

LAMPETER UNIVERSITY CAMPUS LANDSCAPING WORKS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF (NGR SN 5800 4811)



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services
For: Hywel Griffiths on behalf of the
University of Wales Trinity Saint David



DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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LAMPETER UNIVERSITY CAMPUS LANDSCAPING WORKS ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Gan / By

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LAMPETER UNIVERSITY CAMPUS LANDSCAPING WORKS ARCHEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

SUMMARY

Planning Application No. A140341 was submitted to Ceredigion County Council for landscape improvements on land at the Lampeter Campus of University of Wales Trinity Saint David, Lampeter, Ceredigion (centred on NGR SN 5800 4811). The works involved the removal of former tennis courts and a hockey ground, laid to grass and tarmac. The area was being laid to grass with planting schemes and a network of paths to create a more attractive campus and open areas for events.

There is one scheduled ancient monument within 300m of the development site: medieval Stephen's Castle (SAM CD110; NGR SN57934827), a partially surviving earthwork motte castle, which lies around 80m north-northwest of the site. A grade II listed building, St David's University College, is the closest listed building to the development site at only 25m away to the north-northwest. The walls of the college are grade II listed, and seven other grade II listed buildings of post-medieval date lie beyond the college walls, all over 150m away from the development site.*

Thirty three non-designated archaeological and historical sites are recorded within 300m of the development site, mostly lying beyond the college walls and all of post medieval or modern date. The exception is 'Ardulas' (PRN 43362), a possible previous two-building fulling mill, that survives as one L-shaped building at the eastern boundary of the development site, on the far bank of the River Dulas.

Due to the archaeological potential of the site a condition was placed upon planning permission requiring the attendance of an archaeologist during the groundworks, in order to undertake an archaeological watching brief. Hywel Griffiths on behalf of the University of Wales Trinity St David commissioned DAT Archaeological Services to undertake the watching brief.

Overall, the site had only been slightly reduced in level by the majority of the landscaping works, including the removal of the former playing surfaces and partially stripped of a thin turf layer in other parts of the site. The former surfaces of the hockey pitches and tennis courts appear to have been a mix of fine grey and red gravels in layers. It was considered that the archaeological potential of the site to be disturbed by subsequent groundworks at the site was minimal. No significant archaeological remains were seen and no further visits to the site were deemed necessary.

Although no significant archaeological remains or deposits were recorded within this development area, the potential for the survival of archaeology to be present elsewhere in the vicinity of the development still remains.

1. INTRODUCTION

Project Proposals and Commission

- 1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Hywel Griffiths on behalf of the University of Wales Trinity Saint David to undertake an archaeological watching brief at landscape improvements on land at the Lampeter Campus of University of Wales Trinity Saint David, Lampeter, in Ceredigion (centred on NGR SN 5800 4811; Figures 1 and 2).
- 1.1.2 Planning permission had been granted by Ceredigion County Council for the landscaping works (Planning Application No A140341).
- 1.1.3 A condition (no. 3) relating to archaeology was placed on the planning application which stated: *"No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority."*
- 1.1.4 The condition was placed on the development by Ceredigion County Council following advice from the Planning Services section of Dyfed Archaeological Trust, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the planning authority, as the proposed area for landscaping lies within close proximity to several sites of archaeological and historical interest. These are described in section 3 of this report. There was deemed to be a strong enough possibility that associated archaeological material could extend into the application area and that any remains surviving as buried archaeological features would be adversely affected by the proposed development.

1.2 Scope of the Project

- 2.1 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) for a watching brief was prepared by DAT Archaeological Services prior to the commencement of the works, which was approved by the planning authority and their archaeological advisors prior to the commencement of the works. The project objectives were:
 - Provision of a written scheme of investigation to outline the methodology by which DAT Archaeological Services will undertake the watching brief.
 - 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.
- 2.2 The overall work was summarised as: *"Archaeological attendance during ground works associated with the proposed landscape improvements at University of Wales Trinity St David, Lampeter Campus, which are likely to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains. Appropriate investigation and recording of any such remains will be undertaken if revealed. A report and archive of the results of the works will also be prepared."*

1.3 Report Outline

- 1.3.1 This report describes the location of the development works along with its archaeological background, and provides a summary and discussion of the archaeological watching brief and its results.

1.4 Abbreviations

- 1.4.1 Sites recorded on the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR). Sites recorded on the National Monument Record (NMR) held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) are identified by their National Primary Record Number (NPRN). Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM). Altitude is expressed to Ordnance Datum (OD). References to cartographic and documentary evidence and published sources will be given in brackets throughout the text, with full details listed in the sources section at the rear of the report.

1.5 Illustrations

- 1.5.1 Photographic images are to be found within 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.

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 1086	
medieval Period –	1086 – 1536	
post-medieval Period ¹ –	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period –	1750 – 1899	
modern –	20 th century onwards	

