

# Archaeological Field Evaluation: Beach Road, Y Felinheli, Gwynedd

May 2024



Report No. 2286

By

Lucy Morrison and

Sïan Thomas



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Prepared for Roberts Group

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## **Summary**

*In May 2024, Archaeology Wales Ltd was commissioned by Roberts Group to carry out a field evaluation at land at Beach Road, Y Felinheli, Gwynedd LL56 4RX. The work was conducted in advance to the promotion of the site for inclusion within the Local Development Plan (LDP). National Grid Reference: SH 52507 67777. The local planning authority is Cyngor Gwynedd Council (CGC).*

*A total of twelve trenches were excavated within the proposed development area to assess the presence or absence and character of the archaeological resource within the site.*

*Archaeological features were encountered within four of the twelve trenches excavated across the site. No datable material was recovered from any of the features excavated across the site.*

## **Crynodeb**

*Ym mis Mai 2024, comisiynwyd Archaeology Wales Cyf gan Roberts Group i gynnal gwerthusiad maes ar dir yn Ffordd y Traeth, Y Felinheli, Gwynedd LL56 4RX. Gwnaed y gwaith cyn hyrwyddo'r safle i'w gynnwys o fewn y Cynllun Datblygu Lleol. Cyfeirnod Grid Cenedlaethol: SH 52507 67777. Yr awdurdod cynllunio lleol yw Cyngor Gwynedd.*

*Cloddiwyd deuddeg o ffosydd o fewn yr ardal ddatblygu arfaethedig i asesu presenoldeb neu ddiffyg presenoldeb yr adnoddau archeolegol yn y safle a'u nodweddion.*

*Canfuwyd nodweddion archeolegol ym mhedwar o'r deuddeg ffos a gloddiwyd ar draws y safle. Ni chanfuwyd unrhyw ddeunydd dyddiadwy o unrhyw rai o'r nodweddion a ganfuwyd ar draws y safle.*

## 1. Introduction

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- 1.1.1. In May 2024, Archaeology Wales Ltd (AW) was commissioned by Roberts Group to carry out a field evaluation at land at Beach Road, Y Felinheli, Gwynedd, LL56 4RX, centred on NGR SH 52507 67777 (Figure 1). The work was conducted in advance to the promotion of the site for inclusion within the Local Development Plan (LDP). The local planning authority is Cyngor Gwynedd Council (CGC).
- 1.1.2. A total of twelve trenches were excavated within the proposed development area to assess the presence/absence and character of the archaeological resource within the site (Figure 2-3). The trenches were placed evenly across the site with no specific targets. Archaeological features were encountered within four of the twelve trenches excavated across the site.
- 1.1.3. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by Irene Garcia Rovira MCIfA, Archaeology Wales Project Manager, prior to the commencement of works (Appendix II). The WSI was approved by Heneb Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (Heneb GAPS) prior to work commencing on site.
- 1.1.4. The fieldwork took place between the 29th of April 2024 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May 2024. It was carried out by Siân Thomas (AW Project Officer), Einir Smith and Lucy Morrison, of Archaeology Wales.
- 1.1.5. The Archaeology Wales Project number is 3127, the site code is BRYF/24/EV.
- 1.1.6. All works were carried out in accordance with the standard required by The Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2023) and the *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2023).

## 2. Site Description and Archaeological Background

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### 2.1. Site Description

- 2.1.1. The proposed development site is located on the south-eastern shore of the Menai Strait on a parcel of land to the west of Beach Road, Y Felinheli- NGR SH 52507 67777. The site is bordered to the south by Felinheli and Porthaethwy Surgery, to the west by Beach Road and private dwellings, to the north by Dinas Fort (PRN 95308) and woodland, and to the east by Dinas Bunkhouse and Campsite. The site is currently being used for agricultural purposes.
- 2.1.2. The site is underlain by two different geological formations. The north and western sides of the site are underlain by the Red Wharf Limestone Formation. This is a sedimentary bedrock formed during the Carboniferous period, and is formed of irregularly bedded skeletal limestones, with abundant chert nodules that are overlain by beds of sandstone infilling. The south and eastern areas of the site are underlain by the Plas Brereton Formation, which is an interbedded sandstone and conglomerate sedimentary bedrock. No superficial deposits are recorded across the site (BGS 2024).

### 2.2. Historical Background

- 2.2.1. The historical and archaeological potential of the proposed site was first assessed by GAPS in response to a previous application, noting that

*The site is located within the Dinorwig Registered Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest. The key characteristics of the Registered Landscape include features of the 19th and 20th century slate industry (including Port Dinorwic) and surviving prehistoric settlements, principally larger monuments and those in marginal locations which have escaped damage by subsequent land management practices. Dinas Camp promontory fort is among these prehistoric monuments.*

*Although presently wooded, archive photographs and current Lidar data*

*indicate the survival of the fort ramparts on the landward side, forming a D-shaped enclosure. The HER also records evidence of at least two later buildings, possibly of medieval date, within the scheduled area (PRN 3683). Vegetation growth is likely to have caused some damage to archaeological deposits within the fort interior and ramparts but overall it remains a well-preserved and legible monument.*

*The application site is not known to have been previously developed, and neither historic maps nor archive photographs indicate anything other than agricultural use since the late 19th century. This indicates a potential for surviving buried remains associated with one or more phases of use of the fort (such as extra-mural settlement, agricultural or industrial activity). Any such remains would be of archaeological value in their own right, but have the potential to considerably enhance our knowledge and understanding of the monument and would be considered to make an important evidential contribution to its setting (GAPS 2016).*

- 2.2.2. A search into the regional Historic Environment Records (HER) was carried out within 1km of the proposed site- GATHER2046 (Figure 8).
- 2.2.3. The most notable feature in the immediate landscape is the site of Dinas Camp (scheduled monument CN047; PRN3682), mentioned above. The site of Dinas Camp comprises the remains of a defended settlement site or promontory fort likely dating to the Iron Age (Cadw Scheduled Monument Report 2024<sup>1</sup>). A former track was also observed on LiDAR imagery to the east of the monument. The track was used until the 19th century. However, it may have been the original path leading to Dinas Camp (PRN 349449).
- 2.2.4. Three HER records are documented close to the site to the east. These records document post-medieval features, including a former road shown on the 1840 tithe map running from the turnpike road down to the small bay north of Dinas

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<sup>1</sup> <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=en&id=3418>

(PRN 34951), an iron kissing gate leading to a track to the beach (PRN 34953), and a railway embankment documented on early OS map editions (PRN 56173).

- 2.2.5. Four HER records are located immediately south of the proposed site. Two records document post-medieval features no longer present, including a former railway from Bangor to Caernarfon (PRN 34950), and a boundary documented on the tithe map (PRN 64956). The records also document a small brick building associated with the railway embankment and a modern boundary (PRNs 34952 and 34954 respectively).
- 2.2.6. One record is documented to the west of the site – PRN 34955. The tithe map marks the presence of a cottage and its associated garden, situated roughly in the same location as the current building found immediately southwest of the scheduled area. In 1839, this property belonged to John Griffith Watkins and was occupied by Griffith Williams, who also lived on the larger portion of the farm covering Dinas. However, there are presently no discernible remnants at this site.

### 3. Aims and Objectives

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- 3.1.1. The main objective of the archaeological evaluation was to confirm the presence or absence of archaeological remains, including those identified by the geophysical survey; and to sufficiently characterise these to inform the potential requirement for any further archaeological work.
- 3.1.2. The general aim was to:
- Determine the presence or absence of buried archaeological remains within the Site
  - Investigate and record all deposits and features of archaeological interest within the Site

- 
- Provide a sufficient level of information to allow determination of any additional requirements for mitigation
  - Disseminate the results of the fieldwork through an appropriate level of recording.

## 4. Methodology

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- 4.1.1. The work was undertaken to meet the standard required by The Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2023) and the *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2023).
- 4.1.2. A total of twelve trenches were excavated within the proposed development area measuring 20m in length by 1.8m in width. The positioning of the trenches was agreed with Heneb GAPS prior to work commencing.
- 4.1.3. Due to the presence of buried services Trench 12 was only excavated to a length of 16m. The services were located across the northern end of the site, running from Beach Road to Canolfan Dinas to the west of the site. This meant that Trenches 8, 9 and 11 had to be moved from their agreed locations in order to avoid the service cables (Figure 3). Trenches 8 and 9 were reorientated and moved to the south, and Trench 11 had to be moved 2m to the south-west. The new locations were agreed with Heneb GAPS prior to their excavation.
- 4.1.4. The trenches were excavated to the top of the archaeological horizon or natural substrate (whichever was reached first) using a tracked 360° mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket. The removal of the overburden soils was done under the supervision of a competent archaeologist.
- 4.1.5. Any archaeological remains encountered were hand cleaned, excavated, and recorded through the use of proforma recording sheets, high resolution digital photography, and GPS.

