

# The Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust



## HALF-YEARLY REVIEW 2013 AND ANNUAL REVIEW OF PROJECTS 2012-2013



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*Cover images from left:* Volunteers at Blaenavon learning how to survey and record archaeological remains, from drawing wall elevations stone by stone to using professional GPS equipment to plan earthworks. Monmouth School, Monmouth: although excavations concentrated on the southeast area of the Roman Fort of *Blestium* archaeologists working on the site recovered evidence of prehistoric human activity. The Bronze Age cairn on Llanmadoc Hill, Gower had been disturbed by vandals who had moved some of the stones and built them up into a peak. The monument was restored back to its original state after being assessed by a CADW Field Monument Warden. Detail of a reconstruction drawing of Vulcan House brewery, depicting how the brewery may have looked around 1850. Accessing Archaeological Grey Literature Online: digital copying of grey literature has now allowed the public to access archaeological information through new media. *Photographs, drawing and design copyright ©The Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust Ltd. All images are from GGAT publication 'Discovery and Learning 2013' August 2013.*

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# REVIEW OF CADW PROJECTS APRIL 2012 — MARCH 2013

## GGAT 1 Regional Heritage Management Services

Regional heritage management services have been re-defined and reporting for 2012—13 reflects this.

### *Information and advice to national and local government*

*1. Information in response to requests from Cadw including data to support projects, particularly the Scheduling Enhancement Programme.*

No specific requests for data were received from Cadw during the period. However, we provided information to support scheduling recommendations for prehistoric monuments on Gelligaer Common, arising out of the Prehistoric Rock Art project that took place at the end of the previous financial year.

*2. Provision of information and advice on Scheduled Monument Consent applications.*

The Trust responded to one consultation in regard to an SMC application (Longhole cave).

*3. Site visits by curatorial staff to Scheduled Ancient Monuments to verify reports of damage and assist in the determination of appropriate archaeological responses, made at the request of Cadw.*

A visit was made to Deborah's Hole Cave, South Gower, following reports of damage made by a member of public to the landowner, the West Wales Wildlife Trust. A site visit to Hardings Down hillforts on Gower was carried out in the company of the regional inspector, after a report of damage from a member of the public.

*4. Site visits by curatorial staff to Historic Environment Features and non-statutory protected sites to provide advice, verify reports of damage and determine appropriate archaeological responses, made at the request of Cadw.*

No actions were required in the reporting period.

*5. Responding to consultations from Welsh Government and other organisations on proposals which affect the historic environment.*

The Trust responded to a number of consultations: *Sustaining a Living Wales* (Green Paper) on the way in which the natural environment in Wales is to be delivered and the formation of a new natural environment body in Wales; advice for Wave and Tidal Energy; Local Historic Environment Conservation Services in Wales; Welsh Government's Communities, Equalities and Local Government Committee's Inquiry into Welsh Government's Historic Environment Policies; Cadw's Community Archaeology Framework; Ministerial Priorities for the Historic Environment of Wales.

*6. Support in connection with Glastir, beyond those functions already specified under the terms of the Memoranda of Agreement that exist between the Trust and Welsh Government Rural Payments Division and Forestry Commission Wales (FCW).*

Trust staff continued to attend meetings with members of the Welsh Government Rural Payment Division to discuss the way in which support for the historic environment elements of Glastir is delivered.



*Forestry Commission Heritage Assets Field Visit*

A Memorandum of Understanding was agreed and signed, along with the annexes that establish the framework for delivering historic environment information for the various components of the scheme in future years.

Attention was drawn to the fact that no mechanism had been established to determine whether damage to historic assets was likely to

be caused by works grant-aided under ACRES (agricultural and carbon reduction efficiency scheme); discussions on the potential problems inherent in such works led to the establishment of a trial period of consultation on individual cases. Discussions also extended into procedures for the monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of Glastir.

During the first part of this financial year, Trust staff continued to deal with initial enquiries about historic environment features made by farmers considering entering Glastir.

Members of Trust staff also attended two liaison days with other historic environment professionals and staff from the Forestry Commission, one of which was a field visit to explore issues relating to harvesting and heritage conservation.

*7. Specialist advice to local authorities and National Parks on a range of heritage-related matters.*

The Trust continues to be represented on the Gower Forum and the Swansea Built Heritage Group, acting as archaeological advisor to the City and County of Swansea for the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. In this capacity we advised the council on the re-routing of the footpath and bridle way on Rhossili Down, and met with representatives of the council, fire service and police regarding future management of urban commons in Swansea area. We also sit on the Caldicot Castle and Country Park Advisory Group, where we were involved this year in advising Monmouthshire County Council on Management Plans. We also provided advice to Monmouthshire County Council on a local proposal to uncover the slipway at Fryer's Wharf, Tintern Parva. We are members of the History and Heritage Steering Group in Bridgend and the Heritage Forum in Merthyr Tydfil, and we attend regular meetings of both to deal with any matters of archaeological significance and provide advice on the historic environment generally. In Caerphilly we have been in discussions with the County Borough Council about proposed extensions to the cemetery at Gelligaer which are likely to impinge on the area of Roman activity. In Torfaen, Trust staff attended a meeting of the reconstituted Heritage Subgroup for the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site. We also provided information and advice to the Conservation Officer at the Brecon Beacons National Park in connection with the conservation of lime kilns at Dan y Darren Quarry.

8. *On request, accompany Cadw FMW on SAM visit where the FMW perceives a possible Health and Safety risk in undertaking that visit alone.*

No visits were required.

### *Information and advice arising out of projects funded by Cadw*

9. *Follow-up advice and long-term support for pan-Wales (churches, coastal, etc) and other Trust projects.*

The Trust continues to provide advice based on the Historic Churches Project through membership of the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Advisory Committee. During the year the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor attended five meetings and commented by email on applications for review at the sixth. She also commented on one emergency action proposed by the archdeacon outside the normal schedule of meetings, and took part in a site visit. Trust staff also attended a meeting about the possible formation of a Welsh churches trust.

The Trust also continues to support the Historic Churches, Early Medieval Ecclesiastical and Medieval Ecclesiastical Sculpture projects through its membership of the Medieval Welsh Sculpture Advisory Panel, and to continue the work of the Caerleon environs project through the Caerleon Research Committee. Although no detailed advice has been required this year, the Trust continues to attend meetings of the Severn Estuary Partnership and the Severn Estuary Joint Advisory Committee, in order to maintain the profile of the historic environment in the strategic management of this area.

10. *Information and assistance associated with the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales and other landscape-related issues, where that support function is not already covered under the terms of the Memorandum of Agreements that exist between the Trust and Welsh Government - Rural Payments Division and the Trust and Forestry Commission Wales (FCW).*

No requests for information were made.

11. *The wider dissemination of the results of Cadw-funded projects including through the Trust's website and Archwilio.*

Information on Cadw-funded projects was disseminated via the Trust's website through the uploading of our 2012 Half-Yearly Review.

### *Information and advice on other matters concerned with conservation and the environment*

12. *Advice and, where appropriate, visits associated with Public and Private Woodland Estate operations and other Forestry Commission Wales consultations, including Forest Design Plans, that fall outside of Glastir and any FCW call-out contract.*

Trust staff gave advice regarding a number of Forestry Commission issues, including the impact to the historic environment of a proposed new road through woodland at Fochriw, and advice following damage to a farmstead wall by users of a new cycling track on Forestry Commission land at Ynys Fawr.

13. *Dealing with consultations/screening applications connected with the Uncultivated Land & Semi-natural Areas Provisions of the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive.*

The only related action was that the Trust liaised with contractors working on bracken eradication in some of the Swansea northern commons, in an attempt to prevent damage to earthworks there.

14. *Dealing with consultations connected with the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 (now extended to cover discussions on access to the coast).*

No consultations were received.

15. *Curatorial advice in connection with the marine environment, outside the planning process.*

Trust heritage management personnel have been involved with the Swansea Bay management plan, and have taken actions to raise awareness of the importance of the archaeological deposits in the bay and their management requirements.

16. *Liaison with and initial advice to external organisations such as the Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency Wales, the National Trust, etc in relation to matters pertaining to or likely to affect the Historic Environment.*

During the financial year, the Trust became a partner in a pilot scheme in Gower ‘*Stop Waste in our Landscape*’, funded by the Environment Agency to raise awareness of the problems caused by the insensitive dumping of waste materials, such as building rubble and unwanted soil. Other partners were the National Trust, Countryside Council for Wales (now part of Natural Resources Wales), National Farmers Union, City and County of Swansea Gower AONB Team, Gower Society. and Swansea University.

#### *Information and advice to members of the public and community groups*

<i>Year</i>	<i>*Total consultations addressed to Trust staff</i>	<i>Commercial (ext)</i>	<i>Public (ext)</i>	<i>Total visits to Trust</i>
2008—2009	241	144	97	46
2009—2010	188 external 190 internal	64	124	35
2010—2011	155 external 81 internal	65	90	13
2011—2012	176 external 76 internal	72	104	19
2012—2013	188 external 73 internal	75	113	13

*Historic Environment Record Enquiries 2008—2013*

*\*These exclude consultations for the Countryside Council for Wales, the Forestry Industry and Public Utilities, which are reported elsewhere.*

<i>Year</i>	<i>Visits to homepage www.archwilio.org.uk</i>	<i>Unique visitors to homepage www.archwilio.org.uk</i>	<i>Direct visits to GGAT homepage</i>	<i>Unique visits to GGAT homepage</i>	<i>% of Archwilio users visiting GGAT's area</i>
2011—2012	4,923	2,601	2,640	1,371	48%
2012—2013	6,626	3,258	2,641	1,265	20%

*Statistics for the Archwilio HER Public Access Website 2011—2013*



*17. Providing HER information to enquirers in accordance with the Trust's Guidelines for Access and Charging.*

Individuals and communities in the region were provided with archaeological information and advice in pursuit of their projects and interests. During the year 188 external enquiries were made as compared with 176 for the previous year. This rise in the overall number of consultations was reflected both in the number of commercial and public consultations to the Historic Environment Record.

Figures for Archwilio, also show an increase in visits to the website: statistics for the period April 2012 to March 2013 indicate that there were over 6,626 visits to the home page ([www.archwilio.org.uk](http://www.archwilio.org.uk)). The number of unique visitors was 3,258, confirming repeated user visits.

Statistics available for users going straight to the GGAT Archwilio search page from April 2012 to March 2013 remain much the same as the previous year, totaling 2,641 visits with 1,265 unique visitors. Referral from the Archwilio Home Page ([www.archwilio.org.uk](http://www.archwilio.org.uk)) equates to c.50% for this period. At 50% traffic coming directly from [www.archwilio.org.uk](http://www.archwilio.org.uk) this gives 20% ratio of all users visiting the main site who then go on to the GGAT Archwilio search page.

*18. Provision of information and advice to farmers and other landowners where that support function is not already covered by a pre-existing arrangement (eg Glastir, BWW etc).*

There was a single call-out by a landowner seeking advice regarding remains found at Oxwich, Gower.

*19. Site visits by curatorial staff to record and provide information relating to the Historic Environment, to verify reports of damage and determine appropriate archaeological responses to any issues arising, made at the request of members of the public, community groups or external organisations.*

Site visits were made to Llandow following the dismantling of the National Eisteddfod maes to evaluate the damage it had caused, to Cwm Nash to record a further inhumation eroding out of the cliff, to Lan Mine, Gwaelod y Garth, to assess the condition of the exposed adit and earthwork remains, to Newton Nottage to look at structural remains discovered by the owner in the garden of his house. In Swansea, we liaised with the parks department following a report by the member of the public of damage to a historic well in the Morryston area.

### *Specific Proposals*

In addition to the core works a number of specific proposals were delivered.

***Attend two Twentieth Century Military Structures seminars.***

Two meetings were attended.

*Arrange and hold the Thirteenth Regional Heritage Forum with Unitary Authority Representatives*

The heritage forum was extremely well attended, by representatives from all but one of the local authorities in South Wales. It was held this year at the Gwent Record Office in Ebbw Vale, hosted by Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council. The reporting session in the morning concluded with an extensive discussion of the recently circulated paper on possible changes to heritage advice services in local government that might be implemented as part of the forthcoming heritage bill. A guided tour of the archives was provided in the afternoon.

*Provide advice on the development of the Glastir agri-environment scheme*

Report has been included above (see 6).



## **GGAT 43 Regional Archaeological Planning Services and GGAT 92 Local Development Plan Support**

*Planning Statistics 2012—2013 (see Appendix 2)*

The archaeological planning services provided on behalf of Cadw require the Trust to initially assess all of the region's planning applications and to notify the planning authorities of archaeological constraints to proposals, giving information and specific recommendations on the best course of action required to protect archaeological interests whilst enabling permitted development. Thereafter, and with the combined resources provided by all twelve regional authorities, the Archaeological Planning Section (APS) provided further detailed services, such as the provision of archaeological briefs for pre-determination assessments, approving detailed specifications submitted by developers and monitoring the work from inception and fieldwork to the production of the final report.

The 2012—2013 detailed statistics of the responses to planning applications made by the APS, which vary from recommending desk-based assessments and intrusive field evaluations in the predetermination period of planning applications through to the attachment of appropriate archaeological conditions on planning consents, are attached as an appendix (2) to this review.

In 2011—2012 there was a slight decrease (4.32%) in the number of applications registered by the Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) in Southeast Wales, this decrease slowed in 2012—2013 to 0.9%. In figures the number of applications registered in 2011—2012, 13,660 decreased by 123 in 2012-2013 to 13,537. However there was no drop in the numbers of applications where the service provided detailed advice (both years 1,121 applications). This detailed advice included an increase of 5 applications when we objected to the proposed development on the grounds that they would have an unacceptable impact on the archaeological resource and an identical number (81) of applications where we advised the LPA that additional information on the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource would need to be provided by the applicant prior to the determination of the planning application. However, the number of cases where we recommended that conditions requiring archaeological work to be undertaken should be attached to the planning consent decreased slightly (342—323). These conditions can be divided into three types, those requiring programmes of archaeological investigation (such as excavations, intensive watching briefs) of which there were 124 (121); those requiring an archaeological watching brief to be conducted during the development 130 (125); and those requiring buildings and structures to be recorded 69 (96). The section has also been involved in 2 planning appeals providing information and written advice to the Planning Inspectorate of the Welsh Assembly Government.

