

# **SCHEDULING ENHANCEMENT PROJECT 2009: MEDIIEVAL MINOR DEFENDED SITES**



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust  
For Cadw



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## DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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# SCHEDULING ENHANCEMENT PROJECT 2009: MIEVIAL MINOR DEFENDED SITES

Gan / By

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*Paratowyd yr adroddiad yma at ddefnydd y cwsmer yn unig. Ni dderbynnir cyfrifoldeb gan Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf am ei ddefnyddio gan unrhyw berson na phersonau eraill a fydd yn ei ddarllen neu ddibynnu ar y gwybodaeth y mae'n ei gynnwys*

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*Front Cover: Castell, PRN 2057, overlooking the Rheidol Valley, Ceredigion*

## **SUMMARY**

*In 2007 Cadw commissioned Dyfed Archaeological Trust to undertake an assessment of the minor site types within the Dyfed regional Historic Environment Record for which there was a known or potential under-representation within the Schedule of Ancient Monuments. Three distinct site groups were identified in the study:*

- Prehistoric settlement and associated agricultural remains*
- Roman non-military sites*
- Medieval Fortified Dwellings*

*The aim of this project was to evaluate the Medieval Fortified Dwelling sites on the regional Historic Environment Record that had not been the subject of a previous threat-related assessment. Three specific medieval fortified dwelling site types were reviewed: mottes, moated sites and ringworks. A desk-based search of the relevant records was carried out, and out of the 180 records of these types held on the Historic Environment Record database 22 were selected to be assessed during this project.*

*Dossiers were prepared for each site and field visits were carried out over a ten day period in early 2009.*

*All 22 sites were visited and of these 8 were deemed moated sites or possible moated sites, 1 was a ringwork and 4 were deemed mottes or possible mottes. In addition 4 were classified as not an antiquity, 2 as possible Iron Age enclosures, 1 as a medieval farmhouse, and 2 documented sites were not located.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

In 2007-2008 Dyfed Archaeological Trust (DAT) undertook a study for Cadw *Appraisal of Minor Site Types in Dyfed: Prehistoric, Roman and Medieval Fortified Dwellings*. This was an assessment of the minor site types within the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) for which there was a known or potential under-representation within the Schedule of Ancient Monuments. It had been anticipated that by 2010 the proposed Heritage Protection Reform bill would be implemented, and it was intended that all prehistoric, Roman, and medieval fortified dwelling sites would be reviewed and, as far as possible, the Schedule of Ancient Monuments complete and correct for all nationally important archaeological sites for which scheduling was the appropriate management tool. However, the passage of the Heritage Protection Reform bill through Parliament has been postponed, and perhaps cancelled, but the date of 2010 for assessing all sites is still achievable.

One group of sites that appeared under-represented within the Schedule was Medieval Fortified Dwellings. More specifically, under this heading, three site types appeared to be in need of review *viz*: mottes, moated sites and ringworks. A specific project was proposed to enable a desk based and field assessment of such sites, for the purpose of updating the records as well as the identification of those examples which were of potentially national importance. In 2009 this project, *Medieval Minor Defended Sites*, was undertaken.

## **PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The main aims of this project are to review the evidence for minor defended sites of medieval date in southwest Wales, to make scheduling recommendations and to update HER entries.

The overall research objectives are:

- Assessment of the archaeological significance of these sites in both a regional and national perspective.
- Assessment of the vulnerability of this element of the archaeological resource, review of scheduling, and recommendations for future management strategies.
- Enhancement of the regional HER and Extended National Database.

The specific project aims are:

- To identify all minor defended sites of medieval date that require further assessment.
- To collate existing documentary evidence for the sites.
- To carry out a field assessment of those sites where necessary.
- To incorporate all the information into a database and enhance the regional Dyfed HER.
- To advise Cadw on those sites which are of national value and currently without statutory protection.

