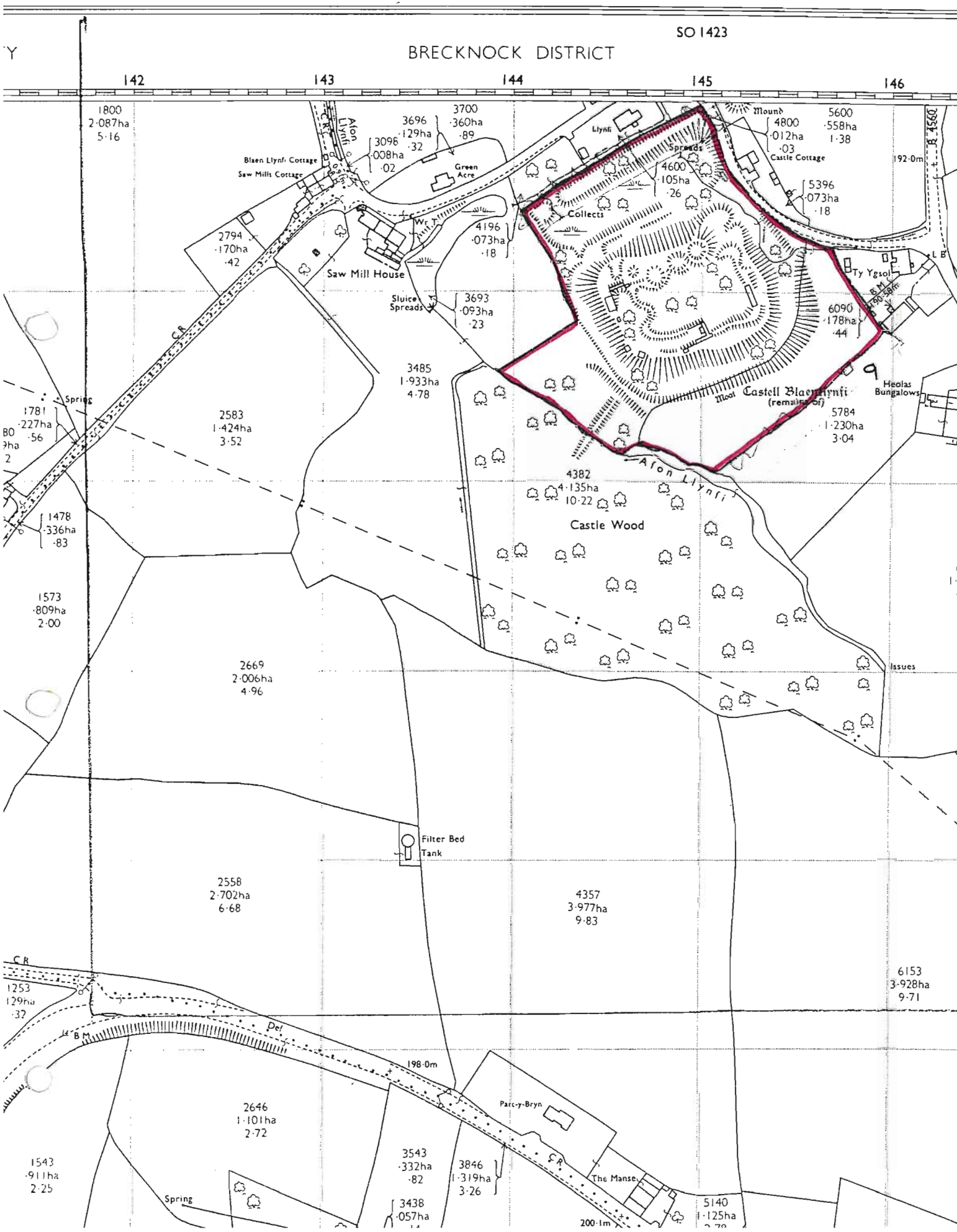
