

**Ty Canol,
Llangorse, Brecon, LD3 7UB
PL/AP/17/15037/FUL
Archaeological Watching Brief**



Prepared for

Mr Andrew D Milton,

Ty Canol, Llangorse, Brecon, LD3 7UB

By



**- BLACK MOUNTAINS ARCHAEOLOGY -
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Summary

Comisiynwyd Archeoleg Mynydd Du Cyf gan Mr Andrew D Milton o Ty Canol, Llangorse, Aberhonddu, LD3 7UB i gwblhau briff gwyllo archeolegol yn ystod gwaith daear yn gysylltiedig â datblygiad arfaethedig yn Ty Canol, Llangorse, Aberhonddu, LD3 7UB (PL/AP/17/15037/FUL). Mae'r datblygiad arfaethedig yn cynnwys codi estyniad cefn deulawr a sied ardd yn yr ardd gefn a a chael gwared ar simnai sy'n bodoli eisoes. Gwelodd y briff gwyllo archeolegol y gloddiad of saith pwll prawf.

Rhodddwyd caniatâd cynllunio gan Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog ar 10 Hydref 2017 (PL / AP / 17/15037 / FUL) yn unol â'r gofynion a nodir yn Adran 91 Deddf Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref 1990. Roedd amod 5 y caniatâd cynllunio cymeradwy yn gofyn am raglen waith ar ffurf briff gwyllo archeolegol.

Roedd mwyafrif y dyddodion a'r nodweddion y daethpwyd ar eu traws yn ystod y briff gwyllo archeolegol yn fodern ac roeddent yn gysylltiedig ag adeiladu eiddo Tŷ Canol. Fodd bynnag, nodwyd olion hen wal gynnal hefyd, naill ai ar ôl yr oesoedd canol neu'n fodern. Adalwyd pâr o siroedd crochenwaith ôl-ganoloesol gweddilliol hefyd.

Mae'r adroddiad presennol yn nodi canlyniadau'r briff gwyllo archeolegol yn unol â Safon a Chanllawiau ar gyfer Briff Gwyllo Archeolegol gan y Sefydliad Siartredig Archeolegwyr, cyhoeddwyd 2014, diwygiedig 2020.

Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd were commissioned by Mr Andrew D Milton of Ty Canol, Llangorse, Brecon, LD3 7UB to carry out an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with a proposed development at Ty Canol, Llangorse, Brecon, LD3 7UB (PL/AP/17/15037/FUL). The proposed development consists of the erection of a two-storey rear extension and a garden shed within the rear garden and the removal of an existing chimney. The archaeological watching brief observed the excavation of seven test pits.

Planning permission was granted by Brecon Beacons National Park Authority on 10th October 2017 (PL/AP/17/15037/FUL) in accordance with the requirements set out in Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Condition 5 of the approved planning consent required a programme of work in the form of an archaeological watching brief.

The majority of deposits and features encountered during the archaeological watching brief were modern in date and were connected to the construction of the Ty Canol property. However, the remains of an old retaining wall were also noted, either Post-medieval or modern in date. A pair of residual Post-medieval pottery sherds were also retrieved.

The present report sets out the results of the archaeological watching brief in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief, published 2014, revised 2020.

Acknowledgements and Copyright

The project was managed, and the fieldwork was undertaken by Richard Lewis BA MCIfA. The report, illustrations and Welsh translation was written by Dr Rhys Morgan PhD. Copyright for this report is held by Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd who have granted an exclusive license to Mr Andrew D Milton and his agents, enabling them to use and produce the material it contains. Ordnance Survey maps, where published, are reproduced under licence 100058761.

Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd retain copyright of any annotations. The authors are grateful to Mr Andrew D Milton for his cooperation throughout the project.

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1 Introduction

1.1 Project Background and Proposals

- 1.1.1 Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd/Archeoleg Mynydd Du Cyf were commissioned by Mr Andrew D Milton of Ty Canol, Llangorse, Brecon, LD3 7UB to carry out an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with a proposed development at Ty Canol, Llangorse, Brecon, LD3 7UB (PL/AP/ 17/15037/FUL). The proposed development consists of the erection of a two-storey rear extension and a garden shed within the rear garden and the removal of an existing chimney. The archaeological watching brief observed the excavation of seven test pits.
- 1.1.2 Planning permission was granted by Brecon Beacons National Park Authority on 10th October 2017 (PL/AP/ 17/15037/FUL) in accordance with the requirements set out in Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Condition 5 of the approved planning consent required a programme of work in the form of an archaeological watching brief.
- 1.1.3 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was previously prepared by Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd (Morgan 2021), which indicated the potential to encounter archaeological features, deposits and artefacts associated with medieval settlement activity during groundworks within the proposed development.
- 1.1.4 During the archaeological watching brief the remains of an old retaining wall were noted, either Post-medieval or modern in date. This retaining wall ran approximately east/west through the centre of the property's rear garden and may have originally pertained to one of the buildings that occupied the proposed development prior to the erection of the present Ty Canol property. A pair of Post-medieval pottery sherds were also collected.
- 1.1.5 The present report sets out the results of the archaeological watching brief in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*, published 2014, revised 2020.

