



23/11/99

Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology

Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report

Trefenty

W/12/1086

ACA Project Record No 36333

Report prepared for CCW
by ACA

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A R C H A E O L E G
CAMBRIA
A R C H A E O L O G Y

Tir Gofal Application Number W/12/1086

Address Trefenty, St Clears, Carmarthenshire

NGR SN2913

TG Project Officer Ann Humble, Haverfordwest

Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology Project Record Number 36333

Visit Officer Nigel Page

Visit Date 26/10/99

TIR GOFAL SITE MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

As used in accompanying site gazetteer.

Category A - Sites and Monuments of National Importance

Category B - Sites and Monuments of Regional Importance

Category C - Sites/Features of Local Importance

Category D - Sites/Features needing further investigation (including damaged sites or sites with no defined physical presence).

TIR GOFAL COLOUR CODING

As used on accompanying holding maps.

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| Category A - Blue | <i>Scheduled Ancient Monuments Grade 1 and 2* Listed Building</i> |
| Red | <i>Other Sites and Monuments of National Importance Other Buildings of National Importance</i> |
| Red toning | <i>Registered Parks and Gardens of Historic Interest</i> |
| Red Banding | <i>Registered Landscapes of Historic Interest</i> |
| Category B - Amber | <i>Sites and Monuments of Regional Importance Grade 2 Listed and Other Buildings of Regional Importance</i> |
| Category C - Green | <i>Sites / Features of Local Importance Buildings of Local Importance</i> |
| Category D - Grey | <i>Sites / Features of Unknown Importance</i> |

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE STATUS

Terms used in gazetteer.

SAM.

Scheduled Ancient Monument. SAMs are notified under section 1 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The register of SAMs is maintained and administered by Cadw.

LB1, LB2* & LB2.

Listed Building categories. Listed buildings are notified under section 1 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The list is maintained and administered by Cadw.

HL - Landscapes of Exceptional and Great Historic Interest.

Defined by the Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales: Part 2.1 Landscapes of Exceptional and Great Historic Interest. The register is advisory only, and has no statutory powers. The register is being compiled by Cadw in partnership with the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and is concerned with man-made, historic elements of the landscape.

HGP - Register of Historic Gardens & Parks.

Defined by the Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales: Part 1 - Parks & Gardens. The register is advisory only, and has no statutory powers. The register is being compiled by Cadw in partnership with the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and is concerned with man-made, historic elements of the landscape.

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| Tir Gofal Scheme | Tir Gofal Application No W/12/1086 |
| Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and Management Recommendations: Trefenty, Carmarthenshire | |

PRN 2188 Site name TREVENTY STONE NGR SN30451365
 Site type STANDING STONE? Period Bronze Age Site Status SAM

Description

Standing stone, 1.3m high and 1.4m x 1m in section, located in a pasture field. The stone is situated on the shoulder of a north facing slope at 30m OD. The stone is in good condition, but there is a hollow developing around its base from animal and visitor trampling.

Recommendations

Maintain in present condition, but monitor the erosion around the base of the stone.

Management Category A Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 5068 Site name CASTELL ABER CAFWY NGR SN29681355
 Site type MOTTE Period Mediaeval Site Status SAM

Description

Motte and Bailey castle. The motte measures c.22m across x 5m high and the bailey is c.45m long. The top of the motte has an earth bank around the edge, there is no evidence for any masonry. In the 12th century Trefenty was the caput of the lordship of Osterlow which generally lay between the rivers Cynin and Cywin (Murphy and Ludlow in prep) and the castle dates from this period. Both the motte and the bailey are very overgrown with a mixture of mature trees young trees and scrub.

Recommendations

It may be possible to clear the top and part of the sides of the motte and some of the bailey to open up the site and allow visitor access while retaining some of the vegetation around the site for wildlife. Specialist advice should be sought from Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments and the Heritage management Section of Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology regarding the level of clearance and the techniques that should be used.

