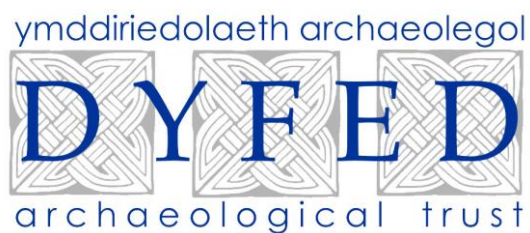


CASTELL MEURIG, CARMARTHENSHIRE (CM099) ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust
For: Dr Ruth Mayes



DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

REPORT NO. 2022-43

EVENT RECORD NO. 129481

October 2022

**CASTELL MEURIG, CARMARTHENSHIRE (CM099)
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

by

Marion Shiner

The report has been prepared for the specific use of the client. Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited can accept no responsibility for its use by any other person or persons who may read it or rely on the information it contains.

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf
Corner House, 6 Stryd Caerfyrddin,
Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA19 6AE
Ffon: Ymholiadau Cyffredinol 01558 823121
Epost: info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk
Gwefan: www.archaeolegdyfed.org.uk

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited
Corner House, 6 Carmarthen Street,
Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AE
Tel: General Enquiries 01558 823121
Email: info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk
Website: www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk

*Cwmni cyfyngedig (1198990) ynghyd ag elusen gofrestredig (504616) yw'r Ymddiriedolaeth.
The Trust is both a Limited Company (No. 1198990) and a Registered Charity (No. 504616)*
CADEIRYDD CHAIR: Judith Wainwright MA MSc FIC FRSA CYFARWYDDWR DIRECTOR: K Murphy BA MIFA

CASTELL MEURIG, CARMARTHENSHIRE (CM099)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Client

Dr Ruth Mayes

Event Record No

129481

Report No

2022-43

Project Code

FS21-025

Report Prepared By

Marion Shiner

Fieldwork Undertaken By

Marion Shiner and Hubert Wilson

Illustrated By

--

Report Approved By

Fran Murphy

Rev Number	Description	Undertaken	Approved	Date
_V2	Edited report	MS	PP	21/12/2022
_V3	Edited report	CK	FM	13/07/2023

CASTELL MEURIG, CARMARTHENSHIRE (CM099)
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY/CRYNODEB GWEITHREDOL	1
1 INTRODUCTION	2
1.1 Project Commission	2
1.2 Scope of the Project	2
1.3 Report Outline	3
1.4 Illustrations	3
1.5 Timeline	3
2 THE SITE	6
2.1 Location and Topography	6
2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background	7
2.3 Previous Archaeological Investigations	13
3 WATCHING BRIEF METHODOLOGY	14
3.1 Fieldwork	14
3.2 Timetabling of Fieldwork	14
3.3 Post-Fieldwork Reporting and Archiving	14
4 WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS	15
5 CONCLUSIONS	21
6 SOURCES	22
 APPENDIX I: WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION	 23
APPENDIX II: SCHEDULED MONUMENT CONSENT	31
APPENDIX III: SCHEDULED MONUMENT CONSENT SITE PLAN	41

TABLES

Table 1:	Archaeological and historical timeline for Wales	3
-----------------	--	---

FIGURES

Figure 1:	Site location map	4
Figure 2:	Plan showing position of proposed works	5
Figure 3:	Artist's impression of a motte and bailey castle	8
Figure 4:	Extract of the 1839 Llangadog parish tithe map	9
Figure 5:	Extract of the Llangadog parish tithe schedule	10
Figure 6:	Extract of the 1891 Ordnance Survey map	11
Figure 7:	Extract of the 1907 Ordnance Survey map	11
Figure 8:	Extract of the 1953 Ordnance Survey map	12

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photograph 1:	Showing work to remove the most southerly spoil heap	16
Photograph 2:	Showing work to remove the most southerly spoil heap	16
Photograph 3:	The decorative hinge found during spoil heap removal	17
Photograph 4:	North facing section of soakaway trench	17
Photograph 5:	West facing section of soakaway trench	18
Photograph 6:	South facing section of soakaway trench	18
Photograph 7:	Showing the natural in the south-east corner of the soakaway trench	19
Photograph 8:	North end of the east facing section of the soakaway trench	19
Photograph 9:	South end of the east facing section of the soakaway trench	20

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned to undertake a watching brief during groundworks to formalise drainage and track creation work at Castell Meurig, Carmarthenshire (CM099; NGR SN 70915 27550). The development site is a motte and bailey castle, a defensive structure used during the medieval period. The proposed development was therefore considered to have the potential to impact upon nationally important archaeological remains.

No stratified archaeological deposits were recorded during the watching brief and all artefacts recovered were of post-medieval or modern date.

CRYNODEB GWEITHREDOL

Comisiynwyd Gwasanaethau Archeolegol YAD i gynnal brîff gwylio yn ystod y gwaith daear i ffurfioli gwaith draenio a chreu traciau yng Nghastell Meurig, Sir Gaerfyrddin (CM099; NGR SN 70915 27550). Castell tomen a beili yw safle'r datblygiad, strwythur amddiffynnol a ddefnyddiwyd yn ystod y cyfnod canoloesol. Ystyriwyd felly y gallai'r datblygiad arfaethedig effeithio ar weddillion archeolegol o bwysigrwydd cenedlaethol. Ni ddaethpwyd ar draws unrhyw ddyddodion archeolegol haenedig yn ystod y brîff gwylio ac roedd yr holl arteffactau a ddarganfuwyd yn dyddio o'r cyfnod ôl-ganoloesol neu fodern.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Commission

- 1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Dr Ruth Mayes to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the excavation of a soakaway for a cess pit and track creation work at Castell Meurig, Llangadog, Carmarthenshire (NGR SN 70915 27550; Figs 1 and 2).
- 1.1.2 Castell Meurig is a motte and bailey castle, a defensive structure used during the medieval period and is a scheduled monument (CM099; Fig 3).
- 1.1.3 Scheduled monument consent (SMC) has been granted by Cadw to formalise drainage and track creation work already undertaken and to complete these works at the above scheduled monument, subject to a number of conditions (Appendix II). Condition C states:

No works, including site clearance, shall commence until Cadw has been informed in writing, of the name of an appropriately qualified archaeologist operating to CIfA published standards and guidance who will carry out an appropriate programme of archaeological mitigation works on the area subject to the unauthorised works, i.e. survey areas of disturbance and record exposed sections, and watching brief during completion works, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, Cadw. No work shall commence until Cadw has confirmed in writing that the proposed archaeologist and archaeological works are acceptable.

1.2 Scope of the Project

- 1.2.1 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) for an archaeological watching brief was prepared by DAT Archaeological Services and approved by Cadw prior to the commencement of the works (Appendix 1). The WSI outlined the project objectives as:

- Provision of a written scheme of investigation to outline the methodology for the watching brief which DAT Archaeological Services will undertake;
- To monitor ground works in order to identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits;
- To establish the state of preservation, character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits identified;
- To appropriately investigate and record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the groundworks; and
- Production of a report and an archive of the results.

- 1.2.2 The overall work was summarised as:

Archaeological attendance and recording during groundworks associated with the completion of the following works: (i) drainage works and soakaway, (ii) track, (iii) removal of spoil tips and (iv) making good the ground surface within the scheduled area of Castell Meurig (CM099), Llangadog, Carmarthenshire.

- 1.2.3 The groundworks were being undertaken during improvement works at Bryn Meurig, an early twentieth-century house located within the bailey of Castell Meurig.

- 1.2.4 The archaeological works were undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* and their codes of conduct (CIfA 2014).

1.3 Report Outline

- 1.3.1 This report provides a summary and discussion of the archaeological watching brief and its results.

1.4 Illustrations

- 1.4.1 Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale. On maps, north is towards the top of the page unless otherwise indicated.

1.5 Timeline

- 1.5.1 The following timeline (Table 1) is used within this report to give date ranges for the various archaeological periods that may be mentioned within the text.

Table 1: Archaeological and historical timeline for Wales

Period	Approximate date	
Palaeolithic	c.450,000 – 10,000 BC	Prehistoric
Mesolithic	c. 10,000 – 4400 BC	
Neolithic	c.4400 – 2300 BC	
Bronze Age	c.2300 – 700 BC	
Iron Age	c.700 BC – AD 43	
Roman (Romano-British) Period	AD 43 – c. AD 410	Historic
Post-Roman / Early Medieval Period	c. AD 410 – AD 1086	
Medieval Period	1086 – 1536	
Post-Medieval Period ¹	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20th century onwards	

¹The post medieval and industrial periods are combined as the post medieval period on the Regional Historic Environment Record as held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust

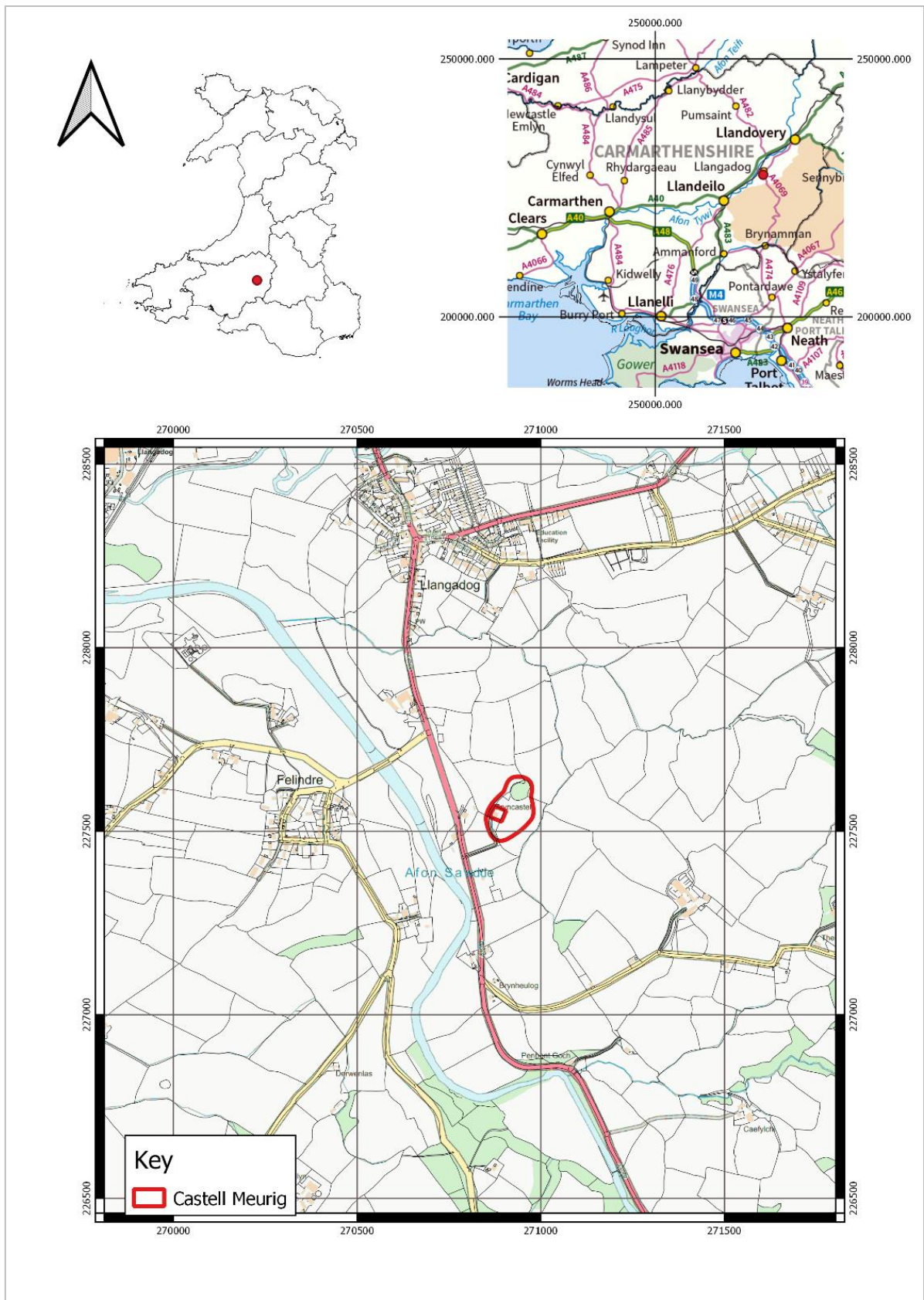


Figure 1: Site location map showing the proposed development area (in red).

(Source: OS Open Data Hub. Miniscale: A simple overview map of the Great Britain. Credit OS, ONS)

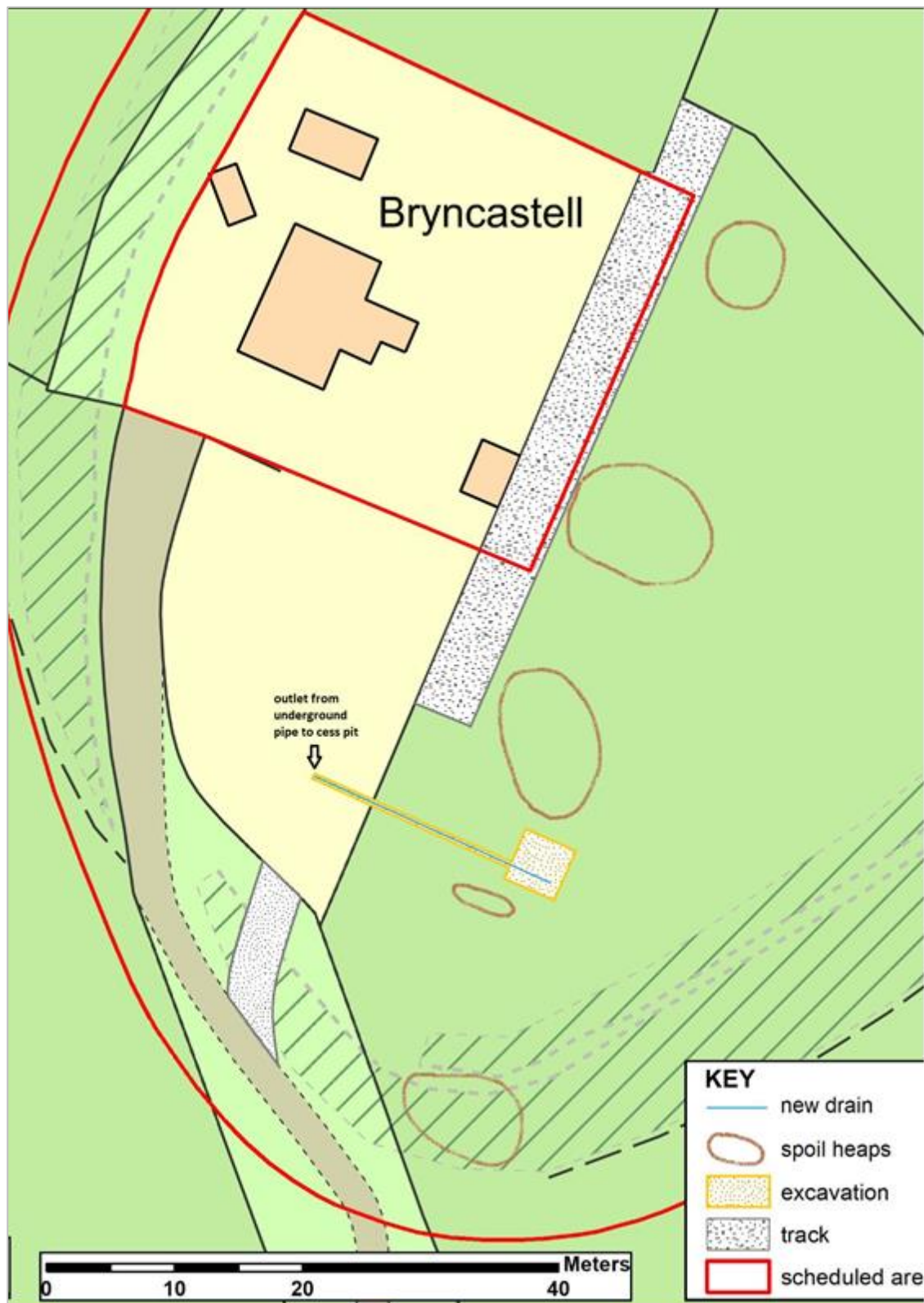


Figure 2: Plan showing position of proposed works (Cadw SMC).

2. THE SITE

2.1 Location and Topography

- 2.1.1 The site is located on the eastern side of the A4069 which connects the village of Llangadog, a little to the north, with Brynamman on the south side of the Black Mountain. The market town of Llandeilo and the county town of Carmarthen are c.6 miles and c.20 miles to the south-west, respectively.
- 2.1.2 The underlying bedrock geology consists of the Llandeilo Flags Formation of sandstone, limestone and argillaceous rocks, sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 465.5 and 449 million years ago during the Ordovician period. The bedrock is overlain by fluvial sands and gravels laid down in a river or estuary within the past 3 million years (BGS online).
- 2.1.3 The summit of Castell Meurig motte is c.60m above sea level (AOD). The bailey occupies a gentle, south facing slope at c.50m AOD. The whole site occupies a natural mound within the Tywi valley and overlooking the Afon Sawdde, which flows into the Tywi a little to the north. To the west of the bailey, the land falls steeply to the Sawdde.
- 2.1.4 The property known as Bryn Meurig is located within the castle bailey, close to the western side of the enclosure bank. Access to the property is via a tarmacked drive off the A4069; this drive has bisected the bank to the south. The garden, and two small outbuildings, are to the rear of the property.

2.2 Archaeological and historical background

- 2.2.1 Castell Meurig is a motte and bailey castle, a defensive structure dating from the medieval period (Fig 3). The following summary description is from the scheduled monument report produced by Cadw.

The monument comprises the remains of a motte and bailey castle, a military stronghold built during the medieval period. A motte and bailey castle comprises a large conical or pyramidal mound of soil or stone (the motte) surrounded by, or adjacent to, one or more embanked enclosures (the bailey). Both may be surrounded by wet or dry ditches and could be further strengthened with palisades, revetments, and/or a tower on top of the motte. Castell Meurig is located upon a natural mound within the broad valley of the River Tywi at the entrance to the side valley of the Afon Sawdde to the south east. It comprises a motte 10m high and 15m in diameter across the top surrounded by a ditch 2m deep. The bailey is sub-rectangular, c. 170m long, 100m wide and lies to the south of the motte. It is surrounded by a single bank 2-2.3m high externally, up to 1m high internally, with traces of the ditch surviving on the west and east long sides. The castle is mentioned in the Pipe Rolls for 1160 and is recorded as destroyed in 1209. The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of medieval defensive organisation. The well-preserved monument forms an important element within the wider medieval context and the structure itself may be expected to contain archaeological information relating to chronology, building techniques and functional detail. The scheduled area comprises the remains described and areas around them within which related evidence may be expected to survive.

- 2.2.2 According to Hall and Sambrook (2020), Castell Meurig dates from a turbulent period of Welsh history that saw frequent fighting in the Tywi Valley between the rulers of Deheubarth and the Anglo-Norman invaders of Wales. Motte and bailey castles represent campaigning warfare and were originally of Norman construction, but they were also copied by the Welsh, making it difficult to identify which side created each of the many examples that exist. The bank enclosing the bailey would originally have been topped by a wooden palisade, and a wooden tower would have stood atop the mound. Sometimes these were replaced by a stone tower, e.g., at Cardiff Castle. Castell Meurig is thought to have been badly damaged in c.1209, during an attack on its Anglo-Norman garrison by Rhys Gryg of Deheubarth (Hall and Sambrook 2020, 8).

