# ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

# LAUGHARNE PARK LAUGHARNE CARMARTHENSHIRE

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**NOVEMBER 2010** 

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

LAUGHARNE PARK LAUGHARNE CARMARTHENSHIRE

PLANNING AUTHORITY: CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

SITE CENTRED AT: 230490, 211200

**NOVEMBER 2010** 

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This heritage assessment considers land at Laugharne Park, Laugharne, Carmarthenshire which is being considered for redevelopment.

This assessment has established that there is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM), which is an Iron Age hillfort and possible Civil War defence, situated within the study site and that the southern and eastern parts fall within Laugharne Conservation Area. The study site is situated within the Registered Historic Landscape of the Taf and Tywi Estuary. There are no listed buildings within the study site but several within 500m. There is potential for undesignated heritage assets, particularly in the area near to the SAM.

No development should take place within the scheduled area and lines of site from the earthwork towards Laugharne castle should be maintained if possible. A programme of archaeological work will be required as a condition of planning permission.

# 1.0 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF STUDY

- 1.1 This archaeological desk-based assessment has been researched and prepared by Greg Pugh and Hannah Smalley of CgMs Consulting on behalf of Seasons Holidays Plc, to assess the archaeological potential of Laugharne Park, Laugharne, Carmarthenshire (also referred to as the study site).
- 1.2 The study site is located to the east of the town of Laugharne on the north bank of the River Taf. It is centred at National Grid Reference 230490 211200 (Fig. 1).
- 1.3 In accordance with government guidance on archaeology and planning (WO Circular 60/96) this assessment draws together the available archaeological, topographic and land-use information in order to clarify the archaeological potential of the Site.
- 1.4 The assessment comprises an examination of evidence in the Historic Environment Record (HER) for Carmarthenshire held by Cambria Archaeology (Dyfed Archaeological Trust) and the National Monuments Record of Wales (NMRW) online database, Coflein. It incorporates published and unpublished material and charts historic land-use through a map regression exercise.
- 1.5 As a result, the assessment enables relevant parties to assess the archaeological potential of the study site and to consider the need for design, civil engineering or archaeological solutions to the potential identified.

#### 2.0 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK

- 2.1 In March 2002 the Welsh Assembly issued 'Planning Policy Wales' which sets out the Government's land-use planning policies in Wales. In particular, the guidance lists relevant legislation and sets out policy guidance relevant to the historic environment.
- 2.2 The Planning Guidance draws attention to the significance of nationally important archaeological remains, whether scheduled or not, and the desirability of preserving a listed building. In other instances, the physical preservation of archaeological remains may not be justified and guidance is provided on procedures for assessing archaeological remains during the planning process and recording them ahead of development (paras 6.5.1-6.5.13).
- 2.3 More detailed advice and guidance on procedures was issued in Welsh Office Circular 60/96 'Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology' (December 1996) and 61/96 'Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas' (December 1996). Circular 60/96 encourages early consultation on proposals, promotes the assessment of the archaeological implications of development proposals, provides guidance on the circumstances and scope of field evaluations, options for physical preservation (in situ), and archaeological excavation and recording, and provides model conditions to secure archaeological objectives.
- 2.4 In considering any planning application for development, the planning authority will be mindful of the policy framework set by this government guidance, by current Development Plan policy and by other material considerations.
- 2.5 In this instance the development plan policy framework is provided by the Carmarthenshire Unitary Development Plan (CUDP). This document has now been formally adopted by Carmarthenshire County Council on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2006 as planning policy for the Authority's area. The CUDP has replaced the Dyfed Structure Plan (including Alterations No.1), the

Carmarthen District Local Plan, the Dinefwr Local Plan and the Llanelli Area Local Plan Statement.

2.6 The CUDP contains the following policies, which provide a framework for the consideration of development proposals affecting archaeological and heritage features.

CUDP 13 - BUILT/HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

IT IS THE POLICY OF CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TO PROTECT AND WHERE APPROPRIATE TO ENHANCE IMPORTANT FEATURES OF THE BUILT/HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT.

BE 1 - SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS OF NATIONAL AL IMPORTANCE

IT IS THE POLICY OF CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL THAT DEVELOPMENTS OR WORKS WHICH WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE PRESERVATION, ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL, AMENITY, HISTORIC VALUE OR THE SETTING OF SITES OF A SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENT OR ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS CONSIDERED OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.

# **B E 2 - ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES**

IT IS THE POLICY OF CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL THAT DEVELOPMENTS OR WORKS WHICH WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE PRESERVATION, ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL, AMENITY, HISTORIC VALUE OR THE SETTING OF SITES OF LOCAL OR REGIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED. EXCEPTIONS WILL ONLY BE MADE WHERE: THE PLANNING AUTHORITY, IN CONSIDERING THE **RELATIVE** IMPORTANCE OF THE REMAINS AND THE LIKELY EFFECT OF AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSAL, IS SATISFIED THAT:

(I) THE ADVERSE IMPACTS ARE MINIMISED; AND

(II) THE NEED FOR THE PROPOSAL OUTWEIGHS ANY LIKELY HARM. THE COUNCIL WILL SEEK WHERE POSSIBLE TO PRESERVE

THE REMAINS IN SITU. WHERE PRESERVATION IN SITU IS NOT PRACTICABLE THE COUNCIL MAY REQUIRE EXCAVATION AND RECORDING OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS.

# **BE 3 - ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT**

IT IS THE POLICY OF CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL THAT WHERE DEVELOPMENT IS PROPOSED ON OR NEAR SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT WILL BE REQUIRED PRIOR TO THE DETERMINATION OF THE APPLICATION.

- TO REFLECT THE VALUE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS AS A FINITE AND NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCE.
- TO REFLECT THEIR IMPORTANCE, WHETHER THEY BE SCHEDULED OR UNSCHEDULED, AS A MATERIAL CONSIDERATION IN DETERMINING PLANNING APPLICATIONS.
- TO ENCOURAGE THE PRESERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENT AND AREAS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST.
- TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE SETTING OF THE SITES.
- TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE THROUGH THE DESIGNATION OF SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST.

BE 4 - SITE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST - DESIGNATION

IT IS THE POLICY OF CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TO SEEK WHERE APPROPRIATE THE DESIGNATION OF THOSE SITES OF REGIONAL AND/OR LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST WITHIN THE PLAN AREA AS SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST.

• TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE THROUGH THE DESIGNATION OF SITES OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTEREST.

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- 2.7 In March 2010 planning permission was granted for the replacement of 25 existing holiday chalets with 25 holiday lodges in the southern part of the study site (Ref: W/22198). Condition No. 3 requires that no construction or removal of the chalets bases shall take place until a programme of archaeological work in accordance with an approved written scheme of investigation has been implemented. The permitted scheme falls within the area being considered by this assessment.
- 2.8 This study therefore aims to clarify the specific potential of the study site referred to in CUDP Policy BE2 and to provide the assessment referred to in CUDP Policy BE3.

# 3.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

#### 3.1 Geology

3.1.1 The geology of the study site comprises Interbedded Argillaceous Rocks and Sandstone and Conglomerate of the Milford Haven Group. There is no drift geology recorded though alluvial deposits associated with the River Taf are present to the south and east with deposits of Devensian Till present to the west (British Geological Survey Sheet 229, 1975).

# 3.2 Topography

- 3.2.1 The study site lies on the west bank of the River Taf just above where the river flows into Carmarthen Bay. The town of Laugharne lies to the immediate southwest of the study site.
- 3.2.2 Most of the study site lies on a south-southwest facing slope that falls from c. 80m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) in the north-northeast to c. 25m AOD the entrance to the holiday park in the south-southeast. The eastern part of the study site lies on the steep slope above the River Taf.
- 3.2.3 The natural topography has also been altered by landscaping, with terracing for holiday caravans, chalets, guest facilities and access occurring throughout the study site.

