



Black Rock Road Portskewett, Monmouthshire

Archaeological Watching Brief and Historic Building Recording



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Contents

Summary	iii
Acknowledgements.....	iii
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Project background.....	1
1.2 Scope of the report	1
1.3 Location, topography and geology	1
2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND.....	1
2.1 Introduction.....	1
2.2 Archaeological and historical context.....	2
3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	4
4 METHODS.....	5
4.1 Introduction.....	5
4.2 Historic building recording.....	5
4.3 Watching brief.....	5
4.4 Artefactual and environmental strategies	6
4.5 Monitoring.....	6
5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS AND BUILDING DESCRIPTION	6
5.1 Introduction.....	6
5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits	6
5.3 Building description.....	7
6 CONCLUSIONS	8
6.1 Summary	8
6.2 Discussion	8
7 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION.....	8
7.1 Museum.....	8
7.2 Preparation of the archive.....	8
7.3 Security copy	9
8 COPYRIGHT	9
8.1 Archive and report copyright.....	9
8.2 Third party data copyright	9
REFERENCES	10
APPENDICES	11
Appendix 1 Context table.....	11

List of Figures

- Figure 1** Site location and plan of watching brief areas
Figure 2 Plan of Area 1

List of Plates

- Cover** The site looking south-east
Plate 1 Cottage walls 101, looking east, 2 x 1 m scales
Plate 2 Cottage walls 101, looking north, 2 x 1 m scales
Plate 3 Detail of chimney 101, looking north-east, 1 m scale
Plate 4 Floor 105, looking south, 2 x 1 m scale
Plate 5 Floor 106, looking east, 2 x 1 m scale



- Plate 6** Floors 105, 106 and 107, looking south-east, 2 x 1 m scale
Plate 7 Brick structure 109, looking south, 1 m scale
Plate 8 Brick cesspit 110, looking east, 1 m scale



Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Dynasafe BACTEC Ltd, on behalf of Dŵr Cumry Cyf, to undertake historic building recording and archaeological watching brief during urgent reactive works to the Gwent SECS foul water main, a 0.7 km long pipeline, centred on NGR 350959 188298 (ST 50959 88298), at Black Rock Road, Portskewett, Monmouthshire.

The watching brief comprised the observation of machine excavation within four areas of varying proportions undertaken during the laying of a new section of pipeline.

Two of the excavated areas contained archaeological features and deposits (Areas 1 and 2) comprising walls, floors and bedding deposits relating to Blackrock Cottages (built in the 19th century), made ground and agricultural features.

All the observed areas showed some level of disturbance, with widespread dumping of soils and building debris from nearby railway construction and housing development. The area formerly occupied by Blackrock Cottages had been levelled and the majority of the structures razed to the ground.

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank Dynasafe BACTEC Ltd and Dŵr Cumry Cyf, for commissioning the historic building recording and archaeological watching brief, in particular Sam Spiller. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of Judith Doyle, Planning Officer, who monitored the project, and to Dynasafe BACTEC Ltd for their cooperation and help on site.

The fieldwork was directed by Cai Mason, with the assistance of Owen Watts. This report was written by Ray Holt and edited by Matt Williams. The project was managed by Matt Williams on behalf of Wessex Archaeology.



Black Rock Road, Portskewett, Monmouthshire

Archaeological Watching Brief and Historic Building Recording

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Dynasafe BACTEC Ltd, on behalf of Dŵr Cumry Cyf, to undertake historic building recording and an archaeological watching brief during urgent reactive works to the Gwent SECS foul water main. The monitored works comprise a 0.7 km long pipeline, centred on NGR 50959 188298 (ST 50959 88298), at Black Rock Road, Portskewett, Monmouthshire, NP26 5TW (**Fig. 1**).
- 1.1.2 The watching brief and historic building record was undertaken in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which detailed the aims, methodologies and standards to be employed (Wessex Archaeology 2018). The WSI was approved by the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority. The watching brief and building record was undertaken between 14 and 15 May 2018.

