

Archaeology Wales

Nant Hall Road Prestatyn'

Phase 2

Archaeological Watching Brief



By

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Report No. 1373

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Archaeology Wales


Nant Hall Road Prestatyn

Phase 2

Archaeological Watching Brief

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CONTENTS

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Location and scope of work	1
1.2	Geology and topography	1
1.3	Archaeological and Historical Background	2
2	Aims and Objectives	4
3	Methodology	4
3.1	Watching Brief	4
3.2	Finds	5
4	Watching Brief Result	5
4.1	General	5
4.2	Trench Descriptions (Figure 3)	5
4.3	Finds	6
5	Discussion and Interpretation	6
5.1	Overall Interpretation	6
5.2	Acknowledgements	7
6	Bibliography and references	8

List of Figures

Figure 1	General Location Map
Figure 2	Detailed Location Map
Figure 3	Detailed Location Map Showing Watching Brief Areas

List of Plates

Plate 1	Site overview
Plate 2	Modern deposits in section
Plate 3	Made ground in section with peat deposits below
Plate 4	Foundation trench with peat deposits revealed
Plate 5	Lift excavation with peat
Plate 6	Ox Scapula

List of Appendices

Appendix 1	Figures
Appendix 2	Plates
Appendix 3	Written Scheme of Investigation
Appendix 4	Archive Cover Sheet

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Non-Technical Summary

This report results from work undertaken by Archaeology Wales Ltd (AW) for Marshall Construction (West Yorkshire) Ltd during groundworks associated with the construction of five new retail units at Prestatyn Shopping Park, Nant Hall Rd, Prestatyn. It draws upon the results gained by an archaeological Watching Brief, which was carried out during extensive foundation trenching and other groundworks. The primary aim of the watching brief was to examine and record any peat deposits exposed or cut into as a result of the site investigations.

The upper surface of the underlying peat deposits was exposed in places at depths varying from 1.2m to 1.8m below the contemporary ground surface, equating to a variation of between 3.7m and 3.1m O.D. The peat was cut into by no more than 0.2m, depending of the depth of the trenches and the height of the underlying peat. No evidence for anthropogenic activity was located in any of the exposed or excavated peat deposits.

1 Introduction

1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 In April 2015 Archaeology Wales Ltd (AW) carried out an archaeological watching brief at the site of Prestatyn Shopping Park, Nant Hall Rd, Prestatyn, LL30 1PX (Fig 1). The work was undertaken as a planning condition (Denbighshire County Council: Planning ref 43/2014/0905) on the recommendation of Fiona Gale, Denbighshire County Archaeologist.
- 1.1.2 A Written Scheme of Investigations (WSI) was prepared by Philip Poucher, Project Manager, Archaeology Wales Ltd, at the request of Marshall Construction (West Yorkshire) Ltd. This was subsequently approved by Fiona Gale prior to work being undertaken on the site. The WSI is included as Appendix 1 of this report.
- 1.1.3 The watching brief was undertaken as Phase 2 of a staged programme of works for the construction of retail units 13-16 in the south-east corner of the shopping park (Fig 2, Fig 3). Phase 1 comprised a watching brief during groundworks to the north for the Tesco supermarket and was undertaken by AW between October 2011 and April 2012 (Smith, 2012).

1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The underlying solid geology of the assessment area is comprised locally of four distinct types of rock. Across the area, from west to east, these are Permian rocks (interbedded sandstone and conglomerate), the Warwickshire group (siltstone and sandstone with subordinate mudstone), Dinantian rocks (Limestone with subordinate Sandstone and

Argillaceous rocks) and the Bowland High/Craven group (mudstone, siltstone and sandstone) (Geological Survey Map, 2001).

- 1.2.2 The assessment area overlays a documented peat deposit of Mesolithic age.
- 1.2.3 The assessment area is located within the centre of the town of Prestatyn. The site lies to the south of the railway line and adjacent to Nant Hall road and High street, the main road through Prestatyn. The site lies 900m to the south of the sea at a relatively low height of approximately 6m above ordnance datum. The majority of Prestatyn is located on relatively low lying ground though the height above sea level increases to the south with hills rising steeply to 240m above ordnance datum.

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 1.3.1 The area of Prestatyn and its immediate surroundings have a rich archaeological and historical background.
- 1.3.2 Evidence of prehistoric activity in the area is provided by the various tumuli and cairns located on the higher ground to the south of Prestatyn. A burial associated with Mesolithic and Neolithic finds was found south-west of the development site, in the High Street, at the bottom of a sequence of peat deposits, while important prehistoric finds have been found in similar deposits located to the east of the development area, at various locations in and around the Parc Bodnant Estate, north of Nant Hall Road. Of particular importance are the remains of two Mesolithic shell middens that were recorded by CPAT during a trial excavations and environmental sampling undertaken in the early 1990s (Thomas 1992; Frost 1997). Preparatory investigations associated with the current development suggest that the peat lies between approximately 1.6m and 0.8m below the existing surface within the site boundary. It is these deposits that hold the most archaeological interest.
- 1.3.3 Evidence for Roman activity within the Prestatyn area is also in abundance. The following are extracts from the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments (Wales) Coflein database:

Excavations in 1934-7 and from 1981 revealed elements of a first to second century Roman settlement that possibly extending into the 3rd century. The most prominent feature is a bathhouse of about 11.7m by 4.5m, but evidence of bronze working was also recovered. Prior occupation of the site was represented by traces of a roundhouse and other circular structures, together with an infant burial, dated to about 30BC. A fort at Prestatyn was first proposed in the 1930s, lying to the north of Melyd Avenue near a house called 'Claremont', where a ditch dating to c. AD 70-80 was discovered. Investigation of lower-lying ground to the south produced numerous stamped tiles of Legio XX and led to the identification of three masonry buildings, including a bathhouse. However, a trench 50m long into the interior of the putative 'fort' enclosure revealed no traces of Roman occupation. Excavations in the

1950s by the county historical society under G. Webster and then a Mr Tobias seem to have left no records, while in 1973 building rubble considered to be not later than c. AD 150 was found in the south-east corner of the Meadows Estate c. 30 to 40m south of the bath-house. Webster's view that the Claremont fort was not authentic was reinforced by geophysical survey in the grounds of Ysgol y Llys in the mid-1980s, and by evaluations in 2001, and again in 2003, none of which provided any Roman features or material. Excavations in 1980 re-assessed the area of the 1930s excavations, revealing that rather than being an element of a Roman fort on the plateau to the north, the ditch ran south-south-east, forming part of an enclosure around the Melyd Avenue bath-house and industrial complex which was excavated in 1984/5. The bath-house was built in two stages, the initial one by Legio XX c. AD 120, with the later addition of a cold room and plunge bath, fed by a timber aqueduct. Bronze- and iron-smithing, and enamelling was conducted in adjacent, timber-built workshops, operating from c. AD 90/100 to c. AD 160. The other buildings found in the 1930s unquestionably form part of the same complex, now under a housing estate to the west of the bath-house. The current view is that these may signal a vicus-like settlement associated with a harbour installation designed for the shipment of lead and silver from nearby the mines, though its precise nature is unclear. A second fort c. 250m to the north-west and known as Ffordd Isa was proposed by G. D. B. Jones in 1976, who recorded one outer and two inner ditches, no more than 0.7m deep, fronting a substantial clay rampart. No further evidence has been adduced to confirm this 'fort' and the features visible on the aerial photographs that led to the discovery of the site are unconvincing. As a result of assessments in 2003-4 this site was de-scheduled in 2006.

