

# PREHISTORIC DEFENDED ENCLOSURES 2009 – ADDITIONAL SITES



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust  
For Cadw



ymddiriedolaeth archaeolegol



## DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO.2009/15  
RHIF Y PROSIECT / PROJECT RECORD NO.63968

Mawrth 2009  
March 2009

# PREHISTORIC DEFENDED ENCLOSURES 2009 – ADDITIONAL SITES

Gan / By

**F. Murphy, M. Page, M. Ings, W. Steele & A. Shobbrook**

*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*

*The report has been prepared for the specific use of the client. Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited can accept no responsibility for its use by any other person or persons who may read it or rely on the information it contains.*



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf  
Neuadd y Sir, Stryd Caerfyrddin, Llandeilo, Sir  
Gaerfyrddin SA19 6AF  
Ffon: Ymholiadau Cyffredinol 01558 823121  
Adran Rheoli Treftadaeth 01558 823131  
Ffacs: 01558 823133  
Ebost: [info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk)  
Gwefan: [www.archaeolegdyfed.org.uk](http://www.archaeolegdyfed.org.uk)

*Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited*  
*The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo,*  
*Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF*  
*Tel: General Enquiries 01558 823121*  
*Heritage Management Section 01558 823131*  
*Fax: 01558 823133*  
*Email: [info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk)*  
*Website: [www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk)*

Cwmni cyfyngedig (1198990) ynghyd ag elusen gofrestrdig (504616) yw'r Ymddiriedolaeth. The Trust is both a Limited Company (No. 1198990) and a Registered Charity (No. 504616)

CADEIRYDD CHAIRMAN: C R MUSSON MBE B Arch FSA MIFA. CYFARWYDDWR DIRECTOR: K MURPHY BA MIFA

<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>PROJECT OBJECTIVES</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED IN THE DATABASE</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>RESULTS</b>	<b>9</b>
<i>Figure 1. Distribution map of Dyfed showing those sites visited as part of this project that were classified as Promontory Forts, Defended Enclosures or Enclosures.</i>	<b>10</b>
<b>GAZETTEER OF ALL THE SITES VISITED FOR THE PREHISTORIC DEFENDED ENCLOSURES 2009 PROJECT – ADDITIONAL SITES</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>SITE ASSESSMENT</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>REFERENCES</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>APPENDIX 1 SITE ASSESSMENT FORM</b>	<b>55</b>

## **SUMMARY**

*In 2003, Cadw commissioned Gwynedd Archaeological Trust to undertake a scoping study of prehistoric defended enclosures in Wales. Dyfed Archaeological Trust built on this initial study by carrying out a desktop assessment of these types of site in southwest Wales, again grant-aided by Cadw. The assessment concluded that any future fieldwork should progress on a county-by-county basis spread over three years. Therefore, in 2005-06 Dyfed Archaeological Trust, with the benefit of Cadw grant-aid, surveyed sites in Ceredigion, visiting all known non-scheduled sites and to 1 in 10 of the scheduled sites, and in the following years surveys were carried out in Pembrokeshire, and Carmarthenshire.*

*However, during a 2007-2008 assessment of sites on the regional Historic Environment Record that had no specific period or site type attributed to them (so called unknown/unknowns), numerous sites were identified as possible defended enclosures – sites that had not been included in the original defended enclosure county surveys. Of the possible defended enclosure sites identified 111 were in Carmarthenshire, 275 in Ceredigion and 106 in Pembrokeshire. The sites ranged from a number of upstanding earthworks of apparent schedulable quality to very doubtful sites. Data from these additional possible defended enclosure sites was required for inclusion within a publication on the overall results of the three defended enclosure county surveys that is due to be completed in 2008/09.*

*Following the unexpected low number of sites requiring sites visits in the Scheduling Enhancement Project 2009: Roman Non-Military Sites, resources were re-directed towards visiting approximately 20 of the identified possible defended enclosures. Further grant-aid from Cadw allowed for a further 20 site visits to be undertaken in this financial year. In total 58 sites were visited and of these 16 were deemed defended enclosures or possible defended enclosures and 3 were promontory forts. In addition 19 were classified as enclosures or possible enclosures, 16 as not an antiquity, and 4 other.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

In 2003, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust produced for Cadw *Prehistoric Defended Enclosures: Scoping for pan-Wales Assessment* (Smith 2003), which assessed our current knowledge of hillforts and defended enclosures in Wales. It also indicated directions in which future studies might take, suggested recording methodologies and proposed management criteria. On the basis of Smith's report, three of the four Welsh Archaeological Trusts (Gwynedd, Glamorgan-Gwent and Dyfed Archaeological Trust) successfully applied to Cadw for grant-aid to further the study of defended enclosures in their areas for 2004-05. The fourth Trust, Clwyd-Powys, were unable run a defended enclosure project owing to competing claims from their other Cadw grant-aided projects. Their defended enclosure project started in 2005-06.

Dyfed Archaeological Trust's 2004-05 study was desk-based covering the counties of Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire (Murphy and Manwaring 2004). In 2005-06 Dyfed Archaeological Trust's study concentrated on the county of Ceredigion (Murphy, Ramsey and Page 2006) and included site visits as well as more in-depth documentary research than was possible in the desk-based study. In 2006-07 sites in Pembrokeshire were targeted (Murphy, Ramsey, Poucher and Page 2007), and in 2007-08 this survey was extended to cover Carmarthenshire (Murphy, Ramsey, Page and Murphy 2008).

However, during a 2007-2008 assessment of sites on the regional Historic Environment Record that had no specific period or site type attributed to them (so called unknown/unknowns), numerous sites were identified as possible defended enclosures – sites that had not been included in the original defended enclosure county surveys. Of the possible defended enclosure sites identified 111 were in Carmarthenshire 275 in Ceredigion and 106 in Pembrokeshire. The sites ranged from a number of upstanding earthworks of apparent schedulable quality to very doubtful sites. Data from these additional possible defended enclosure sites was required for inclusion within a publication on the overall results of the three defended enclosure county surveys that is due to be completed in 2008/09. Following the unexpected low number of sites requiring sites visits in the Scheduling Enhancement Project 2009: Roman Non-Military Sites, resources were re-directed towards visiting approximately 20 of the identified possible defended enclosures. Further grant-aid from Cadw allowed for a further 20 site visits to be undertaken in this financial year.

## **PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

The overall project objectives are:

- The classification, quantification and distribution of defended enclosures in southwest Wales.
- 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, reviewing of scheduling criteria that might be appropriate regionally, and recommendations for future management strategies.
- Enhancement of the regional Historic Environment Record and Extended National Database.

The objectives for the surveys of all three counties and subsequently this project are essentially the same as those identified by G Smith in his survey of enclosures in northwest Wales in 2004-05:

- To collate existing documentary evidence about defended enclosures.
- To carry out a field assessment of the value of all sites without statutory protection to identify those that may be of national value.
- To assess the condition and threats to all sites.
- To identify and describe new features on visited sites.
- To incorporate all the information into a commonly agreed pan-Wales database and enhance the regional Historic Environment Record.
- To advise Cadw on those sites which are of national value and currently without statutory protection

## **METHODOLOGY**

During a 2007-2008 assessment of sites on the regional Historic Environment Record that had no specific period or site type attributed to them (so called unknown/unknowns), numerous sites were identified as possible defended enclosures – sites that had not been included in the original defended enclosure county surveys. Of the possible defended enclosure sites identified 111 were in Carmarthenshire 275 in Ceredigion and 106 in Pembrokeshire. The sites ranged from a number of upstanding earthworks of apparent schedulable quality to very doubtful sites.

The initial project task consisted of compiling a dossier of each site. This included: a printout of the relevant entry from the Historic Environment Record, a copy of the Ordnance Survey Record Card (if one exists), a copy of first edition Ordnance Survey map (if relevant), a copy of the modern large scale Ordnance Survey map, other easily obtainable documentary material, and one or more aerial photographs (where available). The aerial photographs were supplied in digital form by RCAHMS or were scanned from Dyfed Archaeological Trust's own collection. The site dossiers were arranged into Ordnance Survey 10km squares.

Following collation of the site dossiers, the sites most worthy of a site visit were selected to assess their current form and condition. An information sheet explaining the project was given to each landowner.

Information on site type, the form of the site, their condition and an assessment of their value was recorded on pro-forma recording sheets (these forms are being used by all four Welsh Trusts - see Appendix 1).

All the information recorded during the course of the survey has been incorporated into the Historic Environment Record database, either as part of the core record, or as stand-alone databases. In addition, digital photographs recorded the current condition of the site. These photographs have been incorporated into the Historic Environment Record.

## DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED IN THE DATABASE

### Site Definitions

As there is an absence of agreed site definitions the following was used in this study:

**Hillfort:** a hilltop enclosure heavily defended by one or more lines of rampart.

**Promontory fort:** an inland or coastal promontory defended on at least one side by one or more lines of rampart.

**Defended Enclosure:** an area defended by one or more lines of rampart. The defences are generally smaller and less well-defined than those sites defined as hillforts.

**Enclosure:** an area surrounded by a bank, ditch, wall or some other form of barrier, but not necessarily a defensive barrier.

### Condition of site

The letters A, B, C, D, E, etc used in the gazetteer refer to the following condition descriptions:

**A** - Intact

**B** - Substantially Intact

**C** - Damaged

**D** - Substantial destruction

**E** - Destroyed - when the site has been completely removed for example by quarrying or opencast and excavation would not be able to reveal below ground remains

**M** - Moved

**R** - Restored or Reconstructed

**U** - Unknown

**V** - Various - for complexes and linear features where the condition varies from one part of the feature to another

## RESULTS

The main results of the survey are shown in a gazetteer. Only a brief summary of these results is included here.

Following collation of the site dossiers, 59 sites were visited. Of these the following were identified:

Hillfort	0
Hillfort?	0
Promontory Fort	3
Promontory Fort?	0
Defended Enclosure	9
Defended Enclosure?	7
Enclosure	5
Enclosure?	14
TOTAL	38

Of these sites 17 are earthworks, 19 are cropmarks, and 2 are known only through documentary sources.

The above totals are simplified versions of the main database (see site gazetteer). Sites recorded as, for example, Enclosure?;Field System? (meaning the site is a possible enclosure with associated field system or a field system alone) is included just as enclosure?.

