

**NO 49 ANGLE,
PEMBROKESHIRE
SM 8614 0301**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

October 2010



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust
For: Paul & Eileen Stuckey



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Rhagfyr 2010
December 2010

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SM 8614 0301**
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Gan / By

JAMES MEEK

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NO 49 ANGLE, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	1
INTRODUCTION	2
Project Commission	2
Scope of the Project	2
Report Outline	2
Abbreviations	3
Illustrations	3
THE SITE	4
Location and Topography	4
Archaeological Background	4
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF	6
Methodology	7
Results of Archaeological Investigation within the Patio Area	7
CONCLUSIONS	8
SOURCES	9

ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure 1:	Location map of watching brief site based on the Ordnance Survey	10
Figure 2:	No 49 Angle, showing approximate location of new extension and patio area to north	11
Figure 3:	Extract of Angle Parish Tithe Map of 1842 centred on site area	12
Figure 4:	Extract of Ordnance Survey map (first edition 1880s) showing No 49 Angle within red boundary (and trackway leading north)	13
Figure 5:	Extract of Ordnance Survey Map of 1906 showing No 49 Angle development area within red boundary	13

TABLES

Table 1:	Historic Environment Record entries within a 500m radius of the site centre	5
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PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 1:	Rear of No 49 Angle from north, showing new extension and raised area of garden	14
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Photo 2:	Exposed ground surface within patio area from east, seen at commencement of watching brief	14
Photo 3:	Exposed ground surface within patio area from west, seen at commencement of watching brief	15
Photo 4:	Exposed sample area of metalled surface seen on western edge of patio area	16
Photo 5:	Exposed sample area of metalled surface seen on western edge of patio area	16
Photo 6:	Rear of No 49 Angle showing patio area from northwest	17
Photo 7:	Rear of No 49 Angle showing patio area from northeast	17

NO 49 ANGLE, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

SUMMARY

This report has been produced by Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services in response to a request from Mr & Mrs Stuckey, to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the erection of an extension to No 49 Angle, Pembrokeshire (NGR SM 8614 0301). The development site lies on the main road through Angle, which was laid out in the medieval period. It was considered that the proposed development could potentially impact upon underlying archaeological remains, and thus a condition was placed upon the planning permission requiring an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken during groundworks that had the potential to expose, damage or destroy any underlying archaeological remains.

Prior to the watching brief commencing, the extension had been constructed. This is understood to have involved limited levelling groundworks, and the excavation of the lines of the building foundations. A visit was made to the site following the excavation of material for the rear patio, which comprised a slightly terraced into garden slope (leading up to North Hill). It was evident that much of the patio area had been raised during the 20th century and the original ground surface (pre-20th century) was only just exposed in a few places within the patio area.

Following cleaning of a number of sample areas a metalled surface was revealed, indicating the presence of a trackway leading northwards from the western side of the building. This possible trackway corresponds with a feature shown on the 1880s first edition Ordnance Survey map of Angle. The original date for the feature is uncertain, but is likely to be at least as old as original building of No 49 Angle.

The watching brief has not been able to demonstrate whether significant archaeological remains were present beneath the area of the extension to No. 49 Angle. A post-medieval trackway was revealed to the rear of the extension lying directly beneath the level of the proposed patio. This feature will be preserved beneath the patio. This area also indicated that the rear of No 49 had been built up to some extent during the 20th century, which may have served to afford some protection to any archaeological remains that may have survived within the extension area. No finds of medieval date or earlier date were revealed within the development area, although many fragments of 19th and 20th century pottery were present.

INTRODUCTION

Project Commission

A planning application (Planning Ref: 08/394) was submitted to Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority (PCNPA), by Mr Paul Stuckey, for an extension to No 49 Angle, Pembrokeshire (NGR SM 8614 0301).

The PCNPA archaeological advisors¹ requested that a condition be attached to planning permission requiring that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken during all groundworks at the site which have the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains. The condition stated:

'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, which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority'.

The village is known to have medieval origins, being established by the late 12th century. The main street through the village was laid out at this time, and properties developed along it. Numerous medieval and post-medieval sites are known within the village. Thus the potential for significant archaeological remains to be present was such that the requirement for archaeological works was placed on the development.

