1 AND 2 GREEN VILLAS, CARDIGAN

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION 2003



Report No. 2003/99

Report Prepared for: CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL



CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

REPORT NO. 2003/99 PROJECT RECORD NO. 49166

OCTOBER 2003

1 and 2 Green Villas, Cardigan archaeological investigation 2003

by
Tom Jamieson
with contributions from
Simon Wardle, Paul Courtney & Martin Locock

Cambria Archaeology is the marketing name of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited.

The report has been prepared for the specific use of the client. The Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd can accept no responsibility for its use by any other person or persons who may read it or rely on the information it contains.

ARCHAEOLEG CAMBRIA
Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf
Neuadd y Sir, Stryd Caerfyrddin, Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA19 6AF
Ffon: Ymholiadau Cyffredinol 01558 823121
Adran Rheoli Treftadaeth 01558 823131
Ffacs: 01558 823133
Ebost: cambria@acadat.com Gwefan: www.acadat.com

CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY
Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited
The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF
Tel: General Enquiries 01558 823121
Heritage Management Section 01558 823131
Fax: 01558 823133

Email: cambria@acadat.com Website: www.acadat.com

The Trust is both a Limited Company (No. 1198990) and a Registered Charity (No. 504616) CADEIR YDD CHAIRMAN: B.C.BURNHAM, MA PHD FSA MIFA. CYFARWYDDWR DIRECTOR: E G HUGHES BA MIFA

1 AND 2 GREEN VILLAS, CARDIGAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION 2003

CONTENTS	PAGE
Summary	1
Introduction	2
Location and topography	2
The excavation	3
Medieval remains	4
Post-medieval features	9
The cottages by Simon Wardle	15
Discussion	24
Conclusions	27
Acknowledgements	27
Appendix 1: The mortar samples by Martin Locock	28
Appendix 2: Medieval and later pottery by Paul Courtney	29
Appendix 3: 1 and 2 Green Villas structural element	
descriptions by Simon Wardle	32

- Figure 1: Location map showing the excavation site and Cardigan Castle
- Figure 2: Location of excavation in rear yard of No.2 Green Villas
- Figure 3: Plan of exposed medieval wall (134) and inner edge of defensive ditch (155)
- Figure 4: Sections through foundation trench 150
- Figure 5: North-facing section showing results of wall robbing and later features
- Figure 6: Plan of post-medieval wall 121
- Figure 7: Ground floor plan of Nos.1 and 2 Green Villas
- Figure 8: First floor plan of Nos.1 and 2 Green Villas
- Plate 1: Medieval wall 134 looking east.
- Plate 2: A view along the inner edge of the defensive ditch 155.
- Plate 3: Post-medieval wall 121 over medieval wall 134.
- Plate 4: A view south along wall 121 showing the rubble 132 behind.
- Plate 5: A general view east of the rear yard area prior to excavation. The former stable block of No.2 Green Villas is visible in the background and the floor and east wall foundation of the brewhouse of No.1 are visible in the foreground.
- Plate 6: A view of the rear extensions on Nos. 1 and 2 Green Villas during renovation works.
- Plate 7: Fireplace inserted in to the party wall of No.1. Note how the fireplace was subsequently reduced in height by the insertion of a second mantel.
- Plate 8: The weathered face of the skew wall in No.1 suggests that it may originally have been an external wall.

- Plate 9: The blocked opening at the south end of the skew wall (just visible on left) in No.1
- Plate 10: The hooded niche viewed from the south.
- Plate 11: The height of the walls was raised when the outshoots were added to the rear of the cottages.
- Plate 12: Fireplace inserted into the party wall in No.2.
- Plate 13: The large inglenook fireplace in No.2
- Plate 14: The central truss in No.1 showing the carpenters' marks (IIII).

1 AND 2 GREEN VILLAS, CARDIGAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION 2003

The ancient borough of Cardigan possesses a rich bequest from past ages to the present. To imbibe its spirit we must traverse the long extent of backward time, and centre our thoughts around the grey ruins of the redoubtable castle¹.

Summary

The acquisition of Cardigan Castle and Nos. 1 and 2 Green Villas, which flank the entrance to the castle, by Ceredigion County Council provided a rare and welcome opportunity for archaeological investigation close to the castle. The history of Cardigan Castle is long but surprisingly little known, as the later history of the site has overshadowed the castle's medieval past. The visible medieval remains are generally accepted to date from the mid to late 13th century, when several rebuilding episodes took place, but it is the early 19th century remains of Castle Green House, its gardens and retaining walls that dominate the site.

This project was undertaken to record the structure of Nos. 1 and 2 Green Villas and to excavate a small area in their rear yards to assess the potential for surviving remains associated with castle.

The excavation revealed part of a medieval masonry structure that projected into the defensive ditch, the inner edge of which was also recorded. The small-scale of the excavation precluded interpretation of the nature of the structure, but it is close to one of the supposed locations for the medieval gatehouse.

The Green Villa cottages appear to date from the early 19th century and have at various times been public houses and private dwellings. It is possible that they were built as part of the overall redevelopment of the castle site. Internally the cottages have interesting elements, particularly the roof structures that are made up from reused frames from an earlier building and some former ship timbers.

Overall this project has highlighted the archaeological potential of the area around the presumed castle entrance and raised the exciting possibility that more of the medieval castle survives than previously thought.

1

¹ Horsfall-Turner E 1902, Walks and wanderings in County Cardigan: being descriptive sketch of its picturesque, historic, antiquarian, romantic and traditional features. Bingley. Thomas Harrison and Sons, p.161

Introduction

Ceredigion County Council acquired Cardigan Castle and the adjacent Green Villas cottages in early 2003 and instigated this project to investigate and record the cottages and the area outside the present castle entrance. The Council's intention is to renovate the cottages as offices in the first instance and as some form of 'gateway' to the castle in the longer term. This provided an opportunity to record the construction and fixtures of the cottages and at the same time carry out an archaeological excavation in the rear yard of the cottages in order to assess the presence or otherwise of any buried features associated with the castle.

Cardigan's medieval castle has all but disappeared as it has become metaphorically and, in some places, physically subsumed into Castle Green House and the later history of the site. This has meant that, unlike most other Welsh castle towns, Cardigan has seen little previous study of its castle by historians, antiquarians or archaeologists. Indeed, some antiquarians were fairly dismissive of the castle² and only one archaeological excavation has ever been carried out within the castle grounds³. The situation is not much better outside of the castle, with only a handful of small-scale projects having taken place anywhere in the town over the last 30 years⁴. However, this project has shown that the survival of the castle structure and the potential for excavation is perhaps greater than previously thought.

Location and topography

The town of Cardigan occupies a rocky promontory some 4km from the sea, with the castle positioned on a prominent high point at the southern end of the town overlooking the Afon Teifi. The natural topography, utilised for defence by the castle builders⁵, has dictated the street pattern in the lower half of the town where the main route (The Strand leading to Bridge Street) passes around the southern half of the outcrop occupied by the castle and then rises steeply to the junction with Quay Street, opposite the excavation site. From this point the road continues north through the town as High Street.

Numbers 1 and 2 Green Villas occupy a position on the north side of Green Street (formerly Castle Lane), which now forms the narrow entrance to Cardigan Castle (Fig. 1). The Green Villas are the only surviving buildings on this side of Green Street

² Thompson M (Ed) 1983 *The Journeys of Sir Richard Colt Hoare through England and Wales 1793-1810*. Gloucester. Alan Sutton. Sir Richard Colt Hoare, writing either side of the turn of the 19th century seems to have been particularly dismissive: 'The ruins are trifling and do not form a picturesque object.' (page 42). '....A few old walls and towers mantled with ivy and built with the dingy, slatey stone of the country, on the banks of the River Tivy, mark the ancient site of the castle.' (page 227).

³ Murphy K and O'Mahoney C 1985 'Excavation and survey at Cardigan Castle'. *Ceredigion*, vol X, 189-218.

⁴ Maynard D 1975 'Excavations in Cardigan: Volk's Bakery'. *Ceredigion*, vol VII, p350-354; James T 1983 'Excavations at Woolworth's, Cardigan'. *Ceredigion*, vol IX, p336-342; Crane P 2001 *Sewer Scheme Bridge Street, Cardigan: archaeological watching brief.* Unpublished report for Dwr Cymru. Llandeilo. Cambria Archaeology report No.2001/36.

