

**ST ISHMAEL'S CHURCH,
LAMBSTON, PEMBROKESHIRE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING
BRIEF
(NGR SM 90707 16945)**



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services
For: Charlotte Scott



DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2015/1
RHIF Y DIGWYLLIAD / EVENT RECORD NO. 107538

Tachwedd 2015
November 2015

ST ISHMAEL'S CHURCH, LAMBSTON, PEMBROKESHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Gan / By

Alice Day and Charles Enright

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Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf
Corner House, 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
Corner House, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo,
Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF
Tel: General Enquiries 01558 823121
Heritage Management Section 01558 823131
Fax: 01558 823133
Email: info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk
Website: www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk

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ST ISHMAEL'S CHURCH, LAMBSTON, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

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**ST ISHMAEL'S CHURCH, LAMBSTON, PEMBROKESHIRE:
ARCHEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

SUMMARY

Planning Application No. 13/0909/PA was submitted to Pembrokeshire County Council for the conversion to a residential property of St Ishmael's Church in Lambston, Pembrokeshire (NGR SM 90707 16945).

St Ishmael's Church itself is the only known registered heritage asset within 300m. It is a Grade II listed building that retains much of its medieval fabric and has been subject to only small renovations in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The church is also the only record in the Regional Historic Environment Record and the National Monument Record within 250m. The churchyard is roughly D-shaped and therefore potentially established in the Early Medieval period (post-Roman/410AD to pre-1086). The raised churchyard could even suggest a prehistoric date for the site.

The proposed works were designed to cause minimal disturbance to the church and its associated churchyard comprising: Installation of service trenches from the north-western end of the church; construction of a car park area to the northeast of the churchyard; widening of the footpath to the west of church; construction of steps up to the churchyard; connection of existing rainwater drainage to an existing soak-away; internal works within the church. No landscaping or alteration to the existing churchyard was proposed, and shallow rooted shrubs only are to be used.

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. As the proposals were likely to disturb unmarked graves, inside and outside of the church, a burial licence was sought from the Ministry of Justice prior to the works commencing.

It was also recommended that a photographic recording survey of the fabric of the church itself in its present state was made. Charlotte Scott commissioned DAT Archaeological Services to undertake the building recording and watching brief, which took place on 17th July and 16th-17th September 2014 and on the 17th – 20th February 2015, followed by a final visit on the 26th of February.

As expected, a large amount of disarticulated and fragmented human remains were encountered throughout the excavation areas. It is believed that these reflected the remains of burials that had previously been disturbed. A number of in-situ burials were also exposed in the churchyard with bodies laid out in supine position and aligned east-west, a typical Christian burial.

On the southwest and northwest corner of the church two stone structures were observed to be projecting from the building and possibly represent the remains of former buttresses, common features on old buildings used to support the walls.

Inside the church it was revealed that some of the floor slabs were re-used grave slabs. The possible footings for a font were found located near the doorway. At the east end of the church a possible early floor, or altar step was revealed beneath the floor slabs. Following the identification of possible medieval painted wall plaster within the church a specialist conservator, Jane Rutherford was appointed by the client to undertake a separate scheme of evaluation and analysis.

No other further evidence of earlier structures was identified during the course of the watching brief, but this does not negate the potential for structural archaeological remains to exist in the wider area.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Proposals and Commission

1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Charlotte Scott to undertake an archaeological watching brief at St Ishmael's Church in Lambston, Pembrokeshire (SM 90707 16945; Figure 1) during its conversion to a residential property (NGR SM 90707 16945; Figure 1).

1.1.2 Planning permission had been granted by Pembrokeshire County Council for the conversion (Planning Application No. 13/0909/PA).

1.1.3 Any works within church sites were very likely to disturb burials, but it was also possible that structural remains associated with the development of the church could have been present. These could have included footings for masonry walls or post-holes or similar associated with timber buildings. Due to this archaeological potential a planning condition relating to archaeology was placed upon planning permission for the development by Pembrokeshire County Council following advice from the Planning Services section of Dyfed Archaeological Trust, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the planning authority. This condition stated that:

"No further development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. This shall be in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority."

1.1.4 It was also recommended that a photographic recording survey of the fabric of the church itself in its present state was made.