Management Category A Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 6676 Site name TREFENTY NGR SN29851362
 Site type FARMHOUSE Period Post Med Site Status LB2

Description

The house is a three storey double-pile structure, dating largely from the 18th century. The two ranges are separated by a narrow central section. It may be on the site of an earlier house.

Recommendations

Survey house to try to determine its development history. The house is protected as a Listed Building so all major refurbishment or renovation works are subject to Listed Building Consent.

Management Category A Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 10750 Site name TREVENTY NGR SN302136
 Site type RIDGE & FURROW Period Mediaeval?;Post Med? Site Status

Description

An area of well preserved ridge and furrow. There are several different phases of cultivation evident within the area. The ridges are straight which suggests post-medieval rather than medieval cultivation.

Recommendations

Avoid ploughing across the site to preserve the ridges.

Management Category B Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

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| Tir Gofal Scheme | Tir Gofal Application No W/12/1086 |
| Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and Management Recommendations: Trefenty, Carmarthenshire | |

PRN 13355 **Site name** TREFENTY **NGR** SN298136
Site type MOAT? **Period** Mediaeval **Site Status**

Description

A regular, right-angled earthwork west of and running under Trefenty farm has been noted on aerial photographs. It is very plough damaged but could represent the vestiges of a moated enclosure. There appears to be something in the NW corner. If a moat it would be very large and would have replaced the small motte and bailey castle in the later medieval period (TAJ 24/10/88). The moat is still visible as a slight earthwork and the present house stands within the enclosed area possibly on the site of an earlier house.

Recommendations

Avoid ploughing across the site. Monitor erosion by cattle particularly in the area at the S end of the site where there is a gate and a drinking trough. This site could be a candidate for further investigation through small-scale trial trenching to determine if possible its date and character. If the site is a late medieval moat then it may be worthy for consideration for scheduling to protect it.

Management Category B **Visited by** NAP **Visited On** 26/10/99

PRN 15027 **Site name** TREFENTY **NGR** SN29611355
Site type QUARRY **Period** Post Med **Site Status**

Description

Very overgrown quarry pit and spoil heap.

Recommendations

Avoid ploughing across the tail of the spoil heap.

Management Category C **Visited by** NAP **Visited On** 26/10/99

PRN 22331 **Site name** PARC Y FFALD **NGR** SN29451256
Site type FOLD?;POUND? **Period** Post Med **Site Status**

Description

Field called Parc y Ffald on the tithe map for Laugharne parish published in 1841. There was nothing visible on the ground, but the name suggests that either there was a pound or fold there in the past, or that the field itself was used as a pound.

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations.

Management Category D **Visited by** NAP **Visited On** 26/10/99

PRN 29950 **Site name** RIVER TAF-RIVER CYWYN FLOOD DEFENCE **NGR** SN29571330
Site type FLOOD DEFENCES **Period** Post Med **Site Status**

Description

Flood defence bank. This is the longest continuous section at the flood defence bank. For the greater part of its length it mirrors the meander of the Taf but on the western bank of the Cywyn cuts the corners of the river bends. Within the meander adjacent to St. Teilo's church a second bank loops out from the 1st to follow the line of the river. A. Gale Feb. 1995. The sea defences in the Trefenty area are in various states of repair.

Recommendations

The flood defences in this area are an important feature of the landscape and they should be maintained in their present condition and where possible further degradation should be prevented.

Management Category B **Visited by** NAP **Visited On** 26/10/99

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| Tir Gofal Scheme | Tir Gofal Application No W/12/1086 |
| Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and Management Recommendations: Trefenty, Carmarthenshire | |

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| PRN 29951 | Site name RIVER TAF-RIVER CYWYN FLOOD DEFENCE | NGR SN29551334 |
| Site type FLOOD DEFENCES | Period Post Med | Site Status |

Description

Flood defence bank. This flood defence bank runs roughly west-east. It follows the field boundary to the south of the motte and bailey at Trefenty. A. Gale Feb. 1995. Like all of the flood defence banks in the area this bank is a low earth bank and somewhat eroded.

