

LAND WEST OF BARLEY PARK, NEW ROAD, BEGELLY, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

PLANNING APPLICATION 12/0803/PA



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust
For: Jonathan Harford



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DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

REPORT NO. 2023-06

EVENT RECORD NO. 129722

September 2023

**LAND WEST OF BARLEY PARK, NEW ROAD, BEGELLY,
PEMBROKESHIRE:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

by

Dr Marion Shiner

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Client

Jonathan Harford

Event Record No

129722

Report No

2023-06

Project Code

FS21-090

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Rev Number	Description	Undertaken	Approved	Date
_V1	First draft	MS	CK	
_V2	Second draft	CK	FM	
_V3	Final draft	MS	FM	30/10/2023

**LAND WEST OF BARLEY PARK, NEW ROAD, BEGELLY,
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Archaeological Services were commissioned to undertake a watching brief during groundworks associated with the erection of twenty-one dwellings on land west of Barley Park, New Road, Begelly, Pembrokeshire (NGR SN 11492 07035). The development site is located close to several known historic assets, mostly post-medieval mining features. The proposed development was therefore considered to have the potential to impact upon buried archaeological remains.

No archaeological features or artefacts were identified during the watching brief.

CRYNODEB GWEITHREDOL

Comisiynwyd Gwasanaethau Archaeolegol YAD i ymgymryd â briff gwyllo yn ystod y gwaith tir sy'n gysylltiedig â chodi un ar hugain o anheddau ar dir i'r gorllewin o Barley Park, Heol Newydd, Begeli, Sir Benfro (NGR SN 11492 07035). Mae safle'r datblygiad wedi'i leoli'n agos at nifer o asedau hanesyddol hysbys, nodweddion mwyngloddio ôl-ganoloesol yn bennaf. Ystyriwyd felly y gallai'r datblygiad arfaethedig effeithio ar weddillion archeolegol claddedig.

Ni nodwyd unrhyw nodweddion nac arteffactau archeolegol yn ystod y briff gwyllo.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Commission

1.1.1 Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Archaeological Services (DAT-AS) were commissioned by Mr Jonathan Harford of Lucknow Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the erection of twenty-one dwellings (Planning Application 12/0803/PA) on land west of Barley Park, New Road, Begelly, Pembrokeshire (centred on NGR SN 11492 07035).

1.1.2 The development site is located close to several historic assets recorded on the regional Historic Environment Record (HER), including several post-medieval industrial features relating to former coal mining in the area (for example PRNs 28256, 21421, 21424 and 21423).

1.2 Scope of the Project

1.2.1 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological watching brief was prepared by DAT-AS prior to the commencement of the works (Appendix I). The WSI outlined the project objectives as:

- To provide a WSI to outline the methodology for the archaeological mitigation which DAT-AS will undertake;
- To establish the state of preservation, character, extent and date range for any surviving archaeological deposits identified through an archaeological watching brief during remaining groundworks associated with the development, and to appropriately investigate and record any archaeological remains to be exposed, damaged or destroyed by the development proposals;
- To produce a report and an archive of the results of all archaeological mitigation undertaken at the site.

1.2.2 The overall work was summarised as:

Archaeological attendance during remaining groundworks associated with a residential development on land west of Barley Park, Begelly, Pembrokeshire which could potentially expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains. It would appear that this may only be relevant in the area of the former coal mine shaft in the southwestern part of the area as the remainder of the site has already been topsoil stripped and driven over. 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.

1.2.3 The archaeological works were undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* and their codes of conduct (CIfA 2014).

1.3 Report Outline

1.3.1 This report provides a summary and discussion of the archaeological watching brief and its results.

1.4 Illustrations

- 1.4.1 Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale. On maps, north is towards the top of the page unless otherwise indicated.

1.5 Timeline

- 1.5.1 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.

Table 1: Archaeological and historical timeline for Wales.

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	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period	1750 – 1899	
Modern	20th century onwards	

