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DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST LTD

REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSED WATER-
MAINS RENEWAL AT RHOS, PEMBROKESHIRE (CON 94)

Client: Dwr Cymru

Project Officer: Neil Ludlow

Report by: Neil Ludlow & Richard Ramsey

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REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSED WATER-
MAINS RENEWAL AT RHOS, PEMBROKESHIRE (CON 94)

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1.0 RECOMMENDATIONS (prepared by Curatorial Section)

It is recommended that an archaeological watching brief be maintained along the course of the water mains renewal at Rhos, Pembrokeshire.

This recommendation is based on the following archaeological considerations:

1. The whole area of the present day Picton Castle demesne has the potential to contain archaeological evidence of prehistoric and early medieval occupation and landuse.
2. The whole area has the potential to contain buried evidence of late medieval and sixteenth/seventeenth century landscaping of a formal park and gardens which was replaced in the early 19th century..
3. There may be buried features relating to the existing scheme of parkland layout, which have not been previously noted.

Whilst it is recognised that such features are only likely to be destroyed or truncated within the pipeline trench itself, there may be linear features which could be affected more extensively and other buried, reoccurring parkland design elements which would need to be accurately recorded at points of intersection by the watermains renewal trench.

Picton Park has not yet been designated as an Historic Park and Garden under the Cadw *Register of Historic Parks and Gardens* only because the Register has not yet been compiled for Dyfed. But it meets all the criteria for inclusion within the Register.

Heather James, BA, FSA.
Principal Archaeological Officer (Curatorial)
Dyfed Archaeological Trust.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

Details of a proposed water main renewal at Rhos, Pembrokeshire, were forwarded by Teifion Rees of Dwr Cymru to Dyfed Archaeological Trust for comment on 28 April 1994.

Following an initial assessment of the scheme by the Curatorial Section of Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Dwr Cymru were advised of the need for a detailed archaeological desk-top assessment of the project to be prepared in order for detailed mitigatory measures to be drafted. Subsequently, in a letter dated 20 May 1994, Dwr Cymru confirmed that it wished the Trust to undertake the detailed assessment of the scheme.

This report, prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust's Field Section, is intended to provide Dwr Cymru with sufficient information to assess the likely impact of the proposed works upon the archaeological resource and to take this into account as a material consideration in the determination of appropriate mitigatory measures.

The Trust's Curatorial Section provided a standard brief for this report and will advise Dwr Cymru on its findings and recommend further action if deemed necessary.

2.1 Methodology; content and scope of archaeological assessment

The primary stage of assessment of the archaeological implications of any scheme involves consultation of Dyfed Archaeological Trust's Sites and Monuments Record for the area affected by the proposed scheme.

Dyfed Archaeological Trust's Sites and Monuments Record is designated as a County Sites and Monuments Record in the Welsh Office Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16).

Consultation of the Sites and Monuments Record will establish whether any known sites or monuments are affected by the scheme. However it is important to appreciate that the Record is not and cannot ever be a complete record of all traces of human activity in the landscape. It is rather a record of past archaeological work.

Consultation of the Record is therefore followed up by a rapid search of relevant map and documentary sources, both published and manuscript. All assessments carried out by Dyfed Archaeological Trust contain a full list of sources consulted.

All available aerial photographic collections held by the Trust are consulted and, if judged necessary, collections held by other bodies will be consulted. If sites or landscapes with special interest are affected the Trust would wish to consult the appropriate period or site type specialists or societies.

All desk-top assessments involve a field visit or visits to the scheme area by a professional archaeologist to check whether any previously unknown sites or monuments are affected by the scheme and to assess the overall landscape history of the area.

2.2 List of sources consulted

unpublished

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Sites and Monuments Record.

National Library of Wales, Picton Castle Vol. 1, p2 *Plan of Picton Castle Demesne by Thomas Lewis, 1773.*

National Library of Wales, Picton Castle Vol. 2.

National Library of Wales, Picton Castle Coll. Map no. 21, *Plan of Picton Castle Demesne by H P Goode, 1829.*

Pembrokeshire Record Office, Plan of Picton Park, 1746.

