

SCHEDULING ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS 2009: SCHEDULING RECOMMENDATIONS



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust
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SCHEDULING ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS 2009: SCHEDULING RECOMMENDATIONS

Gan / By

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Scheduling Recommendations

Project: SCHEDULING ENHANCEMENT PROJECT 2009 ROMAN NON-MILITARY SITES

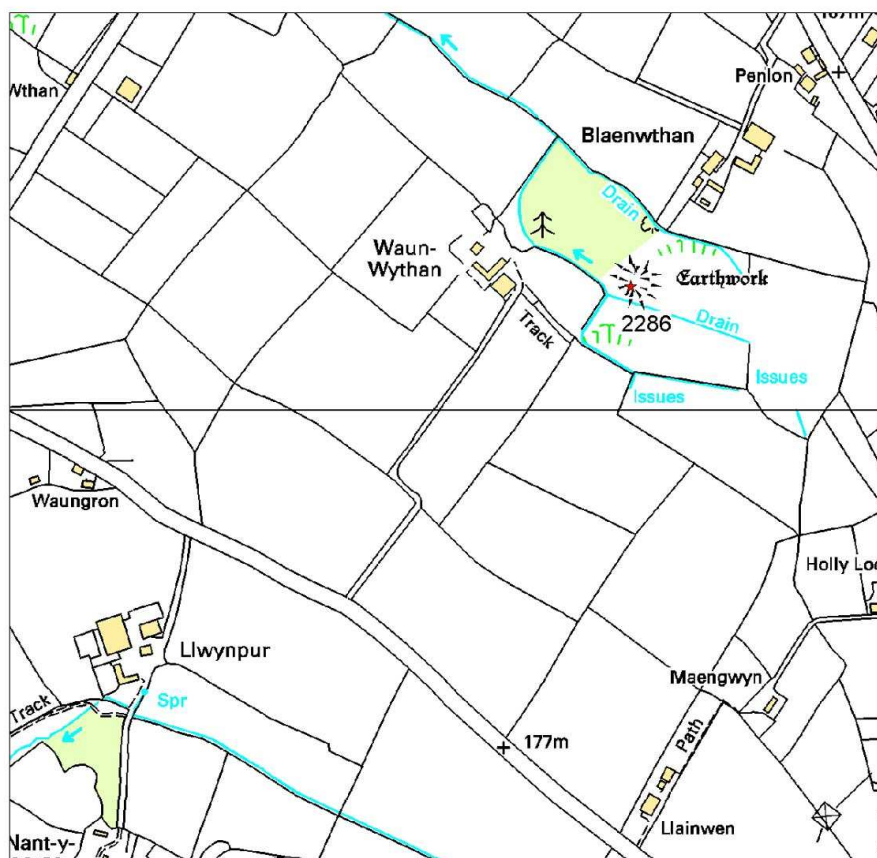
PRN and Site Name: 2286 CASTELL WAUN WITHAN

RECOMMENDATION: SCHEDULING STRONGLY RECOMMENDED

NGR: SN37613712 **SN33NE** **Altitude:** 160m

Owner: Mr John & Mrs Janet James, Llwynpur Farm, Nr Saron, Carmarthenshire
Farm is shown on location map to SW of Castell Waun Withan site.

Location map:



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Description:

Situated on low lying marshy ground at 160m above sea level, on a gentle northwest-facing slope, the date and purpose of this substantial square earthwork remain uncertain. In 1917 The RCAHM recorded this earthwork as a 96ft (c.30m) square with rounded angles lying in marshy ground on Waun-Withan Farm. The bank, 6ft (1.8m) in height and of great thickness, had entrances centrally placed on the north and south sides both 10ft (3m) wide. The ditch had almost entirely

disappeared. They noted that locally it is known as 'Castel,' 'Castell waun Withan' or Yr amddiffynfa,' 'The defence' and that an adjacent field is called 'Parc sarn' (causeway field), and that traces of a paved way were found when ploughing. A stone basin was reported as having been found within the enclosure. By 1977 the Ordnance Survey site visit records that the earthwork is as described by the RCAHM. They report that of the two entrances the one on the north is only 1.5m wide. The other entrance is 3.0m wide and overgrown. The bank of the enclosure is 1.5m high internally and 1.9m high externally. It is noted that the interior is raised above the surrounding marsh and is dry. The southern side for a length of 12.4m is further raised in two stages of about 0.1m each, and on the higher stage, abutting the south bank of the enclosure, there are indications of buried walling. A drainage ditch mutilates the southwest corner; otherwise the earthwork is well preserved. No trace of the causeway was found.



The 2008 site visit found that the earthwork lies in very wet and marshy ground. It was extremely overgrown with small trees, scrub, reeds and brambles, so much so that access was not gained onto the site. Just outside of the earthwork on its west side the owner of Waun-Withan Farm had recently excavated a wide and deep drainage ditch that ran very close to the bank. The ditch follows for a time the line of the public footpath from Blaenwthan Farm to Waun-Withan Farm, where it passes the earthwork. The owner was aware of the site and said that he had looked out for anything unusual during the excavation of the ditch, in the way of finds, but had seen nothing. The land on which the site lies is now owned by Llwynpur Farm, and is currently fenced off to stop cattle from entering the wet area. It appears that the area is so marginal and wet, that it has been left alone over the years and it is probable that the earthwork is as recorded in 1977.

Reason for scheduling recommendation:

The shape and size suggest the possibility that this is a Roman fortlet or signal station, but its situation does not. It is not on or near the course of a known Roman road. Even though the nature and date of the earthwork remain uncertain, the good condition and rarity of such a site strongly recommend Castell Waun Withan earthwork for scheduling. Further investigation and survey may help in the classification of the earthwork.

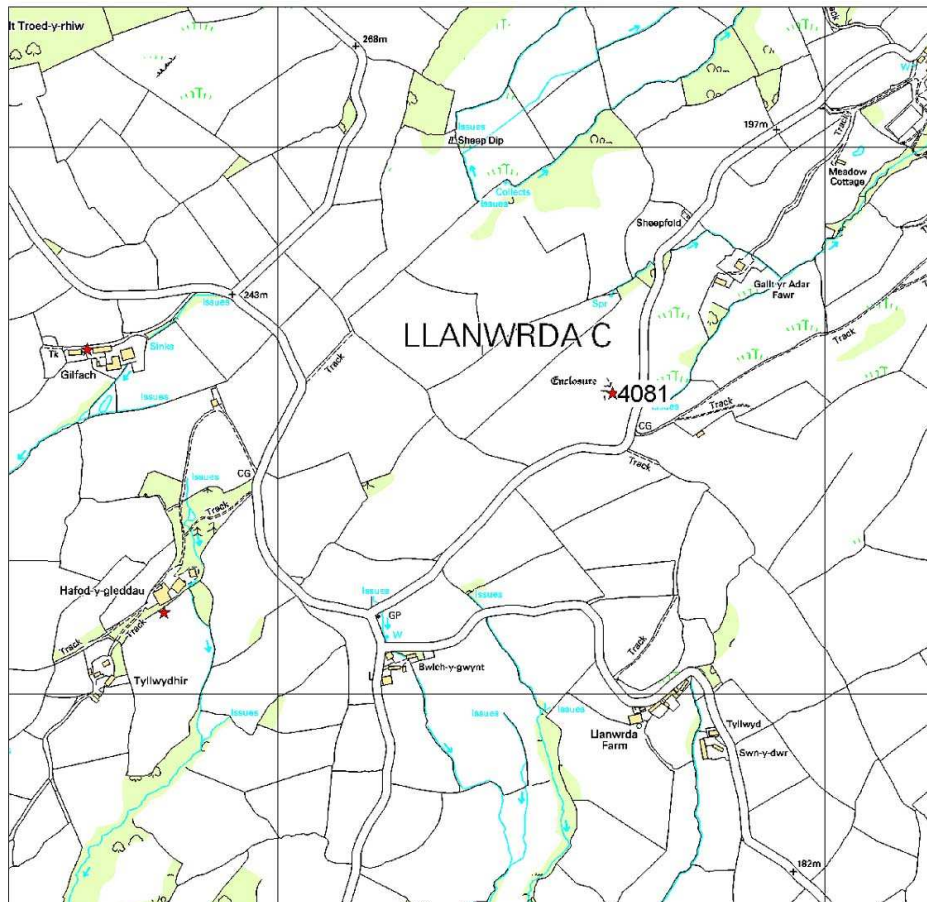
PRN and Site Name: 4081 LLANWRDA

RECOMMENDATION: SCHEDULING RECOMMENDED

NGR: SN71613455 SN73SW Altitude: 260m

Owner: Mr Peter Noel Davies, Hafod y gleddau Farm, nr Llanwrda, Carmarthenshire. The farm is shown on the location map to the SW of the earthwork site.

