

Land Southwest of Bramble Lodge, Hill Mountain, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire Watching Brief



Report by: Trysor

For: Marco Siso

February 2016



Land Southwest of Bramble Lodge, Hill Mountain, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire Watching Brief

By

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Trysor Project No. 2015/486

For: Marco Siso

February 2016

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Cover photograph: The development plot, looking south, showing ditch 003

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RHIF YR ADRODDIAD - REPORT NUMBER: Trysor 2015/486

DYDDIAD 19^{eg} Chwefror 2016

DATE 19th February 2016

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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Jenny Hall

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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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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 .

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. She has been an independent archaeologist since 2004 undertaking a variety of work that includes upland survey, desk-based appraisals and assessments, and watching briefs.

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. He has been an independent archaeologist since 2004 undertaking a variety of work including upland survey, desk-based appraisals/assessments, and watching briefs.

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1. Summary

1.1 In November 2015, Trysor undertook a watching brief on groundworks for residential development at SM9758208286 on land southwest of Bramble Lodge, Hill Mountain, Pembrokeshire, planning application 15/0093/PA.

1.2 The topsoil had been scraped from the surface of the development plot prior to the watching brief and this enabled the whole of the plot to be observed, not just the foundation trenches.

1.3 A ditch line was recorded running roughly north to south across the development. A section was excavated by hand where the house foundations would cut through it. The ditch was 1 metre wide and 0.45 metres deep below the natural subsoil interface with the topsoil. No dating material was recovered.

1.4 The ditch does not correspond with any boundaries shown on historic Ordnance Survey mapping. Given the proximity of the former defended enclosure to the north it may be associated with that.

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 2, 3 and 6 include other copyright material and should not be copied.

3. Introduction

3.1 Mr Philipp Coombe, of Chedzoy, 97, Steynton Road, STEYNTON, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire, SA73 1AD commissioned Trysor heritage consultants on behalf of his client to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) on a consented dwelling and associated access on land southwest of Bramble Lodge, Hill Mountain, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire relating to planning application number: 15/0093/PA.

3.2 Trysor prepared a Written Scheme of Investigation, see Appendix A. This was approved by the planning archaeologist at Dyfed Archaeological Trust.

4. The development

4.1 The development consists of a single new dwelling and access arrangements.

5. Conditions on the consent

5.1 In granting approval for the 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.

*Land Southwest of Bramble Lodge, Hill Mountain,
Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire, Watching Brief*

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 February 2013).

6. Historical and Archaeological Overview

6.1 Immediately to the north of the development site lies an Iron Age enclosure (PRN 3202). This was largely destroyed during by housing development in the 1990s but there may be evidence of it or associated features still below ground.

6.2 The site was described in 1995 using documentary material as "*a small defended enclosure. It occupied a north-facing slope just below the crest of a rounded ridge at c.85m above sea level. It was sub-circular in shape, c.55m by 40m internally with a south-facing entrance. The interior was slightly dished, perhaps an enhancement of a natural feature.*" Murphy et al, 2007, PRN 3202

6.3 Some exploration of the site was undertaken before construction of the housing estate. A geophysical survey was undertaken by Gates and Gaffney in 1988 which suggested that a ditched trackway had led to the south-facing entrance (Gates, J & Gaffney, C, 1988). Limited excavation by George Williams in 1994 included the earth and stone defensive bank, as well as some internal features such as pits and post-holes (Williams, G, 1994)

6.4 There is also a crop mark (PRN 12785), possibly indicating another prehistoric enclosure less than 200m to the southeast, and a Neolithic chambered tomb (PRN 3205, Scheduled Ancient Monument PE066) 330m to the southwest.

7. Methodology

7.1 On 25th and 26th November 2015, the foundation trenches for the residential development were mechanically excavated and this process was observed by Trysor.

