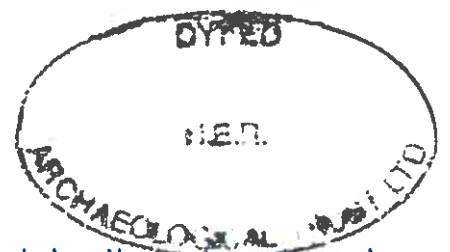


Feb 20 12

# MEDIEVAL AND EARLY POST-MEDIEVAL HOLY WELLS

A THREAT-RELATED ASSESSMENT 2011

## SCHEDULING RECOMMENDATIONS



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust

For Cadw



ymddiriedolaeth archaeolegol

**DYFED**  
archaeological trust

# DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2012/7  
RHIF Y PROSIECT / PROJECT RECORD NO. 100735

Chwefror 2012  
February 2012

## MEDIEVAL AND EARLY POST-MEDIEVAL HOLY WELLS

### A THREAT-RELATED ASSESSMENT 2011

### SCHEDULING RECOMMENDATIONS

Gan / By

Mike Ings

*Paratowyd yr adroddiad yma at ddefnydd y cwsmer yn unig. Ni dderbynnir cyfrifoldeb gan Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf am ei ddefnyddio gan unrhyw berson na phersonau eraill a fydd yn ei ddarllen neu ddibynnu ar y gwybodaeth y mae'n ei gynnwys*

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## **Introduction**

Sites recommended for scheduling are listed by their Primary Record Number (PRN). Sites categorised under 'Other Recommendations' are also listed by their PRN.

Descriptions and photographs of each site are contained in the main project report – *Medieval and Early Post-Medieval Holy Wells: a threat-related assessment 2011* DAT Report No. 2012/7.

## **Notes on the recommendations**

In this report there are two categories of recommendation:

### **Scheduling Recommended**

Into this category fall monuments that have substantial original elements and which are probably in their original location.

### **Other Recommendations**

In this category fall monuments that are seen as having potential for future scheduling consideration after further assessment or restorative action.

### **Site Ownership**

Many of these recommended sites are located on land with public access and details of ownership are uncertain. The owners of St. Decuman's Well (PRN 3259) were not found and the site was viewed from an adjacent field.

## SCHEDULING RECOMMENDED

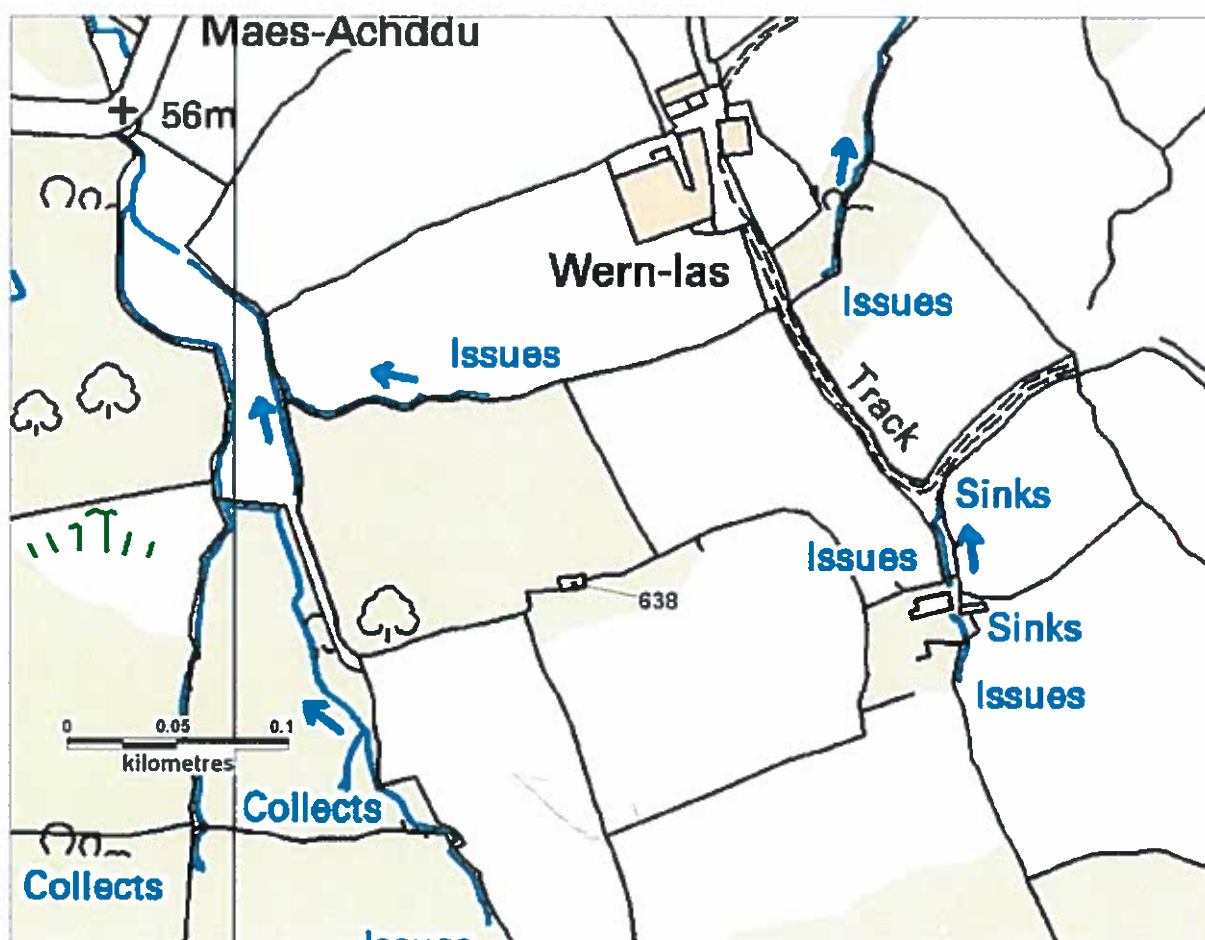
### PRN 638 Capel Begewdin; Capel Bigawdin

Owner: Wern-Las Farm, Porthyrhyd, Carmarthenshire SA32 8PU

Listed Building

The ruins of Capel Begewdin are Grade II listed (Cadw ref: 9395) but it is recommended that the site is afforded further protection through scheduling. The site lies within thick woodland and several saplings and copious vegetation grows within and upon the structure. The site is vulnerable to wind-throw, falling branches and root damage. There was also evidence of heavy poaching by cattle in the vicinity of the site.

A programme of building recording is also recommended at this site.

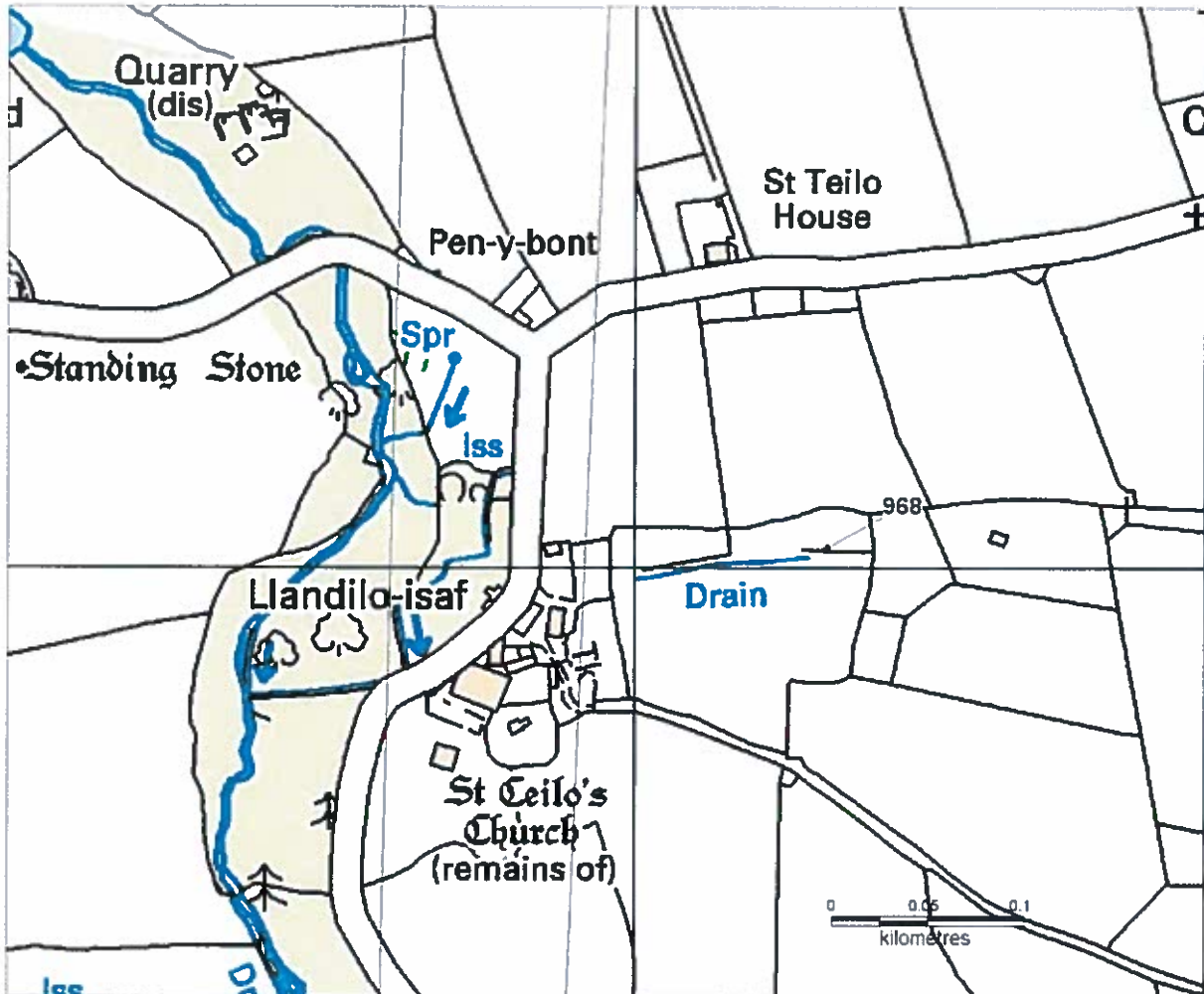


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### PRN 968 St Teilo's Well

Owner: Llandeilo Isaf Farm, Maenclochog, Pembrokeshire SA66 7XS

Site visits undertaken in 2010 and 2011 found the well silted up and very overgrown with reeds and other aquatic plants. According to local residents the ponds were filled with at least 6ft of clear water in the recent past. The site is of national importance, having a widespread reputation as a curative well as long as the water was drunk from the reputed skull of St. Teilo. The skull itself is now in the care of Llandaff Cathedral.