Table 1: Archaeological and historical timeline for Wales

¹ *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*

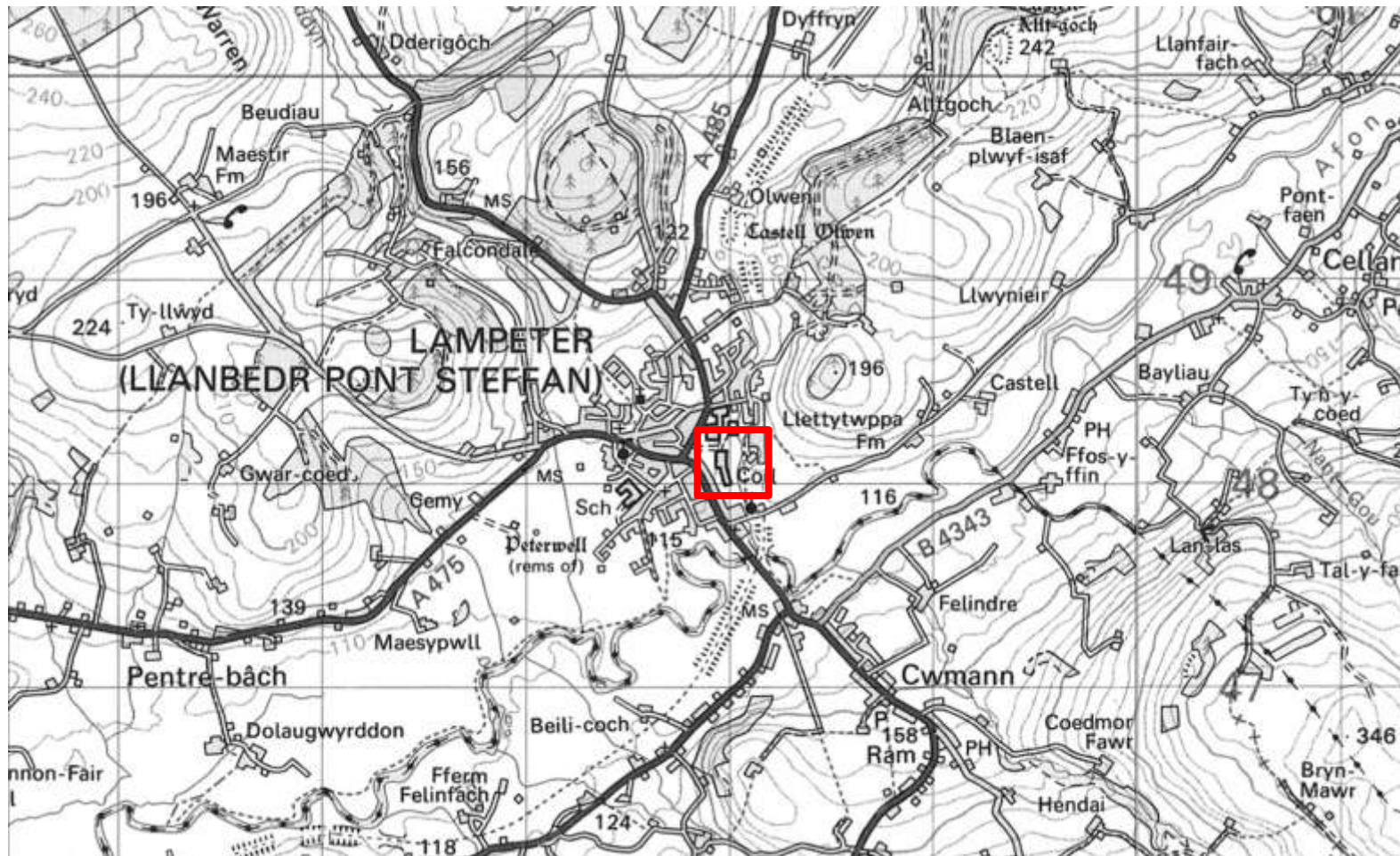


Figure 1: Map of the Lampeter area, with the development site location indicated by the red square

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Figure 2: Development site proposals outlined in red, with former tennis courts and hockey pitches outlined (plan supplied by client)

2. SITE LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 2.1 The site is at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David Lampeter Campus in Lampeter, Ceredigion (centred on NGR SN 5800 4811; Figures 1 and 2).
- 2.2 The campus lies immediately east of the small town centre of Lampeter. To the north of the campus there is residential housing; to the south of the campus is the River Teifi, which flows northeast-southwest in at this point; and to the east of the campus is a residential street and then open countryside.
- 2.3 The area for the landscaping works lies within the centre of the campus buildings (Figure 2). Former tarmac tennis courts, used as a car park in recent years, and a gravel hockey ground surrounded by grass existed on the area of development before works started.
- 2.4 The site is at between 110m and 120m aOD and is flat.
- 2.5 The River Dulas runs north-south at the western boundary of the development site and joins the River Teifi 0.4km south of the site.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 The Historic Landscape

- 3.1.1 The development does not lie within the boundaries of any Historic Landscape Characterisation Area recorded on the Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales (Cadw 1998). The nearest is over 10km away.
- 3.1.2 There are two conservation areas within a 300m radius of the proposed development site. The first is the River Teifi Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) of which the River Dulas that flows adjacent to the site is a part. The SSSI was designated because it has a variety of special wildlife features, such as Otters, breeding and wintering birdlife and a range of rare flowering plants, mosses and insects. The second conservation area is the River Teifi Special Area of Conservation (SAC), designated for much the same reasons as the SSSI.
- 3.1.3 No registered Parks or Garden lies within a 300m radius of the proposed development site.

3.2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments

- 3.2.1 There is one scheduled ancient monument within 300m of the development site (Figure 3). This is the medieval Stephen's Castle; Lampeter Castle Mound (SAM CD110; NGR SN 5793 4827), a partially surviving earthwork motte castle, which lies around 80m north-northwest of the site.
- 3.2.2 The original surveyors drawings for the Ordnance Survey(c.1819) appear to show the castle earthworks prior to the building of the college, with a small work north-west of the motte and two successive sub-rectangular enclosures to the south. The retaining wall east and south-east of the Old College buildings may preserve something of this layout. The mound survives at roughly 10m high on top of which a wooden keep would have originally been constructed. It is assumed that a former bailey would have surrounded the motte, a defended area within which associated buildings and houses would have been located. The area of the motte was eventually incorporated into the college landscaping and truncated by the main building. The potential was highlighted for the bailey to extend into the landscaping area, which could include structural remains of associated buildings within the bailey.

