

EXPLORATION TYWI!

DAN YR ALLT, LLANGADOG

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION 2009



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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

SUMMARY

As part of an ongoing project Exploration Tywi! investigating the Tywi valley, a series of week-long archaeological evaluations were proposed at various locations. This evaluation was undertaken on the site of a lost mansion house known as Dan yr Allt, near Llangadog, Carmarthenshire (NGR SN 6938 2641).

The mansion house is believed to have stood in this location since the 16th century and possibly earlier, until its destruction in the 1840s. No trace of the mansion now survives, although former associated farm buildings and garden features do still exist, as does a small complex of structures that may have been associated.

Dyfed Archaeological Trust undertook this evaluation with the assistance of local volunteers. A geophysical survey was undertaken followed by five trial trenches, hand excavated in order to assess the character and extent of significant archaeological features and deposits on the site. A detailed topographical survey and scheme of photographic building recording was also undertaken.

The likely location of the former mansion site was identified through map regression work and topographical survey on a level platform c.25m to the east of the current farm buildings. No clear evidence of the mansion was revealed on the geophysical survey and two trenches excavated on the site failed to reveal definite remains of the mansion. Remnants of a demolition layer and fragments of stone tiles and late post-medieval finds were recorded in the trenches that may be associated with the former mansion. It would appear that the mid 19th demolition and the recent construction of a farm trackway have resulted in the substantial destruction of any evidence for the mansion on the site.

The geophysical survey indicated the possible location of former mansion outbuildings on the hill to the east, but upon excavation this proved to be an area of modern disturbance with the former outbuildings possibly lying further to the east.

A series of small extant stone-built structures were examined and recorded, located in the probable area of the former mansion house. These structures appear to have been used as storage and a possible toilet block, and also apparently as sheep pens at a later point in their history. It is unclear if these rooms were originally part of the mansion house or later additions to the site following the demolition of the mansion.

The geophysical survey revealed a possible straight-sided ditched enclosure on the hillside above the mansion site. A trench opened across this site revealed one U-shaped ditch. No finds were recovered so it unfortunately remains undated, but a lack of post-medieval finds, that were common elsewhere, and its occurrence relatively low in the soil sequence, suggests this enclosure may date to an earlier period in the history of the mansion, or even predate the 16th century mansion.

INTRODUCTION

Project Commission

As part of the Exploration Tywi! Project Dyfed Archaeological Trust undertook a series of week-long evaluations on archaeological sites within the project study area. This evaluation examined the site of a lost mansion house known as Dan yr Allt, near Llangadog, Carmarthenshire (NGR SN 6938 2641).

Exploration Tywi is part of the Tywi a River Through Time Landscape Partnership Project focusing on the middle reaches of the Tywi valley between Llangadog and Dryslwyn. The four main project partners are Carmarthenshire County Council, National Trust, Countryside Council for Wales and Menter Bro Dinefwr. The project has secured £2.4 million from Heritage Lottery Fund, Rural Development Plan, Welsh Assembly Government, Countryside Council for Wales and National Trust.

Scope of the Project

The evaluation has been designed to provide information on the character, extent, date, state of preservation and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the site area. The results of the evaluation will be used to inform the scope of any further archaeological works.

Report Outline

This report describes the location of the site along with its archaeological background before summarising the evaluation results and the conclusions based on those results.

Abbreviations

Sites recorded on the Regional Historic Environment Record (HER¹) are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR). Geophysical survey readings are measured in nanoTesla (nT).

SAM - Scheduled Ancient Monuments
NW – northwest
NE – northeast
SW – southwest
SE – southeast

Illustrations

Photographic images are to be found at the back of the report. Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale.

Acknowledgements

Several enthusiastic local volunteers undertook the excavation under the supervision of P Poucher and R Jones of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust. Trust staff and the volunteers would like to express their gratitude to Mr Williams for allowing the excavation on their land and for their assistance during the excavation.

¹ Held and managed by Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Shire Hall, Llandeilo.

THE SITE

Location

The former mansion of Dan yr Allt lies at the eastern edge of the Tywi valley floodplain, c.2.3km to the southwest of Llangadog (NGR SN 6938 2641). The current buildings of Dolau Farm and Dan yr Allt farmhouse are located on the edge of the low-lying ground with a slight step up onto a platform roughly 25m wide, on which the former mansion house is believed to have stood. The ground then rises sharply to the east before levelling off once more offering a further platform before eventually rising through the wooded slopes of Long Wood onto a ridge.

The field is currently under pasture with areas of scrub, occasional single and groups of mature trees. These suggest remnants of a former parkland landscape. The fields are bounded to the north and east by woodland and to the west by hedgerows and fences fronting the lane to Dolau Farm. A modern wire fence bisects the site and a hardcore farm track crosses from north to south.

Other than the relatively level platforms, no earthwork remains of the former mansion house still stand. A series of small mortared masonry structures do lie along the western boundary, although their age and function have yet to be verified. Some former farm buildings of the mansion still exist to the west, now incorporated into Dolau Farm and the Dan yr Allt farmhouse.

Archaeological Background

A detailed history of Dan yr Allt is provided by Francis Jones (1972), and the following is a brief summary based on that article. The mansion (PRN 11986) is first recorded in 1597 under the name Alltymeibion but may already have been occupied by the Lloyd family in the earlier 16th century. By 1628 the mansion is being referred to as Dan yr Allt and it remained in the Lloyd family until 1795 when the final member of the Lloyd family (William Lloyd, Admiral of the White) left it to his cousin's family, the Stepneys. A later account (H R Lloyd - see below) mentions how the adjoining stable and coach house to the west were built in the mid 18th century, at which point a ruinous old mansion called Dol y Cadno which lay nearby in a field to the southwest (called Cae Dafydd Ddu) was pulled down. A barn with an attached square dovecote tower stood on the hill to the east above the mansion, and this already appears to be described as old in the mid 18th century.