Location map:



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Description:

A small square enclosure, measuring approximately 27m by 33m, visible on aerial photographs. It is situated on high ground, at 260m above sea level, with good views to the east and south, but it is overlooked by slightly higher ground on the west. In 1968 the Ordnance Survey record that on three sides a ploughed down bank and a filled in ditch are visible, but that on the remaining southwest side the bank is better preserved, rising 1.1m above the inner level of the enclosure, and then dropping 1.4m to form an outer ditch. On this southwest side the outer edge of the ditch once had a modern hedge running along it, but this has been

removed. The Ordnance Survey card notes that the then landowner declared that six years previously he had bulldozed three of the banks into their outer ditches, but that prior to that the banks had been 4ft (c.1.2m) high on all sides and that the ground inside of the enclosure was dry. By 1977 the Ordnance Survey report that the southwest bank and ditch have been ploughed out and are now only discernable as a change in soil colouration. The landowner informed them that there is a local legend that the enclosure once held buildings, but that when he had recently drained the interior no features or remains of buildings were seen.



In 2009 the square enclosure is still clearly visible as a low earthwork with a spread bank and a shallow outer ditch, enclosing an area of approximately 0.13 hectares. There does appear to be evidence of an internal square partition in the southeast corner of the enclosure. The spread bank measures between 3 to 4 metres in width, and the ditch is approximately 2 to 3 metres wide. The best evidence for an entrance is on the east side. The enclosure sits on the edge of an east-facing scarp slope with extensive views of the Afon Dulais valley that leads back to the Roman gold mines at Dolaucothi, some five miles NW, and approximately 1.5 miles north of the Carmarthen-Llandovery Roman road at Llanwrda. The Ordnance Survey suggests that the shape and size of the enclosure point to it being a Roman fortlet or signal station but equally they, and its position, could indicate an Iron Age defended enclosure. Spurgeon (1981) has even proposed that it is a medieval moated site.

A number of the fields surrounding the site that are known locally by their welsh name include within them the element "lladron" meaning robbers or thieves. A local oral tradition (still known to those who currently live in the area) describes the area as being notorious in the past as a hiding place for highwaymen or robbers who preyed on unsuspecting travellers along the nearby road.

Reasons for scheduling recommendation:

Whatever the origin of the site it is rare to find such a feature still surviving as a visible earthwork, despite the effort put into demolishing it 60 years ago. It is necessary that further investigative work is carried out to determine the nature of the site, and to inform any decisions made on the protection or not that the earthwork should afford. A geophysical survey of the area would enable a clearer picture of the earthwork to be formed, and particularly the character of any internal features.

Project: SCHEDULING ENHANCEMENT PROJECT 2009: PREHISTORIC SITES FIELDWORK – CARMARTHENSHIRE

The fieldwork identified few individual monuments worthy of additional protection. However, the fieldwork confirmed the interesting character of several site groups. One group east of Nant Garw is marked on the current 1:25 000 Ordnance Survey map as a *Settlement*.

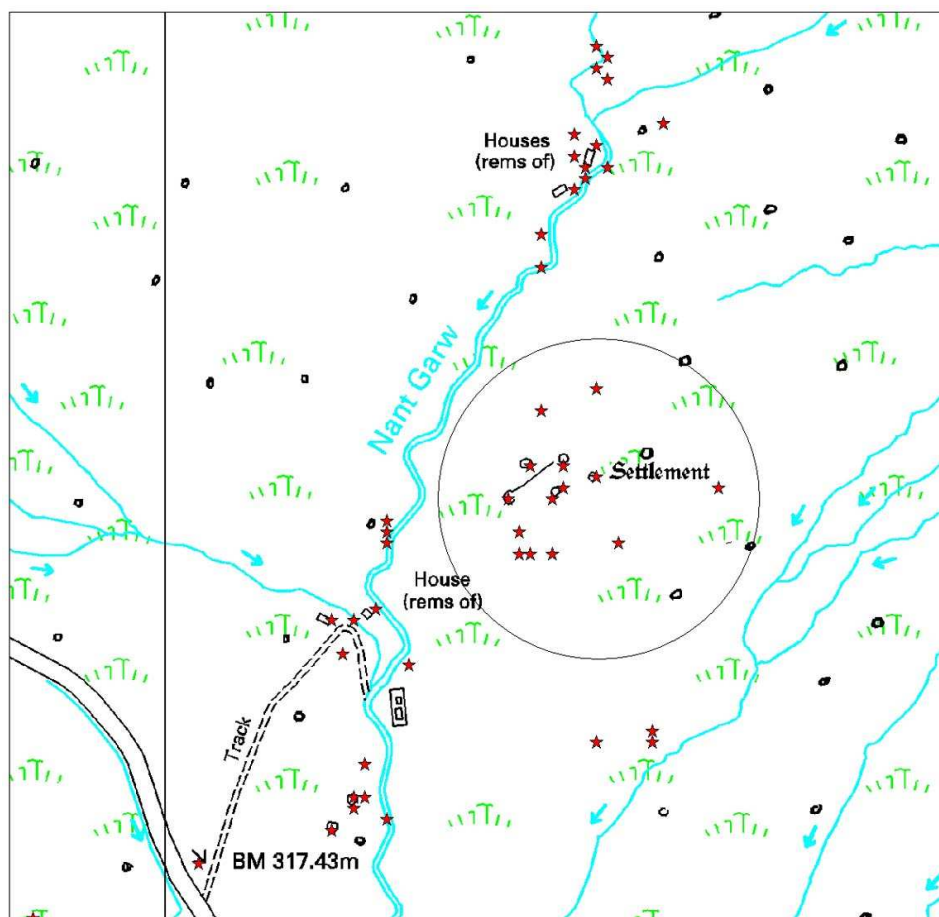
Overall PRN and site name: 32174 NANT GARW

RECOMMENDATION: SCHEDULING SUGGESTED

NGR: SN72391654. SN71NW Altitude: 320m

Owner: Brecon Beacons National Park

Location map:



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This group (PRN 32174 – 32186) has a cohesive appearance and covers an area of approximately 1.5 hectares. It is situated on a fairly level southwest-facing gentle slope at 310m above sea level, east of the river cutting of the Nant Garw, and includes a number of hut circles and a distinctive larger enclosure (PRN 32178) with two entrances (pictured below) that is linked to a hut circle by a linear wall. There are other less well-defined structures spread about the area as well.



PRN 32178 An unusual feature - a roughly circular enclosure 11.5m in diameter that lies on a gentle south facing slope overlooking the Nant Garw valley. It has an 'entrance annexe' on the NW approx. 2.5m square, and another entrance gap on the east of the ring, from which a wall runs to the NE for 50m at the end of which is a hut circle.

Another noteworthy group of sites is situated on the southwest-facing slopes of Garreg Lwyd east of Nant Gwyn. The sites are distributed across a linear area approximately 650m SW-NE by 160m NW-SE, of approximately 9.8 hectares. Although they have one overall group PRN of 32209 they are concentrated in two distinct groups: one to the southwest and the other to the northeast.

The first group:

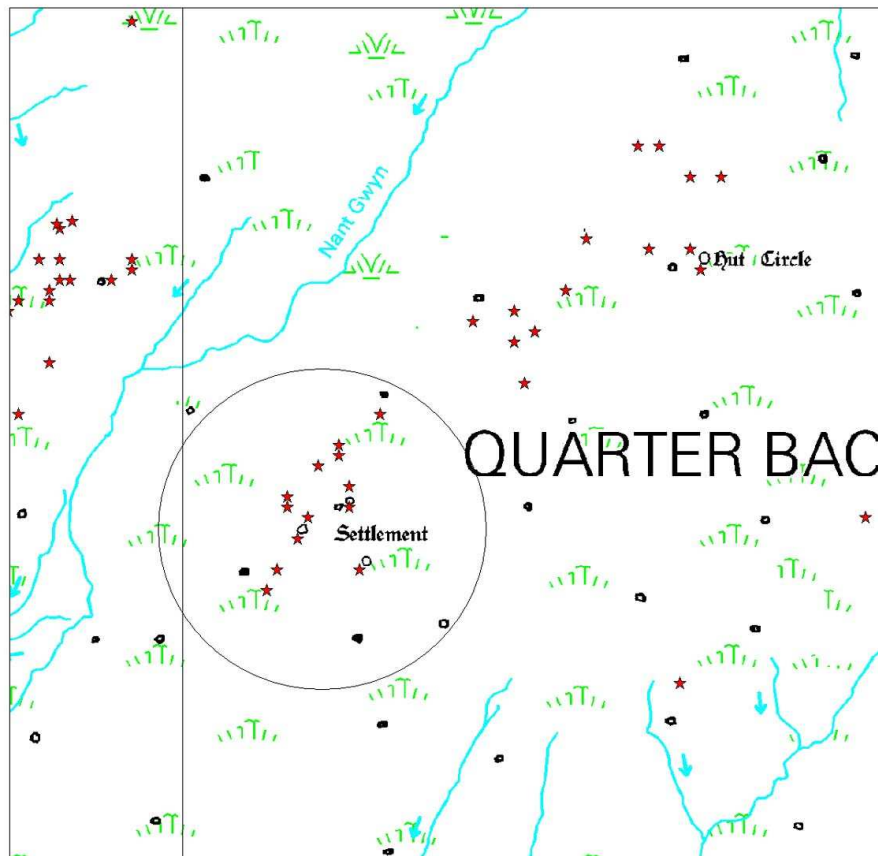
PRN group and site name: 32210-32221 GAREG LWYD

