

# *Archaeology Wales*

## **Land off Ffordd Eglwys Wen, Denbigh**

Archaeological Field Evaluation and Settings Assessment



By

Adrian Hadley and Mark Houlston

Report No. 1476

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# Archaeology Wales

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## **Non-Technical Summary**

*In May and June 2016, Archaeology Wales carried out an Archaeological Field Evaluation and Settings Assessment at Cae Topyn, Land off Ffordd Eglwys Wen, Denbigh, LL16 4PY, centred at SJ 07125 66093. The aim was to determine the archaeological potential of the site for a planning application submitted by Pure Residential & Commercial Limited.*

*The historic core of the medieval settlement of Llanfarchell is believed to have been centred on Eglwys Wen Church, extending approximately 35.0m into the northeast corner of the development site. Previous archaeological work undertaken in respect of the development included a Desktop Study and Field Visit (Cooke 2016) and a Geophysical Survey (Davies 2016). Apart from recommending the Geophysical Survey, the Desktop Study concluded that a Settings Assessment should be undertaken to determine the potential impact on the Listed Buildings of St Marcella's Church, Walls and Lychgate, Chest Tomb of Twm O'r Nant, and Brookhouse Farm. The report on the geophysical survey highlighted a number of features of possible archaeological significance. On consideration of both reports, CPAT recommended that an evaluation be conducted by means of a Settings Assessment and the opening up of 3 targeted evaluation trenches: 10m, 20m & 30m in length.*

*The results of the evaluation trenching were negative. No archaeological features were encountered and no artefacts or soil samples were kept for further study.*

*The development potentially has a visual impact on four listed buildings; the Grade I listed Church of St Marcella (Cadw 8412) located to the north-east of the site, as well as a Grade II tomb of Twm O'r Nant in St Marcella's churchyard (Cadw 7484) along with the Grade II lychgate and churchyard walls (Cadw 8002), and also a Grade II post-medieval farmhouse at Brookhouse Farm (Cadw 7400), situated to the south-east of the site, near the Afon Ystrad. The Settings Assessment indicates that the proposed development will not affect the immediate settings of these designated assets. However, there may be a moderate/slight adverse visual impact on views towards the parish church. There will also be a similar adverse impact of the view towards St Marcella's along the western end of Whitchurch Road. The general impact on the extended setting of the church itself is considered to be moderate/slight. The location of modern housing along Whitchurch Road, opposite the churchyard and extending up to the post-medieval farmstead Eglwys-wen, may have a localised moderate/large visual impact on the churchyard, a moderate impact on the view from the chest tomb and a moderate/slight impact on the extended setting of the church lychgate. Conversely, the southwest view from the church, as it exists today, is in part detrimental to the historic landscape setting of the church due to the location of modern houses on high ground overlooking the Afon Ystrad floodplain. Modification to this parcel of land may represent a moderate beneficial visual impact on the churchyard and a minor beneficial impact on the chest tomb of Twm O'r Nant.*

*The mid-range views towards Brookhouse Farm, across the development site, will largely be unaffected due to local topography; these impacts have been assessed as slight adverse. There is also a slight adverse visual impact on the extended setting of this asset resulting from the additional housing to the northwest of the farmhouse. As is the case with St Marcella's Church, the proposed housing will obscure previous development that is unsympathetic to the established historic settlement pattern. Modification of this landscape parcel may therefore represent a moderate beneficial visual impact on the extended setting of the Brookhouse Farm.*

## **1. Introduction**

### **1.1 Location and Scope of Work**

In May and June 2016, Archaeology Wales undertook an Archaeological Evaluation and a Settings Assessment at Cae Topyn, Land off Ffordd Eglwys Wen, Denbigh, LL16 4PY, centred at SJ 07125 66093 (**Figure 1**). The results of both studies are presented in this report. The aim of the report is to provide information regarding the archaeological potential of the land for planning application submitted to Denbighshire County Council by Pure Residential & Commercial Limited, for the construction of 75 new dwellings together with associated roads, sewers, open space and landscaping.

A design Brief was prepared by Mark Walters, Development Control Archaeologist of the Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, on behalf of Denbighshire County Council, outlining the scope of the work required. The Brief specified the excavation of three targeted evaluation trenches, 10.0m, 20.0m and 30.0m long, and a Settings Assessment to determine the potential impact on the Listed Buildings of St Marcella's Church, Walls and Lychgate, Chest Tomb of Twm O'r Nant, and Brookhouse Farm.

A Written Scheme of Investigation detailing the methodology to be followed during the site work, analysis, reporting and archiving was prepared by Archaeology Wales on behalf of Pure Residential & Commercial Limited. Subsequently, it was approved by Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust on behalf of Denbighshire County Council. Previous archaeological work undertaken in respect of the same development proposal comprised a Desktop Study and Field Visit by Aeon Archaeology (Cooke 2016) and a Geophysical Survey by Stratascan (Davies 2016).

The AW project number for the work is 2438 and the site code is FEW/EV/16. The project details are summarised on the Archive Cover Sheet (Appendix V).

The project was managed by Mark Houlston, MCIFA, the Field Evaluation was supervised by Victoria Rees and the Settings Assessment was undertaken by Adrian Hadley.

## **1.2 Geology and Topography**

The proposed development lies within the parish of Denbigh Community. It is situated within a predominantly rural area that is mostly given over to pasture, the farmland being dominated by improved grassland. Sheep farming dominates, although some cattle farming also takes place.

The site itself comprises a large field, which at the time of the evaluation was in use as pasture for sheep. The field is entirely enclosed by hedgerows, although additional wooden post and wire fencing survives in places, and it is bordered to the north by Ffordd Eglwys Wen and to the west by Hen Ffordd Rhuthun. The field slopes relatively sharply from 50.0m OD in the north and northeast to 42.0m OD in the south. It occupies an area of approximately 2.8 hectares.

The underlying geology is of the Kinnerton Sandstone Formation, a Triassic Period sedimentary bedrock. The superficial deposits are of Devensian-Diamicton till, (British Geological Survey).

## **1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background**

### **1.3.1 Summary**

The surrounding landscape contains a number of prehistoric sites, predominantly monuments associated with the Bronze Age period. They mainly occupy higher ground overlooking the marshy floodplain of the Afon Ystrad and are situated away from areas of later settlement. The closest is 220.0m to the east of the site boundary.

A single Roman coin was discovered close to the site, but there is no corroborative evidence to suggest the presence of associated settlement activity.

The historic core of the now extant settlement of Llanfarchell was centred on Eglwys Wen Church and extended approximately 35.0m into the northeast corner of the proposed development site. The dedication of the still extant church to a 7th Century saint, whose latinised name was Marcella, indicates that the origins of the settlement are likely to date from the early medieval period. The extent and exact location of the settlement are unknown, although earthworks in fields to the north of the church indicates its likely presence in this area (Silvester R J, Martin C H R, Watson S E, 2014).

St Marcella's is a 15<sup>th</sup> century double-naved structure with a 14th-century blocked doorway. Internally the arcade and roofs are of late medieval origin. A little medieval stained glass remains, and parts of the medieval rood screen were incorporated in the early 20th-century

screens. Most internal features date to the 17th and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The churchyard is rectilinear and has been extended on several occasions.

The first cartographic depiction of the proposed development site is on John Speed's 1611 map of Denbighshire. Unfortunately, Speed's more detailed map of Denbigh does not extend far enough to the east to show the site.

The development site is shown in more detail on the John Roberts Estate Map of Denbigh c.1809 (Cooke 2016, Fig 9). At this time, the public right of way that now borders the eastern limit of the site appears to form part of a road that runs north to south from the church. Alternatively, in the west, Hen Ffordd Rhuthun had not yet been constructed. The Denbigh parish tithe map of 1840 and subsequent O.S. maps show the site much as it is today.

### ***1.3.2 Previous work undertaken in respect of the same development***

The Desk-top Study and Field Visit (Cooke 2016) concluded that there was a potential for the medieval settlement of Llanfarchell to extend into the northern part of the development site. Therefore, the presence of buried remains related to the early medieval and medieval periods was considered ***high***.

In addition, the study concluded that the proposed development is likely to have a ***high adverse*** direct physical impact upon three sites of archaeological importance during the construction phase, resulting in a ***slight adverse*** significance of effect. However, due to the relative unimportance of these features, no further assessment or mitigatory measures were proposed.

A potential indirect non-physical (visual) impact and an indirect physical impact upon the setting of the Listed Buildings of St Marcella's Church, Walls and Lychgate, Chest Tomb of Twm O'r Nant, and Brookhouse Farm were identified. As such, it was recommended that a further Settings Assessment be undertaken to fully assess the potential impact on these monuments.

