

**OLD POTTERY, KING STREET
LAUGHARNE, CARMARTHEN, SA33 4RY
WATCHING BRIEF
SN3018010935
Planning application – W/38778
(Carmarthenshire)**



Report by: Trysor

For: Max Howells

April 2021



**OLD POTTERY, KING STREET
LAUGHARNE, CARMARTHEN, SA33 4QE
WATCHING BRIEF
SN3017510935
Planning application – W/38778
(Carmarthenshire)**

By

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Trysor

Trysor Project No. 2019/698
Event Record HER PRN: DAT 114830

For: Max Howells

April 2021

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Cover photograph: The development area, looking southeast.

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RHIF YR ADRODDIAD - REPORT NUMBER: Trysor 2019/698
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DYDDIAD: 5^{ed} Mis Ebrill 2021 **DATE:** 5th April 2021

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan bartneriad Trysor. Mae wedi ei gael yn gywir ac yn derbyn ein sêl bendith.

This report was prepared by the Trysor partners. It has been checked and received our approval.

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Croesawn unrhyw sylwadau ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn.

We welcome any comments on the content or structure of this report.

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Event Record PRN – DAT HER

PRN	114830
Name	Old Pottery, King Street, Laugharne, Carmarthen, SA33 4RY Watching Brief, SN3017510935, Planning application – W/38778 (Carmarthenshire)
Type	WATCHING BRIEF
NGR	SN3018010935
Easting	230175
Northing	110935
Summary (English)	In October 2019, Trysor undertook a watching brief at SN3018010935 on groundworks for Unit 1 of a nine-unit residential development at the Old Pottery, King Street, Laugharne. Three mortared stone walls and a cobbled surface were recorded below a deep layer of demolition material derived from the bus depot which formerly stood on the site. These are thought to be remains of the stables that occupied the site in the 19 th century. No earlier artefacts or features were recorded. © Trysor 2021
Summary (Cymraeg)	Yn Hydref 2019, fe gariwyd allan brîff gwyllo ar safle Uned 1 o fewn datblygiad ar gyfer naw tŷ yn SN3018010935, Yr Hen Grochenwaith, Stryd y Brenin, Talacharn. Cofnodwyd olion tair wal mortar a llawr cobls wedi’u claddu o dan haenen ddofn o rwbl gafodd ei greu o olion y depo bysiau a safai ar y safle yn y gorffennol. Credir bod y waliau a’r cobls yn gysylltiedig ag ystablau a safai yma yn ystod y 19eg ganrif. Ni ddaethpwyd ar draws unrhyw olion nac arteffactau cynharach. © Trysor 2021
Description	In October 2019, Trysor undertook a watching brief at SN3018010935 on groundworks for Unit 1 of a nine-unit residential development at the Old Pottery, King Street, Laugharne. Three mortared stone walls and a cobbled surface were recorded below a deep layer of demolition material derived from the bus depot which formerly stood on the site. These are thought to be remains of the stables that occupied the site in the 19 th century. No earlier artefacts or features were recorded. © Trysor 2021
Sources	Trysor, 2021, Old Pottery, King Street, Laugharne, Carmarthen, SA33 4RY, Watching Brief SN3018010935 Planning application – W/38778 (Carmarthenshire)
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1. Summary

1.1 In October 2019, Trysor undertook a watching brief at SN3018010935 on the mechanical excavation of foundation trenches for a new house (Unit 1) on the site of the modern pottery and former bus depot on King Street, Laugharne, Carmarthenshire, planning application W/38778.

1.2 Evidence for the stabling shown on the 19th century tithe map was found in the form of three walls and a cobbled surface set in clay. These were sealed beneath a deep layer of crushed brick, presumably from demolition of the former bus depot which occupied the site in the later 20th century.

1.3 No artefacts predating the 19th century were retrieved.

2. Copyright

2.1 Trysor hold the copyright of this report and of the paper and digital archive. Further paper copies may be made of this report without gaining permission to reproduce but it must be noted that Figures 4, 9 and 10 include other copyright material and should not be copied.

3. Introduction

3.1 Max Howells, c/o Gaisford House, King Street Laugharne, Carmarthenshire SA33 4RY commissioned Trysor heritage consultants to write a Written Scheme of Investigation for a building plot in King Street, Laugharne, Carmarthen, SA33 4RY, relating to planning application number: W/38778 (Carmarthenshire).

3.2 Trysor prepared a Written Scheme of Investigation, in line with the Standards and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists which was approved by the local authority, see Appendix 2.

4. The development

4.1 The development is on land to the south of Gaisford House on the west side of King Street, Laugharne, Carmarthenshire at SN3018010935, see Figure 1.

4.2 The planning application was for full planning permission for nine dwellings and associated infrastructure, W/38778 (Carmarthenshire). This report covers Unit 1 only of the nine dwellings.

5. Conditions on the consent

5.1 In granting approval for the outline application, the Local Planning Authority imposed a condition on the consent; the condition specifies the actions necessary to mitigate the impact of the development on the archaeological resource.

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 in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: To protect the archaeological interests at the site.



Figure 1: Location of the development

6. Historical and Archaeological Overview

6.1 Laugharne has medieval origins. In 1170 an Anglo-Norman castle was built here and a small town soon developed alongside the inlet on the Tâf estuary. The town was given borough status in the late 13th century. It may have initially been a small, walled town, but little is known about the line of any town defences, although these are suspected to have been a simple earthwork bank and ditch and may have followed the line of the modern Newbridge Road and Victoria Street to the south of the development site (CAP, 2000, 1.1). This would have created a triangular area with the town defences forming its northern side, the Afon Corran the western side and the Tâf estuary the eastern side, with the castle at the southern point of the triangle, overlooking the inlet.

6.2 The Gatehouse website reports that there were three town gates which stood at entrances to the medieval town; one stood at the bridge over the Corran at the western end of Wogan Street, a second at Mariner's corner, where Newbridge Road and Victoria Street are intersected by Market Street, and a third gate at the eastern end of Victoria Street (which was originally called Hangman's Lane). These gates were all lost before the 20th century.

6.3 The town had expanded outside the core by later medieval times. In the later 19th century Laugharne became a popular destination for visitors and the town saw another period of expansion. The appeal of Laugharne was increased in the second half of the 20th century due to its association with the poet Dylan Thomas and it remains popular with tourists to the present day.

6.4 Unit 1 of the development site is located within a plot on the western side of King Street, Laugharne. It is at the eastern end of a land parcel numbered as 347 on the Laugharne parish tithe map of 1846. At that time the buildings in the parcel were described as "stables and yard" in the ownership and occupation of Mary Thomas. She may have owned multiple houses and parcels of land in the town, but the parcels owned in conjunction with parcel 347 were;

198 Slang

199 Slang

268 House and Garden

273 House and Garden



Figure 2: the parish tithe map of 1846

6.5 The house in parcel 268 was on the opposite side of the road to the east from parcel 347 and therefore the stables may have been directly associated with her home.

6.6 The 1889 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map appears to show buildings within the plot but of a smaller size, layout and alignment than the houses along the street. This suggests that the plot was still occupied by stabling rather than a dwelling. The same is seen on the 1906 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map.

6.7 On the 1901 census, (page 4 of district 3, Laugharne), the properties on the western side of King Street appear to follow in order: Ship and Castle, Unnamed, The Pelican, Chemist (with sub-Post Mistress). There is no named property between The Pelican and the Chemist. This is also the same on the 1911 census with no property between The Pelican and the Post Office. In 1910 the Pelican advertised itself as having stabling. There is no rear access through the Pelican and therefore it seems likely that the buildings in the development plots were still stabling as on the tithe map, possibly now used by the Pelican.

6.8 In the later part of the 20th century a bus depot was built on the plot, taking up the whole frontage and extending backwards for over 25 metres. The depot was latterly used as a pottery.



Figure 3: This photo taken by Jaggery in 2014 shows the bus depot building before it was demolished.

Taken 21 July 2014, © [Jaggery](#) Old fuel pump outside a former garage in Laugharne, [cc-by-sa/2.0](#) - © [Jaggery](#) - [geograph.org.uk/p/4092632](#)

6.9 The bus depot was demolished before the archaeological watching brief but a photo from 2014, see figure 3, shows the front of the bus depot was built of brick.

7. Methodology

7.1 In October 2019, a watching brief was carried out by Trysor on the mechanical excavation of the foundation trenches for Unit 1 of the development.

7.2 The site code used was OPL2019. The following number sequences were used to record contexts and photographs, see Table 1.

Number Sequence	Used For	Numbers Used
001 - 100	Context numbers	001 to 012
101 to 200	Photograph numbers	101 to 123

Table 1: Number sequences used

7.3 The site was covered by up to 1 metre of loose demolition rubble, and the trenches were not entered on Health and Safety grounds. Therefore, the sections in figures 6 and 7 were sketched rather than drawn.

7.4 After trenches A, B and C were excavated, the issues presented by the deep layer of demolition material to the client, changed the methods of construction from individual foundations to a raft. Two test trenches were asked for by Trydor to prove the depth of demolition material across the rest of the area.