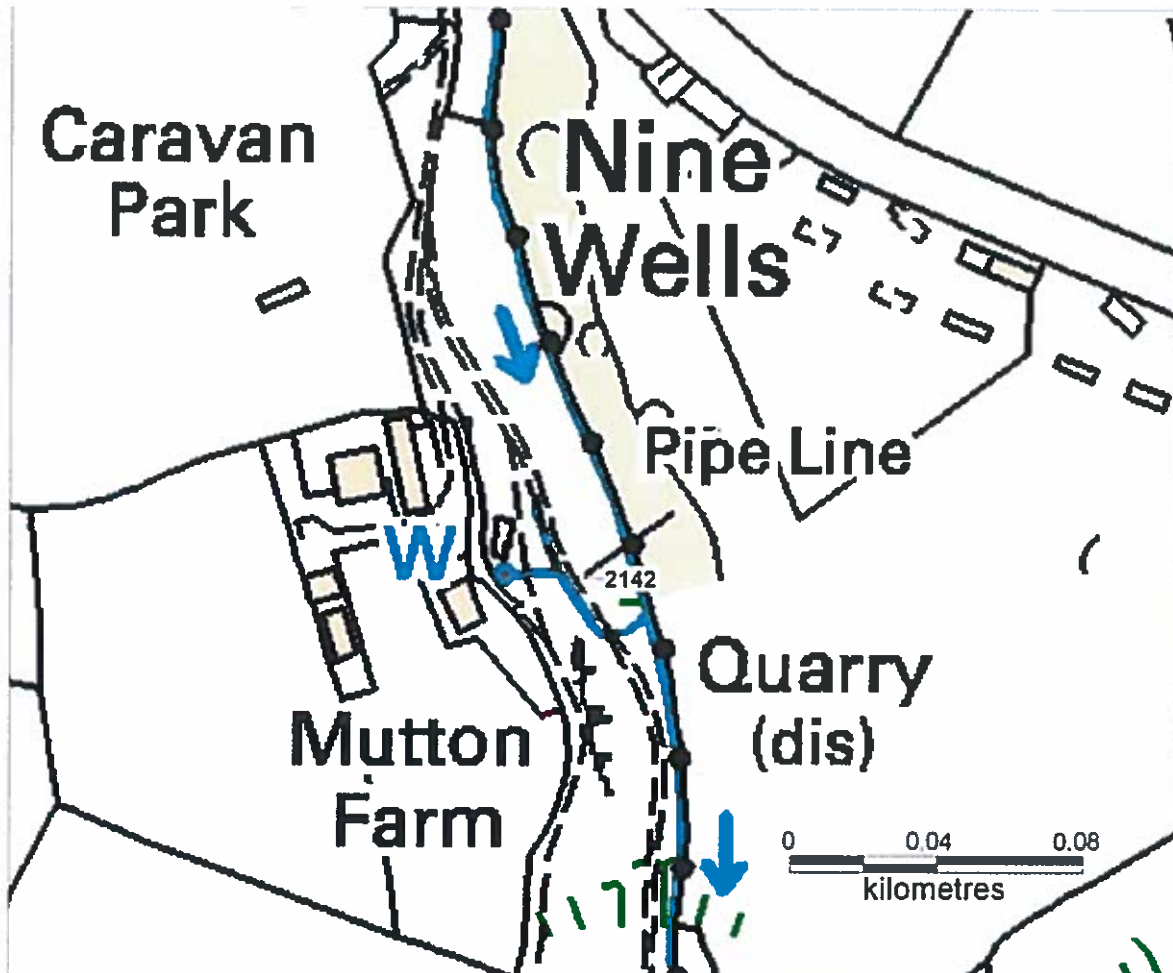
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### PRN 2142 Nine Wells

Owner: National Trust

This well is in a potentially vulnerable location directly alongside a public footpath and also susceptible to vegetation cover masking its presence. The appearance of the site has already been altered, with a local resident apparently adding a flat capping stone in an attempt to prevent the well being choked by vegetation. The well is of national significance as part of the important stopping point for medieval pilgrims on their way to St. Non's and St. David's.

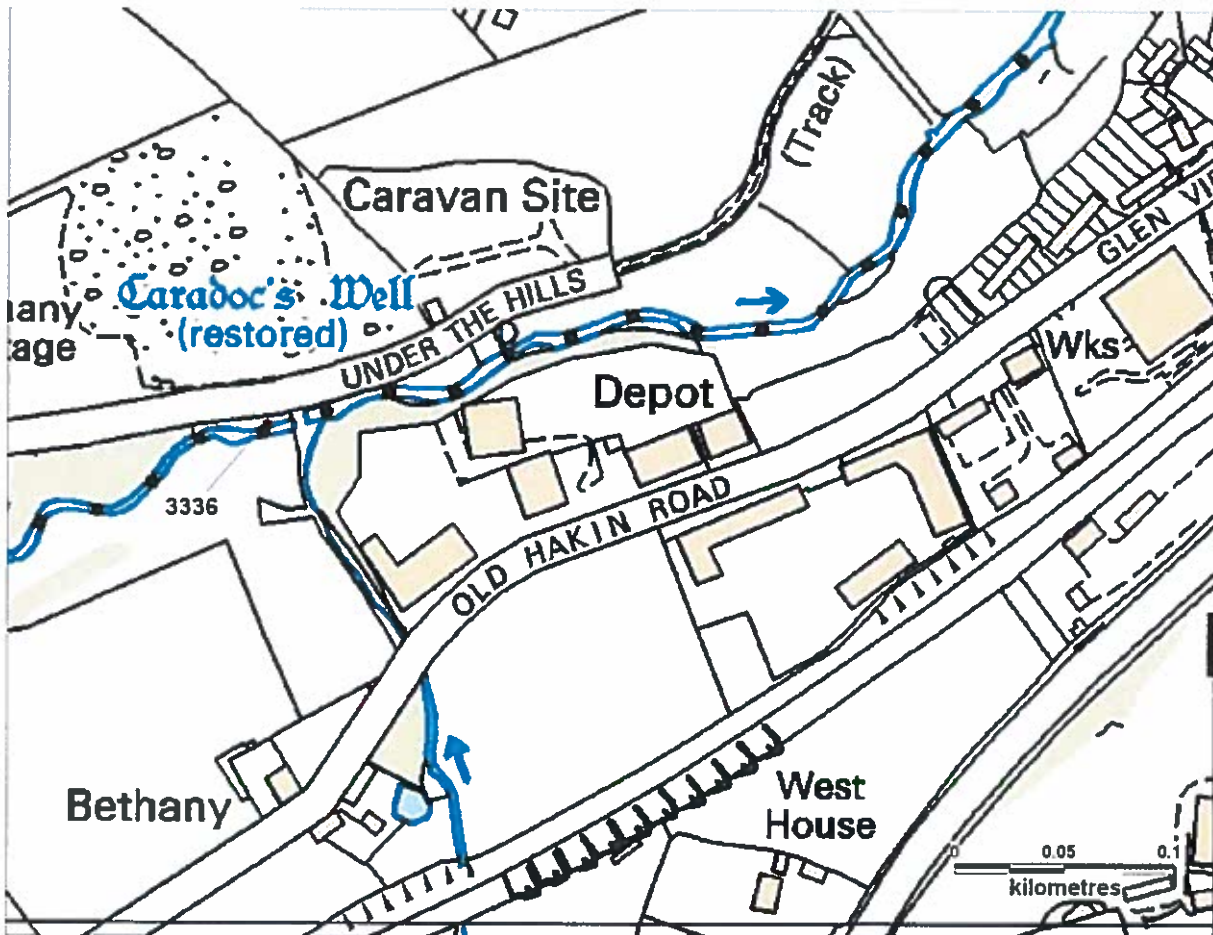


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### PRN 3336 St. Caradoc's Well

Owner: Haverfordwest Town Council?

The well is located above Merlin's Brook, on the edge of Haverfordwest, below a public foot/cycle path and has, according to a local resident during a site visit (14/06/2011), been recently cleared of vegetation. The site's position, within trees on a fairly steep bank, could be considered potentially vulnerable. The well has links to the 12<sup>th</sup> century Saint Caradog and is thought to lie on one of the most important pilgrim routes to St. David's.

