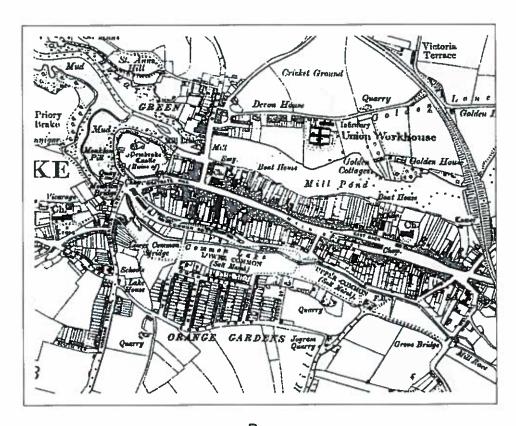


# Tudor House, Pembroke

DYFED NEA

Archaeological Evaluation



By Ken Owen AIFA Report No. 548

Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd Old Chapel Farm, Llanidloes Powys SY18 6JR Telephone. 01686 413857 E-mail: info@cambarch.co.uk





# Tudor House, Pembroke

Archaeological Evaluation

Prepared For:

South Haven Construction Ltd.

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Edited by

Signed: Marol Harbt

Position: Unit Director

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### **Non Technical Summary**

This report results from work undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd (CAP) on behalf of South Haven Construction Ltd. of Pembroke Dock, Pembrokeshire. The work was in advance of the development of residential apartments to the rear of Tudor House, 115 Main Street, Pembroke, Pembrokeshire. The work involved documentary research of an area centred on the area of the development and the cutting of two intrusive evaluation trenches.

The results of the field evaluation showed that all of Trench 1 had been heavily disturbed from the late Victorian period onwards, whilst Trench 2 had been disturbed only in the area located closest to Tudor House. The other end of Trench 2 contained undisturbed garden soil. Although no dating material was recovered, the presence of this deposit suggests that, in this part of the site, evidence might survive for garden features of post-medieval or even medieval date, and for an enigmatic long building identified on the 1862, 1st series, Ordnance Survey map of the area.

#### 1 Introduction

#### 1.1 Location and scope of work

- 1.1.1 The Location of the site is within the town walls of Pembroke at the rear of 115 Main Street (NGR: SM 98840 01297). The site extends southwards towards Rock Terrace which lies on the South-East of the town wall, near a tower known as the Gazebo Tower.
- 1.1.2 The site is located within the defended historic town of Pembroke and consequently within the archaeologically sensitive core of the modern town.
- 1.1.3 The proposed development consists of the upgrading and restoration of the current building known as Tudor House, fronting 115 Main Street, and the erection of two apartment blocks at the rear within the terraced garden. The proposed developer is South Haven Construction Ltd. The local planning authority is Pembrokeshire County Council and the planning application number is 07/1618/CA.
- 1.1.4 The evaluation results from a brief prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust Heritage Management, in their capacity as archaeological advisers to Pembrokeshire County Council. The Trust recommended that two evaluation trenches were excavated, one in the location of each of the proposed apartment blocks. This would help to determine whether

archaeological remains were preserved within the development area.

1.1.5 A basic documentary search of archaeological records held at the offices of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust at Llandeilo was undertaken to gain knowledge and understanding of the site and its adjoining areas.

#### 1.2 Geology and topography

- 1.2.1 The sedimentary formations in the area are of a ridge of hard Carboniferous Limestone of the Lower Carboniferous with an East-West orientation; the town was built on this formation. The outlying areas are of Lower Devonian shales and sandstone.
- 1.2.2 The site is situated on this ridge with a gentle slope towards the town walls to the South. The lower ground to the South of the walls used to be a marsh, although this land is now reclaimed.

#### 1.3 Archaeological and historical background

- 1.3.1 The first evidence of occupation in the area dates to the prehistoric period when occupation is attested within the local limestone caves.
- 1.3.2 The first defensive structure in the town dates to the late 11<sup>th</sup> century when Amulf of Montgomery raised a timber and earth fortification. Construction of the first stone-built defended structure was initiated in 1159, but it was not completed until the middle of the 13<sup>th</sup> century, shortly before the construction of the first town walls by William de Valence.
- 1.3.3 The walls were expanded in stages until they reached the fully developed state that still survives to this day. The present site lies inside the periphery of the South-Eastern stretch of the walls.
- 1.3.4 Tudor House is attached to two Grade II listed buildings, and it is likely that evidence for medieval burgage plots survives fossilised within the contemporary boundaries of all three properties. The prospect that associated features and outbuildings survive to the rear of them is also high.

# 2 Aims and Objectives

#### 2.1 Recording

- 2.1.1 To recover and record archaeological information with the aid of photography, plans and context sheets which would otherwise be destroyed by the proposed scheme and to prepare a report on the results.
- 2.1.2 To collate and assess all cartographic information relevant to the area which will have a bearing on the said works.
- 2.1.3 To assess the topography and land use of the area through maps and site visits during the course of the said works.

#### 2.2 Field Evaluation

- 2.2.1 To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the proposal area paying particular attention to any possible field divisions or post holes which may give an indication of the location of the burgage plots within this area.
- 2.2.2 To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains present.
- 2.2.3 To establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological deposits and features.
- 2.2.4 To appraise the likely impact of the proposed development on any surviving archaeological deposits and to make suggestions for a mitigation strategy. If archaeology of regional or national importance is identified, to provide information that might allow for preservation in situ.

# 3 Map Regression

#### 3.1 Ordnance Survey Maps

3.1.1 1862 1st Series. This map shows that the area behind the frontage of Tudor House was mainly laid out as garden plots at this time, with a possible yard or grassed area towards the South adjoining the town walls. A structure with a North-South orientation appears to

be centrally located within this area. The dimensions of the structure cannot be measured with great accuracy, but it seems to be c.25-30m in length and 3-5m wide.

