

# Rhug Hall, Corwen, Denbighshire

## Archaeological Watching Brief





# Rhug Hall, Corwen, Denbighshire

## Archaeological Watching Brief

Project No. G2434

Report No.1275

Prepared for: Lord Newborough

October 2015

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## **SUMMARY**

*Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) was asked by Cadnant Planning, on behalf of the Rhug Estate, to conduct an archaeological watching brief of ground works associated with the construction of a tennis court within the western half of the former walled garden at Rhug (PRN 80574) located to the immediate south west of the Grade II\* listed Rhug Park House, Corwen, Denbighshire (PRN 25660; centred on NGR **SJ0554 4400**).*

*The archaeological watching brief identified and recorded two garden paths, contexts [003] and [004] that were associated with the walled garden and documented the sections of the walled garden that will be partially obscured by 3m high chain link fencing erected around the perimeter of the tennis court.*



## 1. INTRODUCTION

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) was asked by Cadnant Planning, on behalf of the Rhug Estate, to conduct an archaeological watching brief of ground works associated with the construction of a tennis court within the western half of the former walled garden at Rhug (PRN 80574) located to the immediate south west (Figure 01) of the Grade II\* listed Rhug Park House, Corwen, Denbighshire (PRN 25660; centred on NGR **SJ0554 4400**). The archaeological watching brief was undertaken as outlined in the approved GAT project design (Appendix I).

The archaeological watching brief was conducted on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

The scheme was monitored by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) Development Control Officer Mark Walters.

The works conformed to the guidelines specified in *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 1994, rev. 2001, 2008 and 2014)*.

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

A brief examination of the regional Historic Environment Record (held jointly by the Denbighshire Archaeology Service and the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust) and Coflein revealed that the proposed tennis court is situated within the western half of the former walled garden at Rhug (PRN 80574) which was attached to Grade II\* listed Rhug Park House (PRN 25660; Figure 02), in the parish of Corwen.

The present house (PRN 25660) is late 18<sup>th</sup> century in date, possibly being constructed in 1798. It replaced an earlier house of medieval date (possibly 16<sup>th</sup> century) which may have been located on the north side of the castle mount (MPRN 306598). The Coflein entry for Rhug references a map which suggests a pair of buildings to the west of the walled garden with a possible access drive passing through, or near to, the later walled garden. These buildings may represent the remains of the earlier hall and the former access drive may be encountered during ground disturbance in the tennis court area.

The origin of the walled garden is poorly documented. It is first clearly depicted on the 1840 tithe map and again on the First Edition Ordnance Survey 25" County series (Merioneth. VII.16 1875) map. As such, it is possible that the walled garden dates from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

To the immediate south of the walled garden and proposed development, situated along the western edge of the fish pond, there is the castle mount (MPRN 306598). The mound originated as a Bronze Age burial cairn which was enlarged as a castle motte in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. It formed the nucleus of the original estate of Rhug. An ice house was constructed in 1878, and it was during the associated excavation work that the Bronze Age origins of the mound were discovered. The mound is a scheduled ancient monument (ME 019). A standing stone near the mound (NPRN 306599) is probably a relatively recent garden feature.

At the southern entrance to Rhug Hall, there is a gate lodge (NPRN 265144), depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey County series (Merioneth. VII.16 1875). A single storey building of two ranges set at right angles. The main north-south range has an attic. Both ranges have north-facing porches. The walls are of roughly coursed stone blocks under slate gabled roofs.

The lodge stands beside the wrought iron gates brought to Rhug in about 1740 (NPRN 28724). They have been attributed to the Davies brothers of Croes Foel, although their style is rather more reminiscent of the work of Robert Bakewell of Derby. The gates consist of square-section piers with shallow pyramidal copings flank the entrance gates, and terminate the low quadrant walls to either side. Railings with scrolled arrow heads raised on quadrant plinth walls. Gates have enriched overthrow and side panels, with wave-bar pattern to overthrow support and lock bar, and arrow head dog rails.

### **3. METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Archaeological Watching Brief**

Based on the GAT project design (Appendix I), the following actions were undertaken as part of the archaeological watching brief:-

- The ground level was reduced by a tracked 360° excavator, fitted with a toothless bucket under the supervision of a GAT project officer, to the formation level of the tennis court;
- A photographic record was maintained throughout the archaeological watching brief, using a digital SLR camera set to maximum resolution in RAW format;
- GAT pro-formas were completed during the archaeological watching brief;
- Archaeological features were documented on GAT context record forms and recorded in scaled photographs using a digital SLR camera set to maximum resolution in RAW format.

The archaeological watching brief was conducted on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> September 2015. A total of 40 photographic images were taken during the course of the watching brief (GAT photographic archive reference numbers G2434\_001 to G2434\_040; archive metadata reproduced as [Appendix II](#)).

## 4. RESULTS

### 4.1 Walled Garden

The tennis court is situated within the western half of the former walled garden at Rhug (PRN 80574). The northern, eastern and southern walls of the garden are extant, with an opening and reinstated brick arch at the centre of the eastern wall and a square in plan building, with a slate pitch roof, incorporated within the south west corner of the garden. The walls and building are brick built, with the average brick measuring 0.25m in length, 0.13m in width and 0.06m in depth. The garden walls appear to be of English bond style, with a distinct step-out or plinth at the base of the wall, which varied in height from 0.50 to 0.65m. The garden walls have a maximum height of 3.0m.

The northern (Plate 01) and eastern (Plate 02) walls have been restored, predominantly re-using the brick that have been bonded with pink cement. At the base of the eastern garden wall there is a row of tree stumps (Plate 03), which maybe the remnants of fruit trees that were once splayed against the face of the wall.

The arched entrance at the centre of the eastern wall is defined by two weathered grey, rectangular schist stones set vertically, which form the footing for the brick arch with a yellow sandstone keystone at the centre of the arch (Plate 04). The schist stones and keystone appear weathered and maybe original features or have been re-used from elsewhere in the estate grounds. The arch is comprised of modern red bricks bonded with grey cement. There are three weathered stone steps at the base of the arched entrance. The entrance has a maximum height of 3.0m and span of 2.85m.

The majority southern wall of the garden appears to be original (Plate 05), as it is in a more dilapidated, weathered state than the other sections of the garden wall, retains original features such as cast iron and round headed nails used to secure the splayed branches of trees and the brick is bonded by coarse light grey lime mortar. A section of this wall, adjacent with the slate pitch roof building in the south west corner of the garden, has been restored (Plate 06) in the same manner as the northern and eastern garden walls. This section of the southern garden wall may have been restored as it doubles as a wall of a corrugated roof outbuilding on the southern exterior of the walled garden.

The square in plan building located at the south west corner of the walled garden is predominately of red brick and lime mortar build with remnants of light grey lime mortar (Plate 07). At the time of the watching brief, the building appeared to be in the process of being renovated, as it had a new slate roof with black plastic guttering and down pipes. The building had an estimated height of 3.5m to the eaves of the roof and was 3m wide. The northern face of the building had a single glazed window set within a wooden window frame, which measured 1.28m in height and 0.95m in width. The brick below this window were larger than those used in the rest of the building measuring 0.22m in length and 0.12m in width.