## METHODOLOGY

As previously stated, the background to this project has been set out in Dyfed Archaeological Trust's 2007-2008 report to Cadw 'Appraisal of Minor Site Types in Dyfed: Prehistoric, Roman and Medieval Fortified Dwellings'. In that study certain categories of minor defended site of the medieval period were recognised as being under-represented on the Schedule of Ancient Monuments and these are highlighted in the table below. In total, seven categories of site type were recognised:

<i>Site Type</i>	<i>No. of records held in HER</i>
Fortified Houses	29
Gates	25
Manor Houses	75
<b>Moated Sites</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Mottes</b>	<b>134</b>
<b>Ringworks</b>	<b>21</b>
Towers & Tower Houses	22
TOTAL	339

For the purposes of this project, then, only moated sites, mottes and ringworks were considered to be particularly in need of review. This left a total of 188 sites to potentially assess. After filtering out sites for each category that were SAMs, Listed Buildings or ones that had already been subject to previous assessment, a total of 22 sites were flagged up for inclusion in this project.

Each record was reviewed and information from published descriptions, Ordnance Survey record cards, cartographic records including early Ordnance Survey large-scale maps, and aerial photographs was collected for each of the 22 sites. A dossier was prepared for each site and field visits were undertaken. Written descriptions of the sites were recorded in the field on *pro forma* record sheets and digital photographs were taken to record significant aspects or details of each site. All the information, including digital photographs, recorded during the course of the study was incorporated into the Historic Environment Record database, either as part of the core record, or as a stand-alone database.

## RESULTS

The main results of the survey are shown in the gazetteer, however, a brief overview is included here.

Following the collation of site dossiers a total of 22 sites were visited and assessed during the fieldwork. The sites were geographically spread throughout the counties of Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire (collectively the old county of Dyfed), their distribution is marked on the map (Figure 1) overleaf.

Of the sites visited or attempted to visit, the following were identified:

Moated Site	1	
Moated Site?	7	(possible)
Ringwork	1	
Motte	2	
Motte?	2	(possible)

Of the remaining 9 sites:

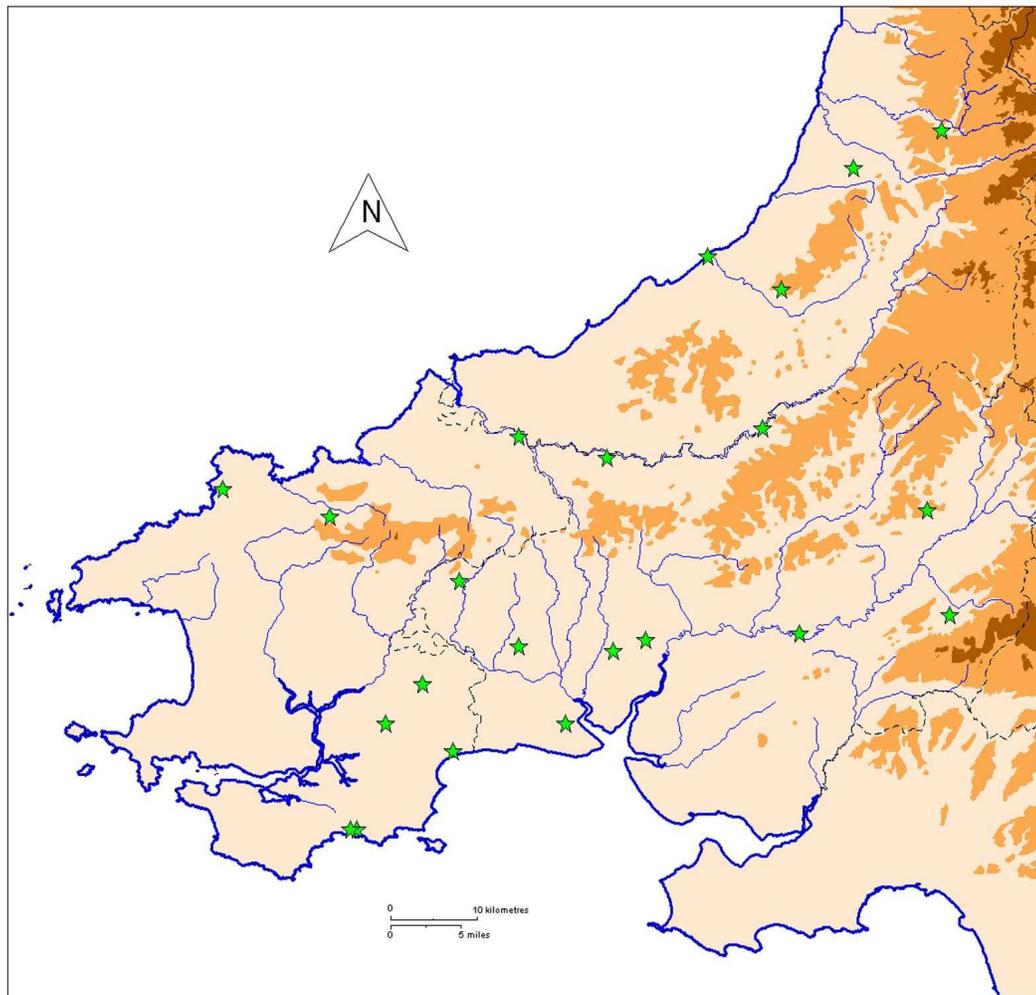
Not Antiquity	4	
Iron Age Enclosure?	2	(possible)
Not Located	2	
Farmhouse (Med?)	1	

