

Twentieth Century Military Sites: Second World War and later Camps and Ranges

Interim Report 2014-15: Carmarthenshire Desk-Based Assessment



Ystrad Camp, Carmarthen, 1941 showing camouflaged huts around the perimeter (PRN 107372)

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Second World War and later Camps and Ranges

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SUMMARY

Recent years have seen a series of projects to address the lack of understanding and knowledge of sites in Wales which relate to the conflicts of the Twentieth Century. This report is the first assessment of Camps and Ranges in Carmarthenshire which were established and in use during the Second World War and succeeding years. This is the first phase, a desk-based assessment, gathering documentary sources including primary and secondary sources to establish the number, type, location and extent of sites. A range of site types have been considered and include; army camps (British and American), hospitals, prisoner of war camps, depots and land army camps. Twelve sites were recorded in the HER at the outset of the exercise, these have now been updated and a further 40 have been added to the record. Where possible aerial photographs have been used to establish the extent of the camps or ranges and have been mapped onto MapInfo GIS. The information from this assessment will contribute to our understanding of the impact of the 20th century conflicts through its archaeology and surviving structures. It will provide a basis for follow-up fieldwork to assess national or regional significance of surviving archaeological remains and also provide information for heritage management and development control purposes.

INTRODUCTION

Prior to the Second World War Carmarthenshire could not have been said to have a high military presence, and since the widespread mustering and training of troops prior to and during the First World War, the only permanent military base was the Barracks in Carmarthen (PRN 104). In the course of the Second World War however significant military mobilisation took place across southwest Wales; not only defensive measures needed to be constructed along the South Wales coast, identified as an area of high risk of invasion and which required building and personnel to man it, but military exercises brought troops in to Carmarthenshire to use the training ranges at Pendine and Pembrey (PRNs 30071, 30076) and *en route* Pembrokeshire. With the build-up of the United States army to mount an invasion of the continent numerous tented camps were established across the county and further buildings requisitioned. Depots were established to support both the military and civilian realm to supply food, fuel, materials and equipment and the county saw the establishment of three military hospital units. As the war progressed and army units left for the continent vacant sites were reused as Prisoner of War camps.

This study of Camps and Ranges in Carmarthenshire forms part of a phased programme of work being undertaken by the Welsh Archaeological Trusts, addressing the lack of information on the archaeology and historic environment which stems from the conflicts of the twentieth century. Cadw have grant-aided the investigation of various classes of site across Wales, and within Dyfed, Military Airfields and their dispersed sites, crashed Military Aircraft sites and scoping exercises to investigate the archaeological remains relating to the First World War have so far been addressed, (Cadw 2009, 4, Pyper 2012, 2013a & b, 2014a & b). It also builds on the work carried out during the Defence of Britain programme, co-ordinated by the Council for British Archaeology.

The project addresses several of the themes and sub-themes identified in the research agenda of *Modern Military Matters* (Schofield *et al*, 2004, p14), where it is acknowledged that Camps are one of the least studied categories of site, and in addition the difficulty of establishing overall figures for the numbers of camps constructed. This assessment takes into consideration any military established base or range and includes the army, air force and naval camps and ranges which vary in scale. Thus, the range of sites in this class are vast including; military camps, ranges including training facilities for small arms or weapons testing, smaller camps associated with searchlight or anti-aircraft batteries, hospitals, prisoner of war camps, internment camps, resettlement camps, temporary camps for American troops prior to D-Day and also those for Conscientious Objectors, Women's Land Army etc. This report constitutes the first stage, a desk-based assessment, to be followed by similar studies of Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire, and to be followed by site visits to record surviving remains.

This study is not addressing camps established prior to, or during the First World War associated with the Yeomanry and Territorial Forces, as this will be assessed through the on-going First World War project. This report concentrates on the massive military expansion and mobilisation which took place immediately preceding and during the Second World War, those which continued in use in post war years and also sites in current military use. Many of these sites were temporary and rapidly constructed, and many with only a basic infrastructure provided. In other cases existing buildings, often large houses, were requisitioned to serve as headquarters with the personnel billeted in the house and other temporary structures erected within the grounds.

Often there is a complicated history attached to each of the sites, with many different units moving through, perhaps only for a short period of time, which is recorded through various unit War Diaries and those of the Carmarthen Sub Area Headquarters (WO 166/6729 & 1270). This is further complicated by the changing function and use of sites, often established as a British army camp initially, then reused by the United States Army in the run up to D-Day, and then finally used to accommodate prisoners of war.

Some sites continued in use beyond the end of hostilities, many prisoner of war camps were not decommissioned until the late 1940s (Hellen 1999, 191). Furthermore a couple of sites, the military training ranges, continue in use to this day. The report addresses sites that are, or have been owned, leased or licensed by the military, and not areas of private land which have been used for military training (TOPL; Training Over Private Land).

The information collated in this report will contribute to our understanding of the impact of the 20th century conflicts through its archaeology and surviving structures, provide a basis for follow-up fieldwork, and not least provide information for heritage management and development control purposes.

PROJECTS AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The overall aims of the project are:

- an application of definition, classification, quantification and distribution of these sites in Carmarthenshire,
- an assessment of the archaeological significance of these sites in both a regional and national perspective,
- an assessment of the vulnerability of this element of the archaeological resource,
- recommendations for scheduling and listing

These aims will be achieved following the fieldwork assessment in part two of the project.

The project's objectives are:

- To access and assess available primary and secondary sources for each of the camps and ranges within Carmarthenshire,
- To incorporate this information into the Dyfed Archaeological Trust's Historic Environment Record (HER), creating new sites or enhancing existing ones,
- To create GIS polygons to be supplied for heritage management advice.

METHODOLOGY

The way in which this project has been approached mirrors that of previous threat related projects undertaken by the Welsh Archaeological Trusts with grant-aid from Cadw. Maps, plans and aerial photographs were consulted for each site. Records were created and new point and polygon-based GIS data was compiled as a result of the research. This information was integrated into the regional Historic Environment Record and is now available through the HER and through the Archwilio website.

The following methodology was adopted to achieve the project's objectives:

- An assessment of existing records within the HER
- An assessment of existing records within the NMR / Coflein
- An assessment of the records held in the Defence of Britain archive
- A rapid overview of sources during a visit to the National Archives
- An assessment of the digital records held at Fold3.com, a web-based collection of original US military records, including many from the U.S. National Archives.
- Assessment of data listed in secondary sources, on the internet or hard copy local histories and memoirs
- Assessment of wartime and later aerial photographs
- Creation of new records and enhancement of existing records in the HER
- Production of a short report including a gazetteer of sites.

Unfortunately the local Carmarthen Archives have been closed for the duration of the assessment and preparation of this report, and this lack of local sources has severely disadvantaged the project, as none of the records held within the Archives could be consulted. The National Archives were also visited to consult primary sources, which was useful in some specific cases, however highlighted the need for further documentary work to identify and locate sites in Carmarthenshire.

A number of key secondary sources were the basis for the assessment, including reports by John Schofield (2006) *England's Army Camps* and Roger J C Thomas (2003) *Prisoner of War Camps (1939-1948)*. These provided a gazetteer of known sites throughout the UK based on previous desk-based research at The National Archives.

Increasingly on-line sources are available with many groups or individuals publishing on the internet or transcribing historic documents on websites or webpages. Whilst this increases the range of sources available for consultation there are risks with such sources and each has to be assessed in terms of its historical accuracy. Where these sources have been consulted they are referenced in the individual site records with their corresponding Uniform Resource Locator (URL) to access the appropriate page on the internet.

SITE DEFINITIONS

The primary focus for this assessment has been military installations where armed forces have been established for a permanent or temporary base. Site types and their definitions are derived from the Thesaurus of Monument Types for Wales, which is based on the Defence of Britain thesaurus definitions. The key site types identified in this study have been:

- Military Camp: a site where a body of troops is temporarily or permanently lodged, with or without entrenchments and fortifications.
- Firing Range: A piece of ground over which small arms or large artillery may be fired at targets.
- Bombing Range: An area of land, with associated buildings and targets, used for practicing the dropping of bombs and other aspects of air warfare.
- Military Base: A building or group of buildings, often surrounded by a system of fortifications, used as a residential and training site by members of an armed force.
- Military Depot: A building or group of buildings, often enclosed by a system of fortifications, used by an armed force for the storage and distribution of military equipment.
- Military Hospital: a hospital for the medical and surgical treatment of military personnel and/or their families.
- Prisoner of War Camp: a prison site for the containment of servicemen captured in war.
- Depot: a place of deposit for the storing of goods. May include a complex of structures.
- Barracks: a building used to accommodate large numbers of individuals, often on a temporary basis, in the armed forces or at industrial sites.

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- Military Headquarters: a building used as a command centre for a military operation.

Note: Currently there are no specific site types for establishments relating to the Women's Land Army (including the Women's Timber Corps), but as a result of this assessment two new site types are being proposed:

- Women's Land Army Hostel: A building used to provide accommodation for women working on the land during the First or Second World Wars, also including Women's Timber Corps.
- Women's Land Army Camp: A temporary settlement of tents or huts established to accommodate women working on the land during the First or Second World Wars, also including Women's Timber Corps.

Sites could include existing buildings which were requisitioned, or the construction of new temporary or permanent buildings, or canvas tents which were erected for the duration of hostilities.

Many of the sites identified have a complex history and it has not been possible to be absolutely sure of different phases of activity during the scope of this project. Further desk based research in the local archives or the National Archives may reveal their narrative histories.

In some instances installations have been identified from aerial photographs and at present no other documentary sources have revealed their function. In other cases documentary sources – for instance War Diaries or United States Army station lists – often associate military units by town or village but do not provide location information – numerous military units are attributed to 'Carmarthen' and actually marrying this information up to a physical location is challenging. Some documents record Cassini Grid references though not usually to a greater accuracy than a four figure reference, which is not particularly helpful especially where a number of sites are in close proximity or in an urban location.

Where function has been unassigned the site type 'Military Base' has been used.

RESULTS

Prior to the assessment being carried out 12 records for camps, ranges and military installations were recorded within the HER:-

PRN	Site Name	Type	NGR
104	BARRACKS THE	Barracks	SN40361992
30071	PENDINE RANGE	Firing Range	SN27900700
30076	PEMBREY RANGE	Firing Range	SN36500520
30084	LLANGUNNOR	Firing Range	SN42702060
30261	TREGLOG CAMP	Military Camp	SN59533499
30593	NO 102 LLANDDAROG CAMP	Prisoner of War Camp	SN4937816252
31411	TOWYN CAMP	Military Camp	SN39730374

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33673	R.N. STORE DEPOT LLANGENNECH	Military Depot	SN55800200
50281	LLANDEILO ARMY CAMP	Military Camp	SN62762267
50282	NEWTON HOUSE	Military Hospital	SN61432253
50283	DINEFWR PARK	Prisoner of War Camp	SN61612242
50284	LLANDEILO LAND ARMY CAMP	Army Camp	SN62412298

Following the assessment a further new 40 sites have been added to the HER and the existing sites updated and enhanced, see Figure 1 and following table:

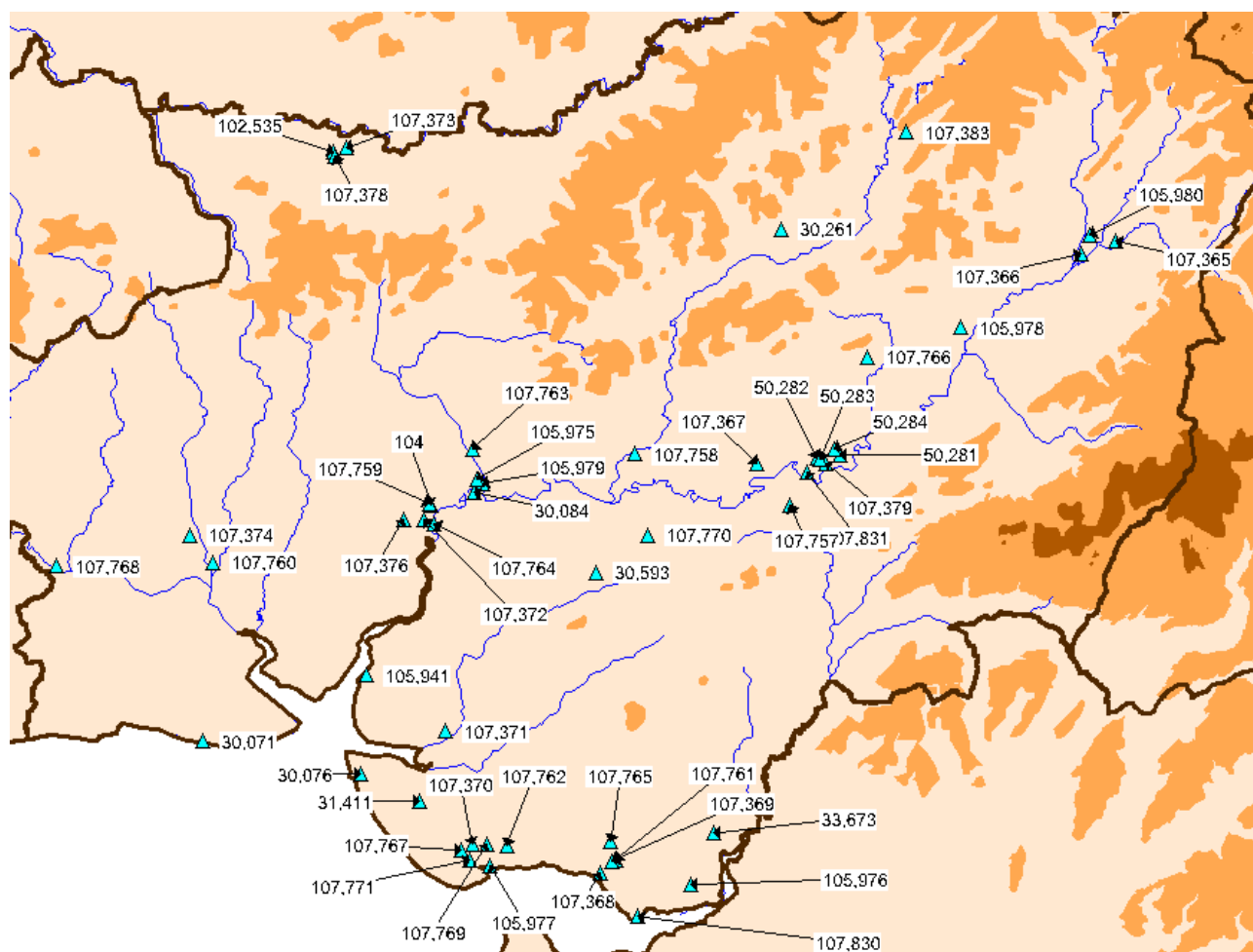


Figure 1: Distribution of sites across Carmarthenshire

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Prn	Site name	Type	Community	NGR
104	BARRACKS THE	BARRACKS;MAGAZINE	Carmarthen	SN40361992
30071	PENDINE RANGE; EXPERIMENTAL ESTABLISHMENT PENDINE	FIRING RANGE	Laugharne Township	SN27900700
30076	PEMBREY SANDS AIR WEAPONS RANGE	BOMBING RANGE	Cefn Sidan	SN36500520
30084	LLANGUNNOR	FIRING RANGE	Llangunnor	SN42702060
30261	TREGLOG CAMP	MILITARY CAMP	Llansawel	SN59533499
30593	NO 102 LLANDDAROG CAMP	PRISONER OF WAR CAMP	Llanddarog	SN4937816252
31411	TOWYN CAMP	MILITARY CAMP	Cefn Sidan	SN39730374
33673	R.N. STORE DEPOT LLANGENNECH	MILITARY DEPOT	Llangennech	SN55800200
50281		MILITARY BASE	Llandeilo	SN62762267
50282	NEWTON HOUSE	MILITARY HOSPITAL	Llandeilo	SN61432253
50283	DINEFWR PARK	PRISONER OF WAR CAMP	Llandeilo	SN61612242
50284	LLANDEILO LAND ARMY CAMP	ARMY CAMP	Llandeilo	SN62412298
102535	AIRFIELD AND CAMP AT DREFACH FELINDRE	AIRFIELD	Llangeler	SN35013923
105941	FERRYSIDE	MILITARY BASE	St Ishmael	SN36851062
105975	12th EVACUATION HOSPITAL; 232rd STATION HOSPITAL	MILITARY HOSPITAL	Carmarthen	SN42862130
105976	BYNEA SALVAGE DEPOT	DEPOT	Llanelli	SS54589920
105977	BURRY PORT	MILITARY CAMP	Burry Port	SN43590018
105978	ABERMARLAIS CAMP	MILITARY CAMP	Llansadwrn	SN69312961
105979		DEPOT	Abergwili	SN43152111
105980		DEPOT	Llandovery	SN76373469
107365	ERWLON	MILITARY CAMP	Llandovery	SN77762296
107366	LLWYNJACK	MILITARY CAMP	Llandovery	SN75933360
107367	ABERGLASNEY HOUSE	MILITARY CAMP	Llangathen	SN58172214
107368	LLANELLY NORTH DOCK	MILITARY DEPOT	Llanelli	SS49609982
107369	LLANELLY PEOPLE'S PARK	MILITARY BASE	Llanelli	SS50210041
107370	PEMBREY	MILITARY CAMP	Cefn Sidan	SN426014
107371	BROOM HILL	MILITARY HEADQUARTERS	Kidwelly	SN41170755
107372	YSTRAD CAMP	MILITARY CAMP	Carmarthen	SN39941915
107373	DREFACH-FELINDRE	MILITARY BASE	Llangeler	SN35733943
107374	PEN-Y-COED	MILITARY BASE	St Clears	SN27141826

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107375	NO 252 ABERGWILI HOSPITAL	PRISONER OF WAR CAMP	Carmarthen	SN42862130
107376	199 YSTRAD CAMP	PRISONER OF WAR CAMP	Carmarthen	SN38891908
107378	DREFACH-FELINDRE	MILITARY BASE	Llangeler	SN35093900
107379		SEWAGE WORKS	Llandeilo	SN61932216
107383		MILITARY DEPOT	Cynwyl Gaeo	SN66324028
107757	GOLDEN GROVE	MILITARY CAMP	Llanfihangel Aberbythych	SN600199
107758	ALLT-Y-FERIN	MILITARY HOSPITAL	Llanegwad	SN51542269
107759	BRON-Y-DRE	MILITARY HEADQUARTERS	Carmarthen	SN4025819978
107760	ST CLEARS GARAGE CAMP	MILITARY CAMP	St Clears	SN284168
107761	LLANELLY CAMP	MILITARY CAMP	Llanelli	SN505005
107762	BRONHEULOG HOUSE	MILITARY BASE	Cefn Sidan	SN445013
107763	CWMGWILI	MILITARY BASE	Bronwydd	SN426230
107764	RHYD-Y-GORS	MILITARY CAMP	Carmarthen	SN405189
107765	FURNACE CAMP	MILITARY CAMP	Llanelli	SN502015
107766	TALIARIS	MILITARY BASE	Manordeilo and Salem	SN642280
107767	PEMBREY BEACHES	MILITARY BASE	Cefn Sidan	SN420011
107768	WHITLAND DISTRIBUTION POINT	MILITARY DEPOT	Whitland	SN199166
107769	PEMBREY HOUSE	MILITARY BASE	Cefn Sidan	SN43420141
107770	MIDDLETON HALL	MILITARY BASE	Llanarthney	SN52181828
107771	ASHBURNHAM CAMP	MILITARY CAMP	Cefn Sidan	SN425005
107830		FIRING RANGE	Llanelli	SS51679747
107831	DYNEVOR RIFLE RANGE	FIRING RANGE	Llandeilo	SN60902172

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The range of site types represented are recorded in the table below:-

Site Type	No
Military Camp	15
Military Base	13
Firing Range	4
Prisoner of War Camp	4
Military Hospital	3
Depot	3
Military Depot	4
Military Headquarters	2
Women's Land Army Camp	1
Bombing Range	1
Barracks	1
Sewage Works (Army Camp)	1

No Internment Camps or Resettlement Camps have been identified within Carmarthenshire.