'The Parishes of Slebech, Minwear and Newton', Tithe map and apportionment, 1846.

Ordnance Survey, 'Original Survey Drawings', sheet 181, 1809-10, revised 1836, 2" to the mile.

aerial photographs

Copies held by Pembrokeshire Coast National Park.

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Charles, B. G., 1992, *The Place Names of Pembrokeshire*.

Conway Davies, J., 1946, *Episcopal Acts Relating to the Welsh Dioceses 1066-1272*, Vol. I.

Fenton, R., 1903, *A Historical Tour through Pembrokeshire*.

Hague, D. B., 1964, *Picton Castle*, *Archaeological Journal*, Vol. CXIX.

King, D. J. C., 1988, *Castellarium Anglicanum*.

Ordnance Survey, 1:2500 First Edition, Pembrokeshire, Sheet XXVIII. 10, 1887.

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Ordnance Survey, c.1855, *Index to Tithe Survey*, Old Series, Sheet 38, 1" to a mile.

RCAHMW, 1925, *An Inventory of the Ancient Monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire*, County of Pembroke.

Rees, W., 1932 *South Wales and the Borders in the XIV Century*, SW Sheet.

Stickings, T., 1972, *The Castles and Strongholds of Pembrokeshire*.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGY

3.1 Summary

Throughout its entire length the proposed watermains renewal scheme lies within Picton Park, laid out in the later 17th century (see below). The landscape is a fairly level, fertile and low-lying plateau, averaging 50m above sea level, and is today characterised by large regular enclosed paddocks and woodland plantations. The park was created around Picton Castle which, unusually, remained in occupation long after the medieval period and remains so to this day. There has been no proper recent study of either the castle or its grounds.

The present stone castle (3605) succeeded a motte (3606) some distance away which was founded in the early 12th century, possibly by Picot de Say, a follower of the first Norman lord of Pembroke Arnulf de Montgomery; a chapel at 'Piketon' belonging to Boulston church is mentioned in an early 12th century document (Conway Davies, 1946, d.499). The area formed part of the medieval lordship of Daugleddau, controlled from Wiston Castle; it has been suggested (King, 1988, 396) that Picton increasingly took over from Wiston in this administrative role. All landscape features associated with the medieval castle and the probable accompanying settlement appear to have been effaced, presumably when the park was created; however, the sections of the pipeline trench may reveal archaeological evidence for this period.

The N end of the proposed route begins near the main entrance to the park (6664), passing through it in roughly a NW-SE direction and passing close to the motte (3606) to terminate in an area of planted woodland.

3.2 Register of archaeological sites and areas of archaeological interest

The reference numbers in the following catalogue are those allocated in the Dyfed Sites and Monuments Record. These numbers are shown on the following annotated engineer's maps.

Picton Park. A formal park was first created around the medieval Picton Castle (3605, see below) in the later 17th century and in the 1680s apparently featured 300 acres of deerpark. A birds-eye view by the artist Dinely from this period (in *The Duke of Beaufort's Progress round Wales in 1680*) depicts the Renaissance grounds (Briggs, 1991, 147). and the sections of the pipeline trench may display physical evidence of the Renaissance layout. The castle grounds, and the park, were extensively remodelled during the 19th century; a plan of 1773 (National Library of Wales, Picton Castle Vol. 1, p2 *Plan of Picton Castle Demesne by Thomas Lewis, 1773*), however, makes it clear that the area crossed by the pipeline was much the same in character to today's layout by the 18th century. Fenton, writing circa 1811, tells us that 'the park, now destitute of deer, is...richly wooded.'