The development involves the addition of an extension to the north of the original small property of No 49 fronting the main street through Angle. A patio area was also being excavated to the rear of the property, into the slope of the garden. The watching brief was undertaken following the construction of the northern extension to the property, which was unfortunately undertaken without archaeological attendance. The area for the patio on the northern side of the extension was also excavated prior to an archaeologist visiting the site, although it was possible to investigate this area and draw a number of conclusions regarding the archaeology of the site area.

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services was commissioned to undertake the archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the development proposals.

An approved written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services prior to works commencing on-site. A single visit to the development area was undertaken on 18th October 2010 following excavation of the area for the patio, and following construction of the main extension to the building.

Scope of the Project

Archaeological attendance and recording during groundworks associated with the extension to No 49 Angle, Pembrokeshire. The groundworks had the potential to expose, damage or destroy any underlying archaeological remains, if present. The project also included preparation of this report and an archive of the results.

Report Outline

This report describes the location of the site along with its archaeological background before summarising the watching brief results and the conclusions based on those results.

¹ Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Heritage Management.

Abbreviations

Regional Historic Environment Record – HER; Primary Record Number – PRN;
National Grid Reference – NGR; Scheduled Ancient Monument – SAM.

Illustrations

Record photographs are included at back of the report. Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale and are illustrative only.

THE SITE

Location and Topography

The site area lies on the northern side of the main road through the village of Angle, Pembrokeshire. Angle lies around 9 miles to the west of Pembroke, and on the southern side of the mouth into the Milford Haven.

The rear yard area of the property was located on a south facing slope which had been partially terraced into with the excavation for the patio area (Photo 1). The majority of the garden comprised exposed soils, some of which presumably derives from the recent groundworks associated with the digging out for the area of the new extension. The exposed surface for the patio area was relatively level (Photos 2 & 3).

Archaeological Background

The Anglo-Norman planned settlement at Angle was established by the late 12th century. The village has a characteristic central street with narrow plots running off at right angles, a concentration of high-status Medieval buildings (including St. Mary's church, a tower-house and dovecote) at the east end of the village, and a surrounding landscape of fossilized strip fields (James 2000). The church had become parochial by 1297 (Ludlow 2005).

The regional HER, held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust, records 27 known sites within 500m radius of the proposed development area. These include the medieval village itself (PRN 5700) and Neolithic Finds recovered close to the centre of the village to the east of No 49 Angle (PRN 3097). A number of post-medieval Grade II Listed Buildings are also recorded, including domestic residencies and other structures mostly located in the main centre of the village to the east (PRNs 6385, 59452, 59453, 59454, 59455, 59456, 59457, 59458, 59459, 59460, 59461, 59462, 59463 and 60003). Three medieval Scheduled Ancient Monuments are present to the east of the site, including The Tower House (PRN 3088), The Old Pigeon House (PRN 3089) and Angle Castle fortified house (PRN 3090), all of which are located over 400m to the east of No 49 Angle. The Tower House is also recorded as the post-medieval Pele Tower, a grade I Listed Building (PRN 6004). Post-medieval finds have been recovered from this area also (PRN 4385).

The medieval Church of St Mary's (PRN 3091; Grade II Listed Building) and the Sailor's Chapel in the churchyard (PRN 23825; Grade I Listed Building) are located 460m to the east of No 49 Angle.

The site of a post-medieval wreck within Angle Bay is known to the north of the Church (PRN 35013), and close by lies a modern or post-medieval stone and concrete bridge (PRN 30512).

A number of unlisted post-medieval buildings shown on earlier Ordnance Survey maps of the village are recorded on the HER, including the village school (15883), the rectory (15888) and a former blacksmith's (PRN 23826).

The medieval and post-medieval field systems are still visible in the present layout of fields to the north of No 49 Angle on North Hill (PRN 5701).

The sites recorded on the Regional Historic Environment Record a 125m radius from the centre of the site are laid out in the table below (**table 1**).