The Stepney family owned Dan yr Allt until 1825, but did not live in the house, leasing it to a farmer. The house became somewhat run down in this time, requiring some repair towards the end of their ownership. The house then passed into the hands of another Lloyd family, and the subsequent owner, John William Lloyd, also did not live in the mansion, leaving it in the hands of the tenant farmer and the estate in the hands of an agent. During this period the house is described as 'nearly in ruins and hardly habitable' (Jones 1972, p99). John William's son, Henry Robert Lloyd became curate of Llangadog church in the 1830s and came to live at Dan yr Allt during which time he also wrote a history of the Lloyd family and drew sketches of the mansion house. He describes 'a very ancient structure' built partly in a Gothic style with many alterations. The rooms are mainly small and low, but with elaborately carved beams in the main hall, two large Elizabethan fireplaces and a chapel painted with blue with gold stars. His sister's memoirs at this time however describe this mansion as 'a rambling old place used for a great many years only as a farmhouse with very little of the original mansion standing'.

In 1839-40 Henry Robert Lloyd began to make considerable alterations to the house and outbuildings, but without the approval of his father (the owner) who subsequently demolished the house in 1840-41. A new house was built for the family elsewhere and Dan yr Allt mansion was never rebuilt. The outbuildings of the mansion stood both to the east and west, and these were apparently then converted into farm buildings for a new farmhouse (built to the west of the former mansion), constructed from the salvaged stone of the mansion. The new farmhouse can still be seen today (Dan yr Allt farmhouse).

The site of the mansion is recorded on the parish tithe map of 1839 (Figure 4), with the outline plan seeming to correspond to the sketches drawn by H R Lloyd (Figure 6). To the west on the other side of the track lies a U-shaped range of buildings and another single range. These buildings correspond closely to the current U-shaped range of farm buildings and Dan yr Allt farmhouse, which would suggest that at least parts of the Dan yr Allt farmhouse had been built prior to the demolition of the mansion. A further range of buildings is shown to the east of the mansion, these are presumably the old barn range and dovecote on the hill mentioned previously in H R Lloyd's notes.

By the time of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1887 the mansion house had gone, although the curving boundary wall and possible garden ponds can still be seen (Figure 5). The current Dan yr Allt farmhouse had been extended to its current size and a further farm building added to the complex to the west. The old barn on the hill to the east appears to be ruinous by this time, with only its eastern gable end marked on the map.

In recent years a hardcore farm track has been laid through this area, over the site of the mansion, with debris apparently dumped on the hill to the east. No upstanding remains of the mansion or the barn on the hill remain. Several small rooms have been built against the former boundary in the vicinity of the former mansion, but it is unclear if these are connected to the mansion or are later builds.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION METHODOLOGY AND RESULTS

Methodology

A geophysical survey was initially undertaken across some of the site in an attempt to positively identify remains of the mansion house and grounds (Figure 3).

The survey was undertaken using a fluxgate magnetometer (gradiometer). This detects variations in the earth's magnetic field. Readings were taken on traverses 1m wide and every 0.25m within a 20m x 20m grid across an area 60m². Processing was performed using *ArchaeoSurveyor 2*. The data is presented with a minimum of processing, but the presence of high values caused by underground services, large ferrous objects and wire fencing tends to hide fine details and obscure archaeological features, thus the values were 'clipped' to a range from 15nT to -15nT to remove the extreme values allowing the finer details to show through. During the survey various processes such as changes to instrument set-up, instrument drift, variations in orientation amongst others cause directional effects that are inherent to magnetometers that can produce 'striping' in the processed data, thus much of the survey was 'destriped'.

A total of five trenches of varying sizes were subsequently hand-excavated across the site (Figure 2). The trenches were positioned to investigate anomalies identified on the geophysical survey. This included the believed site of the former mansion house, an area of magnetic disturbance identified during the geophysical survey and possible ditches on the higher ground.

Results

Geophysical Survey (Figure 3)

The survey revealed a variety of features across the area surveyed but the presence of very strong magnetic readings confuses the results somewhat and hides some of the finer detail. On the lower ground, at the western end of the survey, a series of dipolar readings are recorded, these consist of positive anomalies (darker shades) with associated negative responses (lighter shades). Such strong responses are likely to be caused by ferrous objects, and are often revealed to be modern in origin. It is possible that amongst these readings are responses that are entirely positive in polarity, represented by darker shaded features with no adjoining negative responses. Such readings are often indicative of infilled cut features such as pits and ditches, although discrete features are difficult to pick out with any certainty in this area. These responses are located in what is assumed to be the former location of the mansion house and may therefore represent general demolition detritus, but as the area has also been disturbed by the construction of a modern trackway it is possible these responses may be modern in origin.

To the east located on higher ground is a series of numerous strong dipolar responses. Such strong responses are often indicators of spreads of ferrous debris. It was originally thought these responses may be associated with mansion outbuildings, but on investigation they appeared to be modern in origin and, according to local information, lay in an area of dumping created during the construction of the farm track.

To the south of this was a series of positive linear responses. As previously mentioned such responses are often indicative of infilled cut features, in this case they would appear to be infilled ditches. These possible ditches appeared to form one side of a possible enclosure and were investigated further through excavation (see below).

Excavation - Trench 1 (Photos 2 & 3)

This trench measured 6m by 2m and was positioned to investigate an area believed to be site of the former mansion. This location was determined by the position of the mansion as shown on the tithe map (Figure 4), relative to the still-existing farm buildings and boundary wall.

The topsoil (101), a mid grey-brown clayey-silt containing sub-angular stone and charcoal flecks, was removed by hand. The topsoil covered the entire trench to a maximum depth of 0.2m. Finds were sparse, but included some small fragments of 19th/20th century pottery and porcelain and fragments of stone roof tile.

Underlying the topsoil at the northern end of the trench was a layer of compacted sub-rounded stone (102), c.1m wide but with uncertain edges. Initially it was thought this may represent the remains of a pathway, but its location close to an animal water trough would suggest this is trample caused by animals congregating around the trough.

Under both 101 and 102 was a large compact stony layer (103) extending for at least 3.6m from the northern end of the trench and sloping gradually eastwards following the natural slope of the ground. This deposit may have extended further east but was disturbed by root action. A sondage was put through this deposit demonstrating it thinned to the east, which averaged 0.25m thick, but the base was not reached at the northern end. Intermixed with the stony soil were lenses of crushed coal but no finds. The coal lenses indicate the layer was purposefully deposited, possibly laid down as a hardcore base for a former trackway.

At the southern end of the trench was a 0.27m thick deposit of mid-brown, firm, sandy-clay (104) underlying the topsoil. This deposit was very similar to 103 but generally siltier with fewer stones. The relationship between 103 and 104 was obscured by root action. A sondage measuring 0.7m by 0.6m in the corner of this deposit showed it to be lying directly on the natural gravels. No finds were recovered.

