# TWENTIETH CENTURY MILITARY SITES: AIRFIELDS – DISPERSED SITES AND DEFENCES

Final Report - RECOMMENDATIONS

A THREAT-RELATED ASSESSMENT 2013-2014 DAT 115A



A retractable pillbox, Pickett Hamilton fort, at Pembrey Airfield



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust For Cadw





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# TWENTIETH CENTURY MILITARY SITES: AIRFIELDS – DISPERSED SITES AND DEFENCES

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# **SUMMARY**

The Twentieth Century Military Airfields project is the first Cadw grant-aided threat related assessment to deal with recent military history. Airfields were identified as being the most urgent of the themes to assess; not only do they incorporate large areas of landscape, but there are numerous buildings and structures associated with them which are often dispersed and incontiguous. Few features are currently afforded statutory protection.

This report identified those features, which based on the current research and fieldwork, have been identified as of national significance and worthy of some form of statutory protection, either listing or scheduling. Other sites have been identified requiring further assessment or in some instances preservation by record.

#### INTRODUCTION

This report includes Scheduling Recommendations, Listing Recommendations and Other Recommendations. They are ordered by airfield and by PRN. A map is included for each airfield mentioned in the report. The report should be read in conjunction with the main project report and gazetteer; *Twentieth Century Military Sites: Airfields, dispersed sites and defences.* 

Where known, site ownership has been recorded.

#### **GAZETTEER OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **RAF ANGLE**

The gun post at Angle is already listed partially in relation to its use during the Second World War; 'Listed as survival of an C18 windmill with additional significance in relation to wartime bunker and airfield.' It is suggested that along with the pillboxes to the east (PRN 101389) and northwest (PRN 101392) of the airfield, the Battle Headquarters (PRN 44599) should be protected via statutory means as a group of related structures of great significance to the airfield in the event of attempted invasion or attack. In addition the pillbox to the east (PRN 101389) is significant in being modified from the standard design in order to fit into an existing hedgeline. It is recommended that each of these sites are scheduled.



Figure 1: Map of RAF Angle with sites identified for scheduling.

## RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

**PRN -** 44599

**NAME - RAF ANGLE** 

**TYPE** - Battle Headquarters

**CONDITION** - Near Intact

**NGR -** SM86710193

**COMMUNITY - Angle** 

**COUNTY** - Pembrokeshire

**OWNERSHIP** – Angle Estate (Owen and Owen Agents, Pembroke)

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Battle Headquarters associated with the gun emplacement PRN 101388. A sunken structure consisting of interconnecting of rooms, accessed by a flight of steps at the north end. A concrete observational cupola is sited to the south with adjacent escape hatch. Constructed as design 11008/41 - the most common type. The site appears to be intact though access not possible due to scrub and bramble growth. Visited in January 2013. A Pyper 2013.

#### **CONDITION DESCRIPTION**

Appears to be intact, though very overgrown and access not possible due to excessive bramble and scrub overgrowing it. January 2013 A Pyper.

#### RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

PRN - 101389 NAME - RAF ANGLE

TYPE - Pillbox

**CONDITION -** Good/ Near Intact

**NGR -** SM86870132

**COMMUNITY - Angle** 

**COUNTY - Pembrokeshire** 

**OWNERSHIP** – Angle Estate (Owen and Owen Agents, Pembroke)

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Pillbox, located within hedge to the east of Angle airfield. Similar to pillbox located to the NW of the airfield except the roof is modified to carry the turf over the embrasures and continue the hedge line. Described by RJC Thomas as, "Semi-sunken, irregular hexagonal plan, integral 'D' shaped Anti-Aircraft Light Machine Gun pit against N wall, fair-faced brick, flat turf covered concrete roof on corrugated steel sheeting. Roof maintains line of hedge to the east. Wide splay embrasures fitted with Turnbull mountings." (Duplicate PRN 44601). A Pyper 2012.

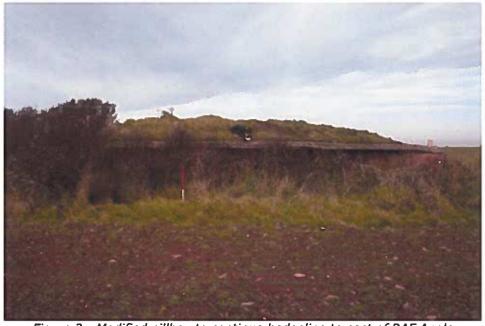


Figure 2: Modified pillbox to continue hedgeline to east of RAF Angle

#### RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

PRN - 101392

NAME - RAF ANGLE

TYPE - Pillbox

**CONDITION - Good/ Intact** 

**NGR -** SM85610236

COMMUNITY - Angle
COUNTY - Pembrokeshire
OWNERSHIP - Angle Estate (Owen and Owen Agents, Pembroke)

# SITE DESCRIPTION

A brick and concrete pillbox located to the northwest of Angle airfield, within a hedgebank northeast of South Studdock Farm. Described by RJC Thomas as," Semisunken, irregular hexagonal plan, integral 'D' shaped AALMG pit against N wall, fairfaced brick, flat turf covered concrete roof on corrugated steel sheeting. Protected entrance in S wall.4 wide splay stepped embrasures fitted with Turnbull mountings."

Similar in construction to PRN 101389 at the eastern side of the airfield. Visited Nov 2011, A. Pyper.



Figure 3: Pillbox to the northwest of Angle airfield

#### **RAF CAREW CHERITON**

The flying field itself at RAF Carew Cheriton has been compromised by development; however the airfield retains a remarkable range of defences. To the south is the Battle Headquarters (PRN 26157) with pillboxes in close proximity (PRN 26158, 26159), to the east of the airfield (PRN 26134) and to the west a further pillbox (PRN 26143) with an adjacent gun pit (PRN 105896). Overlooking the airfield from the north is another cluster which includes a pillbox and gunpost (PRN 26160, 26161), a gun emplacement (PRN 105916) and a further pillbox which may represent an outer ring of defences (PRN 105917).

In addition two sites for mounting Spigot Mortars are located to protect vulnerable points; to the west the Milton Bridge (PRN 105914) and to the east, the Sageston junction (PRN 105915).

