

# **KINGSFOLD JUNCTION, MAIDEN WELLS, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF 2011**



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust  
For: Atkins Ltd / Pembrokeshire County  
Council



ymddiriedolaeth archaeolegol  
**DYFED**  
archaeological trust



## DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2011/38  
RHIF Y PROSIECT / PROJECT RECORD NO. 102244

Medi 2011  
September 2011

# KINGSFOLD JUNCTION, MAIDEN WELLS, PEMBROKESHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Gan / By

**Philip Poucher**

*Paratowyd yr adroddiad yma at ddefnydd y cwsmer yn unig. Ni dderbynnir cyfrifoldeb gan Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf am ei ddefnyddio gan unrhyw berson na phersonau eraill a fydd yn ei ddarllen neu ddibynnu ar y gwybodaeth y mae'n ei gynnwys*

*The report has been prepared for the specific use of the client. Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited can accept no responsibility for its use by any other person or persons who may read it or rely on the information it contains.*



**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](mailto:info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk)  
Gwefan: [www.archaeolegdyfed.org.uk](http://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](mailto:info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk)*  
*Website: [www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk)*

Cwmni cyfyngedig (1198990) ynghyd ag elusen gofrestredig (504616) yw'r Ymddiriedolaeth.  
The Trust is both a Limited Company (No. 1198990) and a Registered Charity (No. 504616)  
CADEIRYDD CHAIRMAN: C R MUSSON MBE B Arch FSA MIFA.  
CYFARWYDDWR DIRECTOR: K MURPHY BA MIFA



**KINGSFOLD JUNCTION, MAIDEN WELLS, PEMBROKESHIRE**  
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**CONTENTS**

<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1. INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1.1 Project Commission</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1.2 Scope of the Project</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>1.3 Report Outline</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1.4 Abbreviations</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1.5 Illustrations</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1.6 Timeline</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. THE SITE</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2.1 Location and Topography</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2.2 Archaeological Background</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>3. METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>5. CONCLUSIONS</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>6. SOURCES</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT AND SOIL DESCRIPTIONS</b>	<b>30</b>
 <b>ILLUSTRATIONS</b>	
<b>Figure 1:</b> Location map of watching brief site based on the Ordnance Survey	<b>4</b>
<b>Figure 2:</b> Plan and section of proposed development (as supplied by Atkins Ltd).	<b>6</b>
<b>Figure 3:</b> Extract from the 1874 Ordnance Survey map.	<b>9</b>
 <b>TABLES</b>	
<b>Table 1:</b> Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales	<b>3</b>
<b>Table 2:</b> Historic Environment Record entries within a 800m radius of the development area	<b>7</b>
<b>Table 3:</b> Context and soil descriptions	<b>30</b>

## PHOTOGRAPHS

<b>Photo 1:</b>	General view of development looking WSW during topsoil strip	17
<b>Photo 2:</b>	General view of central field, looking northeast	17
<b>Photo 3:</b>	General view looking northeast of eastern field during topsoil strip	18
<b>Photo 4:</b>	Looking WSW across site during topsoil strip	18
<b>Photo 5:</b>	Topsoil revealed during strip	19
<b>Photo 6:</b>	Topsoil layer 101 revealed in section	19
<b>Photo 7:</b>	Showing the distinction between subsoil 109 and topsoil 103	20
<b>Photo 8:</b>	As photo 7	20
<b>Photo 9:</b>	Looking SSE towards well site (105), showing topsoil 103 with modern rubbish visible	21
<b>Photo 10:</b>	Looking east at stone and mortar spread 104 in relation to the edge of the former cottage enclosure	21
<b>Photo 11:</b>	Closer view of the stone and mortar spread 104	22
<b>Photo 12:</b>	Looking east at well 105	22
<b>Photo 13:</b>	Looking north at well 105	23
<b>Photo 14:</b>	Looking SSE along the machine-cleaned drainage channel 108 for well 105, showing infill 106	23
<b>Photo 15:</b>	Looking NNW at palaeochannel 112	24
<b>Photo 16:</b>	Looking SW at palaeochannel 112	24
<b>Photo 17:</b>	Looking SW at palaeochannel 112 after rolling, still visible as a darker strip that is gathering water	25
<b>Photo 18:</b>	Typical view of subsoil 114	25
<b>Photo 19:</b>	Looking SE along machine-cleaned drainage ditch 119 that ran alongside the former field boundary between the western and central fields	26
<b>Photo 20:</b>	East facing section of the culvert dug between the western and central fields, showing deposits 103, 109 and 110	26
<b>Photo 21:</b>	Subsoil deposit 118	27
<b>Photo 22:</b>	Looking SW across the eastern and central fields after topsoil strip	27
<b>Photo 23:</b>	Looking WSW across the western field after the topsoil strip	28
<b>Photo 24:</b>	Looking NNE at the remains of a cottage alongside the B4319 at Kingsfold Junction	28
<b>Photo 25:</b>	Looking SE at the remains of the cottage on the east side of the B4319 at Kingsfold Junction	29

## **KINGSFOLD JUNCTION, MAIDEN WELLS, PEMROKESHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

### **SUMMARY**

*A planning application (Planning Ref: 10/0354/PA) was submitted to Pembrokeshire County Council for the construction of proposed road improvements at Kingsfold Junction, Maiden Wells, Pembrokeshire (NGR SM 97848 99770). The development area lies close to the site of a prehistoric burnt mound, flint working site and a possible standing stone. It also lies within 800m of an early medieval church, several post-medieval buildings (including one cottage and well within the development area) and a World War II gun emplacement. Due to the archaeological potential of the site a condition was placed upon planning permission requiring the attendance of an archaeologist during groundworks to undertake an archaeological watching brief.*

*Craig Kearney of Atkins Ltd commissioned Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services (DAT-FS) to undertake the archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the development. The watching brief was undertaken between 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2011 and 12<sup>th</sup> August 2011.*

