The Conical Chimneys of Pembrokeshire

A Stature of the Gentry or Peasant Imitation?

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Abstract

The conical chimney of Pembrokeshire is a vernacular feature that has not been fully investigated. Its origin, distribution and date of construction have been one of debate. Many of the surviving examples are located in remote areas that have ensured their longevity. The type has long been associated with these areas but it is believed that they were more widespread throughout the country.

The dissertation aims to address many of the questions raised about the conical chimney. It is widely believed that the chimney type is a result of the Flemish settlers to the county or that the chimney is a copy of the cylindrical examples found in the castle and first floor halls and just a mere peasant imitation of the gentry form. The dissertation will mainly through primary research collate a picture of the distribution, origin and status of the conical chimney and its associated building type.
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Introduction

Figure 1. Conical Chimney Carew, Pembrokeshire.
(Illustration: R Nash)
Introduction

Today the buildings of Pembrokeshire offer little clues to their past history. Many have been altered to such an extent that interpretation of the original structure is hard and in some case impossible to define. Many have sadly been demolished, the fabric of the building lost forever. The conical chimney buildings that were once more prevalent throughout the county have also suffered the same fate. These chimneys of status now number less than a dozen, many stand alone (figure 1), their associated building decayed or demolished. Some buildings however remain, although their conical chimney has been removed to facilitate progress, this can be highlighted by Clegyr Boia in the St Davids area. Figure 2 shows the façade of the building as recorded by Romilly Allen in 1883 whilst figure 3 shows the same building as photographed by the author on the 10th March 2004. The need for such modernization has left few reminders of a vernacular type of architecture that was once part of the counties built heritage.
Figure 2. Clegyr Boia, St Davids in 1883 (Illustration: Romilly Allen 1883)

Figure 3. Clegyr Boia in 2004 (Illustration: R Nash)
Statement of Aims

and Objectives
Aims

- To establish the social class of the conical chimney when first constructed.
- To identify the building type associated with the conical chimney when first constructed.

Objectives

- To acknowledge and review previously published papers on the subject matter
- To show the relationship, if any, between the conical chimney and other similar types of chimney in Pembrokeshire and the United Kingdom.
- To record all surviving examples
- To provide an overview and geographical distribution of the chimney types of Pembrokeshire.
- To show through research the genealogical data of the previous inhabitants of the buildings studied and their social standing.
- To establish the relationship between the conical chimney and its’ associated building type.
• To prove or disprove the theories on the origin of the conical chimney.
Methodology
Research Methodology

The research was a combination of the collection of primary and secondary data. The primary data was essential to update and correct the information that was provided by the secondary data. Much of the secondary information collected was repetitive in that the authors had all sourced their information from the same past studies. Whilst the primary data was essential to the dissertation it could not have been carried out effectively without reference to the secondary data.

Primary Data

The collection of primary data was undertaken by site visits, questionnaires and informal interviews with the occupants of the buildings studied.

Site Visits

The site visits were one of the most important aspects of the research. Many published sources on the conical chimneys are outdated, even recent publications are still sourcing their information from previous studies; whilst the majority have referenced their sources it has been hard to establish without in-depth research the extent of the distribution of the conical
chimney. Many sites that are listed as having conical chimneys have disappeared through decay and redevelopment; many were not listed, even in publications such as Smiths Houses of the Welsh Countryside. So through the collection of the secondary data a broader picture from various publications, many of these were local publications written by local people, was established on the distribution of the conical chimney and associated building. The comparison between early records and photographs on each individual site was achieved to some success.

At first it the intention was to record all the buildings using Brunskill's method of recording vernacular buildings, this method would have standardized the referencing of all the remaining examples. This was however abandon during the early site visits when it became apparent that many building were either altered out of all context in relation to their original structure or that they had been demolished.

The site visits were therefore based on the following

1. To see if the building still existed
2. In what form were the remaining examples i.e. Inhabited or Derelict
3. To record remaining exterior architectural features
4. To internally view the building for any remaining features
The site visits were arranged by the following methods

- Telephone

The method of telephoning properties was limited; the author had no access to any list of the property owners’ names, it was only through the listing of farms within the Yellow Pages that contact was made with two owners. Only one site visit was successful through this method.

- Cold Calling

This was the most successful method of viewing the sites. Access was allowed to all sites visited through this method, all the owners showed a genuine interest in the history of their property, two property owners were unaware that their building had previously had a conical chimney.

Interviews

These were done on an informal basis with the owners of the properties. The questions were tailored to their specific building. The questions asked broadly covered the known history of the site.
Questionnaires

These were sent out to people who had close links with the study of vernacular architecture, the majority of the questionnaires were sent out to people who had written about the conical chimney or had written books on Pembrokeshire. The questionnaires were also sent out to the building conservation officers at Pembrokeshire County Council and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park.

The questionnaires were also sent to the following leading authorities on vernacular architecture.

Dr Peter Smith
Dr R W Brunskill
Dr Greg Stevenson
Thomas Lloyd
Julian Orbach
Robert Schofield
Literature Search

All known avenues of published material on the conical chimney was collected, many books that may have had information on the chimney type were out of print and therefore copies had to be sourced through second-hand bookshops, many published papers were brought over the internet from all over the United Kingdom. The literature research covered books, offprints from journals such as Antiquity, leaflets, and information in the form of copies of photographs and archaeological reports from the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales.
Chapter One

Previous study

Examples in Other Counties

The recording of all known examples
Introduction

The following chapter aims to set a background to previous studies carried out on the conical chimney in Pembrokeshire, it will also show the relationship, if any, of the conical chimney with similar types within the United Kingdom as a whole. The author also sets out to acknowledge previous papers published on the conical chimney and through the collection of primary data challenge where possible views and theories that have been established by these previous authors. The primary data has been collected by site visits to every known location of a conical chimney.
Previous Study

No major study of the chimney types in Pembrokeshire has been undertaken; they have in the past only been studied as part of a broader overview of the vernacular architecture of Pembrokeshire. The main point of reference to the conical chimney in Pembrokeshire was the study carried out by Romilly Allen towards the end of the nineteenth century. Entitled ‘Old Farmhouses with round chimneys near St Davids’ the paper only concentrated on examples in the St Davids area. Fortunately Allen recorded his examples in some detail, of the eight buildings he studied only two chimneys remain. Allen even noted as early as 1902, the year when he returned to the area after making his notes in 1883 that many of the buildings that he had studied had gone. He had not ‘anticipated that the process of demolition, once begun, would go on so quickly as to prevent my ever being able to correct the observations I made twenty years ago’ (Allen1902 p2). Allen makes no indication of the buildings status, neither of the present status of the building at the time of his visit in 1883 or at the time of their construction. Barnwell in 1866 comments on the status of Drusselton (figure 4), that ‘however humble at present (being, in fact, mere peasant cottages), they were once occupied by a higher class’ (Barnwell1867 p198).
Barnwell had in the mid nineteenth century carried out research into the medieval and domestic architecture of South Pembrokeshire, this study briefly covered examples of the conical chimney in this area. Barnwell notes in 1867 that many of the chimney houses ‘although fast disappearing are still to be found in many parts of the district’ (Barnwell1867 p201). The disappearance of this building type during the mid to late nineteenth century would indicate that they were of some antiquity. The chimneys and associated buildings that remain to this present day would indicate the quality of their construction.
Smith states that ‘Romilly Allen’s description must remain the definitive and final account’ (Smith1975 p21). This statement by Smith is apparent, many of the drawings and descriptive analysis by Allen is reproduced, not only by Smith but also by authors such as Peate. His original work entitled the Welsh House Published in 1940 has just been updated by Dr Greg Stevenson in 2004. Peate’s chapter on stone houses is made up entirely of Allens work; he does introduce his own thoughts on the chimney houses and mentions two new buildings, Tref Elydr and Croftufty (figure5) that contain a conical chimney (Peate1940 p158).