# 4.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Including Map Regression Exercise.

4.1 Timescales used in this report.

Prehistoric		
Palaeolithic	450,000 -	12,000 BC
Mesolithic	12,000 -	4,000 BC
Neolithic	4,000 -	1,800 BC
Bronze Age	1,800 -	600 BC
Iron Age	600 -	AD 43
Historic		
Roman	AD 43-	410
Post-Roman/Early Medieval	AD 410 -	1066

AD	410 -	1066
AD	1066 -	1485
AD	1486 -	1800
AD	1800 -	Present
	AD AD	AD 410 - AD 1066 - AD 1486 - AD 1800 -

- 4.2 Examination of data in the Historic Environment Record (HER) for Carmarthenshire, held by Cambria Archaeology (Dyfed Archaeological Trust), and the National Monuments Record of Wales (NMRW) online database, Coflein, for an area extending in a 1km radius from the study site indicates that a Scheduled Monument lies within the study site. Two Scheduled Monuments lie within the 1km search area. The study site is situated within the Registered Historic Landscape of the Taf and Twyi Estuary. There are no listed buildings within the study site but there are two adjacent to the study site, with the remainder being located within the settlement of Laugharne to the west. Two records for other undesignated Heritage Assets are also within the study site. Where relevant these have been indicated with the relevant SAM, HER or NMRW unique number.
- 4.3 It is the aim of this assessment to review the data available for the site and the area and to use this to construct a predictive model of the archaeological potential of the study site and to assess the significance of any Heritage Assets within or close to the study site.

# 4.4 Previous Work

In 1991, a geophysical survey was conducted of the earthwork remains of 13.1 Glan-y-Mor hillfort and adjacent field, in the centre of the study site (GSB 1991(. The survey, commissioned by Dyfed Archaeological Trust, was conducted in order to identify the presence of significant archaeological features both within and outside of the Scheduled hillfort. With the exception of identifying two modern drains within Area A situated to the north-east of the Scheduled hillfort, no other meaningful results were recorded from this area due to the presence of high noise levels associated with previous modern disturbance. In the area containing the hillfort itself (Area B), the survey results were more productive. The ditch associated with the extant earthwork bank of the fort was detected and this was shown to terminate, and not extend beyond, the limits of the currently surviving earthwork bank. A number of potential archaeological anomalies were also identified within the hillfort enclosure. With the exception of two modern pipes/drainage cuts, no potential archaeological remains were identified to lie immediately outside and to the northwest and southwest of the hillfort defences. In 1907, the then owner did excavate sections through the earthwork remains of the hillfort, but found no dating evidence (Cadw SAM description). Investigations have been undertaken within Laugharne town, particularly in relation to the castle (Avent, 1988: 25-27).

# 4.5 <u>Prehistoric</u>

4.5.1 The extant earthwork remains of a hillfort known as Glan-y-Mor (SAM232, HER2158) are located within the centre of the study site. The remains comprise a curvilinear bank which curves out westward from its north end. It was previously believed that the southern end of the earthwork extended right up to the cliff edge until sometime before 1923 (Avent 1987, 191). J. P. Gordan Williams writes that 'It was removed by the late Mr Weinholt for road mending and building' (*ibid*, 191). However, this may not to have been the case as the geophysical survey results (GSB 1991) show that the associated outer ditch terminates at the end of the

existing earthwork. Although no dating evidence has been recovered from the fort, the monument is likely to date to the Iron Age period. Williams also records that 'The plough has been at work here. Fragments of the usual Coygan (?) ware, and a bronze button, have been thrown up by moles' (*ibid*, 192). Evidence for structures and defences on its eastern side may still survive below ground.

- 4.5.2 The only other record for Prehistoric activity within the study site is for a midden (HER 13088) located on the southeast side of the study site, to the immediate south of the hillfort.
- 4.5.3 Beyond the study site a standing stone (SAM310, HER2168) lies some 250m to the north of the study site. A Neolithic polished axe (HER 2167) is recorded to the west of the study site. A number of cist burials, probably Bronze Age in date, have been recorded in the area around St Michael's Church (HER 14296) and the Croft (HER 11610) in the northern part of the town and also at the southern end (HER 2171).
- 4.5.4 The earliest activity lies to the west and southwest of the study site at Laugharne or to the north. Iron Age remains survive within the central part of the study site, so a high potential for associated remains is identified for this area, with a moderate potential identified for the south and north parts of the study site.

# 4.6 <u>Roman</u>

- 4.6.1 There is one single record (HER 11259) for the Roman period within the study site. A reference to the location of a Roman settlement at Laugharne Park was made in the local antiquarian journal following the discovery of Roman finds in 1922. The settlement was linked to the hillfort of Glan-y-Mor. No evidence for Roman period material has been recorded on the site subsequently despite the development that has taken place within the site in the last quarter of the 20th century.
- 4.6.2 The nearest conclusive evidence for Roman activity in the area has been recorded with the settlement of Laugharne itself, to the southwest of the study site. A bath house was discovered at Island House which is located to the immediate west of Laugharne Castle. A coin hoard was found at Laugharne Castle (HER 2157), though recent excavations at the castle have indicated that the promontory the castle sits on was agricultural land (Avent 1988). A potentially Roman period cremation with associated finds was also found at St Michael's Church (HER 14296 and 2166).
- 4.6.3 The current evidence indicates that there is a moderate potential for activity from the Roman period within the study site.

#### 4.7 Post Roman– Early Medieval

4.7.1 Evidence for settlement during this period is very sparse throughout this part of Wales, though the cultural importance of this period to the development of Welsh and the Welsh kingdoms can not be over emphasised. The HER contains no records from this period for the study site itself. However, it suggests that there is a medium probability that there was settlement in Laugharne during the Early Medieval period. This is evidenced by a small cemetery containing potentially Early Medieval burials (HER 11610, Ludlow 2004), a 10th century cross (HER 2164) within the later church and a coin hoard (HER 2172). The settlement was probably focused around the church and churchyard (HER 2163 and 14296) located some 400m to the west of the study site.

4.7.2 While Early Medieval settlement may be present at Laugharne there is no evidence to suggest that this extends to within, or even adjacent to, the study site. It is more probable that most of the study site would have been used for agricultural purposes, either pasture or arable. The earthworks associated with the SAM may have attracted occasional activity, but there is currently no evidence for this. Therefore a low potential for Early Medieval activity is identified.

#### 4.8 <u>Medieval</u>

- 4.8.1 Their are no records for the Medieval period within the study site. The archaeological and historic evidence all indicate that settlement and activity during this period was focused around Laugharne Castle (SAM CM003, HER 2156) some 225m to the southwest of the study site. The castle is first mentioned in AD 1116 as belonging to Robert Courtemain (NB it was called Abercorram or Talacharn Castle during the 12th and 13th centuries). It was probably built as a motte and bailey, with the stone fortifications being added in the 13th century. It fell into decline after the death of its then owner Guy de Brian VII in 1390. It was rebuilt as a Tudor mansion between 1575 and 1592 only to fall into decline again (Avent 1988 and Cadw 1991).
- 4.8.2 The presence of the castle helped establish the settlement at Laugharne, with the castle and harbour at the south end and the church at the other. The existing church building, St Martin's, which was originally dedicated to St Michael, dates to the 15th century and is a Grade II\* listed building. The settlement probably extended along what is now Clifton Street and King Street, with a second road located to the west of the River Coran along what is now Holloway Road and extending north along the path formerly known as Long Lane (HER 5246) from which Medieval pottery has been recovered (HER 7476).
- 4.8.3 The existing evidence suggests that the study site lay away from the main focus of the Medieval settlement but may well have formed part of the agricultural hinterland. The track that forms the northern boundary of the study site certainly continued northwards to Delacorse during the Post-Medieval period, but may have been in use during the Medieval period.

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Cartographic evidence shows that the narrow, Medieval fields were still in use in the late 19th century to the north of the study site and to the east of the town, particularly in the area around the church.

4.8.4 A low to moderate potential is identified for significant Medieval activity in the southwest of the study site, while a low potential is identified for the central and northern areas for activity other than field boundaries and agricultural practices.

# 4.9 Post-Medieval and Modern

- 4.9.1 In these periods understanding of settlement, land-use and the utilisation of the landscape is enhanced by cartographic sources, which can give additional detail to data contained within the HER.
- 4.9.2 It is believed that the Glan-y-Mor earthwork was utilised during the siege of Laugharne Castle in 1644 (Avent 1987, 185-198). Although nothing definite survives, close examination of the landscape surrounding Laugharne and the 19<sup>th</sup> century history of the town, provides some indication to the location of the Parliamentarian gun positions (Avent 1987, 189).
- 4.9.3 Glan-y-Mor earthwork is first referred to in 1839 as 'the battery of the Parliamentarians, of a semi-circular form' (*ibid*, 192). Avent states that this is less than two hundred years after the siege and, at such a time span, it is quite possible that this interpretation is based on well founded tradition (*ibid*, 192). On Tuesday, 29 October, Laugharne's army 'was drawn up on a plaine mountaine in the face of Langhorne Castle'. This is taken to mean the two fields above and to the west of Glan-y-Mor. It is considered that this was a perfect site on which to position a gun battery aimed at the eastern side of the inner ward of the castle and had the added advantage of controlling the ferry crossing, assuming that it was in approximately the same position in the 17<sup>th</sup> century as it was in the 20<sup>th</sup> century (ibid, 192). Avent states that it therefore seems very probable that Laugharne took advantage of a pre-existing defensive enclosure as the site for a battery for his guns. Avent also states that the holloway,

situated along the north western site boundary, is likely to have been used to transport the heavy guns to the earthwork.