Recommendations

The flood defences in this area are a important feature of the landscape and they should be maintained in their present condition, and where possible further degradation should be prevented.

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| Management Category B | Visited by NAP | Visited On 26/10/99 |
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| PRN 29974 | Site name RIVER TAF - RIVER CYWYN FLOOD DEFENCES | NGR SN30581358 |
| Site type FLOOD DEFENCES | Period Post Med | Site Status |

Description

Post mediaeval flood defence bank. Flood defence bank on the west of the river Cywyn. This bank follows the line of the first meander above the confluence of the Taf and Cywyn. There is a gap in the bank opposite the path form St Teilo's church (OS 1st Ed). A. Gale Feb 1995. A low earth bank, slightly eroded in places.

Recommendations

The flood defences in this area are a important feature of the landscape and they should be maintained in their present condition and where possible further degradation should be prevented.

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| Management Category B | Visited by NAP | Visited On 26/10/99 |
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| PRN 29982 | Site name RIVER CYWYN | NGR SN306138 |
| Site type LIME KILN | Period Post Med | Site Status |

Description

A post mediaeval lime kiln disused by 1888. A round lime kiln on the west bank of the river Cywyn at the end of a flood defence bank. It is not shown on the Ordnance Survey 2nd edition. A. Gale Feb. 1995. The river bank in the area of the lime kiln is now covered by a blackthorn thicket, but there is a fairly large amorphous mound, c.6m x 3m, that may represent the remains of the kiln. There is small terrace cut into the river bank just on the south side of the mound that may be associated with the kiln.

Recommendations

This site is not in an area that is cultivated or intensively managed and its biggest threat appears to be from erosion of the river bank. Any operations that may have a deleterious affect on the site should be avoided, but other than that there are no specific management recommendations.

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| Management Category C | Visited by NAP | Visited On 26/10/99 |
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| PRN 29991 | Site name RIVER TAF - RIVER CYWYN FLOOD DEFENCES | NGR SN30681392 |
| Site type FLOOD DEFENCES | Period Post Med | Site Status |

Description

A post mediaeval flood defence bank. The 1st edition OS shows a flood defence bank on the west of the river Cywyn. Starting near Pont-Ddu it runs south cutting off the first meander. A. Gale Feb. 1995. Low earth bank, eroded in places.

Recommendations

The flood defences in this area are a important feature of the landscape and they should be maintained in their present condition and where possible further degradation should be prevented.

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| Management Category B | Visited by NAP | Visited On 26/10/99 |
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| Tir Gofal Scheme | Tir Gofal Application No W/12/1086 |
| Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and Management Recommendations: Trefenty, Carmarthenshire | |

PRN 34953 **Site name** **NGR** SN300100
Site type FIELD SYSTEM-COAXIAL **Period** Post Med **Site Status**

Description

A post medieval co-axial field system shown on the tithe map of 1840 where the farm holdings respect these boundaries to a great extent. The boundaries are of possibly early 17th century origin (JH 1997 based on DGB 1996) although recent work has suggested a possible Roman date (Murphy and Ludlow forthcoming). Many of the major boundaries of this system still form boundaries within the Trefenty holdings.

Recommendations

The field system is extensive and only part of it is on Trefenty land. Management of the system as a whole is difficult because the boundaries are extensive and cross many different farms and holdings. However, those sections of the major boundaries of the system that are part of the Trefenty holdings should be retained and maintained in good condition.

Management Category A **Visited by** NAP **Visited On** 26/10/99

PRN 36333 **Site name** TREVENTY FARM TIR GOFAL CCW APPLICATION ENQUIRY **NGR** SN2913
Site type PROJECT RECORD **Period** **Site Status**

Description

Farm size is greater than that indicated in pre- application enquiry PRN 37106.

