

THE LIMES, TRAVELLERS REST, CARMARTHEN, CARMARTHENSHIRE:

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust
For: Persimmon Homes / Asbri Planning



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Gan / By

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Paratowyd yr adroddiad yma at ddefnydd y cwsmer yn unig. Ni dderbynnir cyfrifoldeb gan Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf am ei ddefnyddio gan unrhyw berson na phersonau eraill a fydd yn ei ddarllen neu ddibynnu ar y gwybodaeth y mae'n ei gynnwys

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THE LIMES, TRAVELLERS REST, CARMARTHEN, CARMARTHENSHERE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

CONTENTS	PAGE
SUMMARY	1
1. INTRODUCTION	2
1.1 Project Proposals and Commission	2
1.2 Scope of the project	2
1.3 Abbreviations used in this report	3
1.4 Illustrations	3
1.5 Timeline	3
2. SITE LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY	4
3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	7
3.1 Designated Sites and Listed Buildings	7
3.2 Known Archaeological Remains and Historical Development	7
3.3 Cartographic Information	19
3.4 Site Visit	24
3.5 Previous Archaeological Work	24
4. IMPACT ASSESSMENT	25
4.1 Previous Impacts	25
4.2 Potential Impacts from Development	25
5. ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL AND IMPORTANCE	26
6. CONCLUSIONS	28
7. SOURCES	29

FIGURES

Figure 1:	Location Map based on the Ordnance Survey	5
Figure 2:	Proposed Development Site Boundary	6
Figure 3:	Regional Historic Environment Record Information within search area	11
Figure 4:	RCAHMW National Monument Record Information within search area	13
Figure 5:	Extract of 1837 Tithe Map for St Peter's Parish	21
Figure 6:	Extract of 1890 1:2500 scale Ordnance Survey Map	22
Figure 7:	Extract of 1906 1:2500 scale Ordnance Survey Map	23

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 1:	Military camp of 1909	30
Photo 2:	Parade at military camp of 1909	30
Photo 3:	Soldiers leaving military camp 1909	31
Photo 4:	Proposed development area facing southeast	31
Photo 5:	Proposed development area facing west	32
Photo 6:	Proposed development area facing west	32
Photo 7:	West view of former minor road on northern boundary of proposed development area	33
Photo 8:	East view of former minor road	33

TABLES

Table 1:	Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales	3
Table 2:	Archaeological and historical sites recorded on the Regional HER within a 1km radius	8
Table 3:	Archaeological and historical sites recorded on the RCAHMW National Monuments Record within a 1km radius	12

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SUMMARY

A planning application is due to be submitted for proposed residential development to the west of Carmarthen (centred on NGR SN 3873 1947). The site lies at the western end of the proposed Carmarthen Western Link Road. The archaeological, desk-based assessment will be submitted with the planning application to provide baseline archaeological information regarding the site. The assessment was commissioned from Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services by Asbri Planning, acting on behalf of Persimmon Homes.

No Scheduled Ancient Monuments lie within the development area boundary, but one lies within the wider study area - Trebersed Medieval Moated site (SAM CM 249). No Listed Buildings lie within the development site boundary, but fourteen are present within the wider study area. No scheduled ancient monuments or listed buildings would be affected by the development proposals.

The archaeological assessment has demonstrated that the proposed development area at The Limes, Carmarthen lies within a landscape with no known remains of Palaeolithic, Neolithic or Mesolithic date. The potential for hitherto unknown remains of these dates to be present is considered to be very low. A single Bronze Age site, that of a standing stone, may indicate general activity in the area during that period, although the date of the stone is unconfirmed. Iron Age activity has not been previously recorded within the study area, but is known to lie in the wider vicinity. The potential for archaeological remains of Bronze Age and Iron Age date to be present within the site boundary is considered to be low.

The route of a projected Roman road running west from the walled Roman civitas capital of Moridunum at Carmarthen some 2km to the west passes through the application site. This has been recorded from cropmark evidence and as earthworks in other parts of its route, and so the projected route is based on substantiated archaeological evidence. No remains of the road are visible at ground level, on any aerial photographs consulted or on Lidar data, but the potential for buried remains to be present is likely. Associated roadside activity, including settlement, may also be present. The potential for Roman remains to be present in the application area is considered to be high.

No archaeological sites of Early Medieval date have been identified and the potential for any remains of the period to be present within the application area is considered very low. Medieval archaeological remains are likely to relate to agricultural practices associated with settlement in the wider area. During the Post-Medieval period and into the Industrial Period, the land would have again been mostly used for agricultural purposes. If present, archaeological remains of these periods and associated with agriculture would be considered to be of local importance.

Known sites of modern date include a golf course that was located in the area between 1913 and 1914, a temporary military camp in 1909 and a civilian aerodrome, all of which may have been present within the site boundary. The precise location of these sites has not been determined. Archaeological remains associated with these sites, if present, would be of local significance.

It is considered very likely that further archaeological investigation of the line of the projected Roman road will be required to be carried out and may be required either before or after a decision has been made on the planning application. Ideally this would be done using intrusive trial trenching running perpendicular with the line of the projected road.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Proposals and Commission

1.1.1 Asbri Planning Ltd on behalf of Persimmon Homes will be submitting a planning application to Carmarthenshire County Council for a proposed area of residential development which forms part of the wider Carmarthen West Development Framework (centred on SN 3873 1947). The site will lie at the western end of the proposed Carmarthen West Link Road, also part of the Carmarthen West Development Framework. An archaeological desk-based assessment has been requested to be submitted with the planning application, as has been recommended by the archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority

1.1.2 Asbri Planning commissioned Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services to undertake the archaeological assessment in February 2012.

1.1.3 The site area is a 3.67ha plot of undeveloped agricultural land.

1.2 Scope of the project

1.2.1 The assessment comprised the examination and collation of available sources of information including:

- Information on known archaeological and historic sites recorded on the regional Historic Environment Record¹ (HER), including a search of available maps, published and unpublished works, and aerial photographs;
- Relevant information held at the National Library of Wales (NLW), the Pembrokeshire Records Office, the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments in Wales (via the Coflein online computer database);
- A search of Cadw's Listed Building records and Schedule of Ancient Monuments for designated buildings and sites of archaeological and historical importance lying on or in close proximity to the site;
- Site visits to determine the presence or absence of visible archaeology or evidence for previous ground disturbance within the proposed development area.

1.2.2 The results of the assessment contained in this report are intended to identify the extent and character of the known and potential archaeological resource, to assess the likely and potential impacts of any development on that resource and, if required, to outline a possible programme of further works to mitigate those impacts. The assessment should be seen only as the first stage of the archaeological process and does not preclude the possibility that further archaeological input may be required prior to, or during, any proposed development.

1.2.3 A study area of 1km diameter from the approximate centre of the development site has been used to provide an indication of the known archaeological remains in proximity to the site area. These results provide an indication of the potential archaeological resource that be present within the development site area.

¹ Held and managed by Dyfed Archaeological Trust, The Shire Hall, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire.

1.3 Abbreviations used in this report

1.3.1 All sites recorded on the regional HER are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR). Sites recorded by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) are identified by their National Primary Record Number (NPRN). Altitude is expressed to Ordnance Datum (OD).

1.4 Illustrations

1.4.1 Photographic images and printed map extracts are included within the report. Note that the printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale and are illustrative only.

1.5 Timeline

1.5.1 The following timeline is used within this report to give date ranges for the various archaeological periods that may be mentioned within the text (Table 1).

Period	Approximate date	
Palaeolithic –	c.450,000 – 10,000 BC	Prehistoric
Mesolithic –	c. 10,000 – 4400 BC	
Neolithic –	c.4400 – 2300 BC	
Bronze Age –	c.2300 – 700 BC	
Iron Age –	c.700 BC – AD 43	
Roman (Romano-British) Period –	AD 43 – c. AD 410	Historic
Post-Roman / Early Medieval Period –	c. AD 410 – AD 1066	
Medieval Period –	1066 – 1536	
Post-Medieval Period ² –	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period –	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20th century onwards	

Table 1: Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales

² The post-medieval and industrial periods are combined as the post-medieval period on the Regional Historic Environment Record as held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust

2. SITE LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 2.1 The site area lies to the west of Carmarthen town centre and is centred on NGR SN 3873 1947 (Figures 1 & 2). The site area lies to the north of the A40 trunk road and B4312 minor road.
- 2.2 The site area itself is bounded by a trackway and agricultural land on its northern side whilst to the south lies the junction between the A40 and B4132. On the west lies further agricultural land and a former cattle breeding centre. To the west the boundary is formed by the Allt Ioan residential development.

