

**Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report**  
**Bryn (Penygarreg, Nantllwyd)**  
**W/12/1827**

**Report Number 2001/57**

**Report prepared for  
CCW**



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CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

REPORT NO. 2001/57  
PROJECT RECORD NO. 37601

November 2001

BRYN (PENYGARREG, NANTLLWYD)  
TIR GOFAL FARM VISIT REPORT

By

Nigel Page; Alice Pyper

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**Tir Gofal Application Number** W/12/1827  
**Address** Bryn (Penygarreg, Nantlwyd)  
Bryn Farm, Llanllwni, Llanybydder, SA40 9SG  
  
**National Grid Reference** SN50944170;SN52783566;SN546367  
**CCW Tir Gofal Project Officer** Kevin Taylor, Llandeilo  
**CA Tir Gofal Archaeologist** Nigel Page; Alice Pyper  
**Visit Date** 02/10/01

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## **INTRODUCTION**

This report is intended to provide a statement on the condition and recommended management of all known archaeological and historical sites and features on the farm at the time it was visited by Cambria Archaeology. This information will be used to inform the Tir Gofal Management Agreement for the farm.

### **Method Statement**

The farm visit consisted of two phases.

Phase 1 was a rapid search of all readily available documentary, cartographic and published sources to try to understand the historical development of the farm and the wider landscape and to identify new sites of archaeological interest. The searches undertaken for this visit include information held in the regional Sites and Monuments Record, the relevant County Records Office and the National Library of Wales. New sites, or areas of interest were plotted onto a GIS-based map for use in the field and for the final report.

Phase 2 was a site visit to assess the extent, character and current condition of the archaeological and historical sites identified during the research phase, although because of constraints, recording is rapid, usually photographs and site notes, and some of the sites may not have been visited. The information gained during the visit has been used to assign the farm and its individual sites to a management category, which have determined the management recommendations for each site.

## **GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF FARM**

Bryn Farm (PRN 43634) is made up of three separate holdings, the first where the farmstead is centred, lies about 4 km to the south west of Llanybydder. The other holdings are centred around the farms of Nant-llwyd and Penygarn, the farmsteads themselves are no longer part of Bryn Farm and are consequently not part of the scheme. These holdings were not inspected. The Bryn Farm holding extends from the banks of the Nant Ceiliog river across the Roman Road (Sarn Helen) almost up to the summit of Pen Gil-garn. Land use is largely given over to pasture, with areas of marsh on the low lying levels. The tithe survey of Llanllwny Parish in 1841 records the field enclosures, with one or two exceptions, as existing in their current pattern. The field layout is irregular with boundaries consisting of stone faced earth banks topped by hedges, and in places stone gate posts also remain. The track to serve the deserted farm of Bryn Bach and the track to the uplands are both surfaced with stone and enclosed by banks faced with herringbone patterned stone with hedges on top. The farmstead itself consists of the farmhouse, an L-shaped building aligned to the road, a small rectangular building (PRN 43575) perpendicular to the road, and a further row of farmbuildings (PRN 43576) on the same alignment further to the east. These buildings are all recorded on the tithe map of 1841 as being owned and occupied by Herbert Evans. Other large C20th farmbuildings have been built to the north and east of the farmyard. The farmhouse itself has been modernised in the early 1980's and little of the earlier fabric is visible externally. To the south of the farmhouse is a large pond (PRN 43635), apparently a remnant of a mill. Low banks to the south-east of the pond indicate other early structures.

## **MAIN MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

The trackways, gateways and farm boundaries are a significant characteristic of the holding. They are in good condition at present and should continue to be maintained in their current state. Archaeological sites on the holding which require action are detailed below, for other management recommendations see the gazetteer of individual sites.

PRN 753 This round barrow is considered to be of national importance, both in its own right and as part of a group with cairn PRN 7519 and barrow PRN 754. Placing brash or gorse in the shallow eroded areas close to some of the stones should stop sheep using them as shelters, giving the grass a chance to regenerate. This monument and those associated with it would present a good opportunity for public access and education. However regular monitoring should be undertaken to assess if this creates a further problem of erosion.

