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**MELIN ABERDARON
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT**
for
Geraint Jones

April 2015

Govannon Report GC378a

MELIN ABERDARON – ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

Non-technical summary: the present document constitutes an archaeological assessment for a mill building and associated lands at Aberdaron, Gwynedd to inform ambitions for the site on the part of its owner, Mr Geraint Jones. It has been carried out by Dr David Gwyn MCI(A) FSA of Govannon Consultancy. 15 sites were identified of which 13 were ascribed to the post-medieval period, 1 ascribed to the post-medieval or medieval periods, and 1 unknown. Of the total of 15 sites, none was ascribed to category A, 6 to category B, none to category C, 3 to category D and 6 to category E.

Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in this report

CRO: Caernarfon Record Office

GAT: Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

HER: Historic Environment Record

NMR: National Monuments Record

RCAHMW: Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales

TCHS: *Transactions of the Caernarvonshire Historical Society*

1 INTRODUCTION

Govannon Consultancy has been commissioned to carry out an archaeological assessment of the disused corn mill at Aberdaron and the lands immediately associated with it but its owner, Mr Geraint Jones.

2 AIMS AND PURPOSE OF ASSESSMENT

The purpose of the assessment is to inform any future planning applications relating to the site and a Conservation Management Plan. It is listed Grade II as 'Y Felin' (Cadw building ID: 19992).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Outline approach

The Methodology followed in this assessment was the standard methodology set out by the Institute of Field Archaeologists. All work was carried out by Dr David Gwyn MA (Cantab.), PhD, MIFA, FSA. Known archival sources in the major research holdings were consulted, as was the HER and aerial photography curated by the GAT and the NMR curated by the RCAHMW, Aberystwyth. The advice of Jenny Emmett, Development Control Officer at Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services was sought and obtained. By arrangement with the owner, Geraint Jones, the site was visited on 19 March 2015. Sites and features were assessed in terms of their archaeological significance, and mitigatory recommendations made.

3.2 Definition of archaeological significance

The following categories were used to define the significance of the archaeological resource:

Category A – sites of national importance

Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings and sites worthy of scheduling or listing *ie* those which would meet the criteria for scheduling or listing or both.

Sites which are scheduled or listed have legal protection, and it is recommended that all Category A sites remain preserved and protected *in situ*.

Category B – sites of regional or county importance

Sites which would not fulfil the criteria for scheduling or listing, but which are nevertheless of particular importance within the region

Preservation *in situ* is the preferred option for Category B sites, but if damage or destruction cannot be avoided, appropriate detailed recording might be an acceptable alternative.

Category C – sites of district or local importance

Category C sites nevertheless merit adequate recording in advance of damage or destruction

Category D – minor or damaged sites

Sites which are of minor importance or so badly damaged that too little remains to justify their inclusion in a higher category

For Category D sites, rapid recording, either in advance of, or during, destruction should be sufficient

Category E – sites needing further investigation

Sites whose importance is as yet undetermined and which will require further work before they can be allocated to categories A-D are temporarily placed in this category, with specific recommendations for further evaluation.

3.3 Definition of field evaluation techniques

Field evaluation is necessary to allow the reclassification of category E sites, and to allow the evaluation of areas of land where there are no visible features but where there is potential for sites to exist. Two principal techniques can be used for carrying out the evaluation; *geophysical survey* and *trial trenching*.

Geophysical survey

This technique involves the use of a magnetometer, which detects variations in the earth's magnetic field caused by the presence of iron in the soil. This is usually in the form of weakly magnetised iron oxides, which tend to be concentrated in the topsoil. Features cut into the subsoil and back-filled or silted with topsoil contain greater amounts of iron and can therefore be detected with this gradiometer. Strong readings can be produced by the presence of iron objects, hearths and kilns.

Other forms of geophysical survey are available, of which *resistivity survey* is the other most commonly used. However, for rapid coverage of large areas, the magnetometer is usually considered the most cost-effective method. It is also possible to scan a large area very rapidly by walking with the magnetometer, and marking the location of any high or low readings but not logging the readings for processing.

Trial trenching

Buried archaeological features cannot always be detected from the surface, even with geophysics, and trial trenching allows a representative sample of the development area to be investigated. Trenches of the appropriate size can also be excavated to evaluate category E sites. These trenches typically measure between 20m and 30m long by 2m wide. The turf and topsoil is removed by mechanical excavator, and the resulting surface cleaned by hand and examined for features. Anything noted is further examined so that the nature of any remains can be understood, and *mitigatory recommendations* recommended.

3.4 Definition of mitigatory recommendations

Where a feature of archaeological significance is affected, mitigation measures should be instituted in accordance with current policies. The various levels of recording are listed below, and appear in the Mitigation field for each of the sites below.

The mitigation proposals are divided into various levels of recording as set out below:

None

No impact, so no requirement for mitigation

Recording

Recording Level 1 is essentially a basic visual record, typically consisting of drawings, photography and written account.

Recording Level 2 is a descriptive record, made in circumstances similar to those of Level 1 but when more information is needed.

Recording Level 3 is an analytical record, and will comprise an introductory description followed by a systematic account of the building's origins, development and use. The record will include an account of the evidence on which the analysis has been based, allowing the validity of the record to be re-examined in detail. It will also include all drawn and photographic records that may be required to illustrate the building's appearance and structure and to support an historical analysis.

Recording Level 4 provides a comprehensive analytical record. Whereas Level 3 analysis and interpretation will clarify the site's history in so far as it may be deduced from the site itself, the record at Level 4 will draw on the full range of available resources and discuss its significance in terms of architectural, social, regional or economic history.

Strip, map and sample

This technique involves the examination of machine-stripped surfaces to identify archaeological remains. The stripping is undertaken under the supervision of an archaeologist, Stripping and removal of the overburden is undertaken in such a manner as to ensure damage does not occur to surfaces that have already been stripped, nor to archaeological surfaces that have not yet been revealed.

