

# **TREWARREN FARM ACCESS TRACK, ST. ISHMAELS, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust  
For: Tim Parker, on behalf of Arqiva





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### TREWARREN FARM ACCESS TRACK, ST. ISHMAELS, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Gan / By

**Alice Day**

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Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf  
Corner House, 6 Stryd Caerfyrddin, Llandeilo, Sir  
Gaerfyrddin SA19 6AE  
Ffon: Ymholiadau Cyffredinol 01558 823121  
Adran Rheoli Treftadaeth 01558 823131  
Ebost: [info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk)  
Gwefan: [www.archaeolegdyfed.org.uk](http://www.archaeolegdyfed.org.uk)

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited  
Corner House, 6 Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo,  
Carmarthenshire SA19 6E  
Tel: General Enquiries 01558 823121  
Heritage Management Section 01558 823131  
Email: [info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk)  
Website: [www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk)

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PEMBROKESHIRE:  
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**TREWARREN FARM ACCESS TRACK,  
ST. ISHMAELS, PEMBROKESHIRE:  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**1 SUMMARY**

*DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Tim Parker, on behalf of Arqiva, to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Trewarren Farm, St. Ishmaels, Pembrokeshire (centred on SM 82560 07120) during the creation of an access track from the farm (at SM 82840 07070) to the site of a new Western Power communications mast (at SM 82410 07370).*

*Archaeological and historical research undertaken for the project indicated that the site had the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains, with the highest potential being for prehistoric features and finds associated with the nearby Longstone standing stone, burial mounds and a Bronze Age burnt mound. Aerial photographic analysis also suggested the presence of a curving crop mark feature crossing through the northern part of the access track.*

*An existing access track for an extant wind turbine was used at the southern end of the route, negating the requirement for any further ground works in this area.*

*The depth of material excavated for the access track was sufficient within which to see any archaeological remains if they had been present. The method of topsoil stripping was also conducive to observing archaeological remains.*

*No evidence for the possible cropmark identified in the northern part of the access road line was seen within the trenches. It is likely that the feature occurred as it lies on the intersection between two different natural geological materials.*

*No indications of any prehistoric activity in the form of finds or features were identified during the watching brief. A single ditch identified mid-way along the access track route could not be dated and it is uncertain what it represents.*

*The remains of post-medieval or modern agricultural features of low archaeological significance were identified and recorded. These included the remains of two former cattle grids, the footprint of a small breeze block building and a land drain.*

*Whilst the results of the watching brief are mostly negative, with no significant archaeology being identified, they do not negate the possibility of significant archaeology surviving elsewhere within the near vicinity. The groundworks impacted on a small strip of land adjacent to existing field boundaries and it is possible that these areas had been subject to previous disturbance from farm traffic or cleaning/renewing the hedge banks. Such previous activity could have already removed any traces of archaeological remains if present.*

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

### **2.1 Project Proposals and Commission**

- 2.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Tim Parker, on behalf of Arqiva, to undertake an archaeological watching brief at Trewarren Farm, St. Ishmaels, Pembrokeshire (centred on SM 82560 07120; Figure 1) during the creation of an access track to the site of a proposed new Western Power communications mast.
- 2.1.2 The track will run from the farm (at SM 82815 07042) to the site of the new mast (at SM 82410 07370). The track was to be 3m wide and required a 500mm depth to be scraped along the length of the track before a hard core base was laid and the track surface on top of that.
- 2.1.3 The definition of archaeological watching brief, taken from the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance (CIfA S&G: AWB 2014) is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.

### **2.2 Scope of the Project**

- 2.2.1 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 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
- 2.2.2 The overall work was summarised as: *Archaeological attendance during ground works associated with the construction of a new access road, erection of a communications mast and installation of associated cable route 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 be prepared.*

### **2.3 Abbreviations**

- 2.3.1 All 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.

## 2.4 Illustrations

2.4.1 Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale.

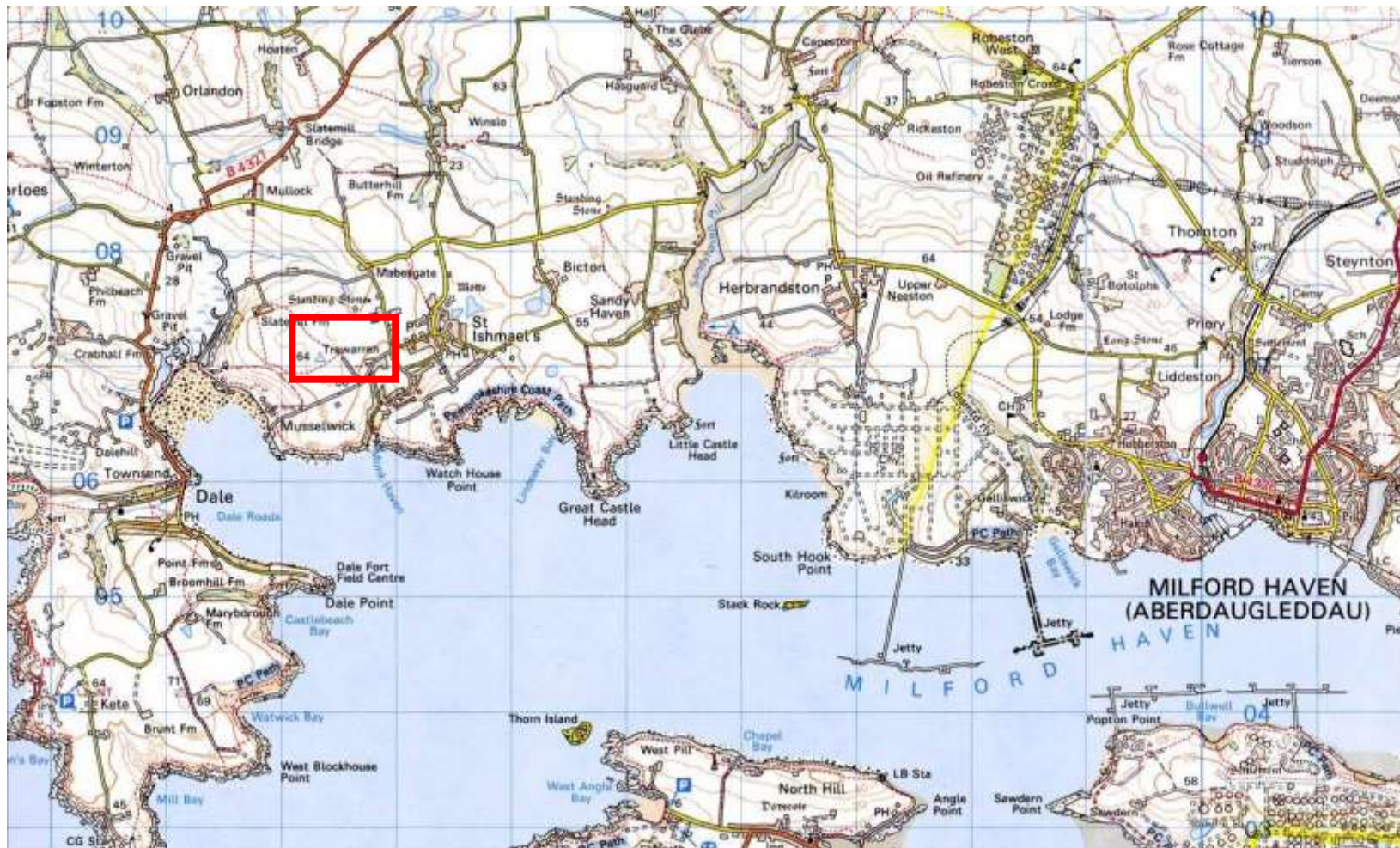
## 2.5 Timeline

2.5.1 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 <sup>1</sup> –	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period –	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20th century onwards	

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

<sup>1</sup> 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:** Site location plan showing area of new access track for a mast site at Trewarren Farm, St Ishmaels, Pembrokeshire

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**Figure 2:** Proposed route for the access track (shown in red)

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### **3 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY**

- 3.1 The development site is at Trewarren Farm, St. Ishmaels, Pembrokeshire (centred on SM 82560 07120; Figures 1 and 2). The new access track ran from the farm (at SM 82840 07070) to the site of a new communications mast roughly 0.5km to the northwest (at SM 82410 07370).
- 3.2 The site occupies large fields in arable farmland on gently rising ground. Its height above OD ranges from c.45m at the farm-end of the track to c.60m at the mast, which is almost at the highest point in the surrounding landscape for some miles. South of the site the land continues to descend down a small valley until it meets the sea, about 0.6km to the south at Monk Haven.

