

CASTLERING ARCHAEOLOGY

REPORT NO.236

LAND AT TYDDYN BACH

SOUTH STACK ROAD

HOLYHEAD

ANGLESEY

SH 23890 82690

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED
ASSESSMENT & SITE VISIT

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CONTRACTED BY:

MR MATTHEW GILBERT

THE PLANNING CONSULTANCY

BRIDGE FARM

SARN, MALPAS, CHESHIRE

SY14 7LN

ON BEHALF OF KEYSTERNE LTD

UNDERTAKEN BY

PAT FROST, CONSULTANT ARCHAEOLOGIST BA., MIFA

CASTLERING ARCHAEOLOGY

6, CASTLE RING, PONTESBURY HILL, PONTESBURY

SHROPSHIRE. SY5 0YA

TEL: 01743 791136 MOBILE: 07971751978

Email: mail@castleringarchaeology.co.uk

www.castleringarchaeology.co.uk

SYNOPSIS

This report contains the results of a contracted archaeological desk-based assessment and site visit undertaken in May 2006, on 3.6 hectares of land at Tyddyn Bach, South Stack Road, Holyhead, Anglesey, which is currently under consideration for development. The proposed development site is located on the western outskirts of the town centre of Caergybi (*Holyhead*), the principle town and ferry port on Ynys Gybi (*Holy Island*), Anglesey. The study area itself currently comprises agricultural land surrounding three former farmsteads – Tyddyn Bach, Tyddyn y Feiler and Tydfil. The land extends north from South Stack Road towards the newly built house known at Tydfil.

The study area lies in close proximity to a number of known archaeological sites dating from the Bronze Age to more recent times. Extensive settlement in the environs of the study area in prehistoric times is indicated by the number of previously recorded stone built monuments generally representing settlement and burial sites. The prehistoric sites have been the subject of considerable documentary recording and investigation since the 19th century.

Tyddyn Bach farmstead has been part of the Penrhos Estate since the late 17th century at least. The earliest record of the farm dates to 1682. The Penrhos Estate passed by marriage in 1763 to the Stanley family and the 1769 maps compiled by Thomas Boydell for Penrhos Estate provide a comprehensive record of 18th century land ownership, including part of the study area. The map confirms that land at 'Tuttil' (*later Tydfil*) was also part of Penrhos Estate.

Tyddyn y Feiler farmstead was part of the Vickers Llanfawr Estate. The Vickers family had accumulated the estate piecemeal from 1689 onwards, when James Vickers of Dublin gained the Irish Mail Contract.

Documentary and cartographic evidence suggests the study area has been used continuously for agricultural practices since the 17th century at least. The field patterns recorded by Thomas Boydell's 1769 maps and on 19th century maps have been subsequently enlarged as the need for more open fields was established by modern day farming. The existing field systems are part of Tyddyn Bach farmstead, currently occupied by Mr Keys who has lived there for the past 19 years. The farm buildings themselves are no longer in use and the fields are currently leased for pasture.

The buildings on site appear to date entirely to the 19th century. The oldest surviving structures visible on site are two field barns recorded by the Tithe in 1848.

No evidence of above ground archaeology or the potential for sub-surface archaeology was noted during the current assessment. Cartographic evidence has shown that part of the site was owned by The Hon. William Owen Stanley of Plas Penrhos, who carried out extensive excavations and documented considerable archaeology during the 19th century, particularly on his own land. Given his interests in archaeology and the absence of any records pertaining to archaeological investigations in the study area by Stanley, it is feasible to assume that no above ground archaeology was visible during his time.

Despite the lack of archaeological evidence for the study area itself, the potential for revealing unknown archaeological remains is always a possibility during a development of this size.

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Abbreviations:

- | | |
|--------|---|
| GAT | Gwynedd Archaeological Trust |
| HER | Historic Environment Record |
| NMR | National Monuments Record |
| OS | Ordnance Survey |
| PRN | Primary Record Number (<i>allotted to HER records</i>) |
| RCAHMW | Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments, Wales |



Fig. 1 Tyddyn Bach, South Stacks Road, Holyhead - extent of study area

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Scale 1:2500

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In April 2006, Castlering Archaeology was contracted by Mr Matthew Gilbert, The Planning Consultancy, Bridge Farm, Sarn, Malpas, Cheshire, SY14 7LN, on behalf of Keysterne Ltd., to undertake an archaeological assessment of 3.6 hectares of land at Tyddyn Bach, South Stack Road, Holyhead, which is currently under consideration for development (*centred SH 23890 82690; Fig 1*). The site is located on the north side of South Stack Road on the western outskirts of the town centre of Caergybi (*Holyhead*), the principle town and ferry port on Ynys Gybi (*Holy Island*), Anglesey. The site lies in close proximity to a number of known archaeological sites dating from the Bronze Age to more recent times. The study area currently comprises agricultural land surrounding three former farmsteads – Tyddyn Bach, Tyddyn y Feiler and Tydfil.

1.2 Planning proposals for the development of two parcels of land which form the study area have been submitted to Isle of Anglesey County Council (*Application nos. 19C608F & 19C608G*). Following consultation with Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service, acting as advisers to Isle of Anglesey County Council, the developer was informed that a pre-determination archaeological desk-based assessment together with site visit was required to provide further information regarding the archaeological potential of the site, since a development of this size could affect hitherto unknown archaeological remains. A design brief outlining the required archaeological works was subsequently submitted to the developers by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (*April 12th 2006*).

1.3 Following the submission of a Project Design, drawn up by Castlering Archaeology and approved by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service, the prescribed archaeological work was undertaken in May 2006 and the results form the basis of this report.

2. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

2.1 The aim of the archaeological assessment is to provide information that will enable an informed and reasonable planning decision to be taken regarding the archaeological provision for the areas to be affected by the proposed development.

2.2 The objective of the assessment is to:

- undertake a desk-based study in order to establish the archaeological potential of the site and assist in the site walk-over survey
- undertake a walk-over survey in order to locate any further archaeological / historical structures / features and deposits within the study area
- assess the survival, quality, condition and relative significance of any archaeological / historical structures / features, deposits and structures within the study area

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 Phase 1 – Desk-based assessment

The desk-based assessment has consulted the relevant readily available records held by Gwynedd Historic Environment Record (*HER*); Isle of Anglesey County Record Office, Llangefni; Bangor Archives, University of Bangor; the National Monuments Record (*NMR*) held by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments: Wales (*RCAHMW*) and the National Library of Wales (*NLW*), Aberystwyth. The assessment has

consulted relevant known archaeological records, published and unpublished works, historic and cartographic documents, county histories and journals, place and fieldname evidence, pictorial and photographic evidence and oral sources. All sources consulted are listed in Section 10 of this report.

3.2 Phase 2 - Site walk-over survey

A systematic site walk-over of the site was undertaken on Wednesday May 24th, following the desk-based assessment, in order to record the current land-use, the survival of above ground archaeology and the potential for buried archaeological deposits.

3.3 The walk-over identified the standing buildings, structural remains and current land-use on site. The results form Section 7 of this report and are interpreted on Fig. 2. A general photographic record of the site is also included (Plates 2 - 12).

4. GENERAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prehistory (c.4000 BC to Roman occupation c.AD 60)

4.1 Extensive settlement in the environs of the study area in prehistoric times is indicated by the number of previously recorded stone built monuments generally representing settlement and burial sites. The prehistoric sites have been the subject of considerable documentary recording and investigation since the 19th century. The Hon. William Owen Stanley of Plas Penrhos carried out extensive excavations during the 19th century, many of which were on land owned by himself (*para 5.8 following*). The extensive survival of above ground archaeology from the prehistoric period gives some indication of the extent of settlement at this time and easy access to many of the sites has provided a well publicised tourist attraction. On Holyhead Mountain, the Prehistoric hut circles (PRN 1755; SAM A016) excavated initially by Stanley in the mid-19th century are located c.2.2 km west-southwest of the study area and the Iron Age Caer y Twr hillfort (PRN 1760; SAM 019) lies 2km west of the study area. The pair of standing stones known at Penrhos Feilw (PRN 2748) stand c. 2km southwest of the study area and c.3km to the southeast at Trefignath is the Neolithic Burial Chamber (PRN 2500; SAM A011), which overlay evidence of settlement in the early 4th millennium BC.