*Remains of the mid/late 19<sup>th</sup> century to later 20<sup>th</sup> century cottage enclosure were identified as an area of darker garden soils. The cottage itself had previously been demolished and in situ structural remains were not recorded, although a large amount of loose building stone remained on site. Remains of a well to the rear of the cottage site were recorded, a simple stone-built structure lying within the development area.*

*The topsoil across the rest of the site was a relatively uniform plough soil, between 0.2m and 0.3m deep. This contained a spread of mainly domestic 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery and glass fragments, but also included two flint flakes that may be prehistoric in origin. The flint flakes came from two separate fields, but both within c.20m to 30m of the site of a spring and prehistoric burnt mound (PRN 585).*

*Remains of a former palaeochannel were also recorded heading in the direction of the spring. The feature was not excavated and nothing of archaeological significance was noted within the fill.*

*A sequence of undisturbed reddish-brown subsoils mixed with shattered sandstone bedrock were recorded underlying the plough soil across the site. Nothing of archaeological significance was noted within these subsoil deposits across the site.*

*The proposed development involved building up ground levels above these deposits, so no further archaeological remains are likely to be exposed, damaged or destroyed. Overall the development has had a minimal impact on the archaeological resource within the area.*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Project Commission**

- 1.1.1 A planning application (Planning Ref: 10/0354/PA) was submitted to Pembrokeshire County Council for the construction of proposed road improvements at Kingsfold Junction, Maiden Wells, Pembrokeshire (NGR SM 97848 99770).
- 1.1.2 Pembrokeshire County Council's (PCC) archaeological advisors<sup>1</sup> requested that the following condition be placed upon the planning permission, which states:  
  
*"No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of recording in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority." Reason: To protect historic environment interests whilst enabling development of the site.*
- 1.1.3 The condition has been placed on the development as the site lies in close proximity to a number of significant archaeological assets namely: a prehistoric burnt mound (PRN 585), a Mesolithic findspot (PRN 12239) and a Neolithic/Mesolithic flint working site (PRN586).
- 1.1.4 Craig Kearney of Atkins Ltd commissioned Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services (DAT-FS) to undertake the archaeological watching brief during groundworks at the site.
- 1.1.5 The development involved topsoil stripping and cutting new culverts along the route of the proposed road improvements, the road itself is then to be built up above existing ground levels. The archaeological watching brief was required to observe ground works which had the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains. The watching brief was undertaken during the topsoil strip and the cutting of the new culverts along the proposed route way.
- 1.1.6 An approved written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services prior to works commencing on-site. A total of nine site visits to the development area were undertaken between 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2011 and 12<sup>th</sup> August 2011 to monitor the ground works which had the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains.

### **1.2 Scope of the Project**

- 1.2.1 The project objectives as stated within the WSI were:
  - *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.*
  - *To produce an archive and report of any results.*

---

<sup>1</sup> Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Heritage Management.



### 1.3 Report Outline

- 1.3.1 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.

### 1.4 Abbreviations

- 1.4.1 Sites recorded on the Regional Historic Environment Record<sup>2</sup> (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 Record photographs are included at back of the report. Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale and are illustrative only.

