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LIDL FOODSTORE SITE, PRIORY STREET CARMARTHEN. 2000 SITE OF THE FORMER JOHN SLEE GARAGE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND WATCHING BRIEF



Report No. 2000/52

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COTTON, BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING,
MAES-Y-LLYN, TREFIN, HAVERFORDWEST,
PEMBROKESHIRE.



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CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

REPORT NO. 2000/52
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SITE OF THE FORMER JOHN SLEE GARAGE**

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By

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Front Cover: Archaeological work adjacent to No. 3 Priory Street

SUMMARY

An archaeological evaluation and watching brief was undertaken prior to and during the development of a Lidl foodstore site within the area of the Roman town of Carmarthen (NGR SN 41552025). The construction of the new store was designed to minimise the impact on any Roman occupation deposits which were presumed to be present in this area. Consequently, no significant archaeological deposits were encountered during the most of the watching brief. However, in small localised areas of the development, the depth of disturbance was unavoidably greater. In these areas there was clear surviving evidence for Roman activity which highlighted the archaeological potential of the area.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project commission

This report details the results of an archaeological evaluation and watching brief undertaken prior to and during the construction of a Lidl supermarket on the southeast side of Priory Street, Carmarthen. The work was undertaken by Cambria Archaeology on behalf of Cotton, Building and Civil Engineering, Maes-y-Llyn, Trefin, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire. Work began on 18th April 2000 and conforms to a brief prepared by the Heritage Management Section of Cambria Archaeology (Appendix 1).

1.2 Objectives and scope of the project

The objectives of the programme of archaeological work was to provide an adequate record of any archaeological deposits or features which might be disturbed during the course of the development. The scope was limited to the investigations within the development area. The overall archaeological and historic setting lies outside this brief although a brief summary is provided in Section 2 of the report. A detailed report on the excavations in Roman Carmarthen between 1978-1993 will soon be published (James, H. forthcoming).

1.3 Report outline

This report describes the circumstances of the work and the archaeological background to the site (Section 2) before summarising the evaluation and watching brief results (Section 3) and a brief discussion (Section 4). Supporting data are given in a series of appendices.

2. THE SITE

2.1 Location and circumstances of the work

The Lidl foodstore development is located on the site of the former John Slee Garage, Priory Street, Carmarthen (Figure 1). The Ordnance Survey grid reference is SN41552025 and the site lies within the southwest quarter of the Roman town of *Moridunum*, later Carmarthen (Figure 2). The development comprised the construction of a retail store covering an area of approximately 1400 square metres, associated drainage and services, landscaping and car parking. During the earlier excavation of geotechnical test pits, archaeological deposits were observed at a depth of 0.3m below the existing ground surface and at a depth of 0.8m within the footprint of the proposed building. The subsequent design of the foodstore was to intended to minimise possible damage to any underlying archaeology. Rather than deep footing trenches, the structure was supported on small diameter piles with a sill beam between the outer piles to support the exterior walls. However, some disturbance for services, particularly drains, was unavoidable.

2.2 Archaeological and historic background

Reports covering various elements of the history and archaeology of Carmarthen have previously been published (T. James 1980 and H. James 1992) and a detailed report on the excavation of the Roman town is soon to be published (James H forthcoming).

The initial Roman fort possibly lies in the area of King Street and Spilman Street (T. James 1980, 9 and H. James forthcoming) to the west of the later Roman town (Figure 2). This location was probably chosen as being the lowest crossing point of the River Towy and the highest point for navigation from the sea. A civilian settlement (*vicus*) would have established itself adjacent to the fort and part of it may lie within the later Roman town of *Moridunum*. This town became the capital *civitas* of the Demetae, the pre-Roman tribe that occupied southwest Wales. The date of its foundation is unknown but probably occurred c. 120-122 AD or soon after (Wacher 1975). By the later part of the 2nd century the town was defended with ditches and banks.

The complete interior layout of the Roman town has not been established, but indications of a grid road system have been discovered. As yet the location of the major buildings of the market place (*forum*) and the principal administrative centre (*basilica*) has not been established but they are likely to be in the centre of the Roman town and probably lie just outside the current development area.

The later character and final decline of Roman Carmarthen, as with most Roman towns in Britain, is largely unknown but probably underwent times of prosperity and poverty (Fulkener 2000). However, the general agreed collapse of the market economy towards the end of the 300s, or at least the decrease of bulk trade (Salway 1981, 372),

probably resulted in the decline of urban functions within the town and a trend towards a more directly agricultural economy.

In the centuries following the end of the Roman period and before the establishment of a Norman town in the 12th century Carmarthen was undoubtedly of great importance. However, the exact nature and location of the settlement has not been established. In 1109 a castle was established by the Normans on a new site in Carmarthen, several hundred metres west of the Roman town (T. James 1980). The earliest civilian settlement around this castle appears to have been established in 1116. Although there is no immediate evidence for settlement within the former Roman town, the foundation of St Peter's Church, 1107-1124, on the site of the west gate of the Roman town is likely to have encouraged development in this area. The long narrow property boundaries, lying at right angles to Priory Street, are typical planned medieval land divisions (*burgage plots*) for house and "garden". These burgage plots were probably laid out, and possibly owned, by the Priory situated immediately to the east of the former Roman town defences. By the 1530s, at the end of the period of Dissolution of the Church by Henry VIII, there would appear to be a single street running east to west, probably what is now Priory Street, suggesting that there was no great density of occupation of this part of Carmarthen during the Medieval Period.

After the Dissolution, the Priory's ownership of its holdings in Carmarthen, particularly those in the area of the former Roman town ceased, and these areas became available for economic development. Much of the expanding commerce of Carmarthen was based on its sea trade, but as the area of the former Roman town was on the far side of the medieval town, away from the wharves and quays below the bridge, its location was less attractive. Therefore, development in this area was mainly residential. However, some light industry was established on the north side of Priory Street, which had a foundry and a rope walk. On the south side of the street, immediately to the east of the present foodstore development, the Town infirmary was founded in 1857.

Most of the buildings that stand today are part of the residential development which took place in the period from the mid 1800s into the early 1900s. This late development preserves the line of the Roman town defences. A large area over the northern half of the Roman town was declared a Scheduled Ancient Monument in 1988 (Carm 234) together with remaining garden areas within the Roman fort (Carm 235) to the west. The only surviving undeveloped stretch of the Roman town defences on the south-east side was scheduled in 1990.

The development of the garage and workshops on the present site appear to be typical 1960s style with later alterations. Its frontage consisted of car showrooms and a petrol station, although fuel service had ceased by the 1990s. Part of the area to the rear sloped down to a parking area with surrounding workshops for maintenance and paint spraying bays. The rear area in particular was in a run down condition prior to demolition.

3. THE EVALUATION AND WATCHING BRIEF

3.1 Methodology

The archaeological work was undertaken in three phases: a watching brief during demolition of the garage complex; an evaluation trench to establish levels and to recognise layers observed during the later construction; and a further watching brief during construction and digging of service trenches.

3.1.1 Watching brief during demolition

After demolition of the garage complex, except for the northeast corner of the site, the floor slabs and footings were excavated using a large tracked excavator with a toothed bucket. An archaeologist was present on site during these works. However, only modern disturbances were noted and the only finds were stoneware and glass bottles, probably from the early to mid 1900s, some of which were marked 'Carmarthen'.

3.1.2 The Evaluation Trench

The objective of the evaluation trench was to evaluate the surviving archaeological deposits on the site, which would be preserved *in situ* between the areas of sill beam disturbance, and to be able to recognise the nature of these deposits when seen later in the watching brief during the excavation of the sill beam and service trenches.

A broad L-shaped trench covering a total area of 180 square metres was located in the north east corner of the footprint of the proposed foodstore (Figure 3, Trench 3.1.4). This trench was excavated gradually, by machine using a toothless bucket, down to the depth of proposed adjacent sill beam trenches *c.* 1000-1200mm below the ground surface. The reduced levels were between 19.755m and 20.265m Ordnance Datum. The trench was then hand cleaned, photographed, trench surfaces planned and two major sections drawn. Afterwards the trench was backfilled with gravel chippings.

3.1.3 Watching brief during construction

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during all construction groundworks in order to ensure that any archaeological features exposed during groundworks, or significant artefactual discoveries, were recorded and interpreted to an acceptable standard.

3.2 Results

3.2.1 The Evaluation Trench

Only post-medieval deposits and later disturbances were encountered, although there was a little re-deposited Roman material and medieval pottery (see finds report,

Appendix 2). The lower deposits in the bottom of the trench appeared to be an old garden soil containing material from the 1600-1700s. This was overlain by a darker garden soil. There was at least one shallow wall or footings, possibly a boundary post dating the old garden soil, and also some footing for more modern structures. The area was cut by a number of drainage trenches. Some were for stone drains but most for pipes, some of which lay beneath the bottom of the evaluation trench.

Pottery was recovered during machining (315), from the spoil tips (316), from the trench surfaces (317) and from one probable post-medieval pit (318).

3.2.2 Piles and sill beam trenches

Initial observation of the piling method being employed demonstrated that no archaeological information would be gained. Therefore, with the agreement of the Heritage Management Section of Cambria Archaeology, no further observations were undertaken.

Only post-medieval and modern deposits were observed during the excavation of the first sill beam trench. Consequently, with the agreement of the Heritage Management Section of Cambria Archaeology, it was decided that sill and drainage trenches less than 1000mm deep would only need to be seen after excavation. This was subject to review after each trench or segment of trench. The trenches subjected to this watching brief are indicated on Figure 3, with piles within the trenches.

