

# *Archaeology Wales*

## **Y Gribyn, Llawr-y-glyn, Caersws, Powys**

Archaeological Watching Brief



By  
James Evans

Report No. 1810

# Archaeology Wales

## Y Gribyn, Llawr-y-glyn Caersws, Powys

Archaeological Watching Brief

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Report No. 1810

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## Summary

*This report results from work undertaken by Archaeology Wales Ltd (AW) at the request of Joanna and Stuart Manson at Y Gribyn, Llawr-y-Glyn, Caersws, Powys, SY17 5RH, centred on SN 93051 91666. The report details the results of an archaeological watching brief that took place to ensure the preservation by record of any archaeological remains encountered during groundworks associated with planned developments (associated Planning Application No. P/2016/0837).*

*Y Gribyn is a grade II\* listed former farmhouse, with potential late medieval origins and extensive 17<sup>th</sup> century remodelling. The monitored groundworks consisted of the excavation of a foundation trench, and the lowering of floor levels within the structure. A single compacted floor deposit was encountered throughout, which showed signs of modern disturbance. No archaeological features or significant finds were discovered during groundworks. All work was undertaken to the Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (2014) as set by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).*

## Crynodeb

*Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn deillio o waith a wnaed gan Archeoleg Cymru Cyf (AW) ar gais Joanna a Stuart Manson yn Y Gribyn, Llawr-Y-Glyn, Caersws, Powys, SY17 5RH, wedi'i canoli ar SN 93051 91666. Mae'r adroddiad yn rhoi manylion canlyniadau briff gwylio archeolegol a gynhaliwyd i sicrhau bod unrhyw olion archeolegol a gafwyd yn cael eu cadw drwy gofnod yn ystod gwaith sy'n gysylltiedig â datblygiadau arfaethedig (cais cynllunio Rhif P/ 2016/0837).*

*Mae Y Gribyn yn gyn-ffermdy rhestredig gradd II \*, gyda tharddiad canoloesol posibl ac ailfodelu eang yn dyddio o'r 17ganrif. Roedd y gwaith a fonitrwyd yn cynnwys cloddio ffos sylfaeni, a gostwng lefelau lloriau o fewn y strwythur. Daethpwyd ar draws un dyddodiad llawr cywasgedig, a oedd yn dangos arwyddion o darddiad modern. Ni ddarganfuwyd unrhyw nodweddion archeolegol na darganfyddiadau arwyddocaol yn ystod gwaith daear. Cafodd yr holl waith ei wneud i'r safonau a phennwyd yn Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (2014) gan Sefydliad Siartredig yr archeolegwyr (CIfA).*

## 1. Introduction

### Location and scope of work

Archaeology Wales Ltd (AW) was commissioned by Joanna and Stuart Manson to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Y Gribyn, Llawr-Y-Glyn, Caersws, Powys, SY17 5RH. The site is centred on SN 93051 91666. The watching brief was undertaken in association with the proposed development of 'external envelope repair and alterations, internal remodelling and structural repairs' at Y Gribyn.

The development affects a Grade II\* Listed Building, Y Gribyn (Cadw Ref: 83707). The building is listed as a vernacular farmhouse of exceptional quality and character, which shows the transition from timber to stone construction. The building's listing also notes that it has well-preserved exterior and interior detail, and the unusual plan may relate to its origins as a medieval hall-house.

The requirements for the archaeological mitigation were agreed with Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, Powys County Council (PCC). The planning application number is P/2016/0837. CPAT recommended that a watching brief of the development area was undertaken during groundworks to mitigate the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource.

The purpose of the watching brief is to provide the local planning authority with sufficient information regarding the nature of archaeological remains on the site of the development. The requirements for which are set out in Planning Policy (revised edition 10, 2018), Section 6.1, and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment (2017). The work is to ensure that all buried artefacts and deposits are fully investigated and recorded if they are disturbed or revealed as a result of activities associated with the development. All work was carried out in accordance with the *CIfA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (2014).

The watching brief was conducted on the 30<sup>th</sup> April and 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 and was supervised by James Evans (PCIfA). The project was managed by Philip Poucher (Archaeology Wales Senior Project Manager - MCIfA). The AW project number for the work is 2496 and the site code is CLG/17/WB.

### Topography and Geology

Llawr-Y-Glyn is a hamlet in Powys, located approximately 11km (6.9 miles) to the west of Caersws, and 4.5 km (2.8 miles) to the west of Trefeglwys village (Figure 1 - 3). The proposed development site comprises a trapezoid shaped parcel of land measuring approximately 2,300 sq. m (0.5 acre) in area, although the groundworks themselves were concentrated on the building of Y Gribyn, located approximately 675m to the northwest of Llawr-Y-Glyn.

A farm access track runs along the west side of the building, giving access to a local road that then connects to Llawr-y-glyn. Y Gribyn is a former farmhouse, former farm buildings and cottages, now separately owned, lie on the opposite side of the access track, including Gribyn

Fawr and Ysgubor Gribyn. Small stands of mature trees surround the site, which otherwise sits in a landscape of enclosed farmland, used mostly for pasture.

The site slopes downwards from northwest to southeast with a change in levels of approximately 1m, although it has been levelled and landscaped due to its domestic use. Topographically, Y Gribyn is located at the east-facing slope of a hill, which summits at 340m. To the west of the hill runs the River Trannon (*Afon Trannon*) which feeds into the River Severn at Caersws. To the east the hill slopes down into the valley of the stream Nant Cwmgwernog, which feeds into the River Trannon at Llawr-Y-Glyn. The surrounding area is characterized by hills and stream tributaries of the River Trannon, with small cropped pasture lands and the Gors Goch forest to the north.

The underlying geology on site is Caerau Mudstone Formation. This is a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 433 to 439 million years ago in the Silurian Period. Previously dominated by deep seas, these sedimentary rocks are marine in origin. They are detrital and comprise coarse- to fine-grained slurries of debris from the continental shelf flowing into a deep-sea environment, forming distinctively graded beds (British Geology Survey, 2019).

## **2. Methodology**

The archaeological watching brief at Y Gribyn was conducted in two phases (figure 4). The first phase consisted of the monitoring of the underpinning work being carried out in the south-western area of the house. The underpinning work was being conducted underneath the post and panel partition between the current living room and the former dining room and study (Plate 1 & 2). Archaeology Wales monitored the excavation of the first two foundation trenches for the concrete underpinning between the two rooms.

The second phase monitored the lowering of the floor surface in the former dining room and study. The floor was being lowered 0.3m to accommodate a new drainage system and floor in relation to the internal remodelling work being carried out (Plate 3).

All deposits were recorded by means of a continuous context numbering system and recorded on pro-forma context sheets. Sections and plans were drawn to a scale of 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 as required. Photographs were taken in digital format, using a camera capable of taking photos of at least 10mp, with photographs stored in Tiff format.

All the work was undertaken in accordance with the ClfA's *Standards and Guidance for an archaeological watching* brief (2014) and current Health and Safety legislation.

## **3. Archaeological and Historical Background**

The development works are focussed on the Grade II\* Listed Building, Y Gribyn. This building was originally part of a farm complex along with the other buildings located at the eastern side of the access track, but Y Gribyn and its parcel are now under separate ownership.

The listed building has an 'L-shape' plan, the main range measuring approximately 9m in length by 5m in width (west-east axis), and 7.5m in length by 4m in width the north-south axis, with an additional 2 x 2m conservatory attached to the northern end.

