Cadw is the Welsh Government’s historic environment service, working for an accessible and well-protected historic environment.

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Pembroke: Understanding Urban Character
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## Contents

### Introduction
- Aims of the Study

### Historical Background
- Origins
- Medieval Conquest and Growth
  - The Timber Castle and Priory
  - Borough Charter
- The Early Town
- The Later Town
- Monkton: An Early Settlement
- Tudor and Civil War Decline
- Georgian Regrowth
- Victorian and Later Expansion
- The Twentieth Century

### Historical Topography
- Landscape and Setting
- The Structure of the Medieval Town
- Outside the Walls: Land Use and Later Developments
- Monkton
- Topography and Social Structure

### The Character of Building
- The Chronology of Development
- Building Types
  - The Castle
  - The Town Walls
- Mills
- Churches and Chapels
- Civic Buildings
- Shops and Banks
- Hotels and Inns
- Domestic Building Styles
- Modern Buildings
- Building Materials and Detail
  - Walling
  - Roofs
  - Joinery
- Character Areas
  1. Castle and the Medieval Town
  2. Monkton, the Priory and the Western Suburbs
  3. Orange Gardens and the Southern Suburbs
  4. The North — the Green, Mill Pond Fringe and Northern Suburbs
  5. Eastern Suburbs and the Railway

### Statement of Significance

### Selected Sources
- Published Sources
- Online Resources

### Endnotes

### List of Maps pages 75–83

1. Extract from the 1861 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing the Pembroke Area
2. Extract from the 1908 Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing the Pembroke Area
3. All Character Areas with Historic Environment Designations
4. All Character Areas
5. Castle and the Medieval Town (1)
6. Monkton, the Priory and the Western Suburbs (2)
7. Orange Gardens and the Southern Suburbs (3)
8. The North — the Green, Mill Pond Fringe and Northern Suburbs (4)
9. Eastern Suburbs and the Railway (5)
Introduction

Aims of the Study

Historic character lies at the heart of local distinctiveness and sense of place. No two places share a history, so every place has a unique historic character, which is a powerful asset in regeneration. Responding to local character is an important objective of good design; sustaining it can bring social, economic and environmental benefits.

Urban characterization is a tool that can help us use historic character to create sustainable and distinctive places for the future. It aims to describe and explain the historic character of towns, to give a focus to local distinctiveness and help realize the full value of the historic environment. It seeks to inform and support positive planning, regeneration and conservation programmes, help improve the quality of planning advice, and contribute to local interpretation and education strategies.

Urban characterization defines the unique historic character of individual towns, and identifies the variety of character within them. It looks at the history of a town and identifies its expression in patterns of space and connection and in traditions of building, which are the fundamental ingredients of historic character.

This study is intended as an inclusive study of the town of Pembroke, including the conservation area, and its surrounding areas. It includes Monkton and the areas of later development to the south and north of the town. It is expected that this study will be used as guidance to inform future development both within the town and in the surrounding area. It should help to guide the management of listed and unlisted buildings within the conservation area as well as to act as guidance for design issues. A wider study area has been included because development outside the conservation area can have an impact on the overall character of the town and this too should be considered when planning proposals are assessed.

It is anticipated that this study will be adopted by Pembrokeshire County Council and will be used by planning officers, developers, home owners and other interested parties when considering development within Pembroke in order to sustain and enhance the local character of the town.

Map showing the Pembroke study area (© Crown Copyright (2015), Cadw, Welsh Government).
Origins

Evidence of early human occupation in Wales has been found in cave sites within the belt of Carboniferous Limestone that extends from Tenby to Pembroke. It suggests a human presence in this part of south Wales from the Palaeolithic period onwards.

During the last period of glaciation, the large ice sheets did not extend to what is now the coastal area of Pembrokeshire and natural limestone caves and rock shelters were used as temporary settlements by transient hunter-gatherers. Evidence from Hoyle’s Mouth Cave at nearby Tenby indicates human occupation possibly as early as 25,000 BC and certainly during the Mesolithic period, around 8000 BC. This cave site, along with others on Caldey Island and the Gower peninsula, is the first recorded evidence of human occupation in south-west Wales.

The Wogan, a cave in Pembroke itself, is a massive single chamber underneath the castle, 33 feet (10m) high, with a high natural mouth overlooking the Pembroke River to the north. Flint tools found in the cave suggest occupation from at least the Mesolithic period and probably earlier. The mouth of the cave was blocked when the castle was constructed during the twelfth century and it possibly continued in use as a boathouse.

Across the mouth of the tidal inlet to the west of the castle, Priory Farm Cave opens out onto a steep slope above the mudflats on the south side of the Pembroke River. It consists of a relatively long winding passage with a side passage and chamber partway along its length. Finds from within the cave and from the entrance area have been found which again suggest occupation and use from at least the Mesolithic period.

This very early material is the only recorded evidence of pre-Norman settlement in the Pembroke area.

Given the position of the town on a naturally defensive inlet of Milford Haven, it is probable that there continued to be occupation and settlement in the area before the Norman Conquest — Bronze Age metalwork has been found in Priory Farm Cave and late Roman coins in the Wogan.

It is possible that Pembroke was a known centre of Welsh influence at the time of the Conquest and it has been speculated that a llys or courthouse may have occupied the castle site, which was paired with an ecclesiastical establishment nearby. This is a pattern typical of the early medieval tradition in Wales. It is, however, probable that the later construction of the castle and the town has destroyed or hidden evidence of any earlier occupation.

Medieval Conquest and Growth

The Timber Castle and Priory

Following the Norman invasion of England, south-west Wales was conquered by Roger de Montgomery, earl of Shrewsbury, in 1093. He was succeeded by his son, Arnulf, who, according to the medieval clergyman and commentator Giraldus Cambrensis, erected a timber castle in Pembroke on high ground at the end of the ridge: ‘Arnulf de Montgomery was the first to build a fortification here, from wooden stakes and turf … It was not very strong…’

This first Norman fortress was probably located on the site of the later medieval masonry castle. In 1098 a priory church dedicated to St Nicholas was founded at Pembroke, a castle of [Arnulf’s] in Wales’ and granted to the abbey of Sézé. This appears to represent the foundation of the Benedictine priory at Monkton, which survives as the present-day parish church of St Nicholas and features twelfth-century
fabric. It was granted to the Benedictines of Séez through the patronage of the Montgomery family, who were already closely associated with St Martin’s at Séez. The castle and priory may represent the Normanization of an existing Welsh defensive and religious settlement and an attempt to control the native population.

**Borough Charter**

The castle was subject to failed sieges by native forces in 1094 and 1096 before being used as a base to complete the conquest of south Pembrokeshire. In 1102, Arnulf de Montgomery unsuccessfully rebelled against the Crown and his possessions, including the castle, were confiscated by Henry I. Henry then established a system of Crown control over the region, based on that already established in the English shires. He installed a sheriff at the castle and awarded a borough charter to the town, which effectively gave it a degree of self-governance and financial control through the creation of a market (along with Tenby, Haverfordwest and Wiston in the county).
The exact date of the charter and the establishment of the Anglo-Norman town are not known, but it was before 1135. It was probably largely intended to displace the indigenous population and act as an incentive for colonization from the west of England and Flanders. By 1138, the town had become the most important settlement in the area and, in that year, became the seat of an earldom and later a County Palatine, which made it the focus of administrative and business duties for the southern part of the county.³

The Early Town

It is likely that William Marshal, earl of Pembroke from 1199 to 1219, was responsible for the construction of the first masonry defences at the castle. The cylindrical keep is certainly his work and probably the curtain wall of the inner ward. He may also have enlarged the castle eastwards with the addition of the outer ward, but the latter may not have been enclosed within masonry defences until the later thirteenth century.⁴ It has been suggested that the outer ward was established at the expense of the early town, which it partly overlay.⁵

The earliest town may therefore have been an irregular settlement nucleated around the castle and it was only later that a more formal plan was adopted along the narrow ridge — a town ‘without cross streets’ as observed by George Owen.⁶ This layout and the characteristic narrow burgage plots fronting onto the single main street developed with the construction of the enclosing town walls, which began towards the end of the thirteenth century, perhaps determined by an existing route along the ridge to the castle.

The town is divided between two parishes, each with its own church: St Mary’s, to the west, contains fabric from the late twelfth century.⁷ St Michael’s, to the east, probably dates to at least 1291 (noted by Fenton to be a Norman cruciform church⁸), but was largely rebuilt at the end of the nineteenth century. Speed shows both churches on his 1611 plan, along with cleared spaces within Main Street near both churches (p. 11). Both spaces had crosses, which presumably served as marketplaces for each parish.

The existence of two parish churches within such a small area could result from the early layout of the town. The ‘waisting’ of the town walls at a natural narrow point on the peninsula,
along what became Main Street, may represent an earlier delineation of the town defences, perhaps a ditch or naturally defensive line. St Mary’s, to the west, may have been the earlier parish and was possibly a primary feature of the chartered borough. The town may have been served by the priory church at Monkton until the establishment of St Mary’s in the later twelfth century.

St Michael’s may have been established to serve the area beyond the initial defended town, which possibly developed as a market suburb at some point in the middle of the thirteenth century. The two crosses shown in Speed’s plan of 1611 suggest that the two parishes enjoyed separate functions (p. 11). This also strengthens the argument for the linear growth of the town across a number of phases beginning with the castle and an initial settlement beneath its outer ward, followed by expansion eastwards and the construction of a defence around the parish of St Mary’s. Finally, the present town walls were constructed to enclose both parishes and replace the earlier defences with walls of a single, overall build.

The Later Town

The circuit of town walls was probably complete by about 1324. The town itself developed through this period from the revenues of rents from the burgages within the town (which numbered around 200 by the fourteenth century[^1]), as well as tolls from the regular markets, fairs and courts held in the town.

The independent authority of the town was further strengthened in 1485 when Richard III granted it a charter of incorporation, which effectively ensured the future of the town as a self-governing entity with powers to raise revenue and the right to elect its own mayor.

The burgage plots within the town are typical of medieval burgages and stretch from the houses fronting onto Main Street down to the town walls. This plot structure and arrangement of buildings remains substantially intact. Although some late medieval domestic masonry buildings survive towards the castle, the earliest houses were probably very different and may have been built of clom (earth) or timber. Thatch was probably a common roofing material at least until the mid-seventeenth century. The appearance of the medieval town would have been very different from that of today, though the modern town continues to respect the layout of its medieval predecessor with few changes.