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

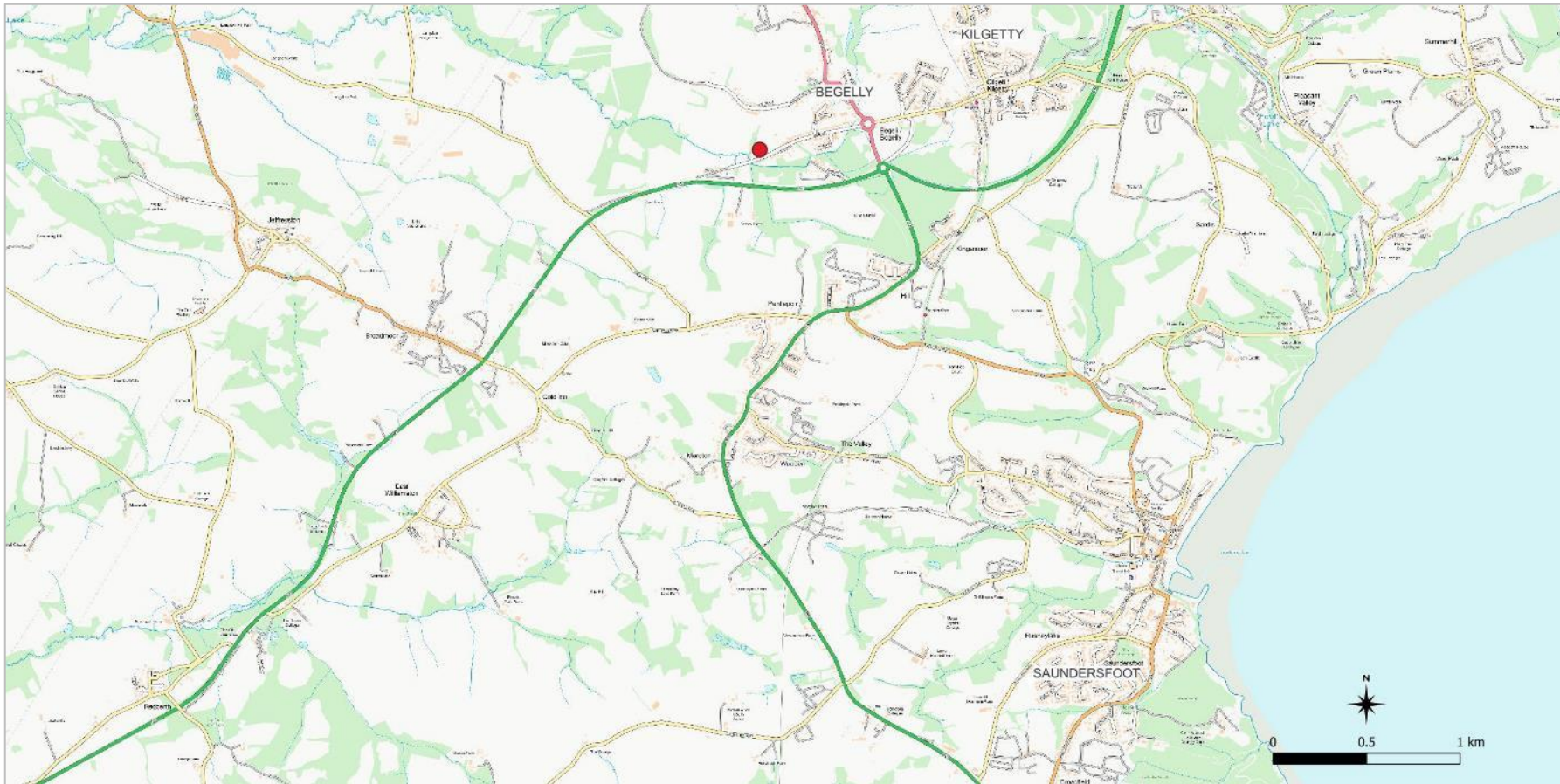


Figure 1: Site location map showing the proposed development area (in red).
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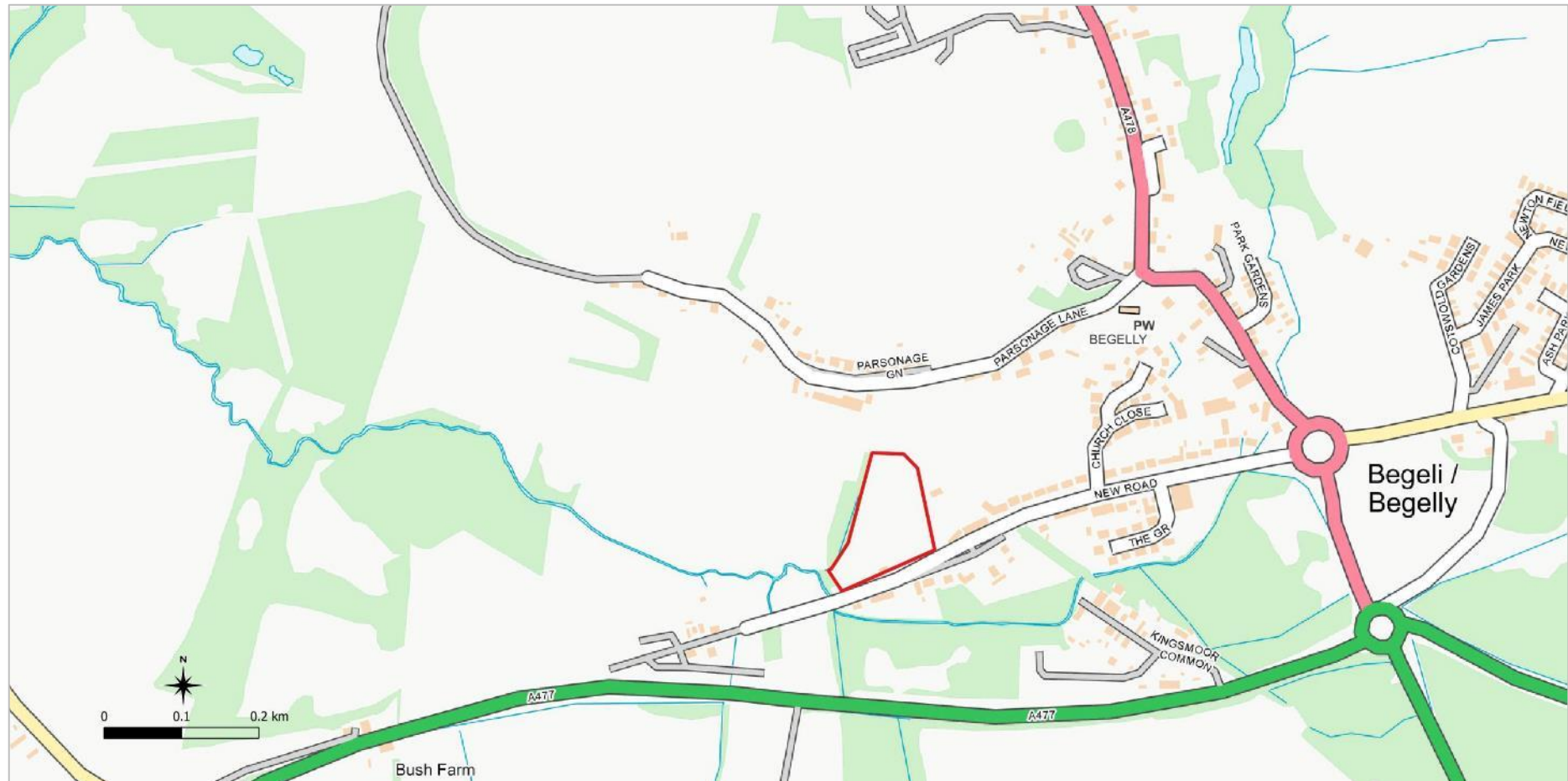


Figure 2: Location plan showing the extent of the site (red boundary).
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2. THE SITE

2.1 Location and Topography

- 2.1.1 The site is located on the northern side of New Road and south of Parsonage Lane, approximately 600m south-west of the centre of the small village of Begelly, Pembrokeshire. The site is west of the A478 road between Tenby and Narberth, which passes through the village, and north of the A477 between Pembroke and Carmarthen. Pembroke, c.10 miles to the south-west, is the nearest large town.
- 2.1.2 The underlying bedrock geology consists of the South Wales Middle Coal Measures Formation - mudstone, siltstone and sandstone. This sedimentary bedrock formed between 318 and 309.5 million years ago during the Carboniferous period (BGS online). The soils of the area are characterised by less fertile soils over the coal measures (Ratty and Meek 2011).
- 2.1.3 The development site is a field of approximately one fifth of an acre that slopes gently from north-east to south-west. The site is bounded by hedge banks to the north and west, and by New Road to the south. The line of the former Saundersfoot Railway (now the 'Miners' Walk' footpath) follows the southwestern part of the site boundary.
- 2.1.4 Historical satellite imagery shows the land under scrubby vegetation prior to the development (Fig 3).



