

CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS LTD.

Conwy Estuary Strategic Route Development

Archaeological Watching Brief



By
Roddy Mattison MIFA



CAP Report No. 456

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Conwy Estuary Strategic Route Development

BY *Roddy Mattison MIFA*

Prepared for:
Conwy County Borough Council

CAP Report No: **456**

Project No: **601**

Date: August 2006



Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd
Old Chapel Farm
Llanidloes
Montgomeryshire
SY18 6JR

Telephone/Fax: 01686 413857
e-mail: info@cambarch.co.uk

Contents

i) LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY	Page 1
1. INTRODUCTION	Page 1
2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	Page 2
3. METHODOLOGY	Page 3
4. RESULTS OF THE WATCHING BRIEF	Page 3
5. CONCLUSIONS	Page 4
6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	Page 4
APPENDIX I: Figures	Page 3
APPENDIX II: Photo Plates	Page 4
APPENDIX III: Design Brief (Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services)	
APPENDIX IV: Specification (Cambrian Archaeological Projects)	
APPENDIX V: Archive Cover Sheet	

Copyright Notice:

Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd. retain copyright of this report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act, 1988, and have granted a licence to Conwy County Borough Council to use and reproduce the material contained within.

The Ordnance Survey has granted Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd a Copyright Licence (No. AL 52163A0001) to reproduce map information; Copyright remains otherwise with the Ordnance Survey.

i) List of Illustrations

Figures

Fig 1: Location map of Conwy estuary

Fig 2: Location of strategic route showing archaeological sites and numbered development sections

Fig 3: Detailed plan of Conwy Quay area and archaeological sites

Plates

Cover: Machine work on Deganwy foreshore

Plate 1: Foreshore works

Plate 2: Conwy Quay works

Non Technical Summary

The following report is the result of work undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd. on behalf of Conwy County Borough Council during the ground works for a strategic cycle and pedestrian route along the eastern shoreline of the Conwy Estuary from West Shore, Llandudno to Glan Conwy as well as works at the Conwy crossing at Llandudno Junction and extensions to Conwy Quay. The report details the results of an archaeological watching brief during the said ground-works. The investigation was designed to record the archaeological resource during the development of the area and to excavate and record its character and significance where necessary. No features or deposits of archaeological significance were found.

1 Introduction

The following report is the result of work undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd. for Conwy County Borough Council as part of a condition drawn up by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service for the proposed ground works undertaken for a strategic cycle and pedestrian route along the eastern shoreline of the Conwy Estuary from West Shore, Llandudno to Glan Conwy as well as works at the Conwy crossing at Landudno Junction and extensions to Conwy Quay. The report details the results of an archaeological watching brief during the said ground-works.

CAP Ltd. submitted a tender and specification in accordance with the design brief supplied by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (Brief 0/26730).

This application was accepted and the work was carried out accordingly by CAP Ltd. between January and July 2006.

All works were undertaken in accordance with both the IFA's *Standards and guidance: for an archaeological watching brief* and current Health and Safety legislation.

1.1 Planning Background

The ground work to be undertaken was a strategic cycle and pedestrian route along the eastern shoreline of the Conwy Estuary from West Shore, Llandudno to Glan Conwy as well as works at the Conwy crossing at Landudno Junction and extensions to Conwy Quay. As such a watching brief was to be carried out during the stages of trench excavation. Such a scheme was to facilitate the preservation by record of all identified archaeological contexts, whether in form of standing structural features or sub-surface deposits.

1.2 Site Location & Description

The cycle track runs from West Beach, Llandudno along the eastern foreshore of the Conwy Estuary through Deganwy to the Conwy crossing at Llandudno Junction and from there to the northern end of Conwy Quay (Fig 2). Works along the eastern foreshore were located along the high tide mark at the top of the beaches and estuarine flats. On the western side of the estuary works took place along the top of Conwy Quay (Fig 3).

Five sections of the route were undertaken under an archaeological watching brief as follows:

- Section 6-7 (National Grid Ref: SH 77343 80550)
- Section 9-10 (National Grid Ref: SH 77578 79435)
- Section 14-15 (National Grid Ref: SH 7855 78545)
- Section 17-20 (National Grid Ref: SH 78918 77740)
- Section 19 (National Grid Ref: SH 78268 77660)

1.3 Soil and Geology

The prevalent geology in the area of the ground-works is Holocene estuarine and marine sands, silts and clays.

1.4 Archaeological Background (taken from *Archaeological Desk Based Assessment* by Cambrian Archaeological Projects and *Design Brief for an Archaeological Watching Brief* by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services). Points along the route can be located on Fig 2.

- 1.4.1 Remains relating to the former site of Castell Tremlyd, a possible fortified farmstead dating from at least the mid-eighteenth century, may survive between points 6 & 7.
- 1.4.2 Between points 9 & 10 and 14 & 15 submerged prehistoric peat deposits, similar to those buried below approximately 1 metre of sand a short distance to the north-west, are likely to survive.
- 1.4.3 Between points 14 & 15 there is also a potential for buried archaeological remains, including evidence for fish traps and ship wrecks, as revealed during work on Conwy Tunnel.
- 1.4.4 Submerged prehistoric peat deposits and marine archaeological remains may be revealed if substantial below-ground works are required for a new bridge between points 17-20.
- 1.4.5 Archaeological deposits or features, such as fish traps and submerged peat deposits, may survive in the area to the west of the proposed track from points 22 to 23.
- 1.4.6 Previous excavation on the foreshore at the north end of Conwy quay revealed significant archaeological remains, including organic preservation of a timber structure, interpreted as a possible early quayside structure. There is, therefore, potential for archaeological deposits to survive along the foreshore (beach shingles and intertidal mud).