## 5. Evaluation results

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### 5.1. Introduction

- 5.1.1. There were twelve trenches excavated across the site, with archaeological features being encountered within four of these. Trenches 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11 and 12 were devoid of any archaeology.
- 5.1.2. Trenches 1, 7 and 12 had to be stepped during excavation for safety.
- 5.1.3. The natural horizon was encountered in all twelve trenches and varied across the site due to the two different geological formations present, see Section 2.1. The natural horizon in trenches 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 12 consisted of bands of weathered limestone, quartzite, pink sandstone and clay, with frequent bands of a dark black clay sand, which had formed between the limestone and sandstone beds.
- 5.1.4. The natural horizon in trenches 3, 4, 5, 10 and 11 was a mid-yellow brown clay sand, with lenses of iron panning and manganese throughout.
- 5.1.5. Overlying the natural was a subsoil, which was present in all trenches except Trench 6. The subsoil varied between dark brownish-yellow and dark reddish-brown sandy clay with occasional gravel and occasional small to medium sized stone inclusions. The subsoil was overlain by topsoil, which was a dark greyish-brown loam. See Appendix 1 for the Context Inventory.

### 5.2. Trench 2 (Plate 2-4; Figure 4)

- 5.2.1. Trench 2 was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.1m below ground level. The natural horizon (2000) was encountered at a depth of 0.74m and had an exposed thickness of 0.36m.
- 5.2.2. At the southern end of the trench the natural had been cut by circular pit [2003]. The pit had steep sides and a concave base. It measured 0.5m in length, 0.43m in width and had a depth of 0.17m. It contained fill (2004) which was a soft, mid brownish-yellow clay sand with occasional small angular stone inclusions. No dateable material was recovered from this feature.



5.2.3. This was overlain by subsoil (2001) which was a mid brownish-yellow clay sand with occasional small angular stone inclusions. It had a maximum thickness of 0.17m

5.2.4. This was overlain by topsoil (2000) which had a maximum thickness of 0.54m.

### **5.3. Trench 3 (Plate 5-7; Figure 5)**

5.3.1. Trench 3 had a maximum depth of 0.82m, with the natural horizon (3002) being encountered at a depth of 0.6m. It had an exposed thickness of 0.22m.

5.3.2. At the north-eastern end of the trench ditch [3003] was recorded, which had been cut through the natural. The ditch was orientated east to west and measured 2.1m in length, by 0.8m in width and had a depth of 0.2m. The ditch had sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a single fill (3004) which was a mid yellowish-brown sandy clay with rare gravel and small stone inclusions. No dateable material was recovered from this feature.

5.3.3. It was overlain by subsoil (3001) which had a maximum thickness of 0.16m. It was a dark yellowish-brown clay sand.

5.3.4. This was overlain by topsoil (3000) which had a maximum thickness of 0.44m.

### **5.4. Trench 7 (Plate 14-16; Figure 7)**

5.4.1. Trench 7 was excavated to a depth of 1.2m with the natural horizon being encountered at a depth of 0.95m.

5.4.2. The natural was cut by ditch [7003] which was located running east to west at the eastern end of the trench. It had steep straight sides and a flat base and measured 14m in length by 0.9m in width and had a depth of 0.5m. The ditch contained a single fill (7004) which was a dark reddish-brown clay sand, with occasional small to medium sized angular stones. A worked chert stone was retrieved from the excavated fill.

5.4.3. The ditch was overlain by subsoil (7001) which varied in thickness from 0.15m to 0.55m. This was overlain by topsoil (7000) which had a thickness of 0.4m.

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**5.5. Trench 9 (Plates 19-21; Figure 7)**

- 5.5.1. Trench 9 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m, with the natural horizon (9000) being encountered at this depth.
- 5.5.2. Ditch [9003] was located towards the southern end of the trench and had been cut into the natural. It was orientated east to west and measured 2.2m in length by 0.6m in width and had a depth of 0.38m. It had steep sloping sides and a flat base. It contained four fills. Basal fill (9004) had a maximum thickness of 0.16m and was a mid-greyish brown sandy clay with frequent angular stone inclusions. This was overlain by fill (9005), which was a mid greyish-yellow silty clay, with occasional sub angular stone inclusions. It had a maximum thickness of 0.15m. This was overlain by fill (9006) which was a moderately soft, mid grey yellow sandy clay and had a maximum thickness of 0.08m. Overlying this was fill (9007) which was a mid greyish-brown, sandy clay with frequent sub angular stone inclusions, and had a thickness of 0.29m.
- 5.5.3. The feature was overlain by subsoil (9001) which was a dark yellowish-brown sandy clay with a thickness of 0.15m. This was overlain by topsoil (9000), which had a maximum thickness of 0.3m.

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**6. Finds**

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**6.1. Overview**

- 6.1.1. A single flint artefact weighing 10g was recovered during the evaluation. It is described fully in the specialist report below.

**6.2. Lithics – Rebecca Devaney**

- 6.2.1. A single flint core (weighing 10g) was recovered from context (7004), a ditch fill, during archaeological investigations at Beach Road. The recording sheet can be found in Appendix II. The core is part of a small, rounded nodule with a naturally smoothed outer surface. It has at least five overlapping flake scars taken from a single flaked platform. The flake scars have been truncated

by a thermal break, which potentially occurred during knapping. The core remains unaffected by surface alteration in the form of cortication or staining but has suffered slight post-depositional damage in the form of chips to the edges of the thermal break. Without the presence of cortex the raw material cannot be accurately determined, but is likely to be gravel-derived flint from a secondary source such as river gravels. The core cannot be dated but does demonstrate activity in the vicinity during prehistory.

- 6.2.2. Further work is not recommended. The flint should be kept and deposited with a relevant archive according to local practice.

## 7. Environmental Archaeology

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### 7.1. Methodology

- 7.1.1. A total of six bulk samples of between 5-18 litres in volume were taken during the evaluation. The samples were returned to Archaeology Wales' Finds and Environmental processing facility, where it was processed using a three tank, recycled water flotation system. During the flotation process, a 500  $\mu$  m mesh was used to collect the residue and a 300  $\mu$  m mesh to collect the flot. The residue was then washed through a sieve stack containing 10mm, 5mm, 2mm and 500  $\mu$  m mesh sizes. Each fraction was kept separate to aid drying.
- 7.1.2. Once dry the residue was sorted for artefacts and ecofacts. Any archaeological material was to be extracted from all residues greater than 2mm and separated according to type. A magnet was passed over the <2mm residue in order to collect any magnetic residue present. This was then scanned by eye for any obvious signs of hammerscale. The flots were scanned by eye for environmental remains.
- 7.1.3. Quantities of remains are described as occasional + (<5 items), moderate ++ (5-25 items), frequent +++ (25-100 items) or abundant ++++ (>100 items).

## **7.2. Flot Report**

- 7.2.1. No archaeological material was recovered within the flots.

## **7.3. Residue Report**

- 7.3.1. No archaeological material was recovered within the residues.

## **7.4. Summary**

- 7.4.1. Samples <1> - <5> were taken in order to recover any dateable evidence from within the small number of pits and ditches identified during the excavation. No dateable material had been identified directly during excavation. No archaeological material was identified within the samples.
- 7.4.2. A further sample <6> was also taken from an unusually dark natural deposit to check for organic components. The sample was found to consist of a brownish-black mixed sandy gravel and no organic material was identified. It is likely that the dark colour of the sediment is related to manganese staining.

# **8. Discussion and Interpretations**

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- 8.1.1. In May 2024, Archaeology Wales Ltd was commissioned by the Roberts Group to conduct a field evaluation on land at Beach Road, Y Felinheli, Gwynedd LL56 4RX. This work was undertaken in preparation for the site's potential inclusion in the Local Development Plan (LDP).
- 8.1.2. A total of twelve trenches were excavated within the proposed development area to assess the presence, absence, and character of any archaeological resources. Due to buried services, Trench 12 was only excavated to a length of 16 meters. These services ran from Beach Road to Canolfan Dinas at the northern end of the site, necessitating the relocation of Trenches 8, 9, and 11 to avoid the service cables. Trenches 8 and 9 were reoriented and moved to the south, while Trench 11 was shifted 2 meters to the southwest. The new

locations were approved by Heneb GAPS prior to excavation.

- 8.1.3. Archaeological features were encountered in four of the twelve trenches. Trenches 3, 7, and 9 revealed ditches oriented roughly east to west. A flint core, likely residual, was found in one of the ditch fills in Trench 7. Additionally, a pit was discovered in Trench 2.
- 8.1.4. The date and function of these features remain undetermined due to the lack of contextual evidence. As a result, it is not possible to establish a direct association between these features and Dinas Camp. However, it is worth noting that these features have not been previously recorded and may predate the 19th century. The presence of the flint core suggests prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site.

## 9. Archiving

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- 9.1.1. The report will be uploaded to Heneb – Gwynedd HER and with the RCAHMW alongside a full digital copy of the site archive and any digital borne data.
- 9.1.2. The site archive will be prepared in accordance with the CIfA Guidelines Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives' (2020).
- 9.1.3. The finds specialists have made recommendations for retention and discard. These will be discussed with the receiving institution (STORIEL) and final decisions will be reflected in the updated Selection Strategy Document, which will be added as an appendix to this report prior to deposition.

## 10. Bibliography

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Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2023. *Universal guidance for archaeological field evaluation*.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2023. *Standard for archaeological field evaluation*.