Figure 5. Croftufty, St Davids. (Illustration Sir Cyril Fox 1942)

Sir Cyril Fox has elaborated on Allens work, his publication entitled ‘The Round Chimneyed Farmhouses of Northern Pembrokeshire’ introduces another chimney house, Garn in Llanychaer (Figure 6). He also draws
parallels between the lateral outshuts of Pembrokeshire and those discovered in the Orkney Isles (Fox1951 p136).

Figure 6. Garn, Llanychaer (Illustration RCAHMW)

Examples in other parts of the United Kingdom

The round chimneys of Pembrokeshire are distinctive yet examples appear in other counties that are of a similar type. The main concentration appears to be situated along the west coast of the United Kingdom from Cumbria down to Cornwall. This concentration is regional with round chimney types
appearing in defined areas, the distribution of which may be governed by social factors such as the movement of trade between ports or physical attributes such as the availability of building material.

Wood states that by the ‘middle of the 12\textsuperscript{th} century the cylindrical chimney had appeared and may have been common in stone houses’ (Wood1985 p282), she lists the earliest ‘surviving examples yet known’ to be at Framlingham Castle, Suffolk (Wood1985 p282). Here ‘two chimneys serving the hall block of c.1150-60 are incorporated into the late 12\textsuperscript{th} century curtain wall’ (Wood1985 p282). Lloyd states that the circular chimney in the Old Tower at Carew castle is probably 16\textsuperscript{th} century (Lloyd2004 p156) although he gives no reason for this conclusion, this tower is the oldest part of the castle and dates to the same period as Framlingham.

**Types in the South West**

Both the cylindrical and the conical chimney can find ‘parallels in Somerset and Devonshire and in the far north in the English Lake District’ (Peate1940 p164) Peate states that the ‘chimneys in the west of England have much in common with those in Pembrokeshire’ (Peate1940 p164), in a conversation with Clitherow the buildings conservation officer of Exmoor National Park the authority that covers Allerford (Peate1940 p164), the area mentioned by
Peate, he dated known examples in the area to perhaps the 17th or 18th century (Conversation 20th April 2004). He did state that no research into the chimney type had been carried out and that the dating was his own personal view. This dating by Clitherow would place the chimney type in the area later than the examples in Pembrokeshire; this would therefore correspond with the trade links between the two during the early seventeenth century (Peate 1940 p167). Figure 7 shows a property adjacent to the packhorse bridge in Allerford, the chimney is similar to the cylindrical type found in Pembrokeshire.

Figure 7. Round Chimney House, Allerford, Exmoor National Park (Illustration Exmoor National Park)
The assumption however that the round chimney type of the south west is a natural progression of the integration of the Pembrokeshire type into its own vernacular architecture is without basis without further investigation into the dating of the aforementioned chimneys.

Chester states that ‘one highly individual type of Cornish chimney of the eighteenth and early nineteenth century is the semicircular stack, or even the circular stack where it rises free standing from a one storey building’ (Chester1968 p133). Chester however in his references to this passage states that the subject of Cornish round chimneys is receiving further study (Chester1968 p138). The only sites that he does mention are Newtown in Germoe and Tredinnick in Madron, these sites are further to the south in Cornwall, this would indicate that the distribution of the conical chimney is more widespread than previously known. The examples may be related to the chimney types of Pembrokeshire or may have come about as the result of the areas individual vernacular architecture. Due to the distance involved these chimney types were not studied as part of the collection of primary data.
Types in Cumbria

According to Brunskill the ‘tapered cylinder chimney stack rising from a square base is often associated with the lake counties’ (Brunskill1978 p118) he also adds that the chimneys were ‘confined to a relatively small part of the region where the carboniferous limestone presumably could not be used to make satisfactory rectangular stacks’ (Brunskill1978 p118). This may also be the case for the conical and cylindrical stacks in Pembrokeshire; the absence of workable freestone, may have, by ease of construction, brought about the development of the round shaft.

Examples of the chimney type can be seen at Townend (figure 8) in Cumbria, owned by the national trust the property dates from the late 16th or early 17th century (Anon1989 Townend p5). The building was the home of George Browne, Yeoman (Anon1989 Townend p2). The cylindrical chimneys service the ground floor and the first floor of the property. The stack on the first floor of the curator’s wing appears to just service this room, this wing dates from the 18th century so it would appear that the chimney type in this area was still being built in this form until at least the 18th century.
Brunskill also states that the,

Round chimneys first appear in large houses of the late 16\textsuperscript{th} century inhabited by families of some wealth and local importance. As they had several hearths the round chimneys tend to be seen in groups and are related to multi-storey houses. However examples are numerous in small houses, such as farmhouses, of the mid to late 17\textsuperscript{th} century extending into the 18\textsuperscript{th} century. (Brunskill2004).

This would indicate that the examples in Cumbria and the Lake District continued to be built long after the examples in Pembrokeshire had ceased.

According to Penoyne,

End chimneys are frequently corbelled out from the top of the gable wall and have not chimney breast or supporting mass of masonry below, for the flue, leading up through the house, was made in the form of a lath and plaster hood, not built into the masonry as elsewhere in England (Penoyne1978 p142).
In a letter from Brunskill he states that the round chimneys ‘rise from a square base and curiously have a square flue inside’ (Brunskill2004), Brunskill also state that the round chimney types in Cumbria are ‘local manifestations of the prominent brick chimney stacks of 16th century England’ (Brunskill2004).
The Recording of all Surviving example

Due to the nature of the subject matter and the relative inconsistency of records on the surviving examples of the conical chimney the collection of primary data was essential to clarify and update records needed to complete the dissertation. The dissertation and the arguments poised within it could easily have been accomplished from secondary sources, this would however, have given a distorted view of the present and past pattern and distribution of the chimney type. This argument for the collection of the primary data can be enforced by examples of incorrect information that has appeared even in recently published papers.

The majority of the studies were concentrated around the St David’s and Tenby area. This is due to the fact that known examples were recorded in these areas. If it were not for Allens study of St Davids and Barnwells account of the medieval architecture in the south of the county the pattern of known distribution would be even more limited. Peate deliberately omitted distribution maps from the Welsh House on the basis that ‘such maps could only indicate the 20th century distribution of the types’ (Peate1940 pvii). Smiths distribution map (figure 9) of the round chimneys in Pembrokeshire (Smith1975 p376) does indicate that the conical chimney only really
appeared in the North of the County and the cylindrical in the South. This information can be challenged as both types appeared in both the North and South of the county.