The interior of the walled garden is quite even, being covered by long, rough grass, intermixed with weeds (Plate 08). There were indications of a bon fire (Plate 09) at the centre of the garden, presumably to clear the area in advance of the ground works for the

tennis court. The northern half of the garden included three rows of solar panels, set on top of railway sleepers (Plate 10).

## 4.2 Watching Brief

The area cleared for the tennis court had a length of 35m and width of 19m. The area of the tennis court was reduced using a 360° excavator fitted with a wide, toothless bucket (Plate 11). The spoil was loaded onto a front loading dumper, with the topsoil and subsoil being deposited in separate piles along the north eastern edge of the excavation. The topsoil consisted of a fine, cohesive mid brown silty clay that was mixed with moderate small rounded stones. It varied in depth, being 0.20m along the southern and eastern edge of the excavation and much deeper, at 0.40m, along the centre, western and northern edge of the dig. Sherds of glazed earthenware and flower pots were retrieved from the topsoil during the strip. The presence of the sherds was noted but they were not retained. During the removal of the topsoil two gravel paths, contexts [003] and [004] were uncovered along the southern and close to the northern limit of excavation.

Context [003] was a garden path that consisted of a loose light greyish blue fine gravel mixed with frequent small to moderate sized cobbles. The path had a south eastern-north western orientation, being parallel with and within 3.0m of the southern garden wall (Figure 03 & Plate 12). The bulk of the path was composed of cobbles, which was overlaid by a layer of 'pea' gravel, which formed the surface of the path. Context [003] had an exposed length of 16.5m, width of 0.80m and maximum depth of 0.20m (Plate 13). The path was laid on top of the subsoil, context [006]. Perpendicular to [003] was another stone path, context [004] which was composed of loose light greyish blue fine gravel mixed with frequent small to moderate sized cobbles. Context [004] was set on a northeast x southwest axis (Plate 14), with an exposed length of 19m, width of 1.10m and depth of 0.20m. It was within 7.0m of the western limit of excavation (Figure 03). The path overlaid context [005] a compact, fine orange clay with no inclusions and appeared to be bedding for context [004]. The paths appear to be contemporary, given their near identical composition and stratigraphy (the paths were below the topsoil and laid on top of the subsoil). No artefacts were recovered from contexts [003], [004] or [005].

Contexts [001], [003-005] overlaid subsoil, context [006] a loose fine mid-greyish brown clayey gravel mixed with frequent small stones and moderate small pebbles. It was present across the whole area of excavation with an average depth of 0.20m. The subsoil was removed entirely within 12m of the western edge of the limit of excavation and this exposed the underlying natural, context [002], a loose, coarse orange clayey gravel mixed with frequent small to moderate sized pebbles (Plate 15). In the remainder of the excavated area, the ground level was reduced to within but not below the level of the subsoil. Most of the subsoil that had been stripped off the western edge of the excavation was deposited, levelled and then compacted at the eastern limit to ensure a more level surface across the length of the tennis court (Plate 16). The site contractor then excavated a narrow and shallow pipe trench (maximum depth of 0.20m) along the perimeter of the tennis court to allow the insertion of a drainage pipe. This pipe trench was excavated through exposed natural or re-deposited subsoil. Based on the lack of significant archaeological remains and following consultation with the development control officer, it was determined that this work did not need to be monitored as part of the watching brief.

## 5. DISCUSSION

Further to the archaeological watching brief additional research was undertaken to provide context to the features uncovered and more information on the walled garden. The earliest depiction of the walled garden that was sourced during this research was of an estate map of Rhug dated to 1791 (Figure 04). The walled garden is clearly depicted on the estate map, with a cruciform layout of paths and an apparent structure located in the south-eastern corner. Notably the walled garden had been constructed while the earlier estate house was still extant and prior to the construction of the present house (PRN 25660). It has been suggested that the walled garden was constructed for Edward Vaughan after 1780 (Haslam R., Orbach J., Voelcker A., 2009). This would place the creation of the walled garden to the late 18<sup>th</sup> century.

The walled garden is depicted in a detailed manner on the 1860 Map of Part of the Rug Demesne (Figure 05). There are 3 summerhouses at the corners of the garden, one of which survives into the present day as a square in plan brick building in the south west corner. There are also entrances within the eastern and western walls the former corresponds with the arch described in section 4.1. The interior of the walled garden has been divided into a grid pattern by 1860.

By the time of the First Edition 25" County Series Ordnance Survey of 1875 the range of farm outbuildings to the west of the walled garden have increased in number and the western wall of the garden has apparently been demolished to make way for the new buildings (Figure 06). The interior of the garden has changed from a grid pattern to a cruciform pattern along with paths parallel with the boundaries of the garden wall. This layout corresponds with the position and location of contexts [003] and [004], which would imply that these paths or at least their layout dates from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## 6. CONCLUSION

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) was asked by Cadnant Planning, on behalf of the Rhug Estate, to conduct an archaeological watching brief of ground works associated with the construction of a tennis court within the western half of the former walled garden at Rhug.

The archaeological watching brief of the ground works uncovered the remains of two garden paths, contexts [003] and [004]. While no artefactual evidence was retrieved from the paths, given their position within the garden and an examination of a selection of historic estate maps and the First Edition 25" County Series Ordnance Survey Map, these paths are contemporary with the use of this part of the Rhug Estate as a walled garden. The paths, contexts [003] and [004] or at least their layout, date from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, as they clearly match the routes of the paths depicted on the 1875 First Edition 25" County Series Ordnance Survey Map. Aside from the paths and bedding associated with context [004], no further archaeological deposits were found during the course of the watching brief.

The research conducted on the grounds of this part of the Rhug Estate revealed that the walled garden pre-dates the construction of the present house, as it is present on the estate map dated to 1791. This evidence along with the assertion of Haslam R., Orbach J., Voelcker A., that the walled garden may have been created after 1780, would suggest that it came into being at same stage between 1780 and 1791. The walled garden may well have been part of the re-development of the Rhug Estate in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century, which included the replacement of the 16<sup>th</sup> century house (visible on the 1791 estate map) by the present Neoclassical mansion and extension of the fish pond. On this basis the walled garden forms an important development of the managed landscape of the Rhug Estate in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The archaeological watching brief of ground works associated with the construction of a tennis court, revealed limited evidence of the internal use of the area as a walled garden in the form of garden paths. As the majority of the interior of the tennis court was not reduced to the surface of the natural clay, there is still the potential of uncovering further archaeology in association with the walled garden. The watching brief also highlights that there may be further surviving elements of the interior of the walled garden which may be uncovered if there are additional development within the boundary of the garden.

## 7. SOURCES CONSULTED

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 1994, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (revised 2014);

First Edition 25" County Series Ordnance Survey Map. 1875;

Haslam, R., Orbach, J. and Voelcker, A. 2009, *The Buildings of Wales, Gwynedd*;

Map of the Lordship of Glyndyfrdwy and Manor of Rug, belonging to Edward Williams Vaughan Salesbury. 1791;

Map of part of the Rug Demesne. 1860.