RECOMMENDATION: SCHEDULING SUGGESTED

NGR: centred on SN73121550 **SN71NW** **Altitude:** 290m

Owner: Brecon Beacons National Park

Location map:



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PRN 32212 Situated on a steeply sloping SW facing slope north of boggy ground that falls southwards to the Aman valley. Good views to south and west. The hut circle is slightly terraced into the hillside on the north

The sites may well be of more than one period, but the overall impression is that it is an extensive area of prehistoric settlement, with some later additions and perhaps some reuse of earlier features *i.e.* hut circles reused as shooting stands. This settlement evidence to the southwest is more distinctive than that to the northeast and includes hut circles (such as that pictured above), oval and rectangular enclosures, and rectangular platforms. Also visible are lengths of wall that appear to be field boundaries surrounding cleared areas of ground. To the edge of these are small clearance cairns.

The second group of sites lies approximately 280m to the northeast.

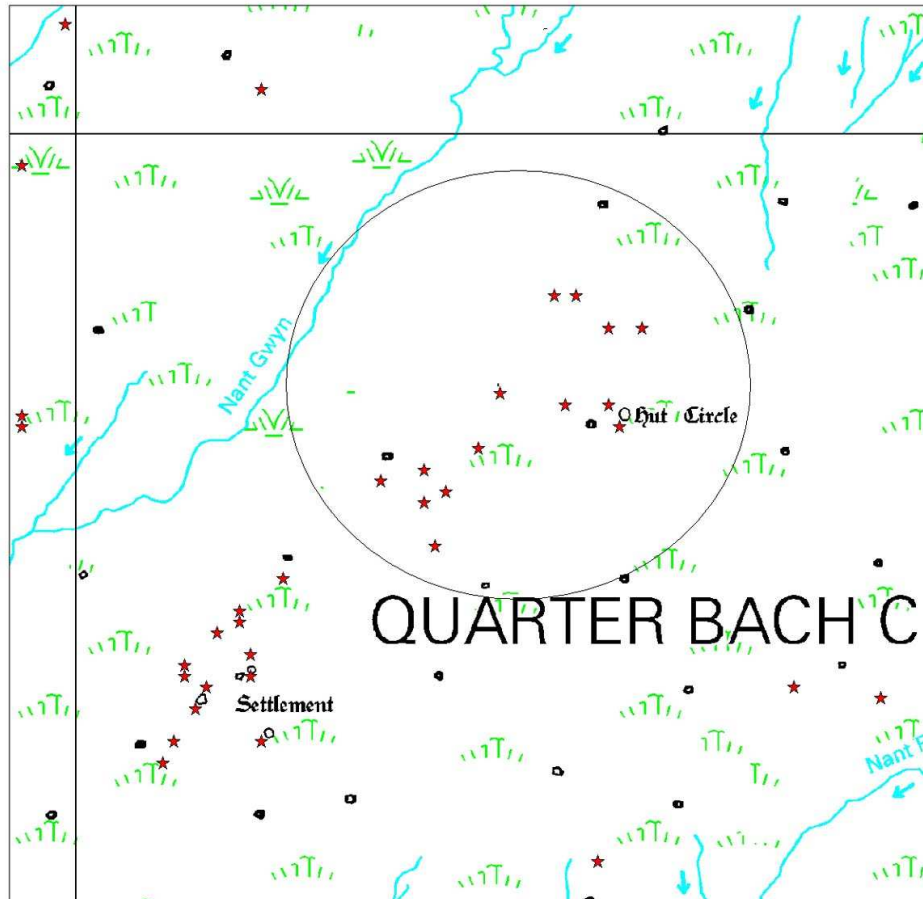
PRN group and site name: 32222-32234 GAREG LWYD

RECOMMENDATION: SCHEDULING SUGGESTED

NGR: centred on SN73411574 **SN71NW** **Altitude:** 330m

Owner: Brecon Beacons National Park

Location map:



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The sites are more diverse in character and do not have the unified appearance that the group to the southwest have. However, it does comprise unusual structures such as a crescent shaped segment of walling shown below:



PRN 32228 A crescent shaped segment of walling. It measures 10m NE-SW across the chord, bowing out some 3.5m to the NW and averages about 0.8m wide, 0.5m high. There is a gap in the wall on the west.

Bibliographic references

Leighton, D 1997, *Mynydd Du and Fforest Fawr*, RCAHMW.

Morgan, D E 1988, *Black Mountain/Mynydd Du Survey*, Archaeology in Wales 28.

Morgan, D E 1989, *Black Mountain/Mynydd Du Survey*, Archaeology in Wales 29.

**Project: SCHEDULING ENHANCEMENT PROJECT 2009:MEDIEVAL
MINOR DEFENDED SITES**

Carmarthenshire

PRN and site name: 5070 ROCHE CASTLE

RECOMMENDATION: SCHEDULING SUGGESTED

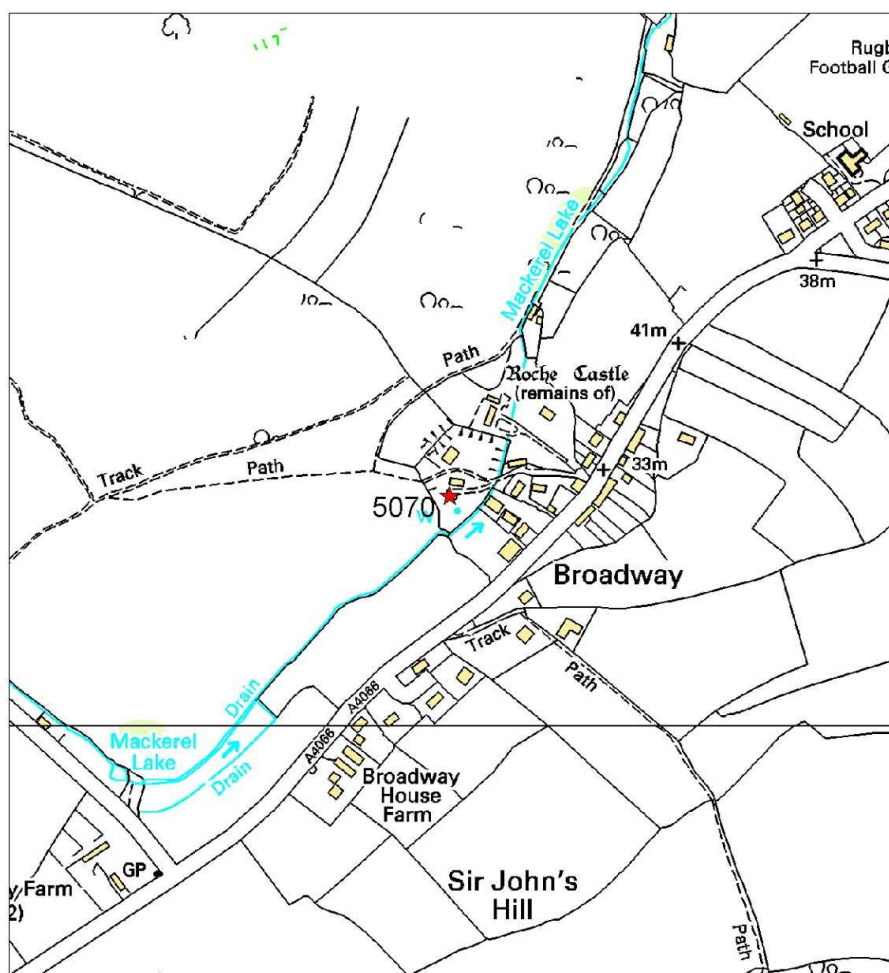
NGR: SN29431022

SN21SE

Altitude: 40m

Owner: Unknown

Location map:



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Descript...

