

# **WESTERN QUAYSIDE WAREHOUSE, HAVERFORDWEST, PEMBROKESHIRE**

## **HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING**

### **LEVEL 2**



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services  
For: Atkins



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September 2023

**WESTERN QUAYSIDE WAREHOUSE,  
HAVERFORDWEST, PEMBROKESHIRE:**

**(NGR SM 9545 1574)**

**HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING LEVEL 2**

by

Jessica Domiczew



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**WESTERN QUAYSIDE WAREHOUSE, HAVERFORDWEST,  
PEMBROKESHIRE:**

**HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING LEVEL 2**

**Client**

Atkins

**Event Record No**

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## **WESTERN QUAYSIDE WAREHOUSE, HAVERFORDWEST, PEMBROKESHIRE:**

### **HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING LEVEL 2**

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## **WESTERN QUAYSIDE WAREHOUSE, HAVERFORDWEST, PEMBROKESHIRE:**

### **HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING LEVEL 2**

#### **SUMMARY**

*Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Archaeological Services were commissioned to undertake an archaeological scheme of Level 2 historic building recording at Western Quayside Warehouse, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire, centred on NGR SM9545 1574.*

*The warehouse was formerly a part of an iron foundry known as the Marychurch Iron Foundry, reputedly founded in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century by Solomon Marychurch. It continued as a foundry until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century when an explosion resulted in its collapse and four people were injured. The site was then bought by Octavius White to expand and remodel the Ocky White Department Store to the south, and the exterior and interior of the building shows that the site was heavily remodelled over time. A mixture of materials and techniques were used but original features could still be seen.*

#### **CRYNODEB**

*Comisiynwyd Gwasanaethau Archaeolegol - Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed i ymgymryd â chynllun archeolegol o gofnodi adeiladau hanesyddol Lefel 2 yn Warws Western Quayside, Hwlfordd, Sir Benfro, yn canolbwyntio ar NGR SM9545 1574.*

*Arferai'r warws fod yn rhan o ffowndri haearn o'r enw Ffowndri Haearn Marychurch, a sefydlwyd yn ôl y sôn yng nghanol y 18fed ganrif gan Solomon Marychurch. Parhaodd fel ffowndri tan ddechrau'r 20fed ganrif pan arweiniodd ffrwydrad at ei gwymp a chafodd pedwar o bobl eu hanafu. Prynwyd y safle wedyn gan Octavius White i ehangu ac ailfodelu Siop Adrannol Ocky White i'r de, ac mae tu allan a thu mewn i'r adeilad yn dangos bod y safle wedi'i ailfodelu'n sylweddol dros amser. Defnyddiwyd cymysgedd o ddeunyddiau a thechnegau ond roedd y nodweddion gwreiddiol i'w gweld o hyd.*

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Project Background**

- 1.1.1 Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Archaeological Services (DAT-AS) were commissioned by Atkins to undertake an archaeological scheme of historic building recording works at Western Quayside warehouse, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire (centred on NGR SM9545 1574), prior to the proposed redevelopment of the site.
- 1.1.2 The warehouse is not listed but is within the conservation area of Haverfordwest. Reputedly built in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century by Solomon Marychurch, the warehouse was formerly a part of an iron foundry which historic maps indicate once had additional buildings to the northeast and south.
- 1.1.3 A suite of archaeological work has been carried out during the development following consultation with the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and in this case a recommendation has been made for Level 2 building recording prior to development. The planning applications include 19/320/PA, 19/1325/CA, 20/0714/PA and 20/715/CA.
- 1.1.4 A Written Scheme of Investigation for the historic building recording and analysis was produced by DAT-AS and approved by the archaeological advisor to the LPA.
- 1.1.5 The historic building recording scheme has been undertaken to a Level 2 standard as defined in the Historic England 'Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice' (2016), which is described thus:
- Level 2 is a descriptive record, made in circumstances similar to those of Level 1 (basic photographic survey) but when more information is needed. The record will present conclusions regarding the building's development and use but will not discuss in detail the evidence on which these conclusions are based. A plan and sometimes other drawings may be made ....*
- 1.1.6 The historic building recording has been undertaken in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings and Structures* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014, updated 2019 and 2020).
- 1.1.7 A site visit was made in September 2023.

### **1.2 Site Location**

- 1.2.1 Western Quayside Warehouse is located within the centre of Haverfordwest, a town itself located relatively centrally within Pembrokeshire, southwest Wales (centred on SM 954 157) (Fig 1).
- 1.2.2 East of the warehouse is the Western Cleddau river. Historic maps show that in the past the warehouse extended to the edge of the river and the river itself has changed course. The Western Cleddau is tidal up to Haverfordwest and flows southward where it joins the Eastern Cleddau, before turning westward into the deep and wide Milford Haven Estuary and out into the Bristol Channel.
- 1.2.3 West of the site lies Bridge Street, one of the main commercial streets within Haverfordwest, along with High Street which runs perpendicular to Bridge Street to the south. The latter is now largely pedestrianised, with High Street

forming the main thoroughfare. The ground rises to the west and is topped by the prominent remains of Haverfordwest Castle which lie within 100m of the site, behind the properties on the opposite side of Bridge Street. The commercial centre is surrounded by residential properties and light industry on all sides, set within a relatively rural landscape. Roads radiate out from the town, which had traditionally functioned as the administrative and commercial centre of the county.

- 1.2.4 South of the site is the former Ockly White's department store (Fig 2). This has been demolished and excavations during 2022 revealed evidence of Haverfordwest's friary.
- 1.2.5 Western Quayside Warehouse can be accessed on foot along Hole in the Wall Lane to the west and by road from the north.
- 1.2.6 The underlying geology of the area comprises mudstone, with the site lying along a series of east-west aligned bands of differing mudstones, from the Slade and Redhill Formation, Portfield Formation and Portfield and Haverford Mudstone Formation. More generally, these formations form part of the Llandovery and Ashgill Rocks. Along the lower-lying banks of the Cleddau, and underneath the development area, the rocks are overlaid with alluvial deposits of clay, sand, silts and gravels (BGS 2020).

### **1.3 Scope of the Project**

- 1.3.1 The building recording was designed to record the existing fabric of the structures (at the time of the survey) through a combination of a photographic survey, along with site notes, drawings and historic research.

### **1.4 Report Outline**

- 1.4.1 This report describes the location of the site, its known archaeological and historical background and photographs of the site. A succinct description of the structures is included, along with a brief discussion on their form, function and date. Sources are referenced within the text or as footnotes.

### **1.5 Abbreviations**

- 1.5.1 Regional Historic Environment Record – HER  
Primary Reference Number – PRN  
National Grid Reference – NGR

### **1.6 Illustrations**

- 1.6.1 Record photographs are included throughout the text. Printed plan, elevation and map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale and are illustrative only. Fully scaled plans and elevations are included within the site archive.

