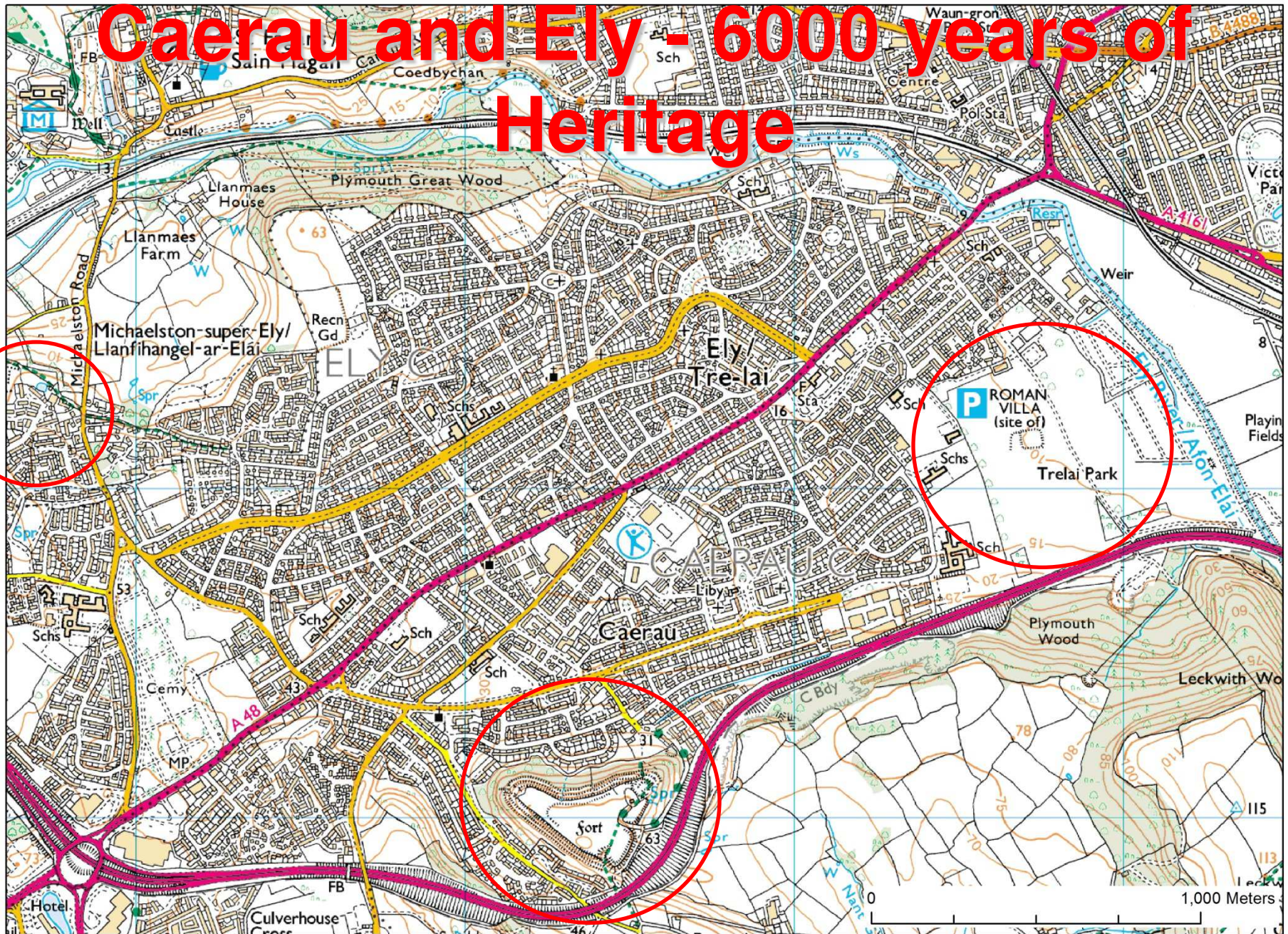


Caerau & Ely's Hidden Hillfort

**Dave Horton (ACE) &
Dave Wyatt (Cardiff University)
CAER Heritage Project**



Caerau and Ely - 6000 years of Heritage



The CAER Heritage Project



CAER
Heritage Project

Underpinning Project Objectives to:

- To raise interest in discovering and valuing local heritage.
- To create new life/educational opportunities and promote skills development.
- To challenge unfounded negative perceptions of Ely/ Caerau and create positive stories for the area.

