

REPORT ON WORK UNDERTAKEN ON SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS WITHIN THE PEMBROKESHIRE COAST NATIONAL PARK 2014-15



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust
For Cadw



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REPORT ON WORK UNDERTAKEN ON SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS WITHIN THE PEMBROKESHIRE COAST NATIONAL PARK 2014-15

By

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INTRODUCTION

This report covers visits and work to Scheduled Ancient Monuments in the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park undertaken by Pete Crane during 2014-2015 for Cadw as well as some of the work undertaken directly for the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority (PCNPA), mostly walks and talks. An indication is provided in the Site List of that work undertaken for Cadw and that for PCNPA.

At the beginning of the financial year a programme of work was agreed between the PCNPA Archaeologist, the Cadw Regional Inspector and the Dyfed Archaeological Trust Project Manager. During the course of the year some of the agreed work was did not take place, mainly due to external factors, and some additional work was taken on at short notice. Taking on additional work meant the not all elements of the agreed programme were achieved in the time available. The agree programme of work consists of:

Black Point Rath

Bring together all known records, plans and monitoring photos of the site into a single archive for deposition in the HER. Analysis of the archive material should be undertaken to provide a narrative description of the erosion demonstrated.

Identify fixed geographical points and dates for photographic monitoring to be undertaken by volunteers.

Instigate actions recommended in the management plan produced with Cadw funding last year. Monitoring/photographic survey can be begun immediately, also investigate options for more intrusive work and, if necessary and feasible, undertaken H&S analysis

Sister's House

PC to talk to farmer/landowner and continue contact with Glastir woodland management. PC to contact Glastir Advanced Contract Manager Peter John in the first instance (and through him the relevant Glastir Woodland Management officer as the unscheduled area west and north of the SAM lies within a separate Glastir woodland management agreement).

Nevern Castle

Clearance of vegetation from C19th cottage, using volunteers.

Garn Fawr

WW1 lookout suffering vandalism. Detailed recording to be undertaken, also awareness raising of how important it is. Investigate links with DAT WW1 project, also possible opportunities for further research? In particular more understanding of the communication links and broader defensive context of the lookout post would be useful.

Dale Point Fort

Potential for community proj to restore entranceway. Potential for such a project to link with an open day at the Fort. instance

Deer Park

Repairs undertaken by NT didn't succeed. PC to encourage NT to undertake future works to improve vegetation cover in order to improve stability and/or investigation of this unusual and poorly understood feature

General

Protocol for reporting archaeological damage. Update (if necessary) and ensure adoption within the park Authority. PC to implement ways protocol can be integrated into the work of PCNPA. E.g. PC to include as part of training for NP Wardens and request Phil Bennet to take for agreement at appropriate level within NP structure.

Recording / reporting

In general, need to ensure that reporting is more detailed– particularly where recording damage. This should include an assessment of the level of archaeological damage which the site has suffered. The interventions which have been undertaken at sites in the park are beginning to build up useful picture of how sites change/behave over time, and we could look at creating a series of case studies for different management regimes and/or damage cases repair over time. As part of end of year reporting Create individual digital 'files' for different SAM reports

Public engagement figures

Also, ensure that figures are collected and reported on for volunteers etc for Cadw funded NPA work (Note: these are included in DAT quarterly returns).

As in previous years, site visits were made either directly as part of the Cadw SAM work or as part of other work for Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority (PCNPA), including a number of guided walks which visited Scheduled sites. Of particular significance was the work undertaken regarding the Sisters House, Castell Heinif and St Patrick's Chapel.

Two half days attendance was made to the Controlled Burning Awareness Events, part of the Wildfire Liaison Group, where an illustrated talk was given on the archaeological implications of intentional or accidental burning on archaeological sites and in particular where a Scheduled Monument is concerned. These talks were for local farmers and other interested parties held in St Davids (20 people) and Newport (16 people). It is hoped now that there will be greater awareness of archaeological implications and more forthcoming notification of intended or accidental burns.

As part of the PCNPA duties a day was spent showing Friends of the National Park around some of the scheduled sites of North Pembrokeshire (18 people): Foil Drygarn, Gors Fawr, two Iron age forts in the Gwaun Valley (Allt Pen-Rhiw and Allt Pen Gegin-Isaf), Bedd Morris plus the recommended scheduled site at Craig Rhosyfelin.

An illustrated talk (40 plus people) was given to The Pembrokeshire Vintage and Classic Motor Cycle Club and as a result a guided tour was arranged to visit Carreg Sampson, Nevern Castle and Craig Rhosyfelin (36 people). This was considered a great success and it is hoped to repeat with a similar event in 2015.



PE 036 Carreg Sampson with The Pembrokeshire Vintage and Classic Motor Cycle Club. 17/8/2004

A guided walk for the public around St David's Head visited the Scheduled sites of the Iron Age fort on the Head plus the outlying field system, the burial chambers on Carn Llidi, Coetan Arthur and St Patrick's Chapel (8 people plus 3 from the National Trust).

Two evening guided walks were given around Solva visiting the three hillforts on the ridge, plus the Scheduled lime kiln at the top of the harbour. Other lime kilns around the village were also seen along with the explanation of the growth of Solva as a post-medieval village (c. 18 people and 32 people).

