

MEDIEVAL AND EARLY POST-MEDIEVAL HOLY WELLS: Additional sites

A THREAT-RELATED ASSESSMENT 2012



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust
For Cadw



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DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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Gan / By

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**MEDIEVAL AND EARLY POST-MEDIEVAL
HOLY WELLS: ADDITIONAL SITES
A THREAT-RELATED ASSESSMENT 2012**

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SUMMARY

This report provides supplementary records to those presented in the earlier *Medieval and Early Post-medieval Holy Wells. A threat-related assessment (DAT report no. 2012/7)*, which was published in March 2012

As this initial project progressed it became clear that further site visits were desirable. In addition, a number of holy well sites that were not recorded on the Historic Environment Record (HER) also came to light from several different sources.

Site visits to a further 20 sites were proposed, with a view to providing further scheduling recommendations. The fieldwork was conducted in April 2012 and 23 sites were seen and recorded.

As a result of this additional work statutory recommendations have been made for four sites.

INTRODUCTION

In March 2011, Dyfed Archaeological Trust produced for Cadw *Medieval and Early Post-medieval Holy Wells: A threat-related Assessment 2011*, part of a pan-Wales project (undertaken by all four Welsh Archaeological Trusts) which aimed to identify all medieval and post-medieval sites recorded on the HER that had not been the subject of a previous threat-related assessment.

'Holy Well' was one of the site types identified and an initial 196 sites were identified on the HER through a desk-based scoping exercise. This was amended to 183 sites once duplicated records were removed and six new sites were added during the course of the project. 96 sites were visited.

However, it became apparent that further site visits would be necessary to produce a more comprehensive overview of the nature and diversity of Holy Well sites located within the three counties of Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire. Contact with local historians and others with an interest in the subject, and feedback generated by an article written about the project in the *Carmarthen Journal* (24/08/2011), brought several more sites to our attention that were not recorded on the HER. Also, the quality of many of the sites already on the HER proved higher than anticipated but time and funding did not allow for all to be seen.

It was therefore proposed to CADW that a further 20 site visits should be made. This was accepted and fieldwork was carried out in April 2012, when 23 sites were recorded. Of these, 10 were new sites to the HER, seven were visited as a result of new information and six, including one scheduled ancient monument and two located within a SAM, were visited as it had proved impossible to view them during the initial project, due either to access problems or time constraints.

PROJECT AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The main aim of this project is to use the HER, National Monument Record, secondary sources and field visits to assess the potential for enhancing the schedule of ancient monuments with medieval or early post-medieval holy well sites.

The overall project's aims are:

- Assessment of the archaeological significance of holy wells 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; and
- Enhancement of the regional HER and Extended National Database.

The project's objectives are:

- To identify all holy wells which 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 Dyfed HER; and
- To advise Cadw on those sites which are of national value and currently without statutory protection.

METHODOLOGY

The initial scoping study (2011) collated a list of sites that could potentially require a desk-top appraisal and possible field visit. Following this analysis a list of 196 sites that required a desktop appraisal emerged and a further six sites were added during the course of the project. The appraisal revealed that 13 of these sites were duplicate records, leaving a total of 189 sites to be assessed for field visits.

The desktop appraisal collated all the available information on each site as held in the Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record (HER). This included reference to the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps, tithe maps, SAM and Listed Building records, Ordnance Survey record cards, Royal Commission inventories and archived reports.

The information provided on the Royal Commission for Historic Buildings and Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) website and the *Cymdeithas Ffynhonnau Cymru* website was also utilised. Of the secondary sources looked at, the most comprehensive is Francis Jones's guide *The Holy Wells of Wales* (1954), which still remains the standard text on the subject.

Fieldwork in 2011 comprised visits to 96 sites, during which a written and photographic record was made. This new information was added to the HER and a report was produced that incorporated statutory recommendations for 11 sites and recommendations for further six sites to be surveyed with a view to affording them possible legal protection in the future.