• Partners:

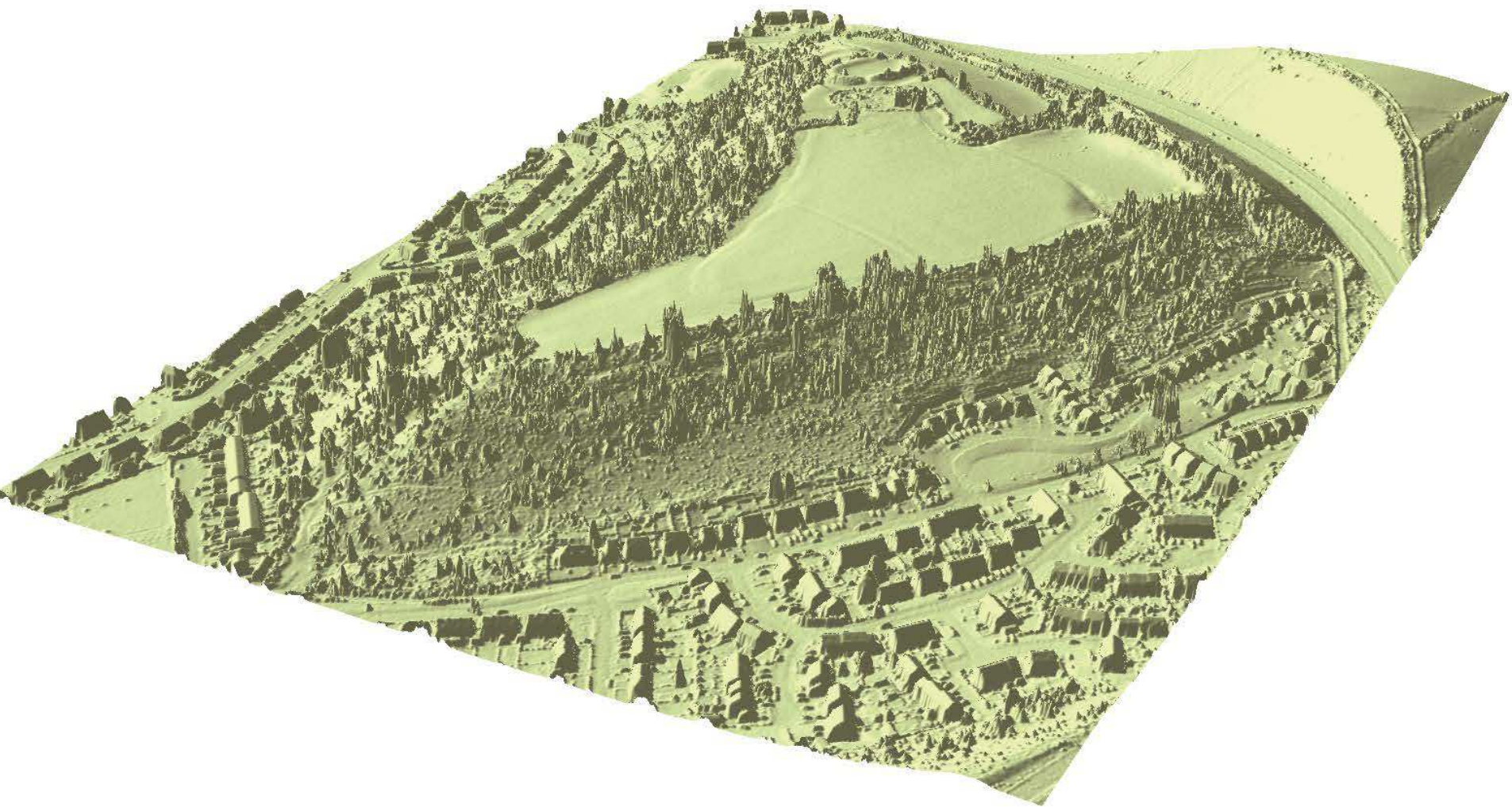
- Community groups & schools
- Partners (e.g. ACE, heritage organisations)
- Local residents
- Academics
- Students
- Volunteers
- Artists



