

THE OLD SCHOOL, QUICKWELL HILL, ST DAVID'S, PEMBROKESHIRE: PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY AND WATCHING BRIEF 2011



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust
For: Caroe and Partners



ymddiriedolaeth archaeolegol
DYFED
archaeological trust

DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2012/32
RHIF Y DIGWYDDIAD / EVENT RECORD NO. 102869

Ebrill 2012

April 2012

THE OLD SCHOOL, QUICKWELL HILL, ST DAVID'S, PEMBROKESHIRE: PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Gan / By

Hubert Wilson and James Meek

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
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

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

**THE OLD SCHOOL, ST. DAVID'S, PEMBROKESHIRE:
PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	1
INTRODUCTION	2
Project Commission	2
Scope of the Project	2
Report Outline	3
Abbreviations	3
Illustrations	3
Timeline	3
THE SITE	5
Location and Topography	5
Archaeological Background	5
METHODOLOGY	11
Photographic Survey	9
Watching Brief	9
Post-Fieldwork Reporting and Archiving	9
PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY	10
Eastern Perimeter Wall	10
External Photographic Survey of Old School	15
Internal photographic survey of Old School	22
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS	27
CONCLUSION	34

ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure 1:	Location map of watching brief site from on the Ordnance Survey	4
Figure 2:	Extract of 1843 tithe map of St David's showing later location of the Old School	8
Figure 3:	First Edition OS Map (1889) showing locations of Cathedral Close Wall, St Mary's College, etc	9
Figure 4:	Locations of photographs and directions taken as part of survey for eastern perimeter wall of the Old School St David's	10
Figure 5:	Locations of photographs and directions taken as part of survey for the exterior of the Old School, St David's	18
Figure 6:	Location of photographs on external elevations	19
Figure 7:	Diagram of fireplace in east wall	24
Figure 8:	Locations of photographs and directions taken as part of survey for the interior of the Old School, St David's	25

Figure 9:	Locations of trenches in relation to southwestern corner of school	31
Figure 10:	West facing elevation above trench A where it exposed the foundations of the southwestern corner of the Old School	32
Figure 11:	North facing section through trench A showing soil profile exposed during groundworks, and underlying bedrock	33

TABLES

Table 1:	Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales	3
Table 2:	Historic Environment Record entries within a 100m radius of the site centre	5
Table 3:	Photo record of perimeter wall and gateway	14
Table 4:	Photo record of exterior of the Old School	21
Table 5:	Photo record of interior of the Old School	26

PHOTOS

Photo 1:	Southern pedestrian access into schoolyard, viewing west	10
Photo 2:	Central pedestrian access into schoolyard viewing west	11
Photo 3:	Northern main gated entrance into schoolyard, viewing west	11
Photo 4:	Straight joints seen in wall at southern end of original school building, viewing west	12
Photo 5:	Southeast corner of school after removal of modern extension	16
Photo 6:	Shoulder-headed doorway in south end of east wall.	16
Photo 7:	Graffiti scratched into quoins in northeast corner of school.	17
Photo 8:	Windows in west wall; note modern graffiti on stonework.	17
Photo 9:	Pair of shoulder-headed doorways in north wall.	22
Photo 10:	Ventilation arch in west wall.	23
Photo 11:	Blocked fireplace in east wall.	23
Photo 12:	View south; king-post trusses in roof structure.	24
Photo 13:	Looking northwest at level platform leading to the garden steps on the west side of school.	27
Photo 14:	Looking north; after removal of overburden the trench lines are marked out.	28
Photo 15:	Looking east at north facing section of trench A.	28
Photo 16:	Looking east; footings exposed in trench A.	29
Photo 17:	Looking east at west facing section of trench D.	30
Photo 18:	Looking east at box trench next to steps.	30

**CD ALSO INCLUDED CONTAINING ALL PHOTOGRAPHS
INCLUDED IN TABLES 3, 4 & 5**

THE OLD SCHOOL, ST. DAVID'S, PEMBROKESHIRE: PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIE

SUMMARY

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services were commissioned by Mr Russell Bailey of Caroe and Partners to undertake a photographic survey and archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the restoration and extension of the Grade II Listed building of the Old School, Quickwell Hill, St David's, Pembrokeshire at (NGR SM 7527 2553). The photographic survey of the building was required by way of a condition on the planning application / Listed Building Consent (NP/11/220) for the development in order to provide a record of the present state of the Grade II Listed building prior to renovation. The watching brief requirement was necessary to provide a record of any archaeological remains that could be exposed, damaged or destroyed by the proposed works.

The Old School is situated on the eastern slopes of the River Alun, approximately 130m Northwest of St David's Cathedral. Within 100m of the development site lie two Medieval/Post Medieval sites associated with St David's Cathedral. These are The Vicar's College the remains of which are visible as earthworks 70m south west of the school and The Cathedral Close Wall which lies 30m to the west of the development site. These two sites form part of a wider complex of scheduled and unscheduled ecclesiastical sites and monuments that make up the nationally important St David's Cathedral Close.

The Old School had not been in use for a number of years and was deteriorating. The development proposals will provide sustainable usage and maintenance of the building in the future, being reused as an education and pilgrimage centre by The Friends of St David's Cathedral. The building was erected in 1873 as the former National or Church School and is designated as a Grade II Listed building. The photographic survey provided has provided a record of the building in its pre-conversion condition.

The watching brief was undertaken during external works associated with an extension placed on the southwestern side of the building. A uniform soil profile down to the bedrock was observed throughout the trenches between 0.3m and 0.5m thick. No discernable soil horizons were observed, suggesting redeposited material laid down in order to create a terrace around the building. No features or deposits of any archaeological interest were noted during the course of the groundworks. The development therefore appears to have had no impact on the archaeological resource in the immediate vicinity of the Old School due to previous ground disturbance and terracing associated with its construction and use.

INTRODUCTION

Project Commission

A planning application was submitted for the restoration and extension of the Grade II building, The Old School, Quickwell Hill, St David's, Pembrokeshire (Planning Application No. NP/11/220). The building will be used as an education and pilgrimage centre by The Friends of St David's Cathedral.

The development lies in close proximity to several sites of historical and archaeological interest including which are recorded on the regional Historic Environment Record, including St Mary's Vicar's College (PRN 2661) and the Precinct walls, a Grade II* Listed medieval structure (NPRN 305384; PRN 58784), which encompasses the Cathedral Close.

The archaeological works are required by way of a condition 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 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.

Through discussion with the archaeological advisors to the planning authority (Dyfed Archaeological Trust Planning Services) it was determined that the required programme of archaeological work would need to comprise both a watching brief during external groundworks and a photographic survey of the Grade II Listed structure in its pre-conversion state.

Russell Bailey, on behalf of Caroe and Partners commissioned Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services to undertake the archaeological photographic survey and watching brief during the groundworks at the site. The watching brief was intended to adequately record any significant archaeological features that may be encountered during groundworks associated with the development, thereby protecting the potential archaeological interests.

A written scheme of investigation (WSI) was prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services which was approved by all parties prior to the works commencing

Scope of the Project

The main scope of the project was laid out within the WSI as to provide a *'Photographic Survey of the Old School, Quickwell Hill, St Davids and archaeological attendance and recording during groundworks associated with the construction of a new extension to the structure. The works will include ground reduction across the footprint of the extension and partial dismantling of the boundary wall. These works may expose, damage or destroy any underlying archaeological remains, if present.'*

The project objectives as laid out in 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 internal and external 'Level 1' photographic survey, as defined in 'Understanding Historic buildings: a guide to best recording practice' (English Heritage, 2006), supplemented with annotated plans.
- To produce an archive and report of any 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.

Abbreviations

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

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.

