

# ARFORDIR COASTAL HERITAGE 2010 - 2011



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust

For Cadw



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**ARFORDIR**  
**COASTAL HERITAGE**  
**2010-2011**

Gan / By

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## **ARFORDIR, COASTAL HERITAGE, 2010 - 2011**

### **SUMMARY**

*Arfordir is a Cadw grant aid and PCNPA funded project designed to identify, monitor and record archaeological and historical sites within the coastal zone that are under threat of erosion from tidal action, and other forms of damage resulting from the effects of visitors and livestock erosion or changes in use. The project aims to enable interested community groups and individuals to take an active role monitoring and recording threatened sites and identifying new sites with minimal input from the professional sector.*

*2010-2011 was the second year for the Arfordir Project, run by the Dyfed, Gwynedd and Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trusts. The project has been undertaken by staff from DAT, PCNPA and numerous volunteers.*

*The second year of the project started with the archaeological investigations at West Angle Bay early medieval cemetery. The results of this work have been previously reported upon. The investigations have provided further very useful archaeological information regarding the site and the erosion effects that it is likely to suffer in the future. The works have further highlighted the site to the local history group who will continue to monitor and record changes in erosion of the cist graves and inform us of these changes.*

*Archaeological and historical sites under threat of coastal erosion have been identified using the methodologies employed during the pilot year, with a concentration on the Ceredigion coastline, which has provided information on the condition of a number of known sites, as well as identifying new sites. From this base, appropriate management programmes can be formulated and archaeological investigations; intermittent monitoring and recording can be undertaken independently by volunteers or working in collaboration with professional archaeologists, as appropriate.*

*Volunteer information has again proved very useful in identifying new sites and monitoring threat to known archaeological and historic sites. This is evidenced by the information provided for canal features at Kidwelly. This is also very evident through works undertaken on the submerged forests and peat beds exposed on the foreshore during certain conditions. Volunteer support and observation is essential in identifying extents of peat and also potential features within, as is most evident with the exposed footprints identified at Lydstep Haven.*

*This report presents the methodologies, results and outcomes of the second year of the Arfordir project. It will provide methodologies and information to assist in the continuation of the project into 2011-2012.*

*As noted in the pilot year, working with volunteers has been a very rewarding experience, which increases interest and enthusiasm for the project. This year has further highlighted the difficulty in sustaining the momentum of this enthusiasm, since the Arfordir project cannot run full-time throughout the year, solely for volunteers.*

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

### **Project Outline**

Arfordir is a Cadw grant aided partnership project with the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority (PCNPA) and the Royal Commission on the Archaeological and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW). The project was designed with the intention of providing support and training to volunteers from the community and other groups to give them the skills and information needed to enable them to monitor the impact of tidal action and other sources of erosion on archaeological sites along the coast of Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire, with minimal input from the professional sector.

This report provides a summary of the work undertaken during the April 2010 – April 2011 period, adding to that carried out in the pilot study year. The project has continued to successfully collect new archaeological information and provide community engagement while also contributing to the achievement of WAG's objectives regarding Climate Change. Further sources of funding are still being approached to provide additional support and continue the project into the future, including HLF money to establish Coastal Community Archaeologist posts in north and South Wales and Volunteering in Wales funding to assist in attracting volunteers in the 18 –25 age range.

The 2010 – 2011 work has continued the work undertaken during the pilot year of the project 2009/10, adopting the methodologies for identifying threatened sites, continuing with the use of the recording techniques and maintaining the interest and assistance from voluntary groups and individuals.

It is a partnership project with the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority and RCAHMW.

### **Project background**

The project background is the same as the 2009/2010 pilot year, namely: awareness of the impacts of coastal erosion on Welsh coastal archaeology has been recognised for many years, and has been the subject of previous Cadw and PCNP funded fieldwork and survey projects (Cole 1995; Sambrook & Williams 1996; Murphy & Allen 1997, 1998; Page & Scott 1998, Page 1998). In the context of increasing global awareness and concern about the effects of climate change, the issue has recently become more pertinent, and the need to establish a means by which the predicted effects can be monitored and mitigated has become more evident.

In addition, as the popularity of archaeology among the public increases, and public engagement increasingly features as a condition for accessing sources of funding, the need to establish a framework, and means of sustaining future projects has been recognised.

The aspirations of the project were based on the award winning SCAPE (SHOREWATCH) project in Scotland, which has been a constant source of inspiration and ideas throughout the pilot year. Feedback received following a presentation by Tom Dawson of the Scotland Shorewatch project at the Pembrokeshire Archaeological Day School in November 2008 indicated there was a clear desire from communities in the region to set up the project.

### **Project objectives**

The aims of this project are to develop new and sustainable (ie. with minimal input from the professional sector) links with community groups and working partnerships with other professional bodies and educational establishments to provide local

communities with the skills and information that will be useful in monitoring and mitigating the predicted effects of climate change on the region's coastal archaeology. The project will also build upon and add value to previous projects relating to coastal archaeology.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The project has adopted a number of methodologies to undertake different parts of the project with different outcomes. For the project the coastal zone is defined as a band c.500m from the water's edge.

### **Volunteer Recruitment and Training**

A major part of the Arfordir project has been to engage members of the public in the identification and monitoring of coastal sites under threat of erosion.

As stated in the project objectives, the intention is to provide community and other groups with the skills and information to enable them to monitor the archaeology of the coastal zone in the future, with minimal input from the professional sector. Regular users of the coast for leisure and work purposes are an ideal source of volunteers, who will be able to undertake more regular site monitoring.

Although no specific 'introductory meetings' have been held this year, opportunities have been taken to undertake this initial stage of engagement and provoking interest during a number of Arfordir run field projects and other site investigations, through public lectures, newspaper articles and through word of mouth.

The Arfordir project has also provided opportunities for highlighting the work undertaken on the recent West Coast Submerged Landscape Project (supported by the Aggregate's Levy Sustainability Fund in Wales and English Heritage). The 'Lost Lands of Our Ancestors' booklets have been provided to a number of Arfordir volunteers.

### **Identification of Coastal Sites (both those under threat and new sites)**

The methodology developed in the pilot year for identifying new and threatened coastal sites has been used again for this year, specifically targeting sites along the Ceredigion coastline. This entails:

Desk-based analysis of the HER GIS to assess those areas of higher erosion classes, and remote sensing data sources, including LIDAR data, aerial photography, cartographic sources and UKCP information has also been used to enhance the information on coastal erosion. Reassessment of the erosion threat classes as produced in the mid 1990s, has shown that the threat has increased in some cases and reduced in others. This work has been followed up with walkovers of stretches of coastline with higher erosion threat to ascertain areas of erosion and the level of threat to known HER sites and SAMs (where present), and to identify any new sites. This survey methodology aims to enable prioritisation of follow-on work, and to provide an up-to-date context for the assessment and analysis of the results of the monitoring work.

The importance of photographic record has also been highlighted for a number of sites, where photos taken from the same spot at different periods demonstrates the extent of coastal erosion or changes. This has been continued to be especially evident at sites such as the submerged forest at Amroth/Wiseman's Bridge, Lydstep Haven and Borth, and at the deserted village of St Ishmael, where changes occur regularly with spring tides and storm surges and detailed survey cannot be organised. Photographic evidence may also demonstrate erosion better than field survey – which can be affected by weather conditions and safety issues – providing visual evidence for collapse, vegetation changes, sand inundation etc.

## **SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ACTIVITIES COMPLETED 2010-2011**

### **1 Website Updates**

The website has been updated during this financial year to provide downloadable resources for volunteers and other interested parties. Links have been made to the end of last years report, the individual investigation reports from St Ishmaels 2010 and West Angle Bay 2010.

Downloadable versions of the recording form, manual and introductory leaflets are also available.

Following an innovative idea from Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust, an Arfordir 'Flickr' webpage for the Dyfed region has been set-up, to compliment that already of GGAT. This gives volunteers the opportunity to view photographs of sites that we have been looking at as part of the project, as well as commenting on them, setting up discussions and adding their own photographs. It is hoped that the group can be expanded and photos added to throughout the next year.

### **2 Arfordir Recording Forms and Manuals**

Arfordir recording forms and manual have been updated during this year to make them more readily identifiable as part of the project. Links to downloadable forms, manual and introductory leaflets have been placed on the website via the FORMS link. These are included in Appendix II below.

### **3 Presentations and Events**

No specific introductory meetings have been arranged for this year. The initial meetings arranged in the previous year were to provide feedback on how volunteers could become involved, what they could do and what tasks they felt they could undertake.

The same information on the introduction to Arfordir has been undertaken during other talks and at a number of events instead.

Presentations have included a talk on St Ishmaels to the Kidwelly Local History Society and a further presentation given to the Kidwelly Town Council. Introductory leaflets and discussions regarding the project were also undertaken during the Local History Day at Angle Village. Information leaflets and copies of the recording forms and manual have been made available at a number of other events during the year, including the Pembrokeshire Day School in November 2010, Towy Afon Yr Oesoedd day in February 2011.

#### **Arfordir Presentations**

*23<sup>rd</sup> September 2010 - Kidwelly Local History Society (c.40 attendees)*

*21<sup>st</sup> October - Kidwelly Town Council Meeting and presentation of work of DAT and Arfordir (c.10 attendees, including Mayor of Kidwelly and representatives from the Council)*

#### **Arfordir Displays and Information**

*29<sup>th</sup> August 2010 - Angle Local History Event, Display provided, including information boards and handouts available (c.75 attendees)*

*20<sup>th</sup> November 2010 - Pembrokeshire Day School, Display provided, including information boards and handouts available (c.120 attendees)*

*5<sup>th</sup> February 2011 - Tywi Afon Yr Oesoedd Archaeology Event, Tre-Gib School, information available on the project including handouts (c.150 attendees)*

#### **4 Guided Walks, Training Sessions and Meetings**

A number of meetings regarding the project have been undertaken during the year, both with professionals and with volunteers and members of the public.

Specific on-site meetings to look at archaeological remains were undertaken at Whitesands Bay where possible masonry structures had been identified by Babs Spittle. A further meeting was arranged with Byron Hughes at Kidwelly to observe a possible siphon structure associated with the Kymer's Canal, the earliest canal in Wales. The site visit expanded to observe many other features associated with the canal and later railway that exists in this area, including the identification of a number of new sites for which record forms are to be prepared and submitted.