Military Camps

Fifteen Military Camps have been identified within Carmarthenshire. In most cases they were established by the British Army and were used by a variety of British, or sometimes Belgian units, as training demands required, or to man the defences established in the earlier years of the war when fear of invasion was at its greatest. The war diaries of Carmarthen Sub-Area and various unit diaries which have been accessed give an impression of the tremendous movement of troops through the county (WO166/1270 & 6729).

From late 1943 the massive build-up of United States forces in the UK began in preparation for the invasion of the continent, code named Operation Bolero, and during this period many of the existing camps were occupied by US forces.

For the purposes of recording the sites in the HER 'Military Camp' is assigned to all these sites, despite their different phases of use, for their function remains the same. Histories, as far as research has allowed at this stage, are described within each record description and are sourced within the individual HER records. Many military camps became Prisoner of War camps, and have been recorded as a separate site type. A classic example of this is Ystrad Camp in Carmarthen which had periods of use by British, Belgian, and American troops before becoming a Prisoner of War Camp, PRNs 107372 and 107376.

The desk-based assessment has not identified the likelihood of any upstanding remains, some camps clearly incorporated huts, and some were under canvas. The archaeological potential at these sites is most likely at ground level and below; the hut or tent bases may survive, and associated infrastructure such as tracks, paths and services such as water and sewage. Where sites have been redeveloped there is less likelihood of archaeological deposits.

Depots (Military and Civilian)

Supply depots have been identified in the assessment of camps, both military (including fuel depots of which four have been recorded), and the civilian buffer depots, built by the Ministry of Food, at Carmarthen and Llandovery (PRNs 105979, 105980) where vital food supplies were stored locally in the event of supply lines being disabled. The hutting at buffer depots at Carmarthen and Llandovery both survive and have recently been photographed by volunteers. The Royal Naval store depot at Llangennech appears to retain much of its site layout and potentially also buildings dating from its construction during the Second World War. Other depots appear to have been redeveloped or dismantled (PRNs 107383 and 107768), though fieldwork may establish if traces remain.

Ranges; Bombing and Firing

Ranges are areas of land reserved for hazardous firing and training; they may be permanent or temporary (MOD 2011, p1). Depending on the usage of the ranges, accommodation for troops or training staff in associated military camps or bases might be present. Equally where troops were temporarily accommodated you would expect a range to zero and test small arms.

Two ranges are recorded still in use in Carmarthenshire. These are Pembrey Bombing Range and Pendine Experimental Establishment, PRNs 30076, 30071. These are both identified on the Ranges map of 1945, see Figure 2. Both these sites have a high archaeological potential for upstanding structures and buildings and also buried archaeological remains.

In addition there are rifle ranges established at Llanelli, Llangunnor and Llandeilo PRNs 107830, 30084 and 107831. The latter two rifle ranges have archaeological evidence surviving, demonstrated by recent field visits of the ranges at Dynefor and Llangunnor (PRNs 107831 and 107830) by the RCAHMW. Elsewhere there are a number of references to wartime training exercises, (War Diaries and local histories), which took place in the countryside at large.



Figure 2: SD 559 ranges map (1945), West and South Wales

Military Hospitals

Three Military Hospitals have been identified, though information has been sparse with the exception of the U.S. Abergwili Station Hospital (PRN 105975) which is significant in representing the experimental establishment of a hospital under canvas on a virgin site prior to the invasion of the continent. Newton House (PRN 50282) was a British Hospital with a satellite Infectious Diseases Hospital at Alltyferin (PRN 107758); both have been written about in the memoirs of Rhoda Campbell (1997).

Whilst the hospital at Abergwili (PRN 105975) has been completely redeveloped and now lies under West Wales General Hospital and post war housing, at Newton House (PRN 50282) well defined parchmarks have been recorded by the aerial reconnaissance officer at the RCAHMW (NPRN 266170), indicating a high preservation of archaeological remains which relate to the hutted hospital.

Barracks

Only one barracks has been recorded existing in Carmarthenshire and this is the Carmarthen Barracks (PRN 104). It was established in the 19th century and is in military use to this day as a recruiting centre and as a regional centre for the Territorial Army.

Prisoner of War Camps

Three Prisoner of War Camps in Carmarthenshire have been listed in the report by Roger JC Thomas; one base camp '199 Ystrad' (PRN 107376), (one where POWs would be screened and ideologically "graded" before being sent onto other camps (Hellen 1999, p193)), a German Working camp, '102 Llanddarog' (PRN 30593) and 252 Abergwili Hospital (PRN 105975). There are anecdotal references to Newton House, Dinefwr (PRN 50283) being a POW camp but it is not listed in Thomas's report and no further documentary references have confirmed it. With the exception of Llanddarog the camps often represent the reuse of earlier army camps vacated by British and US troops when they moved into operations on the continent.

Documentary assessment of the former POW camps in the county suggest they have largely been redeveloped and it is unlikely that significant archaeological evidence of their existence remains.

Military Headquarters

The Carmarthen Sub-Area headquarters were based in Bron-y-dre (PRN 107759), a semi-detached town house opposite the Carmarthen barracks, (PRN 104). For a short period between March and May 1944 the American Army 38 Infantry Regiment Headquarters was established at Broomhill at Kidwelly (PRN 107371).

Both the houses which were headquarters still stand and are now in residential use. In the case of the Carmarthen headquarters at Bron-y-dre there may be potential for archaeology relating to hut bases in the back garden.

Military Base

In the Thesaurus of Monument Types for Wales 'Military Base' is a higher level classification than 'Military Camp'. In most instances this term has been used for a military establishment within an existing, usually requisitioned building or series of buildings and may include a hutted or tented camp, such as Drefach Felindre (PRNs 102535, 107373, 107378). It also includes sites where the nature of the installations are unknown such as Pembrey Beaches (PRN 107767).

Women's Land Army Camp

No primary sources for the Women's Land Army have not be found, though a hostel at Llandeilo (PRN 50284) is known locally and from a biography of a land army veteran, M Harries, held at the Imperial War Museum (Documents 1411). (<http://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/1030000346>) .

DISCUSSION

A range of documentary sources has been accessed for the project, with greater or lesser degree of usefulness. Establishing the location of army camps has been more difficult than might have been imagined given the recent nature of the subject and the rigorous record keeping of military institutions, however finding suitable sources which identify allied military bases, either camps or depots has been

problematic. Further research in the National Archives would probably be fruitful, though the suggestion is by Schofield that many papers may have been destroyed and that individual records of camps have rarely been kept (Schofield 2006, p1). Schofield's dataset produced from the documentary study of construction and use of army camps in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland from 1858 -2000 identifies only 5 camps in Carmarthenshire, four of these are located by six figure grid references and one (St Clears Garage Camp), has no grid reference at all. This project has clearly demonstrated that this is not a complete picture of British army camps in Carmarthenshire in the Second World War.

In contrast to the UK, army records on US camps are relatively accessible. The official history, 'Western Base Section', completed in 1947 provides a list of US army camps, available through the internet archive service 'Fold 3' <https://www.fold3.com/>. In addition station lists have been transcribed and digitised by Lt Col Philip C. Grinton; US Army (Retired) who has documented the lists month by month from September 1943 to December 1944. However, locational details are limited to four figure Cassini grid references, consequently there are a number of army sites for listed for Carmarthen town which are almost impossible to locate. Unfortunately the closure of Carmarthen Archives has put any documents held locally out of reach for the duration of this project and this has hampered further clarification on the location of sites. Further research of the local newspapers might help with identifying locations; however this has not been possible within the scope of this project.

Some transcriptions of war diaries have also been useful in providing a narrative history of various camps, and in particular the 70th Infantry Brigade War Diary has been helpful in providing an insight into the movement of service personnel through local camps. However this is not an exhaustive search and only those war diaries easily accessible through websites have been sourced.

Using the Six inch Ordnance Survey maps 3rd revision available online through the National Library of Scotland, (publishing date of 1953) has been helpful in some cases, particularly in identifying small arms firing ranges, but temporary or tented camps do not appear on the maps, and neither do sensitive areas such as RAF Pembrey airfield. The SSD 559 ranges map is a key source for showing ranges in operation in 1945 which includes the experimental range at Pendine (PRN 30071).

One of the most important sources for this project has been the wartime and post war vertical aerial photographs, supplied by the Central Register for Aerial Photography in Wales. The county does not benefit from complete coverage but where it does exist it has enabled the extent and nature of the installation to be identified, be it a winterised camp (with tent bases visible) or hutted camp.

This desk-based assessment provides a base line of information of camps and ranges within the county and something which should be further enhanced through follow-up fieldwork. The archaeological implications of the work suggest a surprisingly large number of sites which were in military use from the Second World War and onwards and there is potential for archaeological remains throughout the county.

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Maps and Plans

Experimental Establishment Pendine and Surrounding Area

SD 559 ranges 1945, West & South Wales and Appendices

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Trust would like to gratefully acknowledge the funding of the project by Cadw. A number of individuals have helped enormously in providing specialist knowledge and information and have been most generous with their research, these include Phil Howells, Tony Jukes, Jon Berry (Cadw), David Llewellyn and Roger JC Thomas (English Heritage). Derek Elliott of the Central Register for Aerial Photography for Wales provided many of the aerial photographs in the report. Finally Tony Coombe a volunteer of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust has been assisting in the compilation of the data.

GAZETTEER OF SITES

Marion Page, Historic Environment Record Manager

The gazetteer is listed in alpha numeric order. Where it has been possible to identify the extent of a site then a polygon has been drawn around it and the map is included. Where applicable a corresponding wartime or post War Aerial Photograph is also attached to the record.

PRN - 104

NAME – THE BARRACKS **TYPE** - Barracks **PERIOD** - Post-Medieval

EVIDENCE - Building **CONDITION** - Restored **CROSS REFERENCES** - division of 50946/ NPRN 100100

NGR - SN40361992 **COMMUNITY** - Carmarthen

HER DESCRIPTION -

Wood's map of Carmarthen in 1834 marks two roadside buildings described as an Armoury Depot. This had expanded by the time of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map in 1891 when it is described as a barracks. Carmarthen barracks were rebuilt in the early 1970's and is now used by the T.A. (PP 18/5/04)

Includes the Drill Hall, originally listed in Kelly's directory of 1895, though the current building is a rebuild on the same site. Centre for army recruitment throughout the 20th century. A Pyper 2015.

SOURCES - 1811 Plan & elevations of proposed magazine, guard-house, etc. W.O.78-1268.MPH 276(1) & (2).4ft to 1"

1834 Plan of Carmarthen Mus.786

1839 Tithe Map & Apport, St Peters Ph

Ordnance Survey 1890 1:2500

Rice Trevor, G 1932 TCASFC Vol.23,p.72



PRN - 30071

NAME - PENDINE RANGE; EXPERIMENTAL ESTABLISHMENT PENDINE

TYPE - Firing Range

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - Not known

CROSS REFERENCES - division of 30108/ NPRN 128641

NGR - SN27900700

COMMUNITY - Laugharne Township

HER DESCRIPTION -

A weapons testing range was established at Pendine during the Second World War. The need for a weapons testing establishment led to the development of an 'Inter Service Small Arms Experimental Establishment' based on an existing site at Hythe in Kent. However with the threat of invasion following Dunkirk in 1940, other locations in the UK were sought and Pendine was chosen as a suitable site in 1940. Many of the staff from Hythe and Shoeburyness relocated to the Beach Hotel before developing a new Headquarters at Llanmiloe House. Whilst it was initially established as a temporary range for wartime use, a review by the Ministry of Defence after the war led to Pendine becoming a permanent site for the testing of a variety of weapons, not just small arms. Developments between 1951 and 1956 led to a 1500 metre test track to provide a site for testing dynamic missiles.

Currently MOD Pendine is the UK home of the NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) European Regional Test Centre for Small Arms Ammunition (SAA). It is one of two Regional Test Centres (the other in Philadelphia) for standardising weapons and equipment for NATO forces.

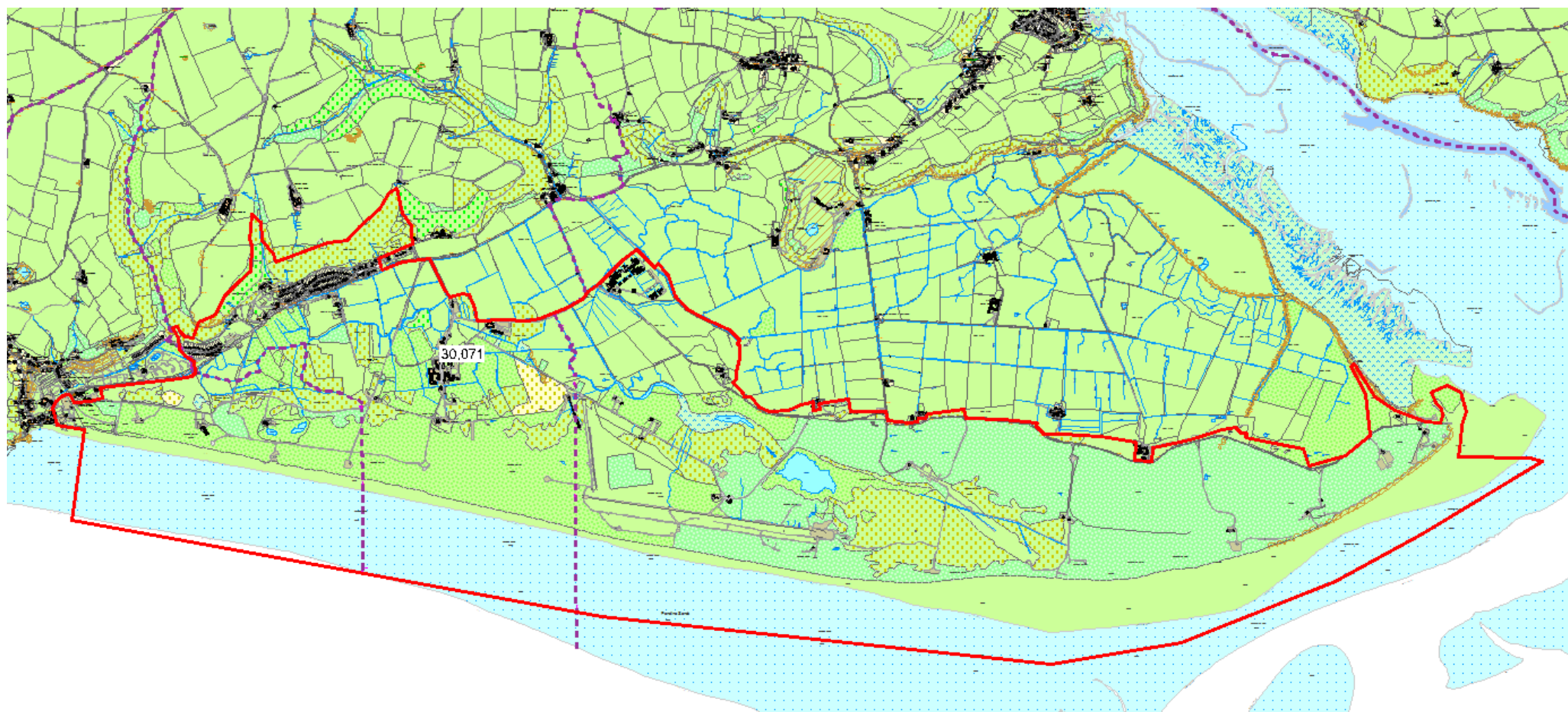
A plan of the site with amendments dated 1951 shows the beach landing strip towards the west end of the range and the proposed location of new magazines. The main areas of accommodation at this time were in huts which lie at the base of slope to the northeast and southwest of Llanmiloe House, in subsequent years these have been consolidated into a formal housing accommodation.

A Pyper based on MOD Pendine- History accessed 23/12/2014

SOURCES - QinetiQ website History of MOD Pendine

1951 Experimental Establishment Pendine and Surrounding Area DRG No 557A1/D3/24

Gale, A 1995 Between Tides, A Coastal Survey of Carmarthen Bay: A Pilot Project



PRN - 30076

NAME – PEMBREY SANDS AIR WEAPONS RANGE

TYPE – BOMBING RANGE

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - Not known

CROSS REFERENCES - division of 30108/ NPRN 128646

NGR - SN36500520

COMMUNITY - Cefn Sidan

HER DESCRIPTION -

The origins of air to ground gunnery training begin with the establishment of the No 1 Bombing and Gunnery School formed at the nearby RAF Pembrey airfield (PRN 31405) in 1939 and succeeded by the No 1 Air Gunnery School in 1941. The Towyn camp to the west of the airfield (PRN 31411) was built to accommodate No. 1 Air Gunnery School. Oblique aerial photographs taken in 1940 of Cefn Sidan sands show a number of structures relating to training including Marker shelters to provide a refuge for range training staff when air to ground gunnery was practised (Welsh Government MWO 17 / D1-19).

Operations at RAF Pembrey ceased in 1957, but in 1966 the Pembrey Sands Air Weapons Range was established. It continued in use operated by the RAF until 2006 when Defence Training Estate was formed to take over from the separate army, navy and airforce training ranges. Primarily, air-to-ground bombing and strafing are practiced. The offices are modern building based on the old airfield, but the range consists of a yellow and black control tower at the southwestern edge of the range. Various targets occupy the range including two Jaguar airframes, various vehicles and strafe panels and two circular targets 150 ft. in diameter (Steve Smith).

Cefn Sidan beach is still used as a Tactical Landing Zone (TLZ) C-130 Hercules crews to practise natural surface operations. A Pyper 2014.