Figure 9
Smiths distribution map of the round chimney types within Pembrokeshire. (Illustration: P Smith)
Smith also states that the ‘conical type seems to be a later peasant imitation and is confined to the farmhouse’ (Smith1975 p377), Smith appears to have overlooked Plantagenet House Tenby, this property within the town walls dating from the 15th century contains the largest conical chimney within the county. This building is closely associated with the adjoining 15th century Tudor Merchants House as an adjoining doorway once connected them. Plantagenet House (figure 10) has been remodelled but the Tudor Merchants (figure 11) House still retains most of its original façade.

No examples have yet come to light in the far North of the county; the cut off point appears to be Garn in Llanychaer. This building is the furthest recorded example in the North of the county; Lloyd dates the building to the late 16th century and calls it rare outside of Dewisland (Lloyd2004 p263).

The primary data collected has enabled clarity of research into the dating, distribution, associated type and status of the conical chimney. A full list of the buildings visited is in appendix I.
Figure 10 Plantagenet House Tenby. (Illustration R Nash)

Figure 11 The Tudor Merchants House Tenby (Illustration R Nash)
Examples recorded in North Pembrokeshire

St Davids

The sites of all known examples were visited with the exception of Croftufty, out of the eight that Allen studied three had completely disappeared, of the five remaining buildings only two, Rhosson Uchaf (figure12) and Hendre Eynon (figure13) still have their conical chimneys remaining.

Figure12. Rhosson Uchaf, St Davids

(Illustration: R Nash)
The other buildings had all traces of outshuts and chimneys removed. Allen appears to have over looked Tref Elydr and Croftufty noted by Peate (Peate1940 p158) and Lower Treginnis sourced by the author. To the sites visited can also be added Powth Mawr II (figure 14), this site has been identified as an ‘unrecorded lateral conical chimney added to a single hall house’ (Eastman2001 p27).
Lower Treginnis has been replaced by a modern farmhouse; the original building (figure 15) is similar to Garn (Figure 6) in the fact that it had another room or storeroom annexed to the lateral chimney.
Croftufty is now in a ruinous condition (Crane1993 p1); no access was gained to this property. No communication could be established with the owner to obtain permission to view the property and no viewing could be established from public rights of way. Figure 16 should be compared with the same view of Croftufty shown in previous figure 5.

![Image of Croftufty, St Davids (Illustration CADW)](image)

Tref Elydr or Treleidir as it is shown on the ordnance survey map is without the conical chimney yet the hearth is still present in the building, in a conversation with the owner he informed me that the chimney was unsafe and removed in the 1930’s. The building also contains cupboards and
recesses built into the thickness of the walls; Allen mentions that similar types were apparent in Llaethdy (Allen1902 p8), Porth Mawr (Allen1902 p14) and Gwrhyd Bach (Allen1902 p22). According to Braun,

‘Mediaeval masons were never adverse to lightening the appearance of their massive walls by means of niches of various descriptions and serving a variety of purposes. Aumbries or cupboards were a feature of both ecclesiastical and domestic architecture’ (Braun1963 p261).

Peate also states that ‘in construction the houses are greatly influenced by the castle building technique as found in Pembrokeshire’ (Peate1940 160), an argument could be that they were not influenced by the castle building techniques but were built by the same craftsmen who built the castles and ecclesiastical buildings in the district. Fox agrees with Peates theory that this was initiated by ‘ trained masons [or] castlebuilders’ (Fox1951 p135). Fox places Llaethdy, Trefaiddan and Gwyhyd Bach as being the oldest of the houses studied by Allen on account of their pointed entrance doors (Fox1951 p134), to this can be added Tref Elydr [Treleidyr] and Rhosson Uchaf as having the same type, according to Fox Rhosson Uchafs’ doorway is of ‘rough workmanship and does not appear to be medieval’ (Fox1951 p134), Fox places his group to perhaps the late 15th century (Fox1951 p135) and Smith also states that the ‘pointed gothic doorway also suggests an early date’ (Smith1975 p20).
Llaethdy also contains the cupboards and recesses with the walls (Allen1902 p8) (figure 17) as does Gwrhyd Bach (Allen1902 p22) and Porth Mawr (Allen1902 p 14), two shelves can also be seen built into the thickness of the wall next to the hearth within Hendre Eynon, it would appear that certain buildings shared more than one type of architectural feature apart from the pointed arch doorway, conical chimney, lateral outshut, and cross passage.

Figure 17. Internal view of Llaethdy as Recorded by Romilly Allen in 1883. (Illustration: Romilly Allen)
All the chimney types studied by Allen and Peate in the St Davids area had laterally placed conical chimneys. All these were placed on the outside of the wall, only one example, Tref Elydr [Treleidyr] appears to have had the chimney within the fabric of the building. The hearth still remains within the building, laterally placed internally as opposed to externally (figure 18).

Figure 18. Tref Elydr, St Davids before the removal of the conical chimney

(Illustration: G. Nash, The Museum of Welsh Life, St Fagans)
Examples Recorded in Mid Pembrokeshire

Three known sites were visited in Mid Pembrokeshire, Good Hook, East Dudwell and Little Milford Farm. Their location within the county would suggest that the chimney type was more widespread. Good Hook (figure 19) has been described as having a cylindrical chimney (Oliver undated), the type would appear more cylindrical than Rhosson Uchaf in St Davids for example, but the chimney is more similar to the conical type than the cylindrical examples found in the castles and first floor halls.

Figure 19. Gook Hook, Uzmaston
(Illustration: R Nash)
According to Oliver East Dudwell ‘is a splendid conical chimney specimen attached to a small building with an ogee window and doorway (Oliver undated). The National Monuments Record for Wales states that ‘it is possible that the chimney is of late mediaeval origin or early post medieval date, and that the rest of the building was added to replace a ruin’ (NPRN 113084).

The conical chimney at Little Milford Farm has been removed. The property appears to be undergoing renovation.

**Examples Recorded in South Pembrokeshire**

**Tenby**

Only one building within the Town Walls still exists that contains a conical chimney, Plantagenet House, now a restaurant is dated to the 15th century (List Description anon) This building contains the largest hearth of the conical chimney type.
Penally

All the sites visited are in appendix I; there are no visible remains of any conical chimneys standing at these locations.

St Florence

Old Chimneys (figure20) is the best remaining example in the village. The building has a dressed stone doorway probably of 14\textsuperscript{th} century origin (List description anon); it also contains two conical chimneys both laterally placed.

Figure 20 Old Chimneys St Florence. (Illustration R Nash)
Within the village there are three other chimneys still remaining these are covered in more detail in appendix I.
The conclusion to chapter one is that previous study of the conical chimney and subsequent papers written on the subject have stemmed from a few earlier accounts of the chimney type. The main point of Reference has been Romilly Allens study of the examples in the St Davids area. This account of the chimney type and its associated building is invaluable due to the fact Allen recorded the last few remaining examples within the county. Had he not undertaken the study the scope of any later study would have been extremely limited.