Because of the potential for direct impacts identified by the Desk-top Study and Field Visit, a geophysical survey was undertaken across the development area to identify the nature and frequency of buried archaeology. The report on this work (Davies 2016) did not identify features of likely archaeological origin. However, linear anomalies were detected, including evidence of ploughing and a former field boundary, while other possible features included a former pond. As a result, CPAT recommended the excavation of three, targeted, evaluation trenches, 10m, 20m & 30m in length (**Figure 2**).



## 1.4 Heritage Assets Located with ZTV of the Proposed Development

### 1.4.1 Parish Church of St Marcella, Denbigh

The parish church of Denbigh (**Figure 1**) was established following the construction of a new town and castle by Henry de Lacy, Earl of Lincoln at the turn of the 13th / 14th century; the church is first mentioned in the Norwich Taxatio of 1291. The position of the church, almost a mile from the fortified town, is also a feature of the parish churches of Ruthin and Caernarfon, both similar and contemporary foundations. St Marcella's potentially has early medieval origins; the parish church is dedicated to an early saint (latinised as 'Marcella') who reputedly established her hermitage by a holy well in this area during the 7th century.

The church represents a classic example of the double-naved 'Vale of Clwyd' type, having parallel north and south chambers of equal dimensions and with no architectural division between nave and chancel spaces. St Marcella's comprises a medium-sized parish church with tall, square west tower. The construction is of limestone rubble with local sandstone dressings. The present building is largely the result of a late Perpendicular remodelling of circa 1500. The south chamber incorporates earlier fabric, which derives from the primary church. A blocked pointed arch at its west end and a masonry break with irregular quoining half-way along the southern wall probably indicate the extent of the original nave; the dressings are in the red/brown sandstone characteristic of late 13th and early 14th century work in the vale. An antiquated south porch was added in 1722 and the whole appears to have undergone light restoration in 1854. Further restorations were undertaken in 1908 and 1915. Some traces of external render (from which the name Whitchurch derives) still remain, especially on the tower and the north chamber.

Internally the arcade and roofs are of late medieval origin. The near total absence of medieval furnishings and fittings could be a result of the building falling out of use in the early 19th century, other than for burial, although it was subsequently restored in the first decade of the 20th century. A little medieval stained glass remains, and parts of the medieval rood screen were incorporated in the early 20th century screens, but most of the internal features are 17th and 18th century in origin, including a font of 1640. There are interesting memorials starting with that to the antiquary, Humphrey Llwyd (d.1568) and a brass to the governor of Denbigh Castle, Richard Myddelton (d.1575).

The Church of St Marcella is Grade I listed (Cadw LB: 952) as an exceptionally fine and well-preserved late medieval parish church, one of the most important in the region, with particularly good original interior and exterior detail and with an especially fine series of 16th to 18th century monuments. The church is located on the northern side of Whitchurch Road, approximately 60m northeast of the proposed development.

### 1.4.2 Lychgate and churchyard walls, Church of St Marcella, Denbigh

The lychgate is located a short distance to the south of the church porch. The lychgate is of Neo-Perpendicular design, probably erected in 1908 at the time of a general restoration of the church. This comprises a pegged oak superstructure with shingle roof on a chamfered base of tooled limestone ashlar. The lychgate takes the form of two joined spere trusses with open framing and curved bracing to the sides. This has a single-bay plan with wide depressed arches to its main (north and south) faces. Each arch is hollow-chamfered and has finely-carved Tudor rose and foliate bosses, with blind tracery and foliate carving to the spandrels. The tie-beams have crenellated brattishing and relief-carved Welsh (north side) and English (south side) inscriptions in Gothic lettering. The gables are open-framed and braced and have deep verges with moulded and cusped bargeboards. There are moulded oak half-gates to the south (front) with carved post heads and curved top rails. There is a further, similar single gate to the left.

Adjoining the lychgate are the churchyard walls. These are mostly 19th or early 20th, though the section east of the lychgate, and curving around to define the northern perimeter of the churchyard, is earlier. The walls are of local limestone rubble and rise to a height of between 1.5m and 2m. The eastern stretch extends for some 30m before curving around to the north to continue as a revetment for a similar distance. Here there is a break with a flight of six modern concrete steps, giving access to the raised churchyard. Beyond this the wall continues northwards as a low rubble revetment. The main stretch of walling has irregular cock and hen copings; the northern stretch, beyond the steps has a mixture of cock and hen and slab copings. The stretch to the west of the lychgate is of random-coursed, rough-dressed rubble. The first few metres have triangular copings and curve convexly to terminate in a flat, shallow buttress. This section extends for some 100m parallel with the road before turning a right-angle beyond an opening with plain square piers. At this point the wall continues northwards to define the western churchyard perimeter.

The lychgate and churchyard walls are Grade II listed (Cadw LB 23551). This represents a fine example of an early 20th century Perpendicular-style lychgate with associated rubble churchyard walls. The structures also have group value with the Church of St Marcella. The lychgate is located approximately 30m northeast of the development site.

### ***1.4.3 Chest Tomb of Twm O'r Nant, Church of St Marcella, Denbigh***

The early 19th century chest tomb is located in the churchyard, immediately to the southwest of the church tower. This is the tomb to Thomas Edwards 'Twm O'r Nant' (1739-1810), bard and playwright, known as the Cambrian Shakespeare. The structure comprises a rectangular chest tomb of polished slate, with 2-panel sides with fielded panels having extruded corners and single panel ends; that to the east with a modern slate plaque inscribed 'Bedd Twm O'r Nant'. The tomb-slab has chamfered sides and has a primary carved inscription at the top: 'Here lieth the body of Thomas Edwards of Nant, The Cambrian Shakespeare, with his wife and four of his daughters. Died April 3rd 1810 aged 71.' There are two later verses in Welsh inscribed below.

The chest tomb is Grade II listed (Cadw LB: 23659). The tomb is listed for its special interest as the tomb of Twm O'r Nant, 'the Cambrian Shakespeare' (1739-1810). This also has group value with the Church of St Marcella. The tomb is located approximately 50m northeast of the development site.

#### **1.4.4 Brookhouse Farm, Denbigh**

The farmhouse (**Figure 1**) is located on the north side of the River Ystrad, some 200m east of Ruthin Road. This two-storeyed farmhouse probably dates from the 18th century. The property is L-shaped in plan and has a steep slate roof. The front façade is pebble-dashed with three sash windows, gabled dormer and central door of five moulded panels. The rear of the main range is built in painted brick, with sash windows and casements. The gabled west range has sash windows each side of central door of four panels. The chamfered post porch dates from the 18th century.

Brookhouse Farm is Grade II listed (Cadw LB: 1077). The farmhouse is listed as fine example of an 18th century farmhouse, with earlier origins, that retains good original external character. The farm buildings are located approximately 135m southeast of the proposed housing development.

## **2. Methodology**

### **2.1 Field Evaluation**

A trenched archaeological evaluation (**Figure 2**) was conducted at the development site during late May and early June 2016. Ground conditions were moderate to wet.

Prior to commencement of excavation, each trench location was scanned for services using a CAT scanner.

The trenches were excavated to the top of the natural subsoil and/or the top of potential archaeological features using a machine fitted with a wide toothless ditching blade. All trench sides and bases were cleaned manually by trowelling to reveal contexts in plan and profile.

Recording was carried out using AW recording systems (pro-forma context sheets etc), using a continuous number sequence for all contexts. Written, drawn and photographic records of an appropriate level of detail were maintained throughout the course of the project. All areas were photographed using high-resolution (14mp+) digital photography with images taken in \*RAW format and converted to TIFF format for archive storage. Plans and sections were drawn to a scale of 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 as required, and these were related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.

All works were undertaken in accordance with the CIFA's *Standards and Guidance: for an Archaeological Evaluation* (2014) and current Health and Safety legislation.

Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and recorded by context. No deposits suitable for sampling were encountered during the course of the evaluation.

The on-site work was carried out under the supervision of Victoria Reese.

## 2.2 Settings Assessment

The scoring system for assessing the magnitude of impact of the proposed development is based on the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (Ref.12.1: DMRB, Volume 11 Environmental Assessment, Section 3 Environmental Topics, Part 2, Cultural Heritage), which is published by the UK Government on behalf of the Highways Agency, Transport Scotland, Welsh Assembly Government (Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru) and the Department for Regional Development Northern Ireland. DMRB is the established good practice guidance for assessing the impact of the effects of the Proposed Development on the cultural heritage resource, which it divides into three sub-topics: Archaeological Remains, Historic Buildings and Historic Landscapes.

Historic buildings are architectural or designed or other structures with a significant historical value. These may include structures that have no aesthetic appeal, and the sub-topic includes, in addition to great houses, churches and vernacular buildings, some relatively modern structures, such as WWII and Cold War military structures, early motorway service stations, industrial buildings, and sometimes other structures not usually thought of as 'buildings', such as milestones or bridges.