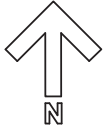
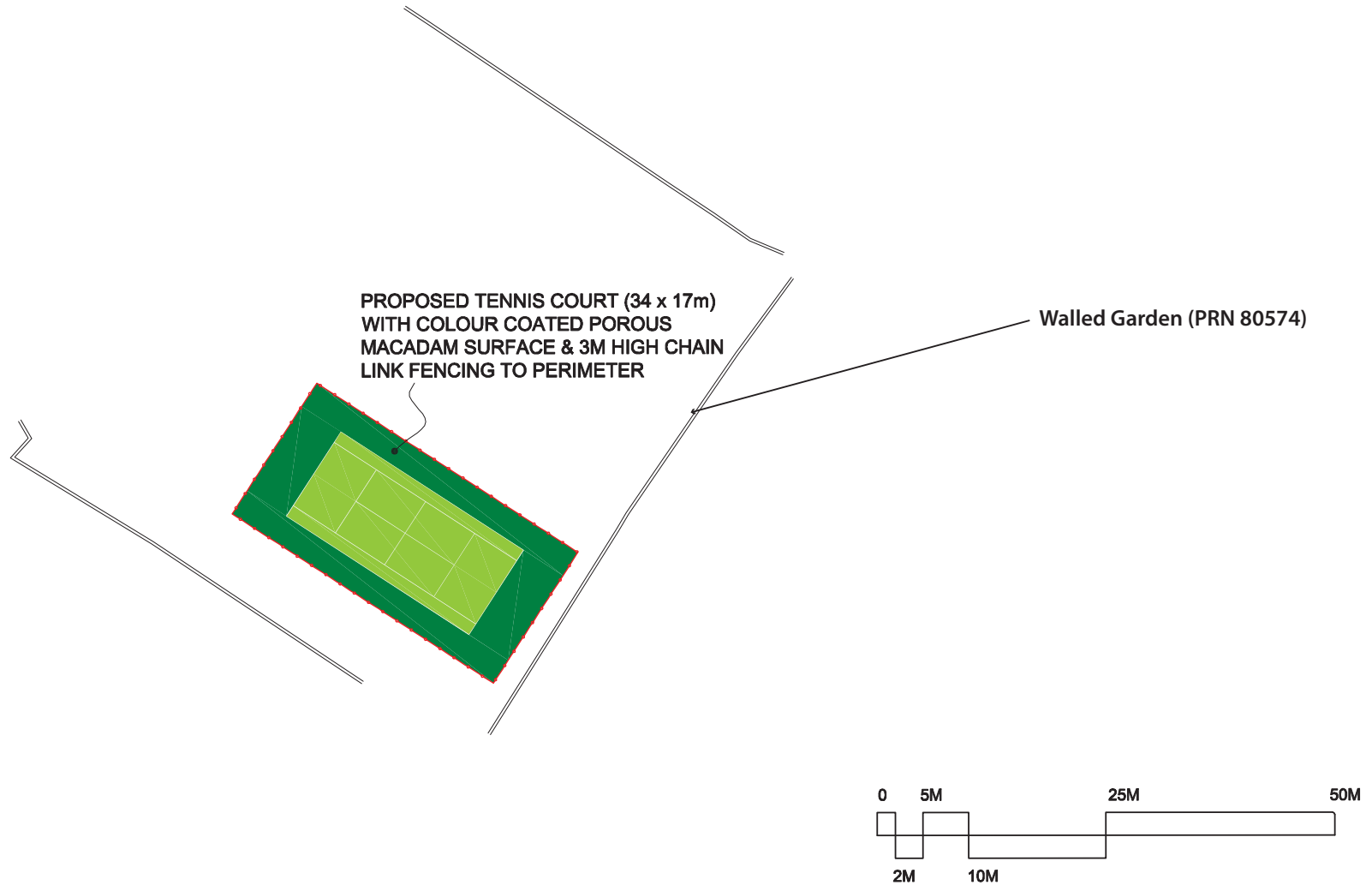


Figure 01 - Reproduction of Client Drawing AL002 – Proposed Site Plan.



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**Project :** PROPOSED TENNIS COURT, RHUG HALL, CORWEN  
LL21 0EH  
**Client:** CADNANT PLANNING

