

**Results of Archaeological Watching Brief
Land Adj. to Bryn Hyfryd, Llanrwst**

NGR SH 80270 61618



Project Number CR199-2025



CR ARCHAEOLOGY

Compiled by C. Rees and M. Jones
On Behalf of Adra (Tai) Cyfyngedig

Summary

CR Archaeology were instructed by Adra (Tai) Cyfyngedig to conduct further archaeological works at the proposed site of a new residential development containing 16 houses and associated developments. The work undertaken was a targeted archaeological watching brief on an area of the site in which a number of Post Medieval structures had been identified during previous works.

The works identified two archaeological features – the brick and clay foundations of a small structure, and a spread of crushed brick with the material imported to create hardstanding in a wet area. Both features contained handmade brick of late-18th – mid-19th century date - although it was unclear whether the structures were contemporary with the brick later constructions utilising older material. What can be said with certainty is that all features are of late 18th century or later date. They may be as late as the middle of the 20th century.

Works were carried out in May 2025.

Crynodeb

Cafodd CR Archaeology eu cyfarnyddo gan Adra (Tai) Cyfyngedig i gynnal rhagor o waith archeolegol ar safle arfaethedig datblygiad preswyl newydd sy'n cynnwys 16 o dai a datblygiadau cysylltiedig. Y gwaith a wnaed oedd briff gnylio archeolegol wedi'i dargedu. Roedd y gwaith yn targedu ardal o weithgareddau Ôl Canoloesol nodwyd yn ystod gam flaenorol o waith.

Roedd y gwaith yn nodi ddwy nodwedd archeolegol – sylfeini brics a chlai strnythur bach, a daeniad o frics wedi'i falu gyda'r deunydd wedi'i fennforio i greu llawr caled mewn ardal wlyb. Roedd y ddwy nodwedd yn cynnwys brics a wnaed â llaw o ddyddiad hwyr yn y 18fed ganrif – canol y 19eg ganrif – er nad oedd yn glir a oedd y strnythurau o'r un cyfnod â'r adeiladwaith diweddarach o frics, gyda deunydd hŷn wedi'i ddefnyddio. Efallai mor hwyr â chanol yr 20fed ganrif.

Cynhalinyd y gwaith ym mis Mai 2025.

Results of Archaeological Watching Brief Land Adj. to Bryn Hyfryd, Llanrwst

Planning Application Number:	0/47526
National Grid Reference:	SH 80270 61618
Client:	Adra (Tai) Cyfyngedig
Report Author:	Catherine Rees and Matthew Jones
Report Number:	CR199-2025
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1.0 Introduction

CR Archaeology were instructed by Adra (Tai) Cyfyngedig to conduct further archaeological works – a Targeted Archaeological Watching Brief on land adjacent to Bryn Hyfryd Farm, Llanrwst at the proposed site of a new residential development.

The site is located on land adjacent to Bryn Hyfryd Farm, Llanrwst (Figure 1). The farm and outbuildings are Grade II Listed buildings (Ref 3594 and 3595). They are recorded as having been built c.1840. The proposed development area is currently in agricultural use, with the area immediately adjoining the road prone to flooding.

This was the fourth phase of works at the site (Phase 1 - Desk Based Assessment & Geophysical Survey, Phases 2 & 3 – Evaluation Trenching) and targeted the area to the south-west area of the site within the flood prone area.

In Phase 2 of the archaeological works five 20m x 2m trenches were excavated at the site. The trenching at the site yielded a negative result and no archaeological features or artefacts were uncovered during the works. In Phase 3 three additional trenches (2 measuring 2m x 20 and 1 measuring 2m x 30m) were excavated within the south-western site area which was avoided during the previous phase. The works identified four archaeological features – the brick and clay foundations of a small structure, an infilled well/waterhole and two spreads of crushed brick with the material imported to create hardstanding in a wet area. All contained handmade brick of late-18th – mid-19th century date - although it is unclear whether the structures were of a later date utilising older material. It was also unclear whether the infilling of the waterhole was done with the material from the structure or whether it was brought in from elsewhere. What could be said with certainty is that all features are of late 18th century or later date. They may be as late as the middle of the 20th century.

During this phase of works the development footprint within the flood prone area was stripped under closely controlled observation to identify any further features. No new archaeological features were uncovered during the archaeological watching brief. Two features – the crushed brick foundations of a small agricultural outbuilding and an area of hardstanding associated with a boggy area around a waterhole which had been exposed during the previous phase of works were identified. Both features identified were related to the agricultural use of the site.

Bryn Hyfryd Farm and the surviving outbuildings on the site are of stone construction. The brick may have been reused from an earlier structure nearby. The lack of sources showing any structure in this area could indicate a later twentieth century structure reusing old material. No artefactual material was recovered from within either feature which could confirm the date with the features.

2.0 Project Aims & Objectives

The aim of this programme of works was to undertake an Archaeological Watching Brief on the area to the south-west area of the site within the flood prone area.

The aims of the programme of archaeological works were to assess the survival, character and date of any archaeological remains and to excavate, record and analyse all archaeological remains uncovered within the formation width and depth of the foundation design or within any service trenches.

This project aimed to fulfil the criteria for undertaking an Archaeological Watching Brief as specified in the CIfA Standard and Guidance documents “*Standard for Archaeological Excavation*” and “*Universal Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*” (published December 2023).

The objectives of this programme of works were:

- To identify and excavate/record all archaeological remains uncovered within the specified proposed development area.