- 4.9.4 The Ordnance Survey map of 1811 (Fig. 2) shows the study site as occupying four fields on the north bank of the River Taf. A track forms the northern boundary. This track continues beyond the study site linking the south of Laugharne with 'Dolacorse'.
- 4.9.5 A very similar but more detailed picture is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1888 (Fig. 3), the earlier 1842 Tithe map shows that the study site remains unchanged from the 1888 Ordnance Survey publication. Glan-y-Mor is the only building depicted within the site, while Cliff House, Ferry House, Boat House and Landing Stage are all to the southeast of the study site. Notably the earthwork bank of the hillfort is not depicted. The remnants of Medieval strip fields are visible to the north, as noted earlier (paragraph 4.8.3).
- 4.9.6 The earthworks relating to the hillfort are depicted for the first time on the Ordnance Survey map of 1907 (Fig. 4), but little else has changed. The earthworks are shown as three semi circular features.
- 4.9.7 The Ordnance Survey map of 1964 (Fig. 5) is the first map of the study site after the death of Dylan Thomas in 1958. The poets association with Laugharne has ensured that his home, The Boat House, and his tool shed have been Listed Grade II (HER 8827 and 61933). Both buildings lie to the south of the study site towards the bottom of the steep valley sides and are not visible from the study site and visa-versa.
- 4.9.8 By the publication of the Ordnance Survey in 1973 (Fig. 6) the earthwork is shown clearly and is identified as such. Glan-y-Mor is referred to as a country club and this is the early predecessor to the current park. It was granted planning permission in 1960. Beyond the study site the narrow Medieval fields have been largely removed to form more extensive fields. The track that forms the northern boundary no longer continues to 'Dolacorse'.

#### 4.10 Scheduled Ancient Monuments

- 4.10.1 There is a single SAM within the study site and two more beyond it but within the 1km search radius, as identified above. Cadw's records indicate that SAM CM232 comprises the remains of a small D-shaped enclosure defined by a single incomplete grass covered and earthen built bank that is semi-circular in shape on plan. It measures c. 80m northeast-southwest by c. 35m transversely and up to 2m in height. The site has been disturbed in the past and the enclosing bank peters out towards the southwest side. In addition to indicating the earthworks probable Iron Age date, the Cadw guidebook to Laugharne Castle mentions the probable use of the earthwork as a Parliamentarian battery during the 1644 siege of Laugharne Castle.
- 4.10.2 The Scheduled Ancient Monument, the monument was scheduled in November 1985. The records indicate that the monument was included on the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales in 1917 and has been monitored by both site visits and aerial photographic survey since the 1980s. The records note the landscaping undertaken in the immediate area, in particular the dumping to the immediate west of the monument of excavated material from the construction of the tennis court and the excavation of service trenches through the scheduled area. The setting of the monument beyond the scheduled area has been limited by these works and by the construction of the holiday park buildings and associated planting. Cadw were consulted as part of the recent application for redevelopment of the southern part of the study site. The Inspector then dealing with the application, Kate Roberts, has advised that while Cadw did not object to the scheme they did highlight the need to maintain lines of site with the castle particularly in light of the potential civil war activity.
- 4.8.1 The HER reference confirms that the site is damaged and suggests that the SAM may no longer be considered of schedulable quality. No such statement is provided by Cadw.
- 4.8.2 The monuments outside of the study site but within the 1km search area are Laugharne Castle (SAM CM003) and its associated Registered Historic

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Park and Garden to the south and the standing stone to the north (SAM CM310).

### 4.9 Conservation Area and Listed Buildings

4.9.1 The Laugharne Conservation Area includes the southern two thirds of the study site and the eastern edge. However there are no listed buildings within the study site. There are two Grade II listed buildings to the east and a large number within Laugharne itself. The majority of these are Post-Medieval Grade II listed dwellings, but St Martin's Church is Grade II\* and Laugharne Castle is listed Grade I.

# 4.10 Historic Landscape

- 4.10.1 The study site forms part of an historic agricultural landscape as well as a literary one. The study site is situated within the Taf and Tywi Estuary Registered Historic Landscape (HLW (D) 9) and as such is a landscape of national importance in the Welsh context. The historic landscape comprises an extensive area of coastal lowland, cliffs, marshes, sand dunes and intertidal sand bars situated within the estuaries of the Rivers Taf, Tywi, and Gwendraeth, containing diverse evidence of activity from the Prehistoric period onwards. It incorporates the historic character area of Laugharne Town and Broadway. A description of the essential historic landscape components that characterise this area are described below.
- 4.10.2 The small town of Laugharne centres on the Medieval Castle which dominates both the town and foreshore. The key characteristic of the town itself are the stone-built and stucco 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century buildings that flank King Street, culminating in the town hall and Castle House. Houses on other streets are less imposing, although stone-built cottages and terraces of small houses with slate gabled roofs provide a uniformity of style. St Martin's Church, dating to the mid-15<sup>th</sup> century lies to the north of the town with a loose cluster of mainly 19th century housing. Linear development of the 20<sup>th</sup> century connects this area with the main town. Larger developments include an estate of council houses overlooking the town to the south with adjacent school and cluster of dwellings at Broadway. Tourist industry development comprises the large holiday

complex of chalets at Glan-y-Mor, a caravan park at Ants Hill and works associated with Dylan Thomas's Boathouse and Laugharne Castle. Recorded archaeology is predominantly confined to the towns Medieval history and later Post-Medieval domestic dwellings, although an Iron Age enclosure is present at Glan-y-Mor and an early Christian monument and cist cemetery at the church.

4.10.3 Landmap classifies both the historic landscape character (CRMRTHL40181) and the cultural landscape (CRMRTCL031) of the study site as of outstanding value, it also falls within the Laugharne settlement area which is classified as of High importance. The wood located along the east edge the study site is thought to be that referred to in Dylan Thomas' radio and stage play, Under Milk Wood', which was published in 1954. It should be noted that the geographical inspiration for the play is disputed, with New Quay a rival location. Recent research has shown that most of the play was written in South Leigh in west Oxfordshire and while Thomas was on tour in the United States (Thomas 2004).

### 5.0 SITE CONDITIONS AND THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

#### 5.1 Site Conditions

5.1.1 A site inspection undertaken on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2010. The study site comprises a Holiday Park containing communal buildings, chalets, facilities and access roads (Fig. 7 and Plates 1-6). A number of the chalets in the south of the study site have been demolished but their locations are still visible (Plate 7). The central part of the study site is mostly grass, but landscaping to form flat platforms for static caravans are present along the north side. Mounds that are grassed over lie to the immediate west off he SAM (Plate 8). This is the spoil from the excavations associated with the tennis court, which lies to the north of the SAM some 2m below (at its deepest) the natural slope (Plate 9). The SAM itself is clearly visible as an earthwork (Plate 10).

#### 5.2 The Proposed Development

5.2.1 The development will comprise the demolition of the existing cabin and facilities and the construction of new chalets and facilities across the site. No works are proposed within the Scheduled Area.

#### 5.3 The Impacts of Previous Development

5.3.1 The archaeological potential of the study site is affected by the disturbance that previous development will have caused. The locations of the chalets and facilities and associated landscaping will have removed or significantly truncated any archaeological deposits that may have previously survived. In areas where no such work has been undertaken buried remains may be preserved.

#### 5.4 Discussion

5.4.1 The presence of a SAM in the centre of the site clearly indicates the archaeological potential for this part of the study site. The planning permission which has been granted for the south of the study site requires

the implementation of a programme of archaeological work and as such a similar requirement would be expected for the larger application. While no works are proposed that will have a direct impact on the SAM new chalets and facilities are proposed near by and as such their impact on the setting of the monument needs to be considered. However, the setting of this monument beyond its immediate environs has already been significantly compromised through landscaping, construction and planting and as such the new proposals will be an opportunity to improve the setting.