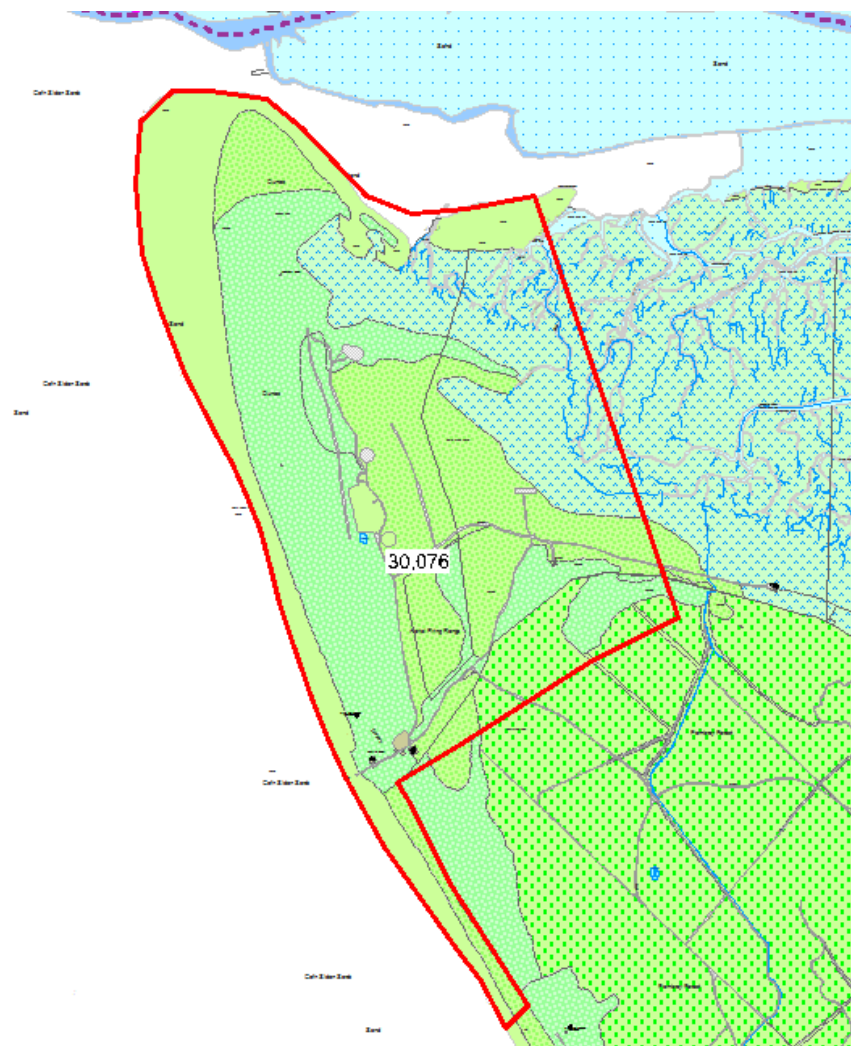
Oblique aerial photograph 1940 showing a Marker shelter in the centre and wing marker shelters either side (Welsh Government MWO 17 / D5)



Oblique aerial photograph 1940 showing range building and a target directional arrow to the right of the photograph (Welsh Government MWO 17 / D9)

SOURCES - Gale, A 1995 *Between Tides, A Coastal Survey of Carmarthen Bay: A Pilot Project*

Steve Smith 2010 Pembrey Sands Air Weapons Range
<http://www.aeroresource.co.uk/articles/2010/pembrey/>



PRN - 30084

NAME - LLANGUNNOR RIFLE RANGE

TYPE - Firing Range

PERIOD - Post Medieval; Modern

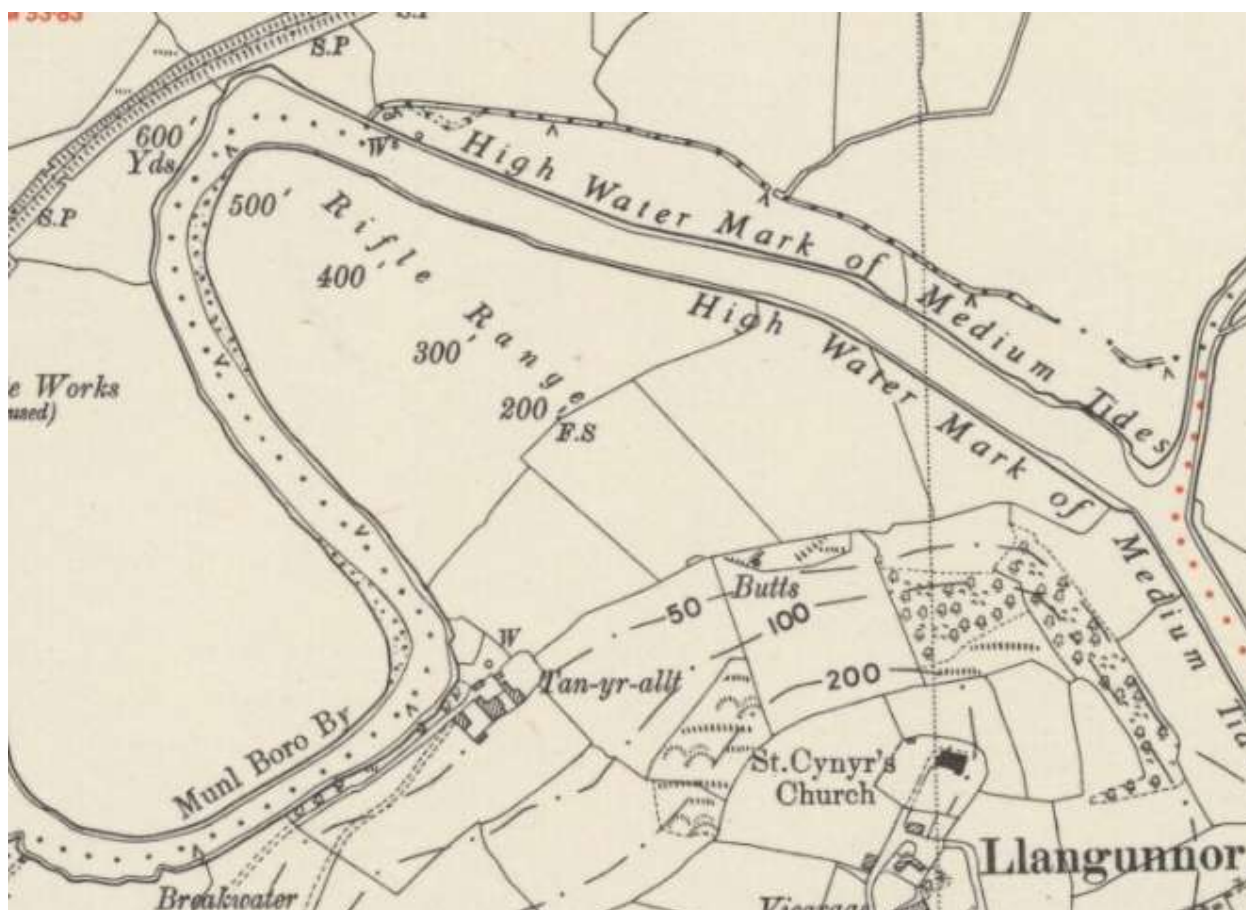
EVIDENCE - Complex

CONDITION - Not Known

NGR - SN42702060

COMMUNITY - Llangunnor

HER DESCRIPTION - Rifle range marked on the Carmarthenshire 1886 map, located within a meander of the Towy. To the northwest, firing positions include 600 yard on the west side of the river, 500, 400, 300, 200 and 100 yard and marker's butts at the southeast end of the range. The rifle range continues to be marked out on the 1952 (1948 revision) suggesting its use through the two World Wars. A Pyper 2015



Extract of Ordnance Survey 1952 Carmarthenshire XXXIX.NE sheet (National Library of Scotland)

SOURCES -

Ordnance Survey 1952 Carmarthenshire XXXIX.NE

PRN - 30261

NAME - TREGLOG CAMP

TYPE - Military Camp

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - Building

CONDITION - Various

CROSS REFERENCES - division of 30591/ NPRN 128813

NGR - SN59533499

COMMUNITY - Llansawel

HER DESCRIPTION -

A training camp was established here during the Second World War and amongst other British units the Royal Marines were here in 1942. Prior to D-Day an American army camp was located here in 1943-4, based in Nissen huts. US station lists indicate this was the 38 Infantry Regiment, Anti-Tank Company. Recorded on US army station lists of December 1943 and May 1944, a camp of Nissen Huts housing the Anti-tank Company. (UK Station Lists 21 Dec 1943-30 May 1944) Aerial photograph taken in May 1946 shows two rows of five Nissen huts to the south of a central grassy ground, two further pairs of huts to the east of central ground, to the west bounded by three Nissen huts located end to end. Paths and tracks are clearly identifiable. To the southwest of main complex are five huts which either side of a hedge boundary, plus additional structures. A Pyper 2014

SOURCES - Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 May 1944.

2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June 1944

1996 19 colour prints from colour slides DRF

JAMES, H 1997 Brechfa-Byrgwm Forest walk & Banc-y-Daren walk. Abergorlech walks. Source material on the historic environment DRF for PRN 35380, p.3

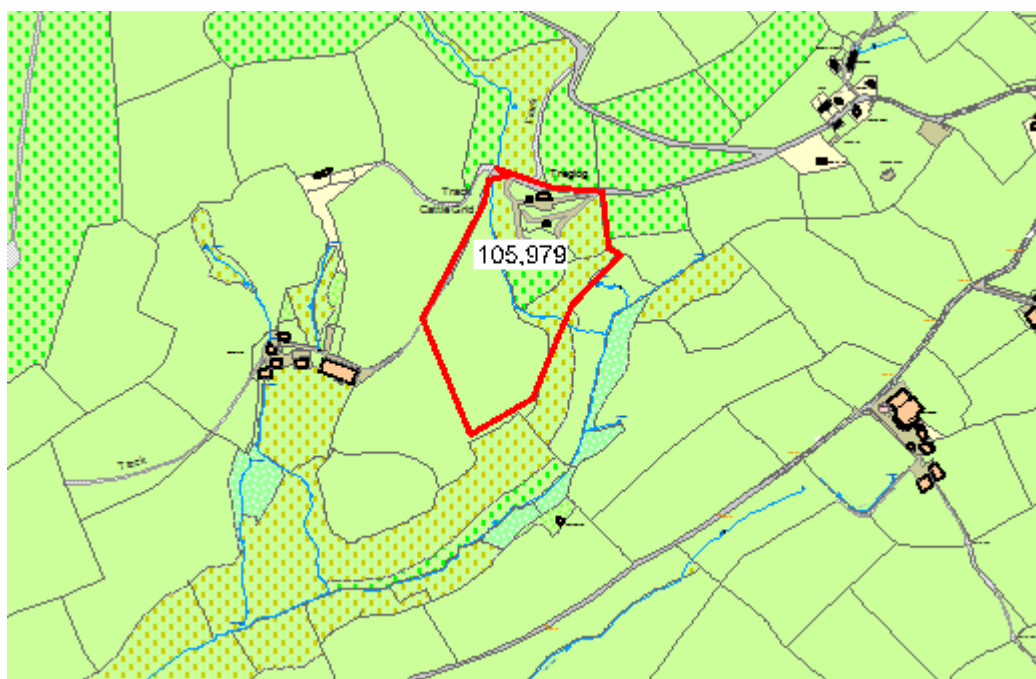
Morgan 1996 19 Colour slides GP slide file

Morgan 1997 Key to colour prints and slides 1996 DRF

OS 1964 SN53NE 1:10560

OS 1964 SN53SE 1:10560

RAF 1946 106G-UK-1471-1216



RAF 1946 106G-UK-1471-1216

PRN - 30593

NAME - NO 102 LLANDDAROG CAMP

TYPE - Prisoner of War Camp

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Building

CONDITION - Near Destroyed/ NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - NPRN 129073

NGR - SN4937816252

COMMUNITY - Llanddarog

HER DESCRIPTION -

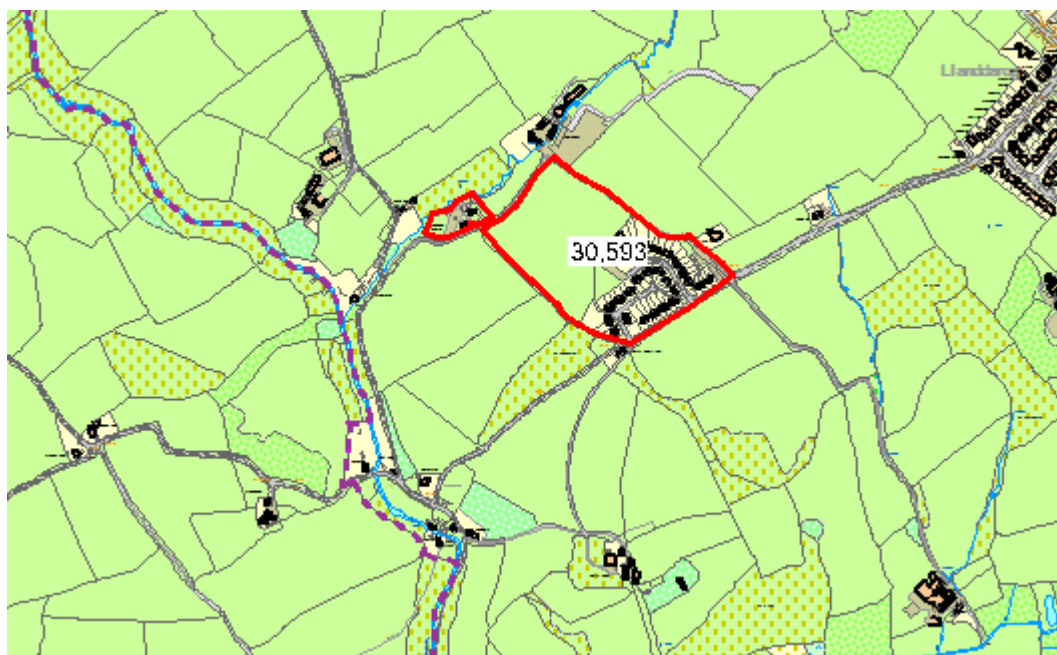
A prisoner of war camp No 102, listed as a German base camp (Thomas, 2003). Housed Italian and then German prisoners. Modern aerial photography (Next Perspectives 2009) suggests that it has largely been built over by a housing estate. A Pyper 2014.

SOURCES - Thomas, RJC 2003 Twentieth Century Military Recording Project: Prisoner of War Camps (1939-1948)

US 1944 US Aerial Photograph, Medmenham Series M1281;

Hodge,V 1994 The history of Llanddarog Village and Parish

OS 1964 SN41NE 1:10560





US 1944 US Aerial Photograph, Medmenham Series M1281; 1017

PRN - 31411

NAME - TOWYN CAMP

TYPE - Military Camp

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Building

CONDITION - Destroyed/ DAMAGED

CROSS REFERENCES - NPRN 130093

NGR - SN39730374

COMMUNITY - Cefn Sidan

HER DESCRIPTION -

'Towyn Camp' was the RAF No 1 Air Gunners School associated with the airfield at Pembrey (PRN 31405) in use from 1939 to 1957. Located to the west of the airfield's main NE-SW runway, it was a large camp with a parade ground at its centre, domestic accommodation, stores, classrooms, machine shops, a turret stripping shop and turret instructional building and 200 yard moving target range, headquarters building and guardhouse. No upstanding structures survived when visited in 2013, but the concrete hut platforms do. A Pyper based on I Jones 2007.

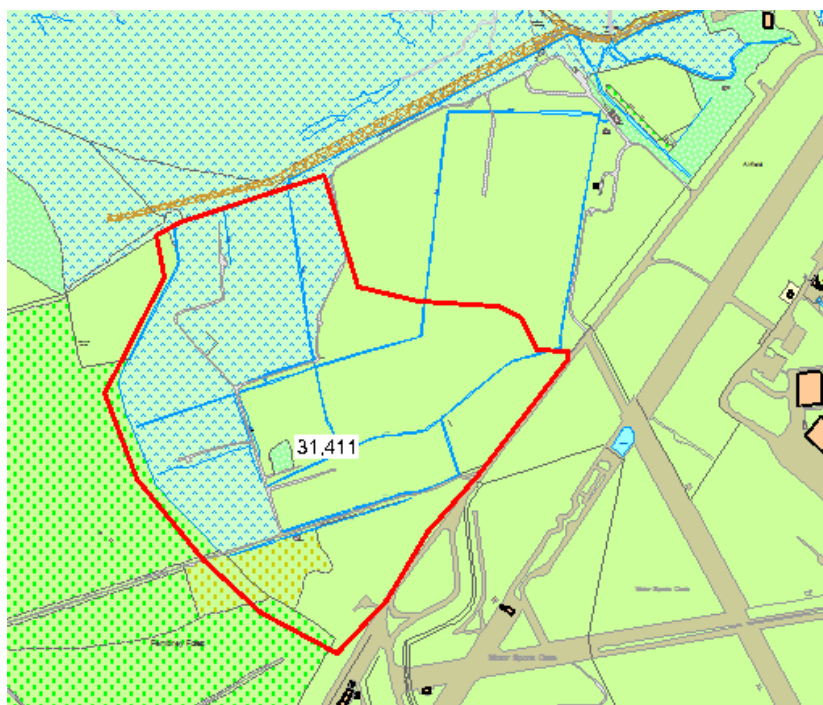
SOURCES - Jones, Ivor 2007 Airfields and Landing Grounds of Wales: West

Air Ministry 1948 Pembrey Record Site Plan Dwg 3925/48

Medmenham collection M2267 1942

US 1944 US Aerial Photograph, Medmenham Series M1272;

RAF 1944 Air Ministry Record Plan





RAF 1946 106G UK 1400 (3044)

PRN - 33673

NAME - R.N. STORE DEPOT LLANGENNECH

TYPE - Military Depot

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Complex

CONDITION - Various

CROSS REFERENCES - NPRN 130624

NGR - SN55800200

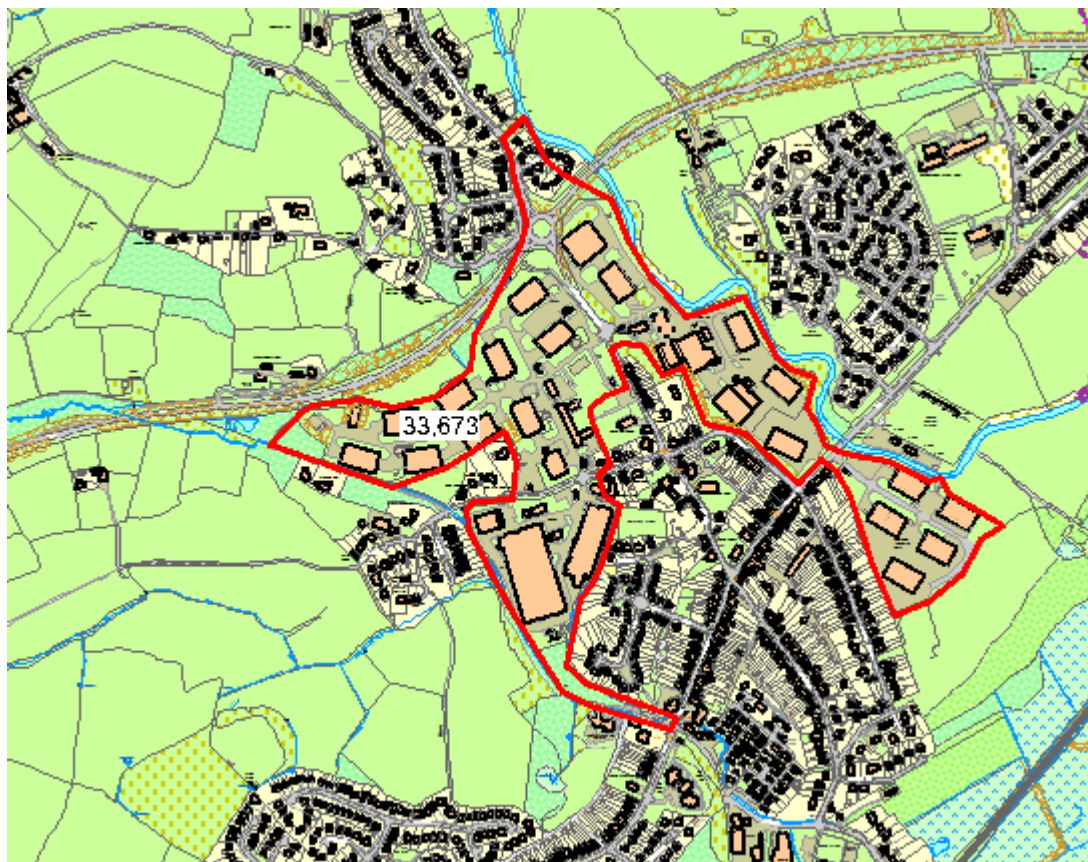
COMMUNITY - Llangennech

HER DESCRIPTION -

Royal Navy stores depot (Fleet Air Arm), Llangennech was built during the Second World War, it incorporated test workshops and facilities. It was closed during MOD restructuring in the early years of the 21st century. A Pyper 2015

SOURCES - RN 1948 General layout of R.N. store depot at Llangennech, Caerwent Works District DRF

RAF Aerial Photograph 1946 106G/UK 1629 (5186)





RAF Aerial Photograph 1946 106G/UK 1629 (5186)

PRN - 50281

NAME -

TYPE – MILITARY BASE

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Complex

CONDITION - Destroyed

CROSS REFERENCES - division of 50045

NGR - SN62762267

COMMUNITY - Llandeilo

HER DESCRIPTION -

During the Second World War there was a military presence in Llandeilo. The 70th Brigade Advanced Divisional Headquarters and Divisional units were situated in and around the town (70th Brigade War Diaries 1942)

In 1942 a unit of American soldiers (engineers) was billeted at the Dynevor Church Hall (PRN 50280). In the field adjacent to the hall, now built over by Dynevor Avenue, they had a field kitchen and a large petrol dump. In the field at the end of Diana Road was a purpose built ammunition store building. They also had a field laundry at the farmyard of Aberglasney. The Thanksgiving Dinner for the company was served in November 1943, the turkeys having been cooked overnight at the Crown Stores Bakery oven (now the Spar Shop in New Road). 3534 Ordnance Medium Auto Maintenance Company where based in Llandeilo during 1944. Aerial photographs from that date show, American army trucks parked on the land now occupied by the squash courts and the small car park adjacent to the fire station. Also trucks can be seen parked to the east of the church hall. A Pyper 2014.