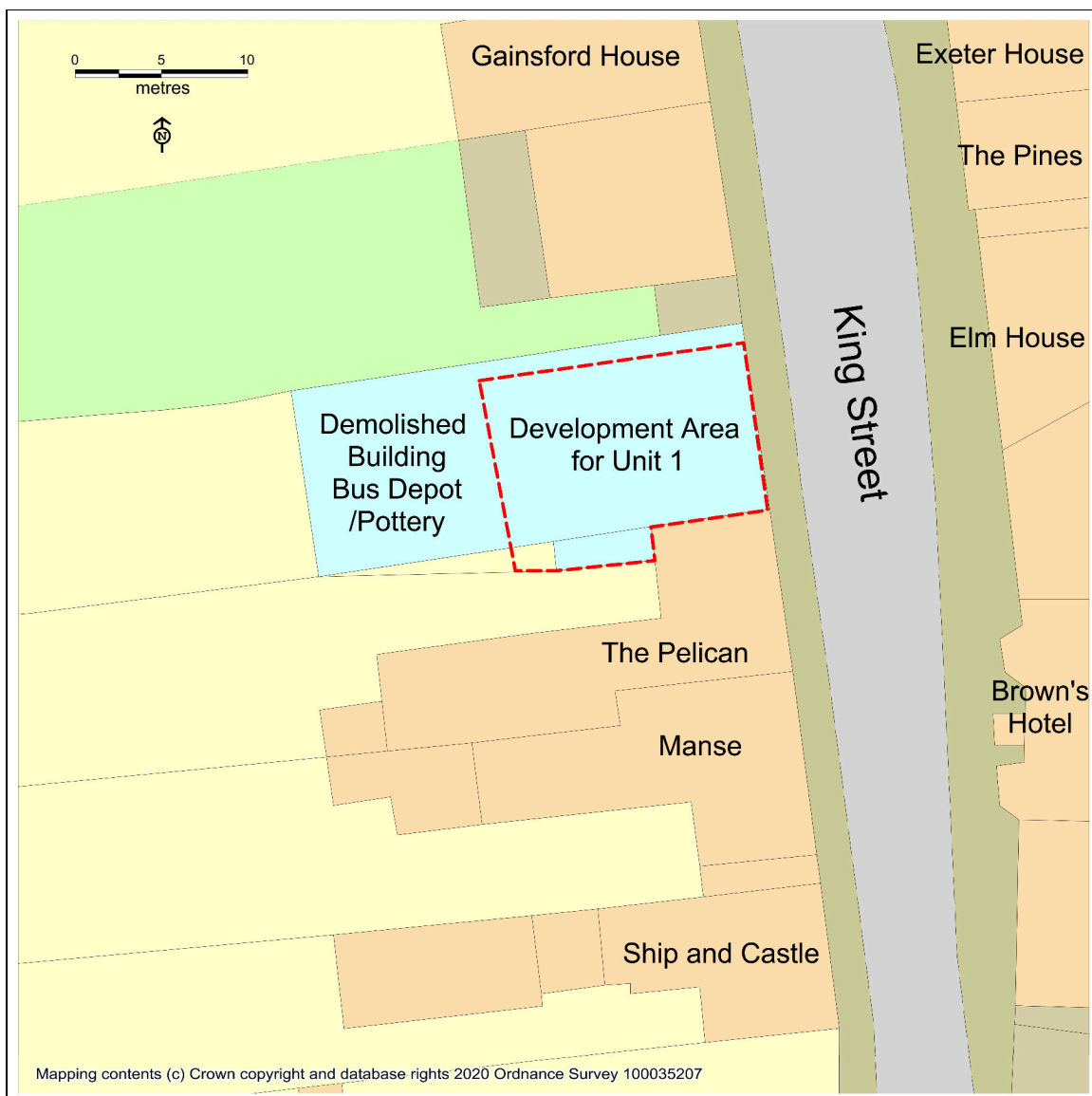


Figure 4: The location of the development area for Unit 1

7.5 Description of Trenches

7.5.1 Trench A – SN3018610931

Trench A ran along the northern side of the Pelican. It measured 7.5 metres east-northeast to west-southwest by 1 metre wide and 1 metre deep

7.5.2 Trench B – SN3017910928

Trench B ran along the northern side of the boundary to the Pelican. It measured 6 metres east-northeast to west-southwest by 1 metre wide and up to 1.2 metres deep and joined with Trench C at its western end.

7.5.3 Trench C – SN3017610933

Trench C ran at right angles to the northern side of the boundary with the Pelican and joined to Trench B at its southern end. It measured 7.8 metres north-northwest to south-southeast by 1 metre wide and up to 1.6 metres deep

7.5.4 Test Pit D – SN3018110937

Test pit D was excavated after the decision to use a raft construction to test if the line of walls (008) and (009) could be traced to this point.

7.5.5 Test Pit E – SN3018810938

Test pit E was excavated after the decision to use a raft construction to test the depth of the demolition material at this point.

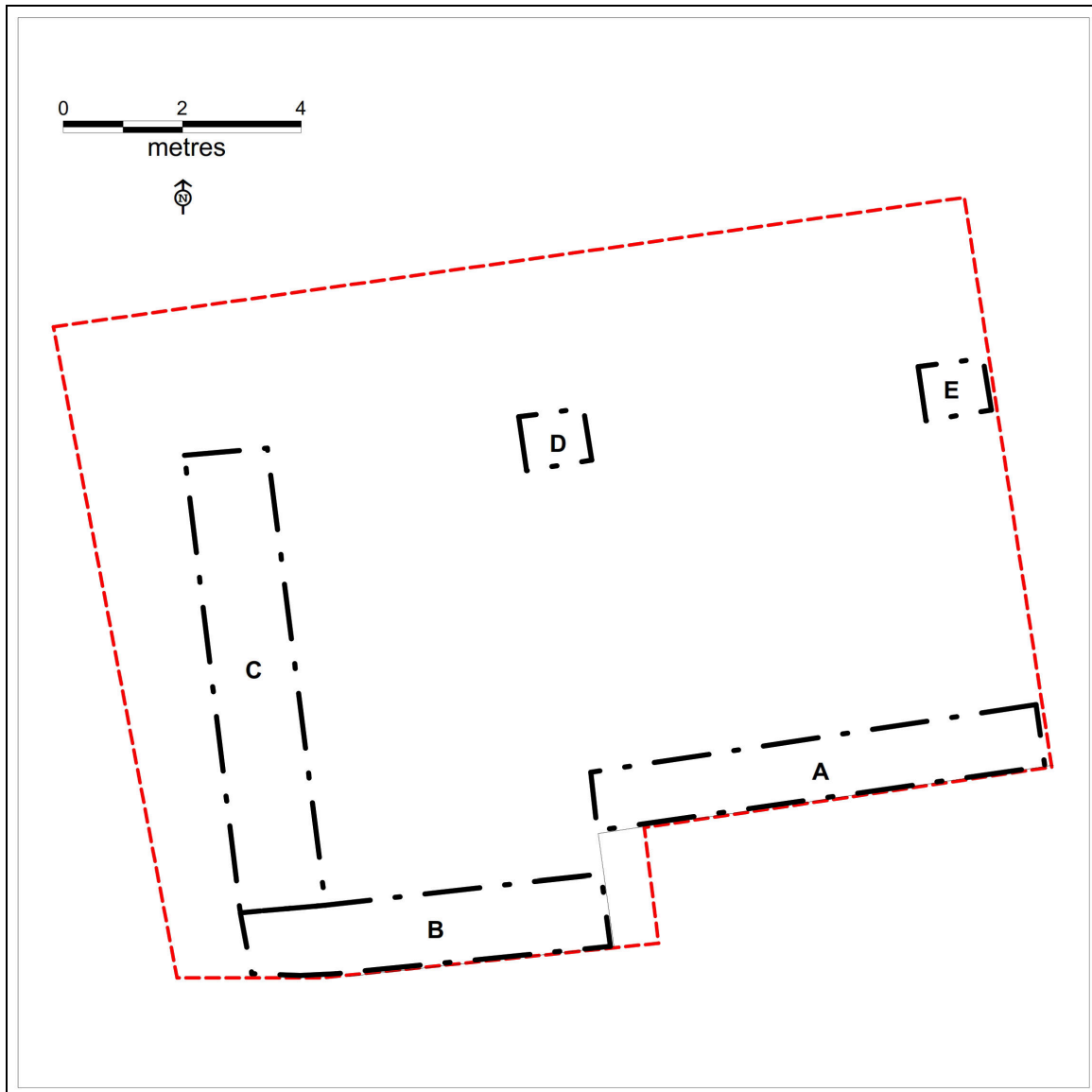


Figure 5: Trench Location

8. Site Stratigraphy

8.1 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014).

8.2 Context Catalogue

Context Number	Trench	Depth	Description	Interpretation
001	A, B, C	Up to 1.6 metres	Mixed demolition material, mainly crushed brick	Material used to raise and level the entire area of the development for the former bus depot
002	C	<0.05 metres	Tarmac layer below (001) to south of (009)	Tarmac, part of bus depot
003	C		Two Concrete strips aligned east-northeast to west-southwest in Trench C. At 0.90 metres below the current ground surface	Part of bus depot?
004	C	0.10 metres	Cobbles below (002), rounded cobbles set into yellow clay (004)	Yard or floor surface connected to the stabling present in the 19 th century?
005	C	0.10 metres	Yellow Clay	Bedding for the cobbles above
006	C	0.65 metres	Reddish Brown, mortar flecks and Charcoal	Soil horizon prior to building of stables
007	A	Up to 0.15 metres	Concrete	Part of the bus depot
008	A		Mortared Stone Wall 0.6 metres wide and running northwards from the northwest wall of The Pelican. Plastered on its east side and tied into The Pelicans wall, although it is not as deep as The Pelican wall, being only c. 0.50 metres in deep. It sits on top of (011).	Stone wall probably part of the stabling complex present in the 19 th century
009	C		Mortared Stone Wall 0.10 metres below ground surface. Wall is	Stone wall probably part of the stabling complex present in the

			0.45 metres wide and built using a greenish stone	19 th century
010	E		Mortared stone wall runs parallel and alongside the street frontage of the plot	Stone wall probably part of the stabling complex present in the 19 th century
011	A, B	-	Reddish brown gravels	Natural Subsoil
012	E	-	Concrete	Part of the bus depot

Table 1: Contexts Recorded

8.3 Across the site was a layer of demolition material (001) a result of the removal of the former bus depot. It had been spread to create a level area across the site and raised the site level considerably to the west.