- 1.3.4 Evidence of post Roman activity, comparatively rare across Wales, is also visible in the landscape given the proximity of the northern terminus of Offa's Dyke.
- 1.3.5 Prestatyn is mentioned in the Domesday survey of 1086. The entry refers to the combined manor of Prestatyn and Meliden which contained 100 acres, a church, and a recorded population of 10, which suggests that the vill housed no more than 60 people. In all probability the medieval settlement lay in the area of the castle which was already standing before the compilation of the survey (Soulsby, 1983).
- 1.3.6 The castle, excavated in 1913, consists of a roughly rectangular enclosure defined by traces of walling with an external ditch. There is a projection, possibly a gate, on the north side. A low circular ditched motte, c.20m in diameter and 0.9m high, is placed eccentrically within the enclosure. A causeway leads c.60m east-south-east (Wiles, 2002).

- 1.3.7 It seems likely that a Welsh attack in 1167 succeeded in completely destroying both town and castle as there are no further references to it for the remainder of the medieval period (Soulsby, 1983).
- 1.3.8 The parish of Prestatyn was created on the 1st August 1860, from the townships of Prestatyn and Nant, in the parish of Meliden, and part of the township of Gronant in the parish of Llanasa.
- 1.3.9 Some expansion may have occurred during the post-medieval period with sites associated with Alkali production developing outside the core area (one such site was located approximately 600m northeast of the development site). However, it was not until the arrival of the railway in the nineteenth century, with the consequent development of the tourist industry that the town expanded to its current size.

The watching brief undertaken by AW in 2011-12 (Smith 2012) noted that whilst the peat deposit known to overlie the area was observed, no evidence for anthropogenic activity was located. Similarly, a watching brief undertaken by Earthworks Archaeology in 2003 (reference required) failed to locate any evidence of human activity within the peat horizon.

2 Aims and Objectives

2.1 Watching Brief

2.1.1 The purpose of the watching brief, as defined by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (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.
- The main objective of a watching brief is to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on a site.

3 Methodology

3.1 Watching Brief

- 3.1.1 The watching brief was maintained on all areas where the peat deposit was exposed or cut into during groundworks undertaken on the site. This included foundation trench excavation, pile cap exposure and lift base cuttings.
- 3.1.2 The on-site work undertaken by Chris E Smith (MCIfA). Overall management of the project was undertaken by Kate Pitt (ACIfA). All areas were photographed using high resolution (14mp+) digital photography
- 3.1.3 All on-site illustrations were undertaken on drafting film using recognised conventions and scales (1:10, 1:20, 1:50) as appropriate.

3.2 Finds

- 3.2.1 Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context.

4 Watching Brief Result

4.1 General

- 4.1.1 The watching brief was undertaken during a period of generally bright and mild weather with good light condition
- 4.1.2 The area of the watching brief consisted of a total of 80m of foundation trench with intermittent deeper areas for pile cap exposure as well as a single lift base cutting.
- 4.1.3 In most areas the foundation trenches were excavated to expose already inserted concrete piles. The trenches were cut to a depth of 1.5m around the pile caps and approximately 1.3m along the trenches in the spaces between them.
- 4.1.4 The trenches revealed overburden composed of graded demolition rubble and sub-base material derived from the previous structures that occupied the site. This varied in depth from 0.1m to 0.3m (Plates 1-5).
- 4.1.5 The deposits below the overburden horizon generally consisted of mixed modern (later 20th century) material with frequent glass bottles and other debris (Plate 2). Conduits from previous service runs, as well as cable ducting and drains, were evident within this horizon.
- 4.1.6 The upper limit of the peat deposit varied in its depth beneath the current ground surface across the site. Within the northern foundation trench it was exposed at 1.2m below ground level, whilst in the southern foundation trench it was noted at 1.8m (Plates 3-5). This equates to a variation between 3.7m and 3.1m O.D. respectively.

4.2 Trench Descriptions (Figure 3)

- 4.2.1 Trench A was the most southerly trench and the least disturbed in its upper levels. The top 0.5m comprised modern disturbance, below which was a silty, gritty, mixed peat deposit mixed with occasional clay lenses. Peat was exposed at a depth of 1.4m to 1.5m

below the ground surface. Consequently this was cut into by the base on the trench by no more than 0.2m. Likely petro-chemical contamination was encountered in end of Trench A, as a fuel tank from an adjacent car sales yard was exposed at a depth of 1.5m within the peat.

- 4.2.2 Trench B cut was to same depth as Trench A using the same methodology. More disturbance was noted in this area with peat only exposed in the deeper areas around the pile caps. Upper levels showed evidence of modern disturbance such as drains, layers of sub-base and brick structures/foundations.
- 4.2.3 Trench C was cut to the same depths using the same methodologies. Again, peat was only exposed within very small areas located around the tops of the pile cap. The peat in these areas had been disturbed by the insertion of the piles. All the material above the peat comprised made ground (rubble and sub-base deposits). All modern material related to the previous structure on site.
- 4.2.4 Trench D cut was to same depth as Trench A using the same methodology. Disturbance was noted in this area with peat exposed in the deeper areas around the pile caps. Upper levels showed evidence of modern disturbance such as drains and brick structures/foundations.
- 4.2.5 Trench E was cut to same depth as Trench A using the same methodology. More disturbance was noted with peat exposed in only the deeper areas around the pile caps. Upper levels showed evidence of modern disturbance such as drains and layers of sub-base brick foundations.
- 4.2.6 Trench F was located along eastern edge of the site and was cut to the same depths as elsewhere. It was cut through almost entirely made ground. A superficial, mixed and disturbed peat horizon was exposed at depth of 1.3m below the contemporary ground surface.

4.3 Finds

- 4.3.1 Two pieces of animal bone were recovered during the watching brief, each from mixed peat and sub-base material overlying the peat deposit.
- 4.3.2 The first piece comprised a large Ox (*Bos Taurus*) scapula (Plate 6) and the second a fused third & fourth metacarpal, also from an Ox (*Bos Taurus*). The sizes of both suggest the animals were of types associated with post-medieval or modern species.
- 4.3.3 No dateable finds were associated with either item.