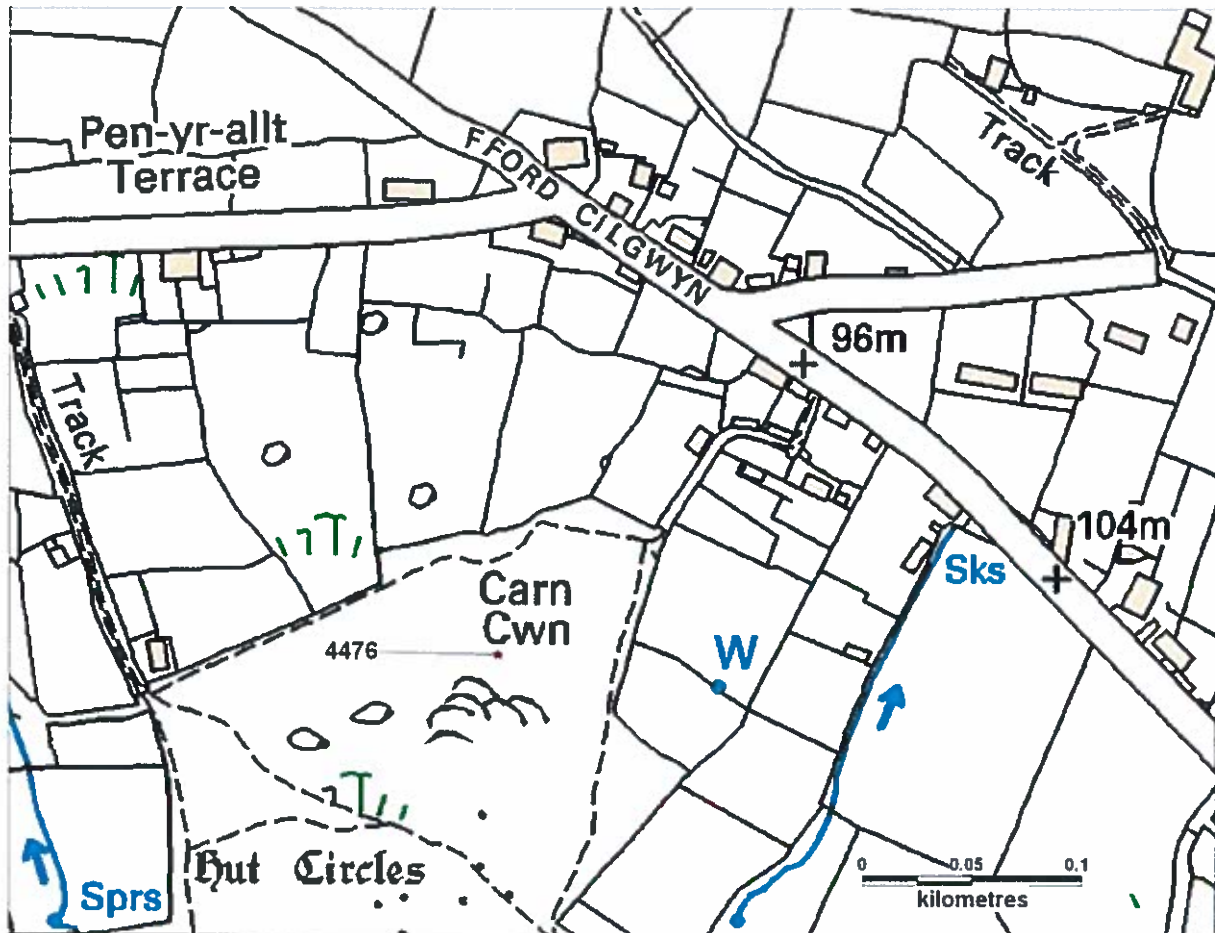


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### PRN 4476 Carncwn Well

Owner: common land: Carn Cwn

An unusual site - two pools, located within a rocky outcrop on common land, traditionally regarded as curative wells with the power to cure warts, with a pin thrown into the well for each wart. The waters are also thought to rise and fall with the tide.



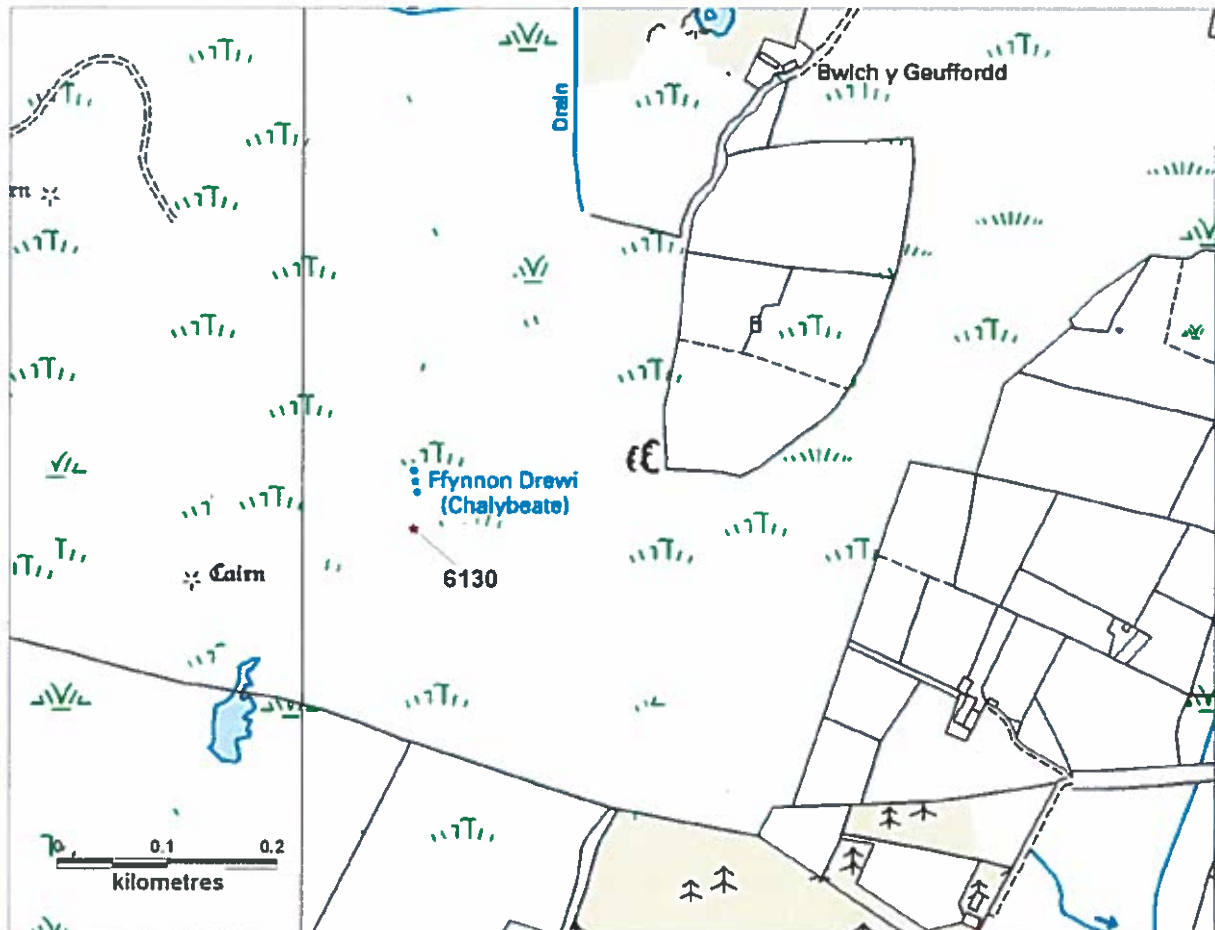
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### PRN 6130 Ffynnon Drewi

Owner: Common land. The owners of Bwlch y Geuffordd, near Bronnant, Ceredigion SY23 4JD showed me the site.

Three wells, located within an expanse of open moorland and marsh, each traditionally believed to have a different curative power. They are currently well-preserved and cared for but remain vulnerable to a change in landuse or farming techniques. In particular, wind turbines have already been located in the area.