1.2 Objectives

- 1.2.1 The *definition* of an archaeological Watching Brief as set out by the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists* (CIfA) 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.
- 1.2.2 The *purpose* of an archaeological watching brief (as defined CIfA 2014) is:
- 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 development or other potentially disruptive works.
 - to 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.

- 1.2.3 A watching brief is not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.
- 1.2.4 The objective of a watching brief is to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on a site.
- 1.2.5 (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief, published 2014, revised 2020).
- 1.2.6 The *definition* of an archaeological Excavation as set out by the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists* (CIfA) is a programme of controlled, intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives which examines, records and interprets archaeological deposits, features and structures and, as appropriate, retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other remains within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. The records made and objects gathered during fieldwork are studied and the results of that study published in detail appropriate to the project design.
- 1.2.7 The *purpose* of excavation is to examine the archaeological resource within a given area or site within a framework of defined research objectives, to seek a better understanding of and compile a lasting record of that resource, to analyse and interpret the results, and disseminate them.
- 1.2.8 (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*, published 2014, revised 2020).

1.3 Legislative Framework

- 1.3.1 Planning legislation is set out in the *Town and Country Planning Act 1990*. *Planning Policy Wales (PPW 11th Edition)* sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. Chapter 6 sets out the Welsh Government's policy towards the historic environment. It states "*The planning system must take into account the Welsh Government's objectives to protect, conserve, promote and enhance the historic environment as a resource for the general well-being of present and future generations. The historic environment is a finite, non-renewable and shared resource and a vital and integral part of the historical and cultural identity of Wales. It contributes to economic vitality and culture, civic pride, local distinctiveness and the quality of Welsh life. The historic environment can only be maintained as a resource for future generations if the individual historic assets are protected and conserved. Cadw's published Conservation Principles highlights the need to base decisions on an understanding of the impact a proposal may have on the significance of an historic asset.*" (PPW 2021, 126).
- 1.3.2 Underpinning PPW are a series of legislative powers and TANs. The *Planning (Wales) Act 2015* sets out a series of legislative changes to deliver reform of the planning system in Wales, to ensure that it is fair, resilient and enables development. The 2015 Act also introduces a mandatory requirement to undertake pre-application consultation for certain types of development. The *Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016* defines in

Schedule 4(l) the parameters and definitions for the requirement of pre-application consultation by Welsh Ministers, particularly in response to the effect of statutory designated monuments, buildings, and parks and gardens.

- 1.3.3 Advice on archaeology and buildings in the planning process was contained in Welsh Office Circular 60/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology and Welsh Office Circular 1/98 Planning and the Historic Environment, which updated Welsh Office Circular 61/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas following the *Shimizu (U.K.) Ltd. v. Westminster City Council* Judgement (February 1997). Detailed advice on Environmental Impact Assessment is contained within Welsh Office Circular 11/99 Environmental Impact Assessment. Following adoption of the TAN 24 Historic Environment on 31st May 2017, Welsh Office Circulars 60/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology; 61/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas; and 1/98 Planning and the Historic Environment have been cancelled.
- 1.3.4 Any works affecting an ancient monument and its setting are protected through implementation of the *Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979*. In Wales the 1979 Act has been strengthened by *The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016*. The 2016 Act makes important improvements for the protection and management of the Welsh historic environment. It also stands at the centre of an integrated package of secondary legislation (Annexes 1-6), new and updated planning policy and advice, and best-practice guidance on a wide range of topics (*TAN 24 Historic Environment*). Taken together, these support and promote the careful management of change in the historic environment in accordance with current conservation philosophy and practice.
- 1.3.5 The *Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979* and *The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016* sets out a presumption in favour of preservation *in-situ* concerning sites and monuments of national importance (scheduled/listed), and there exists in the current *Planning Policy Wales (Chapter 6)* a presumption in favour of preservation *in-situ* of all types of heritage assets.

1.4 Location, Topography and Geology

- 1.4.1 The proposed development, named Ty Canol (Figure 1), is centred on NGR SO1354427581 and is located in the village of Llangorse, Brecon, LD3 7UB. The proposed development fronts onto the B4560 from the north side, which runs east/west through the centre of the village. Neighbouring Ty Canol to the west is Castle House and around 0.06km to the northwest is St Paulinus Church. Approximately 0.1km south of the proposed development is open pasture and beyond this is Llangorse Lake, which dominates this part of the landscape. Around 0.5km west of the proposed development is Afon Llynfi, which feeds into Llangorse Lake from the north.
- 1.4.2 The superficial geological deposits within the proposed development consist of glacial till in the form of diamicton. These deposits formed approximately 2 million years ago during the Quaternary period in a local environment dominated by ice age conditions. The underlying bedrock comprises interbedded argillaceous rocks and sandstone of

the St Maughans Formation. This bedrock formed approximately 393–419 million years ago in the Devonian period in a local environment dominated by rivers.

- 1.4.3 The superficial geological deposits within the proposed development can be differentiated from those slightly to the west, which comprise alluvial fan deposits in the form of sands and gravels, which formed up to 3 million years ago in the Quaternary period (BGS 2021).