8.4 Trench A (Figures 6 & 8, Plates, 4, 5, 6, 7)

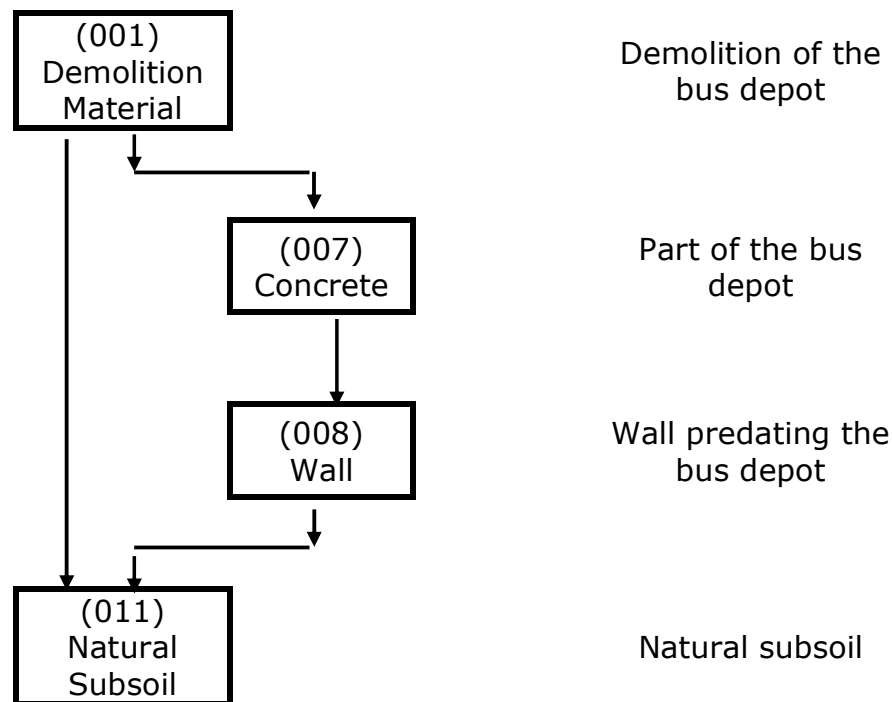


Diagram 1: Trench A

8.4.1 Demolition material (001) lay above the natural subsoil (011). At the western end of the trench a concrete pad (007) lay under (001) and on top of a stone wall (008). The wall (008) was plastered on its eastern side and tied into the northern wall of The Pelican but did not extend as deep within the trench.

8.4.2 The wall of The Pelican was exposed which showed a bricked up doorway, extending below current ground level.

8.5 Trench B (Figure 5, Plate 8)



Diagram 2: Trench B

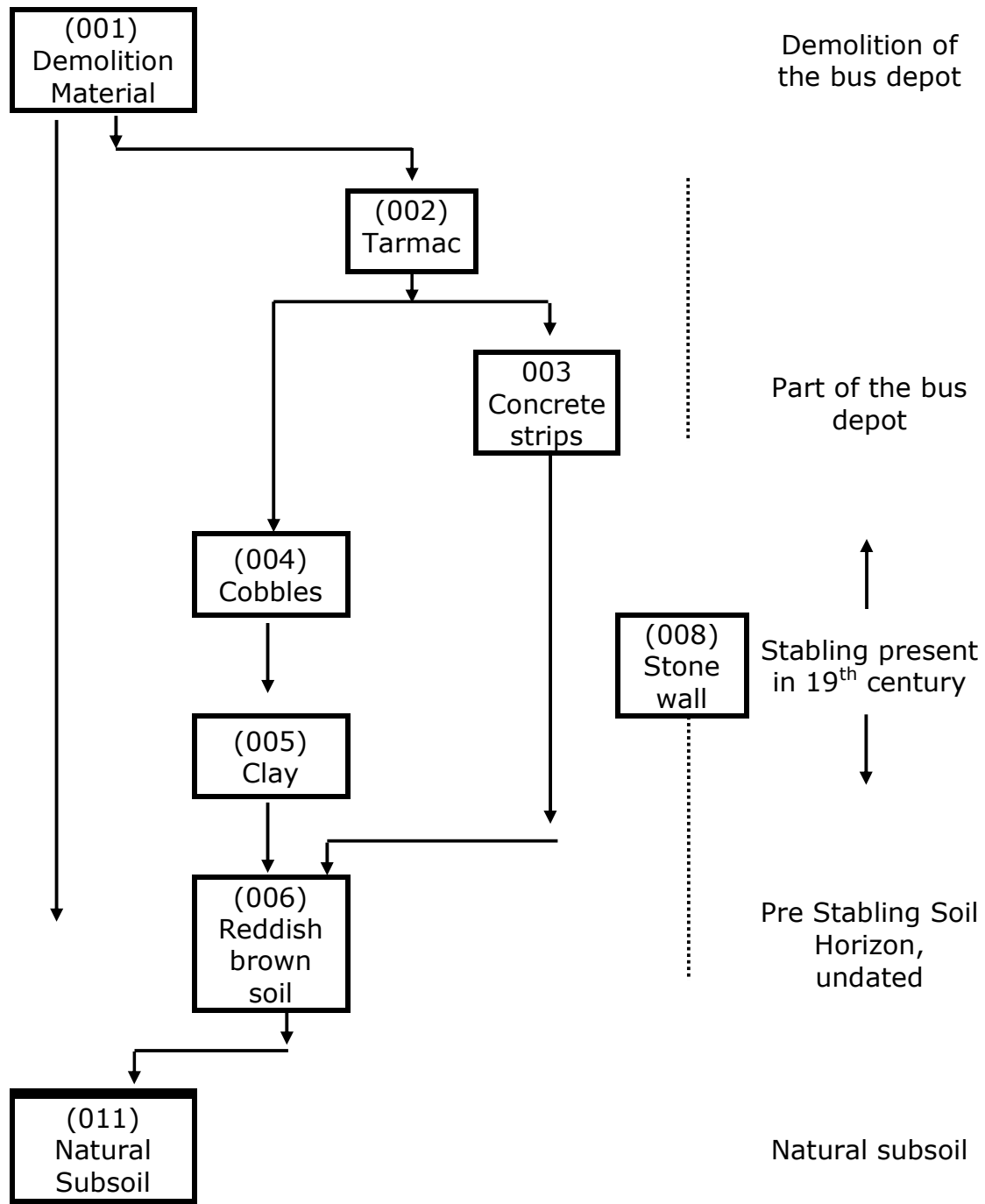
8.5.1 Demolition material (001) lay above the natural subsoil (011).

8.6 Trench C (Figures 6 & 7, Plates 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15)

8.6.1 The demolition layer (001) in this trench overlay a thin layer of tarmac (002). The tarmac sealed in two parallel concrete strips, 0.90 to 0.95 metres below the current ground surface.

8.6.2 Between the concrete strips and between the northern concrete strip and a stone wall (009) were edge set cobbles (004) set into a yellow clay (005). These appeared to predate the concrete and tarmac and may represent a yard surface prior to the bus depot.

8.6.3 Below the clay bedding for the cobbles was a reddish brown soil (006) that contained mortar flecks and charcoal. This lay above natural (011).



8.7 Test Pit D (Figure 5, Plate 18)

8.7.1 In Test Pit D demolition material (001) overlay a concrete pad (012). The line of walls (008) and (009) was not detected. Excavation ceased at 0.50 metres, still within demolition material.

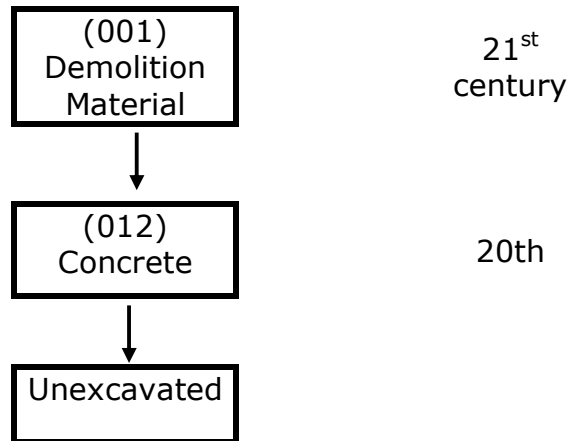


Diagram 4: Test Pit D

8.8 Test Pit E (Figure 6, Plates 16, 17)

8.8.1 In Test pit E demolition material (001) overlay wall (010). This mortared stone wall ran along the front of the plot and may have been a boundary wall, or part of a former building. A metal pipe was seen entering the edge of the trench below wall (010). Excavation of the test pit was stopped at 0.50 metres.

