

# Archaeology Wales

## Mynwent Denio, Pwllheli, Gwynedd

Archaeological Trenching Evaluation



By

Irene Garcia Rovira BA (Hons) MA PhD, MCIfA

Report No. 1858

# Archaeology Wales

## Mynwent Denio, Pwllheli, Gwynedd

### Archaeological Trenching Evaluation

Prepared For: Priffyrdd & Bwrdeistrefol, Cyngor Gwynedd

Edited by: Phil Poucher  
Signed: *PPoucher*  
Position: Project Manager  
Date: 28.11.19

Authorised by: Phil Poucher  
Signed: *PPoucher*  
Position: Project Manager  
Date: 28.11.19

By  
Irene Garcia Rovira BA (Hons) MA PhD, MCIfA

Report No. 1858

**November 2019**

## Contents

Non-technical Summary .....	2
Crynodeb Annhechnegol.....	2
1 Introduction .....	3
2 Site Description .....	3
3 Archaeological and Historical Background .....	4
4 Methodology .....	4
5 Evaluation results .....	5
6 The Finds.....	7
7 Discussion and Conclusion.....	7
8 Sources .....	9

## Appendices

### Appendix I Figures

Figure 1	Site Location
Figure 2	Topographic layout
Figure 3	Trench locations
Figure 4	Plans and sections

### Appendix II Plates

Plate 1 – 10 Trench 1, 2 and 3 – evaluation shots

### Appendix III Context Inventory

### Appendix IV Written Scheme of Investigation

#### *Copyright Notice:*

*Archaeology Wales Ltd. retain copyright of this report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act, 1988, and have granted a licence to Priffyrdd & Bwrdeistrefol, Cyngor Gwynedd to use and reproduce the material contained within.*

*The Ordnance Survey has granted Archaeology Wales Ltd a Copyright Licence (No. 100055111) to reproduce map information; Copyright remains otherwise with the Ordnance Survey.*

## **Non-technical Summary**

*In November 2019 Archaeology Wales Ltd was commissioned by Priffyrdd & Bwrdeistrefol, Cyngor Gwynedd to undertake a programme of intrusive trial trench evaluation in advance of landscaping works to excavate and level existing surplus land at Denio Cemetery for use as burial plots within land at Mynwent Denio, Pwllheli Gwynedd, LL53 5UA, centred on NGR SH 37269 35760.*

*The programme of intrusive trial trench evaluation allowed for three trenches, measuring 10m x 1.8m, to be excavated. The trenches were devoid of any archaeological remains. Furthermore, the work allowed defining the make-up of the existing mounded feature. The latter was interpreted as dumping activity carried out during the excavation of new burials in the adjacent consecrated ground.*

*All work conformed to Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (ClfA, 2014) and Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Artefact and Environmental Collection, Documentation Conservation and Research (ClfA, 2014).*

## **Crynodeb Annhechnegol**

*Ym mis Tachwedd 2019, comisynwyd Archaeology Cymru gan Adran Priffyrdd & Bwrdeistrefol Cyngor Gwynedd i ymgymryd â rhaglen ymwthiol i werthuso ffosydd prawf cyn y dechreuwyd ar y gwaith tirweddu i gloddio tir dros ben sy'n bodoli ym Mynwent Denio a'i lefelu i'w ddefnyddio fel plotiau claddu o fewn y tir yn y fynwent ym Mhwllheli, Gwynedd, LL53 5UA, y mae canol y lleoliad yn NGR SH 37269 35760.*

*Roedd y rhaglen ymwthiol i werthuso ffosydd prawf yn caniatáu tair ffos, a oedd yn mesur 10m x 1.8m, i gael eu cloddio gan ddefnyddio peiriant. Ni chanfuwyd unrhyw weddillion archeolegol yn y ffosydd. Yn ogystal, caniatodd y gwaith y broses o ddiffinio cyfansoddiad y nodwedd siâp twmpath presennol. Dadansoddwyd bod y twmpath wedi'i greu yn sgil gwaith dympio a wnaed yn ystod y gwaith o gladdu plotiau claddu newydd ar y tir cysegredig gyferbyn.*

*Roedd yr holl waith yn cydymffurfio â'r Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (ClfA 2014) a hefyd Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Artefact and Environmental Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research (ClfA 2014).*

## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 In November 2019 Archaeology Wales Ltd (henceforth 'AW') was commissioned by Prifffyrdd & Bwrdeistrefol, Cyngor Gwynedd to undertake an intrusive trial trench evaluation in advance of the proposed landscaping works within land at Mynwent Denio, Pwllheli Gwynedd, LL53 5UA, centred on NGR SH 37269 35760 (Figure 1-2).
- 1.2 In a letter dated to the 19<sup>th</sup> of September 2019, Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS) recommended that a trenching evaluation was carried out onsite to assess the presence/absence and condition of sub-surface remains within the area proposed for development.
- 1.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was written by Dr Irene Garcia Rovira (AW Project Manager, MCIfA). The WSI was agreed by GAPS in their capacity as archaeological advisors to Gwynedd County Council. The purpose of the archaeological trenching evaluation was to provide the local planning authority with sufficient information regarding the nature of archaeological remains on the site of the development, the requirements for which are set out in Planning Policy (edition 10, December 2018), Section 6 and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment (2017).
- 1.4 The trial trench evaluation was conducted under the supervision of Jerry Bond (ACIfA), assisted by Dr Erika Guttman-Bond. The project was managed by Dr Irene Garcia Rovira.
- 1.5 All work was undertaken to the standards and guidance set by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014). AW is a Registered Organisation with the CfA.

## **2 Site Description**

### **2.1 The Site**

- 2.1.1 The proposed development site is located within the bounds of Mynwent Capel Deugnorn. The latter occupies an irregular area of land measuring approximately 3.6 acres, comprising a chapel located towards the southeast and a large burial ground which extends to the north and west. Development plans target its westernmost area measuring around 0.3 acres of land. This area is located immediately north of the site of the former St Beuno's Church (PRN 441).
- 2.1.2 The area proposed for development is currently defined by overgrown vegetation, although the remains of a path following from the existing access track that leads to this area (running along the north boundary of Mynwent Capel Deugnorn) is visible both in aerial photographs and LiDAR imagery. Furthermore, the area is the location of a large mound which oscillates topographically from 29m to 31m AOD.

## **2.2 Geology**

- 2.2.1 The underlying geology of site is comprised of the Ashgill Rocks formation. This formation is comprised of mudstone, siltstone, and sandstone formed during the Ordovician Period. The superficial soils are defined as Till Diamicton formed during the Quaternary Period (BGS 2019).

## **3 Archaeological and Historical Background**

- 3.1 The area targeted for the trenching evaluation is located on the NW end of the church cemetery. A rapid examination of cartographic and other historic sources highlighted that the cemetery is associated with Capel Deugorn as well as two other former chapels; St Denio's Church (PRN 6926) and St Beuno's Church (PRN 441).
- 3.2 St Beuno's Church (PRN 441) was originally the parish church of the borough of Pwllheli (its function was later taken by St Peter's Church, Pwllheli). By 1879, the church was taken down and was replaced by the present church now in ruinous state (Davidson 208),
- 3.3 According to written sources, a medieval church – first mentioned in 1254 – was located in the NW corner of the graveyard (RCAHMW 1964). The presence of an early church was also highlighted in written sources dating to the 18<sup>th</sup> century.
- 3.4 An examination of cartographic sources highlights that the current boundaries of the church have virtually been unaltered since at least 1889. Moreover, while it is difficult to ascertain the accuracy of the Tithe map for the area, it documents the presence of a structure to the NW end of the field in which the present ruinous church is located. The remains of this structure, or/and associated burials are only located a few meters south from the location of the trenches.