All that remains of Roche Castle today is a single stone tower with small stretches of abutting walls projecting from it to the northeast and southeast. The tower and walls were heavily covered with ivy at the time of the site visit but some

architectural details were observable such as a fragment of arched vaulting and the chamber within the circular tower. The castle was in a ruinous state by the early 17th century when it is recorded as being robbed of stone for the construction of the nearby mansion at Broadway. The Ordnance Survey map of 1831 shows a wall linking two towers on the south-western side of a flat platform area. Subsequent building development on the site, especially during the 1960s, has presumably destroyed much of the fabric of the original castle and its foundations. The castle lies on a platform that is terraced into a gentle southeast facing slope, the platform is still recognisable despite the presence of modern buildings and the effects of later landscaping. The site lies on the 40m contour.



View of the ivy-clad tower of Roche Castle, looking south-southwest.

Reason for scheduling recommendation

All that remains of Roche Castle today is a single stone tower with small stretches of abutting walls projecting from it to the northeast and southeast. The castle lies on a platform that is terraced into a gentle southeast facing slope, the platform is still recognisable despite the presence of modern buildings and the effects of later landscaping. The remains of the castle require some form of protection.

PRN and site name: 8783 CWM AGOL

RECOMMENDATION: SCHEDULING SUGGESTED

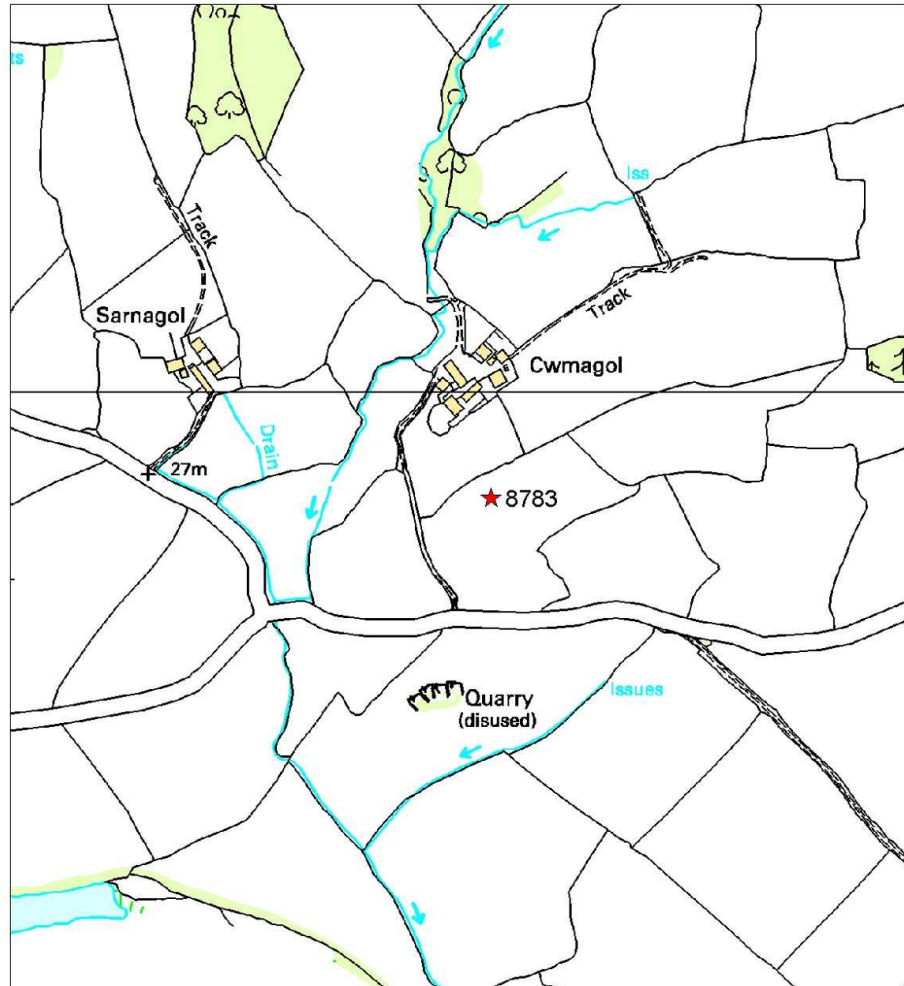
NGR: SN56602096

SN52SE

Altitude: 50m

Owner: Mr Lewis, Cwm Agol, Dryslwyn, SA32 8RP (01558) 668365

Location map:



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Description

This site was first detected as a rectangular cropmark during aerial reconnaissance in 1979 and its presence is confirmed on Meridian Airmaps from 1955. On the ground the enclosure survives as a low rectangular bank terraced into a west facing moderate hillslope at 50m above sea level. The long axis of the enclosure, at c. 40m long, is aligned approximately north to south, with the lesser sides measuring c.30m. The bank on the west side averages 0.4m high whilst the upslope eastern bank is lower and more spread. The southern bank may have

been incorporated into the field boundary bank. There is no trace of a bank on the northern side where it may have been destroyed by a trackway. No ditch or moat is discernible. The site looks more like a typical Iron Age rectangular defended enclosure rather than a moated medieval site.



View of Cwm Agol enclosure looking northeast

Reason for scheduling recommendation

On the ground this site has the appearance of an Iron Age defended enclosure rather than a medieval moated site. It is quite a well preserved earthwork.

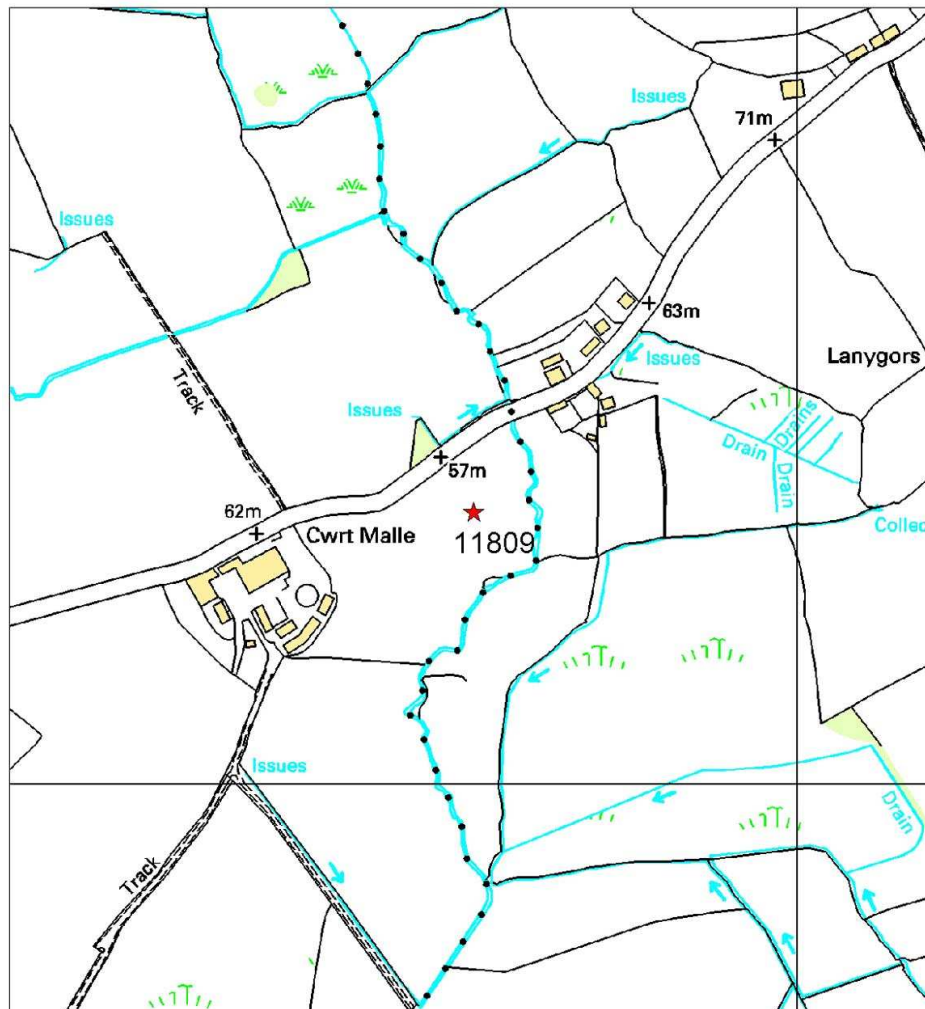
PRN and site name: 11809 CWRT MALLE

RECOMMENDATION: SCHEDULING SUGGESTED

NGR: SN37701725 SN31NE Altitude: 55m

Owner: Mr Hywel Richards, Cwrt Malle Farm, Llangain, Carmarthenshire,
SA63 5BN (01267) 238803

Location map:



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Description

This site was discovered by aerial reconnaissance undertaken during the drought of 1984. Oblique aerial photographs taken at that time, and two years later clearly show a square ditched enclosure situated in the field some 160m northeast of Cwrt Malle farm. Historical documents appear to confirm that the site is medieval, probably being the home of Robert de Malley in the early 12th century. On the ground the site is defined by a very low earthwork bank c. 60m

by 60m with a discernible internal ditch surrounding an approximately square raised platform. The aerial photographs also appear to indicate a linear crop mark to the north of the site that may represent a leat that fed the moat, but nothing of this evident on the ground. The field is ploughed every two years and planted for silage. During the site visit the badly drained enclosure was seen to have suffered extensive damage from farm vehicles. The site lies on a very gentle south facing hillslope at 55m above sea level.