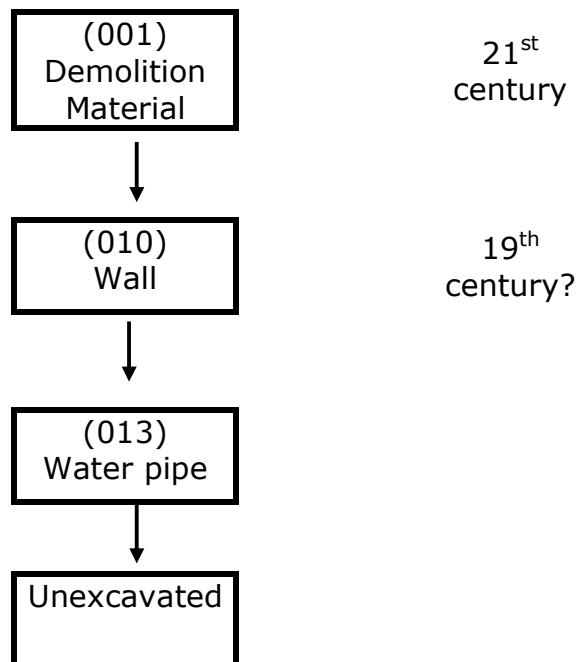


Diagram 5: Test Pit E

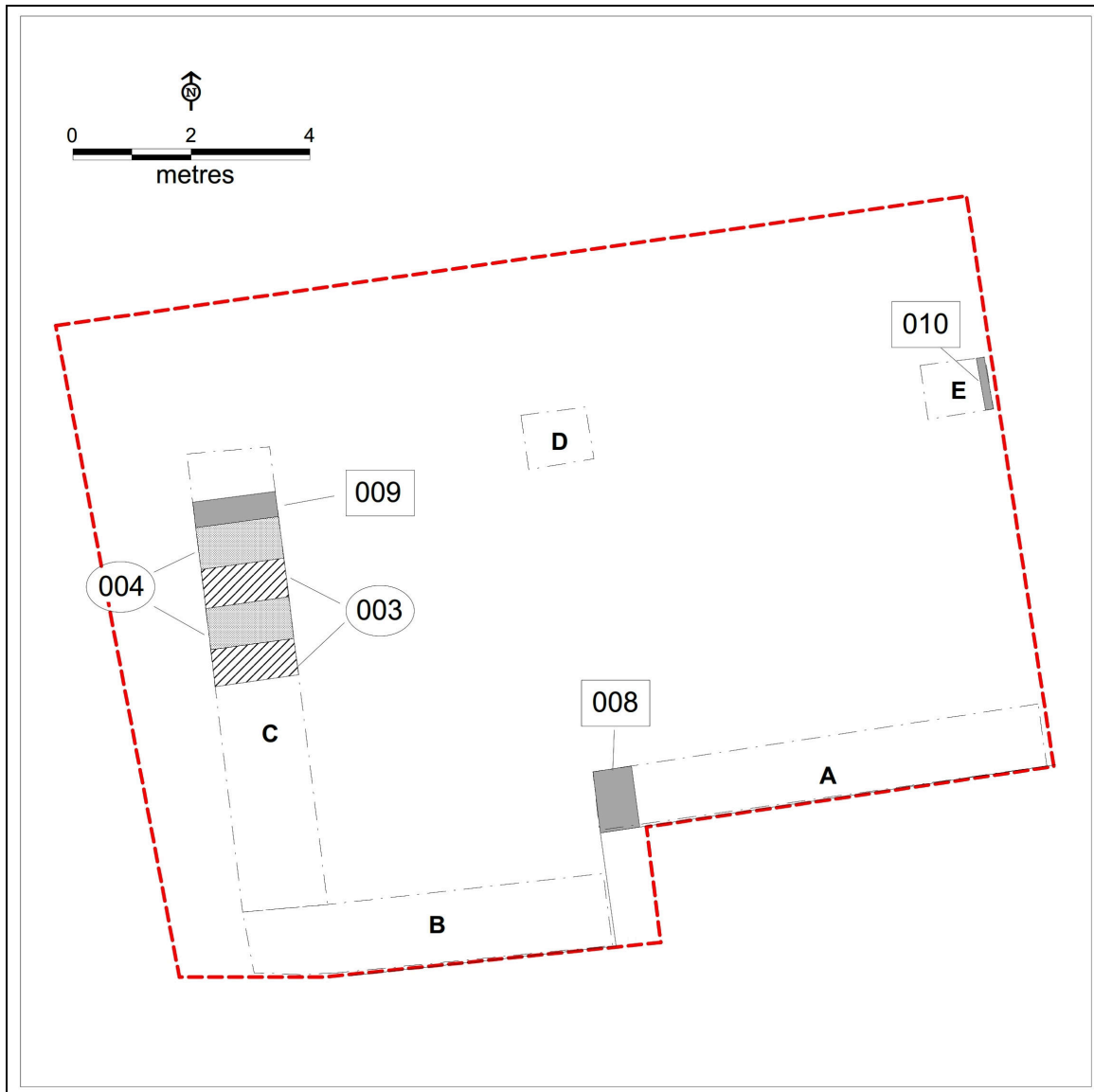


Figure 6: Plan of key contexts recorded

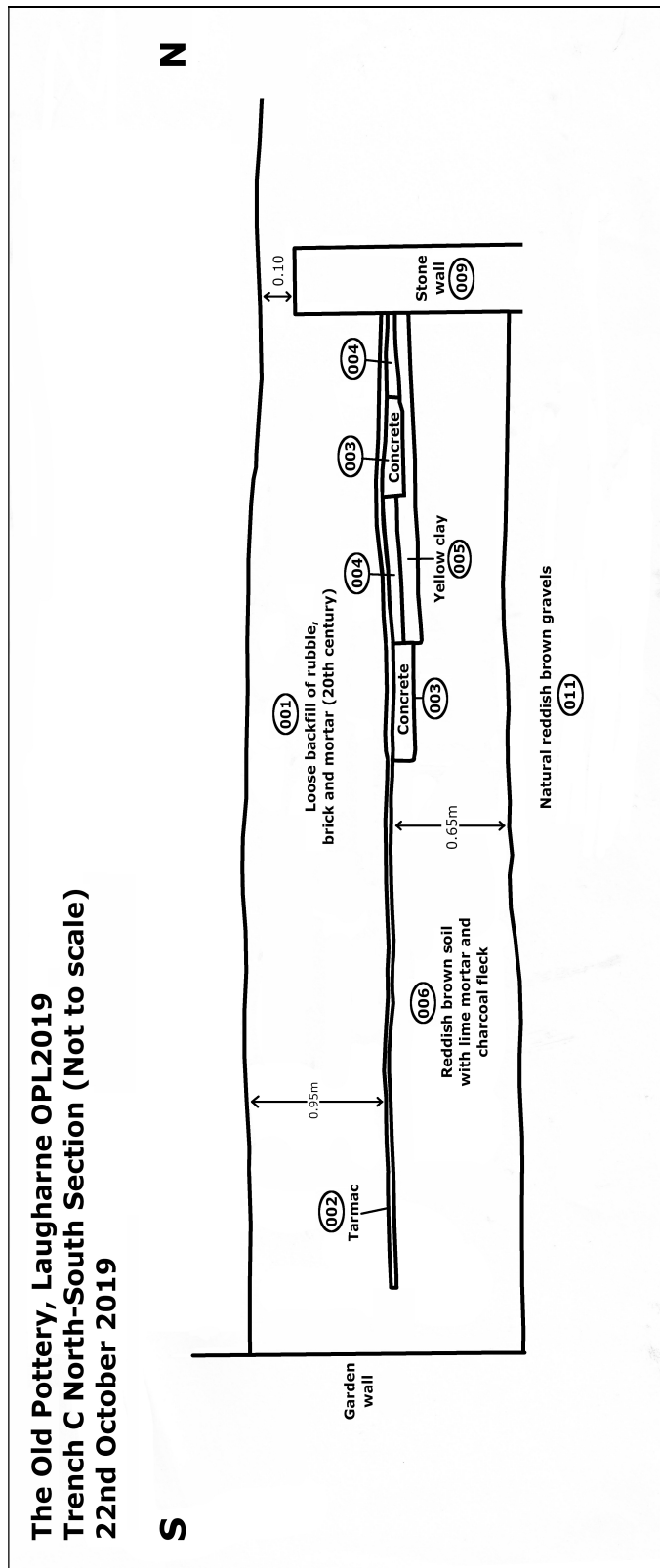


Figure 7: The east facing section of Trench C

The Old Pottery, Laugharne
North elevation of The Pelican
(Not to scale) 22 October 2019
OPL2019