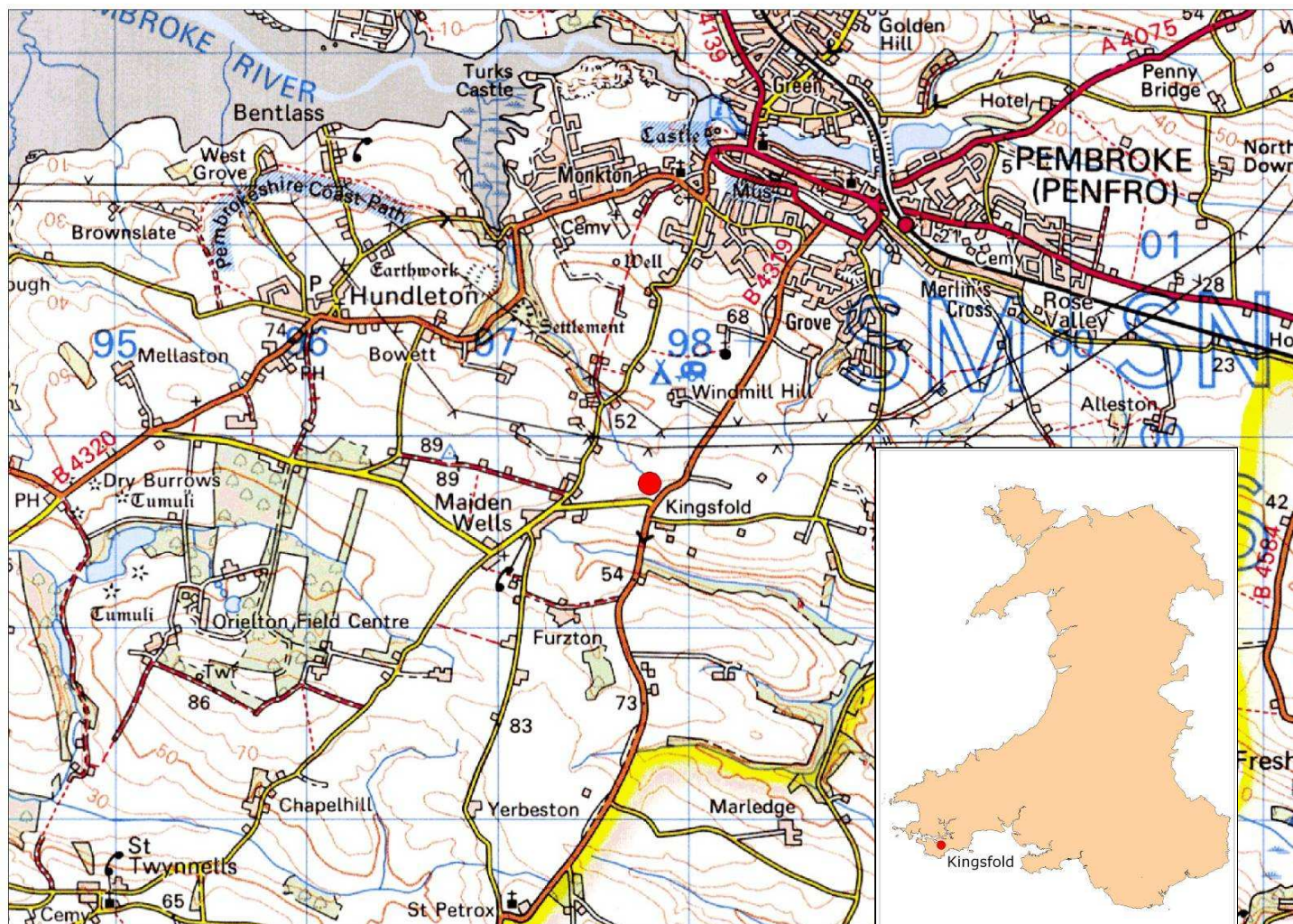
### 1.6 Timeline

- 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 –	1536 – 1899	
Modern –	20th century onwards	

**Table 1:** Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales

<sup>2</sup> Held and managed by Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Shire Hall, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, SA19 6AF.



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

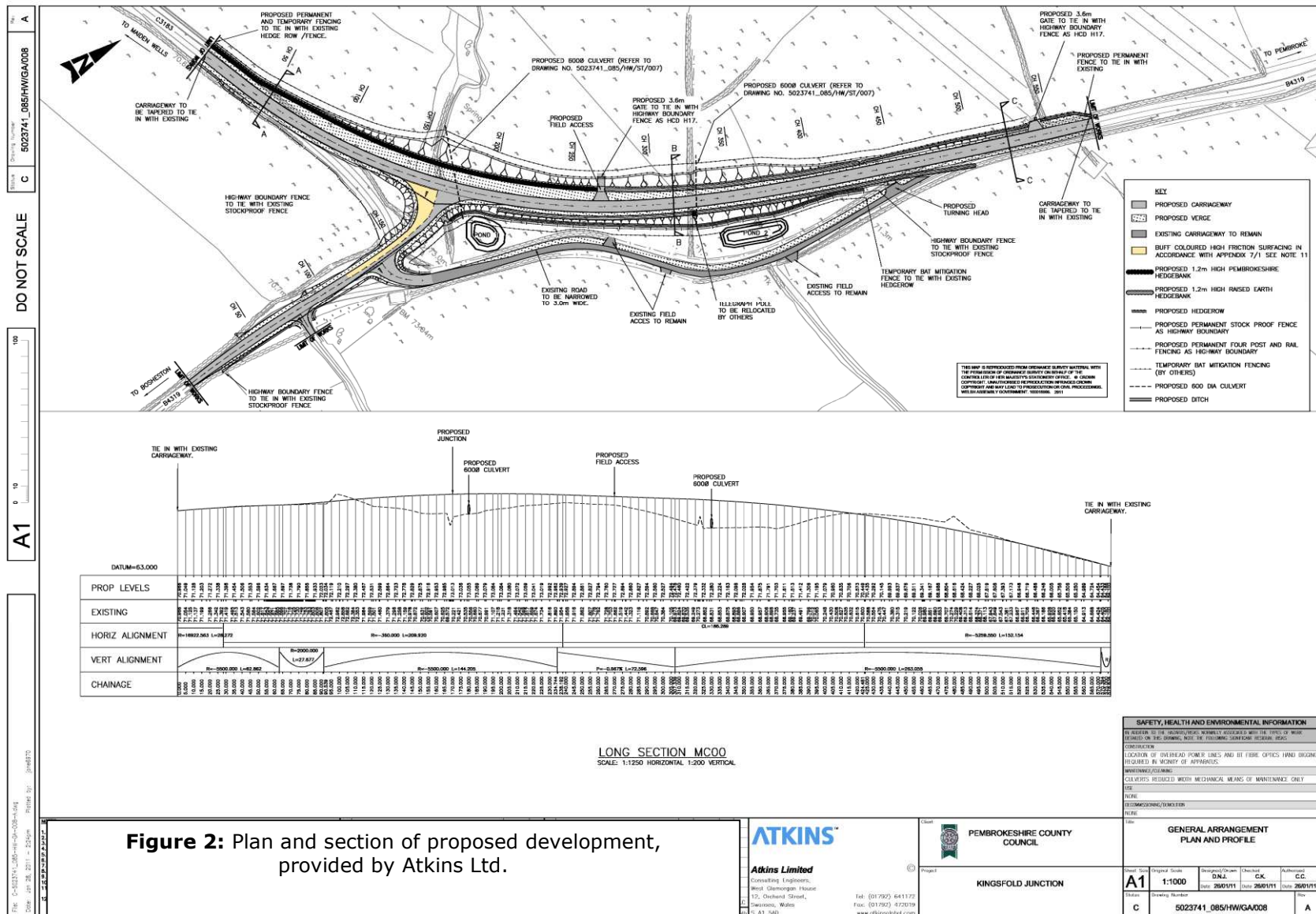
Reproduced from the 2003 Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 scale Landranger Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed Archaeological Trust, The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF. Licence No AL51842A

## **2. THE SITE**

### **2.1 Location and Topography**

- 2.1.1 Kingsfold Junction lies at the junction of the current B4319 between Pembroke and Castlemartin, and the C3183 to Maiden Wells. The junction lies 1.7km to the south of Pembroke in an undulating, mainly agricultural landscape. The land drops into a small east-west valley a short distance to the south of the road junction. The village of Maiden Wells lies a short distance to the west of the development area.
- 2.1.2 The main part of the proposed new route crosses through pasture fields to the northwest of the current junction. The site had been fenced off and cleared of vegetation prior to the commencement of groundworks observed by an archaeologist. The proposed route passed through three field, bounded by hedgebanks.
- 2.1.3 The south-eastern corner of the development area, adjacent to the road junction, appears to have been scrub covered around the site of a former cottage. Some tumbled stonework and mortar were noted in this area during an initial site visit prior to the preparation of the WSI. A disused well lies behind this former cottage site, which drains into an adjacent former field boundary.
- 2.1.4 The underlying geology comprises interbedded argillaceous rocks and sandstone of the Milford Haven Group, changing to sandstone of the Ludlow Rocks group, this is overlaid with some mudstone of the Aber Mawr shale formation in the valley immediately to the south.