- 3.1.2 1866 County Series. This map is only four years later but does show a little more detail of the garden plots. The central structure is shown, as is the yard or grassed area towards the South. There is also another possible small structure with a North-South orientation occupying part of the recess adjoining the town wall to the South of the site. The garden area on the Western side has been subdivided into six or seven smaller plots, each measuring c.10x10m. There are four plots on the East side, all slightly larger, but these do not have the same degree of uniformity in size.
- 3.1.3 1906 2<sup>nd</sup> Series. The long, North-South aligned, structure at the centre of the site is still shown on this map, but the garden plots have now gone. The garden area now seems to be a large open area. There seems to be a track coming down from Main Street alongside the central structure, together with a smaller East-West feature a few metres to the South of the central structure. This new feature is located at the site of Structure 006 within Tr.1, therefore we can give it a general date of between 1866 and 1906. The small structure in the southern recess is not shown on this map.
- 3.1.4 1908 County Series. This map clearly shows the long central structure and Structure 006. There is also another near-square structure to the rear of Tudor House which seems to be located around the location of pit [016]. The garden plots at this time were composed of long, North-South aligned strips on the western side, leading from a small terrace down the slope towards the town walls. The two plots containing the structures on the eastern side were roughly rectangular in plan.
- 3.1.5 1967 County Series. The separate garden areas have now completely gone leading to one large open area. The long, centrally located structure and Structure 006 are still located on this map, and are now joined by two parallel buildings to the South-West of Structure 006. Ruined breeze block walls associated with these parallel structures survive to the South of Trench 1. At the North of the site, to the rear of Tudor House, a new structure is now located at the western boundary.

# 4 Evaluation Methodology

#### 4.1 Scope of Fieldwork

- 4.1.1 The evaluation consisted of two machine dug trenches with a 5T 360 degree excavator using a 1.50m wide toothless bucket. Each trench measured 30m x 2m. The machine also had a 0.50m wide toothless bucket for cleaning within narrow areas and for breaking up the more compacted soils and concrete.
- 4.1.2 The evaluation was undertaken by Ken Owen (Project Manager) and Hywel Keen

(Project Assistant). After the initial removal of the concrete and demolition debris by the machine, all the archaeological levels were cleaned by hand. Subsequently, photography and detailed recording was undertaken. All sections and plans were drawn to a scale of 1:20.

4.1.3 All works were undertaken in accordance with both the IFA's Standards and Guidance: for an archaeological desk-based assessment and archaeological evaluation and current Health and Safety legislation.

#### 4.2 Finds

- 4.2.1 A number of ceramic and glass finds was recovered. The finds were associated with the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and mid 20<sup>th</sup> century features identified during the evaluation. These were noted on record sheets but not retained.
- 4.2.2 A small amount of mortar, coal and charcoal from the upper levels of 003 within Tr.1 were retained, as were a few pieces of animal bone from the same deposit. This deposit was disturbed, but may have been medieval in origin.

#### 4.3 Palaeo-environmental evidence

4.3.1 No deposits suited to environmental sampling were located during the evaluation.

#### 4.4 Presentation of results

4.4.1 Section 5 outlines the results from each trench. Note that O.D. levels are included in a table presented at the end of Appendix I. An inventory of all contexts is presented in Appendix III.

#### **5 Evaluation Results**

#### 5.1 Soils and ground conditions

- 5.1.1 Generally the site and weather conditions were reasonably good. Only occasional light showers were encountered.
- 5.1.2 The ground conditions were favourable because drainage was offered by the underlying 'shaley' natural.

#### 5.2 Distribution of deposits

- 5.2.1 On removal of the tarmac surface and the underlying hardcore (001), an upper deposit of a generally dark brown garden topsoil (004 and 014) was encountered. This was underlain by re-deposited subsoil (003) and subsoil (015).
- 5.2.2 The subsoil in both trenches was underlain by a 'shaley' natural (005).
- 5.2.3 The soils within Tr.1 were heavily truncated by modern buildings.

#### 5.3 Descriptions of trenches

**Trench 1** (Figs. 5+6) (Plates 1-6)

5.3.1 After the removal of the tarmac surface and the underlying hardcore (001) the trench was excavated in spits. The layer below was comprised of demolition material (002) associated with the late 19th and 20th century structures that were located within the area. As well as early 20th century pottery, brick and glass, the demolition material consisted of green plastic bags containing domestic waste, and large tyres (Pl. 5), which almost certainly can be associated with the council depot that previously occupied the site. Below the demolition material, were the remains of a stone-built structure with internal rendering (006) (Pl. 3). This had a total length of 9m, but its width could not be established as it continued into the baulk to the South of the trench. Demolition material (002) was deposited within this building as well as outside and above. Also below the demolition material, a dark brown topsoil deposit containing a moderate amount of root material and occasional stone and charcoal (004) (Pls. 1+2) was encountered. This layer was c.0.25m in depth and had been cut by the foundations of the stone-built structure [013] (Pl. 4). Below the topsoil (004), and sealed by it, was a deposit of mid orangey brown silty sand (003) containing a moderate amount of charcoal and mortar and the occasional animal bone, with a maximum depth of 0.70m. The lowest layer in Tr .1 consisted of 'shaley' natural (005), which was orangey brown in colour.

Trench 2 (Figs. 7+8) (Plates 7-10)

5.3.2 Due to the close proximity to Tudor House and a water service pipe Trench 2 was shortened by 3m at its northern end. The tarmac and hardcore layer (001) was removed to reveal dark brown topsoil (014) (Pl. 7). This was located throughout most of the trench and seemed identical to a deposit (004) found in Tr. 1. This material had inclusions of occasional small stones and moderate root material. Below the topsoil (014) was an orangey brown subsoil (015), which again seemed similar to a deposit (003) found within Tr. 1. However, this material did not have any inclusions apart from the occasional root and rare small stone. The deposit seemed to be part of undisturbed garden subsoil located

between Tudor House and the town wall. Below the subsoil was the same 'shaley' natural (005) that had been identified previously in Tr. 1. Towards the North of the trench, and quite close to Tudor House, a small revetment wall with a height of 0.75m and width of 0.90m (018) (cut [019]) (Pl. 8) was identified. This cut the dark brown topsoil (014) and was roughly constructed with broken stone blocks, some encased in concrete. The wall was not freestanding and had been constructed to create a small terrace located to the North of the wall. This was filled with re-deposited and mixed garden soils (022). The southern side of the terrace followed the natural slope of the ground downwards towards the town walls. At the north-eastern extent of the trench a small modern pit [016] (fill (017)) (Pl. 9) was identified. It containing large amounts of broken bottles and a moderate amount of pottery shards and animal bone pieces. This pit was located directly below the tarmac surface (001) and cut the re-deposited soils (022).