Suburbs probably began to develop around the main entrances to the town, especially to the east where there was open land and the main routeways from Carmarthen and Tenby. This eastern suburb was noted by Leland as ‘almost as great as the town’ but was in decline by the beginning of the sixteenth century.[^11]

To the north, there is evidence that the Mill Bridge (or a predecessor) had been in existence when the town charter was issued in the early twelfth century, suggesting that this approach to the town was established at an early date.[^12] The suburb to the north was recorded as the Green from at least the sixteenth century and this area may have been developed from this date.[^13] To the south-west, the priory at Monkton had been established in 1098 and a link over Monkton Pill to the high ground of the town would have been likely from this time.

Monkton: An Early Settlement

Monkton lies outside the walled town, just to the south-west across the tidal pond. A civil settlement, distinct from Pembroke town but closely linked to it, had developed around the priory by the fourteenth century and had been granted two fairs by the 1480s.[^14]

As a daughter house of the abbey of Séez in Normandy, the priory’s fortunes declined during the later fourteenth-century wars with France. Turbulent years followed the suppression of ‘alien priories’ in 1414[^15] but in 1441 the duke of Gloucester was granted a licence to assign the priory to St Albans Abbey. Monkton existed as a dependent cell of St Albans until the dissolution in 1539 after which it became the parish church.

The remains of some priory buildings exist within the present Priory Farm complex. In addition,
a medieval domestic building survives, Monkton Old Hall, which probably dates from the late fourteenth or fifteenth century and shows that growth and development in Monkton echoed that in Pembroke town.

West of the priory church is an area bounded by Quoits Water Pill, an inlet south of the Pembroke River. By the middle of the nineteenth century, this area had been developed with a number of limekilns and quarries, farms, and houses and cottages laid out in a grid pattern of streets. Given the position of this area on a headland on the Pembroke River, downstream of the main town, and the importance of marine trading to Pembroke up until the nineteenth century, it is probable that this area had been developed from an early date (early maps show a building named as Turks Castle at its head). In his plan of 1611, Speed does not show a quay at Pembroke but it was an important and chartered port at this time. It is therefore likely that the stretch of river west of the town and around the Monkton headland was busy with the transhipment of goods onto lighters for transport closer to the town.

**Tudor and Civil War Decline**

Although a large and important military town, Pembroke never really prospered as a commercial centre in its own right. From the early twelfth to the mid-fourteenth century there had been steady growth to 228 burgages but, by the fifteenth century, 20 of those had been abandoned and this number had increased to 44 by the end of that century.16

Following the Act of Union in 1536 and the abolition of the marcher lordship of Pembroke, the town lost its importance as an administrative centre and seat of the earldom (of Pembroke). Instead it functioned mainly as a rural town with a local market and small port. The failure of the town as a trading centre and its stagnating economy led to houses falling into ruin and vacant burgages. This was in marked contrast to other towns in south Pembrokeshire at this time, such as Tenby, which continued to grow rapidly during the fifteenth century and into the sixteenth.

In the 1530s, Leland noted that the eastern suburb, which was almost as large as the town itself, was derelict.17 By 1563 the 228 burgages of the fourteenth century had decreased to 133 households across the two parishes of the town (St Mary’s and St Michael’s).18 By the late sixteenth century the decline was so advanced that there were only 64 households in the whole town. This state of general abandonment was noted again in 1610 by John Speed who witnessed ‘more houses without inhabitants than I ever saw in any one city throughout my survey’ and declared the town ‘more ancient in show than it is in years’.19

By the mid-seventeenth century, the decline of the town was almost total. The castle had been sold by James I to the Pryses of Gogerddan, with whom it remained until the 1920s, and had been largely vacant and increasingly neglected from the 1530s. Much of it was roofless and the fabric, along with the masonry of the town walls, had deteriorated heavily. Sir Hugh Owen of nearby Orielton installed himself as mayor in order to rejuvenate the town and ‘for the raising of trade, which is now decayed’.20

At the outbreak of the first Civil War in 1642, the town and its mayor at the time, John Poyer, declared their support for Parliament. The castle was garrisoned and strengthened. However, with the success of the Parliamentarian cause in 1644 came bitterness and disillusionment. In 1648 Poyer declared his support for the imprisoned King Charles I and occupied the town again, this time in support of the Royalist cause. Cromwell himself arrived to lead a siege on the castle and this lasted for seven weeks. The castle eventually fell when Cromwell’s forces cut off the water supply and used naval cannon to begin bombarding its defences from the high ground at Monkton. The town, with Poyer and his forces, surrendered. Poyer was executed and Cromwell ordered that the defences within the town be destroyed. At least the East Gate was demolished and explosives were set inside the castle towers, which ended the military function of the town and its defences.
Speed’s plan of Pembroke in 1611. The town is dominated by the castle, town walls and the two parish churches. Development is restricted to within the town walls. Monkton and the suburbs of the Green and at the east end are also shown (By permission of Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru / National Library of Wales).

A map of the town produced around 1650 by a French agent using Speed’s plan shows the same walled town and suburbs © The British Library Board, Additional Ms. 11564, ff. 26v and 27r).
been established for some time but with the expansion of urban areas, particularly in England, the demand increased.

This growth in trade at the start of the eighteenth century was reflected in the revival of Pembroke as the main port and town of the Milford Haven area, dealing in wool, grain, fish and coal. Because of its maritime connections and importance as a trading

Georgian Regrowth

The eighteenth century saw a widespread agricultural revolution throughout Britain, an increase in economic prosperity and the beginnings of the Industrial Revolution. The export of animals from Pembrokeshire, especially cattle, eastwards to England had been established for some time but with the expansion of urban areas, particularly in England, the demand increased.

This growth in trade at the start of the eighteenth century was reflected in the revival of Pembroke as the main port and town of the Milford Haven area, dealing in wool, grain, fish and coal. Because of its maritime connections and importance as a trading

Richard Wilson’s view of Pembroke from the north in about 1770 (© National Museum of Wales).
port it grew to be one of the largest and richest
towns in south Wales.

There was also a great increase in the export
of coal from the Pembrokeshire mines and
increasing contacts with the rapidly developing
port in Bristol, which itself was benefiting from
increased trade links with the West Indies and
the American colonies.

In 1725, Daniel Defoe stated that Pembroke
'is the largest, richest, and at this time, the
most flourishing town of all South Wales.
Here are a great many English merchants,
and some of them men of good business;
and they told us there were near 200 sail of
ships belonged to the town, small and great.
In a word, all this part of Wales is a rich and
flourishing country'.

Pembroke town
and castle by
Richard Colt Hoare,
1798 (© National
Museum of Wales).

An early nineteenth-
century view of the
Clock House, by
Thomas Wakeman,
before later alterations.
Brick House, to the
left, is shown before it
was altered. The street
stalls demonstrate that
this area was still a
marketplace for the
original town parish of
St Mary's (By permission
of Llyfrgell Genedlaethol
Cymru / National
Library of Wales).
Although prosperity fluctuated during the eighteenth century, there was a general increase in the maritime wealth of the town. By the early nineteenth century, however, decline was obvious again and in 1813 the town appeared to be ‘destitute of the air of business’ and a place of ‘cheap retirement for families of slender incomes’.

Pembroke remained a market town but its status was heavily eroded when Haverfordwest became the new county town at the beginning of the nineteenth century. It was Haverfordwest that was awarded the responsibility of levying the customs of Milford Haven and for holding the county assizes at the newly constructed shire hall in the town. By 1820, the prosperity that Pembroke had achieved through its dominance as a sea port was also beginning to wane. A large proportion of the sea traffic moved to Haverfordwest as well as to the new town of Milford, partly because of the better harbour facilities but also because of the better railway connections that had been constructed to those two towns from the 1860s.

At this point, Pembroke was largely a pocket borough controlled by the Owen family of Orielton, who owned large amounts of property in the town and stood as its Members of Parliament. The town was governed...
on a day-to-day basis by its own common town council with an elected mayor and other officers, elected for life by the town burgesses but all effectively under the control of the Owen family.

During the same period, the town was facing increasing financial costs and, because of its reduced position and declining trade, limited incomes. At the start of the nineteenth century, the town received an income of around £135, which was mostly from tolls, but this was insufficient to cover its sharply rising expenditure. In 1828, the town had to pay £1,500 for securing an act for the provision of a new water supply. It also elected to pay £140 for a new slaughterhouse and two years later a further £145 on a new town clock. By this point, it was almost unable to raise enough income to cover its own expenses and the interest on its debt.

By the early 1830s the town was therefore not only politically, but also financially bankrupt. The 1832 Reform Act changed the electoral system across the country and brought an end to the power of rotten boroughs and self-interested local members. A single member constituency was created across a number of boroughs in the area, which diluted the power and influence of the Owens. Financially, the establishment in 1814 of the naval dockyard of Pembroke Dock, just 2 miles (3.2 km) to the north-west, greatly rejuvenated life within the town.

Pembroke Dock was constructed when the Admiralty decided to move their naval dockyard from Milford to the area around Peterchurch Point. The new dock provided ship-building facilities and a town was set up around it to include large areas of housing for the dock workers. Although Pembroke Dock was
developed as a town in itself, the investment and sudden population boom from the building operation resulted in Pembroke becoming a focus for trading and other activities, which made it the regional market town that it had never been. And it was, according to the account of William Wilmot, a bookseller, printer and stationer in the town, a ‘pleasant place to live’ with some good houses and two churches, which: ‘though not very splendid or elegant are, however, in consequence of the repairs and alterations, very decent and commodious. Here is an excellent free school, though not very considerably endowed, now kept by a gentleman (Reverend George Jones of Hodgeston) well qualified for so important a duty, whether we consider his morals or abilities. The town is well inhabited by different tradesmen and shopkeepers, by a few merchants, and by many genteel families, remarkable for their politeness and hospitality and for frequently forming as elegant a public meeting as any town in this principality can probably boast of’.23

**Victorian and Later Expansion**

The development of Pembroke Dock and the growth of a combined borough brought sudden wealth to the old town of Pembroke and it soon grew into a ‘modern’ Victorian town with increased civic pride and a demand for new urban improvements. The town was provided with a new water supply from South Down, a gas works was constructed at the Commons (Upper and Lower Common Park) as well as in Pembroke Dock (King William Street). New assembly rooms were constructed in 1866, large enough to accommodate 400 people, and consisted of a large hall, lobbies, a ballroom and tea room.24

By 1839, the Pembroke Union Workhouse had been constructed at a cost of nearly £5,000 on 3 acres (1.2 ha) of land on the north bank of Mill Pond. It was established for 180 of the poor of the town and Pembroke...
During the latter part of the nineteenth century, there was a growing concern over the state of the castle which, after the damage caused during the Civil War and continual neglect afterwards, had become ruinous. In 1879 it was taken over by a colliery owner and antiquarian, Joseph Richard Cobb, who spent four years restoring and rebuilding it as well as excavating within its walls. His work was continued in 1928 by Major-General Sir Ivor Phillips of Cosheston Hall who, in the years preceding the Second World War, restored the castle to its current appearance with the outer towers and gatehouse rebuilt and their floors, fireplaces and chimneys reinstated (not always based on sound evidence).