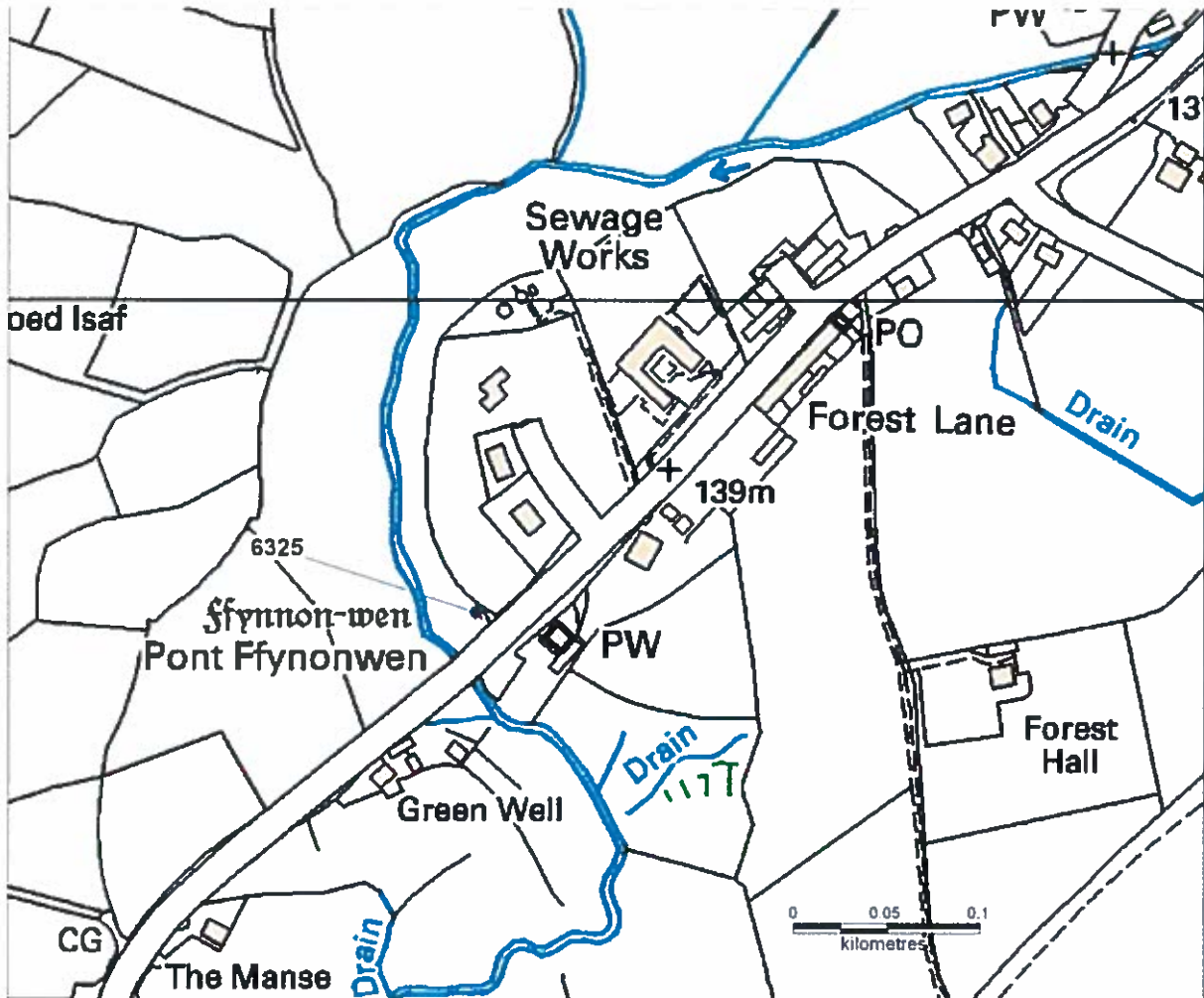


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**PRN 6325 Ffynnon Wen; Ffynnon Gybi**

Owner: Llangybi Community Council, Ceredigion  
Listed Building

Fynnon Gybi is already Grade II listed (Cadw ref: 14543) but there may be a case for affording it further protection through scheduling. The importance of the site extends beyond the surviving structure to its secluded, woodland setting.

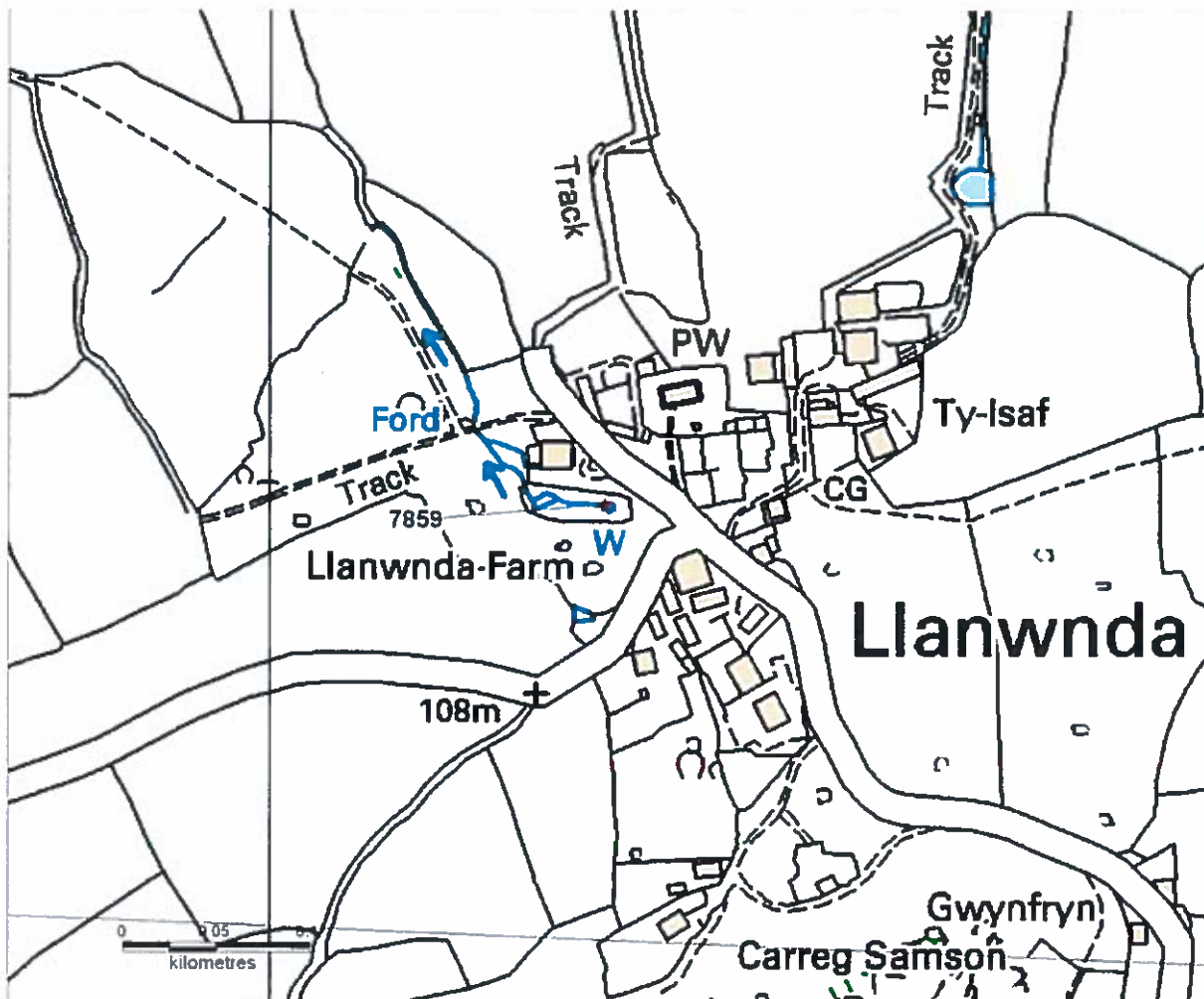


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**PRN 7859 Ffynnon Wnda; Llanwnda Green Cist**

Owner: Uncertain, possibly Church in Wales

An intact / near intact well with associations and traditions associating it with a 6<sup>th</sup> century Breton named Gwyndaf Hen, who is said to have founded the church in Llanwnda and consecrated this well. The site is on the pilgrim route from Ireland to St. David's.

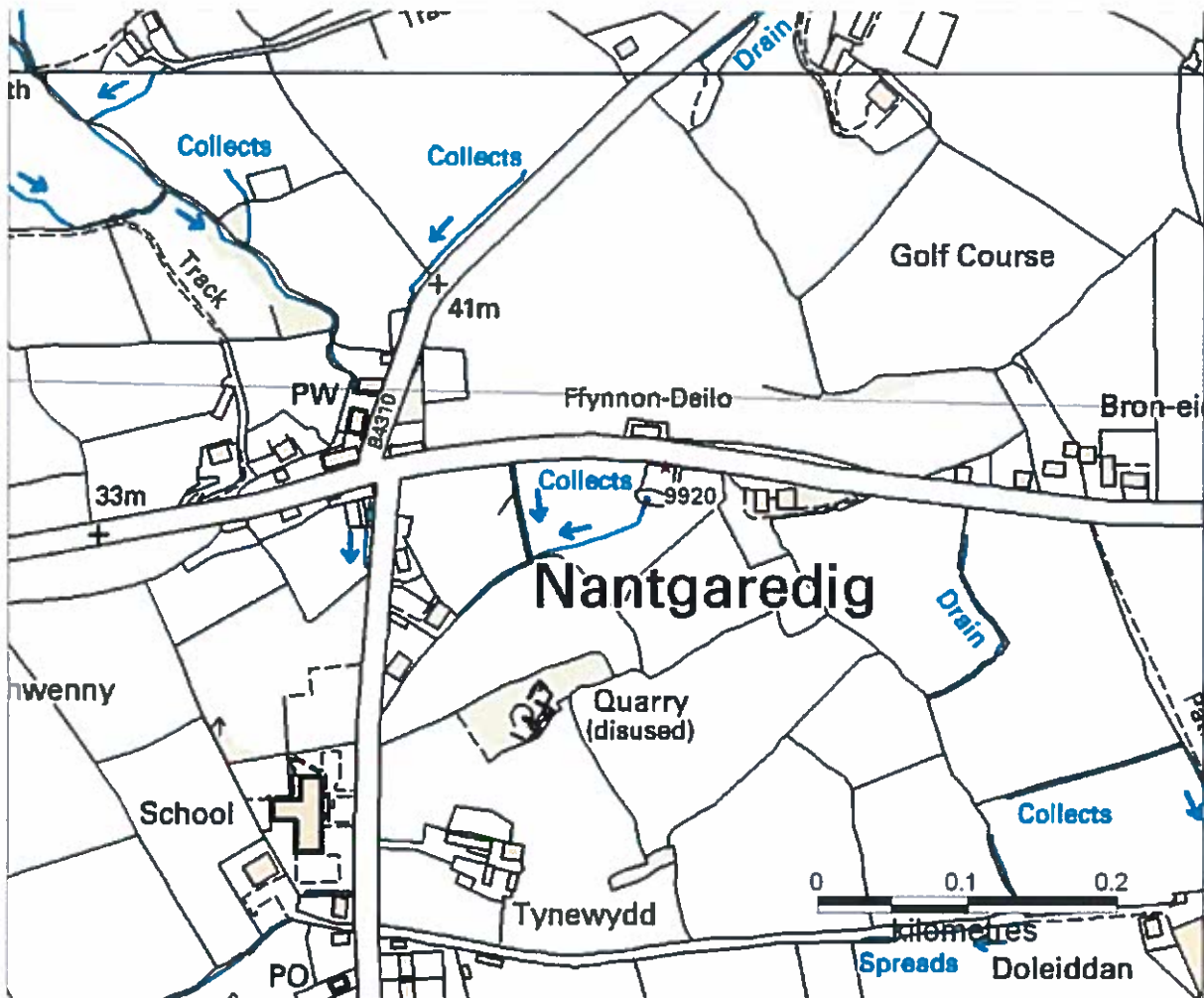


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### PRN 9920 Ffynnon Deilo

Owner: Mr and Mrs Jones Davies, 'Erwlon', Nantgaredig, Carmarthenshire SA32 7LU

A spring dedicated to the 5<sup>th</sup> century St. Teilo and the waters are still considered holy by local church leaders today. The site is potentially vulnerable, with the main A40 running above it, possible repairs to services and a past landowner using it as a drinking trough for his cattle, although the current owners are keen to preserve and protect it.