Timeline

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

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

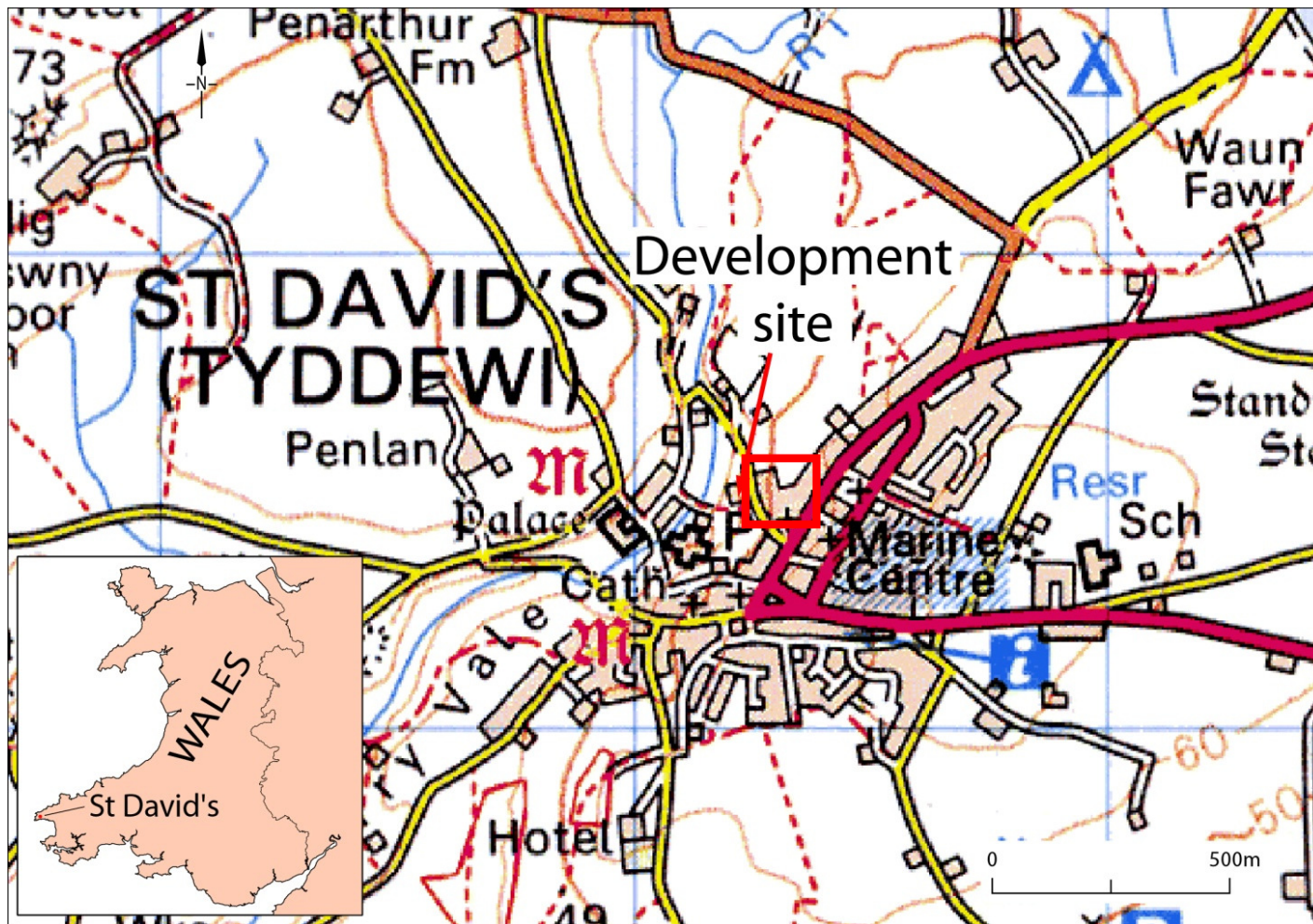


Figure 1: Location map of watching brief site from the Ordnance Survey.

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

THE SITE

Location and Topography

The school is situated on the valley slopes of the River Alun overlooking the Cathedral Close. The local topography slopes down from east to west.

The building and its curtilage is enclosed by a stone wall of varying height. This wall is contemporary with the school and also included in the Grade II listing.

Beyond the wall on the east side is Quickwell Hill; on the south side a steep lane and on the west and north sides a wooded area. At its widest the enclosed area measures approximately 55m by 33m. The dimensions of the Victorian school is approximately 7.40m by 19.65m, its length increasing to 29.95m when including the modern extensions on the north and south sides. The south extension has subsequently been dismantled prior to the archaeological recording. Its long axis lies on a north – south orientation.

The building stands on a terrace in the hillside, the edge of which is about 4m away from the west wall of the building and parallel with that wall. Beyond the terrace the land slopes down to the school garden and toilet block. This 4m strip of level ground provides access to the steps which lead down to the garden and toilet block. It is within the southern half of this strip and the adjacent area on the south end of the school that the groundworks occurred.

The solid geology consists of Precambrian Tuffs.

Archaeological Background

A search of the Regional Historic Environment Record (HER – held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust) records 6 known archaeological sites within 100m of the development area. These are shown in Table 2 below:

PRN	Site Name	Grid Reference	Description
2661	The Vicar's College; St Mary's	SM 7522 2548	Earthwork
58874	The Cathedral Close Wall	SM 7524 2552	Post-medieval/Medieval wall
58826	No.8 Quickwell Hill	SM 75307 25513	Post-medieval, Grade II listed cottage
58860	No.4 Quickwell Hill	SM 75329 25506	Post-medieval, Grade II listed house
20818	Old School, Quickwell Hill	SM 7528 2553	Post-medieval, Grade II listed building
58836	Former Church School, Quickwell Hill	SM 7528 2553	Post-medieval clearance cairn

Table 2: Historic Environment Record entries within a 100m radius of the site centre

The Old School, Quickwell Hill (PRNs 20818 & 58836) was built around 1873 for the National School of St David's and later used for a school canteen. Built in the Gothic style, it is constructed of purple rubble stone with yellow limestone ashlar dressings with a roof of small green slates. It is a single storey building with coped gables and a steeply gabled bellcote at the northern end. It has an ashlar chamfered plinth, chamfered eaves course, quoins and mullion and transom windows. The east side has two 3-light windows and two external chimney breasts with ashlar circular shafts. The modern addition that once obscured the original shouldered-headed doorway on the south end of the east wall has been dismantled allowing the doorway to be visible again. The south end has one 3-light window and a cusped lancet vent in the gable. The north end has a modern extension attached and a cusped lancet vent in the gable. Beneath each window just below the chamfered plinth is a 5-holed, yellow limestone vent. The 1843 Tithe map (Figure 2) shows the land on which the school was later built as being undeveloped.

Within 100m of the development site the HER records two medieval/post-medieval sites associated with the Cathedral within 100m of the development area. These are St Mary's, The Vicar's College (PRN 2661; PE441) the remains of which are visible as earthworks c.70m south west of the school and The Cathedral Close Wall (PRN 58874) which lies c.30m to the west of the development site. These two sites form part of a wider complex of scheduled and unscheduled ecclesiastical sites and monuments that make up the nationally important St David's Cathedral Close (PRN 14670; PE444).

Within c.30m and c.50m to the east of the development site two Grade II listed buildings are situated. These are No. 4 and No. 8 Quickwell Hill, a Post-medieval house and cottage respectively.



Figure 2: Extract of 1843 tithe map of St David's showing later location of the Old School.