Stripping is undertaken in as careful a manner as possible, to allow for good identification of archaeological features. A small team of archaeologists will be responsible for cleaning defined areas where necessary. Complex sites which cannot be avoided will need to be fully excavated.

Watching brief

A watching brief may be recommended whilst below-ground intervention is carried out as part of a development.

Avoidance

Features which may be directly affected by the scheme, or during the construction, should be avoided. Occasionally a minor change to the proposed plan is recommended, but it is more usual to indicate the need for care during construction to avoid accidental damage to a feature. This is often best achieved by marking features prior to the start of work.

Reinstatement

The feature should be re-instated with archaeological advice and supervision.

4 FINDINGS OF THE DESK-TOP ASSESSMENT

4.1 Location, topography and geology

The study area is located within the Community of Aberdaron and the county of Gwynedd, and in the historic parish of Aberdaron, in the cantref of Llŷn and the commote of Cymydmaen, in Caernarvonshire at SH 17364 26472.

The mill is located on the northern bank of the Afon Daron, a little way above its confluence with the Afon Cillfelyn, upstream from the point where it flows into the bay.

The underlying geology is Mudstone of the Nant Ffrancon Subgroup, a sedimentary bedrock of the Ordovician Period (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/>, accessed 16 March 2015)

4.2 Sources for the history and archaeology of Melin Aberdaron

4.2.1 *Bibliographic records*

Bibliographic records are identified below.

4.2.2 *Archival holdings*

Archival holdings relevant to the site were identified at NLW and CRO, as well as an estate map dated 1774 which is kept at Nanhoron, the home of the owners of the estate.

4.2.3 *Visual material*

A late 19th century photograph of the site was identified in the John Thomas collection at NLW. Other photographs have been identified in the CRO.

4.2.4 *Existing archaeological records*

Existing archaeological records were located at Gwynedd Archaeological Trust. The National Monuments Record curated by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales at Aberystwyth proved to have no relevant records.

4.2.5 *Historic Landscape evaluation*

The study area forms part of the Llyn and Bardsey Island landscape of outstanding historic interest in Wales, of which the following is the Summary.

Ref number: HLW (Gw) 8

OS map: Landranger 123

Unitary authority: Gwynedd

Topographically, it comprises a dissected plateau with outliers of harder rocks forming a number of isolated, but prominent, hills and ridges.

Yr Eifl, the so-called Rivals in the north east are the most prominent hills, followed by Garn Fadrun in the centre of the peninsula and Mynydd Rhiw in the south west. Bardsey Island lies off the south western tip of the peninsula across Bardsey Sound.

This extensive area, unlike many others in Wales, has few major monuments, few large extents of relict features, and little by way of an unifying historic theme such as, for example, the development of settlement or industrial patterns. Yet, it possesses a great and unparalleled wealth and diversity of, most often, smaller scale archaeological and historic features, which together form a cohesive and integrated whole, demonstrating both the continuity and the territorial unity

of Lleyn from possibly prehistoric times onwards. There are archaeological sites ranging from the Mesolithic period to the recent past.

The best known and most impressive prehistoric monuments in the area are the magnificent Iron Age hillforts crowning the summits of Mynydd Ceiri (Tre'r Ceiri), Garn Boduan and Garn Fadrun, with several other, smaller but complementary, forts on other summits.

A full published description for this landscape area is available as a pdf download within the Related Articles section below.

Principal area designations:

The area includes the greater part of the Lleyn Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It is entirely within the Lleyn Peninsula Environmentally Sensitive Area. The area includes Bardsey Island and Cors Geirch National Nature Reserves; Glannau Aberdaron, Mynydd Penarfynydd, Porth Ceiriad, Porth Dinllaen and Yr Eifl Sites of Special Scientific Interest; Garn Fadrun, Garn Boduan and Tre'r Ceiri camps Scheduled Ancient Monuments; Aberdaron, Bardsey Island, Llanaelhaearn, Llanengan, Llangian, Llaniestyn, Nefyn, Pwllheli and Trefor Conservation Areas.

Criteria: 3, 4, 5

5 STATEMENT OF RESULTS OF THE DESK-TOP ASSESSMENT

5.1 Prehistoric

No sites or artefacts from Prehistory have been identified within the immediate vicinity of the site.

5.2 Romano-British period

No sites or artefacts from the Romano-British period have been identified within the immediate vicinity of the site.

5.3 Medieval

In the early Medieval period, Aberdaron was a *clas* community – a quasi-monastic institution, in many ways operating like a secular township but with the very considerable difference that the members of the community had anciently donated their freely held land for the benefit of constructing and maintaining a church on that land, or otherwise having received a grant of land for the same purpose. Aberdaron was the mainland focus of the *clas*, which included Bardsey island (Ynys Enlli), in the township of Is Sely, the immediate hinterland of the settlement and church of Aberdaron.

In 1094 Gruffudd ap Cynan found refuge from the Normans with the monastic community at Aberdaron, and escaped in their boat to Ireland. Twenty years later, Gruffudd ap Rhys Tewdwr sought refuge against the same Gruffudd ap Cynan, in the church of Aberdaron, and was given sanctuary. In 1137 Gruffudd ap Cynan left money in his will to Bardsey.

Under Norman influence c. 1200 the *clasau* became portionary churches under the control of the Bishop of Bangor and the *clas* community was suppressed in favour of the establishment of a community Augustinian canons on Bardsey. In 1537 the abbey on Bardsey was dissolved along with every other monastic house, and passed into private ownership. The canons' interests in the mainland townships were also sequestered, including Is Sely. The parochial church of Aberdaron, however, survived.