## 2.2 Archaeological Background

2.2.1 An initial search of the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) revealed that 18 known sites of archaeological or historical interest lie within an 800m radius of the approximate centre of the roadline. These are shown in Table 1 below:

PRN	Site Name	NGR	Details
585	Kingsfold	SR 9776 9979	Prehistoric Burnt Mound, Finds
586	Priory Moor	SR 975 998	Neolithic, Mesolithic Flint Working Site
3279	St Deiniol's; St Daniel's	SM 9821 0047	Medieval; Post-Medieval Church, Chapel
3288	St Daniel's Churchyard	SM 9819 0047	Roman Findspot
5805	Windmill Hill	SM 9796 0053	Unknown Earthwork
5806	Windmill Hill	SM 9796 0050	Unknown Earthwork
5807	Windmill Hill	SM 9793 0047	Unknown Earthwork
5808	Windmill Hill	SM 9791 0048	Unknown Earthwork
5809	Windmill Hill	SM 9792 0051	Unknown Earthwork
12239	Kingsfold	SR 977 995	Findspot Mesolithic Object Finds
13018	St Deiniol's Church	SM 9831 0047	Post-Medieval Rubbing Stone
15965	Kingsfold Bridge	SR 9774 9939	Post-medieval bridge
33863	The Wells	SR 9725 9962	Post-Medieval Public House
33864		SR 9735 9973	Post-Medieval Blacksmiths Workshop
46845	St Deiniol's; St Daniel's	SM 9821 0047	Early medieval Churchyard
47440	Windmill Hill Farm	SM 98148 00377	Bronze Age Standing Stone or Post-Medieval, Rubbing Stone
60337	Church Of Saint Daniel	SM 98212 00476	Post-Medieval Church
60607	Lychgate To Churchyard Of Church Of Saint Daniel	SM 98213 00505	Post-Medieval Lychgate

**Table 2:** Sites Recorded on the Regional HER within 800m radius of the approximate centre of the site

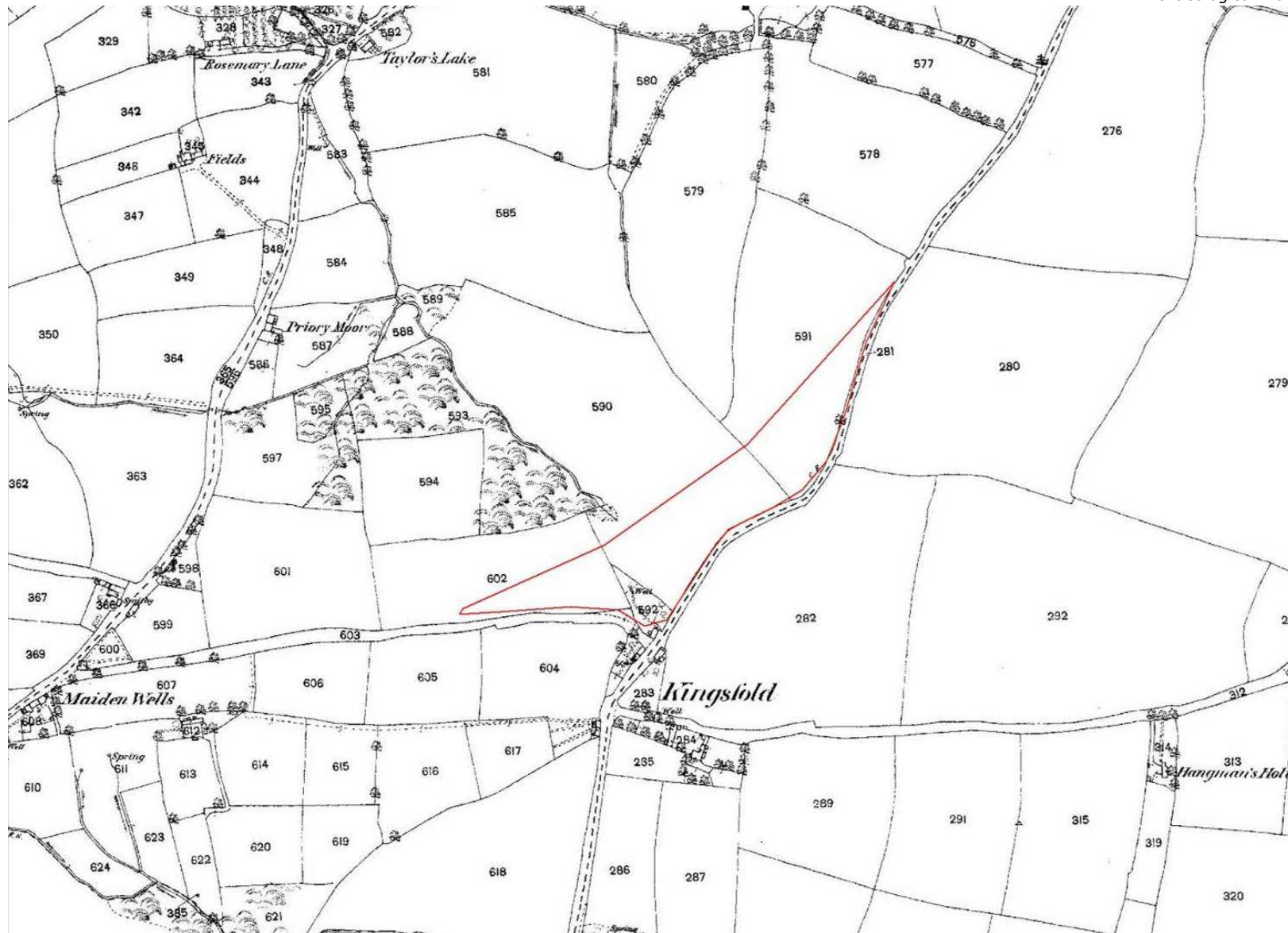
2.2.2 The sites include a number of earthworks (PRNs 5805, 5806, 5807, 5808 and 5809) (recorded on the HER as being of unknown date) in an area directly to the north of the site (and Windmill Hill Farm) which are associated with the World War II heavy artillery gun battery situated on top of the hill. Research into these structures has been undertaken by Roger Thomas which indicates the battery comprises four gun pits, a command post and further L-shaped hut. This battery lies c.800m to the north of the centre of the proposed roadline. Two high frequency direction finder aerials lay c.430m to the east of the roadline which were also presumably associated with the battery