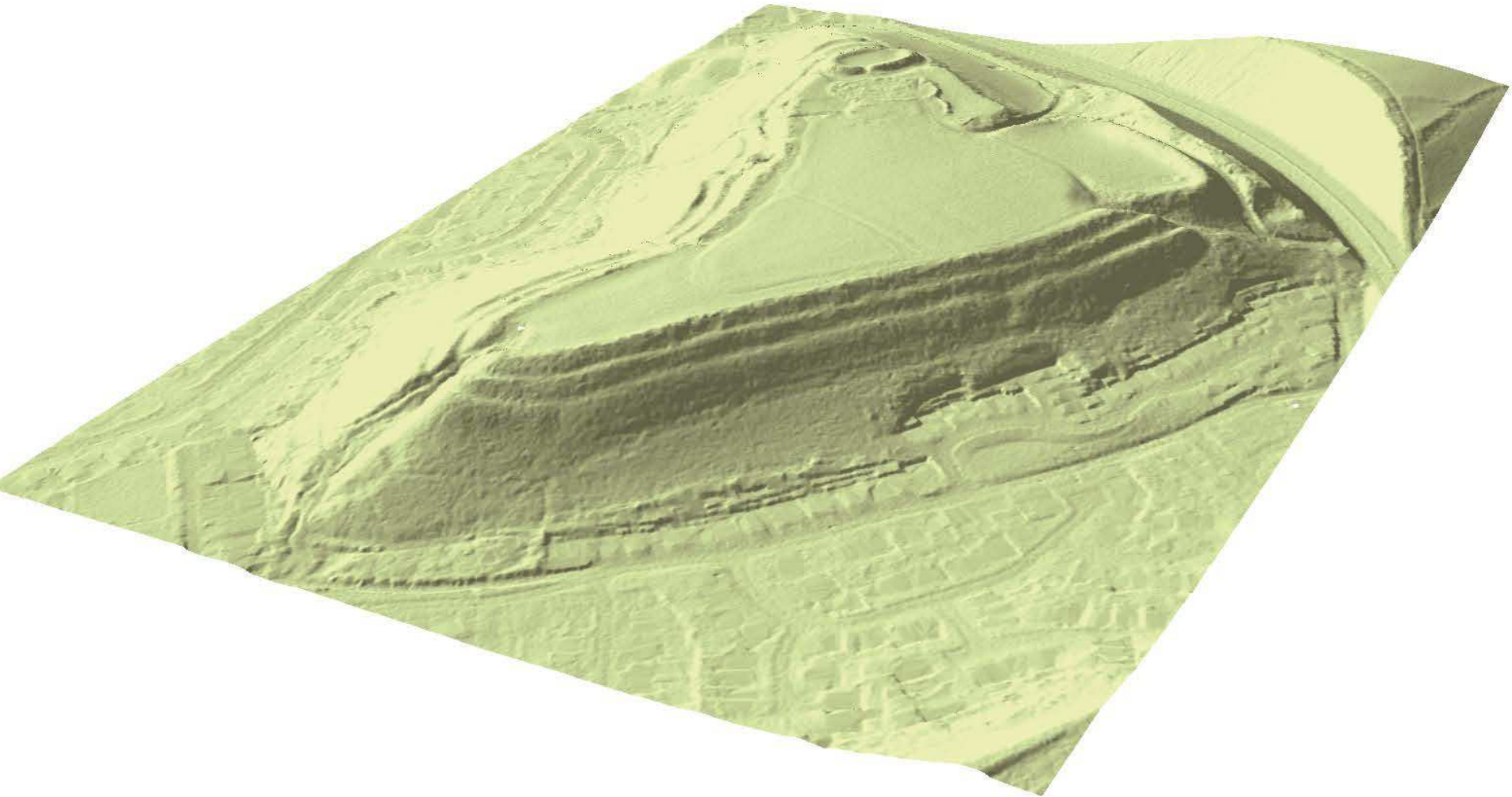
The Archaeology: Power centres of past and present