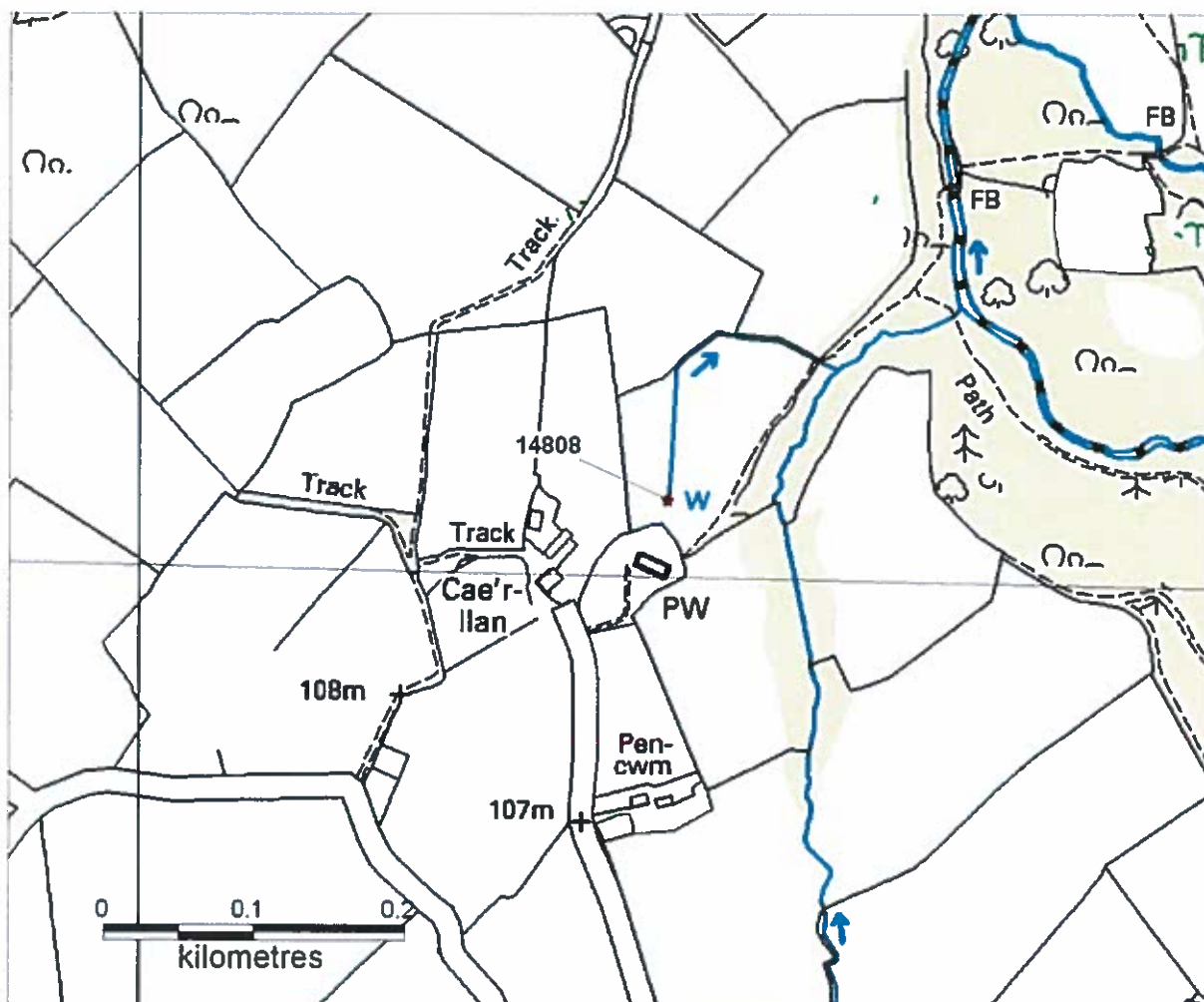


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### PRN 14808 Caerllan

Owner: Caerllan Farm, near Nanternis, Ceredigion

An intact, stone-lined well associated with the medieval church of St. Tysilio and possibly the reason why the church is sited here. The well is vulnerable, located in the centre of a pasture field and used by cattle as a watering-hole. At the time of the field visit on 07/06/2011 there was heavy poaching around the site and several trees were growing above the well structure, which will eventually cause damage.



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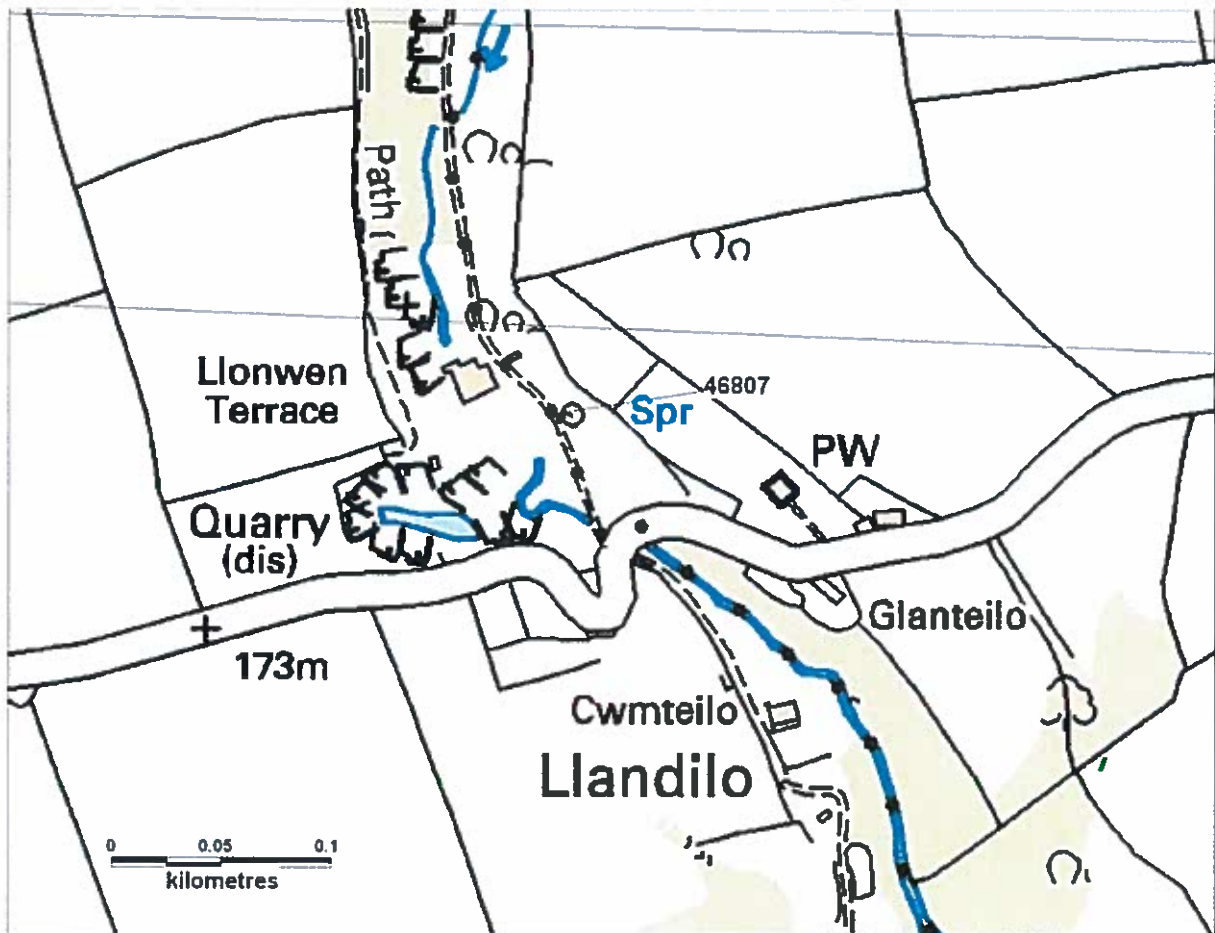


**PRN 46807 Ffynnon Llonwen**

Owner: Maenclochog Town Council or County Council?

Site of a well associated with a now ruined chapel. A possibly early-medieval inscribed stone is built into the well-head. Drystone walls to the north and west of the well may represent remnants of the chapel but the site is heavily overgrown.

A survey of the archaeological deposits is recommended and the results of this should guide future management and protection for the site.