The two sites that were not located are known only from documentary sources, potentially a ringwork and a moated site, and had only four-figure grid references. One of the moated sites, Whitley Farm (PRN32475), was re-classified as a possible medieval farmhouse. Two sites were re-classified as potential Iron Age enclosures and four others re-classified as not antiquities.

Of the seven possible moated sites identified one is a cropmark, one is all but destroyed, and five others have at least some physical presence above ground.

The two possible mottes are earthworks and the only definite ringwork, Castell Dolwlff (PRN736) is a de-scheduled site that is all but destroyed.

It is currently difficult to assess if there is an overall degradation of minor medieval defended sites in Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire due to the lack of baseline information. However, historic records and map evidence show that for some monuments the past one hundred and fifty years have seen substantial degradation to the point of destruction. This is exemplified particularly in the cases of Castell Cadwgan (PRN 1867) and Castell Dolwlff (PRN 736), both of which were visited and assessed in this project. The smaller earthwork sites too have suffered increasing degradation from agricultural practices; this can be judged by comparing modern site records with those gathered by the Ordnance Survey and, earlier, by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments.



**Figure 1:**

Map of west Wales showing the distribution of the 22 sites visited and assessed during this project. Land over 250m and 500m is shaded.

## **GAZETTEER**

For ease of handling the gazetteer has been arranged in PRN number order, rather than by site type or by county, photographs are included where relevant.

## 287 BAILY BEDW

PRN 287

NGR SN73852307

Site Name BAILY BEDW

Site Type Natural feature

Form Landform

Period

Condition C

County Carmarthenshire

Site Status

### Description

Baily Bedw is a large rounded mound c. 42m diameter and c. 8m in height; it lies on a broad, flat, natural terrace on a steep west-facing slope within deciduous woodland. The mound is tree covered, several of which have fallen and exposed what appears to be natural bedrock. Although the mound is 'motte'-like in appearance it seems more likely to be a natural topographic feature, given the presence of the *in situ* bedrock.

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View of Baily Bedw mound, looking south-southeast.

## 736 CASTELL DOLWLFF

PRN	736	NGR	SN52024453
Site Name	CASTELL DOLWLFF		
Site Type	Ringwork	Form	Earthwork
Period	Medieval	Condition	E
County	Ceredigion	Site Status	

### Description

Castell Dolwlff is situated on a scarp edged promontory overlooking the Afon Teifi at 99m above sea level. The steep fall of c. 9m down to the river on its eastern side afforded good natural defence to this former 24m diameter ringwork; the remaining defences comprised a strong bank and 6m wide ditch on the north and west sides. The site was formerly scheduled (SAM no. Cd 75) but became so mutilated by building development and landscaping that it was descheduled in 1990. Very little, if any, of the original defences are now evident save for the scarp to the east and south overlooking the river.

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View of Castell Dolwlff, looking east. The building on the right has been dug into the exterior of the bank, the building on the left was erected in 1984.