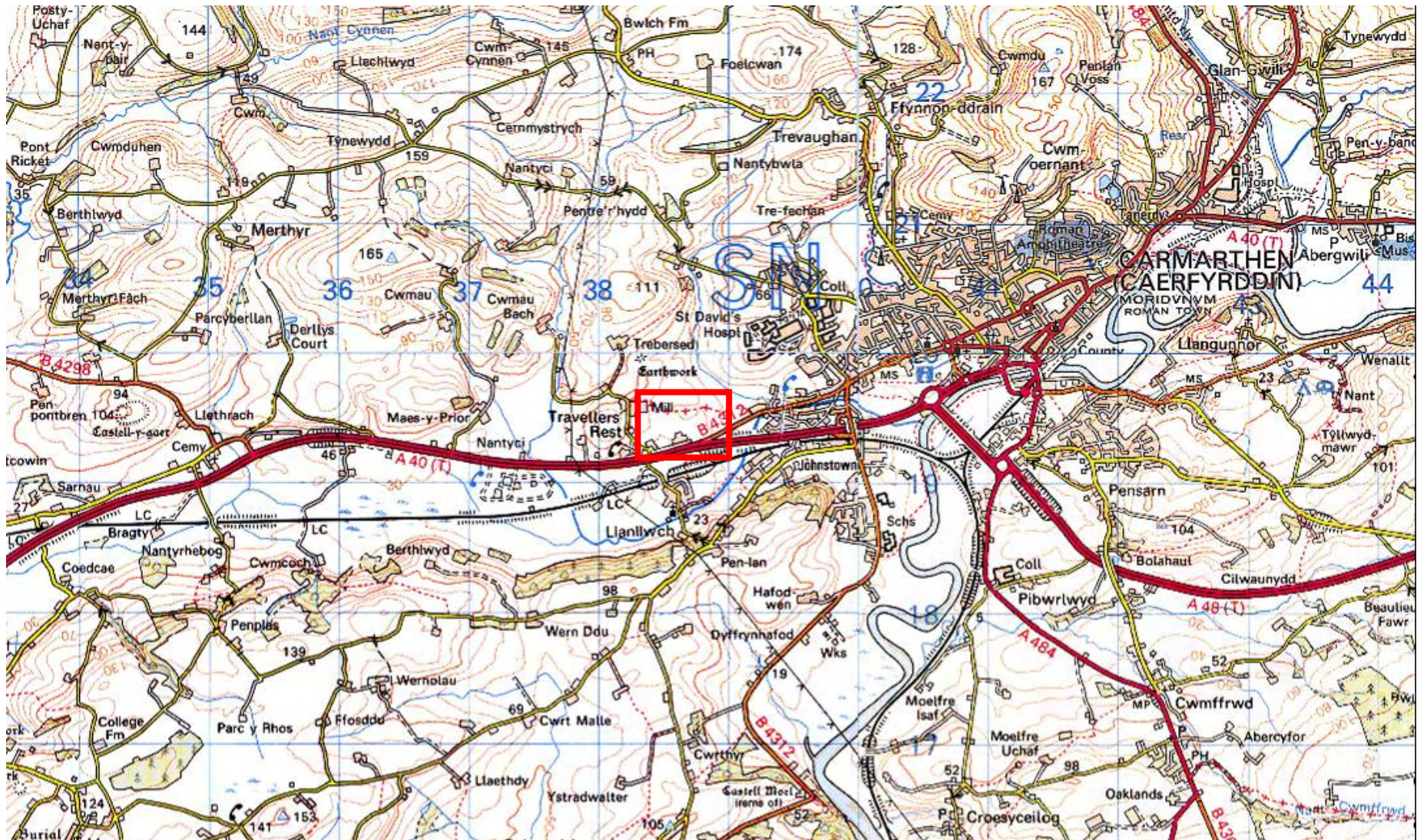


Figure 1: Location Map based on the Ordnance Survey, the site marked within the red rectangle

Reproduced from the 1987 Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 scale Landranger Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd., The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandello, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF. Licence No AL51842A

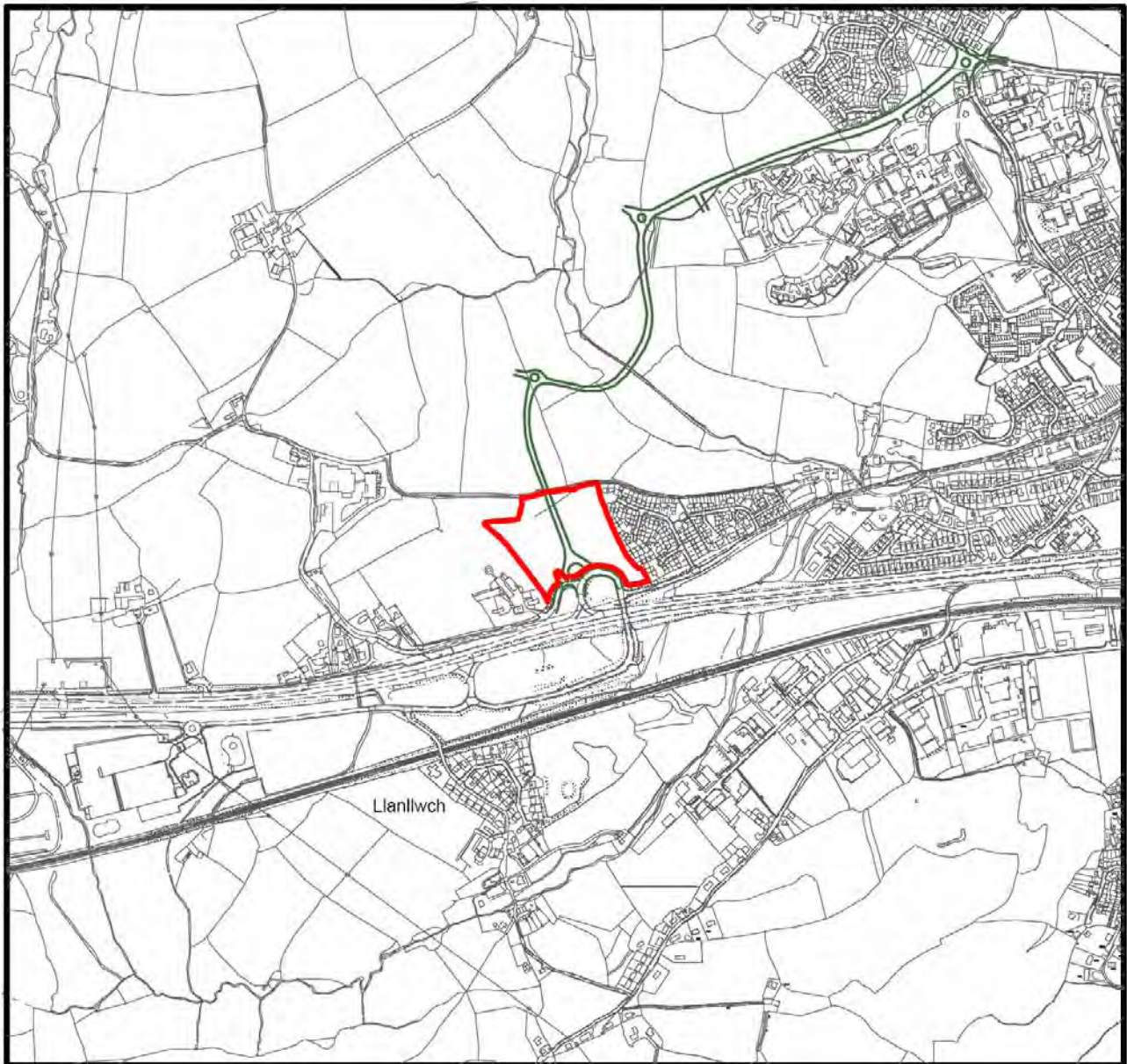


Figure 2: Proposed Development Site Boundary (red)
in relation to proposed Carmarthen Western Link Road (dark green)
(Information supplied by Asbri Planning, map based on Ordnance Survey data)

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 Designated Sites and Listed Buildings

3.1.1 No scheduled ancient monuments (SAMs) lie within the boundaries of the proposed development area.

3.1.2 The scheduled remains of Trebersed medieval moated site (PRN 2147; SAM CM249) lies 655m to the northwest of the proposed development area. The Trebersed medieval moated site would not be affected by the proposed development.

3.1.3 Within the study area there are fourteen sites that have been designated as Grade II listed buildings, though none lie within the development site boundary. The fourteen designated listed buildings would not be directly affected by the proposed development.

3.1.4 The application area does not lie within any Historic Landscape Categorisation Areas.

3.1.5 No Conservation Areas lie within close proximity to the application area,

3.2 Known Archaeological Remains and Historical Development

3.2.1 A search of the Regional Historic Environment Record database revealed that a total of forty two sites of archaeological and historic interest are located within the study area (Table 2, Figure 3). A single archaeological site is recorded on the Regional HER within the boundaries of the proposed development site – although this is represented by the projected line of the Roman road leading west from Carmarthen.

3.2.2 A search of the same study area was undertaken of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) National Monument Record (NMR). This search returned fifteen known sites within the study area (Table 3, Figure 4). A few of these refer to the same sites as recorded on the Regional HER. No archaeological sites are recorded on the NMR within the boundaries of the application area.