1.5 Archaeology and History

- 1.5.1 The proposed development is located within the historic core of Llangorse, which dates to at least the 12th century. However, earlier settlement in the wider area is represented by the Iron Age Allt yr Esgair hillfort (SAMBr153) and the Early medieval crannog (SAMBr158), built between 889–893, or certainly prior to 916 (Lane and Redknap 2020), which served as the seat of the local Welsh nobility descended from the Lord Brychan. The Roman archaeology within the immediate vicinity of Llangorse is diminutive, suggesting that this entire area saw little in the way of occupation activity during this period. The only Roman find of note is represented by a lead weight (prn5700) discovered on cultivated land on the eastern outskirts of Llangorse (Maxfield 2003, 1).
- 1.5.2 Silvester *et al* (2013, 46–9) provide a useful summary of the history of the settlement of Llangorse and note that the name is composed of the prefix *Llan* (meaning ‘ecclesiastical centre’ or ‘church’) and the noun *Cors* (meaning ‘marsh’). They also note that Llangorse appears between 1136–1154 and that the church of *Sancti Paulina de Lancors* (St Paulinus Church) appears between 1147–1176. The present Grade II* Listed St Paulinus Church (LB 6761) mostly comprises structural elements from the 15th century but also includes major restoration work from 1874, which at the time cost a total of £1,100 (Poole 1886, 197). An earlier monastic reference to St Paulinus in the Llandaff Charters may suggest an Early medieval foundation contemporary with the occupation of the crannog on Llangorse Lake nearby.
- 1.5.3 Throughout the Post-medieval period, Llangorse was occupied primarily by farmsteads and the village as a whole possessed a strong agricultural character. Several of these farmsteads have been recorded within the centre of Llangorse alone, including Plas Farm (CPAT Monument 175685), Ty-newydd Farm (CPAT Monument 175699) and Ty Mawr Farm (CPAT Monument 30072). However, small-scale industrial activity also defined Llangorse during this period (Britnell 2006), as evidenced by sites such as Llangorse Smithy (CPAT Monument 89208), Llangorse Millpond (CPAT Monument 89205) and Llangorse Saw Pit (CPAT Monument 89215).
- 1.5.4 **Cartographic evidence**
- 1.5.5 The 1840 Tithe Map of the local area (*Map of the Parish of Llangorse in the County of Brecon*) shows that the site of the proposed development fell within Land Parcel 121, which was both owned and occupied by William Powell. At this time, Land Parcel 121 was divided into a pair of neighbouring plots by an east/west running fence or hedgerow, with each plot being occupied by a corresponding pair of rectangular or sub-rectangular buildings. The westernmost building faced onto the north/south running lane that today demarcates the carpark attached to the Castle Inn. The easternmost building faced onto the main road running through the centre of

Llangorse, which now constitutes the B4560. Both buildings were surrounded on their northern and eastern sides by a pair of gardens. Today, the westernmost plot of Land Parcel 121 is occupied by Castle House, while the easternmost plot is occupied by Ty Canol.

1.5.6 On the 1887 Ordnance Survey (OS) map of the local area (*Brecknockshire XXVIII.SE*), the form of these buildings remains largely unchanged. However, on both the 1905 OS map (*Brecknockshire XXVIII.SE*) and the 1952 OS map (*Brecknockshire XXVIII.SE*), the westernmost building has increased significantly in size, while the easternmost building appears to have been demolished. In its place, a small square shaped building occupies the south-eastern edge of the plot. Considering its small size, the latter building may have been an ancillary structure associated with the former building. At some point during the late 20th century, the small ancillary building was demolished, and the current property of Ty Canol was constructed towards the southwest corner of its corresponding plot. The footprint of the current building of Castle House matches well with the larger westernmost building observed on the 1905 and 1952 OS maps, and therefore appears largely unchanged.

1.5.7 Previous Investigations

1.5.8 1993: A field evaluation was conducted by Time Team of the Early medieval crannog at Llangorse Lake (Redknap and Lane 1994).

1.5.9 1993: A landscape assessment project was undertaken by the National Museum of Wales around Llangorse Lake with contributions from Time Team. This project involved both survey and field evaluation work (Redknap and Lane 1994).

1.5.10 1997: A field evaluation was undertaken Cambrian Archaeology Projects inside Llangorse Church, during which it was discovered that the church was designed to a double aisle plan (Blockley 1998).

1.5.11 2001: A watching brief was conducted by CPAT at land to rear of Hendy Gwyn, during which no archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were discovered.

1.5.12 2002: A photographic survey was undertaken by CPAT at Penuel Baptist Church.

1.5.13 2016: A watching brief was undertaken by CPAT during groundworks adjacent to Safaddan, during which the discovery of a series of flagstones and an adjoining kerb were made. Together, this evidence was interpreted as hardstanding for an indeterminable Post-medieval or modern structure (Logan 2016).

2 Methodology

2.1.1 The archaeological watching brief observed the excavation of seven test pits of varying sizes and depths. Test Pits 1–2 were located along the northern edge of the property, while Test Pits 3–7 were located along its eastern edge.

2.1.2 The majority of deposits encountered during the watching brief were modern and related to the construction of the Ty Canol property. However, the remains of an old retaining wall (contexts 102 and 203) were discovered, either Post-medieval or modern in date, as well as a pair of residual Post-medieval pottery sherds.

