

28 LAMMAS STREET CARMARTHEN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF



Prepared
by
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for
Gerald Vaughan



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**28 LAMMAS STREET
CARMARTHEN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

REPORT NUMBER: 2007/93
PROJECT RECORD NUMBER 63303

**report prepared by
Cambria Archaeology Field Services**

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**28 LAMMAS STREET, CARMARTHEN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

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SUMMARY

A planning application was submitted by Gerald Vaughan Estate Agents to construct a new office building at the rear of 28 Lammas Street, Carmarthen (NGR SN40892009). The plot lies within an area of medieval ribbon development along Lammas Street. Planning permission was granted with a condition that required an archaeological watching brief on the site preparation works, particularly the topsoil stripping.

To comply with the condition the developers commissioned Cambria Archaeology Field Services to carry out the watching brief in November 2007.

No features of archaeological interest were noted.

INTRODUCTION

Project background

A planning application (Planning Application No.W/15118) was submitted by Gerald Vaughan Estate Agents to construct a new office building at the rear of 28 Lammas Street, Carmarthen (NGR SN40892009). Planning permission was granted with a condition that required an archaeological watching brief on any major episodes of earth moving, notably the site clearance and the excavation of new foundation and service trenches.

To comply with the condition Mr Gerald Vaughan contracted Cambria Archaeology Field Services to carry out the watching brief in November 2007.

The watching brief methodology and scope of the report

The watching brief consisted of a site visit during the excavation of the foundation trenches for the new building.

This report summarises the archaeological background to the site and discusses the results of the watching brief.

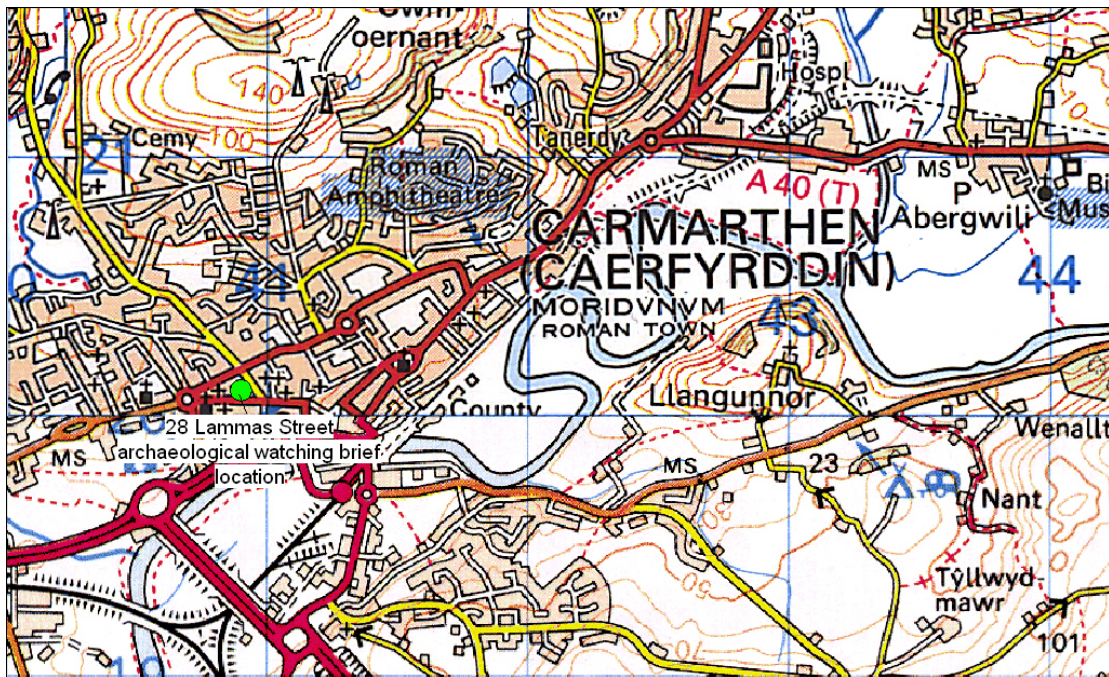


Figure 1: Location plan of watching brief site (green circle).

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Lammas Street developed as part of the 'new town' at Carmarthen during the 13th and 14th centuries (James 1981, 28-29). The present properties along Lammas Street occupy plots that still correspond to the medieval burgage plots laid out as the area was being developed.

This current development at the rear of 28 Lammas Street was between 10m and 15m from the street frontage, which means that it is likely to be located in what was the garden or rear yard area of the medieval properties. Therefore, it is probable that any early buildings would have been closer to the street frontage and are likely to have been incorporated into or replaced by the existing properties.

WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS

A site visit was made during the excavation of the foundation trenches for the new building, which were c.0.6m wide x c.0.6m deep. The stratigraphical sequence was the same across the site, with between 0.2m and 0.3m of topsoil overlying a light to mid brown silty clay deposit that was consistent across the site and which may have been undisturbed subsoil.

The only feature observed was part of the foundation for a former photography studio that was demolished prior to the watching brief (Plate 2).

No other features or deposits of archaeological interest were observed.

CONCLUSION

Despite the potentially sensitive location of the site, the groundworks required for the construction of the new office had no archaeological impact.



Plate 1: A view south across the site towards the rear 28 Lammas Street.



Plate 2: A detail of the deposits revealed by the groundworks. The remains of part of the foundations for the former photography studio are visible at centre left of the photograph.

SOURCES

- James T 1981 *Carmarthen: an archaeological and topographical survey.*
Carmarthen. Carmarthenshire Antiquarian Society
Monograph Series No.2.

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This report has been prepared by Nigel Page

Position: Head of Field Services

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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