This assessment concerns only four listed buildings identified within the ZTV of the proposed development:

- Parish Church of St Marcella: Grade I Listed (Cadw 8412);
- Lychgate and churchyard walls, Church of St Marcella: Grade II (Cadw 8002);
- Chest Tomb of Twm O'r Nant, Church of St Marcella: Grade II Listed (Cadw 7484);
- Brookhouse Farm. Grade II Listed (Cadw 7400).

**Table 1: Scale of values used in assessing the value/sensitivity of heritage assets**

Value / Sensitivity	Archaeological Remains	Historic Buildings	Historic Landscapes
Very High	World Heritage Sites Other sites of international importance	World Heritage Sites Other sites of international importance	World Heritage Sites & historic landscapes associated with them
High	Scheduled Ancient Monuments	Scheduled Monuments with standing remains	Designated and undesignated historic

	Undesignated assets of schedulable quality Assets of national importance that can contribute significantly to acknowledged national research objectives	Grade I and Grade II* Listed Buildings Other listed buildings that can be shown to have exceptional qualities Conservation Areas containing structures of clear national importance	landscapes of outstanding interest Designated special historic landscapes Undesignated landscapes of high quality, preservation and importance, and of demonstrable national value
Medium	Undesignated assets of regional importance that contribute to regional research objectives	Grade II listed buildings Unlisted buildings that have exceptional qualities Conservation Areas that contain buildings that contribute significantly to its historic character Historic Townscapes or built-up areas with important historic integrity in their buildings, or built settings	Landscapes of regional value Averagely well-preserved historic landscapes with reasonable coherence, time-depth or other critical factor(s)
Low	Assets of local importance Assets compromised by poor preservation or poor survival of contextual associations	Locally Listed buildings Historic buildings of modest quality Historic Townscapes or built areas of limited historic integrity	Robust undesignated historic landscapes Historic landscapes with importance to local interest groups Historic landscapes whose value is limited by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations
Negligible	Assets with little or no surviving archaeological interest	Buildings of no architectural or historical note	Landscapes with little or no surviving archaeological interest
Unknown	Importance not ascertained	Buildings with some hidden potential for historic significance	Importance not ascertained

Magnitude of effect is assessed using the guidelines set out in the DMRB. This assessment is made without regard to the value of the resource, so the total destruction of a low value asset is considered as the same magnitude of effect as the destruction of a high value asset. The effect can be either ‘direct’ or ‘indirect’. A direct effect is where there is a physical impact on a heritage asset. Indirect is when there is a visual effect on the asset or its setting. This assessment concerns only the indirect (visual) impact of the development on four listed buildings.

In the broadest terms, the setting of an asset comprises the conditions around it, and within which it is perceived. Not all settings, however, contribute to the value of the assets they

encompass. The setting will be a combination of views, other historic features and their relationships to the asset, ambience (topography, vegetation, sound, and other sensual experiences) and context (what is known or thought about the asset, but not immediately experienced through the senses).

**Table 2: Scale of values used in assessing the magnitude of impacts**

<b>Magnitude of impact</b>	<b>Archaeological Remains</b>	<b>Historic Buildings</b>	<b>Historic Landscapes</b>
Major	<p>Change to most or all key archaeological materials, such that the resource is totally altered.</p> <p>Comprehensive changes to setting</p>	<p>Change to key historic building elements, such that the resource is totally altered</p> <p>Comprehensive changes to the setting</p>	<p>Change to most or all key historic landscape elements, parcels or components</p> <p>Extreme visual effects</p> <p>Gross change of noise or change to sound quality</p> <p>Fundamental changes to use or access resulting in total change to historic landscape character area</p>
Moderate	<p>Changes to many key archaeological materials, such that the resource is clearly modified</p> <p>Considerable changes to setting that affect the character of the asset</p>	<p>Change to many key historic building elements, such that the resource is significantly modified</p> <p>Changes to the setting of an historic building, such that it is significantly modified</p> <p>Considerable changes to a setting that affects the character of the asset</p>	<p>Changes to many key historic landscape elements, parcels or components</p> <p>Visual change to many key aspects of the historic landscape, noticeable differences in noise or sound quality, considerable changes to use or access resulting in moderate changes to historic landscape character</p>
Minor	<p>Changes to key archaeological materials, such that the asset is slightly altered</p> <p>Slight changes to setting</p>	<p>Change to key historic building elements, such that the asset is slightly different</p> <p>Change to setting of an historic building such that it is noticeably changed</p>	<p>Changes to few key historic landscape elements, parcels or components</p> <p>Slight visual changes to few key aspects of historic landscape, limited changes to noise levels or sound quality</p> <p>Slight changes to use or access resulting in</p>

			limited changes to historic landscape character
Negligible	Very minor changes to archaeological materials, or setting	Slight changes to historic buildings elements or setting that hardly affect it	Very minor changes to key historic landscape elements, parcels or components  Virtually unchanged visual effects, very slight changes in noise levels or sound quality, very slight changes to use or access resulting in a very small change to historic landscape character
No Change			

Significance of effect is assessed by combining the value of the resource and the predicted magnitude of change / effect likely to arise, as outlined in the matrix provided below, which is extracted from the DMRB (Ref.12.1, Vol.II, Sect.3, Pt.2, Chap.5 – Table 5.1).

**Table 3: Significance of effect matrix**

<b>VALUE/SENSITIVITY</b>	<b>Very High</b>	Neutral	Slight	Moderate/ Large	Large or Very Large	Very Large
	<b>High</b>	Neutral	Slight	Moderate/ Slight	Moderate/ Large	Large or Very Large
	<b>Medium</b>	Neutral	Neutral/ Slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate/ Large
	<b>Low</b>	Neutral	Neutral/ Slight	Neutral/ Slight	Slight	Slight/ Moderate
	<b>Negligible</b>	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral/ Slight	Neutral/ Slight	Slight
	<b>No Change</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Minor</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Major</b>	
	<b>MAGNITUDE OF EFFECT</b>					

### **3. Results of the Field Evaluation**

#### **3.1 Trench Layout**

A total of three trenches were machine excavated (**Figure 2**), all measuring approximately 1.8m wide. Trench 1 was 10m long, Trench 2 was 20m long and Trench 3 was 30m long. The trenches were positioned to target potential features identified by the geophysical survey.

#### **3.2 Trench Descriptions**

##### **3.2.1 Trench 1 (Figures 2, 3, 6 & 7)**

Trench 1 was 20.2m long, was orientated north-west to south-east and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.95m. The ground level was recorded at 45.8m OD at the north-western end of the trench and 45.1m OD at the south-eastern end.

The trench was excavated 0.20m to 0.35m into the natural subsoil (103 to 107). This was mainly to examine the variety of deposits revealed, to make certain they were deposited by natural processes. The top of natural was 0.65m from the ground surface.

Topsoil (101) consisted of a grey, sandy loam that was up to 0.35m thick.

Subsoil (102) consisted of a grey-brown, sandy silt-clay deposit, which varied in thickness from 0.29m to 0.36m.

As in the other trenches, considerable variation in the natural was observed, with sandy, gravel-rich deposits (106 & 107) overlying very sandy pink-red silts (103) in some areas, and mid-brown sandy clay layers (104 & 105) interleaved with gravels elsewhere.

The two 'features' crossing the trench that had been identified by the geophysical survey (**Figure 2**) corresponded roughly with bands of natural gravel.

No archaeological features were revealed within the area of the trench. Occasional 19th – 20th century fragments of brick were removed from the topsoil.

##### **3.2.3 Trench 2 (Figures 2, 3, 7 & 8)**

Trench 2 was 10.0m long, was orientated north-west to south-east and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.30m. The ground level was recorded at 45.8m OD at the north-western end of the trench and 45.2m OD at the south-eastern end.



The trench was excavated up to 0.55m into the natural subsoil (203 & 204), so as to examine the variety of deposits revealed. The top of natural was 0.75m from the ground surface.

Topsoil (201) consisted of a grey, sandy loam that was up to 0.32m thick.

Subsoil (202) consisted of a grey-brown, sandy silt-clay deposit, which varied in thickness from 0.216m to 0.38m.

Less variation was observed within the natural in this trench than the other two. Sandy, gravel-rich deposits (204) predominated at the south-eastern end of the trench and mid-brown sand-gravel-clay (203) at the north-western end.

The 'feature' crossing the trench in the south that was identified by the geophysical survey (**Figure 2**) appears to correspond with a band of natural gravel.

No archaeological features were revealed within the area of the trench.

### **3.2.5 Trench 3 (Figures 2, 3, 8 & 9)**

Trench 3 was 29.5m long, was orientated north-west to south-east and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.50m. The ground level was recorded at 43.8m OD at the north-western end of the trench and 42.2m OD at the south-eastern end.

The trench was excavated 0.10m to 0.70m into the natural subsoil (303 to 3011). This was mainly to examine the variety of deposits revealed, to make certain these were deposited by natural processes. The top of natural varied from 0.65m to 1.25m from the ground surface. It was considerably deeper at the roadside end, which was in the south-east.

