

### Construction of one dwelling on land opposite Station House, Lamphey, Pembroke, Pembrokeshire SA71 5NR.

Archaeological Watching Brief



By

Richard Scott Jones (BA, MA, MCIfA)

May 2017

HRSWales Report No: 178

#### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

### Construction of one dwelling on land opposite Station House, Lamphey, Pembroke, Pembrokeshire SA71 5NR.

By Richard Scott Jones (BA Hons, MA, MCIfA)

Prepared for:

Mr. Luke Lawrence Property Buyers Agent

On behalf of:

Mr. Peter Stokes

Date: May 2017

HRSW Report No: 178



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#### Non Technical Summary

The following report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief, undertaken during the groundwork for the construction of a dwelling on land opposite Station House, Lamphey, Pembroke, Pembrokeshire (centered on OS grid reference SN 0150 0038).

In summary, the archaeological watching brief during groundwork on land opposite the Station House at Lamphey, Pembrokeshire, exposed three features of archaeological interest. Two of these features were exposed during the foundation trenching at the northern end of the proposed dwelling's footprint. Both these features appeared to be sections of linear features, a probable wall and a boundary bank and both may well be Medieval in period, although no dateable material was recovered from either feature, but stratigraphically this would appear to be the case. If this is the case, then both these features are evidence that medieval settlement does indeed extend this far south from Lamphey Church.

The remaining feature was the remains of a large filled late post medieval pit, positioned at the southern end of the proposed dwelling's footprint. Given the form, character and the material recovered from this pit, this feature is likely 19<sup>th</sup> century in date.

#### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 The following report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief, undertaken during the groundwork for the construction of a dwelling on land opposite Station House, Lamphey, Pembroke, Pembrokeshire (centered on OS grid reference SN 0150 0038).
- 1.2 The specific objectives of this work were to:
  - Undertake a watching brief during all groundwork for the proposed development. This envisaged supervision during groundwork for the turf and top soil strip, the foundation trenches and the service trenches.
- 1.3 The Technical Appendices for this Chapter contains the following information:
  - Appendix I: Figures;
  - Appendix II: Photographs
  - Appendix III: Context Register
  - Appendix IV: Archive Cover Sheet

#### Site Location & Description

- 1.4 The application site, measuring 0.074ha in area, is a roughly triangular level parcel of land flanking the western side of the A4139, immediately north of the railway station platform and opposite Station House lying within the centre of the village of Lamphey (centered on OS grid reference SN 0150 0038). The southern portion of the site contained a number of single storey domestic sheds with the periphery covered in self-set shrubs and small trees.
- 1.5 The plot has an existing access via a gated entrance onto the road serving the station and surrounding properties. There is a low level stone wall along the western boundary and a post and rail timber fence along the eastern boundary adjacent to the main road which is at a higher level. Adjacent to the south eastern corner is a bridge over the railway line.

#### **Development Proposals**

- 1.6 The development proposal is for one detached  $1\frac{1}{2}$  storey dwelling with a single storey wing. The footprint of the main dwelling will measure approximately  $13m \times 7.5m$  and the side wing will measure approximately  $7m \times 4.5m$ . Originally there were proposals to build a detached garage at the northern end of the site, with a footprint measuring approximately  $6.5m \times 4.5m$ , but this proposal was eventually dropped and the area became a parking area only.
- 1.7 Also, originally the existing access point was at the northern end was to be closed and a new access point constructed just to the north and the western boundary will be defined by a rebuilt stone wall to a height of 0.9m. However, as with the garage, this proposal was also dropped and the existing access point was to remain open and re-used. Foul drainage will drain by gravity into the existing

public sewer in highway at the front of the site and surface water will be disposed via soak-aways. Electricity is served to the property by an existing pole at the southwestern end of the site.

#### **Planning Background**

1.8 Following re-submission of a planning application (Ref: 15/0449/PA) detailing the development proposals to Pembrokeshire County Council (henceforth PCC) on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2015, Outline planning permission was granted by PCC on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2015, with condition 10 stipulating that:

"No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. This shall be in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority." **Reason**: To ensure the recording of any items of archaeological interest to accord with Policy GN.38 of the Local Development Plan for Pembrokeshire (adopted 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013).

1.9 HRS Wales were commissioned by Mr Luke Lawrence to undertake the required archaeological works.

#### **Historical & Archaeological Background**

1.10 The proposed development area lies within the medieval settlement of Lamphey and in close proximity to the Parish Church (PRN 3511), which has early-medieval origins. The churchyard is thought to have been in existence by AD 1100. Because of this medieval origin, there is potential for archaeological deposits associated with medieval occupation to extend into the application area, where they could be damaged by development ground-works.

#### Geology

1.15 The geology of the application area is generally of undifferentiated Dinantian Rocks, consisting of Limestone with Subordinate Sandstone and Argillaceous Rocks

#### 2 Aims & Objectives

- 2.1 The aims of the watching brief, as defined by the ClfA (2014) were to:
  - Allow a rapid investigation and recording of any archaeological features that are uncovered during the proposed groundwork.
  - Provide the opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief are not sufficient to support the treatment to a satisfactory or proper standard.

#### 3 Methodology

#### Watching Brief

3.1 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken by HRS Wales staff using current best practice during –August 2016. At the time of writing it was still uncertain as to the route of the service trench and

it was anticipated that this work was going to be undertaken in April/May 2017. However, it was eventually concluded that the services will be going through an area of already disturbed ground as well as through already exposed natural.

- 3.2 All work was carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist with relevant level membership of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CI*f*A) and followed the CI*f*A Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief (CI*f*A 2014).
- 3.3 All proposed groundwork was undertaken under close and constant archaeological supervision. All groundwork by the contractor was undertaken using a mechanical digger with a toothless grading bucket. On occasion a toothed bucket was also required when bedrock was encountered.
- 3.4 All archaeological deposits or features when encountered were to be cleaned, recorded and partially excavated. All finds recovered during the watching brief were to be bagged and a grid coordinate was taken using a handheld GPS device in order to locate the findspot with the OS national grid.
- 3.5 Recording was carried out using HRS Wales recording systems (pro-forma context sheets etc), using a continuous number sequence for all contexts.
- 3.6 Where considered necessary plans and sections were drawn to a scale of 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 as required and related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.
- 3.7 All features identified were tied in to the both the OS National Grid and all local site and ground plans.
- 3.8 Photographs were appropriated in digital format, using both a 10 mega-pixel and 14 mega-pixel DSLR camera in both RAW and JPEG formats.

#### 4 Cartographic Sources

#### OS Surveyors drawing (1809)

4.1 This early Ordnance Survey map is at a scale that does not greatly inform as to the character and form of the proposed development area. However, it does show that the area is much the same as that shown on the tithe map of 1842, which is at a far more informative scale (see following section)

#### Tithe Map of the parish of Lamphey (1842)

- 4.2 The tithe map for the parish of Lamphey depicts the development area as occupying two small enclosed fields or meadows, marked as numbers '201' and '202'. Within the apportionment record for the parish, both these areas of land were owned by one Charles Mathias who tenanted the meadows out to one William Morgan, who is known to have farmed a substantial area of Lamphey parish. Number '201' is recorded as a 'cottage and garden', and number '202' is recorded as being known as 'Collins Hay'.
- 4.3 At this time the railway line was still in the planning phase.

#### Ordnance Survey First Edition (1869)

4.4 By 1869, the railway had already been in use for six years, having been opened in 1863. The proposed development area is shown as being only one small meadow with a small square roofed building at the far northern end. The construction of the railway embankment and the bridge over the railway cut off a large section of the southern and eastern parts of the development area.

