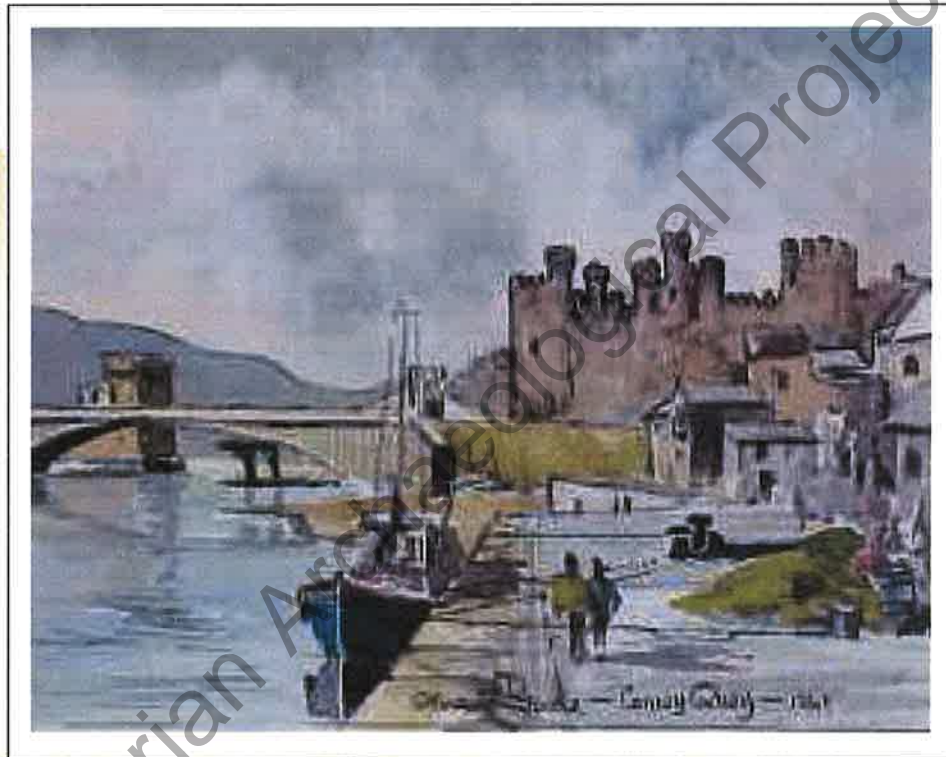


**CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS LTD.**

# **Conwy Estuary Strategic Route Development**

**Archaeological Desk-based Assessment**



By  
***Phil Evans BA (Hons) MIFA***



**CAP Report No. 346**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

**Conwy Estuary Strategic Route  
Development**

**BY *Phil Evans BA (Hons) MIFA***

Prepared for:  
Conwy County Borough Council

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## **Non Technical Summary**

*This report results from work undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects on behalf of Conwy County Borough Council as part of a planning condition attached to the proposed Conwy Estuary Strategic Route and the redevelopment of Conwy Quay. The archaeological desk-based assessment has shown that the area covered by the proposed development lies in an area rich in archaeological remains. However, the fact that the proposed pedestrian/cycle route is largely reusing existing tracks and sea defences means that a very small percentage of the construction of the proposed development would have an impact on archaeological remains. However, any ground works should only be undertaken with an archaeologist present (watching brief) to insure that no damage occurs to any of the Scheduled Monuments and to insure that an accurate record is made of any new archaeological remains revealed during the construction of the new development. If significant archaeological remains are revealed then further archaeological work (excavations, building recording etc) may be required prior to those areas of the development being completed.*

### **1 Introduction**

#### **1.1 Site Location (Figs. 1 & 2)**

The proposed Conwy Estuary Strategic Route passes along the eastern shoreline of the Conwy Estuary between West Shore, Llandudno and the eastern end of the Cob at Llandudno Junction and along the Cob and over the Conwy Bridge to Conwy Quay; in addition a spur is to be constructed over the Conwy crossing at Llandudno Junction and upstream along the shoreline at Glan Conwy.

The area of the proposed developments includes the lower estuary of the River Conwy and its hinterland and includes rural settlements and agricultural field systems, the planned Victorian town of Llandudno, the village of Deganwy and the walled town of Conwy. The site is centred on NGR: SH 277000 378000 (Figs. 1 & 2).

#### **1.2 Planning Background**

Planning permission has been obtained for the development; the certificate of planning permission was issued on the 11 April 2003, subject to a programme of archaeological investigation (Condition 2).

Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd (CAP) were asked by Conwy County Borough Council to submit a tender to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment and field visit to assess the archaeological resource within the area of the proposed developments and its immediate environs. The tender was successful and the work was undertaken in accordance with a project brief produced by Emily La Trobe-Bateman (GAT Planning Services Brief: D626) between the 13<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 2004.

#### **1.3 Archaeological Background**

The proposed development will pass along the coastal edge of Llandudno, a Victorian seaside resort that retains much of its 19<sup>th</sup> century character. It will then pass along the western coastal edge of Deganwy Golf Course to Deganwy and Llandudno Junction, where existing development is characterised by Victorian promenade and suburban housing developments, respectively. Known archaeological remains along



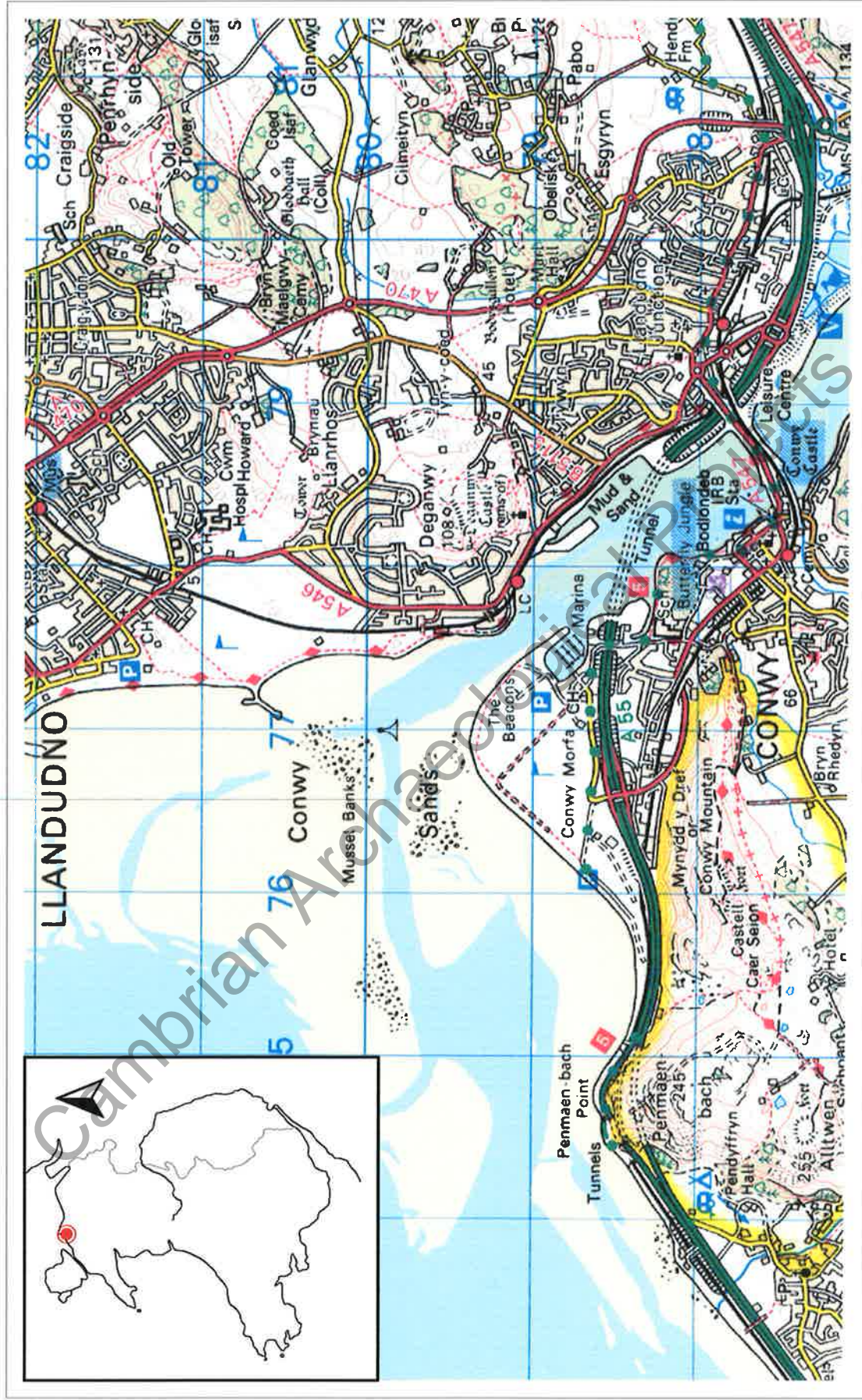


Fig 01: General Site Location Plan



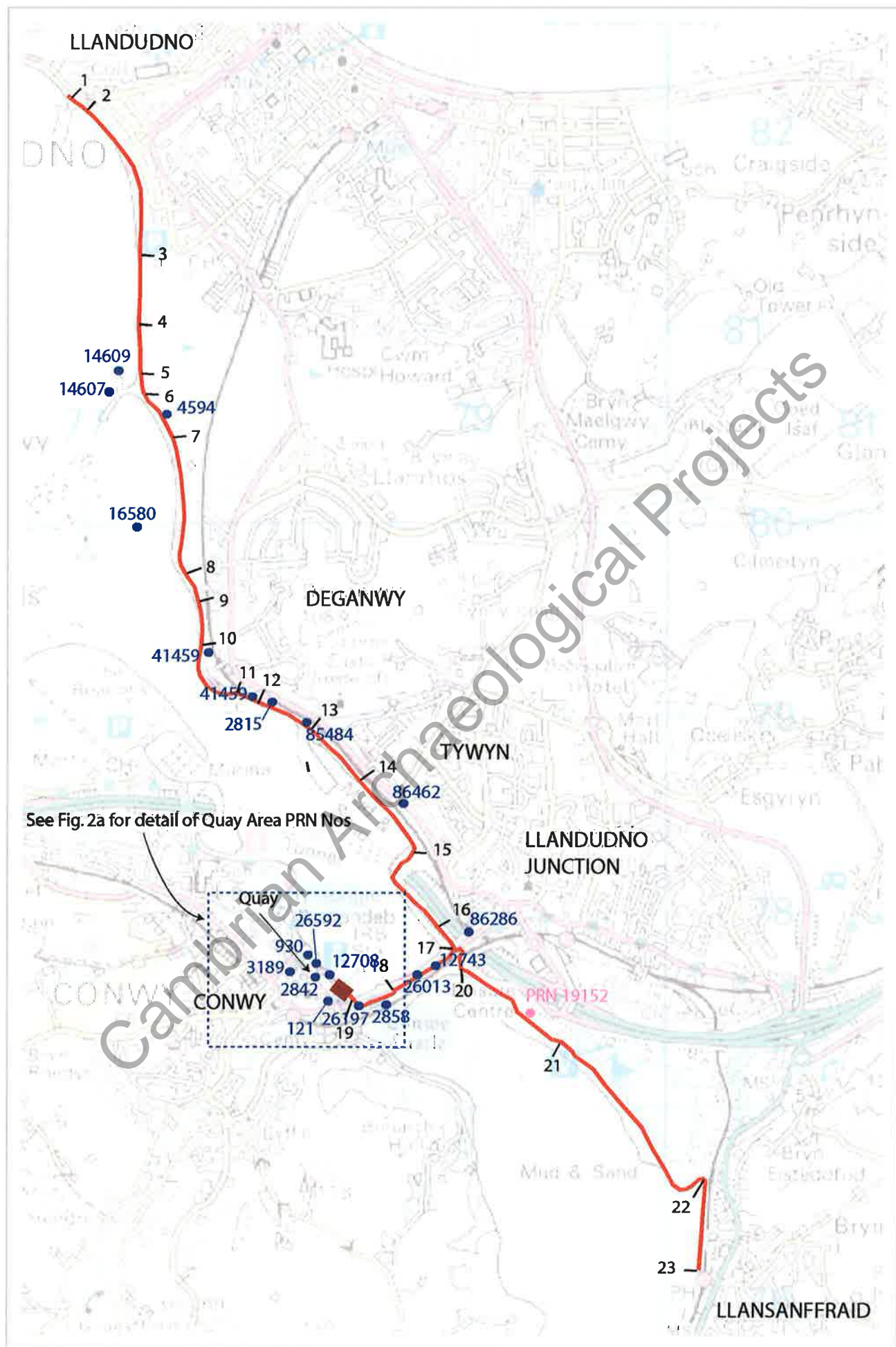


Fig 02: Plan detailing proposed route sections and PRN and NPRN Sites





this stretch of coastline are restricted to two fish traps identified to the north of Cerrig Duon and a farmstead site identified as Castell Tremlyd.

At Llandudno Junction the route will split in two: one section will cross the Afon Conwy to link up with the Conwy Quay development and the other will pass over the main London to Holyhead Railway line, along an existing access track through Glan Conwy nature reserve to Glan Conwy Itself. There are no known archaeological sites along this section of the route.

The proposed works on Conwy Quay will abut part of the medieval town walls of Conwy. The origins of Conwy in its present form date back to the conquest of Wales by Edward I in 1283. The status of Conwy as a site of international importance has been formally recognised by UNESCO in its designation as a World Heritage Site. The town walls are protected as a nationally important monument by their designation as a scheduled ancient monument (SAM) CO14.

A full account of the archaeological and historic background of the area of the proposed development is the subject of this report.

## **2 Aims and Objectives**

The assessment comprises a desk-based study and field visit.

The objective of the assessment was to make a full and affective use of existing information in establishing the archaeological significance of archaeological sites along the route and to assess the impact of the development proposals on the surviving monuments or remains.

The assessment, where appropriate, sets out a programme of further fieldwork that will be necessary to assess the presence or absence of archaeological remains, their extent, nature, quality and character.

## **3 Methodology**

### Desk-based Assessment

A study of all readily available primary and secondary documentary, cartographic, pictorial, aerial/ground photographic and oral sources was undertaken in order to provide an historical framework for the surviving archaeological remains. The sources consulted include:

- The Regional Sites and Monuments Record (Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Bangor) (GAT)
- National Monuments Record (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, Aberystwyth) (RCAHMW)
- Printed and manuscript maps (National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth) (NLW)
- Place and field-name evidence (NLW)
- Aerial photographic collections (GAT, RCAHMW, CCW and University College Bangor)
- Other photographic and illustrative evidence (all of the above)
- Published and unpublished documentary sources and excavation reports (all of the above)
- Local museum catalogues and artefactual evidence (Sites and Monuments Record, GAT)

- Oral evidence (local)
- Issues of setting for Scheduled Ancient Monuments, listed buildings and other archaeological sites of national and/or regional significance were be considered with reference to the Cadw Register of Landscapes (Cadw 1998 and 2001).

