

Results of Archaeological Works at

The Old Police Station, Caernarfon,

Gwynedd



NGR SH 247708 362695

Report Number CR61-2014



C.R Archaeology

Compiled by C. Rees & M. Jones
on Behalf of Mr Aled Jones, Cymen

Acknowledgements

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1.0 Introduction

C.R Archaeology were instructed by Mr Aled Jones, Cymen to conduct archaeological works at The Old Police Station, Caernarfon in compliance with conditions placed on their planning application (Planning Application C13/1077/14/LL).

The Old Police Station, Caernarfon (Figure 1) is situated within the historic town walls at the western end of Castle Ditch, abutting the Town Wall directly opposite Caernarfon Castle. It is a Grade I Listed Building (Listed Building Reference 3827), listed as an example of a well-preserved 19th Century public building of strong architectural character. It is an integral component of an important group of public buildings which includes the former Shire Hall and the former jail. The Old Police Station is also considered to be an important contributing element to the setting of Caernarfon Castle.

The western gable of the building incorporates part of the Medieval Town Wall which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Cn034) and part of the Caernarfon World Heritage Site. The Old Police Station as a whole is within the essential setting of the World Heritage Site and the Caernarfon Conservation Area.

Planning permission has been granted for a change of use for the building from a Police Station into offices (see Appendix A for proposed plans).

A specification (CR60-2014) was written with reference to correspondence from GAPS (Ref 0105je01/D1634 dated January 5th 2012) and following a discussion and site visit (December 5th 2014) with Development Control Archaeologist Jenny Emmett of GAPS as a methodology for a programme of works. This document is included as Appendix B.

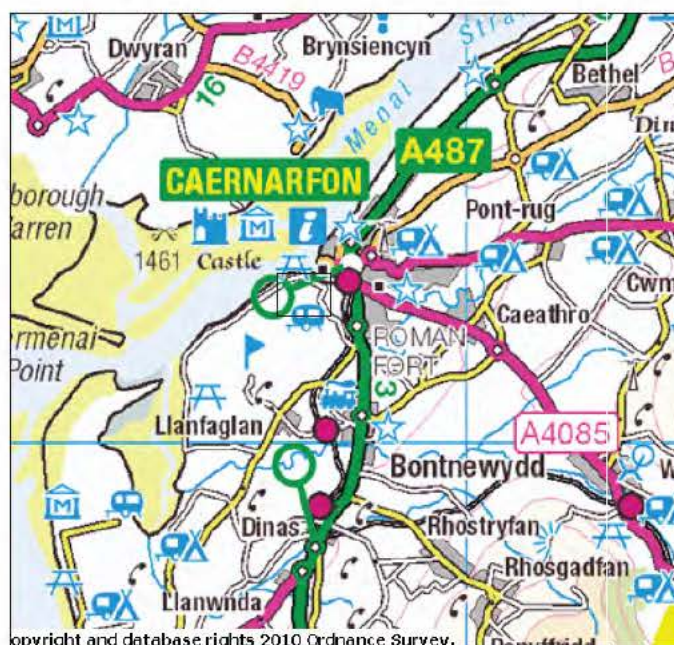
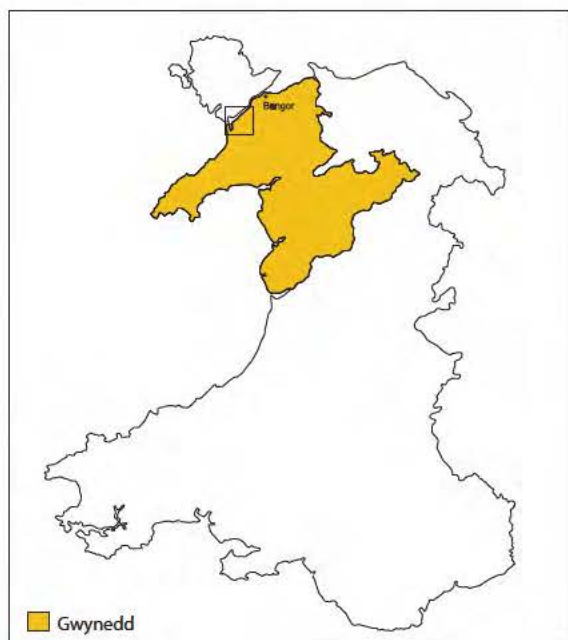


Figure 1. Old Police Station Location Map
 (Source: OS Open Data Mapping Contains Ordnance Survey data
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2.0 Project Aims

The programme of works conducted at the Old Police Station aimed to create a Level 2/3 Historic Building Record and thus its aims were two-fold.

The first aim of this scheme of works was to undertake desk based historical research exploring the history of the building. This information includes a map progression, photographic illustrations and archival research which was conducted in order to compile a coherent narrative history of the site.

The second aim of the archaeological investigation was to create a comprehensive level 2/3 photographic record of the site. The locations of the photographs taken will be added to drawings provided by the client.

Archaeological works aimed to further enhance this record through the monitoring of demolition works and the stripping of interior render. When structural elements have been removed the remaining building exposed was photographed with scales and any blocked architectural features/ building joints/ alterations or changes in fabric will be recorded.

The objectives of the archaeological programme are to provide an archive record of the building; to increase understanding of the site's history, development and significance; to ensure the recording and interpretation of any information revealed during the course of the works.

3.0 Scheme of Works - Methodology

3.1 Scheme of Works – Methodology for Building Recording at The Old Police Station

The methodology employed conformed to the requirements of a Level 2/3 Building Record as specified in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006) and The Institute for Archaeologists: *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (Revised 2008).

The following points are detailed in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006).

The record created for the Old Police Station consists of:

Written Account	Points 1-3, 5-8, 12, 18 & 22
Drawings	Points 2, 4, 7-9
Photography	Points 1-9.

3.1.1 Desk Based Research

A complete and coherent history of the site was compiled utilising information sourced from Bangor University Archives & Gwynedd Archives. A full map progression was undertaken along with a search of estate records and general archival research. Web resources were also utilised.

The works were conducted in accordance with the IfA Standards and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment (IfA 2009) and include the information required to fulfil points 1-3, 5-8, 12, 18 & 22 as specified in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006).

This material forms the historical background for the archaeological report. The report also includes the results of the photographic survey and an additional compact disc containing all site images in Tiff format.

3.1.2 Drawn Survey

Architects drawings of the elevations and plans were produced for the property by Ap Thomas Partnership and it was not felt necessary to replicate these existing works. Copies of these documents have been incorporated into and discussed in the text. These drawings have been annotated and amended to reflect the current building layout and to aid interpretation of building phasing.

These drawings fulfil points 2 & 4 as specified in “*Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*” (English Heritage 2006). Location plans and historical material have been produced/sourced by C.R Archaeology to fulfil criteria 8-9 in the aforementioned document.

3.1.3 Photographic Survey

A photographic survey of the Old Police Station was undertaken. This includes:

- 1) A photographic survey of the exterior of the Old Police Station*
- 2) A photographic survey of the interior of the Old Police Station

*Works on site had commenced prior to the site visit by C.R Archaeology and the front elevation of the Old Police Station was partially obscured by scaffolding.

The methodology employed conformed to the requirements of photographic recording to the equivalent of a Level 3 Survey, as specified in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006) and includes works specified in points 1-9.

3.1.3.1 Equipment

A photographic survey of the Old Police Station was undertaken using a 14.2 mega-pixel Sony Alpha-350 digital camera with a variety of standard and other lenses using a tripod where necessary. Images were captured in RAW format for later processing into high resolution JPG and TIFF files.

Where possible all exterior and interior elevations of the building were photographed with scales from ground level. Additional photographs were taken detailing important architectural features.

3.2 Scheme of Works – Methodology for Archaeological Watching Brief at the Old Police Station, Caernarfon

Limited works which affected the historic interior of the building were planned and a watching brief was conducted when sections of the the ground floor walls were removed. A photographic record was made and building materials noted.

Fieldwork was conducted by Matthew Jones of C.R Archaeology.

3.2.1 Additional Mitigation/Contingency Measures

No additional mitigation/contingency measures were required during this phase of works.

3.2.2 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.

Bangor Museum will be notified in advance of the proposed work and the deposition of any archive created by this archaeological project and archive material will be deposited in accordance with the museum's terms and conditions for archive deposition.

3.3.0 Timetable for Proposed Works

Works at the Old Police Station commenced on 5th February. Initial site work took place over one day with further site visits when stripping out or demolition was undertaken. Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services were informed of the exact site days to allow monitoring of works.

3.3.1 Staffing

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

3.3.2 Monitoring

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

3.3.3 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 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).

C.R Archaeology staff 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.

3.3.4 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 photographs taken.

The report includes:

- A copy of the design brief and agreed specification
- A location plan
- A descriptive and interpretive written account of the building, building history and building phases
- Architects and historical plans and elevations
- A plan illustrating the location and direction of any photographs or drawings
- Full dimensional and descriptive detail, a full bibliography of sources consulted
- An archive compact disc

The report details the results of the Level 2/3 Building recording at the Old Police Station. The results of the current programme of interior works are also included and a supplementary report will be produced should any groundworks be required.

Copies 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.

3.3.4.1 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 Geographical and Geological Context

4.1 Topography

The site is located within the Parish of Llanbeblig on a fertile low-lying area overlooking the Menai Straits.

The Old Police Station, Caernarfon is situated within the historic town walls at the western end of Castle Ditch, abutting the Town Wall directly opposite Caernarfon Castle.

4.2 Geology

The superficial geology of the site is described as “fluvial deposits” and the bedrock is not detailed. The deposit is described as “normally soft to firm consolidated, compressible silty clay, but can contain layers of silt, sand, peat and basal gravel. A stronger, desiccated surface zone may be present” (www.bgs.ac.uk).

5.0 Historical Background

For ease of interpretation this section has been divided into a brief history of the town of Caernarfon, followed by a more detailed section specific to the Old Police Station and its immediate environs.

5.1 A Brief Introduction to the Development of the Town of Caernarfon

The earliest major settlement within the Caernarfon area was the establishment of the Roman fort of Segontium on a small plateau above the Seiont River in A.D 77. The fort was occupied until A.D 393 and following the Roman withdrawal this area of Caernarfon continued to be occupied on a limited scale with the foundation of Llanbeblig church in A.D 433 (Haslam, Orbach & Voelcker 2009: 280).

It is recorded that as part of the Norman incursions into Wales after 1066 Earl Hugh of Chester built a 'castle' within the area of the later Edwardian castle (Williams-Jones 1978: 75). This site and the surrounding area was later reclaimed by the Welsh leader Gruffydd ap Cynan (Maund 2004: 38).

The earliest reference to a recognisable name of Caernarfon comes from Gerald of Wales in 1188 when they passed the town on the way to Bangor (Thorpe 1978: 183-185). Variations of the Caernarfon name appear in the official documents of Llywelyn the Great and Llywelyn the Last dating from 1221 to 1272 (Williams-Jones 1978: 74).

It is clear that there was a major 13th century Welsh settlement in this area up until the Edwardian conquest in 1282 (Jones Pierce & Griffiths 1937-9: 237-8). Documents record the demolishing of the Welsh settlement in 1283 to make way for the building of the English Castle, town and town walls. The walls enclosed an area of ten acres with three parallel streets laid out north to south which were crossed half way along their length to create a grid system of eight sections. This encompassed sixty-five to seventy Burgess plots with each plot measuring approximately 24 by 18 meters (Williams-Jones 1978: 75-78).

Edward introduced the English legal system into Wales. Areas were administered through the formation of Shires or counties of which Caernarfonshire was one. As the county town Caernarfon was to be the commercial and administrative centre for the new Shire (Hughes 2007: 9).

The town suffered greatly throughout the Owain Glyndwr rebellion of 1400 - 1415 but following this period of tension and destruction the town underwent a revival with many of the major local families buying property within the town walls. An exchequer commission in 1613 states that the greater gentry of the area were in possession of much property in Caernarfon (Williams-Jones 1978: 92).

In his travel writings Pennant observed that Caernarfon was a place of lawyers and was rich in timber buildings. The town became a centre for administration in the North Wales area and formed a focus for cultural life and early tourism following the end of the Napoleonic Wars (Haslam, Orbach & Voelcker 2009: 281).

In the early 19th century The Cambrian tourist guide states that there where new buildings being put up within the town walls and these new market houses were being constructed with over and under warerooms (Cambrian Tourist Guide and Companion 1813). The growth of Caernarfon continued into the 19th Century and by the early 20th Century was a thriving industrial town and seaport with railways from Snowdonia bringing slate and metals down to quays round the estuary, and to the new Victoria Dock (Haslam, Orbach & Voelcker 2009: 281).

5.2 A History of the Old Police Station, Castle Ditch, Caernarfon

Castle Ditch, Caernarfon is orientated east-west within the Town Walls and runs adjacent to the castle. It is a mid Nineteenth Century street created by Anthony Salvin which runs through the gap in the Medieval Town Walls left for the castle's ditch from Castle Square through to the quay west of Water Gate. (Haslam, Orbach & Voelcker 2009: 305). The Old Police Station is located at the western end of this street.

The origins of the name of are somewhat self explanatory and the street occupies the area of the Caernarfon Castle ditch or moat. The Welsh name for the street was recorded as Pen-ditch, meaning the head or end of the ditch. An account of the castle ditch is given in “Old Karnarvon”, an account and history of the town produced in 1882. It records:

“The ditch appears to have been at its greatest width from twenty-five to thirty feet wide, and it would seem to have been lined with masonry or pebbles, as will appear on looking into the part now opened at its juncture with the town wall near the Eagle Tower. Here the termination of the original lining can be clearly distinguished. The water with which this moat was supplied was, I am

given to understand, obtained from the river Cadnant, and this river also formed the moat which made a more perfect defence of the town, outside the town walls. The overflow of the castle ditch would probably be conveyed by a trench through an arch, and so into the Menai.

It has been suggested to me that this ditch was never filled with water; that if it had been, the wells of drinking water for the castle – the only means of obtaining water for garrison purposes – would have been spoiled; but I cannot entertain this suggestion, for the Cadnant water is fresh water, and would not have any detrimental effect upon the wells, especially by the time it had been filtered through the intervening soil. I have a view of the Castle-ditch drawn over a hundred years ago (1773), in which it is shown to be filled with soil, as many still remember. An old bridge spanning from a mound of earth to the King's Gate was the means of entrance to the castle” (Jones 1882: 93-4).

The earliest map showing the complete plan of Caernarfon was produced in 1610 by John Speed (figure 2). This map clearly shows the area within the town walls is divided into eight sections with the blocks fronting onto Castle Ditch largely undeveloped. The exception to this is the area now occupied by the Old Police Station and County Hall. The “Free Schole” is located in this area along with the Shire Hall. The Medieval court house and Justicar's lodging were located in this area (beneath the current County Hall) showing a remarkable continuity of administrative and judiciary buildings in this area of the town (Haslam et al. 2009: 302).

The next map produced which detailed this area of the town was the Vaynol Survey of estate lands in 1777 (figure 3). The portion including Caernarfon Town Walls shows Castle Ditch as a wide area adjacent to the castle. It shows properties lining Castle Ditch but no detail is given and the map is somewhat schematic and only details estate properties. Much the same is true of a survey of the Glynllifon Estate Land belonging Lord Newborough was completed in 1790 (figure 4).

The late Eighteenth Century was a time of great reform with the publication of John Howard's infamous tomes “The State of the Prisons in England and Wales” published between 1775 and 1790 which condemned the conditions in penitentiaries of this time. The buildings visited by Howard on his travels were rarely purpose built and were usually in a poor state of repair with no sewers or fresh water supply and infested with disease and vermin. The diets of inmates were dependant on their ability to pay fees, with poor inmates starving and reliant on charity whilst more affluent prisoners were able to pay for a comfortable lifestyle which could include the right to be released



Figure 2. Speed's Plan of Caernarfon Dated 1610 (Source: Jones 1882)



Figure 3. Except from the 1777 Vaynol Survey of Estate Lands, Caernarfon (Source: Gwynedd Archives VA.4056)

during the day. All prisoners including men, women and children could be housed together with no consideration of the severity of crimes committed (Brodie et al 1999: 6-7).