During the course of this work specialist and local knowledge pointed to several Holy Well sites that were not recorded on the HER. These, together with a number of known Holy Wells where a field visit had not yet been achieved, formed a list of further desirable site visits.

With funding agreed by Cadw, a further 23 site visits were made in April 2012, again creating written and photographic records and augmenting the HER.

RESULTS

The opportunity to record more Holy Well sites has created 10 new site records in the HER and augmented another 13. A further new site (PRN 102725) has been included in the report; although it wasn't visited having been brought to our attention after the fieldwork had been completed.

The initial report contains a discussion as to what constitutes a 'holy' well and identifies the main criteria to be; a dedication to a saint, a location close to a place of worship, a tradition of curative properties of the water and proximity to a pilgrims' route.

Of the 23 visited sites, 11 had a saint dedication, seven were located near to a place of worship, eight had a recorded curative tradition and five were believed to be located on a pilgrims' route. Ffynnon Groes (PRN 11249) is recorded in the HER as a holy well but does not appear to meet any of the above criteria. Two new sites, Garn Fawr (PRN 102715) and Bryntirion Well (PRN 102725) are also included in the gazetteer although there is currently no information to verify them as 'holy' sites.

Of the visited sites, the most common type seen was a stone-lined chamber, either roofed or open, of which 11 examples were recorded. Six sites had no attendant structure. One of these, Ffynnon Llygad (PRN 2637) comprises a small water-filled hollow in the rock at the base of the prehistoric settlement site Clegyr Boia (SAM PE109). As such, it is located within the scheduled area of the settlement site but it isn't mentioned in the Cadw monitoring reports, prompting the recent visit to ascertain the nature and condition of the well.

The well (PRN 102724) inside St. Govan's chapel is also within a scheduled area (PE312) but warranted a visit as the feature itself was not recorded on the HER. The well-house (PRN 1268) on the rocky foreshore below the chapel is itself a SAM (PE321)

Of the remaining sites seen, two are restored, with water channelled through a pipe, and one is now encased by a modern cover. The chalybeate well (PRN 102419) in Aberaeron is unique in west Wales, with the spring (now concreted over) housed within a late-19th century circular building to allow visitors to sit and drink the waters.

Of the visited sites, only one, Ffynnon Fair yn yr Alefed (PRN 102722), could not be found. Its (uncertain) location is recorded to be close to the river near Kidwelly Castle, an area of thick vegetation and marsh. A bizarre story is attached to this well, claiming it to be named after the field where the Virgin Mary was killed. As a result of the field visits, four sites have been recommended to Cadw for possible legal protection based on the criteria laid out in the project design. These included:

- Survival/condition: survival in plan must be pretty complete, condition of any superstructure less so.
- Group Value: especially close associations with churches/chapels, ECMs or prehistoric monuments.
- Documentation: Pre-1750 written evidence for use.
- Fragility/vulnerability: Sites that are threatened or where the structure is decaying. If a site is already listed then it should not be vulnerable.

These recommendations for consideration for protection are in a separate annex report.

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Acknowledgements should be made to two people in particular, Janet Bord and Julie Trier, who have been generous with their knowledge and time and without whose help and expertise many of these new sites may have remained undiscovered. Thanks also to Messrs Nigel Harrison Rees and Lynn Hughes for responding to the project and pinpointing two more noteworthy sites; Ffynnon Diolch I Dduw (PRN 102721) and Capel Isaf (PRN 102723)

GAZETTEER OF SITES

Compiled by M. PAGE

N.B. The sites are listed in alpha-numerical order. Where more than one condition is shown, it is the second statement that records the current condition of a site.