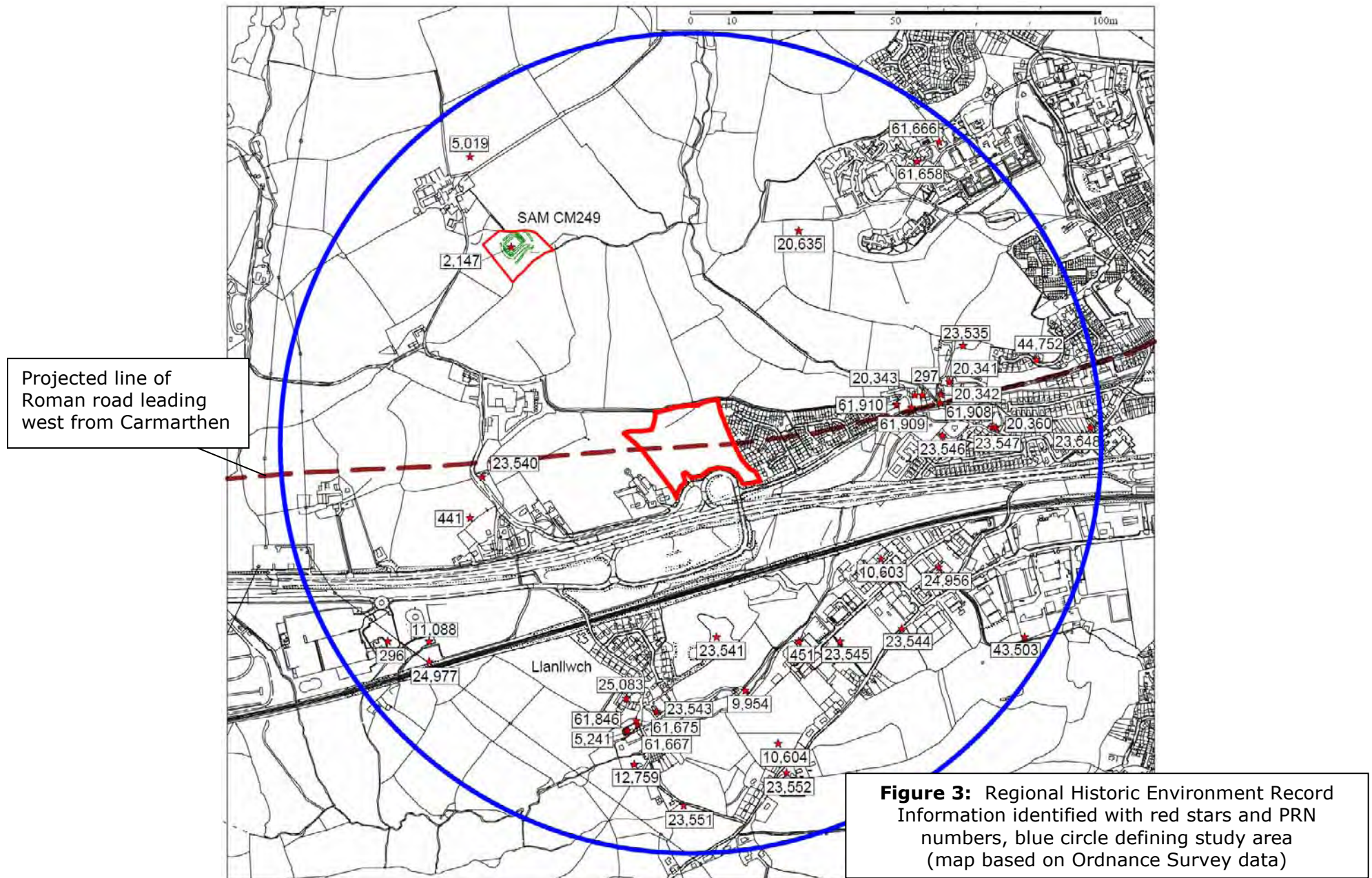
Regional HER Information

PRN	Site Name	Description	Grid Ref	Period
296	St Clear's Road	Milestone	SN 38 19	Post-medieval
297	Millbrook House	A milestone recorded in the vicinity of Millbrook House. No milestone is marked on either the 1st (1888) or 2nd (1906) or current Ordnance Survey maps. (PP 8/11/04)	SN 393 196	Post-medieval
441	Traveller's Rest; St Clears Road	Public House	SN 382 193	Post-medieval
451	Ystrad Arms; Johnstown	A record of a Public House thought to be located in Johnstown. (PP 18/6/04)	SN 39 19	Post-medieval
2147	Trebersed	Medieval Moated Homestead scheduled ancient monument CM249	SN 3830 1996	Medieval
5019	Trebersed II	A rectangular cropmark was noted from aerial photographs, situated on moderately sloping south facing improved pasture at 80m above sea level. There is nothing apparent on the ground to indicate the presence of an enclosure in the vicinity. It may be a natural geological feature.	SN 3820 2018	Medieval?
5241	Llanllwch Parish Church of St Mary	Medieval church, formerly a chapel-of-ease to Carmarthen parish, becoming a parish church in 1843 and now again belonging to Carmarthen parish. Medium-sized church comprising chancel, nave and west tower. Later additions include 19th century north aisle. A Grade II Listed Building,	SN 3858 1878	Post-medieval, Medieval
9954	Llanllwch Mill	Grist mill in town rental of 1633, 1667. TAJ 1980 The mill building has been renovated. The mill wheel has gone and a garage is now positioned in its place. The wheel received its water supply from a mill race which started 250m to the southwest	SN 3887 1888	Post-medieval
10603	Cillefwr	An area of ridge and furrow identified from aerial photography by T.James. (PP 21/6/04)	SN 392 192	Post-medieval; Medieval
10604	Glasfryn	A Bronze Age Standing Stone or Medieval Boundary Stone	SN 3895 1875	Bronze Age; Medieval
10618	Felin Fach	A town rental of 1675 and 1650 places this water mill near the White Mill (PRN 10619) "leading from the said mill to Llanllwch". Possibly the site of the later Pontcarreg mill.	SN 393 196	Post-medieval; Medieval
11088	Glyn Siw	Noticed in passing during low light of winter - ridge and furrow? In Jan 1985. Could be medieval or post-medieval in date.	SN 381 190	Post-medieval; Medieval
12759	Llanllwch	Medieval Fulling Mill	SN 386 187	Medieval
20341	Peterwell	A substantial villa of c1840, not marked on the tithe map of 1837. The interior has features similar to John Nash villas. Owned in the earlier 20th century by the Soppott family. Grade II Listed	SN 39367 19632	Post- medieval
20342	Nant-Y-Felin; Millbrook	An early 19th century villa, not marked on the tithe map of 1837. Possibly associated with the larger Peterwell (PRN 20341) to the east, as both were owned by the Soppitt family in the early 20th century. Called Millbrook on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of the area. Grade II Listed	SN 39346 19601	Post-medieval
20343	Pontgarreg Cottage	A farmhouse built in the 18th century with 19th century alterations. The farm was owned by the	SN 39282 19600	Post-medieval

		Edwinsford estate in the late 18th century when it was leased to Charles Nott, father of Sir William Nott. Restored in 1994. Grade II Listed		
20345	Johnstown	The town reputedly named after John Jones of Ystrad (1777 to 1842), MP for Carmarthen county. A settlement of houses originally of mainly 18th to early 19th century date. The site formerly comprised parts of the lands of St John's Priory. "Johnstown"	SN 39 19	Post-medieval
20360	Millbank Hall; Millbank Villa	A substantial suburban house, possibly originally a farmhouse or minor gentry house of the late 18th or early 19th century. The tithe map records a Mill Brook and Millbank with tanyard. The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map marks Millbank Villa in 1888. A Grade II Listed Building	SN 39471 19522	Post-medieval
20635	Jobs Well	A well recorded by Lhuyd in his Parochalia of 1698 as being a "large spring.... wch inhabitants and foriegners finde to be very medicinal in the cure of scabs, ulcers and rickets". John Dyer recorded in his diary of 1709 that he fell into a well at Job's Well	SN 39 20	Post-medieval, Medieval
23535	Pentre-Sil	Gravel pit marked on early mapping	SN 3940 1972	Post-medieval
23540	Waun-Y-Groes	Cottage shown on 1907 6" OS map. Present condition unknown.	SN 3823 1940	Post-medieval
23541	Old Gravel Pit	Gravel pit marked on early mapping	SN 3880 1901	Post-medieval
23543	Boksburg Hall	A substantial earlier 19th century villa, marked on the tithe map of 1837 to roughly the same plan, as Croft Cottage. 'Boksburg' was given in the later 19th century by John Davies, teaplanter who returned from Boksburg (South Africa) and remodelled/rebuilt	SN 38653 18829	Post-medieval
23544	Glein	Cottage first marked on the tithe map of 1837. Still marked on the 4th edition Ordnance Survey map of 1936, but is no longer marked on current maps.	SN 3925 1903	Post-medieval
23546	Vicarage	Vicarage first marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1890, not shown on the tithe map of 1837.	SN 3935 1950	Post-medieval
23548	Sunday School	A Sunday School attached to Salem Welsh Independent Chapel. The chapel was built in 1849, marked as a boys and girls school on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888.	SN 3971 1952	Post-medieval
23551	Ffynnon-Wen	Cottage shown on 1907 6" OS map. Present condition unknown.	SN 3872 1860	Post-medieval
23552	Ystrad Lodge	The building is first marked on the tithe map of 1847.	SN 3897 1868	Post-medieval
24956	Cellifor	First recorded in 1700. In 1980-82 the house was demolished. F. Jones.	SN 3934 1918	Post-medieval
24977	Clyn-Siw; Clynsyw	First recorded in 1354-58 when Ieuan Sewe was Reeve of Llanllwch. The house seems to have continued as the residence of minor gentry through the medieval period into the 17th Century. Now a farmstead.	SN 3810 1895	Medieval; post-medieval
25083	Manor Farm Llanllwch	A mansion or Manor House is recorded here from the early 18th century, described by Francis Jones (1987).	SN 3858 1886	Post-medieval
39911	Job's Well	According to Lodwick, 1994, the Borough Corporation owned a public bathing place at Job's Well in 1740 and are recorded as having carried out repairs to a bathing house there in 1741 and 1776. This bathing house was probably an upgrading of the Job's Well	SN 39 20	Post-medieval