Howard was critical of his visit to Caernarfon and states in his remarks that “*This gaol is also the Bridewell. Rooms incommodious and dirty. Clauses of act against Spirituous Liquors not hung up. Great sessions at Conway. Thomas has £5 a year as Keeper of Bridewell. He flops from each Felon's allowance six pence a week for, what he calls, his Trouble of Weekly Payments. No table of fees. I hear the county intend to build a new gaol*” (Howard 1790: 462). The new gaol was built by Joseph Turner in 1793 (later rebuilt 1867-9 by John Thomas) to the rear of the site of the Old Police Station (Haslam et al 2009: 302).

A plan of Caernarfon produced in 1810 (figure 5) does not show any detail of the buildings in this area of the town but interestingly Shire Hall Street, the location of the prison is renamed Gaol Street.

John Wood produced two maps of Caernarfon, the first in 1834 (figure 6) and the second in 1848 (figure 7). As on Speed's 1610 Map the property occupying the location of the Old Police Station is the County Hall (Number 17 on the accompanying schedule). The County Gaol is shown to the rear of the hall (Number 15 on the accompanying schedule). Gaol Street has returned to its original name of Shire Hall Street.

This period overlaps with the production of the Tithe Map in 1841. The Tithe map simply shows the enclosing walls with no internal detail and there is no tithe return for the area of Caernarfon within the Town Walls. The larger scale schedule map does show some details of the street layout within the walls and the familiar gridded street pattern is shown. It is not possible to identify individual properties from this map.

A date stone on the Old Police Station gives the build date as 1853 which pre-dates the establishment of the police force in Caernarfon by four years (Gwynedd Archives XJ/1). Although it would therefore seem possible that the building was not originally erected for this purpose the building architect and County Surveyor, John Lloyd, did also design Police Stations in Brynsiencyn, Dolgellau and Conwy at around this time (www.carnarvontraders.com).

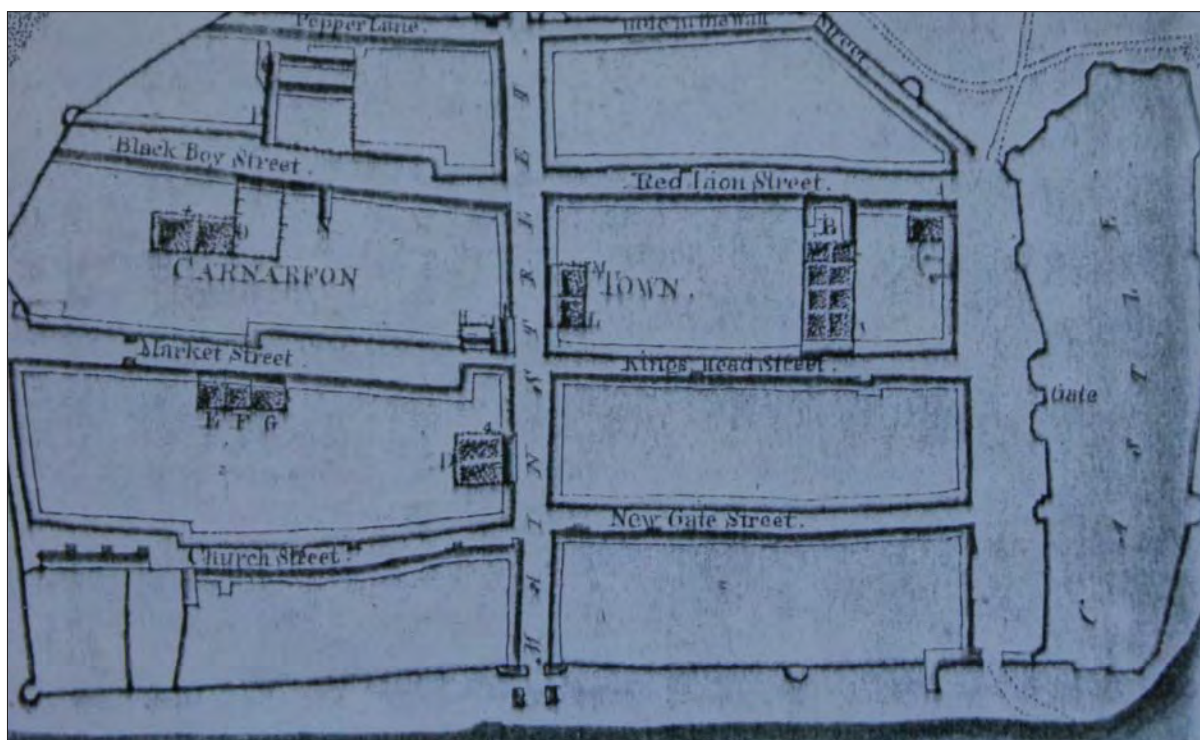


Figure 4. Except from the 1790 Glynllifon Survey of Estate Lands, Caernarfon
(Source: Gwynedd Archives XM Maps 4573)



Figure 5. Except from an 1810 Plan of Caernarfon
(Source: Gwynedd Archives XM Maps 1398)



Figure 6. John Wood's 1834 Map of Caernarfon
(Source: Gwynedd Archives XM/Maps/1333/1)



Figure 7. John Wood's 1848 Map of Caernarfon
(Source: Gwynedd Archives XM 493)

Haslam et al records that the building was built as the first County Hall by John Lloyd (Haslam et al 2009: 304). This appears to be in part incorrect as the aforementioned John Wood maps show that the County Hall already occupied this location prior to 1834 and therefore this building could not have been the first hall. It is however possible that this building was part of the redevelopment of the site and the County Hall is completely rebuilt in 1863.

A document (XD2/14110) held in Gwynedd Archives appears to show that the Old Police Station was originally built to hold prisoners. In the letter to Lord Newborough dated November 1856 it is suggested that the constables appointed by the new act should live in the newly built “lock up” and this should be taken into account when deciding his salary. The “new act” to which the letter refers is the *County and Borough Police Act* of 1856 made it compulsory for a police force to be established in any county which had not previously formed a constabulary (www.parliament.uk). This advice is acted upon and the Police Station is shown to be occupied by the time of the 1861 Census.

Gwynedd Archives holds the records of the applications for the position of the first Chief Constable of Caernarfon and the successful application submitted by Thomas Parr Williams Ellis (figure 8). It does not appear that Ellis was resident at the Police Station and in the 1861 Census (figure 9) he is living on Twt Hill, Caernarfon with his wife, three children and five servants. The Police Station is occupied by Stephen Davies, the Acting Superintendent of Police, his family and one servant (figure 10). Davies is an experienced officer and on the 1851 Census he is recorded as a Police Constable in Liverpool. The exact date when he joined the Caernarfon force is unclear but a letter sent by him as an Inspector here is dated June 26th 1858 (XJ/325) shows that he was there at this time and it is plausible that he joined at the establishment of this force. The birth place of his younger son who is 7 in 1861 is given as Caernarfonshire, Bethesda so it is clear that the family was in this area at the time.

The original layout of the Old Police Station is not shown but plans/elevations sourced from Gwynedd Archives (XQA/P/6/28) record that four new cells were added in 1862. These are included as figure 11. These plans are signed in the lower right-hand corner by John Thomas, the County Surveyor for Caernarfon at this time. These plans are of particular interest given that this is undertaken in conjunction with the building of the neighbouring County Hall, which is of significance in the Cadw Listing of the building.

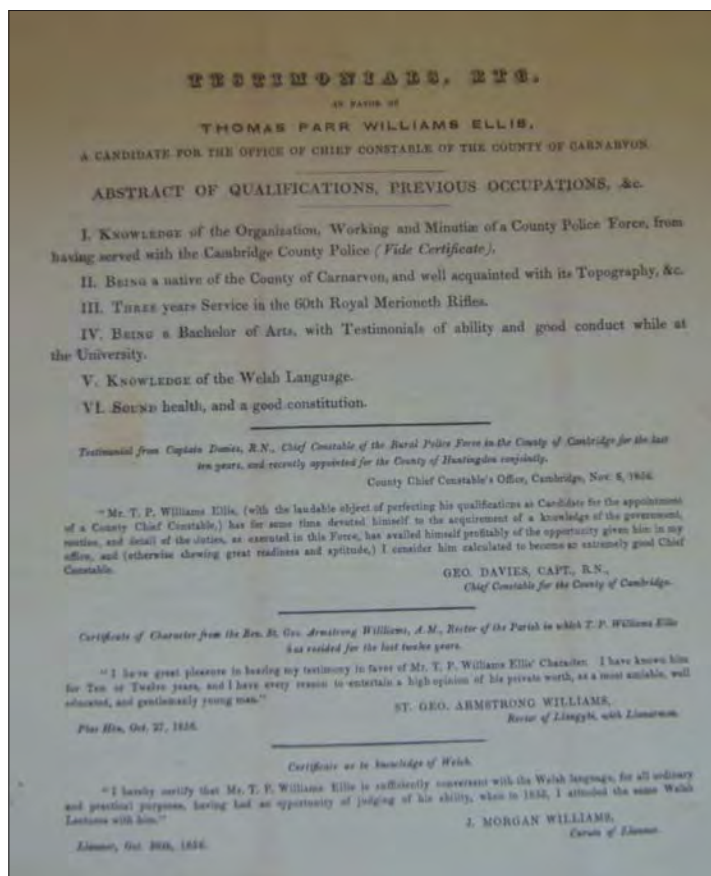
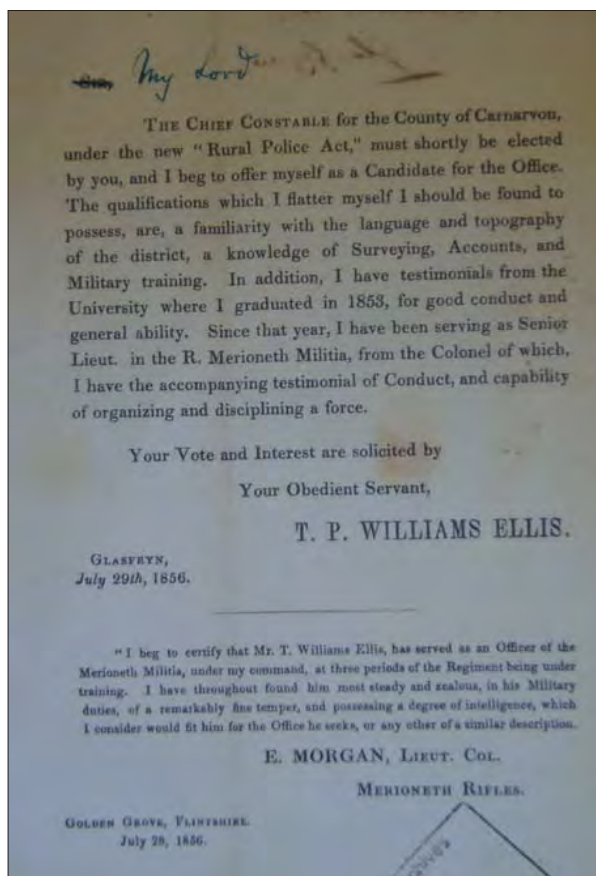


Figure 8. Thomas Parr Williams Ellis Application for the Position of First Chief Constable of Caernarfon (Source: Gwynedd Archives XD2/14109)

11	Thurhill	1	Thomas Parr Williams Ellis	Head	Mar	29	Chief Constable County Police	9 ⁰	Bangor
			Isabella Williams Ellis	Wife	Mar	31		2 ⁰	Llanwrthwl
			John Lewis Roberts	Son		2		2 ⁰	Caernarvon
			Thomas Jones & Thomas Jones	Son		2		2 ⁰	2 ⁰
			Isabella Jones (Widow)	Widow		10		9 ⁰	9 ⁰
			John Roberts	Son	Mar	12	Robert		Anglona Beaumaris
			Henry Williams	Cook	Mar	29	Cook		Caernarvonshire, Caernarvon
			Ellen Roberts	Nurse	Mar	28	Nurse	2 ⁰	2 ⁰
			John Humphreys	Servant	Mar	21	Housemaid	2 ⁰	2 ⁰
			Margaret Richard	Servant	Mar	16	Undernurse		Caernarvonshire, Bangor

Figure 9. 1861 Census Entry for Thomas Parr Williams Ellis and Family

149		1	William M. Williams	Widow	Mar	23	Parliamentary Officer	Caernarvon
			Stephen Davies	Head	Mar	24	Chief Constable of Police	St. Asaph
			Isaac	Wife	Mar	23		Caernarvon
			Stephen B.	Son	Mar	14	Scholar	Caernarvon
			Phyllis B.	Son	Mar	7		Caernarvon
			Elizabeth Jones	Son	Mar	22	General Serv.	Caernarvon

Figure 10. 1861 Census Entry for the Police Station, Caernarfon

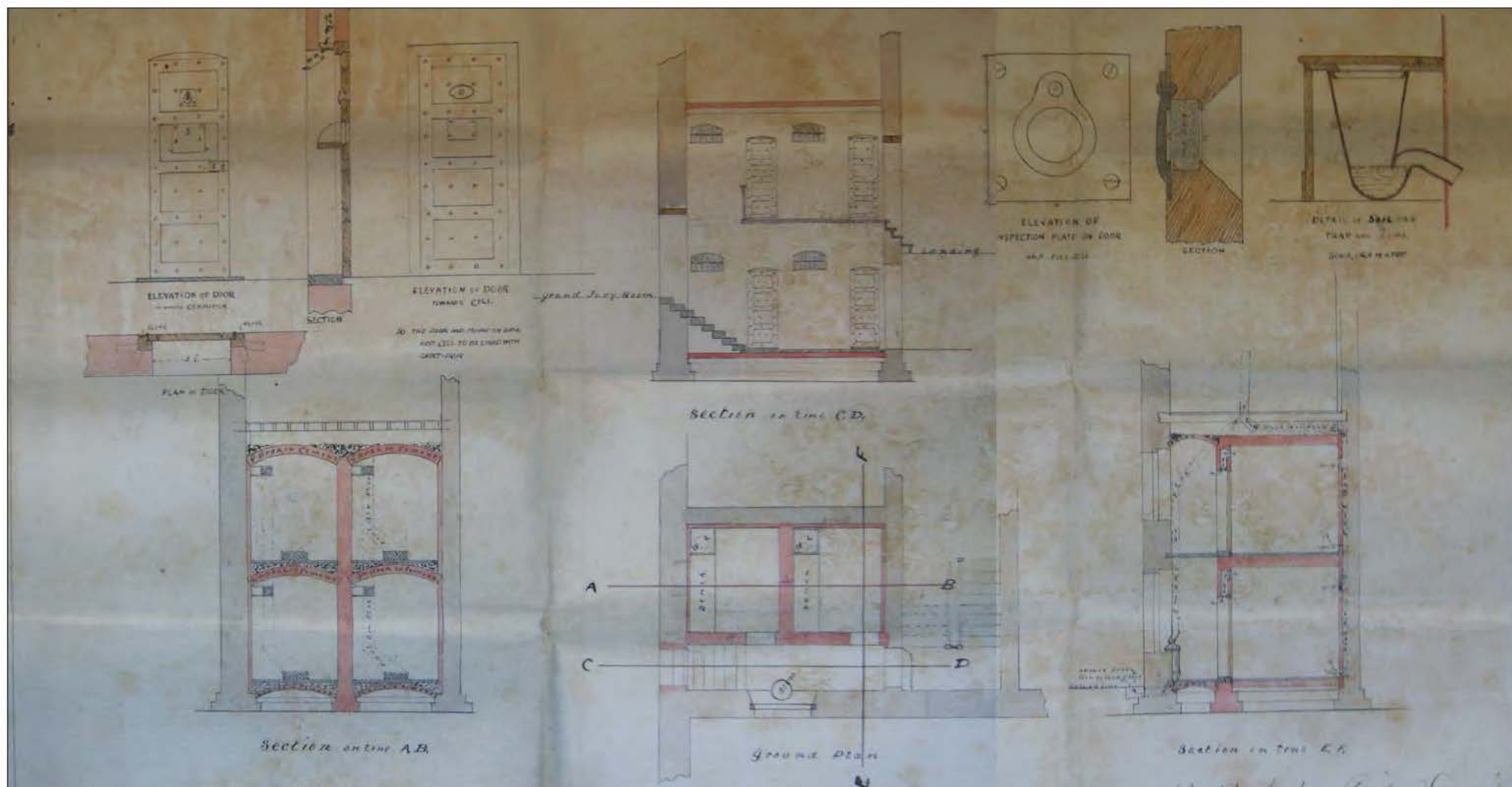


Figure 11. Plans and Elevations of Cells Added to the Police Station 1862
(Source: Gwynedd Archives XQA/P/6/28)

John Watley Hughes, Architect
Widely's
of Carnarvon and General County Engineer
Carnarvon & Merioneth

The cells lead through into the County Hall and this document which shows stairs leading to the Grand Jury Room. The position of the link between the Police Station and the County Hall does however move from the rear of the building and on a plan of the County Hall dated 1867 (figure 12) the passageway is shown to be moved to its current location. There is also a link between the County Hall and the gaol to the rear which further reinforces the group identity of this suite of buildings and the complimentary role performed.