Figure 3: 2009 Satellite image (© Google Earth) showing the development site as a scrubby field.

2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 2.2.1 Begelly was established by at least the late thirteenth century when the Church of St Mary (PRN 3641) now a Grade II* listed building (ref. 6045), was listed as 'Ecclesia de Vegely cum capellis' in Pope Nicholas' ecclesiastical taxation assessment (*Taxatio* online). However, the presence of a motte (PRN 3640) at Bottom Farm suggests that the settlement may have earlier origins. Motte and bailey castles represent campaigning warfare and were originally of Norman construction, but they were copied by the Welsh, making it difficult to identify which side created each of the many examples that exist in Wales.
- 2.2.2 The Dyfed HER records 36 known historic assets within a 500m radius of the development site (Fig 4 and Table 2). Aside from the motte and church already mentioned, the majority are nineteenth century mining features. The presence of underlying coal measures, known as the Pembrokeshire Coalfield, meant that this area of the county is rich in the remains of former mining activity. Features associated with the Kings Moor coal workings are situated south of New Road, while those of the Bushmoor Colliery lie a little to the west of the site.
- 2.2.3 Historic mapping suggests that the development site has been under pasture or arable use since the nineteenth century. The Ordnance Survey Original Surveyors Drawings map of 1809-10 suggests field boundaries divided the proposed development site (Fig 5). The village and the road layout are shown to the northeast.
- 2.2.4 The 1842 Begelly Parish tithe map (Fig 6a) shows the area as No. 471, which is listed on the accompanying tithe apportionment of 1841 as 'Barley Park' (Fig 6b). A house and garden (No. 470) are indicated to the north-west of the site where the owner is listed as James Mark Child and the occupier as Robert Brough.
- 2.2.5 The first edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1889 also shows the house and garden north-west of the development site but by this time, a boundary divides them from the area of Barley Park (Fig 7). A small mine shaft (part of the Bushmoor Colliery) is shown, but not labelled, south-west of the development site. Three additional mine shafts and an engine house are depicted in the field to the west. Further west again, the word 'Buttles' suggests the former location of ore processing buddles.
- 2.2.6 The second edition OS map of 1907 (Fig 8) shows no changes in the area of the development since the 1889 edition.

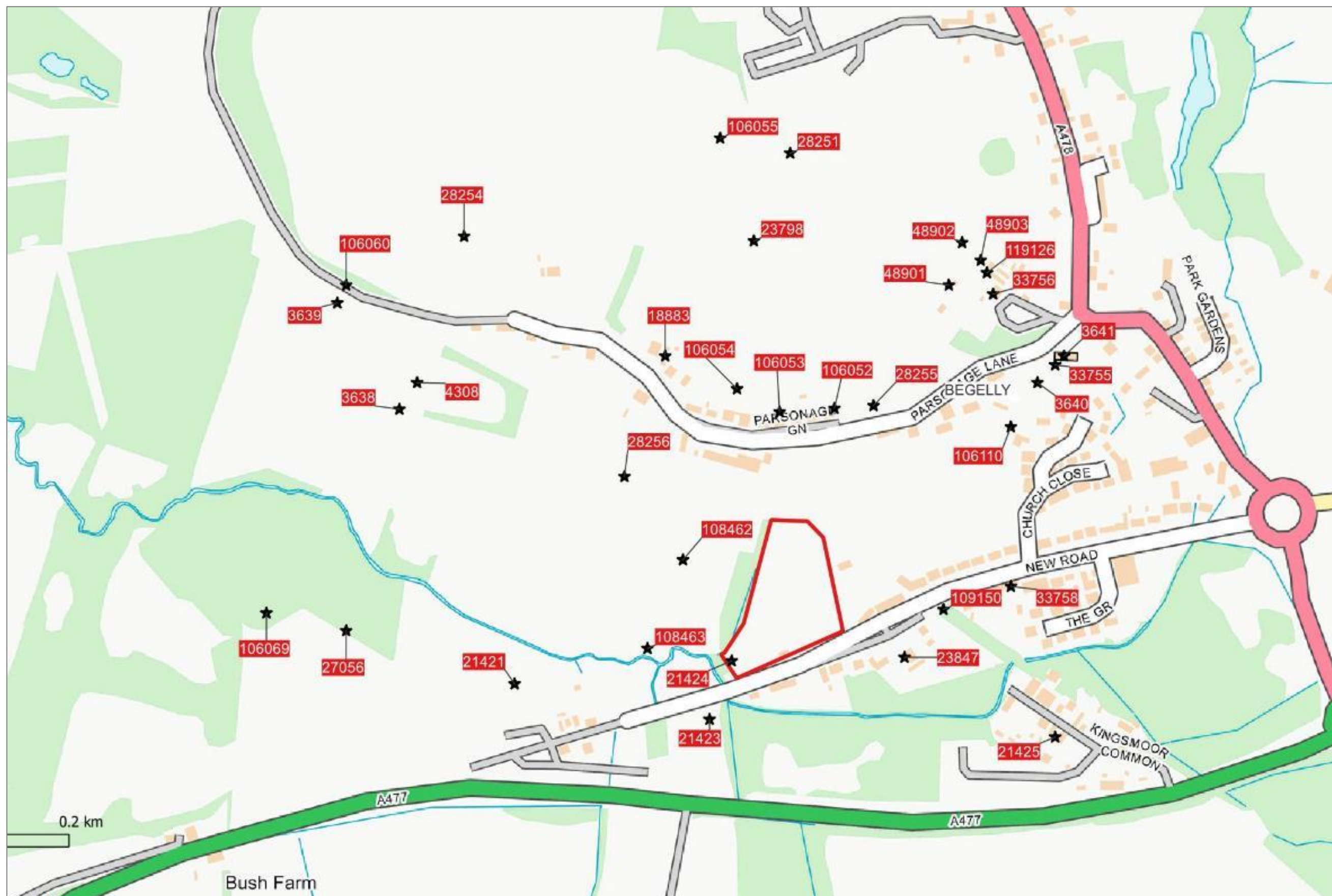


Figure 4: Map showing the locations of historic assets (Table 2) recorded in the HER within 500m of the development site (red boundary). Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

Table 2: Historic assets recorded in the HER within 500m of the development.

