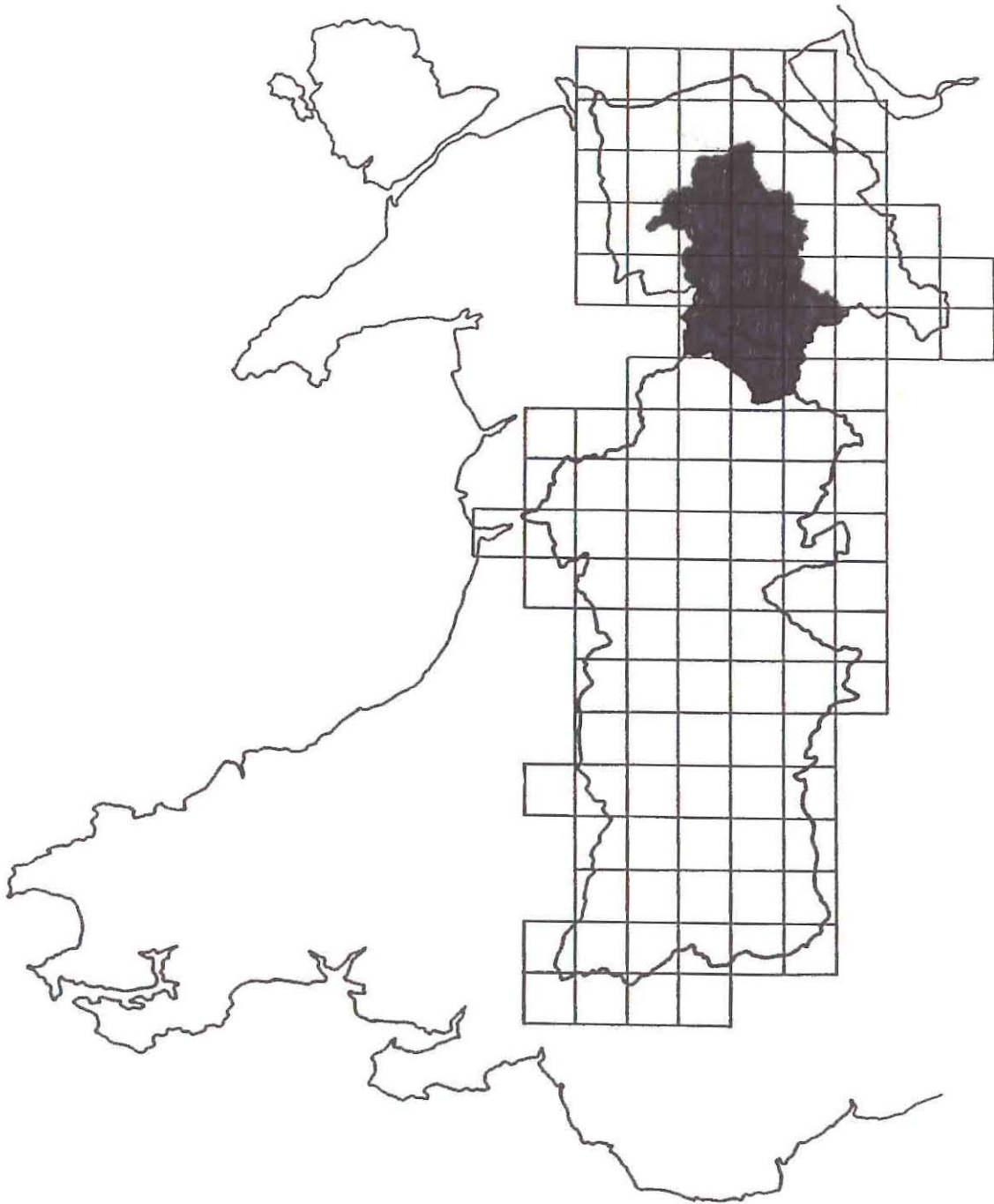


Glyndwr District Historic Settlements



CPAT Report No 131

Glyndwr District Historic Settlements

by **R J Silvester**

March 1995

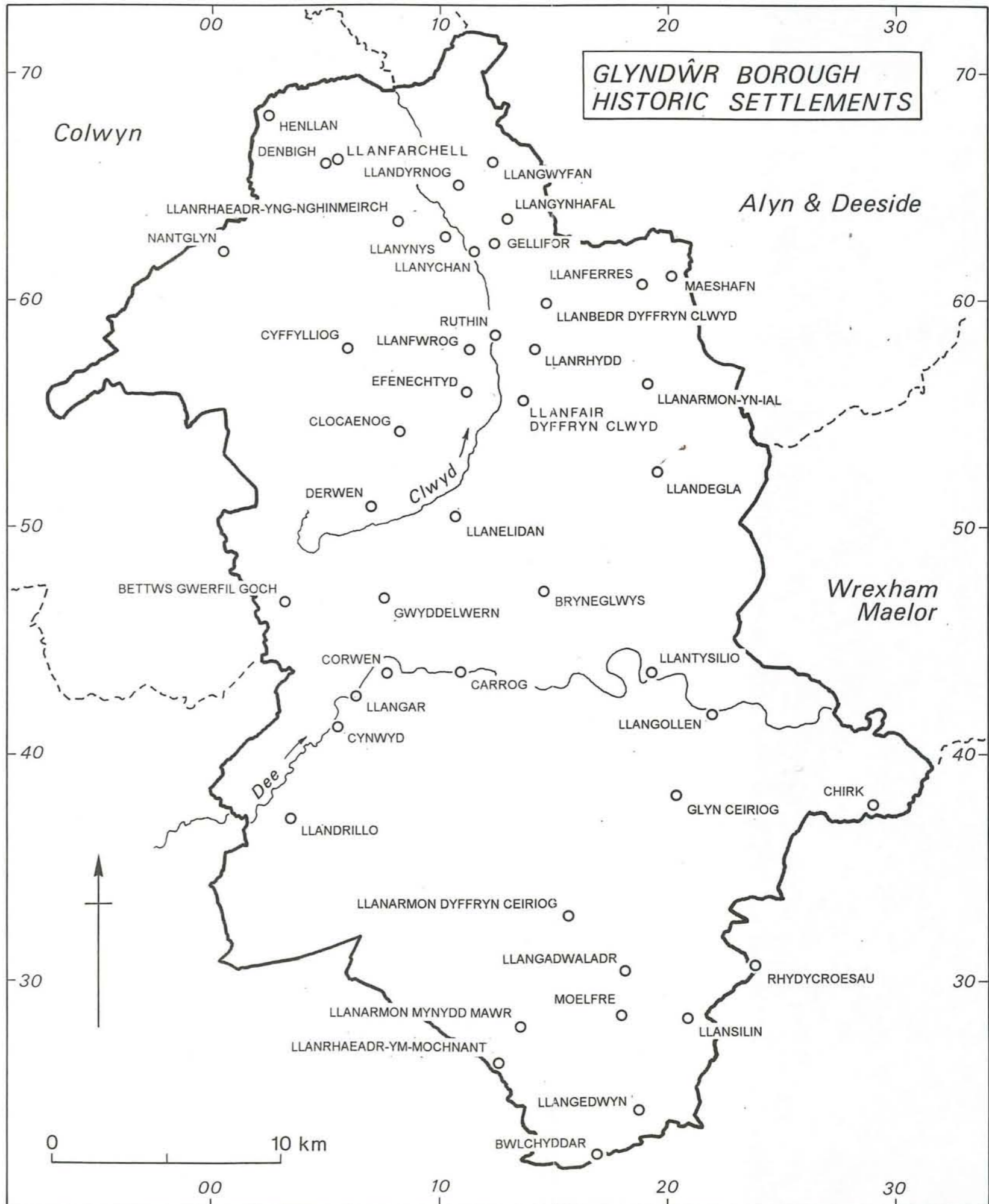
Report prepared for Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments

The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust

7a Church Street Welshpool Powys SY21 7DL

tel (0938) 553670, fax 552179

© CPAT 1995



CONTENTS

Contents.....	1
Introduction.....	2
Bettws Gwerfil Goch.....	8
Bryneglwys.....	10
Bwlchyddar.....	12
Carrog.....	13
Chirk.....	15
Clocaenog.....	17
Corwen.....	19
Cyffylliog.....	21
Cynwyd.....	23
Denbigh.....	25
Derwen.....	29
Efenechtyd.....	31
Gellifor.....	33
Glyn Ceiriog.....	34
Gwyddelwern.....	36
Henllan.....	38
Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog.....	40
Llanarmon Mynydd-mawr.....	42
Llanarmon-yn-Ial.....	44
Llanbedr-Dyffryn-Clwyd.....	46
Llandegla.....	48
Llandrillo.....	50
Llandyrnog.....	52
Llanelidan.....	53
Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd.....	55
Llanfarchell.....	57
Llanferres.....	59
Llanfwrog.....	61
Llangadwaladr.....	63
Llangar.....	65
Llangedwyn.....	67
Llangollen.....	69
Llangwyfan.....	72
Llangynhafal.....	74
Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant.....	76
Llanrhaeadr-yng-Nghinmeirch.....	78
Llanrhudd.....	80
Llansilin.....	82
Llantysilio.....	84
Llanychan.....	86
Llanynys.....	88
Maeshafn.....	90
Moelfre.....	91
Nantglyn.....	92
Rhydycroesau.....	94
Ruthin.....	95
References.....	99

1 Introduction

1.1 This report examines the historical background of forty-five settlements in the district of Glyndwr in Clwyd, formerly part of the old county of Denbighshire, with additions from Merionethshire at the time of reorganisation in 1974. It represents the penultimate report in a series of historic settlement surveys conducted by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT), following similarly designed reports on the four districts of Powys (Brecon Beacons National Park, Brecknock Borough, Montgomeryshire and Radnorshire) and Colwyn Borough, Wrexham Maelor, Alyn and Deeside and Rhuddlan Borough in Clwyd, and has been commissioned by Cadw/Welsh Historic Monuments with material assistance from Glyndwr District Council. It is essentially a tool for planning purposes rather than an academic exercise, as the objectives and methods of study outlined below make clear.

1.2 It has long been recognised that development within town or village may disturb or obliterate significant information about the past, yet an appropriate response to the threat posed by a particular project has generally been instigated, if at all, on an ad hoc basis. A more structured approach to the understanding of historic settlements and the preservation and management of their fragile remains was clearly required and this was given greater urgency by the publication in 1991 of the Welsh version of the Planning and Policy Guidance Note: Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16). This emphasises the responsibilities of Local Planning Authorities in the conservation of the archaeological heritage and confirms that archaeological remains are a material factor in the determination of all planning applications. The relationship between planning and archaeology in Clwyd is examined in more detail in Annex 1 which copies a draft document prepared by CPAT.

2 Objectives of the Study

2.1 Historic settlements are defined here as those nucleated groupings which are believed to have originated during the early medieval and medieval periods (i.e. from around AD 450 to 1500), giving rise to the hamlets, villages and towns that exist in the modern landscape. In some cases, these historic settlements are and perhaps always were little more than isolated churches accompanied by only a single dwelling.

2.2 This study is concerned with the remains of the historic heritage that have survived from the past, whether they be buildings, earthworks and other upstanding features or remnants buried beneath the surface of the ground. Equally, the remains of earlier and later phases of history are recorded where they fall within the compass of a particular settlement study, even though they are largely incidental to the primary concept of the survey.

2.3 Included also in the study at the suggestion of the local authority or because of uncertainties over their origin are a few modern settlements in the district. The majority appear to have some historic associations, but did not emerge as nucleations until relatively recently. No attempt has been made here to examine the modern suburbs of towns and large villages which undoubtedly overlie the fields and farms of earlier days.

2.4 Three principal objectives of the study were defined in the initial project design:

- i) to produce a general picture of historic settlement in Glyndwr District
- ii) to identify, in as far as the evidence allowed, those areas within each of the historic settlements that could be termed archaeologically sensitive, in order to assist in the day-to-day and long-term planning processes initiated by the local authority
- iii) to define those areas of potential archaeological significance where developers might be required to undertake an archaeological evaluation as part of the planning process

3 Methods of Study

3.1 Based on the experience gained in compiling previous historic settlement reports, a dual approach to the study of individual settlements has been adopted, integrating on-site identification work and documentary research. The results are based on a consistent methodology which provides some value in an assessment of the relative significance of the settlements in Glyndwr. To establish the strengths and more importantly the weaknesses of this dual approach, it may be useful to detail the practical aspects of the methods involved.

3.2 Fieldwork focused on the identification of open areas within and around the settlements and the examination of those areas for any evidence of earthworks that might signal earlier habitation or land-use. In general it has been assumed that the church represented the original focus of activity in the past and attention was paid to the churchyard, the form of which could well change through time. Observations were made from public roads and paths and no attempt was made to investigate thoroughly those fields and other open areas that appeared archaeologically interesting: arranging access would have taken up time that was not available. In the field large-scale Ordnance Survey map copies were annotated with information relevant to the study.

3.3 Documentary research centred on the more easily accessible records and maps. These included:

i) the Sites and Monuments Records for Clwyd held by CPAT and Clwyd Archaeology Service (Clwyd County Council) and now integrated at Welshpool

ii) early printed maps (primarily Ordnance Survey editions) and manuscript maps (Tithe Maps, Estate Maps etc) at the National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth and Clwyd Record Office at Ruthin

iii) Data on listed buildings held by Glyndwr District Council and Clwyd Record Office

iv) Secondary sources including relevant works on the archaeology and historical geography of the region

v) Oblique aerial photography held by CPAT at Welshpool

3.4 Original research into manuscript records held at Aberystwyth and Hawarden was not feasible within the time constraints of the project nor was consultation of the numerous calendars of state papers published by the Public Record Office and its predecessors.

3.5 Place-names pose one of the fundamental problems in the study of Welsh settlement, and unfortunately there is no modern assessment comparable with Owen's recent survey of part of Flintshire (Owen 1994).

4 An Overview of Historic Settlements in Glyndwr

4.1 There are probably more historic settlements in Glyndwr than in any of the other local authority districts that go to make up the modern county of Clwyd. These range from the major historic towns of Ruthin and Denbigh to tiny church settlements such as Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr and Llangadwaladr. Glyndwr is essentially a rural district: it has a high proportion of smaller settlements and it not only lacks both the industrial veneer that has so altered the adjacent districts of Delyn and Alyn and Deeside, but also the coastal belt that has resulted in the development of resorts as in neighbouring Colwyn Borough.

4.2 Forty-six settlements were assessed during this study. Six of them - Bwlchdyddar, Cynwyd, Gellifor, Maeshafn, Moelfre, and Rhydygroesau - can be readily dismissed in the context of this report for they are all certainly or probably post-medieval developments, lacking churches and taking on the semblance of a hamlet or village only in the 19th century. The exception is Cynwyd which appears to have a local industrial base, yet its origin remains unclear. In one sense, a seventh settlement, Carrog, might be added to this list for the site of its original church, and perhaps any associated settlement too, has been long destroyed by the waters of the River Dee. Its church is no earlier than the 17th century and most of the houses between it and Pont Carrog, also a 17th-century structure, are relatively modern in date. It may well be that the historic core of Carrog, formerly Llansantffraid Glyn Dyfrdwy, lay elsewhere.

4.3 A large majority of the historic villages in Glyndwr are church settlements. Thirty-five (76%) can be so classified. Many are relatively small. In some cases the church is accompanied only by a farm or house as at Llanychan or Llanelidan. Elsewhere there is a small group of dwellings around the church: Derwen and Efenechtyd. And finally some such as Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant and Corwen have grown into large villages. Special circumstances relating to the 19th-century exploitation of the area have transformed Llangollen into a community that is exceptional in the district.

4.4 It is probable that many of these historic centres originated in the early medieval period (from the 6th-11th centuries AD) as isolated churches established by holy men (the 'saints') and their followers. Some became 'mother churches' with 'clas' communities ministering to the surrounding area: Glyndwr is rich in such churches with five known or suspected at Llanynys, Llanarmon-yn-Ial, Corwen, Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant and Llansilin. Others remained as places of worship serving the dispersed farmsteads of remote rural localities. How many actually attracted secular settlement around them is extremely difficult to ascertain from fieldwork alone. One might suspect that places such as Llanrhaeadr and possibly Corwen may have had small nucleated communities in the Middle Ages, but there is no reason to assume that the population density in the vicinity of say Llantysilio was any greater in the past than it is today.

4.5 Three settlements stand out from this general pattern. Denbigh, Ruthin and Chirk have all developed close to major medieval strongholds, the first two establishing a commercial base which allowed their subsequent expansion through the Middle Ages and into the post-medieval era.

4.6 Both Denbigh and Ruthin are settlements of the first order within Glyndwr District and would benefit from detailed topographical surveys. In hierarchical importance, the second level of settlements might include: Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, Corwen, Llanarmon-yn-Ial, Llanynys and possibly Chirk and Henllan.

5 Recommendations

5.1 The settlement studies in this report contain general recommendations relating to developments within their own historic cores and specific recommendations for preservation and further work in certain settlements. To facilitate their assessment, the latter are tabulated below.

5.2 Recommendations for Detailed Field Assessment

Henllan
Llangar
Llangynhafal

5.3 Recommendations for Detailed Field Survey

Llanfwrog

5.4 Recommendations for Aerial Photography

Llanfwrog
Llangynhafal

6 Settlement Reports

6.1 The individual reports on the settlements in Glyndwr District are ordered alphabetically, regardless of their historic or demographic importance. Each report summarises the current state of knowledge under a consistent set of sub-sections, although for one or two settlements the historic background has had to be limited to an outline.

6.2 Sites of archaeological and historic interest are allocated Primary Record Numbers (PRNs) in the text. Further information on any numbered site can be obtained from the computerised Sites and Monuments Record held by CPAT at Welshpool. Some sites in the text have also been located by reference to their Ordnance Survey field plot numbers, but this has been done selectively to facilitate identification where the quantity of sites on any one plan might otherwise lead to confusion.

6.3 The accompanying maps are all at a scale of 1:2500, except for the general location map which is scaled at 1:200,000.

6.4 Listed buildings and scheduled ancient monuments are defined on the maps but it should be noted that their depiction is for guidance only. For the definitive representation of the extent of a particular scheduled ancient monument or listed building, the reader should refer to the official schedules produced by Cadw/Welsh Historic Monuments. Furthermore it should be noted that the imprecision of early listed building data has meant that in some settlements the full range of listed buildings may not have been accurately depicted.

6.5 The definition of the historic core of a village or town utilises a range of evidence as outlined above, but the lack of substantive data on the earlier layout of a settlement frequently precludes an objective determination of its limits and hence of its cartographic depiction. New discoveries in the future, whether archaeological or documentary, may necessitate a revision of the historic core 'envelope' around a settlement and it should certainly not be assumed that the envelope as currently defined is exclusive and immutable.

6.6 Some areas in a settlement are considerably more sensitive than others. The churchyard and the ground immediately surrounding it, the earthworks of a moat or motte, and a street frontage site in the middle of an historic town are all locations where the preservation of the heritage should be a consideration in determining planning permission. A pre-planning evaluation may be required to establish the significance of the archaeology and demonstrate whether it should be preserved in situ or preserved by record (i.e. excavated). Only major areas for evaluation are marked on the settlement maps. Many smaller and equally sensitive areas will no doubt come up for development (or re-development) in time.

6.7 Elsewhere within the putative historic core, a watching brief may be a more appropriate course of action during a development. This is particularly the case where there is uncertainty about the nature or extent of medieval activity. The results from a watching brief may necessitate the subsequent evaluation of an adjacent development, while conversely an evaluation may suggest a watching brief on future developments in a specific area.

6.8 In rare instances the above-ground archaeology appears sufficiently significant to warrant a recommendation to Cadw/Welsh Historic Monuments that it be given statutory protection by being scheduled as an ancient monument. Much more frequently, recommendations are advanced that further, more detailed work is required to establish fully the importance or survival of a particular historic feature.

Bettws Gwerfil Goch - PRN105946

NGR SJ033466

203m OD

Location

1.1 A U-shaped valley occupied by a small stream running south-westwards to join Afon Alwen no more than three hundred metres away is the setting for Bettws Gwerfil Goch. Hills press down on the settlement to east and west, the church with its surrounding houses sitting on a gentle south-east facing spur where the tributary opens out into the main valley.

1.2 Bettws is one of the most westerly villages in Glyndwr District, Afon Alwen to the west forming the boundary with neighbouring Colwyn Borough. Corwen is a little less than 6km to the south-east, the A5 trunk road about 3km to the south, but the settlement itself is served only by minor lanes.

History

2.1 Until 1974, Bettws was a parish in Merionnydd.

2.2 Thomas considered that it might have originated as an oratory or pilgrims' church on an ancient routeway from Bala to Ruthin and Holywell. He also suggested that its earlier dedication may have been to St Elian, on the basis of locally surviving placenames, and that it was rebuilt by the husband of Gwefyl Goch, a grand-daughter of Owain Gwynedd, in the 12th century.

2.3 The location of the settlement close to its own parish boundary with two other parishes, Corwen and Llanfanhangel, points to a late emergence for Bettws.

2.4 It is recorded as 'Ecc'a de betos' in 1254.

2.5 Fairs were held in the churchyard until the 18th century. The mid-19th century Tithe survey reveals a pattern and density of settlement on the north-west side of the stream that has altered very little in the intervening century and a half.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 The church (PRN 19754: Grade B listing) is dedicated to St Mary and the supposed previous dedication to St Elian is in doubt as the place-names quoted by Thomas appear to have little antiquity. Some works were undertaken to the supposedly 12th-century structure at the beginning of the 17th century, and the church as a whole was restored in 1882. Medieval screen fragments have been incorporated into a reredos and there is a medieval roof to what was originally a single-cell building.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19755) is almost rectangular. Encroached upon in the southern corner and perhaps on the north-west side, it is raised particularly on the south-east side where its level is nearly 3m above the lane beyond. No evidence for a curvilinear circuit has been recognised.

3.3 Lewis refers to a nearby well, also called after St Mary; its site has not been positively located, though Lhwyd referred to 'Ffynnon y Saint' a stone's throw from the church, and the Royal Commission linked this to 'Gwerglodd y Saint' (Saint's meadow) about 100 yards from the church, towards the middle of which was a spring.

3.4 The church apart, there are few obviously older buildings in the settlement. Gwynfa (PRN 19756) was formerly the White Horse Inn, and from its external appearance could be at least as early as the 18th century.

3.5 The street pattern is a simple one with roads meeting at right angles beside the church, and some evidence for the churchyard previously being completely encompassed by lanes. The broad thoroughfare on the north side of the churchyard appears to have been encroached on by the White Horse Inn.

3.6 Shallow ridge and furrow (PRN 19757) is discernible in OS plot 3167 to the north-east of the village.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Bettws as defined on the accompanying map has an unknown archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

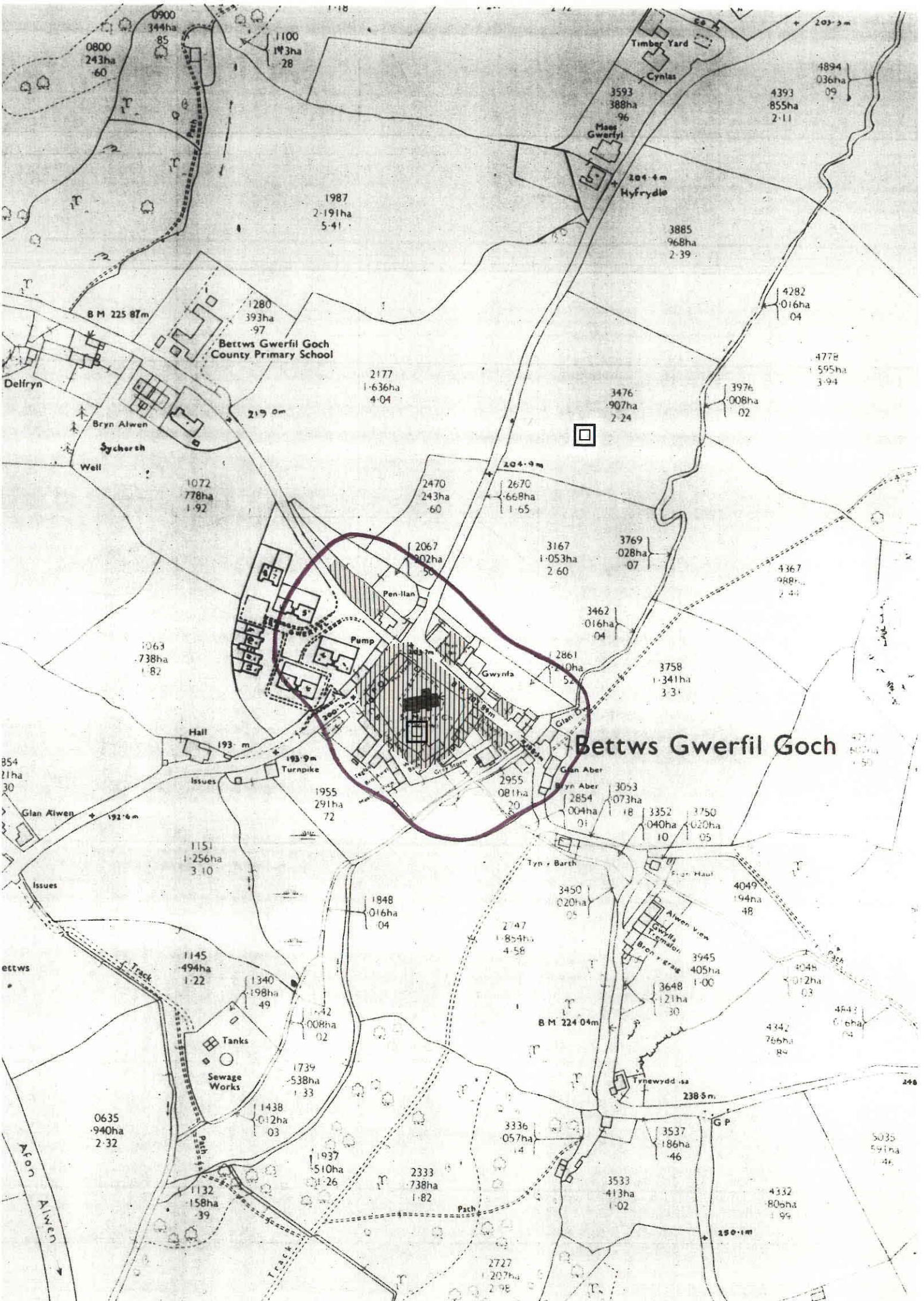
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground immediately around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 The relevant legislative procedures must be observed for any listed buildings in and around the village.

References

CPAT Field Visit: 7 February 1995
Lewis 1833
Lhwyd 1910, 74
Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Merioneth 7.7 (Surveyed 1875)
RCAHMW 1921, 3
Thomas 1911, 136
Tithe Survey 1843



Bettws Gwerfil Goch
County Primary School

Bettws Gwerfil Goch

0800 243ha 60
0900 344ha 85
1100 143ha 28
1987 2-191ha 5-41
1280 393ha 97
2177 1-636ha 4-04
3593 388ha 96
4894 036ha 09
4393 855ha 2-11
3885 968ha 2-39
4282 016ha 04
4778 1-595ha 3-94
3976 008ha 02
3476 907ha 2-24
2670 668ha 1-65
3167 1-053ha 2-60
3769 028ha 07
4367 988ha 2-44
2470 243ha 60
2067 202ha 56
1072 778ha 1-92
1063 738ha 1-82
3462 016ha 04
2861 01ha 52
3758 1-341ha 3-31
1955 291ha 72
2955 081ha 20
3053 073ha 18
2854 004ha 01
3352 040ha 10
3750 020ha 05
1151 1-256ha 3-10
1848 016ha 04
3450 020ha 05
2747 1-854ha 4-58
4049 194ha 48
1145 494ha 1-22
1340 198ha 49
1442 008ha 02
1739 538ha 1-33
3945 405ha 1-00
3648 121ha 30
4046 012ha 03
4842 016ha 04
4342 766ha 84
4442 016ha 04
5035 591ha 46
0635 940ha 2-32
1132 158ha 39
1937 510ha 1-26
2333 738ha 1-82
3336 057ha 14
3537 186ha 46
3533 413ha 1-02
4332 805ha 1-96
2727 1207ha 2-98
238-5m
250-1m
B M 225 87m
B M 224 04m
Afon Alwen
Sycharth
Well
Hall
Turnpike
Issues
Tanks
Sewage Works
Pen-llan
Pump
Gwynfa
Glan D
Glan Aber
Bryn Aber
Tyn v Barth
Alwen view
Gwylfa
Bron v rag
Tynnewydd-isa
GP
Pach
Track
Track

Bryneglwys - PRN105947

NGR SJ145474

245m OD

Location

1.1 A small settlement south of the A5104 between Bala and Chester, Bryneglwys lies beneath Llantysilio Mountain, 8km north-east of Corwen.

1.2 The church surmounts a knoll projecting northwards into the valley of Afon Morwynion. The rest of the village lies to the south, mostly at a slightly lower altitude, on a spur between small streams dropping down off the mountain.

History

2.1 Nothing is known of the origin and development of this small settlement. The name is an apposite one, literally meaning 'hill church'.

2.2 The Taxation of 1291 has it as 'Ecclia de Bryne Eglwys'.

2.3 Even the post-medieval development of the village is not well charted. The Tithe map is exceptionally poor and does not depict individual dwellings.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 The single-chambered church (PRN 100951; Grade B listing), dedicated to St Tysilio, is mainly Perpendicular with a chapel added in the later 16th century. Internally there is a 14th-century grave slab, and some 17th-century woodwork. To Lewis it was 'a small edifice, having no claim to architectural notice'. It was restored in 1875.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19728) forms an irregular polygon, which is slightly raised. There is no convincing ground evidence of an inner 'llan' or a diminution of the original enclosure. Nevertheless we should note that Pennant in the late 18th century claimed that the church was built inside an enclosure or camp, and that Pratt considered that this might be a reference to the platform which he believed the church was built on.

3.3 There are a few small cottages of 19th or even 18th-century date, but nothing of any architectural significance, and Bryneglwys in the main consists of modern houses.

3.4 No earthworks of any significance can be recognised.

3.5 The road pattern in the village has changed. The lane running north-east/south-west through the village was probably the predecessor of the modern Bala road, and the one down from the vicarage runs across a field as a holloway to the north-east of Ty'n-y-bedw.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Bryneglwys as defined on the accompanying map has an unknown archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

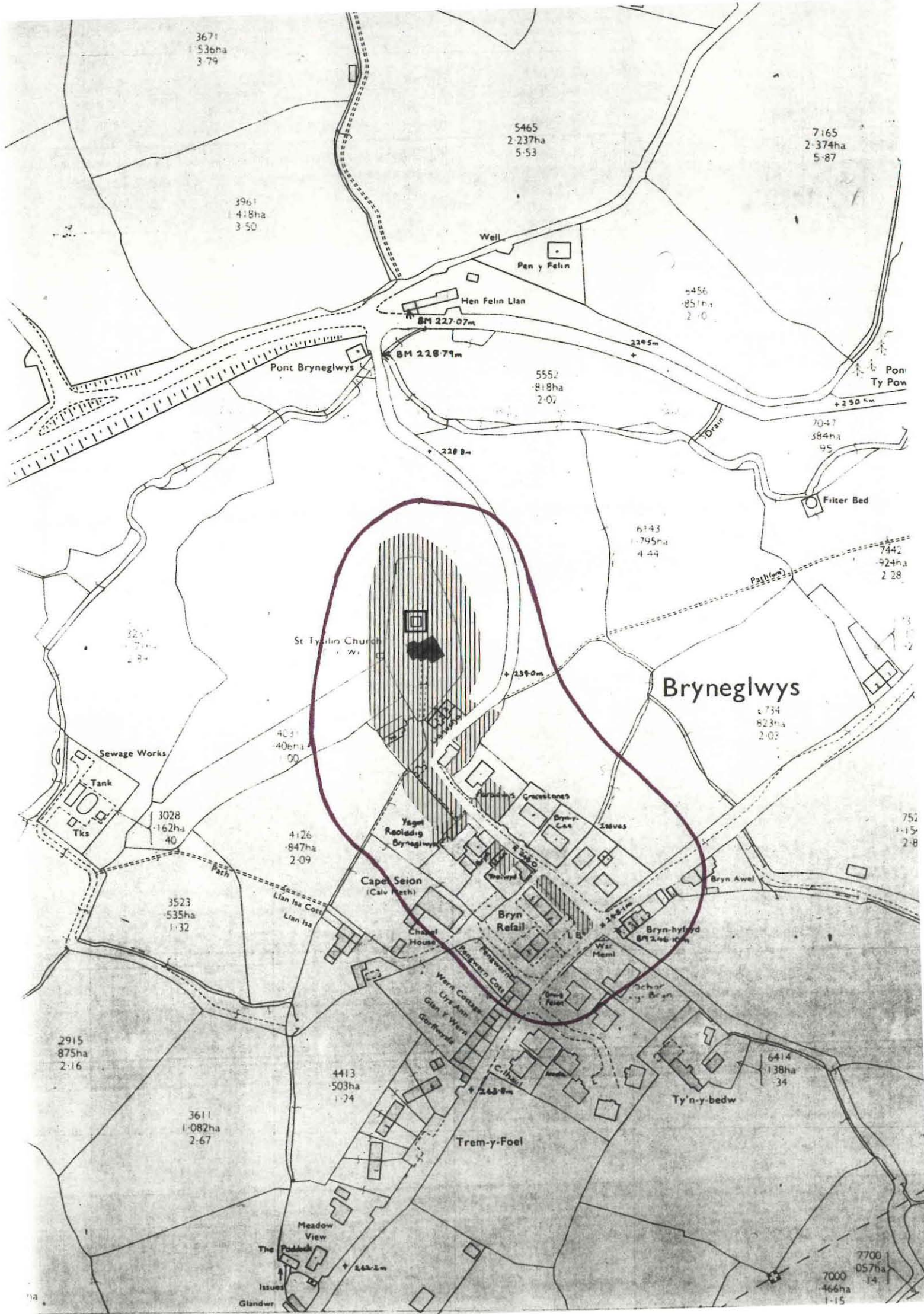
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground immediately around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 The church is the only listed building in the settlement and the relevant legislative procedures must be observed at all times.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 30 November 1994
Hubbard 1986, 111
Lewis 1833
Pratt in 'Clwyd Historian' 1981, 14
Thomas 1911, 268
Tithe Survey: 1842



3671
536ha
3.79

5465
2.237ha
5.53

7165
2.374ha
5.87

3961
418ha
3.50

Well
Pen y Felin

Hen Felin Llan

5456
851ha
2.10

Pont Bryneglwys

BM 227.07m

BM 226.71m

5552
818ha
2.02

Pont Ty Pow

7047
384ha
95

Fritter Bed

6143
795ha
4.44

7442
924ha
2.28

St Tysilio Church

Bryneglwys

6734
823ha
2.02

Sewage Works

Tank

3028
162ha
40

4031
406ha
100

Ysgol Reoladig Bryneglwys

Grassstones

Dryn-y-Cas

Sawes

752
1.15
2.8

Tks

Capel Seion (Calv Meeth)

Bryn Refail

War Meml

Bryn-hyfyd

3523
535ha
1.32

4126
847ha
2.09

Chapel House

Langwain Cott

Wern Cott

Llyn Ann

Gorffwrda

C. Hall

Wern Cott

Llyn Ann

Gorffwrda

Wern Cott

Llyn Ann

Gorffwrda

2915
875ha
2.16

4413
503ha
1.24

Trem-y-Foel

Ty'n-y-bedw

6414
138ha
34

Meadow View

The Paddock

Issues

Glandwr

7700
057ha
14

7000
466ha
1.15

Bwlchyddar - PRN105948

NGR SJ1722

281m OD

Location

1.1 Bwlchyddar is set in the hills just to the south of the Tanat Valley in the extreme south of Glyndwr. The county boundary with Powys follows a roadline which passes across the southern side of the settlement.

1.2 Llangedwyn is a little less than 3km to the north-east, Llanfechain (in Powys) about the same distance to the south-east.

History

2.1 The name appears to mean 'pass of the oaks', and like other 'bwlch' settlements, it occupies a saddle of land between higher hills, and is close to an administrative boundary.

2.2 An estate map of c1760 depicts perhaps four cottages with accompanying crofts or enclosures on an otherwise unenclosed ridge. Even at the time of the Tithe survey in the middle years of the 19th century, tracts of common land lay to the east and west.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 One or two of the buildings within the settlement could date back to the 18th century; Ty-newydd was classed as early 19th-century when it was given the now obsolete Grade III listing. The Methodist Chapel has a date stone of 1892.

3.2 No significant earthworks have been recognised here.

Recommendations

4.1 In view of the probable post-medieval emergence of this settlement, no recommendations are proposed.

References

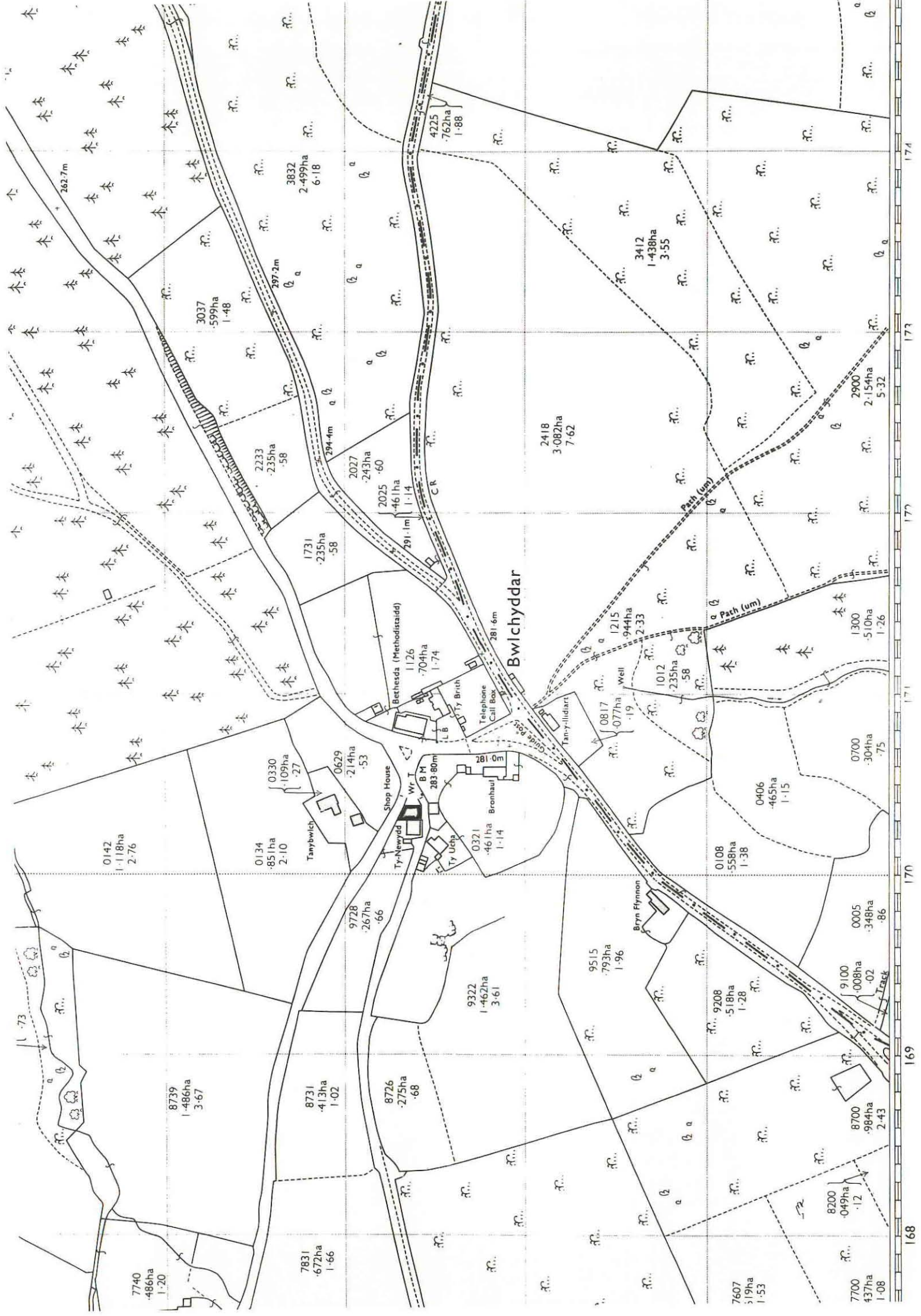
CPAT Field Visit: 21 December 1994

Davies n.d.

Ms Map of Chirk Castle Estate c 1760: NLW R.M.C36

Ms Map of Llangedwyn 19thC: CROR/DD/WY/5929

Tithe Survey of Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant 1841



Carrog - PRN105949

NGR SJ113435

142m OD

Location

1.1 Carrog, formerly Llansantffraid Glyn Dyfrdwy, lies on the north side of the River Dee. The church is set high above the river, the valley terrace edge only a few metres to the south and the steep-sided but shallow valley of Afon Morwynion just to the west. The village spreads eastwards descending gently towards Pont Carrog, the crossing of the Dee.

1.2 Llangollen is about 11km to the east, Corwen 3km to the west, both being on the main A5 trunk road. Carrog lies on the B5437 which links with the A5 on the far side of Pont Carrog.

History

2.1 In earlier times Llansantffraid was a chapelry attached to Corwen, its name recorded as *Ecce de lansanfreyt'* in 1254. The medieval church stood on the bank of the river but was swept away by the Dee in the early 17th century, and replaced, on a different spot, in 1611. The nature of the settlement that centred on the earlier church cannot be ascertained.

2.2 Lhwyd recorded 6 houses scattered near the church at the end of the 17th century. By the mid-19th century there was closer to a dozen dwellings, well spaced between the church and the bridge.

2.3 Carrog, the modern name, was a township, one of three transferred from Corwen to create the new parish of Glyndyfrdwy in 1866. The parish was transferred to Clwyd from Merionnydd in 1974.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 The church is dedicated to St Bridget (PRN 19772). Built in 1611, it was heavily renovated in 1852 and the chancel added in 1865. The font is supposedly late 12th-century in date. The churchyard is an irregular rectilinear shape. The precise location of the original church is not recorded.

3.2 According to Lewis in the early 19th century, the village contained a small building, then a dwelling, which was known as 'Owain Glyndwr's Prison House', reportedly used to confine captives taken by Glyndwr. Nothing more is known of this structure.

3.3 A well, Fynnon Sanfraid, was placed by Lhwyd a quarter of a mile above the church. No further details are available.

3.4 Pont Carrog (PRN 102561; SAM De29) lies at the east end of the village. The date 1661 is engraved on one of its stones, and on this basis it is assumed to be a 17th-century structure.

3.5 Oak beams up to 9 yards long were found when stone was removed from the river sometime before 1893. It was thought that these might have formed part of the old church washed down by the river.

Recommendations

4.1 The location of the medieval church and any settlement that might have been associated with it cannot now be identified. Consequently there is no basis for defining an historic core to this settlement.

4.2 The bridge is a scheduled ancient monument and the relevant legislative procedures relating to this protected site must be observed on all occasions.