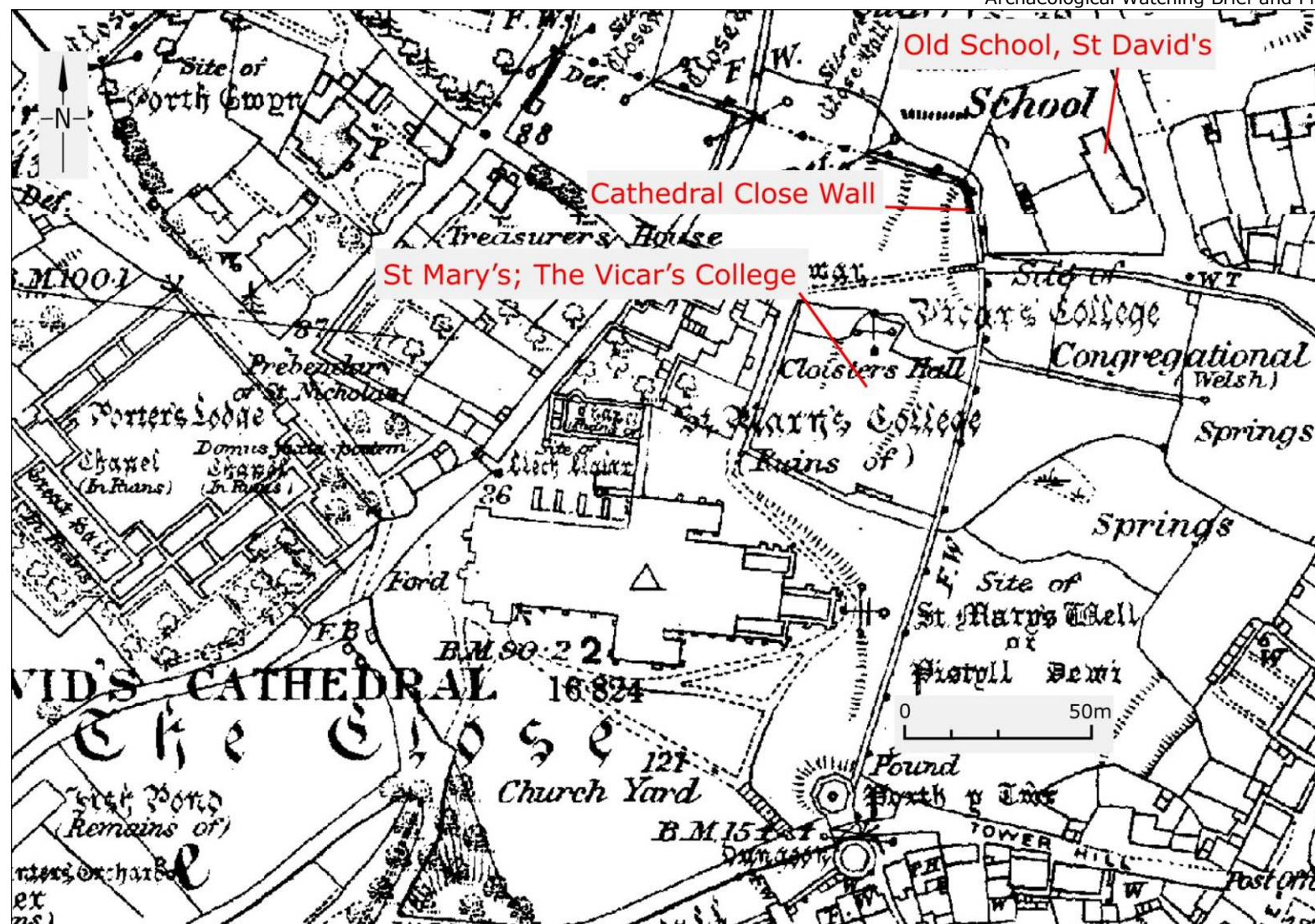


Figure 3: First Edition OS Map (1889) showing locations of Cathedral Close Wall, St Mary's College, Vicar's College and The Old School, St David's.

METHODOLOGY

Photographic Survey

The proposed initial photographic survey involved a recording programme following guidelines as detailed within the 2006 publication by English Heritage '*Understanding Historic Buildings; A guide to good recording practice*'. Although prepared by English Heritage, the document is an updated version of the former Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments guidelines, which has been used as the basis for historic building recording levels across the United Kingdom. It followed the 'Photographic Survey' (section 5.5) guidelines, incorporating photographic record of the interior and exterior of the structure with brief written account. Photographs have been indexed and their positions located on annotated plans (Photographs on attached CD and shown on Figures 4, 5, 6 & 8).

Watching Brief

A 'watching brief' was undertaken during initial ground works within the proposed development site that had the potential to expose, damage or destroy underlying archaeological remains.

Four site visits were undertaken to the development area during and immediately before the works on 18th November, 22nd November, 14th December and 19th December 2011.

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 Manual² used by Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services.

Post-Fieldwork Reporting and Archiving

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.

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.

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

² Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services have adopted the Recording Manual developed by English Heritage Centre for Archaeology.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY

Eastern Perimeter Wall

Prior to the development commencing, part of the external wall of the school ground was required to be demolished to allow access into the school yard area for the site contractors. A photographic survey of the entire length of the wall was carried out before any demolition work began. This was undertaken on 18th November 2011. All photographs of the wall are included on the attached CD numbered 102-143 (Figure 4), with relevant photographs reproduced within this document.

The photographs were taken from directly in front of both sides of the wall with 1m scales used to show dimensions. Unfortunately a car was present in the small lay-by in front of the main gates at the northern end of the perimeter wall, which meant that photographs of the outside of the wall were taken at oblique angles.

Overall the wall was of simple rubble stone construction with a mortar and stone capping, sloping to the west from the upper facing stones on the eastern facade. Three openings through the wall were present, two pedestrian accesses at the south end (Photo 1) and one placed roughly centrally (Photo 2), with the third entrance being a wider gated vehicle entrance at the northern end (Photo 3). The three entrances all had large stone and mortar gate posts on either side which were square in shape, projecting from either side of the wall.



Photo 1: Southern pedestrian access into schoolyard, viewing west
(image number 142)



Photo 2: Central pedestrian access into schoolyard viewing west
(image number 132)



Photo 3: Northern main gated entrance into schoolyard, viewing west
(image number 127)



Photo 4: Straight joints seen in wall at southern end of original school building, viewing west (image number 136)

Two straight joints visible in the wall corresponding with the southern end of the original school building also suggested a former entranceway into the school ground, which has subsequently been blocked (Photo 4). No evidence for gate posts was present.

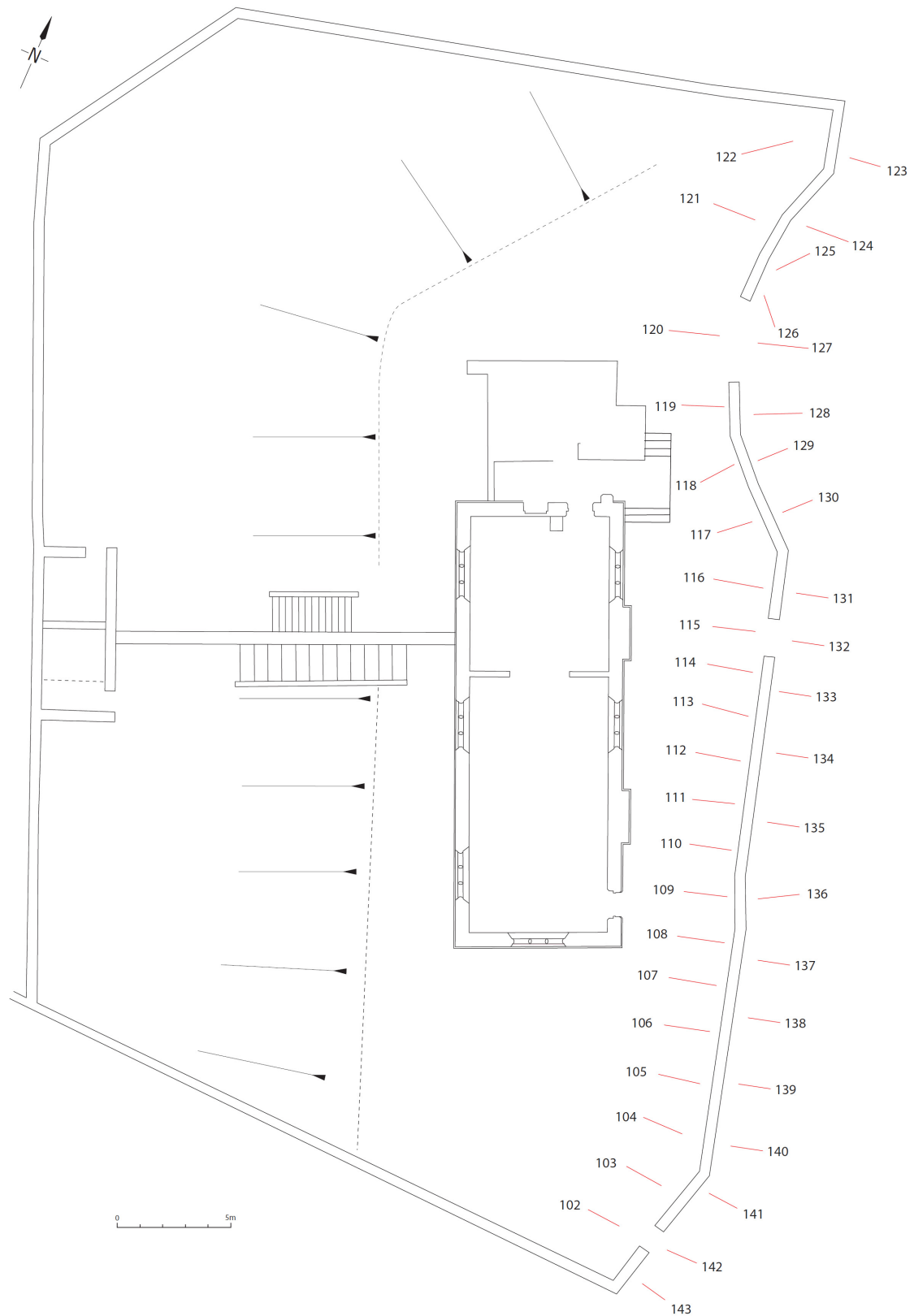


Figure 4: Locations of photographs and directions taken as part of survey for eastern perimeter wall of the Old School St David's

Photo No.	Description
102	Inside of perimeter wall facing east (south pedestrian access)
103	Inside of perimeter wall facing east
104	Inside of perimeter wall facing east
105	Inside of perimeter wall facing east
106	Inside of perimeter wall facing east
107	Inside of perimeter wall facing east
108	Inside of perimeter wall facing east
109	Inside of perimeter wall facing east
110	Inside of perimeter wall facing east
111	Inside of perimeter wall facing east
112	Inside of perimeter wall facing east
113	Inside of perimeter wall facing east
114	Inside of perimeter wall facing east
115	Inside of perimeter wall facing east (central pedestrian access)
116	Inside of perimeter wall facing east
117	Inside of perimeter wall facing northeast
118	Inside of perimeter wall facing northeast
119	Inside of perimeter wall facing east
120	Inside of perimeter wall facing east (northern gateway)
121	Inside of perimeter wall facing east with vegetation cover
122	Northeastern corner of inside of perimeter wall facing northeast with vegetation cover
123	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west with vegetation cover
124	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west
125	Exterior of perimeter wall facing southwest
126	Exterior of perimeter wall facing northwest
127	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west (northern gateway)
128	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west
129	Exterior of perimeter wall facing southwest
130	Exterior of perimeter wall facing southwest
131	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west
132	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west (central pedestrian access)
133	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west
134	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west
135	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west
136	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west
137	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west
138	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west
139	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west
140	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west
141	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west
142	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west (southern pedestrian access)
143	Exterior of perimeter wall facing west

Table 3: Photo record of perimeter wall and gateway,
Old School, St David's, Pembrokeshire.