PRN	Type	Period	Ngr
18883	Rectory	Post Medieval	SN11360731
33758	Blacksmith's Workshop	Post Medieval	SN11750705
108462	Coal Workings	Post Medieval	SN11380708
3638	Round Barrow	Bronze Age	SN11060725
3639	Round Barrow	Bronze Age	SN10990737
109150	Railway Bridge	Post Medieval	SN1167407024
106110	Mine Shaft	Post Medieval	SN11750723
27056	Settlement	Post Medieval	SN1100007000
28251	Mine Shaft	Post Medieval	SN1150107539
28255	Mine Shaft	Post Medieval	SN1159507254
33755	Almshouse	Post Medieval	SN118073
23847	Gate; Toll Gate	Post Medieval	SN11630697
23798	Coal Mine	Post Medieval	SN11460744
106052	Mine Shaft	Post Medieval	SN1155107251
106053	Mine Shaft	Post Medieval	SN1148907247
106054	Mine Shaft	Post Medieval	SN1144107273
119126	Farmstead	Post Medieval	SN1172307404
33756	Mansion	Post Medieval	SN11730738
48901	Building	Post Medieval	SN1168007390
48902	Building	Post Medieval	SN1169507438
48903	Building	Post Medieval	SN1171607418
3641	Church	Medieval; Post Medieval	SN11810731
28256	Coal Workings	Post Medieval	SN1131407174

PRN	Type	Period	Ngr
3640	Motte	Medieval	SN11780728
4308	Chambered Tomb	Neolithic	SN11080728
106069	Coal Mine	Post Medieval	SN10910702
21423	Coal Mine; Coal Workings	Post Medieval	SN11410690
106055	Coal Workings	Post Medieval	SN1142207556
21421	Mine Shaft	Post Medieval	SN11190694
21424	Coal Mine; Coal Workings	Post Medieval	SN1143506966
21425	Coal Mine	Post Medieval	SN11800688
106060	Railway	Post Medieval	SN11000739
28254	Coal Workings	Post Medieval	SN1113307445
108463	Coal Workings	Post Medieval	SN11340698
121248	Farmstead	Post Medieval	SN1134106642



Figure 5: Extract from Ordnance Survey 2" to 1 mile Original Surveyors Drawings (1809) with approximate (red) outline of development site

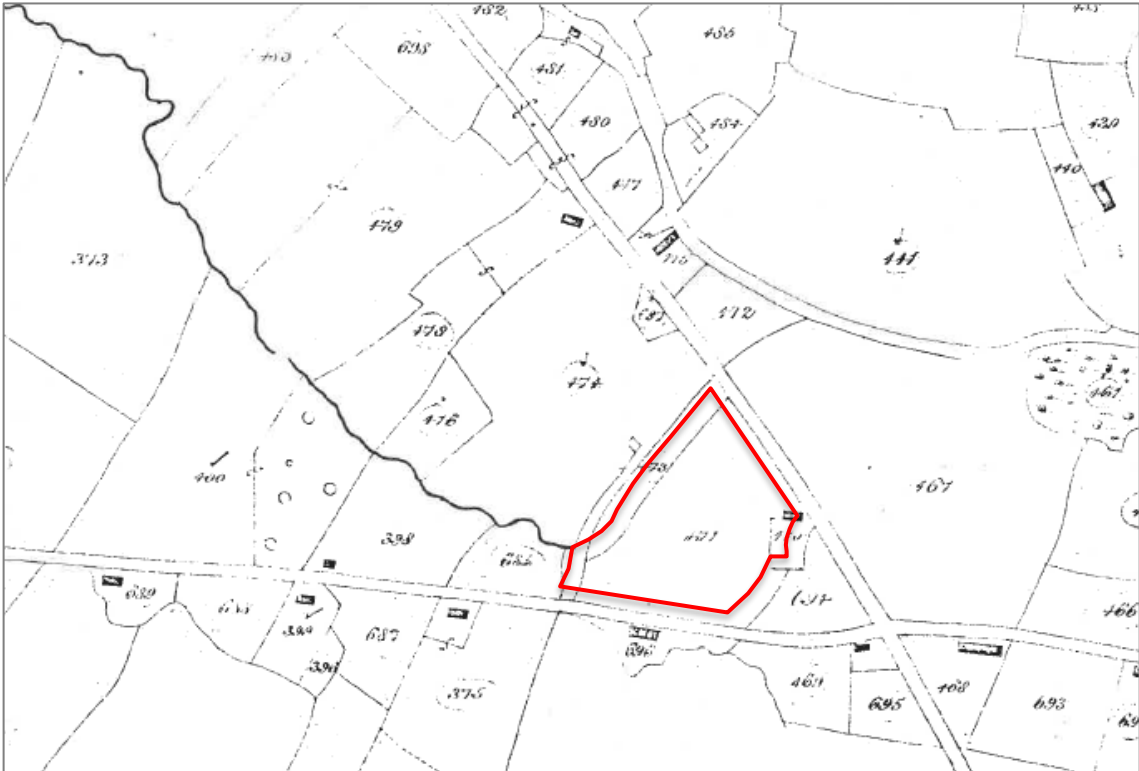


Figure 6a: Extract from the 1842 Begelly cum East Williamston Parish tithe map (development area outlined in red).

LANDOWNERS.	OCCUPIERS.	Numbers referring to the Plan.	NAME AND DESCRIPTION OF LANDS AND PREMISES.	STATE OF CULTIVATION.
Child James Mack (Cont ^d)	Evans Elizabeth	✓ 462	Church Meadow	Meadow
		✓ 466	Field in front of house	Arable
		✓ 692	Ynn and garden	
		✓ 693	Field adjoining	Arable
	Brough Robert	✓ 474	Field	Pasture
		✓ 470	House garden	
		✓ 471	Barley Park	Pasture
		✓ 473	Piece	Pasture

Figure 6b: Extract from the 1842 Begelly cum East Williamston Parish tithe apportionment.