PRN	Site Name	Grid Reference	Description
3088	The Tower	SM 8661 0300	Medieval Tower House, Scheduled Ancient Monument
3089	Old Pigeon House	SM 8660 0307	Medieval Dovecote Scheduled Ancient Monument
3090	Angle Castle	SM 8654 0286	Medieval Fortified House Scheduled Ancient Monument
3091	Angle Parish Church; St Mary's	SM 86631 02905	Medieval, Post-Medieval Church, Grade II Listed Building
3097	Angle	SM 8654 0290	Neolithic Finds
4385	Angle Castle	SM 8660 0300	Post-Medieval Findspot
5700	Angle Village	SM 865 030	Medieval Village
5701	North Hill	SM 8619 0306	Medieval, Post-Medieval Field System
6385	No. 7 Angle	SM 86598 02887	Post-Medieval Cottage Grade II Listed Building
15883	Angle School	SM 8656 0294	Post-Medieval School
15888	Angle Rectory	SM 8677 0268	Post-Medieval Rectory
23825	Angle Churchyard; The Sailors Chapel	SM 86639 02926	Medieval, Post-Medieval Chapel Grade I Listed Building
23826	Angle	SM 8652 0292	Post-Medieval Blacksmiths Workshop
35012	Angle Bay	SM 8675 0293	Post-Medieval, Modern
35013	Angle Bay	SM 8672 0293	Modern
59452	Preaching Cross	SM 86629 02887	Post-Medieval Grade II Listed Building
59453	The Almshouse	SM 86550 02858	Post-Medieval Grade II Listed Building
59454	Monument To John Mirehouse	SM 86540 02932	Post-Medieval Grade II Listed Building
59455	The Globe Hotel	SM 86483 02927	Post-Medieval Grade II Listed Building
59456	No. 12 Angle	SM 86519 02913	Post-Medieval Grade II Listed Building
59457	No. 17 Angle	SM 86453 02941	Post-Medieval Grade II Listed Building
59458	No. 18 Angle	SM 86445 02946	Post-Medieval Cottage Grade II Listed Building
59459	No. 22 Angle	SM 86402 02962	Post-Medieval Cottage Grade II Listed Building
59460	No. 23 Angle	SM 86367 02972	Post-Medieval Cottage Grade II Listed Building
59461	No. 24 Angle	SM 86359 02974	Post-Medieval Cottage Grade II Listed Building
59462	No. 34 Angle	SM 85997 02993	Post-Medieval Cottage Grade II Listed Building
59463	No. 35 Angle	SM 85987 02994	Post-Medieval Cottage Grade II Listed Building
60003	Dovecote	SM 86606 03075	Post-Medieval Dovecote Grade II Listed Building
60004	Pele Tower	SM 86607 02994	Post-Medieval Castle Remains Grade I Listed Building

Table 1: Historic Environment Record entries within a 500m radius of the site centre

The 1842 Tithe Map of Angle parish (Figure 3) shows the location of No 49 Angle, although it differs slightly to the modern layout. The map shows a block representing the building, with the adjacent property to the west visible, although it is unclear if the building to the east is also shown (the block may be divided unevenly into three separate parts). Two garden areas are indicated to the rear, suggesting that only two properties were present here at this time. No lane is indicated between No 49 Angle and its neighbour to the east.

By the first edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map of the 1880s (Figure 4), the existing layout of buildings is visible, with No 49 joined to the property to the west and separated by a small land from the property to the east. Rear garden areas are shown behind the property, with an angled boundary heading north-west between No 49 and its western neighbour (different to the straight boundary on the Tithe map). A trackway is also indicated on this map leading to the north of No 49 through the garden area. This is not shown on the earlier Tithe map, although such specific detail was rarely included on these maps. Other tracks

leading northwards from other properties can be seen to the east, which presumably had the function of affording occupiers direct access to the farmland to the north on North Hill.

The second edition OS map of 1906 shows very little change from the 1880s map, except that the trackway to the north is no longer indicated for this and the other properties to the east. As the map otherwise contains good detail, it is assumed that these tracks had been removed or gone into disuse, perhaps as a result of change in farming practices.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Methodology

The archaeological watching brief consisted of a single visit being made to the site to observe groundworks associated with the main phase of ground reduction. The work was carried out on the 18th October 2010.