## **4 Methodology**

- 4.1 Three trenches, each measuring 10m x 1.8m were located within the proposed development area to assess the presence/absence of sub-surface remains as well as to be able to examine make-up of the mounded features evidenced within the boundary area. The size and location of the trenches were agreed with GAPS before the commencement of works.
- 4.2 The evaluation trenches were machine excavated using a toothless grading bucket. The trenches were excavated until the natural substrate was reached and confirmed. All areas were subsequently hand cleaned using pointing trowels to prove the presence, or absence, of archaeological features and to determine their significance.

- 4.3 Recording was carried out using AW recording systems (pro-forma context sheets etc) using a continuous number sequence for all contexts. Plans and sections were drawn to a scale of 1:20 and 1:10 as required and related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.
- 4.4 All features identified were tied into the OS survey grid and fixed to local topographical boundaries.
- 4.5 Photographs were taken in digital format with an appropriate scale, using a 12MP camera with photographs stored in Tiff format.

## **5 Evaluation results (Figure 3-4; Plates 1-10)**

- 5.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at Mynwent Denio Pwllheli (hereafter the site) by Archaeology Wales (AW) on the 14th & 15th November 2019. The work was supervised by Jerry Bond and was assisted by Erika Guttman-Bond.
- 5.2 A total of three evaluation trenches were machine excavated by a tracked 360 mechanical excavator operated by Gareth from A W Roberts.

### Trench 1

- 5.3 Trench 1 was located toward the SW corner of the site, running parallel with the southern boundary wall. The trench was aligned WSW/ENE and was positioned 2m north from the wall to avoid damage to the latter, and to comply with health and safety guidelines. The trench was 10.7m long, 1.8m wide and excavated to a maximum depth of 0.48m below the ground level.
- 5.4 The lowest deposit encountered was the natural substrate (1001), a dark yellowish-brown sandy silt with outcrops along the length of the trench of the underlying bedrock. This deposit was exposed to a depth of 0.23m. Deposit (1001) was overlaid by (1000), the topsoil.
- 5.5 The latter was defined as a friable dark greyish brown silty clay, with occasional charcoal flecks and small rounded and sub angular stones. It measured in average 0.25m in depth. Two sherds of modern pottery and one shard of bottle glass were recovered from this layer.
- 5.6 No archaeological features were encountered during the cutting and cleaning of the trench.

### Trench 2

- 5.6 Trench 2 was located toward the centre of the proposed development area and positioned to examine the make-up of the mound occupying the central and northern regions of the site. The trench was orientated NW/SW, measured 9.5m in length, 1.8m in width, and was excavated to a maximum of 0.46m (more than

2m towards the mounded region).

- 5.7 The lowest deposit was the natural substrate (2002) a mid-yellow brown sandy silt with bedrock outcrops. The natural substrate was excavated to a thickness of 0.05m to ascertain its nature. Context (2002) was overlaid by the subsoil (2001).
- 5.8 The subsoil horizon, (2001), was defined as a mottled pale brown/grey brown sandy silt with occasional pebbles/gravels and small to medium rounded stones, 0.01 to 0.04m in size. This deposit was overlaid by layer (2000).
- 5.9 The topsoil (2000) was characterised as a very dark grey brown silty clay, with moderate quantities of small and medium rounded and sub-angular stones, measuring 0.2m in thickness.
- 5.10 To the northern end of the trench was a large mound like area (2003) through which the evaluation trench was cut, specifically to identify its formation and date. The make-up of the mound was defined by a mixed deposit with lens and dumps dumps of dark grey brown silty clays, very dark brown material containing signs of burning and also lens of gravels and lens of pale grey clays. It contained plentiful finds of modern date including both plastic and glass bottles, ceramic tiles, concrete paving slabs, industrial baling ties, pottery and fabric flowers (from graves). It was 2m in thickness and continued to the north of the trench as a large and irregular mound or series of mounds from frequent and repeated dumping of material from the adjacent graveyard. The upper 0.1m was rooted from modern regrowth covering the mound.

### Trench 3

- 5.11 Trench 3 was located to the east of the site, it was aligned NE to SW and cut into a bank that divided the site and the cemetery to the east. It was 10.2m in length, 1.8m wide and had a maximum depth of 0.52m toward the SW end and a 0.95m at its NE end where it cut an earthen bank
- 5.12 The earliest deposit encountered was the natural substrate, (3007), a mid-yellow brown sandy silt with bedrock outcrops and weathered fragments, partly excavated to a thickness of 0.05m. Context (3007) was overlaid by (3006) at the southern end of the trench. The latter was composed of a very dark greyish brown clayey silt with occasional stones, and charcoal flecks. This deposit was 0.19m thick. Two conjoining sherds of post medieval pottery were recovered from the NE end where it lay below the bank.
- 5.13 A mixed deposit (3004) was found toward the NE end of the trench. This deposit was largely composed of a dark brown silty clay with pale sand within it, sloping downwards from south to north. It had a thickness of 0.39m and was at least 0.56m wide. This deposit was overlaid by (3003).
- 5.14 Context (3003) was defined as a dark yellowish-brown sandy clay silt, slightly greyed with pale grey and yellowish mottling indicating periods of waterlogging



or changes in the local water table. This deposit was 0.13m thick and was found across the width of the trench. Context (3003) was overlaid by (3002).

- 5.15 The latter was defined by a brown sandy clay silt with frequent pea grit, stones and cobbles. (3002) was 0.45m at its thickest and was deposited sloping downward from south to north.
- 5.16 Above was (3001), a dark yellowish-brown sandy clay silt with frequent angular stones of 0.05 to 0.4m thickness, being deposited sloping downhill from south to north and is derived from the underlying natural and was redeposited to form the earthen bank.
- 5.17 Overlying all was (3000), the extant topsoil layer, a brown very silty clay with rooting and with pea grit and gravels. It was 0.15 to 0.2m in thickness and sherds of CBM and pottery as well as shards of glass were recovered from it, all of a modern date.

## 6 The Finds

- 6.1 A number of finds were recovered during the trial trenching evaluation. All finds were of post-medieval and modern date and related to activities carried out within the area of the cemetery. Furthermore, finds located within the mounded feature highlighted the use of the area to dump the left-over soil accrued during the insertion of new burials within the bounds of the cemetery.