Trench 2 (Photos 4 & 5)

Trench 2 measured 5m by 2m and was positioned to investigate an area believed to be the site of the former mansion. This location was determined by the position of the mansion as shown on the tithe map (Figure 4).

The topsoil (201) was found to be very similar in character to the topsoil recorded in Trench 1 (101). This overlay a layer (202) of light brown, firm, silty-clay with common small to medium stone inclusions. This deposit was spread throughout the trench, and contained some coal fragments and fragments of late post-medieval porcelain and pottery.

Towards the northern end of the trench, this overlay a deposit (203) of mid brown, friable, silty-clay with large angular stone inclusions and spreads of crumbly white lime-mortar. This would appear to represent a thin spread of demolition rubble extending into the trench from the east. The interface between 202 and 203 was not very distinct.

The removal of the looser demolition rubble (203) revealed the remains of a compacted stony surface (204) along the northeastern edge of the trench. This consisted of medium sub-rounded stone set into a mid brown silty-clay forming a hardened area extending 0.44m into the trench and running for 2m north-south, sloping slightly down to the north.

Adjacent to this surface was a small sub-square stake-hole void (205) 0.04m x 0.04m and 0.21m deep, set at a slight angle, leaning to the east. The stake hole lies at the western limit of the stony spread but no other stake- or post-holes were visible within the trench.

Trench 3 (Photos 6 & 7)

Trench 3 measured 4.5m by 2m and was positioned on the higher ground to the east to investigate an area of high dipolar readings identified by the geophysical survey (Figure 3). Originally it was thought this trench may be positioned in the area of the old barn shown on 19th century maps (Figures 4 – 5), but later map regression work proved this to be positioned further to the east.

The topsoil (301) in this area comprised a 0.4m thick deposit of mid reddish-brown friable silty-clay. This very clayey deposit was clearly modern as it contained a broken fencepost with nails, plastic, and a fragment of water pipe. Some late post-medieval glazed pottery, roughly dressed stone and pinkish concrete were also recovered. This would appear to be a dumped deposit, which according to local information was dumped during the construction of the modern hardcore track running along the bottom of the slope through the former site of the mansion.

Underneath the topsoil was a well-mixed layer (302) 0.35m thick of mid grey, firm, sandy-silt with abundant sub-angular stone and occasional charcoal and coal fragments. The presence of the coal and charcoal suggests this is also a dumped deposit, although no finds or building debris was recovered.

A 1.1m by 0.6m sondage demonstrated that layer 302 lay directly over an undisturbed subsoil (303) at that point. The subsoil consisted of a mid brown-grey clayey-silt with evidence of plant root action.

Trench 4 (Photos 8, 9 & 10)

Trench 4 measured 5m by 1.5m and was positioned over a possible double ditched enclosure revealed on the geophysical survey (Figure 3).

Unlike Trench 3 located 9m to the northeast, the topsoil (401) in trench 4 was more typical of the topsoil seen in Trenches 1 and 2, consisting of mid grey-brown clayey-silt, 0.2m thick.

Beneath this was a layer (402) 0.2m thick of mid brown, clayey-silt with abundant small sub-angular stones and the occasional charcoal fleck. No finds were recovered from layer 402.

At the western end of the trench, layer 402 appeared to fill an irregularly shaped cut (405). This measured 0.39m deep and 1.05m north-south. It had a steep, slightly convex southern edge, and a shallow, slightly concave northern edge and an irregular base. The irregular nature of this feature suggests it may be natural in origin, possibly a former tree bowl.

A 0.6m wide section was cut through layer 402, which revealed the remains of a ditch (404) beneath. The ditch measured 0.77m wide, 0.31m deep, and was aligned roughly north-south. It had steep straight sides and a concave base, appearing U-shaped in profile. Layer 402 filled the upper parts of the ditch but underlying this was a single fill (403). This fill was a mid orange-brown, clayey-silt with the occasional sub-angular stone and charcoal fleck inclusions. The interface with layer 402 was uncertain in areas, but it appeared to slope down to the east, suggesting the fill was tipped in from the west. This ditch corresponds with one of the ditches apparent on the geophysical survey; no other ditches were identified within the trench.

Building Recording (Photos 12 – 17)

Upstanding walls were visible along the western boundary to the site, extending into the field, forming three rooms, two of which were roofed. A small area, Trench 5, was excavated along the eastern edge of these rooms to remove built-up soil and rubble, and vegetation was cleared from around the structures. A photographic survey was undertaken of all visible wall faces and brief descriptions were made.

Room 1 was the northernmost room, measuring 3m east - west by 1.6m north - south, and 1.25m high from the level reached in Trench 5. The walls were built of large, roughly faced, coursed greystone rubble, bonded with a light grey mortar flush to the external face. The room was roofed with a series of at least four large stone slabs 0.08m thick and 1.6m long. Access to the room appears originally to have been from the west, via a now-blocked doorway in the main boundary wall (photo 12). This doorway has a mortared stone lintel, slightly pointed in the centre with a triangular keystone. This design appears typical of the Dan yr Allt estate. Further examples are visible on the nearby farm buildings and on other buildings in the locality. On this western side it appears all three rooms share the same boundary wall. The external face of the northern wall of Room 1 was not uncovered, and only a small section of the external face of the eastern wall was revealed. A vertical construction break between Rooms 1 and 2 is visible in this eastern wall (photo 13). It is not clear from the section of exposed walling if this represents different periods of construction between Rooms 1 and 2, or if it represents the edge of another blocked doorway. No quoin stones are evident, although two large stones protrude from the wall on the southern side of the construction break, and the roof of Room 1 extends beyond this break to rest on the internal southern wall of Room 1. Access internally was limited to the view through a gap in the wall of the adjoining room, but this revealed a doorway opening in the southern wall between Rooms 1 and 2, but otherwise offered little further clue as to its function.