The main range is 1 ½ storey with gabled dorms in the southern elevation and one at the northern elevation. There are two stone-built chimneys, one to the north and the other to the eastern end of the main range; and a third, brick-built chimney to the western end of the main range. The inner roofs are covered in hand-cut slates with simple ceramic tiles, and the rest of the roof with machine-cut, regular slates. Most of the building is made of stone dwarf wall with timber framing above, with some brick-built elements added later.

The building has been previously recorded by Cadw (Ref: 83707) as 'probably originally a 3-unit cruck-framed hall-house', with evidence of substantial re-modelling during the 17<sup>th</sup> century, which included a ceiling to provide the upper storey, the addition of the rear kitchen wing and a fireplace and chimney into the former outer room, which has a date inscription in the fireplace that reads '1653'. The lower walls were rebuilt in stone, with timber framing above. The downhill (east) gable end wall has been rebuilt, presumably after a structural failing in the outer room, but the use of timber framing in the wall suggests this was a relatively early failing. The hall and inner rooms are divided by a post and panel partition, the inner rooms divided by a similar screen, but extended uphill later, perhaps after the reconstruction of the downhill end. Y Gribyn was designated in 18th February 2005 (Cadw 2017).

An archaeological assessment was carried out on the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2016 by Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd (EAS), which involved a photographic building recording and reporting. The report suggested the farmhouse originated as a late-medieval or sub-medieval three-bay hall house, of cruck-frame construction. As documented in the Listed Building description, the house was converted in the 17<sup>th</sup> century into a storeyed house, with later additions and remodelling also documented. EAS also suggested that an archaeological watching brief was undertaken during all groundworks (Brooks, 2016).

#### **4. Watching Brief Results**

During the first phase of the archaeological watching brief the underpinning of the post and panel partition between the lounge and the former study and dining room was monitored. The room measured 5.9m in length and 4.06m in width. The underpinning monitored by Archaeology Wales consisted of the excavation of two small foundation 'trenches' under the existing post and panel partition. These have been called foundation trench 1 and 2 respectively (figure 4).

Foundation trench 1 was located in the north-eastern corner of the former study, located 1.1m from the external northern wall of the room, and adjacent to the internal door leading to the hallway (Plate 4). The trench measured 1m in length, 0.36m in width and 0.35m in depth. The only context recorded in this trench was (001). This was described as a very compacted, mid brownish grey, silty clay with frequent inclusions of small to moderate sized stones. Some inclusions of lime mortar were also recorded within (001). The lime mortar

would have been the bonding agent to hold the stones together that were found underneath the oak beam running through the room at floor level. No artefacts were recovered from this context.

Foundation trench 2 was located in the south-eastern corner of the former study, located 1.1m from the external southern wall of the room, and located underneath the doorway leading to the lounge (Plate 5). The trench measured 1.15m in length, 0.46m in width, and 0.35m in depth. The only context recorded in this trench was (002) and was identified as being the same as (001). During the excavation of this trench plastic was recovered, and this suggests that the floor surface had previously been disturbed. However, small fragments of clay tobacco pipes were also recovered.

The second phase of the archaeological watching brief monitored the lowering of the existing floor within the dining room, and on average it was lowered 0.3m (Figure 4, Plate 6 & 7). The existing floor was given the context number (003) and was identified as being the same as (001) and (002). The entirety of the room's floor was covered by (003). No archaeological features were uncovered during the groundworks. Fragments of glass ware and porcelain were uncovered, but they appear to originate from the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## **5. Finds**

No significant finds were recorded during the archaeological watching brief. The finds discovered during groundworks were mainly glassware and pottery which appeared to date from the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Fragments of clay tobacco pipes were recovered, but unfortunately, they were indistinguishable.

## **6. Conclusion**

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken in April and May 2019 during groundwork associated with development work at Y Gribyn, Llawr-Y-Glyn, Caersws, Powys, SY17 5RH (SN 93051 91666). The work was undertaken as a condition of the planning permission for the development works (Planning Application No. P/2016/0837), on the recommendation of Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust.

Y Gribyn is a grade II\* listed farmhouse, potentially of late medieval or sub-medieval origin, extensively remodelled in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

No archaeological features or significant finds were recorded during the groundworks. The limited finds that were discovered during the archaeological watching brief suggest that the compacted floor deposit (001), (002) & (003) revealed during the works had been disturbed sometime during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Therefore, it is fair to conclude that the ground-disturbing repairs and alterations undertaken at Y Gribyn have not impacted the archaeological resource at the location.



## 7. Acknowledgements

The author of the report would like to thank Joanna and Stuart Manson for their hospitality, helpfulness and interest during the archaeological watching brief undertaken at their home.

## 8. Bibliography

Brooks, I.P., 2016. *Y Gribyn Archaeological Assessment*. Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd. EAS Client Report 2016/08.

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Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. *Standards and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*.

### Websites

British Geological Survey: Geology of Britain viewer:  
[www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html](http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html) (accessed 23/05/2019)

Cadw, 2005: *Summary description of a Listed Building: Y Gribyn*. <http://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=en&id=83707> (accessed 23/05/2019)



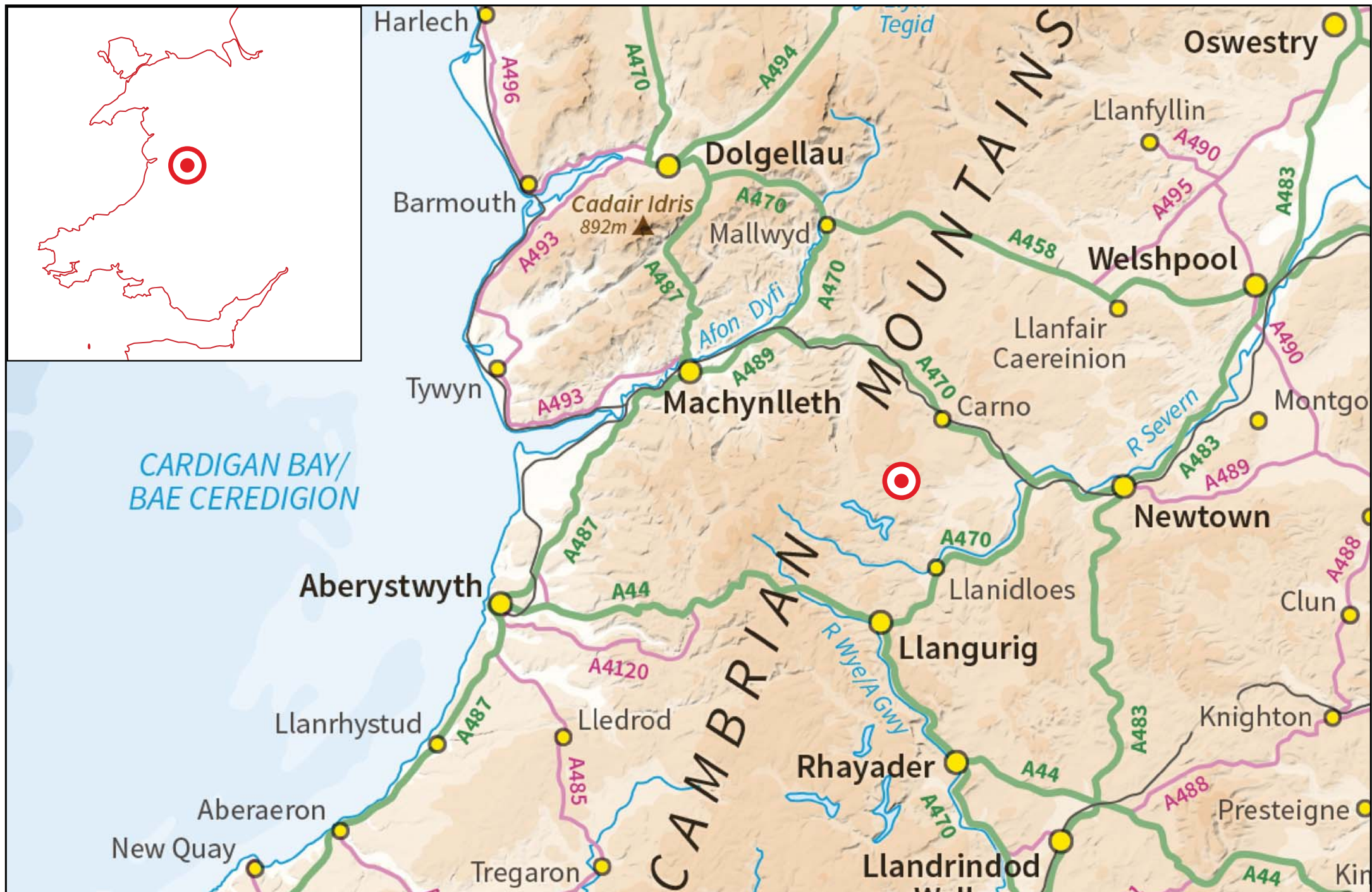
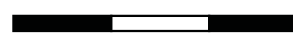