4.2 South of South Stack Road, in close proximity to the study area, the site of a stone-built settlement comprising hut circles or round houses has been built over by a 1960s housing development on land formerly occupied by Tre Hwfa Farm (PRN 1768). c.0.5km west-south-west of the study area is the possible site of a Neolithic burial chamber, near Ffynnon Gorllan, which was documented in the 19th century (PRN 1750; Davidson 2002). While stone built monuments from the prehistoric period can be clearly seen on Holy Island, earthworks have survived less well. Two Bronze Age barrows once prominent on Holy Island (PRN 15691-2) are barely visible and there is little evidence of the agricultural practices associated with the prehistoric settlements. Sub-surface remains from the prehistoric period have been located on Ynys Gybi (Holy Island), such as the barrow site discovered during recent excavation work under the early Christian cemetery at Ty Mawr (PRN 11048; SH 2520 8135), southeast of the study area (*para 4.4 following*). Chance finds from the prehistoric period in the area of Holyhead, in the form of stone axes, are recorded as PRNs 5667 and 5668.

The Roman period

4.3 The town centre of Holyhead grew up around the Roman fort, built in the 3rd century AD to guard against incursion from the Irish Sea and protect the naval port. The fort and naval base established by the Romans is now the site of the Church of St Cybi built between the 13th and 16th centuries (PRN 6917), the churchyard of which is enclosed by the remains of the Roman curtain wall (PRN 1762; SAM A031). Further west, on Holyhead Mountain, the Roman signal station / lighthouse, revealed during excavations in the 1980s, guided ships into the harbour. South of South Stack Road a Roman coin (PRN 1769) was recovered. A hoard of Roman coins recovered from the area of Holyhead in 1710 were all dated to the 4th century AD, confirming a Roman presence in the town at this time (PRN 2503; SH 26 81).

6th century Christianity

4.4 The archaeological evidence for this period on Anglesey is mainly ecclesiastical. Documentary evidence suggests that the Roman fort at Holyhead became the site of a Christian Monastic foundation granted to St. Cybi c.540 AD. The Christian settlement was sufficiently wealthy to attract Irish raiders in AD 961 (*Edwards 1986*). In advance of the A55 dual carriageway, a Christian cemetery dating c.6th to 8th century AD containing 43 graves was excavated northwest of Ty Mawr Farm (*Maynard et al 1999; SH 2520 8135*), which is southeast of the study area. Other Christian sites are recorded in the area of Trearddur Bay and Porth Dafarch southwest of the study area (*Edwards 1986*). A number of 'holy wells' have also been recorded within the town of Caer Gybi and its environs, including Ffynnon Gorllas (*PRN 1750*) documented in Jones 1954, located c.0.6km southwest of the study area. 18th century documentary evidence recorded the well in association with Capel Gorllas. Although the precise site of the Capel is unknown, the well lies in a field southwest of the house named Ffynon Gorllas, south of South Stack Road.

Medieval Period

4.5 In the years preceding Edward I's conquest, the town of Holyhead had been referred to by several names, including 'Eglwys y Bedd', being the vestry within the enclosure of St Cybi's Church and 'Cor Cuybi', the seat or place of Cybi. By 1315 the town was known as 'Haliheved', changing to 'Caergybi' in 1352. The forms of both names continued to be used. There is little evidence of secular settlement in the area in the medieval period. The greatest religious landowner in Anglesey was the Bishop of Bangor who held lands throughout the island. Other monastic foundations held their own land including that at Holyhead. Following the dissolution of the monasteries in 1536, land in the Parish of Holyhead fell into the hands of the local gentry (*paras 5.1 – 5.3 following*).

16th / 17th century cartographic evidence

4.6 Humphrey Llwyd's Map of Wales, dated 1573, records the presence of 'Holy Head' or 'Caer Cybi' and 17th century maps, for example Speed 1608, Blaeu 1645 and Ogilby's 1675 road map, record the town by name only, giving no further detail regarding occupation in the town and its environs. While it is generally accepted that the port at Holyhead had been used as a port since Roman times at least, its development is mainly attributed to the carrying of mail from London to Ireland, a route well documented since the late 16th century. The natural large tidal creek recorded on early maps rapidly developed into a purpose built harbour.

19th century expansion of the town & port

4.7 By the early 19th century, the Government sought to enlarge and improve the harbour at Holyhead, which was already in regular use as a ferryport for passengers to Ireland as well as a port for local fish, grain, coal and other goods. John Rennie, harbour engineer, was asked to draw up plans to improve the port and works began in 1810. Also in 1810, the Government appointed Thomas Telford to survey the road from London to Holyhead and by 1815 he had been asked to undertake the necessary improvements, which included long lengths of new road across Anglesey, including the Stanley Embankment connecting Anglesey to Holy Island (*Govannon Consultancy 2003, Appendix 3, 14*). When Rennie died in 1821 Telford took over the harbour works. By the time of Telford's death in 1834, the harbour plans appear to have been completed.

4.8 The construction work for the new harbour drew people to the town. By August 1848 the Chester and Holyhead Railway was completed to Holyhead. The advent of the railways improved the carrying of mail and passengers and increased employment in the town. Continued improvements in the sea and rail services are reflected in the growth of the town.

5. HISTORY OF THE STUDY AREA

5.1 The study area comprises land occupied by three farmsteads - Tyddyn Bach, Tyddyn y Feiler and Tydfil. The land appears to have been under two ownerships throughout the 18th and 19th centuries. Tyddyn Bach farmstead has been part of the Penrhos Estate since the late 17th century at least. The earliest record of the farm by name is a lease dated February 1682, when a messuage and lands including 'Tythyn Bach' are leased by the late Lady Dungannon (*Penrhos* 7, 128). The Penrhos Estate passed by marriage in 1763 to the Stanley family of Alderley and leases and conveyances dated 1764 (*Penrhos* 3, 17 & 4, 4) refer to the farmstead, then owned by Sir John Thomas Stanley, as 'Tyddyn Bach' or 'Ty Bach'. The first Land Tax entries for the year 1753 record 'Tyddyn Bach' as occupied by Hugh Owen and subsequent entries from 1788 to 1796 confirm ownership by Sir John Stanley, with the property occupied by Owen Williams.

5.2 Tyddyn y Feiler farmstead was part of the Vickers Llanfawr Estate. The Vickers family had accumulated the estate piecemeal since 1689, when James Vickers of Dublin gained the Irish Mail Contract. Vickers purchased part of the estate c.1700 from Harri Parri of Tywysog, who had previously held the Irish Mail Contract. The Land Tax entry for 1753 records 'Tyddyn y Feiler' as occupied by Owen Jenkins and entries in subsequent years record the name of the farm only.

18th century Penrhos Estate maps

5.3 In 1769, the cartographer Thomas Boydell compiled a series of maps of the Penrhos Estate which provide a comprehensive record of land ownership, including part of the study area. Map 4 (*Fig. 3*) records 'Tyddin Bach' as a rectangular building with access off South Stack Road, which roughly corresponds with the current access (*Figs 1 & 2*). Three parcels of land (C1 – C3) accompany the house site. Plot C2's position west of the entrance track roughly corresponds with Field 1, identified during the walk-over survey (*Plate 3 & Section 7 following*). Plots C1 and C3 roughly correspond to land north of Tyddyn y Feiller. The accompanying schedule (*Penrhos* 3, 205) confirms the Land Tax entries recording 'Tyddyn bach' leased to William Owen. Plot C1 is recorded as House and Cae fflan y Drws; C2 as Cae ty cefn y Ty; and C3 as Gwernydd. Land at 'Twitill' is leased to Lewis Roberts.

5.4 Map 14 (*Fig. 4*) records 'Ty Bach' as a rectangular building, now part of 'u' which fronts South Stack Road. Land occupied by Tyddyn y Feiler is excluded but north of Ty Bach's boundary land which is part of 'Tuttil' is also included in the current study area. The map confirms that 'Tuttil' (*later Tydfil*) was part of Penrhos Estate, but no reference to the place-name was located in the Estate documents during the current assessment.

5.5 The 1820 plan of the property belonging to Sir John Stanley and others records the existence of the three farmsteads – Tyddyn Bach, Tyddyn y Feiler and Tydfil (*Fig. 5*).

