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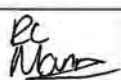
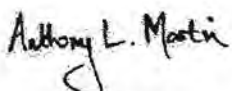


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**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF THE FORMER TANNERY, WATER STREET,  
ABERGELE**



**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF THE FORMER TANNERY, WATER STREET,  
ABERGELE**

**CONTROLLED DOCUMENT**

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# **AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION OF THE FORMER TANNERY, WATER STREET, ABERGELE**

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## **APPENDICES**

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## **1. NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

- 1.1** Gifford undertook an archaeological evaluation of the former Tannery, Water Street, Abergele (National Grid Reference SH 9475 7775), on behalf of Stepnell Ltd. The work was undertaken in accordance with a Project Design drawn up by Gifford, and approved by Mark Walters of Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (Gifford 2003a).
- 1.2** The evaluation was undertaken between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December 2003. The enterprise consisted of trial trenching across the area of the proposed development. Four trenches were excavated, each 10 x 2m.
- 1.3** No deposits of archaeological significance were identified during the work.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 This report has been prepared by Gifford and Partners Limited on behalf of Stepnell Ltd (hereafter the Client) in accordance with the project design *Former Tannery, Water Street, Abergele: Project Design for an Archaeological Evaluation* (Gifford 2003a, Appendix A). The project design was drawn up in response to discussion with Mark Walters of Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust.
- 2.2 The evaluation was undertaken between 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December 2003 to inform the planning process regarding a proposed housing development, for which planning consent has been sought by the Client. The planning application references are 0/27916 and 0/27918.
- 2.3 The proposed development site is located in the market town of Abergele. The site of the former tannery is located at National Grid Reference SH 9475 7775 (Figure 1). The site comprises an area which is approximately triangular in shape. The western side of the site is bounded by Water Street. The eastern side is predominantly defined by a concrete block wall adjacent to the River Gele. The northeast corner of the site lies to the west of the River Gele. The northern side of the site is bounded by a footpath and the short southern boundary comprises adjacent buildings.
- 2.4 A desk-based assessment was undertaken prior to the evaluation (Gifford 2003b, see Appendix B), this contained data from the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust Regional Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), as well as historic information gathered from Conwy and Abergele libraries and the Conwy Archive at Llandudno (Gifford 2003b). The assessment confirmed the presence of occupation in the general area from the Prehistoric, through the Roman and into the medieval periods. The site is adjacent to a scheduled monument (a Norman motte known as The Mount) and fronts onto Water Street, a possible medieval road. The site was identified as having significant archaeological potential. The desk-based assessment is reproduced here as Appendix B.
- 2.5 Gifford would like to acknowledge the assistance of Mr Graham Dale and Mr Jami Puckering of Stepnell Ltd, Mal Hughes and the machine driver, Mr Geraint Jones of Jennings Plant and Services. Mr Mark Walters, Development Control officer at Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT), visited the site during the evaluation and provided helpful comments on the work and subsequent report. Thanks are also due to Will Walker of Earthworks Archaeological Services for discussing the results of recent work elsewhere in Abergele.
- 2.6 The Gifford Staff involved in this project were:

Project Manager:	A L Martin BA MA AIFA
Project Archaeologist:	A Towle BA MA PhD PIFA
Assistant Archaeologist:	R Mann
Archaeological Specialist	D Garner BA
Archaeological Specialist	G Couling BA MSc
CAD Technician:	G Reaney
Quality Assurance Review:	A L Martin BA MA AIFA

### **3. PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

#### **3.1 The objectives of the evaluation were:**

- To advise Stepnell Ltd of the archaeological implications of the proposed development.
- To assist Conwy County Borough Council to determine the relevant planning application.
- To gain information about the presence/absence, location, nature and date of any archaeological remains on the site likely to be affected by the proposed development.
- To assess the presence/absence, nature and quality of any archaeological deposits, artefact assemblages and palaeoenvironmental assemblages recovered from the site, especially for the medieval/post-medieval periods.
- Where the raw data allows, to construct a model of the depositional processes and stratigraphic sequence for the site.
- To extend the existing knowledge of the history and development of Abergele.

### **4. METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1** A total of four trenches were excavated using a mechanical excavator. The machine used here was a Cat M312 12-ton 360° "rubber duck". A pecker was used to break through the modern concrete yard surfaces, and a toothless bucket to excavate into underlying deposits. The trenches were all 2 m wide and up to 11 m long. Overall, 40 m of trenches were excavated.
- 4.2** The trenches were opened under archaeological supervision, using the machine to remove the contemporary concrete surface and modern make-up deposits to the upper surface of 'natural'. The machine driver was highly proficient, removing the overlying concrete cleanly and quickly. The trenches were then cleaned by hand using trowels and potential archaeological features investigated by sectioning. A small number of finds were recovered.
- 4.3** The characterisation of the underlying natural drift geology was undertaken through the excavation of both machine and hand dug sondages.
- 4.4** Although no significant archaeological features were identified, the definition of cut features into 'natural' was good: a post-medieval ditch and two pits were readily identified during the work. Any significant archaeological deposits would have been easily seen.
- 4.5** The machining under archaeological supervision permitted rapid investigation of the site leading to an authoritative statement of the archaeological potential of the area of interest. In this case the adopted methodology was highly suited to the circumstances.

## **5. RESULTS OF THE EVALUATION**

**5.1** A total of 39 contexts was defined and recorded across the four evaluation trenches. A summary context list is included as Appendix C. Four trench plans at scale 1:20 were drawn and a single section drawing, also at 1:20 was made. Eighty-seven photographs were taken.

**5.2 Trenches A and B.** (Trenches A and B are described together since they intersected.)

**5.2.1** Trench A was aligned approximately east-west and was 10m long and 2m wide (Figures 2 and 3, Plates 1 and 3). It was excavated at the entrance to the site, at a right angle to Water Street and was located specifically to identify any structures that may have fronted onto Water Street. Trench B was 10.2 x 2 m and was aligned north-south, cutting across Trench A close to the western limit of Trench A (Figures 2 and 3, Plates 2 and 3). Trench B was located to identify any property boundaries which may have run perpendicular from Water Street.

### **5.2.2 Natural**

The 'natural' drift geology consisted of variable sandy gravels (deposits 38, 29, 32) and clay (deposit 37). The natural was investigated by the excavation of both machine and hand-dug sondages to ensure the accurate definition of the underlying drift geology. Distinct vertical and horizontal interfaces within the natural deposits were observed. The excavation of a 6 m long sondage identified a large naturally occurring feature: a palaeo-channel running approximately east - west within trenches A and B ("cut" 31, "fills" 30, 32, 30, 29 see Figure 4 and Plate 4). The underlying natural consisted primarily of banded sand and gravels into which irregular water-cut features had eroded channels, which were filled with a mixture of clay and sandy gravels.

### **5.2.3 Cut features**

Trenches A and B contained two cut features, both of which were post-medieval in date. Cut 34 was an east-west aligned cut against the northern side of Trench A, containing a capped-off iron water pipe and backfilled with re-deposited natural gravel (fill 33). Cut 36 was a water drain aligned east-west at the northern end of Trench B containing a ceramic pipe, backfilled with redeposited natural (fill 35).

### **5.2.4 Truncation**

No buried soil horizon or early ground surfaces were identified beneath make-up material for the later concrete surface. This would suggest that a large truncation event had taken place to remove previous material. This event was allocated context number 28, and was probably associated with clearing of the site and preparation of the ground during its use as a tannery.

### **5.2.5 Demolition rubble/make-up layer**

A deep deposit of mixed rubble up to 0.6 m deep extended across the entire area (context 27). This layer contained stone and brick fragments as well as redeposited natural gravel. This material may be associated with the demolition of earlier structures in the area and the preparation of a surface for the tannery yard.

#### **5.2.6 Yard surfaces**

A thin layer of black clinker and gravel (layer 26) underlay the most recent concrete yard surface (layer 25). These two deposits represent successive exterior yard surfaces for the tannery during the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

#### **5.2.4 Artefacts.**

No artefacts were recovered from Trenches A and B.

#### **5.2.5 No archaeologically significant deposits were identified in Trenches A and B.**

### **5.3 Trench C.**

**5.3.4** Trench C was aligned approximately north–south and was 10m long and 2m wide parallel to Water Street (Figures 2 and 5, Plate 5). This trench was located to extend across the line of a narrow building noted on the OS map of 1872 (Gifford 2003b: Figure 4). This building was probably part of the initial complex of buildings forming the first tannery on the site.

#### **5.3.5 Natural**

The underlying drift geology in Trench C was sandy gravel (context 24), with little variation across the length of the trench or within the 1m deep sondage excavated into it. There was localised variation in the colour, with dark reddish-brown iron staining running through the gravel. This is probably due to water-deposition of soluble iron minerals from within the natural.

#### **5.3.6 Truncation**

The absence of any buried soil horizon or early ground surfaces suggests that the area was subject to a major truncation event (context 39), perhaps associated with the demolition of the early tannery buildings which appeared on the 1872 Map. The walls from this structure were no longer present.

#### **5.3.7 Cut features**

Trench C contained two cut features, both post-medieval in date. The earliest was a stone-capped drain (cut 21, structure 22, fill 23) aligned approximately north – south along the eastern side of the trench. This drain was constructed from brick walls with a stone capping, and was no earlier than the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. A second, late 20<sup>th</sup> Century, drain aligned east – west ran across the northern end of Trench C. This cut (19) contained a plastic pipe and was backfilled with re-deposited natural gravel (fill 20).

#### **5.3.8 Artefacts.**

No artefacts were recovered from Trench C.

#### **5.3.9 No archaeologically significant deposits were identified in Trench C.**

### **5.4 Trench D.**

**5.4.4** Trench D was aligned approximately north – south, running parallel to the eastern boundary wall of the site adjacent to the River Gele (Figures 2 and 6, Plate 6). This trench was 10m long and 2m wide.

#### **5.4.5 Natural.**

The underlying natural in Trench D was a firm orangey-yellow clay with occasional gravel inclusions (context 11). This deposit extended across the entire trench.

#### **5.4.6 Cut features**

There were four discrete cut features identified in Trench D, each of which was sectioned (Figure 6).

Pit cut 6 was a shallow concave cut against the western side of Trench D towards the northern end of this trench. The cut was not fully exposed, but had a maximum dimension of 1.15m, north – south. The fill (context 5) was a dark grey silty clay deposit containing no finds from which to suggest a date for the back-filling of this feature. Since it was only 0.08m deep, it seems likely to have been truncated.

Ditch cut 4 was a shallow linear cut aligned east - west across Trench D, 1.4m wide and 0.10m deep. The sides were steep to a flat base. The fill (context 3) was a dark greyish brown silty clay which contained three fragments of unabraded post-medieval pottery dated to the 18<sup>th</sup> Century or later (Garner Pers. Comm.). Several fragments of unidentified animal bone were also recovered from fill 3 (G. Couling Pers. Comm.). This feature may be the base of a truncated field boundary.

Pit cut 8 was a rectangular-shaped feature against the western side of Trench D. The full extent of the pit was not established, but it was 1.45m north – south, and > 1.36m east – west. It was only 0.08m deep. The fill (7) was a dark greyish-brown sandy clay and contained five sherds of pottery dating from the late 18<sup>th</sup> Century or later (Garner Pers. Comm.).

Cut 10 was a foundation trench for stone wall 9. This was identified in the eastern section of Trench D, towards the southern end of the trench. The foundation trench only penetrated 0.06m below the adjacent surface of natural. It was possible to observe that a few of the wall's stone components were still *in-situ* in section, and that it was constructed from un-coursed irregular fragments of stone up to 0.45m maximum dimension. An overlying layer (context 2 see below) contained many fragments of the same material, and seem likely to have been from this structure. There was no return of the wall within Trench D, suggesting that it belonged to a long building aligned north – south, or that it might be an external wall marking the boundary to the property. The latter seems most likely since it was just to the west of the current boundary adjacent to the River Gele (constructed of concrete blocks).

#### **5.4.7 Truncation**

There is strong evidence for truncation in this area- the absence of an early ground surface or buried soil horizon and the demolished wall (context 9). An overlying deposit of stone-rich rubble seems likely to have originated in a major clearance of the area and levelling before the surfacing for yards.

#### **5.4.8 Demolition Rubble**

Context 2 was a thick deposit (0.5m deep) of loose stone rubble which probably originated in the demolition of stone walled structure 9.

#### **5.4.9 Yard Surfaces**

A thin layer of black clinker and gravel (14) marked an early external yard surface, which was superseded by the modern concrete yard (context 1), which was laid on an uneven layer of yellow aggregate (layer 15).

**5.4.10** The features identified in Trench D were all of post-medieval date and heavily truncated. The finds consisted of unabraded pottery fragments and animal bone, suggesting domestic rubbish which had not been present in a plough soil prior to deposition in fills 3 and 7. This might indicate the presence of domestic structures in the near vicinity during the 18<sup>th</sup> Century or later. Given the high degree of truncation from later development it seems unlikely that such structures would survive within the property, and the absence of any buildings on a tithe map from 1839 suggests they were not substantial or present at all (Gifford 2003b, Figure 3). The features attest to general activity in the area during this period, but are not particularly informative and are considered to indicate negligible potential for further investigation.

## **6. DISCUSSION**

- 6.1** The evaluation identified no significant archaeological deposits or structures within the area of the proposed development. There remains the possibility of remains on the site outside the confines of the evaluation trenches, but the probability of this is negligible.
- 6.2** The absence of archaeological remains is somewhat surprising given the location of the site adjacent to the Mount, which is thought to have been a medieval castle (Gifford 2003b). Recent fieldwork elsewhere in Abergele has demonstrated clear evidence of medieval occupation in the town (Dodd and Walker 2003, W. Walker Pers.Comm). The absence of residual early material and the evidence for widespread truncation at the Former Tannery site strongly suggests the loss of any archaeological remains that may have been on the site.
- 6.3** The parcel of land has retained its current boundaries since at least 1839, when it was shown as pasture land on the tithe map (Gifford 2003b, Figure 3).
- 6.4** There was no evidence from the evaluation for any activities prior to the establishment of the tannery during the period 1839-1844 (Gifford 2003b: 7). This must largely be due to the massive truncation associated with the establishment of the tannery and subsequent redevelopment of the site.
- 6.5** All of the trenches excavated contained evidence for substantial truncation which is probably related to re-modelling of the site during the 20<sup>th</sup> Century during its use as a tannery/fellmongers.

## **7. ASSESSMENT OF PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

- 7.1** The proposed development will be taking place on a site within which no significant archaeological deposits have been identified. This would indicate that there are no further archaeological implications for the development.

- 7.2 The evaluation was inspected by Mark Walters, Development Control Officer, CPAT, who was able to observe the absence of archaeological remains within the area of investigation. Mr Walters confirmed that the site works were completed to his satisfaction.
- 7.3 This report represents a professional statement of the findings for consideration in the planning process.
- 7.4 The evaluation involved a sample across the entire area of the proposed development. Particular attention was devoted to the possibility of structures fronting onto Water Street. The absence of any identified archaeological deposits suggests that there are no *in-situ* remains likely to be affected by the construction of the residential units.
- 7.5 There was no evidence to suggest occupation of the site in the medieval period, and it is known that it was used for pasture in 1839. The limited finds assemblage suggests the disposal of domestic rubbish from nearby houses or from the tannery itself during the post-medieval period.

## 8. PROJECT ARCHIVE

- 8.1 The data obtained from this project will be prepared for long-term storage with Conwy Borough County Council. The archive will be deposited within six months of the acceptance of this report by Conwy Borough County Council.
- 8.2 The archive will comprise:
- |                                         |                         |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| • introduction to the archive           | 1 sheet A4              |
| • site records                          | 51 sheets A4            |
| • index to the archive                  | 1 sheet A4              |
| • a copy of the final report            | 24 sheets A4            |
| • a copy of the Project Summary Sheet   | 1 sheet A4              |
| • drawing records                       | 2 sheets A4             |
| • photographic index                    | 3 sheets A2             |
| • photographic records                  | 29 colour slides        |
|                                         | 29 monochrome prints    |
|                                         | 29 monochrome negatives |
|                                         | 29 colour prints        |
|                                         | 29 colour negatives     |
| • Post-medieval pottery                 | 8 sherds                |
| • fragments of unidentified animal bone | 10 fragments            |
- 8.3 Copies of the final report will be lodged with the regional Sites and Monuments Record (Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust) and the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth for archive. A Project Summary will be prepared and submitted to *Archaeology in Wales*.
- 8.4 It is recommended that all the artefacts are discarded prior to the deposition of the archive.

## **9. CONCLUSIONS**

- 9.1** Gifford have successfully undertaken an archaeological evaluation at the former Tannery, Water Street, Abergele, on behalf of Stepnell Ltd.
- 9.2** The archaeological work established the absence of any significant archaeological remains within the evaluation area.
- 9.3** The evaluation demonstrated that there is no reason for the Local Planning Authority to refuse planning permission on archaeological grounds and that there is no justification for any additional pre-determination or post-determination work to be undertaken on the site in relation to the planning application.

## **10. BIBLIOGRAPHY**

Dodd, L J and Walker, W. 2003. A New Tesco Store Development at The Former Animal Market, Bee Field, Market Street, Abergele: An Archaeological Evaluation. Earthworks Archaeological Services Project Number E646. A further report on subsequent excavations at the site is expected in the near future.

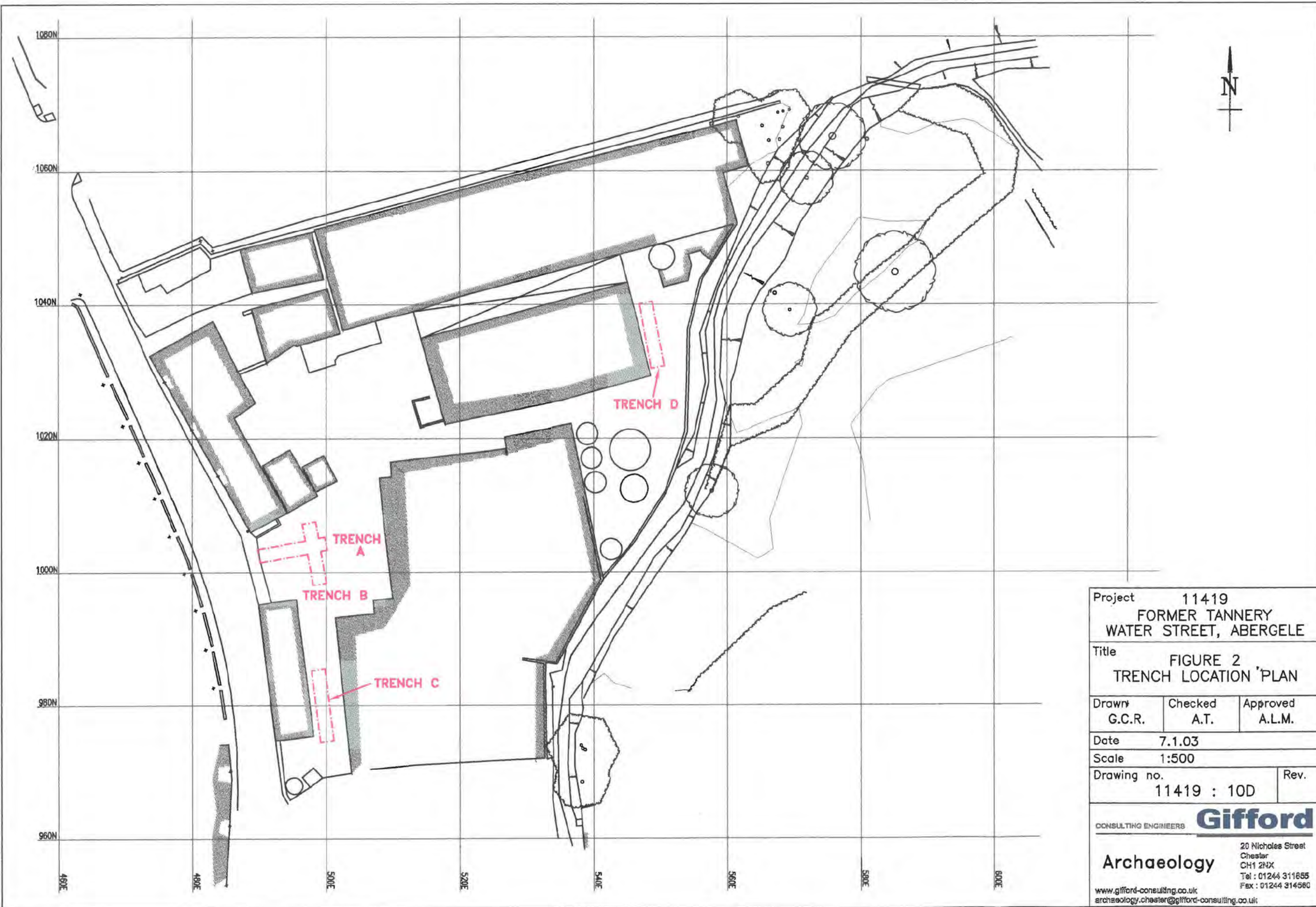
Gifford and Partners 2003a. Former Tannery, Water Street, Abergele: Project Design for an Archaeological Evaluation. Report No.: 11419.R01. Prepared by A Towle.

Gifford and Partners 2003b. Former Tannery, Water Street, Abergele: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment Report. Report No. 11419.R02. Prepared by R Mann.