An integral part of the growth of the town during the nineteenth century was the expansion of suburbs outside its medieval limits. There had been some earlier settlements around the Green to the north, Monkton to the south-west, and to the east. Although the area outside the East Gate had been developed from probably the early fourteenth century, little evidence of any early settlement now survives. By the mid and later nineteenth century, the area was being redeveloped with housing and industry, and commercial buildings associated with the railway.

The town infirmary and dispensary was established in 1862 and, by 1897, it had been relocated to a new purpose-built structure in East Back containing seven beds. Following the construction of the new town hall in 1819 and the demolition of the former hall, the new Clock House was constructed and successively enlarged and altered.

There was also a drive to improve education within the town during the nineteenth century: the National School was constructed in Main Street in 1861, with the support of the Anglican Church, on a site possibly occupied by an earlier schoolroom. A rival British School was built 1865–66 and the non-denominational East End School in 1873.

The town continued to operate as a provincial market town with two weekly market days throughout most of the nineteenth century. By the turn of the twentieth century, there was only a Saturday market and a weekly livestock market. A county police station had been established in the town on Westgate Hill, staffed by a sergeant and four constables, which shared a superintendent with Pembroke Dock.
Orange Gardens (originally Orange Town) was developed between 1861 and 1900 on open land owned by the Orielton estate to the south of the town. Straight terraces were laid out on a grid pattern as housing for the workers at Pembroke Dock as well as accommodation for the employees of the growing industry and trade in the town. The area around the Commons saw a development of industry during the nineteenth century and it is probable that some of the nearby housing in Orange Gardens was constructed to serve workers. A similar, but smaller, area of terraces was also built to the north of the town (Upper Row, Middle Row, Lower Row and Wiston Street), which shows many similarities with the housing in Orange Gardens.
Elsewhere around the town, short sections of terrace were constructed later in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and show a marked increase in the standard of housing. Norgan’s Row and Norgan’s Terrace to the south, Belmont Terrace on Lower Lamphey Road to the east and Woodbine Terrace to the north are all incremental residential developments on the fringes of the town at the turn of the twentieth century.

The Pembroke and Tenby Railway was complete by 1863. This coincided with and probably led to much of the development of the area at the east end of the town, where the railway line crossed very near to the town wall and the site of the East Gate. The station was built a little to the east, just south of the road to Tenby (Upper Lamphey Road). The arrival of the railway led to the development of industry along the Tenby road and the import of new building materials, some of which can be seen in the buildings near the station.

The Twentieth Century

There has been continual expansion of the town through the twentieth century with post-war suburbs constructed to the north and south, and further modern housing constructed in the open land to the south and infilling the areas between the roads to Tenby and Carmarthen to the east.

Further expansion past Monkton to the west was carried out from the 1960s to house workers for the oil industry. This area had been laid out as housing from at least the middle of the nineteenth century, but this was cleared during the 1950s and 1960s, and new housing estates were constructed.
Landscape and Setting

The town of Pembroke is sited along an impressive naturally fortified ridge of Carboniferous Limestone, running east to west with a high point at the western end and a steeper and rockier side to the south. The ridge is relatively uniform in profile along its length except for a dip about halfway along, which corresponds with a slight narrowing in its width.

At its western end, the ridge overlooks the mouth of a tidal creek leading south from Milford Haven. The creek is fed by the Pembroke River on the northern side of the ridge and Monkton Pill to the south. Originally, the ridge was surrounded by water on three sides, but there is now a causeway immediately to the south-west of the castle where the road crosses to Monkton. As a result, the area to the south of the town is drained with a watercourse running through the centre. This area is now known as the Commons. To the north and immediately west of the castle, the area is still wet but is controlled by a tidal barrage across the river at the western neck of the creek and the massive railway embankment constructed across the eastern end of the Pembroke River.

The Structure of the Medieval Town

The limestone ridge and its surrounding tidal creek dictated a linear settlement along the centre of the ridge. The castle sits on the high point at the western end and one single street (Main Street) runs from the castle to the eastern end of the ridge.

The town is one of the best examples of a planned Norman plantation town in south Wales. It is located to protect Milford Haven, utilizing the naturally defensive outcrop of rock at the western end of the limestone ridge for the castle, with the town to the east.
It is rare for Norman towns to be planned along a linear axis. Other planned towns where the original layout survives show that a cruciform (Cowbridge and Llanidloes) or T-shaped (Cardiff) plan was used. Both Pembroke and Welshpool, however, were developed along one single street. Nearby, Tenby also has a planned grid layout of streets, but here it is forced to conform to the rocky promontory on which the town sits.

Pembroke is also unusual because it retains the majority of its town walls, albeit variously rebuilt at later stages. It is one of the few surviving examples of medieval town defences in south Wales, alongside Chepstow, Cowbridge and Tenby. The basic form and layout of the walls and original defences can still be recognized. Originally, the town had three main gateways, the West Gate, the North Gate and the East Gate over what is now East End Square. These three gateways have dictated the access into the town and later developments around the walls.

The town wall extended south from the Westgate Tower, at the southern corner of the castle outer ward, to the former West Gate, where it turned to run along the southern edge of the ridge overlooking the lower-lying area of what is now the Commons. It incorporated three towers along this section: two of these survive towards the eastern end and are relatively well preserved. At the east end, the wall turned to the north-east up the line of what is now Goose’s Lane to join the former East Gate.

To the north, the town wall ran from the Northgate Tower at the north-east corner of the castle outer ward eastwards to the former North Gate at Northgate Street. From there, it bordered the churchyard wall of St Mary’s and continued along what is now Mill Pond Walk to Barnard’s Tower at the extreme north-east corner of the circuit of the walls. It then turned south and ran to the East Gate over the end of Main Street.

It has been speculated that a dry ditch fronted the wall at the east end of the town, presumably because the eastern limits of the ridge are not as steep as those towards the castle. This, however, cannot be proven due to the extent of later development in the area, which has increased the ground levels inside the town and masked the lower levels of the surviving towers.

Leading north and south from the main street, the town is divided into long narrow burgage plots defined by boundary walls. This layout largely survives today, both in the system of divisions and the rubble walls themselves. There has been some loss of the burgage divisions, particularly in the areas for car parking south of Main Street created in the twentieth century.

There are few cross streets within the town. Northgate Street leads from the western end of Main Street, through the former North Gate and then to Mill Bridge. Likewise, Westgate Hill extends Main Street further west down to a bridge or causeway over Monkton Pill, via the former West Gate. During the eighteenth century a street (New Way) was created from a burgage plot connecting Main Street at the narrowest point of the ridge with the Commons to the south. There is a further lane (Morgans Way) leading north from Main Street. A number of burgage plots to the south of Main Street have been cleared more recently in the twentieth century.

Main Street itself varies along its length and reflects the development of the town from the medieval period onwards. Towards its western end, the earlier town (the parish of St Mary’s) was focused around the market square at the end of Northgate Street. Further east, within the parish of St Michael’s, Main Street widens to include the market square of the early suburb of the defended town, now partly infilled by the island of buildings around East Back.

Outside the Walls: Land Use and Later Developments

To the north of the town, the Green rises from Mill Bridge through an area known historically as the Green, which was built up from an early date as one of the primary approaches to the town and retains some of the earliest housing outside the town along Springfield Terrace (fronting the eastern side of Green Hill) and Rocky Park. At the top of the Green the modern-day A4139 carries on to Pembroke Dock.
One lane leads north-east from Green Hill to Golden Hill and another lane, nearer Mill Bridge, leads directly east skirting the Mill Pond to join the Carmarthen road. This later road broadly separates the two main phases of development north of the town with nineteenth-century development on the fringe of the Mill Pond, and later twentieth-century housing development to the north. Within the southern area, there has been infilling with much housing development in the twentieth century around the mid-nineteenth-century workhouse. Towards the north, substantial areas of post-war housing have been built and this is now one of the most heavily developed areas outside the medieval town.

At the eastern end of the town the area is dominated by the convergence of roads and the railway. The roads from Carmarthen to the north-east (A4075) and Tenby to the east (A4139) arrive at the site of East Gate; the station is further to the east. The railway line curves in a gentle arc from the north (Pembroke Dock), across a large embankment at the eastern end of Mill Pond and then swings further east towards Tenby. The area is a mixture of housing built up along the historic roadways; some of it, such as the single-storey terracing along the north side of the Carmarthen road, dates to the mid-nineteenth century with later infill development behind.

To the south, the modern circular road wraps around Orange Way and Common Road, separating the town from the area to the south. This area had been subject to frequent flooding until damming of Monkton Pill and draining of the area in the late 1940s. In 1956 the ground level was raised when the Commons Pond was infilled, partly with debris from the clearance of Bankers Row at the western end of the Commons. Since then the area has been landscaped and used as the main area of car parking and green space for the town. Historically, this had been an area of industry: a timber yard, gas works and tannery had all operated from the fringes of the Commons at various times. Towards the eastern end of the Commons, the B4319 road breaks away south in the direction of Stackpole and a lane rises through Grove Hill, past the site of Grove Quarry, which has been redeveloped with modern housing.

Directly to the south of the Commons is the planned mid-nineteenth-century suburb of Orange Gardens. Laid out on a grid arrangement, it consists of relatively simple single-storey housing intermixed with more substantial two-storey houses. Built as a suburb for workers of Pembroke Dock, it may also have housed workers in the industry springing up around the edge of Pembroke at the same time. To the south of Orange Gardens are further areas of later housing from the later nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

Monkton

Church Terrace rises from Monkton Bridge at the western end of Pembroke and is an early route linking the town with the suburb of Monkton. Monkton has probably existed as a settlement for as long as the medieval town. The priory church of St Nicholas was founded in 1098 and a number of other buildings nearby date to the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. The area has developed as a satellite of Pembroke with housing of various phases. A large planned late twentieth-century housing estate to the north and west replaced the early to mid-nineteenth-century housing following clearance in the post-war period.

Topography and Social Structure

The western end of Pembroke was originally the more affluent part of the town. A 1677 rate assessment revealed three esquires, five gentlemen and six aldermen in the parish of St Mary’s compared with no gentry and only four aldermen in the western part of the town (St Michael’s). This probably reflects the status of St Mary’s as the original and more established town parish whereas St Michael’s had developed as a suburb of the town outside the town walls. It was later incorporated within the walled town with the extension of the walls to the east.