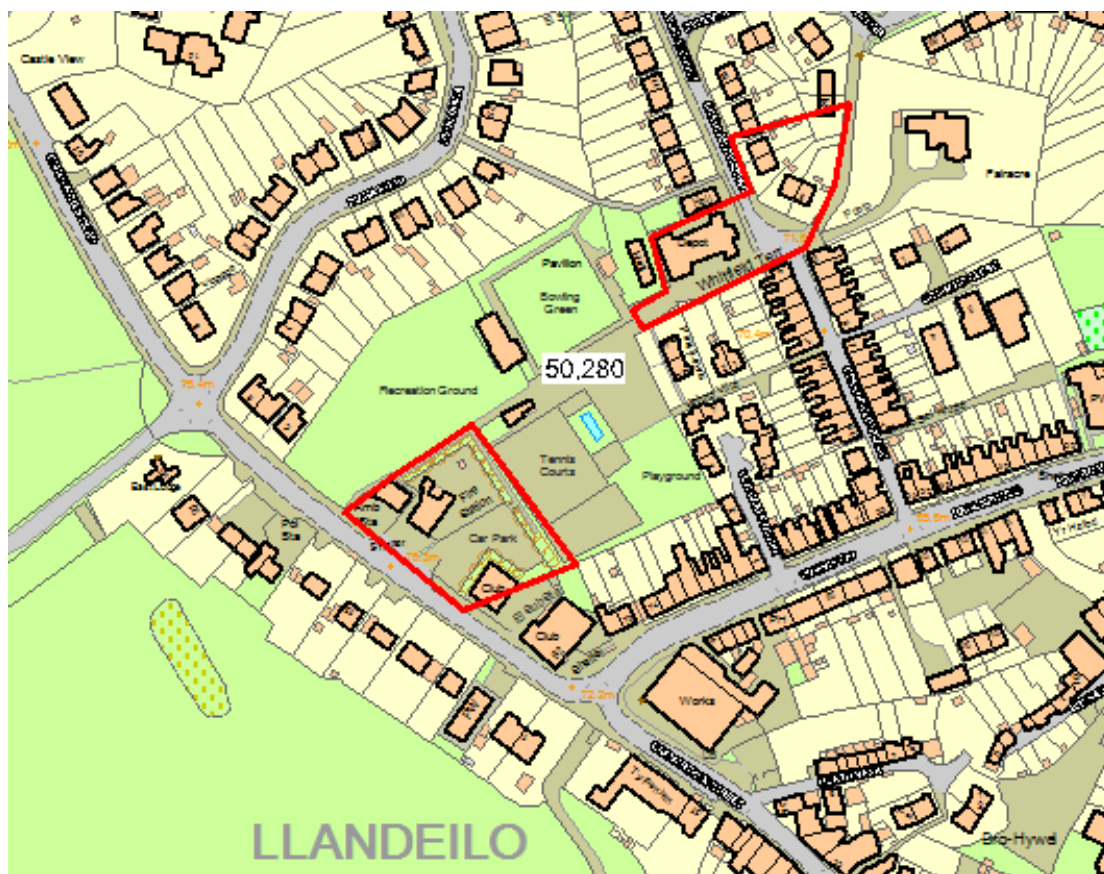
SOURCES - Hall, J & Sambrook, P 2004 Llandeilo Fawr Heritage Audit

US 1944 US Aerial Photograph, Medmenham Series M1272;

Schofield J, Foot W and Evans D. 2006 England's Army Camps [data-set]. York: Archaeology Data Service [distributor] (doi:10.5284/1000269)

2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June1944

DAT 2004 Llandeilo Fawr Heritage Audit SMR



Composite Aerial Photograph 1944 M1272 3001-4003 showing US trucks parked up in bottom left and top right of photograph.

PRN - 50282

NAME - NEWTON HOUSE

TYPE - Military Hospital

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Complex

CONDITION - Various

CROSS REFERENCES - division of 50045

NGR - SN61432253

COMMUNITY - Llandeilo

HER DESCRIPTION -

Newton House was used a military hospital by the Royal Army Medical Corps and later the American army during the Second World War, until mid-1944. The house itself was used and about 15 accompanying Nissan huts were built in the parkland to the east of the mansion. These later became a Prisoner of War camp (PRN 50283).

SOURCES - Hall, J & Sambrook, P 2004 Llandeilo Fawr Heritage Audit

DAT 2004 Llandeilo Fawr Heritage Audit SMR

PRN - 50283

NAME - DINEFWR PARK

TYPE - Prisoner of War Camp

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Complex

CONDITION - Near Destroyed

CROSS REFERENCES - division of 50045/ associated with PRN 107379

NGR - SN61612242

COMMUNITY - Llandeilo

HER DESCRIPTION -

A group of about 15 Nissen Huts stood in the parkland in front of Newton House during the Second World War, originally provided as part of a military hospital. Towards the end of the war, these were used as a Prisoner of War camp allegedly for high-ranking German officers. After the war, the huts were used to house the homeless and the settlement was known as "Tin Town". Remains of the hut camp are visible on the Meridian Airmaps of 1955, where a number of Nissen huts still survive, perhaps as many as nine in total and bases for others still visible. A sewage plant is also visible to the southeast; PRN 107379. A Pyper 2014.

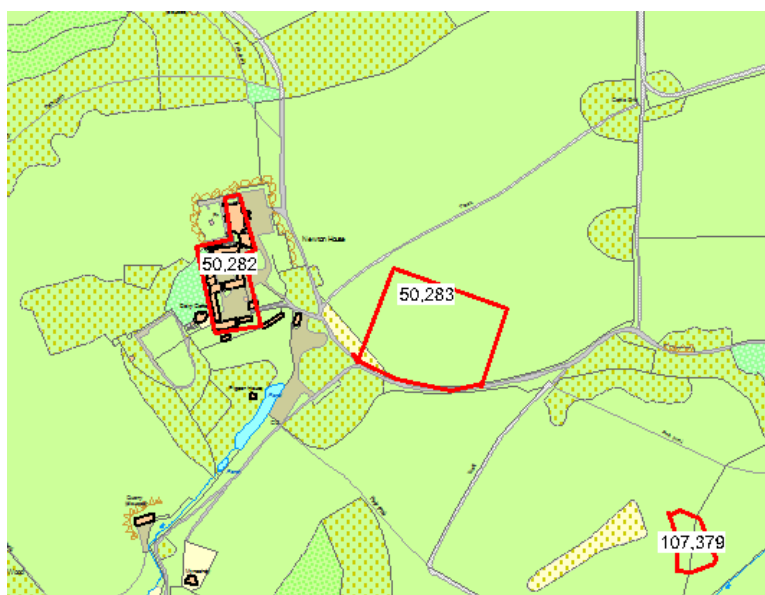
POWs at Newton from 1944-5 until 1948. They were well liked. During the great snow of 1947, the POWs cleared the length of The Walk (about 300m) and carved out snow houses in the drifts which local children loved.

SOURCES - Hall, J & Sambrook, P 2004 Llandeilo Fawr Heritage Audit

Meridian Airmaps 1955 SN62SW

DAT 2004 Llandeilo Fawr Heritage Audit SMR

RAF Aerial Photograph 1946 106G/UK1625 2140





RAF Aerial Photograph 1946 106G/UK1625 2140

PRN - 50284

NAME - LLANDEILO LAND ARMY CAMP

TYPE - Army Camp

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Complex

CONDITION - Not Known

CROSS REFERENCES - division of 50045

NGR - SN62412298

COMMUNITY - Llandeilo

HER DESCRIPTION -

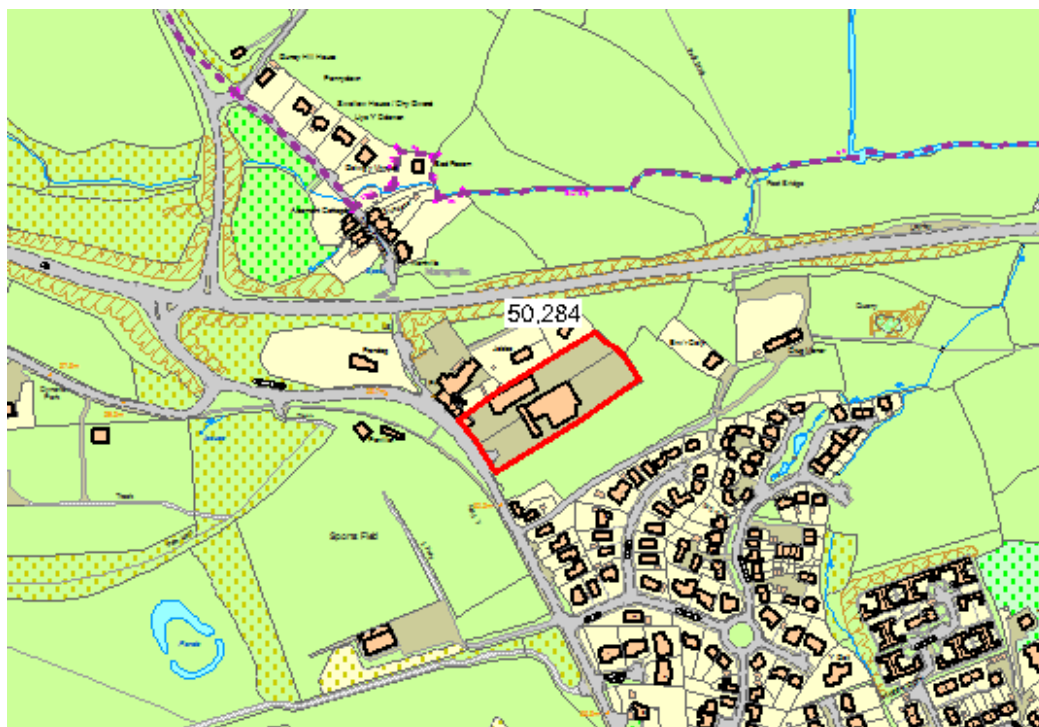
A camp was built here in 1940 for the Women's Land Army. After the Second World War it was used to house the homeless.

SOURCES - Hall, J & Sambrook, P 2004 Llandeilo Fawr Heritage Audit

DAT 2004 Llandeilo Fawr Heritage Audit SMR

RAF Aerial Photograph 1946 106G/UK1625 2140

Harries M papers held at the IWM <http://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/1030000346>





RAF Aerial Photograph 1946 106G/UK1625 2140

PRN - 102535

NAME - DREFACH FELINDRE

TYPE – AIRFIELD;CAMP

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Complex

CONDITION - Not known

CROSS REFERENCES - Associated with PRN 107373/ associated with PRN 107378

NGR - SN35013923

COMMUNITY - Llangeler

HER DESCRIPTION -

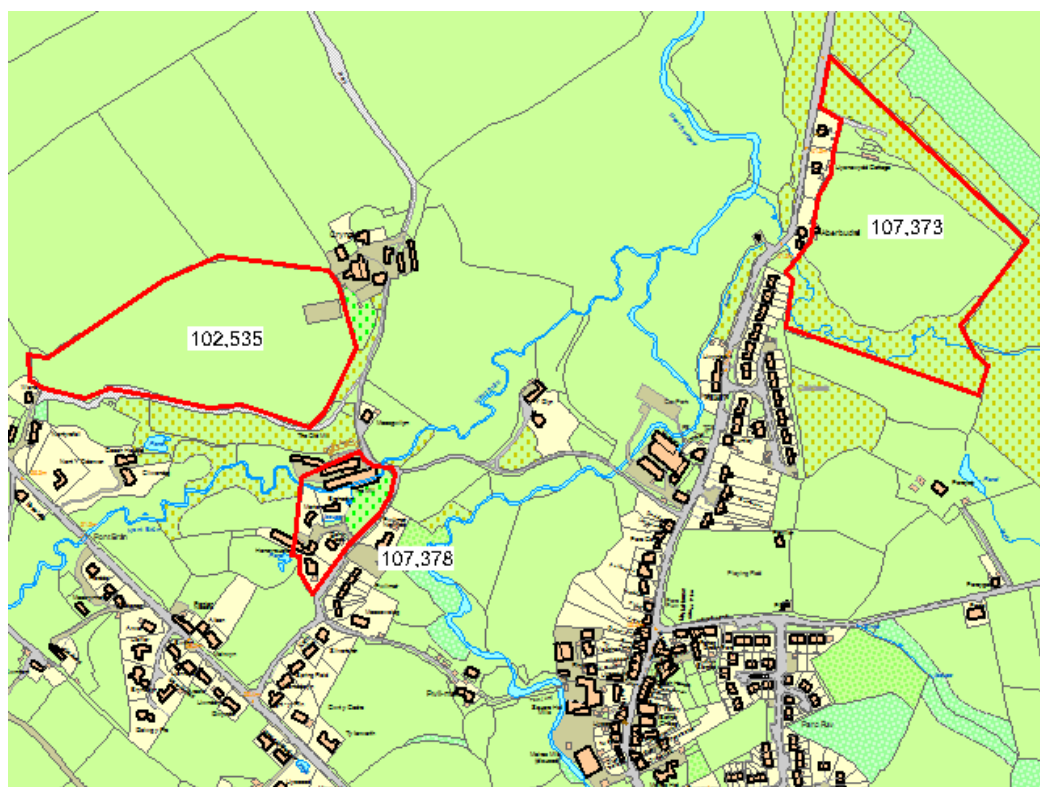
An airfield and base was established at Drefach and Felindre as the mills were commandeered by the War Office to provide Army barracks. Various British units moved through and then in late 1943, with preparations for the invasion of Normandy came the US army field artillery and with them the light aircraft 'Piper Cub' used for observation and communication for which a grass airstrip field was established. The airstrip was based at Cryngae Farm. (A Pyper 2012 based on I Jones 2007 p40-1)

SOURCES - Jones, Ivor 2007 Airfields and Landing Grounds of Wales: West

Pyper, A 2012 Twentieth century military sites: Airfields

Meridian Airmaps 1955 SN33NE

RAF 1946 106g uk 1471



Location of PRN 102535 in relation to the hutted camps at PRNs 107373 and 107378



1946 Aerial Photograph (106guk 1471 – 2253) showing the grass field airstrip PRN 102535 and two areas of hutted camps PRNs 107373 and 107378.

PRN - 105941

NAME - RAF FERRYSIDE

TYPE - military base

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - COMPLEX

CONDITION - various

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

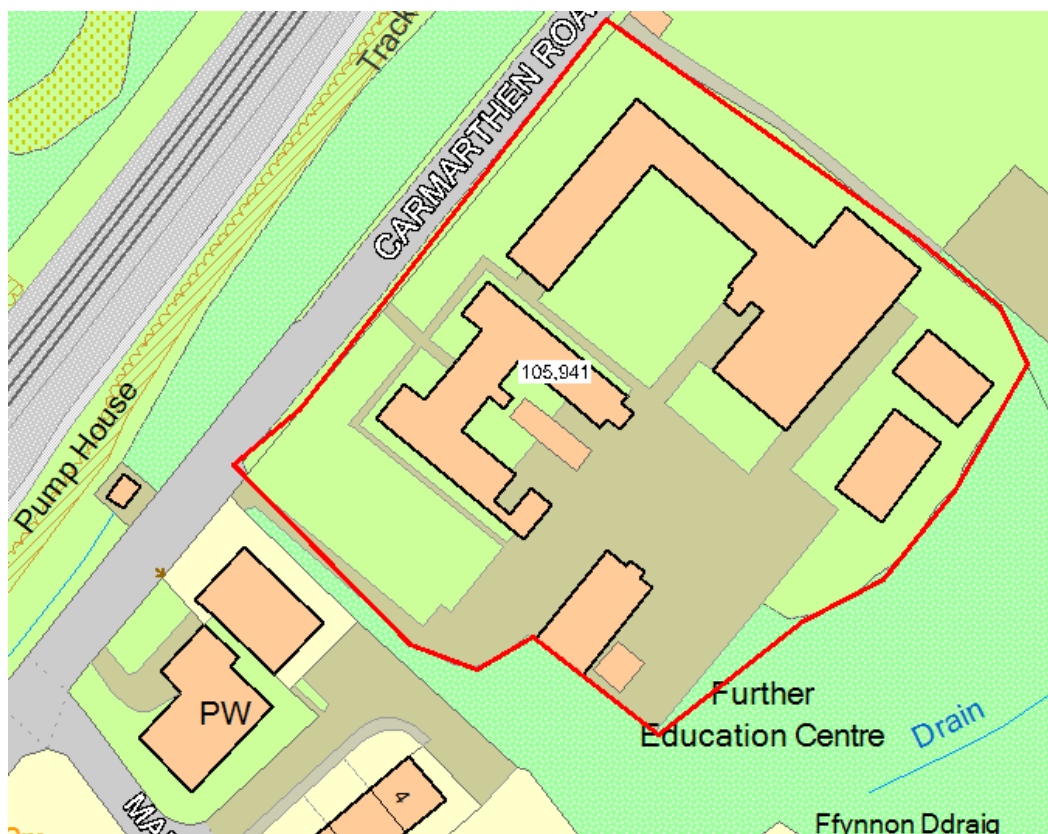
NGR - SN36851062

COMMUNITY - St Ishmael

HER DESCRIPTION -

The timber huts and a single temporary brick building remain on the east side of the Carmarthen road. This is the base for the RAF Air Sea Rescue established at Ferryside in the Second World War, using high speed launches to pick up crews that had ditched in Carmarthen Bay. Buildings still intact though future use is uncertain. The site includes a rare survival of timber RAF hutting, used for billets in the Second World War. A Pyper based on Les Jones 2014.

SOURCES - Les Jones Ferryside Residential Education Centre



PRN - 105975

NAME - 12th EVACUATION HOSPITAL; 232rd STATION HOSPITAL

TYPE - Military Hospital

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - associated with PRN 107375

NGR - SN42862130

COMMUNITY - Carmarthen

HER DESCRIPTION -

Site used as a US army hospital from October 1943 through to March 1945. Initially established by the 12th Evacuation Hospital as an experiment in establishing station hospitals under canvas prior to the invasion of the continent. It became the blueprint for Allied hospitals on the continent following D-Day and as such it is an important example of research and development.

Contemporary photographs indicate that the site incorporated tents and Nissen huts. The main site is now occupied by the West Wales General Hospital, but a camp also lined the west side of the Newcastle Emlyn road. In October 1943 the 12th Evacuation Hospital arrived at an 'empty cow pasture' near Carmarthen where they were tasked with setting up and establishing a station hospital, first under canvas and gradually moving into Nissen huts as they were introduced. (Marble 2013, p 22). On March 25th 1944 the facilities were handed over to the 232rd Station Hospital, who were largely billeted in canvas tents which later became 'winterized' and the hospital functions were carried out in Nissen huts. The hospital operated as Hospital Plant #4184. On the 12 March 1945 orders were received to disband and four days later the site was evacuated.

The site then became a Prisoner of War camp PRN 107375. It is now the site of West Wales General Hospital. A Pyper 2014 based on various sources.

