

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ON LAND SOUTH OF BERWYN, ST DOGMAELS, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF 2014

(NGR SN 1670 4583)



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services
For: Barratt Associates on behalf of
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DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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Gan / By

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SUMMARY

A planning application was submitted to Pembrokeshire County Council (Planning Application No 11/0278/PA) for a residential development on land south of Berwyn, St Dogmaels, Pembrokeshire (centred on NGR SN 1668 4584).

Due to the proximity of significant archaeological and historical sites to the development area and consequently the possibility that archaeological material may extend into the proposed development area, the archaeological advisors to Pembrokeshire County Council recommended an archaeological watching brief be carried out to monitor the potential impact of the initial ground works on any buried archaeological features.

DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by David Barratt of Barratt Associates to undertake the archaeological watching brief during ground works associated with the construction of the residential development.

The sites in proximity to the development area include the medieval scheduled monument of St Dogmaels Abbey (PRN 1090; SAM PE073) and the possible site of the pre-18th century parish church. The current church building (PRN 4998) was constructed around 1700 within the confines of the Abbey precinct and it has been suggested that the original medieval church and graveyard may have occupied the site of the post-medieval church school (PRN 15547) that lies approximately 150m west of the development area. Mwtshwr, a dwelling located 85m to the south of the development is also considered to have a medieval origin. The name 'Mwtshwr' is thought to be a place name for an early medieval settlement or land under the ownership of such a settlement. In addition a Roman coin hoard (PRN 39179) was discovered on land belonging to Pant-teg some 150m east of the development site.

The initial phase of the proposed development comprised vegetation clearance and subsequent ground reduction to enable the construction of a pair of semi-detached dwellings and a detached dwelling.

A Written Scheme of Investigation outlining the watching brief aims and objectives was prepared by DAT Archaeological Services and was approved by the archaeological advisor to the planning authority.

Between September 15th and October 31st eight monitoring visits were made to the development site. During the first and second visits, the site was cleared of thick vegetation, revealing peripheral features such as a small flagstone bridge, canalized stream, herringbone walling and an orthostat.

The topsoil stripping revealed a number of land drains of varying type; slate-capped, unglazed ceramic pipe, pitched-slate and stone infilled.

No significant archaeological features or deposits were revealed during the course of the archaeological watching brief. Thus the monitored works have had a minimal impact on the buried archaeological resource.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Commission

- 1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by David Barratt of Barratt Associates to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the residential development on land South of Berwyn, St Dogmaels, Pembrokeshire (centred on SN 1668 4584).
- 1.1.2 Due to the proximity of archaeological and historical sites to the development area, a recommendation for an archaeological watching brief was placed on the planning application to monitor the ground works during the early stages of the development following advice from the archaeological advisors to the local planning authority.
- 1.1.3 The proposed works included the complete removal of vegetation from the site and subsequent ground reduction targetted on the footprints of the two semi-detached dwellings, the single dwelling and the access road. In addition to the above, three test pits were excavated to determine the underlying geology.

1.2 Scope of Project

- 1.2.1 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for a watching brief was prepared by DAT Archaeological Services prior to the commencement of works. The WSI was commissioned by Barratt Associates. The WSI outlined methodologies for:
- monitoring ground works in order to identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits
 - establishing the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works
 - appropriately investigating and recording any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground works
 - producing an archive and report of any results by which the watching brief should be undertaken.

1.3 Report Outline

- 1.3.1 This report 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 Record¹ (HER) are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR). Sites recorded by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) Cofelin database are identified by their National Primary Record Number (NPRN); Dyfed Archaeological Trust Heritage Management – DAT-HM; Scheduled Ancient Monument – SAM; Written Scheme of Investigation – WSI.

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

1.5 Illustrations

1.5.1 Printed map extracts are not necessarily produced to their original scale.

1.6 Timeline

1.6.1 The following timeline (Table 1) 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 ² –	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period –	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20 th century onwards	

Table 1: Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales.

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



Figure 1: Location of development area shaded in blue in relation to archaeological and historical sites listed in Table 2.