1.2 Scope of the report

- 1.2.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the results of the watching brief and historic building recording, to interpret the results within their local or regional context (or otherwise), and to assess their potential to address the aims outlined in the WSI, thereby making available information about the archaeological resource (a preservation by record).

1.3 Location, topography and geology

- 1.3.1 The historic building recording and archaeological watching brief occurred on agricultural land to the south of the Gloucester–Newport railway line, in Portskewett, Monmouthshire. The eastern end of the pipeline started adjacent to the railway line, then looped southwards, crossing a disused railway cutting and Black Rock Road to the south of Aust Farm. To the west of Black Rock Road, the pipeline looped back to the west, then followed the southwesterly course of the Gloucester–Newport railway line.
- 1.3.2 Topographically, the pipeline is situated on slightly elevated land overlooking the Caldicot Levels and the Severn Estuary to the south and east. Existing ground levels range between 8 m aOD and 17 m OD.
- 1.3.3 The underlying geology is mapped as Triassic Sandstone and Mudstone of the Mercia Mudstone Group, which is overlain by superficial deposits of Quaternary river terrace deposits of sand and gravel towards the eastern end of the pipeline (British Geological Survey online viewer).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background is drawn from a desk-based assessment (DBA) of an adjacent site (Wessex Archaeology 2015). A summary of the results is



presented below, with relevant Primary Record Number (PRN) numbers from the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record (GGATHER). Scheduled Monuments are listed by their Cadw reference number, which is prefixed MM. Finds reported to the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) are listed by their reference number. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.

2.2 Archaeological and historical context

Prehistoric

- 2.2.1 Heston Brake chambered tomb (MM018; PRN01147g; PRN09715g) is a Neolithic long barrow, situated 450 m to the north-west of the proposed pipeline.
- 2.2.2 Prehistoric worked flint has also been found in several locations between 350 m and 650 m to the north-west of the pipeline (PRN04269g; PAS2009.136.5; PAS2009.136.13-2009.136.17).
- 2.2.3 Evidence of later prehistoric activity comprises Sudbrook Camp (MM048), an Iron Age promontory fort, situated 0.9 km to the south of the proposed pipeline, and a Late Iron Age coin (PAS2009.113.1), which was found 0.3 km to the south-east of the site.

Romano-British

- 2.2.4 Sudbury Camp (MM048) was occupied until at least the 1st or 2nd century AD, and may have served as a port or trading post. There was also a Roman road (PRN07761g; RR60aa) between Sudbury Camp and the main highway between the Roman towns of *Venta Silurum* (Caerwent) and *Glevum* (Gloucester). Further Romano-British settlement remains have been found along the line of this road at Portskewett Primary School and Sudbrook School (E003500; E001038), both approximately 1 km to the west of Black Rock Road.
- 2.2.5 There is another postulated Roman road and possible port on the foreshore at Black Rock. Many Roman coins and pieces of other metalwork been found in this location, which is situated 380 m to the south-east of the pipeline route (PRN01148g; PRN01153g; PRN07614g; 05800g). The PAS also records numerous Roman coins and other metal objects that have been found in a broad spread, between 350 m and 1 km to the north-west of the pipeline.

Early medieval

- 2.2.6 From the 5th century AD to 1063, Portskewett formed part of the Kingdom of Gwent. In 942 Gwent and the neighbouring kingdom of Glywysing were united as the Kingdom of Morgannwg, but the kingdoms separated following the death of Morgan Hen in 974. Gwent was invaded by King Canute in 1034 and was conquered by Gruffydd ap Llewelyn in 1055, as he extended his control over the whole of Wales.
- 2.2.7 Portskewett is mentioned in several early medieval documents, and is often referred to as a port. There is also documentary evidence for the existence of pre-Norman *llys* (royal court) of the Kings of Gwent, which may have been situated in Portskewett.
- 2.2.8 Archaeological remains of this period comprise a flexed inhumation burial dating from the 7th/8th-century AD, which was found during an excavation by Cotswold Archaeology at Sudbrook School (E003500; E001038), approximately 1 km to the west of the pipeline.
- 2.2.9 In 1063, the Kingdom of Gwent was conquered by the Saxon lord, Harold Godwinson (later King Harold II), who built a hunting lodge at Portskewett; it was destroyed by Prince



of Glywysing, Caradog ap Gruffydd in 1065. Harold's House (MM029), which is situated approximately 1 km to the west of the proposed pipeline, is a Scheduled Monument thought to be the site of King Harold's hunting lodge.

