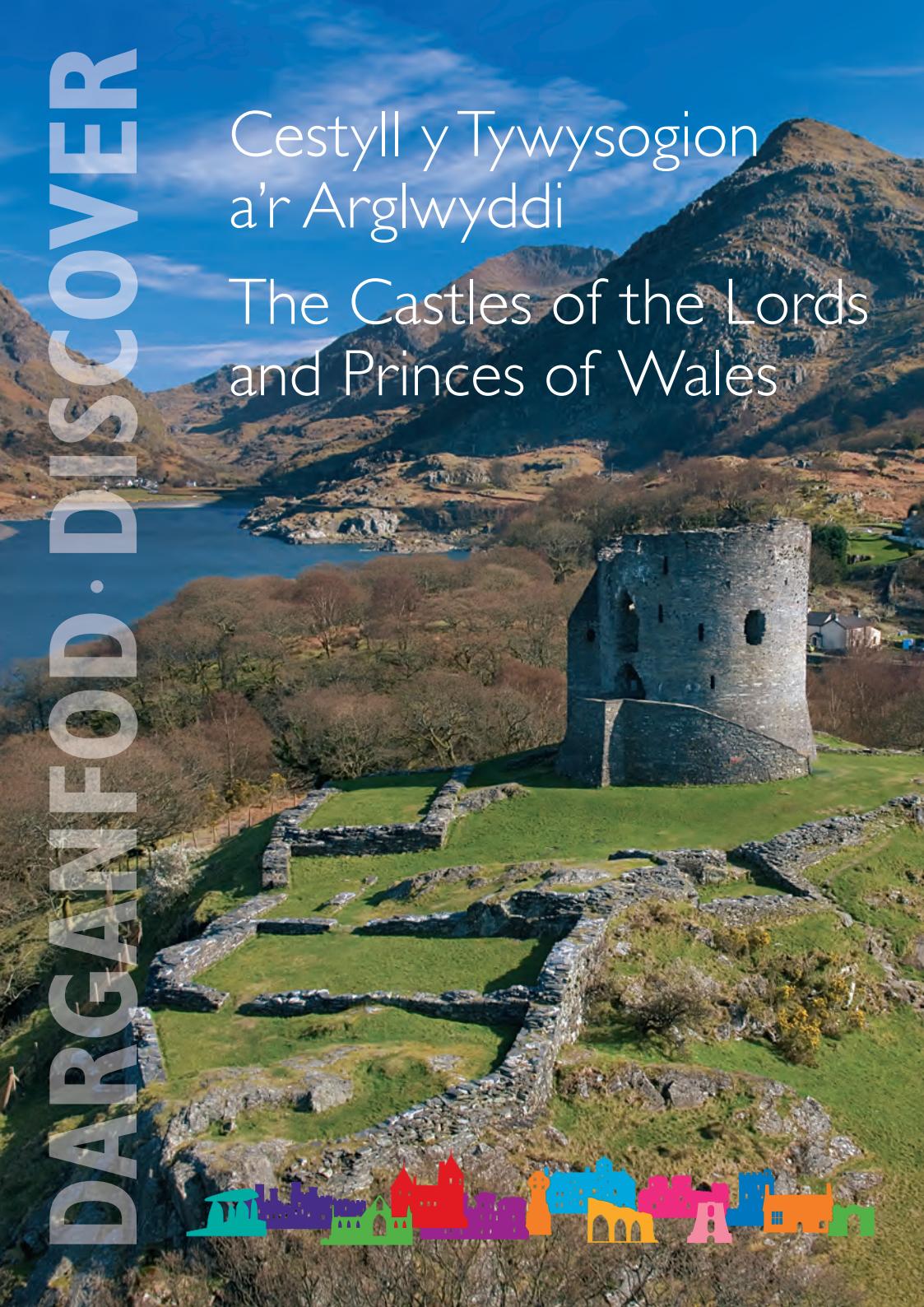


DARGANFOD · DISCOVER

Cestyll y Tywysogion
a'r Arglwyddi

The Castles of the Lords
and Princes of Wales





Delw bedrod o'r bedwaredd ganrif ar ddeg o Rhys ap Gruffudd — yr Arglwydd Rhys — tywysog Deheubarth (y De-orllewin) yn y ddeuddegfed ganrif.

A fourteenth-century tomb effigy of Rhys ap Gruffudd — the Lord Rhys — prince of Deheubarth (south-west Wales) in the twelfth century.



Mae'r darlun hwn o lawysgrif o ganol y drydedd ganrif ar ddeg yn dangos un o'r tywysogion yn deddfu. Mae i'w weld mewn copi o lyfr cyfraith mawr Hywel Dda. © Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru

This mid-thirteenth-century manuscript illustration shows a Welsh prince as lawgiver and appears in a copy of the great Welsh law book of Hywel Dda.
© National Library Wales

Gan fod gennym olion hyd at 500 o gestyll carreg ac argloddiau, hawdd deall bod Cymru'n cael ei hadnabod fel 'gwlad y cestyll'. Mae'r niferoedd mawr hyn yn dyst i'r darnio a fu ar rym a thir yn y Gymru ganoloesol, pan gâi cestyll eu codi i ddangos awdurdod ac i amddiffyn tir mewn cyfnod o frwydro ysbeidiol, a hwnnw'n frwydro lleol yn aml.

Arglyddi Eingl-normanaidd neu frenhinoedd Lloegr a gododd y mwyafri o'r cestyll a hynny mewn ymgais i ymestyn eu rheolaeth ar hyd neu y tu hwnt i'r 'Mers', sef tiroedd y ffin rhwng Cymru a Lloegr. Ond bu'r Cymry hefyd yn codi cestyll. Prif deyrnasoedd Cymru ar y pryd, a'i phrif dirfeddianwyr hefyd, oedd Gwynedd yn y Gogledd-orllewin, Deheubarth yn y De-orllewin a Phowys yn y Dwyrain, a cheid sawl tywysogaeth fach hefyd. Câi cestyll eu codi gan y tywysogion a'r arglywyddi i warchod eu tiroedd rhag ei gilydd a rhag cael eu goresgyn. Fel y Saeson, defnyddient eu cestyll i amddiffyn ffyrdd hefyd.