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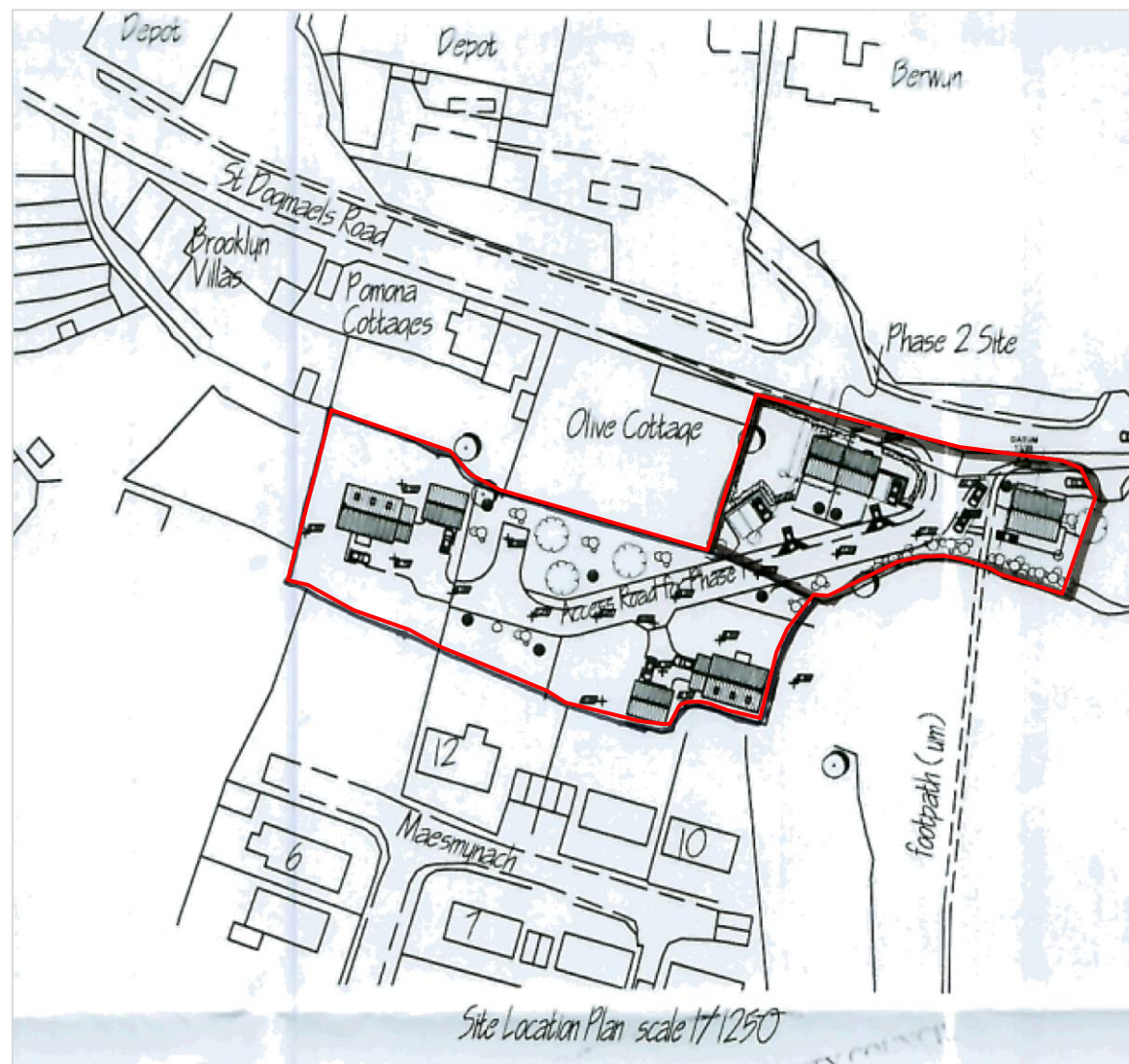


Figure 2: Plan showing the proposed development – outlined in red. Extract supplied by client.

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Figure 4: Extract of the 1838 St Dogmaels Parish Tithe map; development area outlined in red.