References

Clwyd County Council 1981

Glyndwr District Historic Settlement Survey, CPAT, 14 March 1995

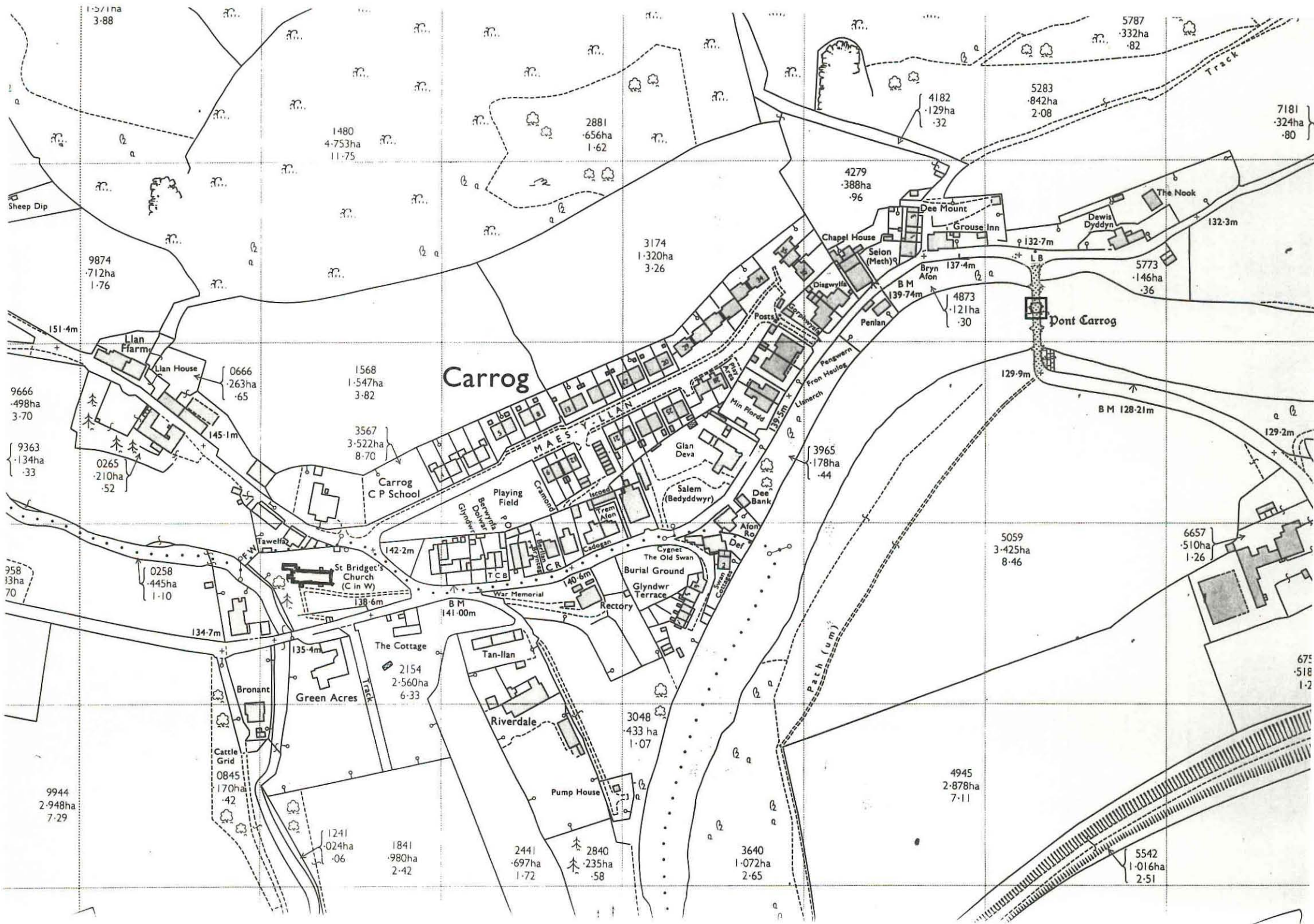
CPAT Field Visit: 7 June 1994

Lewis 1833

OS Records

Thomas 1911, 167

Tithe survey, Llansantffraid Glyndyfrdwy 1845



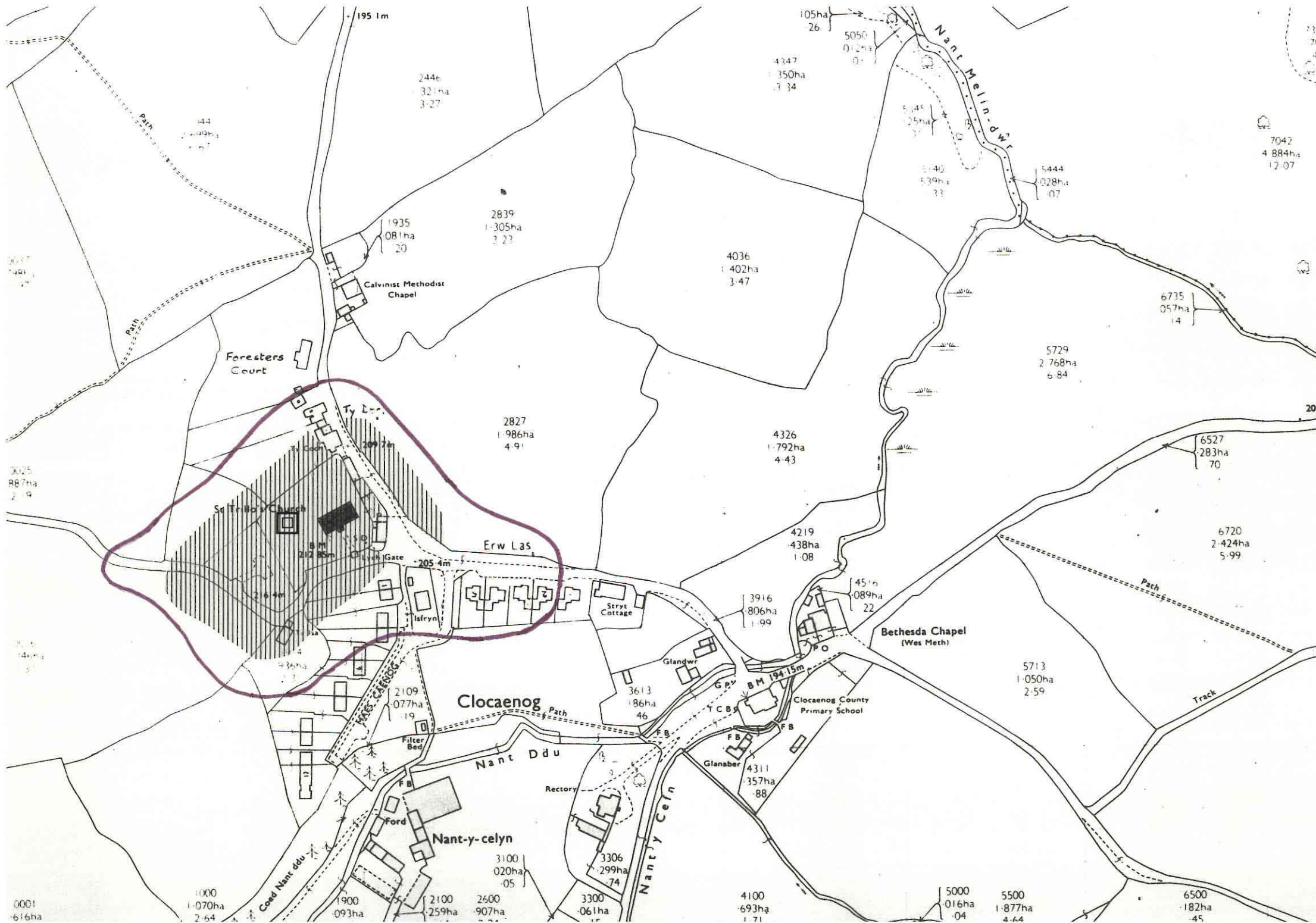
Carrog

Parcel Data:

Grid Reference	Area (ha)	Area (ac)
1571na 3-88		
1480 4-753ha 11-75	4.753	11.75
2881 6-56ha 1-62	6.56	1.62
4182 1-129ha 3-32	1.129	3.32
5283 8-842ha 2-08	8.842	2.08
7181 3-324ha 8-00	3.324	8.00
9874 7-712ha 1-76	7.712	1.76
9666 4-498ha 3-70	4.498	3.70
9363 1-134ha 3-33	1.134	3.33
0265 2-210ha 5-52	2.210	5.52
1568 1-547ha 3-82	1.547	3.82
3567 3-522ha 8-70	3.522	8.70
0666 2-263ha 6-65	2.263	6.65
3174 1-320ha 3-26	1.320	3.26
4279 3-388ha 9-96	3.388	9.96
5773 1-146ha 3-36	1.146	3.36
4873 1-121ha 3-30	1.121	3.30
9363 1-134ha 3-33	1.134	3.33
0265 2-210ha 5-52	2.210	5.52
1568 1-547ha 3-82	1.547	3.82
3567 3-522ha 8-70	3.522	8.70
0666 2-263ha 6-65	2.263	6.65
3174 1-320ha 3-26	1.320	3.26
4279 3-388ha 9-96	3.388	9.96
5773 1-146ha 3-36	1.146	3.36
4873 1-121ha 3-30	1.121	3.30
3965 1-178ha 4-44	1.178	4.44
5059 3-425ha 8-46	3.425	8.46
6657 5-510ha 1-26	5.510	1.26
9944 2-948ha 7-29	2.948	7.29
0258 4-445ha 1-10	4.445	1.10
134-7m		
135-4m		
141-00m		
142-2m		
145-1m		
151-4m		
132-7m		
137-4m		
139-74m		
129-9m		
129-2m		
B M 128-21m		
4945 2-878ha 7-11	2.878	7.11
5542 1-016ha 2-51	1.016	2.51
2441 6-97ha 1-72	6.97	1.72
2840 2-235ha 5-58	2.235	5.58
3640 1-072ha 2-65	1.072	2.65
1241 2-024ha 5-06	2.024	5.06
1841 9-980ha 2-42	9.980	2.42
3048 4-433ha 1-07	4.433	1.07
675 5-518ha 1-2	5.518	1.2

Landmarks and Features:

- Buildings:** Llan Farm, Llan House, Chapel House, Grouse Inn, Bryn Afon, Penlan, Min Flordd, Glan Deva, The Old Swan, Rectory, The Cottage, Tan-llan, Riverdale, Pump House, The Nook, Dewi Dyddyn.
- Public Buildings:** Carrog C.P. School, St. Bridget's Church (C in W), Glyndwr Terrace.
- Open Spaces:** Playing Field, Burial Ground, T.C.B., T.C.R., War Memorial.
- Infrastructure:** Roads (e.g., M.A.E.S., Llanarfon Road), Tracks, Sheep Dip, Cattle Grid.
- Water Features:** River Llan, Pwll (Lum), various ponds and streams.
- Other:** Sheep Dip, Cattle Grid, various utility lines and boundaries.



Chirk - PRN105950

NGR SJ291376

107m OD

Location

1.1 Chirk lies on the main A5 trunk road from London to Holyhead, 8km north of Oswestry (Shropshire) and 14km south-south-west of Wrexham.

1.2 The settlement occupies level ground on the northern lip of the Dee Valley, the small motte taking full advantage of the steep drop down to the river, the church and village lying a little further back.

1.3 Chirk Castle is about 2km to the west of the village, while the Jacobean house of Brynkinalt is little more than one kilometre to the east.

History

2.1 The name 'Chirk' first appears in 1295 and is an English derivation of 'Ceiriog', the river below the village. The Welsh equivalent is 'Y Waun', recorded as 'Eglwys y Waen' in 1291.

2.2 The settlement's origins are, however, certainly earlier. Pratt has argued that it was a 12th-century nucleated 'maerdref' around the church and motte, which from 1282 became the 'caput' of a marcher lordship. It was granted borough status in 1324 with 25 burgage plots laid out along the main street; there were 32 burgesses in 1393, a weekly market and a town hall.

2.3 Its church seems to have been a chapel to Llangollen, being referred to as 'Eccl'ia de Eweun' in 1291.

2.4 Leland was unimpressed by Chirk - a few houses only - but mentioned the 'mighty large and stronge castel' and two parks, one of which, 'Blake [Black] Park' survived. Notwithstanding its dismissal by Leland, later in the 16th century it was one of the contributory boroughs electing a Denbighshire member of parliament.

2.5 The market was no longer held by Leland's time but four fairs continued into the 19th century.

2.6 An estate map of c1760 depicts the main build up of settlement on both sides of the wide Church Street, with some dwellings along Castle Road and Trevor Road, suggestive of a degree of planning. Extending from a track running along the east side of the churchyard was Chirk Green, a large area with cottages on its edges and some encroachments within it.

2.7 Lewis appears to report a reasonable amount of rebuilding in Chirk in the early 19th century, as well as improvements to the main road on both sides of the village. Also during the 19th century, Brynkinalt Park was extended to take in all the ground immediately to the east of the village.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 St Mary's church (PRN 101108) was probably built in the late 12th century, though there is reportedly a closed early Norman doorway within the building. Part of its double nave as well as the west tower are late Perpendicular. Alterations and modifications occurred at various times in the 19th century. Several of the internal fittings are of 17th-century date, with monuments of the 17th and 18th centuries.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19770) is rectilinear with no indications that there was a curvilinear predecessor.

3.3 Castell y Waun motte (PRN 101109; SAM De117) consists of a mound now used as an ornamental garden. Nothing survives of the surrounding ditch or of a contiguous bailey. The first documentary record is in 1165/6, and RCAHMW claimed it as the llys of the Welsh commote of Isclawdd.

3.4 Another mound is reported to have existed on the opposite side of the road to Castell y Waun (Lewis

and Pennant). Nothing obviously artificial can now be detected.

3.5 None of the vernacular buildings in the village are of any age, although the local village history states that parts of the Hand Hotel and the cottages to the south of it go back to the 16th century; these claims have not been authenticated. The oldest of three vicarages is early 18th-century and there are several other notable buildings, including the former girls' school designed by Pugin, but all of the 18th and 19th centuries. A number of early 19th-century buildings originally had the now obsolete Grade III listing.

3.6 The recreation ground on the west side of Church Street and north of Station Avenue is covered by low ridge and furrow (PRN 19771).

3.7 Beyond the eastern edge of the settlement was a possible monastic grange belonging to Valle Crucis Abbey. The field name, Maes y Mynach (PRN 102617), is assumed to refer to the association.

3.8 Chirk Castle lies around 2km to the west of the settlement. Whilst some relationship between castle and town must be expected, a consideration of the castle is not relevant to this report. Similarly, Brynkinalt, reputedly the home of the Trevor family since AD 924, is not discussed here.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Chirk as defined on the accompanying map has a significant archaeological potential, because of its putative maerdref. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

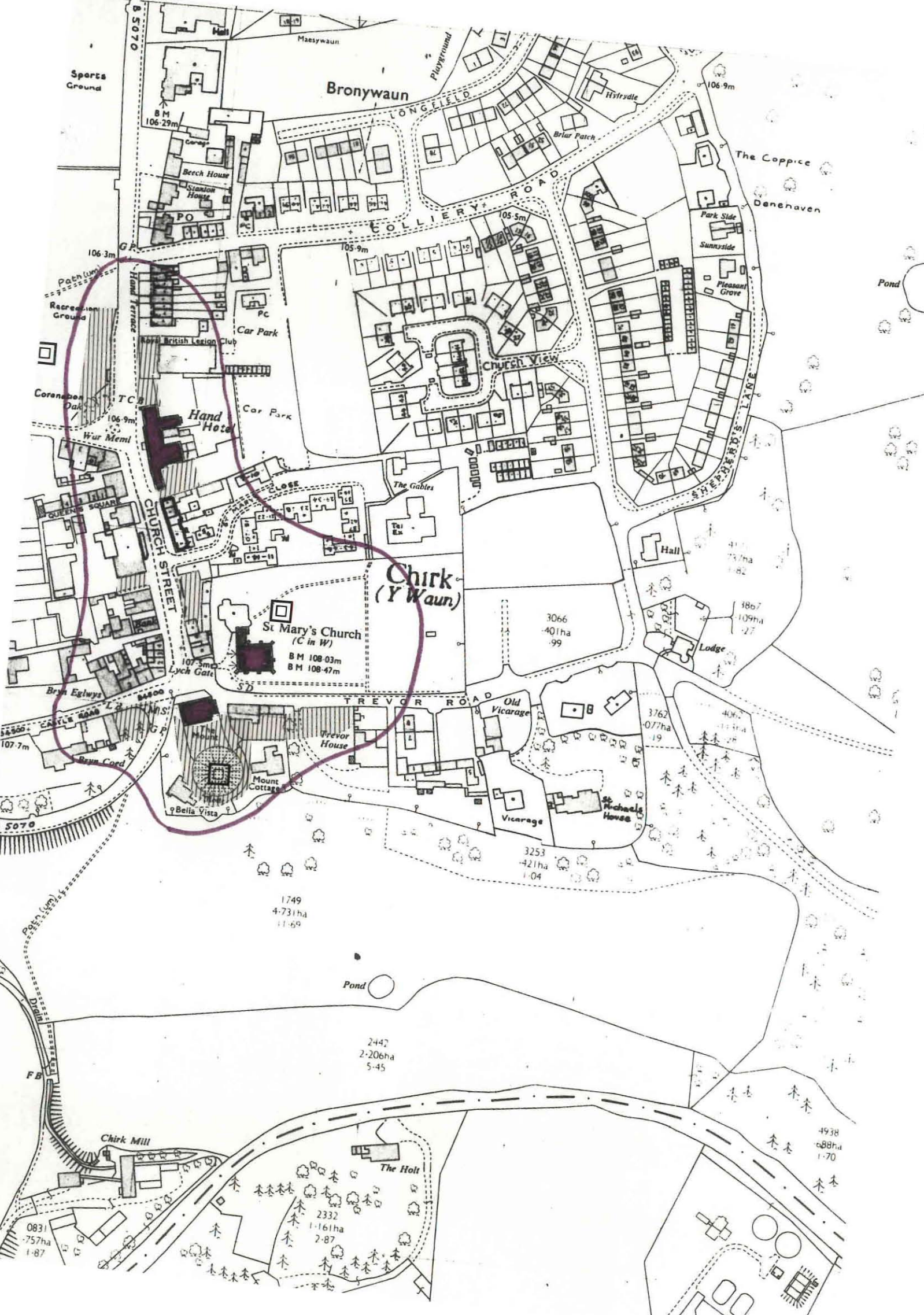
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard, street frontages and the ground around the motte.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 The motte is a scheduled ancient monument and the relevant legislative procedures relating to this protected site must be observed on all occasions.

References

- AP: CPAT/86/MB/576; 86/MB/590; 88/18/24; 88/20/19
- Cadw/ICOMOS Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens 1994 (draft)
- Charles 1938, 192
- Chirk Local History Society 1989
- Clwyd SMR
- CPAT Field Visit: 4 October 1994
- Estate Map of Chirk c1760: NLW/R.M. C36
- Hubbard 1986, 121
- Lewis 1833
- Pratt in 'Clwyd Historian' 13 (1982/83), 30
- Pritchard 1973
- RCAHMW 1914, 31
- Smith 1964, iii, 72
- Thomas 1911, 270
- Tithe survey 1839



Bronywaun

LONGFIELD

COLLIERY ROAD

CHURCH STREET

TREVOR ROAD

Chirk
(Y Waun)

St Mary's Church
(C in W)
B M 108-03m
B M 108-47m

Hand Hotel

106.3m

B M 106-29m

3066
401ha
.99

3253
421ha
1.04

1749
4.731ha
11.69

2447
2.206ha
5.45

3762
0.77ha
1.9

4938
0.88ha
1.70

106.9m

107.5m

107.7m

4067
11.1ha
27.4

4807
10.9ha
27

4117
7.3ha
18.2

0831
0.757ha
1.87

2332
1.161ha
2.87

Sports Ground

The Coppice

Denehaven

Pond

Pond

Chirk Mill

The Holt

Recreation Grounds

North British Legion Club

Car Park

Car Park

Wur Meml

QUEENS SQUARE

Lych Gate

Bella Vista

Close

The Gables

Tal Ex

Hall

Lodge

Old Vicarage

Vicarage

St Michael's House

Mount Cottages

Trevor House

The Mount

Bray Eglwys

Castle Road

Coronation Oak

Path (un)

Garage

Beech House

Stanion House

PO

Mall

Maesywaun

Playground

Histrydle

Briar Patch

Park Side

Sunnyside

Pleasant Grove

Clocaenog - PRN105951

NGR SJ083542

207m OD

Location

1.1 Clocaenog lies in the hills to the west of the River Clwyd, about 6km south-west of Ruthin.

1.2 A stream, Nant-du, that has carved a moderately deep but gently sloping cleft through the hills, runs eastwards, joining other streams before swinging north on its way to join the River Clwydog. Part of the village lies beside the stream, but the church and some dwellings occupy higher ground looking down onto the valley.

1.3 To the south-east runs Cefn Cloion, an upland that for long remained common.

History

2.1 Nothing is known of the beginnings or subsequent development of the settlement. The name appears to be derived from 'clog' meaning 'knoll' and 'caenog' meaning 'of lichen'.

2.2 According to Lewis Clocaenog was almost completely 'surrounded by unproductive and widely extended heaths'.

2.3 In 1841, the village sheltered in the valley bottom while the church on the higher ground above was accompanied by no more than two houses.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 The dedication of the church is not straightforward. The Ordnance Survey give it as St Trillo's which concurs with the views of the parish authorities. But Hubbard gives it as St Foddhyd's (or St Meddwyd's, a daughter of St Idloes) and a note in the church porch suggests that this was an earlier dedication, whilst also raising the spectre of an imaginery and otherwise unattested St Caenog. The change in the dedication certainly pre-dates the early 19th century for Lewis records it as St Trillo. The church itself (PRN 100765) has a single chamber with a west bellcote, and is thought to have been constructed in 1538. It was restored twice in the 19th century, when wall paintings were lost. The font is considered to be 15th century, but the remaining internal features date to the 1538 building or are later. The lychgate was added in 1691.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19729) is rectangular, and despite extensions to the south-west there is no evidence to suggest a different shape at any time in the past. It is raised considerably on the east where houses appear to have been cut back into its slope.

3.3 A decorated clay spindle whorl (PRN 100762), now lost, was found in the churchyard prior to 1929. Its possible date ranges from prehistoric through to medieval.

3.4 Small cottages of no great age lie close to the church. There is a mid 19th-century record of a large old building, 'Ty-mawr', in the village which was traditionally a residence of the Bishops of Bangor. A large quadrangular building enclosing a courtyard, it had been replaced by a cottage and a smithy by 1856. A cruck-framed, hall-house known as Paradwys stands on the south side of the settlement close to Nant y Cefn, but just off the accompanying map. It is not dated in the NMR but is presumably sub-medieval.

3.4 No earthworks of any significance have been recognised in Clocaenog.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Clocaenog as defined on the accompanying map has an unknown archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical

implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

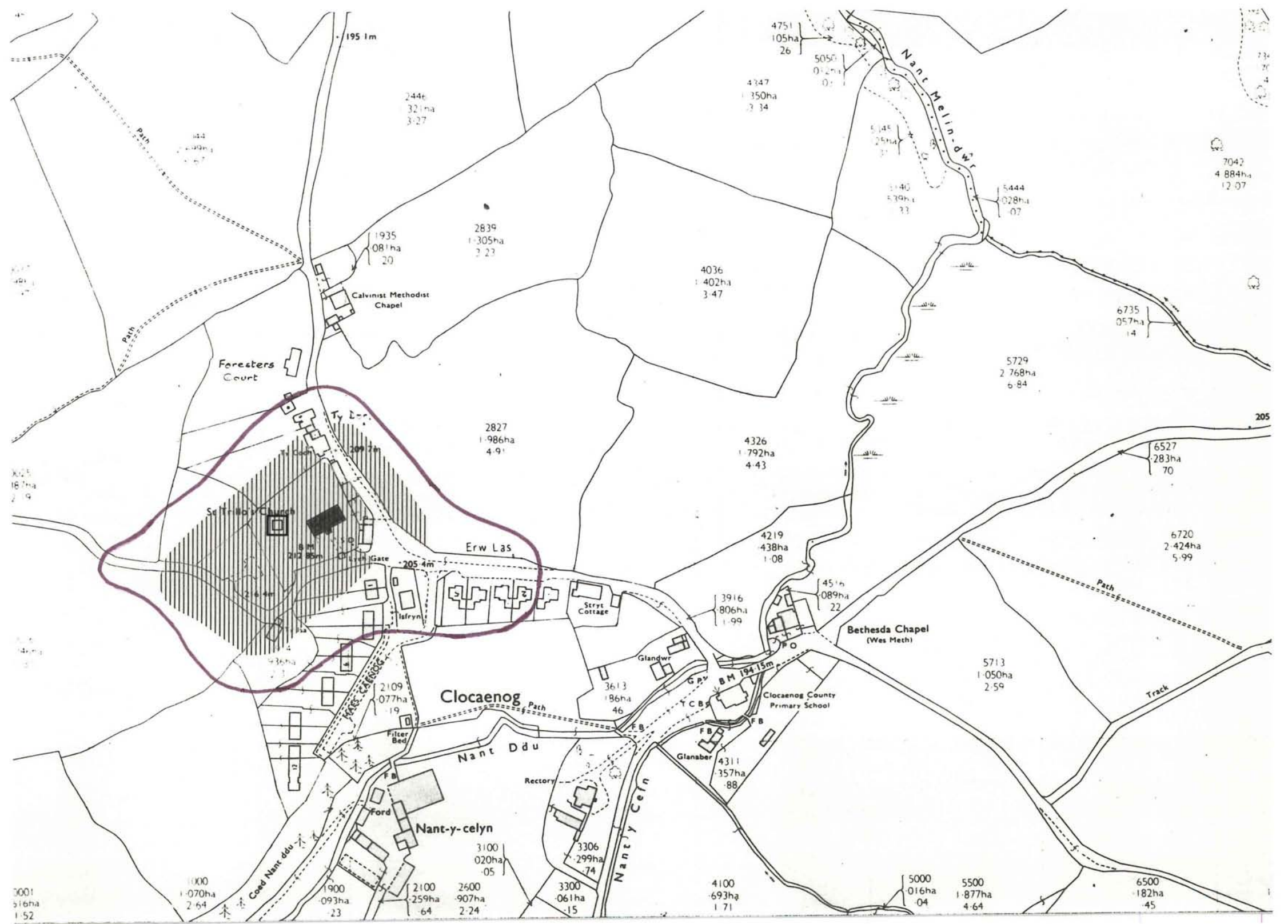
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 Only the church is listed but the relevant legislative procedures must be observed at all times.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 30 November 1994
Commons/Encroachments Map, 1818: CROH/D/DM/162/36
Davies, D. n.d., 11
Davies, D. 1856, 154
Hubbard 1986, 131
Lewis 1833
NMR Aberystwyth
Owen 1886, 77
Tithe Survey: 1841



Corwen - PRN105952

NGR SJ078434

136m OD

Location

1.1 Corwen shelters beneath the crags of Creigiau Llangar where the broad U-shaped valley of the River Dee drives eastwards. Facing north, the core of the town sits on a low river terrace, with more modern development reaching up the steep slopes behind.

1.2 The A5 trunk road passes through the town with Llangollen some 14km to the east and Ruthin about the same distance northwards.

History

2.1 That Corwen developed as a 'mother church' in the early medieval period has been argued, though without solid evidence to support the contention. Nevertheless, Corwen was the major church in the commote of Edeyrnion.

2.2 In the mid-13th century this was an important ecclesiastical centre with 16 clerics, the name appearing as 'Ecc'a de Coruaen'. It has been suggested that the name of the adjacent almshouses, the 'College', retained a memory of a collegiate establishment. The secular centre for the area was in adjacent Llangar.

2.3 The mid 19th-century Tithe map reveals a village of the pre-railway era still centred round the church. Housing had extended along Church Street for only a short distance, though there were more dwellings on the lane traversing the hillside to the south. Eastwards the London Road was also becoming popular. The lane leading north from the church to the river served only a few houses before bifurcating and giving access to quilllets on the valley floor.

2.4 The town was part of Merionnydd until 1974.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 A Roman tile antefix with the symbol of the XXth legion (PRN 102673) was found in Coed Pen-y-bryn Felin to the south of Corwen in 1977. An alleged Roman building (PRN 102674) is said to have been uncovered west of Chapel Street in the centre of Corwen in 1909, but few details are available.

3.2 Pen-y-bryn y Castell was the focus of an unsubstantiated 19th-century report of earthworks associated with a ?13th-century Welsh encampment (PRN 101394).

3.3 Corwen church (PRN 105907; Listed Grade B) is dedicated to the 6th-century saints, Mael and Sulien. It is first referred to in 1222 and medieval lancet windows survive in the east wall. Repairs and refurbishments occurred in 1777, 1872 and 1907. There is a font of c.1100, a priest's effigy in the chancel dating to around the start of the early 15th century, and the nave roof goes back to 1687 but was heavily restored in 1871.

3.4 Various antiquities have been found in the vicinity of the church. A broken pillar stone of 7th/9th-century date has been utilised as the lintel of an external south door (PRN 100817); a 12th-century cross shaft and base (PRN 100818; SAM Merioneth 52; Grade II listed) is sited in the churchyard; and a bronze incense burner (PRN 100819) was uncovered in 1858 'a little above Corwen church'. Other stone fragments with pre-Norman interlace were discovered in the 19th century but were reported lost by 1921. In addition a monolith, 'Carreg i Big yn y fach rewlyd', is built into the porch wall and is presumed to have been a prehistoric standing stone, the siting of which according to tradition dictated the location of the church.

3.5 The churchyard (PRN 105908) is large and polygonal in shape, but may have originally been curvilinear. Certainly the boundary appears to have been cut back on the north side to accommodate both dwellings and a canalised stream. On the south side the 'College' (q.v.) has also intruded into the

graveyard. A distinctive scarp curves across the eastern side of the present churchyard. This is probably natural, at least in part, yet it might reflect the line of an earlier 'llan'.

3.6 A well, Ffynnon y Gloch (PRN 100821), lies just behind the church and is now represented by a hollow 30m wide and 8m deep. It was mentioned by Lhwyd in 1698 as the place where a bronze bell was discovered.

3.7 There is little evidence of the medieval settlement that existed beside the church. A market place lay on the north and is still recognisable despite post-medieval encroachments. No early buildings survive, and most of those in the centre are clearly of 19th-century date or later: the Owain Glyndwr Hotel (Grade II listing) for instance is early 19th century. The College (PRN 105909; Grade II listing) is a set of almshouses built under the will of a local landowner soon after 1710, although a date of 1750 has also been attributed to it.

Recommendations

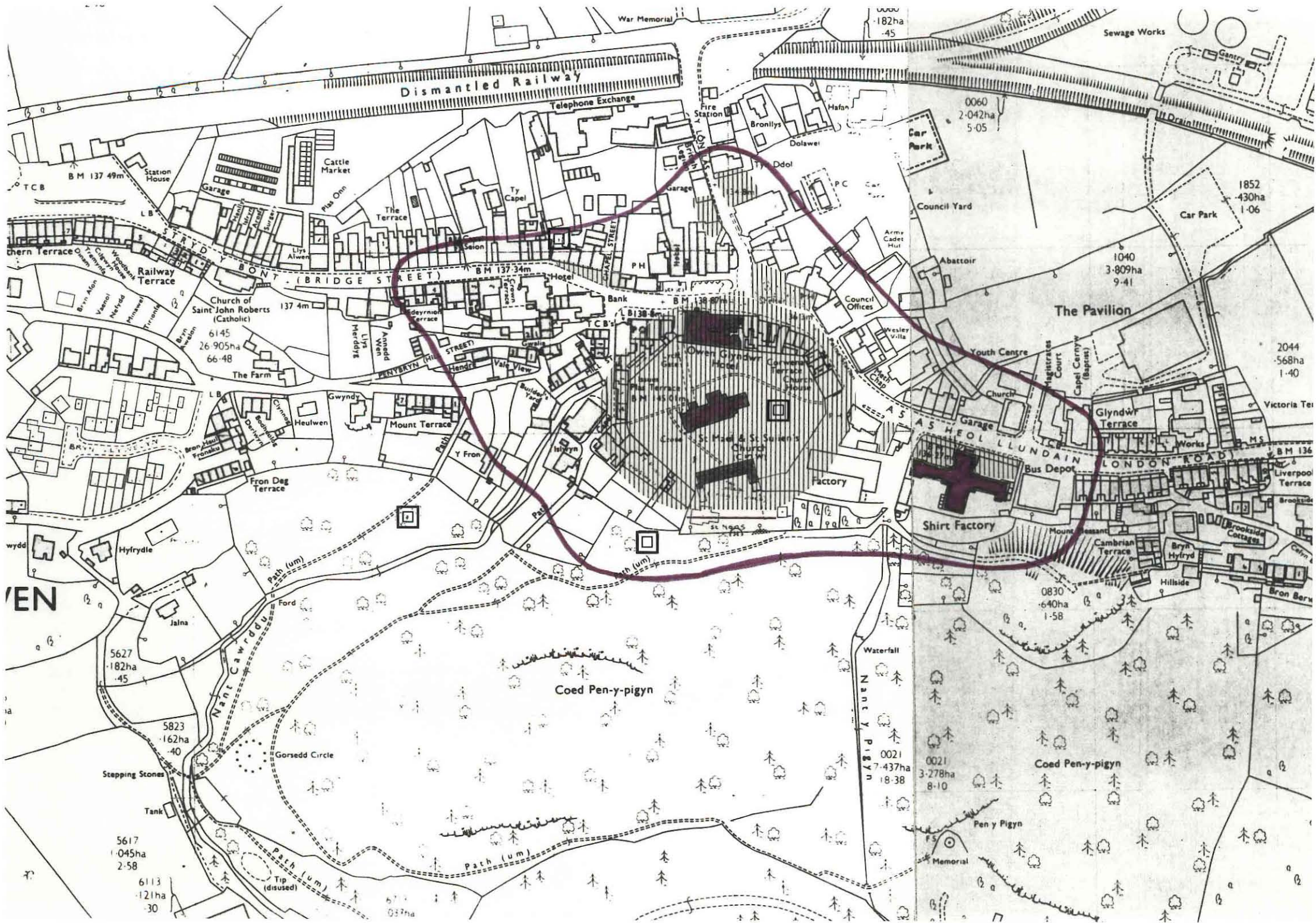
4.1 The historic core of Corwen as defined on the accompanying map has a high archaeological potential, not only for its putative early medieval beginnings but also because of the potential Roman activity in the immediate area. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it, together with those areas defined on the accompanying plan.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit 7 June 1994
Edwards 1991, 136
Evans 1992
Rees 1967, pl.27
RCAHMW 1921, 12
Thomas 1911, 144
Tithe survey 1840



Cyffylliog - PRN105953

NGR SJ059577

156m OD

Location

1.1 Cyffylliog is set in the valley of Afon Clywedog as the river forces its way through the hills to the west of the Vale of Clwyd. Twin streams, Afon Corris and Nant Gladur, run down from the south-west delineating a spur, the tip of which is occupied by Cyffylliog church. The heart of the settlement is set a little further south on the north bank of Nant Gladur.

1.2 A minor road serves Cyffylliog, leading from Ruthin which is 6km to the east.

History

2.1 Until 1873, Cyffylliog was a chapel of ease attached to Llanynys; it was said to have been built by Griffith Goch at the end of the 12th century. The location apart there is certainly little to recommend an early medieval origin for the foundation.

2.2 The form of the medieval settlement is not known.

2.3 Late 18th-century and mid 19th-century maps suggest a very small settlement here. An estate map of 1772x1774 appears to show no more than one building north-west of the church and the absence of obviously old dwellings near Nant Gladur does suggest that the development of this valley was a relatively recent occurrence. By the time of the mid 19th-century Tithe survey the north bank of the stream had attracted housing, and a few other dwellings had been erected on the lane beyond the church.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 St Mary's church (PRN 105910; Grade B listing) consists of a single chamber with Decorated features, walls of rounded river stones, and a Victorian bellcote and porch. Some medieval features including the screen and the font were reworked in the 'destructive restoration' of 1876.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19767) is rectilinear, its north-eastern perimeter following the edge of the river terrace. Only on the south is there any hint of curvilinearity.

3.3 There are no listed buildings other than the church. The early 19th-century lychgate and the hearse house with its inscription of 1823 were both originally given a Grade III listing.

3.4 A building platform (PRN 19768) which can be equated with the dwelling shown on the later 18th-century estate map is discernible in OS plot 7886.

3.5 Ridge and furrow (PRN 19769) covered the adjacent field (OS plot 7280) on a 1946 aerial photograph, but was not recognised during fieldwork.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Cyffylliog as defined on the accompanying map has an unknown archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

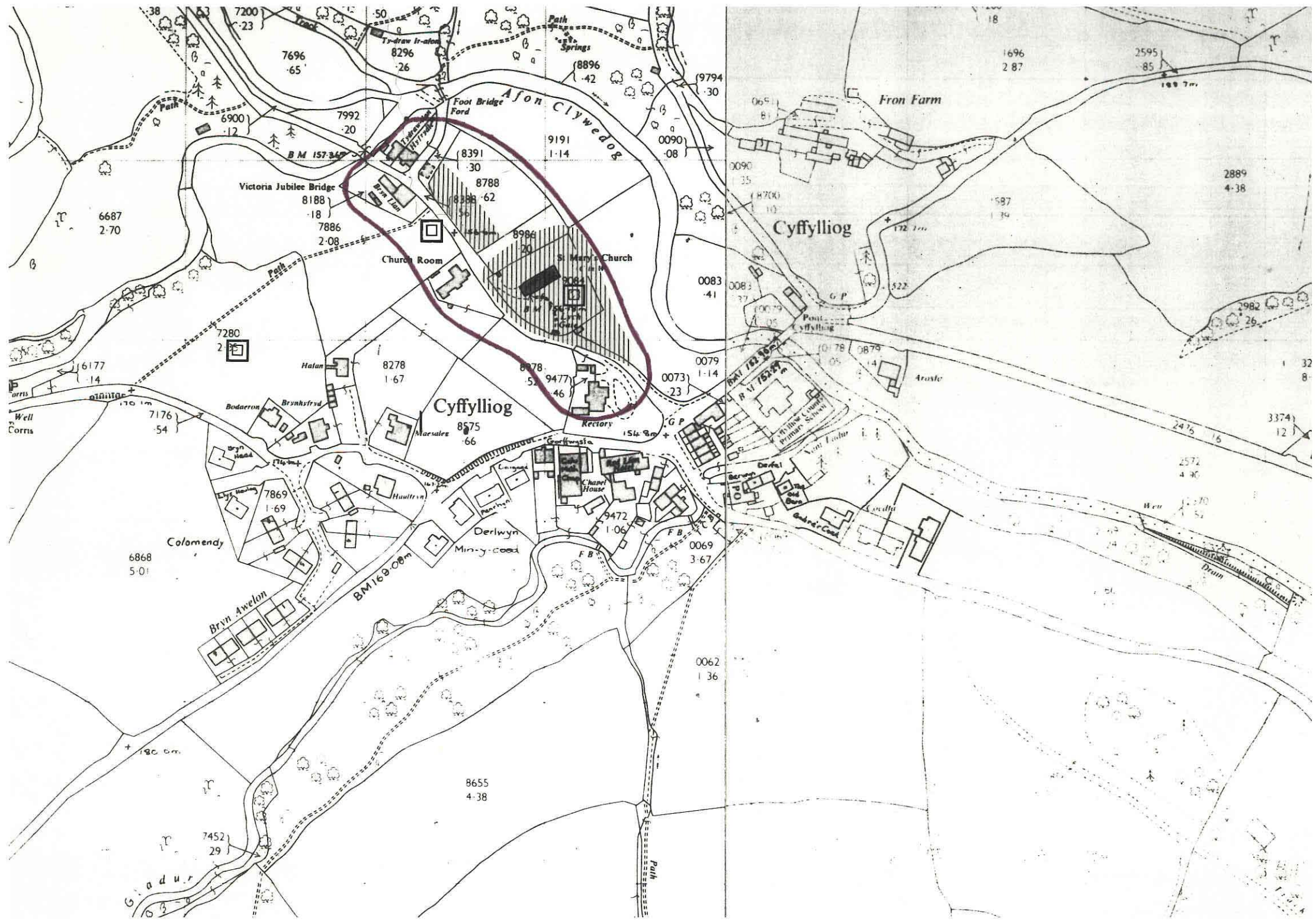
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 Only the church is listed but the relevant legislative procedures must be observed at all times.

References

AP: RAF/3G/TUD/UK/35/5108 (16-01-1946)
CPAT Field Visit: 8 February 1995
Estate Map, 1772x1774: NLW Ms Maps Vol 83, no.89
Hubbard 1986, 142
Thomas 1911, 77
Tithe Survey 1843



Cynwyd - PRN105954

NGR SJ056411

159m OD

Location

1.1 Cynwyd has developed on the east side of the Dee Valley at a point where a tributary of the Dee, Afon Trystion, cuts a sharp notch down the western slope of the Berwyn. The village occupies a low spur projecting from the river terrace towards the main river some 300m away. Pratt considers it the only place in Llangar Community suitable for village development.

1.2 A crossroads serves as the focus of the settlement with houses spreading up the tributary valley eastwards, and a more industrial element closer to the Dee. Corwen is just over 3km to the north-west.

History

2.1 It is worth noting Pratt's view that this location on the Dee valley edge marks the point where perhaps during the prehistoric and medieval periods an east to west routeway from England traversed the northern watershed of the Berwyn and then ran down the valley of Afon Trystion to a Dee crossing. This was a spot where the flood plain of the Dee narrowed with a spur of higher ground projecting from the western side to match that on the east utilised by Cynwyd. Such a potentially important communications locus could well have seen settlement or other activity at a much earlier date.

2.2 Not an ecclesiastical unit in its own right, Cynwyd in the early 19th century was in the parish of Gwyddelwern, and functioned as a centre of flannel manufacture. How much earlier its history can be taken back has not been established with any certainty. It has the appearance of a post-medieval development, yet Lhwyd at the end of the 17th century recorded a village of nine houses and a mill.

2.3 The church was consecrated only in 1856, the much older parish church of Llangar being little more than one kilometre away.

2.4 Cynwyd is now the centre of a community, one of the modern administrative units.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 A Bronze Age palstave (PRN 100826) was found at Upper Mill, Cynwyd, in 1855.

3.2 Ty-nant Hall (PRN 104523) to the north-east of the village is a ruined cruck hall, thought to be early post-medieval in origin.

3.3 Pont Dyfrdwy (PRN 102611) spanning the River Dee has been claimed to date from 1602, although an origin in the 18th century is more likely. It is scheduled (SAM De33) and also has a Grade II listing. Two buildings in the village were originally listed as Grade III, the Prince of Wales Hotel thought to be late 18th century, and the Blue Lion Inn of 19th-century date.

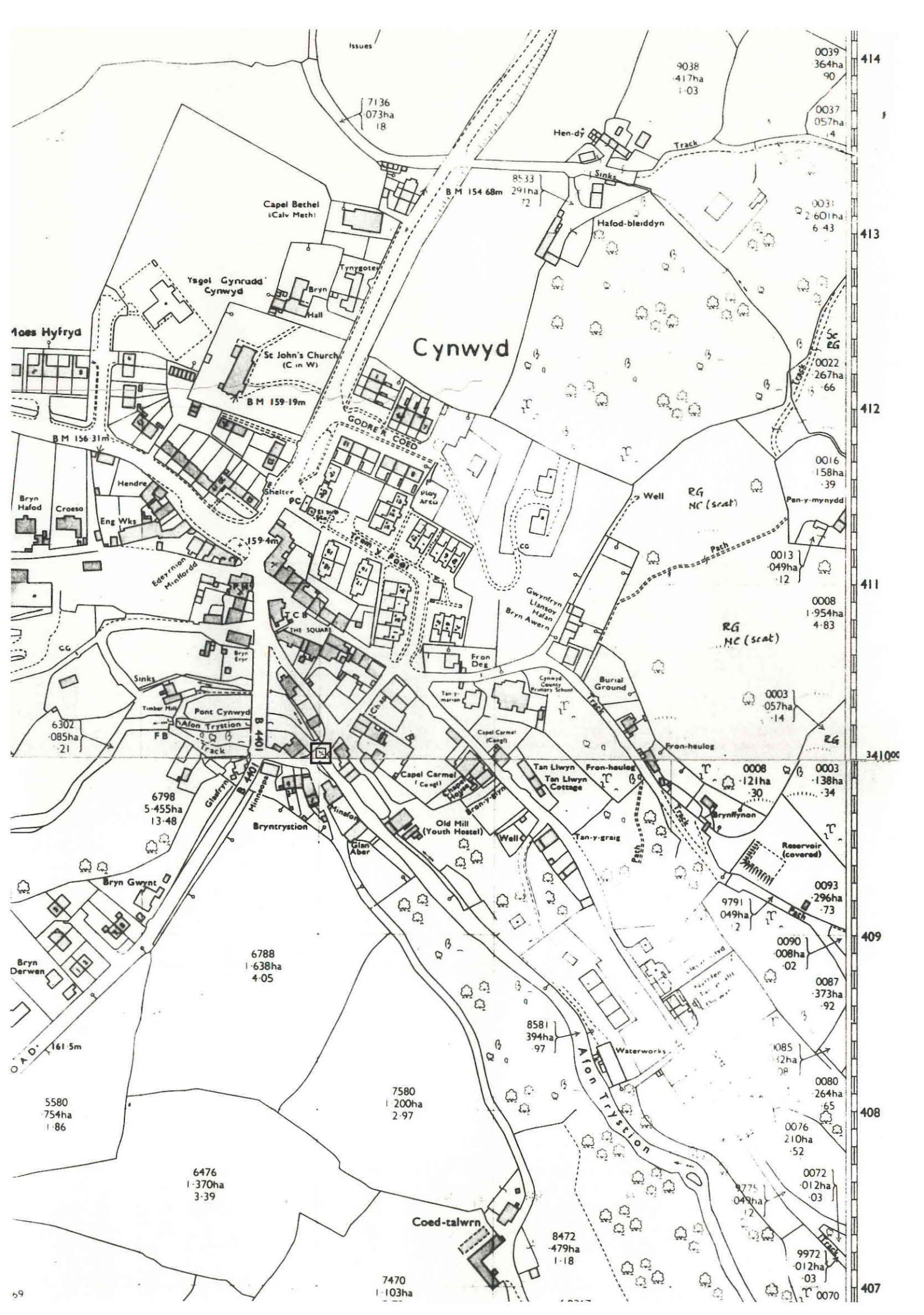
3.4 The bridge carrying the main road through the village over Afon Trystion is probably 19th-century in origin. Originally the road looped eastwards and crossed by a smaller bridge which is still in existence (PRN 19735). Undoubtedly this is post-medieval in date, and the local tradition that it has been here since Roman times can be dismissed.

Recommendations

4.1 Cynwyd presents few indicators of an early history and on this basis it is not possible to define an historic core. Nevertheless, Pratt's opinion on the importance of this setting is worth noting and specific developments within the village should be monitored.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit 7 June 1994
Lewis 1833
Lhwyd 1910, 49
Pratt, 1980, 30
Tithe Survey: Ggyddelwern 1843



Denbigh - PRN105955

NGR SJ050661

143m OD

Location

1.1 The castle and walled town at Denbigh are constructed on a "dramatically steep outcrop" of Carboniferous limestone known as Caledfryn Hill standing out against the flat valley bottom of the Vale of Clwyd. A small tributary isolates the hill, but higher ground to the west acts as a backdrop. The later town has spread down into the tributary valley but a small bench breaks the slope from hill-top to valley floor.

1.2 In a low-lying part of the town, west of the centre, was the Lenten Pool (PRN 101742), now infilled.

History

2.1 Denbigh not surprisingly in view of its status and history has been the subject of several major studies including those by Williams in 1856 and 1860 and more recent articles on a range of topics by Evans (1955), Butler (1974) and others. Not all of these have been consulted during the present survey, but for the sake of completeness they are included in the references at the end of this section and are distinguished from consulted works by the inclusion of an asterisk.

2.2 The hill-top castle and walled town at Denbigh were constructed by Henry de Lacy in the second half of the 13th century, after the creation of the lordship of Denbigh by Edward I in 1282. However, it has been argued that the hilltop had previously been a stronghold of Dafydd ap Gruffydd, a llys which was the centre of the cantref of Rhufoniog; and there are references during the 13th century to the 'maerdref' of Dinbych. Owen has noted that 'the prominence of Dinbych in the pre-conquest period explains the selection of this township as the administrative centre of the new lordship established in 1282'. The name itself is considered to derive from 'dinas fechan' or 'small fortress'.

2.3 It was recaptured - briefly - by the Welsh in 1294, but by the time of de Lacy's death in 1311 the fortifications at Denbigh, which with Ruthin controlled the Vale of Clwyd, are assumed to have been largely complete.

2.4 The creation of a borough followed quickly, leading to an influx of English families. Forty-seven burgages held by thirty-nine burgesses were listed in 1285 when the first charter was granted, but subsequent to the Welsh attack on the town in 1294, a second charter of 1295x1305 recorded only 45 burgages, together with the first mention of the town walls.