British Geological Survey :

<https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/bgs-geology-viewer/>

(accessed 20.5.24)

## Figures

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Figure 1. Location of proposed development area

— Development Area  
 — Scheduled Monument



0 500m 1km







Figure 2. Trench locations

- Development Area
- Scheduled Monument
- Evaluation Trenches



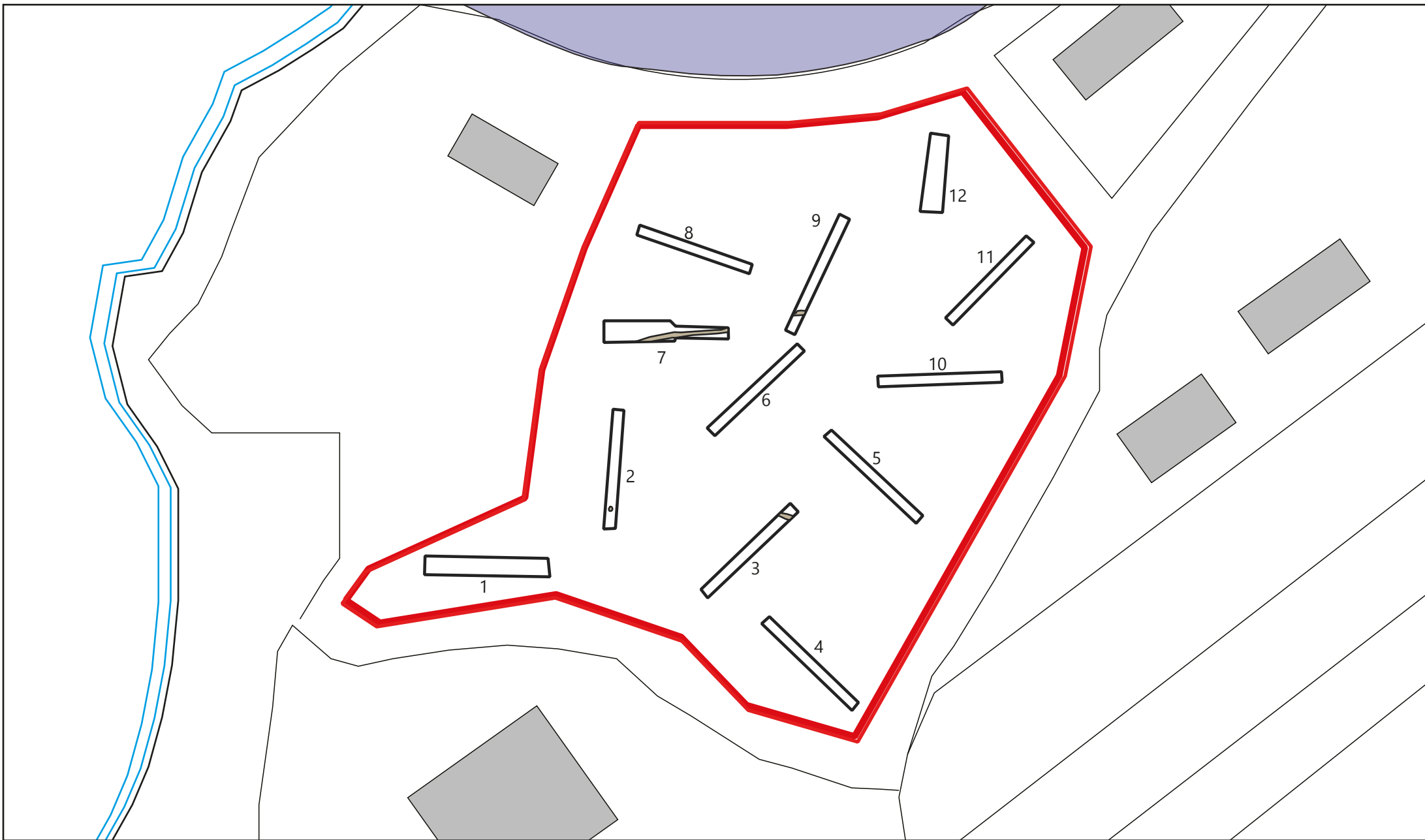
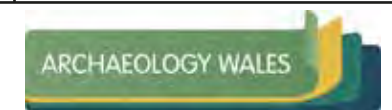


Figure 3. New trench locations

- Development Area
- Scheduled Monument
- Evaluation Trenches
- Archaeological features



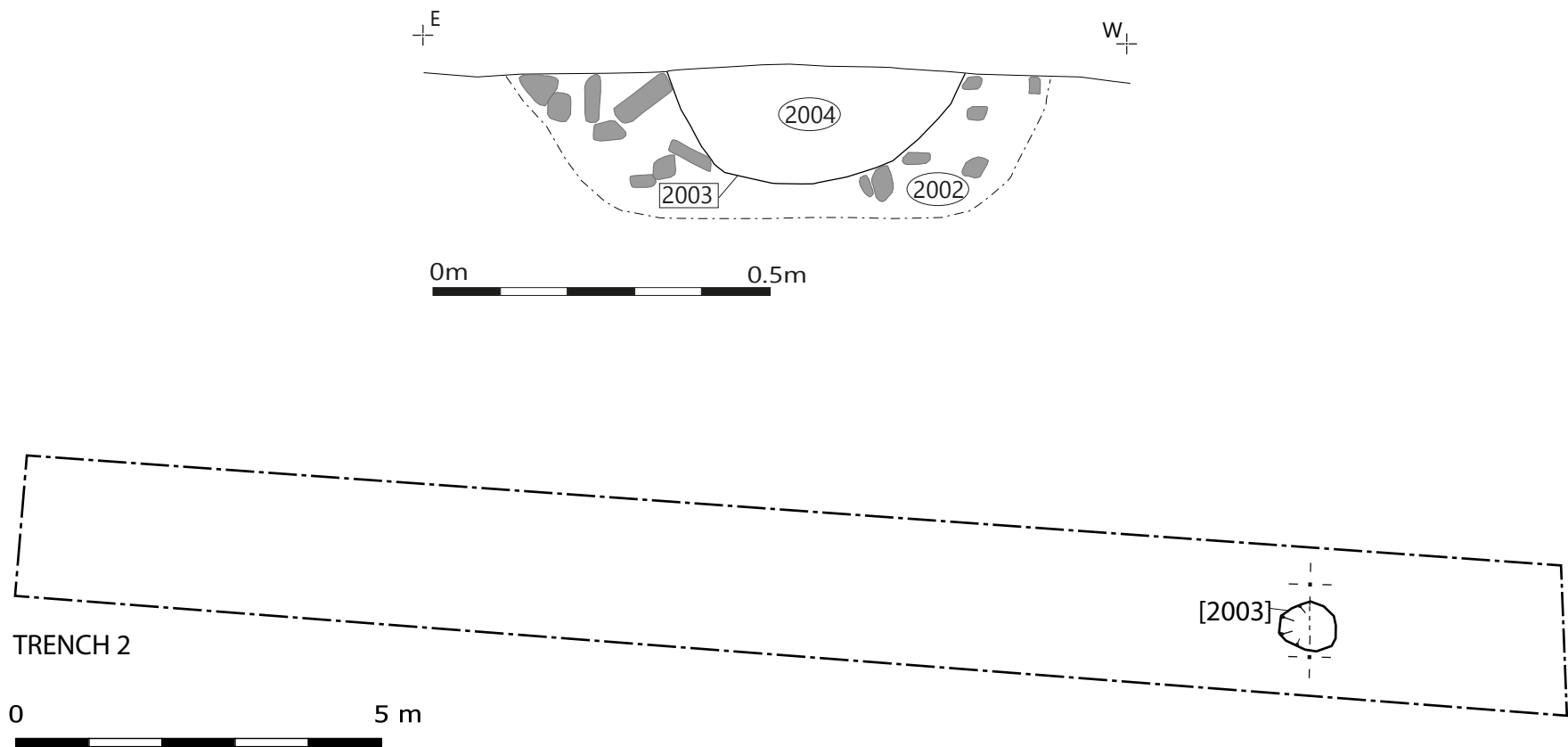


Figure 4. Trench 2, plan and section.