In the eighteenth century, the more fashionable housing migrated towards the centre and eastern end of Main Street, into the parish of St Michael’s. This was loosely at the point where Main Street widens before it divides around the island of houses fronted by Hamilton Terrace and continues towards St Michael’s. At the same time, the western end of the town developed a more commercial function with many of the banks and shops dating from the mid- to later nineteenth century.
The Character of Building

The Chronology of Development

Medieval fabric can be found in the castle, St Mary’s Church and in part of Westgate Hill, where a row of late medieval buildings incorporates a stone-vaulted undercroft. Similar vaulted undercrofts, characteristic of south Pembrokeshire, exist at Monkton, in both Priory Farm and Old Hall.

At Westgate Hill, as in the rest of the town, there has been considerable successive redevelopment: the ground level has been lowered significantly and the arrangement of floors and undercrofts is now difficult to determine. Stone-built houses with stone undercrofts are, however, the dominant form of surviving early building and were noted by George Owen in 1602 who described the town as ‘very ruinous and much decayed, yet good for such houses as are standing’.

A view of Westgate Hill in 1890. The delapidation of the castle is evident; so too is the lowering of the ground level of Westgate Hill, which has exposed the bedrock foundations of the buildings facing the castle (Copyright: The Francis Frith Collection).

The same buildings in 2012. The outshut entrance (whitewashed in 1890), chimney and truncated gable survive largely as they were 120 years earlier (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
Externally, much of the character of the town belongs to the regrowth of the eighteenth century and especially to the period when Pembroke Dock was established at the start of the nineteenth century. The increased prosperity of this period resulted in much rebuilding and remodelling of earlier buildings, all with a late Georgian appearance. In many cases, earlier buildings were probably refronted and remodelled with more fashionable facades. Throughout the nineteenth century the building tradition in the town retained the essence of late Georgian character with only limited variations in architectural style or embellishment.

The late nineteenth century saw the expansion of suburb housing with short sections of terrace built beyond the walled limits of the town, such as those associated with the railway to the east of the town, and terracing to the north and south of expanding size and sophistication. The grid plan of terraced streets in Orange Gardens was constructed mostly as single-storey houses; some with only two bays (single fronted). In the post-war period of the twentieth century, extensive areas of council housing were constructed north and south to formulaic designs and layouts. These were followed at the end of the century by large areas infilled with private housing developments of typical modern semi-detached and detached styles.

Building Types

The Castle

The masonry castle is largely the work of William Marshal and his sons, between 1204 and 1245, and William de Valence, between 1247 and 1296. William Marshal’s keep is one of the most impressive examples of a round keep in Wales. It has four storeys, a domed masonry roof and external stair giving access to the main (first) floor, rising to over 72 feet (22m) in height with walls 20 feet (6m) in thickness.

The keep was the first part of the castle to be built, along with the inner curtain wall with its D-shaped Horseshoe Gate and round tower, and the slender masonry wall around the edge of the rock outcrop. The Old Hall, the original great hall, was also built by Marshal, if not by his predecessor Richard de Clare. Other domestic buildings were built within the walls of the inner ward including the great hall, constructed in the thirteenth century with a projecting wall of masonry over the mouth of the Wogan cave below. The outer ward and its series of curtain walls and towers were probably constructed from the mid-thirteenth century onwards but, as they stand, they are largely the result of twentieth-century rebuilding and restoration.

The Town Walls

The complete circuit of walls, gates and towers shown in Speed’s 1611 plan has not survived (p. 11). Two of the three original gates have been lost. Although the third (West Gate) was still standing in 1703, it now only survives partially as fragments opposite the castle entrance. In 1802, Richard Colt Hoare described the North Gate as ‘entire’ and the other two as ‘down’.\(^2^9\)

The East Gate may have been damaged during the Civil War siege of 1648. It was recorded at the end of the eighteenth century as an unroofed tower across Main Street, near to the present-day Royal Oak public house, and it was probably demolished around the time of Colt Hoare’s visit.\(^3^0\) The North Gate is shown in an illustration of around 1817–18 by Charles Norris as a twin-arched gate and round tower, with three-storey houses built up against it to either side, but it was demolished around 1820.

Two out of the six towers have survived, along with Barnard’s Tower at the north-eastern point of the walls, which overlooks the eastern end of Mill Pond, in an isolated position some distance from the main castle defences. It is an impressive three-storey tower with forebuilding and domed masonry roof, self-contained and well defended. There were probably at least two postern gates: Fenton describes one in 1811, but neither has survived.

Sections of the town wall do survive, particularly towards the eastern end of the town, but much of the fabric is likely to be later, resulting from phases of structural rebuilding, revetment to the gardens which they border, or incorporation into other structures. The settled conditions after the Civil War and the increasing prosperity in the town from the eighteenth century onwards led to a growth in construction in the town. The fabric
of the defence works, especially quality stone such as window dressings and other worked stone, was quarried for building materials which sometimes led to later rebuilding work of the castle and town walls.

Little survives of the town wall at the western end near the castle, though there are some well-preserved sections of the northern wall overlooking Mill Pond. These sections survive, complete with blocked crenellations, but have been heightened to allow access to and from the gardens behind. Sections of wall do survive south from Barnard’s Tower to the lost East Gate and two further small towers still exist on the south section along with fragments of a further tower on Goose’s Lane. The southern stretch of the town wall has been heavily rebuilt and a gazebo was constructed from the remains of the easternmost medieval tower.
Barnard’s Tower on the north-eastern circuit of the walls (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

The town walls facing the Commons on the south side of the town (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

The late eighteenth-century octagonal gazebo constructed on the base of a medieval bastion (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
Mills

The medieval town contained three water mills: one on Mill Bridge itself outside the North Gate, one on Monkton Bridge, and a further mill, Slothy Mill, immediately to the south-west of the town. There was also a fulling mill built around 1350 at Kingsbridge to the north-east of the town.

Mill Bridge mill was established by at least 1326 and operated as a tidal mill, with the Mill Pond to the east fed by the Pembroke River and the tide. A large four-storey structure, designed around 1820 by George Brown of Amroth, sat across the bridge, but was damaged by fire in 1956 and eventually demolished. A paved area on the bridge now marks the site of this building.
Churches and Chapels

The town is unusual in containing two large churches, each in its own parish: St Mary’s to the west and St Michael’s to the east. The church of St Mary is on the north side of Main Street at its junction with Northgate Street. It has a late twelfth-century nave, similar in detail to Monkton Priory, a fourteenth-century tower and chancel and a barrel-vaulted aisle of the late fourteenth or fifteenth century. A comprehensive restoration was undertaken by J. L. Pearson from 1876 until 1879. St Michael’s was in foundation a cruciform church, but it was very heavily rebuilt and remodelled by Thomas Rowlands in 1831, and then remodelled again in 1887–88 by E. H. Lingen Barker.

In Monkton, the priory church survives. Although an eleventh-century foundation, the earliest surviving masonry is identical in style and date to that of the late twelfth-century St Mary’s Church. The twelfth-century nave was retained when it was converted to a parish church and then restored by John Prichard between 1879 and 1885. His plans were completed after his death in 1887 by his successor, Parry Moses. Prichard also re-roofed and restored the shell of the fourteenth-century chancel.

There are four large chapels in the town. The Calvinistic Methodist Chapel (now Westgate Presbyterian Church) of 1866 is near the base of Westgate Hill; the other three are around the island of East Back. Mount Pleasant Baptist Chapel faces onto East Back and is a rebuilding of 1877 of an earlier chapel of about 1860; the earlier Tabernacle United Reformed (formerly Congregational) Church is on Main Street (1867–68) and the former Wesleyan Chapel of 1872 faces St Michael’s Square.
The former Calvinistic Methodist Chapel (now Westgate Presbyterian Church) on Westgate Hill (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

The Tabernacle United Reformed (formerly Congregational) Church on Main Street (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

The former Wesleyan Chapel on St Michael’s Square (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
Civic Buildings

A town hall had originally been constructed in the eighteenth century on the site of the existing Clock House on Main Street. A town hall is marked on a town plan of 1787 and is reportedly where John Wesley, the well-known theologian and founder of the Methodist movement, preached in the eighteenth century. It later housed the boys’ grammar school (founded in 1690) but was demolished around 1820 and the existing Clock House constructed. Work on a replacement town hall started in 1819 on a site opposite, described by Samuel Lewis in 1833 as a ‘plain modern building … and underneath it … a commodious area for the corn market’. The courtrooms and market were altered during the nineteenth century.

A customs house had been established at Pembroke in the mid-sixteenth century to control the seaborne trade of cloth, corn and herring from west Wales mainly to Bristol and south-west England. In 1793 it is recorded as having a staff of eight, but there is no known record of its location or demolition.

The Clock Tower or Clock House. Originally constructed in the early nineteenth century, the low wings to either side have been heightened and altered twice; the tower itself was altered in 1899 (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
The formal entrance building to the drill hall, which was located in the open area beyond the archway. The drill hall itself was a tin building which has been demolished (© Crown Copyright (2015), Cadw, Welsh Government).

Two market crosses are shown on Speed’s plan of the town of 1611, one near the castle at the head of Northgate Street and another at the eastern end of the town near St Michael’s (p. 11). These presumably denote separate town squares and marketplaces, representing the growth of the town from a small enclosed settlement with an outlying market suburb, which later grew to become a single town, but remained divided over two parishes.

The drill hall entrance block on Castle Terrace, near the castle, was constructed in 1913 as a formal entrance to the main drill hall beyond the archway. It is a response to the growing professionalism and organization of the military at the beginning of the twentieth century and an important civic structure within the town. The medieval character of the building reflects its location adjacent to the castle.

**Shops and Banks**

Commercial buildings within the town are predominantly centred on Main Street, east from its junction with Northgate Street and before the Hamilton Terrace–East Back island to the east. There are further examples nearer the east end of the town, but this area is the main commercial core.

Many of the buildings within this area of Main Street have tall (three storey) early nineteenth-century facades with stucco detailing. Some have later nineteenth-century alterations (18 Main Street) and some have good historic shopfronts (29 Main Street); and some have poor modern shopfronts. 9 Main Street, at the head of Northgate Street, is a town house of the early nineteenth century, but has been in use as a pharmacy from around 1825 and has a shopfront which possibly dates to this original conversion. Opposite, Brick House (2 Main Street) is a town house of the early to mid-eighteenth century, unusual for its brick construction. There is some good Georgian detailing to the window openings, but with a poor, inserted modern shopfront.