1.1.5 The proposed works were designed to cause minimal disturbance to the church and its associated churchyard (Figure 2). The proposed works at the site which required mitigation were summarised as follows:

- Installation of service trenches for drains/water/oil etc. from the north-western end of the church, running directly to the north and following the perimeter of the churchyard to the east before dropping outside of the northern boundary of the churchyard
- Construction of a car park area to the northeast of the churchyard, beyond the limits of the church boundary
- Widening of footpath to the west of church
- Construction of steps up to the higher ground of the churchyard, to be built up
- Re-use of existing rainwater drainage around the church and connection to an already existing soak-away
- Internal works within the church (which were initially intended to be minimal)

1.1.6 No landscaping was proposed within the churchyard, other than a planting scheme for shallow rooted shrubs to define the boundaries between the house and Church in Wales cemetery area (which lies to the east of the main churchyard). No alteration to the existing churchyard was proposed, other than service connection/drainage and the replacement of existing footpaths and addition of the new one over drainage runs.

1.1.7 As the proposals could have disturbed unmarked graves, a burial licence was obtained from the Ministry of Justice prior to the works commencing.

1.2 Scope of the Project

- 1.2.1 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) for a photographic recording and 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 photographic recording and 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
- 1.2.2 The overall work was summarised as: *"The implementation of schemes of archaeological mitigation, to include watching briefs and building recording during the conversion of St Ishmael's Church, Lambston to a residential property."*

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*

2. SITE LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 2.1 The site is at St Ishmael's Church in Lambston, Pembrokeshire (NGR SM 90707 16945; Figure 1).
- 2.2 Lambston lies approximately 4km west of the town of Haverfordwest and 1.05km north of the village of Sutton.
- 2.3 St Ishmael's church lies on a roughly circular piece of ground that stands a couple of metres higher than its surroundings.
- 2.4 Adjacent to the church to the southeast is Lambston Hall and its farm buildings.
- 2.5 Apart from the church and hall, only two other residential dwellings and small ruin occupy the tiny village.
- 2.6 Lambston is situated at just over 50m OD on the northeast-facing side of a gently sloping hill. The summit of the hill is to the southwest of the site at 78m OD, and the surrounding countryside is of similar gentle hills, separated by streams, mostly used as farmland.