5 Discussion and Interpretation

5.1 Overall Interpretation

- 5.1.1 The top of the underlying peat deposits were exposed at depths varying from 1.2m to 1.8m below the contemporary ground surface, equating 3.7m and 3.1m O.D. respectively. The peat was cut into by up to 0.2m, depending of the depth of the trench and the height of the underlying peat.
- 5.1.2 No evidence for anthropogenic activity was located in any of the exposed or excavated peat deposits. This result is in accordance with those of watching brief investigations undertaken by AW in 2011-12 and by Earthworks Archaeology in 2003, which also failed to locate any evidence of human activity within the peat horizon.
- 5.1.3 The only finds recovered were two ox bone fragments, which were derived from mixed soils located above the peat horizon. These appeared to be post-medieval or modern in origin.

5.2 Acknowledgements

- 5.2.1 Thanks are due to Chris Quinn (Marshall Construction) for his help on site and to Fiona Gale for her curatorial assistance.

6 Bibliography and references

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01/06/2012

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APPENDIX I: Figures

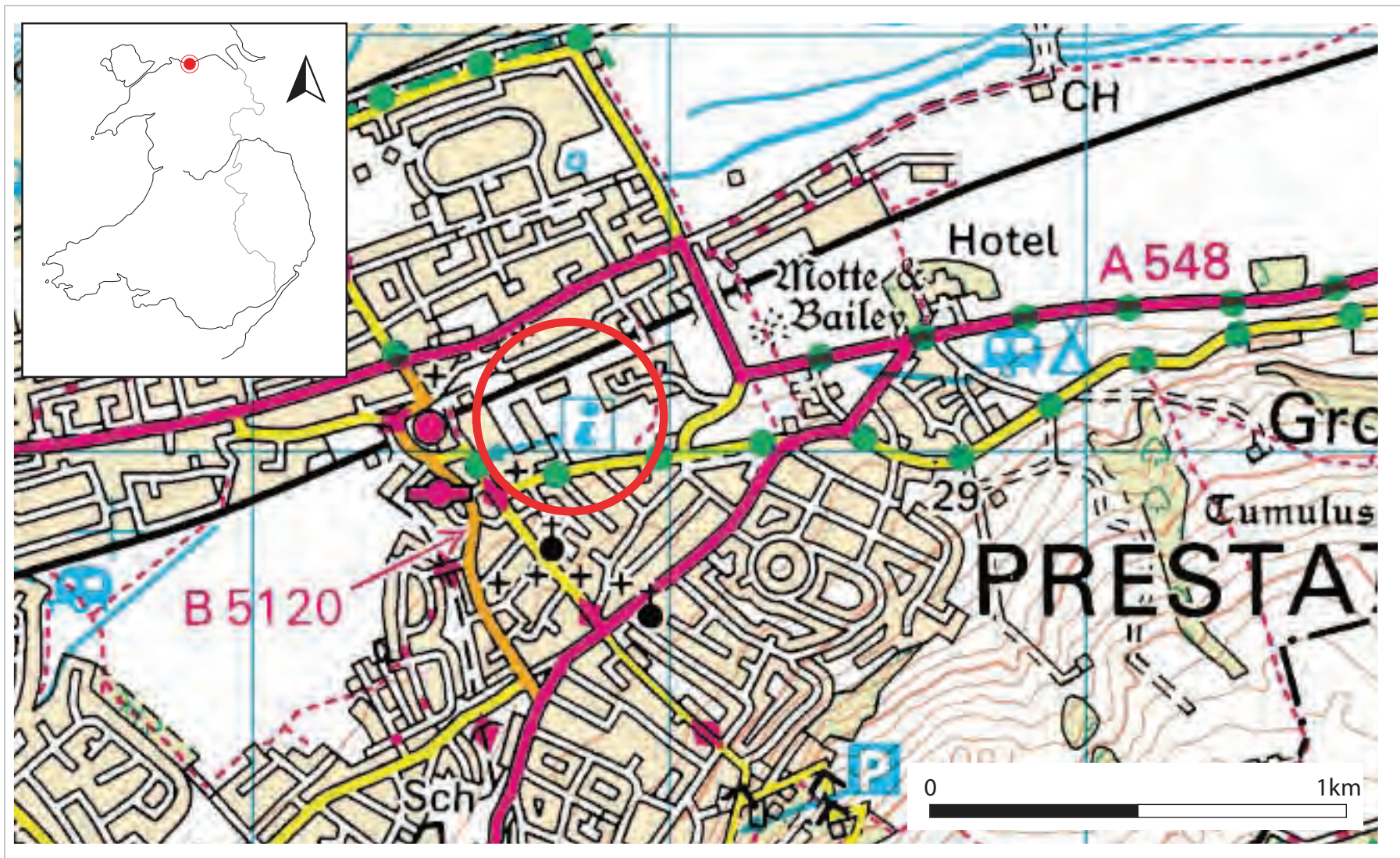


Figure 1: General Location Map

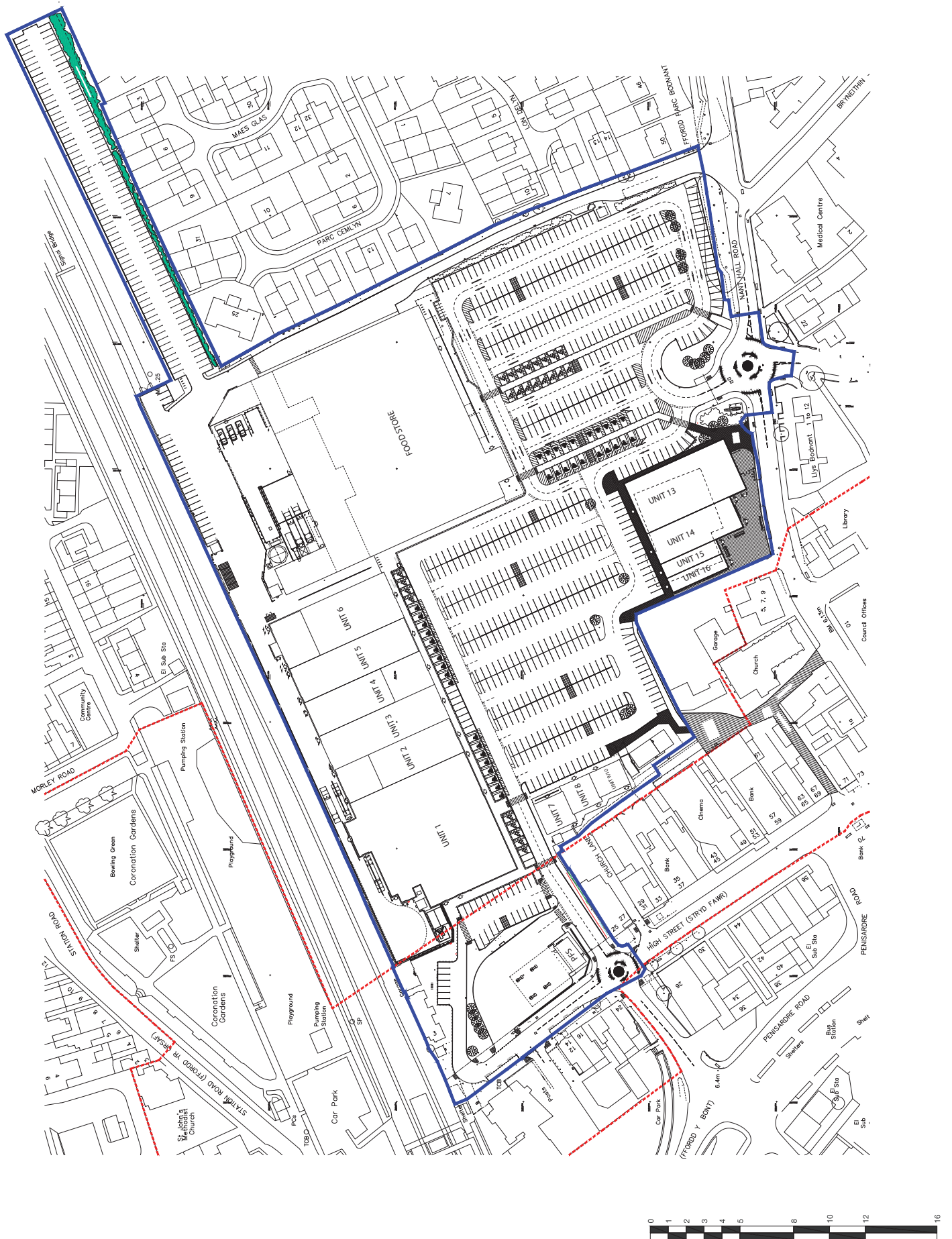