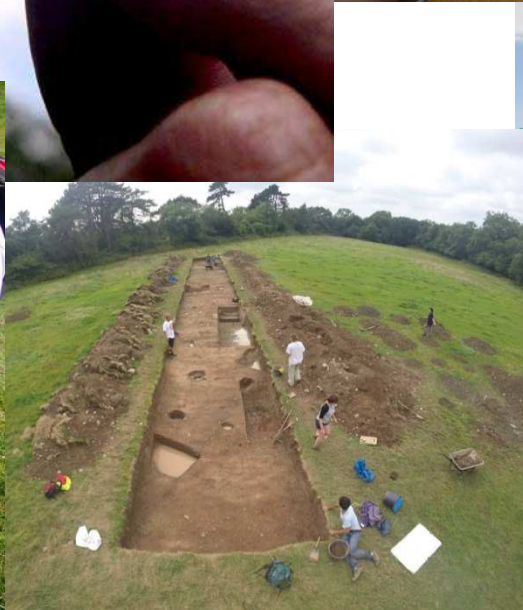
Laser Scan



Laser Scan – Trees Removed



Digging Caerau – Community Excavations



Community Films & Art



Community heritage trails



Tarddiad Caerdydd

Croeso i Gaer Pen Bryn Caerau, un o henebion mwyaf de-ddwyrain Cymru. Ers 2012, mae gwaith cloddio archeolegol, yn cynnwys ysgolion a phreswylwyr lleol, Prifysgol Caerdydd a Gweithredu yng Nghaerau a Threlai, wedi dechrau datgelu hanes y man hynod hwn.

Adeiladwyd y Caerau yn Oes yr Haearn, tua 500CC, yn anheddle cychanysyddol mawr o fewn cloddiau, ffosydd neu ragfuriau o waith dyn. Heddiw, mae rhagfuriau Caerau ar y cyfan wedi'u cuddio gan goed ar lethrau'r bryn. Maent yn amgylchynu safle a fu unwaith yn gymuned fyw o gannoedd o bobl yn byw yn nhai crwn Oes yr Haearn. Mae cloddio cymunedol wedi datgelu y bu pobl yn byw yn y safle trwy gydol oes y Rhufeiniaid hefyd ac efallai bod cysylltiad rhyngddi a phlasty mawr Rhufeinig ger maes hamdden Trelai.

Yn ogystal ag olion Oes yr Haearn, gwnaeth y cloddio ddarganfod sarn fawr Neolithig ar y bryn a adeiladwyd filoedd o flynyddoedd cyn y gaer o Oes yr Haearn, ac mae hon yn olrhain tarddiad Caerdydd i Oes y Cerrig. Mae'n dyddio'n ôl i rhwng 4,000 a 3,000CC; roedd yn fan cyfarfod i rai o ffermwyr cyntaf Cymru lle byddant yn gwledda a chymdeithasu, cyfnewid da byw a chynnal defodau.

Yng ngogledd-ddwyrain y gaer mae olion eglwys ganoloesol hardd, Eglwys y Santes Fair, sy'n dyddio o'r 13^{eg} ganrif OC. Ger yr eglwys mae castell ag amddiffynfa gylich a fu'n gartref i arglwydd Normanaidd fwy na thebyg, tua'r adeg y codwyd Eglwys y Santes Fair.

The Origins of Cardiff

Welcome to Caerau Hillfort, one of the largest and best-preserved ancient monuments in south-east Wales. Since 2012 archaeological excavations involving local schools, local residents, Cardiff University and Action in Caerau and Ely have begun to tell the story of this remarkable place.

Built in around 500BC in the period known as the Iron Age, Caerau is a large prehistoric settlement surrounded by massive man-made banks and ditches or ramparts. Today Caerau's ramparts are largely hidden by the trees on the slopes of the hill, they enclose what was once a vibrant community of hundreds of people living within many large Iron Age roundhouses. Community excavations have also revealed that the site was occupied throughout the Roman era and may have been related to a large Roman villa in nearby Trelai Recreation ground.