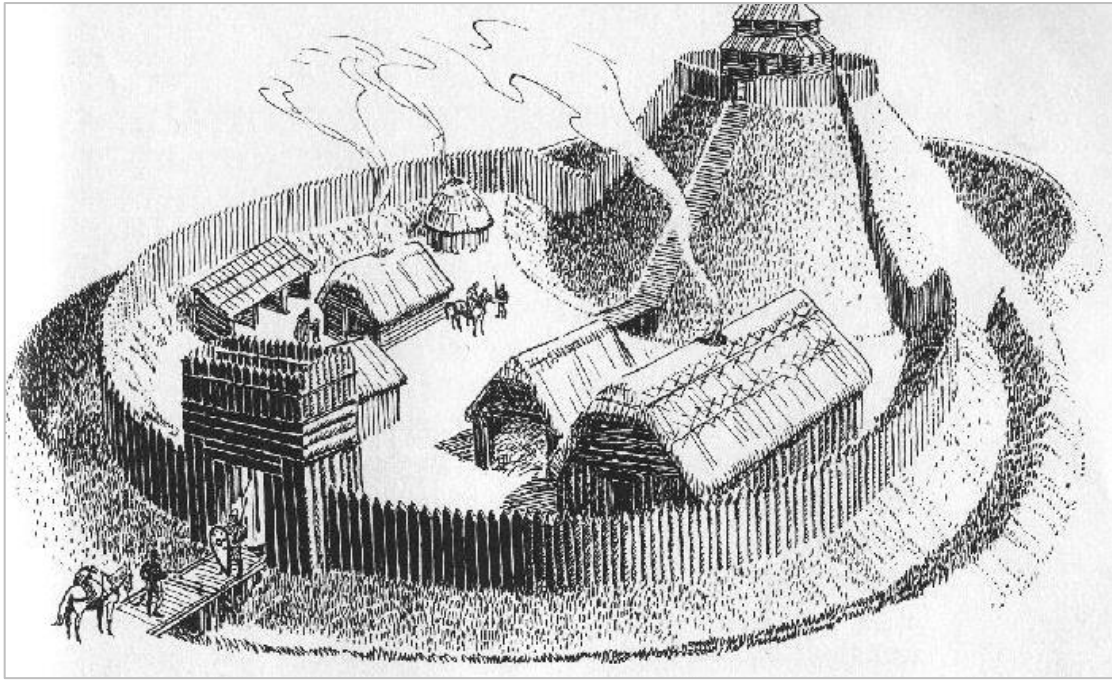


Figure 3: Artist's impression of a motte and bailey castle (© Castles of Wales)

- 2.2.3 Castell Meurig is the only medieval site and the only scheduled monument recorded within a five hundred metre radius of the development site on the Dyfed Historic Environment Record (HER). It is also the earliest dated site in that area, as all other records in the vicinity are of post-medieval or modern sites; predominantly farmsteads and structures, such as bridges and weirs. Three hundred and fifty metres to the north-west of Castell Meurig, Glansawdde and Glansawdde Toll House are Grade II Listed Buildings (Cadw LB refs 21986 and 21985).
- 2.2.4 The 1839 Llangadog parish tithe map shows the location of Castell Meurig (Fig 4). At this time the site was part of the holding of Glansawdde. The tithe schedule shows that it was owned by a John William Lloyd, and farmed by his tenants, Edward Rees and George Morgan (Fig 5). It has not been possible to read the entry corresponding to the land on the schedule but it may be '*Randir y grind*'.
- 2.2.5 Castell Meurig is also shown on the first and second editions of Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping of Carmarthenshire, which were published in 1869 and 1907 (Figs 6 and 7). However, the development site, the property known as Bryn Meurig within the bailey, does not appear until the 1953 edition, where it is shown, but not named (Fig 8).

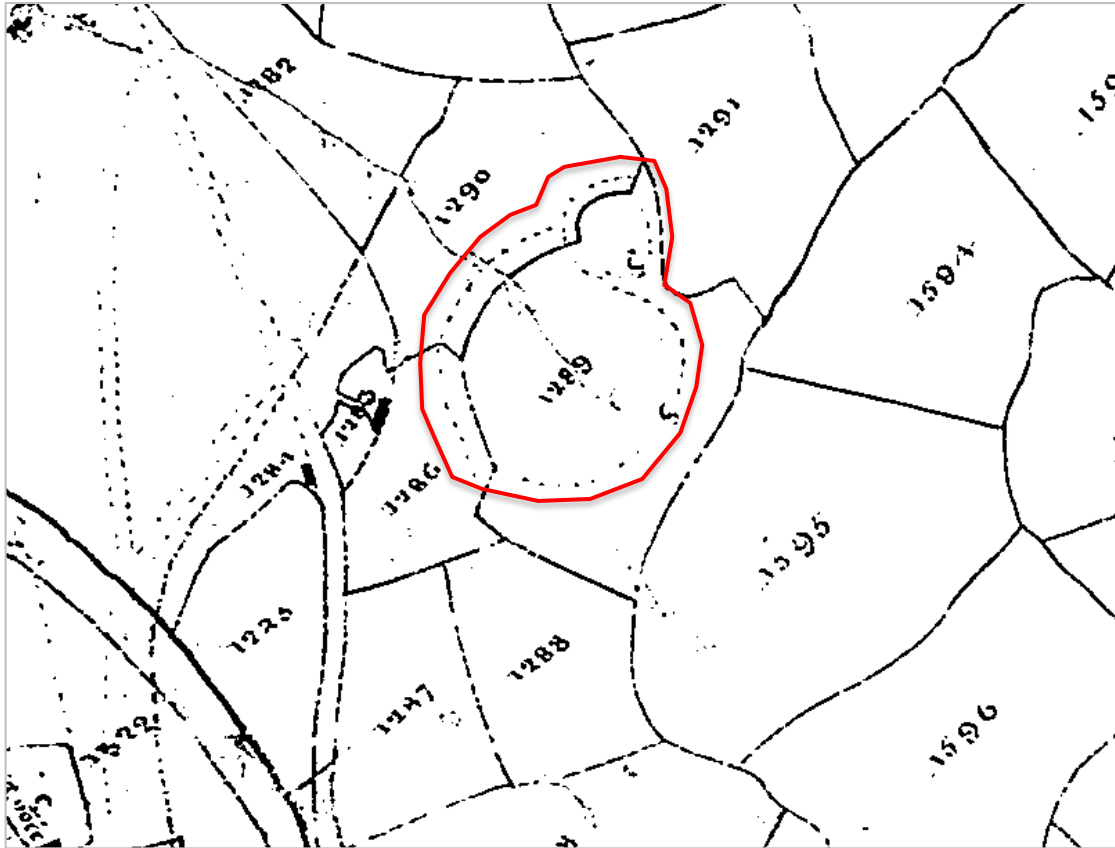


Figure 4: Extract from the 1839 Llangadog parish tithe map
(motte and bailey outlined in red).

		Llangawdde					
Peter Edwards & Horgan George	1272	Cae all best uelaf	1	3	10		
	1273	all uaf	5	1	20		
	1274	Cae pen gawn	2			1	
	1275	Cae bryn mawr	4	3	15	1	
	1276	R Ew ynn	5	1	18		
	1277	Cae Hafell	3	3	22		
	1278	Common	1	2	10		
	1279	Bridings Garden			30		
	1280	R Ew ynn	3	3	26		
	1281	Cae fwell Cam uaf	1	3	25		
	1282	Cae r gwyn	2	2	16		
	1283	House and Garden		1	6		
	1284	Gryffs land		3	8		
	1285	Cae Llwyn mawr	1	1	30		
	1286	Cae Llwyn mawr	2	1	10		
		Dan Castell					
	1287	all uaf	2	3			
	1288	all uelaf	2	3	30		
	1289	Manoir y groud	4	1	38		
	1290	Cae Castell	2	2			
	1291	Cae fwell y groud	1		15		
	1292	Cae fwell gam uelaf	5	2	26		
	1293	Cae Llanmot	5		12		
	1294	Cae Glas	4	3	5		
	1295	Llwyn ynn	4	3	26		
	1297	Gwirth y dan ynn fwell	2		38		

Figure 5: Extract from the Llangadog parish tithe schedule, showing the entry for land at the development site (No. 1289).