PRN 43574 The earthworks should be cleared of all modern rubbish and the stones that have been dumped there should be removed. Once the site is cleared the surviving walls should be maintained in their present condition.

PRN 43575 The cow shed requires some consolidation where wall tops are collapsing and some loose slates need to be replaced to make the roof watertight.

PRN 43637 The trackway is a significant historical feature of the farm. The hedgerows should be maintained and the southern hedgeline restored.

See gazetteer for detailed management recommendations.

## KEY TO MANAGEMENT CATEGORIES

Category	Importance	Colour on map	Detail
Category A	Sites and Monuments of National Importance	Blue	Scheduled Ancient Monuments Grade 1 and 2* Listed Buildings
		Red	Other Sites and Monuments of National Importance Other Buildings Of National Importance
		Red Toning	Registered Parks and Gardens of Historic Interest
		Red Banding	Registered Landscapes of Historic Interest
Category B	Sites and Monuments of Regional Importance	Amber	Sites and Monuments of Regional Importance Grade 2 Listed Buildings and Other Buildings of Regional Importance
Category C	Sites and Monuments of Local Importance	Green	Sites and Features of Local Importance Buildings of Local Importance
Category D	Sites and Monuments of Unknown Importance	Brown	Sites and Features needing further investigation includings damaged sites or sites with no physical definition

## **SITE AND AREA DESIGNATIONS**

The following abbreviations are used in the gazetteer to refer to site and area status designations.

### **SAM** Scheduled Ancient Monument

SAMs are notified under Section 1 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. The schedule of SAMs is maintained and administered by Cadw.

### **LB1, LB2\* and LB2** Listed Buildings

Listed Buildings are notified under Section 1 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The list is maintained and administered by Cadw. Local Authorities are statutory consultees for listed buildings.