### *Screening and Scoping Environmental Impact Assessments*

The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England And Wales) Regulations 1999 requires developers to consult LPAs as to the need or not for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be submitted with a planning application for large developments (screening). If it is determined that an EIA is required then they can request that the issues required to be covered by the EIA are outlined by the LPA and a methodology for the study is agreed (scoping). In the past two years we have reported that there has been a considerable rise in the number of large-scale developments being proposed in Southeast Wales especially in regard to renewable energy generation, including, wind turbines, Anerobic Digestion plants and large scale photovoltaic arrays and this again rose considerably increased in 2012—13. We commented on 77 screening requests (last year 49) and 26 scoping consultations (last year 17) during the year.

### *Major development impacts*

A number of large-scale and complex development projects continue to be initiated in Southeast Wales and the service continues to commit considerable time and effort in ensuring that the historic environment is carefully considered during the planning process and that mitigation measures including preservation *in situ* and excavation are included in these developments. This year these developments have included, in particular, further excavations at Vulcan House Merthyr Tydfil that recorded the remains of a water-powered brewery, and Monmouth School where Roman and medieval structures were investigated.

### *Utilities*

The Trust has continued to provide advice to the utility companies and the Environment Agency on the impact of their works on the archaeological resource. A similar number of consultations occurred this year, as in the previous year, with 299 proposals being sent to us. Following our advice, archaeological monitoring of these linear developments led to a number of historic environment interests being recorded.

### *Local Development Plans*

During the year the Blaenau Gwent Local Development Plan was adopted. The Trust has provided substantial input to the development of this new plan, attending meetings to discuss proposals and providing advice on the impact of development on the archaeological resource in regard to land proposed for allocation in the plans. In Southeast Wales four Local Development Plans have now been adopted and work has continued on the development of the other eight Local Development Plans in South Wales with the Trust providing a similar level of input to those already completed.

## **GGAT 100 Regional Outreach**

The object for which the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust was established is to advance the education of the public in archaeology. This is enshrined in our Articles and Memorandum of Association and has been behind the Trust's work since its establishment in 1976. The Trust takes an active role in the provision of diverse opportunities for the public to engage with archaeology, some of which are supported by Cadw.

Our project proposals were left sufficiently flexible for us to be able to include consumer-led services in our provision. Reporting is under the main headings of our outreach programme, with specific goals for the year highlighted in the appropriate section.

*An archaeological presence at heritage, cultural and environmental events, incorporating our specific goals of:*

*Organising events as part of the 2011 CBA Festival of British Archaeology; Collaborate with Cadw in an event or events for the Festival of British Archaeology/National Lifelong Learning Week, at Neath Abbey; Attend the National Eisteddfod at Llandow, Vale of Glamorgan. Our stand will include HER consultations via Archwilio, exhibitions and activities.*

Trust staff attended nine events in 2012—2013 under the auspices of the Regional Outreach project; one of these was the National Eisteddfod.

As in previous years, our main flagship event was held at Swansea Museum as part of the Festival of British Archaeology. The organisations attending the heritage fair element were Bridgend Young Archaeologists Club, Clyne Valley Community Project, Friends of Aberdulais Falls, Friends of Llandeilo Talybont Old Church Yard, Friends of Oystermouth Castle, Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales (RCAHMW), South Wales Miners'

Museum, Swansea Metal Detecting Club (including one member's collection of flints), three groups from Swansea University (Connecting Communities, Life-long Learning, and the Centre for Medieval and Early Modern Research at Swansea University (MEMO)), West Glamorgan Archive Service and West Glamorgan Family History. In addition to the talk on 'Working with Time Team' provided by the Trust, Swansea University provided two speakers, one from Swansea University on Neath Abbey, and the other from RCAHMW on the 'Britain from Above' project. Demonstrations, workshops and living history included Swansea Metropolitan University's traditional stained glass stand, demonstrations on facial reconstruction, prehistoric fish traps, Roman cookery and medieval coining, and medieval re-enactors from Meibion y Ddraig and Gwerin y Gwyr. There were also children's activities including face-painting based on Iron Age motifs, and the very popular mock excavation.

The Trust also attended an event organised by Swansea City Council at Oystermouth castle, providing children's activities and information about the 2009—2010 community excavation. A new departure for the Festival of Archaeology was an event titled 'Living in Bronze Age Caldicot', organised by the Trust in collaboration with Monmouthshire County Council, for which it also formed part of their programme of events for school holidays. This incorporated information on the 1980s excavation on Caldicot castle lake and well as children's events. Also during the Festival of British Archaeology the Trust participated in the event organised by Cadw at Neath Abbey, providing a marquee with children's activities and Historic Environment Record consultations, and a series of guided walks both around the abbey itself and to visit the Neath Abbey Ironworks and the Roman fort. Other activities provided during the fortnight were two other guided walks.



Part of Heritage Row, National Eisteddfod Llandow

At the National Eisteddfod, the Trust's stand was adjacent to those of other heritage organisations (Cadw, Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum of Wales, RCAHMW). This allowed both a sense of common identity and purpose, but also helped facilitate public engagement through a joint programme of events. The Trust's specific events included making replicas of prehistoric finds, demonstration of medieval life (with Gwerin y Gwyr),

demonstrations of making bronze age trackways and fish traps, demonstrations of Roman cookery. There were also permanent displays of recent work and live access to the Historic Environment Record, and guided walks of the archaeology of the Llandow maes.

Trust staff also had a presence at a series of other events: Pontardawe Spring Festival; Local History...Live!; Gelligaer Roman Afternoon; Empire: A Roman Spectacular. For the first two of these events, the Trust shared a stand with Swansea University.

The total number of people who were reached through events funded under the outreach programme was in the region of 2,300 (excluding walks for which the figures are included in the following section).



Outreach 2012—2013 Shows, walks and talks



*Talks and guided walks, incorporating our specific goal of:*

*Work with the Brecon Beacons National Park, the Friends of Margam Park, the Glamorgan Heritage Coast, Mumbles Tourist Information Centre and other bodies to devise a programme of walks.*

A full programme of talks and guided walks was arranged for the year. The majority of the talks take place in the winter and the walks in the summer.

Out of the seventeen talks given to societies and other members of the public by the Trust during the financial year, eleven were funded out of the outreach project. The audiences included local history societies, student groups, church and charity groups and branches of the University of the Third Age.

Fourteen walks out of the twenty-one provided by the Trust during the financial year were funded through the regional outreach programme (most of the rest were given as part of the Arfordir project). Our partners in these included the Friends of St John's House, Friends of Margam Park, Mumbles Tourist Information Centre and the National Trust. Some were run in connection with festivals like the Brecon Beacons National Park Geopark Festival, the Festival of British Archaeology, the Gower Walking Festival and the Love2Walk Festival.

(i) Walks

Number of walks in outreach programme = 16

Number of walkers for all outreach walks = 248

(ii) Talks

Talks in outreach programme = 11

Number of attendees = 388

*Exhibitions and leaflets, incorporating our specific goals of:*

*Revise and reprint the Neath Roman Fort exhibition in line with new accessibility guidance, to incorporate findings from the 2011—2012 campaign of excavations; Continue working with the Dioceses of Llandaff, Monmouth, and Swansea & Brecon, and with other local contacts, in helping them to present to the public the important heritage of historic churches in our area, through the production of a series of leaflets providing information on churches generally open to the public; Design and publish on the web leaflets on the WWII archaeology of the Vale of Glamorgan, and make ready-printed copies available at the Eisteddfod. This initiative is in response to strong demand from local people for some sort of guide.*

Exhibitions and displays were provided at nine events as part of the Trust stand.

Our display about the Roman fort at Neath was revised to comply with the visibility standards now in force, and was displayed at the Festival of Heritage, Arts and Crafts at Neath Abbey.

A draft for a leaflet on the historic churches of Gower was provided to the relevant deanery committee which was considering the option of publishing one to support churches tourism, but the committee decided to proceed further with it.

Rather than producing a self-guided walk around Second World War sites in the vicinity of the Eisteddfod maes, Trust staff led two guided walks in person.

*Outreach via the GGAT website, incorporating our specific goal of:*

*Upgrading information provided on the Trust website*

In addition to general updating of pages, the following new material was added to the web: five news items (hosted on [www.ggat.org.uk](http://www.ggat.org.uk)); eighteen blog news items (on five blogs); sixty-six tweets; nine updates on LinkedIn; uploaded 'GGAT Archaeological Workshop' leaflet to community page, an events calendar for summer 2012, Newport Ship photo gallery.

In addition, cookie policies were devised and added to the Trust and Archwilio webpages. Also during 2012—13 work was commenced on a complete re-design of the website.

Between 1st April 2012 and 31st March 2013, there were 2,641 visits to the Trust's homepage, representing 1,265 unique visitors.

*Community archaeology, incorporating our specific goal of:*

*Providing initial response advice to enquiries about possible community archaeology projects which will be delivered through our HLF community archaeologist post.*

A major boost to the Trust's community archaeology initiatives has been provided by the Heritage Lottery Funded-funded Skills for the Future Community Archaeology Training Placements co-ordinated by the Council for British Archaeology, the first of which was filled from April 2011. A second placement was in post in the 2012—2013 financial year, and in this period a third placement to work specifically with adults was recruited. This placement will last until October 2014.

During the year we had meetings with the following bodies in relation to possible community projects: the Forestry Commission and the Caerphilly Woodlands Trust in respect of a Caerphilly Woods, Cardiff City Council in respect of the motte at Morganstown, residents of Gwaelod y Garth in respect of Lan Mine, and with the new owner of the former Llanrumney Hall who is looking for ways to develop it as a community resource. Project proposals were prepared for Caerphilly Woods, Llanrumney Hall and Morganstown motte. Lan Mine was taken forward as a short course at the local primary school.

*Education*

Seven school pupils carried out work experience placements at the Trust during the year. We also hosted a placement of an American student on exchange at Swansea University, who undertook this as part of his course requirements. Two lectures were given to students at the University of Wales Newport.

## **GGAT 103 Morgannwg-Gwent Arfordir**

The Arfordir Project has been designed to enhance the archaeological record for the coastal zone, by monitoring the condition and the impact of erosion on sites along the coastline, and to engage local communities and volunteers with their coastal heritage to facilitate sustainable and long-term monitoring.

The first two years of work (2010—2011 and 2011—2012) were focused on the coastline of Gower and Swansea Bay to the mouth of the Ogmere River. The study area was extended into the Vale of Glamorgan for the third year of work (2012—2013).





*Oyster Perches, Brynmill, Swansea Bay*

In the third year of the project, the volunteers working in the first two year's study areas continued to be supported, while new volunteers were recruited through contacting community history and archaeology groups, advertising the project, and delivering presentations locally. Following on from the volunteer recruitment stage, training sessions and guided walks were held to equip volunteers with skills for recording sites. In addition to practical fieldwork recording, training was also provided on how to search archaeological records. This session made volunteers aware of

the different resources that are available whilst also providing an outline of the archaeological sites already recorded. The training also highlighted to the volunteers the contribution that their work will make by inputting information back into the regional Historic Environment Record (HER). Their independent work was also supported by project staff undertaking site visits with groups in the study area, resulting in many new sites being reported.

Sites of particular interest that have been recorded include: the Rocket House, Cwm Nash; Oyster Perches at Brynmill; Submerged Forest at Whiteford Sands, North Gower; Red Deer antlers, Swansea Bay.

Work on creating formal guidance documents on taking photographs and using social media was undertaken. The site condition update form was revised and formal guidance on how to complete the form was also created. A specialised form for recording areas of submerged forest and peat was made, and these documents were distributed to all volunteers involved in the project, and to the other Welsh Archaeological Trusts carrying out Arfordir work.



*Volunteer group during monument recognition training at Nash Point Camp, PRN 00400s*

Formal guidance has also been produced on

photography and provides information on what should be included when taking photographs and how to fill out the photograph register with examples of photographs taken as part of the project also included.

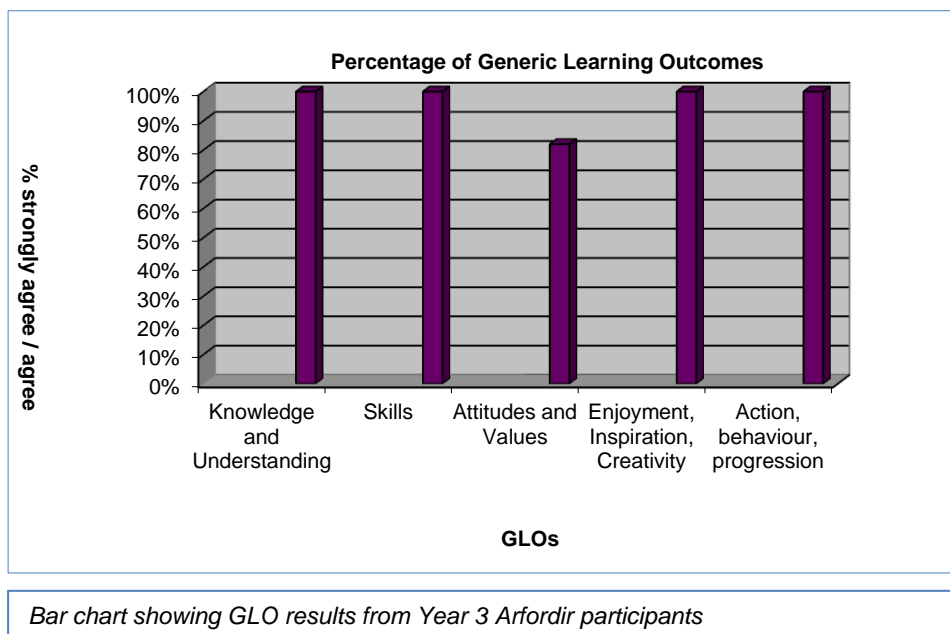
Guidance on using social media for the project has also been created and includes information on the different types of websites/applications that are used and how to use each



website/application. It is hoped that by providing this information and making social media less intimidating that there will be an increase in the volunteer usage of these sites.

A Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Arfordir-Glamorgan-Gwent-Archaeological-Trust/340497112735726?ref=hl>) has been created and volunteers that use Facebook have been invited to like the page. The page has been used to advertise walks, post photographs, and also to advertise another Cadw grant-aided project within the area of Cwm Nash. The response to this page has been positive with lots of interest shown by users to the information that has been posted. A Twitter account (<https://twitter.com/GGATArfordir>) for the project continues to be used and keeps attracting new followers currently there are over 140 followers, this has increased from the 50 followers recorded last year; followers include project volunteers, interested individuals, other heritage bodies and community groups. The WordPress project blog (<http://arfordir.wordpress.com/>) has been updated with a new theme background implemented. The blog has been used to promote fieldwork undertaken as part of the training; photographs of finds have also been uploaded highlighting exciting new discoveries and raising the profile of the project's work. We will be looking to improve the flickr account and the project microsite next year.

The impact on the participants in terms of generic and social learning has been measured. The feedback has been positive, with many citing how much they enjoyed the training for the project and would enjoy the opportunity to participate in more community projects led by the Trust. A requirement for further training in relation to monument recognition has also been requested by some volunteers as well as more weekend events and these comments will be addressed during the further course of the project.



## GGAT 112 Southeast Wales WWII Airfields

The Southeast Wales Second World War Airfield Project has been designed to assess the current state of preservation of the military airfields that have survived in Southeast Wales from the Second World War to the end of the Cold War era in 1989. The project aimed to provide a deeper understanding and appreciation of these remains leading not just to a better and wider appreciation of their importance as continuing focal points in the South Wales landscape but with the intention that raised awareness and protection can be used as an impetus for sensitive regeneration and community focus. The project targeted the main eight airfields within the Trust area, which have been selected for the potential survival of primary and secondary features and structures. These airfields are:

- ❑ •Chepstow Racecourse (No. 7 Satellite Landing Ground)
- ❑ •RAF Fairwood Common
- ❑ •RAF Llandow
- ❑ •RAF St Athan
- ❑ •RAF Cardiff Military use of Pengam Moors
- ❑ •RAF Rhoose
- ❑ •St Bride's (No.6 Satellite Landing Ground)
- ❑ •RAF Stormy Down / Porthcawl

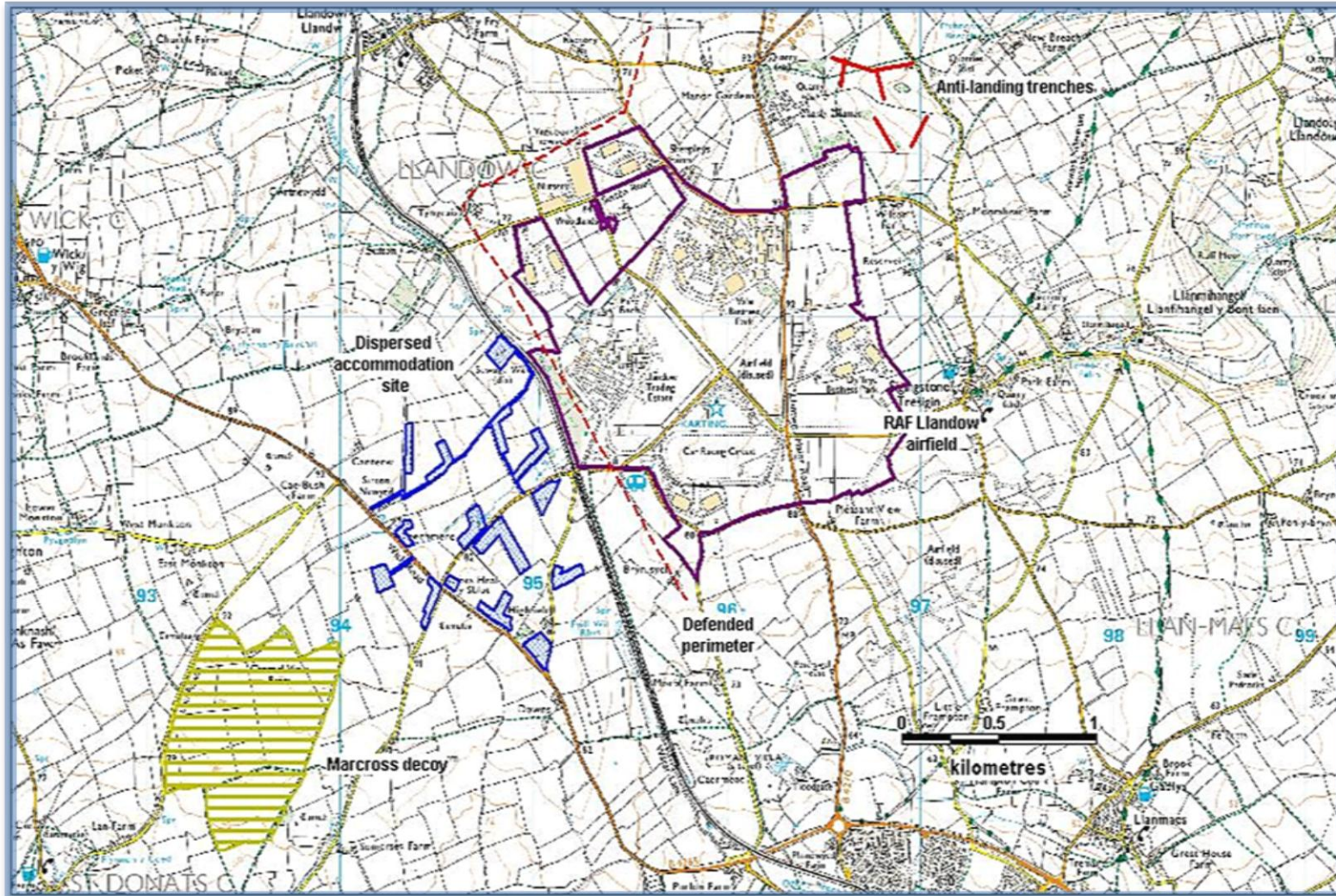
Whilst the primarily focus of Year 1 was the flying field and technical areas, for Year 2 the study area was expanded to look at structures and features located in the airfields hinterland (for the purposes of the project, the hinterland has been defined as the zone outside of the central airfield core). Airfields hinterlands were complex and busy landscapes with a developed range of features such as, Heavy/Light anti-aircraft gun sites, bombing decoys, anti-aircraft emplacements, anti-landing obstacles, perimeter defenses, RAF sick quarters, Navigation aids, communications, flare light control buildings, aviation fuel reserve depot, and RAF air sea rescue marine craft sections, together with dispersed accommodation sites organised by gender and rank.

Each site was assessed using documentary sources prior to the undertaking of field visits in order to build an understanding of the site and to ascertain fieldwork priorities. Maps, plans and aerial photographs were consulted and map regressions produced for each site. A database was produced and accompanying new point and polygon-based data compiled as a result of the research. This information was fed back into the regional Historic Environment Record in order to contribute to our understanding of the turbulent nature of the 20th century through surviving military structures and provides a basis for heritage management and development control.



*Marcross Decoy: North facing elevation of pillbox 04468s and entrance to the sunken 'Q' site control shelter*





Llandow Airfield Environs WWII Heritage Assets Zonation

The scattered layout of temporary buildings and structures that comprise the greater part of the fabric of the South Wales Military Airfield Dispersal Sites are a difficult proposition for preservation. Most structures are in an advanced state of decay and others survive in varying states of completeness, typically being used in recent years for agricultural purposes, whilst others only survive as footprints, shadows of what had been. In principle we should aim to preserve some examples of this type of airfield fabric, however, there is a difficult question of balance to be achieved. Many of the buildings as already stated, are poorly preserved, but are also of standard types that are commonly found on all dispersal sites across not only Wales but also the United Kingdom as a whole.

If only one airfield and its associated sites had to be chosen for preservation from those visited for this project, then it would surely be RAF Llandow. The extent and quality of the dispersed communal and living quarters sites is overall poor, the majority of buildings having been removed or converted, however, what makes the airfield buildings and structures at RAF Llandow so special, apart from the obvious individual ones such as the control tower, and hangars, is the remarkable completeness of the site, with just under half of the airfields total complement of buildings still extant. We also need to consider the runways and perimeter track, which are also complete and fine examples of early tarmac runways. A third important aspect is the completeness of the above ground air-raid shelters which represent only about half of the total number built at the airfield, but this is quite high when compared to other airfield sites. It should be noted that the continued survival of such features is perilous, for the very factors that have aided their survival, i.e. being converted into commercial industrial estates and agricultural use, also carries the pressure of reuse, redevelopment, and removal.

\*The amounts are rough approximations only. The number of structures per airfield has been calculated from Air Ministry plans and where none available, aerial photography

## **GGAT 118 Accessing Archaeological Planning Management Derived Data**

This project is designed to enhance the Historic Environment Record (HER) with information from grey literature reports, resulting from the planning process, to improve access to the resource and facilitate the role of archaeological planning and wider research in the archaeology of Southeast Wales. Paper sources will also be digitised to approved standards to aid their preservation.

Through the use of volunteers, the Trust intends to enable members of the local community, community groups, history groups and local university students to learn more about the HER and general archaeology of South Wales, and provide them with the knowledge of how archaeology is factored into the planning process, as well as transferable IT and cartographic skills.

The HER and Archaeological Planning staff are training the volunteers and providing them with the skills and knowledge to enable them to update/edit existing sites or add new sites and archaeological events to the HER, how to search and retrieve information from the HER and its use as a research tool. It is intended that through this project, raised awareness of available archaeological resources, such as the HER, will be created and spread throughout the wider community. In turn, awareness of the importance of the archaeological resource of Wales, both in situ and that preserved through record will be promoted. This task was identified as of High Priority in the 2010 Historic Environment Record Audit.

This was the first year of a longer-term project, to see the entire HER grey literature archive backlog added to the HER and digitised.

A number of methods were used to advertise the project as widely as possible and recruit volunteers. A bi-lingual project leaflet/poster was created, advertising the project under the name 'Access to Archaeology'. This briefly outlined the aims of the project, and provided links for further information, application details and contact details. The leaflet was emailed to existing contacts in the Trust's volunteer database, local historical and archaeological societies in South

Wales, circulated within the internal student email system of Cardiff University's History and Archaeology department and sent to other organisations within the sector for wider distribution. The leaflet was also mail posted to contacts and organisations without email. In addition hard copies were available for people to pick up at various outreach events attended by the Trust during April and May. A bi-lingual micro-website and blog were created to provide an online presence for the project <http://accesstoarchaeology.blogspot.co.uk>. As well as a project overview, the site contained a Volunteer Application Pack, further information about the Trust and the HER and contact details. The address for this site was included on the leaflet/poster. The project was advertised on the Trust's website's news pages, and other related blogs. Links to the project micro-site were provided so interested people could go straight to the project site to find out more. The total number of volunteers recruited was 10 each of whom spent up to two weeks working on the project.

Training for volunteers throughout the course of the project included a mixture of structured group and one-to-one training and more informal support and assistance on an individual basis as and when required. The main aspects covered by the training were:

- Role and remit of the HER.
- Recording archaeological sites, events and artefacts.
- Creating new archaeological records.
- Reading cartographic sources.
- Using the HER software and other computer programmes.
- Using the HER as a research tool.
- Use of Geographical Information Systems.
- The context of archaeology in the Welsh Planning process.
- Best practice for the digitisation and preservation of paper and digital sources.

The work programme involved the assessment of 361 reports held in the HER report archive dating between 1978 and 1994 (inclusive). The assessment involved determining whether the reports contain material that would be recorded as an Event record in the HER, if the information has already been recorded on the HER as an Event, and also if the information recorded in the reports has been recorded as Core (site) records in the HER.

All relevant information which had not already been recorded on the HER was then recorded, previously existing records were checked for accuracy and completeness and the necessary relationship links between Core, Events, Artefacts and Bibliographic records were made.

The results of the assessment of all 361 reports were as follows;

- Reports that were only bibliographic references to an event 13
- Duplicate reports 16
- Reports where all information had already been added to the HER 15
- Reports that had been superseded or revised by a later version 6
- Reports that lie outside the coverage area of GGAT's HER 4
- Reports that do not constitute an Event record in the HER 17
- Reports that were missing 12
- Reports requiring information to be added to the HER 278

From the 278 reports requiring information to be added to the HER, the following figures relate:

- Number of new Event records created 262
- Number of new Core records created 127
- Number of new Artefact records 319
- Number of edits to existing Event/Core records over 8,000
- Number of Event areas added to MapInfo 278
- Number of PDFs created 240



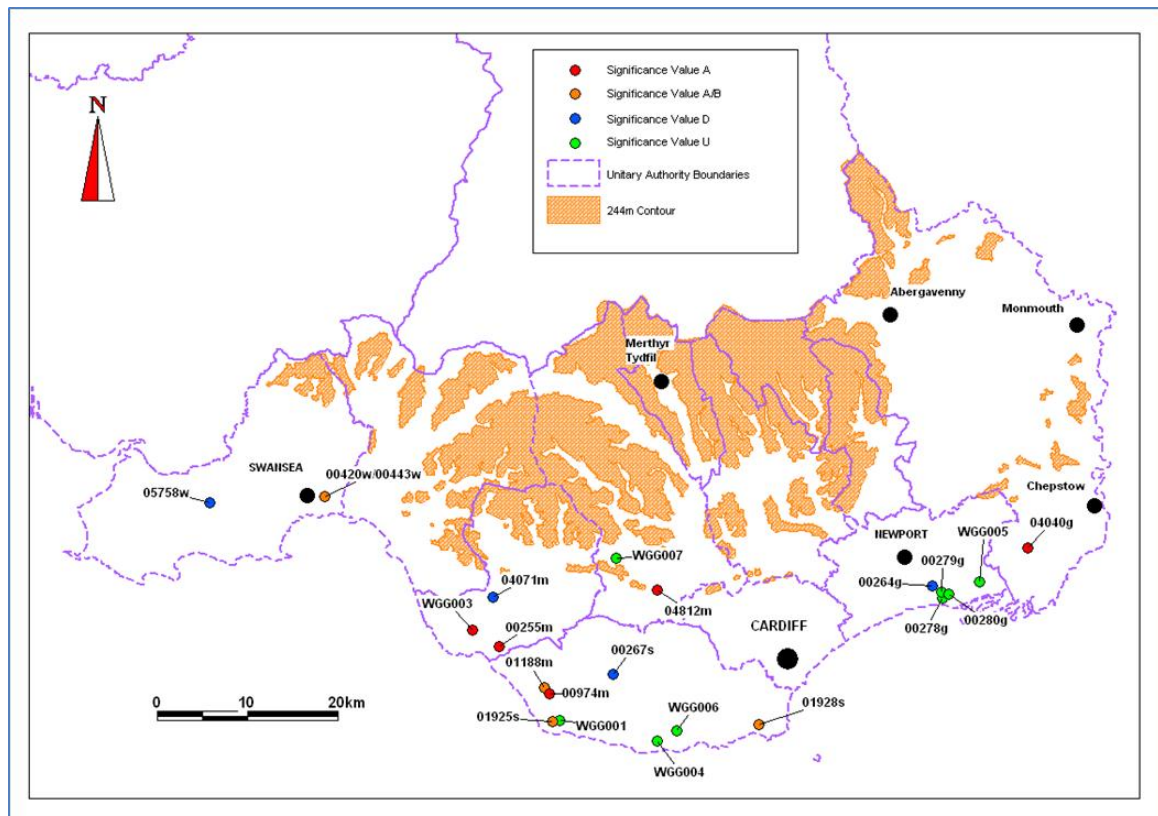
Initial quality assurance was undertaken as each record was completed; more thorough quality assurance was then undertaken at the end of every month.

