

Glenview, Camnant Road, Banwen Watching Brief



Report by: Trysor

For: Mr T Carroll

May 2016



Glenview, Camnant Road, Banwen Watching Brief

By

Jenny Hall, MCIfA & Paul Sambrook, MCIfA
Trysor

Trysor Project No. 2016/505

For: Mr T Carroll

May 2016

38, New Road
Gwaun-cae-Gurwen
Ammanford
Carmarthenshire
SA18 1UN
www.trysor.net
enquiries@trysor.net



Cover photograph: Excavation of rubble fill, looking northwest

Glenview, Camnant Road, Banwen Watching Brief

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD - REPORT NUMBER: Trysor 2016/505

DYDDIAD 30^{ain} Mai 2016 **DATE** 30th May 2016

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan bartneriad Trysor. Mae wedi ei gael yn gywir ac yn derbyn ein sêl bendith.

This report was prepared by the Trysor partners. It has been checked and received our approval.

JENNY HALL MCIFA

Jenny Hall

PAUL SAMBROOK MCIFA

Paul Sambrook

Croesawn unrhyw sylwadau ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn.

We welcome any comments on the content or structure of this report.

*38, New Road,
Gwaun-cae-Gurwen
Ammanford
Carmarthenshire
SA18 1UN
01269 826397*

*Tyllwyd
Eglywswrw
Crymych
Pembrokeshire
SA41 3TD
01239 891470*

www.trysor.net

enquiries@trysor.net

Trysor is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and both partners are Members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, www.archaeologists.net .

Jenny Hall (BSc Joint Hons., Geology and Archaeology, MCIfA) had 12 years excavation experience, which included undertaking watching briefs prior to becoming the Sites and Monuments Record Manager for a Welsh Archaeological Trust for 10 years. She has been an independent archaeologist since 2004 undertaking a variety of work that includes upland survey, desk-based appraisals and assessments, and watching briefs.

Paul Sambrook (BA Joint Hons., Archaeology and Welsh, MCIfA, PGCE) has extensive experience as a fieldworker in Wales. He was involved with Cadw's pan-Wales Deserted Rural Settlements Project for 7 years. He also undertook Tir Gofal field survey work and watching briefs. He has been an independent archaeologist since 2004 undertaking a variety of work including upland survey, desk-based appraisals/assessments, and watching briefs.

Contents

1. Summary	1
2. Copyright	1
3. Introduction	1
4. The Development	1
5. Conditions on the consent	1
6. Historical and Archaeological Overview	3
7. Methodology	4
8. Site Stratigraphy	5
9. Photographs	5
10. Conclusion	8
11. Archive	8
12. Sources	8
Appendix A: Written Scheme of Investigation	9
Appendix B: Photographs	15

1. Summary

1.1 In April 2016, Trysor undertook a watching brief on groundworks for single dwelling at SN85773201220 at Glenview, Camnant Road, Banwen planning application P2015/1004 (Neath Port Talbot).

1.2 No archaeologically significant contexts were recorded. The house footprint overlay that of a mid 20th century dwelling that appeared to have been built on a raft of building rubble, providing a stable base in an area with a high water table.

2. Copyright

2.1 Trysor hold the copyright of this report and of the paper and digital archive. Further paper copies may be made of this report without gaining permission to reproduce but it must be noted that Figures 2 and 3 include other copyright material and should not be copied.

3. Introduction

3.1 ASA Architects, Coedmor, Caswell Avenue, Swansea, SA3 4RU, on behalf of their client, Mr T Carroll, have commissioned Trysor heritage consultants to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation for groundworks relating to the demolition of an existing building and the construction of a new building in the same place at Glen View, Camnant Road, Banwen, relating to planning application number: P2015/1004 (Neath Port Talbot)

3.2 Trysor produced a written scheme of investigation which for the watching brief, see Appendix A, and it was approved by the planning archaeologist at Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust.

3.3 The project has been identified as 2016/505 in Trysor records and given a site code GVB2016.

4. The development

4.1 The development consists of demolishing an existing building and building a new detached house in its place. The dwelling will be set back from the modern road line by approximately seven metres. There will be no new utility trenches needed from the dwelling to the road. An existing telegraph pole lies to the east of the building footprint.