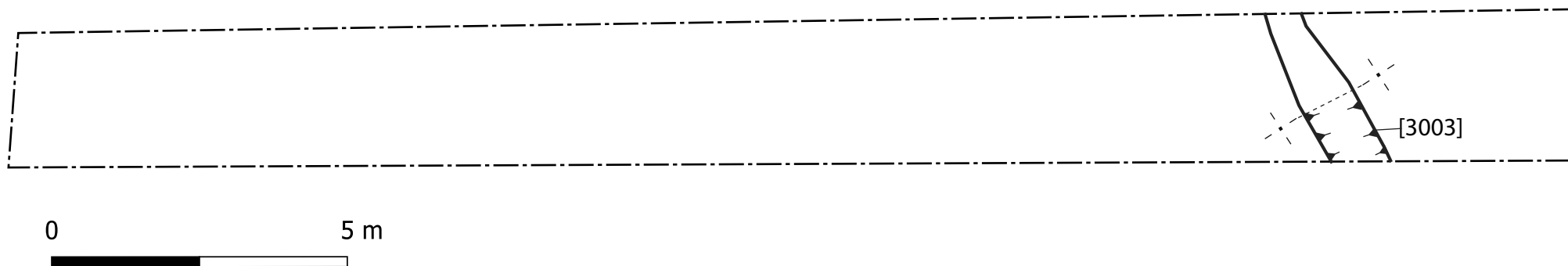
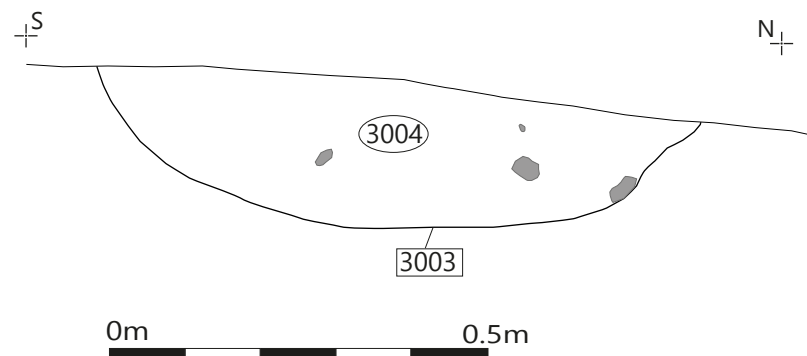


Figure 5. Trench 3, plan and section.



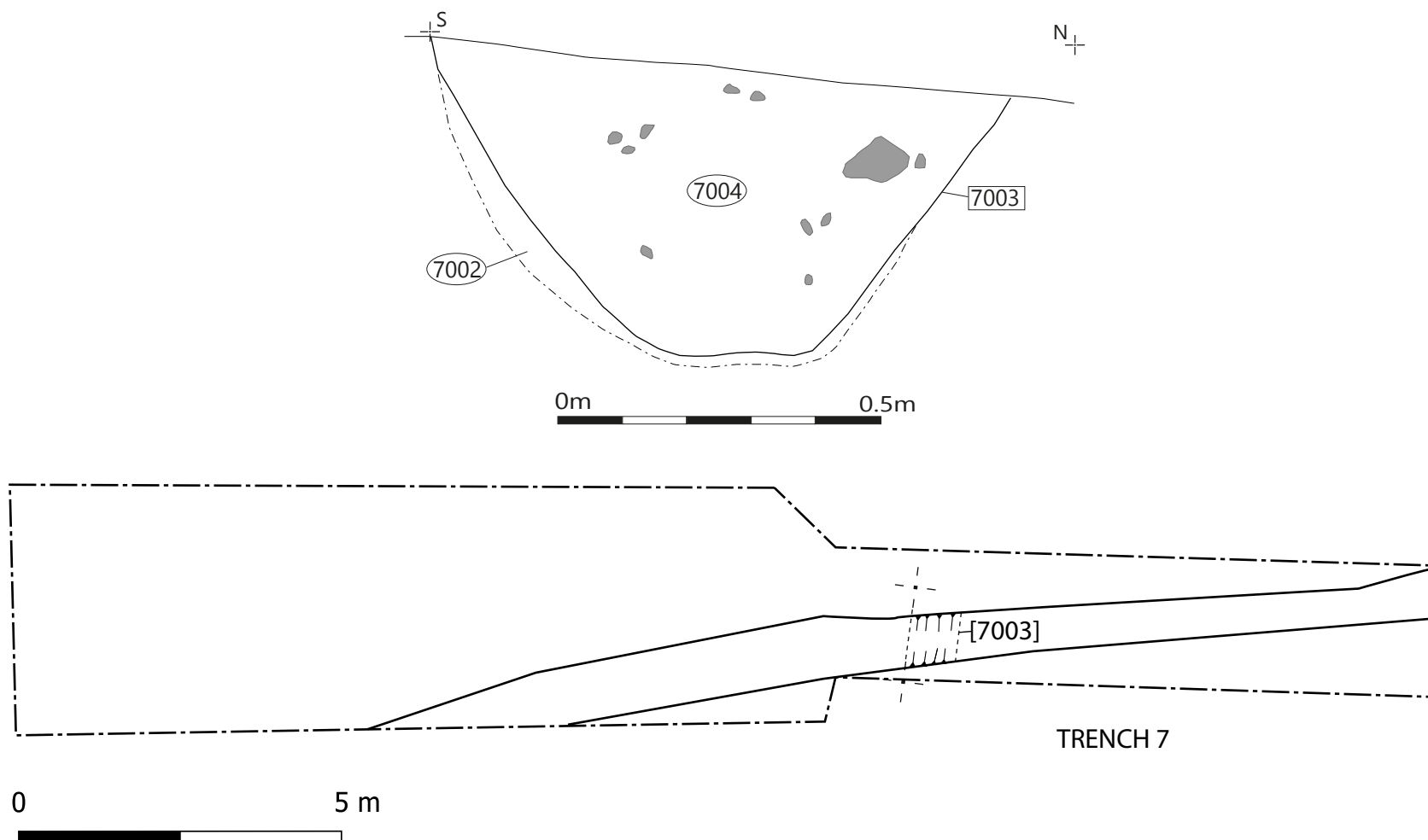


Figure 6. Trench 7, plan and section.



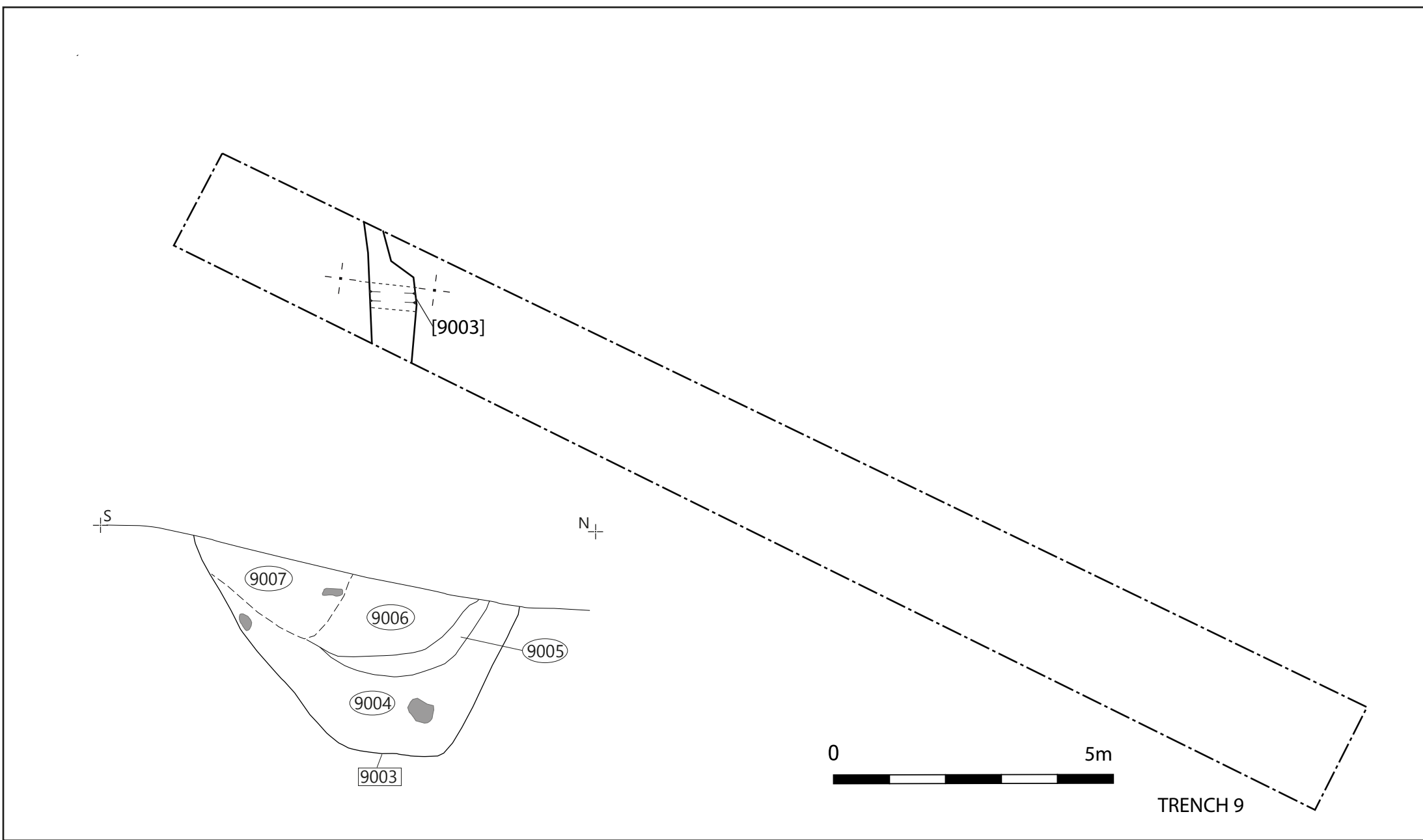


Figure 7. Trench 9, plan and section.

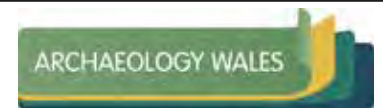






Figure 8. HER's within 500m of the site.