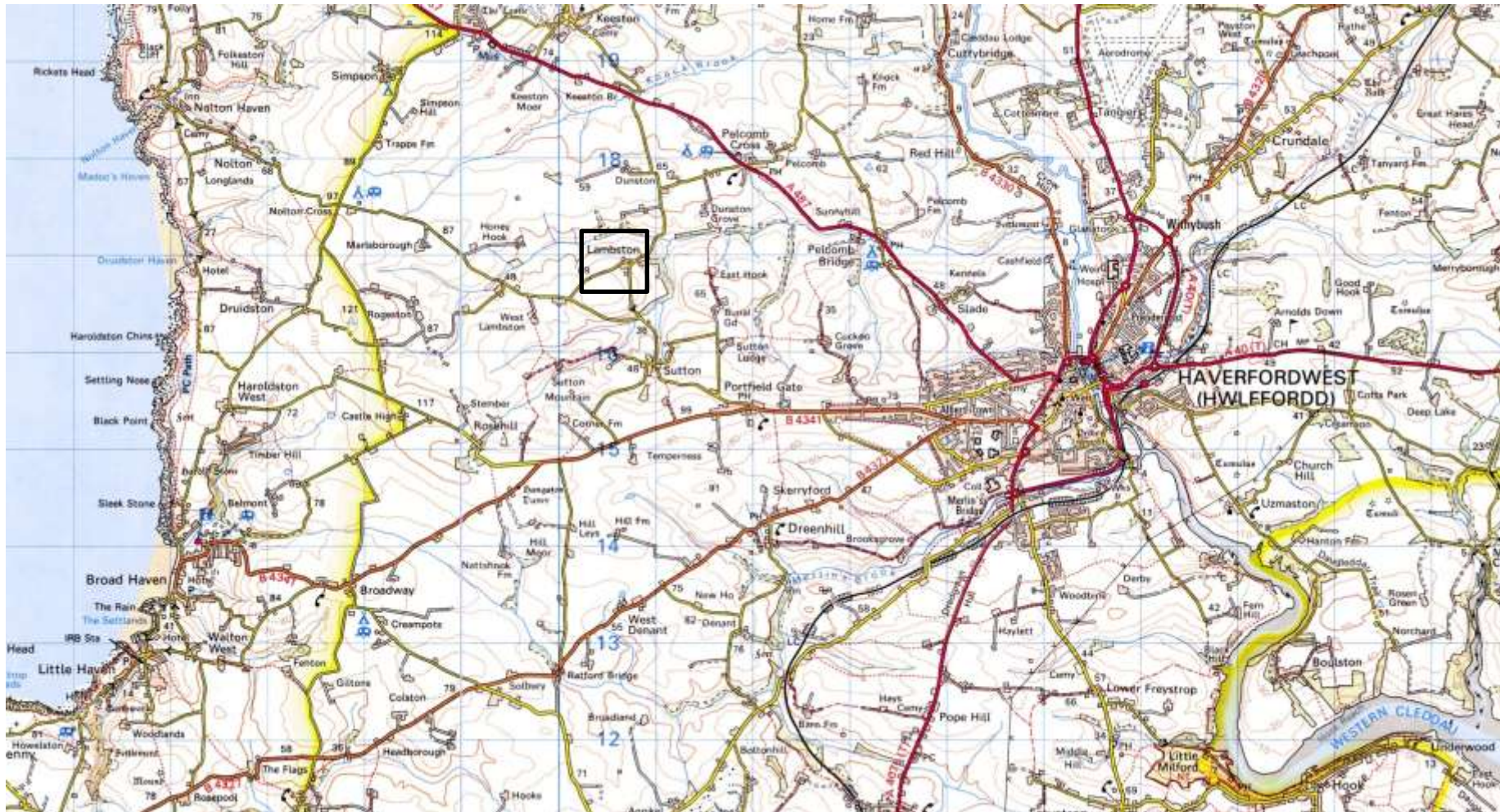


Figure 1: Map of the Haverfordwest area, with the development site location indicated by the black square

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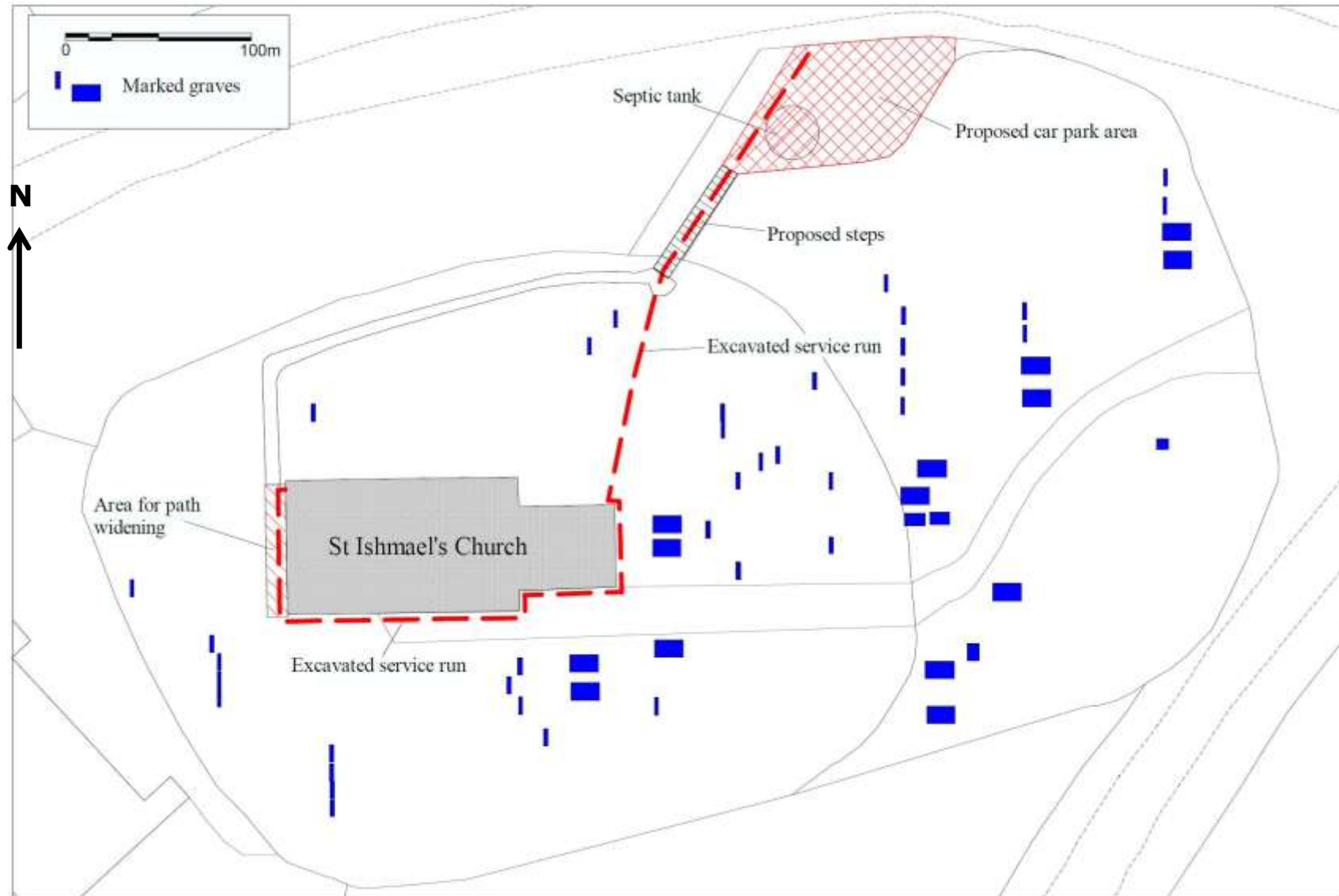


