

June 2011

JAMESTON COMMUNITY HALL, JAMESTON PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

(NGR SS 05673 98936)



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust
For: Acanthus Holden Architects



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RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2011/30
RHIF Y PROSIECT / PROJECT RECORD NO. 100747

Mehefin 2011
June 2011

JAMESTON COMMUNITY HALL, JAMESTON, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Gan / By

Simon Ratty

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE
BUDDSODDWR MEWN POBL

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf
Neuadd y Sir, Stryd Caerfyrddin, Llandeilo, Sir
Gaerfyrddin SA19 6AF
Ffon: Ymholiadau Cyffredinol 01558 823121
Adran Rheoli Treftadaeth 01558 823131
Ffacs: 01558 823133
Ebost: info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk
Gwefan: www.archaeolegdyfed.org.uk

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited
The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo,
Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF
Tel: General Enquiries 01558 823121
Heritage Management Section 01558 823131
Fax: 01558 823133
Email: info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk
Website: www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk

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JAMESTON COMMUNITY HALL, JAMESTON, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

SUMMARY

Planning permission was granted for the construction of a new extension to Jameston Community Hall, Jameston, Pembrokeshire (NGR SN 40979 20151; Planning Application Number 09/293). An archaeological watching brief condition was attached to the planning application for the development following advice from the archaeological advisors to the local planning authority. Acanthas Holden Architects, acting on behalf of the applicant, commissioned Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services to undertake the archaeological watching brief.

The archaeological planning condition was placed on the development as it lies within an area considered to have the potential to contain significant archaeological remains of medieval and post medieval date and include the possible site of a Quaker meeting house and associated burial ground. The aim of the watching brief was to identify and record any archaeological remains that might be exposed, damaged or destroyed by the development.

No remains of medieval date or later associated with the Quaker Meeting house and burial ground were revealed during the archaeological watching brief. The archaeological watching brief did however, identify and record a number of industrial period and modern archaeological remains within the development area.

The demolition debris from a former small structure on the east side of the present hall was revealed in the northeast corner of the development area along with a modern brown salt-glazed drainage pipe running across the site. These are considered to be of low archaeological interest. A pit was also revealed during the course of footings excavations on the site and may represent a burnt out tree, but it was not possible to confirm this as the feature continued beyond the edges of the excavation area.

Whilst no remains of medieval date were revealed during the course of the archaeological watching brief, it is considered that the potential for remains of medieval and later date may survive in the southern part of the development area, outside of the footprint of the extension that was not disturbed by the groundworks. Previous archaeological works undertaken on a site immediately to the east of this area revealed evidence of boundary ditches that may relate to medieval burgage plots, and further evidence of which may also be present within the southern half of the application area.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Commission

1.1.1 A planning application has been submitted for the construction of an extension to the rear of Jameston Community Hall, Jameston (planning application 09/293; NGR SS 05673 98936). An archaeological watching brief condition was placed on the application by the local planning authority following advice from Dyfed Archaeological Trust Heritage Management, their archaeological advisors. The condition placed on planning states:

'The developer shall ensure that a suitably qualified archaeologist is present during the undertaking of any ground disturbing works in the development area, so that an archaeological watching brief can be conducted'

1.2 Scope of the Project

1.2.1 The application area lies in an area considered to potentially contain archaeological remains of medieval and later date. The potential for a post-medieval Quaker Meeting House and possible associated burial ground has also been highlighted.

1.2.2 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust prior to the commencement of the works, which was approved by the planning authority prior to the commencement of works. The WSI stated that the project objectives were:

- Provision of a written scheme of investigation to outline the methodology by which Dyfed Archaeological Trust will address the planning condition placed on the proposed development;
- To monitor groundworks in order to identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
- To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed groundworks;
- To appropriately investigate and record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the groundworks; and
- To produce an archive and report of any results.

1.2.3 The overall aim of the work was to undertake archaeological attendance during the proposed groundworks at the site that had the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains, and undertake appropriate investigation and recording of any such remains if revealed.

1.3 Report Outline

1.3.1 This report describes the location of the site along with its archaeological background, and provides a summary and discussion of the archaeological evaluation and its results.