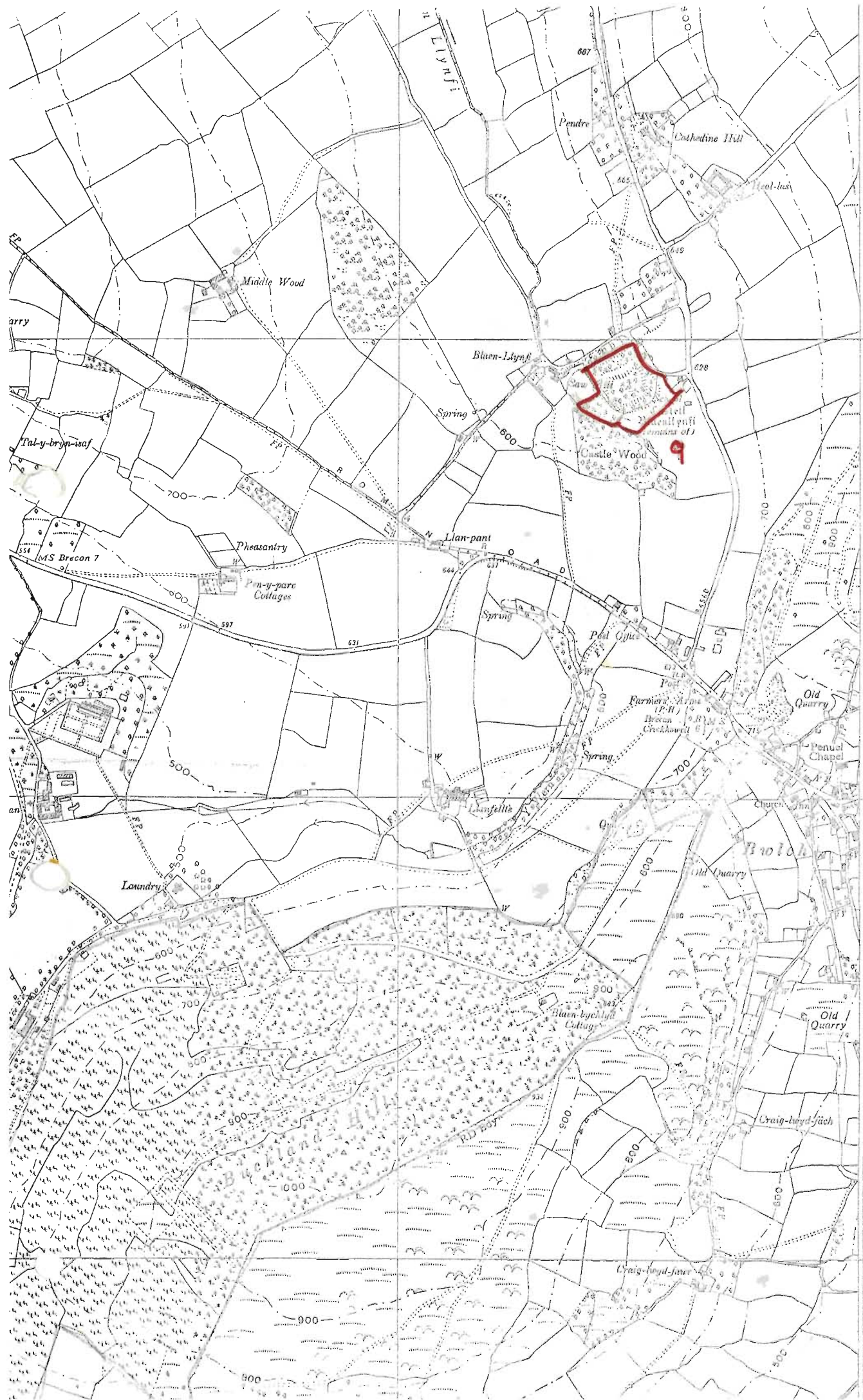


