

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, MYDDFAI

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Report No. 2002/77

Report Prepared for:
ROGER CLIVE POWELL ARCHITECTS

CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

REPORT NO. 2002/77
PROJECT RECORD NO. 46408

NOVEMBER 2002

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, MYDDFAI

By

Hubert Wilson

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH, MYDDFAI

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SUMMARY

Works to improve the groundwater drainage around St. Michael's Church, Myddfai (PRN 4090) at SN77233013 required an archaeological watching brief. The scheme architect, Roger Clive Powell Architects commissioned Cambria Archaeology Field Operations to undertake the watching brief.

The shallow nature of most of the trenches ensured that few deposits of archaeological interest were exposed. Three human burials were partially exposed but left undisturbed along the north wall of the vestry. They all pre-date the construction of the vestry in the 19th century. Part of the large stone foundations for the medieval church were also recorded in section.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT COMMISSION

Drainage works around St. Michael's Church, Myddfai (PRN 4090) at SN77233013 required an archaeological watching brief. Roger Clive Powell Architects commissioned Cambria Archaeology Field Operations to undertake the watching brief.

1.2 SCOPE OF PROJECT

The project was intended to record any features or deposits of archaeological interest exposed during the drainage works and to collect any disarticulated bone for reburial.

1.3 REPORT OUTLINE

This report describes the physical environment of the site (Section 2) before outlining the watching brief results and the conclusions (Section 3).

1.4 ABBREVIATIONS

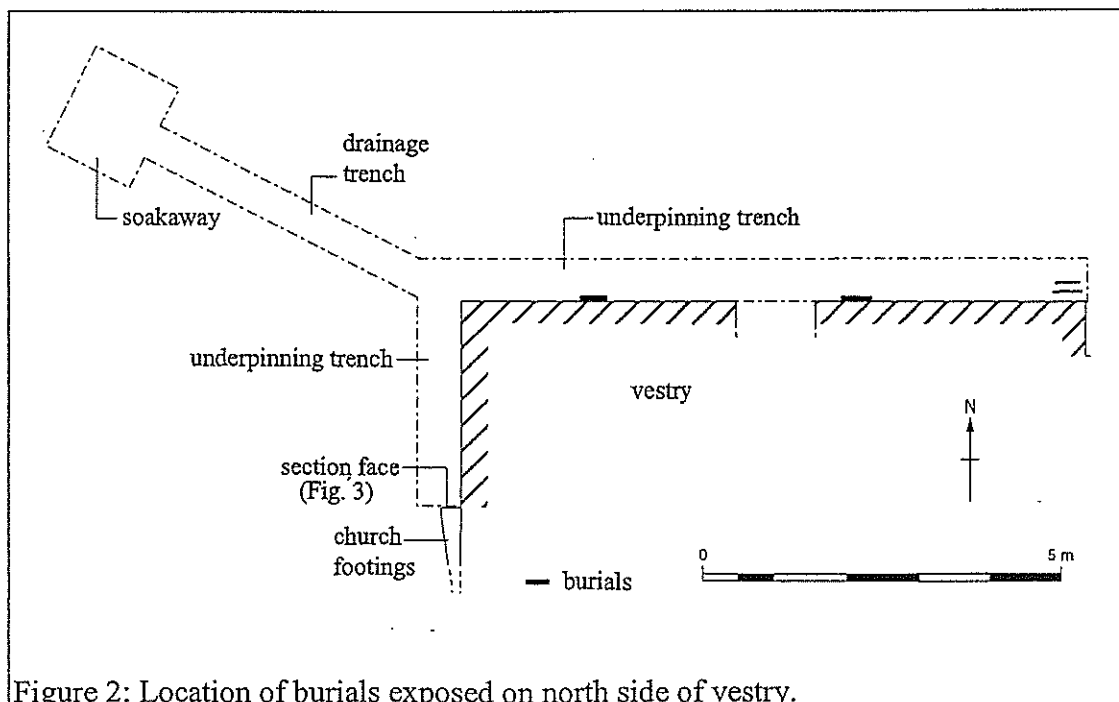
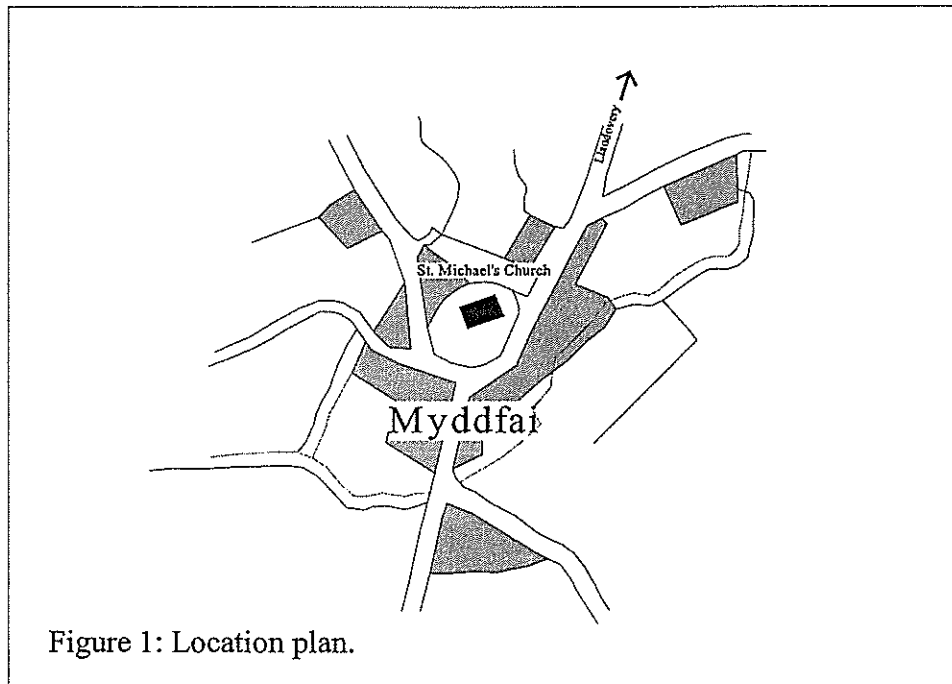
Sites recorded on the county Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) will be identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR).