Figure 2: Plan of St Ishmael Church, marked graves and service runs around the perimeter of the church and through churchyard

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 that of Haverfordwest, which is at its nearest to the site is 2.5km away.
- 3.1.2 There are no conservation areas, registered parks, registered gardens or Scheduled Ancient Monuments within a 300m radius of the development site.

3.2 Listed Buildings

- 3.2.1 The only listed building within 300m of the development site is St Ishmael's Church itself (listed building number 25147). It is a grade II listed building, and the reason given for its listing is: *"Included as a small parish church of medieval origins which has retained its distinctive character."* The following paragraphs summarise information recorded by the Welsh Historic Churches project (Ludlow 2000).
- 3.2.2 Lambston Church is a small two celled church, which retains the majority of its medieval fabric. It consists of a chancel of two bays and a nave of four bays. It is built of limestone rubble. Internally it is completely rendered (*though during the works it was noted that this comprised thick layers of limewash as opposed to 19th century cement based rendering*). The majority of the windows were replaced during renovations in the late 19th or early 20th century, as were the floors and the majority of the internal plaster work. The roofs were replaced in the 1890s.
- 3.2.3 St Ishmael is a Celtic saint dedication, indicating an early foundation, possibly pre-conquest (1086). The sub-circular and raised churchyard may also suggest an early date for its foundation. The raised churchyard could even suggest a prehistoric date for the site. The earliest documentary reference is from the late 13th century, but the indications are that it was founded much earlier.

3.3 Known Archaeological Remains

- 3.3.1 The Dyfed Historic Environment and National Monument Record list only three sites within a 250m radius of the church. All three relate to the church (Table 2): record number PRN 3299 is for the church itself and specifically its medieval origins and post-medieval renovations; PRN 59738 also refers to the church, the record specifically recognising the fact it is a grade II listed building; record PRN 46797 refers to the churchyard, noting that it is roughly D-shaped and is therefore potentially of Early Medieval date (post-Roman/410AD to pre-1086).

3.4 Historic Mapping

- 3.4.1 Figure 3 shows an extract of the 1839 tithe map for Lambston Parish, the oldest map of the area available to this study. It shows a basic layout to the village that is similar to that of the present day (Figure 4). Later historic maps show the village contracting slightly over the years, but more farm buildings being added at Lambston Hall. The Rectory, situated in field 92 on the tithe map (described as 'The Green' in the tithe apportionment), remains on maps until 1973. Field 93 is described in the

tithe apportionment as 'Garden,' and the other fields surrounding the village are described mostly as arable with some as pasture.