1848 Tithe map (Fig. 6)

5.6 The 1848 Tithe map provides a comprehensive record of land ownership in the study area at this time. The map records Plots 201, 202 and 203 as 'Ty Bach', house and garden, owned by Lord Stanley (*Hon. William Owen Stanley*) of Alderley and leased to Hugh Jones, with no further details. Plots 198, 199 & 200 are recorded as 'Tyddyn y Feiler', owned by Eleanor Vickers and leased to Eliza and John Roberts. Plots 180 (*Gwaen cae newydd*), 181 (*Cae newydd*), 182 (*Ysgubor wen*), 183 (*Cae Ysgubor*) and 184 (*Pen worth y ty*) are part of Tydfil, also owned by Lord Stanley and let to Richard Parry. The map provides the first record of buildings 'a' and 'b' identified during the walk-over (*Section 7 following & Figs 2, 6-9*).

1890 OS map (Fig. 7)

5.7 The first edition 25" Ordnance Survey map provides an accurate large scale plan of the study area in the last decade of the 19th century. The map records the three farmsteads which have been in existence since the 18th century - Tyddyn Bach, Tyddyn y Feiler and Tydfil. The house site at Tyddyn Bach is recorded east of the end of the entrance track off South Stack Road, whereas the 1848 Tithe map (*Fig. 6*) places the house site adjacent to the boundary. The house and farm buildings recorded extending north from the house are in the position of those on site today (*Fig. 2, Plate 11 & Section 7 following*). A single building is recorded at Tyddyn y Feiler and the two buildings at Twtfil (*Tydfil*), recorded by the tithe in 1848, are recorded in 1890 with additions. Buildings 'a' and 'b' appear to be part of 'Twtfil' with access along a broad track past the 'Spring'.

1900 OS map (Fig. 8)

5.8 Within the last decade of the 19th century, the farm at Tyddyn Bach has expanded. The 1900 map provides the first record of granary building 'c' identified during the walk-over, which is depicted with steps on the east side (*Plates 9 & 10; Section 7 following*).

5.9 The 1924 OS map (*Fig. 9*) records little change in the study area other than the alteration in minor structures on the farmyard at Tyddyn Bach. The house known as 'Monfa' has been constructed adjoining the west side of the entrance track to Tyddyn Bach and beyond the east boundary the former farmstead at Pen-y-cefn appears to have gone out of use in advance of the creation of the public park. Since 1924, hedged boundaries have been removed and fields enlarged, but the agricultural land-use has continued.

5.10 Castlering Archaeology has been informed that Borehole sampling of the site has been undertaken on behalf of Anwyls Construction Company. The data has not yet been published but will be made available in the future. The only comment received regarding the borehole data was that 'no archaeological artefacts were recovered during the sampling'.

6. AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

6.1 The collection of aerial photographs dating from the 1940s, examined at RCAHMW, Aberystwyth, gave no indication of possible archaeological remains within the study area (*Plate 1*). In general the soil conditions in the area are unsuitable for crop mark evidence. No oblique coverage of the study area has been undertaken. Two aerial photographs examined at Anglesey Archives, Llangefni also had negative results.

7. RESULTS OF THE SITE WALK-OVER

Topography & Geology

7.1 The study area fronts South Stack Road, on the outskirts of the town of Caer Gybi or Holyhead, where modern housing has developed during the 19th and 20th century (*Figs 1 & 2*). The southwest corner of the study area abuts the rear of property fronting South Stack Road, together with a modern housing development, and the eastern boundary abuts the public park, with Gorsedd Circle, constructed on land which was once farmed by Pen-y-cefn. The study area comprises former farmsteads and pastureland. Rough grazing land with rocky outcrops extends north from the study area, beyond Tydfil, which is a newly constructed private dwelling.

7.2 The geology of the site is consistent with that of the Ynys Gybi or Holy Island itself. The solid geology comprises pale green chlorite schists, part of the New Harbour Group of the Mona Complex (*Smith & George 1961*). The outcropping schists can be seen on the northeast corner of the study area adjacent to the stone walled boundary with the public park (*Plate 6*). The soils are recorded as brown earths of the Gaerwen and Trisant type, which traditionally provide excellent pasture land.

7.3 Information gathered during the walk-over survey is described below and the numbers allotted to the descriptions are located on the site plan *Fig. 2*.

| Location | Description | Ref. |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Field No. 1 | Levelled pastureland enclosed by a post & wire fence on the southwest and west sides. Rubblestone wall boundary to the entrance track to Tyddyn Bach & rear of Monfa. | <i>Fig. 3 - Plot C2; 1890 OS plots 1503 & 1504 (Fig. 7) & Plate 3</i> |
| Field No. 2 | Pastureland rising to a broad 'ridge' in the centre of the field. Rubblestone wall boundary to the entrance track to Tyddyn Bach. Modern mortared stone wall boundary to South Stack Road. Post & wire fence to track leading to Tyddyn y Feiler | <i>Fig. 4, 'u'; 1890 OS plot 1502 (Fig. 7) & Plate 4</i> |
| Field No. 3 | Pastureland dipping north from South Stack Road & rising towards the rocky outcrops that adjoin the boundary with the public park. Modern stone walled east boundary to tennis court area. Stone wall boundary in area of rocky outcrops may date to c.1900. | <i>1890 OS plots 1493 & 1494 (Fig. 7) & Plate 5</i> |
| Bedrock 4 | Area of outcropping bedrock adjoining the stone boundary wall. Gorse cover. Has been partly used as a modern dump. | <i>Plate 6</i> |
| Field No. 5 | Pastureland sloping north towards the former track (6) that led from Twtfil to buildings 'a' & 'b'. Lower slopes were extremely wet on the day of the site visit, probably due to the location of the natural spring. | <i>1890 OS plots 1496 & 1497 (Fig. 7) & Plate 7</i> |
| Twtfil / Tydfil | Private modern residence. | <i>Plates 5 & 6</i> |
| Former track 6 | Former track that led from Twtfil to buildings 'a' & 'b' now located as a broad scattered hedgeline seen to the right of <i>Plate 7</i> . | <i>Fig. 6, 1848 Tithe & Plate 7</i> |
| Building 'a' (Post medieval) | Rectangular ivy clad rubblestone field barn recorded since 1848. Corrugated roof covers the east side, west side has collapsed. | <i>Fig. 6, 1848 Tithe & Plate 8</i> |
| Building 'b' (Post medieval) | East rubblestone wall survives to c.2m high identifying the former site presumably of the field barn recorded since 1848. 1m high stone boundary wall extends north from the barn. | <i>Fig. 6, 1848 Tithe & Plate 8</i> |
| Tyddyn y Feiler | Private modern residence. Enlarged residence may include earlier fabric. | <i>Plates 5 & 6</i> |

| | | |
|---|---|------------------------|
| Farm building 7 | Modern corrugated lean-to | Plate 12 |
| Farm building 8 | Modern barn, boarded sides, corrugated roof – all timbers machine cut & bolted. | Plate 12 |
| Farm building 9 | Modern barn – concrete block construction with corrugated roof. | Plate 12 |
| Yard 10 | Concrete yard – current storage area for caravans. | Plate 12 |
| Barn 11 | Modern open fronted concrete block barn with corrugated roof, south of slurry pits. All timbers machine cut & bolted. Surrounded by concrete yard. | Plate 12 |
| Bays 12 | Two modern open fronted concrete block bays with corrugated roof – currently providing caravan storage. Surrounded by concrete yard. | |
| Shippin 13 | Modern concrete constructed shippin, concrete floors & corrugated roof. All timbers machine cut & bolted. Adjoins rubblestone walled storage area (<i>on site 1890</i>). | Plate 11 |
| Barn 14 Late 19 th C | Rubblestone walled storage area (<i>on site 1890</i>). Corrugated roof. Much altered. | Plate 9 |
| Granary building 'c' Late 19 th C | 2-storey lime mortared rubblestone building with upper door accessed via a flight of external stone steps leading up the east wall (<i>on site 1900</i>). Whitewashed walls & corrugated tin roof. Much altered on the south side, where concrete blocks have replaced some of the stonework. | Fig. 8 & Plates 9 & 10 |
| Tyddyn Bach Late 19 th C | Rendered farmhouse & agricultural outbuildings. Ground plan as recorded since 1890. May include earlier fabric. | Fig. 7 & Plates 1 & 11 |

7.4 No above ground archaeology other than the standing buildings / structures associated with the farmsteads was recorded during the site walk-over. No evidence was gathered to suggest the possible existence of sub-surface archaeology.