### **HLW** Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales

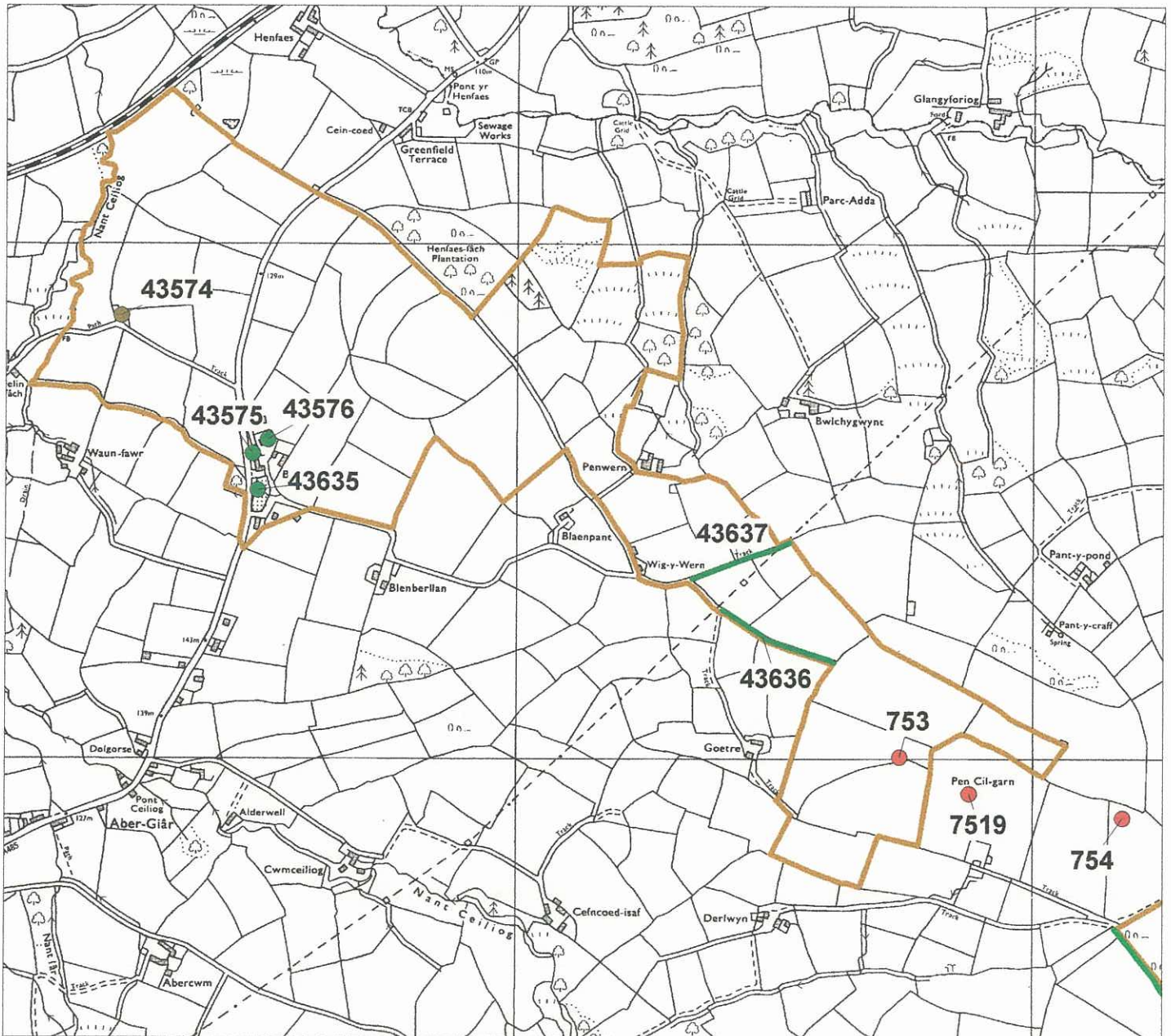
Defined by the Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales, Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales: Part 2.1 Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest; Part 2.2 Landscapes of Special Historic Interest. The register is advisory only and has no statutory powers. The register was compiled by Cadw in partnership with the Countryside Council for Wales and the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)

### **HGP** Register of Historic Gardens and Parks

Defined by the Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales, Part 1 Parks and Gardens. The register is advisory only and has no statutory powers. The register was compiled by Cadw in partnership with the Countryside Council for Wales and the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)

Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report  
 Bryn Farm  
 Map 1  
 ACA Report No.2001/57  
 SN50944170  
 Scale 1:12000

