

CEFNGWERTHYD BONTNEWYDD

BRIFF GWYLIO ARCHAEOLOEGOL/
WATCHING BRIEF



Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

CEFNGWERTHYD BONTNEWYDD

Briff Gwyllo Archaeolegol/Watching Brief

Historic Environment Record Event Primary Reference Number 45475

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CONTENTS

CRYNODEB ANNHECHNEGOL	2
NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY	2
1 INTRODUCTION.....	3
1.1 Fieldwork Aims and Objectives	4
2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	5
2.1 Geophysical Survey	6
3 METHODOLOGY	7
3.1 Introduction	7
4 RESULTS.....	9
4.1 Introduction	9
4.2 Haul Road.....	9
4.3 Trench for electricity cable.....	9
4.4 Estate road	10
4.5 Controlled Strip.....	10
4.5.1 Area 1.....	10
4.5.2 Area 2.....	10
5 CONCLUSION.....	11
6 SOURCES CONSULTED.....	12
APPENDIX I	13
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust approved written scheme of investigation, September 2019	13
APPENDIX II	14
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Photographic Metadata	14

Figures

Figure 01: Location of watching brief area (outlined in red). Based on Ordnance Survey 1:10000 County Series Map Sheets SH46SE. Scale 1:5000 @A4 © Crown Copyright. All Rights Reserved. Licence Number AI100020895

Figure 02: Site Layout Mitigation Plan

Plates

Plate 01: Topsoil strip for haul road; (archive reference: G2629_004).

Plate 02: Area 1; scale: 1x1m (archive reference: G2629_32).

Plate 03: NE facing section of electricity cable trench; scale: 1x1m (archive reference: G22629_013).

Plate 04: Electricity cable trench; scale: 1x1m (archive reference: G2629_014).

Plate 05: Area 2; scale: 1x1m (archive reference: G2629_035).

Plate 06: Area 2; scale: 1x1m (archive reference: G2629_029).

CRYNODEB ANNHECHNEGOL

Dirprwyodd Ymddiriedolaeth Archeolegol Gwynedd gan Gartrefi Watkin Jones i ymgymryd briff gwylio archeolegol yn ystod gwaith Sylfaen yn gysylltiedig gyda chynllun datblygiad tai ar y safle cyfagos i Ion Cefnwerthyd, Bontnewydd, Gwynedd. Er bod nid oedd yna unrhyw weithgaredd archeolegol ei darganfod yn yr ardal agos i'r datblygiad, mae yna rinweddau hysbys Rhufeinig, canoloesol a ol-ganoleosol tu fewn yr ardal ehangach. Mae Bontnewydd hefyd tu fewn ardal; Nodweddion Tirwedd Hanesyddol. Roedd strïbed uwchbridd ei gwblhau i ffordd haliad sydd rhoi mynediad i'r safle, a llwybr y ffordd trwy'r ystâd tai. Roedd strïbed rheoledig ei ymgymryd mewn dau fan oddi mewn lôn ystâd i ddatguddio'r'r clai rhewlifol. Claddwyd ffoes cu li i gablau electroneg. Ni ddynodwyd unrhyw weithgaredd archeolegol yn ystod y briff gwylio.

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust was commissioned by Watkin Jones Homes to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the groundworks associated with a housing development scheme at a site adjacent to Cefnwerthyd Road, Bontnewydd, Gwynedd. Although no archaeological activity was located in the immediate area of the development, there are known Roman, medieval and post-medieval assets within the wider area. Bontnewydd is also within a Historic Landscape Characterisation area. A topsoil strip was completed for a haul road giving access to the site, and the route of the road through the housing estate. A controlled strip was carried out in two areas within the estate road to expose the glacial clay. A narrow trench was excavated for an electricity cable. No archaeological activity was identified during the watching brief.

1 INTRODUCTION

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) was commissioned by Watkin Jones Homes to undertake an archaeological watching brief during a development scheme for 29 residential units on a site adjacent to Cefnwerthyd Road in Bontnewydd, Gwynedd (NGR SH48056012; postcode: LL54 5RG; Figure 01). The development area measured 0.88ha and comprised a large trapezoidal field of improved open pasture, alongside Afon Beuno. A partial archaeological watching brief was undertaken between 10th September and 21st October 2019 as part of planning application C19/0014/19/LL.

The Historic Environment Record enquiry reference number for the project is GAT HER 1171 and the Event Primary Reference Number is 45475.

The watching brief was monitored by the Gwynedd archaeological Planning Service (GAPS) and a written scheme of investigation was submitted by GAT and approved by GAPS prior to attending the watching brief (cf. [Appendix I](#)).

The watching brief was undertaken in accordance with the following guidance:

1. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014);
2. *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014);
3. *Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2017);
4. *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991);
5. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England, 2015); and
6. *Guidelines for digital archives* (Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales, 2015).

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust is certified to ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 (Cert. No. 74180/B/0001/UK/En) and is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and a member of the Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers (FAME).

1.1 Fieldwork Aims and Objectives

The key aims and objectives of the archaeological mitigation were to:

- identify and record archaeological activity present on site and assess their implications for understanding the area, in conjunction with the known archaeological record; and
- if no archaeological activity is identified, establish why this may be the case.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The watching brief is not located within an area of known archaeological activity, although Roman, medieval and post-medieval assets were present within the wider area, including the following:

- Primary Reference Number (PRN) 17554 (NGR SH47645813): Segontium – Pen Llystyn – Tomen y Mur Road, located 181m east of the development along the route of what is now the A487 (Figure 01);
- PRN 3104 (NGR SH48306010): a medieval cross-incised stone, now removed, located 184m east of the development plot (Figure 01);
- PRN 63287 (NGR SH47896000): a former railway bridge crossing the Afon Gwyrfau, part of the Caernarfon to Afonwen Railway and opened in 1867. The bridge is located 137m southwest of the development plot (Figure 01);
- PRN 63284 (NGR SH48065993): Nantlle Tramway River Bridge crossing the Afon Gwyrfau, connecting Talysarn in the slate-quarrying area of Dyffryn Nantlle with Caernarfon. The bridge is located 124m southwest of the development plot (Figure 01).

Bontnewydd is also listed as Area 2 of the Caernarfon/Nantlle Historic Landscape Characterisation area (PRN 15701) and is qualified as a ribbon settlement, with the following description:

The nucleus of the village is the early nineteenth-century stone bridge over the Afon Gwyrfai and the Newborough Arms public house nearby (SH48315989), established pre-1815, a building which retains some polite architectural features. Later buildings include a late nineteenth century brick-built terrace alongside the road, an interesting mill complex, Capel Siloam, a 'German-church' Calvinistic Methodist chapel dating from 1866 (SH48315993), and a local design of mid-twentieth century prefabricated house, apparently built on a timber frame with a slate roof, as well as more recent social housing and suburban estates as Caernarfon overspill (Gwyn, D. & Thompson, D., 2001).

An examination of the Ordnance Survey First to Third Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheet of the area (Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1889, 1900 and 1918 respectively; cf. Figures 02 to 04) showed the development area within an enclosed field that matched the current boundaries. On all three editions a spring is in a plot to the west, whilst a large house *Glan Beuno* with a formal garden arrangement at the front is located to the immediate east. The overall development is little altered between the three editions, with the main development along Afon Gwyrfai to the south and what is now the A487 road to the east. The modern layout of Bontnewydd reflects localised expansion into the areas between Afon Gwyrfai and Afon Beuno and along the A487 road. This includes the development of *Glan Beuno* grounds from the formalised gardens into what is now a housing estate.