A minibus tour and guided walk was arranged by the PCNPA archaeologist of the Castlemartin Range, including visits to a number of coastal archaeological sites, specifically the promontory Fort at Linney Head, Crowback Tumulus and the Tobruk shelters at Frainslake Sand/Linney Burrows.

Information regarding archaeological sites present along the Carmarthenshire Coastal Path was provided to Ian Morgan, Coastal Paths Officer of Carmarthenshire County Council, through the Arfordir project. The information and a number of photos were included in a brochure to highlight and raise awareness of the wealth of archaeology along this part of the coastal path. The brochure was provided to attendees of a visit to Pendine by the WAG Environment Minister.



**Photo 1:** Possible siphon drain at Kymer's Canal

#### **Organised Guided Walks and Meetings:**

*Meetings regarding the project with other professionals and volunteers*

*14<sup>th</sup> April 2010 - Meeting with Angle Heritage Group prior to start of excavations at West Angle Bay*

*16<sup>th</sup> April 2010 – Meeting with Polly Groom of Cadw and Anthony Rogers of the National Trust regarding Coasteering and potential effects on archaeological sites*  
*10<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010 – West Angle Bay excavations, site tours, on-site training and descriptions of the project (c.13 volunteers working on-site, >60 visitors during the week)*

*9<sup>th</sup> June 2010 – Meeting with Louise Austin of DAT and Pete Crane regarding progress of Arfordir and PCNPA input*

*29<sup>th</sup> June 2010 - Coastal Forum Meeting, Aberystwyth with Cadw, RCAHMW, GAT, GGAT etc*

*22<sup>nd</sup> July 2010 – Meeting and walkover with Babs Spittle at Whitesands to observe possible sites*

*9<sup>th</sup> December 2010 – Meeting and walkover with Byron Hughes of sites at Kidwelly relating to Kymer’s Canal etc.*

*26<sup>th</sup> March 2011 – Guided Walk at St. Brides (5 attendees)*

*16<sup>th</sup> November 2009 - Coastal Forum Meeting, Aberystwyth, with Cadw, RCAHMW, GAT, GGAT etc*

*26<sup>th</sup> February 2011 – Minibus tour and guided walk around Castlemartin Range, via PCNPA archaeologist (c.12 attendees)*

*14<sup>th</sup> March 2011 to 8<sup>th</sup> April 2011 – St Bride’s Excavations (c. 6 volunteers per day and a very large number of visitors during the project, including organised tours with Local History Groups and casual visitors)*



**Photo 2:** Linney Head, Castlemartin Range



**Photo 3:** Tobruk shelter, Linney Burrows/Frainslake Sands

## 5 Archaeological Investigations

Close to the start of the 2010/2011 year a seven day investigation was undertaken at the early medieval cemetery at West Angle Bay, Pembrokeshire between 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> May 2011. The report on the works was issued in 2010 following the completion of the excavation.

Volunteers from the West Angle Heritage Group, as well as other Arfordir volunteers worked on the site during the week. Three visitors to the site also joined in the works after chance visits to the site and expressing an interest to be involved, one from Begelly, one from Bridgend and a third from Manchester. In total 13 volunteers worked on the site over the week. The investigations provided volunteers with more information about the project and training in archaeological techniques of excavation and recording.

The location of the excavation meant that many visitors to the beach, coastal path walkers and locals came to visit the investigations. Time was taken throughout the project to give tours of the trenches and explain the reasons for and circumstances of the excavations. This also provided opportunities for other visitors and volunteers to learn about the Arfordir project, in an attempt to enhance the value of the community input. The site was also visited by the local Angle School and the leader of Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority.



**Photo 4:** West Angle Bay Investigations May 2010

The excavation was followed up by a community exhibition at the Angle Heritage Day (29/08/2010). Visitors had the opportunity to look at the Arfordir display panels; to take introduction leaflets, recording forms and manuals; to view a copy of the West Angle Bay report; to see information collated by the West Angle Heritage Group on previous seasons of excavation; and also view finds from the site and slightly further afield.



**Photo 5:** West Angle Bay, Angle School visit May 2010



**Photo 6:** Angle Local History Event, August 2010

Arfordir volunteers were made aware of the excavations being undertaken at St Bride's, Pembrokeshire in March 2011. Volunteer opportunities were made available, although numbers were restricted. The PCNPA Archaeologist was present at the site during most of the investigations through the Arfordir project to assist in the training of volunteers and provide further information on the project to volunteers and visitors. A site tour and guided walkover of sites to the south of St Bride's was given to a group of Arfordir volunteers on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2011, including Nab Head, Castle Head promontory Fort and Tower Point Rath.

At Nab Head the 'Lost Landscapes' booklet was introduced to the volunteers, as it is an ideal location to demonstrate the change in the coastline from the Mesolithic period. It was possible to set the scene of Nab Head being at that time a flint working site, where hunter gatherers would have observed the movement of animals across the low lying plains and woodland from the hill-top.



**Photo 7:** Guided Walk at Nab Head

It is intended to undertake a programme of geophysical and topographic survey at The Gribin, Solva, Pembrokeshire (being organised by Pete Crane PCNPA archaeologist) during the 2011- 2012 period. The PCNPA archaeologist has attended a number of meetings to discuss the feasibility of the work, and we are still awaiting permission from the National Trust and landowners.

During next years work programme it is intended to do further archaeological investigation at three sites affected by Coastal Erosion, namely:

- St Ishmael's Deserted Medieval Village – further season of excavation over two weeks of one of the buildings;
- Boulston Manor – Topographic survey of the standing remains and photographic record;
- East Blockhouse, West Angle – Excavation within the eroding remains of the site, supplemented with topographic and geophysical survey of the area surrounding the site.

## **6 Radiocarbon dating from St Ishmaels and West Angle Excavations**

### ***St Ishmael, Carmarthenshire***

A single radiocarbon date was obtained from an excavated context from St Ishmaels, Carmarthenshire. The sample was taken from above a stone lined hearth revealed within Building 1 during the archaeological investigations undertaken in February 2010.

The context that was sampled was securely sealed beneath soil deposits presumably laid down following the abandonment of the settlement (prior to sand

inundation). The context lay directly on the heat affected stone slabs laid in the base of the hearth and contained a significant quantity of charcoal.

The radiocarbon date obtained was Cal AD 1430 - 1530 / Cal AD 1570 - 1630 (SUERC 32875). This information will be added to the website page regarding these excavations.

### ***West Angle Bay, Pembrokeshire***

A radiocarbon date was obtained from the outer annexe enclosure ditch of the West Angle Bay investigations (see associated Report 2010-56 West Angle Bay, 2010 – D Schlee) from fill (302), an upper, but well sealed fill of the feature. Interpretation of this fill suggests it represents an episode of backfilling of the ditch, presumably associated with disuse of the feature. The radiocarbon date obtained was Cal AD 610 – 690 (SUERC-32876).

A second sample was taken from the fill of a stone-lined feature within the annexe enclosure, which is considered most likely to be part of a corn dryer, or some form of hearth or oven. It is most likely that this feature is evidence of settlement activity contemporary with the occupation of the rectangular enclosure and its possible annexe. A radiocarbon date of Cal AD 610 – 690, but with a possible addition range of Cal AD 750 – 760 (SUERC-32877) was obtained from charcoal from fill 303, the upper fill representing collapse or backfill of the corn drier.

The radiocarbon dates have been to the report 2010-56, and will be made available through the website.

## **7 Identification of Coastal Sites (both those under threat and new sites)**

The majority of site visits undertaken this year have been concentrated on the Ceredigion coastline, and these are listed in Appendix I. The list comprises those sites which have resulted in updates to existing HER records (where differing interpretations have been suggested, where grid references have been mis-located and where threats have been identified). Where new sites have been identified, these have also been included. Further record forms have also been recently received from Arfordir volunteers and these too will be added to the HER or used to amend existing records.

Site visits have also been carried out to the area between Pendine and Laugharne in Carmarthenshire, including the identification of new sites and photographic records of existing condition of others, and extents of peat exposures etc.

Peat exposures have been monitored at Wiseman's Bridge by Hazel Wadey, Arfordir volunteer (awaiting further information); Morfa Bychan; and at Borth. Observation of the exposed peats in the May 2010 by a volunteer revealed human footprints at Lydstep Haven, for which Cadw contingency funding was granted to undertake detailed survey and recording. A specific Cadw grant aid project to write up the results will be undertaken in 2011-2012.

### ***Peat Exposures***

*Morfa Bychan, Carmarthenshire* – PRN 33468. A site visit on 23<sup>rd</sup> January ascertained some extensive exposures of peats on the beach at Morfa Bychan. This corresponded with a general reduction in sand cover across many of the beaches in this area.

The site visit also gave the opportunity to note the survival of some of the World War II defences that also lie within the beach area, including anti-tank pimples (PRN 26520) for which little information presently exists on the HER.



**Photo 8:** Peat Exposures at Morfa Bychan, 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2011



**Photo 9:** Anti-tank pimples, with peat exposures behind, Morfa Bychan

*Lydstep Haven, Pembrokeshire* – PRN 33459. Following notification from a local resident that the exposed peats had footprints in them, site visits were

undertaken to observe the site on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2010. This was followed up by a programme of recording and survey on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010.



**Photo 10:** Child's footprints in peat (with 9 year old standing adjacent) at Lydstep Haven, 16 April 2010



**Photo 11:** Cleaning of the peat deposits during recording on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010

*Borth, Ceredigion* – PRN 45106. Although undertaken as part of archaeological monitoring works associated with the construction of the new coastal defences at Borth, it was possible to undertake some wider observation of the exposed peat deposits in the area. Exposures were most notable in early February 2011 in an area close to the southern end of the beach, an exposure which is said to have been the largest for many years by local residents. These peats have subsequently been completely covered by sand again.



**Photo 12:** Peat and submerged forest exposures at Borth – 16<sup>th</sup> February 2011



**Photo 13:** Peat and submerged forest exposures at Borth – 17<sup>th</sup> February 2011

## CONCLUSIONS

The 2010-2011 year of Arfordir is considered to have been a continued success, and has laid the foundations for a longer term project, which is being supported by Cadw for the year 2011-2012. It is still hoped that HLF funding may be awarded for the establishment of two coastal archaeologist posts to cover North and South Wales, and submission of the application will be undertaken this year. Other funding opportunities from other sources are also being sought from the WCVA to assist in the provision of funding to enhance volunteer support and specifically attract volunteers in the 16 to 25 age bracket.

