "Guidelines for the Preparation of Pottery Archives" as prepared by the Study Group for Roman Pottery in consultation with the IFA. All other material will be analysed following the advice given in the Institute of Field Archaeologists: Guidelines for Finds Work.

The requirements for the conservation of artefacts will be unpredictable until after the completion of the fieldwork. The archaeological contractor will ensure, however, that at least minimum acceptable standards are achieved (the UK Institute of Conservation's Guidelines for the Treatment of Finds from Archaeological Site should be used as quidance).

Environmental and technological samples

Samples will be taken where necessary when significant deposits are located. These will be retained for processing. The level of post-excavation processing will be dependent on the results of the field evaluation.

Any features containing deposits of environmental or technological significance will be sampled. If required, the project manager should arrange, through a suitably qualified expert the assessment of the environmental potential of the site through examination of suitable deposits. The assessment of potential should consider the guidelines set out in the English Heritage publication 'Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology' March 2002.

The requirements for the conservation of samples will be unpredictable until after the completion of the fieldwork. The archaeological contractor will ensure, however, that at least minimum acceptable standards are achieved (the UK Institute of Conservation's Guidelines for the Treatment of Finds from Archaeological Site should be used as quidance).

Human remains

Human remains will be left in situ, covered and protected when discovered. No further investigation will normally be undertaken until GAPS and the local Coroner have been informed. After discussion, it may be appropriate to take bone samples for C14 dating. If removal is essential it can only take place under the appropriate Ministry of Justice and Environmental Health regulations.

Monitoring

GAPS will be contacted prior to the commencement of the strip, map and sample, and subsequently once the work is underway.

Any changes to the specification that AW may wish to make after approval will be communicated to the GAPS for approval on behalf of Planning Authority.

Representatives of GAPS will be given access to the site so that they may monitor the progress of the strip, map and sample. GAPS will be kept regularly informed about developments, both during the site works and subsequently during the post-fieldwork programme.

4 Method statement for the production of an illustrated report and the deposition of the site archive

Report preparation

The report will contain the following:

- A fully representative description of the information gained, even if this should be negative evidence.
- A concise non-technical summary of the results.
- At least one plan showing the site's location in respect to the local topography, as well as the position of all excavated areas.
- Suitably selected plans and sections of significant archaeological features. All plans and sections should be related to Ordnance Datum.
- Written descriptions of all features and deposits excavated and their considered interpretation.
- A summary report on any artefactual and ecofactual assemblage and an assessment of their potential for further study, prepared by suitably qualified individuals or specialists.
- A statement of the local and regional context of the archaeological remains identified.

Copies of the report will be sent to Ms Lois Prys, GAPS and for inclusion in the HER. Digital copies will be provided in pdf format if required.

A summary report of the work will be submitted for publication to a national journal (eg *Archaeology in Wales*) no later than one year after the completion of the work.

The site archive

A project archive will be prepared in accordance with the National Monuments Record (Wales) agreed structure and be deposited within an appropriate local museum on completion of site analysis and report production. It will also conform to the guidelines set out in 'Management of Archaeological Projects Two, Appendix 3' (English Heritage 1991).

Arrangements will be made with the local museum before work starts. Wherever the archive is deposited, this information will be relayed to the HER.

Although there may be a period during which client confidentiality will need to be maintained, the report and the archive will be deposited not later then six months after completion of the work.

Other significant digital data generated by the survey (ie AP plots, EDM surveys, CAD

drawings, GIS maps, etc) will be presented as part of the report on a CD/DVD. The format of this presented data will be agreed with the curator in advance of its preparation.

5 Resources and timetable

Standards

The watching brief will be undertaken by AW staff using current best practice.

AW is an IFA Registered Archaeological Organisation and all work will be undertaken to the standards and guidelines of the IFA.

Staff

The project will be undertaken by suitably qualified AW staff. Overall management of the project will be undertaken by Chris Smith, MIfA (a CV is available upon request).

Equipment

The project will use existing AW equipment.

Timetable of archaeological works

A start date of 7th November 2012 has been assigned to the project with a total run time of between 3 and 5 days.

Insurance

AW is an affiliated member of the CBA, and holds Insurance through the CBA insurance service.

Health and safety

All members of staff will adhere to the requirements of the *Health & Safety at Work Act*, 1974, and the Health and Safety Policy Statement of AW.

If AW has sole possession of the site, then AW will produce a detailed Risk Assessment for approval by the client before any work is undertaken. If another organisation has responsibility for site safety, then AW employees with be briefed on the contents of all existing Risk Assessments, and all other health and safety requirements that may be in place.

APPENDIX V: Archive Cover Sheet

ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

Land adjacent to St Twrog's Church, Llandwrog

Site Name:	St Twrog's
Site Code:	STL/12/EX
PRN:	-
NPRN:	-
SAM:	-
Other Ref No:	-
NGR:	SH 45147 56054
Site Type:	Brownfield site
Project Type:	Strip, Map, Record
Project Manager:	Chris E Smith
Project Dates:	Nov 2012
Categories Present:	Modern
Location of Original Archive:	AW
Location of duplicate Archives:	-
Archive Contents:	Site Plans Site Photographs (disc, contact sheet) Site Record sheets Client report Project Correspondence inc Brief & WSI
Number of Finds Boxes:	-
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