7.2 The shallow topsoil had been cleared previously which enabled a clear view of the whole of the development area.

Land Southwest of Bramble Lodge, Hill Mountain,
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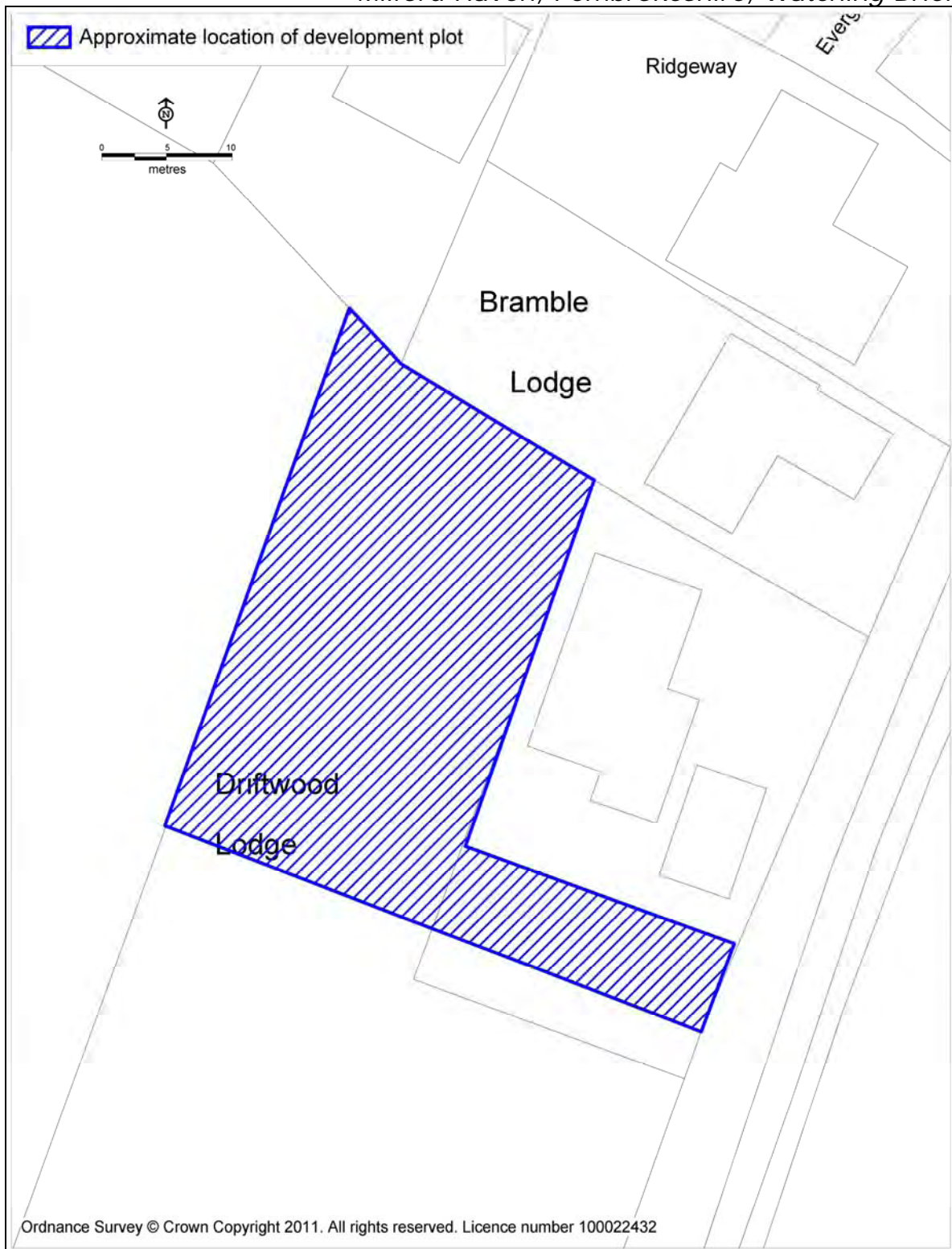


Figure 2: The development site.