#### Ordnance Survey Second Edition (1908)

4.5 No great change from the earlier edition OS map series.

#### Ordnance Survey 1938 Edition

4.6 No great change from the earlier edition OS map series.

#### Ordnance Survey 1953 Edition

4.7 No great change from the earlier edition OS map series. By this time, the small square roofed building at the northern end of the site is still in use.

#### 5 Results of Watching Brief

- 5.1 At the time of the initial site visit, the area of the proposed development was completely overgrown with vegetation, with no surface evidence of the presence of a former building at the northern end. This building was presumably demolished in the last few decades or so. The only obvious site evidence that a building had once stood at the far northern end of the site was from the presence of the former entrance to the site and the enclosing stone wall.
- 5.2 Groundwork for the proposed scheme was undertaken in the following chronological order:
  - i) Turf and top soil strip;
  - ii) Levelling of footprint for dwelling, with removal of sub soil;
  - iii) Foundation trench cutting
  - iv) Service trench
- 5.3 Each of the groundwork phases will be described individually in the same chronological order.

#### *i)* Turf and top soil stripping

5.4 Initially, the entire development area was stripped of vegetation, turf (100) and top soil (101). This was undertaken using a mechanical excavator with a non-toothed bucket. This work commenced at the far southern end of the site. Here, removal of vegetation and turf exposed a series of concrete foundation slabs and a number of timber railway sleepers associated with a small complex of garden sheds that formerly occupies the site until recently. These slabs and timbers were removed from the development area. Once all of the overgrown vegetation and the turf had been removed across the entire development area, the process of top soil removal began. The top soil (101) averaged approximately 0.20m in depth. Dateable material recovered from this top soil included modern 20<sup>th</sup>

century glass, iron brackets, screws, bolts and the occasional fragments of 19<sup>th</sup> century bottle glass and pottery (not retained).

#### ii) Levelling of footprint for dwelling, with removal of sub soil

5.5 Once the area had been completely stripped of vegetation, turf and top soil, the area of the proposed footprint for the dwelling was levelled. This process involved the partial removal of sub soils (102 / 103), particularly at the eastern end where the terrain was rising steeply to accommodate the railway bridge embankment. The initial sub soil (102) encountered was a mid brown loose soil deposit. This contained fragments of 19<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery and measured on average across the area approximately 0.05m – 0.10m in depth. Directly below this deposit was a silty/sandy light orange coloured deposit (103). This measured between 0.20 – 0.40m in depth and contained only a few fragments of late 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery (not retained). Once the footprint for the dwelling had been leveled off, the cutting of the foundations began.

#### iii) Foundation trench cutting

- 5.6 Once the area of the proposed footprint had been cleared and leveled to a suitable depth, the cutting for the foundation trenches began. This groundwork generally cut through two main sub deposits (103 / 114). Initial cutting for the foundation trenches began at the far southwestern corner. At this point of the trench cutting, it soon became clear that groundwork here was cutting through the remains of a large post medieval pit (108). The full extent of this pit was not fully ascertained due to limits of excavation. However, there was the suggestion from what was exposed, that the pit may measure some 4-5 meters in diameter. Due to the looseness of the fill of this pit, which contained dateable material covering the 18<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, all of the fill deposits (109/110/111/112/113) had to be removed in order to expose solid and suitable ground on which to build the proposed foundation. The removal of these fill deposits had been removed from this post medieval pit, it was immediately refilled with concrete to the required foundation level. The removal of this fill entailed the cutting of two 'steps' in the natural (114).
- 5.7 Once the part excavated area of this pit had been back filled with concrete, the cutting for the foundations continued.
- 5.8 Groundwork for the continued foundation cutting did not expose any further dateable material from the trenches. However, it did expose parts of two interesting features (104 and 106). The first of these was the remains of a section of what appeared to be a former boundary bank (104) positioned at the northeastern corner of the foundation trench. The section of bank appeared to be orientated southeast to northwest. The section that was visible measured approximately 1.10m in width x 0.50m in height, as shown in ground plan (Figure 11) and west facing section (Figure 13 Section C-D). The bank consisted of compacted pink/red sandstone intermixed with pink clay, grit and the occasional small lumps of irregular shaped green sandstone, none larger than 0.05m in size. This feature was interpreted as the probable remains of former medieval boundary bank. No dateable

material was recovered from within or surrounding this feature. However stratigraphy would suggest that this feature is most likely medieval in date.

5.9 The other interesting feature exposed during groundwork for the foundation trenches, was a small section of what appeared to be another linear feature (106) at the northwestern corner of the foundation trench (see Figure 11). Here the remains of a section of an apparent earth and stone feature became exposed. If this feature is the remains of a linear feature, then it appears to again be orientated southeast to northwest, similar to CN104. What was exposed measured approximately 1.10m in width x approximately 0.50m in height. The feature consisted of compacted pink/red sandstone intermixed with pink clay, grit and fairly large lumps of irregular shaped pale green sandstone, none larger than 0.20m in size. There was no evidence of any mortar between the stones. This feature was interpreted as the possible remains of either a medieval structure or else another former boundary bank. No dateable material was recovered. However, as with CN104, the stratigraphy would suggest that this is the most likely period for this structure and as such it is also likely contemporary in period to CN104. Given that this feature is positioned fairly close to the probable boundary bank (104), it seems unlikely that it is another contemporary boundary bank, but more likely the foundations of a structure of some kind, perhaps a stone wall.

#### iv) Service trench

5.10 Service trenches for both the electric and foul drain connecting to the main sewer were inserted in already disturbed ground.

#### 6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The archaeological watching brief during groundwork on land opposite the Station House at Lamphey, Pembrokeshire, exposed three features of archaeological interest. Two of these features were exposed during the foundation trenching at the northern end of the proposed dwelling's footprint. Both these features appeared to be sections of linear features, a probable wall and a boundary bank and both may well be Medieval in period, although no dateable material was recovered from either feature. If this is the case, then both these features are evidence that medieval settlement does indeed extend this far south from Lamphey Church.
- 6.2 The remaining feature was the remains of a large filled late post medieval pit, positioned at the southern end of the proposed dwelling's footprint. Given the form, character and the material recovered from this pit, this feature is likely 19<sup>th</sup> century in date.

#### 7 Acknowledgements

Thanks to; the landowner for allowing access to the site and to the site contractor, Mike Goodrick for all his patience and understanding during the groundwork.