The methodology for identifying threatened coastal archaeological sites has again been successful for the site visits to Ceredigion, with a number of new sites identified which will greatly enhance the HER. This will need to be maintained during 2011-2012, with visits to complete the north coast of Pembrokeshire and also revisiting of identified sites in previous years to monitor changes. The project provides an excellent opportunity to enhance the HER with new sites identified that are specifically related to coastal activity, whether World War II anti-tank ditches and other defences (albeit practice ones) at Morfa Bychan; features associated with the recreational function (19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> seaside resort) of Aberystwyth, including similarly styled shelters and the pier; earlier coastal sea defences of the 20<sup>th</sup> century at Pendine, Borth or Aberporth indicating that erosion has been a recognised problem along the coastline for many years; or industrial sites such as the quarries on the cliffs to the south of Strumble Head, canal and railway features at Kidwelly.

Through a number of opportunities it has been possible to observe certain patches of the Dyfed coastline on a more regular basis to observe changes in tidal action and deposition. As noted with the peat deposits above, the extent of exposure varies greatly throughout the year. Monitoring can be tied in with the spring tides, but as there is no definite set pattern of sand deposition, a visit at the lowest tides can sometimes be less informative due to the extent of sand deposition. At Borth changes in the exposed areas of peats at the southern end of the beach can occur over the period of one tidal cycle. There the peat could be one day clearly exposed, the next covered in sand or shingle. At St Ishmael, Pembrokeshire monitoring in February 2011 noted that the southern medieval buildings, which had suffered from tidal erosion at the end of last year, were partly covered in a raised shingle bank.

Volunteer involvement has been noted to be greatest during organised site visits and fieldwork. A number of individuals have been working on their own and completing Arfordir record forms, but it is evident that volunteers are less inclined to work on their own. This could only be improved with more direct contact and liaison with groups and individuals, although this is difficult to balance with the other coastal monitoring and site visits that are being undertaken. With this conclusion in mind the programme of Arfordir for 2011-2012 will involve a number of fieldwork projects with volunteering opportunities. The best feedback we receive is certainly from these projects, and volunteers appear to get the most out of these projects.

As noted above, external funding is being sought to provide more volunteer support, through which it is hoped volunteers will gain more confidence in carrying out recording and setting up other associated projects. It was hoped to target local groups in Ceredigion this year, but this has not been taken forward at this stage and will remain an aim for 2011-2012.

It is still hoped that local historical knowledge can be harnessed and projects set-up by groups and individuals to undertake recording and research on sites or areas of their interest. This is being taken forward by Hazel Wadey in the Saundersfoot area (monitoring peat exposures and recording locally known

industrial sites) and by Byron Hughes in Kidwelly (specifically some of the industrial / transportation sites in the Carmarthen Bay area around Kidwelly, such as the Kymer's canal).

As noted in the pilot year, working with volunteers has been a very rewarding experience, which increases interest and enthusiasm for the project. This year has further highlighted the difficulty in sustaining the momentum of this enthusiasm, since the Arfordir project cannot run full-time throughout the year, solely for volunteers. This was especially noticeable at the start of the year when the west Angle Bay excavations were undertaken and interest was at a height, but subsequently tailed off during the summer months for a number of reasons (including the temporary disability of the author through a leg injury preventing mobility for many months). One of the conclusions in the previous year's report is worth stating again: ***This highlights the need for other sources of funding to be sought in order to increase the available time that can be spent working with communities and local groups. In an ideal world, it will be possible to obtain sufficient funding to establish the post of a regional coastal community archaeologist.***

### **Tasks for 2011 -2012**

The next year of the Arfordir project for DAT will continue with the identification of sites under threat on the coastline and further site visits to undertake rapid assessments of their present condition and threats. This still needs to be achieved for the north coast of Pembrokeshire. Follow up monitoring visits will also be needed to sites identified previously.

Liaison with local groups and communities in Ceredigion is still to be achieved. The project will also need to maintain liaison with established groups that are already active and continue to encourage support in the project. Opportunities for involvement will be advertised with the forthcoming works at St Ishmael, Carmarthenshire and East Blockhouse, Pembrokeshire.

Other programmes of fieldwork will include topographic and geophysical surveying at Y Gribin, Solva, Pembrokeshire.

Topographic and photographic survey of Boulston Manor is also scheduled to be undertaken this year. This will need to be arranged early in the year and is intended to be a joint project with RCAHMW.

The Arfordir website will be maintained throughout 2011-2012 with opportunities and information added more frequently.

The majority of proposed outreach tasks for the 2010-2011 project have been achieved and will remain important goals for the 2011-2012 year. These include:

- Contacts and talks to local groups and volunteers;
- Raising awareness, understanding and appreciation of coastal archaeology;
- Increasing local skills - capacity building;
- Training in identifying and recording archaeological sites; and
- Training in relevant survey and excavation techniques.

Tasks that are still yet to be achieved, but which will hopefully be taken forward next year are:

- Training in using HER software; and
- Guidance and training in reporting.

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**APPENDIX I:  
ARFORDIR SITE VISIT  
INFORMATION – NOTES ON  
SITES SUFFERING EROSION  
AND NEW SITES  
CEREDIGION**

## **IDENTIFICATION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES UNDER THREAT OF EROSION AND NEW SITES**

A number of site visits have been undertaken to record the present state of the known archaeological remains under most threat from coastal erosion.

Following the methodology undertaken, as described in 'Methodology' above for the identification of sites which are under most threat from coastal erosion, a number of site visits have been undertaken to record the present state of the known archaeological remains.

The following description identifies the site and its location, includes the PRNs for sites already known about and also notes new sites identified from the site visits. It has not been possible to visit every site identified as being under threat, due to the time constraints for the project, but those site visits that have been undertaken have proved informative and also identified a few additional sites previously unrecorded. This second year of the project has concentrated on sites along the Ceredigion coast.

The descriptions below note the present condition, but also identify potential threats to the sites. An indication of possible action is also noted, though in most cases regular monitoring of the sites is perhaps the only action possible. Only sites where erosion is visible, where threats have been identified or new sites are included in the lists.

### **CEREDIGION SITE VISITS**

#### **GLANDYFI ( NGR SN 6954 9746 – SN 6857 9722)**



**Photo 1:** Glandyfi Nature Reserve.

A site visit was undertaken to the Glandyfi area due to the concentration of recorded archaeological sites within the vicinity. The area is identified as being under threat of slight/ stable coastal erosion. An attempted visit to the site was made in June 2010 but was informed by the RSPB who own the area and operate a birdwatching centre there, that it was inaccessible to the public until August due to nesting birds. Also informed that access to the coastline to the west of the site was not advisable without being accompanied by a ranger due to the dangerous nature of the area

**YNYS LAS (NGR SN 6203 9413 – SN 0400 9235)**



**Photo 2:** Ynyslas Beach

Wide expanse of beach and sand dunes classed as stable during the 1990s the site visit confirmed this. At time of visit areas of the dunes were closed due to nesting birds whilst areas of the beach were utilised for visitor car parking. No trace of the recorded burnt mound and submerged forest were found during the course of the site visit and it would appear that the Lapley Grange (PRN 19527; NGR SN 6039 9488) has been mislocated.

**Site Name:** Ynyslas Ferry

**PRN:** 100613 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 6088 9509

**Site Type:** Ferry crossing



**Photo 3:** Collapsed navigation marker Ynylas Las Ferry

A medieval ferry crossing is recorded in the vicinity of Ynyslas but its exact location is unknown. A collapsed reinforced concrete pillar was noted on the beach at NGR SN 6088 9509 that had recently been replaced with a further reinforced concrete pillar topped with a diamond shaped panel that may represent a navigation marker. A short distance to the southeast of the possible navigation marker a partially buried timber construction with a cast iron gear wheel and pulley was identified which is considered to form the remains of a possible cable or chain ferry point.



**Photo 4:** Remains of possible cable ferry point.

Further research has revealed that the ferry was to be replaced by a railway bridge during the 1860s but this never occurred and the ferry was still in operation in 1917 and continued to be marked on Ordnance Survey maps up until the 1960s (Williams, 2010<sup>1</sup>).

**Site Name:** Cerrig-y-penrhyn Refuge

**PRN:** 100614 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 6112 9520

**Site Type:**

Refuge marked on late 19<sup>th</sup> century mapping of the area and continued to be marked on mapping up until the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. No visible remains identified during the course of the site 2010 site visit.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://website.lineone.net/~dyfival1/histcrossings.htm> (R K Williams 2010)

**Site Name:** Military Structure Ynylas Golf Course.

**PRN:** 100615 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 6071 9348

**Site Type:** Defence



**Photo 5:** Military structure, Ynylas Golf Course.

Modern flat roofed concrete block military structure located on the golf course at Ynylas, visible from the adjacent road. Function of structure is unknown but it has narrow openings piercing the north wall that may suggest it was once a rifle or observational post. However, the single skin concrete block construction and the open south wall suggests that the structure was originally enclosed by earth defences but it was not possible to substantiate this.

The structure appears to be in a good state of repair due to its location on the golf course and is not threatened by erosion.

**Site Name:** Plas Ynys.  
**PRN:** 100616 (New Site)  
**NGR:** NGR SN 61237 92705  
**Site Type:** Defence (?)



**Photo 6:** Possible military structure at Plas Ynys.

Sunken concrete structure located on a steeply sloping hilltop to the northeast of the property known as Plas Ynys. The structure was only visible from the adjacent road. The structure appears to be of a military nature or possibly relates to an underground reservoir first depicted on early 20<sup>th</sup> century mapping. A pumping windmill is marked 112m to the north of the structure at SN 61217 92805 on early 20<sup>th</sup> century mapping the base of which appears to survive as it is marked on modern digital mapping. The windmill was not seen during the site visit.

The structure appears to be in a good state of repair.

**Site Name:** Saxondale Brick Structures  
**PRN:** 100617 (New Site)  
**NGR:** NGR SN 61301 92748  
**Site Type:** Defence

Two brick and concrete structures to the north of Ynys Las Gardens. The larger structure survives to a height of nine courses and forms the base of a now demolished structure. The structure to the northwest survives to over 1m in height and appears to be a substantial wall. It is unclear whether the structures relate to an early 20<sup>th</sup> century reservoir at NGR SN 61237 92705 or whether they are military. The structures are not shown on early 20<sup>th</sup> century mapping of the area.