8. DISCUSSION

8.1 Documentary and cartographic evidence suggests the study area has been used continuously for agricultural practices since the 17th century at least. The field patterns recorded by Thomas Boydell in 1769 and 19th century maps have been subsequently enlarged as the need for more open fields was established by modern day farming. The existing field systems are part of Tyddyn Bach farmstead, currently occupied by Mr Keys who has lived there for the past 19 years. The farm buildings themselves are no longer in use and the fields are currently leased for pasture.

8.2 The existing house and farm buildings extending north at Tyddyn Bach are similar in ground plan to those recorded by the OS in 1890 (*Fig. 7*). The position of the house and cartographic evidence suggests the building was constructed after the 1848 Tithe record (*Fig. 6*), but earlier fabric cannot be discounted. The opportunity to record any earlier fabric may arise if demolition works are undertaken.

8.3 Tyddyn y Feiler and Twtfil (*Tydfil*) are private residences with access off South Stacks Road. Twtfil is clearly a newly built residence, whereas Tyddyn y Feiler may incorporate earlier fabric.

8.4 Buildings 'a' and 'b' are the oldest surviving structures visible on site, as recorded by the Tithe in 1848 (*Fig. 6*). Building 'c' looks deceptively older than its c.1900 construction date (*Fig. 7*).

8.5 No evidence of above ground archaeology or the potential for sub-surface archaeology was noted during the current assessment. Cartographic evidence has shown that part of the site was owned by The Hon. William Owen Stanley of Plas Penrhos, who carried out extensive excavations and documented considerable archaeology during the 19th century, particularly on his own land. Given his interests in archaeology and the absence of any records pertaining to archaeological investigations in the study area by Stanley, it is feasible to assume that no above ground archaeology was visible during his time.

8.6 Although the proposed development site is overlooked by Holyhead Mountain, a site of Prehistoric and Roman archaeology, the site itself is not in close proximity to any scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings or historical / archaeological sites that may be visually affected by any proposed development.

8.7 The potential for chance finds on Anglesey itself is high. Stone axes from the prehistoric period have been recovered from Holyhead in the past (*PRNs 5667 and 5668*) and more recently, under the newly established Portable Antiquities Scheme, three Neolithic polished stone axeheads were found at Llanbedroch, Anglesey (*NMGWPA 2004.182.1-3*) and a Middle Bronze Age socket-looped spearhead was found in Beaumaris (*NMGWPA AIW 44, 125; 2004.151.1*). From subsequent periods, a Roman coin was recovered South of South Stack Road in close proximity to the site (*PRN 1769*). Mr Keys, however, has reported that the land was searched by metal detectorists several years ago to no avail. Historical and archaeological evidence certainly suggests continuous settlement in the area of Holyhead, including the study area, particularly throughout the Prehistoric to Romano-British period. In view of the depth of search of metal detectors, the potential to uncover chance finds depends on the depth of excavation during any future proposed development.

9. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

7.1 Castlering Archaeology would like to thank Matthew Gilbert, the Planning Consultancy, for contracting the work on behalf of Keysterne Ltd., Dave Collins; Geoff Keys, landowner, who accompanied part of the site visit; Emily La-Trobe Bateman, Development Control Archaeologist, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust; staff at Anglesey County Record Office, Llangefni, Bangor University Library, the National Monuments Record held by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments: Wales (*RCAHMW*), particularly Medwyn Parry; and staff at the National Library of Wales (*NLW*), Aberystwyth.

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- 1720 Map of Anglesey by Emanuel Bowen (*Anglesey Archives WR 344*)
- 1742 Map of Anglesey by Badesdale (*Anglesey Archives WR 346*)
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- 1820 Plan of the property of Sir John Stanley & others in the Parish of Holyhead etc (*Anglesey Archives W52/1*)
- 1848 Tithe map for the Parish of Holyhead
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Aerial photographs

NMR collection

| | | | |
|----------|----------------|-----------------|----------|
| OS/66/17 | Prints 160-162 | date: 3/4/1966 | 7,500ft |
| OS/66/16 | Prints 45-50 | date: 3/4/1966 | 7,500ft |
| OS/66/16 | Prints 73-76 | date: 3/4/1966 | 7,500ft |
| Wild 704 | Prints 214-217 | date: 28/4/1971 | 11,100ft |
| CUCAP | Prints 150-152 | date: 10/8/1982 | 10,000ft |
| ADAS | Prints 35 | date: 17/6/1992 | 14,000ft |

RAF collection

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1069/UK/655 | Prints 3350-3351 & 410-3413 | date: 13/8/1955 |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|

Anglesey Archives, Llangefni

WDAG/2 – 1940s AP.

WDAI/217 – 1950s AP

Anglesey Archives

WQT/35/1-85 Land Tax Assessments, 1752-1869

*University of Bangor Archives**Penrhos Mss*

1682, Penrhos 7, 241-2; Lease February 22nd-23rd re. Tythyn Bach
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 1764, Penrhos 3, 17; Lease September 28th 1764 re. messuages inc. Tyddyn Bach
 1764, Penrhos 4, 4; Conveyance September 29th 1764 re. messuages inc. Ty Bach
 1769, Penrhos 2, 772 Thomas Boydell's Maps for Penrhos Estate, Maps 1, 4 & 14
 1769, Penrhos 3, 205 – schedule accompanying the 1769 maps.

HER Data

| | | |
|-------------|---|---------------------------|
| 1750 | Site of poss. Burial Chamber, nr. Fynnon Gorllan (<i>19th century doc. ref.</i>) | SH 2340 8250A |
| 1755 | Holyhead Mt. Hut Circles | SH 2120 8200 SAM A016 |
| 1760 | Caer y Twr Hillfort | SH 2180 8300C SAM A019 |
| 1761 | Site of Capel Gorlas | SH 2336 8242 |
| 1762 | Roman Wall surrounding St Cybi's churchyard | SH 2471 8262 SAM A031 |
| 1763 & 6915 | St Cybi's Church | SH 2472 8262 |
| 1768 | Tre Hwfa Hut circle settlement | SH 2360 8250A |
| 1769 | Tre Hwfa Roman coin findspot | SH 2400 8200 |
| 2500 | Trefignath Burial Chamber | SH 2586 8055 SAM A011 |
| 3799 | Roman coin findspot, Holyhead | SH 2400 8200A |
| 5667 | Stone axe hoard findspot, Cwm, Holyhead | SH 2400 8200A |
| 5668 | Stone axe findspot, Ty Du, Holyhead | SH 2400 8200A |
| 11048 | Ty Mawr Early Christian Cemetary, excavations (<i>GAT Report No. 404</i>) | SH 25168130 |

GAT Reports

Smith, George, 2003, *Prehistoric Funerary & Ritual Monuments Survey, West Gwynedd and Anglesey 2002-2003, Part 1 Survey Report*. GAT Report No. 478, March 2003 (*Cadw funded*)

Davidson, A. & Hopewell, D., 2003, *Holyhead WTW Improvements Final Effluent Scheme, Archaeological Assessment & Field evaluation*. GAT Report No. 462, October 2002, revised December 2003