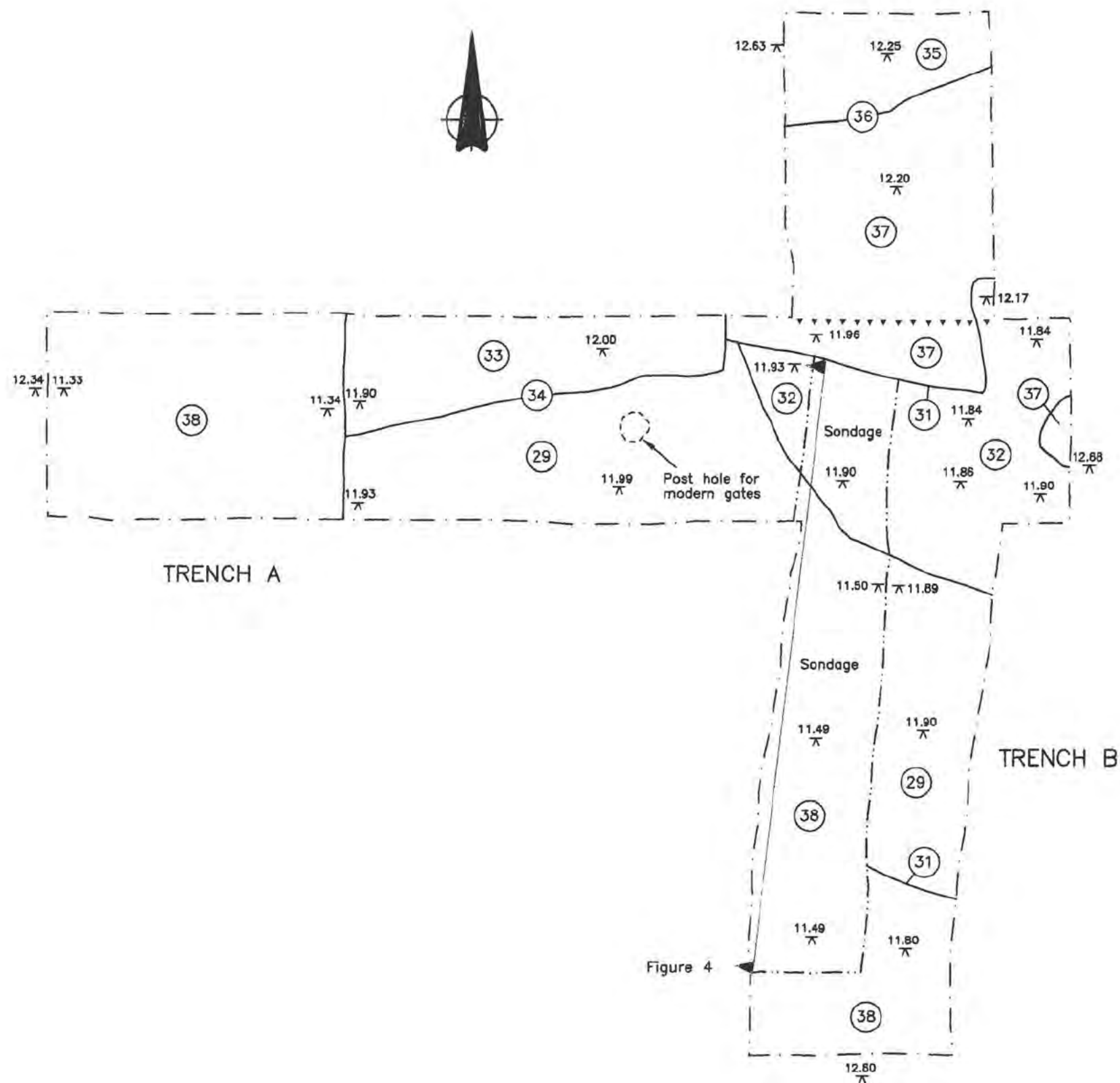


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	Date 10.1.04	Scale 1:25000		
Title FIGURE 1 SITE LOCATION PLAN	Drawing no. 11419 : 15D		Rev.	Archaeology  www.gifford-consulting.co.uk archaeology.chester@gifford-consulting.co.uk



Project 11419 FORMER TANNERY WATER STREET, ABERGELE		
Title FIGURE 2 TRENCH LOCATION PLAN		
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Date 7.1.03		
Scale 1:500		
Drawing no. 11419 : 10D		Rev.
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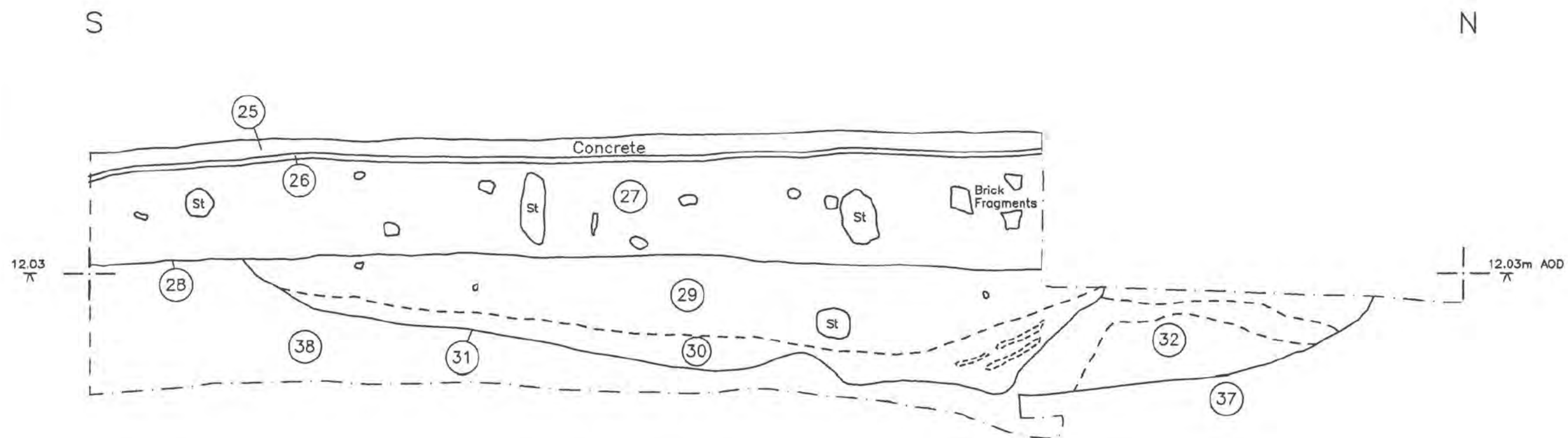
Note:-

For section drawing see Figure 4

# KEY

--- Limit of excavation

Project 11419 FORMER TANNERY WATER STREET, ABERGELE		
Title FIGURE 3 PLAN OF TRENCHES A AND B		
Drawn G.C.R.	Checked R.M.	Approved A.L.M.
Date 7.1.03		
Scale 1:50		
Drawing no. 11419 : 11D		Rev.
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# KEY

--- Limit of excavation

Project 11419 FORMER TANNERY WATER STREET, ABERGELE		
Title FIGURE 4 TRENCH B EAST FACING SECTION		
Drawn G.C.R.	Checked A.T.	Approved A.L.M.
Date 8.1.03		
Scale 1:20		
Drawing no. 11419 : 14D		Rev.
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Note:—

For location of section see Figure 3

## PLATES



**Plate 1. Trench A: view to West with Water Street in the background**



**Plate 2. Trench B: view to South.**



**Plate 3: Trenches A and B: general view to West, with Water Street in background**



**Plate 4. Trenches A and B: East-facing section through palaeo-channel "cut" 31.**



**Plate 6. Trench D: general view to North, wall foundation cut 10 in foreground.**

## **APPENDICES**

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Project Design**

Report No. 11419.R01  
December 2003

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**FORMER TANNERY, WATER STREET, ABERGELE**  
**PROJECT DESIGN FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**



**FORMER TANNERY, WATER STREET, ABERGELE:**  
**PROJECT DESIGN FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

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<i>Gifford and Partners Document No:</i>		<b>11419.R01</b>	
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**FORMER TANNERY, WATER STREET, ABERGELE**  
**PROJECT DESIGN FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

**C O N T E N T S**

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**FIGURES**

**FIGURE 1: LOCATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION TRENCHES**

**APPENDICES**

**APPENDIX A: Recording *Proformae***

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This Project Design has been prepared by Gifford and Partners Limited on behalf of Stepnell Ltd, in response to a recommendation made by Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (hereafter CPAT), for a pre-determination archaeological evaluation. The recommendation was made for Conwy County Borough Council Planning Applications 0/27916 and 0/27918, a proposal to redevelop the Former Tannery Site, Water Street, Abergel.

## **2. DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE**

- 1.1 The proposed development site is located in the market town of Abergel. The site of the former tannery is located at National Grid Reference SH 9475 7775.
- 2.2 The site comprises an area, which is approximately triangular in shape. The western side of the site is bounded by Water Street. The eastern side is predominantly defined by a concrete panel fence adjacent to the River Gele. The northeast corner of the site lies to the east of the River Gele. The northern side of the site is bounded by a footpath and the short southern boundary comprises adjacent buildings.
- 2.3 At the time of writing, the site was largely covered with buildings, comprising both offices and structures associated with processing sheep hides for fellmongery. The above ground structures are generally of concrete and steel-frame construction, and concrete-lined pits remain in some buildings. Buildings have largely been stripped of removable fittings.

## **3. REASON FOR THE PROJECT**

- 3.1 The proposals involve the demolition of the existing structures, the erection of 51 residential units (assisted living for the elderly), the construction of means of access and associated groundwork.
- 3.2 In accordance with national and local planning guidance Mark Walters (Development Control Officer, CPAT) has advised Conwy County Borough Council that an archaeological assessment of the proposed development site should be undertaken in order to assist determination of the planning applications and formulate the most appropriate way to secure treatment of any archaeological remains which may be present on the site.
- 3.3 CPAT have noted that the proposed development is taking place in the historic core of Abergel, adjacent to the earthwork of a Norman motte and bailey castle (a scheduled ancient monument), and in an area in which numerous Roman artefacts have been unearthed. It is an area of significant archaeological potential.

## **4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 A desk-based assessment of the archaeological and historical background to the site is currently under way (Gifford *forthcoming*).

## **5. OBJECTIVES**

### **5.1 The aims of the evaluation are:**

- To advise Stepnell Ltd of the archaeological implications of the proposed development
- To assist Conwy County Borough Council to determine the relevant planning application
- To gain information about the presence/absence, location, nature and date of any archaeological remains on the site likely to be affected by the proposed development.
- To assess the presence/absence, nature and quality of any archaeological deposits, artefact assemblages and palaeoenvironmental assemblages recovered from the site, especially for the medieval/post-medieval periods.
- Where the raw data allows, to construct a model of the depositional processes and stratigraphic sequence for the site.
- To extend the existing knowledge of the history and development of Abergele.

## **6. METHOD STATEMENT**

### **6.1 Detailed Desk-Top Study**

A desk-based assessment of all readily available primary and secondary documentary, cartographic, pictorial, photographic and oral sources is currently underway. It is being conducted with reference to the standards and guidance described in the Institute of Field Archaeologists document *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* (1999) in order to provide a historical framework for any archaeological remains located on the site.

The source repositories will include, but not necessarily be restricted to :

- The Regional Sites and Monuments Record
- The National Library of Wales (Aberystwyth)
- The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW), Aberystwyth
- The Conwy County Borough Archives, Conwy

Using reasonable skill, care and diligence the archaeological, environmental, topographical and historical importance of the site will be investigated in the context of local, regional and national significance with reference to and consideration of (where available and appropriate):

- A visual inspection of the site
- Geological Maps
- Trial pit and borehole data
- Plans and maps of the site and its immediate environs

- Historical documents
- Appropriate archaeological and historical journals and books
- Trade and Business Directories
- Schedules of Listed Buildings or Scheduled Monuments
- Historic parks and/or the sites of historic battlefields

## 6.2 Strategic Trial Trenching

- 6.2.1 The following methodology has been prepared with reference to all applicable standards published by the Institute of Field Archaeologists to enable the archaeological evaluation to obtain as much information as possible so as to address the stated aims and objectives. This methodology has also been prepared following discussion with CPAT and will be kept under constant review during the project, in order to assess the implications of any new research questions that may arise.
- 6.2.2 The evaluation will involve the excavation of four 10m - long trenches. The provisional positions of the trenches to be excavated are shown on Figure 1, each trench measures 10m x 1.8m. The actual locations of the trenches will be agreed with CPAT prior to the commencement of the fieldwork.
- 6.2.3 Trenches A and B are located with the intention of identifying any Medieval or later structures which may have fronted onto Water Street. Trench C is situated to investigate two parallel structures perpendicular to the line of Water Street present on the 1872 OS Map. These buildings ran eastwards from the front of Water Street. Trench D is located to establish the presence/absence of pre-industrial deposits on the ground and slope on the western side of the River Gele. There may be relict ground surfaces in this area sealed by later make-up material.
- 6.2.4 A mechanical excavator will be used to remove any modern deposits and any artefacts pre-dating the twentieth century found during machine clearance or in the spoil heaps will be collected and recorded as unstratified finds. After the machine removal of any modern deposits the trenches will be cleaned manually and examined for features.
- 6.2.5 Should significant archaeological deposits be identified, Gifford will convene a site meeting to be attended by CPAT, Stepnell Ltd and/or their legal/planning representatives in order to determine the need for and scope of the manual excavation of any identified archaeological remains. During this meeting Gifford will liaise with CPAT on the merits of leaving any remains *in situ*.
- 6.2.6 If the advice from CPAT is that archaeological remains need to be excavated manually then, in general deposits will be excavated, where feasible, to the natural in order to understand the stratigraphic sequence and so assess the potential effect of development on the archaeological remains within the site.

- 6.2.7 Any human burials will be noted and their positions/orientations recorded but will not be further disturbed within the trench excavations without further discussion with the appropriate authorities and Stepnell. All statutory obligations and notifications regarding human remains will be observed by Gifford.
- 6.2.8 The locations of the trenches and any features within them which require positional recording will be surveyed and planned with reference to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Ordnance Datum.
- 6.2.9 The trenches will be backfilled with the material excavated on completion of the strategic trial trenching.

### 6.3 Recording System

- 6.3.1 The recording system utilised by Gifford is based on that developed by English Heritage, Central Archaeology Service. *Proformae* examples of context, finds and sample recording forms are given in Appendix A.
- 6.3.2 The photographic record will comprise 35mm format colour-slides and prints and monochrome prints with a supporting index. A numerating board will be placed in each photograph recording the site code, direction and features shown in the photograph.
- 6.3.3 The basic drawn record will comprise plans and sections of archaeological features at scales of 1:20 and 1:10 respectively, located in relation to the survey-stations and the Ordnance Datum. The plans and sections will be digitised and input to AutoCAD/Adobe Illustrator software. This will allow the collation of composite structure-plans and phase-plans where appropriate.

### 6.4 Artefact Retrieval

- 6.4.1 Artefacts recovered during machining will be allocated an unstratified context, which will relate them by Trench number.
- 6.4.2 The artefact-recovery strategy during the hand-excavation will be as follows: -
- All artefactual, and faunal remains from archaeologically significant deposits will be collected.
  - Artefacts with particular potential to provide detailed dating-evidence, technological or cultural evidence will be recorded with three-dimensional co-ordinates and siting information on record *proformae*.
  - Other artefacts will be located by reference to the context in which they are discovered.
  - A discard policy will be applied to the artefacts collected. A policy will be adopted with the approval of CPAT and with the agreement of the appropriate specialists. Finds from recent and bulk deposits may be disposed of after summary recording.

- 6.4.3 Artefacts/ecofacts will be collected and recorded stratigraphically. All artefacts will be double-labelled, packed and stored in appropriate materials and conditions to ensure that no deterioration occurs. All artefact/ecofact processing/storage will be carried out in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (Archaeology Section) guidelines and will accord with the relevant Institute of Field Archaeologists *Guidelines on Finds Work* and the *Treasure Act* (1996). The discovery of any artefacts made of precious metals will be reported immediately to the Client and the appropriate authorities in accordance with the statutory provisions relating to Treasure Trove. Such artefacts will be immediately removed to a secure location such as the Gifford offices or a conservation laboratory. Cold storage and if necessary constant-humidity storage-facilities will be available off-site to receive any artefacts/ecofacts requiring such conditions throughout the evaluation.
- 6.4.4 Specialist stabilisation of artefacts likely to deteriorate after excavation, particularly metalwork and waterlogged wood, may be required. A specialist conservator will be available on-call throughout the evaluation to advise on the treatment of artefacts and to assist in the excavation of particularly fragile artefacts. All significant artefacts will be stabilised as soon as possible after excavation. A conservation assessment will be undertaken on completion of the excavation works in liaison with the relevant artefact specialists.

## **6.5 Palaeoenvironmental Strategy**

- 6.5.1 Palaeoenvironmental samples will be collected upon the advice of the palaeoenvironmental specialist, who will be available on-call throughout the project to advise on the sampling strategy and to analyse the ecofactual material recovered.
- 6.5.2 The general palaeoenvironmental sampling-strategy will be as follows:
- A sample of at least 30 litres will be recovered from any context thought to possibly contain significant valuable palaeoenvironmental data including: pits; middens; drains; ditches; wells, and occupation-deposits associated with floor-surfaces. These will be subjected to summary analysis in order to determine their potential.
  - Specialised samples such as samples of waterlogged wood for dendrochronological dating, samples of carbonised material for carbon-dating and kubiena box-samples for soil thin-section preparation (allowing microfossil and micromorphological analysis) may be taken as advised by the relevant specialists.
  - Special deposits such as foundation-deposits and hearth-fills will be 50% sampled.

## **6.6 Health and Safety**

- 6.6.1 Gifford and Partners operate in accordance with the health and safety procedures as set out:-

- the *Health and Safety Work Act (1974)* and related legislation.
- the Standing Conference of Archaeology Unit Managers *Health and Safety Manual 1991*).
- the Council for British Archaeology Handbook no. 6, *Safety in Archaeological Fieldwork (1989)*.
- the Gifford *Health and Safety Handbook*. In accordance with the CDM Regulations Gifford will prepare a Risk Assessment in relation to the archaeological works prior to the commencement of the evaluation.

6.6.2 All necessary protective clothing and equipment will be used. The archaeologists on site will wear hard hats at all times. Ear defenders and eye goggles will be used as required when machinery is in operation.

6.6.3 Given the known industrial activities on the site, and use of toxic materials for tanning and fellmongery, there is a risk of encountering contaminated ground during the evaluation. If the deposits are considered hazardous to the health of archaeologists on site, then work will cease and the excavation strategy reviewed in light of discussion with both Stepnell Ltd and CPAT.

6.6.4 Anthrax was not isolated in soil samples taken during a ground investigation of the site (Ian Farmer Associates 2003: 18).

6.6.5 Recorded values of semi-volatile organic compounds, and volatile organic compounds were below the detectable limits of the equipment used (ibid: 19).

6.6.6 A First-Aid kit and Accident Book will be kept on site at all times, with the Gifford Health and Safety file.

## **6.7 Assessment and Report Preparation**

6.7.1 Immediately upon completion of the site-work an assessment of the site-archive will be undertaken to include all written, drawn and photographic records, artefacts and ecofacts/samples. This assessment will make reference to any results of any previous archaeological investigations undertaken in the area.

6.7.2 Artefacts will be assessed for their potential to provide dating, social, economic, and technological information. Special or unusual features will be highlighted and reference made to other material recovered from the immediate environs of the evaluation site.

6.7.3 The suitability of ecofactual material and samples recovered during the excavation for palaeoenvironmental analysis will be assessed by a suitably qualified specialist.

6.7.4 A phased site-matrix will be prepared to include all contexts identified during the sample excavation and phase-plans will be prepared digitally where appropriate.

6.7.5 A site-narrative giving an account of the stratigraphic and structural history of the site will be prepared.

6.7.6 The report will contain the following:

- A non-technical summary
- A table of contents
- An introduction with acknowledgements, including a list of all those involved in the project and the location and description of the site
- A statement of the project aims
- An account of the project methodology undertaken, with an assessment of the same
- A factual summary of the history, development and use of the site
- A summary description of the investigation results including any archaeologically significant features/deposits identified within the proposed development site. A brief description of the stratigraphy of each trench will be given, even where no archaeological features or deposits are identified
- A discussion of the location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition, and significance of any archaeological deposits/features uncovered, together with a discussion of their relationship with known archaeology in the vicinity
- A general site plan indicating the position and size of the trenches
- Trench plans at appropriate scales. Each trench will be presented in the report with at least one plan (scale 1:50 or 1:20) and section (scale 1:20 or 1:10) as well as a photograph. All plans and sections will be related to the Ordnance Survey datum levels and to the National Grid
- Other maps, plans, drawings and photographs as appropriate
- Summary reports on the artefact and palaeoenvironmental evidence
- An index to the project archive and a statement on its location/proposed repository
- The agreed project design will form an appendix to the report.

6.7.7 Under separate cover Gifford will advise the Client on the implications of the archaeological results for the proposed development and make recommendations as to the way forward.

6.7.8 Draft copies of the report will be issued to Stepnell Ltd and CPAT for comment and approval prior to the issue of the final report. Copies of the final report will be issued to Stepnell Ltd (2), CPAT (1), the Regional Sites and Monuments Record (1), and Conwy County Borough Council (1).