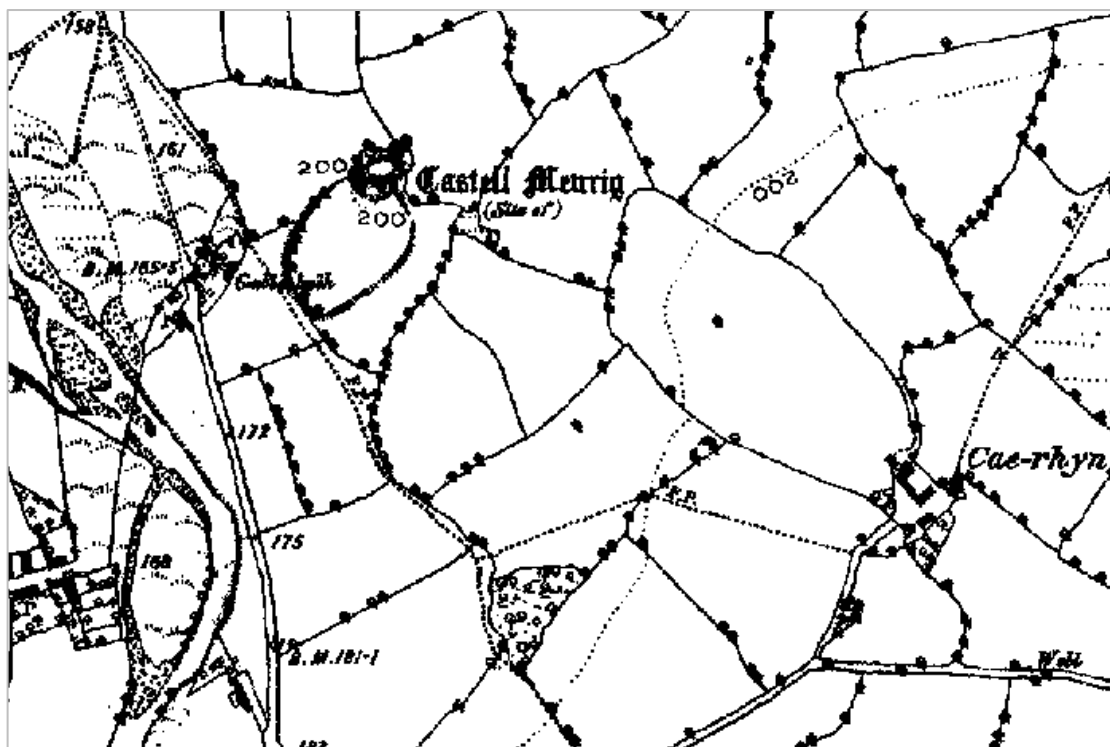


Figure 6: Castell Meurig motte and bailey as depicted on the first edition 6" Ordnance Survey map, published in 1891.

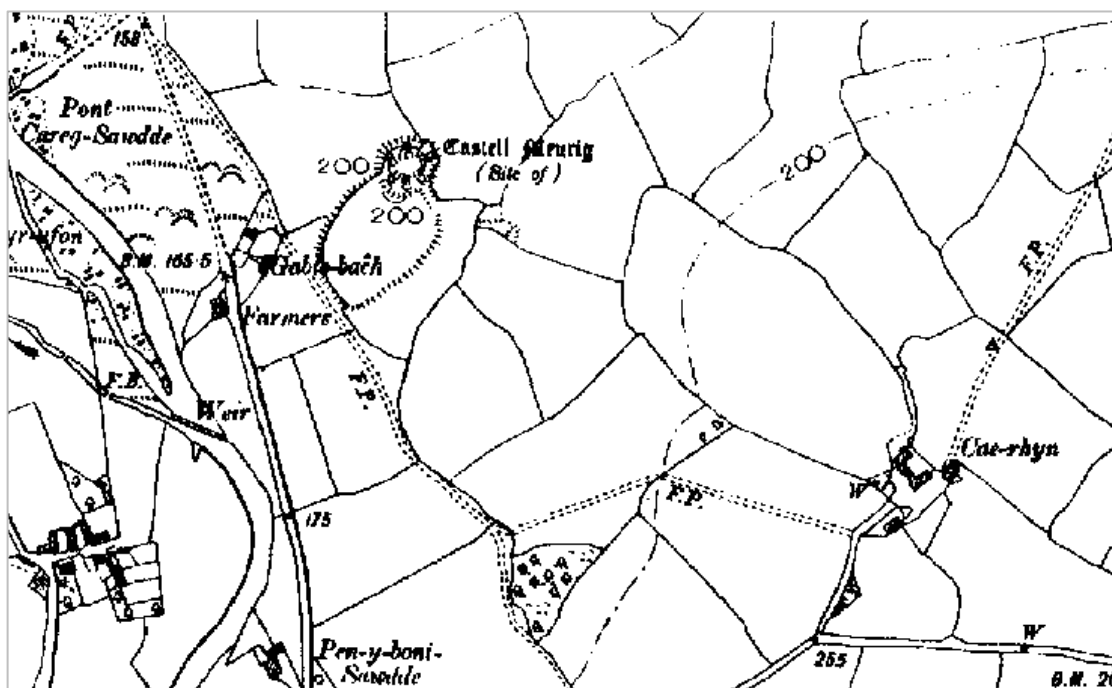


Figure 7: Extract from the second edition 6" Ordnance Survey map published in 1907.

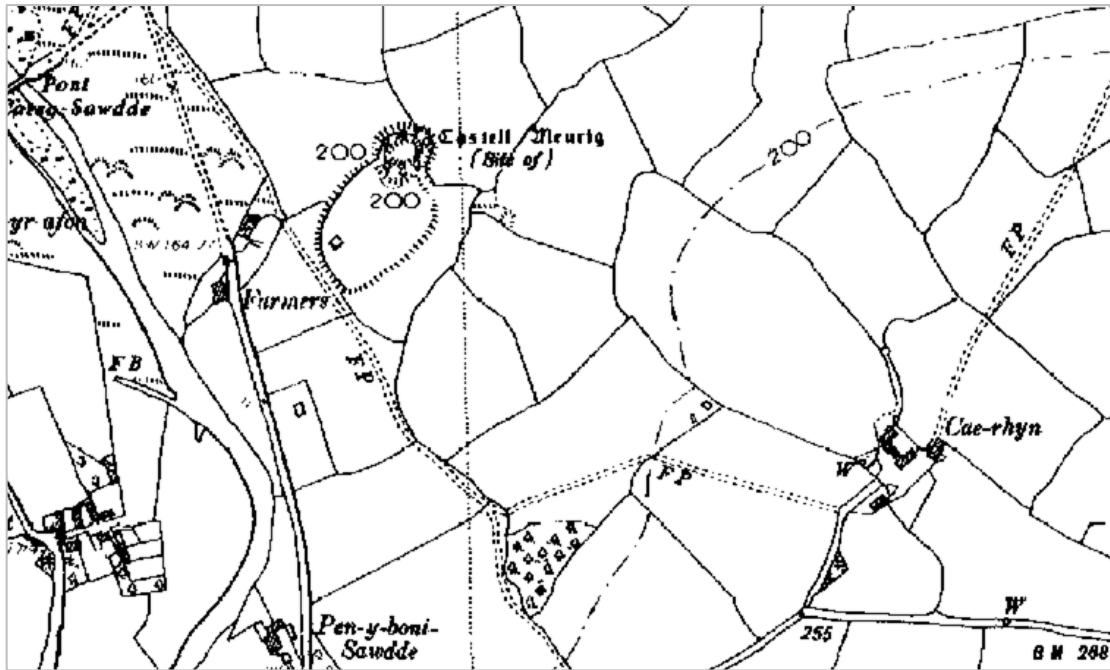


Figure 8: Extract from the revised 1907 OS map, with additions of 1948, published in 1953. Bryn Meurig is shown, but not named, within the bailey of Castell Meurig.

2.3 Previous Archaeological Investigations.

- 2.3.1 Castell Meurig has not been the subject of archaeological excavation, and no excavations have taken place in the wider area.
- 2.3.2 In 2020, a desk-based assessment was undertaken to examine the likely impacts on the historic environment from the proposed development of a touring caravan park at Brynderwen, two hundred metres to the south of Castell Meurig. This identified a low potential impact on the setting of the monument, but noted the archaeological potential represented by that site (Hall and Sambrook 2020, 1).

3. WATCHING BRIEF METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork

- 3.1.1 The watching brief was undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA 2014).
- 3.1.2 A written scheme of investigation (WSI) detailing the proposed archaeological works was prepared by DAT Archaeological Services (Appendix 1).
- 3.1.3 Recording of all archaeological features or deposits conformed to best current professional practice and was carried out in accordance with the Recording Manual used by DAT Archaeological Services (adopted from the Recording Manual developed by English Heritage Centre for Archaeology and available on-site for inspection if required). Written, drawn and photographic records were maintained throughout this watching brief and all contexts encountered were recorded.
- 3.1.4 Three spoil tips resulting from drainage and track creation work were removed from the area within the bailey under archaeological supervision. This work was undertaken using a 7.5 tonne mechanical excavator fitted with a flat grading bucket, and a tractor with a tipping trailer.
- 3.1.5 The sections within a soakaway trench, previously excavated within the bailey, were cleaned and recorded archaeologically.
- 3.1.6 A GPS survey of the track, soakaway trench and drainage trench was undertaken.

3.2 Timetabling of Fieldwork

- 3.2.1 The watching brief took place over two days on 3rd and 4th October 2022. The weather was overcast but mostly dry.

3.3 Post-Fieldwork Reporting and Archiving

- 3.3.1 All data recovered during the fieldwork will be collated into a site archive structured in accordance with specifications in *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2011), and the procedures recommended by the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth.
- 3.3.2 The results of the fieldwork have been assessed in local, regional and wider contexts. The report includes a desk-based research element to ensure that the site is placed within its wider archaeological context.
- 3.3.3 A report fully representative of the results of the fieldwork has been prepared.