1.4 Abbreviations

1.4.1 Sites recorded on the Regional Historic Environment Record¹ (HER) are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR). Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services – DAT-FS; Written Scheme of Investigation – WSI.

1.5 Illustrations

1.5.1 Photographic images are to be found at the back of the report. Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale.

1.6 Timeline

1.6.1 The following timeline is used within this report to give date ranges for the various archaeological periods that may be mentioned within the text (Table 1).

Period	Approximate date	
Palaeolithic –	c.450,000 – 10,000 BC	Prehistoric
Mesolithic –	c. 10,000 – 4400 BC	
Neolithic –	c.4400 – 2300 BC	
Bronze Age –	c.2300 – 700 BC	
Iron Age –	c.700 BC – AD 43	
Roman (Romano-British) Period –	AD 43 – c. AD 410	Historic
Post-Roman / Early Medieval Period –	c. AD 410 – AD 1066	
Medieval Period –	1066 – 1536	
Post-Medieval Period ² –	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period –	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20th century onwards	

Table 1: Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales

¹ Held and managed by Dyfed Archaeological Trust, The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo SA19 6AF.

² The post-medieval and industrial periods are combined as the post-medieval period on the Regional Historic Environment Record as held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust



Figure 1: Site Location map of watching brief site from the Ordnance Survey.

Reproduced from the 2003 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, The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandello, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF. Licence No AL51842A

2. THE SITE

2.1 Location

2.1.1 The small village of Jameston lies on the A4139 road approximately mid-way between Tenby and Pembroke in south Pembrokeshire, Wales (Figure 1). The proposed development area (centred on NGR SS 05673 98936; Figure 2) lies to the south of the Swanlake public house with local authority housing forming its western boundary, and is bounded to the east by a Style House and garden, to the south by Landway Farm. With the exception of the present Community Hall, formerly Jameston Mission Church, the development area has been undeveloped since at least the latter part of the 19th century. Relatively recently part of the area was used by a local resident to grow potatoes.

2.1.2 The solid geology of the area is represented by Carboniferous Limestone and Millstone Grit (British Geological Survey). To the north and south of the village there are lies Devonian Old Red Sandstone, the more northerly of these forming the 'Ridgeway'. Little or nothing of the glacial drift deposits now remain in the locale, but boulder clay deposits have been recorded on the coast. The soils in the area are typical brown earths of the East Keswick 3 association (Ramsay, 2008, 3).

2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

2.2.1 No known archaeological or historical sites are located within the boundaries of the development area, however, the site lies in close proximity to eight known sites of archaeological interest recorded on the Dyfed Archaeological Trust Regional Historic Environment Record (Table 2).

PRN	Site Name	NGR	Period
7278	The Grove; Grove Green	SS 05468 98961	Post-medieval dwelling, Renovated grade II listed house
7281	Tudor Lodge	SS 06010 99032	Post-medieval grade II listed dwelling
7285	Swanlake Inn or Swan Lake Inn (see photo 1)	SS 05648 98993	Post-medieval Public House/dwelling. Grade II Listed. As a public house this building has undergone numerous extensions. Conspicuously located on an island site in the middle of Jameston.
11452	Jameston Church	SS 056 989	Medieval; post-medieval Chapel or church at Jameston, depicted on Saxton's map of Pembrokeshire, from 1578. There are no other sources for this chapel. The place-name Jameston is first recorded as 'apud Sanctu Jacob' in 1295, and again as 'Saint Jameston' in 1331
20993	Jameston Church (see photos 1 & 2)	SS 0568 9894	Post-medieval Church
24297	Jameston Meeting House	SS 0561 9899	Post-medieval Meeting House NGR illustrative only location unknown
25492	Mining earthwork	SS 056 988	Post-medieval Mining Feature / Earthwork
59521	Wesley House	SS 05672 98980	Post-medieval grade II listed house

Table 2: Known archaeological interests in close proximity to the development site

2.2.2 The history of Jameston is well outlined in the Manorbier parish section of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Landscape Characterisation report for Cadw (Murphy and Ludlow 2003), which is reprinted below