6.7.9 A short summary report on the results of the archaeological excavation will be submitted to the appropriate period/specialist journal(s) and *Archaeology Wales* within three months of the completion of the evaluation works.

## 7. ARCHIVE

7.1 The project archive will consist of all original records, artefacts, (excluding those discarded as agreed with the archive repository) ecofacts/samples and all documentation that relates to the evaluation.

- 7.2 The archive will be prepared according to the *Management of Archaeological Projects*, English Heritage, Second Edition (1991). The records therefore will be fully ordered and indexed.
- 7.3 The archive will comply with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (Archaeology Section) *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage* (1990), The Society of Museum Archaeologists document *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive* (1995) and to the requirements of the archive repository.
- 7.4 The archive will be deposited with a repository approved by the Development Control Archaeologist. Some or all artefacts may be retained by the owner of the freehold of the land or the successor in title to this freehold but records of these artefacts will form part of the archive. The archive will be ready for deposition within three months of the completion of the evaluation.
- 7.5 An index to the archive and synopsis will be lodged with the Regional Sites and Monuments Record, together with a copy of the evaluation report.
- 7.6 Reproducible elements of the archive will be security-copied on microfiche and submitted to the National Monuments Record (Aberystwyth).

## **8. PUBLICITY**

- 8.1 No Gifford representative involved with this project will speak to the media or any other third party about the works unless specifically instructed to do so by Stepnell Ltd.

## **9. PROJECT MONITORING**

- 9.1 It is understood that the evaluation will be monitored by CPAT. Gifford will give CPAT as much notice of the commencement of the works as possible and it is understood that the evaluation will probably commence on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2003.
- 9.2 Gifford propose to arrange the following consultations/meetings to ensure the smooth progress of the evaluation:
- A preliminary consultation (by phone and e-mail) to agree the Project Design, programme and any other preliminaries.
  - An initial meeting on site, to discuss the presence/absence of archaeological features and the need for and resources required to manually excavate and record any identified archaeological features.
  - A meeting on completion of the fieldwork to confirm that the excavations have been completed to the satisfaction of Stepnell Ltd and CPAT
  - A consultation (by phone and e-mail) to discuss the draft report.
  - Gifford understand that report and archive preparation may also be subject to monitoring and will ensure all records are available upon request as far as is reasonably practicable.

- 9.3 Gifford will minute/distribute all monitoring consultations.
- 9.4 Gifford will inform Stepnell Ltd and CPAT of any significant discoveries. CPAT will be given reasonable notice to inspect such significant discoveries within the stated timetable for the site works.
- 9.5 It is CPAT's responsibility to arrange access to the site with the landowner.

## **10. RESOURCES AND PROGRAMMING**

### **10.1 Gifford Staff**

- Project Manager: A L Martin BA MA AIFA  
(Project management, report editing)
- Site Director: A Towle BA, MA, PhD, PIFA  
(Supervision of evaluation, report and archive preparation work)
- Site Assistant: R. Mann
- Palaeoenvironmental and animal bone specialist: G. Couling BA MSc  
(Assessment of animal bone assemblage and palaeoenvironmental pre-processing)
- Ceramic specialist: D Garner BA  
(Assessment of ceramic assemblage)
- Palaeoenvironmentalist: Palaeoenvironmental Research Services (York)  
(Laboratory assessment of palaeoenvironmental samples)
- Archaeology Technician: G Reaney  
(Preparation of computerised site-drawings and report illustrations)

### **10.2 Specialist Sub-Contractors**

- Human Bone Specialist: Dr J McKinley  
(Human bone, including cremated bone, assessment, analysis and report)
- Conservator: Y Mienville-Debat, Bradford University  
(Cleaning/stabilisation and X-radiography of metal and ceramic artefacts; conservation assessment)
- Industrial Residues: G McDonald, Bradford University

### 10.3 Timetable

STAGE	DURATION
Project Set-Up	2 days
Site Work (maximum)	7 days
Assessment and Report Preparation	5 days
Archive Preparation	2 days
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATE</b>	<b>16 days</b>

### 11. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Gifford *forthcoming* Former Tannery, Water Street, Abergele: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment Report. Gifford Report No.: 11419.R02

Ian Farmer Associates 2003 Stepnell Ltd Water Street, Abergele: Factual and Interpretive Ground Investigation. Final Report No. 4251.

## FIGURES

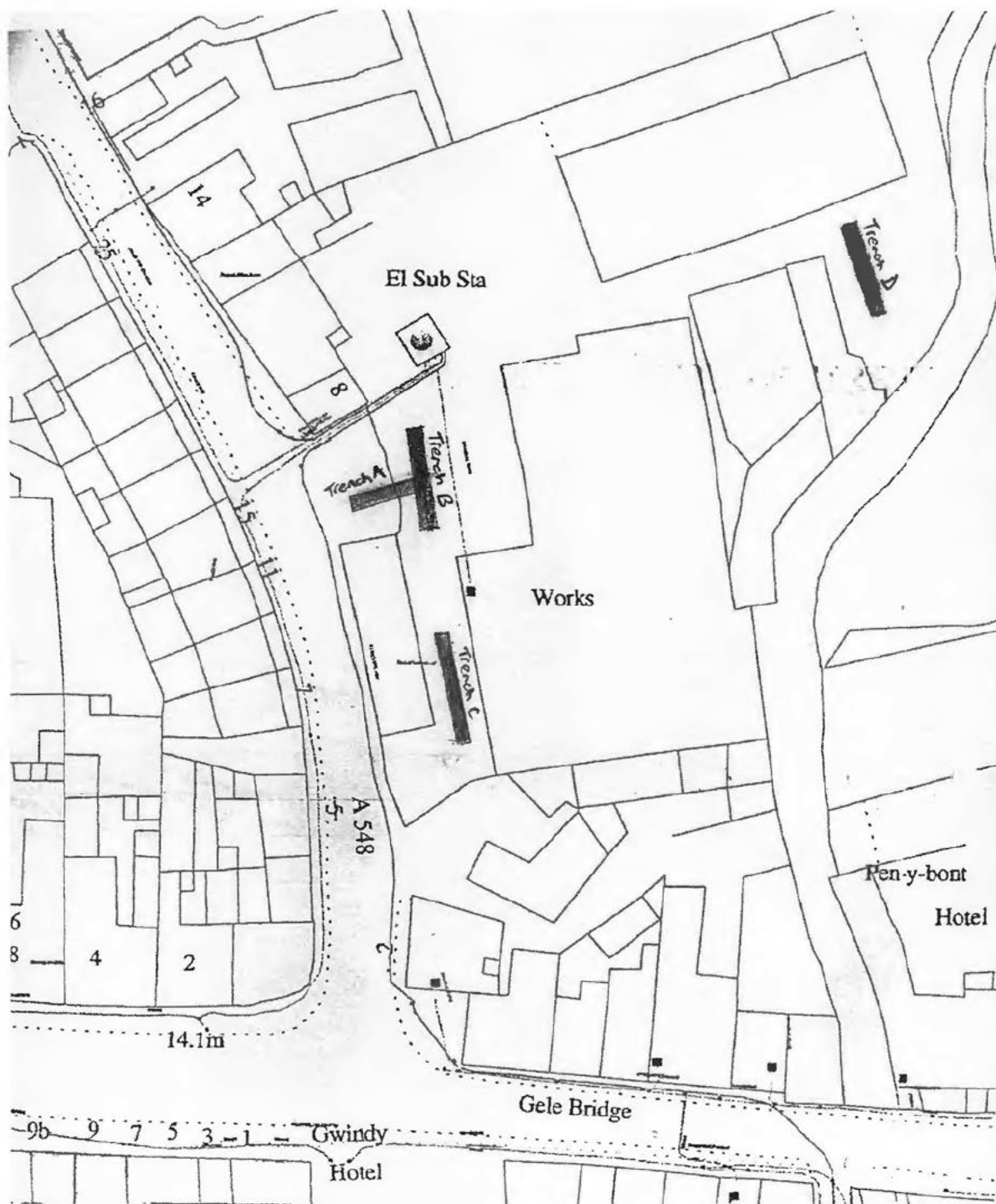


Figure 1. Evaluation Trench Locations

**APPENDIX A**  
**RECORDING PROFORMAE**

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Desk Based Assessment**

**Commercial-in-Confidence**

Report No. 11,419.R02  
December 2003

**Stepnell Ltd  
St. Judes  
Middle Road  
Sway  
Lymington  
Hampshire  
SO41 6AT**

**FORMER TANNERY, WATER STREET, ABERGELE  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Commercial-in-Confidence

**FORMER TANNERY, WATER STREET, ABERGELE**  
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT REPORT**

**CONTROLLED DOCUMENT**

<i>Gifford and Partners Document No:</i>		<b>11,419.R02</b>	
<i>Status:</i>	Draft		<i>Copy No:</i>
	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
<i>Prepared by:</i>	R. Mann		
<i>Checked:</i>	T Malim		
<i>Gifford Approved:</i>	A. Martin		
<i>Client Accepted:</i>			

Revision Record					
Rev.	Date	By	Summary of Changes	Chkd	Aprvd

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**FORMER TANNERY, WATER STREET, ABERGELE**  
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT REPORT**

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## **APPENDICES**

<b>APPENDIX A</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Project Design (with Brief)</b>
<b>APPENDIX B</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>Clwyd-Powys Sites and Monuments Record Data</b>

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This report has been commissioned by Stepnell Ltd. in order to assess the archaeological issues associated with proposed development on the site of the former tannery, Water Street, Abergele.
- 1.2 The assessment and report preparation were undertaken in December 2003 and included consultation of sources comprising historic documents, maps, photographs, publications and data held by Conwy Library, Abergele Library and Conwy Archive Service. The assessment also utilised a Site Investigation Report and benefited from a visual inspection of the site and several of the properties which currently occupy it.
- 1.3 This project has been undertaken by Gifford and Partners Ltd on behalf of Stepnell Ltd. in accordance with the recommendation of the Archaeological Officer (Development Control) of the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust. The recommendation, dated 13 November 2003, was used in the preparation of the Gifford Project Design for the work. The Project Design is reproduced in Appendix A.

## **2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Gifford and Partners Limited would like to acknowledge the assistance of the following:

Mr G Dale; Mr J Puckering of Stepnell Ltd; Mr J Smith of Stepnell Ltd; Mr. M. Hughes of Jennings Plant and Servies; Mr D Watson of Conwy County Borough Council; Mr M Walters and Mr J Spencer of CPAT; the staff of Conwy and Abergele libraries, and the staff of Conwy Archives.

## **3. DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE AND PLANNING BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 Abergele is located a short distance from the North Wales coast. It is just over 7km west of Rhyl, and just under 9km east of Colwyn Bay. It is accessed by three main roads, the A547 runs east-west through the town centre, the A548 runs north-south and the A55 expressway runs around the north and east edges of it. Abergele is a market town, although it is located near the coast it has never developed into a holiday resort. The site of the former tannery is located at National Grid Reference SH 9475 7775.
- 3.2 Planning applications (0/27916 and 0/27918) have been submitted to Conwy County Borough Council for the redevelopment of the Former Tannery site, Water Street, Abergele. The proposals involve the demolition of the existing structures, and the erection of 51 residential units (assisted living for the elderly) and the construction of means of access and associated works. The industrial buildings existing on site are of a 20<sup>th</sup> century (possibly post-1918) origin and are believed to be of no historic or architectural significance. The land surrounding The Mount and the land between The Mount and the church off Water Street is considered to be the site of the earliest Medieval settlement at Abergele, and may include evidence of a Roman settlement beneath. It is likely that the Water Street frontage formed part of the Medieval town plan, and that the Medieval precursors to the existing buildings may be located beneath, and to the rear of the current buildings. As for the current non-industrial buildings which front Water Street, these are in

the Conservation Area but are not listed and the Gifford believes them to be of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century construction and to be of no historic or architectural merit.

- 3.3 In accordance with national and local planning guidance Mr M Walters (Development Control Officer, CPAT) has advised Conwy County Borough Council that an archaeological assessment of the proposed development site should be undertaken in order to assist determination of the planning applications and formulate the most appropriate way to secure treatment of any archaeological remains which may be present on the site.
- 3.4 It is acknowledged that in the event of planning consent being granted then further archaeological mitigation measures may be necessary.

#### **4. METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1 This study was undertaken in accordance with a Project Design, agreed with the Archaeological Officer (Development Control), and reproduced in Appendix A. Documentary (including cartographic and photographic) research was undertaken in order to examine the past usage of the proposed development site and to assess the known and likely presence/absence of archaeologically significant features/deposits within the site. The study has included the immediate area of the site, so as to determine if any adjacent archaeological/heritage features extend into, or impact upon, the assessment site.
- 4.2 A site visit has been undertaken on 27/11/03 to identify any archaeological features that may be visible, to assess the effect of the land use on the survival of any possible archaeological features and to undertake a visual assessment of the historic and architectural merit of the building stock.
- 4.3 A gazetteer has not been included in this report as the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust Regional Sites and Monuments Record contains no entries for the assessment site and the only known features of archaeological interest within the assessment site are the previous post-Medieval buildings (located on the Ordnance Survey maps enclosed in this report). All the archaeological features in the vicinity of the site are discussed in the text and are illustrated in the accompanying figures.
- 4.4 This report forms the archive of the assessment and copies will be forwarded to the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust Regional Sites and Monuments Record and the National Monuments Record (Aberystwyth) for archive, once planning issues have been resolved in relation to the proposed development on the site.

#### **5. PURPOSE OF THE ASSESSMENT**

The objectives of the assessment were:

- 5.1 To advise Stepnell Ltd. of the archaeological implications arising from redevelopment of the site.
- 5.2 To determine, in so far as is reasonably possible by desk-based research and site inspection, the character and condition of any archaeological resource within the proposed development site.

physical evidence of any burgage plots remains. If originally present it is likely that these plots would have been situated between the motte and bailey castle and St. Michael's church.

- 6.5.5 It is in this period that it is believed that The Mount or Peel, either a moated house or a motte and bailey castle was constructed. There is no documentary evidence to support this, but it is mentioned in a description of the town by De Becele in 1344. He noted that at that date, the town consisted of the church, a market place (now Market Street), a prison, a bake house, the stocks, a pigeon house and the Pil (The Mount), close together.

## 6.6 Post-Medieval and Modern Periods (1485 to the present day)

- 6.6.1 In 1485, Henry VII became king of England and his acts of Union of 1536 and 1542 united Wales and England. It is thought that in the 16<sup>th</sup> century the town stocks were situated near the site of the present Cumberland House (approximately 250m from the Water Street site), it was here that the JP's (Justice of the Peace) could publicly punish those held in the stocks.

- 6.6.2 Williams tells us of an account of Abergele from the 16<sup>th</sup> Century which commented on the town at that time. This account was given by John Leland (1506-1552)

*"lse Dulasse is good for corne and whete, rye peasen and benes, with very good free pasture and medois."*

- 6.6.3 Between the years of 1600 and 1840, Abergele develops into a more or less static market town. There are many descriptions of the town from this period. The Torrington Diaries (1781-1794) contain these words

*"In 2 miles we came to Abergele where they build with brick which gives a gay appearance after the sombre stone work"*

Dr. Johnson visited Abergele in 1774, he describes Abergele as being

*"...as mean little town in which little but Welsh is spoken and divine service seldom performed in English"*

- 6.6.4 The most detailed description of Abergele was written by Edward Llyud in the 'Parochialia', this included details of the various parishes in Wales. In it, Llyud states that

*"On Saturdays they have a market for flesh, fish and anything else except corn (which is interesting bearing in mind John Leland's description which states that Abergele was good for corn)".*

*"The breadth from Penysarn on ye sea to Pont Vredyd Llanfynydd (Llanefydd) 3 miles. It contains abt 40 houses. There was once a chapel in ye church yard dedicated to [blank]. Their church dedicated to St. Michael. The Bp. Is Rv. & Dr. Maurice Vicar".*

*"There is a mound either 'to the east' or 'in two parts' where the castle used to be and it is called Pen y Pil. There is a place called the Groeslwyd Gate near the town"*

Groes Lwyd is mentioned in the Kinmel Papers (No. 4, dated 16<sup>th</sup> August 1508)

*"...the way leading from Groes Lwyd towards Aberconway"*

It has been suggested that the Groes Lwyd could indicate that the Grey Friars may have at one point had a settlement in Abergele (Ellis, 1948). But it is now considered more likely that this cross (located by the church) was named after the stone that it was made from, and was probably a market cross.

- 6.6.5 During the 16<sup>th</sup> Century the Holland family, through judicious marriages and much buying of land, came to own much of Abergele, they also owned Fardre which is one of the oldest buildings in the town. All the land that was owned by the Holland family became known as the 'Kinmel Estate', and this would affect the development of the town in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries as no one could compete with the Kinmel estate when it came to buying land, and consequently very little development took place here until after World War I (Williams, 1968).
- 6.6.6 The tithe map of 1839/40 shows the area of the former tannery on water street to be an empty plot of land at that time, with the main buildings of the town being along Market Street and Bridge Street. The apportionment accompanying the map states that the landowner was a Mr. Charles Calverley Esq., and the occupier was Mr. John Roberts who was using the land for pasture. This suggests that the use of the site as a tannery is a late 19<sup>th</sup> century development of the site and also indicates that if any structures had existed on this site in the medieval period or earlier, there was no physical trace in the later post-medieval era for the cartographers to record.
- 6.6.7 Not long after the tithe survey had been completed, we have the first mention of the tannery itself. Slaters Directory of North Wales, 1844 mentions Kerfoot James, a tannery and curriers on 'Watergate Street'. Not much is written about this tannery, Ellis only writes that it was established 100 years ago (he wrote this in 1948). Williams in 1968 provides more detail, he tells us that the tanning trade has existed in Abergele for a century and a half, but this clearly cannot relate to the site in water street as the cartographic evidence tells us otherwise. He also says that 40 men were employed there in the 1870's and 80's, leather was manufactured here, and oak was used to tan the skins. By 1868, the tanyard had become a fellmongers or a tawyers, rather than a tannery and was used for stripping wool from skins, the skins would be sent to Lancashire and Yorkshire to be finished into leather, and the wool would be sorted and dried and sent to wool factories also in Lancashire and Yorkshire. There have been several programmes of formal archaeological work on the tannery industry in Sheffield, North Yorkshire, Leicester and Northamptonshire and these represent a corpus of comparative data for the site at Abergele (Baxter, 1998. Lines, 2003. Serjeantson, 1986. Shaw, 1984. Thomson, 1981).
- 6.6.8 The historical derivation of the name Water Street is poorly documented, but there is reference to a flood in Abergele in 1876, which may have influenced the naming of this thoroughfare. After a period of heavy rain, the river Gele burst its banks, it is reported that some cottages near the bridge were flooded and the river burst into Bridge Street and 'Nelson Street' (which is now Water Street). Yet the Slaters directory entry for the tannery places it on Watergate Street, which appears to be the name of Water Street before it was Nelson Street.

## **7. CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST REGIONAL SITES AND MONUMENTS RECORD DATA**

The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust Regional Sites and Monuments Record contains no entries for the proposed development site. However, there are 59 entries recorded in a radius of one kilometre around the assessment site. All the SMR entries within this sweep are identified in Appendix B, but many of them record standing buildings.

## **8. THE SETTING OF THE ASSESSMENT SITE WITH REFERENCE TO WORLD HERITAGE SITES, SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS, HISTORIC PARKS, HISTORIC BATTLEFIELDS AND AREAS OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE**

- 8.1 The assessment site is not within or adjacent to any World Heritage Sites as defined by UNESCO.
- 8.2 The assessment site is adjacent to The Mount (PRN 100487), which is a scheduled ancient monument.
- 8.3 The assessment site is not within or adjacent to any registered historic parks, registered historic battlefields or areas of recognised historic landscape.
- 8.4 The assessment site is in a conservation area, and is recognised as a multi-period settlement (PRN 105485) and as a Medieval Town (PRN 29274).

## **9. SITE VISIT RESULTS AND REVIEW OF THE GROUND INVESTIGATION**

- 9.1 The site was visited on 27/11/03 by a Gifford Archaeologist. The building stock does not appear to have any historic or architectural merit and the presence of several subterranean tanks on the site will have impacted upon the survival of any archaeological remains.
- 9.2 A site investigation study (Ian Farmer Associates, 2003) reported on the drilling of three boreholes, and 6 Window Samples. The position of the boreholes can be seen on Figure 8. The results of the ground investigation are displayed in the table below.

Intervention	Thickness of made ground (m.)	Water level (m.)
BH1	1.30	2.25
BH2	0.40	1.75
BH3	1.50	1.73
WS1	0.20	-
WS2	2.00	-
WS3	2.55	1.35
WS4	0.35	1.75
WS5	0.55	-
WS6	0.30	-

This table shows a great variation in the thickness of the made ground, and it is considered the made ground may contain archaeological deposits. The current evaluation works will attempt to explain why there is such a difference in thickness of these deposits.

