



DAT 14569

Russell Bayliss
Technical Support, Felling Permitting
Natural Resources Wales
Maes Y Ffynnon,
Penrhosgarnedd,
Bangor,
Gwynedd,
LL57 2DW

11th May 2020

Dear Russell,

FLA 45 20-21 Cwmfforest

Thank you for your consultation. I have checked the map boundaries against the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) and other sources and have identified the following historic environment features recorded within the consultation area:



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Cadeirydd/Chair
J Protheroe-Jones

Cyfarwyddwr/Director
Mr K Murphy BA MCIfA



PRN 64492

SITE TYPE: COTTAGE

PERIOD: POST MEDIEVAL

NGR: SN02323920

DESCRIPTION:

Former cottage site in woodland. Identified on the tithe map (c.1843) but absent by the time of the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1889). The ruinous remains are now entirely gone with only one section of standing wall remaining, possibly part of an end gable. A dense under storey of brambles makes further interpretation of the layout of the cottage and its enclosures difficult. 2008

PRN 64490

SITE TYPE: WELL

PERIOD: POST MEDIEVAL

NGR: SN02183906

DESCRIPTION:

A well, recorded on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1889). Possibly associated with nearby Dyffryn isaf farmstead. 08/10/2008 WWS.

PRN 94215

SITE TYPE: STANDING STONE?; GATEPOST?

PERIOD: UNKNOWN

NGR: SN02253903

DESCRIPTION:

A roughly shaped semi-circular sectioned stone, standing approximately 0.6m high by 0.5m wide at its base, tapering to a rounded top.

The stone is situated at a break in a relict hedge bank, defining a small paddock enclosure and may have served as a gatepost, although the possibility that it could have been a standing stone in the prehistoric or medieval periods cannot be discounted. WWS 2008

PRN 94218

SITE TYPE: GRAVESTONE

PERIOD: UNKNOWN

NGR: SN02393919

DESCRIPTION:

According to the owners a gravestone survives in this general location, with a Welsh dedication (? Jenkins).

There is no known evidence of a burial ground at or near to this location.

This site was not visited at the time of the archaeological farm visit. No further information known.

PRN 94219

SITE TYPE: PROMONTORY FORT

PERIOD: IRON AGE

NGR: SN02263895

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DESCRIPTION:

A possible defended enclosure occupying a blunt inland promontory on the coastal slope between Dinas Cross and Newport. The site was recorded initially by W M Jones in 1997 at the invitation of the landowner and has only recently become known to the Trust. The enclosure is naturally defended by the steep slopes of Cwm Dyffryn to the north and west whilst the land rises gently away to the east and south.

Internally the enclosed area measures 45m E-W by 70m N-S, defined by a curving ditch and bank on the steeply sloping north side, and a ditch on the east. Beyond this a deep stream gully (tributary of Cwm Dyffryn) could have provided a further line of defence. The defences on the southern side (the neck) no longer survive; low ramparts are remembered here by the landowner although these have since been spread by ploughing. Jones describes "hummocks or banks" and although not currently visible these could lie beneath the scrub. Traces of scarping can be discerned in the undergrowth on the steeper west side.

A number of hedge banks cross the area, apparently relating to the later farmstead of Dyffryn-isaf; this and other landscaping may have confused the original appearance of the monument. The tithe apportionment (1843?) gives the field name as "waste and old road" and it is possible that an old trackway may have skirted the eastern part of the site whilst a gap has been driven through the rampart on the north-west side.

The interior of the enclosure lies under improved pasture which is kept mown by the owner, the defences and slopes are under scrub and woodland. A history of tree cover makes interpretation from the air difficult. A late winter visit would better establish the true nature and form of this monument. W Steele 2008

PRN 118192

SITE TYPE: HUT CIRCLE

PERIOD: MODERN

NGR: SN02293916

DESCRIPTION:

The earthwork lies within a small triangular field enclosure above Cwm Dyffryn. Wall bases approximately 0.3m wide define a circular building 6m diameter with a probable entrance to west. A former stone slab floor surface is visible inside. It is remembered locally that this is the remains of a "bender" (a simple shelter of bended tree branches), built by hippies in the 1970s as a camp during the summer solstice. No management recommendations (WWS 2008).

PRN 118349

SITE TYPE: FARMSTEAD

PERIOD: POST MEDIEVAL

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NGR: SN02243899

DESCRIPTION:

A ruinous small farmstead complex, recorded on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1889) with two loosely opposing main ranges and a separate smaller building to the rear.

It is not clear if this is the Diffryn Trevaer mentioned in land tax returns of 1793 in the parish (Charles 1992, 39). The site is on a terraced natural shelf above Cwm Dyffryn and today lies within mature deciduous woodland. The farmhouse ruin in the west of the complex consists of two rooms, the north of which has a partially surviving end chimney, its corbelled arched fireplace suggesting some antiquity. The plan of the outbuildings is no longer discernible. The complex lies within deciduous woodland and is currently in a fairly stable condition. Stone and slate has been taken from the building in the past and used to create bivouacs and other structures. This activity seems to have stopped now (WWS 2008).

Each of these features are vulnerable to damage by forestry operations. We would recommend that within the archaeologically sensitive areas shown as shaded in the above map; replanting should be avoided, and also any ground disturbing activities which may damage earthworks or below ground deposits. Opportunities for pro-active management include careful control of scrub and natural regeneration of trees on or near to historic features - vegetation should be cut off at ground level rather than its roots pulled or dug out. Any unstable trees or branches should be carefully removed. For further information or advice please contact Dyfed Archaeological Trust Heritage Management.

There is always the possibility for previously unknown remains to survive within this area of which we have no knowledge. Should further archaeological features or finds be identified it is important that Dyfed Archaeological Trust Heritage Management is informed and further information and advice can then be provided as required.

Alice Pyper

Alice Pyper
Heritage Management Project Manager
01558 825993

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