PRN 102419

NAME ABERAERON CHALYBEATE WELL;
FFYNNON RINWEDDOL **TYPE** Holy
Well **PERIOD** Post-medieval

FORM Other
structure **CONDITION** Intact/ Near
Intact **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SN45846270 **COMMUNITY** Aber
aeron **COUNTY** Ceredigion



HER DESCRIPTION

A well or spring reputed to have curative qualities due to the iron content in the water. The site is recorded on the historic (1890 and 1905) Ordnance Survey maps. A brick building has been built around it, within which visitors can sit and receive a drink, the water raised by a pump (M.Ings, from various sources, 2011)

The site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. It is located off Chalybeate Street in Aberaeron and comprises a circular stone building with a conical slate roof, opposite entrances and a panoramic window overlooking the river. Benches are fitted to the side walls. The floor of the building is now concreted over and the door and window apertures barred. A plaque by the entrance reads FYNNON GOCH CHALYBEATE WELL 1881 (M.Ings, 2012)



PRN 102714

NAME FFYNNON TREGROES **TYPE** Holy
Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Other
structure **CONDITION** Restored **STATUS** *None
recorded*

NGR SM80492556 **COMMUNITY** Solva **COUNTY** Pem
brokeshire

HER DESCRIPTION

Site of a well near Whitchurch, recorded on the 1889 1st edition and 1907 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps. It is located on a probable pilgrim's route and close to a pilgrim's hospice, Clyn Ysptyty (M.Ings, 2012, from

various sources)

The site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. It is set within an enclosure comprising low stone walls, in an area of woodland. The dome-shaped well-house is built of mortared stone with an arched red-brick roof capped with concrete and an iron gate across the entrance. The chamber within was water-filled and the overflow forms a stream to the east. (M.Ings, 2012)

PRN 102715

NAME GARN FAWR **TYPE** Well **PERIOD** Unknown

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Restored **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SM89723870 **COMMUNITY** Pencaer **COUNTY** Pembrokeshire

HER DESCRIPTION

Site of a well house built into the south facing bank below Garn Fawr Iron Age hillfort (PRN 2830) Not recorded on the historic Ordnance Survey or modern mapping (M.Ings, 2012)

The well was visited during the 2012 Holy Wells: additional sites project. It comprises a stone built well house (with large, semi-dressed blocks at the entrance and smaller, undressed stone elsewhere) and a timber roof, heavily overgrown with gorse. The interior is approximately 1.70 metres deep and 0.90 metres wide. The well was dry at the time of the visit, although a moss and fern lined gully leading downslope from the entrance indicates a probable overflow channel. The feature is difficult to date - the timber suggests that it has been maintained relatively recently (M.Ings, 2012)



PRN 102716

NAME FFYNNON BRAWDY **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Intact **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SM84722529 **COMMUNITY** Brawdy **COUNTY** Pembrokeshire

HER DESCRIPTION

Site of a spring, located within woodland to the south of Rickeston Hall (PRN 16539), recorded on the 1889 1st edition and 1907 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps. It is believed (J.Trier, 2004) to be on the pilgrims' route from Carmarthen to St Davids and in 1996 a holy water flask, or ampulla, was discovered near the site, which is now on display in St Davids Cathedral Library (M.Ings, based on various sources, 2012)

The site was visited during the 2012 Holy Wells: additional sites project. The landowners showed me the source of the spring, which rises in woodland, forming

a muddy pool before draining along a gully towards the house. A ranging-rod could be inserted to a depth of some 0.40 metres, the base feeling hard and stony, and the pool is apparently stone-lined (M.Ings, 2012).

