

CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA

LISTED BUILDING	Pennard Castle, Pennard, Swansea
Grade:-	II*
Date of Notification:-	06.03.64 amended 02.10.00
National Grid Reference:-	SS5441588513
O.S. 1:10,000 Sheet No.:-	SS58NW
CADW Reference No.:-	11539
C & C of S Reference No.:-	LB:039

Notes:-

Location:-

Dramatically sited on the cliff overlooking Pennard Pill and Threecliff Bay and on the W edge of Pennard golf course.

History:-

The present Kilvrough Manor was probably built in the 1770s by William Dawkins as a substantial enlargement of an earlier house. The stable court was added c1800 contemporary with the enlargement of the service range, to which it is attached. During the 1939-45 war the house was occupied by RAF officers and was subsequently converted to an Outdoor Education Centre.

Exterior:-

Ruined castle of rubble stone walls, of which only the curtain wall and gatehouse survive in part. The E gatehouse has a segmental arch to the main doorway with a segmental-headed window above it. It is flanked by 2-stage half-round towers, which are battered at the base. The S tower is less well preserved and is partly reconstructed and supported with concrete underpinning and cement render. It has a first-floor arrow slit facing the entrance, and the partial survival of 2 merlons of the battlements. The N tower has an arrow slit in the lower storey, and a similar arrow slit facing inwards above it. The curtain wall N of the gatehouse is set back at an angle and has a tall, narrow, flat-headed window. The N wall has numerous putlogs, above which is a row of similar sockets that were used to drain the wall walk. At the W end is a shallow garderobe projection, although the wall is now breached here. The NW angle has a half-round turret, its wall partly fallen away facing the steep cliff. Inside the gatehouse, the N tower has wide embrasures and segmental rere arches to the windows, and a further arrow slit facing the gateway, its rere arch now missing. An inset band defines the level of first-floor beams. The rear of the tower is square and wider than the half-round front, resulting in an irregular plan. Of the narrower S tower little is now visible above ground level. The first-floor arrow slit has a concrete lintel in place of the rere arch. Of the curtain wall on the N side, the face of the wall is partly missing and no wall walk is now visible. The NW turret has, in its W curtain is a tower added after defence ceased to be the principal purpose of the castle. The opening in the curtain wall was previously breached and is infilled with modern blockwork incorporating a doorway. Inside the tower are the raked sills and embrasures of W and S windows, and numerous putlogs. A detached curved section of the S curtain wall also survives.

Listed:-

Listed grade II, Pennard Castle is a substantial fragment of a medieval castle.
Schedule Ancient Monument Gm 044.

Reference:-

Newman, John, The Buildings of Wales: Glamorgan, 1995, p 506.
RCAHM Wales, The Early Castles, An Inventory of Ancient Monuments in
Glamorgan, Vol 3, Part 1a.