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ARFODIR TREFTAETH
MORGANNWG
GLAMORGAN
HERITAGE COAST

DISCOVER THE MYTHS & LEGENDS OF OGMORE...

OGMORE CASTLE IS A GREAT PLACE TO LEARN ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE AREA IN FUN AND EXCITING WAYS. EXPLORE THE CASTLE RUINS AND HEAR TERRIBLE TALES OF SMUGGLERS AND SPOOKY GHOSTS. FROM HERE YOU CAN ALSO GO ON A NATURE WALK OR VISIT THE NEARBY BEACH FOR A PICNIC AND ROCK POOL SAFARI.

WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
GO AND ENJOY YOURSELVES!

The history of Ogmores Castle

Ogmores Castle was built over 900 years ago in the early 12th Century. It was then the home of William de Londres, one of the many Norman Lords who came over from France to conquer England — and soon after began invading Wales.

The castle protected William and his invading force from the local Welsh people, who weren't happy about their country being invaded! Like many early Norman castles, it was first built using earth and timber. The castle was later rebuilt using stone, which offered much better protection from both attackers and the weather.

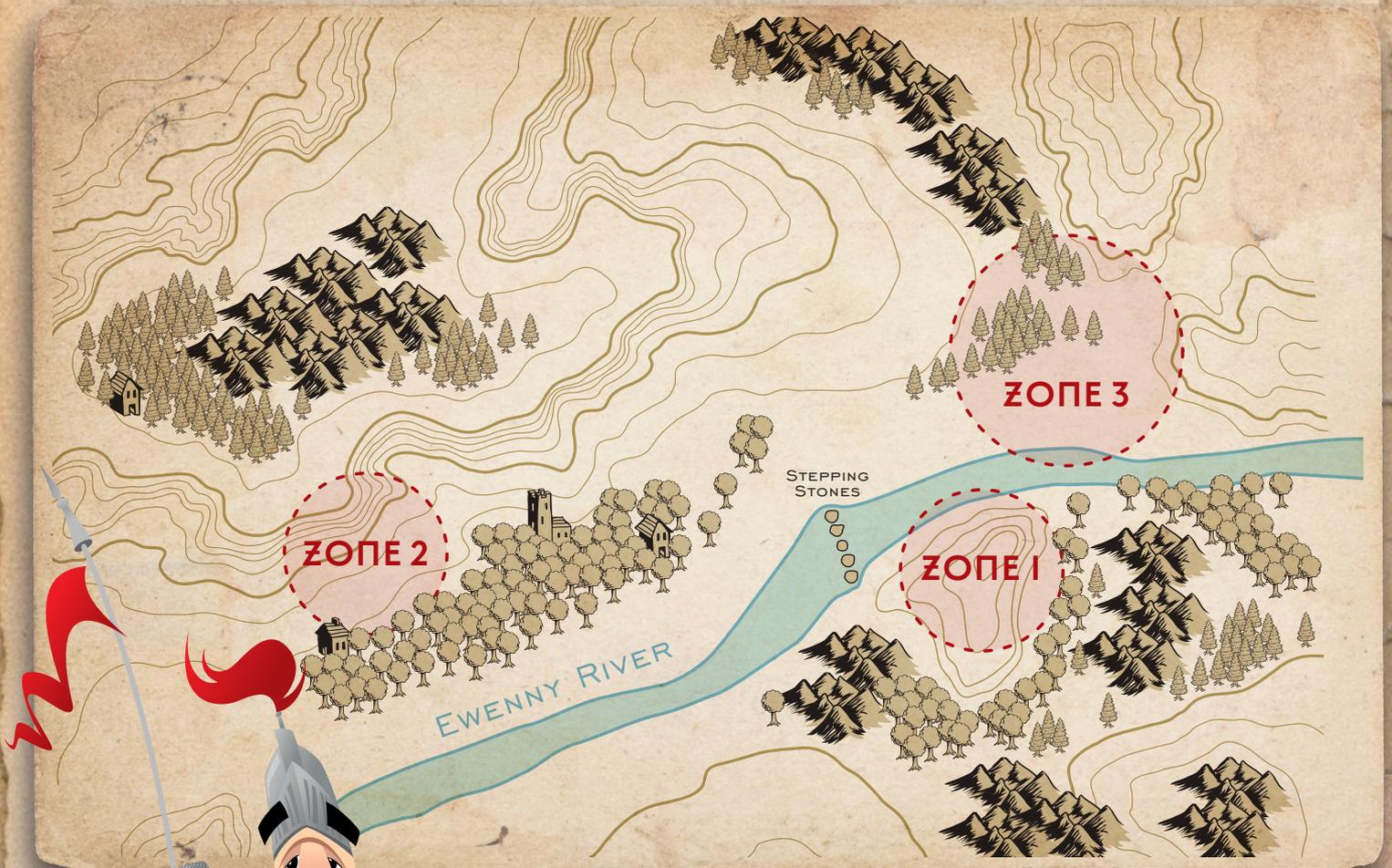
William eventually abandoned the castle in 1116 when a large Welsh army arrived and forced him to leave. His butler, Arnold, led William's army in protecting the castle whilst he fled. Arnold was later knighted Sir Arnold Butler for his loyalty.

Where would **you** build a castle?

Norman invaders like William didn't just build their castles anywhere... they had to carefully choose the right location. The ideal place to build a castle would be:

- ❁ **Somewhere near water** for drinking, washing and cooking
- ❁ **Somewhere near a 'ford'** – a shallow part of a river where people could cross safely
- ❁ **On a hill**, giving good views across the surrounding landscape – so that attackers could be seen more easily
- ❁ **Near to natural resources**, such as wood and stone for building
- ❁ **Somewhere with natural defences**, such as rivers, mountains or marshlands protecting the castle on one or more sides

Try to think like William and pick a zone on the map where you would build your castle. Then check at the bottom of the page to see how well you've chosen!...



ZONE 1 = Excellent! You've picked the perfect place to build your castle. Your people will have plenty of natural resources and be safe from attackers. Well done.

ZONE 2 = Good! You've got nearly everything you need here. Your castle will surely be a success!

ZONE 3 = Not bad! There are some good things about where you've chosen, but also some not-so-good things... Your castle might become a ruin sooner than you think!

How well did **you** choose?