

Results of Archaeological Works at
Land adjacent to Ty Capel, Chapel Street,
Newborough, Ynys Môn

NGR SH 42457 65538



Report Number CR66-2015



C.R Archaeology

Compiled by C. Rees & M. Jones

On Behalf of Isle of Mr Griffith Lloyd Hughes

Acknowledgements

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Results of Archaeological Works at Land adjacent to Ty Capel, Chapel Street, Newborough, Ynys Môn

Planning Reference Number:	45C149C & 45C149D
National Grid Reference:	SH 42457 65538
Client:	Mr Griffith Lloyd Hughes
Report Authors:	Catherine Rees
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1.0 Introduction

C.R Archaeology were instructed by Mr Griffith Lloyd Hughes to conduct archaeological works at the above site in compliance with planning conditions placed on the development (Planning Reference: 45C149C & 45C149D). The proposed development site is situated on Chapel Street, Newborough (figure 1) and initially planning permission had been granted to erect 6 houses with associated access, parking and services. This design was later modified and 5 rather than 6 structures were agreed upon. Proposed development plans are shown in Appendix A.

The site lies within the Anglesey Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and is near the Newborough Warren and Scheduled Ancient Monument AN129 Llys Rhosyr.

The town of Newborough was established in 1303 by Edward I to accommodate the displaced inhabitants of Llanfaes who were displaced by the construction of Beaumaris. It was built near the existing native settlement of Llys Rhosyr, the traditional maerdref and regional administrative centre of the commote of Menai. Although, other than the church, no upstanding Medieval buildings survive within the town it is still possible to trace the layout of the Medieval street pattern and burgage plots which are centred on the cross roads at Malltraeth - Chapel Streets/ Church - Pen-Dref Streets. It was noted that the application site is located within this pattern of plots and it was considered possible that Medieval dwellings and associated activity would be uncovered during works. It was also felt to be possible that activity may be found which relates to the earlier settlement associated with the aforementioned Rhosyr, and that given the location of the development area between the old and new sites there may also be evidence for the extents of the two sites and the relationship between them.

An initial specification (CR65-2014, see Appendix A) was written with reference to a “Design Brief for Archaeological Mitigation” by Development Control Archaeologist Jenny Emmett of Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services (dated 18th March 2014) as a methodology for an Archaeological Watching Brief. During works significant archaeological remains were uncovered and following the modification of the housing layout and the resubmission of the planning application a second modified specification (CR69-2014) was produced which included provision for Strip, Map and Record in the sensitive areas in the vicinity of the remains previously uncovered (see Appendix B).

Structural remains were uncovered during works which are believed to relate to the Medieval period of the sites history and are thought to be wall and yard remnants. Interestingly within the roughly laid floor area of this structure were found four grit-stone hand querns and a grit millstone .

Although unstratified there were a number of artefacts recovered from the site. These included a pebble flint thumbnail scraper, a Medieval green-glaze jug handle and an undated whetstone.

These remains are considered to be highly significant as although Newborough is known to be a transplanted Medieval settlement, to date relatively little archaeological evidence of the Medieval town has been uncovered although recent works undertaken by C.R Archaeology in the vicinity of this development have uncovered further structural remains also thought to be of Medieval origin.

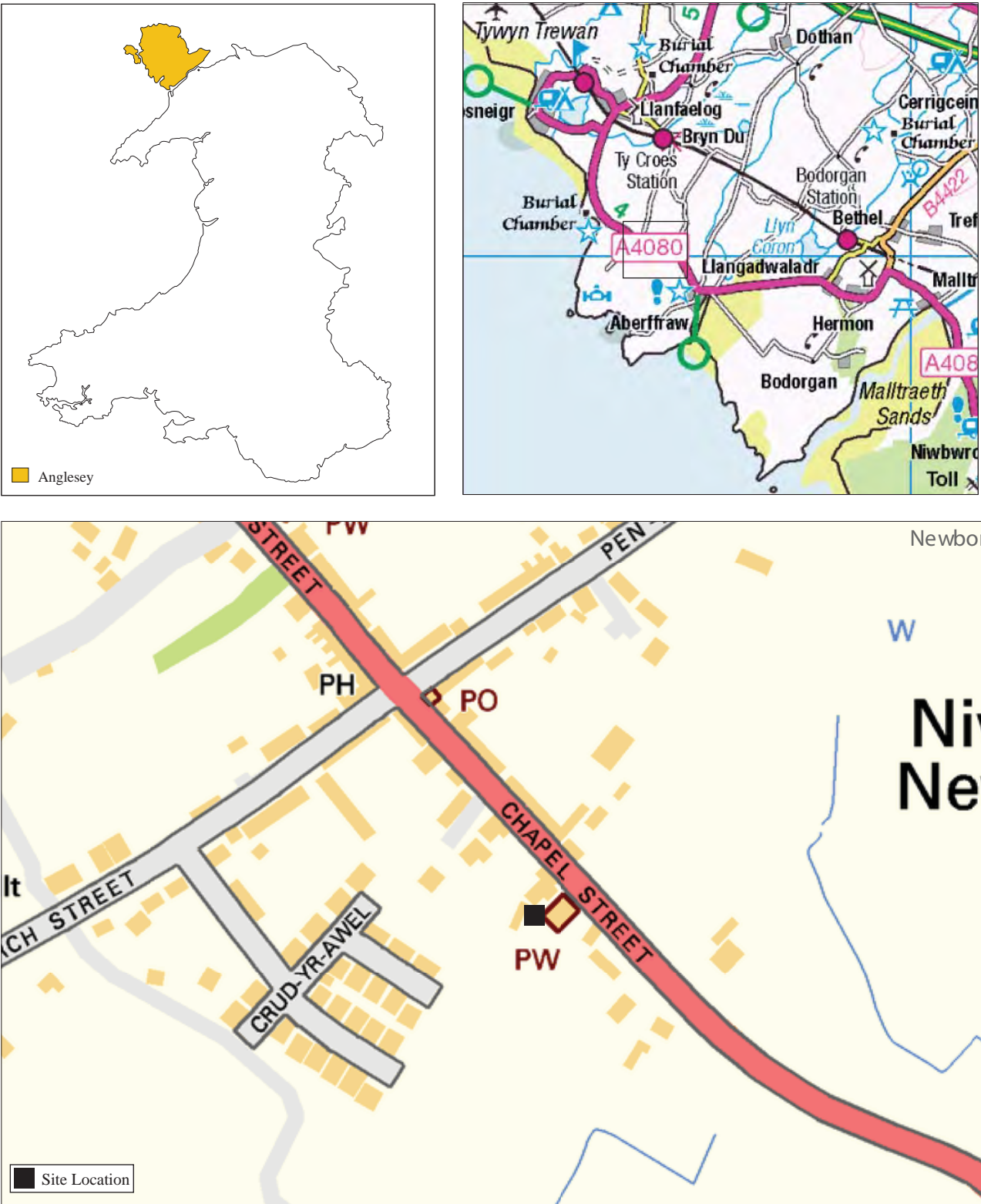


Figure 1. Site Location Map

(Source: OS Open Data Mapping. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2014])

2.0 Project Aims & Objectives

This initial aim of this scheme of works was to monitor groundworks at the site in order to assess the survival, character and date of any archaeological remains and to excavate/record any archaeological remains uncovered.

Following the commencement of works contingency measures were put in place to amend the watching brief to include the provision that in the area adjacent to the remains of a stone building uncovered on the site will be stripped to the archaeological horizon/natural rather than the development depth. This was conducted with the aim of uncovering and excavating/recording any further remains/artefacts/dating evidence related to this structure.

This project aimed to fulfil the criteria for undertaking an Archaeological Watching Brief/Excavation as specified in the CIfA Standard and Guidance documents (2014).

The objectives of this programme of works were:

- To assess the survival, character and date of any archaeological remains
- To excavate/record any archaeological remains uncovered

3.0 Scheme of Works – Methodology

The methodologies employed will conform to The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (2014).

3.1 Desk Based Research

A history of the site was compiled utilising information sourced from Anglesey Record Office, Bangor University Archives and the Gwynedd Historic Environment Office. A full map progression was be undertaken along with a search of tithe records.

The Gwynedd Historic Environment Record was consulted and a search radius of 500m examined.

These works were carried out in accordance with the CIfA Standards and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment (2014).

This material will form the historical background for a full archaeological report. The report will include the results of the Archaeological Watching Brief.

3.2 Archaeological Watching Brief

The archaeological watching brief monitored all groundworks undertaken on the site. This included all topsoil and subsoil stripping and the excavation of access roads, parking, house foundations and all service trenches.

A C.R Archaeology staff member was present during the machine excavation of all groundworks. This work was undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. When archaeological remains were encountered then machine excavation ceased at this level until it is clear in plan that the full extent of any features have been uncovered within the development area.

Due to the significance of archaeological features uncovered a revised methodology was produced with the amendment that certain areas of the site were to be stripped down to the natural rather than the development depth. The extent of this stripped area is shown on figure 13.

C.R Archaeology notified GAPS as the date of the commencement of works and the presence of significant archaeological features which were uncovered. A site visit was arranged to allow for the inspection of works and a mitigation strategy was agreed.

All archaeological remains/potential archaeological remains identified during the stripping of the site were marked using spray paint and cordoned off to allow for excavation by C.R Archaeology staff. All archaeological features, structures or remains were trowel cleaned by hand. Investigation of such features, structures or deposits was sufficient to determine their character, date, significance and quality. No features yielded suitable material for dating/environmental processing.

Fieldwork was conducted and managed by Matthew Jones (MA) and Catherine Rees (MA) of C.R Archaeology.

3.2.1 Recording

The record forms at C.R Archaeology are based on the English Heritage system and full written, graphic and photographic records were made in accordance with the English Heritage *Field Recording Manual*. The written record comprises completed *pro-forma* record sheets.

Plans, sections and elevations were produced on gridded, archive standard stable polyester film at scales of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50, as appropriate. Representative measured sections were prepared as appropriate showing the sequence and depths of deposits. A temporary benchmark (TBM) was established on the site and plans, elevations and sections will contain grid and level information which where possible will be calculated relative to OS data. All drawings were numbered and listed in a drawing register, these drawing numbers being cross-referenced to written site records. A 'harris matrix' diagram was created.

A high-resolution 14.2mp Sony Alpha digital camera was used to create a photographic record of the site. This is comprised of photographs of archaeological features and appropriate groups of features and structures. Included in each photograph was an appropriate scale and north arrow. General photographs were also taken in the event of a negative result.

All photographic records were indexed and cross-referenced to written site records. Details concerning subject and direction of view are maintained in a photographic register, indexed by frame number. Images from photography will be stored in a loss-less digital format in this case '*.TIF'.

3.2.2 Additional Mitigation/Contingency Measures

Due to the significant archaeological discovery made during the excavation C.R Archaeology immediately informed both the client and the development control archaeologist. Consultation took place between C.R Archaeology, GAPS and the client with regards to the most suitable course of action.

An amended specification (CR69-2014) was produced which detailed an additional methodology for an area of Strip, Map and Record in the vicinity of the uncovered structural remains.

No human remains or artefacts that fall within the scope of the Treasure Act 1996 were encountered during site work.

3.2.3 Recovery, Processing and Curation of Artefactual Material

All recovered artefactual material was retained, cleaned, labelled and stored according to *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (IfA 2008)* and *First Aid for Finds (Watkinson & Neal 2001)*. The aim will be to create a stable, ordered, well-documented, accessible material archive forming a resource for current and future research (CIfA 2014).

All artefactual material was bagged and labelled with the site code and context number prior to removal from site. The archive reference number will be clearly marked on all finds.

Each assemblage was examined according to typological or chronological criteria and conservation needs identified. An assessment report of all Medieval and post-medieval material was produced by Matthew Jones. A report on the flint was written by Kathryn Price.

No specialist conservation was necessary.

Following analysis all archaeological material recovered will be deposited in Oriel Mon Museum. Processed assemblages will be boxed according to issued guidelines and a register of contents compiled prior to deposition.

The works were carried out in accordance with The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (2014).

3.2.4 Archive Compilation

All records created during the fieldwork were checked for consistency and accuracy and form part of the *Primary Site Archive (P1)* (EH 2006). The archive contains all data collected, including records and other specialist materials. It will be ordered, indexed, adequately documented, internally consistent, secure, quantified, conforming to standards required by the archive repository and signposted appropriately to ensure future use in research, as detailed in the English Heritage *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) methodology.

The archive has been assembled in accordance with the guidelines published in, *Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections* (Museums & Galleries Commission 1994), *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage* (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 1990) and *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (AAF 2007).