## 1148 CASTELL

PRN	1148	NGR	SN17702677
Site Name	CASTELL		
Site Type	Motte?	Form	Earthwork
Period	Medieval?	Condition	C
County	Carmarthenshire	Site Status	

### Description

Castell is a ploughed down circular earthwork mound c. 38m diameter and c. 0.4m in height with a centrally located smaller circular mound to a further height of c. 0.4m. There is a hint of a ditch just discernible on its eastern and south-eastern sides. The farmer ploughs the field every three years and says that the ground around and on the earthwork is very stony compared with the rest of the pasture field. The site lies in a field named Parc Castell, on a local highpoint at 115m above sea level.

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View of Castell, looking north-northwest. The linear feature in the foreground represents a former field boundary

## 1361 MYNYDD CILCIFFETH

PRN	1361	NGR	SN0234
Site Name	MYNYDD CILCIFFETH		
Site Type	Ringwork?	Form	Documents
Period	Medieval?	Condition	Unknown
County	Pembrokeshire	Site Status	

### Description

The four-figure grid reference for this site, gleaned from Rees' Map of South Wales and Border in 14<sup>th</sup> Century, places it very close to Pontfaen House. Close by to the northwest lies Castell Cilciffeth (PRN 1538; SAM Pe407), an Iron Age defended enclosure. It seems likely that the site referred to on Rees' map is in fact Castell Cilciffeth. A visit to Pontfaen House and Kilkiffeth farm yielded no information regarding earthworks in the vicinity other than those at Castell Cilciffeth.

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## 1867 CASTELL CADWGAN

PRN	1867	NGR	SN45986340
Site Name	CASTELL CADWGAN		
Site Type	Moated Site	Form	Documents
Period	Medieval	Condition	E
County	Ceredigion	Site Status	

### Description

Castell Cadwgan is shown on the first edition 25" Ordnance Survey map where it appears that much of its seaward fabric had suffered extensive erosion, leaving only the landward half of the monument as an approximately 60m long curving bank on the shoreline. By the time of the publication of the second edition Ordnance Survey map the earthwork is shown to have been further compromised by the construction of a breakwater. Nothing of the Castell bank can be seen at the site now; it has either been totally destroyed or has been incorporated into the high pebble bank sea defence that currently occupies the space.

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View looking west across storm defence in former location of Castell Cadwgan bank.

## 1998 COED LLYS

PRN	1998	NGR	SN62617368
Site Name	COED LLYS	Form	Earthwork
Site Type	Moated Site	Condition	C
Period	Medieval	Site Status	
County	Ceredigion		

### Description

A rectangular moat, Coed Llys, was noted at this location by the RCAHM in 1970, and visited by the Ordnance Survey in 1974. At that time it was noted that the long axis of the moat measured 50m long, internally, and was aligned northeast to southwest with the shorter side being 30m long. The eastern side consisted of two fragmentary banks with a maximum height of 0.9m, which were in Coed Llys woods, the outer bank continued around the southern side where it was preserved under rough pasture. The northern and western extent of the moat ditch were observed to be "extremely spread", with a break of level ground in the southwest corner. At the time of the recent site visit Coed Llys woods were too overgrown with vegetation to enable an assessment of the current state of preservation of the two fragmentary banks. There is only a slight indication on the ground of the bank continuing around to the southern side. Elsewhere the monument is only barely discernible as nebulous linear hollows on very gently sloping, southwest facing, improved pasture at 122m above sea level.

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View of Coed Llys, looking south.

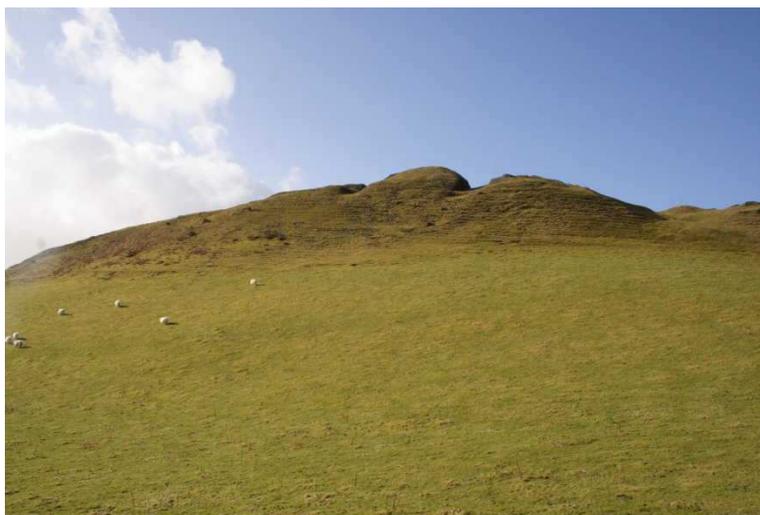
## 2057 CASTELL

PRN	2057	NGR	SN72707761
Site Name	CASTELL		
Site Type	Motte	Form	Earthwork
Period	Medieval	Condition	B
County	Ceredigion	Site Status	