PRN 102717

NAME PORTH CLEW **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Restored **STATUS** *Pembrokeshire Coast National Park*

NGR SS02079861 **COMMUNITY** Lamphey **COUNTY** Pembrokeshire

HER DESCRIPTION

Site of a well recorded on the 1865 1st edition and 1907 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps, located northeast of the medieval Porthclew Chapel (PRN 4194) Relatively recently the site was a cattle watering hole until it was cleared out by the present landowner, when a mortared superstructure was discovered. A metal gate was found in the vicinity and has now been fitted across the well entrance (M.Ings, 2012, from various sources)



The well was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. It comprises an unroofed, three-sided, rectilinear mortared-stone structure with an iron gate across the entrance. Water flows from this structure along a channel to the northeast. It is located within a quarried hollow in an adjacent field to that where the chapel ruins stand (M.Ings, 2012)

PRN 102718

NAME FFYNNON AFAN **TYPE** Holy Well/ Well **PERIOD** Medieval/ Post-Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Restored **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SN68777251 **COMMUNITY** Trawsgoed **COUNTY** Ceredigion

HER DESCRIPTION

Site of a well in the village of Llanafan, now restored with a stone revetment wall through which water flows in a metal pipe (M.Ings, 2012)

The site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. It is identified as Ffynnon Afan (J.Bord,2010) and St. Afan's Church, located to the south, was originally founded by Saint Afan in the sixth century. The well, which is not marked on the maps, is reached by a short footpath off the main village street just below a reservoir and booster station. The well structure appears relatively recently restored and the water now flows through a metal pipe before draining to the stream valley below (M.Ings, 2012)

PRN 102720

NAME LLANCYNFELYN
CHURCH **TYPE** Holy
Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Other
structure **CONDITION** Intact **ST**
ATUS *None recorded*

NGR SN64579221 **COMMUNITY**
Llangynfelyn **COUNTY** Ceredigio
n



HER DESCRIPTION

A well located within the churchyard of medieval Llangynfelyn Church (PRN 17366) (M.Ings, 2012)

The site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. A circular, stone-lined well, some 1.30 metres in diameter, is located to the north of the Llangynfelyn Church between two mature yew trees. The surrounding, ivy-covered wall stands some 0.45m above ground level and metal bars have been cemented into place across the top (M.Ings, 2012)

PRN 102721

NAME FFYNNON DIOLCH I DDUW **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Post-Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Intact **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SN53660645 **COMMUNITY** Llannon **COUNTY** Carmarthenshire

HER DESCRIPTION

Water with traditionally curative qualities for smallpox now piped into a late 19th century structure, erected by Rhys Goring Thomas in 1883. It is located by the side of the main A476 to the south of Llannon. Marked as a trough on the 1906 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map (M.Ings, from various sources, 2012).

The site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. It is located fairly near the entrance to Penderi Farm on the A476 and comprises a stone and brick structure, with a stone-arched niche, behind a large stone basin standing on a stone slab. Water enters the basin through a square aperture in the rear of the niche. An inscription above this reads DIOLCH I DDUW 1887 R.G.T. and the basin bears the makers' name R JENKINS & SON MAKERS LLANELLY (M.Ings, 2012)



PRN 102722

NAME FFYNNON FAIR YN YR ALEFED **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Not known **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SN412073 **COMMUNITY** Kidwelly **COUNTY** Carmarthenshire

HER DESCRIPTION

A well recorded in Kidwelly, believed to have medicinal qualities and traditionally visited at Easter. The Alefed is a reference to a field - Arvell Meade, located north of the castle. A 1971 description of the site refers to the well being defined by a circle of shaped stones within an area of marshland. The exact location is uncertain, although a well is recorded in the field immediately north of the castle on the 1880 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. This is marked as a spring on the 1906 2nd edition OS and modern mapping (M.Ings, 2012, from various sources)

The site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. The area is very marshy and thick with reeds and no evidence for the well or spring was found, possibly obscured by the thick vegetation or now lying beneath the marsh. (M.Ings, 2012)

PRN 102723

NAME CAPEL ISAF **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Restored **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SN66012527 **COMMUNITY** Manordeilo and Salem **COUNTY** Carmarthenshire

HER DESCRIPTION

Well located within the grounds of a 18th/19th century house, Capel Isaf (PRN 24937), once the site of a medieval chapel-of-ease. It is recorded on the 1906 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map. Maintained as a domestic water supply (M.Ings, 2012)

The site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. The well is located to the west of the house, just on the edge of woodland above a stream.