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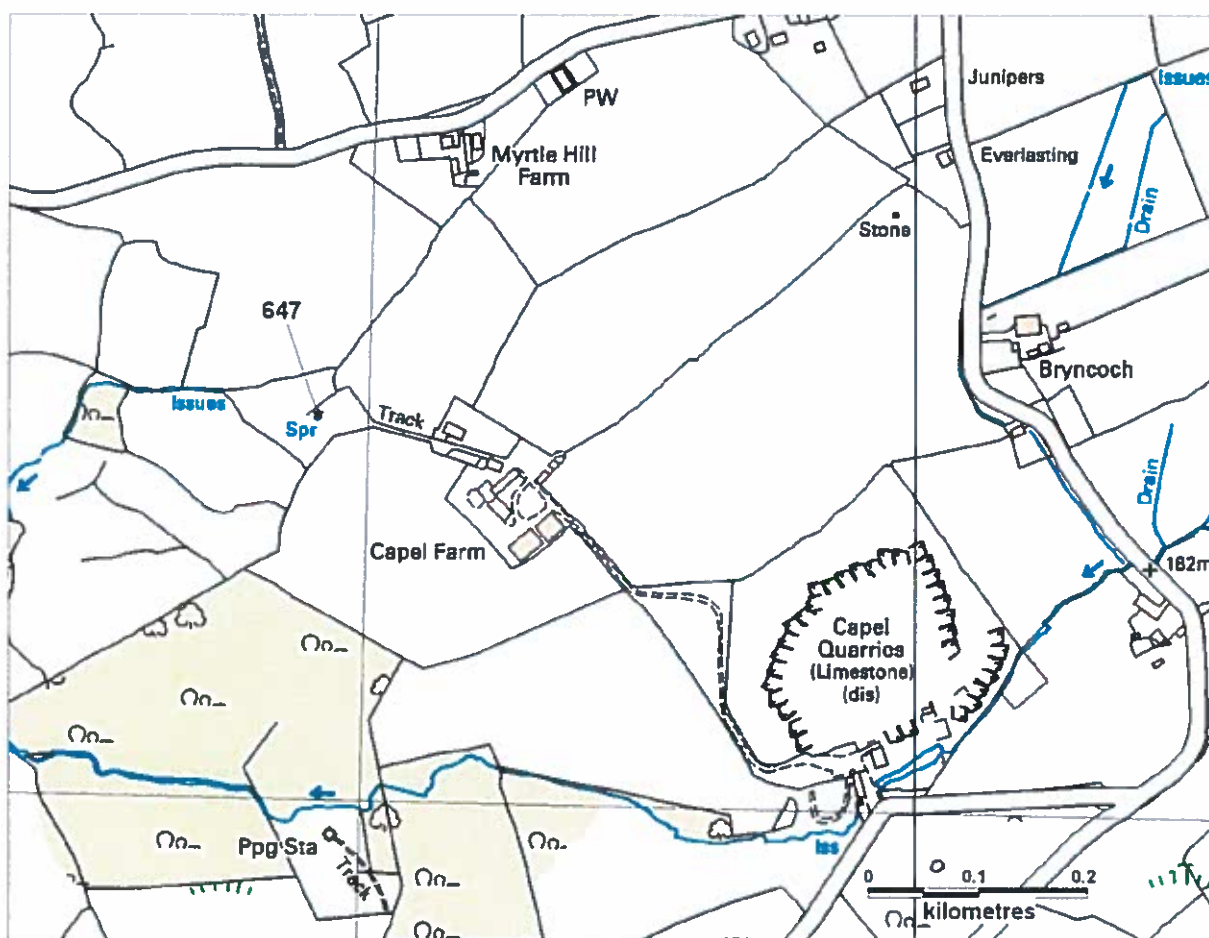
## OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

### **PRN 647 Capel Llanllian; Capel Llanlluan; Daullian's Chapel**

Owner: Capel Farm, Gorslas, Carmarthenshire SA14 7NH

Although the above ground remains of the medieval chapel appear to have now gone, the area remains archaeologically sensitive. In 1917, the Royal Commission described evidence of a small burial ground and even as late as 1983 it was reported that the churchyard wall could be seen.

A topographical and geophysical survey of the site would help determine its extent and the nature of any below ground deposits. This could then be used to aid future management recommendations, including possible scheduling.

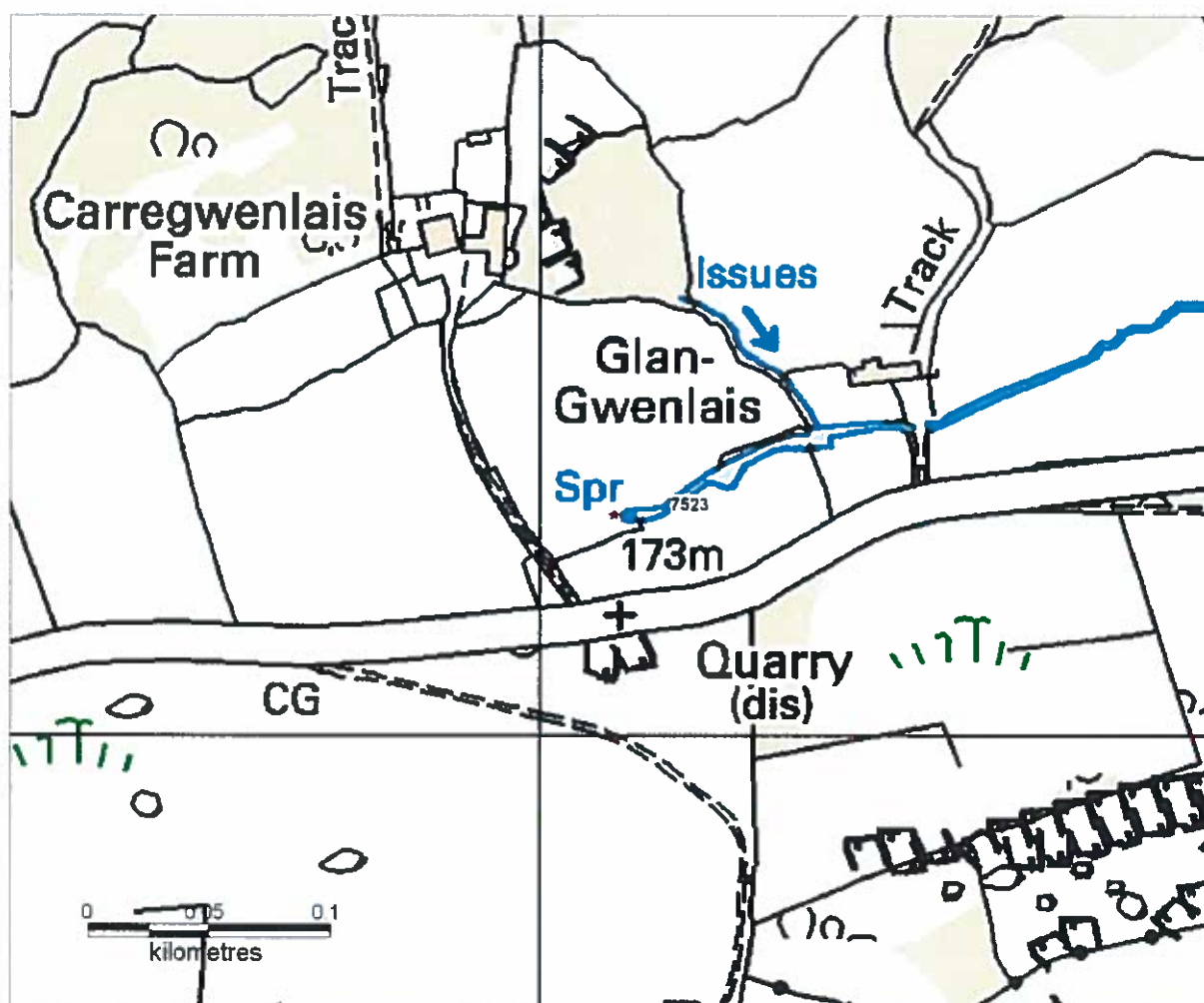


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### PRN 7523 Capel Gwenlais

Owner: Mr Ingram, Carreg Gwenlais Farm, Llandybie, Carmarthenshire SA18 3JP

The well is associated with a medieval chapel (PRN 790) that had gone by the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It has been suggested that timbers from the chapel may have been re-used in a recently demolished barn. Earthworks and a remnant of possible walling remain and a survey (topographical and possibly geophysical) of the site would help to ascertain its nature and extent and to inform its future management.