Site typology indicates that most of the sites included in this study originated and were used in the Iron Age. This is supported by excavation on sites such as the Llawhaden group of enclosures (Williams and Mytum 1998), the coastal promontory forts of Porth y Rhaw (Crane forthcoming) and Great Castle Head (Crane 1999), and extensive work at Castell Henllys (knowledge gained from over 13 years working on the site by the Trust Director), all in Pembrokeshire.

It is currently difficult to assess if there is an overall degradation of the defended enclosures in Dyfed owing to the lack of baseline information. Some general comments can usefully be made. According to historic records and maps the larger monuments with upstanding earthworks do not seem to have degraded greatly over the past 100 years. Smaller earthwork enclosures are, in contrast, vulnerable to constant degradation and several sites recorded by the Royal Commission in 1925 and later by the Ordnance Survey have been reduced by agriculture practices.

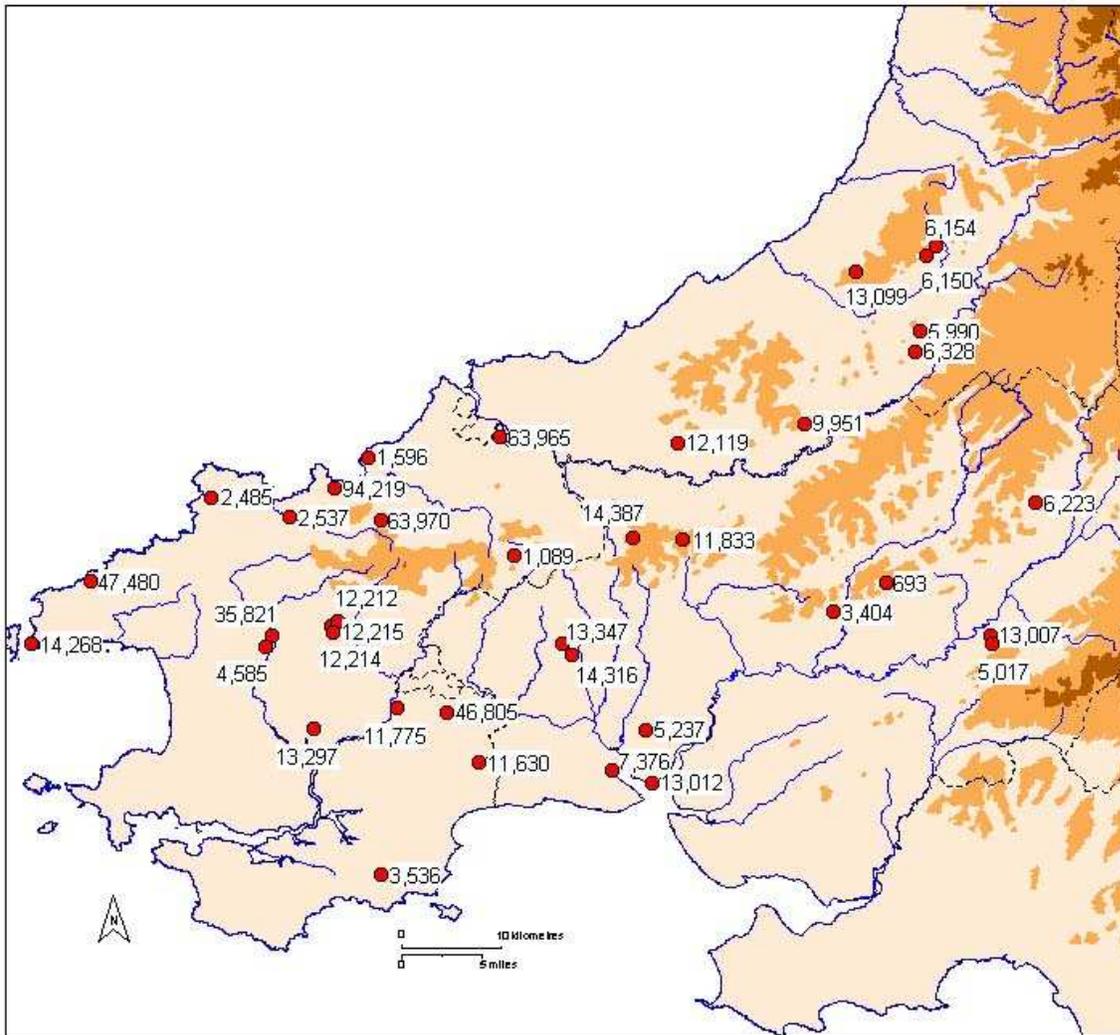


Figure 1. Distribution map of Dyfed showing those sites visited as part of this project that were classified as Promontory Forts, Defended Enclosures or Enclosures. Land over 250m and 500m is shown shaded.

## Gazetteer of all the sites visited for the Prehistoric Defended Enclosures 2009 – Additional Sites Project

For ease of handling the site gazetteer has been arranged by county and then by kilometre square.

### Carmarthenshire

#### SN12

**PRN 10225**

**NGR SN15042014**

**SITE NAME FELIN TEG FYNYDD**

**MAPSHEET SN12SE**

**SITE TYPE** Gravel Pit

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Unknown

**CONDITION** C

#### **DESCRIPTION**

The 1964 Ordnance Survey map depicts a small sub-circular earthwork in the southwest corner of a field. Further investigation revealed that the Carms 1st edition 25in labels it as 'Old Gravel Pit'. The site is located at 60m above sea level on level ground that then drops eastwards to the floodplain of the Afon Taf. A report of a site visit by Dyfed Archaeological Trust in 1985 appears undecided as to the nature of the site, and it is possible that the wrong location was visited. However, in 2008 a site visit found that the earthwork noted on the 1964 map is the remains of an old quarry, which is now covered by woodland. In the surrounding fields there were undulations in the ground surface, which were either natural or the result of plough action.

M Ings December 2008

#### SN21

**PRN 8893**

**NGR SN28101580**

**SITE NAME HIGH STREET**

**MAPSHEET SN21NE**

**SITE TYPE** Not an Antiquity

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Unknown

**CONDITION** D

#### **DESCRIPTION**

An indistinct sub-circular cropmark first identified from aerial photographs taken in 1955. The site is situated on the floodplain of the Afon Cynin at 10m above sea level. No archaeological features were apparent within the field during the 2008 site visit. The area of the apparent cropmark is on a plateau at the highest, western side of the field that slopes down to the east towards the Afon Cynin. The field was under grass that had been cut and bagged for hay. It is a very unlikely location for a defended enclosure, and is possibly a natural feature created by the deposition of the river over time.

M Ings December 2008

**PRN 10751                    NGR SN24001560**

**SITE NAME    CLOG Y FRAN**

**MAPSHEET    SN21NW**

**SITE TYPE**    Natural feature

**FORM**    Cropmark

**PERIOD**        Unknown

**CONDITION**    D

**DESCRIPTION**

Three small circular features were identified from an aerial photograph taken in 1985. They are located on the western side of the floodplain of the Afon Taf at 10m above sea level. The photographer, Terry James, reported in 1985 that one of the circular features appeared to link with an earthwork that followed the contour around the hillslope base of Allt Clog y fran, and was too regular to be natural. A site visit by Dyfed Archaeological Trust in the same year observed that the features were three shallow hollows on the west-facing slope of a large meadow that extends west to the Afon Taf. "Turf covered armchair hollows" of which two measured approximately 8m in diameter, and one 20m in diameter. The reporter concluded they were almost certainly natural in origin. The 2008 site visit found that the area of these possible earthworks was now the location of an ox-bow lake that has formed since 1985. It seems possible that the hollows were the result of localised land slippage in an area that has since been carved out by the nearby river. No man-made earthworks were apparent, either on the west-facing slopes down to the river or on the floodplain. Not a likely location for a defended enclosure.

M Ings December 2008

**PRN 10772                    NGR SN26521820**

**SITE NAME    LLWYN BYCHAN**

**MAPSHEET    SN21NE**

**SITE TYPE**    Not an Antiquity?

**FORM**    Cropmark

**PERIOD**        Unknown

**CONDITION**    D

**DESCRIPTION**

A possible sub-rectangular cropmark first identified from aerial photographs taken in 1946 by the RAF. Later 1955 aerial photographs show some rather indistinct markings and a possible sub-rectangular enclosure within the southeast corner of the field. There are, however, further markings of the same clarity adjacent to this and it is possible that they are all the result of ploughing. Dyfed Archaeological Trust noted nothing of any archaeological interest during a field visit in 1984.

In 2008 the field was under improved pasture and the area of the recorded cropmark was situated on relatively flat ground at 65m above sea level, which gently slopes down to the southwest. No evidence of any earthwork was visible on the ground.

M Ings December 2008

**PRN 13347**

**NGR SN25102345**

**SITE NAME CWM LAUNDRY**

**MAPSHEET SN22SE**

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Iron Age

**CONDITION** D

**DESCRIPTION**

Aerial photographs of the 1980s appear to show a circular univallate defended enclosure with a concentric annexe. Situated on a moderate west facing hillslope at 150m above sea level, this site is overlooked by ground to the east. The inner circular enclosure measures approximately 40m in diameter and the concentric annexe has an approximate diameter of 100m. On the southwest an approaching ditched/banked trackway runs between the two concentric ditches of the inner enclosure and the outer annexe. Darker splotches within the annexe area visible on the aerial photograph may indicate the presence of hut circles. A linear feature/ditch runs from the outer edge of the concentric annexe on the southeast to the centre of the enclosure. In 2008 no earthwork could be identified on the ground. The site lies within a field under arable and is regularly ploughed.

F Murphy October 2008



Looking N across area of cropmark enclosure site

**PRN 14316**

**NGR SN25102230**

**SITE NAME CAERLLEON**

**MAPSHEET SN22SE**

**SITE TYPE** Enclosure?;Field System

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Prehistoric?;Iron Age?

**CONDITION** D

**DESCRIPTION**

Identified from aerial photographs of the 1980s this would appear to be a cropmark of a possible rectilinear defended enclosure with an adjoining field system, or perhaps a field system alone. The cropmarks are situated on a level area at 130m above sea level, and from this point the ground falls away gently to the west but much more steeply to the north, south and east.