2.1 Geophysical Survey

GAT undertook a geophysical survey (magnetometer) of the development area in February 2019 as part of the planning application (GAT Report 1473). The survey did not identify any likely archaeological anomalies, with those identified interpreted as modern services.

It was concluded that the high amplitude responses from the modern services may be masking proximity archaeological features and that the lack of definite identifiable archaeological features in areas away from the modern services did not preclude the possibility of archaeological activity being present at the site. The report recommended that an archaeological watching brief was undertaken during construction groundworks.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

In line with the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record (HER) requirements, the HER was contacted at the onset of the project. to ensure that any data arising was formatted in a manner suitable for accession to the HER and followed the guidance set out in *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (The Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018). An HER Enquiry Form was completed and submitted at the start of the watching brief.

AMP Construction & Groundworks Ltd. was the principal contractor for the works and supplied plant and welfare facilities, and was also responsible for site health and safety. The location of the development area is shown outlined in red on Figure 01. The project consisted of a watching brief and a controlled strip. The watching brief monitored the groundworks to the construction limit of excavation; the controlled strip monitored the groundworks to the limit of excavation defined in advance as either an archaeological horizon, or the glacial horizon, whichever was encountered first. The topsoil strip was undertaken using a tracked excavator fitted with a toothless bucket; the spoil was removed by dumper and stored in a sealed bund to the south of the entrance into the field.

The watching brief monitored the topsoil strip of a haul road in the north east corner of the field, and the route of the new road through the housing estate; the controlled strip monitored two areas within the route of the road. The groundworks took place between 10th September and 21st October. A daily attendance record was maintained using GAT pro-formas; photographic images were taken using a digital SLR (Nikon D3100) camera set to maximum resolution (4608 x 3072 14.2 effective megapixels) in RAW format and converted to TIFF format for archiving using Adobe Photoshop. A photographic record was maintained using GAT pro-formas on site, and then digitised in *Microsoft Access* as part of the fieldwork archive and dissemination process. A total of 39 images were taken (archive numbering system G2629_001 to G2629_039; cf. [Appendix II](#)).

A full project archive has been prepared and the following dissemination applied during final archiving:

- A digital report has been provided to the client and GAPS;

- A paper report plus a digital report has been provided to the regional Historic Environment Record, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, along with an event summary, in accordance with *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (Version 1.1); and
- A digital report and archive data has been prepared for submission to the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, in accordance with the *RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives Version 1*. Digital information includes the photographic archive and associated metadata.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

The following groundworks were monitored by the watching brief. A topsoil strip was completed along the eastern side of the field to create a haul road providing access from the entrance to the site and the northern field boundary. A topsoil strip was then conducted along the route of the new road within the development and a narrow trench was excavated for an electricity cable to be laid between Cefnwerthyd road and the western field boundary. A controlled strip of two small areas along the proposed route of the road within the development was then carried out. Initially, a topsoil strip was completed from the entrance towards the northern boundary along the north east side of the field; this area was then covered with stone to form a haul road. The topsoil strip continued from the northern boundary towards the south following the route of the new road through the development and maintaining a 3m wide buffer zone with the gas pipe which was located in the middle of the field.

The soil descriptions apply across the site. The total depth of the soil removed varied across the site from 0.3m to 0.4m.

4.2 Haul Road

A topsoil strip measuring approximately 40m long x 3m wide was carried out on the north eastern side of the field, extending from the field entrance towards the northern boundary (Plate 01). The topsoil and the subsoil were removed; two possible features were identified within this area, however, on further examination these were interpreted as bioturbation.

The topsoil comprised mid-greyish brown slightly clayey silt with a depth of 0.15m and 0.2m with frequent sub-angular pebble inclusions; the subsoil was light greyish brown slightly clayey silt with a depth of between 0.15m and 0.2m with sub-angular pebble inclusions. The natural comprised orange brown silty clay.

4.3 Trench for electricity cable

A narrow trench measuring 0.5m wide and 0.8m deep was excavated for an electricity cable (Plates 03 and 04). The trench was aligned roughly east/west although taking an irregular route (marked in blue on Figure 02). The trench was excavated from the eastern boundary with the highway to the western boundary passing beneath the gas main which is located in the centre of the field and is aligned north/south.

4.4 Estate road

The topsoil and most of the subsoil was stripped along the route of the new road through the development, commencing at the northern end of the field. The stripped area was located between the haul road and the 3m exclusion zone for the gas main and measured 2m wide at the northern boundary, widening to approximately 8m midfield.

The topsoil strip exposed the edge of an area of cobbles of various sizes on the western side of the stripped area and which continued into the exclusion zone for the gas pipe. This area was extended 2m to the west under the supervision of Wales and West Utilities, exposing an area of cobbles approximately 3m wide x 4m long; the area was cleaned and interpreted as agricultural in nature, probably associated with drainage.

4.5 Controlled Strip

A controlled strip was completed in two areas (shown in red on Figure 02) located within the initial topsoil strip for the estate road. Approximately 0.1m-0.15m of subsoil was removed to expose the glacial clay in both areas.

4.5.1 Area 1

Area 1 was located approximately 5m south of the electricity cable trench; the area measured 22m long x 5m wide x 0.1m deep (Plate 02). The natural comprised light orangey grey silty clay with frequent sub-angular pebble inclusions and occasional cobbles. No archaeological activity was identified.

4.5.2 Area 2

Area 2 was located approximately 20m to the south of Area 1, and measured 25m long x 5m wide x 0.1m deep (Plates 05 and 06). The natural comprised light orangey grey silty clay with frequent sub-angular pebble inclusions and occasional cobbles. No archaeological activity was identified.

5 CONCLUSION

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust undertook a geophysical survey of the development area in February 2019; the identified anomalies were interpreted as modern services. A gas pipeline is known to be located midfield; aligned north/south and extending along the length of the field.

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust completed a partial watching brief and a controlled strip was completed in two areas in September and October 2019. A stony area located midfield, close to the gas pipeline, was determined to be either associated with the pipeline or agricultural in nature.

The results of the watching brief confirmed the conclusions of the geophysical survey and no archaeological activity was identified within the area monitored by the watching brief. Based on these results, the watching brief remit has been fulfilled and no further archaeological works are required.

6 SOURCES CONSULTED

1. Chartered Institute for Field Archaeologists, 2014, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief*
2. English Heritage, 1991, *Management of Archaeological Projects*
3. English Heritage, 2015, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*
4. Gwyn, D. & Thompson, D., 2001, *Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle*. Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Report 402.
5. McGuinness, N. 2019. Cefnwerthyd Road, Bontnewydd, Gwynedd Geophysical Survey. Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Report 1473.
6. Ordnance Survey First, Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1889.
7. Ordnance Survey, Second Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1900.
8. Ordnance Survey, Third Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1918.
9. Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales, 2015, *Guidelines for Digital archives*
10. The Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018, *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (Version 1.1)
11. Watkinson, D and Neal, V, 2001, *First aid for finds* (3rd edition).