PDF versions of the reports were only created where the Trust held the copyright for the report, as permissions needs to be sought from other organisations before proceeding. In the next financial year, other organisations will be approached for permission to digitise paper copies of reports or, where available, to supply copies of these reports in a digital format to the HER. Permission will also be sought to make these reports available through Archwilio. Such permissions will be documented through the use of an HER Depositor Licence agreement with each organisation.

The 240 digitised Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust reports were made available to access through the Archwilio website as well as in the Trusts HER system. Each report was linked to the individual HER sites that it refers to.

### **GGAT 119 Southeast Wales Medieval and Early Post-medieval (c1100-1750) sites: Windmills in Glamorgan and Gwent**

Following on from a scoping project conducted in 2010 which reviewed the need to assess various classes of site dating to the Medieval and early post-medieval periods, a project examining Medieval and early post-medieval windmills in Glamorgan and Gwent has been undertaken by the Trust. The project entailed a further desktop appraisal of some 29 windmills, with specific assessment of 22 sites identified as satisfying set criteria. This included appraisal of 8 windmill sites not previously recorded on the Historic Environment Record (HER), identified from the National Monuments Record (NMR) and from publications.

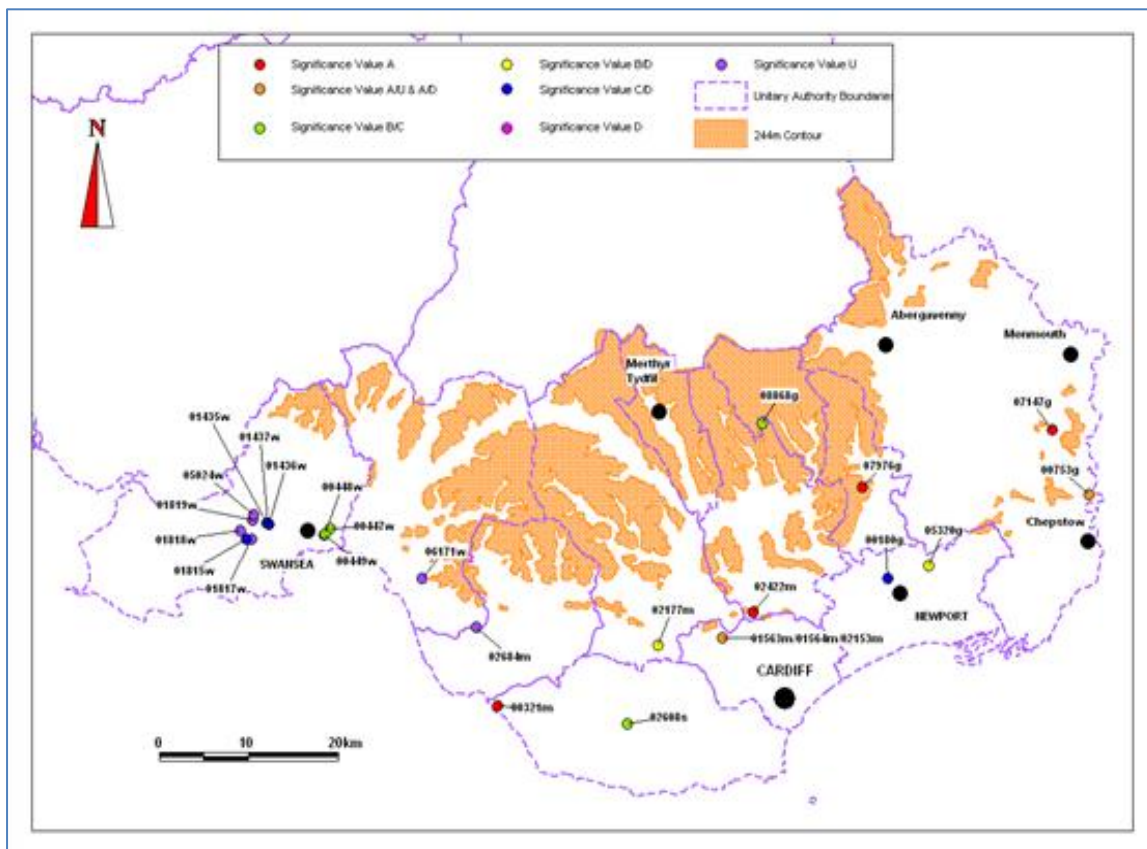


*Medieval and Early Post Medieval Windmill Sites Showing Overall Significance*

The current number of windmill sites on the HER is not exhaustive and it should be noted that the remit of the current project was not to search for new sites. The assessment adopted a two staged approach: first identifying windmills already scheduled and listed in order to establish a threshold and also identify geographical and typological gaps, and secondly applying established criteria to assess the overall significance of the resource.

The work established that four of the selected 22 interests were protected, and that a relatively good example of the resource was already protected either through scheduling or listing. An expected bias was noted in the geographic distribution to areas known to be better agriculturally such as the Vale of Glamorgan and the coastal zones of West Glamorgan and Monmouthshire, the protected examples were largely representative in terms of geographic spread, though perhaps less so in terms of windmill type, with no post-mills or windmill mounds or tumps so far protected.

Of the 22 sites assessed, five were considered to be of National Significance, a further four were borderline National/Regional Significance, whilst the remainder were considered to be of Local, Minor, or Unknown Significance. Recommendations for further archaeological investigation, survey and conservation have been made. Recommendations for consideration for protection form the basis of a separate report.



*Medieval and Early Post Medieval Extraction Sites Showing Overall Significance*

### **GGAT 120 Southeast Wales Medieval and Early Post-medieval Sites (c AD1100-AD1750): Early Extraction in Glamorgan and Gwent**

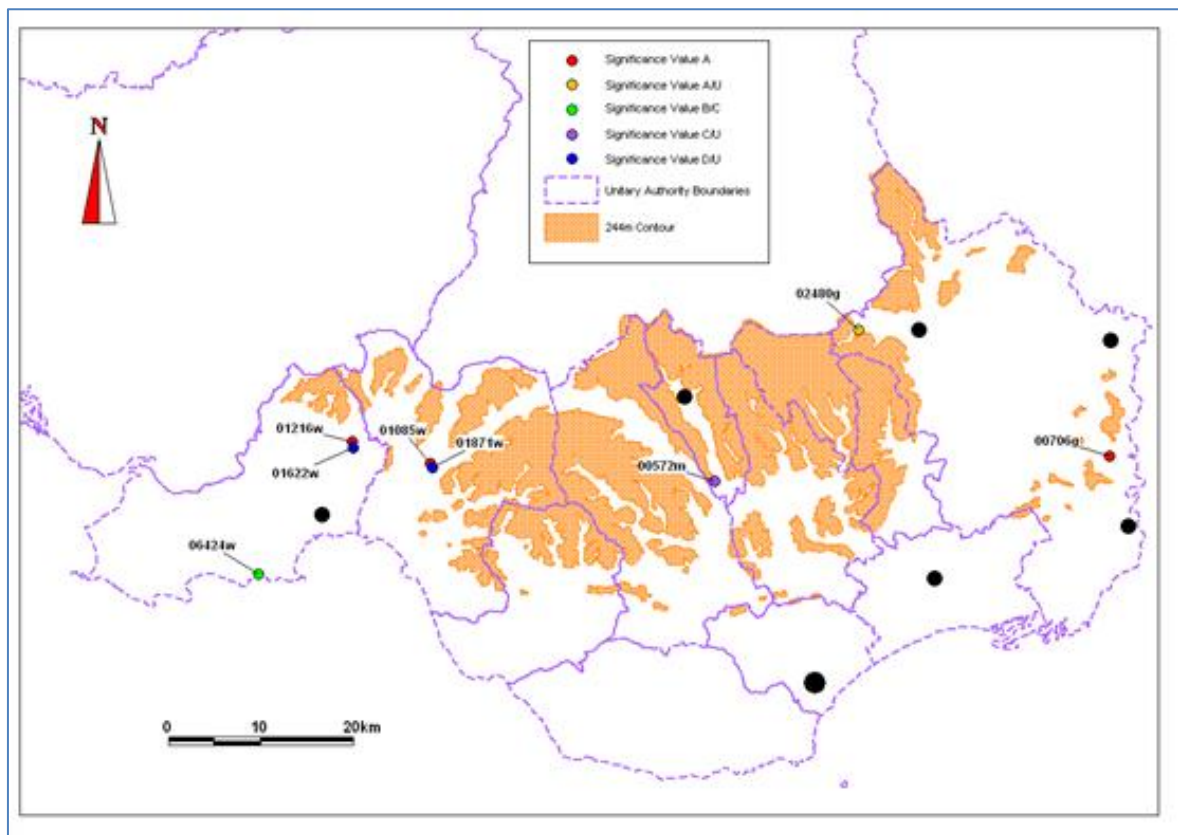
Following on from a scoping project conducted in 2010 which reviewed the need to assess various classes of site dating to the Medieval and post-medieval periods, a project examining Medieval and early post-medieval extraction in Glamorgan and Gwent has been undertaken by the Trust. The project entailed a further desktop appraisal of some 43 extraction sites, with



specific assessment of 24 sites identified as satisfying set criteria. This included appraisal of 6 extraction sites not previously recorded on the Historic Environment Record (HER) from publications. A rapid appraisal was also made of early extractive sites on the National Monuments Record (NMR). The current number of early extraction sites on the HER is not exhaustive and it should be noted that the remit of the current project was not to search for new sites. The assessment adopted a two staged approach: first identifying extraction sites already protected (i.e. scheduled) in order to establish a threshold and also identify geographical and typological gaps, and secondly applying established criteria to assess the overall significance of the resource.

The work confirmed that two of the selected 24 interests were protected. In terms of the resource assessed an expected bias was noted in the geographic spread, the resource excluded the large numbers of sites in the Heads of the Valleys area, where later extraction largely obscured the survival of early extractive features, with two exceptions, including the notable iron workings at Upper Race, Cwmbran. In terms of type, the sites assessed were predominantly bell pits, or ironstone related workings, with ironstone workings accounting for over 83% of the resource as being of at least potential National Significance - a medieval quarry, which provided the famous Sutton Stone, accounting for the remainder.

Of the 24 sites assessed, four were considered to be of National significance, a further two were borderline National Significance (i.e. c.25% of assessed resource), and a further five sites were potentially of Regional Significance, whilst the remainder were considered to be of Local, Minor, or Unknown Significance. Recommendations for further work, primarily survey and conservation have been made. Recommendations for consideration for protection have been made in a separate report.



*Medieval and Early Post Medieval Forge Sites Showing Overall Significance*

## **GGAT 121 Southeast Wales Medieval and Early Post-medieval Sites (c AD1100-AD1750): Iron Production - Forges in Glamorgan and Gwent**

Following on from a scoping project conducted in 2010 which reviewed the need to assess various classes of site dating to the Medieval and post-medieval periods, a project examining early forge sites in Glamorgan and Gwent has been undertaken. The project used a two stage approach of appraisal followed by detailed assessment on a final selection of sites. The project entailed a desktop appraisal of some 50 medieval/post-medieval forge sites, included 3 forge sites not previously recorded on the Historic Environment Record (HER). The appraisal identified sites considered destroyed, poorly located, dating to the post-1750 period, and sites identified as rural Blacksmith's workshops or smithies, and made a selection based on these findings. In this way 8 sites were selected and further assessed in detail against set criteria.

Of the 8 sites assessed, three were considered to be of National significance, all existing Scheduled Ancient Monuments, one site was considered to be of borderline National Significance, and a further site was of potential borderline Regional Significance. Recommendations for further work, primarily survey and conservation have been made. Recommendations for consideration for protection have been made in a separate report.