Although Allens study is without question the ‘definitive and final account’ (Smith1975 p21) there has been a tendency to rely on his findings and not elaborate on the extent of the distribution of the chimney type within Pembrokeshire. It has become apparent from later authors that the conical chimney type is numerous in the St Davids area, this can be highlighted by John who states that ‘the slightly lower and less elegant conical chimneys are found mostly on the St Davids peninsula’ (John1984 p173). John has given a distorted view of the distribution of the chimney type although he is not alone; Penoynes’ comments on the chimney type in the St.Davids area is that ‘other round chimney types can be seen in some areas of south
Pembrokeshire (as well as in Somerset and Cumbria) but none so large’ (Penyone1978 p161). Here two authors share differing views on the size of the chimney type, their views both suggest that the chimney type is still numerous in the St Davids area, whilst the distribution in this area would have been more widespread, from the site visits the author has established that there are only two standing examples within Dewisland.

The sizes of the chimney types in the St Davids area are comparable to others visited throughout the county.

The cylindrical chimney type in Pembrokeshire appears to share similar traits as the example studied in North Cornwall, this may be due to the past trade links between the ports in these areas. The chimney type in Cumbria is not dissimilar to some examples.
Chapter 2

Type

Distribution

Genealogy
Introduction

This chapter gives an overview of the chimney types of Pembrokeshire and the geographical distribution of the conical chimney within the county. The author has endeavoured to show a relationship between the dating of the all the chimney types and the building type associated with the various chimney forms. The dating of the building would help indicate the class of person residing at the property during its early years, the incorrect dating may reflect the social class of the building as it has moved down the social scale.

The distribution has been limited by the scarcity of records noting the positioning of demolished buildings within the county with the relevant chimney type.

The genealogy of the inhabitants of the buildings has also been investigated; this information combined with the date of the buildings would help achieve the aims stated in the dissertation. This study has also been limited by the scarcity of information
Chimney Types and Distribution

The chimney types of Pembrokeshire can be divided into three main categories, these being the Conical, the Cylindrical and the Square chimney.

They can be sub divided further by their positioning within the fabric of the building, this being laterally placed or gable end placed. The Conical and Cylindrical are in most cases laterally placed; Smith states that these have ‘the best claim to be pre-reformation’ (Smith1975 p20). The square chimney is usually placed on the gable end although an example of the type being laterally placed can be seen on Lower Farm, Lamphey, this building dates from the 17th century (Lloyd2004 p239); Fitzgerald states that ‘generally they post date the round chimneys [these being cylindrical and conical and] the majority probably being of 17th century construction’ (Fitzgerald1993 p36). Another large square chimney example can be seen on the gable end of Plough Cottage, Jameston (figure21). Plough cottage is an example of a cottage that once contained a croglofft. Fox states on the type that ‘the most striking sight on entering is the great open fireplace at the gable end’ (Fox1937 p428).
The variation in dating these chimneys is wide, the square chimney may appear later yet a late 14\textsuperscript{th}/early 15\textsuperscript{th} century (Lloyd2004 p355) example may be seen at Carswell, Penally. Barnwells conclusion is the opposite of Fitzgerald; he states that there is ‘no reason to think that they [the round chimneys] are older than the square chimneys, for they are constantly found together in the same building’ (Barnwell1867 p196). Barnwell may have been referring to Monkton Old Hall, Monkton (Figure 22). Here the building contains a laterally placed cylindrical chimney and a gabled-ended
square chimney. The square chimney and associated wing is a later addition from Smiths ground plan of the building (Smith1975 p29).

Figure 22 Monkton Old Hall, Monkton. (Illustration P Smith)
If the conical and cylindrical chimney are of the same period, this would ease the dating of the conical chimney as the building type of the cylindrical chimney has more examples in Pembrokeshire that have been dated to some degree.

An argument can also be applied that the cylindrical chimney in most cases is used to service a first floor whereas a conical chimney is in all cases used in the Hall Houses and is therefore primarily a ground floor appliance. This would differentiate the conical and the cylindrical chimney purely by methods of construction and not by status? Smith states that the cylindrical chimneys were found in the castles and first floor halls of the upper classes (Smith1975 p20) whilst examples of the cylindrical chimney can be found in Pembroke castle (figure23) and Monkton Old Hall, both buildings being associated with the upper classes, a singular example can be found to the rear of a terraced house below the castle walls.

Figure 23
Cylindrical chimney servicing the solar block at Pembroke Castle (Illustration R Nash)
The building would appear to be within the confines of the old town walls, Barnwell states that this building ‘is probable the oldest house in Pembroke’ (Barnwell 1867 197). Figure 24 shows the building from the rear; the cylindrical chimneys of the castle can also be seen.

Figure 24. A cylindrical chimney to the rear of a terraced building below Pembroke Castle walls (Illustration: R Nash)
The Conical Chimney

The conical chimney has been described as a ‘truncated cone’ (Smith1975 p20); its appearance is of a stout construction. The chimneys appear to be constructed in three distinctive stages, Allen describes this as;

Figure 12

The top, which is round, (b) the middle stage, with a batter to two of the sidewalls so as to increase the width to cover the hearth below, and (c) the bottom, which is rectangular (Allen1940 p161).

The conical chimney appears to be in most cases laterally placed. Five examples studied have the chimney placed at the gable end, these buildings may be later additions on a different orientation than the original building or they may just be unusual examples of recorded known examples. This is not to say that this type was more common on now demolished examples. One example, East Dudwell (figure 25) in the parish of Camrose has a gable-ended chimney. The associated building at East Dudwell may be of a later construction to the conical chimney and therefore the orientation of the building may have changed. Lloyd states that this building is puzzling and questions whether its use was as an outside kitchen or the remnant of a 16th century house (Lloyd2004 150). No associated buildings of substance remain to suggest that the building was a detached kitchen, from the site
visit the building appears to have been constructed during a different period hence the gable ended conical chimney. The same family who owned Philbeach in the Parish of Marloes also owned the building during the reign of Henry VI. Philbeach is also a conical chimney house; this would date the ownership of both to between the dates of 1422 and 1471.