3.2.3 Sewer Location Test Pit

Prior to piling, a test pit/trench was excavated on the southwest side of the site (Figure 3) to locate the main sewer running diagonally across the site, to which the new drainage was to be connected. Down to c. 1000mm the deposits were modern. However, two fragments of Romano-British pottery were recovered from below 1200mm suggesting the presence of Roman deposits at that depth. One fragment was from a mortarium, a vessel used for grinding food, and the other from a red table dish (see Appendix 2). Also recovered was what appears to be a small bronze Roman coin, in poor condition.

3.2.4 Service trench on west side of the foodstore

The northwestern arm of this trench was excavated to c. 1300mm deep. Geological deposits were encountered at a depth of 750mm at the southwest end, deepening to c. 1000mm by the third pile northeastwards. There was a thin layer of burnt material just east of the corner and a probable gully ran approximately N-S to a depth of c. 950mm below the top of the trench/sill beam height. There was no indication of the date for this burnt material. However, the gully was filled with garden-type soil and so was possibly post-medieval in date.

3.2.5 Service trench on south side of the foodstore

The results indicated that there was a greater depth of post-medieval deposits towards the southeast of the site. On the southern side of the site, on both sides of the old sewer pipe, the new service trench was cut c. 1500mm deep, decreasing in depth to the northwestern and southeastern corners.

North of where this service trench joined the old sewer pipe, geological deposits were encountered in the bottom of the trench at c. 1500m below the sill beam surface. The surface of these deposits rose to c. 1150m by the third pile southeastward and at c. 750mm at the northwestern corner of the trench. There was one possible gully running approximately east-west by the fourth pile southeastwards, which was probably of some antiquity. Modern disturbance was observed in both the pipe trench and footings on the north side of where this service trench met the Old Sewer. There was a post-medieval lime-bonded footing 1250mm south of the second pile southeastwards, which appeared to run approximately east to west. There was post-medieval or modern material overlying geological deposits from the third pile southeastwards to the northwestern corner of the trench. Southeast of the old sewer the service trench cut only disturbed, modern material.

3.2.6 Service trench on east side of the foodstore

This trench only cut post-medieval or modern disturbances.

3.2.7 Petrol intercept trench

As part of the new services, a petrol intercept tank was necessary, located towards the southeast corner of the site (Figure 3). This trench was c. 4m by 3m and 2.6m deep. The trench was mostly excavated by a backhoe digger using a toothed bucket. However, time was allowed for hand cleaning and excavation of two artificial surfaces and the layer between.

The intercept pit was excavated down into geological deposits (314), a mixture of clay and silty-clays (Figure 4). These deposits had been removed by a pit (306) on the eastern side of the trench.

Where it survived, the surface of the geological deposits was overlain by a thin layer of compacted pebbles (310). This may have been an archaeological surface (metalling). However, it is more likely to have been created through trampling the exposed geological gravels. Above this pebble surface was a dirty orange layer (309) containing lime-mortar flecks, charcoal, a fragment of a probable whetstone, three fragments of copper alloy, ten tile fragments and a few sherds of pottery. The tile fragments are of Roman date as are probably the copper alloy fragments. The pottery was post-medieval, probably 16th century. Above this deposit was a compact layer of metalling (308) consisting of 100mm pebbles/cobbles in a brown silty-clay. The surface of this metalling had been worn away towards the north. On its surface were four closely-packed flat-stones.

Cutting the upper metalling, and the layers below and into the geological deposits was part of a large rectilinear pit (307) with an apparent flat bottom. The lower fill of this pit (306) contained only a few fragments of pottery, from Roman to post-medieval, 1600s-1700s, suggesting that it was not used for rubbish disposal. There was at least one upper pit fill (305, not illustrated), and there may have been two others (304 and 303). However, as these two deposits extended outside of the excavation trench they may have been sealing layers dipping into the top of the pit rather than true pit fills.

Partly cutting the two layers (304 and 303) at the northwest end of the trench was part of a modern pit (301, not illustrated) with a fill (302, not illustrated) containing china and Buckley type ware (date mid to late 1800s). Above the top fill of the pit was a mixed layer, or layers, of garden-type soil. The upper parts of this soil were disturbed by wall footings, a pipe trench and other features (un-numbered)

3.2.8 Petrol intercept trench - interpretation

It is possible that the upper layer of metalling (308) was a replacement for the lower layer (310) with a thin layer of make-up in between (309). However the lack of construction edges to both of these surfaces makes further interpretation impossible - they could be for road, yard or floor. The four stones (311) could be the remains of a further surface but were insufficient for positive interpretation and may be just random. The pit (307) was probably dug to obtain gravel, as the clean nature of its fills indicates that it was not used for rubbish disposal.

3.2.9 Service trench to north of the foodstore

This trench was c. 1300mm deep, below modern ground levels, at its southeastern end to 1600mm deep at the northernwestern end. Geological deposits were observed in the bottom of this trench from c. 28m northwest of the intercept trench. The surface of these deposits rose slightly to c. 1400mm at the northernwestern end. There was a layer of undisturbed material for c. 300mm, probably post-medieval in date. The rest of the trench sides were composed of post-medieval garden-type soil or modern deposits, except at 14m north of the intercept trench, where a corner of a wall was recorded. This wall was probably part of on the boundaries to be seen on the 1838 Tithe Map (Figure 5).

3.2.10 Service trench leading out of the northwest side of the foodstore

Where the trench exited the building it was up to 1500mm deep, and appeared to cut only modern, disturbed material. The southeast to northwest arm of the trench was about 1000m deep.

3.2.11 New wall footing trench adjacent to Priory Street

A shallow section of trench 13m long and from 500-750mm wide was recorded following excavation. It cut disturbed and/or modern material, including, at its northeastern end, two petrol tanks.

3.2.12 Area on the east side of car park

A broad L-shaped area was reduced by approximately 400mm to 700mm below the existing surface level. Finds (312) were recovered including residual Roman building material and pottery and post-medieval pottery dating to the 1600s-1700s. No archaeological features were observed.

3.2.13 Area adjacent to 3 Priory Street

During the preparation of the car park area in the northwest corner of the site the contractors encountered a corbelled stone chamber. Further observations by Cambria Archaeology indicated that significant machining had been undertaken in this area, which had resulted in a lowering of the ground surface. This had not been archaeologically monitored. This groundworks had included a deeper trench which had been machined by the contractors to investigate an area of soft ground. This trench was partly re-excavated for the archaeological investigation. However, there was insufficient time to make a drawn plan and only rapid recording took place.

The levels exposed by the machining were different to the dark grey-black garden soil encountered over most of the site. The deposits exposed were characteristic of material noted elsewhere in the Roman town of Carmarthen: reddish-brown clay-loams with patches of yellow and heat affected red- and orange-clay containing smears of charcoal. It was apparent that over 200mm of Roman deposits had been removed prior to archaeological recording, and that what remained was not far above the geological deposits of yellowish clay mixed with gravel.

There were at least two substantial stone-packed post-settings positioned on an alignment almost at right angles to present-day Priory Street. There were some gravel spreads, but no clear edges to these could be identified. The machined trench into the soft soil had cut heat-reddened clay, possibly the fill of a slot or trench.

The section edge on the northwest side of the area showed part of an artificial gravel surface. While that on the southwest side revealed a possible pre-Roman buried soil possibly within a thin gravel surface, above which was 170mm thick deposit of greyish-black charcoal- flecked material - a typical Roman occupation layer. This occupation layer was below 100mm of stiff red-yellow clay, the top of which was only 200mm below the former ground surface levels. Along this southwestern section the Ordnance Datum level on the top of the buried soil beneath the Roman deposits was 21.725m OD adjacent to the Priory Street front wall. The top of the uppermost Roman layer 4m further east was at 22.055m OD, and at 21.695m OD adjacent to the

southeast corner of 3 Priory Street. The top of the underlying geological gravel deposit was from 21.240m OD midway along this section to 21.335m OD adjacent to the southeast corner of 3 Priory Street.

Roman pottery and possibly a silver coin (313) were recovered along with later material, but none of this was securely stratified.

3.2.14 The corbelled structure at the rear of 3 Priory Street

The top of the corbelled structure (Figure 6) had collapsed before archaeological investigation, and it was therefore impossible to identify the position of any opening into it. It was constructed through probable Roman levels, the top of which was c. 750mm (c. 21.715m OD) below the present-day concrete surface. The chamber was "D" shaped in plan with a 1400mm straight southwest side and was 1200mm wide and was probably 1500mm high. The base of the chamber was formed from an undisturbed geological deposit of yellow clay. The walls were of dry-stone construction, randomly coursed, with medium-sized angular and rounded stones. Some of the base stones were large, as were most of the top stones.

Slate, pottery and animal bone (320) all appeared to have been incorporated into the walling of the structure. One fragment of Roman Samian pottery and a fragment of medieval inlaid floor tile (321) were certainly from the structure. Excavation of the loose clay-silt that filled part of the structure produced a Roman Samian sherd and a fragment of a china plate, possibly dating to the late 1700s (322). The loose fill within the structure suggests it was used as a cesspit. The date of construction and period of use estimated from the disturbed finds suggests a date in the early 1800s.

3.2.15 Other groundworks - not subject to a watching brief

Cambria Archaeology were not called in to look at either the footing trenches for the exterior wall and structure in the northeast corner of the site, or some planned drain trenches in the eastern area of the car park. However, there was evidence for some damage to archaeological deposits outside the area observed (3.2.13), adjacent to No. 3 Priory Street.

4. DISCUSSION

The evaluation was adequate for the footprint of the foodstore itself but as it was limited to the depth of the construction sill beams, it did not cut into any early archaeological deposits, or geological deposits. This restriction on the evaluation meant that the results were of little use of formulating constraint plans for the later works across the remainder of the site.