PRN NPRN	Site Name	Description	Grid reference	Period
3299 415560	Lambston Parish Church; St Ismael's	Medieval parish church, small, comprising chancel and nave. Grade II Listed Building	SM 9070 1694	Post Medieval, Medieval
46797 415560	Lambston Parish Church; St Ismael's	Early medieval D site, i.e. possible early medieval origins. Churchyard occupied by the medieval Lambston parish church (PRN 3299), possibly a re-used round barrow? NDL 2002	SM 9070 1694	Early Medieval
59738 415560	Church of St Ishmael	Grade II listed church	SM 90707 16945	Post Medieval

Table 2: Records held in the HER and NMR within 250m of St Ishmael's Church, all relating to the church itself

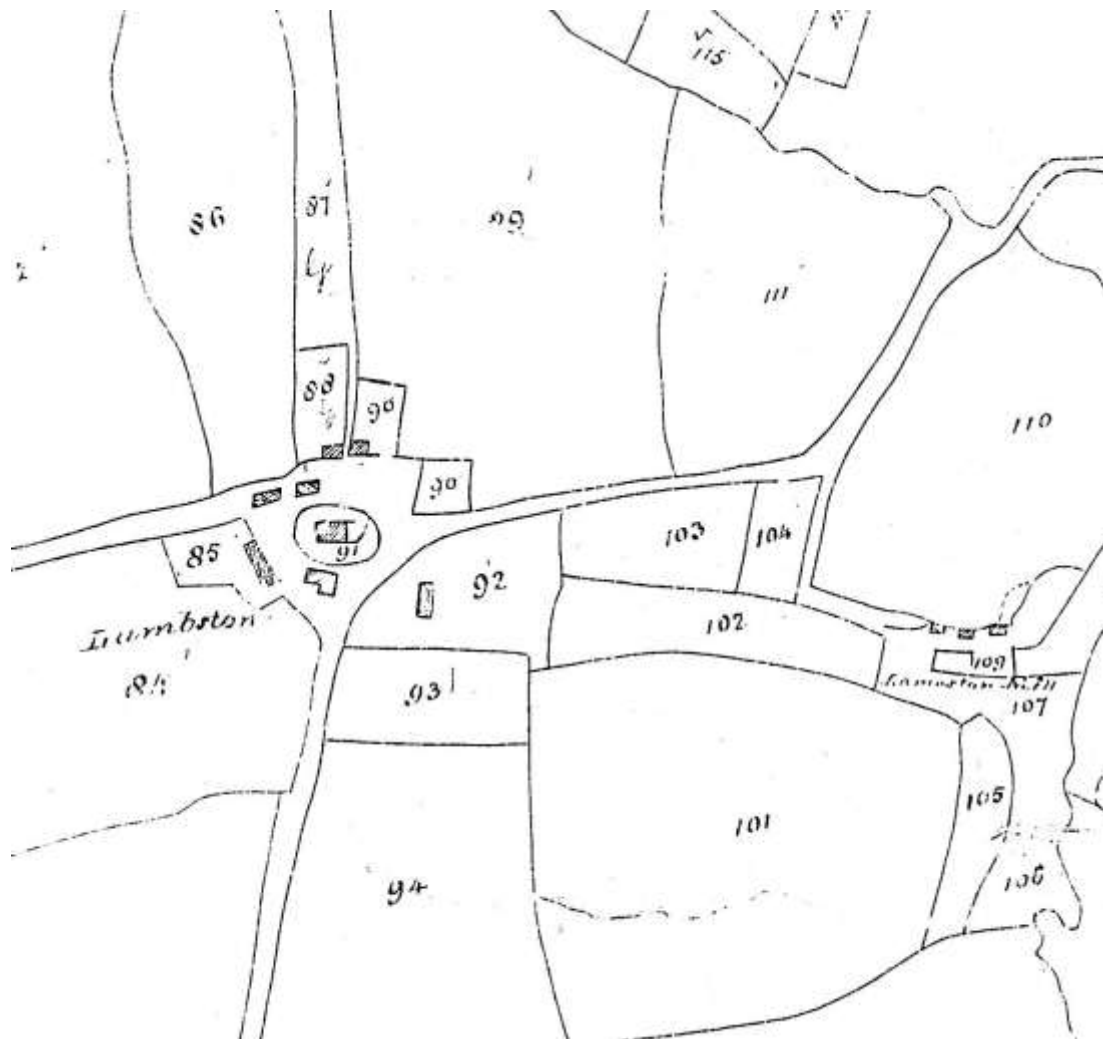


Figure 3: Extract from the 1839 Lambston parish tithe map



Figure 4: Present day map of Lambston

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4. WATCHING BRIEF METHODOLOGY

4.1 Fieldwork

- 4.1 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. A photographic record was first made of the interior and exterior of the church.
- 4.2 Excavation work was conducted by flat-bladed mini diggers or by hand. All archaeological deposits revealed during the groundworks were examined and recorded to an appropriate level.
- 4.3 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.
- 4.4 Detailed recording of the possible wall paintings revealed on the limewashed walls was undertaken by a specialist conservator appointed directly by the client.