## 10. DISCUSSION OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL OF THE ASSESSMENT SITE

- 10.1 As appropriate guidance for assessing potential, the following criteria for scheduling (Department of the Environment, 1990) are considered in an attempt to assess the potential of this site:

Period	There is negligible potential for uncovering below ground remains related to settlement/activity on the site before the sub-Roman and early medieval period. However, the presence of Romano-British remains cannot be entirely discounted. There is a medium potential for below ground remains related to settlement on the site from the late thirteenth century through to the late post-Medieval period. Notwithstanding this, the potential for settlement remains from the Medieval period is compromised by the fact that the construction of the current tannery complex during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries has involved the insertion of subterranean structures which would severely affect any archaeological deposits or features within the footprints of these structures.
Rarity	Evidence for any features related to Romano-British and/or Medieval settlement on the site would not be particularly rare on a regional/national level. However, any archaeological deposits dating to the Romano-British period or associated with secular religious Medieval occupation are likely to be uncommon on a local level. Any archaeological features related to post-Medieval settlement are also not considered rare, although, such features are disappearing as a consequence of modern development in North Wales' towns.
Documentation	The cartographic evidence of the site from the nineteenth century is good and enables an assessment of the development of the site from that time. The town of Abergele has benefited from few historical, archaeological and political studies and few contemporary manuscripts survive. Archaeological evidence from the assessment site dating to the eighteenth century or earlier would have a high potential to support the few contemporary written records.
Group value	Any archaeological remains on the site would have a related value to archaeological evidence from elsewhere in North Wales, especially that from Rhyl, Prestatyn and Denbigh. Therefore any archaeological remains which survive on the assessment site would have a high group value.
Survival/condition	The actual presence, survival and condition of any archaeological remains at the site are as yet unknown, given that there has been no archaeological investigation works recorded on the site. However, during the post-medieval development of the Water Street area evidence for the boundaries to and usage of individual burgage plots may survive in the archaeological record. If medieval archaeological remains are present their condition and integrity would be likely to have been compromised by the construction of post-medieval structures on the site. In turn any post-medieval archaeological

remains, if present, are likely to have been compromised by the construction of more recent structures on the site. Survival/condition is therefore regarded as of medium potential.

Fragility	Any sub-surface archaeological deposits that exist within the site would have a varying degree of fragility, dependant upon their nature – stone walls being less fragile than soil deposits. The principal structural material in any medieval structures would be wood and so would be considered highly fragile. Later post-medieval structures would be regarded as much less fragile given their stone/brick construction.
Diversity	The potential archaeological deposits on the site are likely to be restricted to settlement and associated activities, with a possibility of low-intensity craft/gardening activity. The site is therefore likely to have a low level of diversity.
Potential	No previous archaeological work has been undertaken on the site and so the nature of any surviving below ground deposits is unknown. On the information collated for this desk-based assessment however, the potential for archaeological remains is regarded as low for the site as a whole. Nevertheless there may be isolated pockets of archaeological survival on the site and any recovery of below ground deposits/artefacts from the site would provide new information on the nature and development of medieval and post-medieval occupation in Abergele.

- 10.2 In summary, and in full consideration of the above, the archaeological potential of the site involves the as yet unqualified and unquantified presence of below ground archaeological deposits that represent domestic occupation in medieval and post-medieval Abergele. These deposits, if present, would represent an archaeological resource. On the basis of this assessment however there is a very low, almost negligible potential for such remains to be present across the entire site given the nineteenth century and later development over most of the site. However, discrete pockets of archaeological deposits may survive where development has not been so intrusive.

## **11. THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON THE ASSESSMENT SITE**

- 11.1 The proposed development requires the demolition of the existing buildings and the construction of new premises. Scheme drawings prepared by Stepnell Ltd. show a three-storey development provided with lifts, which would require the insertion of lift pits.
- 11.2 These construction activities would clearly have an impact on sub-surface deposits within the site and if it can be proved that these deposits have a historical origin and are of archaeological interest then the proposed development would have archaeological implications. The extent and meaning of these implications can only be estimated at this stage and physical examination of the sub-surface deposits is desirable in order to properly qualify the implications. This physical investigation is currently in progress.

## **12. RESEARCH IMPLICATIONS**

This assessment has not generated any new information on the history and archaeology of Abergele and there are no site specific research implications arising at this stage.

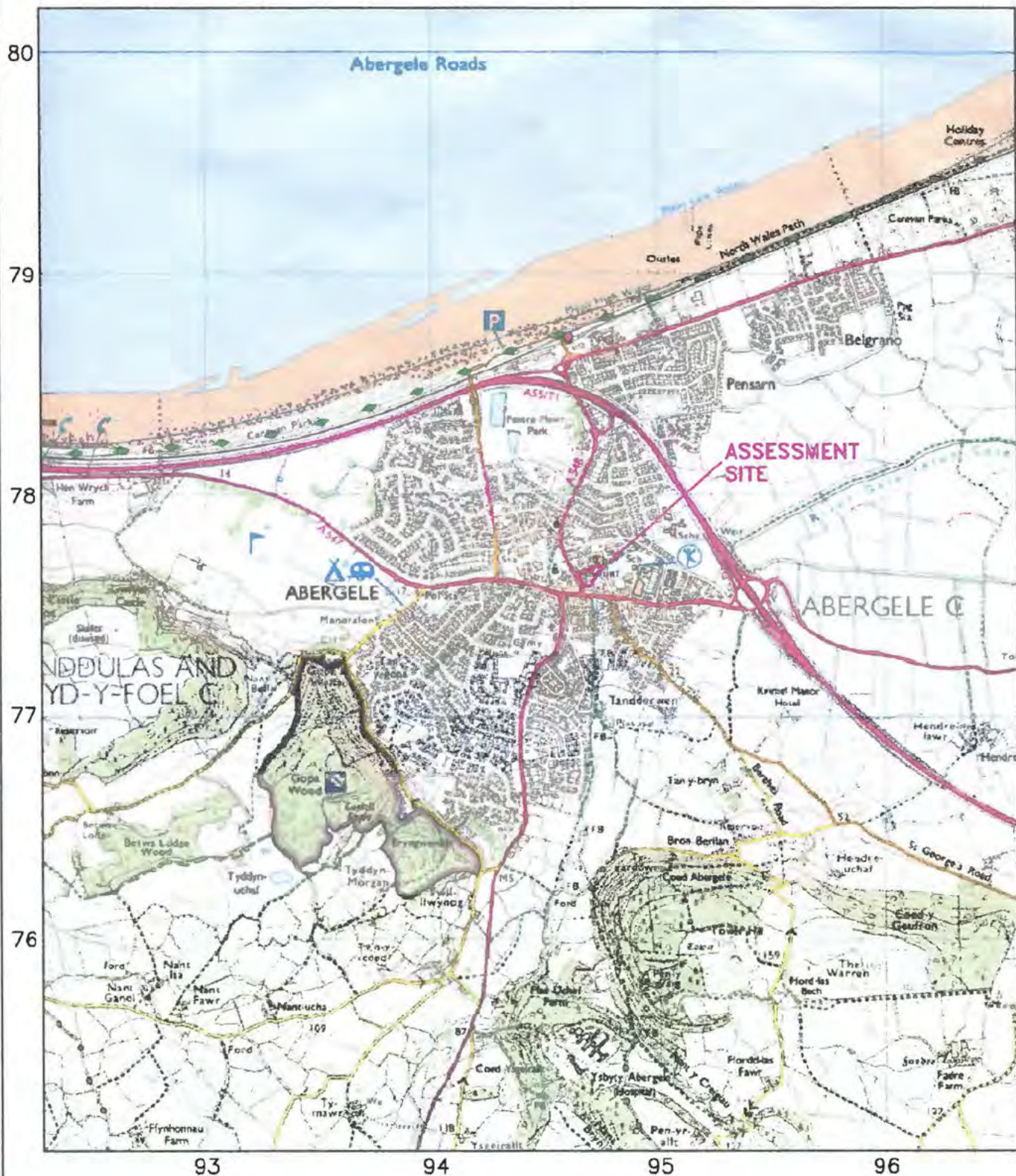
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## LIST OF MAPS CONSULTED

YEAR	TITLE
1840	Abergele Tithe map
1872	Ordnance Survey, Scale 1:2500
1911	Ordnance Survey (revised in 1949) Scale 1:1056
1913	Ordnance Survey, Scale 1:2500
1914	Ordnance Survey, Scale 1:1,056
1987	<i>Tabvla Imperii Romani: Britannia Septentrionalis</i> : covering sheets N 30 and O30. Scale 1:1,000,000

## FIGURES



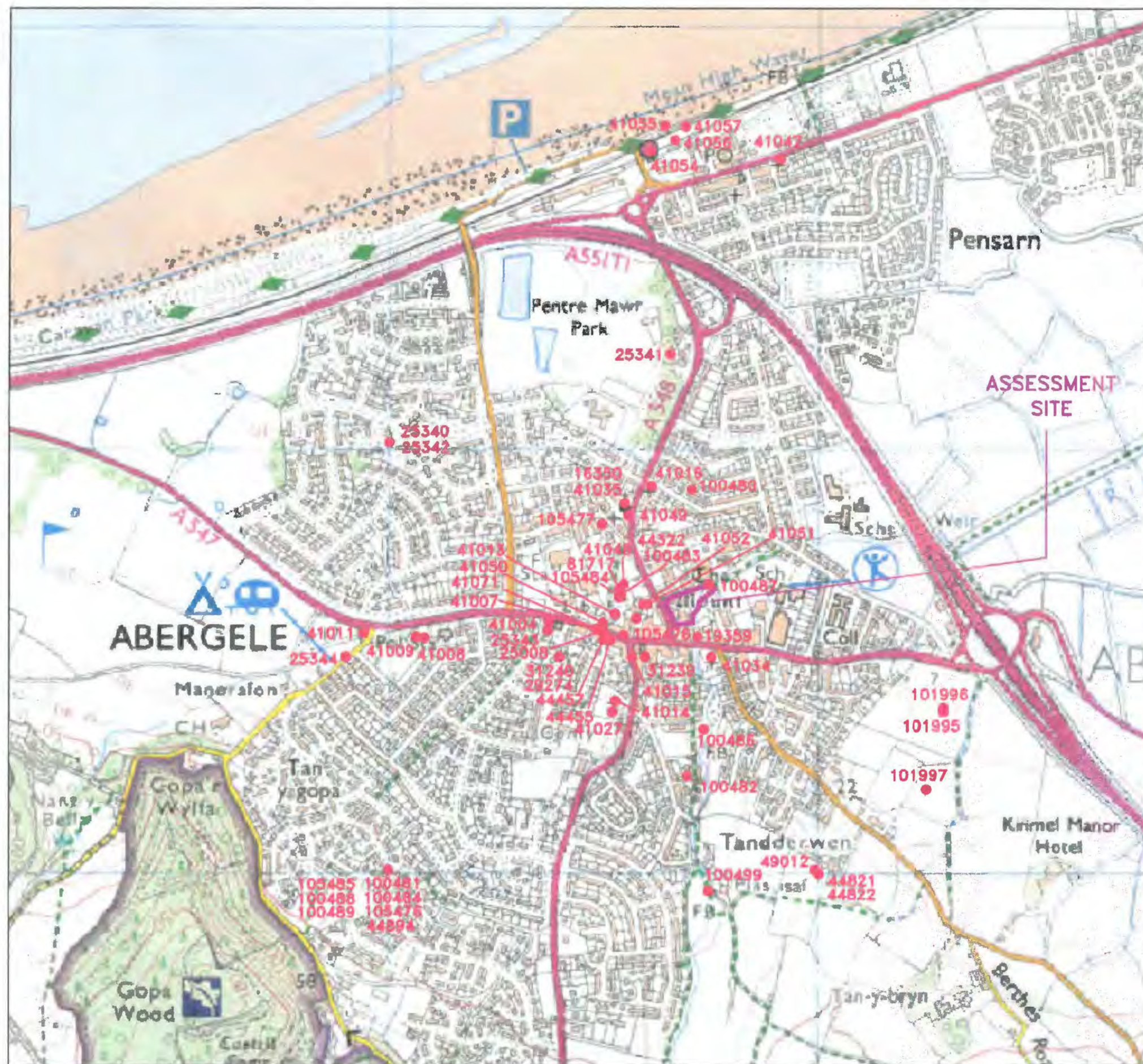
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Project 11419 FORMER TANNERY WATER STREET, ABERGELE	Drawn G.C.R.	Checked R.M.	Approved A.L.M.	<div>CONSULTING ENGINEERS</div> <div><b>Gifford</b></div> <div>20 Nicholas Street Chester CH1 2NX Tel : 01244 311855 Fax : 01244 314560</div> <div><b>Archaeology</b></div> <div><a href="http://www.gifford-consulting.co.uk">www.gifford-consulting.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:archaeology.chester@gifford-consulting.co.uk">archaeology.chester@gifford-consulting.co.uk</a></div>
	Date 12.12.03			
Title FIGURE 1 SITE LOCATION PLAN	Scale 1:25000			
	Drawing no. 11419 : 3D		Rev.	

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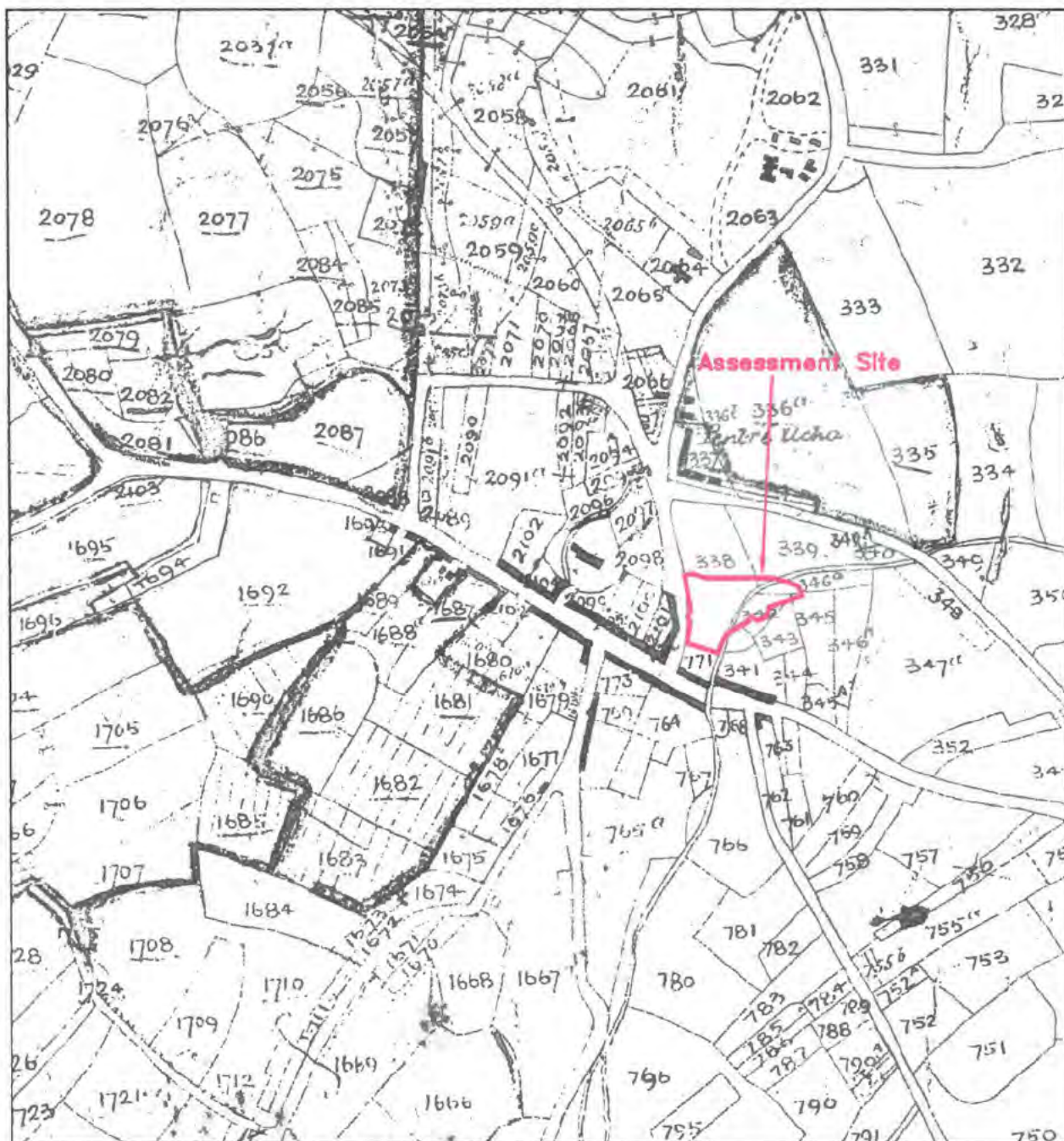
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Project 11419 FORMER TANNERY WATER STREET, ABERGELE		
Title FIGURE 2 LOCATION OF SMR REFERENCES		
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Date 15.12.03		
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FORMER TANNERY  
WATER STREET, ABERGELE

Title FIGURE 3  
ABERGELE TITHE MAP, 1840

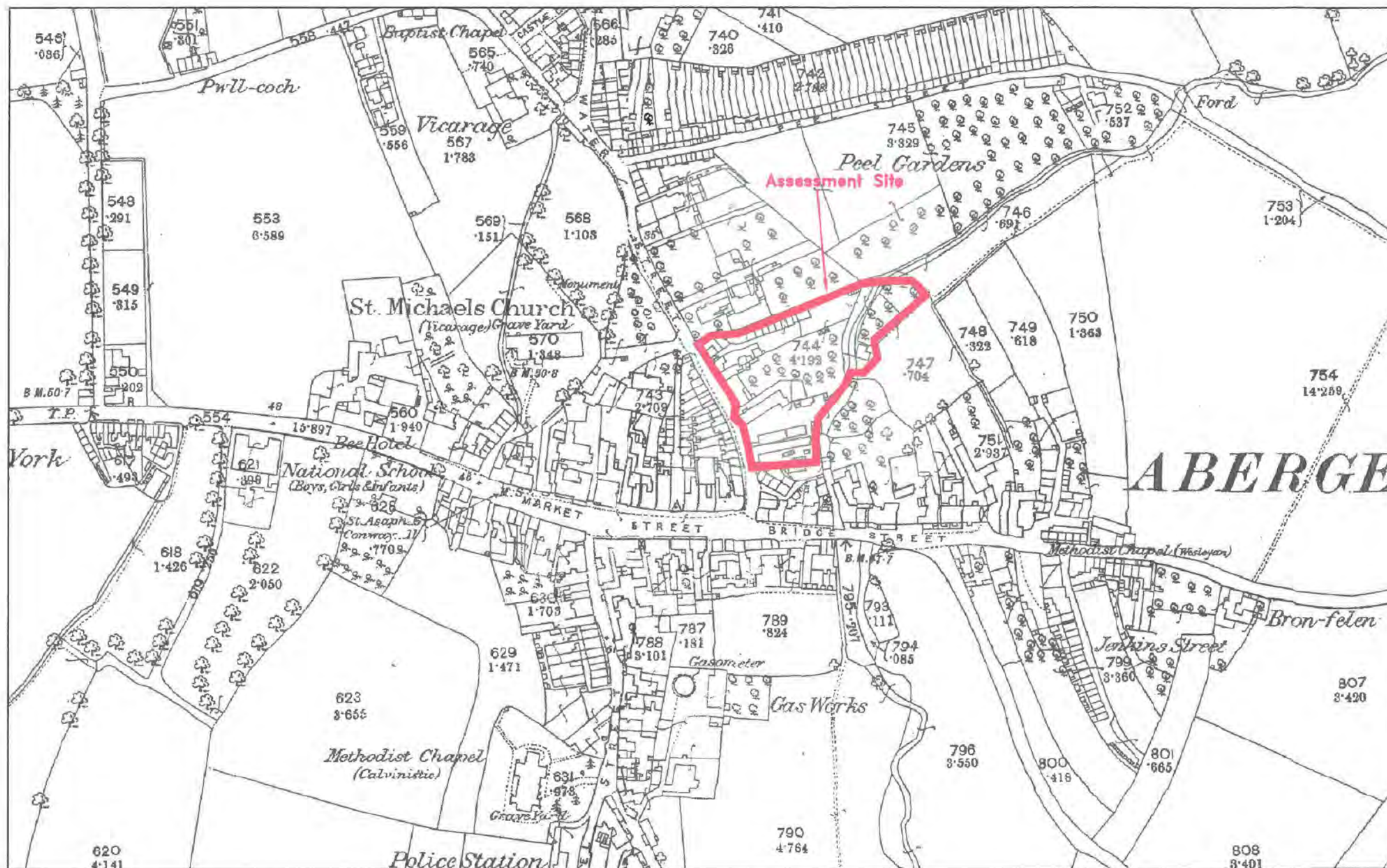
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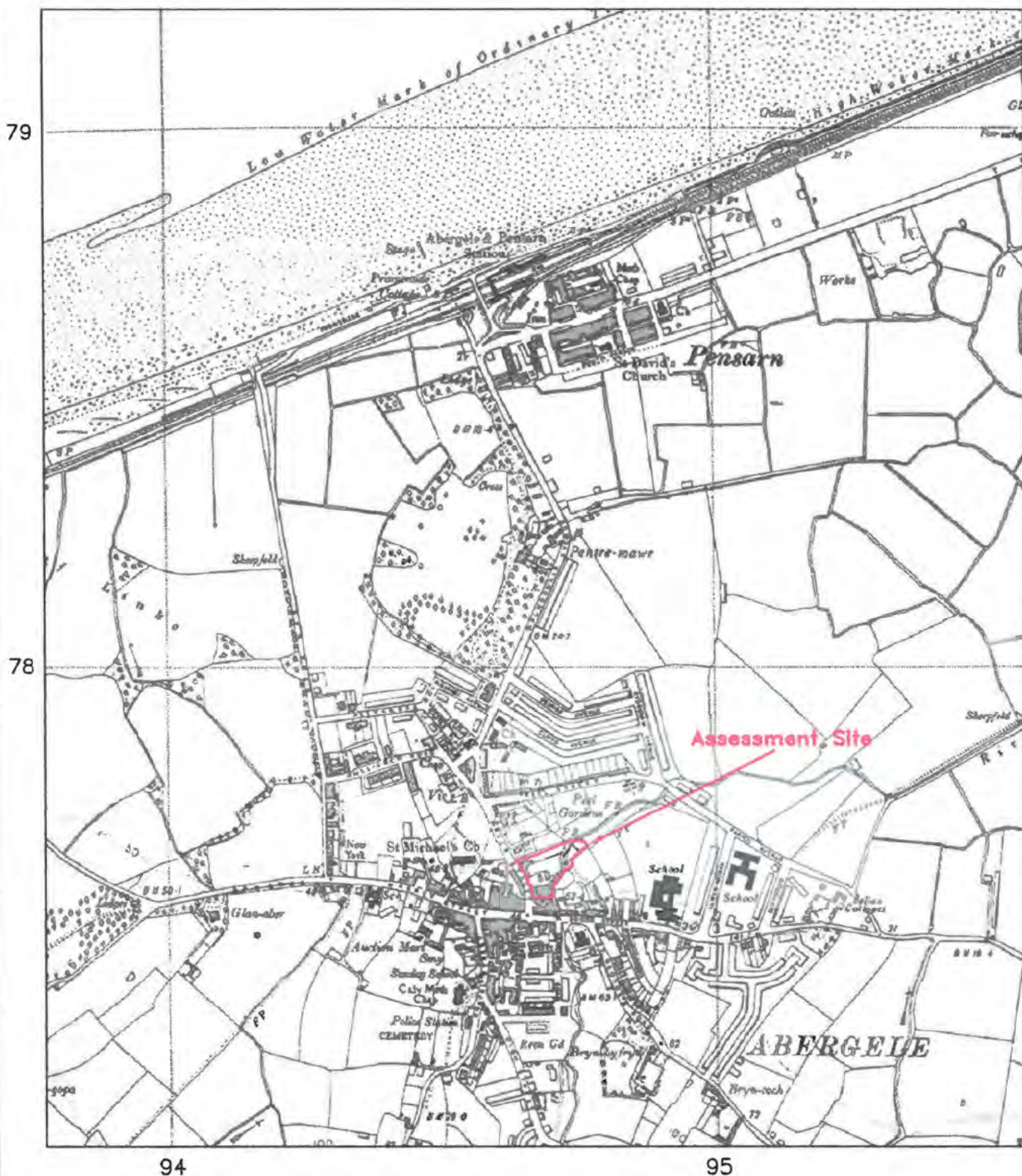
Project 11419		
FORMER TANNERY WATER STREET, ABERGELE		
Title FIGURE 4 ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP OF 1872		
Drawn G.C.R.	Checked R.M.	Approved A.L.M.
Date 12.12.03		
Scale 1:2500		
Drawing no. 11419 : 6D		Rev.