A number of vague circular features can also be seen in close vicinity to the enclosure, but their significance is unknown. Some of the linear features seen on the aerial photograph are undoubtedly due to the removal of later hedges. The aerial photograph is not clear enough to allow an estimate of the dimensions of the features to be made.

No evidence for any earthwork was noted during the 2008 visit, although some rather belligerent bullocks hampered the survey and the surface of the field, currently under pasture, was pitted and muddy from their hoof-prints. The site is regularly ploughed.

M Ings December 2008



Looking SE - across area of putative cropmark enclosure site - nothing visible on ground

## SN30

PRN 13012

NGR SN34110945

**SITE NAME** WHARLEY POINT

**MAPSHEET** SN30NW

**SITE TYPE** Promontory Fort

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Iron Age

**CONDITION** C

### DESCRIPTION

This south facing coastal promontory at 100m above sea level overlooks the estuaries of the rivers Towy, Taf and Gwendraeth. Situated on this promontory is a much denude promontory fort. The earthworks have been severely damaged by later quarrying. Remnants of concrete structures lie towards the southern tip of the promontory, and may be a result of quarrying, or perhaps WWII defences. A number of natural features also confuse the characterisation of the fort's earthworks. However, it is possible to identify a curving defensive bank running from east to west to the north of the promontory. It fades away at its east and west ends, which may be an indication of the former positions of entrances, but it is not clear. Externally the bank measures c.1.5m high but internally there is no break of slope. An outer ditch to the bank is just visible and is approximately 3-4m wide but it is very difficult to decide where its outer edge is. According to a site visit in 1989 by Terry James of Dyfed Archaeological Trust a ditch could be clearly seen protecting the landward side, when viewed from sea level.

The site lies under mainly pasture, with areas of scrub and small trees, and is currently grazed by cattle.

F Murphy October 2008



Facing W - possible outer bank and ditch of promontory fort at Wharley Point

## SN31

**PRN 5237**

**NGR SN33011539**

**SITE NAME PLAS BACH**

**MAPSHEET SN31NW**

**SITE TYPE** Stock Enclosure?

**FORM**

**PERIOD** Post Medieval?

**CONDITION**

### DESCRIPTION

A small circular enclosure defined by a modern hedge is situated on relatively level ground at approximately 100m above sea level towards the top of a rounded hill. The circular hedge boundary is approximately 25m in diameter, and is shown as a complete circle on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition 6in OS map. The 2009 site visit reported that the site is defined by a hedgebank that curves around to create a circular end to a field. Although its position, on the top of a hill with a fairly steep slope to the south and a gentler slope down to the southwest, east and north, suggests a defensible site, no evidence for any earthworks were noted in the area. There was no evidence that the hedge boundary had utilised an earlier bank, and the curving hedge appears to be a simple continuation of the other field boundary hedgebanks on the farm. It is possible that the site represents a holding-pen for livestock.

M Ings January 2009

**PRN 7376**

**NGR SN30781160**

**SITE NAME DELACORSE UCHAF**

**MAPSHEET SN31SW**

**SITE TYPE** Enclosure?;Not an Antiquity?

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Unknown

**CONDITION** D

### DESCRIPTION

Situated on level ground at 80m above sea level towards the top of an east facing hillslope, which drops down to the Afon Taf estuary below, this possible sub-circular cropmark was identified from aerial photographs taken in 1946 by the RAF. The photographic evidence is not clear and may well be the result of variations in vegetation. An aerial photograph taken in 1955 reveals a number of marks at this location, possibly associated with ploughing in the field. A field visit in 1985 by Dyfed Archaeological Trust found no evidence for an earthwork. In 2008 the site visit found that the area was under improved pasture and that at the given grid reference there were no traces of any earthworks on the ground. The field also contains a standing stone (PRN 2168).

M Ings December 2008

## SN33

PRN 11833

NGR SN37183391

**SITE NAME** PANT HIR

**MAPSHEET** SN33SE

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Iron Age

**CONDITION** C

### DESCRIPTION

A sub-circular, univallate defended enclosure situated on a northeast facing hillslope at 260m above sea level. The single well-defined defensive bank forms an oval shape approximately 80-100m east-west and c. 40m north-south. The bank measures c.5-7m wide and is c.0.5-0.7m high. The bank is a little less obvious on the southwest. An entrance is clearly visible on the southeast and is c.6m wide. The internal area of the enclosure is very wet and boggy, as is the land immediately outside of the defensive bank. There is the potential for good preservation of paleoenvironmental evidence. No evidence of an outer ditch was recorded.

The site lies within an area of rough, wet ground covered in scrub, reeds, some grass, and small trees. It is used for the grazing of horses.

F Murphy October 2008



Facing E - showing curving bank of oval enclosure and simple entrance (marked by ranging rods)

**PRN 14387                    NGR SN32183408**

**SITE NAME GRUG Y GORLLWYN**

**MAPSHEET**

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure?

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Prehistoric?

**CONDITION** D

**DESCRIPTION**

A Bronze Age round barrow (PRN 2293, SAM – CM108) is situated on a high point at 320m above sea level. Aerial photographs taken in 1991 of this barrow appear to show faint traces of a possible enclosure surrounding the barrow, most clearly on the north. However, it is feasible that the features are a result of more recent activity during the construction of a meteorological station that now stands close to the barrow. In 2008 at the time of the site visit the area was under a mature wheat crop, and no traces of any earthworks were visible on the ground.

F Murphy October 2008

**SN40**

**PRN 13292                    NGR SN43080918**

**SITE NAME GLEDWYN**

**MAPSHEET SN40NW**

**SITE TYPE** Not an Antiquity

**FORM**

**PERIOD** Modern

**CONDITION**

**DESCRIPTION**

Aerial photographs of 1987 show a field boundary forming a very distinct oval shape, c.110m east-west by 90m north-south. It is situated on a southwest facing hillslope at 110m above sea level. It was questioned whether this modern field boundary respected an earlier boundary or feature, possibly that of a defended enclosure. However, a site visit ascertained that the owner's father had fenced off the area in modern times, and that it had recently been removed in a Tyr Gofal agreement. Therefore not an antiquity.

F Murphy October 2008

## SN42

**PRN 1620**

**NGR SN47402628**

**SITE NAME BRYN AMLWG**

**MAPSHEET SN42NE**

**SITE TYPE** Not an Antiquity?;Enclosure?

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Unknown

**CONDITION** D

### DESCRIPTION

A rather indistinct oval cropmark identified from 1946 RAF aerial photographs. The site is located approximately 60m northeast of the summit of a hill at 280m above sea level, on which is situated a Bronze Age round barrow (PRN 1729). The Ordnance Survey 1" 1<sup>st</sup> edition map (1831) describes a double concentric circle at this location and in 1966 an Ordnance Survey site visit report refers to it as a sub-circular enclosure. However, aerial photographs taken in 1955 show no feature at this position, and in 1983 a site visit by Dyfed Archaeological Trust reported that no earthworks were visible on the ground.

No archaeological features were apparent in the field during the 2008 visit. The area is one of flat, improved pasture. To the northwest of this potential site the field is under marshland and there are undulations in the topography but nothing distinct or likely to be man-made

M Ings December 2008

## SN51

**PRN 13363**

**NGR SN51701258**

**SITE NAME GWENDRAETH**

**MAPSHEET SN51SW**

**SITE TYPE** Natural feature?

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Unknown

**CONDITION** C

### DESCRIPTION

A circular earthwork first identified from RAF 1946 aerial photographs. In 1987 a site visit by Dyfed Archaeological Trust described the earthwork as a curving bank, 10 metres wide and 1 metre high, with a diameter of approximately 30 metres. The length of the bank was recorded as circa 50 metres, with two large boulders on its crest, just visible through the turf. It was suggested that the complete circle apparent on the aerial photograph might be due to vegetational patterning, and that the site's location made it unlikely to be a major prehistoric site.

A wide bank, curving from the south to the northeast, was recorded at the given NGR in 2008. The earthwork was far less distinct on the northwestern side of the field and the boulders were not seen, although a large stone rested free of the ground just to the southeast of the bank. The break of slope of the earthwork was indistinct and the whole area is under marshland and waterlogged in part, with streams to the north and east of the site. Modern earthwork banks have been created along the western and northern field boundaries, apparently in an attempt to channel the water and stop the area flooding. It seems unlikely then that the earthwork comprises a settlement site and it certainly is not defensible. It might possibly be the site of an in-filled pond – the 'hollow' area within the curving bank is dense with reeds and very boggy.

M Ings December 2008

## SN52

PRN 693

NGR SN57422950

**SITE NAME** MAES IFAN

**MAPSHEET** SN52NE

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Iron Age

**CONDITION** C

### DESCRIPTION

Maes Ifan is a large, elongated, D-shaped, univallate defended enclosure located on level ground at 270m above sea level. A single bank forms the three rounded sides of the 'D-shape' but the straight side of the 'D' runs along the edge of a northeast-southwest scarp slope that drops steeply to the southeast valley below, and here no bank exists. In 1968 the Ordnance Survey describe the enclosure as having axes of 180m by 100m, and as comprising a turf covered stone bank, 0.5m high, except in the northwest where it is overlaid by modern walling, and on the southeast where the bank is superseded by the steep natural slope. They identified a possible entrance on the west where there was some inturning. In 2008 the site is much as described by the Ordnance Survey, although the banks appear more denuded at c.0.3-0.5m high, and in places are harder to trace. The site lies within a field of improved pasture.

F Murphy October 2008



Looking NW at low linear bank of earthwork enclosure  
- bank runs NW to SE

**PRN 3404**

**NGR SN52202667**

**SITE NAME** **BLAEN CWM BYCHAN**

**MAPSHEET** **SN52NW**

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure?

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Iron Age?

**CONDITION** C

**DESCRIPTION**

A possible circular/oval enclosure recorded from aerial photographs of the 1950s, situated on a gentle south facing hillslope at 200m above sea level. In 1985 Dyfed Archaeological Trust visited the site when it was noted that a modern hedgeline followed a circular course that may have indicated the position of an earlier circular banked enclosure. There were indications on the north and eastern sides of the circular hedgeline of an outer ditch some 1.5 metres wide and 0.5 metres deep. The hedgeline was not a continuous circle but was open on the south where there was a definite slope down, away from the enclosure, and here vague traces of a possible bank and ditch were recorded. The enclosure was estimated as being approximately 60 metres in diameter.