- 2.1.3 All classes of finds were retained, cleaned and catalogued and arrangements for final deposition have been agreed, as set out in the requirements of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials* (published 2014, revised 2020). With the permission of the landowner Mr Andrew D Milton, ownership will be transferred to the Brecknock Museum & Art Gallery for permanent curation. No deposits with palaeoenvironmental potential were encountered.
- 2.1.4 The archaeological watching brief was carried out to the standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*, published 2014, revised 2020.
- 2.1.5 A digital copy of the report and archive will be supplied to the regional HER, the LPA and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales. All data will be submitted to the relevant archives in accordance with the RCAHMW's *Guidance for Digital Archaeological Archives* (2015) and the regional HER's *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (2018).

3 Results

3.1 Stratigraphic Evidence

- 3.1.1 The archaeological watching brief observed the excavation of seven test pits of varying sizes and depths. Test Pits 1–2 were located along the northern edge of the property, while Test Pits 3–7 were located along its eastern edge.
- 3.1.2 **Test Pit 1**
- 3.1.3 Test Pit 1 was situated on the northern edge of the property and measured 1.2m east/west, 1m north/south and 1m in depth. The level of the ground surface at the top of the test pit was 172.50mOD, while the level at its base was 171.47mOD. The south facing section of the test pit was recorded. The uppermost deposit encountered within Test Pit 1 (101) comprised a hardcore deposit for an exterior patio, 0–0.1m deep. Underlying this hardcore was a deposit of mid-brown silty clay with frequent flecks of mortar throughout (106), 0.1–0.3m deep. This deposit was seen to overlie the remains of a possible garden retaining wall [102], constructed from stone, 0.25–0.35m deep. Abutting the western edge of [102] was a thin lens of black grit and coal ash (107), 0.3–0.35m deep, beneath which a deposit of light brown silty clay with occasional flecks of mortar throughout (108) was observed, 0.25–0.4m deep. Deposit (108) was also seen to abut both the western and eastern edges of possible wall [102]. Directly beneath [102] was a deposit of dark brown silty clay with frequent flecks of coal, charcoal and mortar throughout (103), 0.35–0.5m deep. This deposit was cut on its western edge by [105], 0.35–0.75m deep, which constituted a trench for a storm drain [110], 0.55–0.75m deep. Also contained by [105] was a fill comprising mid-brown silty clay with frequent flecks of mortar throughout (109), 0.35–0.75m deep, which overlay drain [110]. Trench [105] was also seen to partially cut through deposit (104), which consisted of dark brown silty clay with frequent flecks of mortar throughout. This deposit was situated directly beneath (103) and was distinguishable from it by its marginally lighter hue. Deposit (104) was the lowermost deposit encountered within Test Pit 1, measuring 0.55–1m+ in depth.

3.1.4 Test Pit 2

3.1.5 Test Pit 2 was situated on the northern edge of the property and measured 1.2m east/west, 0.9m north/south and 0.87m in depth. The level of the ground surface at the top of the test pit was 172.53mOD, while the level at its base was 171.22mOD. The south facing section of the test pit was recorded. The uppermost deposit encountered within Test Pit 2 (201) comprised a hardcore deposit for an exterior patio, 0–0.12m deep. Underlying (201) was a thick deposit of greyish brown silty clay with frequent demolition material throughout (202). This demolition material comprised, most notably, fragments of mortar, pottery and glass. Deposit (202) was encountered at a depth of 0.12–0.42m. Running beneath (202) were the possible remains of a garden retaining wall [203], constructed from stone, 0.3–0.65m deep. The lowermost deposit encountered within Test Pit 2 (204), which was situated directly below [203], comprised dark brown silty clay with frequent flecks of coal, charcoal and mortar throughout, 0.77–0.87m+ deep.

3.1.6 Test Pit 3

3.1.7 Test Pit 3 was situated on the eastern edge of the property and measured 1.3m east/west, 1m north/south and 0.8m in depth. The level of the ground surface at the top of the test pit was 172.56mOD, while the level at its base was 171.35mOD. The south facing section of the test pit was recorded. The uppermost deposit encountered within Test Pit 3 was a hardcore layer of gravel and crushed concrete (301), 0–0.2m deep, which comprised the driveway attached to the property. Beneath (301) was a deposit of mid-brown silty clay with frequent demolition material throughout (302). This demolition material was plentiful and comprised, most notably, fragments of brick and timber. Deposit (302) was encountered at a depth of 0.2–0.7m. The lowermost deposit recorded within Test Pit 3 comprised crushed sandstone over a sheet of black plastic (303), 0.7–0.8m deep.

3.1.8 Test Pit 4

3.1.9 Test Pit 4 was situated on the eastern edge of the property and measured 0.6m east/west, 0.75m north/south and 0.95m in depth. The level of the ground surface at the top of the test pit was 172.75mOD, while the level at its base was 171.77mOD. The south facing section of the test pit was recorded. The uppermost deposit encountered within Test Pit 4 was a hardcore layer of gravel and crushed concrete (401), 0–0.15m deep, which comprised the driveway attached to the property. Situated beneath (401) was a deposit of reddish brown silty clay, 0.15–0.35m deep, which overlay a layer of dark brown humic silty loam (403) that constituted a build-up of garden soil. This deposit was also seen to contain friable sandstone fragments measuring <0.03m in size. Deposit (403) was encountered at a depth of 0.35–0.85m. The lowermost deposit encountered within Test Pit 4 (404) comprised a mid-brown silty clay subsoil, 0.85–0.95m+, which constituted a superficial geological deposit.