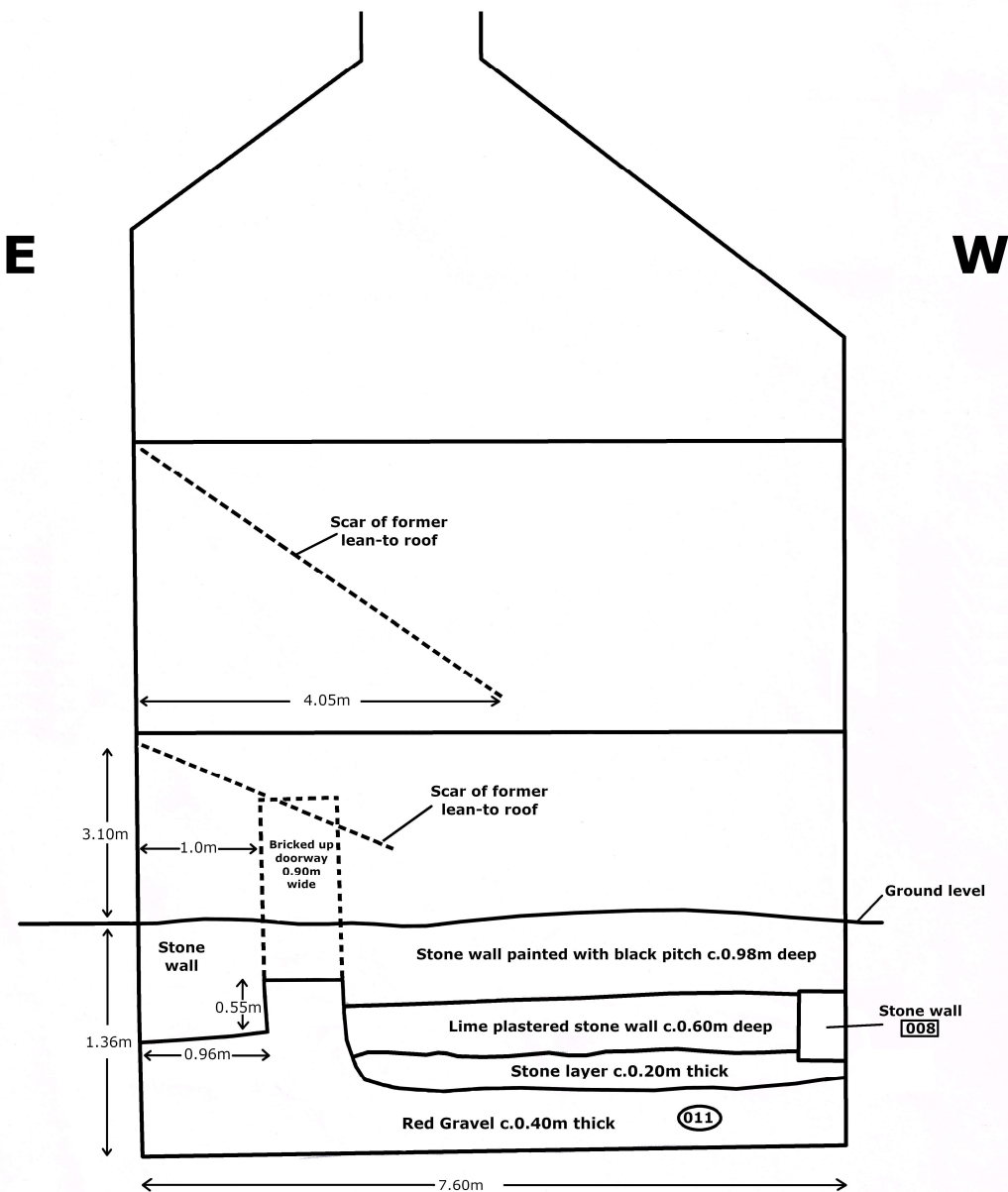


Figure 8: The southern side of Trench A including detail of the north wall of the Pelican.

9. Photographs

9.1 Colour digital photographs were taken of topsoil stripping and excavation of trenches using a 16M pixel camera. The archived photographs are included in Appendix 1 at the end of the report. A table describes the content of each photograph included in the project archive, see Table 2 and their locations are provided on two plans, see Figures 9 & 10.

10. Conclusion

10.1 In the mid 19th century the front of the plot was occupied by stables. Historic mapping appears to show that this remained the function of this plot into the 20th century. By the later 20th century the plot was occupied by a large structure used as a bus depot and then as a pottery.

10.2 Most of the site was covered by demolition rubble (001), which was up to 1.6 metres deep on the southwestern side, presumably crushed brick from the demolition of the bus depot. Below this was a thin modern tarmac layer overlying concrete strips. These are thought to be part of the bus depot structure.

10.3 Below the tarmac were fragments of a cobbled surface (004) set into clay (005) which may relate to the stable buildings shown on the tithe map.

10.4 The bedding for the cobbles overlay a former soil horizon (006) which contained lime mortar and charcoal flecks. No dating material was retrieved, but it is thought likely the layer is post medieval in date from the lime mortar flecks. This layer overlay natural gravels (011).

10.5 Parts of three stone walls were recorded (008), (009) and (010). They were all mortared walls and thought to relate to the 19th century stabling.

10.6 The only artefacts retrieved were from (001), the demolition layer, and were 19th century origin or later.

11 Archive

11.1 The archive and a copy of the report and photographs will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth. Photographs are in TIFF format, following the standard required by the RCAHMW.

11.2 A further copy of the report will be supplied to the Historic Environment Record Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Llandeilo.

11.3 Contents of Archive

- a. PDF copy of report contains
 - Bilingual description for the HER Event Record,
 - The Written Scheme of Investigation
 - Index to Photographs, Plan of location of photographs and reduced versions of the archived photographs
 - Plan of trenches and Plan of main features
 - Context Descriptions
 - Two sections
 - Artefact Report
 - Interpretation
- b. Artefacts to be Returned to Client, or disposed of if not required
- c. Digital Archive contains
 - Scans of site notes (paper archive will be kept by Trysor)
 - Archived photo Tiffs
 - GIS files for site boundary, trenches and features

12. Sources

12.1 Maps

Ordnance Survey, 1889, 1:2500
Ordnance Survey, 1906, 1:2500
Ordnance Survey, 1970, 1:2500
Laugharne parish tithe map, 1846

12.2 Non-published

Central Excavation Unit, 1986, *Central Excavation Unit Manual: Part 2: Recording*, 1986

Evans, P, 2000, *Eynons Down, Newbridge Street, Laugharne. Report on findings from archaeological watching brief and building survey. Cambrian Archaeological Projects Report Project No. 200*

NPAAW, 2017, *The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales 2017*

RCAHMW, 2015, *RCAHMW guidelines for Digital Archives*, Version 1

WAT, 2018, *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)*

12.3 Published

CIfA, 2020, *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief*

APPENDIX 1: Photographs

Photo Number	Description	Date Taken	Direction
OPL2019_101	General view of the area where Unit 1 will be located. The former bus depot/pottery had previously been demolished and the area levelled with some of the debris.	22/10/2019	South-southwest
OPL2019_102	General view of the area where Unit 1 will be located	22/10/2019	Southwest
OPL2019_103	General view of the area where Unit 1 will be located	22/10/2019	West-southwest
OPL2019_104	Trench A excavated alongside the adjoining wall of The Pelican to the south	22/10/2019	East-southeast
OPL2019_105	Trench A excavated alongside the adjoining wall of The Pelican to the south	22/10/2019	West-southwest
OPL2019_106	Trench A excavated alongside the adjoining wall of The Pelican to the south	22/10/2019	West-southwest
OPL2019_107	Western end of Trench A excavated alongside the adjoining wall of The Pelican to the south showing (008)	22/10/2019	South-southeast
OPL2019_108	Trench B, alongside the boundary wall with The Pelican	22/10/2019	East-northeast
OPL2019_109	General view of the site showing trenches A, B and C, and test pits D and E	22/10/2019	Southeast
OPL2019_110	Trench C showing (001), tarmac (002) and concrete strips (003)	22/10/2019	South-southeast
OPL2019_111	Detail of part of the eastern section of Trench C, looking east showing the western concrete strip (003) on which the person is standing in the trench and (001) demolition material, (002) tarmac and (004) cobbles and (005) clay in the section.	22/10/2019	East-northeast
OPL2019_112	Stone wall (112) in Trench C	22/10/2019	North-northeast
OPL2019_113	Stone wall (112) in Trench C	22/10/2019	East-northeast
OPL2019_114	Stone wall (112) in Trench C	22/10/2019	Northeast

Photo Number	Description	Date Taken	Direction
OPL2019_115	Trench C showing concrete strips (003), and (006) below and in base of section	22/10/2019	North
OPL2019_116	Test pit E	22/10/2019	North-northwest
OPL2019_117	Test Pit E, showing wall (010) running parallel to the front of the plot	22/10/2019	South-southeast
OPL2019_118	Test pit D	22/10/2019	East-northeast
OPL2019_119	Bottles retrieved from (001)	22/10/2019	-
OPL2019_120	Two clear bottles from (001), one with moulded lettering HARRIES AND SONS / CARMARTHEN, the other BROOKE & CO BATH	22/10/2019	
OPL2019_121	Base of brown moulded bottle from (001)	22/10/2019	-
OPL2019_122	Felinfoel drinks can from (001)	22/10/2019	
OPL2019_123	Base of pale green bottle from (001)	22/10/2019	-

Table 2: The photo number, description, direction and date taken of the archived photos