2.5 A manor was established in due course near to the castle. It included two granges, a byre a dovecote and two fishponds, extending over 75 acres.

2.6 As early as the beginning of the 14th century, the town had expanded beyond the confines of the walls and down the northern slopes of the hill. As Soulsby has pointed out the site of the walled town was ideal for defence but not for commercial operations. In 1305 there were 183 burgages outside the defences, 52 within, and by 1337 the town spread over 57 acres. By 1311 an annual fair was being held and in 1334, the 'Survey of Denbigh' refers to 'a borough within the walls' and 'a market town without'. It also mentions the hamlet of 'Neuburgh', part of Lleweni where originally the townspeople had held agricultural land. Neuburgh cannot now be traced and Beresford has stated that 'it is not certain whether the survey has recorded an abortive attempt to lay out a small borough beyond the suburbs of Denbigh, or whether it is the remains of a Welsh commercial settlement, older than Denbigh..'

2.7 In 1373 there were 438 burgages, and Denbigh at this time was clearly commercially successful. A detailed rental of 1476 also charts the growth of the town beyond the walls with more than four times as many burgages outside as inside, and this some eight years after the extra-mural areas had been ravaged by fire, during the Wars of the Roses when the Earl of Pembroke besieged the castle.

2.8 For the late 15th and 16th centuries there are details of craftsmen practicing within the town: a draper, glovers, shoe-makers, mercers and weavers. And from the 15th century come references to High Street, Beacon's Hill, Pepper Lane and Sowter Lane.

2.9 By the early 16th century a survey records suburbs for three quarters of a mile to the north of the castle, a pattern of development also represented on Speed's map published in 1611. His map reflects the general abandonment of the walled town with relatively little housing within its confines, though there was St Hilary's chapel and the incomplete church begun by the Earl of Leicester in the 1580s.

2.10 The picture is confirmed by Leland's remarks some eighty years previously. "There hath beene diverse rows of streates withyn the wald towne, of the which the most part be now doone in maner, and at this tyme there be scant 80. howsolders". He continued: "But the towne of Denbigh now occupied and yoining neere to the old toun hath beene totally made of later tyme, and set much more to commodite of cariage and water by maany welles in it. And the encrease of this was the decay of the other".

2.11 It is noticeable too that the market place and town hall lay outside the walled town.

2.12 The decline within the walls continued in later centuries: a drawing of 1750 shows few houses, even though the population of the town at the time was nearly 2000. Instead the focus of the town was High Street with three roads - Love Lane, Henllan Street and Lower Street - leading off it. Lower Street (now Vale Street) had three minor streets running parallel to it. Notwithstanding this, Ogilby in the 'Britannia' stated the town to be "esteemed the best in North Wales".

2.13 During the Civil War in the mid-17th century, Denbigh again became important militarily. There was a battle here in 1645 and the castle was besieged, surrendering to the Parliamentarians in the following year.

2.14 Some expansion occurred between the early 17th and mid-19th century. Lhwyd noted a total of 330 buildings in the town at the end of the 17th century. Redevelopment occurred later in the 19th century. The railway along the Vale of Clwyd was built in 1860, and communications were further improved by the major road from Ruthin to Rhyl.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 It has been suggested that an old wall (PRN 101570) behind the Crown Hotel is a remnant of a pre-Edwardian stone castle.

3.2 The castle (PRN 101960; Grade I listing; Guardianship Monument [note: the area of guardianship is not depicted on the accompanying plan]; SAM De 156) and the town walls (PRN 101961; SAM De02; Grade I listing) are contemporary constructions. The former has a fine gatehouse with three towers, leading into an irregular polygon defined by a curtain wall, the south and west sides of which form part of the town walls. Angle towers project from the curtain.

3.3 The town walls are largely complete, enclosing an area of some 9.5 acres (partly scheduled SAM De 225; Grade II listing). Drum towers project at several points around the circuit, the course of which was dictated by the terrain. The main entrance to the town, the Burgess Gate, survives from the later 13th/14th century, but a second entrance, the Exchequer Gate, was demolished sometime after the 16th century. The latter was excavated in 1982/83.

3.4 Siegeworks (PRN 102598; SAM De28) raised during the Civil War consist of crescent-shaped bank around the Goblin Tower. An adjacent mound (PRN 102591; SAM De28), still discernible early this century, may have been a barrow or more probably part of the Civil War earthworks. Another earthwork comprising a broad low linear bank running gently downhill (PRN 19784) lies between the castle and the hospital. Its function is uncertain. Mr K Brassil has suggested that it may also be a Civil War feature, though other interpretations are possible.

3.5 St Hilary's Chapel (PRN 102017; SAM De05; Grade II listing) was mentioned in an extent of 1334, and as a garrison chapel was presumably constructed early in the development of the town. Its tower and west wall remain but the nave and chancel were demolished in 1923. During the medieval period the nearest church was at Llanfarchell, a mile to the east.

3.6 St Anne's or Flemings' Chapel (PRN 102749) was probably a guild chapel that had fallen into disuse by the early 16th century, when it was mentioned by Leland. An undercroft below nos 15 and 17 Bridge Street is all that survives. Thomas notes that an associated almshouse stood nearby.

3.7 The Earl of Leicester's church (PRN 102018; SAM De 44; Grade II listing) was begun by Robert Dudley in 1578 (on the basis of a foundation stone), but was abandoned soon after his death in 1588. Though later used as a stone quarry, substantial parts remain, and it is classed as a unique instance of major church building in the Elizabethan period (Hubbard).

3.8 A Carmelite Friary (PRN 102020; SAM De 23; Grade II listing), founded in c.1289 by Sir John Sunimore, lay in the northern suburbs at the end of Vale Street. After the Dissolution in the 1530s, it was used for various purposes but part at least was destroyed by fire in 1898. The remains now consist of the choir, part of the nave, and the wall of a barn. Other buildings may lie beneath the field to the east. Abbey Cottage (Grade II listing) occupies the site of the south cloister range and incorporates two 13th-century doorways. A possible ossuary associated with the friary was cut by a trench in 1985 (PRN 101836), and an exploratory evaluation also took place more recently in advance of a school extension.

3.9 Denbigh has been classed as "one of the most complete townscapes in North Wales.." (RCAHMW). The modern street pattern clearly reflects that of the early 17th century as depicted by Speed, though some of the names have changed. Vale Street was Lower Street, Bridge Street was Chapel Lane though the former name was probably taken from Pont Garreg, a small footbridge crossing part of the Lenten Pool.

3.10 A number of medieval and sub-medieval vernacular buildings survive in the town. Friesland Hall House, otherwise known as Bryn Awelon (PRN 102593), is a cruck house and has a 14th-century doorway in its southern side. Plas Clough House (PRN 101473; Grade II listing), with its three gables on the front, was erected by Sir Richard Clough in 1567. Grove House may retain features of a house built by his brother, Hugh Clough in 1574. Galch Hill House (PRN 102592; Grade II* listing) was in existence in the later 16th century. Bryn-y-parc (Nos 3-5, Park Street; Grade II* listing) contains internal features of late 16th/17th-century date, perhaps reused. Nos 27-31 Vale Street is essentially a medieval hall house with later additions (PRN 19785). The Eagle Hotel (Grade II listing) is thought to be 16th or very early 17th century but has seen considerable rebuilding; the Golden Lion (Grade II listing) is 18th century but with a later 15th-century timber frame. No.2 Love Lane (Grade II listing) is dated to around 1500. Nos 32-34 High Street (part Grade II listing) is dated to around 1600.

3.11 Other buildings have 17th-century features, but no thorough survey of the stock of early buildings in Denbigh is available, and the number of such survivals has probably been underestimated. There was a circular thatched cock-pit possibly of the 17th century which was removed to St Fagans Museum in 1964.

3.12 The two-storied townhall (PRN 102597; Grade II listing) was built of stone in 1572 and restored in 1780.

3.13 The market cross (PRN 102019) dated to 1760 replaced a medieval cross, and was later removed to the bowling green near the castle. Its successor of the mid-1840s has been transferred to Lenten Pool.

3.14 A tile kiln (PRN 102021) of 14th/15th-century date was uncovered during construction of the welfare centre in 1938.

3.15 Irregular and poorly defined platforms (PRN 101813), perhaps associated with a holloway, to the north-east of the historic core of the town, could just be the remains of earlier settlement.

3.16 The site of a well, Fynnon Farcel (PRN 102022), was noted by Lhwyd in 1698. No trace remains.

3.17 An unusual small memorial garden - the Pierce Memorial Garden - in the centre of the town is classed as Grade II in the non-statutory registers of landscapes, parks and gardens prepared by Cadw.

3.18 Denbigh Green, an area of unenclosed common, lay to the north of the town. Its extent is depicted on an estate map of c1809.

3.19 Strip fields lay on the edge of town, south of the modern quarry. Some at least have now been built over.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Denbigh as defined on the accompanying maps has an extremely high

archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any and every development proposal that appears to affect the core area.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the old walled town, the castle, the friary, the market area and the streets leading off it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

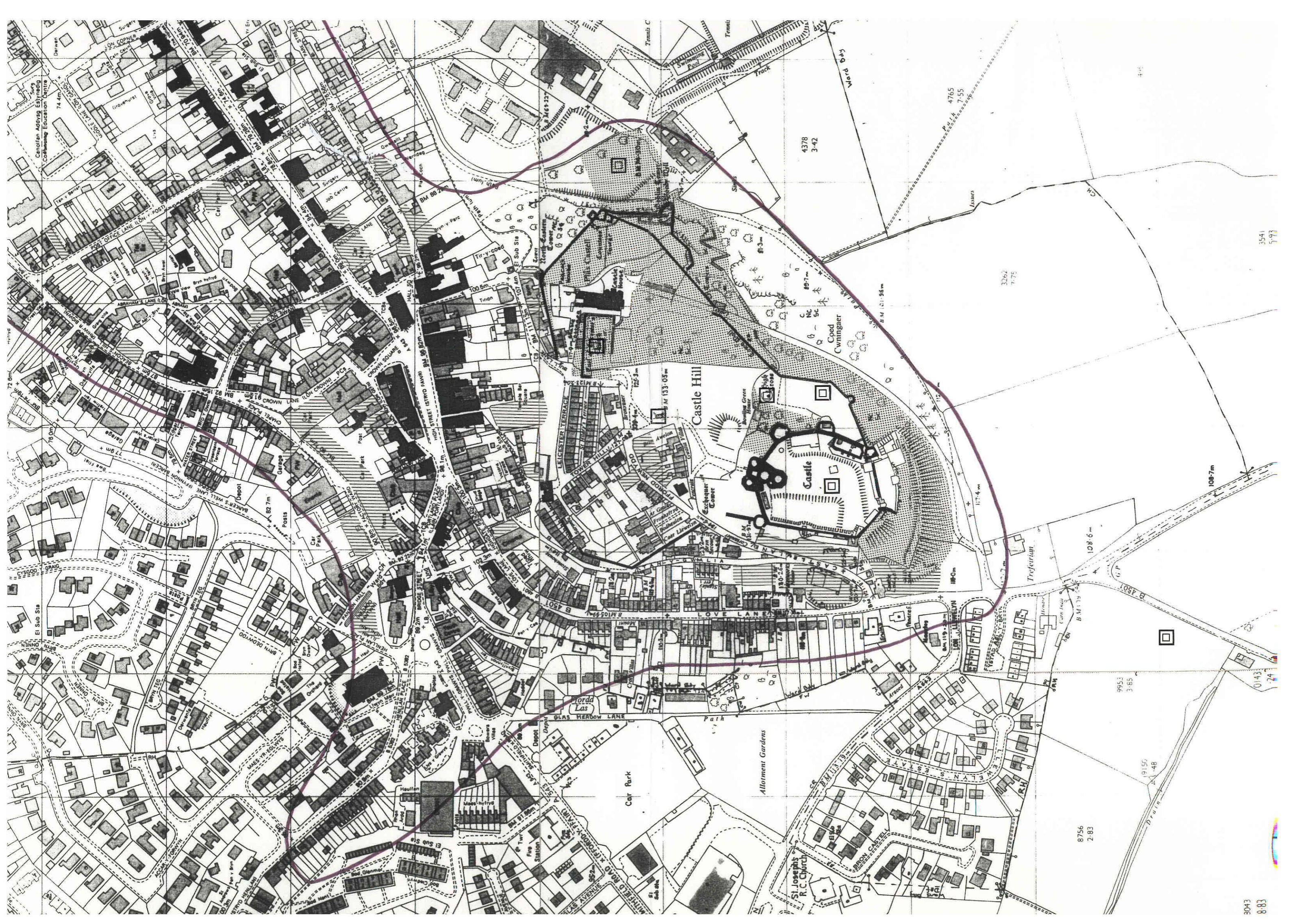
4.4 Scheduled Ancient Monuments and many listed buildings exist within the town. The relevant legislative procedures relating to these protected sites must be observed on all occasions.

4.5 Denbigh has a particularly rich stock of late medieval and sub-medieval buildings. Renovation works or modifications to any known or believed to be of early date should be accompanied by an appropriate level of structural recording.

4.6 A thorough survey of the archaeological and historical resource of Denbigh, in much greater detail than can be attempted here, is required. This should utilise documentary, cartographic and ground evidence and should seek to establish a detailed and objective report which can inform both the local authorities and Cadw on the significance of all aspects of Denbigh's built heritage.

References

- AP: CPAT/83-10-5/7; 84/MB/295; 86/MB/834; 86/MB/850
AP: RAF/3G/TUD/UK/34/5596 (16-01-1946)
Beresford 1988, 547
Butler 1974*
Cadw/ICOMOS Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens 1994 (draft)
Carter 1966, 201
Castledine and Owen 1983
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 18 January 1995
Estate Map 1780: NLW Plas Heaton Deposit Vol 1.1
Estate Map c1809: CROR/BD/A/308
Evans 1955*
Hubbard 1986, 143
Lhwyd 1909, 107
NMR Aberystwyth
Ogilby 1765
Owen 1978
RCAHMW 1914, 39
Smith 1964, iii, 97
Soulsby 1983, 121
Thomas 1911, 20
Tithe Survey 1839/1840
Williams 1856*
Williams 1860*



8756 2.83

9953 3.85

0143 2.74

108.7m

108.6m

117.4m

4378 3.42

4765 7.55

3262 7.75

B.M. 101.98m

Castle Hill

Castle

Allotment Gardens

St Joseph's R.C. Church

Lord Las

Car Park

Depot

Fire Station

Mass Hyfrid

Haultan

El Sub Sta

El Sub Sta

El Sub Sta

El Sub Sta

El Sub Sta

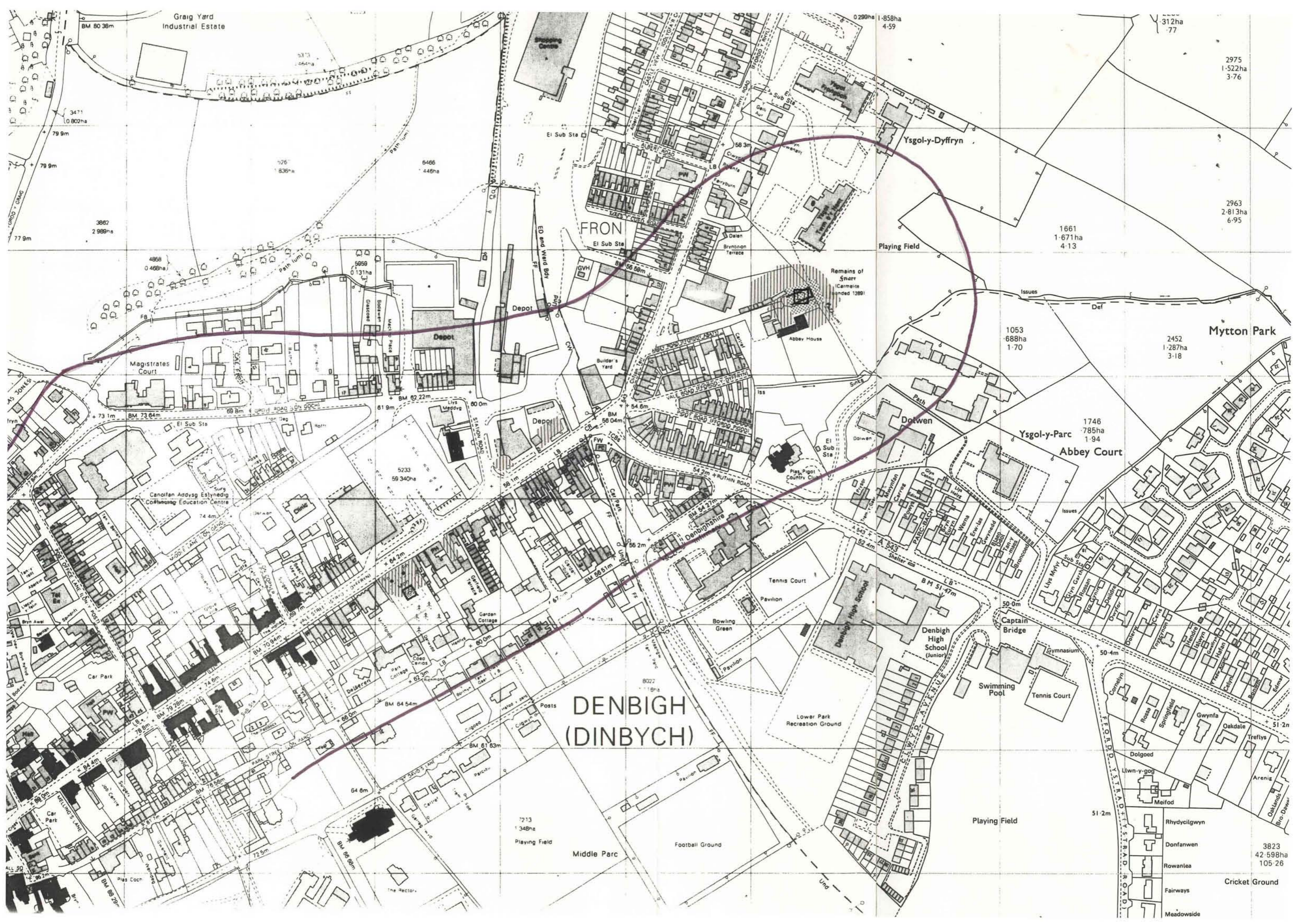
El Sub Sta

El Sub Sta

El Sub Sta

El Sub Sta

El Sub Sta



Graig Yard Industrial Estate

DENBIGH (DINBYCH)

Ysgol-y-Dyffryn

Mytton Park

Ysgol-y-Parc Abbey Court

Denbigh High School

Middle Parc

Cricket Ground

BM 80 38m

0.290ha 1.858ha 4.59

312ha .77

2975 1.523ha 3.76

3867 2.969ha

2963 2.813ha 6.95

1661 1.671ha 4.13

4868 0.468ha

5059 0.131ha

6466 .446ha

1053 688ha 1.70

2452 1.287ha 3.18

Magistrates Court

Depot

Depot

FRON

Remains of farm Carmelite founded 1269

Playing Field

Canolfan Addysg Estynedig Cofrestru Education Centre

5233 59.340ha

Builder's Yard

Denbighshire

Dotwen

Captain Bridge

Tennis Court

Pavilion

Bowling Green

Swimming Pool

Tennis Court

Lower Park Recreation Ground

Playing Field

Gymnasium

7213 1.348ha

3823 42.598ha 105.26

Rhydcilgwyn

Donfanwen

Rowantlea

Fairways

Meadowside

Derwen - PRN105956

NGR SJ070507

248m OD

Location

1.1 Derwen lies in the hills some 9km south-west of Ruthin, and about 1km from the A494 trunk road linking Mold with Bala.

1.2 High above the valley of the River Clwyd the land slopes downwards from the ridge interrupted only by the occasional natural shelf. Derwen occupies one such shelf, with church and houses on relatively level ground.

History

2.1 Nothing is known of the emergence and subsequent development of Derwen.

2.2 In the late 17th century Edward Lhwyd called it 'Lhan Derwen', and referred to only about 4 or 5 houses by the church. The mid 19th-century Tithe survey establishes a similar picture with 4 houses (or pairs of houses) on the lane around the churchyard.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 St Mary's church (PRN 100768) is single-chambered, of the early 13th-century with a later roof and a double west bellcote dated to 1688. It was restored in 1857. It retains a rood loft with screen.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19723) is sub-rectangular with a curve to its south-east side but otherwise relatively straight boundaries. There is nothing to suggest that this was not its original shape, although it gives the impression of being squared off on the north-west. Generally it is raised above the surrounding lanes, one metre or so on the west, rather more elsewhere.

3.3 The churchyard houses a fine, late 15th-century cross consisting of shaft and pedestal (PRN 100769; in Cadw guardianship and SAM De162; Grade II* listing). It is considered to be one of the finest of its type in Wales.

3.4 Also within the churchyard is Church House (PRN 19722; Grade II listing). This carries a date of 1905 but is believed to be considerably older and may have been built as a hearse house.

3.5 The church apart there are no buildings of any age within Derwen itself. Uncharacterised minor earthworks in OS plot 1176 occur behind the house of Ael-y-bryn near the church.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Derwen as defined on the accompanying map has an unknown archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground immediately around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

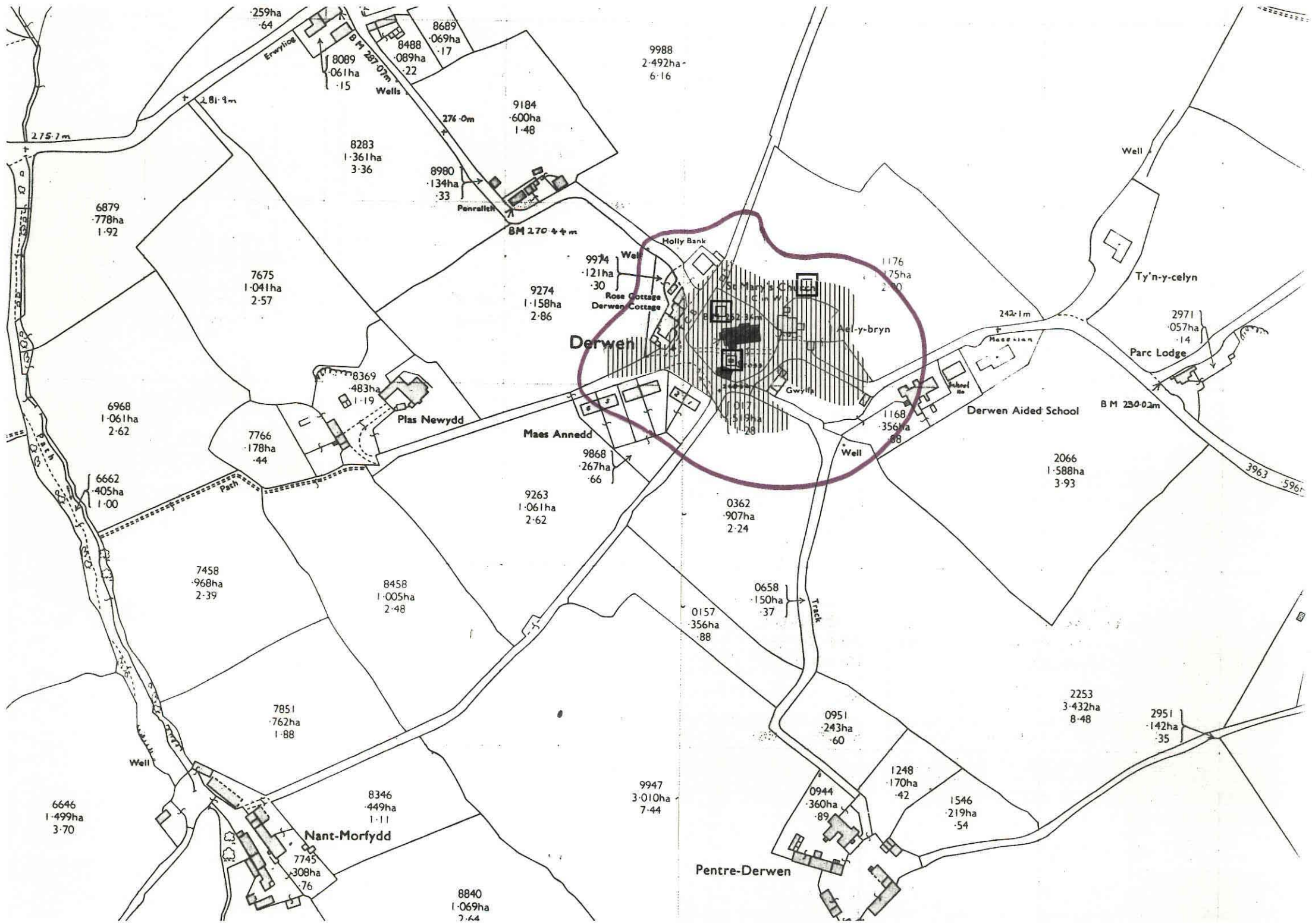
4.4 The relevant legislative procedures must be observed for listed buildings within the village at all times.

4.5 Earthworks to the north-east of the church have an undefined significance. Proposed developments

in this field (OS plot 1176) should be assessed on the ground by a qualified archaeologist before permission is granted.

References

AP: CPAT/87-MB-923 & 924
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit 30 November 1994
Hubbard 1986, 155
Lhwyd 1909, 119
Tithe Survey 1842



Efenechtyd - PRN105957

NGR SJ112557

132m OD

Location

1.1 Efenechtyd lies on a minor road in the hills bordering the Vale of Clwyd, some 2km to the south of Ruthin.

1.2 The church shelters on the west side of a broad valley, a little above its flat floor. Four lanes meet here and a few houses are situated in the immediate vicinity.

History

2.1 This appears as 'Eccla de Wenechdit' in the Norwich Taxation of 1254. The churchyard and its location, however, might suggest an early medieval origin, its Celtic dedication perhaps being superseded at a later date.

2.2 At the time of the Tithe survey the church was accompanied by two farms and no more than three dwellings, one of them the Rectory.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 St Michael's church (PRN 100922; Grade B listing) consists of a heavily restored single chamber with a Decorated window and a 16th-century roof. Internally there is an unusual wooden font and a fragment of a wall painting.

3.2 The church is set in a circular, slightly raised churchyard (PRN 19702). Its boundary has been adjusted on the south to accommodate the rectory and its garden. Lewis noted that the churchyard contains 'a very large stone, called Carreg Gamp, or "the stone of the games", used in the rustic sports of the village'.

3.3 Plas-yn-Illan (PRN 19703; Grade II listing) on the south side of the village is early to mid-18th century, but built to an 'ambitious' design, with remarkable gate piers. Bryn-Illan (PRN 19704) originated in the 17th century and was listed initially as Grade III.

3.4 No significant earthworks have been recognised in the village environs.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Efenechtyd as defined on the accompanying map has an unknown archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

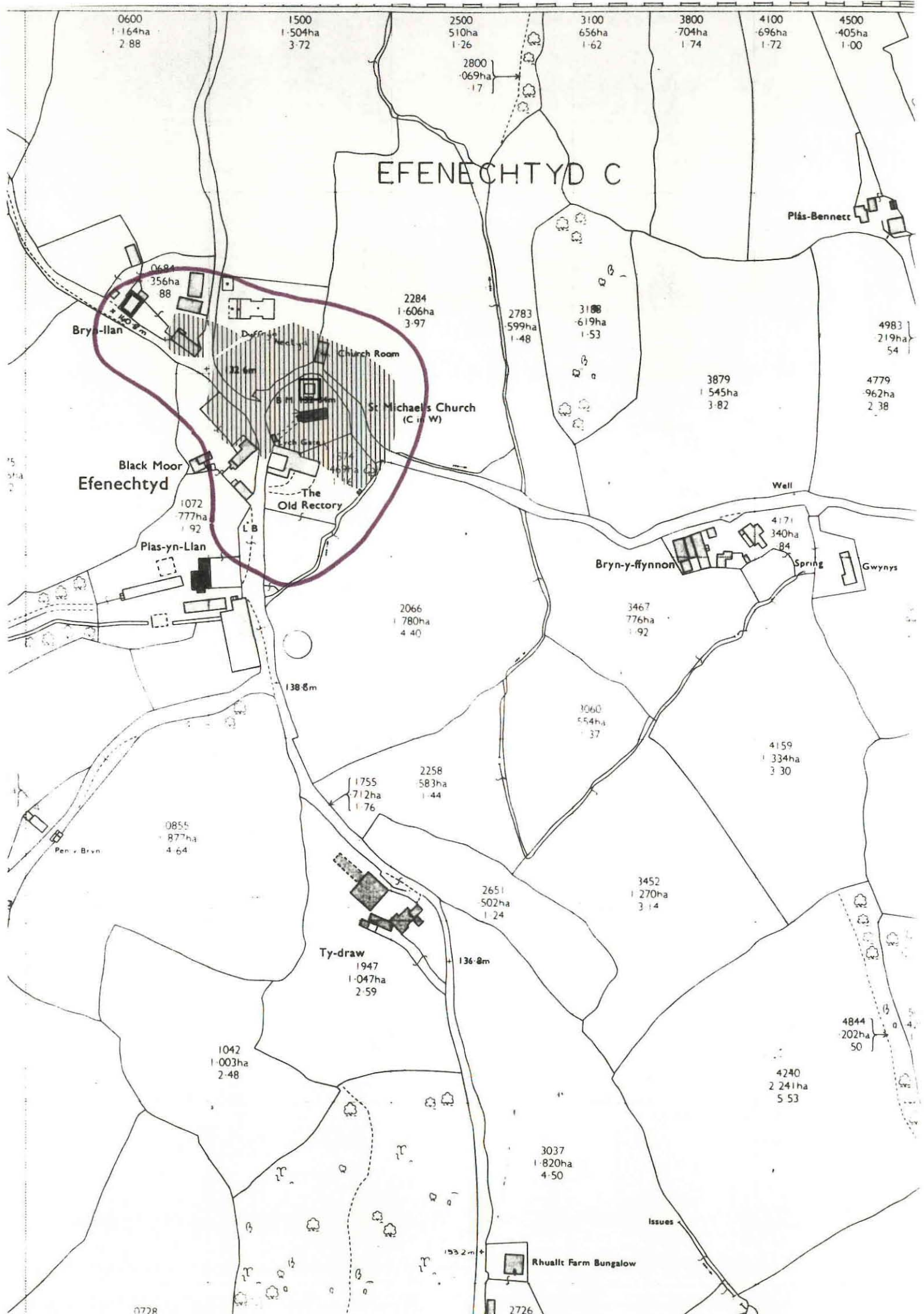
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 Listed buildings have been designated in Efenechtyd and the relevant legislative procedures must be observed at all times.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 3 November 1994
Fletcher and Williams 1986
Hubbard 1986, 157
Lewis 1833
Thomas 1911, 75
Tithe Survey 1839/1841



Gellifor - PRN105958

NGR SJ1262

78m OD

Location

1.1 Gellifor is situated on the gently rising floor on the eastern side of the Vale of Clwyd. The Clwydian range rises abruptly 1.5km to the east and the River Clwyd itself is little over one kilometre westwards.

1.2 A triangle of modern lanes provides the frame for Gellifor, linking in with the nearby B5429. Neighbouring historic settlements include Llangynhafal, 1.4km to the north-east and Llanychan, one kilometre in the opposite direction, while Denbigh is less than 8km away to the north-west.

History

2.1 The name appears to be a corruption of 'gelli' meaning hazel grove and 'fawr' meaning big. As Gellifawr it appears in the Court Rolls for Ruthin in 1282.

2.2 In 1779 a local estate including this area was mapped, revealing that the triangle now defined by minor roads was then a tract of common. Four dwellings and around thirteen crofts or enclosures impinged on the common. Seventy years later the common had been enclosed but Gellifor farm, the Methodist Chapel and only a handful of houses represented the settlement.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 Nothing of significance has been recorded at Gellifor and no field visit has been made.

Recommendations

4.1 No recommendations are made for Gellifor.

References

Ms Estate Map of Gellifor area, 1779: NLW Vol 20 (10)
Pierce and Fowler 1983, 3
Tithe Survey: Llangynhafal 1838



4986
1-45

4683
68

5766
3-99

2363
3-18

Gellifor Farm
3567
2-32
Pond
Peniarth

Llwyn Celyn
79-35

Gellifor County Primary School

Gellifor

78-0m

Rhianfa
77-3m

Plas Bedawen Cottage

3126
4-99
Glasfryn

2122
4-03

77-3m

G.P.

78-4m

Glyn Ceiriog - PRN105959

NGR SJ205380

226m OD

Location

1.1 Known in past centuries as Llansantffraid Glyn Ceiriog but now only as Glyn Ceiriog, this village represents a typical Welsh example of settlement shift. The church accompanied by a few houses is set on a steep south-facing hillside at a point where the Ceiriog valley loops dramatically, and the location offers an excellent aspect both upstream and downstream. East from the church the ground also drops away steeply into the valley of Nant y Weniar. Above the church the ground rises for nearly 200m to a ridge running off the Berwyn.

1.2 The main part of the village lies in the valley below the church, on flatter ground beside the river.

1.3 Glyn Ceiriog is served by the B4500 from Chirk and the B4579 from Oswestry. Llangollen is some 4km over the hills to the north, Oswestry 12km to the south-east.

History

2.1 The church was originally a chapel to Llangollen, but the origin and subsequent development of both church and settlement are obscure.

2.2 An estate map of c1760 depicts the churchyard and cottages on the lane leading to it from the west, while above was open moorland. There can be little doubt that this is the original focus of settlement for in the valley below there was only a single house or farm, Ty Newydd (now gone but originally east of the Vicarage), and by the river the mill of Felin-bychan. Eighty years later dwellings had started to cluster around the crossroads below the church, the nucleus of modern Glyn Ceiriog.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 St Ffraid's church (PRN 101088) was rebuilt about 1790, remodelled some 50 years later, and again in 1887. One authority has claimed that the tower is substantially 13th-century in origin. It is deeply terraced into the hillside.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19745) may originally have been circular: the Tithe map suggests a more curvilinear outline, but the cartographic accuracy is open to question. Today its northern slopes are overgrown and it has been enlarged with successive extensions to the east.

3.3 As noted above the focus of settlement in the 18th century was the track leading westwards from the church. None of the houses on the track appear to be any earlier than that century.

3.4 There are no listed buildings in Glyn Ceiriog, although the church had the obsolete Grade III listing, as did the Glyn Valley Hotel by the river.

Recommendations

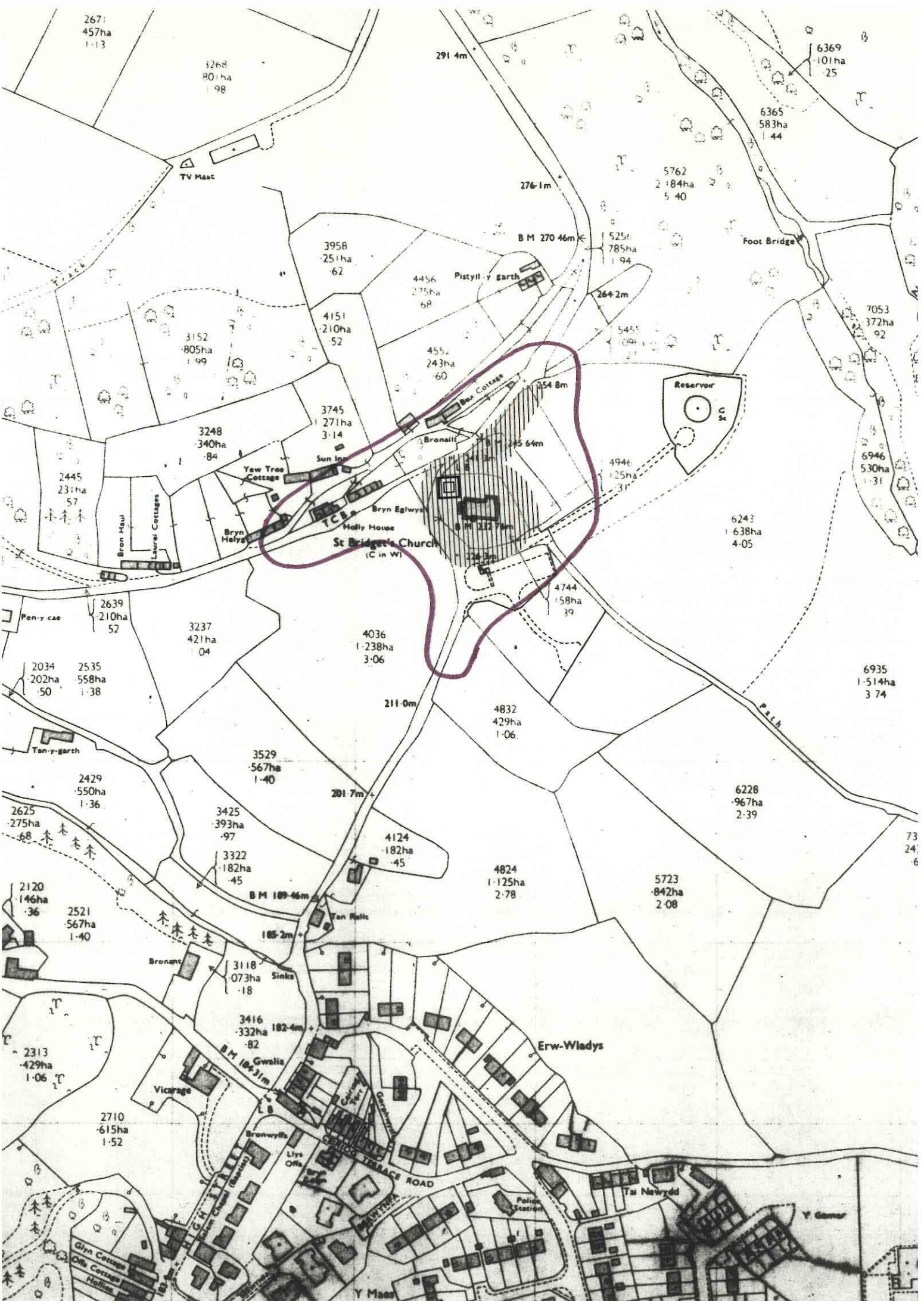
4.1 The historic core of (Llansantffraid) Glyn Ceiriog as defined on the accompanying map has an unknown archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground immediately around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 12 January 1995
Hubbard 1986, 168
Ms Map of Chirk Estate c1760: NLW/R.M.C36
Thomas 1911, 294
Tithe Survey 1838/39



Gwyddelwern - PRN105960

NGR SJ075466

184m OD

Location

1.1 Another of the parishes transferred from Merionnydd in 1974, Gwyddelwern is set on the east side of a broad U-shaped valley which channels an obscure stream, Afon Camddwr, southwards towards the Dee.

1.2 The church lies almost on the valley floor and the village itself is no higher. A stream now partly culverted runs down from off the hills to the north-east and passes just to the south of the church.

1.3 The A494 trunk road runs through the village linking the A5 trunk road in the south with Ruthin and the North Wales coastal strip. Corwen is some 3km to the south.

History

2.1 The origin and growth of Gwyddelwern are not documented: the church dedication and the churchyard shape hint at an early medieval date for the ecclesiastical foundation.

2.2 The Norwich Taxation lists it as 'Ecc'a de gwidelwern' in 1254.

2.3 Edward Lhwyd's records of the late 17th century reveal eight houses and two cottages by the church. Maps of the late 18th/mid-19th century imply a not dissimilar density of settlement. Bueno's Terrace and other houses further north as well as the ribbon development to the south of the church represent later 19th-century growth.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 St Bueno's Church (PRN 19758; Grade B listing) has a core claimed to be as early as the 12th century with a 14th-century chancel. Considerable rebuilding is evidenced: the tower and spire are dated to 1880, and the chancel underwent a major rebuild at this time. Internal features include a screen with much late medieval work, a medieval dug-out chest and a font, probably of 15th-century origin.

3.2 Owen in the last century pointed out that the curvilinear shape of the churchyard (PRN 105914) had been disturbed on its north and west sides but that an earlier line was still apparent. This earlier perimeter is no longer discernible, but the curvilinearity on the north-east and south-east is not in doubt, notwithstanding the encroachment of the now ruined building by the north entrance.

3.3 Fynnon Bueno (PRN 100790) lies to the north of the village. The spring rose in a sunken slate-lined chamber but this has now been used a rubbish tip and no trace of the well remains. Another well, Fynnon Fair, was recorded imprecisely to the south of the village.

3.4 A natural knoll known as Tomen y Castell (PRN 100791) lies well to the south of the village. It is perhaps the site of a medieval earthwork castle, and Lhwyd certainly believed this in 1698. No traces of this are now visible, nor of the tumuli claimed by Lewis in the early 19th century. The construction of the railway may well have had a deleterious effect on any monuments here.

3.5 Low earthworks (PRN 19759) exist on the valley floor immediately to the west of the churchyard. These have not been characterised and are not sufficiently distinctive to merit detailed recording. Narrow quillets (PRN 19760; OS plot 4579) covered low ground north of the church in the late 18th century. Almost all traces of these have now been erased.

3.6 The axis of the village has been adjusted over the last two to three hundred years. The main road passing through the village is a toll road; possibly it superseded an earlier track along the valley but this is not certain. The network of lanes and footpaths aligned across the valley from north-east to south-west could indicate the main approach in earlier centuries.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Gwyddelwern as defined on the accompanying map has an archaeological potential that needs to be refined. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

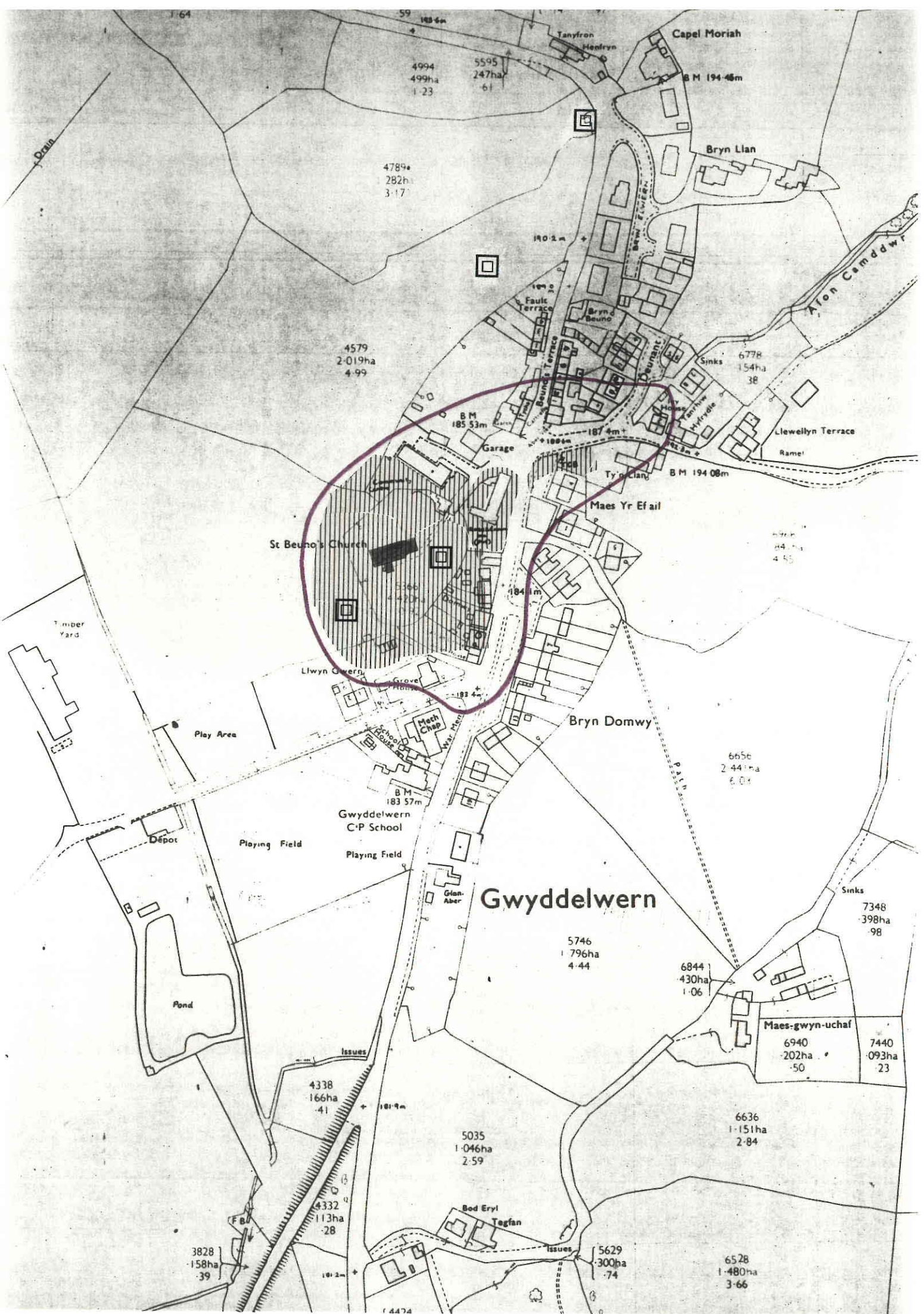
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it, together with those other areas specifically defined on the accompanying plan.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 The relevant legislative procedures must be observed for the listed building in and around the settlement.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 07 February 1993
Estate Map, late 18th century, Maes Garnedd Estate: CROH/D/JL/751
Lhwyd 1910, 49
Owen 1886, 72
RCAHMW 1921, 37
Thomas 1911, 153
Tithe Survey 1843



Henllan - PRN105961

NGR SJ024681

131m OD

Location

1.1 Henllan lies in the extreme north-western corner of Glyndwr District, less than 3km north-west of Denbigh on the B5382.

1.2 The location is an interesting one in as much as the early village is set on both the top and the upper sides of a limestone spur, the detached church tower on an outcrop, the church itself lower down the slope. To the west is the deep valley cut by Afon Meirchion, to the south a small, dry re-entrant. The modern village (see below) has spread over the flattish plateau behind.

History

2.1 The name of the village is potentially significant. Possibly it has an ecclesiastical origin, but at what point the name 'old church' was applied to the settlement has not been identified. Alternatively the name could refer to an otherwise unrecognised enclosure.

2.2 The church dedication and seemingly its location point to an early medieval origin, but the subsequent history of the settlement is not chronicled.