External Photographic Survey of Old School

The external photographic survey of the Old School was undertaken during two visits, the first on 22nd November 2011 before any groundworks or the dismantling of the southern extension had begun. The second was undertaken on 14th December 2011 during groundworks, but after the dismantling of the extension. The views are a combination of oblique and square-on images using 1m and 0.5m scales. All photographs are included on the attached CD numbered 1- 68 (Figures 5 and 6) with relevant photographs reproduced within this document.

The building is of a single storey, built in the Gothic style (Photo 5). It is constructed of rubble masonry utilizing purple (?Caerbwddi) stone, occasionally roughly squared and sometimes brought up to courses. A yellow ashlar chamfered plinth surrounds the building although this is almost wholly obscured on the north side by a modern extension. Below the roof of small, green slates is a chamfered eaves course of yellow limestone, interspersed at regular intervals with cut-outs to accommodate the original downpipes. The gables at both ends are coped.

The east side has two external chimney breasts with ashlar circular shafts and two three-light windows with yellow limestone chamfered quoins, mullions and transoms. The removal of the extension on the south-east corner revealed the original shoulder-headed doorway and the remnants of a surrounding porch (Photo 6). Some graffiti (presumably made when the school was operational) can be seen scratched into a limestone quoin at the north-east corner of the building (Photo 7).

The west side has three, three-light windows of similar construction to the ones on the east side (Photo 8). A small stone wall abutted the west side, running down the garden slope and joining the toilet block, dividing the garden into two. The first 4 to 5m of this wall adjacent to the school has been demolished to facilitate the building of a pentice. There is some modern 'paint-spray' graffiti on this side of the building.

The south wall has one three-light window, slightly larger in size than the others on the east and west sides, above which is a relieving arch and cusped lancet vent (Photo 5).

The top half of the north wall contains a cusped lancet vent above which stands a steeply gabled bellcote; the bottom half is hidden by a modern extension.

Situated below the middle of each window, directly underneath the chamfered plinth, is a five-holed ventilation grill of yellow limestone.



Photo 5: Southeast corner of school after removal of modern extension



Photo 6: Shoulder-headed doorway in south end of east wall



Photo 7: Graffiti scratched into quoins in northeast corner of school.



Photo 8: Windows in west wall; note modern graffiti on stonework.

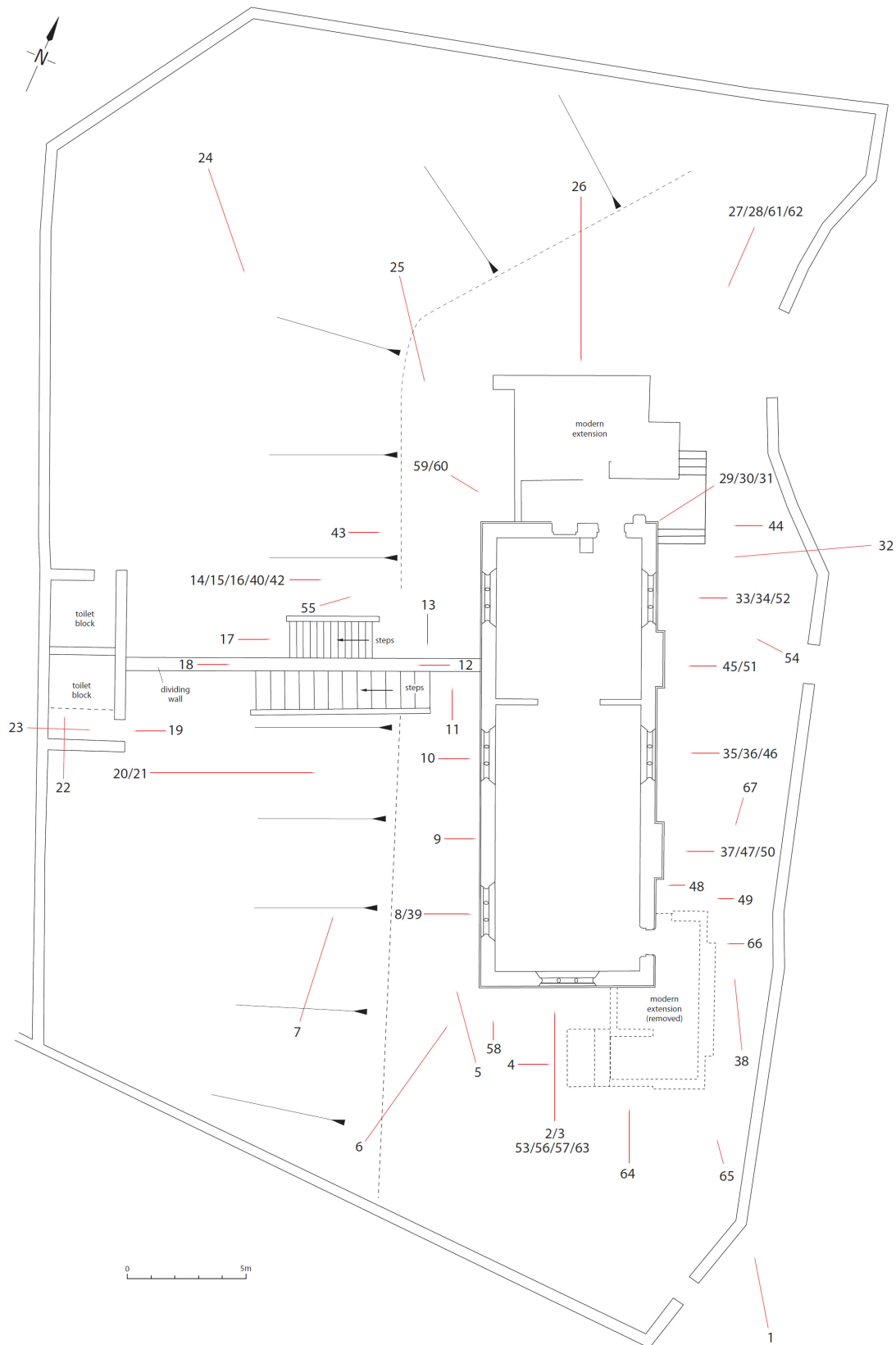


Figure 5: Locations of photographs and directions taken as part of survey for the exterior of the Old School St David's

The Old School, St David's, Quickwell Hill, Pembrokeshire:
Archaeological Watching Brief and Photographic Survey