Reports deposited with HER

Holyhead Harbour Draft Consultation Plan, September 2003

Prepared for Donald Insall Associates Ltd., Chester

Prepared for Stena Line Ports Ltd

Appendix 3 Archaeology Report prepared by Govannon Consultancy

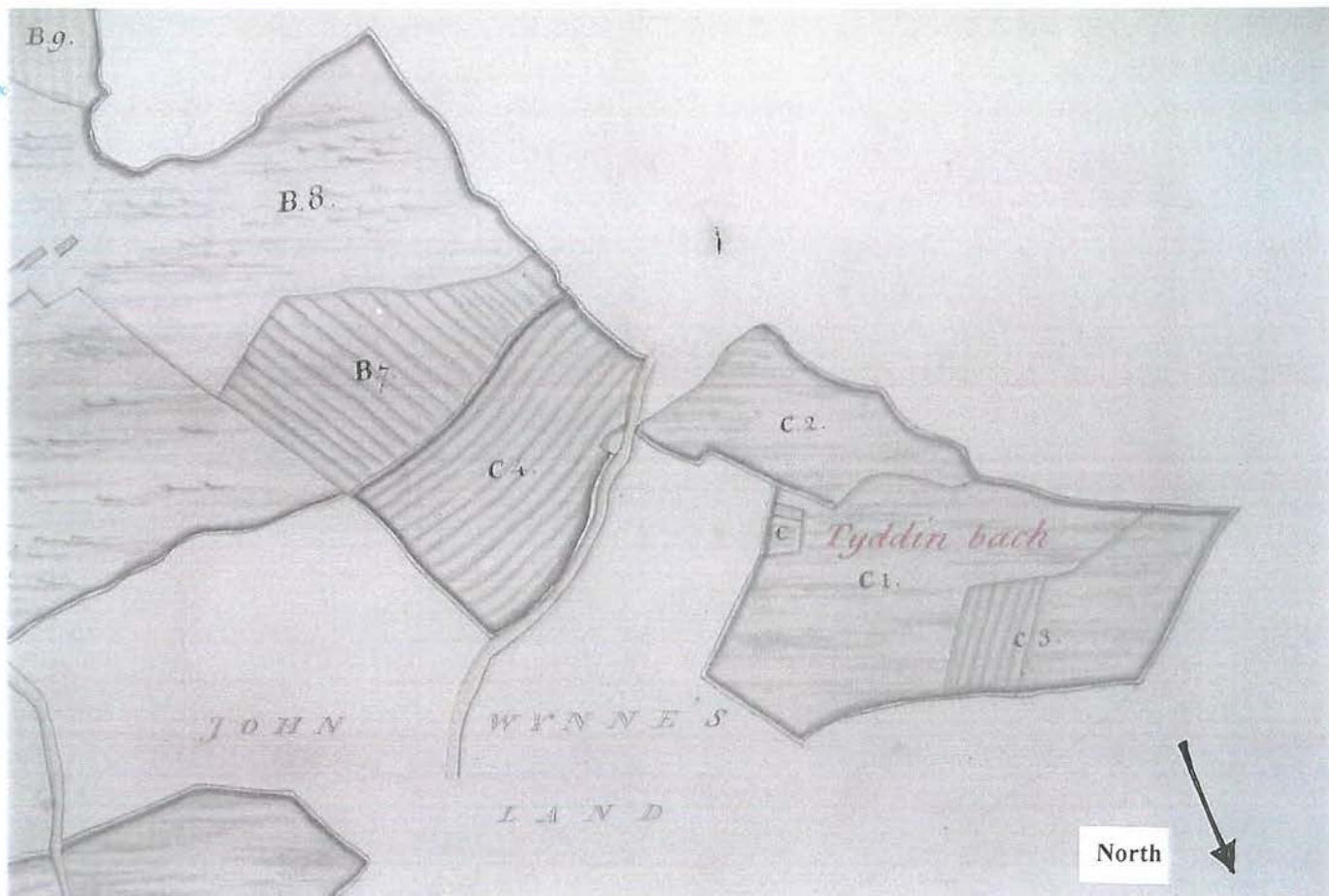
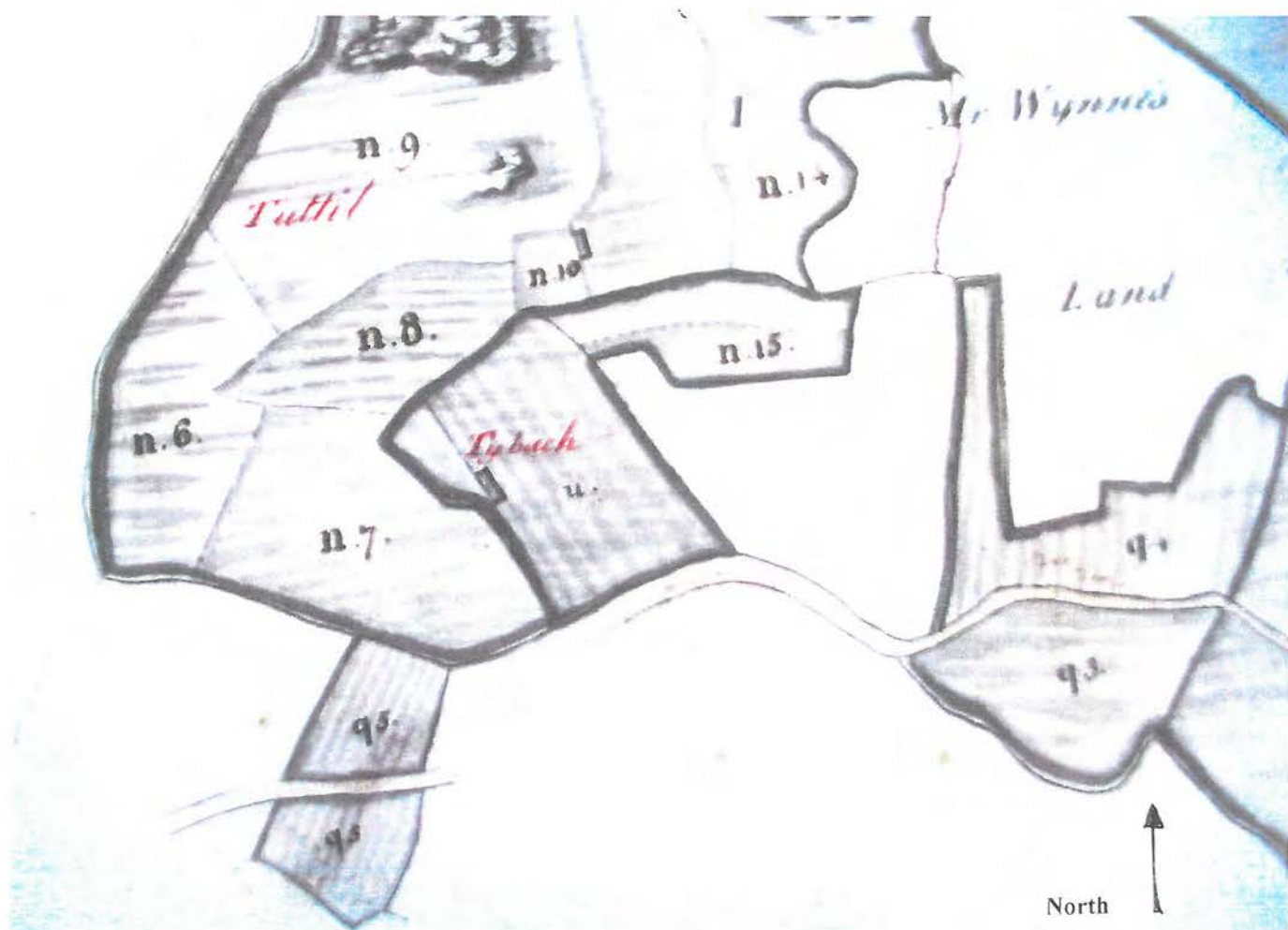


Fig. 3 above: Map 4, Penrhos Estate by Thomas Boydell, dated 1769, recording 'Tyddin Bach' (C, C1-3), part of the current study area.

Fig. 4 below: Map 14, Penrhos Estate by Thomas Boydell, dated 1769, recording 'Ty Bach' lands (u 7 & n15) and land belonging to 'Tuttill', part of which is included in the current study area.