FIGURE 01: Location of assessment area (outlined red) and local archaeological features. Based on Ordnance Survey 1:10000 County Series Map Sheets SH46SE. Scale 1:5000 @A4. © Crown Copyright. All Rights Reserved. License Number AI100020895.

Electricity cable trench

Area 01

Area 02

WORKS TO COMMENCE
MID SEPTEMBER.

NOMINAL DEPTH
OF 500/600mm.

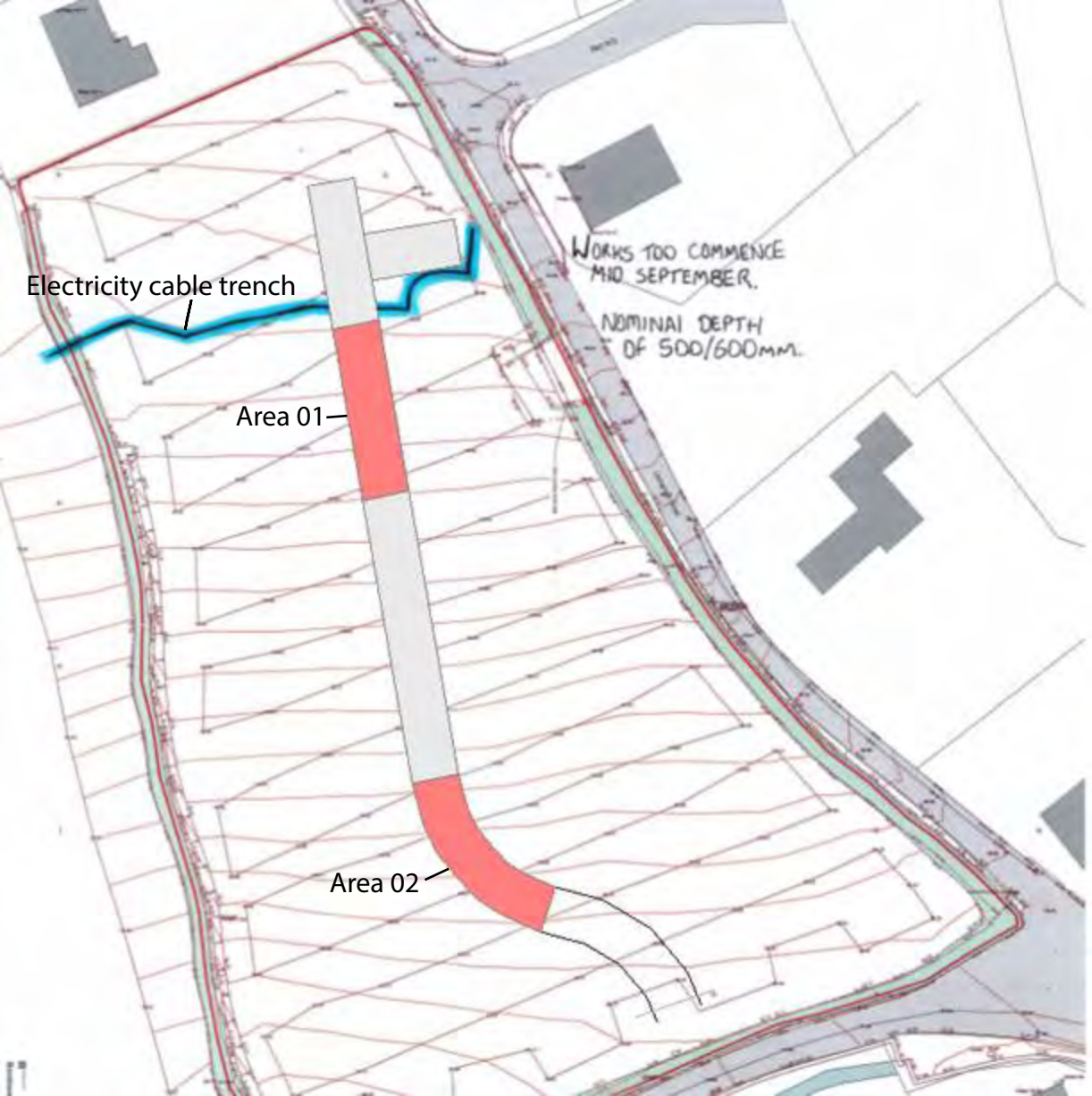




Plate 01: Topsoil strip for haul road; (archive reference: G2629_004).



Plate 02: Area 1; scale: 1x1m (archive reference: G2629_32).



Plate 03: NE facing section of electricity cable trench; scale: 1x1m (archive reference: G22629_013).



Plate 04: Electricity cable trench; scale: 1x1m (archive reference: G2629_014).



Plate 05: Area 2; scale: 1x1m (archive reference: G2629_035).



Plate 06: Area 2; scale: 1x1m (archive reference: G2629_029).

APPENDIX I

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust approved written scheme of investigation, September 2019

CEFNWERTHYD ROAD, BONTNEWYDD (G2629)

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Prepared for Watkin Jones Homes

September 2019



Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

CEFNWERTHYD ROAD, BONTNEWYDD (G2629)

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Prepared for Watkin Jones Homes, February 2019

Historic Environment Record Enquiry Number GATHER1171 and Event Primary Reference Number 45475

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	4
1.1	Fieldwork Aims and Objectives	5
1.2	Monitoring Arrangements	6
1.3	Historic Environment Record.....	7
2	ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	8
2.1	Introduction	8
2.2	Geophysical Survey	9
3	METHODOLOGY	10
3.1	Introduction	10
3.2	Human Remains	12
3.3	Ecofacts	13
3.4	Artefacts.....	14
3.5	Fieldwork Archiving	16
4	REPORTING	17
5	DISSEMINATION AND ARCHIVING	18
6	PERSONNEL	19
7	HEALTH AND SAFETY	20
8	SOCIAL MEDIA	21
9	INSURANCE	22
9.1	Public/Products Liability	22
9.2	Employers Liability	22
9.3	Professional Indemnity.....	22

10 SOURCES CONSULTED.....	23
FIGURE 01	24
Location of watching brief area (outlined red) and local archaeological features. Based on Ordnance Survey 1:10000 County Series Map Sheets SH46SE. Scale 1:5000 @A4. © Crown Copyright. All Rights Reserved. License Number AI100020895.....	24
FIGURE 02	25
Reproduction of Ordnance Survey First Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1889. Scale 1:5000 @A4.	25
Figure 03.....	26
Reproduction of Ordnance Survey Second Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1900. Scale 1:5000 @A4.	26
Figure 04.....	27
Reproduction of Ordnance Survey Third Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1918. Scale 1:5000 @A4.	27
APPENDIX I.....	28
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Photographic Metadata pro-forma.....	28
APPENDIX II.....	29
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Watching Brief pro-forma	29

1 INTRODUCTION

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) has been commissioned by Watkin Jones Homes to prepare a written scheme of investigation for an archaeological watching brief for a development scheme of 29 residential units on a site adjacent to Cefnwerthyd Road in Bontnewydd, Gwynedd (NGR SH48056012; postcode: LL54 5RG; Figure 01). The development area measures 0.88ha and is a large trapezoidal field of improved open pasture, alongside Afon Beuno. The archaeological watching brief is being undertaken as part of planning application C19/0014/19/LL, Conditions #18 and #19.