View across the site of Cwrt Malle enclosure, looking east. Note vehicular damage.

Reason for scheduling recommendation

Although only a low earthwork that is being increasingly damaged by ploughing and vehicular traffic, this is one of the few examples of a medieval moated enclosure in Carmarthenshire. It is supported by good documentary evidence, and merits further protection.

Ceredigion

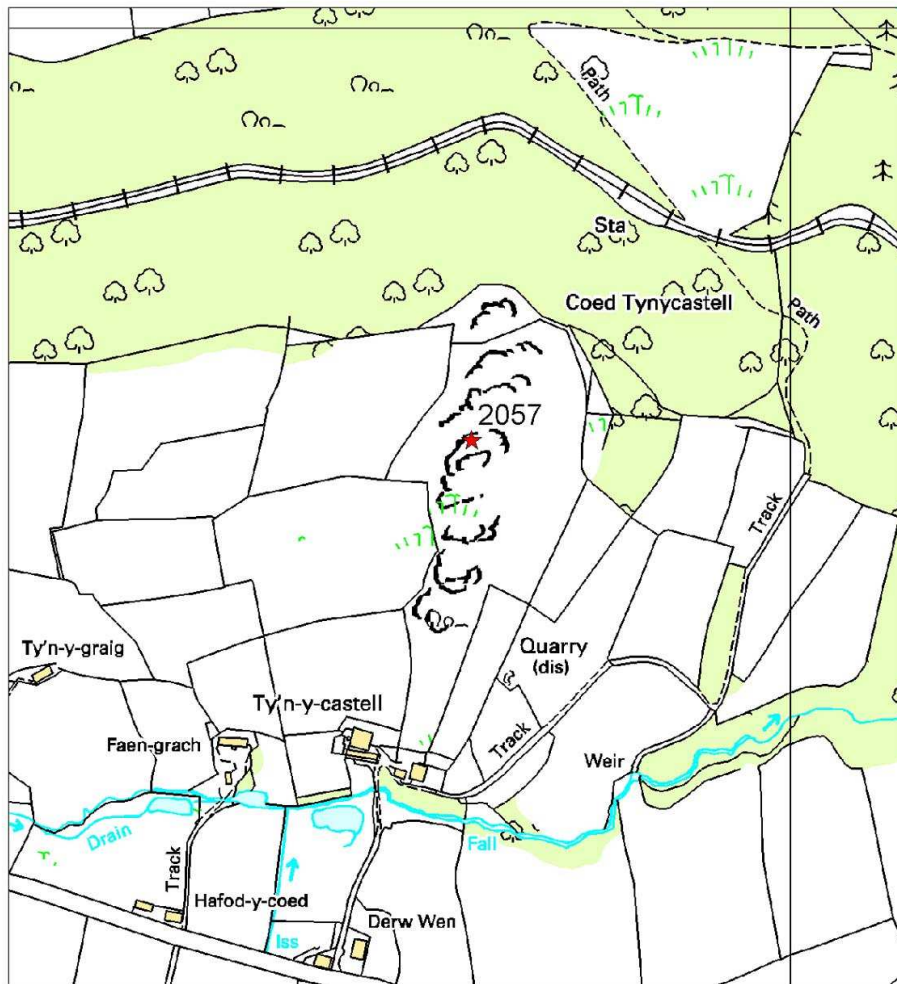
PRN and site name: 2057 CASTELL

RECOMMENDATION: SCHEDULING SUGGESTED

NGR: SN72707761 **SN77NW** **Altitude:** 305m

Owner: Mr Alun Jenkins, Derw Wen, T'n Castell, Devils Bridge, SY23 4QU
(01970) 890250

Location map:

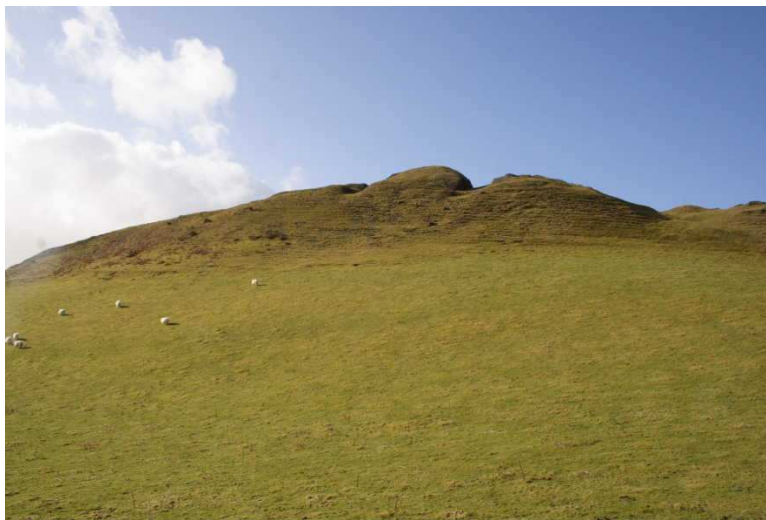


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Description

Castell is a prominent, small (some 320m long) rocky ridge rising to about 305m above sea level; it rises commandingly above the surrounding land. The long axis of the ridge is aligned north to south with its slopes falling away steeply to the north, south and west. The eastern side falls away steeply at first but then slopes

more gently for 60m or so, forming a natural moderately sloping terrace, before falling away steeply again. The summit of the ridge appears to have been artificially sculpted into a mound and well-defined rock-cut ditches have been excavated across the ridge to both the north and south of the mound. The ditches effectively give the mound summit a definite circular, motte-like appearance measuring approximately 15m across. The mound is solid bedrock and not constructed from the excavated ditches' spoil. Beyond the more northerly rock-cut ditch, some 25m or so away, there is a further linear hollow running across the ridge which has a definite artificial earthen bank enclosing about two thirds of its eastern end. To the south of the summit there is a small natural shelf which may represent a small ward or bailey, and towards the northern end of the ridge there are larger areas defined by natural rock outcrops which may equally define areas of occupation. The moderately sloping terrace and improved pasture to the east of the ridge may have served as an outer bailey with enclosing banks long eroded away or obscured by modern field boundaries. The ridge commands strategic views along the meandering Rheidol valley to the northwest, north and east and communication routes to the south along Nant y Fawnog. There appears, however, to be no documentary evidence to support the hypothesis that the site is that of a medieval motte and bailey castle. A sketch from c.1800 shows the artificially fashioned profile of the mound on the ridge summit.



View of Castell summit, looking east-southeast.

Reason for scheduling recommendation

Although difficult to interpret and date the earthworks are extensive, and of obvious antiquity. It is a substantial group of earthworks, and merits further investigation, and protection.