43503	Allt Y Cnap	Visited by DAT in 2001. Workmen had excavated the batter for the edge of a storage area at this location and, having seen something in the section, contacted Carmarthen museum. Half way up the slope there was a cremation in a damaged greyware urn of 1 st century date.	SN 3955 1901	Roman
44752	Starling Park House	A minor gentry house, with associated farm and service buildings and fine gardens constructed sometime around the turn of the 19th century. During the mid 19th century it was the home of Samuel Tardrew, former mayor of Carmarthen.	SN 39578 19685	Post-medieval
61658	Block W Of Former Laundry, St David's Hospital	Grade II listed building, function unknown	SN 39288 20169	Post-medieval
61666	Former Laundry At Saint David's Hospital	Grade II listed laundry building	SN 39342 20217	Post-medieval
61667	Former National School	Grade II listed school	SN 38608 18796	Post-medieval
61675	Lychgate To Church Of St Mary	Grade II listed lychgate	SN 38604 18807	Post-medieval
61846	Church Of St Mary	Grade II* listed church	SN 38583 18782	Post-medieval
61908	Front Garden Walls, Railings And Gates To Nantfelin	Grade II listed garden walls, railings & gates	SN 39344 19580	Post-medieval
61909	Arch And Gate In Front Garden Wall To Pontgarreg Cottage	Grade II listed arch & gate	SN 39274 19569	Post-medieval
61910	Barn To Sw Of Pontgarreg Cottage	Grade II listed barn	SN 39238 19576	Post- medieval

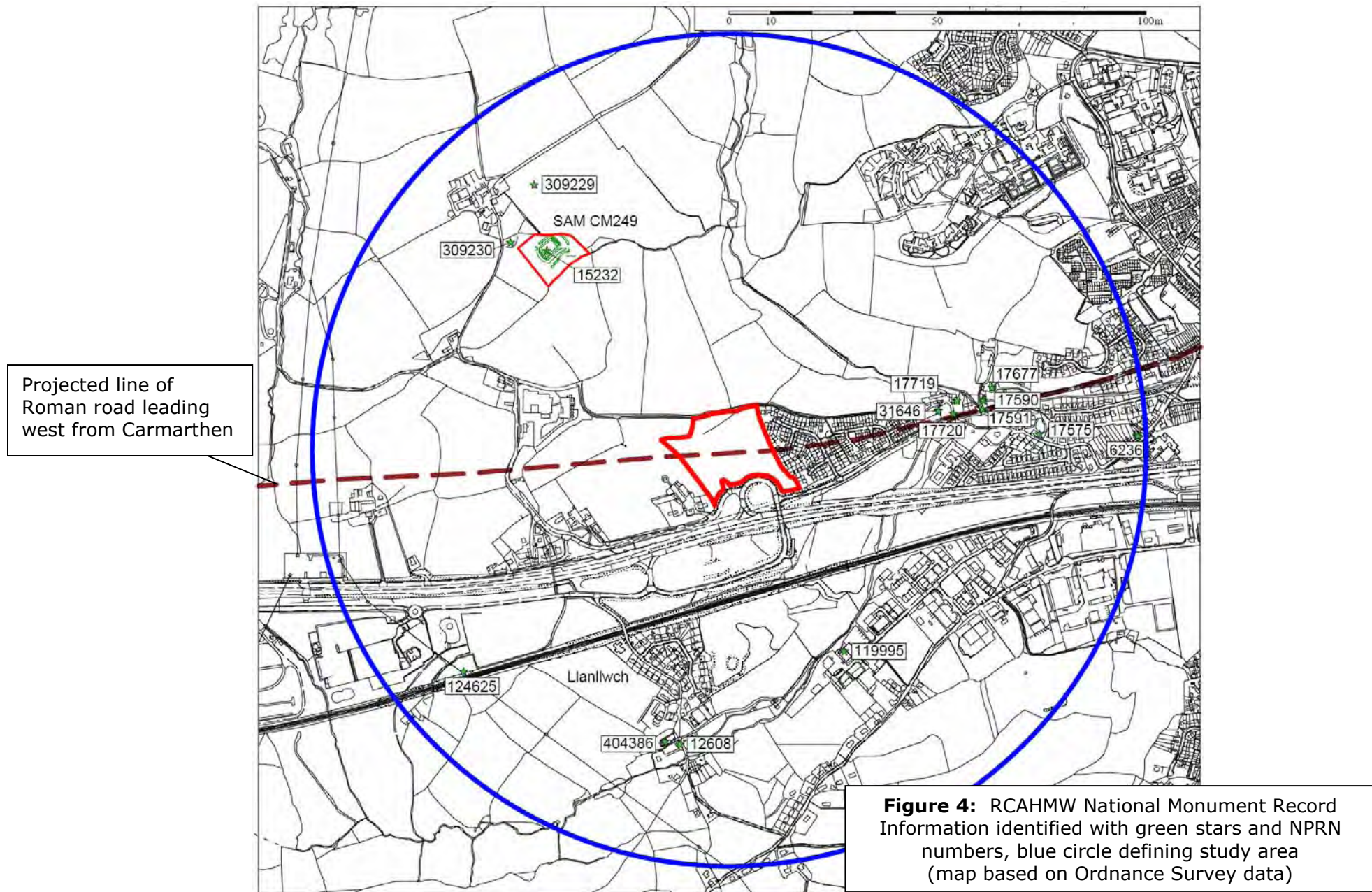
Table 2: Archaeological and Historical Sites recorded on the Regional Historic Environment Record within a 1km radius (Figure 4)



RCAHMW NMR Information

NPRN	Name	Description	Grid Ref	Period
6236	Salem Welsh Independent Sunday School	Salem Welsh Independent Sunday School, White Mill Terrace, Johnstown. Attached to Salem Welsh Independent Chapel. Same as PRN 24956	SN 39716 19515	Post Medieval
12608	Sunday School, Llanllwch	No further information recorded.	SN 3862 1878	Post Medieval
15232	Moat, Trebersed	Formerly grange of the Priory of St. John, Carmarthen. A rectangular platform, c.33m NE-SW by 23m, ditched & counterscarped, having rectilinear terrace immediately below on the SE. Water management features are present to the NW (Nprn309230) & relict lynchets (Nprn309229) occur on the N. Same as CM249 and PRN 2147	SN 3830 1996	Medieval
17575	Millbank Hall	18th - 19th century. 2 storeys. 2 parallel ranges. Slate gabled roof with flanking stacks. Same as PRN 20360	SN 39471 19522	Post Medieval
17590	Nant-Y-Felin, Johnstown	Earlier 19th century. 2 storeys. Slate hipped roof with flanking stacks. Small bracket eaves cornice. Plinth. Same as PRN 20342	SN 39346 19601	Post Medieval
17591	Nant-Y-Felin, Garden Wall, Johnstown	19th century. Stone rubble garden wall. Same as PRN 61908	SN 39348 19581	Post Medieval
17677	Peterwell	Earlier 19th century. 2 storeys. Slate hipped roof. Bracket eaves cornice. Pebbledash cladding. Same as PRN 20341	SN 39367 19632	Post Medieval
17719	Pontgarreg Cottage, Johnstown	Late 18th - earlier 19th century. 2 storeys. 3-bay front elevation. Same as PRN 20343	SN 39282 19600	Post Medieval
17720	Pontgarreg Cottage, Garden Wall And Gate	19th century pointed brick arch, with parapet. Iron gate. Same as PRN 61909	SN 39277 19570	Post Medieval
31646	Pontgarreg Cottage, Barn	Late 18th century to early 19th century, slate gabled roof, whitewashed stone rubble walls. Same as PRN 61010	SN 39238 19576	Post medieval
119995	Johnstown	Post medieval town. Same as PRN 20345	SN 39 19	Post Medieval
124625	Glyn Siw; Clyn-Siw; Clynsyw	First recorded in 1354-58 when Ieuan Sewe was Reeve of Llanllwch. The house seems to have continued as the residence of minor gentry through the medieval period into the 17th Century. Now a farmstead. Same as PRN 24977	SN 3810 1895	Medieval; Post Medieval
309229	Field System, Trebersed	Two possible lynchets, c.50m apart, are apparent on AP (RCAHMW AP965077/63), running c.100m NE from Trebersed farm on SE facing slopes.	SN 3825 2012	Unknown
309230	Pond, Trebersed	An upstanding curved feature, possibly a dam wall, encloses an area c.33m across, immediately south of Trebersed Farm. This feature is shown, but not as a pond, on Ordnance Survey mapping of 1891.	SN 3821 1998	Post Medieval
404386	St Mary's Church, Llanllwch	Anglican parish church, medieval with additions. Short late medieval SW tower, nave and chancel probably earlier, and large N aisle of 1860-79 by Penson & Ritchie. By 1710 the church was roofless and was rebuilt at the instigation of John Vaughan of Derllys Court (d 1722). There was work in 1827-9 and the restoration of 1869-70. Same as PRN 5241	SN 3858 1878	Medieval

Table 3: Archaeological and Historical sites recorded on the RCAHMW National Monument Record within a 1km radius.



3.2.3 Palaeolithic (c.450,000 – 10,000 BC)

No recorded sites of Palaeolithic date have been identified within the boundaries of the application area or within the study area. Such remains are scarce in the region.

3.2.4 Mesolithic and Neolithic (c. 10,000 – 2000 BC)

There are no recorded sites of Mesolithic or Neolithic date recorded on the HER or NMR within the boundaries of the application site or within the study area.

3.2.5 Bronze Age (c.2000 – 700 BC)

No recorded sites of Bronze Age date have been identified within the boundaries of the proposed development site or within the study area on the regional HER or NMR.