⁵ Defoe D nd *A tour through England and Wales Vol II*. London. J M Dent (Everyman Library Edition). In the 18th century Daniel Defoe visited Cardigan and noted that 'the town is not large, has been well fortify'd, but that part of it is now wholly neglected' (page 59).

following the widening of Bridge Street in the 1920s. They were constructed sometime around the turn of the 19th century but at the time of the survey were in a decayed state with a temporary galvanised zinc roof (see below for a full description).

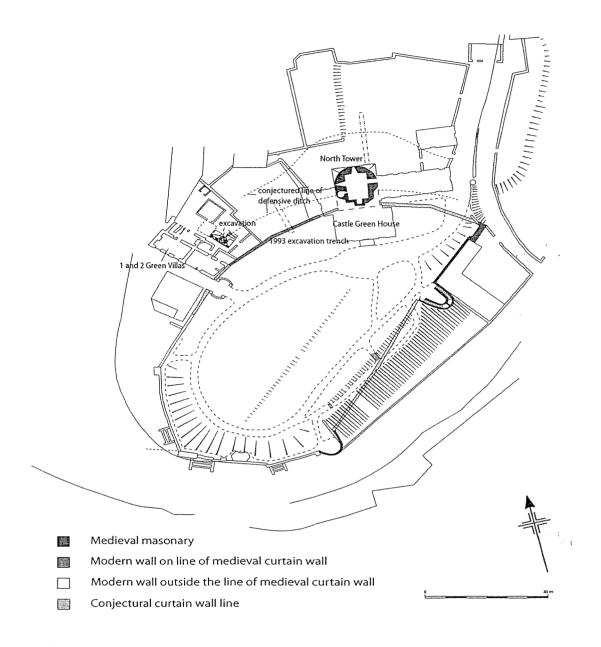


Figure 1: Location map showing the excavation site and Cardigan Castle

The excavation

The excavation took place in the irregular yard at the rear of the cottages at $c.\mathrm{SN}17774593$. The yard was formed by the rear walls of the Villas on the south side, by the front wall of a former stable building to the east, the boundary wall of Cardigan Castle on the north side and the High Street along the west side. A former small store building, now roofless, stood within the yard. Space for excavation was limited by the unstable nature of some of the surrounding walls, particularly the south gable of the derelict store building and the foundations and concrete floor of a former brewhouse

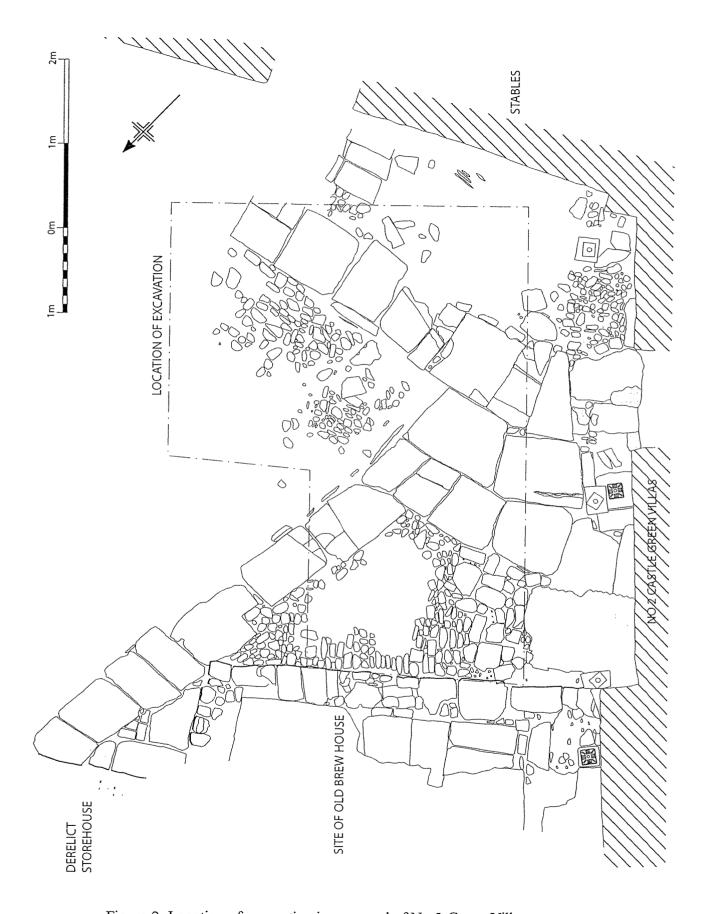


Figure 2: Location of excavation in rear yard of No.2 Green Villas

building that was demolished a few years ago. Consequently, the excavation trench was positioned in an area of discontinuous cobbles and slate slab paths behind number 2 Green Villas (Fig 2).

Following recording of the existing yard surface a trench, 5.60m in length and 1.75m in width, was excavated revealing substantial masonry remains, therefore, part of the trench was extended north to further expose as much of the structure as possible and any related surfaces. This resulted in an L-shaped trench, 5.60m east - west x 4.0m north - south and it was hand excavated to a maximum depth of c.1.90m.

Medieval remains

Wall 134 (Figs. 3 and 4; Plate 1)

The excavation was dominated by the remains of a well-built and massive mortared stone wall (134). In plan the exposed section of wall had a flared appearance and it extended beyond the east, south and west limits of the excavation. The faced portion of wall consists of a slightly curved east-west section, which ran for 2m before it turned at c.80 degrees north for 1.3m. From this point the wall was unfaced and curved to the southeast for a short distance, before taking on a more easterly, but still slightly curving course. The wall had been heavily robbed and the exposed upper surface sloped consistently towards the south and southeast, possibly indicating the direction from which the stones were removed from the wall.

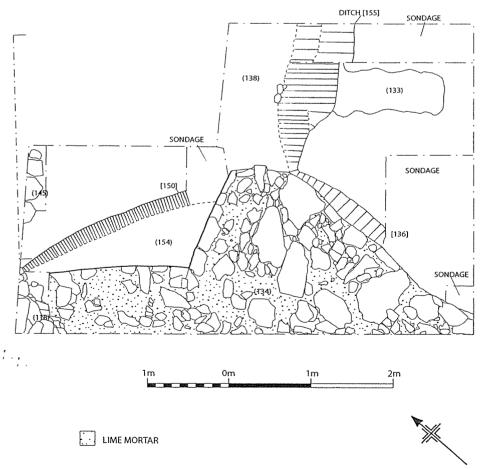


Figure 3: Plan of exposed medieval wall (134) and inner edge of defensive ditch (155)

Wall (134) sat within a foundation trench (150) cut through the underlying gravel substrata. In the base of the western part of 150 was a flat layer of mortared stones mostly slate and shale (154) that extended under the wall and probably provided a firm level base for the wall's construction. The wall itself was for the most part constructed from poorly sorted flatish green shale slabs with some large sandstone blocks, which were more common in the lower courses. The whole structure was bonded together with a moderately hard pale grey-yellow lime mortar, which had flecks of charcoal and ash used as bulking agents. It was discovered on physical inspection that this material bore similarities to mid-17th century domestic mortar types⁶.



Plate 1: medieval wall 134 looking east.

The eastern part of the wall appeared to be roughly coursed and built working from the inside out so that the wall fitted flush to the side of the foundation cut and as the foundation cut had a steep, slightly concave profile it had resulted in the foundation having a tapered base. This may have been an interesting design attribute and is possibly due to the nature of the underlying natural, as a tapered base would presumably result in the foundation being driven into, and compressing the gravel as the weight of the structure increases. On the other hand, it may just reflect the generally unstable nature of the gravel subsoil, which resulted in a slightly curving foundation trench side.

The only exposed stone facing revealed was in the northwest section of the foundation trench where the wall was stepped back from the trench edge. Here the exposed stonework was randomly coursed with flush pointing providing a fairly good face. The west facing wall section was very straight although it did get a little less even towards its base while the north facing section had a very slight but regular curve and it almost met the side of the foundation trench at the western end of the excavation.

6

⁶ See Appendix 1: The mortar samples by Martin Locock below.

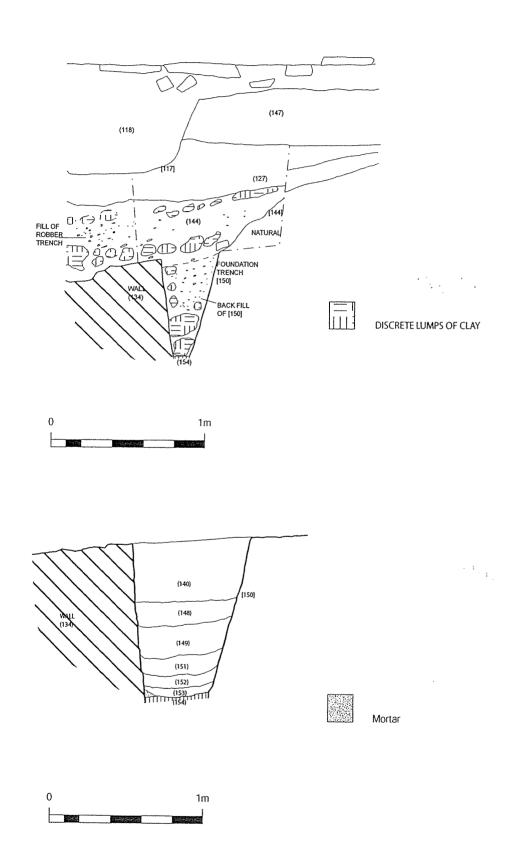


Figure 4: Sections through foundation trench 150

; . ; .