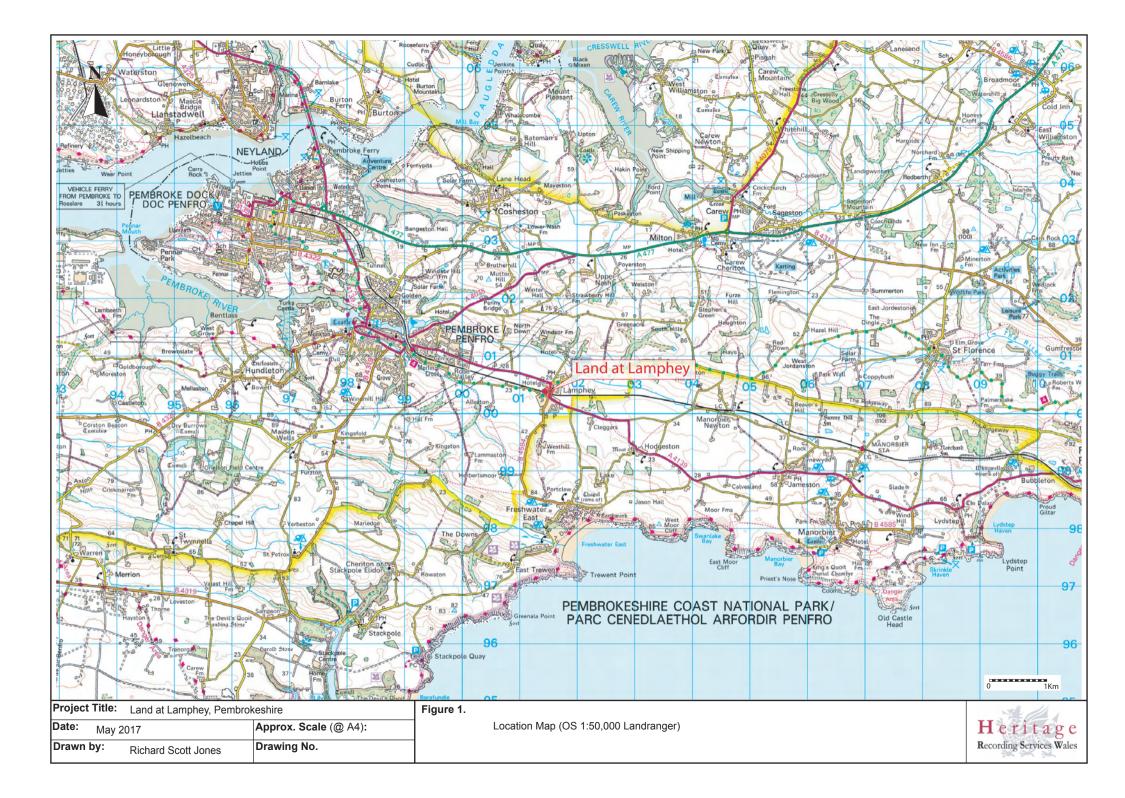
#### 8 Bibliography

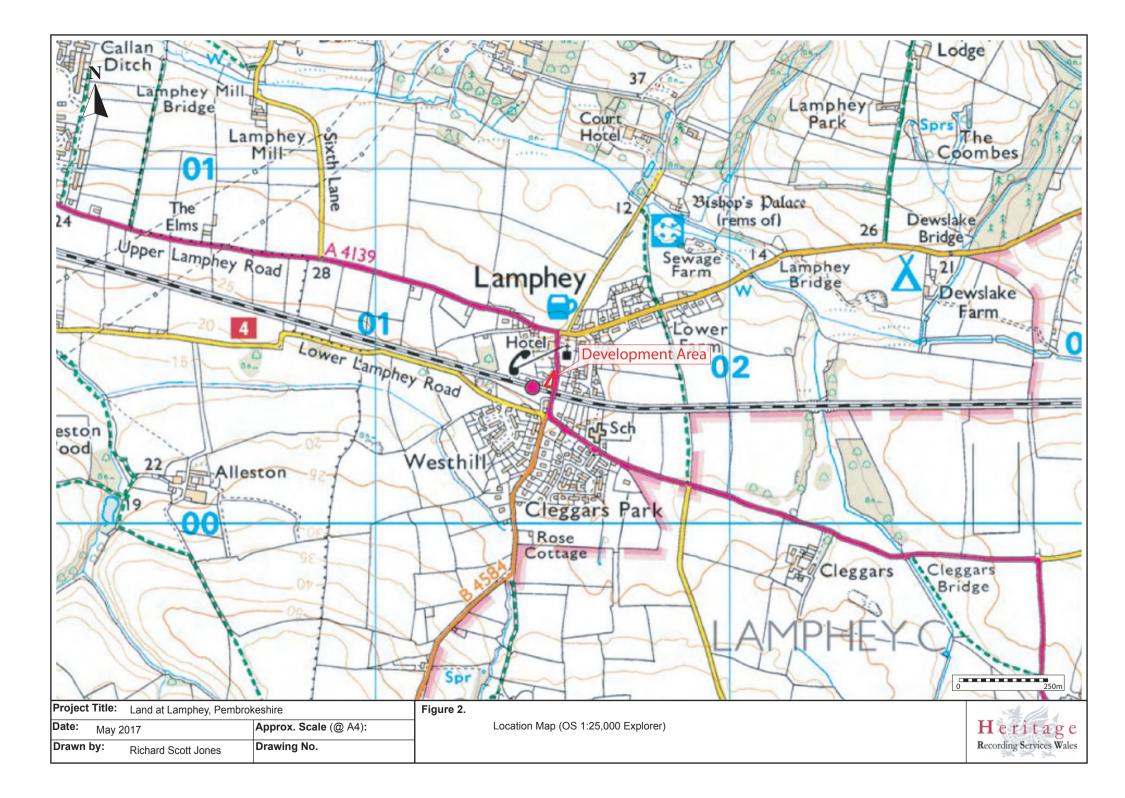
British Geological Survey 1979, Ten Mile Map 3rd edition (solid) 1:625000) Soils of England and Wales 1983. Sheet 2: Wales, 1:25000

#### Cartographic Sources

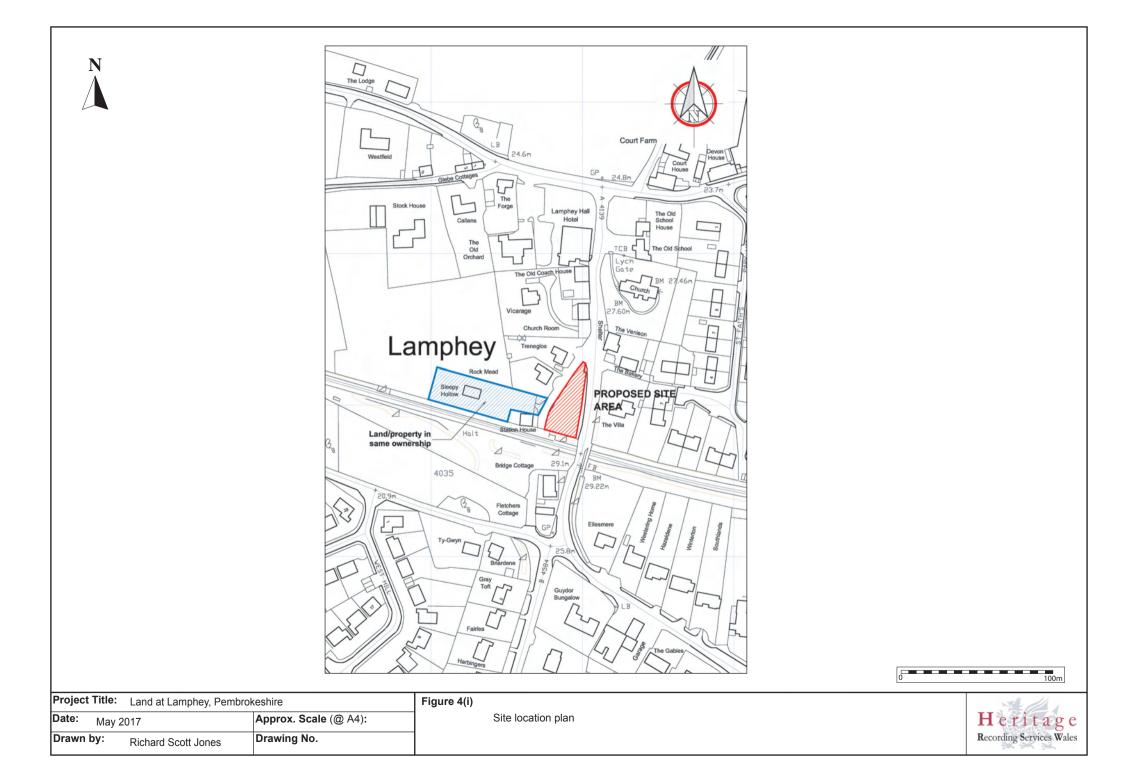
OS Surveyors drawing (1809) Tithe Map and Apportionment – Lamphey Parish (1842) OS First Edition Map (1869) OS Second Edition Map (1908) OS 1938 Edition Map (1938) OS 1953 Edition Map (1953)