The town’s banks are within the south side of this stretch of Main Street. Barclays (35) is an early nineteenth-century terraced house remodelled in the 1920s as a bank, but largely retaining the symmetrical appearance and detailing of a late Georgian town house. NatWest (27) and Lloyds Bank (21) both have later nineteenth-century detailing. An earlier Lloyds Bank survives at 63 Main Street. It was originally built about 1880 for the Pembroke Savings Bank in a Gothic style using limestone ashlar and designed by the architect K. W. Ladd. It is now the Dragon Alley shop. Adjacent, at 65, HSBC Bank occupies one side of a pair of late twentieth-century commercial buildings, presumably built on the burgage footprint of earlier buildings.
Along the north side of Main Street (within the ‘commercial’ western end) there are more lower two-storey and two-storey-and-attic buildings with irregular street facades. The overall quality of these buildings is lower than those on the south side, suggesting a hierarchy to the commercial area of the town.

18 Main Street. An early nineteenth-century terraced house, which was altered in the late nineteenth century when the ground floor became a shop. At the same time, large pane sash windows were inserted on the first floor together with decorative ironwork which survives above the shopfront. There was also a broad canopy over the pavement but this has not survived (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

29 Main Street. A town house of the late eighteenth to early nineteenth century retaining an early bowed shopfront of quality (on the left). The small panes contrast with the large areas of plate glass used in later shopfronts (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
Above: Commercial adaptation of domestic buildings. 9 Main Street on the left is an early nineteenth-century town house later used as a pharmacy. The Lion Hotel is also early nineteenth century and later altered. 5 Main Street, on the right, is another early nineteenth-century town house, later annexed as part of The Lion Hotel (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

Right: Brick House, on the junction of Main Street and Northgate Street. A detached town house of the early to mid-eighteenth century and raised by a storey in the nineteenth century (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
Barclays Bank, 35 Main Street, is an early nineteenth-century terraced house converted and remodelled in 1925 for use as a bank (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

Contrasting sides of Main Street (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW)
The north side of Main Street (© Crown Copyright (2015), Cadw, Welsh Government).

The south side of Main Street (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
Hotels and Inns

The inns and hotels of the town are found in the core area of the old town centred around St Mary’s town ‘square’ and on the main historic approaches.

The Royal George Hotel, next to Mill Bridge and overlooking the quay, dates from the late eighteenth century and would have been an important inn for travellers and sailors arriving at the quay from this period onwards. Likewise, The Lion Hotel at the head of Northgate Street was first built in the early nineteenth century, possibly about 1800 by the Orielton estate as The New Inn. It was soon renamed The Lion Hotel and had been remodelled or rebuilt by 1856. It is a very prominent building and was one of the principal inns of the town from the early nineteenth century onwards.

The Kings Arms Hotel, a little further along Main Street, dates in its present form to the eighteenth century, but was recorded in 1617 and probably has a much earlier core.

Its windows have been altered and internally it has been reorganized, but it does retain the best example of a Chinese Chippendale staircase within the town. It is also one of the oldest inns in the town.

The Castle Inn at 17 Main Street is a late Georgian town house that was converted into an inn around 1925. It is of primary importance as a domestic building of the late eighteenth century, but it illustrates the change of this area of Main Street from residential to increased commercial use during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.
Domestic Building Styles

Most domestic architecture in the town is of a Georgian or early Victorian style with stuccoed facades and sash windows. In most cases, later facades probably mask earlier structures behind. Earlier houses do survive in the town: 8–11 Westgate Hill are the best surviving examples of medieval town houses in west Wales. There has been some later rebuilding, particularly to 11, but 9 has a barrel-vaulted undercroft and dates to the fifteenth century with a sixteenth-century cross wing. These houses are unique in the town for being so early and so visibly different with exposed stone elevations and uneven facades. Elsewhere medieval fabric has been identified, such as at 3 Westgate Hill. To the street it appears as a stuccoed Georgian house, but is said to have a medieval wing to the rear with a barrel vault. The survival of earlier fabric is probably more common than has yet been recognized; only further survey work and greater understanding of the hidden fabric of the buildings within the town will confirm this.
The town has some of the best early and mid-eighteenth-century town houses in Pembrokeshire, especially 111 Main Street and Brick House (2 Main Street). It also has some of the finest town houses of the later eighteenth century, such as the pair that make up Hamilton Terrace. This is a well-composed arrangement that shares a pedimented gable to suggest a single building. 89 and 91 Main Street is a substantial house with a fine interior and attached service wing. Elsewhere, there is some particularly good internal detailing, such as the staircase at 6 Westgate Hill and a group of Chinese Chippendale staircases at The Kings Arms Hotel, The Royal George and 57, 59, 103 and 105 Main Street. 111 Main Street retains one of the best examples of early Georgian interiors in south-west Wales, though it was refronted around 1840. There is also some very good detailing such as at 4 and 5 Castle Terrace, which were constructed as one house and retain some good Adam-style interiors.

Georgian housing in Pembroke. 111, on the right, has early eighteenth-century origins. It was refronted in the early nineteenth century, but retains good original interiors and is listed at grade II*. 113, centre, was probably constructed towards the end of the eighteenth century (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

Later Georgian housing. 89 and 91 Main Street is a substantial town house constructed with its own attached service wing to the left. The hierarchy is clear in the formal planning and regular windows of the house on the right and the more irregular, less formal service wing on the left (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
Late Georgian housing. 86 and 88 Main Street is a pair of semi-detached early nineteenth-century houses, probably built by the Orielton estate (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

Late Georgian housing. 2 and 3 East Back were built as a pair in the early nineteenth century, about 1830, by the Orielton estate. Although smaller in scale than earlier town houses, they continue the Georgian style (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
The early to mid-eighteenth-century three-storey Brick House, adjacent to St Mary’s Church, is unusual for the use of brick in a town predominately of stucco. Also of interest is Orielton Terrace, raised up on Chain Back, with more expressive use of Victorian detailing including shouldered window heads and bays, but still following the pattern of surrounding stuccoed exteriors.

Housing outside the town walls tends to be more vernacular in character and falls broadly into one of several forms. Mid-nineteenth-century workers’ housing tends to be modest in scale and character; it maybe single-storey double-fronted, or sometimes two-storey and/or single-fronted. Much of the housing of this period is built as terraces, such as in Orange Gardens, but these are not necessarily continuous or constructed as single developments. Individual houses of this period are found in the town and can be single-storey cottages or larger two-storey houses, but these tend to be lower than the surrounding houses and often without any form of decoration or embellishment. Housing of this period is often typified by the use of the round-headed door opening, slight projecting cills, but otherwise plain elevations.

Victorian housing. Orielton Terrace on Chain Back is a short terrace of three houses built for the Orielton estate around 1870, using new architectural styles which are mildly Gothic. The house to the left is Georgian (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

Less formal housing of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The two three-storey buildings to the left are early nineteenth century, as are the two buildings to the right. The single bay building in the centre is nineteenth-century infill, as is the blue building (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
Top right: Mid-nineteenth-century housing on the Holyland Road. Kingsbridge Cottages were built around 1860 as a row of single-storey terraced workers’ housing, typical of the style built in Pembroke and Pembroke Dock (Crown Copyright: RCAHWM).

Right: Other housing of the nineteenth century was constructed in a more piecemeal fashion with different plots developed differently. This short terrace, Little Gates off Holyland Road, is squeezed into a short strip of land by the railway (Crown Copyright: RCAHWM).

Below left: Lower Row on Golden Hill is a combination of single- and two-storey houses (Crown Copyright: RCAHWM).

Below right: The same pattern again in Owen Street, Orange Gardens (Crown Copyright: RCAHWM).
Later nineteenth-century terraces are also found outside the town walls and tend to display greater degrees of sophistication, notably with bay windows and other window surrounds. They are often found as terraces with unifying design elements such as forecourt walls and railings, embellished chimney stacks and tiled forecourts.

Finally, there are some areas of distinctive post-war estate housing, which share similarities in design and construction but vary in their layout ranging from streets and terraces through to cul-de-sacs. The same basic form of building has been adapted to allow for different housing types, altered roof shapes, door arrangements and simple design elements.
Modern Buildings

There has been sporadic infill of plots within the town during the twentieth century. This has not always been sympathetic and includes the 1960s’ Co-op supermarket on Main Street and HSBC Bank and its neighbour next to Long Walk Passage. The post office (49 Main Street) is one of the few good examples of development from this period: it was constructed in 1927–28 in a vernacular Georgian style and is listed.

Building Materials and Detail

Walling

Walling tends to be rendered (or stuccoed or roughcast) finishes over rubble stone with few examples of different styles. Brick House (brick), 63 Main Street (limestone — ashlar and coursed) and the former Wesleyan Chapel
(stucco with Bath Stone dressings) are some of the few exceptions. Ashlar scoring and rustication (especially to ground floors) is common, as is detailing such as quoins and window surrounds. The application of raised window surrounds is a typical feature of later nineteenth-century remodelling of earlier buildings. A Georgian building (eighteenth to early nineteenth century) would have had (or have) plain window surrounds. Rear and side elevations sometimes have hung slate, but more normally they consist of exposed stone or render when visible from the street.

A rendered house with a cement-based roughcast and raised window architraves formed in render (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

The stucco here is from the later nineteenth century but has been executed in the classical tradition to match the Georgian layout of the facade. There is rustication on the ground floor and a cill band to divide it from the upper floors (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
A rare example of exposed stone at 63 Main Street. Built as the Pembroke Savings Bank, around 1875–80, rock-faced grey limestone and tooled dressings were used. These were meant to be seen rather than simply look unfinished without render (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

One of the few examples in the town where brick has been used as a building material and left exposed (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
Good examples of raised render detailing (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
Roofs

Roofs are typically of slate, with close eaves and sometimes hidden behind parapets, for example 89 and 91 Main Street. Chimney stacks are plain and can be either rubble stone or rendered or, where rebuilt, in brick.

The post office in Main Street was built 1927–28 in a rustic neo-Georgian style. The graded silver-grey slate roof is a highlight and one of the defining features of the building (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

Modern re-roofing in contrasting coloured slates and to a uniform layout (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
Joinery

Where eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century windows survive they are of a typical hornless six-over-six sash (as at The Castle Inn). Elsewhere, in later buildings or as replacements they are typically horned plate-glass sashes. In earlier buildings, such as those on Westgate Hill, there are varieties of casement.

Far left: A good mid-eighteenth-century door and door case in Main Street. (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

Left: A good example of later nineteenth-century joinery detailing in the large paneled sash windows, oriel window and door, and door case (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).