Where the wall was set back from the foundation trench edge the resulting void was backfilled with alternating bands of clay and gravel layers (140, 148, 149, 151, 152 and 153), which presumably had been redeposited in the trench following construction of the wall. These layers contained a reasonable assemblage of diagnostic pottery sherds and those recovered from layers (149, 151 and 152) dated from the 13th - 15th century, but the upper fill (140) contained pottery roughly dated to the 15th century. Therefore, the upper portion of trench 150 appears to have been finally backfilled during or after the 15th century.

The pottery collection was typical of medieval assemblages from the region, being small and predominately made-up of sherds from locally produced cooking pots and jugs, along with a smaller number of imported sherds – in this case from the Bristol region and northern France. Layer (149) contained mortar identical to that recovered from the wall (134) suggesting that this foundation trench was being backfilled as the wall was constructed. There were also two pieces of what appeared to be iron slag and small flecks of charcoal staining discovered in layer (148).

Defensive ditch 155 (Fig. 3; Plate 2)

Foundation trench 150 cut through the gravel subsoil on what appeared to be the inner edge of the defensive ditch (155), which extended north from wall 134. As excavated, the upper edge of the ditch sloped down to the west at an angle of c.20 degrees, before dropping to a steeper angle of c.60 degrees to a relatively flat step, which extended west beyond the excavated area. A sherd of medieval pottery of a type very similar to that recovered from within the foundation trench (see above) was recovered from what appeared to be a thin layer of primary silting (138) on the surface of the step. Layer 138 was c.2-3cm thick and consisted of silt and gravel washed out from the upper side of the ditch onto the step.



Plate 2: A view along the inner edge of the defensive ditch 155.

Some time after the accumulation of layer 138 the top edge of the ditch appeared to have been consolidated by the addition of a layer of mixed yellow/red clay (133), which extended down the upper face of the ditch to the level of the step and for short distance back from the edge of the ditch to the east. This resulted in a raised lip along the top edge of the ditch and the ground surface to the east of the ditch sloped gently away at 10-15 degrees.

The ditch has also been recorded in two locations to the north of the site – to the north and west of the surviving north tower⁷ – and its line around the northwest section of the castle now seems to be fairly well defined. The identification of the line of the inner edge of the ditch suggests that wall 134 was part of structure that, like the north tower, projected into the ditch.

Post-medieval features

Post-medieval activity was recorded throughout the excavation, although it was not always possible to characterise some of the features with any certainty.

Wall robbing (Fig. 5)

Wall 134 appears to have been robbed of its stone during at least two separate incidents, although they may have occurred over a very short time period. The earliest phase of robbing is evident as a layer of mortar rich gravel (146) that directly overlay the wall. The gravel contained sherds of locally produced medieval cooking pots of the same type and date as those recovered from the foundation trench. The mortar rich nature of (146) suggests that it was deposited during the robbing of wall (134), with the pottery resulting from the disturbance of deposits within trench (150). This appears to have occurred when the wall was robbed out to such a depth that it was lower than the adjacent foundation trench backfill, which then collapsed and spread across the robbed wall. Above 146 and sealing trench 150 was a mixed layer of redeposited clay and gravel (144), which was similar to the material that filled the foundation trench (150).

A second phase of robbing of wall 134, which seems to have been confined to the eastern part of the wall (the section under post-medieval wall 121 – see below) was represented by a cut (136 – not illustrated), which extended over the eastern half of the wall and also by a much thicker band of degraded mortar (128), which overlay the redeposited layer 144. This band of mortar was centred on the widest part of the wall and extended over an area $3.40 \,\mathrm{m} \times 1.75 \,\mathrm{m}$ and was up to $0.08 \,\mathrm{m}$ deep. A large sherd of North Devon Sgraffitto ware dating to c.1625 or later along with the other pottery sherds recovered from this layer indicates a mid 17^{th} century or later date.

Within cut 136 in the southeast corner of the trench was a rubble layer consisting of a poorly sorted mix of slate, sandstone, cobbles and discrete pieces of mortar (132 – fig 6). This rubble is presumably made up of the stones not considered worth salvaging during the robbing out process.

⁷ Murphy and O'Mahoney 1985, op. cit., p200-201 and Fig.X.9.

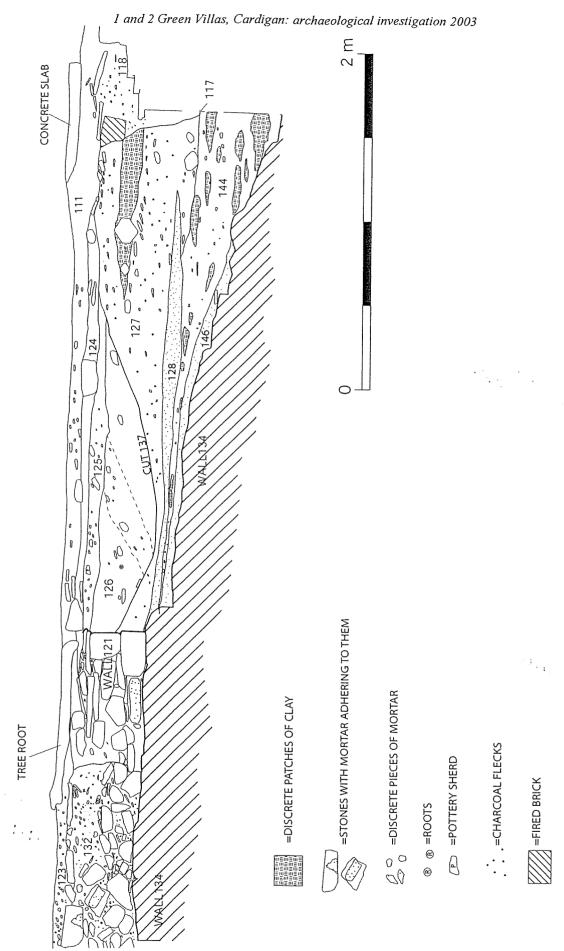


Figure 5: North-facing section showing results of wall robbing and later features

Wall 121 (Fig. 6; Plates 3 and 4)

It may also have been at this stage that the next phase of construction took place with an earth bonded wall (121) built running north south across the robbed out medieval wall (134) and contained within the medieval foundation cut (150). Wall 121 was fairly substantial, 1.20m wide x 0.40m high x at least 2m long, although as it extended south beyond the limit of the excavation and may have continued under the cottage to the south, its length was not determined. This wall survived up to four courses high and was reasonably well-faced on its west side using fairly regular sandstone blocks and capped with flat green shale slabs. The core of the wall was constructed from unsorted rubble and earth. The west face of the wall roughly continued the line of the inner edge of the medieval ditch 155.

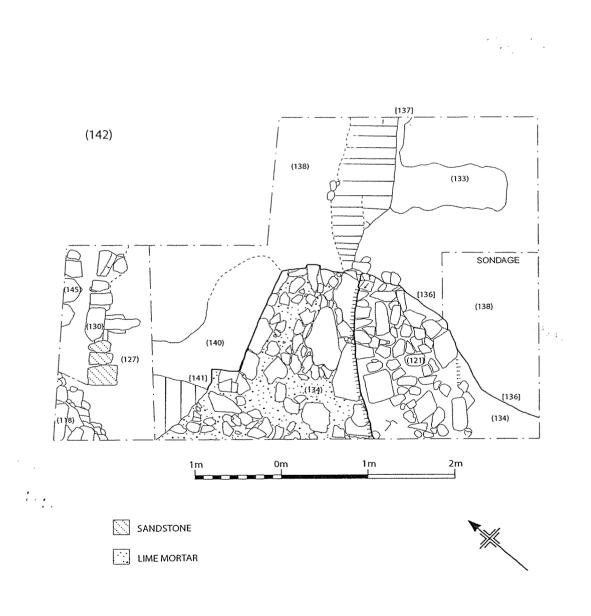


Figure 6: Plan of post-medieval wall 121

The rear face of this wall was not faced in any way and it appeared to butt up to the rubble layer (132) behind, although the irregular nature of the rear face made it difficult to be certain. It is possible that the material for the construction of wall (121) came from the rubble. Although two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from a band of clay (143) at the base of this wall, it appears that the clay was almost certainly part of the original backfill of (150) which had slumped in after the original wall was robbed out.