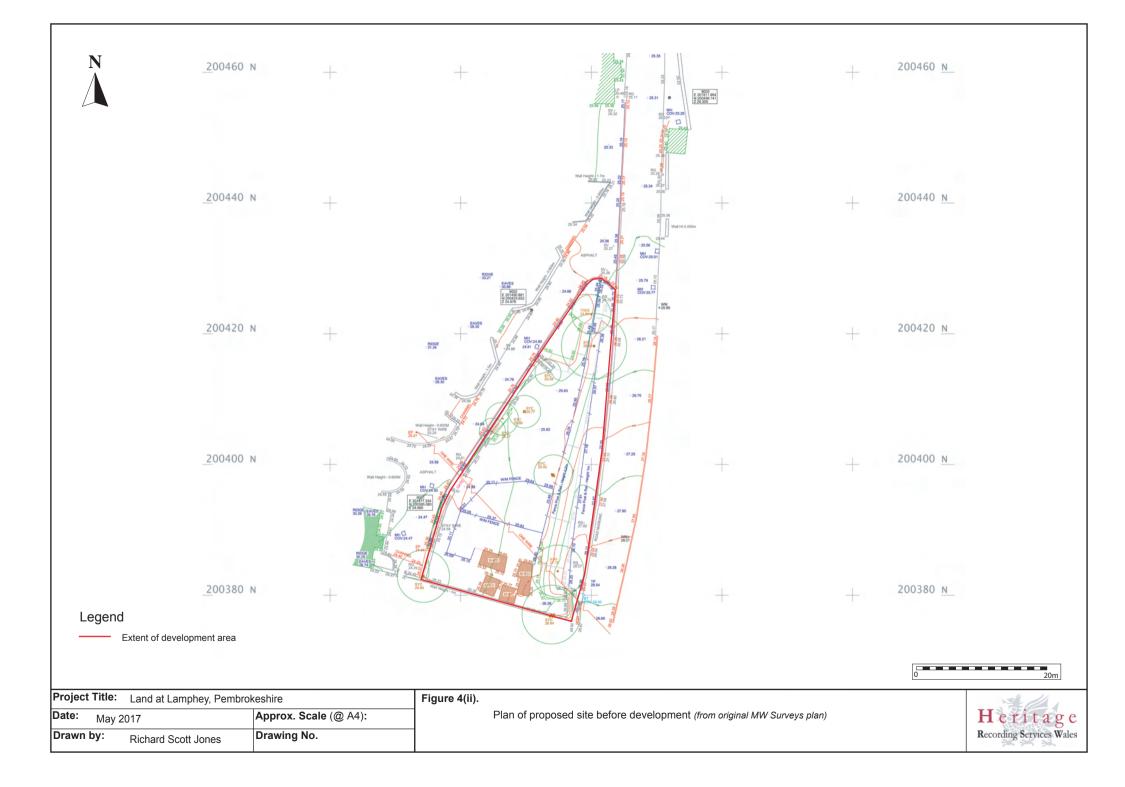
## **APPENDIX I:** Figures

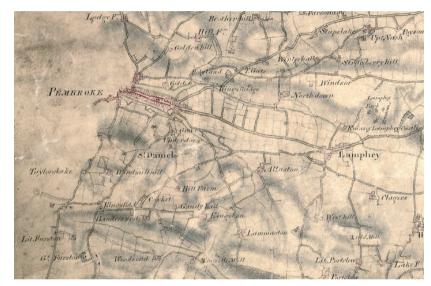




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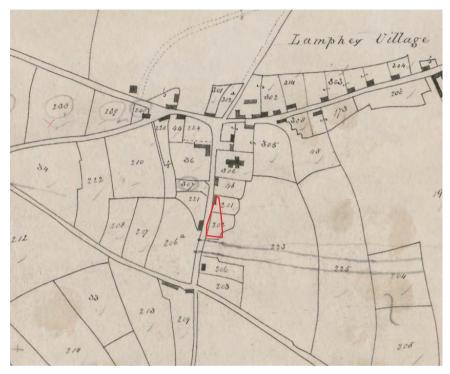






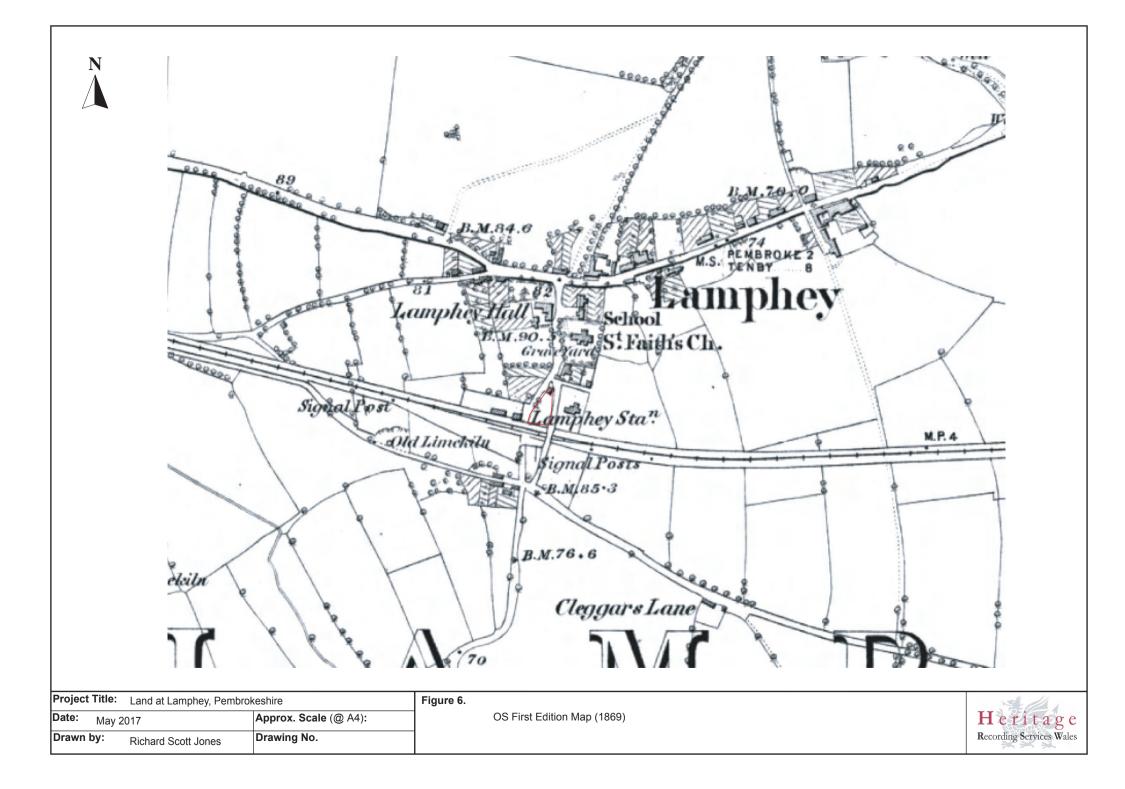
A) OS Surveyors drawing (1809)