Figure 2: Detailed Location Map

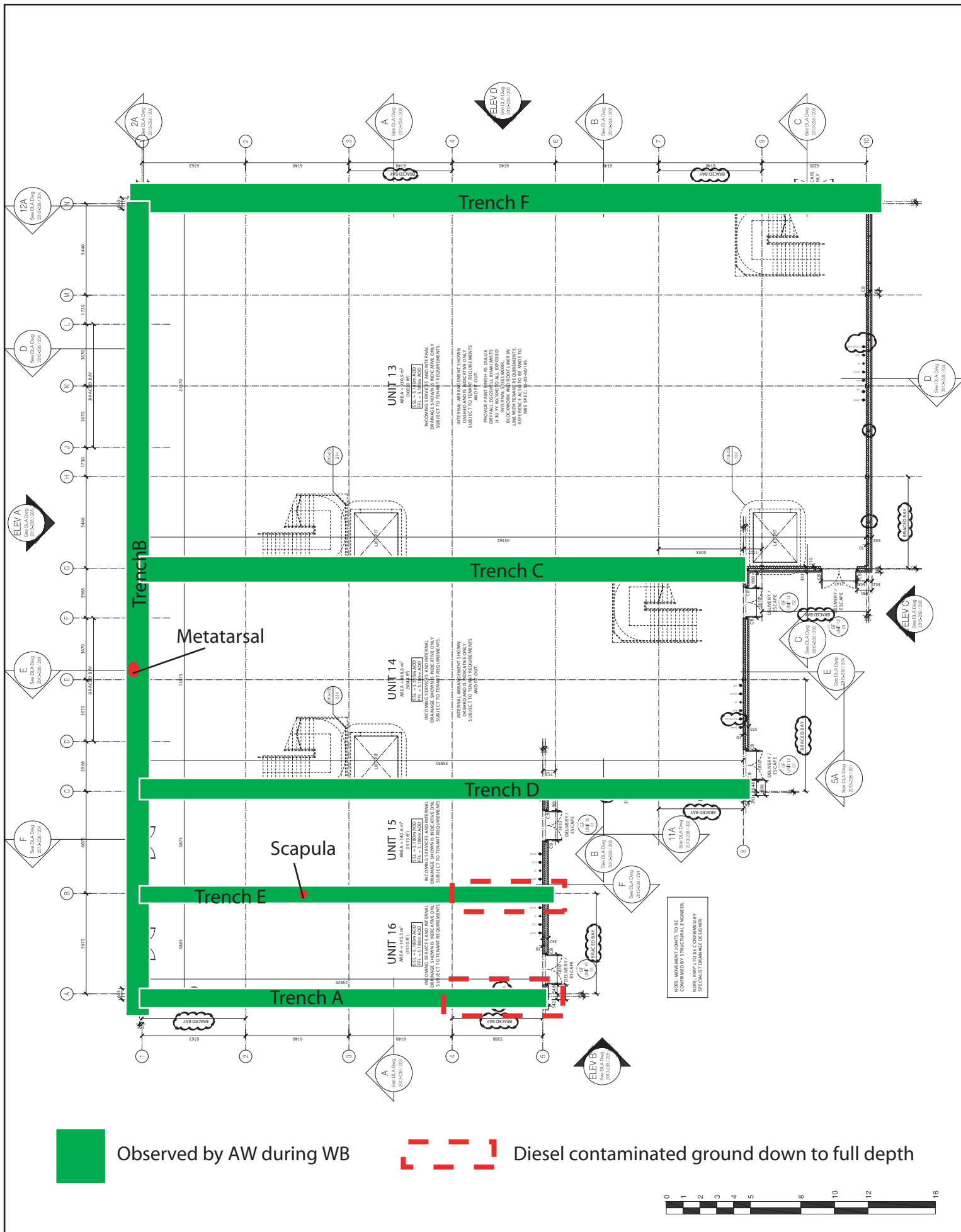


Figure 3: Detailed Location Map Showing Watching Brief Areas

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APPENDIX II: Plates



Plate 1 Site Overview, viewed from the south- east



Plate 2 Cleaned section of mixed modern deposits, 1m scale



Plate 3 Made ground with peat revealed, viewed from the east



Plate 4 Foundation trench with peat revealed, viewed from the west



Plate 5 Peat revealed in liftshaft excavations, viewed from the south-west



Plate 6 Scapula from peat deposit 0.5m scale

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APPENDIX III:

Written Scheme of Investigation

Archaeology Wales

**Written Scheme of Investigations
for an Archaeological Watching Brief at
Retail Development on Nant Hall Road, Prestatyn**

**Prepared for:
Marshall Building Contractors**

Project No: 2017

Date: 9th February 2015

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NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This Written Scheme of Investigations details the proposal for an archaeological watching brief at the site of the proposed retail development at Nant Hall Road, Prestatyn. It has been prepared by Archaeology Wales Ltd for Marshall Building Contractors.