#### 6.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 Seasons Holidays Plc are proposing redevelopment of their holiday park at Laugharne Park, Laugharne, Carmarthenshire.
- 6.2 This desk-based assessment confirms the presence of a SAM within the study site and therefore there is high potential for Late Prehistoric Heritage Assets to be present. Recent planning permission for redevelopment of the southern part of the study site attached a condition for the undertaking of a programme of archaeological work prior to construction and demolition of the existing structures. It is anticipated that a similar condition will be attached should the Council be minded to grant permission. No development will take place within the Scheduled Area. The relationship of the SAM and Laugharne Castle will need to be considered during the master planning process.

# SOURCES CONSULTED

#### <u>General</u>

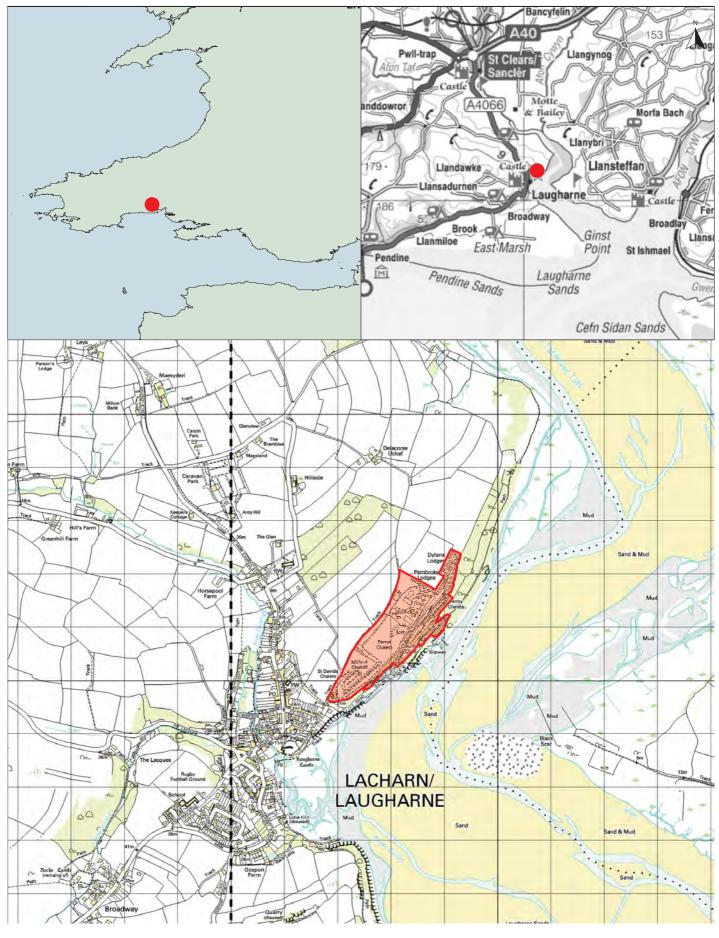
Cambria Archaeology Historic Environment Record Cambria Archaeology Heritage Management Archaeologist Cambria Archaeology Planning Archaeologist National Monuments Record of Wales (NMRW) Cadw Archaeological Records Officer

#### 7.2 Bibliographic and Documentary

Avent, R, 1988, Laugharne Castle Excavations, 1976-1988 Archaeology in Wales 28 Avent. R. 1987. The siege of Laugharne Castle from 28<sup>th</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1644. In *Castles in Wales and the Marches* British Geological Survey Sheet 229, 1975 Cadw 1991 Laugharne Castle guidebook GSB. 1991. Geophysical Survey oat Glan-y-Mor, Laugharne, Dyfed 91/04 Thomas, D, N 2004 Dylan Remembered Thomas D, 1954 'Under Milk Wood'. TCASFC 1910-11 *Transactions of the Carmarthen Antiquarian Society and Field Club Vol 6* TCASFC 1922 *Transactions of the Carmarthen Antiquarian Society and Field Club Vol 16* 

# 7.3 Cartographic

1842 Laugharne Tithe map
1888 Ordnance Survey
1907 Ordnance Survey
1973 Ordnance Survey
1964 Ordnance Survey
2006 Ordnance Survey
2000 Ordnance Survey
2010 Ordnance Survey



Site location

Project title: LAUGHARNE PARK CARMARTHEN

Date printed:

OCTOBER 10

Not to scale

Illustrative only

Drawn by: HS

Checked by: GP

London

Newark

ning & Development ogy & Historic Buildi

ING

Cheltenham Kettering

Birmingham

www.cgms.co.uk

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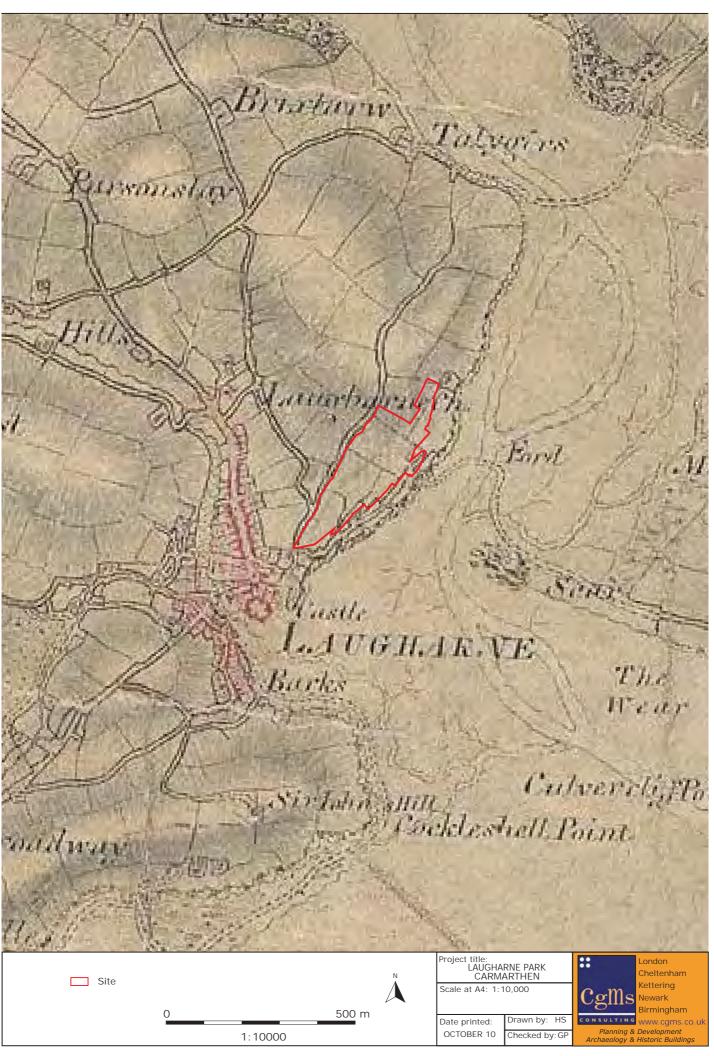
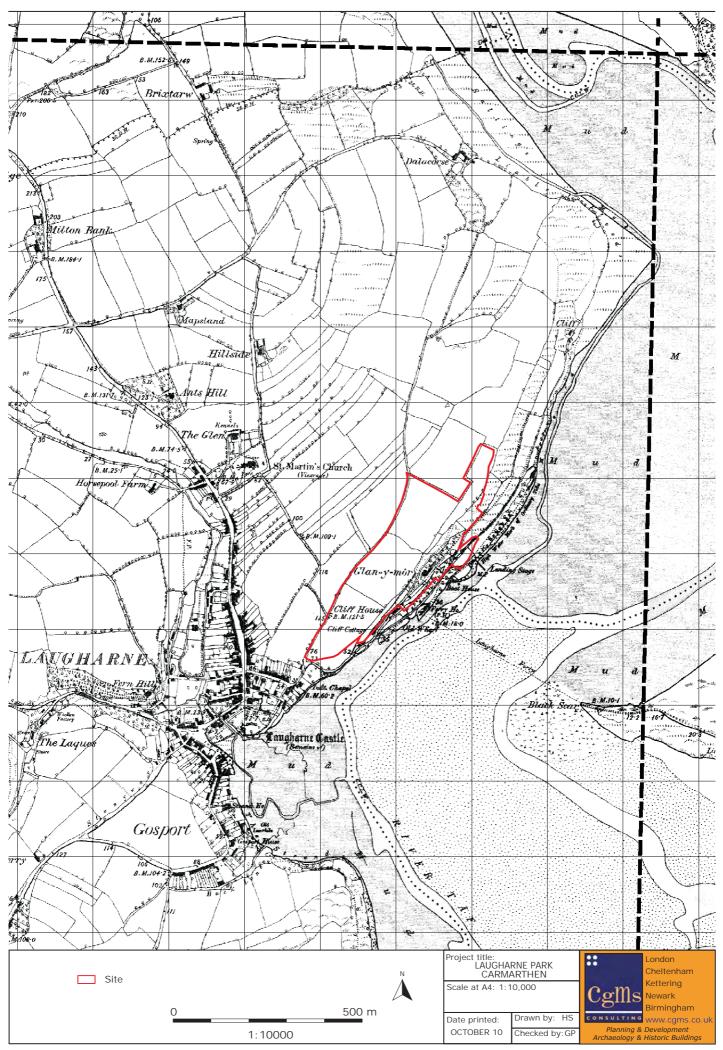
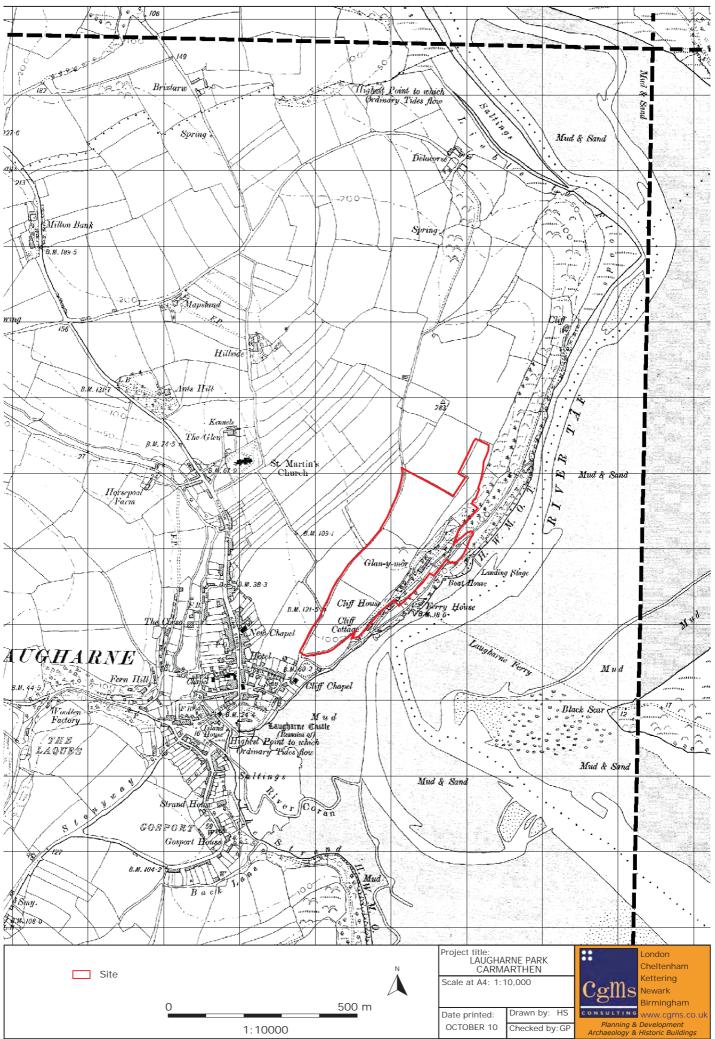