The northern extension to the property had already been constructed and the patio area to the north had already been excavated to the required depth. It was still possible to undertake archaeological investigation within the patio area. It was not possible to undertake any archaeological investigation within the area of the new extension.

Although the patio area had already been machine excavated to the required depth, the exposed surfaces were still visible. A series of sample areas were hand cleaned to determine the character of the exposed ground. These were undertaken using trowel and shovel.

The site area was measured in using tape offsets and tapes. A photographic and hand written record was kept of the works. An archive will be prepared of all records taken for the archaeological watching brief.

Results of Archaeological Investigation within the Patio Area

The patio area had been excavated into the south-facing slope of the garden. As far as could be ascertained, this was deepest in the north-west corner of the area, lessening to the south and south-east (Photos 1 to 3).

The material removed from the site comprised a very dark brown topsoil containing frequent fragments of 20th century debris and ceramic material. The material was very loose. The topsoil was an average of 0.44m in depth.

Beneath the topsoil was a layer of subsoil, of around 0.18m depth, comprising a dark brown clayey silt sand soil which was more compact than the layer above. The exposed surface at the base of the subsoil comprised a very mixed soil, with areas of dark topsoil areas of compacted red-brown silty sandy clay soils with small stones within. Root holes of former vegetation were also noted.

A number of sample areas were cleaned on the exposed surface to determine if natural undisturbed ground had been reached. Only a few areas of exposed natural clays were revealed in the eastern half of the area. Mostly only remnants of a mixed soil containing mixed clays and topsoil as described above.

Two larger areas were investigated in more detail and a small depth of soil was removed. One of these was located on the northern edge of the area, which revealed that the depth of mixed soils continued at least another 0.09m below the exposed level. No further material was removed here.

The second area (Photos 4 and 5) was located on the western edge of the proposed patio, where it was noted that a small patch of harder gravelled area was situated. Further cleaning in this area demonstrated that the gravelled area formed a metallised surface which was present directly below the mixed soil layer and covered an area of at least 2.5m x 1.2m, continuing beyond the cleaned area on all sides. The level of the metallised surface dropped to the east, sealed beneath a greater depth of the mixed soil to a maximum exposed depth of 0.14m below the top of the exposed surface. The full extent of the metallised surface was not exposed, as it lay below the construction layer of the patio and would thus not be disturbed by the development. A number of 18th or 19th century sherds of pottery were recovered from the top of the surface.

CONCLUSIONS

Although the watching brief cannot provide information regarding the presence or absence, character etc of any archaeology which may have been present below the extension area, it has indicated the presence of post-medieval and later activity within the area of the patio.

It would appear that the garden area of No 49 Angle had been previously built up using topsoil with a mix of rubbish and other debris dating from the 19th and 20th centuries (Photos 6 and 7). It is unclear where the material would have originated from, but could have been associated with development during the 20th century. As far as it is known, this material only partially originated from groundworks associated with the present development (soil clearance associated with levelling the extension area), the remainder appearing to be soil laid down previously. This loose topsoil layer overlay a more compact soil which may represent the original ground surface (topsoil/garden soil), and below this the subsoil cultivated up to the end of the 19th century. Root activity and evidence for the ground having been turned over (natural clay patches mixed in with the topsoil) holes were present within this buried subsoil layer.

The metalled surface found on the western side of the site area would correspond with the trackway illustrated on the 1880s OS map. The original date of construction for the trackway is unknown, but it is at least as early as the building of No 49 itself, possibly created to provide easy access for the earlier residents of the house to get to the agricultural land to the north.

The early confirm that No 49 Angle was built by the 1880s OS map, but it is not clear if it is shown on the 1842 Tithe Map, although a building is indicated in the same location. The appearance of the façade of No 49 would suggest it is of at least mid-19th century date, and thus likely to correspond with the structure shown on the 1842 Tithe Map.