Un o brif arweinwyr Cymru yn y ddeuddegfed ganrif oedd Rhys ap Gruffudd, tywysog Deheubarth (m. 1197) — yr Arglwydd Rhys — a ddaeth i'r amlwg drwy lwyddo i wrthseffyl grym arglyddi Eingl-normanaidd y Mers. Cofnodir ei fod wedi adeiladu neu wedi meddiannu nifer o gestyll. Er hynny, yn y drydedd ganrif ar ddeg, tywysogion Gwynedd fu'r cyntaf i hawlio rheolaeth dros Gymru gyfan, yn arbennig felly dan arweiniad Llywelyn ap Iorwerth (m. 1240) a'i wŷr, Llywelyn ap Gruffudd (m. 1282). Tua diwedd yr Oesoedd Canol, roedd cestyll yn dal yn rhan o fydd aelodau o bendefigaeth Cymru, er enghraift Owain Glyndŵr adeg ei wrthryfel yn erbyn rheolaeth Lloegr yn gynnar yn y bymthegfed ganrif ac, yn nes ymlaen, arglyddi newydd o Gymry fel William Herbert o Raglan.

Cymharol fach (llai na 30) yw nifer y cestyll sydd wedi goroesi yng Nghymru ac sydd wedi'u cofnodi'n ffurfiol fel rhai a sefydlwyd gan y Cymry, ond mae'n rhaid bod y niferoedd gwreiddiol yn llawer uwch. Bellach mae holl gestyll hysbys y tywysogion a'r arglywyddi wedi'u diogelu'n llawn fel henebion cofrestredig a hyn yn sgil adolygiad trylwyr gan Cadw o'r amddiffyniad statudol.

Bwriad y llyfrlyn hwn yw cynnig cyflwyniad cyffredinol i'r cestyll sydd â chysylltiad agos â'r tywysogion a'r arglywyddi. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys cestyll dan ofal Cadw a chestyll sydd ym meddiant awdurdodau lleol neu mewn perchnogaeth breifat, ond sy'n cynnig rhywfaint o fynediad i'r cyhoedd. I gael rhagor o wybodaeth, ewch i wefan Cadw — bit.ly/ArglywyddiCymru.

With the remains of up to 500 earthwork and stone castles, Wales is truly 'a land of castles'. The large numbers reflect the fragmentation of power and land in medieval Wales, when castles were built to assert authority and defend land in a period dominated by intermittent, often localised, warfare.

Most of the castles were built by the kings of England or the Anglo-Norman lords in their bid to extend control along or beyond the Welsh 'March' — an area of land on the border between England and Wales. But the Welsh were castle builders too. The Welsh-held lands were divided between the major princedoms of Gwynedd (centred on north-west Wales), Deheubarth (centred on south-west Wales) and Powys (in east Wales), and several smaller realms. Castles were built by the Welsh lords and princes to defend their land from each other, from invasion, and, like the English, to protect important routes.

It was Rhys ap Gruffudd, prince of Deheubarth (d. 1197) — the Lord Rhys — who emerged as one of the greatest Welsh leaders of the twelfth century, able to withstand the power of the Anglo-Norman lords of the March. He is recorded as building or occupying a number of castles. However, during the thirteenth century, the princes of Gwynedd were the first Welsh princes to claim rule over all of Wales, especially under the leadership of Llywelyn ap Iorwerth (d. 1240) and his grandson, Llywelyn ap Gruffudd (d. 1282). During the later Middle Ages, castles continued to be associated with members of the Welsh gentry, for example Owain Glyndŵr at the time of his uprising against English rule in the early fifteenth century, and, later still, new Welsh lords such as William Herbert of Raglan.

Although relatively few (less than 30) of the surviving castles in Wales are formally recorded as being Welsh foundations, the original numbers must have been much higher. All of the known castles of the Welsh lords and princes are now fully protected as scheduled monuments following a thorough review of statutory protection carried out by Cadw.

This booklet is intended to give a general introduction to the castles closely associated with the Welsh lords and princes. They include castles in Cadw's care as well as castles owned by local authorities or in private hands, but offering some level of public access. For further information, please visit the Cadw website — bit.ly/LordsofWales.



Pen wedi'i gerfio mewn carreg, a
gafwyd yng Nghastell Deganwy, sef y
tywyssog Llywelyn ap Iorwerth o bosibl.
© Amgueddfa Cymru

A carved stone head, found at Deganwy Castle, may represent the Welsh prince, Llywelyn ap Iorwerth. © National Museum Wales



Darlun dychmygus o ryw 1530
yn dangos Llywelyn ap Gruffudd,
tywyssog Cymru, yn eistedd wrth
ochr y brenin Edward I o Loegr yn y
Senedd. © Ymddiriedolaeth y Casglad
Brenhinol / © Ei Mawrhydi y Frenhines
Elizabeth II 2018

An imaginative illustration of about
1530 showing Llywelyn ap Gruffudd,
prince of Wales, seated alongside
Edward I in Parliament. © Royal
Collection Trust / © Her Majesty
Queen Elizabeth II 2018



Dolwyddelan

Cestyll y Cymry dan ofal Cadw

Castell Caergwrle

OS 117 • SJ 307572

Castell Caergwrle yw'r safle diweddaraf sydd wedi'i sicrhau gan Cadw. Cafodd ei godi rhwng 1278–83 gan Dafydd ap Gruffudd (m. 1283), hanner brawd Llywelyn ap Gruffudd, ar dir a roddwyd iddo gan Edward I, brenin Lloegr; ac a gipwyd oddi ar deyrnas Powys. Dyma'r castell olaf i gael ei godi gan un o dywysogion brodorol Cymru, ac o'r cadarnle yma y cychwynnodd cyrch Dafydd yn erbyn garsiwn y Saeson ym Mhenarlâg ym 1282, a arweiniodd at ail ymgrych Edward yn erbyn y Cymry. Parhaodd y gwaith ar y castell dan goron Lloegr, ond mae'n debyg ei fod yn dal heb ei gwblhau pan gefnwyd arno yn sgil Tân. Roedd yn adfail erbyn 1335.

Mae llwybr ag arwyddion ar gael o gyffordd Wrexham Road a Castle Street yng nghanol y pentref.