**Dwg :** AL0002 - PROPOSED SITE PLAN  
**Date :** June 2015  
**Rev :** -  
**Scale :** 1:500@ A3



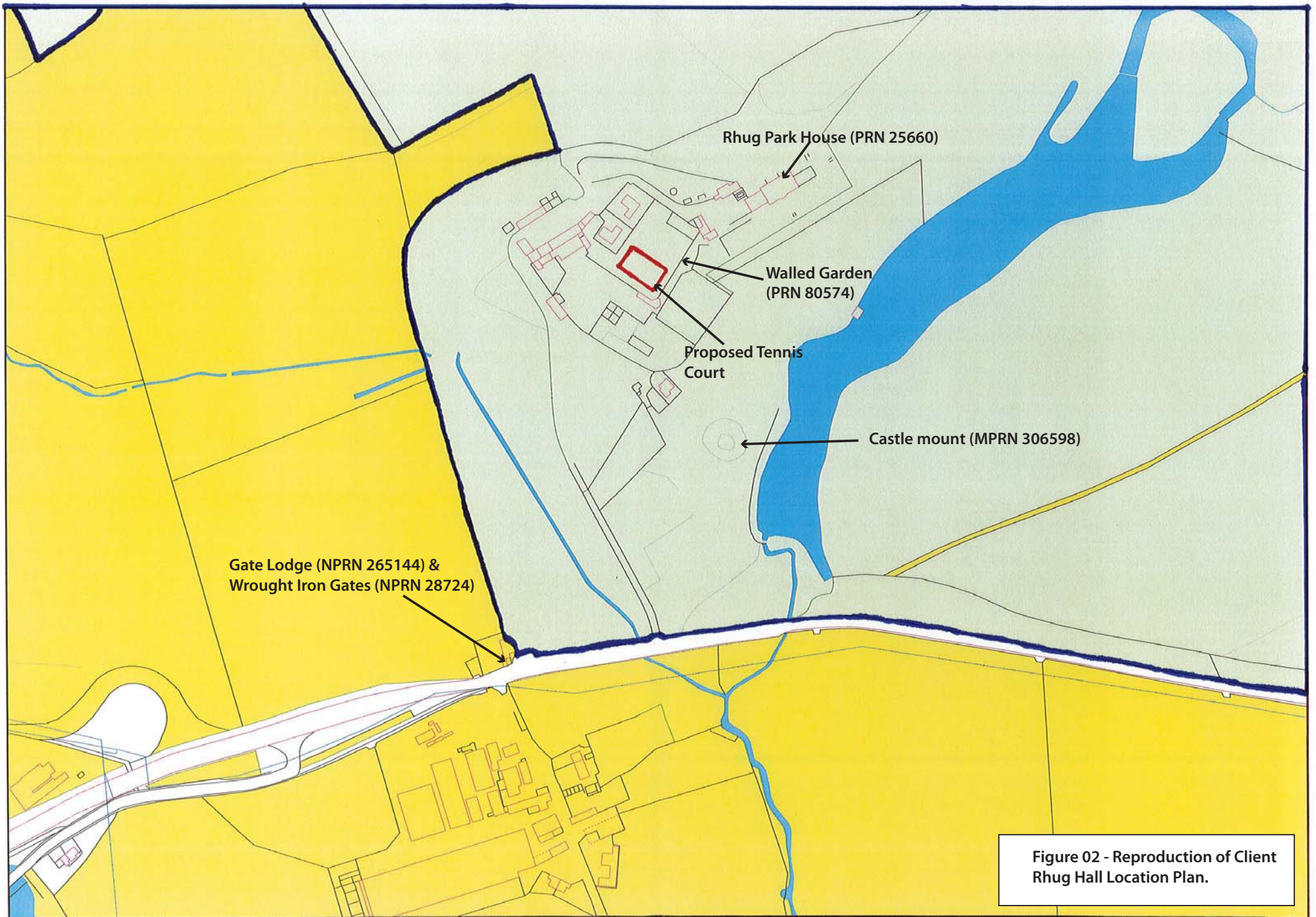


Figure 02 - Reproduction of Client Rhug Hall Location Plan.





**Figure 03: Limit of Excavation. Reproduction of Client Drawing AL003, Ordnance Survey, (c) Crown Copyright 2015. All rights reserved. Licence Number 10022432.**



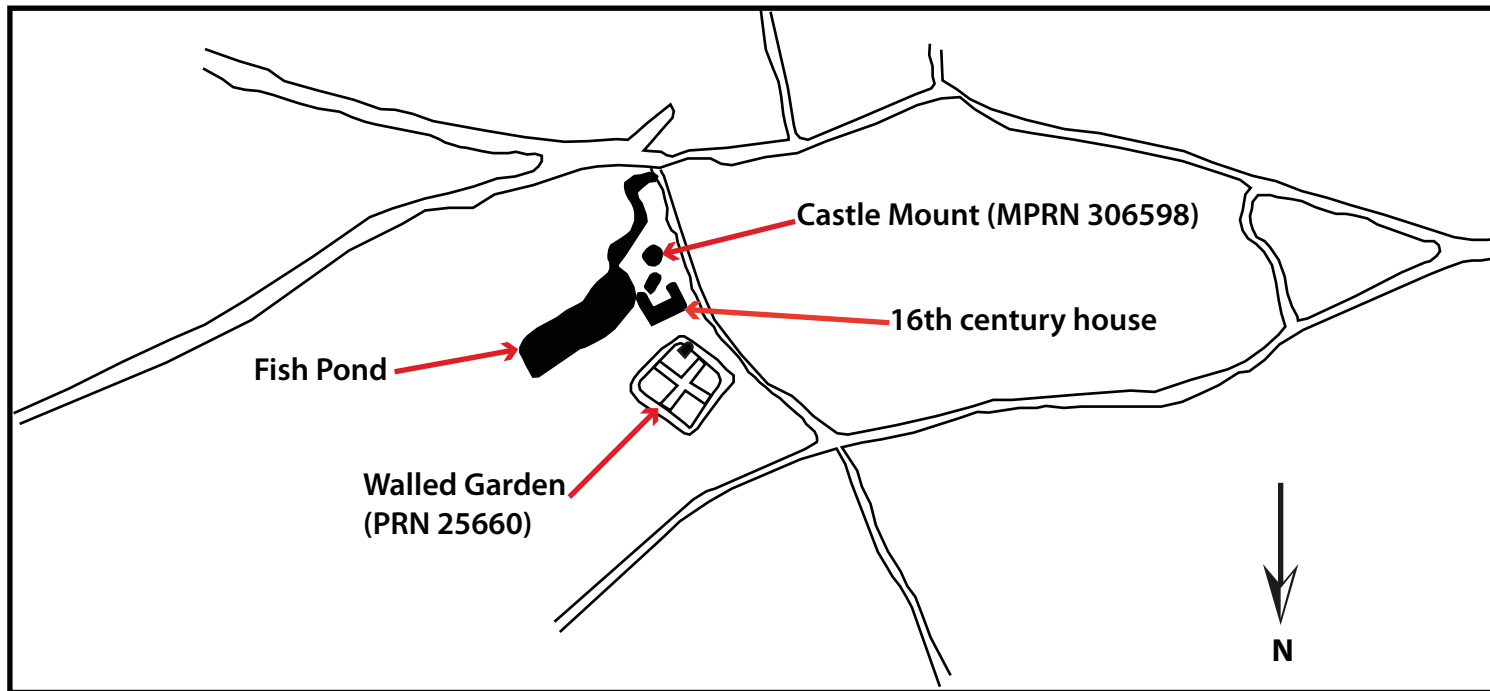


Figure 04: Reproduction of the 1791 of the Lordship of Glyndyfrdwy and Manor of Rug belonging to Edward Williams Vaughan Salesbury. Not to scale.