Together this represents a remarkable collection of defences, which are currently well preserved. It is recommended that each of these sites are scheduled.

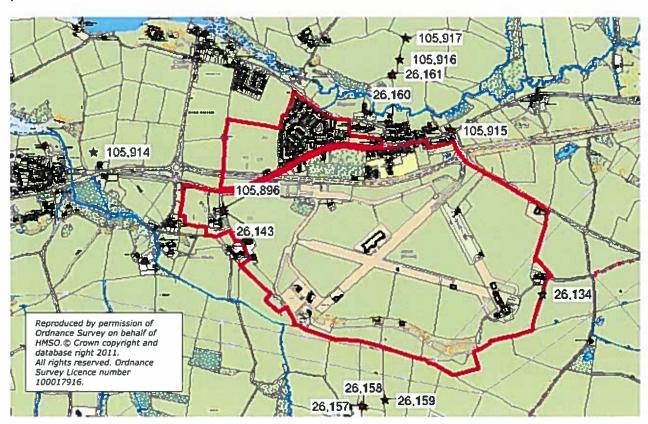


Figure 4: RAF Carew Cheriton defences

RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING
PRN - 26134
NAME - RAF CAREW CHERITON
TYPE - Pill Box
CONDITION - Near Intact
NGR - SN0626502580
COMMUNITY - Carew
COUNTY - Pembrokeshire
OWNERSHIP - Hazelbrook Farm
SITE DESCRIPTION

Derelict Pillbox, semi-sunken and located within a hedgerow to the south of Hazelbrook farm. Hexagonal in plan with wide splay embrasures and 'Turnbull mountings'. A Pyper 2014

RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING
PRN - 26143
NAME - RAF CAREW CHERITON
TYPE - Pill Box
CONDITION - Near Intact/ Intact
NGR - SN0481202957
COMMUNITY - Carew
COUNTY - Pembrokeshire
OWNERSHIP - Unknown

# SITE DESCRIPTION

Brick built semi-sunken pillbox, irregular hexagonal with D shaped anti-aircraft light machine gun emplacement to the north. Wide embrasure to the southeast, narrow loops to the northeast, northwest and southwest. South side has dumped material against it so embrasure not visible. A Pyper Jan 2014.



Figure 5: Pillbox to west of airfield

# RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

**PRN - 26157** 

**NAME - RAF CAREW CHERITON** 

**TYPE - Battle Headquarters** 

**CONDITION - Near Intact** 

**NGR** - SN0544002069

**COMMUNITY** - Carew

**COUNTY** - Pembrokeshire

**OWNERSHIP** - Flemington Farm (Mr and Mrs Morris)

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Located to the north of Flemington Farm is the Battle Headquarters, associated with the defence of RAF Carew Cheriton airfield. Located on a high point 300m south of the

airfield this structure is sunken into the ground with a flight of steps at the west end surrounded by railings, to the east is a square concrete observation cupola which projects up out of the ground beside which is a metal hatch which is the emergency exit via ladder. In between the two structures is the concrete pad which forms the roof of the sunken complex of rooms which lie underground. To the east of the structure within the hedge line is a pillbox (PRN 26158) which also forms part of the ring of defences around the airfield. A Pyper 2014.



Figure 6: In the foreground a pillbox (PRN 26158) to the rear the cupola of the Battle headquarters

#### RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

PRN - 26158

**NAME - RAF CAREW CHERITON** 

TYPE - Pill Box

**CONDITION - Near Intact** 

**NGR -** SN0544902065

**COMMUNITY - Carew** 

**COUNTY - Pembrokeshire** 

**OWNERSHIP** - Flemington Farm (Mr and Mrs Morris)

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Brick built pillbox to the east of battle headquarters (PRN 26157) Type 24 (irregular hexagonal), facing north towards the flying field of the RAF Carew Cheriton airfield. One wide embrasure to the north, narrow embrasures to the west, northwest, northeast, none to the east. Entrance to the pillbox in the south wall with flanking narrow embrasures to either side. Turf covered and built into the hedgeline. A Pyper Jan 2014

#### RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

PRN - 26159

**NAME - RAF CAREW CHERITON** 

TYPE - Pill Box

**CONDITION - Near Intact/ Intact** 

NGR - SN0554702095

**COMMUNITY - Carew** 

**COUNTY - Pembrokeshire** 

**OWNERSHIP** - Flemington Farm (Mr and Mrs Morris)

# SITE DESCRIPTION

Brick built pillbox to the northeast of battle headquarters (PRN 26157) Based on Type 24 (irregular hexagonal) with D-shaped anti-aircraft light machine gun brick built pit to the south. Wide gun embrasures on the northwest, northeast, east and southeast faces and a narrow embrasure to the west. Part of a ring of defences around RAF Carew Cheriton airfield. Turf covered and built into the junction of three hedgelines. A Pyper Jan 2014



Figure 7: Pillbox to the east of the battle headquarters facing onto airfield

RECOMMENDATION - Scheduling
PRN - 26160
NAME - RAF CAREW CHERITON
TYPE - Pill Box
CONDITION - Near Intact
NGR - SN0557803584
COMMUNITY - Carew
COUNTY - Pembrokeshire
OWNERSHIP - Unknown

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Pillbox located in a hedgeline overlooking the airfield at Carew, built with brick and concrete flat earth and turf covered roof. Partially sunken and very overgrown with brambles. Appears to be slightly altered from standard form and irregular in shape but largely hexagonal. RJC Thomas's description identifies it with two wide splay embrasures with Turnbull mountings and two narrow embrasures. To the west, and within the hedgeline is brick walled rectangular annexe. To the east, though not attached is a concrete gun post PRN 26161. A Pyper 2014



Figure 8: Pillbox overlooking airfield beyond

PRN - 26161

**NAME - RAF CAREW CHERITON** 

TYPE - Gunpost

**CONDITION** - Near Intact

**NGR - SN0558203587** 

**COMMUNITY - Carew** 

**COUNTY - Pembrokeshire** 

OWNERSHIP - Unknown

## SITE DESCRIPTION

Concrete slab gunpost cast with impression of corrugated iron. Located to the east of the pillbox and sunken into the ground (rock cut hollow beneath) to give a wide gun embrasure to the south and east.