2.2.3 During the medieval period, Jameston lay within the Anglo-Norman manor of Manorbier (and Penally) which was a mesne lordship or honorial barony held, by the service of 5 knights, of the Lordship and Earldom of Pembroke, a heavily Anglicised region that was brought under Anglo-Norman control before 1100, reorganised along English manorial lines and never retaken by the Welsh. The barony had been held, since the very early 12th century, by the de Barris and, on their extinction in 1392, was sold to the Dukes of Exeter before reverting to the crown in 1461. From that point onwards it was leased to a succession of individuals before being settled on the Philippses of Picton Castle, with whom it remained until the 20th century. A number of authors have attempted to define and to date Jameston's topography. Roberts suggested that it was a pre-Norman settlement within a later, Anglo-Norman field system. However, as noted by other authors, the surrounding field system is likely to have prehistoric origins (probably bronze age), based on the prehistoric 'ridgeway' and the village appears to overlie this field system. Kissock has argued that the village has a radial plan, suggesting pre-Norman origins. However, his 'radial' plan-elements do not convince; moreover, Kissock himself acknowledged that the settlement formerly lay around a formal, rectangular village green (now infilled). An Anglo-Norman foundation is more probable. Jameston has little recorded medieval history.

2.2.4 A chapel is marked in the village on Saxton's map of 1578, presumably a chapel-of-ease of Manorbier parish, but its date is unknown. It may have been a late foundation. The place-name, recorded as 'apud Sanctu Jacob' in 1295, and again as 'Saint Jameston' in 1331, may be derived from a fair rather than from the chapel - the late 16th century source George Owen recorded that an annual fair dedicated to St James was held in the village. Jameston then appears to have been established as a manorial vill, exploiting the good-quality arable land of the locality. It was recorded in some detail in three later surveys of the Manor of Manorbier, in 1601, 1609 and 1618. It represented one of the three divisions of the manor, with a reeve responsible for rent-collection, and from the late 17th century was the scene of the manorial courts. It was the second largest vill in the manor, and had seven substantial farms, ten houses and one cottage. Corn-production in the village hinterland is confirmed by the surveys, but the loss of 22 acres of arable is recorded between 1609 and 1618. It is clear from the mention of 'four closes' in the surveys that the process of enclosure of the surrounding field strips had already begun by the early 17th century. Tenants held land by freehold, and by two forms of copyhold called 'husbandry hold' and 'censory hold', which appear to be relics of an earlier, feudal tenure. At Jameston, 5 freehold tenants rendered either cash or customary red roses. Over the three surveys, 22 husbandry tenants are recorded possessing substantial farmsteads - a total of 8 barns, 10 haggards (corn hay barns) and 7 cowhouses is recorded. The seven censory holdings seem to have had the poorest land and only one barn, and 2 cowhouses are recorded.

2.2.5 It would appear therefore that Jameston village is little larger now than it was in the 17th century. Indeed, it may have contracted; there is no field evidence for this, but the tithe map of c. 1840 shows a nucleated settlement rather smaller than at present. By 1840 the village green had been already infilled. Most of the present village buildings are of 18th- and 19th-century date, and include the church, which was not established until the 19th century. A nonconformist chapel was built in 1820 while, during the 18th century, a Quaker Meeting house and burial ground were established. Jameston still has one working farm, and a public house, but is now overwhelmingly residential in character, with two rows of 20th century housing. The annual fair has been revived.

2.2.6 *Jameston is a small historic landscape character area comprising a village situated on level ground at about 60m above sea level, and lying at the junction of the east – west A4139 road and several minor roads. It consists of a small nucleation of 18th and 19th century buildings and modern dwellings. It was an agricultural village, but now there is only one substantial working farm, with large ranges of modern agricultural buildings, located on the southern fringe of the village. High stonewalls surrounding the two-storey 19th century Swan Lake Inn (PRN 7285) constrict the main road in the centre of the village. Here there is a cluster of local limestone-built, slate roofed mainly mid-to-late 19th century dwellings. There are one- and two –storey examples, with most in the vernacular tradition, although window size and symmetry indicate leanings towards the polite 'Georgian' tradition. Small ranges of stone-built agricultural buildings of an old farm in the centre of the village have been partly converted to non-agricultural use. The Mission Hall, a small church in debased gothic style is also situated in the village core. Two substantial old farms of considerable architectural sophistication lie on the village fringe. The substantial stone-built ranges of outbuildings set informally around the courtyard of both farms have been converted to residential use. The houses are both originally 18th century. One is three storeys, firmly in the Georgian tradition with a stucco front elevation, and the other is a much altered late 18th century neo-gothic house. Modern houses, in small estates and individual dwellings, in a variety of styles and materials are interspersed with the older buildings, and maintain the tight nucleation of the village. A small caravan park is located at the east end of the village (Murphy and Ludlow 2003).*