It comprises a stone well house, set into a bank, with an arched brick facade and brick capping. An iron gate protects the entrance. There is a pump within the well chamber to supply the house. Concrete kerbing helps to channel the overflow to the nearby stream. A mature yew tree grows to the northeast of the well and further springs are located within the woodland behind. The owner believes Capel



Isaf to have been a daughter chapel of Talley Abbey and that it was a stopping point on the pilgrims' route from Canterbury to St Davids. It is possible that the current house preserves fabric of the medieval chapel (M.Ings, 2012)

PRN 102724

NAME ST GOVAN'S **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Intact **STATUS** *scheduled ancient monument PE312 / Pembrokeshire Coast National Park*

NGR SR96709297 **COMMUNITY** Stackpole **COUNTY** Pembrokeshire

HER DESCRIPTION

Well with tradition for medicinal qualities located within the medieval chapel of St. Govan's (PRN 630) (M.Ings, 2012)



The site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. It is located in the floor of the chapel, just to the left of the entranceway. The information board at the site describes it as a simple, shallow well with water, which would be scooped with a small spoon or limpet shell, said to cure eye complaints, skin diseases and rheumatism (M.Ings, 2012)

PRN 102725

NAME BRYNTIRION WELL **TYPE** Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Intact **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SN65158406 **COMMUNITY** Trefeurig **COUNTY** Ceredigion

HER DESCRIPTION

Site of a well recorded on the 1905 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map. It comprises a stone-faced underground chamber, accessed by stone steps, with water seeping through the bedrock at the base (M.Ings, 2012, from various sources)

PRN 11249

NAME FFYNNON-GROES **TYPE** Holy Well/ Well **PERIOD** Medieval/ Post-Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Not Known **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SN31445278 **COMMUNITY** Penbryn **COUNTY** Ceredigion

HER DESCRIPTION

Site of a well recorded on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map and modern mapping, located beside a field boundary to the west of Waun-morfa farmstead (M.Ings, 2011).

The site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. The well is located beneath a modern red-brick and concrete structure, with a stone capping, much of which is now obscured by vegetation. There is currently no available evidence to suggest that the site has a 'holy' aspect (M.Ings, 2012)

PRN 1268

NAME ST GOWAN'S WELL;ST GOVAN'S WELL **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Restored **STATUS** *NPP / SSSI / Section 3 / listed building 17981 II/ scheduled ancient monument PE321*

NGR SR9671392946 **COMMUNITY** Stackpole **COUNTY** Pembrokeshire

HER DESCRIPTION

A holy well of possibly Early Medieval date associated with St Govan's chapel (PRN 630). It is recorded on the 1865 1st edition and 1908 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps. The well housing measures 1.20 x 1.10 metres and is 1.30 metres high, made of limestone rubble.

The well was known for healing in the 18th and 19th centuries (M.Ings, 2011, from various sources).



The site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. It stands on the rocky foreshore below St Govan's Chapel, the entrance, with a dressed-stone lintel, facing northward towards the chapel and steps lead down to it. The well is now dry and the dome-roofed well house appears regularly maintained (M.Ings, 2012)

PRN 20747

NAME FFYNNON BADARN **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Post-medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Restored **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SN59518125 **COMMUNITY** Llanbadarn Fawr **COUNTY** Ceredigion

HER DESCRIPTION

Chalybeate well located between Llanbadarn Fawr and Aberystwyth and identified as Ffynnon Badarn in 2010 (J.Bord & T.Gray Hulse) Restored in the 19th century (M.Ings, 2012)