Room 2 was the central room, measuring 2.9m east - west by 2m north - south, and 2.4m high from the level reached in Trench 5 (photo 13 - 15). The walls were built of large, roughly faced greystone rubble that appeared a mix of rough coursing and random rubble, all bonded with a light grey mortar mainly flush to the external face although covering the face in places. The room was also roofed with a series of large 0.08m thick stone slabs, overlapping the roof of Room 1. Internally the walls of the room were plastered or lime-rendered. Access was only via the internal opening with Room 1, but a small square window high in the western wall provided light. There was also an opening below the roofline in the eastern wall, but it is unclear if this was caused by the partial collapse of the wall or represented an original opening. Joist holes indicated that a raised platform stood internally against the western wall, and marking on the internal render indicated some structure stood upon this platform, against the wall, extending the full width of the room.

The excavation of Trench 5 against the external eastern face of Room 2 revealed a short section of partially tumbled stone wall extending eastwards from Room 2 (photo 14). The wall measured 1.6m long, 0.25m wide, and survived to a maximum height of 0.8m. It was roughly aligned east - west, curving slightly to the north. It was constructed of large random greystone rubble with a light grey mortar, roughly faced on its northern side and un-faced on its southern side. It was clearly a later addition as it butted against the external face of Room 2.

Room 3 was the southern room, measuring internally 2.9m east - west, by 1.5m north - south. The room was at least 2.4m high, but the internal ground surface was not revealed (photos 16 - 17). It shared a northern wall with Room 2, and its southern wall was constructed in the same manner. One large stone slab

remained as a roof covering 0.4m wide against the western wall, but otherwise this room was unroofed. Internally the walls were roughly plastered, or lime rendered. A small area 1.15m wide and 0.8m high against the northern wall remained un-plastered (photo 17), framed by some iron nails secured in the wall. This would appear to represent a small lean-to like structure or more permanent piece of furniture formerly stood against the internal face of this wall. Access to this room was from the east. The eastern wall had completely collapsed, but dressed stone at the eastern end of the southern wall indicated the original entranceway would have stood at the southern end of the eastern wall.

Topographical Survey

A detailed topographical survey was undertaken using a Trimble TST to record the platform on which the mansion is believed to have stood, along with the surrounding boundary wall and contours (Figure 2). Due to time constraints it was not possible to extend this survey further.

CONCLUSIONS

Dan yr Allt Mansion

Documentary research confirms that a mansion stood in this area from the 16th century until the destruction of the final mansion in 1841 (Jones 1972). It is unclear if the mansion was always located on the same site or if subsequent rebuilds were carried out in different locations. Contemporary descriptions of the later mansion suggest it contained elements dating back to the Elizabethan period and therefore would suggest it always stood on the same site.

Map evidence of the 19th century mansion site, combined with a topographical survey, suggests the location of the mansion was on a level platform c.25m to the east of the U-shaped range of farm buildings, adjacent to a still existing stone boundary wall. It is now crossed by a modern hardcore farm track.

A geophysical survey of this area proved somewhat inconclusive. There was a concentration of very strong anomalies in this area but individual features relating to a mansion site are difficult to distinguish. Trench 1 and Trench 2 of the excavations were both opened up in this area, but again the results were inconclusive. No evidence of building or occupation remains were revealed within Trench 1, either in terms of surviving walling or the remains of foundation trenches. The edge of a possible paved surface and a small spread of demolition material was revealed in Trench 2. Both trenches did however reveal evidence of later post-medieval pottery and stone roof tiles. This would suggest that substantial destruction to the site occurred, both from its original demolition in the 1840s and subsequent more recent re-use of material. The construction of the modern farm track would also have removed further evidence for the former site of the mansion. Due to time constraints, it was not possible to conclusively identify undisturbed natural subsoil throughout Trench 1 and Trench 2 and therefore it remains a possibility (although unlikely) that further archaeological remains may lie buried at greater depths. A more likely explanation for the lack of evidence for the mansion would be the 1840s demolition, subsequent reuse of stone rubble in construction works elsewhere (it is thought locally that the material from the mansion was used as levelling material for the construction of the roundabout on the A40 at Llangadog) and final levelling of the site for the farm track.

Rooms

Adjoining the mansion site is a series of three disused and partly ruinous stone-built rooms with a further wall extension suggesting a fourth enclosure. These rooms are all built of mortared stone, two of which (Room 1 and Room 2) are interconnecting and still roofed with large stone slabs. Room 3 is attached to the south, only partially roofed, and the possible fourth enclosure is represented by a ruinous wall extending to the east.

The main access to Rooms 1 and 2 was from the west, via a now-blocked doorway in the stone boundary wall. This boundary wall appears continuous and therefore unlikely to form a remnant of the former mansion house structure itself. There is no clear access to these rooms from the site of the mansion, which is believed to have stood either directly above or immediately to the east. This may suggest these rooms were not part of the original mansion house and were built after its destruction, however, without being able to reveal further remains of the mansion, the relationship between them is unclear. The possibility remains that these rooms could be remnants of associated mansion cellars or cold storage.

Room 3 and the eastern enclosure were accessed from the east, but the construction of the walls would suggest these are later additions to Rooms 1 and 2 accessed from the west.

The function of all these rooms remains unclear, although Rooms 1 and 2 could have served as cold storage and/or an external toilet. Local information has suggested that at some point these rooms were used as sheep pens, this would appear to only relate to the rooms accessed from the east (Room 3 and the eastern enclosure) as the others no longer have direct access, and this may be a secondary function once the rooms had fallen into disuse.

Mansion Outbuildings

The tithe map of 1839 and subsequent Ordnance Survey maps indicate a large building once stood on higher ground to the east of the mansion site. The geophysical survey revealed a series of very strong anomalies in this area, although it was unclear from these results what this may be associated with. Trench 3 was located in this area to investigate these readings and possible association with these outbuildings, but it only revealed a thick deposit of recent dump material, apparently associated with the construction of the nearby farm track. Map regression work has demonstrated that the outbuilding remains were located further to the east, but no visible remnants at ground level survive.

Ditched Enclosure

The geophysical survey revealed a possible c.15m wide, straight-sided ditched enclosure on the higher ground overlooking the Tywi floodplain. Trench 4 was located over these readings, in an area where two ditches, aligned roughly north – south, passed through. The trench revealed only one ditch, measuring 0.77m wide, 0.31m deep and U-shaped in profile. It corresponded with one of the ditches seen on the survey being aligned roughly north – south. No finds were recovered from the feature and there was nothing to indicate its original function. However, the ditch was revealed relatively low in the sequence of soil layers and a lack of the commonly found late post-medieval pottery may indicate this is a relatively early ditch. It lay beneath the remains of the site of a former tree (suggesting it is of some antiquity). This could still be related to relatively early activity at the mansion site (16th century), or equally it could predate the mansion occupation altogether and be part of an early medieval or prehistoric enclosure.