Castell Carreg Cennen

SA19 6UA

Mae'n debyg bod castell brodorol yn perthyn i deulu brenhinol Deheubarth ar y safle hwn ers tro byd — roedd gan Rhys ap Gruffudd gestyll pwysig yn Aberteifi a Dinefwr ac mae'n bosibl ei fod wedi adeiladu yng Ngharreg Cennen hefyd — ond ym 1248 yr ceir y dystiolaeth ddogfennol gyntaf ynglŷn â'r gaer. Yn y flwyddyn honno, mae Brut y Tywysogion yn cofnodi bod Rhys Fychan, gor-wyr yr Arglwydd Rhys, wedi adennill y castell ar ôl i'w fam ei fradychu a rhoi'r castell i'r Saeson oherwydd ei chasineb at ei mab. Mae'r gaer sy'n sefyll heddiw yn deillio'n gyfan gwbl o ddiwedd y drydedd ganrif ar ddeg a dechrau'r bedwaredd ganrif ar ddeg, ac mae'n debyg ei bod wedi'i chodi gan John Giffard ar ôl i Edward I gipio'r castell ym 1277.

Welsh castles in Cadw's care

Caergwrle Castle

OS 117 • SJ 307572

Caergwrle Castle is Cadw's most recent acquisition. Built between 1278–83 by Dafydd ap Gruffudd (d. 1283), half-brother of Llywelyn ap Gruffudd, on lands given to him by Edward I and taken from Powys, it was the last castle to be built by a native Welsh prince. The castle provided the base for Dafydd's attack on the English garrison at Hawarden in 1282, which sparked Edward's second Welsh campaign. Work on the castle continued under the Crown, but it was probably incomplete when it was abandoned after a fire and was ruinous by 1335. There is a waymarked path from the junction of Wrexham Road and Castle Street in the centre of the village.



Carreg Cennen Castle

SA19 6UA

Although a native Welsh castle belonging to the Deheubarth dynasty had probably long stood on the site — Rhys ap Gruffudd had important castles at Cardigan and Dinefwr and possibly built at Carreg Cennen too — the earliest documentary evidence for a stronghold only appears in 1248. In that year, the Brut y Tywysogion (Chronicle of the Princes) records that Rhys Fychan — great grandson of the Lord Rhys — recovered the castle, which his mother had treacherously delivered to the English out of hostility towards him. The stronghold that now stands dates entirely from the late thirteenth and early fourteenth centuries and was probably built by John Giffard after Edward I's capture of the castle in 1277.





Castell y Bere

© GIGGINMRW: Paul R. Davis

Castell y Bere LL36 9TS

Llywelyn ap Iorwerth established Castell y Bere in 1221 after he took back control of the territories of Meirionnydd and Arduwy from his son Gruffudd (d. 1244), although some elements of the castle may have been constructed by his grandson, Llywelyn ap Gruffudd. The castle once controlled an important routeway and protected the southern border of Gwynedd. It features two towers of the characteristic Welsh 'D-shaped' plan — rectangular with one half-rounded end — providing a spacious living chamber, combined with the military advantages of a wide field of defensive fire at the rounded end. The English captured the castle in 1283 and undertook some works, but it seems to have been abandoned by the end of the thirteenth century.



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Castell Cricieth LL52 0DP

Dyma gastell a ddechreuwyd yn y 1230au gan Llywelyn ap Iorwerth, ac ar sail y porthdy soffistigedig a'i ddau dŵr a'i dechnoleg filwrol gyfoes roedd yn ddatganiad grymus o rym ac awdurdod y tywysog fel y prif lywodraethwr brodorol. *Brut y Tywysogion* sy'n rhoi'r cyfeiriad cyntaf at y castell, gan nodi bod mab ac aer Llywelyn, Dafydd ap Llywelyn (m. 1246), wedi carcharu ei hanner brawd Gruffudd yno ym 1239. Llywelyn ap Gruffudd a ychwanegodd y ward allanol a'i dau dŵr sylweddol, ond cafwyd cyfnod pwysig o drwsio ac ailadeiladu yn y castell ar ôl iddo gael ei gipio gan Edward I ym 1283, gan gynnwys ailwampio tŵr y goledd er mwyn gosod peiriant taflu cerrig ar y to. Tu 1359, Syr Hywel y Fwyall fu'r Cymro cyntaf i'w benodi'n gwnstabl Cricieth. Ym 1403, cododd byddin Owain Glyndŵr warchae ar y castell, a gafodd ei ddinistrio yn nes ymlaen.



Cricieth/Criccieth



Cricieth Castle LL52 0DP

Begun by Llywelyn ap Iorwerth in the 1230s, the castle — with its sophisticated twin-towered gatehouse incorporating up-to-date military technology — was a powerful statement of the prince's power and authority as the premier native ruler in Wales. The earliest reference to the castle appears in the *Brut y Tywysogion*, which records that Llywelyn's son and heir, Dafydd ap Llywelyn (d. 1246), imprisoned his half-brother, Gruffudd, there in 1239. Llywelyn ap Gruffudd added the outer ward with its two substantial towers, but there was also a major campaign of repair and rebuilding on the castle after its capture by Edward I in 1283 — including the remodelling of the north tower so that a stone-throwing engine could be mounted on its roof. Around 1359, Syr Hywel y Fwyall was appointed Cricieth's first Welsh constable. The castle was besieged by the forces of Owain Glyndŵr in 1403 and later destroyed.

Castell Dinefwr



SA19 6RT

Mae i Ddinefwr le arbennig yng nghalonnau'r Cymry gan mai yma roedd prif lys teyrnas Deheubarth yn ôl Ilyfrau cyfraith y drydedd ganrif ar ddeg. Mae'n debyg mai Rhys ap Gruffudd fu'n gyfrifol am sefydlu'r castell, er iddo gael ei ddatblygu gan ei ddisgynyddion a pheri anghydfod yn eu mysg yn y drydedd ganrif ar ddeg. Efallai fod elfen amlcaf y castell, y tŵr mawr crwn, wedi'i hadeiladu gan ei fab, Rhys Gryg (m.1233), ond cafodd rhannau sylweddol o'r castell presennol eu codi ar ôl iddo gael ei gipio gan y Saeson ym 1287. Ar ddiwedd y bymthegfed ganrif a dechrau'r unfed ganrif ar bymtheg, daeth Dinefwr i feddiant Rhys ap Thomas (m. 1525), a urddwyd yn farchog gan Henry VII o Loegr am ei gefnogaeth ar faes Bosworth ym 1485. Tua diwedd yr ail ganrif ar bymtheg cafodd y castell ei weddnewid drwy addasu brig y gorthwr i greu tymor haf.