## **GGAT 122 Nidum – Roman Fort and Environs**

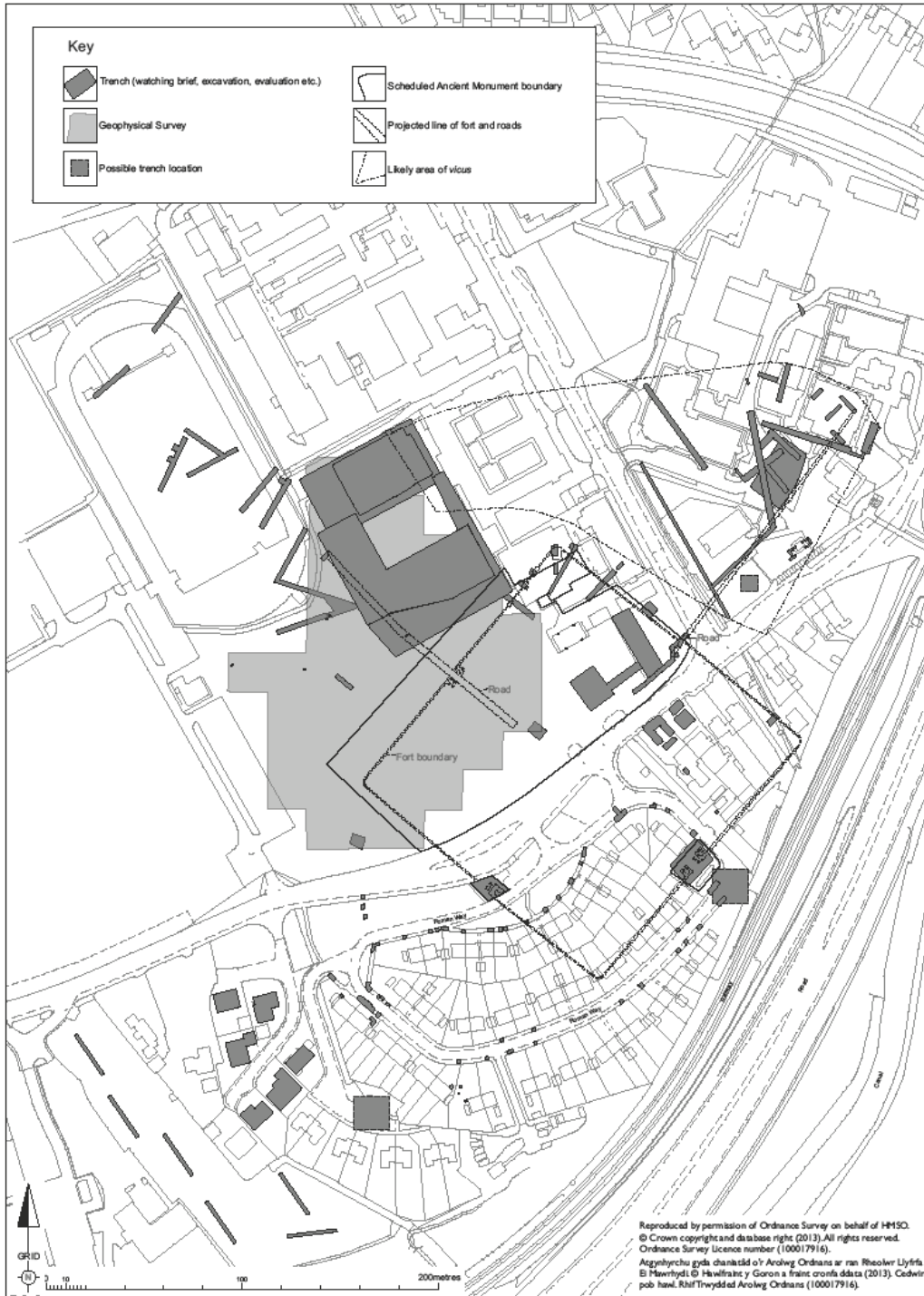
The Nidum project was designed to create a synthesis of the archaeological work undertaken in the vicinity of Neath Roman fort from 1992 to 2010 in order to complement the forthcoming report on the large-scale excavation that took place between 2010 and 2012 on the northeast defences of the earlier Flavian timber phase forts.

Following Heywood and Marvell's (1992) publication on their work on the fort, and which drew on the limited information for activity outside the fort, a short summary by Marvell (2010) and an unpublished summary overview by Pearson (2002), there has been no attempt to provide a published synthesis of the results of the various investigations in and within the vicinity of the fort. Many of these have been small-scale works in response to development, particularly in those areas to the north, northeast and also to the south and southwest of the forts. These investigations have generated a large archive of unpublished material, mainly as grey-literature reports, and together with the most recent excavations that have taken place between 2010 and 2012, form a significant body of material. No substantial excavations had taken place within the fort between 1992 and 2010.

The review was based primarily on sources derived from the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record (GGAT HER) but also included information derived from the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS). The dataset for Roman entries held on record within the GGAT HER and used for the review area comprised 78 report entries, with details of archaeological excavations, archaeological field evaluations, watching briefs, surveys and desk-based assessments and nine findspots (Amgueddfa Cymru –National Museum of Wales). A filter was applied to the data in order to eliminate the work carried out up to 1992 and also to those reports that were considered irrelevant to the project, resulting in a core database of 58 records.

This data review exercise demonstrated that the corpus of information was concentrated, perhaps unsurprisingly, within a narrow area surrounding the known fort. For quantification purposes the review presented the data in quadrants based on the axis of the fort.

GGAT 122: Nidum - Neath Roman Fort and Environs



Neath: Plan showing all excavations within the Fort and its environs.

The review found that there was a concentration of Roman structural elements and finds discovered to the north and northeast of the Roman fort that indicated the likely site of a vicus. The remains on the exterior of the fort for all but the northeast quadrant were closely tied to the roads leading in/out of the fort and they generally lie within a 30m footprint from the road edge. The settlement in the northeast quadrant can be seen as a linear development along the road to

the northeast but if the settlement also extended uninterrupted to the northwest then one might expect to find pathways between the structures as the road would be a considerable way off.

The nature and function of the settlement is difficult to interpret. No substantial stone walling or quantities of roofing tile were discovered and structures were indicated by post settings, foundation slots and the remains of clay and slab flooring. The lack of well-made structures may be indicative of a short-lived settlement or simply that the *vicus* was more akin to a 'shanty town' that never developed and flourished to provide better living conditions. There was insubstantial evidence to suggest industrial activity in the *vicus*. Hearths were present but these can be of domestic and/ or industrial use and without finding crucibles or other direct evidence for industrial practices, hearths remain undiagnostic. Similarly lead objects and slag residues may have indicated a level of industrial activity but the exact location of these activities has not been determined.

The remaining quadrants did not produce similar quantities of finds or indicate widespread structural remains or debris to that of the northeast but there was clearly a level of activity to the southwest of the fort that is not well defined and knowledge of the northwest quadrant is equally uncertain except for the structure discovered in 1993 within an enclosure with a suggested foundation for a tessellated or *opus signinum* floor. There is probably little scope within the southeast quadrant to further knowledge of that area because of the built environment including the housing estate and the major post-medieval transport infrastructure.

A reassessment of the finds from the sites was also undertaken and specialist reports produced for the following artefact categories, pottery, glass, lead, copper, gold, stonework and iron. These reports along with the synthesised structural data will be added to the forthcoming monograph publication arising from the large scale excavations on the fort undertaken between 2010 and 2012.

#### *References*

Heywood B and Marvell AG 1992 'Excavations at Neath 1984-5 and 1988' *Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies* **39** 171-292

Marvell AG 2010 'Neath' in Burnham BC & Davies JL (eds) 2010 *Roman Frontiers in Wales and the Marches* (RCAHMW) 265-267.

Pearson A 2002 'Roman Roads and Vici in Southeast Wales' *GGAT Report No 2002/061*.

## **GGAT 123 Monastic Margam Community Survey**

Margam Abbey, founded in 1147, by Robert Earl of Gloucester and Lord of Glamorgan, was in 1291 the richest Cistercian foundation in Wales. By that date, almost all of the surviving remains had been constructed, their quality a testament to the abbey's wealth and the ambition of successive abbots. The surviving structures consist of the six western bays of the nave and aisles of the abbey church, which since the Reformation have been in use as the parish church, the ruins of the crossing, presbytery and transepts of the church, together with the remains of the chapter house, the undercroft of the monks' dormitory and a small part of the cloister. In contrast with the Norman architecture of the nave, the ruins are almost entirely Early English in style. A small amount of Decorated architecture survives in the remains of the processional door into the church through the north wall of the cloister.

When the abbey was suppressed in 1536, the site was acquired by Sir Rice Mansel of Oxwich, who constructed a mansion over the south and southeastern parts of the conventual buildings. This was demolished in the 18th century when the park was laid out by Thomas Mansel Talbot as a series of pleasure grounds, in which the surviving medieval ruins played their part as architectural features. The chapter house remained substantially intact until 1799 when the vault collapsed. The Talbot family moved back to reside permanently at Margam in the 1830s, when



Margam Castle was built. Margam Park was acquired by Glamorgan County Council in 1973 and has since remained in possession of the successor local authorities as a country park. All the ruins lie within the country park and are owned by the local authority. However, the nave and aisles are in use as the parish church, which is generally known as Margam Abbey. It belongs to the Representative Body of the Church in Wales and is in the care of the rector and parochial church council.



*Margam Park: Volunteers recording the remains*

The walls of Margam Abbey are in a serious state of dereliction weakened by aggressive encroachment of mixed vegetation, including tree saplings and ivy, taking root within and across the stonework. This has had the effect of crumbling the binding mortar and working the masonry loose to the point it is becoming at risk of imminent collapse, destroying the monument for future generations. The loose masonry is already posing a health hazard to visitors: the



walls are so fragile people risk dislodging stonework by merely touching them. Allowing further degradation of the site will render it extremely hazardous and severely limit the access for any visitors wishing to view the monument. The parish church is in a relatively good state of repair.

In 2011, during discussions about the possibility of carrying out a community project in the park, the Friends of Margam Park voiced their concern about the state of the ruins to members of Trust staff. Out of this discussion arose the proposal to record the condition of the ruins using volunteers drawn from among the Friends and other interested local people, under the supervision of Trust staff. The aim of the project was to provide baseline data on the condition of the monument to inform discussions between Cadw and the local authority on a programme of conservation, whilst at the same time allowing members of the public to gain hands-on experience of archaeological techniques.

The original proposal was to use an EDM survey to capture the data to allow the production of an outline of each individual wall and to locate within it areas of damaged masonry. These would then be photographed and the photographs mounted electronically into the outline with annotations. These elevations would then be available to inform any future decisions about conservation. The EDM survey was carried out according to plan, however, modifications were

made to the methods of photographic and written recording during the course of the project. It was decided to photograph all wall faces, and to record each wall face separately, using a pro-forma that had provision for an architectural description, a description of the condition, and a sketch elevation to highlight areas of damage. Although this resulted in the comprehensive documentation of every aspect of the ruins' condition based on careful and attentive observation, in practice problems were caused by the fact that none of the volunteers had any previous description of describing architecture, and most of them also had no previous experience of creating an ordered written record.

Numbers of volunteers on site at any one time had to be limited to eight to allow for adequate training and supervision. A total of twenty volunteers took part altogether, with a core of six who attended on most of days of the project. The majority of the volunteers were of retirement age, but there were also some in their twenties. The feedback from participants was uniformly positive, the only reservation being that some wished they had been able to attend more sessions.

The finished project report is felt to fulfil our aim of producing a management tool to inform future discussions on conservation. We also successfully introduced members of the public to the process of archaeological survey techniques, and trained them in archaeological photographing techniques. A series of three display panels on the project have been put together with highlights of the project.

## **GGAT 124 Llandow Eisteddfod 2012**

The National Eisteddfod decided that the 2012 festival would be held on the Second World War airfield site of RAF Llandow. Prior to the construction of the airfield, Sir Cyril Fox excavated three groups of Bronze Age barrows visible as upstanding earthworks, the Sheepleys group, the Six Wells group and the Sutton group. These barrows clearly were the visible parts of a Bronze Age ritual landscape in the Llandow area; more recent work on such ritual landscapes shows that upstanding monuments are likely to represent only a part of a more extensive complex, with other, significant parts surviving below ground as earth-cut features, eg Dyffryn Lane, Berriew (Gibson 1995) or evidence for earlier utilisation of the site, as at Pant Sychbant (RCAHMMW 1997, 88 RC74).

Fox's work made this the best-studied complex of barrows in Glamorgan. However, given the constraints on his time, the difficult weather conditions, and the state of knowledge in the 1930s and 40s, his excavations concentrated on the upstanding monuments and do not appear to have investigated much of the surrounding area. Consequently there was no information as to whether there may have been other elements within this ritual landscape, either contemporary with the barrows or belonging to a different stage of its development.

Other sites known within the area of the Maes were Sixwells Farm with its outbuildings, demolished for the construction of the airfield but presumably with the foundations still surviving below ground, and the bottom section of a Pickett-Hamilton type pillbox.

In February 2012, the Trust identified that as temporary constructions, the National Eisteddfod installations did not need planning permission, and that consequently there had been no opportunity for any archaeological mitigation strategy to be put in place. Given the archaeological sensitivity of the area, it was considered that appropriate action should be a geophysical survey, a watching brief on the holes dug to site three water-tanks for the toilet facilities, and the recording of any Second World War finds disturbed by the construction process.

Access was granted to the site after the National Eisteddfod had taken control for construction works, in order that the geophysical survey and watching brief could be carried out. Given the very short timescale available to the investigation, it was only possible to survey the area of the Maes most likely to be disturbed by construction work (the proposed site of the pavilion and the

area immediately around it). Since the geology is Lias Limestone, it was decided that magnetometry was likely to give the best results, although there was some concern that scrap metal left from when the site was used as a breaker's yard for tanks and aircraft after the war might result in too much interference.

The geophysical survey revealed two pre-airfield field boundaries and the pillbox site. No potential prehistoric features were imaged. During the watching brief on the holes for the water-tanks, the bedrock was discovered to be so close to the surface in places that one of them had to be re-sited. Nothing of archaeological interest was found in any of them. The most notable WWII artefact discovered was a munitions piece found by one of the construction workers. This was reported to the police, for correct disposal rather than recording.

During the National Eisteddfod itself, representatives of the Trust and Cadw held discussions with representatives of the National Eisteddfod management. It is hoped that as a result of these, archaeology will be taken into account as a material consideration in future years, even when construction does not go through the planning process.

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Gibson A 1995 'The Carreg Beuno prehistoric landscape' *Montgomeryshire Collections* **83** 41-58.

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## **GGAT 125 & GGAT 127 Glastir Polygons for Private Woodlands Data**

The work programme involved the assessment of 35,028 hectares of woodland divided into 10,103 woodland parcels within the Glamorgan-Gwent area. Each woodland area was assessed against the Historic Environment Record (HER), the 4 editions of early Ordnance Survey mapping, geo-referenced vertical aerial photography and 2m LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) data and polygons drawn where suitable. The project resulted in a total of 4,511 identified Historic Environment Features (HEFs), which are now afforded improved protection.