Topsoil (301) consisted of a grey, sandy loam that was up to 0.35m thick.

Subsoil (302) consisted of a grey-brown, sandy silt-clay deposit, which varied in thickness from 0.30m to 0.95m.

As in the other trenches, considerable variation in the natural was observed, with sandy, gravel-rich deposits (304, 305 & 308) interleaved with deposits of silty sand (303, 309 & 311). A possible gully was identified (306, 310 & 307), but excavation quickly demonstrated that it had been formed by natural processes (a paleochannel).

The two 'features' crossing the trench that had been identified by the geophysical survey (**Figure 2**) corresponded very approximately with an area of natural gravel and the paleochannel.

No archaeological features were revealed within the area of the trench. Occasional post-medieval fragments of brick and 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century ceramics were removed from the topsoil.

### **3.3 Finds and Environmental**

Apart from post-medieval and modern brick fragments, and 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century ceramics, no finds were identified during the site investigations. No artefacts were kept.

No deposits were identified as being suitable for environmental sampling.

### **3.4 Summary of Results**

The results of the archaeological evaluation were negative. No archaeological features were encountered and no artefacts or soil samples were kept for further study.

## **4. Results of the Settings Assessment**

### **4.1 Parish Church of St Marcella**

The Grade I listed church is considered to be a high value heritage asset. The parish church has historical and evidential value. As well as illustrative value (as a link between past and present) and communal value (meaning of place) St Marcella's also has aesthetic value. In addition, the church has a potential associative historical value with a 7th century saint.

The proposed development will not affect the immediate setting of the St Marcella's Church, and surrounding churchyard, but will have a visual impact on the extended setting of the Grade I listed building.

The mid-range views across the development site towards the parish church will be affected; these impacts have been assessed as minor adverse. Whilst these views are perhaps not historically significance, the visual link between the parish church and Brookhouse Chapel (from Ruthin Road) will be maintained (**Figure 4 & 5**). There is also a visual corridor from the A525 (**Figure 5**). The significance of effect of this visual impact has been assessed as or moderate/slight. Similarly, the view of St Marcella's along the western end of Whitchurch Road will be moderate/slight adverse. The development will not affect views towards the church from the north and east.

The views to the north, east and west from the parish church will not be affected by the proposed development. The only visual impact is to the southwest; this is nonetheless a significant sightline from the church and surrounding graveyard to largely open countryside (**Figure 4, Views A & C**). In this respect, the proposed development has the potential to

damage the landscape setting of this designated asset. It should nonetheless be noted that the existing view from the churchyard towards the development site is currently detrimental to the historic landscape setting of the church. The modern houses adjacent to the development site are positioned on the ridge of high ground overlooking the Afon Ystrad floodplain. These buildings deviate from the historic settlement pattern in terms of topographic position. The proposed scheme would mask the view from the churchyard of existing housing along the ridge south of Whitchurch Road, replacing this with a more distinct suburban development to the south-east of Denbigh that is perhaps more in keeping with the wider historic landscape. In this respect, modification to this parcel of land may have a minor beneficial impact on the extended setting of the church, although this may depend on the style and choice of construction material for the proposed housing.

Overall the change to the extended setting of St Marcella's Church has been assessed as minor. The resulting significance of effect of the development has been assessed as moderate/slight in terms of the view from the church. The location of modern housing along Whitchurch Road, extending up to the post-medieval farmstead Eglwys-wen, has a localised moderate adverse visual impact on the churchyard; resulting in a moderate/large significance of effect. Conversely, the proposed housing will obscure previous development that conflicts with the established historic settlement pattern. The significance of effect of a modified semi-urban landscape within the southwest view from the churchyard may represent a moderate or slight beneficial impact.

#### **4.2 Lychgate and churchyard walls, Church of St Marcella**

The Grade II listed lychgate is considered to be a medium or high value heritage asset, which is of aesthetic significance. The church walls represent a medium value asset. The immediate setting of the lychgate will not be affected by the proposed development.

The extended setting of this asset will nonetheless be altered when viewed from and towards the proposed housing located along Whitchurch Road near Eglwys-wen Farm (**Figure 4, View D**). This visual impact has been assessed as minor adverse, the significance of effect being slight or moderate/slight.

#### **4.3 Chest Tomb of Twm O'r Nant, Church of St Marcella**

The 19<sup>th</sup> century chest tomb of Thomas Edwards is considered to be a medium or high value heritage asset. The immediate setting of the tomb will not be affected by the proposed scheme.

The most significant view from this asset is to the south, towards the housing development (**Figure 4, View A**). As is the case with the churchyard (noted above), the existing view from the tomb towards the development site is currently detrimental to the historic landscape setting of the church. This is because modern houses located on the ridge of high ground to the south of Whitchurch Road are not in keeping with the historic settlement pattern.

Modification to this parcel of land may have a minor beneficial impact on the extended setting of the tomb. However, the location of modern housing along Whitchurch Road (near Eglwys-wen Farm), will have a moderate adverse visual impact on the setting of the tomb, resulting in a moderate adverse significance of effect.

#### **4.4 Brookhouse Farm**

Brookhouse Farm is considered to be a medium or high value heritage asset, as this has significant evidential as well as aesthetic importance. The proposed development will not affect the immediate setting of the farm buildings, but will have a visual impact on the extended setting of the Grade II listed property.

The mid-range views towards the farmhouse across the development site will largely be unaffected due to local topography; these impacts have been assessed as minor or negligible adverse. The significance of effect is considered to be slight adverse.

The development will not affect views from the farmhouse to the south, east and west. However, the view generally northwest from Brookhouse Farm towards the proposed development may have a minor impact on the extended setting of this asset. The change to this part of the landscape, viewed from the farmhouse, will nonetheless be partly obscured by Brookhouse Chapel (PRN 70505). It should also be noted that the existing view is currently detrimental to the historic landscape setting of the farmhouse; modern houses adjacent to the development site are positioned on the ridge of high ground overlooking the Afon Ystrad floodplain. These buildings deviate from the historic settlement pattern in terms of topographic position, and the intrusive location, overlooking surrounding historic buildings, is heightened by design and use of materials not in keeping with the vernacular. The proposed scheme would replace this with a more distinct suburban development (**Figure 4, View B**). In this respect, modification to this parcel of land may have a minor beneficial impact on the extended setting of Brookhouse Farm.

Overall the change to the extended setting of Brookhouse Farm has been assessed as minor. The resulting significance of effect of the development has been assessed as slight adverse in terms of additional housing to the northwest of the farmhouse. Equally, the proposed housing will obscure previous development that conflicts with the established historic settlement pattern. The significance of effect of a modified semi-urban landscape to the northwest of the farm may represent a moderate or slight beneficial impact, but the visual impact on the extended setting of the farm is more likely to be moderate beneficial.

## **5. Conclusions**

### **5.1 Summary of Field Evaluation**

The results of the archaeological evaluation were negative. No archaeological features were encountered and no artefacts or soil samples were kept for further study.

### **5.2 Summary of Visual Impacts**

#### ***5.2.1 The Parish Church of St Marcella***

The Parish Church of St Marcella is Grade I listed (Cadw LB: 952) as an exceptionally fine and well-preserved late medieval parish church that potentially dates back to the 7<sup>th</sup> century. The proposed development will not affect the immediate setting of St Marcella's and surrounding churchyard, but will have a visual impact on the extended setting of the Grade I listed building.

The mid-range views across the development site towards the parish church will be affected; the overall effect of this visual impact has been assessed as or moderate/slight adverse. Similarly, the view of St Marcella's along the western end of Whitchurch Road will be moderate/slight adverse. The development will not affect views towards the church from the north and east.

The general impact on the extended setting of the church itself is considered to be moderate/slight. However, the location of modern housing along Whitchurch Road, opposite the churchyard and extending up to the post-medieval farmstead Eglwys-wen, has a localised adverse visual impact on the churchyard; resulting in a moderate/large significance of effect.

The southwest view from the church (towards the development site) forms a significant sightline from the church and graveyard to largely open countryside. However, this view, as it exists today, is in part detrimental to the historic landscape setting of the church due to the location of modern houses on high ground overlooking the Afon Ystrad floodplain. Modification to this parcel of land may represent a moderate or slight beneficial visual impact on the churchyard.

#### ***5.2.2 Lychgate and churchyard walls, Church of St Marcella***

The lychgate is of Neo-Perpendicular design, probably erected in 1908 at the time of a general restoration of the church. Adjoining the lychgate are the churchyard walls. These are mostly 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup>, though the section east of the lychgate is earlier. The lychgate and churchyard walls are Grade II listed (Cadw LB 23551). The immediate setting of the lychgate will not be affected by the proposed development. The extended setting of this asset will nonetheless be altered when viewed from and towards the proposed housing located along Whitchurch Road; the overall impact has been assessed as slight or moderate/slight.