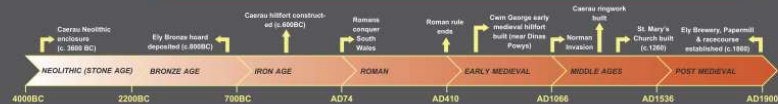
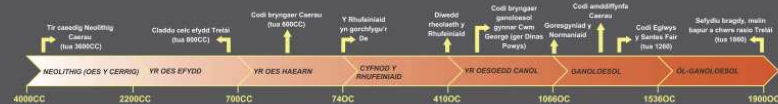
As well as Iron Age remains, the excavations have discovered a large Neolithic causewayed enclosure on the hill built thousands of years before the Iron Age hillfort and pushing Cardiff's origins back to the Stone Age. Dating to 4,000 – 3,300 BC, this was a meeting place where some of the first farmers of Wales would have gathered together to feast and socialize, exchange livestock and perform rituals.

In the north-east corner of the hillfort are also the remains of a beautiful medieval Church, St Mary's, dating from the 13th century AD. Close to the church is a medieval ringwork castle, probably the home of a Norman lord at around the time that St Mary's was first built.



Mae llawer o Gaer Caerau yn eiddo preifat, ond mae hawl tramwy ar hyd pen y bryn. Mae'r safle cyfan yn Heneb Gofrestredig ac mae Eglwys y Santes Fair yn Adeilad Cofrestrwyd. Mae hys yn rhai dogfeddau cyfeirnod i'r safle rhag difod a gwaith datgelu. Mae defnyddio synhwyrydd metel unrhyw le yng Nghaer Caerau yn erbyn y gyfraith ac wedi ei wahardd.

Much of Caerau Hillfort is privately owned, but a right-of-way leads across the hilltop. The whole site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and St Mary's Church is a Listed Building. This provides specific legal protection against damage or development. Metal detecting anywhere within Caerau Hillfort is against the law and strictly forbidden.



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Golwg ar Gaer Caerau o'r awy, yn dangos y rhagfuriau enfawr a ffosydd o waith dyn o dan y coetir. An ariel view of Caerau Hillfort revealing the enormous man-made ramparts and ditches beneath the woodland.



Mae'r darlun hwn sydd wedi ei ail-greu yn rhoi syniad i chi o sut y byddai Caer Caerau wedi edrych yn Oes yr Haearn. This reconstruction drawing gives an idea of what Caerau Hillfort may have looked like in the Iron Age.



Codwyd Eglwys y Santes Fair tua 1200CC, ond mae hi bellach yn adfail. Mae grŵp lleol ymroddgar, Cyfeillion Eglwys y Santes Fair, yn ymdrechu i'w gwarchod rhag dadfello a dinistrio pellach.

St Mary's Church was built around AD1260, but is now a ruin. A passionate local group, the Friends of St Mary's, are striving to protect it from further decay and destruction.



Gwaith cloddio archeolegol yng Nghaer Caerau – bu geirfoddolwyr lleol wrth galon yr holl waith ymchwil archeolegol ar y safle, yn helpu i ddarganfod gwerth 6,000 o flynyddoedd o hanes Caerau.

Caerau Hillfort under excavation – local volunteers have been at the heart of all archaeological research at the site, helping to discover 6,000 years of Caerau's history.



Daethpwyd o hyd i fwy o grochenwaith Neolithig cynnar yn y sam Neolithig o amgylch yr amgueddfa Caerau nag yn unrhyw safle arall yng Nghymru. Canfuwyd hefyd eysyn anifeiliaid, bwyell carreg gloyw ac offer flint.

Caerau's Neolithic causewayed enclosure has produced the largest amount of early Neolithic pottery ever recovered in Wales, alongside animal bones, polished stone axes and flint tools.