5. Conditions on the consent

5.1 In granting approval for the application, the Local Planning Authority imposed a condition on the consent; the condition specifies the actions necessary to mitigate the impact of the development on the archaeological resource.

No development shall take place until the applicant or their agents or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of

archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation Reference No: P2015/1004 DECNFPA Page 4 of 6 which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority

Reason: To identify and record any features of archaeological interest discovered during the works, in order to mitigate the impact of the works on the archaeological resource

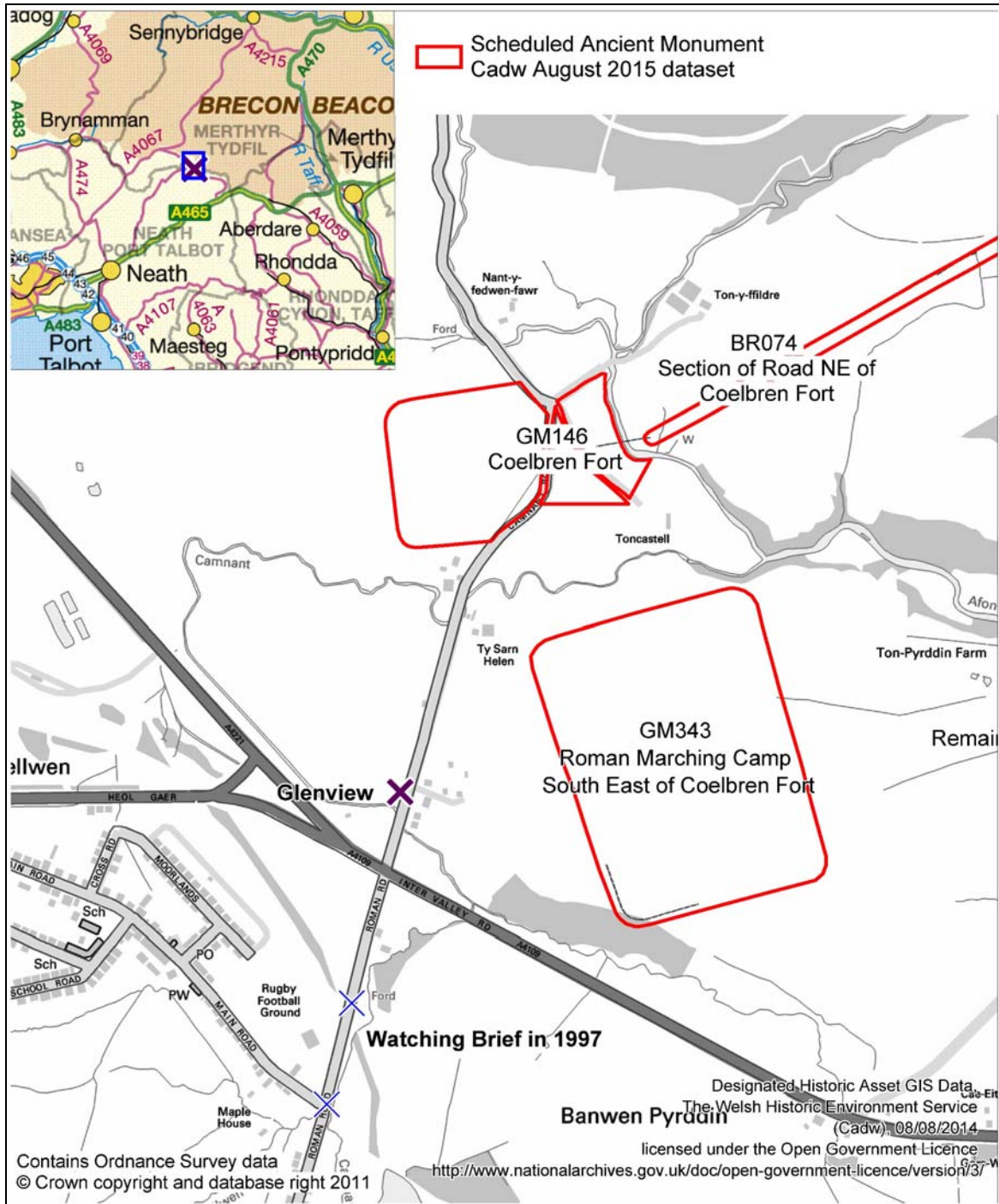


Figure 1: Location of watching brief

6. Historical and Archaeological Overview

6.1 The development site lies at SN8577310220, on the western side of the Camnant road running north out of Banwen, see Figures 1 and 2. Camnant Road is believed to lie over the Roman road, RR622 that ran from Neath fort to Y Gaer, Aberyscir, (GGAT, 2004, pp. 45-46). The route of this Roman road is well documented and has both physical features remaining in the landscape, and excavated evidence.

6.2 Coelbren Roman Fort, GM146, lies 390 metres to north northeast of the development and Coelbren marching camp, GM343, 260 metres to the east of it.

6.3 In 1997, DN Williams undertook a watching brief on road widening on the supposed line of the Roman road approximately 400 metres south southwest of the current development (Williams, DN 1997).

6.4 During the watching brief no archaeological features or artefacts were seen on the western side of the road, but on the eastern side was the remains of a road which comprises a layer of medium sized cobbles lying directly on natural clay. A narrow ditch, 0.5 metres wide ran parallel to its east.

6.5 At the development site itself a dwelling was built at some point in the 20th century. Nothing is shown on Ordnance Surveys maps at this location until the 1953 1:10560 when a small square building is depicted. It does not lie in an enclosure and is not named.

6.6 On the 1962 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map a more rectangular building is shown, named as Glenview, now within an enclosure. It is in the same location as the square building shown in 1953 and maybe the same building.

6.7 The building at Glenview was demolished in 2016, and was said by the landowner to be a largely wooden structure placed on a rubble base.

7. Methodology

7.1 In April 2016, the excavation of the area for the building raft was observed by Trydor.

7.2 A toothed bucket was used as the area was filled with brick rubble and a flat, grading bucket was not suitable for the task.