4. WATCHING BRIEF RESULTS

- 4.1 No archaeological evidence relating to the medieval use of the site was revealed during the removal of the three spoil tips (Photos 1 and 2). A small number of post-medieval and modern artefacts was present which included a heel plate from a boot, fragments of white, and blue and white glazed pot, two glass salad cream bottles (c.1940s), occasional animal bone and fragments of brick, tile, slate, and stone with mortar adhering. The most interesting artefact to be recovered was a small, decorative copper alloy hinge of unknown function (Photo 3).
- 4.2 The soakaway trench measured approximately 4m square by a maximum of 0.72m deep. Cleaning of the north facing section revealed a dark brown topsoil that was a maximum of 0.11m deep. This overlay a lighter brown subsoil that was a maximum of 0.46m deep, with flecks of coal and orangey stone throughout (Photo 4).
- 4.3 Cleaning of the west facing and south facing sections revealed them to be almost identical. Neither had any discernible topsoil; instead, a homogenous mid-brown, friable silty clay with flecks of coal and orangey stone throughout was present. This was of similar character to the subsoil seen in the north facing section, but a little darker in colour. This deposit was present throughout the west facing section with the exception of the north-east corner, where the natural yellow clay geology was visible from 0.55m below ground level to the base of the section at 0.66m (Photo 5). In the south facing section, the natural geology was visible below the subsoil along the entire 2.7m length of the section, from a minimum depth of 0.55m to the base of the section at 0.72m in the north-west corner (Photos 6 and 7).
- 4.4 The east facing section of the soakaway trench was truncated by a c.1.4m wide open drainage trench running east from the soakaway. To the north of that opening, the section measured 1.65m north-south by c.0.66m deep (Photo 8). An undulating layer of topsoil was present for a maximum of 0.4m below the turf line. It was a mid-brown, with occasional small to medium angular stones. Below the topsoil, a light brown subsoil with flecks of coal and orangey stone throughout was present for a maximum of 0.61m to the base of the trench.
- 4.5 To the south of the drainage trench opening, the east facing section of the soakaway trench measured 0.96m north-south by 0.56m deep (Photo 9). A layer of dark brown topsoil present below the turf was a maximum of 0.16m deep, with small to medium-sized stones present towards the base. Below it was a light brown subsoil with flecks of coal and orangey stone. This was a maximum of 0.45m deep. Approximately 0.25m south of the opening for the drainage trench, a c.0.30m long area of natural yellow clay was observed at a minimum depth of c.0.15m below the turf line.



Photo 1: Showing work to remove the most southerly spoil heap. Looking south, no scale.



Photo 2: Showing work to remove the most southerly spoil heap, scar left by the middle heap visible in foreground. Looking south, no scale.



Photo 3: The decorative copper alloy hinge found during the removal of spoil heaps, 10 cm intervals on scale.



Photo 4: The north facing section of the soakaway trench. Looking south, 1m and 0.5m scales.



Photo 5: The west facing section of the soakaway trench. Looking east, 1m and 0.5m scales.



Photo 6: The south facing section of the soakaway trench. Looking north, 1m and 0.5m scales.



Photo 7: Showing the natural in the base of the sections at the south-east corner of the trench. Looking south-east, 0.5m scale.



Photo 8: The northern end of the east facing section in the soakaway trench. Opening to infilled drainage trench to the left of picture. Looking west, 1m and 0.5m scales.



Photo 9: The southern end of the east facing section in the soakaway trench. Infilled drainage trench to the right of the picture. Looking west, 0.5m and 1m scales.

5. CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during groundworks associated with the excavation of a soakaway for a cess pit and track creation work at Castell Meurig, Llangadog, Carmarthenshire.
- 5.2 The development site is located within the bailey of Castell Meurig motte and bailey castle. Therefore, it was considered highly likely that features or deposits relating to the medieval or post-medieval periods might be present within the area, with the potential that they might be damaged or destroyed by intrusive activity. As a result, Cadw requested that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken during any groundworks.
- 5.3 Post-medieval and modern artefacts were present within the spoil heaps associated with track creation and drainage works. In addition to domestic items, they included fragments of brick, tile, slate, and stone with mortar adhering, suggesting demolition, in the past, of a built structure, probably a former outbuilding.
- 5.4 Archaeological cleaning and recording within a soakaway trench revealed a consistent sequence of deposits. The lowest deposits comprised a yellow clay geological deposit appearing sporadically at depths of between 0.15m and 0.55m below current ground levels. This was overlaid by a light to mid brown silty-clay subsoil with flecks of coal present, with undulating topsoil above. No deposits of archaeological interest or cut features were revealed.
- 5.5 No evidence for medieval or earlier activity was revealed during the watching brief and no damage to significant archaeological deposits was found to have occurred as a result of groundworks.

6. SOURCES

CIfA. 2014, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*

Hall, J. & Sambrook, P. 2020. *Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for a Touring Caravan Development at Brynderwen, Llangadog*. Unpublished Trysor report no 2020/732, Available at
<https://walesher1974.org/her/app/php/herumd.php?level=3&group=DAT&tb=her_source1&docid=301375207> Accessed 11.11.2022

APPENDIX I:

CASTELL MEURIG, CARMARTHENSIRE (CM099) ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This written scheme of investigation has been prepared by DAT Archaeological Services in response to a request from Ruth Mayes to provide an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the excavation of a soak away for a cess pit and track creation work at Castell Meurig, Llangadog, Carmarthenshire (NGR SN 70915 27550; Figures 1 and 2).
- 1.2 The requirement for a scheme of archaeological mitigation has been placed upon the excavation by Cadw as the site is a scheduled monument (CM099, HER PRN 5515). Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) has been granted by Cadw to formalise drainage and track creation work already undertaken and to complete these works at the above scheduled monument (APPENDICES I AND II).
- 1.3 The conditional scheduled monument has been approved for formalising works already undertaken without consent and completion of these works: (i) drainage works and soakaway, (ii) track, (iii) removal of spoil tips and (iv) making good the ground surface within the scheduled area.
- 1.4 Castell Meurig is a motte and bailey castle, a defensive structure used during the medieval period (Figure 3). The following summary description is from the scheduled monument report produced by Cadw.

The monument comprises the remains of a motte and bailey castle, a military stronghold built during the medieval period. A motte and bailey castle comprises a large conical or pyramidal mound of soil or stone (the motte) surrounded by, or adjacent to, one or more embanked enclosures (the bailey). Both may be surrounded by wet or dry ditches and could be further strengthened with palisades, revetments, and/or a tower on top of the motte. Castell Meurig is located upon a natural mound within the broad valley of the River Tywi at the entrance to the side valley of the Afon Sawdde to the south east. It comprises a motte 10m high and 15m in diameter across the top surrounded by a ditch 2m deep. The bailey is sub-rectangular, c. 170m long, 100m wide and lies to the south of the motte. It is surrounded by a single bank 2-2.3m high externally, up to 1m high internally, with traces of the ditch surviving on the west and east long sides. The castle is mentioned in the Pipe Rolls for 1160 and is recorded as destroyed in 1209. The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of medieval defensive organisation. The well-preserved monument forms an important element within the wider medieval context and the structure itself may be expected to contain archaeological information relating to chronology, building techniques and functional detail. The scheduled area comprises the remains described and areas around them within which related evidence may be expected to survive.

- 1.5 The following written scheme of investigation outlines the methodology through which DAT Archaeological Services will undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks at the site, which have the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains. The written scheme of investigation and its successful implementation will be required in order to satisfy the Scheduled Monument Consent.

- 1.6 The written scheme of investigation is in accordance with the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014).
- 1.7 DAT Archaeological Services has considerable experience of this type of project and always operates to best professional practice. DAT Archaeological Services is the contractual arm of Dyfed Archaeological Trust that has its own Health and Safety Policy, and all works are covered by appropriate Employer's Liability and Public Liability Insurances. Copies of all are available on request.
- 1.8 Dyfed Archaeological Trust is a CIfA Registered Organisation, and all permanent staff are CSCS registered.**

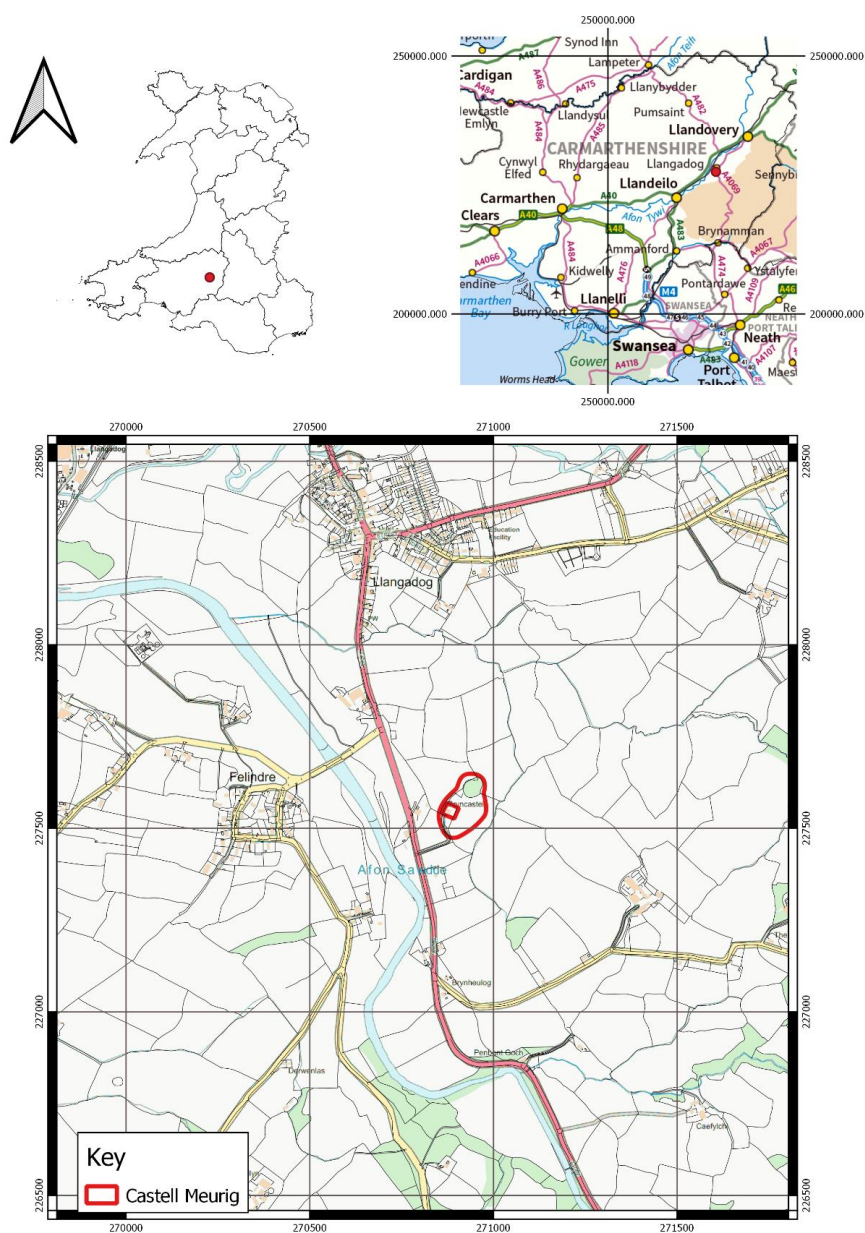


Figure 1: Site location map. (Source: OS Open Data Hub. Miniscale: A simple overview map of the Great Britain. Credit OS, ONS).