3.1.10 Test Pit 5

3.1.11 Test Pit 5 was situated on the eastern edge of the property and measured 0.6m east/west, 0.6m north/south and 0.81m in depth. The level of the ground surface at the top of the test pit was 172.99mOD, while the level at its base was 171.84mOD. The south facing section of the test pit was recorded. The uppermost deposit

encountered within Test Pit 5 was a hardcore layer of gravel and crushed concrete (501), 0–0.15m deep, which comprised the driveway attached to the property. Below (501) was a deposit of dark brown humic silty loam (502) that constituted a build-up of garden soil. Deposit (502) was the lowermost layer encountered within Test Pit 5 and measured 0.15–0.81m+ in depth.

3.1.12 Test Pit 6

3.1.13 Test Pit 6 was situated on the eastern edge of the property and measured 0.7m east/west, 0.7m north/south and 0.7m in depth. The level of the ground surface at the top of the test pit was 173mOD, while the level at its base was 172.23mOD. The south facing section of the test pit was recorded. The uppermost deposit encountered within Test Pit 6 was a hardcore layer of gravel and crushed concrete (601), 0–0.1m deep, which comprised the driveway attached to the property. Below (601) was a deposit of dark brown humic silty loam (602) that constituted a build-up of garden soil. Deposit (602) was the lowermost layer encountered within Test Pit 6 and measured 0.1–0.7m+ in depth.

3.1.14 Test Pit 7

3.1.15 Test Pit 7 was situated on the eastern edge of the property and measured 1m east/west, 1m north/south and 0.7m in depth. The level of the ground surface at the top of the test pit was 173.08mOD, while the level at its base was 172.29mOD. The south facing section of the test pit was recorded. The uppermost deposit encountered within Test Pit 7 was a layer of degraded tarmac (701), 0–0.1m deep, which overlay a thin deposit of dark brown silty clay (702), friable in texture, 0.1–0.2m deep. Tarmac (701) was seen to abut the western edge of a boundary wall [706] that defined the eastern side of the property. Immediately west of deposit (702) was a foundation cut [704], within which [706] was contained, 0.1–0.3m deep, which was filled with a deposit of mortar (705). This foundation cut through deposit (703), which ran directly beneath (702). This deposit comprised a pinkish brown subsoil with frequent small stone inclusions throughout and was encountered at a depth of 0.3–0.7m+. This deposit also comprised a superficial geological layer.

3.2 Finds

3.2.1 Two ceramic sherds were collected during the archaeological watching brief. The first (S/F1) derived from (104) within Test Pit 1 and comprised a sherd of blue and white transfer printed white earthenware weighing 6g. This sherd originally formed the lip of a platter or plate, which had a pair of very shallow concentric ridges applied to it. Evidence for both rim and well were missing entirely. The blue pattern applied to this sherd was ultramarine in colour and consisted of an ornate floral pattern, which was observed on the interior side of the sherd only. This pattern was also seen to incorporated part of a Chinese temple, or at least the stairway leading up to it. The depiction of both Chinese and Chinoiserie patterns more broadly were very popular during the late 18th century as a result of Jeremiah Spode, who mass produced Chinoiserie blue and white transfer ware (Copeland 1982). However, due to the clarity of the transfer on this sherd (which lacks both smudging and flow) it is likely later in date and probably derives from the 19th century. The second (S/F2) comprised a thin body sherd from a 17th or 18th century Staffordshire slipware plate or platter weighing

2g. It was collected from deposit (109) in Test Pit 1. This sherd had a distinctive two-tone glaze of dark brown bands over light yellowy brown body. However, these dark brown bands had no evidence of combing, which is characteristic of this pottery type.

4 Conclusion

4.1.1 The majority of deposits and features encountered during the archaeological watching brief were modern in date and were connected to the construction of the Ty Canol property. In particular, these included the hardcore deposit for the patio running along the northern side of the property (contexts (101) and (201)), along with the driveway on the eastern edge of the property, as represented by contexts (301), (401), (501) and (601). Test Pits 3, 4, 5 and 6 were entirely devoid of archaeological features, deposits and artefacts. Within Test Pits 1 and 2 the remains of an old retaining wall were noted, either Post-medieval or modern in date (contexts (102) and (203)). This retaining wall ran approximately east/west through the centre of the property's rear garden and may have originally belonged to one of the buildings occupying the proposed development that were demolished prior to the erection of the present Ty Canol property. Within Test Pit 7, the foundation for the north/south running boundary wall defining the eastern edge of the property was recorded, which was again modern in date. The pair of ceramic sherds discovered within Test Pit 1 were residual. The natural geology was encountered within Test Pits 4 and 7 only (contexts (404) and (703)). Both of these deposits married well with the glacial diamicton recorded by the British Geological Survey (BGS 2021) as forming the superficial geology within the locality of Llangorse.