7.3 Water began seeping into the trench at 0.30 to 0.50 metres below the ground surface.

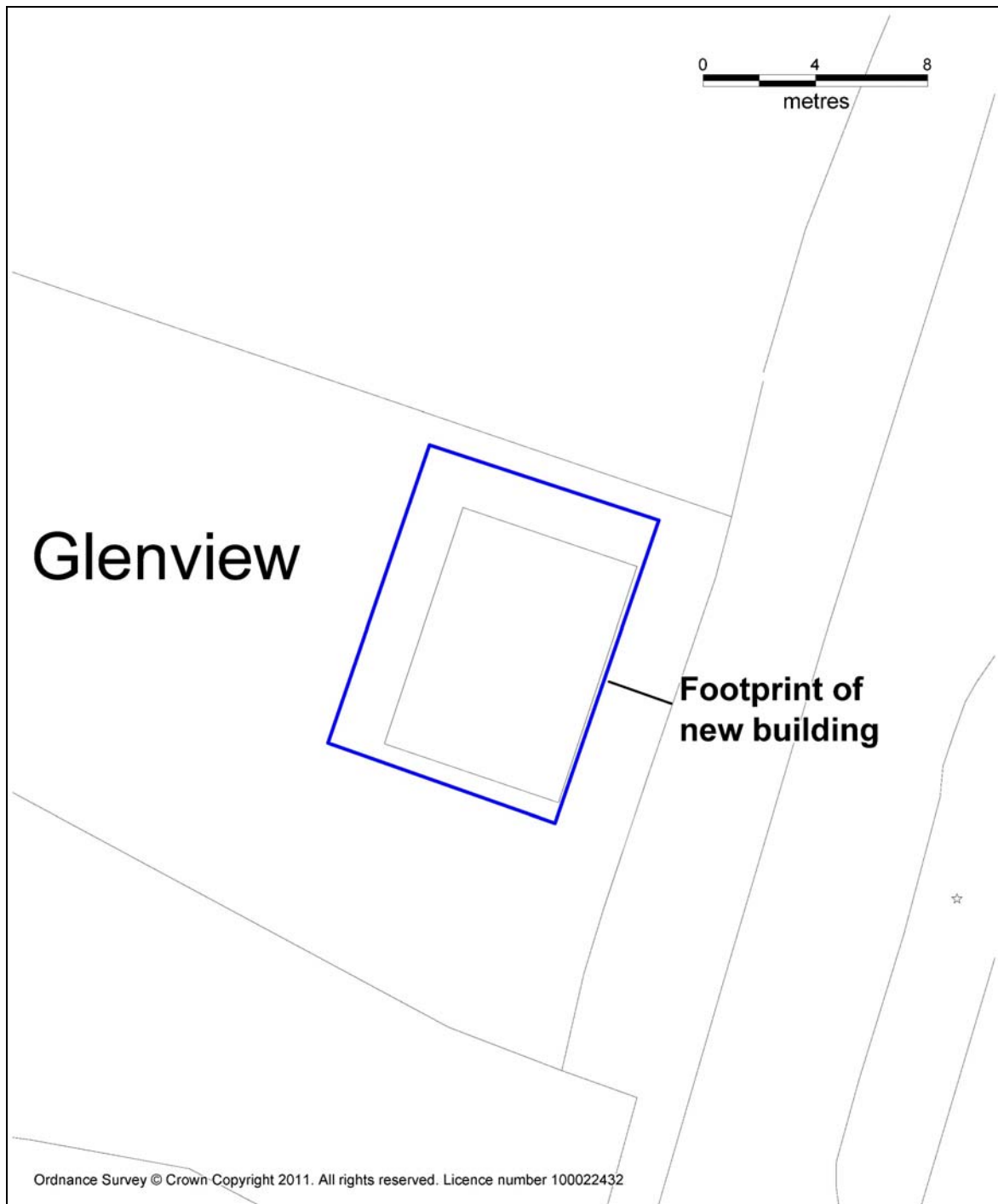


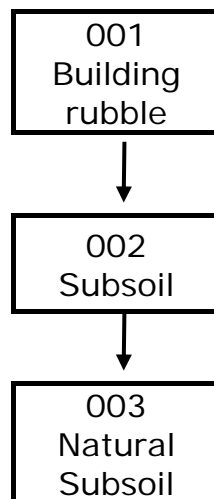
Figure 2: The location of the new building foundation at Glenview.

8. Site Stratigraphy

8.1 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014). The mechanical excavation of the area of the building raft was watched by Trysor and the stratigraphy recorded.

8.2 Context Catalogue

Context Number	Depth	Description	Interpretation
001	Up to 0.80 metres deep on west and south, shallower on north and east	Layer of building rubble, brick, breeze block, concrete, wood, boulders. Some bricks stamped "E&B Onllwyn"	Building rubble, made up ground in the footprint of the former building.
002		10YR 3/4 dark yellowish brown, mottled clay	Subsoil, probably natural
003		10YR 4/1 dark grey clay to 10YR 5/4 yellowish brown clay	Natural subsoil



9. Photographs

9.1 Colour digital photographs were taken of topsoil stripping and excavation of trenches using a 16M pixel camera. The following table describes the content of each photograph included in the project archive and their locations are provided in the following map, see Figure 3. The photographs are included in Appendix B at the end of the report.

Photo Number	Description	Date Taken	Direction
GVB2016_101	Starting to remove the building rubble, 001, which was shallower on the east and northern sides of the area excavated.	05/04/2016	Looking west.
GVB2016_102	During removal of building rubble, 001	05/04/2016	Looking north northwest.
GVB2016_103	General shot of the development area.	05/04/2016	Looking north northwest.
GVB2016_104	During removal of building rubble, 001, with clay layers, 002 and 003, just visible. Also groundwater is visible seeping into the excavated areas.	05/04/2016	Looking northwest.
GVB2016_105	General shot looking at the development area from the road to the north northeast.	05/04/2016	Looking south southwest
GVB2016_106	Building rubble, 001, removed and clays 002 and 003 visible in base, groundwater seeping in fast.	05/04/2016	Looking southeast.
GVB2016_107	As excavation progressed across the plot, the groundwater became more of a problem and the clay subsoils became liquid, looking west.	05/04/2016	Looking west.