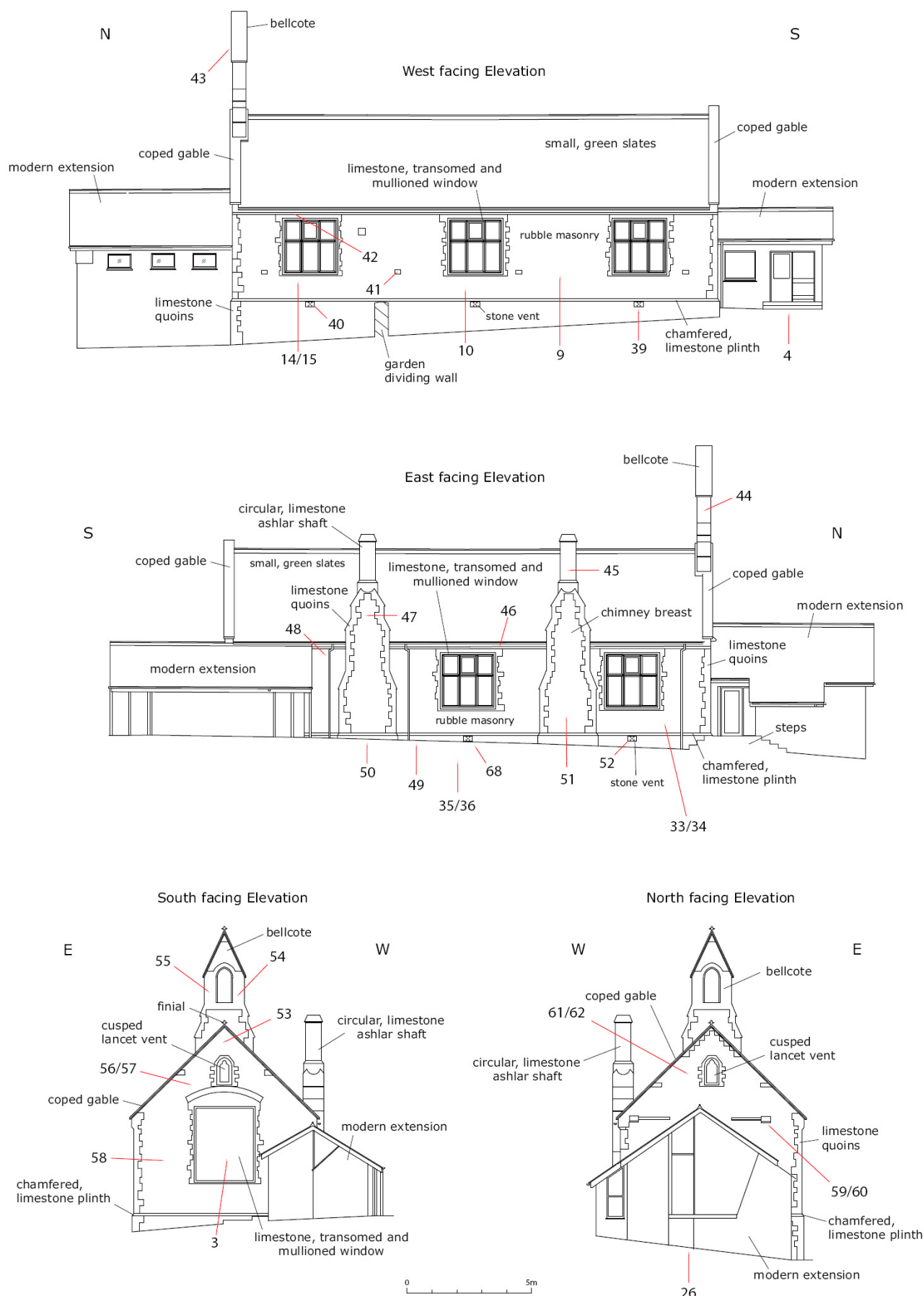


Figure 6: Location of photographs on external elevations

Photo No.	Description
1	Facing NW; south wall of school building before removal of modern extension in SE corner. Chimneys on East wall visible and part of bellcote on north wall. Carn Llidi in background.
2	Facing North; view of south wall before removal of modern extension, showing dressed limestone window surround and cusped lancet vent in the gable.
3	Facing North; close-up of window surround in south wall, note relieving arch above window.
4	Facing East; west wall of modern extension attached to south wall of school
5	Facing NW; level area between west wall and concrete post and wire fence, beyond which garden slopes steeply.
6	Facing North; southwest corner of school building; yellow limestone ashlar quoins.
7	Facing North; view along garden slope toward ivy-clad dividing wall between garden steps. West wall of school on the right.
8	Facing East; limestone mullioned and transomed, 3-light window in south end of west wall.
9	Facing East; vent in west wall between middle and south windows, partially concealed by ivy.
10	Facing East; limestone mullioned and transomed, 3-light window in centre of west wall; modern graffiti on ashlar chamfered plinth; 5-holed dressed vent.
11	Facing North; east end of garden dividing wall, butting up against west wall of school building.
12	Facing West; garden dividing wall in centre of picture (see photo 11) with flight of steps on either side leading to the gardens and toilet block (hidden by undergrowth).
13	Facing South; east end of garden dividing wall, butting up against west wall of school building.
14	Facing East; mullioned and transomed 3-light window in north end of west wall. Modern extension to the left, garden dividing wall to the right.
15	Facing East; close-up of window in north end of west wall.
16	Facing East; Graffitied north end of west wall;
17	Facing East; steps leading down to the garden on north side of dividing wall.
18	Facing East; view up dividing wall where it butts west wall of school building. Top of steps on either side of wall visible.
19	Facing West; southern entrance of toilet block at bottom of garden.
20	Facing East; looking up-slope from bottom of garden at west wall of school building.
21	See No. 20
22	Facing North; shot of cubicle in toilet block.
23	Facing East; looking out of toilet block towards school building.
24	Facing SE; dressed quoins in NW corner of building; steeply gabled bellcote and cusped lancet vent below; modern extension.
25	Facing SE; north wall of school building, bellcote and cusped lancet vent; oblique view of west wall of modern extension.
26	Facing South; north wall of modern extension; north side of bellcote.
27	Facing South; modern extension in foreground, cusped lancet vent and bellcote above; oblique view of east wall showing both chimneys.
28	Facing South; close-up of bellcote and cusped lancet vent in north wall.
29	Facing SW; limestone ashlar quoins in NE corner of school building, modern extension on the right.
30	Facing South; graffiti scratched onto quoin in NE corner.
31	Facing South; see photo 30.
32	Facing West; east side of school building consisting of two windows and two external chimney breasts with circular ashlar shafts. Modern extension on the left subsequently removed.
33	Facing West; 3-light, limestone transomed and mullioned window in north end of east wall; modern extension to the right, chimney breast to the left.
34	Facing West; close-up of window in photo 33.
35	Facing West; boarded-up window in east wall between chimney breasts.

36	Facing West; close-up of window in photo 35.
37	Facing West; southernmost chimney in east wall of building.
38	Facing North; oblique view of east wall, partially obscured by modern extension in foreground. Circular ashlar chimney shafts and south face of bellcote in view.
39	Facing East; stone vent below window in south end of west wall.
40	Facing East; graffiti scratched into stone vent below northernmost window in west wall.
41	Facing East; iron-grill vent between middle and northernmost window in west wall. Chamfered eaves course visible.
42	Facing East; degradation of chamfered plinth above northernmost window in west wall.
43	Facing East; NW corner of school building showing quoinwork, coped gable and west side of bellcote.
44	Facing West; NE corner of school building showing quoinwork, coped gable and east side of bellcote.
45	Facing West; upper half of northernmost chimney breast and circular ashlar shaft in east wall.
46	Facing West; degradation of chamfered plinth above southernmost window in east wall.
47	Facing West; upper half of southernmost chimney breast and circular ashlar shaft in east wall.
48	Facing West; detail of cut-out in stone eaves which would have housed original downpipe.
49	Facing West; shot of typical rubble coursing employed in wall construction.
50	Facing West; lower half of southernmost chimney breast in east wall.
51	Facing West; lower half of northernmost chimney breast in east wall.
52	Facing West; close-up of stone vent below northernmost window in east wall.
53	Facing North; finial and upper half of cusped lancet vent in south gable wall.
54	Facing NW; oblique view of east and south sides of bellcote.
55	Facing NE; oblique view of west and south sides of bellcote.
56	Facing North; relieving arch and cusped lancet vent in south gable.
57	Facing North; close-up of cusped lancet vent in south gable.
58	Facing North; view of SW corner of building showing quoins and chamfered plinth.
59	Facing SE; view of modern extension and north wall; quoins in NW corner
60	Facing SE; oblique view of ?stone-gutter in north wall
61	Facing SW; view of north wall, cusped lancet vent, bellcote and ?stone-gutter; circular ashlar chimney shafts. Modern extension in foreground.
62	Facing SW; close-up of north gable and bellcote.
63	Facing North; view of south wall after removal of modern extension.
64	Facing North; close-up of SE corner of south wall after removal of modern extension.
65	Facing NW; oblique view of south and east walls after removal of modern extension.
66	Facing West; shouldered doorway exposed in south end of east wall after removal of modern extension.
67	Facing SW; view of east wall after removal of modern extension, exposing shouldered doorway.
68	Facing West; close-up of stone vent below southernmost window in east wall.

Table 4: Photo record of exterior of the Old School, St David's, Pembrokeshire.

Internal photographic survey of Old School

The photographic survey of the interior of the Old School was carried out on the 22nd November 2011 and 14th December 2011. The views are a combination of oblique and square-on images using 1m scales. All photographs are included on the attached CD numbered 69 – 101 and their locations shown on Figure 6. A few relevant photographs are reproduced within this document.

During the survey a modern suspended ceiling was dismantled, a modern partition wall demolished and cement render removed from the stone walls. The workforce did everything they could to facilitate the survey, but it was not possible to move all scaffolding and equipment as this would have been impractical.

The removal of the render revealed a number of features. In the north wall a shoulder-headed doorway was uncovered lying approximately 1m to the west of the existing shoulder-headed doorway (Photo 9).

The floor has been raised approximately 0.18m in the recent past when a damp-proof membrane was inserted, as evidenced by a small test hole in the floor. Consequently the arches spanning the ventilation grills are only partially visible (Photo 10).