**A A P**  
OF PART OF  
**THE RUG DEMESNE**

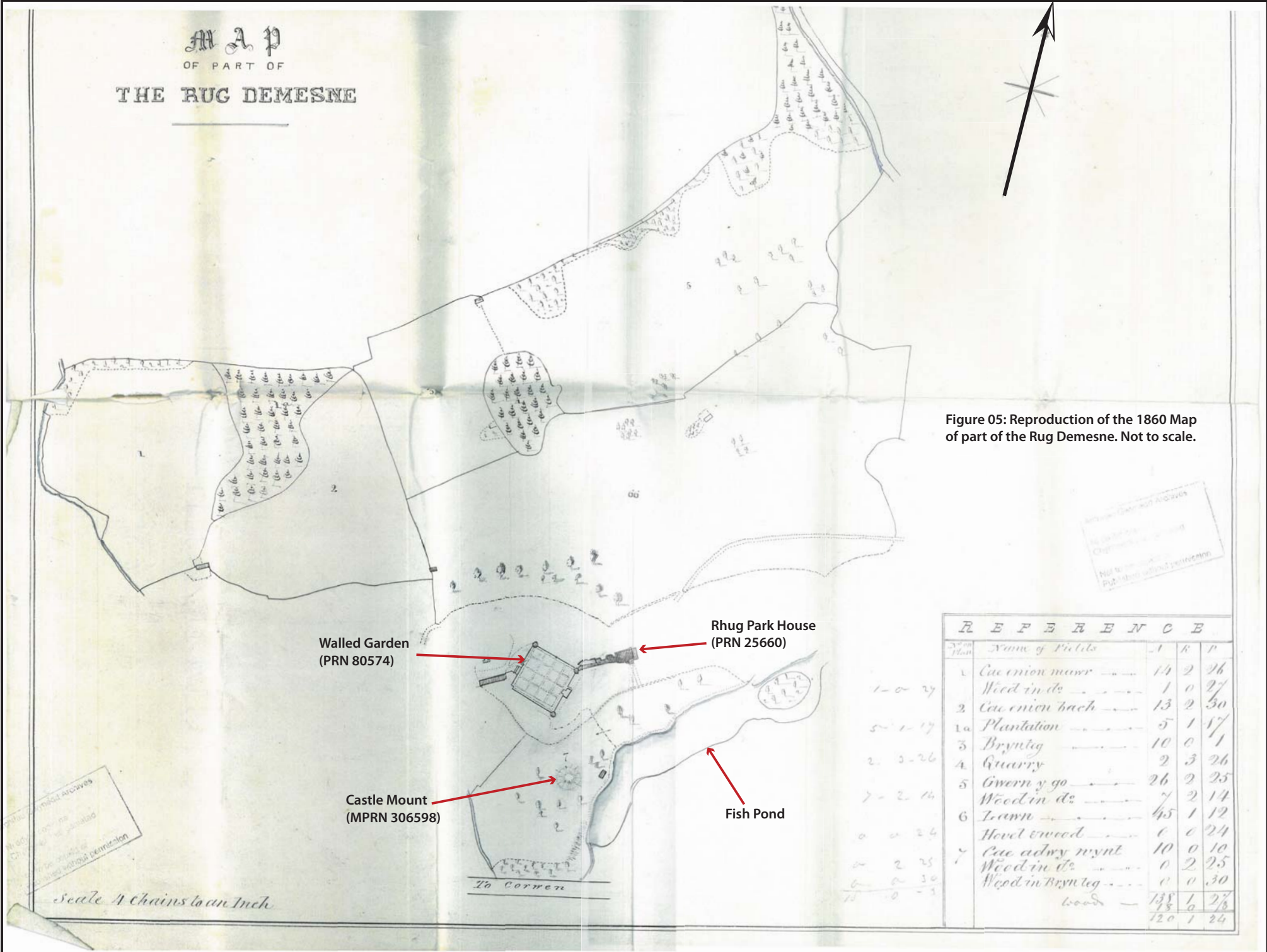


Figure 05: Reproduction of the 1860 Map of part of the Rug Demesne. Not to scale.

Walled Garden  
(PRN 80574)

Rhug Park House  
(PRN 25660)

Castle Mount  
(MPRN 306598)

Fish Pond

R E F E R E N C E				
No.	Name of Fields	A	R	P
1	Cae enion mawr	14	2	26
	Wood in do	1	0	27
2	Cae enion bach	13	2	30
1a	Plantation	5	1	17
3	Brynteg	10	0	1
4	Quarry	2	3	26
5	Gwern y go	26	2	25
	Wood in do	7	2	14
6	Lawn	45	1	12
	Hevel wood	6	0	24
7	Cae adwy wynt	10	0	10
	Wood in do	0	2	25
	Wood in Brynteg	0	0	30
	wood	138	1	27
		15	0	28
		120	1	24

Scale 4 chains to an Inch

To Corwen



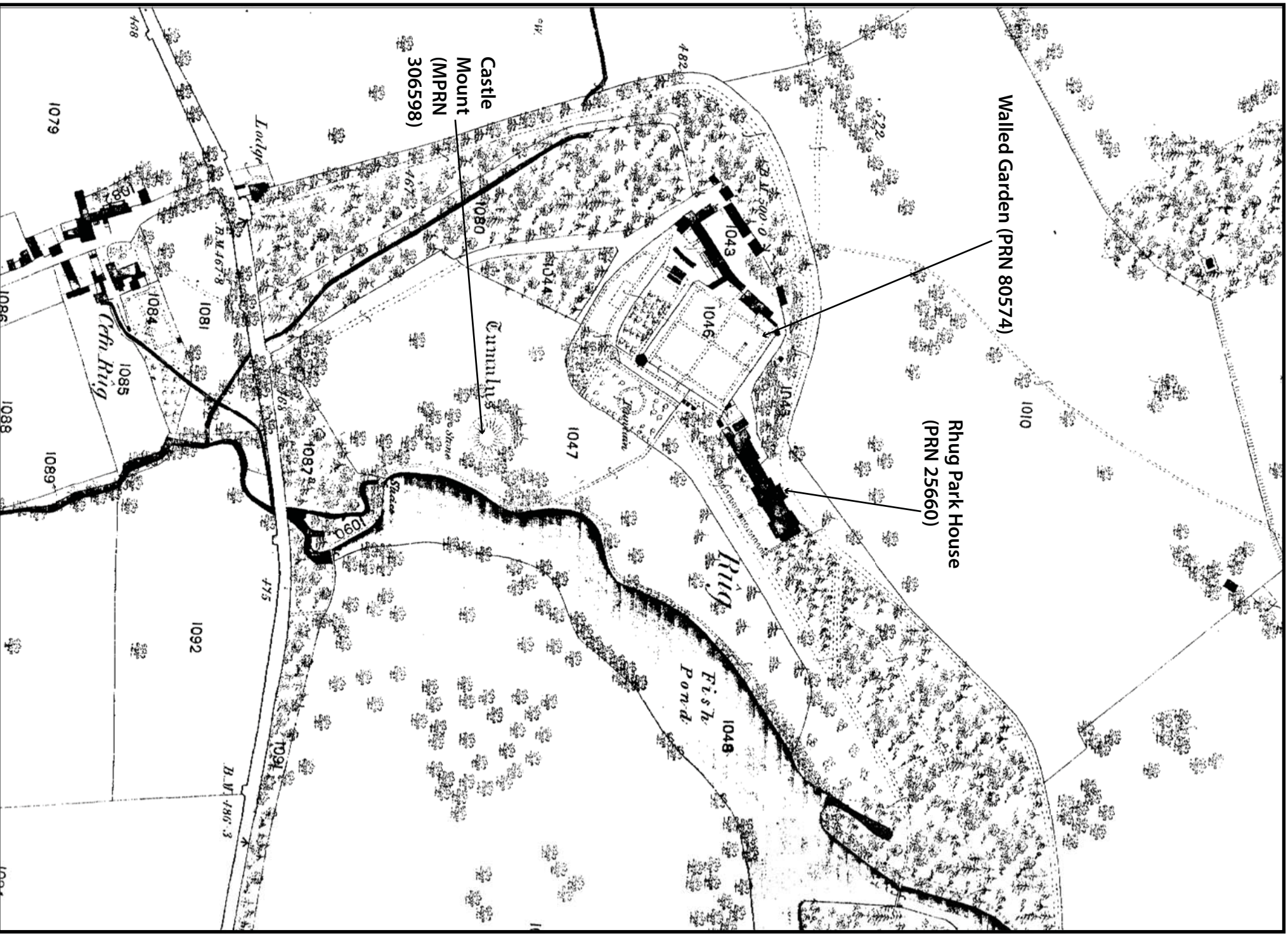


Figure 06: Reproduction of First Edition 25" County Series Ordnance Map (Merioneth. VII. 16 1875).







Plate 01: The northern & eastern walls of the walled garden. Scale 1m, viewed from the north-west.



Plate 02: The eastern wall of the walled garden. Scale 1m, viewed from the north-west.





Plate 03: Tree stumps along the base of the eastern wall. Scale 1m, viewed from the north-east.



Plate 04: Arch within the eastern wall. Scale 1m, viewed from the north-west.