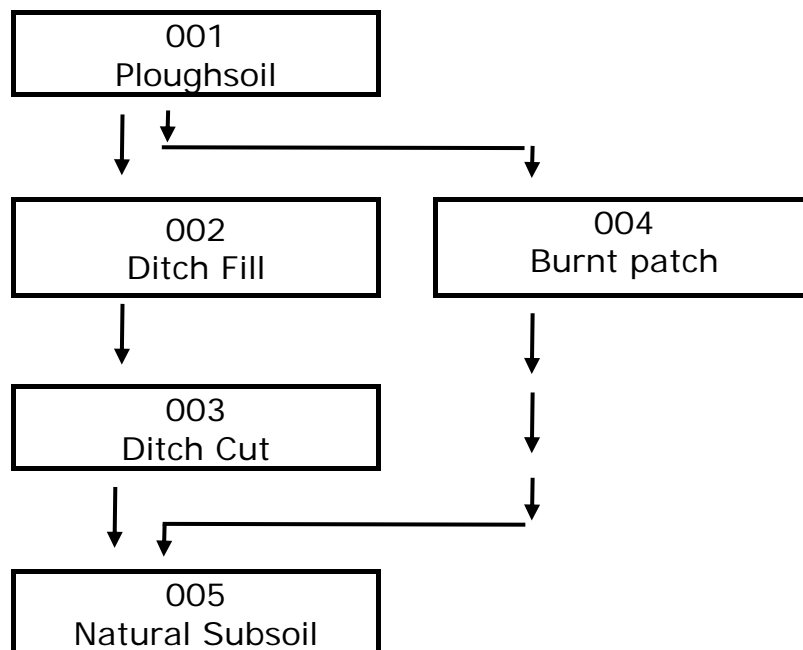
Figure 3: Features recorded

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). The mechanical excavation of the cable trenches were watched by Trydor and the stratigraphy recorded.

8.2 Context Catalogue

Context Number	Depth	Description	Interpretation
001	0.20 metres	7.5YR 3/2 dark brown clay loam with small stones less than 0.10 metres long.	Topsoil, removed from the site prior to the watching brief.
002	0.45 metres	7.5YR 3/4 silty loam with small stones. This context was clearly visible across the stripped area of the site, running 5 to 10 degrees east of north to 5 to 10 degrees west of south.	Fill of 002, no dating evidence
003	0.45 metres	A ditch cut with a V shaped profile and only one fill, 002, visible	Ditch filled by 002
004	0.05 metres	Discrete layer 0.60 metres by 0.50 metres and 0.05 metres deep	Small patch of burnt material, unknown date
005	-	7.5YR 4/4 brown sand with stone up to 0.25 metres long	Natural subsoil