3.3 Listed Buildings

- 3.3.1 There are no grade I listed buildings, one grade II* listed buildings and seven grade II listed buildings within 300m of the development site (Table 2; Figure 3).
- 3.3.2 The grade II* listed building is St David's University College (original buildings). This is the closest listed building to the development site at only 25m away to the north-northwest. It was built in 1822-7, designed by C.R. Cockerell, the pre-eminent neo-classical architect of early/mid19th century Britain. Lampeter was the first university college founded in England and Wales after Oxford and Cambridge; it was established by Bishop Burgess of Saint David's and J.S. Harford, owner of the Peterwell estate, Lampeter, for the education of future Anglican clergymen unable to afford the English universities. Its listing describes it as: *"An exceptional group of educational buildings of considerable internal importance."*

- 3.3.3 All seven of the grade II listed buildings are of post-medieval date and lie more than 150m away from the development site, beyond the walls of the college (except the listed walls themselves).

Listed Building No.	Grade	Site name	Period	NGR	Distance to site
10426	II	Walls & Surrounding Terrace At The War Memorial, Bryn Road	Post-medieval	SN 57881 48373	210m SSE
10431	II*	St David's University College (Original Buildings)	Post-medieval	SN 57916 48221	25m ESE
10432	II	Post Office	Post-medieval	SN 57787 48173	180m E
10434	II	Harford Fountain	Post-medieval	SN 57775 48104	200m E
10435	II	17 Harford Square	Post-medieval	SN 57786 48102	200m E
87644	II	Tenovus/Pet Shop	Post-medieval	SN 57707 48116	270m E
87645	II	Lodge to St David's University	Post-medieval	SN 57800 48145	170m E
87646	II	Gates and Boundary wall to St David's University College, Lampeter	Post-medieval	SN 57898 48341	140m SE

Table 2: Listed buildings within 300m of the development site

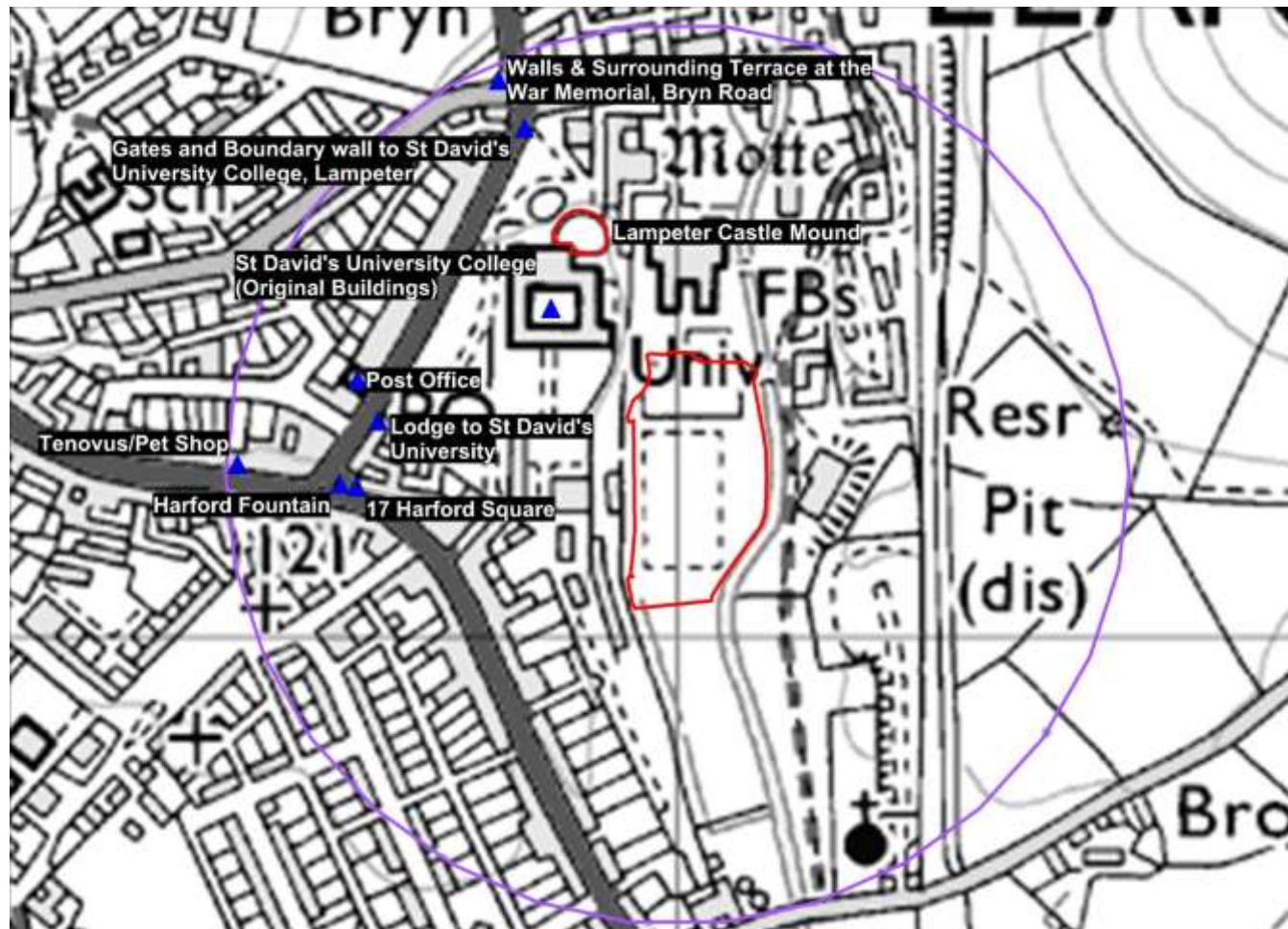


Figure 3: Map of Scheduled Ancient Monuments (red circle) and listed buildings (blue triangles) within 300m of the development site (outlined in red)

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3.4 Known Archaeological Remains