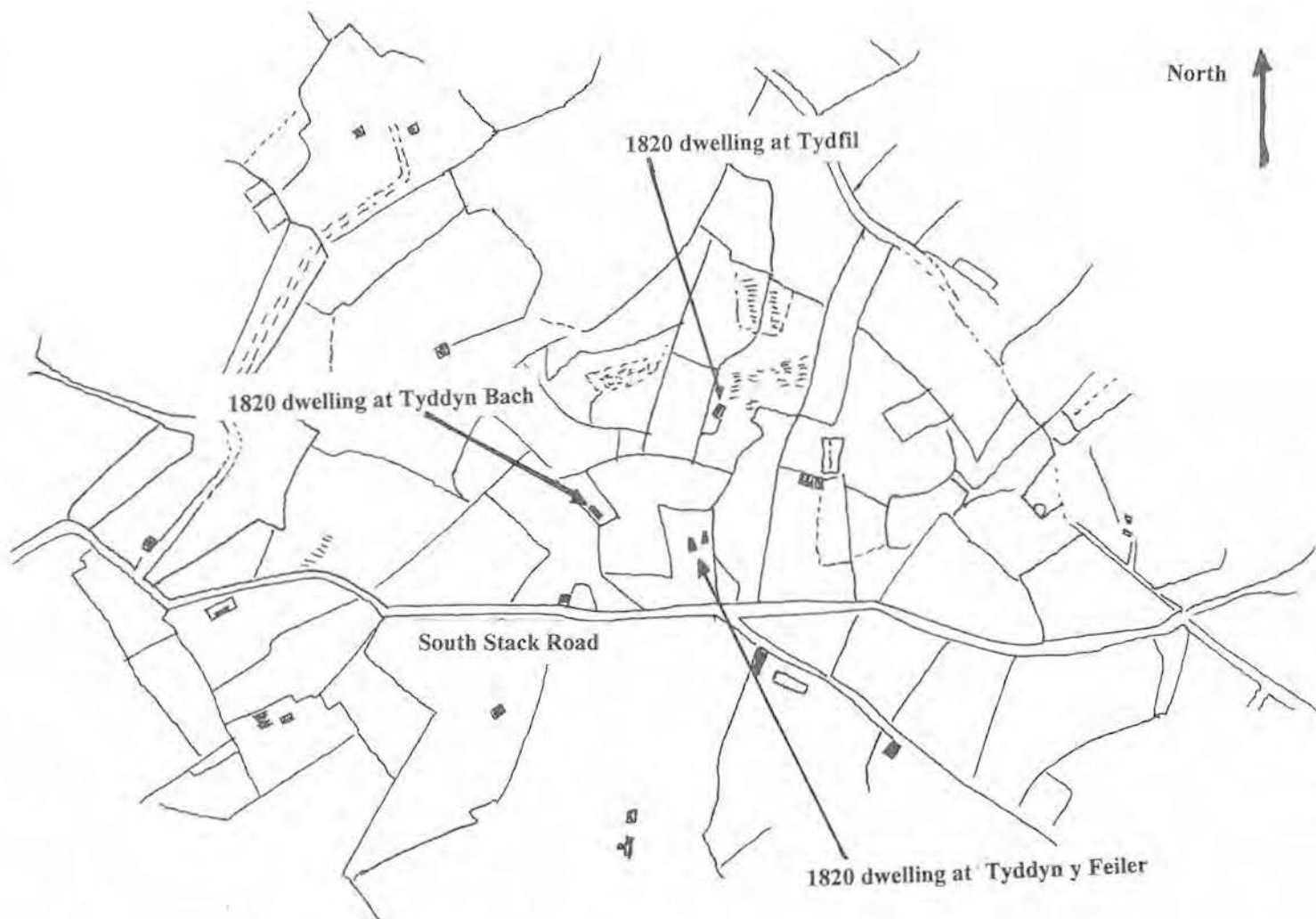


Fig. 5 Extract from the 1820 plan of property belonging to Sir John Stanley & others (W52/1).

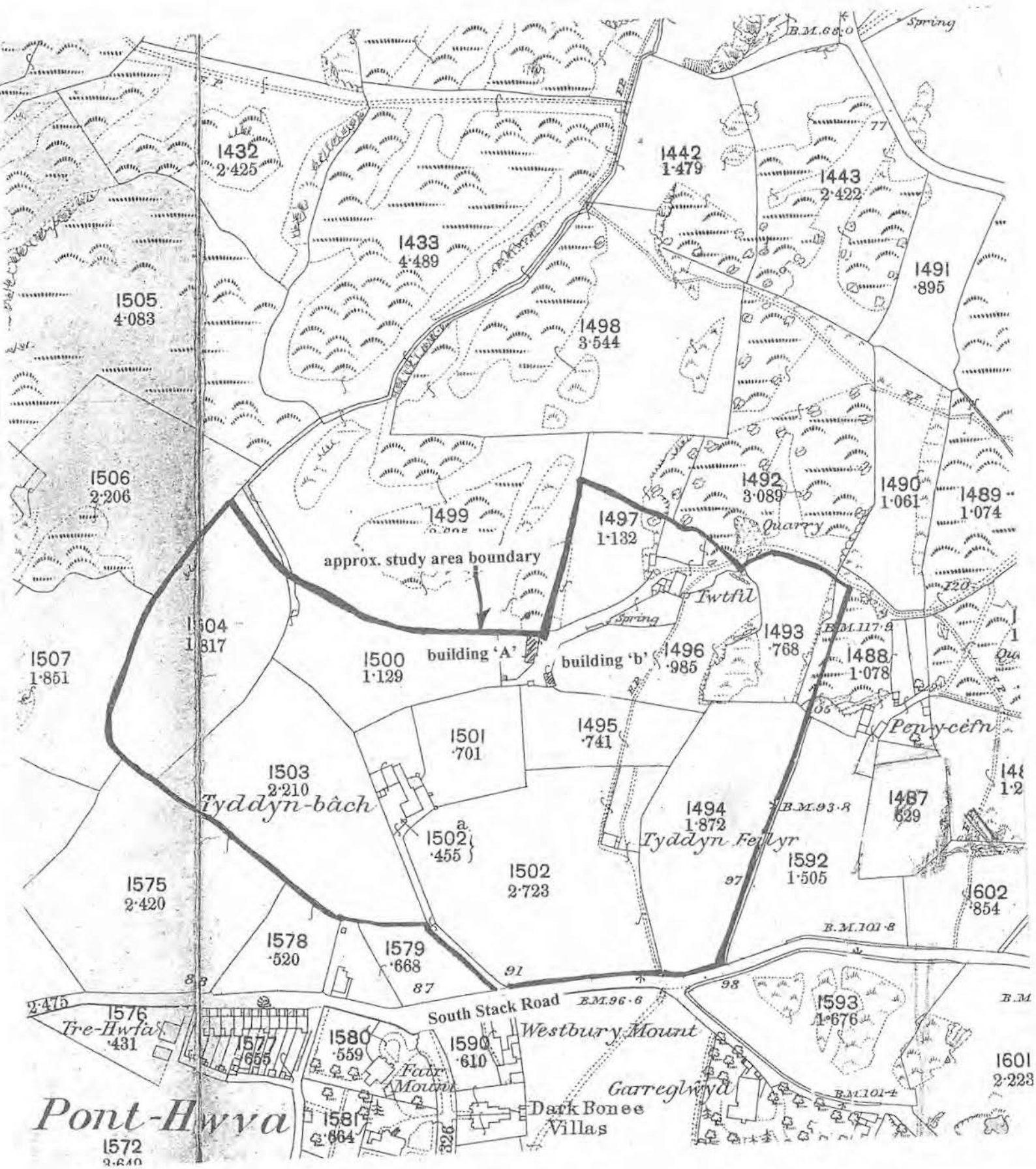


Fig. 7 Extract from the 1890 Ordnance Survey 25" map



Fig. 9 Extract from the 1924 Ordnance Survey 25" map

North



Plate 1 Extract from April 1966 aerial photograph covering the study area and its environs.

Reproduced with permission of RCAHMMW



Plate 2 *above*: Tyddyn Bach farmhouse, view from east.

Plate 3 *below*: Field 1 (*pasture*), viewed from the southeast.





Plate 4 *above*: Field 2 (*pasture*), viewed from the boundary with South Stack Road, showing Tyddyn Bach *background left* & Tyddyn y Feiler *background right*.

Plate 5 *below*: Field 3 (*pasture*), viewed from the boundary with South Stack Road showing Tyddyn y Feiler *left* and the newly built Tydfil *background centre*.





Plate 6 *above*: Area of bedrock (*Fig. 2; area 4*), viewed from the east, from the boundary with the public park, showing Tyddyn Bach *background centre* and the newly built Tydfil on the right, partly hidden by gorse.

Plate 7 *below*: Field 5 (*pasture*), viewed from the north from the boundary with Tydfil showing Tyddyn Bach caravan storage and farm buildings in the *background right*.





Plate 8 *above*: View from the east across Field 5 showing Tyddyn Bach *background left*, and the east long wall of former stone building 'b' and building 'a' (*right*) both covered in shrubbery.

Plate 9 *below left*: Granary building 'c' first identified by the OS in 1900, viewed from the north.

Plate 10 *below right*: Granary building 'c', viewed from the south.





Plate 11 *above*: Tyddyn Bach farmstead, western buildings, viewed from the southeast.

Plate 12 *below*: Tyddyn Bach farmstead, eastern buildings and yard, viewed from the southwest



DESIGN BRIEF FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service

Site: Land at Tyddyn Bach, South Stack Road, Holyhead

Applicant: Keysterne Ltd, 197 High Street, Boston Spa, Yorkshire

Agent: Landmark Consultancy

Date: 12 April 2006

Planning References: 19C608F, 19C608G

National Grid Reference: 223890 382690

This design brief is only valid for six months after the above date. After this period Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service should be contacted.