Pembrokeshire

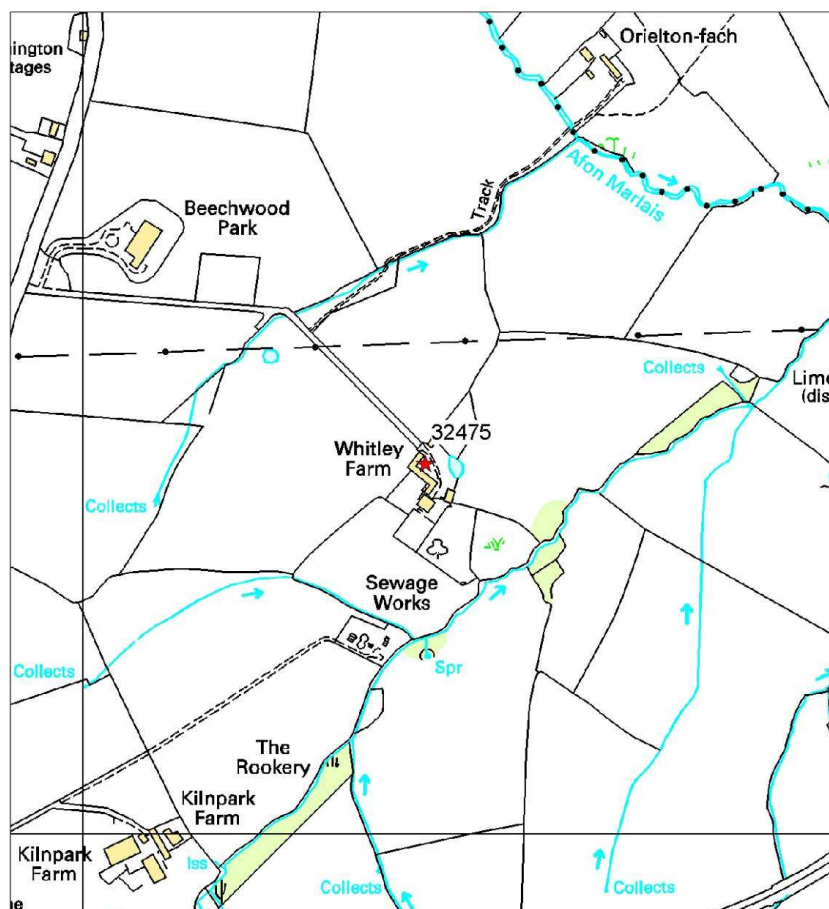
PRN and site name: 32475 WHITLEY FARM

RECOMMENDATION: CONSIDER BUILDING FOR LISTING

NGR: SN12351538 SN11NW Altitude: 70m

Owner: Don & Ruth Cloud, Whitley Farm, Narberth, SA67 7NX
(01834) 860747

Location map:



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Description

This site was first recognised as being a potential medieval moated site during a topographic and historical survey of Narberth undertaken by Heather James in 1992 in which there is an unsourced reference to the 'Medieval manor of Whitley'. Early edition Ordnance Survey maps show the presence of a rectangular earthwork platform in front of (southeast side) the house, modern edition maps omit this detail. The main farmhouse and outbuildings of Whitley Farm have undergone much recent modernisation. A large walled garden survives to the

southwest of the house, a drystone 'Ha-Ha' lies to the southeast, in front of the house and is obscured by vegetation. There is now no indication on the ground of the raised rectangular platform marked on the early Ordnance Survey maps, and there are no earthworks resembling a ditch or moat in the vicinity. The basement in the main farmhouse has architectural details that appear to be of some antiquity; the walls are of substantial stone masonry, the floor is of cut stone slabs, there are pointed arch stonework niches in at least one of the walls, and the ceiling is barrel vaulted. These features suggest medieval origins.



A view of Whitley Farm, looking northwest. Note walled garden to the left of the farmhouse.

Reason for listing recommendation

The basement in the main farmhouse has architectural details that appear to be of some antiquity; the walls are of substantial stone masonry, the floor is of cut stone slabs, there are pointed arch stonework niches in at least one of the walls, and the ceiling is barrel vaulted. These features suggest medieval origins

**Project: PREHISTORIC DEFENDED ENCLOSURES 2009 –
ADDITIONAL SITES**

Carmarthenshire

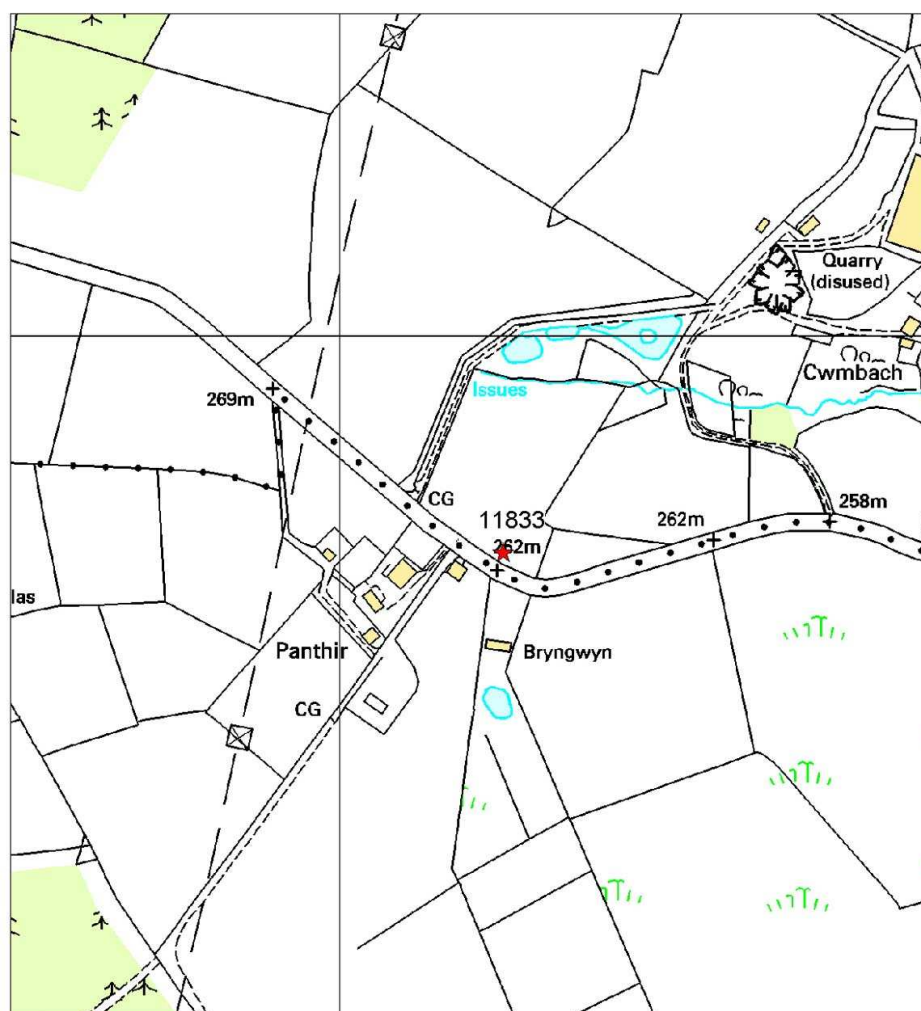
PRN and site name: 11833 PANT HIR

RECOMMENDATION: SCHEDULING SUGGESTED

NGR: SN37183391 SN33SE Altitude: 260m

Owner: Mr John Howell, Bwlch yr Allt Bungalow, Panthir Farm, Nr Rhos,
Carmarthenshire

Location map:



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Description:

A sub-circular, univallate defended enclosure situated on a northeast facing hillslope at 260m above sea level. The single well-defined defensive bank forms an oval shape approximately 80-100m east-west and c. 40m north-south. The bank measures c.5-7m wide and is c.0.5-0.7m high. The bank is a little less obvious on the southwest. An entrance is clearly visible on the southeast and is c.6m wide. The internal area of the enclosure is very wet and boggy, as is the land immediately outside of the defensive bank. There is the potential for good preservation of paleoenvironmental evidence. No evidence of an outer ditch was recorded.

The site lies within an area of rough, wet ground covered in scrub, reeds, some grass, and small trees. It is used for the grazing of horses.



Facing E - showing curving bank of oval enclosure and simple entrance (marked by ranging rods)

Reason for scheduling recommendation:

Small, well-preserved, circular earthwork site.

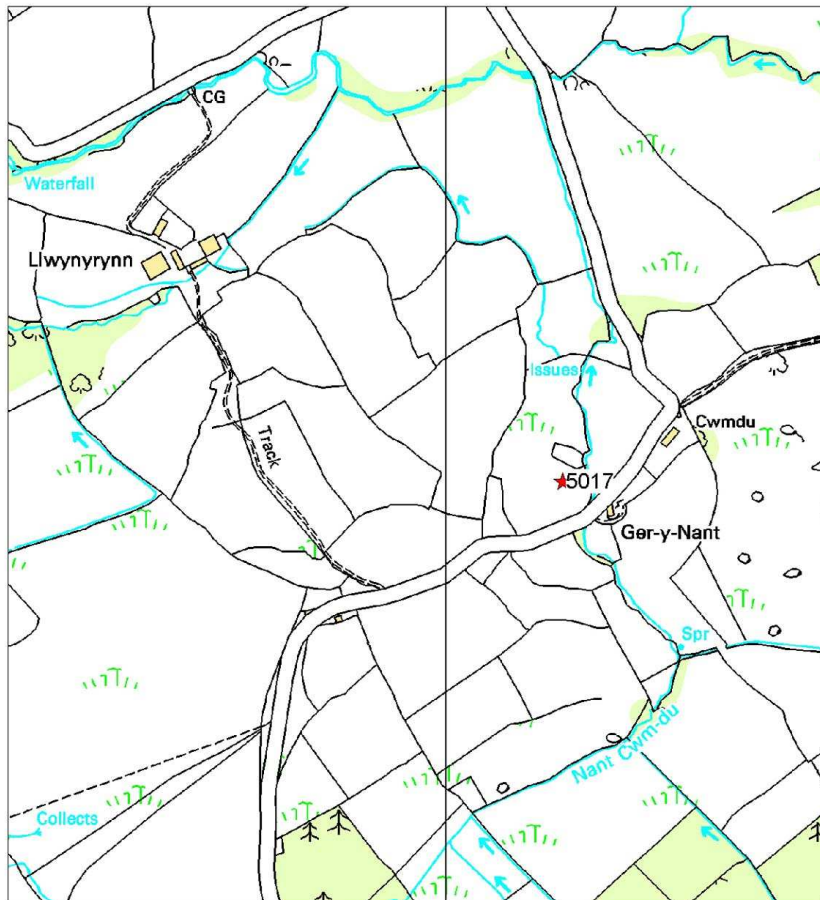
PRN and site name: 5017 CWM DU

RECOMMENDATION: SCHEDULING SUGGESTED

NGR: SN68122348 SN62SE Altitude: 190m

Owner: Mr Hywel Jones, Llwynyrynn Farm, Bethlehem, Carmarthenshire, (01558) 822329