A reconnaissance for a new PCNPA walk on the Preseli Hills was undertaken visiting Garn Alw, and Bedd Morris.

A two day upland walk training and presentation course was attended visiting the same sites on St David's Head as mentioned above, and around Newport, visiting the Scheduled sites of Newport Old Castle and Carn Ingli.

At Manorbier Castle a meeting was held with the Cadw Field Monument Warden, the PCNPA Area Ranger and representative of the owners to discuss vegetation clearance and a new path up from the car park and round the west side of the castle, plus clearance of an overgrown tower on the outer bailey wall. Subsequently a small amount of clearance work has taken place. It is envisaged that work will continue with PCNPA volunteers and also volunteers from the local community.

NOTE: proposed actions were written before the demise of the post of PCNPA Archaeologist was announced.

VANDALISM

There has been little recorded vandalism in the 2014-5 period: a temporary art installation was dug slightly into the site of St Patrick's Chapel; Glyn Gath has been driven over again leaving slight wheel ruts, and the World War One lookout point on Garn Fawr has a little damage to the masonry, but it is uncertain whether this is natural or deliberate. So far there has not been the extreme weather of the previous winter and there has been no reported erosion to any scheduled sites.

SITE LIST

SAM sites in numerical order. Non-SAM sites at end of list. An indication is provided if this work was part of Cadw or PCNPA funding.

SAM PE 004 MANORBIER CASTLE (Cadw)

A site meeting on 8/12/2014 was arranged by the Cadw Field Monument Warden with a representative of the castle owner, the owner of adjacent land to the west, the PCNPA Ranger for the area and PCNPA Archaeologist acting for PCNPA. The discussion was about the re-creation of a footpath up from the beach car park which has been inaccessible due to vegetation, together with creation of a footpath around the west site of the castle for additional access and as an alternative to walking up the road. It was agreed that the ranger would make a preliminary start, probably assisted by volunteers, on investigating a new route (it is understood that a start was made later). Enquiries would be made to see if any local volunteers, some probably from the former "fishponds group", would also like to be involved to facilitate community involvement. While undertaking the walk-over, the north tower of the outer bailey was observed to be very overgrown (see photo below) and with permissions could be cleared as part of the community involvement. It was

envisaged that the PCNPA Archaeologist and Ranger would be organising and assisting with volunteers and local participation.



*Manorbier Castle: Overgrown tower on the NW side of the bailey. View W.
8/12/2014*

Proposed Actions

- Cadw's Field Monument Warden should take overall lead on any developments supported by PCNPA staff
- Local involvement on any appropriate work should be a priority

SAM PE 010 Foel Drigarn
(PCNPA)

One visit was made to the site during the guided walk with the Friends of The Pembrokeshire Coast National Park on 24/2014. There did not appear to have been any further damage to the NE cairn repaired early in 2014. The SW cairn may have sustained a few more moved stones to "enhance" the hollow in this cairn but nothing drastic. The sheep scrapes towards the southern end of the inner rampart had deteriorated very slightly from the previous visit but no action is considered necessary at the moment.

Proposed Actions

- Can the hollows (shelters) be repaired in the SW cairn without further SMC?
- A site visit early summer should be undertaken because it is suspected that the damage to the cairns may be taking place during Duke of Edinburgh award activities.

- No action is recommended on the sheep scrapes, but these should be monitored during site visits.

SAM PE 012 St. Patrick's Chapel

(Cadw and PCNPA)

Rescue excavation was undertaken during two weeks in May by Dyfed Archaeological Trust (reported by DAT), funded by Cadw, with the assistance of the PCNPA Archaeologist who worked with DAT volunteers, many of whom had also volunteered previously on PCNPA archaeological projects. However, the main role of the PCNPA Archaeologist was showing visitors (several hundred) around the excavation.

The PCNPA Archaeologist, PCNPA Ranger and volunteers helped with removal of rubbish, including most of a scrapped car, and erected temporary fencing keep out visitors after backfilling to enable the turf to re-grow along the frontage. Visits were paid during the year, and minor repairs the backfill turf carried out. Generally the reinstatement appears to have taken..

On 1/9/2015 (while on holiday) one of our former Arfodir volunteers from St Davids reported an unpleasant experience when encountering an individual who was putting up an art installation on the site of St Patricks Chapel and when asked not to do so (allegedly) became very abusive and threatening (Appendix 1). Immediately a site visit was made by PC. It would appear that the installation (see photo below) did not penetrate deep in to the soil. According to the Arfodir volunteer he hit stone. It was located approximately on the line of the north wall of the chapel and was outside the May excavation trenches. During the initial conversation with the installer, PC having outlined the facts that he was not entitled to erect this without permissions from Cadw, PCNPA (as land owners) and most likely also National Resources Wales, and his actions may encourage other such intrusions on the site. His attitude was quite aggressive and he appeared to be looking for a confrontation. However, with a lot of pacification it was agreed that he would take it down having photographed it. Evidently the intention was to put this on Facebook. PC declined to be photographed with it in case this was seen as approval. Returning at the end of the day the installation had been removed. Formal note of this aggressive meeting was forwarded to PCNPA. It is considered that no further action should be taken regarding the activity, as it is more likely to cause escalation.