### **5.2.3 Chest Tomb of Twm O'r Nant, Church of St Marcella**

The early 19<sup>th</sup> century chest tomb is Grade II listed (Cadw LB: 23659) for its special interest as the tomb of Twm O'r Nant, 'the Cambrian Shakespeare' (1739-1810). The most significant view from this asset is to the south, towards the development site. The existing view of modern housing to the southwest, as it exists today, is in part detrimental to the historic landscape setting of the tomb. Modification to this parcel of land may therefore represent a minor beneficial visual impact on the extended setting of the tomb. However, the location of modern housing along Whitchurch Road (near Eglwys-wen Farm), may result in a localised moderate adverse visual impact on this view.

### **5.2.4 Brookhouse Farm**

Brookhouse Farm is Grade II listed (Cadw LB: 1077) as a fine example of an 18<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse, with earlier origins. The proposed development will not affect the immediate setting of the farmhouse. The mid-range views towards the farmhouse across the development site will largely be unaffected due to local topography; these impacts have been assessed as slight adverse. There is also a slight adverse visual impact on the extended setting of this asset resulting from the additional housing to the northwest of the farmhouse. Equally, the proposed housing will obscure previous development that is unsympathetic to the established historic settlement pattern. Modification to this parcel of land may therefore represent a moderate beneficial visual impact on the extended setting of the Brookhouse Farm.

## **6. Bibliography**

Davies R. 2016, *Land off Eglwys Wen, Denbigh: Geophysical Survey Report*, Stratascan Client Report

English Heritage, 2015 'The Setting of Heritage Assets - Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 3'

Cooke R. 2016, *Land at Ffordd Eglwys, Wen, Denbigh, Denbighshire: Archaeological Assessment*, Aeon Archaeology Client Report

Silvester R J, Martin C H R, Watson S E, 2014, *Historic Settlements in Denbighshire*



Figure 1, proposed development site

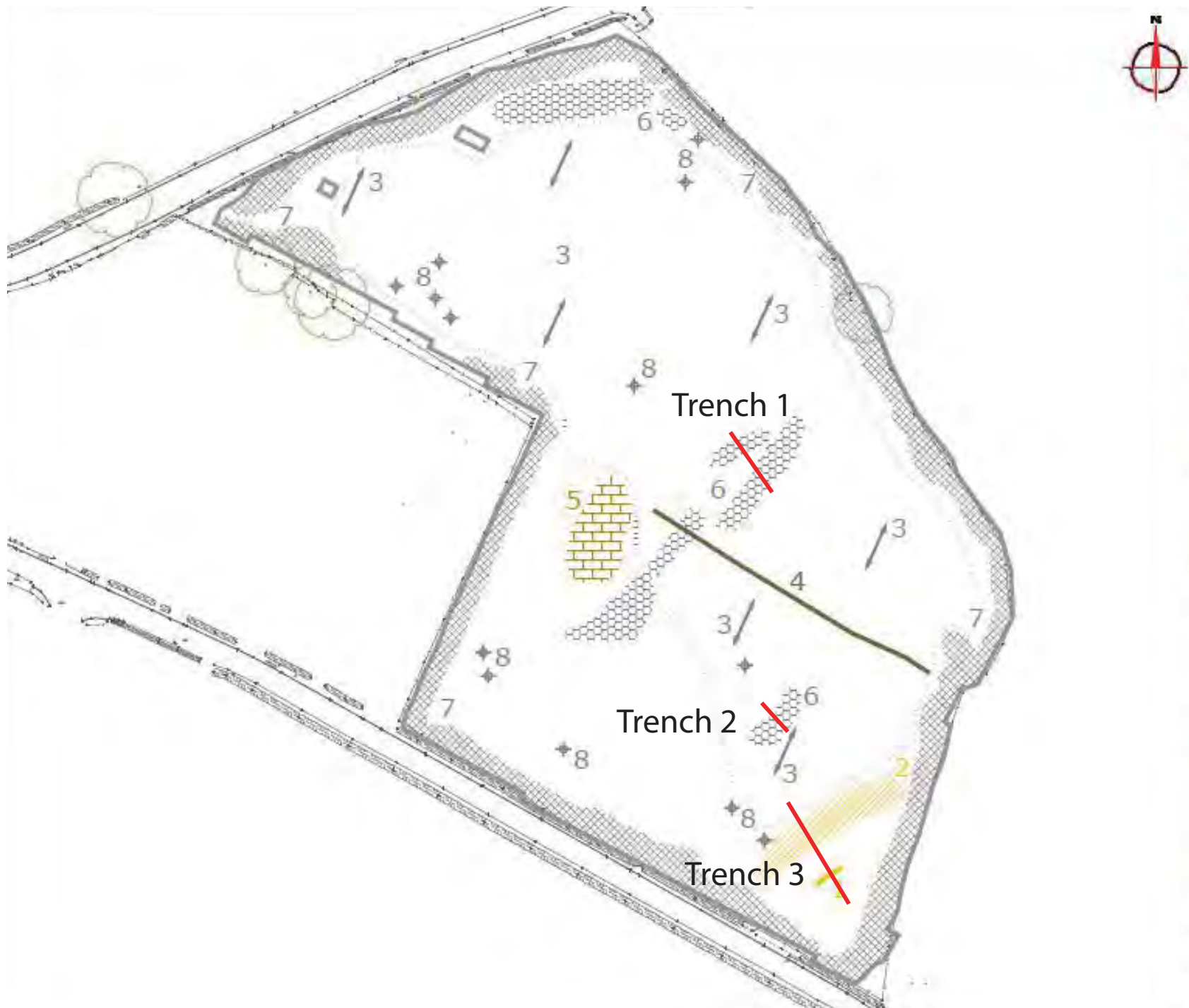
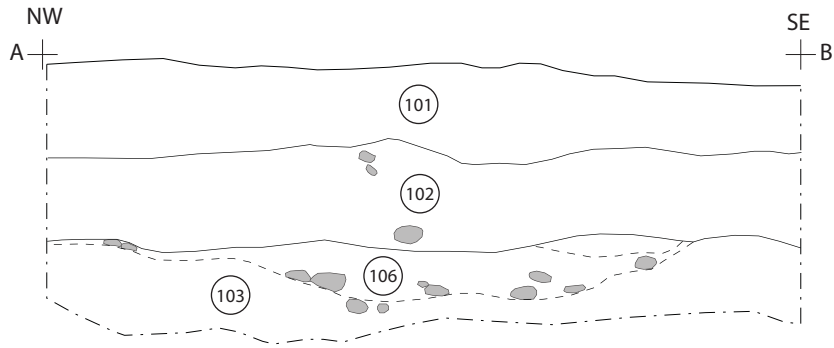


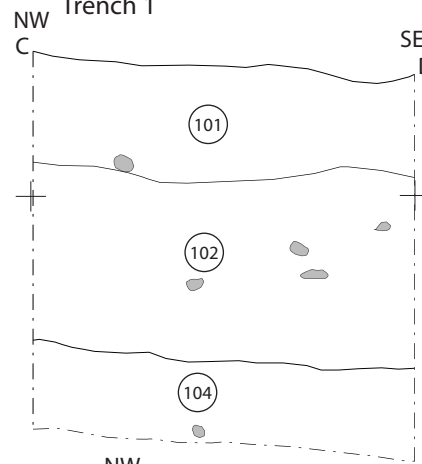
Figure 2, trench location plan



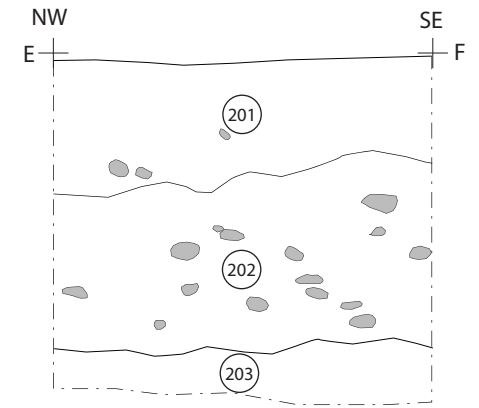
Representative section A-B within Trench 1