Figure 2: 1811 Ordnance Survey drawing





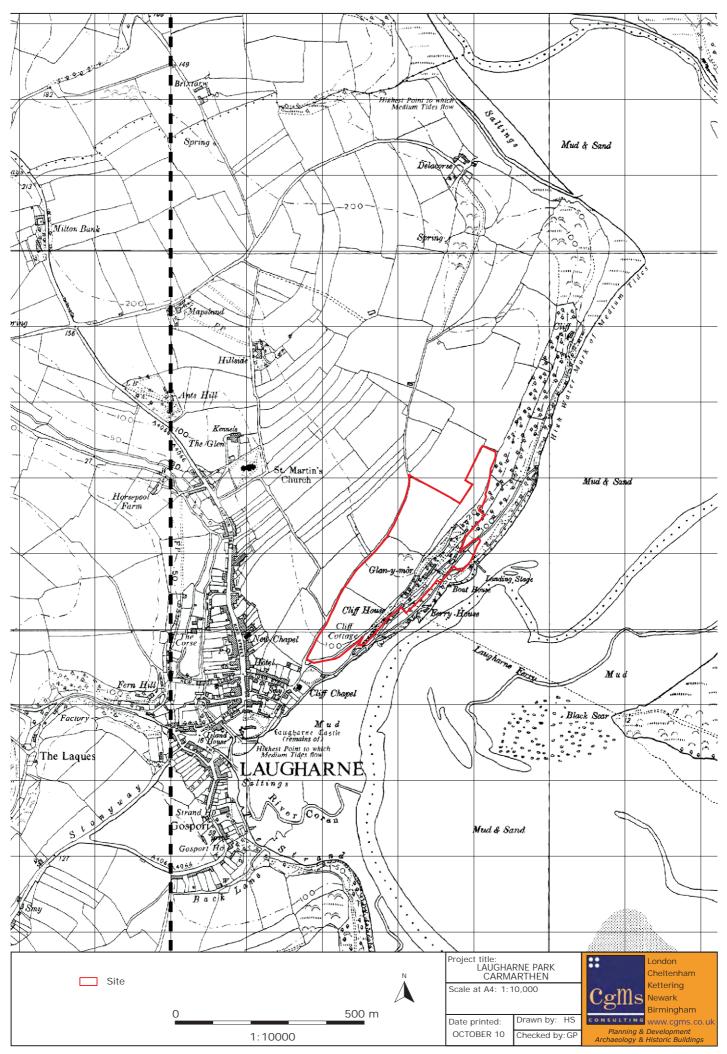


Figure 5: 1964 Ordnance Survey

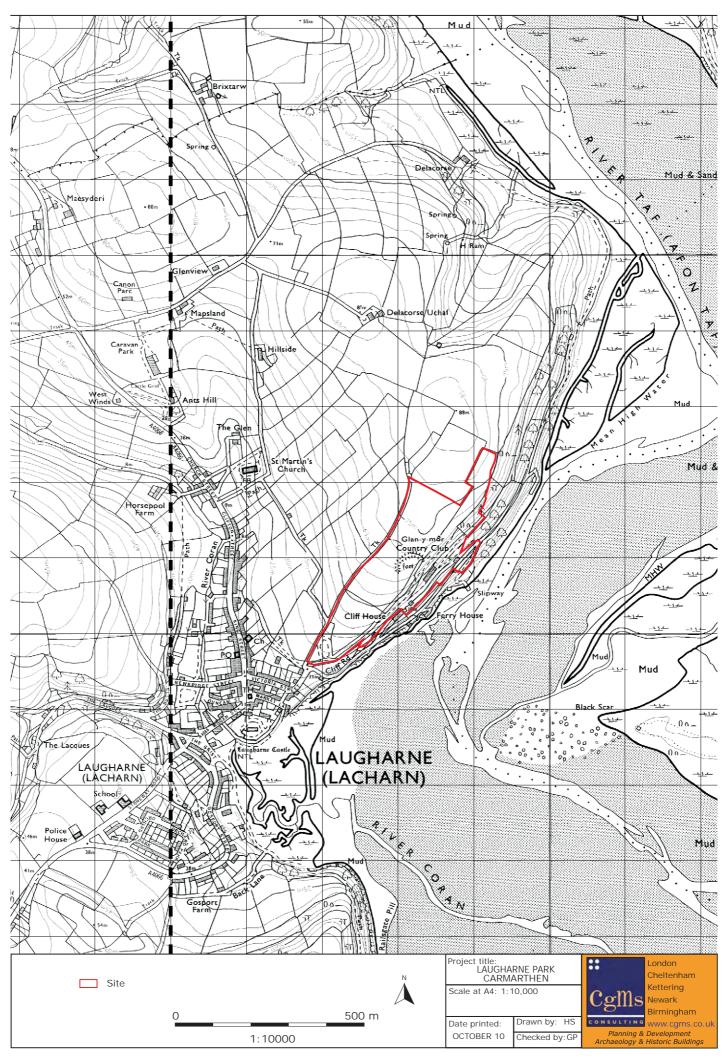