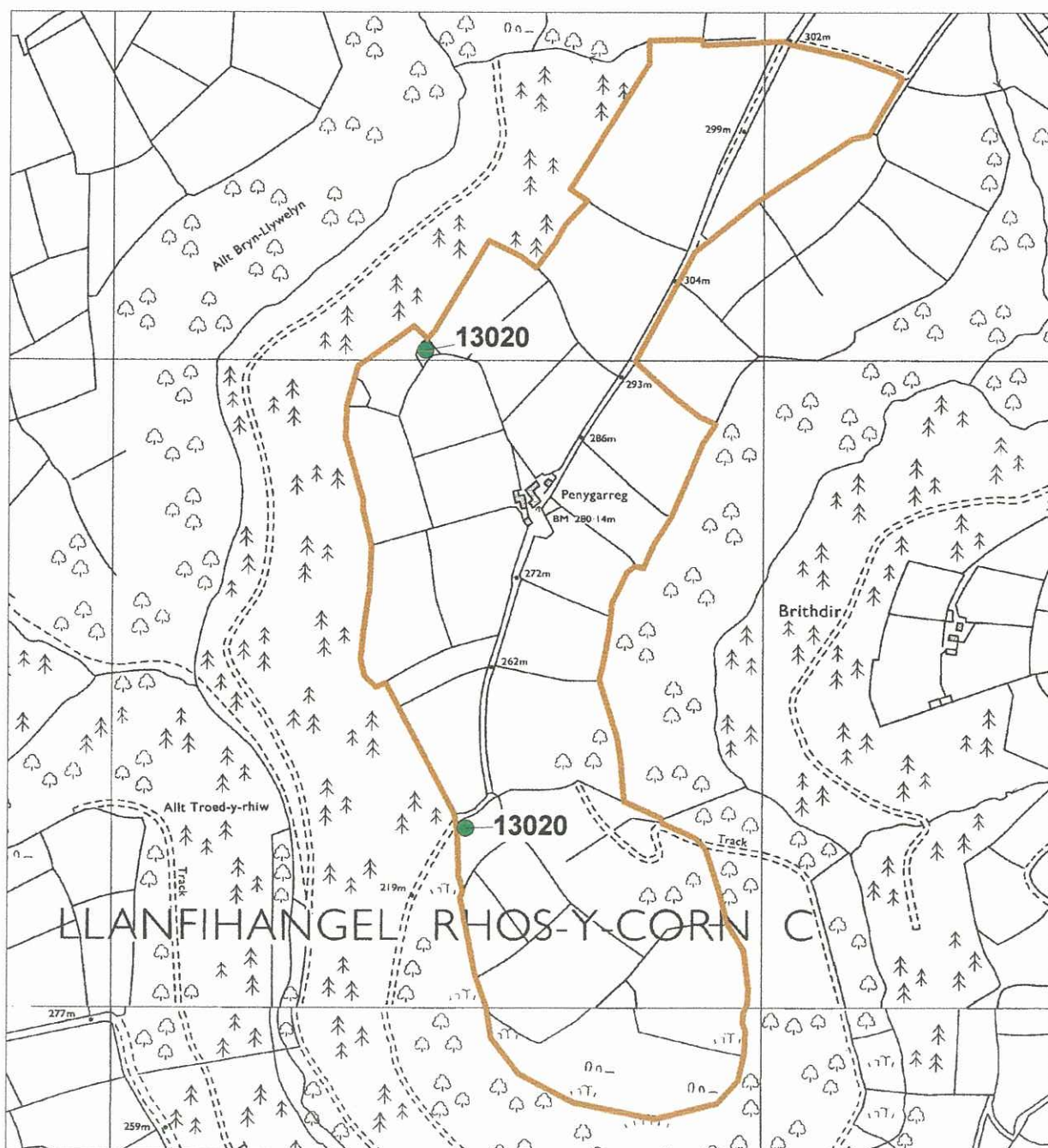
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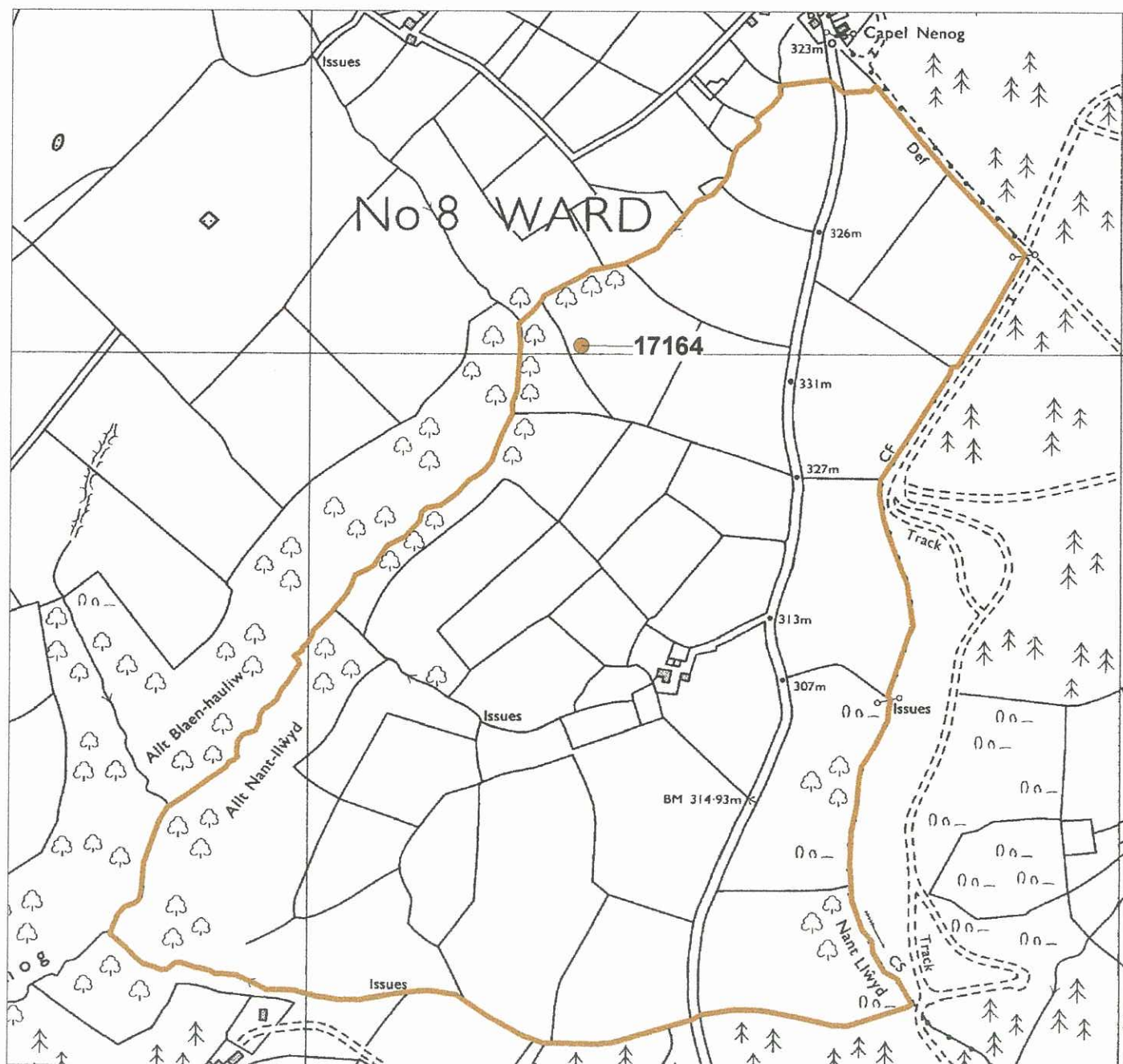
Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report  
Bryn Farm  
Map 2  
ACA Report No.2001/57  
SN52003000  
Scale 1:10000

