

JUNE 2002

Kilanow W/13/2240



Tir Gofal Farm Visit Historic Environment Report



Report No. 2002/48

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Countryside Council for Wales

CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

REPORT NO. 2002/48
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20 June 2002

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By

Eleanor Breen

ARCHAEOLEG CAMBRIA
Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf
Neuadd y Sir, Stryd Gaerfyrddin, Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA19 6AF
Ffon: Ymholiadau Cyffredinol 01558 823121
Adran Rheoli Trefladaeth 01558 823131
Ffacs: 01558 823133
Epost: cambria@acadat.com Gwefan: www.acadat.com

CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY
Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited
The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF
Tel: General Enquiries 01558 823121
Heritage Management Section 01558 823131
Fax: 01558 823133
Email: cambria@acadat.com Website: www.acadat.com

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Tir Gofal call out visit to Kilanow Farm W/13/2240 20 June 2002

Longstone Camp Hillfort is a scheduled ancient monument (SAM Pe179) and as such is protected by law. Any ground breaking works should not be undertaken within the scheduled area without scheduled monument consent from Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments.

Hillforts are generally recorded as having being constructed in the Iron Age (circa 600 BC - 100AD) but scientific dating of some archaeologically excavated sites has indicated that they may be Bronze Age in date (c2000 - 500BC). Hillforts are usually viewed as defensive structures built with the intention of defending and securing property. They are also locations for dwellings that were used on a seasonal or permanent basis. Sites such as these may have been used over very long periods of time and, therefore, were probably put to many different uses.

Parts of the site are currently very overgrown with scrub (Plate 1). In order to make the site more visible and to limit and prevent damage to buried archaeological remains the following is recommended. The scrub should be cut and removed from the site leaving the roots in the ground. Scrub should not be burned on or near the site. There are a number of boulders within the scheduled area that form part of the monument (see cover photograph). It is likely that further stones will be encountered during clearance work. No stones should be moved or removed from the site. Machinery should not be used on the site in wet conditions and should not leave tracks on the site. All works involved in hedgerow restoration to the north and east of the site should follow the same guidelines. If any fencing is to be undertaken within the scheduled area this will require scheduled monument consent from Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments.



Plate 1 Longstone Camp showing the scrub covered western part of the site

There is a small area of erosion on one of the banks on the west of the site (Plate 2). The density of scrub on the site allows only narrow pathways for stock and this erosion would appear to be caused by the concentration of animals though this narrow path. Scrub clearance may solve the problem. However, to ensure regrowth as quickly as possible it is recommended that the area be covered with brash to keep stock off until the grass has a chance to regrow following the scrub clearance. The stocking level should be kept at an appropriate level in this field to prevent further erosion to the site. This is particularly important during wet conditions.



Plate 2 Area of erosion to west of Longstone Camp

There is some evidence from aerial photographs to indicate that the field to the east of the hillfort may contain circular enclosures. These are probably part of a wider settlement area associated with the hillfort or may indicate an earlier or later settlement site. The field is almost completely overgrown with scrub and surface features could not be identified during this visit. Scrub clearance work in this field should follow the guidelines for the hillfort. In order to protect buried archaeological remains no ground breaking works should be undertaken in this field.

The field containing the hillfort is accessed from Rosemary Lane via a very overgrown trackway that is very wet underfoot (Plate 3). The trackway has a stone faced bank in part, in addition to hedge topped earthen banks. The proposal to restore the trackway is to be welcomed. It is recommended that any works should enhance the existing features and material should not be removed from the banks.



Plate 3 Overgrown trackway leading from Rosemary Lane

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This report has been prepared by Eleanor Breen

Position: Heritage Management Archaeologist (Tir Gofal)

Signature Date

This report has been checked and approved by Louise Austin on behalf of Cambria
Archaeology, Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Position Principal Archaeological Officer (Curatorial)

Signature Date.....

As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any comments you may
have on the content or presentation of this report

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Signature Louise Austin Date 24/06/02

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