Medieval

- 2.2.10 Excavations at Harold's House (MM029) uncovered the remains of a medieval manor house associated with the Deneband family, who are recorded as holders of the Manor of Portskewett in 1270. The manor house was demolished in the 15th century.
- 2.2.11 The manor house is close to the parish church of St Mary's, which may have originated as a private chapel. The church itself has Norman origins, with 14th-century and later additions (PRN00506g and PRN08244g).
- 2.2.12 There is another medieval manor house, church and deserted medieval settlement at Sudbrook Camp (PRN01149g and PRN03311g) and there is a medieval mill site (PRN04774g), slightly further to the north. Medieval coins and metalwork have also been found in the fields to the north and west of the pipeline route.

Post-medieval and 19th century

- 2.2.13 Sudbrook and Portskewett were both small settlements in the post-medieval period. Main Road, Black Rock Road, and a ferry slip at Black Rock (PRN01152g) were all extent by the early 19th century.
- 2.2.14 The 1841 tithe map and accompanying apportionment, shows the route of the pipeline as agricultural land belonging to Charles James Lewis Esq. and the Rev. Freak Lewis.
- 2.2.15 In 1846, the Bristol and South Wales Union Line of the Great Western Railway (GWR) was constructed to provide a link across the Severn Estuary via a wooden ferry pier at Black Rock (PRN03683g). The route of the former GWR railway crosses the pipeline route immediately to the east of Black Rock Road.
- 2.2.16 The opening of the Chepstow Railway Bridge in 1852, provided a new rail route (formerly the South Wales Division of the GWR, now the Gloucester–Newport line) between England and Wales; this reduced the traffic using the ferry at Black Rock. The opening of the Severn Tunnel in 1886, sealed the ferry pier's fate and it was demolished soon after.
- 2.2.17 The 1886/7 OS 1:2500 plan shows a row of houses adjacent to the Bristol and South West Union Railway; these are named as 'Blackrock Cottages' on later plans. These cottages were extant in 1920, but had been demolished by 1965. The remains of these cottages survived as upstanding walls that were removed during the construction of the pipeline.
- 2.2.18 In the mid-20th century, Portskewett gradually expanded and new streets were laid out to the south of Main Road, but the area to the south of the Gloucester–Newport railway line remained largely agricultural. The most significant modern development in the area is the Second Severn Crossing, which was constructed in 1992–6, 1.5 km to the south of the pipeline scheme.



3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Historic building recording

Aims

3.1.1 The aims or purpose of the historic building recording, in line with ClfA's *Standard and guidance for archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (ClfA 2014d), were to:

- establish the character, history, dating, form and development of a specified building or structure;
- provide a better understanding of the building or structure (where possible within the confines of the works), compile a lasting record, analyse the findings/record and then disseminate the results.

Objectives

3.1.2 The aims were achieved by making a descriptive record of Blackrock Cottages commensurate with the requirements of a Historic England Level 1 (visual) record.

3.1.3 The recorded data from the building recording will be made publicly available via the resulting report (and if warranted, publication) and the project archive.

3.2 Watching brief

Aims

3.2.1 The aims of the watching brief, as defined in ClfA's *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (ClfA 2014a), were to:

- allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of the development or other works;
- provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard; and
- guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

Objectives

3.2.2 To achieve the above aims, the objectives of the watching brief were to:

- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified works area;
 - record and establish, within the constraints of the works, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains (a preservation by record);
 - place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
 - make available information about the archaeological resource on the site by preparing a report on the results of the watching brief.
-



4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methodology set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2018) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance (ClfA 2014a and d). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Historic building recording

General

4.2.1 The historic building recording involved a photographic survey to produce the photographic and written record compiled in this report.

4.2.2 The photographic survey of the cottages was carried out on 14 and 15 May 2018. Due to the largely demolished condition of the buildings, the photograph survey was restricted to the surviving remnants.