From Probate records dated 1869 it is evident that Davies died on the 8th May at the Police Station but it is unknown how he died. The role of Police Superintendent and occupancy of the Police Station was taken up by Lewis Prothero immediately following this event and correspondence from Prothero as Superintendent has been sourced from this date (Gwynedd Archives: XQ5/1870/H/56).

Prothero has a distinguished career in the Caernarfon Police force and is recorded at the Police Station on the Census' of 1871 and 1881 (figures 13 & 14). He begins as a Police Superintendent in 1871, rises to Deputy Chief Constable in 1881 and Inspector of Police in Tremadoc by 1891. Following further census returns Prothero continues to rise within the force and is a Chief Constable in the returns of 1901 and 1911.

Of interest in the census return of 1871 is the recording of 3 prisoners, Richard Parry, John Jones and Robert Roberts resident in the Police Station overnight. The size of the family has grown from Prothero, his wife and daughter and a servant in 1871 to include seven sons, a sister-in-law and a nephew in 1881. No prisoners are recorded in this return.

We have a little more information about Prothero given in an application dated 1879 when he applied for promotion to Chief Constable of Caernarfon. Although unsuccessful on this occasion (the position being filled by a Captain J.M Clayton) his letter gives us a condensed work history. *“I joined the Caernarfonshire force when twenty years of age, and have served 17 ½ years. In February 1870 I was appointed Deputy Chief Constable in consequence of the illness of Mr. Ellis, the then Chief Constable. Shortly after the April sessions, at which Capt. Pearson was appointed, I had the entire charge of the Force”* (Gwynedd Archives XD2/14/95).

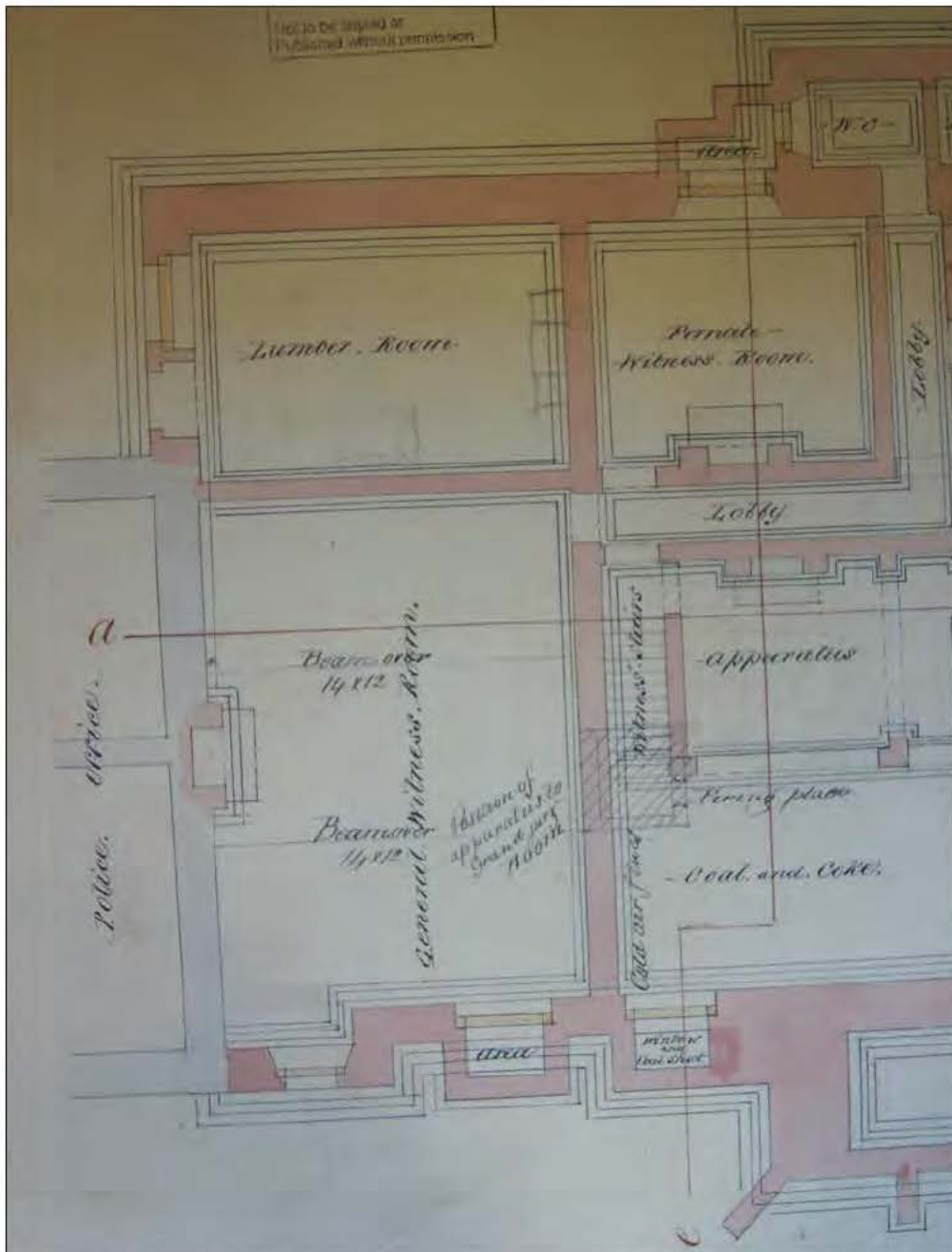


Figure 12. Plan if the County Hall Dated 1867 (Source: Gwynedd Archives XS/8)

146	Police Station	1	Lewis Brothers	Head	Male	49	Police Superintendent	James W. Blundell
			Margaret Do	Wife	Female	26		Do. Blundell
			Mary E. Do	Daughter	Female	8		Do. Blundell
			Jane Williams	Servant	Female	24	Domestic Servant	Do. Do
			Richard L. Parry	Business	Male	32	Businessman	Do. Planning
			John Jones	Business	Male	31	Businessman	Do. G. L. L. L.
			Robert Roberts	Business	Male	41	Non Moulder	Do. Blundell
44	Police Station	1	John M. G. G. G.	Head	Male	39	Police Superintendent	James W. Blundell
			Margaret Do	Wife	Female	34		Do. Blundell
			Mary E. Do	Daughter	Female	10		Do. Blundell
			William Do	Servant	Male	9		Do. Do
			John Do	Servant	Male	4		Do. Do
			Thomas Do	Servant	Male	6		Do. Do
			Robert Do	Servant	Male	4		Do. Do
			James Do	Servant	Male	3		Do. Do
			Charles Do	Servant	Male	3		Do. Do
			John Do	Servant	Male	3		Do. Do
			Francis M. G. G.	Servant	Male	1		Do. Do
			Margaret Do	Servant	Female	20	Domestic Servant	Do. Do
			John Do	Servant	Male	27		Do. Do
			John Do	Servant	Male	36		Do. Do

Figure 13 (Above). 1871 Census Record for Police Station

Figure 14 (Below). 1881 Census Record for Police Station

In 1882 works were undertaken to improve the Shire Hall and Prison and a plan from this period (X CA/156) shows the rear of the Police Station (figure 15). Two small outbuildings are shown which can also be seen in later documents. This is the first detailed plan of this area and it is therefore unclear whether these structures were part of the original build or later additions.

The First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1890 (figure 16) shows the Police Station in detail. The footprint of the main building remains largely unchanged to this day and with the exception of a small extension added in the 1960's or 1970's there does not appear to have been any modification to the building plan – presumably due to the enclosed nature of the plot. The two small outbuildings noted on the 1882 plan are clearly visible and it appears that a small structure has been added between the two earlier structures.

The 1891 Census shows that Prothero and family have left the Police Station and it is occupied by Inspector of Police Samuel Thomas Harris, his wife and five children (figure 17). There are a number of photographic sources which show Harris during his time at Caernarfon Police Station and these are included as figures 18-20. There is also a further photograph of a slightly later date which shows Harris with his family (figure 21).

A postcard (figure 22) was sourced from Gwynedd Archives dated c.1890 (XS 3478/430). This shows that there has been very little change to the front elevation of the building.

The 1900 edition of the Ordnance Survey shows no changes to the Police Station (figure 23).

The 1901 Census (figure 24) shows that the Police Station is now home to Superintendent of Police Thomas Rowland, his wife, daughter and a servant. A postcard from around this time (dated 1907) was held at Gwynedd Archives (figure 25). Again there is no real change to the front of the building when compared to earlier sources.

The final Census dated 1911 (figure 26) records a further change of occupant at the Police Station. Superintendent John Griffith is now resident along with his wife, five children and a domestic servant. There is a separate entry for the “lock up” which holds one prisoner, a Thomas Bennet.

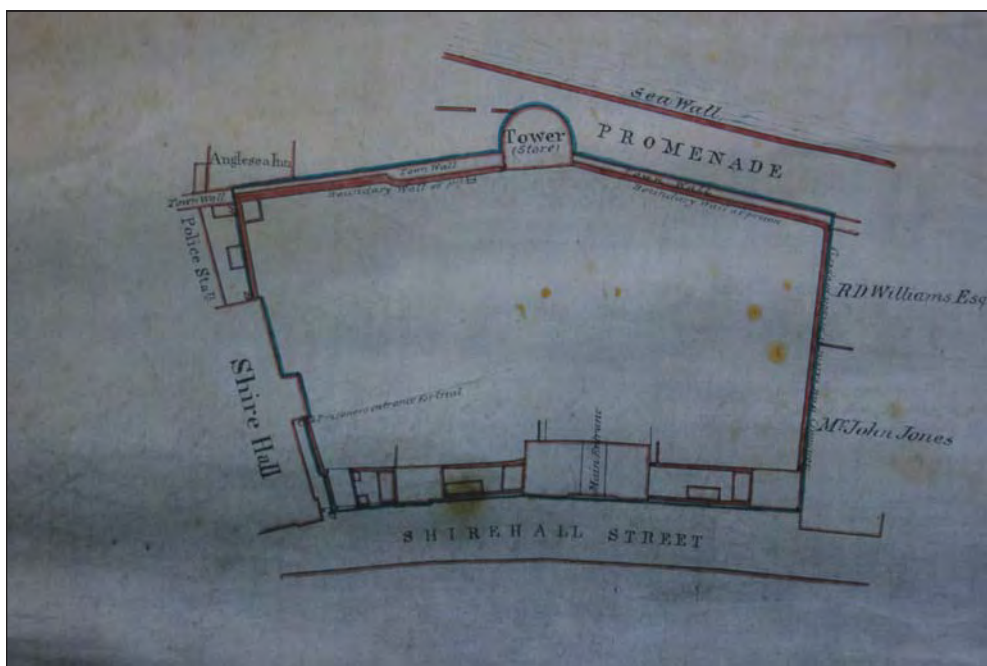


Figure 15. 1882 Plan of Improvements to the Shire Hall & Prison Showing Rear of Police Station (Source: Gwynedd Archives XCA/156)

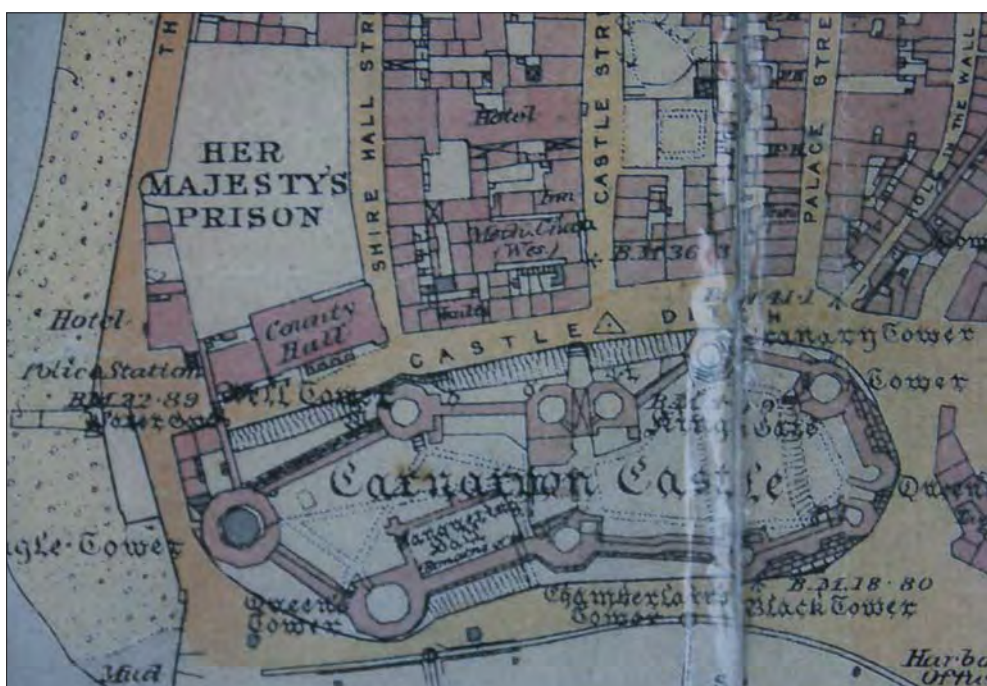


Figure 16. 1890 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map

[illegible]

Figure 17. 1891 Census Entry for Police Station, Caernarfon



Figure 18. Samuel Harris (Seated) & Group of Caernarfonshire Policemen c. 1890 (Source: Hughes 2007)



Figure 19. Samuel Harris (Right) & Group of Caernarfonshire Policemen c. 1890 (Source: Hughes 2007)



Figure 20. Samuel Harris (Centre Left) & Group of Caernarfonshire Policemen c. 1890 (Source: Gwynedd Archives XS/1311/2)



Figure 21. Samuel Harris & Family c.1910. L-R - Edith, Ethel, Gilbert, Violet, Frances. Front Row - Ida, Sybil & Olive (Source: Gwynedd Archives XS/3406/9)



<p>61 Police Station (Bath 1)</p> <p>24.</p>	<p>Ann M. Hughes Serv. S.</p> <p>Thomas S. Roberts Head M.</p> <p>Catherine Do. wife M.</p> <p>S. M. Do. Daur. S.</p> <p>Mary Roberts Serv. S.</p>	<p>20 General Stewart (Domestic)</p> <p>Superintendent of Police</p> <p>56</p> <p>25</p> <p>15 Anne work (Domestic)</p>	<p>Andresy, Brynall</p> <p>Don Don, Pwll</p> <p>Merineth, Dolgell</p> <p>Merineth, Dolgell</p> <p>Quilsey, Abernethy</p>	<p>Both</p> <p>Both</p> <p>Both</p> <p>Both</p> <p>Both</p>
--	--	---	--	---



Figure 22. Postcard of Ditch Street, Caernarfon Showing Police Station c.1890 (Source: Gwynedd Archives XS/3478/430)

Figure 23. 1900 Ordnance Survey Map of Caernarfon Showing Police Station

Figure 24. 1901 Census Record for Police Station

Figure 25. Postcard Dated 1907 Showing County Hall and Police Station (Source: Gwynedd Archives XS3478/460)

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Every care will be taken that no information is disclosed with respect to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	Sex	Age	Date of Birth	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE		EDUCATION or INSTRUCTION		OCCUPATION	REMARKS	SIGNATURE	DATE
					Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced				
John Griffith	Head	M	42	1869	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	General Manager			
Margaret Griffith	Wife	F	38	1873	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	Housewife			
Robert Griffith	Son	M	14	1897	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	Schoolboy			
Edith Griffith	Daughter	F	12	1899	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	Schoolgirl			
William Griffith	Son	M	8	1903	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	Schoolboy			
Elizabeth Griffith	Daughter	F	6	1905	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	Schoolgirl			
John Griffith	Son	M	4	1907	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	Schoolboy			
Margaret Griffith	Daughter	F	2	1909	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	Schoolgirl			

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

[Welsh Schedule.]