1.4.7 Documentation:

Evans. P. 2004. Conwy Estuary Strategic Route Development: *Archaeological Desk-based Assessment*. Unpublished Report held at GAT. Cambrian Archaeological Projects Rep. No. 346.

Gruffydd. A. 1991. Conwy Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme. Unpublished Report held at GAT. GAT Rep. No. 40.

Hopewell. D. 2000. An Assessment of Coastal Fish Weirs and Traps. Unpublished Report held at GAT. GAT Rep. No. 363.

Shallcross. A. 1991. Conwy Lower Gate Street: *Watching Brief*. Unpublished Report held at GAT. GAT Rep. No. 63.

Smith. G., Davidson. A. & Kenney. J. 2001-2002. North – West Wales Intertidal Peat

Survey. Unpublished Report held at GAT. GAT Rep. No. 450.

Soulsby. I. 1983. *The Towns of Medieval Wales: a study of their history, archaeology and early topography*: 110-115. Sussex: Phillimore.

2 Aims and Objectives

In accordance with IFA's *Standards and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*, the primary objective of this assessment was to ensure that any previously unrecorded archaeological features and deposits exposed during the ground disturbance works and subsequent development of the site were recorded and interpreted so as to inform any future mitigation.

3 Methodology

At the sites at Llandudno West Beach and Deganwy a mechanical excavator with a 2m wide ditching bucket was used to excavate trenches with a width of 3.50m to a depth of 1.20m under the observation of the on site archaeologist looking for potential archaeological features and deposits. Following this '*Terram*' sheeting was laid down. On Conwy Quay a mechanical excavator using a 0.50m wide ditching bucket was used to excavate service trenches up to 1.90m in depth.

Recording of the trenches was in three formats:

- i) *Photographic record* - Photographs were appropriated in digital format to a minimum 5 mega-pixel resolution.
- ii) *Drawn record* - Site drawings, plans and sections, were produced at scales of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 on drafting film. Finished drawings have been related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.
- iii) *Written record* - Written records were produced using a continuous numbering sequence for all contexts.

An environmental sampling and sampling and processing strategy was in place should the archaeological deposits warrant it. However, in this instance it was not felt that the deposits encountered required sampling.

Any archaeological features identified were to be tied in locationally to the OS survey grid and fixed local topographic boundaries.

All works were undertaken in accordance with both the IFA's *Standards and guidance: for an archaeological watching brief* and current Health and Safety legislation.

4 Results of the Watching Brief

4.1 Conwy Crossing to Deganwy (Fig 2, section 14-15 and 17-20)

Section 14 to section 20 was watched as part of the scheme as a single trench. At the southern end of the trench (section 20) a soft mid to dark brownish grey marine silt (1) was observed with inclusions of re-deposited peat containing plastic debris, extending to a depth of 1.20m at the bottom of the excavation. In the middle of the trench (section 15) a soft mid to light reddish brown marine silt (2) was observed, again extending to the bottom of the trench at a depth of 1.20m. At the northern end of the trench (section 14) a soft mid to light reddish brown marine silt (4) was overlain by a band of loose mid grey small to medium sized gravels (3) extending to a depth of 0.20m.

Cross-sections of the natural deposits are retained within the archive.

4.2 Conwy Quay (Fig 3, section 19)

Along the top of the beach at the northern end of Conwy Quay a made ground (2) of light brown soft clay and mid greyish brown silt with inclusions of crushed brick or red sandstone, shell, charcoal and cinders and one large (c.720 x 600 x 200mm) limestone boulder, with a thickness of 0.40m from the bottom of the trench was overlain by a deposit of beach shingle consisting of very loose, poorly sorted fine to coarse gravel with a thickness of 0.40m. Underneath the road surfaces at the northern end of Conwy Quay was an orange and blue estuarine silty clay (8) with a thickness of 0.50m above the bottom of the trench. Extending over this was a made ground (7) with a thickness of 0.95m containing frequent fragments of Ragstone. Underneath the road surfaces in the area adjacent to the 'Smallest House' an orange and bluish grey estuarine clay (6) containing occasional small patches of peat had a thickness of 0.10m above the bottom of the trench. Overlying this for a thickness of 1.35m was made ground (5).

Underneath the road surfaces towards the middle of Conwy Quay, adjacent to the 'Liverpool Arms' public house, was a dark grey estuarine clay (4) with inclusions of small stones, and a thickness of 0.40m above the bottom of the trench. Extending over this was made ground (3) with a maximum thickness of 1.45m. At the southern end of Conwy Quay was an estuarine clay (10) with a thickness of 0.40m from the bottom of the trench. Overlying this was a made ground (9) with a thickness of 1.50m.