### **1.7 Archive**

- 1.7.1 The completed report and digital photographs will be submitted to the HER, held and maintained by Dyfed Archaeological Trust (DAT), Llandeilo. A full digital archive, including report, photographs, plans and elevations will also be submitted to the National Monuments Record, held and maintained by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monument of Wales (RCAHMW), Aberystwyth.



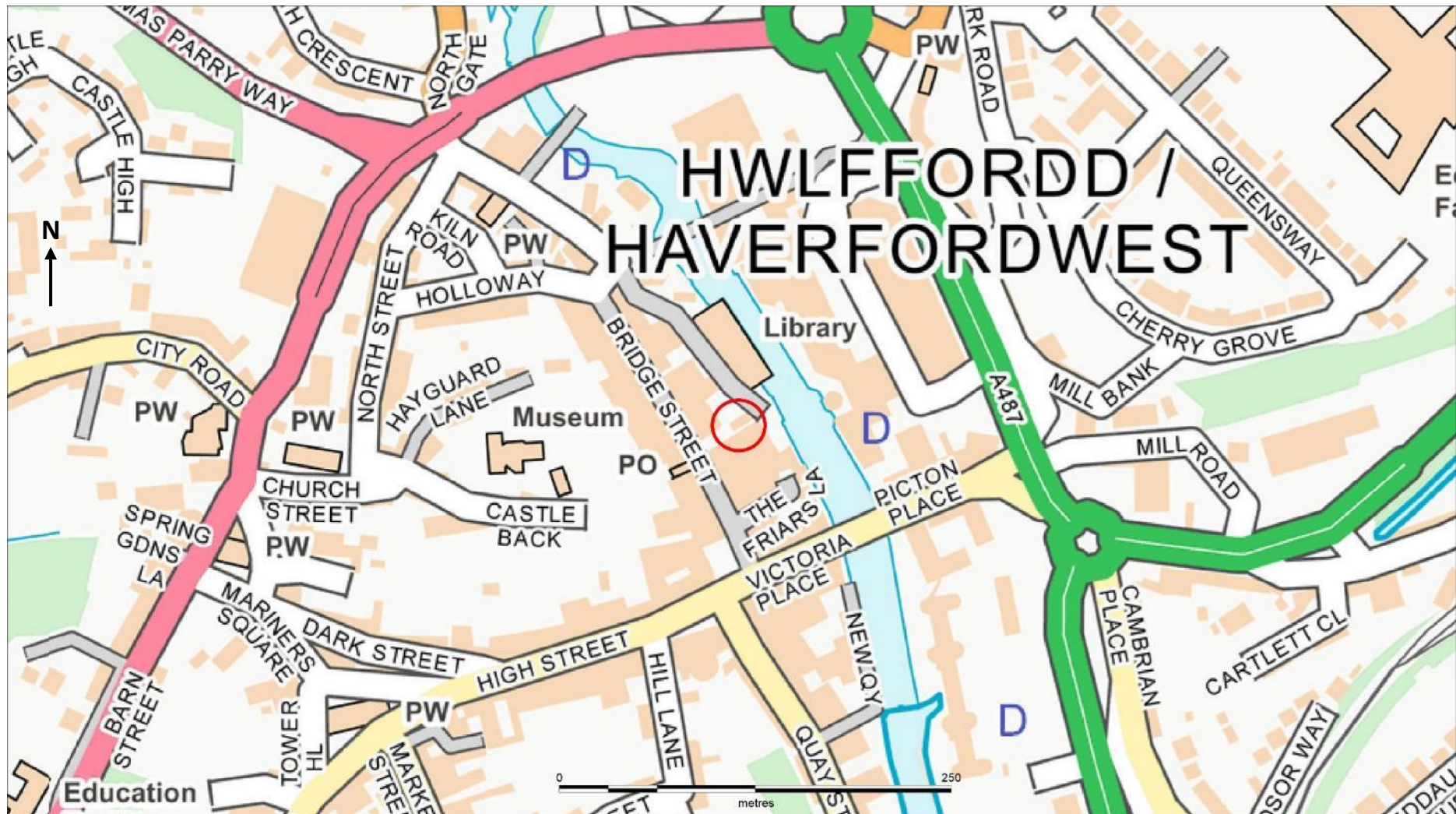
## 1.8 Timeline

1.8.1 The following timeline gives date ranges for the various archaeological periods that may be mentioned within this report.

**Table 1:** Archaeological and historical timeline for Wales

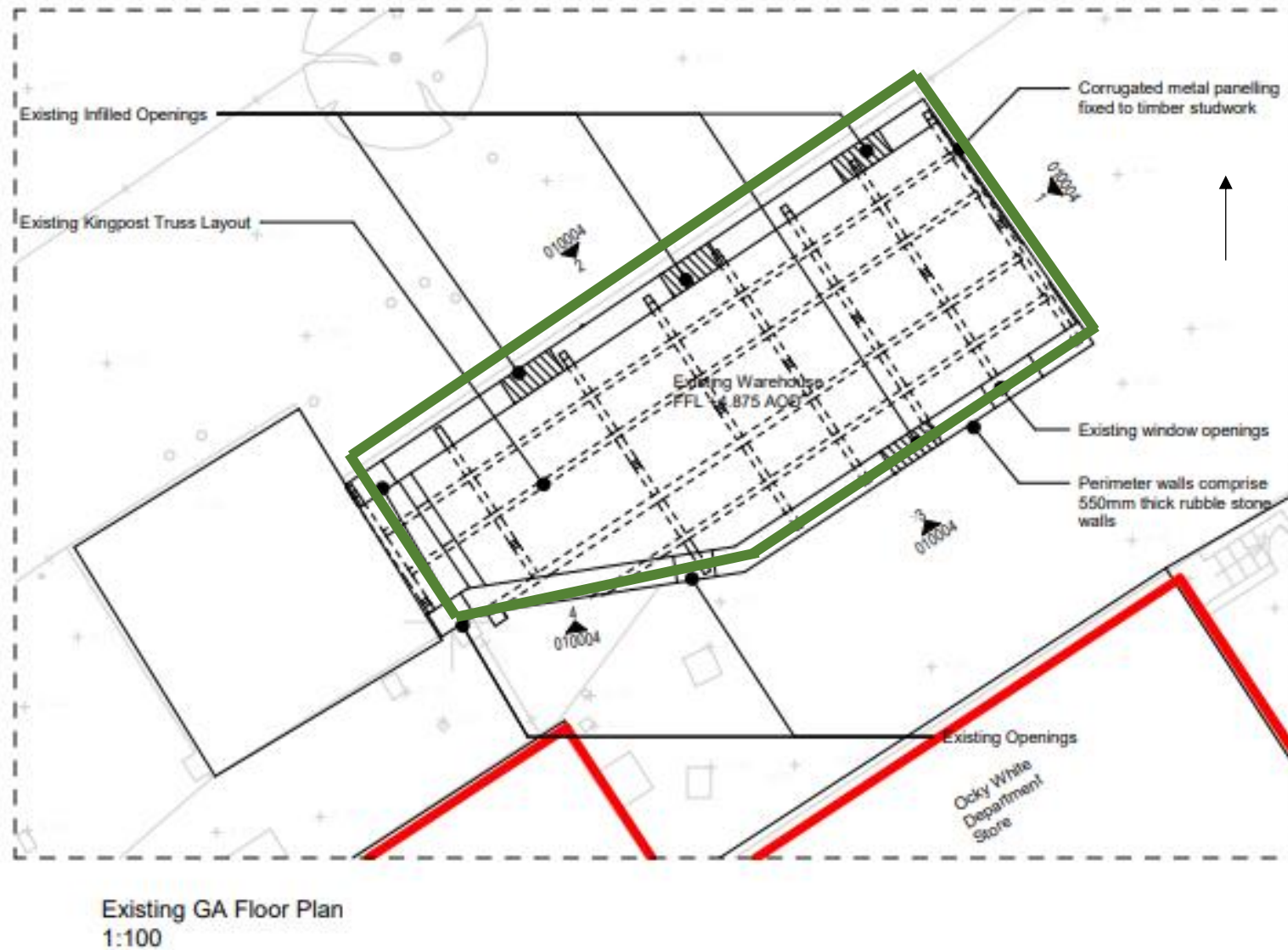
Period	Approximate date	
Palaeolithic	c.450,000 – 10,000 BC	Prehistoric
Mesolithic	c.10,000 – 4400 BC	
Neolithic	c.4400 – 2300 BC	
Bronze Age	c.2300 – 700 BC	
Iron Age	c.700 BC – AD 43	
Roman (Romano-British) Period	AD 43 – c. AD 410	Historic
Post-Roman / Early Medieval Period	c.AD 410 – AD 1086	
Medieval Period	1086 – 1536	
Post-Medieval Period <sup>1</sup>	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period	1750 – 1899	
Modern	20th century onwards	