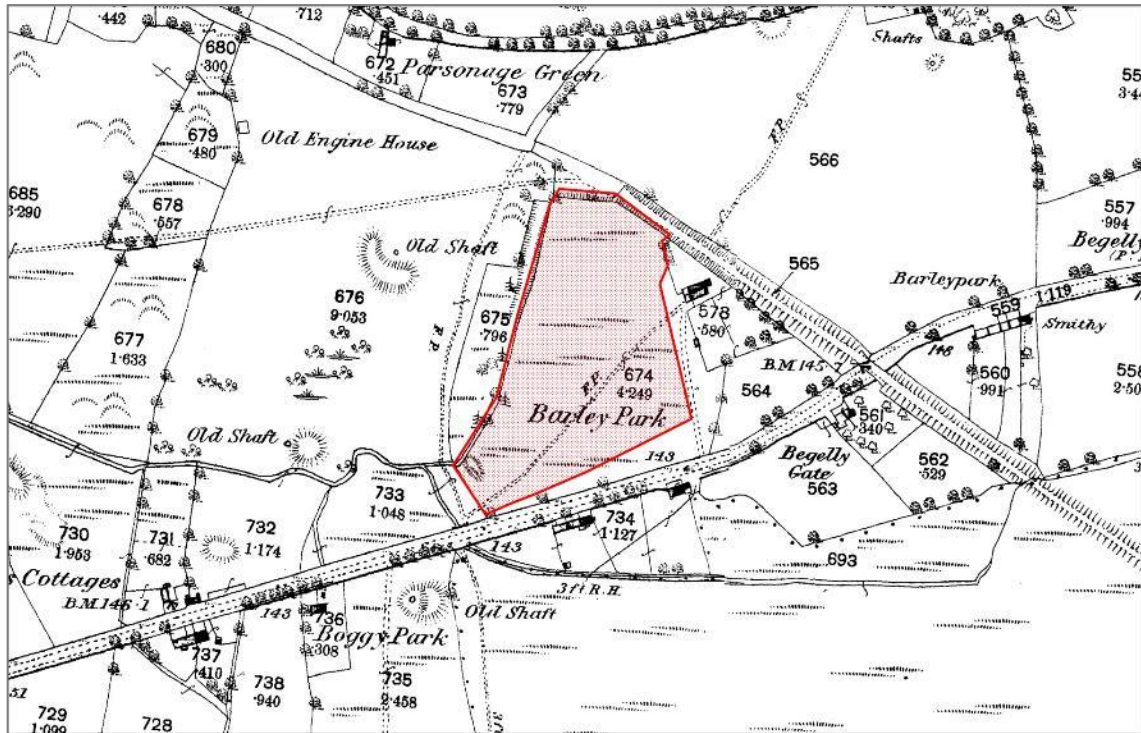


Figure 7: Extract from the first edition 25" Ordnance Survey map published in 1889, showing a mine shaft to the south-west and a house and garden to the north-west of the development site (outlined in red).

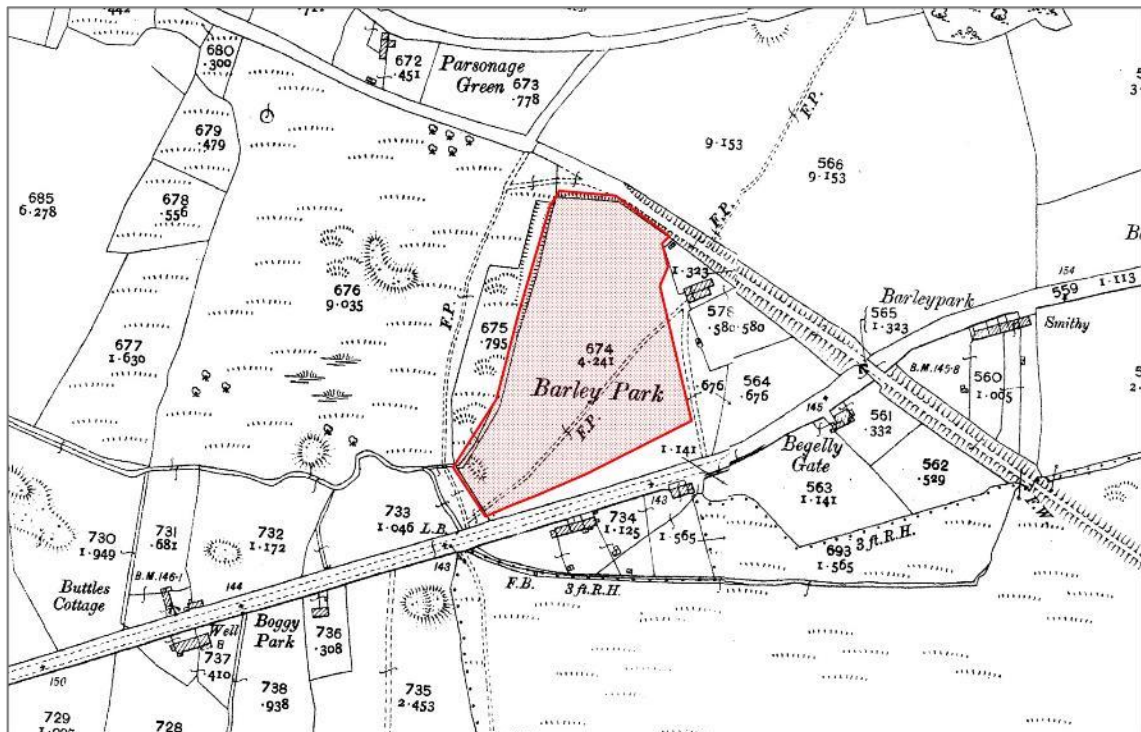


Figure 8: Extract from the second edition 25" Ordnance Survey map published in 1907 (development site outlined in red).

2.3 Previous Archaeological Investigations

- 2.3.1 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on an area to the east of the development site in advance of a smaller development. Whilst this did not identify features or deposits associated with mining activity, a medieval, possibly Anglo-Norman, phase was suggested by a V-shaped linear ditch recorded in one of the trenches. Pottery from the fill of this feature was dated to the thirteenth-fifteenth centuries AD. It was noted that several pits which the ditch had truncated were potentially of early medieval date, based on a ninth- to tenth-century radiocarbon date obtained from another cut feature on the site (Schlee 2006, 5).
- 2.3.2 Prehistoric activity was also identified in the vicinity during the evaluation. Flint artefacts were thought to be of Neolithic date, while charcoal obtained from a cut feature on the site was dated to the early Bronze Age (Schlee 2006, 5).
- 2.3.3 An archaeological desk-based assessment to determine the nature and location of any known archaeological remains, and the potential for hitherto unknown remains to be present, was undertaken for the current site in 2011 (Ratty and Meek 2011). No visible archaeological features were identified during a site visit, although an area of rougher grass, which may indicate disturbed ground below, was noted in the south-central part of the site area. In the southwestern corner of the development site a dip was noted in the ground level with the suggestion that this might indicate the location either of a former pond or collapse of earlier mine workings (Ratty and Meek 2011, 20).