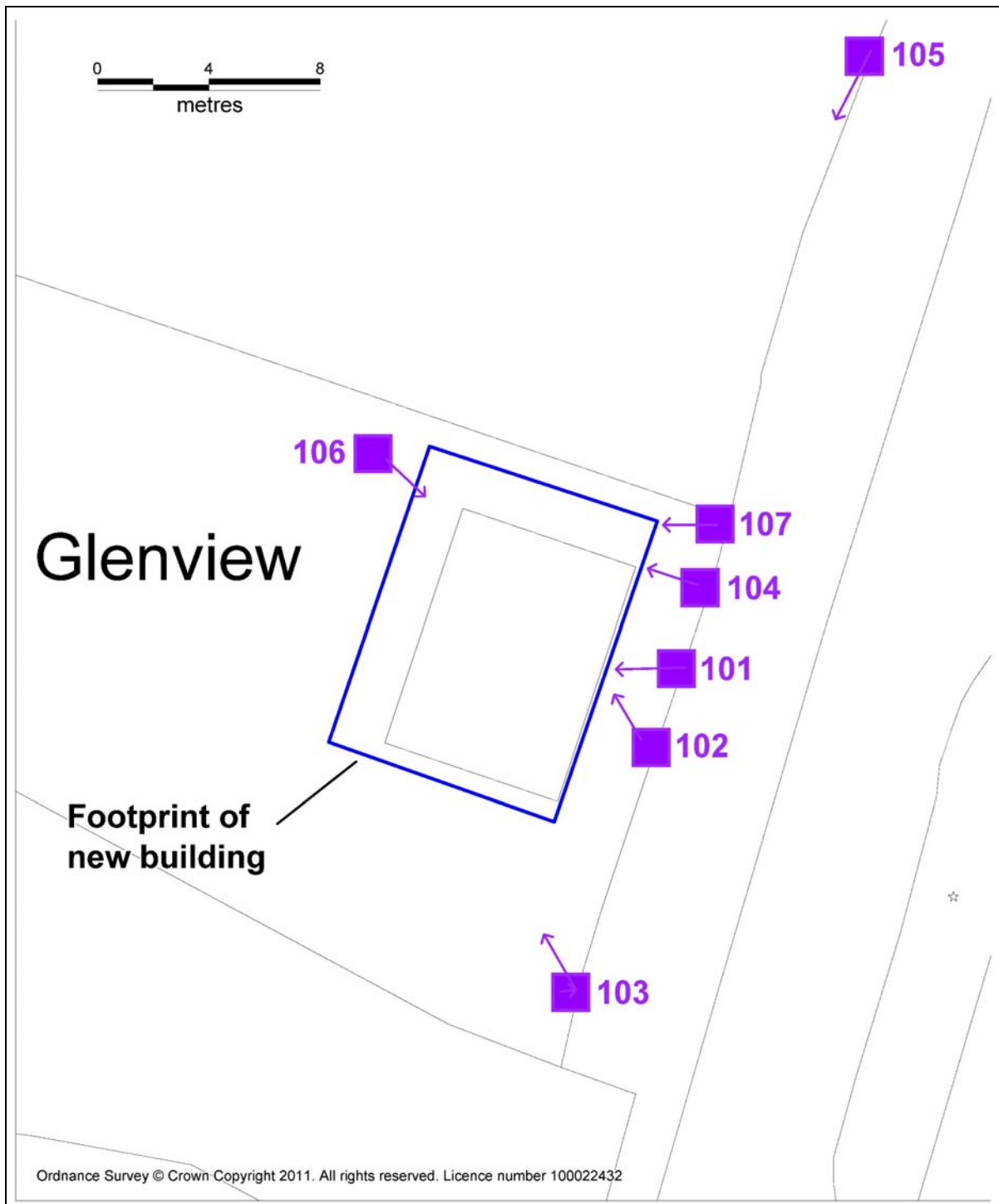


Figure 3: Location of photographs

10. Conclusion

10.1 No archaeological contexts or artefacts were observed during removal of the building rubble from the raft for a former building and the clay subsoil.