<sup>1</sup> The post-medieval and Industrial periods are combined as the post-medieval period on the HER, as held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust



**Figure 1:** Proposed development area (red circle).

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**Figure 2:** Floor plan of warehouse building (outlined in green). Ocky White department store can be seen to the south in red.  
Image supplied by client.

## **2 METHODOLOGY**

- 2.1 The historic building recording scheme has been undertaken to a Level 2 standard as defined in the Historic England '*Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*' (2016). This level of recording is described thus:

*Level 2 is a descriptive record, made in similar circumstances to Level 1 [basic photographic survey] but when more information is needed. Both the exterior and interior of the building will be seen, described and photographed. The examination of the building will produce an analysis of its development and use and the record will include the conclusions reached, but will not discuss in detail the evidence on which this analysis is based. A plan and sometimes other drawings may be made but the drawn record will not normally be comprehensive.*

- 2.2 To supplement the on-site survey a review of readily available historic and archaeological material was carried out, referenced within the text. The on-site survey completed the relevant tasks outlined below, where possible, to complete the record to Level 2 guidelines. Only photos taken during this survey will be included within the site archive and report.
- 2.3 Based on the Level 2 record as defined in the Historic England guidelines (2016) the following has been undertaken:

### **Written Record**

- The building's precise location, as a National Grid reference and in address form.
- A note of any statutory designation (listing, scheduling or conservation area) and non-statutory designations (historic parks and gardens registers, local lists etc).
- The date of the record, the name(s) of the recorder(s) and, if an archive has been created, its location.
- A summary of the building's type or purpose, historically and at present, its materials and possible date(s). The names of architects, builders, patrons and owners will be given if known.
- An introduction briefly setting out the circumstances in which the record was made, its objectives, methods, scope and limitations, and any constraints.
- Any evidence for the former existence of demolished structures or removed features associated with the building.
- Copies of historic maps, drawings, views or photographs illustrating the development of the building or its site (if readily available and permissible).

### **Drawn Record**

- Measured plans (to scale) as existing.
- A site plan, typically at 1:500 or 1:1250 relating the building to other structures and to related topographical feature and landscape features.
- Copies of earlier drawings throwing light on the building's history, if available.

### **Photographic Record**

- A general view or views of the buildings (in its wider setting or landscape).

- The building's external appearance. Typically, a series of oblique views will show all external elevations of the building and give an overall impression of its size and shape, but right-angled shots have been taken of elevations of architectural interest.
- The overall appearance of the principal rooms and circulation areas.



### 3 HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

- 3.1 The historical development of the site and surrounding area has been well researched in a desk-based assessment prepared by Phil Poucher in 2022 ('*Western Quayside Development, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire: Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment- Update*'. DAT Unpublished Report No. 2022-26) .
- 3.2 An extract from this report is given below:
- 3.3 *The known development of Haverfordwest begins in the early 12th century when Tancred the Fleming established a castle (PRN 3320), sited on a dominant promontory at the lowest bridging point of the river (PRN 12514). The castle became the centre of an Anglo-Norman lordship, part of the earldom of Pembroke, which made it the centre for administrative, economic and military activities in the area, and settlement grew up around it. The town grew up to the north and west of the castle, an area known as 'Castleton', although a charter is not recorded until 1207, by which time the settlement appears well-established. The charter indicates mercantile activity underway in the town, including cloth manufacture, and it is likely the river, and riverside, were vital to the economic growth of the settlement. The right to hold a Sunday market was granted in 1210, held in the area around St Mary's church. By this time the Augustinian Priory had also been established to the south of the town. As the town became more prosperous settlement began to spread down what was to become High Street. By 1300 it had over 300 burgages, larger than any of the castle-boroughs of North Wales. The Black Death in the mid-14th century halted the growth of the town and lead to a decline in the population of Haverfordwest, but in 1479 Haverfordwest was boosted when it received its Royal Charter, and by the following century it had become the administrative and commercial centre of the new County, taking over from Pembroke.*
- 3.4 *An understanding of the development of the Bridge Street area during the medieval period is currently changing due to archaeological discoveries being uncovered on this site. It was previously understood that the medieval town developed to the north and west, and eventually to the south of the castle. The riverside location of Bridge Street is likely to have attracted activity, but burgage plots in this area are not recorded until the mid-15th century (NA 1446/7).*
- 3.5 *During the Phase 1 development of Ocky White's Department Store to the south, it has become clear that this site formed part of the grounds of a medieval Dominican Friary (PRN 3323) and may have been more developed than previously thought. The 'Friars Preachers' of Haverfordwest were granted £10 in 1245 by Henry III, one of the earliest references to Dominican activity in Wales, and one of only five Dominican Houses in Wales at the time, all part of the district, or 'visitation' of Oxford. The location of the friary changed around 1256, when they were granted 15 marks to establish a more convenient site within Haverfordwest. It would seem likely that this was the point they moved to the site on Bridge Street, which they occupied until the Dissolution (1538-9), however this assumption may change as artefacts from the current archaeological work are examined in more detail. For example, some fine dressed masonry recovered from the site is carved in a style more typical of the early 13th century, other artefacts and dating methods may indicate an earlier date for its establishment on this site.*
- 3.6 *The layout of the Friary is largely conjectural, but it was thought the main house was located further south, closer to the southern end of Bridge Street, with lands to the north (Jones 1989). The Friars Vaults, which stands on the south side of Friars Lane, was often referred to in 18th and 19th century documents (when it was known as the Black Horse Inn) as standing on the site of the Friary, although a newspaper report of 1861 (Haverfordwest and Milford Haven Telegraph) described the Inn as "next to the Friars". Monastic accounts surviving from around*