Plate 3: Post-medieval wall 121 over medieval wall 134.



Plate 4: A view south along wall 121 showing the rubble 132 behind.

The spread of degraded mortar $(128 - \sec \text{ Fig 5})$ appeared to butt up against wall (121) where it meets the southern section of the excavation trench suggesting that it was deposited later than, or at the same time as the wall was built. However, it is

equally possible that 128 was truncated by the insertion of wall 121 and was therefore earlier.

What is apparent is that at some point after the construction of wall (121) the whole area to the west of the wall and the medieval ditch edge had been backfilled with a very dark charcoal rich soil (127). This material extended across the whole of the trench and is consistent with material built up from domestic waste dumping. It contained a fair degree of pottery sherds, charcoal flecks and animal bone, many of which have evident butchery marks. It is interesting to note that although there were a number of dog bones none were articulated as would be expected if the animals were either dumped or buried. It is likely that this context was in fact the result of old refuse material being used to level up this area.

The area around the top of Quay Street, just to the west of the site was reputedly an open area used during the 18th and 19th centuries to dump rubbish⁸ and it may have been during this period that deposit 127 accumulated on the site.

Other features

A low wall (130) and crude floor (145) were constructed at some point during the levelling process (see Fig. 6). Wall (130) was a very simple low linear structure consisting of sandstone and slate stones loosely stacked without any visible means of bonding. The stones had been roughly sorted for size with the sandstone blocks being $c.0.30 \,\mathrm{m} \times 0.30 \,\mathrm{m} \times 0.08 \,\mathrm{m}$ and the slate being up to $0.50 \,\mathrm{m} \times 0.30 \,\mathrm{m} \times 0.05 \,\mathrm{m}$. The floor, which was only just visible within the trench, appeared to be a very simple surface of slates laid on the levelled ground surface. Neither the flooring or the wall had any real structural integrity and both appeared to be firmly within the matrix of (127) although the fill above the flooring was given a separate context number (129) in case it should prove to be significant. Given the limited area of this structure revealed within the trench – it extended beyond the north and west edges of the excavation and presumably under the foundations and surviving floor of the demolished small brewhouse behind No.1 Green street – it is not possible to interpret its purpose.

At some point after the area to the west of the medieval ditch (155) and wall (121) had been levelled by the deposition of 127, their line was reinstated by the cutting of a linear ditch (137) which followed the same line and presumably re-exposed wall 121 and redefined the upper edge of ditch 155 (see Fig.5). Ditch 137 was 1.75m wide, 0.35m in depth, and it extended beyond the north and south limits of the excavation. There was no real evidence of any silting in the base of this feature which indicated that it was not left open for long before presumably being deliberately backfilled. This backfilling appears to have taken place as a single event using a dirty mottled brown clay and grey silt (126), which had clearly visible tiplines. This fill was fairly rich in domestic debris which all dates to the 17^{th} century or later. In the area where this backfill butts up to wall 121 it had been covered with a rough stone layer (125), which seemed to have been used simply to cap (126) rather than to create a metalled surface as such. This layer clearly sourced some of its material from either the wall (121) or

⁸ Lewis W 1990, *The Gateway to Wales, a history of Cardigan*. Carmarthen. Dyfed County Council Cultural Services Department, p83.

the rubble layer (132) but also included patches of small well-sorted pebbles on its western edge.

In the northeast corner of the excavation trench was a much more distinct metalled surface (131). This is constructed from a fairly well sorted mix of shale, sandstone and cobbles which were well set in a layer of reddish clay (133) and pitched at approximately 45 degrees. This surface ran up to the robber trench cut 136 on its southern edge and to ditch cut 137 on its western edge. Two sherds of pottery, one of which was early 19th century, were recovered from below the cobbles indicating a date contemporaneous with the occupation of the cottages.

The cottage yard (Fig. 2; Plate 5)

The whole of the surface of the excavated area was covered with a mixed sandy silty material, which contained frequent inclusions of coal ash and slate fragments. This material was put down in a rather patchy manner and the variations were sufficient for them to be allocated different context numbers (109, 112, 115 and 119), even though were parts of the same process. These layers appear to have been laid to create a good base in which to lay a cobbled surface made up of sub-rounded cobbles, which were well sorted for size and firmly laid (106).



Plate 5: a general view east of the rear yard area prior to excavation. The former stable block of No.2 Green Villas is visible in the background and the floor and east wall foundation of the brewhouse of No.1 are visible in the foreground.

Sometime later this cobbled surface had been overlain by a number of pathways constructed from large slate slabs (103). For the most part the slabs overlay the cobbles except in the western end of the excavation trench where a new area of cobbles (110) has been inserted between the slate pathway and the brewhouse. These cobbles were flush with the slate path and the stones were more angular and less worn than the original cobbles. This area of cobbling may have been inserted because the

original cobbled surface had been damaged by the construction of the brewhouse. The slate slabs themselves show considerable evidence of wear and some have been cut to fit around doorframes and so they appear to have been recycled. Considering their similarity to the flooring inside cottage No.2 it is possible that these may have been reused from the original internal flooring of cottage No.1, which now has a modern concrete floor.

In the final phase of occupation much of the back yard seems to have been buried in topsoil to create a garden. At the eastern end of the excavation trench the area of cobbles next to the stable block seem to have been dug out and replaced with a dark rich soil (102), which was still evident at the start of excavation. The rest of the garden soil had been removed before the excavation started and so it was not possible to say if the cobbles had been removed before the garden had been created or if they were removed along with the soil at a later date. Two small stone-filled pits of uncertain date were cut through the upper garden deposits at the east and west ends of the excavation. The pit at the west end was under the foundation for the east wall of the brewhouse and appears to have been dug and filled with stone to underpin part of the brewhouse wall.

The cottages by Simon Wardle

As a compliment to the below ground archaeological work a limited structural survey of the fabric of the cottages was also undertaken. Although heavily altered and modified from their original form, numbers 1 and 2 Green Villas represented a relatively simple form of building. They were essentially one and a half storey, two bay buildings with a central doorway and symmetrical plan. They were built with coursed rubble stone bedded in lime mortar and have an external roughcast finish to the walls. Most of the external openings had been altered or blocked but some late 19th century sash windows survive in No.2.

This short row of cottages form the current approach to Cardigan Castle and Castle Green House, they are unlisted but fall within the Cardigan Conservation Area. Their original construction probably dates to the early 19th century and could be related to the landscaping and other activities within the grounds of the nearby castle during that period.

The walls of each cottage had been raised to provide an additional level of accommodation in the loft area and extra continuous outshoots had been added to the rear of each cottage. These alterations were probably undertaken towards the end of the 19th century and were probably contemporaneous with the introduction of the two over two pane sash windows into the ground and first floors of No.2, as well as other improvements and alterations within the cottages.

Number 1 Green Villas hads been heavily altered internally, the floor was concrete, all partitioning and divisions have been lost, and the western end stack rebuilt in modern brickwork. Number 2 retained its flag floor, evidence of internal partitioning and arrangement, as well as an open range in the right eastern gable wall.

It is believed that the internal scaffold and corrugated sheet roof, which were present at the time of this survey were from sometime in the early 1990s when the internal

partitions, stairs, roof covering and internal fixtures were removed because of apparent safety risks. The brewhouse that formerly stood behind No.1 was also demolished at this time.

Description of cottages (Figs. 7 and 8; Plates 6 - 14)

Note – Numbers in (brackets) refer to structural elements that are described in Appendix 1 – structural element descriptions, and shown on Figs. 8 and 9.

The Green Villa cottages comprised of two inline, two bay, one and a half storey, central entry through passage buildings (Plate 6). Originally built as single storey (possibly lofted) two bay buildings with a central through passage plan possibly at the beginning of the 19th century. Towards the end of the 19th century the cottage walls were raised to give extra space within the loft area and create in effect an extra half storey. Outshoots were also added at this stage along the rear wall of the cottages, and other internal alterations and improvements were also carried out, such as alterations to the windows and fireplaces.



Plate 6: a view of the rear extensions on Nos. 1 and 2 Green Villas during renovation works.