- 3.4.1 A search of the Dyfed HER and the NMR indicates that there are currently forty known sites of archaeological and historical importance within a 300m radius centred on the development site (Table 3; Figure 4).
- 3.4.2 The scheduled ancient monument and listed buildings described above are included: SAM Stephen's Castle; Lampeter Castle Mound is PRN 779 and Grade II* listed building St David's College is PRN 4772.
- 3.4.3 No remains of prehistoric, Roman or Early Medieval date are recorded. From the medieval period, there is the SAM Stephen's Castle, already discussed, and also a corn mill only known from documentary evidence (PRN 12945). All the other records describe buildings of post-medieval date related to residence, industry and trade within the town centre.
- 3.4.4 The closest record to the development site, 8m to the east, is 'Ardulas' (PRN 43362), two storey L shaped dwelling with slate roof. It has been suggested that it is the fulling mill that is shown on the 1st edition OS map of 1889. This building lies on the other side of the Dulas stream from the development site, but there is still a potential for archaeological remains related to it to be found. This may have been constructed on the same site as the medieval fulling mill or corn mill (PRN 12945)

PRN NPRN	Name	Description	Period	NGR
779 303589	Stephen's Castle; Lampeter Castle Mound	Motte approximately 10m in height. Motte damaged through development on south and west side. Eastern edge has stone revetment.	Medieval	SN57934827
4772 302080 /23298	St David's College	Grade II* listed building. Built c.1822-7 in simplified Tudor Gothic design, by CR Cockerel, the pre-eminent neo-classical architect. Lampeter was the first University College founded in England and Wales since Oxford and Cambridge.	Post-medieval	SN5791648221
9560	Bridge Street	Workhouse. Restored building.	Post-medieval	SN57714809
10044 35209	Ricketts	Commercial premises formally one of 4 terraced units RJ based on UWL 2001	Post-medieval	SN5777848152
12945	Bridge Street	Fulling Mill, Corn Mill, known from documentary evidence.	Medieval	SN578480
17200		Pit. Earthwork on map.	Post-medieval	SN58154803
17204	Brondreifi Unitarian Church	Single storey building with tower and hexagonal spire. Undergoing restoration (2001) based on UWL field report RJ	Post-medieval	SN58124788
20406		Blacksmiths Workshop. The building comprises of stone foundations c. 1m in height, which support timber framed structure clad in timber and corrugated iron sheeting. Building is in poor condition. based on UWL 2001 project RJ	Post-medieval	SN57784800
20407 109431 /7272	St Thomas Methodist Church	Restored building, refurbished hexagonal window based on UWL field report RJ 2001	Post-medieval	SN57724804
21381 41117	Lampeter Station Sawmill	Sawmill - demolished.	Post-medieval	SN58134836

21383 40850	Lampeter Woollen Factory	19th century woollen mill, converted into houses.	Post-medieval	SN58184818
25702 409769	Bryn Road	Grade II listed. War Memorial, comprises of bronze figure on polished granite plinth. Inscriptions to WWI and II. Figure inscribed with artists W Goscombe-John RA 1921 based on UWL field report RJ	Post-medieval	SN5787548383
25705	Lampeter Post Office	Grade II listed. 3 storey building, lower half limestone facade at ground level. Date stone 1933. Corinthian columns. Carved stone pediment text 'Lampeter Post Office'	Post-medieval	SN5778748173
25706 32234	Harford Fountain	Grade II listed. Situated at the main cross roads at the town centre, the fountain was originally erected 1862 and restored 1990.	Post-medieval	SN5777548104
25707	Harford Square No17	Grade II listed. Circa 1840 construction date end of terrace house. Rough cast finish with low slated hipped roof with wide eaves. BSAHI 1992 Lampeter suggest property is the 'best survivor from a late Georgian style terraced row.'	Post-medieval	SN5778648102
43346	Garth House	Garth House is a 2-Storey Georgian Building is of double pile type. It has a large front entrance porch with balcony over. derived from UWL 2001 project RJ	Post-medieval	SN5786648041
43347	Lampeter AFC Social Club	This is a large, modern, rectangular 3-storey building (former Co-op). derived from UWL 2001 project RJ	Modern	SN5781248044
43348	Burgess Hall/Temperance Hotel	The is a 3-storey red brick building with Turret on NE side. It has stylised surrounds of both windows and doors of red brick and Terracotta. The building shown on OS 2nd ed. surveyed 1904	Post-medieval, Modern	SN5787848355
43349	Public Toilets Bryn Road	This is a single storey red brick building. The facade has a large circular window as a feature and two arched entrances. derived from UWL 2001 project RJ	Modern	SN5784148346
43350	Victoria Hall	The Victoria Hall in Lampeter is a two storey building that has undergone extensive remodelling since construction. The facade is of Romanesque style. derived from UWL 2001 project RJ	Modern	SN5783548333
43359	Chemist	This is a Victorian 3-storey building converted to modern commercial premises. Decorated window surrounds possible stable to rear. Modern shop facade Based on UWL 2001 project RJ	Post-medieval	SN5776248130
43361	Priordy	Dwelling. This double fronted L shaped building is decorated with Fleur de lys roof finials, moulded ridge tiles and Tudor rose decor above windows. Based on UWL 2001 project RJ	Post-medieval	SN5771748054
43362	Ardulas	Dwelling. This two storey L shaped building with slate roof. Suggested as Fulling mill, as shown on 1887 OS Based on UWL 2001 project RJ	Post-medieval	SN5808448185
43363	Station Terrace No 14-19	An example of two storey terraced housing, slate roof 6 dwellings in total based on UWL 2001	Post-medieval	SN5801548398
43364	Station Terrace 1-13	Example of terraced houses, two storeys with slate roof 13 in number. Based on UWL 2001 project RJ	Post-medieval	SN5794748383
43365 305056	Lampeter Gas Works	Works built in 1869, when large quantities of coal could be brought to the town by the newly opened Manchester & Milford Railway (nprn 91660). Still in use a a gas-storage facility.	Post-medieval	SN5805447830
43372	Former Slaughter	The site is an L shaped building complex, with courtyard. It has been suggested that	Post-medieval	SN5802147821

