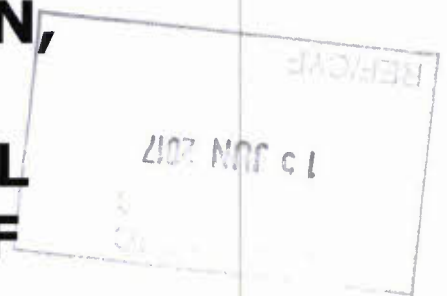


TY HIR, CILCENNIN, CEREDIGION: ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF



DAT
Archaeological Services

Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust
For: Mr Carwyn Iles



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**TY HIR, CILCENNIN, CEREDIGION:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

Gan / By

Alice Day

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**TY HIR, CILCENNIN, CEREDIGION:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF****SUMMARY**

Planning permission was granted by Ceredigion County Council for alteration to the existing building and other works at Ty Hir, Cilcennin, Ceredigion (Planning Application No. A170024, NGR SN 50927 59745). Two archaeological conditions were attached to this permission: firstly, that a professionally qualified archaeologist should be present during the undertaking of any groundworks in the development area, so that an archaeological watching brief could be carried out, and secondly that a photographic survey of the existing buildings be undertaken. DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned to undertake the watching brief and photographic survey by the site owner Mr Carwyn Iles.

The original date of construction of Ty Hir was not known and no previous archaeological work had taken place there. The cottage is possibly recorded on the 1834 Tithe Map and definitely evident on OS mapping from the first edition of 1889 onwards. The current stone outbuilding is first seen on the second edition OS map of 1905.

Significant heritage assets are known to exist within 500m of the development site including the findspot of a Neolithic polished axe, several cropmarks potentially prehistoric, and an earthwork of possible medieval date.

The groundworks observed during the watching brief consisted of: Topsoil stripping of the area for a new shed, topsoil stripping of the area around the new cesspit, and excavation of the new cesspit down to the bedrock. No remains were discovered other than Post-Medieval and Modern rubbish; plastic, china sherds, fragments of brick, roof tile etc.

Access to the property had already been widened by demolishing some sections of stone walls. Groundworks had already occurred just behind and parallel to the back wall of the house, where a metre-wide strip of concrete patio had been removed. No archaeological remains could be discerned where the walls had been cut through. Stone rubble and Post-Medieval / modern rubbish had been revealed underneath the concrete patio.

As no remains of archaeological significance were revealed during these works it was agreed with the Development Management team at Dyfed Archaeological Trust that no further watching brief would be required during any further excavation for the footings of the new shed.

Although this watching brief did not bring to light any finds or sites, there is still potential for archaeological remains to survive within the area because of the nature of known historic assets in the vicinity.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Commission

- 1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Mr Carwyn Iles to undertake a photographic survey of the existing buildings, and a watching brief during groundworks at Ty Hir, Cilcennin, Ceredigion (NGR SN 50927 59745; Figures 1 and 2).
- 1.1.2 The archaeological works were required as conditions placed upon planning permission for Planning Application No. A170024 submitted to Ceredigion County Council for the renovation and alteration to the property known as Ty Hir. The development proposals include alteration to the existing building of Ty Hir to add a second storey to form a dormer roof construction and replacement of an existing lean-to extension with slightly larger new one. Mains electricity will be connected to the property, with a septic tank to be placed in the rear garden area and a ground source heat pump in the area to the west. The works will include the widening of the existing roadside entrance and addition of off road parking on a driveway. It is also proposed that an outbuilding to the east will be converted to possible holiday accommodation, as well as the construction of an agricultural building to the west.
- 1.1.3 The archaeological conditions were placed on planning permission for the development proposals following advice from the Development Management team at Dyfed Archaeological Trust, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the planning authority. The watching brief condition was recommended as the building lay close to a number of known cropmark enclosure sites of possible medieval and earlier dates, as well as the nearby findspot of a Neolithic stone axe, therefore any groundworks had the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains. The photographic survey condition was requested as the building was of uncertain date and significance.
- 1.1.4 The groundworks observed during the watching brief consisted of: Topsoil stripping of the area for the new shed, topsoil stripping of the area around the new cesspit, and excavation of the new cesspit down to the bedrock. Access to the property had already been widened by demolishing some sections of stone walls. Groundworks had already occurred just behind and parallel to the back wall of the house, where a metre-wide strip of concrete patio had been demolished.

1.2 Scope of the Project

- 1.2.1 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) document for a watching brief was prepared by DAT Archaeological Services prior to the commencement of the works (Appendix I). The WSI outlined methodologies for:
- Carrying out a photographic survey of the existing buildings
 - Monitoring groundworks in order to identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits;
 - Establishing the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed groundworks;
 - Appropriately investigating and recording any archaeological deposits to be affected by the groundworks;
 - Producing an archive and report of any results.

- 1.2.2 The overall work was summarised as: *Archaeological attendance during ground works associated with development and alterations at Ty Hir, Cilcennin, Ceredigion which could potentially expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains. This will include all areas where a site strip is necessary. Appropriate investigation and recording of any such remains will be undertaken if revealed. A report and archive of the results of the works will be prepared. A photographic survey of the existing buildings will also be undertaken.*

1.3 Report Outline

- 1.3.1 This report provides a summary and discussion of the archaeological watching brief and its results. Some archaeological background is included.

1.4 Abbreviations

- 1.4.1 Sites recorded in the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN). Sites recorded on the National Monument Record (NMR) held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) are identified by their National Primary Record Number (NPRN). Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM), Listed Building (LB). Sites are located by their National Grid Reference (NGR). Altitude is expressed to Ordnance Datum (OD).

1.5 Illustrations

- 1.5.1 Photographic images are to be found at the back of the report. Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale.

1.6 Timeline

The following timeline (Table 1) is used within this report to give date ranges for the various archaeological periods that may be mentioned within the text.

Period	Approximate date	
Palaeolithic –	c.450,000 – 10,000 BC	Prehistoric
Mesolithic –	c. 10,000 – 4400 BC	
Neolithic –	c.4400 – 2300 BC	
Bronze Age –	c.2300 – 700 BC	
Iron Age –	c.700 BC – AD 43	
Roman (Romano-British) Period –	AD 43 – c. AD 410	Historic
Post-Roman / Early Medieval Period –	c. AD 410 – AD 1086	
Medieval Period –	1086 – 1536	
Post-Medieval Period ¹ –	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period –	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20th century onwards	

Table 1: Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales

¹ The post-medieval and Industrial periods are combined as the post-medieval period on the Regional Historic Environment Record as held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust

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Figure 1: Location map with a red circle outlining Ty Hir, Cilcennin, Ceredigion