Site of St Patrick's Chapel: Art installation. View N. 1/9/2015



*St Patrick's Chapel: consolidation of sea frontage, condition on 26/11/2014.
View NNE*

A few further visits were made during the winter months, especially after high seas, to check on erosion: the backfilled frontage appears to be holding up well and the turf is retaking.

Proposed Actions

- Monitor at intervals especially after high seas and tides

SAM PE 065 Garn Fawr Camp, Goodwick
(Cadw)

This small First World War lookout lies within the scheduled Garn Fawr fort at SM 8956 3887). It is built into a rocky outcrop within the fort, and consists of mortared stone walls on two sides and bedrock on two, with a door opening to the east, and window openings to the SW and NW providing extensive views over the Irish Sea. Its internal area is c. 1.2m by 1m. Stone and concrete steps lead up to the lookout from the S/SE. It is now roofless. Some pieces of masonry have recently fallen off the S wall – this is likely to be natural erosion rather than vandalism. The SW-facing stone window-cill has the inscription:

J.J.W. CALDERON
COMMANDER R.N.
D.J.W.EDWARDS
DEUPTY C.W R.R
1914

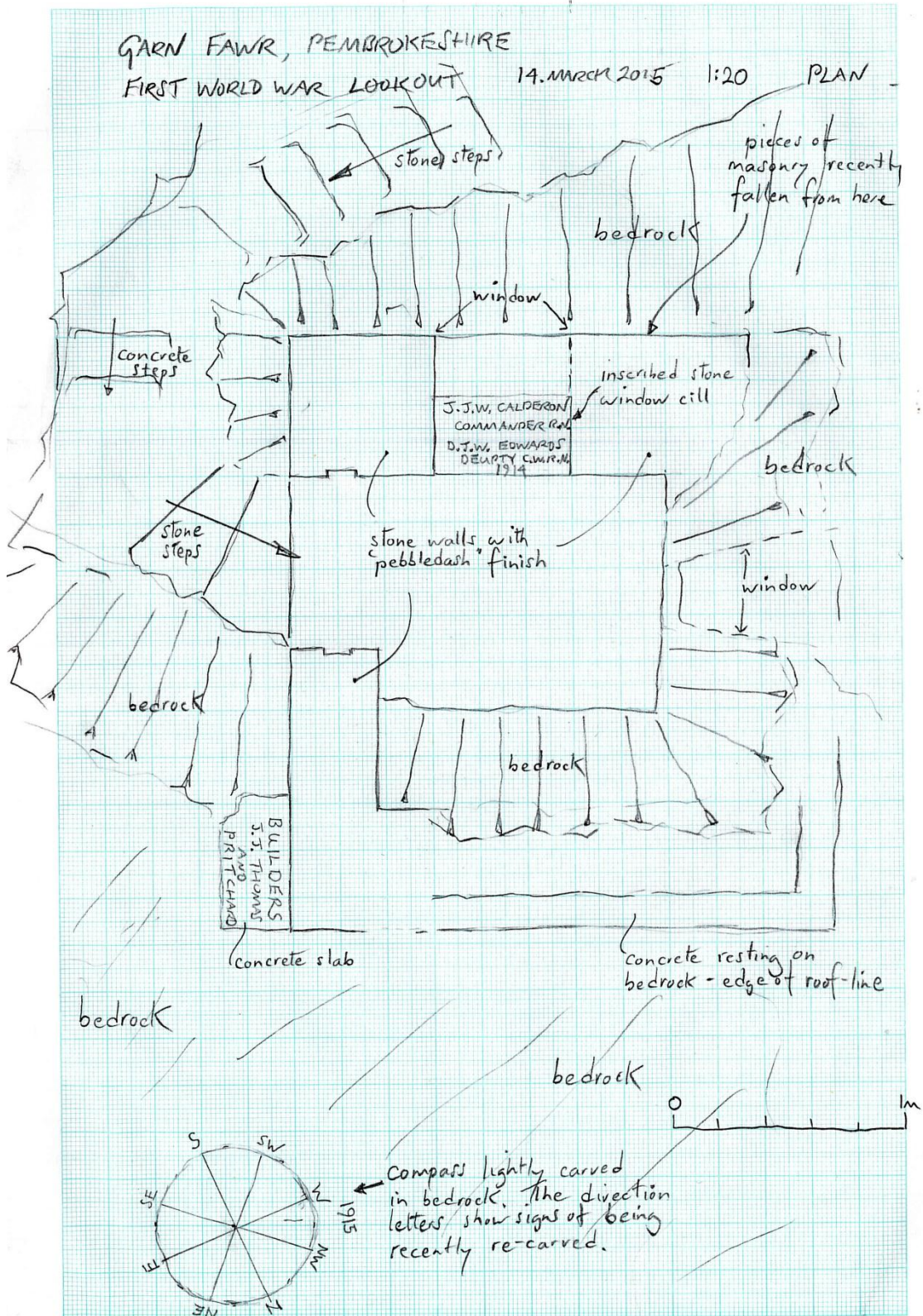
An external concrete pad on bedrock has the inscription:

BUILDERS
J.J. THOMAS
AND
? PRITCHARD

A compass, 0.7m diameter is carved onto bedrock about 1m to the NE of the lookout, with the date 1915 lightly carved above the 'W' point. The lettering on the compass (N, W, NE etc) shows signs of having been recently recurved, or at least refreshed.