The work is scheduled to start on the 9th September 2019 with duration to be confirmed.

The watching brief will be completed in accordance with the following guidance:

1. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014);
2. *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014);
3. *Updated Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2017);
4. *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991);
5. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (Historic England, 2015); and
6. *Guidelines for digital archives* (Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, 2015).

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust is certified to ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 (Cert. No. 74180/B/0001/UK/En) and is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and a member of the Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers (FAME).

1.1 Fieldwork Aims and Objectives

The key aims and objectives of the archaeological mitigation are to:

- identify and record archaeological activity present on site and assess their implications for understanding the area, in conjunction with the known archaeological record; and
- if no archaeological activity is identified, establish why this may be the case.

1.2 Monitoring Arrangements

The watching brief will be monitored by the Gwynedd archaeological Planning Service (GAPS); the content of this WSI and all subsequent reporting by GAT must be approved by GAPS prior to final issue.

The GAPS Archaeologist will need to be informed of the project timetable and of the subsequent progress and findings. This will allow the GAPS Archaeologist time to arrange monitoring visits and attend site meetings (if required) and enable discussion about the need or otherwise for further archaeological works (if required) as features of potential archaeological significance are encountered.

The curator contact details are: **01248 370926**.

1.3 Historic Environment Record

In line with the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record (HER) requirements, the HER has been contacted at the onset of the project to ensure that any data arising is formatted in a manner suitable for accession to the HER and follows the guidance set out in *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (The Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018). The HER will be informed of the project start date, location including grid reference, estimated timescale for the work, and further relevant information associated with the project.

The GAT HER Enquiry Number for this project is GATHER1171 and the Event PRN is 45475. The GAT HER will also be responsible for supplying the Primary Reference Numbers (PRN) for any new identified and recorded assets.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

A brief examination of the regional Historic Environment Record demonstrates that the watching brief is not within an area of known archaeological activity, although Roman, medieval and post-medieval assets are present within the wider area, including the following:

- Primary Reference Number (PRN) 17554 (NGR SH47645813): Segontium – Pen Llystyn – Tomen y Mur Road, located 181m east of the development along the route of what is now the A487 (Figure 01);
- PRN 3104 (NGR SH48306010): a medieval cross-incised stone, now removed, located 184m east of the development plot (Figure 01);
- PRN 63287 (NGR SH47896000): a former railway bridge crossing the Afon Gwyrfau, part of the Caernarfon to Afonwen Railway and opened in 1867. The bridge is located 137m southwest of the development plot (Figure 01);
- PRN 63284 (NGR SH48065993): Nantlle Tramway River Bridge crossing the Afon Gwyrfau, connecting Talysarn in the slate-quarrying area of Dyffryn Nantlle with Caernarfon. The bridge is located 124m southwest of the development plot (Figure 01).

Bontnewydd is also listed as Area 2 of the Caernarfon/Nantlle Historic Landscape Characterisation area (PRN 15701) and is qualified as a ribbon settlement, with the following description:

The nucleus of the village is the early nineteenth-century stone bridge over the Afon Gwyrfai and the Newborough Arms public house nearby (SH48315989), established pre-1815, a building which retains some polite architectural features. Later buildings include a late nineteenth century brick-built terrace alongside the road, an interesting mill complex, Capel Siloam, a 'German-church' Calvinistic Methodist chapel dating from 1866 (SH48315993), and a local design of mid-twentieth century prefabricated house, apparently built on a timber frame with a slate roof, as well as more recent social housing and suburban estates as Caernarfon overspill (Gwyn, D. & Thompson, D., 2001).

An examination of the Ordnance Survey First to Third Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheet of the area (Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1889, 1900 and 1918 respectively; cf. Figures 02 to 04) shows the development area within an enclosed field that matches the current boundaries. On all three editions a spring is in a plot to the west, whilst a large house *Glan Beuno* with a formal garden arrangement at the front is located to the immediate east. The overall development is little altered between the three editions, with the main development along Afon Gwyrfai to the south and what is now the A487 road to the east. The modern layout of Bontnewydd reflects localised expansion into the areas between Afon Gwyrfai and Afon Beuno and along the A487 road. This includes the development of *Glan Beuno* grounds from the formalised gardens into what is now a housing estate.

2.2 Geophysical Survey

GAT undertook a geophysical survey (magnetometer) of the development area in February 2019 as part of the planning application (GAT Report 1473). The survey did not identify any likely archaeological anomalies, with those identified interpreted as modern services.

It was concluded that the high amplitude responses from the modern services may be masking proximity archaeological features and that the lack of definite identifiable archaeological features in areas away from the modern services did not preclude the possibility of archaeological activity being present at the site. The report recommended that an archaeological watching brief is undertaken during construction groundworks.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

An archaeological watching brief is defined by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists as a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive (CIfA, 2014).

An archaeological watching brief can be divided into four categories:

- comprehensive (present during all ground disturbance)
- intensive (present during sensitive ground disturbance)
- intermittent (viewing the trenches after machining)
- partial (as and when seems appropriate).

GAPS have requested that the archaeological watching brief is undertaken on a **partial** basis, with continued attendance based on initial site observations.

The principal contractor for the works will be AMP Construction & Groundworks Ltd., with attendance scheduled from 9th September 2019; duration of works to be confirmed.

The watching brief will monitor the groundworks to the limit of excavation, defined as either an archaeological horizon, the limit of excavation or the glacial horizon, whichever is encountered first. It is recommended that a toothless bucket is used, where practical, and that the archaeologist must be allowed to halt investigation works to investigate any archaeological deposits or features exposed.

- Photographic images will be taken using a digital SLR (Nikon D40) camera set to maximum resolution (3008 × 2000 6.1 effective megapixels) in RAW format; a photographic record will be maintained on site using GAT pro-formas ([Appendix I](#)) and digitised in *Microsoft Access* as part of the fieldwork archive and dissemination process. Photographic images will be archived in TIFF format using Adobe Photoshop; the

archive numbering system will start from G2629_001. When practical, a photographic ID board will be used during the watching brief inspection to record site code, image orientation and any relevant context numbers.

- During the watching brief all attendances and any identified features will be recorded using GAT watching brief pro-formas ([Appendix II](#));
- Any subsurface features will be recorded photographically, with detailed notations and a measured survey (completed using a *Trimble R8* GPS unit);
- Any archaeological features/deposits/structures encountered will be manually cleaned and examined to determine extent, function, date and relationship to adjacent activity. The following excavation strategy will generally apply: 50% sample of each sub-circular feature, 10% sample of each linear feature (terminal ends and intersection points with other features will be prioritised). However, if discrete features are identified these will be 100% excavated as will any exposed segments of linear features. Features such as burnt mounds, which comprise a spread of material rather than a cut feature, will be completed in quadrants (if fully extant within the groundworks area) or 100% excavated if present as a discrete spread. *In the event of the identification of extensive/complex remains (for example burials, structures or preserved wooden or organic artefacts), additional time, resourcing and costs may be required for GAT to complete an appropriate programme of works.*
- Any required plans or sections to be drawn at a minimum 1:10 scale using GAT A4, A3 or A2 pro-forma permatrace;
- Should dateable artefacts, human remains and/or ecofacts be recovered, an **interim report** will be submitted summarising the results of the watching brief, along with an assessment of potential for analysis post-excavation project design (in line with the MAP2 process). *Additional time, resourcing and costs will be required to undertake any post-excavation programme of works.*

3.2 Human Remains

If any human remains identified are to be excavated, and cannot be preserved in situ this will take place under appropriate regulations and with due regard for health and safety issues. In order to excavate human remains, a Ministry of Justice licence is required under Section 25 of the Burials Act 1857 for the removal of any body or remains of any body from any place of burial. In accordance with the Ministry of Justice licence, recovered remains will be reburied once the investigation and/or assessment/analysis are complete.