All materials contained within the *Primary Site Archive (P1)* that were subsequently identified by the *Assessment Report (P2)* as appropriate for analysis were processed by suitable specialists and the resultant *Research Archive (P3)* was checked and ordered according to *MoRPHE* criteria.

All archive/artefactual material created/discovered during this archaeological project will be deposited in Oriel Mon Museum. Archive material will be deposited in accordance with the museum's terms and conditions for archive deposition.

3.3 Timetable for Proposed Works

Ground works commenced on Monday March 24th 2014 and were carried out on a day rate basis with staff attending the site as necessary. The first phase of archaeological works were conducted between the 24th March and the 4th April, with a second phase of works between the 7th and 9th July 2014. The final site works were conducted on the 13th May 2015. Additional time was allotted for archive research, report compilation and site archiving. Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services were informed of the exact site days to allow monitoring of works.

3.4 Staffing

The project was managed by Matthew Jones (BA (Archaeology), MA (Archaeology)). All projects are carried out in accordance with CIfA *Standard and Guidance* documents.

3.5 Monitoring

The project was subject to monitoring by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services. The monitor was given prior notice of the commencement of the fieldwork.

They were notified in writing (via email) of the commencement dates for archaeological site work and were updated with the results of all works conducted as watching brief elements/strip & map. This was initially as an telephone call & email with attached JPEG photographs.

3.6 Health and Safety

A risk assessment was conducted prior to the commencement of works and site staff were familiarised with its contents. A first aid kit was located in the site vehicle.

All staff were issued with appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the site work. This consisted of:

- Safety Helmets (EN397)
- Hi-visibility vests (EN471)
- Safety footwear – steel toecap and mid-sole boots and Wellingtons (EN345-47)

All staff have passed a CITB health and safety test at operative level and carry a Construction Related Organisation (CRO) White Card for Archaeological Technician (Code 5363) or a Site Visitor card.

C.R Archaeology staff also complied with any Health and Safety Policy or specific on-site instructions provided by the client or their appointed Principal contractor or H&S coordinator.

3.7 The Report

This report clearly and accurately incorporates information gained from the programme of archaeological works. It presents the documentary evidence gathered in such a way as to create a clear and coherent record. The report contains a site plan showing the locations of photographs taken.

This report includes:

- A copy of the design brief and agreed specification
- A location plan
- All identified features and significant finds plotted on an appropriately scaled site plan
- Full dimensional and descriptive detail of all identified finds and features
- A full bibliography of sources consulted
- An archive compact disc

A copy of the report in Adobe PDF format will be sent to the appropriate monitoring archaeologist for approval before formal submission. A bound paper copy and PDF digital copy of the report will be submitted as part of the formal submission. A digital Adobe PDF version and a bound paper copy of the final report and will be lodged with the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record within six months of completion of fieldwork. An article will be submitted to the Archaeology in Wales Journal and the site archive including copies of all photographs in RAW and Tiff format will be deposited the local museum.

3.7.1 Copyright

C.R Archaeology and sub-contractors shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides a licence to the client and the local authority for the use of the report by the client and the local authority in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

4.0 Topological & Geological Background

4.1 Topography

The site is located on the outskirts of the town of Newborough in the Hundred of Malltraeth, Southern Anglesey. The Newborough area is characterised thus in the Ynys Mon Landscape Characterisation Survey:

“The area is formed by an extensive dune system and associated streams, inlets and inter-tidal zone. This forms a distinct landscape unit on the south western promontory of Anglesey.

The majority of the area has been planted earlier this century with conifers and as a consequence it forms a distinct visual feature, especially when seen from the mainland. When approaching Anglesey from the A487, the initial glimpses of the trees announce an impending arrival at Anglesey. It also forms an important refuge for the native Red Squirrel.

Inland, the ground rises slightly, and the settlement of Newborough can be found. This forms an important historic and cultural influence over the landscape. The settlement dates from the medieval period and has resulted from the dispersal of the people of Llanfaes further along the Strait when Beaumaris was developed” (www.anglesey.gov.uk).

4.2 Geology

The superficial geology of the site is recorded as *“Till, Devensian - Diamicton. Superficial Deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. Local environment previously dominated by ice age conditions. These rocks were formed in cold periods with Ice Age glaciers scouring the landscape and depositing moraines of till with outwash sand and gravel deposits from seasonal and post glacial meltwaters”*. The bedrock is described as *“Central Anglesey Shear Zone And Berw Shear Zone (undifferentiated) - Schist, Hornblende. Metamorphic Bedrock formed approximately 508 to 635 million years ago in the Cambrian and Ediacaran Periods. Original rocks without interpretation. Later crushed in fault zone or shear zone. These rocks have undergone low grade metamorphism, high grade regional metamorphism, or crushing in a fault or shear zone and it is not known whether they were of igneous, sedimentary or older metamorphic origin”* (www.bgs.ac.uk).

5.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

Research was conducted at Anglesey and Bangor Archives and relevant information from this search is included below. Where the exact location of find spots/sites are unknown this information is included only if it is felt relevant to provide an indication of the archaeology of the area.

A search of the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record was conducted covering a 500m radius from the central point of the development (SH 42457 65538). The main features mentioned in the text are shown on a map in Appendix B.

5.1 Prehistoric/ Romano-British

There were no Prehistoric remains recorded within the 500m search radius.

Although lying over 1000m from the site there are a number of shell middens recorded at Newborough Warren. Finds have included a bone needle of possible Mesolithic date and Neolithic flint implements including scrapers and arrow heads (Lynch 1991:45, 116-7, 125). Sherds of Beaker pottery have been collected from a rock outcrop on Newborough Warren (ibid 124).

5.2 Early Medieval

There are no records of an Early Medieval date within the 500m search radius of the site.

Pennant notes the discovery of a standing stone near the site of the chapel and the site of the old royal palace. The inscription on the stone was recorded as 'Cur... Filius Curbicini Erexit Hunc Lapidem' ('Cur... Son Curbicini Set up This Stone). A second reading of the inscription reads Curbicini as Ulrici which has led to the interpretation that the stone is of Viking origin (Rhys J 1883, vol 3:2).

5.3 Medieval

Rhosyr was the native township and administrative centre of the commote of Menai prior to the Norman Conquest. Carr (1987: 267) suggests that an attack carried out by Norman forces in 1157 on the Church's of St Peter's and St Mary's could be a reference to Rhosyr, and the Charter rolls record a Llywelyn ab Iorwerth signing a charter from Rosver in 1237 (Johnstone & Riley 1995: 50).

PRN 3195 is the number attributed to the Medieval town itself and the HER entry summaries the key points “*Newborough was established in AD1300 to house the dispossessed tenants of the town and former maerdref of Llanfaes. It is of considerable historical interest and much of the original layout of a planned medieval borough still survives in the pattern of streets and property boundaries. Newborough received its charter in 1303, was celebrated in the poetry of Dafydd ap Gwilym in the 14th century, was county town of Anglesey and returned a member of parliament in the 16th century*”.

The town was established in Edward I and market tolls were recorded at Newborough for 1302-3. However the locating of the town so near to the dune area was problematic and the land suffered periods of inundation and following a violent storm in 1332 186 acres of borough land and eleven cottages were lost (Johnstone & Riley 1995: 50). The effects of this storm were so severe that during the years 1359-60 the rents from the manor of Rhosyr continued to be paid at a reduced rate (Carr 1982: 24).

The revolt of Owain Glyndwr in the early 1400's also had a heavy impact on the town of Newborough and it is recorded that 19 burgage plots were burnt (Carr 1982: 261).

There are several Medieval structures, or the remains of structures located with the search area. These include the native settlement at Llys Rhosyr, St Peter's Church, and the possible site of a windmill.

Llys Rhosyr (PRN 899) consists of the excavated remains of a Royal Welsh court of the Welsh kingdom of Gwynedd. It was the maerdref or manorial court of the administrative area of the Commote of Menai, a large area comprising the whole of the south-west corner of Anglesey.

The site location was confirmed by trial excavation by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust in 1992. This initial work was followed by 3 further seasons during which an area some 60m by 60m was uncovered which revealed a complex of stone foundations which were interpreted as a hall and chamber block. Finds from the site included coinage of the 13th century, medieval pottery, an iron spur, knife and key and a ring brooch, also thought to be of 13th century date.

In 1305 the men of the commote of Menia asked for timber to re-build the hall of the manor of Rhosyr (Carr 1982: 20) which suggests that buildings associated with the earlier township were still in use after the conquest.

The Church of St Peters (PRN's 2623 & 7051) is believed to have been established as a domestic chapel for Llys Rhosyr, with the church rebuilt in the 14th Century following the Edwardian conquest. It is recorded in the HER as *“A long narrow church with a south porch and vestry, probably of the C14th but much restored over time. It is associated with the pre-conquest Llys of Rhosyr, and the Edwardian borough. The rectangular cemetery is bounded by a modern wall and is entered to the east of the church, with a path cut through sand deposits to the south porch. The chancel is C14th, datable by the windows which are typical of English work of the period, and the piscina in the south wall. The chancel arch is C19th in date. The nave also appears to be of this date, but the heavy rendering makes it difficult to date. The church was restored in 1850 when the buttresses were added, the south windows of the nave inserted and the chancel arch built. The vestry was added in 1886. There are C9th-C11th carved stone fragments in the vestry and the carved cylindrical font is of the C12th. There are three C14th sepulchral slabs and the nave has a C14th stone bracket carved with a human head. The porch houses a medieval stoup and there are two family memorials dated 1689 and 1803 within the church”*.

Although not strictly within the 500m search radius there is a Medieval structure recorded in the HER as Melin Rhosyr or Melin Bryn, the possible site of medieval mill (PRN 36123) built in 1303 has been suggested to the north west of the site (Davidson 2002). This site has been included given the discovery of a millstone, quite conceivably from this structure, during the site work.

5.4 Post-Medieval/Modern

In historic sources it is recorded that Newborough did regain some prominence during the 16th century and from 1507 – 1549 it was the county town for Anglesey. This renaissance was however short lived and following the transfer of the county court to Beaumaris in 1549 the town went into decline (Carr 182: 265).

There are four records of Post-Medieval/Modern date within a 500m search radius of the site. These sites are The Prichard Jones Institute, Capel Ebeneser, Hedre Fawr and Hendre Bach. These sites are detailed in Appendix B.

5.4.1 Cartographic Sources

Estate, Tithe and Ordnance Survey maps have been sourced which show the site from the late Eighteenth to mid Twentieth Century. For ease of interpretation the approximate location of the development area is marked in red on each document.

The earliest map is dated 1788, although it is noted in the archive register that is believed to have been copied from an earlier source. The map is included as figure 2 and shows a number of burgage plots and the familiar layout of the town around a crossroads containing the market cross. The development area is labelled as glebe land and it is only possible to precisely locate the development area due to its proximity to the chapel next door. This is also the case for three later documents produced in 1801, (figure 3), 1813 (see figure 4) and 1820 (figure 5).

The first map which could be sourced which showed this area of Newborough in any detail was an estate map produced for the Mostyn Estate, also in 1820. The plot is shown as it appears today (figure 6).

The 1837 Tithe Map (figure 7) shows no changes to the plot from the boundaries of the 1820 estate map. This map, although schematic shows the plot boundaries for all neighbouring land parcels and has been used by Lilley (2010: 103) to determine the locations of the original burgage plots of which this land parcel is one (see figure 8).

Figures 9 – 12 show the Ordnance Survey maps of Newborough dating from 1888 to 1953. These documents show the plot outlines as they appear today. There are no buildings shown within the development area. No change to the plot is recorded between 1888 and 1953.

Previous Archaeological Works Conducted in Newborough

Archaeological works have been previously carried out near the development area by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (1979 & 1996), Engineering Archaeological Solutions Ltd (2013) and C.R Archaeology (2015).

These works are all focused on the same development area fronting onto Malltraeth Street and Church Street and demonstrated the potential for surviving Medieval deposits

6.0 Results of Archaeological Works

The ground works for the Chapel Street development were carried out in three stages. This being the case for ease of discussion the following results section will be subdivided into these separate elements. All areas and feature locations are marked on figure 13.

The basic site stratigraphy was consistent over the site as a whole and therefore will be outlined once rather than repeated for each area.

Context (01) was turf and top soil layer. This layer covered the whole the site and was a brown silty sand. It contained rare inclusions of small rounded and angular stone. It was 0.25 - 0.32 meters in depth. This deposit contained a large concentration of late nineteenth and early twentieth century pottery mixed together with considerable quantities of modern rubbish along the Chapel Road entrance. This material was not collected.

Context (02) was a subsoil below (01) and also covered the whole site. It was a dark brown thick silt sand with rare inclusions of small rounded and angular stones. It was 0.40 - 0.50 meters in depth.