1938-45, Gun Post/Defence Post, now derelict. Semi-sunken, concrete revetted defence post with over head protection, dug into side of sloping ground adjacent to site No. 001/037. Field of fire restricted by position, allowing fire only in a southern direction. RJC.Thomas, 11.01.93.

#### RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

**PRN - 105896** 

NAME - RAF CAREW CHERITON

**TYPE -** Gun Emplacement

**CONDITION - Intact** 

**NGR -** SN0480802971

**COMMUNITY - Carew** 

**COUNTY - Pembrokeshire** 

OWNERSHIP - Unknown

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Sunken brick revetted structure, circular in plan c2.44m diameter with a recess in northeast side. Accessed in the north side by L-shape trench (0.75m wide, c1.80 long) with shallow steps to east. Pit is over 1metre deep though bottom not visible due to debris in base. Located to west of road on western edge of airfield. A Pyper Jan 2014

PRN - 105914

NAME - RAF CAREW CHERITON

TYPE - Spigot Mortar Emplacement

CONDITION - Near Intact

NGR - SN0421503231

COMMUNITY - Carew

COUNTY - Pembrokeshire

OWNERSHIP - Unknown

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

A spigot mortar gun emplacement, positioned in good vantage point overlooking the bridge across the river bridge at Milton which formed the old road. The concrete setting is visible below a hawthorn tree, with the steel pin standing proud of a concrete circular setting, to either side are concrete encased magazines. Now infilled, only the top of the cylindrical column is visible with the spigot and the tops of the concrete magazines. A Pyper 2014.



Figure 9: Spigot Mortar overlooking Milton Bridge

#### RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

PRN - 105915
NAME - RAF CAREW CHERITON
TYPE - Spigot Mortar Emplacement
CONDITION - Intact
NGR - SN0584903330
COMMUNITY - Carew
COUNTY - Pembrokeshire
OWNERSHIP - Unknown

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

A spigot mortar gun emplacement, positioned in to the north of the T junction on the east side of Sageston village. A concrete structure set into the ground and below ground level. The centre of the structure is a concrete cylinder with a steel spigot set in the top. To either side are concrete encased magazines. The sides of the pit are lined with corrugated iron (maybe recently replaced when the interior was dug out a short while ago). A Pyper 2014.



Figure 10: Spigot Mortar overlooking Sageston road junction

PRN - 105916
NAME - RAF CAREW CHERITON
TYPE - Gun Emplacement
CONDITION - Near Intact
NGR - SN0561303655
COMMUNITY - Carew
COUNTY - Pembrokeshire
OWNERSHIP - Unknown

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

A light anti-aircraft gun emplacement, or motley stalk gun emplacement set into the hedgeline running north between defences at PRN 26160 and PRN 105917. Consists of two precast concrete 'sewer pipes' set vertically side by side. The exposed edge on the west side has a brick built facade with wrapping around the curved ends. Earth has been backfilled between the pipes and brick facing with turf now covering. A Pyper 2014.



Figure 11: Motley stalk gun emplacement in the hedgeline to the north of RAF Carew Cheriton.

PRN - 105917
NAME - RAF CAREW CHERITON
TYPE - Pill Box
CONDITION - Near Intact
NGR - SN0564103753
COMMUNITY - Carew
COUNTY - Pembrokeshire
OWNERSHIP - Unknown

# SITE DESCRIPTION

Brick built pillbox located at the junction of two hedgelines, flat concrete earth covered roof. Semi sunken within the hedgerow. Essentially rectangular in plan form with canted corners on the western side. To the west is a broken remaining annexe - possibly a protected entrance. Access blocked. Two narrow rifle embrasures to the west, northeast and east sides and wide embrasures to the north and southeast (southern side not seen). Inside a Y-shaped anti-ricochet wall. A Pyper 2014.

#### **RAF HAVERFORDWEST**

RAF Haverfordwest and RAF Templeton were parent and satellite airfields built in late 1942 and 1943, they both retain Standard Beam Approach navigational systems which provided a guidance system for aircraft landing in poor visibility or at night. The three beacons are surviving at both airfields and represent a snap shot of the technological developments employed during the war years. It is recommended that each of the three beacons which survive at Haverfordwest are scheduled as the best surviving example.

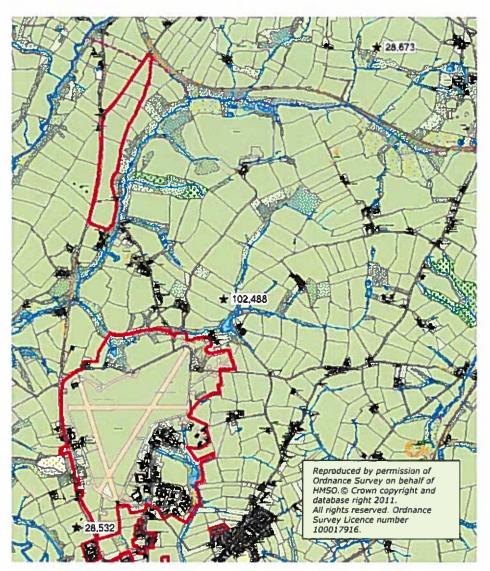


Figure 12: Locations of the Outer, Main and Inner Beacons for RAF Haverfordwest

#### RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

**PRN -** 28532

**NAME - RAF HAVERFORDWEST** 

TYPE - Navigation aid

STATUS - None recorded

**NGR - SM95501815** 

**COMMUNITY** - Rudbaxton

**COUNTY - Pembrokeshire** 

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

A brick built enclosure which formed the Main Beacon for RAF Haverfordwest, part of a landing system to guide airplanes into Haverfordwest airfield and are associated with the Inner and Outer Beacons. Consists of a brick walled enclosure c 1.5m high with a concrete floor within. Converted for agricultural use when visited in 2013 with the southwest wall enclosed and roofed for stock. A Pyper 2013



Figure 13: Main beacon at RAF Haverfordwest

#### RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

PRN - 28673
NAME - RAF HAVERFORDWEST
TYPE - Navigation aid
CONDITION - Near Intact/ Damaged
NGR - SM98192246
COMMUNITY - Spittal
COUNTY - Pembrokeshire
OWNERSHIP - Messrs Reed, Upper Scolton Farm

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Outer navigational beacon for RAF Haverfordwest. Consists of a square brick walled enclosure measuring c 9m with walls 1.5m high. When visited in 2013, the east wall has been demolished but otherwise the walls are intact. A Pyper 2013.