The underlying solid geology of the site consists mainly of interbedded conglomerate and sandstone rocks of the Skomer Volcanic Group Member of the Llandovery epoch. Part of the northern end of the site has igneous metafelsite bedrock of the Skomer Volcanic Group Member of the Llandovery epoch. There are no superficial deposits overlying the bedrock. This information has been sourced from the British Geological Survey.

### **4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

#### **4.1 Historic Landscape**

- 4.1.1 The development site lies within the boundaries of two Historic Landscape Characterisation Areas (HCLA) recorded on the Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales (Cadw 1998). The first, St Ishmael's HCLA is centred on the loosely clustered village of St Ishmael's where most of the buildings date to the late 19th century and 20th century. Enclosed strip fields – former open fields – surrounded the village. Also included is the parish church, standing isolated in a heavily wooded valley, and 19th century garden features.
- 4.1.2 The rest of the track is located within the Hoaten – Hasguard HLCA. This is a very large agricultural area that has many substantial farms set in a virtually treeless windswept landscape of large, regular fields. Many of the farmhouses are in the Georgian style, but with some showing signs of earlier periods of construction.
- 4.1.3 There is one registered historic park and there are two registered historic gardens within 0.75km of the development site. All are part of Trewarren Farm, and the park boundary starts over the small road from the southeastern limit of the new track.
- 4.1.4 The development site does not lie within the boundaries of any protected environmental areas. It does lie within the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park.

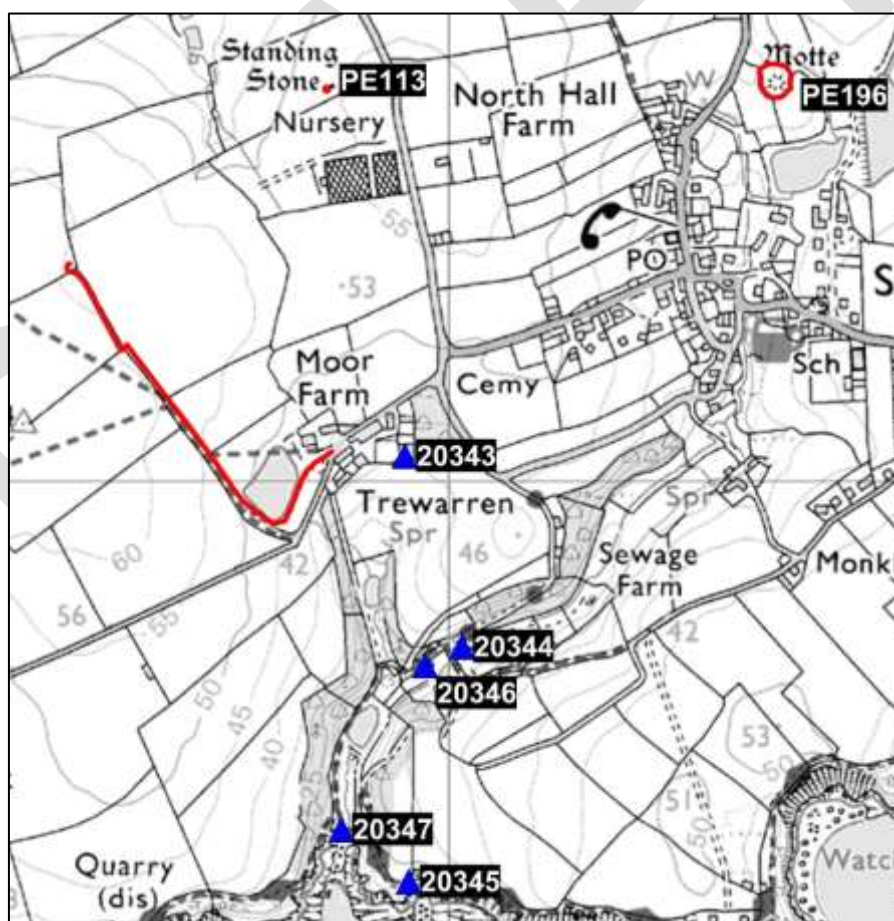
#### **4.2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Listed Buildings**

- 4.2.1 There are two scheduled ancient monuments within 0.75km of the development site: A Bronze Age standing stone known as Longstone, and a medieval castle motte just northeast of St Ishmael's village. They are shown in table 2 and Figure 3 below.
- 4.2.2 There are no grade I or grade II\* listed buildings within 0.75km of the new access track, but there are 5 grade II listed buildings, also shown in table 2 and Figure 3 below. All lie to the southeast of the site and are of

Post-medieval date, excepting the church which still retains many of its medieval features.

Number	Name	Summary	NGR
PE196	Castle Mound	A ditched mound, 32m in diameter and 5.5m high.	SM 835 076
PE113	Standing Stone 290m S of Mabesgate	A well weathered stone of hard red sandstone, 3.0m high by 2.3m by 2.0m, known as 'Longstone.'	SM 828 076
20343	Trewarren	A substantial and unaltered country house of the 1840s.	SM 82931 07039
20344	Church of St Ishmael	A substantially medieval church, reroofed and refitted in the C19, with characteristic Pembrokeshire W bellcote and squints.	SM 83020 06744
20345	Folly SE of Monk Haven	A picturesque 19 <sup>th</sup> century castellated folly in a prominent clifftop location.	SM 82937 06381
20346	Monk Haven Manor	Former vicarage, designed in 1835. An unusual local example of pattern-book design in the Georgian Gothic style.	SM 82963 06715
20347	Wall at Monk Haven	Included as a picturesque screen wall, a significant feature of Monk Haven and part of the Trewarren estate.	SM 82833 06461

**Table 2:** Scheduled Ancient Monuments and grade II listed buildings within 0.75km of the new access track



**Figure 3:** Grade II listed buildings (blue triangles) within 0.75km of the new access track (shown in red)

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### **4.3 Known Archaeological Remains**

- 4.3.1 Heritage assets recorded in the HER and the NMR are shown in table 3 and Figure 4. Some sites are recorded in both databases. Some sites represent the SAMs and LBs already mentioned.
- 4.3.2 The proposed access track passes adjacent to the site of a possible Bronze Age Burnt Mound recorded on the Dyfed Historic Environment Record (PRN 2993). Burnt mounds are typically evident as collections of heat affected stone piled around a trough which would have held water. The stone would have been used to heat water in the trough and would then be discarded after they had been used. The function of a burnt is not known, despite the features being relatively common. They may have been used as cooking sites, processing sites for timber or cloth or possibly as saunas.
- 4.3.3 A collection of flint artefacts have been found within the field to the east of the proposed access track (PRN 7449) which indicate Neolithic or Mesolithic activity in the vicinity.
- 4.3.4 'Longstone' has already been described as a SAM, and other known stones include: a relocated standing stone near Trewarren Farm (PRN 48318); a possible standing stone located to the west of the route (PRN 2997); place name evidence for another to the south of Longstone (PRN 5398 – although this could be a mis-located record for Longstone itself).
- 4.3.5 The area has numerous other prehistoric monuments within it: There is a Bronze Age Round Barrow burial mound to the west (PRN 13312), and finds indicating flint working at Moor farm (PRN 7449), Mabesgate (PRN 12797) and Slatehill Farm (PRN 12810). A prehistoric stone axe was recovered from North Hall Farm (PRN 11143), and two Bronze Age burnt mounds are sited at North Hall and Moor (PRNs 2991; 2993). A cropmark of unknown date is also located within the search area that could potentially also be prehistoric.
- 4.3.6 Later sites recorded on the HER include medieval St Ishmaels motte, (PRN 3004: the other SAM already described). Medieval / post medieval field systems (PRN 6417) and common land (PRN13807) are known around the village. Other known sites within 750m are of post medieval and modern date, including quarries, a smithy, a grade II listed building and a World War II searchlight battery.