3. WATCHING BRIEF METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork

- 3.1.1 The watching brief was undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (CIfA 2014).
- 3.1.2 A WSI detailing the proposed archaeological works was prepared by DAT-AS (Appendix 1).
- 3.1.3 Recording of all archaeological features and/or deposits conformed to best current professional practice and was carried out in accordance with the Recording Manual used by DAT-AS (adopted from the Recording Manual developed by English Heritage Centre for Archaeology, a copy of which is always available on-site for inspection if required).
 - A written, drawn and photographic record was maintained throughout this watching brief.
 - All contexts encountered during this watching brief were recorded.

3.2 Timetabling of Fieldwork

- 3.2.1 Watching brief visits took place over several days between January and March 2023. The weather was mixed.

3.3 Post-Fieldwork Reporting and Archiving

- 3.3.1 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 2011), and the procedures recommended by the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth.
- 3.3.2 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.
- 3.3.3 A report fully representative of the results of the fieldwork has been prepared.

4. WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS

- 4.1 At the time of the first archaeological site visit in January 2023, two new houses were under construction. The remainder of the development site presented challenges for assessment, due to very muddy conditions. A walkover survey was conducted and a photographic record made (Photos 01–04) but no archaeological features could be identified. Several large spoil heaps created by levelling/excavation of house platforms were observed.



Photo 01: View north-west across the development site, showing house under construction and spoil heaps.



Photo 02: View north across the development site showing house under construction and spoil heaps.



Photo 03: View south across the development site.



Photo 04: View south-east across the development site, showing houses under construction and spoil heaps.



Photo 05: Showing the development site at the time of the second site visit.

- 4.2 At the time of the second site visit, work was progressing on the two houses seen earlier (Photo 05). A large spoil heap had been moved from the east of the site, and the ground levelled to create garden space (Photo 06).



Photo 06: Showing the former location of a spoil heap to the east of the development site.

- 4.3 A final site visit took place in March 2023 by which time the first two houses were roofed (Photo 07). Inclement weather in the days before the visit meant that the site again presented challenges for observation. A photographic record was made, and the south-west corner of the site was thoroughly searched (Photos 08–09) for evidence of mining features (the dip in the ground mentioned by Ratty and Meek in 2011).



Photo 07: View south across the development site in March 2023.



Photo 08: View west, showing the south-west corner of the development site.



Photo 09: View east, from the south-west corner of the development site.

5. CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with the erection of twenty-one dwellings on land west of Barley Park, New Road, Begelly, Pembrokeshire (SN 11492 07035).
- 5.2 The development site is located close to several historic assets recorded on the regional HER, including several post-medieval industrial features relating to former coal mining in the area. Therefore, it was considered highly likely that features or deposits relating to the medieval, or post-medieval periods might be present within the area, with the potential that they might be damaged or destroyed by intrusive activity. As a result, Pembrokeshire County Council Planning Authority requested that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken during any groundworks.
- 5.3 No evidence for mining activity, nor for any other archaeological features or artefacts, was identified during the watching brief.

6. SOURCES

Brown, D. H. 2011. *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*, Institute for Archaeologists/Archaeological Archives Forum

CIfA. 2014, *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief*

Ratty, S. & Meek, J. 2011. *Land off New Road, Begelly, Pembrokeshire : Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*, Dyfed Archaeological Trust Report No. 2011/47, [online] available at <[102354 Land off New Road, Begelly, Pembrokeshire Archaeological Desk Based Assessment \(walesher1974.org\)](http://102354.Land.off.New.Road.Begelly.Pembrokeshire.Archaeological.Desk.Based.Assessment.walesher1974.org)> Accessed 07.09.2023

Schlee, D. 2006. *An archaeological evaluation of land at Church Close, Begelly*, Unpublished Dyfed Archaeological Trust Report No. 2006/106

APPENDIX I:

PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT, LAND WEST OF BARLEY PARK, NEW ROAD, BEGELLY, PEMBROKESHIRE:

PLANNING APPLICATION NO. 12/0803/PA

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 DAT Archaeological Services have been commissioned by Mr Jonathan Harford of Luckton Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with proposed residential development of land west of Barley Park, New Road, Begelly, Pembrokeshire (centred on SN 11492 07035; Figure 1).
- 1.2 The archaeological works have been requested by the archaeological advisor to Pembrokeshire County Council, Development Management at Dyfed Archaeological Trust (DAT-DM). The advice letter prepared by DAT-DM to Pembrokeshire County Council stated '*The application site lies a short distance away from several sites of historical and archaeological interest including the site of a Neolithic chambered tomb (PRN 4308), a Bronze Age round barrow (PRN 3638) and several post-medieval industrial features (PRN's 28256, 21421, 21424, 21423).*' The site area is known to have been mined for coal during the post-medieval period and medieval and prehistoric remains have been found closer to the centre of the village near the church.
- 1.3 A condition was attached to planning permission for the development (12/0803/PA) which states: '*No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. This shall be in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) which has been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*
- 1.4 The outline proposals for the development 21 new residential properties including social housing. The outline plan submitted with planning included an access road leading north from New Road to the northern part of the site area with buildings to be arranged around the perimeter of the road, with a small spur cul-de-sac to the southwest. The groundworks proposed for the development would include site clearance, topsoil stripping and levelling, insertion of access roads and driveways, excavation of building foundations, excavation of services and associated landscaping works. A former coal mine shaft lies in the southwestern part of the area, away from the proposed location of houses. This had been previously capped but is to be recapped to modern standards.
- 1.5 It is proposed that an archaeological watching brief will be undertaken during groundworks where there is a potential for archaeological remains to be exposed, damaged or destroyed by these works. The aim of the watching brief is to ensure that any archaeological remains exposed by the groundworks can be appropriately recorded, and a report and archive prepared.
- 1.6 A site visit was undertaken on 11th June 2019 to observe the site area as it was understood that some groundwork had already taken place. The site visit

confirmed that extensive groundworks had been undertaken at the site quite recently. The main area of the site had been stripped of topsoil with a number of soil storage bunds visible around the development area. Vegetation had started to grow back thinly across the stripped area and was quite thick across the spoil heaps. Along the southern boundary of the site a large area of crushed stone had been laid to create a constructor's compound and materials storage area. Temporary buildings were present in the southwestern part of the site area and a porta-cabin was present to the southeast. The present state of the site area is shown in the following photographs:



Photo 1: View north-northeast across proposed development area showing re-vegetated spoil heaps and thin vegetation on stripped ground surface.