2.3 To Ogilby, Henllan was "a little village seated on an eminence", while Edward Lhwyd a few years later reported about thirteen houses around the church and another eighteen not far off.

2.4 It has grown considerably in the last century and a half, spreading eastwards away from the historic core.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 Prehistoric activity in the area is exemplified by several round barrows to the north-east of the village (PRNs 100571, 100572 & 100573), one of which was opened in the last century and, on the basis of the finds, demonstrated to be Early Bronze Age. Another barrow (PRN 100577) lies on the eastern edge of the built up area.

3.2 A church dedicated to St Sadwrn (PRN 100582; Grade II* listing) was erected here in the 15th century, though it is unlikely to have been the first on the spot. The detached tower (PRN 100583; Grade II* listing) survives, constructed on a spur of rock in the north-east corner of the churchyard, but the rest of the present building is largely early 19th century. Some medieval architectural features have been reused, others have been lost. The medieval font, for instance, was reused as the basin for a small well in the grounds of Llysmeirchion, on the opposite side of the river. It has now been returned to the churchyard where it is set beside the path leading to the church entrance.

3.3 The churchyard (PRN 19773) sprawls across a steep slope falling away to west and south. Now quadrilateral in shape, with a curving perimeter only in the north-west quadrant, there is a break of slope south of the church itself which might be natural but alternatively could be an earlier 'llan'.

3.4 The churchyard cross (PRN 100584) of which only the shaft survives was, on the basis of an undated sketch in the Bodleian, at one time sited outside the churchyard, perhaps being uprooted at the time of the 1807-8 restoration. The date of 1608 on it must be associated with an earlier, unchronicled, event.

3.5 The plan of the village has been modified by the construction of the B5382. Removal of this leaves a network of small, meandering streets which indicate an organically expanding village, with a broader open area on flat ground outside the east gate of the churchyard.

3.6 Plas Meifod house (PRN 102747; Grade II listing), now located on the eastern edge of the modern village, is of post-medieval design with an external cross passage and a chimney backing on to the entry. Other interesting houses situated within one kilometre of the village include Plas Heaton (PRN 102807;

Grade II listing) to the north-east, Garn (PRN 101470; Grade II* listing) to the north, Foxhall (PRN 100586; Grade II* listing) to the south-east, and Bryn-y-parc (Grade II* listing) to the south.

3.7 Llindir Inn (PRN 102746; Grade II listing) could be of late 15th-century origin, with 19th-century alterations. Tan yr Eglwys (PRN 19752) is a sub-medieval, stone-walled house, reportedly behind the Rectory.

3.8 Uncharacterised earthworks (PRN 19774) survive in pasture, north of Ty-coch Street and south-east of the Rectory. Their significance has not been ascertained.

3.9 Strip fields lay on the north side of the village and could still be seen from the air in 1946, as could a patch of ridge and furrow (PRN 19753), though this has now been built over.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Henllan as defined on the accompanying map has a significant archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it, and the open space to the east, together with those other areas specifically defined on the accompanying plan.

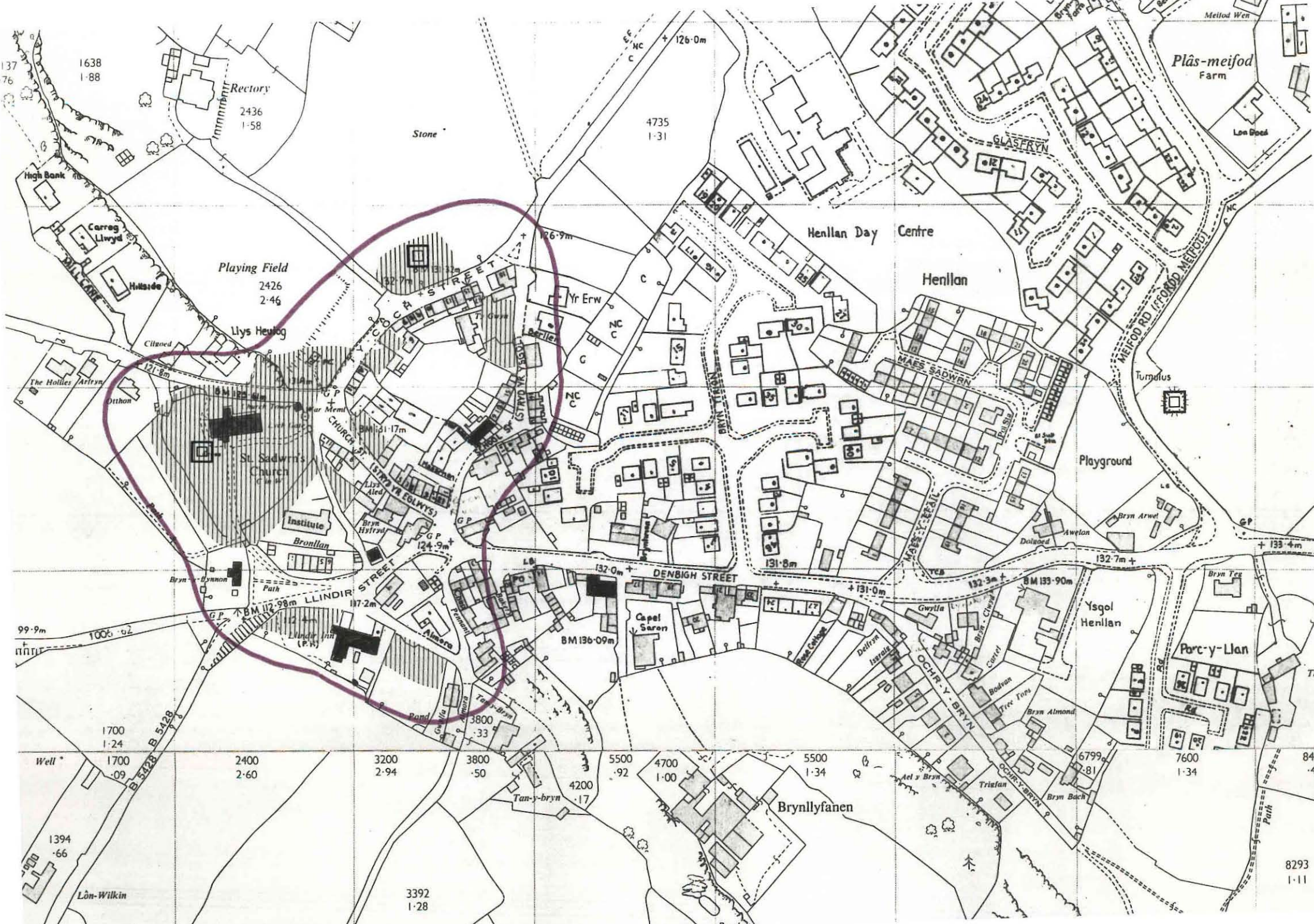
4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 Any development in the vicinity of the Rectory earthworks should be assessed by means of a more thorough field examination.

4.5 The relevant legislative procedures must be observed for all listed buildings in and around the settlement.

References

AP: RAF/3G/TUD/UK34/5463 (16-01-1946)
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 23 January 1995
Hubbard 1986, 179
Lhwyd 1909, 103
NMR, Aberystwyth
Ogilby 1765
Owen 1886, 87
Thomas 1911, 30



137
-76

1638
1-88

Rectory
2436
1-58

Stone

4735
1-31

Plâs-meifod
Farm

Lon Goed

Playing Field
2426
2-46

Henllan Day Centre

Henllan

Liys Henlog

COCOR STREET

Yr Erw

MAES SADWRN

Playground

121-8m

St. Sadwrn's
Church

Institute

LLINDIR STREET

DENBIGH STREET

Ysgol Henllan

Parc-y-Llan

99-9m

112-98m

132-0m

131-0m

132-3m

132-7m

133-4m

1700
1-24

2400
2-60

3200
2-94

3800
-50

5500
-92

4700
1-00

Brynllifan

5500
1-34

6799
-81

7600
1-34

8400
-44

1394
-66

3392
1-28

8293
1-11

Lôn-Wilkin

Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog - PRN105962

NGR SJ157328

265m OD

Location

1.1 Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog has been established on the southern lip of the flood plain of Afon Ceiriog as this fast-flowing river drops down off the Berwyn range, at a place where a tributary, Nant y Glog, converges from the south. The church surmounts a fractionally higher spine of rock which protrudes from the lowest slopes of Pen y Glog towards the river.

1.2 The village is centred where a number of lanes meet, the B4500 terminating at this point, some 14km to the west of Oswestry.

1.3 Modern housing is now spreading in ribbon fashion southwards up the valley of Nant y Glog, but the village core remains compact.

History

2.1 Nothing is known of the early history of Llanarmon, but as an ecclesiastical centre, it probably originated in the early medieval era.

2.2 The earliest reference appears to be in the Norwich Taxation of 1254 to 'Capella de Llangarnayan'.

2.3 An estate map of c1760 depicts a small village at the crossroads, with no more than three dwellings in Nant y Glog valley, and the flatter land to the west of the village divided into quilllets. Eighty years later the quilllets had largely disappeared while the form of the settlement had changed but little.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 The simple church of St Garmon (PRN 100998) dates to 1846 when its medieval predecessor was destroyed revealing a hoard of 15th-century coins now in the British Museum. Traditionally this is the site of a 5th-century church foundation, although there is no direct evidence other than the link with St Garmon.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19742) is broadly elliptical and more rectilinear than curvilinear. It is generally raised but only on the north is its form dictated by the topography. No evidence survives to signal an earlier enclosure.

3.3 Tomen Garmon, a large but irregular mound (PRN 100985: SAM De170) in the churchyard is considered to be a preaching mound, in keeping with others associated with churches dedicated to St Garmon. It previously supported a sundial.

3.4 The earliest portions of the West Arms Hotel (PRN 19743; Grade II listing) may date back to the 16th or 17th century. No other houses of any great age have been recognised.

3.5 A triangle of open ground may once have existed immediately west of the stream and south of the West Arms. This has subsequently been infilled with houses, though its form is still defined roads and an alley. Whilst giving the appearance of a small market place there is no independent evidence of such a facility at Llanarmon in earlier times.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog as defined on the accompanying map has some archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the

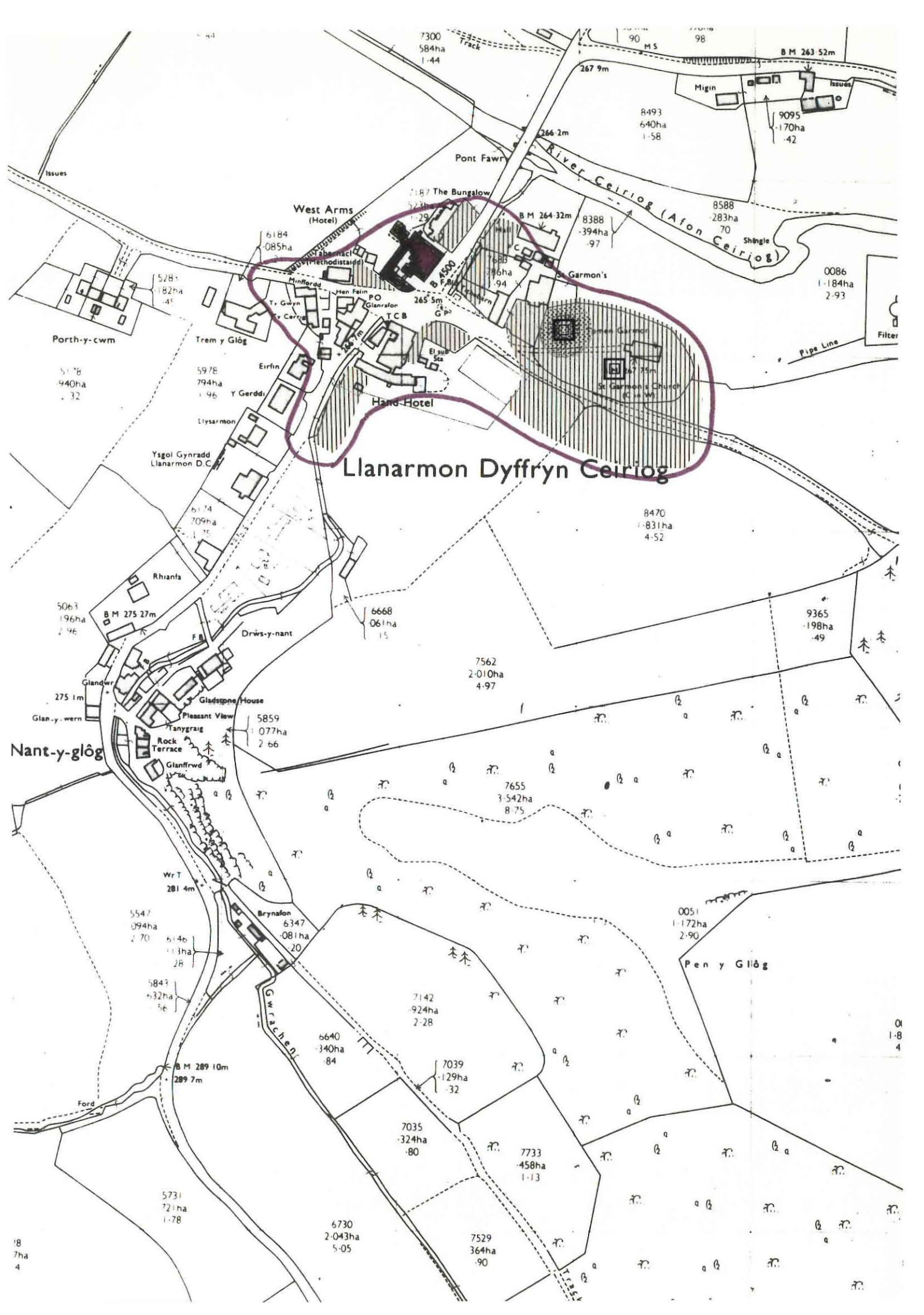
ground around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 The West Arms Hotel is listed and Tomen Garmon in the churchyard is scheduled. The relevant legislative procedures must be observed at all times.

References

AP: CPAT/89/MB/1348
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit 6 January 1995
Hubbard 1986, 184
Ms Map of Chirk Castle Estate, c1760: NLW/R.M.C36
Thomas 1911, 276
Tithe Survey 1839/1840



Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog

West Arms
(Hotel)

The Bungalow

Hand Hotel

St. Garmon's
Church

Pen y Glôg

Porth-y-cwm

Trem y Glôg

Ysgol Gynradd
Llanarmon D.C.

Rhianfa

Nant-y-glôg

WrT

Brynafon

Ford

Pont Fawr

River Ceiriog (Afon Ceiriog)

Migin

Issues

0086
1-184ha
2-93

Pipe Line

Filter

7300
584ha
1-44

90
MS
98

B M 263 52m

267 9m

266 2m

B M 264 32m

8588
283ha
70

9095
170ha
42

528
182ha
45

6184
085ha

5231
129

4500

683
786ha
94

8388
394ha
97

5178
940ha
32

5978
794ha
96

5174
709ha
76

8470
831ha
4-52

5063
196ha
2-96

B M 275 27m

6668
061ha
15

7562
2-010ha
4-97

9365
198ha
49

275 1m

Gladstone House

5859
1077ha
2-66

7655
3-542ha
8-75

5547
094ha
2-70

6146
113ha
28

5843
132ha
56

6347
081ha
20

7142
924ha
2-28

6640
340ha
84

7039
129ha
32

7035
324ha
80

7733
458ha
1-13

0051
1172ha
2-90

5731
721ha
1-78

6730
2-043ha
5-05

7529
364ha
90

18
7ha
4

01
1-8
4

Llanarmon Mynydd-mawr - PRN105963

NGR SJ135279

283m OD

Location

1.1 Remote to the north of the Tanat Valley and sheltering on the south side of the eponymous hill, Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr is a simple church settlement. It is tucked into the hillside beside a small stream which feeds into Afon Iwrch little more than one kilometre to the south, and most of the buildings are terraced into the hill slope.

1.2 Llanarmon lies at the end of a lane, only 2km from Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, and a little less than 16km west of Oswestry.

History

2.1 Like many similar church settlements, nothing is known of the origins and development of Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr, also termed Llanrmon-fach according to Thomas.

2.2 The church was formerly a chapel of ease to Llanrhaeadr, and is referred to as such in the Lincoln Taxation of 1291. Notwithstanding this, it was the centre of an ecclesiastical parish.

2.3 Eighteenth-century maps suggest more recent alterations in the settlement layout. Buildings, probably cottages, have disappeared to the west of the church and a farm to the east of the church has been succeeded by farm buildings and the construction of Plas Newydd, itself post-dating the Tithe survey.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 St Garmon's church (PRN 19775) was 'rebuilt or restored beyond recognition' (Haslam) in 1886.

3.2 The irregular pattern of the churchyard (PRN 19776) is due in part to the stream on the east. A more curvilinear course on the north and west is suggested by the base of a scarp within the churchyard.

3.3 Now a cul-de-sac location, Llanarmon once lay on a track that would its way around the west side of Mynydd Mawr. This still shows as a broad terrace-way near the church and the location of one building (PRN 19777), shown on a map of c1760 is still discernible.

Recommendations

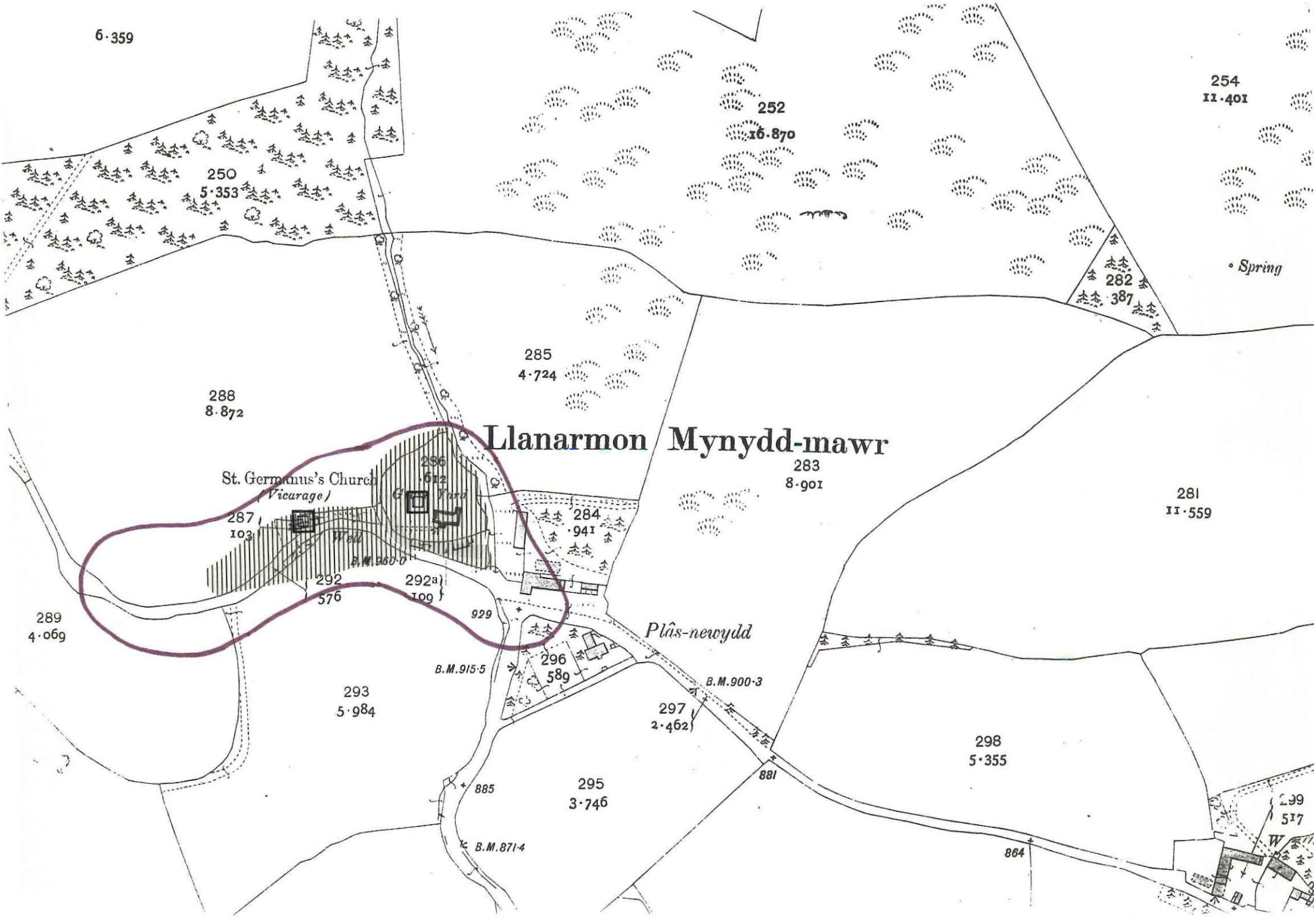
4.1 The historic core of Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr has an as yet undefined archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the implications of any development proposals affecting it. This is particularly relevant to the areas immediately around the churchyard and along the adjacent trackway.

4.2 An archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where development occurs within the defined historic core. A pre-planning evaluation may however be necessary, depending on the scale and type of proposal.

References

CPAT Field Visit: 6 January 1995
Estate Map of Chirk holding, c1760: NLW/R.M.C36
Estae Map 1772x1774: NLW Ms Map Volume 83, no.48
Hubbard 1986, 185
Lewis 1833
Thomas 1911, 220

Tithe Survey: 1840/1841



6.359

250

5.353

252

16.870

254

11.401

• Spring

282

387

288

8.872

285

4.724

Llanarmon Mynydd-mawr

283

8.901

281

11.559

St. Germanus's Church
(Vicarage)

286

612

287

103

284

941

292

576

292a

109

929

Plâs-newydd

289

4.069

293

5.984

B.M. 915-5

296

589

B.M. 900-3

297

2.462

298

5.355

885

295

3.746

B.M. 871-4

881

864

299

517

Llanarmon-yn-Ial - PRN105964

NGR SJ190562

242m OD

Location

1.1 Llanarmon-yn-Ial is set high in the valley of the River Alun as it runs northwards off the Clwydians.

1.2 Church and village occupy the northern lip of the valley side close to where the changing alignment of the river has created a spur. Behind the settlement the undulating limestone plateau rises gradually. Llanarmon's mill and motte lie in the valley below, the latter on the opposite bank of the river.

1.3 Two secondary roads, the B5431 running up from the south and the B5430 from Wrexham to Ruthin, join just to the east of the village. Ruthin itself is less than 7km to the west.

History

2.1 Llanarmon-yn-Ial first appears as 'Lanarmaun' in the 'Taxatio' of 1291. However, it has been suggested that as an ecclesiastical centre, it functioned as a 'mother church' with a 'clas' community in the early medieval period. That Llanarmon was a 'maerdref' has also been mooted. Certainly it appears to have been the capital of the commote of Yale and in 1315, the lord of the commote had a 'manor', a mill and demesne land here.

2.2 Otherwise little is known of the early origins and development of the village.

2.3 During the Middle Ages, Valle Crucis Abbey owned granges in the vicinity of the settlement, at Creigiog to the south and perhaps at Banhadlan to the north-west.

2.4 Lhwyd refers to only four houses by the church in the late 17th century, and the Tithe survey of 1844/45 shows only a slightly larger scatter of dwellings.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 A disturbed mound (PRN 100890), possibly a round barrow, is situated just to the south of the village, but another some 100m away (PRN 100891) may only be mining waste. Problems of interpretation similarly beset another nearby mound (PRN 100896). However, there are records of a barrow dig in 1831, perhaps referring to the first mound, which yielded urns and a cremation (PRN 100903). Roman material (PRN 100905) - a coin of Nero, a copper ring and a fibula - was also reportedly found.

3.2 A spindle whorl (PRN 100898) was found in a stone heap near Tomen-y-Faerdre in 1905. Its could be prehistoric but the provenance could be treated as suspect.

3.3 A cave (PRN 100895) near the village was partially excavated in 1905 and a broken flint arrowhead was recovered.

3.4 St Garmon's church (PRN 100889) has a double nave. Late medieval roofs remain and it has been suggested that the chancel may be 15th century. Otherwise it was rebuilt in 1736. Internally there is an early 14th-century effigy.

3.5 The churchyard (PRN 19725) is raised, by one metre on the west and considerably more on the south above the river. It now has straight sides with rounded corners, the exception being on the south where it is curved. A segment of the churchyard has been cut off on this side and has reverted to secular use. Internally there are traces of an inner platform around the church, on all sides but the east. Does this indicate a smaller and earlier 'llan'?

3.6 The shaft of a churchyard cross (PRN 19726), set in the south-west segment of the enclosure, has been used for a sundial.

3.7 Housing in the settlement is a mixture of 18th/19th-century cottages and modern houses. Several of

the former have datestones, the earliest of 1749 being that for Llwyn Onn. The Raven Inn, now much altered, was constructed in 1722 and initially had a Grade III listing.

3.8 The churchyard may once have been completely ringed by lanes, though that on the south has now partially disappeared. This acted as a nodal point for three or perhaps four lanes and at least two footpaths.

3.9 Tomen-y-faerdre (PRN 100888; SAM De006) scarped from a natural knoll, lies on the east side of the village. The motte and its buildings have been attributed to the Earl of Chester. It was burnt by Iorweth Goch in 1157 and restored by John in 1212.

3.10 Documentary evidence reveals a manor house (PRN 1012741) here from at least 1315. Jones has argued that at that time the bond settlement was focused on the church in an area known as Tre'r Llan, while the court was on the opposite bank of the river and consisted of 'one hall, one chamber, one stable, one grange and one cattle shed'. Each house was to be 19.5m long with a width 'as is best fitting'. It has been postulated that the hall was located in the bailey of Tomen y Faerdre. However, it has also been claimed though not satisfactorily documented that the foundations of a rectangular building can be recognised at certain times of year in the valley floor field beside Plas-isaf.

3.11 A mill (PRN 106424) is set close to the River Alun. It is claimed that this spot has been the site of an earlier mill back at least to 1315.

3.12 Llanarmon Bridge is probably 18th century (PRN 19727; Grade II listing).

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llanarmon-yn-Ial has a significant archaeological potential and appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the implications of any development proposals affecting it. This is particularly relevant to the areas immediately around the churchyard, and in the vicinity of the motte and Plas-isaf.

4.2 An archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where development occurs within the defined historic core. A pre-planning evaluation may however be necessary, depending on the scale and type of proposal.

4.3 Tomen-y-faerdre is a scheduled ancient monument and the relevant legislative procedures relating to this protected site must be observed on all occasions.

References

AP: CPAT/87-MB-607 & 608, 614 & 615; 88-8-34/37; 88-MB-351/354
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 27 October 1994
Hubbard 1986, 186
Jones 1991, 193
Knowles and Parkin 1973
Lewis 1833
Lhwyd 1909, 157
NMR, Aberystwyth
Pritchard n.d.
Rees 1967, pl.27; pl 28
Thomas 1911, 79
Tithe Survey 1844/45
Williams 1990, 65



Bryn-ial

8246
117ha
29

248.5m

Maes Awelon

7735
826ha
2.04

8338
684ha
1.69

9240
1299ha
3.21

8830
591ha
1.46

244.0m

0333
987ha
2.44

8127
575ha
1.42

Maes Garmon

245.8m

Sisial y Gwyn

Wayside

The Square

Llys Awel

Camryn

St Sgarial

Pellryn

Armonia

Bod Alun

Lanarmon-yn-lal

Raven Inn

St Garmon's Church (C in W)

Fern Cottage

Tyn Llan

Tan yr ysgol

Plas-isaf

3425
567ha
40

Garmon Mill

Swn yr Awel

Bryn Gorth

Philadelphia Cott

B M 231.87m

Tan yr ogof

Llomen y Saerdre

Track

-y-lan

Adwy Deg

Pen y Maes

8900
1008ha
0.02

242.0m

Cam y Alyn

Bronell

Ellerslie

1300
380ha
.94

1700
032ha
.08

2200
1344ha

2900
125ha

4100
134ha

5000
737ha

2346
2274ha
5.62

2946
931ha
2.30

1143
591ha
1.46

267ha
66

2330
129ha
32

4550
400ha
1.46

Pump House

G.P.

242.9m

Bryn Celyn

432m

807ha

235.6m

1925
54ha
38

429ha

1.06

228.2m

229.7m

2716
081ha
20

224.9m

B 5431

4911

429ha

1.06

228.2m

2010
114ha
85

3309
1170ha
4.2

242.9m

Llanbedr-Dyffryn-Clwyd - PRN105965

NGR SJ144594

120m OD

Location

1.1 Llanbedr is effectively in two parts. The old church accompanied by Llanbedr Hall is set on the lower, western slopes of the Clwydian range, a shallow dry valley on the south, and a gentle slope downwards to the River Clwyd and Ruthin, 2km to the south-west. The old church is now effectively isolated and accessible only by a footpath.

1.2 At a slightly lower altitude, the modern village centres on the Victorian church and the modern A494 looping down the hillside, several hundred metres to the south-west and south respectively of the old church. Open ground currently separates these two foci, but both command fine views over the Vale of Clwyd.

History

2.1 Like so many other small church settlements in Clwyd, the origins and history of Llanbedr are obscure. An early medieval beginning is possible but there is little evidence available to support this contention.

2.2 It is referred to as 'Lampedir' in the Norwich Taxation of 1254.

2.3 The earliest cartographic depiction, which is thought to date from around 1785, shows the old church, the hall and a road a short distance to the south running off the Clwydians towards the river.

2.4 By the 1830s a scatter of dwellings had emerged along and near to the Ruthin to Mold toll road (the A494). More recent developments have emphasised this relocation of settlement along both the main road and two minor roads that join it near the Victorian church.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 Various prehistoric and later finds have been made in the general vicinity of the village: an undated spindle whorl from near the rectory (PRN 100865) is the only one sufficiently close to the village to warrant mention.

3.2 A vague sub-rectangular cropmark (PRN 102654), north of the modern church, is of doubtful authenticity.

3.3 The old church of St Peter (PRN 100866; Grade II* listing) is a ruin, single-chambered with a Perpendicular window and 16th-century porch. The earliest gravestone in the churchyard dates to 1677. This older structure has been replaced at the junction of the B5429 and A494 by 'a neat little High Victorian church, of considerable vivacity' (Hubbard) dating to around 1863 and similarly dedicated to St Peter [PRN 105900].

3.4 The old churchyard (PRN 19740) is sub-rectangular with rounded corners. Set on the tip of a slight spur, there is nothing to suggest that its form has been modified at any point in the past.

3.5 A field named as Cae Castell (PRN 19739) on the late 18th-century map and in the Tithe survey lay just north of the A494. Its significance is unclear and it is now incorporated in the house and gardens of a modern property, Robin Hill.

3.6 Llanbedr Hall (PRN 106063) was largely rebuilt in the third quarter of the 19th century. Its original date of construction has not been determined.

3.7 Wood pasture surrounded the hall at the time of the Tithe survey. It is referred to as a park in the apportionment, but is unlikely to pre-date the hall's construction.

3.8 A reasonably large platform (PRN 19741) occupies the corner of a pasture field, little more than one hundred metres to the south-west of the old church. This could be artificial, but requires confirmation by methods other than fieldwork. This apart there is no sign of earlier occupation around the church though woodland on the uphill side could conceivably disguise some features.

3.9 The position of the earlier road shown on the map of c1785 is still distinguished by a continuous field boundary 200m or so south of the old church. Its line is continued by footpaths to the south-west and perhaps the east, and there can be no doubt that it represents an earlier routeway off the Clwydian heights.

Recommendations

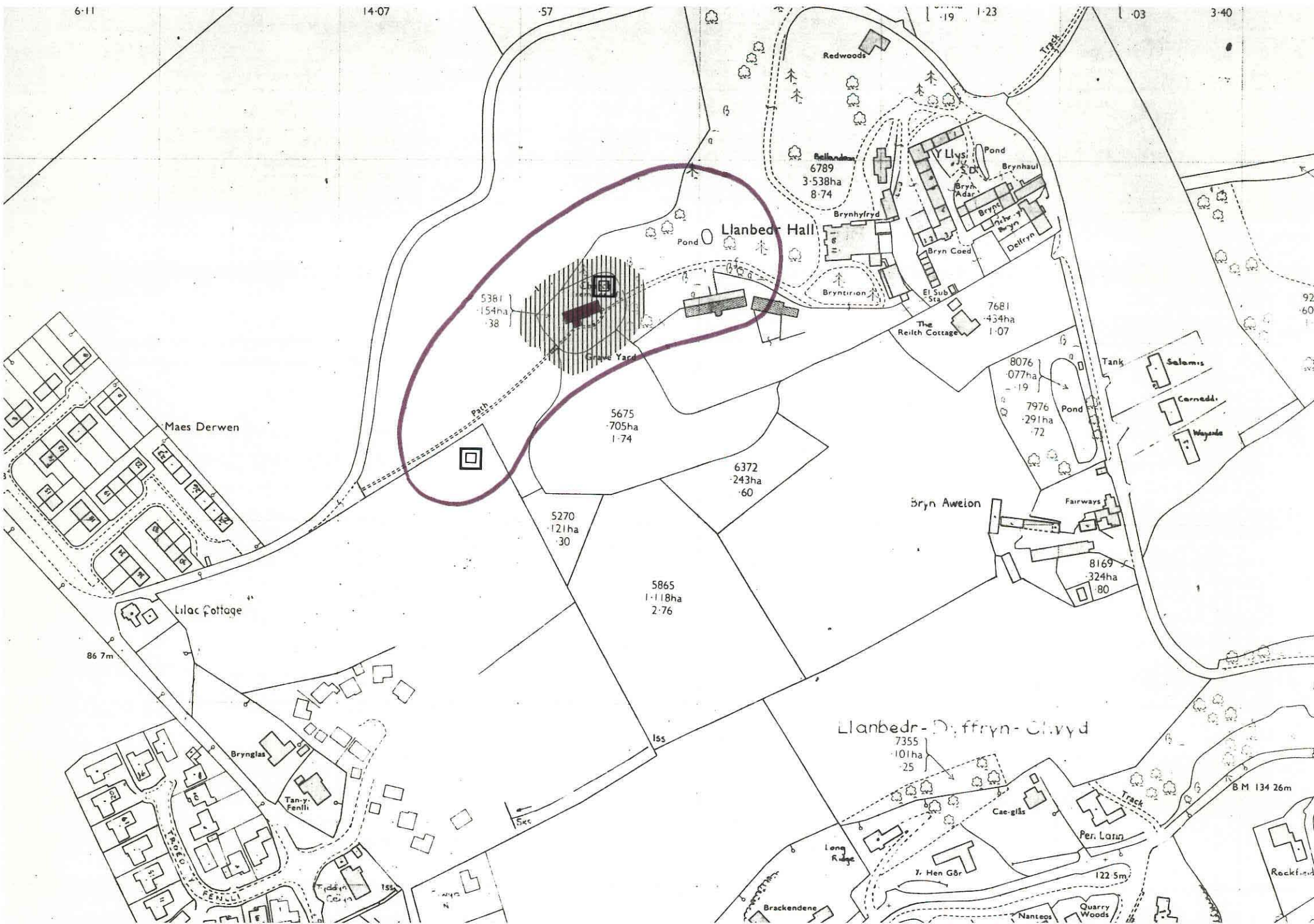
4.1 The historic core of the older part of Llanbedr has an undetermined archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

References

AP: CPAT/89-MB-501
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit 27 October 1994
Hubbard 1986, 187
Ms Map of Llanbedr Hall, c1785: NLW 'B'
NMR Aberystwyth
Thomas 1911, 85
Tithe Survey 1837/38



6-11 14-07 -57 19 1-23 1-03 3-40

Llanbedr Hall

5381
154ha
38

5675
705ha
1-74

6372
243ha
60

5270
121ha
30

5865
1118ha
2-76

7681
434ha
1-07

8076
077ha
19

7976
291ha
72

8169
324ha
80

Llanbedr - D. ffryn - Clwyd
7355
101ha
25

Maes Derwen

Lilac Cottage

Brynglas

Tan-y-Fenlli

Redwoods

Bellandau
6789
3-538ha
8-74

Y Llys

Brynhyfryd

Bryntirion

Bryn Adar

Brynhaul

Bryn Coed

Bryn-y-Bryn

Delryn

El Sub Sta

The Reith Cottage

Tank

Salamis

Carnedd

Wayside

Bryn Aweilon

Fairways

86.7m

B.M. 134.26m

122.5m

Long Ridge

Y Hen Gôr

Cae-glas

Per. Llan

Nantegs

Quarry Woods

Rockfield

15cc

155

155

Llandegla - PRN105966

NGR SJ196525

252m OD

Location

1.1 Llandegla lies on the eastern slopes of the Clwydians in the upper valley of the River Alun, which here runs northwards. The land in the neighbourhood slopes gently and the village itself occupies a north-west facing hillside with the church at the bottom of the slope on the lip of a river terrace.

1.2 To the south-east, the more recent settlement of Pen-y-stryt has developed on a spur above Llandegla, while the town of Ruthin lies 9km to the north-west.

History

2.1 Little is known of the origin and subsequent development of Llandegla: an early medieval beginning seems plausible.

2.2 In the 13th century Llandegla was regarded as a chapelry of Llangollen, and as such belonged to the Abbey of Valle Crucis. Jones, however, has suggested that one of two priests attributed to the commote of Ial (Yale) in Domesday Book may have served the church here.

2.3 The village has developed around the church with subsequent expansion up the slope south-eastwards towards Pen-y-stryt and the main arterial roads.

2.4 In the mid 19th century the church was grouped with Mill Farm and the present Hand Inn, together with a couple of buildings, presumably dwellings, on the south and south-west edge of the churchyard. A second focus lay to the south of the newly constructed village hall.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 The neighbourhood abounds with evidence of prehistoric activity, both in the form of stray finds and also landscape features such as barrows and cave sites. However, the only find in the immediate vicinity of the village is a macehead fragment from Plas Tyna (PRN 102942).

3.2 St Tegla's church (PRN 105901) was rebuilt on an older site in 1866. There is a fine, late medieval brass chandelier (reputedly recovered from Valley Crucis Abbey) and a Perpendicular font, presumably surviving from an earlier building.

3.3 The churchyard (PRN 105903) is now a rectangular plot with the church set in its north-east quadrant. However, within its western boundary is a low scarp bank, curving around to the north and returning sharply on the south. This is likely to be the outline of an earlier 'llan'.

3.4 St Tecla's Well (Fynnon Degla), with three sides encased in stone, was reputed to have medicinal properties (PRN 100931). It was excavated in 1935 and produced quantities of finds. Thomas relates an unsubstantiated report of 1710 that there was a monumental inscription associated with it.

3.5 The older, stone-built cottages of the village are set on lower ground to the south of the church. None is listed.

Recommendations

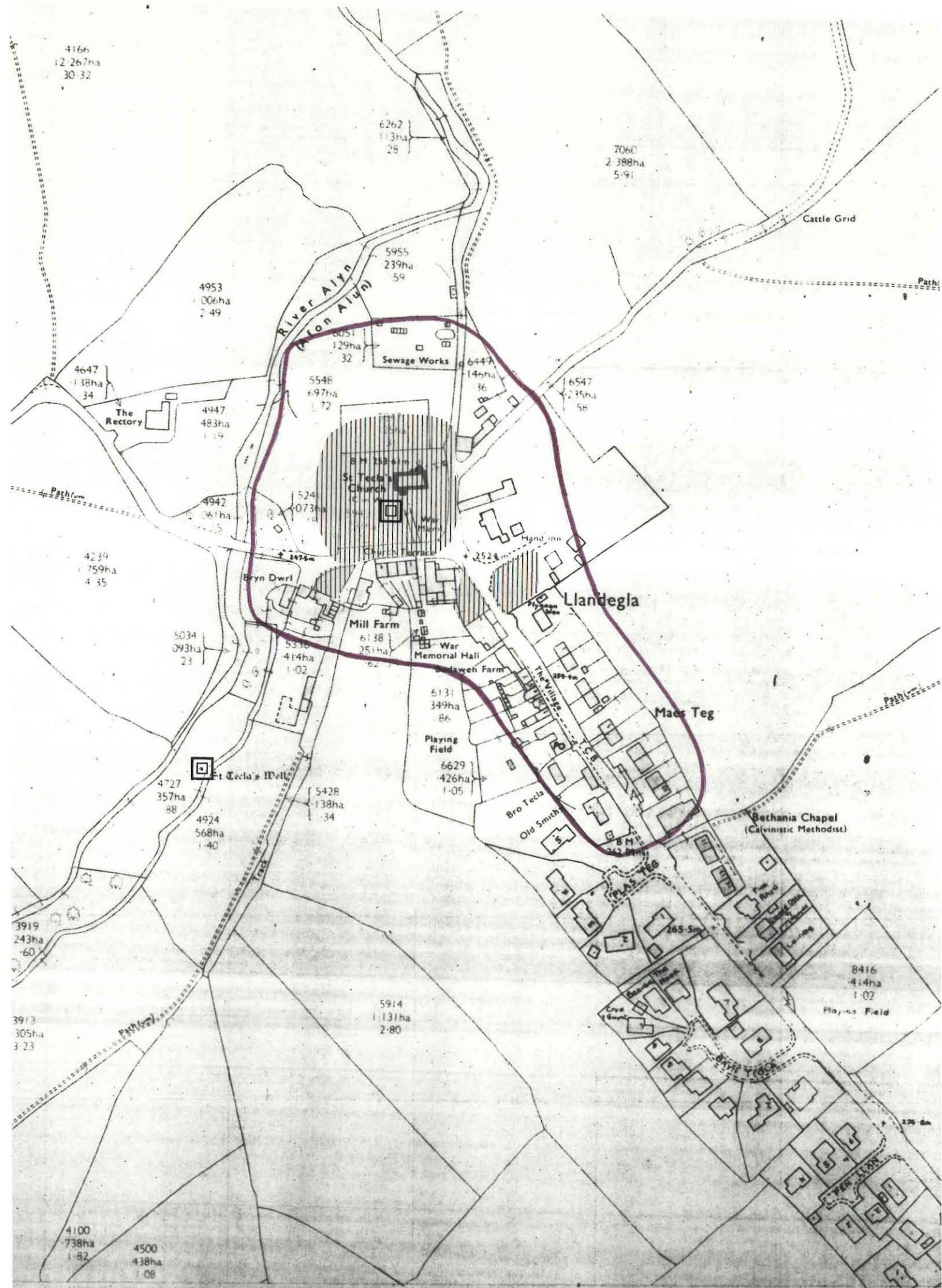
4.1 The historic core of Llandegla as defined on the accompanying map has a reasonably high archaeological potential and appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect it.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it, together with those areas defined on the accompanying plan.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 17 June 1994
Hubbard 1986, 192
Jones 1991, 191
Jones 1992, 172
Thomas 1911, 88
Tithe survey 1847



Llandrillo - PRN105967

NGR SJ034370

160m OD

Location

1.1 Llandrillo has grown up where Afon Ceidiog breaks out from the constriction imposed by the Berwyn into the broad valley of the upper Dee. The village is thus set on level ground, though a river terrace, utilised by both the church and other buildings, is clearly discernible on the west side of the Ceidiog. The Berwyn looms to the east, the Dee is little more than a kilometre to the north-west.

1.2 Llandrillo is one of the most westerly settlements in Glyndwr District and until the 1974 local government reorganisation was in Meirionnydd. The B4401 linking Bala and Corwen passes through the village; the former is 11km to the west, the latter 8km to the north-east.

History

2.1 There is little information about the origin of Llandrillo although the morphology and location of the churchyard together with the church's dedication argue persuasively for an early medieval date.

2.2 The subsequent history is obscure. It appears as 'Ecc'a de lantreullo' in 1254.

2.3 By the post-medieval era it had developed into a sizeable village. Lhwyd records thirty houses by the church. The Tithe survey confirms High Street as the main focus.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 The church of St Trillo (PRN 19762; Grade B listing) was partly rebuilt in 1776 and again in 1852 and 1887. The lower courses of the main walls are medieval. It contains a 15th-century font.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19763) is curvilinear, its perimeter encroached upon by houses on the west and north; and it is raised, particularly on the east where the utilisation of the river terrace projects the ground level more than 3m above the valley floor. A sundial plinth on the south side may originally have been a cross shaft. Sadly the stone benches which in 1749 were 'along the inside of the churchyard wall .. in very regular order for the parishioners to sit upon before prayers' were removed in 1877.

3.3 The site of St Trillo's well (PRN 100832) lay several hundred metres north-west of the village. Nothing can now be seen.

3.4 An inscribed stone (PRN 100840), its writing illegible, is housed in the church, but originally was set in a garden wall at Blaen-y-cwm, far up Cwm Pennant to the south of the village. It has been speculatively attributed to the early medieval era. A second stone with a possible inscription was also recorded at Blaen-y-cwm by the Royal Commission, but its present whereabouts are not known.

3.5 A house (PRN 101320) at Tyddyn Llan, now in use as a barn, may be medieval. Cruck trusses and an external chimney are visible. Houses in the High Street, some of which have a Grade II listing, are generally attributable to the mid or late 18th century and the early 19th century. Nothing earlier has been recognised. The stone bridge also has an 18th-century date (PRN 19764; Grade II listing).