The watching brief has demonstrated that the only significant archaeological feature is a metalled surface for a former trackway that survives within the patio area of the development. The trackway will be preserved beneath the patio. The watching brief has also indicated that much of the rear garden of No 49 Angle had a layer of topsoil deposited over it at some point during the 20th century. Potentially if such a layer was also present over the area of the extension it may have afforded some protection to any archaeological remains that may have been present from the development. No medieval finds or features were revealed during the watching brief works.

SOURCES

James, H. 2000 *'Angle. Settlement morphology, topography and archaeology'* unpublished Cambria Archaeology report. PRN 38747

Ludlow, N, 2005 *The Pembrokeshire Cemeteries Project Interim Report*, unpublished report 2005/138, Cambria Archaeology

Map

Ordnance Survey 1880s 1:2500 – Pembrokeshire

Ordnance Survey 1880s 1:500 - Pembrokeshire

Ordnance Survey 1906 1:12500 – Pembrokeshire

Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Land Ranger No.157

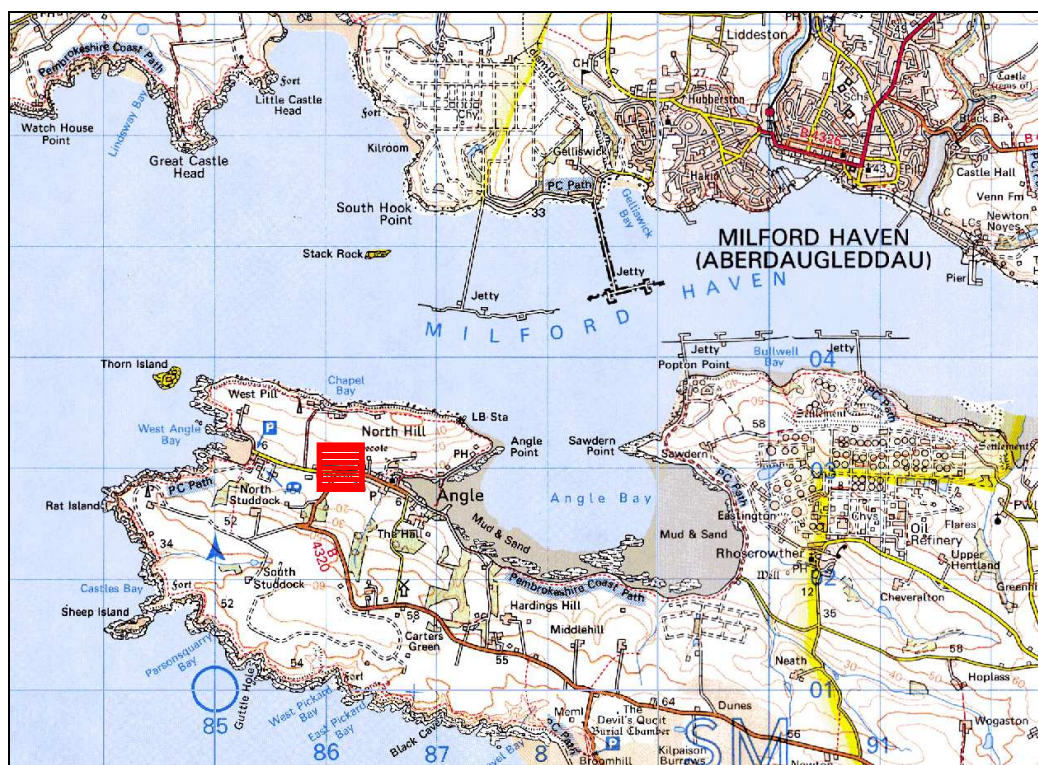


Figure 1: Location map of watching brief site based on Ordnance Survey.