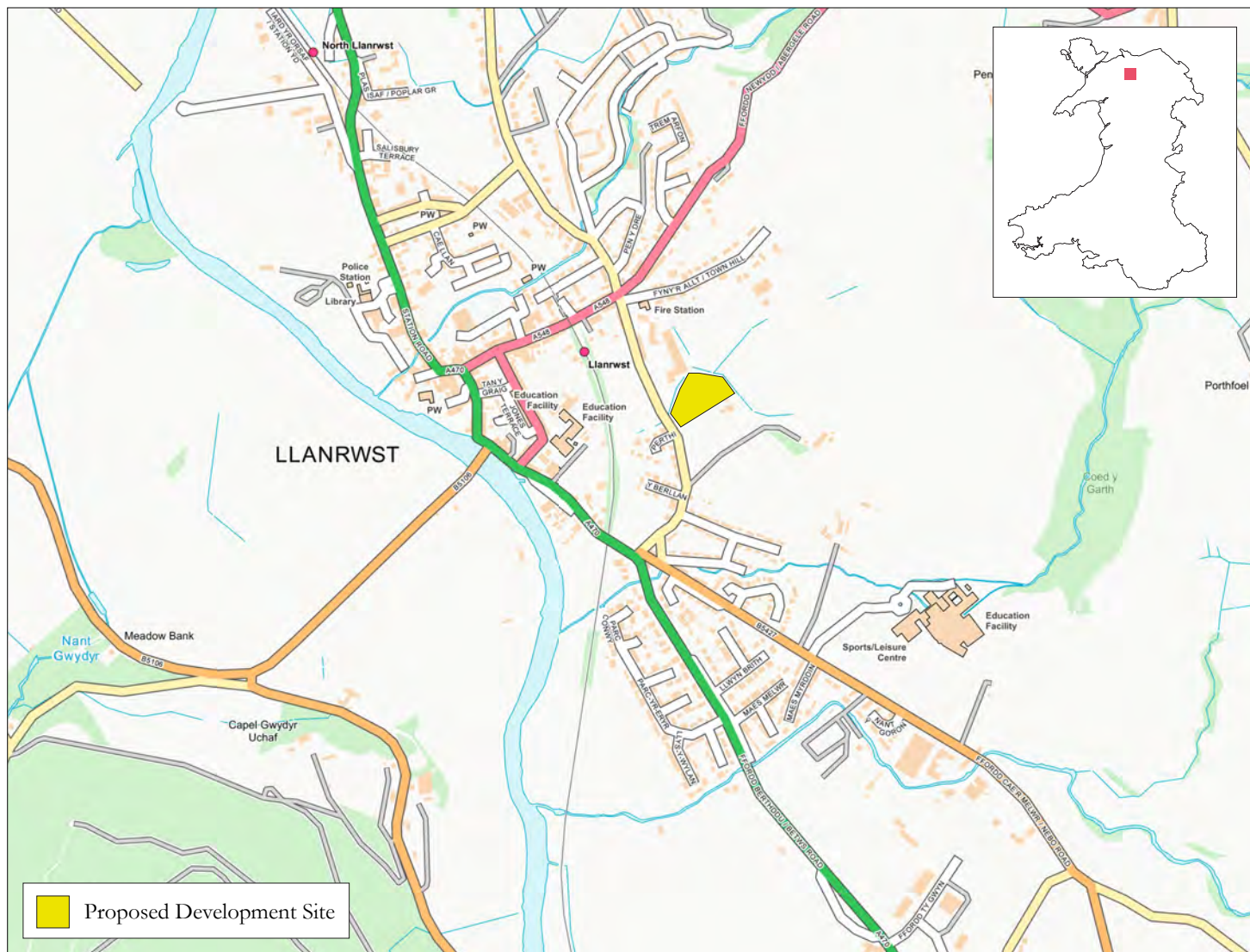


Figure 1. Site Location Map - Source: OS Open Data
(Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2019)

3.0 Scheme of Works – Methodology

The work undertaken at the site was an Archaeological Watching Brief and the following section details the methodology employed for the research, site work, post excavation and archiving associated with the project.

3.1 Desk Based Research

A complete and coherent history of the site was compiled as an element of the previous project phase. Additional research was not required due to the limited nature of the archaeological material uncovered during this phase of works and its similarity with the findings of the previous phase.

3.2 Archaeological Watching Brief

The site works were conducted under Watching Brief conditions. The development footprint within the area shown on figure 2 was excavated down to the level of the underlying natural. All machine excavation was supervised by an archaeologist from CR Archaeology.

Tracked excavators fitted with toothless buckets were utilised, and the stripping was undertaken in spits as directed by the archaeologist until archaeology/underlying natural was reached.

All archaeological features, structures or remains were cleaned and excavated by hand. Investigation of such features, structures or deposits was sufficient to determine their character, date, significance and quality.

No additional mitigations were required.

Fieldwork was conducted and managed by Matthew Jones (MA) of CR Archaeology.

The excavation works were carried out in accordance with the CIFA Standard and Guidance documents “*Standard for Archaeological Excavation*” and “*Universal Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*” (published December 2023).

3.2.1 Recording

The record forms at CR 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*. Sample forms can be provided on request. The written record comprises completed *pro-forma* record sheets.

A high-resolution 20 mega-pixel Sony Alpha digital camera was used to create a photographic record of the site. This will be comprised of photographs of archaeological features and appropriate groups of features and structures. General photographs were also be taken.

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

3.2.2 Additional Mitigation/Contingency Measures

No additional mitigation or contingency measures were required during these works.

3.2.3 Recovery, Processing and Curation of Artefactual Material

No artefactual material was recovered from excavated features. Post Medieval pottery from the topsoil was noted and discarded.

3.2.3.1 Material Selection Strategy

In accordance with the National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales Archaeological Archives: Selection, Retention and Disposal Guidelines for Wales (<http://www.welshmuseumsfederation.org/uploads/online%20resources/National%20Archaeology%20standards%20wales%202017/natstandardsfinal2019.pdf>) no artefactual material was retained for deposition.

3.2.3.2 Archive Compilation

All records created during the fieldwork were checked for consistency and accuracy and form the *Primary Site Archive (P1)* (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).

A copy of the digital archive will be deposited with the Heneb HER and with the RCAHMW. RCAHMW will be notified in advance of the deposition of any archive created by this archaeological project and archive material will be deposited in accordance with the organisation's terms and conditions for archive deposition.

3.2.3.3 Data Management Policy

A site-specific Data Management Plan has been created based upon the Historic England Archaeological Digital Archiving Protocol (ADAPT) Digital Preservation Policy (www.historicengland.org.uk/content/docs/research/adapt-digital-preservation-policy/). The format is based upon the Historic England pro forma document (www.historicengland.org.uk/research/methods/archaeology/archaeological-archives/adapt-toolkit/). The document is included as Appendix B.

3.3 Timetable for Proposed Works

Site works commenced on 27th May 2025 and were completed on the same day.

3.4 Staffing

The project was managed by Catherine Rees (MCIfA, BA (Archaeology), MA (Archaeology) Postgraduate Diploma (Historic Environment Conservation) & Matthew Jones (BA (Archaeology), MA (Archaeology)). The fieldwork was conducted by Matthew Jones.

All projects are carried out in accordance with CIfA *Standard and Guidance* documents.

3.5 Monitoring

The project was subject to monitoring by Heneb Planning Services who were kept informed of site progress and the results of the works.

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:

- Hi-visibility vests (EN471)

- Mobile Telephone
- Steel toe capped boots
- Hard Hat.

3.7 The Report

The 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 any photographs taken.

The final report includes:

- A bilingual summary
- A copy of the agreed Written Scheme of Investigation
- A location plan
- A plan showing the locations of the excavated areas
- 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/USB stick

A copy of the reports 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 reports will be submitted to Heneb as part of the formal submission. A digital Adobe PDF version and a bound paper copy of the final reports and will be lodged with the Gwynedd (Heneb) Historic Environment Record within six months of completion of post excavation works. The 2018 Guidance for the Submission of the Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records document will be followed.

3.7.1 Copyright

CR 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.

4.0 Topological and Geological Background

4.1 Topography

The application site is located off Ffordd Tan y'r Ysgol which forms the south-western site boundary. It is accessed via a lane off Ffordd Tan y'r Ysgol leading to Bryn Hyfryd Farm. This lane runs along the south-eastern site boundary. The field is bounded to the north-east by enclosed agricultural land. It is a generally flat area of land within an enclosed field system and is currently in use as grazing.