#### Field walkover

A walkover study was undertaken to perform the following tasks:

- Review current state of archaeological sites, features and deposits.
- Identify new sites.
- Establish field evaluation requirements.

## **4 The Desk-based Assessment**

### **4.1 History of the principle settlements along the route of the proposed development.**

#### Deganwy

Deganwy has played an important part in Welsh history, controlling the mouth of the River Conwy.

During excavations of the castle hill between 1961 and 1966 Roman occupation was uncovered on the western hill of the castle. Five Constantian coins were located on the south slope of the western hill and one coin was found in the mortar of the wall around the east hill. Fragments of Roman Samian ware were also located during the excavations (Northall, 1995).

During the 6<sup>th</sup> century Deganwy became a Llys (fortified court) of Maelgwyn, Lord of Anglesey, who died in 547.

In 822 The Annals Cambriae state that the fortress of Deganwy, described as Artx Decantorum, was destroyed by the invading Saxon army of Ceolwulf of Mercia (Northall, 1995).

Robert of Rhuddlan built a castle at Deganwy in 1080 which was regained in 1191 by the Welsh but in 1241, in the face of Henry III's advance, Dafydd ap Llywelyn destroyed the stronghold and abandoned the site to the English.

The town was planted at Deganwy by Henry III in the mid 13<sup>th</sup> century with the castle being refortified in 1245 and three years later Henry III ordered free burgesses and markets and fairs were granted in 1250. The town was short lived and in 1263 the town was attacked by Llywelyn ap Gruffudd when the castle and town were destroyed. The town regenerated itself as a small commercial community dependant on the newly founded town of Conwy with the markets reappearing by 1290.

#### Conwy (Figs. 3 – 14, Plates. 1 – 3)

The borough of Conwy was founded in 1283. There is no evidence to suggest an earlier settlement here although part of the area chosen for the town was already occupied by a Cistercian abbey which had moved here in c. 1192 from Rhedynog, near Caernarfon, and was known to be the burial place of several Welsh princes. This



site was acquired by the king who compensated the abbey and transferred it to Maenan further up the Conwy Valley.

By the end of 1287 the fortifications were almost complete and by 1295 112 burgages had been taken up by 99 burgesses (Soulsby, 1983, 111). The borough was also enclosed by a 1280m wall with 21 half-round towers were built at intervals along its length. Spurs at the northernmost and southernmost ends of the section facing the river gave added protection to the quay. After the 14<sup>th</sup> century little is known about the size of and development of the borough and the full extent of Glyndwr's destruction are not recorded.

Despite the presence of the quay the town did not develop into an important port, and the absence of any noted industry suggests that it experienced a decline in the post-medieval period. In 1607 the town was seriously hit by the plague and after being defended briefly in the Civil War it was surrendered to Parliament in 1646 and was subsequently gutted and left to the elements (Humphries, 1983, 37).

By the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century large areas of the walls had been given over to gardens and the houses were comparatively few. However, in 1826 the Telford Post road suspension bridge was constructed linking Conwy to Llandudno, in 1833 a new quay was constructed which projected beyond the line of the earlier quay, in 1846 the Tubular Bridge was constructed to link the Conwy to Chester and Holyhead railway and during the mid/late 19<sup>th</sup> century with the arrival of the railway the town expanded beyond its medieval limits.

#### **4.2 Known Archaeological Sites (Fig. 2 & Appendix II)**

Known archaeological sites along the proposed route and its immediate vicinity are given in Appendix II of this report.

#### **4.3 Cartographic Sources**

##### Saxton Map of 1578 (not illustrated)

This is the first available map to show the locations of Llandudno and Conwy but shows no further details relevant to the proposed development.

##### John Speed Map of 1610 (Fig. 3)

This map also shows the locations Llandudno (Llandidno) and Conwy (Aberconwy). Although there are documentary references and excavation evidence (section 4.1) to Deganwy from the Roman period the settlement is not illustrated on this map.

##### Holland's map of Conwy, 1776 (Fig. 4)

This is the first map to show the area of Conwy Quay but gives no details of the quay's construction.

##### 1829 map of Conwy (Fig. 5)

This map details part of the area of the proposed development but is not detailed enough to give any precise information of features/structures other than a basic layout of the castle and walled town of Conwy.

##### 1846 Tithe Map of Conwy Parish (Fig. 6)

This is the first map to show the town of Conwy in any detail. The area of the castle, town walls and quay is clearly illustrated although somewhat inaccurate: numbers of towers do not correspond to later maps, no wall projecting towards the river off the northwest tower and no specific details of the quay area. The Tithe Schedule lists plot 44, which appears to relate to both the north and east side of the town walls, as the castle ditch. However, the ditch was probably present on the northern side of the town walls but as the eastern side leads straight to the river and the quay is known to have been present since the 13<sup>th</sup> century (Soulsby, 1983, 11) the ditch is unlikely to have been present on the eastern side of the town walls.

1891 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey Map, Caernarfonshire Sheet IV. SE (Fig. 7)

This map illustrates the town of Conwy in more detail than the Tithe map of 1846. The area of the proposed Conway quay development (highlighted) shows the northernmost spur of the castles defences and better detail of the foreshore to the east of the castle with a basic outline of 19<sup>th</sup> century quay.

1900 Ordnance Survey Map of Conwy (Fig. 8)

This is the first map to give any details of Conwy Quay and depicts structures lying against the eastern side of the town wall along with a large structure in the northeast section of the proposed development and other smaller structures at various locations along the quay as well as the quay retaining wall (PRN 12708). No details regarding the nature and function of these buildings is given but could include the Harbour Masters Office and other wharfage structures.

1901 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey Map, Caernarfonshire Sheet IV. SE (Fig. 9)

There are few noteworthy changes to this map since the map of 1900.

1913 Ordnance Survey Map of Conwy (Fig. 10)

The only new depictions on this map within the area of the proposed development are two landing stages in the northeastern area and an extension to the rectangular structure on the quayside east of Castle Street.

1938 Ordnance Survey Map of Conwy (Fig. 11)

This map covers a larger area of the proposed development but as it is of a smaller scale than the previous maps lacks any detail. It is however, the first map depicting the Tubular and Suspension Bridges (PRN's 2858 & 12743) that cross the Conwy Estuary.

1953 Ordnance Survey Map of Conwy (Fig. 12)

Since the map of 1938 the large structure in the northeastern section of the proposed quay development has gone along with some of the structures abutting the eastern side of the town wall.

1956 RCAHMW Map of Conwy (Fig. 13)

This map shows the quayside outline with only two structures (secondary monuments) abutting the eastern side of the town (The Harbour Masters Office (PRN 26592) and 10-12 Lower Gate Street (NPRN 26743)).



1960 Ordnance Survey Map of Conwy (Fig. 14)

This map shows further evidence of the development of the quayside during the 20<sup>th</sup> century with additional structures abutting the eastern side of the town wall.

1846 Tithe Map of Llangystenin Parish (Fig. 7)

This is the first map to detail this section of the proposed development. The route marked on Fig. 7 is approximate as area of the proposed development appears to have undergone land reclamation and further development such as the construction of the railway in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century (see below). There are three plots of land that appear to relate to the line of the proposed route (448, 547, and 563) which appear in the Tithe Schedule as areas of common land and meadow. The parcels of land to the northwest of this coastal strip are also recorded as farmland (arable, pasture and meadows).

1891 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey Map, Carnarfonshire Sheet V, SW (Fig. 8)

Since the Tithe Map of 1846 a small area of land between Conwy Bridge and Llandudno Junction appears to have been reclaimed with the construction of the Llandudno Junction and Blaenau Ffestiniog Branch Railway line. The Chester and Holyhead Railway has also been constructed to the north and over the bridge into Conwy with the land in between appearing to remain as farmland.

1901 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey Map, Carnarfonshire Sheet V, SW (Fig. 9)

Since the 1<sup>st</sup> edition map the noticeably changes is the development of the Junction Brickworks (New PRN: 19152) on the land between the two sets of railway tracks. The Brickworks and the Llandudno Junction and Blaenau Ffestiniog Branch Railway line have since been removed and the Glan Conwy Nature Reserve presently occupies the area.

1846 Tithe Map of Eglwys-Rhos (Fig. 10)

This is the first map to show this area of the proposed development in any detail. The route line marked on Fig. 10 is again approximate due to latter changes in the landscape such as the construction of the railway (see below). The land parcels adjacent to the proposed route were all largely farmland (arable, pasture and meadow) with the exception of one dwelling (cottage and yard) associated with Castell Tremlyd.

1891 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey Map, Carnarfonshire Sheet IV, NE (Fig. 11)

Since the Tithe Map of 1846 the Llandudno Branch Railway line has been constructed to the east of the coastline and field boundaries removed to create larger fields. The area still appears to be largely given over to farmland. At the northern end of the development is an area marked as 'The Warren' which is now the area of Deganwy Golf Course. The settlement of Castell Tremlyd is still shown as standing at this time.

1901 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey Map, Carnarfonshire Sheet IV, NE (Fig. 12)