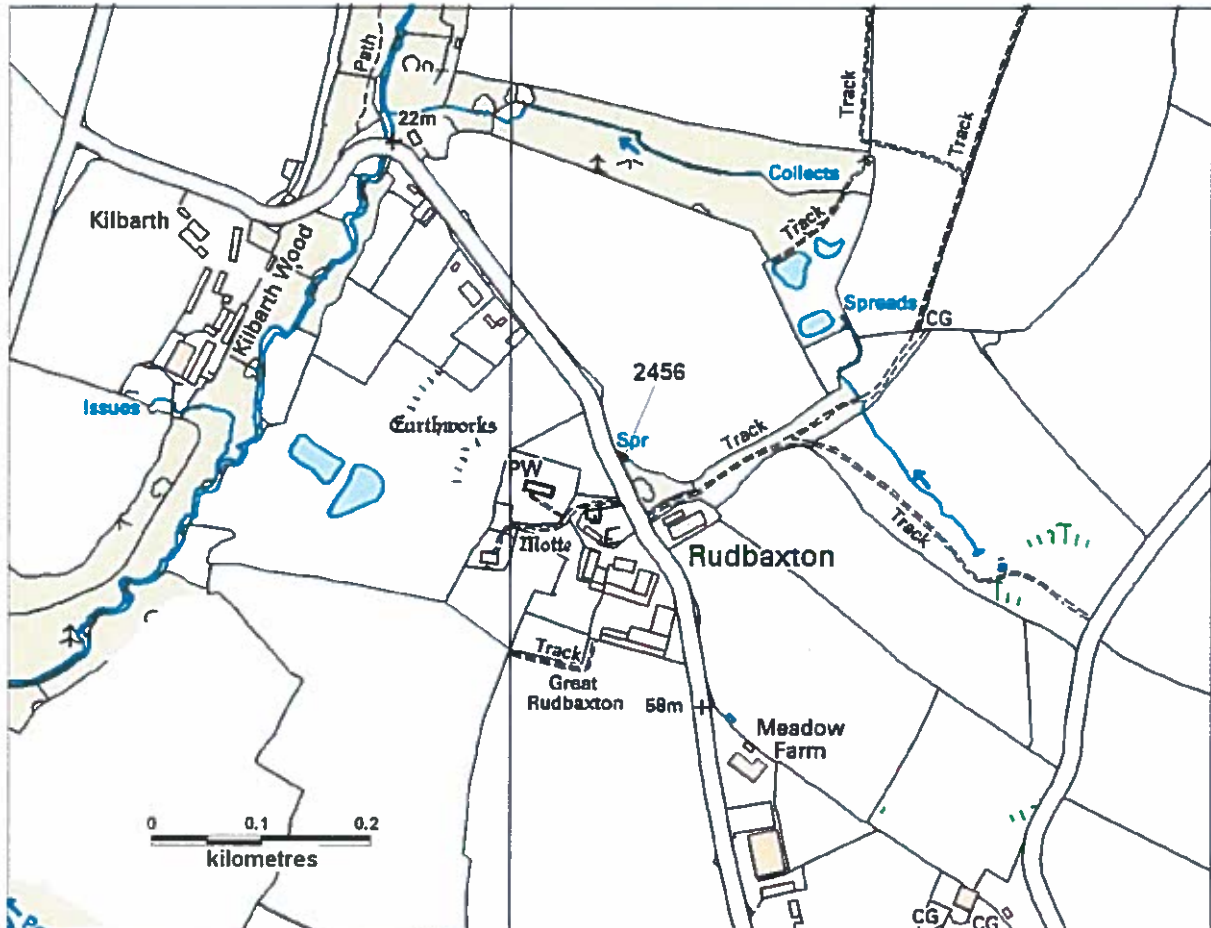


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### PRN 2456 St. Madog's Well

Owner: Church in Wales or Rudbaxton town council?

This well lies alongside the minor road through Rudbaxton, opposite the site of St. Michael's Church. At the time of the site visit (14/06/2011), the well was heavily silted and choked with vegetation. It is recommended that the site is surveyed further with a view to possible scheduling to ensure its future safety.

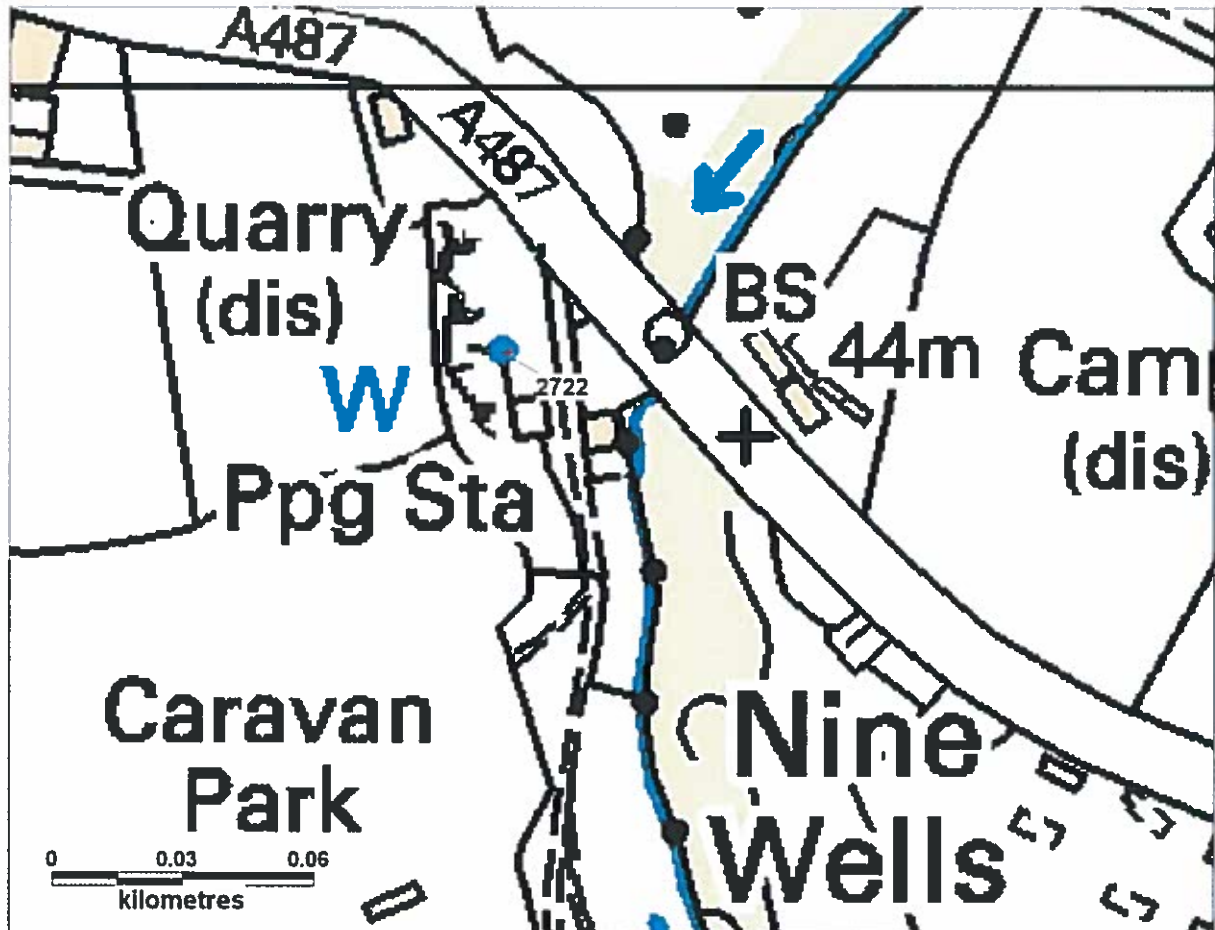


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**PRN 2722 Nine Wells**

Owner: County Council?

This surviving stone well house is located within Nine Wells, an important centre for medieval pilgrims enroute to Non's Well and St David's. When visited on 28/06/2011 it was noted that there was some damage to the masonry and vegetation was growing on the stonework. It is recommended that the site undergoes some rudimentary consolidation and that it is considered for listing as a structure of regional importance.



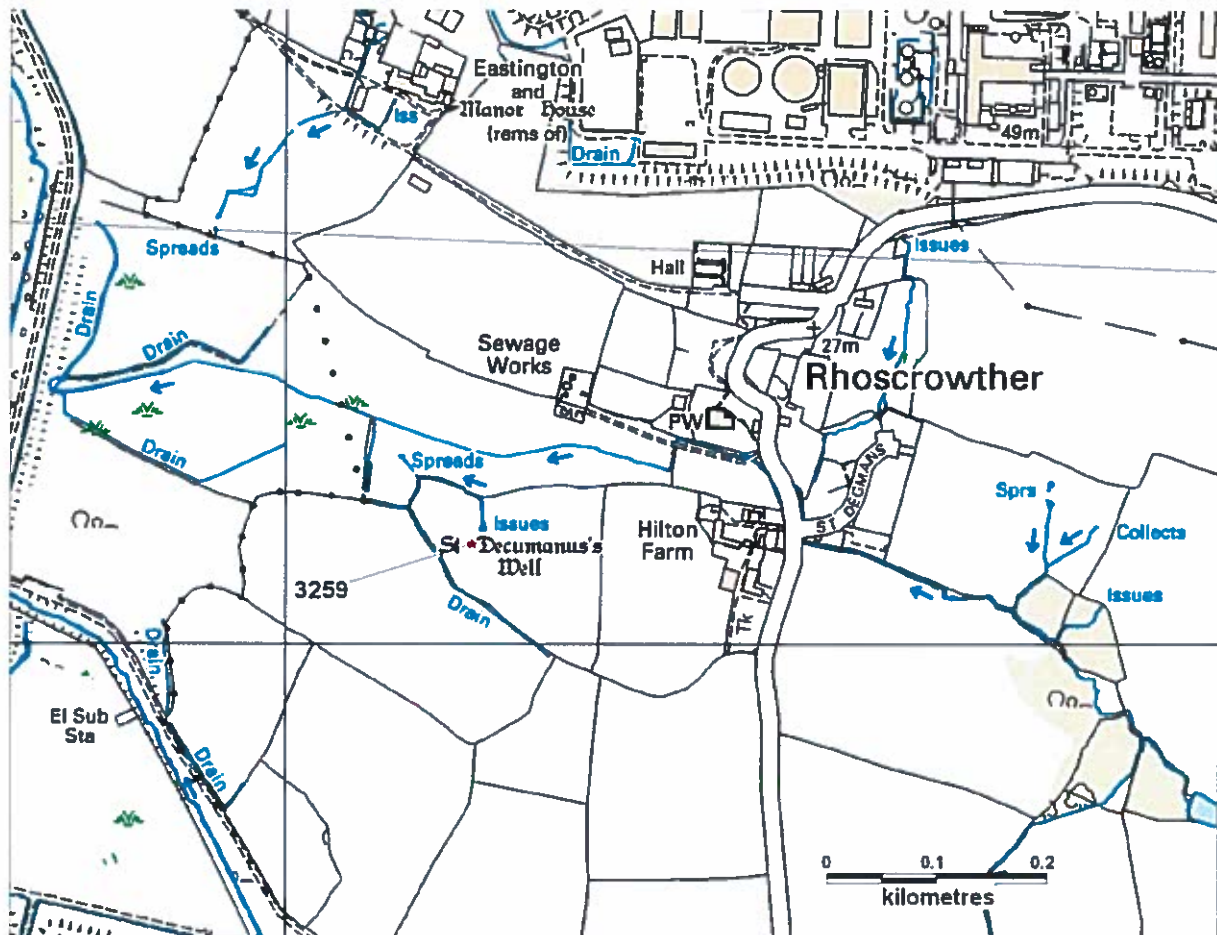
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### PRN 3259 St. Decuman's Well; St. Agnes' Well

Owner: Uncertain

The site could not be closely viewed during the visit of 16/06/2011 as the landowners were not found. However, it was seen from the adjacent field that a spring still emanates at this location and there were some exposed stones – possible remnant of the recorded well structure. Cattle were using the site as a watering-hole and the area was heavily poached. It is recommended that the site is surveyed to assess how much survives, with a view to possible scheduling, before it is completely destroyed.