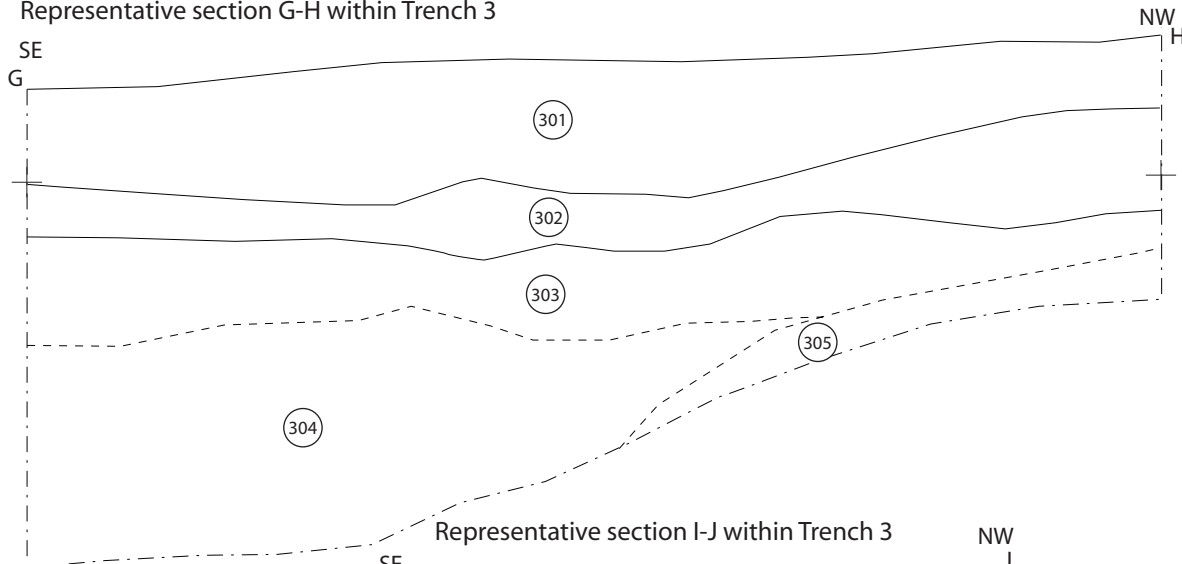
Representative section C-D within Trench 1



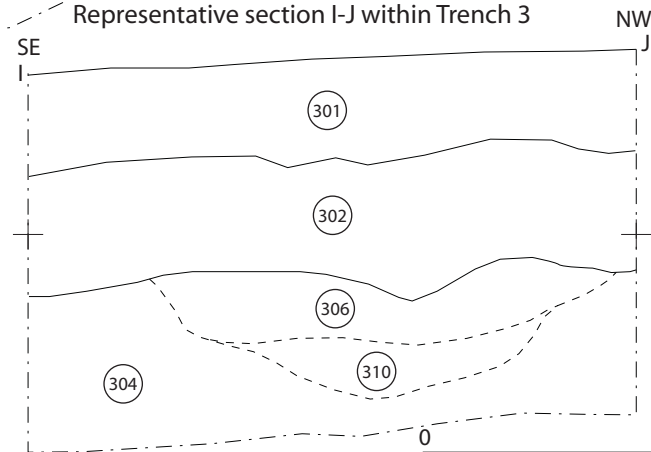
Representative section E-F within Trench 2



Representative section G-H within Trench 3



Representative section I-J within Trench 3



Representative section K-L within Trench 3

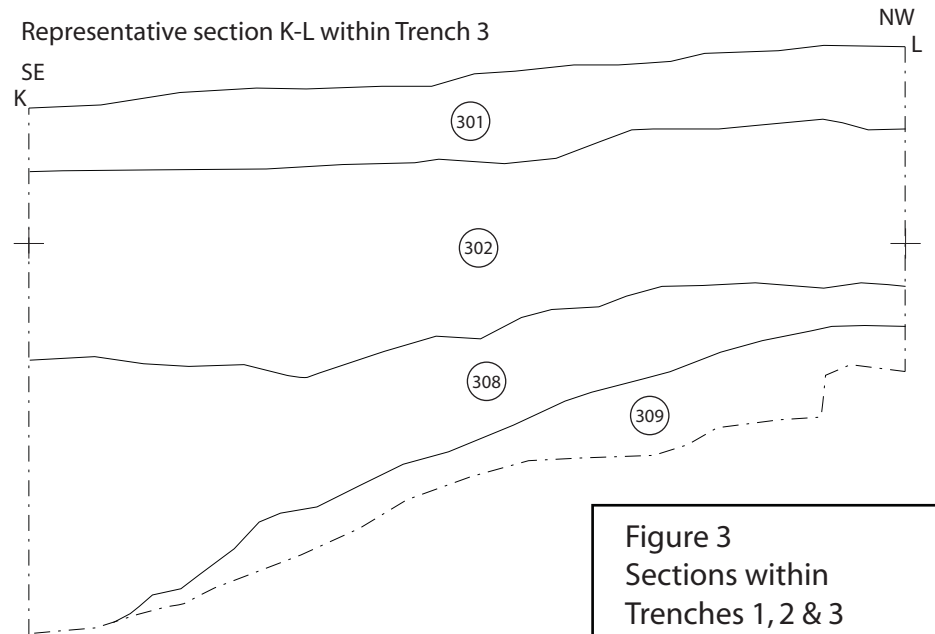


Figure 3  
Sections within  
Trenches 1, 2 & 3



VIEW A - FROM CHURCH TOMB TOWARDS DEVELOPMENT



VIEW B - FROM FARMHOUSE TOWARDS DEVELOPMENT



VIEW C - FROM CHURCH ENTRANCE TOWARDS DEVELOPMENT

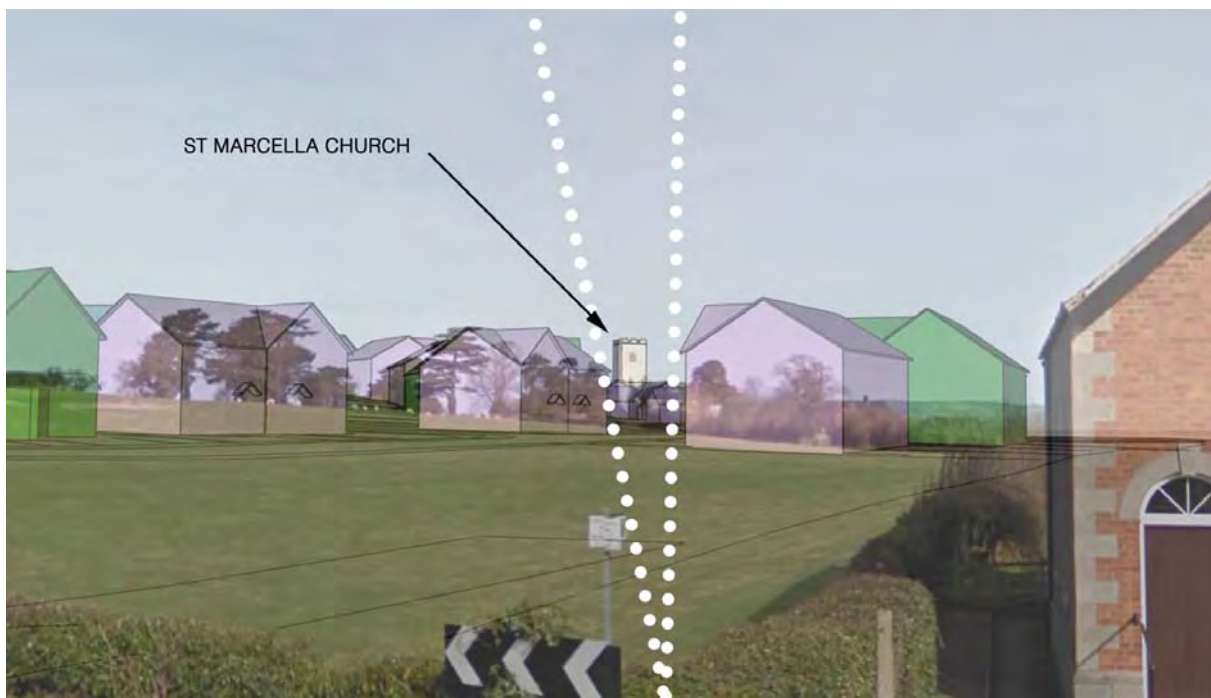


VIEW D - FROM LYCHGATE TOWARDS DEVELOPMENT

Figure 4



VIEW E - FROM RUTHIN ROAD, SOUTH OF DEVELOPMENT SITE



VIEW F - FROM ROAD NEAR FARMHOUSE

Figure 5



General shot looking E towards the church, showing Trench 1



Trench 1, representative section looking E

Figure 6



Trench 1, shot of cleaned trench looking S



Trench 2, representative section looking SW

Figure 7



Trench 2, shot of cleaned trench looking SE



Trench 3, shot of cleaned trench looking N

Figure 8



Trench 3, representative section looking W



Trench 3, section in area of [306] looking E

Figure 9

# *Archaeology Wales*

## **APPENDIX I: WSI**



**Written Scheme of Investigation  
For an Archaeological Evaluation  
At Ffordd Eglwys Wen, Denbigh**

**Prepared for:  
Mr David Wilkinson, Pure Residential & Commercial Limited**

Project Number: 2438

May 2016

## NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

*A recommendation for an Archaeological Evaluation has been made by the Development Control Archaeologist of Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT), archaeological advisors to Denbighshire County Council, in advance of a proposed development at Cae Topyn, Land off Ffordd Eglwys Wen, Denbigh, LL16 4PY, centred at SJ 07125 66093. The proposed development will include the construction of 75 new dwellings together with associated roads, sewers, open space and landscaping.*