Photo 2: View north across development area showing spoil heaps and stripped surface in foreground



Photo 3: View north-northwest across development area showing spoil heaps and stripped surface



Photo 4: View west showing spoil heaps, part of stoned contractor's area in foreground and strip area to right



Photo 5: Detail of stripped ground surface with vehicle tracks still clearly visible



Photo 6: View south towards New Road showing main entranceway and area of imported stone being



Photo 7: View southwest across development area towards area of colliery mine shaft

- 1.7 Unfortunately the information gleaned from the site visit demonstrated that the site area has very limited archaeological potential left. The site strip has been quite thorough, including removal of topsoil and stored in heaps around the development area. The stripped surface has been extensively driven over, presumably during the topsoil stripping exercise. The topsoil strip will have exposed and damaged any archaeological remains that may have been present, this damage would have been considerably more extensive with the movement of vehicles across the stripped surface. It is understood that no archaeological observation was undertaken during the topsoil strip.
- 1.8 It is also understood that a mine shaft lies in the southwestern part of the site area which was previously capped. A spoil heap is shown in this area on early Ordnance Survey maps although no mine shaft is shown indicating it predates the 1889 map. Other spoil heaps and some 'old shafts' are shown in the surrounding fields as well. It is the intention that this capping will be replaced with modern capping materials and methods. Groundworks will be necessary in this area to expose the shaft and remove the former capping. These works will give some potential to learn more about the construction of the mine shaft and thus an indication of its date. There is also a potential for adjacent buildings or industrial plant to be present.
- 1.9 This written scheme of investigation (WSI) details the methodology by which DAT Archaeological Services will address the requirements of the condition relating to archaeology as far as is possible after the site area has already been topsoil stripped. The works will be carried out by experienced archaeologists from DAT Archaeological Services.
- 1.10 The WSI has been prepared in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief (CIfA 2014). It will need to be approved by the local planning authority in advance of the works commencing.
- 1.11 The Trust always operates to best professional practice. DAT Archaeological Services has its own Health and Safety Policy, and all works covered by appropriate Employer's Liability and Public Liability Insurances. Copies of all are available on request.
- 1.12 Dyfed Archaeological Trust is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).
- 1.13 All permanent staff members of DAT Archaeological Services are CSCS¹ registered