Fig 03: John Speed Map of 1610



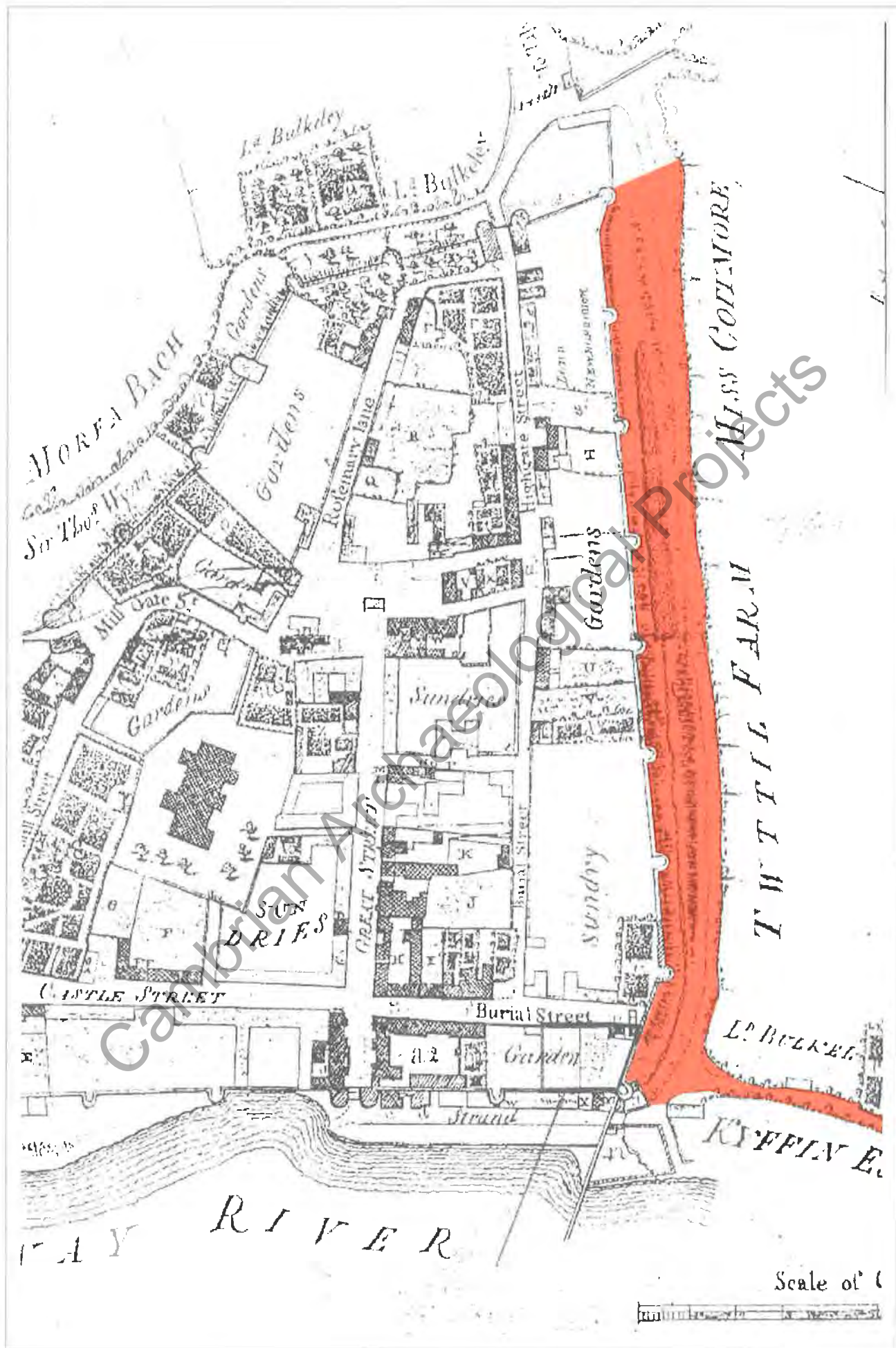


Fig 04: Holland's Map of Conwy, 1776 with assessment area highlighted





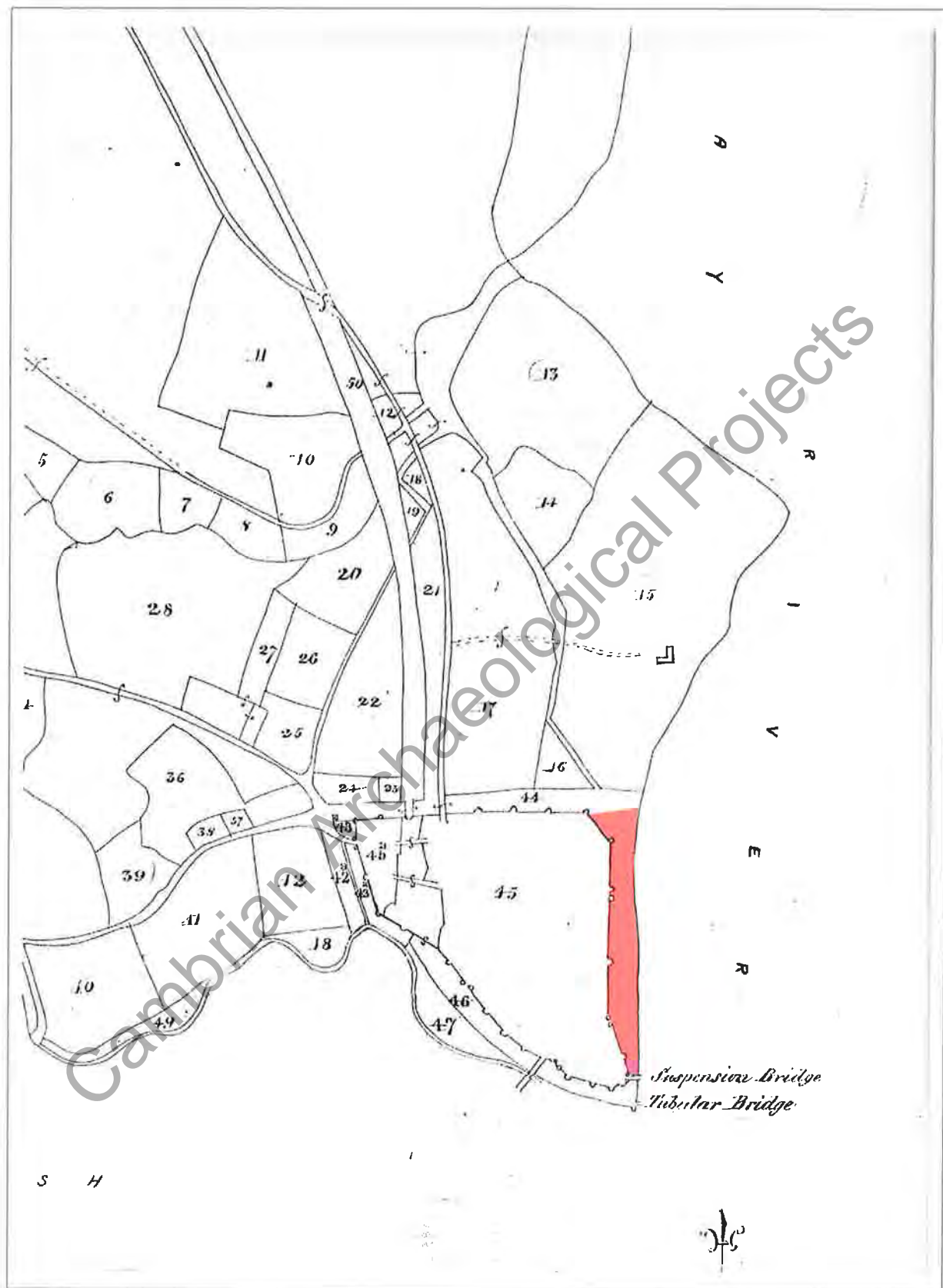


Fig.06: 1846 Tithe Map of Conway Parish with area of Quay Highlighted

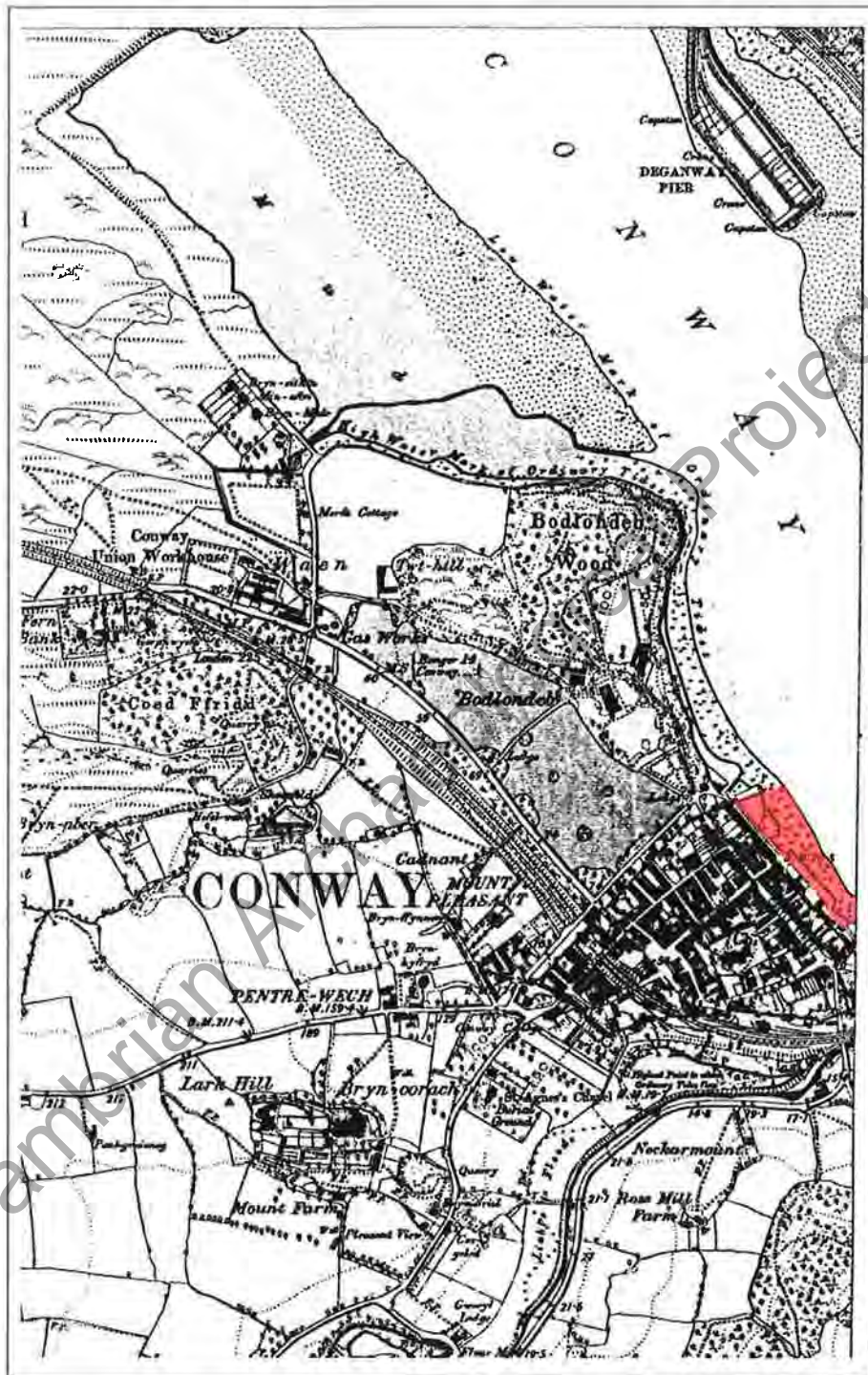


Fig.07: 1891 1st edition Map, Carnarvonshire Sheet IV, SE



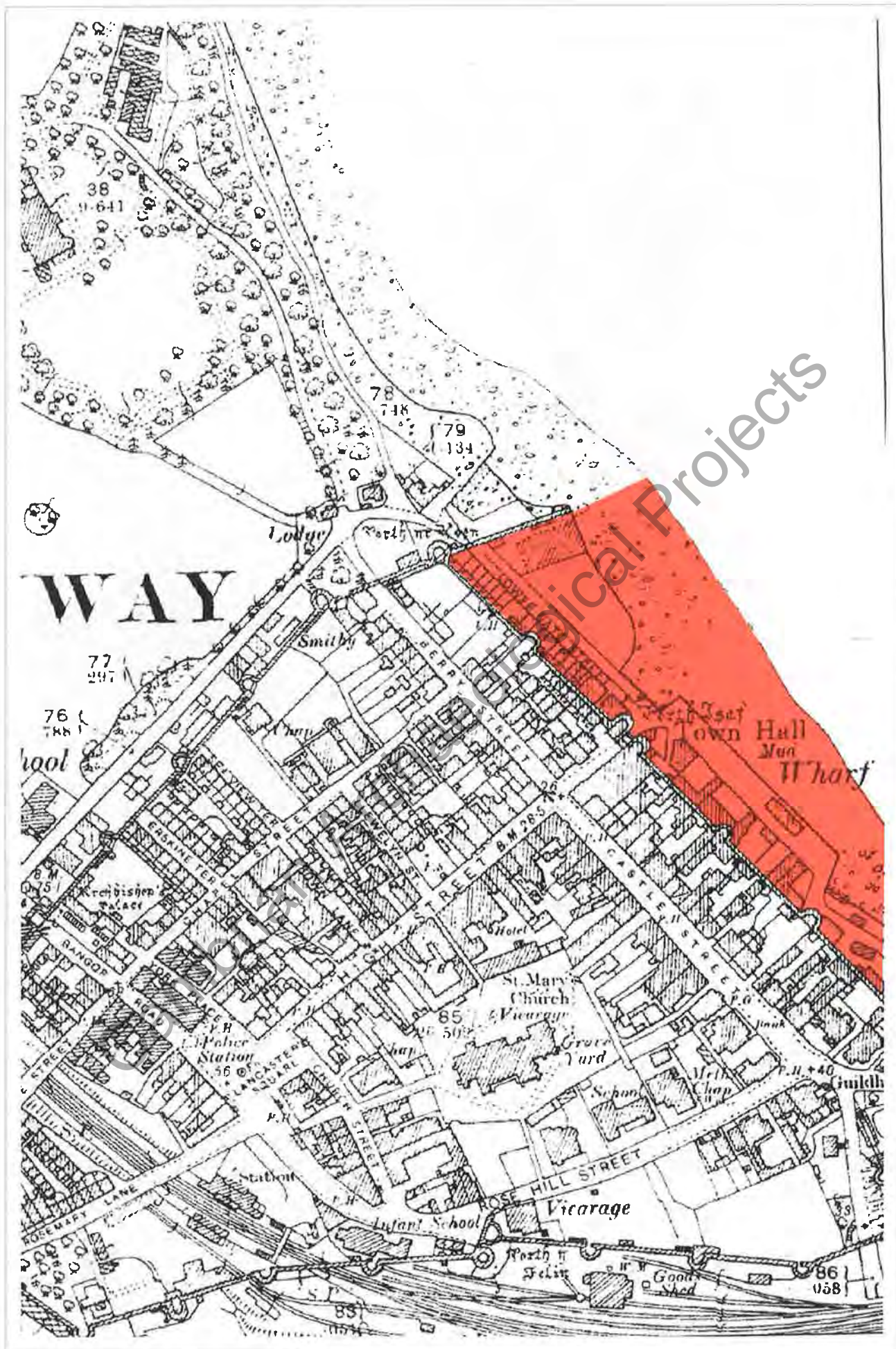


Fig 08: 1900 Ordnance Survey Map with assessment area highlighted



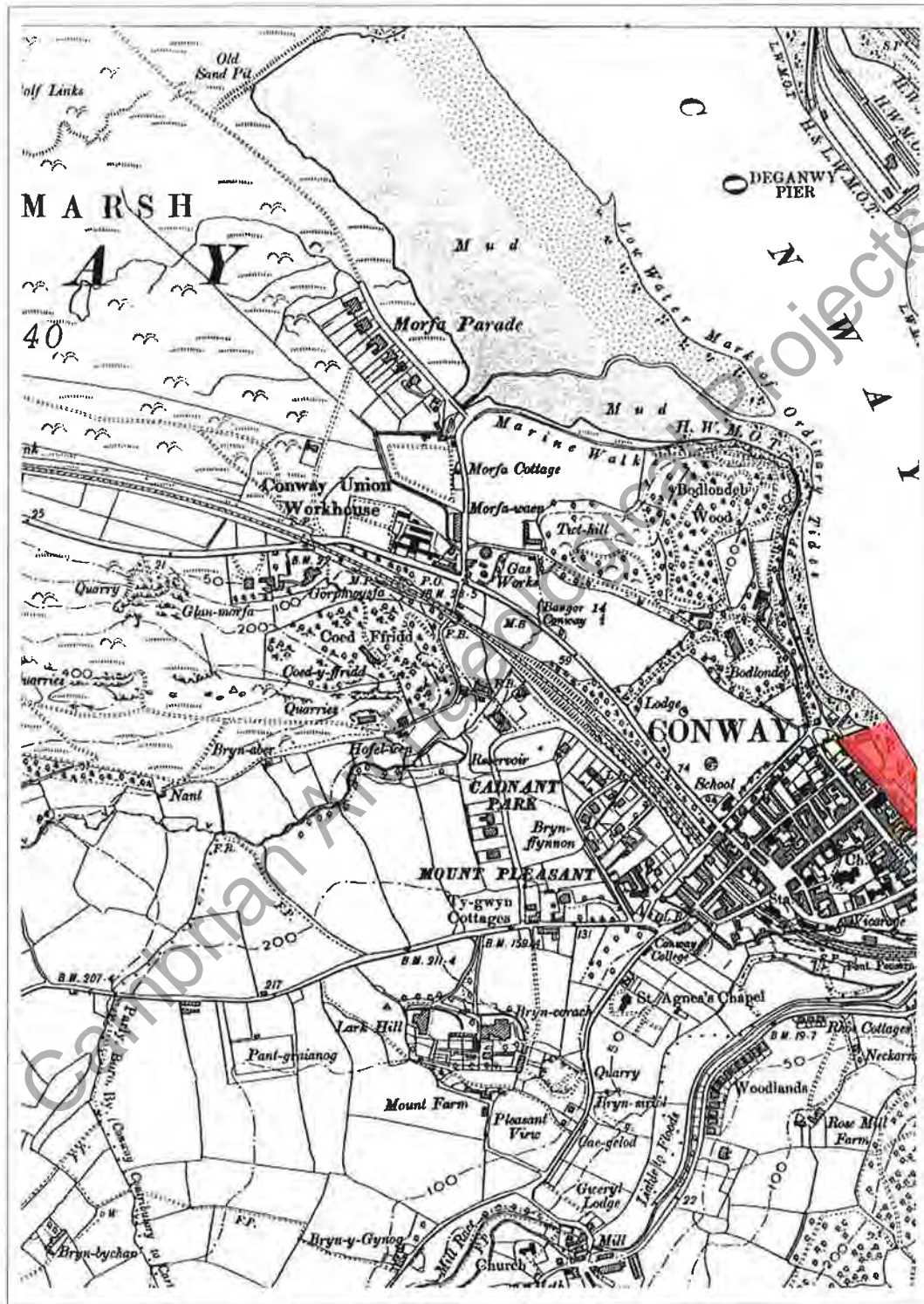


Fig 09: 2nd edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1901 with assessment area highlighted