10.2 The house footprint overlay that of a mid 20th century dwelling that appeared to have been built on a raft of building rubble, providing a stable base in an area with a high water table.

11. Archive

11.1 The archive and a copy of the report and photographs will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth. Photographs are in TIFF format, following the standard required by the RCAHMW.

11.2 A further copy of the report will be supplied to the Historic Environment Record at Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust, Swansea.

12. Sources

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014 , *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*, available online from the CIfA website, www.archaeologists.net

APPENDIX A – Written Scheme of Investigation

GLENVIEW, CAMNANT ROAD, BANWEN DEMOLITION OF EXISTING DWELLING AND CONSTRUCTION OF REPLACEMENT DETACHED DWELLING WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

Planning application – P2015/1004 (Neath Port Talbot)

1. Introduction

1.1 ASA Architects, Coedmor, Caswell Avenue, Swansea, SA3 4RU, on behalf of their client, Mr T Carroll, have commissioned Trysor heritage consultants to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation for groundworks relating to the demolition of an existing building and the construction of a new building in the same place at Glen View, Camnant Road, Banwen, relating to planning application number: P2015/1004 (Neath Port Talbot)

1.2 The development is at SN8577310220.

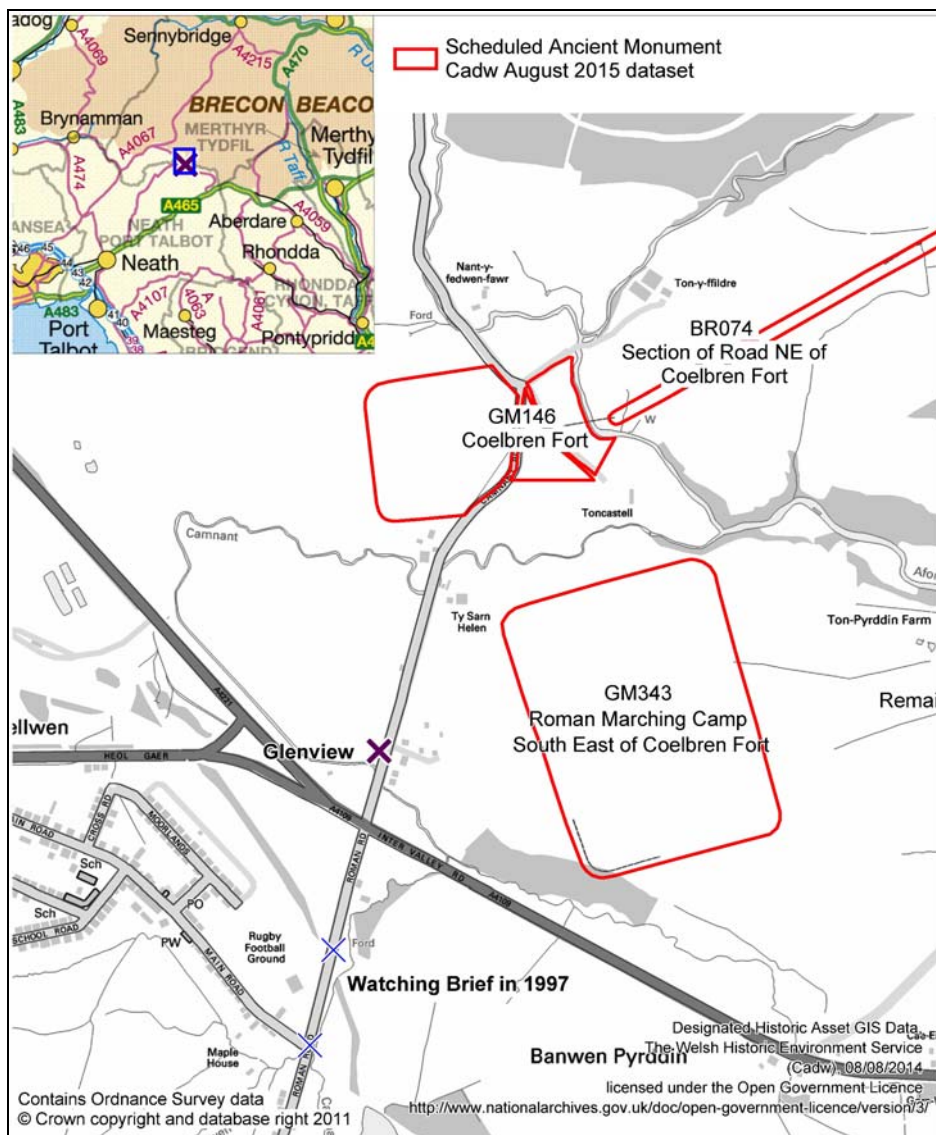


Figure 1: Location of Glenview, Camnant Road, Banwen.

2. The development

2.1 The development consists of demolishing an existing building and building a new detached house in its place. The dwelling will be set back from the modern road line by approximately seven metres. There will be no new utility trenches needed from the dwelling to the road. An existing telegraph pole lies to the east of the building footprint.



Figure 2: Detailed plan of proposed new build at Glenview, Camnant Road, Banwen. This overlies the footprint of the current building

3. Nature of the archaeological resource

3.1 The development site lies at SN8577310220, on the western side of the Camnant road running north out of Banwen, see Figures 1 and 2. Camnant Road is believed to lie over the Roman road, RR622, that ran from Neath fort to Y Gaer, Aberyscir, (GGAT, 2004, pp. 45-46). The route of this Roman road is well documented and has both physical features remaining in the landscape, and excavated evidence.

3.2 Coelbren Roman Fort, GM146, lies 390 metres to north northeast of the development and Coelbren marching camp, GM343, 260 metres to the east of it.

3.3 In 1997, DN Williams undertook a watching brief on road widening on the supposed line of the Roman road approximately 400 metres south southwest of the current development (Williams, DN 1997).

3.4 During the watching brief no archaeological features or artefacts were seen on the western side of the road, but on the eastern side was the remains of a road which comprises a layer of medium sized cobbles lying directly on natural clay. A narrow ditch, 0.5 metres wide ran parallel to its east.