- Proposed development boundary
- Location of HER records



0 250 500 m





*Plate 1: Trench 1. View west*



*Plate 2: Trench 2. View south*





*Plate 3: East facing representative section of Trench 2*



*Plate 4: Pit [2003]. View northwest*





*Plate 5: Trench 3. View northeast*



*Plate 6: Southeast facing representative section of Trench 3*





*Plate 7: Southwest facing section of [3003]*



*Plate 8: Trench 4. View southeast*





*Plate 9: Northeast facing representative section of Trench 4*



*Plate 10: Trench 5. View northwest*





*Plate 11: Southwest facing representative section of Trench 5*



*Plate 12: Trench 6. View north-northeast*





*Plate 13: West facing section of Trench 6*



*Plate 14: Trench 7. View east*





*Plate 15: South facing representative section of Trench 7*



*Plate 16: East facing section of ditch [7003]*





*Plate 17: Trench 8. View northwest*



*Plate 18: Northeast facing representative section of Trench 8*





*Plate 19: Trench 9. View southwest*



*Plate 20: Southeast facing representative section of Trench 9*





*Plate 21: Southeast facing section of feature [9003]*



*Plate 22: Trench 10. View west*





*Plate 23: South facing representative section of Trench 10*



*Plate 24: Trench 11. View southeast*





*Plate 25: Southeast representative section of Trench 11*



*Plate 26: Trench 12. View south*





*Plate 27: West facing representative section of Trench 12*

## Appendix I: Context Inventory

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## Appendix II: Flint Recording Table

FLINT ID	TRENCH	CONTEXT	SF NO	SAMPLE NO	FLINT CATEGORY	FLINT TYPE	TOTAL	BURNT	BROKEN	WEIGHT (g)	CORTEX	COMMENTS	SPOT DATE	CORTICATION	POST-DEPOSITIONAL DAMAGE
1	7	7004			25	Single platform flake core	1		1	10		Part of small rounded nodule, naturally smoothed outer surface, at least five overlapping flake scars taken from single upper platform, truncated by thermal break, platform is struck not natural		Uncorticated	Slight

## Appendix III: Written Scheme of Investigation



**Written Scheme of Investigation for an  
Archaeological Field Evaluation**

**at**

**Land at Beach Road, Y Felinheli, Gwynedd**

**Prepared for:**  
Roberts Group

**Project No: 3142**  
**April 2024**

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## **Summary**

*This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details a programme of archaeological evaluation to be undertaken by Archaeology Wales Ltd (henceforth – AW) at the request of Roberts Group.*

*The work comprises an archaeological evaluation, in order to determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts, and their research potential, within the development area.*

*The evaluation will aid in understanding the archaeological sensitivity of the site in advance of its promotion for inclusion within the Local Development Plan (LDP). The site is located at land near Beach Road, Y Felinheli, LL56 4RX, centred on NGR SH 51894 67036.*

## **1. Introduction**

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- 1.1.1. This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details a programme of archaeological evaluation to be undertaken by Archaeology Wales Ltd (henceforth – AW) at the request of Roberts Group (henceforth – ‘the Client’). The evaluation will comprise twelve trenches measuring 20m in length by 1.8m in width.
- 1.1.2. The proposed development is located on land near Beach Road, Y Felinheli, LL56 4RX (NGR SH 51894 67036) (henceforth – ‘the Site’). The methodology set out in this WSI has been agreed with Heneb: Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (henceforth – Heneb GAPS) in its capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority.
- 1.1.3. The purpose of the proposed archaeological evaluation is to determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts, and their character and research potential, within the potential development area (CIfA 2023) and to provide the local planning authority with the information they are likely to request in respect of the potential development, the requirements for which are set out in Planning Policy Wales Revised Edition 12, Section 6 (2024) and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The

Historic Environment (2017).

- 1.1.4. All work will conform to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists; *Standard and Universal Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2023 a & b) and be undertaken by suitably qualified staff to the highest professional standards. AW is a Registered Organisation with the CIfA.

## 2. Site Description

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- 2.1.1. The site consists of a parcel of land located opposite an unclassified county road (Beach Road). The topography of the landscape means that the application site is in the form of a bowl shape with a prominent and steep slope running downwards from east to west and to the lowest part of the site.
- 2.1.2. Currently the site an open meadow, under pasture. The application area is bound to the north by Beach Road, with residential houses further along. To the east, a footpath leads down to the Menai Strait and the Community Health Centre which is located in the corner of the field. To the south, there are established woodlands and agricultural land beyond. While to the west, is the Canolfan Dinas bunkhouse and Dinas promontory fort (CN047/GAT3682), which is a scheduled monument, with the Menai Straits and Anglesey beyond.
- 2.1.3. The site is located within the Dinorwig Registered Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest (HLW(Gw)6). The application area lies within HLCA 28, Llanfair Isgaer.
- 2.1.4. The underlying geology to the south of the application area comprises Amphill Clay Formation and Kimmeridge Clay Formation. These being Mudstone formed between 163.5 and 152.1 million years ago during the Jurassic period. To the north, is Hazelbury Bryan Formation and Kingston Formation. These are a combination of sandstone, siltstone and mudstone

bedrocks formed between 163.5 and 157.3 million years ago, again during the Jurassic period (BGS 2024).

### 3. Historical Background

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3.1.1. In response to a previous application within the site the former Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS) noted that,

*The site is located within the Dinorwig Registered Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest. The key characteristics of the Registered Landscape include features of the 19th and 20th century slate industry (including Port Dinorwic) and surviving prehistoric settlements, principally larger monuments and those in marginal locations which have escaped damage by subsequent land management practices. Dinas Camp promontory fort is among these prehistoric monuments.*

*Although presently wooded, archive photographs and current Lidar data indicate the survival of the fort ramparts on the landward side, forming a D-shaped enclosure. The HER also records evidence of at least two later buildings, possibly of medieval date, within the scheduled area (PRN 3683). Vegetation growth is likely to have caused some damage to archaeological deposits within the fort interior and ramparts but overall it remains a well-preserved and legible monument.*

*The application site is not known to have been previously developed, and neither historic maps nor archive photographs indicate anything other than agricultural use since the late 19th century. This indicates a potential for surviving buried remains associated with one or more phases of use of the fort (such as extra-mural settlement, agricultural or industrial activity). Any such remains would be of archaeological value in their own right but have the potential to considerably enhance our knowledge and understanding of*

*the monument and would be considered to make an important evidential contribution to its setting* (GAPS 2016).

- 3.1.2. The most notable feature in the immediate landscape is the site of Dinas Camp (Scheduled Monument CN047), mentioned above. The site of Dinas Camp comprises the remains of a defended settlement site or promontory fort likely dating to the Iron Age (Cadw Scheduled Monument Report).

## 4. Objectives

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### 4.1. Field Evaluation

- 4.1.1. The objective of the evaluation will be to locate and describe archaeological features that may be present within the development area. The work will elucidate the presence or absence of archaeological material, its character, distribution, extent, condition, and relative significance. The work will place the findings within their local and regional context depending on their significance and highlight where they may contribute to any relevant regional research frameworks.
- 4.1.2. A report will be produced that will provide information which is sufficiently detailed to allow the significance of the archaeological resource to be better understood. The information could then be used to help inform further archaeological work that is required as a part of the Proposed Development.

## 5. Timetable of works

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### 5.1. Fieldwork

- 5.1.1. The archaeological evaluation is scheduled to begin on April 29th, 2024, and is anticipated to span seven days. The team leading the field evaluation will consist of a Project Officer, Sian Thomas, accompanied by two site assistants,

Einir Smith, and Lucy Morrison.

## **5.2. Report delivery**

- 5.2.1. The report will be submitted to the Client and to Heneb GAPS within three months of the completion of the fieldwork. A copy of the report will also be sent to the regional Historic Environment Record (HER).

## **6. Fieldwork**

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### **6.1. Field Evaluation**

- 6.1.1. The work will be undertaken to meet the standard required by CIfA's Standard and universal Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (2023 a & b).
- 6.1.2. The archaeological project manager in charge of the work will satisfy themselves that all constraints to ground works have been identified, including the siting of live services and Tree Preservation Orders.
- 6.1.3. It is proposed that twelve trenches measuring 20m in length by 1.8m in width, are machine excavated within the Site (Figure 2). The locations and dimensions of the trenches have been agreed with Heneb GAPS.
- 6.1.4. The exact positioning of the trenches may need to be altered depending on the ground truthing of extant services or other obstructions that come to light during the on-site mobilisation phase of the evaluation. Any variation on trench locations will be agreed by Heneb GAPS.
- 6.1.5. The evaluation trenches will be excavated to the top of the archaeological horizon by a 360 excavator or similar machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket under archaeological supervision.
- 6.1.6. All areas of interest, where archaeologically remains are suspected will be subsequently hand cleaned to prove the presence, or absence, of

archaeological features and to determine their significance. The excavation of the minimum number of archaeological features will be undertaken, to elucidate the character, distribution, extent and importance of the archaeological remains. As a minimum, small discrete features will be fully excavated, larger discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% excavated) and linear features will be sample excavated along their length – with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature and to investigate terminals, junctions and relationships with other features.

