

# MEADOWS NURSING HOME JOHNSTON, PEMBROKESHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF



Prepared by  
Cambria Archaeology  
for  
Mr Brian Mansel-Thomas (architect)  
on behalf of private clients



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**MEADOWS NURSING HOME  
JOHNSTON, PEMBROKESHIRE  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

**SUMMARY**

*A proposed extension to the Meadows Nursing Home, Johnston, Pembrokeshire (NGR SM93241044), occupied a plot of land adjacent to the medieval parish church of St. Peter's. Therefore, the Local Planning Authority's archaeological advisors recommended a watching brief on site clearance and topsoil stripping in order to record any potential archaeological features or deposits exposed. Brian Mansel-Thomas (architect), on behalf of private clients, commissioned Cambria Archaeology Field Services to carry out the watching brief in August 2007.*

*No features or deposits of archaeological interest were present.*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 PROJECT COMMISSION**

A proposed extension to the Meadows Nursing Home, Johnston, Pembrokeshire (NGR SM93241044), occupied a plot of land adjacent to the medieval parish church of St. Peter's. Even though there were no known archaeological interests within the boundary of the proposed extension site, its proximity to St. Peter's meant that there was a high potential of exposing buried remains. Therefore, it was recommended that an archaeological watching brief be carried out on all major episodes of earth moving or ground breaking, such as topsoil stripping and deep cutting.

Brian Mansel-Thomas (architect), on behalf of private clients, commissioned Cambria Archaeology Field Services to carry out the watching brief in August 2007.

### **1.2 SCOPE OF THE PROJECT**

The project was designed to record any archaeological features or deposits exposed during trench cutting operations.

### **1.3 REPORT OUTLINE**

This report describes the physical environment of the site (Section 2) before summarising the watching brief results and the conclusions based on those results (Section 3).

### **1.4 ABBREVIATIONS**

Sites recorded on the Regional Historic Environment Record (HER) are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR).

## **2. THE SITE**

### **2.1 Location**

The Meadows Nursing Home occupies a plot of land adjacent to the east end of the churchyard in what is considered to have been the core of the medieval settlement of Johnston. The extension, which was the subject of this watching brief lay at the north of the existing nursing home and to the south of Langford Road.

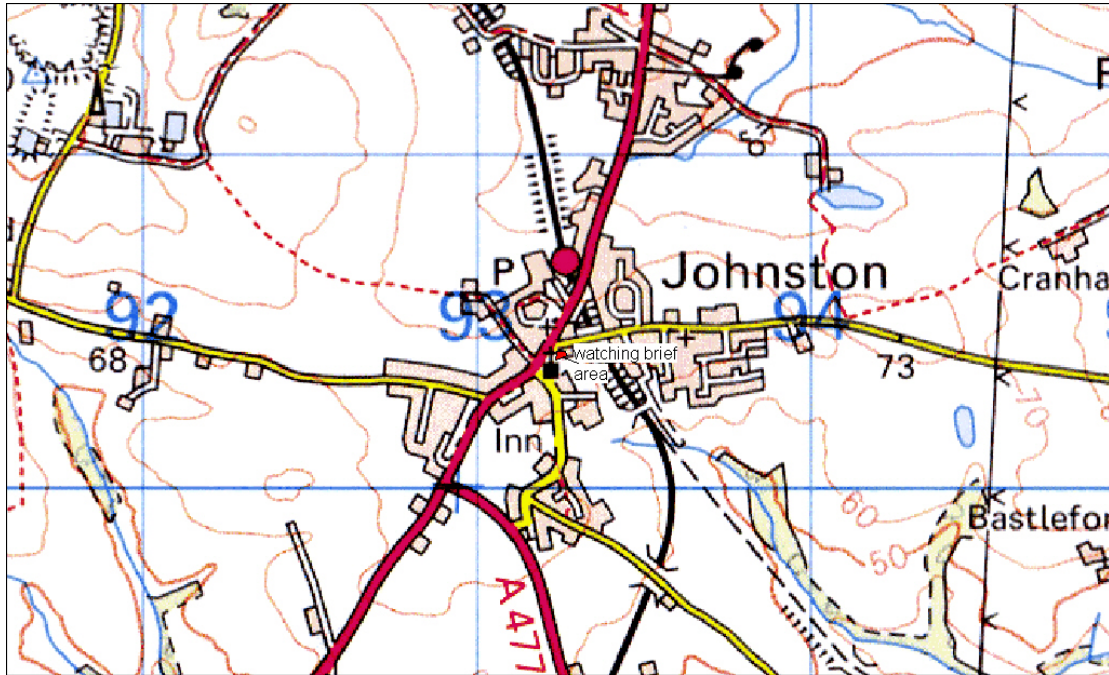


Figure 1: Location of the watching brief area (red block).

### **2.2 St Peter's Parish Church (PRN 3352)**

St. Peter's Church formed part of the nucleus of the medieval settlement of Johnston. The church was mentioned in a mid 13<sup>th</sup> century grant (Ludlow 2002, 47). It sits in a small, square churchyard, central to the post-Conquest planted settlement. There is no current evidence for an early medieval date.



### **3. SUMMARY OF WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS**

#### **3.1 Methodology**

The watching brief consisted of a site visit to examine the site during the topsoil stripping.

#### **3.2 Results**

The removal of the topsoil and turf revealed undisturbed silty clay subsoil. There were no archaeological features or deposits present.



Plate 1: A general view northeast across the watching brief area.

#### **3.4 Conclusions**

No features of archaeological interest were noted. It appears that the churchyard has never extended further to the east than its present extent, nor was any other medieval activity apparent.

## **SOURCES**

Ludlow N      2002    Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Sites Project, Pembrokeshire,  
Part 1. Llandeilo. Cambria Archaeology report for Cadw.