The photographic record

4.2.3 The photographic record comprises:

- *general views of the building in its wider setting or landscape; and*
- *the building's external appearance.*

4.2.4 High quality digital images were taken with a Canon EOS 5D Mark II full frame digital camera (with 21 megapixel capability). A selection of the photographs is included in this report.

4.3 Watching brief

General

4.3.1 The watching brief monitored two areas of groundworks. Area 1 consisted of a rectangular parcel on land encompassing the site formally occupied by Blackrock Cottages. Area 2 consisted of a linear strip of land extending to the north of Area 1. An area to the south of the cottages was stripped and backfilled prior to the implementation of the watching brief and was not observed.

4.3.2 The watching archaeologist monitored all mechanical excavations within the specified area. Where necessary, the surface of uncovered archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits identified was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the watching brief.

4.3.3 Spoil derived from both machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. All artefacts were from features of modern date (19th century or later); these were recorded on site and not retained.

Recording

4.3.4 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* recording system. A complete drawn record of excavated features and deposits was made including both plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections), and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid. The Ordnance Datum (OD: Newlyn) heights of all principal features were calculated, and levels added to plans and section drawings.



- 4.3.5 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSGM15 and OSTN15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.3.6 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 10 megapixels. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.4 Artefactual and environmental strategies

- 4.4.1 Appropriate strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of artefacts and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2018). Documents relating to the treatment of artefacts and environmental remains included: *Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b) and *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011). However, no artefacts were retrieved and no environmental samples were taken.

4.5 Monitoring

- 4.5.1 Judith Doyle, Planning Officer monitored the watching brief.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS AND BUILDING DESCRIPTION

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Two of the watching brief areas contained archaeological features and deposits (Areas 1 and 2), indicating archaeological remains are present across the site. The area to the south of Blackrock Cottages was stripped and backfilled prior to an archaeologist being present on site and was not observed (**Figure 1**).
- 5.1.2 The uncovered features comprised wall foundations, an extant fireplace and floor surfaces relating to the former Blackrock Cottages (**Figure 2**). Four furrows or drainage ditches were identified to the north of the cottages in Area 2 and are likely post-medieval or modern in date and agricultural in origin (**Figure 1**).
- 5.1.3 The following section presents the results of the watching brief and historic building recording.
- 5.1.4 Detailed descriptions of individual contexts are provided in the context description table (**Appendix 1**). **Figures 1** and **2** show all archaeological features recorded within the watching brief areas.

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.2.1 The natural substrate 201, consisting of mid-orangey brown sandy loam with occasional patches of gravel, was encountered in the northern half of Area 2 at a depth of 0.3 m below present ground level (bpgl).
- 5.2.2 The natural substrate was overlain by made ground deposits 103 and 202 (Areas 1 and 2 respectively). Made ground 103 consisted of redeposited silty sand containing abundant yellow limestone inclusions and probably derived from railway construction works during



the 19th century. Made ground 202 formed a prominent ridge of higher ground aligned broadly north-west to south-east and consisted of a mixed deposit of mid-brown loamy sand and mid-orangey brown sandy loam containing building rubble, modern pottery, glass and asbestos derived from nearby house construction.

- 5.2.3 Silty loam 111 sealed made ground 103 to the north of structure 101 and has been interpreted as a garden soil.