2.2.8 Map evidence for the area indicates that the development site remained relatively unchanged since the latter part of the 19th century the only discernable changes visible being that a small building marked in the NE corner of the site and network of paths to the rear of the former Mission Church are no longer marked on early 20th century map editions.

2.3 Previous Archaeological Work

2.3.1 In 2008 an archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken by DAT-FS on a plot of land immediately to the south of the local authority housing estate and to the rear of Landway Farm.

2.3.2 The results of the evaluation revealed several linear features running from north to south across the site that were interpreted as representing ditches of former field or plot boundaries. Little dating evidence was retrieved during the evaluation. Map and other evidence indicated the presence of the boundaries up to the 1960s. However, it was not possible to determine whether they are boundaries of a strip-field system or burgage plot boundaries (Ramsay, 2008).

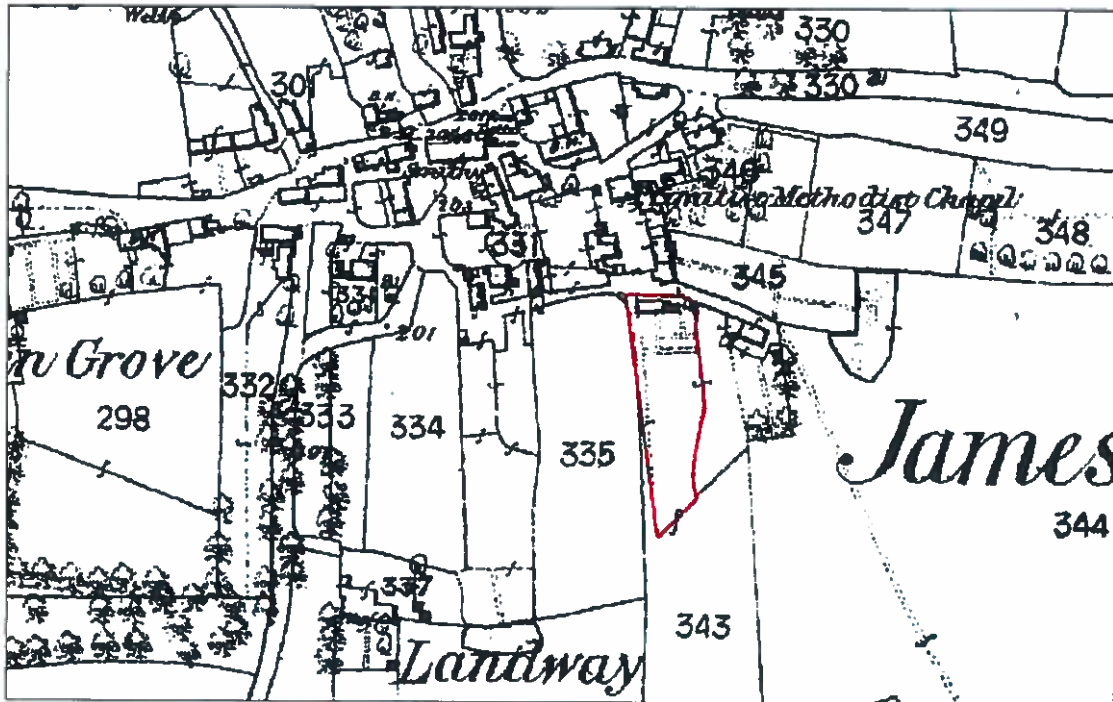


Figure 2: Extract of 1890 1:2500 scale Ordnance Survey Map of the area, with the development area shown with a red boundary