### **4.4 Other archaeological events**

- 4.4.1 A report about the heritage assets at Trewarren Farm has been previously completed as part of the Tir-Gofal Agri-environment scheme (Groom 2013). It was concluded that:

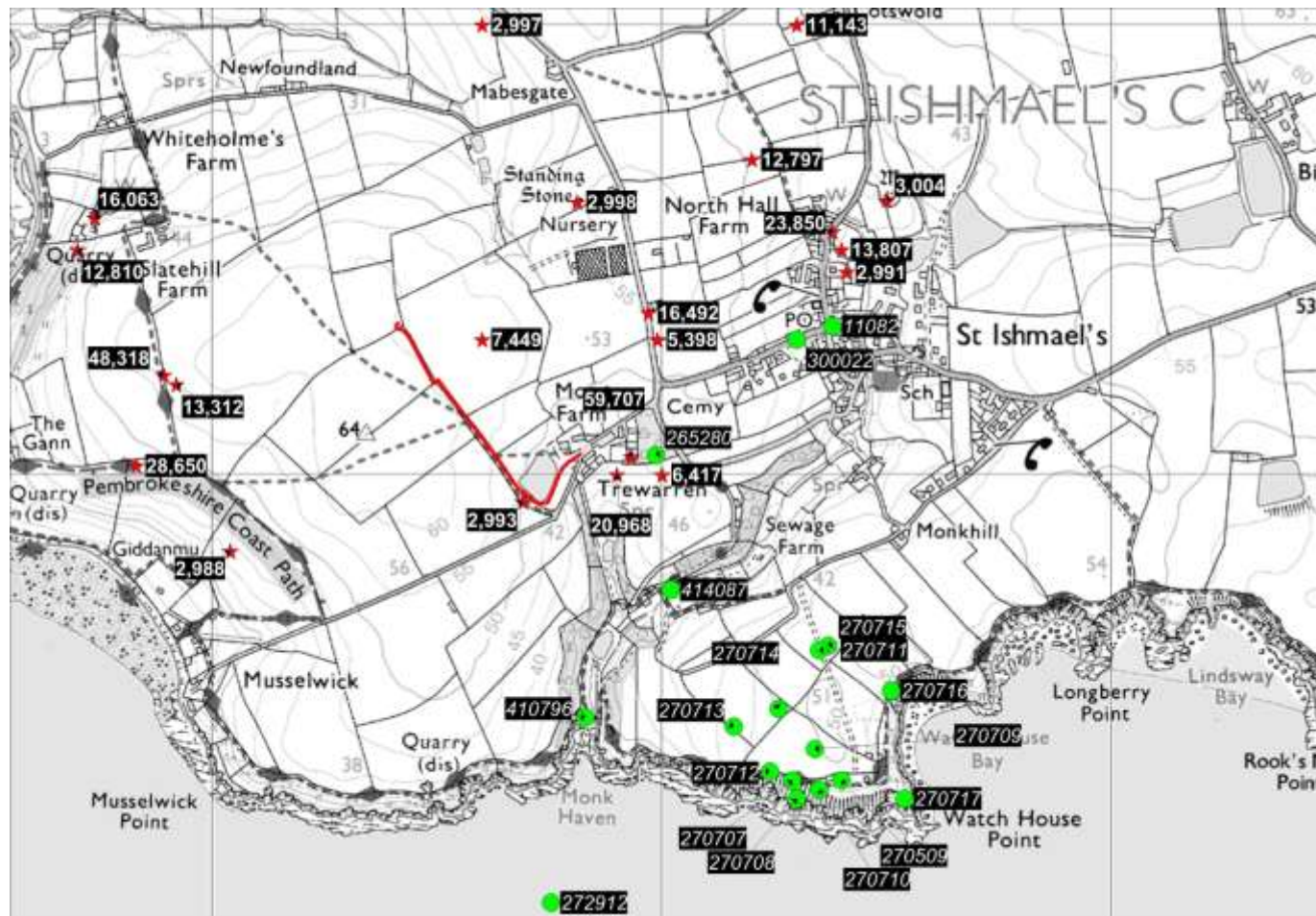
*Overall, Trewarren Farm contains a density and variety of archaeological features which is seldom seen within such a contained area. The pleasure gardens and mansion house provide a coherent snapshot of a 19<sup>th</sup> century landscape, whilst time depth is provided by two hillforts and at least one standing stone.*



PRN/ NPRN	Site Name	Period	Description	NGR
2988	Musselwick	Unknown	Cropmark of unknown significance.	SM 8204 0683
2991	North Hall	Prehistoric	Recorded site of burnt mound but not found again in 1995	SM 8341 0745
2993	Moor	Prehistoric	Recorded site of burnt mound but not found again in 1995	SM 8269 0694
2997	Mabesgate	Bronze Age	In 1915 Cantrill wrote that a stone standing 9 ft high was to be found in a field 150 yards northwest of Mabesgate farm.	SM 826 080
2998/ 305354	Longstone	Bronze Age	Standing Stone Scheduled Ancient Monument PE113	SM 82811 07606
3004/ 305355	St Ishmael's Tump; Castell Mound	Medieval	Scheduled Ancient Monument PE196. The surviving motte of St Ishmaels motte and bailey castle.	SM 8350 0761
5398	Longstone	Bronze Age	Standing Stone Placename Evidence	SM 8299 0730
6417	St Ishmael's	Post-Medieval, Medieval	Field System	SM 83 07
7449	Moor Farm	Neolithic, Mesolithic	A small collection of flints recovered from the surface of a field. Collection included possible fragment from arrowhead and some flakes.	SM 826 073
11143	North Hall Farm	Neolithic	A stone axe partially polished on both sides.	SM 833 080
12797	Mabesgate	Prehistoric	A small flake of white flint collected by T C Cantrill.	SM 832 077
12810	Slatehill Farm	Prehistoric	A primary flake described by Cantrill as a 'thick external flake' (Cantrill 1915, 175, No. 17). NAP 2004.	SM 817 075
13312	Trewarren Round Barrow	Bronze Age	This looks a convincing barrow from the aerial photograph and also from Lidar data accessed on 23/12/2015.	SM 8192 0720
13807	The Fold Or The Green	Post-Medieval, Medieval	Common Land	SM 834 075
16063	Quarry	Post-Medieval	Quarry	SM 81738 07571
16492	Manse	Post-Medieval	Manse	SM 8297 0736
20968; 59707/ 407225	Trewarren	Post-Medieval	A substantial and unaltered country house of the 1840s. Grade II listed building no. 20343.	SM 829 070
23850	St Ishmaels	Post-Medieval	A smithy is shown at this location on the First (1887) and Second (1908) Edition Ordnance Survey maps.	SM 8338 0754
28650	Slatehill Farm	Modern	Air Defence, Searchlight Battery, two concrete hut bases.	SM 8183 0702

48318	Trewarren Standing Stone	Bronze Age	Possible standing stone cleared to a field boundary to the west of, and intervisible with, PRN 13312.	SM 81892 07221
270717	Coast Artillery Searchlight, St. Ishmael's	Post Medieval	Coast Artillery Searchlight	SM 8354 0628
270716	Minefield, St. Ishmael's	Post Medieval	Minefield	SM 8351 0652
270715	Minefield, St. Ishmael's	Post Medieval	Minefield	SM 8337 0662
270714	Minefield, St. Ishmael's	Post Medieval	Minefield	SM 8326 0648
270713	Minefield, St. Ishmael's	Post Medieval	Minefield	SM 8316 0644
265280	Trewarren, Garden, St Ishmaels	Post Medieval	Garden	SM 82986 07044
11082	Tabernacl Congregational Chapel	Post Medieval	Chapel	SM 8338 0733
270509	Coast Artillery Battery, St. Ishmael's	Post Medieval	Coast Artillery Battery	SM 8340 0632
270712	Minefield, St. Ishmael's	Post Medieval	Minefield	SM 8324 0634
270711	Minefield, St. Ishmael's	Post Medieval	Minefield	SM 8335 0661
270710	Battery Observation Post, St. Ishmael's	Post Medieval	Battery Observation Post	SM 8335 0630
270709	Weapons Pit, St. Ishmael's	Post Medieval	Weapons Pit	SM 8334 0639
270708	Coast Artillery Searchlight, St. Ishmael's	Post Medieval	Coast Artillery Searchlight	SM 8330 0628
270707	Weapons Pit, St. Ishmael's	Post Medieval	Weapons Pit	SM 8329 0632
272912	Resolution	Post Medieval	Wreck	SM 82753 06049
300022	St Ishmael's Townscape	Post Medieval	Village	SM 833 073
410796	Wall at Monk Haven	19th Century	Boundary Wall. Grade II listed building no. 20347.	SM 8283 0646
414087	St Ishmael's Parish Church	Medieval	Church. Grade II listed building no. 20344.	SM8302006744

**Table 3:** Heritage assets recorded in the HER and NMR within 0.75km of the development site



**Figure 4:** Heritage assets recorded in the HER (red stars, regular text) and NMR (green dots, italic text) within 0.75km of the development site (shown in red)

