

**WELSH WATER TRENCHES AT ST DAVID'S ON EITHER SIDE  
OF THE FORD BETWEEN THE CATHEDRAL AND THE  
BISHOP'S PALACE 09/06/2004**

*Pete Crane, Cambria Archaeology*

During a visit to St David's on the above date it was two open trenches dug by Laing O'Rourke for Welsh Water were noted. Therefore returned later in the day and took photographs and made a few notes.

The western trench had been dug from the concrete ramp for just over 4m westwards, and the eastern half of this sector had already been backfilled. The trench was about 1.5m wide, depth uncertain as standing water but probably less than a metre. This trench appeared to have all been dug through existing pipe trench fill. However, in the northern side of the trench, about 0.6m down from the tarmac surface, there appeared to be a level of very large cobbles, probably an earlier road (photo 201).

The trench on the eastern side of the ford was dug to the south and east of the west corner of the retaining wall around the Cathedral graveyard and the tail of the footbridge to the southwest. This trench was c. 3m long by 1.5m wide and probably about 1m deep. All except the northwestern edge of the trench appear were dug larger than the perceivable pipe trench and also cut down into natural gravel (Photo's 202-204). There were a number of cuts into the natural on the northeastern side of the trench that could be of archaeological value (Photos 202-203). A good part of the southeastern side of the trench was a filled in cut, either an earlier stream channel or possibly a cut for a large service pipe: there was a manhole cover just to the southeast on the footbridge tail (Photo 204 top right).



Photo 201. Trench on west side of ford. View N



Photo 202: Trench east of ford. View SE. Scale 1m

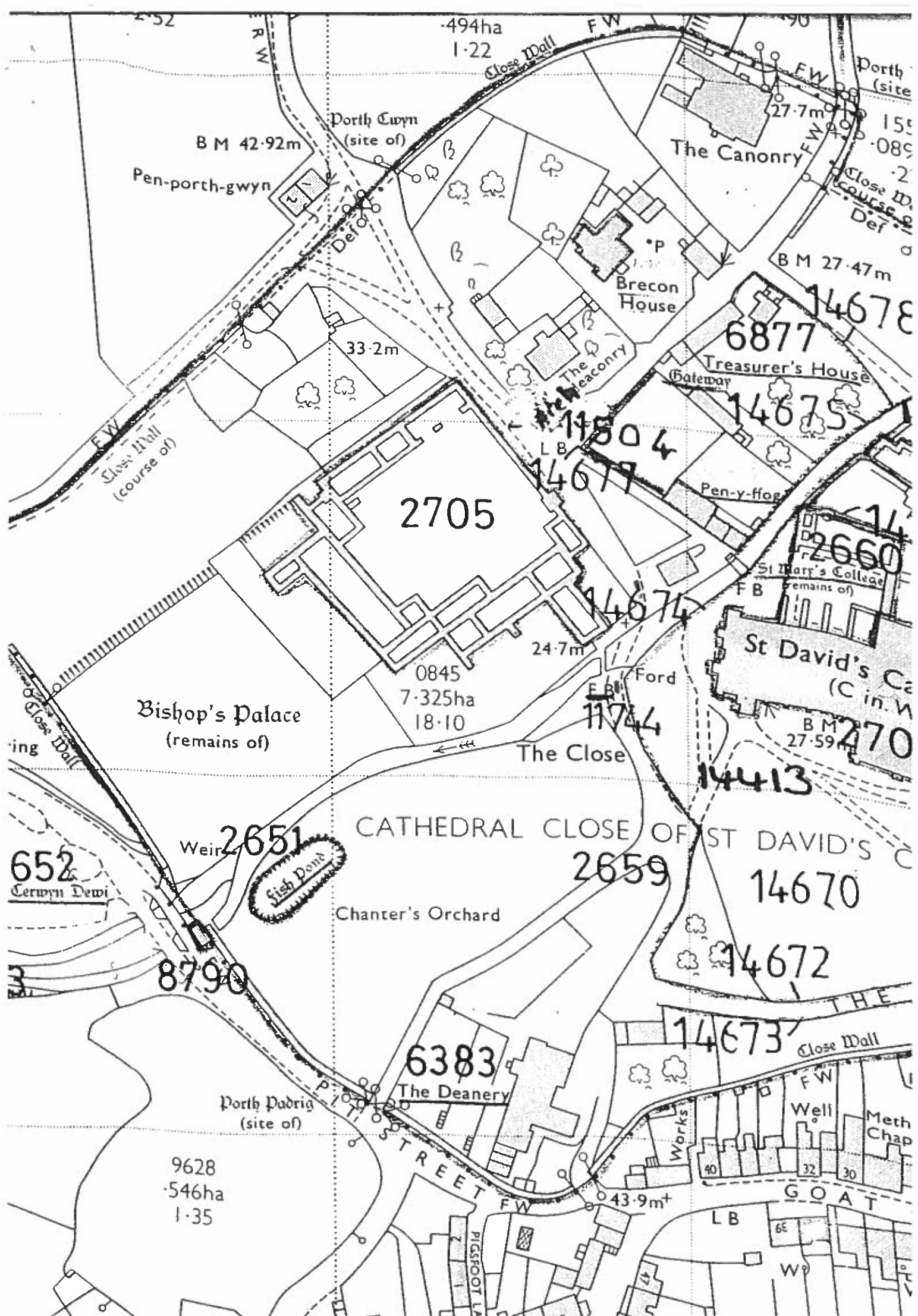




Photo 203: Trench east of ford. View E. Scale 1m



Photo 204: Trench east of ford. View SSE. Scale 1m



St Davids - 9/6/2004  
Welsh water by Lairy O'Rourke.