One site is recorded within the wider study area on the regional HER. Glasfryn standing stone (PRN 10604) lies c. 730m to south of the proposed development site at NGR SN 3895 1875. The HER records the stone is located in a field with a *maen* name element (meaning stone). It is unclear if the Glasfryn standing stone dates from the Bronze Age, is a medieval boundary marker or is a later cattle rubbing stone.

3.2.6 Iron Age (c.700 BC – 43 AD)

No recorded sites of Iron Age date have been identified within the boundaries of the application site or study area. A number of Iron Age sites are known in the wider region.

3.2.7 Roman (AD43 – c. AD410)

No recorded sites of Roman date have been identified within the boundaries of the application area, other than the projected line of the Roman road leading west from Carmarthen. This road exits the western gate of the walled Roman civitas capital of *Moridunum* at Carmarthen some 2km to the west and has been recorded intermittently through cropmark evidence, surviving earthwork and fossilisation in existing roads and boundaries all the way to Wiston in Pembrokeshire. The precise route of the road through this area has not been proven, although it has been identified as a crop mark through aerial photographs at Pen-Ffordd-Las (PRN 33941; NGR SN 3675 1936) which lies 1.9km to the west of the proposed development site. There is no surface evidence for the road within the site boundary, but below ground evidence may well survive if the projected line is correct. Aerial photographs consulted for this report, as well as analysis of Lidar data, also failed to show any signs of the feature, but this does not preclude the potential that below ground evidence still survives.

A single Roman site, Allt y Cnap (PRN 43503) is recorded 920m to the southeast of the proposed development site at NGR SN 3955 1901. In 2001 contractors working on an extension to a local authority yard unearthed a cremation burial of possibly two individuals buried within a 1st century greyware urn. Accompanying the burials were two lamps, one of which bore the makers mark of 'Fortis' (90 – 150AD) along with three pieces of worked bone and a fragment of glass. The cremation site at Allt y Cnap lies 2.43km to the southwest of the former centre of the Roman civitas capital of *Moridunum*. It is unclear if the cremation burials at Allt y Cnap were an isolated event or whether they form part of a as yet undiscovered Roman cemetery within the area.

3.2.8 Early Medieval (c.AD410 – AD1066)

No recorded sites of Early Medieval date have been identified within the boundaries of the application site or within the study area.

3.2.9 Medieval (1066 – 1535)

No recorded sites of Medieval date have been identified within the boundaries of the application site.

Nine sites of medieval date are recorded on the Regional HER and two on the NMR within the wider study area. Trebersed moated enclosure (PRN 2147; NPRN 15232; NGR SN 3830 1996), a designated Scheduled Ancient Monument (CM 249) lies c.630m northwest of the proposed development area. The site consists of a 33m x 25m raised rectangular platform standing to a height of 1.5m. The platform is surrounded by a shallow ditch on all four sides with evidence for an entrance and causeway on the northern side. It is likely that the moated site forms part of the former Trebersed Grange owned by the Augustinian Canons of St John's Priory of Carmarthen who were granted the lands sometime after 1244. The grange at Trebersed formed part of a much larger monastic arable estate consisting of 960 acres in 1291 with an assessed value of £13 16s 2d (Cowley, 1977, 275).

The RCAHMW NMR records two further sites within the wider study area that may date from the medieval period and be associated with Trebersed moated enclosure and grange. NPRN 309230 is recorded as a post-medieval pond lying at NGR SN 3821 1998. No pond is marked on late 19th and early 20th century mapping of the area, but it should also be noted that no stream is shown either although one is known to exist. It is possible that the pond may represent a former fishpond associated with the former grange site. Two lynchets (NPRN 309229; NGR SN 3825 2012) are recorded on the NMR 190m to the N of the Trebersed moated enclosure, but described as of unknown date. It is possible that these may also date from the medieval period and be associated with water management in the vicinity of the moated site.

Trebersed II (PRN 5019) lies 900m to the northwest of the proposed development area at SN 3820 2018 and was identified from aerial photographs as a rectangular cropmark enclosure. A site visit to the site undertaken in 2009 revealed no trace of any earthworks and it is suggested that the cropmark may be a geological anomaly (HER information).

Llanllwch church, dedicated to St Mary (PRNs 5241 and 61846; NPRN 404386; GII listed building) lies 710m to the southwest of the proposed development area at NGR SN 3858 1878. The church was originally a chapel of ease to St Peter's Church, Carmarthen and has its origins in the medieval period when it is known to have been a possession of Carmarthen Priory.

During the latter part of the 13th century the area around Llanllwch formed the demesne lands of Carmarthen castle. By the 14th century the lands were referred to as the Manor of Llanllwch and were farmed out to tenants at a rate of 6d per acre (Lodwick & Lodwick, 1996, 394). Immediately to the north of Llanllwch church lies Manor Farm (PRN 25083; SN 3858 1886) which is recorded on the HER as a post-medieval/ medieval dwelling and may indicate the position of the former manor house of Llanllwch.

A medieval dwelling site known as Clynsyw lies at SN 3810 1895 (PRN 24977; NPRN 12465) c.800m to the southwest of the centre of the proposed development area. The site is now a farm but is first recorded between 1354-58

when Ieuan Sewe was Reeve of Llanllwch. In 1352 he is known to have held a messuage and 6 ½ acres at Llanllwch and by 1360 appears to have expanded his holdings with the addition of another messuage and an additional 4 acres of land (Jones, 1997, 37). An area of potential medieval ridge and furrow has been identified in close proximity to Clynsyw (PRN 11088) at NGR SN 381 190. Further ridge and furrow has been identified at Cillefwr (PRN 10603; NGR SN 392 192) 540m to the southeast of the proposed development area.

The HER records a medieval fulling mill at Llanllwch (PRN 12759; NGR 12759), this is first recorded in 1300 as *Lanlo* with a value of 20s. In accounts for 1412-13 Llanllwch mill is described as totally destroyed (James, 1980, 45). Further research has indicated that the mill existed at Llanllwch prior to 1300 when half a mill and one acre of arable land was granted to the Hospitallers of Slebech Commandery by Robert the Carpenter sometime prior to 1241. Between 1267 and 1269 Prince Edmund, Earl of Lancaster and son of Henry III confirmed to the Slebech Hospitallers the third part of a mill at Llanllwch (Rees, 1947, 118). It is unclear whether the grants to the Slebech Hospitallers refer to Llanllwch fulling mill or to another unrecorded mill in the area.

3.2.10 Post Medieval (1535 – 1750)

No recorded sites of Post Medieval date have been identified within the boundaries of the application site.

Within the wider study area four sites of post medieval date are recorded on the HER. These include two mill sites (PRNs 9954 and 10618; NGRs SN 3887 1888 and SN 393 196) both of which are recorded in surviving town rentals from the 17th century.

Also recorded is the former farmstead of Cellifor (PRN 24956; NGR SN 3934 1918) which lay 670m to the southeast of the proposed development area. The property is first recorded in 1700 when the owner Thomas Chettle of Wallhouse, Worcestershire mortgaged his properties in St Peter's parish to Morgan Davies of Cwm Llangynog who subsequently purchased the property in 1712. The property was demolished sometime between 1980 and 1982 and the site is now occupied by the Cillefwr trading estate.

The two sites of Job's Well (PRN 20635; NGR SN 39 20) and Jobs Well bath house (PRN 39911; NGR SN 39 20) are identified within the study area, but are not located with any degree of accuracy. They have been located by the kilometre grid square in which they are most likely to lie (SN 39 20). Figure shows them around 600m to the northeast of the proposed development area, but this is by no means accurate. It is probable that they lie within the vicinity of the former Job's Well House which lies 670m to the east of the locations recorded on the HER, just outside of the study area. The well at Job's Well is recorded by Lhuyd's *Parochalia* of 1698 as

'a large spring called Job's Well wch inhabitants and foreigners finde to be very medicinal in the cure of scabs, ulcers and ricketts' (Jones 2003, 169)

In 1709 the poet John Dyer recorded in his childhood diary that he fell into Job's Well. The site is not marked on the Tithe Map or any Ordnance Survey maps of the area although it is thought to be marked on Emmanuel Bowen's map (*ibid*). The name Job's Well may indicate that the well was originally a holy well dedicated to Job, an Old Testament Biblical character and may suggest that the well dates from the medieval period or potentially earlier.

In 1740 it is known that the Borough Corporation of Carmarthen owned 'Job's Well and Bathing House'. The following year repairs to the value of £1 4s

4d were made to the structure which was paid for out of the town rates (Lodwick & Lodwick, 1996, 378-379). A record of 1776 states that

'A certain cold bath or well, called Job's Well, being part of the Corporation Estate, is greatly out of repair, same is ordered to be repaired' (ibid).

It is considered that the bath house of Job's Well incorporated the original well or utilised its unheated water supply. The main purpose of cold baths was to facilitate a healthy lifestyle and in the care of Job's Well there appears to have been an existing tradition of using the waters for the cure of ailments. Between 1700 and 1770 many medical advice books were published and one of the many routines suggested was the cold regime, of which the philosopher John Locke was a great advocate. In his 1703 publication, *Some Thoughts on Education* he argues that:

'Every one is now full of the miracles done by cold baths on decay'd and weak constitutions, for the recovery of health and strength; and therefore they cannot be impracticable or intolerable for the improving and hardening the bodies of those who are in better circumstances' (Hickman undated).