Figure 2. Extract of 1788 Penrhos Estate Map
(Source: Bangor University Archives)



Figure 3. Extract of 1801 Penrhos Estate Map
(Source: Bangor University Archives)

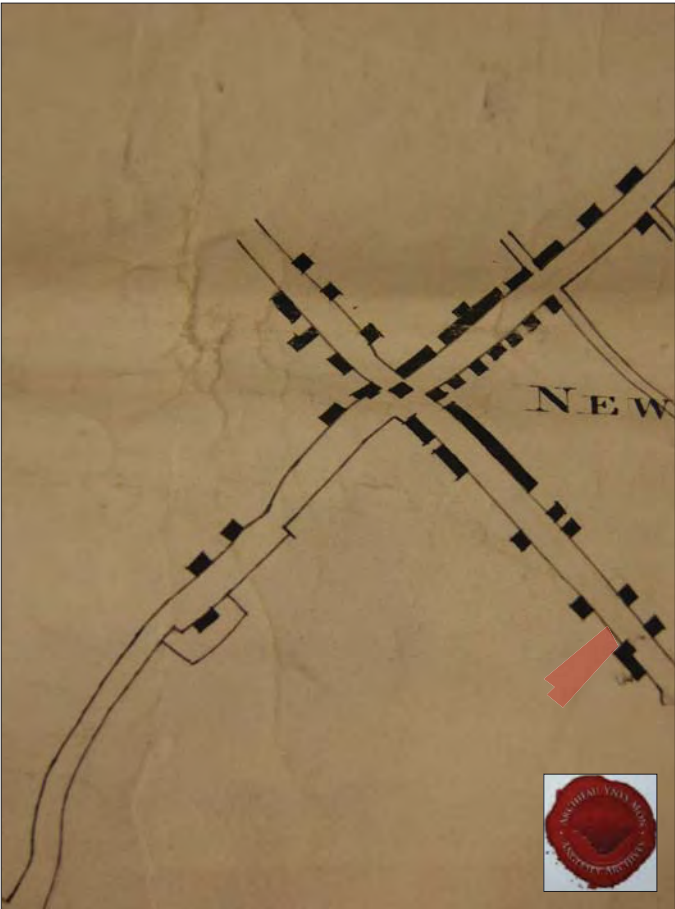


Figure 4. 1813 Map Prepared as Part of Enclosure Awards
(Source: Anglesey Archives)

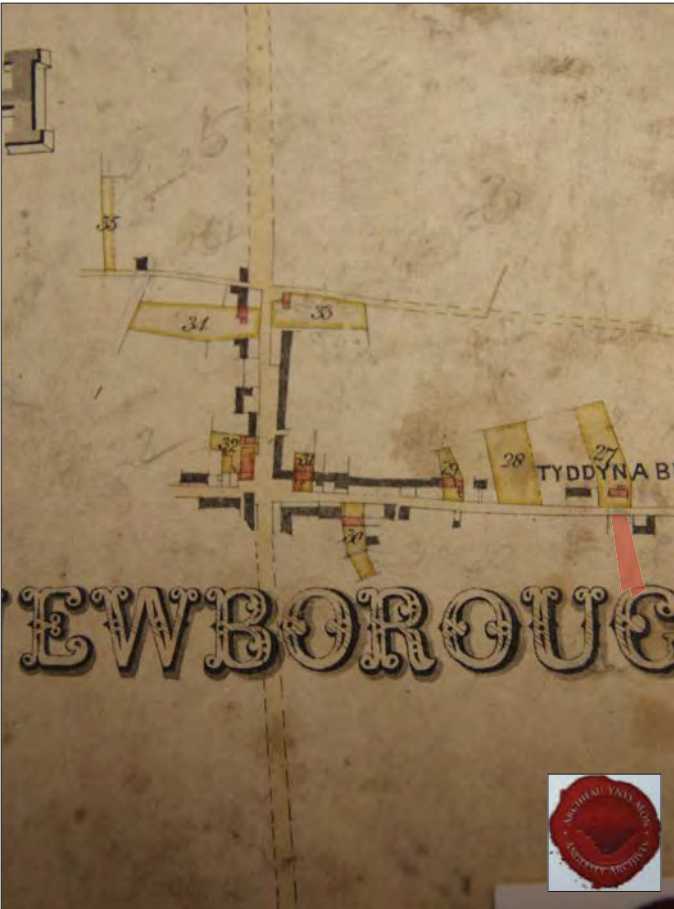


Figure 5. Extract of 1820 Estate Map
(Source: Anglesey Archives)

Figure 7. 1837 Tithe Map of Newborough
(Source: Anglesey Archives)

Figure 8. Map of Burgage Plots in Newborough
As Determined from Earlier Cartographic Sources
(Source: Lilley 2010: 103)



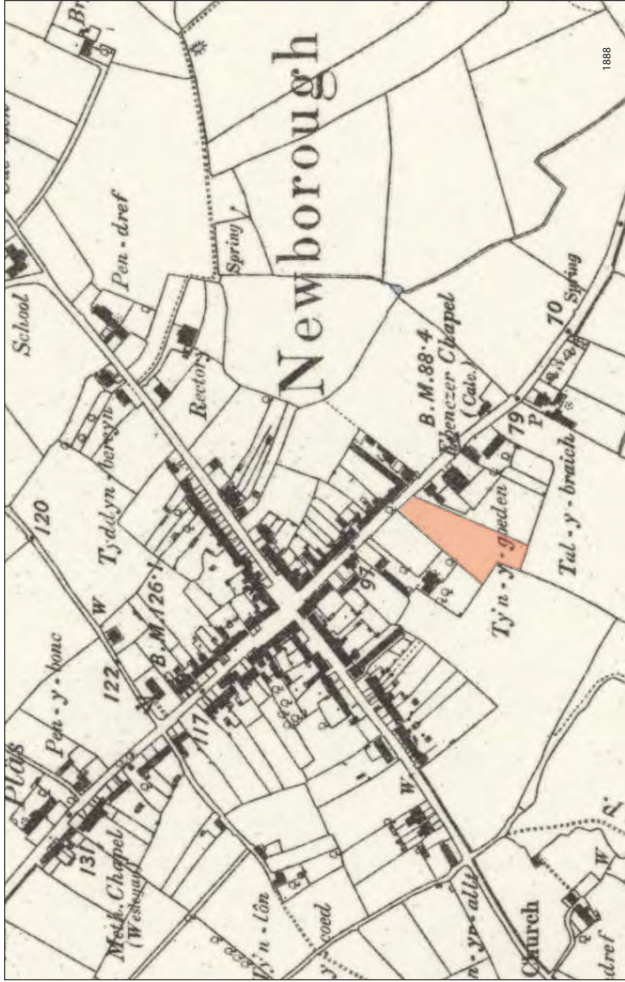


Figure 9. 1888 Ordnance Survey Map of Newborough

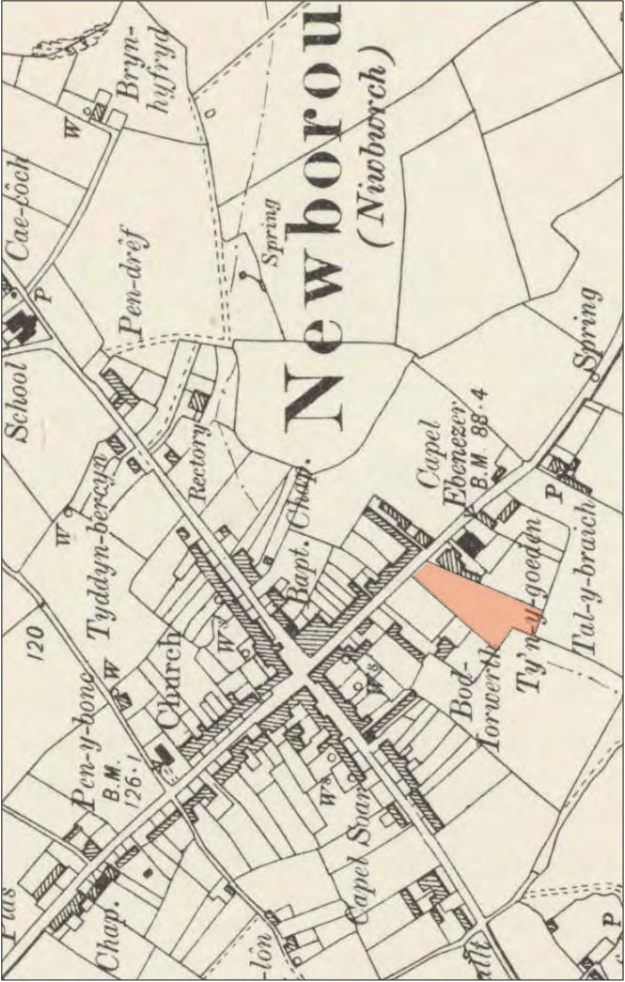


Figure 10. 1901 Ordnance Survey Map of Newborough

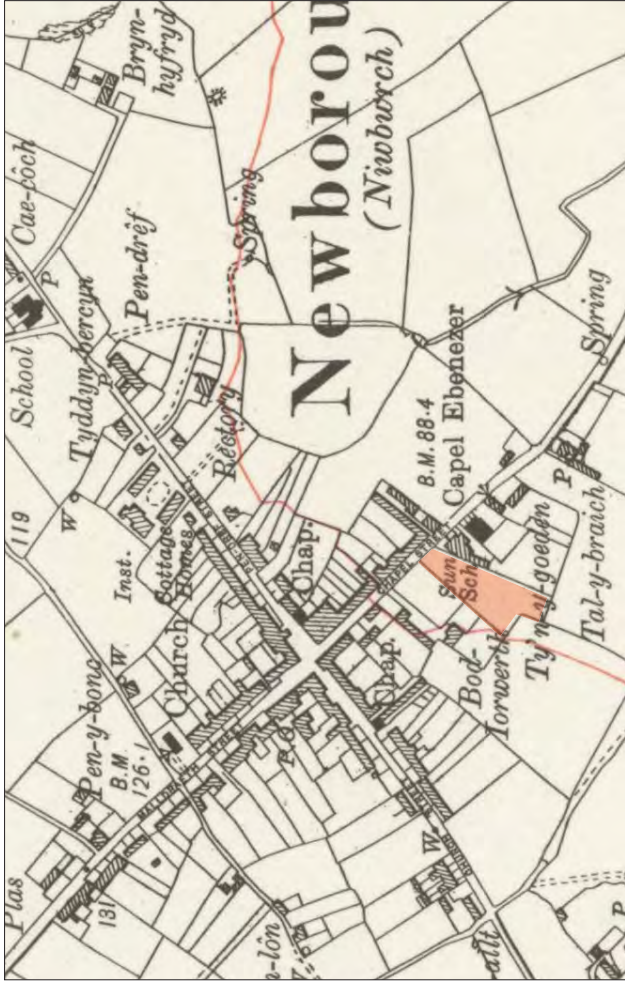


Figure 11. 1926 Ordnance Survey Map of Newborough



Figure 12. 1953 Ordnance Survey Map of Newborough

The natural (context (03) in this area was a light brown sandy clay with no inclusions. The archaeological horizon was located between the subsoil and the natural.

Area 1 - Access and Roadway (Plates 1 – 12, Figures 13 & 14)

The first stage of the development was the excavation and back filling (stoning) of the access track. The track (marked in red on figure 13) runs on a north-east south-west axis for approximate overall length of 80 meters. It had an approximate width of 4 meters and a maximum depth of 0.80 meters. This depth was below the level of the natural and all overlying deposits were removed. The track breeched the wall at the centre of the Chapel Street frontage, and ran for a distance of approximately 30 meters. At this point it bent towards the south-west and continued along the edge of the boundary wall between the plot and the adjoining chapel graveyard. A water pipe runs along the south-east site boundary. Sample shots are included as plates 1 and 2.

A single oval pit (context [04]) was identified approximately 3 meters from the entrance of the north-western section of the strip (see plate 3). It was 2 meters in length and 1 meter in width at its central point. It survived to a maximum depth of and 0.24 meters. Its contained a single fill (05) which was a brown grey sandy silt which contained glass and corroded iron. This feature was clearly of modern origin.

A large concentration of stone was encountered approximately 18 meters from the site entrance. Hand excavation uncovered the remains of a small structure comprising a stone wall (06) together with an associated roughly laid floor surface (07) and a stone capped drain (16). These features are shown in figure 14 and plates 4 - 12. Within the subsoil above the structure was found a single stone quern fragment which is thought to have been ploughed out of the building floor.