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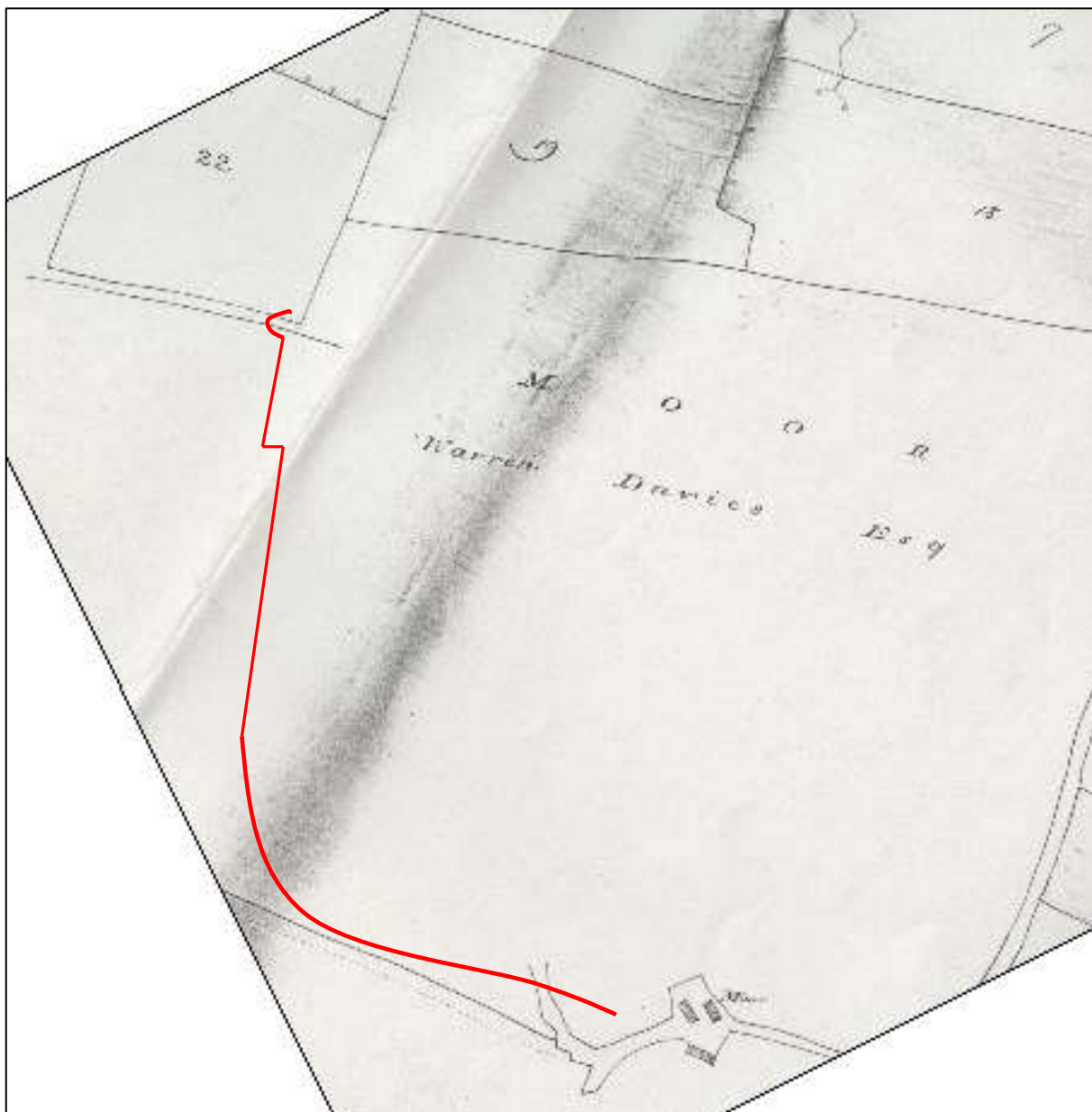
## 4.5 Historic Mapping

- 4.5.1 The earliest map available was a 1795 estate map of Hugh Stokes' Land. Shown in Figure 5, it depicts the study area largely as open moorland, with some enclosed fields in the north part of the site development area. The open Moorland is labelled 'Henry Davies Esquire,' presumably the land owner but possibly the land occupier.
- 4.5.2 The 'References' page attached to this map gives names of fields and descriptions of their land use. Field no. 7 is named Long Stone Park and is used as meadow, and field no. 11 to its west is called South Meade and used for arable. Moor Farm is not shown, and neither is Trewarren.



**Figure 5:** Estate Map of Hugh Stokes' Land, St Ishmael's, Pembrokeshire, 1795 (approximate position of new access track shown in red)

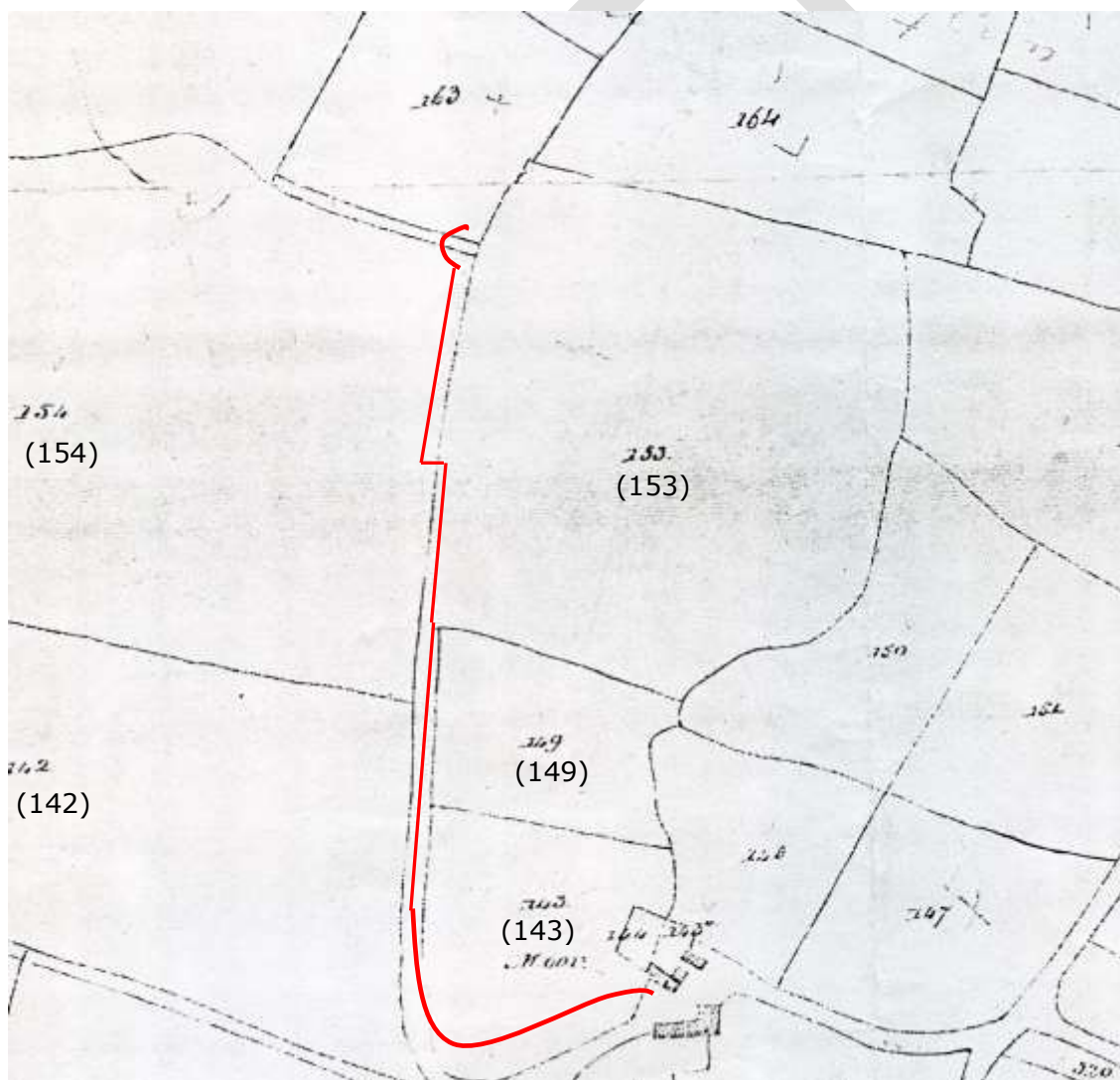
- 4.5.3 Figure 6 shows an estate map made 4 decades later in 1837. The map was made to show the property of A.L. Stokes, and also once again shows the moor as belonging to / being occupied by somebody else – this time Warren Davies Esquire.
- 4.5.4 Moor Farm is now shown, and a stream heading northwards at the top right of the image. Otherwise, there are no changes to the field layout since 1795. No field descriptions were available for this map.