2.2.3 The site of St Daniels (or Deniols) Church (PRNs 3279, 13018 & 60337) lies c.800m to the north-northeast of the centre of the roadline. The church is likely to have early medieval origins. The church area also contains a churchyard (PRN 46845) and a lychgate (60607). St Daniels Church is a Grade I Listed Building and the lychgate is Grade II Listed. A Roman find has also been recovered from the churchyard (PRN 3288).

2.2.4 The site of a Blacksmiths is recorded in Maiden Wells some 530m to the west (PRN 33864), as is the site of The Wells public house at around 600m to the west (PRN 33865). Both sites are recorded on the 1906 Ordnance Survey map of the area. The buildings are shown on the earlier 1890s map, but not labelled. The post-medieval Kingsfold Bridge lies around

400m to the south of the centre of the roadline (PRN 15965). This lies in close proximity to the 'Great Ditch of Pencoyte', a stream course or drain which is mentioned in a charter of Henry II. The stream course defined the boundary of the town of Pembroke, 'the limits of the area privilege for its market' (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales Reference NPRN 33199).

- 2.2.5 Three prehistoric sites are also known in close proximity to the roadline. These include a Mesolithic or Neolithic flint working site on Priory Moor around 440m to the west of the roadline (PRN 586). A further Mesolithic findspot is located close to Kingsfold Bridge around 400m to the south of the centre of the proposed roadline. The presence of flint working activity in two areas close to the site indicates that there is a good potential for further finds of this date to be present within the proposed route of the roadline. Mesolithic material usually comprises the remains of flint working waste flakes and some tools, but very rarely do you find any associated features (remains of buildings, pits etc) in this area of the United Kingdom.
- 2.2.6 Around 130m to the west lies the site of a Burnt Mound, identified close to the source of a spring (PRN 585). Burnt mounds are typically of Bronze Age date and are evident as an accumulation of heat affected stone, often associated with a small trough or pit. It is likely that the stone was heated in a bonfire before being dropped into the water trough or water filled pit, rapidly heating the water. Once cooled, the stone was removed and piled up nearby. It is uncertain if the pits represent ritual cooking sites (feasts or celebrations) or a means by which steam was produced for saunas or industrial processes (bending wooden staves etc). Burnt mounds are often found in groups, and thus there is a potential for further evidence for burnt mounds to be present within the adjacent roadline.
- 2.2.7 Early Ordnance Survey (OS) maps indicate that three buildings stood on the junction of the C3183 and B4319. One lay to the northwest of the junction, one to the east and one to the southwest. They are still indicated on the 1938-54 maps OS map. Only the building to the northwest and east are shown on the 1964 OS map and by the OS map of 1974 only the building to the east is shown. This ruinous structure is still present today (Photo 24 and 25). The 1841 Tithe map shows only the building to the southwest and east, neither named in the Tithe record other than noted as being cottages and gardens (occupied by John Rees and Richard Price respectively, and belonging to the large estate owned by Sir John Owen). The former house to the northwest is thus mid - later 19<sup>th</sup> century in date, and the other two are likely to be of late 18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century date. Only the site of the northwestern cottage will be affected by the proposed works.



**Figure 3:** Extract from the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map of 1874. The development area is highlighted in red.

### **3. METHODOLOGY**

- 3.1 The detailed methodology for the watching brief was laid out within the WSI. The relevant methodology can be summarised as follows:
- A 'watching brief' was undertaken at the commencement of groundworks at the site that had the potential to expose, damage or destroy underlying archaeological remains.
  - All archaeological deposits revealed during the groundworks were examined and recorded to an appropriate level.
  - Recording of all archaeological features or deposits conformed to best current professional practice and was carried out in accordance with the Recording Manual<sup>3</sup> used by Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services.
- 3.2 The topsoil strip was undertaken using one, sometimes two, tracked medium-sized excavators using a combination of toothed and toothless buckets. Culverts were excavated using a tracked mini-excavator using a toothless bucket (Photos 1-4). Topsoil remained on site.
- 3.3 The archaeological watching brief consisted of a total of nine site visits over two consecutive weeks to observe these groundworks. The work was carried out between the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2011 and 12<sup>th</sup> August 2011.

---

<sup>3</sup> Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services have adopted the Recording Manual developed by English Heritage Centre for Archaeology.