It is recommended that the contractor appointed to carry out the archaeological assessment visits the site of the proposed development and consults the Regional Historic Environment Record (HER) for north-west Wales before completing their specification. Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service cannot guarantee the inclusion of all relevant information in the design brief.

Key elements specific to this design brief have been highlighted.

1.0 Site Location and Description

- 1.1. For the purposes of this brief the proposed development comprises a plot of agricultural land at Tyddyn Bach, South Stack Road, Holyhead, as shown on the site plan accompanying planning applications 19C608F & 19C608G.
- 1.2. The proposed development plot covers an area of approximately 3.6 hectares.
- 1.3. South Stack Road is situated on the western outskirts of Caer Gybi (Holyhead), the principal town of Ynys Gybi, or Holy Island.
- 1.4. Ynys Gybi is located off the western coast of Ynys Môn (Anglesey), north-west Wales, and can be reached today across Stanley Embankment or Pont Rhydbont (the bridge at Four Mile Bridge).

2.0 Archaeological Background

- 2.1 Ynys Gybi is rich in archaeological remains dating from the prehistoric period onwards, including Caer y Twr hillfort on the mountain above Caer Gybi and a Roman fort in the town itself. The Roman fort at Caer Gybi is thought to have subsequently housed the early Christian monastic community founded by St. Cybi. There is an unusual concentration of early Christian sites known, or suspected, on the island.
- 2.2 The remains of a stone-built settlement of probable prehistoric date are known to have survived a short distance to the south of the land at Tyddyn Bach. The settlement comprised structures described as 'round houses' or 'hut circles', located on ground previously occupied by Tre Hwfa Farm. New

housing was built on this land in the 1960s and the settlement remains destroyed.

- 2.3 Other examples of round-house settlements still survive on the lower slopes of Holyhead mountain, to the south-west of the proposed development site.

2.4 Documentation

The following documentation must be consulted:-

Davidson, A. 2002. Holyhead Waste Water Improvements: Final Effluent Scheme. Gwynedd Archaeological Trust report 462. Unpublished report held in the Historic Environment Record, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.

Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire, 1937. *An Inventory of Ancient Monuments in Anglesey*. London: H.M. Stationery Office.

Smith, G. 2003. Prehistoric Funerary and Ritual Monument Survey: Llyn and Anglesey. Gwynedd Archaeological Trust report 478. Unpublished report held in the Historic Environment Record, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.

Williams, L. 1950. *Transactions of the Anglesey Antiquarian Society and Field Club*: 54

3.0 The nature of the development and archaeological requirements

- 3.1 This is a design brief for an **archaeological assessment** to be undertaken according to guidelines set out in Welsh national planning guidance (*Planning Policy Guidance Wales 2002*) and Welsh Office Circular 60/96 (*Planning and the Historic Environment. Archaeology*). The assessment will comprise a **desk-based study and field visit**.

- 3.2 The object of this programme of archaeological works is to make full and effective use of existing information in establishing the archaeological significance of the site to assess the impact of the development proposals on surviving monuments or remains

- 3.3 Following desk-based assessments field evaluation work may also be required in order to further assess the presence or absence of remains, their extent, nature, quality and character before determining the appropriate mitigation strategy, whether it be preservation *in situ*, archaeological excavation or a combination of the two.

4.0 Desk-based assessment detail

- 4.1 This *brief* should be used by archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological *specification*. The specification must be submitted to the archaeological curator for approval before the work commences.

- 4.2 The assessment must consider the following:

- a) The nature, extent and degree of survival of archaeological sites, structures, deposits and landscapes within the study area through the development of an **archaeological deposit model**. This deposit model should reflect accurately the state of current knowledge and provide a

research framework for further work if necessary. [See 4.3 below for further details]

- b) The **history of the site**. [See section 4.4 below for further details]
- c) The potential impact of any proposed development on the **setting of known sites of archaeological importance**. [See section 4.5 below for further details]
- d) A **methodology for non-intrusive survey and intrusive evaluation** to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. [See section 4.6-4.8 below for further details]

4.3 The **archaeological deposit model** will involve the following areas of research:

- a) Collation and assessment of all relevant information held in the HER, including listed building records.
- b) Assessment of all available excavation report and archives including unpublished and unprocessed material affecting the site and its setting.
- c) Assessment of all extant aerial photographic (AP) evidence and, where relevant, a re-plotting of archaeological and topographic information by a suitably qualified specialist at an appropriate scale. Many of the main archaeological aerial photographic records can be consulted at the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales (RCAHMW), Aberystwyth. However, the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW), Bangor, also holds AP collections including 1940s Luftwaffe photographs, and these may be equally suited to the requirements of the desk-based study.
- d) Assessment of records held at the RCAHMW and University College Bangor, if appropriate.
- e) Assessment of the environmental potential of the archaeological deposits through existing data or by inference.
- f) Assessment of the faunal potential of the archaeological deposits through existing data or by inference.
- g) Assessment of the artefactual potential of the archaeological deposits through existing data or by inference.
- h) Assessment of all available geotechnical information for the area including the results of test pits and boreholes.
- i) Assessment of the present topography and landuse of the area through maps and site visits.

4.4 **Historical research** will involve the following:

- a) An analysis of relevant maps and plans. Cartographic evidence is held at the County Record Offices, including Tithe Maps, Enclosure Act Plans, Estate Maps and all editions of the Ordnance Survey. Place and field-name evidence from these sources must be considered.

- b) An analysis of the historical documents (e.g. county histories, local and national journals and antiquarian sources) held in museums, libraries or other archives, in particular local history and archives library.
- 4.5 When considering the **issue of setting** for scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings and other sites of national and/or regional significance, the HER should be consulted to determine if the development falls within any designated landscape areas, such as World Heritage Sites and landscape character areas. Of particular importance are the *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales*, the *Register of Landscapes of Special Historic Interest in Wales*, published by Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments in 1998 and 2001 respectively.
- 4.6 The **evaluation methodology** must consider the use of the following techniques:
- a) Building recording.
 - b) Ground survey within the core area.
 - c) The use of geophysical survey.
 - d) A programme of trenching and/or test pits to investigate the deposit model in more detail.
- 4.7 The evaluation should aim to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development. An adequate representative sample of all areas where archaeological remains are potentially threatened should be studied.
- 4.8 The evaluation should carefully consider any artefactual and environmental information and provide an assessment of the viability (for further study) of such information. It will be particularly important to provide an indication of the relative importance of such material for any subsequent decision making regarding mitigation strategies.
- 5.0 Results**
- 5.1 The results must be presented in a report and should be detailed and laid out in such a way that data and supporting text are readily cross-referenced. **The HER Officer should be contacted to ensure that any sites or monuments not previously recorded in the HER are given a Primary Recognition Number (PRN) and that data structure is compatible with the HER.** The historical development of the site must be presented in phased maps and plans comprising clearly, the outline of the site.
- 5.2 The deposit model should be presented graphically in plan and, where appropriate, in profile and at a scale that is commensurate with subsequent use as a working document.
- 5.3 Within the report an attempt should be made to indicate areas of greater or lesser archaeological significance and the sites should be ranked in level of overall archaeological importance (locally, regionally and nationally).
- 5.4 All relevant aerial photographs, re-plots and historic maps must be included and be fully referenced.

- 5.5 The report should specifically include the following:
- a) a copy of the design brief
 - b) a location plan
 - c) all located sites plotted on an appropriately scaled plan of the development
 - d) a gazetteer of all located sites with full dimensional and descriptive detail **including grid reference and period**

6.0 General requirements

- 6.1 The archaeological assessment must be undertaken by an appropriately qualified individual or organisation, fully experienced in work of this character. Details, including the name, qualifications and experience of the project director and all other key project personnel (including specialist staff) should be communicated to the development control archaeologist and all written work attributed to an author (s).
- 6.2 Contractors and subcontractors are expected to conform to standard professional guidelines, including the following:-
- English Heritage's 1991 Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2).
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1985 (revised 1997) Code of Conduct.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1990 (revised 1997) Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 (revised 1999) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 (revised 1999) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 (revised 1999) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1995 (revised 1999) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1996 (revised 1999) Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1999 Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials.
 - Museum and Galleries Commission 1994 Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections.
 - United Kingdom Institute for Conservation 1990 Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for long-term storage.
- 6.3 Many people in North Wales speak Welsh as their first language, and many of the archive and documentary references are in Welsh. Contractors should therefore give due consideration to their ability to understand and converse in Welsh.