Figure 25 East Dudwell, Camrose. (Illustration: R Nash)

In all cases the conical chimney appears to services the ground floor, its mass would not be suitable for first floor usage and its construction would be timely and expensive.
The Cylindrical Chimney

Examples of the cylindrical chimney can be found within some of the castles and early status buildings of Pembrokeshire. They are usually of a finer construction than the conical, this being in part due to their slimmer dimensions and the building of which they are apart. Smith attributes their construction as earlier than the conical chimney (Smith1975 p23) although a comparison between the dating of the two can be highlighted by the Tudor Merchants house Tenby dated to the late 15th Century (Lloyd2004 p474) and Plantagenet House next door to the Tudor Merchants House, this building being of the same period. The Tudor Merchants House has a fine cylindrical chimney servicing the first floor whereas Plantagenet House has a large conical chimney servicing the ground floor. The Merchants House also has a large square chimney to the rear of the property. Figure 26 is a reconstructive drawing of the Tudor Merchants House; here three chimney types can be seen, the square chimney servicing the ground floor, the cylindrical chimney servicing the first floor and the corbelled square chimney servicing the upper floor.
Figure 26 Tudor Merchants House, Tenby. (Illustration: P Davies)
The Square Chimney

This chimney type is usually placed on the gable end of the house although they do appear, depending on the age of the chimney, internally and laterally placed. An early example can still be seen at Carswell (figure 27); here the chimney services both the ground floor and the vaulted first floor of this two roomed early hall house. Dated to the late 14th/early 15th century (Lloyd2004 p355) Carswells chimney is placed on the gable end

Figure 27. Carswell Hall House. (Illustration: R Nash)
According to Jones, in 1543 Carswell was the home of Phyllypp Nicoll, husbandman, however in 1586 Richard Merydith of Pembroke Town yeomen was the owner (Jones2001 p30). Nicoll may have been the tenant of Merydith.

Another early example of a square chimney is at East Hook Farm Hook (figure 28). This building was the home of the minor gentry (Jones2001 p69). In 1548, ‘Richard Eynon is described as ‘of East Hook, yeoman’’ (Jones2001 p69).

Figure28 East Hook Farm, Hook. (Illustration R Nash)
Distribution within Pembrokeshire

**Distribution of the Conical Chimney**

The pattern of distribution cannot be clearly defined, with reference to the previous chapter and Peates deliberate omission of distribution maps within the Welsh House; the mapping of known examples can only reflect a certain period in time. Smiths distribution map shows for example the conical chimneys based around the St Davids area, it does not state however that this distribution is based on Romilly Allen’s 1902 paper and that all but two chimneys remain. The map shows no examples of round chimneys between the North and the South of the county, the omission of East Dudwell at Camrose, Little Milford Farm at Freystrop and Good Hook at Uzmaston would reinforce the argument that the chimney distribution was far more widespread than Smith acknowledges. Oliver on the distribution of the round chimneys state that there is a,

Long held (but hitherto unproven) belief that round chimneys were a feature found throughout the county in earlier times and that their rarity in the central heartlands of Pembrokeshire is accounted for by the fact that many must have been lost in the prosperous areas where houses underwent modernization in previous centuries (Oliver undated).

This would appear consistent with the distribution of known surviving examples with many being in remote areas.
Distribution of the Cylindrical and Square Chimney

Remaining and previously known (yet now demolished) examples of the cylindrical chimney appear mainly in the South of the County; this is illustrated by Smith’s distribution map (Smith1975 p376). This map however lists Drusselton near Tenby as having a cylindrical chimney type (Smith1975 p377) when clearly the type can be classed as conical from the drawing provided by Barnwell’s study of types in the Tenby area (Barnwell1867 p198).

The cylindrical chimney appears confined to the ‘castles and first floor halls of the upper classes (Smith1975 p20), this statement would appear consistent with the distribution of known surviving examples yet as with the conical there application and distribution must have been more widespread. The cylindrical chimney may not have been confined to just the upper classes it may have been a form of construction that was fashion or suited to the application at the time. The previously mention house below the walls of Pembroke Castle is clearly not a first floor hall, the height needed by the chimney to reduce the risk of fire to a thatched roof is one factor, the scarcity of workable stone would facilitate the need to construct a chimney in the strongest and most convenient way is another. The cylindrical
chimney appears mainly to service the first floor, although an example of a cylindrical chimney that would have serviced a ground floor hearth can be seen in Lamphey (figure 29). This chimney is similar to ones found in The Bishops Palace, Lamphey.
The distribution of the square chimney is widespread throughout the county; examples of the type appear in the early houses, such as Carswell and Monkton they also appear on later buildings such as the Carmarthen Arms, Haverfordwest (figure 30).

Figure 30. Carmarthen Arms, Haverfordwest. (Illustration R Nash)
Known Genealogy of Associated Families

The genealogy of the families associated with the site can assist or pinpoint the social class of the conical chimney and its inhabitants when first constructed, this being one of the aims of the dissertation. The genealogy must however be consistent with the date of the construction of the conical chimney and its associated building type, this dating being one of the objectives of the study.

Philbeach Farmhouse, Marloes and East Dudwell, Camrose

Philbeach Farmhouse is in the Parish of Marloes within the Hundred of Rhoose is closely linked with East Dudwell in the parish of Camrose also within the hundred of Rhoose.

According to Jones Philbeach was the residence of gentry families from about 1200 to 1800, after this period it was adopted for farming purposes (Jones2001 p215). The property was owned by the De Vale family, the overlords of the Dale district, in the 13th century (Jones2001 p215). The dating of the present structure to this period would indicate that the chimney type evolved earlier than was first thought. There may have been an earlier
structure in stone or in wood although this cannot be confirmed without further investigation. Jones also states that,

Robert de Vale, Lord of Dale, had a daughter Sara, who married William de Ffilbech, knight, and had a son Sir William de Ffilbech, Knight. The knight was followed by an only son, Henry Ffilbech who had an only child, Joanna, the last of the line to live at Philbeach. She married David Barrett of Dudwell, Camorose parish, who settled at his wife’s home. They were followed at Philbeach by their son Peter Barret who was living there in the reign of Henry VI (Jones 2001 p215)

This would confirm that in this instance that the property was owned by a member of the gentry, the family also owned through marriage Dudwell in Camrose during the same period. Dudwell was the home of Tancred an important family who bore their own coat of arms. (Jones 2001 p65)

**Definition of Class**

The class or social standing of the individual at a certain period of time must be investigated to establish the status of the house when first constructed.

The definition of social class can be confusing as the division between the English class system is different from that of the Welsh class system. A yeoman in England might be richer than a member of the gentry in Wales.
Hilling divides the class system in Wales into the nobility (boneddigion), gentry (uchelwyr), craftsmen (creftwyr) and the small-holders (tyddnwyrr). (Hilling1976 p97).

Apart from the nobility and the gentry the rest of the class system within Wales could be covered by the classification of the peasantry. According to Howells the peasantry

occupied a broad band of the social spectrum, the richer yeomen being able, if they chose, to adopt the life-style of the lesser gentry, and the poorest husbandman struggling to maintain themselves at subsistence level (Howells et al.1980 p364)

Howells also state that ‘the term peasant is used to denote farmers who rented or owned tenements but who were regarded by their peers as belonging either to the landed gentry or to the professional classes’ (Howells et al.1980 p365).
Conclusion to Chapter Two

All the chimney types can be found within medieval buildings, the conical, cylindrical and the square. The distribution of the conical appears to have been more widespread throughout the county although there appears to be no indication of examples, past or existing, in the far north of the county.