A search of the HER has revealed that four bath house sites are recorded within Carmarthenshire, with a further two in Pembrokeshire and a single example in Ceredigion suggesting that they are a relatively rare form of archaeological site. The Job's Well site appears to be the only example owned and maintained by a local corporation for public use. The remainder appear to be in private ownership. It is very doubtful that any remains of the bath house or well would be present within the proposed development area.

3.2.11 Industrial (1750 – 1900)

No recorded sites of Industrial period date have been identified within the boundaries of the proposed development site.

Twenty three sites of the Industrial period are recorded on the Regional HER and seven on the RCAHMW NMR lying within the wider study area. Many of these sites relate to dwellings, along with others relating to the nearby former Joint Counties Lunatic Asylum opened in 1865, which went on to become St David's Hospital and is now St David's Park. Other recorded sites within the area include two milestones, a vicarage, Sunday School, lodge and barn.

The presence of mile stones (PRNs 296 & 297; SN 38 19 and SN 393 196) would be associated with the former turnpike road now known as St Clears Road and Llysonnen Road. A toll gate is marked to the east of the study area on the Original Ordnance Surveyors Drawings of 1811. The heavily modified toll house associated with this gate survives to this day (PRNs 217 and 20339; SN 39925 19777 - not illustrated as outside study area). Research has revealed that in January 1763 the route, referred to as the 'High Road', leading from Trecastle via Llandeilo, Carmarthen and St Clears to Tavernspite was described as:

"in a ruinous Condition, narrow in some Places, and incommodious to Passengers; and cannot be effectually repaired, widened, and rendered commodious by the present Methods provided by Law." (Lewis, 1967)

In March 1763 an Act of Parliament was passed establishing the 'Main Trust' which became the first turnpike authority set up in South Wales. By 1772 the road formed part of the main mail coach route between London and Milford Haven. The route of the turnpike road in the vicinity of the proposed development area has been completely destroyed by modern A40 road realignment works.

The route of the railway linking Carmarthen and Pembrokeshire passes 340m to the south of the proposed development area within the study area. The line was officially opened by the South Wales Railway in January 1854, but a train of seventeen carriages carrying one hundred passengers is known to have travelled from Carmarthen to Haverfordwest on the 28th December 1853 completing the journey in one and a half hours. Following opening, the line was initially leased to the Great Western Railway before the South Wales Railway became incorporated into the GWR in 1836. Also during the 1860s the Pembroke & Tenby Railway gained powers to operate over the line with good services commencing in June 1868 and passenger services being added in August the following year. By the late 19th century the line was solely operated by the GWR who continued to do so until nationalisation of the railway network in 1948. The line continues in operation today.

3.2.12 Modern (20th century to present)

No sites of modern date are recorded on the Regional HER or NMR within the proposed development area.

No sites of modern date are recorded on either the HER or NMR within the wider study area.

Although lying just to the west of the study area, five archaeological sites of interest are worth detailing. These are Second World War defences forming part of the Carmarthen Stop Line, a defensive line created to hold back any potential German invasion. In close proximity to the study area lie two Type FW3-24 pillboxes (NPRNs 270554 and 270555; NGRs SN 3756 1914 and SN 3766 1968). A further unclassified pill box (NPRN 270553; NGR SN 3776 1888) and a series of anti-tank defences consisting of a ditch (NPRN 270880; NGR SN 3756 1914) and vertical rail defence (NPRN 270641; NGR SN 3766 1945). It is possible that associated archaeological remains of defensive features or communications routes heading back into Carmarthen could be present within the site area.

Early 20th century photographic evidence indicates that a military camp lay in close proximity of the proposed development area prior to the First World War. It is possible to view that the camp was located on the north side of what is now St Clears Road possibly in the vicinity of NGR SN 3900 1949, but it has not been possible to determine its exact location. The camp is shown as a series of tents and was the home to a cyclist battalion, but it has not been possible to confirm the regiments. The camp was known to be in existence in June 1909 when a soldier from the camp identified only as JV sent a postcard to a Mrs Phillips of Cardiff complaining of the weather and that the postcard was a view of the camp he was at. It is not known when the camp moved from the site but given the presence of tents it is likely to have been in existence for a relatively short time (Photos 1, 2 & 3).

In October 1912 a proposal was approved to relocate Carmarthen Golf Club from its original site at Blaenige Farm near Cynwyl Elfed (SN 3780 2596) to a new site on land at Pontgarreg Farm in Johnstown which opened to members in 1913. A pavilion was relocated to the new course site, but this was sited at an unspecified location within the course. The access to the course was via the trackway forming the northern boundary of the proposed development area. The layout of the new course is unknown although it may potentially partially lie within the proposed development site. The course at Pontgarreg was short lived and was abandoned on November 27th 1914 in favour of a new site near Trawsmawr Mansion, Blaencwm, Newchurch (Thomas, 2007, 16 – 21).

Additional research has also revealed that civilian aerodrome was once located at Pontgarreg. Details for the aerodrome are scant and survive as references in Flight Magazine editions dated November 10th 1921 and May 11th 1922. However, an article in the magazine edition dated November 11th 1920 refers to Greenwood murder trial coverage undertaken by the Daily Mail newspaper which refers to a flight from Carmarthen:

'The Aeroplane machine left Carmarthen with the Mail photographer on board almost immediately after the last picture had been taken. A dark-room had been fitted up in the aeroplane, and during the 180 miles' flight to Croydon the negatives were developed and prints taken off them, so that when the machine landed at the end of its trip, the pictures were all ready to be sent off to the process block-makers' (Flight Magazine, 1920).

It is unclear whether the flight took off from Pontgarreg aerodrome and post 1922 there is no further reference to the site. The precise location of the aerodrome and whether it had any associated buildings or was a simple grass landing strip is undetermined.

3.3 Cartographic Information

3.3.1 The earliest cartographic source consulted for this assessment was the Original Ordnance Surveyors Drawings of 1811. This shows the site as a single undeveloped field. A road is marked running along the northern boundary of the proposed development area which provided access to the dwellings of Trebersed, *Cwmauisaf* and *Felincwngu*. Pontgarreg appears to be marked but is not named.

3.3.2 The Old Series Ordnance Survey map of 1830 also shows the roadway forming the northern boundary of the proposed development area, but shows no detail within the site boundaries. Pontgarreg is marked and named on the map. The 1837 Tithe Map for St Peter's Parish shows that the north, west and east boundaries of the development site as they are today (Figure 5). The boundary to the south is shown as fronting on to the turnpike road. The road way to the north of the proposed development area appears to be shown as continuing eastward towards Pontgarreg Farm.

3.3.3 The first edition Ordnance Survey map 1:2500 scale map of 1890 (Figure 6) provides more detail of the landscape than the earlier cartographic sources. The site area is shown as undeveloped agricultural land divided into two fields with no features marked within the boundaries. Two stones are marked to the south of the site, but these are no longer extant as a modern road now passes through this area. The trackway to the north of the site area is shown to link in with the minor road network leading to Cwmyau Bach and Trebersed Farms. The trackway ultimately connects with road leading to the turnpike at Travellers Rest which is named as *Via Julia* Roman Road.

3.3.4 No change is discernable on the 1890 (Figure 6) 1:2500 scale map. By the publication of the 1906 1:2500 scale Ordnance Survey map the development area had reverted back to a single field (Figure 7). The only other visible change within the site boundaries is a small rectangular structure within the northwestern corner at NGR SN 3861 1951. No changes are visible on the 1907 1:10568 scale Ordnance Survey map of the area.

3.3.5 No major changes are identifiable on the 1936 1:2500 scale map except for a possible watercourse running along the southern side of the trackway lying to the north of the proposed development area (not illustrated). The former turnpike road to the south of the area is marked as Roman road. No discernable changes within the proposed development site are visible on either the 1953 or 1964 1:10568 scale maps of the area.

3.3.6 The 1969 1:2500 scale map of the area marks a drain within the northern part of the proposed development area and shows the small building within the northwestern corner of the site had been demolished by this time. A cattle breeding centre and two sets of semi detached properties had been constructed adjacent to, but outside, the southwestern corner of the proposed development area.