Plate 05: The southern wall of the walled garden. Scale 1m, viewed from the north-east.



Plate 06: Re-built section of the southern wall. Scale 1m, viewed from the north-east.





**Plate 07: Square in plan building. Scale 1m, viewed from the north.**



**Plate 08: Pre-excavation shot of the interior of the walled garden. Viewed from the north-west.**





**Plate 09: Location of a bonfire. Scale 1m, viewed from the south-west.**



**Plate 10: Solar panels at eastern end of the walled garden. Scale 1m, viewed from the south-west.**





Plate 11: Topsoil strip of tennis court. Scale 1m, viewed from the south-west.



Plate 12: Garden path, context [003]. Scale 1m, viewed from the south-east.





Plate 13: Section through contexts [001], [003] & [006]. Scale 1m, viewed from the north-east.



Plate 14: Route of garden path, context [004]. Scale 1m, viewed from the south-west.





Plate 15: Area of tennis court stripped of subsoil, viewed from the west.



Plate 16: Area of tennis court levelled, viewed from the south-east.



## **Appendix I**

**Reproduction of Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Project Design for an Archaeological Watching Brief (July 2015)**

RHUG HALL, CORWEN, DENBIGHSHIRE

PROJECT DESIGN FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION (G2434)

*Prepared for*

Georgia Crawley

*July 2015*

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd  
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

**RHUG HALL, CORWEN, DENBIGHSHIRE**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION**

Prepared for *Georgia Crawley, Cadnant Planning* July 2015

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) has been asked by *Georgia Crawley, Cadnant Planning* to provide a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for undertaking an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with a proposed tennis court within the western half of the former walled garden at Rhug (PRN 80574) which was attached to Grade II\* listed Rhug Park House (PRN 25660; centred on NGR **SJ0554 4400**). The proposed tennis court will measure 34m x 17m. The proposals are indicated on client drawing AL0002 – Proposed Site Plan (reproduced as Figure 01).

The scheme will be monitored by Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT). The content of this design must be approved by CPAT prior to the start of the watching brief.

Reference will be made to the guidelines specified in *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (Institute for Archaeologists 2014).

## 2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

A brief examination of the regional Historic Environment Record (held jointly by the Denbighshire Archaeology Service and the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust) *and* Coflein revealed that the proposed tennis court is situated within the western half of the former walled garden at Rhug (PRN 80574) which was attached to Grade II\* listed Rhug Park House (PRN 25660; Figure 02).

The present house (PRN 25660) is late 18<sup>th</sup> century in date, possibly being constructed in 1798. It replaced an earlier house of medieval date (possibly 16<sup>th</sup> century) which may have been located on the north side of the castle mount (MPRN 306598). The 1819 Ordnance Survey surveyors mapping does suggest a pair of buildings to the west of the walled garden with a possible access drive passing through, or near to, the later walled garden. These buildings may represent the remains of the earlier hall and the former access drive may be encountered during ground disturbance in the tennis court area.

The origin of the walled garden is poorly documented. It is first clearly depicted on the 1840 tithe map and again on the First Edition Ordnance Survey County series (Merioneth. VII.16 1875) map. As such, it is possible that the walled garden dates from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

To the immediate south of the walled garden and proposed development, situated along the western edge of the fish pond, there is the castle mount (MPRN 306598). The mound originated as a Bronze Age burial cairn which was enlarged as a castle motte in the 11<sup>th</sup> century. It formed the nucleus of the original estate of Rhug. An ice house was constructed in 1878, and it was during the associated excavation work that the Bronze Age origins of the mound were discovered. The mound is a scheduled ancient monument (ME 019). A standing stone near the mound (NPRN 306599) is probably a relatively recent garden feature.

At the southern entrance to Rhug Hall, there is a gate lodge (NPRN 265144), depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey County series (Merioneth. VII.16 1875). A single storey building of two ranges set at right angles. The main north-south range has an attic. Both ranges have north-facing porches. The walls are of roughly coursed stone blocks under slate gabled roofs.

The lodge stands beside the wrought iron gates brought to Rhug in about 1740 (NPRN 28724). They have been attributed to the Davies brothers of Croes Foel, although their style is rather more reminiscent of the work of Robert Bakewell of Derby. The gates consist of square-section piers with shallow pyramidal copings flank the entrance gates, and terminate the low quadrant walls to either side. Railings with scrolled arrow heads raised on quadrant plinth walls. Gates have enriched overthrow and side panels, with wave-bar pattern to overthrow support and lock bar, and arrow head dog rails.

## 3.0 METHOD STATEMENT

### 3.1 Introduction

(Reproduced from Institute for Archaeologists 2014, *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*)

The definition of an archaeological watching brief is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.

This definition and Standard do not cover chance observations, which should lead to an appropriate archaeological project being designed and implemented, nor do they apply to monitoring for preservation of remains in situ.

An archaeological watching brief is divided into four categories according to the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief*:

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

A **partial** watching brief recommended by GAT for this scheme, to be completed during ground works associated with the proposed tennis court (as defined in paragraph 1.0).

The **watching brief** will consist of the following:

- Observation of non-archaeological excavation works.
- A drawn, written and photographic record of any archaeological structures and deposits that may be revealed.
- Preparation of full archive report.

The watching brief will monitor:

- The removal of topsoil and subsoil for the formation of the new access road and for the building works to the south of the existing building.
- *Note: GAT recommends that a toothless buckets is used for topsoil/subsoil removal*

## 3.2 Basic watching brief methodological procedures

### 3.2.1 Watching Brief

All attendances and identified features will be recorded using GAT pro-formas and photographed using a digital SLR camera set to RAW format. The extent of any identified archaeological activity including artefacts will be located using survey grade (not handheld) GPS with <10cm accuracy (model: *Trimble GNSS/R6/5800*).

- A photographic record will be maintained throughout, using a digital SLR camera set to maximum resolution in RAW format.
- Any subsurface remains will be recorded photographically, with detailed notations and a measured survey.
- All sections to be drawn at a minimum 1:10 scale
- All plans to be at a minimum 1:20 scale
- Artefacts recovered to be related to their contexts, by three-dimensional recording when closely dateable/typologically distinct items are found.

All features encountered will be manually cleaned and examined to determine extent, function, date and relationship to adjacent features. Limited excavation will be undertaken to characterise the features; any subsequent excavation will be detailed in an appropriate Further Archaeological Works Design.

Where appropriate, samples for specialist analyses will be taken.

The underlying solid geology is limestone with overlying drift geology of glacial boulder clays

### 3.2.2 Environmental Samples

If encountered, relevant archaeological deposits will be sampled by taking bulk samples for flotation of charred plant remains. Bulk samples will be taken from waterlogged deposits for macroscopic plant remains. Other bulk samples, for example from middens, may be taken for small animal bones and small artefacts.

### 3.2.3 Human Remains

If encountered, human remains will be left *in-situ*, covered and protected, and both the coroner and the CPAT Archaeologist informed. If removal is necessary it will take place under appropriate regulations and with due regard for health and safety issues. In order to excavate human remains, a licence is required under Section 25 of the Burials Act 1857 for the removal of any body or remains of any body from any place of burial. This will be applied for should human remains need to be investigated or moved.