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Title FIGURE 5  
1911 (REVISED IN 1949)  
ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP

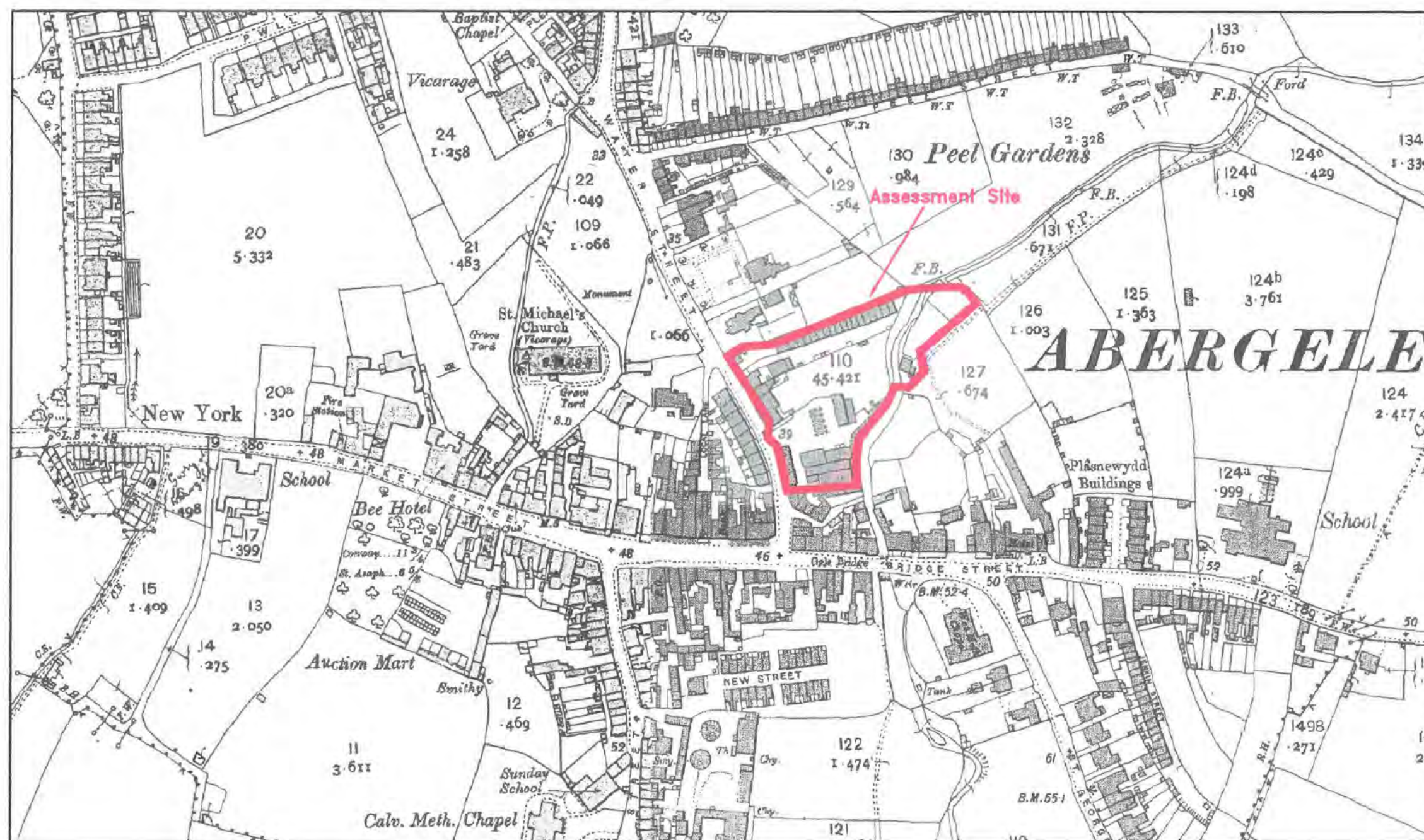
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Project 11419  
FORMER TANNERY  
WATER STREET, ABERGELE

Title FIGURE 6  
ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP  
OF 1913

Drawn G.C.R.	Checked R.M.	Approved A.L.M.
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Date 12.12.03

Scale 1:2500

Drawing no. 11419 : 7D	Rev.
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FORMER TANNERY  
WATER STREET, ABERGELE

Title FIGURE 9  
SITE PLAN SHOWING  
LOCATION OF BOREHOLES

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Date 12.12.03		
Scale Not to Scale		
Drawing no. 11419 : 8D		Rev.

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## APPENDICES

**Appendix A**  
**Project Design (with Brief)**

## **Appendix B**

### **Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust Regional SMR Data**

## 1.1. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.1.1.105485 - Abergele (multiple site)

NGR

:-

SH9477

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

>

Conwy

Community

Abergele

Preferred site type :- Multiperiod - Settlement (Multiple - Various )

### 1 Location

1.1 Abergele is situated a short distance from the North Wales coast, five and a half miles east of Colwyn Bay and four and a half miles west of Rhyl. The A547 runs east-west through the town centre, and the A548 north-south, whilst the A55 expressway skirts around the north and east edges of it. Although situated near the coast, Abergele is a market town and has never really developed into a resort.

1.2 The town centre is situated on flat land, west of the low-lying marshy area of Morfa Rhuddlan and below the limestone hills which rise to the south. The valley of the River Gele cuts through these hills, running northwards into the town. The town has expanded greatly this century and modern housing estates now stretch uphill to the south and west to the very foot of the surrounding hills.

### 2 History

2.1 The name means the "mouth of the Gele" and is descriptive of the location of the settlement. The River Gele flows through the town and now runs eastwards across Morfa Rhuddlan before entering the sea, but probably originally ran directly north to the sea.

2.2 Williams (p.19) tells us that Elfed, Bishop of Bangor, gave a grant of land to the church on the banks of the Gele. Little is known of Elfed apart from the fact that he was bishop in 755.

2.3 An early monastic establishment (PRN 100489) is recorded at Abergele in 856 AD.

2.4 "Abergele became the possession of the owner of Denbigh castle....When de Lacy died in 1311, there were 24 burgesses in the town. Details regarding Abergele [were included] in the post-mortem" (Williams, p.27).

2.5 Ellis (p.19) includes a description of the town in 1344 by De Beckele. The town then consisted of the church, a market place, a prison, a bake house, the stocks, a pigeon house and the Pil [the Mount], close together.

2.6 A Gwrych Estate map of 1828 shows the church and Bee Inn, and buildings along the street frontages of Market Street and Bridge Street, but no buildings indicated on Chapel Street and High Street.

2.7 The Tithe survey of 1839 gives a similar picture of a fairly small settlement, with buildings on both sides of Market Street and on the north side of Bridge Street. Chapel Street had buildings along its east side. There were buildings in the vicinity of the church and a few to the north of it. The basic street plan still remains, but housing now extends further along each road and further back from the street frontages.

### 3 Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 With the exceptions of St Michael's church, the Harp Inn (PRN 105476) and Old Chapel (PRN 105477) on Chapel Street, there appear to be no surviving buildings earlier than the 19th century in the centre of the town. Outside the town, to the south, south-east and south-west, are a number of farms of greater antiquity, one of them dating to the 16th century.

3.2 St Michael's church (PRN 100483), a Grade B listed building, is a large Perpendicular double-naved church and is the site of a clas or Celtic monastery (PRN 100489). A blocked south doorway formerly gave access to an extension pre-dating the Perpendicular remodelling. There was some restoration in 1858 and 1861. The font is Perpendicular, the bowl dated 1663. There are some late medieval heads in stained glass, a 14th-century sepulchral slab in the floor and two 14th-century circular-headed crosses set in the wall west of the south door. The earliest monument is 1705.

3.3 The older part of the present churchyard, immediately surrounding the church and enclosed by a stone wall, together with the area of land to the rear of the Bee Hotel may possibly form an early churchyard (PRN 105484). The burial area has by now been hugely increased by more recent extensions to the north of this.

3.4 The Mount (PRN 100487; SAM Denbigh 31), also known as the Peel or Pil, consists of the slight remains of a small square enclosure, now just an earthen platform 30m across and c. 1.2m high. It is first mentioned in 1334. Its function is unknown, but it is reputed to belong to the period of Danish and Saxon invasions in the 9th or 10th centuries according to Williams (1968, 21).

3.5 A number of artefacts have been found in Abergele which include a polished stone axe (PRN 100480) on Clwyd Avenue, a polished stone axe (PRN 100486) found in the bank of the River Gele, upstream of the town bridge, a coin, possibly of Hadrian (PRN 100481), a coin of Galba (PRN 100482) found in the garden of Delwyn on High Street, a denarius of Vespasian (PRN 100484), a hoard of 56 Roman bronze coins dated 260-380 AD (PRN 100488) and a Roman potsherd, perhaps 2nd century (PRN 100499) found near Plas Isaf.

3.6 There appears to have been some form of settlement at Abergele continuously from at least the early 14th century, and possibly even dating back to the 8th century. The considerable number of finds in Abergele which date from the Roman period, and the suggestion that Ffos y Bleiddiad (on the hill south-west of the town) may have been mined during the Roman period, may imply some form of settlement at Abergele at that time.

*SMR record created 31/12/95*

*The above data are supplied by CPAT in partnership with its Local Authorities and the partners of END,*

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#### **1.2. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.2.1.49012 - Abergele find

NGR

:-

SH9577

(SH97NE)

*Preferred site type :- Unknown - Find (Finds only - Unknown )*

Finds recorded by National Museum & Galleries of Wales catalogue.

Finds:-

0 / Stone / Net sinker / Unknown / INMW (50.3) -

*SMR record created 22/06/02 , last updated 23/10/03*

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#### **1.3. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.3.1.16350 - Abergele Church (multiple site)

NGR

:-

SH94547764

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

Abergele

*Preferred site type :- Multi-period - Church (Multiple - Intact )*

The largest of the county's Perp double-naved churches, and the site of a clas or Celtic monastery (Hubbard, 1986).

Sources:-

Evans, Edith, with Davidson, Andrew, Ludlow, Neil and Silvester Bob list , 2000 , ,

Hubbard, E , 1986 , *The Buildings of Wales: Clwyd* ,

Parry, R , 2000 , *Store & WC at St Michael's Church, Abergele: an archaeological watching brief and record of works* ,

Events:-

Visit OS / 1963(/ / ) - Ecclesiastical

Watching brief RP Archaeology / 2000(/ / ) -

*SMR record created 30/09/84 , last updated 10/04/01*

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#### **1.4. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.4.1.100483 (part of 16350 ) - Abergele Church (St Michael)

Listed Building 237 (II\* )

NGR

:-

SH9454477644

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

Abergele

*Preferred site type :- Medieval - Church (Building - Intact )*

A large church of nave, chancel and North aisle of similar length. Some features of perpendicular date remain as does a presbytery about the South wall. The church is in normal use.; (CAS 4/12/93) (SMR,1996)

The upper portion of the tower including the belfry windows is modern. (Lloyd-Williams and Underwood, 1872, Plate 35).

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Located in a rectangular churchyard in the angle between Water Street and Market Street, at the centre of the town, and accessed by the short Church Street off Market Street

The parish church occupies the site of a church erected in the C8 on land granted by Maelqwyn Gwynedd to Elfod, Bishop of

Bangor, who, it is recorded in the *Annales Cambriae*, introduced the Roman calculation for Easter to this area in the year 768. Later it became a 'clas' church. The present building is of the late C12-early C13 origin, subsequently extended eastwards, and was modified or largely rebuilt c1400, at which time the tower was probably built. It was repaired after neglect in 1663 and was restored and the tower raised in height and buttresses added in 1858-1861, and refloored and reseated in 1878-9 by Arthur Baker and some windows replaced. A S porch was added in 1879, the date cut on a tie beam.

Rubble stone walls with limestone and sandstone dressings, slate roof. Denbighshire double nave plan extending full length to include the chancel in the S nave, and St Elfod's Chapel in the N. West tower and timber framed S porch. A former side chamber on the S, perhaps that referred to as for Edward Lluyd in the late C17, although possibly the priest's lodging which was required to be built in 1304, has been demolished and the door from the church blocked. In the N wall, two cyclopean blocked doors, one to the former Gwrych pew, the other to the chapel, and a further cyclopean door in the W wall of the S nave. Lean-to on N side of chancel. Varied 2 and 3-light traceried windows, most altered in the C19 restorations. The two E windows are identical, c1400, each of 5 lights of panelled tracery. The tower has a tall bell stage with louvred openings and crenellated parapet and C19 replaced windows. Tower door on S, and clock face imposed over the S side bell opening. Double nave is divided by a Perpendicular arcade of 8 bays; octagonal columns carrying depressed arches of 2 chamfered orders. The W bay is divided off as a vestry. Open medieval roofs, of 15 arch-braced collar trusses with cusped raking struts, the S side having alternating principal rafters at the E springing from hammerbeams and wall posts. Walls plastered and lined out as ashlar, and good encaustic tiles. The S sanctuary is raised, with a carved oak reredos of 1917 at the E end. The fine rood screen extends across both naves, much restored in the C19 but containing medieval work. Oak pulpit of the C17, panelled, the top panel carved with a floral spray. Font, octagonal late medieval base raised on 2 steps, carrying a bowl inscribed 1663 IH RW WR ID WARDENS, presented by Henry Pugh, vicar.

A rare surviving example of medieval glass is the nine quarries of good yellow-stained glass of c1500 in the vestry. Later glass of 1857 and 1891; in the N nave, E window, an Ascension by Ward and Hughes; a Crucifixion of 1868, and at the W, a colourful Doxology window of 1857 commemorating the Lloyd family of Gwrych. In the S chancel, St Michael of 1905, and in the eastern window, a Last Supper. The church also retains a late C14 sepulchral slab with a floriated cross, and a series of two carved cross fragments of early C14.

Dug-out ironbound vestments chest.

Monuments: St Elfod chapel, N wall, an architectural composition of 3 stone panels with white streaked marble inserts, framing the eastern window, for Bamford Hesketh family of Gwrych. In the chancel, a ledger slab set in the floor, with a stringed and stepped cross, late C14. In the S nave, (a) white marble, a grieving maiden resting on an urn, under a willow, to John Jones Bateman of Pentre-mawr and Lincoln's Inn, d.1849. (b) a curtained marble slab with architectural frame containing eulogy, urn with garlands draped to side shields above, gadrooned base and putto below, to Catherine Holland of Hendre-fawr. Undated but c1690. (c) White marble, a kneeling woman holding a large anchor, on a shaped tablet, to Philip Wythan, son of John Bateman, drowned on this coast in 1849. In the S nave, a group of 7 tablets, including a white marble scroll to Janet Ewan of Penrallt, d.1854. In the N nave, stone slab to Henry Pugh, vicar, d.1671, an aedicule with open segmental pediment, putto below, and shield, on painted stone, to William Anwyl, vicar, d.1748 and late vicar Robert Anwyl, d.1816. Various brasses.

Bells: two by Taylor of Loughborough, dated 1887, two of 1844 and one of 1895, a sixth of 1730, and a single sanctus bell of 1723.

Included at Grade II\* as a regionally important church with surviving medieval fabric, and a good collection of monuments. Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust report, n.d., of field visit of Dec 1996; Endersby J H, *Parish Church of St Michael, Abergelle*, revised guide, 1984; Gresham C A, *Medieval Stone Carving in North Wales*, 1986, pp129, 145 and 216. Nos 105, 106, 111, 128 and 196; Hubbard E, *Clwyd, Buildings of Wales* series, 1986, pp97-8; Mostyn Lewis, *Stained Glass in North Wales up to 1850*, 1970, p26 and pl 43 and 44.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database, 2000, ,

Glynne, S R, 1884, "Notes on the older churches in the four Welsh dioceses", *Archaeologia Cambrensis* 1, 95.

Glynne, S R, 1884, "Notes on the older churches in the four Welsh dioceses", *Archaeologia Cambrensis* 1, 95.

Historic Buildings Council for Wales, 1998, ,

Hubbard, E, 1986, *The Buildings of Wales: Clwyd*,

Lloyd-Williams, , *The Architectural Antiquities and Village Churches of Denbighshire*,

Lloyd-Williams & Underwood, 1872, *The Architectural Antiquities and Village Churches of Denbighshire*,

OS record card , 1963 , SH 97 NW 5 ,

RCAHM , 1914 , *Inventory of the ancient monuments of Wales and Monmouth - Denbighshire* , 8-9

Thomas, D R , 1913 , "The Gorthor" , *The Montgomeryshire Collections* 38 , 188 .

Welsh Office , 1950 , ,

Events:-

Visit OS / 1963( / ) - Ecclesiastical

*SMR record created 30/09/84 , last updated 18/10/00*

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**1.5. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.5.1.105484 (part of 16350) - Abergele Church (St Michael), yard

NGR

:-

SH94547764

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

Abergele

*Preferred site type :- Medieval - Churchyard (Structure - Intact )*

Abergele churchyard is flat, of medium size and is basically rectangular in shape. It is bisected by a public footpath edged by railings, running from north-east to south. An obvious extension has been added beyond the former north-western boundary.

The River Gele flows towards the sea about 150m to the east.

Boundary: the boundary consists of a mortared stone wall. This is internally embanked on the east and south-east and has been subsequently terraced. Beyond the wall the ground drops by at least 1m on the south-east and probably 2m on the north-east, while on the north-west the graveyard extension is nearly 1m lower and is separated from the old churchyard by a retaining wall. Only on the south-west is there little apparent difference between the internal and external levels.

Monuments: the churchyard south of the church has been largely cleared leaving only a few chest and other tombs in place.

Many slabs have been used for paving and gravestones have been cleared away to the edges. The earliest graveslab recognised dated to 1733. North of the church the memorials have been left in place, and are uniformly spread though not densely. The earliest is of 1758, but a much worn slab could be of earlier 18thC origin. In the north-western path beyond the footpath graves are more randomly spread and there has been further clearance to the perimeter wall.

Furniture: a sundial east of the path to the lychgate. The dial has St Michael's embossed on it, and with the gnomon could be relatively recent. It is supported on an octagonal pillar on which are carved 'E.J. P.H. 1817 Ch Wds'.

Earthworks etc: foundations of south wall of small annex to south nave survives about 7m from church beside a path.

South of the porch is a faint curving scarp, and to the north of the north nave but discernible only from a distance are the possible traces of something similar. Thus a possibility of a smaller curvilinear churchyard.