The selection of historic environment features to be drawn round were those that could reasonably be assumed will be manageable under Glastir – i.e. features that exist only in documentary sources, features that would leave no tangible context (such as casual finds), features that cannot be closely located or features that can be seen to have been totally removed (for example as shown by modern aerial photographs) were not drawn around. Each polygon was drawn to show the presumed extent of an historic environment feature or combination of features. From these, Glastir Management Areas were created following the criteria outlined in the Glastir Polygon Methodology which include no overlapping polygons, and no multiple polygons recorded as single objects in the Glastir Management Area table. A set of metadata was recorded for each polygon drawn. In addition to drawing the polygons, those features not already in the HER had basic records created for them.

The work was undertaken in two tranches each with a separate project number. The combined results and resulting Glastir Management Areas are set out below:

No. of woodland parcels assessed 10,103

No. of sites for which a polygon was drawn 2,514

No. of sites for which a point was drawn 1,997

Percentage of new HER sites Over 85%

Total number of HEFs identified 4,511

Final no. of new Glastir Management Areas produced 2,086



## **GGAT 126 Southeast Wales Military Aircraft Crash sites**

The Southeast Wales Military Aircraft Crash Sites Project was designed to attempt to compile accurate information relating to the location, percentages and survival of military crash sites within Southeast Wales. Aircraft crash sites are a tangible yet enigmatic reminder of the massive changes of the 20th century. They embody the futility of modern warfare and the potential for instant destruction while demonstrating the technological leaps seen in aviation during the course of the century and revealing the history of triumph and disaster, providing a memorial to the air crews and the stories behind the final flights of each aircraft.

The project arose from discussions at the Twentieth-Century Military Sites Working Group for Wales in 2009. Concerns had been raised by members of the group to this dwindling resource and the need to compile coherent, accurate information which could be used to address the information needs of a variety of interests including Heritage and Archaeological Planning Managers in delivering advice on designation, management, also to provide an enhanced ability for the Ministry of Defence to aid decision-making concerning responses to requests to recover aircraft. It was discussed that by compiling such a dataset there would also be an opportunity to monitor and protect the identified sites, that can be at risk from a number of factors, including unlicensed recovery operations.

The project aimed to promote a greater understanding of these remains and their importance and will aid in the development of a wider appreciation of their importance as focal points in the South Wales landscape with the intention that raised awareness and protection can be used as an impetus for alternative modes of activity, not solely excavation, and to educate groups and enthusiasts concerned with recovery that crash sites should be considered alongside any other archaeological site, for if the aircraft are regarded as archaeology it follows there is an ethical demand for best practice to be followed, with the recovery of the aircraft properly executed and archived to current professional standards as suggested by Huckfield (2005) and Brockman (2011).

The primary focus of the project was a database of downed aircraft provided by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales (RCAHMW) which had been augmented by The Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, this showed that from the 130 aircraft recorded within our area (a total of 41 different types of aircraft, in approximately 72 marks or versions) the largest percentage had crashed in the Bristol Channel, this possibly because almost all of our main airfields are located along the coastal belt.

Secondary investigation of the data revealed a number of rare aircraft, such as the Westland Whirlwind, which was a prototype low level fighter bomber with only two ever being produced. Also the Vickers Warwick MKV, for which there is no surviving examples and a Lockheed Hudson, which crashed 3 miles south of Gilfach Goch on 20 August 1941, with only a single aircraft still flying worldwide.

What was also interesting to note from the data was the large amount of bi-planes that were still in use with the RAF during the Second World War. These range from the Hawker Hind to the De-Havilland Queen Bee, one of which came down at Madeira bungalow, Parkmill, Gower.

### *Reference*

Brockman A 2011 *Proposals For The Conduct Of Future Archaeological Investigations Of Aircraft Crash Sites Based On The Excavation Of The Crash Site Of Spitfire X4273 In Woolwich South East London*. (Unpublished report)

Huckfield PW 2005 *Recovery of Spitfire P7504. Maerdy Newydd, Bonvilston, Vale of Glamorgan*. GGAT (Unpublished report).

## GGAT 128 Cwm Nash Cemetery Monkash: geophysical and topographic survey

Cwm Nash lies on the South Wales coast, 7km south of Bridgend, in the parish of Monkash, Vale of Glamorgan (NGR SS 9044 7020; Figure 1). The bedrock geology is composed of interbedded limestone and shales of the Porthkerry Formation (Lower Lias) overlain by scree deposits. This is cut by steep-sided valleys that contain significant tufa deposits laid down over the last 12,000 years. The small stream (Nash Brook) runs west from Monkash, before dropping into the deep valley of Cwm Nash. At its western extent the valley has been filled by a series of tufa deposits to a depth of 5m (Evans et al. 1978, 68). The sequence of these tufa deposits at Cwm Nash are important as they also contain the fossilised remains of land snails which provide a detailed record of the environmental and climatic history of the site (Evans et al 1978).



*Cwm Nash, Monkash Photometric Image. The grave cuts can be seen centre top*

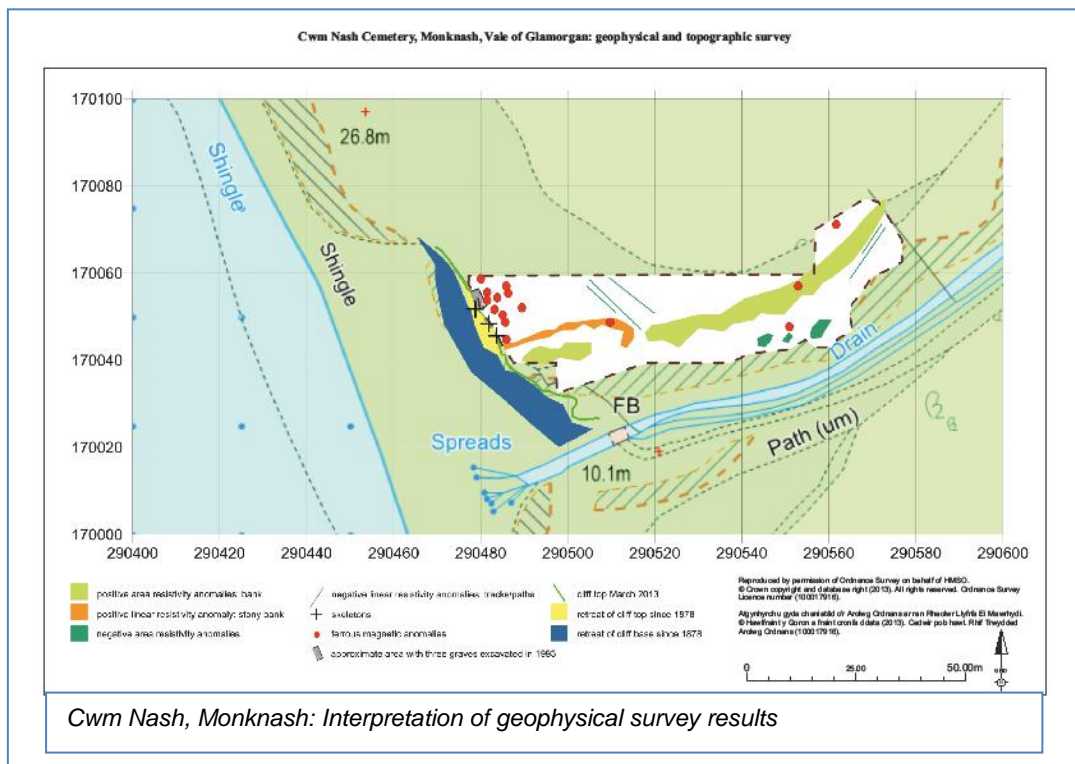
A number of reported incidents of human skeletal material being eroding out from the cliffs at Cwm Nash have already resulted in two response excavations (Locock 1993; Dunning and Bowen 2011). As further human remains have been noted, it was agreed that the Trust should undertake a geophysical survey of the area and to also conduct a baseline survey of the cliff edge. The geophysical survey included resistivity and magnetometry techniques and was undertaken in order to map the extent of the cemetery area whilst the baseline survey mapped the current line of the cliff to which future surveys could be compared and a rate of cliff erosion deduced. Together these data sets will assist a management plan for the site.

This project was deigned to be accessible to the public with opportunities to learn both geophysical and GPS survey techniques. TheTrust advertised the project to its robust voluntary group which included members of the Arfordir Coastal Heritage Group and to members of the public as a whole.

The topographic survey results show, in combination with map regression that in the area of the evidence for burials there has been rather little retreat of the cliff top during the last 130 years. The quality of the successive historical surveys and the accuracy of their registration, means that detailed estimates of retreat are not possible. However, it would appear that the majority of the observed retreat in the cliff top is since the survey published in c. 1920. However, that there has been a much greater rate of retreat of the foot of the cliff. Indeed, the historic surveys suggest that a sub-vertical cliff may be relatively modern, with a much gentler slope in the past, down which descended the main trackway along the terrace. The mapped foot of the slope appears to have retreated approximately 8m in the area of the burials – meaning that the topography has become very much steeper than it was historically. As with the retreat of the cliff top, the cartographic evidence suggests that this retreat has occurred since 1920 (with the same provisos as with the estimate of cliff top movement discussed above), with the trackway descending to the beach being indicated on OS maps as late as the 1970s. Overall, the survey and map regression study indicates that the erosion of the cliff has been substantially less than local anecdotal accounts might suggest. A maximum loss of 3.5 to 4m since 1920 seems indicated, with that loss concentrated in a small area near the burials and possibly in the area just north of the stream.

The geophysical survey was unable to provide detailed information as to the presence of any grave cuts in the survey area. Even the known grave cuts as seen from the cliff face were not imaged. This is most likely due to the very shallow nature of the cuts. These shallow cuts do not penetrate the underlying tufa by significant depths or widths to vary the conditions of the ground in suitable manner to be detected by the geophysical techniques. The most significant feature imaged by the geophysical survey is a small enclosure, bounded perhaps by a bank incorporating large rocks, adjoining the track and enclosing the area immediately above its descent to the beach. This does not lie on the break of slope in the obvious place for a boundary to the track itself, so its nature and age remain unclear. The known burials all lie outside this enclosure to the north. It can be deduced that the area of the burials was close to the edge of the terrace, where it sloped down to the beach, just outside a small enclosure of unknown origin. The area of the burials does not seem, itself, to have been enclosed.

The site would benefit from additional research to further identify the features revealed by the geophysical survey. As the stone boundary imaged by the geophysics is of unknown date and function it would be significantly informative to excavate an evaluation trench across this feature to ascertain dating and function evidence. To discover how this feature relates to the cemetery would be important in further understanding the site. If the feature is earlier than the burials then a



rationale for selecting this as a cemetery area may be illuminated. Contrastingly the enclosure may date to the WWII activity at the site and provide a platform for further evaluation trenches targeted over the other WWII features to find out the exact nature of the defences so that they can be added to the local and national record of WWII sites.

**References**

Dunning R and Bowen F 2012 *GGAT 115: Cwm Nash, Monkash, Vale of Glamorgan*.

Evans JG, French C and Leighton D 1978 "Habitat change in two Late-glacial and Post-glacial sites in southern Britain: the molluscan evidence" in Limbrey S and Evans JG (eds.) *The Effect of Man on the Landscape: the Lowland Zone, Council for British Archaeology Research Report 21* 63-74.

Locock M 1993 *Excavations at Cwm Nash, Monkash, South Glamorgan GGAT report No. 93/068*.

## REVIEW OF CADW PROJECTS APRIL 2013 — SEPTEMBER 2013

### GGAT 103 Morgannwg-Gwent Arfodir

In the fourth year of work, the project has concentrated on strengthening the existing groups; they have continued to be supported, with site visits and meetings to discuss potential sites for follow-up work and future priorities for monitoring. In addition to guided walks a monument training day was undertaken with the Vale of Glamorgan groups in response to volunteer feedback from the third year. This day was successful with a range of earthwork sites assessed, with volunteers gaining confidence in their fieldwork skills. The groups have continued to be active, regularly undertaking fieldwork and monitoring visits and continuing to return completed recording forms. These are entered into the project database as they are received, and, where possible, polygons of the sites are drawn in MapInfo.

Further guided walks have been conducted to target specific sites, some of which are unrecorded in the Historic Environment Record (HER) with the aim that this will provide the groups with an incentive to return to the sites to conduct independent survey work.

The project has had a presence at events within the Vale of Glamorgan and an article was written for the Wick monthly newsletter which promoted the work that the project has completed to date within the Vale of Glamorgan area.



*Volunteer group making an initial assessment of the site of Sheeplays Barn, Tresilian, Vale of Glamorgan previously unrecorded on the Historic Environment Record*

In addition to the fieldwork implemented one volunteer from the year 3 study area came for a month long work placement at the Trust, where she received training from the Arfodir Co-ordinator in entering Arfodir sites into the Historic Environment Record, this also included work on archiving and uploading photographs.

Updates to the website which include an update to the design, gallery and to the downloadable resources have been planned and have mostly been implemented with outstanding work planned to be completed soon. The Arfodir Facebook page is steadily increasingly in popularity, with a growth in interest from members of the general public who have been commenting on and liking recent posts about the fieldwork undertaking as part of the project.

Again, volunteer engagement has been widespread, the verbal and written feedback on the work of the project to date has been very positive, while the ongoing commitment of volunteers and the sustainability of the project has been demonstrated by the extent of independent survey work conducted by volunteers.

## **GGAT 118 Accessing Archaeological Planning Management Derived Data**

This project is designed to enhance the Historic Environment Record (HER) with information from grey literature reports, resulting from the planning process, to improve access to the resource and facilitate the role of archaeological planning and wider research in the archaeology of Southeast Wales. Paper sources will also be digitised to approved standards to aid their preservation.

Through the use of volunteers, the Trust intends to enable members of the local community, community groups, history groups and local university students to learn more about the HER and general archaeology of South Wales, and provide them with the knowledge of how archaeology is factored into the planning process, as well as transferable IT and cartographic skills.