	House	this was formally a slaughter House and Office. Based on UWL 2001 project RJ		
43380	Bridge Street Shops 21 23 And 25	3 storey Terrace, Stone facades.	Post-medieval	SN57864799
43383	High Street No.44	Shop. This 19th century 3 storey building of stone construction with slate roof. The facade has decorative mouldings around upper floor windows. Marked on 1905 OS as Post Office	Post-medieval	SN5770748120
43393	Bank	The bank building is of possible late 19th century early 20th century construction with facade of Neo-classical design. The building is rendered with ground floor modelled to form imitate block work. Based on UWL 2001 project RJ	Post Med, Modern	SN5778548086
43396	Barn Antiques	The building is possibly shown on 1st edition 1887. The building comprises of composite of building techniques, lower floor appears to be of brick/stone construction and upper floor clad with corrugated sheeting. Facade has large Victorian type shop fr	Post-medieval	SN5775148150
43397	The Kings Head	The building shown on OS 2nd ed mapping. The public house comprises of a two storey stone building with slate roof, as part of a terrace. The facade is of dressed stone, and contains large gate/entrance for carts/coaches? Based on UWL 2001 project RJ	Post-medieval	SN5783248039
43398	Porter's Lodge- St David's College	The Porters lodge consists of a single storey building with slate roof. The building is rendered and has ornamentation at the head of windows. Based on UWL 2001 project RJ	Post-medieval	SN5780048147
43404 /43584	Ivy Bush Inn	A late 19th century coach Inn, the building has been successively remodelled since construction and now exists as two separate premises. Stable block to rear. Based on UWL 2001 project RJ	Post-medieval	SN5774048093
43583	High Street No.2	Shop. A 2.5 storey mid to late 19th century building, facade rendered with stucco finish and plaster work around openings. The building is topped with a Welsh slate roof.	Post-medieval	SN57744810
57339	Walls And Surrounding Terrace	Walls And Surrounding Terrace At The War Memorial, Bryn Road, Grade II listed walls and terrace	Post-medieval	SN5788148373
268059	Lampeter Borough	Lampeter Town.	General	SN5776348102
7271	Brondeifi Chapel (Unitarian), Lampeter	Built in 1876. The chapel was rebuilt in 1902 in the Gothic style of the gable entry type with a tower and a spire.	Post-medieval	SN5812947866
407755	Conti's Cafe, 5 Harford Square, Lampeter	A three storeyed building with the gable end facing onto the busy Harford Square at the centre of Lampeter. The ground floor cafe was opened in 1933 by Mr Attilio Conti, who with his brothers (Alf and Jack) owned 12 or 13 cafes in Carmarthenshire and West Glamorgan.	Post-medieval	SN57754809
408669	The Roderic Bowen Library And Archives, University Of Wales Lampeter	A purpose-built research library for the special collections, built adjacent to the main library at the University of Wales Lampeter (NPRN 23298). Modernist in style, designed by Harry James of James Jenkins Thomas, Architects (Aberystwyth), with TPT Construction of Narberth as contractors.	Modern	SN57924824

Table 3: Sites recorded on the Dyfed HER and NMR within 300m of the development (NMR data is recorded in *italics*)