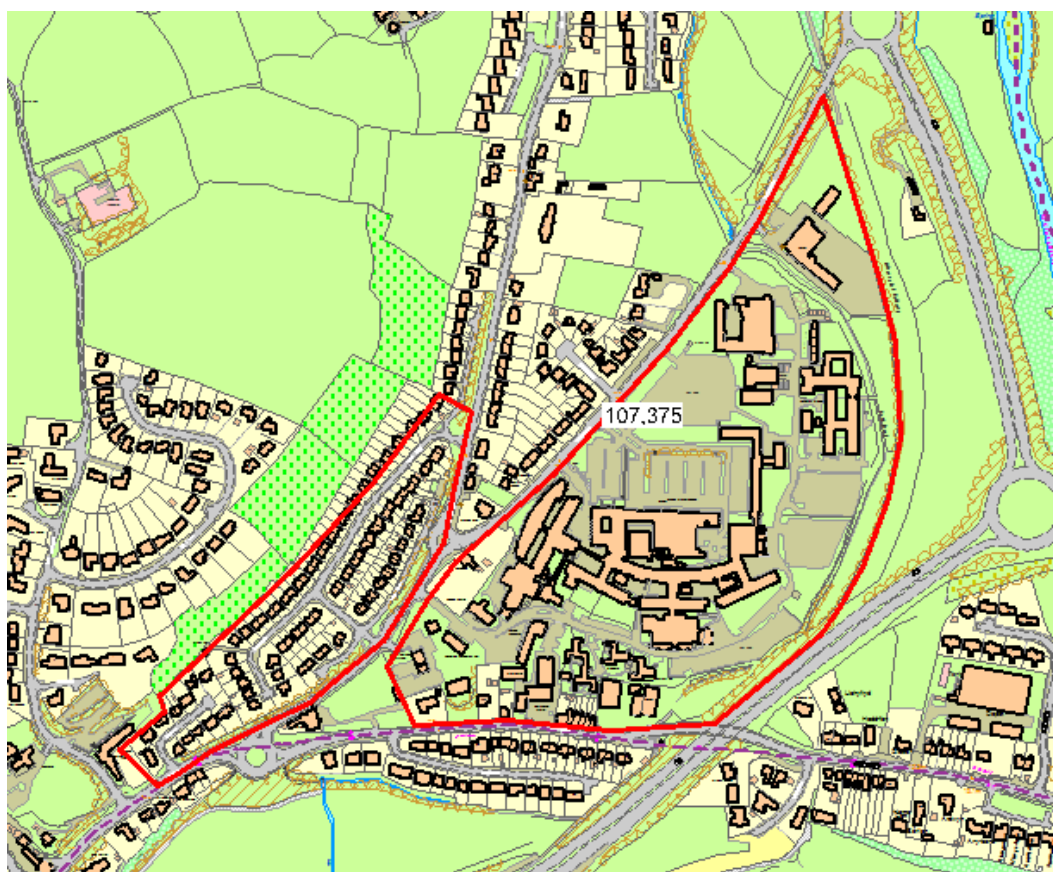
SOURCES - Marble, Sanders 2013 Skilled and Resolute A History of the 12th Evacuation Hospital and the 212th MASH, 1917-2006

23rd Station Hospital, Unit History

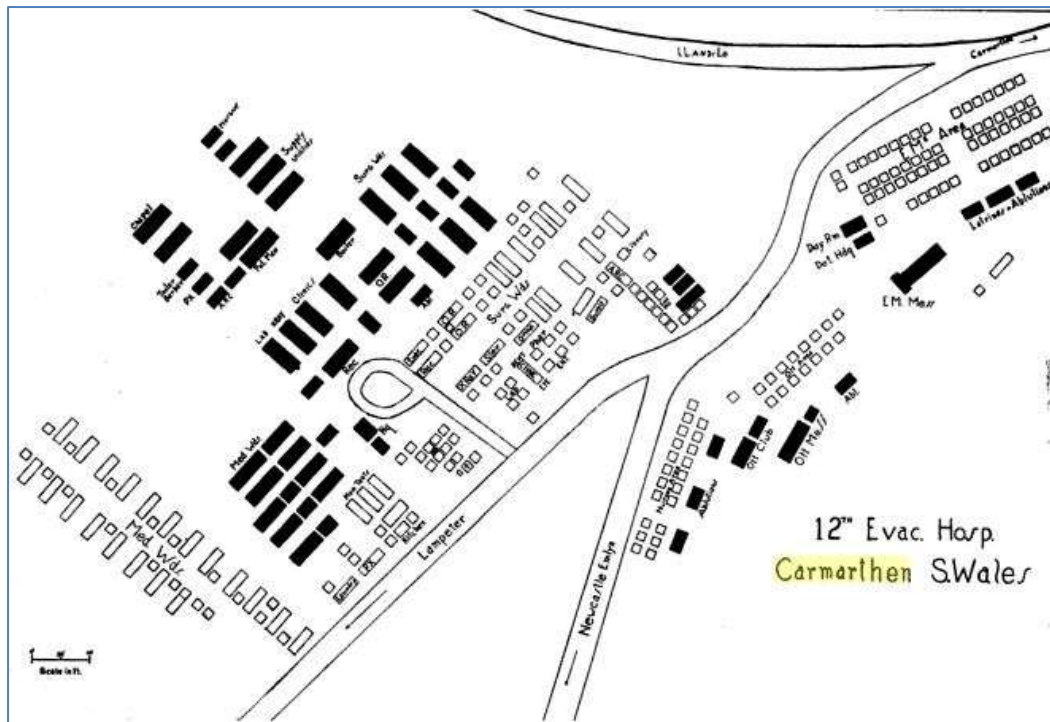
US 1944 US Aerial Photograph, Medmenham Series M1272;

Meridian Airmaps 1955 SN42SW

2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June 1944



Aerial Photograph Medmenham (1944) M1272_1018



Drawing after Marble, Sanders 2013 *Skilled and Resolute A History of the 12th Evacuation Hospital and the 212th MASH, 1917-2006*

PRN - 105976

NAME - BYNEA SALVAGE DEPOT

TYPE - DEPOT

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Documentary evidence

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SS54589920

COMMUNITY - Llanelli

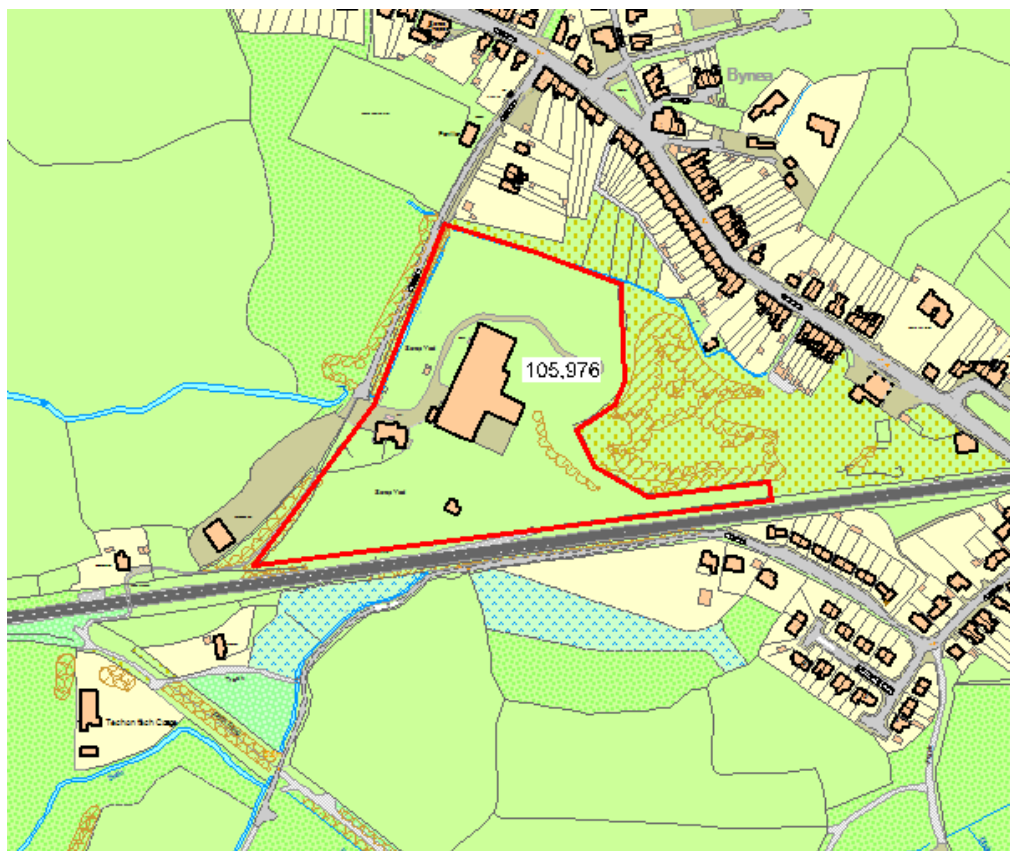
HER DESCRIPTION -

1946 Aerial photographs show a salvage yard to the north of the railway with material dumped to the north and one large pitched roof shed, smaller sheds to either side. Next Perspectives aerial photos show a large building still present at the site. A Pyper 2015

SOURCES - US 1944 US Aerial Photograph, Medmenham Series M1281;

Next Perspectives 2009 Aerial Photograph Digital Aerial Photo mapping

RAF Aerial Photograph 1946:106 guk 1629



PRN - 105977

NAME - BURRY PORT

TYPE - Military Camp

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Documentary evidence

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN43590018

COMMUNITY - Burry Port

HER DESCRIPTION -

Previously a camp for the coastal artillery battery manned by the 402 Coast Battery Royal Artillery (Defence of Britain database 1999, Cobb 2013). Built in 1940, described as a complex of eighteen huts, a static water tank, a Battery Observation Post, a Coastal Artillery Searchlight and two 4 inch gun houses. Following the removal of the guns from their mountings the camp served other purposes and accommodated United States Army personnel during the Second World War from Dec 1943 to 1944.

Listed on Station Lists for United States Army dated December 1943 and May 1944, a camp accommodating 2 companies in Nissen Huts; 38 Infantry Regiment, Company 'K' and 'M' Infantry Companys (Div).

1940 Aerial photography shows only the dock cottages built at the landward end of the pier. Later Aerial Photographs (RAF 1946?) show around 20 Nissen huts clustered to the northwest of the Dock cottages. Also around the perimeter to the northwest of the camp are pits, these are the remains of the anti-tank mines which had been removed.

Next Perspectives aerial photography shows one possible concrete base present.

A Pyper based on DOB database, J Berry (pers. comm.), Aerial Photographs and pers. comm. P Howells 2014.

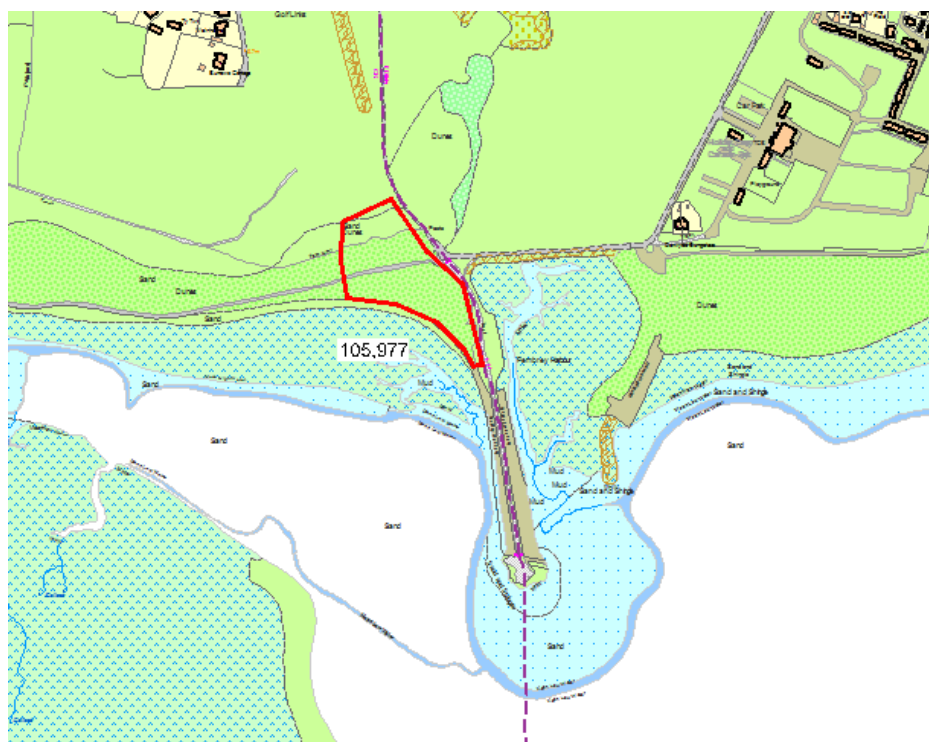
SOURCES - 2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June1944
1940 Medmenham series M328

Council for British Archaeology (2006) Defence of Britain Archive [data-set]. York: Archaeology Data Service [distributor]

RAF? 1946?

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 May 1944.

Peter Cobb and the U.K.F.C: 2013: Coastal Defence Batteries of England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland & Isle of Man in the Second World War.



RAF 1946 Aerial Photograph of Burry Port (4621_7120)

PRN - 105978

NAME - ABERMARLAIS CAMP

TYPE - Military Camp

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - Not Known

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN69312961

COMMUNITY - Llansadwrn

HER DESCRIPTION -

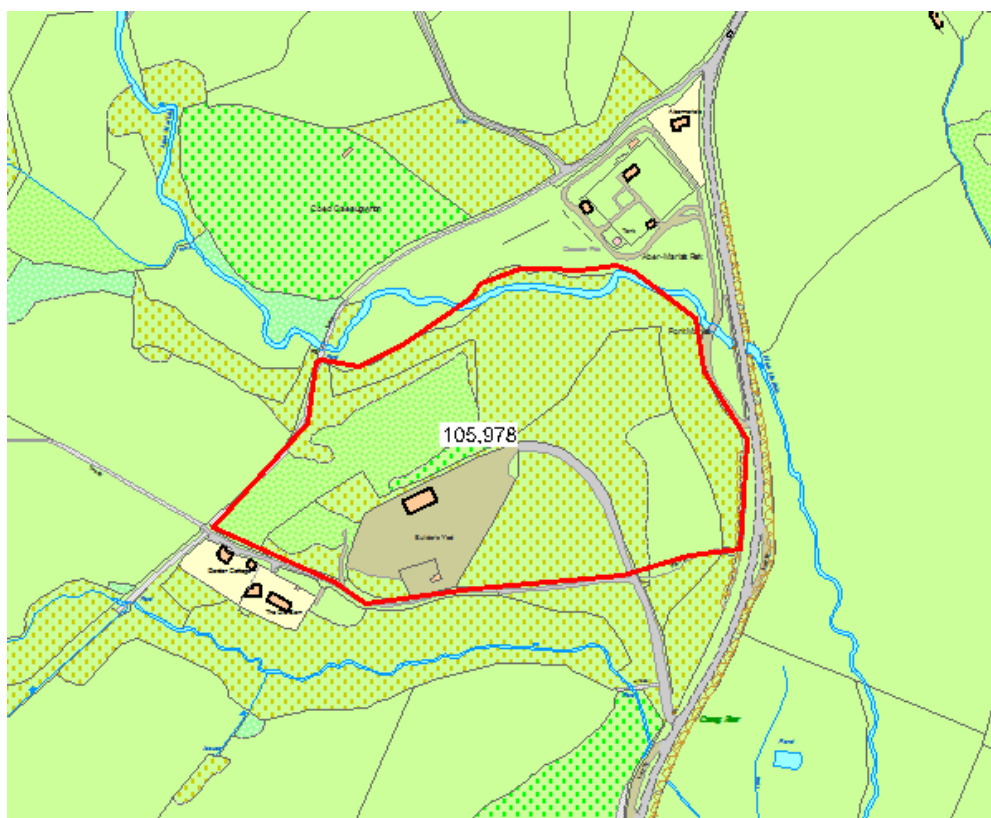
An army camp occupied by the British Army Royal Army Service Corps, 70th Infantry Brigade in January 1943 (70th Brigade War Diary). Recorded on Station Lists for United States Army dated December 1943 and May 1944, a winter Camp for 103 Engineering Combat Battalion was based within the grounds of the former mansion of Abermarlais, near Llangadog. It is recorded that 33 officers and 772 enlisted men were stationed here (WBS History 1944). Post war (1946) aerial photographs show in the region of 70 square concrete bases for tents. The paired locations are located either side of interconnecting tracks. A crop-mark to the north-northwest of the former house site indicates a further 3 rows of tent bases, though probably not concreted. A row of four Nissen huts were located to the northwest of the former house site. A Pyper based on various sources. 2014

SOURCES - 1946 106g uk 1471

2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June 1944

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 May 1944.

70th_Infantry_Brigade_War_Diary_January_1943. : <http://70brigade.newmp.org.uk>



RAF 1946 Aerial Photograph 106guk1471 (2384)

PRN - 105979

NAME -

TYPE - DEPOT

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN43152111

COMMUNITY - Abergwili

HER DESCRIPTION -

A supply or buffer depot located between the railway (now disused) and Abergwili Road to the east of Carmarthen. Built in 1940 by the Ministry of Food. Shown on the Meridian Airmaps of 1955 consisting of 8 curved corrugated iron huts and three parallel corrugated pitched roofed sheds. Wartime Aerial photographs of 1944 suggest only one curved corrugated hut was built at this time. Similar depot in Llandovery PRN 105980. A Pyper 2014.

SOURCES - Meridian Airmaps 1955 SN42SW

US 1944 US Aerial Photograph, Medmenham Series M1272;





RAF 1946 Aerial Photograph 106guk1625 (4604_6132)



The buffer depot at Abergwili taken on 19th September 2012 (image courtesy of B A Jukes)

PRN - 105980

NAME -

TYPE - DEPOT

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - Unknown

NGR - SN76373469

COMMUNITY - Llandovery

HER DESCRIPTION -

A supply or buffer depot located adjacent to and on the west side of the railway and north of Tywi Avenue in Llandovery. Probably built during the Second World War by the Ministry of Food to store foodstuffs. Consists of 4 Romney or Nissen corrugated iron huts and three parallel corrugated pitched roofed sheds. Shown on the Meridian Airmaps of 1955. Similar depot in Carmarthen PRN 105979. A Pyper 2014.

SOURCES - Meridian Airmaps 1955 SN73SE





Meridian Airmaps Aerial Photograph 1955 SN73SE_29836



Buffer depot at Llandovery taken on 19th November 2014, (image courtesy of David Llewellyn).

PRN - 107365

NAME - ERWLON

TYPE - Military Camp

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Documentary evidence

CONDITION - Unknown

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN77762296

COMMUNITY - Llandovery

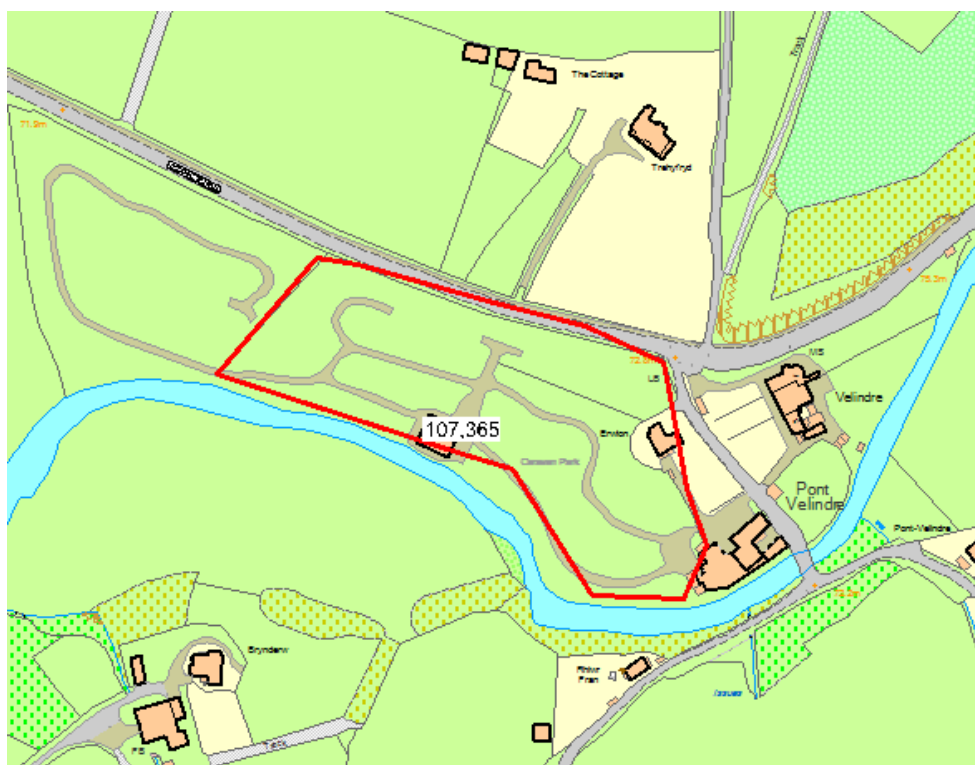
HER DESCRIPTION -

Site of US Army Camp during the Second World War; 44 Engineer Combat Battalion, Company C. Location cannot be further identified from post war aerial photographs as Meridian Airmaps (1955) do not give any indication of location and extent and the camp was probably under canvas. A reference to a camp for black soldiers 'near the current campsite' suggests a site at 'Erwlon' (Theophilus) A Pyper based on Station Lists 2014

SOURCES - Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 May 1944.

