

Wallog W/11/2976

Tir Gofal Farm Visit Historic Environment Report



Wallog Stables in the foreground, and Wallog House beyond

Report No. 2002/117

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CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

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Wallog
Tir Gofal Farm Visit Historic Environment Report

By

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INTRODUCTION

This report is intended to provide a statement on the condition and recommended management of all known archaeological and historical sites and features on this farm at the time it was visited by Cambria Archaeology. This information will be used to inform the Tir Gofal Management Agreement for the farm.

Method Statement

The farm visit consisted of two phases:

Phase 1 was a rapid search of all readily available documentary, cartographic and published sources to try to understand the historical development of the farm and the wider landscape and to identify new sites of archaeological interest. The searches undertaken include information held in the regional Sites and Monuments Record, the relevant County Records Office and the National Library of Wales. New sites, or areas of interest were plotted onto a Geographical Information System based map for use during the field survey and for the final report.

Phase 2 was a farm visit to assess the extent, character and current condition of the archaeological and historical sites identified during the research phase. Due to time constraints recording is rapid and consists of photographs and sites notes. Some of the sites may not have been visited. The information gained during the visit has been used to determine their management recommendations.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF FARM (Prn 48726)

Wallog Farm is located approximately 4 kilometres to the north of Aberystwyth with nearly 2 kilometres of coastline along Cardigan Bay. The farm lies within the community of Tirymynach and is centred on National Grid Reference SN59228551.

The farm, Gwallog, was recorded in 1760 as belonging to Richard John Morgan of Dolrhyddlan (Jones 2000, p271). It has now been in the ownership of the current landowners for over 110 years. The main farming operation is centred on the farmstead of Rhosgellan fach, Prn 48735, but the owner now lives in Wallog house which stands impressively within a break in the coastal cliffline and looks out to sea. Another farm which lies within the farm holding, Rhosgellan Fawr, is currently leased.

The landscape pattern of field boundaries enclosing irregularly shaped, medium sized fields appears to have been established by the time the tithe survey was recorded in the second quarter of the 19th century. At this time Wallog house was in the ownership of Matthew Davies Williams but occupied by James Morice.

There appears to have been a bout of development at Wallog during the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries; the stableblock (Prn 48728) and the house were enlarged and improved. These developments are clearly demonstrated on the historic maps as well as in the physical evidence of the buildings themselves.

The limekiln (Prn 8487) sited on the foreshore to the south of Wallog house, is a listed building and is an impressive structure with fine architectural details which raise it above the merely functional.

MAIN MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The management of Wallog farm should endeavour to maintain the historical integrity of the landscape and the structures within it. There were no areas of specific concern identified during the farm visit. If however, there is any opportunity to carry out restoration on a historic feature on the farm or if there are any works proposed which may impact on historic features, please inform Cambria Archaeology at any point in the duration of the scheme.

GAZETTEER OF SITES AND MONUMENTS

PRN	8487	Site Name	WALLOG	Grid Reference	SN58978570
Site Type	LIMEKILN	Period	Post Medieval	Site Status	LB Grade II Rec no. 19073

Description

A limekiln is situated at the bottom of the coastal slopes just to the south of Wallog house. The limekiln is shown on a map of 1769 (owner pers. comm.). It has been identified as architecturally significant and consequently it has been listed as a Grade II listed building. It has recently been subject to some repair and is therefore in good condition, although there are one or two coping stones which have become loose.

The following text is extracted from the Cadw listed building description;
Earlier 19th century large lime-kiln. One of many kilns around the West Wales coast which processed lime for agriculture and building, from limestone shipped from the southern parts of Wales. Shown on the Tithe Map of 1847, but not on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1823. Repair work under way 1997.

A particularly fine and well-preserved example of a type of structure once common along the West Wales coasts. Of regional industrial archaeological importance.