Plate 2 shows work taking place along the quay area. Cross-sections of the deposits in the quay area are held within the archive.

4.3 Llandudno West Beach to Deganwy (Fig 2, sections 6-7 and 6-10)

This part of the scheme from section 6 to section 10 was recorded a single trench. At the southern end of the trench (section 9-10) was a soft mid brown sandy clayey marine silt (1) extending through the trench to a depth of 1.20m. An identical marine silt (2) also extended to the bottom of the northern end of the trench (section 6-7) to a depth of 1.20m.

Plate 1 shows the work taking place along the Deganwy foreshore. Cross-sections of natural deposits are held within the site archive.

5 Conclusions

Whilst the marine silt at the southern end of the Deganwy to Conwy Crossing section of the works had been recently disturbed the other marine and estuarine silts and clays represent natural deposits.

The made ground overlying these deposits under the quayside at Conwy represents dumping and backfilling associated with the quayside and is likely to post-date the construction of the terrace of eighteenth or early nineteenth century housing along the northern end of Conwy Quay.

6 Acknowledgements

Thanks to; Conwy Council Borough Council for commissioning and funding this project and to Kevin Blockley of Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd. for his help and advice during the compilation of this report.



APPENDIX I:

Figs

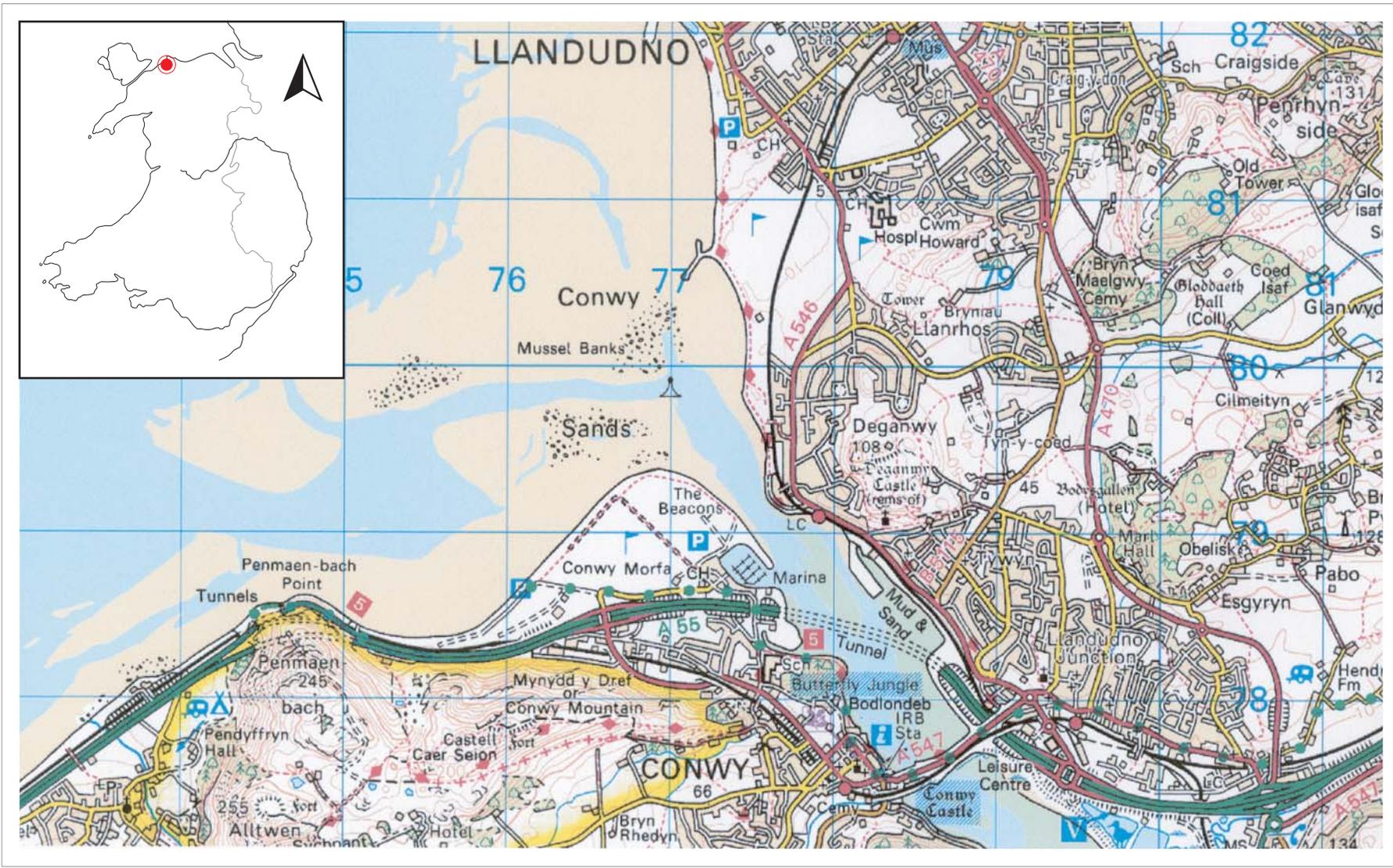


Fig 01: General Site Location Plan

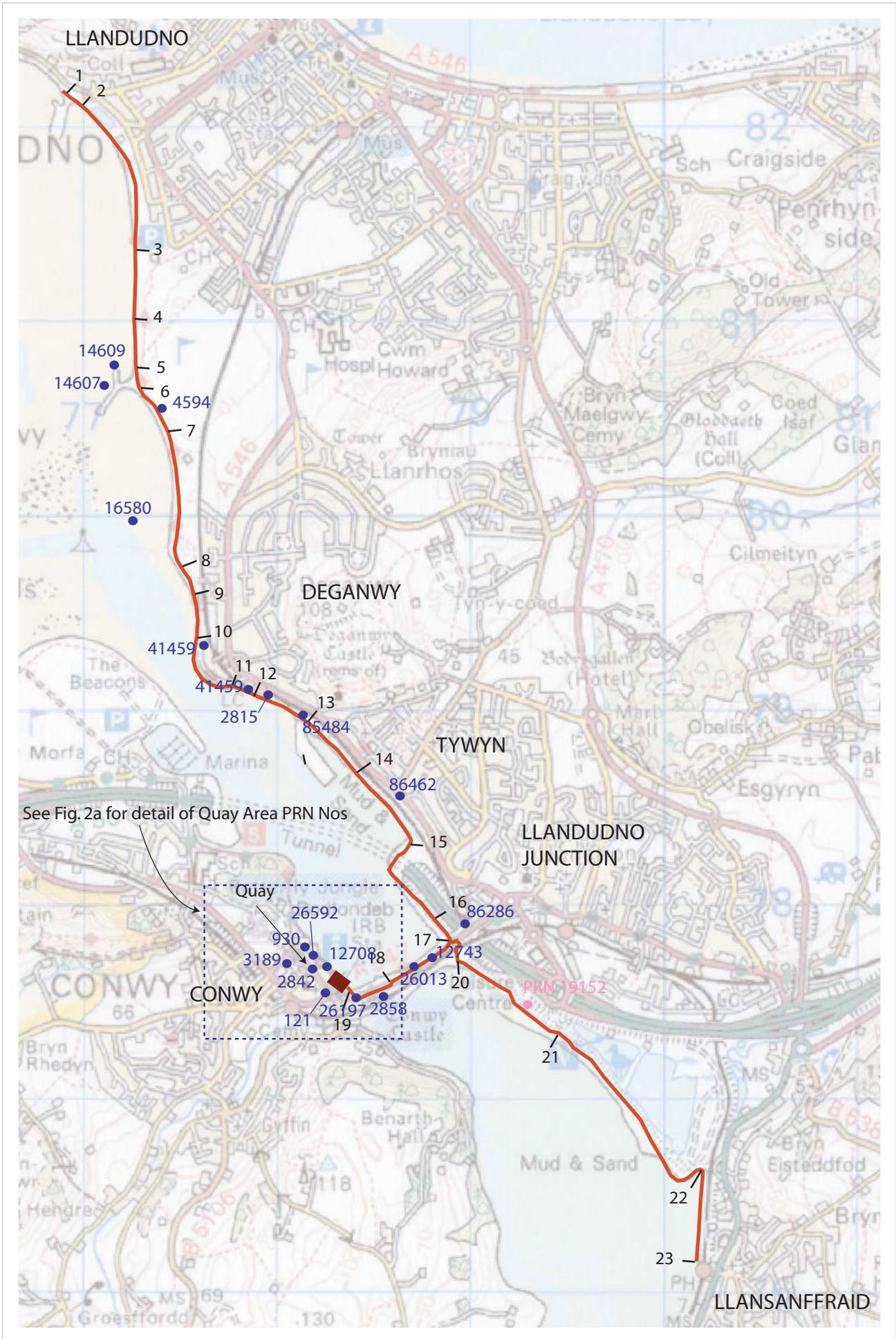


Fig 02: Plan detailing proposed route sections and PRN and NPRN Sites

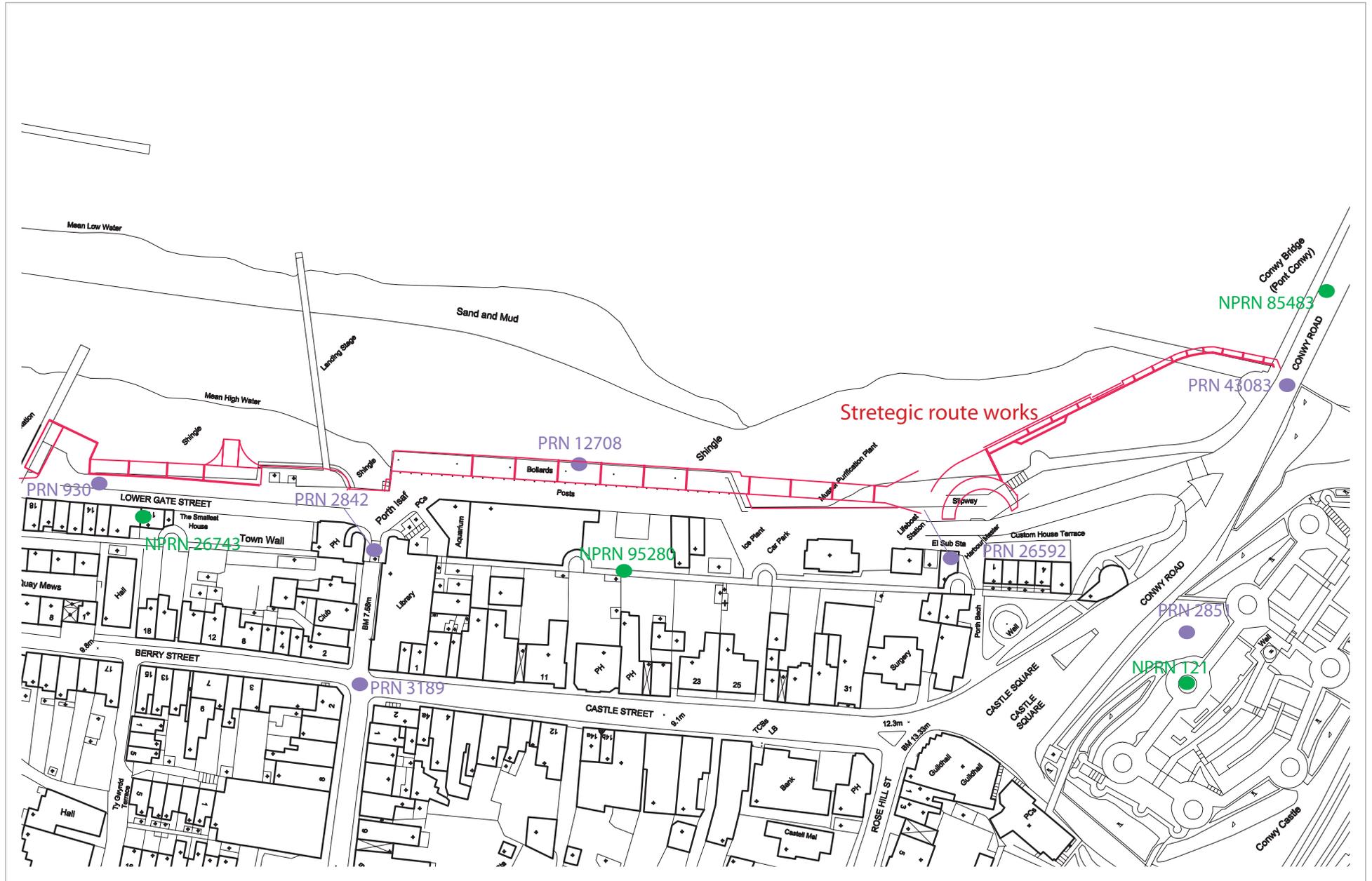


Figure 3: Plan detailing layout and PRN and NPRN sites within the area of Conwy Quay



APPENDIX II:
Photo plates



Plate 1: Forshore works

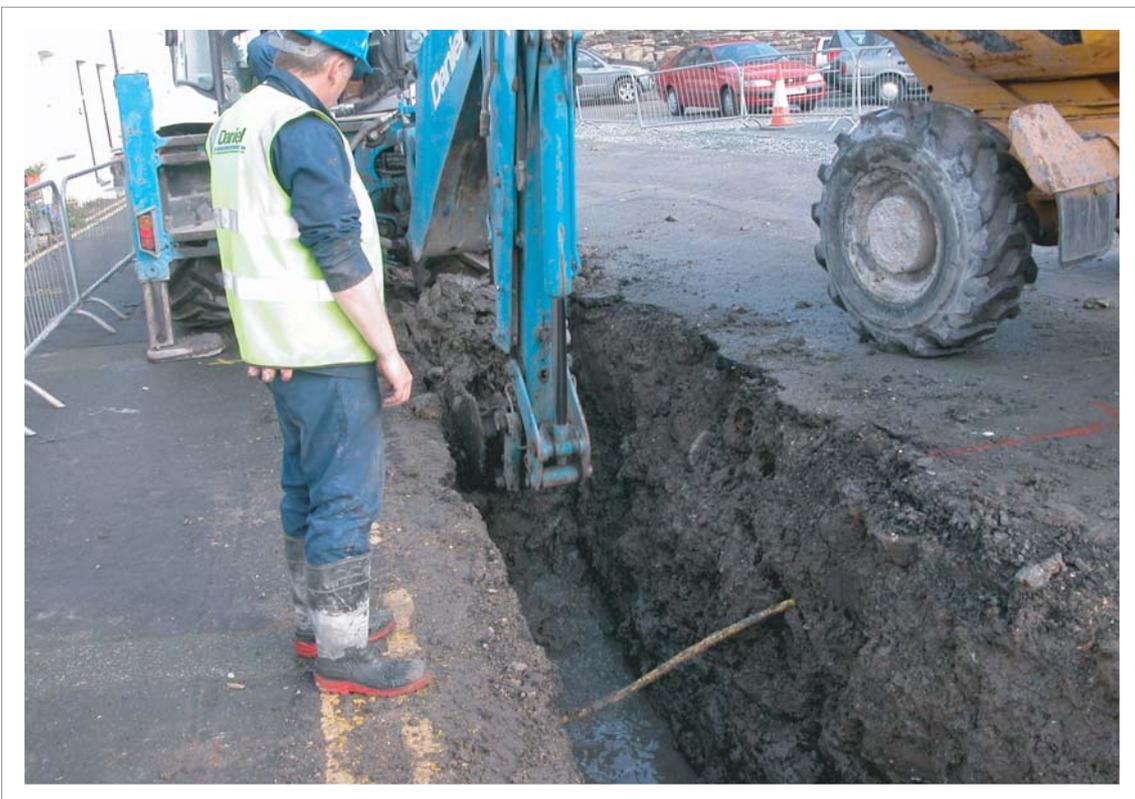


Plate 2: Conwy Quay works



APPENDIX III:
Design Brief (GAPS)