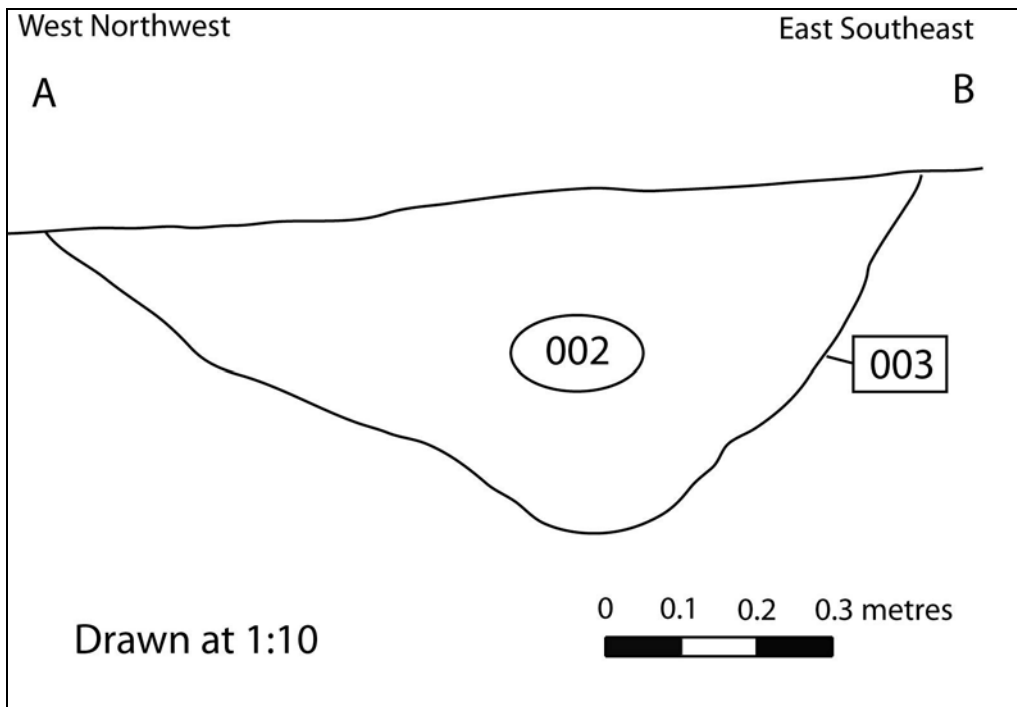


Figure 4: Section A to B through ditch 003

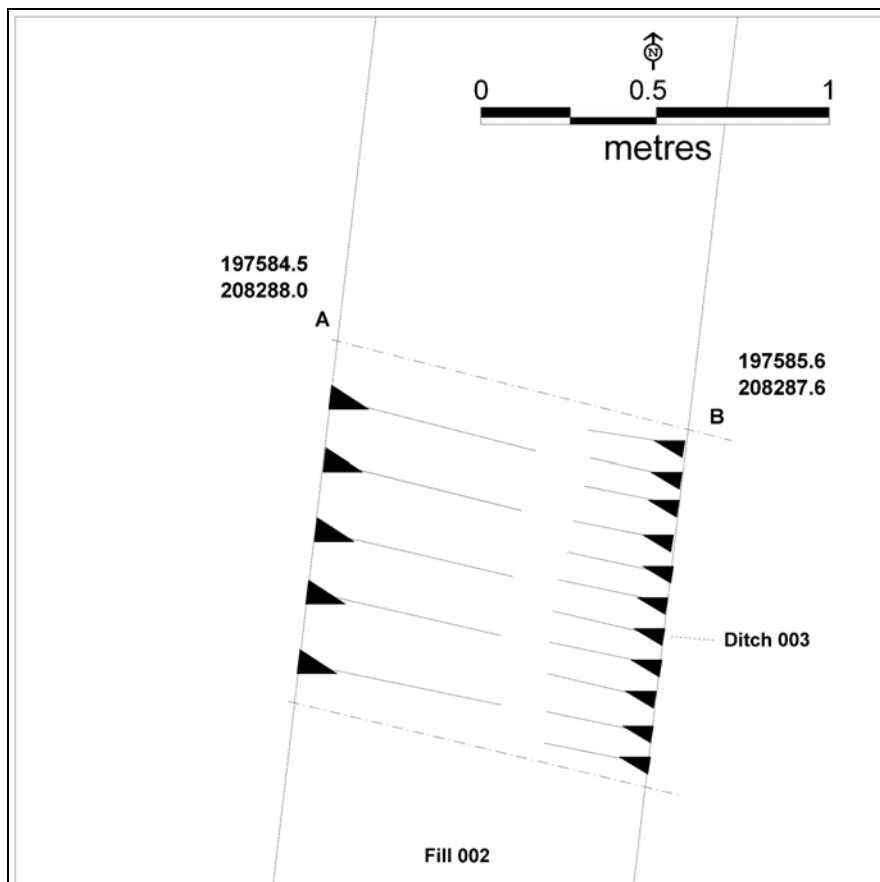


Figure 5: Plan of excavated section of ditch 003

9. Photographs

9.1 Colour digital photographs were taken of topsoil stripping and excavation of trenches using a 16M pixel camera. The following table describes the content of each photograph included in the project archive and their locations are provided in the following map, see Figures 6 & 7. The photographs are included in Appendix B at the end of the report.