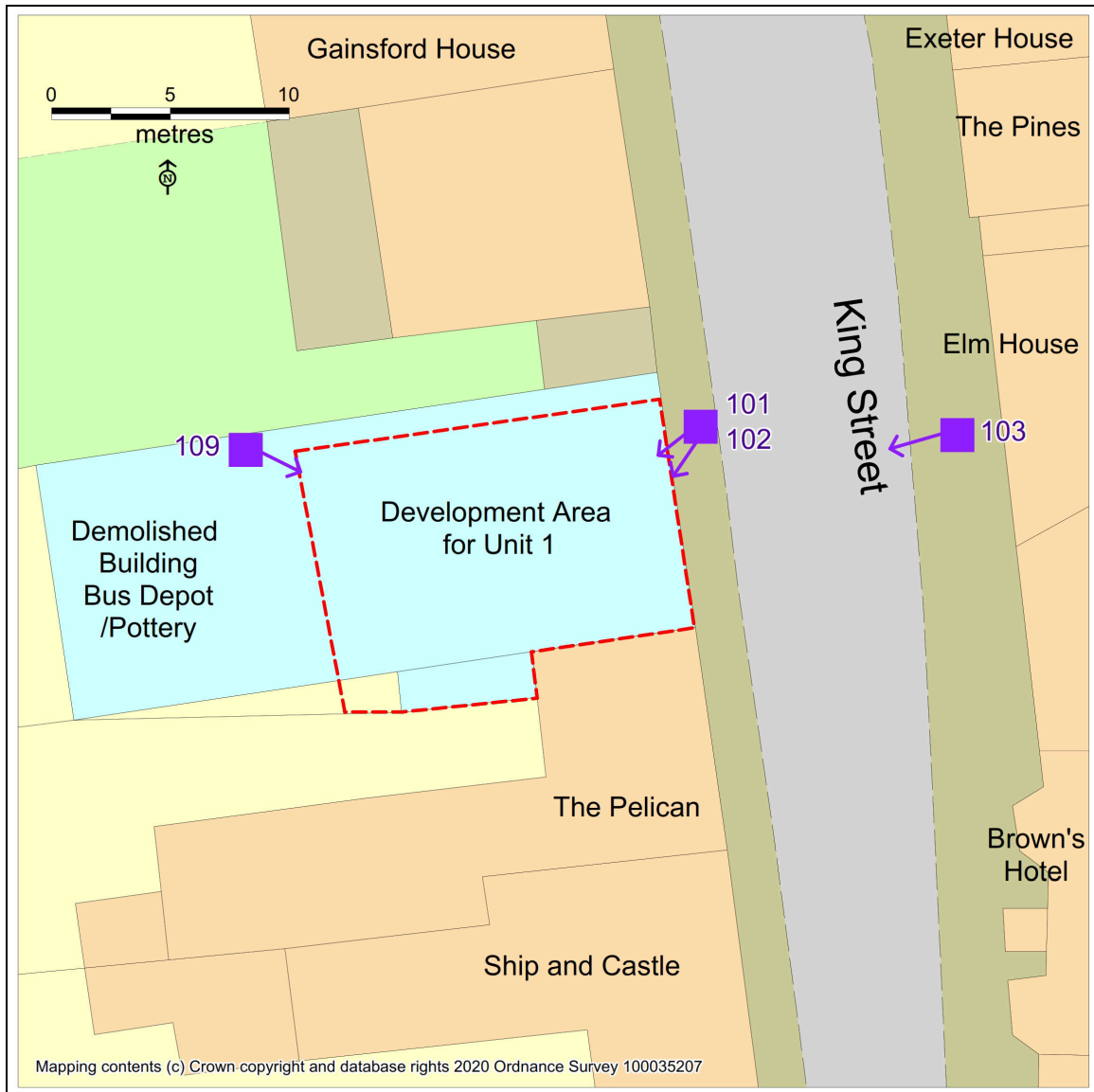


Figure 9: Location of photographs 102-103 & 109

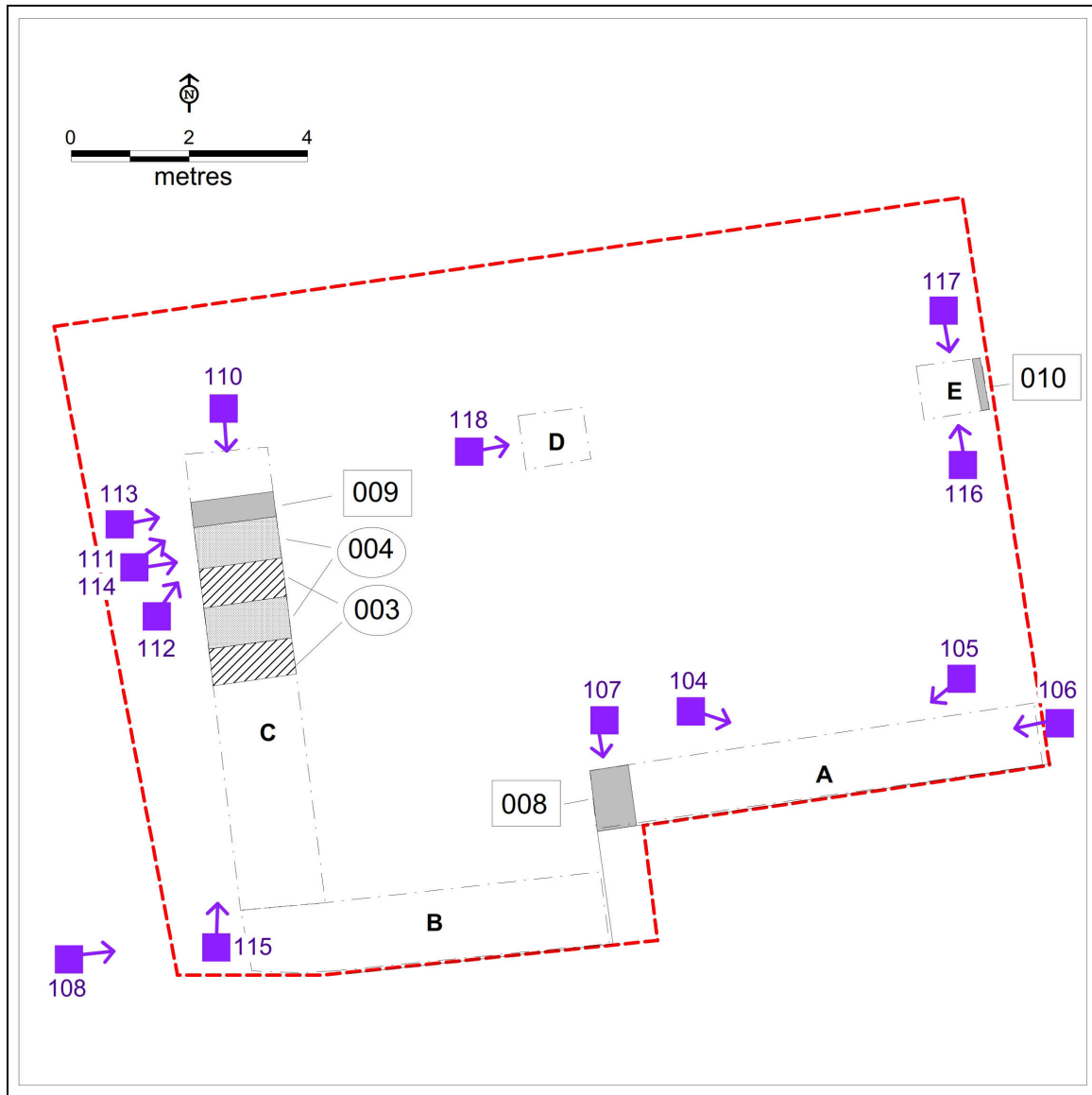


Figure 10: Location of photographs 104-108, 110-118



Plate 1: OPL2019_101, General view of the area where Unit 1 will be located. The former bus depot/pottery had previously been demolished and the area levelled with some of the debris, looking south-southwest.



Plate 2: OPL2019_102, General view of the area where Unit 1 will be located, looking southwest.



Plate 3: OPL2019_103, General view of the area where Unit 1 will be located, looking west-southwest.



Plate 4: OPL2019_104, Trench A excavated alongside the adjoining wall of The Pelican to the south, looking east-southeast.



Plate 5: OPL2019_105, Trench A excavated alongside the adjoining wall of The Pelican to the south, looking west-southwest. Wall (008) can be seen across the far end of the trench abutting the north gable wall of The Pelican.



Plate 6: OPL2019_106 Trench A excavated alongside the adjoining wall of The Pelican, looking west-southwest at wall (008).



Plate 7: OPL2019_107, Western end of Trench A excavated alongside the adjoining wall of The Pelican to the south showing (008) looking south-southeast.



Plate 8: OPL2019_108, Trench B alongside the boundary wall with The Pelican, looking east-northeast.



Plate 9: OPL2019_109, (001) General view of the site showing trenches A, B and C and test pits D and E, looking southeast.



Plate 10: OPL2019_110, Trench C showing (001), tarmac (002) and concrete strips (003), looking south-southeast.



Plate 11: OPL2019_111, Detail of part of the eastern section of Trench C, looking east-northeast showing the northern concrete strip (003) on which the person is standing in the trench and (101) demolition, (102) tarmac, (104) cobbles, and (105) clay in the section, looking east.



Plate 12: OPL2019_112, Stone wall (112) in Trench C, looking north-northeast.



Plate 13: OPL2019_113, Stone wall (112) in Trench C, looking east-northeast.



Plate 14: OPL2019_114, Stone wall (112) in Trench C, looking northeast.



Plate 15: OPL2019_115, (003) Trench C showing concrete strips (003), and (006) below and in base of section, looking north.