The results, including a number of Roman finds from later deposits, demonstrate that there is considerable evidence of Roman activity within the area of the development. The results also indicate that there is a considerable fall in surviving Roman levels

near Priory Street compared to those encountered in the service trench on the west side leading to the old sewer. Some of this change in level could be explained by the natural ground slope. However, no archaeological levels were found in the evaluation trench and it would appear that the slope was terraced, probably in the post-medieval period.

The archaeological deposits encountered in the petrol intercept trench cannot be interpreted with any certainty. There was no dating evidence for the lower, possible metalling but it is likely to be post-medieval. The metalling layer above is definitely of post-medieval date. The function of these metalling layers is likely to be connected with light industrial use, perhaps a floor or yard associated with a workshop. The deep pit cutting these levels was probably for gravel extraction.

Gravel extraction and terracing across the site appear to have removed some Roman and later archaeological levels. In the area unaffected by the terracing and extraction, archaeological deposits are deeply buried beneath later soil accumulation and other material.

The finds and the project archive will be deposited with Carmarthenshire County Museum, Abergwilli. The two coins recovered, one possibly silver (313), in reasonable condition, and another (319) in copper alloy (bronze) in damaged, poor condition will require conservation if they are to be displayed.

5 CONCLUSIONS

In general, the construction design of the new building minimised disturbance to the underlying Roman archaeology. However, the impact of the piling may prove problematic for future archaeological investigations and interpretations.

Where there has not been disturbance, towards Priory Street, there are likely to be remains from the Roman to Medieval period close (c. 500mm) to the current ground surface. The results indicate that there is a greater depth of post-medieval deposits towards the southeast end of the site: this is likely to have given greater protection to any underlying archaeology. The re-deposited finds and surrounding archaeology of Roman Carmarthen indicate that this area is almost certainly of great importance.

The site was probably terraced in the post-medieval period and should the opportunity arise again to excavate on the south side of Priory Street a long trial trench should be excavated to ascertain whether this is the case. A series of intermittent trenches are unlikely to resolve why there is such a change in levels.

6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report was prepared by P Crane, Senior Archaeologist, Cambria Archaeology Field Operations. The fieldwork was carried out by Richard Ramsey, Hubert Wilson

and Pete Crane. Some rapid recording in the area adjacent to No. 3 Priory Street was undertaken by Heather James, former Assistant Director, Cambria Archaeology. The finds report was undertaken by Dee Williams.

APPENDIX 1: COPY OF BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

PROPOSED LIDL STORE, PRIORY STREET, CARMARTHEN

Prepared for: Currie and Brown

Site Location: NGR SN 4165 2025

Planning application No. W/02720

This design brief is only valid for six months from the above date. After this period Archaeology- Heritage Management should be contacted. Any specification resulting from this brief will only be considered for the same period. Please note that this document is written for archaeological project managers to facilitate the production of an archaeological specification of works, it is not a tender document. Any response to this brief should follow IFA Standards and Guidelines.

The project manager is strongly advised to visit the site before completing their specification as there may be implications for accurately costing the project. The project manager must consult the County Sites and Monuments Record held by Cambria Archaeology Heritage Management as part of the assessment.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This Brief has been prepared for and at the request of Currie and Brown consultants to Lidl Stores Ltd. by the Heritage Management section of Cambria Archaeology. Cambria Archaeology are funded by Cadw-Welsh Historic Monuments to provide advice on archaeology and planning to the Planning Authorities and others in west Wales.
- 1.2 Initial comments were made to Carmarthenshire County Council Planning Authority in response to the planning application W/02720 on 15th July 1999 identifying the archaeological interest and importance of the area and further comments were made on the 25th October, 2nd December 1999 and 2nd February 2000.
- 1.3 Two conditions were subsequently attached to planning consent requiring the agreement of a foundation design with the Local Planning Authority intended to minimise the impact of the development on surviving important archaeological remains and the agreement of a scheme of archaeological works in order to ensure appropriate recording of areas where damage or disturbance could not be avoided.
- 1.4 The purpose of the brief is to outline the requirements of both the archaeological scheme of works required to investigate and record the archaeological remains within the area specified prior to any groundworks commencing on site and the archaeological monitoring in the form of an archaeological watching brief during the construction of the foundations, drainage, landscaping and ancillary groundworks as well as the monitoring of the foundation construction in order to ensure the preservation *in situ* of archaeological remains.

2.0 Site Description

- 2.1 The development site is situated to the south of Priory Street, Carmarthen, previously the location of John Slee Garage Premises. The total area of the site includes approximately 85m NW-SE by 60m NE-SW and slopes gently with a fall from the street frontage at the top of the site to the bottom edge of approximately 2.5m.

- 2.2 The Site Investigation Report produced by Structural Soils Ltd includes information on the geology of the site and identified made ground lying over 'glacial deposits of highly variable consistency' overlying Ordovician shale. This report should be referred to directly.
- 2.3 Above ground demolition has recently taken place.

3.0 Archaeological Background

- 3.1 The site lies in an area of known archaeological importance situated within the south-west quarter of the Roman town of *Moridunum*. The earliest known Roman occupation within Carmarthen began with the construction of a fort c.AD 75 to the south-west of the site, on the south side of Spilman Street. The town was then formally laid out by c.AD 110, to the north and south of the present Priory Street. Settlement continued within the town into at least the fourth century AD. During the Medieval period the area of the Roman town reverted to agricultural use with the gradual development of plots. However historic maps suggest that the south side of Priory Street in the area of the proposed development was not occupied until after 1600 ('Priory Street, Carmarthen' An Archaeological Watching Brief at the Proposed Lidl Food Store, June 1999, Neil Ludlow of Cambria Archaeology - Field Operations).
- 3.2 Archaeological observation of geotechnical investigations within the site has identified the presence of deposits which are Roman in nature, however detailed investigation, assessment and analysis has not been carried out.
- 3.3 Elsewhere within the area of the Roman town the buried remains of the town have been designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument indicating the national importance of the surviving archaeological deposits (SAM Carm 234).

4.0 The nature of the proposed development and archaeological requirements

- 4.1 The proposed development will comprise the construction of a retail store covering an area of approximately 1400m², associated drainage and services, landscaping and car parking. The archaeological watching brief carried out during the excavation of geotechnical test-pit observed archaeological deposits present commencing from 0.3m depth below the existing ground level. Within the proposed footprint of the building possible Roman deposits were noted at 0.8m below the existing ground level.
- 4.2 The aims and requirements of the three aspects of the archaeological scheme are set out separately.

5.0 Archaeological Investigation

- 5.1 An L-shaped area covering a total of 180m², as identified on the accompanying plan, will be machine excavated under archaeological supervision using a flat bladed ditching bucket down to the level of surviving archaeological deposits. The level to be agreed on site with Cambria Archaeology Heritage Management. This level will be hand cleaned and planned at a scale of 1:20.
- 5.2 Sampling of revealed deposits, features and structures will be necessary. The sampling strategy will be agreed with Cambria Archaeology Heritage Management. Recent intrusive features will be emptied to enable sections through the archaeological deposits to be revealed and recorded. Where there are no appropriate recent features one or more sondages, number and location to be agreed with Cambria Archaeology Heritage Management, will be excavated.
- 5.3 The aim of the investigation is to evaluate the surviving archaeological deposits on the site which will be preserved *in situ* beneath the surface construction. An assessment of the character, date and state of preservation of the surviving archaeological deposits is required. In

addition an assessment and analysis of the local (within *Moridunum*) and regional context within which the archaeological evidence rests should be undertaken.

- 5.4 Post excavation assessment, analysis, archive and report production and publication of the project results will be required.
- 5.5 Appropriate desk-top assessment and analysis of relevant information from documentary sources including the results of previous archaeological excavation within the Roman town will be required. In particular use should be made of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust's *Sites and Monuments Record*, James H, 1992 *Excavations in Roman Carmarthen 1978-1990*, The Carmarthenshire Antiquary, Vol. XXVIII and noted references. More recent research is in preparation for publication by H. James and it is expected that any archaeological contractor will liaise closely with H. James
- 6.0 Archaeological Watching Brief**
- 6.1 An archaeological watching brief is required during all construction groundworks in order to ensure that any archaeological features exposed during groundworks, or significant artefactual discoveries are recorded and interpreted to an acceptable standard.
- 6.2 In addition to the general monitoring of all groundworks the watching brief will in particular include the monitoring of piling to include basic records of depths of distinguishable deposits across the footprint of the proposed store and the monitoring of the excavation of pile caps and ground beams to enable section/profile records to be made along the length and across the width of the proposed store area.
- 7.0 Monitoring of agreed foundation construction**
- 7.1 In order to ensure the preservation *in situ* of archaeological deposits as previously agreed monitoring of the foundation design and construction is required. This will comprise the agreement of a site datum to which all levels will be checked. The agreed levels for the top of pile caps and ground beams are as follows working from the top end of the footprint.
- 21.050m OD
20.600m OD
20.150m OD
19.700m OD
- 8.0 General Requirements**
- 8.1 The project must be undertaken by an archaeological team of recognised competence, fully experienced in work of this character and formally acknowledged by Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology - Heritage Management (ACA-HM) the regional archaeological curators. Details, including the name, qualifications and experience of the project director and all other key project personnel (including specialist staff) will be communicated to ACA-HM as part of a **project specification**. The contractor will be expected to produce a reasonably detailed project specification although a full programme of works will not be required.
- 8.2 Arrangements of the long term storage and deposition of the archive must be agreed with ACA-HM before the commencement of fieldwork.
- 8.3 The site archive should conform to the NMR (W) agreed structure (guidelines available) and be deposited within an approved store (normally this will be the appropriate local museum and/or NMR) on completion of site analysis and publication.