### 6 Discussion and Interpretation

#### 6.1 Reliability of field investigation

- 6.1.1 The area within Tr. 1 had been heavily disturbed from the late Victorian period onwards. The disturbances consisted mainly of deep foundation trenches, which had destroyed the garden plots throughout most of the trench.
- 6.1.2 Tr. 2 had a North-South orientation and followed the natural slope of the ground. The soils within this trench seemed to be largely clear of demolition, which may provide evidence of surviving garden plots (Fig. 9).

#### 6.2 Overall interpretation

- 6.2.1 Although Tr. 1 was largely disturbed, deposits located within Tr. 2 indicate that both medieval and post-medieval garden deposits might survive within the area. This is particularly likely in areas located away from features dating to the Victorian and later periods.
- 6.2.2 In particular, pre-Victorian deposits in Tr. 1 had been truncated by structural disturbances located in the centre of the trench and against its western edge. It is likely that these continue southwards, beyond the end of the trench, possibly causing significant damage as far as the town wall.
- 6.2.3 Tr. 2 extended southwards down the slope of the garden from Tudor House. Below the layers of tarmac and hardcore, it was relatively clear of disturbances in the area located to the south of a modern revetment wall (018). Orange-brown subsoil (015) containing no datable material survived in this area.

#### 6.3 Significance and recommendations

- 6.3.1 The two evaluation trenches failed to identify structural information pre-dating the late Victorian period; there was no evidence of pits, post holes or boundary divisions within the trenches.
- 6.3.2 However, although undiagnostic, the survival of the undisturbed subsoil deposit in Tr. 2 indicates that it may be possible to establish the location of post-medieval or even medieval garden deposits located in this part of the development area. Evidence may also survive for the long structure shown on the 1862, 1<sup>st</sup> series, Ordnance Survey map (Fig.3).
- 6.3.3 Because of the *intra mural* location of the site, all such deposits have a potential in regard to better understanding the 13<sup>th</sup> century establishment and later development of the town. It is recommended that a watching brief is undertaken during construction activity undertaken within the development area.

### 7 Acknowledgements

- 7.1.1 Thanks to Hywel Keen for his assistance with the evaluation of the site and in the records office.
- 7.1.2 Thanks are also extended to the staff of South Haven Construction Ltd, particularly Gary Jones, and to Carl Bentley (Pembroke Design Ltd.) for providing the Trench location plan (Fig.2).

# 8 Bibliography and references

Carradice, P. 1992 'Pembroke for King and Parliament', Pembroke Town Council

'Pembroke Town Trail', Pembroke Civic Trust Society.

#### Other sources consulted

Regional Historic Environment Records (Llandeilo)

Dyfed Archaeological Trust: Basic search of records relating to Tudor House, Pembroke