SCHEDULE.

Prepared pursuant to the Census (Great Britain) Act, 1910.

This space to be filled up by the Enumerator.

Number of Registration District 630

Number of Registration Sub-District 3

Number of Enumeration District 3

Name of Head of Family or Separate Occupier. Superintendent Griffith

Postal Address County Police Lock-up

NOTICE.

This Schedule must be filled up and signed by, or on behalf of, the Head of the Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of the dwelling (house, tenement or apartment).

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

[Welsh Schedule.]

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CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in ink.

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NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family	Sex	Age	Date of Birth	PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE		EDUCATION or INSTRUCTION		OCCUPATION	REMARKS	SIGNATURE	DATE
					Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced				
Thomas Griffith	Head	M	42	1869	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	General Manager			
Margaret Griffith	Wife	F	38	1873	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	Housewife			
Robert Griffith	Son	M	14	1897	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	Schoolboy			
Edith Griffith	Daughter	F	12	1899	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	Schoolgirl			
William Griffith	Son	M	8	1903	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	Schoolboy			
Elizabeth Griffith	Daughter	F	6	1905	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	Schoolgirl			
John Griffith	Son	M	4	1907	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	Schoolboy			
Margaret Griffith	Daughter	F	2	1909	Married	Single	Elementary	Advanced	Schoolgirl			

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Figure 26. 1911 Census Record for the Police Station and Lock-up

An Ordnance Survey Map of Caernarfon dated 1918 (figure 27) shows no changes to the plan of the main building although there has been an alteration to the buildings at the rear of the Police Station. The structures against the Town Wall have been demolished. There are two further versions of this document dated 1953 and 1967 (figures 28 & 29) which show further no changes to the plot. The current extension to the building which is to be demolished as part of this scheme of works was therefore built after 1967.

There is no further census data available and it is unclear as to when the Police Station ceased to be used as lodgings for members of the force but it is believed to have occurred in the first half of the Twentieth Century.

Documents dated 1997 sourced from the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales dated 1997 detail the “*Proposed Conversion of Castle Ditch Police Station to Archives and Museum for 3RWF*” would indicate that the Police Station had ceased to be used as such prior to this date. This would tie in with the latest dates for graffiti found within the holding cells which is dated 1995.

The building does not seem to have been converted for use as a museum and was used as general office space/ storage by the council for a number of years including as offices for the Caernarfon Eisteddfod.

Further documents from the RCAHMS show that the two sash windows in the gable end of the Police Station were replaced like-for-like in 2005.

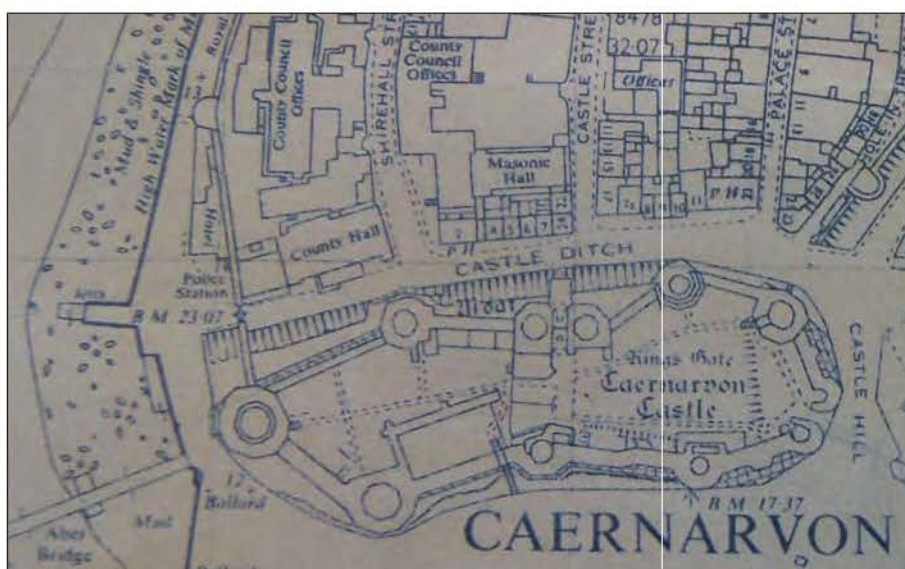
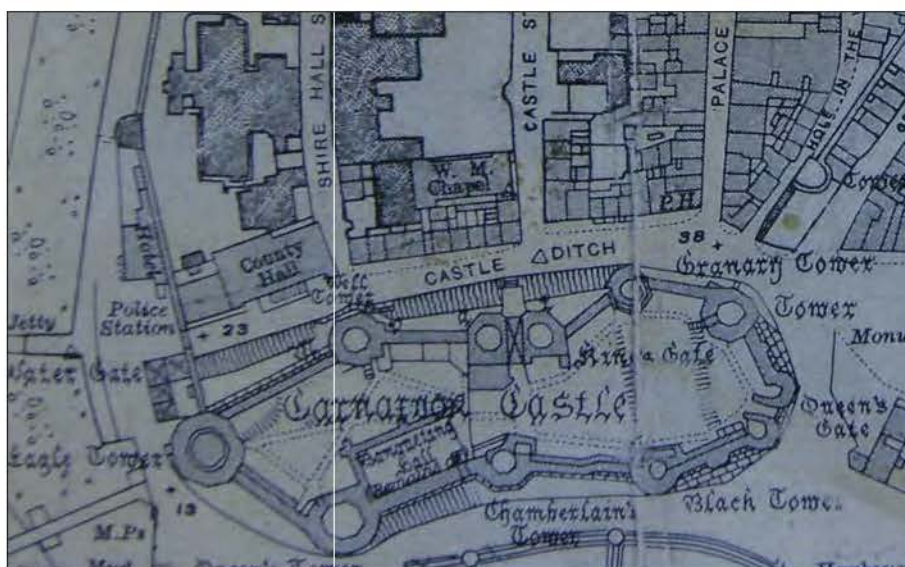


Figure 27. 1918 Ordnance Survey Map Showing Police Station

Figure 28. 1953 Ordnance Survey Map Showing Police Station

Figure 29. 1967 Ordnance Survey Map Showing Police Station

6.0 Results of Archaeological Works

Plans of the building were provided by the client and these are included as figures 30 - 32.

A photographic survey of the Old Police Station was conducted on Wednesday 5th February 2014. The results of this survey have been subdivided by elevation, floor and room for ease of interpretation. The position of each plate is marked the plans provided by the client. These are included as Appendix C. Two further site visits were conducted on the 6th and 7th February following the demolition of internal walls/ stripping of render. The results of these works have been included with the appropriate room description.

6.1 Front & Gable Elevations (Plates 1 - 6)

When the site visit was conducted scaffolding had already been erected. It was therefore not possible for the elevations to be photographed in full with scales. None of the works being undertaken will effect the appearance of the front/ gable elevations of the building.

A detailed description of the building façade/ exterior is provided by the Cadw listing document (Record Number: 3827).

“Neo-classical style, of 3 bays and 3 storeys, in ashlar with angle pilaster strips, slate roof behind a low coped parapet on a moulded cornice, and panelled stone end stacks. The central pedimented bay is advanced and is rusticated in the lower storey. Its doorway is set back in an arched recess and has double panelled doors. Flanking ground-floor windows are set back in similar arched recesses. The windows are 12-pane hornless sashes in the lower and middle storeys. In the middle storey the central window has a segmental pediment, the outer windows triangular pediments. The upper storey has 6-pane hornless sash windows under hood moulds. The central pediment has a dated tablet.

The left gable end is built into Town Wall and is a rubble stone with coped gable and freestone dressings. In the lower storey are 2 late C19 small-pane windows under shouldered lintels. Below the L-hand window is the jamb and part of the arch of a blocked medieval postern gate. In the middle storey is a sash window to the R of a single over 2 panes, while upper L is a window over 2-pane sash.

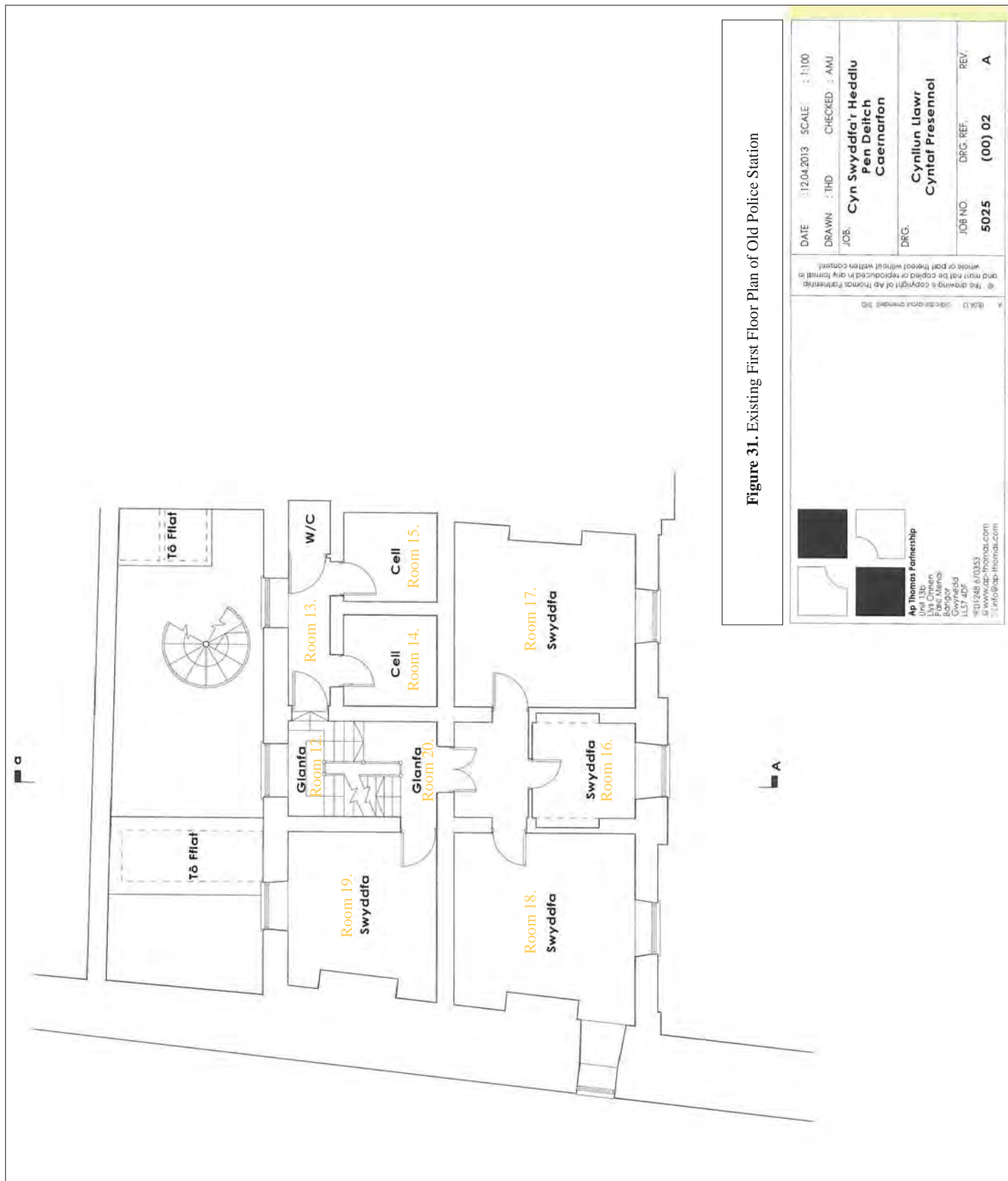


Figure 30. Existing Ground Floor Plan of Old Police Station

DATE	12.04.2013	SCALE	1:100
DRAWN	JHD	CHECKED	AMJ
JOB	Cyn Swyddfa'r Heddlu Pen Delfich Caernarfon		
DRG	Cynllun Llawr Gwaelod Presennol		
JOB NO.	5025	DRG. REF.	(00) 01
REV.			A

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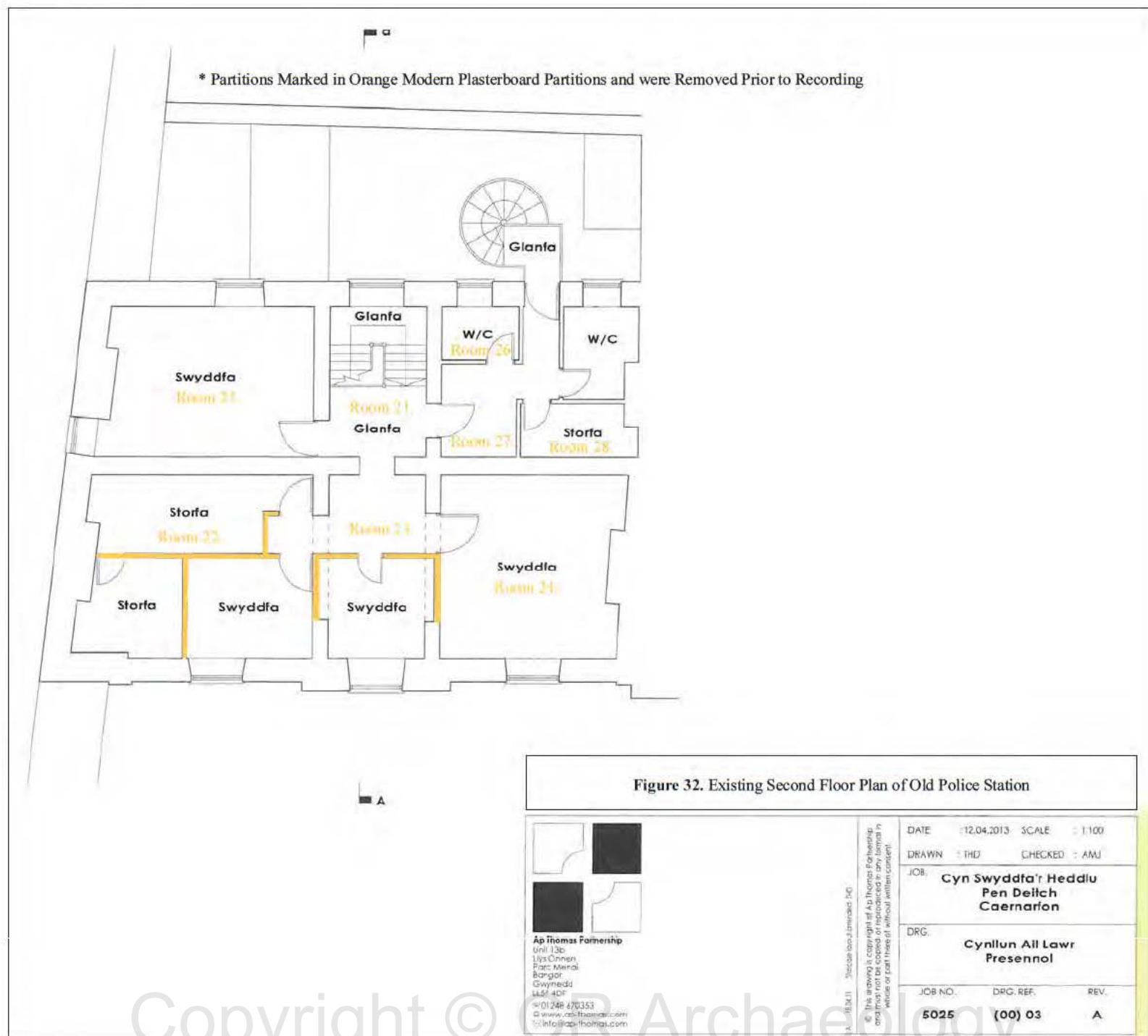
Ap Thomas Partnership
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01248 670353
www.ap-thomas.com
info@ap-thomas.com



DATE	12/04/2013	SCALE	1:100
DRAWN	THD	CHECKED	AMJ
JOB	Cyn Swyddfa'r Heddlu Pen Deitch Caernarfon		
DRG.	Cynllun Llaur Cynat Presennol		
JOB NO.	5025	DRG. REF.	(00) 02
REV.			A

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The Cwm
Bangor
Gwynedd
LL57 4DP
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info@ap-thomas.com



The forecourt is enclosed by cast iron railings with anthemion finials, on a dressed stone dwarf wall. Central stone steps are framed by square panelled gate piers with moulded caps”.