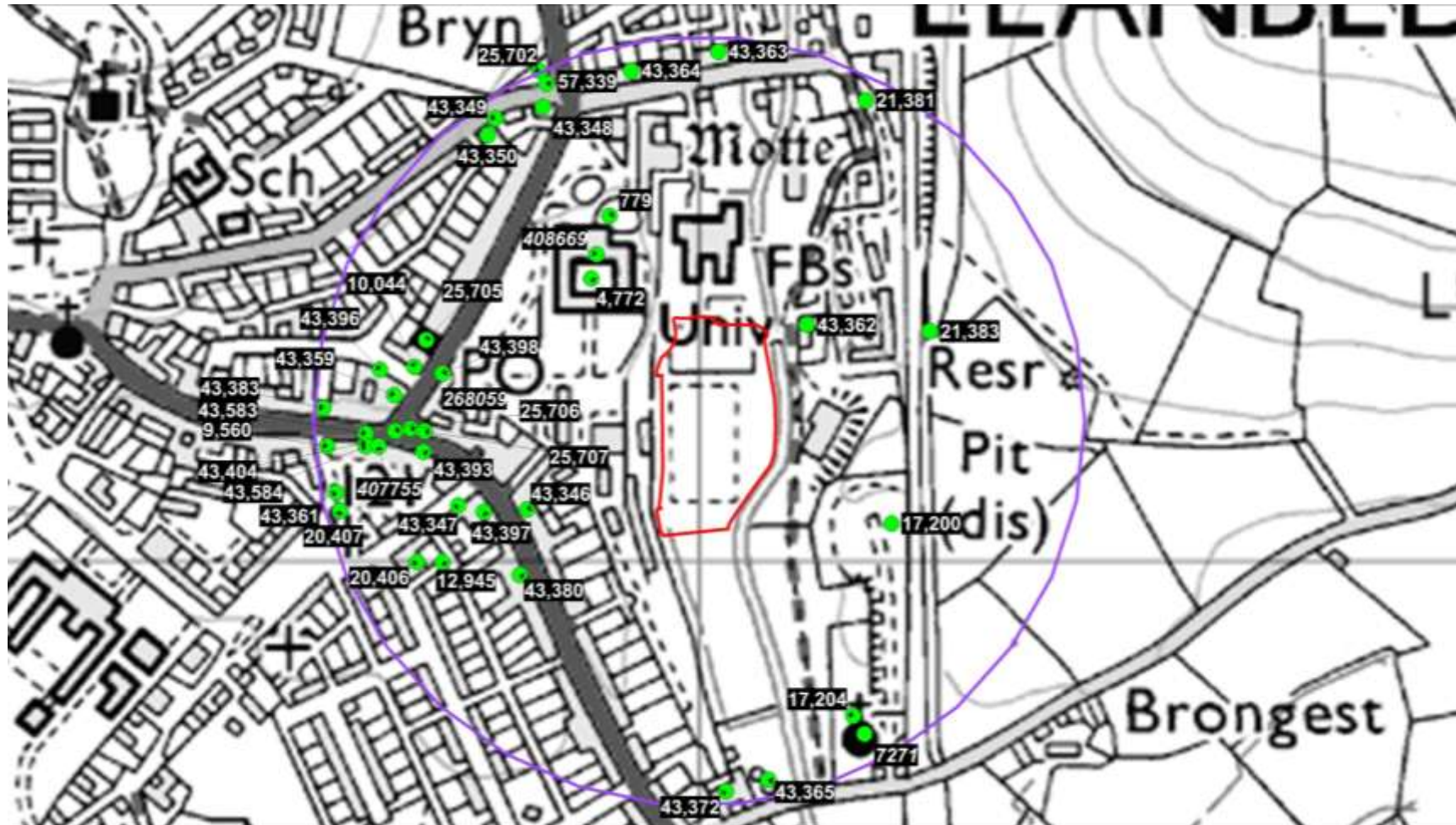


Figure 4: Map of HER and NMR records (green circles; NMR-only record in *italic text*) within 300m of the development site (outlined in red)

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3.5 Historic Mapping

- 3.5.1 Figure 5 shows the 1841 tithe map for Lampeter town, including the college. Compared to the present day it shows a far smaller town centre and a far smaller college in terms of both buildings and land. The tithe apportionment shows that the fields where the landscaping is being carried out (nos. 954 and 955 on Figure 5) were rented to local farms by a John Herford, but their state of cultivation is not described.

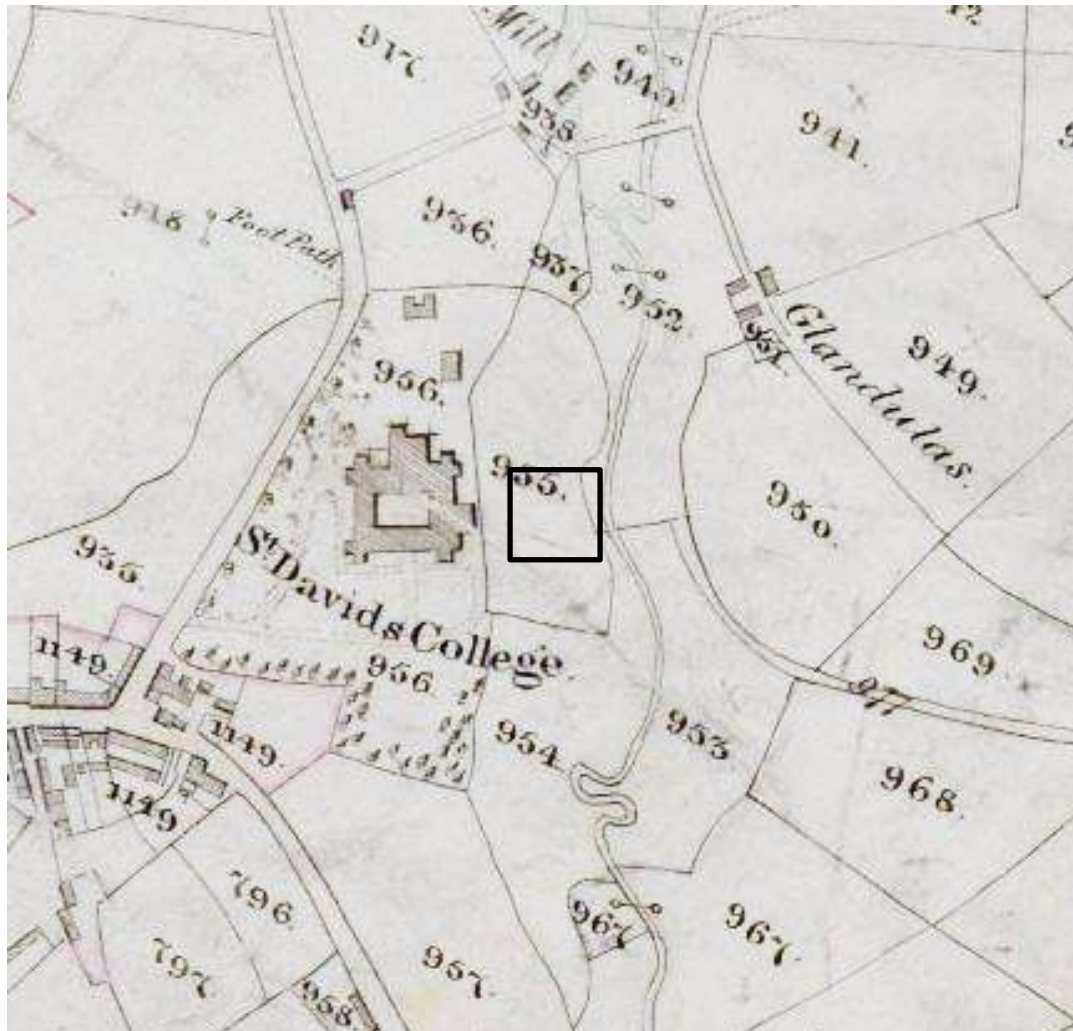


Figure 5: Extract from the 1841 Lampeter parish tithe map, with a black box showing the approximate position of the present development

- 3.5.2 The 1st edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 OS map of 1889 (not illustrated) shows an expansion of the college; with the addition of the Canterbury buildings south of the original college. The map also indicates there had been a change in the field boundaries and much expansion of the town along the main streets and to the north of the college too. The railway had been built by this time and is shown running north-south on the other side of the River Dulas from the college. Mills have appeared to the northeast of the college between the river and railway, and the river seems to have been straightened at this section. The new buildings include the L-shaped PRN 42262 described in paragraph 1.12 of this report, but it is not named or described on this or subsequent maps. The buildings of the farm of Glandulas marked on the tithe map (Figure 5) are no longer apparent.