Figure 14: Outer navigational beacon for RAF Haverfordwest

**PRN -** 102488

**NAME - RAF HAVERFORDWEST** 

**TYPE** - Navigation aid

**CONDITION - Near Intact** 

**NGR -** SM96822020

**COMMUNITY - Rudbaxton** 

**COUNTY** - Pembrokeshire

**OWNERSHIP** - unknown

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Rectangular red brick structure with a later pitched roof, pedestrian access in south wall and later double doorway inserted into north wall. Associated with the picket post (PRN 102487) to the south, these structures form the Inner Beacon, part of a landing system to guide airplanes into Haverfordwest airfield and associated with the Main and Outer Beacon. Visited Nov 2011, A. Pyper 2012.



Figure 15: Inner beacon for the airfield at RAF Haverfordwest

#### **RAF PEMBREY**

The defences at Pembrey are complex, with the southern end of the Carmarthen stop line skirting the airfield to the east, the Royal Ordnance Factory to the southeast and coastal defences installed against the invasion or attack on the sheltered sands of Cefn Sidan beach. Not all of the defences could be assessed as part of this study and it is highly recommended that this area is subject to further detailed assessment to unpick the various systems and phases of defence. However there are some notable groups which stand out as being of national significance. These are the gun emplacements overlooking Cefn Sidan beach and in addition the string of pill boxes along the sea wall (Banc-y-Lord) which protect the airfield from a westerly attack.

Specifically regarding airfield defence the two Pickett Hamilton forts are a very rare survival of a system of defence specifically to guard against the taking of the airfield by the enemy in advance of bringing in troop carrying aircraft. It appears that these are the only two which survive *in situ* in Wales. It is highly recommended that each of these site are scheduled.

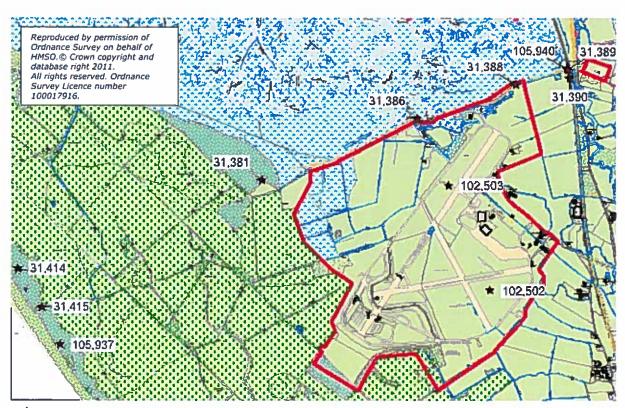


Figure 16: Map showing Pembrey airfield and defences

#### RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

PRN - 105937

NAME 
TYPE - gun emplacement

CONDITION - Intact

NGR - SN37380298

COMMUNITY - Cefn Sidan

COUNTY - Carmarthenshire

OWNERSHIP - Natural Resources Wales

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

A gun emplacement built of reinforced concrete with turf on the flat roof. Identical in form to PRN 31414. Rectangular in plan 3.05 x 2.4 m with openings facing southwest. One wide rectangular opening in southwest wall with doorway to side. Internally the walls are painted cream and a small concrete pad on the northeastern corner may form the base of stove. Other fixings and fixtures are traceable in the paintwork of the interior. Forms part of series of gun emplacements built to defend Cefn Sidan beach from invasion or attack during the Second World War. A Pyper 2014



Figure 17: Gun emplacement overlooking Cefn Sidan beach

#### RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

PRN - 31414
NAME TYPE - Gun Emplacement
CONDITION - Not known/ Intact

NGR - SN37070354 COMMUNITY - Cefn Sidan COUNTY - Carmarthenshire

**OWNERSHIP** - Natural Resources Wales

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

A gun emplacement built of reinforced concrete with turf on the flat roof. Rectangular in plan  $3.05 \times 2.4$  m with openings facing southwest. One wide rectangular opening in southwest wall with doorway to side. Internally the walls are painted cream and a small concrete pad on the northeastern corner may form the base of stove. Other fixings and fixtures are traceable in the paintwork of the interior. Forms part of series of gun emplacements built to defend Cefn Sidan beach from invasion or attack during the Second World War. A Pyper 2014



Figure 18: Gun emplacement, one of three overlooking Cefn Sidan

**PRN - 31415** 

NAME -

**TYPE -** Gun Emplacement

**CONDITION - Not known/ Intact** 

**NGR - SN37240326** 

**COMMUNITY** - Cefn Sidan

**COUNTY** – Carmarthenshire

**OWNERSHIP** - Natural Resources Wales

# SITE DESCRIPTION

A gun emplacement built of reinforced concrete with turf on the flat roof. Rectangular in plan  $6.4 \times 7.3 \text{m}$  with openings facing southwest. One wide rectangular opening in southwest wall with doorway to side. Internally the walls are painted cream and a small concrete pad on the northwestern wall may form the base of stove. Other fixings and fixtures are traceable in the paintwork of the interior. Forms part of series of gun emplacements built to defend Cefn Sidan beach from invasion or attack during the Second World War. A Pyper 2014



Figure 19: Gun emplacement overlooking Cefn Sidan beach

**PRN - 102502** 

**NAME - RAF PEMBREY** 

TYPE - pickett hamilton fort

**CONDITION - Intact** 

NGR - SN4051703379

**COMMUNITY - Cefn Sidan** 

**COUNTY - Carmarthenshire** 

**OWNERSHIP** - Unknown

# **SITE DESCRIPTION**

A sunken, circular, concrete pillbox, flush with the ground surface. Concrete top 2m in diameter with metal hinged trap door 0.56m square with canted corners. Located within the eastern intersection of the runways. In 2011 the interior was full of water and the field in which it is located was recently reseeded, A Pyper 2012. The Pickett Hamilton fort would permit the free movement of aircraft, but if attack threatened, could be raised, hydraulically or by a counterbalance, and manned to give covering fire.