Large squat rectangular lime-kiln, with 3 open sides, built into sloping ground with loading access at the rear. Coursed Wallog rubble-stone, with some coarsely dressed stone, each side similar with battered wall, corbelled coping and centre arched openings to kiln-eyes. Cut stone voussoirs to arches with keystones and raised outer arch rings. Kiln-eyes are barrel-vaulted within, splayed down to furnace openings. Inner furnace area is fire-brick. Top is now grass-covered, and the centre crucible is infilled with loose stone and debris. Large non-dressed coping-stones around the rim.

Recommendations

This limekiln is in good condition following a recent restoration project. Any follow up maintenance works should be carried out using traditional and sympathetic materials.

Site Category B



Prn 8487 – the limekiln is an impressive feature on the coastline at Wallog

PRN	16141	Site Name	WATERLOO	Grid Reference	SN59658550
Site Type	BRIDGE	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

It is first identified on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1891. This bridge was not seen during the farm visit.

Recommendations

The bridge should be maintained in a stable condition using materials appropriate to its construction.

Site Category D

PRN	30760	Site Name		Grid Reference	SN59038509
Site Type	SLUICE	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

A sluice is marked in this location on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889, it is not referred to again on the subsequent map editions, although the associated pond is marked. It would seem, therefore, that the sluice fell out of use at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. The pond of about 50 metres in diameter still exists and some stone slabs visible at ground surface, which maybe the remains of a sluice, are situated to the east side of the pond.

Recommendations

The remains of this feature should be retained.

Site Category C

PRN	16129	Site Name	WALLOG	Grid Reference	SN59928524
Site Type	LODGE	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

Wallog Lodge is situated at the east end of the long driveway to Wallog house. It does not fall within the remit of Tir Gofal.

Recommendations

No management recommendations apply.

Site Category C

PRN	48727	Site Name	WALLOG	Grid Reference	SN59118572
Site Type	FARMSTEAD	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

The farmstead at Wallog consists of the major dwelling of Wallog house, a stableblock, (Prn 48728), and a garden (Prn 48729). The house is situated at the foot of a valley in a natural break in the cliffs. A natural shingle bank named Sarn Cynfelyn, about 20 metres wide, extends from the beach into the sea for 7 miles at this point.

Recommendations

The historic buildings which make up the complex of Wallog retain much of their historic integrity, any works to these structures should be carried out using sympathetic materials.

Site Category B

PRN	48728	Site Name	WALLOG	Grid Reference	SN59168572
Site Type	STABLEBLOCK	Period	Post Medieval / Modern		

Description

A large and impressive stableblock is situated about 80 metres to the east of Wallog house, on the north side of the valley. It is a U- shaped structure with side wings projecting forward. The western wing was a groom's cottage, and is still in use as a residential let.

The tithe map indicates that a small rectangular structure occupied the eastern part of the site in 1845; and it seems likely that this building still survives as the eastern projecting wing of the current building. The rest of the building, the central section and the western projecting wing would appear to have been constructed at some time around the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries; the footprint of what must be the building which survives today is in place on the 1906 edition.

The building is distinctive and built with great attention to its appearance, which is understandable when considered that it is a prominent feature on the approach to Wallog house. The later building is characterised by yellow brickwork dressings around the doorways and windows set in local stone roughly dressed and built to courses, a style which corresponds to some sections of the main house.

The stable is currently in use for low level storage, and the building retains some of its internal fixtures and fittings including harness hooks and saddle trees in the tack room to the west of the main cart entrance.

Recommendations

This building is in reasonable condition at present and appears secure. There are some areas of concern at the rear of the structure where roofing slates have slipped and the masonry is poor. These areas should be repaired in materials sympathetic to the original construction. The internal fixtures and fittings which survive should be retained if possible.

Site Category B



Prn 48728 – the impressive stableblock at Wallog, the grooms cottage to the left of the building is in residential use

PRN	48729	Site Name	WALLOG	Grid Reference	SN59028569
Site Type	GARDEN	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

To the south of Wallog house is an area of land partially enclosed by a low wall which is thought to have been a garden. A glasshouse is positioned to the north of this enclosure against the boundary wall. This land is now used for pasture and whilst there are no obvious relic garden features there are undulations in the ground surface which indicate possible structures, and relic boundary walls suggest subdivisions within the enclosure.