1. Introduction

The proposed development is for the demolition of existing retail units and the construction of a terrace of four new retail units and parking areas off Nant Hall Road in Prestatyn, Grid Ref: SJ06508305 (Henceforth – the site), see figures 3 & 4. The local planning authority is Denbighshire County Council (Henceforth - DCC) and the planning application number is 43/2014/0905.

This Written Scheme of Investigations (WSI) has been prepared by Philip Poucher, Project Manager, Archaeology Wales Ltd (Henceforth - AW) at the request of Marshall Building Contractors. It provides information on the methodology that will be employed by AW during an archaeological watching brief at the site.

The purpose of the proposed watching brief is to provide DCC with the information that they have requested as part of the planning permission for the scheme, the requirements for which are set out in Planning Policy WALES (revised July 2010), Section 6.5, and Welsh Office Circular 60/96. The planning permission states:

‘No development shall take place until the applicant(s), their agents or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority’

The work is to ensure that all buried artefacts and deposits are fully investigated and recorded if they are disturbed or revealed as a result of activities associated with the development.

The details set out in this WSI follow a brief provided by Fiona Gale, Denbighshire Archaeological Service (DAS), part of Denbighshire Countryside Service (DCS). In accordance with the above planning condition, this WSI will be submitted to DAS for approval on behalf of the local planning authority before any work is undertaken. On completion of the site works, and any associated post-excavation analysis, a report will be produced and submitted for approval to the local planning authority and to the Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT).

All work will conform to Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (CIfA 2014), and be undertaken by suitably qualified staff to the highest professional standards.

2 Site description

Prestatyn is situated on the north coast of Denbighshire. The proposed development lies off Nant Hall Road in the centre of the town, to the east of the High Street and south of the main north Wales railway line (Figures 1 & 2). The ground is relatively flat and low-lying, at c.5m above Ordnance Datum. The development area is currently

covered in tarmac and concrete, with some existing buildings covering part of the site. The underlying solid geology is lower and muddle coal measures overlying Millstone Grit.

Previous archaeological investigations in the area have revealed discoveries dating to the Mesolithic, Neolithic, Roman, medieval, and post-medieval periods. The most important of these relate to material recovered from within and immediately below peat deposits, which underlie some areas of the modern town.

A burial associated with Mesolithic and Neolithic finds was found south-west of the development site, in the High Street, at the bottom of a sequence of peat deposits, while important prehistoric finds have been found in similar deposits located to the east of the development area, at various locations in and around the Parc Bodnant Estate, north of Nant Hall Road. Of particular importance are the remains of two Mesolithic shell middens that were recorded by CPAT during a trial excavations and environmental sampling undertaken in the early 1990s (Thomas 1992; Frost 1997)¹.

Auguring work at Nant Hall Road indicated that the peat deposits lie relatively close to the surface, at between 0.25m and 0.3m below current ground levels.

Discoveries in and around Prestatyn dating to later periods include the remains of a Roman bathhouse, which is believed to be part of a fort located on the road from Chester to Caernarfon. However, little of this postulated site or any of the associated *extra mural* settlement appears to have survived. Roman and medieval glass and leather was recovered from above the peat layer in the same excavation that uncovered the prehistoric burial in High Street. An inscribed Roman slate was also found at Penisadre Farm to the southwest.

An earth mound, visible in fields near Nant Hall, marks the site of an early wooden motte, probably part of the castle built by the Norman Robert de Banastre in about 1157, which was destroyed by the Welsh under Owain Gwynedd in 1167. The beginning and end of the modern High Street marks the location of two 'faenols', or manor houses, although the town itself would have remained relatively small throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods. The historic core was probably focused in the area of the High Street, extending eastwards towards the castle, although as fishing was undoubtedly the main source of income, a secondary area of settlement closer to the sea front is also likely.

Some expansion may have occurred during the post-medieval period with sites associated with Alkali production developing outside the core area. However, it was not until the arrival of the railway in the nineteenth century, with the consequent development of the tourist industry that the town expanded to its current size. The area of the builder's yard is known to have been the site of a former smithy in more recent times, which has since been destroyed.

3 The proposed archaeological work

The proposed archaeological work relates to the whole of the site, i.e. all of the application area. It does not include any associated service connections or other works located outside the site except those detailed in the application.

¹ Thomas, D 1992, 'Nant Hall Road, Prestatyn'

Frost, P 1997, 'Prestatyn to Llanasa Sewage Pumping Main: archaeological assessment'

The aim of the work will be to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on the site. The work will include the following elements:

- A watching brief (Stage 1).
- The production of an illustrated report and the deposition of the site archive (Stage 2)

4 Method Statement for the Watching Brief (Stage 1)

General

The watching brief work will comply with the CIfA Standards and Guidance on Watching Briefs (2014). It will be undertaken during all sub-surface groundworks that may expose potential archaeological deposits with the exception of CPA piling and soil mixing works.

The watching brief is intended to ensure that any buried remains located within the development site are fully investigated and recorded if revealed as a consequence of site works.

As defined by the CIfA (2014) 'the Watching Brief will provide an opportunity for the archaeologists present 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'.

If such a find is made, representatives of DAS and the Developer will be informed and a site meeting organised as appropriate. If, as a result of the meeting, DAS recommend that further work is undertaken, for example the excavation of specific areas or features, AW will prepare a Specification for the work and an estimate of all associated costs.

Detailed (see attached figures 3 & 4)

The ground work on the site will include:

1. Demolition of existing building, general site clearance, taking up and crushing of existing hard surfacing.
2. Extending the staff car park to the north, which comprises new parking bays built over existing hardstanding or existing soft landscaping/unmade ground.
3. Shell construction for the main retail units. This includes –
 - a) Excavation to reduced levels
 - b) CFA piling and soil mixed columns.
 - c) Foundation excavation
 - d) Drainage and service ducts
 - e) Excavation of lift pits
4. External works, including establishing footpaths and service yard on existing

hardstanding or existing soft landscaping/unmade ground, and service installation.

Items 1 and 2 are unlikely to expose archaeological deposits.

Item 3 should expose the top of the peat bed and possible archaeological deposits, so will require a watching brief. Where exposed, the peat bed may already have been partially disturbed by soil mixing. Elements of this work, such a foundation excavation, drainage and service excavation and lift pits may also excavate through some, if not all, of the peat bed and where appropriate will require a watching brief.

Item 4 may expose limited areas of the surface of the peat bed within the service installation if this extends below existing hardstanding or disturbed levels. Where appropriate these areas may require a watching brief.

As stated within the brief provided by DAS, the archaeologists will not be entitled to enforce specific delays and hold ups to the work of the site Contractor. However, for practical watching brief and recording purposes the watching brief archaeologist will have the authority to stop the machine work in specific areas for short periods of time to investigate potential archaeological remains. He/she will record the remains in accordance with accepted professional standards (see 'recording' below). Where disturbed peat is exposed, surfaces will be inspected and archaeological features recorded. Limited excavation of features will be undertaken. Samples will be taken where appropriate. If longer delays prove desirable to the archaeological recording process they should be arranged by mutual agreement with the Developer (and their Agents), and DAS.