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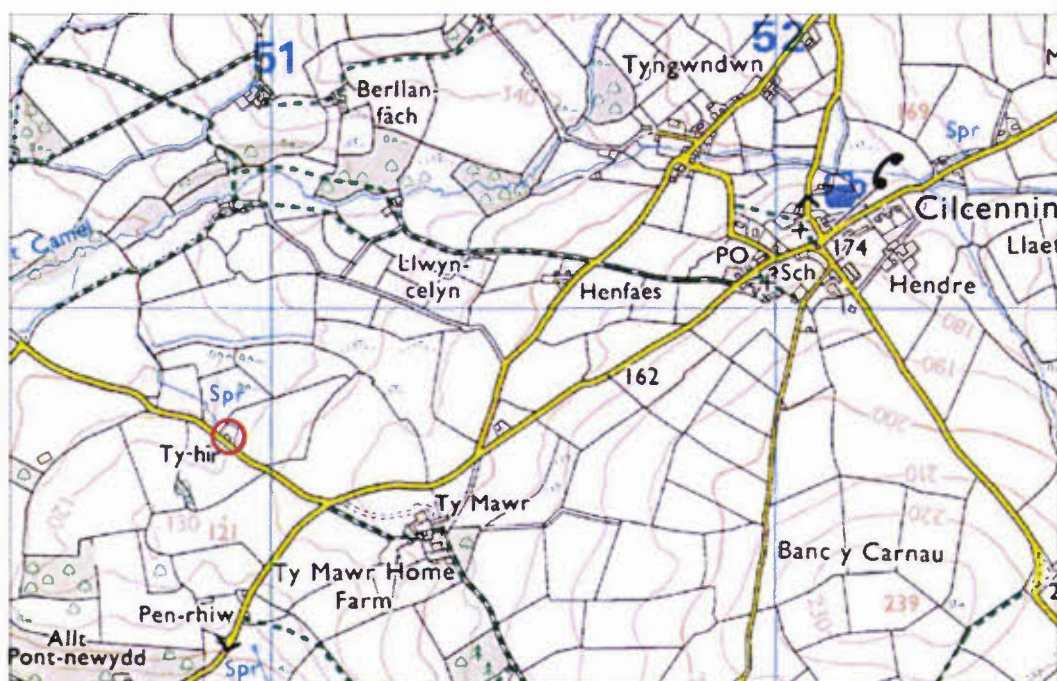


Figure 2: Location map with a red circle outlining Ty Hir, Cilcennin, Ceredigion

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2 THE SITE

2.1 Location

- 2.1.1 Ty Hir is located at SN 50927 59745, in the Aeron Valley in Ceredigion, 1.2km west-southwest of the village of Cilcennin (Figures 1 and 2). It lies on the north valley-side of the River Aeron, separated visually from it by the crest of the promontory on which it sits. Ty Hir sits at 120m, isolated amid gently rolling agricultural upland with relatively small irregularly shaped fields separated by high hedges. North of the cottage stands a few acres of deciduous woodland.

2.2 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 2.2.1 The origin of Ty Hir is not known and no previous archaeological work has taken place there. The first known record of the site is the 1843 Tithe Map of Cilcennin (Figure 3), which shows a building that is possibly the same one that still stands, although it is shown in a different parcel of land, west of the Ty Hir shown on all later maps. As it is shown in roughly the same place as the existing structure, any discrepancy could be due to the limitations of survey methods at that time. The Apportionment to the Tithe Map gives little detail about the surrounding parcels of land; of the fields immediately surrounding the building it only says that they are part of Tyglyn Uchaf, which is the farm at the western edge of Figure 3. Tyglyn Uchaf, later the site of Tyglyn Aeron Mansion (PRN 7010) is recorded as being owned and occupied by Rachel Winwood.



Figure 3: Extract of the Cilcennin Parish Tithe Map of 1843, with a red circle outlining the approximate location of Ty Hir

- 2.2.2 Figure 4 shows the first edition 1:2500 Ordnance Survey (OS) map of 1889, which is the first available map to name Ty Hir. This map also

indicates that Ty Hir was formed of two distinct parts, had a small structure appended to its west end, and had a small outbuilding to the northeast. A spring is shown in the field to the west of the property.

- 2.2.3 The 1905 1:2500 OS map shows the buildings slightly more clearly, with a definite division of the structure (Figure 5). The outbuilding to the northeast is no longer depicted but a new outbuilding is shown close to the east end of the cottage. Current mapping shows an outbuilding in exactly the same place, so it most likely they represent the same structure.