Non-fragmented skeletal remains will be excavated using wooden tools and collected and stored in polyethylene bags (with appropriate references for context, grave number, et al) and placed in a lidded cardboard archive box (note: separate boxes for each grave) and stored in a suitable manner within GAT premises. If significant quantities of human remains are encountered, a human osteologist should be contacted and appointed to advise the team during the fieldwork. The osteologist will be an external appointment: Dr. Genevieve Tellier | Tel: 01286 238827 | email: northwalesosteology@outlook.com who will assist in devising the excavation, recording and sampling strategy for features containing human remains. The osteologist should also help to ensure that adequate post-excavation processing of human remains is carried out so that the material is in a fit state for assessment during the post-excavation stage. For inhumations, this will involve washing, drying, marking and packing.

If human remains are recovered that are deemed suitable for further assessment/analysis, this will be completed in accordance with the osteologist's requirements and with *Human Bones from Archaeological Sites Guidelines for producing assessment documents and analytical reports* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2017).

3.3 Ecofacts

Should any deposits deemed suitable for dating be identified, they will be taken from sealed contexts, with not less than 40 litres for bulk samples. The sampling strategy will be undertaken in accordance with the principles set out in *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (English Heritage, 2011). Recourse will be made to relevant specialists for palaeoenvironmental analysis and dating (AOC Archaeology | telephone: 0208 843 7380) for advice on a palaeoenvironmental assessment and analysis strategy.

For any ecofact samples taken from human burials, this will be completed in accordance with an appointed osteologist's guidance.

3.4 Artefacts

Diagnostic artefacts will be retained for further examination and identification. Pottery sherds of 19th and 20th century date will be examined on site and the context from which they were retrieved noted but the sherds will not be retained. The artefacts will be treated according to guidelines issued by the UK Institute of Conservation (Watkinson and Neal 2001) in particular the advice provided within *First Aid for Finds* (Rescue 1999) and Historic England.

Any waterlogged artefacts (e.g. wood or leather) that are to be recovered for post-excavation assessment and analysis will be processed in accordance with *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (English Heritage, 2011) and specifically in accordance with Brunning and Watson (2010) for waterlogged wood and Historic England (2012) for waterlogged leather. In such cases an external specialist will be contacted to agree an appropriate sampling and recovery strategy via Lucy Whittingham | Project Manager (post-excavation) | AOC Archaeology | telephone: 0208 843 7380 | email: lucy.whittingham@aocarchaeology.com).

All finds are the property of the landowner (Watkin Jones Homes); however, it is Trust policy to recommend that all finds are donated to an appropriate museum (in this case Storiell, Ffordd Gwynedd, Bangor LL57 1DT), where they can receive specialist treatment and study. Access to finds must be granted to the Trust for a reasonable period to allow for analysis and for study and publication as necessary. Trust staff will undertake initial identification, but any additional advice would be sought from a wide range of consultants used by the Trust, including National Museums and Galleries of Wales at Cardiff.

All finds of treasure must be reported to the coroner for the district within fourteen days of discovery or identification of the items. Items declared Treasure Trove become the property of the Crown, on whose behalf the Portable Antiquities Scheme acts as advisor on technical matters, and may be the recipient body for the objects.

The Treasure Valuation Committee, based at the British Museum, and informed by the Portable Antiquities Scheme, will decide whether they or any other museum may wish to acquire the object. If no museum wishes to acquire the object, then the Secretary of State will be able to disclaim it. When this happens, the coroner will notify the occupier and landowner that he intends to return the object to the finder after 28 days unless he receives

no objection. If the coroner receives an objection, the find will be retained until the dispute has been settled.

GAT will contact the landowner (via client) for agreement regarding the transfer of artefacts, initially to GAT and subsequently to the relevant museum (Storiel). A GAT produced pro-forma will be issued to the landowner where they are given the option to donate the finds or to record that they want them returning to them once analysis and assessment has been completed. Artefacts will be transferred to the Storiel in accordance with their guidelines.

3.5 Fieldwork Archiving

Following the completion of the fieldwork, a programme of field work archiving will be completed based on following task list;

1. Pro-formas: all cross referenced and complete;
2. Photographic Metadata: completed in *Microsoft Access* and cross-referenced with all pro-formas;
3. Sections: all cross referenced and complete;
4. Survey data: downloaded using a Computer Aided Design package;
5. Plans: all cross referenced and complete;
6. Artefacts (if relevant): quantified and identified; register completed;
7. Ecofacts (if relevant): quantified and register completed;
8. Context register (if relevant): quantified and register completed.

All data will be processed, final illustrations will be compiled and a report will be produced which will detail and synthesise the results.

4 REPORTING

Following completion of the stages outlined above, a report will be produced within one month incorporating the following:

1. Non-technical summary (Welsh and English)
2. Introduction
3. Aims and objectives
4. Background
5. Methodology
6. Results
7. Conclusions and further recommendations
8. List of sources consulted.
9. Appendix I – approved GAT project design
10. Appendix II – photographic metadata

Should dateable artefacts and ecofacts be recovered, an **interim report** will be submitted summarising the results, along with an assessment of potential for analysis written scheme of investigation (in line with the MAP2 process).

Illustrations will include plans of the location, site plans and sections. Historical maps, when appropriate and if copyright permissions allow, will be included. A draft copy of the report will be sent to GAPS and to the client prior to production of the final report.

Dependant on the outcome of the archaeological watching brief the *Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales* will be consulted to help to provide context and to help inform the archaeology identified within the site boundary.

5 DISSEMINATION AND ARCHIVING

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project will be prepared. The archaeological watching brief outlined in this written scheme of investigation is expected to commence in September 2019. A draft report will be submitted within one month of fieldwork completion; a final report will be submitted to the Historic Environment within six months of submitting the draft report.

On completion, the following dissemination will apply:

- A digital report will be provided to the client and GAPS (draft report then final report);
- A paper report plus a digital report will be provided to the regional Historic Environment Record, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust within six months of project completion (final report only). If appropriate, digital information such as the project database, GIS table(s) and photographs, will also be submitted to the required standards set out in *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (Version 1.1); and
- A digital report and archive (including photographic and drawn) data will be provided to Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments, Wales (final report only), in accordance with the *RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives Version 1*. Digital information will include the photographic archive and associated metadata.

6 PERSONNEL

The project will be managed by John Roberts, Principal Archaeologist GAT Contracts Section with attendances on-site undertaken by a GAT Project Archaeologist. The Project Archaeologist will be responsible for the, including.

The Project Archaeologist will be responsible for the following:

- All archaeological watching brief duties on site;
- Client/contractor liaison;
- GAPS liaison, with regular updates;
- specialist liaison (if relevant);
- completing all on site pro-formas and the fieldwork archive itemised in [para. 3.2](#);
- sourcing Primary Reference Numbers (PRN) from the GAT HER for any new features identified;
- completing an event summary and creating or updating PRN data, dependent on results; and
- for submitting a draft final report (or interim report) for project manager review and approval, to then be submitted as per the arrangements defined in [para. 5](#).