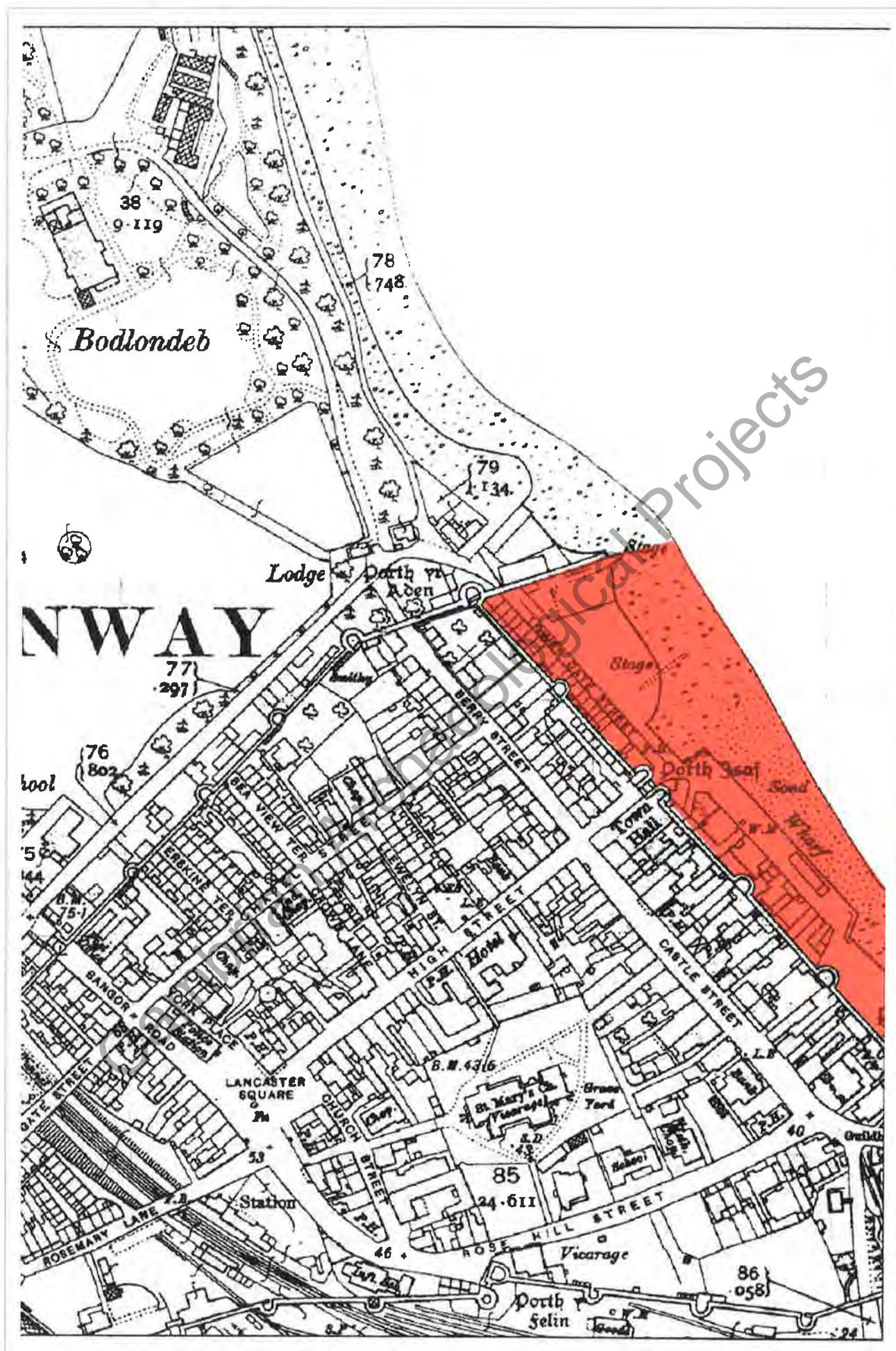


Fig 10: Ordnance Survey Map of 1913 with assessment area highlighted



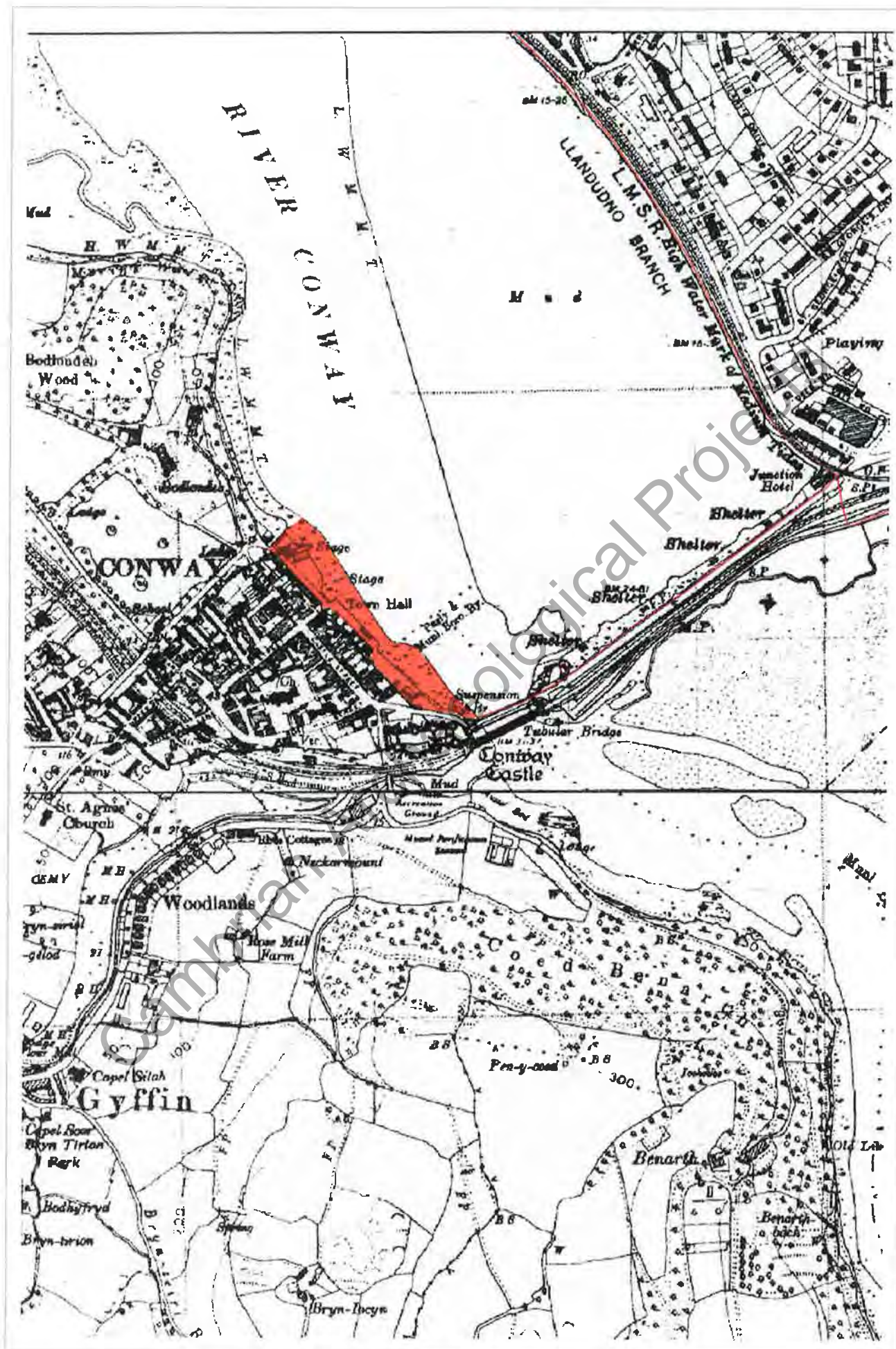


Fig 11: 1938 Ordnance Survey Map with assessment area highlighted



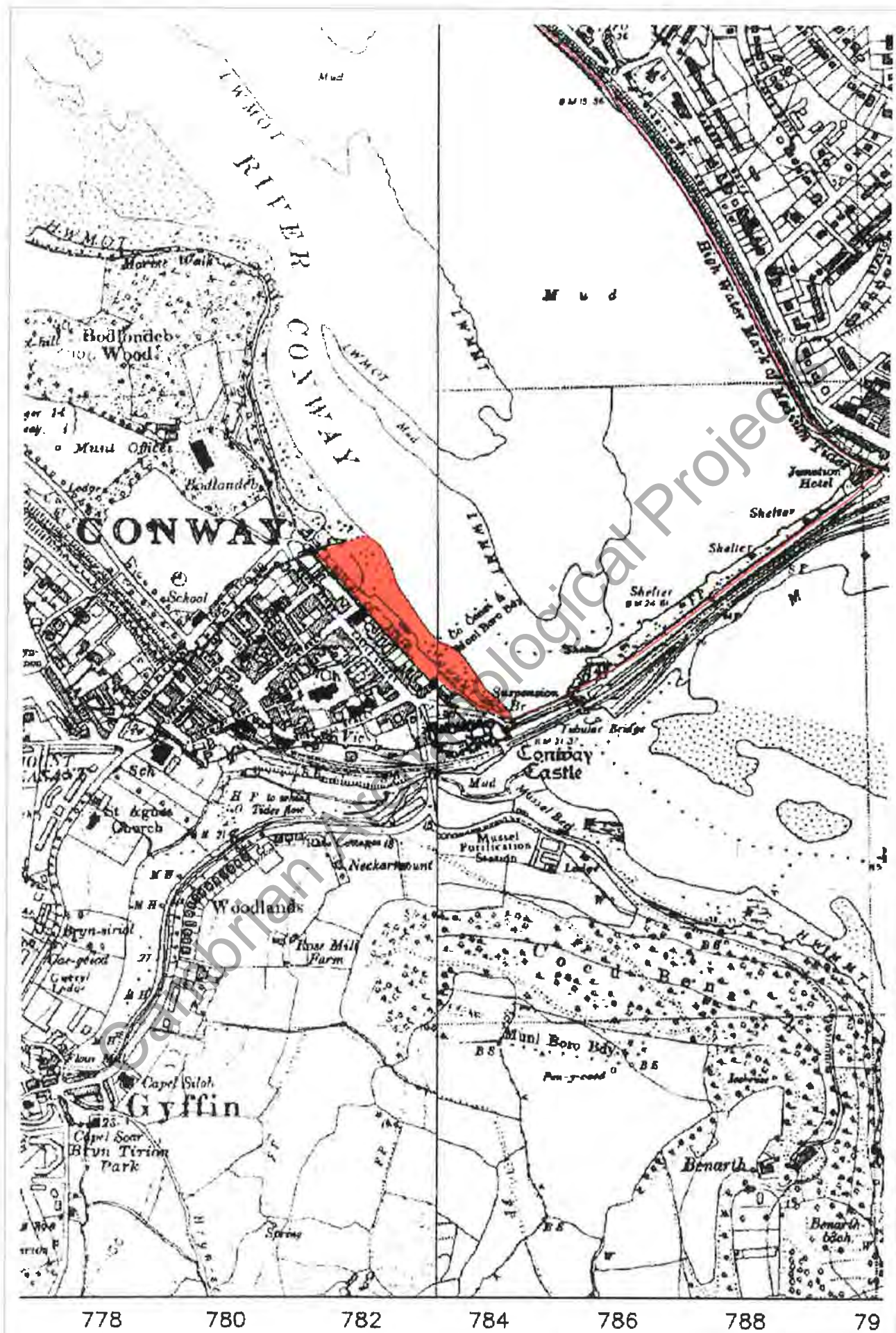
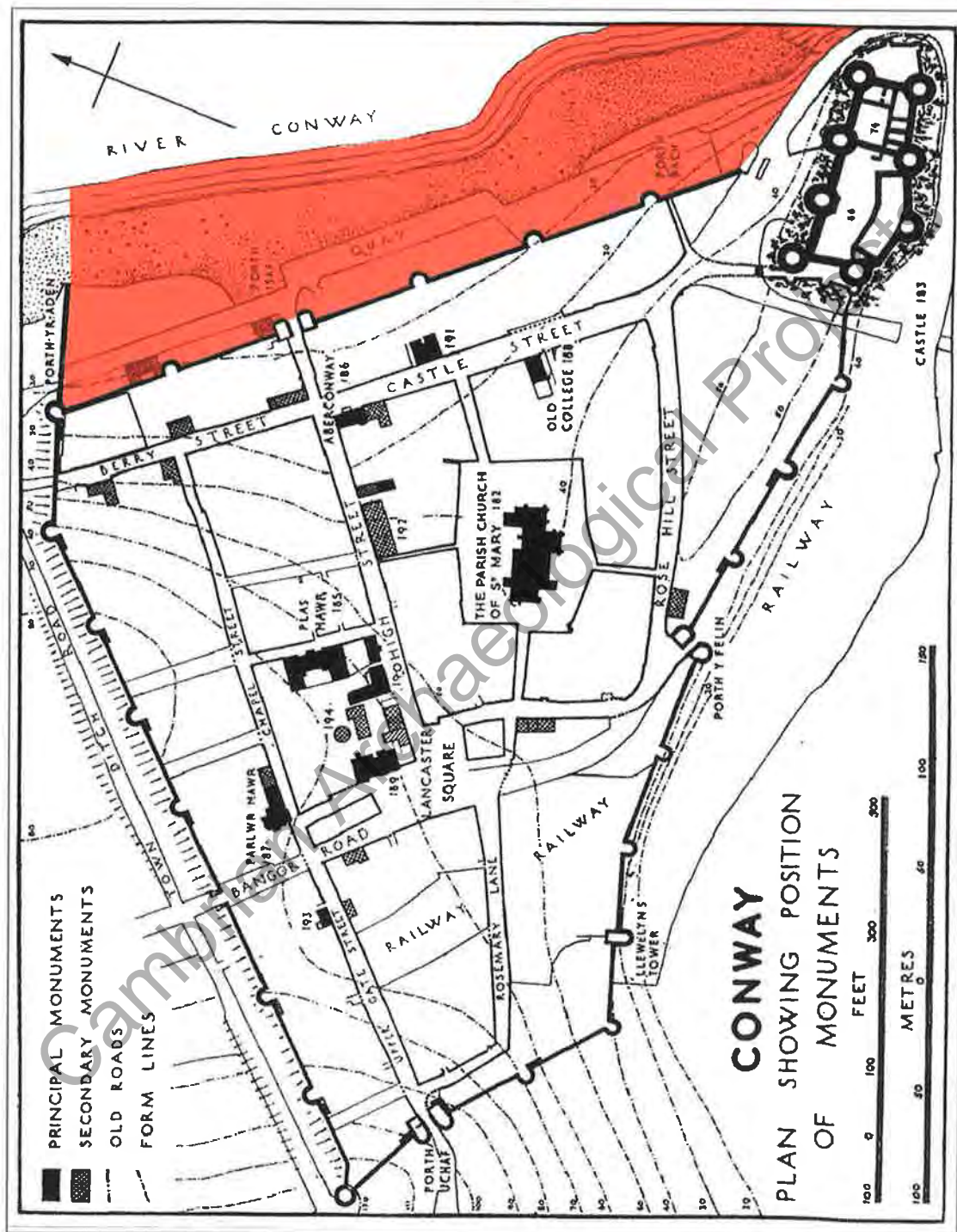