SOURCES

Published

Jones, Major Francis 1972 'O Domus Antiqua: Danyrallt' in *Archaeologia Cambrensis Vol 121, pp 97-105*

Maps

Anon 1839 *Llangadog Parish Tithe Map*

Ordnance Survey 1887 *1st edition 1;2500 Carmarthenshire XXXIV.2*

Ordnance Survey 1906 *2nd edition 1;2500 Carmarthenshire XXXIV.2*

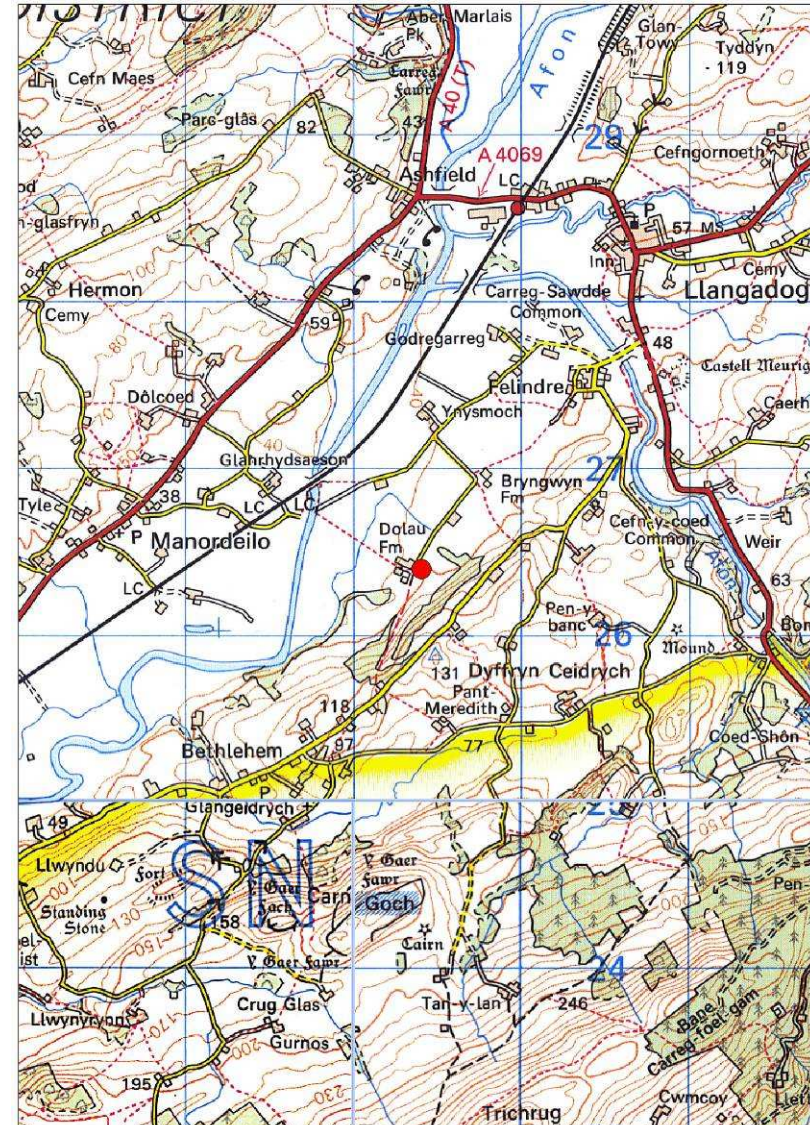


Figure 1: Location map.

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(Reproduced from the 1997 Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 scale Landranger Map)