4.2 Timetabling of Fieldwork

- 4.2.1 Photographic building recording and a watching brief took place at St Ishmael's Church, Lambston, on 17th July and 16th-17th September 2014, and on the 17th – 20th February 2015, followed by a final site visit on the 26th February 2015.

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 Internal Works

- 5.1.1 The first visit to the site was undertaken on 17th July 2014, and some photographs were taken of the church at the commencement of internal works (Photos 1 to 6). The piscina (Photos 5 & 6) appears stylistically to date to the 1923 renovations (Ludlow 2000). No groundworks within the churchyard associated with drainage and services took place as had been planned, as a burial licence had not yet been obtained.



Photo 1: West end of interior of church with east end visible beyond



Photo 2: East end of interior of church with west end visible beyond



Photo 3: Southwest corner of interior of church



Photo 4: Southeast corner of interior of church



Photos 5 & 6: Piscina at southeast corner of interior of church. Left photo is facing east; right photo is facing south

- 5.1.2 The groundworks and watching brief commenced on 16th September 2014 inside the church after a burial license had been granted.
- 5.1.3 Originally the floor of the church was to be retained and minimal works were planned for the church walls in order to minimise disturbance to the church fabric, but due to the floor being more uneven and broken up than first thought and damp in parts of the walls some works had to go ahead

to allow the building to be converted. The 20th century piscina was removed.

- 5.1.4 The large floor slabs were removed from the west end of the church. Three of these floor slabs were re-used fragments of grave slabs; two of the floor slabs seemed to belong to the same grave slab (Photos 7 & 8). The style of the grave slabs suggests a medieval date. One of the grave slabs appeared to be a simple incised cross with a circle around, a second with a long cross stem sitting on a base. It seems likely these were part of the same slab, but had been broken and moved (Photo 7, the upper cross part is at 90° clockwise to the adjacent cross stem). The second slab shows a simpler incised cross, with a possible faint circle, but part of the cross stem still visible. Unfortunately all of the slabs were partially covered in cement/mortar from when they were laid as floor slabs. They are to be retained at the church.



Photo 7: Two fragments of grave, possibly part of the same slab that had been re-used as floor slabs. An incised cross in a circle with cross stem is visible



Photo 8: A fragment of another smaller grave slab, re-used as a floor slab, with simple incised cross in a circle and part of the cross stem

- 5.1.5 The deposit beneath the floor slabs was excavated to a depth of approximately 0.3m and the footings (possibly lying on bedrock) of the church's west wall were revealed, which extended less than 0.5m into the church. A skull, probably in situ, was revealed at the base of this layer which had been partially disturbed by the excavation 1.1m north of the south wall and 0.6m east of the west wall (Photo 9). The burial was covered back over and left in situ.



Photo 9: Top of skull seen at the base of the layer beneath the floor slabs, probably in situ, discovered near to the west wall of the church (note the disarticulated human bone in the area)

- 5.1.6 Adjacent to the door to its north, east and west, there was significantly more mortar in the deposit beneath the floor slabs, which could have been the remains of the font footings.
- 5.1.7 Overall in the west end of the church, the upper 0.25m of the deposit beneath the floor slabs was loosely compacted, becoming much firmer toward a depth of 0.3m. Some east-west aligned linear features were visible in the central area, which probably represent grave cuts. These were left in-situ and remained unexcavated and were not disturbed further.
- 5.1.8 At the east end of the church the floor slabs were removed revealing a possible earlier floor, or more likely part of the altar step (Photo 10). This deposit was excavated to a depth of approximately 0.3m. It was found to be loosely compacted, and several disarticulated human bones were found within the deposit (Photo 11).



Photo 10: Deposit beneath floor slabs at east end of church next to the north wall. Possibly a previous floor or part of the altar step



Photo 11: Fragments of disarticulated human bone discovered at the east end of the church during excavation of the deposit beneath the floor slabs

- 5.1.9 Plaster removal began on the south wall at the east end of the church where damp and decay was worst (Photo 12). Paintwork was revealed beneath the plain white coat of plaster or lime wash. These were identified as possible wall paintings, which could have been of medieval date (Photos 13 & 14).