2. THE SITE

2.1 Location

- 2.1.1 The proposed development lies on the outskirts of the village of St Dogmaels on the south side of the B4546 route to Cardigan (Figure 1). It occupies a small valley with a steep north side and a moderately sloped south side, at the bottom of which runs a small stream that flows towards the Teifi River 150m to the north. The northern side of the valley had been cleared of vegetation before the watching brief commenced exposing bare topsoil; the southern side was covered in thick scrub (Figure 2).
- 2.1.2 The underlying geology consists of Pool mudstone; sedimentary bedrock of the Ordovician Period.

2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 2.2.1 A good outline history of St Dogmaels is contained in the St Dogmaels section of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Landscape Characterisation report prepared for Cadw (Murphy and Ludlow 2004); appropriate sections of which are reprinted below.

This is a small historic landscape character area represented by the built-up area of the large village of St Dogmaels. During the historic period, the area lay within the medieval Cantref Cemaes, in Is-Nyfer commote. Cemaes had been brought under Anglo-Norman control in c.1100, under Robert FitzMartin, and reconstituted as the Barony of Cemaes. Cemaes remained a marcher lordship, administered from Nevern castle, and then from Newport Castle, until 1536, when the barony was incorporated into Pembrokeshire as the Hundred of Cemaes. However, most of Is-Nyfer commote represented the 'Welshry' of the barony and remained subject to Welsh law, custom and tenorial patterns throughout the medieval period, many of which persisted into the 20th century. The Welsh princes between 1191 and 1201, and again in 1215-1223, held this north-eastern part of the Is-Nyfer.

St Dogmaels is dominated by an ecclesiastical presence, in the form of the Tironian (Benedictine) abbey of St Dogmaels. This was established by Robert FitzMartin as a priory in 1113; it was raised to abbey status in 1120. It occupies a much earlier monastic site. FitzMartin's foundation charter described the house as the 'old church' of Llandudoch. The six Early Christian Monuments from the site suggest a continuous ecclesiastical presence from the 6th century onwards, which was wealthy enough to be attacked by Vikings in 988. A possible earlier monastic enclosure observed as a line of continuous property boundaries at St Dogmaels may or may not continue a curving bank recently recorded through geophysics south of the later abbey buildings. The abbey church was begun during the early 12th century. Although never completed to its original extensive plan, it had developed into a large church by the mid 13th century, central to an extensive range of masonry conventual buildings occupying a precinct that was at least 4ha in extent. The complex still forms the defining element of today's landscape.

A settlement had developed outside the abbey by the later medieval period, directly held by the barony which may have been keen to exploit the economic potential provided by the abbey's presence. The lords of Cemaes are also recorded as having established a market here. The settlement was a manor, described as one of the 'three corporate towns' of Cemaes in 1603 (along with Newport and Nevern), but it never appears to have been a borough. It may have remained fairly small through the medieval period. However, it was large enough to be served by a parish

church dedicated to St Thomas (the abbey church being non-parochial), which stood opposite the abbey, but which has now gone. The abbey, and perhaps the settlement, were served by a mill immediately east of the abbey, and the monks had rights to an extensive fishery on the Teifi estuary. A devotional, or pilgrimage chapel was established in the steep valley of Cwm Degwell to the south.

The abbey was dissolved in 1536 when the buildings were leased to John Bradshaw of Presteigne. He built a mansion for himself within the precinct, from stone robbed from the conventual buildings, but this was short-lived and the site was described as a ruin in 1603. It was bought by David Parry of Neuadd Trefawr in 1646, but does not appear to have been inhabited, and the ruins passed into the ownership of the Anglican Church, who may briefly have relocated the parish church into the abbey. However, a new parish church was established, on its present site, in the early 18th century (which was rebuilt in 1847) followed by the construction of the vicarage (and the coach-house) in 1866.

There are some early references to Seine net fishing at St Dogmaels. A medieval source mentions a salmon fishery in association with the abbey, and there is also a later record of a complaint in the reign of Elizabeth I for fishing with nets called "sayney." Whereas seine net fishing was practiced along the shores of the estuary, the 18th century saw St Dogmaels develop into an important herring fishery. During the second half of the 19th century, St Dogmaels grew rapidly. This undoubtedly owed much to the busy trade along the Teifi, with the Port of Cardigan burgeoning and associated activity spreading to St Dogmaels. The most obvious physical symbols of this upturn in economic activity within the parish of St Dogmaels are the fine 19th century warehouses seen along the river at both Bridgend and near the Pinog. There are also a number of 19th century lime kilns along the river. Otherwise there are few structural remains to indicate the former importance of the sea trade to the community.

