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Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology

Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report

Scamford Farm

W/13/675

ACA Project Record 38909

Report prepared for CCW
by ACA

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A R C H A E O L E G
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Tir Gofal Application Number W/13/675

Address Scamford Farm, Camrose

NGR SM9020

TG Project Officer Fiona Lanc, Haverfordwest

Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology Project Record Number 38909

Visit Officer Paul Sambrook

Visit Date 13/11/99

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.

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.

History of Scamford Farm

Scamford Farm is a farm holding situated in the parish and community of Camrose in western Pembrokeshire. The holding no longer includes the cottage, which was the focus of the holding during the 19th and 20th centuries. Analysis of early 19th century maps allows a sketchy history of the cottage and holding to be presented. A dwelling is shown at the approximate site of Scamford Farm on the early 19th century OS 1":2 mile Ordnance Survey. By the time of the Camrose parish tithe apportionment list of 1839 (which names the cottage as Keeston Lane), and tithe map of 1840, the house appears to have moved a short distance to the west and its axis changed from north-south to east-west in the intervening 25 years, suggesting that it may have been rebuilt on a site adjacent to the that of the original cottage. Keeston Lane was a small holding which only farmed five fields, which lay due north of the dwelling, between the cottage and Camrose Brook (numbered as parcels 611-615 on the tithe map). The removal of field boundaries subsequently means that only three fields now occupy this ground. By the time of the 1st edition 1:10560 OS map of 1891, the dwelling is named as Camford - it is not known if this name was in use earlier, but it may derive from Camrose Ford, indicating a ford on the road to Camrose, and therefore have an earlier origin than the cottage itself. Scamford is therefore probably a 20th century form of the name. Keeston Lane is still used as the name of the road which runs westwards from Scamford towards Keeston Village. It connects the villages of Camrose and Keeston and is undoubtedly of at least mediaeval origin. The occurrence of the name 'Crosses' for one of the fields of Scamford Farm adjacent to the road may be a significant indication that boundary stones or way-markers in the form of stone or wooden crosses were formerly located here to mark the boundary of land belonging to Keeston Hospice. Keeston Lane is not the only historic road to cross Scamford Farm, for the trackway of Sandy Lane appears to have branched off the Keeston Lane just to the east of Scamford Farm cottage, although the section of the lane which crossed Scamford land is no longer recognisable on the ground as being a trackway. The fact that the land farmed from Keeston Lane cottage in the early 19th century was composed of a few small, rectangular fields is significant and suggests that the holding was carved out of the landscape - which would appear to have previously been largely one of a classic mediaeval strip field system - at a relatively late date, probably during the 18th century. This is true also of the now lost smallholding of Camrose Road, which stood on Scamford Farm until the mid-19th century and possessed three small fields cut out of one larger strip. The tithe map indicates that, as late as the 1840s, most of the land in the district was either farmed by a few relatively small holdings or by residents of Keeston Village itself. This is true of some of the land at Scamford, and may well be indicative of the survival of the mediaeval practice of allocating parcels or strips of land outside the village of Keeston to villagers. An interesting aspect of the history of Scamford Farm is that much of the land it includes is relatively high ground which lies between Sandy Lane and Camrose Brook. Although the field system of this ridge appears superficially to share the characteristics of the wider strip field system of the Keeston area, it seems likely that this ground was originally pasture land which has been parceled up into blocks at some unknown date before the 19th century and subsequently improved and brought into arable production. The fact that this land was only latterly brought into cultivation in part explains the survival of Rosemary Rath on this higher ridge. The occurrence of local place names such as Dipping Moor and Furzey Slade (now Slad Farm) to the south of Scamford (as named on the early 19th century OS map) shows that a large portion of the local landscape lay outside the area of mediaeval strip-fields associated with the villages of Camrose and Keeston and may have remained as open moorland until post-Elizabethan times. This may be true of the land now farmed at Scamford.