*the time of the Dissolution in the 16th century indicate the Friary was known as "St Saviour's", with references to a main gate, a church, a limekiln, stables, kitchen, tenements and gardens (Jones 1936). A post-Dissolution charter of the early 17th century also mentions "the sites of the Priory, the house of the Friars Preachers, the hall called Prior's Hall, the Prior's Marshes and the Friars' garden" (Lewis 1811). The Benedictine Order relied on donations, and several monetary gifts from notable regional and national dignitaries from the 13th to 15th centuries. Gifts of land are recorded, and include gifts of half a burgage from Roger Niger, Adam Lombe's land south of John Clarke's house from the road to the river and half a burgage adjacent to the Friary from Richard de Excestre (Jones 1989). The precise boundaries of these plots have not been established. The presence of decorated floor tiles recovered by the current archaeological excavations, decorated with family crest from notable families of both England and Wales, indicate a significant input of funds from wealthy families into this Friary. Decorative stonework that has been recovered would also suggest fine masonry structures stood on the site.*

- 3.7 *By the end of the 13th century, in 1291, 39 members of the Friary are recorded, but by the time of the Dissolution in 1538 only seven members remained. During the latter period records suggest much of the Friary land was being leased out, except for the church, churchyard, four chambers, a hall and a kitchen (Jones 1989). Much of this land also appeared to be garden tenements or meadow. The extent of this Friary land has never been clear. It had been assumed that the focus of the Friary, including the church and hall, was likely to be on and around the Friary Vaults and Friars Lane area, but the presence of a substantial medieval masonry wall, and possible internal vaults, may indicate these central buildings actually stood within the area of the Phase 1 development, and at the very least the grounds of the Friary extended for some distance northward, and may potentially have extended as far as the Old Bridge to the north at its maximum.*
- 3.8 *There is no clear mention of an associated cemetery within the existing historic documents, although cemeteries as part of urban medieval religious centres are known elsewhere, an extensive site recorded in Carmarthen for example (Wilkinson 2001). One medieval benefactor did request burial at the site, but was ultimately buried elsewhere, and it is recorded that Bishop John Gilbert was buried at the Friary at the end of the 14th century (Fenton 1903), "within the walls", and presumably therefore within the church. There have however been sporadic historical references to the discovery of some human remains in the area, including burials within stone coffins (Willis 1739), lead coffins (Phillips 1914), the discovery of stone crosses (PAS 1896-07) and references to a cemetery (Warren 1914). The locations of these have been ill-defined however, one specific location has been referenced and that is of a medieval stone cross incorporated into the rear yard wall of the Castle Hotel, which stands on the southwest side of Castle Square, at the southern end of Bridge Street. More recently a newspaper article has come to light that describes the discovery of 'old' human remains nearby. Only a single skeleton is referenced, uncovered during the development of the former Barratt's shop in the 1980s, immediately to the south of the Phase 1 development site (Mullins n.d.). Although reported to, and taken away by the police, the finds have not previously been reported to the Historic Environment Record or other database of archaeological sites.*
- 3.9 *The ongoing archaeological work at the former Ocky White's Department Store has revealed a large number of skeletons. Dating has yet to be firmly established, but the presence of medieval pottery and tiles, and historical associations, suggests they are medieval in date, and will likely relate to, and be in the grounds of, St*

*Saviour's Friary, potentially extending into the later 16th and 17th centuries as well. Substantial walling on the site also suggests the possibility of medieval masonry structures, which again, given the known historical associations in the locality, are likely to be related to the Friary. At present the limits of the cemetery remain ill defined, with some burials both truncated by (pre-dating) and truncating (post-dating) the substantial masonry remains on the site. Burial activity does appear to thin out towards the river.*

- 3.10 *Following the Dissolution in 1538 the Friary was bought by Thomas Barlow, brother of Roger who founded the Slebech Estate, and William, bishop of St David's.*
- 3.11 *By the mid-16th century Haverfordwest was described as "the best built, the most civil and quickest occupied town in South Wales" (HLW). The civil war and the plague checked growth in the mid-17th century, and the town was becoming surpassed by other south Welsh towns, such as Carmarthen and Swansea, but it recovered from the mid-17th century setbacks, and continued as a major commercial and administrative centre for the region.*
- 3.12 *In 1553 Thomas Barlow passed the former Friary lands on Bridge Street to his brother Roger, head of the Slebech Estate. The lands appear to have remained with the Barlow family, until passing through marriage to the Grevile family in the mid to late 18th century, and remaining in their hands until the mid-19th century.*
- 3.13 *Current archaeological investigations suggest the site may have continued in use as a cemetery beyond the Dissolution. Burial records from St Mary's church in Haverfordwest record relatively few burials at that site in the late 16th century, and it has been suggested that this may be because the cemetery on Bridge Street was considered a preferable burial site at this time (Rev. Western Quayside Development, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire: Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment DAT Archaeological Services 20 Report No. 2022-26 Phillips, I Warren 1914, p6). By the mid-17th century however St Mary's Church had clearly become the burial site of choice (ibid, p7).*
- 3.14 *By the 18th century a note of 1739, from Edward Yardley, archdeacon of Cardigan, but transcribed by the antiquarian and author Browne Willis, records some interesting detail on the site. Of the Friary he says "very little or no remains ye whole site converted into limekilns. Several human bones and stone coffins dug up here and one or two effigies of men in full proportion. The person who rented it of ye Barlows dug it up and he was reduced from wealthy circumstances to a low mean condition and flung into gaol. Twas by report a large building". This description coincides with a series of engravings of Haverfordwest created by Samuel and Nathaniel Buck in the mid-18th century, which include two views of the castle from the east, that include Bridge Street, one dated to 1740, the other to 1748 The accuracy of engravings is unclear. The depiction of the castle largely corresponds to the current remains, and some of the same buildings along Bridge Street can be identified on each engraving, with variations accounted for by the slight change in angle of depiction. There are however clear differences between the 1740 and 1748 images that would seem unlikely to be due simply to redevelopment in the intervening years, so accuracy can vary, and therefore attempts to identify the current site are difficult to establish. Both images clearly show a well developed riverside along the entirety of Bridge Street with a jumble of substantial buildings that would appear to represent warehouses, commercial premises, possible semi-industrial premises, and no doubt domestic dwellings as well, and substantial riverside walls. Some of the structures visible in the engraving*



*may be medieval in origin, but there is no clear evidence of the former Friary church, a graveyard area, or even the limekilns mentioned in the note of 1739.*