Although both structures have been partially demolished the surviving remains appear to be stable given their substantial construction. Both are free of coastal

erosion but animal burrowing noted around the structures may eventually destabilise them.



**Photo 7:** Brick structures at Saxondale.

**Site Name:** Ynyslas Railway Station

**PRN:** 100618 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 61301 92748

**Site Type:** Station

Site of Ynyslas Railway Station. Station opened in 1863 by Aberystwyth and Welsh Coast Railway passing to Cambrian Railways in 1866. In 1922 the Cambrian Railway was absorbed by the Great Western Railway under whom the station continued to operate until nationalisation in 1948 when the railway became part of British Railways. The station was closed in 1965 and subsequently demolished, although the railway continues to operate.

**Site Name:** Railway Coach

**PRN:** 100619 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 61867 93138

**Site Type:** Dwelling

Visible from the adjoining road a railway coach was identified propped up adjacent to the railway line. It was possible to see that only the body survived and given the presence of curtains the coach appears to now be utilised as a dwelling or holiday accommodation.

Further research has revealed that the coach was originally a 3<sup>rd</sup> brake coach owned by the Great Western Railway<sup>2</sup> and would have been divided into passenger seating and combined luggage and guards van used to provide additional braking to the train.

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.cs.vintagecarriagetrust.org/se/CarriageInfo.asp?Ref=5250>

In addition it has been found that a 'camping coach' was located in nearby Borth and would have been let by the railway company to holiday makers and was offered to let in 1958 (British Railways, 1957). Camping coaches were first introduced by the London North Eastern Railway in 1933 with the Great Western Railway following in 1934 and would have used obsolete passenger coaches for the purpose. This form of holiday accommodation remained popular up until the mid 1960s. It is unclear whether the railway coach identified at the Ynyslas Station site was formerly a camping coach.

It was not possible to closely examine the railway coach as it was located on private land immediately adjacent to the railway line. Outwardly the coach appears in relatively good condition but given its location, propped up nature and probable wood construction decay would set in quickly without regular maintenance.



**Photo 8:** Railway coach utilised as dwelling as site of Ynys Las station.

**BORTH (NGR SN 6054 9121 – SN 5984 8828).**



**Photo 9:** North east view of Borth.

The Borth site visit area is located in an area of stable/ slight coastal erosion and generally this is the case with much of the sea front protected by breakwaters and substantial modern concrete sea defences.

Since February 2011 an extensive scheme of coastal defence replacement has been undertaken, involving removal of older wooden groynes and replacement with two large rubble stone groynes, two breakwaters and an offshore reef. This would indicate that coastal erosion is considered of sufficient threat to the main village of Borth to warrant the investment in new defences.

The coastal defence works are being monitored as part of an archaeological watching brief. During site visits to the watching brief extensive areas of peat beds and submerged forests have been uncovered, some of which has been excavated through by the defensive works. The visits have also noted the enormous changes in tidal action along the sea front. At times the majority of the upper end of the beach is covered in deep shingle, whereas at other times much of this is covered in sand, or shingle has moved along the beach.

Directly to the north of the town a massive concrete wall is present, whereas along the sea front through the town a massive timber and metal breastwork creates the defence between the rear of the houses and the beach.



**Photo 10:** Modern sea defences at Borth sea front.

At the south end of Borth sea front between NGRs SN 60679 88829 and SN 60327 88720, an area also classed as being at risk of slight coastal erosion, it was possible to view that part of the cliff has collapsed suggesting more serious erosion in this area. The upper area of the collapsed cliff had a timber beam and former railway track protruding from it suggesting haphazard shoring up of the area. It is considered that coastal erosion in this area should be reassessed to a medium category and the area would benefit from additional monitoring.



**Photo 11:** Collapsed cliff to south of Borth village.

**CLARACH BAY (NGR SN 6067 8882 –SN 5852 8410)**



**Photo 12:** Clarach bay from the north.

Clarach Bay was targeted for a site visit as it is located at the beginning of a long stretch of coastline classed as under medium threat of coastal erosion. The main bay area appears to be relatively stable with very little erosion apparent. However, towards the north the effects of erosion become much more apparent with large areas of cliffs noted as collapsed leaving large areas of overlying soil open to the elements. In addition the area appears to be popular with walkers given that it lies on the Ceredigion Coast Path and in places 'footfall' is starting to erode areas around the path. The area contains a large camping and caravan park popular with visitors. It is considered that the medium coastal erosion classification of the area may need to be reassessed.



**Photo 13:** Eroded cliff face to north of Clarach Bay.



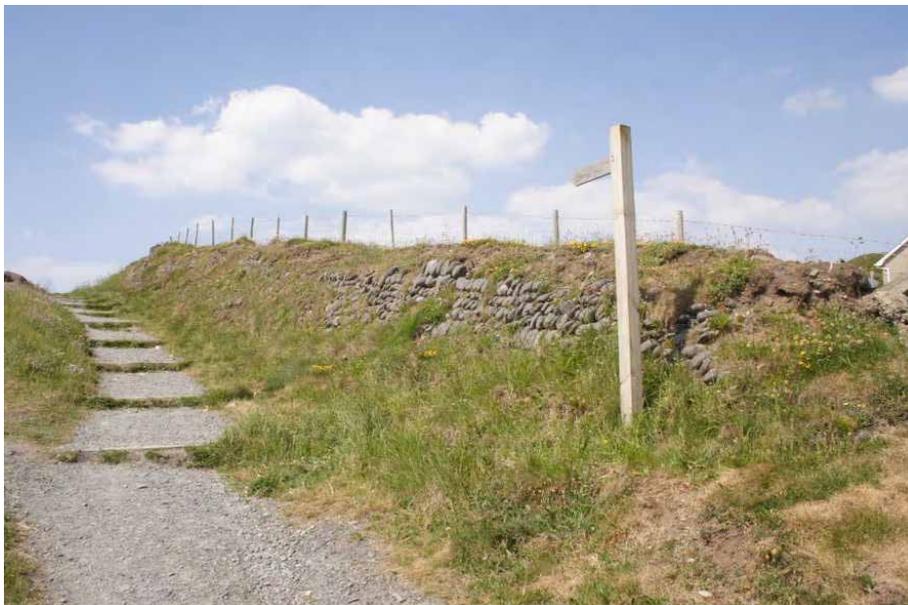
**Photo 14:** Partially collapsed cliff with eroded footpath in foreground.

**Site Name:** Clarach Bay

**PRN:** 100620 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 58637 84142

**Site Type:** Boundary



**Photo 15:** Boundary bank at Clarach Bay.

During the course of the site visit to Clarach Bay a substantial revetted boundary bank was identified immediately to the rear of the entertainment complex of the caravan park. The bank survives a height of over 1m and is in a stable condition, but vegetation is growing through which may suggest root damage. It is considered that the bank is under no immediate threat from coastal erosion but more immediately from human and animal activity. The date for the bank is unknown.

**ABERYSTWYTH (NGR SN 5827 8248 – SN 5780 8158)**



**Photo 16:** Aberystwyth sea front facing south.

Although Aberystwyth lies in an area of stable coastal erosion the area was targeted as it is a substantial coastal town that is considered more likely to suffer from the effects of other forms of erosion. The area visited confirmed that the coastline is stable at this location as it is protected by substantial stone sea walls and timber groynes.

**Site Name:** Marine Terrace Nos 35, 36, 37, Bay Hotel

**PRN:** 25182

**NGR:** NGR SN 58365 81997

**Site Type:** Terrace

Grade II listed terrace of probable 19<sup>th</sup> century date located on the sea front. The terrace is in generally good condition with the majority of the properties being occupied and in use. However, the former Bay Hotel at No 35 Marine Terrace was seen to be empty at the during the site visit. An attempt has been made to secure the property by boarding it up which appears to have been successful in preventing access from the street front. However, the rear of the property was not seen, so it is unclear what the situation is there, as it is hidden from the street front and therefore may be used to access the interior for drinking drug use or as shelter for homeless persons. Lack of maintenance to the property along with its coastal location are also considered to have the potential to cause decay in the structure.

**Site Name:** Aberystwyth Pier

**PRN:** 7804

**NGR:** NGR SN 58111 81799

**Site Type:** Pier



**Photo 17:** South facing view of Aberystwyth Pier.

Constructed in 1865 Aberystwyth Pier was the first purpose built pleasure pier in Wales. Following rebuilding and extension work the pier attained a length of 800 feet (243m). The length was halved following storm damage in 1938.

The pier is currently occupied by a snooker club, restaurant, bar and amusement arcade, the signage of which is not in keeping with a 19<sup>th</sup> century structure. The structure itself is supported on cast iron pillars set on concrete bases. The cast iron supports seem to be stable but do appear to be outwardly corroded which may suggest internal corrosion of the iron resulting in structural weakness. Cast iron is a strong building material when under vertical pressure, however, when exposed to lateral pressure it is relatively weak and prone to failure. Similarly concrete also has the potential to degrade and fracture. Given that the pillars and supports of the pier are exposed to the tide and elements it is possible that this may be concern. Cross tie bars visible between the pillars suggest an attempt to address this weakness.

The pier structures appear to be in a good state of repair externally, but some of the sash windows on the south side appear to be decaying and in need of attention.



**Photo 18:** Main entrance to pier.



**Photo 19:** Cast iron support pillars of pier with cross tie supports visible to left.

**Site Name:** St Michael's Chapel; St Mary's

**PRN:** 9789

**NGR:** NGR SN 580 818

**Site Type:** Chapel

Medieval chapel site recorded on regional HER no trace of which was identified during the site visit. The new HER description updated as part of the Churches and Chapels project for 2010-11 states: A medieval chapel dedicated to St Mary is known to have existed in Aberystwyth. The earliest reference to it is 1534-5. A document of 1758 stated that it had been destroyed by the sea. It was located on the rocks below the promenade. Human bones were reportedly found here in the 18th century. K Murphy March 2011, compiled from various sources.



**Photo 20:** Recorded site of St Michael's Chapel

It is considered that St Michael's chapel may represent a chapel of ease to Llanbadarn Church, the parish of which included Aberystwyth until 1787, when St Michael's parish was established. The *Taxatio* of 1291 lists Llanbadarn church with an associated chapel recorded as *Capell Taxat*<sup>3</sup> which may refer to the chapel at Aberystwyth but it has not been possible to confirm this.