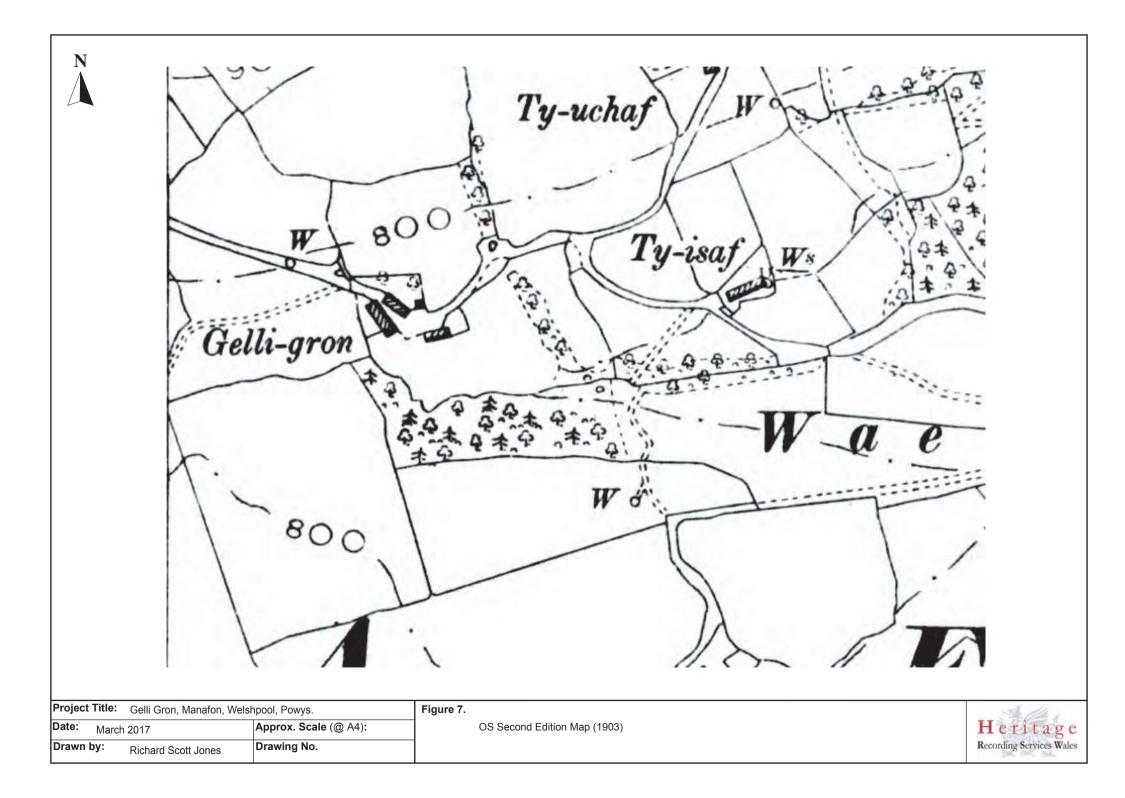
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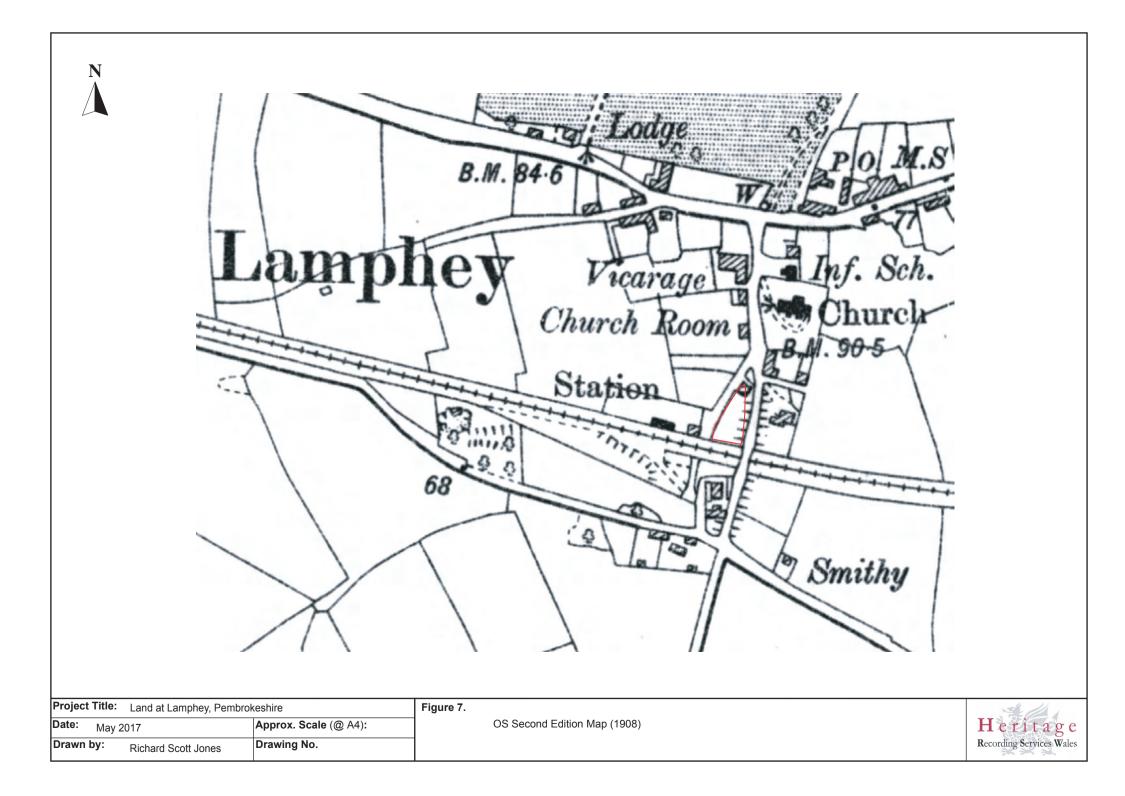