9.0 Reporting

- 9.1 A full report of the project results should be prepared and presented to ACA-HM within 4 months of the completion of site works.
- 9.2 The report will include:-
- I) Location plans of all trenches and other fieldwork/observations
 - II) Detailed plans and sections of the specified area of archaeological investigation including present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale
 - III) Section/profiles across and along the footprint of the store including present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale
 - IV) Full specialist descriptions of artefact and ecofact discoveries
 - V) A predictive model detailing surviving archaeological deposits, features and structures which will remain undisturbed by the development to aid the long-term management of the surviving archaeological deposits on the site.

10.0 General

- 10.1 In addition two copies of the final report should be provided for the Sites and Monuments Record
- 10.2 ACA-HM is responsible for monitoring all archaeological work within the Carmarthenshire area. The contractor must inform ACA-HM in writing detailing proposed start dates for the project. Once notified a Project Record Number will be allocated prior to on site work commencing, to be used in all site records.
- 10.3 Any changes to the specification that the contractor may wish to make after approval should be communicated to the ACA HM and approved.
- 10.4 ACA HM should be kept regularly informed about developments both during the site works and subsequent post-excavation work.

As part of our desire to provide a quality service to all our clients we would welcome any comments you may have on the content or presentation of this design brief. Please address them to the author below.

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APPENDIX 2: FINDS CATALOGUE

Dee Williams

CONTEXT: [316] Unstratified from spoil tip of Evaluation Trench.

POTTERY:

(a) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.

FORM: Jug ?.

FABRIC: Hard-fired and wheel-thrown. Reduced bluish-grey with red interior. Tempered with occasional quartz, a little brown material and sparse red inclusions.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Green lead glaze externally.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Unclassified English.

DATE: Medieval/late medieval.

(b) NO. SHERDS: 3 (2 joining) rim; 3 body; 2 joining base.

FORM: Jar. Rim has internal ledge.

FABRIC: North Devon Gravel-tempered ware (GTW).

SURFACE TREATMENT: Brown internal glaze.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: North Devon.

DATE: 17th/18th century.

(c) NO. SHERDS: 2 joining rim; 11 body; 1 base.

FORM: Wide-rimmed handled jar. Rim has internal ledge to take a lid, handle springing from rim.

FABRIC: Hard-fired and fully oxidised with sparse quartz inclusions.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Dark brown internal glaze below rim.

DECORATION: Single horizontal groove externally on shoulder.

SOURCE: Unsourced.

DATE: Post-medieval, 18th or 19th century.

(d) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.

FORM: Wide-rimmed handled jar. Rim springing from flat-projecting rim.

FABRIC: Hard-fired and fully oxidised with sparse quartz inclusions.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Traces of yellowish-brown glaze internally over white slip.

DECORATION: Single horizontal shoulder groove.

SOURCE: Unsourced.

DATE: 18th or 19th century.

(e) NO. SHERDS: 4 body; 2 joining base.

FORM: Jar or bottle.

FABRIC: Grey stoneware.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Brown salt-glaze externally, self-coloured glaze with slight greenish tinge internally.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Unclassified English, production centre not known.

DATE: 19th century.

(f) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.

FORM: Indeterminate. Thick-walled vessel.

FABRIC: Hard-fired and fully oxidised.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Brown internal glaze.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Unsourced. Brown-glazed earthenwares were produced at many of the small country potteries.

DATE: 18th-20th century.

(g) NO. SHERDS: 1 indeterminate.
FORM: Indeterminate, probable tile or brick.
FABRIC: Fully oxidised orange fabric tempered with sands and red and white material.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Abraded self-coloured surface.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Unsourced.
DATE: Uncertain, too small to determine.

CONTEXT: [315] Unstratified from machining Evaluation Trench.

POTTERY:

(a) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Dish copying Samian form Dragendorff 18/31 range.
FABRIC: Oxford red colour-coated ware.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Dull but smooth red slip.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Oxford region.
DATE: Roman. 3rd century, 240 A.D.+.

(b) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.
FORM: Indeterminate, probable jar.
FABRIC: Severn Valley ware.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Self-coloured surfaces.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Severn Valley region.
DATE: Roman, 1st-4th century.

(c) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Possibly a bowl with small horizontal handle.
FABRIC: Hard-fired and almost fully reduced. Tempered with sparse small white calcareous inclusions and quartz sands.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Good olive green glaze internally and externally on rim and on handle.
DECORATION: Band of horizontal grooves where handle meets the rim and another band immediately below handle.
SOURCE: North Devon (calcareous ware ?).
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(d) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Jar.
FABRIC: Reduced with thin red exterior. North Devon gravel-free.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Internal olive green glaze with splashes on exterior.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: North Devon.
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(e) NO. SHERDS: 2 joining rim and 1 similar rim possibly from same vessel.
FORM: Bowl(s).
FABRIC: GTW. Red with reduced interior.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Brown interior glaze.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: North Devon.
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(f) NO. SHERDS: 1 damaged rim with handle.
FORM: Jug. with small rod handle springing from rim.
FABRIC: Fully oxidised GTW.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Internal brown glaze with splashes on exterior.
DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: North Devon.
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(g) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Small bowl with internal ledge for lid seating.
FABRIC: Hard-fired GTW.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Clear glaze appearing yellow over white slip on interior. Partially glazed olive green on exterior below rim.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: North Devon.
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(h) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Dish.
FABRIC: North Devon gravel-free. Reduced interior, red exterior.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Clear glaze appearing yellow over white slip on interior.
DECORATION: None. The type is often sgraffito-decorated.
SOURCE: North Devon.
DATE: 17th-18th century.

(i) NO. SHERDS: 16 body; 4 base.
FORMS: Indeterminate from jugs, jars and bowl forms.
FABRIC: GTW and gravel-free.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Olive green and brown internal glazes.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: North Devon.
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(j) NO. SHERDS: 2 rim.
FORM: Handled cup. See the type series of 18th century South Somerset pottery (Allan 1984, 152, fig.66, no.2C).
FABRIC: Hard-fired and fully oxidised. Tempered with a little quartz sand and occasional black inclusions.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Clear glaze appearing yellow over a white slip on interior. Speckles of copper green in the glaze.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: South Somerset.
DATE: 18th century.

(k) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Dish.
FABRIC: Fully oxidised and hard-fired. Tempered with occasional quartz sands and occasional small gravels. Slightly micaceous.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Yellow (Clear glaze over white slip) and brown glaze internally.
DECORATION: Trailed brown slip in the form of concentric circles.
SOURCE: Unsourced, possibly Ewenny ?.
DATE: 18th century.

(l) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Bowl ?.
FABRIC: Fully oxidised red earthenware. Tempered with occasional red grog? inclusions.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Self-coloured.
DECORATION: Horizontal groove externally below rim.
SOURCE: Unsourced.
DATE: 18th or 19th century.

(m) NO. SHERDS: 2 body.
FORM: Indeterminate. Body flakes missing inner surfaces.
FABRIC: Hard-fired and oxidised.

SURFACE TREATMENT: One sherd has splash of yellowish-brown glaze on exterior surface.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Unsourced.

DATE: Post-medieval, 17th/18th century.

(n) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim; 4 body; 1 handle; 1 base.

FORMS: Bowl and cup forms.

FABRIC: Buff sandy ware.

SURFACE TREATMENT: All sherds are glazed on both surfaces in a clear glaze appearing yellow over a white slip.

DECORATION: Two sherds with brown trailed slip decoration.

SOURCE: Bristol/Staffordshire.

DATE: Late 17th to early 18th century.

(o) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.

FORM: Indeterminate. Jug ?.

FABRIC: Westerwald stoneware. Grey body.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Glazed surfaces. Cobalt blue on exterior against a self-coloured ground.

DECORATION: Floral decoration picked out in blue.

SOURCE: Germany.

DATE: Late 17th (1680's onwards) to early 18th century.

(p) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.

FORM: Plate.

FABRIC: White salt-glazed stoneware.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Self-coloured glaze.

DECORATION: Moulded dot, diaper and basket design.

SOURCE: Staffordshire is likely.

DATE: Mid 18th century.

(q) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim; 1 base.

FORMS: Dish and cup/tea bowl.

FABRIC: Porcelain.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Clear glazes.

DECORATION: Dish has blue-painted chinoiserie design on interior surface.

SOURCE: Unsourced.

DATE: A late 18th century date is likely.

(r) NO. SHERDS: 1 body; 1 base.

FORM: Bowl or jar ?.

FABRIC: White-bodied earthenware.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Clear glaze with slight bluish tinge.

DECORATION: Chinese 'Imari' type blue and red painted pattern.

SOURCE: Unsourced English.

DATE: Late 18th or early 19th century.

(s) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim; 5 body; 1 base.

FORMS: Assorted table and kitchen wares.

FABRICS: White-bodied earthenware and white stoneware.

SURFACE TREATMENT: All are glazed.

DECORATION: 3 sherds with blue transfer-printed chinoiserie designs.

SOURCE: Unsourced.

DATE: 18th-19th century.

(t) NO. SHERDS: 1 complete ink pot.

FORM: ink pot.

FABRIC: Light grey stoneware.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Self-coloured glaze.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Unsourced.
DATE: 19th century.

ASSOCIATED FINDS:

TYPE: clay pipe.
NO. FRAGS: 1 near complete pipe and 1 plain stem fragment.
DETAILS: Near complete pipe has large plain bowl with spur.
DATE: 18th or early 19th century.

TYPE: Ceramic building material.
NO. FRAGS: 2.
DETAILS: 1 small edge fragment of roofing tile and 1 indeterminate brick or tile fragment.
FABRIC: Fully oxidised with self-coloured surfaces.
SOURCE: Unsourced.
DATE: Post-medieval roofing tile and indeterminate.

TYPE: Oyster shell.
NO. FRAGS: 1.

CONTEXT: [317] Surface of bottom of Evaluation Trench.

