



Appendix 8B

Visual Impact Provision (VIP) Snowdonia Project:

Ground Investigation Watching Brief Results


An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the excavation of eight onshore trial pits in three separate visits on 31st August, 4th September and 28th September 2017.

The site archaeologist observed the excavation of each trial pit and recorded the deposit sequence as tabulated below. Photographs were taken as work progressed and of each completed trial pit.

No significant archaeological remains were encountered during the works. Notable results included:


- Trial Pit 100 and 100A: tidal flat deposits indicated by presence of marine mollusc shells in sandy clay material beneath modern soils- reclaimed Glaslyn Estuary
- Trial Pit 102: Modern made ground indicates extent of disturbance for SEC and pylon installation at access for Pylon 4ZC036. Shallow bedrock.
- Trial Pits 105 to 107 encountered peat within area of eastern Tunnel Head House.

Test Pit 105, 106 and 107 were all excavated in a heavily water-logged field with visible ground water / marsh. As the ground was very unstable depth of the lower contexts are approximate

Trial Pit	Notes	Photograph
<p>TP100</p>	<p>Length 2.10m, Width 0.60m, Max Depth 1.35m</p> <p>Four Contexts Noted</p> <p>(01) Turf/Top soil, black sand silt, Depth 0.22m</p> <p>(02) Mid Brown sand silt with iron panning, Depth 0.52m</p> <p>(03) Grey sand clay, winkle shells where seen in this deposit, Depth 0.50m</p> <p>(04) Grey clay, Depth 0.11m</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Ground conditions were very wet and there was in coming ground water, the pit started to collapse at this depth.</p>	

Trial Pit	Notes	Photograph
TP100A	<p>Length 2.50m, Width 0.60m, Max Depth 1.80m</p> <p>Three Contexts Noted</p> <p>(01) Turf/Top soil, black sand silt, Depth 0.30m</p> <p>(02) Mid Brown sand silt with iron panning, Depth 1.10m</p> <p>(03) Grey sand clay, winkle shells where seen in this deposit, Depth 0.50m</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Ground conditions were very wet and there was in coming ground water, the pit started to collapse at this depth.</p>	
TP101	<p>Length 2.40m, Width 0.60m, Max Depth 1.50m</p> <p>Three Contexts Noted</p> <p>(01) Turf/Top soil, black sand silt, Depth 0.30m</p> <p>(02) Mid Brown sand silt with iron panning, Depth 1.10m</p> <p>(03) Grey sand clay, winkle shells where seen in this deposit, Depth 0.50m</p>	
TP102	<p>Length 2.50m, Width 0.60m, Max Depth 1.20m</p> <p>Four Contexts Noted</p> <p>(01) Turf/Top soil, black clay silt, Depth 0.14m</p> <p>(02) A dump of modern material brick, plastic and metal fencing in a mid-brown silt clay matrix. The farm noted that there was a temporary access road was built in the area to gain access to the pylons about 5-10 years ago. Depth 0.56m</p> <p>(03) Loose shale in an orange clay soil matrix, Depth 0.50m</p> <p>(04) Compact shale bed rock.</p>	

Trial Pit	Notes	Photograph
TP103	<p>Length 0.33m, Width 0.32m, Max Depth 0.60m</p> <p>Four Contexts Noted</p> <p>(01) Turf/Top soil, Mid Brown clay silt with frequent small angular stones, Depth 0.26m</p> <p>(02) Yellow Brown clay with gravels and frequent small angular stones, Depth 0.34m</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Hand dug trial hole</p>	
TP105	<p>Length 1.80m, Width 0.50m, Max Depth 3.05m</p> <p>Four Contexts Noted</p> <p>(01) Turf/Top soil, black clay silt, Depth 0.20m</p> <p>(02) Dark Brown, clay silt sand, Depth 0.50m</p> <p>(03) Light grey sand silt, Approximate Depth 1.20m</p> <p>(04) Dark grey sand clay, Approximate Depth 1.05m</p>	
TP106	<p>Length 1.80m, Width 0.50m, Max Depth 2.90m</p> <p>Four Contexts Noted</p> <p>(01) Turf/Top soil, black clay silt, Depth 0.25m</p> <p>(02) Dark Brown, clay silt sand, Depth 0.60m</p> <p>(03) Light grey sand silt, Approximate Depth 1.20m</p> <p>(04) Dark grey sand clay, Approximate Depth 0.85m</p>	

Trial Pit	Notes	Photograph
TP107	<p>Length 1.80m, Width 0.50m, Max Depth 2.83m</p> <p>Four Contexts Noted</p> <p>(01) Turf/Top soil, black clay silt, Depth 0.20m</p> <p>(02) Dark Brown, clay silt sand, Depth 0.63m</p> <p>(03) Light grey sand silt, Approximate Depth 1.05m</p> <p>(04) Dark grey sand clay, Approximate Depth 0.95m</p>	 <p>The photograph shows a cross-section of a trial pit. A measuring rod with a red top section is positioned vertically in the center of the pit. The soil is layered, with a dark top layer, a darker brown middle layer, and a lighter grey layer below. The pit is surrounded by grass and soil.</p>