6.1.1 Rear Elevation (Plates 7 - 13)

The rear elevation is largely obscured by a modern single storey extension built to house a toilet and a spiral fire escape. It was not possible to photograph this elevation in its entirety and the ground floor was photographed in two sections.

As they cannot be shown in photographs of this elevation windows in the two upper floors will be discussed with the appropriate room.

The wall of the Police Station adjacent to the Town Wall has been modified and a large stone lintel and evidence of a blocked doorway are visible. There also appears to have been modification to this elevation below the cell window. There has been further modification to the elevation on the other side of the extension and the archway over one of the cell windows appears to be brick and is of a different construction than the other two examples. A rectangular window, also with brick surround is a later addition.

A small shed with two doors was also noted but not entered as they were unsafe. This structure was not marked on the 1967 Edition Ordnance Survey and it would seem likely that it was built at approximately the same time as the toilet extension.

6.2 Ground Floor Level (Plates 14 - 38)

There are nine rooms at ground floor level. The building is accessed via a central front door which opens into a lobby. There is a centrally positioned stairway to the first floor. There was previously a corridor which led into the adjacent court building but this has been blocked.

The spaces/rooms have been numbered 1 – 11 and are described separately.

6.2.1 Ground Floor Room 1 (Plates 14 - 15)

Entrance lobby. Original arch noted at base of stairs but now only visible from Room 8. Doors are a modern addition and the corridor would have originally been open as far as the stairway to the first floor. There are doorways to rooms on either side of the lobby. The right hand doorway previously housed a counter for booking in prisoners.



Plate 1. Old Police Station Front Elevation



Plate 2. Old Police Station and County Hall



Plate 3. Old Police Station Pediment



Plate 4. Old Police Station Chimney Detail



Plate 5. Old Police Station Date Stone



Plate 6. Ground Floor Window Bar Detail



Plate 7. Rear Elevation Showing Blocked Doorway & Window of Room 6



Plate 8. Rear Yard Store Sheds



Plate 9. Doorway into Prison Yard



Plate 10. Rear Elevation First & Second Floor Windows



Plate 11. Iron Gates Retained from Front Of Building. To be Rehung as an Element Of the Current Programme of Works



Plate 12. Modern Rear Extension To be Removed as Part of Current Programme of Works



Plate 13. Rear Elevation Showing Ground Floor Windows of Rooms 10 & 11 & Fire Escape

6.2.2 Ground Floor Room 2 (Plates 16 - 19)

Large front room/ office. The internal render had been removed from part of the southern wall and the western wall of the room. The western wall is stone built using the same rubble and lime construction with occasional brick as has been utilised in the front wall of the building. It is therefore clear that this wall is an original internal division. By implication it would seem likely that the opposite wall of Room 1 was also original or at least in the original position.

The western wall was partially demolished in order to widen the doorway. This work was conducted under an archaeological watching brief. There were three different types of material used in the construction of this wall – shale, limestone and occasional brick. The bricks used were early examples of handmade bricks and had no frogs or makers stamps.

A chimney breast is located on the eastern wall although the original fireplace has been removed. There is a half blocked door way in its northern wall with a window. There was a small plasterboard porch in the north-eastern corner now removed.

There is a large 6-over-6 hornless sash window which is fitted with interior solid wood window shutters. The panelling on these would have matched adjacent mouldings and therefore give an indication of the appearance of the original doors. The shutters are installed in recessed shutter boxes positioned at right angles to the window opening in order to maximise the amount of light entering the room when the shutters were open.

6.2.3 Ground Floor Rooms 3 & 4 (Plates 20 - 23)

Rooms 3 & 4 are located at the front of the building and would have originally been a single large room mirroring Room 1. The rooms were used as a small office (Room 3) and a prison cell with wooden bench (Room 4). As in Room 1 there was a chimney breast and fireplace in this room which had been removed – presumably when the room was divided into two. It was evidenced by a boxed vent built into the north-western corner of Room 3.

The dividing wall was removed under an archaeological watching brief and was observed to have been constructed using modern brick and this cell was believed to date from the mid-late Twentieth Century.

There is a single window in each room. The window in Room 3 is the same as that detailed in Room 1. The cell window in Room 4 is clearly a modern addition which has been added to the interior of an earlier window opening. It is of cast iron construction with thick glass inserts. The window which is visible from the building exterior (described in Section 6.1) is a Nineteenth Century example.

6.2.4 Ground Floor Room 5 (Plate 24)

Room 5 was a prison cell of similar design to Room 4 with a single modern window inserted behind the historic glazing. This cell is believed to be of a similar date to Room 4.

6.2.5 Ground Floor Room 6 (Plate 25)

Room 6 was a prison cell with a single arched window on the northern wall facing out to the yard. The window is barred and appears to have been reduced in size when the ironwork was added. There is also a blocked doorway evident in the rear elevation. This cell appears to be of Nineteenth Century date although not part of the original building design.

6.2.6 Ground Floor Room 7 (Plates 26 - 27)

Room 7 is a north-south orientated hallway with a modern extension at the northern end. The extension houses a toilet and access door leading to the yard outside. The extension is to be removed as part of the current scheme of works.

6.2.7 Ground Floor Room 8 (Plates 28 - 32)

Room 8 is a large open hall with a wide stairs on the western wall – these stairs are part of the original 1853 build. This space would not have originally been separated from Room 1 and there is an archway evident behind the dividing wall. There is a small toilet and storage cupboard under the stairs and door leading to the rear courtyard.

6.2.8 Ground Floor Rooms 9 (Plates 33 - 34)

Room 9 a corridor between Room 2 and cell Rooms 10 and 11. Room 9 is accessed via a doorway in north western corner of Room 2. The door leads to a below ground passageway with a stairway which connects the Police Station to the Country Hall/ Court House. The passageway is now blocked by a modern breeze block wall at the base of the stairs.

A passageway to the County Hall Grand Jury Room is shown on plans of the building dated 1862 – the date of the building of the County Hall although interestingly on this document the passage runs along the rear of the building rather than in its current position and the cell doors are facing in the opposite direction and do not have an external window. A document (XS/8) dated 1867 shows the passageway in its current location. There is evidence for the reorientation of the cells visible within the cells themselves (see below).

6.2.9 Ground Floor Room 10 & 11 (Plates 35 - 38)

Rooms 10 and 11 were both brick built, arched prison cells with arched, barred window on their northern walls facing out to the rear yard with doorways facing the south of the building. These rooms are shown on a plan dated 1862 and are an early feature of the Police Station. It must however be noted that they have been modified and extended and the arched ceiling of Rooms 10 and 11 does not reach the rear of the building. An area of flat ceiling corresponding with the position of the passageway shown in the plans is evident as is a line in the cell wall reaching the ground. It would seem that the cell doorways were reorientated when the current corridor to the Court Room was added and the cells original opened towards the rear wall of the Police Station.

The 1862 plan of the Police Station shows a single window between the two cells which has been replaced by three windows, two similar arched windows and a later rectangular sash window.

6.3 First Floor (Plates 39 - 59)

The first floor is reached via the main central staircase which leads to a small landing with a large window spanning the height of the first floor. Two steps to the east of the landing lead to a mezzanine floor positions between the First and Ground Floor levels. Rooms 13, 14 and 15 are located on this level. The First Floor has four rooms with a wide landing and central hallway between the two front rooms. With the exception of the toilet (Room 13) the layout of this floor appears to be much as it was following the 1862 insertion of two cells to hold prisoners (Rooms 14 & 15).

6.3.1 First Floor Room 12 (Plates 39 - 40)

Room 12 is a small landing with a large sash window spanning the height of the First Floor.



Plate 14. Ground Floor
Room 1



Plate 15. Ground Floor Room 1

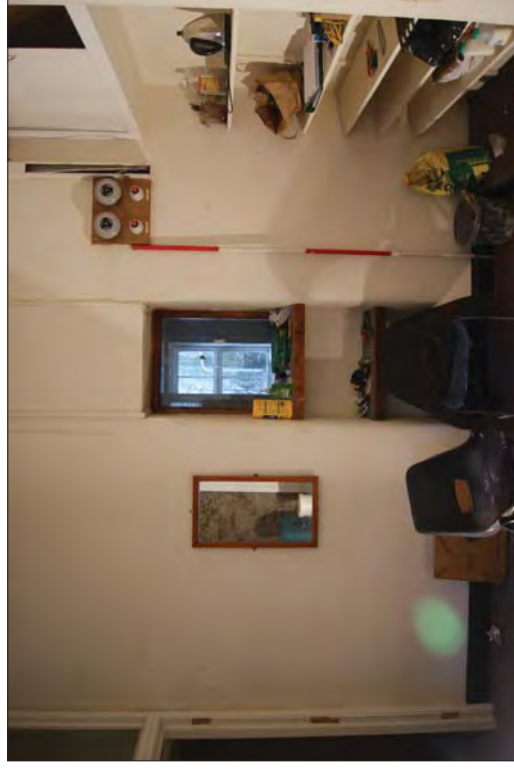


Plate 16. Ground Floor Room 2



Plate 17. Room 2
Chimney Breast

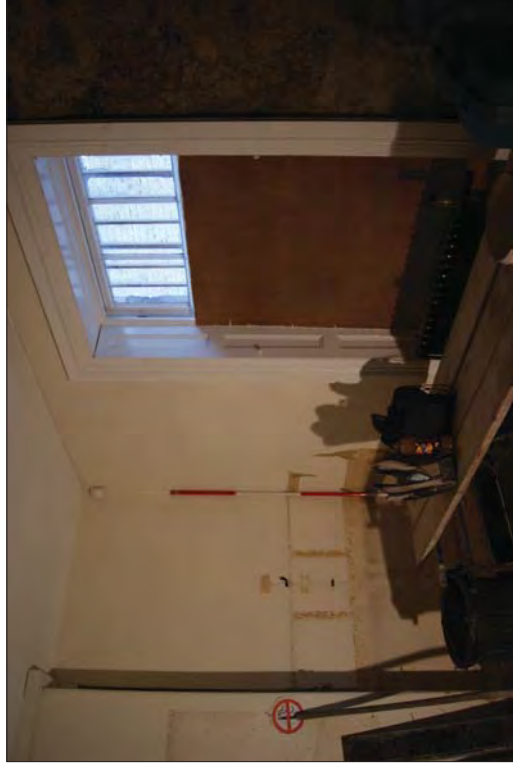


Plate 18. Room 2 Window and Shutters



Plate 19. Room 2 Following Stripping of Render



Plate 20. Room 3

Plate 21. Room 3 Window Detail

Plate 22. Room 4

Plate 23. Demolition of Modern Wall
Between Rooms 3 & 4

Plate 24. Room 5

Plate 25. Room 6

Plate 26. Room 7

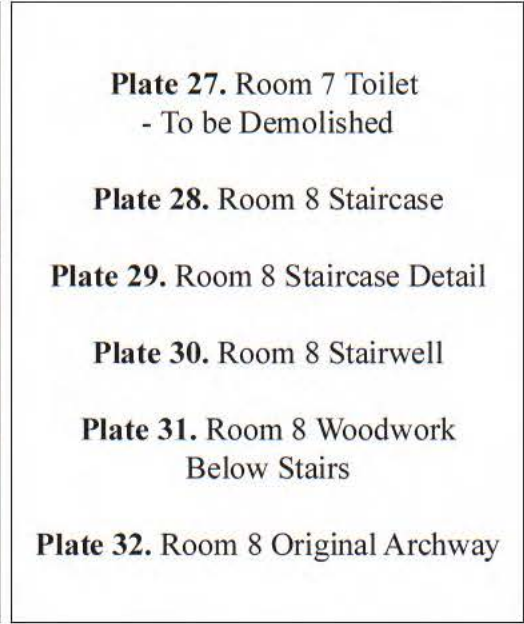




Plate 33. Room 9 Corridor

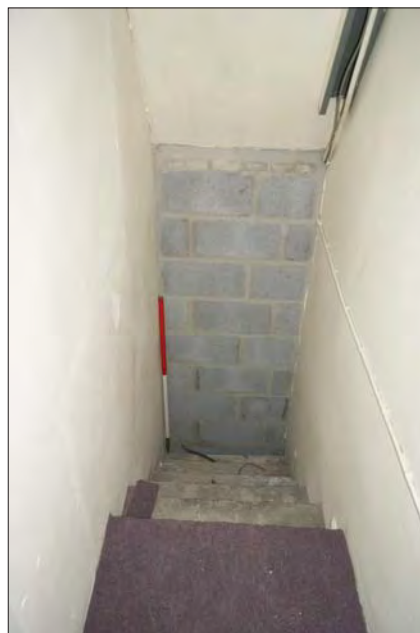


Plate 34. Room 9 Steps
Into County Hall



Plate 35. Room 10 Cell

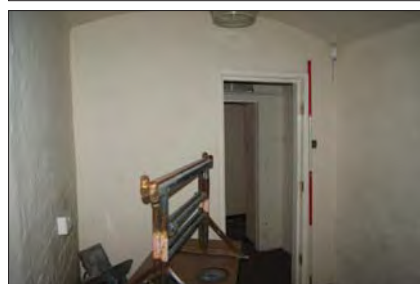


Plate 36. Room 10 Cell

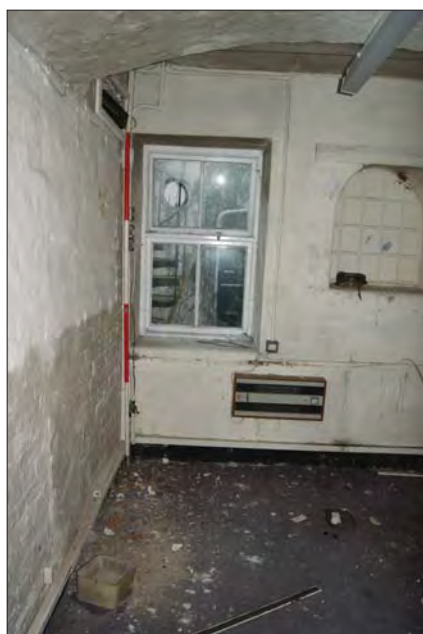


Plate 37. Room 11 Cell



Plate 38. Room 11 Cell

6.3.2 Mezzanine Level Room 13 (Plates 41 - 44)

Room 13 is a short hallway with a large six-over-six hornless sash window similar to that found in the front elevation of the building (although this example has no shutters) spanning the height of the room on the northern wall.

There are two prison cells (Rooms 14 and 15) which are accessed from this corridor and this arrangement is shown on the 1862 plan of the Police Station and is the layout which would have been repeated at Ground Floor level.

There is a toilet at the eastern end of the hallway with a modern plaster board partition, surround and door frame.

6.3.3 Mezzanine Level Rooms 14 and 15 (Plates 45 - 48)

Room 14 and 15 are two identical brick built cells with wooden benches on their southern walls. The cell doors are located on the northern cell walls. On this elevation, to the east of the doorways are rectangular windows with arched tops which face outwards into corridor Room 13. These windows have been blocked but are part of the original design and are shown on the original plans.

The cell doors are more modern Twentieth Century replacements.

6.3.4 First Floor Room 16 (Plates 49 - 50)

Room 16 a wide lobby with a doorway leading from the landing at its northern end. It had been modified for use as an office although these modern plasterboard partitions had been removed prior to the site visit. There is a large six-over-six sash window located opposite this doorway. Following stripping around this window it was found to have a large stone windowsill with fittings for iron prison bars. There are two large opposing entrances on the eastern (leading to Room 17) and western (leading to Room 18) walls.