Castell Dolbadarn



LL55 4UB

Dolbadarn sydd â'r enghraift orau sydd wedi goroesi o dŵr crwn Cymreig. Mae'n debyg iddo gael ei godi gan Llywelyn ap Iorwerth yn y degdau olaf cyn ei farwolaeth ym 1240. Aeth ati'n fwriadol i efelychu esiamplau Seisnig a godwyd gan arglywyd Eincll-Normanaidd, gan gynnwys Ynysgynwraidd, Tretŵr a Bronllys yn y De-ddwyrain, ac ymgorffori'r datblygiadau diweddaraf mewn pensaerniâeth filwrol.

Dywedi'r bod Llywelyn ap Gruffudd wedi cadw ei frawd, Owain ap Gruffudd (m. tua 1282), yn garcharor yma am ddua ddegawd. Mewn awdl gyfoes, cawn Hywel Foel ap Griffri yn cwyno am garcharu Owain, 'Gŵr ysydd yn nhŵr yn hir westai'. Yn ôl Hywel, dylai brawd faddau i'w frawd, a dim ond Duw sydd â'r hawl i ddifeddiannu rhywun: 'Ni fedd namyn Duw ddigyoethogi dyn'.

Dinefwr Castle



SA19 6RT

Dinefwr occupies a place of great affection in the minds of the Welsh people, for, according to the thirteenth-century lawbooks, it was the principal court of the kingdom of Deheubarth. It is likely that the castle owes its origin to Rhys ap Gruffudd, although it was developed, and fought over, by his descendants in the thirteenth century. The great round tower which dominates the castle may have been built by his son, Rhys Gryg (d.1233), but substantial portions of the castle as it now stands were constructed after it passed into English hands in 1287. In the late fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries, Dinefwr passed into the life-time possession of Rhys ap Thomas (d. 1525), who was knighted by Henry VII for his support at Bosworth Field in 1485. The castle was transformed in the late seventeenth century when the top of the keep was rebuilt to form a summerhouse.



Dinefwr

Dolbadarn Castle



LL55 4UB

Dolbadarn, which boasts the finest surviving example of a Welsh round tower, was probably constructed by Llywelyn ap Iorwerth in the last decades before his death in 1240. It was consciously modelled on English examples built by the Anglo-Norman lords — including Skenfrith, Tretower and Bronllys castles, all in south-east Wales — and emulated the latest advances in military architecture. Llywelyn ap Gruffudd is said to have kept his brother, Owain ap Gruffudd (d. about 1282), imprisoned there for two decades. In a contemporary poem, Hywel Foel ap Griffri laments Owain's captivity, describing him in the opening line as: 'A man who is in the tower, long a guest'. Hywel laments 'Why does brother not forgive brother? It pertains only to God to dispossess a man'.



Dolbadarn



Dolforwyn

Castell Dolforwyn

SY15 6JJ

Yng Nghyntiad Trefaldwyn ym 1267, rhoddodd brenin Lloegr, Henry III, gydnabyddiaeth ffurfiol mai Llywelyn ap Gruffudd oedd tywysog Cymru. Cafodd Castell Dolforwyn ei leoli'n fwriadol i herio castell a bwrdeistref y Saeson yn Nhrefaldwyn, gwta bedair milltir i ffrwd, ac yn wrthwynt i gadarnle Gruffudd ap Gwenwynwyn o Bowys yn y Trallwng. Dechreuwyd adeiladu ym 1273, ac roedd y cynllun yn un mwy rheolaidd na llawer o gestyll cynharach y Cymry, er bod yno nifer o nodweddiann cyffredin gan gynnwys gorthwr petryal hen ffasiwn a thŵr mawr crwn, wedi'u cysylltu gan lenfuriau â thŵr siâp D ar ei hymyl a phorth syml. Mae'n ymddangos bod Llywelyn wedi cwblhau amddiffynfeydd y castell cyn iddo gael ei gipio ar ôl gwarchae gan Edward I ym 1277. Trosglwyddwyd y castell wedyn i un o deuluoedd grymus y Mers, teulu Mortimer, a aeth ati i'w drwsio gan godi'r rhan fwyaf o'r adeiladau domestig.



Dolwyddelan

Castell Dolwyddelan

LL25 0JD

Yn ôl y traddodiad, Dolwyddelan yw man geni Llywelyn ap Iorwerth. Er hynny, cafodd y castell sy'n sefyll yno bellach ei godi gan y tywysog i ddisodli un cynharach — Tomen Castell — a hynny yn ôl pob tebyg rhwng 1210 a'i farwolaeth ym 1240. Roedd i gastell Llywelyn orthwr petryal ar ddau lawr, gyda siambr drwsiadus uwchben seler heb olau. Ychwanegiad o'r bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg yw'r bylchuriau. Cafodd y castell ei ehangu gan Edward I ar ôl iddo ei gipio ym 1283, gan godi uchder y gorthwr a chodi tŵr y gorllewin, mae'n debyg, i gynnig llety heliathach. Yn niwed y bymthegfed ganrif, prynwyd pryddies Dolwyddelan gan Maredudd ap Ieuan ap Robert, a ddaeth â'i deulu i'r castell i fyw.

Dolforwyn Castle

SY15 6JJ

In 1267, King Henry III of England formally recognised Llywelyn ap Gruffudd as prince of Wales in the Treaty of Montgomery. Dolforwyn Castle was deliberately sited to rival the royal castle and borough at Montgomery, just 4 miles away, and as a counter to the centre of power of Gruffudd ap Gwenwynwyn of Powys at Welshpool. Begun in 1273, it was more regular in plan than many of the earlier Welsh castles, but displayed a number of common features — including an old-fashioned rectangular keep and large round tower, connected by curtain walls with a flanking D-shaped tower and a simple gateway. Llywelyn had evidently completed the castle's defences before it was besieged and captured by Edward I in 1277. The castle then passed to the powerful Marcher family, the Mortimers, who repaired it and erected the greater part of the domestic buildings.