Detailed comments on Rosemary Rath, PRN 2422

Undoubtedly, the ramparts bulldozed in 1965 were of more significant dimensions than at present, although the landowner suggested that they were not as substantial as those which survive at the undamaged eastern end of the earthwork - an image reinforced by the description of the rath by the RCAHM in 1925, which noted that the western end of the earthwork was virtually destroyed even then. This suggests that there had been some plough damage or levelling at an earlier date than 1965. The RCAHM also noted in 1925 that the rath stood in an arable field called Slade (probably as much as 80% of the monument lies within this field, with only a small portion in the adjacent field to the east). It must be assumed that the monument had been gradually degraded over a prolonged period by arable farming and not simply damaged in 1965. The observations of earlier fieldworkers are generally adequate descriptions of the site, but it does seem possible that there were both a ditch and outer rampart on the southern side of the rath. A shallow linear depression, c.12m broad is evident running for some 30m perhaps along the southern (outer) side of the rampart shown on OS maps, eastwards from the field boundary at the western side of the field. South of this depression is a noticeable rise in the field surface which again runs parallel to the main rampart. The postulated ditch and outer bank are both slight features, but were quite evident in strong sunlight at the time of the visit. As the ground to the south is slightly higher than the interior of the rath, it would not be unexpected to find that efforts would have been made to raise stronger defensive earthworks on this side. The rath was clearly carefully located at the top of a north facing scarp to gain the advantage of, i) being protected by the rest of the hill on which it stands from the prevailing wind ii) having its defences greatly enhanced by the steep slope to the north - significant ramparts were needed only on its southern side. Surface evidence seems to suggest that the rath could not have been heavily fortified to the north, although the presumed line of its levelled western and northern sides seems to be still traceable on the ground. The RCAHM in 1925 suggested that the entrance was to the west, but this cannot be confirmed from present ground evidence. It is interesting to note that the crop-mark shadows of several roundhouses are visible within the interior of the fort on the 1955 Meridian Aerial Photographs of the site. The most significant section of the earthwork which survives is that at the eastern end, in the adjacent field. It is possible that an almost rectangular addition to the outside of the rampart at this end is a later feature, but nothing is known of its date or purpose. This part of the monument has not been damaged by ploughing or bulldozing and still stands up to 3m high. It was obscured by gorse and scrub and little could be observed of its detail at the time of visit. It was evident however that some stone has been dumped on the rampart in the past, presumably as a result of de-stoning the field.

Management Recommendations for Rosemary Rath

This monument is situated at an excellent viewpoint from where a large area can be viewed. Access to the site is not difficult in terms of the distance and steepness of slope from the road to the south. Walkers could easily visit the site, although some waymarking and gates/stiles would be helpful in leading walkers up to the monument. On site interpretation would improve visitors understanding of the monument and its context in archaeological and landscape terms (through a reconstruction drawing and location map), but the wider landscape could also be interpreted on such a panel. There is a need for the remaining upstanding parts of the monument to be made accessible and cleared of some of the vegetation which currently obscures detail. The extent of disturbance of archaeological features is difficult to assess, particularly within the interior of the monument - where 1950s aerial photographs clearly show there to have been several typically iron-age roundhouses. However, the rath must still be considered to be an important archaeological site. The infilled ditch on the northern side certainly may still be archaeologically sensitive, potentially containing archaeological and palaeo-environmental evidence which could help explain the history of the site. It is also possible that a buried land-surface survives beneath the ramparts. Future ploughing of the site would further erode features should preferably be avoided or reduced.

PRN	2356	Site name	CROSSES	NGR	SM908198
Site type	CROSS?	Period	Mediaeval	Site Status	

Description

No relevant features observed during field visit. However, the fact that this field name occurs on a parcel of land within 1km of the village and mediaeval hospice of Keeston is significant. The hospice was an ecclesiastical foundation and it is possible that crosses may have been set up as boundary markers or way-markers on roads approaching the hospice. The name Crosses in this instance does not refer to the proximity of the land to a crossroads and the use of the plural form is also rather unusual.

Recommendations

Future agricultural or construction work in this area should be carried out with an awareness of the possibility that stone boundary markers in the form of crosses may have stood at the roadside in mediaeval times. If this was the case it is possible that the stones may survive buried at the roadside or in field boundaries.

Management Category	U	Visited by	RPS	Visited On	13/11/99
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PRN	2422	Site name	ROSEMARY RATH	NGR	SM90862006
Site type	HILLFORT	Period	Iron Age	Site Status	

Description

Small iron age earthwork which was probably a defended farmstead, one of many found in this part of Pembrokeshire. Most of the ramparts were levelled by machinery in the 1960s, but the archaeological potential of the infilled defensive ditch on the southern side of the fort is high.

Recommendations

See Page 6 of this report for details.

Management Category	A	Visited by	RPS	Visited On	13/11/99
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PRN	38909	Site name	SCAMFORD FARM PROJECT RECORD	NGR	SM9020
Site type	PROJECT RECORD	Period		Site Status	

Description

Recommendations

Management Category	B	Visited by	RPS	Visited On	13/11/99
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PRN	39891	Site name	KEESTON LANE	NGR	SM90151944
Site type	ROAD	Period	Mediaeval?;Post Med	Site Status	

Description

Keeston Lane is still used as the name of the road which connects the villages of Camrose and Keeston. It is probably of at least mediaeval origin.

Recommendations

No specific recommendations.

