

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT THE OLD BAKE HOUSE, ANGLE PEMBROKESHIRE

May 2005



Paratowyd gan Archaeoleg Cambria  
Ar gyfer Mrs Thomas, The Old Bake  
House, Angle  
Prepared by Cambria Archaeology  
For Mrs Thomas, The Old Bake  
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# ARCHAEOLEG CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2005/65  
RHIF Y PROSIECT / PROJECT RECORD NO. 54267

Mai 2005  
May 2005

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT THE OLD BAKE HOUSE, ANGLE PEMBROKESHIRE

Gan / By

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**1.0 SUMMARY**

An intended archaeological evaluation on the site of the Old Bake House in Angle, Pembrokeshire (NGR SM86570288), was not undertaken because the development did not entail disturbance of features or deposits other than a minimal amount required for foundation trenches. Instead, a photographic record was made of the footings of the original bake house building that were exposed in the footings trenches cut for the new building. Although the bake house is presumed to have been terraced into the natural topography, this was not proven. No evidence of earlier features was observed.

## **2.0 INTRODUCTION**

A planning application to construct a single new house on the Old Bake House site in Angle (NGR SM86570288) required an archaeological evaluation in order to assess the implications of the construction on the archaeological resource. The original intention was to excavate a single archaeological trench through the new house site. However, on visiting the site it became clear that the construction method would not be as potentially damaging as originally thought. As some of the foundation trenches were available for inspection it was felt that enough information could be gained from these, without the need for additional archaeological trenching.

### **2.1 The proposed construction method**

The construction method to be employed involves the laying of a 6 inch reinforced concrete base over the existing concrete and tiled floor from the demolished garage building, which will cap the garage floors and seal any features or deposits below. A damp-proof membrane will be laid below the new concrete slab, which will also screen the exposed archaeological features from the concrete. The footprint of the new building will occupy a similar area to the original bake house.

The front (north) wall of the proposed building runs along the same line as the original footings. The back (south) wall is roughly 0.80m to the south of the original footings. The original eastern side wall is located beneath the existing driveway on the eastern edge of the property. At the time of the site visit, the majority of the trenches for the new wall footings had already been excavated to the required depth. The west wall (shared with the neighbouring property) required underpinning. This was to be undertaken by excavating the foundation trench 1 metre at a time and filling with concrete before the next section was excavated. Two stretches including the corners of the original building were excavated during the site visit. Footings of the original building were also revealed close to the southeast corner of the new footings.

## **3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING**

Any floor surfaces associated with the original building that may survive were not going to be further impacted upon by the new building. No evidence for any such deposits were observed during the site investigation.

Three areas within the footings trenches were cleaned up to reveal the stone footings of the original building. These were recorded photographically. It was not considered necessary to undertake any more detailed recording.

## **4.0 RESULTS**

The footings for the front wall (in the northwest corner) included a spread of stone rubble on the inside of the building, roughly 1.0m wide and with a straight edge. This stonework corresponded with a slight concavity in the west wall of the building and is assumed to be the base of an oven.

In the southwest corner, few traces of footings were apparent. Either there was a doorway in this location, or the footings had been removed by later modifications to the building.

In the southeast corner, a section of the original wall footings were revealed. They appeared to continue eastward, beneath the existing drive, for an unknown distance before returning to form the east side of the original building.

It was not possible to ascertain the original topography of the site as part of this project. It seems most probable that the original building was terraced into the existing slope. This would effectively have removed any traces of earlier archaeological features.

With the exception of the footings all other deposits appeared to be undisturbed natural subsoil. No evidence of any archaeological features pre-dating the Bake House were observed.



**Photo 1:** Footings and service trenches, looking south



**Photo 2:** End wall of the Old Bake House showing wall scars and footings, looking west





**Photo 3:** (lack of) Wall footings in southwest corner of original building, looking north



**Photo 4:** Footings to the southern wall of the original building, looking north



**Photo 5:** Wall footings in the northwest corner of the original building, looking north. The point of the ranging rod indicates the edge of the oven footings

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