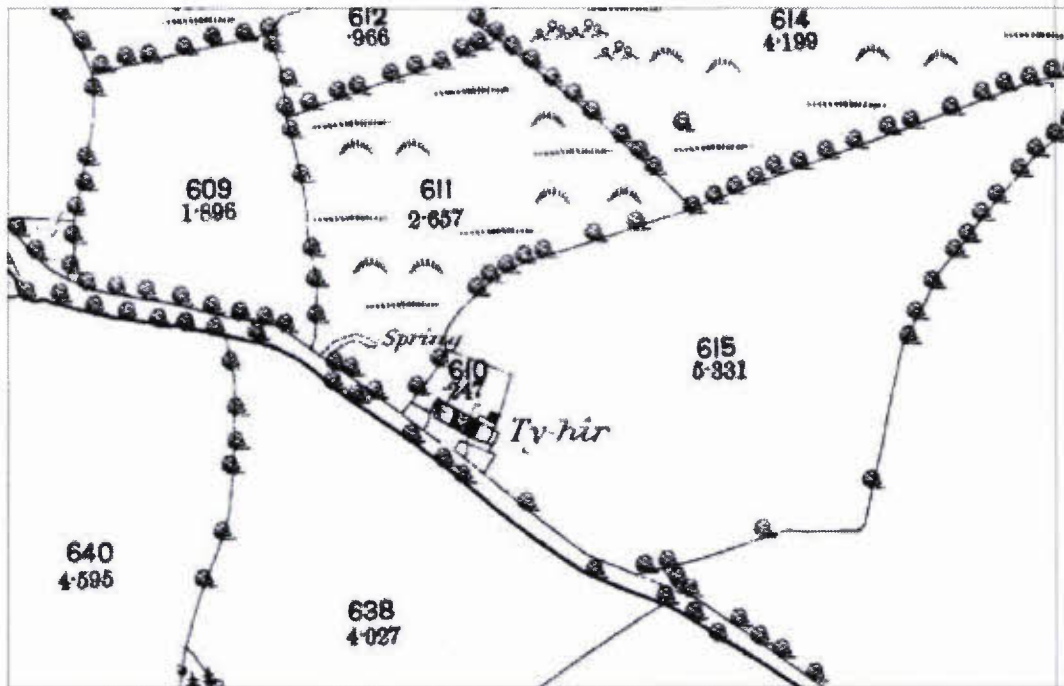


Figure 4: Extract from the 1889 1:2500 OS Map of 1891 showing Ty Hir

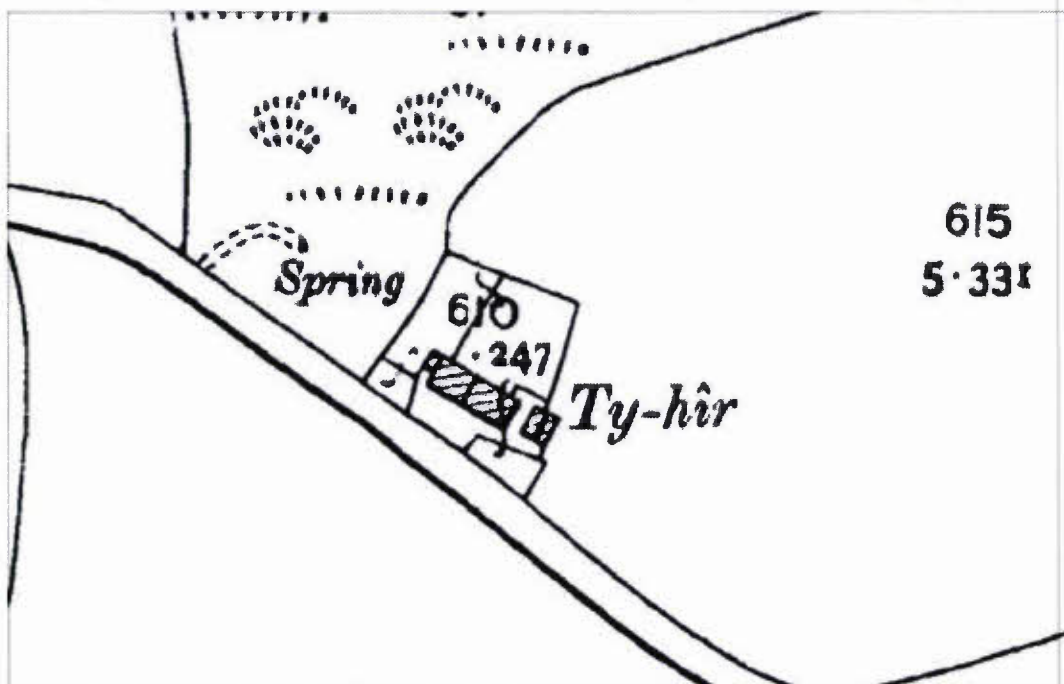


Figure 5: Extract from the 1905 1:2500 OS Map of 1891 showing Ty Hir

- 2.2.4 There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within 1km of Ty Hir, but there are four Listed Buildings, all classed as grade II. The HER database records sixteen historic assets and the NMR database records eleven. Some of the HER and NMR records relate to the same site and some of them also refer to the listed buildings, so they are presented altogether in Table 2. Figure 6 shows a map of their locations.
- 2.2.5 The oldest record (PRN 13221) is for a findspot of a Neolithic polished stone axe within a field to the east of Ty Hir. The grid reference given for this find is approximate, so it may be that the axe was found further north or east.
- 2.2.6 Of prehistoric date, but probably Iron Age based on their circular shape, are four circular enclosures (PRN 5916), 570m northeast of the development site. Further cropmarks of unknown date are represented by PRNs 5890 and 5891, approximately 300m to the south and southeast of Ty Hir respectively. No further data is available so it is impossible to ascribe a more precise date to them. The settings of Ty Hir and the nearby promontory are typical of Iron Age enclosures.
- 2.2.7 The site of an earthwork (PRN 5892) is the only record of possible medieval date. No further details regarding the site are recorded. It is the closest known historic asset to Ty Hir, 140m south. Field patterns in that area imply former strip fields associated with medieval farming.
- 2.2.8 The rest of the sites recorded in Table 2 are of Post-Medieval date. Four of them are listed buildings: Pen-Rhiw, Pont Dolfor, Ty Mawr, and Ty Mawr's gates and entrance (PRNs 9976; 18408; 7009; 57764 respectively). Pen-Rhiw is a former cottage or house of architectural interest, Pont Dolfor is a bridge over the River Aeron, and Ty Mawr is a country house. Other site-types of this period found nearby are dwellings, former corn mills, gardens, a station, and a quarry.

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PRN	NPRN	LB No.	Name	Summary	NGR
13221	-	-	Ty Mawr	A finely polished Neolithic stone axe, 13.2cm x 5.1cm x 3.3cm thick. The axe has a sharp crescent-shaped cutting edge and a damaged butt end.	SN512597
18408	-	17523	Pont Dolfor	Post-Medieval grade II listed bridge	SN4997359727
18664	-	-	Quarry Cottage	Post-Medieval cottage shown on 1963 6" OS map. Condition unknown.	SN50916033
18700; 57761	23921	17522	Pont Newydd	Post-Medieval grade II listed bridge. Two arches, 26 ft. 9 in., and 26 ft. span - over River Aeron.	SN50725909
18702	-	-		Post-Medieval quarry	SN5037058959
57764	-	17531	Entrance Gates to Ty Mawr	Post-Medieval grade II listed entrance gates	SN5113959617
5890	-	-	Ty-Hir	Cropmark of unknown significance or date	SN508595
5891	-	-	Ty-Mawr	Cropmark of unknown significance or date	SN511595
5892	-	-	Ty-Hir	Enclosure of unknown significance, probably medieval in date	SN50915960
5916	-	-	Llwyn Celyn	Four circular enclosures of unknown significance surviving as cropmarks, probably of prehistoric date.	SN51256008
7009	-	-	Ty Mawr	Post-Medieval country dwelling recorded by RCAHM in 1976 when noted as being intact.	SN5134659545
7010	35323	-	Ty Glyn Aeron	Post-Medieval (1836) 3-bay stuccoed house of, possibly by Edward Haycock for Thomas Winwood. There is a stone columned porch flanked by gables, and a garden front with a canted centre. There is a wing of 1876. After a fire in 1985, the windows were replaced and chimneys removed.	SN50255995
8717; 9748	24752	-	Felin Tyglyn; Ty-Glyn Aeron Mill	Site of a Post-Medieval (18th century) corn mill recorded on the historic Ordnance Survey maps and still shown on modern mapping. Built of rubble masonry with squared quoins and with timber lintels to most openings.	SN50015950
-	518	-	Felin, Y, Ciliau Aeron	Post-Medieval (17th-18th century). Once a single storey cottage but now a farm outbuilding. The walls are of local rubble set in clay with squared quoins on the east gable. The	SN50015950

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				roof is thatch though it is now covered by corrugated iron.	
9976	35066	-	Pen-Rhiw	Post-Medieval cottage or house of architectural interest, described by RCAHMW in 1975. Condition unknown.	SN50955944
-	5411	-	Felin, Y; Felin Tyglyn	Post-Medieval house.	SN50015950
-	24743	-	Felin Newydd, Ciliau Aeron	Post-Medieval Corn Mill. Discovered in 1979 by G.S. Downey. Only earthworks remain. It was probably an overshot type mill. Mentioned in an early 17th century deed. Abandoned c.1680.	SN50245939
-	35334	17530	Ty Mawr	Post-Medieval grade II listed house (18th century, early 19th century). Irregular plan, plastered stone walls. Hipped slate roof, Centre windows round headed.	SN51295958
-	41368	-	Ciliau Aeron Station, Lampeter Aberayron & New Quay Light Railway	Post-medieval station of the former Lampeter, Aberayron & New Quay Light Railway (NPRN 419330) between Aberayron Junction and Aberaeron. The railway and station opened in 1911 and both closed to passengers in 1951, the line closing to goods in 1965.	SN50185916
-	265031	-	Tymawr, Garden, Ciliau Aeron	This garden is depicted on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey 25-inch map of Cardiganshire XXV, sheet 2 (1905). Its main elements on that map include woodland, carriage drive, greenhouse, pond and walled garden.	SN5127159510
-	302079	-	Ty Glyn Aeron, Garden, Ciliau Aeron	This site appears on the First and Second edition OS maps depicted with a detached oblong kitchen garden to the SW, all overlooking the Aeron. This acquires a glasshouse on the N wall by the second edition. The site is associated with parkland and woodland features.	SN5021259786

Table 2: Known historic assets within 1km of Ty Hir, as recorded in the HER, NMR and listed building records (Figure 6)