This site was visited on 20/11/2014 to look at the graffiti reported by Roger Thomas. No trace of this was found.

There was no HER record of this site – one has now been created and the photographs and site drawing lodged with the HER. The history and function of this site is unclear. However, other probably military structures were noted towards the foot of Garn Fawr, and thus these and the lookout will be investigated as part of DAT First World War project.



Sketch plan of the Garn Fawr lookout.



*Garn Fawr: WWI lookouts post some graffiti showing below inscription. View S.
Scale 0.5m. 20/11/2014*



*Garn Fawr: Fallen masonry below WWI lookout post. View W. Scale 0.5m.
20/11/2014*



Garn Fawr: WWI lookout post. View W. Scale 0.5m. 20/11/2014

An arrangement had been made to visit the site with the National Trust Area Ranger, but the present Ranger is now leaving and it is considered that a site meeting would be more constructive when the replacement ranger is in post.

Proposed Actions

- pursue further if grazing can be re-introduced
- see if volunteers would make a detailed record of the lookout post and compare to earlier records to establish where damage has occurred recently

SAM PE 071 St. David's Head Camp
(PCNPA)

The site was visited as part of a guided walk in August and again in November as part of a walk leadership training group. No further damage to the interior has occurred, but a few stones may have moved adjacent to the fort's entrance.

SAM PE 161 Rock Hewn Cross 220m west of Church, Nevern
(PCNPA)

There appears to have been no further damage in 2014-5. Three or more visits were made to the site while working in the area. A few low denomination coins were removed from between the stones in order to discourage others and restricting damage,.

Proposed Actions

- Occasionally monitor to check for any further damage and that coins are being removed from between the stones (by the local community)

SAM PE 194 Watery Bay Rath

(PCNPA)

A site visit was made in November 2014 to look at an erosion pinch point to the Coast Path on the north side of the monument. Path erosion, just to the south side of the stream appears, if anything, to have improved with some secondary routes re-grassing (see photos below). Having obtained SMC the pinch point on the coast path was eased by cutting the path slightly back in December 2015; nothing of archaeological significance was encountered. The results of this work have been sent to Cadw and are copied again at the end of this report (appendix 2).



*Watery Bay Rath: footpath erosion to the south of the inner entrance. View S.
03/04/2013*



*Watery Bay Rath: footpath erosion to the south of the inner entrance. View S.
15/12/2014*

Proposed Actions

- Cadw to discuss with the National Trust the vegetation on the banks and to the east of the entrance

SAM PE 195 Great Castle Head, Dale

This site was not visited in 2014-5

Proposed Actions

- Monitoring at least every six months.

**SAM PE 197 Crugiau Cemmaes, Nevern
(PCNPA site visit, Cadw chasing up on adjacent auction)**

The site was visited on 18/11/2014, following information that a sale sign was present. The sign was for an auction on 29 September for the old reservoir between the two main barrows. Subsequently the estate agent was contacted and advised that the site had not sold. The guide price was £20,000, but the owners would be open to negotiations. Both Cadw and PCNPA estates were contacted but there did not appear to be any interest in taking on this asset.

The barrows are becoming increasingly overgrown as no grazing has taken place for some time, but there does not appear to be any recent badger activity around the southern barrows.



Crugiau Cemmaes: Vegetation on the northern of the southern two barrows taken from the reservoir area. View N. 18/11/2015

Proposed Actions

- PC to continue with efforts to replace and move the fencing around the southern two barrows

SAM PE 265 Black Point Rath, Broad Haven

Black Point Rath is shown on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map of 1889 as a univallate promontory fort. The map shows the fort naturally defended by high sea cliffs to the west and south, and by a curving bank approximately 120m long with an external ditch to the north and east. An entrance lies between the bank terminal at the south end and the edge of the cliffs. The internal area is about 120m E - W and 35m N - S, although it is likely that by 1889 a considerable amount had been lost to the sea. A report by Phillips in 1925 indicates the little erosion was then taking place, however by 1981 the site was collapsing and beginning to fall into the sea. DAT reported on this site in 2009 (Prehistoric Defended Enclosure: Remote Sensing - DAT report 2009/12), and collated data on the site. The site was reported on and a sketch map made in the PCNPA Archaeologist's report for 2013-14.

A visit as made with Area Ranger to look at access issues and a additional site visit was made on 7/10/2014 with Phil Lees, West Warden Manager to advise on safety should any excavation be undertaken on the site. The conclusions were:

- No work whatsoever should be undertaken on the fissured (southern) part of the site
- Work would be possible on the northern area (north of the ditch) provided that: personnel would need to be agile, agree safe route onto site (slope in NE corner, when underfoot not slippery (not after or during wet weather), excavate when vegetation low so any fissures less likely to be hidden
- Visit and risk assessment to be made just prior to undertaking any work
- Phil Lees to contact landowner for permission and access, plus his team would be able to drive equipment to over field to adjacent fence
- Site work would require SSSI consent

Two areas were identified where limited archaeological investigation could usefully and safely be undertaken:

- Clean up exposed face on north side of ditch to record the remains showing of chevaux de frise or palisade
- Excavate a wide hand cut trench across the counterscarp banks

In addition it is recommended that annual photographic recording of the site is undertaken from two fixed positions. These are marked A and B on the plan. This work has been done for 2015.