4.2 Geology

The bedrock geology at the site is recorded as “*Denbigh Grits Formation - Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 427 to 433 million years ago in the Silurian Period. Local environment previously dominated by deep seas. These sedimentary rocks are marine in origin. They are detrital and comprise coarse- to fine-grained slurries of debris from the continental shelf flowing into a deep-sea environment, forming distinctively graded beds*” (www.bgs.ac.uk).

The site is located at the boundary of two superficial geology types. They are recorded as “*River Terrace Deposits (undifferentiated) - Sand and Gravel. Superficial Deposits formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. Local environment previously dominated by rivers. Sedimentary deposits are fluvial in origin. They are detrital, ranging from coarse- to fine-grained and form beds and lenses of deposits reflecting the channels, floodplains and levees of a river or estuary (if in a coastal setting)*” and “*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 sedimentary*

deposits are glacial in origin. They are detrital, created by the action of ice and meltwater, they can form a wide range of deposits and geomorphologies associated with glacial and inter-glacial periods during the Quaternary” (www.bgs.ac.uk).

5.0 Historical Background

A full historical background for the site was conducted as an element of the previous works at the site. In summary searches of the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record conducted at 500m and 1000m radii of the site (central point) returned the following results - 47 within a 500m search radius, and 100 within a 1000m search radius. Within a 500m search radius there was 1 entry of Prehistoric date, 2 entries of Roman date, 1 entry of Medieval date, 41 of Post Medieval date, 1 of multiperiod date and a single entry recorded as of unknown date.

When the search is expanded to 1000m the majority of the results continue to be predominantly of Post Medieval date. At 1000m there were 2 Prehistoric entries, 3 entries of Roman date, 5 entries of Medieval date, 75 of Post Medieval date, 2 of Modern date, 1 of multiperiod date, and 11 entries recorded as of unknown date. There are 31 Listed Buildings within a 500m radius of the proposed development, and 53 within a 1000m search radius. One of the Listed Buildings – Pont Fawr Bridge is also a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

Despite the 1841 Tithe map of the development area being damaged, the map area within which the trenches were located remained intact. It was clearly shown that there were no structures marked in this area of the site. An examination of the historic Ordnance Survey documents covering the site between 1875-1949 showed no structures occupied the trenching area between those dates.

6.0 Results of Archaeological works (Figures 2 & 3, Plates 1-4)

A wedge shaped area measuring along the field boundary was machine stripped to the level of the underlying natural. The area measured approximately 40m along the field boundary and varied in width between 7m at the south-western end, splaying out to 32m in width at the north-eastern end (figure 2, plate 1).

Context (WB 01) was the topsoil – a turf layer with a mid-brown clay silt soil matrix containing rare stone and modern rubbish inclusions. The deposit was approximately 0.20m in depth. This was underlain by context (WB 02) – a brown clay silt subsoil approximately 0.11m in depth. A small quantity of late 19th to earlier 20th pottery was recovered from this deposit. The natural (WB 03) was a light white/grey clay natural with occasional gravel banding. Two features were recorded embedded in natural and sealed by the subsoil.

Feature (WB 04) was a large, irregular spread of crushed and fragmented brick. The spread measured c. 9m by 5m and had a depth of 0.10m. Feature (WB 04) was a continuation of a feature discovered during the previous evaluation trenching works. It was recorded as context (08) recorded in south-eastern area of the trench 2.2 a spread of crushed and fragmented brick, which was also identified in the geophysical survey (see figure 3 and plate 3). This feature was created as an area of hardstanding associated with a waterhole identified during the previous phase of works (see report CR199-2023).

An L-shaped spread of crushed and fragmented brick (WB 05) measuring 4.40m and 3m was also uncovered (figure 3, plate 4). It was 0.70m in width, with a depth of 0.08m-0.12. No cut was identified, and the feature was embedded in the natural leaving a concave shape. The feature was confirmed as the southern and western elements of the building foundations identified in Trench 2.3 (recorded as context 14) during the archaeological trenching phase. When supplemented by the geophysics results it can be demonstrated that the structure was divided into three spaces – two possible interior spaces and a walled yard.

7.0 Conclusion

No new archaeological features were uncovered during the archaeological watching brief. Two features