The study area therefore formed part of the lands of Enlli from early Christian times to the Reformation and the Dissolution of the monasteries, and would have passed to the Crown thereafter. However, the extent of the *clas* lands is unknown, and many aspects of its archaeology

remain obscure. Ellis 1950 states that Aberdaron church had the highest value in the Deanery of Llŷn.

It is possible that a corn-mill was situated here or nearby in the Medieval period, though there is no documentary or known archaeological evidence for one. The origins of water-driven corn milling in Wales are still obscure. There is little or no evidence for corn mills driven by water-wheels before the arrival of the Normans, though the technology had been known in Ireland since the 6th century and in continental Europe since the 3rd century BCE (Rynne, forthcoming). Medieval corn-mills in Ireland are often associated with monastic settlements rather than with urban settlements, and the need to feed pilgrims making their way to Enlli might have encouraged the siting of a mill so near the church. William 1986 sets out what is known of 14th century corn-milling in Llŷn and points out that the sites of four mills in Cymydmaen cannot be identified.

5.4 Post-Medieval and Modern (1750-present day)

Documentary sources suggest that Aberdaron grew into a small village depending on fishing and a role as a small local port after it lost its ecclesiastical role. A mill locally is attested in 1684 when the estate manager records a payment of £4 from 'cousin Maurice Griffith for my part of the mill', and who therefore presumably had a moiety of it (CRO: XD/101/1/1 rental). 'Aberdaron mill' is referred to in document of 1717 (NLW: BRA 2), and the Nanhoron estate map of 1777 indicates a mill on the site, though evidently not forming part of the estate.



Map 1: Nanhoron estate map of 1777

Pennant, in 1773, described Aberdaron as a poor village at the very end of Caernarvonshire (Pennant 1773). The most significant local landowner was the Nanhoron estate, which by 1777 extended over 4,950 acres over seventeen parishes, though the greater part of the estate lay in Aberdaron (1,329 acres) (Ellison 1997). Edmund Hyde Hall, writing around 1809-1811, states that there were three

corn mills and two fulling mills in the parish, and that 30 new houses had been built since 1801 (223 inhabitants are recorded in the 1801 census) (EHH 306). Samuel Lewis in 1838 makes no mention of mills (Lewis 1838). The two stone bridges, Pont Fawr and Pont Fach, were built in 1823.

By the late 18th century the site of the mill, if not necessarily a mill itself, seems to have belonged to John Griffith of Cefn Amwlch. He fell in love with his cousin Jane Wynne of Voelas, who married Charles Finch, brother of the Earl of Aylresford, but Griffith remained close to her and bequeathed his estates to her when he died in 1796. The land tax assessments list for 1783 list 'Cefnamwlch' as owner of Cefn Nona, and those for 1788, John Griffith; by 1800 the owner is 'the 'Honble Mrs Finch' and this remains the case until 1812 (CRO: XQA/LT/8/1). It appears to have reverted to Cefnamwlch, as the first unequivocal reference to the mill is a lease of 29 September 1812 from Charles Wynne Griffith Wynn of Cefnamwlch of the first part, Ellin William of Cefn Nona for the second part, and her two sons John and Griffith, of Cefn Nona 'labourers' of the third part, of the 'water corn grist mill drying kill (sic) and appurtenances .. known by the name of Cefn Nona mill' and including 15 acres at an annual rent of £52 10/- (CRO: Cefnamwlch 134). There is nothing to indicate that the mill is new, but nothing to indicate that it was already in existence either. The mill is shown on the Cefn Amwlch estate map of 1812:



Map 1: Cefn Amwlch estate map of 1812

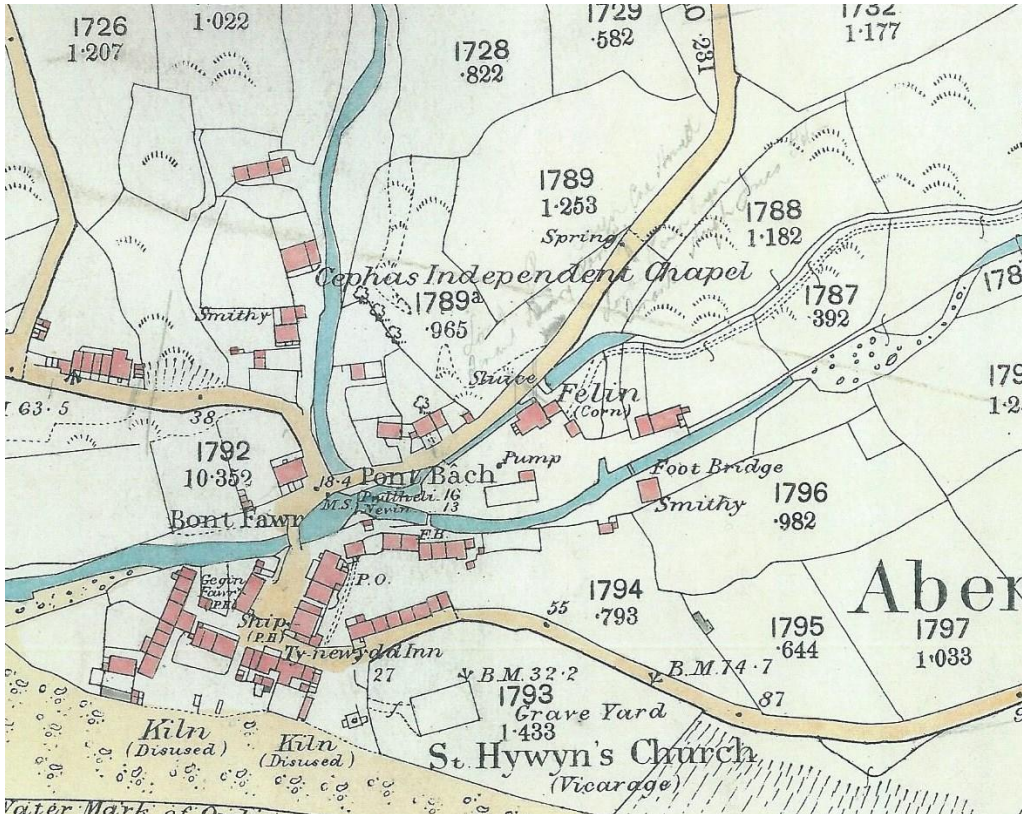
The title schedule of 1841 indicates that Cefn Nona (pieces 1551 and 1563a) belonged to Wynne Charles Wyn Griffiths.