Photo Number	Description	Date Taken	Direction
HMN2015_101	Site cleared of topsoil, with ditch HMN2015_003 clearly visible, taken from a pile of topsoil at the north end of the plot	25/11/2015	Looking south
HMN2015_102	Site cleared of topsoil, with ditch HMN2015_003 clearly visible, taken from a pile of topsoil at the north end of the plot	25/11/2015	Looking south southeast
HMN2015_103	Site cleared of topsoil, with ditch HMN2015_003 clearly visible, taken from south end of the plot	25/11/2015	Looking north northeast
HMN2015_104	Site cleared of topsoil, with ditch HMN2015_003 clearly visible, taken from south end of the plot. The part of the ditch through which house foundations were be cut has been cleaned in the foreground.	25/11/2015	Looking north northeast
HMN2015_105	Section across ditch HMN2015_003 where the northeasternmost wall foundation was to be placed with horizontal scale.	25/11/2015	Looking north northeast
HMN2015_106	Section across ditch HMN2015_003 where the northeasternmost wall foundation was to be placed with horizontal and vertical scale.	25/11/2015	Looking north northeast
HMN2015_107	The excavated section of the ditch HMN2015_003	25/11/2015	Looking north northeast

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Photo Number	Description	Date Taken	Direction
HMN2015_108	Small patch of burning, HMN2015_004	25/11/2015	Looking north northeast
HMN2015_109	Continuation of HMN2015_003	26/11/2015	Looking northwest
HMN2015_110	HMN2015_003, in section after excavation of wall foundations	26/11/2015	Looking south southeast
HMN2015_111	View of HMN2015_003, previously excavated by hand by Trysor, see Plates 5, 6 & 7, showing in section after mechanical excavation of wall foundations	26/11/2015	Looking northwest