Number 1 Green Villas

This cottage, formerly the Half Moon public house, was regarded as too heavily altered to justify extensive survey work during the original survey and therefore this building was only subject to limited internal inspection and photographic recording. However, an opportunity arose to re-visit the cottage during construction works and previously hidden detail was revealed.

Once the interior plaster was removed it did not appear that the central party wall was bonded to the external walls, which suggests that it may have been a later insertion, although this seems somewhat unlikely. A fireplace had been inserted into party wall, which was subsequently altered to lower the mantel height (Plate 7). The only other feature of note was a skew wall in the outshoot (Plate 8), which may be from an

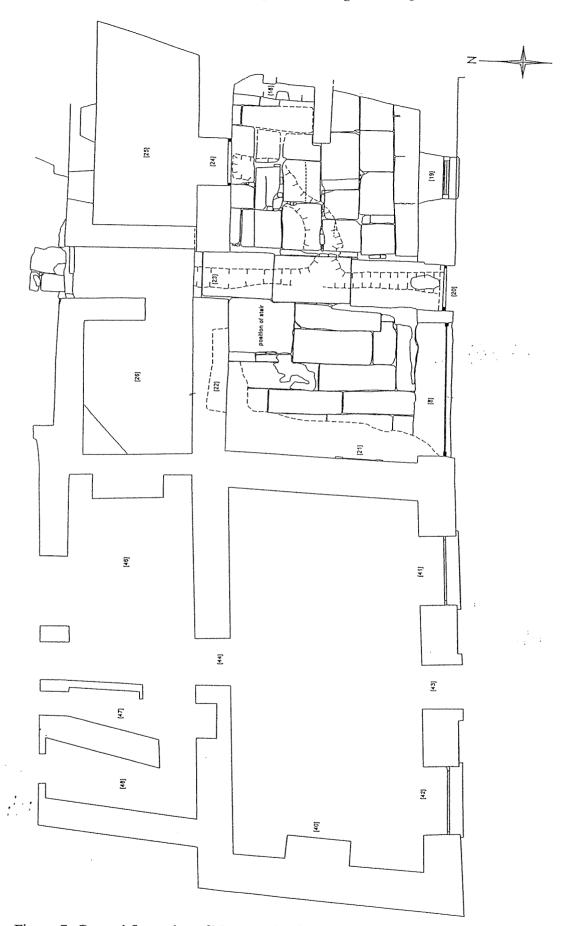


Figure 7: Ground floor plan of Nos.1 and 2 Green Villas

earlier structure and which appeared to lead to a now blocked opening in the original north wall (Plate 9). The stonework of the skew wall was far more weathered in appearance than any of the other walls is either cottage, suggesting that at some point it had been an external wall. The blocked opening in the north wall, which from the north side extended to the floor, was from the south side a small hooded niche that did not extend to ground level, but had a stepped base approximately 50cm high (Plate 10). The hood was constructed from stepped brick courses.



Plate 7: Fireplace inserted in to the party wall of No.1. Note how the fireplace was subsequently reduced in height by the insertion of a second mantel.



Plate 8: The weathered face of the skew wall in No.1 suggests that it may originally have been an external wall.



Plate 9: The blocked opening at the south end of the skew wall (just visible on left) in No. I



Plate 10: The hooded niche viewed from the south.

Number 2 Green Villas

This cottage, formerly the Castle Inn, which is on the right hand side of the pair when viewed from the front, has a greater level of historic fabric visible and retains more of

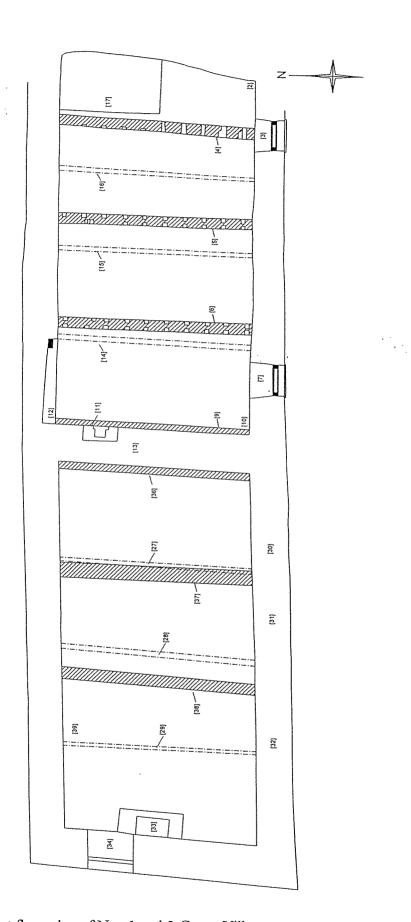


Figure 8: First floor plan of Nos.1 and 2 Green Villas

its original character as well as later alterations. The existing flag floor indicates that the cottage interior was divided into two rooms by a central (probably overlapping timber board) partition; substantial first floor beams also indicate the position of vertical posts to fix the partitioning to. This partitioning may have replaced an earlier form of subdivision of the interior using furniture.

The original layout of this cottage would have consisted of the kitchen to the right of the front door and to the left of the door an originally unheated chamber (parlour/bedroom), although a later fire was inserted in the party wall. From the evidence it is unclear if the original form of this cottage included some form of loft, either full or half, but it is safe to assume that some form of even basic additional loft accommodation was provided, probably with a simple ladder access.

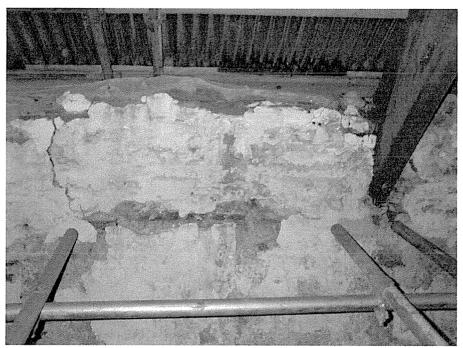


Plate 11: The height of the walls was raised when the outshhots were added to the rear of the cottages.

The major change to the form and layout of both cottages probably occurred towards the end of the 19th century when the walls were heightened and outshoots added to the rear (Plate 11). The entry passage between the outshoots was unroofed. The internal wall faces of No.2 reveal a distinctive horizontal break in the plaster finish around the line of the first floor (1) as well as a break in the bonding of the south and east and south and west walls at around 3.1m from ground level (2). Despite intrusive woody growth within the southeast corner of the cottage, it is apparent that the south and east walls are well bonded up to this level and therefore must be of one structural build phase. However, above this point the south wall abuts the east wall and is therefore of a later structural phase. This division can also be seen in the junction of the south and west walls (10) and a ledge in the west end of the north wall (12) represents the original early 19th century wall top. To light the new upper floor, two over two pane sashes were introduced to the first floor (7) & (3), and the same form of windows were also added to the ground floor (19). There was presumably a further window opening to the left of the front door, though this would have been lost through the later insertion of a larger garage door (8). To access the first floor a stair was located

within the northeast corner of the left hand room, however removal of the internal fixtures and fittings in the early 1990s had removed all trace of the stair structure leaving only a concrete base extant.

Presumably, at the same time as the walls were heightened a fireplace was also added to the western (party) wall to provide heating to the new first floor accommodation (11). A further fireplace also appears to have been added at ground floor level of this wall (21 – Plate 12). The presence of fireplaces within this wall does however indicate a shift in emphasis within the cottage, the room to the right remained the kitchen and day-to-day room, but the now heated room to the left was now the principal room for important activities. It is also likely that the current range (18) was introduced at this time, replacing a much simpler form of heating and cooking within the inglenook fireplace (plate 13).



Plate 12: Fireplace inserted into the party wall in No.2.

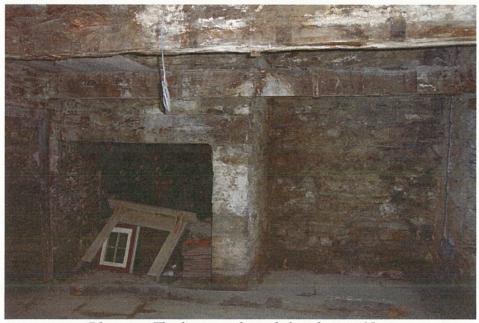


Plate 13: The large inglenook fireplace in No.2

As new rooms were created or altered upstairs and downstairs within the cottage, the dairy or pantry which would have been within one of the two principal rooms, probably the kitchen, would have been relocated into the outshoots to the rear of cottage (25) & (26). The creation of these outshoots across the rear range of both cottages necessitated raising the dividing party wall to provide an altered pitch to accommodate the lean-to roof over the outshoots (13).

