

**South Wales Gas Pipeline Project
Site 28.18
Land West of Ashfield
Llansadwrn
Carmarthenshire**

Archaeological Watching Brief



for
Rhead Group
on behalf of
National Grid


CA Project: 9150
CA Report: 13306
Event: DAT108817

July 2013

South Wales Gas Pipeline Project Site 28.18

Archaeological Watching Brief

CA Project: 9150
CA Report: 13306
Event: DAT102846

prepared by	Christopher Leonard, Project Supervisor
date	26 July 2013
checked by	Karen E Walker, Post-Excavation Manager
date	6 May 2015
approved by	Martin Watts, Project Director, Head of Publications
signed	
date	
issue	01

This report is confidential to the client. Cotswold Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

© Cotswold Archaeology

Cirencester Building 11 Kemble Enterprise Park Kemble, Cirencester Gloucestershire, GL7 6BQ t. 01285 771022 f. 01285 771033	Milton Keynes Unit 4 Cromwell Business Centre Howard Way, Newport Pagnell MK16 9QS t. 01908 218320	Andover Office 49 Basepoint Business Centre Caxton Close, Andover Hampshire, SP10 3FG t. 01264 326549
e. enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk		

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
<i>The site</i>	3
<i>Archaeological background</i>	4
<i>Archaeological objectives</i>	4
<i>Methodology</i>	4
2. RESULTS	5
3. PROJECT TEAM	5
4. REFERENCES.....	6
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	7

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)

GLOSSARY

CA – Cotswold Archaeology

CAP – Cambrian Archaeological Projects

CPAT – Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust

DAT – Dyfed Archaeological Trust

GGAT - Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust

FTP – Felindre to Brecon gas pipeline

HER – Historic Environment Record

MHA – Milford Haven to Aberdulais gas pipeline

NAL – Network Archaeology Ltd

NLMJV – Nacap Land & Marine Joint Venture

UPD – Updated Project Design



SUMMARY

Project Name: South Wales Gas Pipeline Project
Location: Site 28.18, Land West of Ashfield, Llansadwrn, Carmarthenshire
NGR: SN 6851 2844
Type: Watching Brief
Date: 5 June 2007
Location of Archive: To be deposited with RCAHMW (original paper archive) and Carmarthenshire Museum (digital copy of paper archive; accession number CAASG 2008.0282)
Site Code: FTP06

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects during groundworks associated with construction of gas pipelines (part of the South Wales high pressure gas pipeline scheme) between Milford Haven and Aberdulais, and Felindre and Brecon, which were conducted between 2005 and 2007.

A small isolated pit containing burnt material was identified. The pit contained no dating evidence.



1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 NACAP Land and Marine Joint Venture (NLMJV), on behalf of National Grid, commissioned RSK Environment (part of the RSK Group) to manage the archaeological works (non-invasive surveys, desk based assessment, evaluation, watching brief, and open area excavation) on a 216km-long section of pipeline from Milford Haven (Pembrokeshire) to Brecon (in Powys). The high pressure gas pipeline (part of the 316km-long pipeline route from Milford Haven to Tirley in Gloucestershire) was required to reinforce the gas transmission network. The archaeological work performed in advance of this pipeline was undertaken in a number of sections by a number of archaeological companies. The westernmost section of 122km, from Milford Haven to Aberdulais, was investigated by CA (then Cotswold Archaeological Trust) during 2005–2007 with some additional excavation work carried out by CAP. The section of 89km, from Felindre to Brecon was investigated by CA during 2006–2007 and CAP during 2007. Assessment reports on the works were completed in January 2012 (NLM 2012a, 2012b) and the current reporting stage was commissioned in February 2013.
- 1.2 In June 2007 CAP carried out an archaeological watching brief at Site 28.18, Land West of Ashfield, Llansadwrn, Carmarthenshire (centred on NGR: SN 6851 2844; Fig. 1). The objective of the watching brief was to record all archaeological remains exposed during the pipeline construction.
- 1.3 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with professional codes, standards and guidance documents (EH 1991; IfA 1999a, 1999b, 2001a, 2001b, 2001c and IfA Wales 2008). The methodologies were laid out in an *Archaeological Framework Document* (RSK 2007) and associated *Written Statements of Investigation* (WSIs) and *Method Statements*.
- The site**
- 1.4 The site is located within a field at approximately 79m AOD on a south-facing slope overlooking the Towy Valley (Fig. 1). The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as the Nantmel Mudstone Formation of the Ordovician Period with no overlying superficial deposits (BGS 2013).