### 3.2.4 Small Finds

The vast majority of finds recovered from archaeological excavations comprise pottery fragments, bone, environmental and charcoal samples, and non-valuable metal items such as nails. Often many of these finds become unstable (i.e. they begin to disintegrate) when removed from the ground. All finds are the property of the landowner, however, it is Trust policy to recommend that all finds are donated to an appropriate museum where they can

receive specialist treatment and study. Access to finds must be granted to the Trust for a reasonable period to allow for analysis and for study and publication as necessary. All finds would be treated according to advice provided within *First Aid for Finds* (Rescue 1999). Trust staff will undertake initial identification, but any additional advice would be sought from a wide range of consultants used by the Trust, including National Museums and Galleries of Wales at Cardiff and ARCUS at Sheffield.

Unexpected Discoveries: Treasure Trove

Treasure Trove law has been amended by the Treasure Act 1996. The following are Treasure under the Act:

- *Objects other than coins* any object other than a coin provided that it contains at least 10% gold or silver and is at least 300 years old when found.
- *Coins* all coins from the same find provided they are at least 300 years old when found (if the coins contain less than 10% gold or silver there must be at least 10. Any object or coin is part of the same find as another object or coin, if it is found in the same place as, or had previously been left together with, the other object. Finds may have become scattered since they were originally deposited in the ground. Single coin finds of gold or silver are not classed as treasure under the 1996 Treasure Act.
- *Associated objects* any object whatever it is made of, that is found in the same place as, or that had previously been together with, another object that is treasure.
- *Objects that would have been treasure trove* any object that would previously have been treasure trove, but does not fall within the specific categories given above. These objects have to be made substantially of gold or silver, they have to be buried with the intention of recovery and their owner or his heirs cannot be traced.

The following types of finds are not treasure:

- Objects whose owners can be traced.
- Unworked natural objects, including human and animal remains, even if they are found in association with treasure.
- Objects from the foreshore which are not wreck.

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

The National Museums and Galleries of Wales will decide whether they or any other museum may wish to acquire the object. If no museum wishes to acquire the object, then the Secretary of State will be able to disclaim it. When this happens, the coroner will notify the occupier and landowner that he intends to return the object to the finder after 28 days unless he receives no objection. If the coroner receives an objection, the find will be retained until the dispute has been settled.

### **3.3 Further Archaeological Works**

**The identification of significant archaeological features during the the watching brief may necessitate the production of a new project design and the submission of new cost estimates to the contractor.**

The application of a further archaeological works design (FAWD) will be dependent on the initial identification, interpretation and examination of an archaeological feature and the establishment of a threshold of significance over which a FAWD might be triggered. This will include any features of demonstrable or likely prehistoric to medieval date and, for post-medieval features, any complex or unusual remains, including industrial activity. The

requirement for an FAWD will be determined in conjunction with DAS through established communication lines and the monitoring process.

The FAWD will be instigated through a GAT produced document that will include:

- feature specific methodologies;
- artefact and ecofact specialist requirements, with detail of appropriate sampling strategies and specialist analysis
- timings, staffing and resourcing.
- Additional costs

The FAWD document will need to be approved by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust.

**This design does not include a methodology or cost for examination of, conservation of, or archiving of finds discovered during the watching brief, nor of any radiocarbon dates required, nor of examination of palaeoenvironmental samples. The need for these will be identified in the post-fieldwork programme (if required), and a new design will be issued for approval by the Denbighshire Archaeological Service.**

### **3.4 Monitoring Arrangements**

The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust will need to be informed of the proposed start date in early August 2015 and of the subsequent progress and findings and enable discussion about the need or otherwise for FAWDs if features of potential archaeological significance are encountered.

### **3.5 Processing data, illustration, report and archiving**

The level of post-excavation analysis and reporting for the purposes of the mitigation will be sufficient to establish the character, scale, date range, artefactual and palaeo-environmental potential and overall significance of the remains and will be based on the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991).

Following the completion of the fieldwork, the data will be processed, final illustrations will be compiled and a report will be produced which will detail and synthesise the results. Location drawings and a sample of relevant photographs will be used to illustrate the reports.

## 4.0 PROCESSING DATA, ILLUSTRATION, REPORT AND ARCHIVING

Following completion of the watching brief as outlined above, a report will be produced incorporating the following:

1. Non-technical summary
2. Introduction
3. Project Design
4. Methods and techniques
5. Description of the results of the watching brief
6. Summary and conclusions
7. Bibliography of sources consulted.

Illustrations, including plans and photographs, will be incorporated within the report.

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project will be prepared.

All plans, photographs and descriptions will be labelled and cross-referenced, and lodged in an appropriate place (to be decided in consultation with the regional Historic Environment Record) within six months of the completion of the project. The watching report will be produced within one month of completion of the fieldwork.

All digital data will be written to CD-ROM and stored with the paper archive.

- one or more copies (as required) will be sent to the client
- one or more copies (as required) will be sent to CPAT
- one or two copies (as required) sent to the Historic Environment Record Archaeologist for the area (HER, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, 41 Broad Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7RR);
- copies of all key digital files on optical media should be provided to Denbighshire Archaeological Service and the Regional HER, including report, photographs, scans of maps etc.
- a copy of the report and/or digital files on optical media should be provided to the National Monument Record (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales, Aberystwyth, SY23 1NJ) dependent upon their requirements.

## **5.0 PERSONNEL**

The work will be managed by John Roberts, Principal Archaeologist GAT Contracts Section. The work will be undertaken by one of the Trust's Archaeologists experienced in the relevant skills/periods required. Full details of personnel involved, with *curricula vitae*, can be supplied upon request.



## 6.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Trust subscribes to the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) Health and Safety Policy as defined in **Health and Safety in Field Archaeology** (2006). Risks will be assessed prior to and during the work.

## **7.0 SOURCES CONSULTED**

Client Drawing AL002 – Proposed Site Plan;

Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (Institute for Archaeologists, 1994, rev. 2001, 2008 & 2014).

**Figure 01**

**Reproduction of Client Drawing AL002 – Proposed Site Plan.**

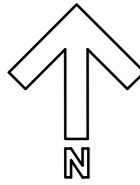


Figure 01 - Reproduction of Client Drawing AL002 – Proposed Site Plan.