The tithe map of 1841 shows a building orientated north-south:

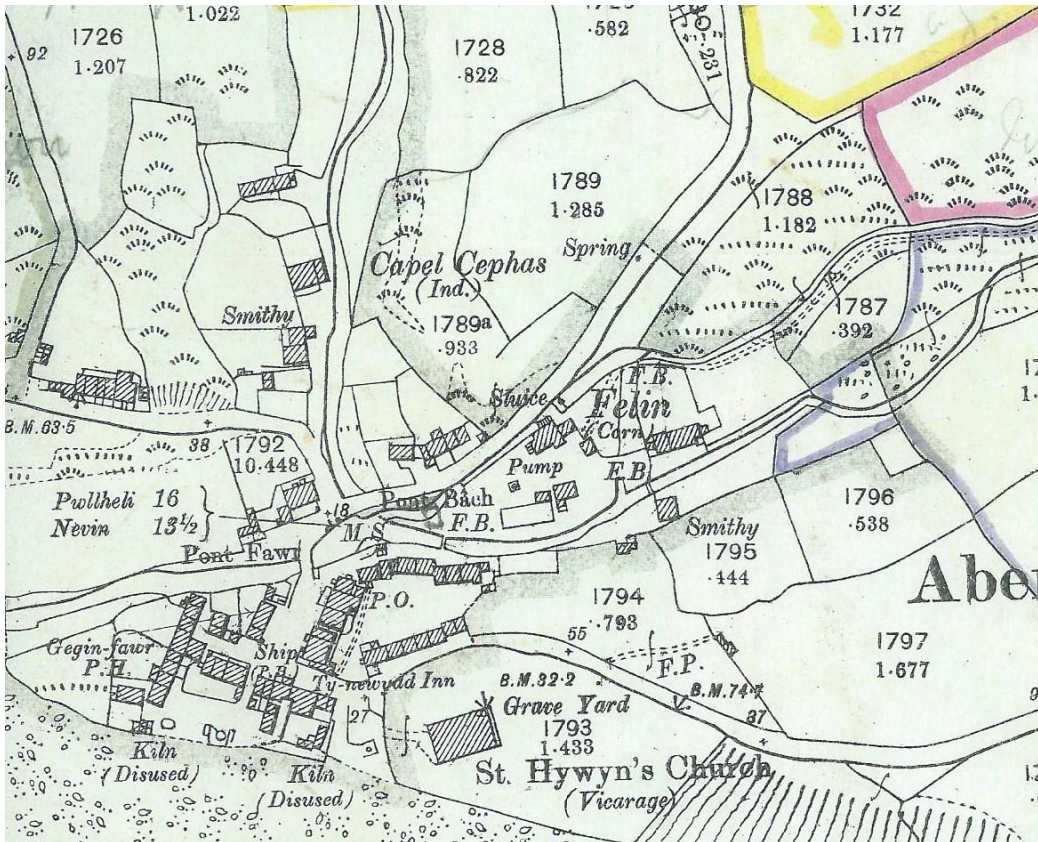


Map 2: Tithe map for parish of Aberdaron, 1841

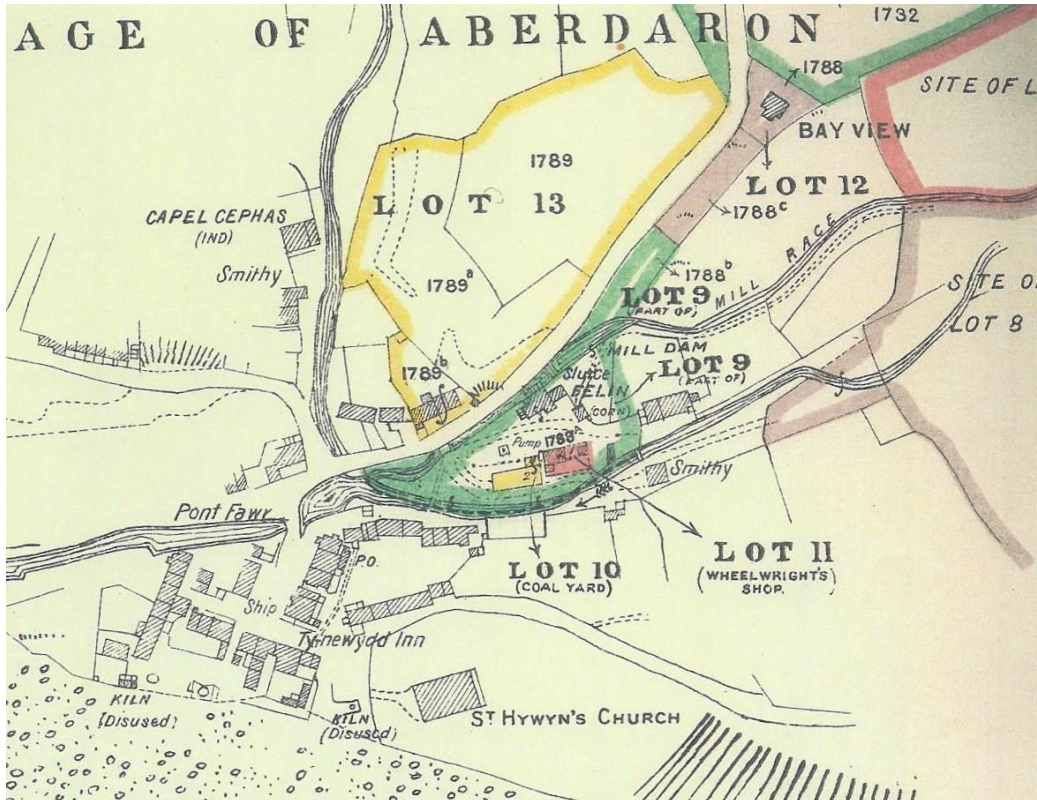
This indicates that a north-west/south-east orientated section was in existence by 1841, but the present south-west/north-east range is later. This suggests a rebuild of the mill shown in 1777 and 1812, where both maps suggest a building parallel to the water-course. A mill structure that appears to correspond with the existing building is shown on the first 25" ordnance surveys of 1889, 1900 and 1918 and on a sale catalogue map of 1907.