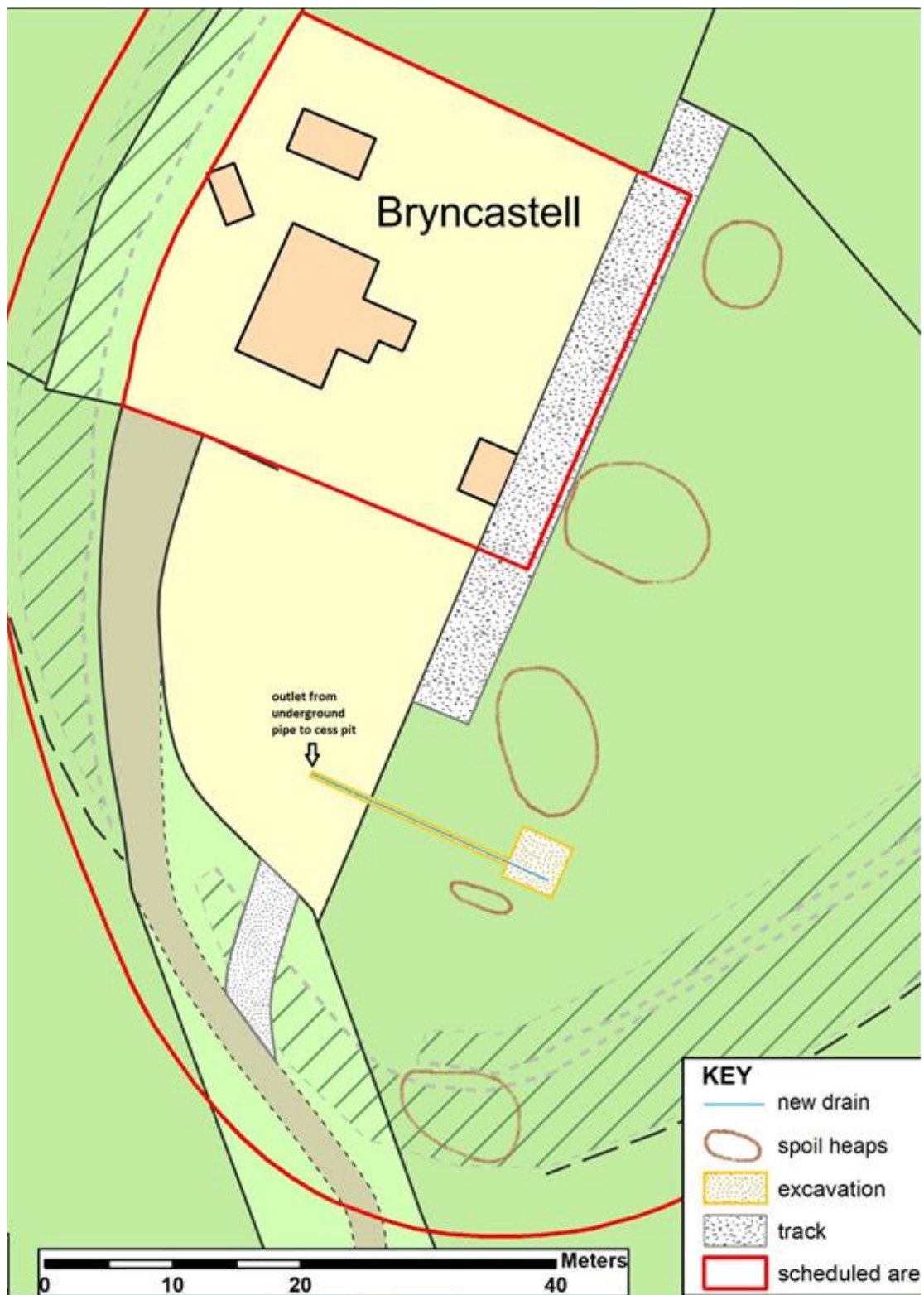


Figure 2: Plan showing position of proposed works (Cadw SMC).



Figure 3: Aerial photograph showing the earthworks of Castell Meurig (© DAT AP92-119.49).

2. WATCHING BRIEF

2.1 The definition of an archaeological watching brief, taken from the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance: for Archaeological Watching Briefs (CIfA S&G: AWB 2014) is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.

2.2 The purpose of a watching brief, as laid down in the CIfA S&G AWB is:

to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works;

to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment.

2.3 This document provides a scheme of works for:

Archaeological attendance and recording during groundworks associated with the completion of the following works: (i) drainage works and soakaway, (ii) track, (iii) removal of spoil tips and (iv) making good the ground surface within the scheduled area of Castell Meurig (CM099), Llangadog, Carmarthenshire.

3. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 Provision of a written scheme of investigation to outline the methodology by which DAT Archaeological Services will undertake the archaeological watching brief.
- 3.2 To monitor groundworks in order to identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
- 3.3 To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed groundworks.
- 3.4 To appropriately investigate and record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the groundworks.
- 3.5 To produce an archive and report of any results.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 A watching brief will be maintained during groundworks associated with the excavation of a soak away and a cess pit at Castell Meurig (CM099), where there is the potential for archaeological remains to be exposed, damaged or destroyed. These groundworks could include but are not limited to, ground clearance, levelling, foundation excavations.
- 4.2 The archaeologist would monitor the groundworks works and aim to identify any archaeological remains that may be present. They will have the authority to halt groundworks in areas where archaeological remains are identified until they have been further investigated and recorded.
- 4.3 Adequate time must be made available to the visiting archaeologist to ensure that appropriate recording can be undertaken of any archaeological features or deposits exposed during the watching brief.
- 4.4 Features containing deposits of environmental significance will be sampled. The samples will be retained in stable conditions until analysis can be arranged.
- 4.5 All deposits will be recorded by archaeological context record sheet, scale drawing, photography and site notebooks. All individual deposits will be numbered using the open-ended numbering system in accordance with a recognised system, such as the DAT Archaeological Services' Recording Manual. Significant deposits will be recorded by scale drawing (no less than 1:20); drawn plans will be related to Ordnance Datum and, where possible, known boundaries. A digital photographic record will be maintained as a minimum using a high-resolution camera, with photographic information recorded for all photographs taken.
- 4.6 All archaeologically significant artefacts, ecofacts and samples will be retained and, where possible, related to the contexts from which they derived. Sensitive materials will be stored in appropriately stable conditions. Finds will be temporarily stored by DAT Archaeological Services in stable conditions. All finds, except those deemed to be Treasure, will remain the property of the landowner, but it is assumed that permission will have been given by the landowner for these to be stored as part of the archive in a suitable repository (ownership will still be with the landowner).
- 4.7 Under the 1996 Treasure Act, "treasure" can be summarised as:
 - Any object other than a coin containing at least 10% gold or silver and at least 300 years old;

- Any prehistoric assemblage of base metal;
 - Coins found together which contain 10% gold or silver (but no single coins) and groups of at least 10 coins of other metals, provided they are at least 300 years old;
 - Any object found associated with treasure except unworked natural objects; and
 - Any object which would have been Treasure Trove before the 1996 Act but not covered above.
- 4.8 In the event that unforeseen archaeological discoveries are made during the development, or where unexpected archaeological remains of high significance are exposed, the appointed archaeological contractor will have the power to halt any ground works and shall inform the client and Development Management – Dyfed Archaeological Trust and prepare a written statement with plan detailing the archaeological evidence. Following assessment of the archaeological remains by all parties, if required, a contingency scheme for salvage excavation of affected archaeological features may need to be implemented. This event would need to be covered by contingency financial arrangements within the project budgets.
- 4.9 In the event of the discovery of human remains, all remains will be left in situ. If removal is necessary, it will only take place following the granting of all permissions in writing by the relevant authorities (a burial licence granted from the Ministry of Justice).

5. POST-FIELDWORK REPORTING AND ARCHIVING

- 5.1 An archive will be prepared if it meets the requirements of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust archive retention policy (2018). If it does, then data recovered during the watching brief will be collated into a site archive structured in accordance with the specifications in Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation (Brown 2011), and the procedures recommended by the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth. The National Standards for Wales for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives produced by the Federation of Museums and Art Galleries of Wales will also be adhered to. Digital archives will be collated using the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales systems (2015) and deposited with the RCAHMW. The Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs) shall be followed.
- 5.2 The results of the fieldwork will be assessed in local, regional and wider contexts.
- 5.3 The results will be used to inform subsequent design considerations of the proposed development so that they can aim to avoid impacts upon any archaeological remains or that further archaeological mitigation can be implemented before such remains are disturbed.
- 5.4 The project archive, including all significant artefacts and ecofacts (excepting those which may be deemed to be Treasure) will be deposited with an appropriate body following agreement with the landowner (if retained and containing more than just digital information).
- 5.5 DAT Archaeological Services will arrange for the deposition of finds, and ascertain the costs of storage and deposition, with an approved

body before the project commences and inform the curator of the arrangement which has been made.