On the east wall the removal of the render exposed two blocked-up fireplaces and their shouldered-headed surrounds (Photo 11).

The dismantling of the suspended ceiling revealed a timber roof structure consisting of six king-post trusses with exposed purlins and rafters (Photo 12).



Photo 9: Pair of shoulder-headed doorways in north wall.

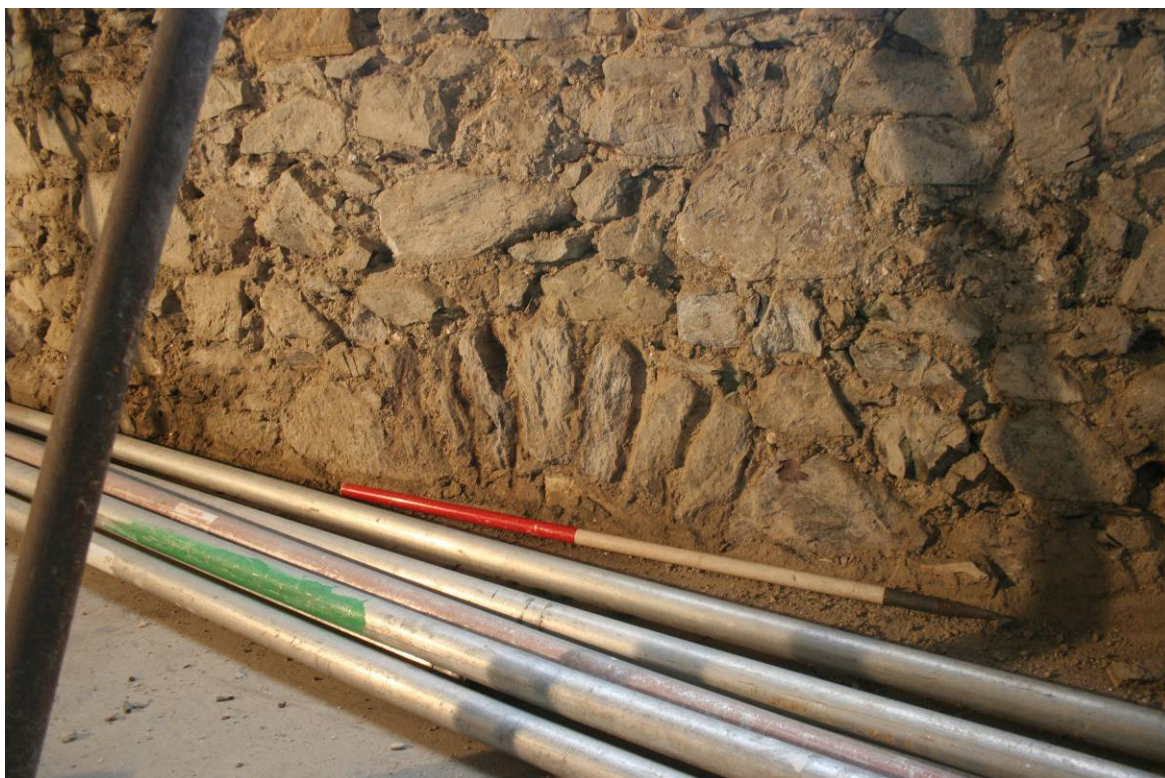


Photo 10: Ventilation arch in west wall



Photo 11: Blocked fireplace in east wall.

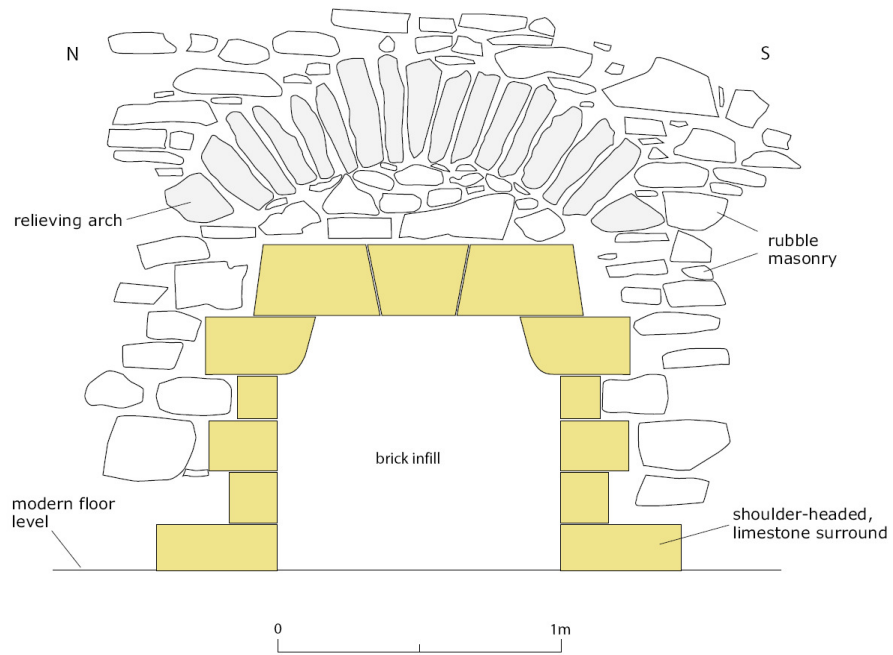


Figure 7: Diagram of fireplace in east wall



Photo 12: View south; king-post trusses in roof structure.

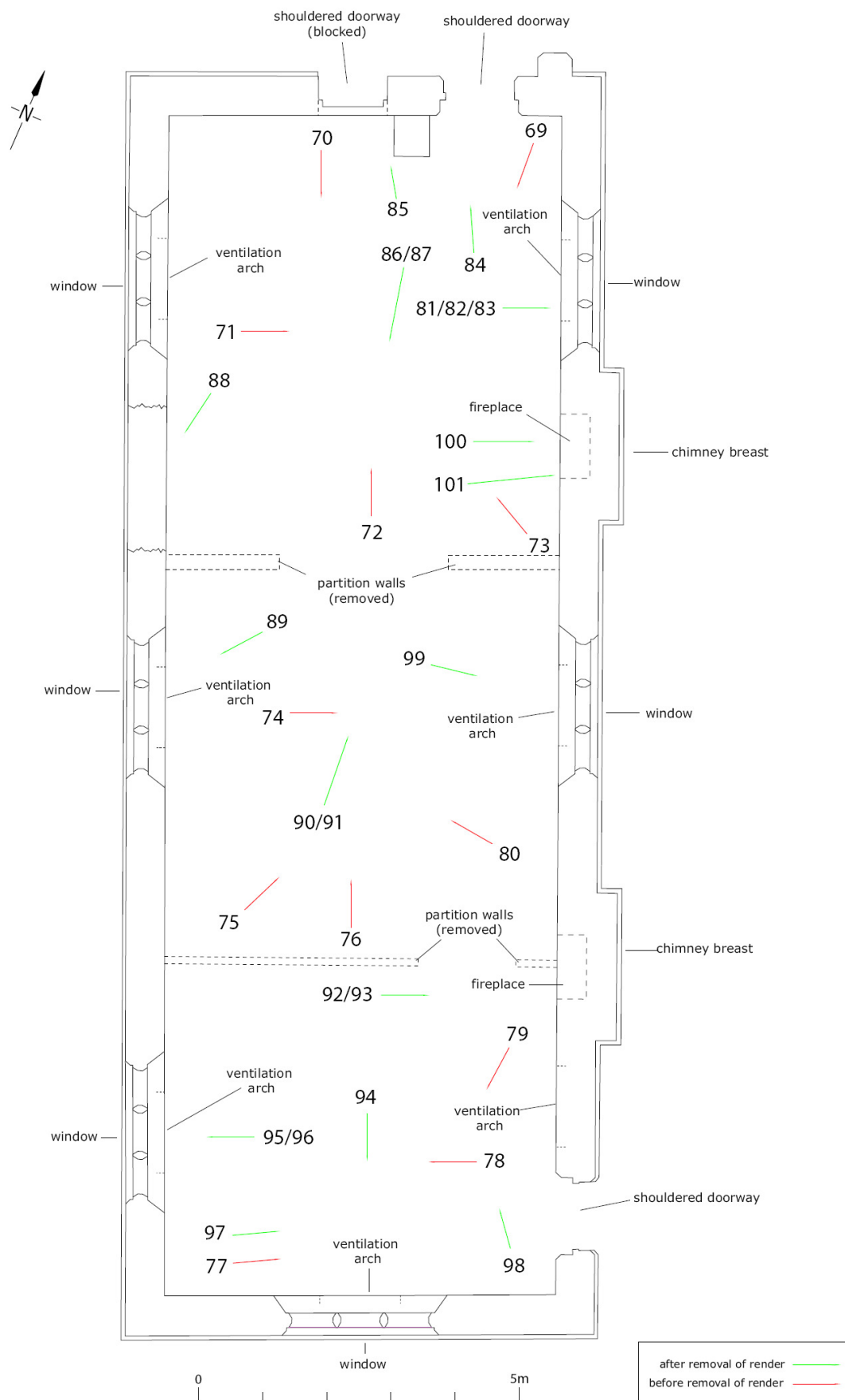


Figure 8: Locations of photographs and directions taken as part of survey for the interior of the Old School, St David's.