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6 Appendices

6.1 Appendix I: Figures

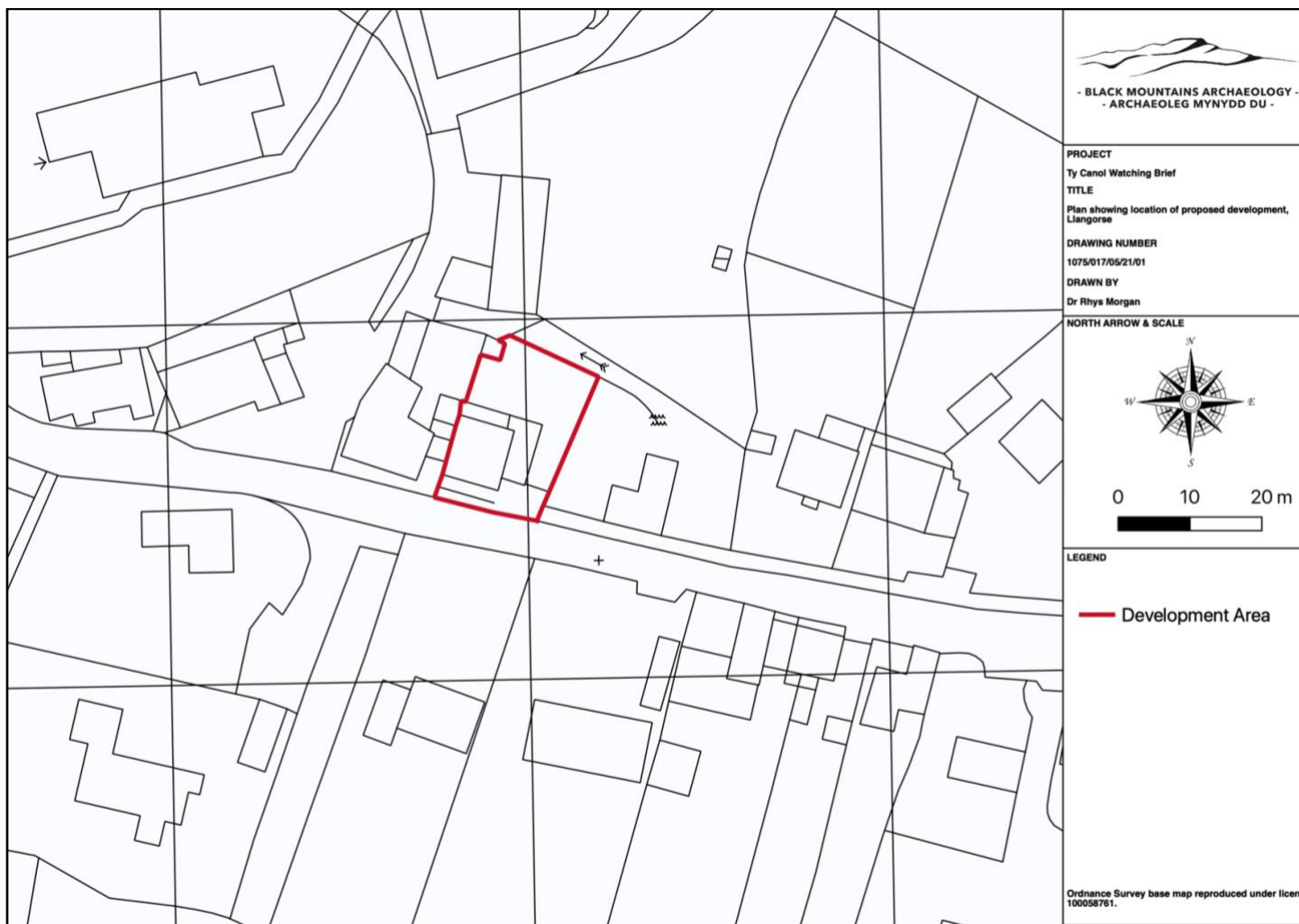


Figure 1. Plan showing location of proposed development (red)