The association with the gentry would suggest that the type was not confined to a particular class but was more structural. Other conical chimney houses may have also belonged to the gentry; the indication that the type was more widespread within the county would suggest however that the type was used by a higher class of peasant, the yeoman.
Chapter 3

The Associated Building Type

Origins of the Conical Chimney
Introduction

This chapter sets out to show the relationship between the conical chimney and its associated building type. As many of the buildings have been altered or demolished the correct interpretation of the original structure is essential to understand the social class of the person who lived in the building during this period. The correct interpretation of the building type associated with the conical chimney when first constructed is one of the aims of the dissertation.

The chapter also sets out to establish the origins of the conical chimney. The type has long been associated with the Flemish settlers to the area and is frequently referred to as a Flemish chimney.
**Associated Building Type**

The conical chimney appears to be associated with certain construction types and plan details. As many of the buildings have now been demolished or altered the dissertation is limited by past study of these features. The building type can help establish the dating of the building and the conical chimney.

The only consistency with all of the examples is the lack of datable features; no building shows any sign of heraldry or date inscription. The nature of the parent construction material, with all examples studied being of stone, the dating of the buildings cannot be absolute. The surviving timbers, if any, within the buildings are not numerous enough for dendrcronology so any dating of the chimney and its associated building type is relative.

The conical chimney type only appears to service the ground floor of dwellings these being in all probability originally open halls, whereas the cylindrical chimney appears to be primarily used to service the upper floors. Many examples of this type can be seen in the castles in the area. Figure 31 shows an example in Carew Castle, Carew.
The Hall House

The Hall House is well represented throughout the United Kingdom in various forms; both plan form and the various materials used for its construction. The parent building material would have ultimately been the governing factor of the halls construction, in Pembrokeshire the remaining examples are in stone although it cannot be ruled out that early examples may have existed in timber within the county.
Barleys interpretation of the hall house is a ‘structure whose primary accommodation is a single open room or hall standing on the ground and occupying the full height of the building’ (Barley1990 p1990). Lloyd places Garn, Llanychaer as being the only 16th century intact example in the county that is still open to the roof (Lloyd2004 p263).

According to Smith the ‘Hall House probable originated as a single cell without any secondary rooms’ (Smith1975 p41). An example of perhaps a single celled hall house in Pembrokeshire is Philbeach, Marloes (figure32).
Here the hall has not been raised with the insertion of a first floor; the building was extended in later years but the hall albeit in a state of dereliction has remained unmolested. Fenton notes that ‘in this old house till very lately remained the old baronial hall, with a long oak table placed across the floor at the upper end, raised as in college halls, on a dais or step’ (Fenton1994 p96). The site of Philbeach is first mentioned in the 13th century as Filbech or Filbuche (Charles1992 p612)

The absence of datable stone detail and the rarity of medieval carpentry (Howells2002 p 558) in Pembrokeshire makes the dating of buildings in this area difficult, alteration and demolition has made the location of ground floor halls difficult with few examples being identified (Howells2002 p558). Smith however states that the lateral chimney houses have the;

‘Best claim to be regarded as pre-reformation [and that the] earliest examples are clearly hall-houses and the commonest form of chimney is in the shape of a truncated cone, fairly obviously a peasant copy of the cylindrical chimneys found in the castles and first floor halls of the upper classes’ (Smith1975 p20).

This would date the conical chimney and associated hall house to pre 1540, making these buildings later mediaeval if we use Margaret Woods’ cut off point for the study of English mediaeval homes (Wood1983 p xxvii). Barley
also concludes that the hall house was the ‘commonest type of medieval
dwelling’ (Barley1990 p198) yet after the latter half of the sixteenth century
they were becoming obsolete (Barley1990 p 207).

The Hall Houses of Pembrokeshire appear diminutive in comparison with
other similar types in the rest of the United Kingdom. According to Barley
‘in Kent and parts of Surrey and Sussex the Wealden type of [hall] house is
best regarded as a status symbol of yeomen living on the richest soil that
Kent or its adjacent counties could provide’ (Barley1990 p49).

The Cross Passage

Romilly Allen studied eight round chimney houses in the St Davids area at
the end of the nineteenth century. He states that in nearly all cases they had
a ‘central passage about four foot wide with the front door at one end and the
back door at the other’ (Allen1902 p2). According to Peate this ‘feature
may originally have been related to the similar passageway in the long
houses’ (Peate1940 p159). This may be true but the uses of the long house
and the examples studied are different. Peate states that the longhouse
houses both the ‘family and its cattle’ (Peate1940 p65) whereas the
examples studied by Allen were primarily used as living accommodation.
Allen only mentions five buildings out of the eight as having a cross
passage, these buildings may have originally had the same ground plan yet could have been altered before the 1883 study by Allen. The cross passage appears within the confines of the hall and outside the hall, that is if we consider the main living area containing the hearth the hall, Smith states that ‘one or two seem to have the cross passage in the outer room rather than the hall; at least the major partition is between passage and hall rather than passage and outer room’ (Smith 1975 p20). This siteing of the cross passage outside the hall may be for ease of construction, if we take Smiths view that the hall house was originally single celled (Smith 1975 p41) the construction of the cross passage may be of a later date. Some of the chimney houses may have been entered at the gable end, an example being Philbeach in the Parish or Marloes. Here the segmental arched doorhead to the hall is of dressed stone, this doorway is internal it may however have been the original external entrance (figure 33).
Figure 33  Doorway into hall house, Philbeach. (Illustration R Nash)

**The Lateral Outshut**

According to Smith the lateral outshut is a ‘south western characteristic’ that only appears in Pembrokeshire and in Glamorgan (Smith1975 p379) Smith does however acknowledge distant parallels with some buildings in Cornwall (Smith1975 p25). Fox informs us of examples in the Orkney Isles, Scotland, in this district they are called Neuks. (Fox1951 p136).

The known examples in Pembrokeshire are mainly concentrated around the St Davids area; many of these were noted by Romilly Allen although Barnwell’s illustration of Druselton (Barnwell1867 p198) near Penally,
Tenby shows an outshut next to the lateral conical chimney. This plan would compare with the examples in the St Davids area. Thorne in St Twynnels in the South of the county appears to be the only example known at present to have a lateral outshut without a conical chimney, here the type is square. Lloyd dates the building to perhaps the early 16th century, he indicates that the lateral outshut may not be a later addition but ‘represent the original width and height of the medieval hall (Lloyd2004 p54).

The outshuts may have been a more common form of construction throughout Pembrokeshire, the known examples in the St Davids area can, like the distribution of the known conical chimneys, give a distorted view of their pattern of distribution.

The lateral outshut according to Allen could be ‘termed side isles as in church architecture’ (Allen1902 p2), this form of increasing the floor area yet keeping the roof span to an acceptable width (Allen1902 p2) may follow on from the early wooden ‘nave and aisle layout’ (Peate2000 p144) of the ‘Keltic aisled house [which has been] translated completely into a stone technique’ (Peate2000 p138). The lateral outshuts distribution is consistent with the conical chimney, with examples of both being found within the same building. Peate believes that the outshuts are part of the original
construction of the building and not later additions, to increase the floor area by this method he states would be ‘laborious and unpractical’ (Peate1940 p170) and that the extra ground space could be ‘obtained much more easily by an addition to the length of the house and would not involve the roofing problems present in the aisled house’ (Peate1940 p170). Peate has therefore dated the lateral outshut to the construction of the house, due to the position of the lateral outshut in relation to the conical chimney the chimney may therefore be of the same build.