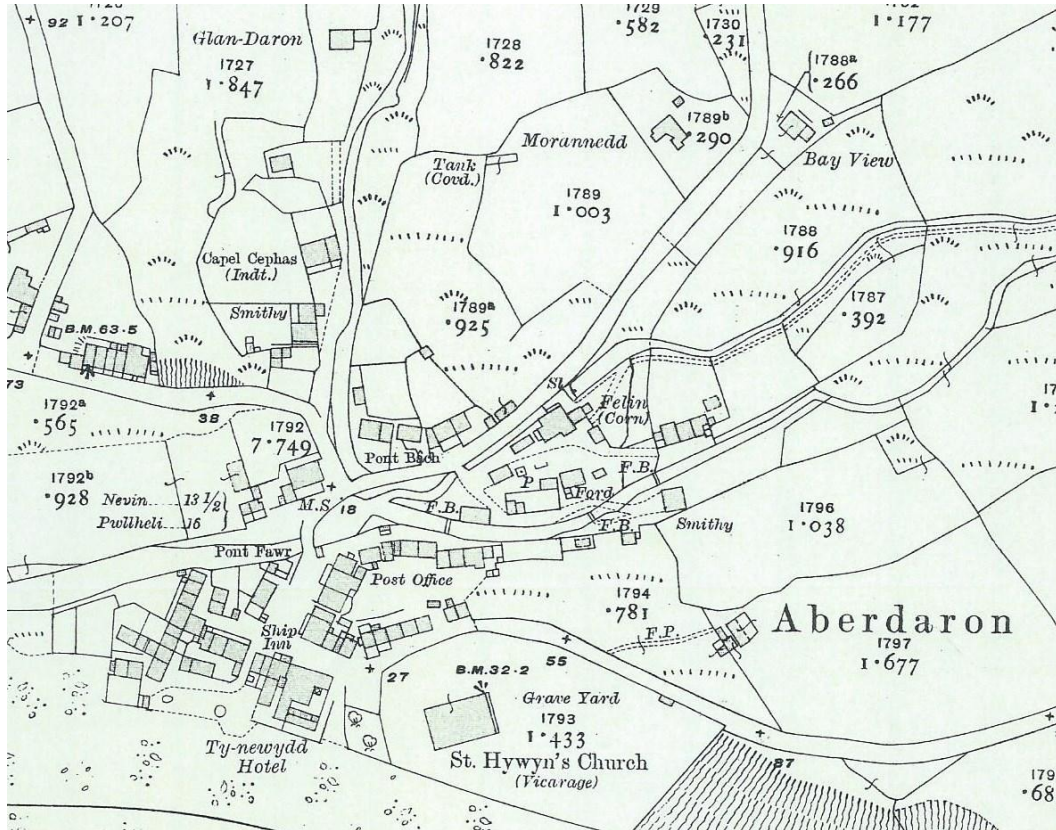
Map 3: 25" ordnance survey of 1889 (Caerns XLIII.16)



Map 4: 25" ordnance survey of 1900 (Caerns XLIII.16)



Map 5: sale catalogue map of 1907 (CRO: XSC 331)



Map 5: 25" ordnance survey of 1918 (Caerns XLIII.16)

A photograph of the mill and part of the village taken by the Liverpool-Welsh photographer John Thomas in the late nineteenth century shows some of the associated buildings



Figure 1: NLW John Thomas collection 01086

A commercial postcard by Lilywhite's of Sowerby Bridge, Yorkshire, a company founded in 1910, shows the wheel, the gable end of the mill and a timber or corrugated iron shed.