4. Conditions on the consent

4.1 In granting approval for the application, the Local Planning Authority imposed a condition on the consent; the condition specifies the actions necessary to mitigate the impact of the development on the archaeological resource.

No development shall take place until the applicant or their agents or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation Reference No: P2015/1004 DECNFPA Page 4 of 6 which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority

Reason: To identify and record any features of archaeological interest discovered during the works, in order to mitigate the impact of the works on the archaeological resource.

5. Proposed methodology

5.1 The development is likely to lie to the west of the Roman road line. No features were found during a watching brief on the western side of the road, 400 metres to the south. The development is set back from the modern road line by approximately 7 metres, see Figure 2. There will be no groundworks in the 7 metres between the development and the modern road line as the utilities are already in place. The new house will be built on the footprint of the building already there.

5.2 It is proposed that a watching brief on groundworks will be appropriate mitigation as the ground is already partially disturbed and the development is set back from the proposed line of the Roman road.

5.3 The watching brief will be carried out in accordance with Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA, 2014a)

5.4 A two-person team will watch the excavation of groundworks associated with new building and features of archaeological interest recorded. Excavation of any features will be limited to that necessary to establish their extent and character, unless their excavation is required to allow the development to proceed.

6. Contingency arrangements if archaeological features are discovered

6.1 In the event that archaeological remains are encountered, where appropriate investigation falls outside the scope of this specification, a meeting between Trydor, the applicant, Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust Archaeological Planning Section and the Local Planning Authority case officer will be convened in order to agree a course of action. The applicant will be responsible for paying for any further work necessary such as curatorial monitoring, finds conservation, finds specialist, radio-carbon dating etc.

7. Health & Safety

7.1 Trydor will undertake a risk assessment in accordance with their health and safety policy.

8. Recording

8.1 A plan of the groundworks, and representative sections if appropriate, will be drawn, at an appropriate scale, recording all features of archaeological interest. The plan will be based on the applicants' survey drawings of the development area. Plans will be drawn on permatrace to a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50, as appropriate.