Location map:



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Description:

A circular, univallate, defended enclosure, approximately 50m in diameter, located on a gentle north facing hillslope at 190m above sea level. Identified from aerial photographs taken in 1989, no site visit had been made until this project in 2008. In 2008 the enclosure comprised the remains of a circular single bank, 0.6-0.8m high externally, little more than a break of slope internally, with an outer ditch clearly visible on the west, as is a counterscarp. The diameter of the central area is approximately 40m. A possible simple entrance appears to be on the southwest. To the east of the earthwork flows the Nant Cwm-du and to the south a road appears to respect the curve of the enclosure. There are a number of large

stones protruding from the bank and central area, and the landowner confirmed that he had removed a large number of stones from this area over time.

The site lies within an area of rough pasture, with gorse and reeds, and is currently used for the grazing of cattle.



Facing NNE towards circular earthwork - possible defended enclosure

Reason for scheduling recommendation:

It is a small, circular, well-preserved earthwork. It is not a typical location for an Iron Age defended enclosure, but in all other respects it appears characteristic of such a site. Interestingly if one looks at the current field boundaries surrounding the enclosure, they would seem to form a circular pattern, with the enclosure at its centre. Could they be reflecting the position of an earlier concentric annexe to the enclosure?

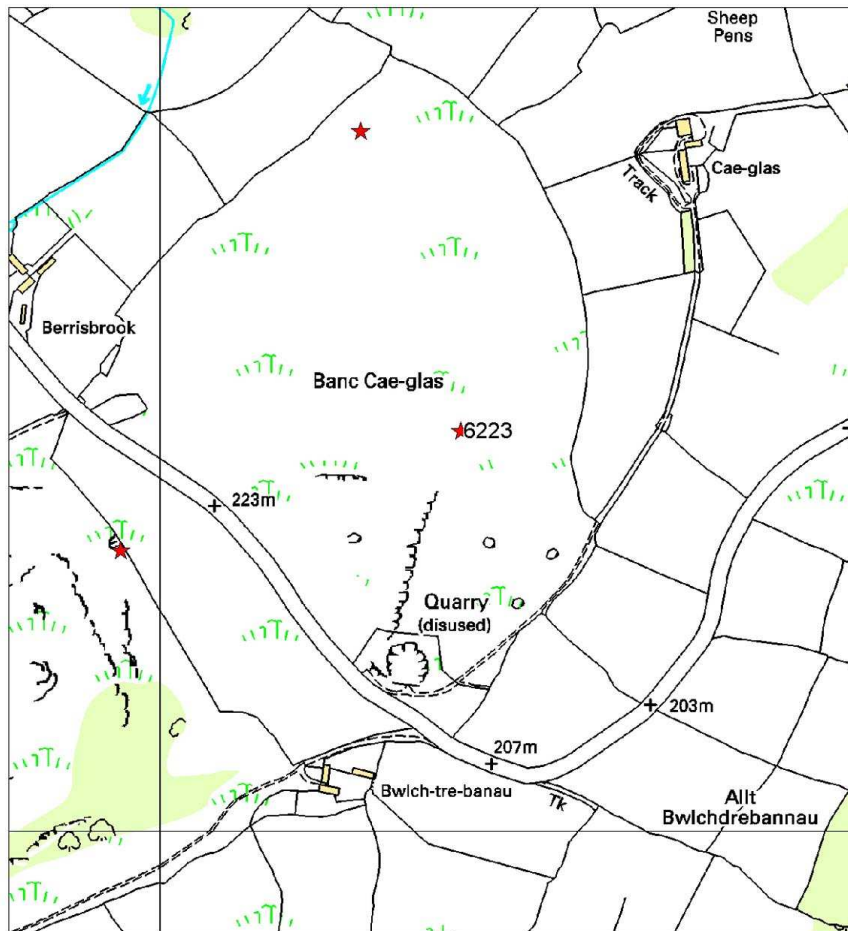
PRN and site name: 6223 BANC CAE GLAS

RECOMMENDATION: SCHEDULING RECOMMENDED

NGR: SN72303740 SN73NW Altitude: 285m

Owner: Unknown

Location map:



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DESCRIPTION

A possible enclosure recorded as a "British encampment" by W Rees in 1873 (Arch Cambria 4th Series, Volume 4, p.137), and described as a "camp or *Tref*" that "consists of a large oval circle of stones, which rampart is much flattened and has several heaps of stone inside its area. To the east of the camp there is a remarkable trench reaching across the hill".

The site is located on the edge of a southwest facing scarp slope towards the summit of a hill at 285m above sea level. It is clearly visible on modern aerial photographs as a possible sub-circular earthwork on a scarp edge. However, the site visit in 2008 found that the topography, vegetation cover and lack of

distinction in the earthwork remnant make it less clear on the ground. The area is exposed scrub grass and marsh and the topography on the hilltop is very pitted and uneven, with drainage channels cut into the hillslope. There appear to be possible curving earthwork remains to the southeast and north, comprising earthen banks that stand to a maximum 0.40m high. However the earthworks are broken and incomplete, with nothing appearing to survive to the south and east. No ditch was noted. On ground evidence alone it would be difficult to determine the nature of the site, but the aerial photographic evidence and its superb defensive location would strongly suggest that this is an Iron Age defended enclosure.



Looking SE – showing remains of enclosure bank

Reason for scheduling recommendation

At the beginning of this project the only record for this site was the reference to a "British encampment" by W Rees in 1873 (Arch Cambria 4th Series, Volume 4, p.137), in this area. DAT held no aerial photographic evidence for a site here but modern digital maps were consulted via the internet, and clear evidence for an earthwork enclosure could be seen at this NGR. On ground evidence alone it would be difficult to determine the nature of the site, but the aerial photographic evidence and its superb defensive location would strongly suggest that this is an Iron Age defended enclosure.