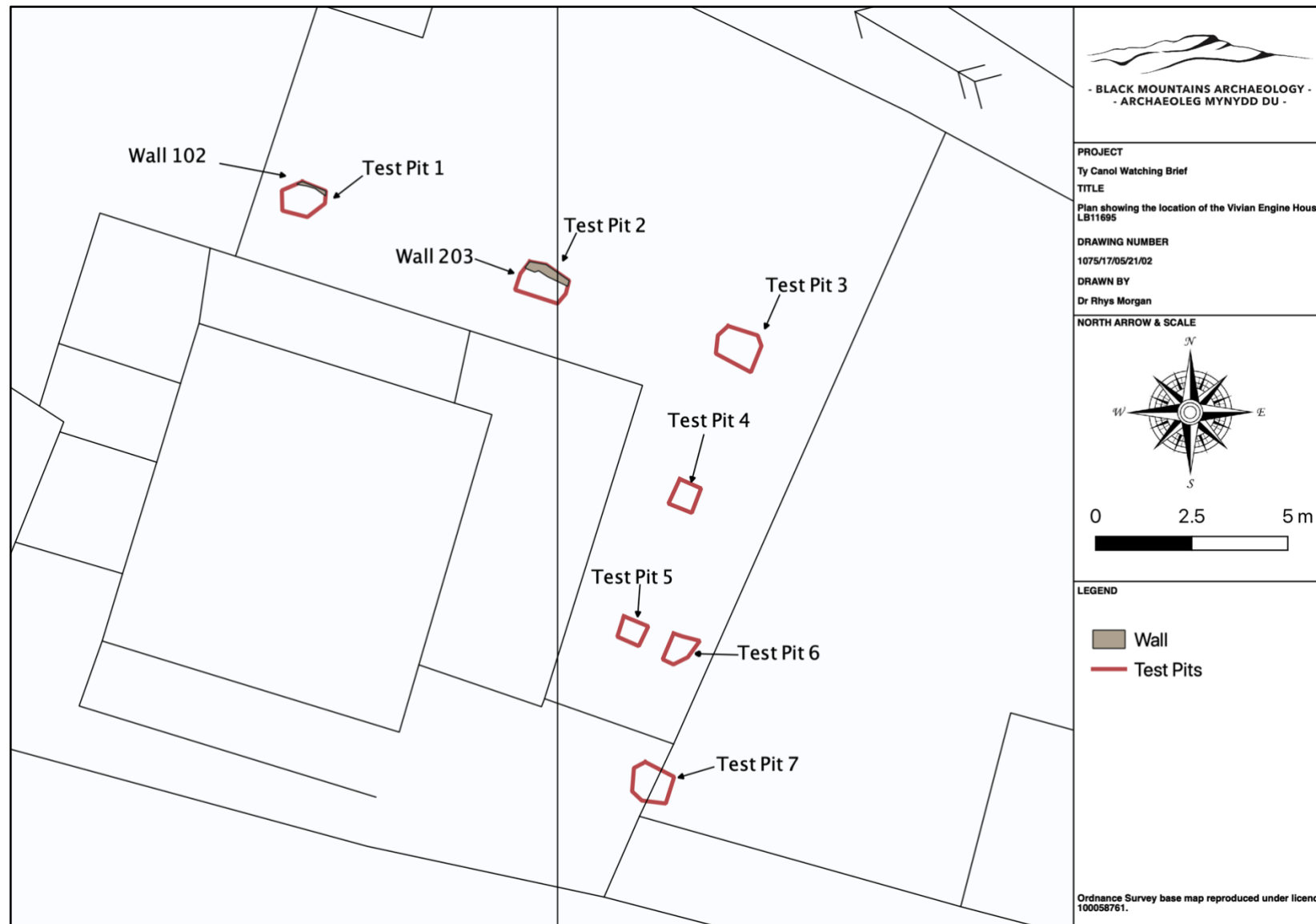


Figure 2. Plan showing location of Test Pits 1-7 and east/west running retaining wall (context 102 and 203) within development area

6.2 Appendix II: Plates



Plate 1. Plan view of Test Pit 1, with wall [102] running along its northern edge (view north)



Plate 2. Plan view of Test Pit 2 showing wall [203] running along its northern edge (view east)



Plate 3. Test Pit 3 (view north)



Plate 4. Test Pit 4 (view north)



Plate 5. Test Pit 5 (view north)



Plate 6. Test Pit 6 (view southwest)



Plate 7. Test Pit 7 (view northeast)

6.3 Appendix III: Context Inventory

Test Pit 1

Test Pit 1 was situated on the northern edge of the property and measured 1.2m east/west, 1m north/south and 1m in depth. The level of the ground surface at the top of the test pit was 172.50mOD, while the level at its base was 171.47mOD. The south facing section of the test pit was recorded.

Context	Type	Depth	Description	Period
101	Deposit	0–0.1m	Hardcore deposit for an exterior patio. Overlies (106).	Modern
102	Structure	0.25–0.35m	Remains of a possible garden retaining wall. Constructed from masonry. Underlies (106). Overlies (103). Abutted by (107).	Post-medieval/modern
103	Deposit	0.35–0.5m	dark brown silty clay with frequent flecks of coal, charcoal and mortar throughout. Underlies [102]. Cut by [105].	Post-medieval/modern
104	Deposit	0.55–1m+	Dark brown silty clay with frequent flecks of mortar throughout. Cut by [105].	Post-medieval/modern
105	Cut	0.35–0.75m	Trench for storm drain. Cuts (103) and (104). Contains (109) and [110].	Modern
106	Deposit	0.1–0.3m	Mid-brown silty clay with frequent flecks of mortar throughout. Underlies (101). Overlies [102].	Modern
107	Deposit	0.3–0.35m	Thin lens of black grit and coal ash. Overlies (108). Abuts [102].	Post-medieval/modern
108	Deposit	0.25–0.4m	Light brown silty clay with occasional flecks of mortar throughout. Underlies (107).	Post-medieval/modern
109	Deposit	0.35–0.75m	Mid-brown silty clay with frequent flecks of mortar throughout. Fill of [105]. Overlies [110].	
110	Structure	0.55–0.75m	Drainpipe. Underlies (109). Contained by [105].	Modern

Test Pit 2

Test Pit 2 was situated on the northern edge of the property and measured 1.2m east/west, 0.9m north/south and 0.87m in depth. The level of the ground surface at the top of the test pit was 172.53mOD, while the level at its base was 171.22mOD. The south facing section of the test pit was recorded.