7 HEALTH AND SAFETY

The GAT Project Archaeologist(s) will be CSCS certified. Copies of the site specific risk assessment will be supplied to the client and sub-contractor prior to the start of fieldwork. Any risks and hazards will be indicated prior to the start of work via a submitted risk assessment. All GAT staff will be issued with required personal safety equipment, including high visibility jacket, steel toe-capped boots and hard hat. All GAT fieldwork is undertaken in accordance with the Trust's Health and Safety Manual, Policy and Handbook which were prepared by Ellis Whittam. All work will be undertaken in accordance with the client and site contractors Health and Safety requirements.

8 SOCIAL MEDIA

One of the key aims in the GAT mission statement is to improve the understanding, conservation and promotion of the historic environment in our area and inform and educate the wider public. To help achieve this, GAT maintains an active social media presence and seeks all opportunities to promote our projects and results. With permission, GAT would like the opportunity to promote our work on this scheme through our social media platforms. This could include social media postings during our attendance on site as well as any postings to highlight results. In all instances, approval will be sought from client prior to any postings.

9 INSURANCE

9.1 Public/Products Liability

Limit of Indemnity- £5,000,000 any one event in respect of Public Liability

INSURER Aviva Insurance Limited

POLICY TYPE Public Liability

POLICY NUMBER 24765101CHC/UN/000375

EXPIRY DATE 21/06/2020

9.2 Employers Liability

Limit of Indemnity- £10,000,000 any one occurrence.

The cover has been issued on the insurers standard policy form and is subject to their usual terms and conditions. A copy of the policy wording is available on request.

INSURER Aviva Insurance Limited

POLICY TYPE Employers Liability

POLICY NUMBER 24765101 CHC / UN/000375

EXPIRY DATE 21/06/2020

9.3 Professional Indemnity

Limit of Indemnity- £5,000,000 in respect of each and every claim

INSURER Hiscox Insurance Company Limited

POLICY TYPE Professional Indemnity

POLICY NUMBER 9446015

EXPIRY DATE 22/07/2020

10 SOURCES CONSULTED

1. Chartered Institute for Field Archaeologists, 2014, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief*
2. English Heritage, 1991, *Management of Archaeological Projects*
3. English Heritage, 2015, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*
4. Gwyn, D. & Thompson, D., 2001, *Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle*. Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Report 402.
5. McGuinness, N. 2019. Cefnwerthyd Road, Bontnewydd, Gwynedd Geophysical Survey. Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Report 1473.
6. Ordnance Survey First, Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1889.
7. Ordnance Survey, Second Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1900.
8. Ordnance Survey, Third Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1918.
9. Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales, 2015, *Guidelines for Digital archives*
10. The Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018, *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (Version 1.1)
11. Watkinson, D and Neal, V, 2001, *First aid for finds* (3rd edition).

FIGURE 01

Location of watching brief area (outlined red) and local archaeological features. Based on Ordnance Survey 1:10000 County Series Map Sheets SH46SE. Scale 1:5000 @A4. © Crown Copyright. All Rights Reserved. License Number AI100020895.



FIGURE 01: Location of assessment area (outlined red) and local archaeological features. Based on Ordnance Survey 1:10000 County Series Map Sheets SH46SE. Scale 1:5000 @A4. © Crown Copyright. All Rights Reserved. License Number AI100020895.

FIGURE 02

Reproduction of Ordnance Survey First Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1889. Scale 1:5000 @A4.

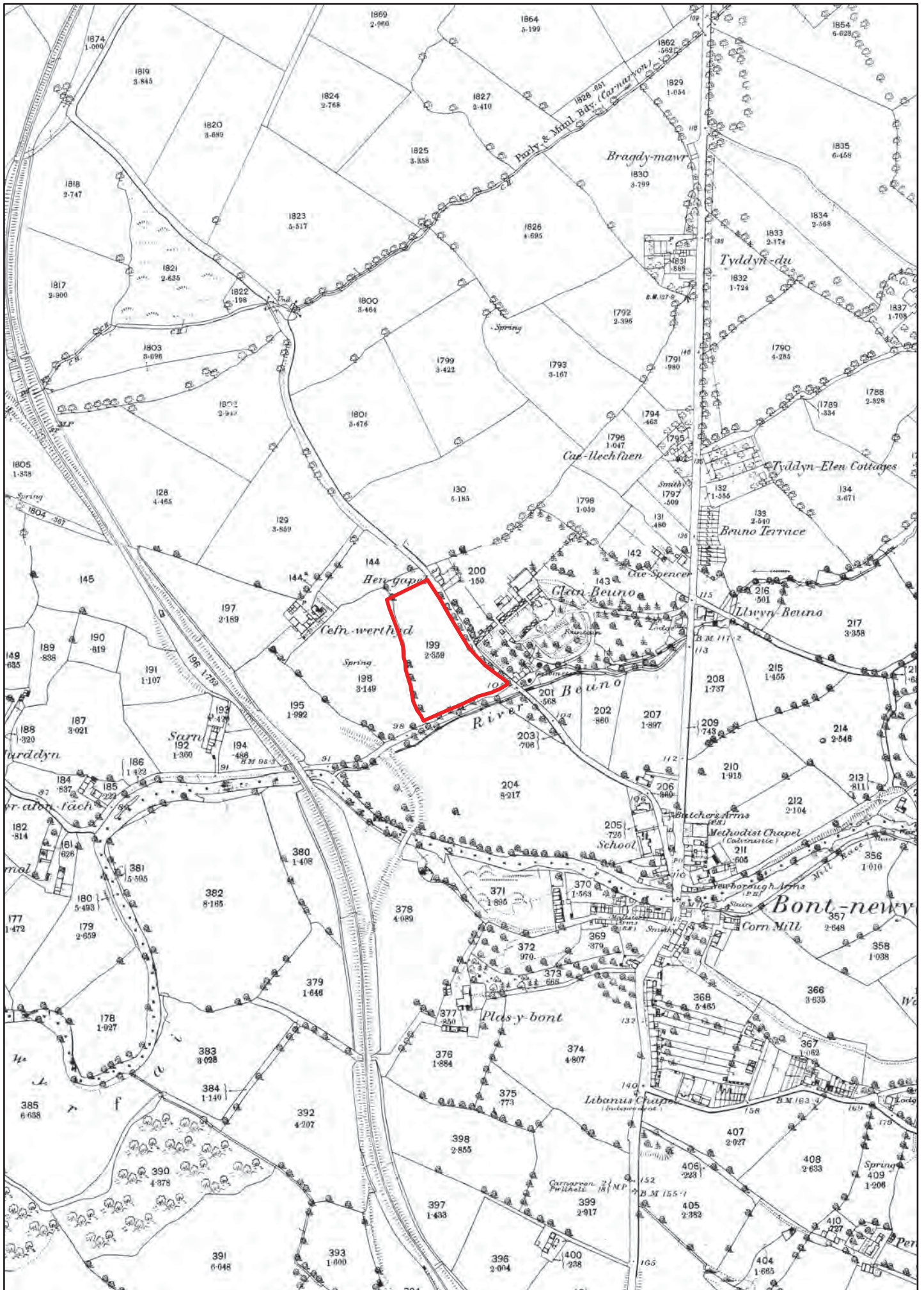


FIGURE 02: Reproduction of Ordnance Survey First Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1889. Scale 1:5000 @A4.