Diolchiadau:

Pobol Caerau a Threlai
Gweithredu yng Nghaerau a Threlai
Cadw
Comisiwn Brenhinol Henebion Cymru
Cymdeithas Archeolegol Caerdydd
Amgueddfa Genedlaethol Cymru
Amgueddfa Stori Caerdydd
Cynghor Caerdydd
Ymddiriedolaeth Archeolegol Morgannwg a Gwent
Archifau Morgannwg
Cyfeillion Eglwys y Santes Fair
Y Teulu David



Acknowledgements:
The people of Caerau and Ely
Action in Caerau and Ely
Cadw
Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales
Cardiff Archaeological Society
National Museum Wales
Cardiff Story Museum
Cardiff Council
Glamorgan and Gwent Archaeological Trust
Glamorgan Archives
The Friends of St Mary's
The David Family

Ewch i www.CAERHeritageProject.com am ragor o wybodaeth.
For more information, please visit www.CAERHeritageProject.com

CAER HIDDEN HILLFORT PROJECT

**£986,200 HLF Heritage Grant Bid Proposal centred on CAERAU HILLFORT
CARDIFF'S LARGEST, OLDEST & LEAST KNOWN MONUMENT IS A NATIONALLY
SIGNIFICANT HERITAGE SITE JUST 2KM FROM ST FAGANS NATIONAL HISTORY MUSEUM. THE
MONUMENT REPRESENTS AN IMPORTANT ASSET AND OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL
COMMUNITIES FACING SERIOUS SOCIAL & ECONOMIC CHALLENGES
CAERAU ENCAPSULATES 6,000 YEARS OF CARDIFF'S HISTORY IN ONE LOCATION .**

PREHISTORY:

Neolithic & Iron Age archaeology
discovered by local people.

ROMAN:

Significant Roman discoveries
& Roman Villa site nearby.

MEDIEVAL:

Ruins of beautiful medieval
church and a castle ringwork.

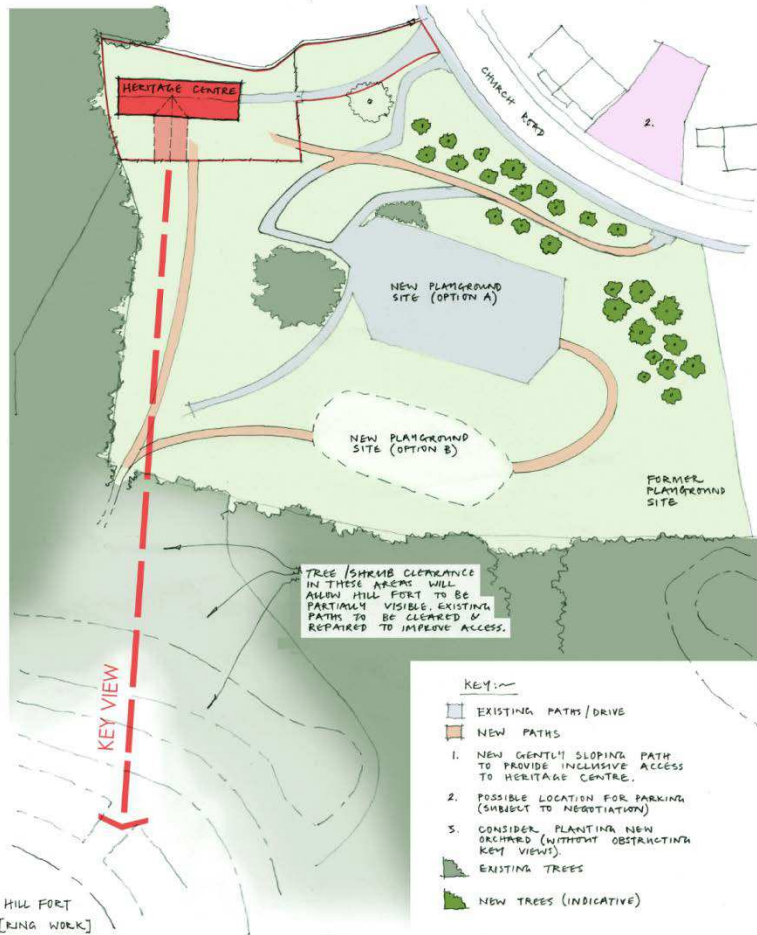
MODERN:

Victorian graves, Caerau House &
social housing as heritage.