Access to the site was restricted in 2008 and it could only be viewed from a neighbouring field to the north. The area of the site is securely fenced off and heavily overgrown, with mature trees planted along the boundaries and a thick cover of brambles. Even so, the ditch and bank along the northern boundary were still visible and the interior appeared to be relatively level, although under tall grass. The site does not appear particularly defensible, lying lower than land to the north and west.

M Ings December 2008



Looking W - bank and ditch in foreground, yellow grasses beyond covering the enclosure interior

## SN62

**PRN 5017**

**NGR SN68122348**

**SITE NAME CWM DU**

**MAPSHEET SN62SE**

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Iron Age?;Prehistoric

**CONDITION** C

### DESCRIPTION

A circular, univallate, defended enclosure, approximately 50m in diameter, located on a gentle north facing hillslope at 190m above sea level. Identified from aerial photographs taken in 1989, no site visit had been made until this project in 2008. In 2008 the enclosure comprised the remains of a circular single bank, 0.6-0.8m high externally, little more than a break of slope internally, with an outer ditch clearly visible on the west, as is a counterscarp. The diameter of the central area is approximately 40m. A possible simple entrance appears to be on the southwest. To the east of the earthwork flows the Nant Cwm-du and to the south a road appears to respect the curve of the enclosure. There are a number of large stones protruding from the bank and central area, and the landowner confirmed that he had removed a large number of stones from this area over time.

It is not a typical location for an Iron Age defended enclosure, but in all other respects it appears characteristic of such a site. Interestingly if one looks at the current field boundaries surrounding the enclosure, they would seem to form a circular pattern, with the enclosure at its centre. Could they be reflecting the position of an earlier concentric annexe to the enclosure?

The site lies within an area of rough pasture, with gorse and reeds, and is currently used for the grazing of cattle.

F Murphy October 2008



Facing NNE towards circular earthwork - possible defended enclosure

**PRN 13007                    NGR SN67902420**

**SITE NAME    PENRALLT**

**MAPSHEET    SN62SE**

**SITE TYPE    Enclosure**

**FORM    Earthwork**

**PERIOD        Prehistoric?**

**CONDITION    C**

**DESCRIPTION**

Situated on a gentle north-facing slope at 140m above sea level Penrallt was described in 1986 by the Cadw Field Monument Warden as a small enclosure, approximately 20m east-west by 15m north-south. Carn Goch adjoins the eastern side of the field in which the enclosure lies, and Llwyndu hillfort lies across a small valley to the north. A marshy area surrounding a small brook ran immediately to the east of the enclosure, and no bank or ditch was visible on that side. On the north, there was little more than a break of slope, but on the west and especially the south, there was a bank 0.2-0.3m in height with slight traces of a ditch on the south. Its outline was rather irregular with a smooth curve on the west and south, but almost straight sides on the north and east. The grid reference could only be fixed to 6 figures.

In 2008 the area was found to be much more marshy than in 1986 and the increase in reed growth may account for the fact that the earthwork could not be located. From the previous description it would appear to be too small for a defended enclosure, and is more likely to be earlier in origin – perhaps Bronze Age.

The field in which the site lies is under rough pasture, and is very wet and marshy, and is used for the grazing of cattle.

F Murphy October 2008

**SN64**

**PRN 10202                    NGR SN67854555**

**SITE NAME    BWLCH Y GWYNT**

**MAPSHEET    SN64NE**

**SITE TYPE    Not an Antiquity**

**FORM    Cropmark**

**PERIOD        Unknown**

**CONDITION    D**

**DESCRIPTION**

Aerial photographs appeared to show a sub-square enclosure towards the summit of a hill at 320m above sea level. The site visit during 2008 found no evidence of such an enclosure on the ground. It may have been nothing more than the fortuitous result of changes in vegetational growth due to watercourses, and the position of sheep tracks. Not a defended enclosure.

F Murphy October 2008

## SN73

PRN 6223

NGR SN72303740

**SITE NAME** BANC CAE GLAS

**MAPSHEET** SN73NW

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Iron Age;Prehistoric

**CONDITION** C

### DESCRIPTION

A possible enclosure recorded as a "British encampment" by W Rees in 1873 (Arch Cambria 4<sup>th</sup> Series, Volume 4, p.137), and described as a "camp or *Tref*" that "consists of a large oval circle of stones, which rampart is much flattened and has several heaps of stone inside its area. To the east of the camp there is a remarkable trench reaching across the hill".

The site is located on the edge of a southwest facing scarp slope towards the summit of a hill at 285m above sea level. It is clearly visible on modern aerial photographs as a possible sub-circular earthwork on a scarp edge. However, the site visit in 2008 found that the topography, vegetation cover and lack of distinction in the earthwork remnant make it less clear on the ground. The area is exposed scrub grass and marsh and the topography on the hilltop is very pitted and uneven, with drainage channels cut into the hillslope. There appear to be possible curving earthwork remains to the southeast and north, comprising earthen banks that stand to a maximum 0.40m high. However the earthworks are broken and incomplete, with nothing appearing to survive to the south and east. No ditch was noted. On ground evidence alone it would be difficult to determine the nature of the site, but the aerial photographic evidence and its superb defensive location would strongly suggest that this is an Iron Age defended enclosure.

M Ings December 2008



Looking SE – showing remains of enclosure bank

## Ceredigion

### SN34

**PRN 12119**                      **NGR SN36634352**

**SITE NAME** **PENBEILI MAWR**    **MAPSHEET** **SN34SE**

**SITE TYPE** Enclosure    **FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Unknown    **CONDITION** D

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Identified from aerial photographs of the 1950s Penbeili-Mawr is situated on level ground at 170m above sea level, on a spur of land overlooking the Afon Cwerchyr to the east, and a tributary stream to the south. In 1985 Dyfed Archaeological Trust described the site as a rectangular ditched (?) platform, c.40m by 50m. The aerial photographic evidence is not conclusive, and in 2008 no indication of any earthwork could be found on the ground.

The site lies within a field of improved pasture, and is used for the grazing of cattle.

F Murphy October 2008

### SN35

**PRN 1377**                                      **NGR SN30815400**

**SITE NAME** **PENRHIP**    **MAPSHEET** **SN35SW**

**SITE TYPE** Not an Antiquity    **FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Unknown    **CONDITION** D

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Aerial photographs from 1946 appeared to show some indications of an enclosure on a northeast facing coastal promontory at 70m above sea level, west of Llangranog promontory fort (PRN 1373). However, a site visit by the Ordnance Survey in 1973 reported that no features of archaeological significance could be seen on the ground, and that any features previously suggested were due to vegetational and soil mark variations due to an outcropping of rock (SN30825391) and a barely perceptible natural lateral ridge. In 2008 the site visit also found no evidence for any archaeological features, and would agree with the Ordnance Survey that features seen on aerial photographs are due to natural gullies and ridges.

F Murphy October 2008

**SN41****PRN 1679****NGR SN45661799****SITE NAME TIRBWCCI****MAPSHEET SN41NE****SITE TYPE** Not an Antiquity**FORM** Cropmark**PERIOD** Unknown**CONDITION** D**DESCRIPTION**

A clear oval cropmark or earthwork is visible on a 1965 Ordnance Survey aerial photograph. It is situated on a gentle/moderate northwest facing hillslope at 130m above sea level. It appears to be a regular oval measuring about 80 metres by 50 metres with a possible gap in the western side. In 1971 the Ordnance Survey record that it is possibly modern. No archaeological features were recorded within the field in 2008. The area is relatively level and is under improved pasture. The ground surface was heavily pitted by hoof-marks. Tirbwcci farmstead is a stables and it seems conceivable that this regular oval feature is associated with pony training.

M Ings December 2008

## SN44

PRN 9951

NGR SN49374547

**SITE NAME** TY'N Y PORTH

**MAPSHEET** SN44NE

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure?

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Prehistoric

**CONDITION** C

### DESCRIPTION

Ty'n Y Porth is a much-reduced circular earthwork enclosure situated on a moderate east-facing slope at 160m above sea level. It is clearly visible on aerial photographs of the 1950s as a circular earthwork. Approximately 30m to 40m in diameter, the enclosure comprises a single, low, curving bank, approximately 1-2m wide. There is a potential trace of an outer ditch on the west, and some indication of an entrance on the south. To the east and north the bank is obscured by overgrowth. The road just to the east curves around the enclosure as if it had been built with regard to it. To the west and north the site is overlooked by higher ground, and to the west natural springs run down the hill. The current landowner remembers it as more obvious earthwork, and that attempts were made to flatten it in the late 1950's to early 1960's. She also remembered that her grandfather gave part of the land to the council to widen the road. Local history suggests that the earthwork was a product of building the nearby parish church.

The site lies under improved pasture, and is used for the grazing of horses.

F Murphy October 2008



Looking E - across area of circular defended enclosure visible as a slight earthwork

## SN51

**PRN 13363**

**NGR SN51701258**

**SITE NAME** BRYN GWENDRAETH

**MAPSHEET** SN51SW

**SITE TYPE** Natural feature?;Bank?

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Unknown

**CONDITION** C

### DESCRIPTION

A sub-circular earthwork identified from 1946 RAF aerial photographs, located on a gentle southeast-facing slope at 70m above sea level. In 1987 Dyfed Archaeological Trust visited the site, and a curving earthwork bank, 10 metres wide and 1 metre high, with a diameter of approximately 30 metres was recorded. The bank was recorded as being about 50 metres long, with two large boulders on its crest, just visible through the turf. However, the apparent complete circle that appeared to be visible on the aerial photograph was recorded as probably due to vegetational patterning and the sites location was not considered to be that of a prehistoric site.