#### **4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS**

- 4.1 Prior to the development the area had been divided between three fields, with a triangular enclosure at the road junction between the western field and the central field. This enclosure formerly housed a small cottage, as seen on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map (Figure 3), and an associated well is still marked within this enclosure on more current Ordnance Survey mapping.
- 4.2 The triangular enclosure is likely to have contained demolished or tumbled remains of the former cottage, and some stonework was noted by the machine driver during clearance works. A large pile of unworked, but roughly square boulders had been piled up in the corner of the development area, presumably originating from the cottage structure. This area appears to have contained rough scrub, and topsoil deposits in this area were significantly darker.
- 4.3 This topsoil (103) consisted of a dark grey-brown clayey-silt with frequent flecks of charcoal and was heavily rooted in places (photos 7 – 9). There was a distinct straight edge to this deposit that appeared to correspond to the division between the western field and the triangular cottage enclosure. This darker topsoil occurs only within this former cottage enclosure and most likely represents a garden soil (regularly worked, cultivated and manured). An initial spoil heap was sited in this area and it was heavily used by machinery making it difficult to identify individual features within this deposit. The area had clearly been used as a dumping ground during the later 20<sup>th</sup> century, as modern plastic material was recovered from the deposit along with a mix of 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery and glassware, including some complete bottles dating from the late 19<sup>th</sup> to late 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- 4.4 A small patch of mortared stonework (104) was recorded just beyond (to the south of) the southern corner of this triangular area (photos 10 & 11). This patch measured c.2.3m by c.1.2m, located close to the roadside verge. The ground was disturbed and the stonework also included large pieces of concrete indicating a more recent date for this material.
- 4.5 Remains of the well marked on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century maps were still visible within this triangular enclosure (105). The remains comprised a roughly circular ring of unworked large sub-angular stones enclosing an area at most 1.3m in diameter (photos 12 & 13). Roughly two courses of stonework remained visible above the ground, of drystone construction, incorporating the remains of a rusted iron strap along one side, although this did not appear to be structural. The stone appeared to be a mix of greystone, similar to the material from which it appears the cottages were constructed, with the occasional block of conglomerate which may have been locally sourced.
- 4.6 The well appears to have been out of use for some time, and modern rubbish had been dumped in the vicinity. The interior of the well was 0.5m deep, and filled with a very soft dark brown-grey silty clay (106) with no obvious inclusions. When probed, this deposit proved to be c.0.4m deep, overlying large stones (presumably the main backfill of the well – possibly originating from demolition of the adjacent structure).
- 4.7 A shallow U-shaped ditch (108) drains the well, running northwest for several metres before curving around to the north to join the field boundary ditch (119) of the central field (photo 14). This drainage ditch was 2.7m wide and at most 0.6m deep, although it had largely filled with a dark-brown clayey silt (107).

- 4.8 The ditch was cleaned out by machine and then lined and infilled with stone to provide a modern drainage channel, the upper section of the well was also removed and capped with further material and stone, although lower deposits are likely to remain intact.
- 4.9 The field boundaries that crossed the development area had been removed prior to the topsoil strip being undertaken although the line of these boundaries was still visible in the intact drainage ditches that formerly accompanied the boundaries. Remnants of the boundary between the western and central field remained, indicating a former hedgebank, with a ditch (119) along its eastern side. The boundary between the central field and the eastern field ran along what may have been a former stream course and contained a recently installed culvert.
- 4.10 The topsoil across the three fields (100, 101 & 102) appeared fairly consistently to be comprised of a friable mid reddish-brown clayey-silt, averaging c.0.3m in depth (photos 4 – 6). The depth varied slightly, generally shallower (averaging c.0.2m deep) in the western field, and also becoming shallow across the highest ground within the central field. This topsoil appeared to represent a well-mixed ploughsoil across all three fields. A wide selection of pottery and glass fragments were recovered throughout the topsoil across all three fields, although generally becoming sparser to the north. The finds consisted of a wide spread of mainly domestic wares. The earliest material is represented by a small selection of glass and pottery dating to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, with one small sherd of Devon gravel-tempered ware that may be earlier in date. Such sherds are known from the 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards, although more common in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The bulk of the material was clearly 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century in date, the most recent recognisable fragment being a piece of glazed earthenware with a design by Kathie Winkle, datable to between 1964 and 1978.
- 4.11 The topsoil also included two small fragments of flint. This material is not a natural occurring material and may therefore be associated with prehistoric flint-working activity in the locality. Both fragments display some evidence of having been struck from a flint core, but neither has been worked in to a tool and they are therefore relatively undiagnostic waste flakes. One fragment was discovered within the western field (within layer 100), but close to the northeastern edge as defined within the development area. The other fragment was discovered in the central field (within layer 101), but similarly close to the western corner as defined within the development area. This area lies close to a spring and previously recorded evidence of a burnt mound (PRN 585) a short distance to the north (c.50-60m) adjacent to the spring. Also discovered within the topsoil of the central field close to the fragment of flint was an elongated rounded river cobble, 0.12m by 0.06m, recorded as it appeared unusual amongst the more typical sub-angular sandstone fragments that were visible amongst the topsoil. The significance of this stone is unknown.
- 4.12 The field boundary drainage ditch (119) was replaced by a deeper culvert (photo 19). Excavation revealed a typical sequence of subsoil deposits (109 & 110), described below. However, c.16m to the northeast of this drain, and following a similar SE – NW alignment was evidence of a palaeochannel (112) cutting through the subsoil deposits (photos 15 – 17). The channel appeared as a 5m wide, roughly linear band of firm light grey-brown silty-clay (111), delineated on either side by light grey-yellow sandy clay (113). This light coloured sandy-clay appears to be the same as the subsoil (114), the colour indicating leaching or mineralisation over time due to the passage of water along the palaeochannel. The channel

extends c.14m from the northwestern edge of the development area before becoming lost. The channel was not excavated further so a depth was not recorded, and no archaeological material was noted within the fill. The alignment suggests it may be connected to the spring marked a short distance (c.20m) to the northwest.

- 4.13 Subsoil deposits were not fully exposed across the entire site, although where they were visible they appeared to be fairly consistent across the site, with a slight variation in the upper subsoil deposits, and no further features or deposits of archaeological material were recorded within them.
- 4.14 In the western field the upper subsoil (109) consisted of a dark brown-red sandy-silty-clay with the occasional medium to large sub-angular stone inclusion. This was revealed to be c.0.2m deep within the section of the excavated culvert between the western and central fields (photo 20). It was also shown to overlie a mid reddish-brown sandy clay (11) with more abundant (c.30%) medium to large sub-angular stones. This underlying deposit was at least 0.55m thick, but the base was not reached. Both these deposits extended as far as the palaeochannel (112).
- 4.1.5 To the north of the palaeochannel the upper subsoil (photos 17, 18 & 22) appeared to be a more greyer reddish-brown clayey silt (114). This however returns to a more typical mid orange-brown sandy-clayey-silt (115) towards the summit of the higher ground within this central field and then appears fairly consistently to the north (numbered as 117 in the eastern field). The underlying subsoil within the central (116) and eastern (118) fields, where it was exposed, consists of a very stony deposit of shattered sandstone with reddish-brown sandy-silty-clay (photo 21). This deposit was only exposed on the higher ground, presumably where overlying deposits had thinned out due to ploughing and soil creep down slope.
- 4.1.6 Archaeological observation finished on the 12<sup>th</sup> August 2011 (Photo 23) when the entire area to the north of the C3183 had been stripped.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