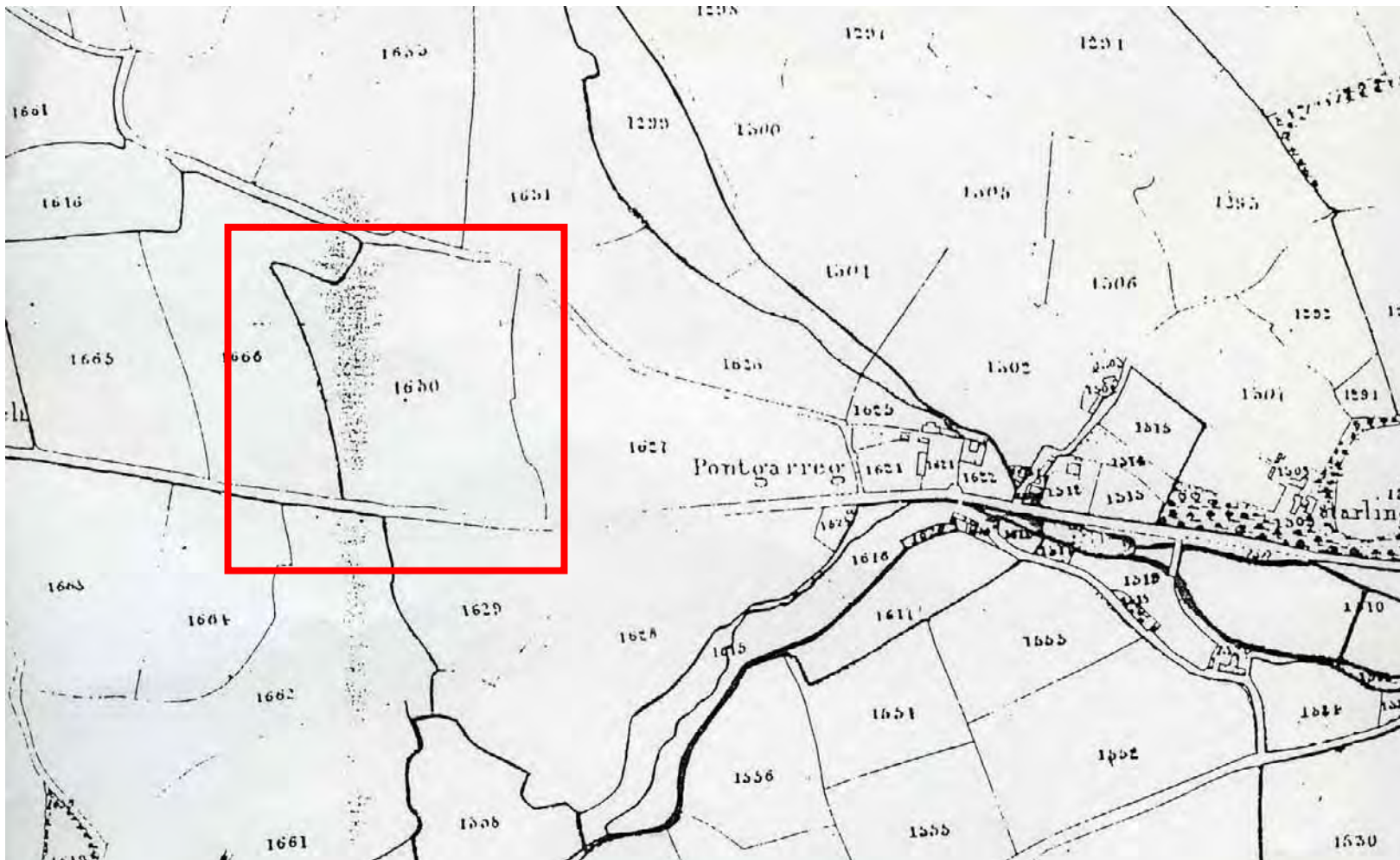
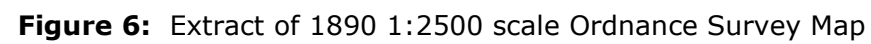


Figure 5: Extract of 1837 Tithe Map for St Peter's Parish



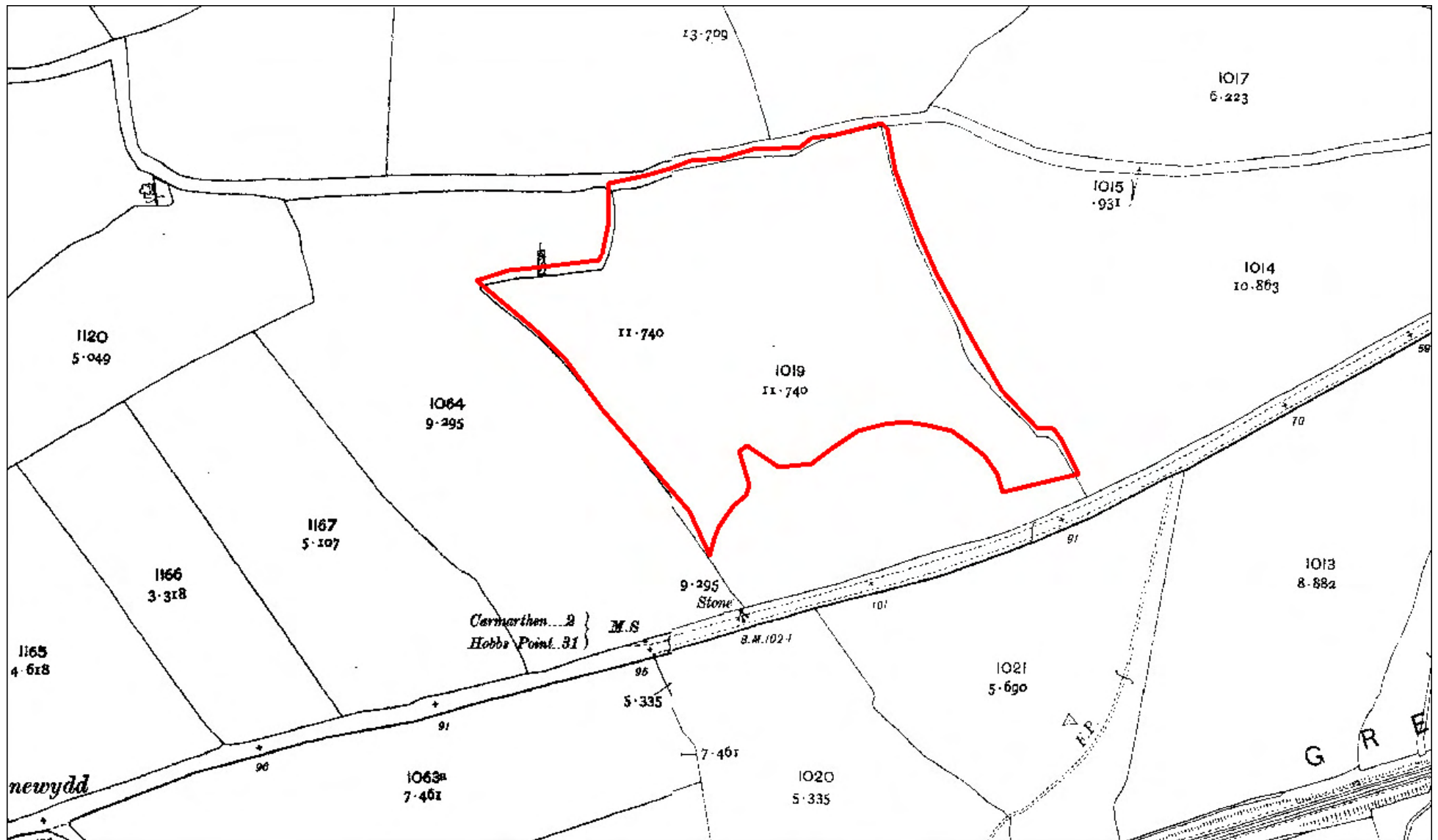


Figure 7: Extract of 1906 1:2500 scale Ordnance Survey Map

3.4 Site Visit

3.4.1 A site visit was undertaken on 28th February 2012. The visit comprised a walkover of the proposed development site, photographs were taken and field observations were recorded in a notebook.

3.4.2 The proposed development area consists of a single undulating field which slopes towards the north (Photos 4, 5 & 6). At the time of the site visit much of the area has been recently used for arable cultivation. Quantities of pottery were noted lying on the surface of the field which ranged in date from the early post-medieval period to the 19th and 20th centuries. This material is considered likely to represent past manuring of the field associated with agricultural practices.

3.4.3 The boundaries of the proposed development area consist of mature hedgebanks. At NGR SN 3868 1954 an area of marshy ground indicating the position of a possible former pond was identified, with a small watercourse leading from the eastern edge. Immediately to the north of the boundary lies a trackway that is heavily overgrown and eroded by a small watercourse flowing along it (Photos 7 & 8). Some areas of stone were noted, but it was difficult to determine whether these were relatively recent attempts to stabilise the trackway or formed part of its original formation.

3.4.4 No evidence for any above ground archaeological remains was identified during the course of the site visit.

3.5 Previous Archaeological Work

3.5.1 No previous intrusive archaeological work has been undertaken within the boundaries of the proposed development site or in the wider study area.

4. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

4.1 Previous Impacts

4.1.1 Mapping since the early-19th century indicates that the area was used as agricultural land, predominantly meadow / pasture. It is probable that the land has been used for arable purposes during the post-medieval and medieval periods. Such farming practices, especially ploughing, do have a damaging impact on earlier archaeological remains, although the depth of disturbance is usually quite shallow. The site area had not been subject to any development within the last two hundred years, as far as can be ascertained. Archaeological remains, if present, would thus lie at the interface between topsoil and plough derived soils and the underlying undisturbed natural ground. Typically this would be at a level of around 0.25 – 0.5m depth.

4.1.2 A number of sites of modern date may potentially have lain within the boundaries of the proposed development area. The former golf course which was in existence between 1913 and 1914, may have had associated landscaping works undertaken to create the course, although this cannot be confirmed. The military camp which may also lie within the area, is unlikely to have had any previous impacts to the development site, other than from the insertion of tent pegs and possible digging of latrines. The possibility of live ordnance should be considered also. The site may have also contained part of a civilian aerodrome dating from the early 1920s, although no record of any structures or runways associated with the airfield have been found. It may have been a simple airfield with grass runway, thereby causing minimal, if any, disturbance to any underlying archaeological remains that may have been present.

4.2 Potential Impacts from Development

4.2.1 The site contains no upstanding remains of buildings or structures associated with early settlement or farming. The nature of any archaeological activity is uncertain. Should any remains be present they would be represented by buried earth-cut features, such as pits, postholes, ditches or potentially surfaces associated with the projected line of the Roman road. Any of the following activities that might be associated with future development of the site area could therefore expose, damage or destroy any such remains:

- Enabling works, such as installation of contractor's compound, construction of access roads, parking areas, storage areas, borrow pits and associated services;
- Landscaping and terracing works;
- Topsoil stripping;
- Foundation excavation;
- Construction of roads and infrastructure; and
- Service installation.

5. ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL AND IMPORTANCE

5.1 The archaeological desk-based assessment has indicated one recorded sites of archaeological significance lies within the proposed development boundary, the projected line of the Roman road leading west from Carmarthen. The report has highlighted the following potential archaeological resources within the site area, although their presence would be affected by previous disturbances (see section 4). An assessment of their most likely archaeological importance is also made³.

5.2 The potential for remains of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic date to be present in the site area is considered to be very low as no such remains have been recorded within the study area, and are known to be scarce in the wider area. If found to be present such remains would be considered to be of at least regional importance.

5.3 The potential for remains of Bronze Age date to be present within the site area is considered to be low as only a single site of a possible standing stone is recorded. The provenance of this stone is questionable as may equally be a boundary marker of medieval date or a post-medieval cattle rubbing stone. If found to be present such remains would be considered to be of at least regional importance.

5.4 The potential for remains of Iron Age date to be present in the site area is considered to be low as no such remains have been recorded within the study area, but are known to exist in the wider area. If found to be present such remains would be considered to be of local to regional importance.

5.5 Two site of Roman date are present within the study area and include a potential cemetery site some distance to the south east, which would remain unaffected by the development proposals. The main archaeological potential comes from the projected line of the Roman road which passes through the middle of the proposed development site. No physical evidence for the road was identified during the site visit. If present, it is likely to lie below ground level within this location. Should such remains be found they would be considered to be of local to regional importance.

5.6 The potential for remains of Early Medieval date to be present within the site area is considered to be low as no such remains have been recorded within the study area. If found to be present such remains would be considered to be of at least regional importance.

5.7 The potential for medieval settlement remains to be present within the site area is considered to be moderate. The site area lies near the settlement foci or Llanllwch and the former Trebersed Grange site of Carmarthen Priory, both of which lie within the wider study area, although any associated settlement is unlikely to have stretched as far as the development site. The majority of the development area is more likely to have lain within the surrounding agricultural lands used by the medieval settlement. Agricultural remains would be of low archaeological importance. A former road surviving as a trackway forms the northern boundary of the proposed development site, which has been in existence since the early 19th century and may have earlier, even medieval origins.

5.8 Post-medieval (1535-1750) remains would follow a similar pattern to medieval remains, again the site area predominantly being used as agricultural land, and remains of such being of low importance.

5.9 Industrial period remains (1750 – 1900) again would follow a similar pattern to the preceding post medieval and medieval periods with much of the

³ The potential for remains of higher or lower archaeological importance for all periods cannot be discounted.

site area being used as agricultural land. The former minor road, surviving as a sunken trackway lies on the northern boundary of the proposed development area and is first recorded on the 1811 Original Ordnance Surveyors Drawings of the area. The line of the 18th century turnpike road lies to the south of the development area, but any associated remains would have been destroyed by the modern A40 road improvements.

5.11 The modern period (1900 onwards) archaeology is represented by three sites potentially lying within the proposed development area boundaries and consist of a military camp, former golf course and civilian aerodrome. All three sites appear to have been short lived and any archaeological evidence would potentially be very ephemeral and of limited archaeological interest.

6. CONCLUSIONS

6.1 The archaeological assessment has shown that the development site at the Limes west of Carmarthen lies within a landscape of containing very limited archaeological information. This may be as a result of a lack of previous archaeological works undertaken within the area.

6.2 No known archaeological remains are present within the proposed development site or in the vicinity (study area) for the Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic periods. There is considered to be a very limited potential for hitherto unknown remains of these periods to be present within the development site.

6.3 A single site of possible Bronze Age date is recorded within the study area, a standing stone called Glasfryn (PRN 10604). It is unclear if the Glasfryn standing stone dates from the Bronze Age, is a medieval boundary marker or is a later cattle rubbing stone. In terms of the Iron Age, although no known sites are present within the study area, a number are known in the wider vicinity. The potential for archaeological remains of Bronze Age and Iron Age date to be present within the site area is considered to be low.

6.4 Two Roman period sites are recorded within the study area and include the projected line of the Roman road which passes through the proposed development site and a cremation burial to the southeast. The potential for archaeological remains of Roman date to be present within the proposed development site is considered to be high.

6.5 No known archaeological remains are present within the proposed development site or in the vicinity (study area) for the Early Medieval period. There is considered to be very limited potential for archaeological remains of Early Medieval date to be present in the area.

6.6 Medieval settlement activity is considered possible within the development site boundary as it lies in close proximity to the village of Llanllwch and to the former grange site at Trebersed. It is more likely that the land was used for agricultural purposes as opposed to settlement, the archaeological significance of any associated remains being low. This is considered the same for the post-medieval period.

6.5 By the Industrial period a number of dwellings had been constructed within the wider area, but none were built within the boundaries of the proposed development site. The line of the turnpike road lies to the south of the area, whilst to the north a trackway now marks the line of a former road, the date of which is unclear. The potential for hitherto unknown remains of Industrial period date is considered very low.

6.6 Three sites of modern date may also lie within the boundaries of the proposed development area, including the military camp of 1909, the short lived golf course and a civilian aerodrome. These are considered to be of limited archaeological interest. The possibility of live ordnance within the proposed development site should be considered.

6.7 From the results of this desk-based assessment, further archaeological mitigation may be considered necessary for any future development of the site area due to the projected line of the Roman road running through the site. The road is of considerable archaeological interest and could even be associated with roadside settlement, field patterns or even cemetery activity (as seen to the southeast). As the road bisects the site from east to west, the best way of determining its presence would be through the opening up of a series of trenches running north to south across its projected line. The scope of any further archaeological investigation should be discussed and confirmed with the archaeological advisor to the local planning authority.

7. SOURCES

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PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Military camp of 1909.

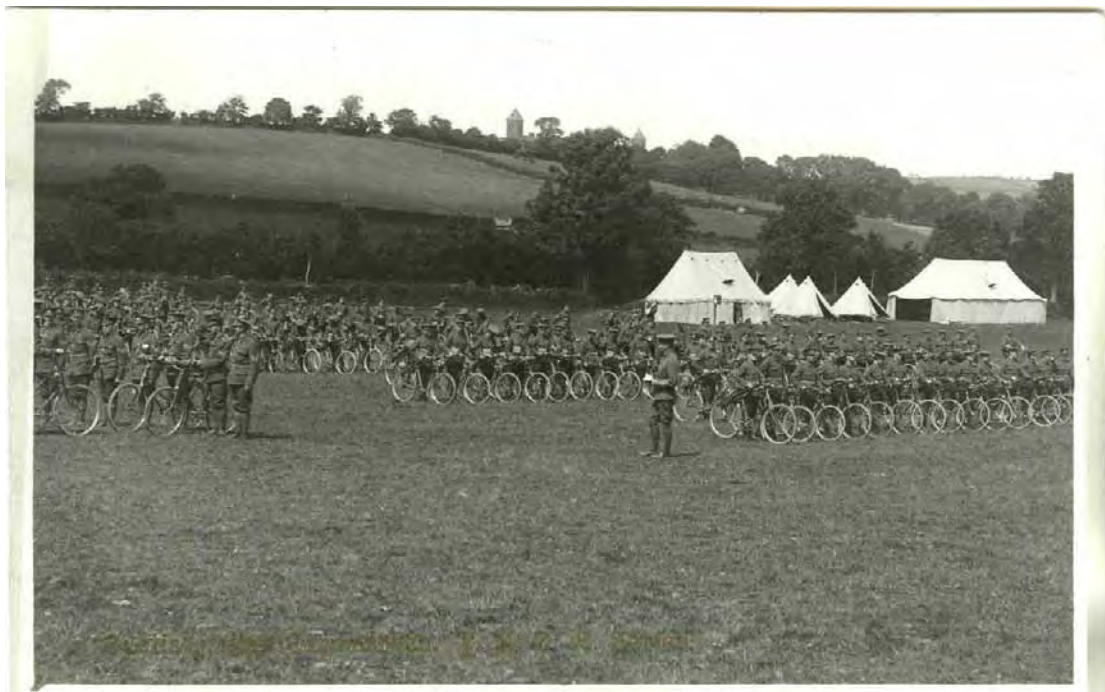


Photo 2: Parade at military camp of 1909.



Photo 3: Soldiers leaving military camp 1909.



Photo 4: Proposed development area facing southeast



Photo 5: Proposed development area facing west.



Photo 6: Proposed development area facing west.



Photo 7: West view of former minor road on northern boundary of proposed development area.



Photo 8: East view of former minor road.

THE LIMES, TRAVELLERS REST CARMARTHEN, CARMARTHENSHERE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2012/20
RHIF Y PROSIECT / PROJECT RECORD NO. 102738

Mawrth 2012
March 2012

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

SIMON RATTY

Swydd / Position:

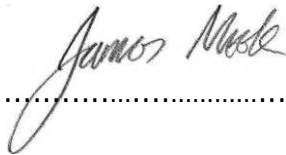
Llofnod / Signature Date 09/03/2012

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

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

Swydd / Position: HEAD OF FIELD SERVICES / ARCHAEOLOGIST

Llofnod / Signature Date 09/03/2012



*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***

ymddiriedolaeth archaeolegol



archaeological trust