Figure 1: Location of the development site within Wales;  
 scales 1:5,000,000 and 1:400,000

0 50 100 150 km



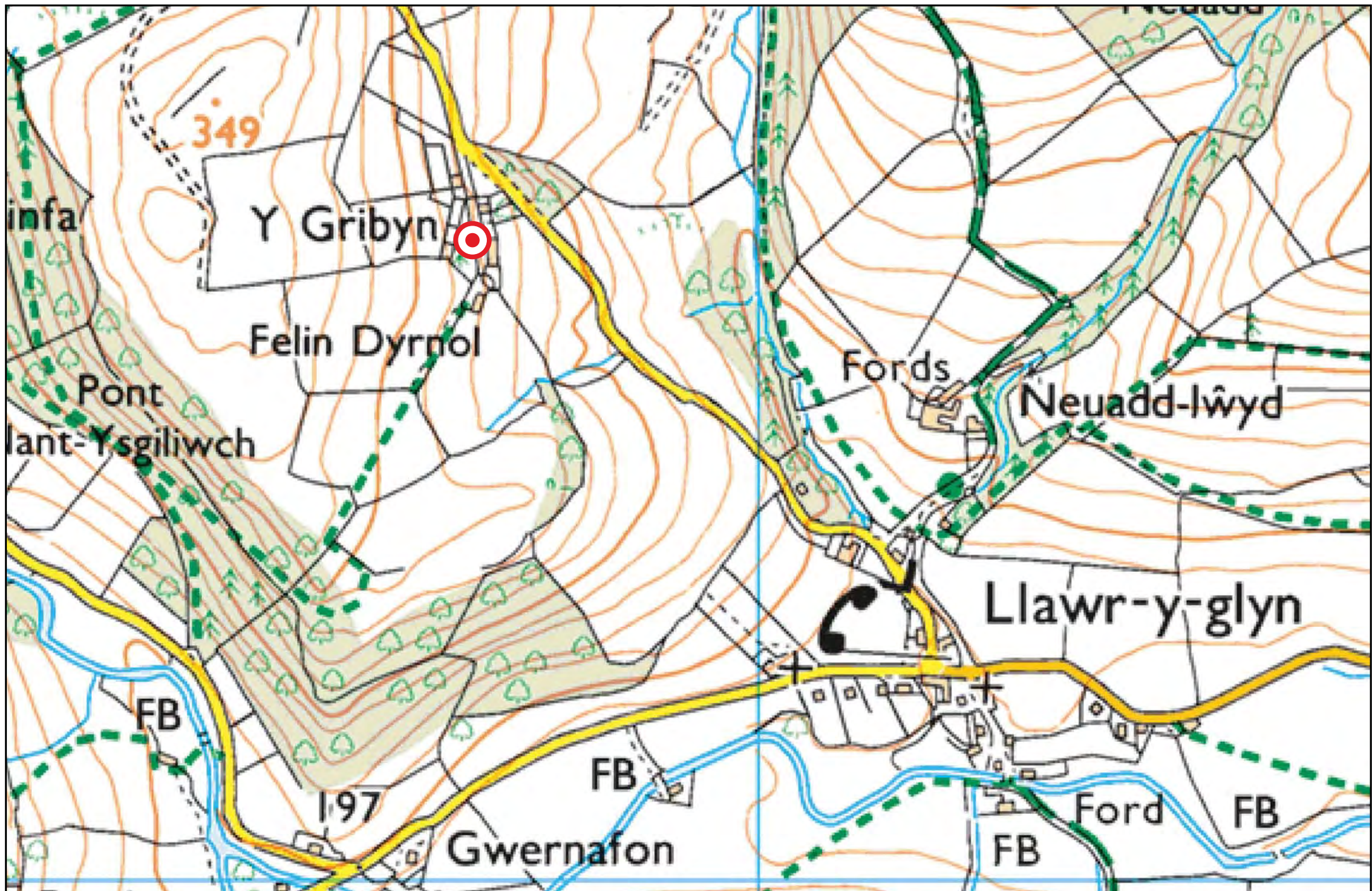


Figure 2: Location of the development site within Llawr-Y-Glyn; scale 1:5,000