- 5.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with road improvement works at Kingsfold Junction, Maiden Wells, Pembrokeshire (SM 97848 99770). The development area lies close to the site of a prehistoric burnt mound, flint working site and a possible standing stone. It also lies within 800m of an early medieval church, several post-medieval buildings (including one cottage and well within the development area) and a World War II gun emplacement.
- 5.2 Darker topsoil deposits (103) were identified in the corner of the development area that formerly housed the site of a cottage. The cottage, and its surrounding triangular enclosure, are visible on Ordnance Survey maps from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards. The cottage was abandoned by 1974. No intact structural evidence of the cottage remained, although a large quantity of building stone was recorded in the general area. The only in situ mortared stonework comprised a spread of mortared stone and concrete (104) just outside the cottage enclosure, possibly relating to roadside activity or later boundary wall repairs.
- 5.3 Remains of the cottage well (105) did still survive intact, visible as a simple sub-circular drystone built well, that appears to have been abandoned for several years and been partially backfilled and silted up at the top (106). The upper remains of the well were removed and capped as part of the works, but lower deposits are likely to remain intact below the development. An iron strap embedded within the upper stone courses of the well indicate a late 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century date for this part of the structure, no further datable material was recovered. Presumably the well was backfilled when the cottage went out of use, and may have been partially backfilled with rubble derived from the cottage.
- 5.4 The ploughsoil (100, 101 & 102) from the three former fields through which the development area passed, contained a spread of mainly 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century finds, typically fragments of domestic pottery and glassware. Several fragments of 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery and glass were also recovered, and a single fragment of pottery that may be 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> century in date. This material is likely to be derived from manuring of the fields, where mostly organic rubbish is spread across the fields as fertiliser. Other debris such as broken pottery etc also gets put out with the rubbish, and eventually becomes scattered across the fields. The date of the pottery recovered from the fields would originate from settlement in the wider area from the 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards.
- 5.5 Also recovered from the ploughsoil were two flint flakes that, although undiagnostic, may be prehistoric in date. They were recovered from two separate fields, but both within c.20m to 30m of a spring and site of a possible Bronze Age burnt mound, it is possible they may be related. Flint is not a naturally occurring mineral in this area, and so must have been brought in to the site. Both flints had the appearance that they had been struck from a core, and although they had not been worked further (into specific tools) they represent waste flakes from the flint working process.
- 5.6 Remains of a former palaeochannel (112) were also recorded heading in the direction of the spring. A length of around 14m of the channel was exposed, which was 5m wide and filled with a single silty-clay fill (111), but it was not excavated further as the area was not to be further disturbed, with the ground levels being raised following removal of the topsoil. Nothing of archaeological significance was noted within the fill.

- 5.7 A sequence of undisturbed subsoils were also recorded underlying the ploughsoil across the site. The upper subsoils varied from a dark brownny-red sandy-silty-clay to the west (109), to a mid grey-reddish-brown silty clay (114) and then to a more typical mid orange-brown sandy clayey-silt (115 & 117) across the northern half of the development area. The underlying subsoil (110, 116 & 118) comprised a mix of shattered sandstone bedrock within the reddish-brown sandy-silty-clay. Nothing of archaeological significance was noted within these subsoil deposits across the site.
- 5.8 The proposed development involved building up ground levels above these deposits, so no further archaeological remains would be exposed, damaged or destroyed.
- 5.9 The archaeological watching brief did not reveal any archaeological remains of high significance. Two flint flakes indicate prehistoric activity in the vicinity, as is already known from the previous Mesolithic flint working sites and Bronze Age burnt mound recorded in the vicinity of the site. The watching brief has revealed evidence for post-medieval manuring of the fields through which the road line passes, indicating they have been cultivated over a long period. As ploughing can be a damaging process (depending upon its depth and intensity) it is possible that any earlier archaeological remains have been ploughed away. The watching brief has also provided further evidence for the former structure that stood in the southern part of the road line route, including remains of mortared stone, remains of the former boundary wall and its associated well.

## **6. SOURCES**

### **Maps**

Anon 1841 St Mary Pembroke Parish Tithe map

Ordnance Survey 1809-10 Original Surveyors Drawings, Sheet 182

Ordnance Survey 1874 1;2500 1<sup>st</sup> edition Pembrokeshire XL.13

Ordnance Survey 1908 1;2500 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Pembrokeshire XL.13

## PHOTOGRAPHS



**Photo 1:** General view of development looking WSW during topsoil strip



**Photo 2:** General view of central field, looking northeast





**Photo 3:** General view looking northeast of eastern field during topsoil strip



**Photo 4:** Looking WSW across site during topsoil strip,  
onsite spoil heap shown on left





**Photo 5:** Topsoil 101 revealed during strip



**Photo 6:** Topsoil layer 101 revealed in section. 1m & 0.5m scales





**Photo 7:** Looking north, showing the distinction between subsoil 109 to the left, and topsoil 103 within former cottage enclosure on the right



**Photo 8:** As photo 7, seen in section facing south





**Photo 9:** Looking SSE towards well site (105), showing topsoil 103 with modern rubbish visible. 1m scales



**Photo 10:** Looking east at stone and mortar spread 104 in relation to the edge of the former cottage enclosure, as defined by the darker soil above. 1m scales