3.6 Quillets can still be recognised in the modern field pattern to the north-east of the village.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llandrillo as defined on the accompanying map has archaeological potential, not least because of its putative early medieval beginnings. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

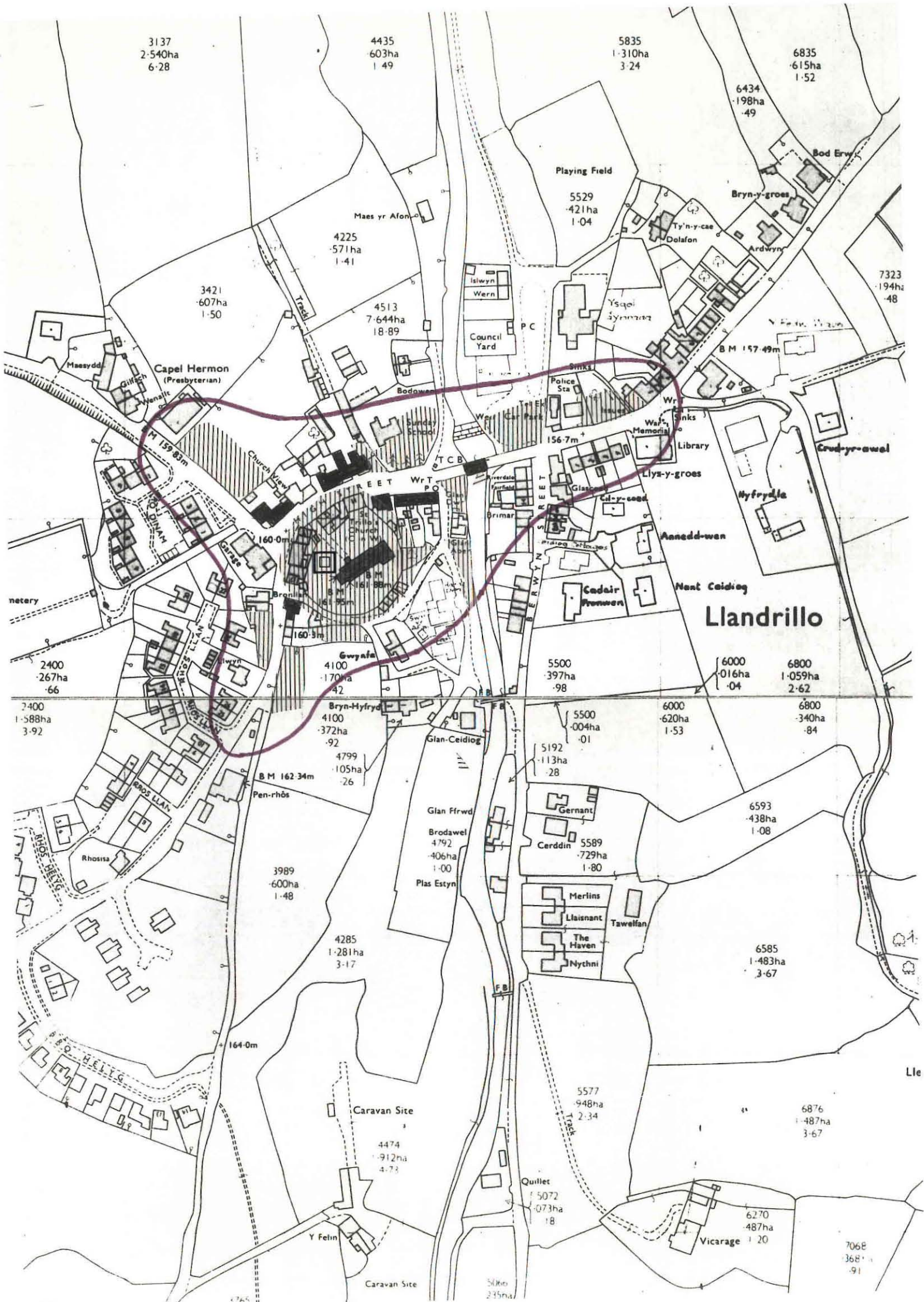
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it, together with those areas defined on the accompanying plan.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 A number of listed buildings lie within the village and the relevant legislative procedures relating to these structures must be observed on all occasions.

References

AP: CPAT: 86-MB-1067; 90-MB-253
AP: RAF/106G/UK/1455/3188 (02-05-1946)
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 7 February 1995
Lhwyd 1910,56
RCAHMW 1921, 83
Thomas 1913, 100
Tithe Survey 1841



Llandyrnog - PRN105968

NGR SJ107650

58m OD

Location

1.1 Landyrnog is one of several settlements on the eastern side of the Vale of Clwyd, with the river itself little more than one kilometre to the west and the Clwydians rearing up 2km to the east. The ground surface is relatively flat but the church is positioned almost equidistantly from two streams and a gentle drop is discernible on the south side of the settlement.

1.2 The B5429 runs through the settlement from north to south, and Denbigh lies to the west on the far side of the River Clwyd, about 5km away.

History

2.1 The church dedication commemorates a 6th-century saint and the shape of the churchyard is sufficiently distinctive to suggest an early medieval genesis.

2.2 The subsequent history of the church and settlement is unclear. In the Norwich Taxation of 1254 the church was referred to as 'Ecclia de Landernant'.

2.3 By the mid-19th century a small nucleation had developed at the crossroads south of the church. The Tithe map hints at a rather wider street south of the churchyard which at that time was being infilled. There is no other evidence to collaborate this 'market area'.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 St Tymog's (Turnog) church (PRN 102282; Grade B listing) is a late 15th-century, double-naved building, with some later 19th-century restoration. There are fragments of a priest's(?) effigy in the sanctuary, but otherwise little of medieval date.

3.2 A circular churchyard (PRN 19778) is still apparent as a scarp in the north and east quadrants of the present rectilinear yard. Local information records that a segment of the churchyard was removed in living memory to widen the main road, leading to the disinterment of skeletons.

3.3 No buildings within the village core, other than the church, appear to be of any great age.

Recommendations

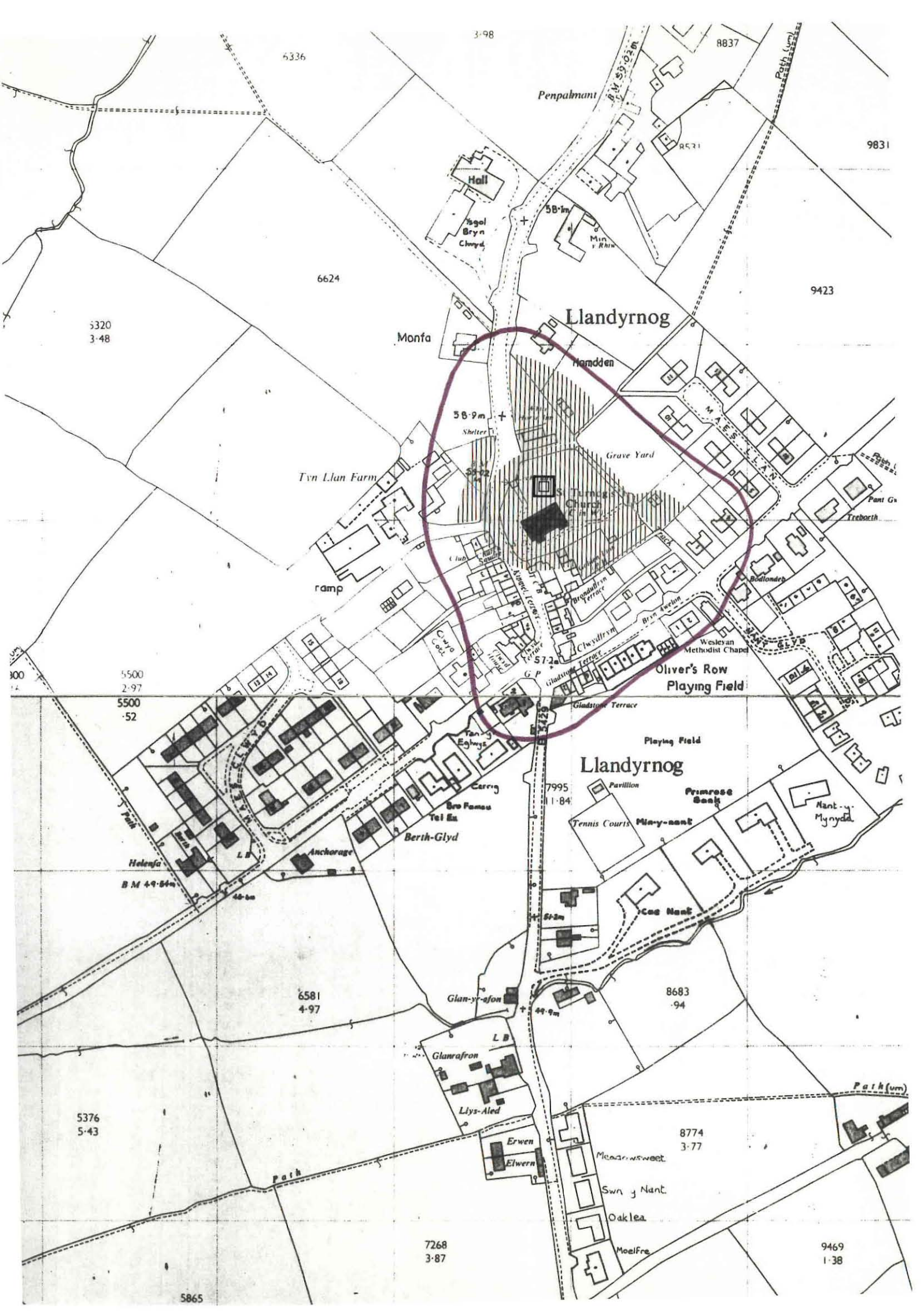
4.1 The historic core of Llandyrnog as defined on the accompanying map has an undefined archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it, together with those areas defined on the accompanying plan.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 24 November 1994
Hubbard 1986, 195
Tithe Survey 1840



6336

3-98

8837

9831

6624

9423

5320
3-48

Monfa

Llandyrnog

Hall
Tegol Bryn
Clwyd

Hamdden

58-9m
Shelter

Grave Yard

Tyn Llan Farm

St. Turgot's
Church
C. 11th C.

ramp

Wesleyan
Methodist Chapel

5500
2-97
5500
-52

Clun

Oliver's Row
Playing Field

Llandyrnog

Bro Ffawc
Tel Ew
Berth-Glyd

Playing Field

Helenfa
B.M. 49-84m

Tennis Courts
Pavillion

6581
4-97

Glan-y-afon

8683
-94

Glanrafron
Llys-Aled

5376
5-43

8774
3-77

Path

Erwen
Elwern

Meadowsweet
Swn y Nant
Oaklea

7268
3-87

9469
1-38

5865

Llanelidan - PRN105969

NGR SJ105504

130m OD

Location

1.1 Llanelidan lies south of the upper reaches of the River Clwyd. A secondary road, the B5429, passes through the village to join further west a trunk road, the A494, which links Mold and Ruthin, the latter nearly 8km to the north, with Bala.

1.2 The church sits just above the valley floor on the east side of Afon y Maes, accompanied only by a public house. The village is set at a slightly higher altitude on the opposite side of the stream.

History

2.1 The history of Llanelidan has not been chronicled and few references to the settlement have been encountered. The earliest mention appears to be to the 'Ecc'a de Lanelidern' in 1254.

2.2 In the mid-19th century the Tithe map shows the church and only one building, a farm, in close proximity. To the west the triangle of lanes that now forms the focus of the scattered hamlet of Llanelidan supported no more than two dwellings.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 Mounds on the valley floor to the north of the village are variously thought to be Bronze Age barrows or natural glacial dumps (PRNs 100915 and 100916).

3.2 St Elidan's church (PRN 100914), with its two naves and double bellcote, was largely rebuilt in 1460 and lengthened in the 17th century. The font and some stained glass may be 15th-century.

3.3 The churchyard (PRN 19730) is now rectilinear with a substantial extension to the east. Hubbard claims it was originally circular, but the only trace is on the east where there are faint traces of an earlier curvilinear boundary. Particularly on the west side the churchyard is raised well above the road, and there is considerable variation in the construction of the churchyard wall.

3.4 The buildings in the vicinity appear to be of relatively recent date. The Rectory is 19th century and was initially given the obsolete Grade III listing; the Leyland Arms adjacent to the church presents a 19th-century face to its clientele, but there are older ranges of buildings behind, presumably associated with the former farm, Tyn Llan shown on the Tithe map. There is no evidence for earlier dwellings amongst the scattered houses on the west bank of the valley.

3.5 On the west side of the stream rising towards the village a pasture field (PRN 19731; OS plot 7846) displays a tract of ridge and furrow cultivation. It does not extend over the whole field, nor have associated features been observed.

3.6 No other earthworks of any significance have been recognised.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llanelidan as defined on the accompanying map has some archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

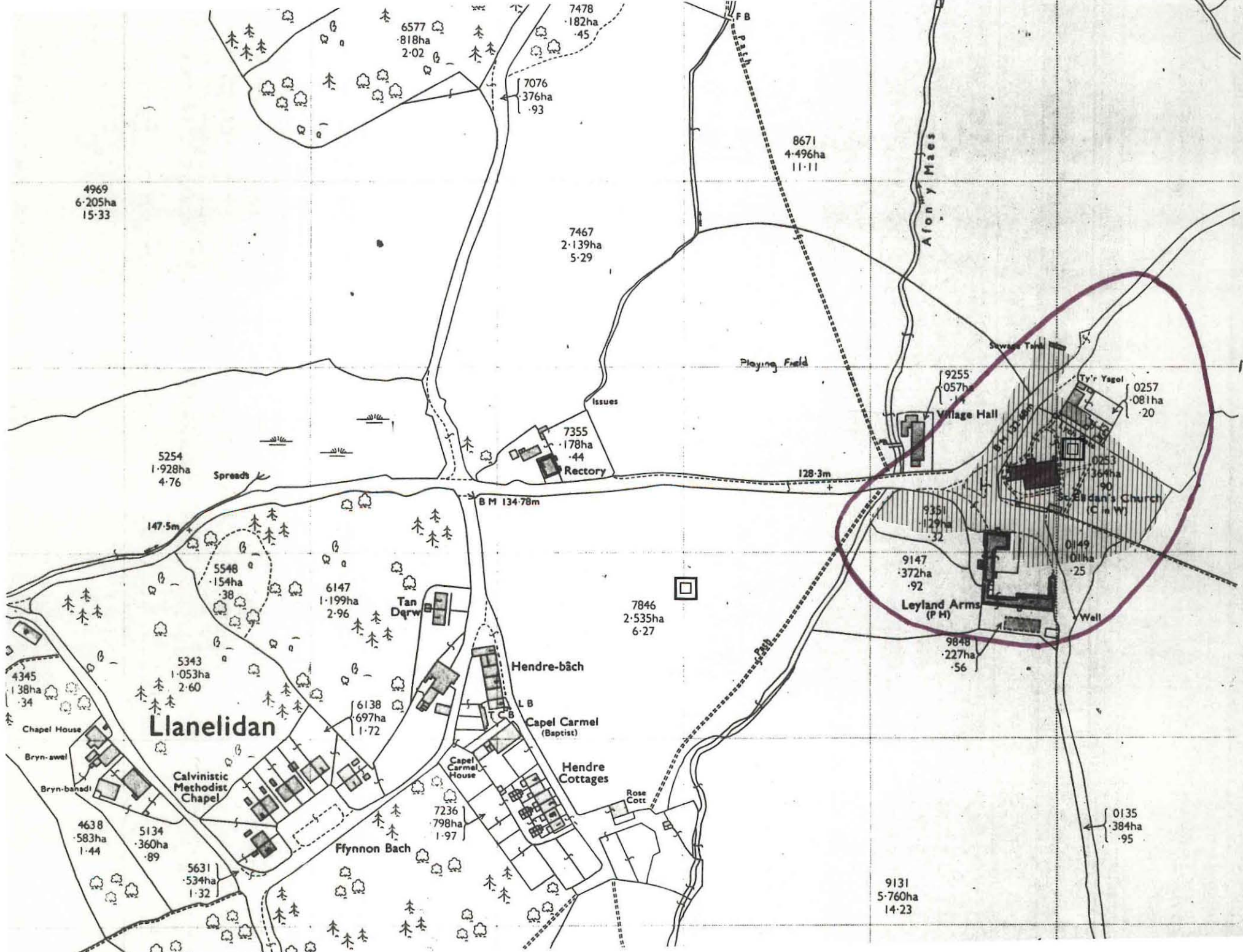
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a

development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 30 November 1994
Hubbard 1986, 203
Thomas 1911, 92
Tithe Survey 1846



4969
6.205ha
15.33

6577
818ha
2.02

7478
182ha
.45

7076
376ha
.93

8671
4.496ha
11.11

7467
2.139ha
5.29

5254
1.928ha
4.76

7355
178ha
.44

9255
057ha
.14

0257
081ha
.20

5548
154ha
.38

6147
1.199ha
2.96

7846
2.535ha
6.27

9147
372ha
.92

0149
011ha
.25

4345
138ha
.34

5343
1.053ha
2.60

6138
697ha
1.72

7236
798ha
1.97

9848
227ha
.56

0135
384ha
.95

9131
5.760ha
14.23

Llanelidan

Hendre-bâch

Capel Carmel
(Baptist)

Hendre Cottages

Leyland Arms
(P.M.)

Well

Village Hall

Sewage Tank

Playing Field

Issues

Rectory

Tan Derw

Calvinistic Methodist Chapel

Flynnon Bach

Chapel House

Bryn-awel

Bryn-bahadl

Rose Cott

Afony Maes

FB

B.M. 134.78m

128.3m

147.5m

Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd - PRN105970

NGR SJ134554

94m OD

Location

1.1 Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd as its name reveals reposes in the Vale of Clwyd, some 3km south of Ruthin, with the road from that town to Wrexham and Llangollen, the A525, bisecting the village.

1.2 It lies towards the head of the Vale as this narrows and the River Clwyd emerges from the hills to the south-west. The church lies on gently sloping ground in the lee of a low hillock just to the south. A small stream, Dwr Ial, runs northwards some 300m to the east.

History

2.1 Llanfair is recorded as 'Ecc'a de Lanwey' in 1254, and Rees has suggested it was a 'maerdref' before the Conquest. There is no aspect of the ecclesiastical foundation, however, that points to an early medieval origin.

2.2 Little or no information is available on the medieval history and development of Llanfair. By the end of the 17th century, Lhwyd could refer to six houses by the church.

2.3 In the middle of the 19th century Llanfair had emerged as a compact village at the centre of a web of trackways, the most of important of which was the lane now little more than a dirt track running off to the south-west.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 Just to the east of the village the cropmarks of a double-ditched enclosure, possibly a Roman temple, have been recorded (PRN 102653).

3.2 The church dedicated to St Cynfarch and St Mary (PRN 100879; Grade B listing) is double-naved with a west tower, all of the 15th century. There are 17th-century additions and the building was restored in 1872. There are two early 14th-century sepulchral slabs, one with an inscription and decoration.

3.3 The churchyard (PRN 19779) is totally rectilinear with no sign of any earlier modifications.

3.4 A fragment of a medieval churchyard cross (PRN 100880), reused as a sundial, is set close to the south door of the church.

3.5 There are no listed buildings in the village other than the church and its lychgate (Grade II). However, the settlement is surrounded by farmholdings, the farmhouses of which date to the 16th and 17th centuries. Possibly some go further back into the medieval period and have some bearing on the development of the village, but substantive evidence is presently lacking.

3.6 Ridge and furrow (PRN 19780) survived in fields on the south-western edge of the village until after the war. That in the field south-west of Bron-y-Clwyd is still in evidence.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llanfair has an undetermined archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

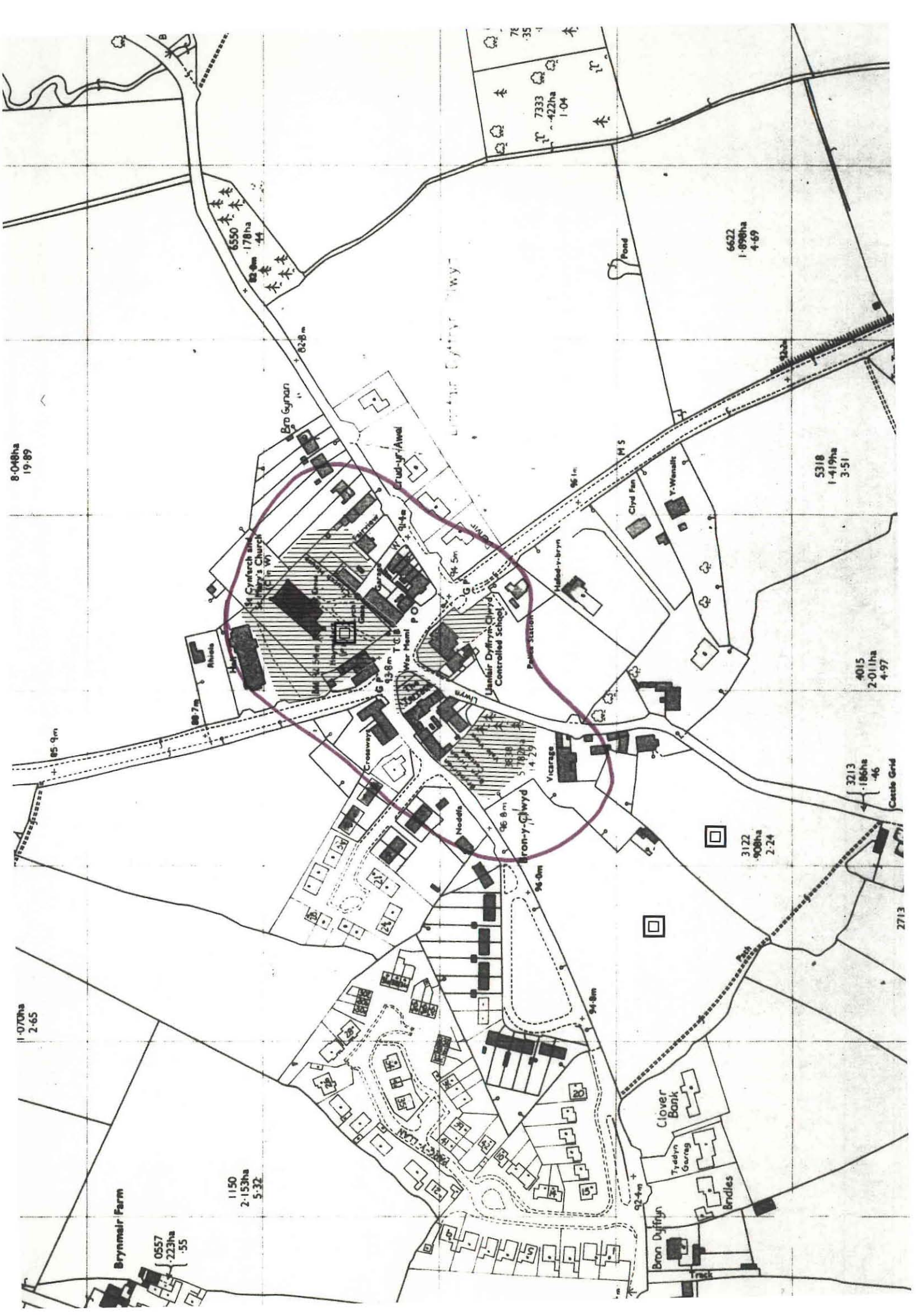
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the

scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

References

AP: CPAT/83/10/12; 84/22/10; 89/MB/494
AP: RAF/CPE/UK/1935/4277 (17 January 1947)
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 25 October 1994
Hubbard 1986, 206
Lhwyd 1909, 147
Rees 1967, pl.28
Thomas 1911, 95
Tithe Survey 1839/40



Llanfarchell - PRN105971

NGR SJ071662

45m OD

Location

1.1 The settlement of Llanfarchell consisting of little more than the church and a farm occupy the edge of a scarp, probably a river terrace, on the west side of the Vale of Clwyd. Westwards the ground rises around Denbigh, eastwards, the land is almost completely flat but beyond the river, the Clwydians rise steeply.

1.2 The suburbs of Denbigh have encroached to within two hundred metres of Llanfarchell church, while the centre of the town is little more than a kilometre away.

History

2.1 Llanfarchell, a name presumably derived from the church dedication, is otherwise known as Whitchurch, apparently a post-Reformation name, which in Welsh is 'Eglwys Wen'. The dedication is to a 6th-century saint, and this is a strong candidate for an early medieval beginning.

2.2 Llanfarchell was originally the parish church for Denbigh, but its history and the development of settlement in its vicinity, if any, is obscure.

2.3 An estate map of c1809 depicts the church and adjacent farm, together with a lane leading up from the south which is now reduced to a footpath.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 The parish church of Denbigh, St Marcella's is a 15th-century double-naved structure (PRN 102023). Most of the internal features are 17th and 18th-century in origin, although there are some 16th-century monuments including that to the antiquary, Humphrey Llwyd. The building fell out of use in the 19th century but was later restored.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19750) has been extended probably in the last century and a half. A hint of curvilinearity on the south side is not matched elsewhere, but it is difficult generally to determine the original line of the boundary.

3.3 There are no earthworks characteristic of earlier settlement in the vicinity of the churchyard. However, the fields to the south-west (OS plot 9844) and north-west (OS plot 9758) of the sewage works both have irregular surfaces. While some of the irregularities are clearly modern and others perhaps of natural origin, it is possible that one or two may be archaeologically significant.

3.4 Slight ridge and furrow is discernible in pasture below the river terrace (OS plot 3700; PRN 19751).

Recommendations

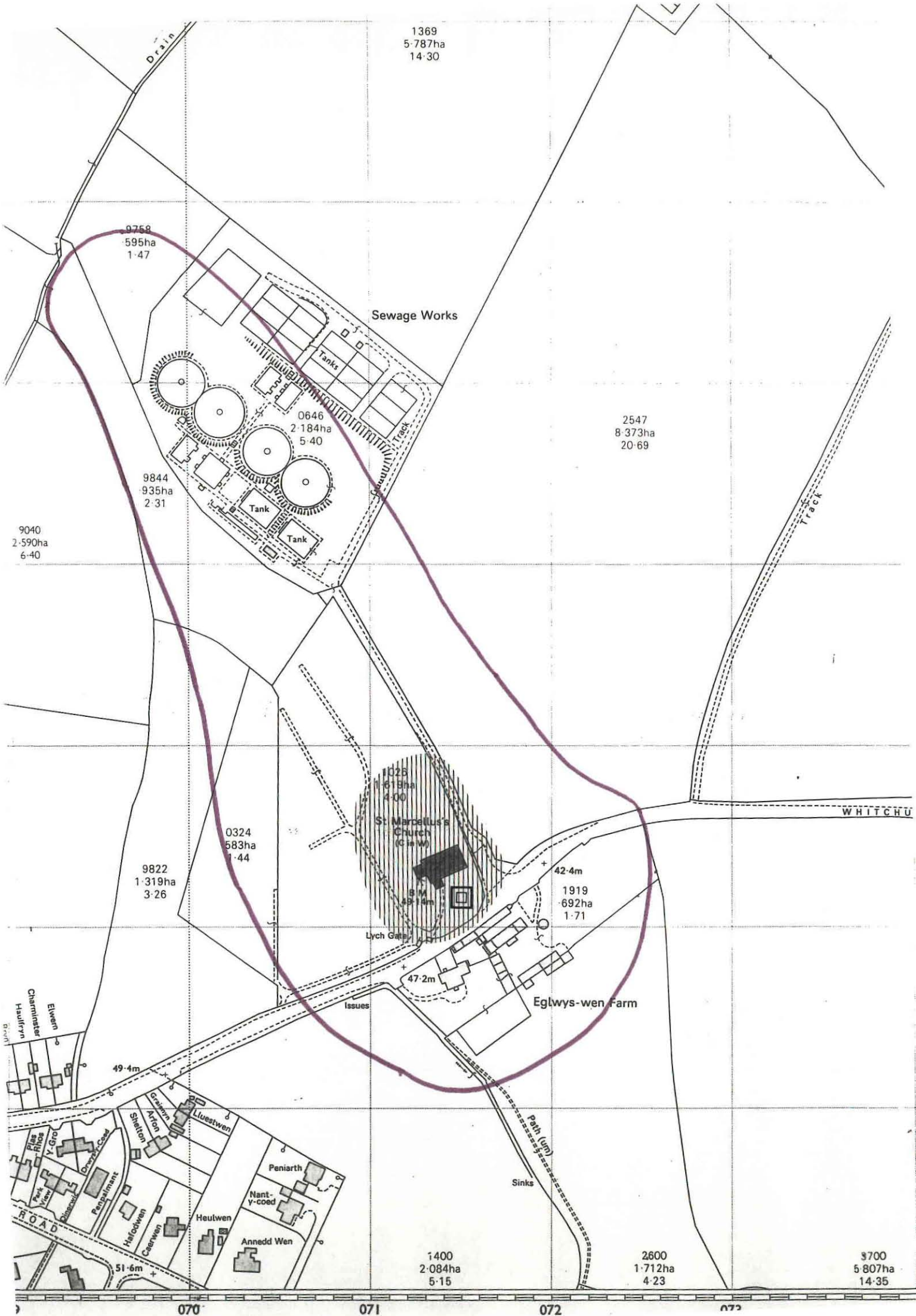
4.1 The historic core of Llanfarchell as defined on the accompanying map has an unknown archaeological potential and appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect it.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it, together with those areas defined on the accompanying plan close to the sewage works.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while a watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the historic core area.

References

Castledine and Owen 1983, 20
CPAT Field Visit 23 January 1995
Estate Map, c1809: CROR/BD/A/308
Hubbard 1986, 152
RCAHMW 1914, 42



1369
5.787ha
14.30

9758
595ha
1.47

Sewage Works

0646
2.184ha
5.40

2547
8.373ha
20.69

9844
935ha
2.31

9040
2.590ha
6.40

0324
583ha
1.44

1025
619ha
4.00

St. Marcellus's Church
(C in W)

8.11
49.74m

1919
692ha
1.71

Lych Gate

47.2m

Eglwys-wen Farm

Issues

49.4m

Elwern
Charmister
Haulfryn
Drain

WHITCHU

Path (up)
Sinks

Map section showing various farm buildings and roads:

- Peniarth
- Nant-y-coed
- Annedd Wen
- Heutwen
- Caerwan
- Harfordwen
- Penyplimant
- Shetton
- Arfon
- Graigwen
- Lluestwen
- Y-Gro
- Park View
- Shropshire
- Downy Corner

1400
2.084ha
5.15

2600
1.712ha
4.23

3700
5.807ha
14.35

070

071

072

073

Llanferres - PRN105972

NGR SJ188605

225m OD

Location

1.1 Llanferres has grown up on the eastern dip slope of the Clwydian range where the River Alun has cut deeply into the hillside on its course northwards. Sheltered by the hills to the west, the village itself occupies a gently sloping ledge, before the land drops away more steeply eastwards to the river.

1.2 The settlement lies on the A494 trunk road linking Mold 6km to the north-east with Ruthin 7km to the south-west.

History

2.1 The origins and early history of the settlement are unknown. The first reference - to 'Llanverrys' - is in 1291, but an early medieval origin based on an association with the obscure St Berres is possible. Llanferres is equally anonymous in the Middle Ages.

2.2 There is currently no evidence for nucleated development. Even by the mid-19th century, the church was accompanied only by the Druid Inn to the south, the rectory (c.1813) to the west and Ty'n Llan to the north, with Rhos Farm further north still.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 St Berres' church (PRN 106094; Grade II listing) was largely rebuilt in the 1770s with additions in 1843. There are various 16th-century features internally, and two sepulchral slabs of the late 13th and early 14th centuries, and a mutilated effigy from the late 14th century. Other monuments are post-medieval.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 105905) is now of irregular form, due in part to an extension westwards in 1905. The earlier curving boundary on the west can still be discerned on the ground and hints at an original curvilinear enclosure. The wall around the rest of the present churchyard was erected in the 1720s. An unsuccessful attempt was made in 1993 to locate an earlier 'llan' boundary outside the northern wall.

3.3 The buildings of Ty'n Llan (PRN 31452) to the north of the church are listed (Grade II), but of 18th and 19th-century build. No other houses in the village are listed.

3.4 The road pattern in the settlement has changed over the last two to three hundred years. Originally a cobbled way ran around the western edge of the churchyard (PRN 105906). In the 18th century this was replaced by a turnpike road on the eastern side, but the old road was not closed until 1818. Much more recently a new line for the A494 has been constructed a few metres to the east of the turnpike.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llanferres as defined on the accompanying map has an uncertain archaeological potential and appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect it.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it, together with those areas defined on the accompanying plan.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 17 June 1994
Hubbard 1986, 211
Owen and Silvester 1993
Tithe survey 1839



Llanfwrog - PRN105974

NGR SJ114578

76m OD

Location

1.1 Llanfwrog is now effectively a suburb at the western extremity of Ruthin and linked by large modern estates occupying the west bank of the River Clwyd.

1.2 The church occupies a pronounced spur-end projecting into a broad flat valley that eastwards rapidly broadens out into the Clwyd valley floor. The road - the B5105 - passes over the top of the spur and then drops gently eastwards with early modern housing flanking it towards Ruthin. Westwards a few cottages are scattered around the valley slopes.

History

2.1 The parish was (and perhaps still is) partly within the borough of Ruthin. St Mwrog is thought to have lived in the later part of the 7th century AD.

2.2 In 1291 it is recorded as 'Lanmurrock' but, forty years earlier, it is said to have been the 'Ecc'a de Lammitant'.

2.3 Maps of the late 18th century indicate a small settlement of church and scattered houses, some around a patch of common to the west of the church. Already by this time, however, Ruthin was expanding with housing spreading westwards across the River Clwyd and along the road towards Llanfwrog.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 St Mwrog's church (PRN 100870: Grade II listing), with its double nave, is mainly of 15th/16th-century date though much restored in 1869/70. One 13th-century window in the south wall and an Early English doorway in the west wall of the tower are earlier, and probably, too, the disused font. The lych-gate (PRN 105992), perhaps of 18th-century origin, has a Grade II listing, as do tombs and a sundial in the churchyard.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 105993) was distinctively circular, except on the north where the topography has necessitated, perhaps secondarily, a straight wall buttressed by massive supports, and on the west where the graveyard has been extended. For the latter, an earlier curving line is depicted on an estate map of 1826 and can be recognised faintly on the ground. The churchyard contains dislocated memorials, one of 1640 propped against the wall being of particular interest.

3.3 Several listed buildings lie on the slopes west of the church. Most of these appear to be post-medieval and probably 18th-century: Brynffynnon (PRN 105994; Grade II listing) carries a datestone of 1746. Ty-gwyn, however, is a two-storeyed, sub-medieval house of late 16th-century date, originally half-timbered (PRN 105995); Pen-y-bryn is a half-timbered, three-unit dwelling probably of the 17th century (PRN 105996; Grade II listing); and above the church on the south, Hafan (= OS Nafan) is a modified cruck-framed hall-house, probably of medieval date with an inserted 16th/17th-century fireplace (PRN 105997). To the east of the church, the only buildings of note are a row of almshouses (PRN 105998; Grade II listing) founded in 1605 and rebuilt in 1708, now converted and modernised.

3.4 South of the church and adjacent to the modern cemetery, earthworks (PRN 105999) cover a pasture field (OS plot 4574). Terraces with lynchet perimeters lie close to the cemetery, with ridge and furrow beyond. On the basis of early aerial photography, the latter may run into the field to the south.

3.5 Further ridge and furrow (PRN 19700) was identified immediately west of Ty-newydd at the extreme western edge of the village. It has not been established whether this is still extant.

3.6 Low earthworks (PRN 19701) exist on the flat valley floor beside the stream and below the church. These require characterisation through detailed fieldwork.

3.7 Estate maps of late 18th-century date show the church and a patch of unenclosed common at the stream confluence, 100m to the west. This common together with a ford and perhaps the village pound is shown on a print of 1794. Some of the earlier houses are sited around the edge of the common. This layout may have been disrupted by 1826 when a smithy was set on part of the common. South of the church, Cerrig Lane was little more than a track leading past irregularly shaped strip fields.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llanfwrog as defined on the accompanying map has a high archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it, together with those areas of earthworks defined on the accompanying plan.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

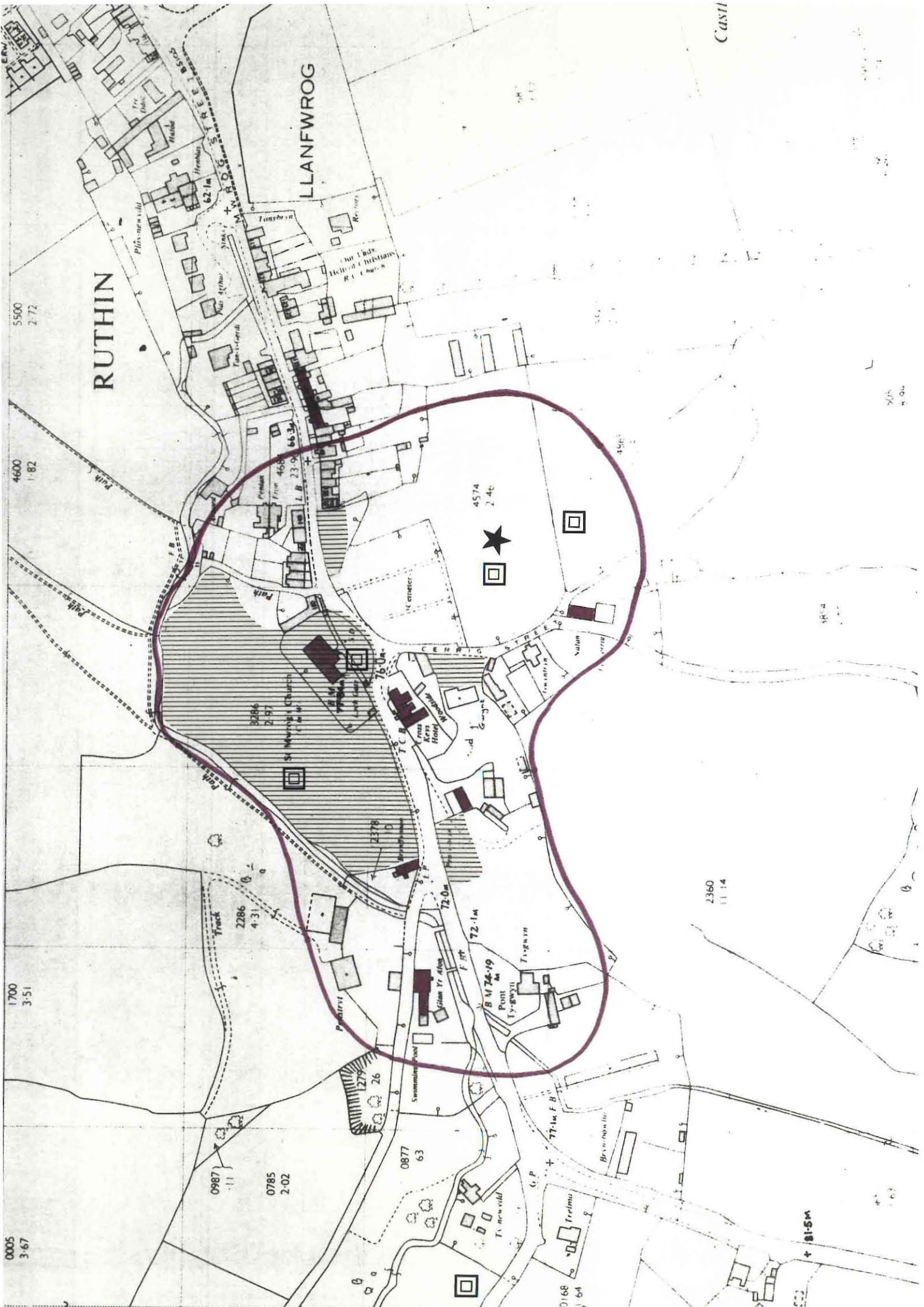
4.4 There are several listed buildings in Llanfwrog and the relevant legislative procedures must be observed at all times.

4.5 A through assessment, followed by detailed measured survey, should be conducted on the two areas of earthworks to the north and south of the church. On the basis of these records, further recommendations about their preservation may be appropriate.

4.6 The memorials in the churchyard should be subjected to further examination and, where necessary, recorded in detail.

References

AP: RAF/1946/3G/TUD/UK/35/5126
Castledine 1986, 38
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 3 November 1994
Estate Maps (2), 1780: NLW/SOL 485/PE 214 & 215
Estate Map of Ruthin, 1826: CROR/DD/DM/274/166
Hubbard 1986, 213
NMR Aberystwyth



Llangadwaladr - PRN105975

NGR SJ182303

250m OD

Location

1.1 Llangadwaladr is a remote church settlement established in a deep valley in the eastern Berwyn, 7km north-east of Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant.

1.2 Church and churchyard are set on what is effectively the valley floor, although on a slight terrace above the small stream, Afon Ysgwennant, which flows round their northern side. Hen Graig to the north and Gym Moelfre to the south crowd the valley, restricting flat ground to a narrow strip at its base. Eastwards the valley opens out slightly towards the River Morda and the lowlands around Oswestry.

1.3 The settlement comprises the church and Tyn-Ilan which was formerly the vicarage.

History

2.1 Nothing is known of the origins and history of Llangadwaladr. However, its dedication and curvilinear churchyard favour an early medieval genesis for the church itself.

2.2 Formerly a chapelry in the parish of Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, it was separated by act of parliament, at a date not yet established.

2.3 An estate map of c1760 shows Tyn-Ilan and perhaps one other structure in addition to the church. The Tithe map of the mid-19th century confirms the belief that in the post-medieval period at least, the settlement has taken very much the same form as it does today.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 St Cadwaladr's church (PRN 101358; Grade B listing) is single-chambered but much restored in the 19th century, first in 1840 then in 1883. Some medieval features survive: a blocked north doorway, a reset lancet window in the vestry and some roof timbers.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19732) is irregular in shape and raised by more than one metre on the northern side. It has a strong curve on its northern side where a bank can still be detected inside the encompassing wall, but its original course on the west and east is less obvious. Probably the garden of Tyn-Ilan has been carved from the early yard, for the northern boundary of the former continues the curving boundary of the churchyard. That there is a considerable drop from the churchyard into the garden suggests that this was not a recent division. On the south the churchyard now incorporates a pronounced scarp above the stream which is sinuous and may not necessarily represent the early boundary. Nevertheless, the church builders seems to have selected a particularly elevated part of the river terrace for their construction.

3.3 Relict field boundaries, some showing as banks others as lynchets, cover both sides of the valley and form part of the larger network of fields surrounding the village. Ridge and furrow (PRN 19733) is visible in one field with uncharacterised, but minor earthworks to the south-west.

3.4 No obvious house platforms or sites have been recognised in Llangadwaladr. However, south-west of the churchyard, on the south side of a stream, opposite modern sheepfolds and close to a largely silted pond is a distinctive artificial platform (PRN 19734). Its significance is unclear.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llangadwaladr as defined on the accompanying map has some archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

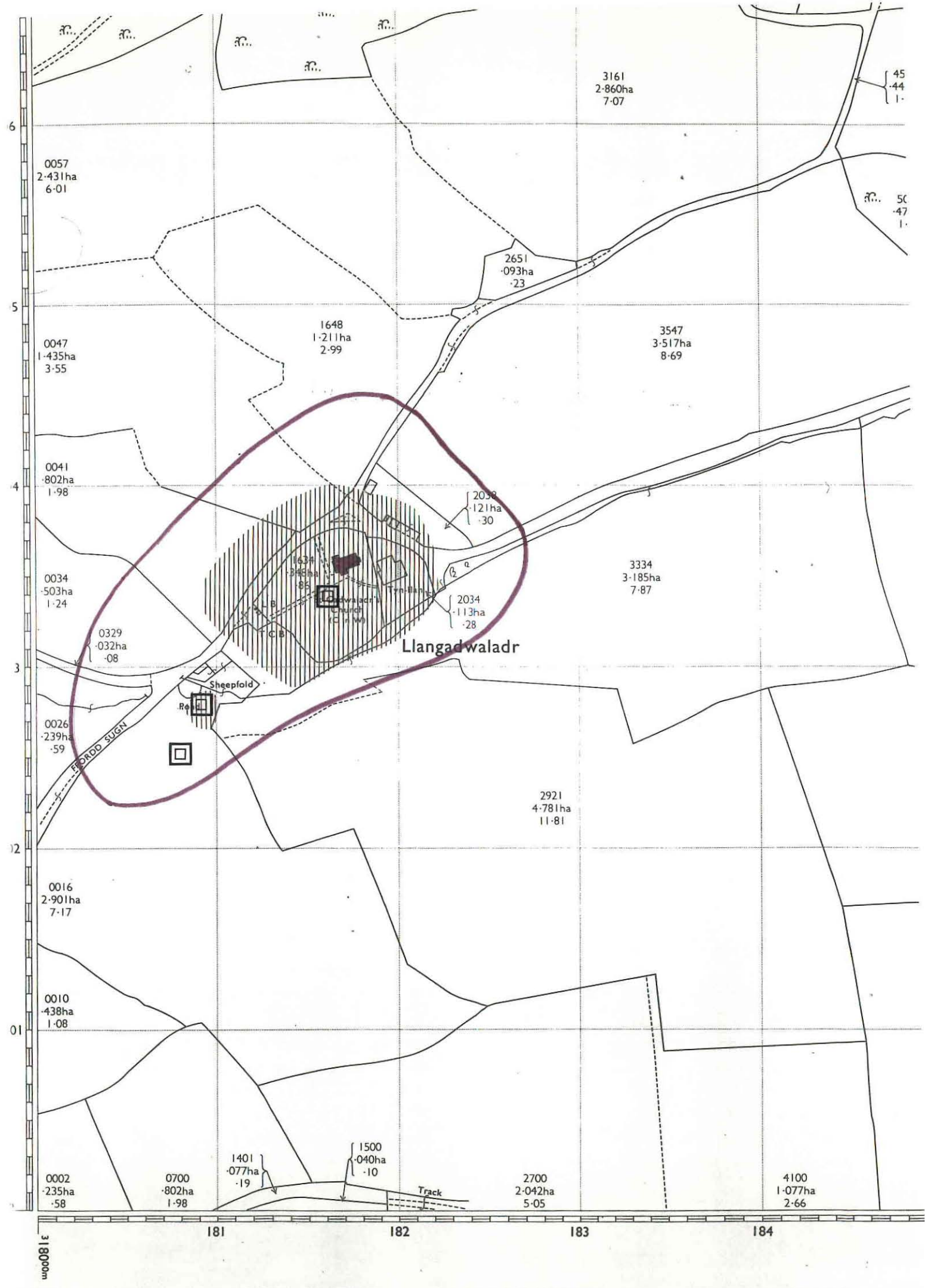
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 Only the church is listed but the relevant legislative procedures must be observed at all times.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 21 December 1994
Ms Map of Chirk Estate, c1760: NLW/R.M.C36
Hubbard 1986, 213
Lewis 1833
Tithe survey 1839/1840



Llangadwaladr

Sheepfold

Re...