Context Number	Object Type	Quantity	Weight	Description
1000	Pottery	x2	68g	1x base, 1x body
1000	Glass	x1	17g	1 x body
2003	Pottery	x 1	110g	Body sherd?
2003	Glass	x1	283g	Bottle
2003	Concrete	x1	385g	Paving slab fragment
2003	Tile	x 2	928g	Possible fragment of roof and floor tile
3000	Pottery	x5	55g	Sherds
3000	CBM	x3	3557g	Floor tiles
3005	Pottery	x2	2g	Sherds

## 7 Discussion and Conclusion

- 7.1 In November 2019 Archaeology Wales Ltd carried out a trenching evaluation within the bounds of Mynwent Denio. The work allowed for three trenches (each measuring 10m x 1.8m) to be cut in three locations to assess the presence/absence of subsurface remains of archaeological origin as well as to

enhance our understanding of the mounded feature located toward the north of the proposed development site.

- 7.2 The excavation of the trenches yielded no archaeological remains. Furthermore, it was confirmed that the mounded area had been defined by multiple dumping activities occurred during burial action on the active cemetery area. This interpretation was confirmed given the nature of the finds recovered from the mounded area during the trenching evaluation.

## **8 Sources**

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. *Standards and guidance for the collection, compilation, transfer, and deposition of archaeological archives*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. *Standards and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation, and research of archaeological materials*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*

Davidson, A. 2008 *Pwllheli- Urban Characterisation. Unpublished GAT Report No. 730*

Garcia Rovira, I., 2019. *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Trenching Evaluation at Mynwent Denio, Capel Ungorn, Pwllheli (Archaeology Wales)*

RCAHMW 1964 *An Inventory of Ancient and Historical Monuments in Caernarvonshire Vol. III: West*

### **Catalogues**

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust HER - Enquiry No. GATHER1201

### **Cartographic sources consulted**

The parish of Deneio, County of Carnarvon 1840

OS County Series 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1889 – 1,2500

### **Websites**

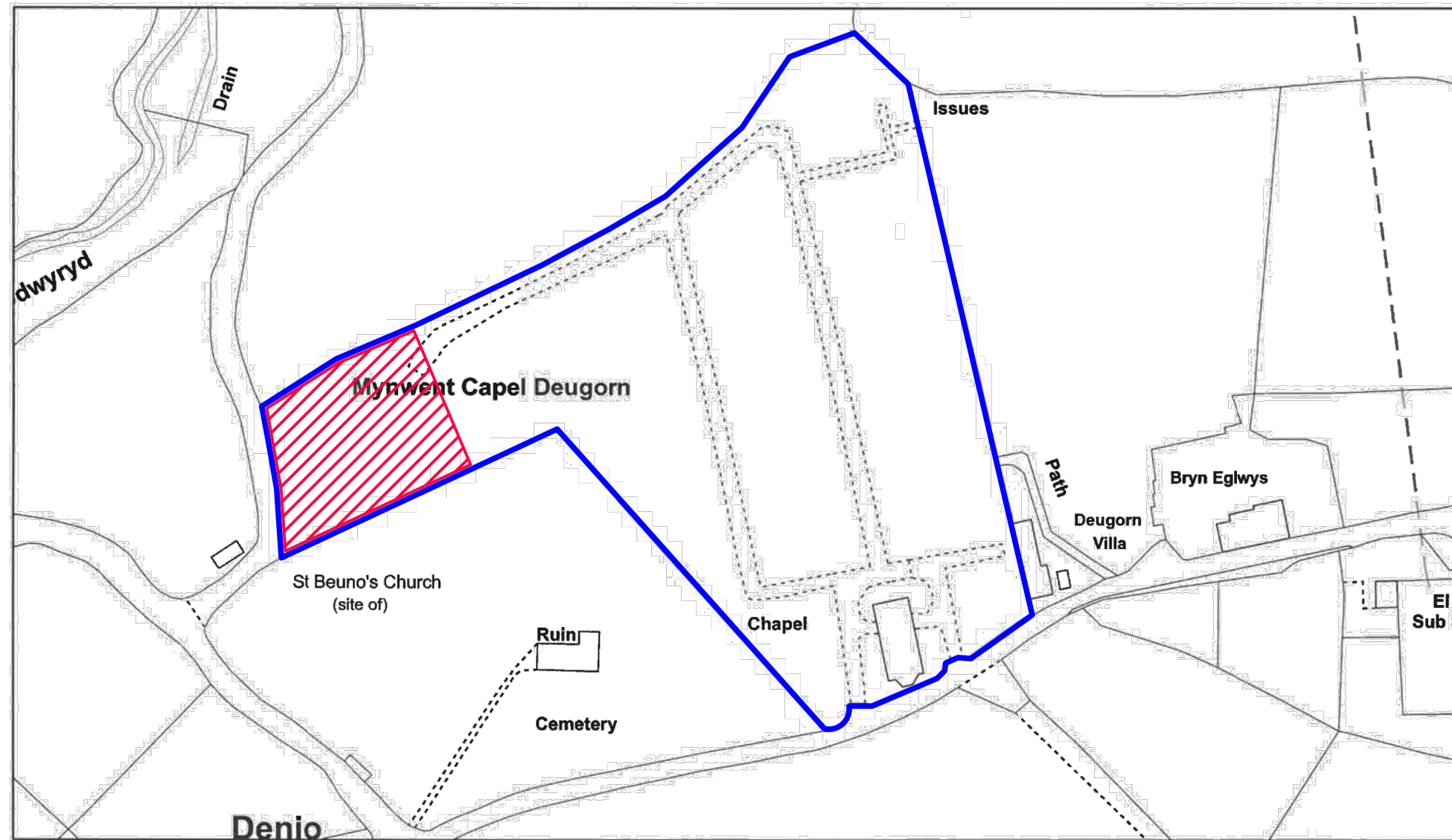
British Geological Survey, 2019. <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> (accessed 19/11/19)



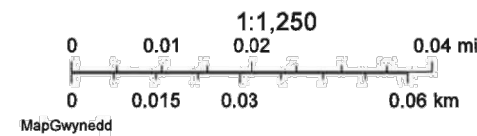
# *Archaeology Wales*

## **APPENDIX I:**

# Map Gwynedd



July 30, 2019



© Hawffraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2019 Arolwg Ordnans 100023387 - Cyngor Gwynedd

00			
Rev	Description	Drawn	Date
<small>© This drawing is the property of Wakemans Ltd and must not be copied in whole or in part without their written permission. All discrepancies and errors or omissions must be reported to Wakemans prior to works commencing. This drawing must not be scaled.</small>			



12-16 Bridge Street, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1AB  
Tel: 01286 672 581  
e-mail: t.hastings@wakemans.com

Address:		Mynwent Denio	
		Pwllheli	
Title:		Landscaping Works - Site Location Plan	
Drawn: DE	Checked: TH	Date: July 2019	
Scale: 1:1250@A3	Job: 25079	Drawing No: 25079/005	Rev: -







Figure 3. Trench locations.