Dolwyddelan Castle

LL25 0JD

According to tradition, Dolwyddelan was the birthplace of Llywelyn ap Iorwerth. However, the castle that now stands there was built by the prince to replace an earlier castle — Tomen Castell — probably between 1210 and his death in 1240. Llywelyn's castle consisted of a rectangular keep of two storeys, with a well-appointed principal chamber above an unlit basement. The battlements are a nineteenth-century addition. Edward I added to the castle after he captured it in 1283, probably heightening the keep and building the west tower to provide more spacious accommodation. In the late fifteenth century, Maredudd ap Ieuan ap Robert purchased the lease of Dolwyddelan and moved his family into the castle.



Carreg Cennen



Dryslwyn

Castell Dryslwyn

SA32 8RW

Mae'r dystiolaeth ddogfennol gyntaf sy'n sôn am Castell Dryslwyn yn dyddio o 1246, ond mae'r dystiolaeth archaeolegol yn awgrymu bod y gwaith adeiladu wedi dechrau rai blynnyddoedd yn gynt. Roedd adeiladau carreg cyntaf Castell Dryslwyn yn cynnwys gorthwr crwn, ward gaerog afreolaidd a oedd yn dilyn maint a siâp y brynn, a phorth syml. Ehangwyd y castell gan arglywyddi Deheubarth wedyn a'i ymestyn a'i wella ymhellach dan law Rhys ap Maredudd (m. 1292) yn y 1280au, nes ei fod ymysg y castell carreg mwyaf erioed i'w codi gan yr arglywyddi brodorol. Pan wrthryfeloedd Rhys yn erbyn Edward I ym 1287, llwyddodd Dryslwyn i wrthsefyll gwarchae'r Saeson am dair wythnos. Ychydig yn unig o waith adeiladu newydd a gafwyd tra oedd y castell yn nwyo'r Saeson, a chafodd ei adael yn wag ar ôl cael ei gipio gan fyddin Owain Glyndŵr ym 1403.



Ewloe

Castell Ewloe CH5 3BZ

Cafwyd llawer o dradrof ar y cwestiwn ai Llywelyn ap Iorwerth a ddechreuodd godi Ewloe yn y 1220–30au ynteu Llywelyn ap Gruffudd ar ôl 1257, ond erbyn hyn mae'r dystiolaeth fel pe bai o blaidd Llywelyn ap Iorwerth fel y cyntaf i adeiladu ar y safle. Yr unig gyfeiriad pendant at y castell mewn dogfen yw hwnnw yn Rholiau Pledion Caer ym 1311, sy'n awgrymu bod Llywelyn ap Gruffudd wedi adenill maenor Ewloe oddi ar y Saeson tua diwedd 1256 ac wedi adfer y castell mewn llecyn yn y goedwig. Mae'r castell wedi'i rannu'n ddwy ward a nodwedd amlcaf y ward uchaf yw'r gorthwr petryal trawiadol ar siâp D a oedd yn cynnwys un ystafell fawr uwchben seler. Does dim dystiolaeth bod gwaith wedi'i wneud gan y Saeson ar ôl iddyn nhw ei gipio ym 1277, ac mae'r adroddiad ym 1311 yn dweud bod y castell yn gyfan i raddau helaeth ar y pryd.

Dryslwyn Castle

SA32 8RW

Although the first documentary reference to Dryslwyn Castle dates to 1246, archaeological evidence suggests its construction began some years earlier. The first stone buildings at Dryslwyn included a round keep, an irregular defended ward dictated by the size and shape of the hilltop, and a simple gateway. The castle grew under successive lords of Deheubarth and was further enlarged and improved under Rhys ap Maredudd (d. 1292) in the 1280s, making it one of the largest masonry castles ever raised by the native Welsh lords. When Rhys rebelled against Edward I in 1287, Dryslwyn withstood the English besieging forces for three weeks. There was little new building while the castle was in English hands, and it was abandoned after its surrender to the forces of Owain Glyndŵr in 1403.

Ewloe Castle CH5 3BZ

There has been much debate about whether Ewloe was begun by Llywelyn ap Iorwerth in the 1220–30s or Llywelyn ap Gruffudd after 1257, but the evidence now seems to favour Llywelyn ap Iorwerth as the first builder on the site. The only explicit documentary reference to the castle appears in a report in the Chester Plea Rolls from 1311. It suggests that, after Llywelyn ap Gruffudd recovered the manor of Ewloe from the English in late 1256, he restored the castle 'in the corner of the wood'. The castle is divided into two wards with the upper ward dominated by an impressive D-shaped keep which contained only one large room above a cellar. There is no evidence that the English undertook any work following its capture in 1277, and the 1311 report states that the castle was then 'in great part standing'.

Castell Rhaglan

NP15 2BT

Rhaglan oedd un o'r cestyll canoloesol olaf i gael ei godi yng Nghymru neu Loegr. Cafodd y Tŵr Mawr chweochrog unigryw a Phorth y De eu codi ar safle castell neu faenordy blaenorol gan Syr William ap Thomas (m. 1445), y pumed mab mewn teulu o fân foneddigion. Daethai i amlgrwydd yn Agincourt ac roedd yn un o ddosbarth cynyddol o uchelwyr o Gymry mewn swyddi o bwys yn llywodraeth Cymru yng nghanol y bymthegfed ganrif. Er hynny, ei fab, William Herbert (m. 1469), a weddnewidiodd y castell yn balas-gaer gwych ac iddo borth ysblenniyyd a chyfresi o ystafelloedd o gwmpas dau gwrt, sef Cwrt y Ffynnon a'r Cwrt Palmantog. Roedd Herbert yn frwd o blaid teulu lorc yn ystod Rhyfel y Rhosynnau ac enillodd ymddiriedaeth y brenin Edward IV. Yn ystod ei yrfa cododd i radd larll Penfro cyn cael ei ddienyddio gan garfan Lancaster. Dan berchnogaeth y Somersetaid wedyn, ieirll Caerwrangon, cafodd y castell ei weddnewid yn blasty Dadeni gwych â gerddi helaeth yn yr unfed ganrif ar bymtheg a'r ail.