Meridian Airmaps 1955 SN73SE

Tom Theophilus Childhood Memories of Village Life during World War Two in Rhandirmwyn and Cilycwm



PRN - 107366

NAME - LLWYNJACK

TYPE - Military Camp

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Documentary evidence

CONDITION - Unknown

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN759336

COMMUNITY - Llandovery

HER DESCRIPTION -

Site of US Army Camp during the Second World War; 116 Ordnance Medium Maintenance Company. Location cannot be further identified from post war aerial photographs as Meridian Airmaps (1955) do not give any indication of location and extent and the camp was probably under canvas. A reference to a camp 'near Llandinat church for white soldiers' suggest somewhere between the church and Llwynjack (Theophilus) A Pyper based on Station Lists 2014

SOURCES - Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 May 1944.

Meridian Airmaps 1955 SN73SE

Tom Theophilus Childhood Memories of Village Life during World War Two in Rhandirmwyn and Cilycwm



PRN - 107367

NAME - ABERGLASNEY HOUSE

TYPE - MILITARY CAMP

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Documentary evidence

CONDITION - Unknown

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN58172214

COMMUNITY - Llangathen

HER DESCRIPTION -

Aberglasney was requisitioned during the Second World War and the United States army 600 Quartermaster Laundry Company were stationed there. This was a black unit at a time of racial segregation in the US army. It is recorded that 3 officers and 220 Enlisted Men were stationed here (A. Pyper based on UK Station lists 21 Dec 1943 - 30 May 1944 and Western Base Section History.)

SOURCES - 2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June1944

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 March1944.

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 30 April 1944.

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 May 1944.

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 30 June1944.



PRN - 107368

NAME - LLANELLY NORTH DOCK

TYPE - Military Depot

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Documentary evidence

CONDITION - Unknown

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SS49609982

COMMUNITY - Llanelli

HER DESCRIPTION -

By June 1940, 20 acres at Llanelli North Dock were leased to the National Oil Refineries as a petrol dump. A German map of 1940 appears to have the dump identified, and it was bombed by the Luftwaffe in September 1940. Petrol storage ceased by November 1941 and the docks were used for the import of and storage of iron and steel. With the build up of American forces for the invasion of the continent in 1944, the site was used again as a petrol dump (Petrol Oil and Lubricants, POL) which were used to fuel the post D-Day follow up, (based on Huw Morgan Lewis, Llanelli Community Heritage).

Camouflaged, located to the west of North Dock, it is possible to observe the petrol dump from the 1944 Aerial Photograph. (M1281_3019).

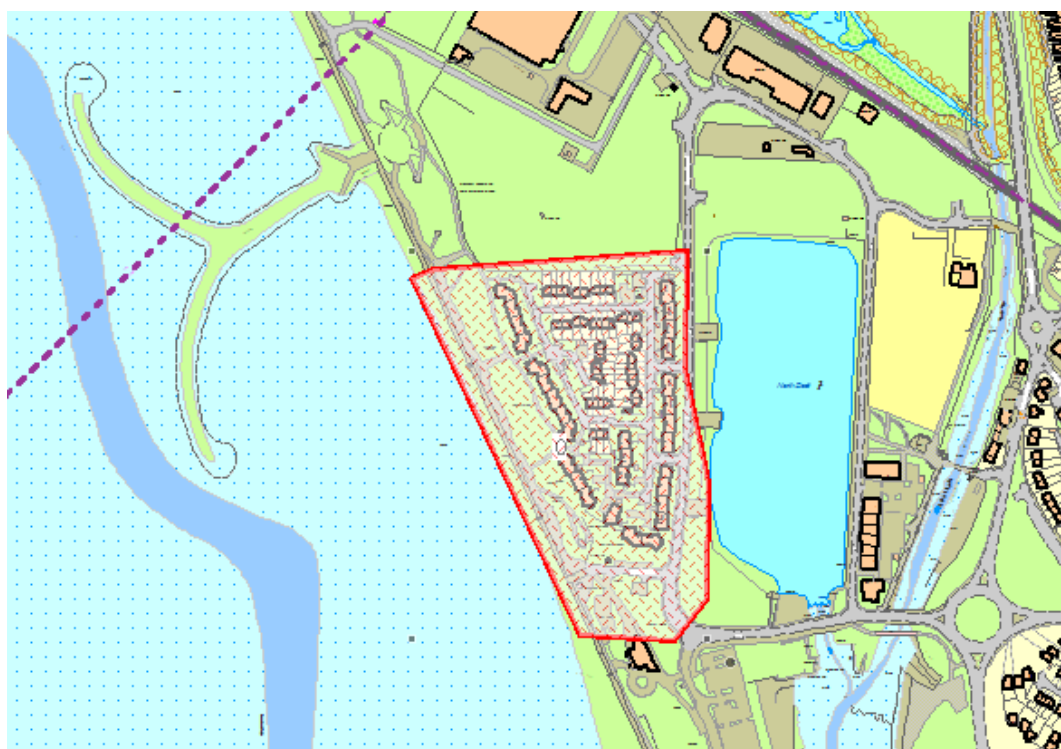
(2014, A Pyper based on Aerial photos, station lists and articles by J. Simon and Huw Morgan Lewis, Llanelli Community Heritage).

SOURCES - US 1944 US Aerial Photograph, Medmenham Series M1281;

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 May 1944.

Huw Morgan Lewis, no date. Llanelli Docks and the Second World War

John Simon, 2012. A Memoir of the Llanelli Area during the War Years



US 1944 US Aerial Photograph, Medmenham Series 3019

PRN - 107369

NAME - LLANELLY PEOPLE'S PARK

TYPE - MILITARY BASE

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SS50210041

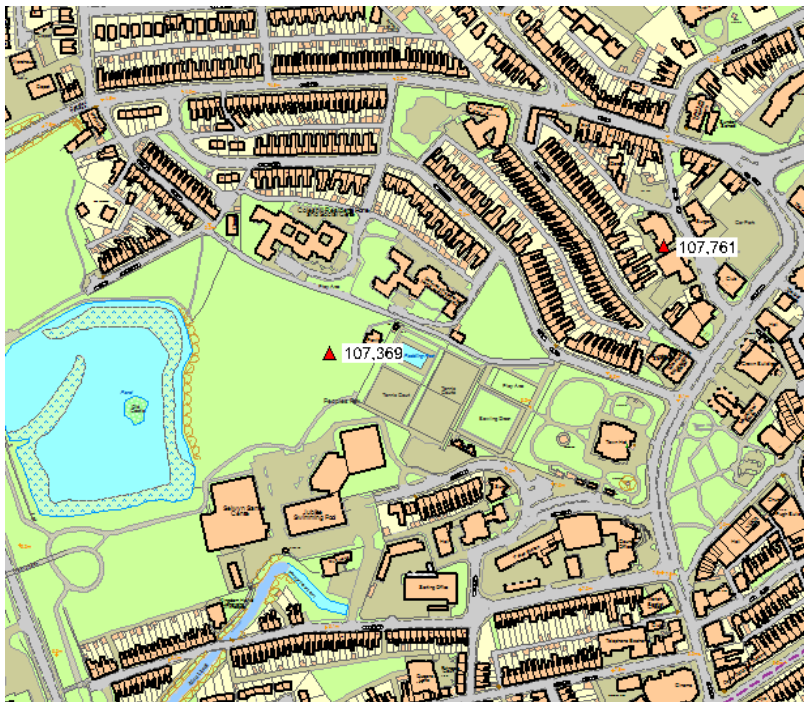
COMMUNITY - Llanelli

HER DESCRIPTION -

During the Second World War the People's Park was a base for United States troops based and billeted in Llanelli prior to the Normandy landings. In particular the 468, 470, 815, 816, 822 Amphibious Truck Companies (DUKWs) and the 174 Quartermaster Battalion. Local recollections mention the six wheel drive amphibious vehicles used for transporting goods and troops over land and water which were stationed in the park. Llanelli beach was apparently used as a practice area for assault landings (Simon, J 2012) . A Pyper 2014 on various sources.

SOURCES - John Simon 2012 A Memoir of the Llanelli Area during the War Years

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 May 1944.



PRN - 107370

NAME - PEMBREY

TYPE - Military Camp

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - Unknown

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN426014

COMMUNITY - Cefn Sidan

HER DESCRIPTION -

During the Second World War the American Army were based at Pembrey, the 38 Infantry Regiment, 3 Battalion, I and L Companies recorded in Nissen Huts at Pembrey, in April and May of 1944. Precise location unknown. A Pyper based on Station Lists.

SOURCES - Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 May 1944.

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 30 April 1944.

PRN - 107371

NAME - BROOM HILL

TYPE - MILITARY HEADQUARTERS

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN41170755

COMMUNITY - Kidwelly

HER DESCRIPTION -

During the Second World War Broomhill House Kidwelly was requisitioned and the American Army 38 Infantry Regiment, 3 Battalion Headquarters was established there between March and May 1944. It is recorded that 12 officers and 150 enlisted men were stationed here. A Pyper 2014 based on Station Lists and Western Base Section History.

SOURCES - Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 May 1944.

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 March 1944.

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 30 April 1944.

2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June 1944



PRN - 107372

NAME - YSTRAD CAMP

TYPE - Military Camp

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN39941915

COMMUNITY - Carmarthen

HER DESCRIPTION -

Ystrad Camp was used as an army camp during the Second World War by the a Belgian Battalion and by Royal Marines in 1942. (Perrett, 1992) In the preparation for D-Day the site was used as Headquarters and a winter Camp for United States Army 38 Infantry Regiment, 2nd Battalion Regimental Combat Troops. An aerial photograph of 1944 shows the camp located to the south of the railway and to the west of the Laugharne road. To the north adjacent to the railway a row of vehicles parked up. Clusters of Nissen type huts lie to the south and east of a open area which may be a parade ground. A trackway appears to circuit the ground. A Pyper, 2014 based on various sources.

SOURCES - US 1944 US Aerial Photograph, Medmenham Series M1272;

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 May 1944.

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 March1944.

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 30 April 1944.

Schofield J, Foot W and Evans D. 2006 England's Army Camps [data-set]. York: Archaeology Data Service [distributor] (doi:10.5284/1000269)

2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June1944

Perrett, Anthony J 1992 Special Publication No 14; The Royal Marines in Wales



US 1944 US Aerial Photograph, Medmenham Series M1272 12943;

PRN - 107373

NAME - DREFACH-FELINDRE

TYPE - Military Base

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - Documentary evidence

CONDITION - Unknown

CROSS REFERENCES - Associated with PRN 102535/ associated with PRN 107378

NGR - SN35733943

COMMUNITY - Llangeler

HER DESCRIPTION -

One of a number of locations around Drefach Felindre which during the Second World War was used as an army base by the British army (Royal Marines) and the United States in the preparation for D-Day. October 1943 it was used by American 28th Infantry Division and the 229th field Artillery Battalion with 105 mm guns and an airstrip was established at nearby Cryngae Farm (PRN 102535) for the Air Observation Post Piper Cub L4 planes. The 28th Division moved out in April 1944 and was replaced by the 38th Field Artillery Battalion of the 2nd Infantry Division where they stayed until 3rd June when they made their way to embarkation ports for following up the D-Day landings. (2014 A Pyper based on I Jones p40-1) Vertical Aerial Photographs from 1955 show a number of concrete hut bases surviving to the east of Llysnewydd Cottages.

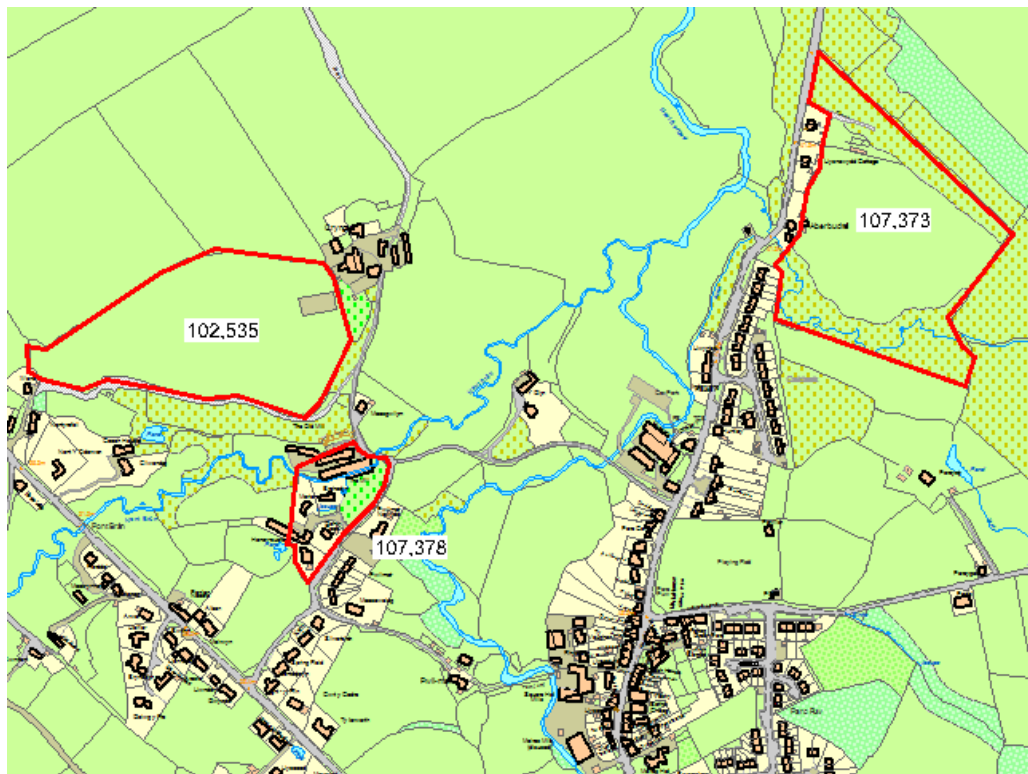
SOURCES - Jones, Ivor 2007 Airfields and Landing Grounds of Wales: West

Meridian Airmaps 1955 SN33NE

RAF 1946 106g uk 1471

2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June1944

Perrett, Anthony J 1992 Special Publication No 14; The Royal Marines in Wales



Location of PRN 102535 in relation to the hutted camps at PRNs 107373 and 107378



1946 Aerial Photograph 106guk 1471 - 2253 showing the grass field airstrip PRN 102535 and two areas of hutted camps PRNs 107373 and 107378.

PRN - 107374

NAME - PEN-Y-COED

TYPE - MILITARY BASE

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - Unknown

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN27141826

COMMUNITY - St Clears

HER DESCRIPTION -

During the Second World War Pen-y-coed house was requisitioned. Amongst other British units in October 1942 it was used by the 222 Field Ambulance Royal Army Medical Corps (Perrett 1992) and then 1944 the house used as a base for Reconnaissance Troops (Mechanized) in the United States army. A Pyper based on Station Lists. Six officers and 132 enlisted men are recorded here on the Western Base Section history. (1944)

SOURCES - Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 30 April 1944.

Lt Col Philip C Grinton (US Army, Retired) US Army/Army Air Force: Units from UK Station List as of 31 May 1944.

2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June1944

Perrett, Anthony J 1992 Special Publication No 14; The Royal Marines in Wales

PRN - 107375

NAME - NO 252 ABERGWILI HOSPITAL

TYPE - Prisoner of War Camp

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN42862130

COMMUNITY - Carmarthen

HER DESCRIPTION -

No 252 Abergwili Hospital, listed as a Prisoner of War camp (Thomas, 2003). Following the evacuation of the temporary hospital site in 1944 by the United States army the camp was used as a prisoner of war camp. A Pyper based on RJC Thomas 2003.

SOURCES - Thomas, RJC 2003 Twentieth Century Military Recording Project: Prisoner of War Camps (1939-1948)

Meridian Airmaps 1955 SN42SW

Aerial Photograph 1946 RAF 106G/UK1625 6132



Aerial Photograph 1946 RAF 106G/UK1625 6132

PRN - 107376

NAME - 199 YSTRAD CAMP

TYPE - Prisoner of War Camp

PERIOD - Modern

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN38891908

COMMUNITY - Carmarthen

HER DESCRIPTION -

A prisoner of war base camp established following the evacuation of the camp in 1944 by the United States army. A Pyper based on RJC Thomas 2003.

SOURCES - Thomas, RJC 2003 Twentieth Century Military Recording Project: Prisoner of War Camps (1939-1948)

US 1944 US Aerial Photograph, Medmenham Series M1272;

PRN - 107378

NAME - DREFACH-FELINDRE

TYPE - MILITARY BASE

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - associated with PRN 102535/ associated with PRN 107373

NGR - SN35093900

COMMUNITY - Llangeler

HER DESCRIPTION -

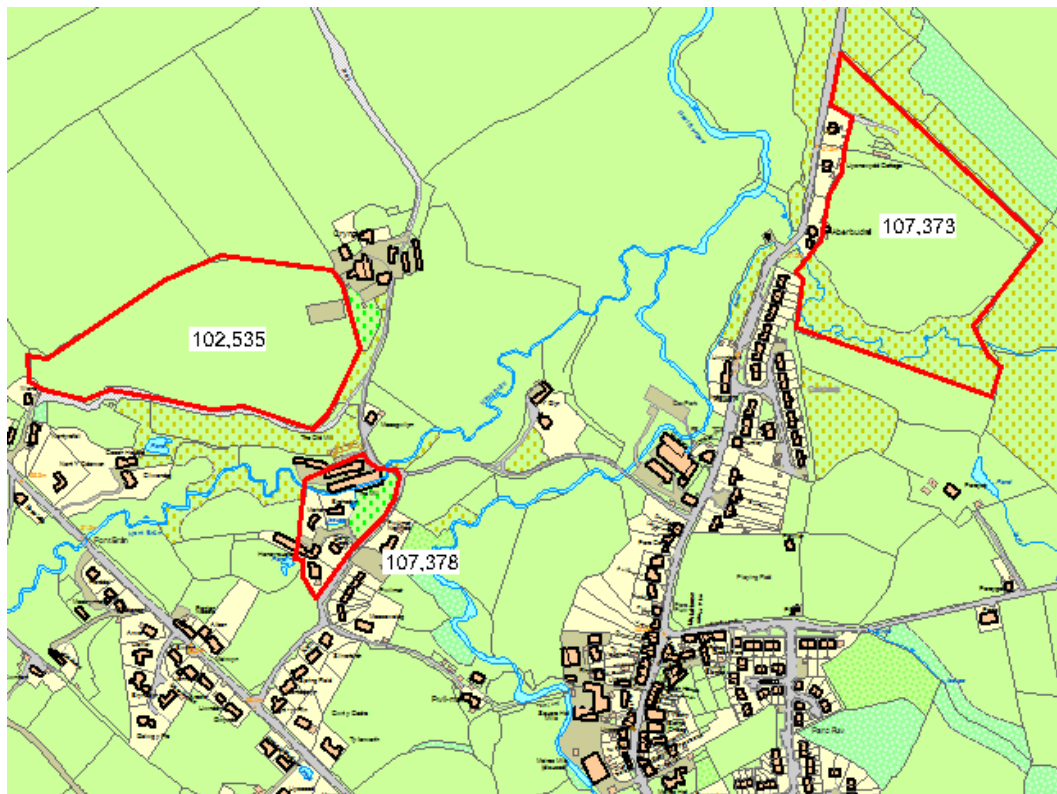
One of a number of installations around Drefach Felindre established by the British Army, this base was the command post for the stop line. In the preparation for D-Day, October 1943, was used by the 229th field Artillery Battalion, American 28th Infantry Division with 105 mm guns.

An airstrip was established at nearby Cryngae Farm (PRN 102535) for the Air Observation Post Piper Cub L4 planes. The 28th Division moved out in April 1944 and was replaced by the 38th Field Artillery Battalion of the 2nd Infantry Division where they stayed until 3rd June when they made their way to embarkation ports for following up the D-Day landings. (2014 A Pyper based on I Jones p40-1). Vertical Aerial Photographs from 1955 show a number of concrete hut bases surviving on a site of what appears now to have been redeveloped.