S Scale 1:2500





50 12 80

LAT
51° 54'

23

Crickhowell 5 1/2 Miles
22

LAT
51° 53'

CRICKHOWELL RD
LLANFANGEL CWMU RH

21

0
1
2
3
4

Pm 651

Full Management Report - Internal Use
SAM Information Section 1 (General Information)

SAM No: BR009(POW)	AI No: 1	File No: 0527	Schedule Ref: 17/0527/BR009(POW)//
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SAM Name: Castell Blaen-Llynfi

	Traditional	Qualifier	NGR-X	NGR-Y	Scheduled:
NGR	SO145229	0	314500	222900	Yes
	1:50, 000	1:10, 000	1:2, 500		
Primary	161	SO12SW	SO1422		

Additional

Unitary Authority(UA):
Powys

Community:
Llanfihangel, Cwmdru with Bwlch and Cathedine

Area(Ha): 2.42

Primary Class: Medieval and Post Medieval Secular
Additional Class:

Summary:

Full Management Report - Internal Use
SAM Information Section 1 (General Information)

SAM No: BR009(POW)	SAM Name: Castell Blaen-Llynfi
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Archaeological History:

Events	Name	Date
Part excavation	Blackham	1968

Sources:

Type	Collection	Author	Year
Descriptive text	AM7		
Title:		Other:	

Type	Collection	Author	Year
Descriptive text	AM107	Whittle E	1988
Title:		Other:	

Type	Collection	Author	Year
Photograph	AM107	Whittle E	1988
Title:		Other:	

Type	Collection	Author	Year
Descriptive text	AM107	Taylor F	1993
Title:		Other:	

Type	Collection	Author	Year
Photograph	AM107	Taylor F	1993
Title:		Other:	

Type	Collection	Author	Year
Map	1:10,000 / 1:2,500		
Title:	Current Scheduled Area	Other:	

Type	Collection	Author	Year
Plan: sketch		Burnham H	1990
Title:		Other:	

Type	Collection	Author	Year
Photograph		Burnham H	1990
Title:		Other:	

Type	Collection	Author	Year
Photograph			
Title:		Other:	

Full Management Report - Internal Use
SAM Information Section 1 (General Information)

SAM No: BR009(POW) **SAM Name:** Castell Blaen-Llynfi

Type Descriptive text	Collection	Author Dorling P	Year 1992
Title: Management Plan		Other:	

Type Aerial photograph	Collection	Author	Year 1987
Title: 87-MB-485		Other:	

Type Descriptive text	Collection	Author Lloyd J E	Year 1911
Title: History of Wales		Other: vol 2, pp 621, 624	

Type Descriptive text	Collection Arch Cambrensis 2nd (or 'new') ser, vol 4	Author Anon	Year 1853
Title: 7th Annual Meeting, Brecon - excursion Weds 14th Sept 1853		Other: p 316	

Type Descriptive text	Collection Arch Cambrensis 4th ser vol 7	Author Clark G T	Year 1876
Title: Blaen-Llyfni		Other: p 284	

Type Descriptive text	Collection AM107C	Author Burnham H B	Year 2002
Title:		Other:	

Type Photograph	Collection AM107B	Author Burnham H B	Year 2002
Title:		Other: HBB 02/4/9-10	

Type Descriptive text	Collection Arch Cambrensis 4th ser vol 7	Author Banks R W	Year 1876
Title: Blaenllyfni, Crickhowell and Tretower Castles		Other: p 312	

Type Descriptive text	Collection Brycheiniog vol 7, pp 71-94	Author Cathcart King D J	Year 1961
Title: The Castles of Breconshire		Other: no 1, p 74	

Type Aerial photograph	Collection	Author RCAHMMW	Year 1998
Title:		Other: 985025-44	

