

MARCH 2004

PONTERWYD TO BOW STREET POWER LINE



AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF



Paratowyd gan Archaeoleg Cambria
Ar gyfer **POWERSYSTEMS LTD.**
Prepared by Cambria Archaeology
For **POWER SYSTEMS LTD.**



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Gan / By

Duncan Schlee

*Archaeoleg Cambria yw enw marchnata Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyfyngedig.
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**A WATCHING BRIEF ON THE
PONTERWYD TO BOW STREET POWER LINE
MARCH 2004**

A watching brief was undertaken by Cambria Archaeology on behalf of PowerSystems Ltd. (Aberystwyth) on 15th March 2004 to observe the machine excavation of holes and trenches for the erection of two electricity poles (pole numbers 82 and 84). The course of the power line passes the location of an Iron Age hillfort represented by a partial earthwork (NPRN 301885) identified on aerial photographs (RCAHMW APs no.995092-41). The site is located at SN6578816 and is recorded in the Regional Sites and Monuments Record as PRN 44748.

The crop mark is in the form of approximately one quarter (the north west quarter) of an oval enclosure measuring c 83m across. It was anticipated that features or deposits associated with this earthwork might be impacted upon by the pole erections.

The excavation of two pole locations, each with additional excavations for 'stays' were observed, as the topsoil was removed down to the level of natural deposits and bedrock. Once the absence of archaeologically sensitive deposits had been ascertained, the trenches were to be excavated to a depth of 1.80m.

The topsoil consisted of reddish brown silt with fragmented shale. The subsoil was of fragmented grey shale with silt. The bedrock was of undisturbed shale deposits.

In the event no archaeologically sensitive deposits or features were encountered. The pole locations were situated close to an earth bank and fenced field enclosure, but no cuts or banks associated with the oval Iron Age enclosure were revealed. Below the turf was a thin topsoil of c 0.20m lying above natural deposits. Where the trenches cut into parts of field boundaries the depth of soil overlying bedrock was greater. No cuts associated with the field boundaries were encountered. The final excavated hole (a 'stay' hole for the westernmost pole) revealed a deposit of grey clay-silt sealed below field bank material and lying above natural shale and grey silty clay. Although anomalous, this appeared to be a natural deposit.

It was not possible to record the exact location of the power poles during the site visit. The following photographs were taken during the visit to record the exposed deposits:



Photo 1: Cut for easternmost pole.



Photo 2: Cut for 'stay' for easternmost pole



Photo 3: Cut for westernmost Pole



Photo 4: Cut for 'stay' for westernmost pole

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Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by Duncan Schlee

Swydd / Position: Archaeologist

Llofnod / Signature  Dyddiad / Date 16/03/2004

Mae'r adroddiad hwn wedi ei gael yn gywir a derbyn sêl bendith
This report has been checked and approved by

Ken Murphy

ar ran Archaeoleg Cambria, Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf.
on behalf of Cambria Archaeology, Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Swydd / Position: Principle Archaeologist

Llofnod / Signature  Dyddiad / Date 16/03/2004

Yn unol â'n nôd i roddi gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel, croesawn unrhyw sylwadau sydd gennych ar
gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn

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