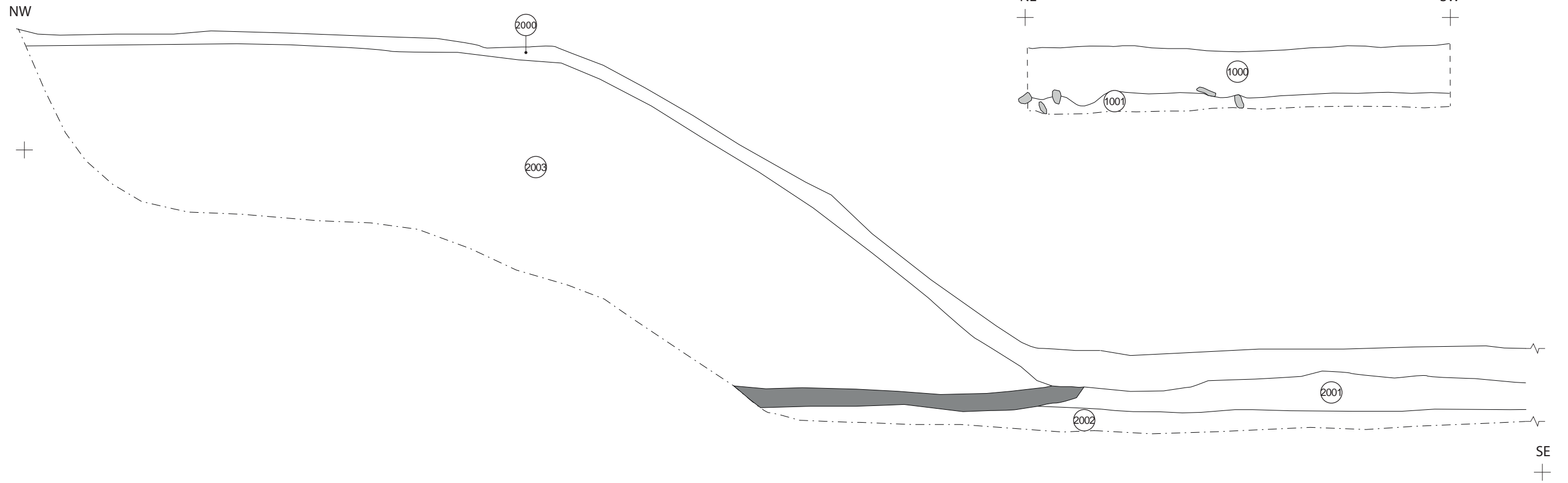
Trench 1: 10m x 1.8m targeting sub-surface features that may be present within the area.

Trench 2: 10m x 1.8m targeting sub-surface features and nature of the raised area located at within the development area.

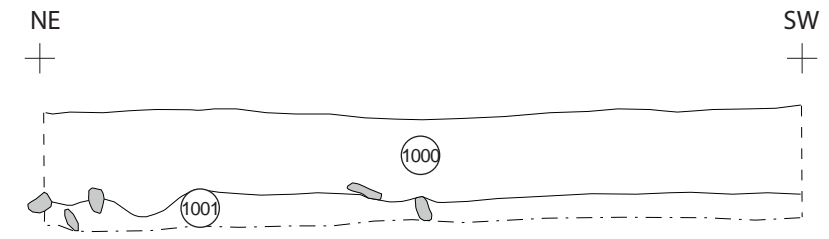
Trench 3: 10m x 1.8m targeting sub-surface features and nature of the raised area located at within the development are



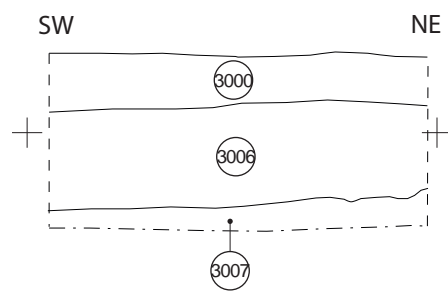
Section of modern Mound within Trench 2



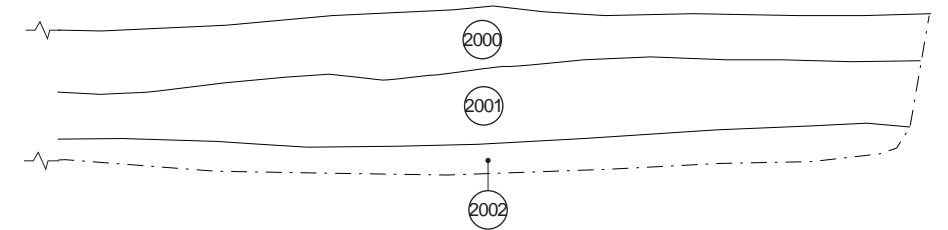
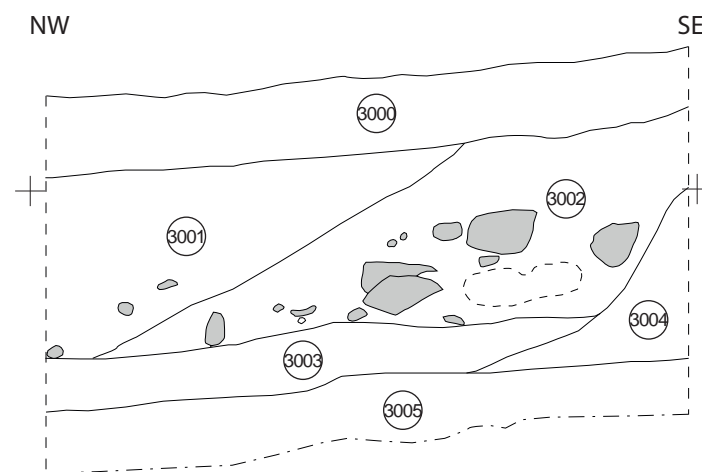
Representative section within Trench 1



Representative section within Trench 3



Representative section within Trench 3



- Key
- Bioturbation
  - Stone
  - Ash lens



Figure 4  
Sections within Trenches 1, 2 and 3

# *Archaeology Wales*

## **Appendix II**



Plate 1. Pre-excitation shot, looking SW



Plate 2. Pre-excitation shot, looking W





Plate 3. Pre-excavation shot, looking E



Plate 4. Pre-excavation shot, looking NE





Plate 5. Trench 1, looking SW. Scales 2 x 1m



Plate 6. Representative section Trench 1, looking SSE. Scales 0.3m & 2m





Plate 7. Mound make-up, Trench 2, looking NE during excavation. Scales 1m & 2m



Plate 8. Trench 2, looking NE. Scales 0.3m & 2m





Plate 9. Trench 2, looking NE representative section. Scales 0.3m & 2m



Plate 10. Trench 3, looking NE. Scales 2 x 1m

# *Archaeology Wales*

## **Appendix III**



### Trench 1

Context n°	Context type	Description	Depth from ground level (m)
(1000)	Layer	Topsoil, very dark greyish brown silty clay, friable blocky structure. Occasional flecks of charcoal. Diffuse boundary to natural	0m - 0.25m
(1001)	Layer	Drift/Natural, dark yellowish-brown sand and silt with sandstone outcrops. Sandstone weathering and decaying into sand	0.25m+

### Trench 2

Context n°	Context type	Description	Depth from ground level (m)
(2000)	Layer	Topsoil, very dark grey brown silty clay	0m - 0.2m
(2001)	Layer	Subsoil, mottled pale brown & pale grey brown sand and silt. Occasional gravel and small rounded stones (0.01-0.04)	0.2m -0.35m
(2002)	Layer	Natural bedrock outcrop, weathered/broken up. Occasional angular stone (0.05-0.1) and occasional rounded stones (0.02-0.06)	0.35m - >0.4m
(2003)	Layer	Made ground, dumped modern material. Grey brown. Layers of clay, gravel and burnt material	>2m