Full Management Report - Internal Use

Archaeological Item Information

Section 1: General

AI No: BR009A		AI Name: Castell Blain-Llynfi	
Altitude(m):	185	Trust PRN: CP651	Endex PRN: 92009
Qualifier:	NGR-X:	NGR-Y:	
0			
Sitetype (FMW): Castle			
Period	General: Medieval		Date: C12
	Specific:		
Sitetype (Broad):		Sitetype (Narrow):	
Broad Class: Defence			
Components:			

Status: Scheduled Ancient Monument; National Park

Form: Earthwork	Condition: Fair
Proportion SCH: Complete	Survival within SCH. Area: Some
Summary:	

Section 2: Internal use only - A.I. Monitoring

Date	Name	Office	Purpose	Condition
13/05/1988	Whittle E	FMW	Routine	

Land Class On: Other - Monument; Woodland - Deciduous Native

Land Class Around: Woodland - Deciduous Native; Grassland / Heathland - Undisturbed Grassland; Other - Thoroughfare

26/10/1993	Taylor F	FMW	Routine	Stable
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Land Class On: Other - Monument; Woodland - Deciduous Native

Land Class Around: Woodland - Deciduous Native; Grassland / Heathland - Undisturbed Grassland; Other - Thoroughfare

10/05/2002	Burnham H B	FMW		Stable
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Land Class On: Other - Monument; Woodland - Deciduous Native

Land Class Around: Woodland - Deciduous Native; Grassland / Heathland - Undisturbed Grassland; Other - Thoroughfare; Other - Land boundary

Full Management Report - Internal Use
SAM Visit Description Text

SAM No: BR009(POW)	SAM Name: Castell Blaen-Llynfi
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Visit Date: 13/05/1988

Visited By: Whittle E

Description Text: A de Breos stronghold c 1208 forfeited by William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, to King John, and granted to Peter Fitz Herbert. Recovered by Giles de Breos 1213. [1]

The castle remains are situated on level, low-lying ground, in a wood. The castle stood on a large roughly rectangular mound, with steep sides, c 5 m high. The mound is c 80 m NE-SW x 55 m NW-SE. To the NW of the mound is a large, silted up pond running the whole length of this side. This is roughly rectangular, with a bank along its NW side.

The castle remains consist of isolated bits of curtain walling and interior buildings, some parts standing to a considerable height. Excavations by the owner have revealed further masonry, and the trenches have been left open and abandoned.

Along the N side are a number of hollows, and uneven turfed over heaps of stonework. Trenches dug on this side have revealed dry-stone walling. The walls are thick - c 1.5 m thick in places. In one trench a wall c 2.5 m high has been revealed. Further W a rectangular cutting has revealed a collapsed circular tower in a rectangular wall. Further shallow trenches have been cut down the side of the mound, revealing further walling. Towards the NW corner the ground is very jumbled. A length of walling c 4 m long and 1.8 m high has been excavated and partly consolidated (badly). This appears to continue westwards under the mound in the corner.

Along the SW side of the mound, at the foot of the bank, there is a wide ditch c 2.5-3 m deep on the outside. Stones are jumbled in piles on the top of the mound's edge. A door or window jamb has been revealed in one of the cuttings. This is of dressed stone. There are three isolated sections of curtain wall upstanding on this side. They are of roughly coursed dry stone walling, and have ivy and small shrubs growing on top of them. Their outer and inner sides (SW and NE) are broken off 'insides' of wall, while their sides across the edge of the mound (NW and SE) are the 'outsides'. Each is c 3 m across. The northernmost section is c 3.5 m high and 1.5 m SW-NE. The middle section is c 5 m high, 2 m wide and is also faced on the SW side which is battered. The southernmost section is similar, and c 2.5 m high. Between these sections are the low remains of walling along the edge of the mound. Towards the S end of this side the ditch widens and is flat-bottomed. Outside it is a bank c 1 m high, outside which is a further similar bank at right angles to it.