Ancillary features: timber lychgate dated to 1887, with twin wooden gates, and decorated barge boards at the front; inscription on a tie-beam truss. Concrete path to porch.

Vegetation: several yews - two on the south, one on the north and one to north-west - but none of any great age. Other bushes, mainly evergreen, around perimeter and that part of the churchyard to the north-west of the footpath has small trees and some undergrowth within it. (CPAT Churches Survey)

Events:-

Visit OS / 1963( / ) - Ecclesiastical

*SMR record created 30/09/84 , last updated 01/08/95*

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**1.6. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.6.1.44322 - Abergele Church, watching brief 2000 (multiple site)

NGR

:-

SH94547764

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

Abergele

*Preferred site type :- 21st century - Watching brief (Event - )*

Watching brief carried out by RP Archaeology in November 2000 during works at St Michael's Church, Abergele. It was

thought that disturbance to burials within the graveyard may have occurred but disturbance was very limited (Parry, R, 2000).

Sources:-

Parry, R , 2000 , *Store & WC at St Michael's Church, Abergele: an archaeological watching brief and record of works* ,

*SMR record created 10/04/01 , last updated 10/04/01*

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### 1.7. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.7.1.41004 - Abergele Community Centre

Listed Building 239 (II )

NGR

SH9437677582

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

Conwy

Community

Preferred site type :- 19th century - School (Building - Intact )

Abergele

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Located at the W side of the centre, facing the road, with the master's house to the rear.

Formerly the Church School, designed 1869-1870 by G E Street, architect of London, and built at the expense of Robert Bamford Hesketh of Gwrych Castle. Altered by the addition of a later corridor in front of the main block providing independent circulation, probably by the same architect. Later it became the Junior School, and was eventually closed in 1972, becoming the Community Centre. It is comparable with the same architect's school at Towyn of 1871, also built at the expense of the Hesketh family.

Gothic former school. Built of polygonal shaped blocks of limestone with oolitic dressings, and a zig-zag patterned blue and green slate roofs with serrated ridge tiles with metal roof ventilators. Two blocks parallel with the road, and forward wings at each end forming a 'U'-plan. The main range has three recessed entrances within segmental headed openings; double panelled doors, the upper half paned. To the left, octagonal ashlar bellcote with an open bell stage, and a stone spire with four small lucarnes. Three stacks with canted shoulders rising to tall octagonal flues. The rear range has two dormers with hipped roofs and iron finials. The windows are stone mullioned with two-centred heads, each light with a trefoil head, five-light and transomed to each forward wing. The sill drip moulding steps over the side door in the rear wing, forming a hood moulding.

The enclosing wall is of limestone, low at the front with flush copings carrying iron railings between end piers, and returns at the sides with heavy stone-on-edge copings.

The front corridor has a open rafter roof, and an arch-braced roof leading to the original main entrance to the cross hall, a pointed arch of 2 chamfered orders and a boarded door with fine ironwork. A similar door leads to the schoolroom on the right. Some original stone fireplaces.

Listed for its special architectural and historic interest as a good example of a larger Church school by a nationally important C19 architect.

Group value with the adjacent Schoolmaster's House.

Hubbard E, Clwyd, Buildings of Wales series, 1986, pp99-100.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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### 1.8. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.8.1.100488 - Abergele Hoard

NGR

SH9477

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

Conwy

Community

Preferred site type :- Roman - Findspot (Finds only - Unknown )

Abergele

A collection of 56 Roman bronze coins dated 260-380 AD found at Abergele. Last reported in Bangor Museum.

Valentinianic and later coins recorded (Davies, J L 1983, 92).

Sources:-

Anon , 1858 , " " , *Archaeologia Cambrensis* , 466 .

Davies, J L , 1983 , "Coinage And Settlement In Roman Wales And The Marches: Some Observations " , *Archaeologia Cambrensis* 132 , 92 .

O'Neil, B H St J , 1935 , "The Abergele hoard of Roman bronze coins " , *The Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies* 7 , 64-72 .

OS record card , 1959 , SH 97 NW 10 ,

Events:-

Visit OS / 1959(/ /) -

Finds:-

56 / Bronze / Coin / Roman / /Bangor Museum ? ( ) - A collection of 56 Roman bronze coins dated 260-380 AD found at Abergele. Last reported in Bangor Museum.

*SMR record created 30/09/84 , last updated 28/10/97*

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### 1.9. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.9.1.25343 - Abergele Junior School

Listed Building 18702 (II )

NGR

SH9437377562

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

Conwy

Community

Abergele

Preferred site type :- **Post Medieval - School** (Building - Unknown )

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

The master's house is set in its own garden behind the school, and is linked to it by a corridor.

Designed by G E Street, and built in 1869-70 at the expense of Robert Bamford Hesketh as part of the Church School group at Abergele, and contemporary with Street's other group for the Hesketh family at Towyn. Now part of the Community Centre for Abergele.

Built of polygonal shaped blocks of limestone with sandstone dressings, and blue slate roofs zig-zag patterned with green slates. Two bay 'L'-plan, the wing containing the former dining room to the W. The E elevation has the N bay gabled, and a part-external stack with sloping shoulders above the eaves to the S bay living room, rising to an octagonal stack. Stair window. The mid-wall string steps up twice over the 4-panelled door in the re-entrant SW angle, and flanked by windows. All windows stone mullioned. A roofed corridor provides a direct link into the school.

Immediately to the NE, contemporary and similarly detailed outbuildings, probably stable and school latrines, provide a picturesque quality.

Dining room in the W wing, separated by the school link corridor from the kitchen at the N end of the main block. Dog-leg stair with splat balusters. The fireplace in the S living room has been replaced.

Included for group value with adjacent former school, both designed by a nationally important architect.

Hubbard E, Clwyd, Buildings of Wales series, 1986, p100.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 31/12/95 , last updated 03/07/96*

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### 1.10. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.10.1. 29274 - Abergele Medieval Town

NGR

SH94557755

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

Conwy

Community

Abergele

Preferred site type :- **Medieval - Urban** area (Buried feature - Unknown )

SMR

record

created

31/12/95

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### 1.11. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.11.1. 100489 - Abergele Monastic Site

NGR :- SH9477

(SH97NW)

Unitary authority :-

Conwy

Community :-

Abergele

Preferred site type :- Dark Age - Clas (Document - Unknown )

AN EARLY MONASTIC ESTABLISHMENT RECORDED AT ABERGELE DATED 856 AD.;

Sources:-

OS record card , 1965 , SH 97 NW 11 ,

Phillips, C W , 1966 , *Dark Age Index* ,

SMR record created 30/09/84

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### 1.12. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.12.1. 41054 - Abergele and Pensarn Railway Station Booking Hall

Listed Building 18703 (II )

NGR :- SH9461078682

(SH97NW)

Unitary authority :-

Conwy

Community :-

Abergele

Preferred site type :- 19th century - Railway station (Building - Intact )

Listed building.

The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database

Station Drive loops off the N side of Marine Road. The Booking Office stands on an eminence on the E side of the bridge over the line, leading to the promenade.

The Chester and Holyhead Railway was opened in 1848. The first booking hall was originally designed by the chief architect, Francis Thompson. After the railway was taken over by the London and North Western Railway Company following the Act of Parliament in 1858, the station was extensively modified in 1883, and altered again when the line was widened in 1902. The present building probably dates from the 1883 works.

Buckley brindled brick on a blue engineering brick plinth, with red brick dressings and a slate roof. The station booking hall building is 1 storey, but 2 storey to the rear, continuing to the E by a lower narrower structure, containing the cloakrooms, of 2 bays. The main S elevation is of 3 window bays, with a high flat roofed timber valenced canopy on cast iron brackets. Large timber windows in cambered-headed openings, and a cambered hood moulding rising from a 3-course outsetting springing band, and a similar band connects the sills. Six course dentilled terracotta cornice. The roof is hipped and has apex finials and a gable stack. The right opening contains a pair of fielded-panelled doors. The continuation to the E is of 3 bays, central pair of doors and flanking windows of similar but simplified detail, and a gable stack.

The elevation to the line is of 4 window bays on the upper level and 3 half-round keyed arches to former storerooms below, 2 of which are now blocked. The W structure had a porter's room and coal store at the lower level.

Matchboarded partitions. A good Pooley 100Kg weighting machine.

Included as a good and relatively unaltered example of a railway building of the 1883 period, using terracotta, one of the group of 4 contemporary buildings at Abergele station.

Anderson C R, and Fox G K, *An Historical Survey of the Chester and Holyhead Railway*, 1984, figs 57-60 and plates 105-107; Popplewell L, *A Gazeteer of the Railway Contractors and Engineers of Wales and the Borders, 1830-1914*, 1984.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

SMR record created 25/09/01

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### 1.13. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.13.1. 41056 - Abergele and Pensarn Station, 'Down' Platform Building

Listed Building 18705 (II )

NGR :- SH9466878708

(SH97NW)

Unitary authority  
Community  
Preferred site type :- 19th century - Railway platform (Structure - Intact )  
Listed building.

Conwy  
Abergele

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

The 'Down' platform building stands to the E of the Booking Hall, at the level of the line.

Built probably in connection with the improvements being made to the line in 1883 when the former Chester and Holyhead Railway was taken over by the London and North Western Railway Company. The building was altered in 1902 when the track was widened, and the canopy cantilevered over the line was removed some time after 1964.

Buckley brindle brick with red brick dressings and blue brick plinth. Slate roof. Single storey, 12 closely set window bays plus 3 additional bays for the cloakrooms at the E end. The openings are segmental headed with a 3-course brick keystone, and the arrises having sunk ovolo mouldings. Terracotta hood mould joins the dropped ends. Timber windows, and bays 1, 4, 6, 9 and 14 are extended down as door openings. Terracotta five-course cornice with moulded corbel table and coved cyma. Hipped slate roof. Two brick stacks with outsetting heads. At the W end, an open goods handling area, timber framed, with diagonal boarding and high level glazing, with iron columns supporting the valenced flat roof. The three bays at the E end are narrower, and have a saddle roof ventilator.

Not accessible at the time of inspection.

Included as a well preserved building at Abergele Station with good terracotta detailing, one of four such buildings forming a group.

Anderson C R, and Fox G K, An Historical Survey of the Chester and Holyhead Railway, 1984, figs 57-60 and plates 105-107.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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#### 1.14. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.14.1. 41055 - Abergele and Pensarn Station, 'Up' Platform Building.

Listed Building 18704 (II )

NGR

SH9464478742

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

Community

Conwy

Preferred site type :- 19th century - Railway platform (Structure - Intact )

Abergele

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

The 'Up' platform building is on the N side of the track at Abergele Station, and is gained by a path from the overbridge to the W.

Probably built 1883 for the London and North Western Railway Company, for their improvements to the former Chester and Holyhead Railway station. The line at the rear, by the beach, was used for camping coaches.

Buckley brindle brick with red brick dressings on a blue brick plinth. Slate roof. Six bays, with door in the second bay from each end. Detail as the 'Down' platform building. Roof hipped and gable stacks. An open roofed goods handling area at the W end, of timber framing, with a valenced flat roof supported on iron columns, and high level glazing on 2 sides.

Waiting room and cloakrooms.

Included as one of a group of well preserved mid-later C19 railway station buildings.

Anderson C R, and Fox G K, An Historical Survey of the Chester and Holyhead Railway, 1984, figs 57-60 and plates 105-107.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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**1.15. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.15.1. 81717 - Abergele chapel

NGR

SH94547766

(SH97NW)

Community

Preferred site type :- Medieval ? - Chapel (Building - Unknown )

first alternative :- Dark Age ? - Chapel

Former chapel which was sited in Abergele churchyard. Unknown dedication. (Lhuyd)

Thomas describes the foundations of a building on the south wall of the church, west of the priest's door. He suggests that this is the building to which Lhuyd refers, but disagrees with the interpretation, believing it to be a priest's lodging which David ap Kynwric was required to build in 1304. (Thomas, 1913c, 190)

*SMR record created 15/06/01 , last updated 23/10/03**The above data are supplied by CPAT in partnership with its Local Authorities and the partners of END,**© CPAT SMR partnership, 2003 (and in part © Crown, 2003)*

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**1.16. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.16.1. 100481 - Abergele coin I

NGR

SH9477

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

Community

Preferred site type :- Roman - Findspot (Finds only - Unknown )

Coin of Hadrian (?) found at Abergele,

Sources:-

OS record card , 1959 , SH 97 NW 3 ,

Unknown , 1925 , , 266

Events:-

Visit OS / 1959( / ) -

Finds:-

1 / Metal / Coin / Roman / / ( ) - Coin of Hadrian (?) found at Abergele,

*SMR record created 30/09/84 , last updated 28/10/97**The above data are supplied by CPAT in partnership with its Local Authorities and the partners of END,**© CPAT SMR partnership, 2003 (and in part © Crown, 2003)*

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**1.17. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.17.1. 100484 - Abergele coin II

NGR

SH9477

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

Community

Preferred site type :- Roman - Findspot (Finds only - Unknown )

Denarius of Vespasian 69-70AD found at Abergele. Location unknown.

Sources:-

Davies, E , 1949 , *Prehistoric and Roman Remains of Flintshire* , 430

OS record card , 1959 , SH 97 NW 6 ,

Events:-

Visit OS / 1959( / ) -

Finds:-

1 / Metal / Coin / Roman / / ( ) - Denarius of Vespasian 69-70AD

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**1.18. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.18.1. 44821 - Abergele finds

NGR

SH9577

(SH97NE)

*Preferred site type :- Bronze Age - Find (Finds only - Unknown )*

Finds recorded by National Museum &amp; Galleries of Wales catalogue.

Finds:-

0 / Bronze / Axehead / Bronze Age / /NMW (25.202/1) -

*SMR record created 22/06/02 , last updated 23/10/03**The above data are supplied by CPAT in partnership with its Local Authorities and the partners of END,**@ CPAT SMR partnership, 2003 (and in part @ Crown, 2003)*

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**1.19. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.19.1. 44822 - Abergele finds

NGR

SH9577

(SH97NE)

*Preferred site type :- Unknown - Find (Finds only - Unknown )*

Finds recorded by National Museum &amp; Galleries of Wales catalogue.

Finds:-

0 / Stone / Object / Unknown / /NMW (44.315/22) -

*SMR record created 22/06/02 , last updated 23/10/03**The above data are supplied by CPAT in partnership with its Local Authorities and the partners of END,**@ CPAT SMR partnership, 2003 (and in part @ Crown, 2003)*

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**1.20. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.20.1. 19359 - Abergele, 'The Pen-y-Bont Inn'

Listed Building 14769 (II )

NGR

SH9472477547

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

Community

Conwy  
Abergele*Preferred site type :- 19th century ? - Public house (Building - Intact )*

Early to mid 19th century late Georgian Inn said to have been built in 1820s. Later alterations. Two storey and attic, 3 window central block with gabled dormers and two-storey splayed bays flanking the central entrance. Casement windows to attic, small-pane sash glazing below. Cross range backing onto river. Flat carriage arch with keystone and boarded gates. Modernised cross-range, formerly stables. Listed building (Cadw 1994).

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Situated in the centre of Abergele, immediately beside the Gele Bridge and close to the junction of Bridge Street and Market Street.

Early to mid C19 late-Georgian inn said to have been built in 1820's; and with later alterations.

Painted roughcast stone front with slate roof, red brick gable chimneys and overhanging eaves. Two-storey and attic, 3-window central block with gabled dormers and 2-storey splayed bays flanking the central entrance; the sills of the bays are at plinth level and the ground floor glazing bars have been removed. Casement windows to attic and small-pane sash glazing below, mostly horned; 16-pane window to centre over the central entrance, which has a bracketed hood and modern door with overlight. One-window extension to left, stepped down with hipped roof, horned 12-pane sash and offset doorway. The ground floor is deeply cut back, and behind there is a rubble cross range backing on to the river. To right, where the eaves have been raised, is a flat carriage arch with keystone and boarded gates; 12-pane sash over. Gable stacks. Rear has sliding-sash attic windows, one small-pane sash and an extension; modernised cross range, formerly stables.

Listed for the special architectural quality that distinguishes the late-Georgian front.

Sources:-

Cadw , 1994 , ,

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 31/12/94 , last updated 18/06/99*

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### 1.21. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.21.1. 70758 - Abergele, 24/26 Market Street, watching brief, 1994

NGR SH94587759

Unitary authority

Community

(SH97NW)

Conwy

Abergele

Preferred site type :- 20th century - Watching brief (Event - )

Watching brief carried out by CPAT curatorial in January 1994 during ground preparation work for the erection of 2 flats.

Traces of C19th rear yard structures and boundary wall alignments were revealed. A flag floor at the southern end of the development plot was recorded and presumed to be a similar date. Underneath these features was a layer of sand, thought to be natural. Only finds recovered were Victorian pottery and bottle glass (DC, 1994).

Sources:-

DC, 1994, ,

SMR record created 18/06/99

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### 1.22. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.22.1. 105476 - Abergele, Harp Inn

NGR SH9477

Unitary authority

Community

(SH97NW)

Conwy

Abergele

Preferred site type :- Post Medieval - Public house (Building - Unknown )

SMR record created 03/07/96 last updated 03/07/96

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### 1.23. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.23.1. 25344 - Abergele, Lodge, Rhuddland Road and Coed-y-drive

Listed Building 233 (II\* )

NGR SH9394277556

Unitary authority

Community

(SH97NW)

Conwy

Abergele

Preferred site type :- Post Medieval - Lodge (Building - Unknown )

The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database

Located at the W end of the town, at the junction of a lane to Tan-y-Gopa and Betws-yn-Rhos.

Gwrych Castle was created from 1816 onwards by Lloyd Bamford Hesketh in association with Thomas Rickman who is best known for his writings on Gothic architecture. The boundary wall, with its various lodges and gates probably followed the main building's completion in c1822, although works continued until c1850.

Built of uncoursed limestone rubble, with squared dressings and slate roofs. Twin drum towers in the manner of the Edwardian castles of North Wales, rising to a deep crenellated parapet set forward on corbel brackets suggesting machicolations. Between the towers, the outer gate has a 4-centred chamfered arch, and above, the family arms on a shield. Behind the towers, a small open court in a barbican, leading to the inner gate set in a tall rear wall with a similar carriage arch, and to each sides lower walls. Pointed arched doors give access to the lodges on each side, each of which has an upper floor Perpendicular style cast iron windows facing W towards the park, on the outer side of each tower. From the rear walls lead at right angles both sides to miniature corner towers, which are then connected directly to the enclosing park wall, q.v.

Included as a conspicuous landmark, and Graded II\* as the main entrance to the park; an exemplar of the fashion for castellated structures of the time, and with important group value with the castle and other structures on the Gwrych Estate.

Hubbard E, Clwyd, Buildings of Wales series, 1986, p178.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database, 2000, ,

SMR record created 31/12/95, last updated 03/07/96

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#### 1.24. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.24.1. 31239 - Abergele, Market Hall

Listed Building 5/26 (II)

NGR

:-

SH946775

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

Abergele

Preferred site type :- 19th century - Market hall (Building -)

Listed building

The following is CPAT's transcription of the current Cadw Listing description - IT IS NOT DEFINATIVE

Large mid C19 building in Gothic style with a symmetrical elevation. Three storeys and attic. Ten windows. Red brick. Slate roof. The centre portion projects slightly with 4 pointed sash windows on the first floor and a tower over with 3 tiny pointed windows at attic level and pavilion roof above. Gable on each side with 3 pointed windows on second floor. The ground floor has been altered for modern shop fronts.

SMR record created 19/11/93 , last updated 11/08/00

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#### 1.25. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.25.1. 44455 - Abergele, Market Street 45-47, well

NGR

:-

SH9452077540

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

Abergele

Preferred site type :- Medieval ? - Well (Structure - Unknown)

Well at rear of 45-47 Market Street adjacent to The Harp pub. Spotted and photographed by a member of the public during construction work for an extension. Made of water-worn stones, 4-5m deep and c.0.75m wide, stone slab cap. Lies within the footprint of the extension to 45 Market Street adjacent to the party wall with No. 43. Now covered over with concrete slab.

Sources:-

Adams, S , 2002 , ,

SMR record created 15/10/02 , last updated 24/10/02

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#### 1.26. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.26.1. 31240 - Abergele, Market Street Nos 51 53

Listed Building 14:17/17 (II)

NGR

:-

SH944775

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

Abergele

Preferred site type :- 19th century - House (Building -)

Listed building

The following is CPAT's transcription of the current Cadw Listing description - IT IS NOT DEFINATIVE

Near the western edge of the town centre. Detached pair stepped forward to the street to the right of The Harp PH and almost opposite lane to Parish Church.

History: Dated 1827 and initialled 'WMW'. No 51 became a Medical Hall perhaps contemporary with the later C19 renovation that included present rendering.

Exterior: Late-Georgian, 3-storey commercial pair with roughcast front and cement rendered dressings including end pilaster strips and band courses. Slate roof, in poor condition to left and felted to right; later C19 red brick chimney stacks to ends and right of centre. 5-window front with 9 and 12-pane sashes. It was probably originally a 6-window front with the left end windows having been blocked at the time of the renovation in order to make space for the fine advertising panel that is set within a shouldered border; the white plaster background is inscribed with black lettering and reads:

"Medical Hall. D.L.Morgans Phc. M.P.S. F.B.O.A. Dispensing Chemist Consulting Optician Established 1820".