POTTERY:

(a) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Bead-rim dish or bowl copying a Samian form.
FABRIC: Soft fully oxidised orange fabric with occasional red inclusions.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Abraded red slip inside and out.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: 'Caerleon' ware, South-east Wales.
DATE: Roman, 2nd century.

(b) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.
FORM: Indeterminate.
FABRIC: Sandy, off-white through to pale pink. Sparse white rounded inclusions.
SURFACE TREATMENT: No exterior surface surviving, interior is self-coloured.
SOURCE: Unclassified.
DATE: Roman or Medieval ? Nothing very diagnostic to go on.

(c) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.
FORM: Indeterminate, probable jug.
FABRIC: Ham-green ware.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Traces of thin green external glaze.
SOURCE: Bristol region.
DATE: Medieval, late 12th to 13th century.

(d) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.
FORM: Indeterminate handmade and glazed vessel.
FABRIC: Local gravel-tempered ware. Reduced with buff-red surfaces.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Traces of glaze on exterior surface.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Dyfed.
DATE: Medieval. 12th century+.

(e) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Large bowl or basin with horizontal lug handle drawn from the rim. Upper surface of handle has a circular notch pierced through which has then been plugged from beneath. Possibly served to hold a wooden peg which supported another vessel in the kiln thus avoiding vessel contact.
FABRIC: GTW.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Greenish-brown glaze on interior.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: North Devon.
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(f) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Chafing dish. One (of three) raised knob surviving with handle scar below.
FABRIC: GTW.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Olive green glaze on interior surface and on rim exterior. Thin wash of glaze on exterior surface.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: North Devon.
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(g) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: jug.
FABRIC: GTW.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Dark olive green internal glaze with splashes externally.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: North Devon.
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(h) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Bowl.
FABRIC: GTW.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Internal olive green glaze.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: North Devon.
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(i) NO. SHERDS: 15 body; 1 handle; 6 base.
FORMS: Indeterminate, mostly jar, jug and bowl forms.
FABRIC: GTW.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Internal olive green and brown glazes.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: North Devon.
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(j) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.
FORM: Indeterminate, possibly bowl.
FABRIC: Hard-fired and fully reduced with very occasional quartz sand inclusions.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Interior surface has clear glaze appearing yellow over white slip. Splashes of brown glaze externally.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: North Devon slip ware ?
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(k) NO. SHERDS: 2 body.
FORM: Bowl or cup forms.
FABRIC: Buff sandy ware.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Both sherds are glazed inside and out in a clear glaze appearing yellow over a white slip.
DECORATION: One sherd with brown slip decoration.
SOURCE: Bristol/Staffordshire.
DATE: Late 17th to early 18th century.

(l) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.
FORM: Tankard.
FABRIC: Buff sandy ware.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Dark brown streaky 'mottled' glaze on both surfaces.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Bristol/Staffordshire.

DATE: 18th century.

(m) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.

FORM: Indeterminate.

FABRIC: Hard-fired pale buff fabric with sparse fine sands and occasional black inclusions.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Self-coloured, possibly slipped.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Unsourced.

DATE: Unclassified.

(n) NO. SHERDS: 1 base.

FORM: Indeterminate, nothing diagnostic.

FABRIC: White-bodied earthenware.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Self-coloured clear glaze.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Unsourced, probably Staffordshire.

DATE: Probably 19th century.

ASSOCIATED FINDS:

TYPE: Clay pipes.

NO. FRAGS: 4.

DETAILS: 4 plain stems, one with spur.

DATE: 18th or 19th century.

TYPE: Ceramic building material.

NO. FRAGS: 2.

DETAILS: Small indeterminate fragments, nothing diagnostic.

FABRIC: Both are fully oxidised.

SOURCE: One fragment is almost certainly 'local'.

DATE: Unclassified.

TYPE: Window glass.

NO. FRAGS: 1.

DETAILS: 1 fragment of clear bluish-green glass with thickened heat-rolled edge. Edge has slight curvature.

DATE: Post-medieval, 18th or 19th century.

CONTEXT: [318] From a limited area in or near the bottom of the Evaluation Trench (All one pit ?)

POTTERY:

(a) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim spout; 1 pipkin rim with rod handle; 4 body; 2 base.

FORMS: Jug, pipkin, large bowl and indeterminate.

FABRIC: GTW.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Internal brown and olive green glazes.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: North Devon and possibly some South Somerset ware.

DATE: 17th/18th century.

(b) NO. SHERDS: 1 base.

FORM: Small tea cup.

FABRIC: Porcelain.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Clear glaze.

DECORATION: Blue chinoiserie pattern on exterior and on base interior.

SOURCE: Chinese.
DATE: 18th century.

(c) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Plate ?.
FABRIC: White-bodied earthenware.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Clear glaze.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Unsourced, probably Staffordshire.
DATE: 19th century.

ASSOCIATED FINDS:

TYPE: Ceramic building material.
NO. FRAGS: 2.
DETAILS: 1 edge fragment of roofing tile and 1 indeterminate fragment.
FABRIC: Both are hard-fired and fully oxidised.
SOURCE: Unsourced.
DATE: Post-medieval.

TYPE: Vessel glass.
NO. FRAGS: 1.
DETAILS: Fragment from base of bottle/container in thin bluish-green glass. Oval with two flattened sides. Incipient iridescent weathering.
DATE: Post-medieval, 18th or 19th century.

TYPE: Window or vessel glass.
NO. FRAGS: 1.
DETAILS: Flat fragment in thin bluish-green glass. Window or possibly from flat-sided container.
DATE: Post-medieval, 18th or 19th century.

TYPE: Oyster shell.
NO. FRAGS: 1.

CONTEXT: [302] Pit at north end of petrol intercept trench.

POTTERY:

(a) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim with handle.
FORM: Narrow-mouthed vessel with oval handle drawn from the rim. Candlestick or costrel ?.
FABRIC: Hard-fired and fully oxidised. Tempered with quartz grits and occasional black inclusions.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Exterior surface has a yellowish-green glaze over a white slip.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: South Somerset ?.
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(b) NO. SHERDS: 2 joining base.
FORM: Indeterminate.
FABRIC: White-bodied earthenware.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Clear glaze.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Unsourced.
DATE: Late 18th or 19th century.

ASSOCIATED FINDS:

TYPE: Clay pipe.

NO. FRAGS: 1.

DETAILS: Small bowl with decorative moulding and damaged spur. Pipes with the same decoration were recovered from Church Street, Carmarthen. These were identified by Gill Evans (Brennan et al. 1996, 90, Fig.30, nos.203-4).

DATE: 19th century.

CONTEXT: [303]

POTTERY:

NO. SHERDS: 1 body ?.

FORM: Amphora ?.

FABRIC: Salmon-pink sandy fabric with occasional red grog ? and white inclusions.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Abraded surfaces, possibly slipped externally.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Unclassified, Continental import ?.

DATE: Roman.

CONTEXT: [306]

POTTERY:

(a) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.

FORM: Indeterminate.

FABRIC: Severn Valley ware. Orange-red with a grey core. Tempered with occasional quartz sands and red grog inclusions, slightly micaceous.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Self-coloured surfaces.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Severn Valley region.

DATE: Roman, 1st-4th century.

(b) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.

FORM: Indeterminate.

FABRIC: Hard-fired reduced fabric with occasional black inclusions.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Dark olive green interior glaze with thin wash of glaze on exterior.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Devon or Somerset ?.

DATE: Post-medieval, 17th/18th century.

(c) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.

FORM: Indeterminate.

FABRIC: Fairly hard with grey interior and buff-orange exterior. Tempered with fine sands, larger quartz grits, occasional gravels and black mica plates.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Olive green interior glaze.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Local/North Devon ?.

DATE: Late medieval or post medieval. ?

CONTEXT: [309]

POTTERY:

NO. SHERDS: 4 body.

FORM: Indeterminate.

FABRIC: Very hard-fired, orange with a pale grey core. Tempered with sparse quartz and a little fine mica.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Self-coloured surfaces.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Uncertain but possibly Merida-ware ie. Iberian Spanish or Portuguese.

DATE: Post-medieval, 16th century.

ASSOCIATED FINDS:

TYPE: Ceramic building material.

NO. FRAGS: 10.

DETAILS: Mostly indeterminate tile or brick fragments. Diagnostic pieces include roman imbrex fragments and at least one fragment of tegula.

FABRIC: All are fully oxidised varying in colour and hardness.

SOURCE: Unsourced. A local source is quite likely.

DATE: Roman.

TYPE: Oyster shell.

NO. FRAGS: 5.

TYPE: Animal bone.

NO. FRAGS: 1.

TYPE: Worked stone.

NO. FRAGS: 1.

DETAILS: Sandstone fragment used as whetstone ?.

DATE: ?.

TYPE: Copper Alloy.

NO. FRAGS: 3.

DETAILS: nothing diagnostic. Any detail is now obscured by corrosion.

DATE: Probably Roman.

CONTEXT: [312]

POTTERY:

(a) NO. SHERDS: 1 body; 1 base.

FORMS: Dish base and indeterminate.

FABRIC: Black burnished ware (BB1).

SURFACE TREATMENT: Base sherd is burnished on interior.

DECORATION: Faint burnished decoration on exterior surface of dish.

SOURCE: Dorset ?.

DATE: Roman.

(b) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.

FORM: Dish ?.

FABRIC: Hard sandy and fully oxidised.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Self-coloured surfaces.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Unsourced.

DATE: Roman.

(c) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.

FORM: Indeterminate.

FABRIC: Hard-fired, reduced with red exterior. Tempered with sparse quartz grits and occasional small white calcareous ? inclusions.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Olive green internal glaze with splashes on exterior.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: North Devon.
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(d) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.
FORM: Bowl form.
FABRIC: Samian.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Smooth red slip.
DECORATION: Moulded decoration.
SOURCE: Gaul. Area of manufacture not identified.
DATE: Roman, 2nd century ?.

