

## **CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA**

<b>CONSERVATION AREA</b>	Loughor
<b>Date of Notification:-</b>	17.08.1973
<b>National Grid Reference:-</b>	SS 5640098000
<b>O.S. 1:10,000 Sheet No.:-</b>	SS 59 NE
<b>Conservation Area No.:-</b>	CA:029

### **Notes:-**

Loughor, the most westerly town in Glamorgan, is situated seven miles northwest of Swansea on the east bank of the Afon Llŵchwr where it is bridged by the A484 and the main railway line.

This settlement owes its origin to the narrowing of the river at this point which led in the earliest times to the establishment of a ford and ferry crossing.

During the Roman occupation its importance was appreciated. A permanent military station, Leucarum, was built late in the 1<sup>st</sup> Century BC, on a low but commanding headland immediately adjacent to and overlooking, the causeway and landing place. The line of Roman construction is discernible at a number of places. The present day street pattern reflects the Roman layout particularly with regard to the four entrance gates.

Its importance in the communications of the area continued, and in 1099 AD a Norman fortification was raised in the eastern corner of the derelict fort. A medieval rectangular tower is all that now remains of Loughor Castle.

The short streets of attractive terraced houses have a scale and intimacy that contributes greatly to the many pleasant qualities of the area.

One or two of the larger buildings show evidence of their early origins, and of these, The Sanctuary, contains fragments of considerably antiquity.

Immediately to the north east, a pleasant area of woodland containing some mature trees, overlooks the riverside walk and provides shelter.

This part of Loughor is of considerable historic and architectural significance and much of its original individuality and character has survived the onslaught of the 19th Century industrialisation and 20<sup>th</sup> Century traffic. It is an area which would respond to and repay the implementation of a programme of general improvement. It is most strongly recommended for conservation.