¹ *Construction Skills Certification Scheme (Health and Safety Tested)*

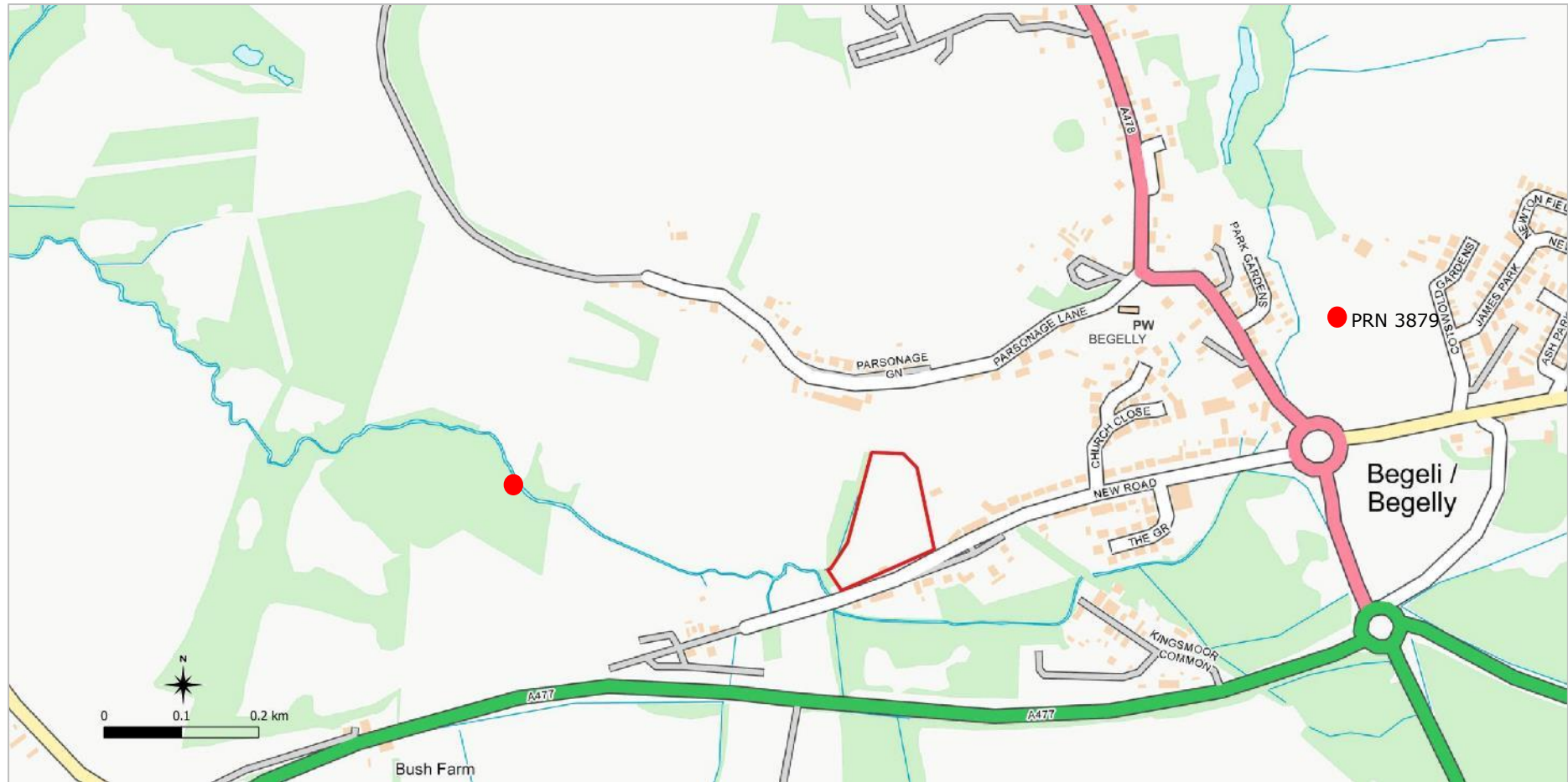


Figure 1: Location plan showing the extent of the site (red boundary).
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2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 The definition of archaeological watching brief, taken from the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (CIfA S&G AWB; CIfA 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 remaining ground works associated with a residential development on Land East of Barley Park, Begelly, Pembrokeshire which could potentially expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains. It would appear that this may only be relevant in the area of the former coal mine shaft in the southwestern part of the area as the remainder of the site has already been topsoil stripped and driven over. 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.***
- 2.4 The following tasks will be completed:
- Provision of a written scheme of investigation to outline the methodology for the archaeological mitigation which DAT Archaeological Services will undertake (this document);
 - To establish the state of preservation, character, extent and date range for any surviving archaeological deposits identified through an archaeological watching brief during remaining groundworks associated with the development and to appropriately investigate and record any archaeological remains to be exposed, damaged or destroyed by the development proposals;
 - Production of a report and an archive of the results of all archaeological mitigation undertaken at the site.

3. FIELDWORK

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 The majority of the site has already been subject to a topsoil strip and subsequently left. This will have exposed and damaged any archaeological remains that may have been present. Subsequent tracking over of the area by vehicles would render the archaeological potential of the majority of the site as now being very low to negligible. There is a limited potential for deeper below ground features to survive. It is suggested that a visit is made to the site once groundworks recommence and an assessment is made of the remaining archaeological potential through clearing of areas of the stripped surface of spoil and vegetation to determine if any archaeology survives using a mechanical excavator with flat bladed bucket. If this demonstrates the archaeological potential is negligible, no further archaeological watching brief would be needed over the main development area.
- 3.3 An area in the southwestern part of the development area contains a former coal mine shaft. This had been previously capped but will need to be recapped to modern standards. There is archaeological potential in this area to reveal information on the construction of the shaft to provide some indication of its date. There is also the potential for dateable artefacts to have been back-filled within the shaft and for associated structures or machinery to be present adjacent to it. It is proposed that an archaeologist will attend the exposing of the shaft and the removal of the existing capping.
- 3.4 It is essential coordination between the site contractor's and archaeologist is established at the outset to avoid any further 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.
- 3.5 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.
- 3.6 Recording of all archaeological features or deposits will conform to best current professional practice and be carried out in accordance with the Recording Manual² used by DAT Archaeological Services. Significant archaeological features or deposits will be drawn at a suitable scale (typically no less than 1:20) and photographed in an appropriate format. In the case of the former mine shaft, it is most likely that it will only be possible to do remote recording of the feature for health and safety reasons. Written and photographic recording are likely to be used only.

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.

- 3.7 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.

3.7

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.

- 3.8 In the event that unforeseen archaeological discoveries are made during the development, or that archaeological remains of high significance are exposed (which is a potential within this area of high archaeological significance), 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 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.

- 3.9 In the 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.

4. POST-FIELDWORK REPORTING AND ARCHIVING

- 4.1 An archive will be prepared if it meets the requirements of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust archive retention policy (2018). If it does, then data recovered during the watching brief 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. The National Standards for Wales for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives produced by the Federation of Museums and Art Galleries of Wales will also be adhered to. Digital archives will be collated using the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales systems (2015) and deposited with the RCAHMS.

- 4.2 The results of the fieldwork will be assessed in local, regional and wider contexts.
- 4.3 The report will include a desk-based assessment element to place the site into its wider context within the area.
- 4.4 The project archive, including all significant artefacts and ecofacts (excepting those which may be deemed to be Treasure) will be deposited with an appropriate body following agreement with the landowner.
- 4.5 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).
- 4.6 A digital copy and two bound copies of the reports will produced for the client. Digital copies of the report will be supplied to Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Development Management and the regional Historic Environment Record.
- 4.7 Appropriate specialists to be used by DAT Archaeological Services, if required, will include:

- **Garden and Landscape Archaeology** – Ken Murphy (Dyfed Archaeological Trust), Professor Harold Mytum (University of Liverpool and President of The Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology), Michael Norman (Welsh Historic Gardens Trust)
- **Post-medieval / medieval pottery** – Dee Brennan (local independent specialist)
- **Prehistoric Pottery** – Dr Alex Gibson (formerly of University of Bradford / now Independent pottery specialist)
- **Prehistoric Flint** – Dr Andrew David (formerly of English Heritage, now independent lithics specialist)
- **Radiocarbon** **dating**
S
cottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC)
- **Animal Bones** – Alice Day (DAT Archaeological Services)
- **Fish bones** – Jennifer Browning (University of Leicester Archaeological Services)
- **Environmental / Pollen analysis** – Elizabeth Pearson (Worcestershire Archaeology)

5. STAFF

- 5.1 The project will be managed by James Meek a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIfA).
- 5.2 The on-site works will be undertaken by an experienced archaeologist from DAT Archaeological Services, with CSCS card.

6. QUALITY ASSURANCE

- 6.1 DAT Archaeological Services has considerable experience of undertaking all categories of archaeological fieldwork and always operates to best professional practice; adhering to CIfA guidelines where appropriate. The Trust is a Registered Organisation with CIfA

and all staff abide by their code of conduct and adhere to their relevant standards and guidance.

- 6.2 DAT Archaeological Services operate robust internal monitoring procedures that ensure that the standard of each project is maintained from commencement to completion.

7. MONITORING

- 7.1 The archaeological mitigation may need to be monitored by the archaeological advisor to the planning authority (DAT-DM) 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 Service information should be obtained prior to the start of the works.
- 8.2 A health and safety risk assessment will be prepared prior to the works commencing to ensure that all potential risks are minimised.

8.3

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All relevant health and safety regulations must be followed.

- 8.4 Part of the works will be undertaken near a former mine shaft which is to be exposed. The existing cap removed and a new one replaced. All archaeological works in this area will be undertaken to avoid any risk posed by the mine shaft (remote recording through written and photographic record).
- 8.5 All site inductions, H&S procedures, H&S constraints and site rules of the client or any on-site contractor will be made known to the archaeologists at the start of the works.
- 8.6 Safety helmets, high visibility vests and boots are to be used by all site personnel as necessary. The developer will make all site staff aware of any other PPE³ that may be required.

³ *Personal Protection Equipment*