The site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. It is located by the side of the A44 road between Llanbadarn Fawr and Aberystwyth. It is incorporated into a stretch of wall, with a yellow-brick arched niche containing a stone basin with metal corner fittings. The basin has a partially incomplete inscription reading RAL SANITARY AUTHORITY 1863. The basin contained water, and a metal pipe protruding from the



rear wall of the niche. (M.Ings, 2012)

"A chalybeate spring.....was discovered in the year 1779 at a short distance from the eastern extremity of the town on the road to Llanbadarn fawr, and near Plas Crug: the well is covered with a small square building, from one side of which the water issues by a spout". S Lewis 1833

PRN 2291

NAME FFYNNON DUDUR **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Restored/ Intact **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SN36303789 **COMMUNITY** Llangeler **COUNTY** Carmarthenshire

HER DESCRIPTION

Site of a spring recorded on historic Ordnance Survey maps and modern mapping, listed as a holy well (Jones 1954) named after Saint Tudur. Recorded in 1968 to be covered by a modern cistern (M.Ings, 2011, from various sources)

The site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. It is located within a fenced-off area of woodland that slopes upwards from the road to the side of a quarry, opposite Ffynnon Dudur Farm. The water is still used as both domestic and agricultural supply and has apparently never dried up. The source of the spring appears to be an area of exposed rock at the top of the slope, from where water runs down to be collected, firstly in a square concrete container and, further downslope, a round plastic tank - where it is piped to a red-brick structure. The overflow is channelled down to a roadside drain. The landowner was not aware of any traditions associated with the water (M.Ings, 2012)
In an area of woodland, now covered by a modern cistern (AS Maul 1984)

PRN 2396

NAME FFYNNON SHAN SHILIN **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Destroyed/ Restored **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SM93842961 **COMMUNITY** Letterston **COUNTY** Pembrokeshire

HER DESCRIPTION

A well possibly dedicated to Saint Silin and located near to Letterston Church. It was originally roofed but this had been removed by the time of the 1907 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map and the well covered over, with a pump erected on the site. The pump has now gone and the site is a shop forecourt (M.Ings, 2011, from various sources)

A well near St. Giles's Church (PRN 4552) in Letterston was identified by J.Trier and J.Bord (2010) and suggested as the possible site of Ffynnon Shan Shilin.



Photograph courtesy of J.Bord (2010)

The site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. It was heavily overgrown and the owners were away so clearance wasn't an option. Water appeared to rise in a chamber adjacent to the northeastern property wall (adjoining a depot) and the overflow forms a stream through the front garden and across the churchyard. The site of another spring across the road from the church, marked on the historical and modern maps at NGR SM93852962, was seen to now be concreted over. No evidence was found for the site of the well, and later pump, shown on the historical Ordnance Survey maps (M.Ings, 2012)