6.3.5 First Floor Room 17 (Plates 51 - 52)

Room 17 is a large room located at the front of the building with a chimney breast with blocked fire place and a slate fire step on the eastern wall. There is a large six-over-six sash window on the southern wall which, as in Room 16, following stripping out was found to have a large stone window sill with fittings for bars.



Plate 39. Room 12
Plate 40. Room 12 Window
Plate 41. View into Room 13
Plate 42. Cell Door Room 13
Plate 43. Room 13
Plate 44. Window Room 13



Plate 45 - 46. First Floor Cell, Room 14

Plate 47 - 48. First Floor Cell, Room 15



Plate 49 - 50. First Floor Room 16 Showing Enlarged Opening and Sash Window

Plate 51 - 52. First Floor Room 17





Plate 53. First Floor Room 18 Window Sill Uncovered During Stripping Out



Plate 54. First Floor Room 18

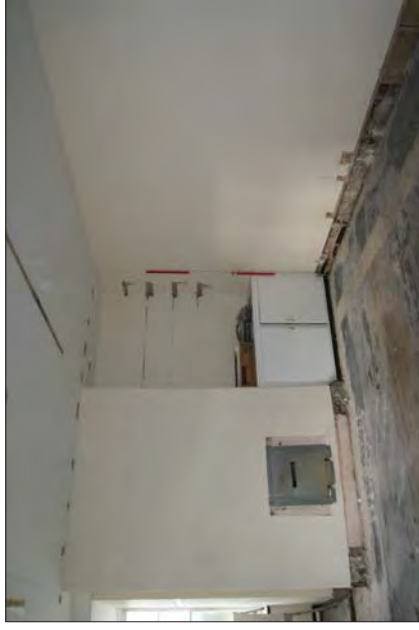


Plate 55. First Floor Room 18



Plate 56. First Floor Room 19

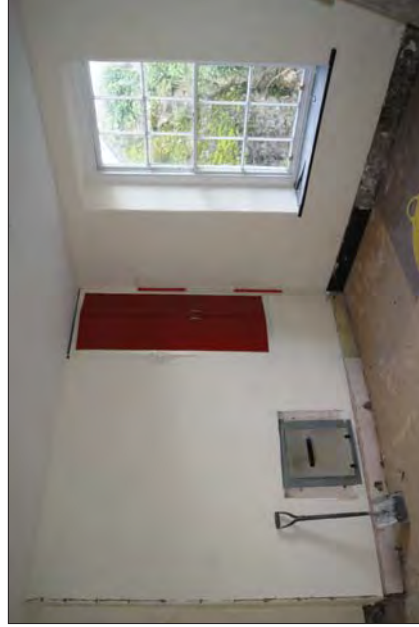


Plate 57. First Floor Room 19

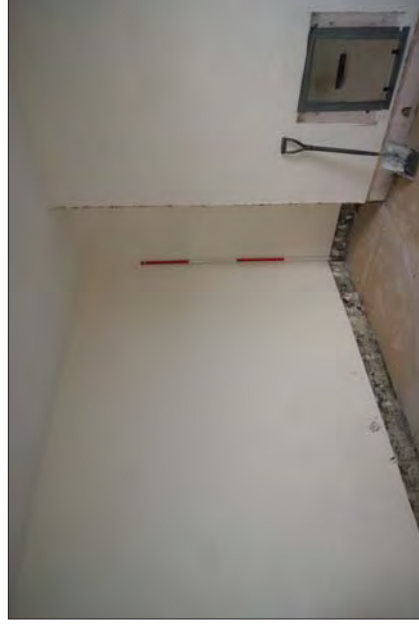


Plate 58. First Floor Room 19



Plate 59. First Floor Room 20

6.3.6 First Floor Room 18 (Plates 53 - 55)

Room 18 is a large room located at the front of the building with a chimney breast with blocked fire place and a slate fire step on the western wall. There is a large six-over-six sash window on the southern wall which, as in Rooms 16 & 17, following stripping out was found to have a large stone window sill with fittings for bars. There is a recess to the south of chimney breast which houses a large sash window with six small panes over two large rectangular panes. This window is a like-for-like replacement fitted in 2005.

6.3.7 First Floor Room 19 (Plates 56 - 58)

Room 19 is a large room located at the rear of the building. It has a chimney breast with blocked fireplace and a slate fire step on the western wall. There is a built-in cupboard on the right hand side of the chimney breast. There is a large six-over-six sash window on the northern wall. This room had not been stripped so it was not known if the window sill had fittings for iron bars.

6.3.8 First Floor Room 20 (Plate 59)

Room 20 is the stairwell running between the first and second floors. It is an original feature constructed of wood with machine turned balustrades.

6.4 Second Floor (Plates 60 - 71)

The second floor houses five rooms and the layout of the two front rooms are the same as is found on the first floor. The north-east rear room has been divided into small offices and a fire exit has been added to the northern wall which leads to a balcony and a spiral staircase. With the exception of the subdivision of the north-eastern room into 3 smaller rooms (Rooms 26, 27 and 28) the layout of this floor is believed to be original.

6.4.1 Second Floor Room 21 (Plate 60)

Room 21 is the staircase area. It houses the original staircase and has doors to the east (leading to Room 27) and west (leading to Room 25).

6.4.2 Second Floor Room 22 (Plates 61 - 63)

Room 22 is a large room to the front of the building. It has a chimney breast with blocked fireplace and a slate fire step on the western wall. There is a three-over-three sash window on the southern wall. This room has been completely stripped back to the bare stone built walls.

6.4.3 Second Floor Room 23 (Plates 64)

Room 23 is a wide lobby with a doorway leading from the landing at its northern end. There is a three-over-three sash window located opposite this doorway. There are two large opposing entrances on the eastern (leading to Room 24) and western (leading to Room 22) walls. These openings have been widened and would have originally housed doorways rather than the large area seen in the plates.

6.4.4 Second Floor Room 24 (Plates 65 - 66)

Room 24 is a large room to the front of the building. It has a chimney breast with blocked fireplace and a slate fire step on the eastern wall. There is a three-over-three sash window on the southern wall. This room has been completely stripped back to the bare stone built walls.

6.4.5 Second Floor Room 25 (Plates 67 - 68)

Room 25 is a large room to the rear of the building. It has a chimney breast with blocked fireplace and a slate fire step on the western wall. There is a three-over-three sash window on the northern wall. There is a large sash window with six small panes over two large rectangular panes recessed to the left of the chimney breast. This window is a like-for-like replacement fitted in 2005.

6.4.6 Second Floor Room 26 (Plates 69)

Room 26 is a small bath/ wash room with a single two paned window on the northern wall – modern subdivision.

6.4.7 Second Floor Room 27 (Plates 70)

Room 27 is a small bath/ wash room with a single two paned window on the northern wall – modern subdivision.

6.4.8 Second Floor Room 28 (Plates 71)

A small bath/wash room – modern subdivision.

6.5 Attic Space (Plates 72 - 74)

The attic space was accessed and it was evident that the building had been relatively recently re-roofed. It appears that the internal stone partitions at this level once reached the full height of the space. This area was not in use and there was little of note to record aside from a brick arch in the dividing wall between the Police Station and County Hall.



60.



61.



62.



63.

Plate 60. Room 21
Plates 61 - 63. Room 22
Plate 64. Room 23
Plates 65 - 66. Room 24



64.



65.



66.



Plate 67. Second Floor Room 25



Plate 68. Second Floor Room 25

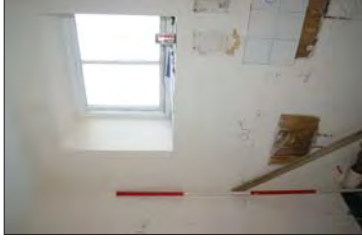


Plate 69. Second Floor Room 26



Plate 70. Second Floor Room 27



Plate 71. Second Floor Room 28



Plate 72. Attic Level Showing Relatively New Roof



Plate 73. Attic Level Showing Relatively New Roof



Plate 74. Attic Level Showing Brick Arch

7.0 Conclusion

The Old Police Station, Caernarfon is situated within the historic town walls at the western end of Castle Ditch, abutting the Town Wall directly opposite Caernarfon Castle. It is a Grade I Listed Building (Listed Building Reference 3827), listed as an example of a well-preserved 19th Century public building of strong architectural character. It is an integral component of an important group of public buildings which includes the former Shire Hall and the former jail. The Old Police Station is also considered to be an important contributing element to the setting of Caernarfon Castle.

The western gable of the building incorporates part of the Medieval Town Wall which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Cn034) and part of the Caernarfon World Heritage Site. The Old Police Station as a whole is within the essential setting of the World Heritage Site and the Caernarfon Conservation Area.

The Police Station was built in 1853 and the front and gable façades appear to have changed very little since this date. There have been a number of additional openings added to the rear of the building. There are no planned changes to the front or gable elevations.

The interior of the Police Station has been altered over time. At Ground Floor level 5 prison cells have been inserted into the building, two in 1862 and later modified around 1867, and three added in the mid-late Twentieth Century. The layout of the First Floor has survived largely unaltered with the exception of two prison cells added in 1862 and a modern toilet. The Second Floor is also largely original in layout with the exception of the subdivision of the north-eastern room.

There are some interesting early features surviving in the building including the interior facing cell windows, holes for iron bars in the slate window sills and the original stairway.

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Material Sourced from the RCAHMW

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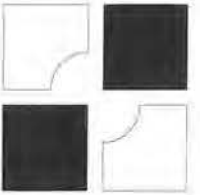
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Appendix A.

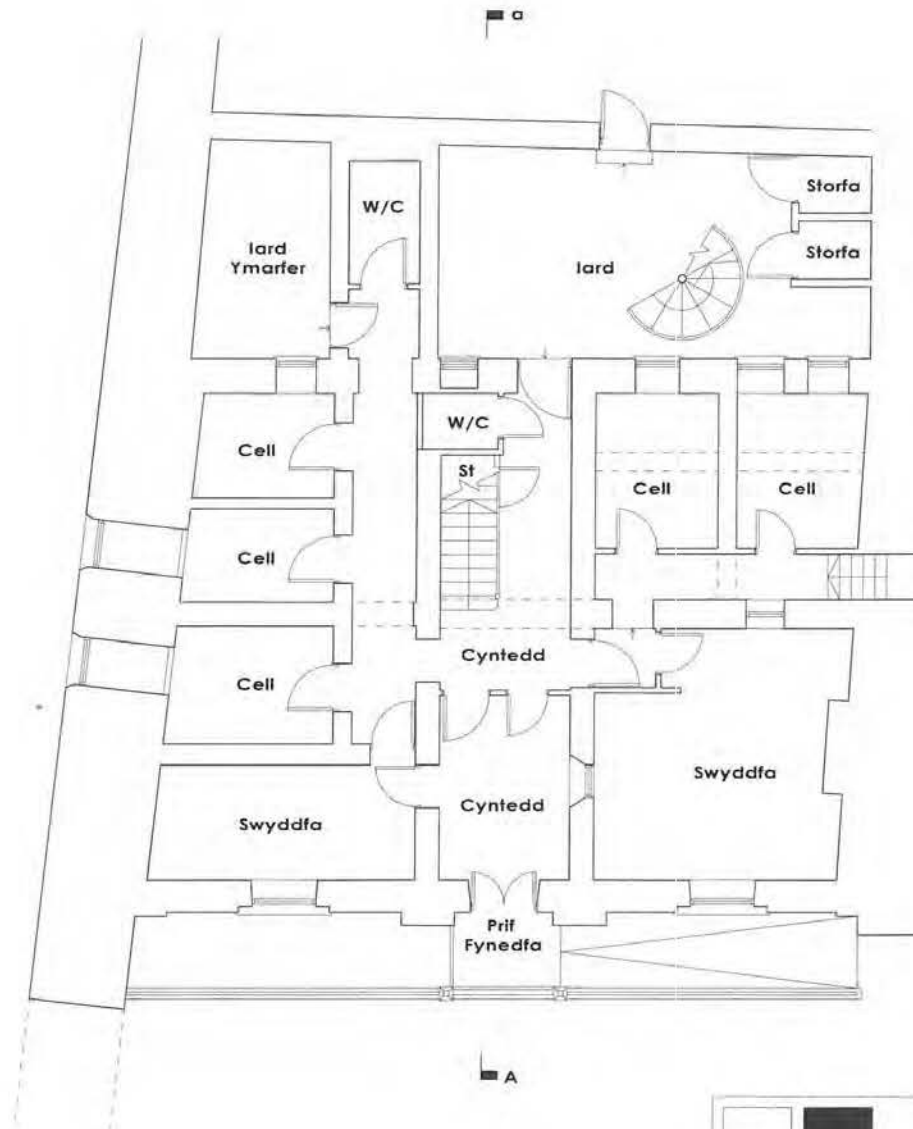
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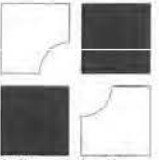


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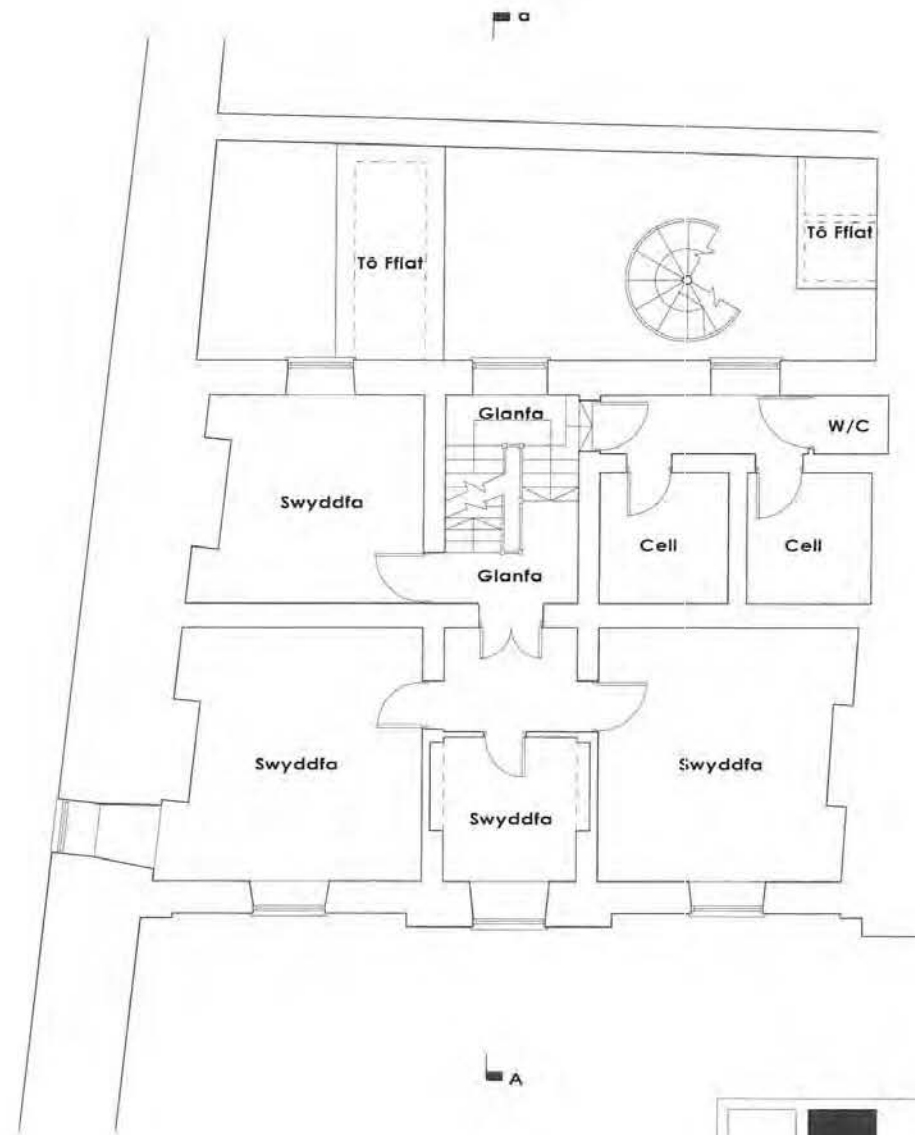