Photo No.	Description
69	Facing West; northern end of west wall.
70	Facing South; partition wall in north end of school building (later removed).
71	Facing East; northern end of east wall.
72	Facing North; north wall of Victorian school building.
73	Facing NW; boiler in NW corner of school building.
74	Facing East; close-up of middle window in east wall.
75	Facing East; overall shot of east wall between the partition walls.
76	Facing North; view from central room through partition wall towards north wall.
77	Facing East; view of East wall and shouldered doorway in southern room.
78	Facing West; window in West wall of southern room.
79	Facing SW; window in South wall of school building.
80	Facing NW; window in West wall of central room.
81	Facing East; northernmost window in east wall; ventilation arch partially hidden by modern floor.
82	Facing East; rubble masonry and ventilation arch beneath window in photo 81.
83	Facing East; close-up of ventilation arch beneath northernmost window in East wall.
84	Facing North; pair of shouldered doorways in north wall each with a relieving arch above. One on the left has been blocked-up.
85	Facing North; close-up of blocked shouldered doorway with relieving arch .
86	Facing South; overall view of school building after removal of render and partition walls; timber roof construction revealed after dismantling of suspended ceiling.
87	Facing South; same as photo 86.
88	Facing SW; oblique view of middle window in west wall with ventilation arch beneath.
89	Facing SW; oblique close-up of ventilation arch in photo 88.
90	Facing NE; oblique view of fireplace in northern half of east wall between both windows.
91	Facing NE; same as photo 90 but with flash.
92	Facing East; fireplace in southern half of east wall between window and shouldered doorway. To the left of the fireplace, partially concealed by the modern floor is a ventilation arch.
93	Facing East; as photo 92 but without flash.
94	Facing South; gable end of south wall showing upper half of window above are the principal rafters and 'king post' truss. Partially hidden behind roof timbers is the lancet vent.
95	Facing West; southern window in west wall, ventilation arch beneath.
96	Facing West; ventilation arch below southern window in west wall.
97	Facing East; shouldered doorway in southern end of east wall, exterior of which was exposed when modern extension was removed.
98	Facing NW; view towards north wall showing double doors and timber roof construction.
99	Facing East; southern window in east wall.
100	Facing East; fireplace with 'shouldered surround' and relieving arch in northern half of east wall.
101	Facing East; detail of 'shouldered surround' see photo 100.

Table 5: Photo record of interior of the Old School, St David's, Pembrokeshire.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS

The development consisted of opening four foundation trenches to provide the footprint for a small roughly square building, its northeastern corner enclosing the southwest corner of the school (Figure 9, Photos 13 & 14). The north, south and east trenches were cut into the level ground surrounding the school building whilst the west trench was cut into the incline that sloped down to the garden.

The three eastern trenches were approximately 8 metres long, 0.9 metres wide with an average depth of 1m. The eastern and northern ends of trenches A (Photo 15) and B respectively exposed the footings of the southwestern corner of the school building (Photo 16, Figure 10). Two other trenches were cut inside the footprint to accommodate partition walls (Photo 14, Figure 9). The western exterior trench (trench D) averaged 1.5m in depth on its eastern side due to it being terraced into the incline (Photo 17).

To the north of this footprint three box trenches were terraced into the incline. These measured 1.5m by 2.5m, ranging in depth from approximately 1m to 1.8m (Photo 18, Figure 9). These were dug to accommodate the framework for a pentice. This work was undertaken by a tracked excavator using a toothed bucket.

All of the trenches were cut well into the bedrock.

A simple, identical, inert soil profile was observed in all of the trenches (Figure 11, Photos 15 & 17). This consisted of a firm, brown silty-clay with a moderate amount of small to medium angular stone (01) overlying degraded bedrock. This layer (01) is consistent with redeposited material lacking, as it does, any topsoil or subsoil horizons. Furthermore, no cut for the school wall was visible in section, further supporting the evidence that this material (01) has been imported from elsewhere.

The only artefact recovered was a piece of lead piping in trench A.



Photo 13: Looking northwest at level platform leading to the garden steps on the west side of school. Southwestern corner of school visible.



Photo 14: Looking north; after removal of overburden the trench lines are marked out.



Photo 15: Looking east at north facing section of trench A.



Photo 16: Looking east; footings exposed in trench A.



Photo 17: Looking east at west facing section of trench D.



Photo 18: Looking east at box trench next to steps.

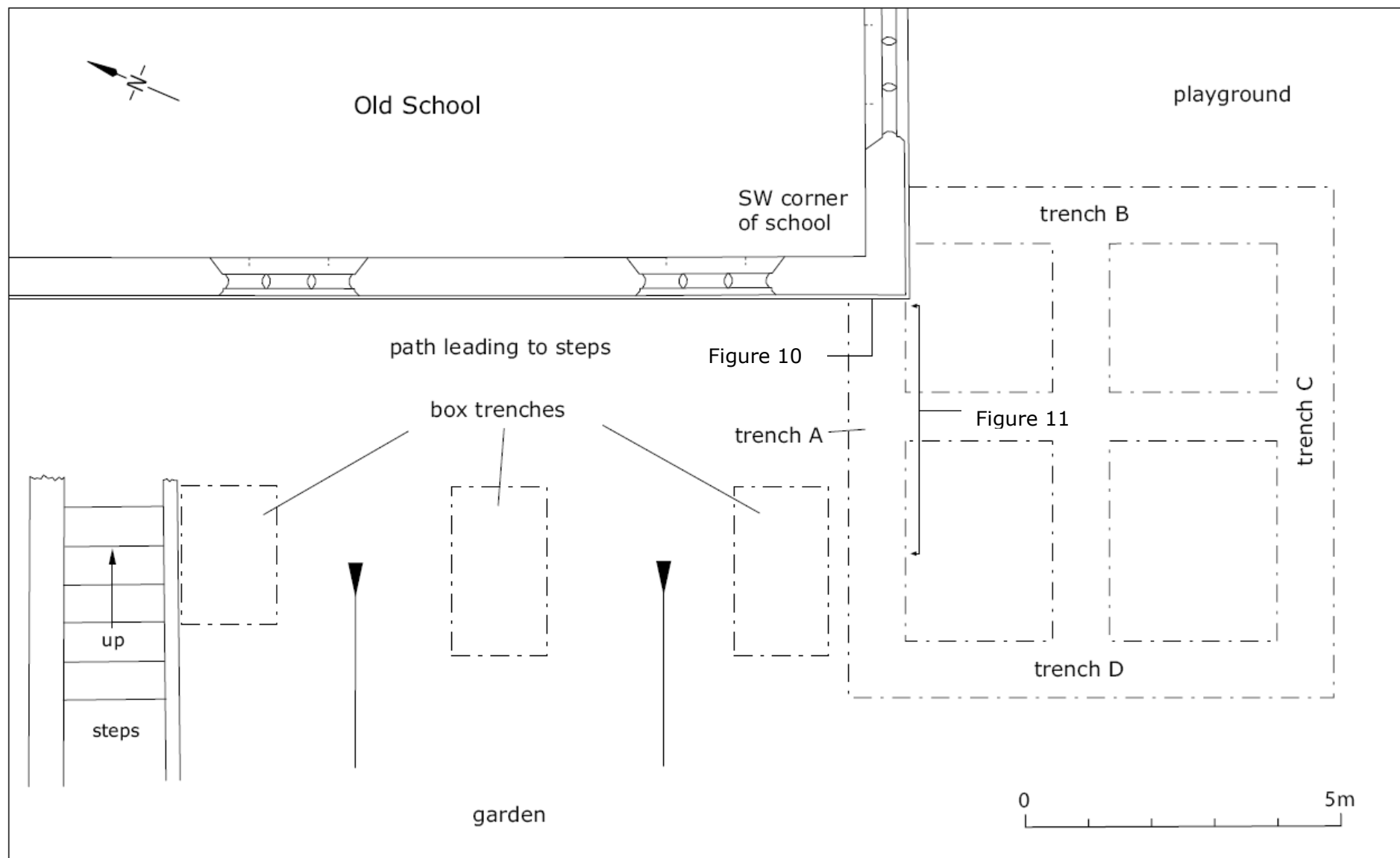


Figure 9: Locations of trenches in relation to southwestern corner of school.