Recommendations

This relic garden is currently used for grazing and is in an ideal management regime. If any works involving ground surface disturbance are planned please consult with Cambria Archaeology in advance.

Site Category C



Prn 48729 - the garden at Wallog is now under pasture, however the glasshouse is a lasting reminder of its previous use as a garden.

PRN	48730	Site Name	WALLOG	Grid Reference	SN59308572
Site Type	LEAT	Period	Post Medieval / Modern		

Description

The remains of a leat constructed to divert water from the stream to the stables at Wallog, can be seen on the north side of the valley. The channel is now dry but is still traceable, following the contour of the hillside. It is an earthwork construction approximately 2 metres wide and about 0.3 metre deep. Also surviving is a slate (holding or settling?) tank constructed with slate slabs and bolted together with iron bolts.

Recommendations

The leat should be retained as a visible historic landscape feature.

Site Category C



Prn 48730 – the remains of a leat diverting water from the stream to the stableblock

PRN	48731	Site Name	WALLOG	Grid Reference	SN59018574
Site Type	JETTY	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

Below Wallog house on the foreshore is a loading jetty. Constructed in stone, it is approximately 60 metres long and is built with kinks in the line of the sea wall. This jetty may have been used for unloading limestone for burning in the kiln (Prn 8487) along the foreshore to the south.

Recommendations

The stone jetty appears to be in good condition. This should be maintained as a visible historic landscape feature.

Site Category C

PRN	48732	Site Name	WALLOG	Grid Reference	SN59058577
Site Type	DAM	Period	Post Medieval / Modern		

Description

To the north of Wallog house is a stone built dam positioned across the stream before it washes out onto the foreshore. The dam appears to have been constructed at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries, as it is not apparent on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889 but is clearly recorded on the revised edition in 1906.

The dam is an impressive structure, approximately 3 metres at its widest at the base and around 6 metres high. The seaward side of the dam is stepped in from the base with the upper section providing access for the coastal path across the stream. Due to a large breach in the centre of the dam, water is no longer held back by it.

Recommendations

Although breached in the centre, the dam appears to be relatively stable at present, however the extent of the breach should be monitored to ensure that the dam (and consequently the footpath) remain safe. If necessary consolidation works may have to be carried out to stabilize the breach. Any works to the structure should be carried out in materials which are sympathetic to the historic fabric.

Site Category C



Prn 48732 – the upper level of this dam supports the public footpath, below the stone revetment has been breached in the centre.

PRN	48733	Site Name	WALLOG WOOD	Grid Reference	SN59618596
Site Type	WOODLAND GARDEN?	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

The farm holding extends inland to include the southeast facing slopes to the northeast, incorporating Wallog Wood or Coed Wallog. Recorded as Wallog Wood on the tithe survey in 1845, it is shown as a mixed wood with deciduous trees, conifers and understorey represented. The tithe map also appears to show tracks following the contour and leading through the woodland to the adjacent farm. This picture appears unchanged on both the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps, however the owner relates how the wood has been clear felled twice during both the 1st and 2nd World Wars, despite this the wood has regrown. Exotic species of plants and shrubs appear sporadically through the woodland and in addition earthwork channels which are cut into the natural slopes give an appearance of artificial landscaping to the area.

It seems possible that this area of woodland may have been enhanced to create a naturalistic woodland garden and the two tracks which lead up from the house at Wallog and the stables through the wood may have been rides or walks.

Recommendations

If any further information regarding this possible woodland garden comes to light Cambria Archaeology would be delighted hear about it. In addition if any works or extensive woodland management is carried out in this area please inform Cambria Archaeology.

Site Category D

PRN	48734	Site Name	WALLOG	Grid Reference	SN59288570
Site Type	POND	Period	Post Medieval / Modern?		

Description

A pond formed by an L-shaped earth revetment bank 2-3 metres high and 6 metres wide is situated to the side of the existing stream. The revetment banks have been recently repaired and improved. It is unclear from the historic maps when this pond and revetment came into existence, the early Ordnance Survey maps (1889, 1906) do not indicate a pond but there is a suggestion of some alteration in the natural watercourse, which appears to dog-leg at this point.