Ty Hir, Cilcennin, Ceredigion:
Archaeological Watching Brief

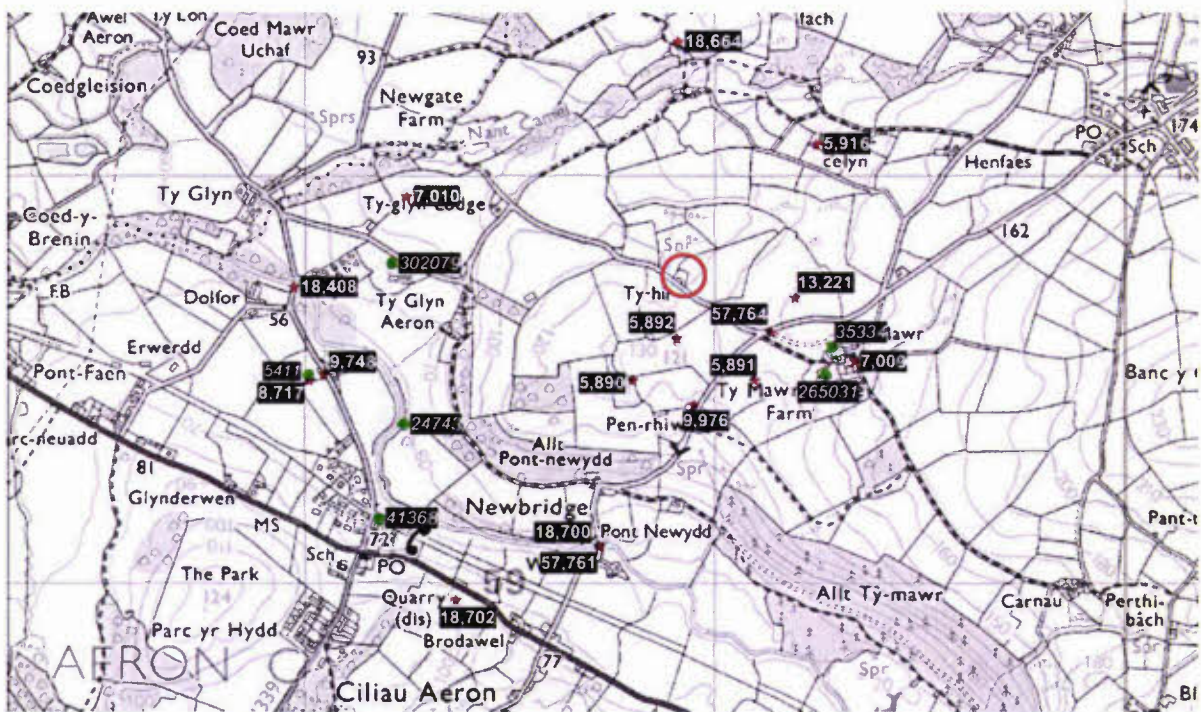


Figure 6: Map of known historic assets within 1km of Ty Hir (red circle), as recorded in the HER, NMR and listed building records (those that are only recorded in the NMR are in italics and have green dots)

3 WATCHING BRIEF METHODOLOGY

3.1 Fieldwork

- 3.1.1 This watching brief was undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Archaeologists' (CIfA) Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (2014). The Written Scheme of Investigation (Appendix I), detailing the archaeological works proposed, was approved by the Development Management section of Dyfed Archaeological Trust.
- 3.1.2 Recording of all archaeological features or deposits conformed to best current professional practice and was carried out in accordance with the Recording Manual² used by DAT Archaeological Services.

3.2 Timetabling of Fieldwork

- 3.2.1 The watching brief took place over one day at Ty Hir, Cilcennin on the 31st of January 2017.

3.3 Post-Fieldwork Reporting and Archiving

- 3.3.1 All data recovered during the fieldwork will be collated into a site archive structured in accordance with specifications in Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation (Brown 2011), and the procedures for digital archives recommended by the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth.
- 3.3.2 The results of the fieldwork have been assessed in local, regional and wider contexts. The report includes a desk-based research element to ensure that the site is placed within its wider archaeological context.
- 3.3.3 A report fully representative of the results of the fieldwork has been prepared.

² DAT Archaeological Services has adopted the Recording Manual developed by English Heritage Centre for Archaeology. A copy will be available on-site for inspection if required.

4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

- 4.1 Figure 7 shows a plan of the current layout of Ty Hir and the approximate positions of the groundworks.
- 4.2 Roadside access to the property had already been widened prior to the watching brief commencing, through the demolition of some sections of stone walls. A section through the east wall of the garden of Ty Hir had also been removed. These areas are highlighted in green in Figure 7 and sections through the walls left behind are shown in Photos 1-5.
- 4.3 Groundworks had already occurred just behind and parallel to the back wall of the house, where a metre-wide strip of concrete patio had been removed (red area on Figure 7). Stone rubble beneath it containing Post-Medieval/Modern rubbish (plastic, china sherds, fragments of brick, roof tile etc.) had been left *in situ* (Photos 6 and 7).
- 4.4 It was observed that a drainage channel approximately 1.5m deep and 2m wide had been recently dug in the field west of Ty Hir (annotated on Figure 7 and shown in Photos 8 and 9). Even though it the ditch was not associated with the works being watched it was inspected to further knowledge of the surroundings, and no archaeological remains were evident.
- 4.5 The groundworks observed during the watching brief consisted of: Topsoil stripping of the area for the new shed (Photos 10-12), topsoil stripping of the area around the new cesspit (Photos 13 and 14), and excavation of the new cesspit down to the bedrock (Photos 15 and 16). These areas are shown in blue in Figure 7. All work was carried out with an eight-tonne digger with a toothless bucket, and the ground was excavated in shallow spits to more easily enable the observation of archaeological deposits during the excavations.
- 4.6 In the larger area to the east of the cottage, intended for the siting of a new agricultural shed, the topsoil was c.20cm deep and the subsoil revealed beneath was mid-brownish-yellow and sandy, reflecting the sandstone bedrock geology of this area of Ceredigion. There were no archaeological features and no finds save for Post-Medieval and Modern rubbish. In the footprint of the proposed cesspit, the same was observed except that the topsoil was 60cm deep, probably because it had been gardened for many years. Bedrock was encountered at a depth of around 0.9m.
- 4.7 A photographic survey of both the inside and outside of Ty Hir cottage and its outbuildings was undertaken. Photos 17-28 represent a sample of this record. A short description is also included in section 5 below.

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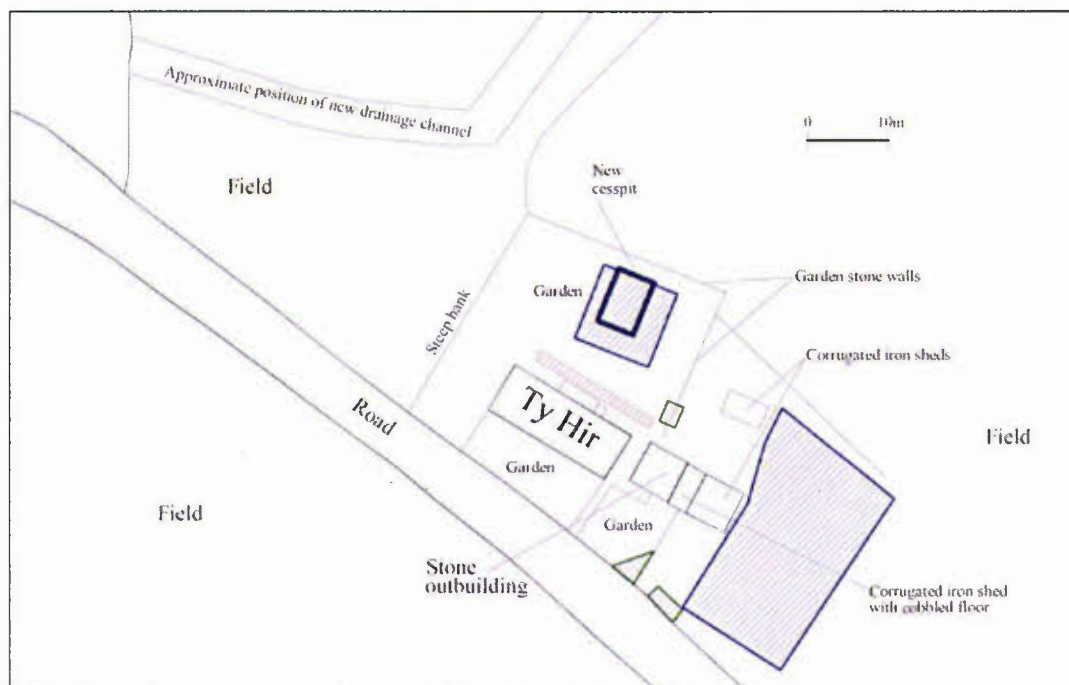


Figure 7: Plan of Ty Hir and the groundworks carried out at Ty Hir, Cilcennin (**blue** shows areas of topsoil stripping; **red** shows concrete patio removal; **green** shows where stone walls were cut through to improve access)



Photo 1: Facing northwest. Recently-created gap in the east wall of the rear garden, to improve access.