### Description

Castell is a prominent, small (some 320m long) rocky ridge rising to about 305m above sea level; it rises commandingly above the surrounding land. The long axis of the ridge is aligned north to south with its slopes falling away steeply to the north, south and west. The eastern side falls away steeply at first but then slopes more gently for 60m or so, forming a natural moderately sloping terrace, before falling away steeply again. The summit of the ridge appears to have been artificially sculpted into a mound and well-defined rock-cut ditches have been excavated across the ridge to both the north and south of the mound. The ditches effectively give the mound summit a definite circular, motte-like appearance measuring approximately 15m across. The mound is solid bedrock and not constructed from the excavated ditches' spoil. Beyond the more northerly rock-cut ditch, some 25m or so away, there is a further linear hollow running across the ridge which has a definite artificial earthen bank enclosing about two thirds of its eastern end. To the south of the summit there is a small natural shelf which may represent a small ward or bailey, and towards the northern end of the ridge there are larger areas defined by natural rock outcrops which may equally define areas of occupation. The moderately sloping terrace and improved pasture to the east of the ridge may have served as an outer bailey with enclosing banks long eroded away or obscured by modern field boundaries. The ridge commands strategic views along the meandering Rheidol valley to the northwest, north and east and communication routes to the south along Nant y Fawnog. There appears, however, to be no documentary evidence to support the hypothesis that the site is that of a medieval motte and bailey castle. A sketch from c.1800 shows the artificially fashioned profile of the mound on the ridge summit.

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View of Castell summit, looking west-southwest

## 2334 CASTELL HENLLYS

PRN	2334	NGR	SN34104082
Site Name	CASTELL HENLLYS		
Site Type	Moated Site?	Form	Earthwork
Period	Medieval?	Condition	C
County	Ceredigion	Site Status	

### Description

Castell Henllys comprises a water filled ditch or moat, averaging 30m in width, which encloses a sub-rectangular area of slightly raised ground measuring c. 175m east to west by c. 90m north to south. The moat is weak at the western end where the outer bank is untraceable. The enclosed interior is on average some 1.2m higher than the surrounding Afon Teifi floodplain and is currently under pasture. A near rectangular hollow, measuring c. 30m east to west by c. 13m north to south, situated centrally along the southern edge of the interior may represent a building platform. Elsewhere the interior is generally featureless with a few undulations. The flooded moat contains a fairly dense growth of deciduous trees and shrubs throughout its length. As indicated by the Ordnance Survey, in 1971, it is possible that the site may have originally been an ox-bow lake that has been artificially modified to form an animal enclosure or, indeed, adapted as a defended moated site. The site lies on the north bank of the Afon Teifi at just under 30m above sea level.

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View of the interior of Castell Henllys, looking east.

## 2826 CASTELL POETH

PRN	2826	NGR	SM89703772
Site Name	CASTELL POETH		
Site Type	Motte	Form	Earthwork
Period	Medieval	Condition	B
County	Pembrokeshire	Site Status	SAM

### Description

Access was not gained to this site, which is already scheduled (SAM Pem 80). Is the earthwork bailey included within the scheduled area? The HER records that there is some doubt.

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## 3632 TUMPED PARK

PRN	3632	NGR	SN08221056
Site Name	TUMPED PARK		
Site Type	Moated Site?	Form	Earthwork
Period	Medieval?	Condition	C
County	Pembrokeshire	Site Status	

### Description

This site comprises a much ploughed down sub-rectangular earthwork, measuring c. 30m east to west by c. 25m north to south, just discernible as a low bank lying on a west facing gentle hillslope at 82m above sea level. The bank is best preserved on the north side, average height c. 0.3m, with an outer ditch clearly visible. There are indications of the presence of an outer bank on the southern side of the enclosure. The enclosed ground is crossed from north to south by a hedgebank field boundary, which places the eastern quarter of the earthwork in a field under pasture with the remaining three quarters lying in an arable field. It is possible that the field boundary overlies the eastern bank, possibly preserving it. At the time of the site visit the westerly field had recently been machine harvested, leaving deep wheel ruts that had severely damaged the earthwork banks and causing waterlogging of the enclosed interior. Small and medium size stones had been exposed and eroded out of the banks.