(Fenton, 1903, 154). In fact the 19th century remodelling appears to have concentrated on the grounds immediately surrounding the castle (see Appendix). The park (still termed 'Deer Park' on the Ordnance Survey 'Original Survey Drawings', sheet 181, of 1809-10) is now a patchwork of large meadows and woodland plantations, with some small water features. An estate map of 1829 (National Library of Wales, Picton Castle Coll. Map no. 21, *Plan of Picton Castle Demesne by H P Goode*, 1829) and the Tithe map for the parishes of Minwear, Slebech and Newton of 1846, are very similar and again show a situation like today's, with a couple of differences (see Appendix) - the field N of motte (3606) was not wooded in 1846, while the N-S hedgebanks adjacent to, and the E-W hedgebank cut by the pipeline trench are post-1908 (Ordnance Survey, 1:2500 Second Edition, Pembrokeshire, Sheet XXVIII. 10).

6664. Picton Park Lodges. Lodges either side of the main entrance to Picton Park. Both are Grade II Listed Buildings. They are fine castellated structures in the 'Romanesque' architectural tradition, each of a single storey, square in plan, and annexe. The slate roofs are pyramidal behind a corbelled, battlemented parapet and carry central octagonal chimneys. Their N (exterior) faces display full-centred semicircular arched windows, their 'Gothick' timberwork apparently original, with decorative hood-moulds; on this face each annexe shows a blind cross-loop. A full-centred semicircular headed door opens onto the drive in each lodge; the doors display fan-lights and hood-moulds identical with the window detail. Wrought iron railings, again original, connect each lodge to the central gate piers which rise from square bases as octagonal shafts, the chamfers dying away just below the corbelled capitals. Each carries a wrought-iron lion. The 2-leaved gates are of wrought-iron similar to the railings. The masonry is smoothly rendered throughout. Probably *circa* 1800 - they are very similar stylistically to contemporary W wing of castle (see below, 3605); the long tree-lined avenue is doubtless contemporary and is first shown in 1829 (National Library of Wales, Picton Castle Coll. Map no. 21, *Plan of Picton Castle Demesne by H P Goode*, 1829).

3605. Picton Castle. The proposed pipeline route passes some distance from the castle, but as it forms the focus of the surrounding landscape it is mentioned briefly here. The castle was founded during the early 12th century on the site of (3606), a motte (see below), and moved to its present lower location during the 13th century. The new castle was constructed in stone as a single block with 4 (formerly 5) attached half-round towers. The former surrounding curtain wall was gone by 1720. The castle has remained in continuous occupation and has been modernised. During the 18th century a courtyard and new ranges were constructed to the N, while in 1800 the main block was doubled in size by the addition of a new wing to the W (Hague, 1964, 341). About the same time the detached stable block to the SW (6663) was rebuilt, with a large yard and clock tower. It is chiefly the gardens and other enclosures immediately adjacent to the castle that have undergone alteration during the past 2 centuries.

3606. Motte and Belvedere. Scheduled Ancient Monument: Pemb No. 277. Probable castle mound, the site of the original Picton Castle. It is a fine upstanding earthwork, 20m in diameter and over 7m high which, in the medieval period, would probably have carried a timber tower. The surrounding ditch still survives to the N and E. There is no evidence that the motte was ever re-fortified in stone prior to its abandonment in the 13th century but later alterations may have obscured this. Nor is there any physical evidence for an adjoining bailey or yard. During the 18th and 19th centuries a belvedere or summer house stood on the summit of the old motte, with avenues leading to it - one leads E to the later castle and is still in use, the other is represented by the linear depression leading N from the mound. These features are shown on the Tithe and estate maps cited above (see Appendix) and described by Fenton thus '*terminating an avenue facing the grand entrance of the castle stands a handsome belvidere*'. The summit now displays 2 large water tanks with pipes that descend into the body of the mound, while a tunnel runs through it E-W. The proposed pipeline trench crosses the probable N avenue, while also passing close to the N motte ditch. Whilst this line lies outside the scheduled area, which terminates around the ditch counter-scarp, the proposed pipeline trench may display evidence, hitherto lacking, for the probable bailey, as well as for the nature of the avenue.