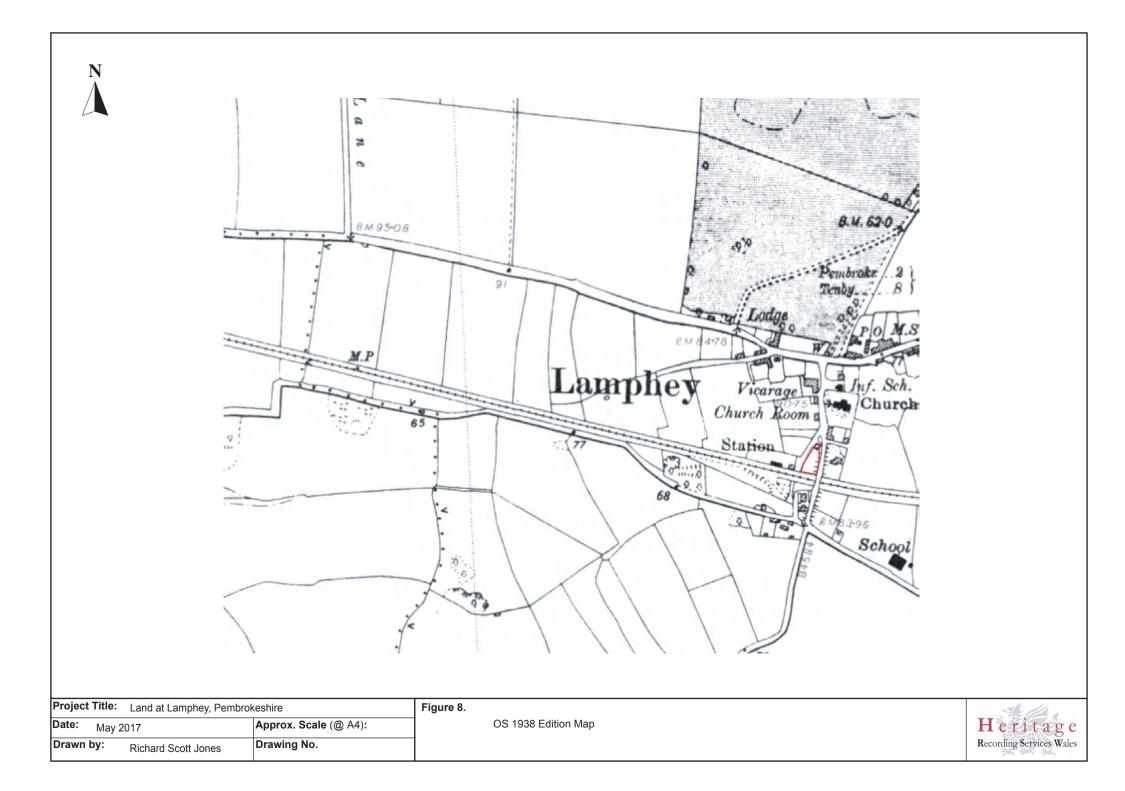
B) Tithe Map - Lamphey parish (1842)

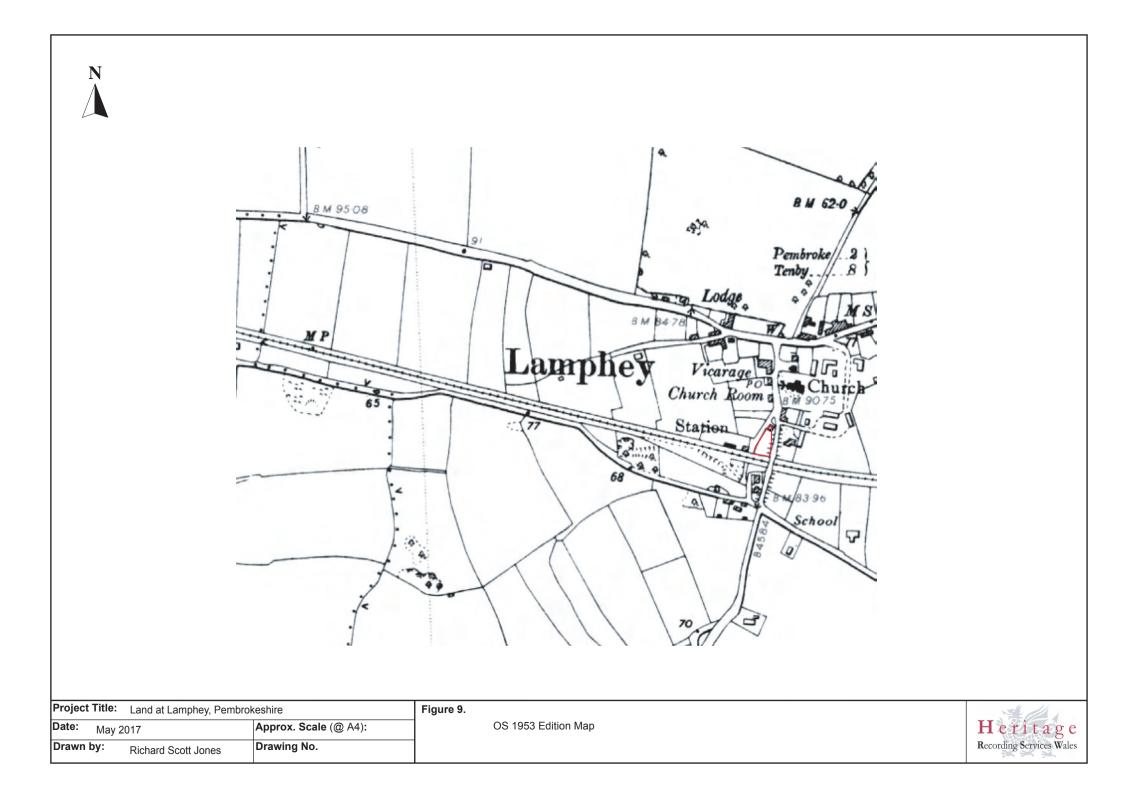
Project Title: Land at Lamphey, Pembrokeshire		Figure 5.	
Date: May 2017	Approx. Scale (@ A4):	OS Surveyors drawing and Tithe Map for Lamphey parish.	Heritage
Drawn by: Richard Scott Jones	Drawing No.		Recording Services Wales