0 100 200 300 m

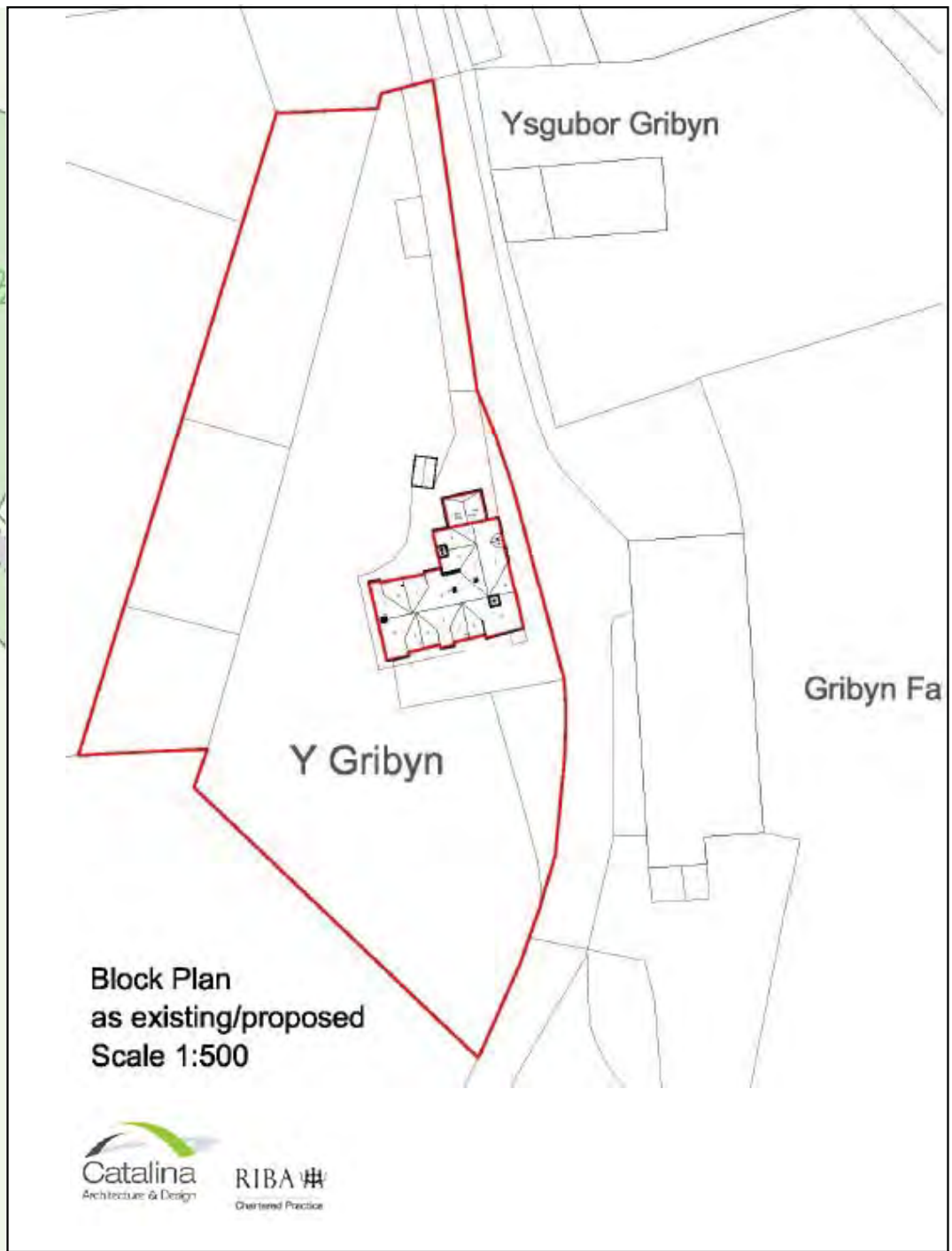
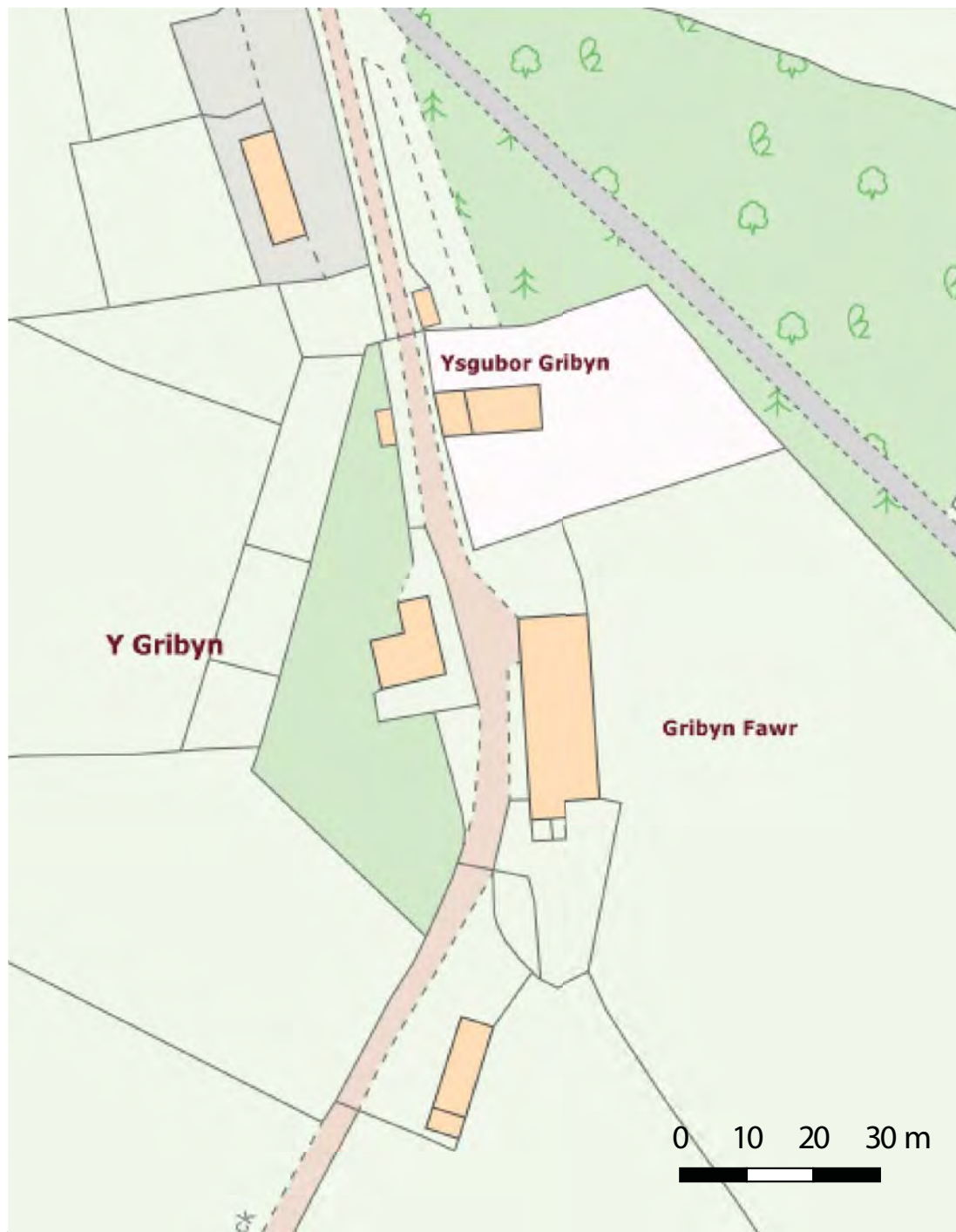


Figure 3: Location of the Grade II\* Listed Building Y Gribyn within the development site; scales 1:1,000 and 1:500