Recommendations

The revetment bank and pond have recently been repaired and are therefore in good order, they should continue to be kept in a secure condition.

Site Category C



Prn 48734 – beyond the stream is a large revetment bank holding a pond.

PRN	48735	Site Name	RHOSGELLAN FACH	Grid Reference	SN59598524
Site Type	FARMSTEAD	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

The farmstead of Rhosgellan fach is situated on a northeast facing slope. The farmstead is arranged on a U-shaped plan with the farmhouse situated at the top of the slope and the two parallel ranges of buildings running down the slope to either side. Adjoining the southeastern range is a series of further breeze block and asbestos buildings enclosing a foldyard.

The U-shaped farmstead was present at the second quarter of the 19th century when the tithe survey was conducted. The square foldyard to the southeast was then added prior to the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. The historic maps evidently show that the farmstead layout has been in existence for well over 150 years, however there have clearly been significant modifications. The range to the southeast of the farmhouse is constructed in breeze block and would appear to have been a new construction on the site of an earlier building.

The traditional farm buildings (excluding the farmhouse) which survive in the farmstead include the cow shed and the shelter shed. These historic buildings are distinctive in their construction, sharing a characteristic feature of raised crow-step gables, which lends the farm buildings a distinguished signature.

Recommendations

The farmstead retains much of its historic integrity and although some of the buildings have been modified to a greater or lesser extent the farm preserves its historic character. This is greatly enhanced by such features as the crow-stepped gables which are very distinctive.

If any works are to be carried out on the buildings of this farmstead please inform Cambria Archaeology.

Site Category C



Prn 48735 – a cow shed on the northwest side of the farmyard at Rhosgellan fach, the distinctive ‘crow-step’ gables can be seen at either end.

SITE AND AREA STATUS GLOSSARY

The following abbreviations are used in the gazetteer to refer to site and area status. These schedules, lists and registers are compiled and maintained by Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments.

SAM - Scheduled Ancient Monument

This is a statutory designation. Scheduled Ancient Monuments are protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

LB1, LB2* & LB2 – Listed Building 1, 2* & 2

This is a statutory designation. Listed buildings are protected under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

HLW - Historic Landscapes of Wales

Historic Landscapes of Wales are defined by the *Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales: Part 2.1 Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest and Part 2.2 Landscapes of Special Historic Interest*. The register is advisory and has no statutory powers.

PGW - Parks and Gardens of Wales

Parks and Gardens of Wales are defined by the *Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales: Part 1 Parks and Gardens*. The register is advisory and has no statutory powers.

REFERENCES

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Ordnance Survey 1889 Cardiganshire Sheet VI.NW
Ordnance Survey 1891 Cardiganshire Sheet III.SW
Ordnance Survey 1906 Cardiganshire Sheet VI.NW
Ordnance Survey 1906 Cardiganshire Sheet III.SW
Tithe Map and Apportionment of Llanbadarn Fawr Parish 1845