Recommendations

Management Category **Visited by** NAP **Visited On** 26/10/99

PRN 37106 **Site name** TREVENTY FARM TIR GOFAL PRE-APPLICATION ENQUIRY **NGR** SN296135
Site type PROJECT RECORD **Period** **Site Status**

Description

Tir Gofal pre-application enquiry.

Recommendations

Management Category **Visited by** NAP **Visited On** 26/10/99

PRN 37602 **Site name** TREFENTY **NGR** SN29891367
Site type PLANTATION **Period** Post Med **Site Status**

Description

Plantation recorded on tithe map. The tithe map shows a small enclosure, but it was not shown on the OS 1st edition 1:2500 (1888), and nothing was noted in this area during the site visit.

Recommendations

No specific recommendations.

Management Category D **Visited by** NAP **Visited On** 26/10/99

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| Tir Gofal Scheme | Tir Gofal Application No W/12/1086 |
| Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and Management Recommendations: Trefenty, Carmarthenshire | |

PRN 37603 Site name TREFENTY NGR SN29921370
Site type PLANTATION Period Post Med Site Status

Description

Plantation recorded on tithe map. Nothing visible during the farm visit.

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations.

Management Category D Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 37604 Site name TREFENTY NGR SN29791319
Site type TRACKWAY Period Post Med Site Status

Description

Trackway recorded on Os 1st edition 6" map (1891).

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations.

Management Category D Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 37605 Site name TREFENTY NGR SN29791319
Site type TRACKWAY Period Post Med Site Status

Description

A track shown on the tithe map (1840) leading from the road N of the farm to the river. The track passes W of the house PRN 6676, to a Smith Shop PRN 39085, and then south past a limekiln, PRN 37608 before ending on the saltmarsh to the south of the farm. The track is no longer used but a slight hollow way exists where it passes the limekiln PRN 37608.

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations.

Management Category D Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 37606 Site name TREFENTY NGR SN29421360
Site type FOOTPATH Period Post Med Site Status

Description

Footpath recorded from early OS maps leading from the road north of Trefenty to old Foxhole to the west. The path runs along the north boundary of the farm.

Recommendations

No specific recommendations.

Management Category D Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

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| Tir Gofal Scheme | Tir Gofal Application No W/12/1086 |
| Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and Management Recommendations: Trefenty, Carmarthenshire | |

PRN 37607 Site name TREFENTY NGR SN29841383
Site type FOOTPATH Period Post Med Site Status

Description

Footpath leading from the farm to the church PRN 2160. This route is still used.

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations

Management Category D Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 37608 Site name CAE'R ODIN NGR SN29651345
Site type LIME KILN Period Post Med Site Status

Description

A scrub covered mound, c.10m x 5m, represents the site of the kiln. There is some stonework evident in the mound, but it is not possible to make out the kiln structure. The kiln stood alongside track PRN 37605. It is located on the edge of a field that is due to be ploughed in the near future.

Recommendations

Avoid ploughing up to the tail of the mound. Careful removal of the scrub growing on the mound would protect the buried structure from root damage.

Management Category D Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 37609 Site name TREFENTY NGR SN29991360
Site type GRAVEL PIT Period Post Med Site Status

Description

One of two gravel pits shown on the OS 1st edition map (1891). This pit was located to the E of the farm yard and was dug into the side of a W facing slope. The site is now grass covered and is visible as a slightly irregular break of slope.

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations.

Management Category D Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 37610 Site name TREFENTY NGR SN29851326
Site type BUILDING? Period Post Med Site Status

Description

An irregular banked and hedged enclosure that was shown on the OS 1st edition 6" map (1891). There was no evidence for any structures within the enclosure.

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations.

Management Category D Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

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| Tir Gofal Scheme | Tir Gofal Application No W/12/1086 |
| Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and Management Recommendations: Trefenty, Carmarthenshire | |

PRN 37611 Site name NGR SN30181323
Site type BUILDING? Period Post Med Site Status

Description

A small rectangular enclosure on the inner edge of the saltmarsh shown on the 1st edition 6" map (1891).