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Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report  
Bryn Farm  
Map 3  
ACA Report No.2001/57  
SN540360  
Scale 1:7500

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## GAZETTEER OF SITES AND MONUMENTS

**PRN** 753      **Site name** PEN-WERN      **NGR** SN51744105  
**Site type** ROUND BARROW      **Period** Bronze Age      **Site Status**

### **Description**

A damaged but still visible round barrow (plate 1) sited on the edge of the ridge/high plateau on which associated sites 754 and 7519, intervisible with this cairn, were sited. The well-defined circular cairn survives to a height of c.0.7m with a diameter of 13m and grass covered, with a few loose stones visible on its surface. White quartz stones were also noted on top of the mound, which also has a large thistle growing in its centre. This barrow forms part of a group with a nearby cairn (PRN 7519), c.150m to the southeast and a barrow (PRN 754) c.450 east-southeast.

### **Recommendations**

This round barrow is considered to be of national importance, both in its own right, and as part of a group with cairn PRN 7519 and barrow PRN 754. Placing brash or gorse in the shallow eroded areas close to some of the stones should stop sheep using them as shelters, giving the grass an opportunity to regenerate. This monument and those associated with it would present a good opportunity for increased public access and education. However regular monitoring should be undertaken to assess if this creates a further problem of erosion.