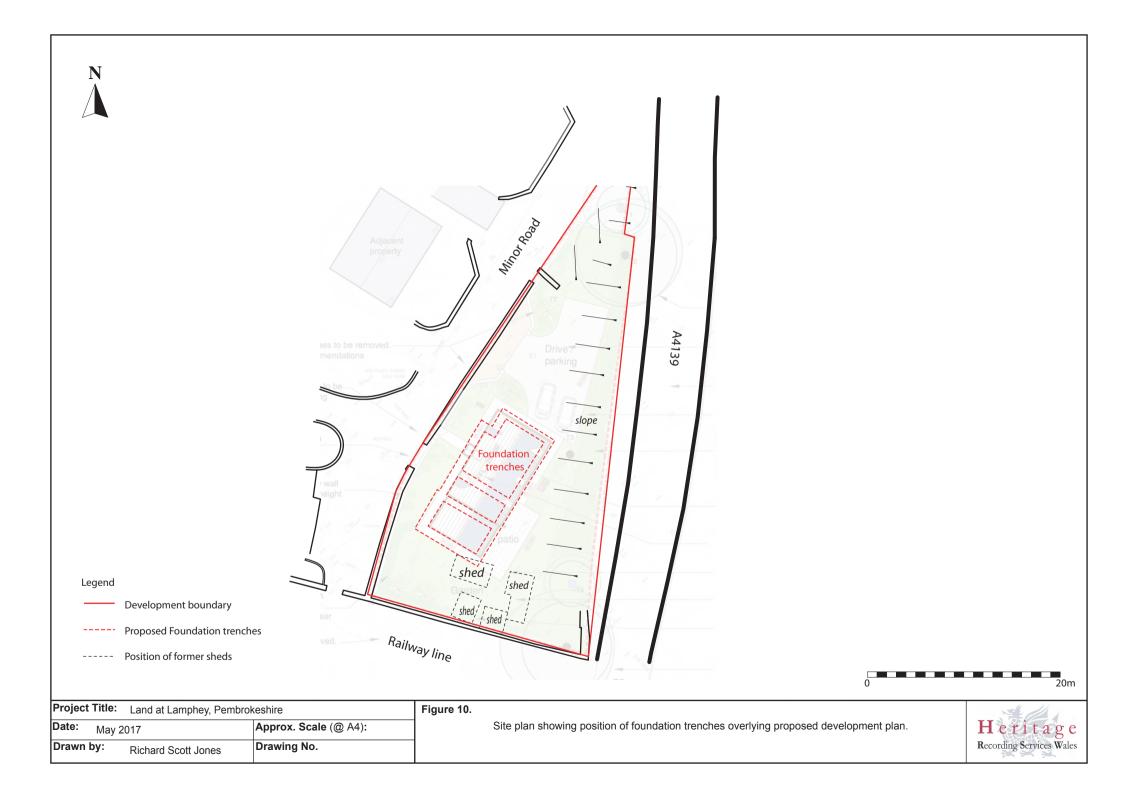


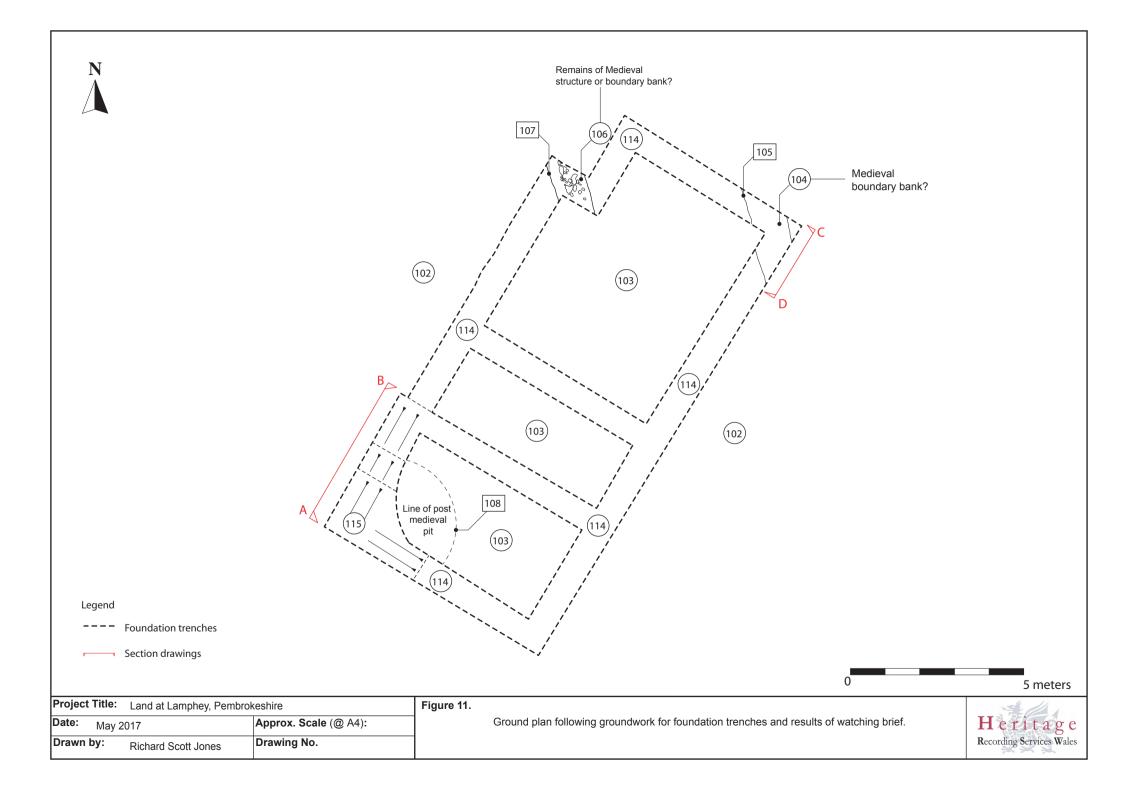


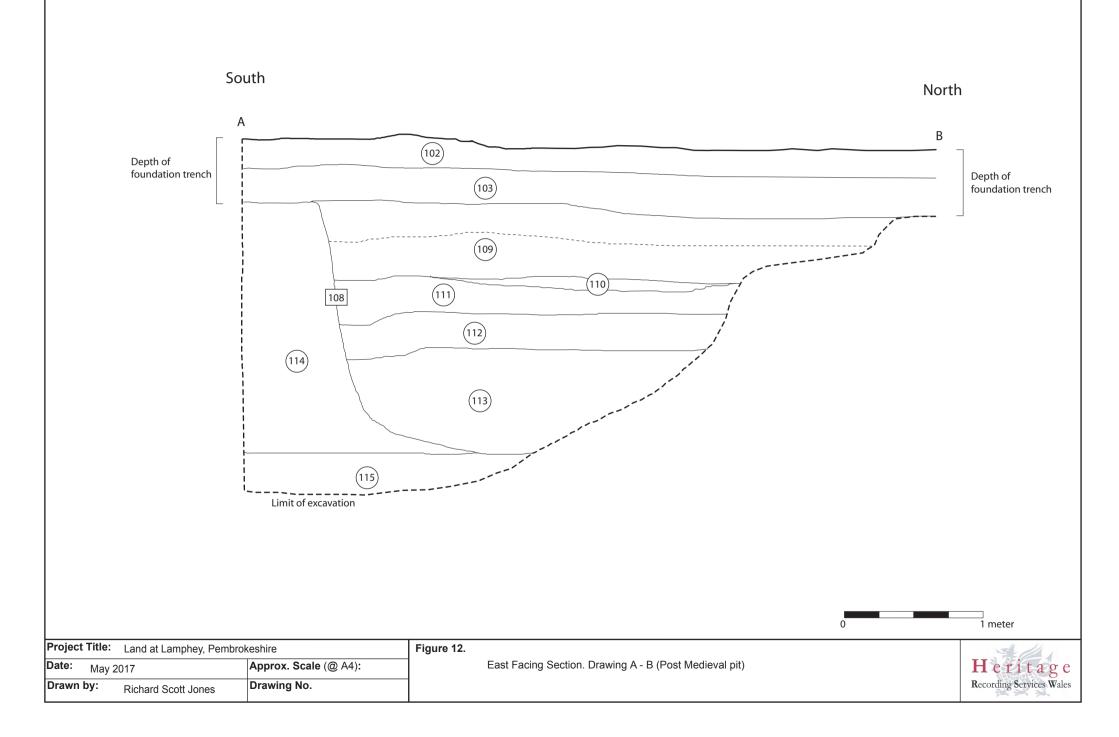


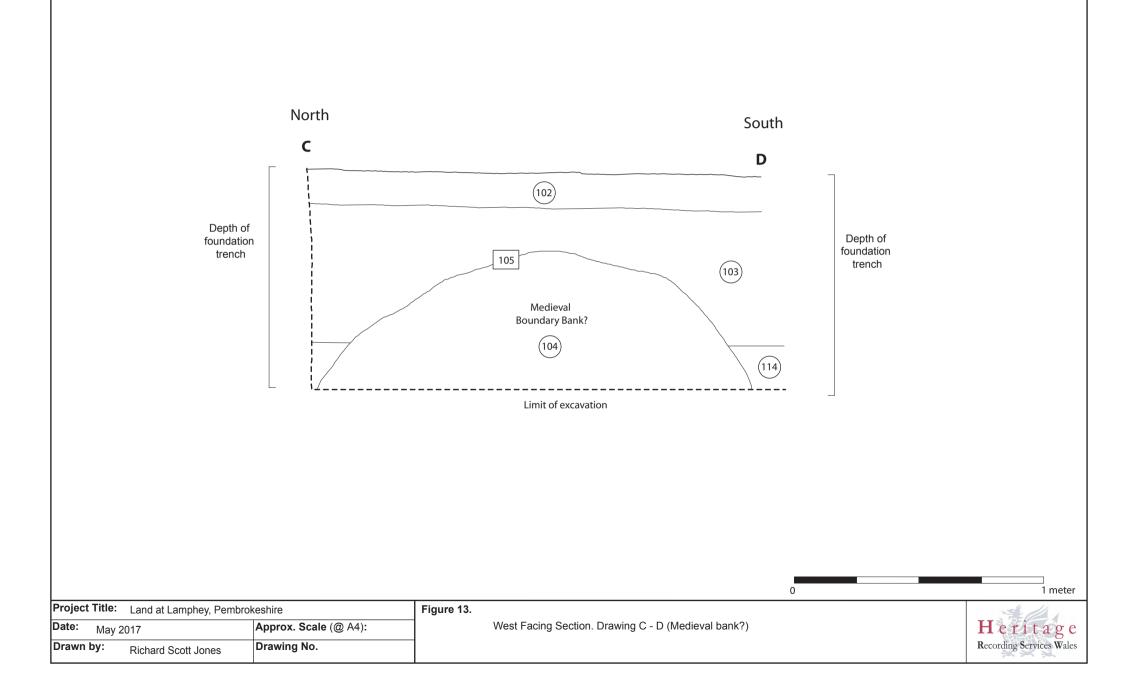












## APPENDIX II: Photo plates



Plate 1. View of development area. Looking southwards.