### Trench 3

Context n°	Context type	Description	Depth from ground level (m)
(3000)	Layer	Topsoil, brown very silty clay. Occasional poorly sorted stones.	0m - 0.15m
(3001)	Layer	Dark yellowish-brown, sandy clay-silt. Frequent poorly sorted stones up to 20cm	0.15m - 0.6m
(3002)	Layer	Brown sandy clay-silt. Frequent pea grits, stones and cobbles. Stones up to 25cm	0.15m - 0.6m
(3003)	Layer	Dark yellowish-brown sandy clay-silt. Frequent stones up to 10cm. Slightly grey/grey yellowish mottling indicates fluctuating water table, possible from source not from current position in bank	0.6m - 0.73m
(3004)	Deposit	Dark brown and white sand	0.6m - 0.73m

(3005)	Layer	Very dark greyish brown clay silt. Occasional stones and charcoal flecks. This layer forms the subsoil that extends across trench 3. It is below a topsoil beyond the extent of the bank	0.73m - 0.92m
(3006)	Layer	Subsoil across the trench beyond the bank. Dark greyish brown clay silt. Occasional stones	0.3m - 0.42m

Written Scheme of Investigation  
  
For an archaeological trenching  
evaluation at: Mynwent Denio, Capel  
  
Ungorn, Pwllheli

Prepared for: Priffyrdd & Bwrdeistrefol, Cyngor Gwynedd

Planning Application Number: C19/0744/45/LL

Project No: 2769

Prepared: October 2019



## Contents

1. Introduction and planning background .....	2
2. Site description and historic background .....	3
3. Objectives.....	3
4. Fieldwork.....	4
5. Monitoring .....	7
6. Post-fieldwork programme .....	7
Archive assessment.....	8
Analysis .....	8
7. Staff .....	9
8. Health and Safety.....	10
9. Community Engagement and Outreach .....	10
10. Insurance.....	10
11. Quality Control.....	11
12. References .....	11

## **Summary**

*This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) provides the details and methodology for an archaeological trenching evaluation to be undertaken by Archaeology Wales Ltd at the request of Priffyrdd & Bwrdeistrefol, Cyngor Gwynedd.*

*Proposed development plans foresee landscaping works to excavate and level existing surplus land at Denio Cemetery for use as burial plots within land at Mynwent Denio, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5UA (NGR: SH 37269 35760). The work is associated with planning application number C19/0744/45/LL.*

*Historic sources highlight that the land subjected to development is associated with Capel Deurgorn as well as with two historic chapels: St Denio's Church (PRN 6926) and St Beuno's Church (PRN 441). In order to assess the archaeological potential of this area, GAPS has recommended that a trenching evaluation is carried out onsite.*

*All work will be undertaken in accordance with the standards and guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014).*

## **1. Introduction and planning background**

1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) provides the details and methodology for an archaeological trenching evaluation to be undertaken by Archaeology Wales Ltd at the request of Priffyrdd & Bwrdeistrefol, Cyngor Gwynedd.

1.2 Proposed development plans foresee landscaping works to excavate and level existing surplus land at Denio Cemetery for use as burial plots within land at Mynwent Denio, Pwllheli Gwynedd LL53 5UA (NGR: SH 37269 35760). The work is associated with planning application number C19/0744/45/LL (Figure 1).

1.3 Historic sources highlight that the land subjected to development is associated with Capel Deurgorn as well as with two historic chapels: St Denio's Church (PRN 6926) and St Beuno's Church (PRN 441).

1.4 In a letter dated to the 19th of September 2019, Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS) recommended that a trenching evaluation is carried out onsite to assess the presence/absence and condition of sub-surface remains that might exist in the area proposed for development.

1.5 This WSI has been prepared by Irene Garcia Rovira MCIfA, Project Manager, Archaeology Wales Ltd (henceforth - AW) at the request of Priffyrdd & Bwrdeistrefol, Cyngor Gwynedd.

- 1.6 The methodology set out in this WSI has been agreed with GAPS in its capacity as archaeological advisors to Gwynedd County Council. The purpose of the archaeological trenching evaluation is to provide the local planning authority with sufficient information regarding the nature of archaeological remains on the site of the development, the requirements for which are set out in Planning Policy (edition 9 10, 2018), Section 6 and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment (2017).
- 1.7 All work will be undertaken to the standards and guidance set by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014). AW is a Registered Organisation with the ClfA.

## 2. Site description and historic background

- 2.1 The proposed development site is located within the bounds of Mynwent Capel Deugorn. The latter occupies an irregular area of land measuring approximately 3.6 acres, comprising a chapel located towards the SE and a large burial ground which extends to the north and west. Development plans target its westernmost area measuring c 0.3 acres of land. This area is located immediately north of the site of the former St Beuno's Church (PRN 441) (see below).
- 2.2 The area proposed for development is currently defined by overgrown vegetation, although the remains of a path following from the existing access track that leads to this area (running along the north boundary of Mynwent Capel Deugorn) is visible both in aerial photographs and LiDAR imagery. Furthermore, the area is the location of a large mound which oscillates topographically from 29m to 31m AOD (Figure 2).
- 2.3 The underlying geology is defined by Ashgill Rocks (mudstone, siltstone and sandstone) formed during the Ordovician Period. The superficial soils are defined as Till Diamicton formed during the Quaternary Period.
- 2.4 A rapid examination of cartographic and other historic sources highlights that the cemetery has been associated with Capel Deugorn as well as two other former chapels; St Denio's Church (PN 6926) and St Beuno's Church (PRN 441). While the boundaries of Capel Deugorn and St Beuno's Church have not suffered changes over time according to cartographic sources, the possible presence of burials within the proposed development area cannot be discarded given its closeness to consecrated ground.

## 3. Objectives

- 3.1 This WSI sets out a program of works to ensure that the trenching evaluation will meet the standard required by The Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014).

- 3.2 The objective of the intrusive trial trench evaluation will be to locate and describe, by means of strategic trial trenching, archaeological features that may be present within the development area. The work will elucidate the presence or absence of archaeological material, its character, distribution, extent, condition and relative significance.
- 3.3 The work will include an assessment of regional context within which the archaeological evidence rests and will aim to highlight any relevant research issues within national and regional research frameworks.
- 3.4 The intrusive trial trench evaluation will result in a report that will provide information of sufficient detail to allow informed planning decisions to be made which can safeguard the archaeological resource. Preservation in situ will be advocated where at all possible, but where engineering or other factors result in loss of archaeological deposits, preservation by record will be recommended.