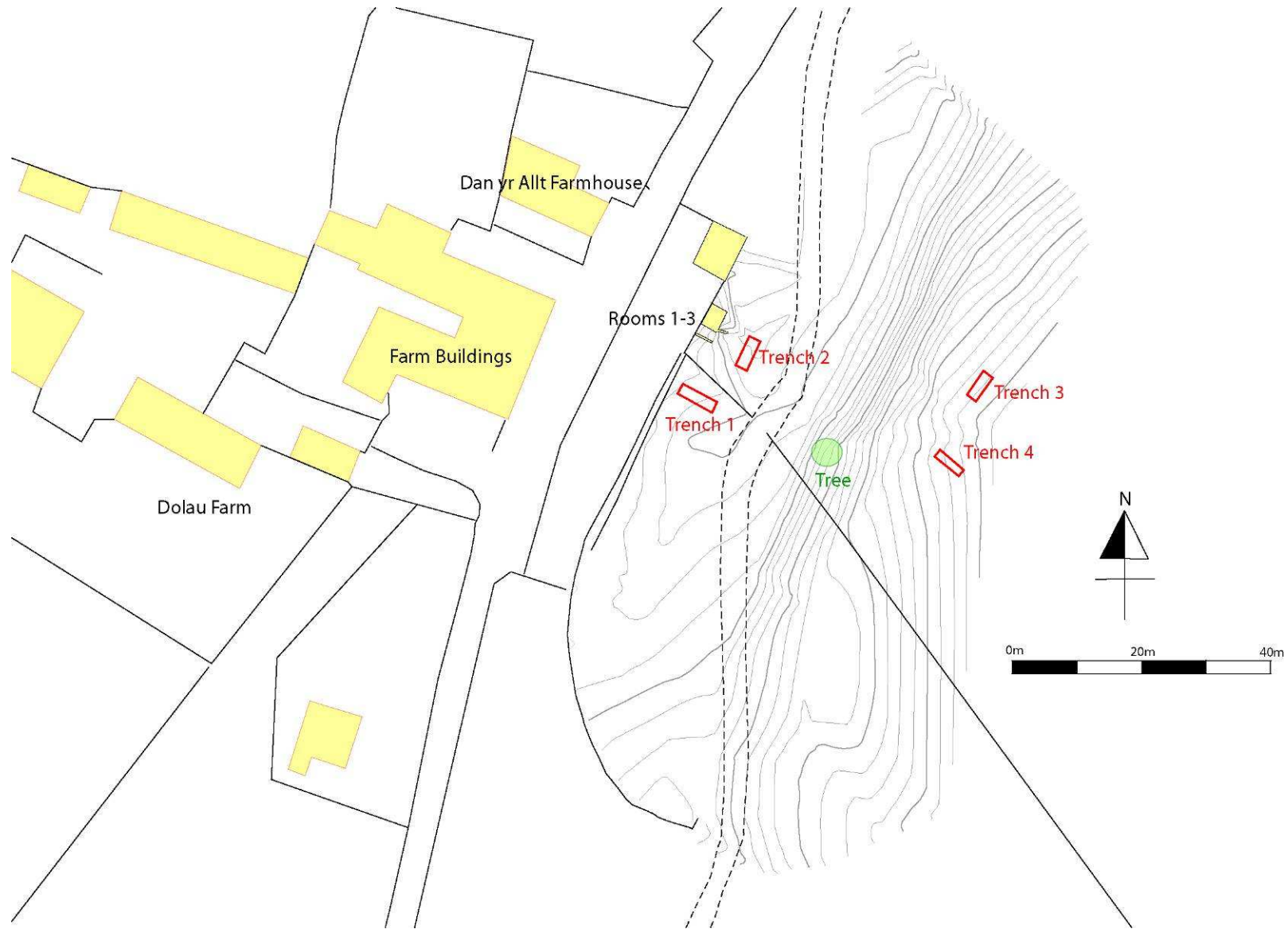


Figure 2: Map showing detailed contours (at 0.25m intervals) and trench locations

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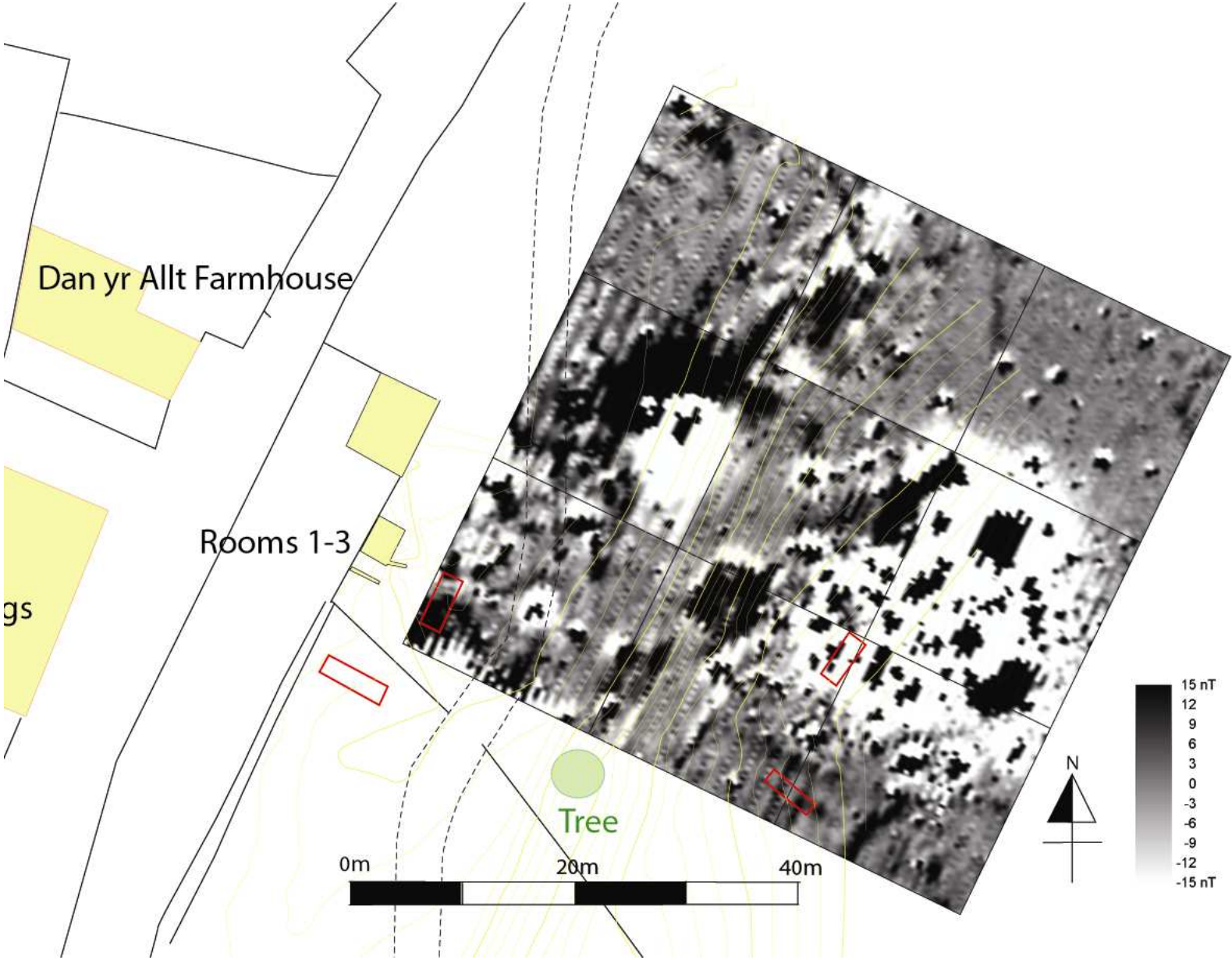


Figure 3: Geophysical survey results, greyscale plot, overlaid with trench locations and contours