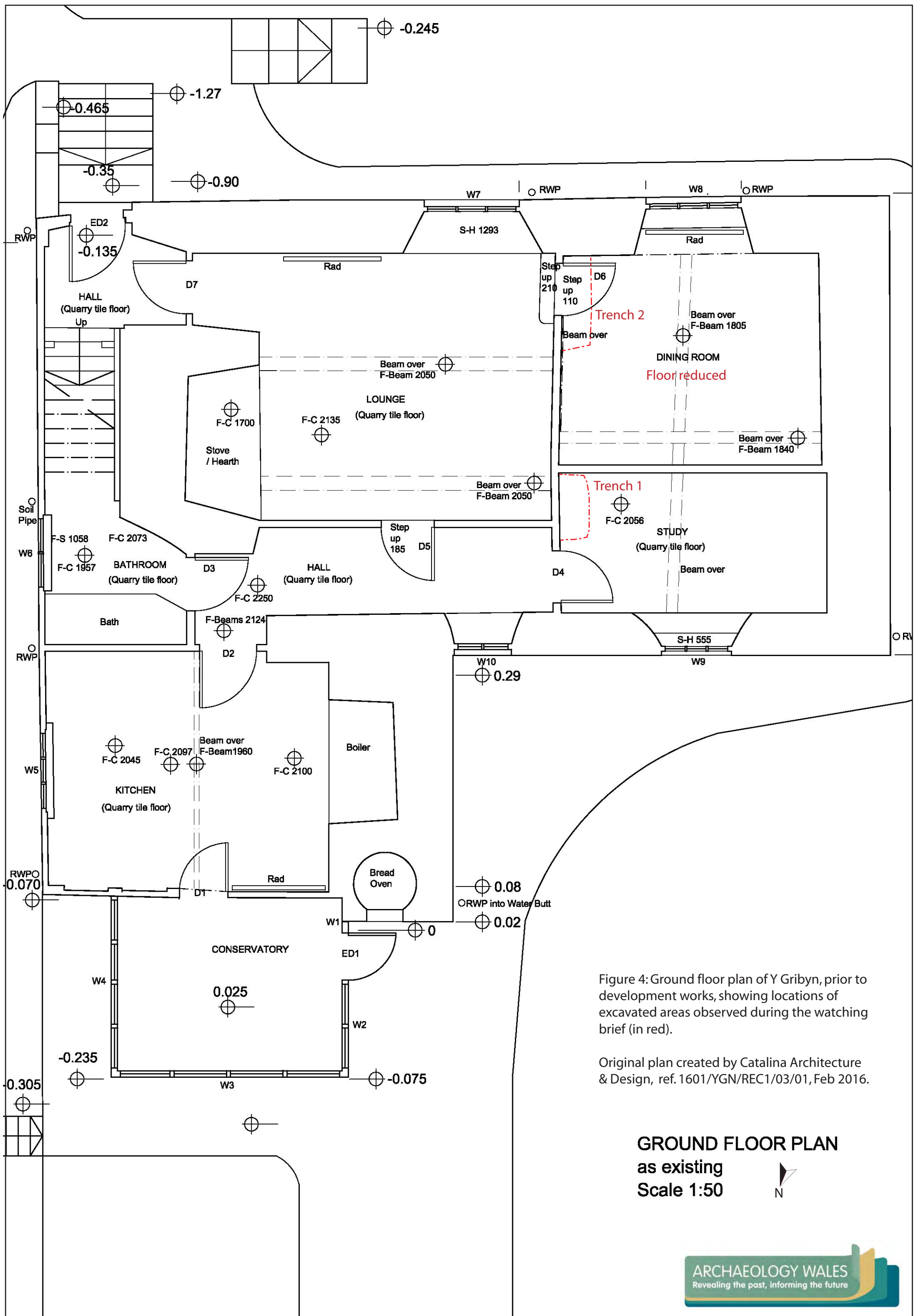


Figure 4: Ground floor plan of Y Gribyn, prior to development works, showing locations of excavated areas observed during the watching brief (in red).

Original plan created by Catalina Architecture & Design, ref. 1601/YGN/REC1/03/01, Feb 2016.

**GROUND FLOOR PLAN**  
as existing  
Scale 1:50





Plate 1: Post and panel partition viewed from lounge. 1m scale.



Plate 2: Post and panel partition viewed from development area (Dining Room). 1m scale.



Plate 3: Working photograph of the floor being lowered.



Plate 4: Extent of foundation trench 1, looking east. 0.5m scale





Plate 5: Extent of foundation trench 2, looking east. 0.5m scale.



Plate 6: South-western corner of development area (Dining Room) after the lowering of the floor. 1m scale.



Plate 7: North-western corner of development area (study) after the lowering of the floor.  
1m scale.

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## **APPENDIX I: Context List**

## Appendix 1 – Context Register

<i>No.</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Relationship</i>
001	Deposit	Very compacted, light grey crushed earth, stone & mortar floor deposit with frequent inclusions of small to moderate stone.	Same as (002) & (003)
002	Deposit	As above	Same as (001) & (003)
003	Deposit	As above	Same as (001) & (002)

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*Wales*

**APPENDIX II:**  
**Written Scheme of Investigation**

**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION**

**FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION**

**at Cribyn Llawr-Y-Glyn, Caersws,  
Powys**

**Prepared for:  
Joanna and Stuart Manson**

**Planning Application Number: P / 2016 / 0837**

**Project No: 2496**

**27<sup>th</sup> January 2017**



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**Figure 1.** Site location

**Figure 2.** Detailed plan of the site, showing areas of proposed investigation

## Summary

*This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details a programme archaeological mitigation to be undertaken by Archaeology Wales at the request of Joanna and Stuart Manson.*

*The archaeological mitigation will consist of a watching brief and will be undertaken during ground works associated with the proposed development of 'External envelope repair and alterations, internal remodelling and structural repairs' at Cribyn Llawr-Y-Glyn, Caersws, Powys, SY17 5RH centred on SN 93051 91666. The associated Planning Application No. is P/2016/0837.*

*The development affects a Grade II\* Listed Building, Y Gribyn (CADW Ref.: 83707) that is of local, regional and national historical, archaeological and/or architectural significance, due to its exemplarity as traditional farmhouse and transition from timber to stone construction. Powys County Council has granted permission for the development, under condition that an Archaeological Watching Brief is undertaken during groundworks associated with the development. This was recommended by Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the council.*

*An archaeological assessment was carried out during 5th August 2016 by Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd., the conclusions of which suggest the possibility of a late-medieval or sub-medieval original date for the construction of the building.*

*All work will be undertaken in accordance with the standards and guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014).*

## 1. Introduction and planning background

This Written Scheme of Investigations (WSI) details the methodology for a programme of archaeological mitigation (a watching brief) to be undertaken in association with the proposed development of 'External envelope repair and alterations, internal remodelling and structural repairs' at Cribyn Llawr-Y-Glyn, Caersws, Powys, SY17 5RH centred on SN 93051 91666. (Figure 1 and 2). The associated Planning Application No. is P/2016/0837.

The development affects a Grade II\* Listed Building, Y Gribyn (CADW Ref.: 83707) that is of local, regional and national historical, archaeological and/or architectural significance. This building was listed as an exceptional example of vernacular farmhouse due to its quality and character, the surviving elements that show the transition from timber to stone construction, and the unusual layout that possibly relate to its medieval origins.



Powys County Council (PCC) has granted permission for the development, under condition that a complete programme of archaeological watching brief is undertaken during groundworks associated with the development site, as recommended by Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) in their capacity as archaeological advisor.

This WSI has been prepared by Aurea Izquierdo Zamora, Project Manager, Archaeology Wales Ltd (AW) at the request of Joanna and Stuart Manson.

The methodology set out in this WSI has been agreed with CPAT in its capacity as archaeological advisors to PCC. CPAT has recommended that an archaeological mitigation (watching brief) of the development area is undertaken during any ground works to mitigate the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource. The recommendations made by CPAT are set out in a letter to PCC dated 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2016, with condition set as:

*“The developer shall ensure that a suitably qualified archaeological contractor is present during the undertaking of any ground works in the development area so that an archaeological watching brief can be conducted. The archaeological watching brief must meet the standards laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists’ Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs. The Local Planning Authorities will be informed in writing, at least two weeks prior to the commencement of the development, of the name of the said archaeological contractor. A copy of the resulting report should be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and the Development Control Archaeologist, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (41 Broad Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7RR; Email: markwalters@cpat.org.uk; Tel: 01938 553670). After approval by the Local Planning Authority, a copy of the report and resulting archive should also be sent to the Historic Environment Record Officer, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust for inclusion in the regional Historic Environment Record.*

*Reason: To secure preservation by record of any archaeological remains which may be revealed during ground excavations for the consented development.”*

The purpose of the archaeological mitigation (watching brief) is to provide the local planning authority with sufficient information regarding the nature of archaeological remains on the site of the development, the requirements for which are set out in Planning Policy (revised edition 8, 2016), Section 6.5, and Welsh Office Circular 60/96. The work is to ensure that all buried artefacts and deposits are fully investigated and recorded if they are disturbed or revealed as a result of activities associated with the development.

All work will be undertaken to the standards and guidance set by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014). AW is a Registered Organisation with the CIfA.