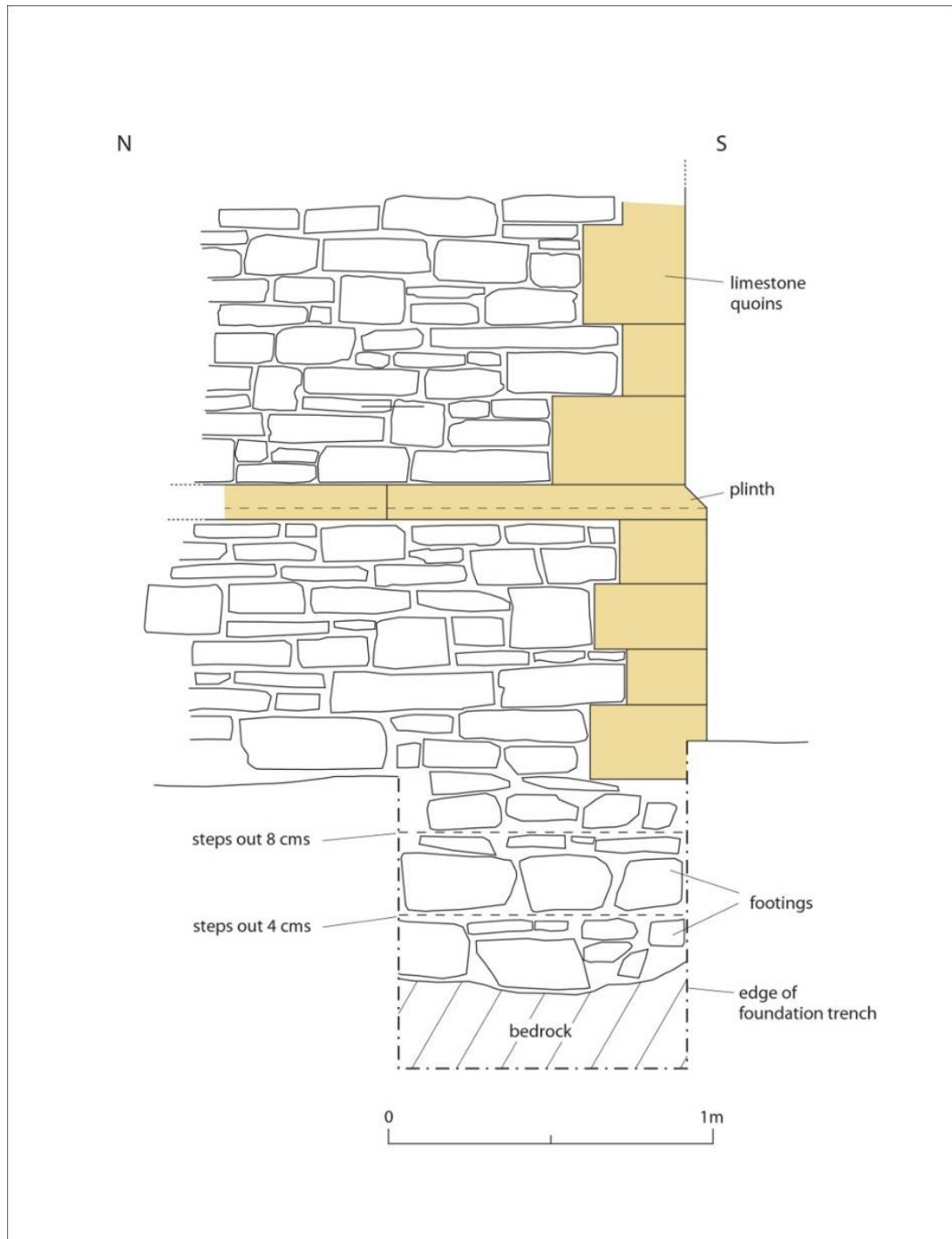


Figure 10: West facing elevation above trench A where it exposed the foundations of the southwestern corner of the Old School, St David's

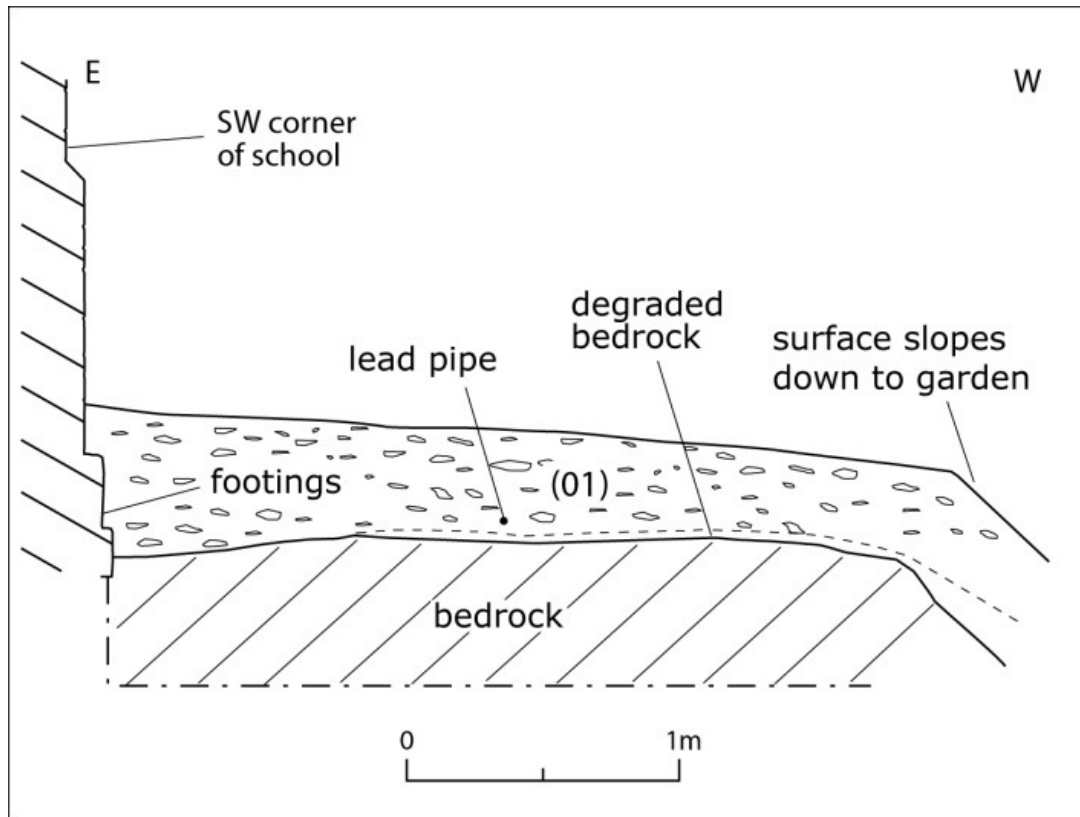


Figure 11: North facing section through trench A showing soil profile exposed during groundworks, and underlying bedrock

CONCLUSION

The archaeological work undertaken at the Old School, St David's, in advance of its conversion into a education and pilgrimage centre, has provided an adequate record of the building. The results of the photographic survey comprised information regarding the exterior and interior of the building, and for the eastern perimeter wall.

Features including the existing entrances and a possible blocked entrance were revealed through the eastern perimeter wall. Within the building, two blocked fireplaces were recorded, as well as a blocked doorway and evidence for the raising of the existing floor level partially covering earlier vents. Graffiti was noted on the exterior of the building, including earlier scratched initials etc in the limestone corner quoins and also recent spray painted tags and images.

The archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with the construction of a pentice and small office building on the western side of the Old School. The development involved cutting six foundation trenches and three box trenches, all of which were observed by an archaeologist. The soil profile was similar in all of the trenches, and comprised a firm, brown, silty-clay, devoid of topsoil or subsoil horizons. This, together with the fact that no trench cut for the school building was observed in section would indicate that this layer comprised material imported onto the school grounds to level the ground surface. This level area was then used as a playground and provided a pathway to the steps that lead down to the garden and toilet block. The presence of bedrock immediately below this imported layer would suggest that the site had been subject to initial ground clearance before the levelling took place.

The watching brief has thus demonstrated that the site area has been significantly disturbed in the past, probably when the school was originally built. This would have removed or damaged any archaeological remains that might once have been present. The archaeological watching brief revealed no significant archaeological deposits, although has provided evidence for the construction of the school and works undertaken immediately around the grade II listed school building.

THE OLD SCHOOL, ST. DAVID'S, PEMBROKESHIRE: PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

**RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NUMBER 2012/32
RHIF Y DIGWYDDIAD / EVENT RECORD NO. 102869**

**Mai 2012
May 2012**

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

Hubert Wilson

Swydd / Position: Archaeologist

Llofnod / Signature

Dyddiad / Date: 15/05/12

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 15/05/12

*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*