Raglan Castle

NP15 2BT

Raglan was one of the last medieval castles to be built in England and Wales. The unique hexagonal Great Tower and the South Gate were built on the site of an older castle or manor house by Sir William ap Thomas (d. 1445), the fifth son of a minor Welsh gentry family. He had risen to prominence at Agincourt and was one of a growing class of Welsh gentry to hold key positions in the governance of mid-fifteenth-century Wales. However, it was his son, William Herbert (d. 1469), who transformed the castle into a great fortress-palace with an impressive gatehouse and suites of rooms around two courtyards — the Fountain Court and the Pitched Stone Court. Herbert was a committed Yorkist during the Wars of the Roses and a trusted supporter of King Edward IV. His career saw him rise to the title of Earl of Pembroke before his execution by the Lancastrian cause. Under the later ownership of the Somersets, earls of Worcester, the castle was transformed into a magnificent Renaissance house with extensive gardens in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.



Rhaglan/Raglan

Dilynwch y Stori

Chwiliwch am y symbolau hyn i ddarganfod lleoedd pwysig eraill i'r tywysogion a'r arglyddi.



Tywysogion Gwynedd



Tywysogion Deheubarth



Owain Glyndŵr

Follow the Story

Look out for these symbols to discover other important places of the lords and princes of Wales.



Princes of Gwynedd



Princes of Deheubarth



Owain Glyndŵr



Aberteifi/Cardigan

© GHCC/NMRW: Paul R. Davis

Cestyll y Cymry sy'n cynnig mynediad i'r cyhoedd, ac nad ydynt dan ofal Cadw

Castell Aberteifi SA43 IJA

Yn ôl y cofnodion, cafodd ei godi â cherrig gan yr Arglwydd Rhys ym 1171 a dyma safle'r eisteddfod gyntaf. Mae'n debyg mai gwaith naill ai William Marshal neu Goron Lloegr yw'r rhan fywyaf o'r gwaith maen sy'n weladwy, a hynny yng nghanol neu ddiweddyd y drydedd ganrif ar ddeg. Er hynny, mae gwaith cloddio wedi datgelu olion walau cynharach o bosibl. Dan ofal Ymddiriedolaeth Cadwraeth Adeiladau Cadwgan. Agored bob dydd — cardigancastle.com/cy



Carndochan

© GHCC/NMRW: Paul R. Davis

Carndochan, y Bala

OS 125 • SH 847306

Castell carreg a chanddo orthwr mawr siâp D, porthdy a thri thŵr arall, wedi'i gladdu dan ei rwbel ei hun mewn man uchel ac agored ger y Bala. Does dim cofnodion dogfennol ynglŷn â'r castell a'r unig awgrym o'i ddyddiad yw ffur y twr siâp D — sy'n debyg i'r rhai yng Nghastell y Bere ac Ewloe — ond mae bron yn sicr mai un o gestyll Llywelyn ap Iorwerth neu Llywelyn ap Gruffudd ydyw. Perchnogaeth breifat, ond ar dir mynediad agored.



Carn Fadrynn

© CBH/CACAHM

Carn Fadrynn, Botwnnog

OS 123 • SH 280352

Bryngaer garreg drawiadol o'r Oes Haearn a chastell canoloesol ar benrhyn Llŷn. Yn ôl Gerallt Gymro ym 1188, roedd castell y Cymry ar y copa newydd gael ei adeiladu ac yn perthyn i feibion Owain Gwynedd (m. 1170). Dyma un o gestyll cynharaf y Cymry ac mae'n symbol o rym ac aргlwyddiaeth yn y cyfnod ansicr ar ôl marwolaeth Owain Gwynedd a rhannu ei diroedd rhwng ei feibion. Mynediad cyhoeddus.

Welsh castles with public access, not in Cadw's care

Cardigan Castle SA43 IJA

Recorded as having been built in stone by the Lord Rhys in 1171 and the site of the first Eisteddfod. Most of the visible masonry castle is likely to be the work of either William Marshal or the English Crown in the mid to late thirteenth century, but excavations have revealed the remains of possible earlier walls. In the care of The Cadwgan Building Preservation Trust. Open daily — cardigancastle.com

Carndochan, Bala

OS 125 • SH 847306

Stone castle with a large D-shaped keep, gatehouse and three other towers, buried in its own rubble in a very high and exposed location near Bala. There are no documentary records of the castle and it can only be dated by the form of its D-shaped tower — comparable with those at Castell y Bere and Ewloe — but it is almost certainly a castle of Llywelyn ap Iorwerth or Llywelyn ap Gruffudd. Privately owned but on open access land.

Carn Fadrynn, Botwnnog

OS 123 • SH 280352

Spectacular stone-built Iron Age hillfort and medieval castle on the Llŷn peninsula. The Welsh castle crowns the highest part of the summit, described by Gerald of Wales in 1188 as newly built and property of the sons of Owain Gwynedd (d. 1170). It is one of the earliest Welsh castles and symbolises power and lordship in the unsettled period following the death of Owain Gwynedd and the division of the land between his sons. Public access.

Castell Deganwy



OS 115 • SH 782794

Caer eiconig sy'n gorwedd ar draws dau frigiad craig ysbennydd. Mae wedi'i chofnodi fel caer Gymreig ganoloesol gynnar a safle cyfres o gestyll yn perthyn i'r Norman, Robert o Ruddlan (m. 1088–93), ac i dwysogion Gwynedd. Er hynny, mae'r rhan fwyaf o'r adfeilion gweladwy yn deillio o castell carreg anferth a godwyd gan Henry III ym 1245–50 ac a ddnistrwyd ym 1263 gan Llywelyn ap Gruffudd. Perchnogaeth breifat, mynediad caniataol hyd at droed y graig.

Dinas Emrys, Beddgelert



OS 115 • SH 606492

Gorthwr carreg petryal yw olion amlycaf y castell canoloesol ond mae'n gorwedd ar safle bryngae'r gynharach o'r Oes Haearn ac effalai caer ganoloesol gynharach. Does dim dystiolaeth ddogfennol ynglŷn â chodi'r gorthwr carreg ond mae'n perthyn yn ôl pob tebyg i gyfnod Llywelyn ap Iorwerth, yr adeiladrwr cestyll prysuraf ymysg twyssigion Cymru. Dan ofal yr Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol, mynediad caniataol.