One of the visibly most impressive aspects of this building is the flag floor (Fig. 8). The overall arrangement of the flags shows how the interior volume of the cottage was divided but the wear pattern of each individual flag also reveals how the room on the right was used far more regularly than the room on the left. It also indicates that much of the traffic into this room progressed directly towards the range (18) and the rear service room (24) (pantry or beer store?). This may relate to the period when this cottage was used as a public house. Some of the wear in the central passageway is believed to have been caused by horses being taken through the cottage to the stables at the rear.

It is also worth noting the truss details in both No.1 and No.2. There are three trusses forming the roof structure in each cottage; they consist of two principal rafters bridle jointed at the apex and a tying collar beam forming an 'A' frame. There is a varying range of collars and purlins, some trenched into the principal rafters and some not. There are four sets of trusses which have carpenters marks, the eastern (mark is V), the central (IIII), and western (III) truss in No.1, and the eastern truss in No.2 (II). Given the inconsistencies in purlins and collars, and that there is a total of six trusses only four of which are marked with carpenters marks in an incoherent fashion, it is save to assume that these roof timbers are reused (plate 14).



Plate 14: The central truss in No. I showing the carpenters' marks (IIII).

Discussion

The excavation results

The excavation at the rear of 1 and 2 Green Villas revealed, for the first time, structural evidence of the west side of the medieval castle and it appears to have confirmed the line of the inner edge of the northeast section of the defensive ditch. Even though it was not possible to be certain which part of the castle wall 134 represented, its position is close to one of the putative locations for the gatehouse. If this was the case, the castle could well have been approached directly from the river up the short, but steep Quay Street.

The later medieval period and the post-medieval period saw the decline and eventual abandonment of the castle and at some point, possibly post-Civil War, the structure that included wall 134 was demolished and the stone robbed, presumably for re-use somewhere else. The apparent re-definition of the line of the inner edge of the medieval defensive ditch by the construction of wall 121 and later by the cutting of shallow ditch 137 may have been part of the remodelling of the area during the 18th century, when the new Shire Hall was built on High Street and a bowling green established inside the castle grounds.

The structural survey of the Green Villa cottages showed that they are a good survival of a relatively modest style of vernacular architecture once common throughout Wales. Although much of the original fabric and internal fittings have been lost or obscured by later alterations, both cottages, in particular No.2, retain a good deal of features relating to their original layout and construction as well as later alterations and use. The chronology of the cottages is uncertain, it has been suggested that they date from the early 18th century (Glen Johnson *pers. comm.*), although the structural survey carried out during this project suggests that they are early 19th century, with reused roof timbers from an earlier building.

It also seems likely that certain elements of the cottages were part of, or at least aligned with reference to, earlier buildings or structures. The skewed east wall of cottage No.2 appears to incorporate, or be built against an existing structure, possibly the garden wall of Castle Green House, in which case a 19th century date for the cottages would appear reasonable. Likewise the skew wall in the outshoot addition to the rear of cottage No.1 appears to be on roughly the same alignment as the east wall of No.2 and when it was stripped of plaster the stones appeared to be weathered as if it had been an external wall at some time in the past (Plate 8).

One area of concern, or doubt, is that the relationship between the excavated features and the cottages was never established because the cottages were unstable and excavation was kept at a safe distance. Therefore, it is not possible to be unequivocal about the chronology of some of the later features and deposits and how they relate to the cottages. For example, wall 121 and the later shallow ditch 137 are both aligned roughly on the back door of the cottage and may be associated with landscaping in the back garden and yard areas, or they may continue beneath the cottages and therefore be earlier. This is an important consideration in any interpretation, especially now as the chronology of the cottages is uncertain. If the cottages are early 18th century (possibly before 1713) and the excavated features are earlier (but post-Civil War), this

means that they are bracketed in the later 17th century, which is not unreasonable. On the other hand if the cottages are early 19th century, then the excavated features and deposits have an extra century in which to be constructed or accumulate, effectively stretching the time frame for the formation of the site. Trying to refine the chronology of the later phases of the site should form a central part of any future investigations on or close to this site.

The medieval defences

The identification of what appeared to be the inner edge of the defensive ditch (155) in the 2003 excavation has helped to confirm its line around the northwest side of the castle. Previous work⁹ had established part of its line further to the north, in the area north and west of the surviving north tower (see Fig. 1), but this excavation has now extended that line further to the west. Evidence that the ditch may have run through this area also comes from an early 20th century photograph showing a cellar under a now demolished house that formerly stood just west of cottage No. 1¹⁰. It seems likely that the cellar was dug into the soft fill of the castle ditch during the post-medieval period. A similar situation was recently recorded outside the gatehouse of Carmarthen Castle where cellars had been inserted in the fill of the ditch against the base of the gatehouse¹¹.

The excavation also revealed evidence of a massive masonry structure (wall 134) that, like the north tower, appeared to project into the ditch and was clearly part of the defensive outer circuit of the castle. Although only a small section of structure 134 was exposed it was similar in form to the flared section of wall on the south side of the west opening in the north tower, which was also on or close to the inner edge of the ditch.

A mid- to late-13th century date for the north tower, and the other visible surviving structures, is generally accepted and it seems reasonable to suggest that structure 134 dates from the same period. This would appear to be during the major rebuilding programme that was undertaken by Walter Marshal in 1240 who, on behalf of his brother Gilbert Marshal, took possession of the castle, which had been in ruins for nine years, and protected it 'with new, and more favourable works' Work on repairing and strengthening the castle continued during the succeeding two decades under the guidance of Robert Waleran – who was installed as the King's agent in Cardigan in the mid 1240s, following the death of Gilbert Marshal, when the castle once again came into Royal possession ¹³.

One of the biggest problems with trying to place the 2003 excavation results in the overall layout of the castle is the nature of the north tower. Some authorities state that

¹⁰ Photograph reproduced in Lews W 1990, op. cit., opposite p.83.

⁹ Murphy and O'Mahoney 1985, op. cit.

¹¹ Sclee D 2004, Carmarthen Castle: excavations outside the gatehouse, June-August 2003. Llandeilo. Unpublished cambria Archaeology report No.2004/22.

¹² Meyrick S 1810 (reprint1907), *The History and antiquities of the county of Cardiganshire*. Brecon, p.170.

p. 170. Murphy and O'Mahoney 1985, *op. cit.*, p. 192; Griffiths R 1990, 'The making of medieval Cardigan'. Ceredigion vol.XI, p97-133; Horsfall-Turner E 1902, *Walks and wanderings in County Cardigan: being descriptive sketch of its picturesque, historic, antiquarian, romantic and traditional features.* Bingley. Thomas Harrison and Sons, p. 165.

it is the remains of a keep¹⁴, although the archaeological evidence suggests that it may have been a projecting tower on the defensive outer circuit. It is well established that Cardigan did have a keep and John Speed's map of 1610 shows what appears to be a ruinous, but possibly free standing circular tower in the centre of the castle. The accuracy of Speed's map is uncertain and Samuel Meyrick thought it 'erroneous' 15, so it must be used with caution. So far there is no archaeological evidence for a central keep, even though there are many documentary references to a 'great tower', and in 1261 Robert Waleran was told to build a second storey on the keep and was granted a sum of £284 for the works¹⁷. Repairs to the roof of the 'great round tower' and other buildings are also recorded from time to time under Henry VI and Edward IV¹⁸.

Post-medieval changes

The later medieval history of the castle is seemingly an almost constant round of decay and repair. For example in the early 14th century, a survey of the King's Welsh castles reported that 'at Cardigan an incomplete tower was to be finished as soon as possible, ¹⁹ and by 1343 the castle was the most dilapidated of the royal castles in Wales. At that time 'the great watchtower' and the curtain walls were badly decayed, and all the domestic buildings were in ruins²⁰. A new hall was built in the early to mid 15th century, but no further royal expenditure is recorded for Cardigan after 1520²¹.

Despite the obvious periods of decline, the overall state of the castle, at least its outer defences, appears to have remained fairly good. During the siege of 1644 the castle was strong enough to withstand a sustained parliamentarian attack, until a demiculverin was called up and used to pound the castle for three days before a breach was made and the castle taken. The following year the castle was abandoned and fired²². This was the end of the castle as a fortress, but part of the surviving structure was used as a prison and courthouse until the mid 18th century, when it was described as 'filthy, ruinous and quite unfit to hold the assizes'²³.

¹⁴ Cathcart King D 1956, 'The castles of Cardiganshire'. Ceredigion Vol.III, p50-69 – footnote p.53; Mevrick S 1810 op. cit. p.170.

¹⁵ Mevrick S 1810 op. cit. p.170.