Reproduced from the 1995 Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 scale Landranger Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd., The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF. Licence No AL51842A

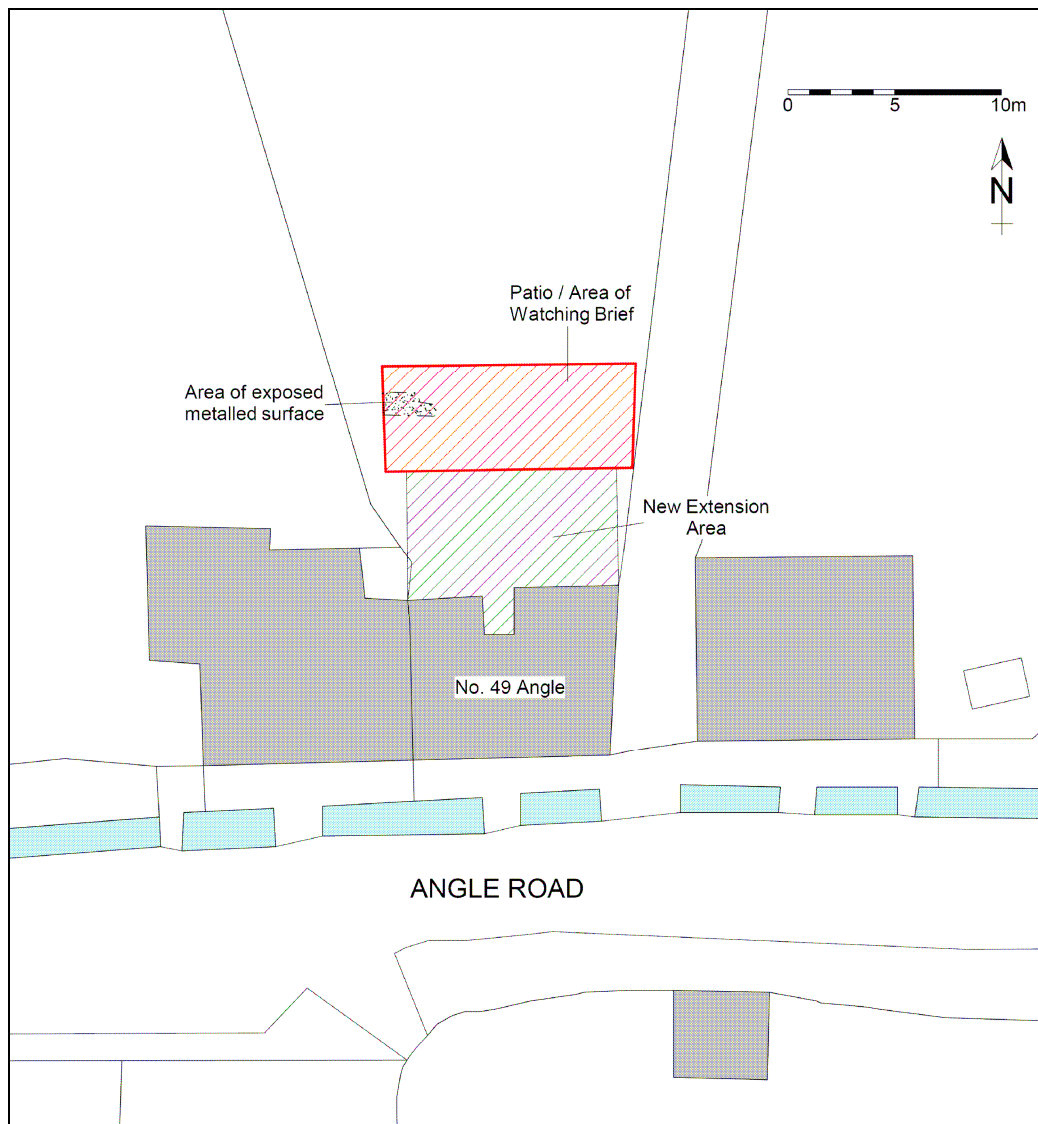


Figure 2: No 49 Angle, showing approximate location of new extension and patio area to north