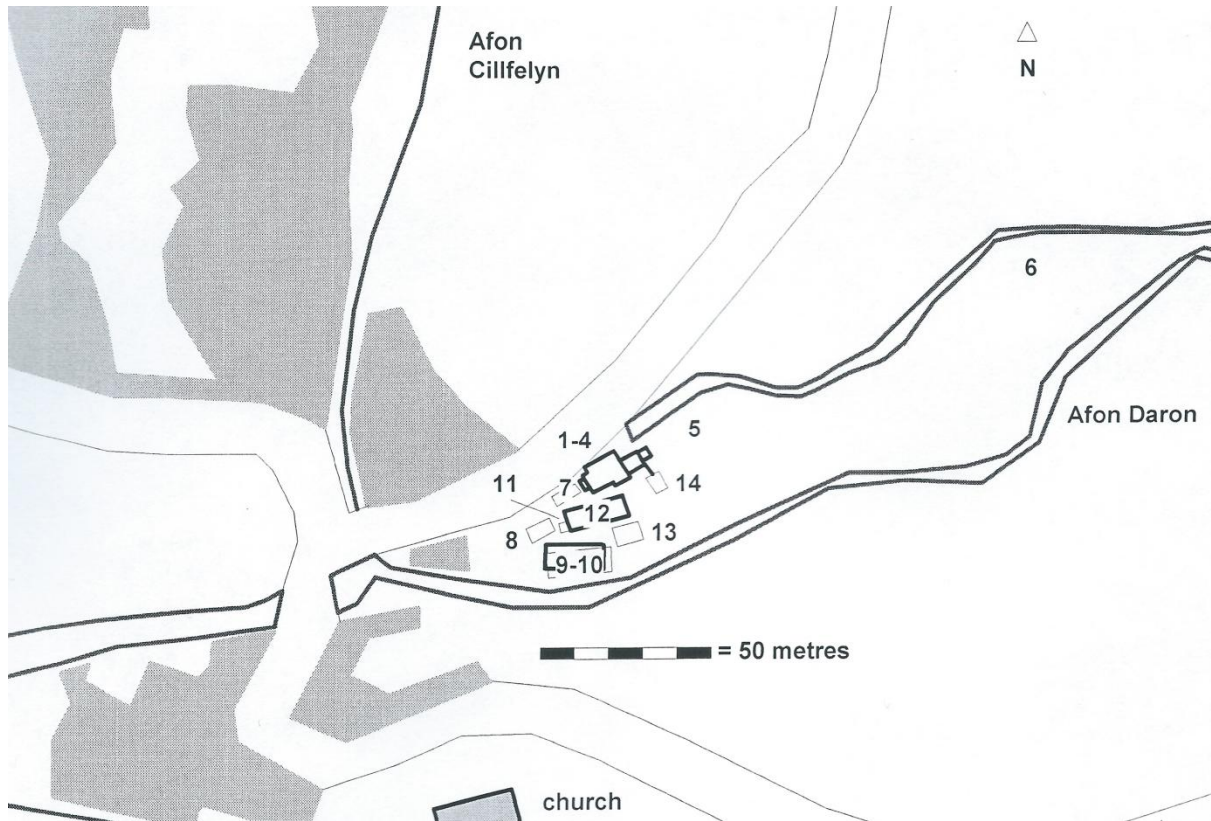


Figure 2: Melin Aberdaron, post-1910

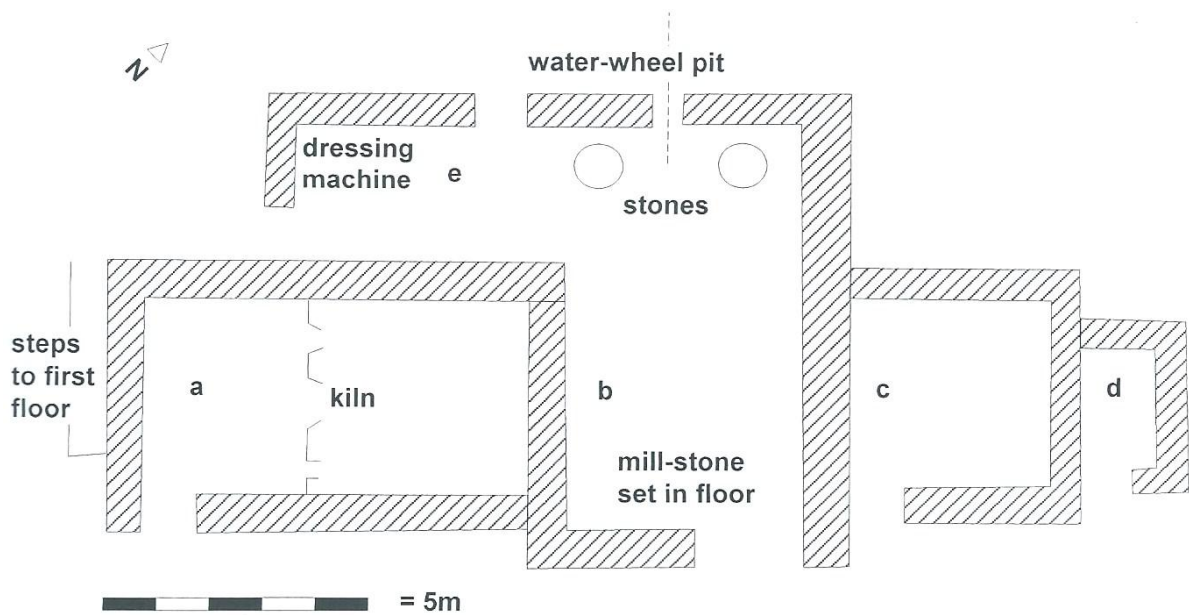
Small rural mills such as Melin Aberdaron began to decline from the 1880s with the advent of steam, later oil and electrically-powered milling and of the steel roller, which displaced the traditional French burrstones. In 1907 the mill was offered for sale as part of Lot 9, Cae Nona, as 'Felin Aberdaron (Corn Mill), Yard, Outbuildings, Milldam, Mill Stream as part of river ... The Corn Mill belonging to the Lot has ample water power, and a good business is carried on .. The stones and machinery, wheel, and belting in the Mill belong to the vendor, and the will be included in the Sale ... The Hay Shed at Cefn Nona and the Horse Power at the mill belonging to the tenant will not be included in the sale.' (CRO: XSC/331) The sale was unsuccessful as the property was offered for sale again in 1912 (CRO: XSC/334).

6 STATEMENT OF RESULTS OF FIELD-WORK

The site was visited on 19 March 2015. Conditions were good for field-work. Features were identified and located on a map (below), and selected features were photographed using a digital camera.



Location of sites identified



Feature 1 – internal arrangements

1 MELIN ABERDARON - STRUCTURE

Location: SH 17364 26472

Status: Listed grade II

Period: Post-medieval

PRN: 24230/25003

Description: Melin Aberdaron consists of a central cross range (b), possibly the oldest part of the present structure, with two wings to the west (a), which contains substantial brick-built kiln for drying corn before grinding or storage, and (e). In addition there is a further unit to the east (d). It is built of large rubble-stone, and was until recently richly covered in ivy. It stands close to and below the B4413 road into the village of Aberdaron. Unit (a) is a two-storey structure but access is not possible to the first floor. The first floor in units (b) and (e) was accessed by a stair in unit (b). This is now dangerous. The slate roof is supported on pine timbers. The slates include Arfon slates ('Bangor blues') as well as poorer-quality Ordovician slates.