**Purpose**

The outshuts or recesses were used as an extension of the living space, Allen notes Llaethdy as having a stone bench in one recess (Allen1902 p9) and beds in each of another two of the outshuts (Allen1902 p9). Fox notes the use of the examples in Orkney as containing beds (Fox1951 p135) whilst Smith draws no conclusions on the purpose of the multiple outshut examples in the St Davids area, he indicates that the ‘single outshut by the fireplace in the Pembrokeshire houses might be peasant imitation of the oriel window by the high table of the great’ (Smith1975 p21).
Origins of the Conical Chimney

The Flemish Theory

All the round chimney types in Pembrokeshire are widely referred to as Flemish, Fenton at the turn of the eighteenth century noted houses in Templeton as being ‘evidently Flemish’ (Fenton1994 p167), he states that their chimneys are ‘almost uniformly round, rising out of the front wall of the house and near the door’ (Fenton1994 p168). Fenton however makes no reference to Rhosson Uchaf near St Davids as being Flemish, the place of his birth; this building was one of the eight that Romilly Allen studied at the end of the nineteenth century.

The reference to the chimneys being of Flemish origin is due to the misconception that they only appeared in areas of Flemish settlement, Peate states that the round chimneys and their distribution do not ‘coincide with boundaries of the Flemish colony’ (Peate1940 p156).

There is also confusion over the chimney types and the association with the Flemish settlers, John states that the ‘tall round chimneys which occur in Pembrokeshire are well known and they are locally referred to as Flemish’
(John1995 p204). John in this statement appears to be referring to the cylindrical chimney type.

**Overview of the Flemmings**

The Fleming’s were settled in Pembrokeshire by Henry 1st, Howells places the beginning of this settlement to the years 1107-1112 (Howells2002 p12) with territories being established in Rhos and Daugleddau(Howell2002 p12). Owen states that the Flemish people were sent by Henry 1st to supply his garrisons in the fight against the Welsh, they were settled in ‘Roose [Rhos] and about Pembroke and Tenby and other places in the county adjoining [and for] the safeguard of themselves forced to begin to build the towns of Tenby, Pembroke and Haverfordwest’ (Owen1994 p18).

The dating of the conical chimney must also be established to come to any firm conclusions in relation to the Flemish theory, according to Howells ‘As the number of English immigrants increased during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries the Flemings gradually lost their separate identity and documentary evidence to them gradually became fewer and fewer. By the late fourteenth century the chronicler Ranulf Higden was able to write in his Polychrnicon that all traces of their language and separate identity had been lost’ (Howells2002 p408).

This may be true but place names such as Wiston, this being the Tun of Wizo the Fleming, still survive (John1984 p50).
Jones highlights the Flemings in relation to the rest of the population of Dyfed stating that ‘they were too small numerically to have made any deep or lasting impression on the population. Their leaders were few, and the great majority belonged to the lower order of people’ (Moore et al.1964 p42).

Howells also states that ‘Flemish colonisation was not, of course, peculiar to Western Dyfed for many prominent Flemish lords took part in the Norman Conquest of England in 1066. (Howells et al.2002 p11).
Conclusion to Chapter 3

It would appear that all the conical chimneys service the ground floor and that the associated building was in all probability a hall house. From the lack of remaining examples studied, it is not apparent if the associated building types such as the lateral outshut and cross passage were more widespread throughout the county.

No connection between the conical chimney and the Flemish settlers to the county can be established; the reference has however become part of the Pembrokeshire vocabulary.
Chapter 4

Conclusion
Conclusions

The study only had two aims

- To establish the social class of the conical chimney when first constructed.
- To identify the building type associated with the conical chimney when first constructed

Conclusion of the Social Class of the Conical Chimney when first Constructed.

The chimney type appears to cross boundaries in class between the peasant and gentry. The chimney seems to be governed by construction rather than class, its building type seems linked with the castles and palaces of the county. Many features are duplicated within the houses that could be associated with these buildings and it may be that they were built by the same masons. It would appear that the conical chimney and the associated hall were owned, or even built, by the upper class or richer peasant, the yeoman and the gentry alike. The examples at Marloes and Dudwell would establish the case for the association with the gentry; other examples studied do not have this connection so they are in all probability houses of the
yeomen of the county. The majority appear to have been owned by the richer class who could afford a dwelling built out of a permanent rather than a transient material. This has ensured the longevity of the building, its only threat being modernisation and development.

**Conclusion of the building type associated with the conical chimney when first constructed**

It would appear that the building type associated with the conical chimney is the hall house. This may have originally been a single celled structure and developed later in to the two and three unit plan form, or it may have been built to this later plan type. Many of the buildings appeared to have kept to this plan type without extension for hundreds of years. The examples studied by Allen in the St Davids area were largely unaltered since their construction. This would indicate that they had declined gradually down the social scale over the years, from a building of status of the rich yeoman to perhaps a poor husbandman.

Other examples kept their status such as Philbeach, being enlarged over the years; the gentry remained at this property for many centuries. Ultimately it has not been class that ensured the longevity of the remaining buildings it has been location.
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Appendix I

Site Visits
Introduction

The site visits were essential to the dissertation. The information on the distribution of the sites is out of date. Many were demolished or altered many years ago. This has led to the belief that the chimney type only occurred in certain area when in reality they were much more widespread.

South Pembrokeshire

Drusselton, Penally.

Visited 5th April 2004

Situated adjacent to the railway line in a field south of the A4139, the remains of Drusselton are hard to interpret. The property was visited on 5th April 2004, no visible remains can be seen from the road and it is only on a closer inspection that the outline of a building can be seen.

The building was Studied by Barnwell in 1866 and the results published in volume XIII of the third series of the Archaeological Cambrensis in 1867. The building was drawn by J.T Blight and it is only this drawing that we have reference to the detail of the building. According to Barnwell the
‘present building consists of two parts; the longer one (the inhabited part) being at right angles to the other. Whether the two portions are of the same age is uncertain; but if there is any difference in the masonry the longer part seems less massively built. Originally this part did not contain a fireplace of any kind, the rude grade now in use having afterwards inserted in the wall, through which a hole has been made to let out the smoke. The original fireplace in the other part of the house, as is generally the case, is not used, being adapted only for large timber. No signs of an upper story over either room exist, but the original roofs have long since disappeared, and being replaced by a rude and inexpensive substitute. There are, however, no traces of internal or external stairs, and in all probability there never was an upper story’ (Barnwell1867 p199). Barnwell also states that the ‘occupant [of the house] must have held a much higher position in life than the peasant who now resides there’ (Barnwell1867 p199).
Figure 1 Drusselton (Illustration:Barnwell)

Figure 1 shows Drusselton in 1866; no reference is made to the building or site in the 1909 edition of the ordnance survey map. Today the site (figure 2) is unrecognisable as the image and description provided by Barnwell.