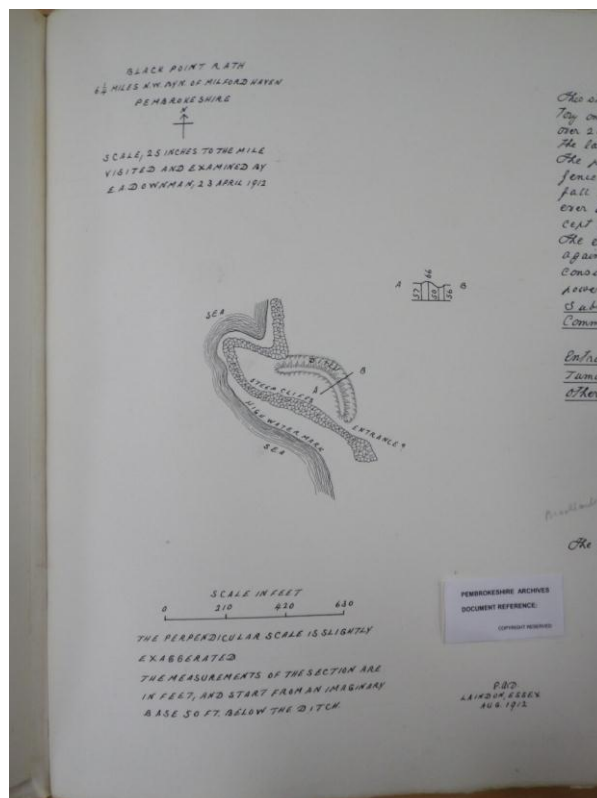
Plan of Black Point showing recommended positions for photographic recording of the site.



Black Point Rath – photographs taken from position A.



Black Point Rath – photographs taken from position B.



Black Point Rath: Downman's 1912 plan © Pembrokeshire Record Office – a source not consulted in DAT's 2009 report, which shows the fort in apparently good condition.

A small watching brief was undertaken adjacent to Black Point Rath for PCNPA on 3/12/2014 when a short section of the Coastal Footpath, approximately 17m to 20m long and maximum depth of cut 0.35m, was moved slightly inland (see below) after winter erosion of the landslip edge. All hand dug, soil disturbed was either turf or old plough soil with very few intrusions. One coal fragment was seen: possibly resulting from liming the land. Nothing archaeological was encountered.



Black Point Rath: adjacent footpath re-routing 3/12/2014. View N

Proposed Additional Actions

- Collate all of the information on this site. Conclusion to be published
- Consider de-scheduling as site is probably no longer of schedulable quality

SAM PE 273 Porth y Rhaw Camp, Solva

(Undertaken for both Cadw and PCNPA)

The footpath repairs, mention in the last report, were undertaken on 9/04-10/04/2014, and a new bridge made from old railway sleepers was placed over the stream (see photos below). The footpath cut back, at the pinch point by the stream revetment, was into a natural bank, topsoil and turf: no archaeological deposits were disturbed. However, the programmed footpath resurfacing still has not been done (hence the delay in reporting). It is still intended for this to be done when the works team have time and it is dry enough to bring materials over the adjacent fields.



Porth y Rhaw: before cutting back footpath into bank. View W. 9/04/2014



Porth y Rhaw: footpath as cut back. Scales 0.5m and 1m. View SE. 10/4/2014



Porth y Rhaw: rebuilt step/base for Sleeper Bridge. Scales 0.5m and 1m.
View SE. 10/4/2014



Porth y Rhaw: cut into bedrock for base of Sleeper Bridge. Scale 0.5m.
View W. 10/4/2014



Porth y Rhaw: Sleeper Bridge. Scale 2m. View SE. 3/12/2014



Porth y Rhaw: additional step added. View SE. 10/4/2014



Porth y Rhaw: cut and fill of water erosion gully in path below new step.
Scales 0.5m and 1m. View SE. 10/4/2014

The area of the burn from 2-3 years ago is recovering well (see photo below), but cliff edge erosion continues and a larger fall effecting the inner bank is considered likely in the near future. The eastern edge of the fort's interior and the end of the promontory are also noticeably eroding, but its western side appears stable, for the moment.



Porth y Rhaw: area of burn, now mostly recovered with turf. Scale 2m.
View NE. 3/12/2014

Proposed Actions

- Monitor erosion
- Watching brief to be undertaken during any re-surfacing

SAM PE 281 Tower Point Rath, St Brides

(For PCNPA)

The PCNPA Area Ranger, Archaeologist and volunteers spent one day this year undertaking clearance of vegetation on the defences. Horses are now grazing on the site from time to time, as part of a management agreement. The interior of the site is looking better than it has done for years.

PCNPA found finances for commissioning DAT to undertake a magnetometry survey, the fieldwork for which was undertaken in February, and Cadw will be sent a copy when complete. As part of this geophysical survey the PCNPA Ranger brush-cut two areas of bramble just inside of the entrance to help with the survey.

Proposed Actions

- Visit site in late 2015-16 to monitor the land management

SAM PE 295 Castell Heinif

(Undertaken for Cadw)

One site visit was made in the spring to assess erosion and re-growth on the area of the burn, along with a site meeting with the National Trust Ranger to discuss clearance of redundant barbed wire fencing and cutting back vegetation on the defences.