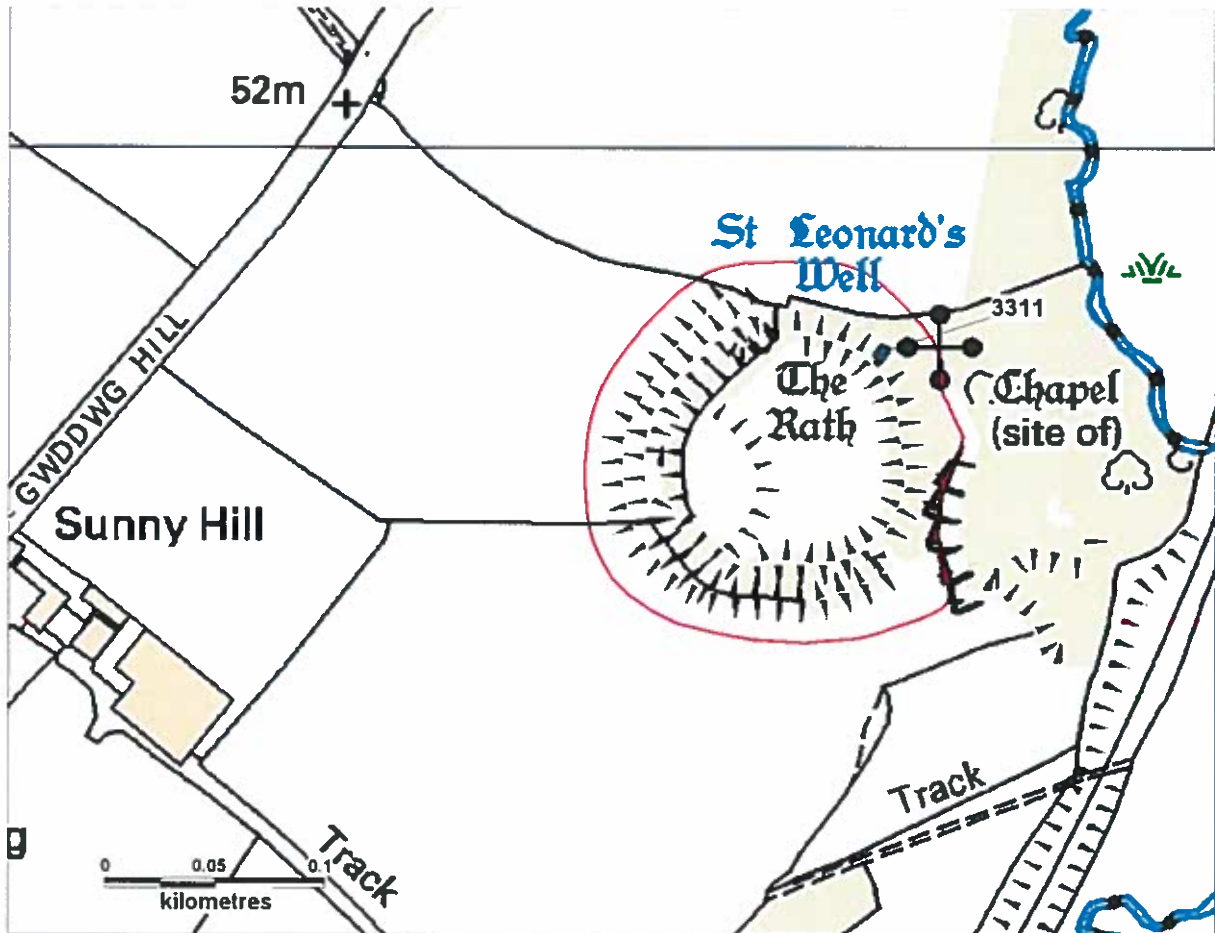


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### PRN 3311 St.Leonard's Well

Owner: Sunny Hill Farm, near Crundale, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire SA62 4DY  
Within SAM PE101

St. Leonard's Well is located within the SAM boundary for Rudbaxton Rath but only mentioned once (1998) in the SAM visit descriptions. The site visit of 14/06/2011 noted a number of cracks in the façade of the (restored) stone structure and vegetation was growing upon and around the structure, initially almost totally obscuring it. It is suggested that an individual site management strategy is implemented to help preserve the well and a topographical and geophysical survey is conducted to identify any possible remains of the associated medieval chapel

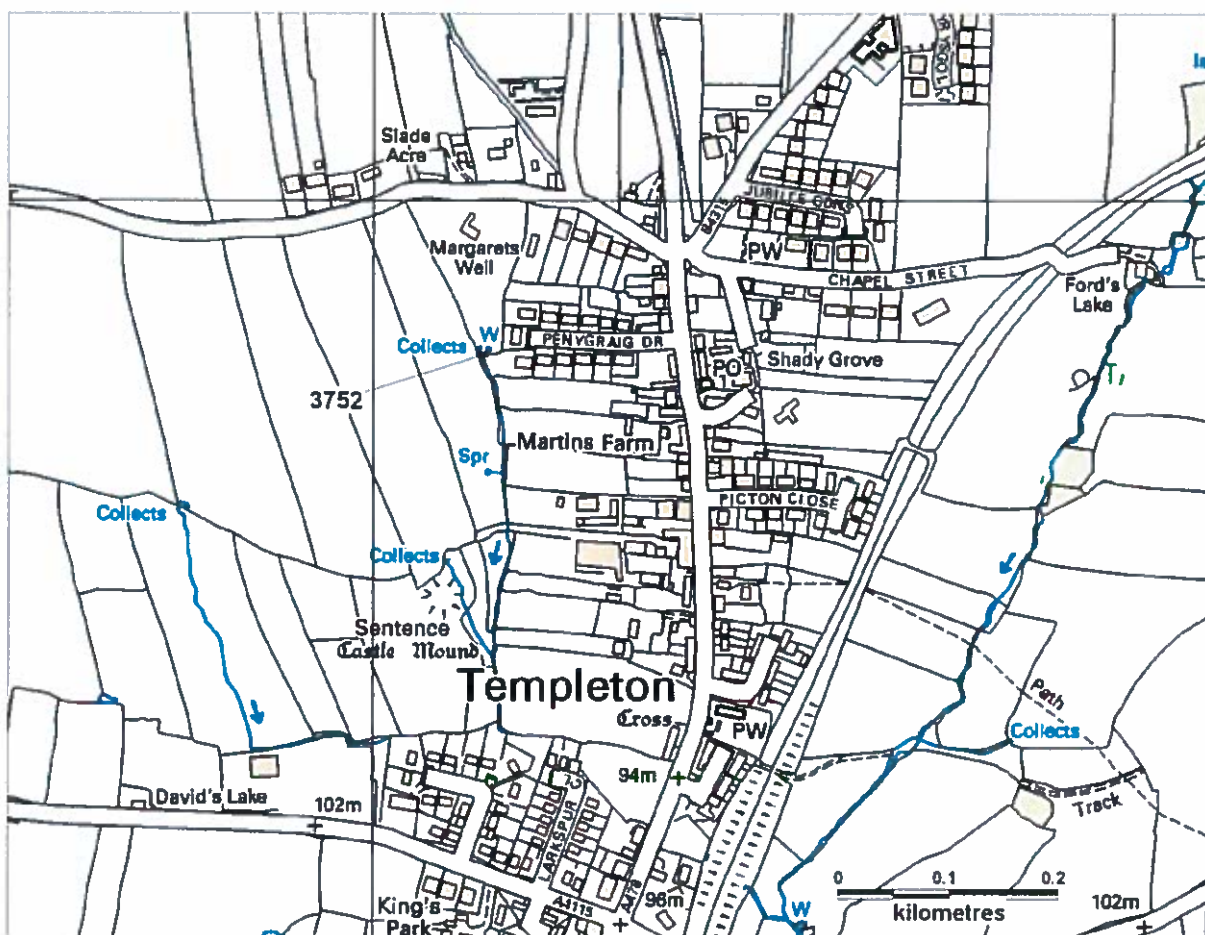


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## PRN 3752 Margaret's Well

Owner: Templeton town council?

A well possibly dedicated to St. Margaret of Antioch in the medieval period and located on an important pilgrim route. The well structure is in good condition, following restoration work in 1990, although at the time of the site visit on 27/07/2011 it was under the thick vegetation of a hedge bank and further vegetation was growing on the masonry. It is also potentially vulnerable due to its close proximity to a public footpath. It is recommended that the structure is afforded listed protection.



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