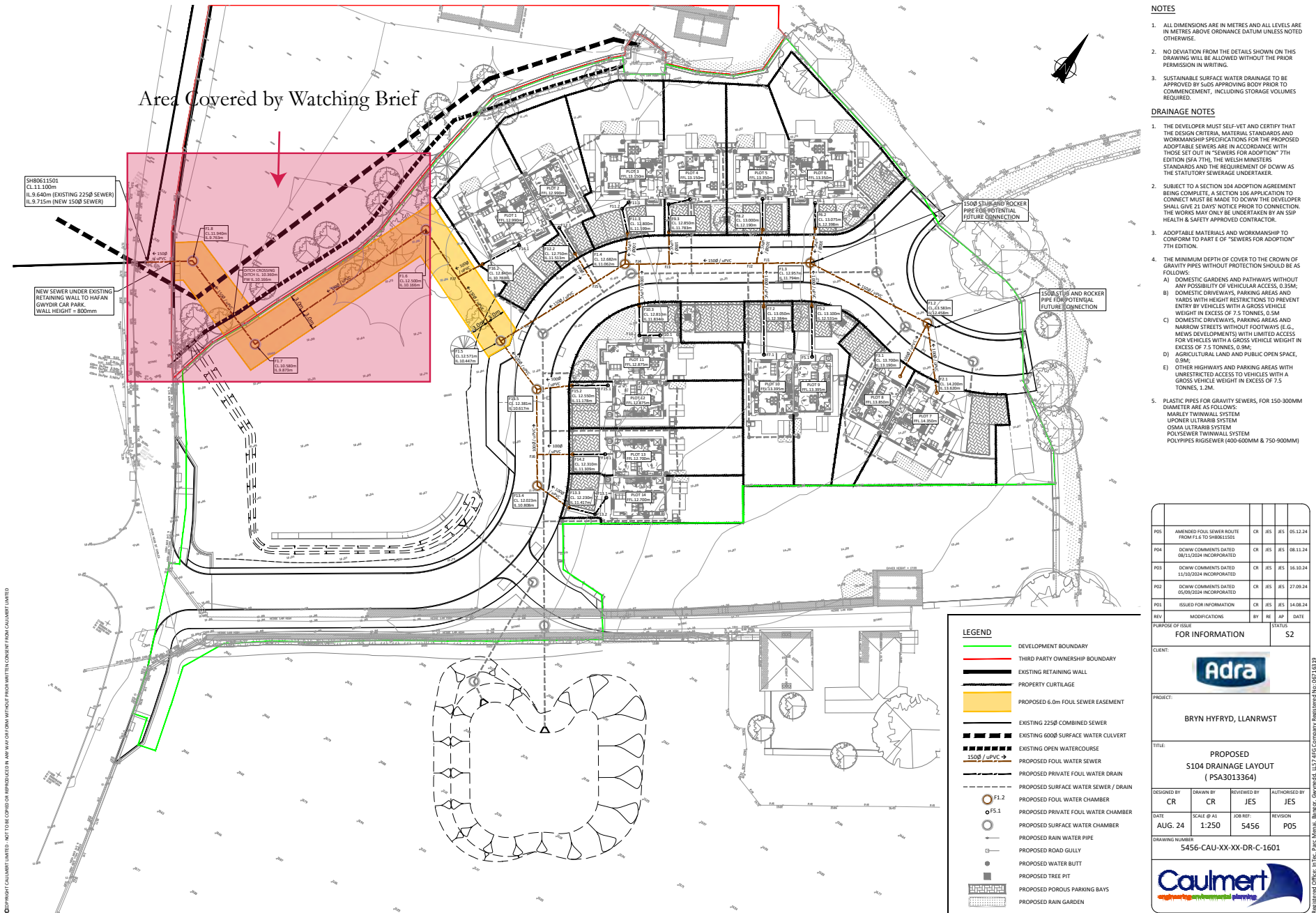


Figure 2. Watching Brief Area

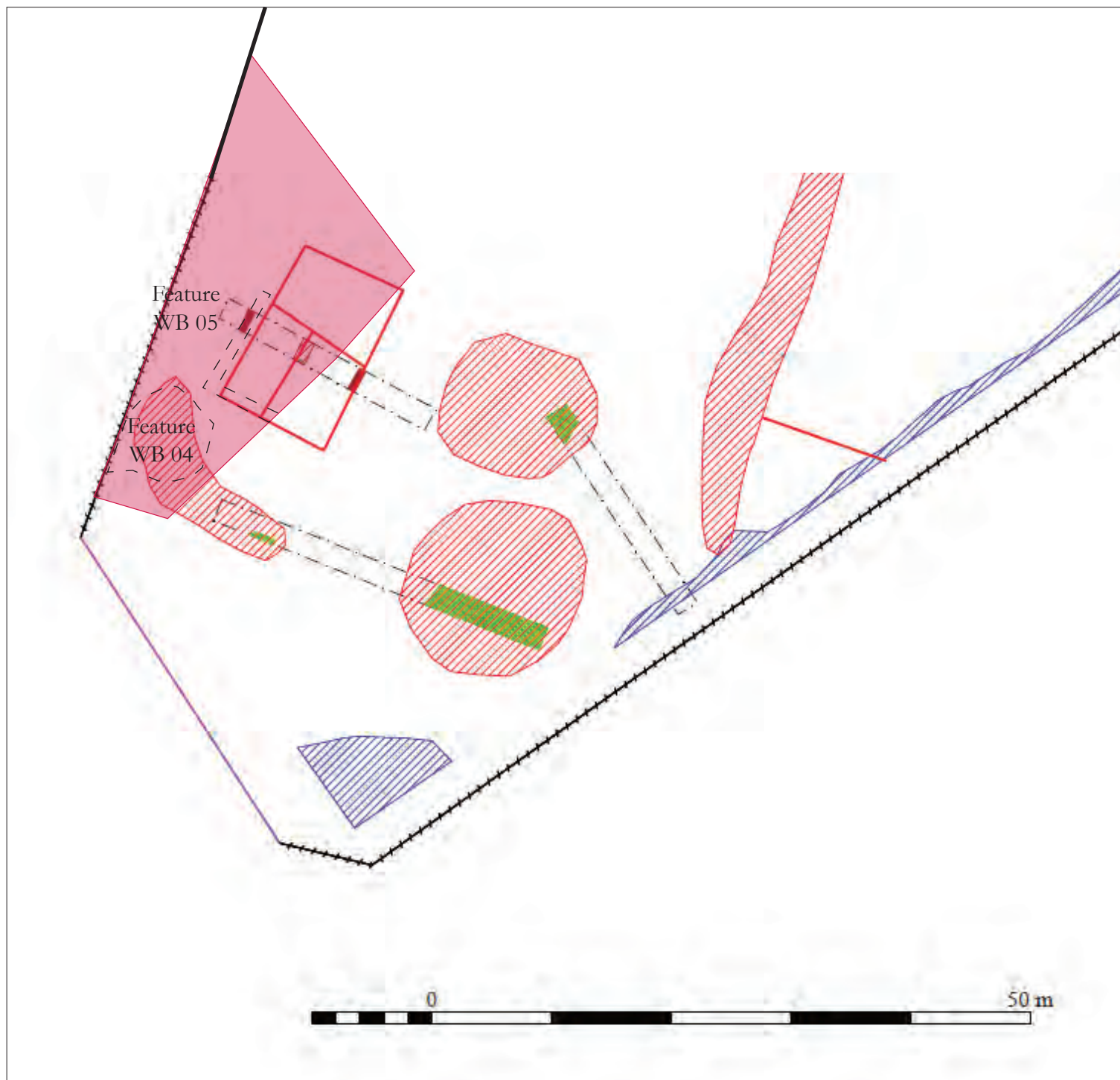


Figure 3. Trench Results Overlain Upon Results of Geophysical Survey



Plate 1. Site Following Excavation



Plate 2. Site Following Excavation



Plate 3. Brick Spread (WB 04)



Plate 4. Brick Foundations - Feature (WB 05)

which had been exposed during the previous phase of works were identified. Both features identified were related to the agricultural use of the site. The L-shaped feature was the foundations of a building. When supplemented by the geophysics results was demonstrated that the structure was divided into three spaces – two possible interior spaces and a walled yard. The second feature was an area of hardstanding associated with a waterhole identified during the previous phase of works.

Bryn Hyfryd Farm and the surviving outbuildings on the site are of stone construction. It is unclear therefore whether the crushed brick building foundations actually represent a brick structure or whether there were other materials such as wood on these foundations. The brick may have been reused from an earlier structure nearby. The lack of sources showing any structure in this area could indicate a later twentieth century structure reusing old material. It is again unclear whether the brick used to infill the waterhole was gathered from the destruction of the building in Trench 2.3. No artefactual material was recovered from within either feature which could resolve the issue of the date with the features.

8.0 Bibliography

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The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2023. *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording*.

Walker, K. 1990. *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage*. United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) Archaeology Section

Websites – all sites were visited 07/09/2023

<https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk>

Appendix A.
Specification for Archaeological Works

**Written Scheme of Investigation -
Archaeological Watching Brief at
Land Adj. to Bryn Hyfryd, Llanrwst
NGR SH 80270 61618**

Project Number CR199-2025



CR ARCHAEOLOGY

Compiled by C. Rees and M. Jones
On Behalf of Adra (Tai) Cyfyngedig

**Written Scheme of Investigation (Archaeological Watching Brief) at
Land Adj. to Bryn Hyfryd, Llanrwst**

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Illustrations

Figure 1. Site Location Map

Appendices

Appendix A. Data Management Plan

1.0 Introduction

CR Archaeology have been instructed by Adra (Tai) Cyfyngedig to conduct further archaeological works – a Targeted Archaeological Watching Brief on land adjacent to Bryn Hyfryd Farm, Llanrwst at the proposed site of a new residential development.