**Management Category** A      **Visited by** NAP;AMP      **Visited On** 02/10/01

**PRN** 13020      **Site name** PENGARREG      **NGR** SN524359  
**Site type** DESERTED RURAL SETTLEMENT      **Period** Unknown      **Site Status**

### **Description**

The following description and recommendations are based upon a visit undertaken by DAT in 1999. The foundations of rectilinear structures and field boundaries survive in pasture fields on Pengarreg Farm. There is not enough visible evidence to be sure of their precise character. Cottages were shown in these positions on the Llanfihangel Rhos y Corn tithe map (1841).

### **Recommendations**

The surviving earthworks should be excluded from all ground-breaking operations, including ploughing and afforestation. Archaeological advice should be sought before any works commence close to the earthworks in order to assess the possibility of any associated below ground remains.

**Management Category** C      **Visited by** NAP;AMP      **Visited On** 02/10/01

**PRN** 17164      **Site name**      **NGR** SN54333701  
**Site type** GRAVEL PIT      **Period** Post Med      **Site Status**

### **Description**

This site was not seen during the farm visit and its current condition is unknown.

### **Recommendations**

This earthwork should be kept clear of modern dumping.

**Management Category** D      **Visited by** NAP;AMP      **Visited On** 02/10/01

**PRN** 43574      **Site name** BRYN BACH      **NGR** SN50234186

**Site type** DESERTED RURAL      **Period** Post Med      **Site Status**  
SETTLEMENT

**Description**

The site of a former cottage shown, but not named, on the Llanllwyny tithe map (1841). It was known as Bryn Bach on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition of 1891. The map evidence shows a single, east-west, building, which has since been demolished. Only a short, low section of the north and west wall survives above ground (plate 2), as a grass covered bank, although some of the stones of the north wall are visible. Much of the site has been quarried and the stone removed. Some modern dumping has occurred and the site is now used as a stone dump.

**Recommendations**

The earthworks should be cleared of all modern rubbish and the stones that have been dumped there should be removed. Once the site is cleared, the surviving walls should be maintained in their present condition.

**Management Category** D      **Visited by** NAP;AMP      **Visited On** 02/10/01

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**PRN** 43575      **Site name** BRYN FARM      **NGR** SN50484160

**Site type** COW SHED      **Period** Post Med      **Site Status**

**Description**

A small one-storey cowhouse to the north of the farmhouse, constructed in whitewashed rubble masonry with a pitched roof of corrugated asbestos (plate 3). It is entered from the south side by a low doorway adjacent to a churn stand and by a low doorway in the west end above which is a small window high in the gable. Internally the floor is concrete with a central longitudinal drainage channel. To the east of the cowhouse is a rubble walled extension, slightly lower in height with a pitched slate roof. A blocked doorway is visible in the south elevation. To the north a low calf house runs almost the length of the building with a slated cat slide roof. This is divided into two with doorways at either end. At the west end of the calf house is a small walled enclosure. A further small extension has been added to the east gable end providing access through double doors. The building is currently used as chemical and wood store and the interior was largely inaccessible for inspection. The asbestos roof is in fair condition although some ridge tiles are missing. Some slates are loose and have slipped allowing water ingress. Masonry is generally in sound condition, except the northeast corner where the wall top is collapsing.

**Recommendations**

The cow shed requires some consolidation where wall tops are collapsing and some loose slates need to be replaced to make the roof watertight.