The settlement had become fairly sizeable by 1838, when the tithe map shows a loose nucleation of about 100 buildings centred on the abbey, though there are many gaps between them. Much rebuilding and development occurred during the late 19th and early 20th centuries, with good-quality buildings, both terraced and detached. Analysis of 19th century maps graphically shows how the village grew. By the time of the 1891 Ordnance Survey map, gaps have been infilled. In addition, a coastal gun battery was built on the southern bank of the Teifi in the 1880s. This ruined fort is now almost unrecognisable on the shore below the Webley Hotel. A workhouse was established at Albro Castle, north of the village, later in the 19th century. Another interesting development during this period was the settlement of common land along Cwm Degwel and on high ground to the south of the village. This land was virtually unsettled in the 1840s, but by 1891 formed a significant part of the village. A few of these cottages were probably tai unnos, characterised by the single dwelling standing in an enclosed garden plot.

- 2.2.2 Table 2 lists the known archaeological and historical sites recorded on the regional HER and RCAHMW Coflein database within close vicinity to the development site.
- 2.2.3 Situated 195m to the west of the development area is the Norman Abbey of St Mary (PRN 1090; SAM PE073) established in 1113. It occupies a much earlier monastic site dating to possibly the 6th century. Once housed

in the Abbey and originating from the Early Medieval Period are three Early Christian Monuments (PRNs 1218; 1219; 1221).

- 2.2.4 The dwelling 'Mwtshwr' (PRN 11446), lies approximately 80m to the south of the development site. The name is regarded by some as indicative of early medieval ecclesiastical activity and local tradition states that an early medieval monastic settlement was located here. The name might also represent an area of early medieval sanctuary or ecclesiastical ownership or the boundary thereof. Thus the potential for below ground archaeological remains associated with the early medieval and later settlement exists within the proposed development area. Such remains may comprise of below ground remnants of timber buildings, boundary plots and rubbish pits.
- 2.2.5 It has been suggested that the original medieval church occupied the site of the post-medieval church school (PRN 15547), which is situated 100m SW of the development site. A recent excavation close to this site encountered roof and ridge tiles of probable medieval origin which possibly were associated with the original medieval church site (Kemp 2014).
- 2.2.6 80m to the west of the development area is situated Pant-teg, within whose fields, according to a local newspaper report, a hoard of 200 Roman coins (PRN 39179) were unearthed during ploughing in the recent past.
- 2.2.7 The medieval fulling mill of Cwmffrwd is documented as being located 140m west of the development site.
- 2.2.8 The remaining archaeological sites in the vicinity of the development area date from the post-medieval period, a number of which are associated with the Port of St Dogmaels. These include 19th century warehouses (PRNs 31987; 31990, 57415), lime kiln (PRN 31989), and a boathouse (PRN 31991).
- 2.2.9 The tithe map of St Dogmaels dated September 23rd 1838 (Figure 4), locates the development plot within fields 194c and 195c and is listed on the accompanying apportionment as being owned by a Mrs Elizabeth James. The names of these fields and their state of cultivation are not mentioned, but the field to the south (193c - also owned by Mrs Elizabeth James), is 'Parc Coed', translated as 'Wood Field'.