5.3 Building description

- 5.3.1 The surviving remnants of Blackrock Cottages comprised wall foundations 101 with an integral extant fireplace, floor surfaces 104, 105, 106, 107 and 108, an internal brick structure 109 and a brick-lined cess pit 110 within the garden area to the north (**Figure 2**).
- 5.3.2 The walls had been razed to ground level except for the aforementioned fireplace. The demolition debris 100, consisting of silty sand containing brick, tile, sandstone rubble, with sparse pottery, glass, and metal objects (not retained), overlay the wall foundations and floors to a depth of 0.7 m.
- 5.3.3 Constructed directly upon made ground 103, structure 101 consisted of a rectangular building plan with several internal divisions subdividing the space into seven separate rooms, four extending the full width of the property, with three smaller square rooms extending into the back yard. A brick fireplace constructed as part of an internal wall, dividing the easternmost two rooms, was the only above ground part of the structure surviving, measuring 1.5 m in height (**Plate 3**).
- 5.3.4 The initial wall build consisted of random uncoursed yellow, grey and red sandstone blocks, with occasional handmade brick, bonded with cream coloured lime mortar containing coal and ash inclusions (**Plates 1 and 2**). The fireplace was constructed of handmade bricks measuring 230 mm x 110 mm x 70 mm bonded with the same lime mortar (**Plate 3**). The external walls measured 0.46 m thick, the internal walls 0.33 m thick.
- 5.3.5 The construction sequence of the main walls could not be ascertained but are considered to be part of a single contemporary structure. The plethora of internal walls may suggest some degree of internal alteration with some structural features later than the original build (**Figure 2**).
- 5.3.6 Floor surfaces were revealed in four of the rooms (104, 105, 106, 107 and 108), with a bedding layer 102 of brownish grey lime mortar containing coal, ash and lime inclusions within another of the rooms (**Figure 2**). The upper surface of 102 showed impressions of 9-inch square floor tiles, presumably robbed out.
- 5.3.7 Floor 105 was constructed of pennant flagstones varying in size from 0.28 m x 0.44 m to 0.64 m x 1.0 m (**Plate 4**). Floor 104 was within the same room as 105 and was constructed of brick and pennant flagstones, only a small area surviving and heavily fractured.
- 5.3.8 Floor 106 was constructed of orange brick and pennant flagstones. The bricks measured 220 mm x 100 mm, the flagstones varied in size from 0.27 m x 0.29 m to 0.37 m x 0.54m (**Plate 5**).
- 5.3.9 Floor 107 was constructed from bricks measuring 220 mm x 100 mm (**Plate 6**).



- 5.3.10 Only a small area of pennant flagstone floor 108 survived, measuring 0.73 m x 0.65 m. The flagstones varied in size from 0.17 m x 0.3 m to 0.3 m x 0.46 m.
- 5.3.11 Within the same room as floor 108, a square brick structure measuring 0.43 m x 0.47 m, was revealed butting wall 101. Constructed of bricks measuring 220 mm x 100 mm bonded with black ashy lime mortar, the structure has been interpreted as the lowest surviving course for an internal column or other internal cottage feature (**Plate 7**).
- 5.3.12 Within the garden area to the rear of the cottages, a rectangular brick built structure 110, interpreted as a cess pit measuring 1.37 m x 1.06 m, was revealed surviving to two courses in height (**Plate 8**). Constructed of brick measuring 230 mm x 100 mm x 70 mm, bonded with white lime mortar with charcoal inclusions, a ceramic drain was noted entering the southern side of the structure.
- 5.3.13 No artefacts were retrieved and no environmental samples were taken.

6 CONCLUSIONS

6.1 Summary

- 6.1.1 The watching brief identified a limited number of archaeological features within the site, with features revealed in both of the observed areas.
- 6.1.2 The majority of the archaeological features identified were either structural (consisting of walls, floors and bedding deposits relating to Blackrock Cottages) or made ground or agricultural in origin. No features or deposits pre-dating the post-medieval period were recorded.

6.2 Discussion

- 6.2.1 The area formerly occupied by Blackrock Cottages showed a high level of disturbance and levelling, the majority of the structures raised to floor level.
- 6.2.2 The watching brief has established that there is a reasonably high potential for archaeology to survive, albeit of post-medieval and modern date.

7 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

7.1 Museum

- 7.1.1 The archive resulting from the watching brief is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Bristol. The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales has agreed in principle to accept the archive on completion of the project, under an accession code to be confirmed.

7.2 Preparation of the archive

- 7.2.1 The archive, which includes paper records, graphics and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; ClfA 2014c; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).
- 7.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the **accession code**, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:



- 1 document case of paper records and A3/A4 graphics;

7.3 Security copy

- 7.3.1 In line with current best practice (eg, Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

8 COPYRIGHT

8.1 Archive and report copyright

- 8.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*. In some instances, certain regional museums may require absolute transfer of copyright, rather than a licence; this should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.
- 8.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

8.2 Third party data copyright

- 8.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (eg, Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which Wessex Archaeology are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferable by Wessex Archaeology. Users remain bound by the conditions of the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of such material.