## 2. Site Description (Figures 1 & 2)

Llawr-Y-Glyn is a hamlet in Powys, located approximately 11km (6.9 miles) to the west of Caersws, and 4.5 km (2.8 miles) to the west Trefeglwys village. The proposed development site comprises a trapezoid shaped parcel of land measuring approximately 2,300 sq. m (0.5 acre) in area, located approximately 675m to the northwest of Llawr-Y-Glyn. The site lies adjacent to the west side of the local road U2563, accessed from junction with local road U2561 to Y Gribyn. It is bounded to the northeast and southeast by a local path and field boundary and to the northwest and southwest by mature large trees. The site slopes downwards from northwest to southeast with a change in levels of approximately 1m, although it has been levelled and landscaped due to its domestic use. Currently located adjacent to the eastern side of the local path are the existing Gribyn Cottages (*Gribyn Fawr*), Gribyn Pottery (*Ysgubor Gribyn*) and a barn, total of 3 buildings plus additions.

The underlying geology on site is Caerau Mudstone, sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 428 to 436 million years ago (Silurian), from a local environment previously dominated by deep seas (British Geology Survey 2017). Topographically, Y Gribyn is located at the eastern side of the slope of a hill, which summit is at 340m. To the western side of the hill runs the River Trannon (*Afon Trannon*) which feeds into the River Severn at Caersws. To the east of the hill runs the stream Nant Cwmgwernog which feeds into the River Trannon at Llawr-Y-Glyn. The surrounding area is characterized by hills and streams tributary of the River Trannon, with small cropped pasture lands and the Gors Goch forest to the north.

## 3. Archaeological background

Y Gribyn, the Grade II\* Listed Building, lies to the centre-east of the development site. This building was originally part of a farm complex along with the other buildings located at the eastern side of the local path. No courtyard arrangement can be appreciated in the layout of the buildings. Y Gribyn and its parcel are now under separate ownership.

The listed building has an L-shape plan, measuring the main range approximately 9m in length by 5m in width (west-east axis); and 7.5m in length by 4m in width the north-south axis, with an additional 2x2m conservatory attached to the northern end.

The main range is 1 ½ storey with gabled dorms in the southern elevation and one at the northern elevation. There are two stone-built chimneys, one to the north and the other to the eastern end of the main range; and a third, brick-built chimney to the western end of the main range. The inner roofs are covered in hand-cut slates with simple ceramic tiles, and the rest of the roof with machine-cut, regular slates.

Most of the building is made of stone dwarf wall with timber framing above, with some brick-built elements added later.

The building has been previously recorded by CADW (Ref.: 83707) as '*probably originally a 3-unit cruck-framed hall-house*', with evidences of substantial re-building during the 17<sup>th</sup> century, which would include a ceiling to provide the upper storey, the addition of the rear kitchen and the fireplace, which has a date inscription in the fireplace that reads '*1653*'. It has been documented an early loose of part of the outer room at the downhill end due to a structural failure. The hall and inner rooms are divided by a post and panel partition, being the inner rooms divided by a similar but later screen, perhaps after the reconstruction of the downhill end. Y Gribyn was designated in 18th February 2005 (CADW 2017).

An archaeological assessment was carried out during 5<sup>th</sup> August 2016 by Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd. (EAS) that involved a photographic building recording and reporting, and which conclusions suggest the possibility of a late-medieval or sub-medieval original date for the construction of the building, being then a three-bay hall house. Evidences of 17<sup>th</sup> century conversion of the building into a storey house, along with later additions and remodelling were also documented. A programme of watching brief to be carried out during all groundworks was also suggested from EAS (Brooks 2016).

#### **4. Objectives**

This WSI sets out a program of works to ensure that the mitigation (watching brief) works undertaken by AW will meet the standard required by The Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (2014)*.

The objective of the watching brief will be:

- to allow a rapid investigation and recording of any archaeological features that are uncovered during the proposed groundworks within the application area.
- to provide the opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief are not sufficient to support the treatment to a satisfactory or proper standard.

A written report will be compiled following the fieldwork. Sufficient desk-top research will be undertaken to ensure that the results of this work are properly understood, interpreted and reported.

The report will include a comprehensive assessment of the historic context within which the archaeological evidence rests and will aim to highlight any relevant research issues within regional, national and, if relevant, international research frameworks.

## **5. Timetable of works**

### **5.1. Fieldwork**

The programme of mitigation will be undertaken during ground works associated with the proposed development. The work is proposed to start in February 2017. Archaeology Wales will update CPAT with the exact date.

### **5.2. Report delivery**

The report will be submitted to Joanna and Stuart Manson and to CPAT within three months of the completion of the fieldwork. A copy of the report will also be sent to the regional HER.

## **6. Fieldwork**

### **6.1. Detail**

The work will be undertaken to meet the standard required by The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Watching Briefs* (2014).

The primary objective of an archaeological watching brief at Cribyn Llawr-Y-Glyn, Caersws, will be to ensure that a comprehensive understanding of the nature of the archaeological resource on site is established; to ensure that any archaeological remains on site are preserved and protected; to ensure that any previously unrecorded archaeological features exposed during development works are adequately recorded and interpreted; and to ensure that any information relating to the archaeological remains on site is made publicly available.

Any intrusive groundworks at Cribyn Llawr-Y-Glyn, Caersws, considered that could likely impact upon sub-surface deposits are to be fully monitored. Conclusions on EAS archaeological report (Brooks 2016) state that the excavation for the proposed new drains, at the exterior of the building and through the hall area, have the potential to reveal evidence of the layout and floor surface of an earlier building.

Any of these would be destroyed and/or damaged during the groundworks and development, hence the need to appropriately mitigate the disappearance of these

features through the maintenance of an archaeological watching brief during these intrusive drainage and service works on the ground floor and externally.

Groundworks must be undertaken with a tracked 360o degree excavator equipped with a flat-bladed bucket. Once sections and plans are excavated, these will be cleaned and investigated manually and exclusively by the suitable archaeologist on site with the recommended set of tools (e.g. trowel).

The site archaeologist undertaking the watching brief will be afforded the required access by the main contractor in order to observe and where necessary to record any archaeological remains revealed. Groundwork will not be undertaken without the presence of the site archaeologist. The site archaeologist will record finds and less significant archaeological deposits and features without significant delay to the work program.

Where significant or complex archaeological deposits or features are encountered there will be a requirement for those areas to be fenced off and highlighted to all contractors employed on the site. Machines or contractors shall not enter this area until archaeological recording has been completed. If significant archaeological features are revealed during the work a meeting between Joanna and Stuart Manson, CPAT and AW will be called at the earliest convenience.

To comply with professional guidelines, a contingency for a maximum of three days' uninterrupted access to each such area and for a team of up to two further archaeologists to be employed should be provided. Contingency costs will be agreed in advance before any extension to the programme commences and will follow a site meeting between Archaeology Wales, Joanna and Stuart Manson and CPAT.

## **6.2. Recording**

Recording will be carried out using AW 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 and fixed to local topographical boundaries.

Photographs will be taken in digital format with an appropriate scale, using a 12MP camera with photographs stored in Tiff format.

The archaeologist undertaking the watching brief will have access to the AW metal detector and be trained in its use.

### 6.3. Finds

The professional standards set in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014)* will form the basis of finds collection, processing and recording.

All manner of finds regardless of category and date will be retained.

Finds recovered that are regarded as Treasure under *The Treasure Act 1996* will be reported to HM Coroner for the local area.