Fig 12: Ordnance Survey Map of 1953 with assessment area highlighted





**Fig. 13:** 1956 RCAHWM Plan of Conway with assessment area highlighted



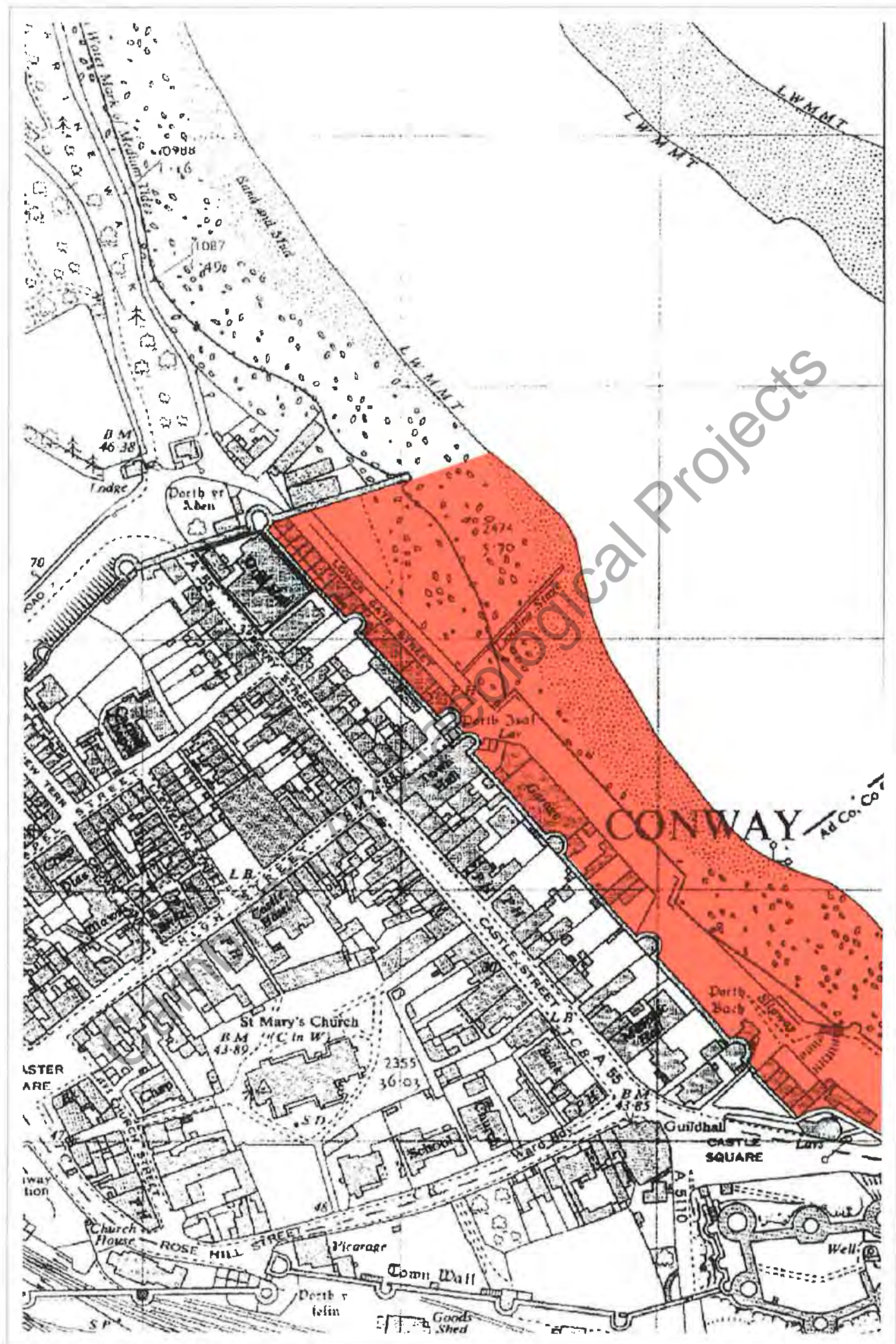
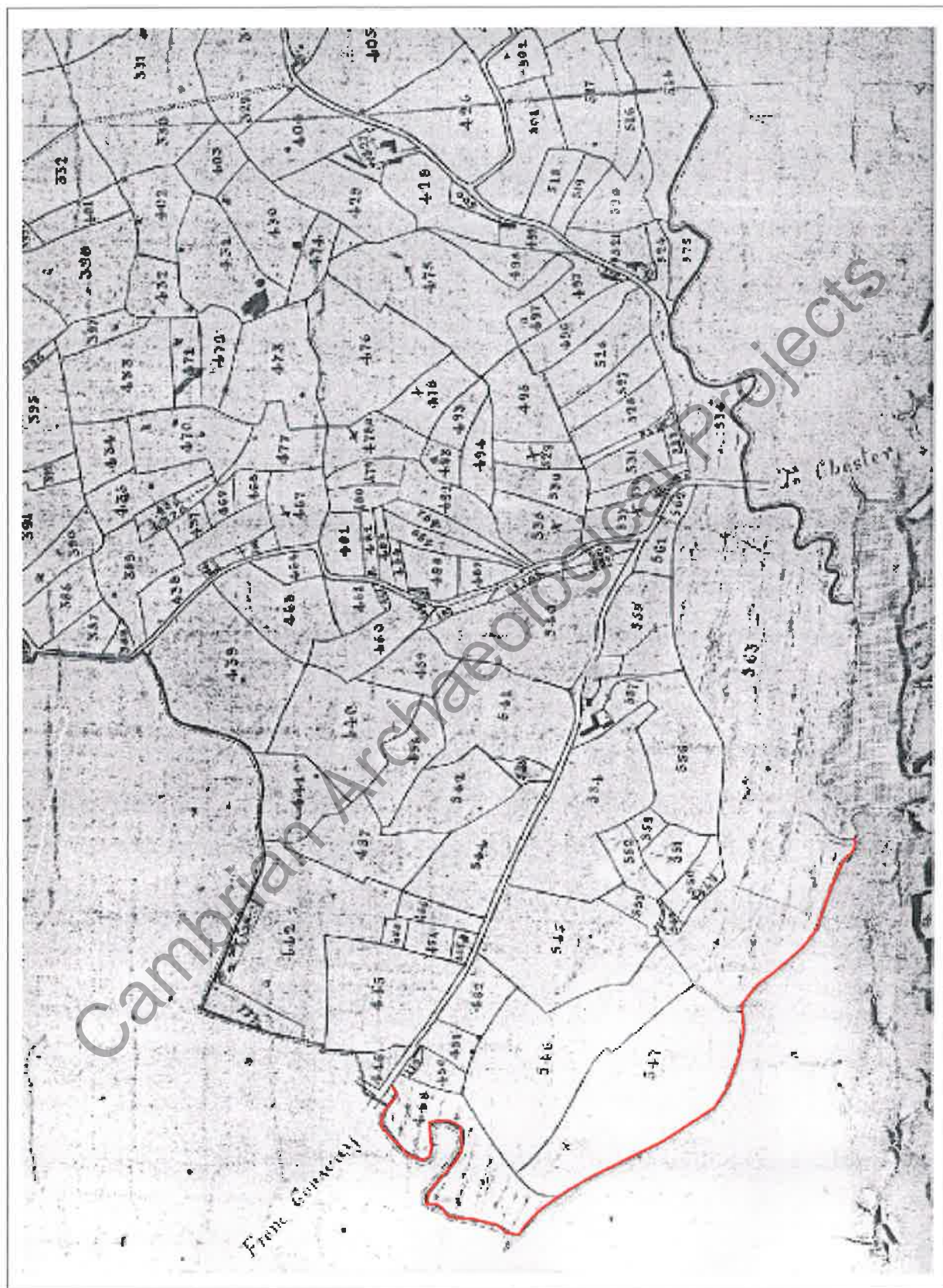


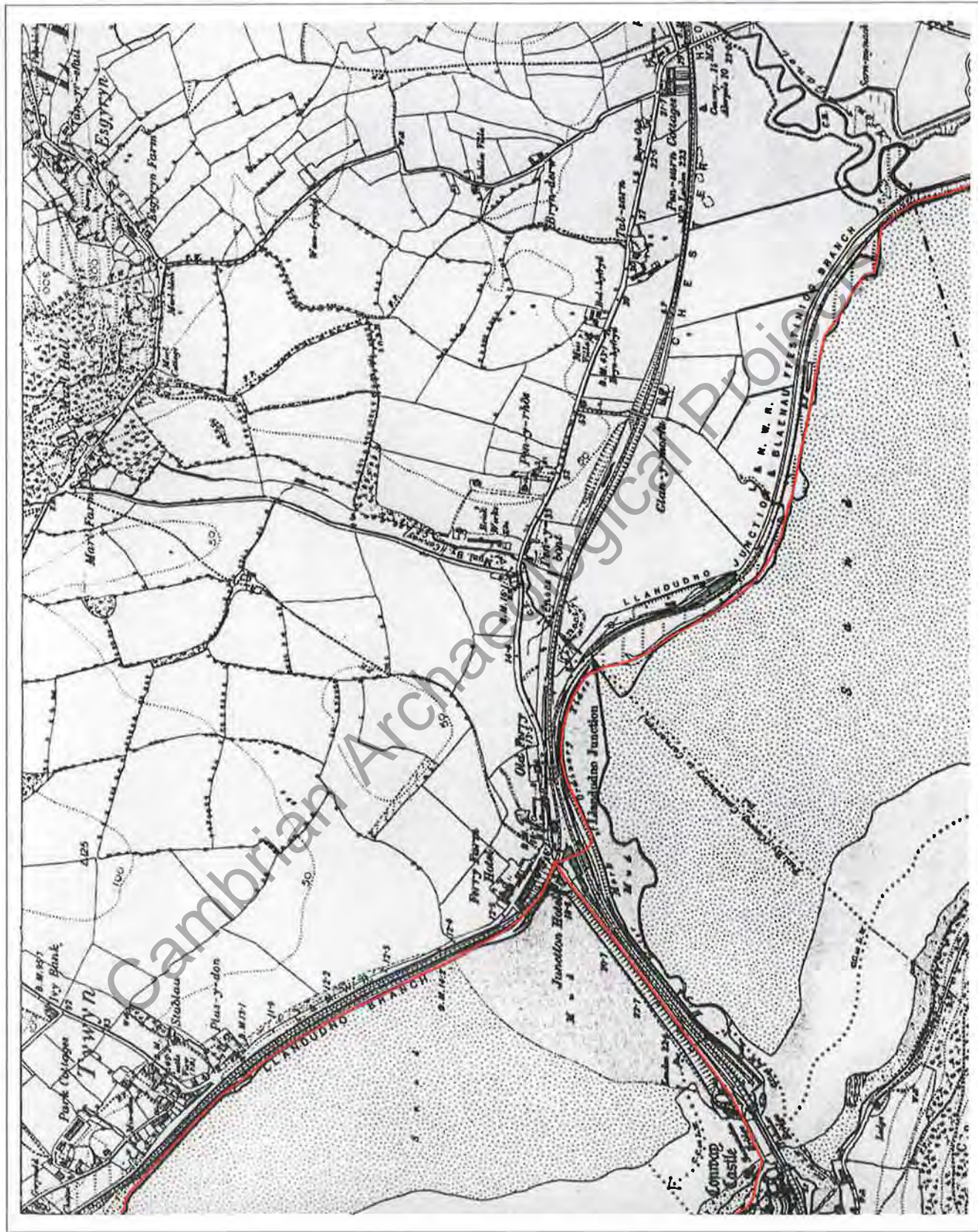
Fig 14: 1960 Ordnance Survey Map of Conwy with assessment area highlighted





**Fig. 15:** 1846 Tithe Map of Llangystenin Parish with assessment area highlighted





**Fig. 16:** 1891 1st edition Ordnance Survey Map , Caernarfonshire Sheet V,SW with assessment area highlighted



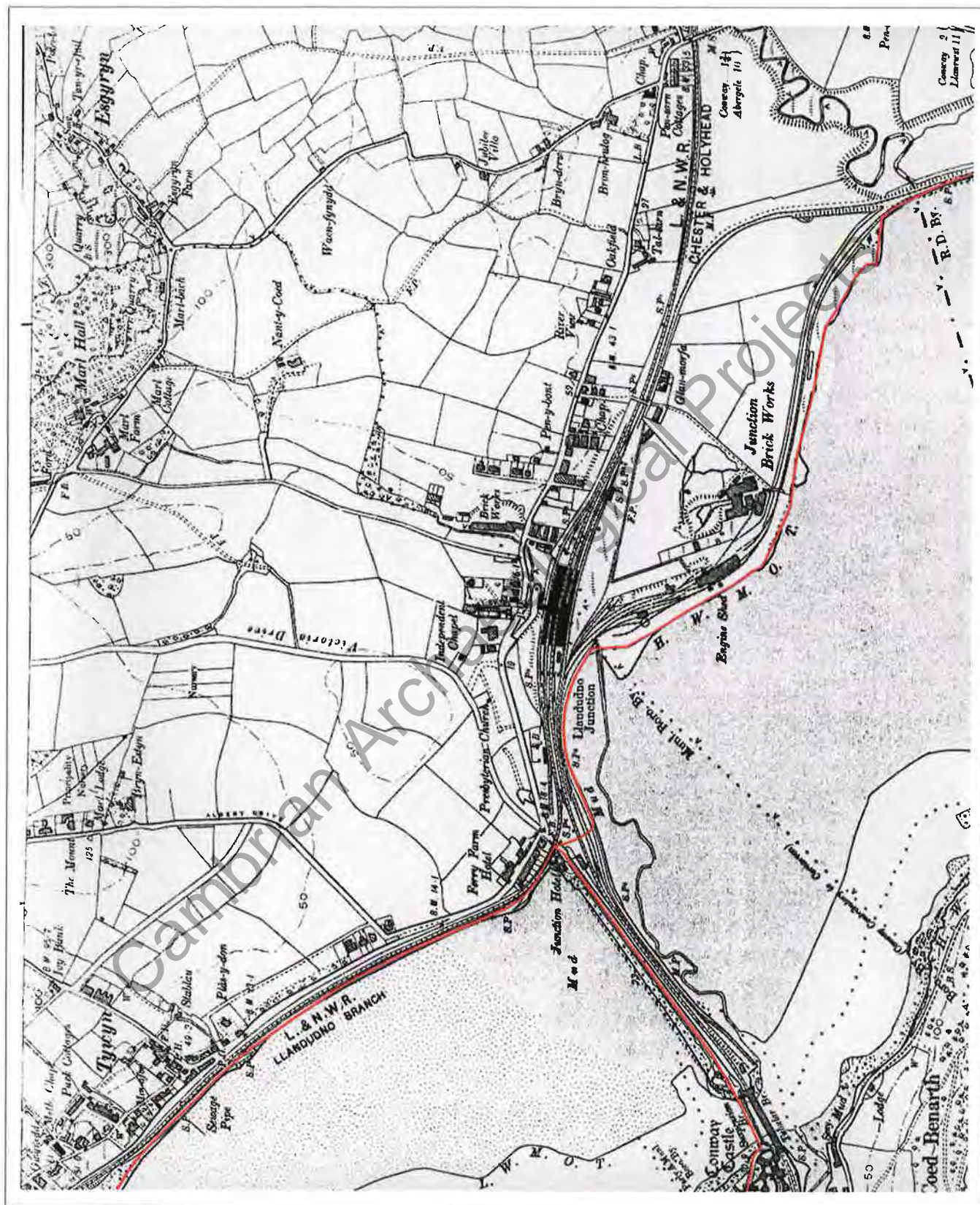


Fig. 17: 1901 2nd edition Ordnance Survey Map , Caernarfonshire Sheet V, SW with assessment area highlighted