*CPAT-CS believe that the proposed development could have a significant negative impact on the archaeological resource in this area and have recommended that an archaeological evaluation be undertaken to consider the archaeological impact of proposed development prior to the determination of the planning application.*

*This Written Scheme of Investigation outlines the details of an archaeological evaluation that will be undertaken to help inform the planning decision. Mr David Wilkinson of Pure Residential & Commercial Limited has commissioned Archaeology Wales to prepare this Written Scheme of Investigation.*

*The scheme allows for an evaluation to be conducted by means of a Settings Assessment and the opening up of 3 trenches: 10m, 20m & 30m in length.*

*All work will be carried out to the professional standards set by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.*

### **1. Introduction**

A development proposal for the construction of 75 new dwellings together with associated roads, sewers, open space and landscaping has been submitted to Denbighshire County Council by Pure Residential & Commercial Limited. The development site centres on land at Cae Topyn, Land off Ffordd Eglwys Wen, Denbigh, LL16 4PY at NGR SJ 07125 66093.

This Written Scheme of Investigation has been prepared by Mark Houlston (MCIfA), Managing Director, Archaeology Wales (Henceforth - AW). It provides information on the methodology that will be employed by AW during an archaeological Settings Assessment and Trenched Evaluation at the site (AW Project Number 2438).

The purpose of the proposed Evaluation is to provide Denbighshire County Council with the information they have requested in respect of the proposed development, the requirements for which are set out in Planning Policy Wales, July 2014 (Edition 7), Section 6.5, and the Welsh Office Circular 60/96.

The details set out in this specification follows information provided by Mark Walters, Development Control Archaeologist, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT). CPAT in its capacity as archaeological adviser to Denbighshire County

Council, has recommended that an Archaeological Evaluation is undertaken.

Previous archaeological work undertaken in respect of the same development proposal has included a Desktop Study and Field Visit by Aeon Archaeology (Cooke 2016) and a Geophysical Survey by Stratascan (Davies 2016). Apart from recommending the Geophysical Survey, the Desktop Study concluded that a Settings Assessment should be undertaken for specific structures within the medieval historic core (Cooke 2016, Section 8.3). The Stratascan report highlighted a number of features of possible archaeological significance. On consideration of both reports, CPAT recommended that an evaluation be conducted by means of a Settings Assessment and the opening up of 3 trenches: 10m, 20m & 30m in length.

The Settings Assessment (Stage 1) will assess the potential impact of the development on St Marcella's Church, Walls and Lychgate, and Brookhouse Farm. It will include the production of photographic montages.

The Evaluation Trenching (Stage 2) will locate and describe, by means of trial trenching, archaeological features which may be present within the development area. It will target potential features identified by the geophysical survey (Figure 2).

The aim of the Evaluation Trenching will be to clarify the nature, date, chronology, quality, quantity, significance and state of preservation of any archaeological remains identified by the evaluation trenches. Preservation *in situ* will be advocated where at all possible, but where engineering or other factors may result in loss of archaeological deposits, preservation by record will be recommended.

Following a programme of post excavation work (Stage 3) a Report (Stage 4) will be prepared and submitted that collates and presents the data from the Settings Assessment, Evaluation Trenching and the Post-Excavation programme.

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

## **2. Site description and archaeological background**

The development site is located at Cae Topyn, within land off Ffordd Eglwys Wen, Denbigh, LL16 4PY. It lies within the parish of Denbigh Community, within the unitary authority of Denbighshire.

The site currently comprises a large field that is used for grazing. The field is enclosed by hedgerows and is bordered by Ffordd Eglwys to the north and Hen Ffordd Rhuthyn to the south. The entire area encompasses approximately 2.8 hectares. The field slopes from a height of 50.0m OD in the north and northeast to 42.0m OD in the south.

The bedrock geology is of the Kinnerton Sandstone Formation, a Triassic Period sedimentary bedrock. The superficial deposits are of Devensian-Diamicton till (British Geological Survey).

The surrounding landscape is rich in prehistoric sites, primarily Bronze Age funerary monuments, the nearest of which lies approximately 220m to the east of the site boundary. These monuments occupy a ridge that continues into the northern part of the development area. As a consequence, the Desktop Study (Cooke 2016) concluded that there is a reasonably *high* potential for the remains of prehistoric funerary monuments to continue into and exist within the site boundary.

The Roman period is poorly represented within the localised landscape and the discovery of a single Roman era coin close to the site is most likely a chance find.

The historic core of the medieval settlement of Llanfarchell is likely to have been centred on Eglwys Wen Church, extending approximately 35.0m into the northeast corner of the development site. The origins of the settlement are likely to be early medieval, as the dedication of the church is to a 6th Century saint. The full extent of the settlement is unknown, although earthworks in fields to the north of the church may indicate its presence. The Desktop Study concluded that the potential for the settlement to have extended into the northern part of the site and, as therefore, the presence of buried remains related to the early medieval and medieval periods was *high*.

The Desk-top Study and Field Visit (Cooke 2016) concluded that the proposed development is likely to have a *high adverse direct physical* impact upon three sites of archaeological importance during the construction phase, resulting in a *slight adverse* significance of effect. However, due to the relative unimportance of these features, no further assessment or mitigatory measures were proposed.

In addition, a potential indirect non-physical (visual) impact and an indirect physical impact upon the setting of the Listed Buildings of St Marcella's Church, Walls and Lychgate, Chest Tomb of Twm O'r Nant, and Brookhouse Farm were identified. As such, it was recommended that a further Settings Assessment be undertaken to fully assess the potential impact on these monuments.

Because of the potential for direct impacts identified by the Desk-top Study and Field Visit, a geophysical survey was undertaken across the development area to identify the nature and frequency of buried archaeology. The report on this work (Davies 2016) did not identify features of likely archaeological origin. However, linear anomalies were detected, including evidence of ploughing and a former field boundary, while other possible features included a former pond. As a result, CPAT recommended the excavation of three, targeted, evaluation trenches, 10m, 20m & 30m in length (Figure 2).

### **3. Method Statement for a Settings Assessment (Stage 1)**

The Settings Assessment will be undertaken in accordance with the latest Historic England setting guidance (English Heritage, 2015) and will include photographic montages taken from and to the key sites identified in the Desktop Study (St Marcella's Church, Walls and Lychgate, and Brookhouse Farm), a description

of the sites/views and a weighting of impacts. Mitigating factors like topographic or foliage screening will be considered.

If possible, photomontages of the estate as built will be supplied, with views to and from the key sites.

#### **4. Method statement for Evaluation Trenching (Stage 2)**

##### Preliminary work

The archaeological project manager in charge of the work will satisfy him/herself that all constraints to ground works have been identified, including the siting of live services, Tree Preservation Orders and public footpaths.

##### Evaluation

A total of three trenches will be excavated at the approximate locations on the enclosed plan (figure 2). All trenches will measure 1.8m wide max. Trench 1 will be 10m in length, Trench 2 will be 20m in length and Trench 3 will be 30m in length. The trench locations may be adjusted with CPAT approval to avoid previously unrecognised obstacles e.g. underground services.

The trenches will be excavated initially using a machine fitted with a wide toothless ditching blade. Thereafter all identified archaeological contexts will be excavated manually unless otherwise agreed with the curator in advance. All modern overburden and non-archaeological subsoils will be removed down to the level of the first recognisable archaeological horizon. All archaeological contexts subsequently located must be adequately sampled in order to define their function, date, and relationship to adjacent features. If this means completely excavating some features in order to understand them, that is accepted and should be carried out. All trench sides and bases will be cleaned manually by trowelling to reveal contexts in plan and profile. This will be completed even if the trench apparently reveals only natural deposits. The level of natural soils below the archaeology will be tested for in at least one trench section location in each trench by means of machine/manual excavation or auguring.

As a minimum:

- i) small discrete features will be fully excavated;
- ii) larger discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% excavated); and
- iii) long linear features will be sample excavated along their length - with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature and to investigate terminals, junctions and relationships with other features.

Should the above 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. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of palaeo-environmental samples and recovery of artefacts.

Any variation of the above will be undertaken in agreement with CPAT. All spoil heaps will be examined for the recovery of artefacts.

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

If excavation is undertaken through loose/friable material, such as rubble, consideration will be given to shoring, stepping or battering of trench edges to avoid slumping/collapse. The depth of the excavation will conform to current safety requirements. Any excavation into capped mine workings will be immediately halted on health and safety grounds. The client and CPAT will be informed immediately.