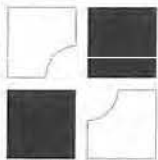


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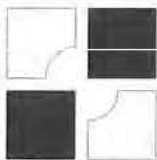
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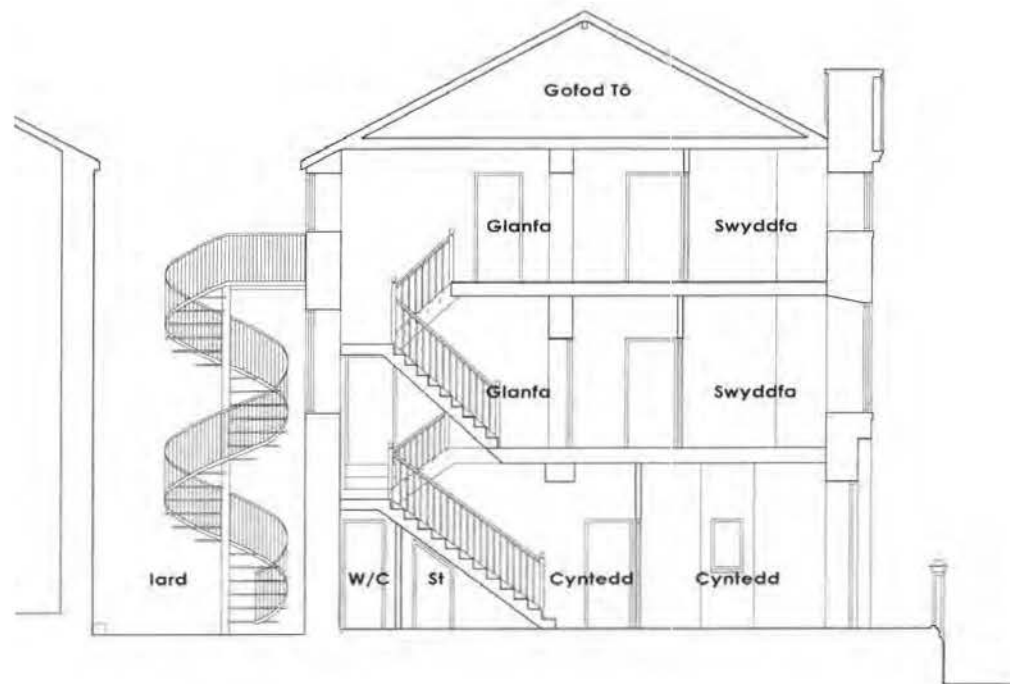



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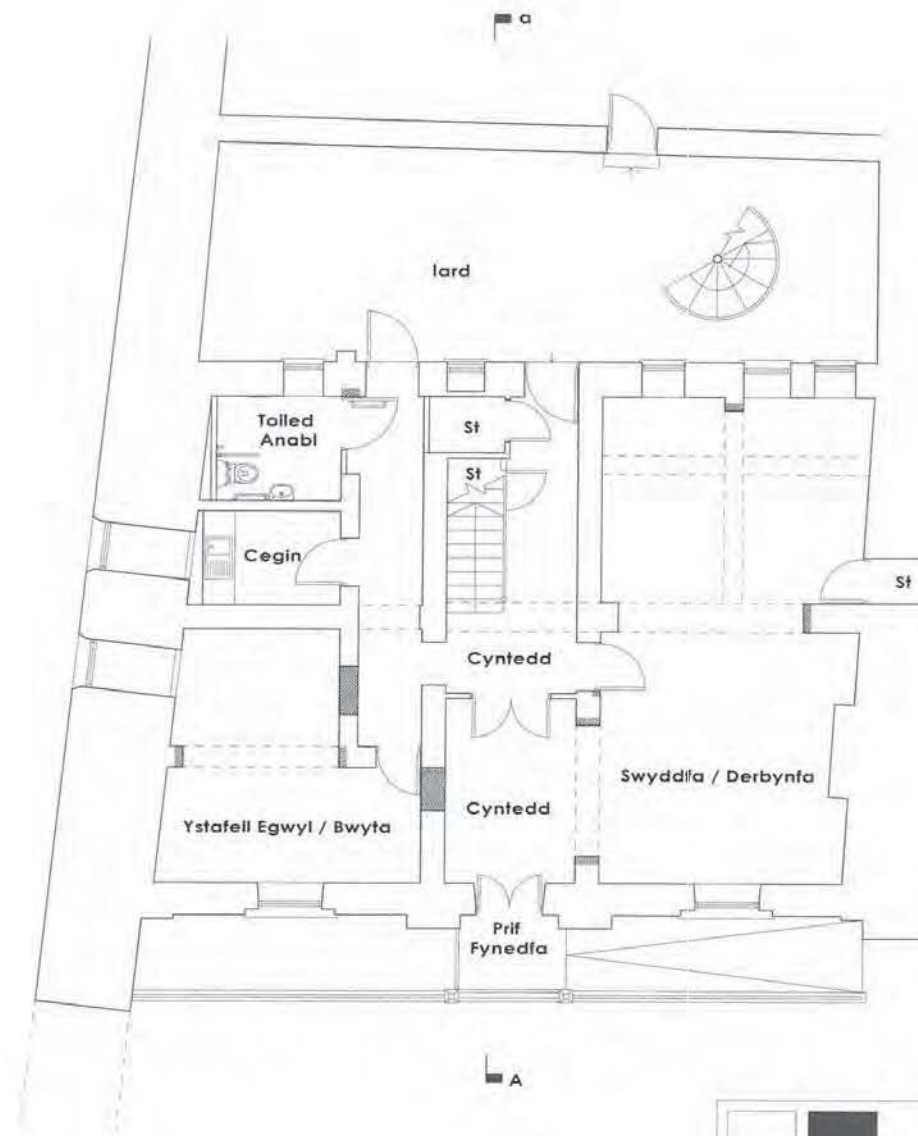
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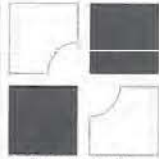
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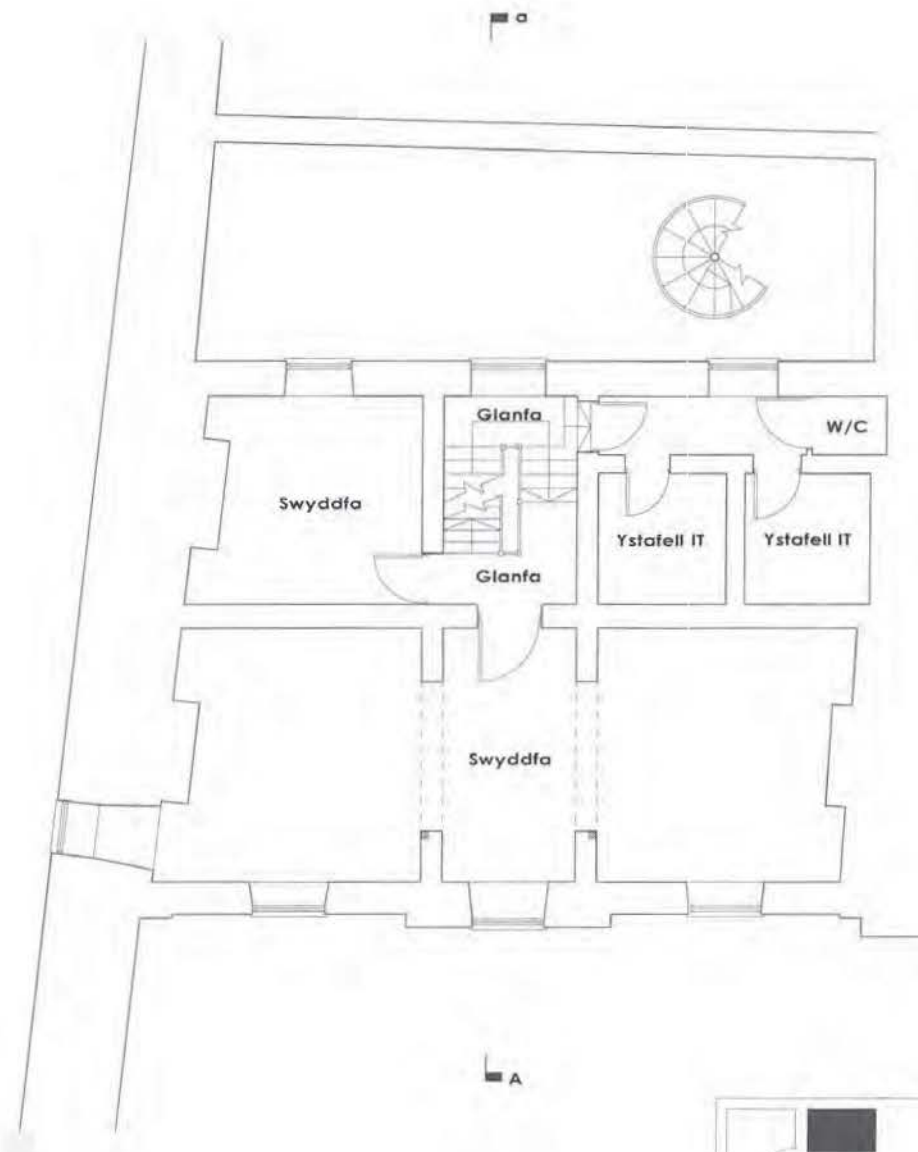
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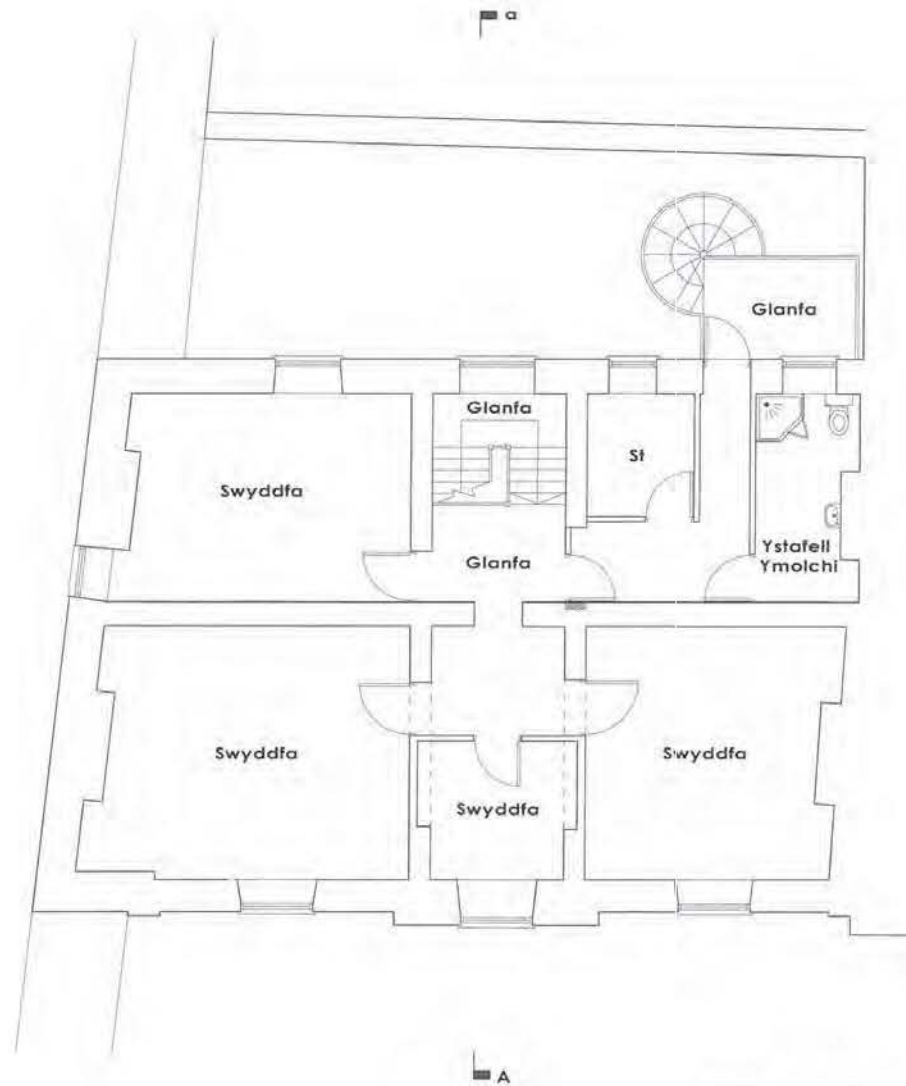
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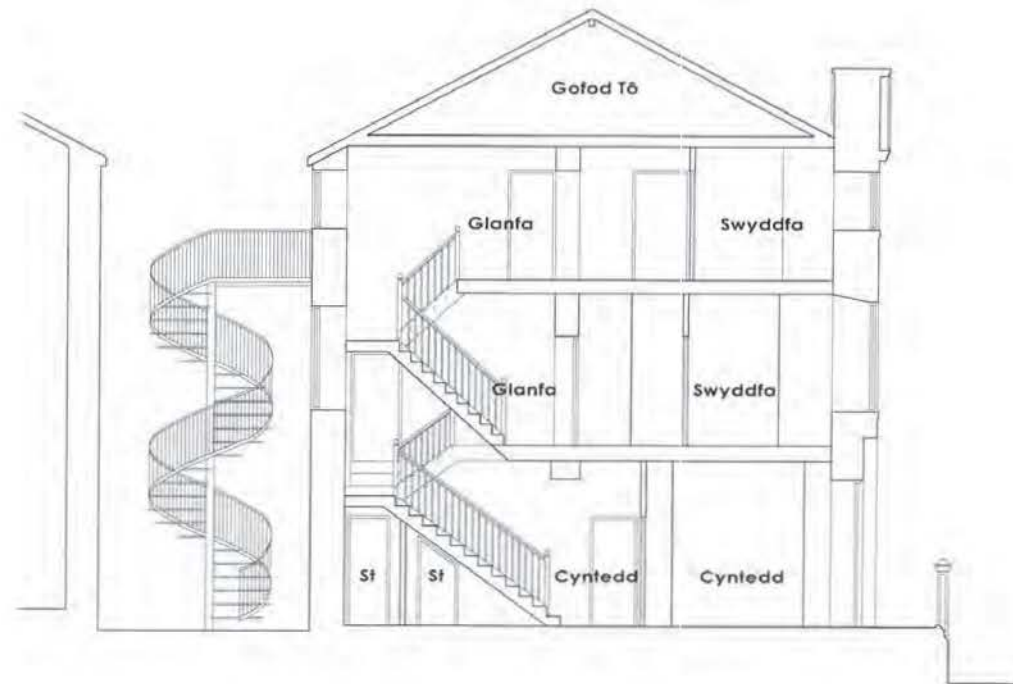
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Appendix B.

Specification for Archaeological Works at Old Police Station, Caernarfon

NGR SH 247708 362695

Report Number CR60-2014



C.R Archaeology

Compiled by Catherine Rees

on Behalf of Mr Aled Jones, Cymen

Specification for Archaeological Works at Old Police Station, Caernarfon

Planning Application Number:	C13/1077/14/LL
National Grid Reference:	SH 247708 362695
Client:	Mr Aled Jones
Report Author:	Catherine Rees
Report Number:	CR60-2014
Date:	07/02/2014

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Illustrations

Figure 1. Site Location Map

Appendices

Appendix A. Proposed Development Plans

1.0 Introduction

C.R Archaeology have been instructed by Mr Aled Jones, Cymen to conduct archaeological works at The Old Police Station, Caernarfon in compliance with conditions placed on their planning application (Planning Application C13/1077/14/LL).

The Old Police Station, Caernarfon (Figure 1) is situated within the historic town walls at the western end of Castle Ditch, abutting the Town Wall directly opposite Caernarfon Castle. It is a Grade I Listed Building (Listed Building Reference 3827), listed as an example of a well-preserved 19th Century public building of strong architectural character. It is an integral component of an important group of public buildings which includes the former Shire Hall and the former jail. The Old Police Station is also considered to be an important contributing element to the setting of Caernarfon Castle.