Photo 2: Facing north-northeast. Section through the east wall of the rear garden where a gap had recently been created to improve access. Two 1m scales.



Photo 3: Facing south-southwest. Section through the east wall of the rear garden where a gap had recently been created to improve access. Two 1m scales.



Photo 4: Facing southeast. Section through the wall along the road where it had recently been cut through to improve access to the property.



Photo 5: Facing southeast. Close-up of stones in section through the wall along the road where it had recently been cut through.



Photo 6: Facing west-northwest. View along rear of cottage lean-to showing strip of stone rubble where a concrete patio had recently been dug up. 2m scale.



Photo 7: Close-up of stone rubble where a concrete patio had recently been dug up at the rear of the cottage.



Photo 8: Facing west. Recently-dug drainage channel through field to west of Ty Hir.



Photo 9: Facing north-northwest. Recently-dug drainage channel through field to west of Ty Hir.



Photo 10: Facing south-southeast. Area for new shed following topsoil strip.



Photo 11: Facing northeast. North half of the footprint of the new shed following topsoil strip.



Photo 12: Facing north. North corner of the footprint of the new shed following topsoil strip.



Photo 13: Facing west-northwest. Area of ground in rear garden looking along the northern stonewall, showing topsoil stripped area for the cess pit.



Photo 14: Facing northwest. Topsoil stripping of the footprint of the cess pit



Photo 15: Facing north. Area for cess pit after partial excavation into the bedrock.



Photo 16: Facing north. Close up of the section of the cesspit excavation intruding into the rear garden wall.

5 BUILDING DESCRIPTION

- 5.1 The main building of Ty Hir is a single storey stone built structure. The hipped roof is covered with slate, with red ceramic ridge tiles (Photo 17). Those on the apex of the ridge are two holed, crested tiles. The roof appears to have been replaced at some point in the 20th century. Chimneys are present at the two ends of the building, rising from the wall plate level (there are no gables). These may be of 19th century date.



Photo 17: Facing east-northeast. East end of front of Ty Hir cottage.



Photo 18: Facing northwest. West end of front of Ty Hir cottage.

- 5.2 There is a front door on the eastern side of the main façade, with two windows flanking to the west and single window to the east (Photos 17 and 18). All of these appear to be 20th century inserts. The three windows are all double, single pane casement windows under two fixed fanlights, formed of 5 panes (two larger under three smaller). The upper three panes are coloured red and yellow (Photo 23). The front door is recessed at the back of the exterior wall indicating a substantial thickness to the front wall of the cottage.



Photo 19: Facing west. Rear of Ty Hir cottage.



Photo 20: Facing south-southeast. West end of rear of Ty Hir cottage, with 2m scale.

- 5.3 The rear façade to the north has two small modern extensions comprising a larger lean-to, with a second smaller one to the east (Photos 21 and 22).
- 5.4 Only one window is visible on the original rear wall of the cottage at its western end (Photo 20). This is a simple sash window of 3 lights per panel (larger central panes flanked by two narrower ones). This also appears to be an insert into the original stone wall. The larger lean-to extension is of brick construction with a central 6 light, metal framed window of possible 1930s style.
- 5.5 Internally the building has been much altered and plaster covered to prevent any phasing of the structure to be determined. The layout of the building comprises a hallway across the width of the building with the front door to the south and doorway into 20th century extension to the south. This corridor was separated by a second partition doorway beyond the internal doorways leading to the east (living room) and west (bedroom) (Photo 21) the hallway adjacent to the front door had a red and black glazed tile floor. This door was half glazed, with Bakelite door handle of 20th century date. The front door was a four panelled door of probable 19th century date (Photo 21).



Photo 21: View south along entrance hallway, towards front door

- 5.6 The doorway to the 20th century rear extension at the northern end of the hallway would have originally been the back door to the property and its appearance suggests it may have been an original feature (Photo 22). The door was of simple ledged construction, with smaller central plank. The hinges were of T-strap design. A simple latch was present with a large lock beneath. All of the door furniture may have been original.



Photo 22: View north towards door at northern end of hallway leading to the rear extension.

- 5.7 The living room, to the east of the entrance hallway covered the full width of the building, with window to the front (Photo 23) and fireplace on the eastern end wall (Photo 24). A quarry tiled floor was visible under the carpet in the corner of this room (Photo 26). The doorway (not pictured) was of 1930s style comprising a brass doorknob at chest height, with three tall panels below and a single panel at the top of the door.



Photo 23: Window to southern façade within sitting room, showing coloured glass



Photo 24: Facing northeast. The painted brick fireplace in the room at the east end of Ty Hir cottage. 1m scale.



Photo 25: Facing northwest. Tiled floor seen under carpet in northwest corner of the room at the east end of Ty Hir cottage.

- 5.8 The room to the west of the entrance hallway was previously used as a bedroom. It had an identical door to that which provided access to the sitting room to the west. A single window was present on its southern wall, with the other walls being featureless. The room did not extend the full width of the house, being separated from the back wall by a corridor leading from the northern end of the entrance hallway. A doorway separated this corridor from the entrance hallway, which was of 1930s style (of same design as those to the sitting room and bedroom) and had a Bakelite door knob (Photo 26).
- 5.9 The corridor behind the bedroom led to a third room at the western end of the building. The rear window (Photo 20) provided light to this corridor (Photos 27 and 28). No doorway was present separating the room from the corridor, but a narrow partition was visible coming down from the ceiling to the level at which the top of a door may have once been present (Photos 27 and 28). Three small finials projected down from this partition of uncertain function.
- 5.10 The western room had a fireplace on the western end wall (Photo 29) and a window to the southern façade.
- 5.11 The rear extension was accessed from the entrance hallway through the possible original ledged door. The substantial width of the rear wall of the original Ty Hir building was visible in this doorway (Photo 30). A further doorway led to the east from the extension into a small covered porch (smaller extension noted above) that led into the garden.



Photo 26: View east towards doorway separating the entrance hallway from the corridor. 1m scale.



Photo 27: View west along corridor leading from entrance hallway to western room, showing partial partition at ceiling height and rear window opening. 1m scale.

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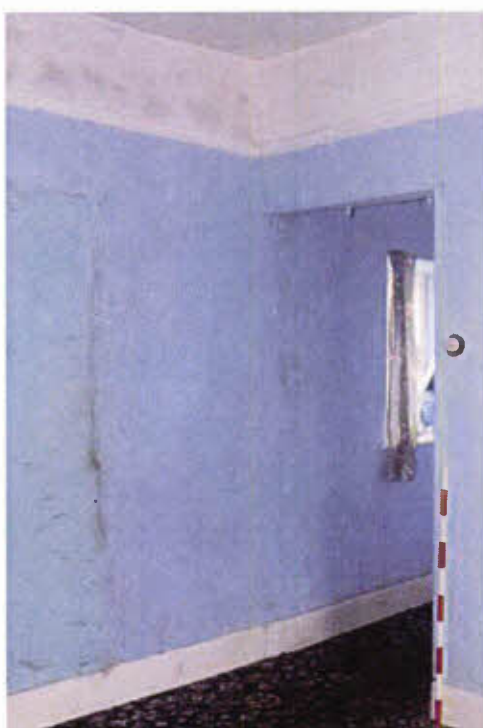


Photo 28: Viewing northeast in western room of Ty Hir towards corridor and window, and the partial partition at ceiling height. 1m scale



Photo 29: View southwest in western room showing fireplace with 1m scale

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Photo 30: View southwest within rear extension showing doorway into main house and thickness of the rear wall



Photo 31: Facing east. Interior of lean-to at rear of Ty Hir cottage, towards rear door, with 1m scale.