Figure 6: 1973 Ordnance Survey

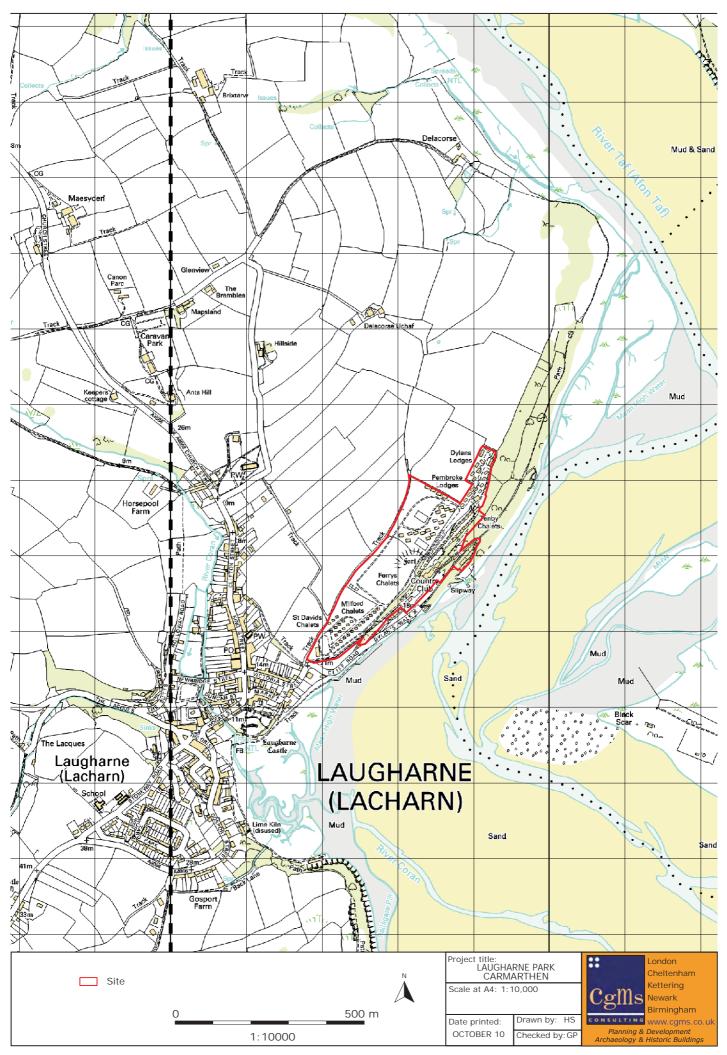


Figure 7: 2000 Ordnance Survey

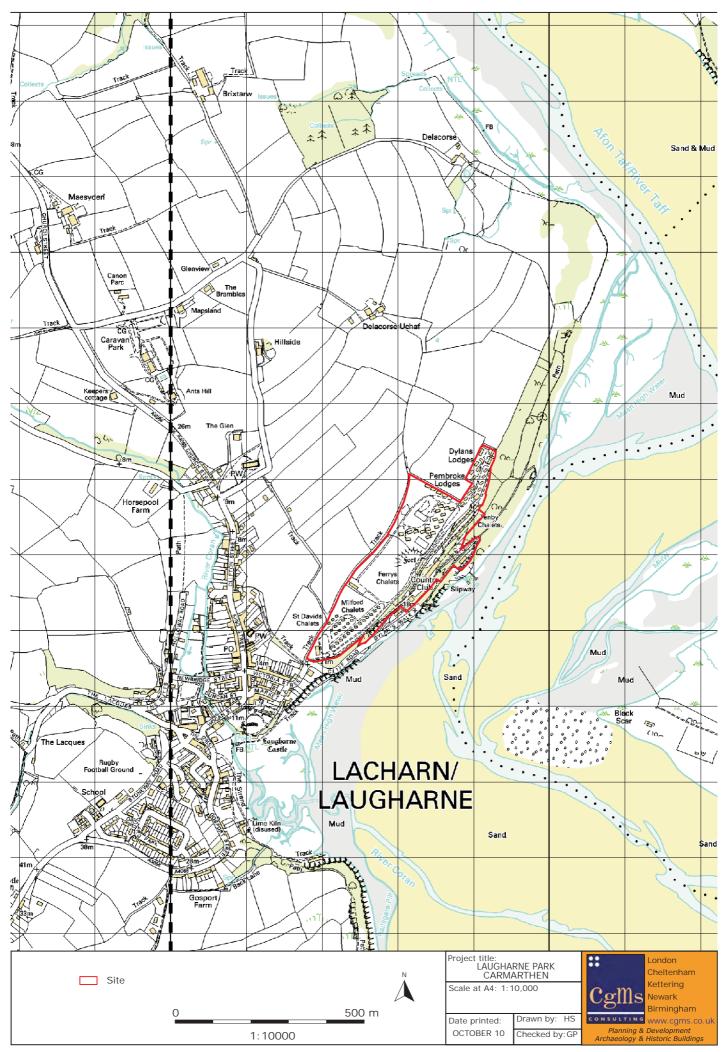
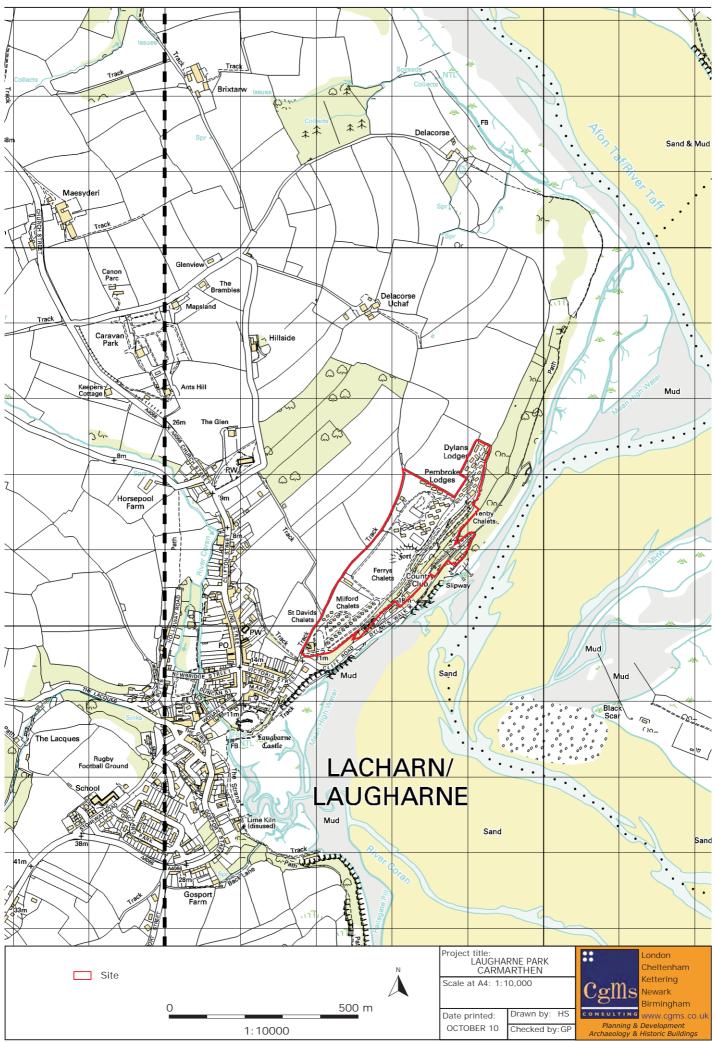