- 6.1.7. Should the above percentage excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined full excavation of such features/deposits will be required. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of palaeoenvironmental samples and recovery of artefacts (See paragraph 6.5).
- 6.1.8. If excavations reveal a substantial number of repetitive discrete features, such as stake-holes, these will be adequately sampled by excavation to understand their character rather than the complete excavation of all such features.
- 6.1.9. Any variation of the above will be undertaken only in agreement with Heneb GAPS.
- 6.1.10. Sufficient excavation will be undertaken to ensure that the natural horizons are reached and proven, where this can be practically and safely achieved. If safety reasons preclude manual excavation to natural, a hand auger may be used to try to assess the total depth of stratification within each trench. The depth of the excavation will conform to Health and Safety will take precedent over all archaeological matters. Excavation will only reach safe depths through a process of dynamic risk assessment on Site.

## **6.2. Contingency**



- 6.2.1. Should potentially significant archaeological features be encountered during the course of the evaluation then Heneb GAPS and the Client will be informed at the earliest possible opportunity. The contingency will only be used in agreement with the Client and after discussion with the Client and Heneb GAPS.
- 6.2.2. Heneb GAPS may subsequently request that further archaeological work is undertaken in order to fully evaluate areas of significant archaeological activity. Such work may require the provision of additional time and resources to complete the archaeological investigation. The scope of such work will be agreed with GAPS and the Client prior to any extended works being undertaken.

### **6.3. Recording**

- 6.3.1. Recording will be carried out using AW recording systems (pro-forma context sheets, etc.) using a continuous number sequence for all contexts.
- 6.3.2. Plans and sections will be drawn to a scale of 1:50, 1:20 or 1:10 as required and related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.
- 6.3.3. All features identified will be tied into the OS survey grid and fixed to local topographical boundaries. Photographs will be taken in digital format with an appropriate scale, using a 10MP+ camera with photographs stored in Tiff format.

### **6.4. Finds**

- 6.4.1. The professional standards set in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standards and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation, and research of archaeological* (2020) will form the basis of finds collection, processing, and recording.

- 6.4.2. Finds will be carefully excavated by hand. The excavation of fragile or particularly significant finds will be undertaken in consultation with an appropriate archaeological conservator. Finds will be bagged by archaeological context, the location of special finds and flint working deposits will be recorded three dimensionally.
- 6.4.3. In most cases all finds will be recovered from site, quantified and assessed by a specialist. Finds retention and discard policies will be drawn up in conjunction with specialist advice and the requirements of the receiving archive or regional/national guidelines (NPAAW 2019) in conjunction with the CIfA Selection Strategy Tool Kit (CIfA 2019). If large quantities of material are identified, an onsite discard policy may be implemented under the guidance of relevant finds specialists and Heneb GAPS.
- 6.4.4. Retained finds will be suitably bagged, boxed and marked. Following cataloguing and initial analysis finds of low archaeological significance may be discarded following consultation with Heneb GAPS.
- 6.4.5. Finds recovered that are regarded as Treasure under The Treasure Act 1996 will be reported to HM Coroner for the local area.
- 6.4.6. Any finds which are considered to be in need of immediate conservation will be referred to a UKIC qualified conservator (normally Phil Parkes at Cardiff University).

## **6.5. Environmental Sampling Strategy**

- 6.5.1. Bulk samples of up to 40 litres in volume will be collected from both deposits with significant potential for the preservation of paleoenvironmental material and those producing no archaeological material during excavation. This will allow any material suitable for dating to be recovered. Sampling will be avoided in areas of disturbance.

- 6.5.2. Once the archaeology is exposed, a site-specific sampling strategy will be drawn up and if significant environmental remains are encountered, a specialist environmental archaeologist will be engaged to advise on approach. All environmental sampling and recording will follow English Heritage's *Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology* (2011).

## **6.6. Human Remains**

- 6.6.1. In the event that human remains are encountered, their nature and extent will be established, and the coroner informed. All human remains will be left in situ and protected during backfilling.
- 6.6.2. Where preservation in situ is not possible, the human remains will be fully recorded and removed under conditions that comply with all current legislation and include acquisition of an exhumation license from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and provision for reburial following all analytical work. Human remains will be excavated in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Excavation and Post-Excavation Treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains: Technical Paper Number 13* (1993), and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Updated *Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains* (2017).
- 6.6.3. A meeting with the Client, Heneb GAPS and AW will be called if the human remains are uncovered that are of such complexity or significance that the contingency arrangement would not be of sufficient to adequately deal with these remains.

## **6.7. Specialist Advisers**

- 6.7.1. In the event of certain finds, features or sites being discovered, AW will seek specialist opinion and advice. A list of specialists is given in the table below although this list is not exhaustive.

## 6.8. Specialist Reports

6.8.1. Specialist finds and palaeoenvironmental reports will be written by AW specialists, or sub-contracted to external specialists when required.

Artefact type	Specialist
Lithics	Rebecca Devaney (Freelance)
Animal bone	Dr Richard Madgwick (Cardiff University) Dr Hannah Russ (archaeology.biz) Marina Chorro Giner (archaeology.biz) Jessica Waterworth (archaeology.biz)
CBM, heat affected clay, Daub etc.	Dr David Griffiths (archaeology.biz) Sandra Garside Neville (Freelance)
Clay pipe	Charley James Martin (Archaeology Wales)
Glass	Elizabeth Foulds (Freelance)
Cremated and non-cremated human bone	Natasha Powers (Rocket Heritage) Malin Holst (University of York) Dr Richard Madgwick (Cardiff University)
Metalwork	Dr Rhiannon Philp (Archaeology Wales) (Fe) Dr Siân Thomas (Archaeology Wales) (CuA) Dr Kevin Leahy (PAS/University of Leicester) Quita Mould (Freelance) Dr Tim Young (GeoArch)
Metallurgical residues	Dr Tim Young (GeoArch)
Neo/BA pottery	Dr David Mullin (Freelance)
IA/Roman pottery	Dr David Griffiths (archaeology.biz)
Roman Pottery	Dr Siân Thomas (Archaeology Wales) Dr Peter Webster (Freelance)
Medieval and Post Medieval Pottery	Paul Blinkhorn (Freelance)
Charcoal (wood ID)	Dana Challinor (Freelance)
Waterlogged wood	Professor Nigel Nayling (University of England – Lampeter) Damian Goodburn (MOLA) Mike Bamforth (Freelance)
Marine Molluscs	Dr Rhiannon Philp (Archaeology Wales) Dr Hannah Russ (archaeology.biz)
Pollen	Dr Rhiannon Philp (Archaeology Wales)
Charred and waterlogged plant remains	Wendy Carruthers (Freelance) Kath Hunter Dowse (Freelance) John Giorgi (Freelance)

## 7. Monitoring

7.1.1. Heneb GAPS will be contacted prior to the commencement of archaeological site works, and kept updated by the Client once the work is underway.

- 7.1.2. Any changes to the WSI will be agreed with the Client who will seek approval from Heneb GAPS on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.
- 7.1.3. Heneb GAPS will be given reasonable access to the site so that they may monitor the progress of the evaluation.
- 7.1.4. No backfilling will take place until Heneb GAPS has had the opportunity to inspect it unless permission has been given in advance. Heneb GAPS will be kept regularly informed about developments, both during the site works and subsequently during post-excavation.

## 8. Post-fieldwork programme

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### 8.1. The Site Archive

- 8.1.1. An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with: Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2006) upon completion of the project.
- 8.1.2. The site archive – including all artefacts, soil samples and records – will be subjected to selection to establish those elements that will be retained for long term curation. The selection strategy will be agreed with all stakeholders and will be detailed in the Selection Strategy and Data Management Plan. The Selection Strategy and Data Management Plan will be prepared in accordance with: Archaeological Archives: *Selection, Retention and Disposal Guidelines For Wales* (National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales, 2019) and the CIfA's *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA, 2020). It will also conform to the guidelines set out in 'The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales 2019' (National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales 2019). The legal landowner's

consent will be gained for deposition of finds. The project will adhere to the Welsh Archaeological Trust's joint *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records* (2022).

## **8.2. Reporting**

8.2.1. Following a rapid review of the potential of the site archive, a programme of analysis and reporting will be undertaken.

8.2.2. This will result in the following inclusions in the report:

- A non-technical summary in English and Welsh
- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the archaeological works, and the background and circumstances of the report (including development proposals and planning background)
- Location plan showing trench locations, trench plans that include the locations of all artefacts, structures and features found as required
- Plans and section drawings (if features are encountered) with ground level, ordnance datum and vertical and horizontal scales.
- A written description and interpretation of all deposits identified, including their character, function, potential dating, and relationship to adjacent features. Specialist descriptions and illustrations of all artefacts and soil samples will be included as appropriate. An indication of the potential of archaeological deposits which have not been disturbed by the development, and proposals for further analysis if necessary.
- The report will contain a discussion of the local, regional, and national context of the remains by means of reviewing published reports, unpublished reports, historical maps, and any readily available online documents from local archives and the regional HER as appropriate.



- A detailed archive list at the rear listing all contexts recorded, all samples, finds and find types, drawings and photographs taken. This will include a statement of the intent to deposit, and location of deposition, of the archive.