On the SE side there is a wide flat bottomed ditch along the base of the mound, with no outer bank. At the W end is a deep large trench revealing the walls of a circular tower with an angled wall across and on top of it. On top of this angled wall a square plaque has been inserted by the excavator inscribed with his name, date of excavation etc. Further E is a section of curtain wall similar to those on the SW side, c 3.5 m high. To its E are the walls of a rectangular building, standing to c 1.5-2 m high, with the remains of a slit window on the S side. At the E end of this building is a low rectangular structure, in stone, extending into the 'room', c 0.5 m high, with a narrow opening in the middle. There is a doorway on the N side. To the N of this building is a further rectangular building, c 8 x 3 m and up to 1.5 m high. It is solid stonework up to this height, with a narrow L-shaped passage into it with exist on the W and N sides.

Towards the S end of the NE side is the largest section of walling standing. This is c 13 m long and c 7 m high, and is in reasonable condition. There are shrubs and ivy growing on top of it, but it is otherwise bare. It is battered on both sides from about half-way up. Most of the facing stone has gone from the inside, but outside the facing stone is in place on the upper part of the wall (from c 1.5 m up). To the N of this wall a further excavation trench

Full Management Report - Internal Use
SAM Visit Description Text

SAM No: BR009(POW)

SAM Name: Castell Blaen-Llynfi

has revealed a doorway c 1 m high. Part of the jamb of dressed stone on its S side is in place.

Visit Date: 26/10/1993

Visited By: Taylor F

Description Text: The description of this site remains the same as when last visited in 1988.

I have spoken to Mr Geoff Man and Mr Bob Smith, both assisted the owner in excavations. Mr Smith informed me that the excavation notes and most of the pottery were deposited with Brecon Museum.

Visit Date: 10/05/2002

Visited By: Burnham H B

Description Text:

From Cathcart King 1961:

Blaen Llyfni SO 145 229. This important castle stands on a very slight knoll on a general slope from east to West at the foot of Llangorse Mountain. A ditch is drawn round the knoll, and filled by one of the numerous small watercourses of the vicinity. The shape is vaguely rectangular, with its corners towards the cardinal points. On the sloping ground, the waters of the moat were held up by a bank on the SW, and a fine dam, itself protected by a stream across its front, covers the whole NW and N of the site, and served to form a miniature lake. On the SE there are the remains of an outer enclosure.

The masonry is fragmentary. On the NE side there is a length of straight curtain-wall with traces of a building, probably a small gate, on the E angle. A further length of curtain has fallen. Nothing else stands to any height except four large square buttresses. The base of the curtains, where visible, shows a poor clay-laid masonry with a very small amount of lime. The buttresses, like the standing curtain, are in properly-cemented masonry; hence their survival. They seem, from the slanting profile of their backs, to have been applied to a curtain which was already showing serious weakness. There is part of the flank of a tower, possibly round, at the S angle, and considerable traces of buildings at the NW and SE sides of the enclosure.

This was the principal castle of the large mesne lordship, latterly held direct of the Crown, which bears its name. It lay in a sheltered part of the March, but was captured in 1215 by the Braoses, and in 1233 by Earl Richard Marshall and Llywelyn the Great.

Helen Burnham's visit text:

The site lies within a rather pleasant area of woodland, consisting mainly of sycamores, with quite a bit of ivy. Most of the woodland floor is covered in nettles and another soft plant of similar size, though there are also some brambles and scrubby saplings. The larger pieces of masonry, including a substantial stretch on the south-east side, are still visible, and have now been consolidated, but many of the smaller features were already obscured beneath the growing spring ground cover at the time of the visit and some look as though the brambles are encroaching longer-term. The impressive earthwork elements of the structure remain much as before. Some woodland management has obviously taken place at some point, since there are piles of logs here and there; in particular, a tree has been removed from the lower masonry in the south corner.