Below right: Original joinery survives in this modest house in Orange Gardens. It also has good render detail — all architectural elements that appear on buildings of much grander scale (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
Character Areas

I. Castle and the Medieval Town

Historical Background

The town was laid out from the end of the eleventh century onwards. The castle was at the western end of the ridge and one main street extended eastwards from it, encircled by a defensive wall. There were three gateways in the walls: to the north (across Mill Pond) and to the east and west. The town was originally surrounded by water on three sides: a tidal creek around the neck of the castle, the Pembroke River which flowed into and formed the Mill Pond to the north and, to the south, Monkton Pill, which was originally an expansive area of still water that was largely drained and landscaped in the twentieth century to create the open space of the Commons.

The town has long been divided between the two parishes of St Mary’s, to the west, and St Michael’s, to the east. Both are shown on Speed’s plan of 1611 with their own crosses and open spaces within Main Street (p. 11). These open spaces were probably originally the marketplaces of each parish. St Michael’s probably developed as a separate market suburb during the thirteenth century but was absorbed into the defended town when the town walls were constructed in the late thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries.

To either side of Main Street (north and south), individual plots or ‘burgages’ were laid out and developed from the outset of the growth of the civilian town. Very few cross streets or other access ways were built and this layout has largely survived. The primary access points to the town also developed from the outset: Westgate Hill, a steep road forming a continuation of Main Street towards the West Gate; Northgate Street, which connected Main Street with the former North Gate; and the former East Gate.

In the eighteenth century, New Way was created near the centre of Main Street, to connect...
the centre of the town with the Commons. At some point, before the seventeenth century, an island of housing was developed as infill in St Michael’s marketplace, between what would become East Back to the north and Main Street.

Similarly, at the western end of town, the passage now known as Long Entry had been the site of 24 one-room lean-to cottages built in 1821. They made up two rows each of 12 dwellings with a central alleyway and were run by St Mary’s Church as the parish workhouse. The site has traditionally been thought of as the location for a postern gate in the town walls, which was entered from a passage off Main Street. The site was cleared in 1957 and has since been in use as a car park.

The Commons, to the south, has lost much of its housing and industry. Bankers Row (now a car park), on the north side near Westgate Presbyterian Church, was a long row of 10 two-storey cottages probably built in the late eighteenth century, but demolished in the late 1950s. The debris was used to infill the Commons pond.

Two three-storey early nineteenth-century houses (3 and 5) to the right of The Lion Hotel, Main Street. They were later altered and brought into commercial use. The gap to the right of 3 is Long Entry, previously the site of the workhouse cottages (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
The Character of Building

The layout of the town clearly reflects its medieval origins. The burgages and their boundaries survive to a great extent and are an important component of the historic town. The medieval plot pattern is also reflected in the varied pattern of building as each plot developed independently, even though the buildings themselves tend to be later, especially the facades.

The external appearance of the town is very much a product of its Georgian and nineteenth-century regrowth. Many of the buildings on Main Street date from this period, either as new builds or, more likely, as refronting of earlier existing buildings. Earlier fabric is likely to survive hidden behind later facades; even buildings of a modest architectural appearance may retain important early structures or interiors.

The earliest buildings (fifteenth to sixteenth century) within the town are found on Westgate Hill. They are built of stone with asymmetrical facades. Elsewhere, there is a broad separation of building types between those to the west, which tend to be more commercial, and those to the east where there is a concentration of the better houses from the eighteenth century onwards.

Commercial buildings, especially those around the head of Northgate Street, tend to be large three-storey structures. Further east from Northgate Street, there is more variety with narrower building plots and a greater number of smaller two-storey buildings. There is an overall rhythm to the street frontage along the length of Main Street.

Towards the eastern end of Main Street, where East Back breaks away to the north, Orielton Terrace is unusual for being one of the few examples of a uniform terrace of houses within the town. This suggests a comprehensive redevelopment across plot boundaries, which utilized the same design rather than the individual piecemeal development that is found elsewhere in the town. There was also more redevelopment of plots with later buildings in this area, for example, the 1927–28 post office and the late twentieth-century HSBC and its neighbour.

East Back displays a character different from Main Street. Here, there are buildings of more modest character which are arranged less regularly than those on Main Street. There is also a greater vernacular and light industrial influence here with buildings such as the former blacksmiths/engineers shop at 10–12 East Back.

More modest and utilitarian buildings on East Back (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
Further to the east, there are some of the better town houses in Pembroke (111 Main Street, for example), interspersed with lower-class housing of a later date. At the east end, the layout of the town has been badly affected by the loss of the East Gate and the creation of an open space for the circulation of traffic.

Stucco is the dominant surface finish. It is often plain but with ashlar scoring to the more prominent buildings, such as the range of domestic buildings at the eastern end of Main Street (111–15). These buildings also retain small pane sash windows typical of the Georgian period. Windows are otherwise generally of the single large pane sash type typical of the mid- and later nineteenth-century onwards. Wall finishes also vary into the nineteenth-century with deeper ashlar scored render, such as at Pembroke House and the adjoining Castle Inn (15 and 17 Main Street), and elaborate stucco detailing, as seen at Barclays Bank and Guy Thomas Estate Agents (35 and 33 Main Street). Shopfronts also survive, such as at Lloyds Chemist (9 Main Street), but tend to be later insertions and altered as the late Victorian ironwork of the shopfront at 18 Main Street demonstrates.

Commercial buildings in the medieval town, which are likely to have early cores that were refronted in the eighteenth century with detail altered in the nineteenth century. Stucco, sash windows and architectural decoration are typical (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

The same pattern further east along Main Street. A pair of three-storey early nineteenth-century houses; one has an Edwardian oriel. To the right, earlier buildings were probably rebuilt as new houses in the early nineteenth century. The shopfront of about 1907 reflects the change from domestic to commercial use (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
2. Monkton, the Priory and the Western Suburbs

Historical Background

Occupation in Monkton dates from at least the foundation of the Benedictine priory in 1098 and it is probable that from this early period it was a centre of activity outside the town. Speed’s plan of 1611 shows the priory church and monastic buildings with smaller domestic buildings on its south side; a French map of about 1650 shows a much larger settlement to the south, outside the monastic precinct (p. 11).

Monkton was located on the main route into Pembroke from the west, which ensured a flow of traffic through the settlement from an early date. Given the location of the priory on a headland into the Pembroke River, with Quoits Water Pill leading inland to the south, it is also likely that this area was important for water-borne traffic en route to the town from Milford Haven. There is evidence of prehistoric occupation in a cave facing the Pembroke River and the 1861 first edition Ordnance Survey map shows quarries and limekilns around the edge of the headland.

The current street and settlement pattern had become established by the middle of the nineteenth century. There was a nucleus of buildings around Church Terrace to the south of the priory. There were further roadside buildings along Monkton Road (formerly Priory Terrace) and Angle Road with gardens stretching behind each plot. Further to the east, Bridgend Terrace linked directly with Monkton Bridge and was also developed with roadside buildings. So too was Back Terrace, which links to Monkton Road to the west of the priory.

Further to the west, a straight road (now Long Mains) had been laid out from at least the mid-nineteenth century linking Monkton Road with the northern edge of the Monkton headland to a point known as Turks Castle. Houses, with gardens to their rear, had been constructed along its length, with a further terrace to the west along what is now Adams Road. This established a regular pattern of development which persisted after nearly all of the early housing in this area was demolished during the 1950s and 1960s as part of clearance area programmes. The present housing estate is laid out on a grid arrangement of streets and replicates the earlier layout.
The area had become very much an independent suburb of the town from the middle of the nineteenth century. There was an Independent Chapel at the southern end of Long Mains and, by the end of the century, a school to the north of Monkton Road. The development of (Priory) Back Terrace, which was probably part of the earliest street pattern of Monkton, has been demolished and the ‘Green’ area created.

**The Character of Building**

The area has some important surviving medieval buildings which provide clear visual evidence of the early establishment of Monkton as a settlement. The priory church of St Nicholas incorporates fabric from the twelfth to fourteenth centuries. The nave and chancel survive from this period; the tower was added in the fifteenth century. Much of the remainder of the church was repaired and restored from the nineteenth century onwards.

Monkton Old Hall dates to the fourteenth or fifteenth century and was probably the guest house of the priory. Priory Farmhouse contains remnants of the medieval monastic buildings altered during the nineteenth century. There are further associated buildings nearby, including a dovecote, which also belonged to the priory complex.
Monkton Old Hall from the south-east looking up Church Terrace (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

A plan, section, elevation and cutaway drawing of Monkton Old Hall, originally published in Houses of the Welsh Countryside (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
The arrangement of the buildings surrounding the church, as well as the alignment of Church Terrace, is also important. Earlier domestic buildings survive along Church Terrace, notably Prospect Cottage on the junction with Bridgend Terrace, which probably dates to the seventeenth century and retains a large stone chimney. The general layout of the street, the openness to the churchyard and the varied buildings of Church Terrace overlooking the church are key components.

Elsewhere, later, mainly nineteenth-century piecemeal development in the area can be seen along Monkton Road and Bridgend Terrace. Buildings are mainly domestic though there are some combined domestic and commercial buildings, mainly small shops within residential terraces. This is important for illustrating the commercial separation of Monkton from Pembroke. Short terraces were constructed in the later nineteenth century, particularly on the north side of Monkton Road, where a terrace of bay-windowed houses survives. Development, however, has not been intensive and many open spaces and breaks between buildings and blocks of buildings survive.

Buildings from the later phases of historical development during the nineteenth century tend to be small-scale single- or two-storey, single- and double-fronted buildings, often with typical round-headed doorways and normally with rendered elevations. The survival of original detailing is the exception: 2 School Terrace (the southern extension of Bridgend Terrace) retains its original fanlight. This short terrace illustrates the varied development pattern of dwellings in this area; 3 is a very slim single-fronted dwelling squeezed in between existing buildings. Towards the upper end of Back Lane, there is a sequence of buildings of typical types: the single-storey ‘cottage’ and the more substantial, but still modest, two-storey house.
Prospect House and cottage (1 and 2 Church Terrace): a probable seventeenth-century pair of buildings with a large external chimney stack surviving to the right gable. Both buildings have been later altered (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

13–19 Monkton Road (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

School Terrace, from the southern end of Bridgend Terrace, 2 retains an original fanlight. 3, to the left, demonstrates an efficient use of space between two other houses (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
3. Orange Gardens and the Southern Suburbs

Historical Background

Orange Gardens was developed as Orange Town between 1861 and 1900 directly to the south of the Commons. The land was owned by the Orielton estate and was called Lion Fields. It was bought by Isaac Williamson of Greenhill, Pwllcrochan, in 1861 to build ‘comfortable cottages for respectable mechanics’. The development was laid out as a grid of five parallel streets arranged north–south with houses built back-to-back. There was a further street (originally Tower Street but now Owen Street) at the north end and the area was bordered by South Road to the south. The construction of the houses was undertaken piecemeal. On the first edition Ordnance Survey map in 1861, Mansel Street is shown with houses on the east side only and Williamson Street with scattered houses. Thomas Street is shown built up on both sides, but West Street and Paynter Street do not appear laid out at all.
At the eastern end of Orange Gardens is a late twentieth-century development of single-storey housing executed very much in the style of the earlier housing in Orange Gardens. This small estate replaced an earlier horseshoe of detached buildings formed by Paynter Street and Jogram Avenue, which first appear on mapping following the Second World War and could have been a small development of pre-fabricated housing.