¹⁶ Colvin H (Ed) 1963, History of the King's Works, Volume I the Middle Ages. London. HMSO. Colvin suggests that 'Great towers were no longer deemed indispensable, and their design was changing. But old ones were still maintained, and from time to time new ones were built. Henry III was probably responsible for the one on the motte at Winchester, and certainly for those at Cardigan, Castle Cornet and York. Of these the first was probably, the second certainly, a round tower like those built at Pembroke by the Earl Marshal....' (Page 116).

¹⁷ Colvin H (Ed) 1963 (b), History of the King's Works, Volume II the Middle Ages, London, HMSO, p.590. ¹⁸ Colvin H (Ed) 1963 (b), *op. cit.*, p591.

¹⁹ Colvin H (Ed) 1963 (a), History of the King's Works, Volume I the Middle Ages. London. HMSO, p.234. ²⁰ Colvin H (Ed) 1963 (b), *op. cit.*, p591.

²¹ Colvin H (Ed) 1963 (c), History of the King's Works, Volume III, 1485-1660 (part I). London. HMSO, p173.

²² Horsfall-Turner E 1902, op. cit., p.165-6; Murphy and O'Mahoney 1985, op. cit., p.193; Lewis W 1990, op. cit., p5.

²³ Lewis W 1990, op. cit., p17.

It seems likely that the robbing of wall 134 dates from after the Civil War, a suggestion that is perhaps supported by the pottery evidence from the second phase of robbing, when the castle was finally abandoned as a fortress. The level of demolition and robbing that has apparently taken place of 134 suggests extensive alterations and fairly wide-scale landscaping.

Numbers 1 and 2 Green Villas

The fabric of the cottages shows that they have had a varied and quite dynamic history. Many changes have occurred since they were first constructed, probably in the early 19th century, including the raising of the roof line, the construction of outshoot extensions on the rear and the insertion of an upper floor. The roofs of the cottages were built with re-used roof timbers. Each cottage contained three trusses consisting of two principal rafters and a collar beam, forming an A-frame. Four of the six A-frames have carpenters' marks – three in No.1 and one in No.2 – which as noted above were not used in sequence, confirming the fact that they were re-used. There is evidence, in the form of decorative fish-tail rebates on the principal rafters to take the collar beams, to suggest that the roof timbers were exposed in their original setting. Furthermore, the fact that four of the six A-frames were clearly from the same roof it is probable that they were from one of the former castle buildings, possibly an open hall.

Conclusions

The identification of medieval masonry (wall 134) on the west side of the castle is significant as the extent of the castle on this side has long been in doubt²⁴. Whilst the excavation was not able to identify with any certainty what part of the castle structure the wall represented, it has clearly highlighted the potential of the site and suggests that the level of survival of the medieval castle may be substantially greater than previously thought.

It is hoped that this project will be the first of many aimed at retrieving as much information as possible regarding the construction, use and eventual abandonment of the castle and its later adaptation as a gentry house and garden. As the proposals to renovate and re-open Castle Green House and gardens proceed, every opportunity must be taken to further investigate the site and to continue to uncover Cardigan's 'lost' castle.

Acknowledgements

The project was entirely funded by Ceredigion County Council as part of their ambitious and exciting plans to reopen Cardigan Castle. CCC's Phillip Ellis is particularly thanked as the driving force behind the project and Gary Cooper is thanked for his enthusiasm and helpful on-site discussions. Glen Johnson and Cannon Cunane are also thanked for their lively and knowledgeable contribution to the discussion of the site and its overall importance to the history of the castle. Finally the people of Cardigan are thanked for their interest and support throughout the project, but particularly of the very well attended open days.

²⁴ Cathcart King D 1956, op. cit., p.53.

Appendix 1: Mortar samples by Martin Locock

Two samples were submitted for analysis, Sample 400 from context 149, a fill of the foundation trench for wall 134, and sample 402 from within wall 134 itself.

Samples were examined visually for colour and inclusions and tested for hardness manually.

Sample 402 (from wall 134)

A moderately hard, pale grey-yellow lime mortar, with flecks of charcoal and ash used as a bulking agent.

Sample 400 (from fill 149)

A moist sample of soil from one of the deposits (149) of foundation trench 150, containing flecks derived from a similar mortar to Sample 400, but with much less coherence and much softer. Although this may represent a separate mortar mix, it is likely to be derived from 402, with the difference in texture being the result of its condition of burial.

Discussion

Medieval mortars typically display a low lime content and a correspondingly high level of coarse inclusions and sand. When used in critical contexts (e.g. castle walls), high lime contents and coarse components (typically brick and tile fragments) are common. Neither of these types of mortar corresponds closely to those from the Cardigan samples, which are more characteristic of 17th century domestic usage, although such mortars with moderate lime content are found earlier.

Appendix 2: Medieval and Later Pottery by Paul Courtney

Fabric Series

Medieval

MA - Medieval cooking pots in Dyfed Gravel tempered ware. Mostly oxidised internal and external surfaces with reduced core in hard fabric. Moderate round d quartz up to 0.5 mm and occasional to moderate siltstone inclusions to 5mm. Medieval, ?13th-?15th centuries. 18 sherds.

MB - Medieval glazed wares in Dyfed Gravel tempered ware. Mostly oxidised internal and external surfaces with reduced core in hard fabric. Moderate round d quartz up to 0.5 mm and occasional to moderate siltstone inclusions to 5mm. Medieval, ?13th-?14th centuries. 3 sherds.

MC - Late- medieval glazed vessels in Newport-type ware. Oxidised, dense high-fired sherds with thick walls, globular jug forms, and patchy brown or green glazes. Sparse to moderate quartz and siltstone inclusions. Late medieval, c.15th century (but not closely dated). 3 sherds.

HGJ - Ham green jugs, dull green glazed pale-firing ware. Hand-made jugs from Ham Green near Bristol. Late 12th century - c.1300. 1 sherd.

North French - Bright green glazed sandy-micaceous whiteware vessel, probably jug, with band of horizontal rouletted decoration. ?13th-15th centuries.

RT - Glazed ridge tiles in fabric similar to MB. Medieval, ?13th century-?. 5 sherds.

Post-medieval

NDGT- North Devon gravel tempered coarsewares, ?16th- ?18th centuries. 17 sherds.

NDGF -North Devon gravel free, mostly jugs and jars, ?16th-?18th centuries. 6 sherds.

NDsgraf - North Devon Sgrafitto wares, c.1625-1700. 1 sherd.

B/S mottled - Bristol or Staffordshire mottled ware, brown mottled glaze over white fabric, tankards etc, c.1680-1760. 3 sherds.

Martincamp III - Red or buff coloured earthenware flasks from Normandy. 17th century. 1 sherd.

TGE - Tin glazed earthenware, probably English, c. 1650-early 18th century (tin glazed back not lead-glaze). 4 sherds.

IYW - Industrial Yellow ware, early 19th century onward, yellow glazed whiteware. 1 sherd.

DWW - Developed whiteware, industrial whiteware. Early 19th century onward. 1 sherd

Discussion

A typical, albeit small, West Wales assemblage dominated by local or regionally produced medieval wares with a single sherd from a Ham Green jug and a North French jug sherd. Post-medieval wares are dominated by North Devon products with a sprinkling of later wares from Bristol and/or Staffordshire and a single sherd from a 17th century Martincamp flask from Eastern Normandy.

Contexts 140, 143, 146, 149 and 145 produced only medieval pot, which indicates a medieval date for walls 134 and foundation cut 150. This pottery is not very dateable but a sherd from 140 the uppermost layer of the foundation cut appears to be from a late medieval (c. 15th century) jug. Context 128 produced North Devon wares including sgrafitto, which indicates a 17th century or later date (post 1625) for the second phase of robbing.