**Site Name:** Aberystwyth Castle

**PRN:** 559

**NGR:** NGR SN 5798 8153

**Status:** SAM CD 008; GI Listed Building 10313

**Site Type:** Castle

Substantial remains of medieval castle overlooking the sea at Aberystwyth. The castle remains and grounds are now utilised as a public park and are not under threat from coastal erosion. However, the use of the castle and its grounds as a public park, which appears to be accessible both night and day, present a different threat of erosion. It was noted that graffiti was present on the remains and it was witnessed that members of the public climb on the masonry remains which has the potential to dislodge stonework. In addition vegetation was also to be seen growing on the remains which left unchecked could potentially weaken the structure through root action.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.hrionline.ac.uk/taxatio/db/taxatio/printbc.jsp?benkey=DA.CG.UA.01>





**Photo 23:** Vegetation growth and public climbing on walls at Aberystwyth Castle.

**Site Name:** St Michael's and All Angels Parish Church; Former Vestry St Michael's and All Angels Parish Church

**PRN:** 25169 and 57248

**NGR:** NGRs SN 580 815 ; SN 58013 81580

**Status:** GII Listed Building 10256

**Site Type:** Vestry



**Photo 24:** Former vestry of St Mary's and All Angels Parish Church.

Former vestry constructed in 1833 as part of St Mary's and All Angels parish church which stood on the site and extended eastwards from the surviving structure. The surviving structure was intended to form the base of a tower that was planned for the church but never constructed. However, the smaller doorway

to the left of east doorway of the structure marks the intended position of the spiral staircase of the tower. The structure is in a very good state of preservation with no indication of threat from both natural and human erosion.

Two entries on the regional HER appear to refer to the same structure and are considered to be duplicated. Following the site visit it is thought that the site details and grid reference for PRN 57248; NGR SN 58013 81580 are correct.

**Site Name:** Aberystwyth Gorsedd Stones

**PRN:** 100621 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 57940 81527

**Site Type:**

Substantial circle of thirteen large stones representing the old counties of Wales. The circle was erected in 1919 as part of the National Eisteddfod that was held in the town.

The circle is in good condition and generally appears to be free from erosion. However, graffiti was noted on some of the stones which is considered unsightly and suggests that the stones are open to access both day and night.



**Photo 25:** Gorsedd stones at Aberystwyth.

**Site Name:** Castle Conveniences Aberystwyth

**PRN:** 100622 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR 58027 81508

**Site Type:** Public Conveniences



**Photo 26:** Privacy screens at Castle conveniences Aberystwyth.

Early 20<sup>th</sup> century public conveniences constructed of coursed rectangular stone and red brick roofed with slate. The structure is accessed by centrally placed doorways in both north and south walls which both have ornate cast iron privacy screens that are considered to be unusual and interesting survivals.

The structure and privacy screens appear to be in a good state of repair the only visible problem being small areas of surface rust on the privacy screens which could be easily treated.

**Site Name:** Castle Shelter Aberystwyth

**PRN:** 100623 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 57961 81601

**Site Type:** Shelter



**Photo 27:** Early 20<sup>th</sup> century curved shelter adjacent to Aberystwyth Castle.

Early 20<sup>th</sup> century curved shelter constructed of cast iron columns with decorative scrollwork capitals. The shelter appears to be stable but has been vandalised with graffiti, in addition to graffiti the capital of one of the cast iron columns has been broken and much of the guttering has been damaged, particularly in the mid section of the structure.

**Site Name:** St Michael's Churchyard

**PRN:** 100624 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 58045 81556

**Site Type:** Churchyard

Former churchyard of St Michael's church which dates from the 19<sup>th</sup> century but may be on the site of the medieval chapel of the same dedication.

The churchyard has been converted for use as a public park and car park the gravestones now incorporated into the sloping boundary banks of the park. It is unclear if the graves were removed prior to conversion or lie intact below the surface.



**Photo 28:** Former St Michael's churchyard.

**Site Name:** Bandstand, Marine Terrace

**PRN:** 100625 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 58335 81976

**Site Type:** Structure



**Photo 29:** View of bandstand, Marine Terrace, Aberystwyth.

Late 19<sup>th</sup> - early 20<sup>th</sup> century bandstand on seafront. The structure stands on a concrete base projecting onto the beach. The structure appears to be in a good state of repair and free from the effects of erosion.

**Site Name:** Shelter, Marine Terrace

**PRN:** 100626 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 5832282169

**Site Type:** Shelter



**Photo 30:** Shelter at seafront, Marine Terrace, Aberystwyth.

Early 20<sup>th</sup> century shelter (?) of timber construction with fluted doric columns at corners lit with cross hatched rectangular and octagonal windows. The hipped roof is covered in red ceramic tiles and topped with decorative finials.

The structure is in a very good state of repair and appears to have been recently entirely painted and re-roofed on the east side.

**ABERAERON (centred on NGR SN 45669 62905)**



**Photo 31:** Renewed sea defences north of Aberaeron Harbour.

Aberaeron was targeted for a site visit as it is categorised as being stable but is known to have suffered from heavy flooding and deteriorating sea defences in recent years suggesting that this categorisation may need to be reassessed.

The inner and outer harbour areas were targeted along with the coastline to the north of the harbour.

The harbour areas appear to be in a good state of preservation and free from threat of coastal erosion. The coastline to the north of harbour has been subject to extensive renewal works to the sea defences with new concrete sea wall front with large stone blocks and timber groynes along the sea front.

**GILFACH Y HALEN (SN 4675 6360 – SN 4532 6280).**



**Photo 32:** Heavily eroded coastline at Gilfach y Halen.

The coastline at Gilfach y Halen was targeted as it has been previously categorised as an area of major coastal erosion. Heavy erosion was visible in all areas of the coastline at this location with access to the northern end prohibited by road closure due to its dangerous nature. A number of large collapses were noted below an adjacent holiday park suggesting that coastal erosion is a major problem in this area and is considered to be the worst case seen on the Ceredigion coast so far. Access was not permissible to either of the two recorded PRNs at this location.

**Site Name:** Rhyd y Bai

**PRN:** 30919

**NGR:** NGR SN 4386 6147

**Site Type:** Quarry

The site was inaccessible at the time of the site visit due to the road providing access to the site being closed on safety grounds by the local council.

**Site Name:** Gilfach y Halen

**PRN:** 30920

**NGR:** NGR SN 4332 6130

**Site Type:** Round Barrow/ Clearance Cairn ?

The site was inaccessible at the time of the site visit as it lay on the coastline beyond a private holiday park.

**Site Name:** Gilfach y Halen

**PRN:** 100627 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 43466 30919

**Site Type:** Defence (?)



**Photo 33:** Possible military structure at Gilfach y Halen.

Concrete possible military structure identified at Gilfach y Halen. The structure was visible from a distance, set on top of a large area of collapsed cliff. It is unclear whether the structure was originally located on top of the cliff face and has subsequently slipped down or it was constructed after the collapse.

**LLANINA (centred on SN 4130 5983).**

The coastal village of Llanina is located in an area considered to be threatened by a medium level of coastal erosion. The site visit confirmed this as areas of erosion were identified along the length of the area visited. During the site visit it was possible to see that additional coastal defences had been constructed in the form of a concrete breakwater and the dumping of stone in areas in an attempt to protect the coastline.

**Site Name:** Llwynon; Llwyn-Onn

**PRN:** 10945 and **100628 (Newly identified post medieval house)**

**NGR:** NGR SN 40447 5975

**Site Type:** Settlement



**Photo 34:** Post medieval house on site of Llwynon; Llwyn-Onn.

Medieval settlement site of Llwynon; Llwyn-Onn recorded on the regional HER. No trace of the medieval settlement was identified at this location suggesting that it has been destroyed. However, it was possible to identify a post medieval house on the site consisting of a three bayed two storied stone structure with slate roof. The house appears to have been recently sympathetically restored and is in a very good state of repair.

**Site Name:** Llanina Mill  
**PRN:** 29517  
**NGR:** NGR SN 4049 5963  
**Site Type:** Mill



**Photo 35:** Ruins of Llanina Mill.

Abandoned post medieval mill recorded on the regional HER. The structure lies in an area now utilised for car parking and appears to be decaying. Relatively recent consolidation work using concrete appears to have been undertaken which has stabilised the structure. However, ivy has taken hold over much of the structure which is considered likely to cause the fabric to deteriorate as the vegetation will eventually force the masonry apart if left unchecked.

**Site Name:** Summer House to N of Plas Llanina  
**PRN:** 59821  
**NGR:** NGR SN 40430 59821  
**Site Type:** Summer House  
**Status:** GII listed building

Ruined former summer house associated with Plas Llanina which lies a short distance to the south. The structure is located within the garden of Plas Llanina and was only visible from the adjacent churchyard. The summer house is constructed of stone and survives to gable height and still has traces of lime render adhering to the walls. The centrally placed gothic doorway appears to retain its original timber (?) doorframe. An attempt has been made to protect the masonry by sealing the exposed top of the gable end with concrete.

The summer house appears to be stable but is starting to decay with ivy and other vegetation present on the walls. It is also possible that the mortar bonding the walls may be degrading causing structural weakness, whilst the sealing of the

top of the gable end may seal moisture into the wall and cause problems with freeze thaw action.

The structure appears to be slightly mislocated on the regional HER, a more accurate NGR would be SN 40453 59816.



**Photo 36:** Summer house to north of Plas Llanina.

**Site Name:** Mill House (?), Llanina

**PRN:** 100629 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 40470 59630

**Site Type:** Dwelling (?)



**Photo 37:** Possible former mill house at Llanina.

Possible former stone built mill house associated with Llanina Mill (PRN 29517). The structure is now ruinous but survives to roof height. The rear wall of the structure has partially fallen but now appears to be stable. Areas of cobbled flooring survive beneath the covering of fallen leaves on the ground.

The structure is considered to be decaying and has large areas of ivy covered the stonework which has the potential to eventually destabilise the structure.

**Site Name:** Llanina Breakwater (?)

**PRN:** 100630 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 40632 59903

**Site Type:** Breakwater



**Photo 38:** Breakwater at Llanina.

Pair of substantial breakwaters constructed of what appear to be former railway lines forming cage like structures filled with large stone. The area between the breakwaters has been filled with beach pebbles by natural processes. The breakwater is considered to be decaying with much of the metalwork corroding.