Wallog

Tir Gofal Historic Environment Consultation

Countryside Council for Wales Reference W/11/2976


Cambria Archaeology Reference PRN44230


National Grid Reference SN 59228551

Map 1


 Farm Boundary
 Historic Landscape Character Area

Site Category A - National Importance


 Scheduled Ancient Monuments
Grade 1 and Grade 2* Listed Buildings

 Sites and Buildings of National Importance
without a statutory designation


Site Category B - Regional Importance

 Sites and Buildings of Regional Importance
including Grade 2 listed buildings

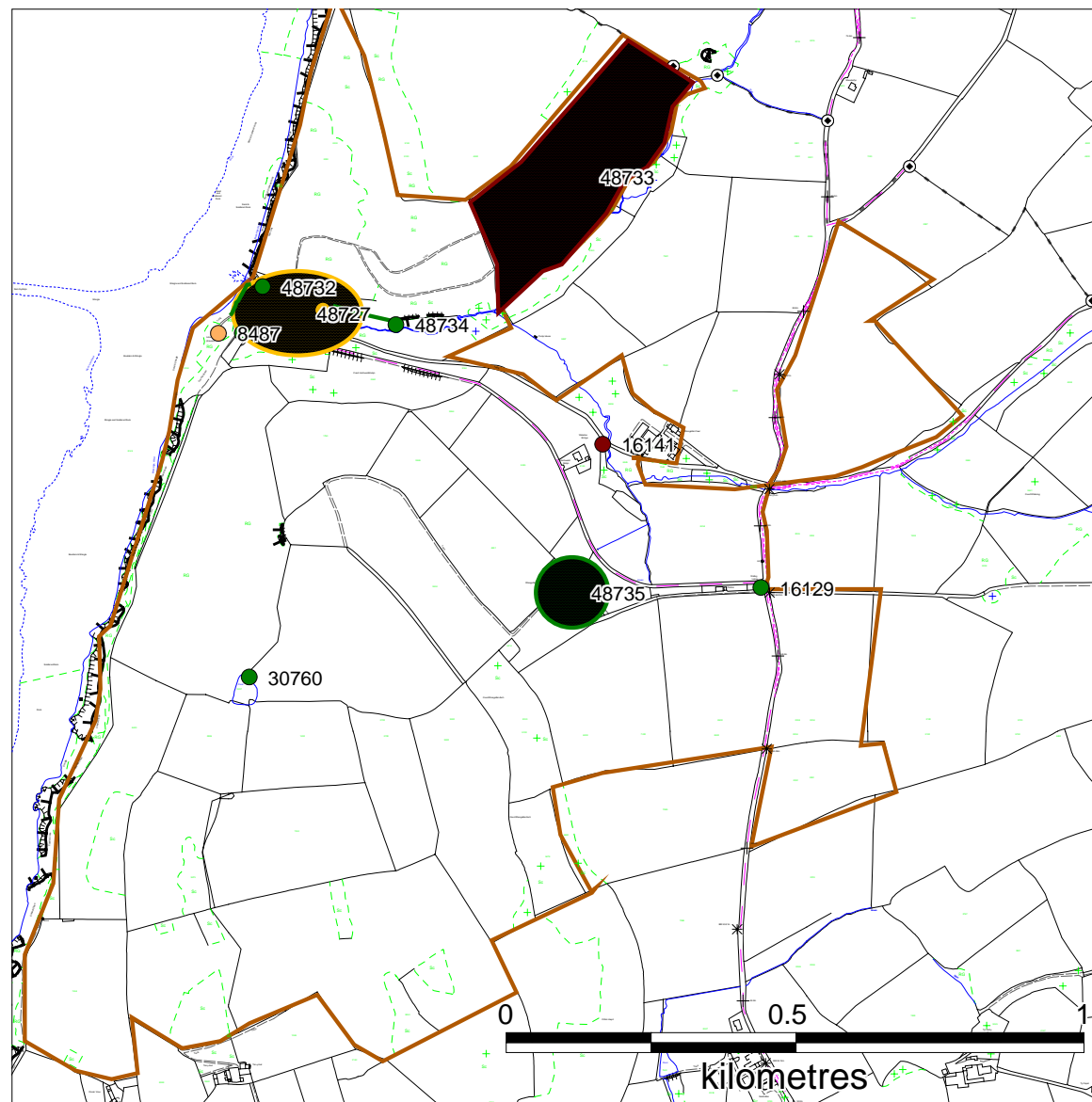
Site Category C - Local Importance

 Sites and buildings of Local Importance

Site Category D – Unknown Importance

 Sites requiring further investigation and sites with