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

Written, drawn and photographic records 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 14 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.

The locations of each trench will be recorded using a Topcon GTS725 Total Station.

If appropriate and authorized, there will be community engagement throughout the evaluation via an online dig diary, information boards and if necessary, a press release.

### Artefacts

Archaeological artefacts recovered during the course of the field evaluation 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 artefacts will be stored appropriately until they are deposited with a suitable local museum.

All finds of gold and silver will be removed to a safe place and CPAT and the local coroner informed, within the guidelines of the Treasure Act 1996.

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

## Radiocarbon, Environmental and Technological Samples

Archaeological contexts will be sampled as required for environmental remains, industrial waste, small-sized artefacts and/or radiocarbon as appropriate, when significant deposits are located. Technological samples will be taken where necessary when significant deposits are located. Samples will be retained as part of the project archive should post excavation analysis be deemed necessary at a later date. Reports on sampling will be added to the finished report as an addendum.

## Specialists

In the event of certain finds/features etc. being discovered, the site archaeologist may have to seek specialist opinion for assistance. Such specialists will be accessed either internally within AW itself or from an external source should any such analysis be deemed necessary. A list of specialists is given in the table below. Specialist reports will be added to the finished report as an addendum.

<b>Artefact type</b>	<b>Specialist</b>
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)

## **7. Post-Fieldwork Programme (Stage 3)**

### Conservation

After agreement with the landowner arrangements will be made for the long term conservation and storage of all artefacts in an appropriate local or county museum.

### Archive

The site archive will be prepared in accordance with Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (English Heritage 2006). It will comprise all the data recovered during the fieldwork and shall be quantified, ordered and indexed and will be internally consistent. The archive will be deposited with the finds in a suitable local museum.

### Reporting

The results of the archaeological work will be submitted in an illustrated and bound report, which will include the following material:

- Non-technical summary
- Location plan showing the area/s covered by the evaluation, all structures and features found
- Plan and section drawings 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 reports, 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
- Statement of local, regional and national context of the remains
- 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.



## **8. Monitoring**

CPAT will be contacted at least one week prior to the commencement of site works, and subsequently once the work is underway.

Any changes to this specification that AW may wish to make after approval will be communicated to CPAT for approval.

Representatives of CPAT will be given access to the site so that they may monitor the progress of the work. CPAT will be kept regularly informed about developments, both during the site works and subsequently during the post-fieldwork programme.

If significant detail is discovered, all works will cease and a meeting will be convened with the contractor and CPAT to discuss the most appropriate way forward.

## **9. Method statement for the production of an illustrated report and the deposition of the site archive (Stage 4)**

The results will be presented in a report and will be detailed and laid out in such a way that data and supporting text are readily cross-referenced. The HER Officer will be contacted to ensure that any sites or monuments not previously recorded in the HER are given a Primary Record Number (PRN) and that data structure is compatible with the HER. The historical development of the site will be presented in phased maps and plans comprising clearly, the outline of the site.

Within the report an attempt will be made to indicate areas of greater or lesser archaeological significance and the sites will be ranked in level of overall archaeological importance (locally, regionally and nationally).

All relevant aerial photographs, re-plots and historic maps will be included and be fully referenced. Any site photographs included in the report will be appropriately captioned and clearly located on a suitably scaled site plan.

The report will specifically include the following:

1. A copy of the approved specification
2. A location plan
3. All identified sites plotted on an appropriately scaled plan of the proposal site
4. A gazetteer of all located sites with full dimensional and descriptive detail including grid reference and period

A draft of the report will be sent to CPAT for approval prior to submission of the final version to the client. Copies of the report will be sent to Powys County Council and CPAT for inclusion in the regional HER. Digital copies will be provided in pdf format if required.

A summary report of the work will be submitted for publication to a relevant local or 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) guidelines/ the guidelines of the Institute for Archaeologists 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 Research Projects in the Historic Environment (English Heritage 2006).

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

Any 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 CPAT Historic Environment Record Officer in advance of its preparation.

Any artefact material recovered during the Evaluation or as the result of subsequent recommendations by CPAT will be deposited with Denbighshire County Museums Service.

## **10. Resources and timetable**

### Standards

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.

### Staff

The project will be undertaken by suitably qualified AW staff. The project will be managed by Mark Houlston MCIfA and site work conducted and supervised by Louis Stafford (CVs are 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.

### Insurance

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.

### 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 (revised March 2016). AW is registered with Acclaim and Constructionline.

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

#### Arbitration

Any dispute or difference arising out of a contract in relation to this work should be referred for a decision in accordance with the Rules of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' Arbitration Scheme for the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists applying at the date of agreement.

#### **References**

Davies R. 2016, *Land off Eglwys Wen, Denbigh: Geophysical Survey Report*, Stratascan Client Report

English Heritage, 2015 'The Setting of Heritage Assets - Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: 3'

Cooke R. 2016, *Land at Ffordd Eglwys, Wen, Denbigh, Denbighshire: Archaeological Assessment*, Aeon Archaeology Client Report



Figure 1, proposed development site

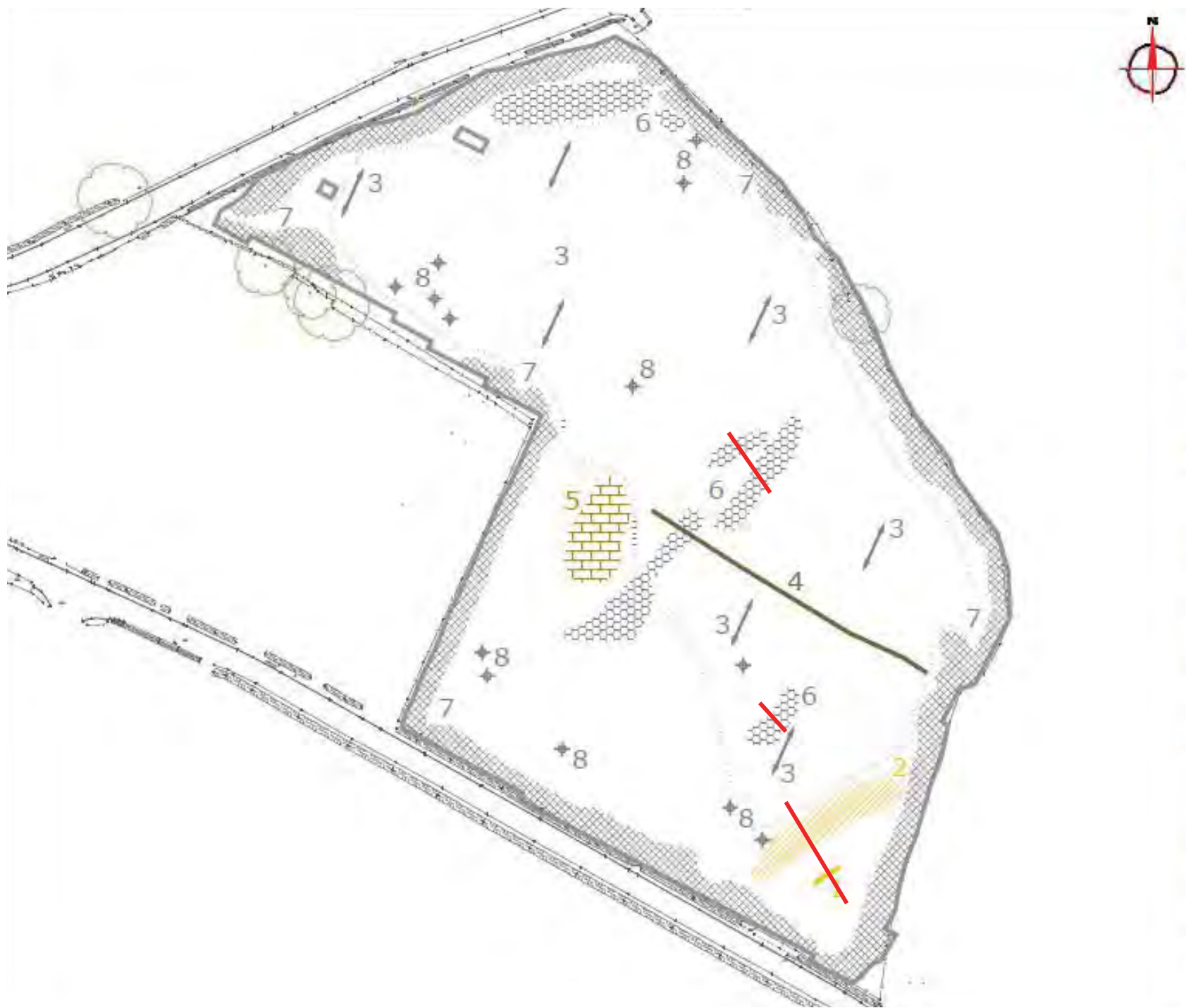


Figure 2, trench location plan

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