Proposals for 3 year heritage regeneration project, 2017-2020:

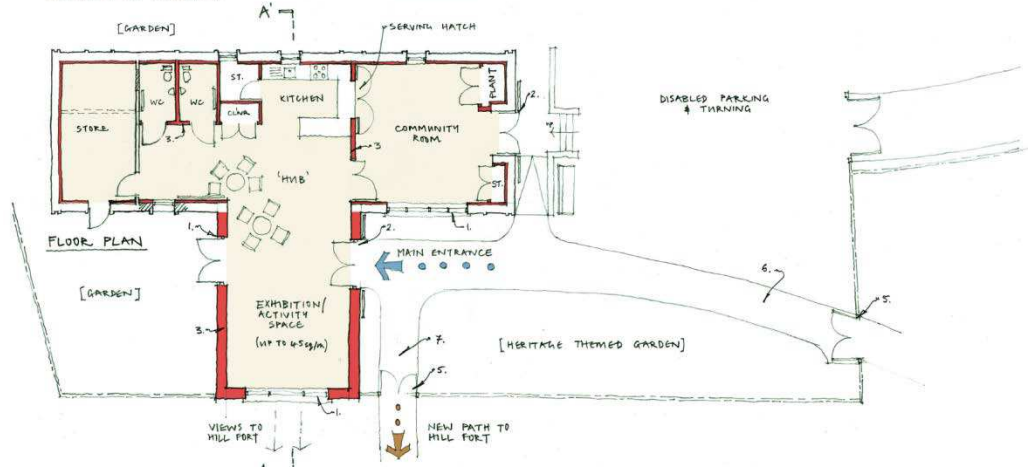
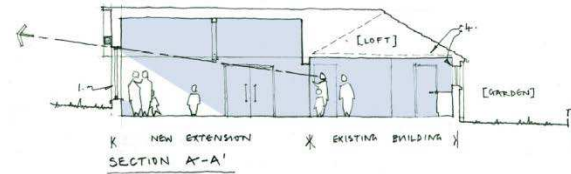
- One year development phase 2017-18 involving community and partners.
- Annual programme of co-produced archaeological & historical research.
- Staffed CAER Hidden Hillfort Heritage Centre (Gospel Hall, Church Rd).
- Co-produced signage, heritage trail network and digital resources.
- Parking, access and infrastructural improvements.
- Co-produced heritage themed playground, art installations, events & tours.
- Heritage embedded into the curricula of the new build secondary school.
- Vegetation management, improved monument visibility, heritage garden.
- Church ruin restoration.
- Pop-up time-travelling café & other heritage enterprise initiatives.
- Local people involved in all aspects of co-research, co-curation and site co-management

Hidden Hillfort Heritage Centre



- KEY:**
- EXISTING PATHS/DRIVE
 - NEW PATHS
 - 1. NEW GENTLY SLOPING PATH TO PROVIDE INCLUSIVE ACCESS TO HERITAGE CENTRE.
 - 2. POSSIBLE LOCATION FOR PARKING (SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION)
 - 3. CONSIDER PLANTING NEW ORCHARD (WITHOUT OBSTRUCTING KEY VIEWS)
 - EXISTING TREES
 - NEW TREES (INDICATIVE)

- KEY:**
1. NEW LARGE WINDOWS & GLAZED DOORS WITH ROLLER SHUTTERS.
 2. NEW GLAZED DOORS WITH SLIDING SECURITY DOORS.
 3. NEW WALLS (IN R&D)
 4. INSULATION ADDED TO WALLS & LOFT SPACE.
 5. NEW GATES, EXISTING RAILINGS REHABILITATED.
 6. NEW PATH TO ENTRANCE VIA ADJACENT PLAYGROUND SITE (SEE SITE PLAN). GENTLE SLOPE.
 7. NEW PATH TO LINK WITH EXISTING RIGHTS OF WAY & HERITAGE TRAILS ON HILL FORT.



CAERAU Hill Fort Project
HERITAGE CENTRE
Site Plan Showing Proposals
[sig. no. 109.03 - August 2016 - Prelim. Sketch - appr. 1:500 (A3)]



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