Significance: B – of regional significance as part of an early to mid-19th century corn mill

Threat: Adaptive re-use

Mitigation: Preservation *in situ*; conservation best practice as set out in Conservation Management Plan



Melin Aberdaron viewed from the west, showing (a) to the right, the wing containing the kiln and a first-floor room accessed by steps, and (e), which contains the dresser. These two parts appear to belong to different periods of construction.

2 MELIN ABERDARON - MACHINERY

Location: SH 17364 26472

Status: Within building listed grade II

Period: Post-medieval

Description: The machinery which drove two pairs of underdrift stones is complete, inside an enclosed hurst-frame (the internal framework supporting the gears and millstones which prevents damage to the building from the vibrations of the workings). A cast-iron bevel pit wheel survives, as does the spur wheel and the two stone nuts. The stones are situated at first floor level.

Fine tentering of the stones was carried out by means of a long shaped wooden arm. The sack-hoist remains *in situ*, with a clasp-arm belt wheel and wooden guards for the belt. A horizontal shaft drove a dressing machine (for separating flour from the rest of the meal), the frame of which stands on a corner of unit (e).

Significance: B – of regional significance as part of an early to mid-19th century corn mill

Threat: Adaptive re-use

Mitigation: Preservation *in situ*; conservation best practice as set out in Conservation Management Plan



The sack-hoist, showing the clasp-arm belt wheel and the wooden guards for the belt-drive.

3 MELIN ABERDARON - WHEELPIT

Location: SH 17364 26477

Status: Listed grade II

Period: Post-medieval

Description: A stone-built wheelpit on the north-west adjacent to longitudinal wall of 1 (b). The retaining wall of the B4413 road into the village forms one side of the wheelpit, the wall of 1 (b) the other. Water was fed over the wheel from a wrought-iron pipe in the dam of the mill-pond into a channel or tank supported on two very rusted rolled steel joists. The pit is now considerably overgrown and contains some debris



The wheelpit from the west

Significance: B – of regional significance as part of an early to mid-19th century corn mill

Threat: Adaptive re-use

Mitigation: Preservation *in situ*; conservation best practice as set out in Conservation Management Plan

4 MELIN ABERDARON – WATER-WHEEL

Location: SH 17364 26477
Status: Within structure listed grade II
Period: Post-medieval
Description: Parts of the overshot waterwheel, including the axle, hubs and some of the eight wooden spokes, are still *in situ*, as are two rusted steel joist supports for the launder and an iron rod, part of the control mechanism which raised a trap in the launder to let water onto the wheel. The surviving spokes have rotted considerably.



Remains of the waterwheel

Significance: B – of regional significance as part of an early to mid-19th century corn mill

Threat: Adaptive re-use

Mitigation: Conservation best practice as set out in Conservation Management Plan

5 MILL-POND

Location: SH 17379 26481
Period: Post-medieval or medieval
Description: The mill-pond is now dry. It is constrained by stone walls reinforced by concrete, and form a footpath accessible from the road directly above the mill. Steel railings have been erected to safeguard pedestrians.

A wrought-iron tube is evident in the stone-work of the dam; this formerly fed the launder for the waterwheel.



The mill-pond from the west

Significance: B – of regional significance as part of an early to mid-19th century corn mill

Threat: Adaptive re-use

Mitigation: Preservation *in situ*; conservation best practice as set out in Conservation Management Plan

6 WATER-SUPPLY

Location: SH 17379 26481
Period: Medieval or post-medieval
Description: The leat feeding the mill, now overgrown.
Significance: B – of regional significance as part of an early to mid-19th century corn mill's operations
Threat: Decay; adaptive re-use
Mitigation: Conservation best practice as set out in Conservation Management Plan

7 STRUCTURE

Location: SH 17352 26463
Period: Post-medieval
Description: A timber of corrugated iron structure immediately to the west of the mill, on the same axis, shown in 1918 and on the postcard (figure 2).
Significance: E
Threat: Redevelopment
Mitigation: Watching brief during development

8 STRUCTURE

Location: SH 17334 26447
Period: Post-medieval
Description: A structure to the west of the mill, on the same axis, shown in 1918, and no longer visible.
Significance: E
Threat: Redevelopment
Mitigation: Watching brief during development

9 STRUCTURES

Location: SH 17351 26445
Period: Post-medieval
Description: Sheds of recent construction built into and against the walls of the coal-yard (10) which shown in maps of 1889 to 1918, and identified as such on the sale catalogue map of 1907.

Significance: D
Threat: Redevelopment
Mitigation: Recording Level 1



10 COAL-YARD

Location: SH 17351 26445
Period: Post-medieval
Description: A coal-yard shown in 1889, possibly for coal used in the kiln, though it is also possible that the mill complex was used to sell general household necessities. Now evident as a stone-walled enclosure (see 9 above).
Significance: D
Threat: Redevelopment
Mitigation: Recording Level 1

11 WELL AND PUMP

Location: SH 17344 26450
Period: Post-medieval
Description: A well and pump shown on maps of 1889 to 1918, not now visible
Significance: E
Threat: Unknown
Mitigation: Watching brief during development

12 STRUCTURE

Location: SH 17357 26457
Period: Post-medieval
Description: A shed of recent construction.
Significance: D
Threat: Redevelopment