PRN No.	NPRN No.	Name	Description	National Grid Ref	Site Type	Period	Designation
1090	94164	ST DOGMAELS ABBEY	Ruined site of the Norman Abbey of St Mary at St Dogmael. The abbey walls survive to a substantial height on the western end, north wall and north transept and the east end crypt walls survive.	SN16414586	Abbey	Medieval	Scheduled Ancient Monument PE073
1218		ST DOGMAELS ABBEY	Incised stone - an incomplete shaped rectangular pillar with rounded angles. At the top is a deeply incised vertical line with traces of a horizontal line across the top.	SN16494585	Early Christian Monument	Early medieval, medieval	
1219		ST DOGMAELS ABBEY	Incised stone - Group II ECM (incomplete cross-carved pillar) of probable 8 th – early 9 th century date. Now in the Coach House, St Dogmaels (PRN 39182). It was first recorded in the 1870s among the ruins of St Dogmaels Abbey.	SN16494585	Early Christian Monument	Early medieval, medieval	
1221		ALTAR STONE	Group II ECM (cross-carved pillar) of possible 8 th – early 9 th century date now in the Coach House, St Dogmaels (PRN 39182). It was re-used in the 13 th century footings of the Chapter House of St Dogmaels Abbey.	SN16494585	Early Christian Monument	Early medieval, medieval	
9661	40259	Y FELIN	A stone built corn mill dating from at least the mid-17 th century with an added 19 th century third storey that may have medieval origins as part of St Dogmaels Abbey.	SN16524591	Corn mill	Post-medieval, medieval	Listed Building II* Ref No 13096
11446		MWTSHWR	Dwelling, named 'Mwtshwr'. There is a local tradition that an early medieval monastic settlement was located here. The word 'Mwtshwr' is regarded by some as indicative of early medieval ecclesiastical activity. However, the site lies only 370m ESE of St Dogmaels' Abbey and the early medieval monastery of Llandudoch (PRNs 1090 and 1222), and 340m N of the Bryngwyn Farm ECMs PRNs 1105 and 49324, which are thought to probably represent boundary stones marking the limits of the 'noddfa' or sanctuary land belonging to St Dogmaels monastery (Edwards forthcoming). The 'Mwtshwr' place-name may therefore also represent an area of early medieval-medieval sanctuary, or ecclesiastical ownership, or the boundary thereof.	SN16844571	Monastic land?	Medieval?	
12610		CWMFFRWD	Early sources indicate that there was a fulling mill established in St Dogmaels by the 14 th century. Its location is unknown but it may have been near the	SN165459	Fulling mill	Medieval	

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			south eastern corner of the parish, towards the neighbouring Cwmffrwd valley.				
15545		CAPEL SION	Capel Sion was a Calvinistic Methodist chapel, built in 1838.	SN16524600	Chapel	Post-medieval	
15546		ST DOGMAELS VICARAGE	Large and attractive 19 th century vicarage. It is possible that the building stands on the site of the mansion house built by the Bradshaw family, who bought St Dogmaels Abbey.	SN16474583	Vicarage	Post-medieval	
15547	408693	ST DOGMAELS CHURCH SCHOOL	Originally the village church school, the building has been modified for use as a community centre. The school apparently occupies the site of the pre-18th century parish church and the site is potentially archaeologically sensitive.	SN16554580	School	Post-medieval	Listed Building II* Ref No 10554
31986		PORT OF ST DOGMAELS	There was an important port at St Dogmaels. Presumably this was centered in the area SN166460 where a valley gives access through the low cliffs, where a complex of buildings includes a warehouse. A number of buildings, with an extensive quay (PRN 31988), limekilns (PRN 31989) and storehouses (PRN 31990) was built in 1830 for Morris Owen, Cwmgloyn, Felindre Farchog.	SN16614600	Port	Post-medieval	
31987		PORT OF ST DOGMAELS	Warehouse associated with the Port of St Dogmaels. It is of 4 stories, with centre loading doors in two upper stories and a projecting hoist roof.	SN16654597	Warehouse	Post-medieval	
31988		PORT OF ST DOGMAELS	19th century quay associated with the Port of St Dogmaels.	SN16644597	Quay	Post-medieval	
31989		PORT OF ST DOGMAELS	19th century lime kiln associated with the Port of St Dogmaels.	SN16644597	Lime Kiln	Post-medieval	
31990		PORT OF ST DOGMAELS	19th century store house associated with the Port of St Dogmaels.	SN16644597	Warehouse	Post-medieval	
31991		PORT OF ST DOGMAELS	Possibly a boat house associated with the Port of St Dogmaels.	SN16644597	Boat House	Post-medieval	
31992		PORT OF ST DOGMAELS	The 19th century Port of St Dogmaels had a small shipyard where small trading and fishing vessels were built.	SN166460	Shipyard	Post-medieval	
39179		PANTEG HOARD	A hoard of some 200 unspecified Roman coins, in a vessel or 'crock', were reported in the local newspaper, The Cardigan & Tivyside Advertiser, as being found by a farmhand whilst ploughing a field on Panteg land. No further information is known about the find or what became of the coins.	SN16904585	Hoard	Roman	
39182		THE COACH HOUSE	Attractive Coach House building. Not present on	SN16494585	Stable,	Post-	