Where the wall was surviving it was found to have been constructed using large squarish stones within a clay matrix. Voids within the wall facing were filled using smaller stones which had been embedded into the clay. The wall was orientated on an east-west axis and a length of 2.5 meters had survived. The wall terminated with a single large stone measuring 1.0m by 0.6m by 0.4m in height. This stone was utilised as a corner stone and from this the wall return continued 1.5 meters on a north-south axis.

Within the area enclosed by this wall were the remains of roughly laid stone floor which covered a maximum area of c. 4m by c. 4m. The stones in this floor were of mixed size and were flat and sub-angular in shape. The remains of 4 damaged quern stones were found laid within the floor layer and these will be discussed in the finds section. The floor was a single stone in thickness – on average 0.05cm and the stones had been pressed directly into the underlying natural.

Within this floor layer was a stone lined drain with a stone lintel capping (15) which was at the same level as the floor layer. This feature ran on a north-east to south-west axis for a distance of 3.5m and was 0.80m in width (this measurement included the side stones). The internal space was 0.32m in width and 0.13m in depth.

Other than the quern stones which had been used as flooring material there was no artefactual material associated with the building remains. This building is however believed to be of Medieval date and given the presence of one possible mill stone is thought likely to postdate the establishment of the Medieval Borough. The rather rough appearance of the building and in particular the poorly laid floor, and the paucity of material culture is indicative of either a low status “peasant” house or quite possibly an outbuilding for a structure located on the roadside element of the Burgess plot.

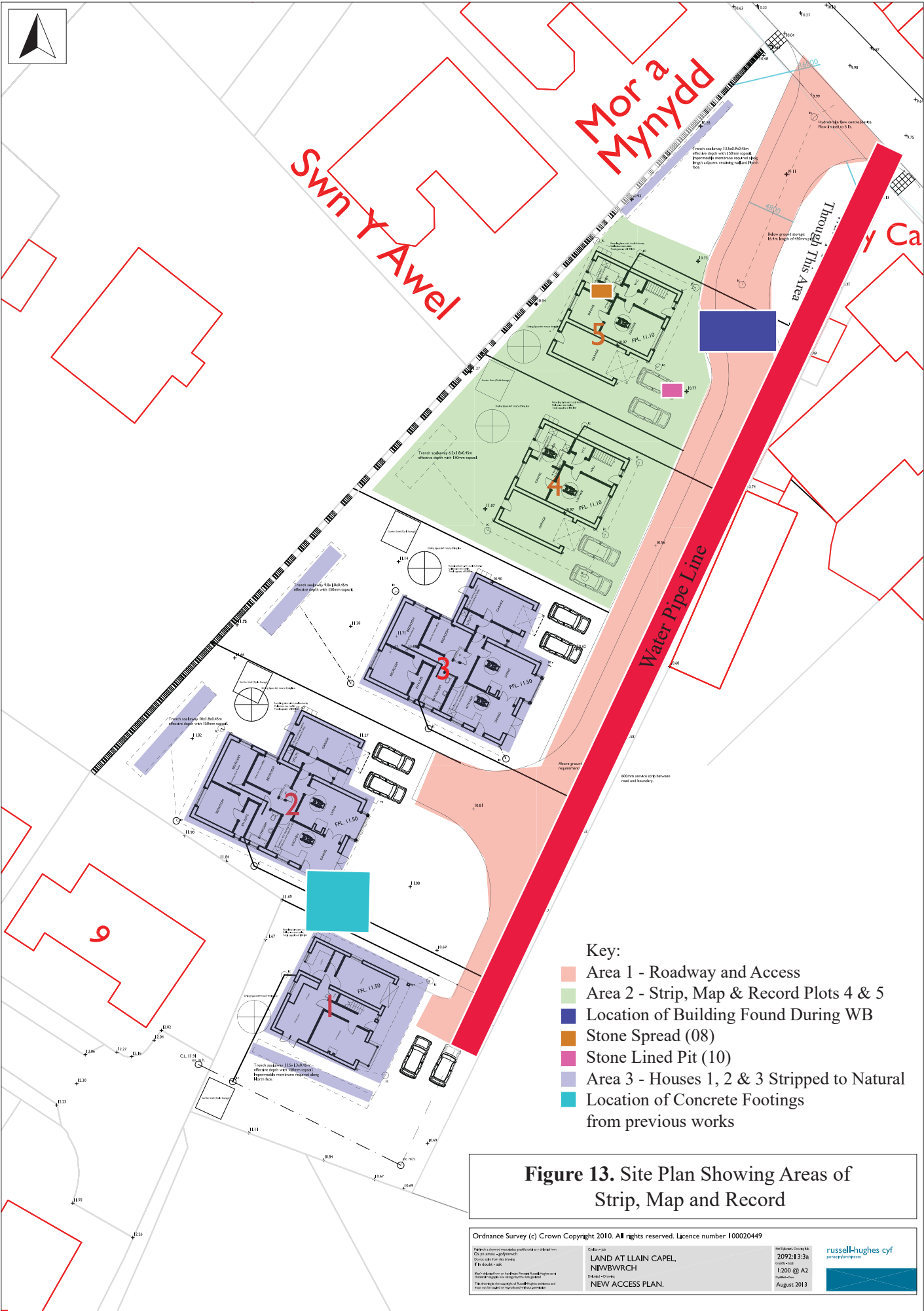




Plate 1. Sample Showing Area Stripped for Road



Plate 2. Sample Section in Area Stripped for Road



Plate 3. Post Medieval Pit in Road Area



Plate 4. Remains of Medieval Building Uncovered During the First Phase of Works



Plate 5. Remains of Medieval Building Uncovered During the First Phase of Works



Plate 6. Remains of Medieval Building



Plate 7. Remains of Medieval Building Uncovered During the First Phase of Works - Detailed Shot of Wall



Plate 8. Remains of Medieval Building Uncovered During the First Phase of Works



Plate 9. Stone Drain in Medieval Building



Plate 10. Area of Laid Stone Floor Within Medieval Building



Plate 11. Remains of Medieval Building Showing Patches of Surviving Stone Floor and Drain



Plate 12. Section Through Stone Drain



Figure 14. Plan of Medieval Stone Structure Excavated within Roadway

Area 2 - House Platforms 4 & 5 (Figures 13, 15 & 16)

Due to the significance of the structure described above the site methodology for this area was modified from a Watching Brief to Strip, Map and Record and thus an area measuring approximately 25m at its widest point, 10m at its narrowest and 30m in length was stripped to the natural level. This area corresponded to the area occupied by house plots 4 & 5.

Two features were identified within this area, although no evidence was recovered from either which would explain their date, function or use. Both features were sealed by the subsoil and were cut into/sitting upon the natural.

A single uneven spread of stones (08) measuring approximately 1m by 0.5m wide at its widest point was uncovered. A slot was hand excavated through this feature which showed it to be a single stone thick and not to be in any cut. It is possible that this was simply levelling or stone laid in a wet patch. This feature is shown in figure 15 and plates 13 & 14.

Feature (10) was a sub-rectangular pit which on discovery appeared to be a child-sized cist burial. Four flat stones (context (09) had been used to cover the feature but on excavation it was found to be shallow with a maximum depth of just 0.16m. Three small stones had pressed into the underlying natural and one of these was below one of the flat stones. The cut of the feature had steep sides and a flat base and contained a single grey sand-silt fill (11). It was orientated on a north-east - south-west axis and measured 1m by 0.4m at its widest point. It is unclear as to the function of this pit or the reason for the stones lining what appears to be its base. It would seem likely that the pit was originally deeper and that it has been truncated by later land use, and one cannot fully discount the possibility that these stones represent the base of a cist burial. It is however equally likely that the stone lined feature had a more mundane storage function and was possibly associated with the stone structure nearby. This feature is shown in figure 16 and plates 15 – 17.

Area 3 - House Platforms 1, 2 & 3 (Plates 18 - 21)

The area within which houses 1, 2 & 3 are to be situated was heavily disturbed by what appeared to be the foundations and associated features related to a development on the plot which was begun but never completed prior to the current owner purchasing the land. No features of archaeological interest were encountered in this area.

6.1 Artefactual Material

With the exception of four of the quern stones found within the building floor all finds were made during the machine stripping of the site and have therefore been assigned an unstratified status. As such they will be discussed by date and type.

Flint Artefacts (Small Finds 1 & 2, Figures 17 & 18)

Two small flint artefacts were recovered from the topsoil. These artefacts are a small thumbnail scraper (small find 1, figure 17) and a snapped blade (small find 2, figure 18). The following report was compiled by lithics specialist Kathryn Price.

Two pieces of worked flint, the proximal end of a blade and a side-and-end scraper were hand recovered from the topsoil. Both pieces show evidence of post-depositional rolling and one piece (the blade, figure 18) is completely covered with a white patina.

The proximal end of the small blade is 11mm in length, 15mm in width and 2.5mm in thickness. The lateral edges and proximal end exhibit evidence of post-depositional damage. The blade itself has a uniform white patina except for where the blade has broken; here the white patina is much less pronounced. This indicates that the break most likely occurred in antiquity.

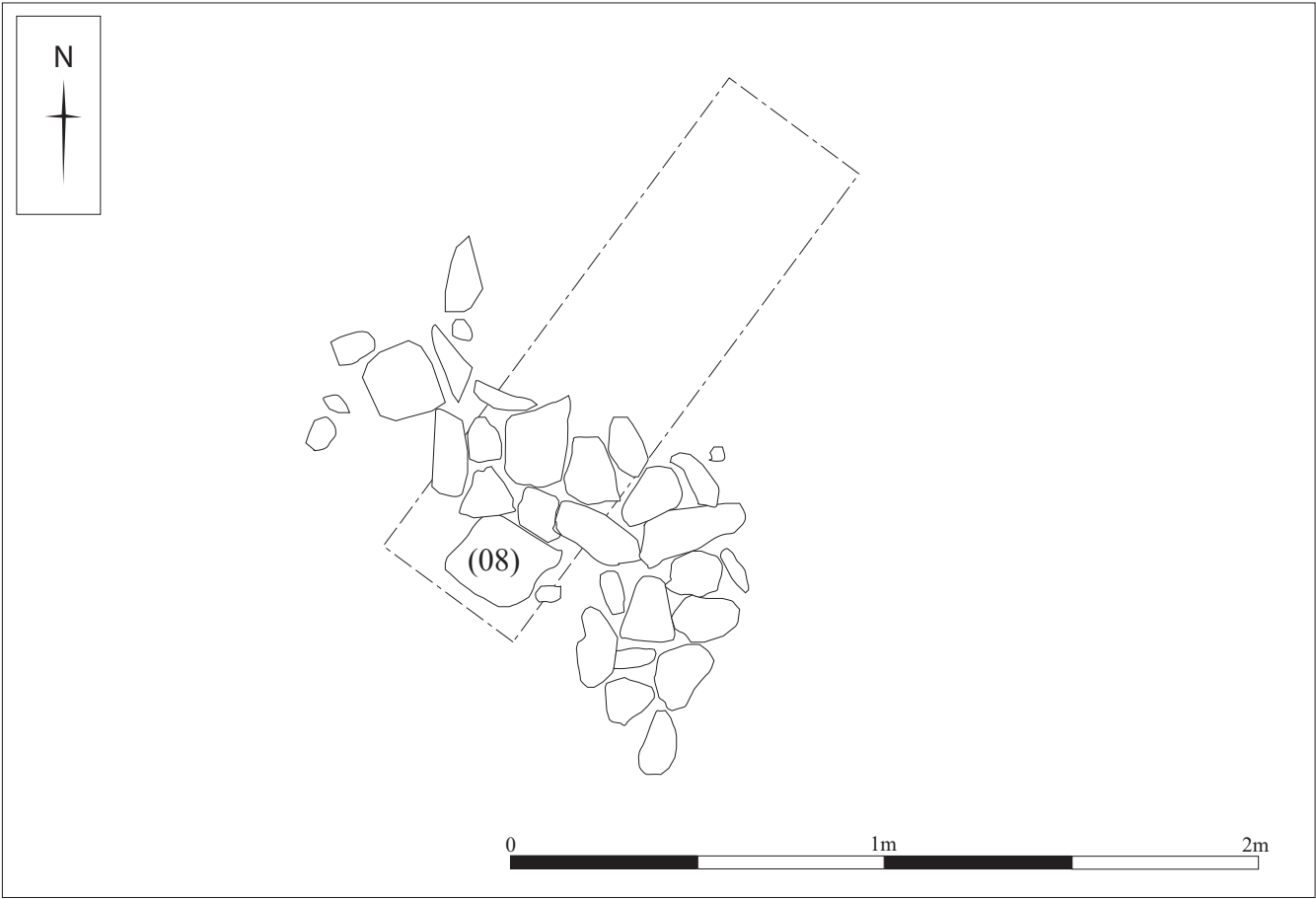


Figure 15. Plan of Stone Spread (08) and Extent of Box Section Excavated to Investigate Feature