# APPENDIX I: FIGURES

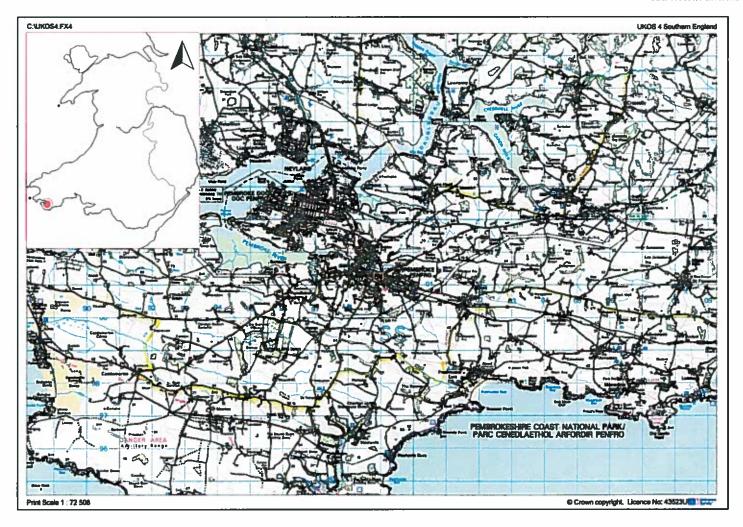


Figure 1: Location Map for Pembroke

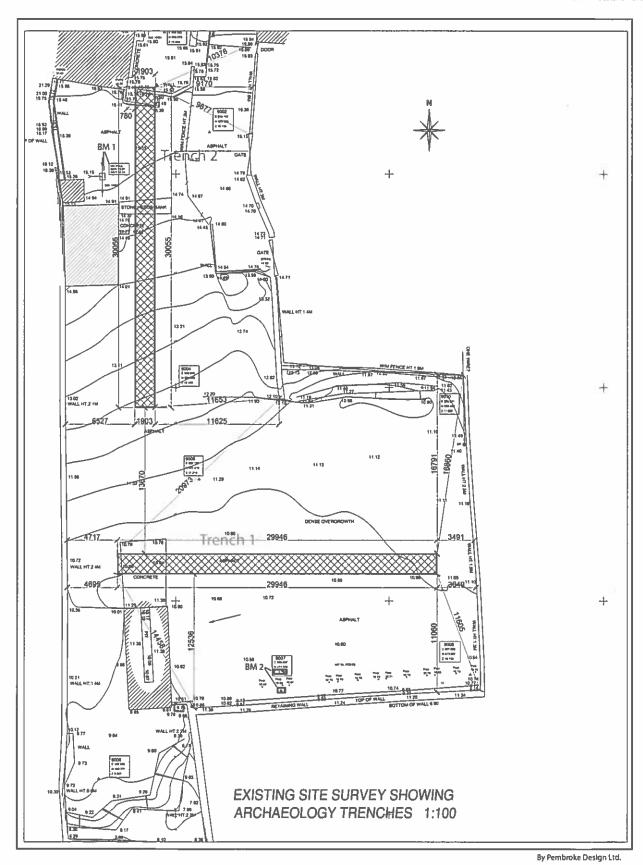


Figure 2: Trench Location Plan

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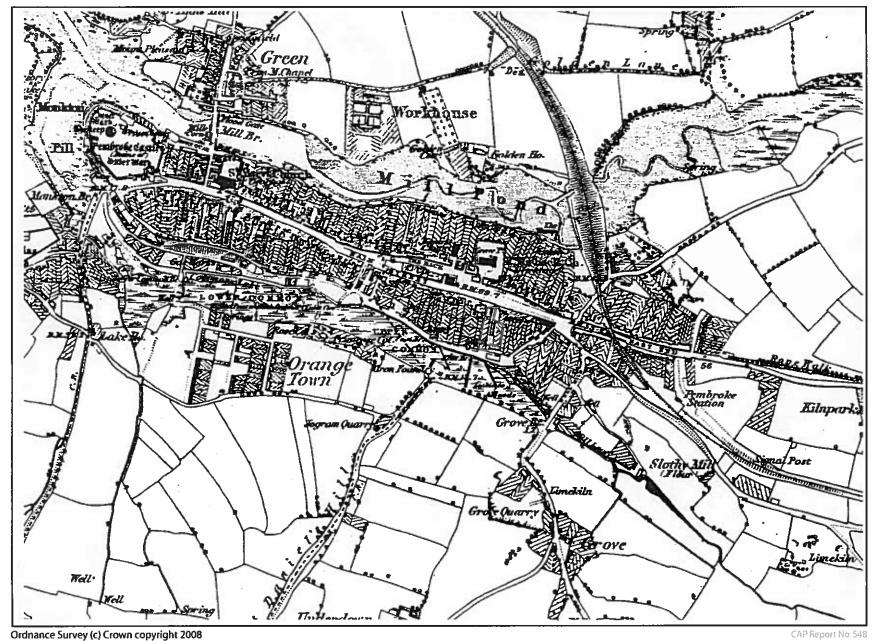
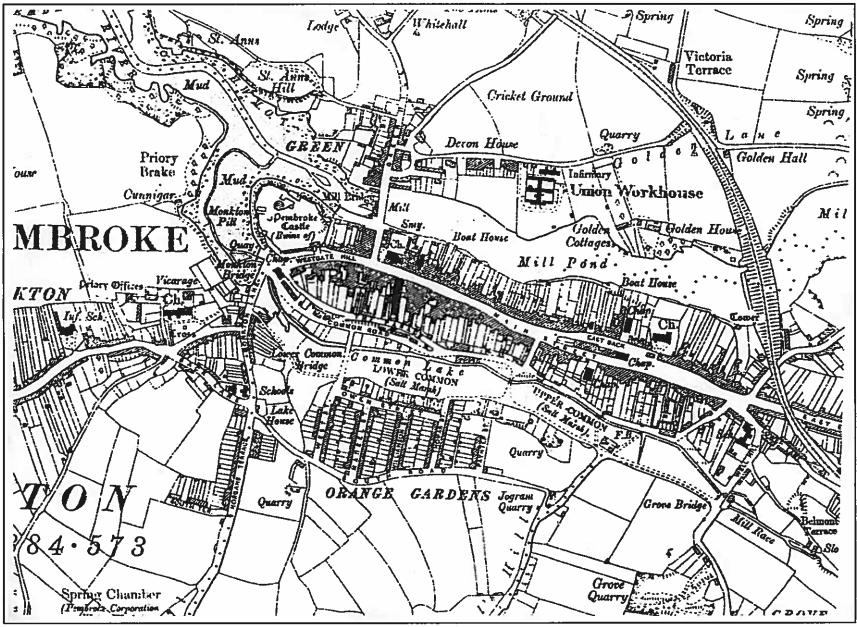
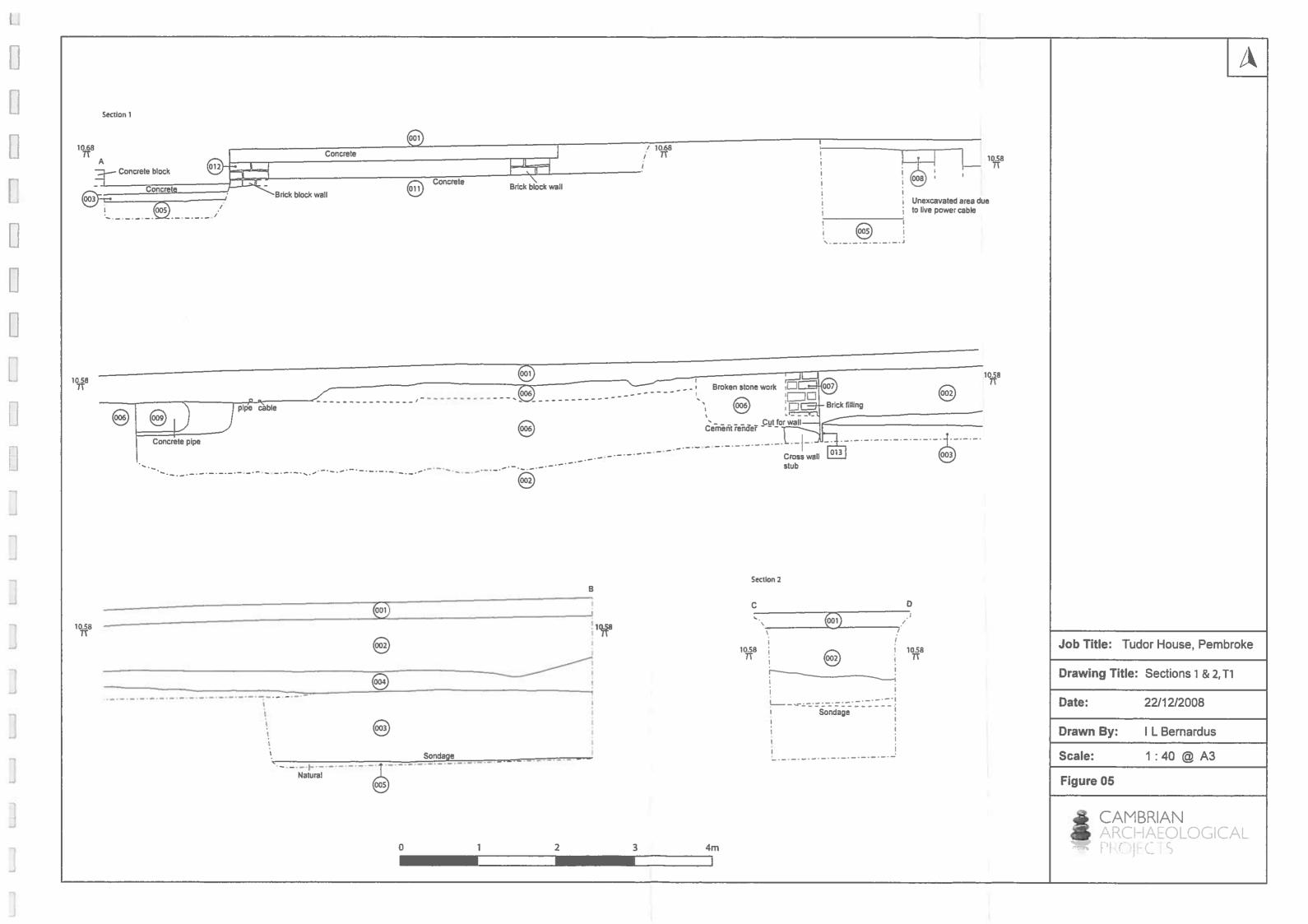