- 5.12 At the front of Ty Hir a small pathway led from the front door to a stone built entranceway gateway onto the road front (Photos 32 and 33).



Photo 32: View south from Ty Hir front door along garden path to entrance gate and road



Photo 33: Facing northeast. Main front gateposts at Ty Hir.

- 5.13 The outbuilding to the northeast of Ty Hir was also of stone construction, but with a number of additions (Photos 34 and 35). The building comprised a main simple rectangular building with gable ends to the north and south, with a lean to extension on its western side also constructed of stone.



Photo 34: Facing south-southwest. Northern side of stone outbuilding at Ty Hir.



Photo 35: Facing south. Stone outbuilding at Ty Hir.

- 5.14 The main outbuilding has evidently been used for animals previously, the internal area having a number of animal stalls within (Photo 36). The lean-to extension comprised two small rooms, one with a window, previously used for storage.



Photo 38: View inside stone outbuilding, facing southwest, showing animal stalls

- 5.15 To the east of the outbuilding stood a small corrugated metal shed in a poor state of repair (Photo 38 and 39), which may have replaced an earlier building as a cobbled floor was present inside of it (Photo 40).



Photo 37: View southwest showing stone built outbuilding, Ty Hir cottage and corrugated metal shed to east of outbuilding.



Photo 38: View south showing corrugated metal outbuilding.



Photo 39: Facing south. Cobbled floor inside corrugated metal shed.

6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The archaeological watching brief has demonstrated that the groundworks that have been carried out at Ty Hir, Cilcennin, Ceredigion, have not impacted upon any significant archaeological features.
- 6.2 Demolished sections of stone walls, the removal of a concrete patio, the stripping of topsoil in two areas and the excavation of the cess pit yielded no features or finds save for Post-Medieval/Modern rubbish. No archaeological remains were observed in a deep open drainage channel cut through the field west of the cottage (outside of the development area).
- 6.3 A photographic survey of both the inside and outside of Ty Hir cottage and its outbuildings was undertaken.
- 6.4 As no remains of archaeological significance were revealed during these works it was agreed with the Development Management team at DAT that no further watching brief would be required during any further excavations for footing for the footings of the new shed.
- 6.5 Although this watching brief did not bring to light any significant finds or features, there is still potential for archaeological remains to survive within the area because of the nature of known historic assets in the vicinity.
- 6.6 The photographic survey of the building of Ty Hir and its outbuildings provides a good record of the structures prior to their alteration, conversion or demolition in the case of the corrugated metal shed.
- 6.7 The main building of Ty Hir is of at least early 19th century date, as indicated on cartographic sources. The building has very thick walls as noted on both the front and rear doors of the original building. It is possible the original cottage was an earlier building of 18th century date, but this cannot be confirmed. It has been substantially altered during the 20th century, with new window openings inserted and the front door opening also being altered. The roof appears to be of a recent replacement. The rear extension would appear to be of 1930s date, based on the metal framed window. Internal doors also suggest replacement in the 1930s. It is therefore possible that the cottage was modernised at this time, removing any earlier features which could have provided a better indication of the original date of the structure.
- 6.8 The stone outbuilding may 19th century addition. It was certainly used for animal housing, as indicated by the animal stalls. These appeared to be of concrete construction and could have replaced earlier timber ones. It is possible that the concrete stalls were contemporary with the 1930s renovations to the main building.
- 6.9 The corrugated metal shed to the east is a typical building used in farm buildings. The metal used is galvanised iron, using zinc. The process was developed in the 19th century, but became very widespread during the 20th century. A number of the larger former lead mines in Ceredigion had their spoil tips reworked to extract zinc for exactly such processes in the earlier 20th century (such as that at Frongoch between 1924 and 1930). The corrugated metal shed may also have originally been of 1930s date also.

7 SOURCES

Published

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Database

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record, housed with Dyfed Archaeological Trust in Shire Hall, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, SA19 6AF

APPENDIX I:**TY HIR, CILCENNIN, CEREDIGION, SA48 8DB:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF
WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION****INTRODUCTION**

This written scheme of investigation (WSI) has been prepared by DAT Archaeological Services in response to a request from Mr Carwyn Iles to provide an archaeological scheme of works for a watching brief during proposed ground works for the renovation and alteration of the property known as Ty Hir, Cilcennin, Ceredigion (SN 5091 5974; Figures 1 and 2).

The development proposals include alteration to the existing building of Ty Hir to add a second storey to form a dormer roof construction and replacement of an existing lean-to extension with slightly larger new one. Mains electricity will be connected to the property, with a septic tank to be placed in the rear garden area and a ground source heat pump in the area to the west. The works will include the widening of the existing roadside entrance and addition of off road parking on a driveway. It is also proposed that an outbuilding to the east will be converted to possible holiday accommodation, as well as the construction of an agricultural building to the west.

The existing building of Ty Hir may be shown on the 1843 Tithe Map of Cilcennin (Figure 3). A building is shown in roughly the same place as the existing structure and any discrepancy is likely to be due to the limitations of survey methods at that time. Ty Hir is named on the 1889 1:2500 scale ordnance survey map (Figure 4). It is this likely that the building is of at least early 19th century date. The 1889 map also indicates that Ty Hir was formed by two distinct parts, with a small outbuilding to the northeast (Figure 5). The 1905 1:2500 scale map shows the buildings slightly more clearly, with a definite division of the structure (Figure 6). By 1905 the outbuilding to the northeast was no longer present and a new outbuilding is present directly east of Ty Hir. This building corresponds with the existing outbuilding to the east of the property.

The Dyfed Historic Environment Record contains 8 known sites of archaeological interest within a 500m radius centred on Ty Hir. These include the findspot of a Neolithic polished stone axe within a field to the east (reference PRN13221). Three cropmarks of possible prehistoric date are recorded in the fields to the southeast of the site (PRNs 5916 and 5890), the first of these comprises four circular enclosures. A further cropmark site is recorded to the northeast (PRN 5891). There is thus a potential for further sites of prehistoric date to be present within the development area.

A single site of medieval date is recorded which is a further cropmark site (PRN 5892). No further details regarding the site are recorded. It lies to the southeast of the site in an area which can be seen to contain former strip fields associated with medieval farming.

The last three recorded sites are of post-medieval date and include Ty Mawr (PRN 7009) and its gates and entrance (PRN 57764). Both are Grade II Listed Buildings. The final site is a former cottage or house of architectural interest, Pen-Rhiw, located on the road leading to the southwest of Ty mawr.

The archaeological advisors to the local planning authority (Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Development Management) considered there was potential for archaeological deposits to be disturbed or damaged during the proposed intrusive ground works associated with the development. Therefore an archaeological watching brief condition will be attached to the planning decision.

This written scheme of investigation outlines the methodology through which DAT Archaeological Services would undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works at the site, which have the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains. This document has been prepared for the client and is specifically prepared for DAT Archaeological Services to undertake the required archaeological works. The WSI cannot be used by any third party.

It is understood that the groundworks for the development will be undertaken in a single phase of work in the week commencing 30th January. The groundworks will include the widening of the road access into the site and stripping of the proposed driveway and parking area. The footprints of the cess pit and the ground source heat pump will also be stripped at this time. The footprint of the proposed agricultural shed may also be stripped. These works will be undertaken prior to the commencement of development, so that if any archaeological remains are revealed, there will be less disruption to the development programme. Some clearance of rhododendrons and leylandii will also be undertaken, which will also be monitored in the event that below ground disturbance is proposed.