Contexts 125-6

Fabric	Sherds	Wt (g.)	Comments
MA	4	23	
MB	2	21	Jug & Int. Gl
MC	1	8	Jug
HGJ	1	7	
RT	1	11	
NDGF	3	164	Jugs
NDsgraf	1	48	Bowl
NDGT	14	356	
TGE	4	44	Post 1650
B/S mottled	3	25	mugs
DWW	1	3	HW

^{19&}lt;sup>th</sup> century or later

Context 125

Fabric	Sherds	Wt (g.)	Comments
NDGT	1	89	Skillet handle, sooted
RT	3	85	

^{16&}lt;sup>th</sup> century or later

Context 126

Content 120			
Fabric	Sherds	Wt (g.)	Comments
NDGT	1	53	bowl
MB	1	20	
Martincamp III	1	7	flask
RT	1	39	

^{17&}lt;sup>th</sup> century or later

Context 128

Fabric	Sherds	Wt (g.)	Comments
NDsgraf	1	150	Dish rim
NDGT	1	10	FW
NDGF	3	50	Handle

NDsgraf - outer 2 bands decorated with combed lines. 17th century or later (post c.1625 on evidence of sgrafitto)

Context 131

Fabric	Sherds	Wt (g.)	Comments
MC	1	38	
IYW	1	5	

19th century or later

Context 140

Fabric	Sherds	Wt (g.)	Comments
MC	1	11	

Late Medieval (c. 15th century) or later

Context 143

Fabric	Sherds	Wt (g.)	Comments
MA	2	19	

Medieval (13th-14th century) or later

Context 146

Fabric	Sherds	Wt (g.)	Comments
MA	7	68	

Medieval or later

Context 149

Fabric	Sherds	Wt (g.)	Comments
MA	1	6	

Medieval or later

Context 151

Fabric	Sherds	Wt (g.)	Comments
MA	2	10	

Medieval or later

Context 152

Fabric	Sherds	Wt (g.)	Comments
N. French	1	6	Rouletted jug
Frag. of burnt clay	1	3	

Medieval or later

Appendix 3: 1 and 2 Green Villas structural element descriptions by Simon Wardle

Number in brackets (2) refers to cottage number.

- 1. First floor line (2) Line of first floor is shown by a break in the plaster wall finish around the internal face of the walls, and 4 or 5? inserted sockets in east wall to receive joist ends (14cmW, 7cmH, 16cmD). Also apparent in north wall following level of ledge 12. as a line (or band) of thin stones, also to a lesser extent a line can be seen at the same level on the north face of the south wall.
- 2. **Heightened wall at SE corner (2)** The south and east walls are well bonded with each other up to a height of approximately 3.1m from the ground floor level. This bond however has largely been broken by intrusive woody growth externally. From 3.1m upwards the south wall butts against the east wall.
- 3. **First floor window (2)** 2 over 2 sash window with slate cill. The panes measure 22cm by 34cm, the opening 52cm by 78cm.
- 4. **Beam (east) (2)** 24cm x 24cm, includes a 7x15x5cm (deep) slot in the north end, west face. 4 west running joist sockets to north end, 5 complete cut-outs to south (2 doubles?). South end of west face has 3 vertical or near vertical slots around 11cm wide and 3cm deep and a further ½ slot to north with 3cm dia. Hole around 6cm deep.
- 5. **Beam (central) (2)** 24x24cm, includes 7 double joist sockets, southern two have an extra cut into east running cut-out. Further 3 east running ones and a larger slot (flat/sloping) to west face. There are 9 slots cut in underside of west face to receive partition studs (typically 8x8x2cm deep).
- 6. **Beam (west) (2)** 22cm(wide)x27cm(high). 8 double joist sockets and futher 2 on west side, and 1 on east. 4 cut into underside of east face at north end, west face has a 12cm ½ cut half way along underside of west face, and a 17cm(w)x9cm(h) slot in west face north end (now infilled with lime mortar).
- 7. First floor window (2) As 3., with timber cill.
- 8. **Garage door (2)** Insertion of garage door in place of secondary ground floor window, disturbed stonework up to cill of 7., presumably south end of 6. has been re-set and the west jam of 20. reformed.
- 9. Timber plate (2) 12cm wide, 10cm high. Built into party wall.
- 10. Heightened wall at SW corner (2) as 2, plaster finish coat of west wall visible returning behind heightened south wall.
- 11. Fireplace(2) First floor fireplace, inserted?
- 12. **Ledge (2)** Ledge in west end of north wall, showing clearly how (north) wall has been heightened. Ledge is top of original wall. Ledge is about 3.3m from floor level, a further 70cm of stonework has been added to build up the wall plate height.
- 13. Party gable (2) Gable wall, heightened on north side to take the lower pitch roof that extends over the added outshoots to the north.
- 14. **Truss (west) (2)** 'A' frame truss, north side is held in a timber foot, good trench for a purlin on north retaining a peg in situ. Trench (for upper purlins) on south side has been disturbed (only lower edge remains), there are two peg holes. Pegged collar, not trenched, in situ? Ridge has a bridle joint, the north principal rafter has two rebates and sits inside the south, 2 pegs.
- 15. Truss (central) (2) 'A' frame truss, bridle jointed, south principal rafter has two rebates, one peg. West face of truss has a 'bellied' cut for collar with two peg

- holes on each end. Two sets of trenches for purlins, although upper are heavily damaged. Collar is reversed and fixed to other (east) side of truss.
- 16. **Truss (east) (2)** 'A' frame truss, bridle jointed, north principal rafter has two rebates, 2 pegs. West face of truss has a 'bellied' cut for collar and a later (replacement) collar. Two purlin trenches, all altered. 'II' carpenters marks on east face of both principal rafters near the ridge. North princ. Rafter has failed and has been cramped.
- 17. Stepped chimney stack (2)
- 18. Range (2)
- 19. **Ground floor window (2)** 2 over 2 sash window, panes are 35cm wide by 37cm high, the opening is 78cm wide by 87cm high.
- 20. **Main door (2)** Planked (1+1+1/2+1+1) and ledged, one timber and one iron lock. Measures 88cm by 175cm.
- 21. Fireplace (2) Fireplace opening in south end of party wall. Later surround. This wall has cement render to first floor level.
- 22. Hole (2) Irregular hole hacked into fabric of north wall.
- 23. Rear Door (2)
- 24. **Second rear door (2)** Chamfered timber lintel. Inserted along with main range 18. Timber door frame with timber and iron latch details, iron hinges.
- 25. Service Room 1 Flag stone floor. Slab (table?) to the north wall, two windows, one central window in north wall blocked by later stable range built externally against part of north wall, and a later window to west.
- 26. Service Room 2 Concrete? floor. Small range in north west corner (flue lost), and window (small pane casement) in north wall.
- 27. Truss (east) (1) 'A' frame truss, ridge bridle jointed, the south principal rafter has two rebates and sits inside the north. 'V' carpernters mark on both main truss timbers and tie beam. Upper and lower purlins trenched, tie beam on east not trenched, bellied trench on west. West side has been boarded over with simple beaded boards.
- 28. Truss (central) (1) 'A' frame truss, ridge bridle jointed with two pegs. 'IIII' carpenters mark on two trusses timbers and tie beam. North timber has a straight trench on the east face, the south has a bellied trench on the west face, existing tie beam not trenched. North timber has an upper purlin trench and it is a replacement, south also has upper and lower trenches.
- 29. **Truss (west) (1)** 'A' frame truss, ridge bridle jointed with two pegs, the north principal rafter has two rebates and sits inside the south. 'III' carpenters mark on both main truss timbers and tie beam. There are good upper and lower purlin trenches. Only one tie beam trench, on west face of south timber and is 'bellied'. The tie beam is lap jointed to main timbers.
- 30. Window (1) Blocked first floor window in east bay.
- 31. Window (1) Blocked first floor window in east centre bay.
- 32. Window (1) Blocked first floor window in west bay.
- 33. Gable and stack (1) Rebuilt gable and stack in modern red brick associated with 34.
- 34. Window (1) Inserted first floor window to north of fireplace in gable.

- 35. Wall top (1) As with cottage 2, the wall top has been heightened. The masonry appears as cleaner, larger and more regular above and rougher and smaller below.
- 36. **Beam (east) (1)** Beam built into party, same as 9.?
- 37. **Beam (central) (1)** 32cm wide by 26cm high. At least six sets of opposing joist sockets. North end of beam is decayed and overgrown.
- 38. **Beam (west) (1)** 23cm wide by 24cm high. Nine opposing sets of joist sockets and one additional large cut out (15cm long, 5cm high and 7cm deep) on east face of top edge near north end. At least six cut outs for partition on underside of east face.
- 39. Stair (removed) (1) Scarring up plaster of north (west) wall.
- 40. **Fireplace (1)**
- 41. Window (east) (1)
- 42. Window (west) (1)
- 43. **Door (front) (1)**
- 44. **Door (rear) (1)**
- 45. Flagstone floor (1)
- 46. Sitting room (1)
- 47. Kitchen pantry (1)
- 48. **Bathroom** (1)

1 AND 2 GREEN VILLAS, CARDIGAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION 2003

REPORT NUMBER 2003/99

May 2004

This report has been prepared by Tom Jamieson

Position Archaeologist

Signature Date 26 MAT 2004

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

Position Principal Archaeological Officer, Field Operations

Signature Date 26 Mg 2004

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