The smaller pieces of masonry and excavated remains seem rather more extensive than either OS or Liz Whittle's sketch suggest, though the exposed masonry is not in especially good condition and trenches do not appear to have been backfilled. It is now much more difficult to make out the excavated features and locate all the trenches than it was 12 years

Full Management Report - Internal Use
SAM Visit Description Text

SAM No: BR009(POW)

SAM Name: Castell Blaen-Llynfi

or so ago.

Probably not a site to attempt in high summer!

CADW:WELSH HISTORIC MONUMENTS

Ancient Monuments Record Form

01 Site number	02 Cross reference		03 G R number
04 County: <i>Ponys</i>	05 County number: <i>B9</i>	06 Local Authority: <i>Brecknock</i>	
07 Community: <i>Cathedine</i>	08 NGR: <i>SO145 229</i>	09 Height OD: <i>185m</i>	10 File number: <i>ANC/0527</i>
11 Site Name: <i>Castell Blaen-Uynfi</i>			
12 Description:			

The description of this site remains the same as when last visited in 1988

I have spoken to Mr Geoff Meen and Mr Bob Smith, both assisted the owner in excavations. Mr Smith informed me that the excavation notes and most of the pottery were deposited with Brecon Museum.

<7>

13 Site type/Period - general/Period - specific/Form Castle/Medieval/C12/Earthwork; ruined building	
14 Proportion of Site Scheduled:Survival within Scheduled Area/Condition 1/4/c	15 Area
16 Land Class. on site Other 8; woodland 1 (unmanaged)	17 Land class. around site Grassland heathland 2 Woodland 1 (unmanaged) other 11 (roads)
18 Site Status SAM	19 Area Status

Site No	Site Name
---------	-----------

25 Assessment of Importance of Monument:

26 Scheduling Procedure

Date	19	/Recommended/IAM,
/	/19	/IApproved (Not Approved/PIAM,
/	/19	/IRecommended (Not Approved/Ancient Monuments Board
/	/19	/Notices Sent
/	/19	/Monument included in Schedule

27 Monument not scheduled, de-scheduled because

28 Archaeological History Event Name Date

part excavated / Blackham / 1968 onwards

29 Visits Name Date

Whittle E FMW/13/5/1988
Taylor F FMW/26/10/1993

30 Sources Source Type Collection Author Date Title Other

Desc text / AM7 /// <1>
Desc text / AM107 / Whittle E / 1988 // <2>
Desc text // Lloyd / History of Wales 11/62, 644 <3>
Desc text / Arch Camb. // 11, 1v, /// 316 <4>
Desc text / Arch Camb / 1v. vii /// 284, 312 <5>
Photos / AM107B / Whittle E / 1988 // <6>
Desc text / AM107 / Taylor F / 1993 // <7>
Photos / AM107B / Taylor F / 1993 // <8>

31 Date of compilation, Updating (For Office Use Only)

AM107(REV.'88)-cr

01 Site number	02 Cross reference	03 G.R. number
04 County (Breck) Powys	05 County number B9	06 Local Authority Brecknock
07 Parish Cathedine	08 NGR SO 145 229	09 Height OD 185 m.
		10 File number ANC/0527

11 Site Name
Castell Blaen-llynfi

12 Description A de Breos stronghold c. 1208 forfeited by William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, to King John, and granted to Peter Fitz Herbert. Recovered by Giles de Breos 1213. (1)

The castle remains are situated on level, low-lying ground, in a wood. The castle stood on a large roughly rectangular mound, with steep sides, c. 5 m. high. The mound is c. 80 m NE-SW x 55 m. NW-SE. To the NW of the mound is a large, silted up pond running the whole length of this side. This is roughly rectangular, with a bank along its NW side.

The castle remains consist of isolated bits of curtain walling and interior buildings, some parts standing to a considerable height. Excavations by the owner have revealed further masonry, and the trenches have been left open and abandoned.