			1840's parish tithe map, but recorded as having been built in 1866-67 at the behest of the Rev. Daniel Jones, Vicar. It is said that an abbey building which stood immediately to the south (known locally as The Chapter House and in very good condition) was demolished and the stone used to refurbish the Vicarage and build a new coach house.		Coach House	medieval	
57415		WAREHOUSE AT JEWSON'S PREMISES	Grade II listed warehouse	SN16644595	Warehouse	Post-medieval	Listed Building II Ref No 10552
57416		OLD SCHOOL COTTAGE	Grade II listed cottage	SN16564581	Cottage	Post-medieval	Listed Building II Ref No 10553
59204		TYMELYN, CHURCH ST	Grade II listed house	SN16464592	House	Post-medieval	Listed Building II Ref No 13085
59205		LYCH GATE STEPS TO ST THOMAS CHURCH	Grade II listed lych gate	SN16464590	Lych gate	Post-medieval	Listed Building II Ref No 13087
59206		FORMER BIER HOUSE BESIDE STEPS TO LYCHGATE	Grade II listed outbuilding	SN16474590	Outbuilding	Post-medieval	Listed Building II Ref No 13088
59208		NO 3 FINCH ST	Grade II listed cottage	SN16494596	Cottage	Post-medieval	Listed Building II Ref No 13090
59220	408694	THE VICARAGE STABLES	Grade II listed stables	SN16494585	Stables	Post-medieval	Listed Building II Ref No 13103
59221	408694	THE VICARAGE	Grade II listed vicarage	SN16454583	Vicarage	Post-medieval	Listed Building II Ref No 13104
59222		WALL ATTACHED TO REAR OF VICARAGE STABLES	Grade II listed wall	SN16474584	Wall	Post-medieval	Listed Building II Ref No 13105

Table 2: Known archaeological and historical sites recorded on the regional HER and RCAHMW Coflein database within close vicinity to the development site. Location map of sites is shown in Figure 1.

3. WATCHING BRIEF METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1.1 The development site was visited eight times over a period of seven weeks; from September 15th to November 5th at the request of the client or site contractors.
- 3.1.2 Excavation work was carried out by a 360° mini excavator with a 0.6m wide toothless bucket. All archaeological deposits revealed during the ground works were examined and recorded to an appropriate level.
- 3.1.3 The excavation conformed to best current professional practice and was carried out in accordance with the Recording Manual³ used by DAT Archaeological Services.

3.2 Post-Fieldwork Reporting and Archiving

- 3.2.1 All data recovered during the fieldwork will be collated into a site archive structured in accordance with specifications in *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2007), and the procedures recommended by the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth.
- 3.2.2 The results of the fieldwork have been assessed in local, regional and wider contexts.

³ 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.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