#### **CONDITION DESCRIPTION**

Concrete pad survives within reseeded field, and metal trap door is hinged. Interior is full of water, however allegedly it contains its internal mechanism and hydraulics. A Pyper 2012.



Figure 20: Pickett Hamilton fort to the east of the airfield

PRN - 102503

NAME - RAF PEMBREY

TYPE - pickett hamilton fort

**CONDITION - Intact** 

NGR - SN40220415

**COMMUNITY** - Cefn Sidan

**COUNTY - Carmarthenshire** 

**OWNERSHIP** – Pembrey Civil Airport (Mr Winston Thomas)

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

A sunken, circular, concrete pillbox, flush with the ground surface. Concrete top 2m in diameter with metal hinged trap door 0.56m square with canted corners. Located adjacent to the perimeter track at the northern extent of the runways. In 2011 the interior was full of water, however apparently it has been pumped out and the interior allegedly still contains hydraulics etc. Situated within mown grass. A Pyper 2012. The Pickett Hamilton fort would permit the free movement of aircraft, but if attack threatened, could be raised, hydraulically or by a counterbalance, and manned to give covering fire.

# **CONDITION DESCRIPTION**

Apparently intact, this Pickett Hamilton is one of two surviving examples which have been recorded at Pembrey airfield. This type of pillbox appears to be very rare in Wales. A Pyper 2012.



Figure 21: Pickett Hamilton fort at the north side of the airfield

PRN 31381
NAME
TYPE pill box
PERIOD Modern
EVIDENCE Building/ DEMOLISHED STRUCTURE
CONDITION Near Destroyed/ Damaged
STATUS None recorded
NGR SN3885204188
COMMUNITY Cefn Sidan
COUNTY Carmarthenshire
OWNERSHIP - Defence Infrastructure Organisation

## **HER DESCRIPTION**

A demolished remains of a brick and concrete Type 23 pillbox. Part of a defensive line which runs along the sea wall, Banc-y-Lord protecting the airfield to the southeast from seaward attack. A Pyper 2013.

**CONDITION DESCRIPTION** / Although demolished (blown up?) at some point all the parts of the pillbox appear to survive where they fell, so it is possible to define the gun embrasures. A Pyper 2013.



Figure 22: Demolished pillbox at the southwest end of the sea wall.

PRN 31386
NAME
TYPE Pill Box
PERIOD Modern
EVIDENCE Building/ EXTANT STRUCTURE
CONDITION Intact
STATUS None recorded
NGR SN3998204645
COMMUNITY Cefn Sidan
COUNTY Carmarthenshire
OWNERSHIP – Defence Infrastructure Organisation

#### HER DESCRIPTION

A brick and concrete pillbox located on the northwest side of the Bank-y-Lord sea wall, facing west protecting the airfield to the southeast. Type 23 in design (rectangular subdivided into one open, roofless section the other covered). Narrow gun embrasures with metal pivot mountings in the sill. Forms part of a defensive line of pillboxes which run along Banc-y-Lord. A Pyper 2014



Figure 23:Pillbox on the sea wall at Pembrey, note metal access treads in brickwork

PRN 31388
NAME
TYPE Pill Box
PERIOD Modern
EVIDENCE Building/ EXTANT STRUCTURE
CONDITION Intact
STATUS None recorded
NGR SN4070104891
COMMUNITY Cefn Sidan
COUNTY Carmarthenshire
OWNERSHIP – Defence Infrastructure Organisation

#### **HER DESCRIPTION**

A brick and concrete pillbox located on the northwest side of the Bank-y-Lord sea wall, facing west protecting the airfield to the southeast. Type 23 in design (rectangular subdivided into one open, roofless section the other covered). Narrow gun embrasures with metal pivot mountings in the sill. Forms part of a defensive line of pillboxes which run along Banc-y-Lord. A Pyper 2014



Figure 24: Pillbox built into the sea wall

**PRN** 31389

**NAME** 

TYPE Pill Box

**PERIOD** Modern

**EVIDENCE** Building/ EXTANT STRUCTURE

**CONDITION** Intact

STATUS None recorded

NGR SN4108504996

COMMUNITY Cefn Sidan

**COUNTY** Carmarthenshire

**OWNERSHIP** – Defence Infrastructure Organisation

# HER DESCRIPTION

A pillbox built of shuttered concrete to the south of the railway and to the norh of Bancy-Lord. A strong point positioned on the stop line which consists of anti-tank blocks to the south and two parallel lines of vertically set railway rails to the north. The pill box is facing west with the entrance in the east wall. Type 24 (rectangular with canted corners to the west), and with narrow gun embrasures. A Pyper 2014.



Figure 25: Pillbox with anti tank rails to the side forming part of the stopline

#### RAF PEMBROKE DOCK

Pembroke Dock is a unique site with a complex military history; looking at its use by the RAF only covers one, though significant, aspect of its past. Many buildings were requisitioned by the RAF and during the survey it became apparent that a more systematic and wholesale survey should be undertaken to assess the buildings at Llanion for their suitability for listing. The Officers mess (PRN 26282) is a strong case in point which exemplifies the both individual merits, but also together with the red brick buildings of the other military facilities it offers a strong architectural character to the town through group value.

Further recommendations include the consideration of the Bomb stores at Pembroke Dock for scheduling. These are a well preserved complex of features which relate to a specific and significant part of Pembroke Dock's history.

Remote to the Pembroke Dock are the dispersed quarters at Lamphey Bishops palace. While the structures associated with the accommodation of personnel have largely been levelled, a fascinating aspect of the social history of the site is carved into the bark of the beech trees which are established on the site. Here are the inscriptions of large numbers of personnel, some RAF and some American servicemen stationed here prior to embarkation for Europe. It is recommended that a detailed survey is carried out of these inscriptions in order to record the names and dates of individuals. It is worth remembering that these trees have a limited life span and that beech in particular are prone to falling. It would be opportune to make a record while the trees are still intact.