Cemented architraves to all windows, two missing. The ground floor has shop fronts to either end and central window and domestic 6-panel door with trellised Regency overlight. Morgans shop front to left has bracket fascia ends over ribbed

pilasters and panelled stallriser; Art Nouveau glass overlights with half-glazed type door. Probably later shopfront to right with idiosyncratic timber brackets to deeply ramped fascia; small-pane overlights and broader windows. On 1-window left end Morgans has a C20 shopfront; similar windows to 1-window right gable end. No 53 is stepped back at rear. Listed as a good Late-Georgian building in the town centre of Abergele together with the special interest of Morgans sign.

SMR record created 09/11/93

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#### 1.27. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.27.1. 44457 - Abergele, Market Street, The Harp public house, two wells  
 NGR SH9450377540 (SH97NW)  
 Unitary authority Conwy  
 Community Abergele  
 Preferred site type :- Medieval ? - Well (Buried feature - Unknown )  
 Two wells (no details) beneath The Harp public house, now covered (Buildings Regulations Officer, Conwy County Borough Council, 2002).

SMR record created 24/10/02, last updated 28/10/02

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#### 1.28. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.28.1. 105477 - Abergele, Old Chapel  
 NGR SH94507781 (SH97NW)  
 Unitary authority Conwy  
 Community Abergele  
 Preferred site type :- Post Medieval - Chapel (Building - Unknown )  
 SMR record created 13/11/96 last updated 13/11/96  
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#### 1.29. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.29.1. 100487 - Abergele, Peel, The Mount  
 Scheduled Ancient Monument De031(CON)  
 NGR SH94757767 (SH97NW)  
 Unitary authority Conwy  
 Community Abergele  
 Preferred site type :- Medieval ? - Moated site ? (Earthwork - Intact )  
 SLIGHT REMAINS OF A SMALL SQUARE ENCLOSURE. NOW JUST AN EARTHEN PLATFORM 30M APPROX &  
 ACROSS 1.2M HIGH. FIRST MENTIONED 1334. PRECISE FUNCTION NOTKNOWN. POSSIBLY A CASTLE OF SOME  
 FORM. S D 31.

Sources:-

Cadw AM107 , 1985-96 , ,  
 Cadw map , 1997 , De031 ,  
 Cadw AM107 , 2003 , DE031(WRE) ,  
 Lhuyd, E , 1699 , *Parochialia* , 42-3  
 Manley, J, Greuter, S & Gale, F , 1991 , *The Archaeology of Clwyd* , 172  
 OS record card , 1963 , SH 97 NW 9 ,  
 RCAHM , 1914 , *Inventory of the ancient monuments of Wales and Monmouth - Denbighshire* , 9-10  
 Spurgeon, C J , 1980 , "Plas Allar, Montgomeryshire " , *Archaeology in Wales* 20 , 83 .  
 Williams, E W , 1968 , *Abergele, the story of a parish* ,

Events:-

Visit Cadw / 1985(11/07/85) -  
 Visit Cadw / 1990(20/07/90) -  
 Visit Cadw / 1996(10/10/96) - Pasture A

Visit Cadw / 2002(18/09/02) -

SMR record created 30/06/86 , last updated 10/09/02

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### 1.30. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.30.1. 25008 - Abergele, telephone box outside the Harp Inn, Market St

Listed Building 271 (II)

NGR

:-

SH9450377561

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Community

:-

Conwy

Abergele

Preferred site type :- 20th century - Telephone kiosk (Structure - Intact )

The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database

Set into angle of buildings on wide pavement outside the Harp Inn; D L Morgan's Medical Hall stands forward on the right.

K6-type square, red kiosk of cast-iron construction to the standard design of Giles Gilbert Scott, architect of London, a design introduced by the GPO in 1936. This example was probably installed after the Second World War. Foundry plate inscribed:

"Carron Company, Stirlingshire".

Domed roof with 4 lunettes containing embossed crowns over red lettered opals and ventilation slits. Raised surrounds to sides and door with marginal bars to horizontal glazing. Blank rear, with symmetrical cable outlets each side, moulded plinth; and modernised telephone equipment.

Group value with adjoining listed building, and in a good townscape location in the centre of the town.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

SMR record created 31/12/95 , last updated 05/07/96

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### 1.31. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.31.1. 101995 - Berth Topic palstave

NGR

:-

SH95307737

(SH97NE)

Unitary

authority

:-

Community

:-

Conwy

Abergele

Preferred site type :- Bronze Age - Findspot (Finds only - Unknown )

Looped palstave found near Berth Topic in 1842. Found in the same field as a hoard of Roman coins and found in the same year (PRN 109996).

Savory 172. NMW 25.202/1.

Sources:-

Davies, E , 1929 , *The Prehistoric and Roman remains of Denbighshire* , 39

Grimes, W F , 1951 , *Prehistory of Wales* , 178 453

OS record card , 1959 , SH 97 NE 2 ,

Savory, H N , 1980 , *Guide Catalogue of the Bronze Age Collections* , 106

Events:-

Visit OS / 1959(/ /) -

Finds:-

1 / Bronze / Axehead / Bronze Age / Savory 172/NMW (perm.loan from UCW, Aberystwyth) (25.202.1) - Looped with single rib on blade. L175mm, width 74.5mm. Of "Cemmaes" metal.

SMR record created 30/09/84 , last updated 01/03/90

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### 1.32. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.32.1. 41015 - Bowden House

Listed Building 18663 (II)

NGR

:-

SH9457077500

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

Preferred site type :- 19th century - House (Building - Intact)

Abergele

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Chapel Street runs S from the town centre. The house stands 200m S of the junction, before a side entry to the rear.

Built c1820 as a substantial town dwelling house.

Built of coursed limestone with a slate roof. Three storeys and cellar, 3-bays, symmetrical with gable brick stacks. Central 4-panelled door with decorative overlight, raised 2 steps from the pavement, and 12-pane sashes to either side on ground and first floors. Painted stone sills. The top floor has smaller 9-pane sashes. To the rear, a narrow 2-storey service wing on the N side.

Included as a handsome and unaltered Georgian style town house of architectural quality.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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### 1.33. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.33.1. 101996 - Bron Y Berllan Farm Coin Hoard

NGR

:-

SH95307738

(SH97NE)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

Preferred site type :- Roman - Hoard (coin) (Finds only - Unknown)

Abergele

HOARD OF ROMAN SILVER COINS FOUND 1842 IN A POT ON BRON Y BERLLAN FARM. NUMBER AT LEAST 800 COINS DATE RANGE FROM NERO TO SEVERUS DATE OF BURIAL AFTER AD 201. 389 OF THE COINS ARE IN UCNW MUSEUM BANGOR.

Sources:-

Davies, E , 1929 , *The Prehistoric and Roman remains of Denbighshire* , 44-7

Davis, W , 1857 , *Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd* , 39

Lynch, F , 1986 , *Catalogue of archaeological material, Museum of Welsh Antiquities, Bangor* , 80

OS record card , 1959 , SH 97 NE 3 ,

Robertson, A S , 1937 , "A hoard of Roman silver from Abergele, Denbighshire ", *The Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies* 8 , 188-201 .

Events:-

Visit OS / 1959(/ / ) -

Finds:-

800 / Silver / Coin hoard / Roman / / Bangor University College Museum ( ) - HOARD OF ROMAN SILVER COINS FOUND 1842 IN A POT ON BRON Y BERLLAN FARM. NUMBER AT LEAST 800 COINS DATE RANGE FROM NERO TO SEVERUS DATE OF B

*SMR record created 30/11/86 , last updated 28/08/03*

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### 1.34. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.34.1. 41016 - Church of St Teresa of Lisieux

Listed Building 18664 (II)

NGR

:-

SH9461577897

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

Abergele

*Preferred site type :- 20th century - Church (Building - Intact )*  
Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Located N of the town centre, on the corner of Clwyd Avenue.

Built in 1934 to the design of G Rinvolucr, an Italian immigrant architect living in Conwy, who later built a church in similar style in Ludlow. Altered in 1971 by Bowen, Dann, Davies, when the tabernacle and font by Victor Neep were installed. Built of limestone, with copper sheet roof cladding. Cruciform plan, all arms terminating in semi-circular apses. The entrance arm is extended, and has a triple semi-circular arched arcade on a raised podium with marble columns and Byzantine style capitals. Apses and the entrance arm have triplets of round-headed small windows set high in the walls, and above, the parapet is outset on a corbel table. Central dome with apex cross, and barrel vaults to the arms, semi-domes over the apses. The interior is simple; plastered walls and high un moulded arched openings to the wings, and smaller arches to the apses. The splay of the main piers supporting the dome have simple niches. The eastern apse is raised, with a priest's door to the left, and marble pavings. The baptistery in the E apse has radially set grey slate pavings and a boldly designed font of 1971 by Victor Neep. The Chapel of St Teresa in the W apse has an octagonal slate floor. The entrance arm is ceiled, above which is the choir gallery.

Included for its special interest as a prominently sited and distinctively Byzantine style inter-war church.

Hubbard E, Clwyd, Buildings of Wales series, 1986, p98.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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#### 1.35. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.35.1. 100480 - Clwyd Avenue Stone Axe Abergele

NGR :- SH94717789

Unitary authority :-

Community :-

(SH97NW)  
Conwy  
Abergele

*Preferred site type :- Neolithic - Findspot (Finds only - Unknown )*

POLISHED STONE AXE 0.2M LONG OF CRAIG LWYD.STONE FOUND WHILST DIGGING A SEWER ALONG CLWYD AVENUE ABERGELE.FORMERLY IN ABERGELE COUNTY SCHOOL MUSEUM. COLLECTION ALL NOW LOST.

Sources:-

Davies, E , 1929 , *The Prehistoric and Roman remains of Denbighshire* , 27-8

Glenn, T A & Piggot, S , 1935 , "Distribution of the Graig Lwyd Axe and its associated cultures " , *Archaeologia Cambrensis* 90 , 216 .

OS record card , 1959 , SH 97 NW 2 .

Events:-

Visit OS / 1959( / ) -

Finds:-

1 / Stone / Axehead / Neolithic / /Abergele County School Museum - lost ( ) - POLISHED STONE AXE 0.2M LONG OF CRAIG LWYD.STONE FOUND WHILST DIGGING A SEWER ALONG CLWYD AVENUE ABERGELE.FORMERLY IN ABERGELE COUNTY SCHOOL

*SMR record created 30/09/84*

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#### 1.36. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.36.1. 100482 - Delwyn Coin Abergele

NGR :- SH94707722

Unitary authority :-

Community :-

(SH97NW)  
Conwy  
Abergele

*Preferred site type :- Roman - Findspot (Finds only - Unknown )*

A COIN OF GALBA FOUND 1935 IN THE GARDEN OF DELWYN HIGH STREET ABERGELE.IT WAS GIVEN TO THE SCHOOL MUSEUM NOW LOST.

Sources:-

Davies, E , 1949 , *Prehistoric and Roman Remains of Flintshire* , 430

OS record card , 1959 , SH 97 NW 4 ,

Events:-

Visit OS / 1959(/ /) -

Finds:-

1 / Bronze ? / Coin / Roman / /Abergele County School Museum - lost () - A COIN OF GALBA FOUND 1935 IN THE GARDEN OF DELWYN HIGH STREET ABERGELE.IT WAS GIVEN TO THE SCHOOL MUSEUM NOW LOST.

*SMR record created 30/09/84*

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#### 1.37. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.37.1. 41035 - Eglwys Crist Addoldy'r Annibynnwy

Listed Building 18684 (II )

NGR

:-

SH9455277858

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

Abergele

*Preferred site type :- 19th century - Nonconformist chapel (Building - Intact )*

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

The chapel is set on the corner of Dundonald Avenue and Pleasant Place, on the N side of the town centre.

Built in 1860-1861 by T Roger Smith, architect of London for the Congregational community at Abergele.

Built of polygonal local limestone with ashlar dressings, with a distinctive timber framed clerestory and a steep slated roof.

Nave with aisles both sides, and a steeple at the SE corner. Vestry at right angles at the W end, opening into Pleasant Place.

Four bays of paired lancet windows, with moulded cast iron paned glazing. The clerestory has paired windows with a lozenge at the centre of the iron glazing, now blank. Between each pair, a weatherboard infilled trefoil panel. The tower rises above the main door, set in a moulded frame. Diagonal buttresses and a tall upper stage with 2 lancets on each face, and a short 3-light bell stage. A ballflower enriched stone cornice forms the base of the broach spire. The E gable end has 3 lancets, and above, 3 quatrefoils in a large gable light, repeated above the vestry roof at the W end.

Impressive timber arcade of 4 bays, with braces to the arcade plates, supporting the open rafter roofs. Raised pulpit, behind which is a painted arch over the organ, with a painted inscription around. Curved set fawr.

Included as an architecturally unusual building, designed to resemble a conventional anglican church, and the earliest chapel in the town remaining in its original condition. Of group value with The Castle PH at the northern approach to the town.

Hubbard E, Clwyd, Buildings of Wales series, 1986, p98.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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#### 1.38. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.38.1. 41014 - Eglwys Mynydd Seion

Listed Building 18662 (II )

NGR

:-

SH9453177396

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

Abergele

*Preferred site type :- 19th century - House (Building - Intact )*

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Chapel Street runs S from the centre of the town. The chapel is set on an elevated platform, almost opposite the junction with High Street.

The Calvinistic Methodist chapel was rebuilt in 1867-8 at the instigation of Y Parch William Roberts to replace the earlier smaller chapel of 1791 close to the same site. The present building was designed by Richard Owens, chapel architect of Liverpool, at the expense of David Roberts, timber merchant of Liverpool, and developer in Abergele, and cost £1803 15s (≈1,803.75p). Richard Owens was employed as surveyor to David Roberts, whose offices in Liverpool he planned; he is best known as one of the most prolific chapel architects having designed over 250. This chapel now serves the Welsh Presbyterian community.

Early Gothic style. Built of rock-faced black basaltic stone, probably from Penmaenmawr, with sharply contrasting Bath oolitic limestone dressings, and a slate roof. The main S front has a gabled central section with 3 close-set Gothic 2-light windows, a roundel in the apex, and lean-to narthex-porch, gabled over the central moulded doorcase, which is angled at the head. Buttresses at either side of the door rise as pinnacles, and triple windows each side with pierced balustrade over. The central section is extended each side as 2-storey stair wings; similar 2-light windows with quatrefoil heads, the upper windows gabled.

The E side, facing Chapel Street, has three 2-light windows beyond the stair wing, separated by buttresses, and gabled transepts at the N end, having triple tall lancets with quatrefoil heads and a gable oculus. The N end terminates in a polygonal apse with a hipped roof, and almost detached, a vestry set at right angles under a separate roof.

The main body of the chapel is of 4 bays, slightly tapering to the N, before the transepts. Plastered walls and a six-sided boarded vaulted ceiling on trusses extended down by wall shafts to corbels. A west gallery stands on octagonal cast iron columns. The arch behind the pulpit contains an organ and console by P Conacher, with a Gothic case. The octagonal pulpit is set forward from its access gallery which has flights of 5 steps at each end, all set in a semi-circular set fawr with a pitch-pine balustrade.

The pews are in pitch pine, set on a slightly raked floor, and laid out in 3 banks, with further pews in the transepts, totaling some 510 places plus the gallery. Doors either side of the organ lead to the vestry and side entrance.

The entrance narthex has patterned stained glass windows, and triple arches supporting the S wall of the chapel.

Listed as a distinctive and well-preserved chapel by a notable chapel architect.

Williams E W, Hanes Eglwys Mynydd Seion Abergele, 1968, pp67-81; Hubbard E, Clwyd, Buildings of Wales series, 1986, p98-9.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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### 1.39. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.39.1. 41047 - English Presbyterian Church

Listed Building 18696 (II )

NGR

:-

SH9491578664

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

Preferred site type :- 19th century - Church (Building - Intact )

Abergele

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Located near the centre of Pensarn, on the corner of Berllan.

Built 1877-8 by Richard Owens, architect of Liverpool, at the expense of John Roberts of Bryngwenallt, son of the benefactor of Mynydd Seion, to serve the growing English speaking community of the seaside town. Richard Owens had a long association with the Roberts family having been surveyor to John's father, David Roberts, in Liverpool and he is best known as one of the most prolific chapel architects having designed over 250.

Early Gothic style. Built of polygonal shaped blocks of limestone with ashlar oolitic dressings, and blue slate roof with green fish-scale slate bands. The main N front has a gabled porch between raking buttresses extending the side walls, and a pair of doors with a quatrefoil in the arch tympanum over. The N end of the body of the chapel is gabled between pinnacled

buttresses, and has a large low-set wheel window, and decorative panelwork in the apex of the gable. The main body of the church is of 3 bays, the N bay with a hipped roof on a corbel table. Two-light windows with foiled heads. At the S end transepts with similar triple windows. Short square-ended chancel with a 5-light window, and the vestry tucked into the SW angle.

The interior has plastered walls and a painted barrel vault carried on deeply coved sides, all boarded, the main vault with moulded ribs forming squares, and hammer beams with short shafts to wall corbels. Centre and side pews of pine. The altar table with an octagonal font at the side, all set behind an arcaded communion rail. Against the back wall, 7 seats for elders, with high panelled backs and shaped arm rests.

Glass: the S window has stained glass figures figuring the prophets, under canopies.

Organ, by P Conacher, set in a Gothic case.

Included as a robust design from this prolific chapel architect.

Hubbard E, Clwyd, Buildings of Wales series, 1986, p99.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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#### **1.40. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.40.1. 41011 - Estate Boundary Wall to Gwrych Castle Park (part in Abergele Community)

Listed Building 18659 (II )

NGR

-

authority

SH9390077500

(SH97NW)

Unitary

Community

Preferred site type :- 19th century - Estate wall (Structure - Intact )

Listed building.

Conwy  
Abergele

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Gwrych Castle lies in parkland immediately W of Abergele. The wall forms the park boundary, extending into Llanddulas and Rhyd-y-foel and Betws-yn-rhos communities.

Gwrych Castle was created from 1816 onwards by Lloyd Barnford Hesketh in association with Thomas Rickman who is best known for his writings on Gothic architecture. The boundary wall, with its various lodges and gates probably followed the main building's completion in c1822, although works continued until c1850.

Built of uncoursed local limestone. Approximately 3.2m high, capped with an oversailing stone-on-edge coping, the stones laid alternately vertically and lengthways to produce a rugged effect sometimes known as "cock and hen" pattern. The wall included in this community extends from the King's Lodge to 29338 37718 where it passes into Llanddulas community, reduced in one place for the golf club, and from the King's Lodge along the A547 to 29283 37808, short of Hen Wrych farm lodge, this stretch reduced only in one place 100m W of the Kings Lodge to provide a secondary drive.

Included as a vital element in the setting of the Grade I Gwrych Castle, one of the few mostly complete park boundaries in Wales and, with its lodges, a monument of special interest in the history of the picturesque movement.

Hubbard E, Clwyd, Buildings of Wales series, 1986, p176.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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#### **1.41. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.41.1. 101997 - Ffynon Elwoc

NGR

-

authority

SH95267719

(SH97NE)

Unitary

Community

Preferred site type :- Medieval ? - Well (Structure - Intact )

Conwy  
Abergele

FFYNON ELWOC GRASS COVERED BUT WITH A STONE SLAB COVERING A WATER FILLED BRICK LINED

CHAMBER OF UNKNOWN DEPTH.NOW A METAL PIPE IN CONCRETE MARKS THE SITE.

Sources:-

Ellis, J R , 1948 , *A history of Abergele and district* , 15

Gould & Fisher , 1908 , , 432

OS record card , 1959 , SH 97 NE 4 ,

RCAHM , 1914 , *Inventory of the ancient monuments of Wales and Monmouth - Denbighshire* , 5

Events:-

Visit OS / 1959( / ) -

*SMR record created 30/09/84*

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#### 1.42. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.42.1. 41007 - Former Medical Hall

Listed Building 277 (II )

NGR :- SH9449477562

Unitary authority :-

Community

Prefered site type :- 19th century - House (Building - Intact )

(SH97NW)  
Conwy  
Abergele

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Located to the W of the centre of the town, almost opposite Church Street, stepping forward from the Harp PH immediately E.

Dated 1827 and initialled WMW. No 51 became a Medical Hall probably at the same time as the improvements of the later C19.

Listed as a good late Georgian style building in the town centre, with special interest for the evidence of its history in the painted advertising sign.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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#### 1.43. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.43.1. 41008 - Glan Aber

Listed Building 14544 (II )

NGR :- SH9408577544

Unitary authority :-

Community

Prefered site type :- 19th century - House (Building - Intact )

(SH97NW)  
Conwy  
Abergele

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

On the western edge of Abergele, immediately beyond the Police Station, and set back in its own large gardens, approached by a curving driveway

An earlier C19 house, shown on the Abergele Tithe Map of 1840, with some Victorian alterations.

The house consists of two-storeys and attic. Built of scribe-stuccoed stonework, with slate roofs, and painted stone chimneys with protruding round neck mouldings. The 4-window gabled front has Tudor detailing including shaped bargeboards and labels to the main windows; there is also a stone plinth from which spring brackets for the sill to the ground floor left window which is set in a splayed recess. Mostly sash windows, some 4-pane following removal of glazing bars but one 12-pane retained to right; horned to attic and over entrance. The porch and the bay window to its right are added. The porch has octagonal stone pillars and a hipped roof with ironwork cresting and the bay window has a broad central mullion and supports a balcony with tall wrought-iron parapet; access is from the upper floor French window. Panelled front door with diamond-shaped central panel and rectangular overlight. Left end has two part-external lateral chimney breasts and a central gable with sash window and Tudor label. Right end has a splayed corner, 16-pane sash windows and lean-to with panelled door;

cresting to conservatory. Similar gabled rear with plain bargeboards and central staircase lean-to; horned sashes and splayed bay with cresting.