FIGURE 03

Reproduction of Ordnance Survey Second Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1900. Scale 1:5000 @A4.

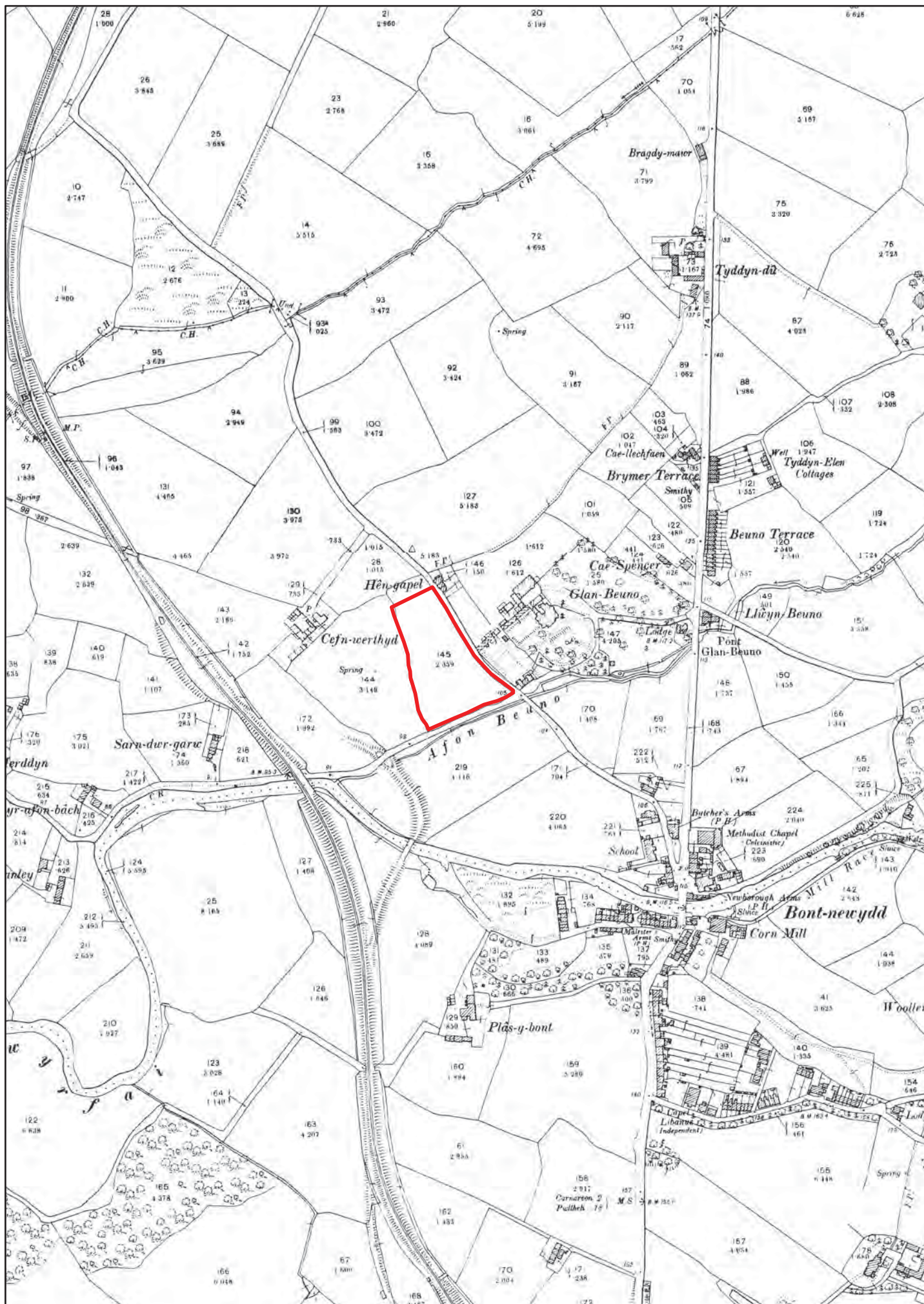


FIGURE 03: Reproduction of Ordnance Survey Second Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1900. Scale 1:5000 @A4.

FIGURE 04

Reproduction of Ordnance Survey Third Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1918. Scale 1:5000 @A4.