### **8.3. Report to Client**

- 8.3.1. Copies of all reports, together with inclusion of supporting evidence in appendices as appropriate, including photographs and illustrations, will be submitted upon completion to the Client for comment. Following any corrections, the client will send a copy to the Local Planning Authority.

### **8.4. Archive Deposition**

- 8.4.1. The final archive (site and research) will be deposited at STORIEL. Arrangements will be made with the receiving institution before work starts.
- 8.4.2. Although there may be a period during which client confidentiality will need to be maintained, copies of all reports and the final archive will be deposited no later than six months after completion of the work.
- 8.4.3. Copies of all reports, the digital archive and an archive index will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW, Aberystwyth.
- 8.4.4. Wherever the archive is deposited, this information will be relayed to the HER. A summary of the contents of the archive will be supplied to Heneb GAPS.

### **8.5. Finds Deposition**

- 8.5.1. The finds, including artefacts and ecofacts, excepting those which may be subject to the Treasure Act, will be deposited with STORIEL, subject to the agreement of the legal landowners. A Transfer of Ownership document will be signed by the landowner prior to deposition. Artefact selection will follow the selection strategy included at the back of this WSI, which will be updated throughout the project. A final selection strategy will be included in the final report deposited with the HER and RCAHMW.

## **8.6. Staff**

- 8.6.1. The project will be managed by Irene Garcia Rovira (AW Project Manager) and the fieldwork undertaken by AW Staff. Any alteration to staffing before or during the work will be brought to the attention of Heneb GAPS and the Client.

## **9. Health and Safety**

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### **9.1. Limitation**

- 9.1.1. Archaeologists will only enter the trench if it is stable and of safe to do so.

### **9.2. Risk Assessment**

- 9.2.1. Prior to the commencement of work, AW will carry out and produce a formal Health and Safety Risk Assessment in accordance with The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1999. A copy of the risk assessment will be kept on site and be available for inspection on request. A copy will be sent to the Client for their review. All members of AW staff will adhere to the content of this document.

### **9.3. Other Guidelines**

- 9.3.1. AW will adhere to best practice with regard to Health and Safety in Archaeology as set out in the FAME (Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers) health and safety manual Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (2002).

## **10. Community Engagement and Outreach**

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- 10.1.1. The form of any outreach will respect client confidentiality or contractual agreements. As a rule, outreach will be proportional to the size of the project.
- 10.1.2. Where outreach activities have a cost implication these will need to be negotiated in advance and in accordance with the nature of the desired

response and learning outcomes.

- 10.1.3. A short summary of the results should be submitted for the gazetteer of recent projects in Archaeology in Wales (unless findings are significant enough to merit wider publication).

## 11. Insurance

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- 11.1.1. AW is fully insured for this type of work and holds Insurance with Aviva Insurance Ltd and Hiscox Insurance Company Limited through Towergate Insurance. Full details of these and other relevant policies can be supplied on request.

## 12. Quality Control

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### 12.1. Professional standards

- 12.1.1. AW works to the standards and guidance provided by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. AW fully recognise and endorse the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*, *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* and the *Standard and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2020) currently in force. All employees of AW, whether corporate members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists or not, are expected to adhere to these Codes and Standards during their employment.

### 12.2. Project tracking

- 12.2.1. The designated AW manager will monitor all projects in order to ensure that agreed targets are met without reduction in quality of service.

## 13. Arbitration

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- 13.1.1. Disputes or differences arising in relation to this work shall be referred for a

decision in accordance with the Rules of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' Arbitration Scheme for the Institute for Archaeologists applying at the date of the agreement.

## 14. Sources

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British Geological Survey: Geology of Britain viewer:

[www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html](http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html)

Cadw Scheduled Monument Report Dinas Camp:

<https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=en&id=3418>

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2019. *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives*.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020. *Standards and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020. *Standards and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2023. *Standards for archaeological field evaluation*.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2023. *Universal Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*.

English Heritage, 2002. *Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology*.

English Heritage, 2006. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE)*.

GAPS, 2016. Response to planning application C16/0724/20/AM

National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales, 2019. *The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales*.

Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2022. *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HER)*

## Figures

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Figure 1. Location of proposed development area

— Development Area  
 — Scheduled Monument



0 500m 1km

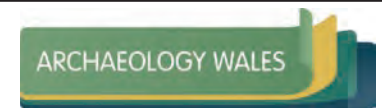






Figure 2. Trench locations

- Development Area
- Scheduled Monument
- Evalutaion Trenches



## Selection Strategy

Project Information	
<b>ID</b>	3142
<b>Name</b>	Beach Road, Y Felinheli
Project Management	
<b>Project Manager</b>	Irene Garcia Rovira
<b>Post Excavation Manager</b>	Rhiannon Philp
<b>Organisation</b>	Archaeology Wales
Stakeholders	
<b>Collecting Institution(s)</b>	Heneb – Gwynedd HER; RCAHMW; STORIEL
<b>Project Lead / Project Assurance</b>	Irene Garcia Rovira
<b>Landowner / Developer</b>	Roberts Group
<b>Other</b>	
<b>Resources</b>	No unusual resources required outside of AW normal operating equipment and personnel to implement this Selection Strategy.

### Context

Archaeology Wales Ltd was commissioned by Roberts Group to carry out a field evaluation at land at Beach Road, Y Felinheli, Gwynedd LL56 4RX. The work was conducted in advance to the promotion of the site for inclusion within the Local Development Plan (LDP).

National Grid Reference: SH 52507 67777. The local planning authority is Cyngor Gwynedd Council (CGC). A total of twelve trenches were excavated within the proposed development area to assess the presence or absence and character of the archaeological resource within the site. Archaeological features were encountered within four of the twelve trenches excavated across the site. No datable material was recovered from any of the features excavated across the site.

## Digital Data

Stakeholders			
Rhiannon Philp (PX manager), Irene Garcia Rovira (Project Manager), RCAHMMW, Heneb – Gwynedd HER			
Data Management Plan (DMP)			
Selection and De-selection			
DMP Attached as a separate document			
Amendments			
Detail any amendments to the above selection strategy here.			
Date	Amendment	Rationale	Stakeholders

## Documents

Stakeholders			
Rhiannon Philp (PX manager), Irene Garcia Rovira (Project Manager),			
Selection and De-selection			
<p><b>Selection</b></p> <p>2.1. All original documentary material created during data gathering will be selected for inclusion in the final archive. Duplicates, photocopies of originals and research materials will be de-selected during archive completion</p> <p>2.2. Selection reviews will be undertaken after the following phases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fieldwork</li> <li>• Reporting</li> <li>• Archive Completion</li> </ul> <p>2.3. Relevant Standards and Guidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CIfA. 2020. Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials.</li> <li>• CIfA. 2022 revision. Code of conduct: professional ethics in archaeology</li> <li>• Any information provided by Receiving Institutions</li> </ul> <p>2.4. It is not envisaged that the selection decisions will deviate from standard guidelines</p>			
<p><b>De-selection</b></p> <p>It is envisaged that the material de-selected from inclusion in the preserved archive will be</p>			

duplicates, re-productions, miscellaneous material, correspondence and GDPR/confidentiality created during the analysis phase of the project. De-selected material will therefore be retained to supplement AW/AE's research files. A copy of the complete digital working archive incl. the preserved archive is stored on AW/AE's server.

### Amendments

Detail any amendments to the above selection strategy here.

Date	Amendment	Rationale	Stakeholders
16/05/25	Physical documentary archive deselected	Full digital copy uploaded to RCAHMMW	AW; RCAHMMW

### Materials

#### Materials Selections Template

No	Find type	Selection Strategy	Stakeholders
3.1	Pottery	Retain until at least after Assessment. Further selection decisions to follow results of assessment.	Specialist; PXM; STORIEL
3.2	CBM	Retain until at least after Assessment. Further selection decisions to follow results of assessment.	Specialist; PXM; STORIEL
3.3	Metals	Retain until at least after Assessment. Further selection decisions to follow results of assessment.	Specialist; PXM; STORIEL
3.4	Worked Stone	Retain until at least after Assessment. Further selection decisions to follow results of assessment.	Specialist; PXM; STORIEL
3.5	Animal Bone	Retain until at least after Assessment. Further selection	Specialist; PXM; STORIEL

		decisions to follow results of assessment.	
3.6	Lithics	Retain until at least after Assessment. Further selection decisions to follow results of assessment.	Specialist; PXM; STORIEL
3.7	Small Finds	Retain until at least after Assessment. Further selection decisions to follow results of assessment.	Specialist; PXM; STORIEL
3.8	Environmental Material	Retain until at least after Assessment. Further selection decisions to follow results of assessment.	Specialist; PXM; STORIEL
3.9	Modern (post 20 <sup>th</sup> C) Material	Note in paperwork and discard on site.	Site Staff; PXM

<b>No</b>	ALL	<b>Material type</b>	All categories
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### Stakeholders

Rhiannon Philp (PX manager), Irene Garcia Rovira (Project Manager),

### Selection

- a) All artefacts are returned to AW/AE Finds and Environmental processing facility and dealt with in accordance with the professional standards set in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials (2020). Selection may also be made prior to deposition based on Society of Museum Archaeologists' Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections guidelines (1993), National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales (2017) and consultation of the receiving institution's deposition guidelines
- b) Selection reviews will be undertaken after the following phases:
  - Fieldwork
  - Assessment
  - Analysis (if required)
  - Archive Completion
- c) Relevant Standards and Guidance:
  - CIfA. 2020. Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials

- Historic England. 2011. Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (second edition)
- Society of Museum Archaeologists. 1993. Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections
- National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales. 2017. The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales

d) It is not envisaged that the selection decisions will deviate from standard guidelines

### Uncollected Material

All material will be collected in the first instance unless obviously modern (plastics/post 20<sup>th</sup> century artefacts).