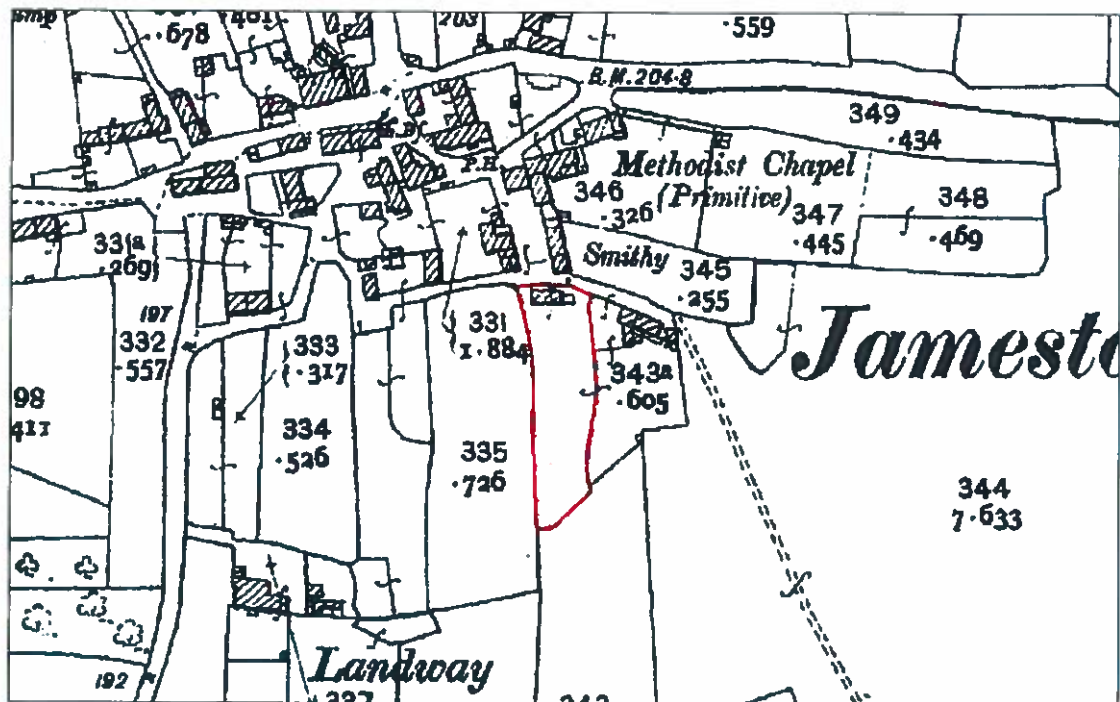


Figure 3: Extract of 1906 1:2500 scale Ordnance Survey Map of the area, with the development area shown with a red boundary

3. WATCHING BRIEF METHODOLOGY

The detailed methodology for the watching brief was laid out within the WSI. The relevant methodology can be summarised as follows.

3.1 Fieldwork

3.1.1 A 'watching brief' was undertaken during ground level reduction works at the site which had the potential to expose, damage or destroy underlying archaeological remains.

3.1.2 All archaeological deposits revealed during the groundworks were examined and recorded to an appropriate level.

3.1.3 Recording of all archaeological features or deposits conformed to best current professional practice and was carried out in accordance with the Recording Manual³ used by Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services.

3.2 Post-Fieldwork Reporting and Archiving

3.2.1 All data recovered during the fieldwork will be collated into a site archive structured in accordance with the specifications in *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2007), and the procedures recommended by the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth.

3.2.2 The results of the fieldwork have been assessed in local, regional and wider contexts. The report includes a desk-based research element to ensure that the site is placed within its wider archaeological context within Jameston.

3.2.3 A report fully representative of the results of the fieldwork has been prepared.

3.3 Timetabling of Fieldwork

3.2.7 The watching brief methodology involved monitoring of ground level reduction and levelling of the site prior to the construction of the new extension. The watching brief was undertaken over two separate site visits undertaken on 6th June and 20th June 2011 respectively.

³ Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services have adopted the Recording Manual developed by English Heritage Centre for Archaeology. A copy will be available on-site for inspection if required.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Two site visits were made to monitor groundworks at the site during June 2011.

4.2 The first site visit was undertaken on 6th June 2011 following communication from the on site contractors. On arrival it was found that vegetation had been cleared from the site. A rapid walk over of the area prior to the commencement of excavations revealed no archaeological features or deposits, although a quantity of animal bone that had been found during clearance works had been placed to one side by the on site contractors.

4.3 The excavations monitored during the first site visit consisted of ground reduction work ahead of footings excavations and affected a 13m x 10m area by a maximum depth of 0.6m. A stratigraphic sequence of a firm mid brown silty clay containing, frequent anthracite and mortar and occasional small angular stone (100) (see photo 4) overlay natural clay (101). A quantity of 19th century blue transferred '*Willow Pattern*' style ceramic material was recovered from (100) along with a cast iron down pipe fixing and short lengths of guttering. Animal bone was also recovered. None of this material was retained.

4.4 A single sherd of cobalt blue glass embossed with a cross hatched design was also recovered. The glass sherd was relatively unusual and would have formed part of a glass target ball. The ball would have originally been stuffed with feathers or powder and would have been thrown into the air as a target to be shot at, in the same manner as modern day clay pigeons. The ball would shatter when hit and the feathers or powder would have simulated a real bird that had been shot in flight. Target ball shooting was a popular sport during the late 1870s but began to decline within a decade following the introduction of the clay pigeon and by the early part of the 20th century had ceased.

4.5 Two archaeological features were revealed by the ground reduction works. The first was a 1.2m high pile of dumped stone (102) (see photo 5) in the northeast corner of the area, located directly upon the natural clay. The stone pile (102) had been dumped against the adjacent hedgebank forming the boundary of the adjacent property. A number of fragments of black, tin glazed earthenware vessels were recovered from the dumped stone and may point to a date of anywhere between the 18th century through to the 20th century, the period when earthenware was most popular. In addition to the tin glazed pottery a number of glass bottle fragments were recovered along with a single complete early 20th century white glazed stoneware bottle. The majority of the glass bottle fragments dated between the latter part of the 19th through to the early 20th century. They included a partial example embossed '*Buckley Bros Llanelly*'. This indicates the bottle was produced prior to 1883, at which time the company is renamed '*Buckleys Brewery Ltd*'. A single base of late 17th to early 18th century wine bottle was also recovered from (102), but this lay in close proximity to the later material and was considered to be redeposited.

4.6 Late 19th century mapping of the area shows a small outbuilding at NGR SS 05620 98933, although no structure is visible on early 20th century map editions. It is known that an application was approved for the enlargement of Jameston Mission Church (present Community Hall building) sometime between 1905 and 07, but it is not known if this work was actually carried out⁴. It is considered likely that stone pile (102) represents the demolition debris from the removal of the building shown on the earlier mapping. It is considered to be of low archaeological interest.

4.7 The second archaeological feature revealed was a 20th century saltglazed stoneware drainage pipe (103), (see photo 6) which ran across the site area. On removal it was found that red Goodwick brick had been laid beneath the pipe joints. Goodwick brickworks was founded in 1908 as the Fishguard Harbour Brickworks Ltd before becoming Goodwick Brickworks Ltd in 1910, following reorganisation. At its height during the early 1940s the company was producing 120,000 bricks per week and was purchased by the British Anthracite Co Ltd in 1946. With production down to 60000 bricks per week the brickworks closed in 1969 with the loss of 30 jobs. The stoneware drainage pipe it considered to be of low archaeological interest, and may have removed any earlier archaeological remains which lay below its length.