Photo 12: Plaster removal begins on the south wall at the east end of the church



Photo 13: Possible medieval painted plaster around window on south wall of chancel, showing patches of red and blue/grey paint



Photo 14: Possible medieval painted plaster south of chancel arch

5.1.10 On 17th September 2014, advice was sought from Jane Rutherford, a specialist in conservation and restoration, about the possible wall paintings. She was able to visit the site on 17th October 2014 and confirmed the possibility that they could be of medieval date. The results of this initial site visit are included in Appendix 1. She recommended that the church walls should be inspected in detail by uncovering some key sample areas such as the north wall of the nave. Banding (red and blue/grey) on the chancel wall was observed, with small patches of green and black paint (Photo 13), and green paint on the archway between the chancel and nave (Photo 14). Jane was then contracted directly by the site owner to undertake further evaluation of the remains and any further necessary recording (the results of which will be reported on separately).

5.1.11 Groundworks continued to remove the last of the floor slabs and level the floor about 0.3m below the original ground surface, as was done across the floor of the church. Disarticulated human remains were recovered. A second skull that appeared to be in situ was disturbed underneath the cement footing of a pew, 0.4m south of the north wall and 4.75m east of the west wall. It was left in situ at a depth of roughly 0.3m below the former floor surface (Photo 15).



Photo 15: The second skull, probably in situ, discovered in the west end of the church near to the north wall

5.2 External Groundworks (Figure 2)

- 5.2.1 External ground works in the grave yard commenced in February 2015 and an archaeologist was present to watch works associated with widening of the footpath and excavation of drainage runs. Attendance on the 17th, 18th and 20th of February watched the excavation of the service trench around the perimeter of the church and the sewage trench that traversed the graveyard on the north side of the church (Photos 16 to 20). During these visits numerous fragments of disarticulated human bone were recovered from all excavated areas, as would be expected within a graveyard with centuries of use (earlier burials being disturbed by later burials).
- 5.2.2 In-situ burials were exposed on the southwest corner of the church, two against the south wall and a further three near the north wall. In addition to this a further in situ burial may have been encountered near the east wall of the church, an intact skull was exposed along with a number of cervical (upper) vertebrae. However the remains exposed lay at the extent of the required excavation, but it is expected further associated remains were probably present beyond the excavated area. Minimal disturbance occurred to these burials and the remains were left in-situ where possible.
- 5.2.3 On the west wall of the church, in the south west and northwest corners, stone footings were observed projecting from the church walls (Photo 17). These probably served as supporting buttresses for the church which have since been removed (possibly during the 19th or early 20th century renovations).
- 5.2.4 During excavation of the sewage trench across the churchyard at least two possible grave cuts were observed, one of which was partially excavated but contained no evidence of human remains. A third possible grave cut was also observed which contained what appeared to be badly degraded bone. At the far end of the sewage trench, towards the northwest boundary of the church a possible rubble dump containing fragmented slate and mortar was encountered within what appeared to be a cut feature. This probably represents an earlier phase of repair or restoration at the church, comprising a deposit of discarded or waste material.
- 5.2.5 On the 26th February 2015 a DAT archaeologist returned to the site to watch the remainder of the service trench (Photo 18) to be excavated along the south wall of the church and along the footpath. Once again numerous fragments of disarticulated human bone were recorded.
- 5.2.6 Approximately 3m from the southeast corner of the church an apparent in-situ inhumation was discovered lying directly under the footpath. The remains were orientated east/west and laid out in supine position with the hands crossed at the pelvis, in the style of a typical Christian burial. A quick assessment revealed the remains to belong to a male adult with the majority of skeletal components present and in good condition, however the skull was not present and only small fragments from the occipital bone were located. This could be because the skull was at a sufficiently shallow depth to have been exposed during construction of the footpath and had already been removed from the burial. The burial was not removed, and was covered and left in-situ.
- 5.10 After the service trench had been completed the attending archaeologist went on to watch the excavation of the soak away. The soak away was approximately 2m x 2m wide and c.1m deep. No archaeological remains were observed during the excavation of the soak away.



Photo 16: Excavation of drains along southern wall of St Ishmael Church



Photo 17: Stone structure project from the southwest corner of the church, possible remains of a buttress.



Photo 18: View looking west along the former footpath now excavated for the service trench along the southern wall of the church.