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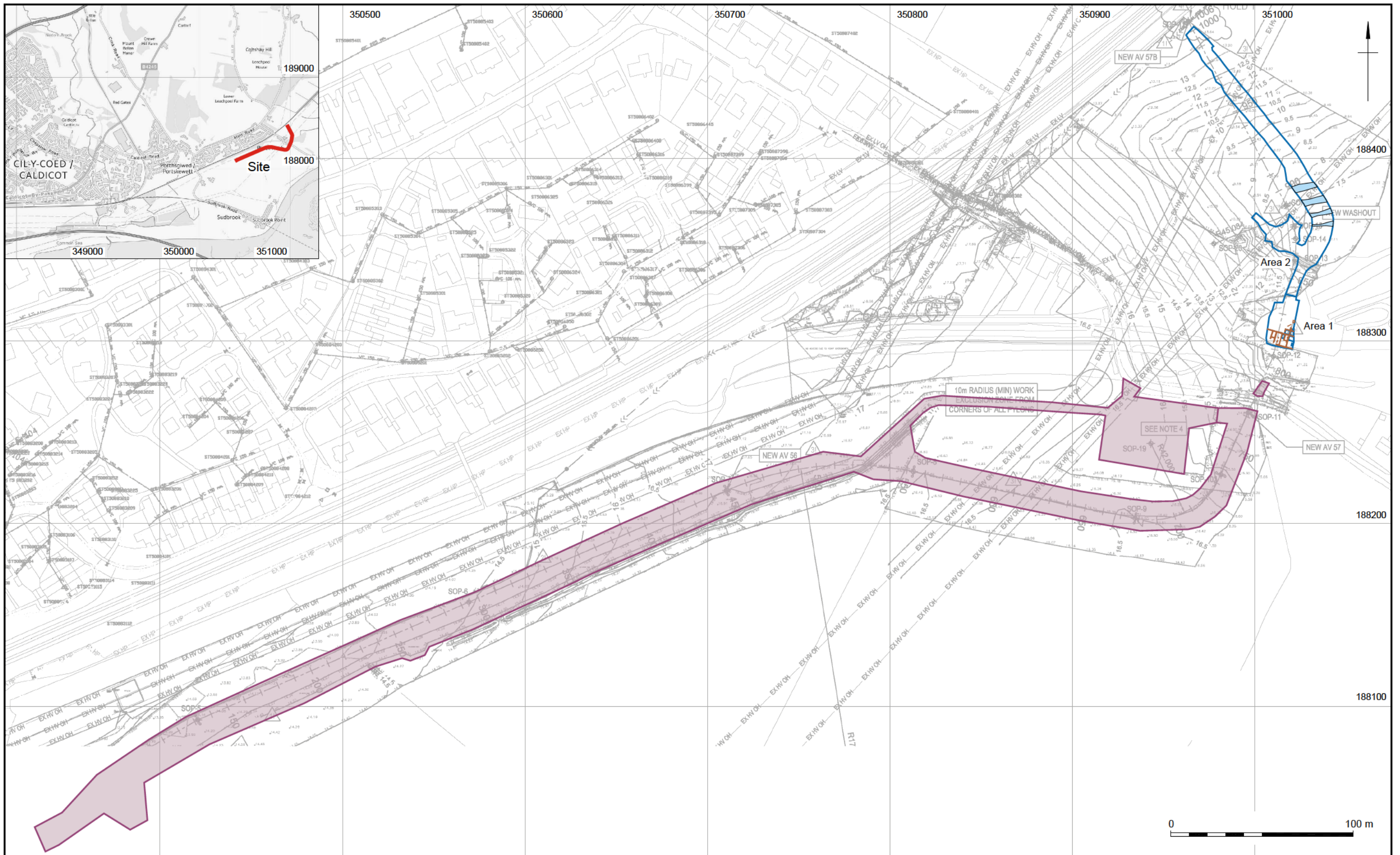
APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Context table

Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
100	Demolition debris		Black silty sand containing brick, tile, sandstone rubble, with sparse pottery, glass, and metal objects (not recovered). Demolition debris from the raising of Blackrock Cottages in the 1960's.	0-0.7
101	Structure – cottage walls		Walls and foundations of mid-19th century cottage/cottages. Walls were constructed of random uncoursed yellow, grey and red sandstone blocks, occasional handmade brick, bonded with cream coloured lime mortar containing coal and ash inclusions. Chimney was constructed of handmade bricks measuring 230mm x 110mm x 70mm bonded with the same lime mortar. External walls measured 0.46m thick, the internal walls 0.33m thick.	+0.9
102	Bedding for tile floor		Brownish grey lime mortar containing coal, ash and lime inclusions. Upper surface showed impressions of 9-inch square floor tiles (not surviving).	0.7-0.8
103	Made ground		Redeposited silty sand natural substrate containing abundant yellow limestone inclusions. Probably derived from railway construction works in the vicinity during the 19th century. Structure 101 and the associated floors are built directly on top of the made ground.	0.8+
104	Floor surface		Brick and pennant flagstone floor. Only a small area of the floor survived measuring 1.08m x 0.5m. Potentially a continuation of floor surface 105.	0.78-0.8
105	Floor surface		Pennant flagstone floor measuring 2.34m x 2.06m. Flagstones vary in size from 0.28m x 0.44m to 0.64m x 1.0m.	0.7
106	Floor surface		Orange brick and pennant flagstone floor. Bricks measured 220mm x 100mm, flagstones vary in size from 0.27m x 0.29m to 0.37m x 0.54m.	0.7
107	Floor surface		Brick floor surface measuring 2m x 2m. Bricks measured 220mm x 100mm.	0.7
108	Floor surface		Pennant flagstone floor. Only a small area of the floor survived measuring 0.73m x 0.65m. Flagstones vary in size from 0.17m x 0.3m to 0.3m x 0.46m.	0.7
109	Internal brick structure		Square brick structure measuring 0.43m x 0.47m, to the west of floor 108 and butting wall 101. Constructed of bricks measuring 220mm x 100mm bonded with black ashy lime mortar, the structure has been interpreted as the lowest surviving course for an internal column or other internal cottage feature.	0.7
110	Brick lined cess pit		Rectangular structure measuring 1.37m x 1.06m and surviving to two courses in height. Constructed of brick measuring 230mm x 100mm x 70mm bonded with white lime mortar with charcoal inclusions.	0.7
111	Garden soil		Dark silty loam containing frequent building debris.	0.7
200	Topsoil		Mid brown loamy sand containing sub angular stones and rare modern pottery (not recovered).	0-0.3
201	Natural substrate		Mid orangey brown sandy loam containing patches of rough large gravel.	0.3+
202	Made ground		Mixed deposit of mid brown loamy sand and mid orangey brown sandy loam containing building rubble, modern	



Context	Interpretation	Fill of	Description	Depth bgl (m)
			pottery, glass and asbestos (not recovered). Probably derived from modern nearby house construction, forms a prominent ridge of higher ground aligned broadly NW to SE.	



Coordinate system:
OSGB36 (OSTN15/OSGM15)

Watching brief trench
Area not investigated

Structure
Ridge and furrow

Base mapping provided by client.
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Site location and plan of watching brief areas

Figure 1



Plan of Area 1

Figure 2



Plate 1: Cottage walls 101, looking east, 2 x 1 m scales



Plate 2: Cottage walls 101, looking north, 2 x 1 m scales


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Plate 3: Detail of chimney 101, looking north-east, 1 m scale



Plate 4: Floor 105, looking south, 2 x 1 m scale


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Plate 5: Floor 106, looking east, 2 x 1 m scale



Plate 6: Floors 105, 106 and 107, looking south-east, 2 x 1 m scale



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Plate 7: Brick structure 109, looking south, 1 m scale



Plate 8: Brick cesspit 110, looking east, 1 m scale

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