4.8 A second site visit was made on June 20th 2011 to monitor footings excavations ahead of the new development, as in places the ground reduction had not reached below the topsoil and so any archaeological remains that may have been present could not be seen. The footings excavated were 0.7m wide with an average depth of 0.88m. A 2.5m wide band of heavily compacted mid red brown clay (104) (see photo 7) was revealed within the footings trench which represents the natural geology. However, the footings excavations revealed that to the south of the sides of the footings trench the ground had been raised and was very mixed with small inclusions of charcoal, mid yellow brown and reddish brown clay (105). At NGR SS 20567 98931 an irregular pit was revealed [107] (see photo 8), the full extent of the pit was unclear as it continued beyond the edges of the excavation area. It measured at least 1.8m x 1.5m with a maximum depth of 0.48m. Pit [107] was filled with a very dark brown clay silt with common charcoal flecks (106), no dating evidence was recovered from the excavated area of the pit. The irregular nature of pit [107] suggests it may have been a tree bole where the stump had been burnt in order to facilitate removal, although it was not possible to prove this.

4.9 No further archaeological features or deposits were revealed during the programme of footings excavations.

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 The archaeological watching brief undertaken at the development site to the rear of Jameston Community Hall did not identify any features of medieval or earlier date. No evidence for a Quaker Meeting house, its associated burial ground or mining remains were revealed. The earliest material recovered from the development site was the base of a late 17th to early 18th century wine bottle, although this was found in a dump of later material.

5.2 A number of features of industrial and modern period date were identified within the site area. These included a pile of material demolition from a former small building on the site, and a modern saltglazed stoneware drain pipe. These are considered to date from between the latter part of the 19th century through until the 20th century and are considered to be of low archaeological significance. An irregular pit containing charcoal flecks was also identified and may indicate the former position of a tree that had been subsequently burnt.

5.3 The groundworks associated with the construction of the proposed extension to Jameston Community Hall have had a minimal impact on any buried archaeological remains within its footprint. However, it remains unclear whether any further archaeological remains lie within the areas around the footprint of the new building, in particular to the south which was undisturbed during these works. Previous archaeological work on a plot of land immediately to the east of the development area revealed evidence of former boundaries that may relate to former burgage plots, and such evidence could project into the southern part of the application area.

6. SOURCES

6.1 Map

Ordnance Survey, 1:2500 1st Edition Pembrokeshire Sheet XL SE 1881

Ordnance Survey, 1:2500 2nd Edition Pembrokeshire Sheet XL SE 1908

6.2 Published and Unpublished

Murphy, K & Ludlow, N, 2003 *Historic Landscape characterisation of Pen Caer, Newport and Carn Ingli, Manorbier, and Stackpole Warren*. Dyfed Archaeological Trust Report No. 2003/6 for CADW

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Swanlake Inn Jameston (PRN 7285).



Photo 2: Jameston Church facing SE (PRN 20993).



Photo 3: Jameston Church facing NE (PRN 20993).



Photo 4: General view of site following stripping.



Photo 5: Demolition rubble (102) facing east.



Photo 6: East facing section of footings trench, clay band (104) to rear.



Photo 7: Modern drainage pipe (103) facing SW.



Photo 8: Pit [107] facing south.

APPENDIX I: CONTEXT AND SOIL DESCRIPTIONS

Number	Description	Depth
Layer 100	Firm mid brown silty clay containing frequent anthracite and mortar fragments and occasional small angular stone.	0.4m
Layer 101	Natural Firm mid yellow brown clay	0.2m
Layer 102	Demolition rubble 3m long pile of friable mid brown silty clay containing abundant medium to large angular stone. Glass and ceramic material recovered but not retained	1.4m
Layer 103	Drainage pipe NE – SE aligned brown saltglazed drainage pipe laid on bed of red brick	
Layer 104	Natural 2.5m wide band of firm mid red brown natural clay	0.88m
Layer 105	Disturbed layer Friable mid yellow brown clay silt containing charcoal flecks and occasional small to medium angular stone.	0.88m
Layer 106	Fill of pit [107] Firm dark brown clay silt containing abundant charcoal flecks	0.48m
Cut [107]	Pit 1.8 x 1.5m irregular sided pit full extend unknown as continued beyond excavation area. Full depth unknown.	0.48m

Table 3: Context and Soil Descriptions

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

SIMON RATTY

Swydd / Position: ARCHAEOLOGIST

Llofnod / Signature  Date 28/06/2011

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

JAMES MEEK

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

Swydd / Position: HEAD OF FIELD SERVICES

Llofnod / Signature  Date 28/06/2011

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

*As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any
comments you may have on the content or presentation of this report*