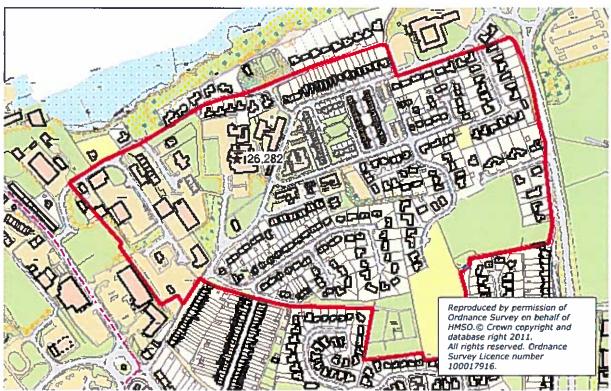


Figure 26: Llanion is worthy of further study

# RECOMMENDED FOR ASSESSMENT / LISTING

**PRN - 26282** 

**NAME - LLANION BARRACKS** 

**TYPE -** Officers Mess

**CONDITION** - Intact

**NGR -** SM97140412

**COMMUNITY** - Pembroke Dock

**COUNTY - Pembrokeshire** 

**OWNERSHIP** - Pembrokeshire Coast National Park

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Council offices, formerly Headquarters and Officer's Mess of Llanion Barracks. During Pembroke Docks RAF days (c1930-59) the buildings were designated as Administrative Offices. Red brick pedimented building dated 1904. A Pyper based on RJC Thomas description March 2013

1903-72, Headquarters Building/Officers Mess, now council offices. A large, two storey, brick built, 'L' plan, hipped slate roof, with brick pedimonted projections. 7 bay main elevations, 1st floor windows arranged 1-2-2-2-1. Ground floor brick porch with stone balustrade, two brick canted bay windows. Return range fenestration arranged 1-2-2-1-2-1. Central pediment dated 1904, Mosaic in hall dated 1905. RJC.Thomas, 12.03.93.



Figure 27: Llanion officers mess

RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING
PRN - 28457
NAME - RAF PEMBROKE DOCK - BOMB STORES
TYPE - Bomb Store
CONDITION - Near Intact
NGR - SM95550354
COMMUNITY - Pembroke Dock
COUNTY - Pembrokeshire

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

OWNERSHIP - Unknown

Flying Boat Base built around 1934, Bomb Store/Dump, now derelict. Single storey, permanent brick, square plan, flat concrete roof. Three bay main elevation with three pairs of double steel doors. Narrow standard steel windows in side and rear elevations. Set back into on earth revetment. Fragments of steel bomb handling gantry remains. RJC.Thomas, 14.12.93. One of two stores protected by blast wall PRN 28458. Brick built, flat roof. Originally 3 steel doors to each building at front, now removed. KM 1997



Figure 28: Bomb stores at Pembroke Dock

#### RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

PRN - 28458
NAME - RAF PEMBROKE DOCK
TYPE - Blast wall
STATUS - None recorded
NGR - SM95540356
COMMUNITY - Pembroke Dock
COUNTY - Pembrokeshire

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Concrete blast wall, runs along the top of the shingle beach between the high water mark and the two bomb stores behind it - PRN, 28457. Approximately 7m high and 3m wide at its battered base. Part of RAF Pembroke Dock Flying Boat Base. See RJC Thomas

description. When visited in 2011 it stood intact though somewhat overgrown. A Pyper 2013.

c1934, Flying Boat Base, Blast Wall, Bomb Dump, now derelict. Hollow re-inforced concrete wall, the space of which is infilled with course limestone rubble. RJC.Thomas, 14.12.93. Concrete blast wall for 28456. JH May 1998

# **CONDITION - Intact**



Figure 29: Blast wall in front of Bomb stores at Pembroke Dock

#### **RECOMMENDATION FOR RECORDING**

PRN - 28666
NAME - RAF PEMBROKE DOCK SITE NO 4.
TYPE - Military Camp
CONDITION - Destroyed/ Near Destroyed
NGR - SN01920090
COMMUNITY - Lamphey
COUNTY - Pembrokeshire
OWNERSHIP - Unknown

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Dispersed site associated with RAF Pembroke Dock, 1939-45, now demolished. Defined on 1944 Air Ministry plan (Dwg No. 2710.44) Formerly consisted of twelve barrack huts (4 timber, 8 nissen), two timber latrines, and one stone ablutions block, dispersed in field to the east of Lamphey Palace ruins. When visited in Jan 2013 only concrete bases were visible in wooded enclosure, many self seeded trees and much undergrowth obscuring hut bases. Some larger beech trees on the boundary to the east inscribed with graffiti, which appears to date to 1940's. Description based on R Thomas's record and updated following site visit 2013, A Pyper.



Figure 30: An example of one of the beech trees at Lamphey Bishops palace.

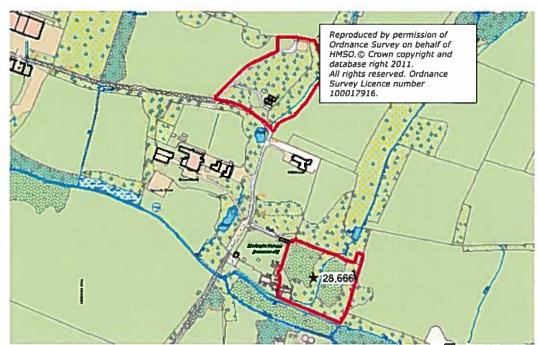


Figure 31: The dispersed site at Lamphey includes a number of graffitied beech trees

#### RAF ST DAVIDS

To the southeast of the town of St Davids is an octagonal enclosure wall which housed High Frequency Direction Finding tower. No other towers have been identified in southwest Wales and it may be a unique survival in Wales. It is recommended that it is scheduled.