## **NEWQUAY (centred on SN 3878 6006)**



**Photo 39:** New Quay bay from the Harbour.

New Quay was visited as it was categorised as an area under threat of medium to stable coastal erosion. South of the harbour the area appears to be stable with no visible signs of erosion. However, to the north large quantities of large stone have been dumped in an attempt to protect the coastline this has also been undertaken at the seaward end of the harbour wall indicating coastal erosion has been a problem here.

The area now appears to be stable around the town of Newquay given the presence of coastal defences.

**Site Name:** New Quay Pier

**PRN:** 5299 (also 57587 The Pier Including Parallel Slipway)

**NGR:** NGR SN 3915 6014

**Site Type:** Pier

**Status:** GII listed building

Substantial 19<sup>th</sup> century pier constructed of rectangular stone block and incorporating a parallel slipway. Both pier and slipway are in a good state of preservation and do not appear to be immediately under threat from erosion. However, as the pier was partially obscured by water it is unclear if erosion is present beneath the water line and further monitoring would be considered beneficial.



**Photo 40:** Pier and slipway at New Quay from northwest.

**Site Name:** The Pier Building; The Pier

**PRN:** 57588

**NGR:** NGR SN 39019 60109

**Site Type:** Warehouse

**Status:** GII listed building



**Photo 41:** Former warehouse now known as the Pier Building.

Grade II listed 19<sup>th</sup> century former warehouse now occupied by the New Quay Yacht Club. The structure, constructed of regularly coursed stone blocks and roofed with slate is in a very good state of repair and appears not to be suffering from erosion, however, a possible threat is its location on a steep access road where it is exposed to possible damage from road vehicles towing boats and trailers to and from the pier area.



**Photo 42:** Enamel tariff boards fixed to wall of New Quay Yacht Club.

Three late 19<sup>th</sup> – early 20<sup>th</sup> century enamel tariff boards detailing fees payable for all manner of goods landed at New Quay are present on the wall of the structure and are considered to be rare survivors of their type. The signs are housed in timber glass and Perspex casings that provide protection for the signs which have apparently been restored in recent years although corrosion is visible in some places. The casings housing the signs appear to be decaying and in need of maintenance and may possibly be no longer be water tight which may cause water to cause corrosion of the signs if left unchecked. Enamel signs such as those at New Quay are highly collectable can command considerable prices and are considered to be at risk from theft.

A HER record for the New Quay Harbour Building; Pier Building (PRN 32529) is recorded at NGR SN 3928 6012 which is out at sea and is mis-located. It is considered that this record and PRN 57588 refer to the same structure.

**Site Name:** Life Saving Apparatus House, New Quay

**PRN:** 100631 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 39006 60121

**Site Type:**



**Photo 43:** Former life saving apparatus house.

Late 19<sup>th</sup> century former life saving apparatus house that currently appears to be abandoned. The structure is concrete rendered with slate roof and is now decaying. The structure is situated on an exposed small rock outcrop overlooking the adjacent beach.

**LLANGRANOG – PENDINASLOCHDIN  
(NGR SN 3200 5490 – SN 3143 5511)**



**Photo 44:** Llangranog seafront looking south.

The coastline between Llangranog and Pendinaslochdin to the north was visited as it lies within an area of medium coastal erosion. During the site visit stone sea defences were noted along the sea front of Llangranog suggesting that erosion has previously been a problem at this location but this now appears to have been addressed and the seafront at present is now considered to be stable.

However to the north of Llangranog erosion appears to be more of a problem with large areas of eroded cliff noted especially around the area of Ynys Lochtyn.



**Photo 45:** Coastline at Ynys Lochtyn facing north.



**Photo 46:** Eroded coastline at Ynys Lochtyn facing south.

**Site Name:** Ynys Lochtin

**PRN:** 1101

**NGR:** NGR SN 31475533

**Site Type:** Hillfort/ Ditched Enclosure.

**Status:** SAM CD 275



**Photo 47:** Ynys Lochin defended enclosure from southeast.

The scheduled Iron Age defended enclosure has been severely eroded on all sides, with the north end of the promontory completely inaccessible. Previous visits to the site indicate the presence of hut circles and earthwork features that may be of early medieval date (PRN 7531). No evidence of hut circles was

identified during the site visit, however, it was possible to identify a heavily eroded bank running east - west across the promontory. The bank is considered to be eroding as a result of 'footfall' erosion with areas of the turf completely eroded away exposing the soil of the bank. In addition a depression on the western side of the bank suggests that part of it may have been removed.



**Photo 48:** Depression in west side of bank at Ynys Lochtin.



**Photo 49:** Eroded bank at Ynys Lochtin

**Site Name:** Ynys Lochtin

**PRN:** 1104

**NGR:** NGR SN 3143 5511

**Site Type:** Ditch



**Photo 50:** Heavily eroded bank at Ynys Lochtin.

Suggested former outer defensive bank of Ynys Lochtin defended enclosure. The bank, revetted with stone, is being severely eroded by both animal and human 'footfall' and is considered to be threatened with complete destruction if the situation is not addressed. The central portion of the bank has almost completely been destroyed and the whole structure appears to be surrounded by grassed over stone. A slight trace of a ditch survives on the south side of the wall. It is considered that consolidation work is urgently needed to prevent further erosion taking place. An updated description of this site has been made as part of the Defended Enclosures project, which is in the process of being updated to the HER. In that report this ditch is not considered to be of high archaeological significance, relating to a post medieval field boundary.

**Site Name:** Pendinaslochdin

**PRN:** 1363

**NGR:** NGR SN 3155 5485

**Site Type:** Hillfort

**Status:** SAM CD 071

A broadly circular enclosure set on a steep hilltop at the south end of Ynys Lochtin promontory the site was not accessed. However, it was possible to view that coastal erosion is threatening both the west side where the cliff top now stands at a distance of c.10m from the base of the hill, whilst on the northeast the cliff top is currently c.17m. Erosion is more apparent on the western side and is evidenced by recent collapses in the cliff. Further monitoring is considered important for this area to assess the rate at which the cliffs are eroding.



**Photo 51:** Pendinaslochdin hillfort from north

**Site Name:** Lime Kiln at Llangranog Beach

**PRN:** 57678

**NGR:** NGR SN 30956 54121

**Site Type:** Lime Kiln

**Status:** GII listed building



**Photo 52:** Lime kiln at Llangranog beach from northeast.

Substantial stone pot kiln with two draw holes piercing the northeast and southwest walls. The southwest draw hole retains a partially broken stone lintel

bearing the date 1887. The structure appears to be stable with very little evidence for decay.



**Photo 53:** Partial dated lintel within southwest draw hole of Llangranog beach limekiln.

**Site Name:** Railway Carriage, Llangranog Beach.

**PRN:** 100632 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 30930 54120

**Site Type:** Dwelling



**Photo 54:** 19<sup>th</sup> century converted railway coach at Llangranog.

Former GWR five compartment luggage composite coach surviving as body only and now utilised as a dwelling with corrugated metal sheeting pitched roof.

Further research has revealed that the coach dates from 1876 and was originally an eight wheeled broad gauge clerestory coach and was the first of this type. The coach was converted to standard gauge in June 1892 before being condemned in October 1930 and is considered to be the sole surviving example and potentially of exceptional historical importance<sup>4</sup>.

The carriage appears to be in a good state of repair with a recently renewed roof and the windows still retaining 'No Smoking' signs that probably date from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. However, a stream runs beneath the centre of the carriage which may cause the carriage to subside if left unchecked.

### **ABERPORTH (centred on SN 2585 5153)**



**Photo 55:** Traeth Dyffryn, Aberporth.

Whilst Aberporth is located in an area considered to be of stable coastal erosion a visit was made to reassess the area. It was found that the coastline in the area remains stable with very little evidence for erosion.

**Site Name:** Aberporth Beach

**PRN:** 31457

**NGR:** NGR SN 2601 5155

**Site Type:** Lime Kiln

Post medieval limekiln recorded on regional HER no trace of which was identified during the site visit. The site appears to have been destroyed.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://www.cs.vintagecarriagetrust.org/se/CarriageInfo.asp?Ref=4700>

**Site Name:** Aberporth Beach.

**PRN:** 31461

**NGR:** NGR SN 2585 5148

**Site Type:** Pill Box/ Observation Post



**Photo 56:** Pill box/ observation post at Aberporth Beach.

Red brick and concrete pill box / observation post located overlooking Treath Dyffryn and set on a rock outcrop. The south east corner of the structure is set an angle is pierced by a single opening. The south wall is pierced by two further openings. Access to the structure is through a door in the north wall which is protected by a brick screening wall.

On the regional HER the structures NGR is given as SN 2585 5148 which places it to the west of its actual location. A more accurate grid reference would be SN 25863 51482. The structure appears to be stable at present but decay is beginning to set in.

**Site Name:** Aberporth Beach

**PRN:** 31462

**NGR:** NGR SN 2601 5158

**Site Type:** Military Structure

Two square concrete bases with metal attachments are recorded on the regional HER and are interpreted as either military structures or a park bench base. No trace of the concrete bases were found during the course of the site visit and they appear to have been destroyed.

**Site Name:** Ffordd y Odyn Bridge

**PRN:** 100633 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 2601 5158

**Site Type:** Bridge



**Photo 57:** Ffordd y Odyn bridge, Aberporth.

Single arched stone bridge over stream that carries road now known as Ffordd y Odyn. The bridge appears to have been constructed sometime between the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The road above the bridge has been strengthened recently and any parapet that once existed has now gone.

The bridge appears to be in a good state of preservation with little or no signs of decay. Some relatively recent repointing work has been undertaken on the northwest corner of the bridge. A tie bar is also visible to the right which may suggest previous weakness in the bridge structure.

**Site Name:** Aberporth Beach Sea Defences

**PRN:** 00634 (New Site)

**NGR:** NGR SN 25930 51430

**Site Type:** Sea Defences

Modern sea defences consisting of a substantial concrete wall and large stone blocks occupying the southern end of Traeth Dyffryn beach at Aberporth.

The sea defences are free from erosion and decay at present but this is considered likely to change over time.