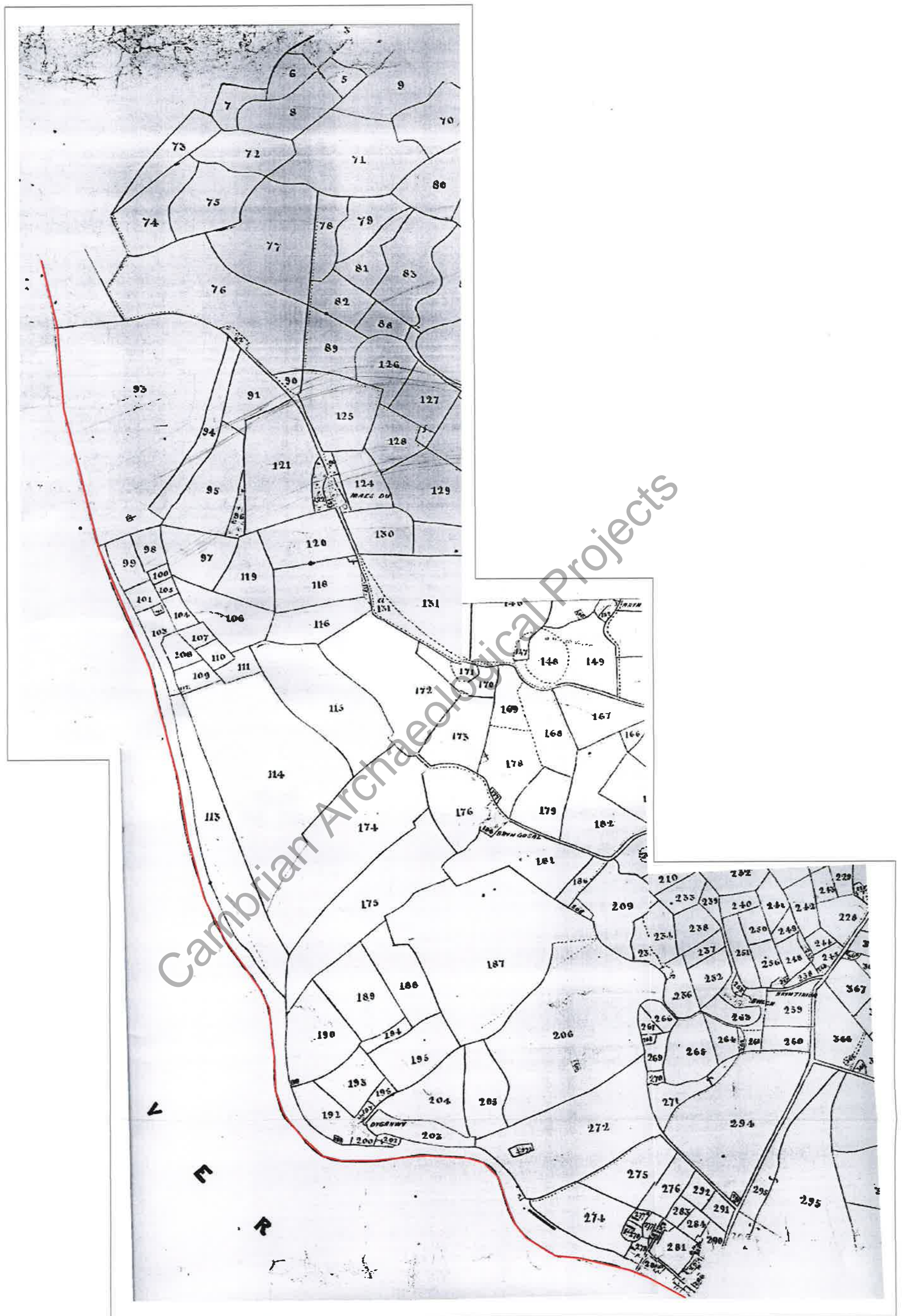
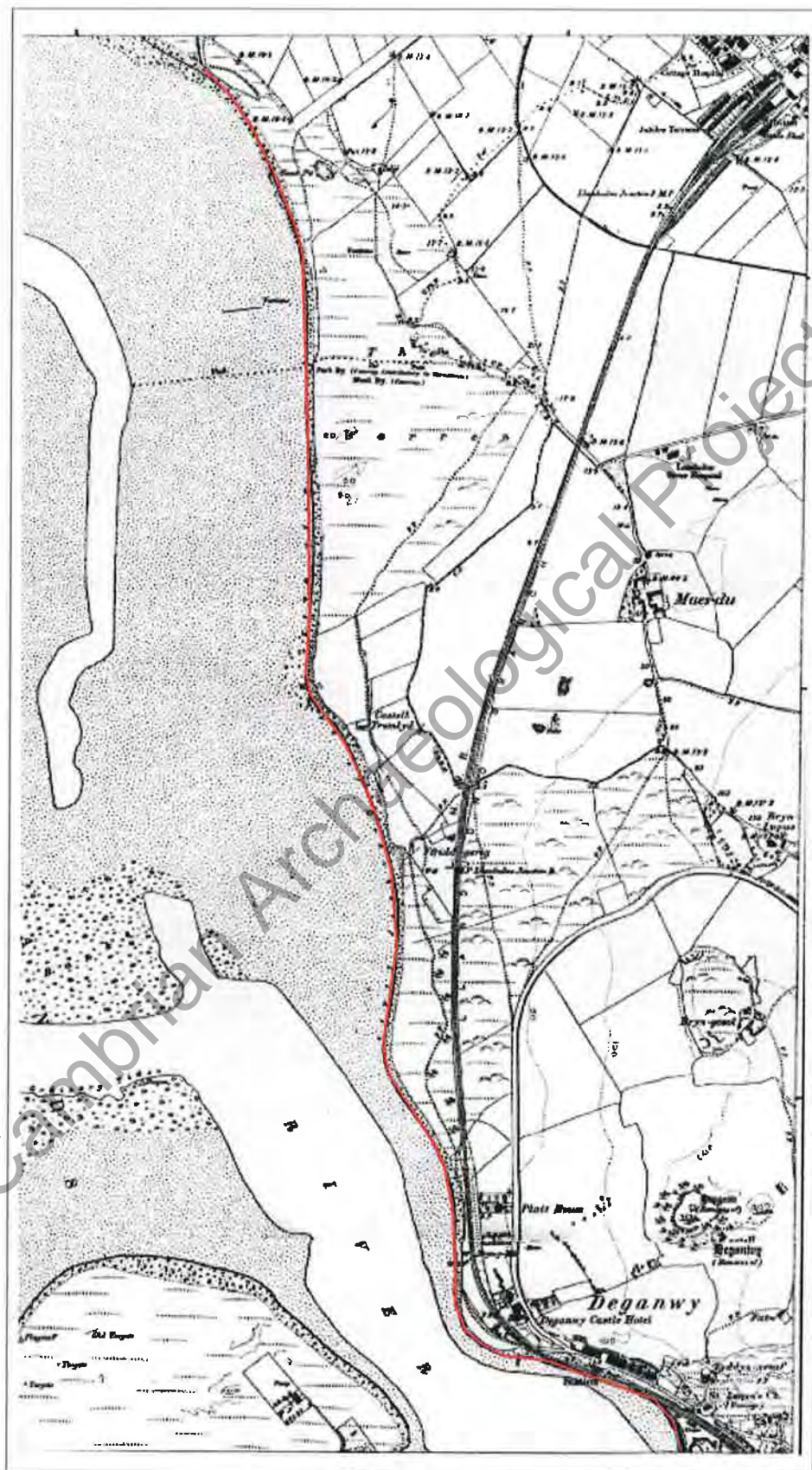


Fig. 18: 1846 Tithe Map of Egwys-Rhos Parish with assessment area highlighted





**Fig. 19:** 1891 1st edition Ordnance Survey Map, Caernarfonshire Sheet IV, NE with assessment area highlighted







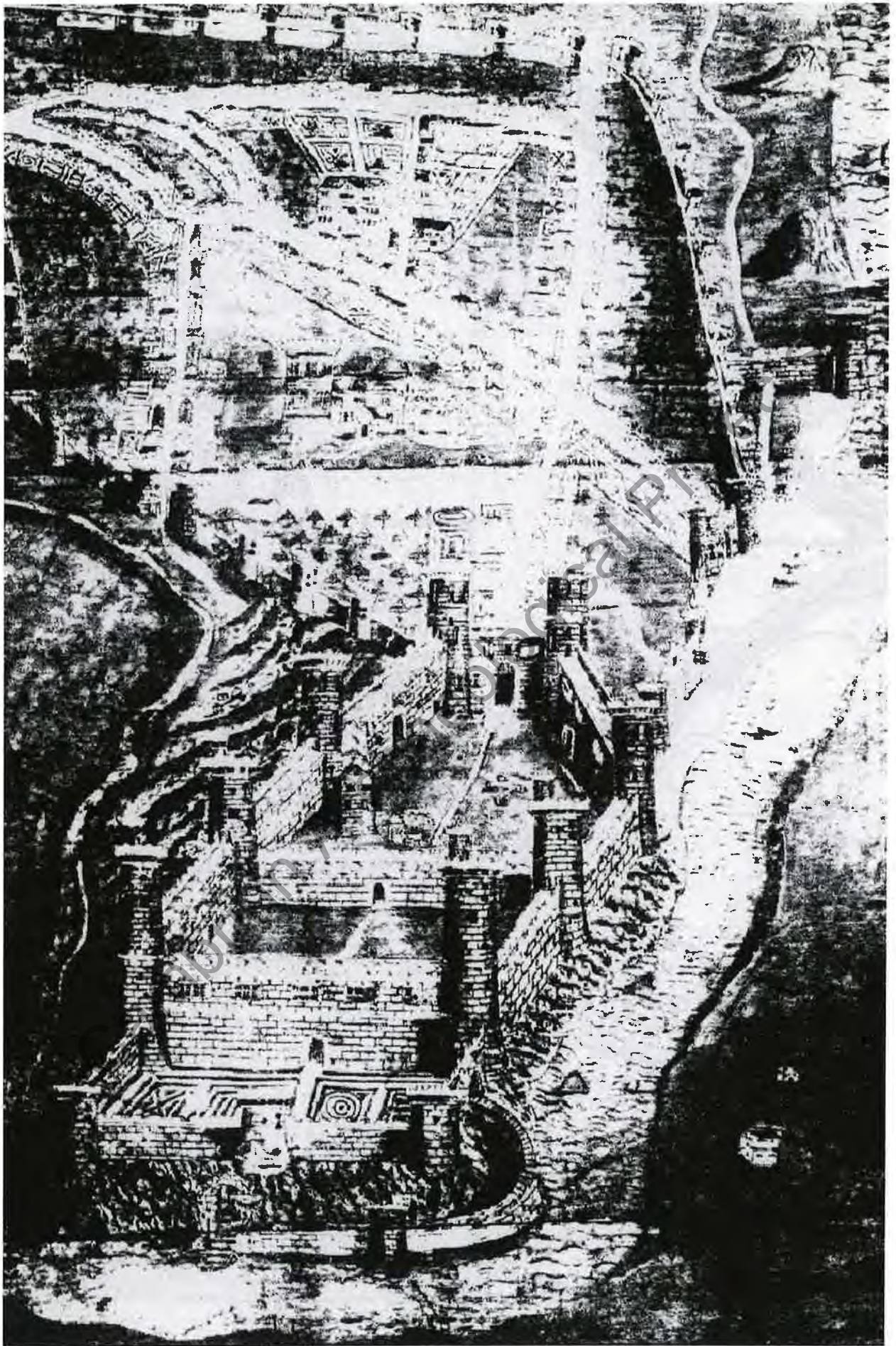


Plate 01: 17th century engraving of Conwy



*A PLAY OF THE  
Bay Harbour of Conway  
In Caernarvonshire.  
By Lewis Morris.*

*By Louis. Morris.*

PART OF CARYARROW SHIRE

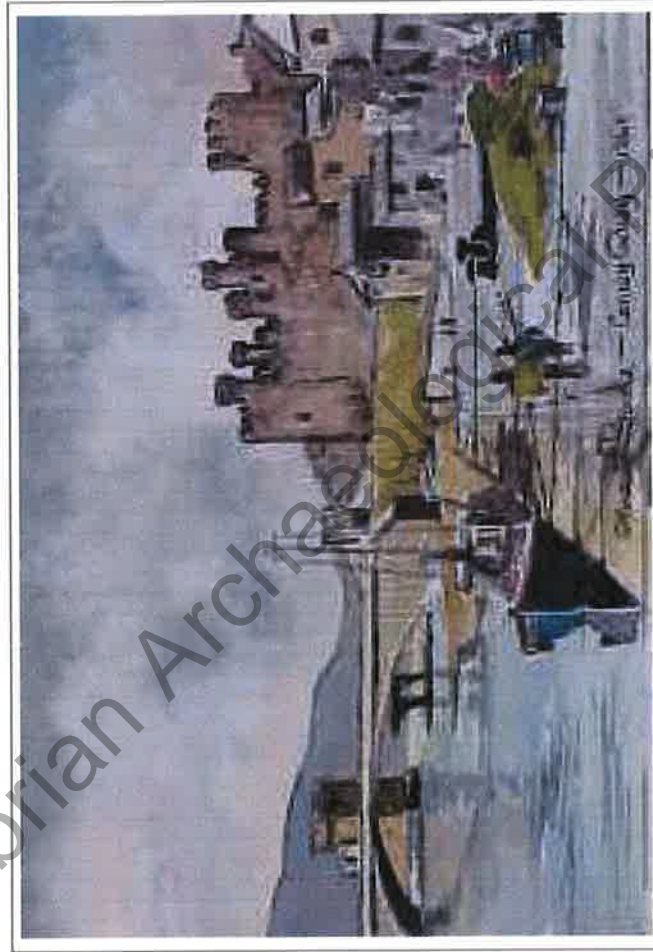
*A. S. Smith*

# PEX MANS BACK

L'ENMARENNA

Orme's Head

**Plate 02: 1748 engraving of The Bay and Harbour of Conwy by Lewis Morris**



**Plate 03:** Water colour painting of Conway Quay in 1861 (martingood.co.uk)



There are no significant changes in the area of the proposed development since the 1<sup>st</sup> edition map of 1891.

#### **4.4 Photographic Sources**

Aerial photographs dating from the 1940s to 1990s were consulted at RCAHMW (Aberystwyth), CCW Bangor, Bangor Museum but no evidence of further archaeological features, to those outlined above (section 4.2), were present within the areas of the proposed development (A list of the aerial photographs consulted is given in Appendix IV).

#### **4.5 Nature of the proposed development and impacts on archaeological remains**

*The following text has been split into the sections illustrated on Fig. 2 for ease of reference.*

##### Between Points 1 & 2

###### *Nature of the proposed development*

There will be minor alterations required in this section to the existing car park layout to accommodate the proposed route. These alterations involve: additional signing, surface marking and cycle park.

###### *Impact on archaeological remains*

There will be *no impact* to any archaeological remains in this area of the proposed development.

##### Between Points 2 & 3

###### *Nature of the proposed development*

The route will run along the existing shingle beach before joining the existing track. The route construction is to comprise of unbound granular material with fine dust surface dressing.

###### *Impact on archaeological remains*

As all work in this section requires no groundworks there will be *no impact* on any archaeological remains.

##### Between Points 3 & 4

###### *Nature of the proposed development*

The route will run along a 3m wide existing track at the base of the dunes.

###### *Impact on archaeological remains*

There will be *no impact* to any archaeological remains in this area of the proposed development.