**Management Category** C      **Visited by** NAP;AMP      **Visited On** 02/10/01

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<b>PRN</b> 43576	<b>Site name</b> BRYN FARM	<b>NGR</b> SN50504157
<b>Site type</b> FARM BUILDING	<b>Period</b> Post Med	<b>Site Status</b>

### **Description**

A row of farmbuildings to north east of the farmyard, constructed of roughly dressed masonry, built to courses, and with large stone quoins. The roof is a low pitched slate roof, hipped at the west end and half hipped at the east end. The building is two storeys high, and at the west end has cattle stalls beneath and a hayloft and grain store above with two pitching eyes on the south and north facing elevations. The south facing elevation has two existing doorways and two slatted ventilation windows inserted into earlier doorways (plate 4). Internally the cow byre has concrete partitions and floor. The loft floor has been renewed with hardboard and replacement joists, although the beams appear to be original. Attached to the west end is a stable with a single pitch slate roof. A first floor window in the south side and two ventilation windows to the west have concrete lintels and sills. Internally a sloping wooden partition divides the stable into two with hayracks along the cross wall and feeding shoots from the loft above. At the east end two opposing doors indicate the position of a threshing floor (plate 5). The south doorway has a large curved (reused?) timber lintel with a chamfer along its internal edge and the north doorway has a shallow stone arch. The threshold of the north doorway is approximately 1m higher than ground level, allowing access for unloading. A large rubble stone offset is visible above ground level along the north facing elevation. An outshoot at the west end of the north side was inaccessible for inspection. An outshoot on the south side with two low doorways incorporated two pigsties which are currently used as kennels. The building is in good condition and appears to have been recently renovated with a renewed loft floor and modern plastic guttering and skylights added to the roof.

### **Recommendations**

No specific action recommended except general maintenance using traditional materials.

<b>Management Category</b> C	<b>Visited by</b> NAP;AMP	<b>Visited On</b> 02/10/01
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<b>PRN</b> 43635	<b>Site name</b> BRYN FARMSTEAD	<b>NGR</b> SN50504150
<b>Site type</b> MILL POND	<b>Period</b> Post Med	<b>Site Status</b>

### **Description**

To the south of the farmhouse is a large pond, revetted by a large bank to the north, apparently a remnant of a mill (plate 6). The tithe map of 1841 shows the pond although the schedule makes no reference to a mill. Low banks to the south-east of the pond indicate other structures.

### **Recommendations**

The area to the south of the farmhouse may hold sensitive archaeological deposits which may suffer damage should any clearance of the pond be undertaken. Archaeological advice should be sought if work of this nature is being considered.

<b>Management Category</b> C	<b>Visited by</b> NAP;AMP	<b>Visited On</b> 02/10/01
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<b>PRN</b> 43636	<b>Site name</b> BRYN FARMSTEAD	<b>NGR</b> SN51534122
<b>Site type</b> TRACKWAY	<b>Period</b> Post Med	<b>Site Status</b>

### **Description**

The trackway leads from the public road up the side of Pen Cil-Garn. It is surfaced with stone and has stone faced banks on either side standing to a height of approximately a metre. The banks now have gorse and young trees growing out of it. The tithe map and the 1st and 2nd edition OS maps indicate it continues over the summit and eventually reaches the farms of Blaen-plwuf and Llain-las, although the track currently ends at the boundary to the open hilltop (plate 7).

### **Recommendations**

The trackway is a significant historical feature of the farm and should be maintained in a stable condition.

<b>Management Category</b> C	<b>Visited by</b> NAP;AMP	<b>Visited On</b> 02/10/01
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*PRN* 43637      *Site name* BRYN FARMSTEAD      *NGR* SN51404136

*Site type* TRACKWAY      *Period* Post Med      *Site Status*

***Description***

This grassy trackway is defined by low grass banks and hedgerows to either side, although the southern hedgerow is sparse. It is shown on the tithe map and the 1st and 2nd edition maps, leading to the farms of Pant y craff and Pant y pond.

***Recommendations***

The trackway is a significant historical feature of the farm. The hedgerows should be maintained and the southern hedgeline restored.