8.2 A written record of all activity will be kept in a project specific notebook. If archaeological contexts are encountered they will be recorded following the *Central Excavation Unit Manual: Part 2: Recording*, 1986, using a consecutive numbering system.

8.3 Any artefacts will be dealt with in accordance with the guidance provided in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA, 2014b). Any artefacts will be retained, cleaned and stored. Following reporting they will be returned to the applicant.

8.4 In the event of human burials being discovered the Ministry of Justice will be informed. The remains will initially be left *in situ*, and if removal is required, a Ministry of Justice licence will be applied for under the Burial Act 1857.

8.5 Colour digital photographs will be taken, as appropriate, using a 16M pixel camera. A written record will be made on site of the photographs taken. Appropriate photographic scales will be used.

9. Reporting

9.1 A report on the watching brief will be prepared according to the requirements of section 3.8 of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA, 2014a, p.14) following the completion of the work. Copies of the report will be provided to the client, the Regional Historic Environment Record and the National Monuments Record.

10. Dissemination

10.1 A summary of the work undertaken and its findings will be submitted to *Archaeology in Wales*, the annual review of archaeological work in Wales collated by the Council for British Archaeology Wales (CBA Wales)

11. Archive

11.1 The paper archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, including a copy of the final report in accordance with the CIfA's *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (IfA, 2013c). This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. Digital archives will follow the standard required by the RCAHMW (RCAHMW, 2015).

12. Resources to be used

12.1 Two members of staff will undertake the watching brief. They will be equipped with standard field equipment, including digital cameras, GPS and first aid kits. Trysor have access to the computer hardware and software required to deliver the completed final report and archive to a professional standard.

13. Qualification of personnel

13.1 Trysor is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and both partners are Members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, www.archaeologists.net

13.2 Jenny Hall (BSc Joint Hons., Geology and Archaeology, MCIfA) had 12 years excavation experience, which included undertaking watching briefs prior to becoming the Sites and Monuments Record Manager for a Welsh Archaeological Trust for 10 years. Since 2004 she has been an independent archaeologist undertaking a variety of work that includes upland survey, desktop assessments and watching briefs.

13.3 Paul Sambrook (BA Joint Hons., Archaeology and Welsh, MCIfA, PGCE) has extensive experience as a fieldworker in Wales. He was involved with Cadw's pan-Wales Deserted Rural Settlements Project for 7 years. He also undertook Tir Gofal field survey work and watching briefs. Since 2004 he has been an independent archaeologist undertaking a variety of work that includes upland survey, desktop assessments and watching briefs.

14. Insurance & Professional indemnity

14.1 Trysor has Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance.

15. Project identification

15.2 The project has been designated Trysor Project No. 2016/505

16. Sources

16.1 Non-published

Central Excavation Unit, 1986, *Central Excavation Unit Manual: Part 2: Recording*, 1986

GGAT, 2004, Roman Roads in South East Wales: Desk-based Assessment with recommendations for fieldwork,

RCAHMW, 2015, *RCAHMW guidelines for Digital Archives*, Version 1

Williams, DN, 1997, *Archaeological Watching Brief, Roman Road, Banwen, West Glamorgan*, GGAT unpublished report 97/010

16.2 Published

CIfA, 2014a, *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief*

CIfA, 2014b, *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*.

CIfA, 2014c, *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*

Jenny Hall & Paul Sambrook
Trydor, February 2016

APPENDIX B



Plate 1: GVB2016_101, Starting to remove the building rubble, 001, which was shallower on the east and northern sides of the area excavated, looking west.



Plate 2: GVB2016_102, during removal of building rubble, 001, looking north northwest.



Plate 3: GVB2016_103, general shot of the development area, looking north northwest.



Plate 4: GVB2016_104, During removal of building rubble, 001, with clay layers, 002 and 003, just visible. Also groundwater is visible seeping into the excavated areas, looking northwest.



Plate 5: GVB2016_105, General shot looking at the development area from the road to the north northeast.



Plate 6: GVB2016_106, Building rubble removed and clay 002 and 003 visible in base, groundwater seeping in fast, looking southeast.



Plate 7: GVB2016_107, as excavation progressed across the plot, the groundwater became more of a problem and the clay subsoils became liquid, looking west.