Further to the south of Orange Gardens, Merchant’s Park had been developed south of Lake House by 1908. The elevated section of Norgan’s Terrace to the west, along with the short section of South Terrace, was probably constructed first around 1870–80, with the shorter section to the east side of Merchant’s Park probably about 1900.

The housing estates at the west end (and housing along the south side) of South Terrace and the continuation of Merchant’s Park and Poyer’s Avenue were laid out between 1966 and 1971. Detached housing was constructed as cul-de-sacs to the south of South Road towards the end of the twentieth century.

Further to the east, at Grove Bridge and along the base of Grove Hill, there are clusters of small single-storey cottages and some larger two-storey houses. These are clustered roadside developments along the Grove Hill Road and probably date to the early to mid-nineteenth century. A large quarry was excavated just south of Grove Bridge and an adjacent limekiln was shown on the 1908 second edition Ordnance Survey map. Much smaller quarries were located on the edge of the Commons and at the junction of South Road with the Castlemartin road (Jogram Quarry), but these do not appear to have survived beyond the 1960s. Equally, the larger Grove Quarry is shown on mapping of the 1960s as disused. It is probable that limestone was quarried here and certainly burnt at Grove. It is also possible that some of the single-storey cottages are former quarrymen’s cottages. Much of the area between Grove Hill and the Angle/Castlemartin road has since been developed with modern housing, and a primary school has been constructed near Grove Bridge.
The Character of Building

The early housing within Orange Gardens is amongst the best examples of mid-nineteenth-century workers’ housing in south Wales. It consists of single-storey double-fronted cottages with pitched roofs, built in terraces, but with stepped ridge lines to allow for the north–south slope of each street.

Architectural detailing of the housing in Orange Gardens is limited and, overall, the character is one of simple regularity. Walls tend to be plain rendered but some have detailing added to the window and door surrounds in later re-rendering; for example, 23 Thomas Street. The central doorways typically have round heads though some are flat. Doors, where they survive, are four-panelled with single large pane sash windows to either side. 11 and 13 Williamson Street are typical examples and are listed. Interspersed with the single-storey housing are individual two-storey houses, particularly at the northern ends of Mansel Street and Williamson Street. These suggest that the development of Orange Gardens occurred over a number of years and that the original proposal for ‘comfortable cottages’ changed towards the later years of the development.
The earlier Norgan’s Terrace housing of the Merchant’s Park road area is a unified development and similar in appearance, but consists of two main types. The raised section of terrace to the west is made up of double-fronted two-storey houses in a continuous long terrace with shared chimney stacks. Detailing here has not survived particularly well. Although large pane sashes do survive (with plain render surrounds) at the northern end house, elsewhere, original glazing has been lost. The raised long terrace with its stone-faced railed revetment is, however, a distinctive visual feature of the area. Opposite and set lower is a shorter terrace, which is very different and obviously a later

Housing mix in Orange Gardens at the junction of Thomas Street and Owen Street (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

The survival of original detailing is limited. Most houses have replacement uPVC windows; doors and roof coverings have often been replaced. Walls have been re-rendered, sometimes with decorative detail added, and chimney stacks lowered or removed. Overall, the form of the gridded streets has survived particularly well, retaining the appearance of low cottages rising with the slope of each street as continuous rows. This is aided by the survival of boundary walls and railings to the front where built (as in the wider Mansel Street), which help to define each terrace. The restriction of extensions to the rear of each terrace has also helped to preserve the appearance of the area.
phase of construction. The houses are smaller (single fronted), but better detailed with bay windows with canopies, and forecourt walls and railings. The best-preserved example here is 7, which retains its original glazing, bay and four-panelled door.

The late twentieth-century housing in South Terrace and Poyer’s Avenue are good examples of this type of estate housing. Poyer’s Avenue, a curving road of semi-detached houses, is a continuation of the housing from the same phase built fronting onto Merchant’s Park.

At the eastern end of South Road is an oval of integrated housing, two blocks of smaller flats at the entrance, a pair facing down South Road with projecting central hipped roof bays, and other semi-detached housing arranged around the oval. This housing is relatively large in scale compared to the earlier nineteenth-century terraces nearby; the front gardens and spaces between each pair of houses creates greater openness. One house within the South Road development still retains its small pane crittal windows; elsewhere, alterations have been many and varied.

4. The North – the Green, Mill Pond Fringe and Northern Suburbs

Historical Background

The area to the north of the town is one of the three main historic approaches to the town.

At its earliest phase, this area formed a suburb around Mill Bridge, which led into the town through the North Gate. Speed’s plan of 1611 shows a small cluster of buildings labelled ‘The Grene’ (p. 111). The pattern of converging roads shown on the 1839 tithe map was probably formed from an early period. This is made up of the main road north up Bush Hill to what would become Pembroke Dock, along with roads to the east parallel with the edge of Mill Pond (Woodbine Terrace, originally Golden Lane) and north-east to Golden Hill.

Beyond the area of the Green there were a number of scattered roadside buildings by the early nineteenth century, but this area remained largely rural and undeveloped. A small number of buildings on the north side of Mill Pond are shown on the 1861 first edition Ordnance Survey map as Golden Cottages and Golden Hall. Golden Cottages is reported to have served as a prison for French prisoners of war captured during the ill-fated invasion of Fishguard in 1791.

The development of Pembroke Dock brought increasing affluence and development to the area. The Green expanded greatly in the middle of the nineteenth century. Several larger houses were constructed on the high ground to the west (Mount Pleasant, Springfield, Rocky Park) and Harbour Lodge (later Devon House) on Woodbine Terrace, along with further development behind the buildings fronting Green Hill (Paradise Row and the Primitive Methodist Chapel). These new larger detached buildings were no doubt built to take advantage of the spare land outside the congested town as well as the views back towards the town. The cornstore building fronting the quay had probably been built by this time and the north quay walls to the south of the cornstore had been constructed by 1865. The other large constructions during the mid-nineteenth century were the railway (complete by 1863), sweeping in from the north to the eastern edge of Mill Pond and the workhouse (1839) constructed on the edge of Mill Pond.

Further north, adjacent to the early farm of Golden Hill, a workers’ settlement had been laid out by the 1860s when Lower Row (depicted as Goldenhill Villas) is shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey map. These houses were presumably constructed as a response to the development of Pembroke Dock and are directly comparable to the development of Orange Gardens to the south. The development had largely been completed with the construction of Middle Row, Upper Row and Wiston Street by the end of the nineteenth century. Elsewhere a number of short terraces were constructed in the third quarter of the nineteenth century and are shown on the 1908 second edition Ordnance Survey map (Victoria Terrace and Woodbine Terrace). This map also depicts the influence of a growing civic-minded populace with the construction of a cricket ground in the area between Golden Hill and Woodbine Terrace, and a reservoir for the Pembroke Corporation Water Works at the top of Golden Hill.
Paradise Row
(Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

The former workhouse on Woodbine Terrace
(Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

Farmhouse on Golden Hill, pre-dating the nearby grid street housing
(Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
There was little further development until the post-war period (the 1960s onwards) when council estate housing was constructed. By 1964, the area west of Golden Hill, south of the railway and bordering Whitehall to the west had been developed with a grid and crescent of streets. By the end of the 1960s the large St Annes Crescent and the cross pattern of streets to the west had been constructed along with further detached housing to the north on the edge of Buttermilk Lane. Further housing has since been constructed, mainly in the areas to the north of Whitehall and along Mill Pond and the northern edge of the railway.

Scattered buildings survive outside this earlier nucleus of the Green, mainly along the arterial roads in this area. Whitehall to the north was probably originally a late eighteenth-century farm. Although rebuilt and new buildings were added during the mid-nineteenth century, it is still discernibly earlier.

Earlier buildings also survive along Woodbine Terrace (Golden Lane), such as Golden Cottages which still has a substantial walled garden as shown on the 1861 first edition Ordnance Survey map. Golden House and Golden Hall are also both shown on the 1861 map, but are now largely altered. Two substantial double-fronted buildings also survive on the eastern side of Golden Hill, and they are probably farms of the early to mid-nineteenth century.

The development of housing in the settlement around the rows (Upper, Middle and Lower), on the west side of Golden Hill, are typical of mid-nineteenth-century workers’ housing. Originally, most would have been single-storey double-fronted houses. Few survive with any original detail and large numbers have replacement windows, wall and roof coverings.

The Character of Building

Most of the earlier settlement of the Green area is now located fronting onto the east of Green Hill and behind. This early housing is either double- or single-fronted two-storey terraces, but with much in the way of later alterations such as replacement windows, added bow windows and replaced wall coverings. The late Georgian Springfield House is one of the better surviving examples of earlier larger housing.

Springfield Terrace lining the eastern side of Green Hill (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).
To the east of the Green, some housing from a similar period also survives along Paradise Row with two larger, more elaborate stucco-detailed buildings indicative of development in the later nineteenth century. The short terrace further east on the south side of Woodbine Terrace, also of this date, has single-fronted houses with ground-floor bay windows and distinctive elaborate ironwork railings enclosing small front yards.

The post-war estate housing, which infills large parts of this area, is similar to the post-war developments in the area south of Orange Gardens and was presumably constructed at the same time and under similar development schemes. They are based on common design principles of semi-detached housing with much shared and repeated detail, but with slightly differing plans and layouts.
5. Eastern Suburbs and the Railway

Historical Background

The eastern end of the town had probably developed from an early period as a suburban district of the walled town. It is a prime and busy location on the main roadways to and from the east of the town. Speed’s plan of 1611 shows these roads arriving at the site of the East Gate and it is likely that they have been in existence since at least the foundation of the Norman town. Speed’s plan and the French plan of around 1650 also show rows of buildings alongside the roads within the area adjacent to the end of the town walls (p. 11).