A monitoring visit will be arranged 'if the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard' (see 'monitoring' below).

Recording

Recording will be carried out using Archaeology Wales recording systems (pro-forma context sheets etc), using a continuous number sequence for all contexts.

Written, drawn and photographic records (b&w, 35mm colour slides and digital) of an appropriate level of detail will be maintained throughout the course of the project. Digital photographs will be taken using cameras with resolutions of 8 mega pixels or above.

Plans and sections will be drawn to a scale of 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 as required, and these will be related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.

Monitoring

DAS will be contacted prior to the commencement of ground works, and subsequently once the work is underway.

DAS will be provided with notice of the start date, a projected timetable and a copy of the Health and Safety Risk Assessment no less than 5 working days prior to the commencement of the work.

Any changes to the specification that the contractor may wish to make after approval will be communicated to DAS.

Representatives of DAS (or, if appropriate CPAT) will be given access to the site so that they may monitor the progress of the watching brief. DAS will be kept regularly informed about developments, both during the site works and subsequently during post-excavation.

Artefacts

Archaeological artifacts recovered during the course of the excavation will be cleaned and labelled using an accession number which will be obtained from the local museum. A single number sequence will be allocated to all finds. The artifacts will be stored appropriately until they are deposited with the museum.

All artefacts recovered during the project will be retained and be related to the contexts from which they were derived. All typologically distinct and closely datable finds will be recorded three-dimensionally.

The evaluation will carefully consider any artefactual or economic information and provide an assessment of the viability, for further study, of such information. It will be particularly important to provide an indication of the relative significance of such material for any subsequent decision-making process regarding mitigation strategies.

Any finds which are considered to be in need of immediate conservation will be referred to a UKIC qualified conservator (Phil Parkes of Cardiff Conservation Services).

A catalogue by context of all artefactual material found, quantified by number, weight, or both, and containing sketches of significant artefacts will be compiled.

Pottery will be analysed to the standards outlined in "Guidelines for the Preparation of Pottery Archives" as prepared by the Study Group for Roman Pottery in consultation with the IFA. All other material will be analysed following the advice given in the Institute of Field Archaeologists: Guidelines for Finds Work.

The requirements for the conservation of artefacts will be unpredictable until after the completion of the fieldwork. AW will ensure that at least minimum acceptable standards are achieved (the UK Institute of Conservation's Guidelines for the Treatment of Finds from Archaeological Site should be used as guidance).

Environmental, palaeoenvironmental and technological samples

Samples will be taken where necessary when significant deposits are located. These will be retained for processing. The level of post-excavation processing will be dependent on the results of the watching brief and following discussion with an environmental specialist and DAS.

Any features containing deposits of environmental, palaeoenvironmental or technological significance will be sampled. If required, the project manager will arrange, through a suitably qualified expert, the assessment of the environmental and/or palaeoenvironmental potential of the site through examination of suitable deposits. The assessment of potential should consider the guidelines set out in the English Heritage publication 'Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology' March 2002.

The requirements for the conservation of samples will be unpredictable until after the completion of the fieldwork. The archaeological contractor will ensure, however, that at least minimum acceptable standards are achieved (the UK Institute of

Conservation's Guidelines for the Treatment of Finds from Archaeological Site should be used as guidance).

Human remains

Human remains will be left in situ, covered and protected when discovered. No further investigation will be permitted and DAS and the local Coroner will be informed immediately. After discussion, it may be appropriate to take bone samples for C14 dating. If removal is essential it can only take place under the appropriate Ministry of Justice and Environmental Health regulations.

5 Method statement for the production of an illustrated Watching Brief Report and the deposition of the site archive (Stage 2)

Report preparation

The watching brief report will contain the following:

- A fully representative description of the information gained from the watching brief above, even if this is largely negative.
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
- At least one plan showing the site's location in respect to the local topography, as well as the position of all excavated areas.
- Suitably selected plans and sections of significant archaeological features. All plans and sections should be related to Ordnance Datum.
- Written descriptions of all features and deposits excavated and their considered interpretation.
- A summary report on the artefactual and ecofactual assemblage and an assessment of its potential for further study, prepared by suitably qualified individuals or specialists.
- A statement of the local and regional context of the archaeological remains identified.
- An impact assessment, with mitigation proposals, of the proposed development on the archaeological resource can be considered and presented for consideration. This could include the mapped archaeological potential of the site in relation to the proposed development.

Copies of the report will be sent to representatives of the Developer, DAS and CPAT and for inclusion in the HER. Digital copies will be provided in pdf format if required.

A summary report of the work will be submitted for publication to a national journal (eg Archaeology in Wales) no later than one year after the completion of the work.

The site archive

A project archive will be prepared in accordance with the National Monuments Record (Wales) agreed structure and be deposited within an appropriate local museum on completion of site analysis and report production. It will also conform to the guidelines

set out in 'Management of Archaeological Projects Two, Appendix 3' (English Heritage 1991).

Arrangements will be made with the local museum before work starts. Wherever the archive is deposited, this information will be relayed to the HER.

Although there may be a period during which client confidentiality will need to be maintained, the report and the archive will be deposited not later than six months after completion of the work.

Other significant digital data generated by the survey (ie AP plots, EDM surveys, CAD drawings, GIS maps, etc) will be presented as part of the report on a CD/DVD. The format of this presented data will be agreed with the curator in advance of its preparation.

6 Resources and timetable

Standards

The field evaluation will be undertaken by AW staff using current best practice.

AW is an CIfA Registered Archaeological Organisation and all work will be undertaken to the standards and guidelines of the CIfA.

Staff

The project will be undertaken by suitably qualified AW staff. Overall management of the project will be undertaken by Philip Poucher (a CV is available upon request).

Equipment

The project will use existing AW equipment.

Timetable of archaeological works

The work will be undertaken at the convenience of the client. No start date has yet been agreed.

Health and safety

All members of staff will adhere to the requirements of the *Health & Safety at Work Act, 1974*, and the Health and Safety Policy Statement of AW.

AW will produce a detailed Risk Assessment for approval by the client before any work is undertaken.