**Figure 6:** Estate Map of Property of A.L. Stokes, St Ishmael's, Pembrokeshire, 1837 (approximate position of new access track shown in red)

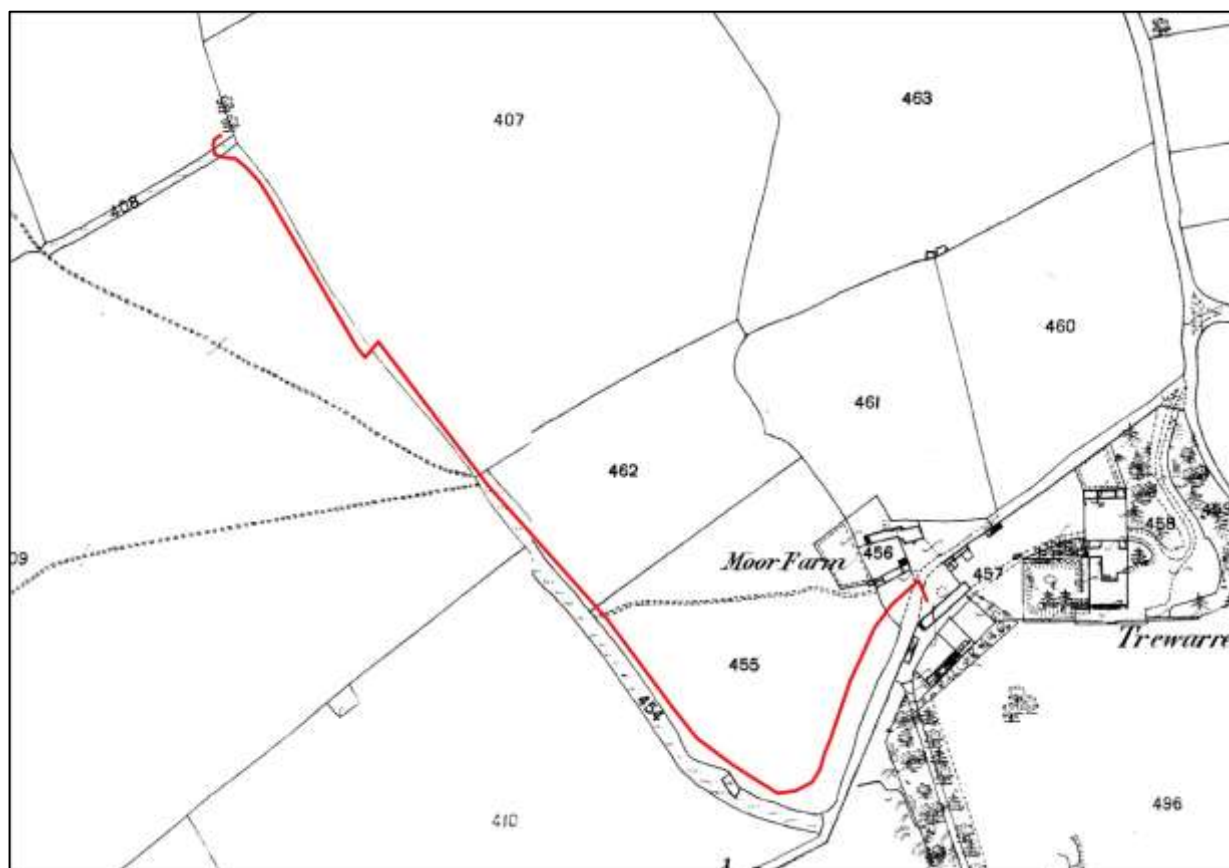


- 4.5.5 In 1841, Parish Tithe Maps were created for the whole country, and the portion covering the new access track is shown in Figure 7. By this time the moor has been enclosed (although it is possible that the last two maps did not show the detail of field boundaries on land that didn't belong to the Stokes family, and that the land was named 'Moor' after the farm, not after its contemporary use).
- 4.5.6 The tithe apportionment shows that field no. 163 at the northernmost limit of the new track was called 'Gordy Park' and used as pasture. The 'dy' part in its name means 'house' in Welsh, which may indicate former habitation there.
- 4.5.7 Field no. 164 next door was called 'Fog Park' and used as pasture, as were fields 153 and 149, both known as 'Middle Way.' Both fields 142 and 143 were called 'Longlands,' but 142 was used for Lay Hay whereas 143 was under pasture. Finally, field no. 154, also Pasture, was known as 'Bickning Meadow.'
- 4.5.8 The apportionment also records that Moor Farm was occupied by John Richards at this time.



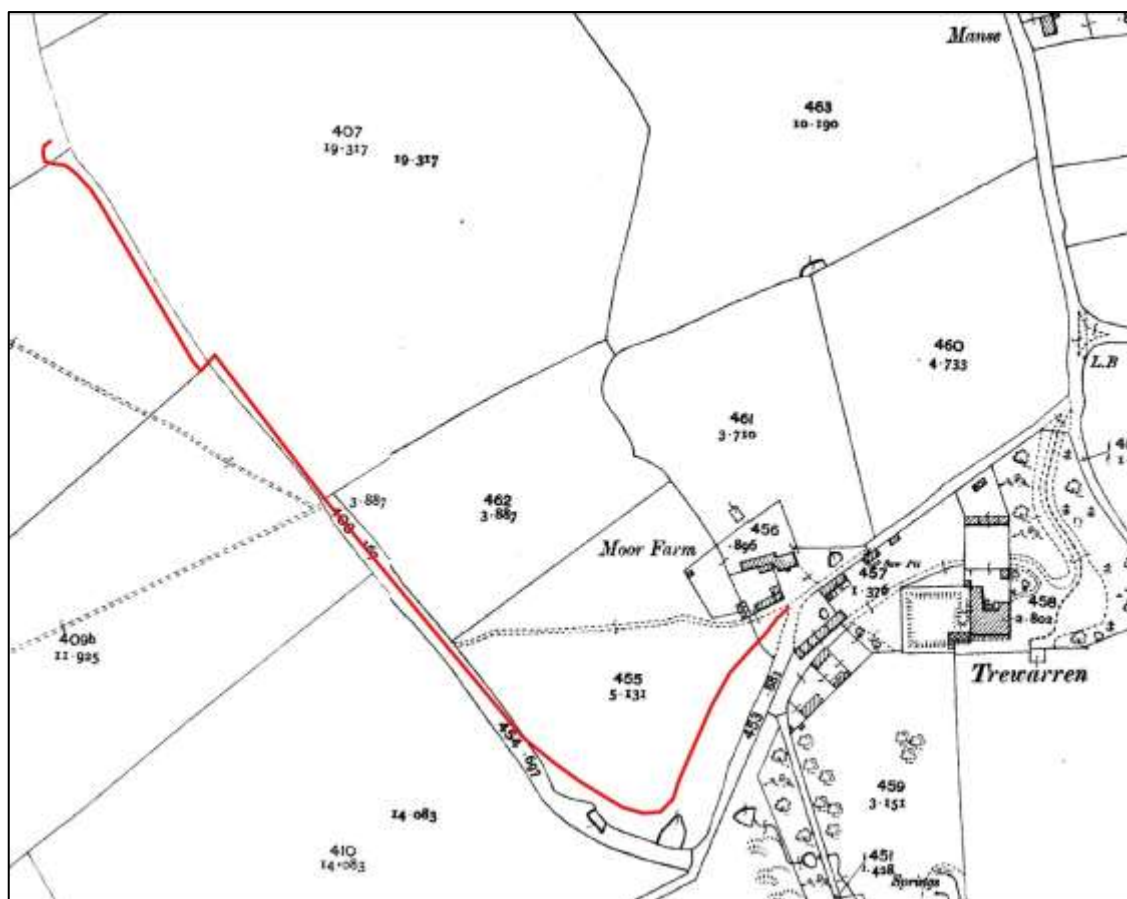
**Figure 7:** St Ishmael's Parish Tithe Map of 1841, with approximate position of new access track shown in red

4.5.9 The 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1:2500 OS map of 1876 (Figure 8) shows the same field layout as the 1841 tithe, but it is more accurate and shows more detail, such as the position of trees and footpaths. It is also now that Trewarren Farm is first depicted to the southeast of Moor Farm.



**Figure 8:** OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1:2500 Map of 1876, with approximate position of new access track shown in red

4.5.10 Figure 9 shows the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 1:2500 OS map, dated 1908. This map is displayed here only to point out the insertion of the field boundary across the large westernmost field (as it was in Figure 8). Present day mapping still shows this boundary, although it is actually no longer there.

