

# **WATCHING BRIEF AT THE WALLED GARDEN, WISTON PEMBROKESHIRE JUNE 2006**



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### **WATCHING BRIEF AT THE WALLED GARDEN, WISTON, PEMBROKESHIRE JUNE 2006**

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**Figure 1.** Location map, based on the Ordnance Survey

**Photo. 1:** General view completed groundworks

*Cover Photo. : Digging out for foundation raft. View NW*

## **SUMMARY**

*Two site visits were made during foundation excavations for a garage and garden machinery store at The Walled Garden, Wiston, Pembrokeshire, in order to record revealed archaeological deposits. Nothing of archaeological interest was apparent.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

Cambria Archaeology-Heritage Management, as advisors to Pembrokeshire County Council Planning Department, identified potential impacts on the archaeological resource of a proposed garage and garden machinery store at The Walled Garden, Wiston, Pembrokeshire (national grid reference SN 0242 1825, planning application no 05/1519/PA).

The walled garden was part of Wiston Manor; the adjacent outbuildings have been undergoing conversion into residential dwellings. The area within the walled garden is nearly all lawned and crossed by a curving gravel drive. The garden walls are no longer standing to their full height but are in reasonable condition, although a few sections are in need of consolidation. The walls are of lime-mortared construction with ashlar facing stones (cover photo). The garden is shown on the 1843 Wiston Tithe map when it is recorded as New Garden. It is therefore likely that this garden in dates to the early 1800s.

The area of the new garage and store is against the west garden wall immediately to the north of the driveway.

There are a number of archaeological sites nearby (see Table 1 in appendix). Of particular importance are: a prehistoric site PRN 14323, probably a prehistoric farmstead located on the other side of the road to the east; a Roman Road PRN 33920, the route of which has been traced crossing the field to the north of the walled garden, and more obviously Wiston Castle PRN 3541 and the adjacent Wiston Manor PRN 3542 located just to the south west. The planning authority considered it possible that important archaeological remains associated with these might survive below ground within the walled garden.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the watching brief were to characterise and record the extent, chronology and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits identified during the groundworks.

## **RESULTS**

Two visits were made to the site on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> June 2006. The groundworks were well underway on the first visit and completed on the second. The weather was fine on both occasions and the soil colours were good, still being slightly moist.

The excavation covered an area of about 7m by 16m, dug down through the turf and topsoil to a depth of up to 150mm. The central part of the area was excavated to a maximum depth of 350mm below ground surface. There was a footing trench, or more likely a garden bed running along against the wall, and at least one probable garden feature at right angles to this. Where the subsoil was visible it was of light shaley stone, known locally as rab. A modern pipe trench running north - south bisected the area.

## CONCLUSIONS

No archaeological evidence was encountered during this watching brief other than garden features. It is considered that only larger areas dug to at least 300mm below the ground surface would be worth an archaeological watching brief in the future within the walled garden, bearing in mind that there appeared to be a number of deeper recent garden beds.

## SOURCES

1843? Wiston Tithe Map and Schedule

Ordnance Survey 1887 First Edition 6"

## APPENDIX: Table 1. Adjacent archaeological sites from Cambria HER

PRN	NAME	GRID REF	TYPE	PERIOD	STATUS
3541	WISTON CASTLE	SN02251815	MOTTE	Medieval	SAM;ACK;
3542	WISTON MANOR	SN02331811	MANOR HOUSE	Medieval	
3544	WISTON	SN02521804	FISHPOND?;ORNAMENTAL FEATURE?	Medieval;Post Med	
3557	WISTON PARISH CHURCH; ST MARY MAGDALENE'S	SN02221796	CHURCH	Medieval;Post Med	
4433	LOWER HOARSTONE	SN02121836	STANDING STONE?	Bronze Age	
4434	UPPER HOARSTONE	SN02111817	STANDING STONE?	Bronze Age	
5683	WOGAN VILLAS	SN026187	UNKNOWN	Unknown	
8510	WISTON CASTLE	SN02141808	PROJECT RECORD	Medieval	
11331	WISTON (North)	SN021185	NATURAL FEATURE	General	
13212	WISTON	SN022180	FAIR	Medieval	
13219	WISTON	SN022180	MARKET	Medieval	
14323	WISTON CROPMARK	SN02551832	FARMSTEAD?	Iron Age?;Roman?	
14688	WISTON	SN021180	PROJECT RECORD	General	
17153	MANOR HOUSE	SN02331811	MANOR HOUSE?	Post Med	
17160		SN02241787	VICARAGE	Post Med	
17161	CAWDOR HOUSE	SN02411797	MANSION	Post Med	
17167	MANSE THE	SN02571796	MANSE	Post Med	
25740	WISTON	SN022180	TELEPHONE BOX	Post Med	LB2
29537	CAWDOR FARM	SN02301800	PROJECT RECORD	General	
30296	UNKNOWN	SN02201802	PLATFORM	Medieval	SAM
33920	Pond Farm	SN02691853	ROAD	Roman	
42689	CHURCH FIELD	SN02101804	WATCHING BRIEF	General	
43250	Wiston Castle	SN02251815	FIELD SURVEY	General	SAM;ACK;
46410	WISTON MANOR BARN	SN02311823	WATCHING BRIEF	General	
47616	WISTON MANOR BARN	SN02351827	PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD	Modern	
48171		SN02361821	MEMORIAL	Modern	





**Figure 1.** Location map, based on the Ordnance Survey

Reproduced from the 1995 Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 scale Landranger Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Cambria Archaeology, The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF. Licence No AL51842A





**Photo. 1:** General view completed groundworks. View SSW

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

Yn unol â'n nôd i roddi gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel, croesawn unrhyw  
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