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View of earthworks situated in the western field, looking north.

## 3657 LITTLE CASTLE PARK

PRN	3657	NGR	SN16390768
Site Name	LITTLE CASTLE PARK	Form	Earthwork
Site Type	Motte?	Condition	C
Period	Medieval	Site Status	
County	Pembrokeshire		

### Description

Little Castle Park is a low circular earthwork c. 30m diameter by c. 1m high with a discernible outer ditch best preserved on the west side. A trackway has been cut through the eastern edge of this monument at the top edge of a steep natural, wooded, slope which acts as a natural defence on that side. Elsewhere the topography is a south facing gentle slope in an improved pasture field at 80m above sea level. The field name for the site is 'Little Castle Park'. The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments in 1925 noted that an earth mound in the vicinity is traditionally believed to be the site of Earwere Castle (later known as Amroth Castle), which was later replaced by a stone castle some 0.46km to the southeast. The land is currently owned by the National Trust.



View of Little Castle Park earthwork, looking east.

## 4081 LLANWRDA

PRN	4081	NGR	SN71613455
Site Name	LLANWRDA		
Site Type	Defended Enclosure?	Form	Earthwork
Period	Iron Age?	Condition	C
County	Carmarthenshire	Site Status	

Description

**DUPLICATED SITE see Scheduling Enhancement Project 2009: Roman Non-Military Sites: Dyfed**

The field notes for this site visit have been incorporated into the above project archive.

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View of Llanwrda earthwork PRN 4081, looking east.

## 5019 TREBERSED II

PRN	5019	NGR	SN38202018
Site Name	TREBERSED II		
Site Type	Natural feature?	Form	Cropmark
Period		Condition	
County	Carmarthenshire	Site Status	

### Description

A rectangular cropmark was noted from aerial photographs, situated on moderately sloping south facing improved pasture at 80m above sea level. There is nothing apparent on the ground to indicate the presence of an enclosure in the vicinity. The medieval moated homestead earthwork of Trebersed (PRN 2147; SAM Cm249) lies some 240m away, down slope, to the southeast. It is suggested that the cropmark may appear as a result of geology rather than the presence of an antiquity.

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## 5070 ROCHE CASTLE

PRN	5070	NGR	SN29431022
Site Name	ROCHE CASTLE		
Site Type	Moated Site	Form	Building
Period	Medieval	Condition	C
County	Carmarthenshire	Site Status	

### Description

All that remains of Roche Castle today is a single stone tower with small stretches of abutting walls projecting from it to the northeast and southeast. The tower and walls were heavily covered with ivy at the time of the site visit but some architectural details were observable such as a fragment of arched vaulting and the chamber within the circular tower. The castle was in a ruinous state by the early 17<sup>th</sup> century when it is recorded as being robbed of stone for the construction of the nearby mansion at Broadway. The Ordnance Survey map of 1831 shows a wall linking two towers on the south-western side of a flat platform area. Subsequent building development on the site, especially during the 1960s, has presumably destroyed much of the fabric of the original castle and its foundations. The castle lies on a platform that is terraced into a gentle southeast facing slope, the platform is still recognisable despite the presence of modern buildings and the effects of later landscaping. The site lies on the 40m contour.

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View of the ivy-clad tower of Roche Castle, looking south-southwest.