Castell Dinas Brân, Llangollen

OS 117 • SJ 223431

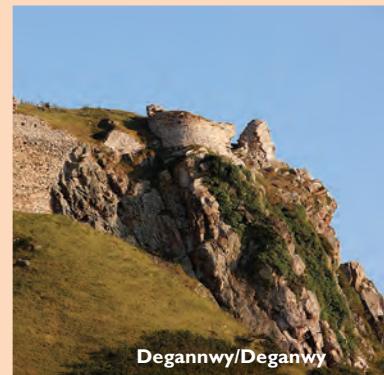
Adfail eiconig ar safle uwchben dyffryn Dyfrdwy sy'n edrych dros dref Llangollen, ac a godwyd gan Madog ap Llywelyn o Bowys Fadog, yn y 1260au mae'n debyg. Twr siâp D yn null nodweddiauol y Cymry, a hwnnw'n ffurfio rhan o'r llenfur, yw'r elfen amlycaf yn yr adfeillion sy'n sefyll, ond mae'r nodweddion eraill yn cynnwys gorthwr carreg petryal a phorthdy. Gwelodd lluoedd Edward I fod y castell wedi'i adael ac wedi'i losgi yn ystod eu cyrchoedd ym 1277. Ar ôl 1282 cafodd ei drosglwyddo i John de Warenne, a ymgartrefodd yng nghastell Holt, heb ailadeiladu yma. Dan ofal Cyngor Sir Ddinbych, mynediad cyhoeddus.

Deganwy Castle



OS 115 • SH 782794

An iconic fortification sprawling across two spectacular rocky outcrops. It is documented as an early medieval Welsh fortress and the site of the successive castles of the Norman, Robert of Rhuddlan (d. 1088–93), and the princes of Gwynedd. Most of the visible ruins, however, are of a massive stone castle built by Henry III in 1245–50 and destroyed by Llywelyn ap Gruffudd in 1263. Privately owned, permissive access to the base of the rock.



Degannwy/Deganwy

Dinas Emrys, Beddgelert



OS 115 • SH 606492

A rectangular stone keep is the clearest relic of the medieval castle, but it is on the site of an earlier Iron Age hillfort and possibly an earlier medieval fortification. There is no documentary evidence for the construction of the stone keep, but it is likely to belong to the reign of Llywelyn ap Iorwerth, the most active castle builder amongst the Welsh princes. In the care of the National Trust, permissive access.



Dinas Emrys

Castell Dinas Brân, Llangollen

OS 117 • SJ 223431

An iconic ruin on a towering site in the Dee valley overlooking Llangollen, built by Madog ap Llywelyn of Powys Fadog probably during the 1260s. A typically Welsh D-shaped tower forming part of the curtain wall is the most impressive of the standing remains, but other features include a rectangular stone keep and a gatehouse. Edward I's campaigning forces found it deserted and burnt down in 1277. After 1282 it was transferred to John de Warenne, who made his base at Holt Castle, and did not rebuild it. In the care of Denbighshire County Council, public access.



Dinas Brân



Glyndyfrdwy

Glyndyfrdwy neu 'Mwnt Owain Glyndŵr', Corwen

OS 125 • SJ 125431

Mwnt o bridd ar safle grymus uwchben dyffryn afon Dyfrdwy. Gwyddom fod gan Owain Glyndŵr ganolfan yma, ond mae'n bosibl ei fod yn deillio o waith y Normanaid. Yma y cododd Owain ei luman ym 1400 ar ddechrau ei wrthryfel mawr. Mae'n debyg bod tŷ Glyndŵr wedi'u leoli ar y llwyfan yn y floseddwr. Perchnogaeth breifat, mynediad caniataol.



Castellnewydd Emlyn/
Newcastle Emlyn

Domen Castell, y Trallwng

OS 126 • SJ 230074

Mwnt trawiadol, a lawnt bowlion erbyn hyn yn y beili, a godwyd gan dywysogion Powys rywbryd cyn 1196 mae'n debyg. Cafodd ei gipio bryd hynny a'i ddal am gyfnod gan lu o Gymry a Saeson ar y cyd. Ym mherchnogaeth Ystâd Powys, ond dan ofal Cyngor Tref y Trallwng, mynediad caniataol i'r tu allan.

Castellnewydd Emlyn

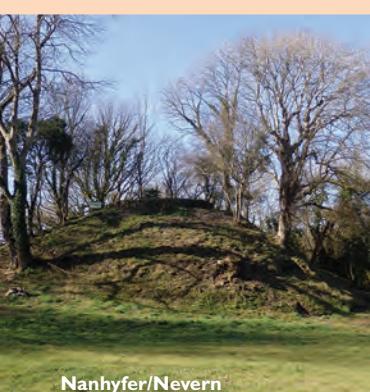
OS 145 • SN 311407

Mae'n debyg mai Maredudd ap Rhys o Ddeheubarth a gododd y castell, tua 1240. Yn sgil gwrrthryfel ymysg y Cymry, fe'i hildiwyd i goron Lloegr ym 1287 gan aros yn nwylo'r goron tan 1349. Yn ystod y cyfnod hwn y crafod y porthdy a'i ddua dŵr anferth a'r adeiladau eraill eu codi, ond mae'n debyg bod olion archaeolegol castell y Cymry wedi'u claddu ac yn dal yma. Dan ofal Cyngor Sir Gaerfyrddin, mynediad cyhoeddus.

Castell Nanhfer

OS 145 • SN 082401

Mwnt a beili a ddisodlwyd wedyn gan gastell mewnol ac iddo dŵr carreg a beili. Yr arglywyddi Normanaidd yng Nghymru, sef teulu Fitz Martin, oedd y perchnogion gwreiddiol ond o 1155 ymlaen bu'n



Nanhfer/Nevern

© GHC/NMRW; Paul R. Davis

Glyndyfrdwy or 'Owain Glyndŵr's Mound', Corwen

OS 125 • SJ 125431

An earthen motte occupying a commanding position overlooking the Dee valley. It was a known seat of Owain Glyndŵr, but was possibly Norman in origin. It was here that he raised his standard in 1400 signalling his great uprising. Glyndŵr's house probably stood on the adjacent moated platform. Privately owned, permissive access.