- 6.4 Where relevant, specialist studies of environmental, economic and historical data must include a *statement of potential*. All specialist reports used in the preparation of this study must be reproduced in full in the desk-based study.
- 6.5 A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project should be prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions should be labelled, cross-referenced and lodged in an appropriate place (to be agreed with the archaeological curator) within six months of the completion of the project.
- 6.6 Two copies of the bound report must be sent to the address below, one copy marked for the attention of the Development Control Archaeologist, the other for attention of the HER Officer, who will deposit the copy in the HER.
- 6.7 The involvement of Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service should be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

7.0 Glossary of terms

7.1 Archaeological Contractor

A professionally qualified individual or an organisation containing professionally qualified archaeological staff, able to offer an appropriate and satisfactory treatment of the archaeological resource, retained by the developer to carry out archaeological work either prior to the submission of a planning application or as a requirement of the planning process.

7.2 Archaeological Curator

A person, or organisation, responsible for the conservation and management of archaeological evidence by virtue of official or statutory duties. In north-west Wales the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authorities is the development control archaeologist, who works to the Welsh Archaeological Trust's Curators' Code of Practice.

7.3 Archive

An ordered collection of all documents and artefacts from an archaeological project, which at the conclusion of the work should be deposited at a public repository, such as the local museum.

7.4 Assessment

A desk-based archaeological assessment (also known as a *desk-top assessment*) is a detailed consideration of the known or potential archaeological resource within a specified area or site (land-based, intertidal or underwater), consisting of a collation of existing written and graphic information in order to identify the likely character, extent, quality and worth of the known or potential archaeological resource in a local, regional or national context as appropriate.

7.5 Brief

The Association of County Archaeological Officers (1993) defines a *brief* as an outline framework of the planning and archaeological situation which has to be addressed, together with an indication of the scope of works that will be required.

7.6 Evaluation

A limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site; and, if present, defines their character and extent, and relative quality. It enables an

assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context, as appropriate. The programme of work will result in the preparation of a report and archive.

7.7 *Historic Environment Record (HER)*

A documentary record of known sites in a given area. In north-west Wales the HER is curated by the curatorial division of the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.

7.8 *Specification*

The Association of County Archaeological Officers (1993) defines a *specification* as a schedule of works outlined in sufficient detail to be quantifiable, implemented and monitored.

8.0 Further information

- 8.1 This document outlines best practice expected of an archaeological assessment but cannot fully anticipate the conditions that will be encountered as work progresses. If requirements of the brief cannot be met they should only be excluded or altered after gaining written approval of the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service.
- 8.2 Further details or clarification of any aspects of the brief may be obtained from the Development Control Archaeologist at the address below.

Emily La Trobe-Bateman
Senior Development Control Archaeologist

Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service
Craig Beuno
Ffordd Y Garth
Bangor
Gwynedd LL57 2RT

Ffon/Tel: 01248 370926
Ffacs/Fax: 01248 370925
emily@heneb.co.uk

Project Design for an Archaeological Assessment

to be undertaken on

Land at Tyddyn Bach

South Stacks Road, Holyhead

Prepared at the request of:

**Mr Matthew Gilbert
The Planning Consultancy
Bridge Farm
Sarn
Malpas
Cheshire
SY14 7LN**

On behalf of his Clients

Prepared by: Pat Frost BA, MIFA, Consultant Archaeologist

Castlering Archaeology

6, Castle Ring, Pontesbury Hill, Pontesbury. Shropshire. SY5 0YA

Tel: 01743 791136 Mobile: 07971751978

email: mail@castleringarchaeology.co.uk

www.castleringarchaeology.co.uk

27th April 2006

1. Introduction

1.1 Planning proposals for the development of two parcels of land at Tyddyn Bach, South Stack Road, Holyhead have been submitted to Isle of Anglesey County Council (*Application nos. 19C608F & 19C608G; centred SH 23890 82690*). The proposed development site covers an area of approximately 3.6 hectares on the western outskirts of the town of Holyhead, the principle town of Holy Island.

1.2 Following consultation with Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service, acting as advisers to Isle of Anglesey County Council, the developer has been informed that a pre-determination archaeological desk-based assessment together with site visit is required to provide further information regarding the archaeological potential of the site. A design brief outlining the required archaeological works has been submitted to the developers by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (*April 12th 2006*).

1.3 This Project Design for the prescribed archaeological work has been prepared by Pat Frost, Castlering Archaeology, hereinafter called the Contractor, at the request of Matthew Gilbert, The Planning Consultancy, on behalf of his Clients, in response to the Brief supplied by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service.

2. Aims and Objectives

2.1 The aim of the archaeological assessment is to provide information that will enable an informed and reasonable planning decision to be taken regarding the archaeological provision for the areas to be affected by any proposed development.

2.2 The objective of the assessment is to:

- undertake a desk-based study in order to establish the archaeological potential of the site and assist in the site walk-over survey
- undertake a walk-over survey in order to locate any further archaeological / historical structures / features and deposits within the study area
- assess the survival, quality, condition and relative significance of any archaeological / historical structures / features, deposits and structures within the study area

3. Methodology

3.1 Phase 1 – Desk-based assessment

3.1.1 The desk-based study will consult the relevant readily available records held by:

- Gwynedd Historic Environment Record (*HER*)
- Isle of Anglesey County Record Office, Llangefni
- University of Bangor
- Countryside Council for Wales (*CCW*)
- Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments: Wales (*RCAHMW*), Aberystwyth
- National Library of Wales (*NLW*), Aberystwyth
- relevant local museums and / or libraries

3.1.2 The assessment will consult relevant known archaeological records, published & unpublished works, historic and cartographic documents, county histories and journals, place and fieldname evidence, pictorial and photographic evidence, geotechnical, geological and engineering data, where available and oral sources. The assessment will consult the Documentation recommended in the project brief, namely Davidson, 2002, RCAHMW 1937, Smith 2003 and Williams 1950. All sources consulted will be listed in the report.

3.2 Phase 2 - Site walk-over survey

3.2.1 A systematic site walk-over will be undertaken following the desk-based study to assess the current land-use, the survival of above ground archaeology and the potential for buried archaeological deposits.

3.2.2 The walk-over survey will identify standing buildings and structural remains, earthworks, patterns in vegetation that may indicate the presence of archaeological remains and scatters of material that may indicate the presence of archaeological remains.

3.2.3 A written record of any features noted will be made together with sketch plans and / or general photographs. Artefactual evidence will be recorded and left in situ, unless this would endanger their survival or later retrieval, or unless a more detailed examination is required of individual pieces. If finds are recovered they will be treated in an appropriate manner

3.2.4 Access to the site on Wednesday May 24th has been arranged by Mr Geoff Keys, client and landowner.

4. Phase 3 - Post-Fieldwork Programme

4.1 Following the completion of the site work, an illustrated and bound report will be prepared in A4 format. The report will include as a minimum:

- Synopsis / non-technical summary
- location of the development site and any recorded archaeological features or artifacts
- full written description of the results of the desk-based assessment and site walk-over
- cartographic regression
- plans and sketches, as appropriate
- illustrations, as appropriate
- photographic evidence, as appropriate
- gazetteer of new archaeological sites / areas of interest identified during the current works
- an assessment of importance of sites (local, regional and / or national level)
- impact assessment
- recommendations for appropriate mitigation
- list of all sources consulted
- copy of the project brief
- copy of the project design

4.2 An appropriate number of copies of the report will be produced for the client and interested parties, within one month of the completion of the fieldwork. A short summary of the results of the project will be submitted for inclusion in the next edition of CBA Wales for publication in the relevant section of the annual 'Archaeological Notes'.

5. Archive Format and Deposition

5.1 The site archive will be prepared in accordance with *MAP2, Appendix 3* in the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991) and will be included as appendices in the report. The archive will be deposited following the guidance of the Development Control Archaeologist.

6. Resources and Programming

6.1 The archaeological assessment will be undertaken by the Contractor, who is a Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The contractor will abide by the *IFA Code of Conduct* (1997), *IFA Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* (1990).

7. Health and Safety

7.1 The Contractor is an affiliated member of CBA and holds Insurance for Public and Employees Liability through the CBA insurance service. Appropriate Health and Safety legislation will be complied with. The Contractor operates according to the recommendations outlined in The Health and Safety Manual of the Standing Conference of Unit Managers (*SCAUM 1991; revised 2001*).