5.6 A summary of the project results, excluding any confidential information, may be prepared for wider dissemination (e.g. Archaeology in Wales and special interest and period-specific journals).

5.7 The report will be prepared to follow the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (CIfA S&G: AWB 2014).

5.8 Digital copies of the report will be provided to the client, as well as the Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Development Management.

5.9 Appropriate specialists to be used by DAT Archaeological Services include:

- **Industrial Archaeology** –Jennifer Protheroe-Jones, Principal Curator – Industry, National Waterfront Museum, Swansea
- **Post-medieval / medieval pottery** – Dee Brennan (local independent specialist)
- **Prehistoric Pottery** – Dr Alex Gibson (formerly of University of Bradford / now independent pottery specialist)
- **Prehistoric Flint** – Dr Andrew David (formerly of English Heritage, now independent lithics specialist)
- **Radiocarbon dating** - Beta Analytic
- **Animal Bones** – Worcester Archaeology
- **Fish bones** – Jennifer Browning (University of Leicester Archaeological Services)
- **Environmental / Pollen analysis** – Worcester Archaeology

6. STAFF

6.1 The project will be managed by Fran Murphy MCIfA, Head of DAT Archaeological Services.

6.2 The on-site works will be undertaken by experienced archaeologists, from DAT Archaeological Services.

7. QUALITY ASSURANCE

7.1 DAT Archaeological Services has considerable experience of undertaking all categories of archaeological fieldwork and always operates to best professional practice; adhering to CIfA guidelines where appropriate. The Trust is a Registered Organisation with CIfA and all staff abide by their code of conduct and adhere to their relevant standards and guidance.

7.2 DAT Archaeological Services operate robust internal monitoring procedures that ensure that the standard of each project is maintained from commencement to completion.

8. MONITORING

8.1 The watching brief may require monitoring by the Cadw Regional Inspector, who should be told of the commencement of the works. The

fieldwork may also need to be monitored by the Head of DAT Archaeological Services.

- 8.2 All parties should be provided with free access to the site at any time during the watching brief works.

9. HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 9.1 All DAT Archaeological Services staff are CSCS¹ registered.
- 9.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services will carry out a health and safety risk assessment to ensure that all potential risks are minimised.
- 9.2 All known health and safety risk and the presence of any services etc must be made known to the attending archaeologist at the start of any ground works by the client/site contractor.
- 9.3 All relevant health and safety regulations must be followed, including compliance with Welsh Government guidelines on working practices during the current Covid-19 Pandemic, and guidance issued by CIfA.
- 9.4 CIfA advise that Registered Organisations should ensure they are familiar with the latest *Site Operating Procedures*, published by the Construction Leadership Council (Version 4, updated 18th May 2020) and the latest *Covid-19 Working Advice Ver.1.1*, published by Prospect (5th May 2020), which addresses potential issues relating to archaeological site work. These procedures will be attached to the project risk assessment. If the site cannot operate in line with this guidance then the project archaeologist will not be allowed to attend.
- 9.5 The project risk assessment details the precautions put in place to reduce the spread of Covid-19 Coronavirus during fieldwork.
- 9.7 All site inductions, H&S procedures and site rules of the site contractor will be made known to DAT Archaeological Services staff prior to them commencing work on-site.
- 9.8 Safety helmets, high visibility vests and boots are to be used by all site personnel as necessary. The site contractors will make all archaeological staff aware of any other PPE² that may be required and provide them. Archaeological staff must not enter any area where there is a considered to be a health and safety risk that has not or is not being appropriately mitigated against.
- 9.9 DAT Archaeological Services staff must ensure that their presence on site is communicated to all relevant site staff, especially machine operators.

10. ARBITRATION

- 10.1 Any dispute or disagreement arising out of a contract in relation to this work shall be referred for a decision to the Chartered Institute of Archaeologist's arbitration scheme.

¹ Construction Skills Certification Scheme (Health and Safety Tested)

² Personal Protection Equipment

APPENDIX II:

SCHEDULED MONUMENT CONSENT



Welsh Government
Ty'r Afon,
Heol Bedwas/ Bedwas Road
Caerfili/ Caerphilly
CF83 8WT
0300 025 6000
cadw@gov.wales/cadw@llyw.cymru
www.cadw.gov.wales

Dr Ruth Mayes
Bryncastell
Llangadog
SA19 9BS

Eich cyfeirnod Your reference	CM099
Ein cyfeirnod Our reference	DH
Dyddiad Date	30 June 2021
Linell uniongyrchol Direct line	0300 0256004
E-bost Email:	scheduledmonuments@gov.wales

Dear Dr Mayes,

ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL AREAS ACT 1979 APPLICATION FOR SCHEDULED MONUMENT CONSENT CASTELL MEURIG (CM099)

1. Introduction

1.1 Thank you for your application of 7 June 2021 to Cadw for scheduled monument consent to formalise drainage and track creation work already undertaken and to complete these works at the above scheduled monument.

1.2 Cadw is a Department within the Welsh Government that undertakes the statutory functions of the Welsh Ministers in determining applications for scheduled monument consent.

1.3 Each application for scheduled monument consent is considered on its own merits in accordance with *Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales* ([Conservation Principles](#)) and Annex A of *Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (TAN 24)*. In particular, TAN 24 explains that the main purpose of scheduling is to ensure the preservation of ancient monuments and, when considering an application for scheduled monument consent, there is a presumption against proposals which would involve significant alteration or cause damage or which would have a significant impact on the setting of remains.

2 Assessment

2.1. Your application and supporting documentation has been assessed by our Regional Inspector of Ancient Monuments who has recommended that conditional

Mae Gwasanaeth Amgylchedd Hanesyddol Llywodraeth Cymru (Cadw) yn hyrwyddo gwaith cadwraeth ar gyfer amgylchedd hanesyddol Cymru a gwerthfawrogiad ohono.

The Welsh Government Historic Environment Service (Cadw) promotes the conservation and appreciation of Wales's historic environment.

Rydym yn croesawu gohobaeth yn Gymraeg ac yn Saesneg.
We welcome correspondence in both English and Welsh.



scheduled monument consent should be approved for formalising works already undertaken without consent and completion of these works: (i) drainage works and soakaway, (ii) track, (iii) removal of spoil tips and (iv) making good the ground surface within the scheduled area. The reasons for the Inspector's conclusions are set out in **Annex A** of this letter.

2.2. I have carefully considered the impact of the proposed development on the scheduled monument and its setting in light of the advice that I have received from our Regional Inspector of Ancient Monuments. I have no reason to disagree with the advice of our Regional Inspector and am satisfied that his recommendation is consistent with the objectives of Conservation Principles and TAN 24.

3. Decision

3.1. Accordingly, I hereby approve conditional scheduled monument consent for the proposed works as outlined in section 1.1.

3.2. In reaching this decision, I have taken into account the requirement of sections 3 and 5 of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act. I consider that this decision is in accordance with the Act's sustainable development principle through its contribution towards the Welsh Ministers' well-being objective of *A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language*.

3.3. Any development control issues associated with wider development will be a matter for any application for planning permission. It is the responsibility of the applicant to establish whether any further approval or consents are required for the proposed development.

4. Proposed Conditions

4.1. The following proposed conditions are intended to protect the monument from damage or significant alteration as set out in TAN 24: *The Historic Environment* and to ensure that details of the project are archived.

- a) The applicant shall provide Cadw with reasonable advance notice of commencement of works on site and shall afford access at all reasonable times to any Cadw official or archaeologist nominated by Cadw to monitor progress of the works;
- b) The approved works shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the application form, plans and documents as listed below. No variations are permitted unless they have been authorised in advance, in writing, by Cadw;

Number	Document / plan	Reference Number (if applicable)	Date
1	SMC application form signed by Ruth Mayes and		18/06/2021

	dated 7 th June 2021		
--	------------------------------------	--	--

- c) No works, including site clearance, shall commence until Cadw has been informed in writing, of the name of an appropriately qualified archaeologist operating to CIfA published standards and guidance¹ who will carry out an appropriate programme of archaeological mitigation works on the area subject to the unauthorised works, i.e. survey areas of disturbance and record exposed sections, and watching brief during completion works, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, Cadw. No work shall commence until Cadw has confirmed in writing that the proposed archaeologist and archaeological works are acceptable;
- d) A digital copy of the draft archaeological report shall be submitted to Cadw for approval within 8 weeks of the archaeological fieldwork being completed²;
- e) A digital copy of the approved archaeological report shall be submitted to the regional Historic Environment Record and National Monuments Record of Wales to be incorporated into these public records³;
- f) Cadw shall be invited to attend a site meeting on the first day of commencement of the project to review the programme, submitted method statement and arrangements that have been established for archaeological mitigation; and
- g) Any historic or archaeological features not previously identified which are revealed when carrying out the works shall be retained in situ and reported to Cadw within two working days. Works shall be halted in the area/part of the site affected until provision has been made for retention and/or recording of the feature by a suitably qualified archaeologist in accordance with details submitted to and approved in writing in advance by Cadw.

5. Compliance

5.1. Where a condition requires approval or any contact with Cadw you are advised to contact Louise Mees by email scheduledmonuments@gov.wales.

5.2. When all work has been completed and the conditions have been discharged, please complete and return the 'completion notice' at **Annex B** to Cadw. Section 2(6) of the 1979 Act provides that non-compliance with a condition attached to a grant of scheduled monument consent shall be an offence.

5.3. By virtue of Section 4 of the 1979 Act, if no works to which this consent relates are executed or started within 5 years from the date of this letter, the consent shall cease to have effect at the end of that period (unless it is revoked in the meantime).

¹ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists <https://www.archaeologists.net/codes/cifa>.

² Cadw will retain a copy of the archaeological report for our records.

³ Cadw requires formal confirmation of report deposit to discharge this condition.