Figure 8: 2006 Ordnance Survey



AL 100014723

Figure 9: 2010 Ordnance Survey



Plate 1: South end of study site looking south



Plate 2: Caravan at south of site, looking south



Plate 3: North end of study site looking north



Plate 4: East side of site looking southeast to Carmarthen Bay



Plate 5: North end of stuidy site looking northwest



Plate 6: West side of study site looking northwest



Plate 7: Location of demolished cabin



Plate 8: Locations of caravan platforms and spoil heaps in centre of site

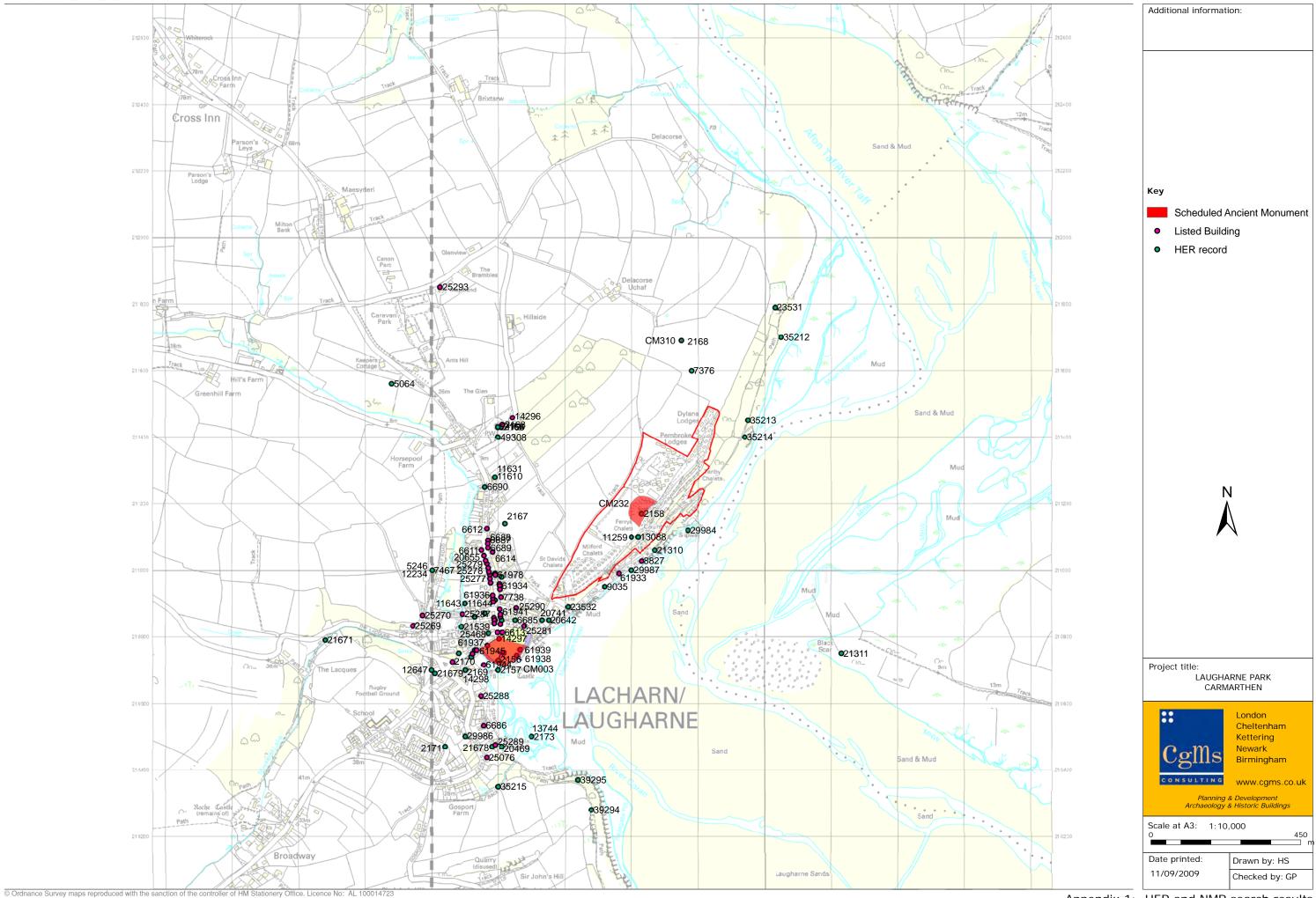


Plate 9: Area of tennis court, looking north



Plate 10: SAM earthwork looking northwest

**Appendix 1:** Gazetteer listing monument, event, and Listed Building numbers with corresponding HER/NMR records



Appendix 1: HER and NMR search results

## Dyfed Archaeological Trust HER record

PRN	NAME	FORM	CONDITION	EAST	NRTH	ТҮРЕ	PERIOD	STATUS	GRADE
11631	CROFT THE	Documents		230190	211280	MIDDEN	Medieval		
11259	GLAN-Y-MOR	Finds		230600	211100	FINDSPOT	Roman		
11610	LAUGHARNE;THE CROFT	Documents		230190	211280	CIST	Early Medieval, Bronze		
						GRAVE	Age		
						CEMETERY			
11643	CORS THE	Finds		230100	210900	FINDSPOT	Iron Age		
11644	CORS THE	Finds		230100	210900	FINDSPOT	Prehistoric		
12234	MOUNTAIN QUARRY	Finds		230000	211000	FINDSPOT	Mesolithic		
12647	LAUGHARNE	Documents		230000	210700	CORN MILL	Medieval		
13088	GLAN-Y-MOR	O.Struct	Near intact	230620	211100	MIDDEN	Prehistoric		
13744	THE GREEN BANKS	Тород		230300	210500	COMMON	Post-Medieval, Medieval		
						LAND			
14296	LAUGHARNE PARISH	Earthwork	Intact	230243	211458	CHURCHYA	Post-	listed building	II
	CHURCH;ST MARTIN OF					RD	Medieval, Medieval, Early		
	TOURS;ST MICHAEL'S						Medieval		
14297	LAUGHARNE CASTLE	Building	Restored	230202	210794	GATEHOUS	Medieval	listed building	I
						E			
14298	LAUGHARNE CASTLE	O.Struct	Near intact	230100	210700	BOUNDARY	Post-Medieval, Medieval	listed building	2
						WALL			
14405	BUTCHER'S ARMS HOUSE	Finds		230170	210810	FINDSPOT	Medieval		
20469	STRAND THE	Building	Not known	230210	210470	LIME KILN	Post-Medieval		
20642	CLIFF CHAPEL	O.Struct	Intact	230350	210850	CEMETERY	Post-Medieval		
20643	NEW CHAPEL	Building	Intact	230210	210980	CHAPEL	Post-Medieval		
20652	MILL THE	Building	Not known	230080	210750	MILL	Post-Medieval		

20654	MANSE;PELICAN	Building	Intact	230190	210910	MANSE	Post-Medieval	listed building	2
20655	VICARAGE	Building	Intact	230158	211044	VICARAGE	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
20741	CLIFF CHAPEL	Building	Destroyed	230330		NONCONF ORMIST MEETING HOUSE,CH APEL	Post-Medieval		
21310	LAUGHARNE FERRY HOUSE	Building	Near intact	230670	211060		Post-Medieval		
21311	BLACK SCAR	Building	Damaged	231230	210750		Post-Medieval		
	LAUGHARNE COMMON POUND	Documents		230090	210830	POUND	Post-Medieval		
	NEWBRIDGE STREET;THE CORS	Building	Restored	230130	210860	CHAPEL	Post-Medieval		
	NEWBRIDGE STREET INFANTS SCHOOL	Building	Restored	230160	210870	SCHOOL	Post-Medieval		
21547	WOGAN STREET;TABERNABLE	Building	Destroyed	230130	210760	CHAPEL	Post-Medieval		
	LAUGHARNE CASTLE;ABERCOWAN	Building	Restored	230200	210730	CASTLE	Medieval	scheduled ancient monument, guardianship ancient monument	
2157	LAUGHARNE CASTLE	Finds		230200	210700	COIN	Roman		1

						HOARD			
2158	GLAN-Y-MOR EARTHWORK	Earthwork	Damaged	230630	211170	HILLFORT	Iron Age	scheduled ancient monument	
2163	LAUGHARNE PARISH CHURCH;ST MARTIN OF TOURS;ST MICHAEL'S	Building	Restored	230213	211437	CHURCH	Post-Medieval, Medieval	listed building	*
2164	LAUGHARNE PARISH CHURCH;ST MARTIN OF TOURS;ST MICHAEL'S	O.Struct	Intact	230210	211430	CROSS	Early Medieval		
2165	ST MARTIN'S	O.Struct	Not known	230210	211430	DELETED	Early Medieval		
2166	ST MARTIN'S CHURCH	Finds		230210	211430	FINDSPOT	Roman, Medieval		
2167	LAUGHARNE CASTLE	Earthwork	Not known	230220	211140	TENNIS COURT	Post-Medieval		
21671	THE LACQUES	Building	Not known	229680		WOOLLEN MILL	Post-Medieval		
21678	THE STRAND	Building	Damaged	230180		WAREHOU SE	Post-Medieval		
21679	STONYWAY ROAD	Building	Damaged	230010	210690	DWELLING	Post-Medieval		
2168	DELACORSE STONE	O.Struct	Near intact	230750		STANDING STONE	Bronze Age		
2169	MARINERS CHAPEL	Documents		230100	210700	CHAPEL	Post-Medieval, Medieval		
2170	GRIST THE	O.Struct	Restored	230061	210725	CROSS	Medieval	listed building	II
2171	ORCHARD PARK	O.Struct	Destroyed	230040	210470	CIST	Bronze Age		
2172	ST MARTIN'S CHURCHYARD	Finds		230200	211430	COIN HOARD	Early Medieval		
	LAUGHARNE HARBOUR;LAUGHARNE PILL	Finds		230300	210500	FINDSPOT	Neolithic		