## 4. Fieldwork

### **Detail**

- 4.1 The work will be undertaken to meet the standard required by The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (2014).
- 4.2 The archaeological project manager in charge of the work will satisfy herself that all constraints to ground works have been identified, including the siting of live services and Tree Preservation Orders.
- 4.3 The agreed evaluation areas will be positioned to maximise the retrieval of archaeological information and to ensure that the archaeological resource is understood.
- 4.4 It is proposed that three trenches (10m x 1.8m), will be machine-excavated within the planned development area (Figure 3). The exact positioning of the trenches will depend on the position of any extant services or other obstructions that come to light during the initial phase of ground works. The locations and dimensions of the trenches will be agreed with GAPS prior to the commencement of works. While Trench 1 and 2 will be positioned in areas not currently occupied by the existing mound, Trench 3 will cut through it to be able to assess its nature.
- 4.5 The evaluation trenches (Trenches 1-3) will be excavated to the top of the archaeological horizon or the natural deposits (whichever is encountered soonest) by a machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket under close archaeological supervision. All areas will be subsequently hand cleaned using pointing trowels and/or hoes to prove the presence, or absence, of archaeological features and to determine their significance.
- 4.6 The excavation of the archaeological features will be undertaken, to elucidate the character, distribution, extent and importance of the archaeological remains. As a minimum, small discrete

features will be fully excavated, larger discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% excavated) and long linear features will be sample excavated along their length (approximately 10-20%) - with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature and to investigate terminals, junctions and relationships with other features. Should this percentage excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined full excavation of such features/deposits will be required.

- 4.7 Sufficient excavation will be undertaken to ensure that the natural horizons are reached and proven, where this can be practically and safely achieved. If safety reasons preclude manual excavation to natural, hand augering may be used to try to assess the total depth of stratification within each area. The depth of the excavation will conform to current safety requirements. If excavation is required below 1.2m the options of using shoring or stepping the trenches will be discussed with the client and GAPS.
- 4.8 If significant archaeological features are encountered during the course of the evaluation then GAPS and the client will be informed at the earliest possible opportunity. GAPS may subsequently request that further archaeological work is undertaken in order to fully evaluate areas of significant archaeological activity. Such work may require the provision of additional time and resources to complete the archaeological investigation.

#### Recording

- 4.9 Recording will be carried out using AW recording systems (pro-forma context sheets etc) using a continuous number sequence for all contexts.
- 4.10 Plans and sections will be drawn to a scale of 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 as required and related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.
- 4.11 All features identified will be tied in to the OS survey grid and fixed to local topographical boundaries.
- 4.12 Photographs will be taken in digital format with an appropriate scale, using a 12MP camera with photographs stored in Tiff format.
- 4.13 The archaeologists undertaking the trenching evaluation will have access to the AW metal detector and be trained in its use.

#### Finds

- 4.14 The professional standards set in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological (2014) will form the basis of finds collection, processing and recording. All manner of finds regardless of category and date will be retained.
- 4.15 Finds recovered that are regarded as Treasure under The Treasure Act 1996 will be reported to HM Coroner for the local area.



- 4.16 Any finds which are considered to be in need of immediate conservation will be referred to a UKIC qualified conservator (normally Phil Parkes at Cardiff University).

#### Environmental sampling strategy

- 4.18 Deposits with a significant potential for the preservation of paleoenvironmental material will be sampled, by means of the most appropriate method (bulk, column etc). Where sampling will provide a significant contribution to the understanding of the site AW will draw up a site-specific sampling strategy alongside a specialist environmental archaeologist. All environmental sampling and recording will follow English Heritage's Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology (2nd Edition 2011).

#### Human remains

- 4.19 In the event that human remains are encountered, their nature and extent will be established and the coroner informed. All human remains will be left in situ and protected during backfilling. Where preservation in situ is not possible the human remains will be fully recorded and removed under conditions that comply with all current legislation and include acquisition of licenses and provision for reburial following all analytical work. Human remains will be excavated in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Excavation and Post-Excavation Treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains: Technical Paper Number 13 (1993).
- 4.20 A meeting with GAPS, the client and AW will be called if the human remains uncovered are of such complexity or significance that the contingency arrangement would not be of sufficient scope.

#### Specialist advisers

- 4.21 In the event of certain finds, features or sites being discovered, AW will seek specialist opinion and advice. A list of specialists is given in the table below although this list is not exhaustive.

Artefact type	Specialist
Flint	Kate Pitt (Archaeology Wales)
Animal bone	Richard Madgwick (Cardiff University)
CBM, heat affected clay, Daub etc.	Rachael Hall (APS)
Clay pipe	Hilary Major (Freelance)
Glass	Rowena Hart (Archaeology Wales)

Cremated and non-cremated human bone	Malin Holst (University of York)/Richard Madgwick (Cardiff University)
Metalwork	Kevin Leahy (University of Leicester)/ Quita Mold (Freelance)
Metal work and metallurgical residues	Dr Tim Young (GeoArch)
Neo/BA pottery	Dr Alex Gibson (Bradford University)
IA/Roman pottery	Jane Timby (Freelance)
Roman Pottery	Rowena Hart (Archaeology Wales)/ Peter Webster (Freelance)
Post Roman pottery	Stephen Clarke (Monmouthshire Archaeology)
Charcoal (wood ID)	John Carrot (Freelance)
Waterlogged wood	Nigel Nayling (University of Wales – Lampeter)
Molluscs and pollen	Dr James Rackham
Charred and waterlogged plant remains	Wendy Carruthers (Freelance)

## 5. Monitoring

- 5.1 GAPS will be contacted with as much notice prior to the commencement of archaeological site works, and subsequently once the work is underway
- 5.2 Any changes to the WSI that AW may wish to make after approval will be communicated to GAPS for approval on behalf of Planning Authority.
- 5.3 Representatives of GAPS will be given access to the site so that they may monitor the progress of the trenching evaluation. No area will be back-filled, until GAPS has had the opportunity to inspect it, unless permission has been given in advance. GAPS will be kept regularly informed about developments, both during the site works and subsequently during post-excavation.

## 6. Post-fieldwork programme

## Archive assessment

### Site archive

6.1 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with: Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2006) upon completion of the project

6.2 The site archive (including artefacts and samples) will be prepared in accordance with the National Monuments Record (Wales) agreed structure and deposited with an appropriate receiving organisation, in compliance with ClfA Guidelines (Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives', 2014). The legal landowners consent will be gained for deposition of finds.

### Analysis

6.3 Following a rapid review of the potential of the site archive, a programme of analysis and reporting will be undertaken. This will result in the following inclusions in the final report:

- Non-technical summary in Welsh and English
- Location plan showing the area/s covered by the trenching evaluation, all artefacts, structures and features found
- Plan and section drawings (if features are encountered) with ground level, ordnance datum and vertical and horizontal scales.
- Written description and interpretation of all deposits identified, including their character, function, potential dating and relationship to adjacent features. Specialist descriptions and illustrations of all artefacts and soil samples will be included as appropriate.
- An indication of the potential of archaeological deposits which have not been disturbed by the development
- A discussion of the local, regional and national context of the remains by means of reviewing published reports, unpublished reports, historical maps, documents from local archives and the regional HER as appropriate.
- A detailed archive list at the rear listing all contexts recorded, all samples finds and find types, drawings and photographs taken. This will include a statement of the intent to deposit, and location of deposition, of the archive.

## Reports and archive deposition

### Report to client

6.4 Copies of all reports associated with the trenching evaluation together with inclusion of supporting evidence in appendices as appropriate, including photographs and illustrations, will be submitted to the client and GAPS upon completion.