- 4.1 A test pit (T1) (Figure 3), was excavated close to the proposed southern edge of Plot 1 to determine the underlying geology. This was done under archaeological supervision. The resultant soil profile consisted of 0.25m of brown silty-loam and 0.1m of compacted, grey-brown, silty-clay subsoil with occasional pieces of sub angular stone, beneath which a natural undisturbed strata comprising of yellow and grey sandy-clays was observed.
- 4.2 Plot 1 (P1) measured 16m by 14m and was situated on a moderate north facing slope at the western end of the site. The ground was reduced to the top of the natural subsoil, embedded in which were a number of differing types of land drains: a clay-capped, stone-filled drain; ceramic unglazed pipework and a slate-capped drain that ran in the direction of the nearby stream (Photos 2 and 3). No archaeological deposits or remains were revealed.
- 4.3 The topsoil stripping of the access road between Plots 1 and 2 revealed more land drains including a slate pitched drain and a recent concrete pipe. No archaeological deposits or remains were revealed.
- 4.4 Plot 2 measured approximately 16.0m by 14.0m. The removal of the overlying soils up to a depth of 0.3m exposed the undisturbed orange/brown clay natural subsoil beneath. A number of stone-filled land drains were fractured during the topsoil strip (Figure 3; Photo 5). No archaeological deposits or remains were revealed.
- 4.5 On the north side of the development, at the top of the south-facing slope a shallow slot measuring 1.5m by 0.6m and 0.25m deep was excavated in order to provide a safe environment for reptiles (a receptor site). During this process a number of bricks were exposed including one broken piece of decorative brick. These bricks in all likelihood are remnants of a building shown on the First Edition O.S 1880 map (Figure 3). The frog of one brick had 'Woodward Cardigan' stamped on it (Photo 6). Edward Woodward took over the brickworks in Cardigan in August 1871.
- 4.6 Two test pits (T2 & T3) were excavated close to the south side of the stream (Figure 3) in order to determine the underlying geology in advance of the construction of a small bridge. The soil profile observed in both test pits comprised silty loam topsoil to a depth of 0.2m; below which was grey-blue sandy clay subsoil 0.1m deep (Photo 4). No archaeological deposits or remains were revealed.
- 4.7 Positioned on the north side of the valley, just before a precipitous break of slope down to the stream, was an orthostat measuring 1.4m tall and 0.5m by 0.4 at the base. (Figure 3, Photo 7). It has been drilled in the past and some ironwork is attached, and although it does not appear on the 1st edition 1890 Ordnance Survey map (neither does the stream that crosses the development site), a medieval or prehistoric provenance cannot be entirely ruled out.
- 4.8 On the northern boundary of the development, beside the B4546, stands a fine example of a 'herringbone' constructed wall (Figure 3; Photo 8). This type of construction appears in small sections on other parts of the development boundary.

- 4.9 A small, single pier, flagstone bridge spans the stream beside the eastern hedgebank of the development site (Figure 3; Photo 9). It is in a slightly dilapidated state and is contemporaneous with the canalization of the stream - whose banks are drystone walled. A route over the bridge might possibly have been an earlier path to the Mwtshwr before a public footpath was installed a little further upstream.
- 4.10 A section of stream, approximately 25m long, crosses the development site at the bottom of the valley. Both sides of the stream are drystone walled. The walling does not continue upstream from the bridge and it is unclear whether it continues downstream where it leaves the development site. It is in a ruinous state in many places, with sections missing or collapsed (Figure 3; Photo 10). It is interesting to note that this section of stream that crosses the development site does not appear on the 1st edition 1890 or the 2nd edition 1906 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map. Could this section of stream have been culverted of which only the bridge remains?

5. CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 The archaeological watching brief during ground works for the residential development on land south of Berwyn, St Dogmaels revealed no evidence of archaeological remains or deposits associated with a medieval settlement or monastic site. However, the sections of 'herringbone' walling, canalized stream and flagstone bridge, together with the field drains uncovered during ground reduction implies that, in the recent past, this tract of land underwent certain agricultural activities and was not neglected but valued and well managed.
- 5.2 The presence of the orthostat is intriguing; situated on the crest of a steep slope and the stone possibly not indigenous to the area. It might well be a relatively recent addition to the field with its drill holes and attached ironwork, but prehistoric 'standing stones' are often utilized in this way - as gate posts for example - which, judging by the attached ironwork, is probably what this was once used for. Alternatively, it might have a prehistoric or medieval origin - as a boundary marker possibly. A standing stone once stood 460m away to the south on land belonging to Brynllwelyn Farm, so it would not be without precedent. In view of the uncertainty of the origins of this stone it is recommended that it should not be moved and that allowances are made to incorporate it into the development landscape.

6. PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: View southwest – looking towards southern half of the site before vegetation clearance. 1m scale



Photo 2: View northeast – Plot 1 after removal of topsoil at west end of development. Field drain can be seen as yellow linear in middle-ground.