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

### 6.4. Environmental sampling strategy

Deposits with a significant potential for the preservation of palaeoenvironmental material will be sampled, by means of the most appropriate method (bulk, column etc). Where sampling will provide a significant contribution to the understanding of the site AW will draw up a site-specific sampling strategy alongside a specialist environmental archaeologist. All environmental sampling and recording will follow English Heritage's *Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology (2002)*.

### 6.5. Human remains

In the event that human remains are encountered, their nature and extent will be established and the coroner informed. All human remains will be left *in situ* and protected during backfilling. Where preservation *in situ* is not possible the human remains will be fully recorded and removed under conditions that comply with all current legislation and include acquisition of licenses and provision for reburial following all analytical work. Human remains will be excavated in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Excavation and Post-Excavation Treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains: Technical Paper Number 13 (1993)*.

A meeting with CPAT, Joanna and Stuart Manson, and AW will be called if the human remains uncovered are of such complexity or significance that the contingency arrangement (6.1 above) would not be of sufficient scope.

### 6.6. Specialist advisers

In the event of certain finds, features or sites being discovered, AW will seek specialist opinion and advice. A list of specialists is given in the table below although this list is not exhaustive.

Artefact type	Specialist
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)

### 6.6.1. Specialist reports

Specialist finds and palaeoenvironmental reports will be written by AW specialists, or sub-contracted to external specialists when required.

## 7. Monitoring

CPAT will be contacted approximately five days prior to the commencement of archaeological site works, and subsequently once the work is underway.

Any changes to the WSI that AW may wish to make after approval will be communicated to CPAT for approval on behalf of Planning Authority.

Representatives of CPAT will be given access to the site so that they may monitor the progress of the field evaluation. No area will be back-filled, until CPAT has had the opportunity to inspect it, unless permission has been given in advance. CPAT will be kept regularly informed about developments, both during the site works and subsequently during post-excavation.

## 8. Post-fieldwork programme

### 8.1. Archive assessment

#### 8.1.1. Site archive

An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with: Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2006) upon completion of the project.

The site archive (including artefacts and samples) will be prepared in accordance with the National Monuments Record (Wales) agreed structure and deposited with an appropriate receiving organisation, in compliance with CIfA Guidelines (*Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, 2014). The legal landowners consent will be gained for deposition of finds.

#### 8.1.2. Analysis

Following a rapid review of the potential of the site archive, a programme of analysis and reporting will be undertaken. This will result in the following inclusions in the final report:

- Non-technical summary
- Location plan showing the area/s covered by the watching brief, all artefacts, structures and features found
- Plan and section drawings (if features are encountered) 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 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
- A discussion of the local, regional and national context of the remains by means of reviewing published reports, unpublished reports, historical maps, documents from local archives and the regional HER as appropriate.
- 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.



## **8.2. Reports and archive deposition**

### **8.2.1. Report to client**

Copies of all reports associated with the mitigation (watching brief), together with inclusion of supporting evidence in appendices as appropriate, including photographs and illustrations, will be submitted to Joanna and Stuart Manson and CPAT upon completion.

### **8.2.2. Additional reports**

After an appropriate period has elapsed, copies of all reports will be deposited with the relevant county Historical Environment Record, the National Monuments Record and, if appropriate, Cadw.

### **8.2.3. Summary reports for publication**

Short archaeological reports will be submitted for publication in relevant journals; as a minimum, a report will be submitted to the annual publication of the regional CBA group or equivalent journal.

### **8.2.4. Notification of important remains**

Where it is considered that remains have been revealed that may satisfy the criteria for statutory protection, AW will submit preliminary notification of the remains to Cadw.

### **8.2.5. Archive deposition**

The final archive (site and research) will, whenever appropriate, be deposited with a suitable receiving institution, usually the relevant Local Authority museums service. Arrangements will be made with the receiving institution before work starts. Although there may be a period during which client confidentiality will need to be maintained, copies of all reports and the final archive will be deposited no later than six months after completion of the work.

Copies of all reports, the digital archive and an archive index will be deposited with the *National Monuments Record*, RCAHMW, Aberystwyth.

Wherever the archive is deposited, this information will be relayed to the HER. A summary of the contents of the archive will be supplied to CPAT.

### **8.2.6. Finds deposition**

The finds, including artefacts and ecofacts, excepting those which may be subject to the Treasure Act, will be deposited with the same institution, subject to the agreement of the legal land owners.

## **9. Staff**

The project will be managed by Aurea Izquierdo Zamora (AW Project Manager) and the fieldwork undertaken by a suitable archaeologist from Archaeology Wales. Any alteration to staffing before or during the work will be brought to the attention of CPAT and Joanna and Stuart Manson.

## **Additional Considerations**

## **10. Health and Safety**

### **10.1. Risk assessment**

Prior to the commencement of work AW will carry out and produce a formal Health and Safety Risk Assessment in accordance with *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations* 1992. A copy of the risk assessment will be kept on site and be available for inspection on request. A copy will be sent to the client (or their agent as necessary) for their information. All members of AW staff will adhere to the content of this document.

### **10.2. Other guidelines**

AW will adhere to best practice with regard to Health and Safety in Archaeology as set out in the FAME (Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers) health and safety manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (2002).

## 11. 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.

## 12. Quality Control

### 12.1. Professional 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.

### 12.2. Project tracking

The designated AW manager will monitor all projects in order to ensure that agreed targets are met without reduction in quality of service.

## 13. Arbitration

Disputes or differences arising in relation to this work shall be referred for a decision in accordance with the Rules of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' *Arbitration Scheme for the Institute for Archaeologists* applying at the date of the agreement.

## 14. References

British Geological Survey: <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>. Retrieved 26.1.2017.

Brooks, I.P., 2016. *Y Gribyn Archaeological Assessment*. Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd. EAS Client Report 2016/08.

CADW, 2005: *Summary description of a Listed Building: Y Gribyn*. <http://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=en&id=83701>.

Retrieved 26.1.2017

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 1993: *Excavation and Post-Excavation Treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains: Technical Paper Number 13*

- 2014: *Standard and guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*.
- 2014: *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives'*
- 2014: *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014)*

English Heritage, 2002: *Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology*.

Historic England, 2006 (rev. 2015): *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*.