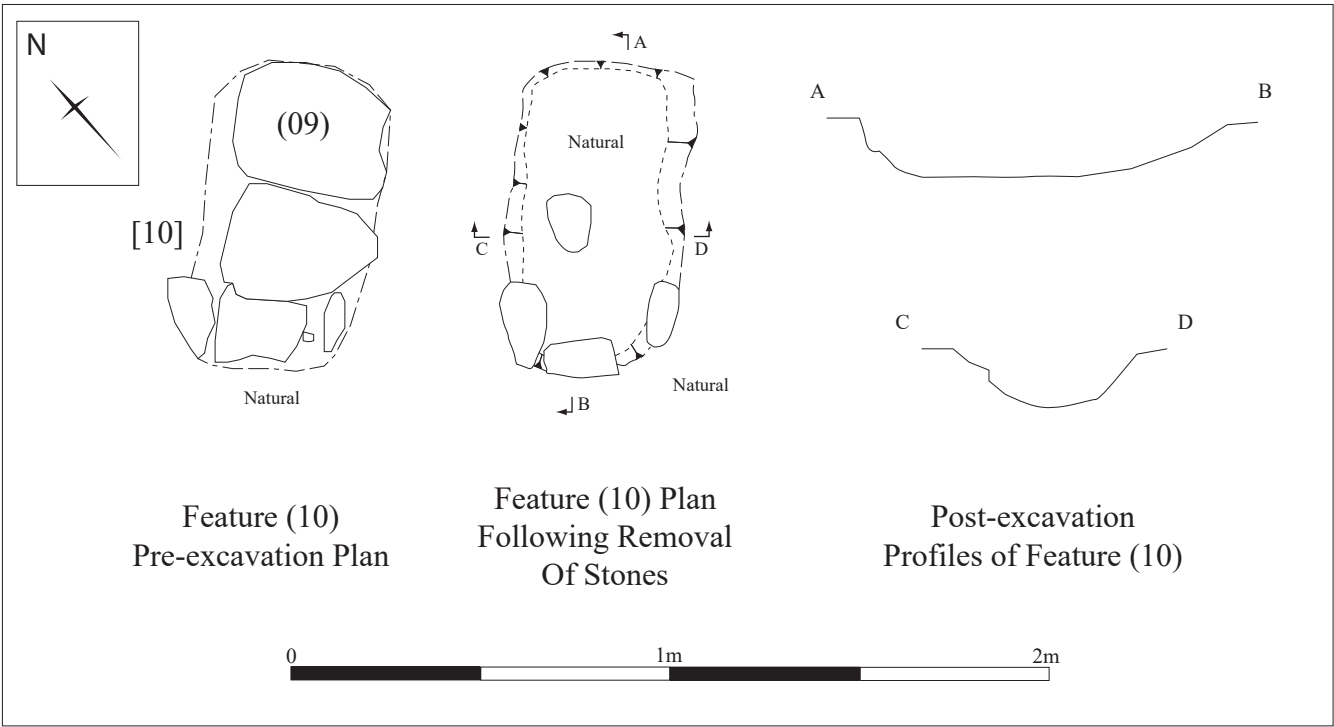


Figure 16. Plans and Profiles of Feature (10)



**Plate 13. Section Through
Stone Spread (08)**



Plate 14. Section Through Stone Spread (08)



**Plate 15. Pre-excavation
Feature (10) & Stones (09)**



**Plate 16. Stones in
Base of Feature (10)**



**Plate 17. Post-excavation
Shot of Feature (10)**



Plate 18. Stripped Area for Platforms of Houses 1, 2 & 3



Plate 19. Stripped Area for Platforms of Houses 1, 2 & 3



Plate 20. Stripped Area for Platforms of Houses 1, 2 & 3



Plate 21. Stripped Area for Platforms of Houses 1, 2 & 3

The side-and-end scraper is 22mm in length, 16mm in width and 10mm in thickness. It could also be considered a crude thumbnail scraper. It is a brown coloured flint and has 40% cortex remaining on its dorsal surface. The cortex is a dull orange/white colour and has been pitted and rolled. The scraper itself has been made from a flake and the scraper end has erased the proximal end of the original flake. The distal end of the flake and opposite end of the scraper has been broken in antiquity. The scraper retouch is present on the right lateral edge and proximal end of the flake. Cortex remains on the left lateral edge except for a few notches removed during post-deposition. The scraper scars range from 14mm to 4mm in length and are classed as abrupt retouch.

It is most likely that the scraper is of Neolithic origin. Scrapers such as these were used quite common throughout the Neolithic and into the Bronze Age. Given the style of retouch and the overall nature of the scraper we could possibly attribute it to the early Neolithic. However, given its evocation as a crude thumbnail scraper then it could equally be of the late Neolithic.

Stone Artefacts – Whetstone (Small Find 8, Figure 19)

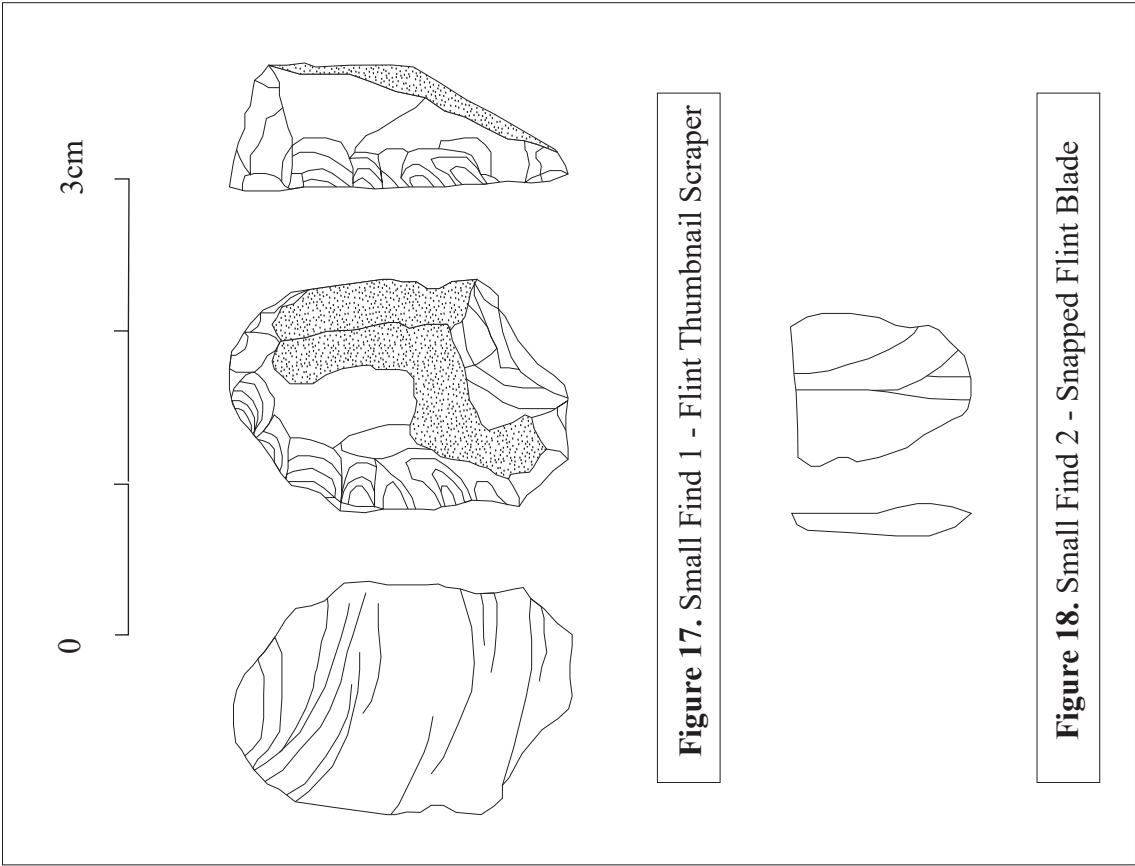
A whetstone was recovered from the topsoil during the machining. It is a fine grained grey stone with very small flecks of quartz inclusions. It is 6.6cm in length and has a roughly square profile of 2.3cm by 2.2cm which tapers at one end to a square top measuring 1.6cm by 1.6cm. Both ends have been broken. The larger end appears to have been deliberately flattened and the piece can stand unaided. The tapered end is broken at a slight angle and doesn't appear to have been flattened. There would have been a hoop or method of attaching the stone to a belt at this end. The stone has clearly been well used and there are signs of wear on all faces. On one face the wear is more extensive than seen on the other 3 faces. On this side there are two long slashes which cross and a deep V shape with the point of the V pointing towards the tapered end. There is a further slash above this mark.

The whetstone is similar in shape and style to the complete Viking age pendent whetstone from Llanbedrgoch (Redknap 2000: 53). A study by O'Connor of Irish Iron age and Early Christian Whetstones also identified two similar whetstones to the artefact found at Newborough although in his examples both have perforations at the smaller end and one still contains a surviving suspension ring (O'Connor 1991: 46, 54). The Llanbedrgoch example had a silver cap at the tapered end with a hoop attachment. The cap and hoop for this example has not survived so it is uncertain as to what metal or attachment was used, a factor which would greatly influence one's interpretation of the status of this item.

It is tempting to assign the whetstone an Early Medieval or Viking date and given the rich early and later medieval history connected to the area it could certainly be considered a strong possibility. This must however be qualified somewhat as to date there is very little synthesis on whetstones from any period and as styles rarely change it would be hard to confidently assign a date to the stone.

Stone Artefacts - Slate Artefact (Small Find 9, Figure 20)

A small roughly made sub-circular slate disc was recovered. It had a diameter of approximately 4cm and a thickness of 0.3cm. The date of this artefact is uncertain but it is most likely to be of Medieval or Early Post-Medieval date. The likely function of this piece is either as a lid for a small necked vessel or possibly a counter or gaming piece.



Stone Artefacts – Quern/Mill Stones (Figure 21)

Five stone querns were recovered during the works. The querns were associated with the building, although 1 of the stones was found in the subsoil overlying the building.

The querns were examined by quern/millstone/milling experts Martin and Susan Watts and the following section is written up from their notes.

All of the stones recovered were made from an Anglesey conglomerate gritstone. An article written in 1958 provides a little information about these quarries. It records “*it is noteworthy that from Benllech to Penmon were to be found the best millstone quarries in Britain and the one at Bwlch-gwyn near Benllech was probably the best know. The Rev. Nicholas Owen of Llandyfrydog in the Supplement to the Mona Antiqua informs us that these quarries millstones were exported as far as the Baltic states. One item in the records kept by the keeper of the Royal Mills, Dublin, in the year 1314 was a millstone worth 28/9d imported from Mathafarn (Benllech presumably..)*” (Roberts: 1958). Tucker (1980) studied the manufacture of millstones in Anglesey and was able to further narrow the distribution of stones in the county. He states that the sandstone with quartz pebbles, or conglomerate, outcrops in only quite small patches concentrated in the few square miles to the west of Benllech on the mid eastern side of the island. A further site is located at Penmon (Tucker 1980: 16).

Where the stones had surviving grinding surfaces it was noted that the stones were artificially roughed but were not furrow pecked. Each stone will be described below.

Small find 3 was identified as a lower rotary quern stone. The stone had a diameter of 0.5m and a small eye with a diameter of 0.08m. The stone had a thickness of 0.055m.

Small find 4 was a fragment of quern stone and it seemed likely that the stone had a similar diameter to small find 3. The stone was too damaged to determine as to whether this was an upper or lower rotary stone. The stone had been burnt and split and the remaining thickness was 0.055m.

Small find 5 was also a fragment of stone. It was however too fragmentary to determine the original size or stone position. The stone had a thickness of 0.08m.

Small find 6 was a quern stone fragment. The stone had split and had a maximum surviving thickness of 0.06m. One grinding surface was surviving but this surface was heavily eroded. The stone had a diameter of 0.5m and a small eye with a diameter of 0.08m.

Small find 7 was a fragment from a larger stone than the other examples. The grinding surface had survived. The stone had a thickness of 0.08m and a diameter of at least 0.70m. The stone could quite possibly have been larger than this as the eye appears to have been snapped. The larger diameter of this stone is of a sufficient size for this stone to have been a millstone as it is considered to have been a little large for a hand quern.