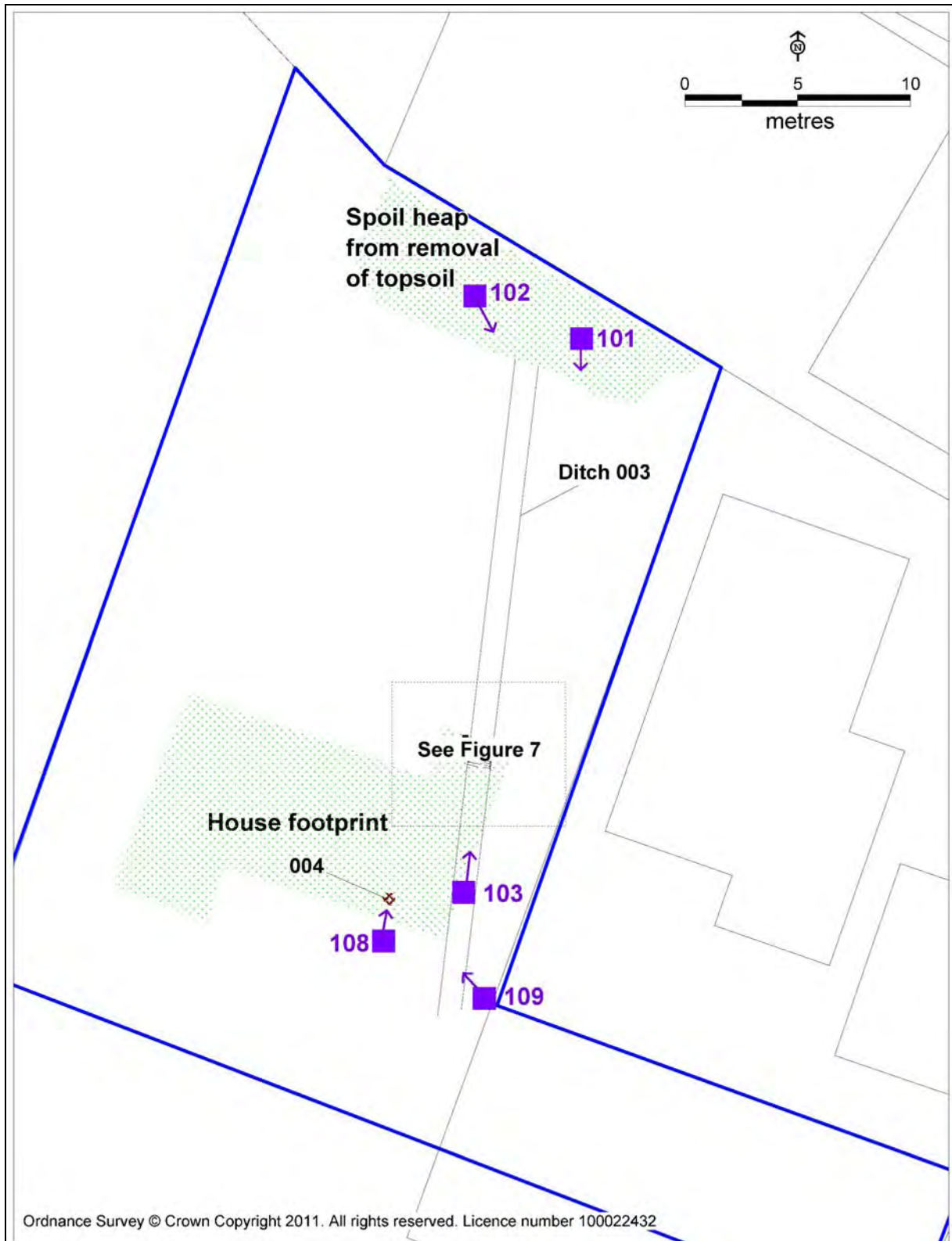


Figure 6: Location of photographs

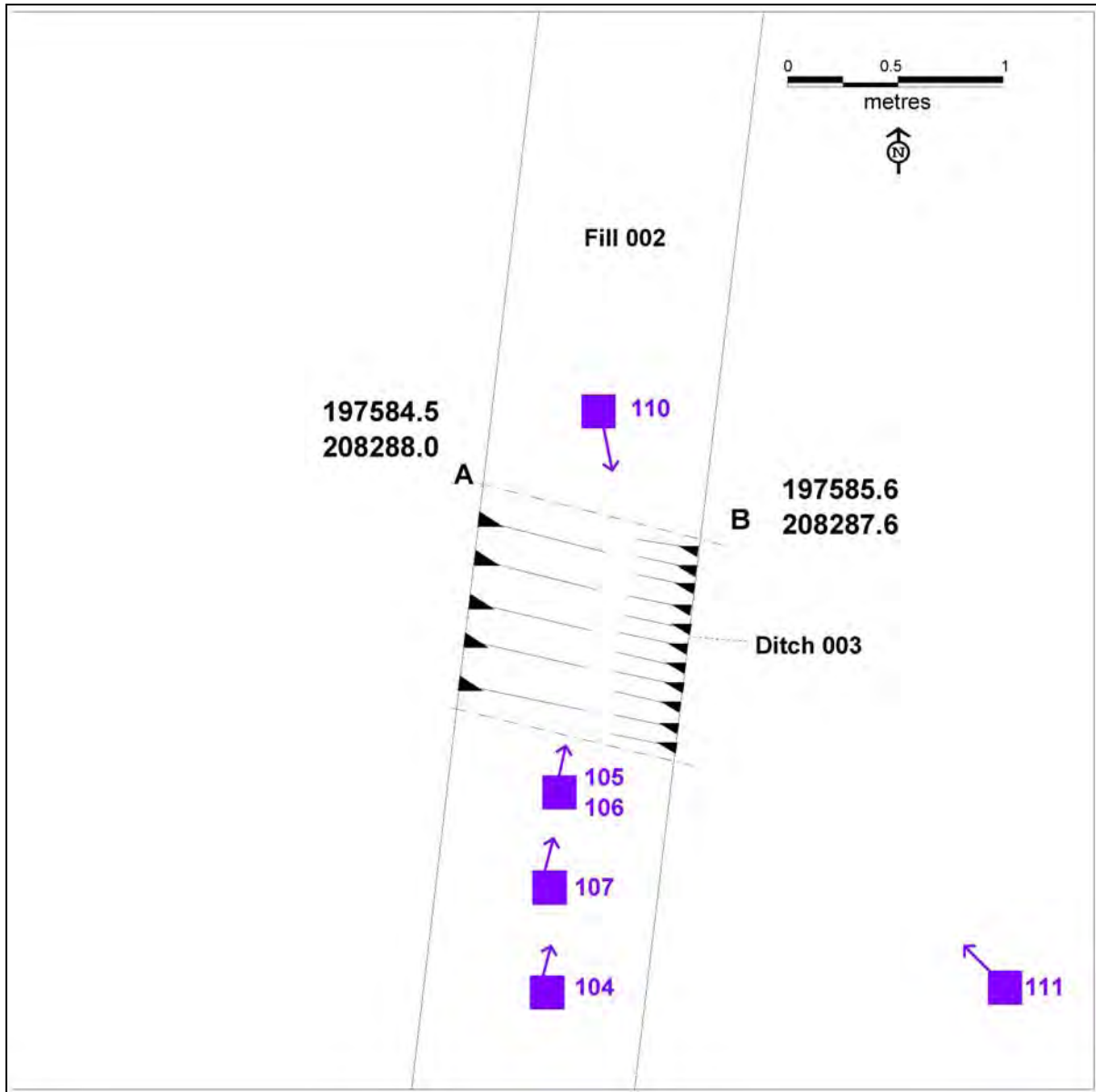


Figure 7: Location of photographs

10. Conclusion

10.1 The topsoil had been scraped from the surface of the development plot prior to the watching brief and this enabled the whole of the plot to be observed, not just the foundation trenches.

10.2 A ditch line was recorded running roughly north to south across the development plot. A section was excavated by hand where the house foundations would cut through it. The ditch was 1 metre wide and 0.45 metres deep below the natural subsoil interface with the topsoil. No dating material was recovered.

10.3 The ditch does not correspond with any boundaries shown on historic Ordnance Survey mapping.

10.4 It is stated in the Historic Environment Record for the defended enclosure, PRN 3202, that a geophysical survey undertaken by Gates and Gaffney in 1988 recorded a ditched trackway leading to the south-facing entrance (Gates, J & Gaffney, C, 1988). It is possible that this ditch relates to this trackway, although only one ditch was noted during the watching brief.

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 at Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Swansea.

12. Sources

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014 , *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*, available online from the IfA website, www.archaeologists.net

Gates,J & Gaffney,C , 1988 , Report on Geophysical Survey Hearson Mountain ,

K Murphy, R Ramsey, P Poucher and M Page , 2007 , A SURVEY OF DEFENDED ENCLOSURES IN PEMBROKESHIRE, 2006-07:

Williams,G , 1994 , Excavations at Hearson Mountain Enclosure, Hill Mountain, Burton, Pembrokeshire ,

APPENDIX A – Written Scheme of Investigation

LAND SOUTH WEST OF BRAMBLE LODGE, HILL MOUNTAIN, MILFORD HAVEN, PEMBROKESHIRE, SA73 1NB ARCHAEOLOGICAL WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

Planning application – 15/0093/PA

1. Introduction

Mr Philipp Coombe, of Chedzoy, 97, Steynton Road, STEYNTON, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire, SA73 1AD has commissioned Trysor heritage consultants on behalf of his client to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) on a consented dwelling and associated access on land southwest of Bramble Lodge, Hill Mountain, Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire relating to planning application number: 15/0093/PA

The development is at SM9758208286.