Plate 16: OPL2019_116, (003) Test Pit E, looking north-northwest.



Plate 17: OPL2019_117, Test Pit E showing wall (010) running parallel to the front of the plot, looking south-southeast.



Plate 18: OPL2019_118, Test pit D, looking east-northeast.

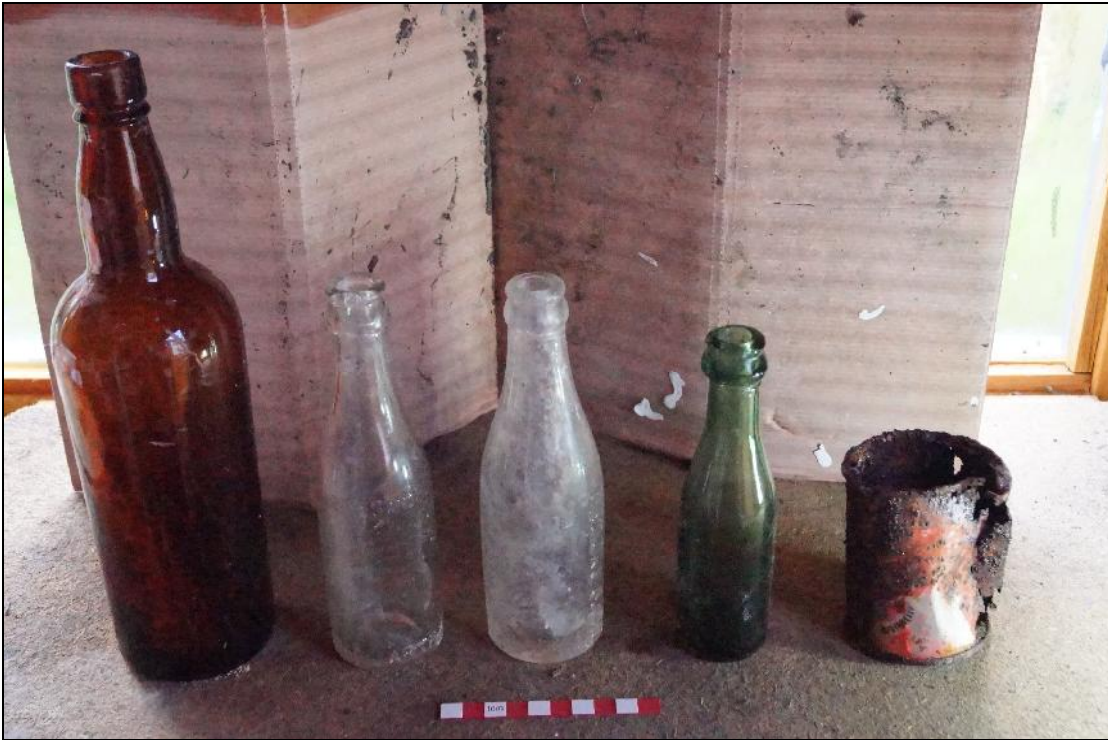


Plate 19: OPL2019_118, Bottles retrieved from (001)



Plate 20: OPL2019_120, Two clear bottles from (001), one with moulded lettering HARRIES AND SONS / CARMARTHEN, the other BROOKE & CO BATH.



Plate 21: OPL2019_121, Base of brown moulded bottle from (001)



Plate 22: OPL2019_122, Early Felinfoel beer can from (001).



Plate 23: OPL2019_123, Base of pale green bottle from (001)

APPENDIX 2 – Watching Brief Specification

**OLD POTTERY, KING STREET
LAUGHARNE, CARMARTHEN, SA33 4RY
WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION
SN3018010935
Planning application – W/38778 (Carmarthenshire)**

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**OLD POTTERY, KING STREET
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 WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION
 SN3018010935**

Planning application – W/38778 (Carmarthenshire)

1. Introduction

1.1 Max Howells, c/o Gaisford House, King Street Laugharne, Carmarthenshire SA33 4RY has commissioned Trysor heritage consultants to write a Written Scheme of Investigation for a building plot in King Street, Laugharne, Carmarthen, SA33 4RY, relating to planning application number: W/38778 (Carmarthenshire).

1.2 The development is on land to the south of Gaisford House on the west side of King Street, Laugharne, Carmarthenshire at SN3018010935, see Figure 1.



Figure 1: Location of the development area in Laugharne.

2. Objective of the Written Scheme of Investigation

2.1 The objective of this written scheme of investigation (WSI) is to specify the method to be used for a programme of archaeological work during construction of buildings and associated infrastructure on a plot in Laugharne related to planning application; W/38778 (Carmarthenshire).

3. The development

3.1 The planning application is for full planning permission for nine dwellings and associated infrastructure, W/38778 (Carmarthenshire).

4. Conditions on the planning consent

4.1 In granting approval for the outline application, the Local Planning Authority imposed a condition on the consent; the condition specifies the actions necessary to mitigate the impact of the development on the archaeological resource.

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 in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the local planning authority.

Reason: To protect the archaeological interests at the site.

5. Nature of the archaeological resource

5. Dyfed Archaeological Trust in April 2019 stated that “The proposal is for demolition of various buildings, including the Old Pottery, and residential development of 9 dwellings with associated infrastructure and landscaping. The proposed development site is located close to the medieval core of Laugharne and we consider there to be potential for buried archaeological deposits to extend into this area, where they could be damaged or destroyed by intrusive ground works.”

6. Historical Overview:

6.1 Laugharne has medieval origins. In 1170 an Anglo-Norman castle was built here and a small town soon developed alongside the inlet on the Tâf estuary. The town was given borough status in the late 13th century. It may have initially been a small, walled town, but little is known about the line of any town defences, although these are suspected to have been a simple earthwork bank and ditch and may have followed the line of the modern Newbridge Road and Victoria Street to the south of the development site (CAP, 2000, 1.1). This would have created a triangular area with the town defences forming its northern side, the Afon Corran the western side and the Tâf estuary the eastern side, with the castle at the southern point of the triangle, overlooking the inlet.

6.2 The Gatehouse website reports that there were three town gates which stood at entrances to the medieval town; one stood at the bridge over the Corran at the western end of Wogan Street, a second at Mariner’s corner, where Newbridge Road and Victoria Street are intersected by Market Street, and a third gate at the eastern end of Victoria Street (which was originally called Hangman’s Lane). These gates were all lost before the 20th century.

6.3 The town had expanded outside the core by later medieval times. In the later 19th century Laugharne became a popular destination for visitors and the town saw another period of expansion. The appeal of Laugharne was increased in the second half of the 20th century due to its association with the poet Dylan Thomas and it remains popular with tourists to the present day.

6.4 The development site is located within two gardens behind buildings to the western side of King Street, Laugharne. The southern garden is shown on the Laugharne parish tithe map of 1846 as a narrow parcel of land numbered as 347. At that time the buildings in the parcel were described as “stables and yard” in the ownership and occupation of Mary Thomas. She may have owned multiple houses and parcels of land in the town, but the parcels owned in conjunction with parcel 347 were;

198 Slang

199 Slang

268 House and Garden

273 House and Garden

6.5 The house in parcel 268 was on the opposite side of the road to the east from parcel 347 and therefore the stables may have been directly associated with her home.

6.6 To the north of parcel 347 was a broader parcel numbered 349, behind a house numbered 348. These were both owned by a Mary Parry and occupied by one Richard Richards.

7. Scope of Mitigation

7.1 It is proposed that the groundworks for the new development be watched as part of a supervised archaeological watching brief.

7.2 The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists’ Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (CIfA, 014b) was used to write this Written Scheme of Investigation. They define a watching brief as:

“.....a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.”

7.3 The purpose of a watching brief is described as:

“a. to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works

b. to provide an 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 itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard

A watching brief is not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

The objective of a watching brief is to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on a site.

7.4 This watching brief should establish whether any features can be identified as of possible archaeological significance.

7.5 If archaeological features are encountered further mitigation may be required.

8. Methodology

8.1 The excavation of groundworks and any levelling of ground surfaces will be watched under archaeological supervision.

8.2 The watching brief will be carried out in accordance with Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA, 2014a)

8.3 A two-person team will watch the excavation of groundworks associated with development and features of archaeological interest recorded. Excavation of any features will be limited to that necessary to establish their extent and character, unless their excavation is required to allow the development to proceed.

9. Recording

9.1 A plan of the groundworks, and representative sections if appropriate, will be drawn, at an appropriate scale, recording all features of archaeological interest. The plan will be based on the applicants' survey drawings of the development area. If archaeological features of contexts are encountered, plans will be drawn on permatrace to a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50, as appropriate.

9.2 A written record of all activity will be kept in a project specific notebook. If archaeological contexts are encountered they will be recorded following the *Central Excavation Unit Manual: Part 2: Recording*, 1986, using a consecutive numbering system.

9.3 Any artefacts will be dealt with in accordance with the guidance provided in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA, 2014b). Any artefacts will be retained, cleaned and stored.

9.4 In the event of human burials being discovered the Ministry of Justice will be informed. The remains will initially be left *in situ*, and if removal is required, a Ministry of Justice license will be applied for under the Burial Act 1857.

9.5 Colour digital photographs will be taken, as appropriate, using a 16M pixel camera. A written record will be made on site of the photographs taken. Appropriate photographic scales will be used.