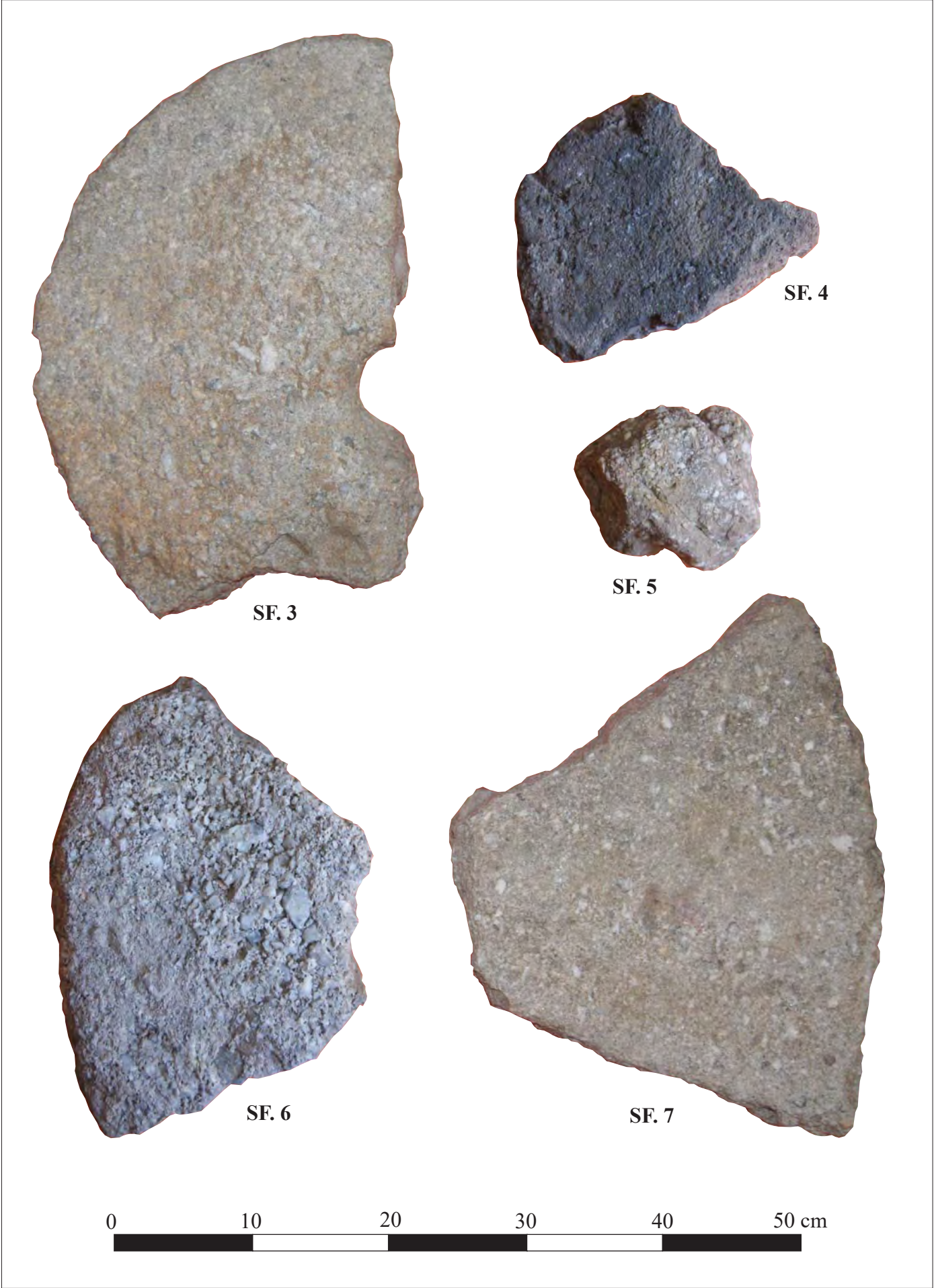


Figure 21. Quern and Mill Stone Fragments Recovered During Archaeological Works

Medieval Pottery (Small Finds 10 & 11, Figure 22)

Two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the top soil. The first piece was part of a strap handle for a jug with and the second a small sherd of decorated pottery.

The jug handle belonged to the upper part of a strap handle. It has a deep groove characteristic of a water jug or pitcher with a small area of the vessel rim. The piece had a rim diameter of 17cm. The vessel has a grey body core with reddish pink exterior oxidisation. There is a green and brown 'spalsh' glaze with no uniform coverage. The remains of the outer rim have a stripped green and brown glaze decoration. There appears to be an internal lip perhaps to balance a lid.

This vessel is Rhuddlan Ware and conforms to many of the characteristics described by Papazian & Campbell (1992: 72). It is very similar to vessels uncovered in excavations at Rhuddlan in 1969-73 (Quinnel, Blockley & Berridge 1994:221). Rhuddlan Ware is usually assigned a 13th Century date (Papazian & Campbell 1992: 72).

The small sherd is roughly triangular with a flat top. The maximum measurements of the sherd are 2.8cm by 1.7cm. The pottery has a thickness of 0.6cm. It has a grey core with an outer face and interior surface fired to an orange-red. There are few visible inclusions including a single fragment of quartz which is visible in its interior face. There is a band of uneven impressed thumb nail decoration running around the outside face which has an approximate thickness of 5mm. There is no internal glaze but there a specks of a green-brown glaze on the exterior surface.

This sherd is probably Ewloe Ware although it must be noted that there are also similarities with Audlem Ware. Both these wares have a date range of production spanning the 14th to 15th century (but both have some chronological outliers which it has been suggested date to the 13th century). Both pottery types have similar distributions which cover north-west Wales (Papazian & Campbell 1992: 59).

7.0 Discussion

Cartographic evidence shows that the plot on Chapel Street was free of any buildings from at least the late 1700's. The earliest map sourced was dated 1788 and records that the land was Glebe land (a piece of land serving as part of a clergyman's benefice and providing income). It is therefore clear that the building remains are earlier than 1788, and use as glebe land could indicate that it was under agricultural use for some considerable time. This could be related to the difficulties faced by Newborough in its later history and the contraction of the area around the cross road. The 1820 Mostyn estate map shows the plot conforming to its current shape and it is believed that this plan represents the survival of a Medieval burgage plot.

The artefactual material (quern stones) recovered from the building uncovered during the works has allowed a Medieval date to be assigned as the earliest possible origin of the structure. It is unclear as to whether the wall encountered was the back or front building wall and it is therefore uncertain as to exactly how this structure would have related to the medieval road lay out. It is postulated that this area of rough walling and paving is part of an outbuilding or an enclosed rear yard area but this is by no means the only possible conclusion which could be reached. It is also quite conceivable that this is the remains of a small later hovel which is constructed of reused and salvaged material.

The identification of a possible mill stone amongst the assemblage is a very interesting element. It may be the first physical evidence which has been recovered from the windmill which is recorded as having been built in the town in 1303. It does not offer any further hints as to the precise local of the structure but it is very interesting to see a mixture of hand and mill stones used in the same structure.

Quern/Mill Stone Discussion

The presence of a millstone within the Newborough finds assemblage is of particular interest given that the town is known to have had a Medieval windmill. Records date this erection as beginning in 1303 and it is written in the “Bailiff of Newborough's Accounts” that it cost £18 3s ½d in total for the construction and the mill began working on 28th June 1305. No illustration or description of the mills appearance survives and the precise location of the site is also unknown (Guise & Lees 2010: 7).

The sizes and appearance of the stones are entirely in-keeping with them being of twelfth – fourteenth century date and it is fascinating to think that this material belongs to the period of the resettling of the native Welsh population who were displaced by the building of Beumaris Castle.

Under the Medieval feudal system tenants were obliged to have their corn ground at the manorial or Royal mill. A charge was levied on this grinding and a proportion of the grain taken as payment. The use of querns or handmills was largely prohibited and according to the writings of Rev Barnwell, writing in the late nineteenth century, the inhabitants of Anglesey had all their upper quern stones destroyed following the English conquest (Watts 1997:49-50).

There are examples of the inclusion of large numbers of quern stones into the floors of Medieval buildings and in an example from Barry, South Wales the presence of these stones in the floor of a dwelling is linked to the house having belonged to a manorial official and the stones were confiscations from the local population. A further example of this is at St Albans abbey in Herfordshire where in 1331 the abbot used confiscated stones to pave the monk's parlour (ibid).

The presence of both hand and mill stones is of particular note and it seems that the stones were incorporated into the floor due to their usefulness in being large flat stones, rather than to send any specific message as is postulated for the other sites.

8.0 Conclusion

The works at Chapel Street, Newborough has yielded significant results which have confirmed the survival of structural evidence, believed to be of Medieval origin within the burgage plot off Chapel Street. This has included a yard surface and low standing walls although the site was poorly preserved and no midden or other associated deposits were identified as had been uncovered during works by C.R Archaeology, EAS and Gwynedd Archaeological Trust on Church Street. This is considered to be of national importance given the historic significance of Newborough in Welsh history and the somewhat surprising lack of archaeological evidence from the town.

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www.data.gov.uk/data/map-preview

www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk

Appendix A.

**CR65-2014 & CR69-2014
Specifications for Archaeological Works**

Specification for Archaeological Works at
Land adjacent to Ty Capel, Chapel Street,
Newborough, Ynys Môn

NGR 242400 365500

Report Number CR65-2014



C.R Archaeology
Prepared by C. Rees
on Behalf of Mr Lloyd Hughes

Specification for Archaeological Works at Land adjacent to Ty Capel, Chapel Street, Newborough, Ynys Môn

Planning Reference Number:	45C149C
National Grid Reference:	242400 365500
Client:	Mr Lloyd Hughes
Report Authors:	Catherine Rees
Report Number:	CR65-2014
Date:	19/03/2014

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Illustrations

Figure 1. Site Location Map

Figure 2. Proposed Works

1.0 Introduction

C.R Archaeology have been instructed by Mr Lloyd Hughes to conduct archaeological works at the above site in compliance with planning conditions placed on the development (Planning Reference: 45C149C).

This specification has been written following the preparation of a “Design Brief for Archaeological Mitigation” by Development Control Archaeologist Jenny Emmett of Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services (dated 18th March 2014) as a methodology for an Archaeological Watching Brief.

The proposed development site is situated on Chapel Street, Newbrough (Figure 1). Planning permission has been granted to erect 6 houses with associated access, parking and services (Figure 2).

The town of Newbrough was established in 1303 by Edward I to accommodate the inhabitants of Llanfaes displaced by the construction of Beaumaris. The new town was built close to the existing settlement of Rhosyr, the *maerdref* and regional administrative centre of the commote of Menai. No upstanding medieval buildings survive within the town, but the layout of the medieval street pattern and burgess plots centred on the present crossroads has survived. The proposed development plot lies immediately outside the area identified in the assessment/evaluation conducted by Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd (EAS) in 1997 as the extent of the Medieval Town.

The GAPS brief highlights that relatively little archaeological investigation has been undertaken within the medieval towns of north-west Wales and as such, any surviving evidence of medieval occupation is highly significant. Newbrough has been subject to several small-scale investigations associated with previous development proposals, which have indicated the survival of buried medieval deposits, although in places these have been truncated by subsequent activity.

Works conducted by Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd on the adjacent plot of land identified a potential for medieval remains in the vicinity, although the works themselves showed eighteenth and nineteenth century activity had removed all traces of any earlier remains. The plot is shown as undeveloped on both the Tithe and First Edition Ordnance Survey as undeveloped and therefore potentially undisturbed.

2.0 Project Aims

This scheme of works aims to monitor groundworks at the site in order to assess the survival, character and date of any archaeological remains and to excavate/record any archaeological remains uncovered.

It aims to fulfil the mitigation criteria for undertaking an Archaeological Watching Brief as specified in the IfA Standard and Guidance document (1994 Revised 2008).

3.0 Historical Background

The following section is a summary of the history of the area and is intended to merely place the site in context. A more detailed history of the site will form an element in the proposed works.

The borough of Newborough was established following the building of Beaumaris in 1296 when the nearby urban Welsh community was moved from Llan-faes to a new site in south-eastern Anglesey. The new settlement was located near to the existing settlement of Rhosyr, the *maerdref* and regional administrative centre of the commote of Menai. The borough was granted a charter of incorporation in 1303 (Carr 1995: 86).

The new borough was affected by natural disaster not long after this date when in 1330 it was engulfed by sand dunes following a violent storm. Despite this setback the town was to flourish as a centre for fairs and markets (ibid: 100).

3.1 Topography

The site is located on the outskirts of the town of Newborough in the Hundred of Malltraeth, Southern Anglesey. The Newborough area is characterised thus in the Ynys Mon Landscape Characterisation Survey:

“The area is formed by an extensive dune system and associated streams, inlets and inter-tidal zone. This forms a distinct landscape unit on the south western promontory of Anglesey.

The majority of the area has been planted earlier this century with conifers and as a consequence it forms a distinct visual feature, especially when seen from the mainland. When approaching Anglesey from the A487, the initial glimpses of the trees announce an impending arrival at Anglesey. It also forms an important refuge for the native Red Squirrel.