*Management Category* C      *Visited by* NAP;AMP      *Visited On* 02/10/01

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## REFERENCES

### Map

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Sambrook P & Ramsey R, 1999, Mediaeval or Later Deserted Rural Settlements - 1998-9 survey, -

## Plates

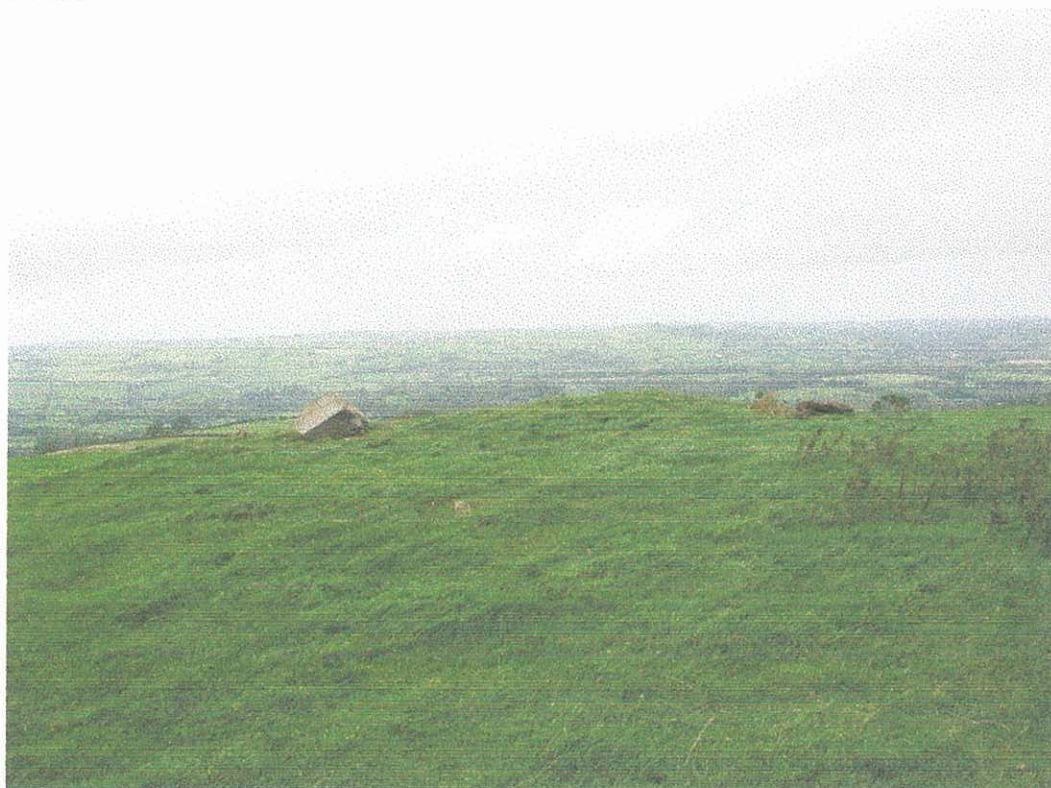


Plate 1 - Pen-Wern round barrow (PRN 753)



Plate 2 - Bryn Bach, the site of a former cottage (PRN 43574).





Plate 3 – cow shed north of Bryn Farm (PRN 43575)



Plate 4 – southwest end of farmbuilding at Bryn Farm (PRN 43576)





Plate 5 – northeast end of farmbuilding at Bryn Farm (PRN 43576)



Plate 6 – pond and revetment to the south of Bryn Farmhouse (PRN 43635)





Plate 7 – the trackway leading to Pen-Cil-garn (PRN 43636)

**BRYN (PENYGARREG, NANTLLWYD)  
TIR GOFAL FARM VISIT REPORT**

**REPORT NUMBER 2001/57**

**November 2001**

This report has been prepared by Nigel Page; Alice Pyper

Position: Tir Gofal Archaeologist

Signature... *Alice Pyper* ..... Date... *5/11/01* .....

This report has been checked and approved by Louise Austin on behalf of Cambria Archaeology,  
Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Position: Principal Archaeological Officer (Curatorial)

Signature... *Louise Austin* ..... Date... *5/11/01* .....

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