The HER and Archaeological Planning staff are training the volunteers and providing them with the skills and knowledge to enable them to update/edit existing sites or add new sites and archaeological events to the HER, how to search and retrieve information from the HER and its use as a research tool. It is intended that through this project, raised awareness of available archaeological resources, such as the HER, will be created and spread throughout the wider community. In turn, awareness of the importance of the archaeological resource of Wales, both in situ and that preserved through record will be promoted. This task was identified as of High Priority in the 2010 Historic Environment Record Audit.

This is the second year of a longer-term project, to see the entire Historic Environment Record grey literature archive backlog added to the Historic Environment Record and digitised. This year focused on the recruitment of volunteers aged between 18 and 30 to raise the number of volunteers at the Trusts from this demographic profile.

Volunteer recruitment material was produced in May. This included the following elements; advertisement leaflet, updates to the existing project microsite <http://accesstoarchaeology.blogspot.co.uk/>, new application pack and additional details of the project. Ten volunteers applied by the set deadline in June and since then a number of other people have enquired about the project and five were placed on a reserve list. As a consequence of withdrawals and replacements the current total stands at ten. The project microsite is designed to run throughout the project and amongst other things allows participants to record their experiences. During July and August student placements at the Trust also had the opportunity to work briefly on the project. Seven students spent a total of sixty hours on the project.

The work programme in the current year involves the assessment of 421 reports held in the HER report archive dating between 1995 and 1998 (inclusive). The assessment involves determining whether; the reports contain material that would be recorded as an Event record in the HER, the information has already been recorded on the HER as an Event, and the information recorded in the reports has been recorded as Core (site) records in the HER. All relevant information which has not already been recorded on the HER is then recorded, previously existing records are checked for accuracy and completeness and the necessary relationship links between Core, Events, Artefacts and Bibliographic records are made.

So far (up to end of August 2013), a total of 25.5 volunteer days have been contributed to the project. One-to-one training has been carried out with each volunteer and the provision of staff support is continuously on-going as and when required. The figures below detail the results of the assessment to date of 158 reports in the project database.

- Reports that are only bibliographic references to an event: 6

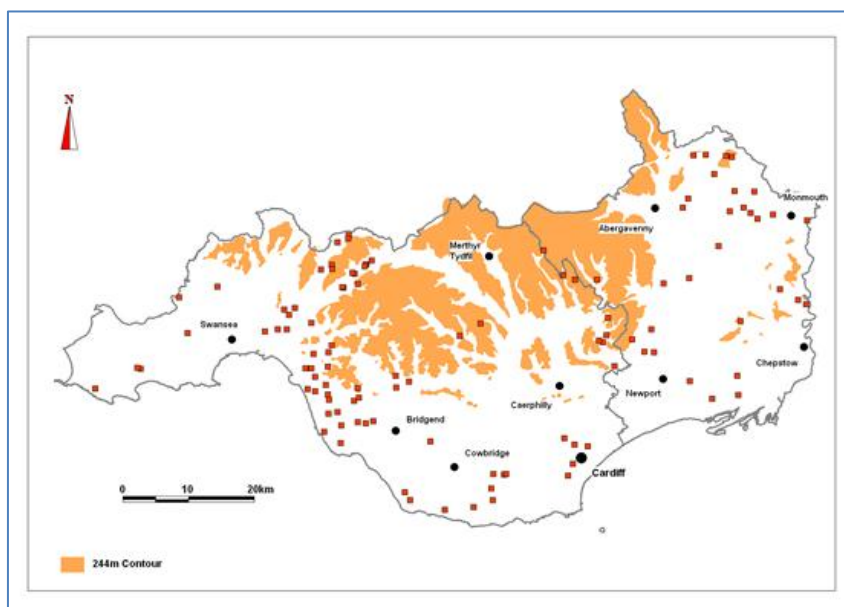


- ❑ Duplicate reports: 8
- ❑ Reports where all information had already been added to the HER: 0
- ❑ Reports that had been superseded or revised by a later version: 0
- ❑ Reports that lie outside the coverage area of GGAT's HER: 4
- ❑ Reports that do not constitute an Event record in the HER: 6
- ❑ Reports that are temporarily unavailable or missing from their boxes: 1
- ❑ Reports requiring information to be added to the HER: 123
- ❑ From the 123 reports requiring information to be added to the HER, the following figures relate:
  - ❑ Number of new Event records created: 115
  - ❑ Number of new Core records created: 12
  - ❑ Number of new Artefact records: 371
  - ❑ Number of edits to existing Event/Core records: over 700
  - ❑ Number of Event areas added to MapInfo: 82
  - ❑ Number of PDFs created: 11
  - ❑ Number of records quality assured and approved: c88% of 123 reports assessed so far (initial quality assurance has been undertaken as each record is finished, more thorough quality assurance has been undertaken at the end of every month).

### **GGAT 129 Southeast Wales Medieval and Early Post-medieval Sites (c AD1100-AD1750): Cistercian Granges of Glamorgan and Gwent**

An initial desktop appraisal of 113 medieval monastic granges and related sites for Glamorgan and Gwent, using HER data, NMR data, and other appropriate sources, has been undertaken; this identified some 105 Cistercian sites, which were taken forward and fully assessed.

The desk-top assessment utilised HER data, NMR data, and other appropriate sources (e.g. Williams 1990 & 2001). Initially 49 sites were potentially identified for field visits, though on further analysis this was subsequently reduced to a final list of 35 sites worthy of a site visit. To this end



Land Registry searches have been commenced to identify landowners, so that access permission can be arranged. Visits to sites, not requiring landowner permission, have been progressed and 15 sites have been visited, though not all were found to be accessible. It is intended that the remaining field visits will be undertaken during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the current financial year.

*Medieval and Early Post-Medieval Cistercian Granges: Historic Environment Sites appraised*

Following completion of the field visits a

general report will be compiled with updated descriptions of all sites, and condition / significance information, and recommendations for protection (i.e. scheduling) will be included in a separate report.

To date the following tasks have been completed:

- ❑ Assembling of site dossiers (digital & paper data).
- ❑ Initial desktop appraisal utilising the HER and secondary sources.
- ❑ Site visit selection.
- ❑ Consultation of the NMR (RCAHMW) to check for further information on sites, where lacking in HER.
- ❑ Initial site polygon preparation (to be revised following field visits, where necessary).

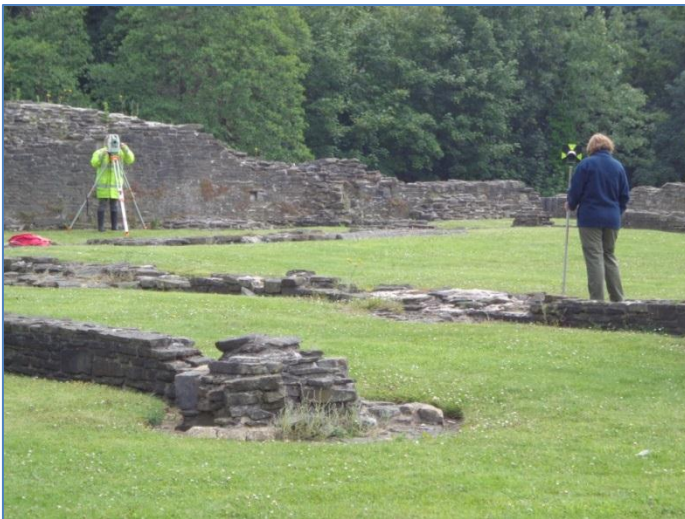
### References

Williams DH 1990 *Atlas of Cistercian Lands in Wales*

Williams DH 2001 *The Welsh Cistercians*

## GGAT 131 Survey and Building analysis at Neath Abbey

The fieldwork for this project took place in June, with volunteers from Swansea University and Neath Antiquarian Society, and a small group of archaeology undergraduates carrying out a work experience placement with the Trust as part of their course. The procedures used in studying the abbey buildings differed somewhat from the planned programme, as Swansea University's IT staff were not prepared to allow students to use the scanning equipment, and therefore all the scanning had to be carried out by the lecturer involved in the project, and largely after the fieldwork had been completed. All the observations were therefore made on the ground. An additional activity was the drawing of as much of the architectural detail as possible, since it became apparent during the fieldwork that this survived well enough to be considered as crucial in understanding structural development.



*Neath Abbey EDM Survey*

Archive photography was less helpful than had been hoped. Neath Antiquarian Society made available the archive of photographs from the site clearance in the 1930s, but documentation of the various parts of the abbey complex was vary variable, with most of the interest concentrated on the church: there was nothing that recorded any of the industrial fittings. Two photographs were made available by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales (RCAHMW) from the Britain from Above project, neither of which was helpful in documenting industrial use. Difficulties were encountered with regard to instituting the schools

programme, as none of the local schools contacted made any response. During the fieldwork stage of the project, a group from a primary school in Skewen visited the site, subsequently our Community Archaeology Training Placement took a more detailed session at the school.



## **FUTURE PROGRAMME OCTOBER 2013 — MARCH 2014**

### **GGAT 1 Regional Heritage Management Services**

The Heritage Management Section of the Trust will continue its regional remit to provide wide-ranging and detailed archaeological heritage management and outreach services, based on the agreed services provision. This will include the provision of Historic Environment Record information and advice to enquirers and initiatives to increase our outreach to the general public. Detailed statistical information will continue to be provided to Cadw in our regular monitoring reports.

In the forthcoming half year specifically, the Heritage Section will:

- ❑ Attend Twentieth Century Military Seminars;
- ❑ Arrange thirteenth Regional Heritage Forum;
- ❑ Provide further assistance with the development of Glastir if required.

### **GGAT 100 Regional Outreach Service**

During the second half of the year we will:

- ❑ Meet with representatives in our twelve unitary authorities to discuss how the Trust can work with them in delivering archaeological outreach to their local communities (through for example better links with County Voluntary Organisations or Voluntary Services and Communities First;
- ❑ Promote existing exhibitions and leaflets to a wider audience.
- ❑ Upgrade information provided on the Trust website. New project information, covering work carried out for Cadw in 2010—11, will be provided in the Half-Yearly Review section of the Cadw pages;
- ❑ Devise, and post on the Trust's web site, pages devoted to major excavations that have been carried out during the first 25 years of the Trust's existence;
- ❑ Provide initial response advice to enquiries about possible Community Archaeology projects, which will be delivered with the assistance of our HLF community archaeologist post.

### **GGAT 103 Morgannwg-Gwent Arfodir**

All seven established groups will continue to be supported. The two new groups will be given specific training. Further fieldwork will continue and return data and completed survey forms will be entered into the Historic Environment Record, with sites created as polygons where possible. A project report will be produced.

The project will now focus on the sustainability of the groups after the formal end of the project. Meetings are currently being set up with each of the groups to discuss strategies for forward planning with regards to maintaining the groups and continuation of their fieldwork. There are plans to demonstrate the new Archwilio app ([https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=mobi.cemas.archwilio&hl=en\\_GB](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=mobi.cemas.archwilio&hl=en_GB)) in these meetings and it is hoped that volunteers will utilise the app whilst conducting their fieldwork.

### **GGAT 118 Accessing Archaeological Planning Management Derived Data**

The current project will be brought to completion during the fourth quarter. Remaining tasks entail: the assessment of a further 261 reports under the criteria identified, addition of further information to the Historic Environment (HER) based on the results of this assessment, addition of the

remaining Event areas to MapInfo and the creation of PDFs for all Trust reports, and those of third party depositors who give assent, as well as on-going support and quality assurance checks. A final report will also be produced at the end of the project.

### **GGAT 129 Southeast Wales Medieval and Early Post-medieval Sites (c AD1100-AD1750): Cistercian Granges of Glamorgan and Gwent (GGAT 129)**

Work in the second half of the year will comprise the completion of field visits to c40-50 granges (including a small sample of Scheduled Ancient Monuments for comparative purposes) to assess condition/significance and the updating of related digital data including integration into the Historic Environment Record and the production of polygonic interest boundaries.

This will be followed by the production of a short action report including details of assessment, fieldwork and a site gazetteer and the production of a separate annex to report any future protection recommendations.

### **GGAT 130 Southeast Wales and the First World War**

Work is not due to begin on this project until September.

Report will be made against key identified tasks in the work program :-

- Review and Oversight.
- Desktop appraisal utilising the Historic Environment Record (HER) and secondary sources.
- Consultation of the National Monuments Record (NMR) to check for further information on sites, where lacking in HER.
- Identification from documents and historic mapping of potential new sites within the project area.
- Site visits to ascertain extent and condition of surviving remains.
- Creation of written and photographic inventory of surviving remains.
- Evaluation of remains to determine their importance in both a regional and national perspective.
- Preparation of reports.
- Preparation of popular version of results for dissemination via the Trusts website, its Discovery and Learning publication, and a 'Introducing the Physical Remains of the First World War' leaflet covering work undertaken across all four Welsh Archaeological Trusts.
- Mounting website pages.
- Historic Environment Record outputs and integration of new data.

### **GGAT 131 Survey and Building analysis at Neath Abbey**

The outstanding tasks to complete in the second half of the year are:

- Stitch together the photos to form elevations of complete walls and prepare 3D Model
- Prepare grey literature report, incorporating reports produced by teams.
- Give public presentations on the results of the work.

## CADW-FUNDED SCIENTIFIC CONTRACTS

There was no requirement for any draw down advice and support as available under these arrangements.

### POST-EXCAVATION AND PUBLICATION REVIEW

Post-excavation work in respect of minor investigations at Neath has been completed and will be incorporated into the report on the excavations that took place between 2010 and 2012 in due course.

The database of all 'grey' literature reports produced for Cadw has been maintained. In the past year the reports listed below have been produced.