**Photo 58:** Concrete and stone sea defences at Traeth Dyffryn beach, Aberporth.

**MWNT (centred on SN 1954 5200)**



**Photo 59:** Eroded cliff edge at Mwnt showing exposed soil.

Mwnt was visited as it lies in an area considered to be threatened by a medium level of coastal erosion. Coastal erosion in the form of cliff collapses of quite recent date were identified which were concentrated in the central area of the bay.

In addition visitors are considered to be a threat to the area as it is very popular during the summer months with 'footfall' erosion along footpaths visible leading to the summit of Foel y Mwnt. The footpath on to the beach has been recently partially consolidated with the construction of a timber walkway and steps.

**Site Name:** Mwnt Parish Church/ Holy Cross

**PRN:** 5324 (also 31488 early medieval churchyard; 57640 post medieval churchyard)

**NGR:** NGR SN 19502 52015

**Site Type:** Church

**Status:** GI listed building (PRN 57640 GII listed)



**Photo 60:** Holy Cross Church Mwnt

Medieval church recently restored and currently limewashed. The church appears to be in a very good state of repair with the only visible sign of erosion being the loss of some of the limewash on the west gable end. The church is recorded on the regional HER as a parish church but is now a chapelry of Y Ferwig Parish.

The church is set in a raised rectangular churchyard, which is suggested to date from the early medieval period. The churchyard is bounded by a stone wall on the south and west side and post and rail fencing to the north and east. The churchyard is well maintained but animal burrowing was present in the western area of the churchyard that has the potential to disturb potential underlying archaeological deposits. In addition 'footfall' appears to be causing some superficial erosion to the churchyard immediately adjacent to the church door.

**Site Name:** Clos-y-Graig; Traeth y Mwnt

**PRN:** 10668

**NGR:** NGR SN 1951

**Site Type:** Battle Site

In 1155 a force of Flemish invaders landed at Mwnt and were repelled by the local population. This victory was commemorated by games held on Sul Coch, Bloody Sunday, a tradition that continued up until the late eighteenth century. The battle site is as yet unlocated but is considered to lie within the area covered by Ordnance Survey map SN15SE.

There is the suggestion that the Flemings landed at Traeth y Mwnt Bay (centred on NGR SN 19360 51900) and that unconfirmed finds of bones and human skeletons have been made on the shore front. A stream known as Nant y Fflyman (Flemings Brook) issues onto the beach in the southeast corner of the bay. In addition antiquarian accounts refer to 'burials' being revealed by shifting sands within a mound near Mwnt Church that were attributed as the dead from the battle.

The presence of Nant y Fflyman and unconfirmed finds of bones and human skeletons on the shore front at Mwnt along with antiquarian accounts of 'burials' within a mound near the church may suggest the battle site lies in the immediate area. It is considered that further monitoring of the area may be beneficial especially after high tides or storms.

**Site Name:** Mwnt

**PRN:** 25470 ? 31492 ? 57639 ?

**NGR:** NGR SN 1942 5179; SN 194 518; SN 19414 51791

**Site Type:** Lime kiln

**Status:** GII listed building



**Photo 61:** Lime kiln at Mwnt.

Substantial stone built pot kiln with single draw hole piercing the north side. The kiln appears to be partially terraced into the hillside and is in a good state of preservation.

Three records of limekilns in this immediate area are recorded on the regional HER and it is unclear which of the three refers to the kiln visited. It is considered that duplication may have occurred as only one kiln was visible. PRN 57639 has the most accurate grid reference in relation to the extant kiln.

**Site Name:** Mwnt

**PRN:** 31489

**NGR:** NGR SN 1954 5200

**Site Type:** Round Barrow



**Photo 62:** Round barrow adjacent to Mwnt Church.

Circular grassed over round barrow c.15m in diameter surviving to a height of c.1m. The barrow has been partially overlain by the adjoining churchyard on its northwest side, whilst on the southwest a footpath cuts through the barrow. Animal burrowing was noted on the barrow which has the potential to disturb underlying archaeological deposits. Antiquarian accounts refer to 'burials' in a mound near the church being exposed by shifting sands. These burials are traditionally attributed to a medieval battle.

The exposure of inhumation burials in the upper material of the barrow suggests secondary use of the barrow as during the Bronze Age as it would be expected that cremations would be more likely to be exposed in the upper material of a barrow, with inhumations usually consisting of a single burial with the barrow constructed over the body.

The grid reference on the regional HER appears to be mis-located and positions the barrow to the east of its true location at NGR SN 1954 5200 a more accurate grid reference would be SN 19512 52005.

**APPENDIX II:  
INTRODUCTORY LEAFLET  
UPDATED  
ARFORDIR RECORDING FORMS  
AND RECORDING MANUAL**

(adapted from Shorewatch Recording Forms and Recording Manuals)

## ARFORDIR - COASTAL HERITAGE

### ARFORDIR

'Arfordir', or 'Coastline', is a project which has been set up to record, understand and monitor changes in the coastal heritage.

Arfordir is a Cadw grant aid and PCNPA funded project designed to identify, monitor and record archaeological and historical sites within the coastal zone that are under threat of erosion from tidal action, and other forms of damage resulting from the effects of visitors and livestock erosion or changes in use. The project aims to enable interested community groups and individuals to take an active role monitoring and recording threatened sites and identifying new sites with minimal input from the professional sector.

Volunteers will work alongside professional archaeologists who act as 'mentors', providing training, advice and assistance. It is expected that local residents and regular users of the coast will already know of sites that are under threat from erosion, and with regular monitoring of the coastline numerous new sites will also be identified. The project also gives scope for some follow-up work to investigate threatened sites.

The project is being organised by Dyfed Archaeological Trust and the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority and receives funding from Cadw and the National Park Authority. Gwynedd Archaeological Trust and Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust are also running parallel projects within their areas.



*Pembrey Harbour,  
Carmarthenshire*



*Crocksydam Iron Age Promontory  
Fort, Pembrokeshire*

For further information on the project and how you can get involved, please contact:

James Meek –  
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Dyfed Archaeological Trust  
01558 823121  
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Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority  
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## ARFORDIR – COASTAL HERITAGE

### GET INVOLVED

The pilot year started with the creation of display panels, website, recording forms and recording manual. A number of introductory talks were set up to discuss the aims of the project with interested volunteers and to get feedback on how members of local communities could assist in the recording and monitoring of known coastal heritage sites. These meetings were followed up by guided walks, to demonstrate a range of archaeological sites and how to identify them, and training sessions on recording techniques. These have been carried out in Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire, and more talks and walks will be set up in Ceredigion for this year.



*St Ishmael Investigations, Carmarthenshire*

In 2009 two sites were identified for further archaeological investigation using volunteer support; West Angle Bay medieval cemetery in Pembrokeshire and St Ishmael Deserted Medieval Village in Carmarthenshire. The St Ishmael site was investigated in February 2010 and West Angle Bay in May 2010.



*West Angle Bay Investigations, Pembrokeshire*



*Guided Walk, Nabhead, Pembrokeshire*

For further information and information on up-coming talks, lectures, investigations, site walkovers etc, please see the Dyfed Archaeological Trust website:

<http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk/arfordir/arfordir1.htm>



26/08/2010

Dyfed Archaeological Trust

ARFORDIR - COASTAL HERITAGE Site Recording Form		
<b>SITE NAME</b> This information will be used to distinguish the site from others		
<b>Site Name.</b>	<b>PRN Number:</b>	
<b>LOCATION OF THE SITE</b> This information will help you and others to return to the site		
<b>Address or description of location</b>		
<b>Parish / District</b>	Carmarthenshire/Ceredigion/Pembrokeshire (delete as appropriate)	
<b>National Grid Reference (NGR)</b>		NGR taken from map? GPS?
Use the centre of the site area if possible, otherwise note where the grid reference has been taken from		
Approximate Distance to coast edge:		
<b>SITE DESCRIPTION</b> The description will help to identify the site type, function and date		
<b>Full description</b> (including approximate size of site area if possible)		
continue over if necessary		
<b>FORM:</b> (please use HER standard terms)		
<b>Estimated period</b> (if possible)		
<b>SITE CONDITION</b> This information will help to assess the condition of the site and threats to its survival		
<b>CONDITION</b> (please use HER standard terms)		
<b>Any threats to site?</b>		
<b>YOUR RECORDS</b> This will help to cross reference to other records and to things that you have found		
Have you taken photos? Produced any other drawings?		
<b>Any Finds?</b>	Pottery/Animal bone/Human bone/Wood/Metal/Bricks or tiles/Stonework/Flint /Glass/Shell/Other	
<b>FIELDWORK INFORMATION</b> This will remind you and others about the actual survey		
<b>Group name</b>	<b>Form recorded by</b>	<b>Survey date</b>



Updated Recording Form – Front Page



## ARFORDIR - COASTAL HERITAGE

### THE ARFORDIR – COASTAL HERITAGE SITE RECORDING FORM

#### Information to assist with filling in the form

##### Why do we need to use the form?

*“Archaeology is not only about finding things, but about telling others about what has been found. To help do this, archaeologists write information on recording forms.*

*Using a form:*

- *helps to jog your memory, prompting you to note down enough information to make a meaningful record*
- *ensures that your data is recorded in a consistent manner*
- *helps with cross-referencing to other information you collect (such as photographs, finds or drawings)*
- *helps when transferring data to a computer database.*

The aim of the form is to provide a consistent means of recording that can be used by anyone assisting with the ARFORDIR project.

All sites should be identified with a unique site name, and this used again for any further episodes of recording at the site. This should ensure that sites are not recorded twice or two sites get confused.

The data recorded on the form will be used to provide information to the Regional Historic Environment Record (HER). Dyfed Archaeological Trust maintain the HER for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire. Using the form means that the information you collect can be easily checked and allow new records to be generated or existing records to be updated.

The recording form will also provide information on the condition of sites between one visit and the next, in order that an understanding of any changing conditions of the site may be noted (identifying those sites under threat of erosion, through changes of use, agricultural processes, neglect, public access or vandalism). Recording the date the recording form was used is essential.

The Site Recording Form should be ideally completed on-site, but this may be impractical at times due to weather conditions. Some parts of the form, such as grid references may be easier to complete when off site. In all cases please complete the form as soon after the site visit as possible. It is always worth taking a notebook to record details of archaeological sites, and the information may be added to the recording form (or additional record sheets) at a later date.

The forms will be photocopied or scanned, so please use black pen to complete them.

Once the form is completed, send a copy to the Arfordir coordinators.