A photographic survey of the existing building of Ty Hir and external buildings will also be undertaken.

The written scheme of investigation is in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2014).

DAT Archaeological Services has considerable experience of this type of project and always operates to best professional practice. DAT Archaeological Services is the contractual arm of Dyfed Archaeological Trust that has its own Health and Safety Policy, and all works are covered by appropriate Employer's Liability and Public Liability Insurances. Copies of all are available on request.

Dyfed Archaeological Trust is a CIfA Registered Organisation and all permanent staff are CSCS registered.

Ty Hir, Cilcennin, Ceredigion:
Archaeological Watching Brief



Figure 1: Location plan of Ty Hir, Cilcennin, Ceredigion

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 scale Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed Archaeological Trust, The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF. Licence No 100020930

Ty Hir, Cilcennin, Ceredigion:
Archaeological Watching Brief



Figure 2: Site location plan taken from the Ty Hir Planning Report and Design and Access Statement (supplied by client), with the red line forming the planning application boundary and the blue line showing land ownership



Figure 3: Extract of the 1843 Tithe Map of Cilcennin, with approximate location of Ty Hir highlighted

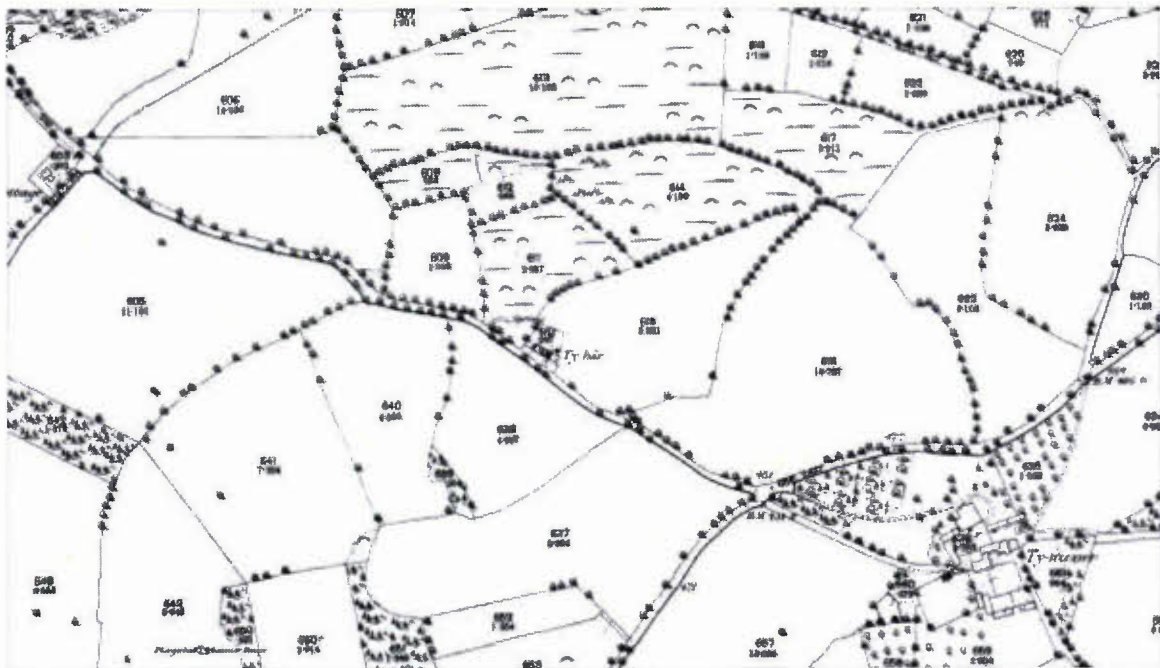


Figure 4: Extract of the First Edition 1889 1:2500 scale Ordnance Survey map showing the property of Ty Hir

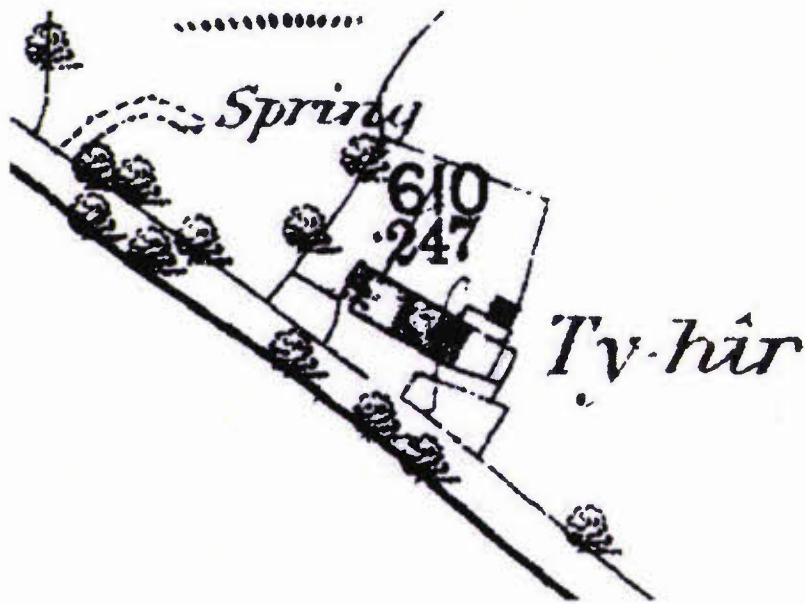


Figure 5: Detail of Ty Hir as shown on the First Edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 scale map of 1889, showing it divided into two parts and small outbuilding to northeast

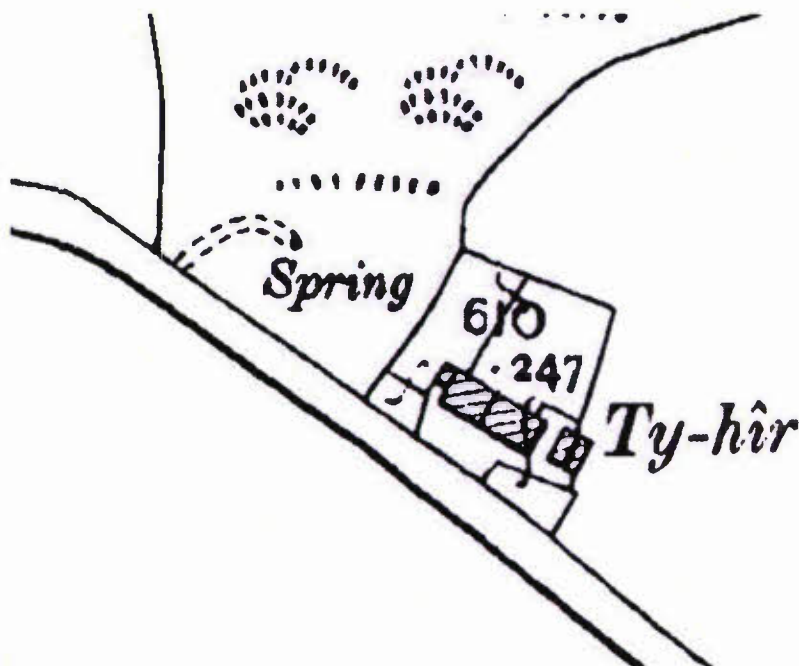


Figure 6: Detail of the Second Edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 scale map of 1905 showing Ty Hir, with outbuilding to east

1. WATCHING BRIEF

- 1.1 The definition of archaeological watching brief, taken from the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance: for Archaeological Watching Briefs (CIfA S&G: AWB 2014) is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.
- 1.2 The purpose of a watching brief, as laid down in the CIfA S&G AWB is:
- to allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works;*
- to provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment.*
- 1.3 This document provides a scheme of works for: **Archaeological attendance during ground works associated development and alterations at Ty Hir, Cilcennin, Ceredigion which could potentially expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains. A photographic survey of the existing buildings will also be undertaken. This will include all areas where a site strip is necessary. Appropriate investigation and recording of any such remains will be undertaken if revealed. A report and archive of the results of the works will be prepared.**

2. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 Provision of a written scheme of investigation to outline the methodology by which DAT Archaeological Services will undertake the archaeological watching brief.
- 2.2 To monitor ground works in order to identify the presence/absence of any archaeological deposits.
- 2.3 To establish the character, extent and date range for any archaeological deposits to be affected by the proposed ground works.
- 2.4 To appropriately investigate and record any archaeological deposits to be affected by the ground works.
- 2.5 To produce an archive and report of any results.