Track

FROD SUGN

1634
3.46ha
0.51
L B
C B
Church
(C of W)

180 181 182 183 184

0 1 2 3 4 5 6

3180000

Llangar - PRN105976

NGR SJ064424

150m OD

Location

1.1 Set in a remote spot where the confluence of the River Dee (Afon Dyfrdwy) and Afon Alwen creates unusually extensive low-lying levels, Llangar church is platformed into a west-facing hillside just above the river with the Berwyn massif providing a back drop.

1.2 The B4401, a former toll road linking Bala and Corwen, runs along the valley edge above the site, while a now dismantled railway linking the same two centres has left its terraced course immediately below the churchyard. Corwen is less than 2km to the north-east.

History

2.1 According to Lewis the name is derived from 'an ancient fortification which formerly occupied the summit of a hill called Caer Wern, in the immediate vicinity of the church, and of which there are still some vestiges...'. This interpretation remains to be validated and Pratt has argued for a personal name 'Car', related to modern Welsh 'car' meaning kinsman or friend.

2.2 The earliest reference, to 'Ecc'a de langar' comes in 1254, but there is a strong possibility that this is an early medieval foundation.

2.3 In Merionnydd until 1974, there is no record of a settlement here, excepting the nearby farm of Stamp and the loosely nucleated settlement of Bryn Saint, 300m higher up the slope. The latter was certainly in existence in the mid-19th century, but how much earlier is impossible to ascertain. Lhwyd made a point of noting the absence of any house by the church.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 The core of the parish church of All Saints (PRN 100815; Grade B listing; SAM Me 93; Cadw Guardianship Monument) is said to be at least as old as the 13th century, perhaps even the 12th century, and to have escaped Victorianisation. Excavations in the 1970s uncovered burials in the nave but nothing pre-dating the 15th century. A simple exterior, its interior displays medieval and later wall paintings.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19761; SAM Me 93) is of irregular shape and set on a relatively steep slope. A curvilinear form is suggested on the south side and on both the west and east there are traces of an earlier boundary within the present enclosure, the former merging with the platform supporting the church itself.

3.3 Earthworks (PRN 100829) have been recorded in the past in the bracken-covered field to the north of the church and in pasture just to the east of the main road. The former may be no more than a medieval or later lynchet and perhaps a quarry, while the significance of the others is uncertain. The track leading to the church from the south is certainly of some antiquity and is edged by flattish ground suitable for occupation.

3.4 Hafod-yr-afr (PRN 104521) is recorded as a cusped cruck-framed house of post-medieval date.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llangar as defined on the accompanying map has an unknown archaeological potential and appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect it.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the immediate environs of the churchyard, together with those other areas specifically defined on the accompanying plan. The

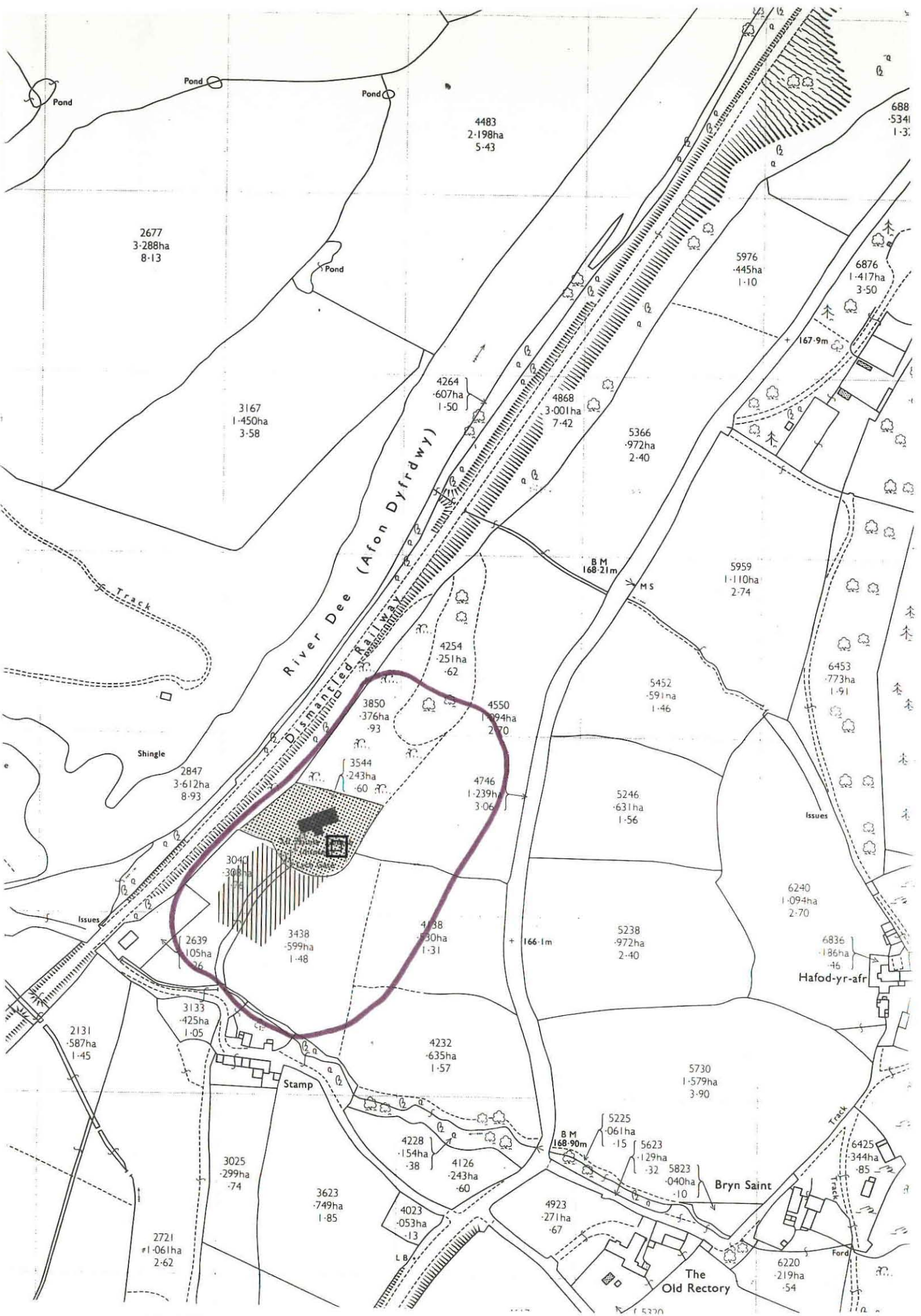
importance of the area to the north of the church requires more detailed assessment before any evaluation is required.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while a watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the historic core area.

4.4 Llangar contains scheduled ancient monuments and the relevant legislative procedures must be observed at all times.

References

AP: CPAT/87-15-18/19; 87-MB-939/940; 90-MB-260/261
Cadw AM107A Report
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 7 February 1995
Lewis 1833
Lhwyd 1910, 55
Pratt 1980, 30
Thomas 1911, 160
Tithe Survey 1840



2677
3-288ha
8-13

4483
2-198ha
5-43

688
-534
1-3

3167
1-450ha
3-58

5976
-445ha
1-10

6876
1-417ha
3-50

4264
-607ha
1-50

4868
3-001ha
7-42

5366
-972ha
2-40

5959
1-110ha
2-74

River Dee (Afon Dyfrdwy)

B M
168-21m

4254
-251ha
-62

4550
1-094ha
2-70

5452
-591ha
1-46

Shingle

2847
3-612ha
8-93

3850
-376ha
-93

4746
1-239ha
3-06

5246
-631ha
1-56

6453
-773ha
1-91

3544
-243ha
-60

3040
-308ha
-74

3438
-599ha
1-48

4738
-530ha
1-31

5238
-972ha
2-40

6240
1-094ha
2-70

2639
105ha
-26

3133
-425ha
1-05

4232
-635ha
1-57

5238
-972ha
2-40

6836
-186ha
-46

Hafod-yr-afri

2131
-587ha
1-45

5730
1-579ha
3-90

3025
-299ha
-74

4228
-154ha
-38

4126
-243ha
-60

5225
-061ha
-15

5623
-129ha
-32

5823
-040ha
-10

Bryn Saint

6425
-344ha
-85

3623
-749ha
1-85

4023
-053ha
-13

4923
-271ha
-67

The Old Rectory

6220
-219ha
-54

2721
-1-061ha
2-62

Ford

Llangedwyn - PRN105977

NGR SJ188241

109m OD

Location

1.1 Llangedwyn lies on the north side of the Tanat Valley towards the southern extreme of Glyndwr district. The church occupies a spur of the river terrace projecting towards the river over 200m to the south; Llangedwyn Hall is set higher up the terrace, sheltering beneath an afforested hill known as The Warren; and the houses that make up the modern settlement of Llangedwyn have been sited a short distance to the west in a road-fork.

1.2 The B4396 runs through the village and along the north side of the valley. Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant is a little more than 6km to the west, Oswestry 12km to the north-east.

History

2.1 The early history of the settlement is not documented, but an early medieval origin for the church seems assured.

2.2 Llangedwyn was formerly a chapelry attached to Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, but was separated from it by Act of Parliament.

2.3 The hall was introduced into this landscape probably not earlier than the 17th century, while the spread of dwellings to the west is more recent still, post-dating the Tithe assessment in the mid-19th century. An earlier map of c.1760 shows the church, hall and a smithy.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 Prehistoric and perhaps Roman activity is evidenced in the immediate vicinity of the settlement. A possible pit alignment (PRN 101828) has been photographed from the air, on the valley floor in the field just to the east of the church, and the same field contains one certain and another probable ditched enclosure (PRNs 19736, 19737) together with other cropmarks of an archaeological nature. Fortified enclosures occupy the higher slopes to the west (e.g. PRN 101068).

3.2 Llangedwyn church (PRN 101363), dedicated to St Cedwyn, was rebuilt in 1869/70 and restored around 1907. There is a 14th-century recumbent effigy as well as reused woodwork of 1527, a 17th-century pulpit, and a range of 18th-century features internally.

3.3 An early medieval cross-incised slab lies against the external east wall of the chancel (PRN 101768).

3.4 The shape of the churchyard (PRN 19738) has been altered fundamentally. Enlarged on the south and east, and perhaps cut back slightly on the north-east, the original shape appears to have been elliptical with the main axis aligned north-west/south-east along the river terrace scarp.

3.5 Llangedwyn Hall (PRN 105902; Grade II listing), formerly the home of the Williams-Wynn family, may have originated in the 17th century, perhaps even a little earlier, but has undergone a complex series of alterations since that time, including some demolition in the 1950s. Most of what survives today dates to around 1718. Its formal gardens - also early 18th century, possibly finished in 1728 - are of significant interest being in their original form. They have been given the non-statutory Grade II* rating in the Cadw/ICOMOS register. The gatepiers and gates are probably 18th-century and have a Grade II listing.

3.6 The bridge (Grade II listing) across the Tanat, close to Llangedwyn Mill, is late 18th or early 19th-century in date.

3.7 Natural terraces and scarps occur on the northern slopes of the Tanat Valley in the vicinity of the settlement. These may have been utilised for occupation in the past, but no traces of man-made earthworks now survive near the village.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llangedwyn as defined on the accompanying map has an unknown archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground immediately around it.

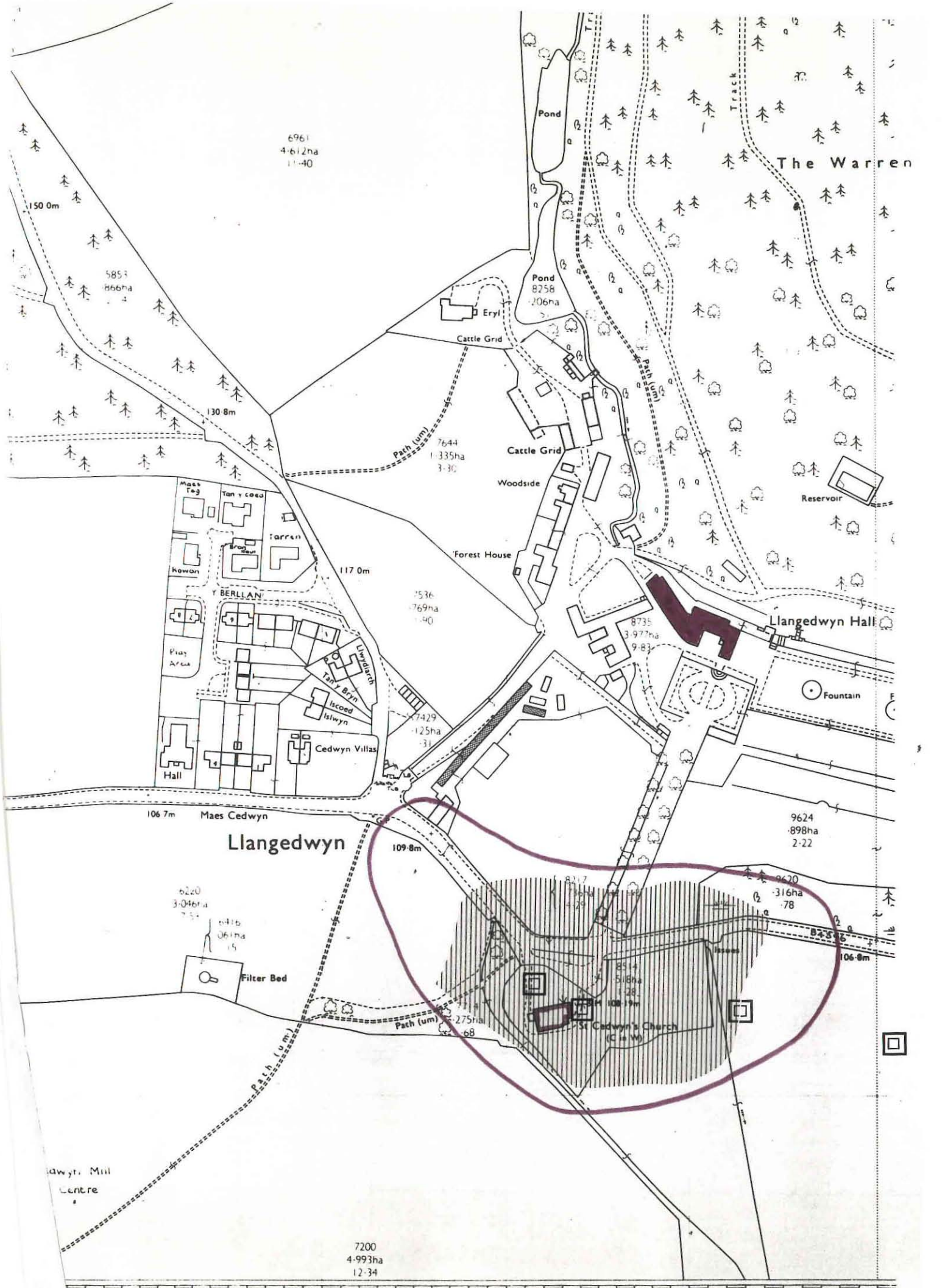
4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 The relevant legislative procedures must be observed for listed buildings in and around the village.

4.5 Aerial photography indicates the importance of this bank of the river in earlier times. Any developments that might have an impact on this archaeological resource require careful monitoring.

References

AP: CPAT/84-MB-363
Cadw/ICOMOS Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens 1994 (draft)
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 21 December 1994
Hubbard 1986, 214
Lewis 1833
Ms Map of Chirk Castle Estate, c1760: NLW RM C36
Tithe Survey 1839-41



186 187 188 189 190

Llangollen - PRN105978

NGR SJ215419

82m OD

Location

1.1 Llangollen shelters in the valley of the Dee overshadowed by the edge of the Berwyn massif to the south and the heights of Ruabon Mountain together with the detached hill supporting Castell Dinas Bran to the north. The Berwyn edge, however, is not continuous, for the steep slopes are interrupted by a shelf and the ground then rises to another isolated hillock, Pen-y-coed. Llangollen has developed immediately beneath it.

1.2 The Dee valley here is narrow, and the town has developed on both sides of the river, though the main historic core is on the south bank where the ground shelves gently. Housing has extended, largely in the last 150 years, up both hillsides, but the main concentration is still on the south side, with new estates emerging on the southern side of Pen-y-coed.

1.3 Llangollen sits astride the A5 trunk road, with Wrexham 14km to the north-east and Oswestry (Shropshire) a similar distance to the south-east.

History

2.1 Various books and articles have been written about the development of Llangollen, particularly with reference to its more recent history. Not all have been consulted in the preparation of this report, but for the sake of completeness these are noted in the references and marked with an asterisk.

2.2 A church was reputedly established here by St Collen in the 6th or 7th century, and his cell-y-bedd (or a successor) survived in the churchyard west of the church tower beyond 1749. Pengwern less than a kilometre to the south-east supposedly has early medieval origins.

2.3 In 1284 Edward I granted the manor of Llangollen to Roger Mortimer, together with the rights for a weekly market and two annual fairs for a community already developed around the church. It has been suggested that the settlement ('tref') may have emerged as a result of the proximity of Gruffudd ap Madoc's stronghold on Dinas Bran from around 1270. The king's grant allowed, too, for the construction of a bridge, which was supposedly rebuilt in 1345 by the bishop of St Asaph.

2.4 Little is known of the subsequent history of Llangollen in the Middle Ages. A market house lay between the church and the bridge, but Leland referred to Llangollen only as a village in the mid-16th century. Lhwyd enumerated 70 houses in the town at the end of the 17th century. Pennant in the later 18th century called it 'a small and poor town, seated in a romantic spot', while the Rev Bingley at the end of that century 'wandered into the dirty, ill-built and disagreeable town of Llangollen' (both quoted by Ffoulkes-Jones).

2.5 By the mid-18th century expansion across the river had already occurred. Flattish ground beside the river was an open space known as Llangollen Green; it is now covered by houses and by St John's Church, but its previous history is recalled in the name 'Green Lane'.

2.6 But in the 19th century the village began to expand as a result of its position on the London to Holyhead coach road, local industries such as quarrying and wool-working developed, and the riverine setting attracted increasing numbers of tourists. A branch of the Ellesmere Canal was constructed to the town in 1808 and the railway reached here in 1862.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 Prehistoric finds have come from the neighbourhood of Llangollen, generally in the surrounding hills (e.g. bronze axes etc), but none it seems from the environs of the town itself. Several defended enclosures of late prehistoric form have also been recognised within a few kilometres of the town.

3.2 St Collen's Church (PRN 106019; Grade I listing) has at its core a 13th-century structure, added to in

later centuries. The west tower is 18th-century and the whole building was drastically remodelled in 1864-67, though a few medieval architectural features survive. Most of the internal fittings are post-medieval in date. There is, however, a 12th-century stone shrine fragment from here which is an indicator of its importance in the Middle Ages.

3.3 The churchyard (PRN 16744) is now trapezoidal in shape though the west side exhibits a slight curve. That its plan has been modified through time there can be no doubt, but there is little guidance as to its original form and there appear to have been no changes subsequent to the mid-19th century Tithe survey. The eccentric position of the church set up against the eastern perimeter also points to fundamental changes in layout.

3.4 The broken shaft of a medieval cross with its original stone pedestal (PRN 101178) has been erected on the Maesmawr Road, but where it originated is not known. In the past it has been known as 'Croes y beddau'.

3.5 Llangollen Bridge, with its four arches and deep cutwaters, (PRN 106020; SAM De26; Grade I listing) is considered to be largely of 17th-century date and linked with the 'Rondle Reade 1656' stone in Hall Street which may commemorate the reconstruction. Fragments of sepulchral slabs were embedded in the masonry. Leland referred to a great stone bridge and it is possible that the present structure incorporates 16th-century work. The original bridge was supposedly constructed in wood in the 12th century to facilitate access to Valle Crucis Abbey, and reconstructed by John Trevor, Bishop of St Asaph, in 1346, although other commentators have suggested that the reference may be to John Trefor II, a local man, who was bishop between 1395-1411. The present bridge was extended in 1863 to allow for the railway, and widened in 1873 and 1968.

3.6 The street pattern in Llangollen has undergone changes in the early modern era. Church Street/Bridge Street was the main thoroughfare up to the 18th century and perhaps beyond. An estate map of around 1760 suggests an open space perhaps a market place in the vicinity of what is now the Hand Hotel, that is on the west side of the churchyard. It remains to be ascertained whether today's open spaces south of the hotel are a reflection of this market area. Minor lanes dropping down from the hills to the south focused either on Chapel Lane or the eastern end of Church Street by the crossing of a stream known as Cyflmen. Regent Street had been added by the 1840s, part of Telford's improvements to the Holyhead Road, but Castle Street and the grid of streets to the west were later 19th-century developments.

3.7 Early buildings are rare, and ground observation suggests that overall Church Street retains the oldest houses. No 12 Chapel Street (PRN 31614; Grade II listing) is probably a much altered 16th-century timber-framed structure, and No 8 Mill Street (PRN 31648) may also be later 16th-century in origin. There are several 17th-century and rather more 18th-century listed buildings, with many others of the 19th century. Hubbard has noted that 'much of the centre belongs to an interesting piece of mid-19th century town planning'.

3.8 PLas Newydd (PRN 102792), home of the ladies of Llangollen, lies on the south-eastern side of the town and was transformed from a simple cottage after 1780. The gardens have a non-statutory Grade II* rating in the Cadw/ICOMOS register. They also contain one or two medieval curiosities brought from elsewhere: eg. the shaft of the High Cross from Chester (PRN 102791), and a medieval font (PRN 31596).

3.9 Lower Dee Mills (PRN 106436) is believed to have originated in the 17th century.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llangollen as defined on the accompanying map has a high archaeological potential, not least because of its putative early medieval beginnings. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it, together with those areas defined on the accompanying plan.

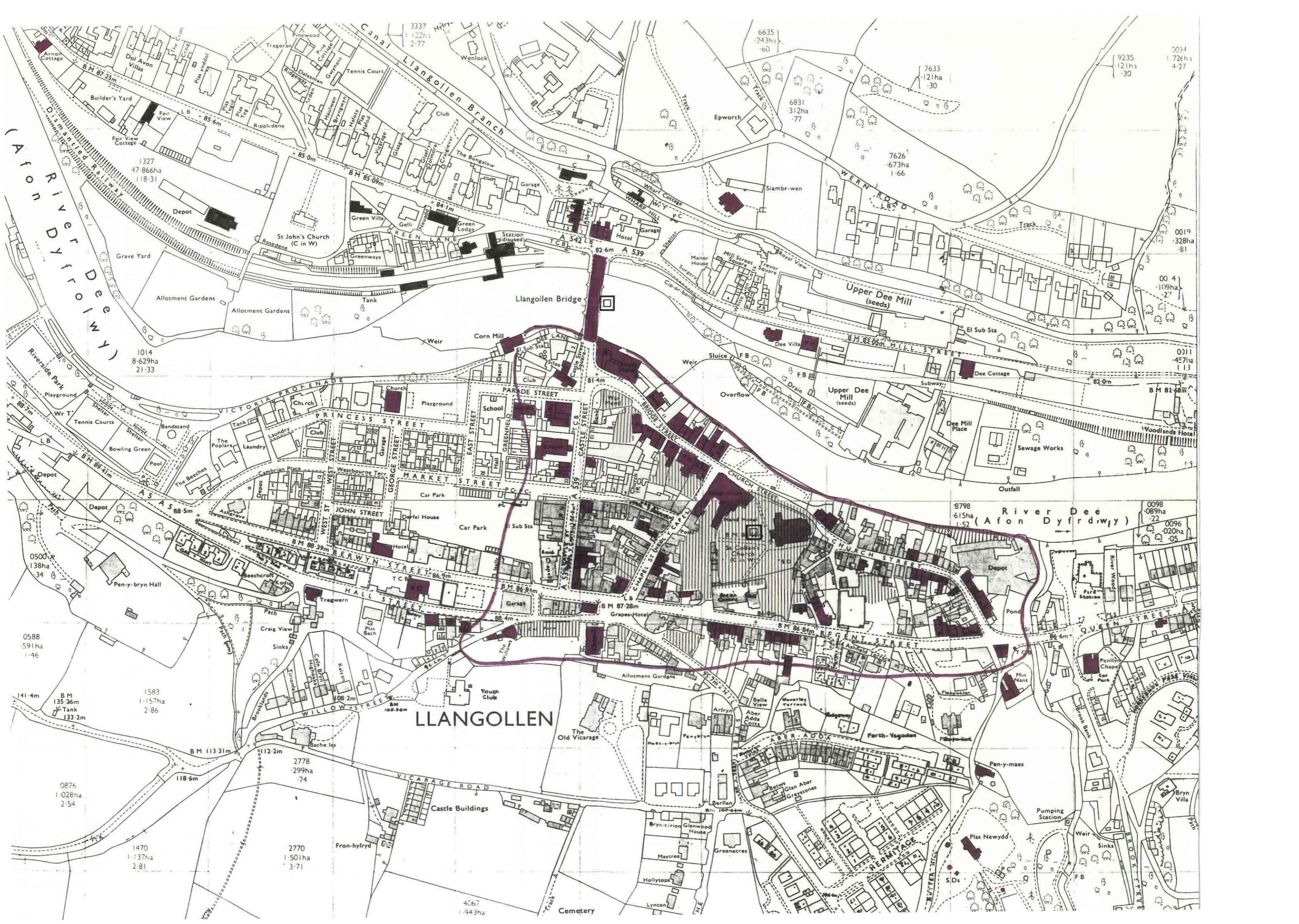
4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the

scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 Llangollen Bridge is a scheduled ancient monument, and there are a large number of listed buildings within the town. The relevant legislative procedures relating to these protected sites must be observed on all occasions.

References

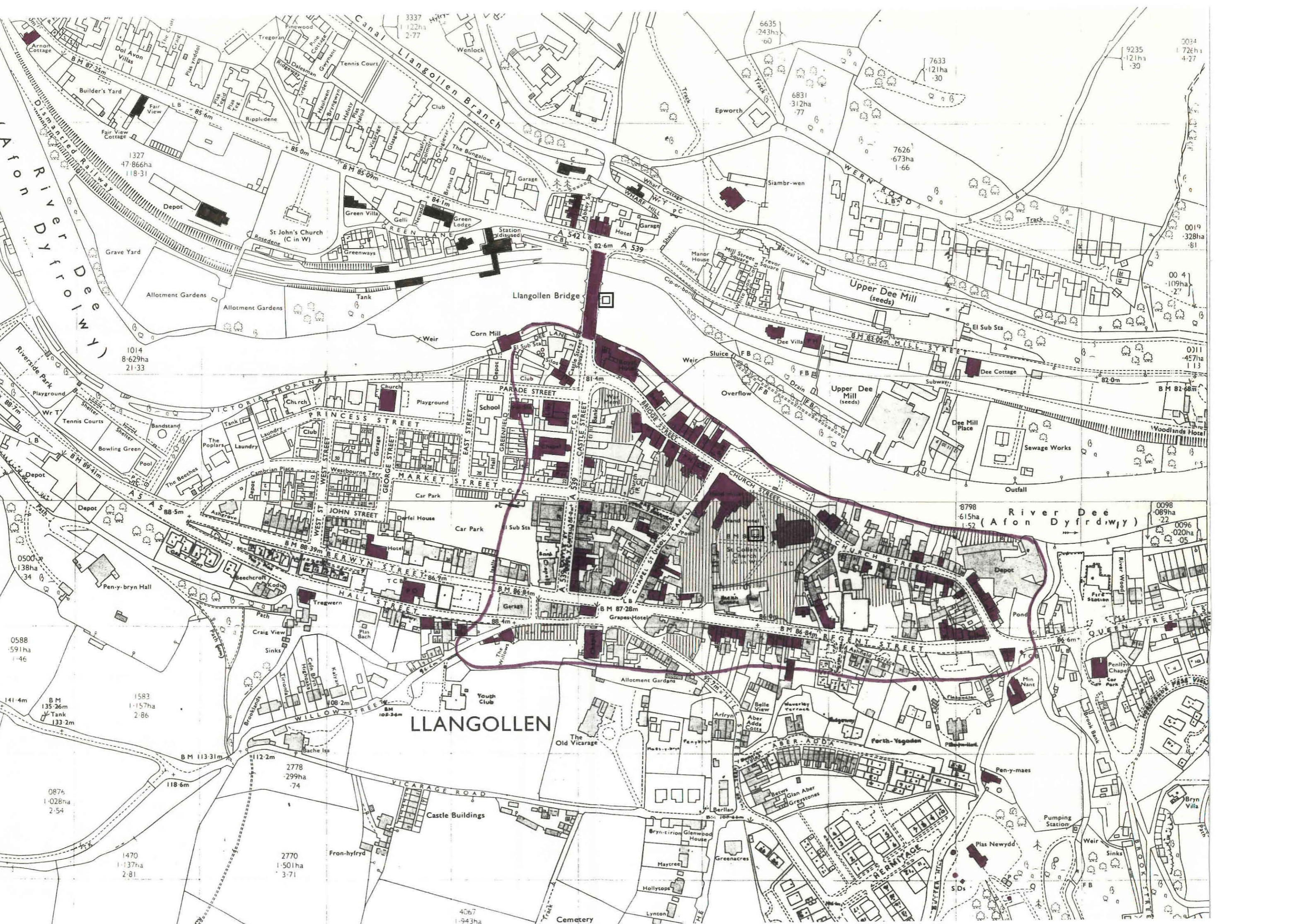
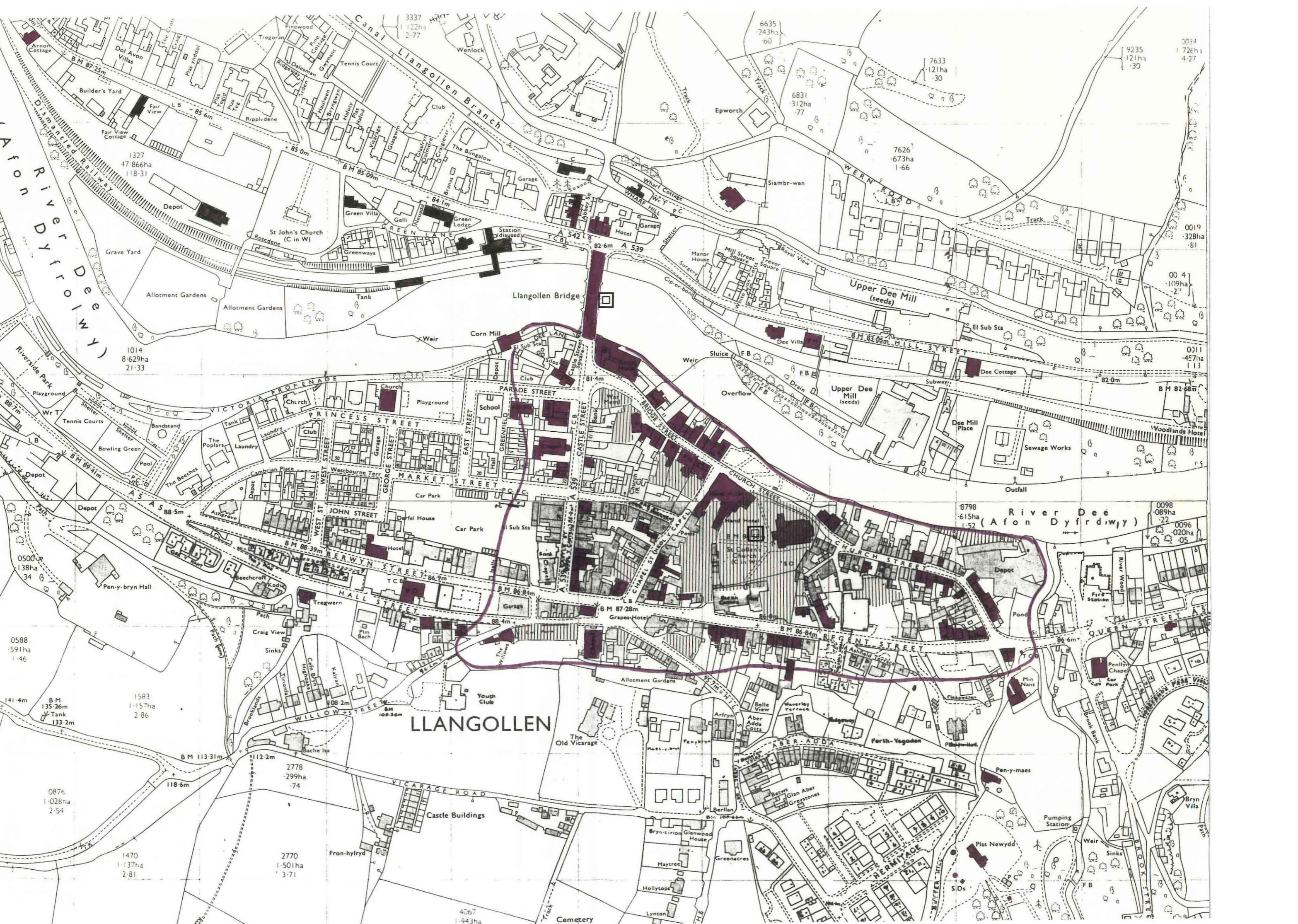
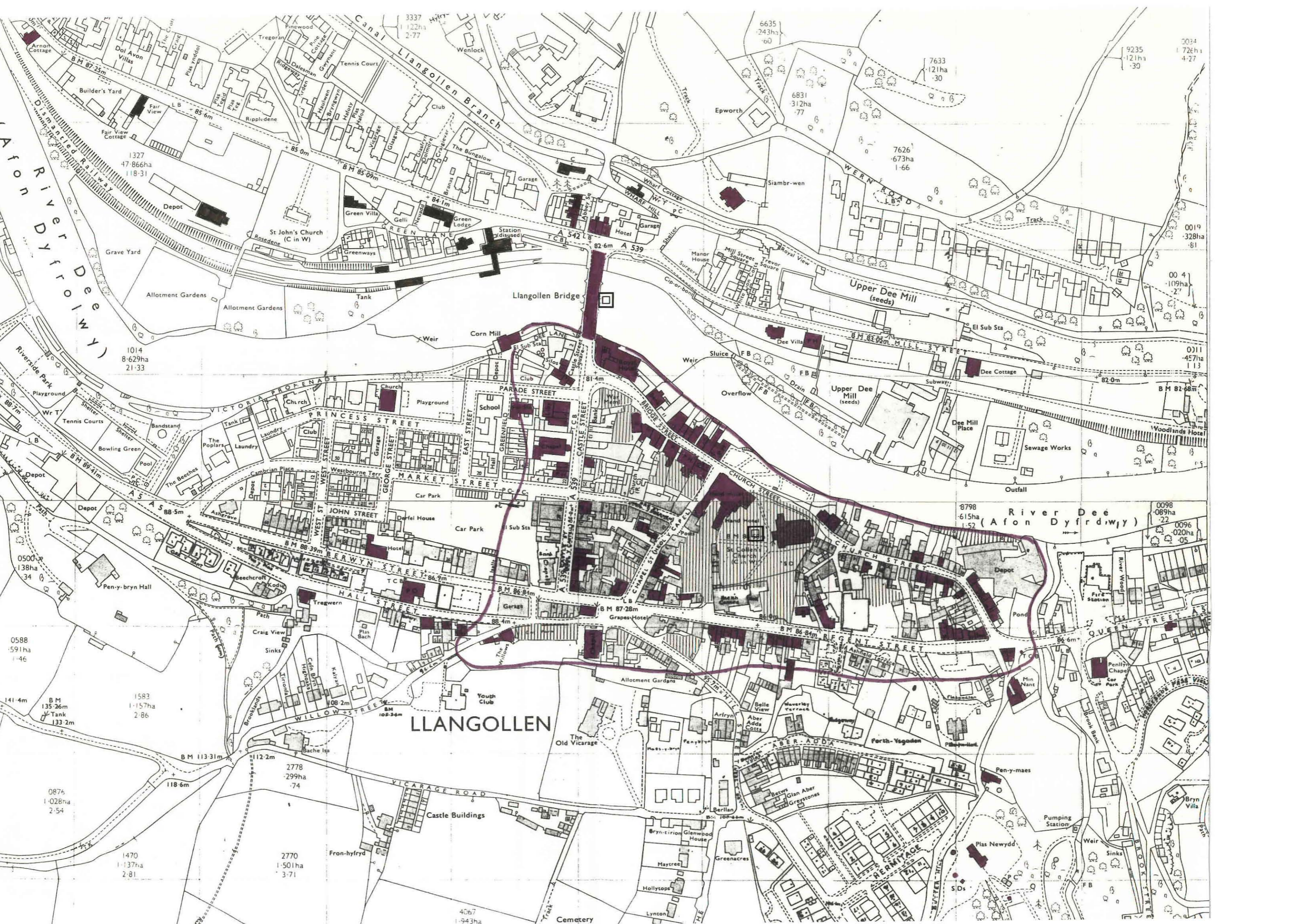
- Cadw/ICOMOS Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens 1994 (draft)
- Cadw Schedule of Listed Buildings: Community of Llangollen 1989
- Clwyd SMR
- CPAT Field Visit: 4 October 1994
- Edwards 1969*
- Edwards 1991, 130
- Ffoulkes-Jones 1980
- Hubbard 1986, 219
- Lhwyd 1910, 40
- Ms Map of Chirk Castle Estate c1760: NLW R.M.C36
- RCAHMW 1914, 124
- Simpson 1845*
- Soulsby 1983, 169
- Thomas 1911, 283
- Tithe surveys 1843/44



(Afon Dyfrdwy)

River Dee (Afon Dyfrdwy)

LLANGOLLEN



Llangwyfan - PRN105979

NGR SJ120663

125m OD

Location

1.1 Llangwyfan is set on the eastern side of the Vale of Clwyd where the ground starts to rise gradually before climbing steeply to the crest of the Clwydians. A minor stream on its journey to the River Clwyd passes just to the north of the church, but its shallow course has left virtually no imprint on the gently sloping landscape.

1.2 The church is virtually lost on the edge of the sprawling remains of the former Llangwyfan Hospital. It is served only by minor lanes one of which winds over the Clwydians to Nannerch. Denbigh is about 7km to the west.

History

2.1 The origins and history of both church and settlement are obscure. The church dedication and perhaps the location beneath the Clwydians might suggest an early medieval beginning but there is no substantive evidence to collaborate this view.

2.2 Ogilby depicted only the church close to the St Davids to Holywell road. The mid-19th century Tithe map shows the church together with Plas Llangwyfan, but there were no other buildings in the vicinity.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 Prehistoric activity is evidenced by the discovery of a Neolithic polished stone axe (PRN 102286) less than 200m to the north of the church about 1950.

3.2 St Cwyfan's church (PRN 102284; Grade B listing), is single-chambered with a west bellcote; it has 15th-century windows in the chancel and an 18th-century porch.

3.3 The churchyard (PRN 19789) is rectangular and raised above the surrounding ground, but there is nothing to suggest an earlier curvilinear 'llan'.

3.4 The refurbished parish stocks (PRN 102285) are set outside the churchyard gate.

3.5 Llangwy(n)fan Hospital was constructed as a sanatorium in 1918-1920, and closed in 1981. It replaced Plas Llangwyfan, a small late 16th-century house.

3.6 An earthwork platform (PRN 19790) lies in wood pasture just to the north-east of the churchyard gate. It is not well-defined and its purpose is unclear.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llangwyfan as defined on the accompanying map has an unknown archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

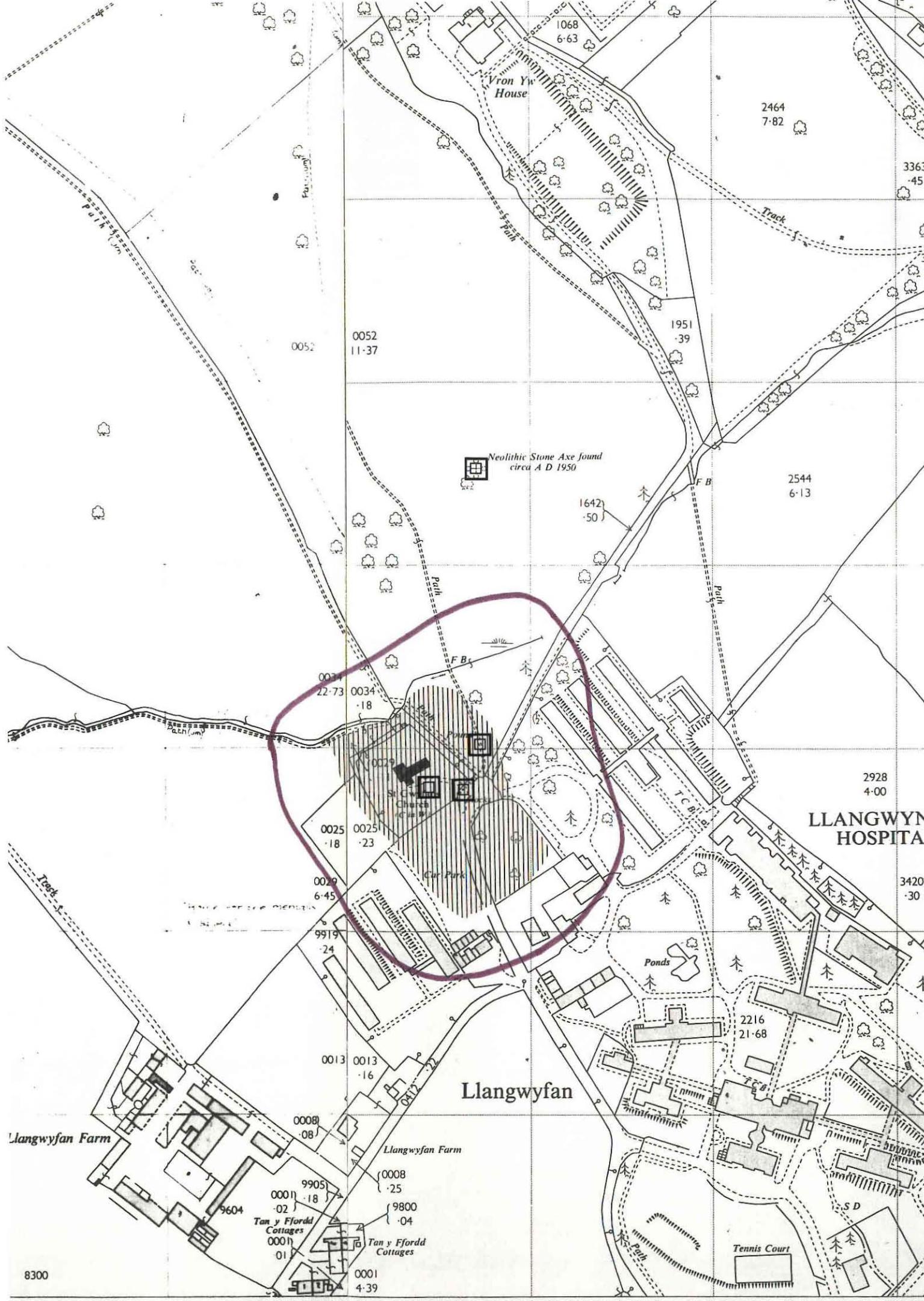
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 The relevant legislative procedures must be observed for the listed building in the settlement.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit; 24 November 1994
Hubbard 1986, 225
NMR Aberystwyth
Ogilby 1765
RCAHMW 1914, 129
Tithe Survey 1841



Llangwyfan

LLANGWYFN
HOSPITAL

Llangwyfan Farm

Llangwyfan Farm

Tan y Ffordd Cottages
0001 01

Tan y Ffordd Cottages
9800 04

Tennis Court

8300

119

Metres

121

122

123

Llangynhafal - PRN105980

NGR SJ134634

138m OD

Location

1.1 Within 3km of four other 'llan' settlements, Llangynhafal shelters beneath the Clwydian Hills near the end of a track that peters out in the valley of a small stream descending from Moel Dywyll.

1.2 The settlement looks westwards into the Vale of Clwyd with Denbigh just over 8km distant to the north-west. The modern focus of Llangynhafal, centred around Carneddau Farm and the Golden Lion Public House, is set at a T-junction nearly 400m away and on a different lane from the church.

1.3 The church was built on gently sloping ground with the small stream cutting a shallow valley less than 100m to the north.

History

2.1 Cynhafal was a saint of 7th-century date, and this dedication together with the shape of the churchyard and its position in the shelter of the Clwydians strongly argues for an early medieval origin.

2.2 As normal with these small church settlements there is a lack of information on the historical development of Llangynhafal. It is claimed, however, that its is set at the junction of a well-used track over the Clwydians and another leading down from Fynnon Cynhafal.

2.3 The church is named as 'Ecc'a de Langelhanal' in the Norwich Taxation of 1254.

2.4 The settlement as depicted on the mid 19th-century Tithe map is very much as it appears today.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 Prehistoric activity is attested by a barbed and tanged arrowhead (PRN 100610), found about 150m south-west of the village centre.

3.2 Built in the Perpendicular style, St Cynhafal's church (PRN 100612) is little altered, with a double nave and bellcote, restored in 1869-70. Internal wooden fittings are predominantly 17th and 18th-century in date. The dedication is reported to be unique in Wales.

3.3 The churchyard (PRN 19791) has seen modifications to its shape over the years, but there can be little doubt that at one time it was a raised sub-oval enclosure, the traces of which can still be seen on the ground.

3.4 Plas-yn-llan (PRN 102907; Grade II listing), adjacent to the church, is a timber-framed and brick structure of 16th-century and later date. Plas Iago (PRN 104542), 200m south of the village, has an undated cruck-framed timber hall at its core.

3.5 Ffynnon Cynhafal is nearly 500m to the north-east of the church and higher up the Clwydian slope. It has a large roofed well-chamber and was referred to by a local poet, Gruffydd ap Ieuan, in the first half of the 16th century.