- 3.15 *By the end of the 18th century the growth of ports further down the Milford Haven Waterway, and the silting of the river closer to Haverfordwest, signalled the end of the town as a port, however it remained the County town and regional market centre. The town also became fashionable with the local gentry, who built homes along High Street and Hill Street, and started a period of building for which Haverfordwest is now known for. Several 18th century buildings are recorded in the search area, including buildings on Castle Square (PRN 10016 & 60651) at the entrance to Bridge Street, an Inn on Quay Street (PRN 58473), and a hotel (PRN 6504), shop and houses (PRN 60700) on High Street. Late 18th to early 19th century buildings are also recorded on Bridge Street, at No.20 (PRN 20665/59176) and No. 2 (PRN 58421/10015 and on Castle Square (PRN 20670), as well as warehouses fronting the riverside (PRN 58583) and along High Street (PRNs 59414, 60701).*
- 3.16 *It is during this period that Western Quay Warehouse is built and used as an iron foundry. The foundry was reputedly founded by Solomon Marychurch in the mid-18th century (stated on a blue plaque created by the Town Council Civic Society) and was known as the Marychurch Foundry into the later 19th century. The exact date of its establishment is not known. No clear foundry buildings are visible on the Buck prints from the 1740s, although at that date the foundry structures may not have been particularly distinctive. The early foundry is likely have included various work sheds and a reverberatory furnace, where the fire would be stoked in one chamber, with a high chimney then drawing the heat across the minerals in an intervening chamber. The foundry remained in the Marychurch family into the mid-19th century. In 1851 Joseph Marychurch exhibited some agricultural tools and machinery produced at the foundry at the Great Exhibition at Crystal Palace, London, in 1851. Prince Albert, husband to Queen Victoria, bought some of the foundry-produced machinery. The foundry also produced the iron faces to milestones in the area, one example of which can be seen at the Withybush roundabout to the northeast, now Grade II listed (LB ref. 87069). The intricate iron veranda on No.8 Spring Gardens, Barn Street, is also thought to have been constructed at the foundry (although the Listed Building description describes some of the panels being produced at the Coalbrookdale Foundry), and there is also a passing reference to the foundry's ironwork being used in the development of the new docks at Pembroke Dock, although whether this was for the ships or the docks themselves is unclear.*
- 3.17 *There is a painting of Haverfordwest Castle in 1872 by William Pitt, which purportedly displays the Marychurch Foundry in the foreground in some detail (Figure 3). The painting appears accurate, although comparisons with later mapping suggests only the southern half of the foundry complex is shown. A two-storey building, orientated east – west, occupies the site of the main former Ocky-White building, distinctive with its relatively shallow pitched roof. A yard fronts the river, enclosed by a riverside wall through which is a narrow gap giving access to boats on the river. North of this is a slightly lower two-storey building on the same alignment, with a tall chimney at the west gable end. This tall chimney may indicate the location of the main foundry. This building is fronted on the riverside by a perpendicular single-storey structure along the riverfront. Both these buildings are no longer present on site, the possible foundry building replaced by a modern extension (and rear entrance) to the Ocky White's store. This layout is shown in plan on the detailed Ordnance Survey map of Haverfordwest in 1889 (Figure 4).*

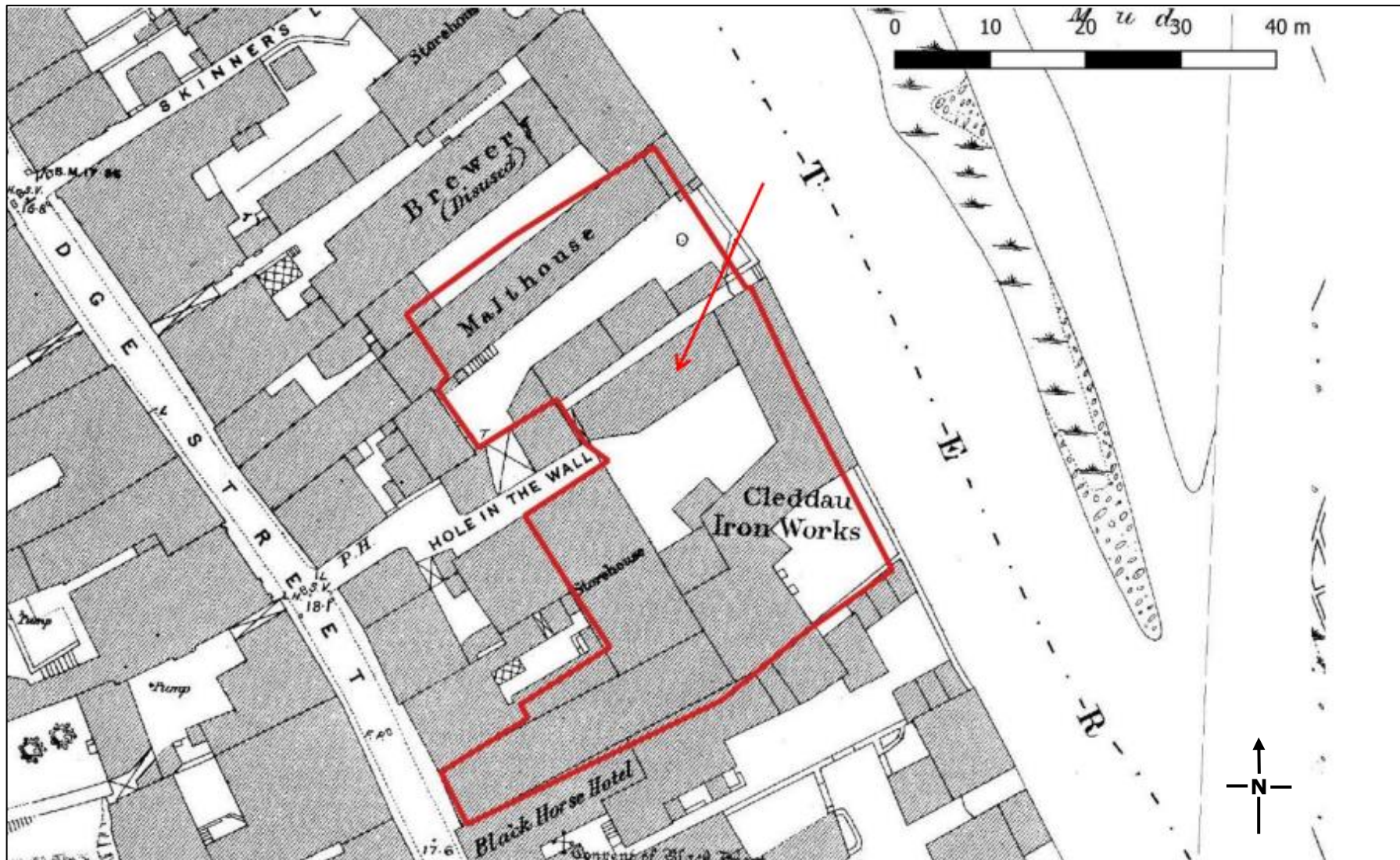
*The Ocky White store and adjacent storehouse stand in their current positions. Behind them, along the riverside, lies the 'Cleddau Iron Works' (formerly the Marychurch Foundry). The main foundry building is an irregular range adjoining the rear of the Ocky White's building, then continuing in an L-shape along the river frontage. A small yard fronts the river, as visible on the Pitt painting, with another internal yard accessed from the Hole in the Wall Lane. The current standing building in the Phase 2 area is depicted, identifiable by the distinctive chamfered southwest corner. This forms the northern side of the foundry yard. The Hole in the Wall Lane then runs around the north side of this, with access to the river at the end. North of this stands a malthouse and associated buildings, an area now cleared, used as a car park and currently used as the site compound for the Phase 1 development works. A photograph of c1890 depicts the full site, as viewed from across the river (Photo 1). The site remains as described above, comprising an amalgamation of adjoining structures, with the addition of a new structure along the waterfront, enclosing the yard.*