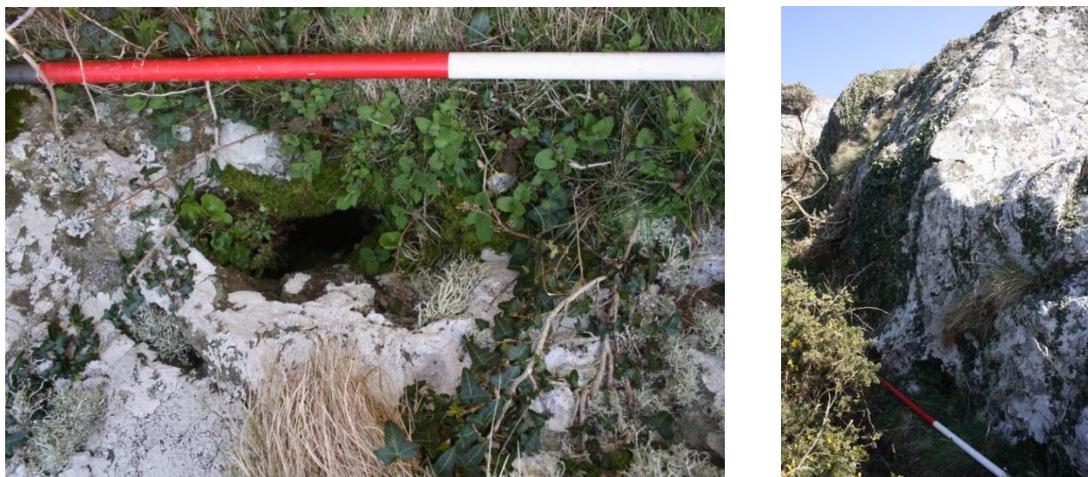
PRN 2637

NAME FFYNNON LLYGAD;FFYNNON DUNAWD **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval **FORM** Landform **CONDITION** Intact **STATUS** NPP
NGR SM73692505 **COMMUNITY** St Davids and the Cathedral Close **COUNTY** Pembrokeshire

HER DESCRIPTION

Ffynnon Lygaid is a small hollow on the south side of Castell Clegyr Boia (PRN 2655, SAM PE109), a prehistoric enclosed settlement. Its name suggests either a curative quality for eyes or derives from its shape. The well is recorded on historic Ordnance Survey maps and modern mapping (M.Ings, 2011)

The site was visited during the 2012 Holy Wells: additional sites project. It is hidden towards the base of the rocky outcrop at the southern edge of the prehistoric settlement site Clegyr Boia. It is a small, elliptical hollow in the



(left) Ffynnon Lygaid, a small, rock-cut, water-filled hollow . (right), its location below the northwest facing outcrop of Clegyr-Boia

northwest facing rock, measuring some 0.32 by 0.20 metres and 0.30 metres deep, containing a pool of water. Moss grows around the edges of the hollow (M.Ings, 2012)

It is apparently an 'ebb and flow well', and a report from c.1603 states that children looked at it in order to learn the state of the sea tides (M.Ings, 2011, from various sources)

PRN 12143

NAME LADY WELL **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Landform **CONDITION** Intact **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SM87512126 **COMMUNITY** Nolton & Roch **COUNTY** Pembrokeshire

HER DESCRIPTION)

Lady Well is shown on historic Ordnance Survey maps and modern mapping, located just to the north of Roch, near Pilgrim's Way. In 1925 it was recorded as the well associated with the parish church dedicated to St.Mary. There was no stonework around it and no knowledge of any traditions concerning healing qualities (M.Ings, 2011, from various sources).

The site was visited during the 2012 Holy Wells: additional sites project. It was identified as a spring emanating from beneath an exposed rock and a sawn-off tree trunk on the eastern bank of a stream. The flow of water down to the stream has created a gravel-based channel. No structure was evident (M.Ings, 2012)

PRN 4329

NAME PISTYLL DEWI **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Near Intact **STATUS** *NPP*

NGR SM73942425 **COMMUNITY** St Davids and the Cathedral Close **COUNTY** Pembrokeshire



HER DESCRIPTION

A holy well, said to have been miraculously produced for the baptism of St. David, is recorded at Porthclais creek. It is associated with the ruins of Capel y Pistyll and shown on historic Ordnance Survey maps. A field visit in 1921 reported that the spring is protected by a well-head of masonry and is hidden beneath a dense growth of brambles. Clear water was recorded (Trier, 1997) rising within a stone well-chamber with an overgrown roof supported by a stone lintel, and running eastwards the possible remnant of the demolished chapel (M.Ings, 2011, from various sources).