3.6 Earthworks (PRN 19792) survive in the field on the opposite side of the lane south of the church. These have not been characterised and require more detailed assessment.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llangynhafal as defined on the accompanying map has an unknown archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

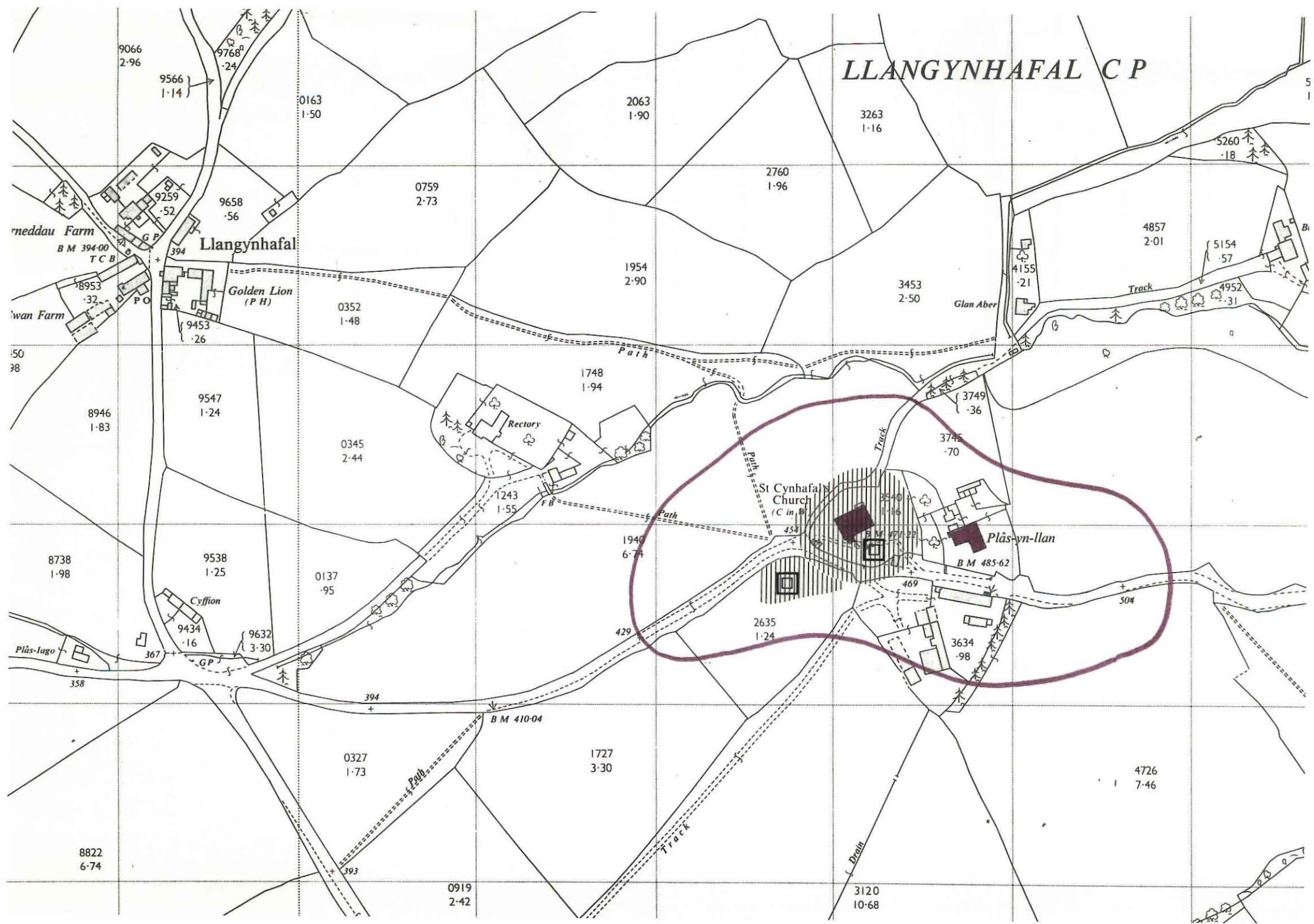
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground immediately around it. Particular interest focuses on the earthworks opposite the church and these require further work to determine their significance.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 24 November 1994
Hubbard 1986, 225
NMR Aberystwyth
Pierce and Taylor 1983, 4
Thomas 1911, 105
Tithe Survey 1838

LLANGYNHAFAL C P



Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant - PRN105981

NGR SJ124260

150m OD

Location

1.1 Llanrhaeadr lies in the valley of Afon Rhaeadr as it runs south-eastwards to join with the Tanat less than 2km to the south. This provides a south-easterly aspect and the settlement has grown along the valley floor creating a form dictated largely by the steep slopes enclosing the river.

1.2 The river passes through the village and acts as the county boundary. Most of the historic core of Llanrhaeadr lies on the north bank in Glyndwr District. That part of the settlement in Powys has already been examined in the Montgomeryshire Historic Settlements survey (1992).

1.3 Llanrhaeadr is served by the B4580; Oswestry is 17km to the north-east, Llanfyllin 7km to the south.

History

2.1 Llanrhaeadr is traditionally the site of a early medieval 'clas' foundation, originating perhaps in the 6th century and continuing until at least 1291. Later medieval records refer to a community of clergy here during Edward I's reign, and in earlier times it was the ecclesiastical centre of the commote of Mochnant.

2.2 It has been suggested that this was one of the churches with its village, recorded by Giraldus Cambrensis, that was burnt by an English expedition in 1165.

2.3 Otherwise its development throughout the Middle Ages is largely uncharted, although given its origin and current size, a small nucleation might be anticipated.

2.4 An estate map of around 1760 depicts a compact settlement on the north-west side of the churchyard. The 'market triangle' is shown but the network of lanes to the south-west have changed slightly. In particular Church Street is shown as a broader thoroughfare leading to the church gate, and the modern map certainly seems to suggest there has been infilling there.

2.5 By the mid-19th century a sizeable but compact village had developed on the north bank of the river.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 Several features of prehistoric origin have been recognised on the north side of the River Rhaeadr. A 2.7m-high standing stone (PRN 101044) beside the road, traditionally came from Rhos Maen Criafol, several kilometres to the north of the village. It was re-used as a milestone in 1770, having previously been set up by the local vicar on a mound where the school house now stands. The cropmark of a small oval enclosure (PRN 10104), perhaps late prehistoric in date, has been recognised just to the north of the village, together with other less distinctive features (PRN 101806) in the same area. South-eastwards, towards the confluence of the Tanat and the Rhaeadr, aerial photography has revealed a complex of ring-ditches and a possible henge or putative Bronze Age origin.

3.2 The position of the early medieval clas (PRN 101051) has not been determined, although it is reasonable to assume that it lay in the locality of the parish church.

3.3 The church (PRN 101047) is dedicated to St Dogfan (or St Doewen) and was perhaps built in the 11th or 12th century. Extended in the 15th century, it was restored in 1882. It has an aisleless nave, a chancel with aisles and a west tower. Internally there is a fragment of a 9th-century cylindrical shaft of Mercian type, an 11th-century (or earlier) rectangular cross-slab commemorating Gwgan, son of Elstan (PRN 101048), and fragments of a Romanesque shrine. It is set on a level platform rising above the churchyard on the south and east.

3.4 The churchyard (PRN 19793) is large, sloping down to the river; the original monastic enclosure is perhaps reflected in a smaller more curvilinear enclosure, the northern arc of which is still utilised as the boundary, while on the south a scarp bank is discernible in the churchyard.

3.5 The street pattern has changed slightly in the last 250 years with some infilling occurring (see para 2.4 above).

3.6 No early vernacular buildings have survived in the village. However, the Vicarage (PRN 19794) contains re-used trusses from a medieval hall-house.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant as defined on the accompanying map has a very high archaeological potential, not least because of its 'clas' origins. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any and every development proposal that appears to affect the core area.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the area of settlement to the north-west.

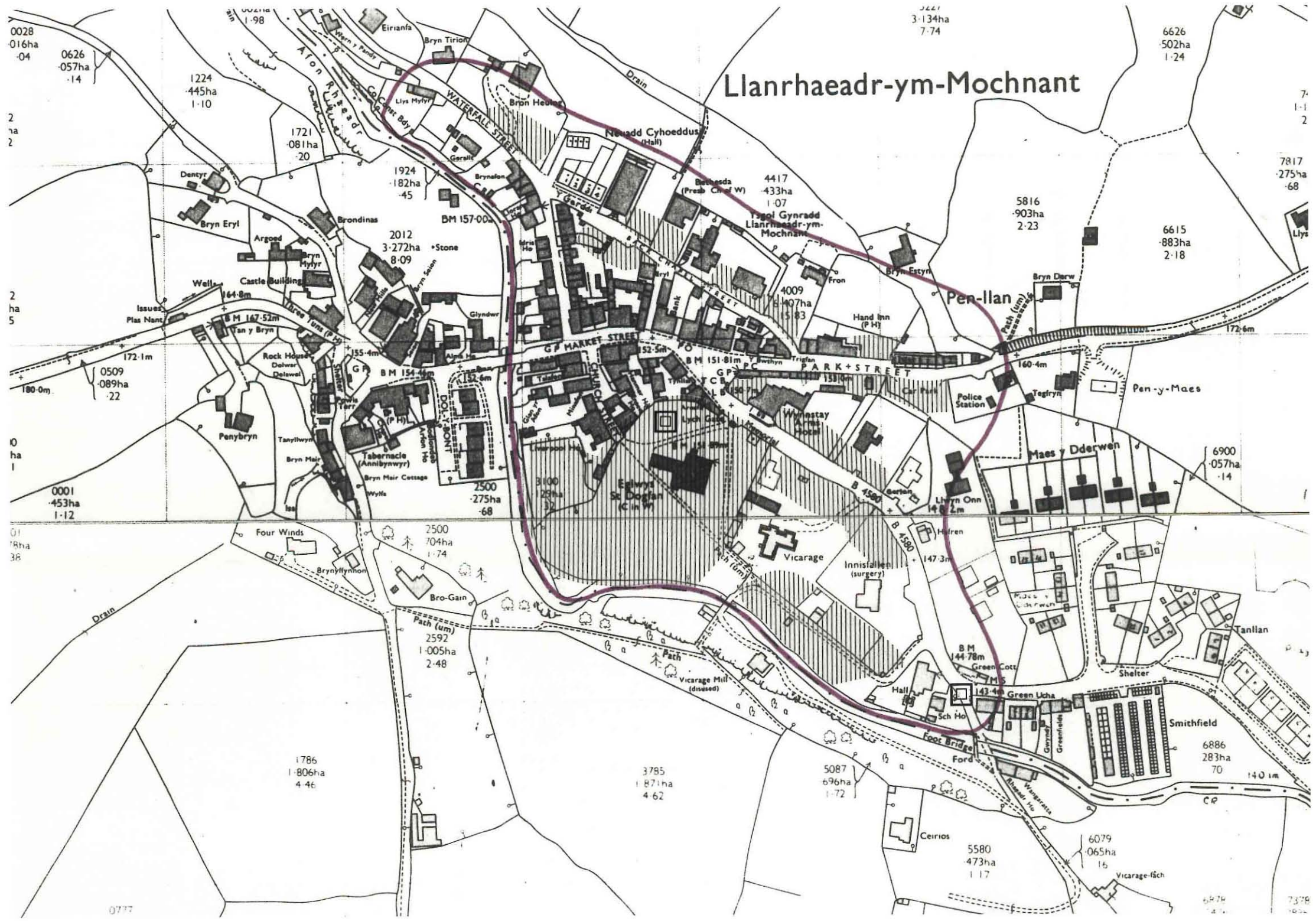
4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 A number of features pre-dating the early medieval settlement at Llanrhaeadr should be protected from development or other destructive activities.

References

AP: CPAT/89-MB-1341; 90-MB-402
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 21 December 1994
Edwards 1991, 135
Hubbard 1986, 228
Jones 1991, 186
Ms Map of Chirk Estate, c1760: NLW/R.M.C36
NMR Aberystwyth
Rees 1967, pl.27
Tithe Survey 1841

Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant



3221
3-134ha
7-74

6626
502ha
1-24

0028
016ha
04

0626
057ha
14

2
ha
2

2
ha
5

10
ha
1

01
Rha
38

7
1-1
2

7817
275ha
68

Liya

5816
903ha
2-23

6615
883ha
2-18

172-1m
180-0m
0509
089ha
22

1224
445ha
1-10

1721
081ha
20

1924
182ha
45

2012
3-272ha
8-09

4417
433ha
1-07

4009
407ha
5-83

Pen-llan

172-6m

172-1m
180-0m

155-4m
153-6m

52-5m
151-8m

52-5m
151-8m

Hand Inn
(P.H.)

Bryn Derw

Pen-y-Maes

Penybryn

Tanyllwyr

Bryn Mair

Tabernacle
(Annibynwyr)

Bryn Mair Cottage

Wylfa

2500
275ha
68

3100
25ha
30

Edwynn
St Dogfan
(C in W)

Wynstay
(P.H.)

148-2m

147-3m

Maes y Dderwen

6900
057ha
14

Four Winds

2500
704ha
1-74

Brynffynnon

Bro-Garn

Pach (um)
2592
1-005ha
2-48

Vicarage Mill
(dressed)

Pach

Vicarage

Innisfallen
(surgery)

147-3m

147-3m

147-3m

147-3m

147-3m

147-3m

147-3m

147-3m

1786
1-806ha
4-46

3785
1-871ha
4-62

5087
696ha
1-72

5580
473ha
1-17

6079
065ha
16

6886
283ha
70

140 im

6778
4-7

7378
6-2

Llanrhaeadr-yng-Nghinmeirch - PRN105982

NGR SJ081635

50m OD

Location

1.1 Llanrhaeadr-yng-Nghinmeirch lies on the western slopes of the Vale of Clwyd, a little above the confluence of the rivers Clywedog and Clwyd. A shallow valley bearing a small stream running off the hillside to the west edges the churchyard on the south, and practically all of the older part of the village occupies the northern side of this valley.

1.2 Originally on the A525 linking Ruthin with Denbigh, the village has now been by-passed. Denbigh itself is 4km to the north-west.

History

2.1 The church dedication and the putative shape of the churchyard favour an early medieval origin for this settlement, but neither the date of its foundation nor its subsequent history can be determined.

2.2 The Norwich Taxation of 1254 records 'Ecc'a de Lanrayadr v marc'.

2.3 The Tithe survey of the mid-19th century shows a small nucleated settlement centred on the T-junction formed by the main lane running from north-west to south-east and the cul-de-sac on the north side of the churchyard. A few other buildings lay scattered on the lanes approaching the settlement.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 A cremation urn of Early Bronze Age date was found during drain cutting in 1969, 200m or so to the south-east of the church.

3.2 St Dyfnog's church (PRN 100601: Grade B listing) is double-aisled and built entirely in the Perpendicular style. The tower or at least some parts of it, may be 13th century. The church contains fine 16th-century stained glass, but all its fittings are post-medieval.

3.3 The churchyard (PRN 19786) is now largely rectilinear, but there is evidence of an earlier curvilinear form. A slight scarp bank curves around the west side of the church and an estate map of 1771 shows a distinctively curved churchyard projecting into the road on the east, though no ground traces of this portion survive.

3.4 Dyfnog's Well/Fynnon Dyfnog (PRN 100603) lies 200m west of the church, rising as a spring in a cave to which has been added a rectangular bath tank. Pennant in 1773 recorded that "this fountain is enclosed in an angular wall decorated with small human figures, and before it is the well for the use of the pious bathers".

3.5 Llanrhaeadr Hall (PRN 105910: Grade II listing, together with some outbuildings), some 350m to the east of the church, has at its core an E-shaped stone house, going back perhaps to the 16th century, with 18th-century additions, and much altered grounds. It now functions as a hotel. Its gardens have the non-statutory Grade II listing in the Cadw/ICOMOS register, and run up almost to the eastern edge of the settlement. The manuscript map of 1771 implies some subsequent alterations to the layout of the grounds around the Hall.

3.6 The almshouses (PRN 105911; Grade II listing) beside the churchyard were erected in 1729, and the smithy opposite the Church (now used by a potter) is also probably 18th-century (PRN 19787; Grade II listing).

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llanrhaeadr as defined on the accompanying map has an unknown

archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

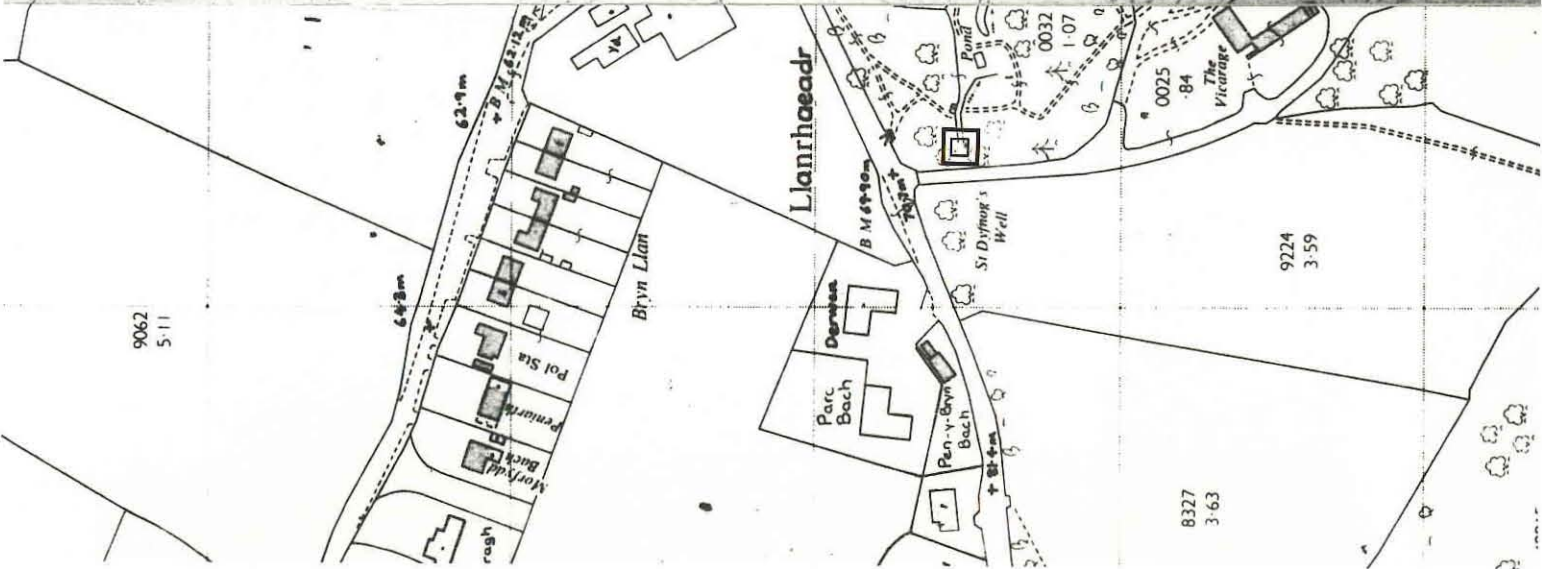
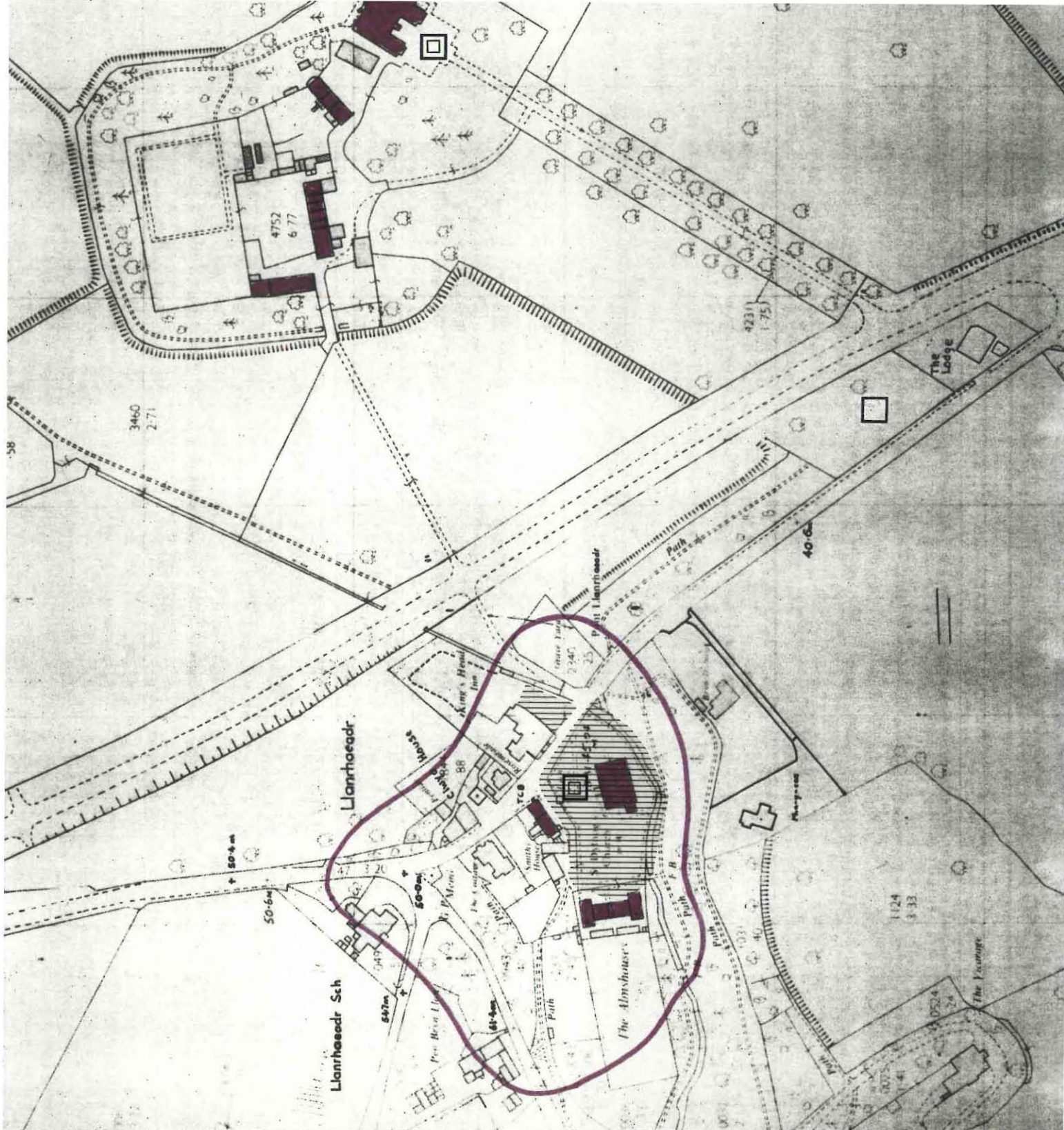
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 The relevant legislative procedures must be observed for all listed buildings in and around the settlement.

References

Cadw/ICOMOS Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens 1994 (draft)
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 12 January 1995
Estate Map, 1771: CROH/D/DM/162/58
Hubbard 1986, 230
Thomas 1911, 44
Tithe Survey 1841



Llanrhudd - PRN105973

NGR SJ1357

70m OD

Location

1.1 The church settlement of Llanrhudd lies on flat ground down a minor lane 1.5km east of Ruthin.

1.2 The River Clwyd in this neighbourhood follows the western side of the vale, but a series of tributary streams, the chief amongst them being Dwr Ial, converge in the vicinity of Llanrhudd passing the church little more than 100m to the east.

History

2.1 Also known as Llanfeugan, Llanrhudd (or Llanrhydd) was the mother church of Ruthin, and appears as 'Ecc'a de Lanruth' in the Norwich Taxation. The growth of the town effectively subsumed the older settlement and there is no mention of it in the 'Valor Ecclesiasticus' in 1535.

2.2 The church is supposed to have been founded by St Meugan in the 6th century, but the nature of any earlier settlement around it has not been determined.

2.3 In the mid-19th century Llanrhudd consisted of the church together with Plas Llanrhydd and the mill.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 Llanrhudd church (PRN 19798) is dedicated to St Meugan. It is single-chambered with the earliest surviving features being in the Perpendicular style, with some later, 17th-century work. Internally there are 16th-century monuments and stained glass of 15th or 16th-century date

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19799) is rectangular and there is little to suggest an earlier curvilinear 'llan' except perhaps just to the east of the building.

3.3 The churchyard cross stood outside the south door of the church in the late 19th century. At that time a low mound supported the socket and shaft.

3.4 There are no other buildings of any age in Llanrhudd. Llanrhydd Hall is 19th-century, while the gates opposite the church are 18th-century and have a Grade II listing.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llanrhudd as defined on the accompanying map has an unknown archaeological potential and appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect it.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it, together with those areas defined on the accompanying plan close to the sewage works.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while a watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the historic core area.

4.4 The church and the hall gates are listed and the relevant legislative procedures should be followed at all times.

References

Glyndwr District Historic Settlement Survey, CPAT, 14 March 1995

AP: RAF/CPE/UK/1939/3277 (17 January 1947)

AP: CPAT/87-MB-913/915

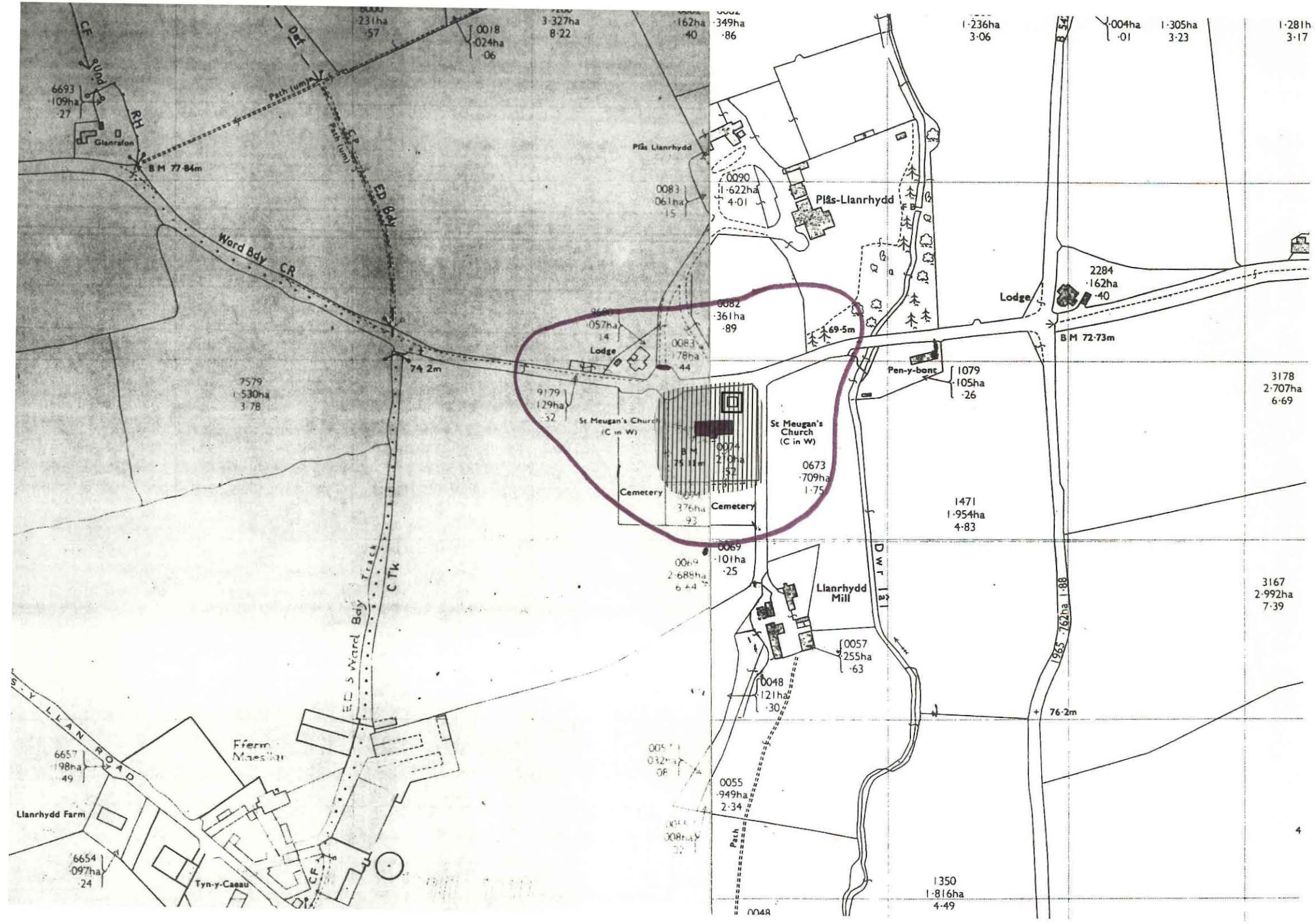
CPAT Field Visit: 25 October 1994

Hubbard 1986, 233

Owen 1886, 131

Thomas 1911, 116

Tithe Survey: Ruthin and Llanrhudd 1839



Llansilin - PRN105983

NGR SJ209282

176m OD

Location

1.1 Llansilin is close to the county border with Shropshire in the south-eastern corner of Glyndwr District. Oswestry is little more than 8km to the east and Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant a similar distance to the south-west.

1.2 It occupies fairly gently rolling countryside, the grain running from west to east on a broad interfluvium between tributaries of Afon Tanat. The hills rise to the north and west and the aspect is primarily southwards, with the road in this direction following the shallow valley of a stream that rises just to the north of the village but is then apparently culverted through the settlement itself.

History

2.1 An early medieval 'clas' (PRN 101083) probably existed at Llansilin on the basis of later documentary evidence: it was the ecclesiastical centre of the small cwmwd of Cynllaith, and was served by several priests in the early 13th century, by which time the church was dedicated to St Giles.

2.2 The church and village may have been one of the settlements which according to Giraldus Cambrensis was burnt by an English army in 1165.

2.3 The Norwich Taxation refers to 'Ecc'a de Llansilin'.

2.4 An estate map of c.1760 shows the village spreading from the crossroads adjacent to the churchyard, northwards as far as the location of the modern house known as Beech Grove and westwards to Ty'n-Ilan. The Wynnstay Arms apart nothing lay to the south. This pattern had changed very little by the time of the Tithe survey nearly a century later.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 St Silin's church (PRN 101080) reveals a complex development with two naves, mainly 15th-century, and some 13th-century features surviving from a cruciform church. The west tower was erected in 1832, replacing a timber-framed spire. There was a major restoration in 1890. Internally there appear to be no fittings pre-dating the 17th century.

3.2 A fragmentary churchyard cross shaft (PRN 101081) of medieval origin is now surmounted by a sundial plate of 1717.

3.3 The churchyard (PRN 19795) is large and curvilinear except on the north where the perimeter has every appearance of having been truncated in the past. Within the present enclosure a curvilinear scarp is apparent on the south and east hinting at an earlier and smaller 'llan'.

3.4 A well - Fynnon Silin (PRN 101085) - lay a little to the west of Ty'n-Ilan, but the well chamber has been infilled and the site is now lost.

3.5 Bronwylfa on the north side of the village is a plastered stone dwelling of 16th-century and later date (PAR 19712; Grade II listing). There are no other recognisably early buildings in the village although attention should be drawn to the Old Malt House, dated 1822, and opposite the churchyard (PRN 19796; formerly Grade III listing).

3.6 The plan of the village is interesting. An estate map of 1772x1774 shows a triangle of open land between the churchyard and Ty'n-Ilan. North from the churchyard is a lane with terraced cottages occupying narrow plots running off at right-angles, those on the east being particularly pronounced. The date at which this pattern emerged is not known, but it is evident from later 18th-century maps that this represents the historic core of Llansilin. Externally the buildings do not appear to be much earlier than the 18th century.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llansilin is defined on the accompanying map and has a high archaeological potential, because of its putative 'clas' origins and the development of its settlement form. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any and every development proposal that appears to affect the core area.

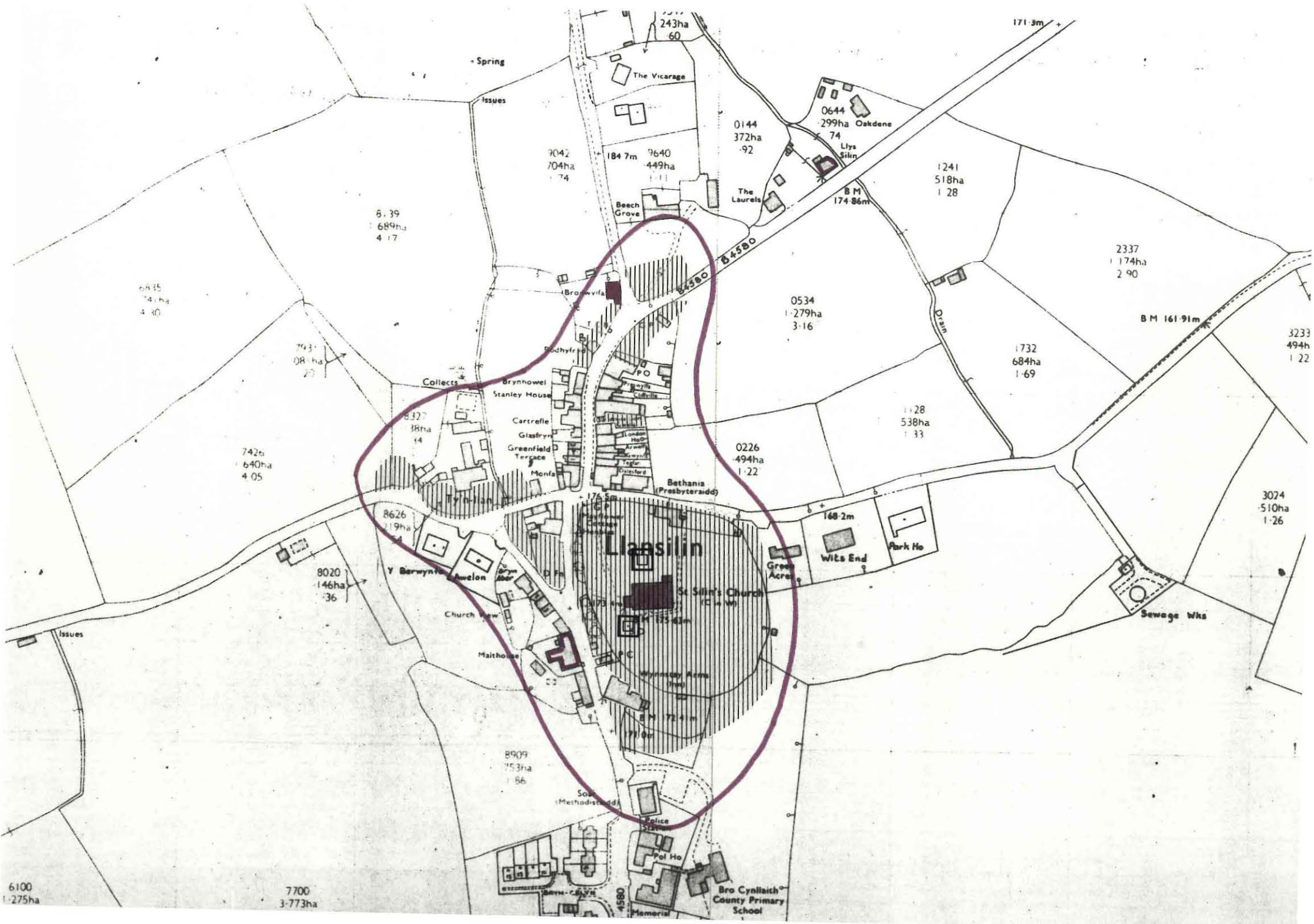
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and adjacent areas.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 Listed buildings exist in Llansilin and the relevant legislative procedures must be observed in relation to them.

References

AP: CPAT/79/19/11
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 6 January 1995
Estate Map c1760. NLW: RM C36
Estate Map 1772x74: NLW Ms Map Vol 83, p66
Hubbard 1986, 241
Jones 1991, 186
Radford 1966
Thomas 1913, 17
Tithe Survey 1841



6100
1-275ha

7700
3-773ha

Spring
Issues

The Vicarage

0144
372ha
-92

0644
299ha
74
Llys Silin

1241
518ha
1-28

9042
704ha
1-74

1847m
9640
449ha
1-11

The Laurels

B M
174.86m

6.39
689ha
4-17

Beech Grove

2337
174ha
2-90

6835
741ha
4-30

7431
081ha
2-20

0534
1-279ha
3-16

B M 161.91m

3233
494h
1-22

Collects
Brynnowel
Stanley House

8327
18ha
1-14

Cartrefle
Glastryn
Greenfield
Terrace
Monifa

PO
London
Avenue
Teglar
Glastryn

0226
494ha
1-22

1128
538ha
1-33

742b
640ha
4-05

Bethania
(Presbyteraidd)

3024
510ha
1-26

8626
119ha
1-14

Llaasilin

168.2m
Green Acres
Wils End
Park Ho

8020
146ha
1-36

Y Berwyn
Llawellon

St Silin's Church
(RC in WH)

Issues

Church New

Malthouse

Wynnydd Arms
(Inn)

Sewage Wks

8909
753ha
1-56

Socys
(Methodistaidd)

Police
Station

4580

Bro Cynlith
County Primary
School

Llantysilio - PRN105984

NGR SJ194435

116m OD

Location

1.1 Church and hall at Llantysilio lie close together on the north bank of the Dee, 4km north-west of Llangollen.

1.2 The church sits on the edge of the river terrace at a point where it is particularly pronounced rising several metres above the valley floor. A stream in a shallow valley runs along the western edge of the churchyard. The hall is about 300m away and set further back from the river.

History

2.1 Little known history is attached to this settlement. It appears as 'Ecclesia de Landesiliau' in 1291, but its subsequent development as well as its origins are not known.

2.2 Lhwyd in the 'Parochialia' of the late 17th century recorded six houses and a cottage near the church. The earliest maps from the first half of the 18th century show a scatter of houses and the hall close to the edge of a tract of common which opened off the lane past the church towards the hall. Open common also spread over the hills to the north.

2.3 Llantysilio Hall has been dated no earlier than 1723 (but see below), while the school and former vicarage date to the end of the 1850s. At some point before the Tithe mapping, a new road (the modern thoroughfare past the church and Llantysilio Farm) was constructed.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 St Tysilio's church (PRN 100978) has a single chamber of reputedly late 15th-century date with (unconfirmed) survivals from 1180. A north transept was added in 1718 and there was a restoration in 1869. One window has medieval sepulchral slab fragments incorporated in its surround, the font is Perpendicular, some 15th-century stained glass survives and the lectern is early.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19746) is polygonal in shape with little hint of curvilinearity, except perhaps for a curving scarp within the eastern wall. This layout does not appear to have been modified over the last three hundred years.

3.3 Pen-llan (PRN 19748), adjacent to the modern road exhibits timber-framing, and is thought to be sub-medieval in date. Until the 19th century, it lay on the east side of a common.

3.4 Another dwelling (PRN 19749) lay immediately to the west of the churchyard in the early 18th century. Its precise position in relation to the stream cannot be gauged.

3.5 Close to the south-west corner of the present churchyard, the river terrace projects further beyond the churchyard perimeter than elsewhere and a small platform (PRN 19747) has been created in the slope. The age and function of this cannot be ascertained but possibly it may have had a building on it.

3.6 Llantysilio Hall (PRN 130216; Grade II*) was built in 1872-74, the walled garden (PRN 130219; Grade II) is earlier by a century and a half, contemporary with what is supposedly the first, brick-built house on the site dated to 1723. However, the chronology needs to be verified for a map in the National Library of Wales dated to c1700 shows the hall! The gardens to the north and west of the church are of 18th and 19th-century date and are rated as Grade II in the non-statutory Cadw/ICOMOS register.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llantysilio as defined on the accompanying map has an archaeological potential that needs to be refined. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area around the

former common.

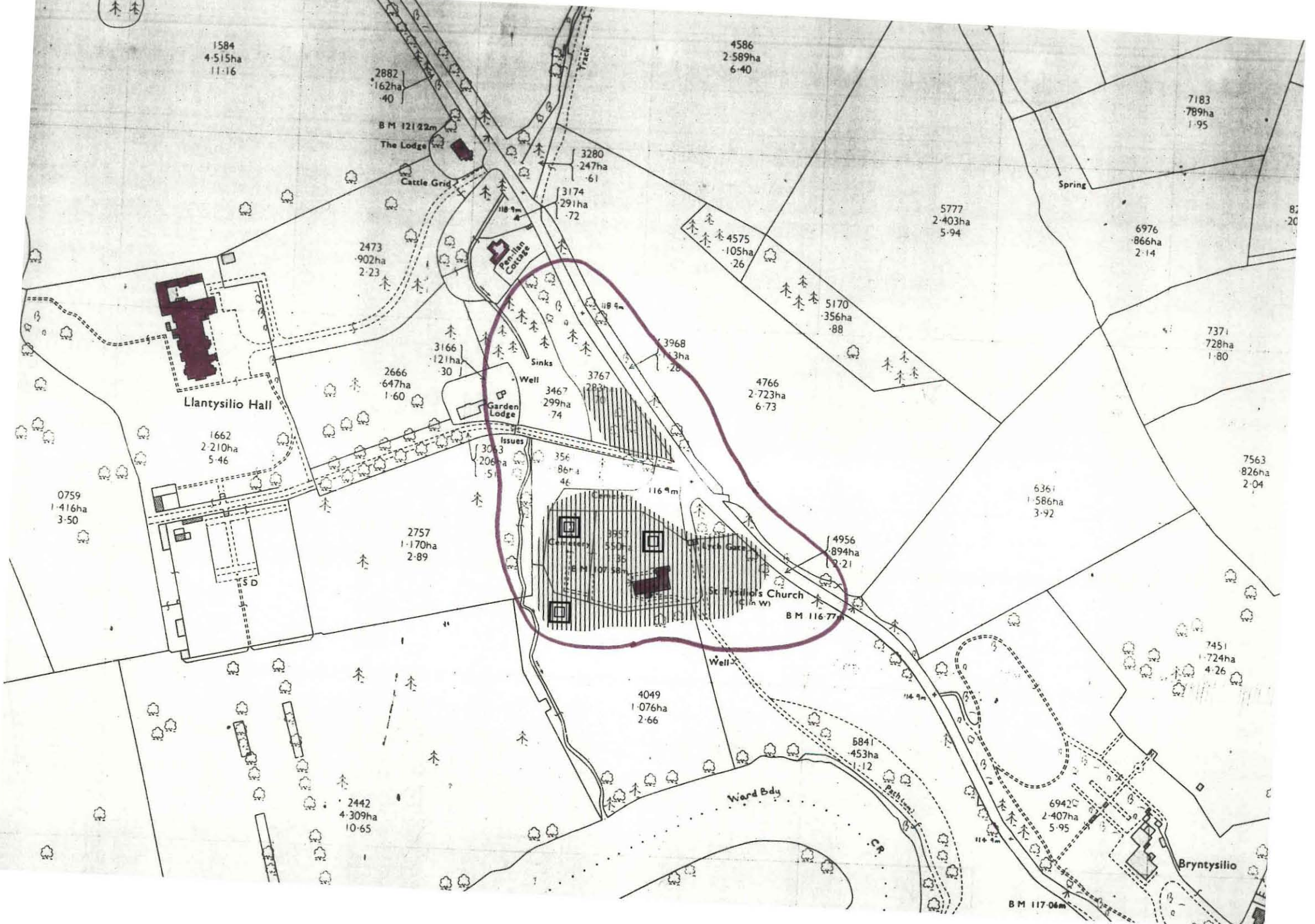
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it, together with those areas defined on the accompanying plan.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 The relevant legislative procedures must be observed for the listed buildings in and around the settlement.

References

AP: CPAT/889-MB-246
Cadw/ICOMOS Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens 1994 (draft)
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit 12 January 1995
Estate Map, c1700: NLW/Harrison and Son Dep.74
Estate Map, c1740: NLW/Harrison and Son Dep.76
Hubbard 1986, 197
Lhwyd 1909, 122
NMR Aberystwyth
Thomas 1911, 279
Tithe survey 1845



Llanychan - PRN105985

NGR SJ114621

45m OD

Location

1.1 Llanychan lies in the centre of the Vale of Clwyd, little more than one kilometre from Llanynys and nearly 8km south-east of Denbigh. The B5429 passes through this church settlement.

1.2 The church is set on the edge of the river terrace of the River Clwyd, a distinct drop to the valley floor being discernible beyond the churchyard wall. Behind the churchyard the ground levels out, but continues to rise gently towards the Clwydians.

History

2.1 According to Thomas this was the smallest parish in the diocese of St Asaph, a mere 567 acres.

2.2 Hychan is claimed as a 5th-century saint, one of the family of Brychan, eponymous founder of Brycheiniog. This dedication together with the shape of the churchyard and its location imply an early medieval foundation.

2.3 Llanychan appears in the Norwich Taxation (1254) as 'Ecc'a de Laneban', but apart from such passing references, there is nothing to inform us on the history of this church settlement.

2.4 The Tithe map presents a picture of a church and three nearby farms which with the exception of the School House is as it is today.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 The small church (PRN 105913; Grade B listing) of St Ychan (St Hychan) consists of a single chamber with a Perpendicular west doorway, but otherwise little else of obvious medieval interest. Internally most features are 18th-century or later, although fragments of pre-Reformation woodwork have been reused. The church was restored in 1877/78.

3.2 The churchyard (PRN 19797) is virtually D-shaped, but is sufficiently curvilinear on the north and east to suggest an original curvilinear 'llan', and the shape of the southern corner also masks a curve.

3.3 Nothing else of archaeological or historic interest has been recognised in the immediate vicinity.

Recommendations

4.1 An historic core of Llanychan is defined on the accompanying map and has an unknown archaeological potential and appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect it.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

References

CPAT Field Visit: 24 November 1994
Estate Map 1786: NLW Ms Maps Vol 19.9
Hubbard 1986, 226

RCAHMW 1914, 165
Thomas 1911, 108
Tithe Survey 1838/1839



1145
1-95

2225
10-62

3858
33

Sheep Pens

4048
9-61

168 +

5146
31

6046
2-67

6953
78

Plas Coch

4944
2-36

5242
1-20

160 +

Track
Drain

5730
8-62

4029
5-89

163 +

6723
3-14

Path

4418
90

St Hychan's Church

School House

5814
3-30

4813
79

155 +

5706
28

6106
59

7000
1-18

Stryt Fawr

3900
8-59

148 +

5500
1-24

6400
01

6500

170/02

2 113 114 115 116 11

SJ 1161

4000

4500

5000

Llanynys - PRN105986

NGR SJ103627

41m OD

Location

1.1 Llanynys lies on a back road in the Vale of Clwyd, 5km north-west of Ruthin and just over 6km south-east of Denbigh.

1.2 The core of the settlement occupies a discrete area of well-drained sandy loam soils (the Dyfnog Soil Series), raised slightly above the valley floor. The churchyard straddles the south-eastern lip of this island which is about 650m long.