DESIGN BRIEF FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service

Site: Conwy Estuary Strategic Route, Conwy

Applicant/Company: Conwy County Borough Council

Date: 20 October 2005

National Grid Reference: 277000, 378000

Planning reference: 0/26730

This design brief is only valid for six months after the above date. After this period Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service should be contacted.

It is recommended that the contractor appointed to carry out the archaeological assessment visits the site of the proposed development and consults the Regional Historic Environment Record (HER) for north-west Wales before completing their specification. Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service cannot guarantee the inclusion of all relevant information in the design brief.

1.0 Site Location and Description

- 1.1. For the purposes of this brief the site comprises 6 separate areas spread along the length of the strategic route, between West Shore Llandudno, Conwy Quay and Glan Conwy, as specified in the Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (CAP Report No. 346).

2.0 Archaeological Background

- 2.1 Remains relating to the former site of Castell Tremlyd, a possible fortified farmstead dating from at least the mid-eighteenth century, may survive between points 6 & 7.
- 2.2 Between points 9 & 10 and 14 & 15 submerged prehistoric peat deposits, similar to those buried below approximately 1 metre of sand a short distance to the north-west, are likely to survive.
- 2.3 Between points 14 & 15 there is also a potential for buried archaeological remains, including evidence for fishtraps and ship wrecks, as revealed during work on Conwy Tunnel.
- 2.4 Submerged prehistoric peat deposits and marine archaeological remains may be revealed if substantial below-ground works are required for a new bridge between points 17-20.
- 2.5 Archaeological deposits or features, such as fish traps and submerged peat deposits, may survive in the area to the west of the proposed track from points 22 to 23.

2.6 Previous excavation on the foreshore at the north end of Conwy quay revealed significant archaeological remains, including organic preservation of a timber structure, interpreted as a possible early quayside structure. There is, therefore, potential for archaeological deposits to survive along the foreshore (beach shingles and intertidal mud).

2.7 Documentation:

Evans. P. 2004. Conwy Estuary Strategic Route Development: *Archaeological Desk-based Assessment*. Unpublished Report held at GAT. Cambrian Archaeological Projects Rep. No. 346.

Gruffydd. A. 1991. Conwy Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme. Unpublished Report held at GAT. GAT Rep. No. 40.

Hopewell. D. 2000. An Assessment of Coastal Fish Weirs and Traps. Unpublished Report held at GAT. GAT Rep. No. 363.

Shallcross. A. 1991. Conwy Lower Gate Street: *Watching Brief*. Unpublished Report held at GAT. GAT Rep. No. 63.

Smith. G., Davidson. A. & Kenney. J. 2001-2002. North – West Wales Intertidal Peat Survey. Unpublished Report held at GAT. GAT Rep. No. 450.

Soulsby. I. 1983. The Towns of Medieval Wales: a study of their history, archaeology and early topography: 110-115. Sussex: Phillimore.

3.0 The nature of the development and archaeological requirements

3.1 The proposed development comprises plans to construct a strategic cycle and pedestrian route along the eastern shoreline of the Conwy Estuary from West Shore, Llandudno to Glan Conwy as well as works at the Conwy crossing at Llandudno Junction and extensions to Conwy Quay.

3.2 This is a *design brief* for an **archaeological watching brief** to be undertaken following planning consent, according to guidelines set out in Welsh national planning guidance (*Planning Policy Guidance Wales 2002*) and Welsh Office Circular 60/96 (*Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology*).

3.3 The object of this programme of archaeological works is to create an archive record of any archaeological deposits or structures that may be revealed through on-site construction activity.

3.4 This *design brief* should be used by the archaeological contractor as the basis for the preparation of a detailed written archaeological *specification*. The specification must be submitted to the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service for approval before the work commences.

3.5 The *specification* should contain, as a minimum, the following elements:

- Non-technical summary.
- Details of the proposed works as precisely as is reasonably possible, indicating clearly on a plan their location and extent.
- A research design which sets out the site-specific objectives of the archaeological works.
- Reference to the relevant legislation.

- Health and Safety considerations.
- Monitoring procedures.
- Field methodology.
- Methods of recording, including the collection and disposal strategy for artefacts and ecofacts.
- Arrangement for immediate conservation of artefacts.
- Post-fieldwork methodology.
- The level and grade of all key project staff.
- Details of all specialists.
- A timetable for the proposed works including contingency costs (if appropriate).
- The intended method of publication.
- Archive deposition.

4.0 Watching brief detail

4.1 The **watching brief** will consist of the following:

- Observation of all non-archaeological excavation works within the specified areas.
- A drawn, written and photographic record of any archaeological structures and deposits that may be revealed.
- Preparation of full archive report.