- 3.18 *The change of name to the 'Cleddau Iron Works' may have come about after the death of Joseph Marychurch in 1885. At this point the 'moulderer' William Evans took over running the site, subsequently buying it outright in the early 1890s. The site is also referred to as the 'Haverfordwest Foundry' during this period but appears to have been still colloquially referred to as the Marychurch Foundry well into the 20th century (local newspaper references). In 1902 the boiler at Cleddau Foundry exploded, resulting in injury to the four people working there (William Evans, his two sons and an apprentice), and the collapse of the main foundry building onto the machinery. An enquiry into the explosion, reported on the following year (Pembrokeshire Herald 23/1/03) provides some more detail. The boiler was an old one and had become dangerously worn, resulting in the explosion. William Evans was subsequently fined for not ensuring the boiler was sufficiently maintained by a proficient person, although a plea was made to the court to say that Evans had lost his entire savings in the explosion. Despite this, and the collapse, the site is still labelled as a foundry on both the subsequent Ordnance Survey maps of 1907 and 1937.*
- 3.19 *At some point in the early 20th century Octavius ('Ocky') White obtained the premises on Bridge Street for his drapery business and department store. The exact date appears uncertain but Ocky White's department store had been established by 1910 (BBC article). The department store was presumably centred on the long property fronting the street, and the storehouse to the rear. No clear change in the layout of the site is visible on the subsequent Ordnance Survey map of 1937, and it is not until the maps of the mid-1960s that change is visible. In the mid-1950s Ocky White bought the Old Foundry site to the rear (PA), and the area was redeveloped, with the Bridge Street property extending back closer towards the waterfront. The department store closed in 2013, and until recently has housed a charity shop.*
- 3.10 *The area to the north of Marychurch/Cleddau Foundry was a brewery and malthouse. Little readily available recorded history has come to light, but it is mentioned as an 'extensive Malthouse, and Stables, together with a commodious Dwellinghouse attached, situate in Bridge-street...in the occupation of Mr. Francis Lemons' (Pembrokeshire Herald 1855). By 1867 the site appears to have been run by Alfred Beynon (PA – HDX/729/8), but by the late 1880s the site marked on Ordnance Survey maps as 'disused' (Figure 4). The subsequent history of the site is undocumented.*



**Figure 3:** Painting of Haverfordwest Castle by William Pitt, 1872, showing Marychurch Foundry in the foreground.





**Figure 4:** Proposed development area in red (including Phase 1 and 2) overlaid on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Surviving foundry building marked by arrow.



**Photo 1:** The foundry with the castle in the background, viewed from the opposite banks of the river in *circa* 1890. The former foundry building that still stands on the site is highlighted with a red arrow, only the top of the gable wall being visible.





## 4 BUILDING DESCRIPTION

### 4.1 Exterior (Figure 5, Photos 2-13)

- 4.1.1 Western Quayside Warehouse is a roughly rectangular stone walled building orientated northeast southwest. The walls comprise 550mm thick, well coursed rubble stone. There is a first floor with a single duo-pitch roof (Figure 5, Photo 2).
- 4.1.2 The building measures 15m long and 6m wide, except for the south wall where remodelling has resulted in a 3m width.



**Photo 2:** Image taken from the southeast of Western Quayside Warehouse.

- 4.1.3 The southeast wall shows the building has been remodelled at various points in the past (for example, Photo 3). A mixture of stone, brick and breeze block have been utilised as well as a variety of mortars such as cement with sand. See Sections 4.2.4 (Photo 20) and 4.3.4 (Photo 39) for descriptions of the internal walls.





**Photo 3:** 4m panel of rebuilt masonry on the southeast wall.

- 4.1.4 Evidence remains of the original western gable end wall which abuts another building, a modern addition, outside of the scope of this report (Photo 4). In the 2023 Atkins '*Haverfordwest Footbridge and Western Quayside Phase 2- Former Cleddau Foundry building: Structural Approach*' report, it was highlighted that it is not believed that any support is taken from, or given to, this other building.





**Photo 4:** The remains of the western gable end wall (indicated by a red arrow) and the modern building attached to the western end of the warehouse.

- 4.1.5 The warehouse's southeast and south walls each contain a door (Photo 5). One is located on the western end of the southeast wall and the other approximately 4m to the west on the south wall. Both have timber frames and a wooden lintel however, the door on the southeast wall has an additional modern concrete lintel. This may be contemporary with a panel of wall east of the door which has been previously rebuilt in like-for-like masonry. The reason for remodelling is unclear. Possibly there was an earlier window as there are a few bricks remaining which look like those that surround other windows on the building.



**Photo 5:** View northwest of doors on south and southeast walls and infilled window on south wall (scale 1x1m).

- 4.1.6 The building has one window in the south wall and two in the southeast wall. The south wall window is rectangular and smaller than the other windows on the building. It has been infilled with breeze block and a brick air vent but still retains its wooden lintel (Photo 5). Its internal description can be found in Section 4.2.12, Photos 29 and 30. On the southeast wall, one window has been boarded up and the other remains open (Photo 6). Both appear contemporary as they have the same design of a brick arch and a brick frame around the window. The open window may have had a cement sill but this has been heavily damaged and the board makes it unclear whether the blocked window had one. Within the open window are the remains of a metal frame with a small quantity of glass intact. Above both windows there is evidence of an earlier design with brick arches. These may have been two small windows, or the two remaining windows may have been larger and reduced in size. Both are infilled. The windows may have been contemporary due to their style, but they appear to have been infilled at different times as above the boarded window the infill is of brick and above the open window it is of roughly coursed stone. The descriptions of the features as viewed from inside the warehouse can be seen in Sections 4.2.5 (Photos 21 and 22) and 4.3.5 (Photo 40).





**Photo 6:** Windows on southeast wall. One remains open and has glass intact. Both windows have evidence of an infilled window above, one with brick (to the left) and the other (to the right) stone.

- 4.1.7 The northeast wall has been remodelled over time. Historic documents from the late 18<sup>th</sup> through to the 19<sup>th</sup> century show the building extended out from this wall but this has since been demolished and replaced with corrugated iron cladding fixed onto timber studwork. The edges of the wall are a modern stone face with a cement and sand mortar and show evidence of repair. A single door is located on the eastern end of the wall and has a timber frame (Photo 7).