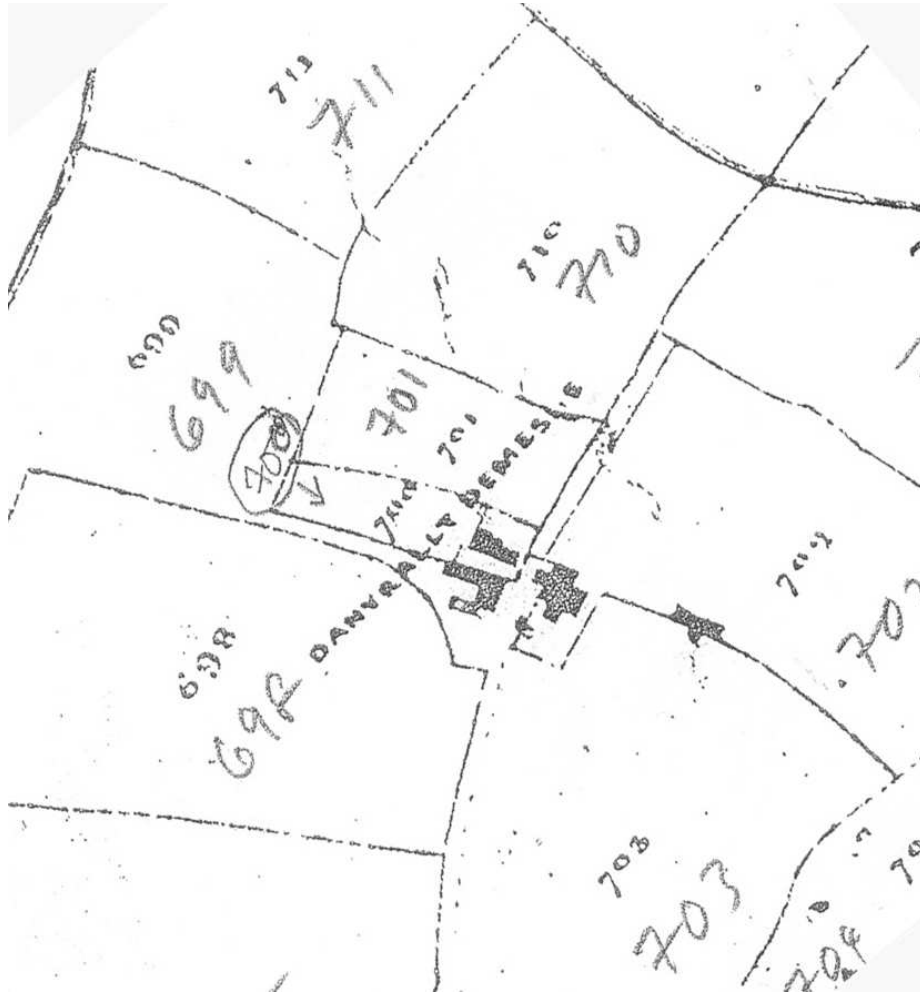


Figure 4: Extract from the parish tithe map of 1839

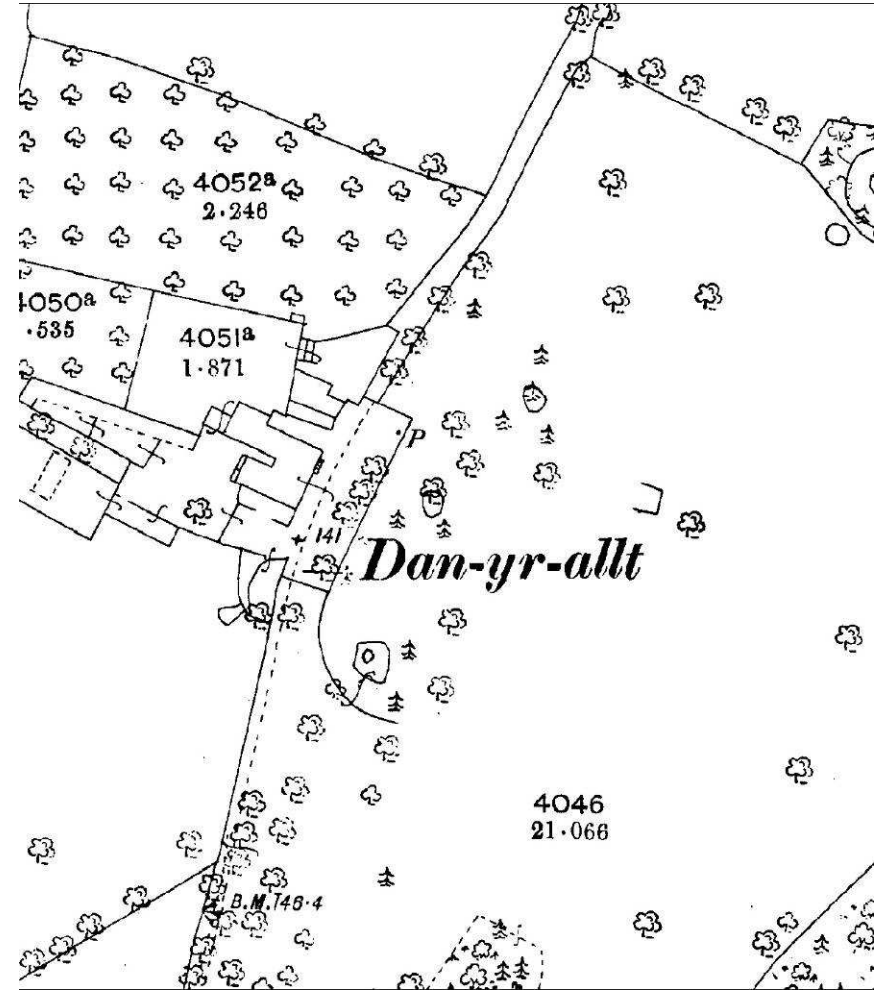


Figure 5: Extract from the 1st edition 1:2500 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1887