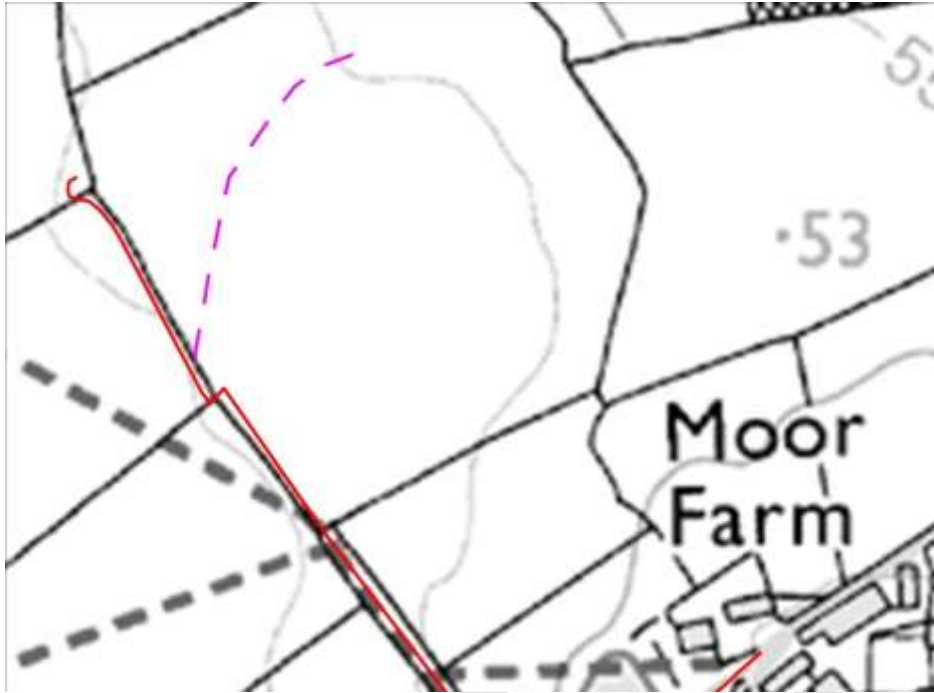


**Figure 9:** OS 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 1:2500 Map of 1908, with approximate position of new access track shown in red

#### 4.6 Aerial Photography

- 4.6.1 Modern day satellite imagery shows a possible archaeological cropmark in the large field in the northeastern part of the development site (Figure 10). The curve and size of this feature would most likely typically represent an Iron Age enclosure.





**Figure 10:** Map of position of possible cropmark, shown by a purple dashed line, with position of new access track shown in red

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 scale Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed Archaeological Trust, The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF. Licence No 100020930

## **5 WATCHING BRIEF METHODOLOGY**

### **5.1 Fieldwork**

- 5.1.1 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.
- 5.1.2 Excavation work was conducted by a 5 ton machine with a toothless bucket. All archaeological deposits revealed during the groundworks were examined and recorded to an appropriate level.
- 5.1.3 Recording of all archaeological features or deposits conformed to best current professional practice and was carried out in accordance with the Recording Manual used by DAT Archaeological Services.

### **5.2 Timetabling of Fieldwork**

- 5.2.1 The watching brief took place at Trewarren Farm, St. Ishmaels, on the following dates in 2016: 23<sup>rd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> February; 29<sup>th</sup> February; 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> March; 4<sup>th</sup> March.

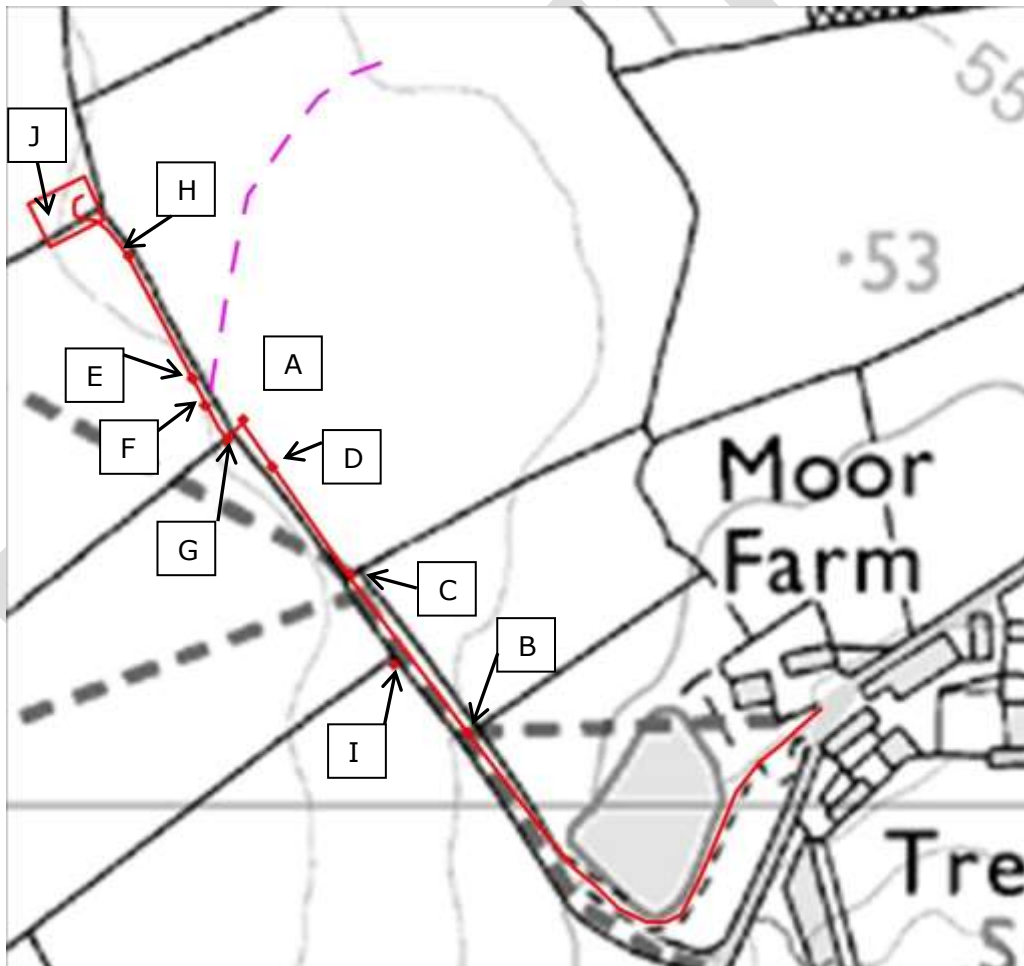
### **5.3 Post-Fieldwork Reporting and Archiving**

- 5.3.1 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.
- 5.3.2 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.
- 5.3.3 A report fully representative of the results of the fieldwork has been prepared.

## 6 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1 The watching brief had to be carried out over several partial days, due to the method of track construction employed: short portions at a time of the track were stripped by machine, to the required depth, and then filled back in with the hardcore surfacing material. An archaeologist was not required during the surfacing and so at times was not required on site.
- 6.1.2 South of point B on Figure 11, an access track had already been laid for an existing wind turbine, and so no further work was required in this area.
- 6.1.3 Fieldwork time was lengthened north of point D on Figure 10 because softer ground was encountered require deeper excavation in order to create a sturdy enough track for the required loading.
- 6.1.4 The results are presented below in a day-by-day format. Figure 11 shows the development site with points referred to in the text as letters of the alphabet.



**Figure 11:** Map showing locations referred to in text, showing cropmark in purple and access track in red

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## 6.2 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2016

- 6.2.1 Starting at point A on Figure 11 (NGR SM 82503 07214) and moving southeast, 0.2m of homogenous loamy topsoil, with few stone inclusions, was removed (Photo 1). Approximately 80m in length was excavated. Possible plough lines running parallel and in a northwest-southeast direction were visible in the bottom of the stripped access track line.



**Photo 1:** New track after partial excavation (taken from point A on Figure 11, looking south-southeast)

## 6.3 24<sup>th</sup> February 2016

- 6.3.1 Starting at point B on Figure 11 (NGR SM 82867 07041) and moving northwards to point C (NGR SM 82565 07131), c. 0.2m of topsoil was removed. Photo 2 shows some patches of red stone revealed at point C. These are probably bits of stone from the red sandstone geology present only two fields to the north, that have migrated to this part of the farm by natural processes. Photo 3 also shows white lines in a rectangle, which were the remains of the base of a breeze-block structure of unknown function, c. 1.5m by 2.2m.
- 6.3.2 Between points A and D, the access track was further excavated to its final depth of about 0.4m. Subsoil was excavated, from approximately 0.3m downwards, and was medium yellow-brown compacted silt with some stone (Photo 3).
- 6.3.3 Later in the day, the track between points D (NGR SM 82519 07188) and C was excavated to its full depth of about 0.4m, and a linear feature, probably a ditch, was revealed (Photo 4). As this feature was not visible in the vertical trench-edge, it must have originated and filled in before the current topsoil formed over it. A change in geology is mapped by the BGS near here and on this alignment, so this feature may be the result of the natural infilling of a dip at the boundary between two rock formations. However, there were noticeable amounts of red stone that appeared to be heat-affected in the ditch deposit, suggesting use by humans at some

point. This feature seems to respect the alignment of the linear feature noticed in aerial photography, though it is not in the same place.