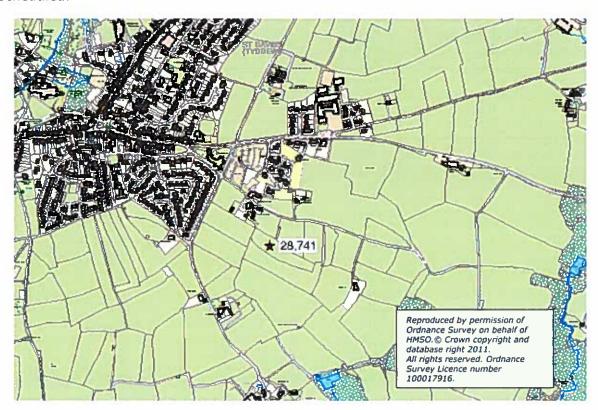


Figure 32: The location of the HF/DF tower to the southeast of St Davids

#### RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

**PRN - 28741** 

NAME - RAF ST DAVIDS

TYPE - Navigation Aid

**CONDITION - Intact** 

NGR - SM7583824960

**COMMUNITY** - St Davids and the Cathedral Close

**COUNTY** - Pembrokeshire

OWNERSHIP - Mrs E Morgan, Felin Wynt.

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Octagonal brick built structure 2.36m high, 5.5m across, entrance with blast wall in the north side. Built during the Second World War, the brick wall encloses the base of a HD/DF tower (High Frequency Direction Finding) for assisting aircraft to navigate their way back to the St Davids Airfield. Alice Pyper, December 2013.

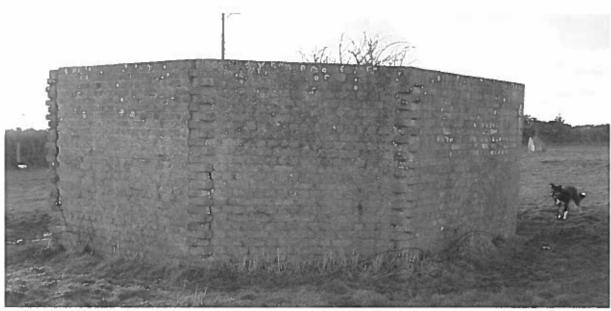


Figure 33: The octagonal wall enclosing a HF/DF tower

#### **RAF TEMPLETON**

At RAF Templeton a ring of four Motley Stalk gun emplacements have been identified. These unusually have been recorded on the Air Ministry plan and it would appear that each one survives, though some are rather badly damaged. It would appear to represent the only complete survival of a ring of Motley Stalk gun emplacements around an airfield.

In addition RAF Templeton like its parent station RAF Haverfordwest retains a Standard Beam Approach blind landing system. Possibly the only such which survive intact in Wales. It is recommended that these sites are considered for scheduling though the Outer beacon has not been assessed and the Inner beacon is greatly modified.

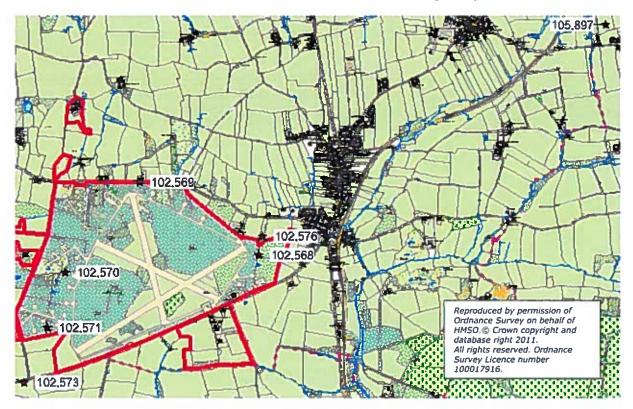


Figure 34: RAF Templeton with ring of gun emplacements and the SBA landing system

PRN - 102568

NAME - RAF TEMPLETON TYPE - Gun Emplacement CONDITION - Near Intact NGR - SN1071211163 COMMUNITY - Templeton COUNTY - Pembrokeshire

**OWNERSHIP** – Defence Infrastructure Organisation

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Two circular concrete rings placed side by side at the junction of two field banks. Also referred to as Motley Stalk gun emplacements, they are gun pits for Light Anti-Aircraft guns. Built within the field bank. Approx. 1.60m deep and 0.9m across. The bottom is silted up. Located in thick blackthorn hedge. Both rings have broken down sides. L.



Figure 35: Motley Stalk gun emplacements located within the hedgebanks

#### RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

**PRN - 102569** 

**NAME - RAF TEMPLETON** 

**TYPE -** Gun Emplacement

**CONDITION - Near Intact** 

**NGR -** SN0984911696

**COMMUNITY -** Templeton

**COUNTY** – Pembrokeshire

**OWNERSHIP** - Defence Infrastructure Organisation

# SITE DESCRIPTION

Two circular concrete rings, side by side. Also referred to as Motley Stalk gun emplacements, they are gun pits for Light Anti-Aircraft guns. Built within and placed on the hedgerow bank. A lot of vegetation overgrowth.

Both rings have sides that have broken down. L. Meek May 2013.

#### RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

PRN - 102570
NAME - RAF TEMPLETON
TYPE - Gun Emplacement
CONDITION - Intact
NGR - SN0930111034
COMMUNITY - Templeton
COUNTY - Pembrokeshire
OWNERSHIP - Defence Infrastructure Organisation

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Two complete, circular, concrete rings. Situated on the hedgebank. Also referred to as Motley Stalk gun emplacements, they are gun pits for Light Anti-Aircraft guns. Both rings are intact but filled with water.L. Meek May 2013.