(e) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Bowl.
FABRIC: 'Caerleon ware'. Fully oxidised micaceous fabric.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Abraded surfaces originally slipped ?.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: South-East Wales ?.
DATE: Roman, 2nd century ?.

(f) NO. SHERDS: 1 body; 2 base.
FORM: Jars/cooking pots.
FABRIC: BB1, two are burnt.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Unburnished .
DECORATION: Body sherd has burnished lattice decoration.
SOURCE: Dorset.
DATE: Roman, 2nd century+.

(g) NO. SHERDS: 1 body/base.
FORM: Indeterminate. Too small to determine form.
FABRIC: Fully oxidised red sandy ware.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Self-coloured surfaces.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Unclassified.
DATE: Roman.

(h) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.
FORM: indeterminate.
FABRIC: North Devon gravel-free.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Olive green internal glaze.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: North Devon.
DATE: 17th/18th century.

(i) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.
FORM: Indeterminate.
FABRIC: Fully oxidised sandy red ware.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Brown glaze inside and out.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Unclassified.
DATE: Post-medieval. 17th/18th century.

ASSOCIATED FINDS:

TYPE: Ceramic building material.
NO. FRAGS: 20.
DETAILS: Most are indeterminate. Includes at least one brick fragment.
FABRIC: Fully oxidised varying in colour and hardness. Some are very abraded.
DATE: Roman ?.

TYPE: Animal bone.
NO. FRAGS: 14. Including burnt bone.

TYPE: Stone conglomerate.
NO. FRAGS: 1.
DETAILS: Nothing diagnostic. Mortar adhering.

TYPE: Bottle glass.
NO. FRAGS: 1.
DETAILS: Small neck fragment of bluish-green glass from prismatic or cylindrical bottle.
DATE: Roman, 1st century+.

TYPE: Oyster shell.
NO. FRAGS: 1.

CONTEXT: [313] Finds recovered from area adjacent to No. 3 Priory Street

POTTERY:

(a) NO. SHERDS: 6 rims; 3 body.
FORMS: Plain dish (Dragendorff 18/31 range) and mould-decorated bowl forms.
FABRIC: Samian.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Smooth glossy red slips.
DECORATION: One rim and two body sherds are decorated.
SOURCE: Gaul. Manufacturing centres are not identified.
DATE: Roman, 1st/2nd century.

(b) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.
FORM: Amphora. Dressel 20.
FABRIC: Classic Dressel 20 fabric.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Self-coloured.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Baetica, Southern Spain.
DATE: Roman, late 1st-early 3rd century in Britain.

(c) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Bead rim jar. Durotrigian form.
FABRIC: Fully reduced grey-black with abundant quartz sand inclusions.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Burnished surfaces.
DECORATION: None surviving.
SOURCE: Dorset ?.
DATE: Roman, 1st century.

(d) NO. SHERDS: 3 rim; 1 body; 1 base.
FORMS: Jars/cooking pots. Everted-rimmed jars
FABRIC: Burnt BB1.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Burnished exterior surfaces. One rim is fire-blackened and abraded.
DECORATION: None. Decorated zones not surviving.
SOURCE: Dorset.
DATE: Roman, 2nd and 3rd century forms.

(e) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Bowl. Flat-rimmed bowl copying BB1 form.
FABRIC: Hard-fired fine grey fabric tempered with sparse quartz and occasional gravel inclusions.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Smooth black-burnished slip inside and out.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Unsourced, South-East Wales ?.
DATE: Roman, 2nd century +.

(f) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim; 2 body.
FORMS: Lid rim and indeterminate body.
FABRIC: Assorted greywares.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Self-coloured.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: South-East Wales ?.
DATE: Roman, 1st-2nd century.

(g) NO. SHERDS: 8 body; 1 base.
FORMS: Indeterminate, probable jar forms and red slip ware vessels.
FABRIC: Assorted red wares. All sherds are fully reduced.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Self-coloured, burnished and abraded red slip wares.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Unsourced. Slip-coated wares are possible 'Caerleon' products.
DATE: Roman. 1st century +.

(h) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.
FORM: Indeterminate, probable jar form.
FABRIC: Classic Severn Valley ware.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Self-coloured.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Severn Valley region.
DATE: Roman, 1st century +.

(i) NO. SHERDS: 1 flange.
FORM: Mortarium ?.
FABRIC: Hard-fired, off-white and granular with abundant sand temper.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Thin orange slip wash.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Verulamium region ?.
DATE: Roman, 1st/early 2nd century ?.

(j) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.
FORM: Indeterminate. Flagon/jug ?.
FABRIC: Hard-fired, off-white with a thin light grey core. Granular fabric tempered with sands and occasional small red inclusions.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Orange-coloured wash on exterior ?.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Unsourced import.
DATE: Roman ?.

(k) NO. SHERDS: 1 base.
FORM: Indeterminate.
FABRIC: Hard-fired reduced fabric with a little fine sand, grey-black gravels and occasional white inclusions.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Greenish-brown interior glaze.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: North Devon ?.
DATE: 17th/18th century.

ASSOCIATED FINDS:

TYPE: Ceramic building material.
NO. FRAGS: 5
DETAILS: One imbrex and four indeterminate fragments.
FABRIC: Fully oxidised, varying in colour and hardness.
DATE: Roman.

TYPE: Bottle glass.

NO. FRAGS: 1.

DETAILS: Neck and rim of cylindrical or square bottle in bluish-green glass.

Part of angular ribbon handle survives below rim. Horizontal scratch marks on lower part of neck show attachment of a stopper.

DATE: Roman. (Produced from c.43 A.D. to end of 2nd century). A long-lived form common from the late 1st century.

TYPE: Vessel/bottle glass.

NO. FRAGS: 1.

DETAILS: Small bluish-green fire-distorted fragment.

DATE: Roman.

TYPE: Coin. Conservation and specialist analysis .

NO. FRAGS: 1 complete.

DETAILS: Silver coin ?. Detail obscured by corrosion.

DATE: Roman ?.

TYPE: Iron.

NO. FRAGS: 3.

DETAILS: 3 building nails.

DATE: Roman ?.

TYPE: Lead.

NO. FRAGS: 1.

DETAILS: 1 small strip of lead. Waste/clipping ?.

DATE: Roman ?.

TYPE: Clay pipe.

NO. FRAGS: 1.

DETAILS: 1 plain stem.

DATE: 18th or 19th century.

TYPE: Animal bone.

NO. FRAGS: 1.

TYPE: Oyster shell.

NO. FRAGS: 1.

CONTEXT: [319] From sewer test pit on far SW side of site. Approx. 1.2m down in apparent Roman layer. Probably not a fill of a cut feature.

POTTERY:

(a) NO. SHERDS: 1 body/base.

FORM: Indeterminate.

FABRIC: Samian.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Smooth red slip on the one surviving surface.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Gaul. Manufacturing centre not identified.

DATE: Roman, 1st century +.

(b) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim and 1 joining flange.

FORM: Mortarium. Upstanding bead rim with short flange, hooked at the tip.

FABRIC: Hard-fired sandy fabric, pale buff with salmon pink core. Tempered with fine sands and occasional red inclusions.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Quartz trituration grits internally. Orange coloured wash externally.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: Oxford region.

DATE: Roman, 3rd/4th century.

ASSOCIATED FINDS:

TYPE: Copper alloy coin ?.

NO. FRAGS: 1.

DETAILS: Fragment only. Any detail is now obscured by corrosion.

DATE: Roman.

CONTEXT: [320] From cleaning up collapse material in corbelled structure.

Identification below by *Pete Crane*

POTTERY:

(a) NO. SHERDS: 4 body/base.

FORM: Indeterminate.

FABRIC: Reduced with thin red exterior. GTW?

SURFACE TREATMENT: Glazed olive green on interior.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: North Devon?

DATE: 17th-18th century.

(b) NO. SHERDS: 3 body.

FORM: Indeterminate.

FABRIC: Hard fired and almost fully reduced with sparse brown inclusions.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Brown green glaze internally.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: North Devon?

DATE: 17th-18th century.

(c) NO. SHERDS: 3 rim.

FORM: Bowl.

FABRIC: Hard-fired and almost fully reduced. Tempered with sparse small white calcareous inclusions and quartz sands.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Brown green glaze internally.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: North Devon?

DATE: 17th-18th century.

(d) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.

FORM: Indeterminate.

FABRIC: Reduced with thin red exterior. Tempered with sparse small white calcareous inclusions and quartz sands.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Brown green glaze internally.

DECORATION: None.

SOURCE: North Devon?

DATE: 17th-18th century.

(e) NO. SHERDS: 2 rim; 3 body; 1 base.

FORM: Dish.

FABRIC: Mostly reduced. Thin red slip.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Green brown glaze internally.

DECORATION: Yellow dot and basket design internally.

SOURCE: Staffordshire?

DATE: 18th century.

(f) NO. SHERDS: 1 handle.

FORM: Jug?

FABRIC: Reduced.

SURFACE TREATMENT: Dark brown external glaze, no internal surface survives.

DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Bristol?
DATE: 18th century?

(g) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim?
FORM: Lid?
FABRIC: Reduced with good amount of gravel.
SURFACE TREATMENT: None.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Local or North Devon.
DATE: Post-medieval.

ASSOCIATED FINDS:

TYPE: Clay pipe.
NO. FRAGS: 3.
DETAILS: Fragments only.
DATE: Post-medieval.

TYPE: Glass bottle.
NO. FRAGS: 2.
DETAILS: Fragments only.
DATE: 17th-18th century.

CONTEXT: [321] From corbelled structure.