History

2.1 The second element of the name, Llanynys, can mean either 'island' or 'river meadow'. Given the location described in the previous section the former seems most likely though both are appropriate. It has been the subject of a particularly thorough study by Glanville Jones in 1964.

2.2 Llanynys is recorded as a monastic site (PRN 100606) as early as the 6th century, and there is an early 15th-century reference to the earlier 'claswyr' here. A clas or community of canons thus resided at Llanynys in the early medieval era, and the presence of a 'mother church' serving an area extending at least as far as Cyffylliog, 4 miles away, seems certain.

2.3 An early holy man, St Saeran, is supposed to have been buried here; and it was recorded in 9th-century verse as 'Lanfawr beyond Bannawg, where the Clwyd joins the Clywedog'.

2.4 In the Norwich Taxation of 1254, it appears as 'Ecc'a de Lanenys', and then and also in 1291, it was one of the richest churches in North Wales. By the 13th century the 'clas' had become what Jones calls 'an hereditary ecclesiastical corporation'.

2.5 At the end of the 17th century, Lhwyd recorded only two houses near the church, Plas Llanynys and Ty'r Clochydd. By the mid-19th century the settlement had grown only slightly: the church, the rectory, a few cottages and, a short distance to the south, Plas Llanynys. Since then there has been only limited development around the village core.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 Enclosures of uncertain but probably prehistoric or Roman date have been photographed from the air on both sides of Llanynys. A sub-rectangular enclosure (PRN 102655) is situated just to the south-west of the church, a less convincing curvilinear enclosure (PRN 101818) to the north-east. As far as can be ascertained no surface traces of either survive. In addition, a double ring ditch (PRN 19788), probably of Bronze Age date, underlies one of the former open-field quilllets to the north-west of the settlement.

3.2 The church is dedicated to St Saeran (PRN 100605; Grade B listing). Built around 1500, it is double-naved and retains earlier features in its northern part. The porch is dated 1544 and there was some refurbishment about 1768. Internally, there is a Perpendicular font, a wall painting of St Christopher thought to be earlier 15th century and some 14th-century sepulchral monuments. The churchyard contains a fine hexagonal headstone, medieval in date.

3.3 The present churchyard lies within what appears to be a much larger, near-circular enclosure formed by existing property boundaries.

3.4 Jones has suggested that a radial pattern of fields converging on the "llan" were the back gardens or quilllets of undertenants; that there were other radial plots in Bryn Castell to the north; and that beyond were the hereditary lands of the 'clas'.

3.5 There were, 300m north-west of the church, two fields, Maes Isa and Maes Ucha, still sub-divided into quilllets at the beginning of this century. The sub-divisions were ploughed up in 1971. An important open-field relic (PRN 105912), it has been discussed in detail by Glanville Jones. The balks between the

quilllets in Maes Isa are still faintly visible in the right lighting conditions.

3.6 Other quilllets to the south of the village are recorded on the Tithe Map but have now disappeared.

3.7 The name Bryn Castell (now transferred to the housing estate Glyn Castell) appears in the Tithe survey but has not been explained.

3.8 The church apart there are no listed buildings although Plas Llanynys and a nearby barn were both attributed to the 18th century when they were given the now obsolete Grade III listing.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Llanynys as defined on the accompanying map has a very high archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any and every development proposal that appears to affect the core area.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground surrounding.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 A number of features pre-dating the early medieval settlement at Llanynys have been recognised from aerial photographs. Every effort should be made to protect these sites from development or other destructive activities.

4.5 Llanynys should probably be recognised as the most appropriate small settlement in Glyndwr District for further detailed research.

References

- AP: CPAT 88-MB-360/363AP: CUCAP - BSK47 and CBE85
- AP: RAF/3G/UK/192
- Clwyd SMR
- CPAT Field Visit: 12 January 1995
- Estate Map of Rhydennen 1803: CROH/D/DM/136/19
- Hubbard 1986, 246
- Jones 1964; 1991, 198
- Lhwyd 1909, 111
- Rees 1967, pl 27
- RCAHMW 1914, 167
- Thomas 1911, 110
- Tithe Survey 1840/43

102

103

104

105

106

2200
1-14

3200
5-22

4100
4-17

5000
-72

5600
14-06

134
Haulfryn

2489
1-07

1386
6-33

2181
-77

Glyn Castell

B.M. 132-83

4892
-19

5179
-17

4177
7-03

129

Path

2475
1-17

St. Sannan's Church
Llanynys

Cerrigllwydion
(P.H.)

5767
-21

5066
4-77

121

2755
2-23

5255
4-77

1951
2-36

B.M. 122-35

Plâs Llanynys

3849
6-77

5545
3-98

122

2443
3-88

3039
-98

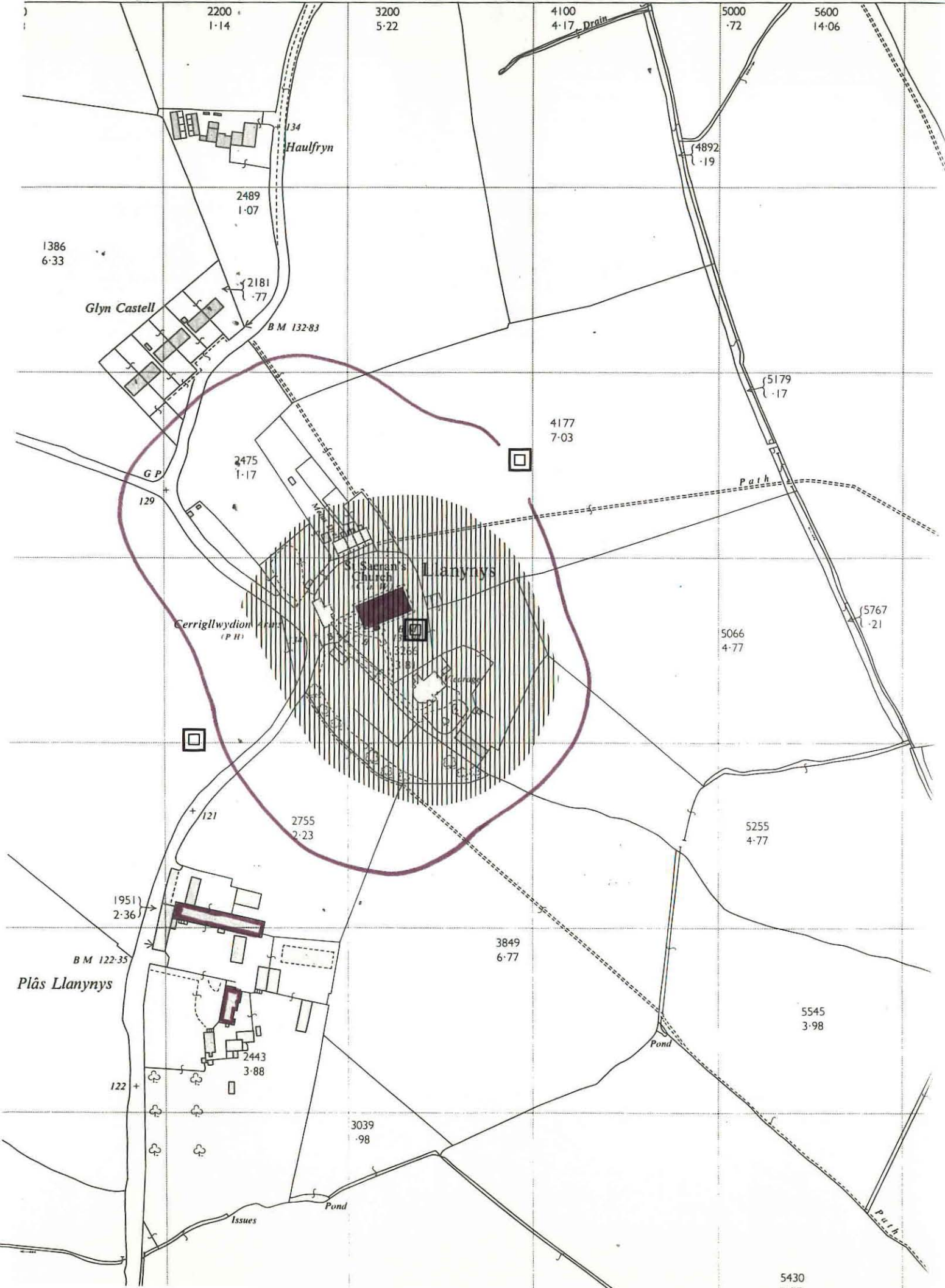
Pond

Issues

Pond

Path

5430
9-77



Maeshafn - PRN105987

NGR SJ2060

285m OD

Location

1.1 Maeshafn lies in an apparently dry valley with higher ground pressing in on north and south, and the valley meandering so that to the east too the ground rises. Westwards the ground falls away to the River Alyn. The public house, The Miners' Arms, lies in another hollow, one that was perhaps a more important access route in the past.

1.2 The settlement lies on a minor road near the north-eastern edge of Glyndwr District. Mold is less than 5km away to the north-east.

History

2.1 In 1839 there was a scatter of houses here with many small strip fields on a north/south alignment. This suggests a number of smallholdings on the hillside.

2.2 However, lead mines in the immediate vicinity were worked from the early 18th century until the beginning of the present century, and it is these that undoubtedly resulted in the establishment of the settlement.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 No features pre-dating the industrial development in the area have been recorded at Maeshafn.

Recommendations

4.1 In view of the post-medieval development of Maeshafn no recommendations are made in the context of this report. However, the important industrial remains in the neighbourhood merit further attention.

References

CPAT Field Visit: 24 November 1994
Frost 1994
Hubbard 1986, 250
Ordnance Survey 1st Edition 1:2500: 1872
Tithe Survey: Llanferres 1839



1234
3.62

2335
87

2328
83

2223
86

2716
1.63

3630
.91

3324
1.11

3918
1.87

3613
22
Ty Newydd

4509
1.06

4100
1.19

4296
35

4776
2.24

2484
52

2283
38

Maeshafn

Pen-y-graig

Bryn Geallig

Bryn Teg

Ty Hir

Tyn-y-Coed

Miners' Arms
(P.H.)

The Old Brew Ho.

Tany Lloyn

Pant-rhedynog

Per-y-ffordd

Middelior

Hollybush

Bushley

Tan-y-craig

Brochen Hill

Hearn Lea

Pas-y-Ffynon

Cefn Grigog

Rock View

Hillcrest

Track

Track

Track

Track

Track

Track

Track

Track

Track

Track

Track

Track

BM

Track

Track

Track

Track

Track

Track

0028
2.31

0004
2.31

0004
2.31

0004
2.31

48

47

Moelfre - PRN105988

NGR SJ1828

210m OD

Location

1.1 The steep-sided ridge of Gym Moelfre is separated from its smaller and lower neighbour to the south-west by a valley in which lies an expanse of open water, Llyn Moelfre and the diminutive settlement sheltering beside it sharing the name.

1.2 A minor lane links Meolfre with the B4580 which passes through Llansilin less than 3km to the east and Oswestry a further 8km distant.

History

2.1 The origin of Meolfre has not been determined. There are some relatively early houses in the neighbourhood, particularly the sub-medieval dwelling at Gors, north-west of the lake, but nothing to suggest that Meolfre itself is as early as that.

2.2 Sometime prior to the mid 19th-century, a loosely nucleated settlement developed here, for the Tithe map shows a pattern of housing not dissimilar to today.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 No features of archaeological or historic interest, pre-dating the 19th century have been recorded in the settlement. Two buildings, the Carmel Chapel and Tan-y-graig, were originally listed as Grade III but both are of early 19th-century date.

Recommendations

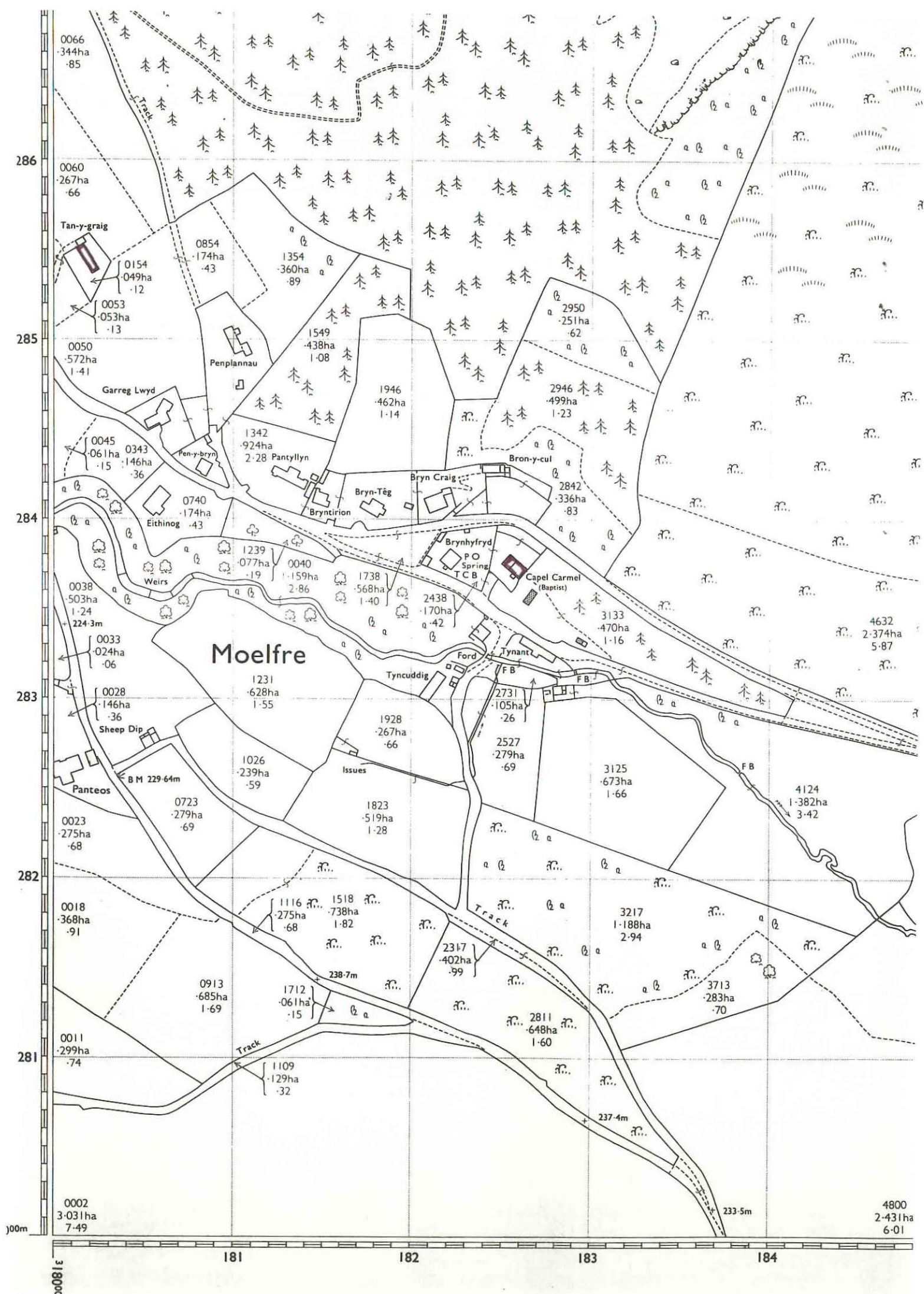
4.1 Meolfre appears to be a post-medieval settlement and because of this no recommendations are made in the context of the current report.

References

CPAT Field Visit: 6 January 1995

NMR Aberystwyth

Tithe Survey: Llansilin/Moelfre 1843/1845



Moelfre

286
285
284
283
282
281
100m

181 182 183 184

1:5000

4800
2.431ha
6.01

0066
344ha
.85
0060
267ha
.66
0154
049ha
.12
0053
053ha
.13
0050
572ha
1.41
0045
061ha
.15
0343
146ha
.36
0740
174ha
.43
0038
503ha
1.24
224.3m
0033
024ha
.06
0028
146ha
.36
0023
275ha
.68
0018
368ha
.91
0011
299ha
.74
0002
3.031ha
7.49

0854
174ha
.43
1354
360ha
.89
1549
438ha
1.08
1946
462ha
1.14
1342
924ha
2.28
0777
077ha
.19
0040
159ha
2.86
1738
568ha
1.40
2438
170ha
.42
1231
628ha
1.55
1928
267ha
.66
1026
239ha
.59
0723
279ha
.69
1116
275ha
.68
1518
738ha
1.82
0913
685ha
1.69
1712
061ha
.15
1109
129ha
.32

2950
251ha
.62
2946
499ha
1.23
2842
336ha
.83
3133
470ha
1.16
4632
2.374ha
5.87
2731
105ha
.26
2527
279ha
.69
3125
673ha
1.66
4124
1.382ha
3.42
3217
1.188ha
2.94
3713
283ha
.70
2811
648ha
1.60
237.4m
233.5m

Nantglyn - PRN105989

NGR SJ004621

165m OD

Location

1.1 Nantglyn occupies the tip of an interfluvial spur, just above a small stream flowing eastwards from the foothills of Mynydd Hiraethog to meet a larger watercourse, the Lliwen, in a broader valley a few hundred metres to the east of the settlement.

1.2 The church occupies the edge of what is probably a natural terrace above the stream, with the historic core of the village stretching up the hill behind.

1.3 Nantglyn is the most westerly of Glyndwr's historic settlements. The B5435 passes through the southern edge of the village, with the B4501 from Denbigh 6km to the north-east, meeting it here.

History

2.1 St Mordeym's chapel may represent the earliest foundation here. Whether its earlier status is in anyway commemorated by the suggestive name of the nearby farm, Clasmor, remains to be ascertained.

2.2 The present churchyard also has a curvilinear shape and could represent an early medieval foundation. Overall, however, the origins and later development of the settlement at Nantglyn are unknown.

2.3 The Norwich Taxation of 1254 referred to 'Ecc'a de Gvythrein (Gwytherin) et Nanclyn', the later Lincoln Taxation of 1291 to 'Nanclyn'.

2.4 The Tithe map is of no help in determining the village form in the mid-19th century, but at the end of the 17th century Lhwyd mentioned that there were six houses in the settlement.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 East of the village and close to the Lliwen is the site of St Mordeym's chapel (PRN 100592). It was visible to Leland and its foundations to Lhwyd in 1699. Its position appears to be a slightly domed ridge above the valley.

3.2 The site of St Mordeym's well (PRN 100595) is some 300m north-west of the chapel. Again nothing survives.

3.3 Single-chambered with a south porch and west bellcote, the church of St James (PRN 100593) within the village was drastically renovated in 1862. The date of its original construction is unknown.

3.4 Its churchyard (PRN 19781) is now of irregular form but a broadly curvilinear earlier perimeter can be determined on the ground incorporating the existing northern side and a scarp bank within the churchyard on the south.

3.5 The village plan is of a single street with the church at the lower end and a cross-roads at the top. The older houses lie on either side of the street - Bodyn-Ilan has a date stone of 1769. The oldest dwelling is on the far side of the stream: the southern half of Min Afon (PRN 19782) is considered to be of 17th-century date.

3.6 The bridge, Pont-y-Ilan (PRN 19783), near the church has a Grade II listing.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Nantglyn as defined on the accompanying map has an untested archaeological

potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any development proposals that appear to affect the core area.

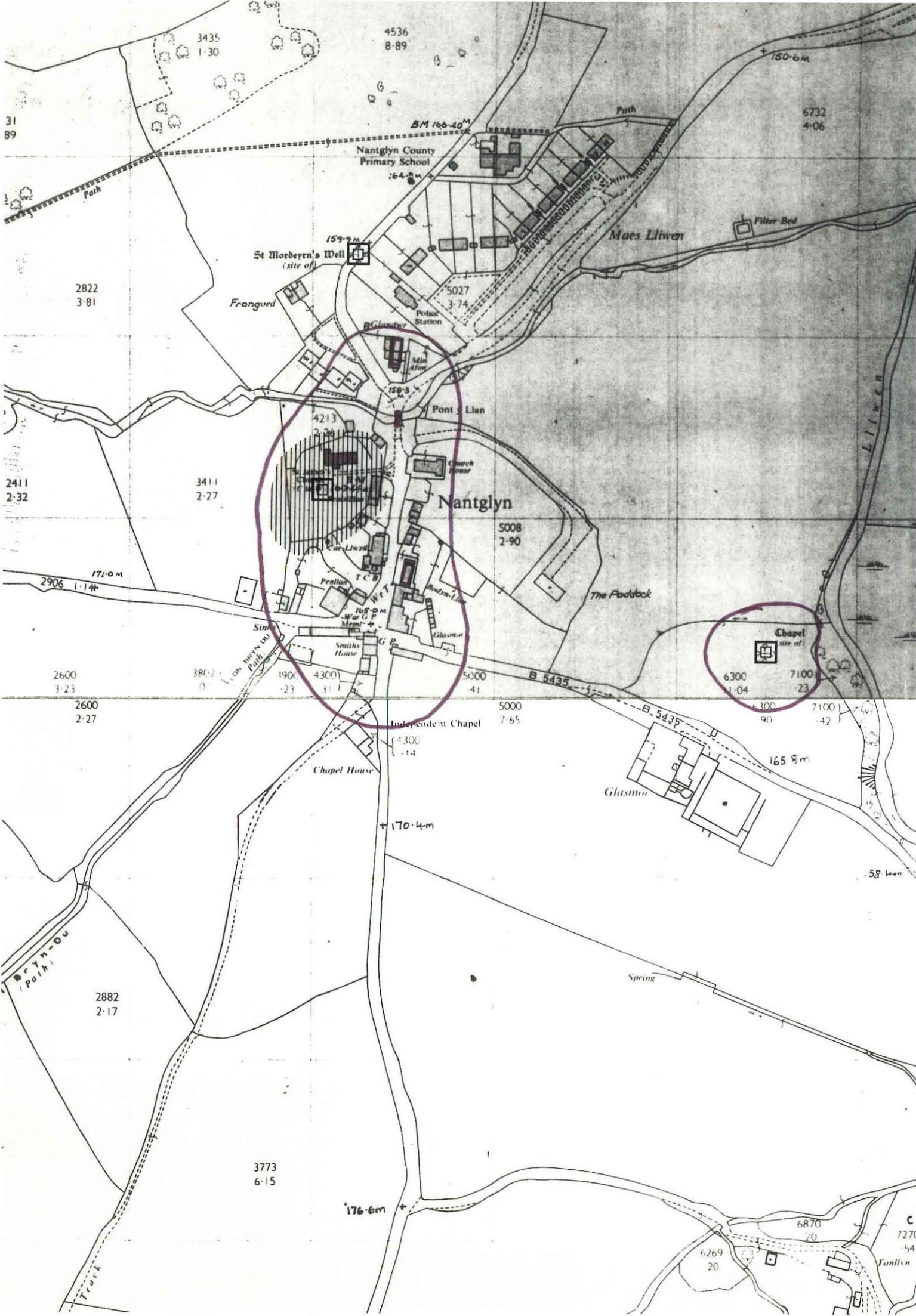
4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it, and the site of the chapel to the south-east, together with those other areas specifically defined on the accompanying plan.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 The relevant legislative procedures must be observed for the listed structure in the settlement.

References

Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 8 February 1995
Hubbard 1986, 256
Lhwyd 1909, 151
NMR Aberystwyth
RCAHMW 1914, 598
Thomas 1911, 58
Tithe Survey 1840



Rhydycroesau - PRN105990

NGR SJ240307

240m OD

Location

1.1 Rhydycroesau straddles the Clwyd/Shropshire border, on the B4580, 5km west of Oswestry. Post Office and church lie on the Welsh side, the former rectory and school house are in England.

1.2 A stream known as Cynllaith provides physical form for the border and its valley shelters most of the settlement.

History

2.1 An estate map from the third quarter of the 18th century appears to show no more than one building, probably a farm, beside the stream crossing. By the mid-19th century the farm was accompanied by a house and the church. This development, however, does tend to suggest that Rhydycroesau is essentially a post-medieval settlement.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 No buildings of any age have been recognised in the village. The earliest part of the church dates from 1838, and externally at least, the Post Office appears little earlier than the 19th century.

Recommendations

4.1 No recommendations are proposed for Rhydycroesau.

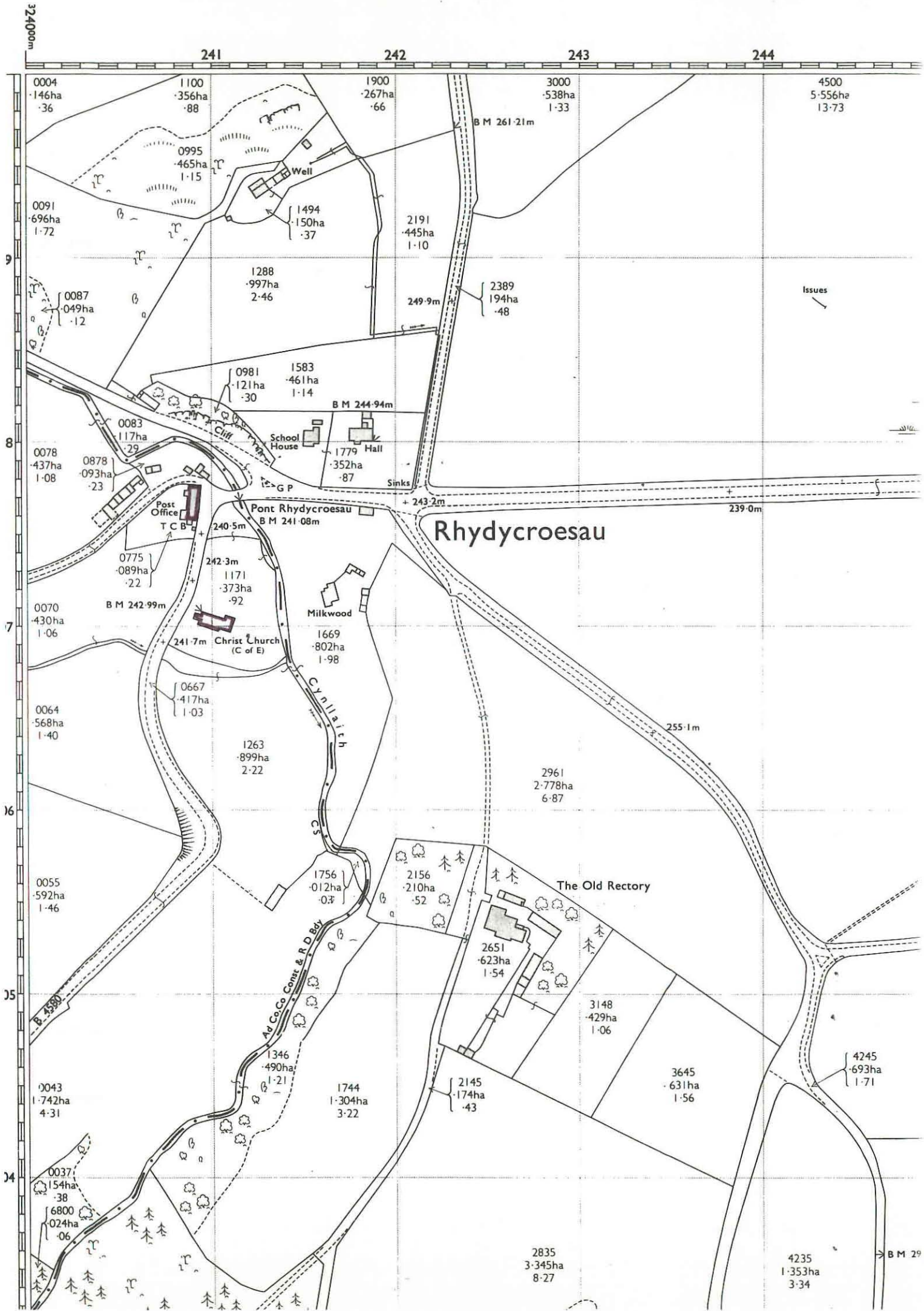
References

CPAT Field Visit: 6 January 1995

Estate Map of Lledrod township, 1772x1774: NLW MSS Map Vol. 83 no.68

Hubbard 1986, 266

Tithe survey for Llansilin: 1838/1839



Ruthin - PRN105991

NGR SJ126583

74m OD

Location

1.1 Ruthin is one of many historic settlements lying in the Vale of Clwyd, and it is also amongst the largest in Glyndwr District.

1.2 The historic core of Ruthin occupies the east bank of the river on a low glaciated ridge running parallel to the river and isolated from a second ridge and the undulating vale to the east by a shallow and largely dry hollow. The western ridge is utilised by the castle at the southern end and the church at the northern tip. From this ridge settlement has spread out primarily to the east where modern estates are reaching towards the medieval church of Llanrhydd (q.v.), and westwards across the Clwyd to link with the medieval village of Llanfwrog (q.v.).

1.3 A nodal point in the road network, Ruthin lies on the A494 trunk road linking the Chester region with the west coast of Wales. Denbigh is 10km to the north-west, Llangollen 18km to the south-east.

History

2.1 Ruthin has been the subject of various studies over the years, not all of which have been consulted during the current assessment. For the sake of completeness, however, these are included in the references at the end of this section, but are distinguished from consulted works by the inclusion of an asterisk.

2.2 Prior to the Edwardian Conquest in the second half of the 13th century, Ruthin is believed to have been a 'maerdref', the administrative centre of the commote of Dyffryn Clwyd; and a Welsh settlement of some size probably developed in the area of modern Well Street, formerly 'Welsh Street'. Claims of a Welsh stronghold, 'the Red Fort', beneath or close to the later castle, are not backed by substantive evidence.

2.3 Beresford has pointed out that the boundaries of the borough reveal that it has been cut out of the parish of Llanrhydd.

2.4 Dyffryn Clwyd was disputed by English and Welsh in the mid-13th century. The area came under Edward I's control in 1277 and the construction of Ruthin Castle commenced immediately. The town was returned to David, brother of Llywelyn, almost immediately, but after an abortive Welsh uprising in 1282, Dyffryn Clwyd was bestowed on Reginald de Grey who continued the castle building programme and also started to lay out a town focused on the existing Welsh 'tref'. Ruthin became the 'caput' of a lordship extending over three commotes.

2.5 A charter granted privileges to the newly established borough in 1282 or soon after, and this "reflected the prosperity of the town under the Welsh princes and the relatively peaceful transition into a marcher borough, where despite the initial number of English immigrants, a genuinely Anglo-Welsh community was created" (Jack 1978).

2.6 St Peter's church was founded as a chapel in 1282 or thereabouts, and subsequently rebuilt in 1310 as a collegiate church with seven priests, although the Taxatio of 1291 apparently refers to a 'flourishing collegiate establishment'. With the castle and the market place it represented one of the three focal points of the town.

2.7 By 1324 there were 70 burgesses controlling 100 burgages, one third of them Welsh and concentrated mainly in the Well Street area. A weekly market and thrice-yearly fairs centred on the market place which was established properly in 1295-6.

2.8 Ruthin was sacked by Glyndwr in 1400 and again perhaps in 1402, and it was only as a result of these attacks that town defences were added, a murage grant being recorded in 1407. This led to the construction of a ditch around the town.

2.9 The town recovered quickly and became the centre of an important cloth industry leading in the late medieval era (c.1447) to the formation of a guild of fullers and weavers. Shoemakers established a second craft-gild, late in the 15th century. The built up area expanded westwards across the Clwyd towards Llanfwrog. By 1496 90 burgesses holding 209 burgages were recorded, suggesting to Soulsby the emergence of an urban aristocracy.

2.10 Henry VII purchased the lordship of Ruthin in 1508 and in the same year he granted a charter to the borough confirming market rights and other privileges. But the 16th century saw the rise of Shrewsbury as a cloth centre, with the consequent decline of Ruthin. To William Camden it was 'the greatest market town in all the Vale, full of inhabitants and well replenished with buildings'. During the Civil War it was besieged in 1644 and again in 1646 by Parliamentary forces, and when it finally fell the castle was razed.

2.11 From 1536 it functioned as one of the county towns of Denbighshire. Quarter Sessions and Great Sessions courts were held in the town, and in 1775 the county gaol was built there.

2.12 A number of maps show the town as it was in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. That of 1823 shows the inns in black - 23 in all. The Old Hall lay in the centre of the Market Place.

Buildings and Archaeology

3.1 Prehistoric finds include a stone axe (PRN 106389) found in an allotment to the north of the town, and a polished example (PRN 106417) found in Mwrog Street, south-west of the town centre, in the 1980s. The excavations in Brynhyfryd Park (see para 3.2 below) also produced six sherds of pottery and over 100 worked flints of prehistoric date.

3.2 Roman activity is well attested in the eastern and more recently developed part of Ruthin on the more easterly of the two glaciated ridges. Roman pottery vessels containing cremations (PRN 102885) were found during an extension to the hospital in 1981; and there is an unprovenanced figurine (PRN 102890) from the town, now in the National Museum of Wales. East of the hospital in Brynhyfryd Park Roman activity has been detected over an extensive area (PRN 106027). Views differ as to whether this represents a Roman fort and its associated vicus (For details the reader is referred to Waddelove et al. 1989; Jones 1992).

3.3 The 1989 excavations also revealed the presence of a small early medieval cremation cemetery on the ridge.

3.4 St Peter's church (PRN 100871), lies to the north of the market square. It is much altered since its construction in 1310-15, for a "greivous restoration" in 1859 followed its decay during the previous century. The medieval college buildings were on its north side and reputedly formed a quadrangle. The Old Cloisters on this side contains 14th-century work and was the residence of the college of priests. Almshouses known as Christ's hospital (PRN 100872) and still surviving, were built in the precinct in 1590 by the Dean of Westminster who was born in the town. These were reconstructed in 1856 (1865 according to another source). North-east of the church, Ruthin school was refounded in 1574 with an endowment twenty years later. The present buildings (PRN 102887; Grade II*) date from 1700 but were refurbished in the 19th century.

3.5 A Carmelite priory (or nunnery) founded by de Grey near St Peter's has been claimed on the site of the modern post office, just to the south-west of the churchyard gates. Its existence, however, has not been confirmed.

3.6 The centre of the medieval town was St Peter's Square, the permanent market place from 1295. A timber-framed court house (PRN 102550; Grade II* listing) was erected in the centre of the square in 1401. Restored in 1926, it now houses a bank and remains of a gallows project from one wall, while a few original prison cells survive below ground. Nearby a town hall was built of stone from the old collegiate church in 1663, with a meat market occupying the ground floor. It was replaced by a new town hall off Market Street in 1863.

3.7 A rough, flat block of limestone, Maen Huail (PRN 100868; SAM De30), is set on the west side of the market square. Traditionally, it was the site where Huail, brother of Gildas, was beheaded by King Arthur, and is recorded in the middle of the street in Lhwyd's 'Parochialia' at the end of the 17th century.

3.8 Nantclwyd House (PRN 102552; Grade I listing) is a two storey, timber-framed building of late 16th-century origin on Castle Street, and its boundary wall (Grade II listing) may date back to the 16th century. The wall encloses a garden incorporating a late 17th/early 18th-century gazebo, the whole being classed as a non-statutory Grade II garden in the Cadw/ICOMOS register.

3.9 No. 65 Clwyd Street (PRN 102888; Grade II*) has at its core a 15th-century structure, added to and extended at several points in later centuries; the interior of No 67 (Grade II listing) was originally part of No.65. Portions of the Castle Hotel (PRN 102551) have been claimed as a mid-16th century timber-framed structure added to in the 18th century, but a recent reassessment points to all of this being of 19th-century origin. No. 3 Upper Clwyd Street (PRN 19705; Grade II listing) may have a late medieval origin; nos 4a and 6 Well Street are perhaps late 15th century in origin (PRN 19709), while No 2 Well Street could be medieval or 16th century (PRN 19710; Grade II listing). The following Grade II listed buildings all contain 16th-century work: nos 20 Castle Street (PRN 19711), 33, 35 and 37 Clwyd Street (PRN 19713), and the Wynnstay Arms (PRN 19720)

3.10 Seventeenth-century buildings include nos 11 and 11a St Peter's Square (PRN 19706); Gorphwysfa (PRN 19707) and opposite it No.7 Castle Street (PRN 19708), nos 39 and 41 Clwyd Street (PRN 19714), 47 and 49 Clwyd Street (PRN 19715), 51 Clwyd Street, though it may be earlier (PRN 19716), 53 Clwyd Street (PRN 19717); 32 and 34 Clwyd Street with a 16th/17th-century frame (PRN 19718), the Waterloo Club on Upper Clwyd Street (PRN 19719), 24 and 26 Well Street (PRN 19721). On the west side of the river nos 5-7 Mwrog Street are also perhaps 17th century, and there are undoubtedly other equally early buildings in the town whose external appearance is later in date.

3.11 The street pattern extending from the square is relatively rectilinear and traces of burgage plots are still discernible off Clwyd Street (formerly Mill Street) and Castle Street. Dog Lane appears to be a medieval name, although as late as 1826 its significance in terms of the houses giving on to it was very slight. Record Street and Well Street were previously Castle Lane (though New Hall Street in 1823) and Welsh Street respectively. Market Street was created during the mid-19th century. The road from Corwen originally adopted a straight course, running close to the castle and merging with Castle Street. In the early 19th century, it was diverted further to the east to its present line. Housing almost certainly extended westwards across the River Clwyd: New Street (previously Borthyn) and Mwrog Street were both mentioned in a register of tenants of the local lordship in 1324.

3.12 Ruthin Castle (PRN 100863; Grade I listing) was built in the 13th century. Most of it was demolished in 1646 but part of the curtain wall survives on the north-west and north-east (Grade II listing). The site is now occupied by a hotel which is largely 19th-century in origin, with phases of building in 1826 and 1849-52. A park associated with the castle is first referred to in 1533 and is now termed Castle Park. The gardens adjoining the castle appear to have been laid out in the Victorian era and are described in more detail in the Cadw/ICOMOS register.

3.13 Nothing remains of the town defences (PRN 102891), though Soulsby has been able to define the probable course of the ditch from surviving property boundaries: continuous boundaries on the north beyond St Peter's church, Wynnstay Road on the east, Dog Street on the south-east as far as the castle and, on the west side of the castle, perhaps a curving route to the west side of Mill Street to the river which would have provided a natural line of defence. Masonry defences were claimed in the vicinity of Clwyd Street in 1829, and it seems improbable that the town was defended by a ditch alone. The Water Gate (Porth-y-dwr) leading to the bridge across the Clwyd was reportedly demolished about 1800, itself a successor to the tower built by the de Greys.

3.14 The town mill (PRN 100869) lay on Mill Street; its lower storey of late 13th-century date survives, but the mill wheel has been removed. The mill leat remains, running below the castle. A mill dam was named on the map of 1826 and a mill pond is depicted in 1874.

3.15 A small sub-square mound (PRN 100867) lies 200m to the east of the castle, its date and function unknown, though a medieval or later date has been assumed. Other, uncharacterised earthworks survive in the same field, some though not all probably of natural origin.

3.16 Stray finds include an iron axe of probable 16th-century date (PRN 102728) at Cae Dol, west of the castle.

Recommendations

4.1 The historic core of Ruthin as defined on the accompanying map has an extremely high archaeological potential. Appropriate consultations should be conducted to establish the archaeological and historical implications of any and every development proposal that appears to affect the core area.

4.2 Pre-planning evaluations should be anticipated for any proposals involving the churchyard and the ground around it, the castle, the market area and the streets leading of it.

4.3 Pre-planning evaluations may also be necessary elsewhere in the historic core depending on the scale and type of proposal, while an archaeological watching brief should be anticipated where a development occurs within the remainder of the defined area.

4.4 A scheduled ancient monument and many listed buildings exist within the town. The relevant legislative procedures relating to these protected sites must be observed on all occasions.

4.5 Ruthin has a particularly rich stock of late medieval and sub-medieval buildings. Renovation works or modifications to any such buildings should be accompanied by an appropriate level of structural recording.

References

- AP: CPAT/84/MB/283-285; 86/MB/1071; 89/MB/496-499
Beresford 1988, 548
Cadw/ICOMOS Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens 1994 (draft)
Castledine 1986
Clwyd SMR
CPAT Field Visit: 25 October 1994
Estate Map 1780: NLW/SOL 485
Evans 1961*
Hubbard 1986, 271
Jack 1963*
Jack 1968a*
Jack 1968b*
Jack 1969*
Jack 1969/70*
Jack 1978
Jones 1991, 202
Jones 1992
Lhwyd 1909, 146
Newcome 1838*
Richards 1966
Ruthin Church Guide 1984
Soulsby 1983, 232
Tithe Survey 1839/1841
Town Map, 18thC: NLW/Chirk 7/11786
Town Map, 1823: CRO Hawarden: D/DM/162/35
Town Map, 1826: CRO, Ruthin: D/DM274/166
Waddelove et al 1990

References

- Beresford, M., 1988 *New Towns of the Middle Ages* (Alan Sutton, Gloucester) 2nd ed.
- Butler, L.A.S., 1974 'Leicester's Church, Denbigh', *J. Brit. Archaeol. Assoc.* 27, 40-62
- Carter, H. 1966 *The Towns of Wales: A Study in Urban Geography* (University of Wales Press, Cardiff)
- Castledine, D.C., 1986 *Historic Ruthin* (Clwyd Record Office, Hawarden)
- Castledine, D.C. and Owen, R.M., 1983 *Historic Denbigh* (Clwyd Record Office, Hawarden)
- Charles, B.G., 1938 *Non-Celtic Place Names in Wales* (London)
- Davies, D., n.d. *Welsh Place-names and their Meanings* (Aberystwyth)
- Davies, D., 1856 *Handbook for the Vale of Clwyd* (Ruthin; reprinted 1988)
- Edwards, N., 1991 'The Dark Ages', in J.Manley *et al The Archaeology of Clwyd*, 129-141
- Edwards, I., 1969 'Industry at Llangollen', *Trans Denbigh. Hist. Soc.* 18, 136-153
- Evans, B., 1961 'Owain Glyndwr's raid on Ruthin (1400)' *Trans Denbigh. Hist. Soc.* 10, 239-241
- Evans, E.M., 1992 *A Guide to the XII Century Corwen Parish Church*
- Evans, W.A., 1955 'The Carmelite Friary in Denbigh', *Trans Denbigh. Hist. Soc.* 4, 20-25
- Ffoulkes-Jones, G. 1980 'Llangollen and the tourists', *Clwyd Historian* 7, 36-39
- Fletcher, A and Williams, D., 1986 *A History of the Church of St Michael: All Angels, Efenechtyd, Clwyd* (Ruthin)
- Hubbard, E., 1986 *The Buildings of Wales: Clwyd* (Penguin Books and the University of Wales Press)
- Jack, R.I., 1963 'The cloth industry in medieval Ruthin', *Trans Denbigh. Hist. Soc.* 12, 10-25
- Jack, R.I., 1968 'Records of Denbighshire Lordships, ii the Lordship of Dyffryn Clwyd in 1324', *Trans Denbigh. Hist. Soc.* 17, 13-18
- Jack, R.I., 1969a 'Welsh and English in the medieval lordship of Ruthin', *Trans Denbigh. Hist. Soc.* 18
- Jack, R.I., 1969b 'The medieval charters of Ruthin borough', *Trans Denbigh. Hist. Soc.* 18, 16-22
- Jack, R.I., 1969/70 'The seigneurial charters of the Borough of Ruthin', *National Library of Wales J.* 16, 77-86
- Jones, G.R.J. 1964 'The Llanynys quilllets: a measure of landscape transformation in north Wales', *Trans Denbigh. Hist. Soc.* 13, 133-158
- Jones, G.R.J., 1991 'Medieval Settlement', in J.Manley *et al The Archaeology of Clwyd*, 186-202
- Jones, N.W., 1992 'Excavations at Brynhyfryd Park, Ruthin, Clwyd' *Archaeol. in Wales* 32, 19-31
- Knowles, D.S. and Parkin, B.E., 1973 *Just one parish: the history of Llanarmon-yn-Ial*
- Lewis, S. 1833 *A Topographical Dictionary of Wales* 2 Vols (S.Lewis and Co, London)

Lhwyd, E. 1909-1911 *Parochialia being a Summary of Answers to Parochial Queries etc* (Cambrian Archaeological Association; 3 Vols)

Newcome, R., 1838 *An Account of the Town and Castle of Ruthin* (Ruthin)

Ogilby, J., 1675 *Britannia*

Owen, H. W., 1994 *The Place-names of East Flintshire* (University of Wales Press, Cardiff)

Owen, W.G. and Silvester, R.J., 1993 *Tyn Llan, Llanferres* (CPAT Report No 66, Welshpool)

Pierce, I. and Fowler, E.G., 1983 *Llangynhafal. A Parish and its Past*

Pratt, D., 1980 'Llangar', *Clwyd Historian* 7, 30

Pritchard, T.W., n.d. *The Parish Church of St Garmon, Llanarmon-yn-Ial*

Pritchard, T.W., n.d. *The Parish Church of St Mary, Chirk*

Radford, C.A.R., 1966 'The church of St Giles, Llansilin, Denbighshire', *Archaeol. Cambrensis* 115, 128-133

Rees, W. 1967 *An Historical Atlas of Wales* (3rd edition, London)

Richards, M., 1966 'Records of Denbighshire lordships: I the lordship of Dyffryn Clwyd', *Trans Denbigh. Soc.* 15, 15-54

RCAHMW 1914 *An Inventory of the Ancient Monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire. County of Denbigh* (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, London)

RCAHMW 1921 *An Inventory of the Ancient Monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire. County of Merioneth* (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, London)

Simpson, W.T., 1845 *Some Account of Llangollen and its Vicinity* (2nd ed., London)

Smith, L.T.(ed.) 1964 *The Itinerary of John Leland in or about the Years 1535-1543* 5 vols.(Centaur Press, London)

Soulsby, I., 1983 *The Towns of Medieval Wales* (Chichester, Sussex)

Waddelove, E., Waddelove, A.C., and Jones, G.B.D., 1990 'The Roman Fort at Ruthin, Clwyd', *Britannia* 21, 299-305

Williams, D.H., 1990 *Atlas of Cistercian Lands* (University of Wales Press, Cardiff).

Williams, J., 1856 *Ancient and Modern Denbigh* (Denbigh)

Williams, J., 1860 *The Records of Denbigh and its Lordship* (Wrexham)