Figure 36: Remains of one of four Motley Stalk gun emplacements

# RECOMMENDED FOR SCHEDULING

**PRN - 102571** 

**NAME - RAF TEMPLETON** 

TYPE - Gun Emplacement

**CONDITION - Damaged** 

**NGR - SN09171063** 

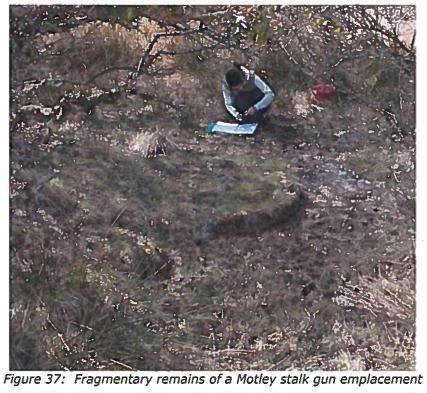
**COMMUNITY** - Templeton

**COUNTY** - Pembrokeshire

**OWNERSHIP** - Defence Infrastructure Organisation

# SITE DESCRIPTION

Situated within the hedgerow bank are the remains of two concrete rings (the bases). Also referred to as Motley Stalk gun emplacements, they are gun pits for Light Anti-Aircraft guns. Surrounded by scrub overgrowth. Only the circular concrete ring bases are situated within the hedgerow. Very little remains of the two rings. Their height is barely higher than ground level. L. Meek May 2013.



# RECOMMENDED FOR ASSESSMENT FOR SCHEDULING RAF TEMPLETON – STANDARD BEAM APPROACH NAVIGATION SYSTEM

PRN - 102573
NAME - RAF TEMPLETON
TYPE - Main Beacon
CONDITION - Damaged
NGR - SN0900810228
COMMUNITY - Templeton
COUNTY - Pembrokeshire

OWNERSHIP - unknown

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Main Beacon, a red brick, rectangular, concrete structure, now used for cattle. Height=150cm. North East end is open. South West end has a large entry; one pier has been demolished. The Main Beacon forms part of the Standard Beam Approach blind landing system to assist aircraft landing at night or in poor visibility. It forms part of three beacons lined up on the main runway (Inner Beacon PRN 102576, Outer Beacon PRN105897). L. Meek May 2013.



Figure 38: The Main beacon Standard Beam Approach landing system.

PRN - 102576
NAME - RAF TEMPLETON
TYPE - navigation aid
CONDITION - Damaged
NGR - SN1074011300
COMMUNITY - Templeton
COUNTY - Pembrokeshire
OWNERSHIP - unknown

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Inner Marker Plinth consisting of a concrete floor. Around 40 years ago the structure was adapted as a store for gliders, it is now used for farming activity. Part of a Standard Beam Approach blind landing system, to assist aircraft landing at night or in poor visibility. It lines up with two other beacons (Main beacon PRN 102573 and Outer beacon PRN 105897) and the main SW - NE runway. L. Meek May 2013.



Figure 39: Only the concrete plinth from the beacon survives with a shed built over it

PRN - 105897

NAME - RAF TEMPLETON

TYPE - navigation aid

CONDITION - Not known

NGR - SN13241285

COMMUNITY - Lampeter Velfrey

COUNTY - Pembrokeshire

**OWNERSHIP** - Mr and Mrs Phillips, Princes Gate

#### SITE DESCRIPTION

Outer Marker Plinth located at Princes Gate. A rectangular red brick structure which lines up with two other beacons (Main Beacon PRN 102573, Inner PRN 102576) and the main SW - NE runway. Part of a Standard Beam Approach blind landing system, to assist aircraft landing at night or in poor visibility. A Pyper February 2014. Access not gained.

## **RAF / RNAS DALE**

Dale airfield has already been recognised as being worthy of statutory protection and the footprint of the airfield has been scheduled. Currently the boundary of the scheduled area excludes the battle headquarters, PRN 28600. It is recommended that this element is incorporated into the scheduling to recognise it as an integral part of the airfield complex.

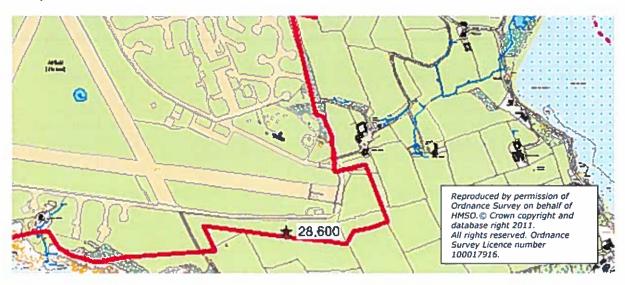


Figure 40: Map showing the location of the battle headquarters

PRN 28600
NAME RAF/RNAS DALE
TYPE Battle Headquarters
PERIOD Modern
EVIDENCE Structure
CONDITION Intact
STATUS pcnp
NGR SM8014506151
COMMUNITY Dale
COUNTY Pembrokeshire

#### **HER DESCRIPTION**

Battle Headquarters at Dale airfield. Underground bunker with a square concrete observational cupola projecting from the ground almost 2m high. See RJC Thomas description. A Pyper 2012.

1941-47, Battle Headquarters, now derelict. 21'X 8'(6.40 X 2.44m) underground complex of rooms ac 6' (1.83m) accessed by a flight of steps at southern end of structure. A 6'(1.83m) square concrete observation cupola rises 3' (.91m) above the roof of the main structure. A 360 degrees narrow observation slot in the cupola permits all round vision. An emergency exit hatch is adjacent to the east side of the cupola. Build per Air Ministry Drawing 11008/41. RJC.Thomas, 23.02.93.

**CONDITION DESCRIPTION** / Concrete cupola still stands in field, though ground around it eroded. Interior not accessed. A Pyper 2012.

# TWENTIETH CENTURY MILITARY SITES: AIRFIELDS – DISPERSED SITES AND DEFENCES

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2014/21 RHIF Y PROSIECT / PROJECT RECORD NO.103632

> Mawrth 2014 March 2014

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by Alice Pyper Swydd / Position: Project Manager: Heritage Management

Llofnod / Signature .

Ance Pyper

. Dyddiad / Date 30th March 2014

Mae'r adroddiad hwn wedi ei gael yn gywir a derbyn sêl bendith This report has been checked and approved by Ken Murphy ar ran Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf. on behalf of Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd. Swydd / Position: Director

Llofnod / Signature ...

.Dyddiad / Date 30th March 2014

Yn unol â'n nôd i roddi gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel, croesawn unrhyw sylwadau sydd gennych ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any comments you may have on the content or presentation of this report



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