Context	Type	Depth	Description	Period
201	Deposit	0–0.12m	Hardcore deposit for an exterior patio. Overlies (202).	Modern
202	Deposit	0.25–0.35m	greyish brown silty clay with frequent demolition material throughout. Underlies (201). Overlies [203].	Modern
203	Structure	0.3–0.65m	Remains of a possible garden retaining wall. Constructed from masonry. Underlies (202). Overlies (204).	Post-medieval/modern
204	Deposit	0.77–0.87m+	Dark brown silty clay with frequent flecks of coal, charcoal and mortar throughout. Underlies [203].	Post-medieval/modern

Test Pit 3

Test Pit 3 was situated on the eastern edge of the property and measured 1.3m east/west, 1m north/south and 0.8m in depth. The level of the ground surface at the top of the test pit was 172.56mOD, while the level at its base was 171.35mOD. The south facing section of the test pit was recorded.

Context	Type	Depth	Description	Period
301	Deposit	0–0.2m	Hardcore layer of gravel and crushed concrete. Modern driveway. Overlies (302).	Modern
302	Deposit	0.2–0.7m	Mid-brown silty clay with frequent demolition material throughout. Underlies (301). Overlies (303).	Modern
303	Structure	0.7–0.8m+	Crushed sandstone over a sheet of black plastic. Underlies (302).	Modern

Test Pit 4

Test Pit 4 was situated on the eastern edge of the property and measured 0.6m east/west, 0.75m north/south and 0.95m in depth. The level of the ground surface at the top of the test pit was 172.75mOD, while the level at its base was 171.77mOD. The south facing section of the test pit was recorded.

Context	Type	Depth	Description	Period
401	Deposit	0–0.15m	Hardcore layer of gravel and crushed concrete. Modern driveway. Overlies (402).	Modern
402	Deposit	0.15–0.35m	Reddish brown silty clay. Underlies (401). Overlies (403).	Modern

403	Deposit	0.35– 0.85m+	Dark brown humic silty loam. Constituted a build-up of garden soil. Also seen to contain friable sandstone fragments measuring <0.03m in size. Underlies (402).	Modern
404	Deposit	0.85– 0.95m+	Mid-brown silty clay subsoil.	Natural

Test Pit 5

Test Pit 5 was situated on the eastern edge of the property and measured 0.6m east/west, 0.6m north/south and 0.81m in depth. The level of the ground surface at the top of the test pit was 172.99mOD, while the level at its base was 171.84mOD. The south facing section of the test pit was recorded.

Context	Type	Depth	Description	Period
501	Deposit	0–0.15m	Hardcore layer of gravel and crushed concrete. Modern driveway. Overlies (502).	Modern
502	Deposit	0.15– 0.81m+	Dark brown humic silty loam. Constituted a build-up of garden soil. Underlies (501).	Modern

Test Pit 6

Test Pit 6 was situated on the eastern edge of the property and measured 0.7m east/west, 0.7m north/south and 0.7m in depth. The level of the ground surface at the top of the test pit was 173mOD, while the level at its base was 172.23mOD. The south facing section of the test pit was recorded.

Context	Type	Depth	Description	Period
601	Deposit	0–0.1m	Hardcore layer of gravel and crushed concrete. Modern driveway. Overlies (602).	Modern
602	Deposit	0.1–0.7m+	Dark brown humic silty loam. Constituted a build-up of garden soil. Underlies (601).	Modern

Test Pit 7

Test Pit 7 was situated on the eastern edge of the property and measured 1m east/west, 1m north/south and 0.7m in depth. The level of the ground surface at the top of the test pit was 173.08mOD, while the level at its base was 172.29mOD. The south facing section of the test pit was recorded.

Context	Type	Depth	Description	Period
701	Deposit	0–0.1m	Degraded tarmac. Overlies (702).	Modern
702	Deposit	0.1–0.2m	Dark brown silty clay. Underlies (701). Abuts [706].	Modern

703	Deposit	0.3–0.7m+	Pinkish brown subsoil with frequent small stone inclusions throughout.	Natural
704	Cut	0.1–0.3m	Foundation cut for wall [706]. Also contains (705).	Modern
705	Deposit	0.1–0.3m	Fill of cut [704]. Mortar. Underlies [706].	
706	Structure		Boundary wall. Modern. Overlies (705). Abutted by (702). Contained by [704].	Modern

6.4 Appendix IV: Finds Inventory

Context	S/F number	Type	Description	Weight	Dimensions	Minimum count	Period
104	1	Ceramic	1 lip sherd of blue and white transferprinted white earthenware. Rim and well missing entirely. Lip has a pair of very shallow concentric ridges applied to it. Blue pattern is of ultramarine hue. Decoration on exterior partially seen, comprises ornate floral design. Pattern on interior also partly seen, comprising part of Chinese temple (the stairway leading up to it). Chinese temples and Chinoiserie patterns popularised during the late 18th century by Jeremiah Spode. However, due to clarity of transfer (which lacks smudging and flow) suggests it to be 19th century. (Reference: Copeland 1982).	6g		1	Post-medieval
109	2	Ceramic	Thin section of Staffordshire slipware body sherd, where interior glaze has separated from main body. Belonged to either plate or platter. Has distinctive two-tone slip design of dark brown bands on light yellowy brown background. However, no signs of combing. 17th or 18th century in date.	2g		1	Post-medieval



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Yn rhan o'n hawydd i wella ansawdd ein gwasanaeth, rydym yn croesawu unrhyw adborth y gallwch ei ddarparu.

As part of our desire to improve our quality of service we welcome any feedback you are able to provide.

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