**Arfordir**  
**Dyfed Archaeological Trust**  
**The Shire Hall**  
**Llandeilo**  
**SA19 6AF**



\* Taken from the SHOREWATCH project



## ARFORDIR - COASTAL HERITAGE

### HOW TO FILL IN THE ARFORDIR SITE RECORDING FORM

#### SITE NAME:

This information will be used to distinguish the site from others.

Ideally this name should not just be a place name – but should be distinguished by a unique feature of the site, landmark or even the type of site it may be.

If the site already has a site name (perhaps it is already recorded on the HER, or it is a site which is being revisited), please reuse the same site name.

#### PRN NUMBER:

The PRN number is the Primary Record Number that will be assigned to the site by the regional Historic Environment Record. It is not necessary to fill this in unless the site has already been assigned the record number. In many cases where new sites are being recorded, this will be filled in following the submission of the site record to the Arfordir project coordinators and input onto the HER. You can check whether the site already has a PRN by contacting Dyfed Archaeological Trust and asking for information about the particular site, or the area within which you are working.

#### LOCATION OF THE SITE

There are a number of parts to this section, and it is best to fill in as many as possible (but not essential).

**Address or description of location:** If the site is a specific building or within the grounds of a building, then it may be possible to assign an address to the site. It may only be possible to state information such as whether it is close to a road or footpath within a certain parish or district and the county in which it lies.

The reverse of the Site Recording Form includes room to include sketch plans to aid identification of the site location.

**National Grid Reference (NGR):** The National Grid Reference refers to the Ordnance Survey grid which is used for standard mapping across the UK. The grid reference can be identified by locating the site on an OS map and reading the easting along the bottom of the map, followed by the northing which goes up the side. Many people will have used grid references before, but we can offer further help and assistance to anyone who has not, or is not confident in how this is done.

The eventual grid reference is ideally recorded as an eight-figure reference, for example SM 8803 2130 (the location of Roch Castle) - where SM is the 100x100km grid square in which the map lies (recorded on OS maps), and the eight figure grid reference is taken by using the Eastings running from left to right and the Northings running from top to bottom.

The Ordnance Survey states: *When giving a National Grid reference for any point, always read the distance eastwards (Eastings) before the distance northwards (Northings). Eastings and Northings must always be recorded in the same number of figures, even if some are zero.*

If a map is not used it may be that a GPS device is being used (Geographical Positioning System) which locates the instrument using signals taken from satellites circling the earth. The accuracy of these depends on the GPS instrument being used or how many satellite signals are being received (tree cover, buildings or cliffs can disrupt this). It is therefore worth distinguishing which method of location is being used.

**Approximate distance to coast edge:** A rough indication of the site to the coastal edge is useful to note. An estimate of the distance (preferably in metres) is perfectly acceptable, so please **do not** take any risks to your own safety for the sake of accuracy!



# ARFORDIR - COASTAL HERITAGE

## SITE DESCRIPTION

**Full Description:** The site description should be a summary of the site to help identify the site type, its function and an estimate of the date. Some descriptions may be very short, and others may require further notes being written on additional sheets of paper (or on the reverse of the recording form). The more concise the description, the better in some ways!

Record information about the size of the site. It may be useful to refer to photographs that you take, which may assist the description.

In some cases it may not be possible to assign an accurate function or date to the site – or the recorder may not feel confident enough to ascribe such information (just like most archaeologists!). In these cases just highlight the information which has made you consider the site may be of archaeological importance. What have you identified that makes you consider the site to be of archaeological interest? Is it a building or structure? An earthwork? A field boundary? Further work or research may be necessary on the majority of sites to provide further information on what they actually represent.

**Form:** There are a number of standard form descriptions terms that should be used to describe a site, standard HER terminology, which are as follows:

Form	Use for
Building	Roofed structure
Buried Feature	Use for below ground features, known only from excavation, geophysical survey or exposed in cliff faces etc.
Cropmark	Features visible from aerial photographs (usually), where below ground archaeological features are visible in crops, grass or soil
Documents	Use for sites known only from documentary sources
Earthwork	Earth mounds or linear features, such as field banks, indicating archaeological features below
Finds	Where an artefact is recovered indicating
Landform	Where natural features have been used for past activities
Other Structure	Use for built structures that are not buildings e.g. bridges, lime kilns
Place-name	e.g. field names or road names indicating previous land use or activities
Topography	A topographic feature or location may be considered to indicate a high potential for earlier archaeological activity

**Form:** There are a number of standard form descriptions terms that should be used to describe a site, standard HER terminology, which are as follows:

**Period:** It may be possible to ascribe a certain period or even a specific set of dates for some archaeological sites. For pre-Roman sites sometimes no better description than '**prehistoric**' can be assigned, or if it is not possible to ascribe a date use '**unknown**'. The following date ranges are used to ascribe periods:

Period	Approximate date	
Palaeolithic -	c.450,000 – 10,000 BC	Prehistoric
Mesolithic -	c. 10,000 – 4400 BC	
Neolithic -	c.4400 – 2300 BC	
Bronze Age -	c.2300 – 700 BC	
Iron Age -	c.700 BC – AD 43	
Roman (Romano-British) Period -	AD 43 – c. AD 410	Historic
Post-Roman / Early Medieval / Dark Age -	c. AD 410 – AD 1066	
Medieval Period -	1066 – 1535	
Post-Medieval Period -	1536 – 1899	
Modern -	20th century onwards	



## ARFORDIR - COASTAL HERITAGE

### SITE CONDITION

**Condition of site:** This will tell us the current condition of the site, and record damage – both historic and modern. The majority of archaeological sites will have suffered from some form of damage in the past, and it is worth recording the extent of survival – for example:

The structure is relatively intact; or  
the earthworks are clearly visible within a pasture field; or  
the field boundary would appear to have partially collapsed recently; or  
the site is visible within a collapse in the cliff; or  
the site is only exposed at low tide etc. etc.

The following terms should be used to describe condition of a site (standard HER terminology):

Condition	Use for
Near intact	E.g. a roofless building surviving to gable height
Damaged	E.g. a feature surviving as low earthworks
Destroyed	Use only for features that have been fully excavated or quarried away i.e. where excavation would find no trace
Near destroyed	E.g. a building shown on an historic map that is no longer visible on the ground
Restored	Where a site or building has undergone a program of restoration
Intact	Where a site or structure can be seen to be in very good state of preservation
Moved	Usually where a feature such as a gatepost, cannon has been moved from its original location. Worth stating how you know it has been moved.
Not known	Use for sites identified from maps/photographs where the condition has not been verified from a site visit
Various	Use for complexes and linear features, farmsteads, leats etc.
Converted	Where a structure has been altered for a different usage
Not Applicable	Use for findspots

**Any threats to the site?** This will be very important to the Arfordir project, and will help us to identify those sites where further archaeological recording or investigation may be essential. Threats may include:

coastal erosion affecting cliffs, beach heads or sand dunes and the archaeology upon or within them;  
disused buildings may be decaying and collapsing;  
public access may be leading to erosion across archaeological sites, through constant walking, climbing, camp fires or even vandalism;  
a change of use of a building or structure may lead to damaging alterations.

### YOUR RECORDS

If you have taken any photographs, made any written descriptions or drawings that are not on the main recording form, please note these here. It is best that these can be made easily accessible to the Arfordir project coordinators and the HER in order that as much information as possible is archived regarding the sites.

**Any Finds?** Note any artefacts that you have recovered, even if you are unsure if the objects are significant or not. For most site visits finds will not be recovered and should certainly not be removed from the ground (for archaeological reasons as well as issues with landowners or any legal permission that may be necessary). In most cases finds should be left where they are.



## ARFORDIR - COASTAL HERITAGE

### FIELDWORK INFORMATION

**Group Name:** Please record your Group Name, if you belong to one, or note if you are an individual involved with the project.

**Form Recorded By / Survey Date:** Please note who has completed the Site Recording Form, and on what date the survey was undertaken. Then we can come back to you if we don't understand something!

### REVERSE OF SITE RECORDING FORM

#### SKETCH LOCATION DRAWING:

This provides space in which to put a sketch location plan of the site in question, and is very useful where accurate written descriptions of the locations are difficult. They can also be used to locate sites on return visits if grid references are inaccurate or could not be clearly defined.

To assist with the locations, show features around the site that will not move or change over time (such as outcrops of rocks, walls or buildings or large trees). Indicate distances between these features and the site by using tape measures, or estimate distances as best as one can where such equipment is not available.

#### DETAILED SKETCH PLAN / SECTION

Room is given to provide a more detailed drawing of the site in question, which may include different elements to the site, and can be used to show dimensions of the area and any features within. Ideally the direction of north should be shown on the plans.

For both of the sketch plan sections we are not looking for works of art! The sketches will be an aid to recognising the sites for any subsequent visits. On one day a feature may be visible, but a return visit a number of weeks later, the same feature may not be identified due to vegetation growth or due to bad light or weather.

In a few cases, the Site Record Form may be the only record we have of a site or feature as it is in the process of being removed (eg demolition of a building or structure) or may be destroyed through erosion processes.

The sketch plans are a basic record, and where more detailed drawings are needed, or are being done, then these will be done on different sheets.

Ideally measurements should be given in metres – BUT whatever units of measurement you use, please make sure they are noted on the drawings! If you are providing additional accurate scaled drawings, please write the scale of any the drawings upon them.

Where additional photographs, finds, drawings, written records etc are taken of an identified site, please ensure that they are all recorded with the same name and referenced on the Site Recording Form, to enable cross referencing.



# ARFORDIR COASTAL HERITAGE 2010 - 2011

DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2011/18  
RHIF Y PROSIECT / PROJECT RECORD NO. 100612

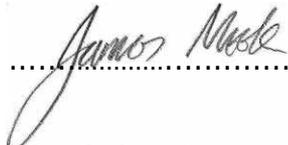
Mawrth 2011  
March 2011



Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by

James Meek

Swydd / Position: Head Of Field Services

Llofnod / Signature .....  ..... Date 31/03/2010

Mae'r adroddiad hwn wedi ei gael yn gywir a derbyn sêl bendith  
This report has been checked and approved by

Duncan Schlee

ar ran Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf.  
on behalf of Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Swydd / Position: Project Manager

Llofnod / Signature .....  ..... Date 31/03/2010

*Yn unol â'n nôd i roddi gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel, croesawn unrhyw sylwadau  
sydd gennych ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn*

*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*