Along the N side are a number of hollows, and uneven turfed over heaps of stonework. Trenches dug on this side have revealed dry-stone walling. The walls (cont.)

13 Site type/Period - general/Period - specific/Form
Castle/Mediaeval/C12/Earthwork; ruined building

14 Proportion of Site Scheduled/Survival within Scheduled Area/Condition
1/4/C

15 Area

16 Land Class, on site
Other 8; woodland 1 (unmanaged)

17 Land class, around site
Grassland heathland 2
Woodland 1 (unmanaged); other 11 (road);

18 Site Status
SAM

19 Area Status

20 Owner(s)
Mrs Blackham, Treholford, Cathedine, Brecon, Powys LD3 7SZ.

21 Occupier(s)
As above

22 Legal Action

23 Works File

ANCIENT MONUMENTS RECORD FORM

continuation form

01

B9

12

are thick - c. 1.5 m. thick in places. In one trench a wall c. 2.5 m. high has been revealed. Further W a rectangular cutting has revealed a collapsed circular tower in a rectangular wall. Further shallow trenches have been cut down the side of the mound, revealing further walling. Towards the NW corner the ground is very jumbled. A length of walling c. 4 m. long and 1.8 m. high has been excavated and partly consolidated (badly). This appears to continue westwards under the mound in the corner.

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On the SE side there is a wide flat bottomed ditch along the base of the mound, with no outer bank. At the W end is a deep large trench revealing the walls of a circular tower with an angled wall across and on top of it. On top of this angled wall a square plaque has been inserted by the excavator inscribed with his name, date of excavation etc. Further E is a section of curtain wall similar to those on the SW side, c. 3.5 m. high. To its E. are the walls of a rectangular building, standing to c. 1.5-2 m. high, with the remains of a slit window on the S side. At the E end of this building is a low rectangular structure, in stone, extending into the 'room', c. 0.5 m. high, with a narrow opening in the middle. There is a doorway on the N side. To the N of this building is a further rectangular building, c. 8 x 3 m. and up to 1.5 m. high. It is solid stonework up to this height, with a narrow L-shaped passage into it with exits on the W and N sides.

Towards the S end of the NE side is the largest section of walling standing. This is c. 13 m. long and c. 7 m. high, and is in reasonable condition. There are shrubs and ivy growing on top of it, but it is otherwise bare. It is battered on both sides from about half-way up. Most of the facing stone has gone from the inside, but outside the facing stone is in place on the upper part of the wall (from c. 1.5 m. up). To the N of this wall a further excavation trench has revealed a doorway c. 1 m. high. Part of the jamb of dressed stone on its S side is in place. (2)