### Additional reports

- 6.5 After an appropriate period has elapsed, copies of all reports will be deposited with the relevant county Historical Environment Record, the National Monuments Record and, if appropriate, Cadw.

### Summary reports for publication

- 6.6 Short archaeological reports will be submitted for publication in relevant journals; as a minimum, a report will be submitted to the annual publication of the regional CBA group or equivalent journal.

### Notification of important remains

- 6.7 Where it is considered that remains have been revealed that may satisfy the criteria for statutory protection, AW will submit preliminary notification of the remains to Cadw.

### Archive deposition

- 6.8 The final archive (site and research) will, whenever appropriate, be deposited with a suitable receiving institution, usually the relevant Local Authority museums service. Arrangements will be made with the receiving institution before work starts.
- 6.9 Although there may be a period during which client confidentiality will need to be maintained, copies of all reports and the final archive will be deposited no later than six months after completion of the work.
- 6.10 Copies of all reports, the digital archive and an archive index will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW, Aberystwyth.
- 6.11 Wherever the archive is deposited, this information will be relayed to the HER. A summary of the contents of the archive will be supplied to GAPS.

### Finds deposition

- 6.12 The finds, including artefacts and ecofacts, excepting those which may be subject to the Treasure Act, will be deposited with the same institution, subject to the agreement of the legal land owners.

## 7. Staff

- 7.1 The project will be managed by Dr Irene Garcia Rovira (AW Project Manager) and the

fieldwork undertaken by James Weaver and Lucy Bagshaw (Archaeology Wales). Any alteration to staffing before or during the work will be brought to the attention of GAPS and the client.

## 8. Health and Safety

### Risk assessment

- 8.1 Prior to the commencement of work AW will carry out and produce a formal Health and Safety Risk Assessment in accordance with The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992. A copy of the risk assessment will be kept on site and be available for inspection on request. A copy will be sent to the client (or their agent as necessary) for their information. All members of AW staff will adhere to the content of this document.

### Other guidelines

- 8.2 AW will adhere to best practice with regard to Health and Safety in Archaeology as set out in the FAME (Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers) health and safety manual Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (2002).

## 9. Community Engagement and Outreach

- 9.1 Wherever possible, AW will ensure suitable measures are in place to inform the local community and any interested parties of the results of the site investigation work. This may occur during the site investigation work or following completion of the work. The form of any potential outreach activities may include lectures and talks to local groups, interested parties and persons, information boards, flyers and other forms of communication (social media and websites), and press releases to local and national media.
- 9.2 The form of any outreach will respect client confidentiality or contractual agreements. As a rule, outreach will be proportional to the size of the project
- 9.3 Where outreach activities have a cost implication these will need to be negotiated in advance and in accordance with the nature of the desired response and learning outcomes.

## 10. Insurance

- 10.1 AW is fully insured for this type of work, and holds Insurance with Aviva Insurance Ltd and Hiscox Insurance Company Limited through Towergate Insurance. Full details of these and other relevant policies can be supplied on request.

## 11. Quality Control

### Professional standards

11.1 AW works to the standards and guidance provided by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. AW fully recognise and endorse the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology and the Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs currently in force. All employees of AW, whether corporate members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists or not, are expected to adhere to these Codes and Standards during their employment.

### Project tracking

11.2 The designated AW manager will monitor all projects in order to ensure that agreed targets are met without reduction in quality of service.

### Arbitration

11.3 Disputes or differences arising in relation to this work shall be referred for a decision in accordance with the Rules of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' Arbitration Scheme for the Institute for Archaeologists applying at the date of the agreement.

## 12. References

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standards and guidance for the collection, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standards and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standards and guidance for excavation.

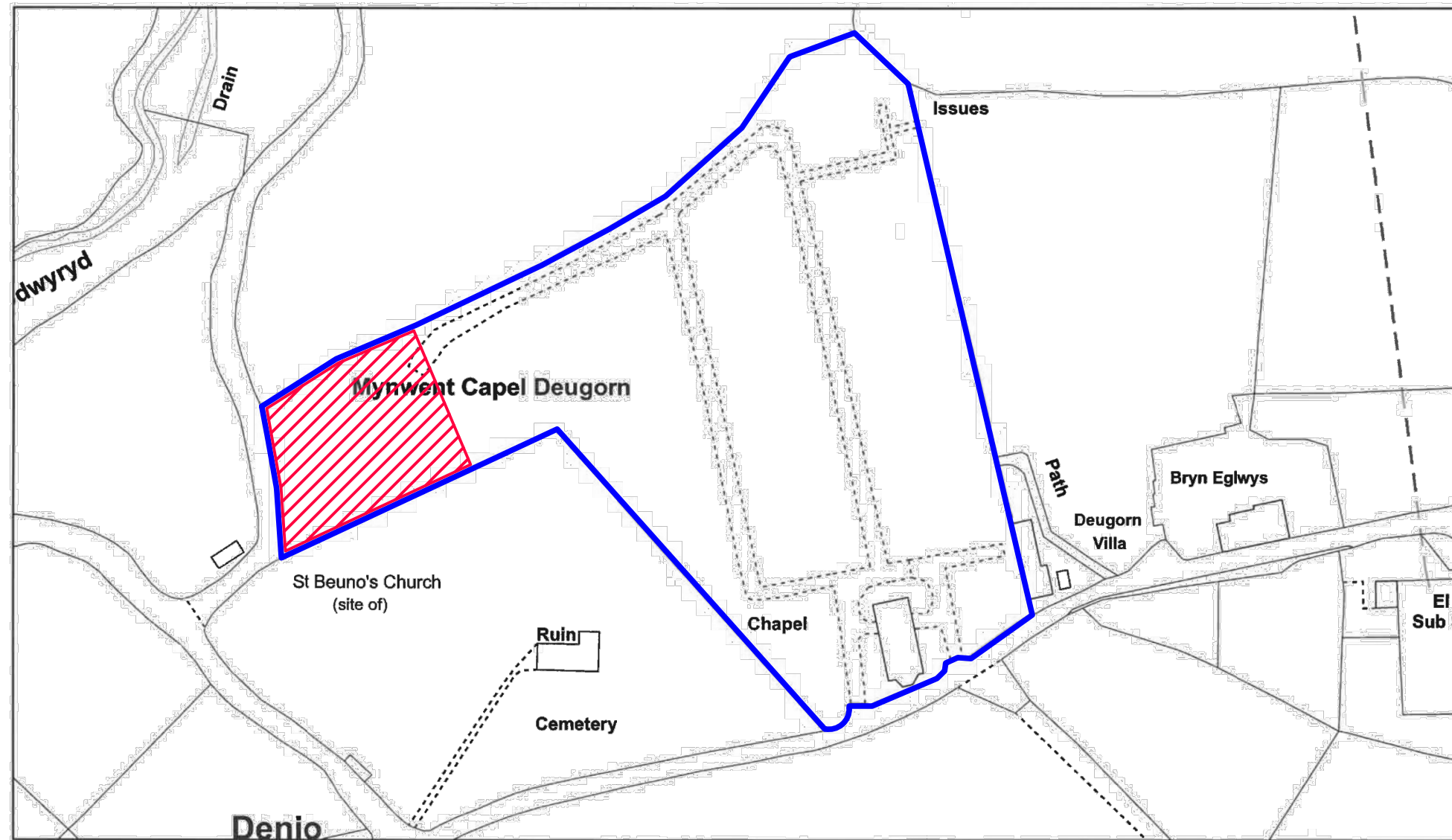
Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standards and guidance for archaeological field evaluations.