The site is located on land adjacent to Bryn Hyfryd Farm, Llanrwst (Figure 1). The farm and outbuildings are Grade II Listed buildings (Ref 3594 and 3595). They are recorded as having been built c. 1840. The proposed development area is currently in agricultural use, with the area immediately adjoining the road prone to flooding.

This will be the fourth phase of works at the site (Phase 1 - Desk Based Assessment & Geophysical Survey, Phases 2 & 3 – Evaluation Trenching) and will target the area to the south-west area of the site within the flood prone area.

In Phase 2 of the archaeological works five 20m x 2m trenches were excavated at the site. The trenching at the site yielded a negative result and no archaeological features or artefacts were uncovered during the works. In Phase 3 a further three trenches (2 measuring 2m x 20 and 1 measuring 2m x 30m) were excavated within the south-western site area which was avoided during the previous phase. The works identified four archaeological features – the brick and clay foundations of a small structure, an infilled well/waterhole and two spreads of crushed brick with the material imported to create hardstanding in a wet area. All contain handmade brick of late-18th – mid-19th century date - although it is unclear whether the structures are of a later date utilising older material. It is again unclear whether the infilling of the waterhole was done with the material from the structure or whether it was brought in from elsewhere. What can be said with certainty is that all features are of late 18th century or later date. They may be as late as the middle of the 20th century.

This Written Scheme of Investigation details a programme for an Archaeological Watching Brief on the footprint of the proposed development. The development footprint within the flood prone area will be stripped under closely controlled observation and surfaces in plan and section cleaned to identify features. Any archaeological features which will be destroyed by the foundations will be fully investigated to the formation width and depth of the foundation design.

2.0 Project Aims & Objectives

The aim of this programme of works is to undertake an Archaeological Watching Brief on the area to the south-west area of the site within the flood prone area.

The aims of the programme of archaeological works are to assess the survival, character and date of any archaeological remains and to excavate, record and analyse all archaeological remains uncovered within the formation width and depth of the foundation design or within any service trenches.

This project aims to fulfil the criteria for undertaking an Archaeological Watching Brief as specified in the CIfA Standard and Guidance documents “*Standard for Archaeological Excavation*” and “*Universal Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*” (published December 2023).

The objectives of this programme of works are:

- To identify and excavate/record all archaeological remains uncovered within the specified proposed development area

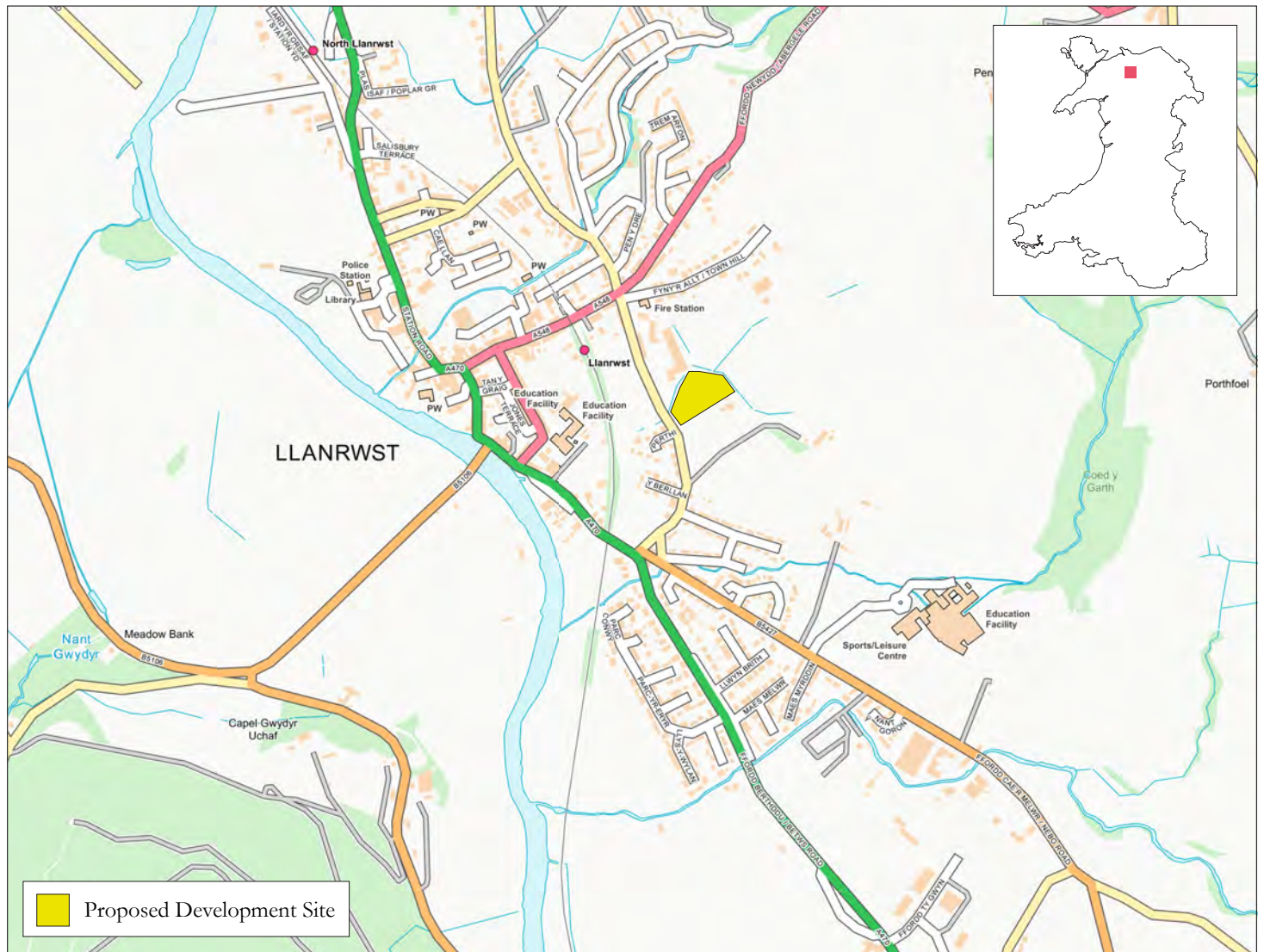


Figure 1. Site Location Map - Source: OS Open Data
(Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2019)

3.0 Brief Historical Background

A full historical background for the site was conducted as an element of the previous works at the site. In summary searches of the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record conducted at 500m and 1000m radii of the site (central point) returned the following results - 47 within a 500m search radius, and 100 within a 1000m search radius. Within a 500m search radius there was 1 entry of Prehistoric date, 2 entries of Roman date, 1 entry of Medieval date, 41 of Post Medieval date, 1 of multiperiod date and a single entry recorded as of unknown date.

When the search is expanded to 1000m the majority of the results continue to be predominantly of Post Medieval date. At 1000m there were 2 Prehistoric entries, 3 entries of Roman date, 5 entries of Medieval date, 75 of Post Medieval date, 2 of Modern date, 1 of multiperiod date, and 11 entries recorded as of unknown date.