10. Contingency arrangements if archaeological features are discovered

10.1 In the event that archaeological remains are encountered, where appropriate investigation falls outside the scope of this specification, a meeting between Trysor, the applicant, Carmarthenshire County Council or their representative, and the Local Planning Authority case officer will be convened in order to agree a course of action. The applicant will be responsible for paying for any further work necessary such as curatorial monitoring, finds conservation, finds specialist, radio-carbon dating etc.

11. Health & Safety

11.1 Trysor will undertake a risk assessment in accordance with their health and safety policy.

12. Reporting

12.1 A report on the watching brief will be prepared according to the requirements of section 3.8 of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA, 2014a, p.14) following the completion of the work. Copies of the report will be provided to the client, the Regional Historic Environment Record and the National Monuments Record. This WSI will be included as Appendix A of the report..

13. Public Benefit and Outreach

13.1 A summary of the work undertaken and its findings will be submitted to *Archaeology in Wales*, the annual review of archaeological work in Wales collated the Council for British Archaeology Wales (CBA Wales). If appropriate, a full report on findings will be submitted for publication with an appropriate regional or national archaeological journal within one year of the completion of the fieldwork element of the project.

13.2 The results of the work will be deposited in the NMR and regional HER making it publicly accessible to all, in line with current guidance, (NPAAW, 2017, RCAHMW, 2015 and WAT, 2018).

13.3 The purpose of the work and the history of the site will be discussed with the client and others on site, in order to widen understanding of why the work is important and broaden appreciation for the historic environment.

14. Archive

14.1 The archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, including a copy of the final report in accordance with the CIfA's *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA, 2014c). This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. Digital archives will follow the standard required by the RCAHMW (RCAHMW, 2015).

14.2 The significance of any artefacts retrieved will be assessed and this will determine where may be an appropriate place for deposition, subject to agreement by the legal owner, the landowner. Carmarthen Museum covers the area. (National Panel for Archaeological

Archives in Wales, 2008). The National Monuments Record again has limited scope for storing artefacts but they are well equipped for storing paper and digital records.

14.3 If the artefacts are deposited separately to the rest of an archive, a copy of the report and archive will be deposited with the artefacts.

15. Resources to be used

15.1 Two members of staff will undertake the watching brief. They will be equipped with standard field equipment, including digital cameras, GPS and first aid kits. Trysor have access to the computer hardware and software required to deliver the completed final report and archive to a professional standard.

16. Qualification of personnel

16.1 Trysor is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and both partners are Members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, www.archaeologists.net

16.2 Jenny Hall (BSc Joint Hons., Geology and Archaeology, MCIfA) had 12 years excavation experience, which included undertaking watching briefs prior to becoming the Sites and Monuments Record Manager for a Welsh Archaeological Trust for 10 years. Since 2004 she has been an independent archaeologist undertaking a variety of work that includes upland survey, desktop assessments and watching briefs.

16.3 Paul Sambrook (BA Joint Hons., Archaeology and Welsh, MCIfA, PGCE) has extensive experience as a fieldworker in Wales. He was involved with Cadw's pan-Wales Deserted Rural Settlements Project for 7 years. He also undertook Tir Gofal field survey work and watching briefs. Since 2004 he has been an independent archaeologist undertaking a variety of work that includes upland survey, desktop assessments and watching briefs.

16.4 Dee Williams (BA Archaeology and Classical Studies) graduated from the University of Wales, Lampeter. After University she pursued a career in field archaeology. Her first supervisory post was with Wessex Archaeology (Manpower Service Commission 1984-5) as the Finds Officer on a large multi-period urban excavation in Dorchester. From 1986 to 1994 she was employed as the Finds Officer with the Dyfed Archaeological Trust. From 1994 to the present she has worked as an administrator in the Department of Archaeology at Lampeter but continues her research interests in finds with specialisms in ceramics and glass.

16.5 Martin Locock (BA, MCIfA) – Martin has undertaken many bone reports for Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust and others. He has also undertaken studies of bricks and mortar.

16.6 Dr Ian Brooks (PhD, BA, MCIfA, FSA) - Flint assemblages of any size from a single artefact to many thousands of artefacts can be analysed. Recent projects have varied from a few artefacts recovered during the excavation of a late medieval house in North Wales to over 16,000 Mesolithic artefacts from Bath. In addition to standard typological studies Ian

Brooks has developed specialist techniques to investigate the original source of the flint and the deliberate heat treatment of flint by the use of micropalaeontology.

16.7 Wendy Carruthers (BSc, MSc) has worked as a freelance archaeobotanist for over 30 years, mainly analysing plant macrofossils from sites in southern and central England and Wales. After graduating in Manchester she worked as a field botanist for a year, followed by a couple of years on archaeological excavations as a digger and planner. I then took the Masters course in Plant Taxonomy at Reading, and started working as a freelance archaeobotanist after I graduated. In the early 1990s she was the English Heritage Archaeobotanist at the Ancient Monuments Laboratory for four years. Over the years she has analysed charred, waterlogged, mineralised, silicified and desiccated plant remains. She is particularly interested in preservation by mineralisation.

17. Insurance & Professional indemnity

17.1 Trysor has Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance.

18. Project identification

18.1 The project has been designated Trysor Project No. 2019/698. Site code is OPL2019. The DAT HER Event Record PRN is 114830.

19. Monitoring

19.1 Staff from the local planning authority and the planning archaeologists at Dyfed Archaeological Trust will be welcome to visit the site and monitor the work. They will be informed as to when work will start on site and contact details given, although the watching brief is may be spread over parts of several days following the progress of the development.

20. Sources

20.1 Historic Maps

Ordnance Survey, 1889, 1:2500
Ordnance Survey, 1906, 1:2500
Ordnance Survey, 1970, 1:2500
Llanpumpsaint parish tithe map, 1846

20.2 Non-published

Central Excavation Unit, 1986, *Central Excavation Unit Manual: Part 2: Recording*, 1986

Evans, P, 2000, *Eynons Down, Newbridge Street, Laugharne. Report on findings from archaeological watching brief and building survey. Cambrian Archaeological Projects Report Project No. 200*

NPAAW, 2017, *The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales 2017*

RCAHMW, 2015, *RCAHMW guidelines for Digital Archives*, Version 1

WAT, 2018, *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)*

20.3 Published

CIfA, 2014a, *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief*

CIfA, 2014b, *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.*

CIfA, 2014c, *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*

20.4 Web based materials

Historic Wales, <http://historicwales.gov.uk/>, accessed 11th October 2019

Cof Cymru, <https://cadw.gov.wales/historicenvironment/recordsv1/cof-cymru/?lang=en> ,
accessed 11th October 2019

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Appendix 3: Finds Report

OPL2019

Finds

Martin Locock MCIfA

Introduction

A small assemblage of post-medieval and modern finds were recovered during the watching brief.

Catalogue

1	Brown moulded bottle, 278mm high, 74mm diameter, with a flat base marked E 470	624g
2	Clear moulded bottle, 193mm high, 53mm diameter, with a flat base marked TV 1578 and with moulded lettering on the body HARRIES AND SONS / CARMARTHEN	317g
3	Clear moulded bottle, 153mm high, 55mm diameter, with a flat base marked L K 2159, and with moulded lettering on the body BROOKE & CO. BATH	366g
4	Pale green bottle, 152mm high, 38mm diameter, with a flat base marked 5 1	175g
5	Iron coated with tinning beer can, painted, 92mm high, 65mm diameter, marked Felinfoel Llanelly	75g
6	Clay pipe stem, 2mm bore	1g
7	Animal bone, cow metacarpal, distal epiphyses unfused and missing, bone surface pitted	76g

Discussion

Catalogue no. 6, the clay pipe stem, is probably 19th century in date. The bottles are probably early-mid 20th century in date. Catalogue no. 3 is from Brooke & Co. of Bath, a soft drinks company trading under that name between 1892-1955 (West Country Bottles, n.d.). Catalogue no. 2 is from Harries and Son a soft drinks company based in Carmarthen and trading under that name from its foundation in 1937 to 1957 (now Tivoli). The T V 1578 on the base is probably a production code, with T V an abbreviation for Towy Valley (Tivoli, n.d.). The drinks can is one of the innovative type produced by Felinfoel Brewery from the 1930s to 1950s to distribute beer (Prior 2015; Felinfoel, n.d.). The animal bone is probably domestic waste; the pitting may be due to dogs or pigs gnawing at it.



Catalogue no. 5: Felinfoel beer can



Complete example of a Felinfoel Brewery beer can (from <https://www.felinfoel.com/>)



Bottles and beer can (catalogue nos. 1-5) (scale= 1cm blocks)



Bottle 2 (Harries & Sons Carmarthen) and 3 (Brooke & Co., Bath)

References

Felinfoel [undated] Felinfoel Brewery website
[<https://www.felinfoel.com/>] accessed 14 December 2019
Prior, N. 2015 Llanelli's Felinfoel brewery pioneered beer in cans
[<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-33484225>] accessed 14
December 2019
Tivoli [undated] Tivoli website [<http://www.tivoli.co.uk>] accessed 14
December 2019
West Country Bottles [undated] West Country Bottles website
[[http://westcountrybottles.co.uk/mike4/Companies/Bristol_Companies/
T.Brooke.html](http://westcountrybottles.co.uk/mike4/Companies/Bristol_Companies/T.Brooke.html)] accessed 14 December 2019