English Heritage, 2002. Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology.

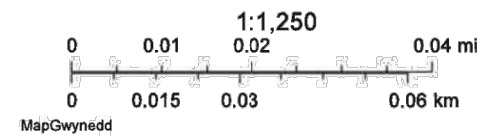
English Heritage, 2006. Management Of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE).

McKinley, J., Roberts C., 1993, Excavation and post-excavation treatment of cremated and inhumed human remains, Technical Paper 13.

# Map Gwynedd



July 30, 2019



© Hawffraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2019 Arolwg Ordnans 100023387 - Cyngor Gwynedd

00			
Rev	Description	Drawn	Date
<p>© This drawing is the property of Wakemans Ltd and must not be copied in whole or in part without their written permission. All discrepancies and errors or omissions must be reported to Wakemans prior to works commencing. This drawing must not be scaled.</p>			

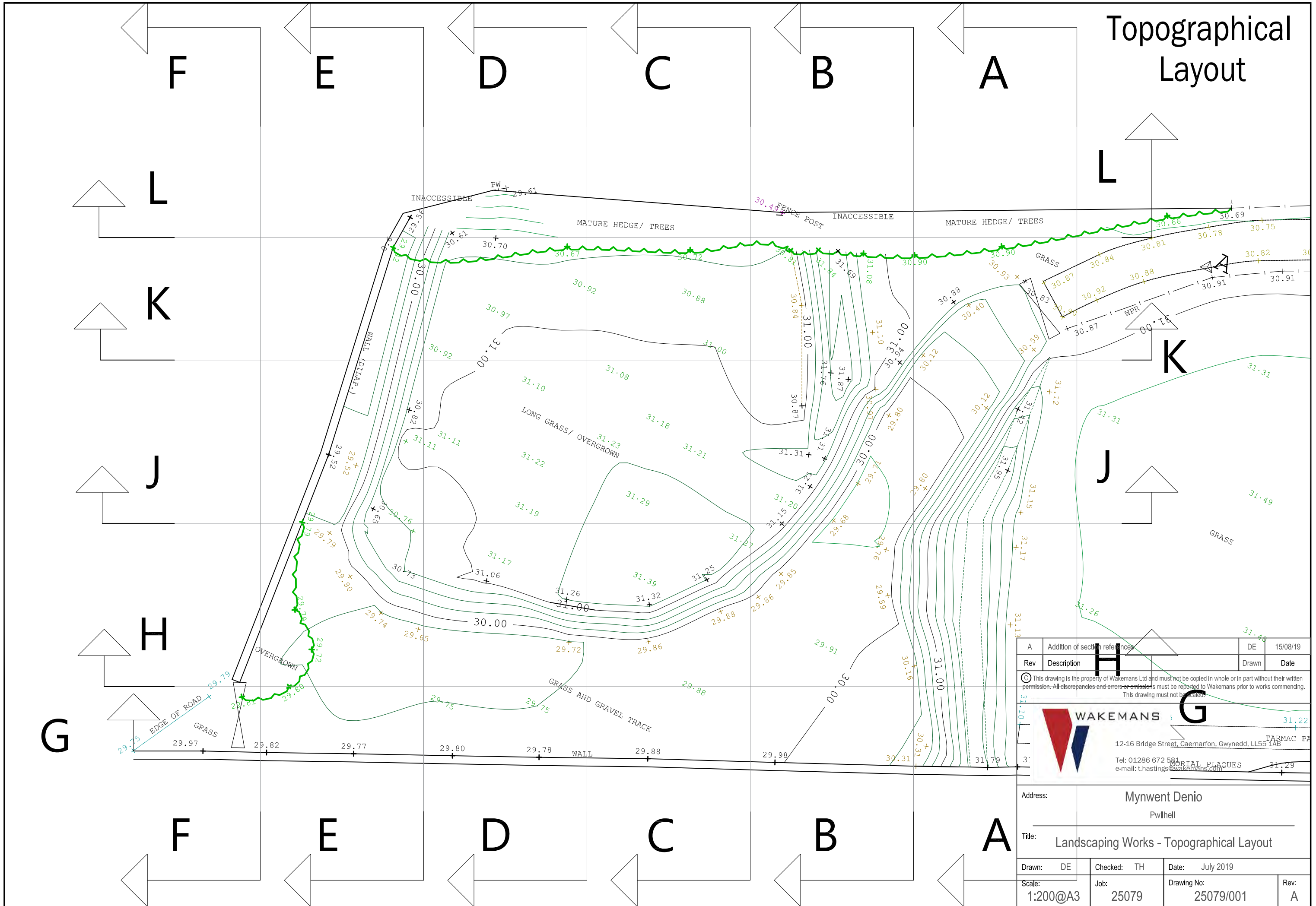


12-16 Bridge Street, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1AB  
Tel: 01286 672 581  
e-mail: t.hastings@wakemans.com

Address:		Mynwent Denio	
		Pwllheli	
Title:		Landscaping Works - Site Location Plan	
Drawn: DE	Checked: TH	Date: July 2019	
Scale: 1:1250@A3	Job: 25079	Drawing No: 25079/005	Rev: -



# Topographical Layout



A	Addition of section references	DE	15/08/19
Rev	Description	Drawn	Date
©	This drawing is the property of Wakemans Ltd and must not be copied in whole or in part without their written permission. All discrepancies and errors or omissions must be reported to Wakemans prior to works commencing. This drawing must not be used for any other purpose.		
		12-16 Bridge Street, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1AB Tel: 01286 672 581 e-mail: t.hastings@wakemans.com	
		TARMAC PA SERIAL PLAQUES	
Address:		Mynwent Denio Pwllheli	
Title:		Landscaping Works - Topographical Layout	
Drawn:	DE	Checked:	TH
Date:		July 2019	
Scale:	1:200@A3	Job:	25079
Drawing No:		25079/001	
Rev:		A	





Figure 3. Trench locations.

Trench 1: 10m x 1.8m targeting sub-surface features that may be present within the area.

Trench 2: 10m x 1.8m targeting sub-surface features and nature of the raised area located at within the development area.

Trench 3: 10m x 1.8m targeting sub-surface features and nature of the raised area located at within the development are

# *Archaeology Wales*

**Archaeology Wales Limited**

The Reading Room, Town Hall, Llanidloes, SY18 6BN

**Tel: +44 (0) 1686 440371**

Email: [admin@arch-wales.co.uk](mailto:admin@arch-wales.co.uk)

Company Directors: Mark Houlston MCifA & Jill Houlston

Company Registered No. 7440770 (England & Wales)

Registered Office: Morgan Griffiths LLP, Cross Chambers

9 High Street, Newtown, Powys, SY16 2NY