The site was seen during the 2012 Holy Wells: additional sites project, located within woodland adjacent to a public car park. It comprises an unmortared stone well head some 1.50 metres square, with an overflow channel to the north. The surrounding woodland was too dense to discern any chapel remains (M.Ings, 2012)

PRN 5081

NAME FFYNNON FRYNACH **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Near Intact **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SN20922327 **COMMUNITY** Llanboidy **COUNTY** Carmarthenshire

HER DESCRIPTION

Recorded in 1917 as a spring located about a half mile west of Llanboidy parish church and referred to as the "saint's well". Traditionally its waters were 'good for sick people' It is shown on the 1889 1st edition and 1907 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps and modern mapping as a chalybeate well (M.Ings, 2011, from various sources)



The site was visited during the 2012 Holy Wells: additional sites project. At the head of a steeply sided, wooded stream valley there is an exposed, near vertical rock face where water seeps from several places, forming a shallow pool before flowing down to join the stream. The stone trough noted by previous visitors was not seen and there was no evidence for any structure except several stones placed either side of the overflow channel (M.Ings, 2012)

Fynnon Frynach situated at the head of a small wooden valley. The water seeps from the rock surface and is now collected in two slate troughs. There is no sign of a well chamber (ER Evans 1984)

PRN 5086

NAME FFYNNON DDWYSANT **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Landform **CONDITION** Not known/ Intact **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SN22063672 **COMMUNITY** Boncath **COUNTY** Pembrokeshire

HER DESCRIPTION

The name Ffynnon-ddwysant is attached to a cottage, now ruined, shown on historic Ordnance Survey maps. A number of springs are shown in the vicinity. During a visit in 1914, the owner of Ffynnon-ddwysant said that the holy well was a spring rising in a cornfield "to the south of the road and that the name 'Two Saints' was derived from 'Ddwy fenydda' (two holy or good women) who had lived by the well" (M.Ings, 2011)

Following identification of the spring (J.Bord, 2008) the site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. It rises on a roadside bank to the south of Dolalau-isaf, southeast of Boncath, flowing through a culvert beneath the road to the stream below. There is no structure associated with the site but the ruins of a cottage are located nearby, on the opposite side of the road (M.Ings, 2012)



PRN 8008

NAME FFYNNON BRODYR **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Landform **CONDITION** Not known/
Intact **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SN12781900 **COMMUNITY** Clynderwen **COUNTY** Carmarthenshire

HER DESCRIPTION

'The Brothers Spring'. Site of a well is recorded on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map and modern mapping, to the north of Ffynnon-broyr farmstead (M.Ings, 2011, from various sources) The site was visited during the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. The source of the water was not clear - the surrounds have been heavily poached by cattle – but it has created an extensive, steep-sided and vegetated pond, at the edge of a pasture field. Several large stones were exposed on the pond banks but there was no evidence of any structure. The water flows out to the northeast, where it enters a drain alongside a railway track (M.Ings, 2012)

PRN 9717

NAME FFYNNON GARON **TYPE** Holy Well **PERIOD** Medieval

FORM Other structure **CONDITION** Restored **STATUS** *None recorded*

NGR SN67515935 **COMMUNITY** Tregaron **COUNTY** Ceredigion

HER DESCRIPTION

Recorded by Francis Jones (1954) as a holy well near Glanbrenig Farm, Tregaron, where the water was drunk with sugar at Easter time. It was also customary for lovers to bring each other gifts of bread, eat it and wash it down with water from the well. It is recorded on historic Ordnance Survey maps to the north of Glan Brenig, on the southern edge of Tregaron (M.Ings, 2011)

Ffynnon Garon was visited in 2012 as part of the Holy Wells 2012: additional sites project. It is located on the southern edge of Tregaron, below the Lampeter road . A much overgrown path leads down from the roadside to the well, which is fenced off. The well water flows from an aperture near the base of a three-sided, square structure, of mortared, dressed stone, and fills a square basin before being channelled out to a drainage ditch in the adjacent pasture field (M.Ings, 2012) Ffynnon Garon was saved and restored by Dyfed County Council in 1991 but the well has subsequently been neglected and access to it has become blocked by vegetation. A photograph taken in 1999 shows a possibly square, stone-lined chamber and the water flows through a channel of intricate stonework (M.Ings, 2011, based on "Eye of the Spring", 1999 and 2002)



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