no physical definition

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Map 2


-  Farm Boundary
-  Historic Landscape Character Area

Site Category A - National Importance


-  Scheduled Ancient Monuments
-  Grade 1 and Grade 2* Listed Buildings

-  Sites and Buildings of National Importance without a statutory designation


Site Category B - Regional Importance

-  Sites and Buildings of Regional Importance including Grade 2 listed buildings

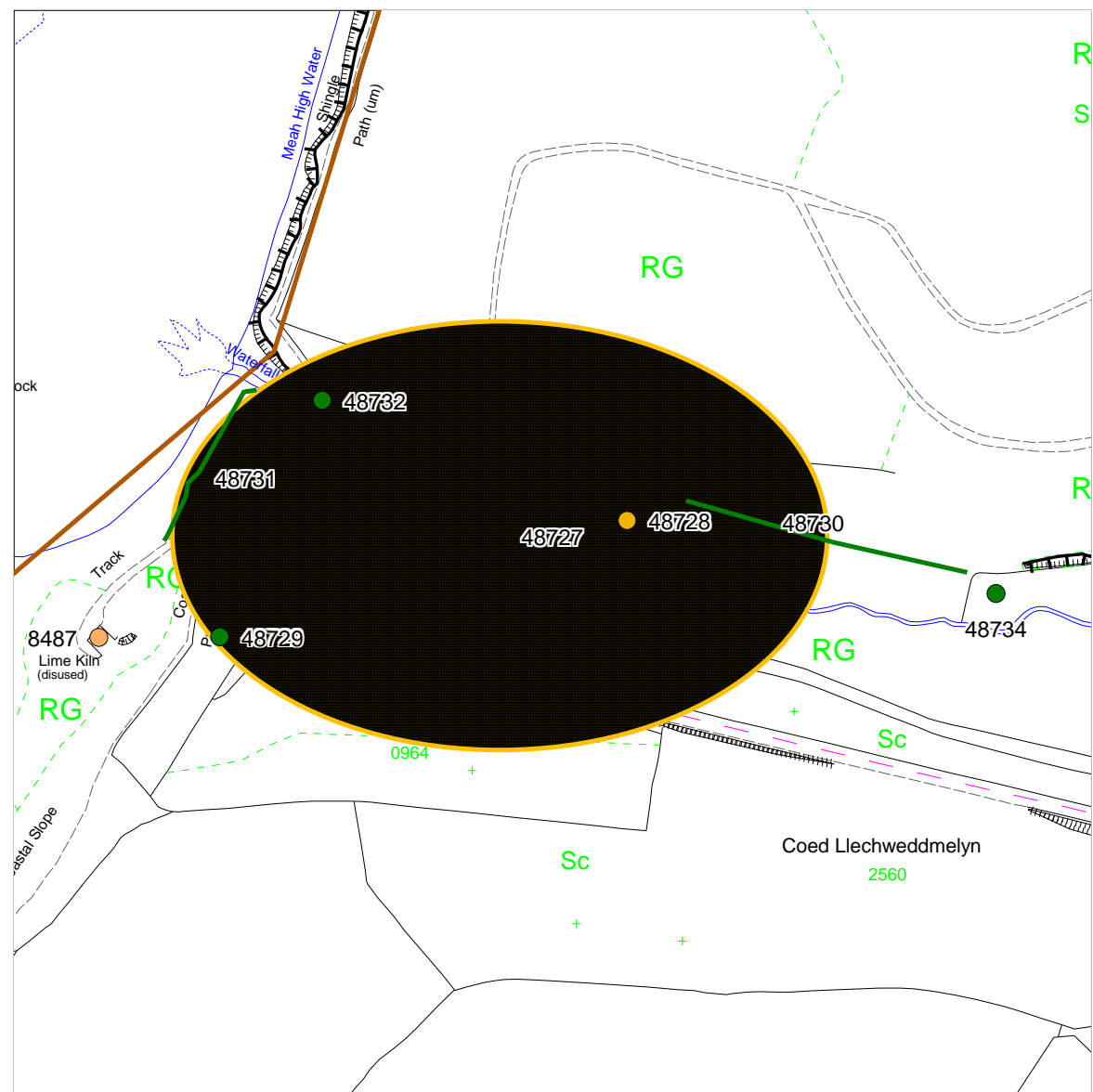
Site Category C - Local Importance

-  Sites and buildings of Local Importance

Site Category D – Unknown Importance

-  Sites requiring further investigation and sites with no physical definition

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