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**Project:** PROPOSED TENNIS COURT, RHUG HALL, CORWEN  
LL21 0EH  
**Client:** CADNANT PLANNING

**Dwg:** AL0002 - PROPOSED SITE PLAN  
**Date:** June 2015  
**Rev:** -  
**Scale:** 1:500@ A3

**Figure 02**

**Reproduction of Client Rhug Hall Location Plan.**



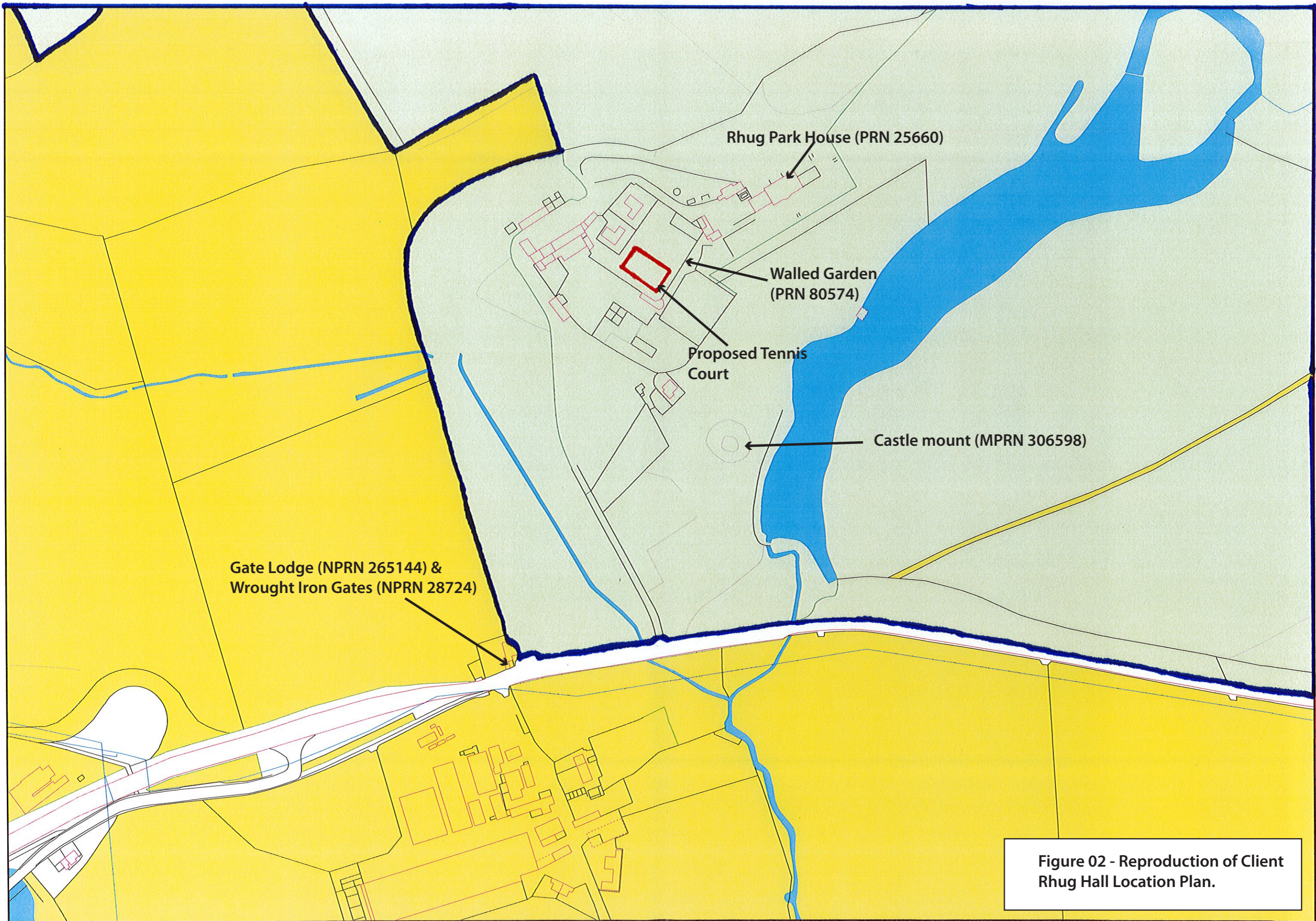


Figure 02 - Reproduction of Client Rhug Hall Location Plan.



## Appendix II

### Reproduction of Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Photographic Metadata

File reference	Project name	Project phase	Description	View from	Scale (s)	Date
G2434_001.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Arch within southern wall of kitchen garden.	NW	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_002.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Southern wall of kitchen garden.	NW	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_003.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Southern wall of kitchen garden.	NW	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_004.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Corner building, kitchen garden.	N	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_005.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Corner building & door, kitchen garden.	N	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_006.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Western wall, kitchen garden.	NE	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_007.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Western wall, kitchen garden.	NE	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_008.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Western wall, kitchen garden.	NE	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_009.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Kitchen garden, pre-ex view of tennis court.	NW	-	10/09/2015

File reference	Project name	Project phase	Description	View from	Scale (s)	Date
G2434_010.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Kitchen garden, pre-ex view of tennis court.	NW	-	10/09/2015
G2434_011.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Kitchen garden, pre-ex view of tennis court.	SE	-	10/09/2015
G2434_012.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Location of bon fire.	SW	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_013.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Solar panels in kitchen garden.	SW	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_014.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Solar panel attached to eastern wall of kitchen garden.	W	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_015.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Re-built section of wall in SE corner of kitchen garden.	NW	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_016.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Tree stumps along the southern wall, kitchen garden.	NE	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_017.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Close-up of tree stumps.	NE	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_018.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Mound/ice-house.	N	-	10/09/2015
G2434_019.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Mound/ice-house.	N	-	10/09/2015



File reference	Project name	Project phase	Description	View from	Scale (s)	Date
G2434_020.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Close-up of southern wall (re-built), kitchen garden.	NW	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_041.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Area stripped of subsoil.	W	-	11/09/2015
G2434_042.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	View of tennis court area.	SE	-	11/09/2015
G2434_021.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Dressed stone base of arch in southern wall, kitchen garden.	NW	1m	10/09/2015
G2434_022.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	View of Rhug Hall.	SW	-	11/09/2015
G2434_023.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	View of Rhug Hall.	SW	-	11/09/2015
G2434_024.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Topsoil strip of tennis court.	SE	-	11/09/2015
G2434_025.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Topsoil strip of tennis court.	SW	1m	11/09/2015
G2434_026.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Topsoil strip of tennis court.	NW	-	11/09/2015
G2434_027.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Topsoil strip of tennis court.	SW	-	11/09/2015
G2434_028.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Section of path [004].	NE	-	11/09/2015

File reference	Project name	Project phase	Description	View from	Scale (s)	Date
G2434_029.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Route of path [004] (portrait view).	SW	1m	11/09/2015
G2434_030.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Route of path [004] (landscape view)	SW	1m	11/09/2015
G2434_031.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Close-up of disturbed surface of path [004].	NW	1m	11/09/2015
G2434_032.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Layer [005].	NW	1m	11/09/2015
G2434_033.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Shot of path [003].	SE	1m	11/09/2015
G2434_034.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Close-up of path [003].	SE	1m	11/09/2015
G2434_035.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Subsoil strip of tennis court.	NW	-	11/09/2015
G2434_036.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	NE facing section through [003].	NE	1m	11/09/2015
G2434_037.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	NE facing section through [003].	NE	1m	11/09/2015
G2434_038.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	NW corner of the tennis court stripped.	SE	1m	11/09/2015
G2434_039.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Subsoil strip of the tennis court.	NW	-	11/09/2015
G2434_040.jpg	Rhug Hall Corwen	Watching Brief	Subsoil strip of the tennis court.	NW	-	11/09/2015



Gwynedd Archaeological Trust  
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