- 3.15 The 1905 2nd edition 1:2500 OS map (Figure 6) is much the same as the 1st edition 1889 but shows another building next the river by the L-shaped building (PRN 42262, described in paragraph 1.12). There are also nurseries marked beyond the L-shaped building, however they are not marked on the 1906 1:10560 OS map or any later ones (<https://www.old-maps.co.uk>).

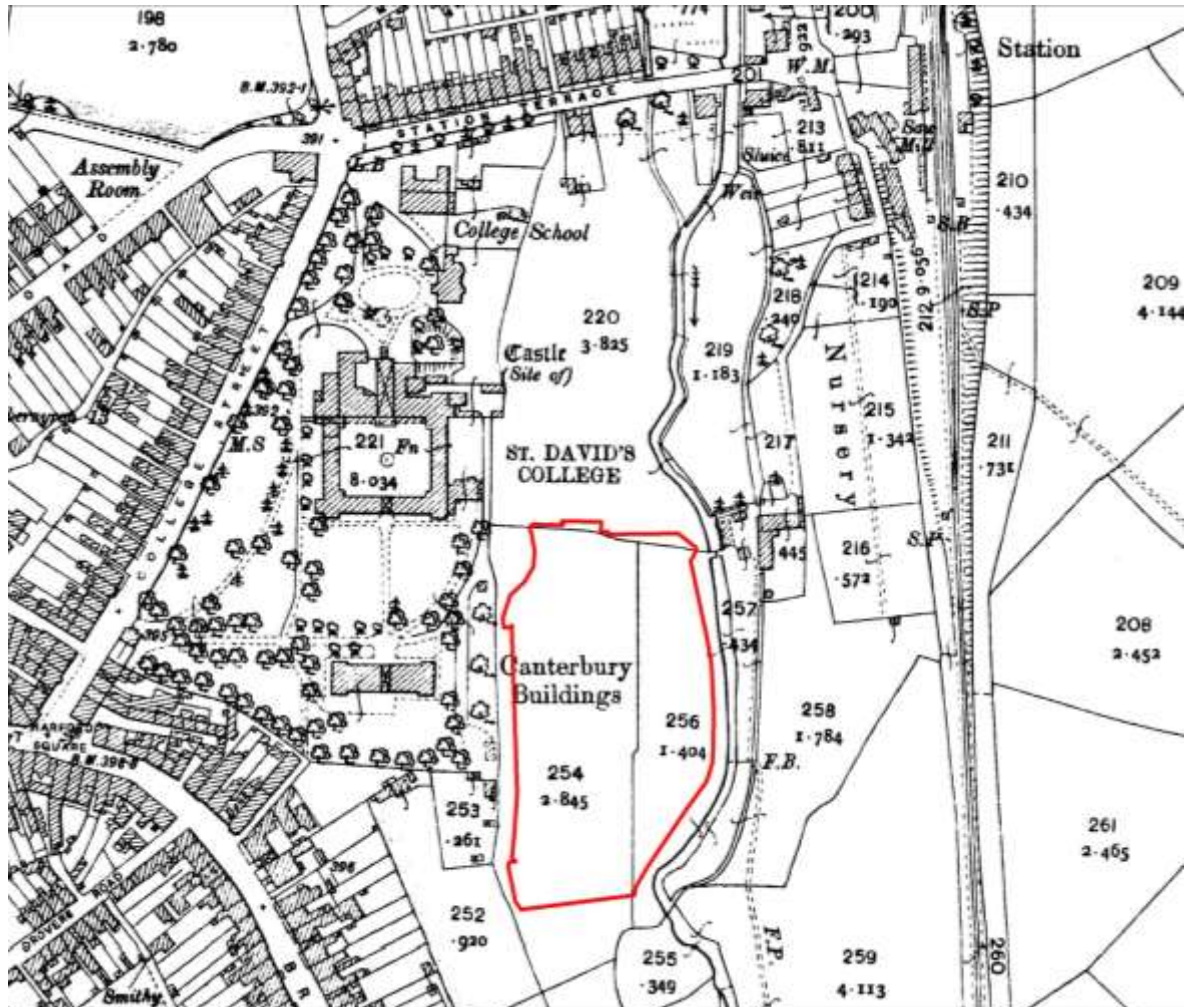


Figure 6: Extract from the 1905 1:2500 OS map of Cardiganshire, with development site outlined in red

- 3.16 By the time the 1953 1:10560 OS map was produced, little had changed, but by the 1962 1:10560 OS map, the building by the river next to the L-shaped building is gone (*ibid*). The 1972 1:2500 OS map shows that the playing fields currently under development have been built, and more buildings have sprung up around the campus, including the block immediately to the north of the development site (*ibid*). Between 1972 and the present day, a few more buildings have been built around the university but little else has changed (*ibid*).

4. WATCHING BRIEF METHODOLOGY

4.1 Fieldwork

- 4.1.1 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.
- 4.1.2 Excavation work was undertaken by a number of mini diggers, some with flat bladed buckets and others with toothed buckets, although the majority of the resulting stripped surface was relatively level. All archaeological deposits revealed during the groundworks were examined and recorded to an appropriate level.
- 4.1.3 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 DAT Archaeological Services.