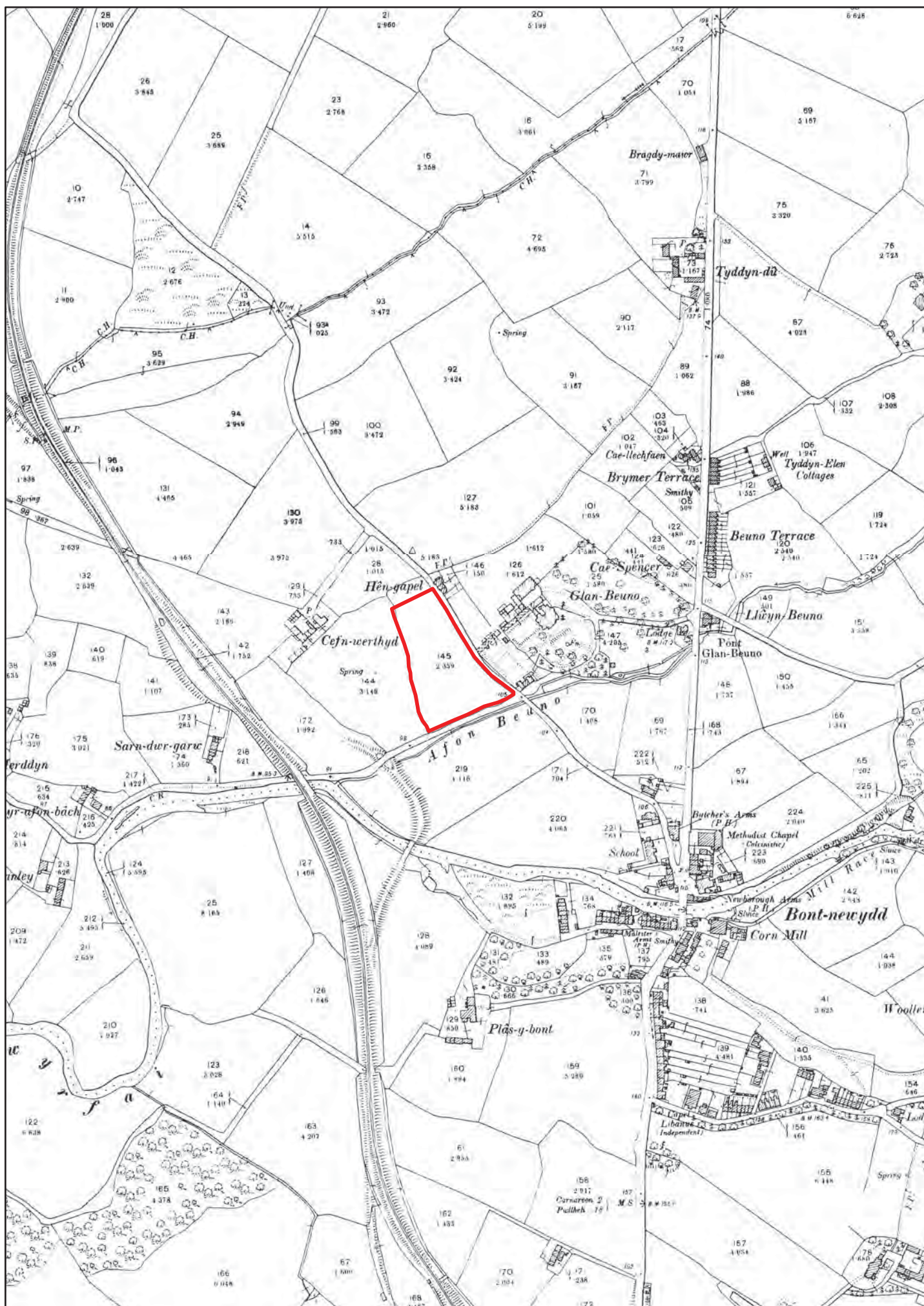


FIGURE 04: Reproduction of Ordnance Survey Third Edition Ordnance Survey 1-inch to 25-mile County Series Map Sheets XV.08 and XV.12; 1918. Scale 1:5000 @A4.

APPENDIX I

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Photographic Metadata pro-forma

Delete any unwanted photos **immediately** from the camera. Regularly upload photographs to computer.

[illegible]

APPENDIX II

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Watching Brief pro-forma

YMDDIRIEDOLAETH ARCHAEOLEGOL GWYNEDD ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST		
WATCHING BRIEF DAY RECORD		Date
Project name	Project number	Compiler
Location		
Description		
Times of travelling and on-site		
Drawn record details		
Photographic record details		

APPENDIX II

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Photographic Metadata

PHOTO RECORD NUMBER*	PROJECT PHASE	NGR*	DESCRIPTION*	CONTEXT NUMBER (S)	VIEW FROM	SCALE(S)	CREATOR OF DIGITAL PHOTO*	DATE OF CREATION OF DIGITAL PHOTO*	ORIGINATING ORGANISATION	PLATES
G2629_001	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Pre-ex shot view to SW across field		NE		Anne Marie Oattes	10/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_002	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Pre-ex shot view to NW across field		SE		Anne Marie Oattes	10/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_003	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Pre-ex shot view to west		E		Anne Marie Oattes	10/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_004	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Topsoil strip		SW		Anne Marie Oattes	10/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	01
G2629_005	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Topsoil strip		SW		Anne Marie Oattes	10/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_006	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Topsoil strip		NE		Anne Marie Oattes	10/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_007	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Pre-ex shot of possible pit/posthole		SE		Anne Marie Oattes	10/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_008	Watching Brief	SH48056012	SE facing section of possible pit/posthole	[01] (02)	SE		Anne Marie Oattes	10/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_009	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Stripped area		SW		Anne Marie Oattes	11/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	

PHOTO RECORD NUMBER*	PROJECT PHASE	NGR*	DESCRIPTION*	CONTEXT NUMBER (S)	VIEW FROM	SCALE(S)	CREATOR OF DIGITAL PHOTO*	DATE OF CREATION OF DIGITAL PHOTO*	ORIGINATING ORGANISATION	PLATES
G2629_010	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Stripped area		NE		Anne Marie Oattes	11/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_011	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Topsoiled area		NW		Anne Marie Oattes	13/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_012	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Topsoiled area		SE		Anne Marie Oattes	13/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_013	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Electricity cable trench		NE	1x1m	Anne Marie Oattes	13/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	03
G2629_014	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Electricity cable trench		NW	1x1m	Anne Marie Oattes	13/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	04
G2629_015	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Possible stone feature		E	1x1m	Anne Marie Oattes	13/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_016	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Possible stone feature		SW	1x1m	Anne Marie Oattes	13/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_017	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Possible stone feature		NE	1x1m	Anne Marie Oattes	13/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_018	Watching Brief	SH48056012	View of possible stone feature (05) after removal of topsoil	(05)	N	1x1m	Stuart Reilly	16/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	

PHOTO RECORD NUMBER*	PROJECT PHASE	NGR*	DESCRIPTION*	CONTEXT NUMBER (S)	VIEW FROM	SCALE(S)	CREATOR OF DIGITAL PHOTO*	DATE OF CREATION OF DIGITAL PHOTO*	ORIGINATING ORGANISATION	PLATES
G2629_019	Watching Brief	SH48056012	View of possible stone feature (05) after removal of topsoil	(05)	N	1x1m	Stuart Reilly	16/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_020	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Location shot of possible stone feature (05) in relation to gas main (yellow tags)	(05)	N	1x1m	Stuart Reilly	16/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_021	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Location shot of possible stone feature (entrance in the background)	(05)	W	1x1m	Stuart Reilly	16/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_022	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Close up of possible stone feature	(05)	W	1x1m	Stuart Reilly	16/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_023	Watching Brief	SH48056012	View of topsoil strip of site road at south end of field		W	1X1m	Stuart Reilly	16/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_024	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Alluvium visible after topsoil strip for road		W	N/A	Stuart Reilly	16/09/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_025	Watching Brief	SH48056012	View of northern stripped area (1)		N	N/A	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_026	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Location shot view to site entrance from northern end of stripped area		NW	N/A	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	

PHOTO RECORD NUMBER*	PROJECT PHASE	NGR*	DESCRIPTION*	CONTEXT NUMBER (S)	VIEW FROM	SCALE(S)	CREATOR OF DIGITAL PHOTO*	DATE OF CREATION OF DIGITAL PHOTO*	ORIGINATING ORGANISATION	PLATES
G2629_027	Watching Brief	SH48056012	View of stripped area 1 from southern end		S	N/A	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_028	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Southern stripped area (2)		N	1x1m	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_029	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Southern stripped area (2)		S	1x1m	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	06
G2629_030	Watching Brief	SH48056012	Southern stripped area (1)		S	1x1m	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_031	Watching Brief	SH48056013	Stripped area 1		N	1x1m	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_032	Watching Brief	SH48056014	Stripped area 1		N	1x1m	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	02
G2629_033	Watching Brief	SH48056015	E facing section showing depth of topsoil and subsoil		E	1x1m	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_034	Watching Brief	SH48056016	E facing section showing topsoil, subsoil and natural		E	1x1m	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_035	Watching Brief	SH48056017	Stripped area 2 at bend at southern end		SE	1x1m	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	05

PHOTO RECORD NUMBER*	PROJECT PHASE	NGR*	DESCRIPTION*	CONTEXT NUMBER (S)	VIEW FROM	SCALE(S)	CREATOR OF DIGITAL PHOTO*	DATE OF CREATION OF DIGITAL PHOTO*	ORIGINATING ORGANISATION	PLATES
G2629_036	Watching Brief	SH48056018	Stripped area 2 at bend at southern end		SSE	1x1m	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_037	Watching Brief	SH48056019	General shot view to south west		NE	N/A	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_038	Watching Brief	SH48056020	General shot view of field		NE	N/A	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	
G2629_039	Watching Brief	SH48056021	General shot view of field		NE	N/A	Anne Marie Oattes	20/10/2019	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust	



Gwynedd Archaeological Trust
Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd

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