A wide bank, curving from the south to the northeast, was recorded at the given grid reference during the 2008 site visit. The earthwork was far less distinct on the northwestern side of the field and no boulders were recorded, although a large stone rested free of the ground just to the southeast of the bank. The break of slope of the earthwork was indistinct and the whole area is under marshland and waterlogged in part, with streams to the north and east of the site. Modern earthwork banks have been created along the western and northern field boundaries, apparently in an attempt to channel the water and stop the area flooding. It seems unlikely then that the earthwork comprises a settlement site and it certainly is not defensible. It might possibly be the site of an infilled pond – the 'hollow' area within the curving bank is dense with reeds and very boggy. M Ings December 2008

## SN55

**PRN 6063**

**NGR SN58735273**

**SITE NAME** DERRY LODGE FARM

**MAPSHEET** SN55SE

**SITE TYPE** Not an Antiquity

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Modern

**CONDITION** D

### DESCRIPTION

A possible circular, ditched enclosure first identified from a 1946 RAF aerial photograph. It is located on a gentle west facing hillslope at 180m above sea level. In 1974 the Ordnance Survey record that the site is an area of rough grass, gorse and natural drainage channels, and is not an antiquity. The 2008 site visit confirmed this estimation. The earthworks in this area comprise deep-cut drainage ditches along the field boundaries and a further length of drainage ditch that adjoins an earthen bank to enclose an area of marshland. This boggy area is centred on NGR SN58715277. The earthworks do not appear to be particularly old and are designed to contain and manage a naturally waterlogged area. The surrounding fields were under improved pasture at the time of the 2008 field visit.

M Ings December 2008

**PRN 6039 NGR SN54505130**

**SITE NAME CAPELI**

**MAPSHEET SN55SW**

**SITE TYPE** Not an Antiquity

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD**

**CONDITION D**

**DESCRIPTION**

A possible sub-circular cropmark identified from a 1946 RAF aerial photograph, and situated on fairly level ground at 190m above sea level. A field visit in 1976 by the Ordnance Survey recorded that no trace of the cropmark was found on the ground and that natural irregularities in the surface of the field may explain the marks. No earthworks were noted during the 2008 site visit. It was under pasture, but very muddy and churned up by animal movement. The field is apparently often ploughed and the land owner reported that he had never noticed any differences in soil colour or crop growth. The 1946 aerial photographs are not clear but the marks could be the result of plough action or, as previously suggested, natural irregularities in the ground surface. The field was relatively level, sloping gently down to the east and the north.

M Ings December 2008

**SN56**

**PRN 13099 NGR SN54406060**

**SITE NAME RHIWLAS UCHAF**

**MAPSHEET SN56SW**

**SITE TYPE** Enclosure?

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Unknown

**CONDITION D**

**DESCRIPTION**

During the winter of 1987 a circular 'snow ring' was seen from the road in a field east of the B4337, 400m southeast of Rhiwlas Uchaf farm. The site is situated on flat ground at 240m above sea level, overlooked to the south, east and west by much higher land. To the northeast the site borders an area of wet, marshy ground with many springs. The circular feature was estimated to be 40m-50m in diameter. There is no aerial photographic evidence for a site in this area. In 2008 no earthworks could be seen on the ground, therefore the nature of the feature remains ambiguous. The site lies under rough pasture.

F Murphy October 2008

## SN64

**PRN 8368    NGR SN64504790**

**SITE NAME    CAREG Y BWCI**

**MAPSHEET    SN64NW**

**SITE TYPE    Quarry?**

**FORM    Earthwork**

**PERIOD        Roman?**

**CONDITION    C**

### DESCRIPTION

Vague earthworks were first identified from aerial photographs taken in 1946 by the RAF. They are located on a north-facing hillslope at 360m above sea level; 70m west of the probable Bronze Age round barrow (PRN 1910, SAM-CD156). The area at the given grid reference for the supposed earthwork is pitted with hollows (two centred at SN64584796 and SN64564793) and it looks like the result of quarrying. Roman quarries are recorded to the south (PRN 34001) and the Roman road runs north-south to the east of the earthworks, so it is possible that these earthworks are of some antiquity. It may be that they were quarried to provide stone for the field boundary walls. The area is strewn with exposed boulders and under thick, tussock grass, while the hollows of the earthworks are waterlogged and under reeds. Another earthwork noted in the area is a drainage channel, running down-slope north-south.

M Ings December 2008

## SN65

**PRN 5990                    NGR SN61085583**

**SITE NAME    GELLIGARNEDDAU**

**MAPSHEET    SN65NW**

**SITE TYPE    Enclosure?**

**FORM    Cropmark**

**PERIOD        Prehistoric?**

**CONDITION    D**

### DESCRIPTION

In 1964 the Ordnance Survey identified a circular cropmark from aerial photographs at this location. The site occupies part of a small plateau at 210m above sea level overlooked by a low summit to the southwest. In 2009 it appeared that the field in question has been drained in the past and is ploughed periodically. There are some surface irregularities but nothing consistent with the circular cropmark described.

W Steele January 2009

**PRN 6328                    NGR SN60675337**

**SITE NAME    LLETTY GYBI**

**MAPSHEET    SN65SW**

**SITE TYPE**    Enclosure?

**FORM**    Cropmark

**PERIOD**      Prehistoric?

**CONDITION**    D

**DESCRIPTION**

Two circular cropmarks, c.30m and 13m in diameter respectively, identified by the Ordnance Survey from 1951 vertical aerial photographs. When the Ordnance Survey visited the area in 1976 both areas were under pasture and no traces of any earthworks were found.

The site is situated on the valley floor of the Afon Dulas, occupying the first terrace north of the river, at 140m above sea level. In 2009 no earthworks were visible on the ground at the given grid reference.

W Steele 2009

**PRN 11819                    NGR SN63905690**

**SITE NAME    LLANIO**

**MAPSHEET    SN65NW**

**SITE TYPE**    Natural feature?;Enclosure?

**FORM**    Earthwork

**PERIOD**

**CONDITION**    C

**DESCRIPTION**

Aerial photographs appear to show a sub-circular feature comprising at least two lengths of curving bank. The site is located on the flood plain of the Nant Brynmaen at 150m above sea level, c.700m northwest of Llanio Roman fort (PRN 5998). The feature measures approximately 100m northwest-southeast by 70m northeast-southwest. In 2008 the earthwork bank was visible on the ground. It appeared to be approximately 10m-12m wide and 0.60m-0.80m high, but this was at best an estimate because of the length of the silage in the field that was just about to be cut. The circuit of the bank was difficult to trace for the same reason. However, it was also noted that in the field immediately to the southwest of the site very similar features could be seen on the ground of similar dimensions; long curving lengths of bank that did not form any obvious pattern. These are also visible on the same aerial photograph, albeit not as clearly. It is likely that these supposed earthworks are in fact the result of natural processes, situated as they are within the floodplain, perhaps glacial deposits.

The site is situated within improved pasture, and is not classified as a defended enclosure.

F Murphy October 2008



# Pembrokeshire

## SM72

**PRN 14268**

**NGR SM71952350**

**SITE NAME LOWER TREGINNIS**

**MAPSHEET SM72SW**

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Iron Age?;Prehistoric?

**CONDITION** C

### DESCRIPTION

A probable prehistoric defended enclosure identified during an archaeological farm visit in 2004. Aerial photographic evidence confirms that features previously thought to be field boundaries (PRN 14268), form an enclosed area defined by stone and earth banks on the south-western portion of the Treginnis peninsula. The enclosure uses the natural topography of the land, lying on a saddle of high ground between two rock outcrops. Viewed from the southwestern side, the enclosing banks are imposing. The main enclosure measures c. 230m lengthways (between the two rocky outcrops), and c. 50m across (between the two constructed banks), and represents an excellent vantage point on the peninsula, which is higher than the surrounding land.

A further enclosure, perhaps forming a northern annexe to the main enclosure, was suggested by evidence viewed during the site visit, and this seems to be substantiated by aerial photographic evidence. Aerial photographs of this part of the promontory show faint lines of possible banks/ ditches extending north from the main enclosure, heading towards a third rocky outcrop. On the ground, a very substantial bank consisting of heaped loose stone with a flattened top has been identified. The bank lies on steeply sloping ground, on the southeastern side of this northern rocky outcrop, and runs almost parallel to a surviving field boundary. The land upslope of this bank is not suitable for ploughing, making it unlikely to be a lynchet. The size and location of the bank strongly suggest a defensive function. The general area is heavily overgrown with gorse at present.

H Milne 2004



Looking E - towards the northern end of the main enclosure

**PRN 47480**

**NGR SM77872972**

**SITE NAME** TREMYNYDD

**MAPSHEET** SM72NE

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Iron Age?;Prehistoric?

**CONDITION** D

**DESCRIPTION**

A large circular parchmark is visible on aerial photographs of the 1950s within a level field situated at 85m above sea level, 260m southwest of Tremynydd Farmhouse and cist findspot (PRN 2965). The field is named 'Parc Caer Ain' on the St Davids tithe schedule of 1838. The circular cropmark has a diameter c.120m and appears to incorporate a wide bank. At the time of the site visit in 2008 the field was under a mature wheat crop and no earthworks were visible on the ground. The nature of the site is uncertain, but the field name would suggest that it is an Iron Age defended enclosure.

F Murphy October 2008



Looking WSW - across area of possible defended enclosure cropmark -  
under field of wheat.

**PRN 47481            NGR SM73592732**

**SITE NAME    TY GWYN**

**MAPSHEET    SM72NW**

**SITE TYPE**    Natural Feature?

**FORM**    Cropmark

**PERIOD**        Unknown

**CONDITION**    D

**DESCRIPTION**

An oval cropmark visible on aerial photographs of the 1950s. It is located just north of Tywyn Burrows, on St Davids Head at the bottom of a steep south-facing slope at 25m above sea level. It appears to be approximately 50m east-west by 45m north-south. In 2008 the site visit found no evidence for any earthworks on the ground. The area is one of wet boggy ground due to the many watercourses running down to the sea from the hills to the north, and it possible that the cropmark is a result of fortuitous changes in vegetational growth in this area. The narrow lane to the west of the site does appear to curve around the site, possibly indicating that an earthwork was avoided, or it could be a result of the natural topography. The field is used for the grazing of livestock.

F Murphy October 2008

**PRN 47482            NGR SM73892723**

**SITE NAME    TY GWYN**

**MAPSHEET    SM72NW**

**SITE TYPE**    Natural feature?

**FORM**    Cropmark

**PERIOD**        Unknown

**CONDITION**    D

**DESCRIPTION**

A sub-circular cropmark visible on aerial photographs of the 1950s. It is located just north of Tywyn Burrows, on St Davids Head at the bottom of a south-facing slope at 40m above sea level. The cropmark comprises a number of circular features adjoining each other, the largest being approximately 35m in diameter. In 2008 the site visit found no evidence for any earthworks on the ground. The area is one of undulating, rough, boggy ground due to the many water courses running down to the sea from the hills to the north, and it possible that the cropmark is a result of fortuitous changes in vegetational growth in this area. The field is used for the grazing of livestock.