There are 31 Listed Buildings within a 500m radius of the proposed development, and 53 within a 1000m search radius. One of the Listed Buildings – Pont Fawr Bridge is also a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

Despite the 1841 Tithe map of the development area being damaged, the map area within which the trenches were located remained intact. It was clearly shown that there were no structures marked in this area of the site. An examination of the historic Ordnance Survey documents covering the site between 1875-1949 showed no structures occupied the trenching area between those dates.

4.0 Geological Context

4.1 Topography

The application site is located off Ffordd Tan y'r Ysgol which forms the south-western site boundary. It is accessed via a lane off Ffordd Tan y'r Ysgol leading to Bryn Hyfryd Farm. This lane runs along the south-eastern site boundary. The field is bounded to the north-east by enclosed agricultural land. It is a generally flat area of land within an enclosed field system and is currently in use as grazing.

4.2 Geology

The bedrock geology at the site is recorded as “*Denbigh Grits Formation - Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 427 to 433 million years ago in the Silurian Period. Local environment previously dominated by deep seas. These sedimentary rocks are marine in origin. They are detrital and comprise coarse- to fine-grained slurries of debris from the continental shelf flowing into a deep-sea environment, forming distinctively graded beds*” (www.bgs.ac.uk).

The site is located at the boundary of two superficial geology types. They are recorded as “*River Terrace Deposits (undifferentiated) - Sand and Gravel. Superficial Deposits formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. Local environment previously dominated by rivers. Sedimentary deposits are fluvial in origin. They are detrital, ranging from coarse- to fine-grained and form beds and lenses of deposits reflecting the channels, floodplains and levees of a river or estuary (if in a coastal setting)*” and “*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 sedimentary deposits are glacial in origin. They are detrital, created by the action of ice and meltwater, they can form a wide range of deposits and geomorphologies associated with glacial and inter-glacial periods during the Quaternary*” (www.bgs.ac.uk).

5.0 Scheme of Works – Methodology

The work to be undertaken at the site is an Archaeological Watching Brief and the following section details the methodology for the research, site work, post excavation and archiving associated with the project.

5.1 Desk Based Research

A complete and coherent history of the site was compiled as an element of the previous project phase. Additional research will only be conducted in the event of a significant archaeological discovery and will seek to place the discovery within its regional and chronological context.

5.2 Archaeological Watching Brief

The site works are to be conducted under Watching Brief conditions. The development footprint within the area shown on figure 2 is to be excavated down to the required development depth. All machine excavation will be supervised by an archaeologist from CR Archaeology.

Plant will be tracked excavators fitted with toothless buckets where possible, and the stripping will be undertaken in spits as directed by the archaeologist until archaeology/required development depth is reached. All archaeological remains/potential archaeological remains identified during works will be marked using spray paint and, unless immediately evaluated and found to be natural features, their locations will be surveyed before being excavated by CR Archaeology staff.

All archaeological features, structures or remains will be cleaned and excavated by hand. Investigation of such features, structures or deposits will be sufficient to determine their character, date, significance and quality. Excavation will generally involve the removal 100% of discreet features such as pits/posthole fills within the development footprint. A 10-25% sample of larger features such as ditches will be excavated.

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 100% will be taken. Where possible (provided the feature contains this volume of material) the minimum sample size taken will be 40 litres.

Unless a significant archaeological discovery is made, excavation of features will be limited to the area which will be destroyed by the works. They will be fully investigated to the formation width and depth of the foundation design. However, contingency must be allowed in the event of a significant discovery.

In the event of a significant discovery Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services will be informed of the discovery and an appropriate mitigation strategy agreed before works will progress. Fieldwork is to be conducted and managed by Catherine Rees (MCIfA) & Matthew Jones (MA) of CR Archaeology.

The excavation works will be carried out in accordance with the CIfA Standard and Guidance documents “*Standard for Archaeological Excavation*” and “*Universal Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*” (published December 2023).

5.2.1 Recording

The record forms at CR Archaeology are based on the English Heritage system and full written, graphic and photographic records will be made in accordance with the English Heritage *Field Recording Manual*. Sample forms can be provided on request. The written record shall comprise completed *pro-forma* record sheets.

Plans, sections and elevations will be produced on gridded, archive standard stable polyester film at scales of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50, as appropriate. Representative measured sections will be prepared as appropriate showing the sequence and depths of deposits. All drawings will be numbered and listed in a drawing register, these drawing numbers being cross-referenced to written site records. A 'Harris matrix' diagram will be constructed for the excavated area.

A high-resolution 20 mega-pixel Sony Alpha digital camera will be used to create a photographic record of the site. This will be comprised of photographs of archaeological features and appropriate groups of features and structures. Included in each photograph will be an appropriate scale, north arrow and a record board detailing the site name, number and context number. General photographs will also be taken in the event of a negative result.

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.