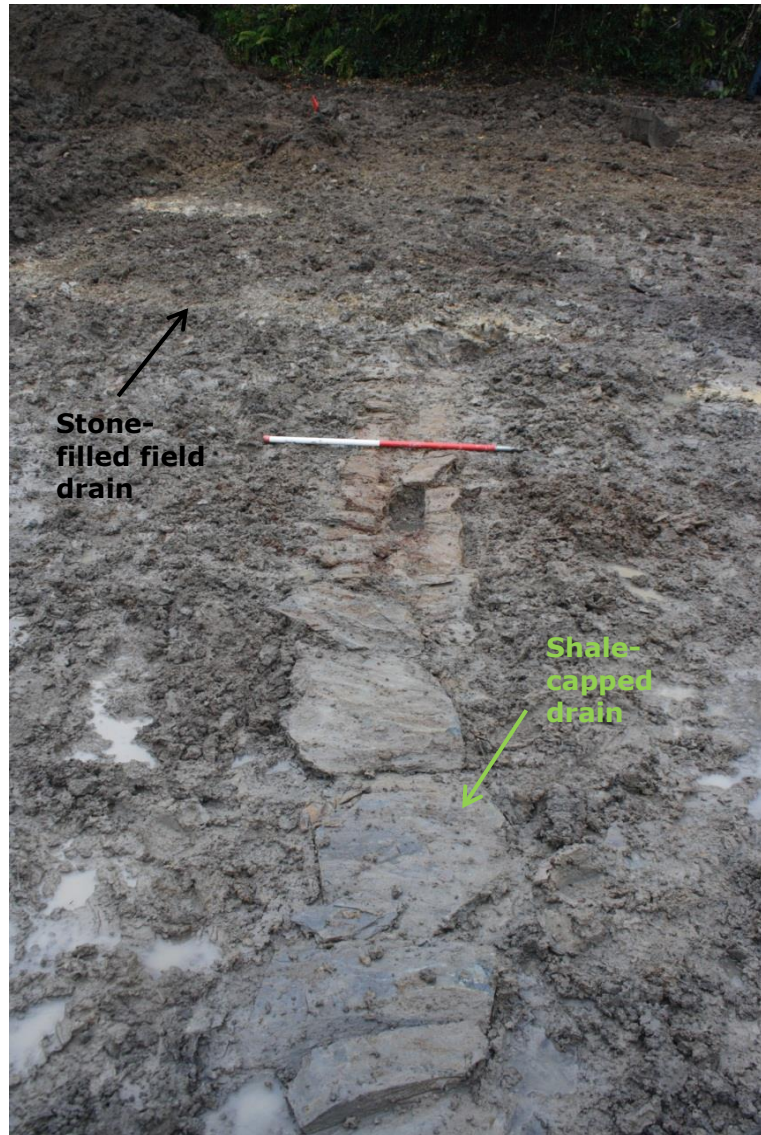


Photo 3: View south – Plot 1 showing stone-filled field drain (pale yellow linear running left to right in background) that feeds into the shale-capped drain visible in foreground. 1m scale



Photo 4: View north - Test pit no. 2 adjacent to stream.
Drystone wall along bank can be seen in background. 1m scale



Photo 5: View northwest – Plot 2 after removal of topsoil.



Photo 6: Bricks unearthed during excavation of reptile receptor site.



Photo 7: View west - orthostat situated on edge of south facing break of slope at the eastern limits of site. 1m scale



Photo 8: View north – south facing section of 'herringbone' constructed wall. 1m scale



Photo 9: View west – flagstone bridge spanning stream. 1m scale



Photo 10: View north – south facing section of partly collapsed wall of canalized stream. 1m scale

7. SOURCES

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RCAHMW Coflein Database <http://www.coflein.gov.uk/>

Cartographic

St Dogmaels Parish Tithe Map 1838 and Apportionment 1838

Ordnance Survey 1889 1:2500 1st edition Cardiganshire

Ordnance Survey 1906 1:2500 2nd edition Cardiganshire

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ON LAND SOUTH OF BERWYN, ST DOGMAELS, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF 2014

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

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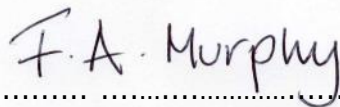
Llofnod / Signature Dyddiad / Date 15/01/2015

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

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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