F Murphy October 2008

**SM90****PRN 12787****NGR SM97600790****SITE NAME HEARSON FARM****MAPSHEET SM90NE****SITE TYPE** Army Camp**FORM****PERIOD** Modern**CONDITION****DESCRIPTION**

A series of rectilinear cropmarks showing up on aerial photographs in fields to the east of Hearson Farm (Meridian 1955).

In 2009 a site visit was made. According to the landowner these cropmarks are the remains of an old army camp. Ploughing has long since removed all surface traces of the camp although the plough still raises large concrete blocks from time to time.

Plotted from aerial photographs by Roger Thomas as consisting of nine rectangular concrete hut bases, and numerous leveled earth hut platforms of c1916-18.

W Steele January 2009

## SM92

PRN 4585

NGR SM95452315

**SITE NAME** BIG CLINES

**MAPSHEET** SM92SE

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure?

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Iron Age?;Prehistoric?

**CONDITION** D

### DESCRIPTION

This site was first recorded by the RCAHMW in 1925. It was listed as an earthwork of 'minor character' that was one of many in the area that 'appear to have been agricultural enclosures rather than military camps'. It is visible as a vague sub-circular cropmark on 1955 aerial photographs, approximately 100m NE-SW by 55m NW-SE with a possible entrance on the northwest side.

The site is located in a pasture field, at 60m above sea level, on a wide natural shelf approximately two thirds of the way up the southeast facing valley side of the Western Cleddau. In 2009 it was noticeable that the site of the cropmark is more level than the surrounding land although no clear earthwork traces of the defences or other associated features could be discerned.

W Steele January 2009



Looking NE - across site of possible cropmark defended enclosure

**PRN 35821**

**NGR SM96062431**

**SITE NAME** TREFFGARNE GORGE

**MAPSHEET** SM92SE

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Iron Age

**CONDITION** B

**DESCRIPTION**

This is one of the best examples of a small defended enclosure in west Wales. It is located on the edge of a southwest-facing scarp slope, at 60m above sea level, that drops steeply to the Afon Cleddau Wen below. Unusually the interior is situated on both the level ground at the top of the slope and on the steep slope itself. The site is defined by a single bank and ditch. The bank is best preserved on the east (upslope) side of the site where it stands c.1m internally and c.3m externally above the ditch. The bank fades as it runs to the north and south, eventually represented by just a steep scarp slope on the west side. The ditch is present around the full circuit of the enclosure. On average it is c.3m deep. There is a slight counterscarp, 0.5m high, on the western, downslope, side. Internally the enclosure measures approximately c.25m north-south by c.20m east-west. The roughly circular interior slopes down from east to west. The slope is gentle on the east side, but steeper on the west. The simple entrance is on the south side, at the point where the valley side falls steeply away. Unusually the bank terminals either side of the entrance show evidence of a single stone course revetment.

The site is under coniferous forestry. There are two old badger setts on the western side of the interior, and many other setts in the surrounding woodland, some of which are active. A mountain bike course runs around the site, mostly along the base of the ditch, but on the east side it runs up along the front edge of the bank creating a c.0.5m deep scar in the bank.

K Murphy October 2008



South facing entrance of well preserved, circular, earthwork enclosure in Treffgarne Gorge

## SM93

PRN 2485

NGR SM900380

**SITE NAME** TREGYLHWCH

**MAPSHEET** SM93NW

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure?

**FORM** Documents

**PERIOD** Iron Age?;Prehistoric?

**CONDITION** U

### DESCRIPTION

The RCAHMW (1925) describe this site as possibly an old Welsh tribal homestead, with enclosures still traceable at the time of writing. They list a description by an Edward Llhuyd (c. 1700):: "... 1 round and 5 square intrenchments, each joining to one another, called by the neighbouring inhabitants Tre Gyllwch, in the par of Llanunda. The circular intrenchment is about 30 paces in circumference. The square ones are of equal magnitude; each being about 12 yards and 6 yards broad." In 2009 the given grid reference for this site is situated in a field under pasture and no surface traces of any earthworks are visible. The site is on fairly level ground at approximately 100m above sea level on a slight southeast-facing hillslope. There is some uncertainty as to whether this is the location of the site mentioned by Llhuyd and an alternative location at SM90333854 (PRN 2484) is suggested. Certainly the coordinates given in the RCAHMW inventory (1925) do not match this location.

W Steele January 2009



Facing NE - across area of putative cropmark defended enclosure

**PRN 2537**

**NGR SM97763606**

**SITE NAME DDOLWEN**

**MAPSHEET SM93NE**

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure?

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Iron Age?;Prehistoric?

**CONDITION** C

**DESCRIPTION**

The site appears as an almost square enclosure on 1955 aerial photographs. A possible defended enclosure, it lies on a broad shelf on the south valley side of the Afon Gwaun, at approximately 50m above sea level. It is closely overlooked by ground to the south. The tithe apportionment of 1843 gives the field name as "Old Castle Close". It has an interesting later history and is alleged to have been a cock-fighting arena, benefiting from its natural amphitheatre like form.

In 2009 the first ever site visit was undertaken. The site is difficult to define on the ground owing to the dense scrub that covers it, but measures approximately 40m by 40m. However, some idea of its basic characteristics can still be made out. It has the appearance of an enhanced natural terrace; scarped on the northern down-slope side and cut into the slope on the southern upslope side with a fairly level interior. Vague traces of terracing further down slope to the north could indicate further ditches, obscured by hill wash. An earth bank with outer ditch is visible on the east side whilst a man-made scarp defines the west. The southern part of the site, which backs onto the slope, is now much disturbed since a track was created to access fields to the east.

There are no traces of habitation within the interior although according to the owner a stone circle, approximately 6m in diameter, defined by a low stone bank was once visible within the interior. The location of this feature was pointed out but it could not be located with confidence beneath the undergrowth.

W Steele January 2009



Facing E - along the defensive scarp on the N side of the possible defended enclosure (PRN 2537)

## SN00

PRN 3536

NGR SN07030030

**SITE NAME** THE RIDGEWAY

**MAPSHEET** SN00SE

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure?

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Prehistoric?

**CONDITION** C

### DESCRIPTION

A rectangular earthwork situated on a natural shelf on a steep north-facing hillslope at 70m above sea level. Dearden first describes it in 1851 as a rectangular, ploughed out earthwork. The Ordnance Survey visited the site in 1965 and reported that the sub-rectangular earthwork was still visible on the ground, with mainly the east side, of length 40m, surviving, although sections of the adjacent sides were still in evidence. The bank measured up to 1m high and the sloping interior was uneven and covered by rough grass. It is suggested that the site is unlikely to be prehistoric. However, by 1975 the Ordnance Survey lists the site as an Iron Age homestead. In 2009 the site was totally obscured by dense bramble and gorse growth, and it was not possible to determine whether the earthwork survives.

W Steele January 2009



Facing E - towards heavily overgrown possible defended enclosure (PRN 3536)



## SN02

PRN 12212

NGR SN02652572

**SITE NAME** WOODSTOCK I

**MAPSHEET** SN02NW

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Iron Age

**CONDITION** D

### DESCRIPTION

Woodstock I is a small bivallate sub-circular enclosure with widely spaced ramparts surrounded by a large concentric annexe. It is situated on a gentle southeast-facing hillside at 175m above sea level. This site was identified from aerial photographs of the 1950s. The site visit in 2008 found no evidence for any earthwork on the ground, therefore the site description is gained from the aerial photograph. The central enclosure would appear to be approximately 60m north-south and 40m east-west. It has two visible widely spaced ramparts, but no obvious entrance. The central enclosure is surrounded by a large concentric annexe c.140m in diameter with a ditched/tracked entranceway on the south.

The site is located within a field under improved pasture, and is regularly ploughed.

F Murphy October 2008



Looking WSW - across area of defended enclosure cropmark - nothing visible on ground

**PRN 12214                    NGR SN02012519**

**SITE NAME    WOODSTOCK II**

**MAPSHEET    SN02NW**

**SITE TYPE**    Enclosure?

**FORM**    Cropmark

**PERIOD**      Prehistoric?

**CONDITION**    D

**DESCRIPTION**

This is sub-circular cropmark identified from aerial photographs of the 1950s. It is situated on a south-facing moderate hillslope at 140m above sea level. The aerial photograph shows a single curving ditch surrounding a central dark square shaped feature. The ditch encompasses an area of c.40-50m in diameter, and the dark square feature is c.20m by 20m. There is no evidence for the position of an entrance, but the ditch is obscured by the modern hedgeline on the south. The nature and period of the site is uncertain, but it is similar in size to a cropmark (PRN 12215) that lies 220m due east, that is visible on the same aerial photograph. In 2008 access could not be gained to the site.

F Murphy October 2008

**PRN 12215                    NGR SN02232517**

**SITE NAME    WOODSTOCK III**

**MAPSHEET    SN02NW**

**SITE TYPE**    Enclosure?

**FORM**    Cropmark

**PERIOD**      Prehistoric?

**CONDITION**    D

**DESCRIPTION**

A blurred sub-circular cropmark is visible on aerial photographs of the 1950s. It is situated on a moderate south-facing hillslope at 140m above sea level. To the east the slope drops quite steeply to a stream below. The aerial photograph shows a single ditch forming a near circle approximately 40m-50m in diameter. No entrance is evident, and no internal features are visible either. The nature and period of the site is uncertain, but it is similar in size to a cropmark (PRN 12214) that lies 220m due west, that is visible on the same aerial photograph. In 2008 the site visit recorded that nothing could be directly attributed to a defensive earthwork, although there were undulations on the ground,

The site is located within a field under improved pasture and is currently used for the grazing of horses.