**Photo 2:** New track at point C, looking north, after excavation to final depth, showing patches of red stone and the rectangular outline left by a former breeze-block structure



**Photo 3:** New track after excavation to final depth (taken from point D on Figure 11, looking north-northwest)





**Photo 4:** Facing northwest, newly excavated track at point D, showing a linear ditch marked with a 2m scale

#### **6.4 25<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

- 6.4.1 Work concentrated on excavating the track footings through a field gateway at point A on Figure 11 into the next field to point E (NGR SM 82475 07237). The ground was taken down in spits of about 0.15m to a depth of c. 0.3m. In the south side of the gateway the foundations of a breeze-block-built cattle grid were initially worked around (Photo 5). Stones in the foreground of the photo have become loose from the field bank.
- 6.4.2 At point F in Figure 11 (NGR SM 82482 07222), an area of possible archaeological significance was revealed: sub-circular amorphous patches of dark grey clay surrounded by the sandier yellow-brown natural subsoil (Photo 7). The largest of these patches was cleaned to enable better recording (Photo 8). No charcoal was present and it could not be further ascertained whether these features are of natural or archaeological origin, although they do lie at the end of the cropmark and may therefore be associated with it, although no sign of the cropmark itself was encountered.
- 6.4.3 The topsoil in this area was much deeper and a very dark red brown, reflecting the change in geology near to point A.



**Photo 5:** Looking north through the gateway at A, the breeze-block foundations of a former cattle grid can be seen intruding into the way of the partially excavated new track



**Photo 6:** Looking east through the gateway at A, the breeze-block foundations of a former cattle grid after removal to the required depth for the track





**Photo 7:** Facing north-northwest, a collection of grey clay patches can be seen at the bottom of the track trench at point F



**Photo 8:** Facing south-southeast, a plan view of the largest patch of grey clay at point F, with a 1m scale



## 6.5 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016

- 6.5.1 A linear feature parallel to the trench had become visible with its northern end 1.5m south of point E (Photo 9). The feature was recorded in a sketch and a section excavated to attempt to establish its nature and depth (Photo 10). It was 5.2m long, 0.4m wide and 0.08m deep (0.43m below surface). There was a gap 0.6m long at its mid-point. The farmer said that drainage channels had been inserted along this field edge within the last 10 years, and as excavation provided no alternative evidence this is almost certainly what this feature is.
- 6.5.2 After realising that softer soil required greater excavation, the trench was deepened around point A to c. 0.5m.



**Photo 9:** Linear feature, probably a land drain, just south of point E on Figure 10. Facing east-southeast with one 0.5m and one 1m scale.



**Photo 10:** Section through linear feature, probably a land drain, just south of point E on Figure 10. Facing north-northwest with a 0.5m scale.

## **6.6 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016**

- 6.6.1 The trackway at A, west of the gateway, was extended southwards by 5m for a passing / turning point. Another breeze block stand for a concrete cattle grid, 2.5m long, was uncovered here (Photo 11; point G on Figure 10; NGR SM 82494 07202). Only 0.75m of its width and 0.35m of its depth was located in the trench; the rest still buried outside of the excavation area. After recording in a sketch, the part of it in the trench was demolished.
- 6.6.2 The trench for the track was deepened to 0.5m all the way from point A to point E, and no further archaeological deposits were observed.



**Photo 11:** Breeze block base for a former cattle grid at point G on Figure 10. Facing south, with one 0.5m and one 1m scale.

## **6.7 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016**

- 6.7.1 The track excavation continued between points E and H (NGR SM 82440 07304) on Figure 10. Photo 12 shows clearly the sandy yellow natural deposit at the bottom of the trench in this part of the field.
- 6.7.2 At point I on Figure 10 (NGR SM 82588 07084), a trench for another track turning / passing place was excavated. A small quantity of building rubble in the form of stone and plastered brick was observed (Photo 13).





**Photo 12:** The bottom of the trench at point H in Figure 10, showing the sandy yellow natural subsoil in this part of the field. Facing northeast with a 0.5m scale.



**Photo 13:** stone and plastered brick building rubble unearthed at point I on Figure 10, facing south-southwest.

## 6.8 4<sup>th</sup> March 2016

- 6.8.1 The excavation of area J in Figure 10 (SM 82413 07332) was watched. In this area trenches for the termination of the track, a turning place, and the mast stand were excavated. The mast stand was excavated to a depth of 0.9m, through topsoil and into the same yellow sandy natural subsoil encountered in the field to its south (Photos 14 and 15). No archaeological deposits were discovered at any point in the area. Photos 16 and 17 show two different completed areas of the new trackway.



**Photo 14:** The trench for the mast stand after excavation, facing south-southeast, with two 2m scales



**Photo 15:** The trench for the mast stand after excavation, facing west, with a 2m scale





**Photo 16:** The completed turning place in area J in Figure 10, with the mast stand trench under excavation in the background.



**Photo 17:** The completed track between point G and area J on Figure 10

## **7 CONCLUSION**

- 7.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the construction of an access track leading to the site of a proposed new Western Power communications mast at Trewarren Farm, St Ishmaels, Pembrokeshire.
- 7.2 Archaeological and historical research undertaken for the project indicated that the site had the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains. Aerial photographic analysis suggested the presence of a curving crop mark crossing through the northern part of the access track.
- 7.3 The southern part of the proposed trackway utilised an existing trackway built for an existing wind turbine.
- 7.4 Due to differing ground conditions, the depth of material excavated for the access track varied during the course of the works, although in the end it seems clear that the depth of machining was sufficient within which to see any archaeological remains if they had been present. The method of topsoil stripping was also conducive to observing archaeological remains.
- 7.5 In the area of the possible cropmark, no corresponding archaeological features were visible within the stripped area. It was suggested that the cropmark could have been as result of it lying at the intersection between two different geologies, and although no clear change was visible within the excavated access track, this would seem to be the most likely conclusion. The presence of grey clay filled features within this vicinity may be indications of similar geological/natural features.
- 7.6 No prehistoric finds or sites were identified during the watching brief. A ditch located at Point D on the access track was thought to be man-made rather than geological, although no dating evidence was recovered from the feature. The function of the ditch is uncertain, but could represent a former field boundary. On its own and with no dating evidence, the significance of the ditch cannot be ascertained.
- 7.7 The only other archaeological features observed were the remains of two former cattle grids, the footprint of a small breeze block building and a land drain. These are all likely to be of 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century date relating to farming practices in the area. Such features are of low archaeological significance.
- 7.8 Whilst the results of the watching brief are mostly negative, with no significant archaeology being identified, they do not negate the possibility of significant archaeology surviving elsewhere within the near vicinity. The groundworks impacted on a small strip of land adjacent to existing field boundaries and it is possible that these areas had been subject to previous disturbance from farm traffic or cleaning/renewing the hedge banks. Such previous activity could have already removed any traces of archaeological remains if present.

## 8 SOURCES

### Published

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

Cadw and ICOMOS UK. 2002. *Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales: Part 1*.

### Unpublished

Groom, P. 2003. Trewarren Farm W/13/3817: Tir Gofal Farm Visit Historic Environment Report. Cambria Archaeology Report No. 2003/58.

### Database

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

### Websites

British Geological Survey mapping portal. Available at: <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> [Accessed 24/Feb/2016]

Google Maps. Available at: <https://www.google.co.uk/maps> [Accessed 24/Feb/2016]

### Cartographic

Estate Map of Hugh Stokes' Land	1795	
Estate Map of Property of A.L. Stokes	1837	
Llanelly Parish Tithe Map Apportionment	1841	
Ordnance Survey	1876	1:2500 Pembrokeshire
Ordnance Survey	1908	1:2500 Pembrokeshire
Ordnance Survey	1877	1:105600 Pembrokeshire
Ordnance Survey	1908	1:105600 Pembrokeshire
Ordnance Survey	1953	1:105600 Pembrokeshire
Ordnance Survey	1964	1:105600 Pembrokeshire

**WESTERN POWER NEW COMMUNICATIONS TOWER,  
TREWARREN FARM, ST ISHMAELS, PEMBROKESHIRE  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF  
WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION**