(a) NO. SHERDS: 1 base.
FORM: Bowl form?
FABRIC: Samian.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Smooth red slip.
DECORATION: Rouletting.
SOURCE: Gaul. Area of manufacture not identified.
DATE: Roman, 2nd century?

ASSOCIATED FINDS:

TYPE: Floor tile.
NO. FRAGS: 1.
DETAILS: Fragment only of inlaid tile.
DATE: 14th-15th century?

CONTEXT: [322] From fill within corbelled structure.

a) NO. SHERDS: 1 body.
FORM: Bowl form?
FABRIC: Samian.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Smooth red slip.
DECORATION: None.
SOURCE: Gaul. Area of manufacture not identified.
DATE: Roman, 2nd century?

(b) NO. SHERDS: 1 rim.
FORM: Plate.
FABRIC: China.
SURFACE TREATMENT: Buff slip with very fine black flecks.
DECORATION: Lattice in curved panels on rim only.
SOURCE: Unknown.
DATE: 17th-18th century?

APPENDIX 2: RECORD NUMBERS ALLOCATED

201-300	Section numbers for evaluation trench. Last number used 206
301-400	Context numbers. Last number used 324
401-500	Photographic numbers. Last number used 452
501-600	Drawing numbers. Last number used 504

APPENDIX THREE: CATALOGUE OF EVALUATION AND WATCHING BRIEF ARCHIVE

The project archive has been indexed and catalogued according to National Monument Record (NMR) categories and contains the following:

- A. Copy of final report.
- B. Site records, including context record sheets and site notebook.
- C. Drawing catalogue and site drawings.
- D. Site photographs - catalogue, colour slide, colour prints and B/W prints.
- E. Finds catalogue, individual finds record and finds report.
- G. List of references, including primary and secondary sources.
- I. Archive report and draft copies of final report.
- M. Miscellaneous correspondence.

There is no material in categories F, H, J, K, L and N.

The archive is currently held by Cambria Archaeology Field Operations, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire as project number PRN 39116.

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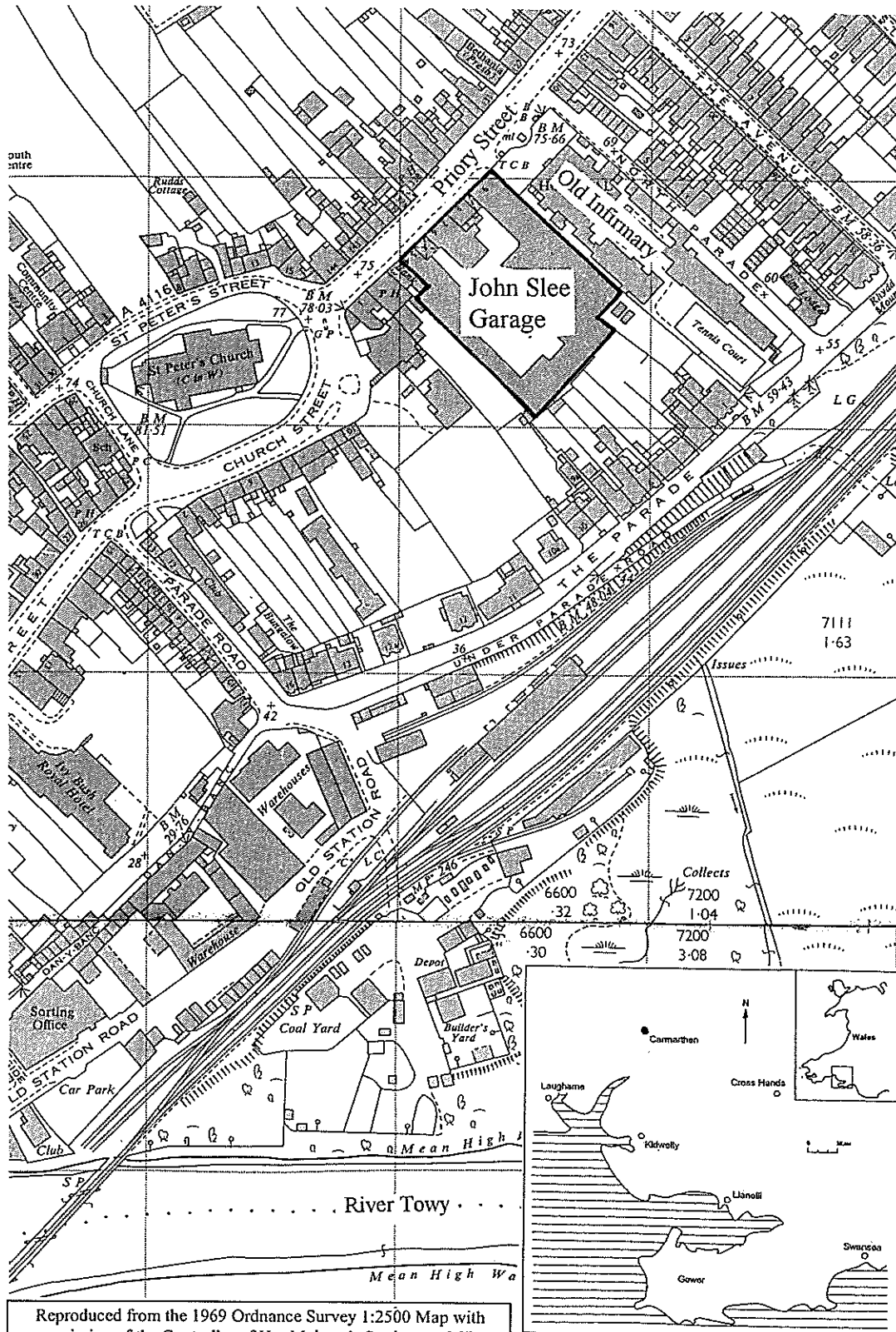
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Figure 1 Location of former John Slee Garage



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Figure 2 Roman Carmarthen

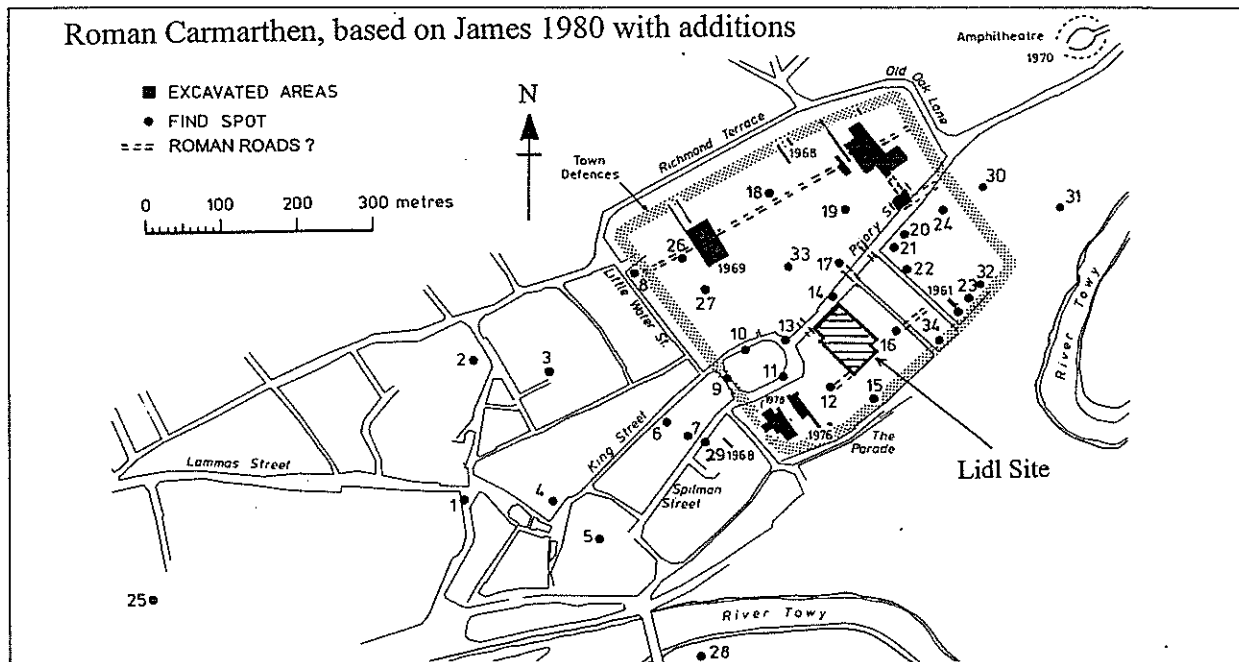
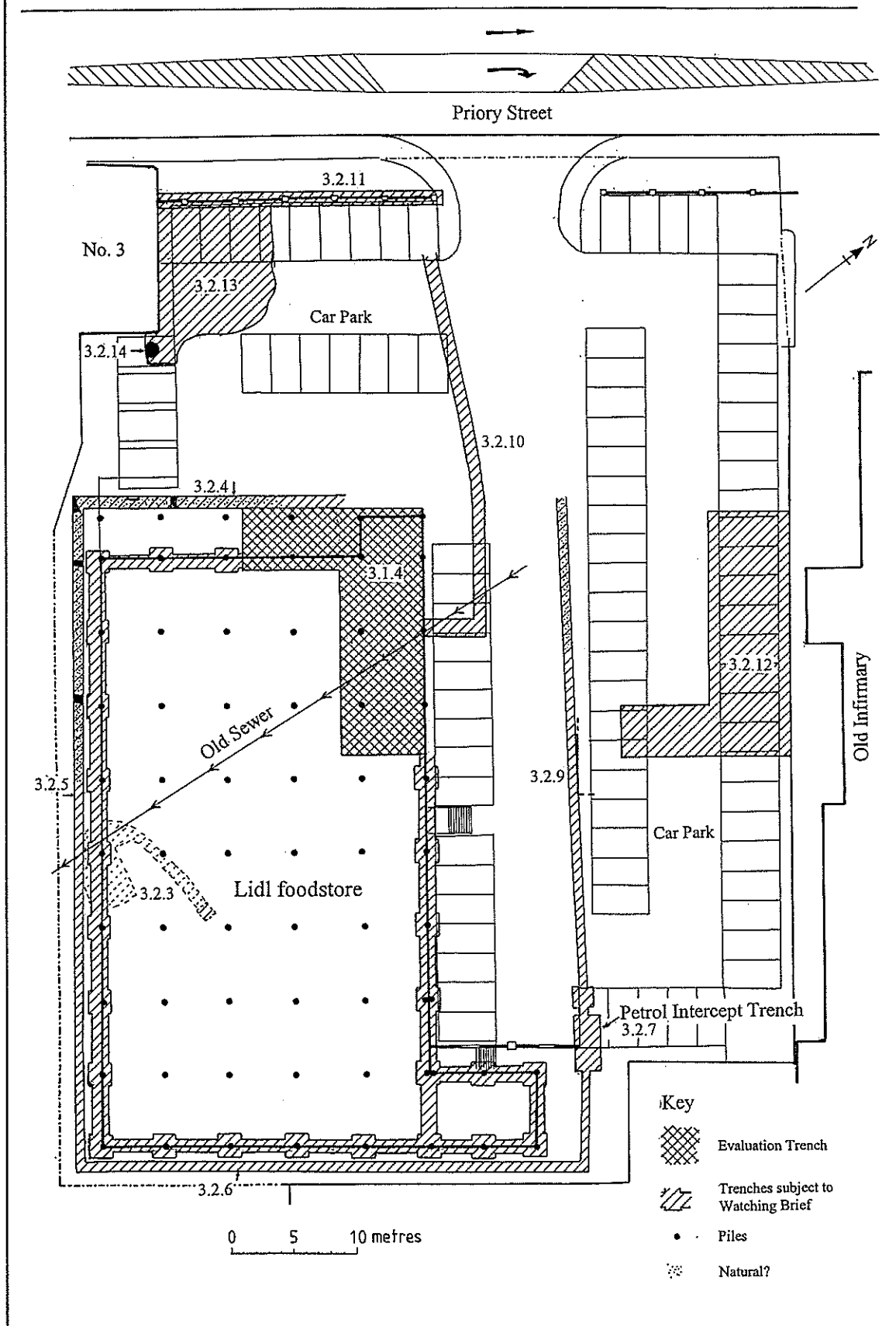