F Murphy October 2008

## SN03

PRN 63970

NGR SN06933557

**SITE NAME** TREFACH

**MAPSHEET** SN03NE

**SITE TYPE** Defended Enclosure?

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Prehistoric

**CONDITION** B

### DESCRIPTION

This site is a possible defended enclosure, albeit of an unusual design, situated in a pasture field to the northwest of Trefach farm. It is situated on flat ground bordering the edge of a steep northwest-facing slope of the Gwaun valley, at 182m above sea level. The site survives as a substantial single curving bank that forms a semi-circle open on the southeast. The bank is not continuous but stops where the two arcs of the semi-circle meet the edge of the steep slope, as if the steep slope was acting as a defence at this point. The earthwork bank is better preserved on the west, where it rises to a height of over 2 meters and reaches 7 meters in width. On the east there is some evidence of an outer ditch and the bank appears to terminate just short of the modern field boundary/minor road, perhaps indicating the position of a former entrance.

The eastern portion of the bank has been utilised as a field boundary in the past, and was once planted with a hedge. There are signs of possible modern repair in at least two places on the east. There are also signs that livestock are causing the bank to erode in places.

If the bank once formed a complete circle there is no evidence of any earthwork to the southeast of the minor road that cuts across the site, but it is possible that this area has suffered from more intensive ploughing and the construction of modern farm buildings.

A Shobbrook February 2009



Looking W - from road - at curving defensive bank of enclosure PRN 63970

**PRN 94219**

**NGR SN02263895**

**SITE NAME SWN Y DON**

**MAPSHEET SN03NW**

**SITE TYPE** Promontory Fort

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Iron Age?;Prehistoric?

**CONDITION** C

**DESCRIPTION**

A possible defended enclosure occupying a blunt inland promontory on the coastal slope between Dinas Cross and Newport, at 50m above sea level. The site was recorded initially by W M Jones in 1997 at the invitation of the landowner and has only recently become known to the Trust.

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

A number of hedge banks cross the area that may be related to the later farmstead of Dyffryn-isaf - this and other landscaping may confuse the original appearance of the monument. The tithe apportionment (1843?) gives the field name as "*waste and old road*" and it is possible that an old trackway may have skirted the eastern part of the site whilst a gap has been driven through the rampart on the northwest side. The interior of the enclosure lies under improved pasture that is kept mown by the owner; the defences and slopes are under scrub and woodland. A history of tree cover makes interpretation from the air difficult. W Steele 2008



Facing N - towards defensive bank of inland promontory fort PRN 94219

## **SN04**

**PRN 1596**

**NGR SN SN05804240**

**SITE NAME CASTELL**

**MAPSHEET SN04SE**

**SITE TYPE** Enclosure?

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Medieval?

**CONDITION** C

### **DESCRIPTION**

The enclosure is situated in a coastal location, at 110m above sea level. It lies 200m to the southeast of the sea cliffs but is sheltered by rising ground to the north and a low crest to the west. The site is situated in a field called Parc Castell approximately 500m to the north of Morfa-uchaf Farm. The site was first recorded by the RCAHMW in 1925 as a rectangular enclosure about 100ft (30m) by 60ft (18m) and called it 'probably a medieval enclosure for agricultural purposes'. In 1966 the Ordnance Survey record that it is rectangular in form, defined by a turf covered bank averaging about 0.5m high, and that the east side has a levelled top with stone infilling. It appears that the northern bank has been constructed on a small natural scarp running east to west

In 2009 the site visit found evidence that at the western end of the northern bank there is a level platform, c.8m E-W by 6m N-S on which a building may once have stood. A scrubbed over mound at the western end of the south bank may be clearance material from when a front (west) bank was removed to allow access to the interior, although this cannot be confirmed and the farmer has no recollection of such activity. The site today lies within an improved pasture field. The enclosure interior and surrounding area have been subject to repeated ploughing in the past. The banks are now grown over with grass, bracken and gorse.

The non-defensive location and lack of evidence for defensive ditches suggest that this is a doubtful defended enclosure site. It is probably a medieval livestock ensure and likely to pre-date the present field system.

W Steele January 2009

## SN10

**PRN 3656**

**NGR SN15150779**

**SITE NAME CWMRATH**

**MAPSHEET SN10NE**

**SITE TYPE** Coal Drift Workings

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Modern

**CONDITION** D

### DESCRIPTION

Initially circular cropmarks visible on RAF 1946 aerial photographs were identified as possible ringworks/ prehistoric earthworks. The site's location is on a gentle west-facing hillslope, just east of Cwmrath farm, at 85m above sea level. In 1965 the Ordnance Survey reported no trace of any antiquity at this location and that according to the farmer there was slag in the field from former coalpits. In 2008 the site visit found a number of undulations within the field concerned but no identifiable earthworks, and the current tenant said they were definitely a result of old drift coal workings, as were the more obvious mounds (PRN 25114) in the field to the southeast of the site. The field lies within a field under improved pasture.

F Murphy October 2008

## SN11

**PRN 11630**

**NGR SN16801152**

**SITE NAME** BLAENHAFOD

**MAPSHEET** SN11SE

**SITE TYPE** Enclosure?

**FORM** Documents

**PERIOD** Prehistoric?

**CONDITION** U

### DESCRIPTION

The only evidence for this possible enclosure is a reference in C.Cantrill's unpublished list of sites not included in the RCAHM inventories, which he began in 1928 (much later published as a summary by Roese, H E, 1979, Arch. Cambrensis, Vol 128). It is listed as a 'low circular earthen bank (42 yds diameter, N to S) rising 1ft to 1.5ft above surface, slight gap at south edge; 350yds W of Blaenhafod'. There is no available aerial photographic evidence for any earthwork or cropmark site in the vicinity of this location, and on the ground in 2008 no evidence was found for any earthworks.

Therefore, with only the one piece of evidence for an earthwork at this location coming from the 1920's it is difficult to ascertain the true nature of the site.

The putative location of the earthwork places it on level ground at 190m above sea level, within a field currently under arable that is regularly ploughed.

F Murphy October 2008

**PRN 46805**

**NGR SN13521652**

**SITE NAME HENLLAN**

**MAPSHEET SN11NW**

**SITE TYPE** Enclosure?

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Unknown

**CONDITION** D

**DESCRIPTION**

A circular univallate cropmark enclosure identified from aerial photographs of the 1950s. It is located on a very gentle northwest-facing hillslope at 100m above sea level. From the photographic evidence it appears to be approximately 80m in diameter. There is no obvious evidence for an entrance, and no traces of any internal features. In 2008 there was no indication of any earthworks on the ground, therefore the true nature of the site is difficult to ascertain. The site lies within a field of improved pasture.

F Murphy October 2008

## SN14

PRN 63965

NGR SN18854414

**SITE NAME** FOREST

**MAPSHEET** SN14SE

**SITE TYPE** Promontory Fort

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Iron Age

**CONDITION** C

### DESCRIPTION

Discovered during RCAHMW aerial reconnaissance on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2008, this would appear to be an inland promontory fort, though not a typical one. It occupies a raised isthmus of land at 60m above sea level between two larger areas, formed by the steep slopes of the Teifi to the east and a steep escarpment to the west. The promontory fort itself occupies part of the northern portion of the isthmus, enclosing an area of approximately three acres, defended to the north by a curving rampart (bank then ditch), approximately 45m long, 0.8m high and 6.0m wide. Concentric field boundaries to the north of the rampart, copying its curving shape and extending out onto the wider plateau to the north, suggest that these may indicate the former positions of the outer defences of the promontory fort, although on closer inspection they appear to be later in origin, perhaps relating to the reorganisation and enclosure of the landscape in the post medieval period. The fort interior slopes gradually to the south towards Forest farm. The interior is under improved pasture, as are the banks. The steep slopes are under woodland. Some small scale quarrying has been carried out recently in the enclosure interior and may pose a threat to the archaeology.

W Steele January 2009



Aerial photograph of Forest promontory fort. RCAHMW Crown Copyright © reference DI2008\_0746

## SN23

**PRN 1089**

**NGR SN20253225**

**SITE NAME NANT Y GEIFR FACH**

**MAPSHEET SN23SW**

**SITE TYPE** Enclosure?

**FORM** Cropmark

**PERIOD** Prehistoric?

**CONDITION** D

### DESCRIPTION

Nant Y Geifr Fach is the name given to what appears to be a large oval enclosure visible on RAF 1946 aerial photographs. The cropmark site is situated immediately east of Montainhall farm on a gentle southeast-facing slope at 200m above sea level. The Ordnance Survey record in 1965 that the eastern and southern arcs of the oval enclosure are clearly visible on the aerial photographs. In 1966 they further record that the 'eastern arc' is a straight ditch 40.6m long, 8.0m wide and 0.3m deep, with no trace of a bank and the curving field bank to the north of it is of normal size, but that there was no trace on the ground of the 'southern arc'. The final site visit of the Ordnance Survey in 1977 reported that the condition of the site was unchanged. In 2008 this project's site visit found no evidence for any earthworks on the ground. The area where the earthworks were recorded is now a private garden, and the current owner who started planting the garden 15 years ago cannot remember any such ditch or banks. The earthworks are no longer visible on the ground and may well have been destroyed.

F Murphy October 2008

## SR99

**PRN 8857**

**NGR SR95709950**

**SITE NAME ORIELTON**

**MAPSHEET SR99NE**

**SITE TYPE** Pond

**FORM** Earthwork

**PERIOD** Not an Antiquity

**CONDITION** C

### DESCRIPTION

A rectangular earthwork, approximately 20m in diameter, noted during aerial survey by T James in 1978. In 2009 a site visit found that the site is at the base of a shallow south-facing slope in a poorly drained part of a pasture field. It is in fact a modern pond, with spoil upcast on the east and west sides. Not an antiquity.

W Steele January 2009

## **SITE ASSESSMENT**

The following criteria were used to assess the value of sites. The criteria are weighted in favour of preservation, with good upstanding earthworks and an undisturbed enclosure interior scoring highly.