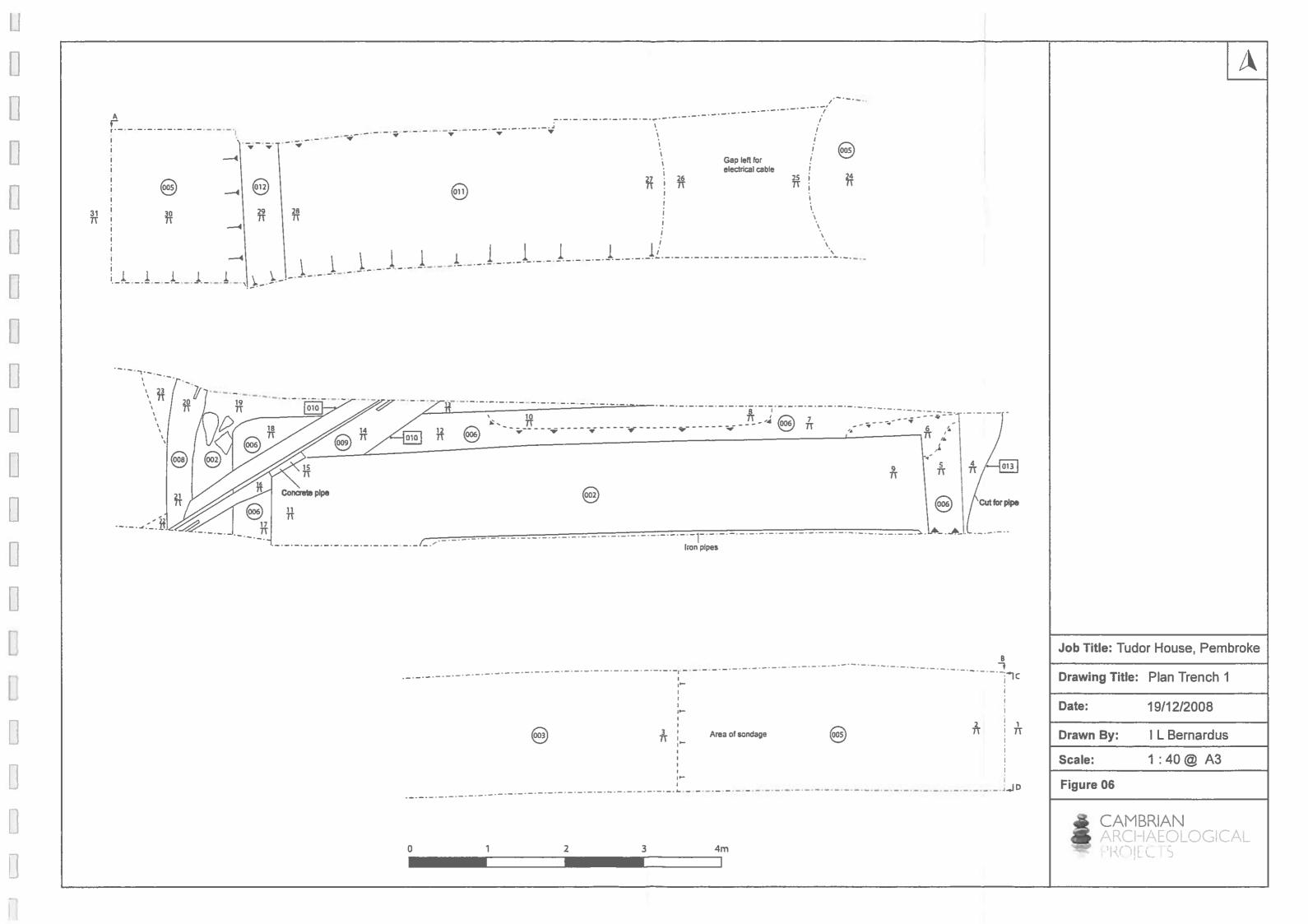
Figure 3: 1st Series Ordnance Survey Map. 1862. 1:2500