Domen Castell, Welshpool

OS 126 • SJ 230074

An impressive motte, with a bowling green now occupying the bailey, probably built by the princes of Powys some time before 1196. It was captured at this time and briefly held by a joint force of English and Welsh. Owned by the Powys Estate, but in the care of Welshpool Town Council, permissive access to the exterior.

Newcastle Emlyn Castle

OS 145 • SN 311407

The castle was probably built by Maredudd ap Rhys of Deheubarth around 1240. Following a Welsh uprising, it surrendered to the Crown in 1287 and remained in royal hands until 1349. It was during this later period that the dominating twin-towered gatehouse and other buildings were added, but it is likely that buried archaeological remains survive of the Welsh castle. In the care of Carmarthenshire County Council, public access.

Nevern Castle

OS 145 • SN 082401

A motte and bailey later superseded by an inner castle comprising a stone tower and bailey. The castle originally belonged to the Norman lords of Cemais, the Fitz Martins, but from 1155 repeatedly changed

newid dwylo rhwng Rhys ap Gruffudd a William Fitz Martin. Yn y 1190au, bu'r castell yn rhan o'r ymrafael teuluol rhwng yr Arglywydd Rhys a thri o'i feibion (Gruffudd, Maelgwn a Hywel Sais). Yn ôl y cofnodion, aeth Hywel Sais ati'n fwriadol ym 1195 i ddinistrio'r castell i'w atal rhag srythio i ddywyo'r Eingl-Normaniaid. Dan ofal Cyngor Cymuned Nanhwyfer mynediad cyhoeddus.

Y Castell Coch ym Mhowys

SY21 8RF

Ar y safle hwn, mewn parcdir i'r dwyrafn o fwrdeistref ganoloesol y Trallwng, yr oedd prif lys tywysogion Powys, gwrthwynebwyd tywysogion Gwynedd. Mae castell carreg â thri beili, gyda gweddillion sy'n dyddio o'r ddeuddegfed ganrif hyd at y bymthegfed, yn sefyll ar yr esgair greigio. Cafodd y castell ei ailwampio a'i ailadeiladu rhwng 1587 a 1845 i greu'r plasty welwch chi heddiw. Dan ofal yr Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol — nationaltrust.org.uk

Castell Rhaeadr



OS 147 • SN 968680

Safle castell a adeiladwyd gan yr Arglywydd Rhys o Ddeheubarth ym 1177, a chartref wedyn i deulu Mortimer o Loegr, ar safle creigio uwchben afon Gwy. Llwyfan petryal yw'r olion sydd wedi goroesi ond ar un adeg roedd yma gastell carreg. Heddiw, rhan o ffos amddiffynol yn unig sydd ar ôl, mewn parc cyhoeddus. Dan ofal Cyngor Sir Powys, mynediad cyhoeddus.

Sycharth, Llansilin



OS 126 • SJ 204258

Castell mwnt a beili trawiadol, o'r ddeuddegfed ganrif yn ôl pob tebyg. Cafodd ei grybwyl wedyn fel safle llys Owain Glyndŵr, a ddisgrifiwyd mewn cywydd cofiadwy gan Iolo Goch tua 1390. Mae'r cywydd yn crybwyl melin deg, llyn llawn pysgod a pharciau i gwnningod a cheirw. Perchnogaeth breifat, mynediad caniataol.

hands between Rhys ap Gruffudd and William Fitz Martin. In the 1190s, it was involved in the family conflict between Lord Rhys and three of his sons (Gruffudd, Maelgwn and Hywel Sais). It is recorded that in 1195, Hywel Sais deliberately destroyed the castle to prevent it falling into Anglo-Norman hands. In the care of Nevern Community Council, public access.

Powis Castle

SY21 8RF
The site, situated in parkland to the east of the medieval Welsh borough of Welshpool, was the main seat of the princes of Powys — rivals of the house of Gwynedd. A stone castle of three baileys, with remains dating from the twelfth to the fifteenth centuries, crowns the rocky ridge. The castle was remodelled and rebuilt between 1587 and 1845 and transformed into the mansion you see today. In the care of the National Trust — nationaltrust.org.uk



Y Castell Coch ym Mhowys/
Powis Castle

Rhayader Castle



OS 147 • SN 968680

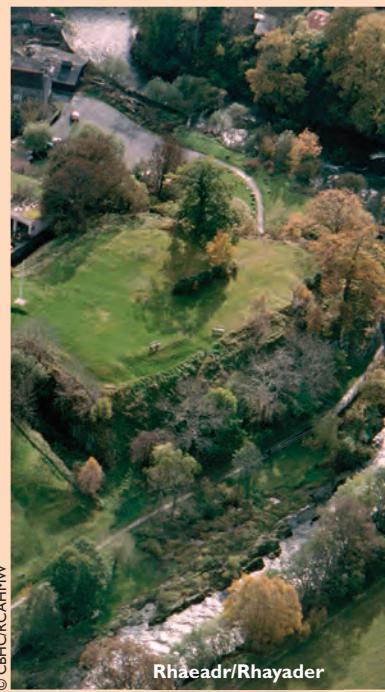
The site of a castle built by the Lord Rhys of Deheubarth in 1177, and later the English Mortimer family, on a rocky site above the river Wye. The remains consist of a rectangular platform, but there was once a stone castle here. Today, only part of a defensive ditch remains in a public park. In the care of Powys County Council, public access.

Sycharth, Llansilin



OS 126 • SJ 204258

An impressive motte and bailey castle, probably of the twelfth century. It was later noted as the site of Owain Glyndŵr's court, described vividly in a poem by Iolo Goch about 1390. The poem mentions a mill, fishponds, a warren and a deerpark containing a lodge. In private ownership, permissive access.



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Rhâeadr/Rhayader

Lleoedd Allweddol sy'n gysylltiedig â'r Twysogion a'r Arglwyddi Key Places Linked with the Lords and Princes of Wales



Mae'r safleoedd eraill y mae wedi'u dewis am fod modd i'r cyhoedd fynd iddyn nhw.
The sites included on this map have been selected because they are accessible to the public.