**Photo 11:** Closer view of the stone and mortar spread 104. 1m scales



**Photo 12:** Looking east at well 105. 1m and 0.5m scales





**Photo 13:** Looking north at well 105. 1m & 0.5m scale



**Photo 14:** Looking SSE along the machine-cleaned drainage channel 108 for well 105, showing infill 106. 1m & 0.5m scale





**Photo 15:** Looking NNW at palaeochannel 112. Scale bars are placed in the centre of the channel, which is defined by the lighter clay (113) visible on either side. 1m scales



**Photo 16:** Looking SW at palaeochannel 112





**Photo 17:** Looking SW at palaeochannel 112 after rolling, still visible as a darker strip that is gathering water



**Photo 18:** Typical view of subsoil 114





**Photo 19:** Looking SE along machine-cleaned drainage ditch 119 that ran alongside the former field boundary between the western and central fields



**Photo 20:** East facing section of the culvert dug between the western and central fields, showing deposits 103, 109 and 110. 1m & 0.5m scale





**Photo 21:** Subsoil deposit 118 showing through



**Photo 22:** Looking SW across the eastern and central fields after topsoil strip



**Photo 23:** Looking WSW across the western field after the topsoil strip



**Photo 24:** Looking NNE at the remains of a cottage alongside the B4319 at Kingsfold Junction





**Photo 25:** Looking SE at the remains of the cottage on the east side of the B4319 at Kingsfold Junction

## APPENDIX I: CONTEXT AND SOIL DESCRIPTIONS

Number	Description	Dimensions
Layer 100	Topsoil of western field Plough soil. Friable mid reddish-brown clayey-silt. Occasional medium-large sub-angular stone. Finds: 18 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> century pottery fragments, 19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> century glass fragments and complete bottles, 1 piece of unworked flint.	c.0.2m thick
Layer 101	Topsoil of central field Plough soil. Friable mid reddish-brown clayey-silt (slightly browner than layer 100). Occasional medium-large sub-angular stone, very rare medium-large rounded stone. Rare, small-medium, lime fragments Finds: 18 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> century pottery fragments, 19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> century glass fragments, 1 piece of unworked flint.	c.0.3m thick
Layer 102	Topsoil of eastern field Plough soil Friable mid reddish-brown clayey-silt. Frequent medium-large sub-angular stone inclusions, rare medium oyster shell fragments. Finds: 19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> century pottery sherds, 18 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> century glass fragments.	c.0.3m thick
Layer 103	Topsoil of cottage enclosure Garden soil Friable dark grey-brown clayey-silt Occasional medium-large sub-angular stone, frequent small charcoal flecks Finds: 19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> century pottery fragments, 19 <sup>th</sup> – 20 <sup>th</sup> century glassware, including complete bottles, 20 <sup>th</sup> century metal objects, 20 <sup>th</sup> century plastic objects.	c.0.35m thick
Layer 104	Stone & Mortar spread Modern building debris Large unworked sub-angular boulders and large squared concrete blocks, mixed with broken ?lime mortar, some adhering to the stone but no solid structure.	2.3m NW-SE x 1.2m SW-NE
Structure 105	Well Sub-circular well, built of large, unworked angular stone boulders, clay bonded. Mostly greystone, some conglomerate. Uncoursed, two to three stones high visible. Infilled by 106.	Internally 1.1m N-S x 1.3m E-W Walls 0.4 – 0.5m wide
Fill 106	Fill of well Friable dark brown-grey silty clay. No inclusions. No finds.	1.1m by 1.3m c.0.4m thick.
Fill 107	Ditch fill Silt of drainage ditch for well Friable dark brown-black silty-clay. No recorded finds	2.7m wide, 0.45m thick
Cut 108	Drainage ditch Drainage for well, feeds into field drainage ditch 119 Curvilinear in plan, running from the well in a NW direction, curving northwards to join 119. Shallow, U-shaped in profile, gentle concave sides, gentle break of slope at base, concave base. Single fill, silted up.	2.7m wide, c.20m long, 0.45m deep
Layer 109	Upper Subsoil in western field	0.2m thick

	Firm dark brown-red sandy-silty clay. Occasional medium-large sub-angular stone. Extends into central field as far as the palaeochannel 112. No finds	
Layer 110	Lower Subsoil in western field Firm mid reddish-brown sandy-clay. Abundant (c.30%) medium-large sub-angular stone. No finds.	At least 0.55m thick
Fill 111	Fill of Palaeochannel Firm light grey-brown silty-clay No finds.	5m wide, c.14m long
Cut 112	Palaeochannel Linear in plan, running roughly north – south.	5m wide, c.14m long
Layer 113	Upper Subsoil in central field Firm light grey-yellow sandy-clay Continuation of 114, discoloured through mineralisation/passage of palaeochannel 112. No finds	c.2 – 3m wide, c.14m long
Layer 114	Upper Subsoil in central field Firm, mid grey-reddish-brown, silty clay Upper subsoil in the central field extending from palaeochannel 112 to the brow of the hill	
Layer 115	Upper Subsoil in central field Friable mid orange-brown sandy clayey-silt Occasional medium-large sub-angular stone inclusions Subsoil becomes visible towards brow of the hill in the central field, relationship with 114 unclear. No finds.	
Layer 116	Lower Subsoil in central field Firm mid reddish-brown sandy clay Abundant (c.40%) medium-large sub-angular sandstone	
Layer 117	Upper Subsoil in Eastern Field As115	
Layer 118	Lower Subsoil in Eastern Field As 116	
Cut 119	Drainage ditch Field drainage, formerly ran alongside hedgebank. Linear in plan running northwest, with a northwards kink halfway along. U-shaped in profile, moderate straight sides, moderate break of slope onto a concave base.	

**Table 3:** Context and Soil Descriptions

# **KINGSFOLD JUNCTION, MAIDEN WELLS, PEMBROKESHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NUMBER 2011/38**

**Medi 2011  
September 2011**

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

**PHILIP POUCHER**

Swydd / Position: ARCHAEOLOGIST

Llofnod / Signature .....



..... Dyddiad / Date 27/9/11

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



.. Dyddiad / Date 27/9/11

*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*