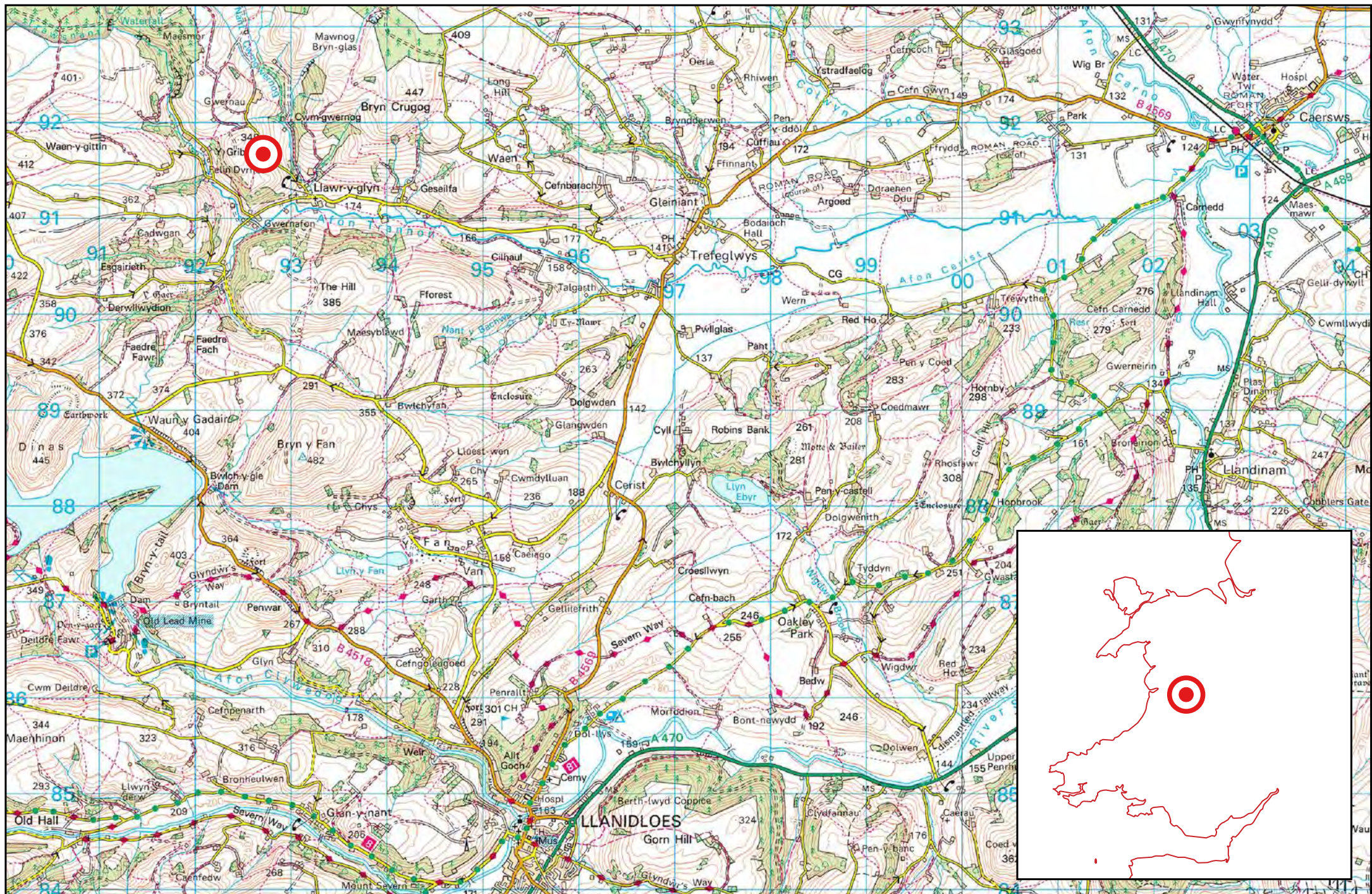
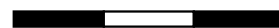


Figure 1: Location of the development site within Wales and the region;  
 scales 1:4,250,000 (bottom right) and 1:50,000

0 0.5 1 1.5 km



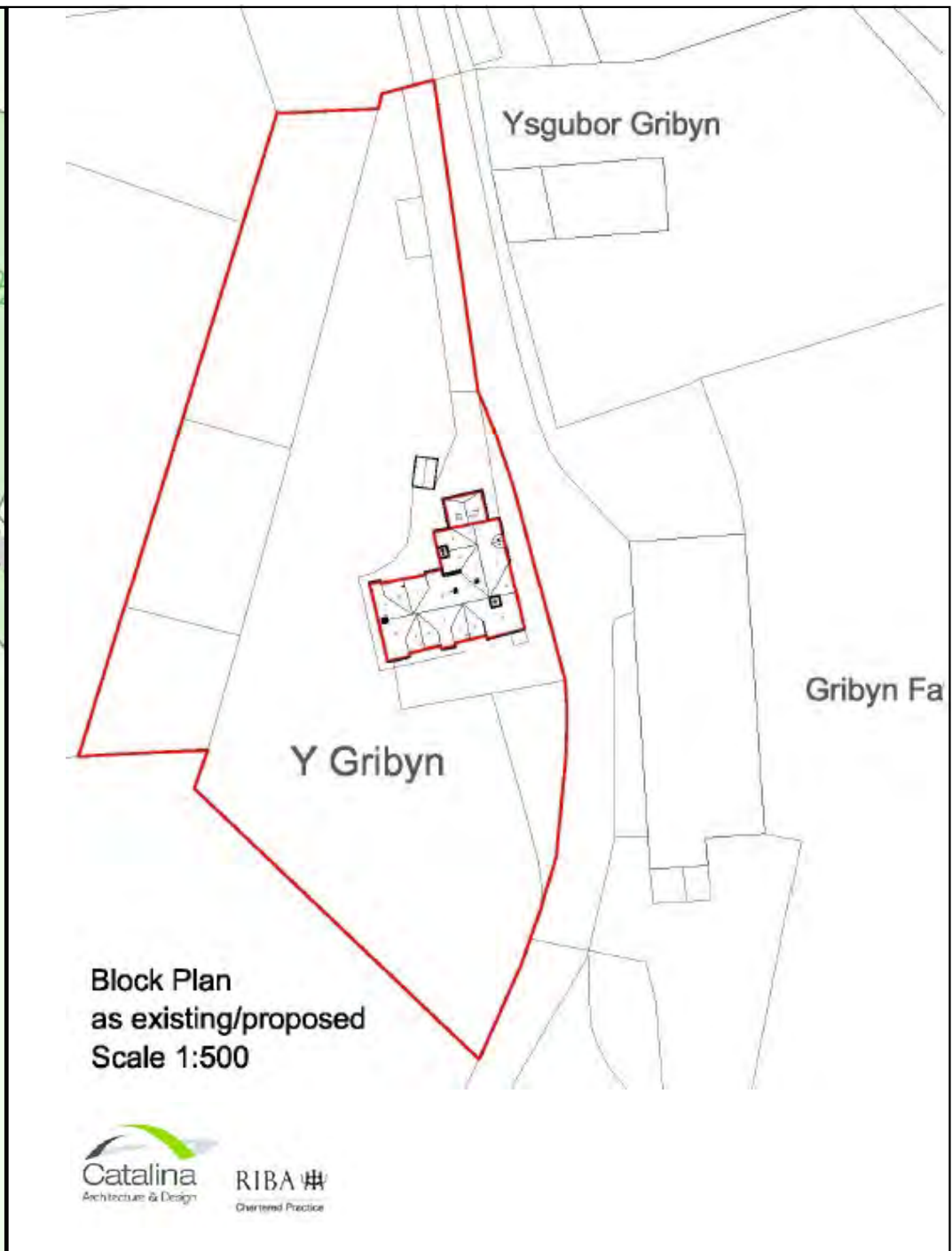


Figure 2: Location of the Grade II\* Listed Building Y Gribyn within the development site; scales 1:1,000 and 1:500

*Archaeology*  
*Wales*

**APPENDIX III:**  
**Archive Cover Sheet**

# ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

## Y Gribyn, Llawr-y-glyn, Caersws, Powys

Site Name:	Y Gribyn
Site Code:	CLG/17/WB
PRN:	20471 (Cribyn House)
NPRN:	29076 (Gribyn)
SAM:	-
Other Ref No:	Listed Building Grade II* - 83707 (Y Gribyn)
NGR:	NGR SN 93051 91666
Site Type:	Minor internal groundworks for repairs and alterations to a farmhouse, originating in the late medieval with 17 <sup>th</sup> century remodelling.
Project Type:	Watching Brief
Project Manager:	Philip Poucher
Project Dates:	April 2019 - July 2019
Categories Present:	-
Location of Original Archive:	AW
Location of duplicate Archives:	RCAHMW, Aberystwyth
Number of Finds Boxes:	0
Location of Finds:	-
Museum Reference:	-
Copyright:	AW
Restrictions to access:	None



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