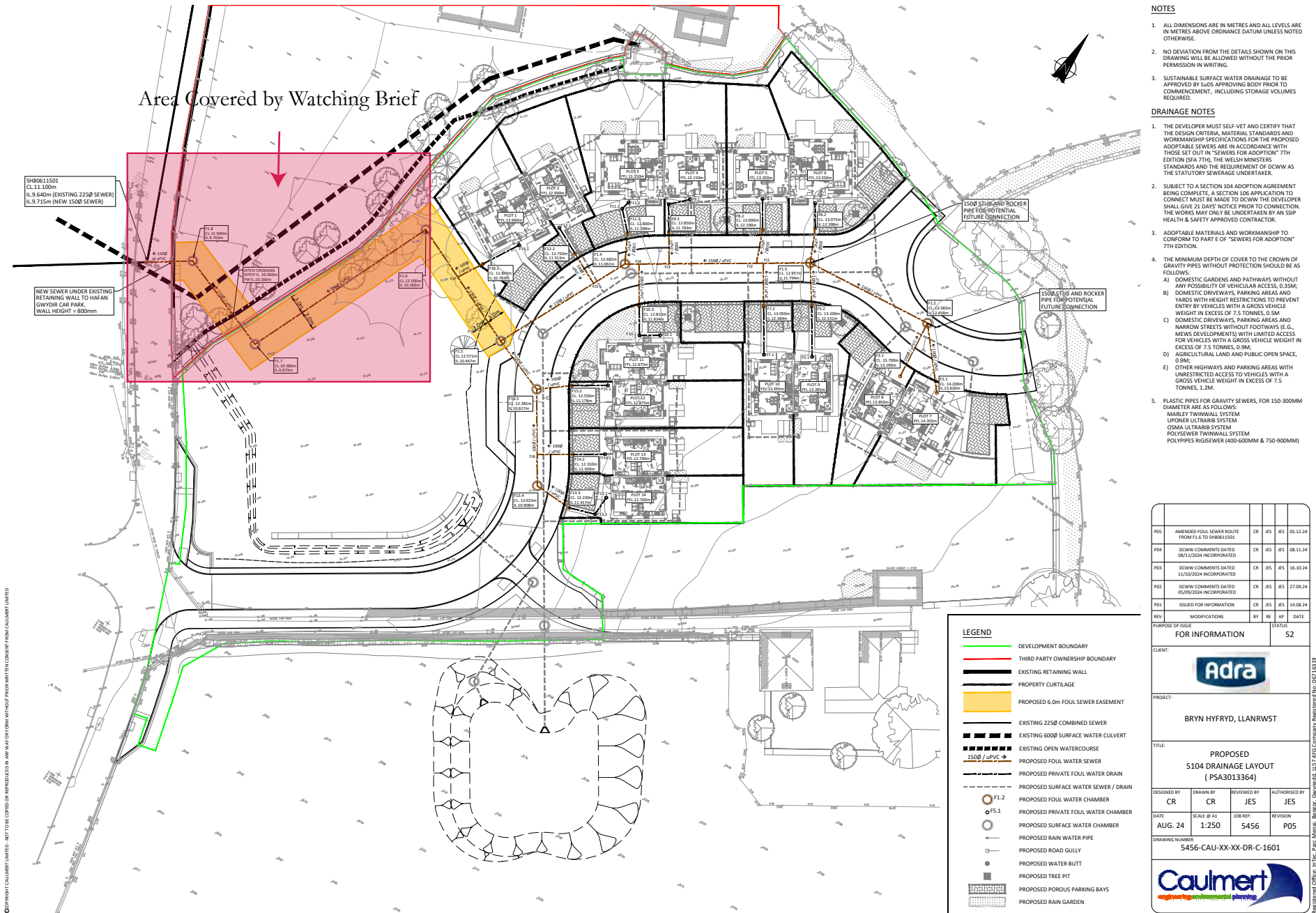


Figure 2. Watching Brief Area

Images from photography will be stored in a loss-less digital format in this case *.TIF.

5.2.2 Additional Mitigation/Contingency Measures

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

In the 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. Should this be undertaken a separate specification for works will be prepared detailing the excavation and post-excavation strategies.

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

5.2.3 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* (CIfA published 2014, updated 2020) 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.

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, prehistoric pottery will be examined by Frances Lynch and lithics by Dr Ian Brooks. A list of further specialists will be submitted to Gwynedd Archaeological Trust if necessary and the relevant expertise will be sought. 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, it is proposed that archaeological material recovered will be deposited in the local museum although the owner reserves the right to retain the artefactual material. Should no artefactual material be recovered the paper/digital archive will be deposited with the RCAHMS.

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 Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (Published 2014, updated 2020).

5.2.3.1 Material Selection Strategy

The material selected for retention will be determined in accordance with the National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales Archaeological Archives: Selection, Retention and Disposal Guidelines for Wales (<http://www.welshmuseumsfederation.org/uploads/online%20resources/National%20Archaeology%20standards%20wales%202017/natstandardsfinal2019.pdf>).

5.2.3.2 Archive Compilation

All records created during the fieldwork will be checked for consistency and accuracy and will form part of the *Primary Site Archive (P1)* (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. It is hoped that any archive/artefactual material created/discovered during this archaeological project will be deposited at the county museum. Archive material will be deposited in accordance with the museum's terms and conditions for archive deposition. In the event that no artefactual material is recovered or that the material is retained by the landowner the paper/digital archive will be deposited at the RCAHMW.

A copy of the digital archive will be deposited with the Heneb HER and with the RCAHMW. RCAHMW will be notified in advance of the deposition of any archive created by this archaeological project and archive material will be deposited in accordance with the organisation's terms and conditions for archive deposition.

5.2.3.3 Data Management Policy

A site-specific Data Management Plan has been created based upon the Historic England Archaeological Digital Archiving Protocol (ADAPt) Digital Preservation Policy (www.historicengland.org.uk/content/docs/research/adapt-digital-preservation-policy/). The format is based upon the Historic England pro forma document (www.historicengland.org.uk/research/methods/archaeology/archaeological-archives/adapt-toolkit/). The preliminary document is included as Appendix A.

5.3 Timetable for Proposed Works

It is envisaged that the works will commence within the next 6 months. CR Archaeology staff will attend site as required on a day rate. Further time has been allotted for archive research, report compilation and site archiving.

5.4 Staffing

The project will be managed by Catherine Rees (MCIFA, BA (Archaeology), MA (Archaeology) Postgraduate Diploma (Historic Environment Conservation) & Matthew Jones (BA (Archaeology), MA (Archaeology)). The fieldwork will be conducted by Matthew Jones and/or Catherine Rees.

All projects are carried out in accordance with CIFA *Standard and Guidance* documents.

5.5 Monitoring

The project will be subject to monitoring by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services who will be kept informed of site progress and the results of the works. A site visit will be arranged as necessary.

5.6 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:

- Hi-visibility vests (EN471)
- Mobile Telephone
- Steel toe capped boots
- Hard Hat

Any further PPE required will be provided by CR Archaeology

5.7 The Report

The reports 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 any photographs taken.

The final report will include:

- A bilingual summary
- A copy of the agreed Written Scheme of Investigation
- A location plan
- A plan showing the locations of the excavated areas
- 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/USB stick

A copy of the reports 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 reports will be submitted to Heneb as part of the formal submission. A digital Adobe PDF version and a bound paper copy of the final reports and will be lodged with the Gwynedd (Heneb) Historic Environment Record within six months of completion of post excavation works. The 2018 Guidance for the Submission of the Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records document will be followed.

A short article will be submitted to the Archaeology in Wales Journal and other publications as appropriate.

5.7.1 Copyright

CR 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.

6.0 Bibliography

AAF. 2007. *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*

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

Rees, C. and Jones, M. 2023. *Results of Archaeological Works (Trial Trenching – Second Phase) at Land Adj. to Bryn Hyfryd, Llanrwst*. CR Archaeology Report CR199-2023.

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014 – Revised 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. *Code of Conduct: Professional Ethics in Archaeology*.

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014 – Updated 2020. *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives*.

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2014 – Updated 2020. *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*.

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2019 – Revised 2024. *Regulations for Professional Conduct*

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2023. *Standard for Archaeological Investigation*.

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2023. *Standard for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording*.

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2023. *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*.

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2023. *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording*.