4.2 The monitoring of works is to be undertaken in a manner that allows for the immediate cessation of development for the recording of archaeological evidence. Agreement must be reached between the archaeologist and developer in order that this is achieved.

4.3 Recording methodology should be in accordance with Institute of Field Archaeologists guidance (see general requirements below). Recording will comprise appropriate plans, elevation and photographs.

4.4 The archaeological contractor will ensure that sufficient resource is made available for a post-excavation programme to result in an archive report.

4.5 The report should specifically include the following:

- a) a copy of the design brief and agreed specification,
- b) a location plan,
- c) all located sites plotted on an appropriately scaled plan of the development,
- d) a gazetteer of all located sites, including full dimensional and descriptive detail,
- e) a full bibliography of sources consulted.

5.0 General requirements

- 5.1 The archaeological watching brief must be undertaken by an appropriately qualified individual or organisation, fully experienced in work of this character.
- 5.2 Details, including the name, qualifications and experience of the project director and all other key project personnel (including specialist staff) should be communicated to the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service and all written work attributed to an author(s).
- 5.3 Contractors and subcontractors are expected to conform to standard professional guidelines. The following are of particular relevance in this instance:-
- English Heritage's 1991 Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2).
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1985 (revised 1997) Code of Conduct.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1990 (revised 1997) Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 (revised 1999) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1996 (revised 1999) Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures.
 - The Institute of Field Archaeologists 1999 Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials.
 - Museum and Galleries Commission 1994 Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections.
 - United Kingdom Institute for Conservation 1990 Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for long-term storage.
- 5.4 Many people in North Wales speak Welsh as their first language, and many of the archive and documentary references are in Welsh. Contractors should therefore give due consideration to their ability to understand and converse in Welsh.
- 5.5 Care must be taken in the siting of offices and other support structures in order to minimise the impact on the environment. Extreme care must also be taken in the structure and maintenance of spoil heaps for the same reasons and to facilitate a high quality reinstatement. This is particularly important in relation to pasture land.
- 5.6 The archaeological contractor must satisfy themselves that all constraints to groundworks have been identified, including the siting of live services, Tree Preservation Orders and public footpaths. Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service bears no responsibility for the inclusion or exclusion of such information within this brief.
- 5.7 Any changes to the specifications that the archaeological contractor may wish to make after approval by this office should be communicated to Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service and approved.

- 5.8 Care must be taken in dealing with human remains and the appropriate environmental health regulations followed. Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service and the local Coroner must be informed immediately human remains are discovered.
- 5.9 Arrangements for the long-term storage and deposition of all artefacts must be agreed with the landowner and Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service before the commencement of investigation.
- 5.10 The involvement of Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service should be acknowledged in any report or publication generated by this project.
- 5.11 A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project should be prepared in accordance with standard guidance. All plans, photographs and descriptions should be labelled, cross-referenced and lodged in an appropriate place (to be agreed with Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service) within six months of the completion of the project.
- 5.12 Two copies of the bound report must be sent to the address below, one copy marked for the attention of the Development Control Archaeologist, the other for attention of the HER Officer, who will deposit the copy in the HER.

6.0 Curatorial monitoring

- 6.1 The project will be monitored by the development control archaeologist at Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service to ensure the fulfilment of the brief and specifications. The development control archaeologist will normally inspect site works and review the progress of excavation reports and archive preparation. The archaeological contractor must inform Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service in writing of the proposed start dates for the project.

7.0 Glossary of terms

- 7.1 *Archaeological Contractor*
A professionally qualified individual or an organisation containing professionally qualified archaeological staff, able to offer an appropriate and satisfactory treatment of the archaeological resource, retained by the developer to carry out archaeological work either prior to the submission of a planning application or as a requirement of the planning process.
- 7.2 *Archaeological Curator*
A person, or organisation, responsible for the conservation and management of archaeological evidence by virtue of official or statutory duties. In north-west Wales the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authorities is the development control archaeologist, who works to the Welsh Archaeological Trust's Curators' Code of Practice.
- 7.3 *Archive*
An ordered collection of all documents and artefacts from an archaeological project, which at the conclusion of the work should be deposited at a public repository, such as the local museum.

7.4 *Brief*

The Association of County Archaeological Officers (1993) defines a *brief* as an outline framework of the planning and archaeological situation which has to be addressed, together with an indication of the scope of works that will be required.

7.5 *Historic Environment Record (HER)*

A documentary record of known sites in a given area. In north-west Wales the HER is curated by the curatorial division of the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.

7.6 *Specification*

The Association of County Archaeological Officers (1993) defines a *specification* as a schedule of works outlined in sufficient detail to be quantifiable, implemented and monitored.

7.7 *Watching brief*

A formal programme of observation during non-archaeological excavation works in order to identify, investigate and record any Archaeological Remains which may be present, in accordance with the Archaeological Standards.

8.0 Further information

8.1 This document outlines best practice expected of an archaeological assessment but cannot fully anticipate the conditions that will be encountered as work progresses. If requirements of the brief cannot be met they should only be excluded or altered after gaining written approval of the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service.

8.2 Further details or clarification of any aspects of the brief may be obtained from the Development Control Archaeologist at the address below.