Figure 3 Lidl Site: Evaluation and Watching Brief Locations



20-280m OD

A

very modern

pipe

B

very modern mottled + mortar

wall

"garden" soil, dark clay loam

possible flat bottom of pit

possible un-excavated pit fill

possible outlet pipe trench

0 1 metre

1 = mottled orange brown silty clay

2 = dark brown silty clay

Figure 5 Part of the Tithe Map 1838 of Carmarthen, St Peter's

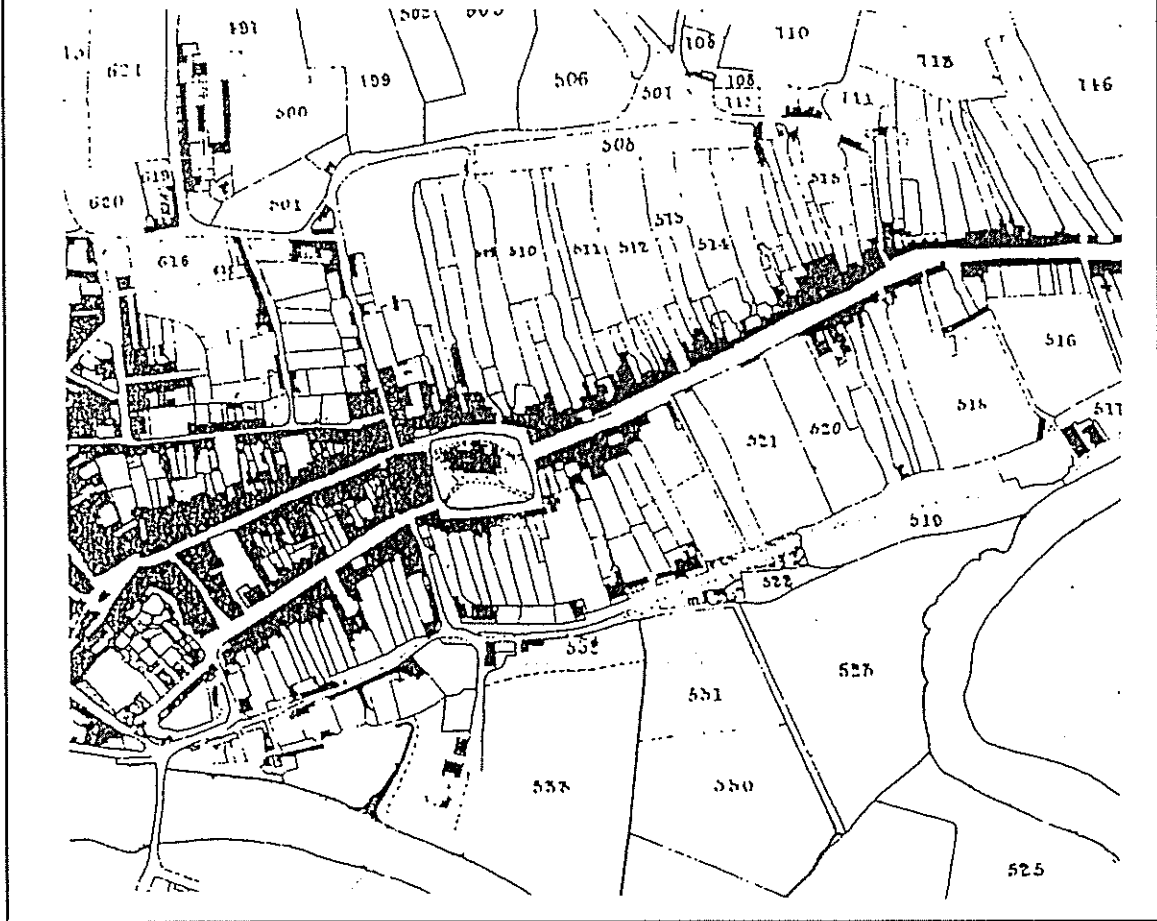
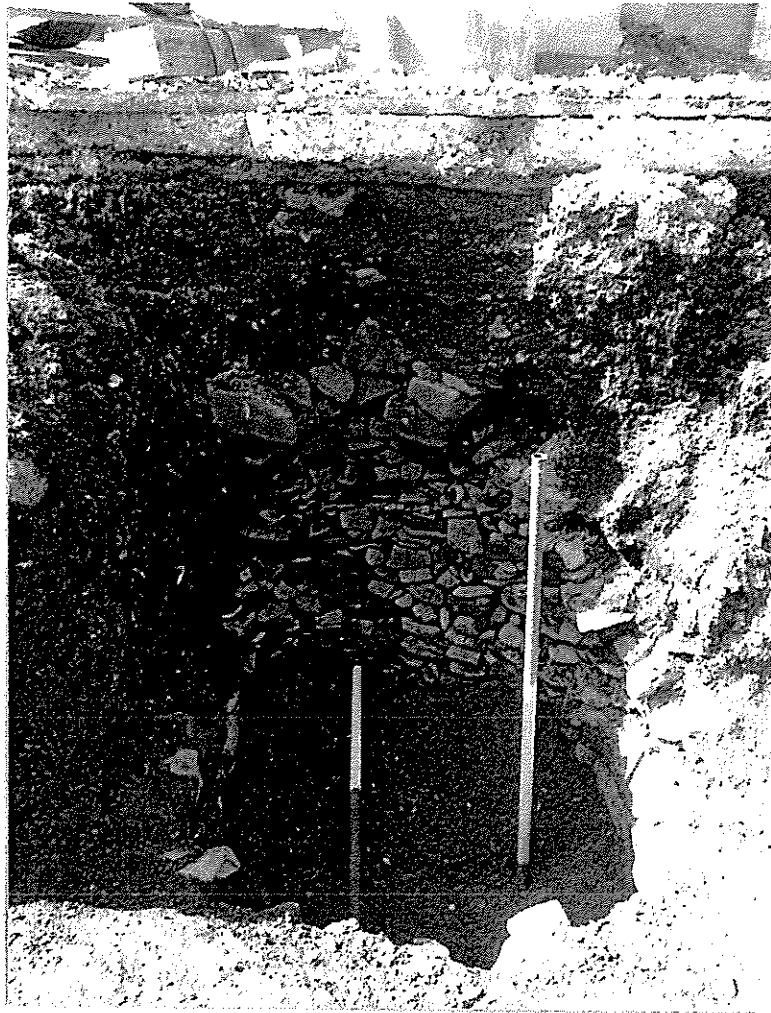


Figure 6 Corbelled Structure Located behind No. 3 Priory Street



**LIDL FOODSTORE SITE, PRIORY STREET CARMARTHEN. 2000
SITE OF THE FORMER JOHN SLEE GARAGE**


ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND WATCHING BRIEF

REPORT NUMBER 2000/52

FEBRUARY 2001

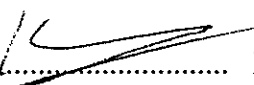
This report has been prepared by Pete Crane

Position Senior Archaeologist

Signature  Date 15/02/2001

This report has been checked and approved by Ken Murphy on behalf of Cambria Archaeology,
Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Position Principle Archaeologist

Signature  Date 16.02.01

As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any comments you may have
on the content or presentation of this report