Trench dug on west side of ford. from  
concrete rap for c. 4m. possible  
earlier large cobble trackway c 0.6m down  
from terrace surface.

Photo 201 of trench on west side of ford View N.

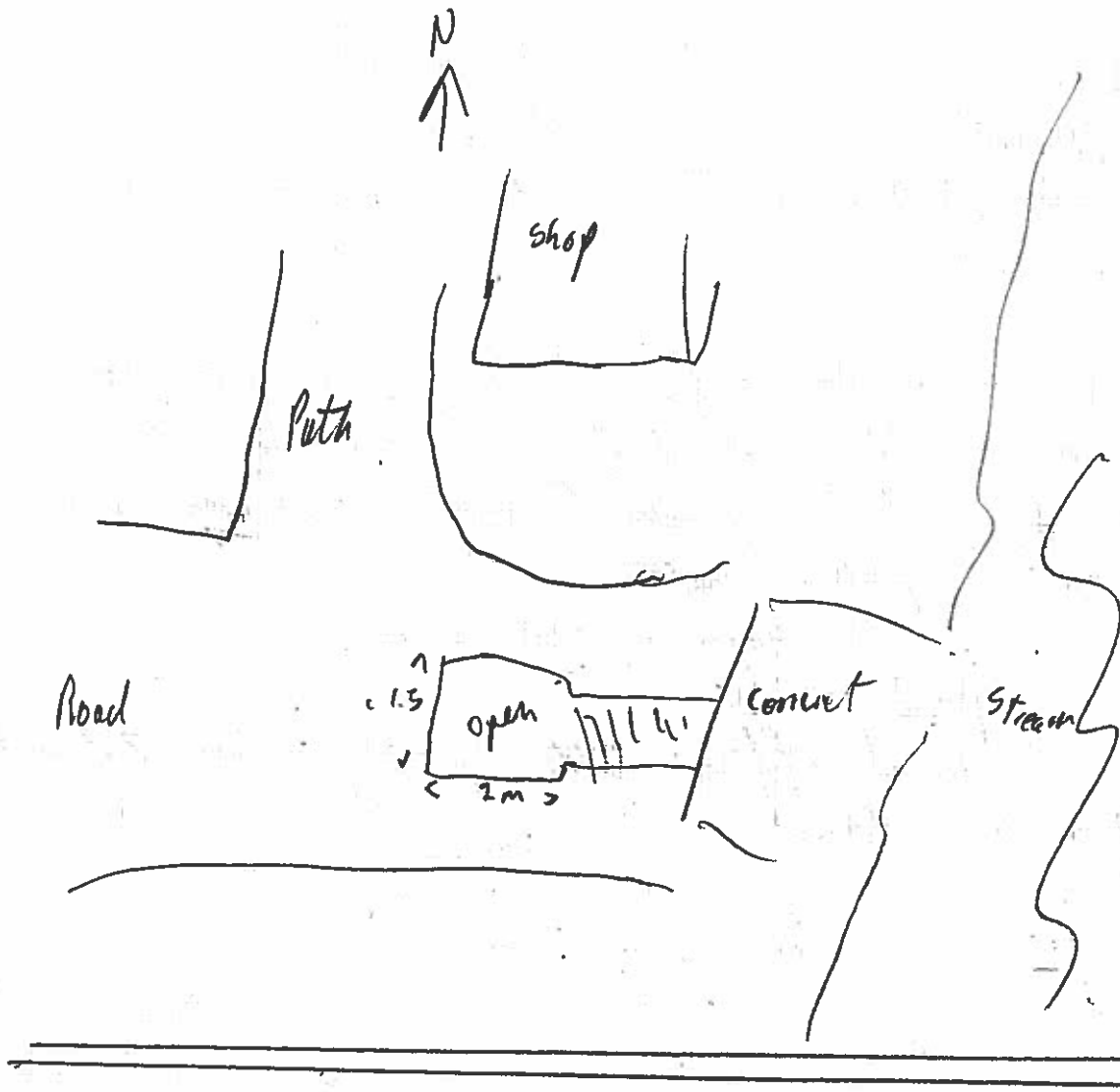
202 East Trench view S ~~SE~~ scale 1m  
203 ——— view E scale 1m  
204 ——— view SSE scale 1m.

Natural gash at east end c 0.60m down from  
terrace looks to be made up for road above + enters terrace  
over cobble.

A few cuts seen on NE side of trench  
SW side possible large cut could be for stream or  
even a service pipe



East Trench



West Trench