**Photo 7:** West facing view of northeast wall. The edges have modern stone facing and northeast wall replaced with corrugated iron sheets on timber studwork (scale 1x 1m).

- 4.1.8 As with the other sides of the warehouse, the northwest wall (Photo 8) indicates different phases of use. Render over the masonry provides evidence of a historical lean-to (Photo 9). Within this area are two doorways and a window. The southern door is still in use and has a timber frame (Photo 10). The second door is infilled with breeze block and has a brick arch which can be observed under the render (Photo 11). This door also has evidence of historical repair on the lower masonry and its internal description can be seen in Section 4.2.7, Photo 23. The window has been infilled and covered in render suggesting it was not in use when the lean to was utilised (Photo 12). Under the render, a brick arch above the window can be seen as well as a timber frame and a concrete sill.





**Photo 8:** Complete northwest wall (scale 1x1m).



**Photo 9:** Eastern view of render from lean-to on the northwest wall (indicated by red arrow). Exposed single duo pitch roof.





**Photo 10:** Southern door on northwest wall. Still in use and was part of the lean-to. The door has a timber frame.



**Photo 11:** Southeast view of door in the lean-to. Infilled with breeze block. Evidence of a stone arch under render (scale 1x 1m).



**Photo 12:** Infilled window on northwest wall. Covered in render suggesting it was infilled when the lean-to was in use. A brick arch can be seen under the render (scale 1x 1m).

- 4.1.9 On the northern end of the northwest wall is a third window (Photo 13), infilled with stone. It is shorter than the other windows on this wall and has a brick arch above, although internally, this window appears taller and no brick arch is present. Comparative measurements were not taken as accessibility was poor to these features. See Section 4.2.8, Photo 24 for a description of the window's internal features.





**Photo 13:** The northern window on the northwest wall which was not within the lean-to. Window infilled with like-for-like stone and a cement mortar. The original brick arch can be seen (scale 1x1m).



## 4.2 Interior Ground Floor (Figure 5, Photos 14-33)

- 4.2.1 When this survey was completed, the warehouse interior was being used for storage. Due to this, certain sections of walls and floors were not accessible and difficult to survey.
- 4.2.2 The ground floor comprise two rooms separated by a wall with a single doorway. To one side of the doorway, the wall is constructed of breeze block (Figure 5, Photo 14). The other side is timber studwork half covered in corrugated iron sheets (Photo 15).



**Photo 14:** Breeze block section of wall which partitions the two interior ground floor rooms. The doorway is timber framed (scale 1x1m).



**Photo 15:** Section of partitioning timber studwork half covered in iron corrugated sheets (scale 1x1m).

4.2.3 The northeast room is the largest (Photo 16). The walls are made of stone with evidence for remodelling over time (Photo 17). A mixture of brick, breeze block and like-for-like stone has been used. The original mortar is light grey in colour and contains frequent small stones, pieces of wood, possible ash deposits and other organic materials. Later mortar contains fewer organic materials and is a mixture of cement and sand. There is evidence for plaster on all walls, the greatest quantity on the northwest wall (Photo 18). The floor consists of an in situ concrete slab. A couple of metres from the southeast wall is a recessed strip (Photo 19). It was partially covered by construction equipment during the survey however, an earlier report '*Western Quayside Redevelopment – St Mary's Foundry Structural Condition and Approach to Repair Report 2021*' by Mann Williams, identifies this recess and describes it running northeast- southwest, the entire length of the room. Its use is unknown, but it is highly likely connected to the foundry.





**Photo 16:** West facing photo of main room. Different phases of construction and types of material used can be seen (scale 1x1m).



**Photo 17:** East facing photo of main room. Different phases of construction and types of material used can be seen (scale 1x1m).





**Photo 18** Large section of plaster on northwest wall (scale 1x1m).



**Photo 19:** Northeast view of recess in main room. Construction equipment obscures the extent of this feature (scale 1x1m).

4.2.4 The southeast wall has been altered over time. During the survey, construction equipment was up against the wall making it difficult to ascertain the full extent of remodelling. From what was seen, the southern section of the wall has been heavily altered using breeze block, brick and stone, and its appearance at first floor level is described in Section 4.3.4, Photo 39. The use of different materials suggests the



alterations were not contemporary. A clear divide between the original and new walling can be seen (Photo 20). The alterations are visible externally but are not as clear, and are described in Section 4.1.3, Photo 3. Externally, the breeze block and brick have been faced with stone, in keeping with the original stonework. Why this area was remodelled is unclear.



**Photo 20:** Southern section of southeast wall. Evidence of alterations using brick, stone and breeze block. A clear divide between the original stonework and new can be seen (scale 1x1m).

- 4.2.5 Located on the southeast wall are two windows (Photos 21 and 22). One remains open, the other is boarded. These can be seen externally and are described in Section 4.1.6, Photo 6. The windows are of the same size and design. They are set back creating a deep concrete sill, their width tapering from the interior of the building to the exterior and they have timber lintels. The open window has an additional concrete lintel.





**Photo 21:** Windows located on the southeast wall (scale 1x1m).



**Photo 22:** Open window on southeast wall; metal with modern wire. Glass is still intact.

4.2.6 Remodelling and repair of the building also occurred on the northwest wall. As seen elsewhere in the room, brick, breeze block and stone has been used. Along this wall, there is evidence of damage with stones missing (Photo 23). In the wall there



are metal objects such as nails which may be linked to the building's use as a foundry.



**Photo 23:** Western section of northwest wall. Stonework shows evidence for remodelling. Damage can be seen by missing stones and door has been infilled with breeze block (scale 1x1m).

- 4.2.7 The northwest wall has a single door which has been blocked with breeze block (Photo 23). There is a steel lintel above the door and the interior of the doorframe has been covered in a mixture of cement and plaster. This door can be seen externally and is described in Section 4.1.8, Photo 11.
- 4.2.8 Breeze block and a layer of brick was used to infill a window on the northern side of the northwest wall (Photo 24). The brick may have been used to fill in the top gap which is too narrow for a breeze block. At the bottom of the window there is a concrete sill. This window can be seen externally and is described in Section 4.1.9, Photo 13. Externally, the breeze block has been faced with stone to look like the external wall and has a brick arch which is not seen on the inside.



**Photo 24:** Northern section of the northwest wall with evidence of plaster, damage and a window infilled with breeze block (scale 1x1m).

- 4.2.9 The northeast wall is a timber stud frame with iron corrugated sheets (Photo 25). This replaces an earlier masonry wall as seen in historic documents from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. A single door is located to the east, and this has a timber frame.



**Photo 25:** Interior northeast wall (scale 1x1m).

- 4.2.10 The smaller room to the southwest of the building has stone walls with evidence of remodelling, repair and the use of plaster/limewash. Brick, breeze block and stone have been used for the alterations with a cement and sand mortar. The original



mortar is a light grey colour and contains small stones, charcoal, wood and other organic material. The southern wall tapers resulting in the southwest wall being 3m wide. Timber studwork is found around the room including a timber studwork wall that comes out from the southeast wall, dividing the room into three zones (Photo 26). These zones are further defined by the floor (an in situ concrete slab) being at three different heights.