SOURCES - Meridian Airmaps 1955 SN33NE

Jones, Ivor 2007 Airfields and Landing Grounds of Wales: West

RAF 1946 106g uk 1471



Location of PRN 102535 in relation to the hutted camps at PRNs 107373 and 107378



1946 Aerial Photograph 106guk 1471 - 2253 showing the grass field airstrip PRN 102535 and two areas of hutted camps PRNs 107373 and 107378.

PRN - 107379

NAME -

TYPE - SEWAGE WORKS

PERIOD - C20th

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - associated with PRN 50283

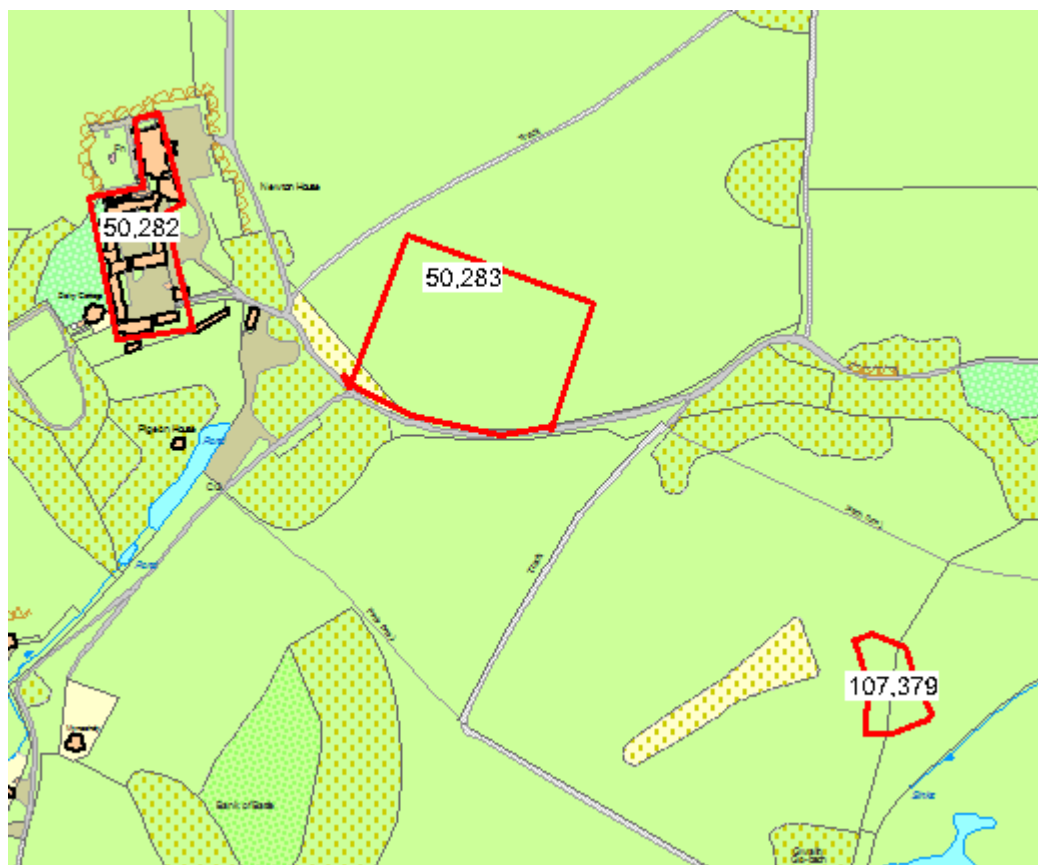
NGR - SN61932216

COMMUNITY - Llandeilo

HER DESCRIPTION -

A sewage plant visible on Meridian Airmaps of 1955, thought to be associated with the military camp established during the Second World War. A Pyper 2014

SOURCES - Meridian Airmaps 1955 SN62SW





Meridian Airmaps 1955 SN62SW (30840)

PRN - 107383

NAME -

TYPE - MILITARY DEPOT

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

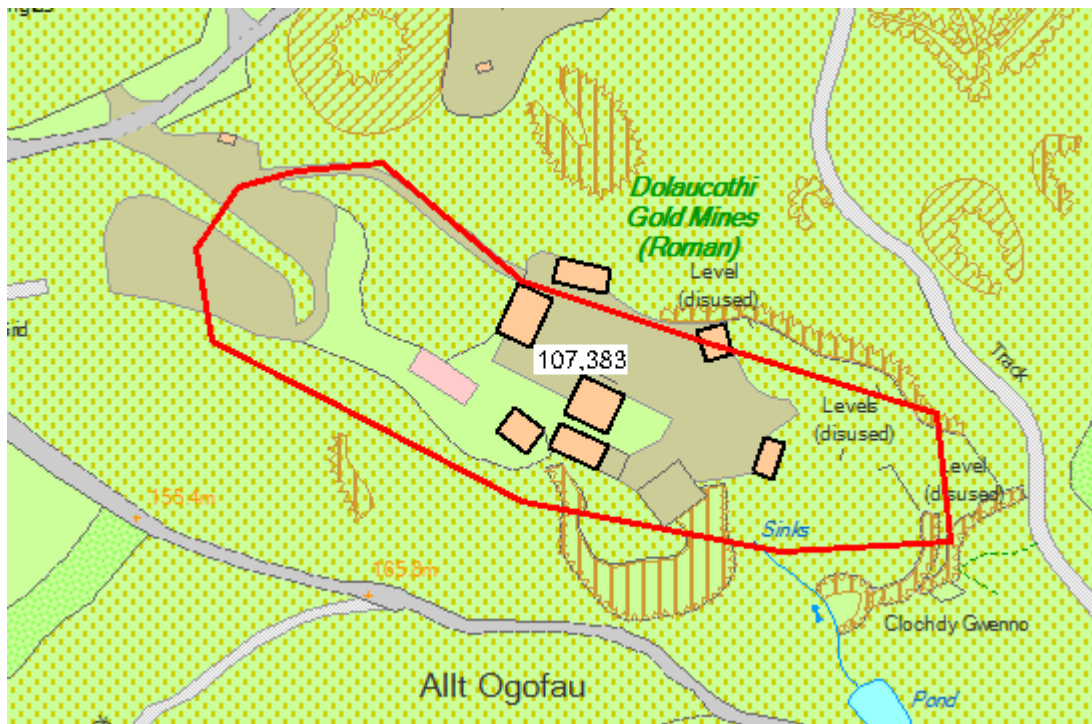
NGR - SN66324028

COMMUNITY - Cynwyl Gaeo

HER DESCRIPTION -

Possible military depot; a large number of uniformly oriented Nissen(?) huts on site of Gold Mine shown on the 1946 Aerial Photograph. A Pyper based on 1946 AP.

SOURCES - RAF 1946





RAF Aerial Photograph 106G/UK1946 4630 2205

PRN - 107757

NAME - GOLDEN GROVE

TYPE - MILITARY CAMP

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN600199

COMMUNITY - Llanfihangel Aberbythych

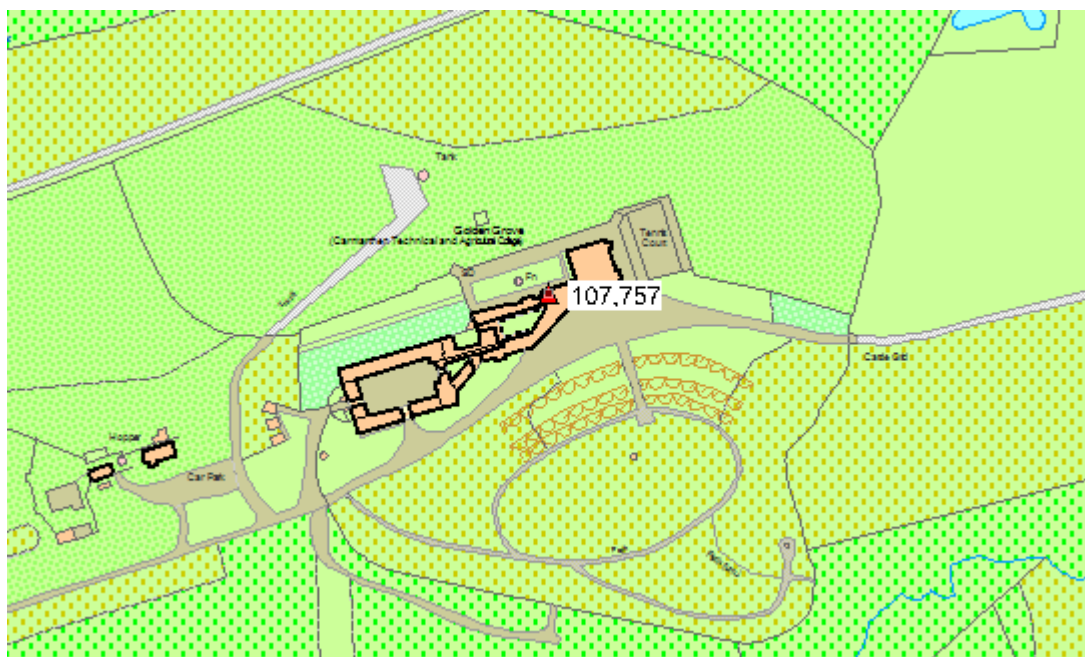
HER DESCRIPTION -

Military Camp established at Golden Grove Mansion during the Second World War. There is a reference to 502 Field Company being stationed here in the Carmarthen Sub-Area War Diary 13th September 1940. Local information indicates that the huts were to the E or NE of the mansion house.

Also used by the 208 MU (Maintenance Unit) RAF from 1942, then from 1944 was a Rest and Recuperation Centre for the United States Army Air Force.

A Pyper March 2015.

SOURCES - Commanding Officer; Col F. A. McCartney 1940 War Diary



PRN - 107758

NAME - ALLT-Y-FERIN

TYPE - MILITARY HOSPITAL

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - associated with PRN 21138

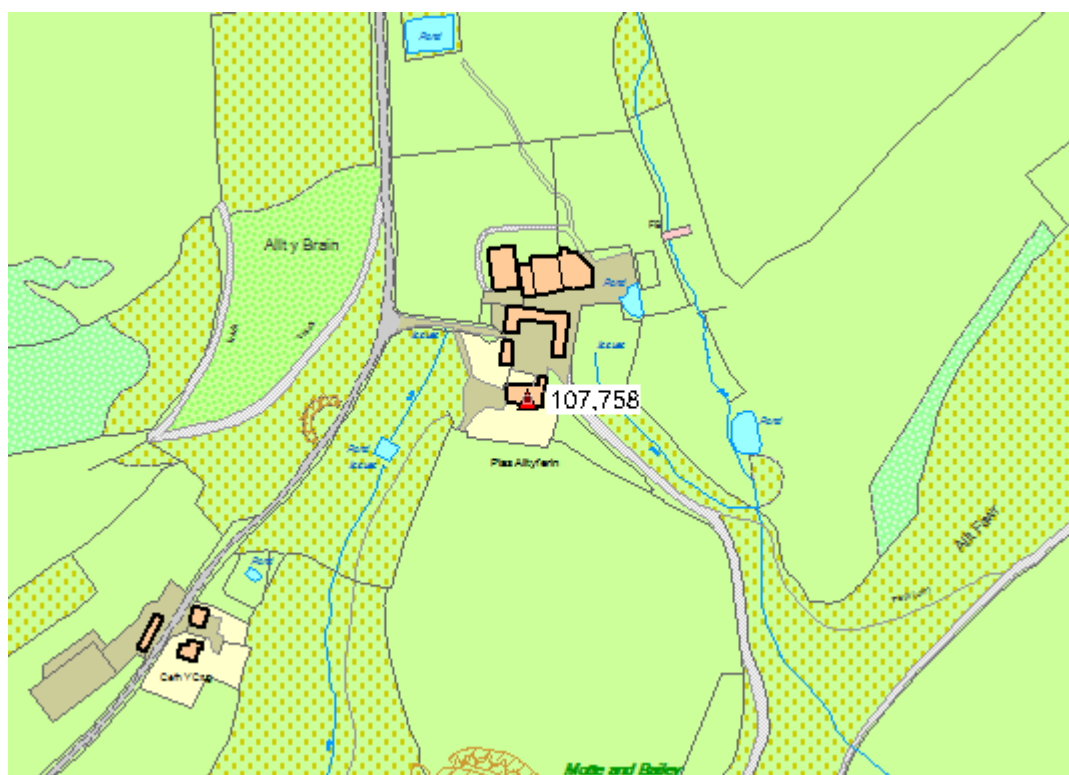
NGR - SN52222351

COMMUNITY - Llanegwad

HER DESCRIPTION -

A large gentry house which was requisition during the Second World War for use as hospital. It is referenced in the Carmarthen Sub-Area Counter Invasion Scheme, appended to the War Diary of 1942 as an Infectious Diseases Hospital with 50 beds it was an annexe to the hospital at Newton House, Llandeilo (PRN 50282). To the right of the drive there was tented camp of Indian soldiers, all suffering from tuberculosis. (Cambell, 1997, p77)
A Pyper 2015.

SOURCES - The War Office 1942 Carmarthen Sub-Area Counter-Invasion Scheme.
Campbell, Rhoda : 1997 : Water under the Bridge



PRN - 107759

NAME - BRON-Y-DRE

TYPE - MILITARY HEADQUARTERS

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN4025819978

COMMUNITY - Carmarthen

HER DESCRIPTION -

In the Second World War Bron-y-dre was the Sub-Area Headquarters responsible for administrative and operational matters including training and defence scheme planning within Dyfed. It was one of the most important military buildings in Dyfed. The HQs was responsible for planning the defence of the most vulnerable coastline in Western Command (Carmarthen Bay). The Commander would have had responsibility for all of the static troops in his command area, excluding Anti-Aircraft and Searchlight sites which came under Air Defence of Great Britain. This HQ was not responsible for the Auxiliary Units, which had a separate organisational and command structure. A number of temporary huts were installed in the back garden and on land to the north of the garden boundary, as depicted on contemporary Aerial Photographs. The HQs staff would have been accommodated in properties nearby. (A Pyper based on J Berry pers. comm. 2015)

SOURCES - The War Office 1942 Carmarthen Sub-Area Counter-Invasion Scheme.



PRN - 107760

NAME - ST CLEARS GARAGE CAMP

TYPE - MILITARY CAMP

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

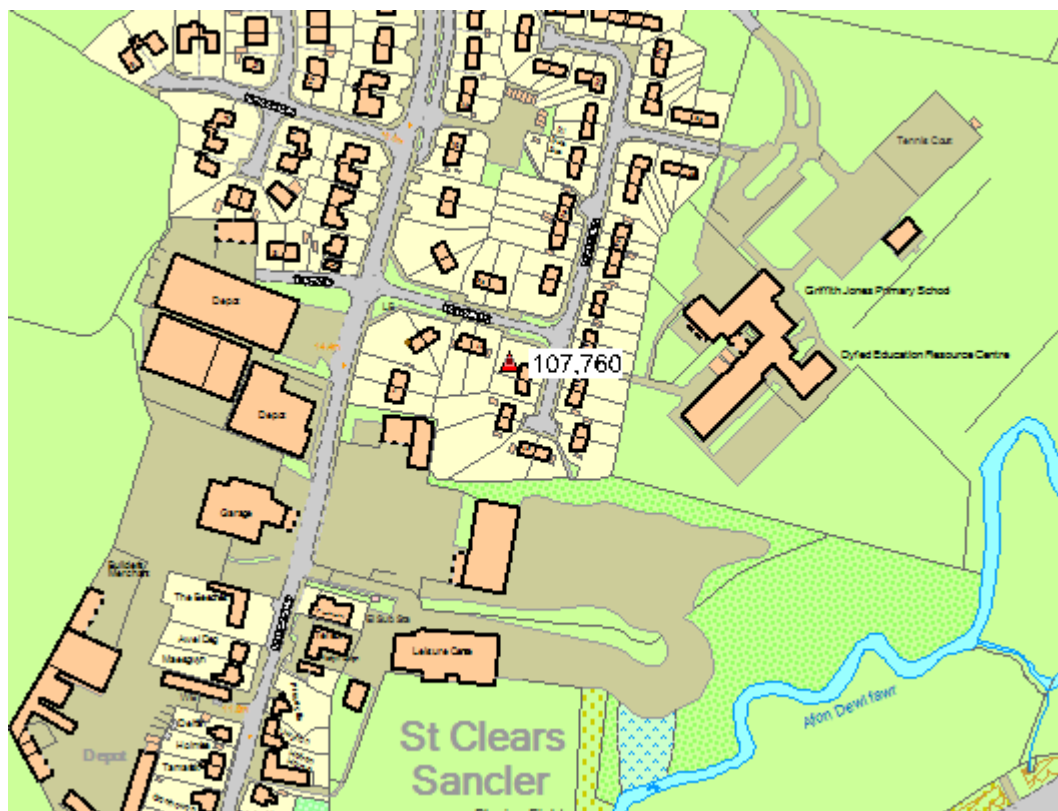
NGR - SN284168

COMMUNITY - St Clears

HER DESCRIPTION -

A British Army camp of 1941/1942 is listed in the database associated with the English Heritage report on England's Army camps, John Schofield (2006). Called St Clears Garage Camp, with Nissen huts. It's exact location is unconfirmed however the 1953 OS map suggest the formation of a hutted camp on the east side Station Road. A Pyper 2015.

SOURCES - Schofield J, Foot W and Evans D. 2006 England's Army Camps [data-set]. York: Archaeology Data Service [distributor]
Ordnance Survey 1:25000 : 1937-61



PRN - 107761

NAME - LLANELLY CAMP

TYPE - MILITARY CAMP

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN505005

COMMUNITY - Llanelli

HER DESCRIPTION -

Llanelly Camp is described as a Reinforcement Camp for the 12 Battalion Worcester Regiment in 1941, mentioned in Schofield et al report 2006. Exact whereabouts unconfirmed. A Pyper 2015.

SOURCES - Schofield J, Foot W and Evans D. 2006 England's Army Camps [data-set]. York: Archaeology Data Service [distributor] (doi:10.5284/1000269)

PRN - 107762

NAME - BRONHEULOG HOUSE

TYPE - MILITARY INSTALLATION

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN445013

COMMUNITY - Cefn Sidan

HER DESCRIPTION -

Bronheulog House is listed as a United States Army installation during the Second World War. 80 Enlisted men were based here. A Pyper 2015 (based on the Western Base Section History 1944) .