Part of the burnt area is recovering, but the exposed southern end is being eroded back to bedrock.

Some time was spent with two National Trust staff and seven volunteers when almost all of the barbed wire fencing was removed from the site. There is one small bit left on the hedge bank to the south of the defences. Almost all of the vegetation was removed from the inner bank revealing the (recent 18th/19th century?) revetment wall on the top of the bank (see photos below). A further work day is planned for late 2015 when the outer slope of the ditch is also to have the vegetation cut.



Castell Heinif: Overgrown inner bank. View NW. 9/1/2015



Castell Heinif: National Trust team. View N. 9/1/2015



Castell Heinif: inner bank and revetment wall as cleared. View NW. 9/1/2015

Proposed Actions

- Monitor any further erosion, especially to visit after any severe weather conditions
- Work again with NT volunteers to encourage clearance of vegetation from the outer side of the ditch

- Check what has been recorded on the site previously, especially the revetment wall

SAM PE 302 Sisters' House, Minwear

(Undertaken for Cadw)

It was intended that an archaeologist will be present at the beginning of the tree clearance work and also to monitor progress or any damage to the site. However, there appears to have been a breakdown in communications from those felling the trees. They appear to have undertaken more work in the early spring, unfortunately after a very wet winter and some further rutting has taken place, but this only appears to have affected the soft upper soils and in all likelihood there has been very little or no disturbance to the underlying archaeology.

A site visit was made on 22/10/2014 to observe tree felling work that had taken place. A further visit was made on 8/12/2014 with the Cadw Field Monument Warden to examine what work has taken place and intentions in the near future. A final visit was made with the appointed forestry worker and NRW woodland/bat officer Mary Chadwick to discuss and agree next phase of work. Subsequently Mary Chadwick has asked for one tree due to be felled to be left: this information has been passed on. It is planned that the large tree on the vault should come down this year.

No tree clearance has taken place around the walled garden and none is expected in the coming year.



Sister's House: trees cut from "chapel" vault. View E. 22/10/2014



Sister's House: vehicle rutting to west of site. Scale 2m. View W. 22/10/2014



Sister's House: house site to west, adjacent trees cut, minor trees on walls due to come down in 2015. Scale 2m. View W. 22/10/2014

Proposed Actions

- Meet contractors at the beginning of any further tree clearance. However, this is down to either the contractor or the tenant to make contact.
- Monitor during, and at the end of, each years' work on the tree clearing

- Make certain that any new planting is sympathetic to the monument
- Undertake a watching brief when the large tree is taken from the vault as there could be some damage
- Cadw are recommended to extend the scheduled area to include adjacent features, for example the walled garden and adjacent boundaries

SAM PE 303 Garn Wern, Goodwick

Cadw requested no further input from PC in 2014

SAM PE 312 Glyn Gath Round Barrow, Newport

(Undertaken for Cadw)

A site visit was made on 18/12/2014 after Judith Wainwright reported vehicle damage to the site. The damage only appears minor and it is likely that this was someone taking food to horses being grazed nearby. JW knows a number of people with horses in the area and will put the word around that this area should not be driven over. No further action was taken.



Glyn Gath: minor vehicle rut (misty wet day). Scale 1m. View W. 18/12/2015

Proposed Actions

- Visit in 2015, but not a priority

SAM PE 323 Deer Park Promontory Fort, Martins Haven

(Undertaken for PCNPA)

The site was visited on 15/10/2014 while doing work nearby for PCNPA. The southern end of the main fort bank is continuing to erode as is the end of the square enclosure just inside.



*Deer Park: southern end forts bank. Scales 1m and 1m. View W.
15/10/2014*



Deer Park: southern end of square enclosure bank. Scales 1m and 1m. View W.
15/10/2014

Proposed Actions

- Contact National Trust to find out their intentions and see if they would like any advice or help

- Suggest geophysical survey of at least the area of the square enclosure and depending on results partial excavation of the threatened end of this site

SAM PE 336 Dale Fort

No further work has taken place in the entrance area, but further grazing has taken place and some vegetation clearance has been undertaken by PCNPA staff and volunteers in early 2015, under the supervision of the PCNPA Archaeologist.

SAM PE 361 Bedd Morris, Newport

(Undertaken for PCNPA)

The site was visited on 24/4/2014 as part of a tour for the Friends of PCNP. The monument appeared in good condition.

Proposed Actions

- Occasionally monitor the site when nearby

SAM PE 398 East Blockhouse (Henry VIII's), Angle

(Undertaken for Cadw)

A site visit was made on 15/10/2014 after a report of partial collapse.



East Blockhouse: recent collapse. View N. 15/10/2014

Proposed Actions

- Visit in 2015 when in the area

- As previous - It is recommended that this site is monitored at least once a year, preferably in the spring as landslips are more likely over the winter. Of particular importance are the scant remains of the second building, more of which may be revealed as the cliff edge erodes

SAM PE 404 The Old Castle, Newport

(Undertaken for PCNPA)

The site was seen on 28/11/2014 while undertaking guided walk training with PCNPA. The condition of the site appeared very much as previous, but there may be some Japanese Knotweed on a short length of outer bank near the coast path.