### **SURVIVAL - DEFENCES**

Over 66% of upstanding defences present	Score 6
33 to 66% present	Score 4
Less than 33% present or reduced to cropmark	Score 2
Defences destroyed	Score 0

### **SURVIVAL - INTERIOR**

Over 66% of interior present and largely undisturbed	Score 6
33 to 66% present	Score 4
Less than 33% present and/or evidence of heavy ploughing	Score 2
Interior destroyed or heavily damaged	Score 0

### **GROUP VALUE**

Three or more possibly associated sites/features within 1km (e.g. other fort, enclosures, huts, fields)	Score 3
Two possibly associated sites/features within 1km	Score 2
One possibly associated sites/features within 1km	Score 1
None	

### **POTENTIAL**

Three or more of: rare type/rare in area/buried features/significant finds/multiple period/annexes or nearby associated enclosures present	Score 3
Two of: ...	Score 1
None	Score 0

### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL DOCUMENTATION**

Medium to large scale excavation and report	Score 3
Small scale excavation or survey/description and report	Score 2
Noted only	Score 1
None	Score 0

### **AMENITY VALUE**

Good site visibility with open and public access	Score 3
Medium site visibility with open public access	Score 2
Medium to poor site visibility and restricted public access	Score 1
Poor site visibility and/or no public access	Score 0

### **EVALUATION SCORES**

10 - 18	National Importance
7 - 9	Regional importance
4 - 8	Local Importance
<3	Minor Importance or needs further investigation

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Many thanks are due to the many landowners who granted us access to view the monuments on their land. We are also very grateful to Toby Driver of the RCAHMW who assisted in gathering the aerial photographs for this survey. Frances Murphy, Mike Ings, Will Steele and Andy Shobbrook undertook the site visits. Frances Murphy compiled the database and put together the report. Marion Page extracted site data from the Historic Environment Record and verified new data gathered during the survey.

## **REFERENCES**

Crane P forthcoming. *Excavations at Porth y Rhaw, Solva, Pembrokeshire, Archaeological Journal*.

Crane P 1999. *Iron Age promontory fort to medieval castle? Excavations at Great Castle Head, Dale, Pembrokeshire, 1999, Archaeologia Cambrensis*, 148, 86-145.

Murphy K and Manwaring M 2004, *Prehistoric Defended Enclosures in Southwest Wales, 2004-05*, unpublished report by Cambria Archaeology, Report No. 2004/100, for Cadw.

Murphy K, Ramsey R and Page M 2006, *A Survey of Defended Enclosures in Ceredigion, 2006*, unpublished report by Cambria Archaeology, Report No. 2006/20, for Cadw.

Murphy K, Ramsey R, Poucher P and Page M 2007, *A Survey of Defended Enclosures in Pembrokeshire, 2007*, unpublished report by Cambria Archaeology, Report No. 2007/01, for Cadw.

Murphy F, Ramsey R, Page M and Murphy, K, *A Survey of Defended Enclosures in Carmarthenshire, 2008*, unpublished report by Cambria Archaeology, Report No. 2007/27, for Cadw.

Smith G H 2003, *Prehistoric Defended Enclosures: Scoping for pan-Wales Assessment*, unpublished report by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Report No 497, for Cadw.

Smith, G H 2005, *A Survey of Prehistoric Defended Enclosures in North-west Wales, 2004-05: West Conwy, Gwynedd (Arfon) and Anglesey*, unpublished report by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Report No 580, for Cadw.

Williams G and Mytum H 1998. *Llawhaden, Dyfed: Excavations on a group of small defended enclosures, 1980-4*. British Archaeological Report British Series 275. Oxford.

**APPENDIX 1**

**PREHISTORIC DEFENDED SETTLEMENTS  
SITE ASSESSMENT FORM**

**ORGANISATION**

**PROJECT No**

**PRN**

**SITE NAME**

**GRID REF**

**KM MAP SQUARE**

**SITE TYPE**

Hillfort  Defended Enclosure  Promontory Fort

**FORM OF SITE**

Buried feature (excavation or geophysics)  Earthwork  Cropmark  Documents  Place-name

**AREA OF SITE (in hectares)**

Internal area of main enclosure..... Area to furthest extent of enclosure/annexe ditches.....

**SITE HISTORY**

Full excavation  Partial excavation  Topographic survey  Geophysical survey  Other   
None

**CONDITION**

A – Undamaged earthwork  B – Good earthwork  C – Slight earthwork  D – Cropmark   
E – Destroyed  U – Unknown

**PHASING AND PERIODS OF USE**

Unfinished  Single phase  Single phase but possibly long occupation  Two phases (revised defence layout/  
rampart design or excavation evidence)  Three or more phases (revised defence layout/ rampart design or excavation  
evidence)

Main period of occupation (artefactual evidence or scientific dating) – specify

Pre-defensive use of site (eg Bronze Age round barrow, structural or artefactual evidence)

Romano-British reuse  Early Medieval reuse  Medieval reuse  Other  None

**GENERAL LOCATION**

**ALTITUDE (in metres)...**

**TOPOGRAPHY**

Coastal cliff  Coastal promontory  Summit  Hilltop  Ridge  Inland Promontory  High plateau   
Spur  False crest  Hillslope  Scarp edge  Saddle  Col  Level  Natural terrace  River terrace  Valley  
base  Valley floor  Flood plain  Other - specify

**DEFENSIVE POSITION**

Good defensive location (hilltop/cliff-top)  Semi defensive location (inland promontory etc)   
Non defensive location (gentle hillslope/valley floor)  Overlooked

**LAND USE**

Arable  Built over  Derelict  Dune  Forestry  Garden  Heath  Marsh  Mineral Extraction   
Moorland  Other  Pasture  Public Open Spaces  Quarry  Rough pasture  Scrub  Urban  Wasteland   
Woodland

**LAND STATUS**

National Park  Common land  Registered Historic Landscape  Tir Gofal  NNR  SSSI   
AONB  cSAC  GCR  RAMSAR  RIGS  Other - specify

**PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL POTENTIAL**

High – peat >0.5m on site or within immediate vicinity   
Medium - peat >0.5m within 500m   
Low - no obvious peat within 500m   
High - on-site calcareous soils   
Other possible high scores - on-site wet areas, colluvial deposits, buried soils etc   
Description – extent, depth and locations of peat + other deposits

**INTERNAL AREA****GENERAL SHAPE**

Circular  Sub-circular  Rectangular  Sub-rectangular  Polygonal  Triangular  Irregular   
Complex (more than on main enclosure)

**PRESENCE OF HOUSES/BUILDING PLATFORMS**

Stone circular  Timber circular (excavated)  Platform – circular  Cropmark circular  Stone rectangular   
Timber rectangular  Rectangular platform  Other - specify  None   
Number of houses

**VEGETATION**

Specify -

**THREATS***Type of threat*

Agriculture – ploughing  Agriculture – stock  Burrowing  Development  Erosion  Extraction  Forestry   
Robbing  Vehicle  Visitor  Other  None

*Time scale of threat*

Active  Extinct (ie old quarry)  None

*Extent of threat - specify percentage*

*Significance of threat*

High  Low  Medium

**DEFENCES****TYPE**

Univallate  Bivallate close set ramparts  Bivallate widely spaced ramparts   
Multivallate close set ramparts  Multivallate widely spaced ramparts

**MATERIALS**

Earth  Stone  Earth and Stone  Stone faced earth rampart  Unknown

**VEGETATION**

Specify -

**THREATS***Type of threat*

Agriculture – ploughing  Agriculture – stock  Burrowing  Development  Erosion  Extraction  Forestry   
Robbing  Vehicle  Visitor  Other  None

*Time scale of threat*

Active  Extinct (ie old quarry)  None

*Extent of threat - specify percentage*

*Significance of threat*

High  Low  Medium

**ENTRANCES****NUMBER OF ENTRANCES DIRECTION FACING (N, S, E, W, NE, NW, SE, SW)**1  2  3  4  Unknown **TYPE**Simple  Entrance passageway  Entrance passageway and guard chambers  Approaching ditched/banked track   
Barbican/hornwork  Annex  Bastion  Complex **MATERIALS**Earth  Stone  Earth and Stone  Stone faced earth rampart  Unknown **VEGETATION**

Specify -

**THREATS***Type of threat*Agriculture – ploughing  Agriculture – stock  Burrowing  Development  Erosion  Extraction  Forestry   
Robbing  Vehicle  Visitor  Other  None *Time scale of threat*Active  Extinct (ie old quarry)  None Extent of threat - *specify percentage**Significance of threat*High  Low  Medium **ENCLOSURES/ANNEXES****FORM**Concentric annexe enclosure  Lobate enclosure  Cross ridge earthwork  Outlying **AREA OF ANNEXES (in hectares)...****PRESENCE OF HOUSES/BUILDING PLATFORMS**Stone circular  Timber circular (excavated)  Platform – circular  Cropmark circular  Stone rectangular Timber rectangular  Rectangular platform  Other 

Number of houses

**VEGETATION**

Specify -

**THREATS***Type of threat*Agriculture – ploughing  Agriculture – stock  Burrowing  Development  Erosion  Extraction  Forestry Robbing  Vehicle  Visitor  Other *Time scale of threat*Active  Extinct (ie old quarry)  None  None Extent of threat - *specify percentage**Significance of threat*High  Low  Medium

**EXTERNAL AREAS**

**PRESENCE OF HOUSES**

Stone circular  Stone rectangular  Platform – circular  Timber circular (excavated)

Timber rectangular (excavated)  Cropmark circular  Other

**CONTEMPORARY FIELDS**

Stone boundaries  Earth boundaries  Cropmark boundaries

**VEGETATION**

Specify -

**THREATS**

*Type of threat*

Agriculture – ploughing  Agriculture – stock  Burrowing  Development  Erosion  Extraction  Forestry

Robbing  Vehicle  Visitor  Other

*Time scale of threat*

Active  Extinct (ie old quarry)  None  None

Extent of threat - *specify percentage*

*Significance of threat*

High  Low  Medium

**OWNERSHIP**

**ACCESS**

Unlimited public access  Access limited: open to public at specific periods/part of site open to public

Access prohibited: access only gained by special permission  Access denied

**OWNERSHIP TYPE**

Private  MoD  Forestry Commission  Forest Enterprise  National Trust  National Park

Other – specify

**OWNERS' NAME AND ADDRESS AND PHONE NO**

**TENANT'S NAME AND ADDRESS AND PHONE NO**

**SITE VISIT**

DATE OF VISIT

VISIT BY

COLOUR SLIDE REF

B/W and/or COLOUR NEGATIVE REF

DIGITAL REF

# **PREHISTORIC DEFENDED ENCLOSURES 2009 – ADDITIONAL SITES**

**RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NUMBER 2009/15**

**Mawrth 2009  
March 2009**

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

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