Photo 19: Inhumation recorded adjacent to the south wall of the church



Photo 20: Trench for sewer pipe projecting from the northwestern end of the church across the churchyard, viewing southeast



Photo 21: View northwest along service run towards car park area

6. CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 A watching brief was carried out during groundworks associated with the conversion of St Ishmael Church, Lambston, Pembrokeshire to residential use.
- 6.2 As expected, the archaeological watching brief observed evidence of human remains within the churchyard. The majority of human bone found was disarticulated, having been disturbed through the insertion of later burials through earlier ones. Disarticulated remains were found both within the church and outside within the churchyard.
- 6.3 Inside the church the large floor slabs were removed which revealed at least two reused incised cross grave slabs. The style of the crosses would suggest they date from the 12th to 14th centuries. These will be retained at the church and hopefully displayed in some way.
- 6.4 The probable remains of a former font base were found adjacent to the northern door where a significantly larger quantity of mortar in the deposit beneath the floor slabs was noted.
- 6.5 At the east end of the church a possible earlier floor or alter step was revealed beneath the floor slabs.
- 6.6 The probable remains of two inhumation burials were noted beneath the church floor. These became visible when the tops of the skulls were exposed and partially damaged at the base of the groundworks. These burials were covered over and left in-situ. Bone survival appeared good within these burials.
- 6.7 At least 6 in-situ burials were recorded within the service trench around the perimeter of the church. These were partially cleaned to define their extent and state of preservation, but then covered over and left in-situ. Bone survival appeared to be good within these burials.
- 6.8 Three possible grave cuts were also identified in the sewage trench running to the northwest of the church. Where investigated either no or very fragmentary bone was recorded in the probable grave cuts. It is likely that these did represent graves, but that the bone had dissolved away caused by the acidity of the soils in this area. Bone survival was better within and around the church as the acidity of the soil is neutralised by the lime within the mortar of the church walls.
- 6.9 Human bone was only removed from the trench if they were at risk of being destroyed by the ground works. The majority of the identified remains, including the inhumations, were able to be left in-situ and covered. All human bone removed from the excavations was handed back to the site contractors so that they could be reinterred in another location within the consecrated graveyard. It is beyond the scope of an archaeological watching brief such as this to remove disarticulated bones from the site for cleaning, detailed osteological analysis or obtain radiocarbon dates.
- 6.10 On the southwest and northwest corner of the church two stone footings were recorded projecting from the building. These would appear to be buttresses on the two outer corners of the chancel. They may have been removed during repair and restoration works undertaken in the 19th or early 20th century.
- 6.11 The possible medieval wall paintings could be of high archaeological significance. These are being dealt with by a specialist conservator who will produce any detailed reports on the remains separate from this report.

- 6.12 The area of the car park to the northwest of the church was observed following its excavation, but this revealed no significant archaeological remains, lying beyond the perimeter of the churchyard and mostly dug through bedrock.
- 6.13 The photographic survey of the inside of the church was hampered due to the fact that tools and materials had already been deposited in the church and some initial work, including the removal of portable objects. The original Design and Access Statement prepared by Hayston Developments (included as part of the planning application) includes a number of shots taken of the church when the altar table, font and pulpit etc. were still in-situ and these provide a good record of the layout of the church prior to the conversion. The exterior of the church will remain little altered.
- 6.14 No other evidence of earlier structures was identified during the course of the watching brief, but this does not negate the potential for structural archaeological remains to exist in the wider area.

7. SOURCES

Published

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

Unpublished

Ludlow, N. 2000. *The Cadw Welsh Historic Churches Project: Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire churches*. DAT report no. 48

Database

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

Cartographic

Parish tithe map 1839 Lambston

**ST ISHMAEL'S CHURCH, LAMBSTON,
PEMBROKESHIRE**
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF


RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2015/1
RHIF Y PROSIECT / EVENT RECORD NO. 107538

Tachwedd 2015
November 2015

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

Alice Day

Swydd / Position: **Assistant Archaeologist**

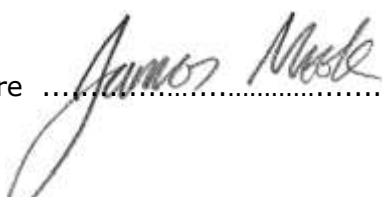
Llofnod / Signature  Date: 10/11/2015

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: 10/11/2015

*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*