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations.

Management Category D Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 37612 Site name NGR SN29951380
Site type POND? Period Post Med Site Status

Description

An area of boggy ground shown on the OS 1st edition 6" map (1891).

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations.

Management Category C Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 37613 Site name NGR SN30031370
Site type POND? Period Post Med Site Status

Description

Very overgrown area of low-lying land, possibly a former pond.

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations.

Management Category D Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 39084 Site name TREFENTY NGR SN29791370
Site type GRAVEL PIT Period Post Med Site Status

Description

A gravel pit marked on the 1st edition OS 6" map (1891).

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations.

Management Category D Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

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| Tir Gofal Scheme | Tir Gofal Application No W/12/1086 |
| Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and Management Recommendations: Trefenty, Carmarthenshire | |

PRN 39085 Site name TREVENTY NGR SN29721220
Site type SMITHY Period Post Med Site Status

Description

Smith shop marked on tithe map (1842). Remains of the smithy survive as low stone walls (c.0.4m high), now partially overgrown. From the visible remains the smithy appears to have been c.5m x 5m.

Recommendations

The remains of this building are in a position where they can be left in situ without affecting the operations of the farm. Therefore it would be desirable to maintain the remains in their present condition.

Management Category C Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 39086 Site name TREFENTY NGR SN29851362
Site type COTTAGE Period Post Med Site Status

Description

The cottage is a two storey stone and brick-built structure with a slate roof. It is in a semi-ruinous condition. The construction date of the cottage is unknown but it does appear to be shown on the tithe map of c.1840.

Recommendations

Survey the cottage as part of a survey of the farm yard area to try to determine its development history. The building structure will continue to deteriorate and access to the site should be restricted.

Management Category A Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 39087 Site name TREFENTY NGR SN29851362
Site type GARDEN Period Post Med Site Status

Description

The garden is surrounded by a random-rubble wall c.1.5m high. An enclosure is shown in roughly the position of the garden on the tithe map (c.1840). It is likely that the garden dates from the 18th century and that it is contemporary with the main structure of the house (PRN 6676).

Recommendations

The garden could be included in the Listing schedule for the house and outbuildings. Maintain the walls of the garden in their present condition.

Management Category A Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

PRN 39088 Site name TREFENTY NGR SN29851362
Site type OUTBUILDING Period Post Med Site Status

Description

Mid 19th century range of outbuildings comprising a lofty E-W barn with three long gabled wings built against the S wall of the barn. The buildings are constructed from stone blocks laid in random courses and slate roofed. Some of the openings are brick-arched. Most of the buildings are currently used as cattle sheds.

Recommendations

Survey the buildings as part of a wider survey of the house and farm yard area to assess the current condition of the buildings. The buildings are currently protected as Listed Buildings and they should be maintained in their present condition.

Management Category A Visited by NAP Visited On 26/10/99

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| PRN 39089 | Site name TREFENTY | NGR SN29851362 |
| Site type FARM | Period Post Med | Site Status |

Description

Trefenty is an ancient settlement site dating back to at least the 12th century when the motte and bailey castle (PRN 5068) was probably constructed. The farm sits on a low knoll overlooking the Afon Taf and is made up of several dispersed holdings with land on either side of the river. Trefenty acted as the caput of the Lordship of Oysterlow (Murphy and Ludlow forthcoming; Jones 1987: 185). The castle appears to have been replaced by a moated enclosure, PRN 13355, during the later medieval period. From the 16th century onwards Trefenty was owned by the Perrot family and their descendants passing out of the Perrot family in the later 19th century. It was transferred to the current owners the University of Wales in 1920. The current house, PRN 6676, dates largely from the 18th century and may have replaced an earlier house possibly on or close to the same site. The main farm outbuildings, PRN 39088, were constructed during the mid-19th century. The farm complex itself is located within the possibly unique co-axial field system, PRN 34953, which covers many hectares of land between Trefenty and the A40 to the north.