**Photo 26:** Western view of small room, divided by a timber stud wall (red arrow), the result enhanced by the in situ concrete slab being at different heights (scale 1x1m).



**Photo 27:** Southern view of small room showing the different levels of flooring (scale 1x1m).

- 4.2.11 There is one door that leads outside, and it is still in use (Photo 28). There is a wooden lintel, but a concrete support has been added. Breeze block has also been added above the door, this is not seen externally. The door is described in 4.1.5, Photo 5.



**Photo 28:** The only door in the small room which leads outside (scale 1x1m).

- 4.2.12 The room has a single window on the southern wall (Photo 29). It is blocked with breeze block and has a brick air vent. The window is set back into the wall creating a deep concrete sill. From the interior to the exterior, the window narrows. Around the window is limewash and to the west, a piece of metal protrudes from the wall (Photo 30) which may be linked to the foundry. This window can be seen externally and is discussed in Section 4.1.6, Photo 5.





**Photo 29:** Window in the small room. Sides taper in. Breeze block infill and brick air vent (scale 1x1m).



**Photo 30:** Metal within the southern wall to the west of the window.

4.2.13 The southwest and northwest walls are covered in limewash. They contain no features, just evidence for alteration and repair in the past. There is a single stone which protrudes out of the northwest wall (Photo 31). Arguably, this may have been deliberate and had a function.





**Photo 31:** Stone protruding from northwest wall.

4.2.14 There are possibly the remains of two earlier walls in the room. One consists of concrete and comes off the southern wall (Photo 32). It measures 0.79m long, 0.42m wide and has a depth of 0.11m. In the western corner of the southwest wall, the stone wall has been replaced with bricks and in front of this is a brick pillar measuring 0.41m long and 0.26m deep (Photo 33).



**Photo 32:** Possible remains of an earlier concrete wall coming out from the southern wall (scale 1x1m).





**Photo 33:** Possible remains of an earlier brick wall coming from the southwest wall (scale 1x1m).

### 4.3 Interior First Floor (Figure 5, Photos 34-42)

- 4.3.1 The first floor is a singular room and was not accessible when the survey was completed, so information on the upper floor and roof was collected from the ground. Earlier reports on the warehouse provide greater detail on the first floor as it was then accessible and in a better condition. The reports include Williams 'Western Quayside Redevelopment - St Mary's Foundry: Structural Condition and Approach to Repair Report 2021' and Atkins 'Haverfordwest Footbridge and Western Quayside Phase 2 - Former Cleddau Foundry Building Structural Approach 2023'.
- 4.3.2 When this survey was carried out, the first floor and ceiling was missing, revealing the roof trusses and joists which consist of softwood timber. There are six king post trusses which support a duo pitch roof (Photo 34). Where the southern wall tapers, the roof truss has been cut short and built into the wall (Photo 35).



**Photo 34:** King post trusses supporting a duo pitch roof.



**Photo 35:** Tapered southern wall. Truss has been cut and built into stone wall.

- 4.3.3 Along the building, there are metal objects attached to the roof trusses and joists, possibly linked to the building's use as a foundry (Photo 36). At the centre of the building running perpendicular to the joists are wooden herringbone struts (Photo 37). On the northwest and southeast walls, pockets in the masonry can be seen above the first floor (Photo 38). This suggests there was an earlier floor which was higher than the current level and the joists ran in the opposite direction to the present ones.





**Photo 36:** Example of metal work in the timber for the roof and floors, possibly relating to the foundry.



**Photo 37:** Herringbone struts.





**Photo 38:** Sockets on the southeast and northwest walls. Evidence for an earlier floor level and different joist direction.

- 4.3.4 All the walls consist of stone and show evidence for plastering and alterations. As with the lower ground, breeze block, brick and stone were used for these later repairs and modifications. The southern section of the southeast wall is, in particular, a heavily remodelled area. As discussed in Section 4.2.4, Photo 20 the area covered the wall from the ground to the first floor. At first floor level, the material used for remodelling was breeze block and brick (Photo 39). The external aspects of the remodelling are described in Section 4.1.3, Photo 3.



**Photo 39:** Southern section of southeast wall and part of the southern wall. At first floor level, breeze block and brick were used.



- 4.3.5 The southeast wall shows the most changes. Directly above the two current windows (one boarded) are two infilled windows, both with timber lintels and infilled with stone. Between them are pockets, possibly for beams for an earlier floor. (Photo 40). Above the open window is a piece of timber spanning beyond the window to the edge of the boarded window. It is unclear what this was for. Whilst it may have been a large lintel, it is not mirrored on the window to the south. Both of these windows can be seen externally and are discussed in Section 4.1.6, Photo 6. Notably, the window above the boarded window has a brick infill on the external side, whereas stone has been used on the interior. The reason for this is unclear.



**Photo 40:** Southeast wall infilled with stone. Pockets for timbers present and a long timber sits above the open window.

- 4.3.6 The northeast wall of the first floor is timber studwork covered in corrugated iron sheeting with evidence for an earlier, timber framed door in the centre of the wall (Photo 41).



**Photo 41:** First floor of northeast wall with earlier central door with a timber frame.

- 4.3.7 The southwest wall has a single stone doorway (Photo 42). There is a brick arch which on the underside has wooden slats which have been plastered over. The sides of the doorway have also been plastered. There are large stones above the brick arch and there is a stone design around the door frame. The door has been blocked with breeze block which can only be seen on the interior and a piece of corrugated iron sheet placed against the door.



**Photo 42:** Door in southwest wall. Brick arch with wooden slats underneath. Plaster around the door frame.



## **5 CONCLUSIONS**

- 5.1 Western Quayside Warehouse is a roughly rectangular stone walled building supporting a first floor and single duo-pitch roof running northeast-southwest.
- 5.2 Documentary evidence shows that the warehouse was built around the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century and was used as part of the foundry into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Sometime after, Octavius (Ocky) White bought the building to expand and remodel the Ocky White department store to the south.
- 5.3 Metal features in the walls and joists may be linked to the site's use as a foundry and the timber stud walls to its more recent uses.
- 5.4 Both externally and internally there is a vast amount of evidence for past remodelling. Doors and windows have been infilled and stonework has been repaired. Three main materials were used for alterations: breeze block, brick and like-for-like stone. The use of different materials suggest that the alterations were not contemporary but completed over a long period of time. Stone was used for the alterations on the exterior of the building to ensure it was in keeping with earlier material and brick and breeze block was used more widely on the interior.
- 5.5 Features on the external walls support maps and paintings from the late 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century for additional buildings which have since been demolished. The northeast wall was replaced with corrugated iron sheets and edges faced with stone after the demolition of the northeast buildings and the render on the northwest wall indicates the past existence of a lean-to. Internally, recent timber studwork shows the building has been modified to create more rooms for a new use of the building. There are possible remains of a brick wall and concrete wall in the smaller room, adding additional evidence to the remodelling and change of use of the building.

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