### De-Selected Material

After assessment stage material may be deselected based on the advice of the relevant material specialist and the requirements of the receiving institution. The selection strategy will be updated to reflect any decision made on de-selected material.

De-selected material will be assessed for educational value and retained/passed to an educational provider if deemed of use. If no further use is identified the de-selected material shall be discarded via Smiths Waste Management and deposited within their South Wales waste processing facility.

### Amendments

Detail any amendments to the above selection strategy here.

Date	Amendment	Rationale	Stakeholders
05/09/2025	Flint core will be offered to STORIEL and kept by AW for reference and education if not acquired.	Not dateable and secondary deposit, so unlikely to be accepted by museum	AW; Specialist; STORIEL

## Data Management Plan

### Section 1: Project Administration

Project ID
3142
Project Name
Beach Road, Y Felinheli
Project Description
Archaeology Wales Ltd was commissioned by Roberts Group to carry out a field evaluation at land at Beach Road, Y Felinheli, Gwynedd LL56 4RX. The work was conducted in advance to the promotion of the site for inclusion within the Local Development Plan (LDP). National Grid Reference: SH 52507 67777.  The local planning authority is Cyngor Gwynedd Council (CGC). A total of twelve trenches were excavated within the proposed development area to assess the presence or absence and character of the archaeological resource within the site.  Archaeological features were encountered within four of the twelve trenches excavated across the site. No datable material was recovered from any of the features excavated across the site.
Project Funder / Grant reference
Roberts Group
Project Manager
Irene Garcia Rovira
Principal Investigator / Researcher
Lucy Morrison
Data Contact Person
Rhiannon Philp (rhiannon.philp@arch-wales.co.uk)
Date DMP created
16.05.25
Date DMP last updated
As above
Version
V2
Related data management policies
This DMP is guided by the Project Brief, CIfA Standards and guidance, trusted digital repository guidelines (RCAHMW) or other best practice guidance (see brief for details)

### Section 2: Data Collection

What data will you collect or create?		
The table below provides a summary of the data types, formats and estimated archive volume for data collected / created as part of this project. As the project progresses, more detail regarding files will be added to this DMP.		
Type	Format	Estimated volume (Data Archived)
Text/documents	PDF (.pdf)	10
Images	Photographs (.jpg)	88



	PDF (.pdf)	1
Spreadsheets	Excel spreadsheet (.xlsx)	1
GIS	Shapefiles (.shp plus associated files)	4 groups

#### How will the data be collected or created?

##### **Data Standards / Methods**

- Standard methods of data collection will be applied throughout the project, working to best practice guidance where applicable / available. In general, data acquisition standards are defined against RCAHMW Guidelines. Specific or additional guidance relevant to this project are listed below, and will
- be updated as the project progresses.
- Methods of collection are specified within the Project Design and will meet the requirement set out in the Project Brief, the organisation recording manual and relevant CIfA Standards and guidance.
- Where appropriate, project contributors external to the organisation will be required to include data standards, collection methodology and metadata with individual reports and data.
- Specific guidance:
  - Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020. Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures.
  - Historic England, 2016. Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice

##### **Data storage / file naming**

- The data produced will be uploaded at regular intervals during the project as a way of backing up the information.
- The working project archive will be stored in a project specific folder on the internal organisational server. The internal organisation server is backed up to a cloud-based storage system to maintain an up-to-date security copy of the organisation wide data.
- Project folders are named following established organisational procedures and the folder hierarchy and organisation devised will be understood by all members of staff involved in the project.
- Data collected will be downloaded and raw data will be stored in the appropriate folder.
- File naming conventions following established organisational procedures, based on RCAHMW file naming guidance, and include version control management.
- The data stored will be checked by the project manager regularly as a means of quality assurance.

#### Section 3: Documentation and metadata

##### What documentation and metadata will accompany the data?

- Data collected will include standard formats which maximise opportunities for use and reuse in the future (see Section 2, above).
- A RCAHMW metadata document will be included with the digital archive and include all data types included within the archive. A working copy will be kept on

the organisational server in the Project Folder. A copy of the form containing HER required data will also be created.

- Data documentation will meet the requirement of the Project Brief, Museum Deposition Guidelines, Digital Repository Guidelines and the methodology described in the Project Design methodology.
- An archive catalogue documenting both physical and digital archive products will be maintained and submitted with both the Museum and Trusted Digital Repository

#### Section 4: Ethics and legal compliance

##### How will you manage any ethical, copyright and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) issues?

- The project archive will include the names and contact details of individuals who intend to volunteer or participate in the excavation and post excavation stages. We have a GDPR compliant Privacy Policy which underpins the management of personal data; any personal data is managed through a secure cloud-based database and not retained on the project specific folders.
- Personal data will be removed from the archaeological project archive and permission to include individual's names in any reporting is gained prior to use.
- Copyright for all data collected by the project team belongs to the organisation, and formal permission to include data from external specialists and contractors is secured on the engagement of the specialist or contractor.
- Where formal permissions and/or license agreements are linked to data sharing, they will be included in the project documentation folders and will accompany the archaeological project archive.

#### Section 5: Data Security: Storage and Backup

##### How will the data be stored, accessed and backed up during the research?

- Organisational IT is managed by an external data management provider, who is also responsible for the management and verification of our daily back-ups and who supports access to security copies as needed
- Sufficient data storage space is available via the organisational server, which includes permissions-based access. The server is accessible by staff on and offsite through a secure log-in
- Off-site access to the project files on the organisation's server is provided to support back-up of raw data while fieldwork is ongoing. Where internet access for data back up is not possible, the raw data will be backed up to a separate media device (such as laptop and portable external hard drive).
- Project files will be shared with external specialists and contractors directly using the same system, with the wider project team gaining access to only the files needed using permissions-based access

#### Section 6: Selection and Preservation

##### Which data should be retained, shared, and/or preserved?

- The Selection Strategy and DMP will be reviewed and updated as part of the Post Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design and following full analysis. Updated documentation will be included in all reporting stages.
- Prior to deposition, the Selection Strategy and DMP will be updated and finalised in agreement with all project stakeholders (including the Local Planning Archaeologist, Client, Museum, RCAHMW).

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection will be informed by the Project Design, defined against the research aims, regional and national research frameworks, specialist advice and the significance of the project results.</li> <li>• The project will be published as an online technical report (accessible via RCAHMW and as part of this archive), with full access to research data.</li> <li>• The data archive will be ordered, with files named and structured in a logical manner, and accompanied by relevant documentation and metadata, as outlined in Sections 2 and 3 of this DMP.</li> <li>• Deselection will be undertaken automatically on any duplicate or unusable files, such as blurry or superfluous photographs.</li> </ul>
What is the long-term preservation plan for the dataset?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The digital archive will be deposited with the RCAHMW, which is working towards becoming a certified repository with Core Trust Seal.</li> <li>• The archive will be prepared for deposition by the project team and the costs for the time needed for preparation, and the cost of deposition have been included in the project budget.</li> </ul>
Have you contacted the data repository?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AW has an ongoing agreement with the RCAHMW who the intended repository for digital data are.</li> </ul>
Have the costs of archiving been fully considered?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A costing estimate has been produced to allow for the preparation of the archive and has been included in the project budget.</li> </ul>

## Section 7: Data Sharing

How will you share the data and make it accessible?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The museum and digital archive repository and will be updated as the project progresses.</li> <li>• The investigations have resulted in the following documents: Project Design, Archaeological Field Evaluation Report</li> <li>• A final version of the project report will be supplied to the Historic Environment Record, and any data which they request can also be provided directly.</li> <li>• The location (s) of the final Archaeological Archive will be included in the final report</li> </ul>
Are any restrictions on data sharing required?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A temporary embargo may be required on the sharing of the project results. If this is the case, specific details once agreed will be included in the updated version of this DMP and will be documented in the overarching Project Collection Metadata.</li> <li>• Data specific requirements, ethical issues or embargos which are linked to particular data formats will be documented within the relevant metadata tables accompanying the project archive</li> </ul>

## Section 8: Responsibilities

Who will be responsible for implementing the data management plan?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Project Manager and Post Excavation Manager will be responsible for implementing the DMP, and ensuring it is reviewed and revised at each stage of the project.</li> <li>• Data capture, metadata production and data quality is the responsibility of the Project Team, assured by the Project Manager and Post Excavation Manager.</li> </ul>

- Storage and backup of data in the field is the responsibility of the field team.
- Once data is incorporated into the organisations project server, storage and backup is managed by an external company.
- Data archiving is undertaken by the project team under the guidance of the Post Excavation Manager, who is responsible for the transfer of the Archaeological Project Archive to the agreed repository.
- Details of the core project team can be found in the Project Design.