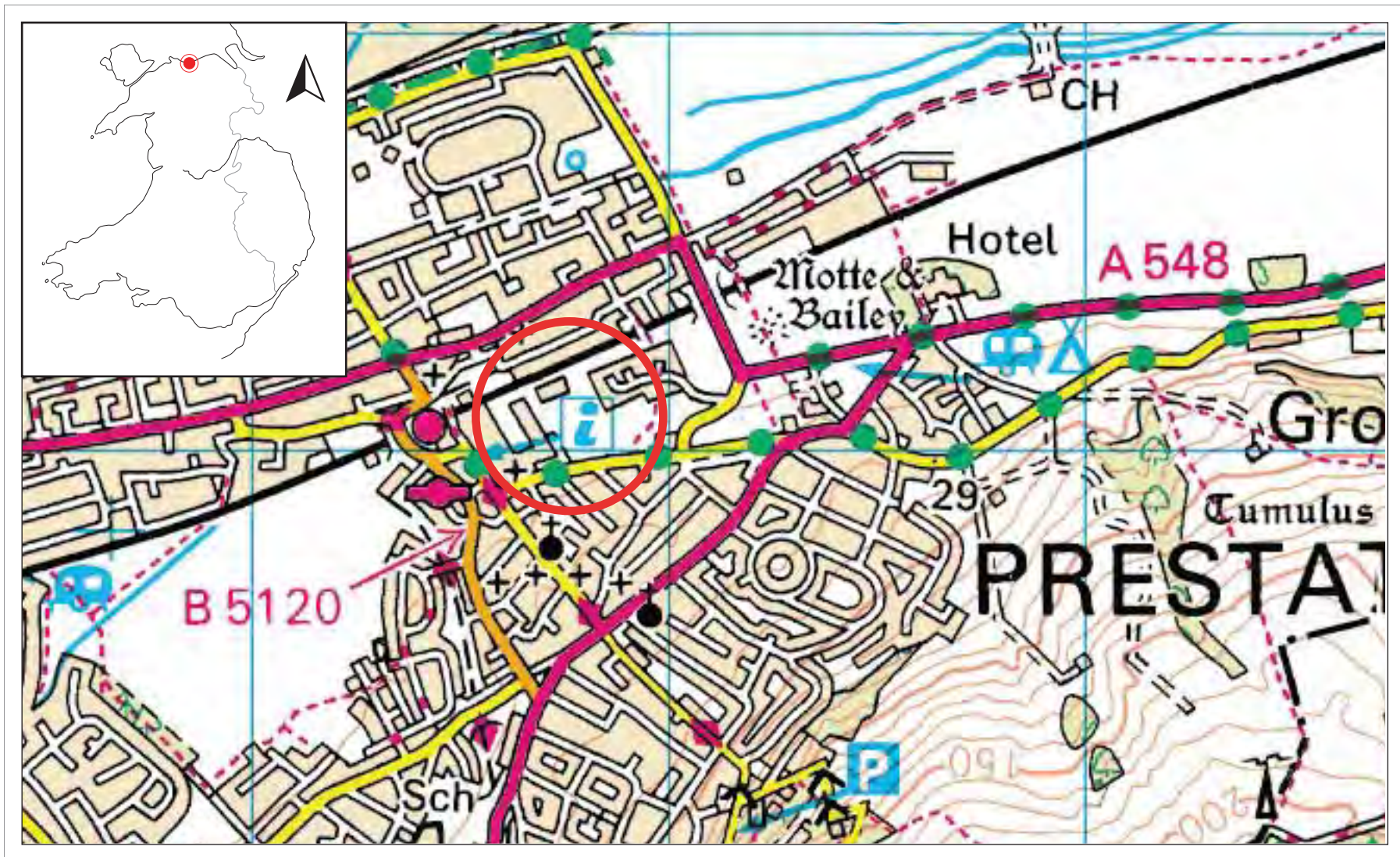
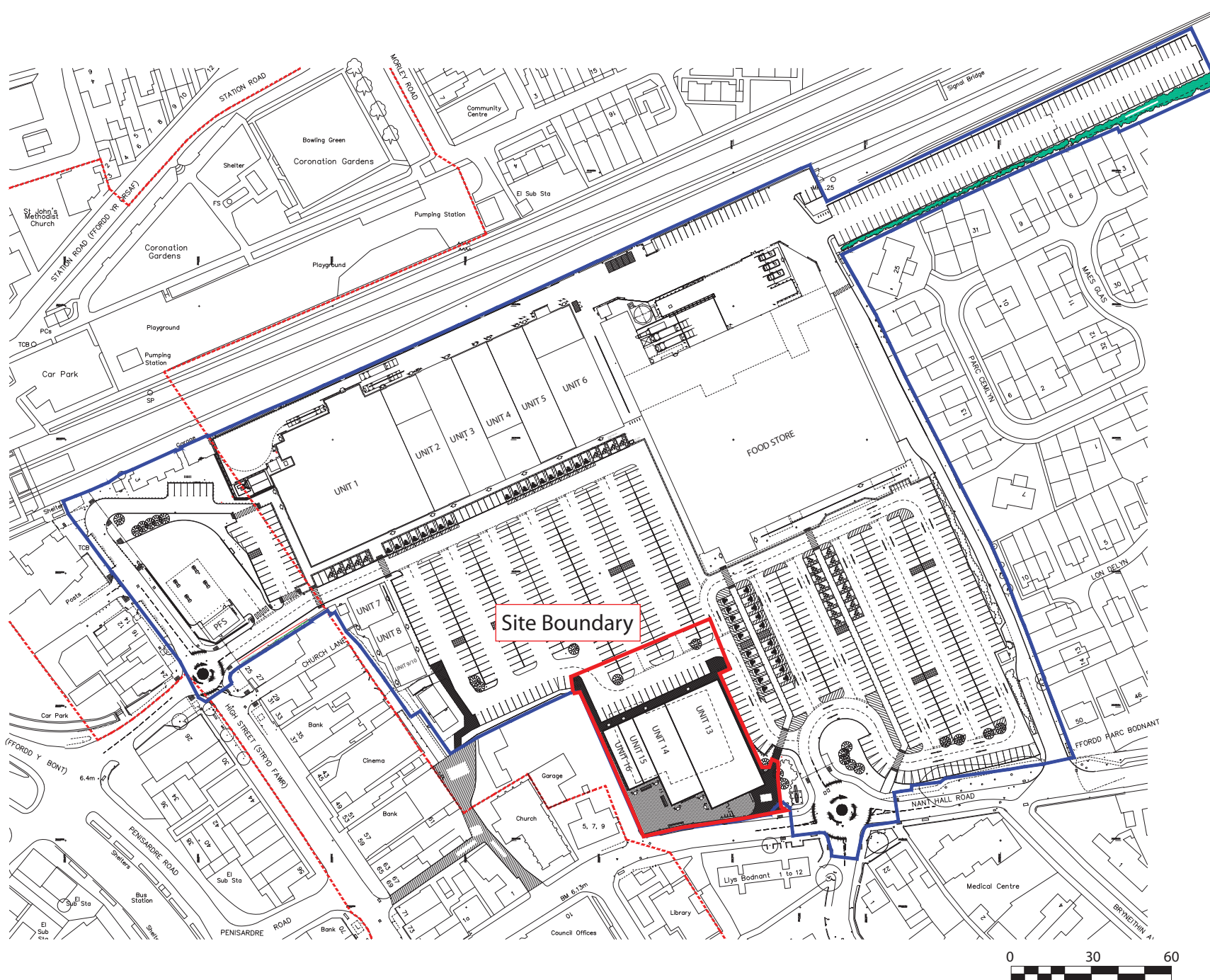