Ashley Batten
Development Control Archaeologist

Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service
Craig Beuno
Ffordd Y Garth
Bangor
Gwynedd LL57 2RT

Telephone: 01248 370926
Fax: 01248 351867



APPENDIX IV:
Specification (CAP)

Cambrian Archaeological Projects Limited

SPECIFICATION FOR AN

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

CONWY ESTUARY STRATEGIC ROUTE

CONWY

Prepared for:
Conwy County Borough Council

Project No: 651

Date: 18 February 2005

Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd
Old Chapel
Llanidloes
Powys SY18 6JR
Telephone: 01686 413857
Fax: 01686 411280
Mobile: 07890 392066
E-mail: kevin@cambrian-archaeology.co.uk
www.cambrian-archaeology.co.uk

Summary

This specification details the aims and methodology for an archaeological watching brief on six sections of the Conwy Estuary Strategic Route (Planning Ref: 0/26730).

1 Introduction

Conwy County Borough Council have been requested to have an archaeological watching brief on ground works over six sections of the Strategic Route, as identified by the archaeological desk based assessment (CAP Report No. 346).

This Specification has been prepared by Kevin Blockley, Director, Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd at the request of Conwy County Borough Council to a brief prepared by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS Reference: D626).

The specific areas requiring watching brief are:

- Between points 6 and 7 (possible 18th century farmstead)
- Between points 9 and 10 (potential Prehistoric peats)
- Between points 14 and 15 (potential Prehistoric peats)
- Between points 17 and 20 (potential Prehistoric peats)
- Between points 22 and 23 (potential for fish traps, peats, etc)
- North end of Conwy Quay (potential for timber quay)

See attached plan for areas of watching brief (labeled Fig 02 and taken from the desk-based assessment).

2. Aims and objectives

The watching brief is designed to record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area.

Area 6-7 is specifically aimed at recording any traces of the post-medieval farmstead of Castell Tremlyd.

Areas 9-10, 14-15, 17-20 are specifically to record any Prehistoric peat deposits.

Area 22-23 is to record any evidence of deposits or features such as fish traps and submerged peat deposits.

The north end of Conwy Quay is included to record evidence of archaeological remains such as timber structures and archaeological deposits on the forshore.

3. Legislation

The works are being undertaken in line with *Planning Policy Guidance Wales 2002* and Welsh Office Circular 60/96 (*Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology*).

4. Methods statement

Watching brief

The archaeological watching brief will be undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects staff using proven archaeological techniques.

It will be carried out during ground works. An archaeologist will be on the site when these works are undertaken.

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

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

All features identified will be tied in to the OS survey grid.

Photographs will be taken in high quality digital format and 35mm black and white.

Artifacts

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

Any finds which are considered to be in need of immediate conservation will be referred to a UKIC qualified conservator.

Environmental and technological samples

Samples will be taken where necessary when significant deposits are located. Since Prehistoric peat deposits and finds may be encountered on a number of areas of the watching brief, specialists in both Prehistoric finds and environmental remains will be on hand in the assessment phase of the project.

Report preparation

Immediately following completion of the watching brief, a catalogue of all artifactual material found will be quantified and significant finds sketched. Specialists in Prehistoric finds and environmental remains will be used on hand for the assessment of material. Pottery will be analysed to the standard outlined in Draft *Guidelines for the Preparation of Pottery Archives* as prepared by the Study Group for Roman Pottery in consultation with the IFA. All other material will be analysed following the advice given in the IFA *Guidelines for Finds Work*. An archive and report will be prepared to the specifications detailed below and two copies of the report submitted to the client, and two copies for GAPS, and one copy to the Regional SMR.

Archive

The site archive will be prepared in accordance with MAP 2, Appendix 3 (English Heritage 1991). 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 a recognised body after consultation with GAPS.

The report

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

- Non-technical summary
- Location plan
- Written description and interpretation of the results
- Statement of local and regional context of the remains
- Specialist description of all artefacts
- Mapped archaeological potential at a scale of 1:500 of suspected location of surviving archaeological deposits

5. Resources and programming

The project will be undertaken by suitably qualified Cambrian Archaeological Projects staff.

The various sections of the project are being undertaken over a lengthy period and the particular member of staff working on the project will depend on staff availability. In the first instance Les Bognar (BA, PIFA) will undertake the watching brief.

Equipment

The project will use existing Cambrian Archaeological Projects equipment.

Programming

The archaeological presence on site will conform with the requirements of the client. If it is envisaged that section 14-15 will be undertaken during the week starting the 28th February. The on site part of this phase will be undertaken over a period of one or two days followed by the production of a report on the results.

Insurance

Cambrian Archaeological Projects is an affiliated member of the CBA, and holds Insurance through the CBA insurance service.

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 Cambrian Archaeological Projects.

Monitoring

The site will be open for monitoring by GAPS. The timetable of work will be provided when this is available. In the first instance section 14-15 will be undertaken on the week starting the 28th February.

Kevin Blockley
Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd
18 February 2005
Revised 23 February 2005



Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd
Old Chapel
Llanidloes
Montgomeryshire
SY18 6JR

Telephone: 01686 413857 / Fax: 01686 411280
e-mail: kevin@cambarch.co.uk