Figure 2
The site of Drusselton today
(Illustration R Nash)
Bubbington, Penally.

Visited 5\textsuperscript{th} April 2004

Reference to Bubbington is made by Barnwell, he states that the chimneystack is ‘the sole relic of the original house and had been incorporated into the present structure, a modern farmhouse’ (Barnwell1867 p199). No evidence of a conical chimney was found at the site.

Old Chimneys St Florence.

Visited 13\textsuperscript{th} February 2003 and 26\textsuperscript{th} April 2004.

The first visit to this property was unrelated to the dissertation. No internal inspection of the property was allowed at this point. Since the last visit the owner of the property has died so no internal inspection was possible. On this visit the conical chimney to the rear of the building was photographed. Old Chimneys has two laterally placed conical chimneys on either side of the building. The rear chimney (figure 3) is in a D shape, this is not uncommon as Ford Farm also has the same type of conical chimney.
Hall House St Florence.

Visited 26\textsuperscript{th} April 2004

Hall House is a mid 18\textsuperscript{th} century house containing a medieval core. The conical chimney is within the fabric of the building; the buildings orientation may have changed as the type appears mainly to be laterally placed. The chimney is within though core of the building. The top of the stack above the roofline may have been rebuilt to the form that is apparent today. Internally the chimney is in good condition, this is probable due to the later
works enveloping the structure. This structure has a wooden lintel, it is unknown if this is original (figure 4)

Chimney Adjacent to Rock Cottages St Florence

Visited 26\textsuperscript{th} April 2004

This site is now in the care of Pembrokeshire County council. Only the stack remains (figure 5). The building is listed grade II.
Cottage, St Florence

Visited 26th April 2004

This building has a conical chimney placed on its gable end (figure 6). The building would appear of a later construction than the chimney. Access to the hearth has been blocked up, and a new entrance, with door, has been made to the side of the chimney. The structure now has a new use as a garden shed.

Figure 6. Chimney placed on gable end St Florence.
(Illustration R Nash)
St Davids Area

All the sites of the houses studied by Romilly Allen in the late nineteenth century were visited in the St Davids area. This visual survey was essential to establish remaining examples and their physical condition. Three other properties were also visited within the area, Tref Elydr [Treleidyr] noted by Iorwerth Peate (Peate1940 p 158), Porth Mawr II noted by Eastman and Lower Treggnnis.
Llaethdy

Visited 10\textsuperscript{th} March 2004

Today the site of Llaethdy is run as a youth hostel. Overlooking the bay of Whitesands it is in close proximity to Porth Mawr and Porth Marw II. Romilly Allen examined this property in depth, he commented in detail on many of the internal features of this building such as the wooden door latches. No trace of the site of Llaethdy can be interpreted. It may have been replaced by the present building (Figure 7)

![Figure 7 Llaethdy, St Davids. (Illustration R Nash)](image_url)
This building does however contain a large hearth that seems out of context with the present building. The lintel (figure 8) above the hearth is one large flat stone laid on its side, whether this is part of the original building or the stone has been reused is open to discussion. The present owners of the property informed me that Llaethdy was once a small hamlet; there are remains and exposed foundations of other buildings within close proximity of the inhabited house. The position of the chimney house may be within these ruins.

Figure 8
Hearth, Llaethdy, St Davids. (Illustration R Nash)
Porth Mawr I

Visited 16\textsuperscript{th} April 2004

Porth Mawr is one of the sites recorded by Romilly Allen, no trace of the conical chimney house remains. The site is of great antiquity and still retains many farm buildings that would have been associated with the original house.

Porth Mawr II

Reference to this building as a previously unrecorded example is made by Eastham (Eastham2001 p27), Howells comments that its date is uncertain (Howells2002 p583). The site has been known since 1200A.D when it was known as Portmaur or Porthmaur (Charles1992 p298), it is also mentioned in the Black Book of St Davids dated to 1326 (Charles1992 p298), this early dating is similar to the other examples of conical chimney sites in St Davids. The building is aligned down slope as opposed to across; this alignment would indicate an early dwelling.
Rhosson Uchaf

- Listed Grade II*

Visited 10th March 2004

Situated on the road from St Davids to St Justinians the house was visited on the 10th March 2002. No access was allowed to the property, all viewing was external and very brief.

Peate states that the house ‘has remained to the present day without any considerable alteration’ (Peate1940 p162) this is still the case. The property is vacant and has been for a number of years judging from the deterioration to the fabric especially the roof. This has spared the house from inappropriate alterations and modernization that many of the conical chimney houses have undergone in previous years. This deterioration will however cause great loss to the fabric of the building if it remains in its present condition. The list description states that the building is the most important survivor of the eight chimneys houses studied by Romilly Allen, his findings being published in the 1902 edition of the Archaeologia Cambrensis (List Description1992 Anon). Figure 9 shows an old picture of Rhosson around the turn of the century.
The building is of stone construction under a grouted state roof, this form of roofing vernacular to the area after the demise of thatch as a roofing material. A new example of this can be seen on Tretio Cottage, Tretio (figure 10). The house has lateral outshuts on both sides of the building, the porch outshut still retaining its porch seat. According to the list description the building was raised a storey in the late 18th to early 19th century (list description1992 anon), its previous form probably took on an appearance similar to Hendre Enyon. No internal inspection of the house has been allowed for many years.
Trefaiddan

The site of this former chimney house is within two miles of Rhosson Uchaf. A replacement dwelling was built on the site in the early twentieth century.

Hendre Eynon

- Listed Grade II

This is one of two surviving chimney houses from the Allen study. Figure 11 shows the building today, whilst figure 12 shows Hendre at the beginning of the 20th century.
Figure 11 Hendre Eynon in 2004 (Illustration R Nash)

Figure 12 Hendre Eynon. (Illustration: National Monuments of Wales)
Appendix II

Stone Furniture

Allen recorded internal furniture within some of the buildings such as benches, tables and sinks constructed of stone. Many of the benches were situated within the lateral outshuts such as at Gwyrhrd Bach and Llaethdy. According to Peate these stone features are ‘strongly reminiscent of the Norman builders technique’ (Peate1940 p161) ‘especially when considered in toto [with the] thick stone walls with deeply recessed windows, arched doorways [and] stone staircases’ (Peate1940 p160).

According to Wood the 14th century kitchen within Ashby de la Zouch Castle has remains of a stone table (Wood1983 p255). Hendre Enyon, one of the two surviving chimney houses in St Davids still has an example of stone furniture
Allen describes this as ‘a slate table or bench, 17ft.6 inches long by 2ft wide, supported on dwarf walls of masonry at intervals, which is used for keeping pans, tubs, kettles and other domestic utensils on’ (Allen1902 p23). Another table on the opposite wall next to the hearth has been removed; Allen called this the ‘kitchen table’ (Allen1902 p23). Croftufty also contains similar stone furniture.
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<tr>
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<th>Hall</th>
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<th>Lateral Outshut</th>
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¹It is the authors’ opinion from a site investigation that the present building may be a later structure.
²Until further investigation
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Appendix IV

List Descriptions