**1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This written scheme of investigation (WSI) has been prepared by DAT Archaeological Services in response to a request from Western Power to provide an archaeological scheme of works for a watching brief during the construction of a new access road, installation of a new communications mast and associated cabling on land north of Trewarren farm, St Ishmaels, Pembrokeshire (Figures 1 & 2). The proposed mast is located at grid reference SM 82428 07398. The route of the associated cabling runs west along field boundaries from SM 82770 07575 to the tower site and then doglegs to the south along field boundaries to SM 82404 073333.
- 1.2 The Dyfed Historic Environment Record (HER) was searched for known archaeological sites within 750m of the proposed access road, cable route and communications tower [See tables 2-3, and Figures 3-4 in main watching brief report], which demonstrate that the area has numerous prehistoric monuments within it. The cable route starts close to the site of the Bronze Age standing stone known as Longstone, which is a scheduled ancient monument (SAM PE113; Historic Environment Record reference PRN2998). Other known remains in the area include a second relocated standing stone near Trewarren Farm (PRN 48318); a further possible standing stone located to the west of the route (PRN 2997); place name evidence for a fourth to the south of the Longstone (PRN 5398 – although this could be a mis-located record of the Longstone itself); a possible Bronze Age Round Barrow burial mound to the west (PRN 13312); finds indicating flint working at Moor farm (PRN 7449), Mabesgate (PRN 12797), Slatehill Farm (PRN 12810); a prehistoric stone axe recovered from North Hall Farm (PRN 11143); and the site of two Bronze Age Burnt Mound sites at North hall (PRN 2991) and Moor (PRN 2993). A cropmark of unknown date is also located within the search area which could potentially also be prehistoric. This evidence indicates the area has the potential for further prehistoric remains to be present, which could be disturbed by groundworks associated with the proposed cabling and communications mast.
- 1.3 Further sites recorded on the HER include the site of the medieval St Ishmaels motte, another scheduled ancient monument located to the east of the cable route (PE196; PRN 3004). Medieval / post medieval field systems (PRN 6417) and common land (PRN13807) are known around the village. Other known sites within 750m are of post medieval and modern date, including quarries, a smithy, a grade II listed building and a World War II searchlight battery. The site area itself lies within agricultural land which would have been used as such since the medieval period. The field boundaries are of post-medieval date.
- 1.4 As a consequence of this the archaeological advisor to Western Power (Planning Services of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust) has requested that an archaeological watching brief is undertaken during the groundworks associated with the scheme.
- 1.5 This written scheme of investigation outlines the methodology through which DAT Archaeological Services would undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works at the site, which have the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains. This document has



been prepared for the client and is specifically prepared for DAT Archaeological Services to undertake the required archaeological works. The WSI cannot be used by any third party.

- 1.6 The written scheme of investigation is in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014).
- 1.7 DAT Archaeological Services has considerable experience of this type of project and always operates to best professional practice. DAT Archaeological Services is the contractual arm of Dyfed Archaeological Trust that has its own Health and Safety Policy, and all works are covered by appropriate Employer's Liability and Public Liability Insurances. Copies of all are available on request.
- 1.8 ***Dyfed Archaeological Trust is a CIfA Registered Organisation.***
- 1.9 ***All staff are CSCS registered.***

## **2. WATCHING BRIEF**

- 2.1 The definition of archaeological watching brief, taken from the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance: for Archaeological Watching Briefs (CIfA S&G: AWB 2014) is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.
- 2.2 The purpose of a watching brief, as laid down in the CIfA S&G AWB is:
  - to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works;*
  - to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment.*
- 2.3 This document provides a scheme of works for: ***Archaeological attendance during ground works associated with the construction of a new access road, erection of a communications mast and installation of associated cable route 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 be prepared.***

## **3. PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

- 3.1 Provision of a written scheme of investigation to outline the methodology by which DAT Archaeological Services will undertake the archaeological watching brief.
- 3.2 To monitor ground works in order to identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.

- 3.3 To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
- 3.4 To appropriately investigate and record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground works.
- 3.5 To produce an archive and report of any results.

#### **4. FIELDWORK**

- 4.1 The watching brief would entail an archaeologist being present during all ground works where there is a potential for archaeological remains to be exposed, damaged or destroyed. This will be carried out during groundworks associated with the construction of a new access road, erection of the new communications mast and associated cabling.
- 4.2 It is essential coordination between the site contractor's and archaeologist is established at the outset to avoid any potential disturbance to archaeology without an archaeologist being present, or unnecessary visits to the site when works are being carried out that do not require the presence of an archaeologist.
- 4.3 Adequate time must be made available to the visiting archaeologist to ensure that appropriate recording can be undertaken of any archaeological features or deposits exposed during ground works.
- 4.4 Recording of all archaeological features or deposits will conform to best current professional practice and be carried out in accordance with the Recording Manual<sup>2</sup> used by DAT Archaeological Services. Significant archaeological features or deposits will be drawn at a suitable scale (no less than 1:20) and photographed in an appropriate format.
- 4.5 All archaeologically significant finds will be retained and, where possible, related to the contexts from which they derived. Finds will be temporarily stored by DAT Archaeological Services in stable conditions. All finds, except those deemed to be Treasure, will remain the property of the landowner.
- 4.6 Under the 1996 Treasure Act, "treasure" can be summarised as:
  - Any object other than a coin containing at least 10% gold or silver and at least 300 years old;
  - Any prehistoric assemblage of base metal;
  - Coins found together which contain 10% gold or silver (but no single coins) and groups of at least 10 coins of other metals, provided they are at least 300 years old;
  - Any object found associated with treasure except unworked natural objects; and
  - Any object which would have been Treasure Trove before the 1996 Act but not covered above.
- 4.7 In the event that unforeseen archaeological discoveries are made during the development, or that archaeological remains of high significance are exposed, DAT Archaeological Services shall have the power to halt any ground works and shall inform the site agent/project manager and the curatorial officer, and prepare a written statement with plan detailing the

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<sup>2</sup> 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.

archaeological evidence. Following assessment of the archaeological remains by the curatorial officer, DAT Archaeological Services shall, if required, implement on behalf of the Client a contingency scheme for salvage excavation of affected archaeological features. In these instances it would be necessary to employ extra resources to record such features to an appropriate standard. Again this scenario is possible within the area of the former aircraft hangar.

- 4.8 In the very unlikely event that human remains are encountered, the District Coroner's Office and the Police will be notified immediately. All human remains will, where possible, be left *in situ*. If preservation *in situ* is not possible all statutory permissions will be obtained in writing before removal begins.

## **5. POST-FIELDWORK REPORTING AND ARCHIVING**

- 5.1 All data recovered during the fieldwork will be collated into a site archive structured in accordance with the specifications in *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2011), and the procedures recommended by the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth.
- 5.2 The results of the fieldwork will be assessed in local, regional and wider contexts. The report will include a desk-based research element to ensure that the site is placed within its wider archaeological context. A report that is fully representative of the results of the fieldwork will be prepared and digital and hard copies will be sent to the client for dissemination to all relevant parties.
- 5.3 A summary of the project results, excluding any confidential information, may be prepared for wider dissemination (e.g. Archaeology in Wales and special interest and period-specific journals).
- 5.4 The project archive, including all artefacts and ecofacts (excepting those which may be deemed to be Treasure) will be deposited with an appropriate body following agreement with the landowner.
- 5.5 A copy of the final report will be deposited with the regional HER within six months of the completion of the project.

## **6. STAFF**

- 6.1 This project will be managed by James Meek, Head of DAT Archaeological Services.
- 6.2 Archaeological attendance during the watching brief will be undertaken by staff drawn from the team of archaeologists employed by DAT Archaeological Services.

## **7. MONITORING**

- 7.1 The fieldwork may need to be monitored by the archaeological advisors to Western Power and the Head of DAT Archaeological Services, who should be provided access to the site at any time during the watching brief works.

## **8. HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- 8.1 All DAT Archaeological Services staff are CSCS<sup>3</sup> registered.

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<sup>3</sup> Construction Skills Certification Scheme (Health and Safety Tested)

- 8.2 DAT Archaeological Services will carry out a health and safety risk assessment to ensure that all potential risks are minimised.
- 8.3 All relevant health and safety regulations must be followed.
- 8.4 All site inductions, H&S procedures and site rules of the site contractor will be made known to DAT Archaeological Services staff prior to them commencing work on-site.
- 8.5 Safety helmets, safety boots and high visibility vests are to be used by all site personnel as necessary. The site contractors will make all archaeological staff aware of any other PPE<sup>4</sup> that may be required and provide them. Archaeological staff must not enter any area where there is a considered to be a health and safety risk that has not or is not being appropriately mitigated against.
- 8.6 DAT Archaeological Services staff must ensure that their presence on site is communicated to all relevant site staff, especially machine operators.

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<sup>4</sup> *Personal Protection Equipment*

# **TREWARREN FARM ACCESS TRACK, ST. ISHMAELS, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2016/29  
RHIF Y DIGWYDDIAD / EVENT NO. 109360

Ebrill 2016  
April 2016

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

**Alice Day**

Swydd / Position: **Archaeologist**

Llofnod / Signature ..... *Alice Day* ..... Dyddiad / Date **31/Mar/2016**

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 ..... *James Meek* ..... Dyddiad / Date **31/Mar/2016**

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