Inland, the ground rises slightly, and the settlement of Newborough can be found. This forms an important historic and cultural influence over the landscape. The settlement dates from the medieval period and has resulted from the dispersal of the people of Llanfaes further along the Strait when Beaumaris was developed” (www.anglesey.gov.uk).

3.2 Geology

The superficial geology of the site is recorded as “*Till, Devensian - Diamicton. Superficial Deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. Local environment previously dominated by ice age conditions. These rocks were formed in cold periods with Ice Age glaciers scouring the landscape and depositing moraines of till with outwash sand and gravel deposits from seasonal and post glacial meltwaters*”. The bedrock is described as “*Central Anglesey Shear Zone And Berw Shear Zone (undifferentiated) - Schist, Hornblende. Metamorphic Bedrock formed approximately 508 to 635 million years ago in the Cambrian and Ediacaran Periods. Original rocks without interpretation. Later crushed in fault zone or shear zone. These rocks have undergone low grade metamorphism, high grade regional metamorphism, or crushing in a fault or shear zone and it is not known whether they were of igneous, sedimentary or older metamorphic origin*” (www.bgs.ac.uk).

4.0 Scheme of Works – Methodology

The methodologies employed will conform to The Institute for Archaeologists: *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (Revised 2008).

4.1 Desk Based Research

A history of the site will be compiled utilising information sourced from Anglesey Record Office, Bangor University Archives and the Gwynedd Historic Environment Office. A full map progression will be undertaken along with a search of tithe records.

The Gwynedd Historic Environment Record will be consulted and a search radius of 500m will be examined.

These works will be carried out in accordance with the IfA Standards and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment (IfA 1994 (Revised 2009)).

This material will form the historical background for a full archaeological report. The report will include the results of the Archaeological Watching Brief.

4.2 Archaeological Watching Brief

This watching brief will monitor all groundworks undertaken on the site. This will include all topsoil and subsoil stripping and the excavation of access roads, parking, house foundations and all service trenches.

A C.R Archaeology staff member will be present during the machine excavation of all groundworks. This work will be undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. If archaeological remains are encountered then machine excavation will cease at this level until it is clear in plan that the full extent of any features have been uncovered within the development area. If the features extend beyond the limits of the development and it is felt to be beneficial to extend the width of the strip where possible an additional area of up to 1m on either side of the feature will be exposed. If this does not prove sufficient it may then be necessary to follow the procedures for Additional Mitigation/Contingency Measures.

C.R Archaeology will notify GAPS as the date of the commencement of works and if any significant archaeological features are uncovered. A site visit visit will be arranged to allow for the inspection of works.

All archaeological remains/ potential archaeological remains identified during the stripping of the site will be marked using spray paint and cordoned off to allow excavation by C.R Archaeology staff. Any archaeological features, structures or remains will be trowel cleaned by hand. Investigation of such features, structures or deposits will be sufficient to determine their character, date, significance and quality. If features yield suitable material for dating/environmental processing then samples will be taken for processing off site. The size of these samples will depend on the size of the feature but for smaller features a sample of up to 95% will be taken. For larger features a sample of up to 40 litres will be taken. In the event of a significant discovery GAPS will be informed of the discovery and a mitigation strategy agreed before works will progress.

Fieldwork is to be conducted and managed by Matthew Jones (MA) of C.R Archaeology. Additional staff can be brought in as required and all staff members will have experience equivalent to AIfA level and cv's can be provided on request.

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All photographic records will be indexed and cross-referenced to written site records. Details concerning subject and direction of view will be maintained in a photographic register, indexed by frame number. Images from photography will be stored in a loss-less digital format in this case ‘*.TIF’.

4.2.2 Additional Mitigation/Contingency Measures

In the event of a significant archaeological discovery being made during the excavation C.R Archaeology will immediately inform both the client and the development control archaeologist. Consultation will take place between C.R Archaeology, GAPS and the client with regards to the most suitable course of action.

In the unlikely event that human remains are encountered site work will cease with immediate effect. The coroner, client and monitoring body will be informed immediately. The company will abide by the requirements of Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857. Any arrangements regarding the discovery of human remains will be at the discretion of HM Coroner whose instruction/permission will be sought. All human remains are to be preserved *in situ*, covered and protected. They will only be removed in exceptional circumstances and with the appropriate Ministry of Justice licence, environmental health regulations, Coroner’s permission and, if appropriate, in compliance with the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act 1981 or other local Act, with adequate security provided in such cases.

Any artefacts recovered that fall within the scope of the Treasure Act 1996 will be reported to the landowner, GAPS and to HM Coroner.

4.2.3 Recovery, Processing and Curation of Artefactual Material

All recovered artefactual material will be retained, cleaned, labelled and stored according to *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (IfA 2008)* and *First Aid for Finds (Watkinson & Neal 2001)*. The aim will be to create a stable, ordered, well-documented, accessible material archive forming a resource for

current and future research (IfA 2008).

All artefactual material will be bagged and labelled with the site code and context number prior to their removal from site. The archive reference number will be clearly marked on all finds.

Each assemblage will be examined according to typological or chronological criteria and conservation needs identified. An assessment report of all post-medieval material will be produced by Matthew Jones and further specialists will be appointed as required. A list of specialists will be prepared prior to the post-excavation phase of works.

Any specialist conservation necessary will be undertaken by Cardiff Conservation Services, Cardiff University. This will be conducted in accordance with guidelines issued by the Institute for Conservation.

Following analysis all archaeological material recovered will be deposited in Oriel Mon Museum. Processed assemblages will be boxed according to issued guidelines and a register of contents compiled prior to deposition.

The works will be carried out in accordance with The Institute for Archaeologists: *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (Revised 2008).

4.2.4 Archive Compilation

All records created during the fieldwork will be checked for consistency and accuracy and will form part of the *Primary Site Archive (PI)* (EH 2006). The archive will contain all data collected, including records and other specialist materials. It will be ordered, indexed, adequately documented, internally consistent, secure, quantified, conforming to standards required by the archive repository and signposted appropriately to ensure future use in research, as detailed in the English Heritage *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE) methodology.

The archive will be assembled in accordance with the guidelines published in, *Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections* (Museums & Galleries Commission 1994), *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage* (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, 1990) and *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (AAF 2007).

All materials contained within the *Primary Site Archive (P1)* that are subsequently identified by the *Assessment Report (P2)* as appropriate for analysis will be processed by suitable specialists and the resultant *Research Archive (P3)* will be checked and ordered according to *MoRPHE* criteria.

Any archive/artefactual material created/discovered during this archaeological project will be deposited in Oriel Mon Museum. Archive material will be deposited in accordance with the museum's terms and conditions for archive deposition.

4.3 Timetable for Proposed Works

It is envisaged that groundworks will commence on Monday March 24th 2014 and will be carried out on a day rate basis and staff will attend site as necessary. Additional time will be allotted as necessary for archive research, report compilation and site archiving. Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services will be informed of the exact site days to allow monitoring of works.

4.4 Staffing

The project will be managed by Matthew Jones (BA (Archaeology), MA (Archaeology)). All staff will have a skill set equivalent to the IfA AIfA level. C.Vs for all staff employed on the project can be provided on request. All projects are carried out in accordance with IfA *Standard and Guidance* documents.

4.5 Monitoring

The project will be subject to monitoring by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services. The monitor will be given prior notice of the commencement of the fieldwork. A projected time-scale and copy of the risk assessment can be provided on request to the monitoring body prior to the commencement of works.

They will be notified in writing (via email) of the commencement dates for archaeological site work and will be updated with the results of all works conducted as watching brief elements. This will be initially as a telephone call & email with attached JPEG photographs and if/when required further interim reports will be compiled.

4.6 Health and Safety

A risk assessment will be conducted prior to the commencement of works and site staff will be familiarised with its contents. A first aid kit will be located in the site vehicle.

All staff will be issued with appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the site work. Initially this is anticipated to consist of:

- Safety Helmets (EN397)
- Hi-visibility vests (EN471)
- Safety footwear – steel toecap and mid-sole boots and Wellingtons (EN345-47)

Any further PPE required will be provided by C.R Archaeology

All staff will have passed at least a CITB health and safety test at least operative level and will carry a Construction Related Organisation (CRO) White Card for Archaeological Technician (Code 5363) or a Site Visitor card.

C.R Archaeology staff will also comply with any Health and Safety Policy or specific on-site instructions provided by the client or their appointed Principal contractor or H&S coordinator.

4.7 The Report

The report will clearly and accurately incorporate information gained from the programme of archaeological works. It will present the documentary evidence gathered in such a way as to create a clear and coherent record. The report will contain a site plan showing the locations of photographs taken.

As a minimum the report will include:

- A copy of the design brief and agreed specification
- A location plan
- All identified features and significant finds plotted on an appropriately scaled site plan
- Full dimensional and descriptive detail of all identified finds and features
- A full bibliography of sources consulted

- An archive compact disc

A copy of the report in Adobe PDF format will be sent to the appropriate monitoring archaeologist for approval before formal submission. A bound paper copy and PDF digital copy of the report will be submitted as part of the formal submission. A digital Adobe PDF version and a bound paper copy of the final report and will be lodged with the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record within six months of completion of fieldwork.

In the event of a positive result of site works a short article will be submitted to the Archaeology in Wales Journal and the site archive including copies of all photographs in RAW and Tiff format will be deposited the local museum.

4.7.1 Copyright

C.R Archaeology and sub-contractors shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides a licence to the client and the local authority for the use of the report by the client and the local authority in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

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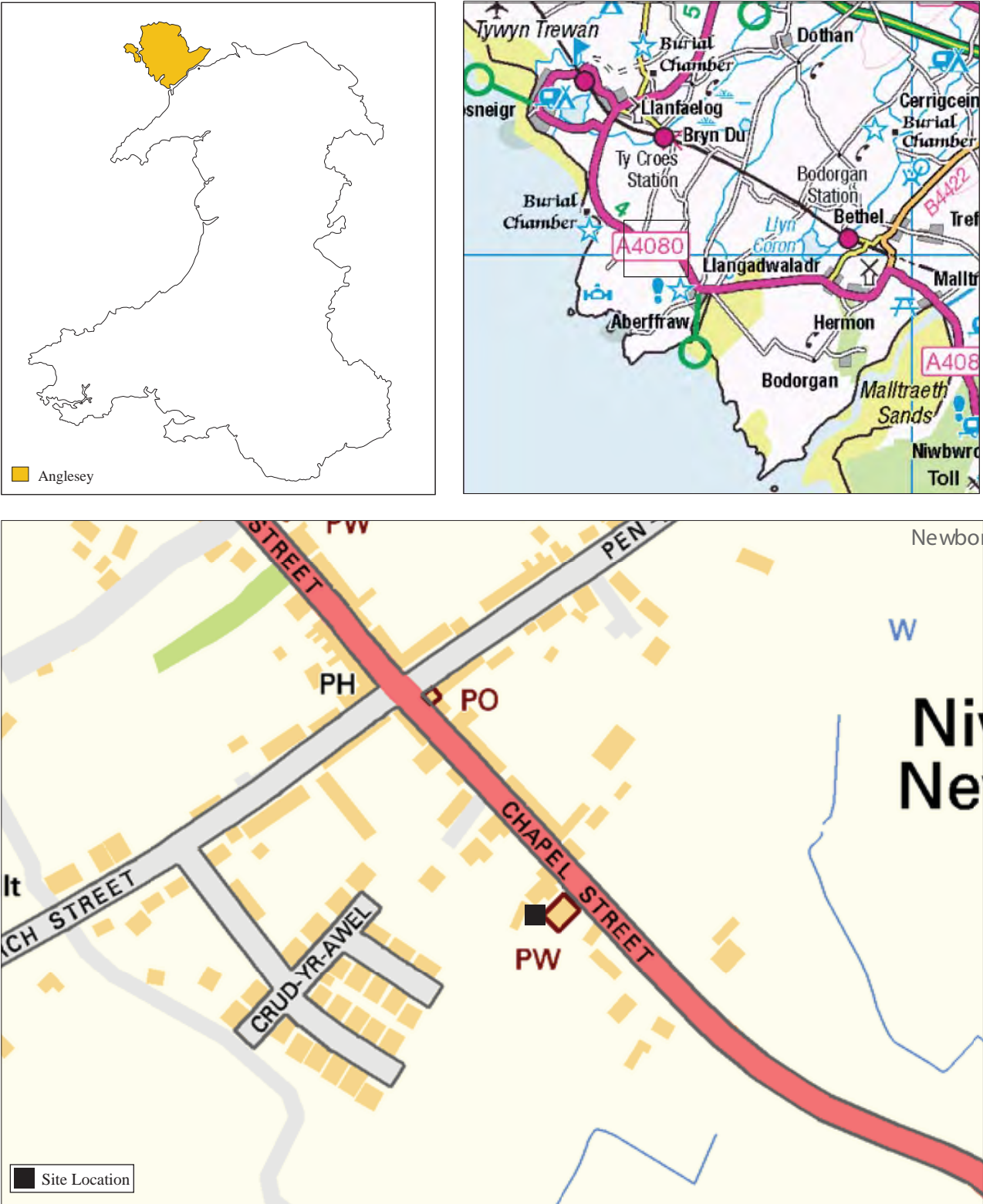




Figure 2. Proposed Development Plans

**Amended Specification for Archaeological Works at
Land adjacent to Ty Capel, Chapel Street,
Newborough, Ynys Môn**

NGR 242400 365500

Report Number CR69-2014



C.R Archaeology
Prepared by C. Rees
on Behalf of Mr Lloyd Hughes

Specification for Archaeological Works at Land adjacent to Ty Capel, Chapel Street, Newborough, Ynys Môn

Planning Reference Number:	45C149C
National Grid Reference:	242400 365500
Client:	Mr Lloyd Hughes
Report Authors:	Catherine Rees
Report Number:	CR69-2014
Date:	26/06/2014

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2.0 Project Aims

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4.3 Timetable for Proposed Works

4.4 Staff

4.5 Monitoring

4.6 Health and Safety

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Illustrations

Figure 1. Site Location Map

Figure 2. Proposed Works (Amended)

Figure 3. Site Plan Showing Proposed Area of Strip, Map and Record

1.0 Introduction

C.R Archaeology were instructed by Mr Lloyd Hughes to conduct archaeological works at the above site in compliance with planning conditions placed on the development (Planning Reference: 45C149C). The proposed development site is situated on Chapel Street, Newbrough (Figure 1).

