

EXTENSION TO THE REAR OF TANGLOST HOUSE, LLAWHADEN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF



Prepared
by
Cambria Archaeology
for
Margaret Stephens



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By

Nigel Page

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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@cambria.org.uk
Gwefan: www.cambria.org.uk

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@cambria.org.uk
Website: www.cambria.org.uk

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LLAWHADEN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

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This report has been prepared by Nigel Page

Position: Project Manager

Signature Date

This report has been checked and approved by Ken Murphy

Position: Principal Archaeologist Cambria Archaeology Field Services

Signature Date

on behalf of Cambria Archaeology, Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any comments you may
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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

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EXTENSION TO THE REAR OF TANGLOST HOUSE, LLAWHADEN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

SUMMARY

A new extension is being built on the rear of Tanglost House in Llawhaden, Pembrokeshire. Tanglost House is located c.60m from the southwest boundary of Llawhaden Castle, a scheduled ancient monument, so a planning condition was placed on the application that required an archaeological watching brief on the excavation of the foundation trenches.

No archaeological features or deposits were noted.

INTRODUCTION

Project background

The excavation of the foundation trenches for an extension at Tanglost House (NGR SN07201736) required an archaeological watching brief because of its proximity to Llawhaden Castle (PRN 3580 SAM PE24).

Cambria Archaeology Field Services were commissioned by Margaret Stephens, the owner of Tanglost House, to undertake the watching brief in October 2005.

Scope of the report

This report outlines the main watching brief results before discussing the impact of the works, based on the on-site observations and the known archaeological potential of the area. Known archaeological sites mentioned in the text are annotated with their Primary Record Number (PRN) as recorded in the Sites and Monuments Record held by Cambria Archaeology at their offices in Llandeilo. All grid references are prefixed with NGR (National Grid Reference).

Llawhaden Castle

Llawhaden Castle was established in the 12th century as a timber structure surrounded by a moat and defensive bank. The moat survives, but the bank was levelled when the castle was rebuilt in stone during the 13th century. In 1280 the castle was restyled into a fortified house for Bishop Thomas Bek. The massive gatehouse was added in the later 14th century. The castle was apparently demolished in the mid 16th century and the site was used as a source of building stone.

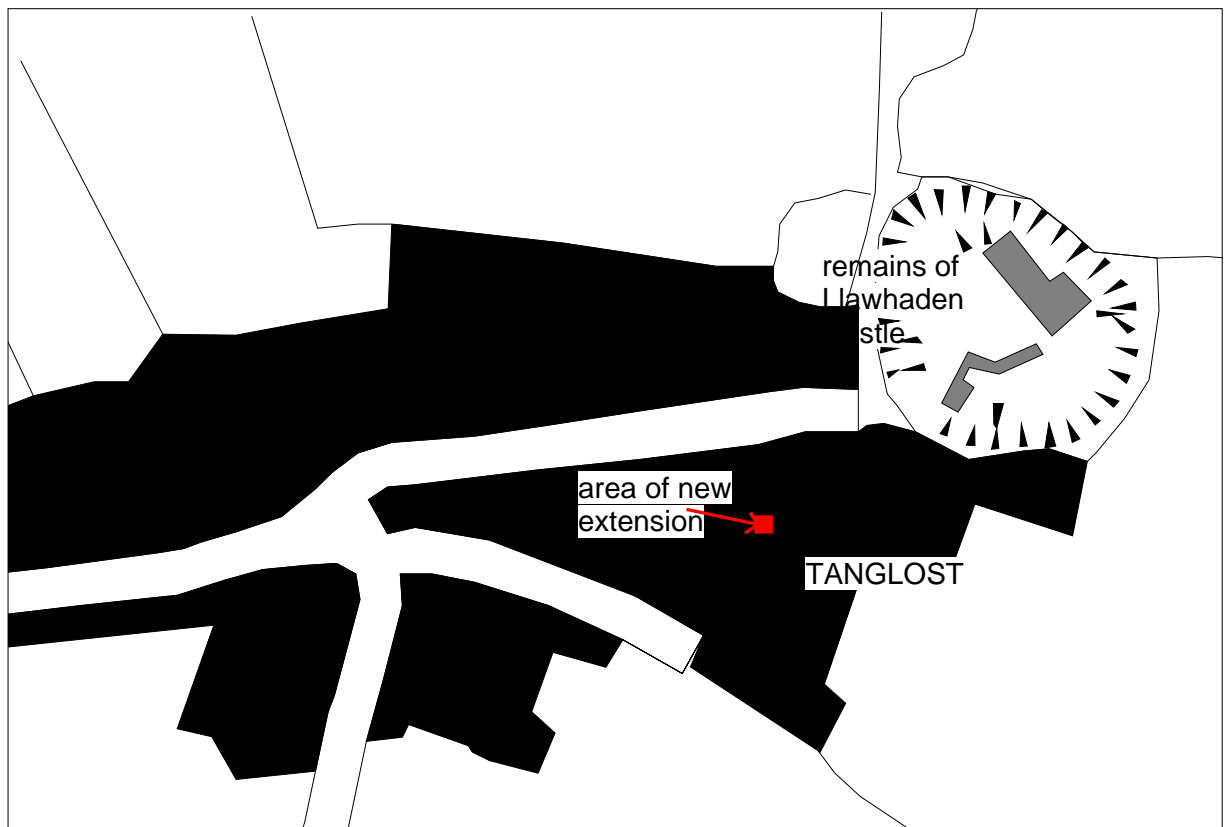


Figure 1: Plan showing location of Tanglost House

THE RESULTS OF THE WATCHING BRIEF

The excavation of the foundation trenches was carried out by mechanical excavator fitted with a 50cm wide toothed bucket. The excavations were monitored and all exposed deposits were examined and recorded.

The deposits exposed during the watching brief were consistent in all of the trenches examined. Approximately 40cm of humic loam topsoil and turf overlay the shale bedrock (Plate 1).

No archaeological features or deposits were noted.

CONCLUSIONS

No archaeological features or deposits were noted in the drain trench. The garden area in which the new extension is being constructed had been extensively landscaped approximately fifteen year ago when the present house was built. Therefore, despite the proximity Llawhaden Castle the excavation of the foundation trenches for the new extension had no impact on the archaeological resource.



Plate 1: general view northwest across the site of the new extension.