The western gable of the building incorporates part of the Medieval Town Wall which is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Cn034) and part of the Caernarfon World Heritage Site. The Old Police Station as a whole is within the essential setting of the World Heritage Site and the Caernarfon Conservation Area.

Planning permission has been granted for a change of use for the building from a Police Station into offices (see Appendix A for proposed plans).

This specification has been written with reference to correspondence from GAPS (Ref 0105je01/D1634 dated January 5th 2012) and following a discussion and site visit (December 5th 2014) with Development Control Archaeologist Jenny Emmett of GAPS as a methodology for a programme of works.

2.0 Project Aims & Objectives

The aim of this programme of works are to create a Level 2/3 Building Record of the Old Police Station, Caernarfon,

Subsequent archaeological works will aim to further enhance this record through the monitoring of demolition works and the stripping of interior render. When structural elements have been removed the remaining building exposed will be photographed with scales and any blocked architectural features/ building joints/ alterations or changes in fabric will be recorded.

This scheme of works also aims to monitor any groundworks which may be necessary to identify, assess the survival of and excavate/record any archaeological remains uncovered.

The objectives of the archaeological programme are to provide an archive record of the building; to increase understanding of the site's history, development and significance; to ensure the recording and interpretation of any information revealed during the course of the works.

3.0 Historical Background

This section is through necessity brief and is intended merely to provide a basic outline of the building's history. The compilation of a more detailed history will form an integral part of the final report.

Castle Ditch is a mid Nineteenth Century Street created by Anthony Salvin, which connects Castle Square through the gap in the Medieval circuit of the walls left for the castle's ditch (Haslam, Orbach & Voelcker 2009: 305).

The Police Station was built in 1853 as the first County Hall by John Lloyd (ibid: 304). The RCAHMS Database records the building (NPRN 23243) and the Cadw Listed Building Description is as follows “*Neo-classical style of 3 bays and 3 storeys, in ashlar with large pilaster strips, slate roof behind a low coped parapet on a moulded cornice, and parallel stone end stacks. The central pedimented bay is advanced and is rusticated in the lower storey. Its doorway is set back in an arched recess and has double panelled doors. Flanking ground floor windows are set back in similar arched recesses. The windows are 12-pane hornless sashes in the lower and middle storeys. In the middle storey the central window has a segmental pediment, the outer windows triangular pediments. The upper storey has 6-pane hornless sash windows under hood moulds. The central pediment has a dated tablet. The L gable end is built into the Town Wall and is rubble stone with coped gable and freestone dressings. In the lower storey are 2 late C19 small-pane windows under shouldered lintels. Below the L-hand window is the jamb and part of the arch of a blocked Medieval postern gate. In the middle storey is a sash window to the right of a single over 2 panes, while upper L is a window with 6 over 2 pane sash. The forecourt is enclosed by cast iron railings with anthemion finials, on a dressed stone dwarf wall. Central stone steps are framed by square panelled gate piers with moulded caps*”.

4.0 Geographical and Geological Context

4.1 Topography

The site is located within the Parish of Llanbeblig on a fertile low-lying area overlooking the Menai Straits.

The Old Police Station, Caernarfon is situated within the historic town walls at the western end of Castle Ditch, abutting the Town Wall directly opposite Caernarfon Castle.

4.2 Geology

The superficial geology of the site is described as “fluvial deposits” and the bedrock is not detailed. The deposit is described as “normally soft to firm consolidated, compressible silty clay, but can contain layers of silt, sand, peat and basal gravel. A stronger, desiccated surface zone may be present” (www.bgs.ac.uk).

5.0 Scheme of Works - Methodology

5.1 Scheme of Works – Methodology for Building Recording at The Old Police Station

The methodology employed will conform to the requirements of a Level 2/3 Building Record as specified in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006) and The Institute for Archaeologists: *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (Revised 2008).

The following points are detailed in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006).

The record created for the Old Police Station will consist of:

Written Account	Points 1-3, 5-8, 12, 18 & 22
Drawings	Points 2, 4, 7-9
Photography	Points 1-9.

5.1.1 Desk Based Research

A complete and coherent history of the site will be compiled utilising information sourced from Bangor University Archives & Gwynedd Archives. A full map progression will be undertaken along with a search of estate records and general archival research. Web resources will also be utilised.

The works will be conducted in accordance with the IfA Standards and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment (IfA 2009) and will include the information required to fulfil points 1-3, 5-8, 12, 18 & 22 as specified in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006).

This material will form the historical background for the archaeological report. The report will also include the results of the photographic survey and an additional compact disc containing all site images in Tiff format.

5.1.2 Drawn Survey

Architects drawings of the elevations and plans were produced for the property by Ap Thomas Partnership and it was not felt necessary to replicate these existing works. Copies of these documents will be incorporated into and discussed in the text. These drawings will be annotated and

amended to reflect the current building layout and to aid interpretation of building phasing.

These drawings will fulfil points 2 & 4 as specified in “*Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*” (English Heritage 2006). Location plans and historical material will be produced/sourced by C.R Archaeology to fulfil criteria 8-9 in the aforementioned document.

5.1.3 Photographic Survey

A photographic survey of the Old Police Station will be undertaken. This will include:

- 1) A photographic survey of the exterior of the Old Police Station
- 2) A photographic survey of the interior of the Old Police Station

The methodology employed will conform to the requirements of photographic recording to the equivalent of a Level 3 Survey, as specified in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (English Heritage 2006) and will include works specified in points 1-9.

5.1.3.1 Equipment

A photographic survey of the Old Police Station will be undertaken using a 14.2 mega-pixel Sony Alpha-350 digital camera with a variety of standard and other lenses using a tripod where necessary. Images will be captured in RAW format for later processing into high resolution JPG and TIFF files.

Where possible all exterior and interior elevations of the building will be photographed with scales from ground level. Additional photographs will be taken detailing important architectural features.

5.2 Scheme of Works – Methodology for Archaeological Watching Brief at the Old Police Station, Caernarfon

Limited works which will affect the historic interior of the building are planned. A watching brief will be conducted when a section of the original wall on the ground floor (in the room to the left of the entrance hall) is removed. A photographic record will be made and building materials noted.

It is proposed that existing services will be utilised to supply the building following the renovation and no below ground works are planned. However given the sensitivity of the site should works be found to be necessary all intrusive groundworks at the site are to be monitored by an archaeologist

from C.R Archaeology. GAPS will immediately be informed of the works. Where possible intrusive works requiring the use of a mechanical excavator will utilise a machine fitted with toothless bucket.

Any archaeological features, structures or remains identified in the course of the excavation 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. GAPS will be informed of the discovery and a mitigation strategy agreed before works will progress.

Fieldwork is to be conducted by Matthew Jones or Catherine Rees of C.R Archaeology. Both staff members are qualified, experienced archaeologists and cv's can be provided on request.

5.2.1 Recording

The record forms at C.R 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. A temporary benchmark (TBM) will be established on the site and plans, elevations and sections will contain grid and level information. Where possible this will be relative to OS data. All drawings will be numbered and listed in a drawing register, these drawing numbers being cross-referenced to written site records.

A high-resolution 14.2mp 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 and north arrow. 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’.

A 'harris matrix' diagram will be constructed for the excavated area.

5.2.2 Additional Mitigation/Contingency Measures

In the unlikely 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.

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 (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.

Specialist conservation will be undertaken by an approved conservator on advice provided by a suitable specialist. This will be conducted in accordance with guidelines issued by the Institute for Conservation.

Following analysis all archaeological material recovered will be deposited in Bangor 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).

5.2.4 Archive Compilation

All records created during the fieldwork will be checked for consistency and accuracy and will form part of the *Primary Site Archive (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.

Bangor Museum will be notified in advance of the proposed work and the deposition of any archive created by this archaeological project and archive material will be deposited in accordance with the museum's terms and conditions for archive deposition.

5.3.0 Timetable for Proposed Works

It is envisaged that works at the Old Police Station will commence as soon as possible. Initial site work is to take place over one day with further site visits when stripping out, demolition or groundworks are undertaken. Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services will be informed of the exact site days to allow monitoring of works.

5.3.1 Staffing

The project will be managed by Matthew Jones (BA, MA). 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.

5.3.2 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. GAPS will be notified in writing of the commencement dates for archaeological site work.

5.3.3 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.

5.3.4 The Report

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

The reports will include:

- A copy of the design brief and agreed specification
- A location plan
- A descriptive and interpretive written account of the building, building history and building phases
- Architects and historical plans and elevations
- A plan illustrating the location and direction of any photographs or drawings
- Full dimensional and descriptive detail, a full bibliography of sources consulted
- An archive compact disc

The report will detail the results of the Level 2/3 Building recording at the Old Police Station. A supplementary report will be produced which will detail the results of the Archaeological Watching Brief.

Copies 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 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.

5.3.4.1 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.

6.0 Bibliography

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Watkinson, D. & Neal, V. 2001. *First Aid for Finds*. London. United Kingdom Institute for Conservation of Historic & Artistic Works

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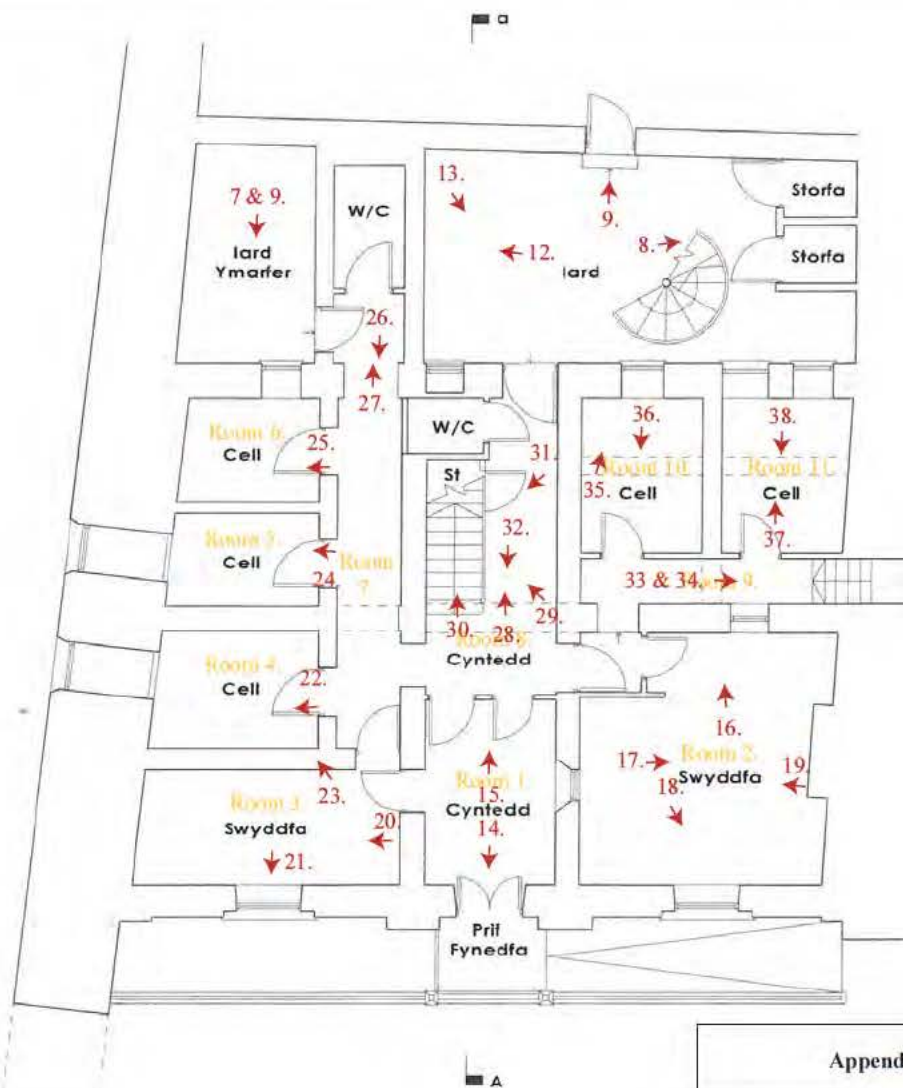
www.cadw.wales.gov.uk/docs/cadw/publications/WHS_part_2_map_Caernarfon_EN.pdf

<http://www.coflein.gov.uk/en/site/23243/details/POLICE+STATION%2C+CASTLE+DITCH/>

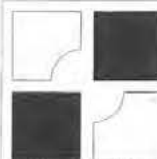
www.gwynedd.gov.uk

Appendix A.

Proposed Development Plans



Appendix C. Existing Ground Floor Plan of Old Police Station



Ap Thomas Partnership
Unit 13b
Llys Ddwen
Parc Menai
Bangor
Gwynedd
LL57 4GP

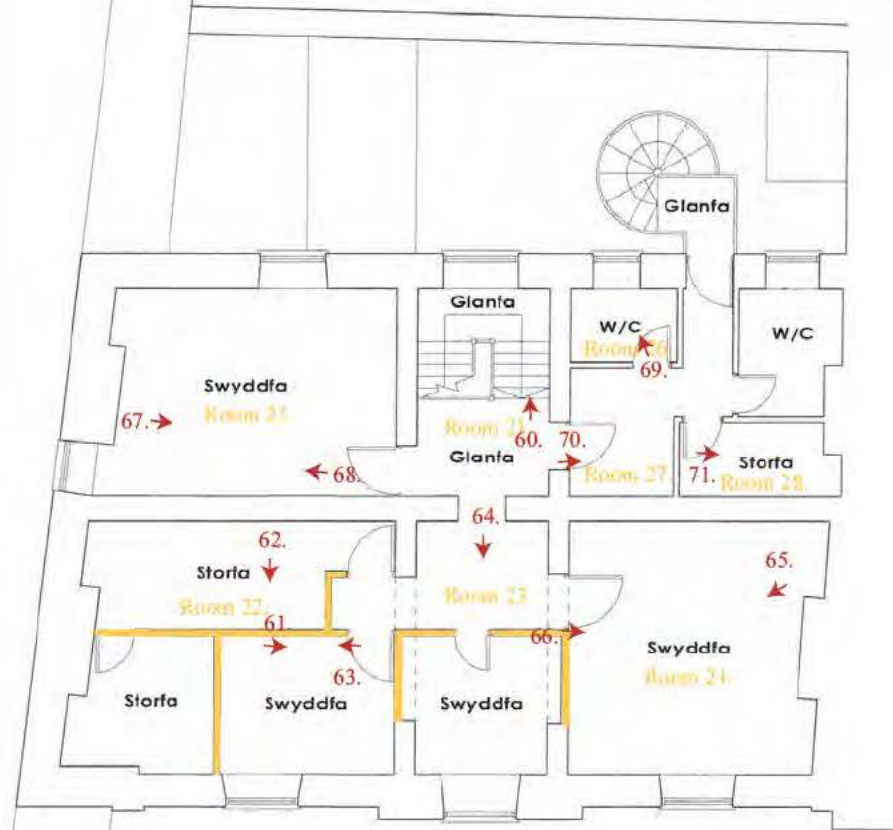
01248 610353
www.ap-thomas.com
info@ap-thomas.com

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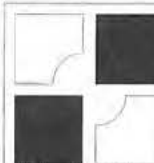
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DATE	12.04.2013	SCALE	1:100
DRAWN	THD	CHECKED	AMJ
JOB	Cyn Swyddfa'r Heddlu Pen Deith Caernarfon		
DRG	Cynllun Llaur Gwaelod Presennol		
JOB NO	5025	DRG. REF.	(00) 01
REV.	A		

* Partitions Marked in Orange Modern Plasterboard Partitions and were Removed Prior to Recording



Appendix C. Existing Second Floor Plan of Old Police Station



Ap Thomas Partnership
Unit 13a
Llys Onnen
Parc Mennai
Bangor
Gwynedd
LL57 4DF
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info@apthomas.com

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DATE	12.04.2013	SCALE	1:100
DRAWN	THD	CHECKED	AMJ
JOB	Cyn Swyddfa'r Heddlu Pen Delich Caernarfon		
DRG	Cynllun All Lawr Presennol		
JOB NO.	5025	DRG. REF.	(00) 03
REV.	A		