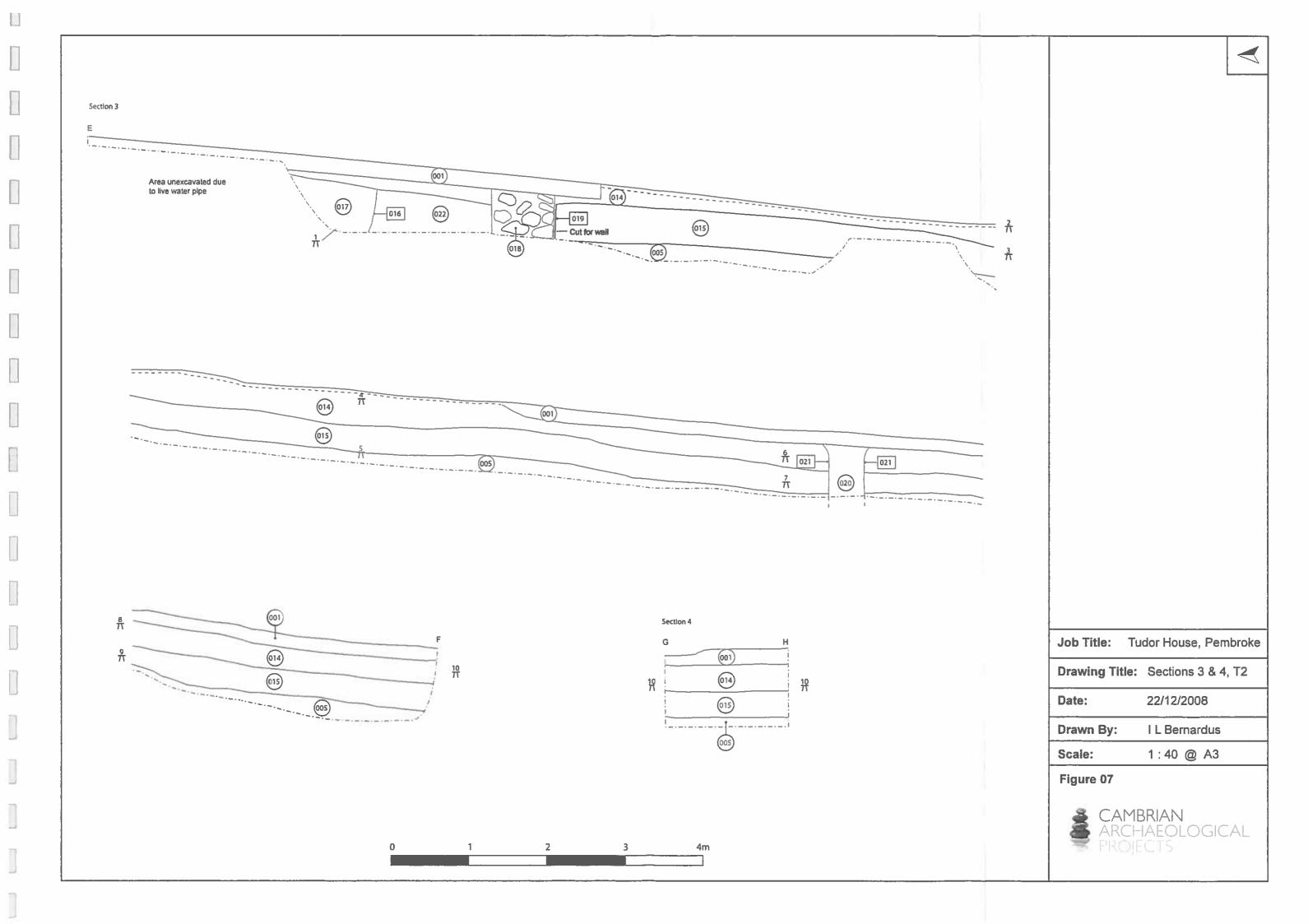


Ordnance Survey (c) Crown copyright 2008

Tudor House, Pembroke







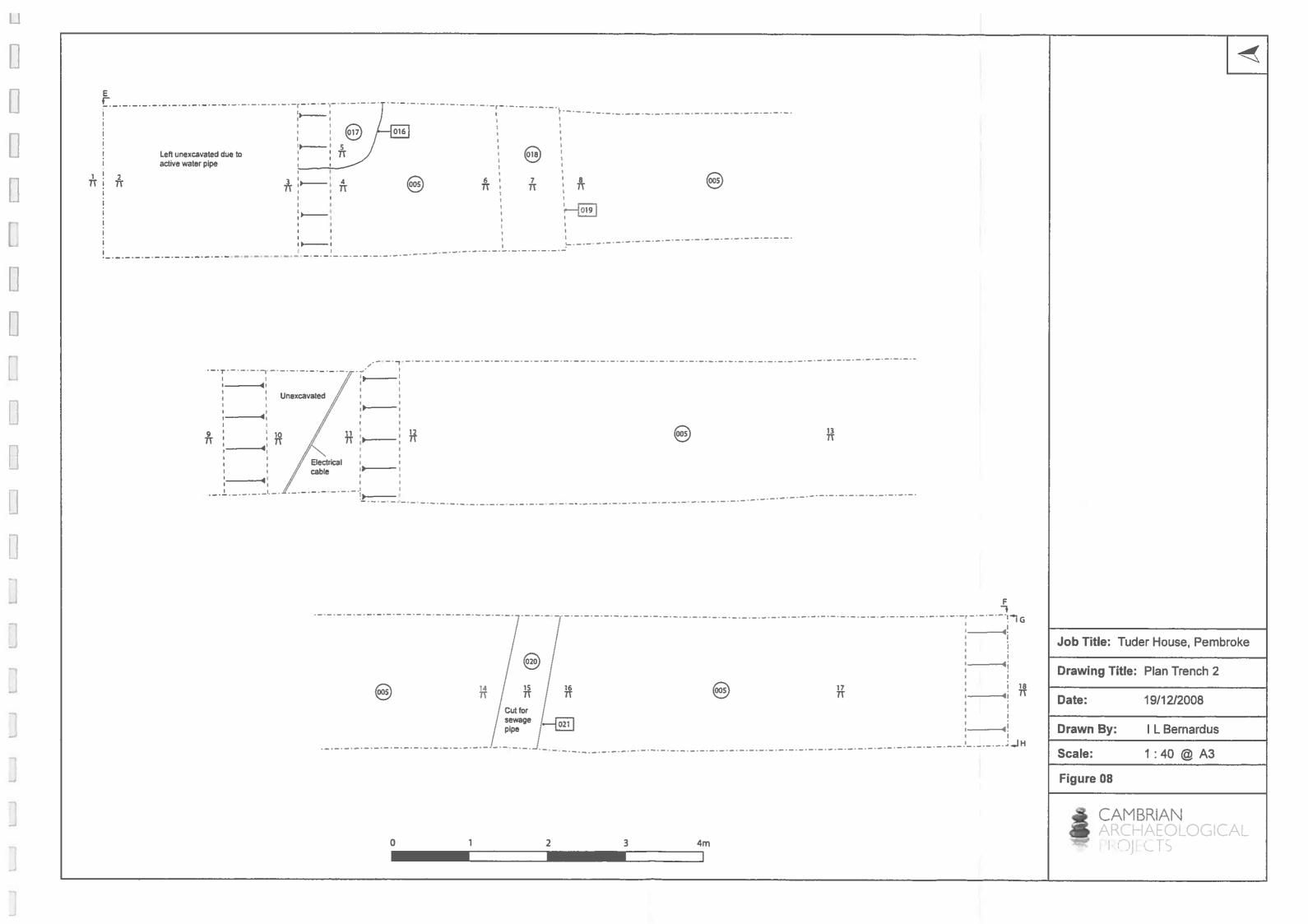


Figure 9: 1866 Ordnance Survey County Series. 1:2500

CAP Report No.548

Tudor House Pembroke

Figure 10: 1908 Ordnance Survey County Series. 1:2500

CAP Report No 548

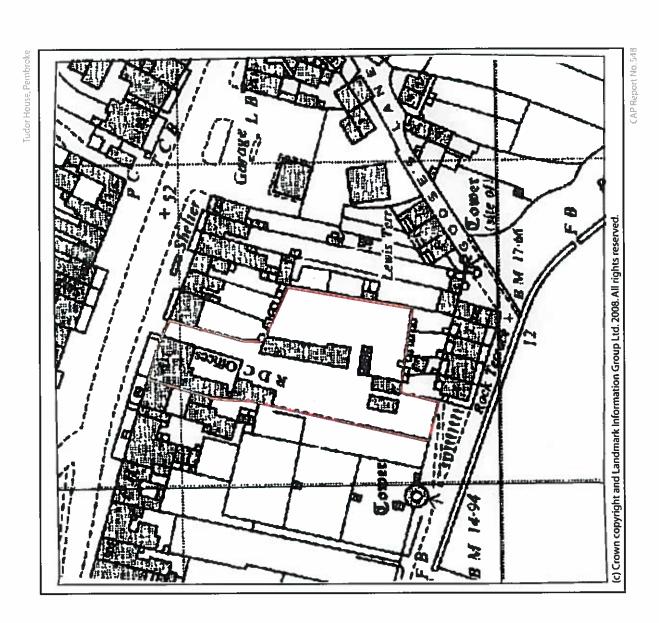


Figure 11:1967 Ordnance Survey County Series. 1:2500

### LEVELS O.D. AS SHOWN ON FIGURES 5 TO 8

Levels trench 1 TBM: 12.63 m		Levels trench 2 TBM: 15.08 m
1 = 10.99 m 2 = 9.89 m 3 = 9.79 m 4 = 9.78 m 5 = 9.80 m 6 = 9.96 m 7 = 10.58 m 8 = 10.69 m 9 = 9.59 m 10 = 10.62 m 11 = 9.45 m 12 = 10.43 m 13 = 10.42 m 14 = 10.35 m 15 = 10.24 m	19 = 10.28 m 20 = 10.39 m 21 = 10.25 m 22 = 10.18 m 23 = 10.35 m 24 = 9.32 m 25 = 10.67 m 26 = 10.70 m 27 = 10.33 m 28 = 10.36 m 29 = 10.74 m 30 = 9.77 m 31 = 10.44 m	1 = 15.38 m 2 = 15.29 m 3 = 15.07 m 