SOUTH WESTERN DIVISION

PEMBS ARE

TITLE Rhos P.A.H. WATER MAIN RENEWAL

OWNER

OCCUPYER

AREA MANAGER

DEBIE DAVIES,
FISHGUARD ROAD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE,
WITHYBUSH,
HAVERFORDWEST.REPRODUCED FROM THE ORDNANCE SURVEY MAP
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SCALE

PREPARED BY

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DATE 03/94

DRAWING No 02/2010

RECEIVED 28 APR 1994

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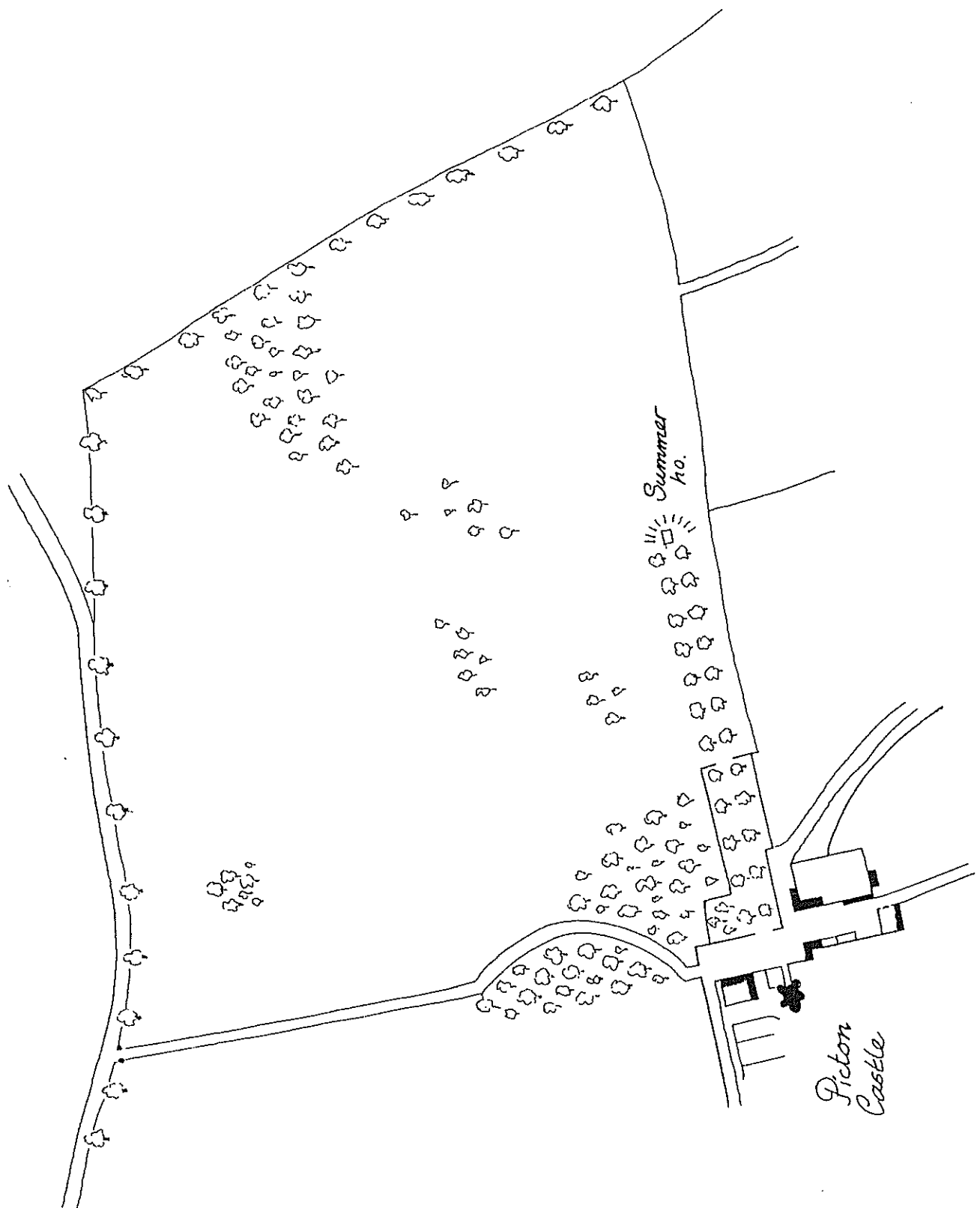
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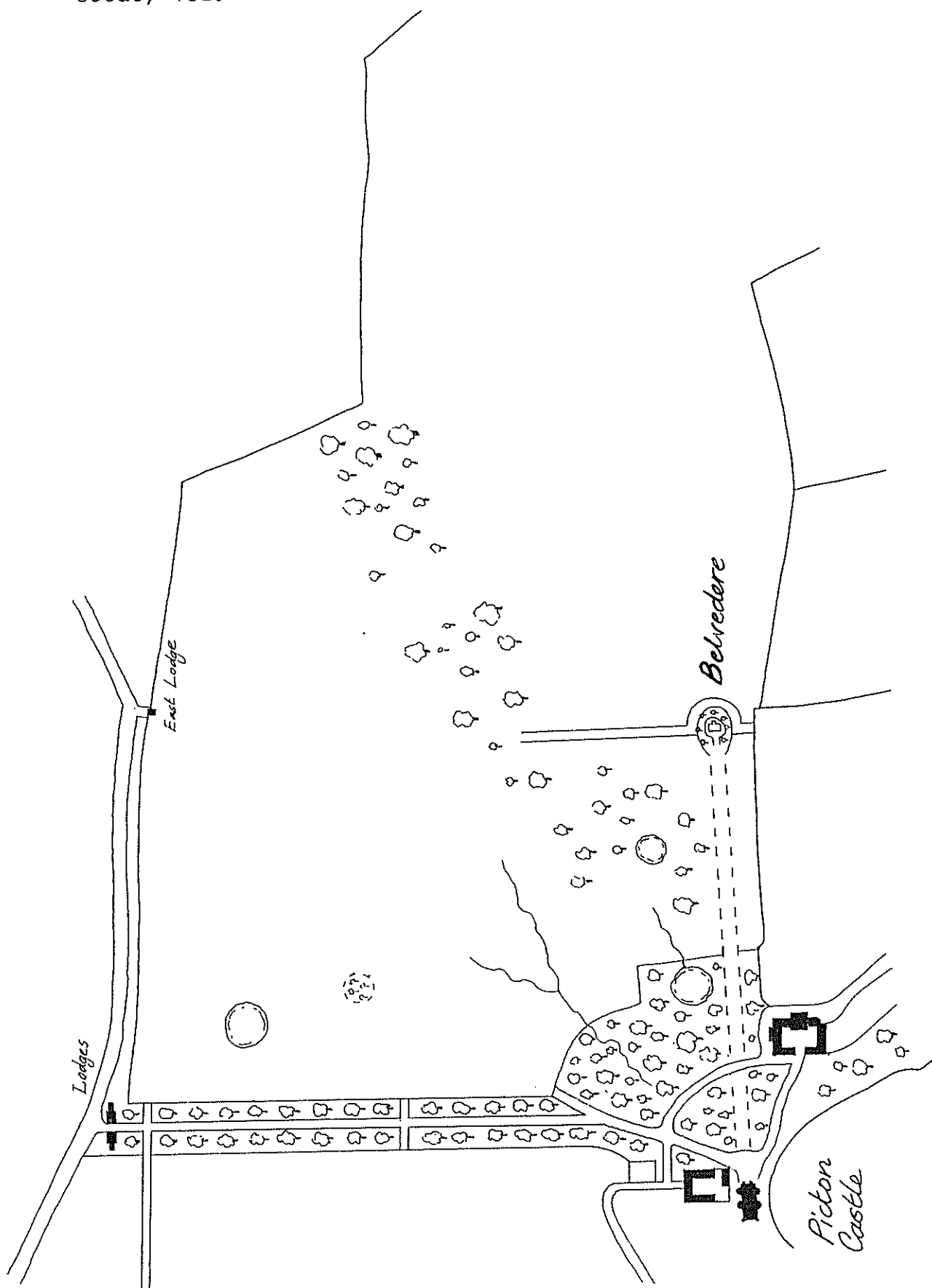
3606

Belvedere
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4.3 Part of Tithe map for the parishes of
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