Archaeological background

- 1.5 No archaeological remains were identified within the site during the preliminary *Archaeology and Heritage Survey* (CA 2006) and none are recorded by the HER. The excavations which accompanied the construction of the pipeline recorded two burnt mounds, one associated with an early Bronze Age radiocarbon date, the other undated, and post-medieval brick-producing kilns 350m to the north-east at pipeline Site 28.23 (Fig. 1). A further burnt mound, this with Middle Bronze Age radiocarbon dates, was found at Site 28.14, whilst at Site 28.12 an undated pit was found (Fig. 1). The route of the Roman road leading from Llandeilo to Llandovery passes 400m south-east of the site (PRN 33972).
- 1.6 The site was the subject of an archaeological evaluation undertaken in advance of the pipeline construction work, but this identified no archaeological features (CA 2009, Evaluation Site 28.20, trenches 1 and 2).

Archaeological objectives

- 1.7 The objectives of the archaeological works were:-
- to monitor groundworks, and to identify, investigate and record all significant buried archaeological deposits revealed on the site during the course of the development groundworks; and
 - at the conclusion of the project, to produce an integrated archive for the project work and a report setting out the results of the project and the archaeological conclusions that can be drawn from the recorded data.

Methodology

- 1.8 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the *WSI* (NLM 2006). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising stripping of the pipeline easement to the natural substrate (Fig. 1).
- 1.9 The post-excavation analysis and reporting work was undertaken following the production of the UPD (GA 2012) and included re-examination of the original site records. Finds, environmental and radiocarbon-dating evidence was taken from the assessment reports (NLM 2012b) except where the UPD recommended further work, in which case the updated reports were used. The archaeological background to the site was assessed using the following resources:-

- the *Archaeology and Heritage Survey* which was undertaken in advance of the pipeline construction and which examined a 1km-wide corridor centred on the pipeline centre line, including the then existing HER record (CA 2006);
- Dyfed Archaeological Trust HER data (received July 2014); and
- other online resources, such as Google Earth and Ordnance Survey maps available at <http://www.old-maps.co.uk/index.html>.

All monuments thus identified that were relevant to the site were taken into account when considering the results of the fieldwork.

- 1.10 No site plans were made and the archaeological feature exposed is therefore not illustrated.
- 1.11 The archive from the watching brief is currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. A digital copy of the paper archive will be deposited with Carmarthenshire Museum under accession number CAASG 2008.0282. The original paper archive will be deposited with the RCAHMS.

2. RESULTS

- 2.1 This section provides an overview of the results of the watching brief; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts are to be found in Appendix A.
- 2.2 The mudstone bedrock (2818003) was cut by a small oval pit 0.4m long, 0.3m wide and 0.2m deep with moderately steep sides and a concave base. It had been deliberately backfilled with a deposit of burnt clay and charcoal (2818005) which contained no dating evidence and was not sampled. As it was an undated feature found in isolation, further interpretation is not possible.

3. PROJECT TEAM

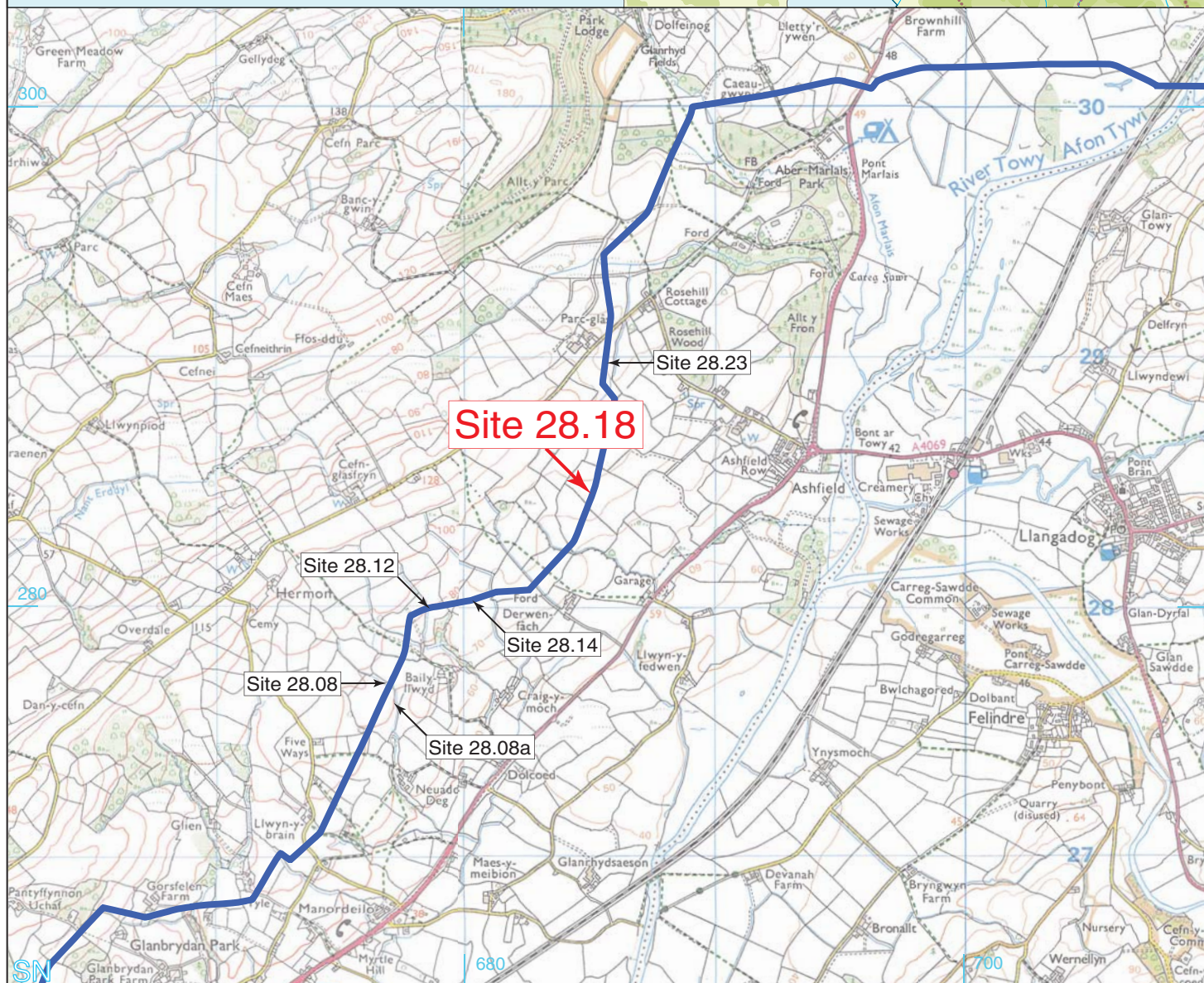
Fieldwork was undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects. This report was written by Christopher Leonard with comments by Jonathan Hart and illustrations prepared by Daniel Bashford. The archive has been compiled by Jonathan Hart and prepared for deposition by Hazel O'Neill. The fieldwork was managed for CAP by Kevin Blockley and the post-excavation was managed for CA by Karen Walker.

4. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 2013 *Geology of Britain Viewer*. Online resource at <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> accessed 12 July 2013
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2006 *Felindre to Tirley Gas Pipeline: Archaeology and Heritage Survey*. CA typescript report **05140**
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009 *Felindre to Brecon Gas Pipeline: Archaeological Evaluation*. CA typescript report **09079**
- EH (English Heritage) 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects 2*
- GA (Groundwork Archaeology) 2012 *Milford Haven to Aberdulais and Felindre to Brecon High Pressure Gas Pipelines: Updated Project Design*
- IfA (Institute for Archaeologists) 1999a *Guidelines for Finds Work*. IfA, Birmingham
- IfA (Institute for Archaeologists) 1999b *Standard and Guidance for Finds and Ecofact Studies and Curation*. IfA, Reading
- IfA (Institute for Archaeologists) 2001a *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*. IfA, Reading
- IfA (Institute for Archaeologists) 2001b *Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluation*
- IfA (Institute for Archaeologists) 2001c *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*
- IfA Wales (Institute for Archaeologists of Wales/Cymru) 2008 *Introducing a Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales*, online resource at <http://www.archaeoleg.org.uk/intro.html> accessed December 2008
- NLM (Nacap Land and Marine) 2006 *Milford Haven to Aberdulais Natural Gas Pipeline: Scheme of investigation for a programme of archaeological works*
- NLM (Nacap Land and Marine) 2012a *Milford Haven to Aberdulais High Pressure Gas Pipeline: Archaeology Assessment of Potential for Analysis*
- NLM (Nacap Land and Marine) 2012b *Felindre to Brecon High Pressure Gas Pipeline: Archaeology Assessment of Potential for Analysis*
- RSK (RSKENSr) 2007 *Felindre to Tirley Natural Gas Pipeline: Archaeological Framework Document*, v7. Nacap Land and Marine Final, RSKENSr Environmental Ltd

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Context No.	Fill of	Context interpretation	Description	L (m)	W (m)	Depth (m)
2818001		Topsoil	Mid grey-brown clay silt			0.2
2818002		Subsoil	Mid red-brown silty clay			0.8
2818003		Natural	Mudstone bedrock			
2818004		Pit	Oval in plan with moderately steep sides and a concave base	0.4	0.3	0.2
2818005	2818004	Pit fill	Dark red-brown compacted burnt clay. Frequent charcoal	0.4	0.3	0.2



- Milford Haven to Aberdulais pipeline
- Felindre to Brecon pipeline
- 0-75m contour
- 75m contour
- 200m contour
- 400m contour
- 600m contour



Cirencester 01285 771022
Milton Keynes 01908 218320
Andover 01264 326549
www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk
enquiries@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk

PROJECT TITLE

South Wales Pipeline. Site 28.18, Land West of Ashfield, Llansadwrn, Carmarthenshire

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

0 1km

Reproduced from the 1999 Ordnance Survey Explorer map with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeology Ltd 100002109

PROJECT NO. 9150 DATE 26-07-2013
DRAWN BY DJB REVISION 00
APPROVED BY PJM SCALE@A4 1:25,000

FIGURE NO.

1