5.4. This letter does not convey any approval or consent required under any enactment, bylaw, order or regulation other than Section 2 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. It is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain any such approval or consent where necessary.

6. Mechanism for Challenge

6.1 Section 55 of the 1979 Act explains that if you are aggrieved by the decision given in this letter, you may challenge its validity by applying to the High Court within six weeks from the date of my decision. Furthermore, the legislation explains that the grounds on which an application may be made to the Court are;

- a) that my decision is not within the powers of the Act (i.e. that I have exceeded the powers available under the Act); and
- b) that any of the relevant requirements set out in the Act have not been complied with and that your interest has been substantially prejudiced by the failure to comply.

The 'relevant requirements' mentioned above are defined in Section 55 of the 1979 Act and it is advisable to seek legal advice before taking any action.

6.2. Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

6.3 Finally, please note that your personal data is managed in compliance with the [General Data Protection Regulations](#).

Yours sincerely,

Denise Harris
Casework Manager
under authority of the Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism, one of the Welsh Ministers

Annex A

ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL AREAS ACT 1979 APPLICATION FOR SCHEDULED MONUMENT CONSENT CASTELL MEURIG (CM099)

INSPECTOR'S ADVICE

1. Policy Context

- 1.1 An application for scheduled monument consent (SMC) is considered on its own merits in accordance with *Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales* ([Conservation Principles](#)) and Annex A of *Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (TAN 24)*. In particular, TAN 24 explains that the main purpose of scheduling is to ensure the preservation of ancient monuments and, when considering an application for SMC, there is a presumption against proposals which would involve significant alteration or cause damage, or which would have a significant impact on the setting of remains. Therefore, applicants are expected to demonstrate that no practicable alternative route or location, avoiding the scheduled area, exists and that the need to undertake works outweighs the presumption in favour of the protection of the scheduled monument.
- 1.2 The Welsh Government's six principles for sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales are also used as a guide when considering applications for scheduled monument consent. These are:
- Historic assets will be managed to sustain their values.
 - Understanding the significance of historic assets is vital.
 - The historic environment is a shared resource.
 - Everyone will be able to participate in sustaining the historic environment.
 - Decisions about change must be reasonable, transparent and consistent.
 - Documenting and learning from decisions is essential.

2. Castell Meurig, CM099

- 2.1 The following provides a general description of the Scheduled Ancient Monument.

The monument comprises the remains of a motte and bailey castle, a military stronghold built during the medieval period. A motte and bailey castle comprises a large conical or pyramidal mound of soil or stone (the motte) surrounded by, or adjacent to, one or more embanked enclosures (the bailey). Both may be surrounded by wet or dry ditches and could be further strengthened with palisades, revetments, and/or a tower on top of the motte. Castell Meurig is located upon a natural mound within the broad valley of the River Tywi at the entrance to the side valley of the Afon Sawdde to the south east. It comprises a motte 10m high and 15m in diameter across the top surrounded by a ditch 2m deep. The bailey is sub-rectangular, c. 170m long, 100m wide and lies to the south of the motte. It is surrounded by a single bank

2-2.3m high externally, up to 1m high internally, with traces of the ditch surviving on the west and east long sides. The castle is mentioned in the Pipe Rolls for 1160 and is recorded as destroyed in 1209.

The motte is well defined. The current tree cover shades the ground surface sufficiently to prevent the development of brambles / scrub but allows enough light to sustain low ground cover. It has not been grazed since 2018. The bailey, extending to the south-south-west, incorporates fields of permanent pasture on its eastern side and western edge. Bryncastell lies within the interior of the bailey. The house and an area around it are excluded from the scheduling.

The key values of the monument include:

Evidential Value:

Extensive earthworks of an early medieval castle. Standing and buried remains have potential to contain archaeological information relating to chronology, building techniques and functional detail.

Historic Value:

The monument is a well preserved example of a medieval castle which formed part of the early phase of the Anglo Norman conquest of Wales and demonstrates medieval defensive organisation.

Aesthetic Value:

The well preserved motte and bailey are visually distinctive features in the landscape.

Communal Value:

The medieval fortification was short lived: it was destroyed in 1209 and did not develop into a larger settlement. Small settlements developed later at nearby Carreg Sawdde and Llangadog. The motte and bailey forms a prominent feature to the east and south of these settlements, respectively, and a public footpath passes through the scheduled area on its southern side.

In May 2021 unauthorised works were undertaken by the new owners of Bryncastell to improve functioning of the existing septic tank by construction of a new soakaway, and to create a trackway.

A site visit carried out by Cadw's regional Inspector and Field Monument Warden on 10th May revealed that an excavation consisting of a c. 4m x 4m square x c. 2m deep cut with an additional trench c. 0.3m wide x c. 16m long x and c. 1.5m deep perpendicular to it had been dug at the south of the bailey to form a soakaway. The excavation had been part-filled to a depth of c. 0.5m with crushed limestone. The additional trench contained a plastic drainage pipe at its base protruding into the excavation by c. 3.5m, this trench had been mostly back-filled with stone and soil. At the west end the trench had been expanded by about 1m to the north to facilitate the laying of concrete blocks to the depth of the trench to provide a secure connection between the new drain and an existing sub-surface drain within the scheduled area. The new track measured 50m long x c. 5m wide, it runs parallel and immediately adjacent to the east garden boundary of the house. The ground surface had been scalped to a depth of 0.2m and mostly back-filled with crushed stone to surface level. The house and its immediate garden are partially excluded from the scheduled

area such that the intrusion into the scheduled area amounts to a total area of c. 105 square metres.

Following the site visit on 10th May 2021 Cadw's FMW produced a report on the unauthorised works detailing the extent of works and their potential impact on the scheduled monument. The report concludes that the "use of the mechanical excavator within the bailey area has removed material likely to have preserved archaeological deposits. The exact dimensions of the damage cannot be quantified at this stage, as the depth of the destruction is partially obscured by subsequently dumped material".

3. The Application

- 3.1 This application for scheduled monument consent involves formalising works already undertaken without consent and completion of these works: (i) drainage works and soakaway, (ii) track, (iii) removal of spoil tips and (iv) making good the ground surface within the scheduled area.

4. Assessment

- 4.1 Completion of the drainage works and track, and removal of the spoil tips, will not involve further excavation. Inadvertent damage can be avoided by ensuring that the work is carried out under archaeological supervision.

Potential damage caused to material disturbed and relocated during the unauthorised phase of works cannot be quantified. However, archaeological recording of exposed deposits, in plan and in section, and a watching brief carried out during remedial works will ensure that any archaeological features exposed are recorded, that the location of modern disturbance is recorded by survey, and that a full record is created.

Completion of the work will result in backfilling of trenches and restoration of the ground surface, thus reinstating the appearance (aesthetic value). The impact of the unauthorised works on the evidential values, i.e. of buried remains, will be better understood as a result of archaeological recording and reporting, for which the SMC can be conditioned. The part of the monument subject to the works is not publicly accessible. However, reinstatement of the ground surface will ensure that these areas are restored as level ground / permanent pasture and will be maintained appropriately for future generations.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1 I recommend that scheduled monument consent is given, subject to the following conditions:

6. Proposed Conditions

- 6.1 The applicant shall provide Cadw with reasonable advance notice of commencement of works on site and will afford access at all reasonable times

to any Cadw official or archaeologist nominated by Cadw to monitor progress of the works.

- 6.2 The approved works shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the application form, plans and documents as listed below. No variations are permitted unless they have been authorised in advance in writing by Cadw.

Number	Document / plan	Reference Number (if applicable)	Date
1	SMC application form signed by Ruth Mayes and dated 7 th June 2021		18/06/2021

- 6.3 No works, including site clearance, shall commence until Cadw has been informed in writing of the name of an appropriately qualified archaeologist operating to CifA published standards and guidance⁴ who will carry out an appropriate programme of archaeological mitigation works on the area subject to the unauthorised works, i.e. survey areas of disturbance and record exposed sections, and watching brief during completion works, in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, Cadw. No work shall commence until Cadw has confirmed in writing that the proposed archaeologist and archaeological works are acceptable.
- 6.4 A digital copy of the draft archaeological report shall be submitted to Cadw for approval within 8 weeks of the archaeological fieldwork being completed⁵.
- 6.5 A digital copy of the approved archaeological report shall be submitted to the regional Historic Environment Record and National Monuments Record of Wales to be incorporated into these public records⁶.
- 6.6 Cadw shall be invited to attend a site meeting on the first day of commencement of the project to review the programme, submitted method statement and arrangements that have been established for archaeological mitigation.
- 6.7 Any historic or archaeological features not previously identified which are revealed when carrying out the works shall be retained *in situ* and reported to Cadw within two working days. Works shall be halted in the area/part of the site affected until provision has been made for retention and/or recording of the feature by a suitably qualified archaeologist in accordance with details submitted to and approved in writing in advance by Cadw.

⁴ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists <https://www.archaeologists.net/codes/cifa>.

⁵ Cadw will retain a copy of the archaeological report for our records.

⁶ Cadw requires formal confirmation of report deposit to discharge this condition.

Name of Inspector: Louise Mees
Date: 23/06/2021

Annex B

COMPLETION NOTICE

Name of Monument: CASTELL MEURIG

Monument Number: CM099

Conditions	Date	Signature
Completion of works on site		
A digital copy of the draft archaeological report shall be submitted to Cadw for approval within 8 weeks of the archaeological fieldwork being completed.		
A digital copy of the approved archaeological report shall be submitted to the regional Historic Environment Record and National Monuments Record of Wales to be incorporated into these public records		

Applicant Name:

Signature:

When all work has been completed and the conditions have been discharged, please complete and return this completion notice to Cadw at scheduledmonuments@gov.wales

APPENDIX III:
SCHEDULED MONUMENT CONSENT SITE PLAN