4.2 Timetabling of Fieldwork

- 4.2.1 The watching brief took place at the Lampeter Campus of the University of Wales Trinity St David on 10th December 2014.

4.3 Post-Fieldwork Reporting and Archiving

- 4.3.1 All data recovered during the fieldwork will be collated into a site archive structured in accordance with 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.
- 4.3.2 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.
- 4.3.3 A report fully representative of the results of the fieldwork has been prepared.

² **DAT Archaeological Services have adopted the Recording Manual developed by English Heritage Centre for Archaeology. A copy will be available on-site for inspection if required.**

5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

- 5.1 The main groundworks for the landscaping project had already been completed when the watching brief commenced, and the ground had been partially tracked over by plant vehicles and was slightly weathered. The exposed surface was considered sufficient to determine the archaeological potential of the site area.
- 5.2 The former tennis courts and hockey surfaces had been removed. Scrubby grassland was visible in patches where it had not been fully stripped. Overall less than 0.20m had been scraped from the site area. This did not appear to expose the underlying natural ground surface. Photo 1 shows an overall shot of a large part of the site after the at the time the watching brief was undertaken.



Photo 1: General overview, looking east-northeast, of a large part at the north of the development site after groundworks had taken place. Three of the square drainage pits can be seen, surrounded by orange netting.

- 5.3 The hockey surfaces and the surface under the tarmac of the tennis courts appear to have comprised a mix of fine grey and red gravels in layers (Photo 2). A c.0.3m depth of these gravels could be seen within the drainage trench around the western edge of the area. This trench was approximately 1m wide. The base of the drainage channel was waterlogged and puddled in many areas.
- 5.4 A number of larger pits had been excavated for drainage, measuring approximately 1.5m x 1.5m, possibly for soakaways (locations recorded by photograph only; examples shown in Photo 1 and Photo 3). These were very full of water so their depth could not be gauged.
- 5.5 The majority of the paths and small 'roundabout' feature in the north-western part of the site area had already been constructed (Photo 1). These stood proud of the stripped surface by around 0.20m, just above or at the previous ground level. The paths had been edged with wooden batons and then the path filled with tarmac. Seemingly no deeper excavations had been needed for the path.



Photo 2: A vertical section through the groundworks shows the mix of fine grey and red gravels in layers making up the old surfaces of the hockey pitch



Photo 3: Looking east: One of the larger drainage holes of approximately 1.5m x 1.5m that had been dug within the area, possibly for soakaways

- 5.6 Spoil heaps scattered around the site were either almost entirely gravels, or where turf was present were probably around 40% a light sandy topsoil and turf mixed with former surface gravels. They also contained one area of broken concrete slabs (Photo 4).



Photo 4: Looking south: An example of the spoil heaps scattered around the site, showing light sandy topsoil and turf mixed with former surface gravels, and broken concrete slabs

6. CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 A watching brief was carried out during groundworks associated with landscaping works at the Lampeter Campus of the University of Wales Trinity Saint David, Lampeter, Ceredigion, on 10th December 2014.
- 6.2 The main groundworks for the landscaping project had already been started when the watching brief commenced, although enough of the ground was exposed and visible on which to determine the archaeological potential of the site area.
- 6.3 Overall probably less than 0.20m had been scraped from the site area which did not expose the underlying natural ground surface.
- 6.4 The hockey surfaces and the surface under the tarmac of the tennis courts seemed to comprise a mix of fine grey and red gravels in layers. The depth of these layers was recorded as at least 0.30m in the slightly deeper channel excavated around the western perimeter of the landscaping area.
- 6.5 Spoil heaps scattered around the site could be seen to comprise some topsoil but mixed with substantial quantities of former surface gravels, stone and concrete slabs in one area.
- 6.6 The construction of the former hockey pitches and tennis courts would have required ground levelling which could have already exposed, damaged or destroyed any archaeological remains which may have been present beneath. The seemingly unnatural levelness of this area may attest to previous levelling. The present groundworks have mostly been so shallow as to not penetrate beneath former levelling layers for the former pitches and courts.
- 6.7 In terms of whether the site area could have previously been part of the bailey of medieval motte, this is uncertain. The area is very low lying and lies directly adjacent to the River Dulas and is unlikely to have been suitable for domestic buildings. Potentially the area could have been used as meadow or pasture for the castle. The documented site of the medieval Fulling mill does indicate the potential for a mill to be present in this low lying area, although no sign of any structural remains, leats or channels was identified during the watching brief. The fact that the later fulling mill is thought to have been located on the opposite side of the river is more likely to suggest that this would have also been the site of an earlier medieval mill. It is more probable that a mill would use the existing infrastructure of an earlier mill, rather than starting afresh.
- 6.8 Overall, the site had only been slightly reduced in level by the removal of the former gravel playing surfaces and partially stripped of a thin turf layer in other parts of the site. No archaeology was recorded and the potential for any significant archaeological remains to be exposed by the proposed landscaping works was minimal and so no further visits were deemed necessary.
- 6.9 Although no significant archaeological remains or deposits were recorded within the development area, the potential for the survival of archaeological remains elsewhere in the vicinity of the development still remains.

7. SOURCES

Published

Cadw 1998. *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales*.

Database

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record, housed with Dyfed Archaeological Trust in The Shire Hall, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, SA19 6AF

Cartographic

Parish tithe map 1841 Lampeter

Ordnance Survey 1905 1:2500 1st edition Cardiganshire

**LAMPETER UNIVERSITY CAMPUS
LANDSCAPING WORKS:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2014/58
RHIF Y PROSIECT / EVENT RECORD NO. 107535

Ionawr 2015
January 2015

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

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Swydd / Position: **Assistant Archaeologist**

Llofnod / Signature  Date: 27/01/2015

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 DAT Archaeological Services**

Llofnod / Signature  Date: 27/01/2015

*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*