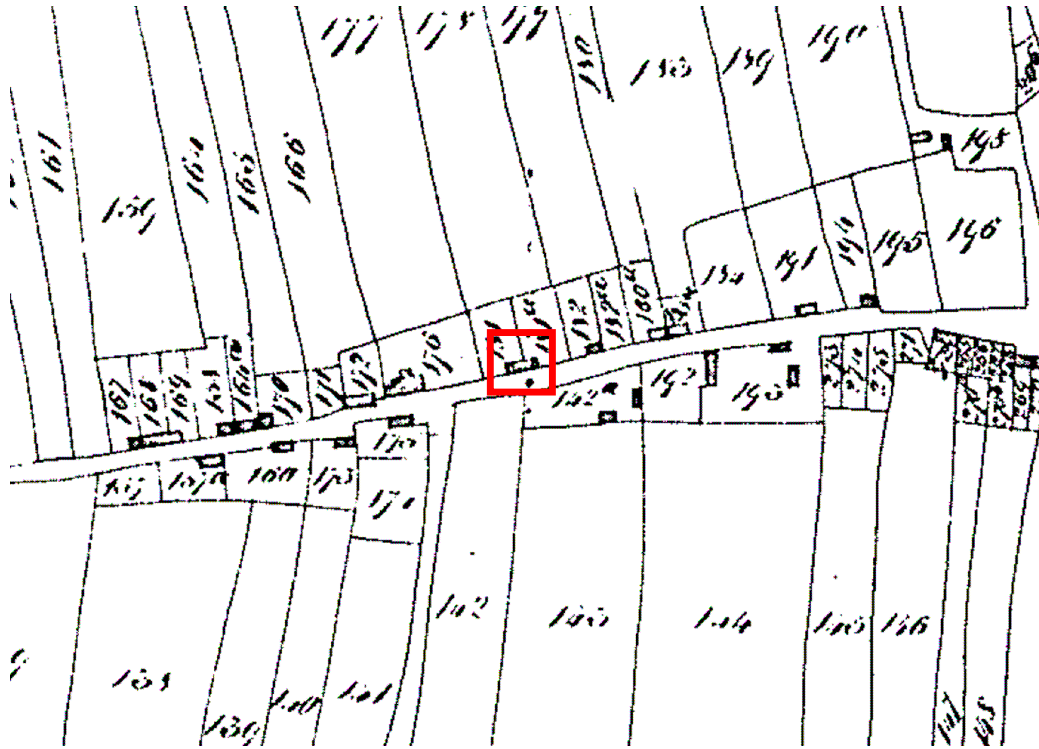


Figure 3: Extract of Angle Parish Tithe Map of 1842 centred on site area

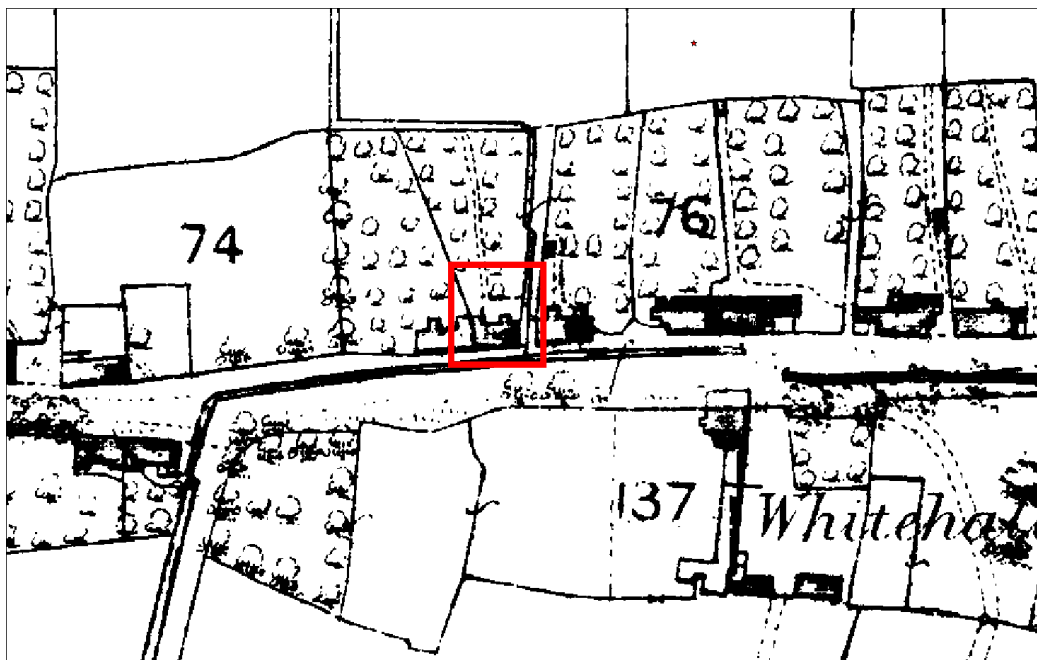


Figure 4: Extract of Ordnance Survey map (first edition 1880s) showing No 49 Angle within red boundary (and trackway leading north)