Figure 1: Approximate location of the development site.

2. The development

*Land Southwest of Bramble Lodge, Hill Mountain,
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The development consists of a single new dwelling and access arrangements.

3. Nature of the archaeological resource

Immediately to the north of the development site lies an Iron Age enclosure (PRN 3202). This was largely destroyed during by housing development in the 1990s but there may be evidence of it or associated features still below ground.

There is also a crop mark (PRN 12785), possibly indicating another prehistoric enclosure less than 200m to the southeast, and a Neolithic chambered tomb (PRN 3205, Scheduled Ancient Monument PE066) 330m to the southwest.

4. Conditions on the consent

In granting approval for the 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. 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 February 2013).

5. Field methodology

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

A two-person team will watch the excavation for 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.

6. Contingency arrangements if archaeological features are discovered

In the event that archaeological remains are encountered, where appropriate investigation falls outside the scope of this watching brief specification, a meeting between Trysor, the applicant, Dyfed Archaeological Trust Heritage Management Section 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.

7. Health & Safety

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

8. Recording

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.

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.

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. Following reporting they will be returned to the applicant.

Should any human remains be encountered, the Coroner and Regional Archaeological Trust will be immediately informed and the remains left *in situ*.

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.

9. Reporting

A report on the watching brief will be prepared according to the requirements of Annexe 1 of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA, 2014a, p.12) 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.

10. Dissemination

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 by the Council for British Archaeology Wales (CBA Wales)

11. Archive

The paper 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. Photographs will be supplied in TIFF format in a file size greater than 11MB, following the standard required by the RCAHMW for Upland Survey (RCAHMW, 2011). Digital archives will conform to the RCAHMW guidelines issued in 2015 (RCAHMW, 2015)

12. Resources to be used

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.

13. Qualification of personnel

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

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.

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14. Insurance & Professional indemnity

Trysor has Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance.

15. Project identification

The project has been designated Trysor Project No. 2015/486

16. Sources

16.1 Non-published

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

Dyfed Archaeological Trust, 2015, Letter dated 6th May 2015 from Mike Ings to the Planning Authority

RCAHMW, 2011, *Form AB12: "Notes for Guidance" in the preparation of applications for Uplands Archaeology Initiative projects 2012-13*

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

16.2 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*

16.3 Web-based

Historic Wales, accessed 31/08/2015, <http://historiewales.gov.uk>

Jenny Hall & Paul Sambrook
Trysor, August 2015

APPENDIX B



Plate 1: HMN2015_101, Site cleared of topsoil, with ditch HMN2015_003 clearly visible, taken from a pile of topsoil at the north end of the plot, looking south.



Plate 2: HMN2015_102, Site cleared of topsoil, with ditch HMN2015_003 clearly visible, taken from a pile of topsoil at the north end of the plot, looking south southeast.



Plate 3: HMN2015_103, Site cleared of topsoil, with ditch HMN2015_003 clearly visible, taken from south end of the plot, looking north northeast.



Plate 4: HMN2015_104, Site cleared of topsoil, with ditch HMN2015_003 clearly visible, taken from south end of the plot, section of ditch through which house foundations were be cut cleaned, looking north northeast.



Plate 5: HMN2015_105, section across ditch where the northeasternmost wall foundation was to be placed, looking north northeast.



Plate 6: HMN2015_106, section across ditch where the northeasternmost wall foundation was to be placed, looking north northeast.



Plate 7: HMN2015_107, the excavated section of the ditch, without scales, looking north northeast.



Plate 8: HMN2015_108, small patch of burnt material HMN2015_004, looking north northeast.



Plate 9: HMN2015_109, continuation of HMN2015_003, looking northwest



Plate10: HMN2015_110, HMN2015_003, in section after excavation of wall foundations, looking south southeast



Plate 11: HMN2015_111, part of HMN2015_003, previously excavated by hand by Trydor, see Plates 5, 6 & 7, showing in section after mechanical excavation of wall foundations, looking northwest.