4 = 14.20 m 5 = 14.17 m 6 = 14.23 m 7 = 14.11 m 8 = 14.01 m 9 = 13.83 m 10 = 14.19 m 11 = 14.11 m 12 = 13.51 m 13 = 12.88 m 14 = 12.51 m 15 = 12.43 m
16 = 10.22 m 17 = 10.29 m 18 = 10.38 m Levels section 1 & 2 TBM: 10.71 m	Levels section 3 & 4 TBM: 15.07 m	16 = 11.36 m 17 = 11.93 m 18 = 12.56 m
1 = 10.58 m 2 = 10.68 m	1 = 14.53 m 2 = 14.26 m	6 = 12.93 m 7 = 12.59 m

3 = 14.03 m 4 = 13.88 m

5 = 13.18 m

8 = 12.54 m

9 = 12.09 m

10 = 12.11 m



# APPENDIX II: PLATES



Plate 01: Tr.1 North facing section, (003) at base of trench.



Plate 02: Tr.1 South facing section with (001) above demolition (002). Thin band of soil (004).

Tudor House, Pembroke

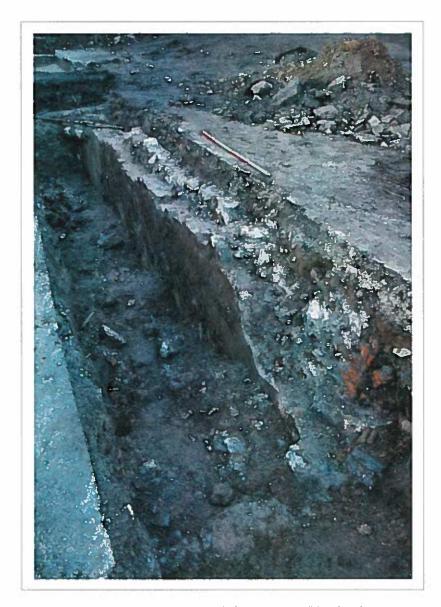


Plate 03: Tr.1 Structure (006), filled by demolition (002)



Plate 04: Tr.1 Cut [013] for structure (006)

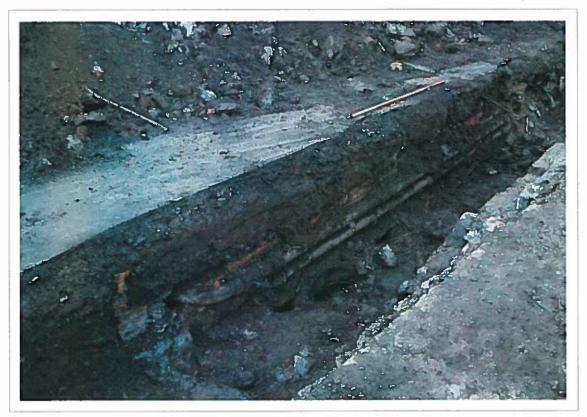


Plate 05: Tr.1 Demolition (002) within structure (006).