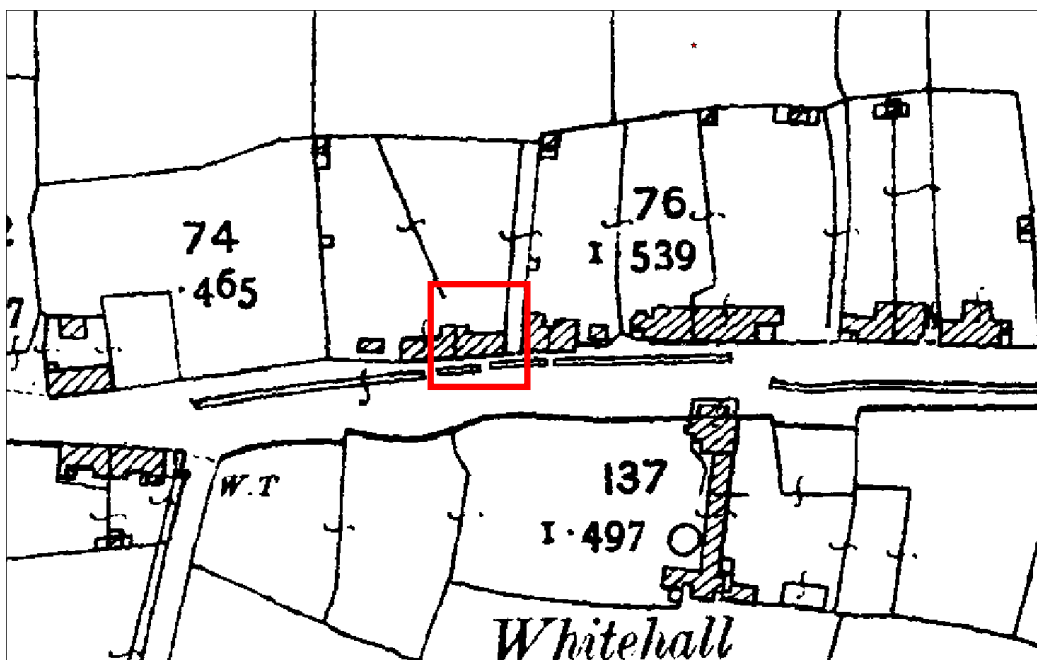


Figure 5: Extract of Ordnance Survey Map of 1906 showing No 49 Angle development area within red boundary

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Rear of No 49 Angle from north, showing new extension and raised area of garden



Photo 2: Exposed ground surface within patio area from east, seen at commencement of watching brief



Photo 3: Exposed ground surface within patio area from west, seen at commencement of watching brief



Photo 4: Exposed sample area of metallised surface seen on western edge of patio area



Photo 5: Exposed sample area of metallised surface seen on western edge of patio area



Photo 6: Rear of No 49 Angle showing patio area from northwest



Photo 7: Rear of No 49 Angle showing patio area from northeast

NO 49 ANGLE, PEMBROKESHIRE, SM 8614 0301

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

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RHIF Y PROSIECT / PROJECT RECORD NO. 100380

Rhagfyr 2010
December 2010

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by

James Meek

Swydd / Position: Head of Field Services

Llofnod / Signature  Date 06/12/2010

Mae'r adroddiad hwn wedi ei gael yn gywir a derbyn sêl bendith
This report has been checked and approved by

Duncan Schlee

ar ran Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf.
on behalf of Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

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Llofnod / Signature  Date 06/12/2010

*Yn unol â'n nôd i roddi gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel, croesawn unrhyw sylwadau
sydd gennych ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn*

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