Management Category	B	Visited by	RPS	Visited On	13/11/99
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PRN	39892	Site name	SANDY LANE	NGR	SM90171993
Site type	ROAD	Period	Mediaeval?;Post Med	Site Status	

Description

Sandy Lane appears to have branched off the Keeston Lane just to the east of Scamford Farm cottage, although its course across Scamford land is interrupted by a gap of over 200m at its eastern end. Map evidence shows this gap was extant by the early 19th century.

Recommendations

No specific recommendations.

Management Category	B	Visited by	RPS	Visited On	13/11/99
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PRN	39893	Site name	UNKNOWN	NGR	SM91002006
Site type	FOLD?	Period	Unknown	Site Status	

Description

The outline of a rectilinear earthwork is seen on the 1950's Meridian Airmaps photograph 190-200/25817. Positive features were noted on the ground during field visit. From the air there appears to be a rectangular structure which may have measured as much as 25m east-west x 10m north-south divided into two unequal compartments, the westernmost being the longest. The size of the cropmark and its position on this relatively prominent ridge suggests that the feature may have been a fold of some kind. The unusual rectilinear feature which has been added to the eastern side of Rosemary Rath, some 20m to the west, may be associated in some way with this feature.

Recommendations

This feature appears to have been almost wholly lost in terms of surface features. No specific management recommendations are thought necessary.

Management Category	B	Visited by	RPS	Visited On	13/11/99
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PRN	39894	Site name	SCAMFORD FARM	NGR	SM91151982
Site type	TRACKWAY	Period	Post Med	Site Status	

Description

Farm trackway which may have been purpose built in the 18th or early 19th century to provide access from what was then Keeston Lane farm (now Scamford) to a field identified on the parish tithe map as parcel No 611. The trackway runs north-south for c.300m and is defined by earth banks either side.

Recommendations

Maintain as a landscape feature. The course of the trackway is now restricted by vegetation and this might be cleared to allow use of the track.

Management Category	B	Visited by	RPS	Visited On	13/11/99
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PRN	39895	Site name	CAMROSE ROAD	NGR	SM91521962
Site type	FARMSTEAD	Period	Post Med	Site Status	

Description

The 1839 Tithe apportionment names a cottage here as Camrose Road and lists three fields as making up a minor farmstead. No trace of the dwelling now survives and a field boundary has been removed leaving only two of the three fields owned by Camrose Road.

Recommendations

No specific recommendations.

Management Category	B	Visited by	RPS	Visited On	13/11/99
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PRN	39896	Site name	CAMROSE ROAD	NGR	SM91521977
Site type	COTTAGE	Period	Post Med	Site Status	

Description

Site of a mid-19th century cottage known as Camrose Road, not shown on early OS maps but present by 1839. Not shown on 1891 1:10560 OS map. No trace survives in field.

Recommendations

No specific recommendations.

Management Category	B	Visited by	RPS	Visited On	13/11/99
PRN	39897	Site name	KEESTON LANE;CAMFORD;SCAMFORD FARM	NGR	SM91141977
Site type	FARMSTEAD	Period	Post Med	Site Status	

Description

Site of cottage and outbuildings of the farmstead known as Keeston Cottage in 1839, Camford in 1891 and Scamford during the 20th century. The house has been modernised and, is no longer associated with the farm holding.

Recommendations

No specific recommendations.

Management Category	B	Visited by	RPS	Visited On	13/11/99
PRN	39898	Site name	KEESTON LANE	NGR	SM91102000
Site type	FARMSTEAD	Period	Post Med	Site Status	

Description

Keeston Lane was a small farm holding working in 1839 but which later became part of a larger holding known as Camford and later Scamford Farm. The modern cottage of Scamford stands close to the site of the house associated with Keeston Lane, but it appears that the original dwelling was demolished and replaced by the present building between 1820-1840.

Recommendations

No specific recommendations.

Management Category	B	Visited by	RPS	Visited On	13/11/99
PRN	39943	Site name	SCAMFORD FARM	NGR	SM9020
Site type	FARM	Period	Post Med	Site Status	

Description

Scamford Farm is a modern farm holding situated in the parish and community of Camrose in western Pembrokeshire. At the time of the visit, the holding was farmed jointly with Honey Hook Farm, Lambston and no dwelling was occupied at Scamford.

Recommendations

See site specific recommendations within this report.

Management Category		Visited by	RPS	Visited On	13/11/99
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Map

Tithe Map, 1831, Ordnance Survey 1 inch:2 miles series

Tithe Map, 1841, Tithe map and apportionment for the parish of Camrose

Aerial Photograph

RAF, 1946, CPE-UK-1774 4095-6, 106G-UK-1625 1344

Meridian Airmaps, 1955, 190-210 23874-5, 25817-8

Written Description

RCAHM, 1925, Inventory of Ancient Monuments in Pembrokeshire