Plate 3. View of development area. Looking southeast.

Project Title: Land opposite Station House, Lamphey

May 2017

Richard Scott Jones

Date taken:

Photographer:



Plate 2. View of development area. Looking northwards towards Lamphey Church.



Plate 4. Working shot during turf and top soil stripping. Looking northwards.



Photo Plate No's.

1 - 4



Plate 5. Working shot during turf and top soil stripping. Looking northwards.



*Plate 7. Area of proposed development following turf and top soil strip. Looking southwards.* 

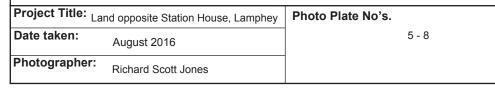




Plate 6. Area of proposed development following turf and top soil strip. Looking northeast.



*Plate 8. Working shot during partial sub soil removal when levelling area. Looking s outheast.* 





Plate 9. Development footprint following removal of sub soil. Looking northwards.



Plate 11. Working shot during cutting of foundation trench. Looking eastwards.



Plate 10. Working shot during cutting of foundation trench. Looking eastwards.



Plate 12. View of post medieval pit with re-deposited material at far southern end of site. Looking northwards.



Project Title: Land opposite Station House, Lamphey		Photo Plate No's.	
Date taken:	August 2016		9 - 12
Photographer:	Richard Scott Jones		



*Plate 13. Exposed post medieval pit at southern end of development area. Looking westwards.* 



Photo Plate No's.

13 - 16

Plate 15. Post medieval pit with concrete fill. Looking westwards.



*Plate 14. Working shot during concrete delivery to back fill post medieval pit. Looking northwards.* 



Plate 16. Working shot durin continued foundation trench cutting. Looking northwards.



# Date taken: August 2016 Photographer: Richard Scott Jones

Project Title: Land opposite Station House, Lamphey



Plate 17. Exposed earth and stone feature/structure at northwest end (106). Looking northwest.



Plate 19. Exposed earth and stone feature/structure at northwest end (106). Overhead view.

Photo Plate No's.

17 - 20

Project Title: Land opposite Station House, Lamphey

August 2016

Richard Scott Jones

Date taken:

Photographer:



*Plate 18. Exposed earth and stone feature/structure at northwest end (106). Looking northeast.* 



Plate 20. Exposed earth and stone bank at northeast end (104). Looking northeast.





Plate 21. Exposed earth and stone bank at northeast end (104). Looking east.



Plate 23. Completed groundwork for foundation cutting. Looking southwest.



Plate 22. Completed groundwork for foundation cutting. Looking south.



Plate 24. Completed groundwork for foundation cutting. Looking southwest.



## APPENDIX III: Context Register

### **Appendix III**

#### **Context Register**

#### <u>Contexts</u>

100. Turf

- 101. Deposit Top soil. Mid brown/grey top soil deposit. Contains modern waste material, including fragments of 20<sup>th</sup> and late 19<sup>th</sup> Century glass and pottery. Measured approximately 0.20m in depth.
- 102. Deposit Sub soil. Mid brown sub soil deposit. Contains fragments of 19<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery.
   Measured approximately 0.05m 0.10m in depth.
- 103. Deposit Silty/sandy light orange coloured deposit. Measured between approximately 0.20 0.40m in depth. Contained only a few fragments of 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery.
- 104. Feature Earth and stone boundary bank. Exposed at far north-eastern end of foundation trench. Appears to be orientated southeast to northwest. Measures approximately 1.10m in width x 0.50m in height as shown in ground plan and west facing section. Consists of compacted pink/red sandstone intermixed with pink clay, grit and occasional small lumps of irregular shaped green sandstone, none larger than 0.05m in size. Probable remains of former medieval boundary bank. No dateable material recovered. However stratigraphy would suggest that this is the most likely period for this feature.
- 105. Cut Cut for earth and stone boundary bank (CN104). Depth of cut not ascertained.
- 106. Structure Remains of earth and stone linear feature. Exposed at far north-western corner of foundation trench. Appears to be orientated southeast to northwest, similar to CN104. Measures approximately 1.10m in width. Height approximately 0.50m. Consists of compacted pink/red sandstone intermixed with pink clay, grit and fairly large lumps of irregular shaped pale green sandstone, none larger than 0.20m in size. No evidence of any mortar. Possible remains of medieval structure or else former boundary bank. No dateable material recovered. However stratigraphy would suggest that this is the most likely period for this structure and is likely contemporary in period to CN104.
- 107. Cut Cut for earth and stone linear structure (CN106). Depth of cut not ascertained.
- 108. Cut Cut for large waste pit exposed at far southern end of foundation cut. Extent not fully ascertained due to limits of excavation. However, there is a suggestion from what is exposed that the pit may measure some 4-5 meters in diameter and reaches a maximum depth of approximately 3 meters. Filled with re-deposited waste material. Dateable material covered the 18<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- 109. Deposit Deposit of re-deposited waste material. Consists of dark organic soil intermixed with lime mortar. Measured approximately 0.90m in depth. Dateable material covered the 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- 110. Deposit Thin lens deposit of cockle shells and lime mortar within re-deposited waste material (CN109). Approximately 0.10-0.15m in depth.
- 111. Deposit Re-deposited material. Silty/sandy clay.
- 112. Deposit Re-deposited material. Light orange/pale pink silty/sandy clay.
- 113. Deposit Re-deposited material. Silty/sandy clay intermixed with irregular stones..
- 114. Natural Natural deposit of light pink/orange silty sandy clay. Depth between 1-2m.
- 115. Natural Natural deposit of pale red sandstone. Full depth not reached.

## **APPENDIX IV: Archive Cover Sheet**

#### ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

#### Land opposite Station House, Lamphy, Pembrokeshire

#### ARCHIVE DESTINATION – RCHAMW

Site Name:	Land opposite Station House, Lamphy, Pembrokeshire
Site Code:	LLP/2016/WB
PRN:	
NPRN :	N/A
SAM:	N/A
Other Ref No:	HRSW Report No. 178
NGR:	SN 0150 0038
Site Type:	Potential medieval settlement area.
Project Type:	Watching Brief
Project Manager:	Richard Scott Jones
Project Dates:	August 2016
Categories Present:	N/A
Location of Original Archive:	RCAHMW
Location of duplicate Archives:	Dyfed Archaeological Trust
Number of Finds Boxes:	None
Location of Finds:	N/A
Museum Reference:	N/A
Copyright:	HRS Wales
Restrictions to access:	None



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