Walker, K.1990. *Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long-term storage*.
United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) Archaeology Section

Websites – all sites were visited 07/09/2023

<https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk>

Appendix B.
Data Management Plan



Data Management Plan

Project Outline

Project Manager	Catherine Rees
Project Number	CR199-2025
Project Name	Llanrwst_Housing
Author(s)	C. Rees
Origination Date:	09-12-2024
Reviser(s)	C. Rees
Date of last revision	30/05/2025
Project stages covered	Archaeological Watching Brief
Version	1.1
Status	Complete
Summary of Changes	n/a
File Name/Location	H: CR Archaeology 2024-2025 Projects: CR199-2025_ Llanrwst_Housing
Related Policies	CR199-2025_ Llanrwst_Housing_Selection_Strategy

Data Collection/Creation

Data to be Collected/Created	<p>The CR Archaeology standard pro forma recording system used on site. Images will be created according to standards set out in ADAPt Guidance. All file formats created will meet the standards set out in ADAPt.</p> <p>Drawings will be created by hand on polyester drawing film, using 4H/6H Staedtler Mars Lumograph pencils and scanned in at standards set out in ADAPt.</p> <p>The documentary archive will consist of: Text: Various Word Documents; including Project Design, Assessment Reports, Site Archive Completion Report.</p> <p>Databases: Access/Excel databases</p> <p>Images: Hard copy drawings, digital images including x-rays, site photography (JPEG & TIFF), scanned drawings</p>
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How Data will be Collected/Created	The data will be created according to the CR Archaeology Recording Manual, and ADAPt
Relations	If the data collection was derived in whole or in part from published or unpublished sources, whether printed or machine-readable, please give references to the original material. Please give details of where the sources are held and how they are identified there (e.g. by accession number). If the collection is derived from other sources please indicate whether the data represent a complete or partial transcription/copy and the methodology used for its computerisation. Clearly state whether the data represents a clear enhancement of this previous dataset

Documentation and Metadata

Metadata	Metadata will be created to the standard set out in ADAPt
Documentation	Describe the types of documentation that will accompany the data to help secondary users to understand and reuse it.

Ethical and Legal Compliance

Data Security Issues	Document if there are any issues such as: Does the data need to be embargoed to protect the site(s)? Is some of the data protected under data protection legislation? Does the dataset contain commercially sensitive data? Detail how any issues are to be dealt with.
Intellectual Property Rights	The data and reports created by any external specialists will be CR Archaeology Copyright; this will be managed through their contracts.

Data Storage

Storage and Backup	Data will be stored on the CR Archaeology Network and during excavation will be managed in line with Project Procedures for backing up data and transfer to network.
Access and Security	Data will be made available to the project team through the CR Archaeology network. There are no security issues.

Selection and Preservation

Preservation Plan	In the event of archaeological material being recovered on site the physical archive, the documentary archive and the digital archive will be deposited with the artefactual material at the local museum. Should artefactual material of value be encountered the landowner reserves the right to retention.
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	<p>The documentary archive will contain any hard copy data reports the repository wish to receive.</p> <p>A copy of the digital archive will be sent to the RCAHMW.</p> <p>In the event of a negative result or no artefactual material being recovered the documentary and digital archives will be deposited with the RCAHMW.</p> <p>Copies of the project report and photographs will be deposited with the appropriate HER.</p>
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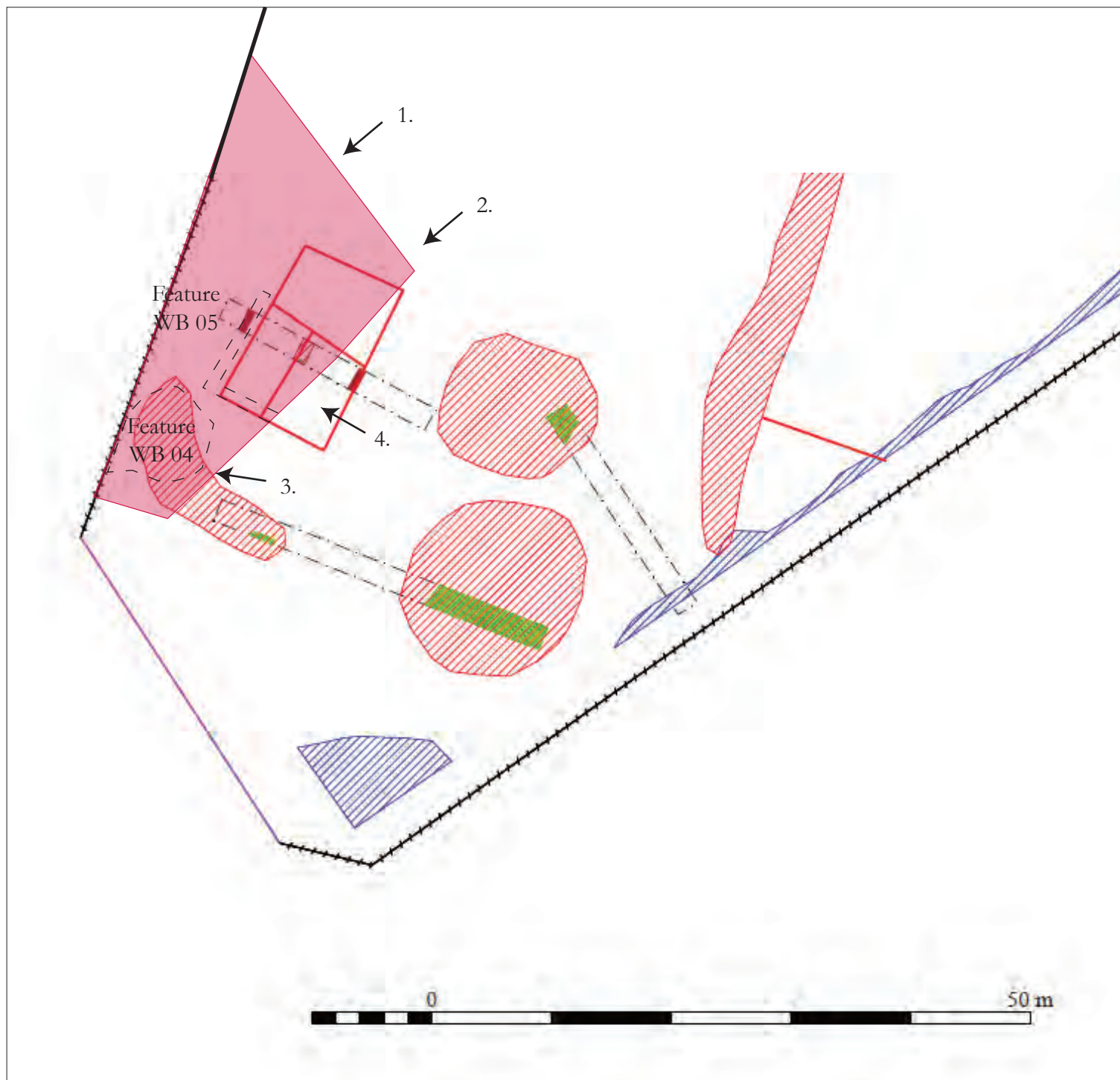
Data Sharing

Data Sharing Plan	The data generated from this project will be made publicly available through the digital repositories. Awareness of the work will be raised through publication, and documentation with the HER.
Data Sharing Restrictions	There are no restrictions on the use of this data after project completion.

Responsibilities and Resources

Responsibilities	The Project Manager and Archaeological Archives Curator are responsible for ensuring the data management plan is followed.
Resources	Resources required to deliver this plan are covered by standard CR Archaeology resources and the project design. The costs of deposition of the archive are covered by the client.

Appendix C.
Location and Direction of Photographic Plates



Appendix C. Location and Direction of Photographic Plates