Listed for its special interest as an earlier C19 villa with its historic character and detail well-preserved.

Group value with the adjacent Stables and Coach-house at Glan Aber.

1840 Abergele Tithe Map by William Blamire and J N Butler.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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#### **1.44. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.44.1. 41013 - Lych Gate to Church of St Michael

Listed Building 18661 (II )

NGR SH9453077600

(SH97NW)

Unitary authority

Conwy

Community

Abergele

Preferred site type :- 19th century - Lych gate (Building - Intact )

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Church Street leads off Market Street at the centre of the town. The lychgate is at the entrance to the churchyard at the end of the road.

The lychgate was erected in 1887 at the same time as the church porch in commemoration of Queen Victoria's golden jubilee.

Built with timber framing, with a slate roof. Framed side panels with curved braces to ground sills, and Gothic tracery set in the frame panels. One centre and two outer king-post truss with curved struts. The roof, which descends low each side, has elaborately carved bargeboards, terminal crosses and an oak carved figure of St Michael and the Dragon in an aedicule, mounted on a bracket at the entrance front. Inscribed on the outer tie beam HTR/ QUEEN'S 1887 JUBILEE. A centrally placed pair of gates has open trefoil panelwork, and iron spiked crestings.

Included as an elaborate and well proportioned lychgate, of group value with the grade II\* church.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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#### **1.45. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.45.1. 41048 - Monument to the great rail disaster of 1868 in the Churchyard of Church of St Mi

Listed Building 18697 (II )

NGR SH9455077670

(SH97NW)

Unitary authority

Conwy

Community

Abergele

Preferred site type :- 19th century - Commemorative monument (Structure - Intact )

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

The monument is set against the eastern churchyard wall, on the N side of the Church of St Michael.

The monument is to commemorate the loss of 33 victims of the rail accident near Abergele which happened on 20th August 1868, amongst whom were Lord Farnham, Rev Sir Nicholas Chinnery, Judge Berwick and others. The Irish mail train collided with three runaway goods trucks loaded with barrels of paraffin. The monument was erected probably at the expense of John Roberts, local benefactor, as the materials used are very similar to his father's monument at Mynydd Seion and his house at Bryngwenallt.

A granite tablet inscribed with cut and gilded lettering, set between pink granite columns supporting a gabled head, the soffit trefoil shaped over the tablet itself, and bearing gilded lettering and IHS monogram. The monument is set on a twice chamfered stone plinth and is enclosed by an elongated burial ground, approximately 19m x 3m, defined by limestone posts

and iron chains.

Included as a monument of significance in the history of Abergele, and for group value with the Church of St Michael.  
Baughan P E, A Regional History of the Railways of Great Britain, Vol XI - North and Mid Wales, 1980, pp31-2.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01 , last updated 04/09/03*

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#### 1.46. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.46.1. 41050 - National Westminster Bank

Listed Building 18699 (II )

NGR

:-

SH9450277580

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

Abergele

Preferred site type :- 20th century - Bank (financial) (Building - Intact )

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

The building stands on the W corner of Church Street, in the centre of the town.

Built in 1924 for the National Provincial Bank, to the design of the Bank's architect, F C R Palmer.

Ashlar sandstone, with a slated roof. Single storey, with a symmetrical front to Market Street, composed of heavy rusticated quoins, a central door set in a Gibbsian surround, with a stepped keystone, pulvinating frieze and cornice, above which is a bold sculpted swag. To either side tall cross windows with leaded panes in timber frames, also set in similar Gibbsian surrounds. The frieze crowning the elevation, originally with applied lettering, has a cornice and balustrated parapet of 3 bays, concealing the hipped roof. The Church Street elevation is similar, with two windows and a 2-bay balustrated parapet, returning approximately 1m at the rear.

The dignified banking hall is tall, with a panelled dado and above, bolection moulded panelling rising to a narrow cornice and coved ceiling.

Included as a well proportioned essay in the new Classicism of the post first war period, which has been well preserved.

Hubbard E, Cŵyd, Buildings of Wales series, 1986, p99.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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#### 1.47. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.47.1. 41051 - No 2 Ty-mawr Terrace

Listed Building 18700 (II )

NGR

:-

SH9460577623

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

Abergele

Preferred site type :- 19th century - House (Building - Intact )

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Small N facing terrace leading W off the junction with Market Place, close to the Parish Church.

Ty-mawr Terrace is an example of mid C19 housing; not shown on the 1841 Tithe Map. It may originally have been a pair of 3-window cottages with the present difference in the breadth of the frontages being the result of a later alteration.

Painted roughcast stone front with slate roof. No 2, at the left end, is of 3 bays, extended by a further bay to the W. Two storeys with a mixture of horned and unhorned sash windows; the chimney stacks are rendered and that to the left hand gable end projects. The 3 left bays are not precisely symmetrical but have a central round-headed entrance with fanlight over a 6-panelled door; 20-pane sashes in segmental headed openings to the ground floor and 16-pane windows to the first floor directly under the eaves. The additional bay to the right, beyond an axial stack, has similar windows to both floors, and continues to the W as No 3.

Included for group value with No 3 as one of a surviving pair of mid C19 town centre cottages.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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#### **1.48. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.48.1. 41052 - No 3 Ty-mawr Terrace

Listed Building 18701 (II )

NGR

SH9459677623

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

Community

Conwy

Abergele

*Preferred site type :- 19th century - House (Building - Intact )*

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Small N facing terrace leading W off the junction with Market Place, close to the Parish Church.

Ty Mawr Terrace is an example of mid C19 housing; not shown on the 1841 Tithe Map. It may originally have been a pair of 3-window cottages with the present difference in the breadth of the frontages being the result of a later alteration.

No 3, at the W end of the terrace, is of 2 storeys, 2 bays, continuing the roughcast elevation of No 2. Rendered chimney stacks and horned 16 and 20-pane sash windows, those to the ground floor with segmental heads as on No 2. Central gabled late C19 porch with part-glazed door and overlight has been added.

Included for group value with No 2 as one of a surviving pair of mid C19 town centre cottages.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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#### **1.49. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.49.1. 25341 - Pentremawr, Dundonald Avenue

Listed Building 236 (II )

NGR

SH9465878208

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

Community

Conwy

Abergele

*Preferred site type :- Post Medieval ? - House (Building - Unknown )*

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Located towards the N end of Dundonald Avenue, overlooking the former grounds, now the town park.

Constructed on the site of the C17 manor house, first mentioned in 1697. The C18 house, the seat of the Jones-Bateman family, was extended c1830, but burned out in 1850. The present building was erected three years later, in 1853. It is now converted into 24 flats.

Stone, partly rendered and painted, with some limestone dressings and slate roofs. The principal (W) front is of 5 bays, symmetrical, with a central storeyed porch with high angle buttresses; double panelled doors with a chamfered stone head and hood moulding, and a canted oriel window to the upper chamber with Tudor arched lights and crenellated parapet above a string course. To either side, 2 window bays, all with timber cross windows to each floor and stone labels. The centre of each side is gabled, with a high lancet window. Symmetrical brick stacks of star plan. Over the door is a mantled and crested coat of arms, with the inscription SPES NON FRACTA. The S end has an ashlar square bay with 3-light mullioned and transomed windows. A narrower 2-storey link at the rear connects with the 2-storey contemporary rear parallel range, built in unrendered stone rubble, which has an oriel window on the S end. Four pairs of star-plan brick stacks, the flues linked by zig-zag bricks. At the front the rear range extends one bay and is rendered.

Converted to flats and much altered.

Included as a handsome mansion house in the Gothick style.

Ellis J R, A History of Abergele and District, 1948 (1991), p69.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , .

SMR record created 31/12/95 , last updated 03/07/96

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**1.50. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.50.1. 100499 - Plas Isaf Find

NGR :-

SH94757695

(SH97NW)

Unitary authority

Community

Preferred site type :- Roman - Findspot (Finds only - Unknown )

POTSHERD POSSIBLY OF A ROMANO BRITISH JUG OF NOT LATER THAN 2ND CENTURY.FOUND IN A PART OF THE RIVER GELE NEAR PLAS ISAF DURING 1954.

Sources:-

OS record card , 1959 , SH 97 NW 19 ,

Events:-

Visit OS / 1959(/ /) -

Finds:-

1 / Pottery / Sherd / Roman / / ( ) - POTSHERD POSSIBLY OF A ROMANO BRITISH JUG OF NOT LATER THAN 2ND CENTURY.FOUND IN A PART OF THE RIVER GELE NEAR PLAS ISAF DURING 1954.

SMR record created 30/09/84

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**1.51. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.51.1. 44894 - Plas Uchaf House find

NGR :-

SH9477

(SH97NW)

Preferred site type :- Roman - Find (Finds only - Unknown )

Finds recorded by National Museum & Galleries of Wales catalogue.

Finds:-

0 / Copper alloy / Cup / Roman / /NMW (71.27H/6) -

0 / Copper alloy / Cup / Roman / /NMW (71.27H/7) -

0 / Copper alloy / Cup / Roman / /NMW (71.27H/8) -

0 / Copper alloy / Cup / Roman / /NMW (71.27H/9) -

0 / Copper alloy / Plate / Roman / /NMW (71.27H/4) -

0 / Copper alloy / Plate / Roman / /NMW (71.27H/5) -

0 / Copper alloy / Trulleus / Roman / /NMW (71.27H/1) -

0 / Copper alloy / Trulleus / Roman / /NMW (71.27H/2) -

0 / Copper alloy / Trulleus / Roman / /NMW (71.27H/3) -

SMR record created 22/06/02 , last updated 23/10/03

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**1.52. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.52.1. 100486 - River Gele Axe Abergele

NGR :-

SH94747733

(SH97NW)

Unitary authority

Community

Preferred site type :- Neolithic - Findspot (Finds only - Unknown )

FRAGMENTS OF POLISHED STONE AXE FOUND IN BANK OF RIVER GELE 150 YDS UPSTREAM OF THE TOWN

BRIDGE.THE AXE IS CRAIG LWYD STONE.

Sources:-

Davies, E , 1949 , *Prehistoric and Roman Remains of Flintshire* , 430

Glenn, T A & Piggot, S , 1935 , "Distribution of the Graig Lwyd Axe and its associated cultures " , *Archaeologia Cambrensis* 90 , 216 .

OS record card , 1959 , SH 97 NW 8 ,

Williams, D H , 1990 , *Atlas of Cistercian Lands in Wales* , 65

Events:-

Visit OS / 1959(/ / ) -

Finds:-

1 / Stone / Axehead / Neolithic / / ( ) - FRAGMENTS OF POLISHED STONE AXE FOUND IN BANK OF RIVER GELE 150 YDS UPSTREAM OF THE TOWN BRIDGE.THE AXE IS CRAIG LWYD STONE.

*SMR record created 30/09/84*

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**1.53. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.53.1. 41027 - Roberts Monument at Eglwys Mynydd Seion

Listed Building 18676 (II )

NGR

SH9452477370

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

Conwy

Community

Abergele

Preferred site type :- 19th century - Commemorative monument (Structure - Intact )

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

The monument stands in the graveyard, opposite the main S front of the chapel.

John Roberts of Bryngwenallt, a Liverpool industrialist and timber merchant, settled in Abergele, and supported local causes, providing funds for the rebuilding of Eglwys Mynydd Seion. This monument was probably erected shortly after his death in 1894 and was probably designed by Richard Owens, architect of the chapel and John Roberts' house and former surveyor to his father, David Roberts.

Grey mica-rich granite, with pink marble dressings, set on a 2-stage limestone plinth. The monument consists of a cubic central section with pink granite columns at each corner supporting a moulded entablature, the frieze etched with a Greek key pattern, and having a segmental cornice to each face. Between the columns of each side is a raised round-headed pink granite tablet with inlaid lead lettering to John Roberts, 1835-1894, and other members of the Roberts family. The plinth has lobes at each corner surmounted by pink granite vases. Above the cornice a tall draped urn carried high on four steps. The monument is enclosed in a generous limestone kerb, which also has lobed corners.

Included for group value with Eglwys Mynydd Seion and as a fine late Victorian monument to an important benefactor to the town.

A Dictionary of Eminent Welshmen, 1908, pp470-1.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01 , last updated 04/09/03*

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**1.54. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record**

1.54.1. 41071 - Shop adjoining former Medical Hall

Listed Building 18720 (II )

NGR

SH9448777566

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

Conwy

Community

Abergele

Preferred site type :- 19th century - House (Building - Intact )

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Located to the W of the centre of the town, almost opposite Church Street, stepping forward from the Harp PH immediately E.  
Dated 1827 and initialled WMW. No 51 became a Medical Hall probably at the same time as the improvements of the later C19.

Listed as a good late Georgian style building in the town centre, with special interest for the evidence of its history in the painted advertising sign.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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#### 1.55. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.55.1. 41057 - Signal Box at Abergele and Pensarn Railway Station

Listed Building 18706 (II )

NGR

:-

SH9469378741

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Community

:-

Conwy  
Abergele

Preferred site type :- 19th century - Railway signal box (Building - Intact )

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

The signal box stands a little to the E of the platform buildings, between the two up lines and two down lines. Access is by a sleeper walk across the lines from the 'up' platform.

LNW Type 4 signal box built c1897.

The timber framed box is set on a high red brick basement plinth with five small iron-framed windows each side. The box consists of 7 bays of alternate sliding and fixed windows overlooking the permanent way, returning by two and one bays at each end, below which is a bracketed walkway to facilitate window cleaning. Weatherboarding cladding between the windows and the eaves, and in both gable ends. Pitched slate roof with terminal finials. At the W end, a straight flight ladder with handrail provides the access to the half-glazed door. Iron framed boxes at ground level, now mostly blocked, allow the lever rods to emerge to the longitudinal signalling rods laid between the tracks.

The box has a 60 lever frame, of Tumbler type, many are no longer in use.

Included as a well preserved large signal box, part of a group of four buildings of historic interest at Abergele Station.

The Signalling Study Group, The Signal Box, 1986, pp148-9.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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#### 1.56. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.56.1. 25342 - Sirïor Bach

Listed Building 238 (II )

NGR

:-

SH9400078000

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Community

:-

Conwy  
Abergele

Preferred site type :- Post Medieval ? - House (Building - Unknown )

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

A much modernised three unit, lateral chimney, stone-built storeyed house. The inner and outer rooms are of approximately equal size, both originally unheated. The inner room now serves as a kitchen; the outer room as a parlour. A modern stair has been built in the passage. The original stair seems to have been in a corner alongside the chimney.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

SMR record created 31/12/95, last updated 03/07/96

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#### 1.57. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.57.1. 41034 - St Paul Addoldy yr Eglwys Fethodistiadd

Listed Building 18683 (II)

NGR

:-

SH947577499

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

Abergele

Preferred site type :- 19th century - Nonconformist chapel (Building - Intact)

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Located E of the centre of the town, immediately beyond the river and on the corner of the road to St George

Built 1879-80 by Richard Davies, architect of Bangor, and opened on 26.9.1880. The contractor was James Copping. The chapel now has two congregations, the original Welsh language community and the English Chapel.

Built of limestone with a slate roof. Tall building in a Classical style, with a wider rear block set transversely containing the vestry rooms linked by a corridor to doors in the projecting wings. The main front is articulated with giant pilasters rising to an open entablature, returning as a pediment. The dual entrances are set in a porch with entablature and blind balustrade over. Above, large tripartite segmental pedimented window with side lights. The outer bays have 2 levels of stone architraved timber windows. The side elevations, of 6 bays, have 2 levels of similar architraved lights with original timber windows. The entrance lobby has a blank internal wall to the chapel and side doors, and stairs each side to the gallery. The walls of the main body of the chapel are plastered. Coved ceiling with rope moulded ribs descending to corbels on all four sides. Painted central ventilator surrounded by moulded and painted flowers in a square. Gallery at the entrance (N) end, supported on simple cast iron columns, and extending around three sides of the building, the panelled front with a painted frieze. The part-octagonal panelled pulpit is set against a classical aedicule with Corinthian pilasters and segmental pediment on the S wall, and is approached by steps each side. The set fawr is contained within a substantial pine rail on wide spaced turned balusters. The central bank of 9 rows of pews stands on a slightly raked floor. Six rows of pews in the back of the gallery, returning as 3 at the sides.

Included as a prominent C19 chapel in Abergele, designed in a classical style.

Hubbard E, Clwyd, Buildings of Wales series, 1986, p98; Roberts R F, A History of the Wesleyan Methodist Church at Abergele, 1879.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database, 2000, ,

SMR record created 25/09/01

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#### 1.58. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.58.1. 41009 - Stables and Coach-house Range at Glan Aber

Listed Building 14545 (II)

NGR

:-

SH9406577547

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

Abergele

Preferred site type :- 19th century - Coach house (Building - Intact)

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Immediately to west of Glan Aber and at right angles. Glan Aber is set in extensive gardens on the western edge of Abergele, beside the main road.

Contemporary with the earlier C19 house, shown on 1840 Tithe Map.

Stone rubble, with slate roof. A long range of outbuildings with gabled front to stables and coach-house and including a single-storey cottage at left end, set close to, and at right angles to the main house. Stone chimney stacks. Beneath the eaves are stone corbels which appear decorative. The broad right hand end gable has a small diamond-shaped window over the boarded carriage doors and the lower gable to the left has a large circular window with stone voussoirs; top-opening casements and boarded doors. Set back to the left is the coachman's accommodation with 16-pane sash and 6-panel door.

The cobbled stable-courtyard is partly screened from both the forecourt of the house and the rear garden; the front has a curved wall forward from the right hand end of the house and the rear has a stepped wall.  
Included for group value with Glan Aber as a well-preserved contemporary outbuilding range with good architectural detail.  
1840 Abergele Tithe Map by William Blamire and J N Butler.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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#### 1.59. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.59.1. 25340 - Tanyrogo Lodge, Colwyn Bay Road

Listed Building 1/2 (LB? )

NGR

:-

SH9478

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

:-

Abergele

Prefered

site

type

:-

Post

Medieval

-

Lodge

(Building

-

Unknown

)

SMR record created 31/12/95

,

last

updated

03/07/96

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#### 1.60. CPAT Regional Sites & Monuments Record

1.60.1. 41049 - The Castle, Y Castell

Listed Building 18698 (II )

NGR

:-

SH9456177830

(SH97NW)

Unitary

authority

:-

Conwy

Community

:-

Abergele

Prefered site type :- 19th century - Hotel (Building - Intact )

Listed building.

*The following is from Cadw's Listed Buildings database*

Wrapped around the corner between Dundonald Avenue and Pleasant Place, N of the centre of Abergele.

Commercial and family hotel, probably built in the mid C19.

Built of limestone rubble, with ashlar dressings and a slate roof. Three storeys and cellars. Four bays to Dundonald Avenue have a central door, part glazed, with overlight, and 12-paned hornless sash windows to ground and first floors, and 9-paned sashes to the top floor. The corner on the right is splayed, and has a pair of half-glazed doors beneath a lantern on a cast iron bracket, and a panel over with the name Y CASTELL against a red painted background. The elevation to Pleasant Place is similar, being of 7 bays above a chamfered plinth, with similar windows and wedge lintels, but doors in the 4th and 6th bays, the second bay door replaced by a 12-pane sash. The windows either side of the doors in the splayed corner are replaced. Buff brick stacks.

Included as a well proportioned mid C19 urban building which has been little altered and of group value with Eglwys Crist Addoldy'r Annibynwyr.

Sources:-

Cadw listing database , 2000 , ,

*SMR record created 25/09/01*

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## **APPENDIX C**

### **Context Summary**

Context Number	Summary Description
1	Trench D modern concrete surface
2	Trench D Stone and rubble hardcore
3	Trench D Fill of linear feature
4	Trench D Linear cut, truncated ditch
5	Trench D Black fill of feature 6 – pit cut
6	Trench D Shallow pit cut
7	Trench D Fill of rectangular pit cut 8
8	Trench D Rectangular pit cut
9	Trench D Stone Wall
10	Trench D foundation cut for wall 9
11	Trench D Natural Clay
12	Trench D Brown fill of feature 6, beneath fill 5
13	Trench D Truncation/ Demolition
14	Trench D Black clinker and gravel beneath 15
15	Trench D yellow limestone aggregate beneath modern concrete yard surface 1
16	Trench C Concrete surface
17	Trench C Aggregate
18	Trench C Black clinker and gravel
19	Trench C Cut for modern drain
20	Trench C fill of service drain
21	Trench C cut for sewer
22	Trench C stone and brick sewer
23	Trench C backfill of sewer
24	Trench C Natural
25	Trench A + B modern concrete surface
26	Trench A + B Black clinker and gravel layer
27	Trench A + B Demolition/Makeup material
28	Trench A + B Truncation (preparation of yard?)
29	Trench A + B clay fill of 'cut' 31
30	Trench A + B Clean grey clay fill of 31, below 29
31	Trench A + B 'cut'- water-cut palaeochannel
32	Trench A + B re-deposited natural gravel
33	Trench A fill of service trench
34	Trench A + B cut of service trench
35	Trench B fill of service trench
36	Trench B cut of service trench
37	Trench B natural clay
38	Trench A + B natural gravel
39	Trench C Truncation