The East Gate and the adjoining walls, which would have defined the early development of this area, were probably demolished at some point in the early nineteenth century. They are likely to have been damaged during the Civil War and do not appear on the 1839 tithe map. The tithe map does not show in detail the buildings in this area and it is probable that the area had suffered from clearance from an early date, possibly even as an early solution to the perennial traffic problems of the town which persist here today. By the early nineteenth century there was little development outside the immediate vicinity of the East Gate. The land surrounding the main toll roads and the lane to Merlins Cross was set out as agricultural land.

The arrival of the railway in the 1860s brought greater development to this area. The eastern end of the town was the focus of the railway with the line breaking through from the embankment over Mill Pond to the north, sweeping around the east end area to turn parallel with the Tenby road and arrive at the station just north of Lower Lane (now Lower Lamphey Road). There was also other development associated with the railway: buildings fronting onto East End (now Station Road/Ropewalk Terrace), with a side street (Orchard Buildings) extending to the north and further roadside buildings along Lower Lane and the town end of Holyland Road.

It is probable that from the mid-nineteenth century and the construction of the railway, industry started to develop along the open land to the east of the station, with a quarry, limekilns, a timber yard and a ‘rope walk’ shown on the 1861 first edition Ordnance Survey map. By 1908, an enlarged timber yard...
3–9 Station Road, to the town side of the railway (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

Ropewalk Terrace (Crown Copyright: RCAHMW).

on Upper Lamphey Road had replaced the earlier yard. Cattle pens were constructed on a siding to the east of the station and a cattle market was built at the end of Orchard Buildings. Bengal Villas had also been constructed by this time on the south side of Holyland Road.13

The area to the east of the town is now largely defined by the transport links of the main roads to Carmarthen (north-east) and Tenby (east — Upper Lamphey Road) and the railway. Further development has taken place throughout the twentieth century with infill and rebuilding of roadside plots, extensive backfilling of the area between the Tenby and Carmarthen roads with small housing estates, and development of the rugby and cricket grounds further along the Tenby road. The area retains an element of light industrial development, particularly in the area of the station and is now essentially a suburb of the town.
The Character of Building

There is little evidence of any pre-nineteenth-century housing in this area. However, some basic two-storey terracing does survive within the east end and may have origins earlier than its mid- to late nineteenth-century character suggests. These houses are at the end of Station Road and along the western end of Lower Lamphey Road (Froynes Terrace). Station Road, to the east of the railway line, displays some irregularities in form with smaller one-and-a-half-storey structures alongside taller two-storey terraced houses. This is likely to be some of the earliest housing outside the east end of the town. Some single-storey cottages survive along Lower Lamphey Road, including some short rows; these are typical of such early to mid-nineteenth-century workers’ housing.

The influence of the railway can be seen opposite the modern station entrance where there is a long brick two-storey commercial structure with
A 1908 second edition Ordnance Survey map, is a typical example of late nineteenth-century single-bay two-storey terracing, but is unusual for its oriel windows instead of the more normal bays. The pair of houses at the north-western end is the only well-preserved example along the terrace and retains large pane sash windows, an oriel with cambered head, panelled aprons, pilasters and dentil cornice.

Housing further along Upper Lamphey Road becomes more dispersed than the tightly packed nature of the earlier terracing closer to the station. A modern development of terraced housing on the north side, infilling a gap between Orchard Buildings (The Railway Inn) and a short terrace further along does retain this tightly packed character. The Railway Inn, with its gable end sign, is a reminder of the community in the area of the station and its relative independence from the town. Continuing further east there are some larger late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century houses (such as Green Gables), but this area is largely defined by modern housing development.

Finally, on the north side of Holyland Road on the limit of the town are Kingsbridge Cottages. Curving with the line of the road, they are typical mid-nineteenth-century single-storey cottages and very similar to those found in Orange Gardens. They are very distinctive as a long and low row, each with a characterful round-headed central doorway and windows to either side, but now largely without original detailing and some extensive alterations.
Pembroke is a unique and unusual town, rich in history and with a layered architecture firmly fixed in the origins of the earliest town.

The town began as part of a Norman fortified settlement built on a naturally defensive narrow ridge from where the eleventh-century conquerors could control south Pembrokeshire and Milford Haven.

The framework of the town was established at this time with the castle at the western end of the ridge, overlooking a narrow tidal inlet, and the town spread eastwards along its length in a linear fashion. One main street led east from the castle and was probably the earliest main approach to the castle. Narrow medieval burgage plots run to the north and south of the main street and few cross streets interrupt this pattern. As well as the castle, the two churches in the town and the priory in Monkton formed the nucleus of the pattern for later growth with settlements and activity centred on these buildings.

Some of the buildings from the earliest phases survive near the castle. Their bare stonework is visible, but later development of the early town from the Georgian period onwards has given Pembroke a character of coloured stucco and render, which reflects its rise in the eighteenth century from a neglected medieval town to a regional trading centre.

Earlier buildings, however, no doubt survive hidden behind and below many of the buildings in the town, giving it rich archaeological potential. Most of the visible architecture of the town belongs to the growth in the eighteenth century, when larger town houses and other buildings were established, and the nineteenth-century regrowth of the town as a result of the explosion of activity at nearby Pembroke Dock. Further development has been a response to the influx of wealth and growing prosperity, commercial adaptation and external remodelling of the buildings in the town. There has been some subsequent development, but the town, in its centre, is medieval in plan with visibly later buildings occupying the medieval layout and plot pattern.

In the same way, later growth around the town has largely followed the pattern of development established from an early date, with concentrations around the main approaches, from the east, north and west and across Monkton Pill. Later types of development have followed in these areas: the railway to the east bringing new industries and imported building materials, which are all evident in the eastern suburbs.

Rows of workers’ housing were constructed outside the constraints of the medieval town limits in response to the impact of the Industrial Revolution and the success of nearby Pembroke Dock. This type of housing is modest in character, but highly distinctive and evocative of the region and its role in the industrial growth of Britain in the nineteenth century. To the south of the town, the importance of this lies in the planned settlement of Orange Gardens, one of the few examples of large-scale pre-twentieth-century development outside the medieval pattern, echoed in the now largely replaced housing in Monkton.

The development of the railway and new industries is an obvious sign of the growing influence of industrialization through the nineteenth century. This is reflected in housing development through the use of different styles of building epitomized in the late nineteenth century by rows of terraced houses, often with bay windows, suggesting a more prosperous society.
Selected Sources

Published Sources


Cadw, 'Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest: Pembroke’ (Cardiff, 1994).


Online Resources

www.pembrokelandmonktonhistory.org.uk


www.rcahmw.gov.uk

www.coflein.gov.uk
Endnotes


3. A County Palatine is an independent holding of land and property separate from royal jurisdiction.

4. Under William de Valence, half-brother of Henry III, from 1247 onwards. It has been speculated that de Valence and his son Aymer built the present town walls in the years between about 1290 and 1324 because they abut the outer ward. Pembroke Town Walls Project: Archaeological Interpretation and Condition Survey. Pembroke Design Limited and Cambria Archaeology for Pembrokeshire County Council (2001).

5. Pembroke Town Walls Project, 5.2.


7. St Mary’s has a Romanesque south door and two blocked semi-circular headed windows, probably all of around 1200.


9. Pembroke Town Walls Project, 5.3. As a point of interest the burgage plots in St Michael’s are generally wider than those in the town (26 feet (8m) compared to 20 feet (6m) within the town), suggesting two distinct periods of development.


15. An alien priory was a religious establishment based outside the country of the controlling religious house. In this case, Monkton Priory was controlled by an abbey in Normandy.


17. Presumably the suburb that had developed from the fourteenth century outside the East Gate.

18. Eynon, Pembroke: A Brief History.


23. Quoted in Eynon, Pembroke: A Brief History, pp. 11–12.

24. At the turn of the twentieth century, the assembly rooms at 14 Main Street became a cinema before closing in the early 1980s after which it was converted into flats and a night club.

25. Pembroke Town Walls Project, 3.0.

26. There were around 228 burgage plots in the fourteenth century. Lloyd et al., The Buildings of Wales: Pembrokeshire, p. 328.
27. Bankers Row was a terrace of 10 two-storey cottages constructed in the late eighteenth century. The site is now the car park for Westgate Presbyterian Church.

28. Owen, *The Description of Pembrokeshire*, pp. 557–58. It is possible that these early masonry structures had half-timbered upper storeys though no evidence of this survives.


32. The name had changed from The New Inn to The Golden Lion by 1817; the Orielton crest depicts a lion. The name had changed again when it was auctioned in 1857 as The Lion Hotel and Posting House.

33. When auctioned in 1857 it had 13 bedrooms, 2 closets, dining and drawing rooms, parlour, commercial farmers rooms, 2 sitting rooms, stabling for 21 horses, 2 coach houses and a piggery. The left-hand ground-floor window was formerly a coach entrance to the rear.

34. It is reported as having a stone-vaulted cellar of a medieval or post-medieval date.

35. The others are at The Royal George, nos 57, 59, 103 and 105 Main Street.

36. The York Tavern, closed since 2002, at 69 Main Street possibly has early origins and is reported to have a medieval vaulted cellar under its front rooms. Externally, it appears to be of the nineteenth century but was noted to be in existence in the late eighteenth century. The Old Cross Saws Inn at 109 Main Street also possibly has early origins but has an irregular facade of early nineteenth-century character.

37. Built in 1870 by the Orielton estate.

38. Shown as still water on the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1861.

39. Similar cottages were constructed at Kingsbridge Cottages on the Holyland Road to the north of the town and in the High Street and Military Road areas of Pembroke Dock.

40. A St Anne’s Chapel had existed to the west of the Green and is shown on Speed’s plan (p. 11).

41. A building is shown at Kilnpark adjacent to a quarry and this was possibly related to some type of kiln such as a brick kiln.

42. This was presumably where rope was manufactured but may have become a redundant landscape feature by 1862. The ‘walk’ is depicted on the 1861 first edition Ordnance Survey map as a tree-lined avenue parallel to Upper Lamphey Road and may have ceased to function with the nineteenth-century decline of Pembroke as a port.

43. Possibly named as a reaction to the abortive partitioning of Bengal and the development of Indian independence at the end of the nineteenth and start of the twentieth century.
Extract from the 1861 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing the Pembroke Area
2 Extract from the 1908 Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map Showing the Pembroke Area
3 All Character Areas with Historic Environment Designations
4 All Character Areas
5 Castle and the Medieval Town (I)
Monkton, the Priory and the Western Suburbs (2)
7 Orange Gardens and the Southern Suburbs (3)
The North – the Green, Mill Pond Fringe and Northern Suburbs (4)
9 Eastern Suburbs and the Railway (5)