Scheduled Ancient Monument Management Plan October 2015

CASTELL NANTPERCHELLAN (CD074)



Figure 1. Counterscarp on NW seen from NE (Cadw 2006)

Customer Reference Number (CRN): A0028489

Farm name: Pentwd Uchaf





This management advice has been produced within the Historic Environment Branch of Cadw to inform management of the Scheduled Ancient Monument included in the Advanced Element of the Glastir land management scheme.

Only part of the scheduled area lies within the applicant's holding. For details please see the map at Section 4.2 below.

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SAM name and reference number	Castell Nantperchellan, CD074
Grid reference	SN 17314 43330
Current Cadw funded schemes (MA /AM Grant)	None
Cadw FMW and contact details	Helen Burnham Field Monument Warden Cadw Welsh Government Tel: 01570 422075 Mobile: 07968 609833 E-mail: helen.burnham@wales.gsi.gov.uk

I. Site Description

The following provides a general description of the Scheduled Ancient Monument.

- The monument comprises the remains of a defended enclosure, which probably dates to the Iron Age period (c. 800 BC AD 74, the Roman conquest of Wales). Inland promontory forts are usually located on a ridge or spur with steep slopes on two or three sides, and artificial ramparts on the level approaches. Castell Nantperchellan is a roughly rectangular promontory enclosure, occupying the butt-end of a south-facing ridge above the confluence of two local streams, and measuring c.52m north-east to southwest. It is defined by a rampart and ditch to the north and east, facing onto rising ground, whilst steep natural slopes complete the circuit on the south and western sides.
- The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of later prehistoric defensive organisation and settlement. The site forms an important element within the wider later prehistoric context and within the surrounding landscape. The site is well preserved and retains considerable archaeological potential. There is a strong probability of the presence of evidence relating to chronology, building techniques and functional detail.
- The scheduled area comprises the remains described and areas around them within which related evidence may be expected to survive.

2. Current Condition

 When last seen, the portion of the site within the applicant's holding was in good condition under short-cropped grass within a pasture field.

Management Issues

• There were no obvious management issues requiring action.

3. Management Advice

The following works are recommended to improve the condition of the scheduled ancient monument. Cadw Field Monument Wardens are available to provide help and advice, and can be contacted via details shown on page 4.

Prioritised list of management works:

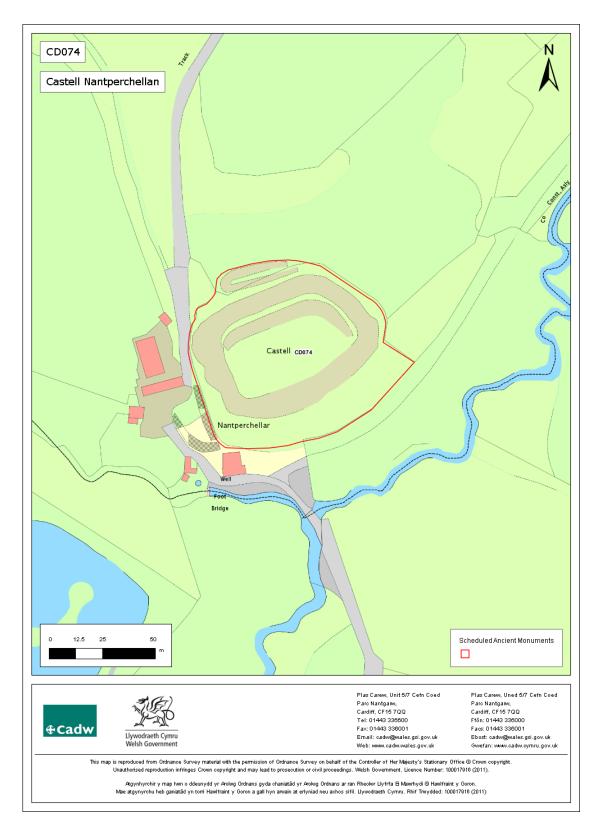
No immediate management works are required