An initial specification (CR65-2014) was written following the preparation of a “Design Brief for Archaeological Mitigation” by Development Control Archaeologist Jenny Emmett of Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services (dated 18th March 2014) as a methodology for an Archaeological Watching Brief.

Site works were commenced on March 25th 2014 and the road area shown in Figure 2 was stripped down to the natural under these Watching Brief Conditions. Significant archaeological remains were uncovered including an undated rectangular building with laid stone flooring incorporating stone querns along with further quernstones in the subsoil, a possible Viking whetstone and Prehistoric thumbnail scraper.

When the site plans were altered to erect 5 houses (see Figure 2) with associated access, parking and services (rather than the original 6 properties) the application was returned to Anglesey Council planning department and in light of the discoveries made on site to date Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services have altered the archaeological conditions placed on the development.

It was felt that the existing Archaeological Watching Brief conditions originally placed on the development should be supplemented with a programme of Strip, Map and Record on areas of the site considered to be of highest archaeological potential. This document details the revised scheme of works.

2.0 Project Aims

This scheme of works aims to strip the development area down to the archaeological horizon/natural in order to assess the survival, character and date of any archaeological remains and to excavate/record any archaeological remains uncovered.

Given the results of the previous phase of works, in the area adjacent to the remains of a stone building (see Figure 3) the site will be stripped to the archaeological horizon/natural with the aim of uncovering and excavating/recording any further remains/artefacts/dating evidence related to this structure.

This project aims to fulfil the criteria for undertaking an Archaeological Watching Brief/Excavation as specified in the IfA Standard and Guidance documents (1994 Revised 2008).

3.0 Historical Background

The following section is a summary of the history of the area and is intended to merely place the site in context. A more detailed history of the site will form an element in the proposed works.

The borough of Newborough was established following the building of Beaumaris in 1296 when the nearby urban Welsh community was moved from Llan-faes to a new site in south-eastern Anglesey. The new settlement was located near to the existing settlement of Rhosyr, the *maerdref* and regional administrative centre of the commote of Menai. The borough was granted a charter of incorporation in 1303 (Carr 1995: 86).

The new borough was affected by natural disaster not long after this date when in 1330 it was engulfed by sand dunes following a violent storm. Despite this setback the town was to flourish as a centre for fairs and markets (ibid: 100).

3.1 Topography

The site is located on the outskirts of the town of Newborough in the Hundred of Malltraeth, Southern Anglesey. The Newborough area is characterised thus in the Ynys Mon Landscape Characterisation Survey:

“The area is formed by an extensive dune system and associated streams, inlets and inter-tidal zone. This forms a distinct landscape unit on the south western promontory of Anglesey.

The majority of the area has been planted earlier this century with conifers and as a consequence it forms a distinct visual feature, especially when seen from the mainland. When approaching Anglesey from the A487, the initial glimpses of the trees announce an impending arrival at Anglesey. It also forms an important refuge for the native Red Squirrel.

Inland, the ground rises slightly, and the settlement of Newborough can be found. This forms an important historic and cultural influence over the landscape. The settlement dates from the medieval period and has resulted from the dispersal of the people of Llanfaes further along the Strait when Beaumaris was developed” (www.anglesey.gov.uk).

3.2 Geology

The superficial geology of the site is recorded as “*Till, Devensian - Diamicton. Superficial Deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. Local environment previously dominated by ice age conditions. These rocks were formed in cold periods with Ice Age glaciers scouring the landscape and depositing moraines of till with outwash sand and gravel deposits from seasonal and post glacial meltwaters*”. The bedrock is described as “*Central Anglesey Shear Zone And Berw Shear Zone (undifferentiated) - Schist, Hornblende. Metamorphic Bedrock formed approximately 508 to 635 million years ago in the Cambrian and Ediacaran Periods. Original rocks without interpretation. Later crushed in fault zone or shear zone. These rocks have undergone low grade metamorphism, high grade regional metamorphism, or crushing in a fault or shear zone and it is not known whether they were of igneous, sedimentary or older metamorphic origin*” (www.bgs.ac.uk).

4.0 Scheme of Works – Methodology

The methodologies employed will conform to The Institute for Archaeologists: *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (Revised 2008) and The Institute for Archaeologists: *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (Revised 2008).

4.1 Desk Based Research

A history of the site will be compiled utilising information sourced from Anglesey Record Office, Bangor University Archives and the Gwynedd Historic Environment Office. A full map progression will be undertaken along with a search of tithe records.

The Gwynedd Historic Environment Record will be consulted and a search radius of 500m will be examined.

These works will be carried out in accordance with the IfA Standards and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment (IfA 1994 (Revised 2009)).

This material will form the historical background for a full archaeological report. The report will include the results of the Archaeological Watching Brief.

4.2 Archaeological Works – Watching Brief & Strip, Map and Record

All groundworks undertaken on the site will be undertaken under archaeological supervision. This will include all topsoil and subsoil stripping and the excavation of access roads, parking, house foundations, soak aways and all service trenches.

Works will be undertaken using a mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket and the footprints of all houses and the associated soak aways will be stripped down to the archaeological horizon/ underlying natural. During a previous phase of site works the remains of an undated stone building were uncovered and additional stripping down to the archaeological horizon/natural is to be undertaken in the surrounding area. The extent of this area is marked on Figure 3.

Due to space constraints on site the stripping would have to be done in strips and backfilled before the next strip is commenced. Each strip will be recorded photographically if there are no features present and works continued. However should any remains be present then the feature/features will be fully exposed in plan and excavated. If required the stripped area will be widened as required to

ensure that there are no related/associated features in the immediate vicinity. GAPS will be notified should any features be uncovered and no backfilling will take place until approval has been given for works to continue.

Works outside of the parameters specified above will be conducted under watching brief conditions and will be excavated down to the development level under archaeological supervision. However should archaeological remains be uncovered these works will be subject to further mitigation/contingency measures.

A C.R Archaeology staff member will be present during the stripping of the development areas and once an area has been stripped no machinery may track over the site until the area has been signed off by GAPS.

This work will be undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. If archaeological remains are encountered then machine excavation will cease at this level until it is clear in plan that the full extent of any features have been uncovered within the development area. If the features extend beyond the limits of the development and it is felt to be beneficial to extend the width of the strip where possible an additional area of up to 1m on either side of the feature will be exposed. If this does not prove sufficient it may then be necessary to follow the procedures for Additional Mitigation/Contingency Measures.

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4.3 Timetable for Proposed Works

It is envisaged that groundworks will recommence as soon as possible and will be carried out on a day rate basis. Staff will attend site as necessary. Additional time will be allotted as necessary for archive research, report compilation and site archiving. Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services will be informed of the exact site days to allow monitoring of works.

4.4 Staffing

The project will be managed by Matthew Jones (BA (Archaeology), MA (Archaeology)). All staff will have a skill set equivalent to the IfA AIfA level. C.Vs for all staff employed on the project can be provided on request. All projects are carried out in accordance with IfA *Standard and Guidance* documents.

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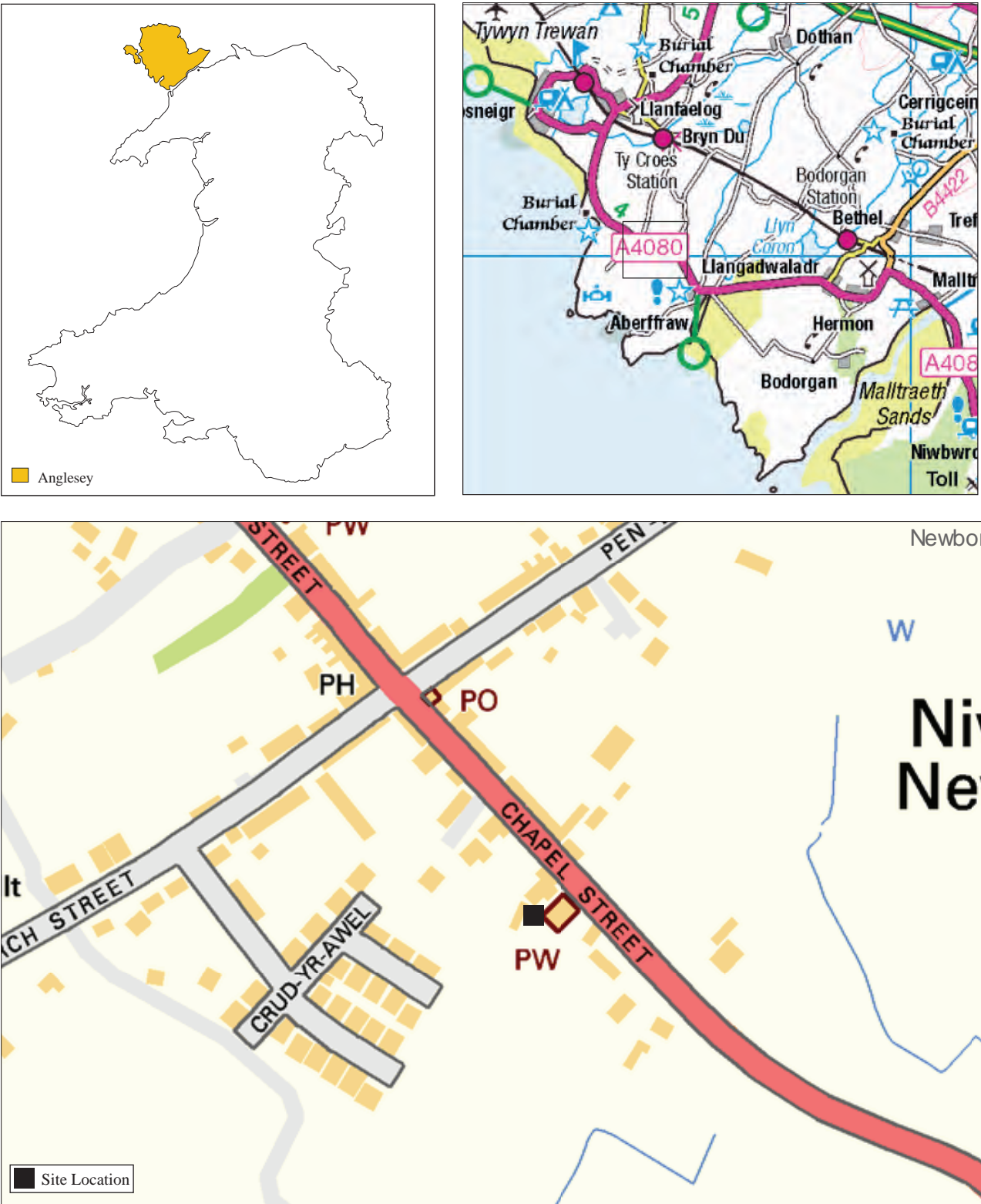


Figure 1. Site Location Map

(Source: OS Open Data Mapping. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right [2014])



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