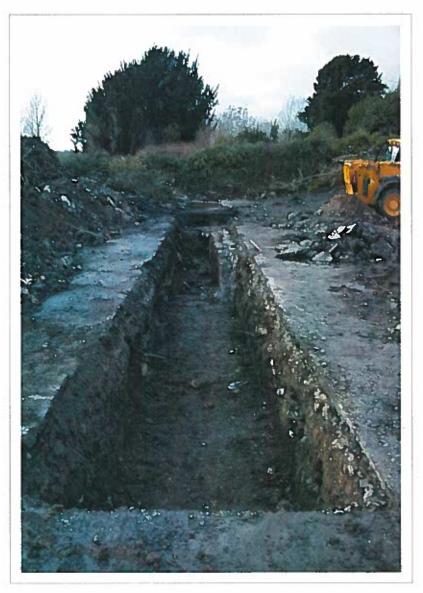


Plate 06: Tr. 1 General post-ex photo from the East



Plate 07: Tr. 2 North facing section. Contexts (001) (014) (015) and (005) from the top.

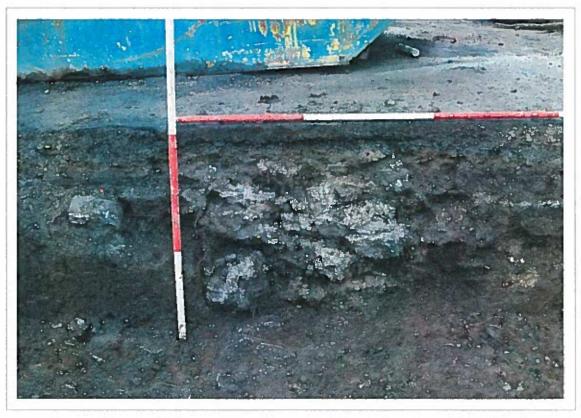


Plate 08: Tr. 2 Revetment wall (018) from the east



Plate 09: Tr. 2 Modern pit [016] at northern end of trench.

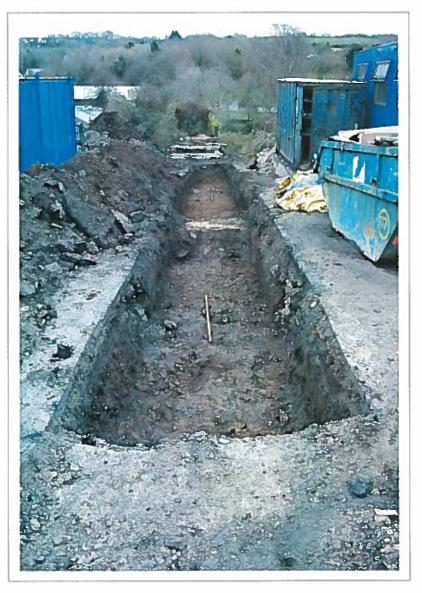


Plate 10: Tr. 2, General post-ex photo from the North



# APPENDIX III CONTEXT REGISTER

# **CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS**

# **CONTEXT REGISTER**

SITE: Tudor House, Pembroke.

THP/08/EVAL

CONTEXT NO.	COMMENTS	DRG. NO.	DATE	SIGN
001	Tarmac surface and hardcore	2/2+3; 3/5+6	09/12/2008	KO
002	Mixed demolition below (001)	2/2+3	11	11
003	Orangey brown subsoil	2/2+3	11	11
004	Mid brown topsoil	2/2+3	П	11
005	Very stoney orangey brown natural	2/2+3; 3/5+6	09/12/2008	KO
006	Rectangular ? stone built structure	1/1; 2/2	10/12/2008	KO
007	Brick wall built onto (006)	2/2	N	11
800	Concrete casing for power cable	2/2	11	11
009	Concrete pipe	1/1; 2/2	11	Ш
010	Cut for (009)	1/1; 2/2	11	11
011	Sloping concrete floor	1/1	11	11
012	Breeze block wall	1/1; 2/2	1)	11
013	Cut for (006)	1/1; 2/2	10/12/2008	KO
014	Garden topsoil, same as (004)	3/5+6	11/12/2008	KO
015	Orangey brown subsoil, similar to (003)	3/5+6	11	11
016	Cut for modern pit	1/4; 3/5	"	H
017	Fill of [016]	1/4; 3/5	11	11
018	Modern revetment wall	1/4; 3/5	ff ff	11
019	Cut for [018]	1/4; 3/5	61	11
020	Fill of modern drain	1/4; 3/5	11	11
021	Cut for (020)	1/4; 3/5	11	11
022	Disturbed garden soil, part demolition	3/5	11/12/2008	KO



# APPENDIX IV ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

# ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

Site Name:	Tudor House, Pembroke			
Site Code:	THP/08/EVAL			
PRN:				
NPRN:				
SAM:				
CAP Report No:	548			
NGR:	SM 9884 0126			
Site Type:	Medieval/Post-Medieval			
Project Type:	Evaluation			
Project Officer:	Ken Owen			
Project Dates:	09/12/2008 to 12/11/2008			
Categories Present:				
Location of Original Archive:				
Location of duplicate Archives:				
Number of Finds Boxes:				
Location of Finds:				
Museum Reference:				
Copyright:				
Restrictions to access:	None			