SOURCES - 2nd Lt John K Schofield 1947 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June1944

PRN - 107763

NAME - CWMGWILI

TYPE - MILITARY INSTALLATION

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

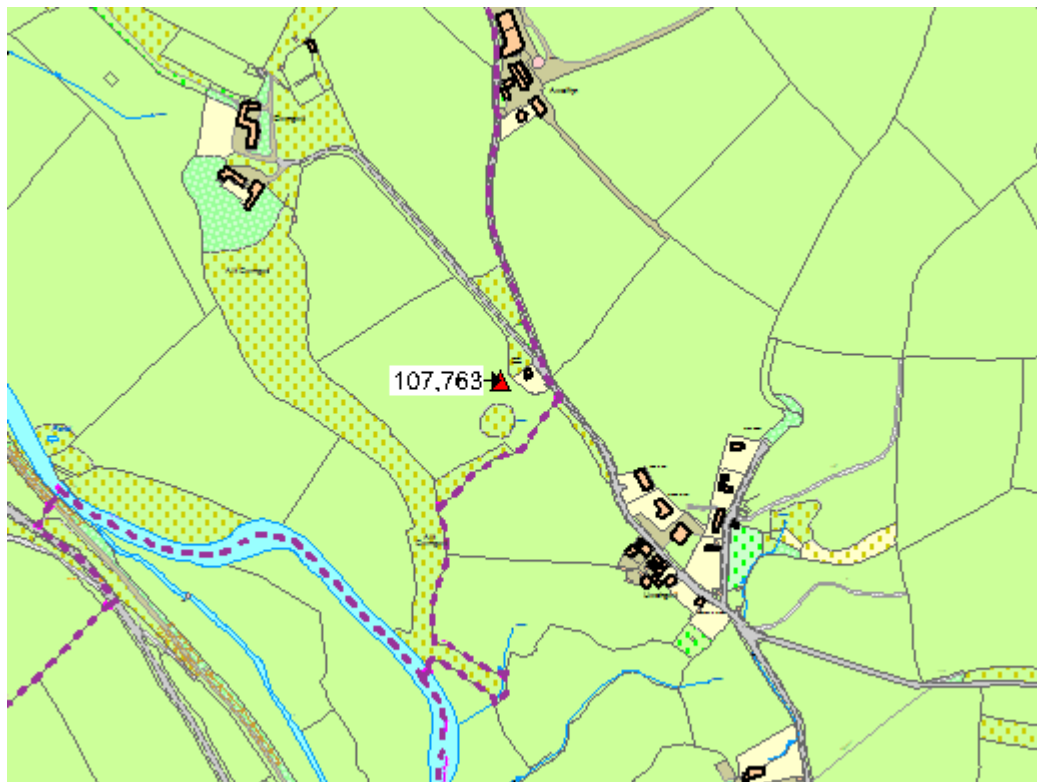
NGR - SN426230

COMMUNITY - Bronwydd

HER DESCRIPTION -

Cwmgwili is recorded as a base for a United States army installation during the Second World War. It is recorded that 2 officers and 90 enlisted men were stationed here. A Pyper 2015 (based on Western Base Section History 1944)

SOURCES - 2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June 1944



PRN - 107764

NAME - RHYD-Y-GORS

TYPE - MILITARY INSTALLATION

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN405189

COMMUNITY - Carmarthen

HER DESCRIPTION -

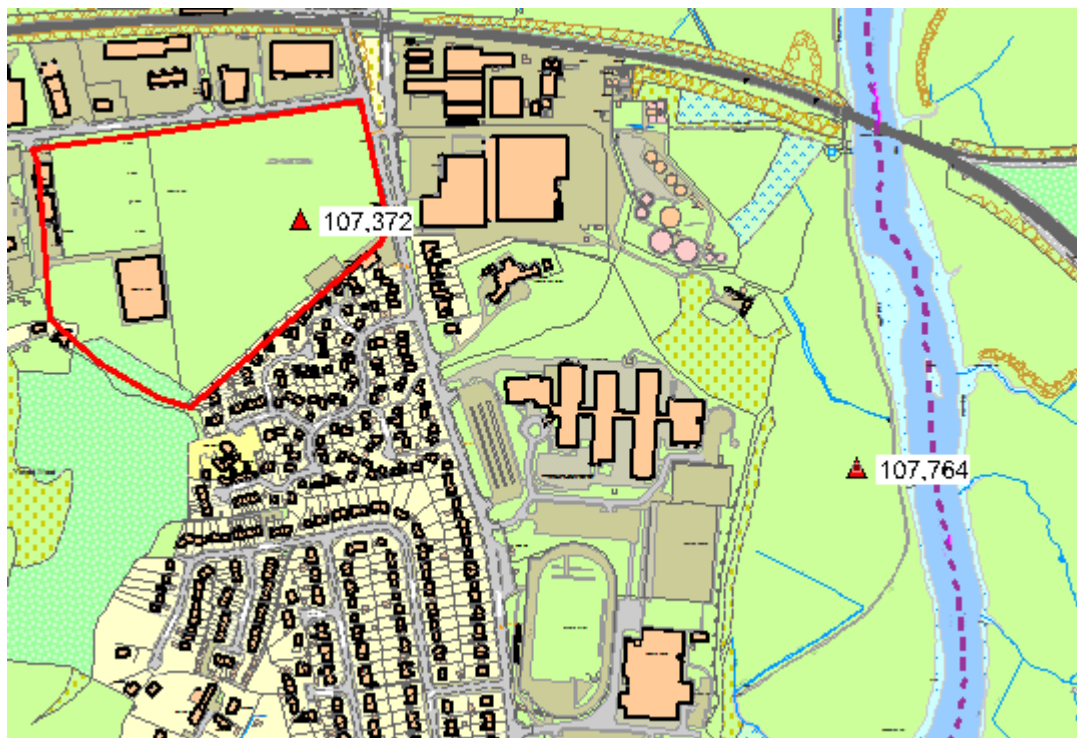
A Second World War military camp Rhyd-y-Gors was under construction in February 1942 where 7 Nissen huts were erected, (70th Infantry Brigade War Diary February 1942.) It was used as 70th Infantry Brigade Headquarters in 1943, (70th Infantry Brigade War Diary 1943).

It is then recorded as a United States army installation. 11 officers and 91 enlisted men are recorded as being stationed here. A Pyper on the Western Base Section History 1944.

SOURCES - 2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June 1944

http://70brigade.newmp.org.uk/wiki/70th_Infantry_Brigade_War_Diary_February_1942.

http://70brigade.newmp.org.uk/wiki/70th_Infantry_Brigade_War_Diary_January_1943.



PRN - 107765

NAME - FURNACE CAMP

TYPE - MILITARY INSTALLATION

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN502015

COMMUNITY - Llanelli

HER DESCRIPTION -

Furnace Camp is recorded as a United States army installation during the Second World War. It is recorded that 37 officers and 952 enlisted men were based here. A Pyper (based on Western Base Section History 1944)

SOURCES - 2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June 1944

PRN - 107766

NAME - TALIARIS

TYPE - MILITARY BASE

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN642280

COMMUNITY - Manordeilo and Salem

HER DESCRIPTION -

Used as a Military Base and it is recorded that it served as a Brigade Headquarters until 30th January 1942 when they moved from Taliaris, Llandeilo to Ystrad Camp, Carmarthen. Recorded as a United States army base during the Second World War. Six officers and 50 enlisted men are recorded here. A Pyper 2015 based on Western Base Section History 1944.

SOURCES - 2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June 1944

PRN - 107767

NAME - PEMBREY BEACHES

TYPE - MILITARY INSTALLATION

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN420011

COMMUNITY - Cefn Sidan

HER DESCRIPTION -

There are records for British and American Army installations at Pembrey and Pembrey Beaches Burry Port during the Second World War, although the precise location is unknown (70th brigade War diary January 1943).

Recorded as a United States Army base with eighteen officers and 396 enlisted men in the Western Base Section history of 1944. A Pyper 2015.

SOURCES - 2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June1944
70th Infantry Brigade War Diary January 1943. <http://70brigade.newmp.org.uk>

PRN - 107768

NAME - WHITLAND DISTRIBUTION POINT

TYPE - MILITARY DEPOT

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN199166

COMMUNITY - Whitland

HER DESCRIPTION -

Whitland Distribution Point is recorded as a base for the United States army during the Second World War. Two officers and 68 enlisted men are recorded in the Western Base Section history (1944). Its precise location is unknown, though believed to be near the railway. A Pyper 2015.

SOURCES - 2nd Lt John K Schofield 1944 Western Base Section, History, July 1942-June1944

PRN - 107769

NAME - PEMBREY HOUSE

TYPE - MILITARY BASE

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE **CONDITION** - NOT KNOWN **CROSS REFERENCES** - associated with PRN 23863

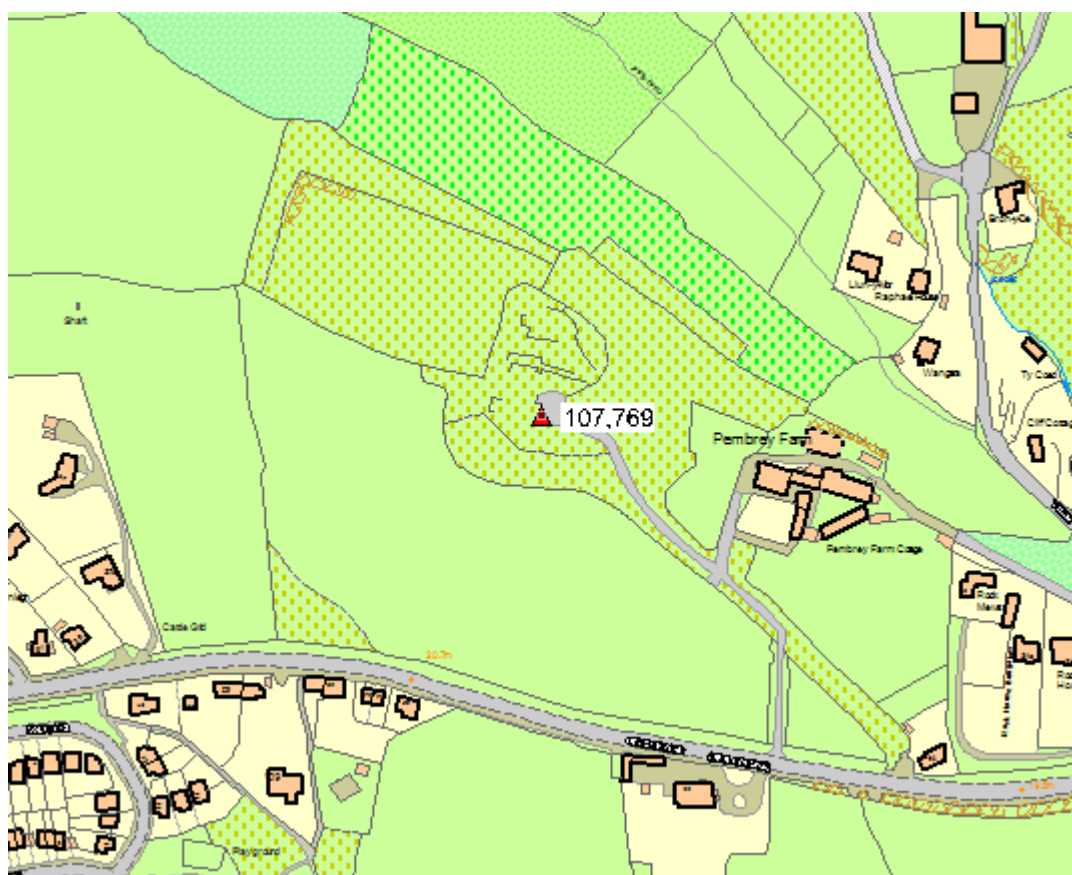
NGR - SN43420141

COMMUNITY - Cefn Sidan

HER DESCRIPTION -

Pembrey house was used by the 222 Field Ambulance during the Second World War. Rather than being a medical facility this would be a military base for the Field Ambulance which was a mobile medical unit which provides medical aid on the battlefield and casualty clearance stations. A. Pyper based on Perrett 1992

SOURCES - Perrett, Anthony J 1992 Special Publication No 14; The Royal Marines in Wales



PRN - 107770

NAME - MIDDLETON HALL

TYPE - MILITARY BASE

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - associated with PRN 6759

NGR - SN52181828

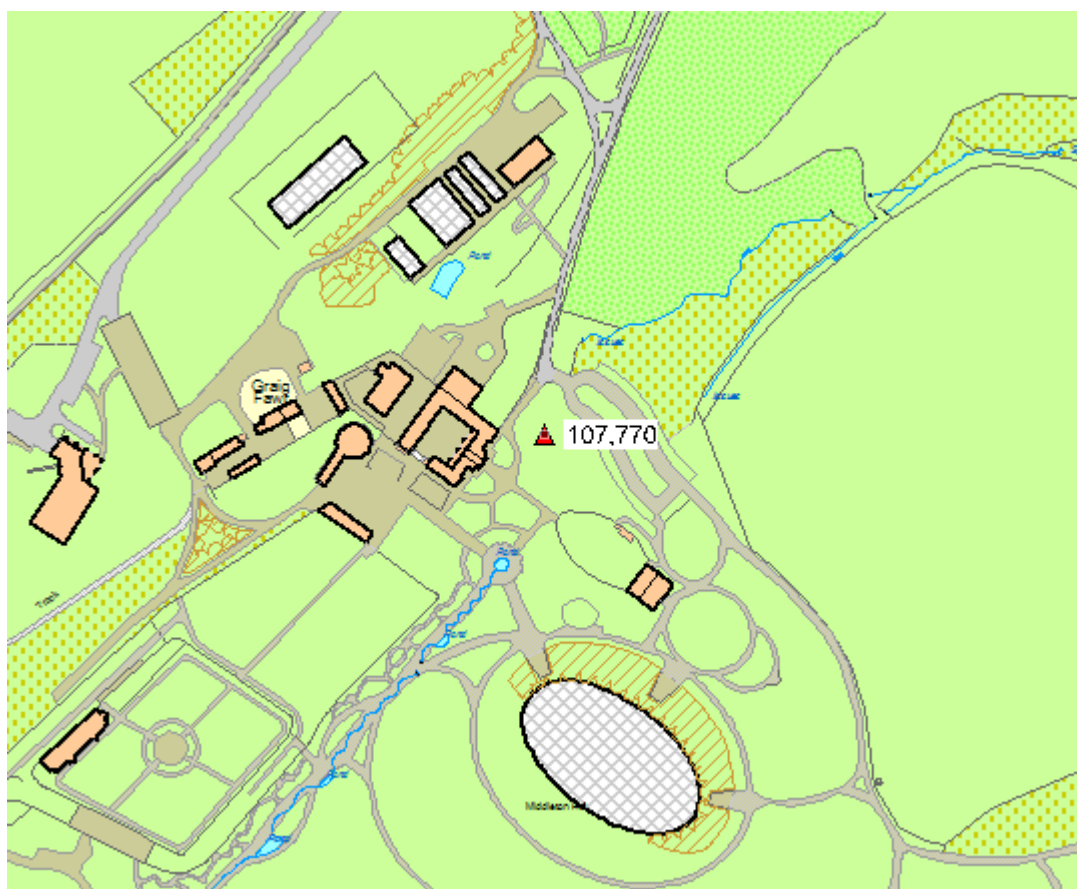
COMMUNITY - Llanarthney

HER DESCRIPTION -

Middleton Hall was used by the 222 Field Ambulance during the Second World War.

Rather than being a medical facility this would be a military base for the Field Ambulance which was a mobile medical unit which provides medical aid on the battlefield and casualty clearance stations. A. Pyper based on Perrett 1992

SOURCES - Perrett, Anthony J 1992 Special Publication No 14; The Royal Marines in Wales



PRN - 107771

NAME - ASHBURNHAM CAMP

TYPE - MILITARY CAMP

PERIOD - MODERN

EVIDENCE - DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

CONDITION - NOT KNOWN

CROSS REFERENCES - None recorded

NGR - SN435009

COMMUNITY - Cefn Sidan

HER DESCRIPTION -

Ashburnham Camp is recorded as a base for the Royal Marines MG (Machine Gun) Company, and it is believed that it was located on the golf course. A. Pyper 2015 based on Perrett.

SOURCES - Perrett, Anthony J 1992 Special Publication No 14; The Royal Marines in Wales

PRN - 107830

NAME -

TYPE - FIRING RANGE

PERIOD - Post Medieval; Modern

EVIDENCE - Complex

CONDITION - Not Known

NGR - SS51679747

COMMUNITY - Llanelli

HER DESCRIPTION - A firing range located at Machynys, recorded on the first edition Ordnance Survey map (1889) incorporating a target to the east of the peninsular and a shooting positions at 600, 500 and 400 yard to the west. A further 150 yard range and target lies to the southwest. The first edition identifies various structures including Mantelet, Magazine, and Flagstaff (PRNs 31689, 31690, 31691, 31692, 31693, 31694, 31695).

Firing continued on the site with an additional 600 yard range on a northwest to southeast axis recorded on the 1952 Ordnance Survey suggesting its continued use through the Second World War. A Pyper 2015.



Extract of Ordnance Survey 1952 Carmarthenshire XLVIII.SE sheet (National Library of Scotland)

SOURCES -

Ordnance Survey 1891 Carmarthenshire XLVIII.SE

Ordnance Survey 1952 Carmarthenshire XLVIII.SE

PRN - 107831

NAME - DYNEVOR RIFLE RANGE

TYPE - FIRING RANGE

PERIOD - Post Medieval; Modern

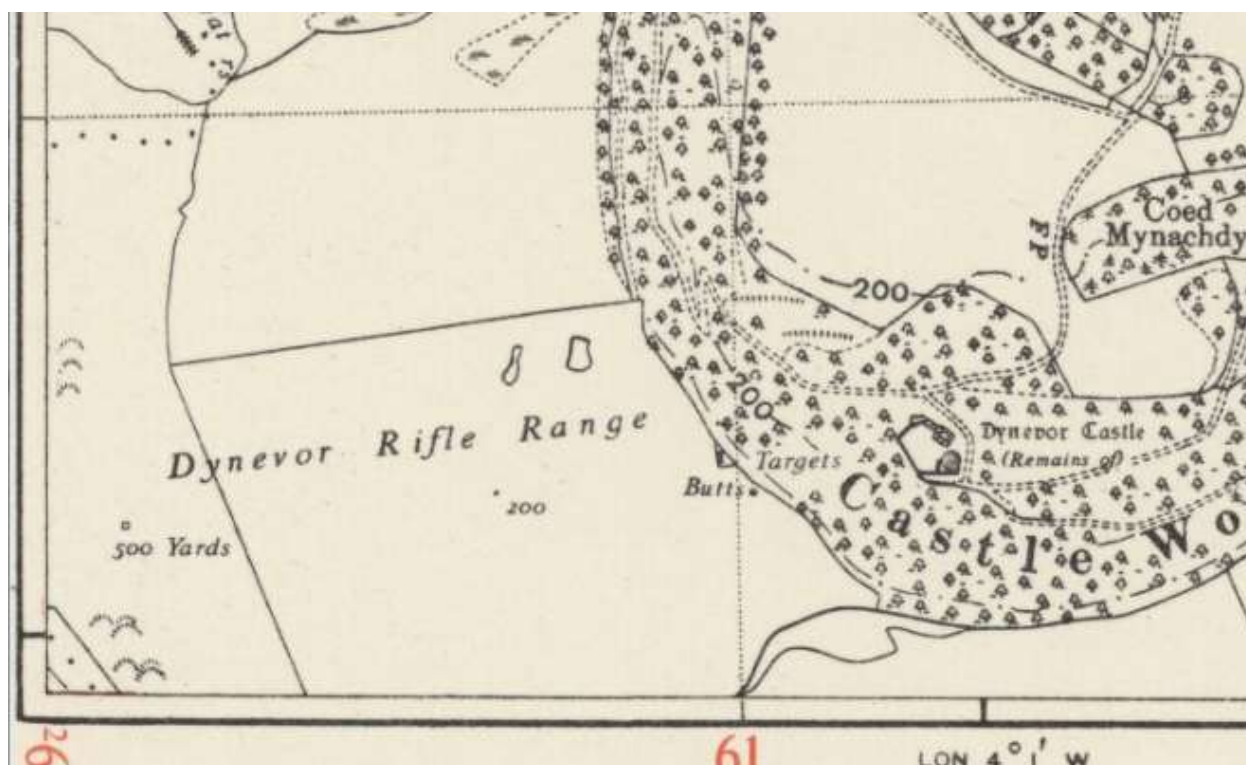
EVIDENCE - Complex

CONDITION - Not Known

NGR - SN60902172

COMMUNITY - Llandeilo

HER DESCRIPTION - Dynevor Rifle Range is depicted on the Ordnance Survey editions from 1885 shown as two ranges; one northwest to southeast with 600, 500, 400, 300 yard firing positions Marker's butt and Targets, plus ranges from the southwest with 300 and 200 yard positions. The former 600 yard range continues to be shown on the OS in the 1953 edition, suggesting its use during both the World Wars. A Pyper 2015



Extract of Ordnance Survey 1948 Carmarthenshire XXXIII.SE sheet (National Library of Scotland)

SOURCES -

Ordnance Survey 1891 Carmarthenshire XXXIII.SE

Ordnance Survey 1891 Carmarthenshire XXXIII.SW

Ordnance Survey 1948 Carmarthenshire XXXIII.SE

Ordnance Survey 1948 Carmarthenshire XXXIII.SW

**Second World War and later Camps and Ranges
REPORT NUMBER 2015/16**

**Mawrth 2015
March 2015**

This report has been prepared by Alice Pyper

Position:

Signature

Date

This report has been checked and approved by Ken Murphy
on behalf of Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Position:

Signature

Date

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