## 5872 MAES-MYNACH

PRN	5872	NGR	SN54195947
Site Name	Maes-Mynach		
Site Type	Moated Site?	Form	Cropmark
Period	Medieval?	Condition	Unknown
County	Ceredigion	Site Status	

### Description

The Ordnance Survey identified this site in 1974 from RAF aerial photographs taken in 1946. The cropmark was described as being representative of a square ditch, c. 15m across, resembling a moat. At the time of an Ordnance Survey site visit in 1976 the area had been afforested and no trace of a ditch could be found. The cropmark is situated on a moderately steep south-facing slope, at 312m above sea level, within forestry that has recently been felled. There is nothing discernible either on the much disturbed ground at the given grid reference, or in the immediate vicinity. If the grid reference given is correct then it would appear that the site has been destroyed. Modern aerial photographs, however, do show a rectangular cropmark in the field immediately to the west of the given grid reference centred on SN5407059440 some 90m away. This information only came to light after the site visit was made so no investigation of the new location was made. A copy of the original RAF aerial photograph (RAF/1946/106G.UK.1631.4033-4) used by the Ordnance Survey to identify the cropmark is not held in the regional HER so it was not possible, during this project, to establish if the wrong grid reference has been assigned to the site by them.

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## 7278 GROVE GREEN

PRN	7278	NGR	SS05439896
Site Name	GROVE GREEN		
Site Type	Not an Antiquity?	Form	Cropmark?
Period		Condition	
County	Pembrokeshire	Site Status	

### Description

A mound noted on aerial photographs located adjacent to the west of Grade II Listed building Grove Green (PRN 7278). Nothing could be seen on the ground in that location at the time of the site visit. It is probable that the grid reference given for the house, Grove Green, has been misinterpreted as coinciding with a temporary / transient feature which is shown on recently taken aerial photographs. The grid reference given is some 37.5m due west of where Grove Green is situated. The correct grid reference for the house is SS0546898961 and has been amended.

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## 7287 EAST MOOR

PRN	7287	NGR	SS04849820
Site Name	EAST MOOR		
Site Type	Moated Site?	Form	Documents
Period	Medieval?	Condition	D
County	Pembrokeshire	Site Status	

### Description

Early map evidence and photographs show a range of buildings in what is now a pond area and farmyard to the east of the present day farm buildings. Richard Fenton mentions East Moor in his Tour of Pembrokeshire (1811) describing it as having been "one of the chief mansions in the district" some 200 years earlier. The site is known to have been the home of Sampson Lort, who was the second son of Henry Lort of Stackpole Court, in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Of the buildings shown on the early maps only one small ruin, the most northeasterly of the group, now remains. Photographs of the demolished buildings, the last one was demolished in 2004, suggest that they were architecturally in keeping with the style of known medieval buildings still extant in the locality. Recent development of a pond area may have destroyed important archaeological evidence for the southern extent of the medieval farmstead. A rectangular walled garden, on higher ground to the east of the former building complex, and a circular parcel of land adjacent to its north side may represent an even earlier phase of occupation. There is no evidence for a moat. The farm lies on the 80m contour 250m northeast of the coast; the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park coast path skirts the farm's southern boundary.

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View looking north-northeast across East Moor farmyard.

## 8027 PARK Y MOAT

PRN	8027	NGR	SN234192
Site Name	PARK Y MOAT		
Site Type	Natural feature?	Form	Cropmark
Period		Condition	
County	Carmarthenshire	Site Status	

### Description

A rectangular cropmark was noted on RAF aerial photographs from 1946 by the Ordnance Survey as being situated in or near to fields named as Park y Moat and Park Moat Issa on the 1838 Tithe map and Apportionment for Llagynin parish. A site visit to the given grid reference and the immediate vicinity revealed nothing visible above ground, although the grass was moderately long at the time of the visit. The site is under pasture on a gentle west-northwest facing hillslope at around 55m above sea level. The rectangular cropmark is not noticeable on either of the relevant RAF or Meridian aerial photographs held in the HER. It is suggested that the site is spurious as an antiquity; possibly a geological feature.

R Ramsey March 2009

## 8783 CWM AGOL

PRN	8783	NGR	SN5660320961
Site Name	CWM AGOL		
Site Type	Enclosure	Form	Earthwork
Period	Iron Age	Condition	C
County	Carmarthenshire	Site Status	

### Description

This site was first detected as a rectangular cropmark during aerial reconnaissance in 1979 and its presence is confirmed on Meridian Airmaps from 1955. On the ground the enclosure survives as a low rectangular bank terraced into a west facing moderate hillslope at 50m above sea level. The long axis of the enclosure, at c. 40m long, is aligned approximately north to south, with the lesser sides measuring c.30m. The bank on the west side averages 0.4m high whilst the upslope eastern bank is lower and more spread. The southern bank may have been incorporated into the field boundary bank. There is no trace of a bank on the northern side where it may have been destroyed by a trackway. No ditch or moat is discernible. The site looks more like a typical Iron Age rectangular enclosure rather than a moated medieval site.