23531	CLIFF	Building	Not known	231030	211790	COTTAGE	Post-Medieval		
23532	CLIFF CHAPEL	Documents		230410	210890	CHAPEL	Post-Medieval		
24854	KING STREET	Building	Intact	230190		TELEPHON E BOX	Post-Medieval	listed building	2
25076	GOSPORT HOUSE	Building	Restored	230165	210437	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25077	ISLAND HOUSE	Building	Intact	230120	210740	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	2
25269	FERN HILL	Building	Intact	229943	210833	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	11
25270	FERNHILL COTTAGE	Building	Intact	229973	210864	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25271	EXETER HOUSE;PINES THE;ORIEL EVANS BOOKSHOP	Building	Intact	230203	210959	TERRACE	Post-Medieval	listed building	11
25272	ELM HOUSE	Building	Intact	230205	210942	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25273	SHIP AND CASTLE;CORRAN BOOKS	Building	Intact	230185		SHOP,PUBL IC HOUSE	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25274	GAINSFORD HOUSE	Building	Intact	230177	210962	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25275	OSBORNE HOUSE	Building	Intact	230175	210975	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25276	MINERVA	Building	Intact	230174	210987	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25277	REDFORD HOUSE	Building	Intact	230172		SHOP,DWE LLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25278	GROVE HOUSE	Building	Intact	230170	211007	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25279	ABERCORAN HOUSE	Building	Intact	230166	211020	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25280	TEMPERANCE HOUSE	Building	Intact	230163	211029	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25281	SEA VIEW	Building	Intact	230277	210832	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25282	LAUGHARNE CASTLE	O.Struct	Not known	230217	210752	GAZEBO	Post-Medieval	listed building	I
25283	CASTLE HOUSE	O.Struct	Not known	230197		BOUNDARY WALL	Post-Medieval	listed building	11
25284	MARKET STREET NOS.2 3	Building	Intact	230210	210850	TERRACE	Post-Medieval	listed building	2
25285	MANCHESTER HOUSE;GWALIA	Building	Intact	230190	210850	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	2

25286	GLOBE HOUSE (INCLUDING GLEED'S BUTCHER'S SHOP)	Building	Intact	230188	210840	SHOP,DWE LLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25287	CORAN BRIDGE	O.Struct	Intact	230092	210868	BRIDGE	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25288	THE STRAND	Building	Intact	230148	210622	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25289	BALL COURT	Building	Near destroyed	230190	210475	WAREHOU SE	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25290	VICTORIA HOUSE	Building	Intact	230253	210887	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25291	NEW THREE MARINERS	Building	Intact	230204	210883	PUBLIC HOUSE	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25292	ISLAND HOUSE	O.Struct	Restored	230123		GARAGE,B OUNDARY WALL	Post-Medieval	listed building	11
25293	MAPSLAND	Building	Intact	230026	211851	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
25468	BUTCHER'S ARMS HOUSE	Building	Destroyed	230170	210810	PUBLIC HOUSE,DW ELLING	Post-Medieval		
29984	LAUGHARNE	Documents	Not known	230770	211120	SLIPWAY	Post-Medieval, Modern		
29986	LAUGHARNE STRAND	Documents	Not known	230100	210500	LANDING POINT	Unknown		
29987	LAUGHARNE FERRY	Documents	Not known	230600	211000	WHARF	Post-Medieval		
35212	UNKNOWN	Building	Damaged	231050	211700	BUILDING	Post-Medieval		
35213		O.Struct	Near intact	230950	211450	WALL	Post-Medieval		
35214	UNKNOWN	Building	Damaged	230940	211400	COTTAGE	Post-Medieval		
35215		O.Struct	Near intact	230200	210350	SLIPWAY	Post-Medieval		
39294	NEW WALK	Earthwork	Damaged	230480	210280	QUARRY	Unknown		
39295	NEW WALK	Earthwork	Intact	230440	210370	WALK	Post-Medieval		
49308	LAUGHARNE PARISH CHURCH;ST MARTIN OF	O.Struct	Not known	230200	211400	INSCRIBED STONE	Early Medieval		

	TOURS;ST MICHAEL'S								
5064	QUAKERS BURIAL GROUND;QUAKERS YARD	Documents		229880		MEETING HOUSE,CE METERY	Post-Medieval		
5246	LONG LANE	O.Struct	Near intact	230000	211000	TRACKWAY	Medieval		
5247	TOWN HALL	Building	Intact	230206	210838	TOWN HALL	Post-Medieval	listed building	*
	DYLAN THOMAS'S TOOL-SHED STUDY,DYLAN'S WALK	Building		230563		TOOL- SHED/STU DY,TOOL- SHED & STUDY	Post-Medieval	listed building	11
	THE PINES,INCLUDING ORIEL EVANS BOOKSHOP, KING STREET	Building		230204	210953	SHOP	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
61935	MANSE, KING STREET	Building		230184	210916	HOUSE	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
61936	PELICAN, KING STREET	Building		230183	210924	HOUSE	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
	SECTION OF BOUNDARY WALLS AROUND CASTLE GROUNDS RUNNING SW.FROM OUTER GATEHOUSE, MARKET STREET	Building		230167		CASTLE BOUNDARY WALLS	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
	SECTION OF BOUNDARY WALLS AROUND CASTLE GROUNDS RUNNING E.FROM OUTER GATEHOUSE, MARKET STREET	Building		230266		CASTLE BOUNDARY WALLS	Post-Medieval	listed building	11
	GAZEBO IN GROUNDS OF LAUGHARNE CASTLE,MARKET	Building		230255	210744	GAZEBO	Post-Medieval	listed building	II

	STREET								
61940	NO.2 MARKET STREET	Building		230206	210860	HOUSE	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
61941	NO.3 MARKET STREET	Building		230206	210867	HOUSE	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
61942	MANCHESTER	Building		230187	210857	SHOP	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
	HOUSE,MARKET STREET								
61943	GWALIA,MARKET STREET	Building		230188	210850	SHOP	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
61944	BOUNDARY WALL TO ISLAND	Building		230156	210716	BOUNDARY	Post-Medieval	listed building	П
	HOUSE,WOGAN STREET					WALL			
61945	GARAGE TO ISLAND	Building		230135	210760	GARAGE	Post-Medieval	listed building	П
	HOUSE,WOGAN STREET								
61978	TELEPHONE CALL-BOX	Building		230191			Post-Medieval	listed building	Ш
						E CALL-BOX			
	GREAT HOUSE	Building	Restored	230150			Post-Medieval	listed building	*
6612	CLIFTON VILLA;CLIFTON HOUSE	Building	Intact	230166	211125	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	11
6613	CASTLE HOUSE	Building	Restored	230212	210813	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	*
6614	DRAGON PARK	Building	Intact	230184	211055	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
6685	MADAM BEVAN'S HOUSE	Building	Destroyed	230250	210850	DWELLING	Post-Medieval		
6686	STRAND HOUSE	Building	Intact	230156	210534	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
6687	LIMES THE	Building	Intact	230169	211090	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
6688	MOIR HOUSE	Building	Intact	230169	211080	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
6689	ROSETTA	Building	Intact	230170	211067	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
6690	UPTON HOUSE	Building	Intact	230160	211250	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	2
7376	DELACORSE UCHAF	Cropmark		230780	211600	NOT AN	Unknown		
						ANTIQUITY			
						,ENCLOSUR			
						E			
7467	LAUGHARNE	Finds		230000	211000	FINDSPOT	Medieval		

7738	BROWNS HOTEL	Building	Intact	230208	210919	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
8827	THE BOATHOUSE	Building	Intact	230630	211028	DWELLING	Post-Medieval	listed building	II
9035	CLIFF HOUSE	Finds		230520	210950	FINDSPOT	Post-Medieval		