Proposed Actions

- Monitor scrub, particularly any signs of Japanese Knotweed, and burrows annually

SAM PE 410 Gribin Promontory Fort, Solva

(Undertaken for PCNPA)

PCNPA commissioned a geophysical survey in February 2015 and a copy of this report is due to be sent to Cadw. RCAHMW have been contacted and hope to annotate their survey plan in the very near future and it is hoped that this can be included in the DAT geophysical survey report.

Proposed Actions

- RCAHMW to output topographic survey

SAM PE 429 Cottage, Mill and Lime Kiln at Caerbwdy

(Undertaken for Cadw)

A site visit was made on 7/5/2014 to see if any work had been done on the mill as part of the Tir Gofal condition. No work had been carried out. Natural Resources Wales do not appear to regard following up on this lack of action as their concern.



*Caerbwdy Mill: still over grown (Mill to left and behind bridge). View NW.
7/5/2014*

Proposed Actions

- Cadw should consider taking up the lack of Tir Gofal agreed action.

SAM PE 436 Limekilns at Kiln Park, Tenby

No action has been done on the last three years' recommendations, which are listed below: proposed actions to only be implemented if either Cadw or PCNPA consider these actions a priority.

Proposed Actions

- To look at history of limekilns in general within the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park, with a view to help with any information required regarding history of the site and putting it in context
- To establish if PCNPA staff and/or volunteers are available to assist with vegetation clearance

SAM PE 464 Bedd Arthur, Crymmych

(Undertaken for PCNPA)

This site was visited while undertaking a reconnaissance for a guided walk on 2/5/2014. The site is being grazed. However, the sheep scrapes filled in a couple of years ago have reappeared and the three stones affected could topple in the near future unless action is taken.



Bedd Arthur: general view. View SW. 2/5/2014



Bedd Arthur: three stones being compromised again by sheep scrapes. View NE. 2/5/2014

Proposed Actions

- Visit early in spring 2015 and after summer 2015
- Sheep scrapes to be repaired?

SAM PE 483 First World War Practice Trenches, Penally

No action has been taken by PCNPA or as part of the Cadw SAM enhancement on last three years' recommendations (these are re-listed below). However the Penally History Group have been very active in gathering information, putting up an information panel on the adjacent footpath, production of a leaflet walk and an annual exhibition on the First World War around Penally.

Proposed Actions

- Produce detailed plans and photos of scrapes and holes then monitor at yearly intervals
- Possibly very small notices about WWI trenches could be placed on nearby Coastal Footpath gates

Frainslake Sands, Castlemartin

There was little peat showing during a visit in August 2014. Access to this beach and adjacent archaeological features will be more difficult as new military activity is likely to mean that this area is out of bounds

Proposed Actions

- Should be monitored at least annually or when possible

Trefrane Cliff Colliery, Nolton PRN 7266

No action has been taken on 2013 recommendation and this is re-listed below, and will be subject to Cadw or PCNPA priorities.

Proposed Actions

- Investigate the intentions of the new owners with a view to establishing a working relationship regarding this site.

Ridge Fort, Solva

PCNPA found finances for commissioning DAT to undertake a magnetometry survey, the fieldwork for which was undertaken in February and Cadw will be sent a copy when complete. The National Trust intends to intermittently have the site grazed.

Proposed Actions

- *Visit site in late 2015-16 to monitor the land management as gorse and bracken regrowth may be a problem soon*
- Recommend scheduling site

APPENDIX 1

Email from Arfodir volunteer concerning incident at St Patrick's Chapel

Hi Pete,

Thanks for your phone call regarding the vandalism of the chapel site at Whitesands today. I am sorry that you too felt threatened and intimidated by the individual responsible, who I have been informed by the car park attendant is a man called Shaun (?Sean) Dove.

Having reported it to you when you were in Oriel Y Parc, I discussed what had happened with Paula Ellis and we both tried to contact Ian Meopham. We thought it likely that you would need back up as this highly aggressive man is large and looked quite fit. To be honest, I was really shaken by the whole incident. As we could not contact Ian, Paula called the police and I spoke to them at length last night.

He is known to them and they have logged the incident on file so that if any of us have any further problems with him, we can report it to them immediately using the reference number DP20140901-215. They have also told me not to hesitate to use 999 if he is threatening in any way.

It might be worth getting this reference number through to CADW - I will leave that with you.

Sorry that this put blight on a sunny day - but there you go!!

Liz Taylor

APPENDIX 2

WATERY BAY RATH (PE 194): COAST PATH CUT-BACK WATCHING BRIEF 02/12/2014

Summary

Due to continued slow cliff erosion on the north side of the Iron Age fort's defences the coast path was becoming potentially dangerously close to the cliff edge. A small length of the path was moved slightly further back from the edge; only topsoil and bedrock were encountered.

Introduction

A short section of the coastal path on the north western end of the inner defensive bank had been identified by Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority (PCNPA) staff as becoming potentially dangerous due to slight cliff erosion which was being exacerbated by water run-off from the path. It was considered that moving the existing path (Figure 1, Photo 1) back by 0.5m to 1m would suffice for the foreseeable future. Should further erosion become a problem a suitable alternative route around the outside of the fort's defences already exists. This alternative route could then be used while a new, more intrusive route through the fort's defences is considered.

Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) was obtained from Cadw with the conditions that an archaeologist should be in attendance during groundworks, and if anything of significance was found a full report would be submitted. If not, a covering letter would suffice (this letter).

Methodology and Results

On 02/12/2014 approximately 20m length of the coast path was moved back from the cliff by an additional 0.5m to 1m. The digging was undertaken by three PCNPA staff using spades and mattocks, plus the PCNPA archaeologist in attendance. The southern end of this realignment started just inside the fort's north western interior where the coast path cut through the small cliff edge bank (Photo 2) that still exists along the coastal edge of this fort. This location is where Trench 10 of the Time Team evaluation was excavated (Wessex Archaeology 2012): this recut and re-fill (Photo 3) across the small coast bank appeared to all lie within Time Team's backfilled trench. To the north east of this, the path was cut back into the very bottom of the eroded inner bank and also further along into the rise of the bank on the outside of the inner ditch (Photos 3 and 4). The maximum cut depth was 0.35m; up to 0.25m of this was topsoil below which was rab bedrock. There was no other apparent stratification. No archaeological features, other than the eroded ends of the banks, or artefacts were found.

Conclusion

This small amount of path re-alignment has made this part of the coast path much safer while causing almost no further disturbance to the remains of the Iron Age fort. Furthermore the infilling of the coast path's cut across the small coastal bank should stop any more downwards erosion caused by walkers.

Sources

Wessex Archaeology 2012 Ref: 77508 Watery Bay Rath and Gateholm, Pembrokeshire

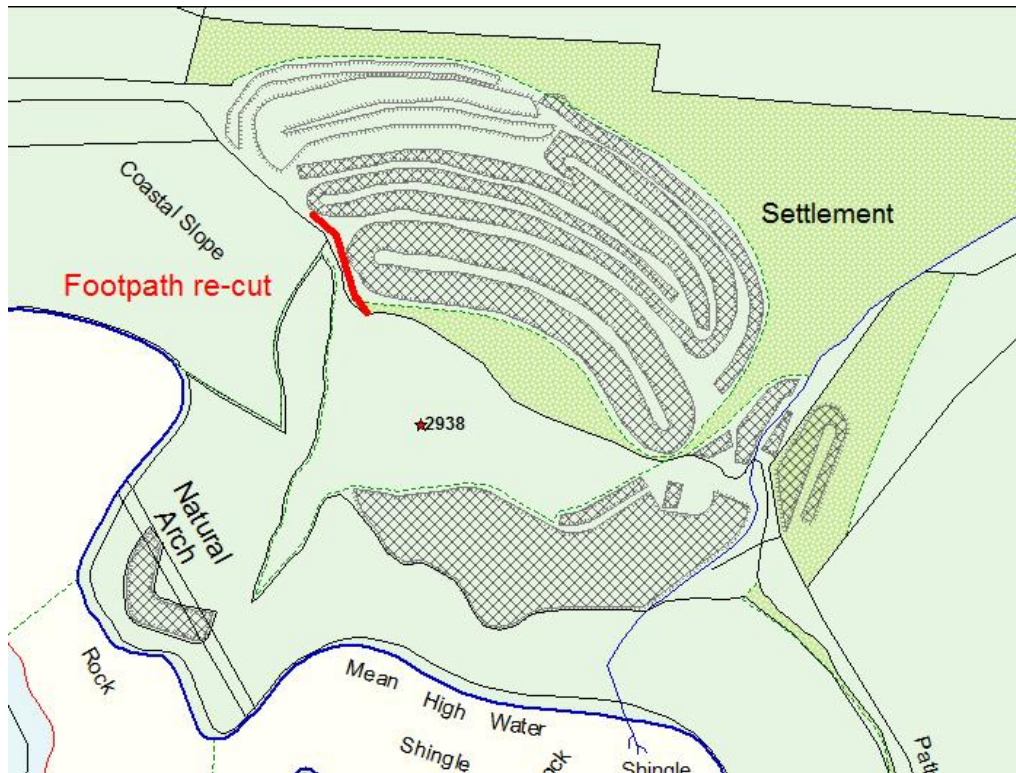


Figure 1: Watery Bay Rath, footpath re-cut

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Photo 1: Watery Bay Rath, erosion pinch point adjacent to path. View NNW



Photo 2: Watery Bay Rath, footpath erosion across bank where Time Team cut their trench. View NNW



Photo 3: Watery Bay Rath, re-alignment of path across bank 2/12/2014. View N



Photo 4: Watery Bay Rath footpath re-alignment as cut 2/12/2014. View N



Photo 5: Watery Bay Rath, footpath re-alignment as cut 2/12/2014. View S

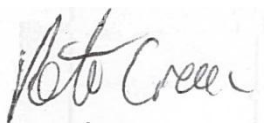
**REPORT ON WORK UNDERTAKEN ON SCHEDULED ANCIENT
MONUMENTS WITHIN THE PEMBROKESHIRE COAST
NATIONAL PARK 2014-15**

REPORT NUMBER 2015/10

March 2015


This report has been prepared by P Crane

Position: Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Archaeologist

Signature  Date 10 March 2015

This report has been checked and approved by K Murphy
on behalf of Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Position: Trust Director

Signature  Date 12 March 2015

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