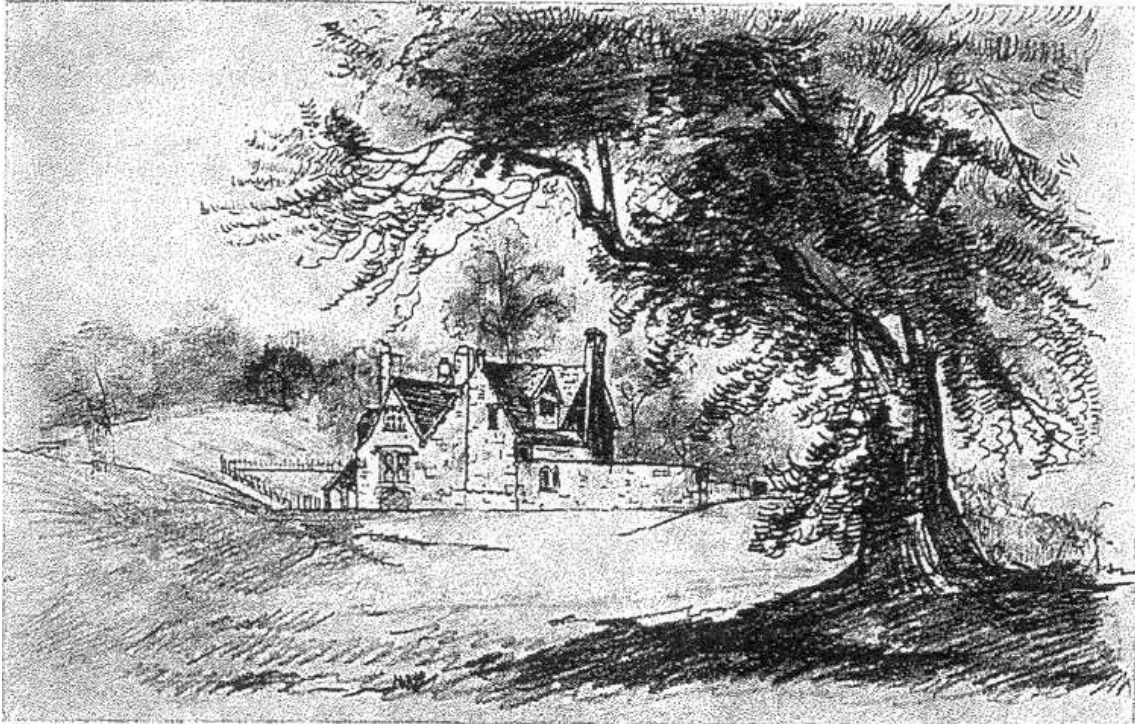


Figure 6: Sketch of Dan yr Allt mansion drawn in the 1830s
by H R Lloyd (taken from Jones 1972)

PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1: Photo taken of the mansion building platform, looking south,
from what is believed to be a similar location that the above sketch was made



Photo 2: ESE facing shot of Trench 1.
2 x 1m & 1 x 2m scale



Photo 3: WNW facing shot of Trench 1
2 x 1m & 1 x 2m scale

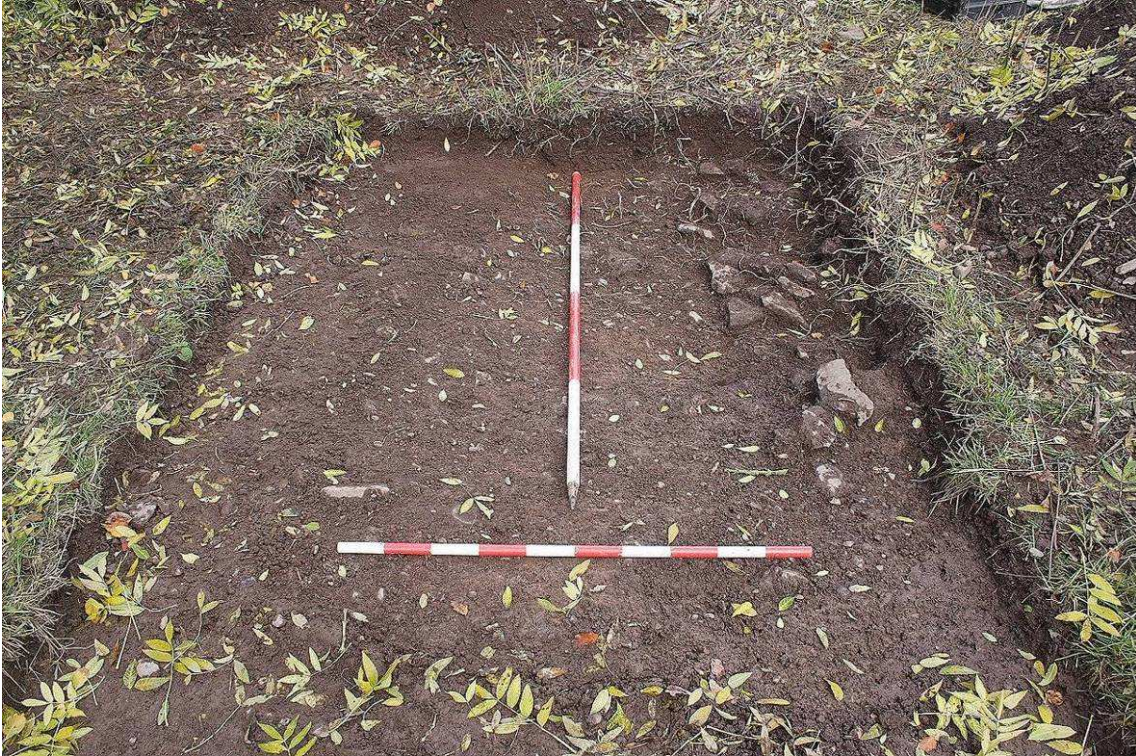


Photo 4: NE facing shot of Trench 2. 1 x 1m & 1 x 2m scale



Photo 5: SE facing shot of possible stone surface in Trench 2. 1 x 1m & 1 x 2m scale



Photo 6: SW facing shot of Trench 3
2 x 1m & 1 x 2m scale



Photo 7: NE facing shot of section of Trench 3
2 x 1m scale



Photo 8: SE facing shot of Trench 4
2 x 1m & 1 x 2m scale



Photo 9: NW facing shot of Trench 4
2 x 1m & 1 x 2m scale



Photo 10: NNE facing shot of ditch 404 in Trench 4. 1 x 1m scale



Photo 11: NE facing shot of the boundary/ha ha wall. 1 x 1m scale



Photo 12: East facing shot of the boundary wall around the former mansion site, showing the blocked doorway entrance to Room 1 and window to Room 2



Photo 13: WNW facing shot of the eastern wall of Rooms 1 and 2, showing the construction break on the right. 1 x 1m scale



Photo 14: WNW facing shot of Room 2 with attached wall forming an outer enclosure. 1 x 1m scale



Photo 15: WNW facing shot of the interior of Room 2



Photo 16: WNW facing shot of Room 3. 1 x 1m scale



Photo 17: NNE facing shot of evidence of lean-to type structure in Room 3. 1 x 1m scale

EXPLORATION TYWI! DAN YR ALLT, LLANGADOG: ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION 2009

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NUMBER 2010/07

**Rhagfyr 2009
December 2009**

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

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Swydd / Position: Archaeologist

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Dyddiad / Date 15/02/2011

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

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

Swydd / Position: Head of Field Services

Llofnod / Signature



Dyddiad / Date 15/02/2011

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

As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any
comments you may have on the content or presentation of this report

ymddiriedolaeth archaeolegol