#### Between Points 4 & 5

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

The route will follow an existing 3m wide track at the base of the dunes and imported beach nourishment will be added to the western side of the track.

##### *Impact on archaeological remains*

There will be *no impact* to any archaeological remains in this area of the proposed development. Any imported beach nourishment will preserve archaeological remains *in situ*.

#### Between Points 5 & 6

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

Between points 5 & 6 the route will run along the existing shingle beach before joining proposed new rock revetment. All development will be surface development only.

##### *Impact on archaeological remains*

There will be *no impact* to any archaeological remains in this area of the proposed development.

#### Between Points 6 & 7

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

The route will follow the base of the existing dunes from Tremlyd Point (PRN 4594) before tying into an existing 3m wide track at the base of the dunes. There will be a small amount of bank removal for stabilisation and a 2m excavation below the existing beach level to the west of the bank.

##### *Impact on archaeological remains*

The site of the former Castell Tremlyd (PRN 4594) is located within this section of the proposed route that is thought to no longer exist. However, it or associated features (such as possible structures relating to the castell and the river Conwy) could remain buried in this area. There is also the possibility of archaeological remains being revealed by the 2m excavation to the west of the bank, such as buried peat deposits, fish traps etc (Bronze Age Axe hoard (PRN 2815) was found in such deposits. There could therefore be *minor to major impacts* on archaeological deposits and it is therefore recommended that an archaeological watching brief should be undertaken in this area during construction.

#### Between Points 7 & 8

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

Between points 7 & 8 the route will follow the existing 3m wide track at the base of the dune. A small proportion of the bank on the eastern side of the track is to be removed for stabilisation.



#### *Impact on archaeological remains*

There are no known archaeological deposits or features within this area of the proposed development and therefore there will be *no impact* within this area of the proposed development.

#### Between Points 8 & 9

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

Between points 8 & 9 the route will follow an existing 3m wide track. All development is surface development only.

##### *Impact on archaeological remains*

As all work in this section requires no groundworks there will be *no impact* on any archaeological remains.

#### Between Points 9 & 10

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

Between points 9 & 10 the route will run along the existing concrete path land-ward of the wave return wall to tie into the promenade at Marine Gardens. To the west of the proposed track a new revetment will be constructed with excavation to a depth of 2m below the existing ground level.

##### *Impact on archaeological remains*

Archaeological deposits or features, such as peat deposits and intertidal muds (similar to PRN 16580) which could contain artefacts, may lay undisturbed within the area to the west of the proposed track resulting in *minor to major impacts* on archaeological remains. It is therefore recommended that an archaeological watching brief should be undertaken in this area during construction.

#### Between Points 10 & 11

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

Between points 10 & 11 the proposed route will run along the existing promenade to tie into Marine Crescent. All works will be subsurface.

##### *Impact on archaeological remains*

There will be *no impact* to any archaeological remains in this area of the proposed development.

#### Between Points 11 & 12

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

Between points 11 & 12 the route will follow the line of existing masonry

##### *Impact on archaeological remains*

There will be *no impact* to any archaeological remains in this area of the proposed development.

#### Between Points 12 & 13

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

Between points 12 & 13 the route will follow at existing 2.5m track to tie in with the Deganwy Dock Development. All development is surface mounted.

##### *Impact on archaeological remains*

There will be *no impact* to any archaeological remains in this area of the proposed development.

#### Between Points 13 & 14

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

The area between 13 & 14 will be undertaken as part of the Deganwy Docks private development and no desk-based assessment has been requested for this section of the proposed development.

#### Between Points 14 & 15

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

The route will follow the line of existing masonry wall to tie into armourflex revetment surrounding the eastern portal of the Conwy Tunnel. The armourflex revetment will result in a 2m deep excavation below the existing ground surface on the western side of the track.

##### *Impact on archaeological remains*

Archaeological deposits or features, such as peat deposits and intertidal muds (similar to PRN 16580) which could contain artefacts, may lay undisturbed within the area to the west of the proposed track resulting in *minor to major impacts* on archaeological remains. It is therefore recommended that an archaeological watching brief should be undertaken in this area during construction.

#### Between Points 15 & 16

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

The route will follow the existing armourflex revetment to tie in with the existing bitumen macadam surfaced access road.

##### *Impact on archaeological remains*

There will be *no impact* to any archaeological remains in this area of the proposed development.

#### Between Points 16 & 17

##### *Nature of the proposed development*



The route will follow the existing 3.5m wide dense bitumen macadam surfaced access road to Glan y Mor Corner. All works will be subsurface.

*Impact on archaeological remains*

There will be *no impact* to any archaeological remains in this area of the proposed development.

Between Points 17 – 20

*Nature of the proposed development*

The route will utilise the existing underpass underneath Conway Road to the eastern side of Cob before crossing the London to Holyhead mainline via new bridge structure (see individual sections below for impact details).

*Impact on archaeological remains*

Wherever there are any groundworks involved with the construction of the bridge an archaeological watching brief should be undertaken.

Between Points 17 & 18

*Nature of the proposed development*

The route will follow the existing footway as a shared use facility up to Conway Bridge. All works will be surface development only.

*Impact on archaeological remains*

There will be *no impact* to any archaeological remains in this area of the proposed development.

Between Points 18 & 19

*Nature of the proposed development*

The route will follow along the Conwy Bridge before tying into the Conwy Quay development. All works are subsurface.

*Impact on archaeological remains*

If the Conwy Suspension Bridge fabric is altered in anyway by the proposed development then Listed Building consent must be acquired prior to any works being undertaken. The Tubular Bridge (SAM C167) will be unaffected by the proposed development. All other works in this area of the proposed development are surface mounted and will thereby cause *no impact* on any archaeological remains.

Between Points 20 & 21

*Nature of the proposed development*

The route will follow the existing 3.5m access track along the crest of the existing stone revetment towards Glan Conwy Nature Reserve. All development is subsurface.

#### *Impact on archaeological remains*

There will be *no impact* to any archaeological remains in this area of the proposed development.

#### Between Points 21 & 22

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

The route will follow the existing 3.5m access track. As all work in this section requires no groundworks there will be *no impact* on any archaeological remains.

##### *Impact on archaeological remains*

This section of the proposed development lies close to the Brickworks depicted on the 1901 Ordnance Survey Map (PRN). However, the proposed development lies to the west of the brickworks site so there should be *no impact*.

#### Between Points 22 & 23

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

The route will follow the existing 3.5m masonry wall to tie in with the railtrack underpass at Conwy Station.

##### *Impact on archaeological remains*

Archaeological deposits or features (such as peat deposit and intertidal muds which may contain artefacts) may lay undisturbed within the area to the west of the proposed track resulting in *minor to major impacts* on archaeological remains. It is therefore recommended that an archaeological watching brief should be undertaken in this area during construction.

#### At Point 23

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

A new 2m high Cofferdam around the underpass is proposed to avoid inundation of tidal water during high tides. A new rock revetment is also proposed for this area.

##### *Impact on archaeological remains*

Archaeological deposits or features (such as peat deposit and intertidal muds which may contain artefacts) may lay undisturbed within the area to the west of the proposed track resulting in *minor to major impacts* on archaeological remains. It is therefore recommended that an archaeological watching brief should be undertaken in this area during construction.

#### Conwy Quay Development

##### *Nature of the proposed development*

The proposed quay works comprise of the construction of an extension to the existing quay wall at the southeastern end of the frontage, adjacent to the abutment to the



Conwy Road Bridge. The new walls will comprise a mixture of mass gravity and sheet piled structures, which will be faced with natural stone to match the surrounding features and will include a new slipway to the foreshore. The hinterland will provide a mixture of block paved and tarmacadamed areas for access and parking, a quay side walkway with new street furniture and open spaced land for recreation.

The existing quay area will be refurbished with new paving and surfacing, new street furniture and will incorporate a new dwarf wall set back from the quayside, to provide improved flood protection to the quayside and residential and commercial properties, a new slipway to the beach and an area for residents parking adjacent to the town wall.

#### *Impact on archaeological remains*

This area of the development lies within an area of a variety of archaeological and historic monuments and artefacts, which is reflected in the areas designation as a Landscape of Historic Interest. The castle and the town walls at Conwy are designated Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM: CN004 & SAM: CN014).

Recent archaeological works at the north end of the quay have been the setting for significant archaeological finds. These include masonry and timber remains and artefacts of post-medieval date. The area also shows evidence of considerable build up in the 18<sup>th</sup> century that could seal earlier deposits (GAT Report 63). There are also possibilities that as yet unknown archaeological features, deposits and artefacts may lie in the intertidal muds fronting onto Conwy Quay.

The proposed quay extension works may therefore lead to the disturbance of such that an archaeological watching brief should be undertaken during any ground works in this phase of the proposed development.

Also any parts of the town wall revealed during the proposed development should be recorded and left preserved in situ. If any works in the vicinity of the town walls are undertaken then Scheduled Monument consent should be sort prior to the commencement of works.

*For table of impacts and mitigation measures please see Appendix III of this report.*

## **5 Conclusions**

The route of the proposed development passes through an area rich in archaeological remains from the Prehistoric to the Post-medieval. However, due to the proposed development largely being sited on the coast and using existing trackways and sea defences very few archaeological remains will be affected by the development as most known sites lie further inland from the proposed development. The area likely to be most affected by the proposed development is at Conwy Quay which is located next to the Scheduled Ancient Monuments of Conwy Castle and Town Walls. Any areas of the proposed development which involve excavation of the intertidal muds and beach shingles are also areas which could reveal previously unrecorded archaeological remains. It is therefore recommended that an archaeologist should be present during any ground disturbance works so that no damage occurs to the Scheduled Monuments and to ensure accurate recording of any archaeological remains revealed during the construction of the pedestrian/cycle route and the development of Conwy Quay.

If significant archaeological remains are revealed then further archaeological work (excavations, building recording etc) may be required prior to those areas of the development being completed or alternatives to the proposed development may have to be sort.

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*Degannwy Castle*. 1995. [www.castlewale.com](http://www.castlewale.com).

### Cartographic Sources

John Speed Map of 1610

Holland Map of 1776

1829 Map of Conwy (map 10875)

1846 Tithe Map of Conwy Parish



1846 Tithe Map of Llangystenin Parish

1846 Tithe Map of Egwyys-Rhos Parish

1891 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS Map, Caernarvonshire Sheet IV, NE

1891 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS Map of Conwy, Caernarvonshire Sheet IV, SE

1891 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS Map, Caernarvonshire Sheet, V, SW

1900 OS Map, Caernarvonshire Sheet IV

1901 2<sup>nd</sup> edition OS Map, Caernarvonshire Sheet IV, NE

1901 2<sup>nd</sup> edition OS Map of Conwy, Caernarvonshire Sheet IV, SE

1901 2<sup>nd</sup> edition OS Map, Caernarvonshire Sheet, V, SW

1913 OS Map of Conwy, Caernarvonshire 004.12

1938 OS Map of Conwy, Denbighshire 003NW

1953 OS Map of Conwy, Caernarvonshire 004NE

1956 RCAHMW Plan of Conwy

1960 OS Map of Conwy, Caernarvonshire

Part of Land on the Foreshore belonging to the Conwy Corporation and required by Mess Hughes, Jones & Co. Map 10105. 1875.

#### Pictorial Sources

Castle Views (no quay area visible so not illustrated)

AB 147 – AB 152

AB 1037. W Morris's Engraving (1801). Maps and Charts of St. George's Channel

AB 1043. L Morris's Engraving (1748). Maps and Charts of St. George's Channel

Aerial Photographs

Sheet No.	Sortie No.	Frame No.	Flight No.	Lib	Nuk
107	CPE/UK/1939	4222	N/A	565	
107	CPE/UK/1939	3213	N/A	565	
107	58/2196	106	F21	1779	UK5593
107	58/2196	107	F21	1779	UK5593
107	58/2196	108	F21	1779	UK5593
107	58/2196	109	F21	1779	UK5593
107	58/2196	175	F21	1779	UK5593
107	58/2196	176	F21	1779	UK5593
107	58/2196	175	F22	1779	UK5593
107	58/2196	200	F22	1779	UK5593
107	541/38	3003	N/A	984	N2523
107	541/38	4005	N/A	984	N2523
107	82/934	83		1531	UK4796
107	CPE/UK/1996	4008	N/A		
107	CPE/UK/1996	4009	N/A		





## **APPENDIX I:** **Chronological Divisions**

Cambrian Archaeological Projects

# Archaeological Chronology

Present-day

First Humans

Earth-4,500 million years old

Archaeological Chronology

Geological Chronology

- Modern
- Industrial
- Post-Medieval
- Medieval
- Early Medieval
- Roman Britain
- Iron Age
- Bronze Age
- Neolithic
- Mesolithic
- Palaeolithic

AD

BC

Source: Information Council for British Archaeology (ICBA)

Modern  
(1901-Present)

Industrial  
(1700-1901)

Post-Medieval  
(1547-1700)

Medieval  
(1066-1547)

Early Medieval  
(450-1066)

Roman Britain  
(AD43-450)

Iron Age  
(700BC-AD43)

Bronze Age  
(2300-700BC)

Neolithic  
(4,000-2300 BC)

Mesolithic  
(10,000-4000 BC)

Palaeolithic  
(500,000-10,000 BC)





**APPENDIX II:**  
**Summary of Known  
Archaeological Sites**

Cambrian Archaeological Projects

## Sites and Monuments Record

Known sites of archaeological and historical interest located along the proposed route and immediate vicinity of the proposed Conwy estuary Recreational Route and recorded by the Gwynedd SMR

<i>PRN</i>	<i>SITE NAME</i> <i>PERIOD</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>STATUS</i>	<i>SITE TYPE</i>
121	Conwy Castle, Conwy Medieval	SH78367744	GAM; LB1	Castle
930	Watching Brief, Conwy Unknown Sewage Scheme GAT 1054	SH78187776		Non-Monument type
2815	Bronze Axe Hoard – findspot Prehistoric Deganwy	SH78007900A		Findspot
2842	Conwy Walls and Gates Medieval	SH78107760C	C014	Town Defences
2851	Conwy Castle Medieval	SH78387746	C004	Castle
2858	Tubular Bridge, Conwy Post-Medieval	SH78507747	C167	Bridge
3189	Conwy medieval town Medieval	SH78207750		Town
4594	Castle Tremlyd – site of Unknown Maesdu Golf Course	SH77358056		Farmstead
12001	Castle Bank Mount Pleasant Post-Medieval	SH78807750	GII	Building
12006	Castle Hotel Post-Medieval	SH77757922	GII	Building
12708	Conway Quay Retaining Wall Post-Medieval	SH78107770	GII	Quay
12743	Conwy Suspension Bridge Post-Medieval	SH78507750	GII	Bridge
14607	Cored Maelgwyn Medieval	SH77158068		Fish Weir
14609	Gorad Wythno Medieval	SH77158078		Fish Weir
16580	llandudno West Shore Prehistoric Submerged Peats	SH77308000A		Peat Deposit
19152	Juction Brickworks Post-medieval	SH79237744		Site of Brickworks
26013	Berry Street Nos 26-28 Post-Medieval	SH78757768		Dwelling
26197	Castle Bank Mount Pleasant Post-medieval	SH788775	LB2	Dwelling
26202	Castle Hotel Post-medieval	SH77757922	LB2	House; Hotel
26592	Harbour Master's Office Post-medieval	SH78337754	LB2	Dockmaster's Office
26701	Little Haldon Post-medieval	SH7879		Dwelling
34154	Conway Quay Retaining Wall Post-Medieval	SH781777	LB2	Wall