Fig 01: Map showing location of assessment area



Site plan, annotated
by AW from original
(DLA Architecture,
2013-238/801)

www.dla-architecture.co.uk
55 St Pauls Street
LEEDS LS1 2TE
T: 0113 887 3100 : info@dl-aarchitecture.co.uk

PROJECT
PRESTATYN SHOPPING PARK
PHASE 2

TITLE
PROPOSED SITE PLAN

SCALE DATE

DRAWN REVIEWED

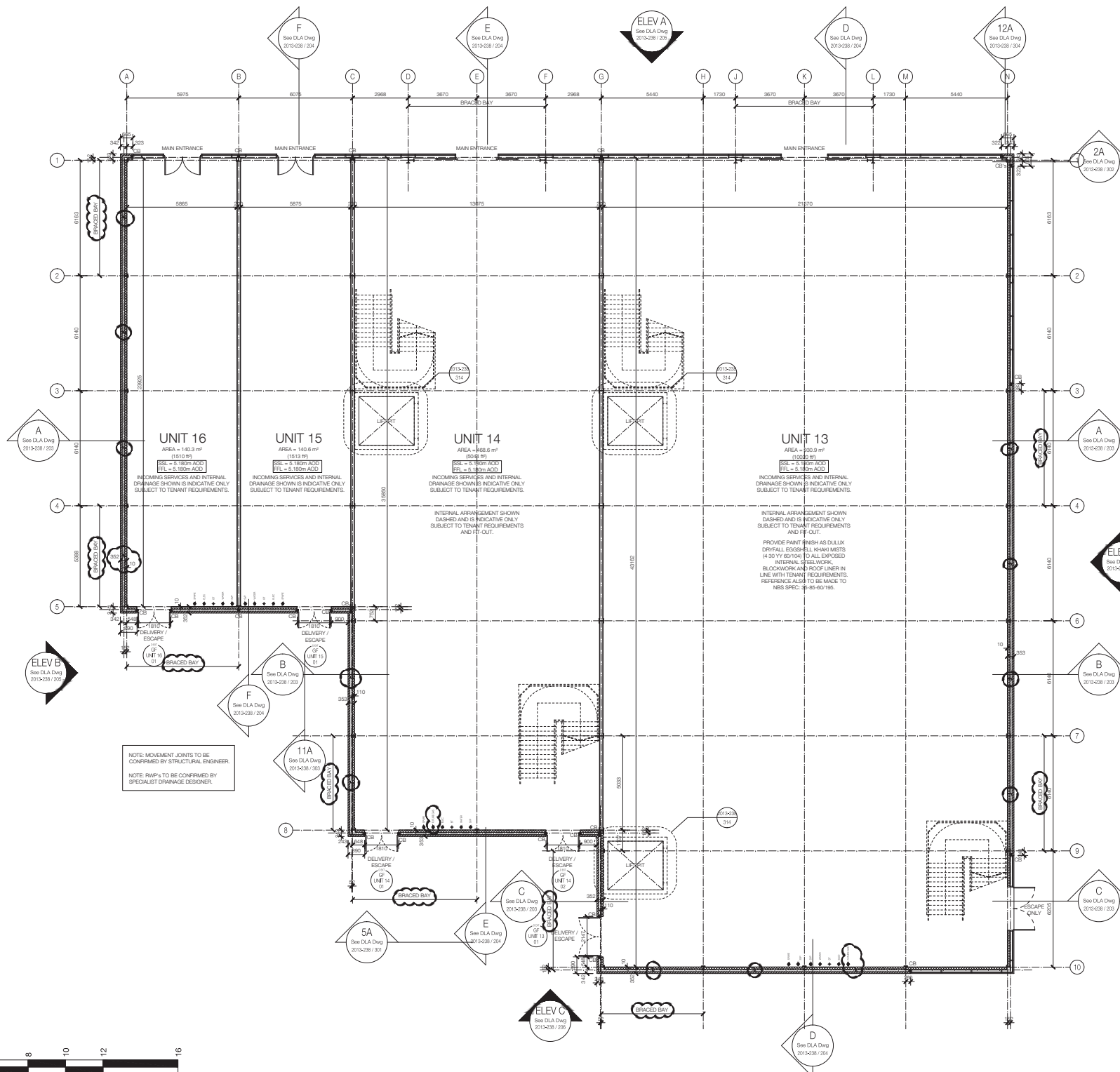
DRAWING NO
2013-238/801 REVISION

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ARCHAEOLOGY WALES
Revealing the past, informing the future



REVISIONS			
A	19/06/14	APH	APH
UNIT LAYOUT UPDATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH CLIENT REQUIREMENTS.			
B	01/07/14	APH	APH
UPDATED FOR PLANNING SUBMISSION			
C	09/10/14	ML	APH
TENDER ISSUE.			
D	15/10/14	ML	APH
GUARD RAILS OMITTED IN LINE WITH CARLUCON COMMENTS. NBS SPEC ADDED FOR UNIT 13 PAINT FINISH. COLUMN SIZES AMENDED IN LINE WITH JPS DETAILS. CAVITY WIDTH INCREASED TO SUIT COLUMN WIDTH AND INSULATION THICKNESS.			
E	17/10/14	ML	APH
FUTURE GAS SUPPLY INDICATED TO UNIT 13 & 14 IN LINE WITH REDHILL DETAILS. WIND PORTS AND BRACKING INDICATED IN LINE WITH JPS DETAILS.			



For Tender

DLA ARCHITECTURE

www.dla-architecture.co.uk
55 St Pauls Street
LEEDS LS1 2TE
T : 0113 867 3100 E : info@dl-architecture.co.uk

PROJECT
PRESTATYN SHOPPING PARK
PHASE 2

TITLE
PROPOSED GROUND
FLOOR PLAN

SCALE
1:100 @ A1

DATE
28/04/14

DRAWN
APH

REVIEWED
ML

REVISION
E

FILE PATH
T:\2013\2013-238\CAD\05-Autocad\Drawg\200

Archaeology Wales

APPENDIX IV: Archive Cover Sheet

ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

Nant Hall Rd, Prestatyn

Site Name:	Prestatyn
Site Code:	PSP/15/WB
PRN:	-
NPRN:	-
SAM:	-
Other Ref No:	-
NGR:	NGR SJ06508305
Site Type:	Urban Brown Field
Project Type:	Watching Brief
Project Manager:	Chris E Smith
Project Dates:	April 2015 - June 2015
Categories Present:	Undated & Modern
Location of Original Archive:	AW
Location of duplicate Archives:	-
Number of Finds Boxes:	-
Location of Finds:	-
Museum Reference:	-
Copyright:	AW
Restrictions to access:	None

Archaeology Wales

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