Bowden R *GGAT 103 Arfordir Coastal Heritage 2012-2013* GGAT Report No **2013/022**

Evans EM *Rock art in Southeast Wales: Gelligaer Community Prehistoric Rock Art Survey* GGAT Report No **2013/018**

Hart R *GGAT 128: Cwm Nash Cemetery, Monknash, Vale of Glamorgan: geophysical and topographic survey* GGAT Report No **2013/029**

Huckfield P *GGAT 112: Second World War Military Airfields of South Wales: Year 2-Airfield Hinterland* GGAT Report No **2013/024**

Huckfield P *Site of the National Eisteddfod 2012, Llandow, Vale of Glamorgan: Archaeological watching brief and geophysical survey* GGAT Report No **2012/063**

Huckfield P *Land belonging to the former RAF Llandow, Vale of Glamorgan archaeological watching brief and geophysical survey* GGAT Report No **2012/064**

Roberts R *GGAT 119: Windmills in Glamorgan and Gwent* GGAT Report No **2013/002**

Roberts R *GGAT 120: Early Extraction in Glamorgan and Gwent* GGAT Report No **2013/003**

Roberts R *GGAT 121: Iron Production - Forges in Glamorgan and Gwent* GGAT Report No **2013/004**

Pamment, SP *Monastic Margam Community Survey Project* GGAT Report No **2013/020**

Tuck M *GGAT 122 Nidum - Neath Roman fort and environs* GGAT Report No **2013/013**

### POSSIBLE PROJECTS FOR CONTINGENCY FUNDING AND 2014 — 2015 OUTLINE PROJECT PROPOSALS

These have been presented in separate documents.

## **APPENDIX 1 — Review of the delivery of Welsh Government Objectives**

In our project proposals for 2012—2013 we set out how these would amongst other things address certain Welsh Government objectives and more particularly help deliver some of the objectives of the Strategic Statement for the Historic Environment in Wales, and in doing both things benefit the populace of Southeast Wales. Following completion of the works we now briefly review achievement against the wider agenda and provide more detail in regard to specific Historic Environment objectives.

The programme has allowed skilled graduate professional Historic Environment staff to be retained in Southeast Wales. The work carried out by these staff generates other archaeological and related employment whether by the Trust or other organisations. It is difficult to calculate how many full and part time jobs were created or sustained by the planning process, but it is estimated that excavations and other investigations carried out by archaeological organisations, both large and small, across the region resulted in the generation of the equivalent of 30-50 full time jobs. Graduates, sometimes with further degrees or additional professional qualifications, hold the majority of these jobs, but the profession is open to non-academic entry routes.

For some areas of work whilst connections with high-level strategies are apparent measurement of total impact is more difficult given the consultation advisory communication pathways. This is particularly true for our Heritage Management services project. Certainly, the partnerships developed and sustained with national government and local government have contributed to the protection and understanding of more local heritage and could be said to contribute to the development of a 'Strong and Confident Nation'. The partnerships that we have developed and sustained with government bodies at local and national level, third sector organisations and private sector bodies can also be seen to be assisting in the delivery of objectives for 'a prosperous society'.

Our Outreach project and certain of our community driven projects clearly assist the 'Learning for Life' agenda by supplying information on the historic environment to communities and individual members of the public, and assisting them to develop skills that not only help them to research the history and archaeology of their areas but can improve their life-experiences. This has been assisted by deriving funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund through the Council of British Archaeology which has allowed the employment and workplace learning training of Community Archaeologists over the past three years. This resource ceases in October 2013 and, with no alternative replacement, and also potential reduction in related government funding, our capacity to deliver these agendas will be greatly reduced. Our Arfordir project is also at the same time raising awareness of climate change issues and impacts. The agenda is also supported by our works in imparting knowledge through booklets, lectures, exhibitions and web-based applications and providing opportunities for volunteers to experience archaeological exploration. By integrating professional staff, volunteers, students and academics through common interest cross-social strata bonding and synergies were enhanced.

For planning works measurement is clearer, thus in 2012—2013 there were 81 cases where additional information on the archaeological resource was required by the Local Planning Authority and 323 recommendations that planning consents only be issued with conditions requiring archaeological work to be undertaken during the development. Detailed information on the impact of proposed development on the archaeological resource was considered on 1,121 applications. The additional information and detailed information requirements were at the same level as in preceding years. Our Archaeological Planning Management Service has been assisting all the Unitary Authorities in the Region with the development of their Local Development Plans ensuring that the historic environment is fully considered in the preparation of the Local Development Plans and that an appropriate Strategic Environmental Assessment is

carried out. The results of this work will not be fully recognised until the Local Development Plans have been adopted and implemented.

In promoting a rich and diverse culture the Trust has continued to contribute to raise awareness of the wealth of historic landscapes and archaeology in our area. Our dissemination is commensurate with many Welsh Government commitments through developing, or indeed re-invigorating a sense of place. Wales benefits from high quality landscapes and a wealth of archaeological sites and historic monuments. Preserving and enhancing this quality is important for Wales to be a place where people choose to live and work. Our monument assessment works support the provision of landscape wide data in both rural semi-rural and urban context and allow authoritative statements to be made on the distinctiveness of South Wales as a region.



*Strategic Statement for the Historic Environment for Wales*

The publication of the Strategic Statement for the Historic Environment for Wales with supporting action plans linked to the delivery of cross-sector objectives for the betterment of Wales and its inhabitants has allowed us to focus particular achievement reporting against the declared statement aims. Whilst there has been a change of administration since the Strategic Statement, and a new Statement published in 2013, this report is against the earlier Statement as the projects in this review were designed to support delivery of some of the goals in the detailed action plan underlying *that* Statement. These are summarised in the following table.

Objectives	Targets (where specified)	GGAT Actions
<p>Conserving and protecting our historic environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="495 596 819 699">□ Delivery of its object of educating the public in archaeology</li> <li data-bbox="495 801 819 935">□ Supporting the development of the Glamorgan-Gwent HER Charitable Trust</li> <li data-bbox="495 1082 819 1184">□ Archaeological Planning and Heritage Management Works</li> </ul>	<p>We have continued to deliver our object and reported on achievements against our agreed forward strategy (see <a href="http://www.ggat.org.uk/about_us/company%20documents/2012-2013%20Forward%20Strategy%20Review.pdf">http://www.ggat.org.uk/about_us/company%20documents/2012-2013%20Forward%20Strategy%20Review.pdf</a>).</p> <p>In doing this we have also supported the development of the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust both in-kind and through provision of services and management costs.</p> <p>Our over-arching achievements in both the above and other respects are reported in the Trustees Report which has been prepared to satisfy the <i>Statement of Recommended Practice in Accounting and Reporting by Charities</i> (2005) and in due course will be available on line (cf <a href="http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/find-charities/">http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/find-charities/</a>). Given the scale of our operations A Charity Supplementary Information Return will also be submitted before the end of the 2013—2014 financial year.</p> <p>We have continued to maintain effective Archaeological Planning and Heritage Management Services through partnership with Cadw, the 12 Unitary Authorities in Southeast Wales and the Brecon Beacons National Park. Alongside routine case work and strategic planning development works, we have started to integrate the GGAT Historic Environment Record more fully with some planning authorities, have supported the further development of the Glastir agri-environment scheme and have invested in the further development of the GGATHMS (GGAT Heritage Management System) - the digital element of the GGAT Historic Environment Record which allows both off-site and on-line operability – and the improvements to the storage of paper and photographic archives.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="495 703 824 836">□ Identifying sites and monuments for protection through threat-led assessments</li>   <li data-bbox="495 938 835 1145">□ Improving learning and understanding about the importance of the historic environment through public engagement</li> </ul>	<p data-bbox="862 220 2042 635">Amongst other things we responded to the inquiry by the Communities Equality and Local Government Committee of the Welsh Assembly into Welsh Government’s historic environment policy (<a href="http://www.senedd.assemblywales.org/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?lId=3978&amp;Opt=0">http://www.senedd.assemblywales.org/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?lId=3978&amp;Opt=0</a>) and have supported and contributed to consultations led by Cadw in respect of the proposed Welsh Heritage Bill, particularly in respect of the provision of Historic Environment Conservation Services (<a href="http://cadw.wales.gov.uk/docs/cadw/publications/Heritage_Bill_for_Wales_Local_Authority_Conservation_Services.pdf">http://cadw.wales.gov.uk/docs/cadw/publications/Heritage_Bill_for_Wales_Local_Authority_Conservation_Services.pdf</a>), and by the Institute for Archaeologists into the development of further professional Standards and Guidance, and in particular the development of such guidance for advice by Historic Environment Services (<a href="http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/lfASG-Archaeological-advice-final.pdf">http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/lfASG-Archaeological-advice-final.pdf</a>) and for commissioning work on, or providing consultancy advice on, archaeology and the historic environment (<a href="http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/lfASG-Commissioning-final.pdf">http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/node-files/lfASG-Commissioning-final.pdf</a>).</p> <p data-bbox="862 708 2042 810">We have undertaken specific programmes to review monuments of medieval and early post-medieval origin and also related to the airfields created during World War II with a view to identifying those that needed better protection.</p> <p data-bbox="862 938 2020 1248">The Trust raised awareness of the Historic Environment through advocacy. It provided advice to a wide range of regulatory and non-regulatory bodies on a range of matters pertinent to the Historic Environment. The Trust continued to deliver its specific outreach goals for 2011—2015 and in particular enhanced its community archaeology provision. The Trust looked at ways of developing communications links. The website content was increased and modifications were made to the contact us, community pages, and publications pages, a range of news items were published via blogger and wordpress. With our own resources and in collaboration with the other Welsh Archaeological Trusts we have supported the development of an app that will allow smartphone access to the online portal (<i>Archwilio</i>) to the Welsh Historic Environment Records.</p>
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<p>Regeneration and sustainable development through heritage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="495 328 831 533">□ Maintaining effective curatorial services peopled with historic environment specialists to facilitate best practice</li>   <li data-bbox="495 767 831 971">□ Maintaining and enhancing effective records of Heritage Assets, whether scheduled or unscheduled</li>   <li data-bbox="495 1075 831 1134">□ Supporting characterization works</li> </ul>	<p>The Trust has continued to maintain an effective curatorial service for the area covered by the former counties of Glamorgan and Gwent. The service is split into three sections Archaeological Planning Management, Historic Environment Record, Heritage Management. The lead officer in each of these sections is full Member of the Institute for Archaeologists and in our Archaeological Planning Management section all the officers are full Members of the Institute. As noted above senior staff at the Trust have made contributions towards the development of the Institute's Standard and Guidance documents. The Trust is also an organisation entered on the Institute's Register of Organisations (No 15) and at its last inspection in 2011 passed without conditions or recommendations for improvement. This was reiterated early in 2013.</p> <p>The Historic Environment Record under the joint Welsh Archaeological Trusts' branding Archwilio (<a href="http://www.archwilio.org.uk/">http://www.archwilio.org.uk/</a>) was enhanced with new information and a module to support the uploading of grey literature reports developed. Our Access to Archaeology project has started to allow us to start populating the Historic Environment Record with 'grey literature reports (there are more than two thousand such reports in our archive) with each of these linked to the various sites that they cover. The work is not only improving our record but as it is also dependent on volunteers is allowing both public engagement and up-skilling, as well as knowledge improvements.</p> <p>No historic landscape characterisation work has been undertaken, although future opportunities for such works to be undertaken in partnership with Local Authorities is possible. We continue to await the long promised methodology for Urban Characterisation in Wales.</p>
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<p>Public Access, appreciation and enjoyment of the historic environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> General delivery of its object of educating the public in archaeology</li>   <li><input type="checkbox"/> Specific measures as for example detailed in our Outreach project</li>   <li><input type="checkbox"/> Specific programs of public engagement as for example detailed in our Arfordir project</li> </ul>	<p>We have continued to deliver our object and reported on achievements against our agreed forward strategy (see <a href="http://www.ggat.org.uk/about_us/company%20documents/2012-2013%20Forward%20Strategy%20Review.pdf">http://www.ggat.org.uk/about_us/company%20documents/2012-2013%20Forward%20Strategy%20Review.pdf</a>).</p> <p>The Trust arranged and carried out an outreach programme (see <a href="http://www.ggat.org.uk/education/english/outreachevents.html">http://www.ggat.org.uk/education/english/outreachevents.html</a>) including specific events linked to the Festival of British Archaeology (<a href="http://ggat.wordpress.com/2012/07/">http://ggat.wordpress.com/2012/07/</a>, <a href="http://ggatblog.blogspot.co.uk/2012/07/damp-but-not-disheartened.html?view=classic">http://ggatblog.blogspot.co.uk/2012/07/damp-but-not-disheartened.html?view=classic</a>) and attendance at the National Eisteddfod (<a href="http://ggat.wordpress.com/2012/08/">http://ggat.wordpress.com/2012/08/</a>, <a href="http://ggatblog.blogspot.co.uk/search/label/National%20Eisteddfod">http://ggatblog.blogspot.co.uk/search/label/National%20Eisteddfod</a>) and other collaborative events with Cadw (at Neath Abbey), and Caldicot Castle (Bronze age themed activities); the programme also included a series of guided walks. The Trust continued to deliver its specific outreach goals for 2011—2015 and in particular enhanced its community archaeology provision in part as a partner to the Council for British Archaeology Community Archaeologists Training scheme under the HLF Skills for the Future programme.</p> <p>A Community Archaeology project recorded remains at Margam Abbey. The third strand of the Arfordir project has been successfully carried out with over 50 volunteers recruited and trained, a number of new sites have been discovered on the Gower littoral, Swansea Bay and around Kenfig and Merthyr Mawr and erosion monitored (cf <a href="http://www.ggat.org.uk/arfordir/index.html">http://www.ggat.org.uk/arfordir/index.html</a>).</p>
<p>Research and scholarship</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Facilitating access to data that we hold to members of the public, students, and other researchers</li> </ul>	<p>The Trust continued to encourage, support and assist investigation and research into the historic environment in Southeast Wales. Staff provided professional training and gave advice to archaeological contractors and others undertaking investigations in Southeast Wales. The Trust enhanced and maintained the regional Historic Environment Record and distributed record data and supplementary information on enquiry.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Undertaking specific programs of study: current priorities are the assessment of Medieval and early-Post-Medieval heritage assets and WWII heritage assets</li> <li>□ Our projects are designed to assist delivery of priorities identified in the Welsh Archaeological Research Framework.</li> </ul>	<p>The Trust carried out regional wide monument, historic landscape and other surveys. The work was focussed on the current priorities, with detailed work carried out in respect of Medieval and early post-medieval Watermills, Forges and Extraction Sites, and the assessment of remains in the environs of WWII Airfields and Crash Sites.</p> <p>We continued to support where possible delivery of priorities identified in the Welsh Archaeological Research Framework.</p>
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