41459	Deganwy Station Post-Medieval	SH77937908		Railway Station
43083	Conway Suspension Bridge; Post-Medieval Telford Suspension Bridge	SH78507750	LB1	Suspension Bridge
85484	Deganwy Ground Frame, Post-Medieval Deganwy	SH78167894		Railway Signal Box
86286	Bodlondeb Post-Medieval	SH78987791		Garden
86462	Plas-y-don Post-Medieval	SH78697848		Country House
95280	Conwy Town Wall Unknown	SH784774	GA0M; LB1	Town Defences

#### National Monuments Record

NPRN	SITE NAME	NGR	STATUS	PERIOD
85483	Conwy Road Bridge	SH78507753		Modern
43083	Conwy Suspension Bridge	SH78507750	LB1	Post-med
43084	Conwy Tubular Bridge	SH78507747	LB1/SAM CN167	Post-med
95280	Conwy Town Walls	SH784774	LB1/SAM CN014	Medieval
121	Conwy Castle	SH78367744	SAM CN004	Medieval
26743	Lower Gate Street, 10 – 12	SH78197772	LB2	Post-med



**APPENDIX III:**  
**Table of Impacts**

Cambrian Archaeological Projects



## Impact Table

PRN	SITE NAME	CATEGORY	IMPACT	MITIGATION
930	Watching Brief, Conwy Sewage Scheme GAT 1054	N/A	None	None
2815	Bronze Axe Hoard – findspot Deganwy	Local	None	None
2842	Conwy Walls and Gates	National	None/Minor	Watching Brief
2851	Conwy Castle	National	None	None
2858	Tubular Bridge, Conwy	Regional	None	None
3189	Conwy medieval town	National	None	None
4594	Castle Tremlyd – site of Maesdu Golf Course	District/Local	Minor/Major	Watching Brief
12001	Castle Bank Mount Pleasant	Local	None	None
12006	Castle Hotel	Local	None	None
12708	Conway Quay Retaining Wall	Regional/Local	None/Minor	Watching Brief
12743	Conwy Suspension Bridge	Regional/Local	None	None
14607	Cored Maelgwyn	Local	None	None
14609	Gorad Wythno	Local	None	None
16580	Ilandudno West Shore Submerged Peat	Regional/Local	None	None
2851	Conwy Castle, Conwy	National	None	None
26013	Berry Street Nos 26-28	Regional/Local	None	None
26197	Castle Bank Mount Pleasant	Regional/Local	None	None
26202	Castle Hotel	Regional/Local	None	None
26592	Harbour Master's Office	Regional/Local	None	None
26701	Little Haldon	Regional/Local	None	None
34154	Conway Quay Retaining Wall	Regional/Local	None/Minor	Watching Brief
41459	Deganwy Station	Regional/Local	None	None
43083	Conway Suspension Bridge; Telford Suspension Bridge	Regional/Local	None	None
85484	Deganwy Ground Frame, Deganwy	Regional/Local	None	None
86286	Bodlondeb	Regional/Local	None	None
86462	Plas-y-don	Regional/Local	None	None
95280	Conwy Town Wall	National	None	Watching Brief



## **APPENDIX IV:**

## **Project Brief & Specification**

Cambrian Archaeological Projects



## DESIGN BRIEF FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

### Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service

**Site:** Conwy Estuary Pedestrian/Cycle Route and Quay Development

**Client:** Conwy County Borough

**Date:** 17 August 2004

**National Grid Reference:** centred on 277000 378000

**Planning application:** 0/26730

**Certificate of planning permission issue date:** 11 April 2003

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

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

Key elements specific to this design brief have been highlighted.

#### 1.0 Site Location and Description

1.1 For the purposes of this brief the site comprises two elements, as detailed in *Conwy Estuary – Strategic Route and Quay Development. Environmental Impact Assessment October 2002:-*

- Conwy Estuary Strategic Route: a strategic cycle and pedestrian route along the eastern shoreline of the Conwy Estuary between West Shore, Llandudno and the eastern end of the Cob at Llandudno Junction and along the Cob over the Conwy Bridge to Conwy Quay; in addition a spur is to be constructed over the Conwy crossing at Llandudno Junction and upstream along the shoreline at Glan Conwy.
- Conwy Quay: works to include the construction of an extension to the existing quay wall at the downstream (south eastern) end of the frontage, adjacent to the abutment to the Conwy road bridge.

1.2 The area for the proposed developments includes the lower estuary of the River Conwy and its hinterland and includes rural settlements and agricultural field systems, the planned Victorian seaside town of Llandudno, the village of Deganwy and the walled town of Conwy.

1.3 Planning permission has been obtained for the development; the certificate of planning permission was issued on 11 April 2003, subject to programme of archaeological investigation (condition 2).

#### 2.0 Archaeological Background

2.1 The Conwy Estuary Strategic Route will pass along the western coastal edge of Llandudno, a Victorian seaside resort which retains much of its nineteenth

century character. It will then pass along the western coastal edge of Deganwy Golf Course to Deganwy and Llandudno Junction, where existing development is characterised by Victorian promenade and suburban housing developments, respectively. Known archaeological remains along this stretch of coastline are restricted to two fish traps identified to the north of Cerrig Duon and a farmstead site identified as Castell Tremlyd.

- 2.2 At Llandudno Junction the route will split in two: one section will cross the Afon Conwy (River Conwy) to link up the Conwy Quay development (see below). The other will pass over the main London to Holyhead Railway line, along an existing access track through the Glan Conwy Nature Reserve to Glan Conwy itself. There are no known archaeological sites along this section of route.
- 2.3 The proposed works on Conwy Quay will abut part of the medieval town walls of Conwy. The origins of Conwy in its present form date back to the conquest of Wales by Edward I in 1283: Conwy Castle was one of four castles with associated boroughs established in north-west Wales at that time (the others being Beaumaris, Caernarfon and Harlech).
- 2.4 The status of Conwy as a site of international importance has been formally recognised by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in its designation as a World Heritage Site. The town walls are protected as a nationally important monument by their designation as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) CO14.

### 3.0 The nature of the archaeological requirements

- 3.1 This is a design brief for an **archaeological assessment** to be undertaken according to guidelines set out in Welsh national planning guidance (*Planning Policy Guidance Wales 2002*) and Welsh Office Circular 60/96 (*Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology*). The assessment will comprise a **desk-based study and field visit**.
- 3.2 The object of this programme of archaeological works is to make full and effective use of existing information in establishing the archaeological significance of the site to assess the impact of the development proposals on surviving monuments or remains
- 3.3 Following desk-based assessments field evaluation work may also be required in order to further assess the presence or absence of remains, their extent, nature, quality and character before determining the appropriate mitigation strategy, whether it be preservation *in situ*, archaeological excavation or a combination of the two.

### 4.0 Desk-based assessment detail

- 4.1 This *brief* should be used by archaeological contractors as the basis for the preparation of a detailed archaeological *specification* (also known as a project design). The specification must be submitted to the archaeological curator for approval before the work commences.
- 4.2 The assessment must consider the following:
  - a) The nature, extent and degree of survival of archaeological sites, structures, deposits and landscapes within the study area through the development of an **archaeological deposit model**. This deposit model should reflect accurately the state of current knowledge and provide a



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

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

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

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

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

- a) An analysis of relevant maps and plans. Cartographic evidence is held at the County Record Offices, including Tithe Maps, Enclosure Act Plans, Estate Maps and all editions of the Ordnance Survey. Place and field-name evidence from these sources should be considered.
- b) An analysis of the historical documents (e.g. county histories, local and national journals and antiquarian sources) held in museums, libraries or other archives, in particular local history and archives library.

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



and descriptions should be labelled, cross-referenced and lodged in an appropriate place (to be agreed with the archaeological curator) within six months of the completion of the project.

- 6.6 Two copies of the bound report must be sent to the address below, one copy marked for the attention of the Development Control Archaeologist, the other for attention of the SMR Officer, who will deposit the copy in the SMR.
- 6.7 The involvement of Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service should be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.

## **7.0 Glossary of terms**

### **7.1 Archaeological Contractor**

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

### **7.2 Archaeological Curator**

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

### **7.3 Archive**

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

### **7.4 Assessment**

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

### **7.5 Brief**

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

### **7.6 Evaluation**

A limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site; and, if present, defines their character and extent, and relative quality. It enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context, as appropriate. The programme of work will result in the preparation of a report and archive.

### **7.7 Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)**

A documentary record of known sites in a given area. In north-west Wales

the SMR is curated by the curatorial division of the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.

**7.8**     *Specification*

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

**8.0**     **Further information**

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

Emily La Trobe-Bateman  
Development Control Archaeologist

**Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service, Craig Beuno, Ffordd Y Garth,  
Bangor, Gwynedd L57 2RT  
Ffon/Tel: 01248 370926 Ffacs/Fax: 01248 370925 [emily@heneb.co.uk](mailto:emily@heneb.co.uk)**



**Cambrian Archaeological Projects Limited**

**DESIGN BRIEF FOR  
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT  
CONWY ESTUARY PEDESTRIAN/CYCLE ROUTE  
AND QUAY DEVELOPMENT**

**CONWY**

**GWYNEDD**

**Prepared for:  
Conwy County Borough**

**Project No: 601**

**Date: 5 October 2004**

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## **Introduction**

This document is a design brief for an archaeological assessment of the Conwy Estuary Pedestrian/Cycle Route and Quay Development. National Grid Reference: 277000 378000.

The assessment cover two principal areas: Conwy Estuary strategic cycle and pedestrian route and Conwy Quay extension.

The strategic route passes along the western coastal edge of Llandudno, the western coastal edge of Deganwy and Llandudno Junction, and known archaeological remains north of Cerrig Duon and Castell Tremlyd. At Conwy the route abuts the medieval town walls.

This design brief has been prepared by Kevin Blockley, Director, Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd against a brief prepared by Emily La Trobe-Bateman, Development Control Archaeologist, Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services.

## **2 Aims and research objectives**

The assessment will comprise a desk-based study and field visit.

The objective of the assessment will be to make a full and effective use of existing information in establishing the archaeological significance of archaeological sites along the route and to assess the impact of the development proposals on the surviving monuments or remains.

The assessment will set out a programme of field evaluation (trial trenching, geophysical survey, etc) in order to assess the presence or absence of archaeological remains, their extent, nature, quality and character.

## **3 Methodology**

### *Desk-based Assessment*

Undertake a study of all readily available primary and secondary documentary, cartographic, pictorial, aerial/ground photographic and oral sources in order to provide an historical framework for the surviving archaeological remains. The sources consulted will include:

- The Regional Sites and Monuments Record (Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Bangor) (GAT)
- National Monuments Record (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, Aberystwyth) (RCAHMW)
- Printed and manuscript maps (National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth) (NLW)
- Place and field-name evidence (NLW)
- Aerial photographic collections (GAT, RCAHMW, CCW and University College Bangor)
- Other photographic and illustrative evidence (all of the above)
- Published and unpublished documentary sources and excavation reports (all of the above)
- Local museum catalogues and artefactual evidence (Sites and Monuments Record, GAT)
- Oral evidence (local)
- Engineering/borehole data (client)
- Issues of setting for Scheduled Ancient Monuments, listed buildings and other archaeological sites of national and/or regional significance will be considered with reference to the Cadw Register of Landscapes (Cadw 1998 and 2001).



The report of the Desk-based Assessment will include copies of all cartographic sources consulted, transcriptions of documents consulted, copies of all plans and photographic data. All sources consulted will also be listed in an appendix.

#### *Field walkover*

A walkover study will be undertaken to perform the following tasks:

- Review current state of archaeological sites, features and deposits
- Identify new sites
- Establish field evaluation requirements

The SMR officer will be contacted before the fieldwork starts so that sites and monuments not previously recorded will be given PRN numbers and to ensure that data supplied is compatible with the SMR.

#### *Report*

A full report will be made available within one month of the completion of the on site work.

The structure of the final report will vary depending upon the findings of the study, but will include:

- A concise non-technical summary of the project results
- Introduction
- Statement of the project objectives and methodology
- Location and topography of the site
- Results of desk based assessment
- Results of field walkover study
- Assessment of the direct and indirect impact of the development
- Recommendations for the evaluation of the proposed pipeline
- Location Map
- Maps and plans of development area and archaeological sites
- Plans of any new archaeological sites
- Photographs and Maps to support the study
- A full bibliography of sources consulted and a list of any further sources identified but not consulted
- A copy of the design brief
- An index to the project archive

The report will be fully illustrated. Two copies of the report will be sent to the client, two copies to Emily La Trobe-Bateman and one copy to the regional SMR.

#### *Archive*

The site archive will be prepared in accordance with MAP 2, Appendix 3 (English Heritage 1991) and be submitted to a recognised archive repository. The archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent before transfer.

#### **4. Resources and programming**

The project will be undertaken by suitably qualified Cambrian Archaeological Projects staff, and freelance specialists.

The principal member of staff undertaking the desk-based assessment will be Philip Evans MA, MIFA who has been undertaking many previous desk-based assessments for Cambrian Archaeological Projects over the last seven years.

##### *Equipment*

The project will use existing Cambrian Archaeological Projects equipment.

##### *Programming*

The archaeological presence on site will conform to the requirements of the client. The desktop study will be undertaken over a period of four days, the field walkover over two day, and the report production over a period of four days. Report production will be undertaken immediately after the fieldwork.

##### *Insurance*

Cambrian Archaeological Projects is an affiliated member of the CBA, and holds Insurance through the CBA insurance service. Public Liability Insurance is for £2,000,000 in any one accident.

##### *Health and Safety and IFA Code of Conduct*

Staff of Cambrian Archaeological Projects will adhere to the *Health and Safety at Work Act*, 1974.

All work will be undertaken with due regard to the *Institute of Field Archaeologist's Code of Conduct*; the *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*; *Guidelines for Finds Work*; *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations*.

**Kevin Blockley**

**Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd**

**5 October 2004**



## **APPENDIX V:**

## **Archive Cover Sheet**

Cambrian Archaeological Projects



## ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

Site Name: **Conwy Estuary**

Site Code: **CESR/04/DBA**

Other Ref No: **N/A**

NGR: **SH277000378000**

Site Type: **Potential Roman**

Project Type: **Cycle track and Quay Development**

Project Officer: **Phil Evans**

Project Dates: **December 2004**

Categories Present: **N/A**

Location of Original Archive: **SMR**

Location of duplicate Archives: **N/A**

Number of Finds Boxes: **N/A**

Location of Finds: **N/A**

Museum Reference: **N/A**

Copyright: **CAP Ltd**

Restrictions to access: **None**

# Cambrian Archaeological Projects