Recommendations

Survey the standing buildings that make up the house and yard complex to determine the development history of the site and to assess the current condition of the buildings. The possible moated enclosure (PRN 13355) should be included in the survey as it may be the site of a late medieval house. The many other sites throughout the Trefenty holdings have individual recommendations.

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| Management Category A | Visited by NAP | Visited On 26/10/99 |
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| PRN 39090 | Site name TREFENTY | NGR SN29851362 |
| Site type BANK | Period Post Med | Site Status |

Description

Earth bank, c.1m high, surrounding the medieval church of St. Michael (PRN 2160). The bank is eroding in places and now has some mature trees growing on it.

Recommendations

The bank forms the boundary of the medieval church and is protected as part of the Scheduled Monument. Maintain the banks in their present condition.

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| Management Category A | Visited by NAP | Visited On 26/10/99 |
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Map

Saxton C, 1578 Carmarthen,

Ordnance Survey, 1811 Sheet 180,

Ordnance Survey, 1831 Old Series Sheet 41,

Tithe Map, 1840 Tithe Map and Apportionment Llandeilo Abercowin parish,

Tithe Map, 1841 Tithe Map and Apportionment Laugharne parish, Schedule No.272

Ordnance Survey, 1888 Carms Sheet XLV.06, 1st Ed 1:2500

Ordnance Survey, 1891 Carms Sheet XLV.NW,

Ordnance Survey, 1906 Carms Sheet XLV.06, 2nd Ed 1:2500

Ordnance Survey, 1907 Carms Sheet XLV NW, Carm XLV NW

Rees W, 1932 S.Wales & Border in 14th century, SW Sheet

Ordnance Survey, 1975 , SN21SE

Aerial Photograph

Meridian Airmaps, 1955 , 230-210 26958-9

James TA, 1978 TAJ-AP-SN2913, Colour slide

James TA, 1979 SN3013, Colour slide

James TA, 1979 TAJ-AP-16.12A, Mono Print

James TA, 1985 AP85-56.9, SN2913

Written Description

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Tierney HC, 1900 Archaeologia Cambrensis, 5th Series Vol.17 p.73-79

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Matthews AW, 1918 TCASFC, Vol.12 Pt.XXXIII p.51