Archaeological features and contexts will be referred to using the continuous three-figure numbering system (e.g. 001; 010; 100) employed by Cambria Archaeology Field Section.

2. THE SITE

2.1 LOCATION

St. Michael's Church (PRN 4090) stands in a roughly circular churchyard the centre of the village of Myddfai at SN77233013. It is a seven-cell building including a chancel, nave, north chapel, north aisle, south porch, vestry and a gas plant. The chancel, nave, north chapel and north aisle are all medieval in date. The south porch was added in the early 17th century, the vestry during the 19th century and the gas plant in 1926 (Ludlow 1998).



3. THE WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS

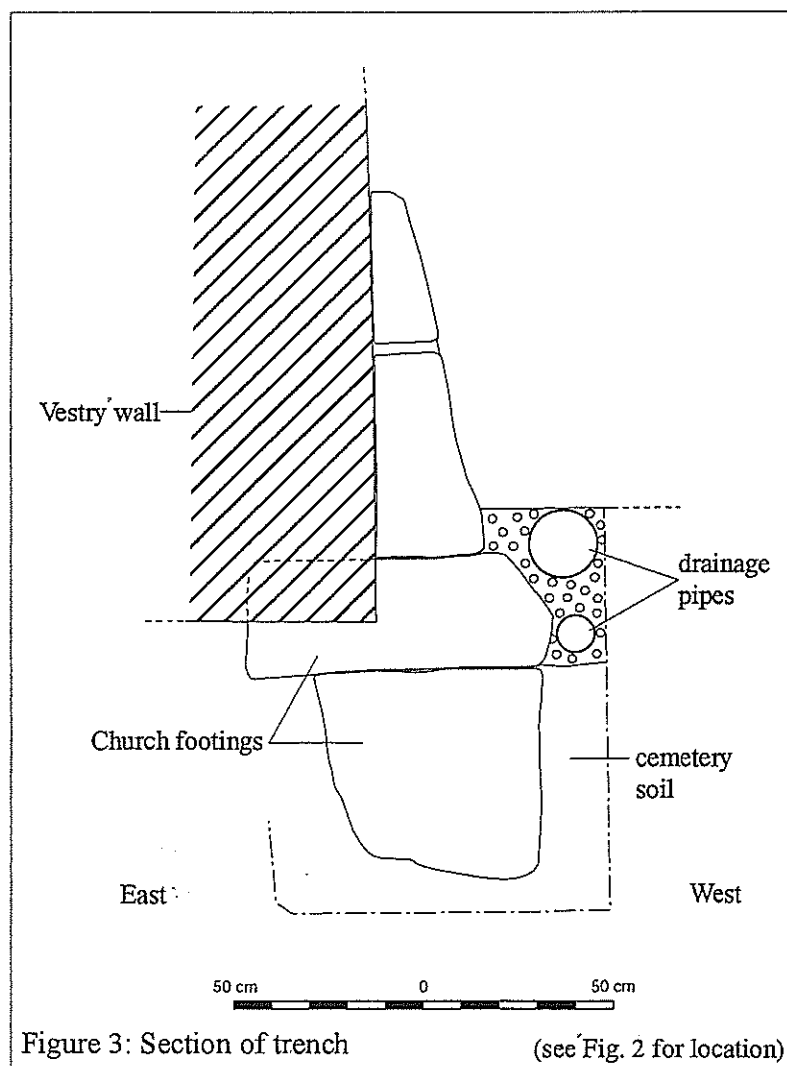
3.1 METHODS

New drains were required around the church building to aid the ground water run-off. The insertion of the drains was carried out at the same time as a programme of underpinning around the north and west walls of the vestry. The drainage trenches were fairly shallow, c.0.3-0.5m deep, and ran along the outer face of the walls.

3.2 THE RESULTS OF THE WATCHING BRIEF

The shallow nature of most of the trenches ensured that few deposits of archaeological interest were exposed. Three human burials were partially exposed but left undisturbed along the north wall of the vestry (Fig. 2). They all pre-date the construction of the vestry in the 19th century.

Part of the large stone foundations for the medieval church were also recorded in section (Fig. 3).



APPENDIX ONE: CATALOGUE OF 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 – digital images.
- I.** Archive report and draft copies of final report.
- J.** Publication drawings.
- M.** Miscellaneous correspondence.

There is no material in categories **E, F, G, H, K, L** and **N**.

The archive is currently held by Cambria Archaeology Field Operations, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire as project number 46408.

SOURCES

- Ludlow N D 1998 'Myddfai Church Report: Carmarthenshire (Dinefwr) Churches, 1997-8'. Unpublished Cambria Archaeology report for Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments. Llandeilo. Project No. DAT48.


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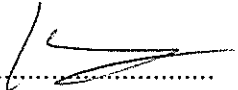
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on the content or presentation of this report