ANCIENT MONUMENTS RECORD FORM

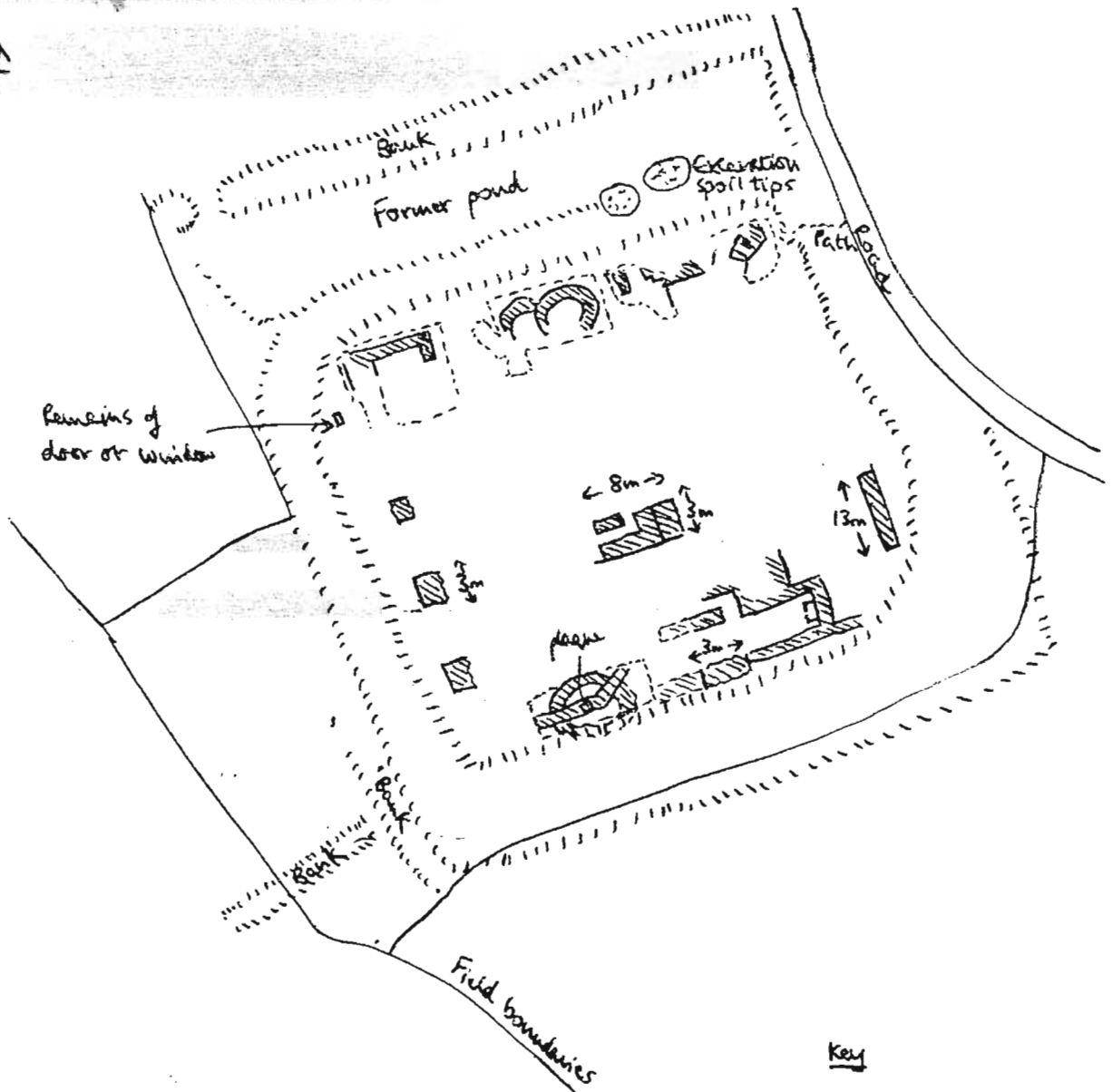
continuation form

01

89

12

Plan of castle



Key

Excavated areas

<2>

Site number

25 Assessment of Importance of Monument

26 Scheduling Procedure

Date	/	/19	/Recommended/IAM,
	/	/19	/(Approved (Not Approved/PIAM,
	/	/19	/Review by Scheduling Policy Branch
	/	/19	/Review by Head of Territorial Branch
	/	/19	/(Recommended (Not Approved/Ancient Monuments Board
	/	/19	/Notices Sent
	/	/19	/Monument included in Schedule

Other Comments:

27 Monument not scheduled, de-scheduled because:

28 Archaeological History: Event/Name/Date

Part excav/Blackham/1968 onwards

29 Visits: Name/Date

WHITTLE, E., FMW/13/5/1988

30 Sources: Source Type/Collection/Author/Date/Title/Other

Desc text/AM 7//// <1>
Desc text/AM 107/Whittle, E./1988// <2>
Desc text//Lloyd/History of Wales II/62, 644 <3>
Desc text/Arch. Camb. II, iv///316 <4>
Desc text/Arch. Camb. IV, vii/// 284, 312 <5>

31 Date of Compilation, Updating (For Office Use Only)