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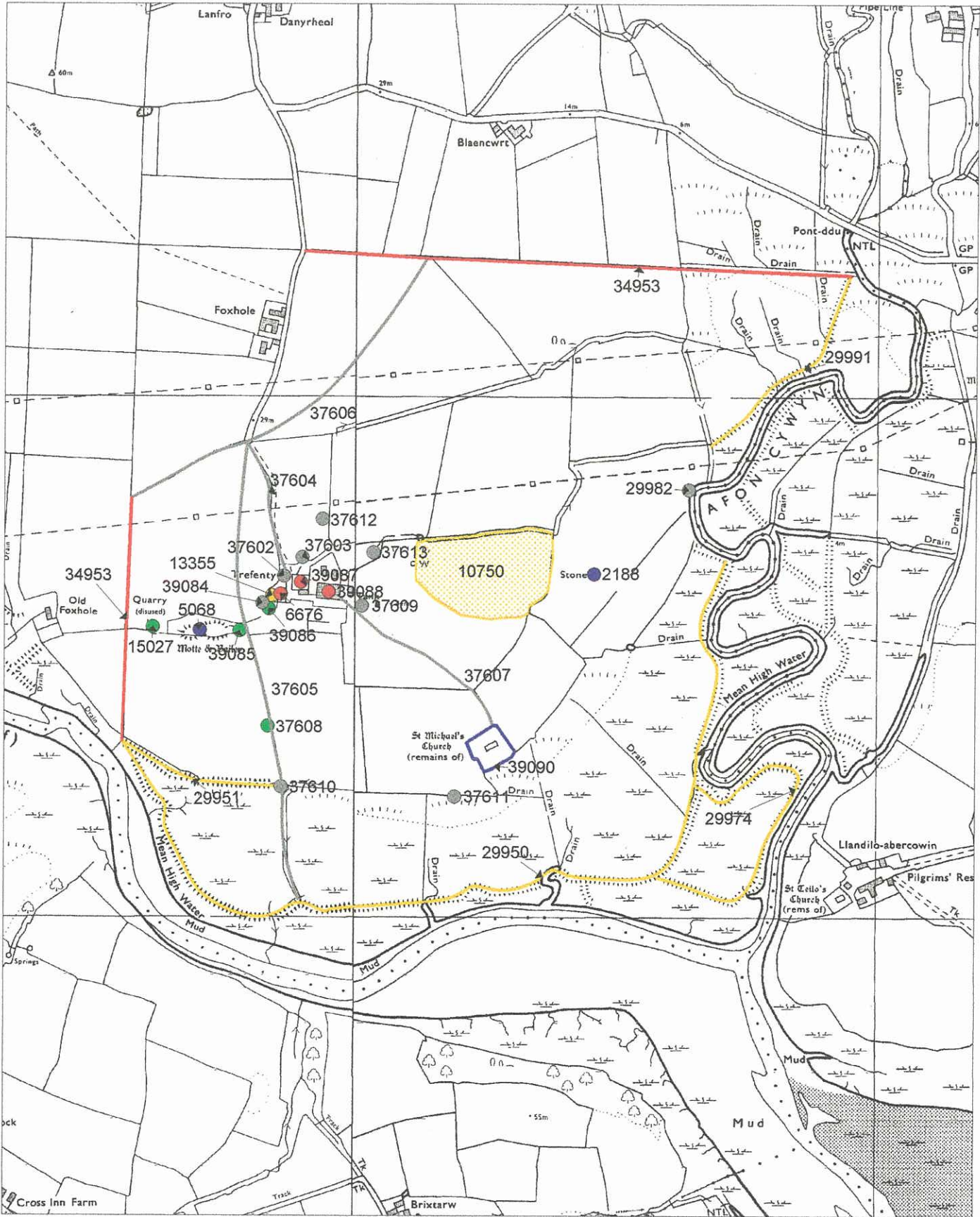
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Benson DG, 1996 Brief notes on the landscape history for the southern part of the former parish of Llanfihangel Aber,

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Trefenty - ACA Record Number 36333

Scale: 1:10000



Trefenty - ACA Record Number 36333

This is a detailed topographic map of a rural area in Wales, showing the River Taf (Afon Taf) and the River Coran. The map includes numerous place names, elevation points, and a network of roads and tracks. A yellow dashed line highlights a specific path or boundary. A red line is also visible near the top center. The map is oriented with North at the top.

Key Features and Place Names:

- Rivers:** River Taf (Afon Taf), River Coran.
- Place Names:** Whitehill Down, Hall Down, Cross Inn Villa, Cross Inn, Parson's Leys, Parson's Lodge, Milton Bank, Maesyderi, Canon Parc, Caravan Park, West Winds, Ants Hill, Hillside, Mapsland, Glenview, Brixtarw, Cross Inn Farm, Whitehill, Quarry (disused), Old Foxhole, St Michael's Church (remains of), Stone, Delac.
- Elevation Points:** 34953, 13355, 39084, 5068, 15027, 37602, 37603, 37612, 37613, 39087, 39088, 37609, 6676, 39086, 37605, 37608, 37610, 29951, 29950, 22331, 74m, 78m, 76m, 68m, 52m, 87m, 10m, 55m, 88m, 71m.
- Other Features:** Mud, Drain, Track, Path, Castle Grid, Ford, Spring, O, 29982, 10750.

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Scale: 1:10000