3. FIELDWORK

- 3.1 The watching brief would entail an archaeologist being present during all ground works where there is a potential for archaeological remains to be exposed, damaged or destroyed. This will be carried out during any initial site strip for the access widening, parking and driveway, footprint of the cess pit and ground source heat pump, footprint of agricultural store extension, and any associated groundworks necessary where there is still a potential for archaeological remains to be exposed, damaged or destroyed.

- 3.2 It is essential coordination between the site contractor's and archaeologist is established at the outset to avoid any potential disturbance to archaeology without an archaeologist being present, or unnecessary visits to the site when works are being carried out that do not require the presence of an archaeologist.
- 3.3 Adequate time must be made available to the visiting archaeologist to ensure that appropriate recording can be undertaken of any archaeological features or deposits exposed during ground works.
- 3.4 Recording of all archaeological features or deposits will conform to best current professional practice and be carried out in accordance with the Recording Manual³ used by DAT Archaeological Services. Significant archaeological features or deposits will be drawn at a suitable scale (no less than 1:20) and photographed in an appropriate format.
- 3.5 All archaeologically significant finds will be retained and, where possible, related to the contexts from which they derived. Finds will be temporarily stored by DAT Archaeological Services in stable conditions. All finds, except those deemed to be Treasure, will remain the property of the landowner.
- 3.6 Under the 1996 Treasure Act, "treasure" can be summarised as:
- Any object other than a coin containing at least 10% gold or silver and at least 300 years old;
 - Any prehistoric assemblage of base metal;
 - Coins found together which contain 10% gold or silver (but no single coins) and groups of at least 10 coins of other metals, provided they are at least 300 years old;
 - Any object found associated with treasure except unworked natural objects; and
 - Any object which would have been Treasure Trove before the 1996 Act but not covered above.
- 3.7 In the event that unforeseen archaeological discoveries are made during the development, or that archaeological remains of high significance are exposed, DAT Archaeological Services shall have the power to halt any ground works and shall inform the site agent/project manager and the curatorial officer, and prepare a written statement with plan detailing the archaeological evidence. Following assessment of the archaeological remains by the curatorial officer, DAT Archaeological Services shall, if required, implement on behalf of the Client a contingency scheme for salvage excavation of affected archaeological features. In these instances it would be necessary to employ extra resources to record such features to an appropriate standard.
- 3.8 In the event that human remains are encountered, the District Coroner's Office and the Police will be notified immediately. All human remains will, where possible, be left *in situ*. If preservation *in situ* is not possible all statutory permissions will be obtained in writing before removal begins.

Photographic Survey

- 3.9 A photographic survey of the existing buildings on the site will also be undertaken to create a record of the buildings in their present condition. The survey will include high resolution digital photographs of the exterior

³ DAT Archaeological Services have adopted the Recording Manual developed by English Heritage Centre for Archaeology. A copy will be available on-site for inspection if required.

sand interiors of all safely accessible parts of the buildings. A scale bar will be used in the photos.

- 3.10 A photographic record will be maintained to record the locations and directions of the photographs. A site plan may be used to annotate to also show the directions and locations of photographs.

4. POST-FIELDWORK REPORTING AND ARCHIVING

- 4.1 All data recovered during the evaluation will be collated into a site archive structured in accordance with the specifications in *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2011), and the procedures recommended by the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth. The *National Standards for Wales for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives* produced by the Federation of Museums and Art Galleries of Wales will also be adhered to. Digital archives will be collated using the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales systems (2015) and deposited with the RCAHMW.
- 4.2 The results of the fieldwork will be assessed in local, regional and wider contexts. The report will include a desk-based research element to ensure that the site is placed within its wider archaeological context. A report that is fully representative of the results of the fieldwork will be prepared and digital and hard copies will be sent to the client for dissemination to all relevant parties. The photographic record will be included as part of this archive.
- 4.3 DAT Archaeological Services will arrange for the deposition of finds, and ascertain the costs of storage and deposition, with an approved body before the project commences and inform the curator of the arrangement which has been made (it is anticipated that the paper and digital archive will be deposited with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales and any finds to Ceredigion Museum).
- 4.4 A summary of the project results, excluding any confidential information, may be prepared for wider dissemination (e.g. Archaeology in Wales and special interest and period-specific journals).
- 4.5 A digital copy and two bound copies of the reports will produced for the client. Digital copies of the report will be supplied to Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Development Management and the regional Historic Environment Record.

5. STAFF

- 5.1 This project will be managed by James Meek, Head of DAT Archaeological Services.
- 5.2 Archaeological attendance during the watching brief will be undertaken by staff drawn from the team of archaeologists employed by DAT Archaeological Services.

6. MONITORING

- 6.1 The Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Development Management team should be told of the commencement of the works ideally at least one week before commencement so that they can arrange a monitoring visit if needed. The fieldwork may need to be monitored by the Head of DAT

Archaeological Services. All parties should be provided with free access to the site at any time during the watching brief works.

7. HEALTH AND SAFETY

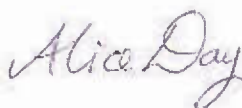
- 7.1 All DAT Archaeological Services staff are CSCS⁴ registered.
- 7.2 DAT Archaeological Services will carry out a health and safety risk assessment to ensure that all potential risks are minimised.
- 7.3 All relevant health and safety regulations must be followed.
- 7.4 All site inductions, H&S procedures and site rules of the site contractor will be made known to DAT Archaeological Services staff prior to them commencing work on-site.
- 7.5 Safety helmets, safety boots and high visibility vests are to be used by all site personnel as necessary. The site contractors will make all archaeological staff aware of any other PPE⁵ that may be required and provide them. Archaeological staff must not enter any area where there is a considered to be a health and safety risk that has not or is not being appropriately mitigated against.
- 7.6 DAT Archaeological Services staff must ensure that their presence on site is communicated to all relevant site staff, especially machine operators.

⁴ Construction Skills Certification Scheme (Health and Safety Tested)

⁵ Personal Protection Equipment

**TY HIR, CILCENNIN, CEREDIGION:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2017/15
RHIF Y DIGWILLIAD / EVENT RECORD NO. 110331Chwefror 2017
February 2017Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan
/ This report has been prepared by**ALICE DAY**Swydd / Position: **ARCHAEOLOGIST**

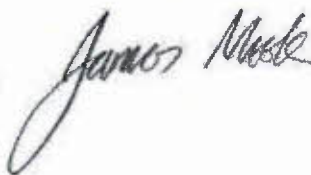
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Date 28/Feb/2017

Mae'r adroddiad hwn wedi ei gael yn gywir a derbyn sêl bendith
/ This report has been checked and approved by**JAMES MEEK**ar ran Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf.
/ on behalf of Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.Swydd / Position: **HEAD OF DAT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SERVICES**

Llofnod / Signature



Date 28/Feb/2017

*Yn unol â'n nôd i roddi gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel, croesawn unrhyw sylwadau
sydd gennych ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn*

*As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any
comments you may have on the content or presentation of this report.*