3.1. Long-term management recommendations / best practice

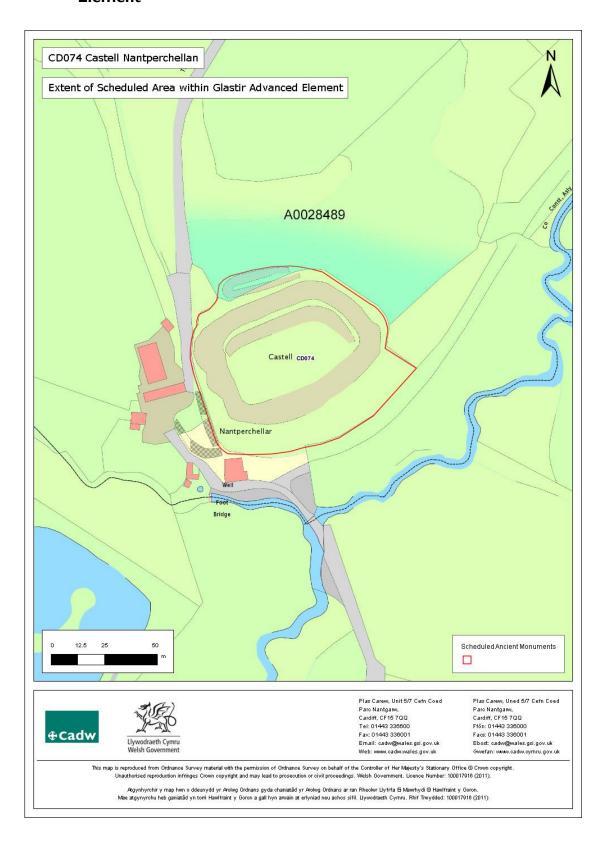
- Maintain a short grass cover across the scheduled area with other vegetation not exceeding a maximum height of 30cm through an appropriate grazing regime and / or annual vegetation cut to ground level.
- Note should also be taken of the general requirements given in Section 5 below.

4. Maps

4.1. Indicative Map of the Scheduled Area



4.2. Map showing Extent of Scheduled Area within Glastir Advanced Element



5. Requirements

5.1. Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979

Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs) are monuments deemed to be of national importance and as such are protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979. It is an offence under the legislation to cause damage or disturbance to a SAM.

Damage or disturbance would include – any unauthorised works that involve ground disturbance (including fencing), but also importing material into the scheduled area, metal detecting, rewetting, burning etc.

Any operations involving ground disturbance, the importation of material or rewetting require Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) to have been approved by Cadw prior to the works being undertaken

5.2. Cross Compliance

Scheduled Ancient Monuments are afforded further protection under Cross - Compliance GAEC 7 Landscape Features.

GAEC 7 States:

- No work to a Scheduled Ancient Monument may be carried out without formal consent from Cadw e.g. ploughing, fencing, drainage, track upgrades etc
- Comply with all consent requirements in full
- Do not destroy or damage a Scheduled Ancient Monument
- Do not damage scheduled historic features through activities which cause or encourage soil erosion or ground disturbance on ancient monuments, e.g.:
 - overgrazing
 - o growth of invasive scrub or vegetation

- o trampling and poaching
- vehicle tracking, particularly on steep slopes or when ground conditions are wet
- o supplementary feeding
- o cultivation encroachment
- o storage of equipment, materials and rubbish

5.3. Glastir - Whole Farm Code

The Glastir Whole Farm Code states:

You must not damage any historic feature identified on your agreement map

Definitions of damage to a historic feature include ANY of the following:

- Ground disturbance or excavation especially extending beneath topsoil
- Dumping or storage of material, including temporary storage
- Removal of any material, including stones, soil or subsoil
- Visible signs of active erosion (loss and disturbance of topsoil) caused by livestock and vehicles or other agricultural practice
- Planting trees
- Allowing scrub to develop
- Ploughing or reseeding
- Displacing individual stone features