Pembrokeshire

PRN and site name: 35821 Treffgarne Gorge

RECOMMENDATION: SCHEDULING STRONGLY RECOMMENDED

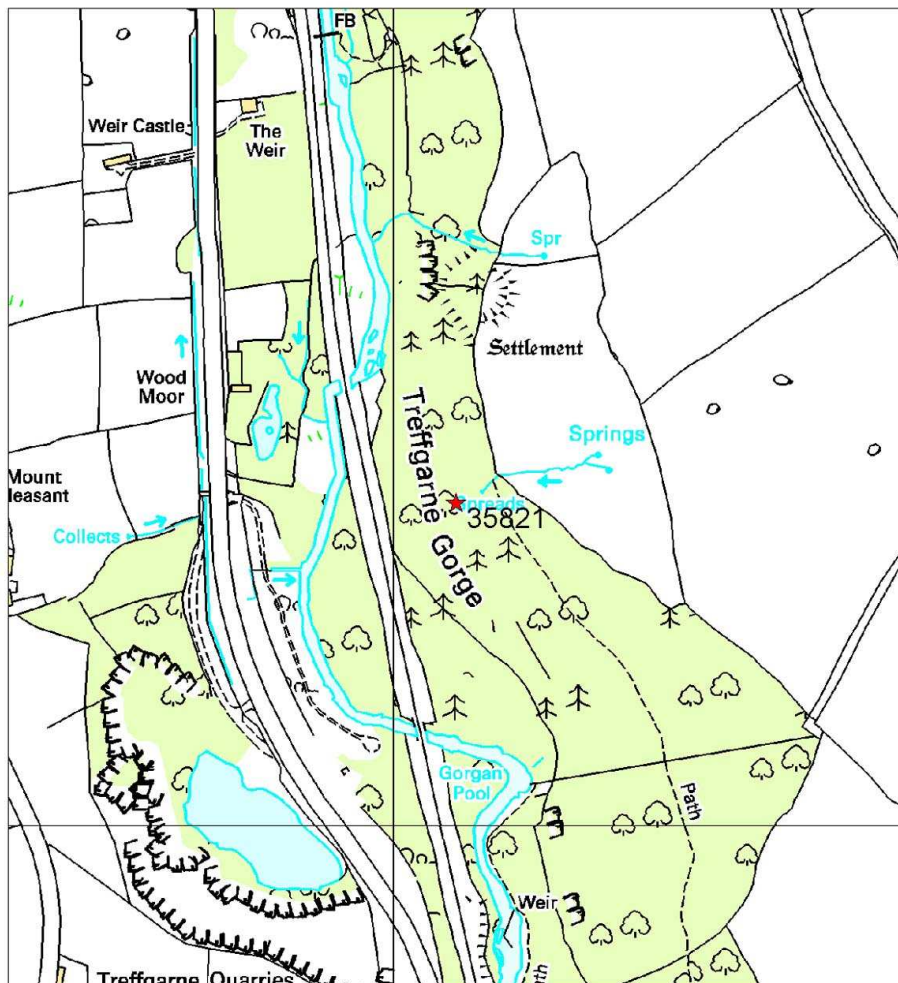
NGR: SM96062431

SM93SE

Altitude: 60m

Owner: Not known

Location map:



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Description

This is one of the best examples of a small defended enclosure in west Wales. It is located on the edge of a southwest-facing scarp slope, at 60m above sea level that drops steeply to the Afon Cleddau Wen below. Unusually the interior is situated on both the level ground at the top of the slope and on the steep slope itself. The site is defined by a single bank and ditch. The bank is best preserved

on the east (upslope) side of the site where it stands c.1m internally and c.3m externally above the ditch. The bank fades as it runs to the north and south, eventually represented by just a steep scarp slope on the west side. The ditch is present around the full circuit of the enclosure. On average it is c.3m deep. There is a slight counterscarp, 0.5m high, on the western, downslope, side. Internally the enclosure measures approximately c.25m north-south by c.20m east-west. The roughly circular interior slopes down from east to west. The slope is gentle on the east side, but steeper on the west. The simple entrance is on the south side, at the point where the valley side falls steeply away. Unusually the bank terminals either side of the entrance show evidence of a single stone course revetment.

The site is under coniferous forestry. There are two old badger setts on the western side of the interior, and many other setts in the surrounding woodland, some of which are active. A mountain bike course runs around the site, mostly along the base of the ditch, but on the east side it runs up along the front edge of the bank creating a c.0.5m deep scar in the bank.



South facing entrance of well preserved, circular, earthwork enclosure in Treffgarne Gorge

Reason for scheduling recommendation

This is one of the best examples of a small defended enclosure in west Wales in close vicinity to other scheduled Iron Age sites (PRN 2462-SAM-PE250 and PRN 2463-SAM-PE249) that is currently under threat from a mountain bike course that runs around the site. Please see attached sketch plan.

The NGR for this site is now correct. A site visit was undertaken during 2007 as part of the Pembrokeshire defended enclosure project but its NGR was incorrect (under the PRN2460) and it was not found, or it would have been recommended for scheduling then.

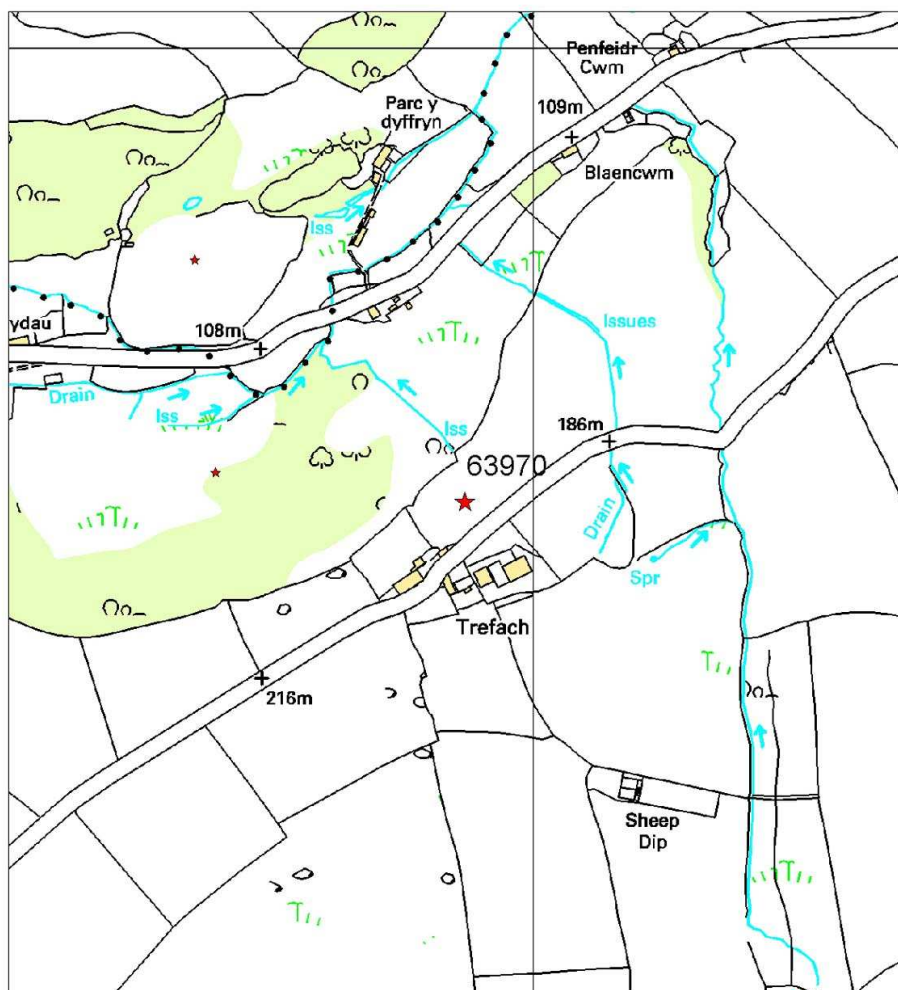
PRN and site name: 63970 TREFACH

RECOMMENDATION: SCHEDULING RECOMMENDED

NGR: SN06933557 SN03NE Altitude: 182m

Owner: Owner of Trefach Farm, Pembrokeshire

Location map:



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Description

This site is a possible defended enclosure, albeit of an unusual design, situated in a pasture field to the northwest of Trefach farm. It is situated on flat ground bordering the edge of a steep northwest-facing slope of the Gwaun valley, at 182m above sea level. The site survives as a substantial single curving bank that forms a semi-circle open on the southeast. The bank is not continuous but stops where the two arcs of the semi-circle meet the edge of the steep slope, as if the steep slope was acting as a defence at this point. The earthwork bank is better

preserved on the west, where it rises to a height of over 2 meters and reaches 7 meters in width. On the east there is some evidence of an outer ditch and the bank appears to terminate just short of the modern field boundary/minor road, perhaps indicating the position of a former entrance.

The eastern portion of the bank has been utilised as a field boundary in the past, and was once planted with a hedge. There are signs of possible modern repair in at least two places on the east. There are also signs that livestock are causing the bank to erode in places.

If the bank once formed a complete circle there is no evidence of any earthwork to the southeast of the minor road that cuts across the site, but it is possible that this area has suffered from more intensive ploughing and the construction of modern farm buildings.



Looking W - from road - at curving defensive bank of enclosure PRN 63970

Reason for scheduling recommendation

This is a difficult site to characterise – it does not have the appearance of a 'typical' defended enclosure but there is quite a range of site types within the Gwaun valley. A 2003 RCAHMW record lists it as an 'unassigned enclosure' and as far as we know this site visit is the first time the site has been recorded on the ground. It is a substantial earthwork, and merits further investigation, and protection.

SCHEDULING ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS 2009: SCHEDULING RECOMMENDATIONS

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NUMBER 2009/11

**Mawrth 2009
March 2009**

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by Frances
Murphy

Swydd / Position: Archaeologist

Llofnod / Signature Dyddiad / Date

Mae'r adroddiad hwn wedi ei gael yn gywir a derbyn sêl bendith
This report has been checked and approved by Kenneth Murphy

ar ran Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf.
on behalf of Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Swydd / Position: Trust Director

Llofnod / Signature Dyddiad / Date

Yn unol â'n nôd i roddi gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel, croesawn unrhyw sylwadau
sydd gennych ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn

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