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View of Cwm Agol enclosure looking northeast

## 11006 LLWYNDYRYS

PRN	11006	NGR	SN2343; SN2443
Site Name	LLWYNDYRYS		
Site Type	Moated Site?	Form	Documents
Period	Medieval?	Condition	U
County	Ceredigion	Site Status	

### Description

A four-figure grid reference only is given for this site. Access was not gained to nearby sites that may yield information regarding the location, if it exists, of Llwyndyrys *viz*: Vaynor Manor (PRN 12633) or Castell Maelgwyn (PRN 12634).  
SITE NOT LOCATED.

R Ramsey March 2009

## 11809 CWRT MALLE

PRN	11809	NGR	SN37701725
Site Name	CWRT MALLE		
Site Type	Moated Site	Form	Earthwork
Period	Medieval	Condition	C
County	Carmarthenshire	Site Status	

### Description

This site was discovered by aerial reconnaissance undertaken during the drought of 1984. Oblique aerial photographs taken at that time, and two years later, clearly show a square ditched enclosure situated in the field some 160m northeast of Cwrt Malle farm. Historical documents appear to confirm that the site is medieval, probably being the home of Robert de Malley in the early 12<sup>th</sup> century. On the ground the site is defined by a very low earthwork bank c. 60m by 60m with a discernible internal ditch surrounding an approximately square raised platform. The aerial photographs also appear to indicate a linear crop mark to the north of the site that may represent a leat that fed the moat, but nothing of this evident on the ground. The field is ploughed every two years and planted for silage. During the site visit the badly drained enclosure was seen to have suffered extensive damage from farm vehicles. The site lies on a very gentle south facing hillslope at 55m above sea level.

R Ramsey March 2009



View across the site of Cwrt Malle enclosure, looking east. Note vehicular damage.

## 32475 WHITLEY FARM

PRN	32475	NGR	SN12351538
Site Name	WHITLEY FARM		
Site Type	Farmhouse	Form	Building
Period	Medieval?	Condition	C
County	Pembrokeshire	Site Status	

### Description

This site was first recognised as being a potential medieval moated site during a topographic and historical survey of Narberth undertaken by Heather James in 1992 in which there is an unsourced reference to the 'Medieval manor of Whitley'. Early edition Ordnance Survey maps show the presence of a rectangular earthwork platform in front of (southeast side) the house, modern edition maps omit this detail. The main farmhouse and outbuildings of Whitley Farm have undergone much recent modernisation. A large walled garden survives to the southwest of the house, a drystone 'Ha-Ha' lies to the southeast, in front of the house and is obscured by vegetation. There is now no indication on the ground of the raised rectangular platform marked on the early Ordnance Survey maps, and there are no earthworks resembling a ditch or moat in the vicinity. The basement in the main farmhouse has architectural details that appear to be of some antiquity; the walls are of substantial stone masonry, the floor is of cut stone slabs, there are pointed arch stonework niches in at least one of the walls, and the ceiling is barrel vaulted. These features suggest medieval origins.

R Ramsey March 2009



A view of Whitley Farm, looking northwest. Note walled garden to the left of the farmhouse.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Andrew Shobbrook of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust for reviewing the HER data and selecting the sites to be visited. Marion Page of DAT for verification of the new data acquired during the fieldwork. Thanks are also due to the landowners, and tenants, from all three Counties for their help, enthusiastic interest, and for allowing access to the sites on their land.

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# **SCHEDULING ENHANCEMENT PROJECT 2009: MIEVAL MINOR DEFENDED SITES**

**RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NUMBER 2009/37**

**Mawrth 2009  
March 2009**

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

Swydd / Position: Archaeologist

Llofnod / Signature ..... Dyddiad / Date

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

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

Swydd / Position: Trust Director

Llofnod / Signature ..... Dyddiad / Date

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