Mitigation: Recording Level 1

13 WHEEL-WRIGHT'S SHOP

Location: SH 17370 26450
Period: Post-medieval
Description: A structure shown on the 1900 map, apparently enlarged and identified as a wheelwright's shop such on the map of 1907, an example of local diversification within the mill complex; no longer visible.
Significance: E
Threat: Unknown
Mitigation: Watching brief during development

14 STRUCTURE

Location: SH 17382 26466
Period: Post-medieval
Description: A structure shown on the maps from 1889 to 1918; no longer visible. On the evidence of figure 1, a substantial two-storey stone-built structure.
Significance: E
Threat: Unknown
Mitigation: Watching brief during development

15 BURIED FEATURES

<i>Location:</i>	Unknown
<i>Period:</i>	Multi-period
<i>Description:</i>	This category includes all buried features within the study area.
<i>Significance:</i>	E
<i>Threat:</i>	Unknown
<i>Mitigation:</i>	Watching brief during development

7 CONCLUSIONS

The study area is of archaeological significance as the site of a well-preserved early 19th century rural corn-mill, which survives in good condition, including much of its machinery. Whilst these were common features in the rural economy, and many survive, their importance in sustaining the communities they served make them significant features. The survival of the corn-drying increases the significance of Melin Aberdaron.

The study area has considerable archaeological potential for the possibility that it might shed light on pre-19th century corn-milling.

The study area has considerable potential for the possibility that it might shed light on the archaeology of the Aberdaron *clas*.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the mitigation strategies set out in section 6 be pursued, and that any work to the mill itself as a listed building be carried out in the light of the Conservation Management Plan commissioned by the owner.

9 PROJECT ARCHIVE

Copies of the present document will be provided to the client and to Mark Roberts, planning consultant, and lodged with the HER and with the NMR.

10 BIBLIOGRAPHY

10.1 Published sources

Cadw, ICOMOS, Countryside Council for Wales: *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic interest in Wales* (2000)

Ellison DB: *Hammer and Nails: Capt Timothy Edwards of Nanhoron* (Caernarfon, 1997)

Jones-Pierce T: 'Bardsey – A Study in Monastic Origins', *TCHS* 24 (1960)

Wiliam E: 'The Corn Mills of Llŷn in the Fourteenth Century', *Melin* 2 (1986), 26-31

10.2 Unpublished sources

None identified

10.3 Archival holdings

10.3.1 CRO

XSC 331 (sale catalogue of 1907)
CRO: XD/101/1/1 (land tax assessment for parish of Aberdaron)
Tithe schedule and map for parish of Aberdaron, 1841

10.3.2 *NLW*

<http://delwedd.llgc.org.uk/delwedddau/jth/jth01806.jpg>

Llanfair and Brynodol R126 'Old Rentall of Cefnamwlch estate' (no date but handwriting suggests a 17th century date) includes 'the Mill & hose (sic) Melin Aberdaron' at rent of 15/- per annum.

B.R.A. 1956 Deposit (Parcel 969)/ 2 (dated 1717), John Griffith of 'Kevenamulch', co. Carnarvon, esquire, of the first part, brother and heir of William Griffith, late of the same place, esquire, deceased; Timothy Edwards of Bodurda, co. Carnarvon, esquire, of the second part; mortgage of messuages in the parish of Aberdaron including 'that mill called Aberdaron Mill now in the possession of John Jones or his assigns.'

B.R.A. 1956 Deposit (Parcel 969)/ 149.1 (dated 1812) – summary: 1. John Curtis of Berkeley Square, co. Middlesex, esquire, of the first part, Charles Wynne Griffith Wynne of Cefnamwlch, co. Carnarvon, and of Voelas, co. Denbigh, esquire, of the second part, and Richard Samuel White, the younger, of Lincoln's Inn, co. Middlesex, esquire, of the third part; appointment and conveyance of estates belonging to the second party situated in the parishes of Tydweiliog and Aberdaron in the county of Carnarvon to the use of John Curtis, esq., for 2000 years by way of mortgage for securing £10,500 and interest and Lease and Release Conveyance by Mr Curtis of the legal fee in other estates of Mr Wynne in the same county to the uses of a recovery deed of 11 March 1812. Premises mentioned: messuages, lands, etc., in the parish of Aberdaron, including Cefn Nona consisting of The Nant, Cae Gwyn, Llain Pen y Nant, Cae Pen y Nant, Nant bach, Cae Yndrws, Llainia Crunion, Llain y ffelin, and a mill, piece of waste land and messuage in the village of Aberdaron

229 (dated 1749); exemplification of the recovery of 100 messuages, 200 gardens, 10 orchards, two water corn grist mills, and 1,420 acres of land, and an annual rent of 35/-, in the townships and parishes of Llannor, Trevodvell, Aberech, Llangwnadle, Elernion, Llanailhayarne, Llangian, Botwnog, Llaniestyn, Meilltynne, Llaneingan, Rhiw, Bryncroes, Aberdaron, Bodryth, Denio, Pwllhely, Nevin, Pistill, Cerniog, Llanguyby, Llanbeblig, and Carnarvon, co. Carnarvon, suffered between John Wynne, esq., demandant, and Owen Williams, gent., tenant.

Voelas FA 3/1 Memorandum of proposals respecting the letting of Aberdaron mill dated 1811; tenant is to bear the expense of putting the mill in good order

10.3.3 *Plas Nanhoron*

Estate survey by William Jones, 1777

10.4 Existing archaeological records

10.4.1 *NMR files*

None

10.4.2 *GAT reports*

Ports and Harbours of Gwynedd (Report 671.2, April 2007)

Medieval and Post-Medieval Mills Scheduling Enhancement (Report 1042, 2011-2012)

Historic landscape characterisation for management – Llŷn Environmentally Sensitive Area (Project 1509)

10.4.3 Other

Laws K: *Proposed Visitor centre, Henfaes, Aberdaron – Archaeological Assessment* (for National Trust, September 2012)

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