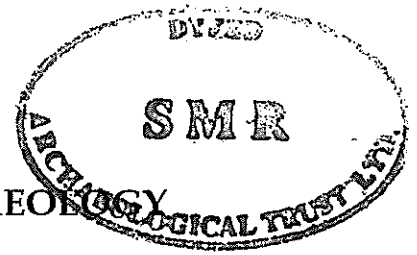


ARCHAEOLEG CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY



01/03/2000

# **BLAEN BOWI, CENARTH, CARMARTHENSHIRE**

## **AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED WINDFARM SITE, SEPTEMBER 1999 REVISED MARCH 2000**

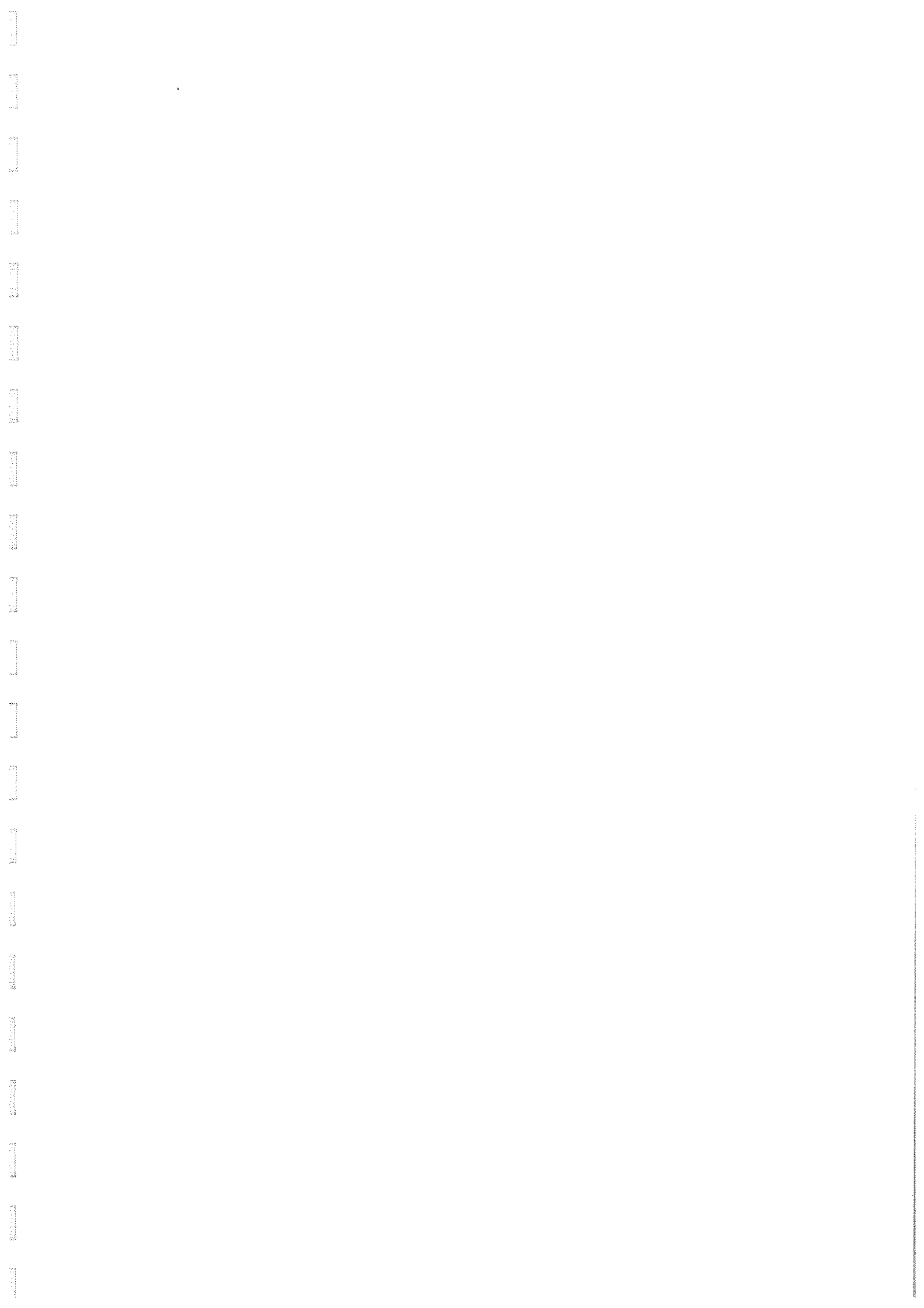
Project Record No. 39006

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**CAMBRIA**  
A R C H A E O L O G Y



# **BLAEN BOWI, CENARTH PROPOSED WINDFARM SITE**

## **AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT, SEPTEMBER 1999 REVISED WITH ADDITIONS, MARCH 2000**

**Project Record No. 39006**

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Development proposals and brief**

*Archaeoleg CAMBRIA Archaeology* were invited, by Dulas Limited, to tender for an archaeological assessment of a proposed small windfarm site at Blaen Bowi, Carmarthenshire, on 19 July 1999. *Archaeoleg CAMBRIA Archaeology* accordingly submitted a specification and quotation on 2 August. The tender was successful and *Archaeoleg CAMBRIA Archaeology* were awarded the contract on 20 August 1999. This report was submitted on 20 September 1999.

### **1.2 Project objectives**

- 1.2.1 to assess the character, extent, significance and vulnerability of the archaeological resource within the survey area
- 1.2.2 to identify new archaeological sites, features and deposits within the survey area, and to assess their character, significance and vulnerability
- 1.2.3 to identify sites, features and deposits that require further archaeological investigation to fully assess their character, extent, significance and vulnerability
- 1.2.4 the preparation of a report fully representative of the information recovered during 1.2.1 - 1.2.3, which places the archaeological resource of the survey area within its local, regional and national contexts.
- 1.2.5 The preparation of a project archive

### **1.3 Project methodology**

- 1.3.1 a search of the County Sites and Monuments Record and the National Monuments Record for information of known sites within and around the survey area
- 1.3.2 a search of cartographic sources held in national and county records offices and other repositories for archaeological information
- 1.3.3 a search of primary historic documents held in national and county records offices and other repositories
- 1.3.4 a search of secondary, published sources
- 1.3.5 the examination of relevant aerial photographic coverage
- 1.3.6 a field visit to review the current state of archaeological sites, features and deposits identified during the searches, to identify new archaeological sites, features and deposits or areas that may contain them, to undertake rapid recording of archaeological sites, features and deposits by photography, site notes and sketch plans, and to assess their vulnerability.

#### **1.4 Categorisation of archaeological sites and features**

All sites and features identified within this report have been allocated a category. The allocation of a category to a site defines the archaeological importance of that site. The categories are listed below.

*Category A* - Sites of national importance

*Category B* - Sites of regional or county importance

*Category C* - Sites of district or local importance

*Category D* - Minor or damaged sites

*Category E* - Sites needing further investigation

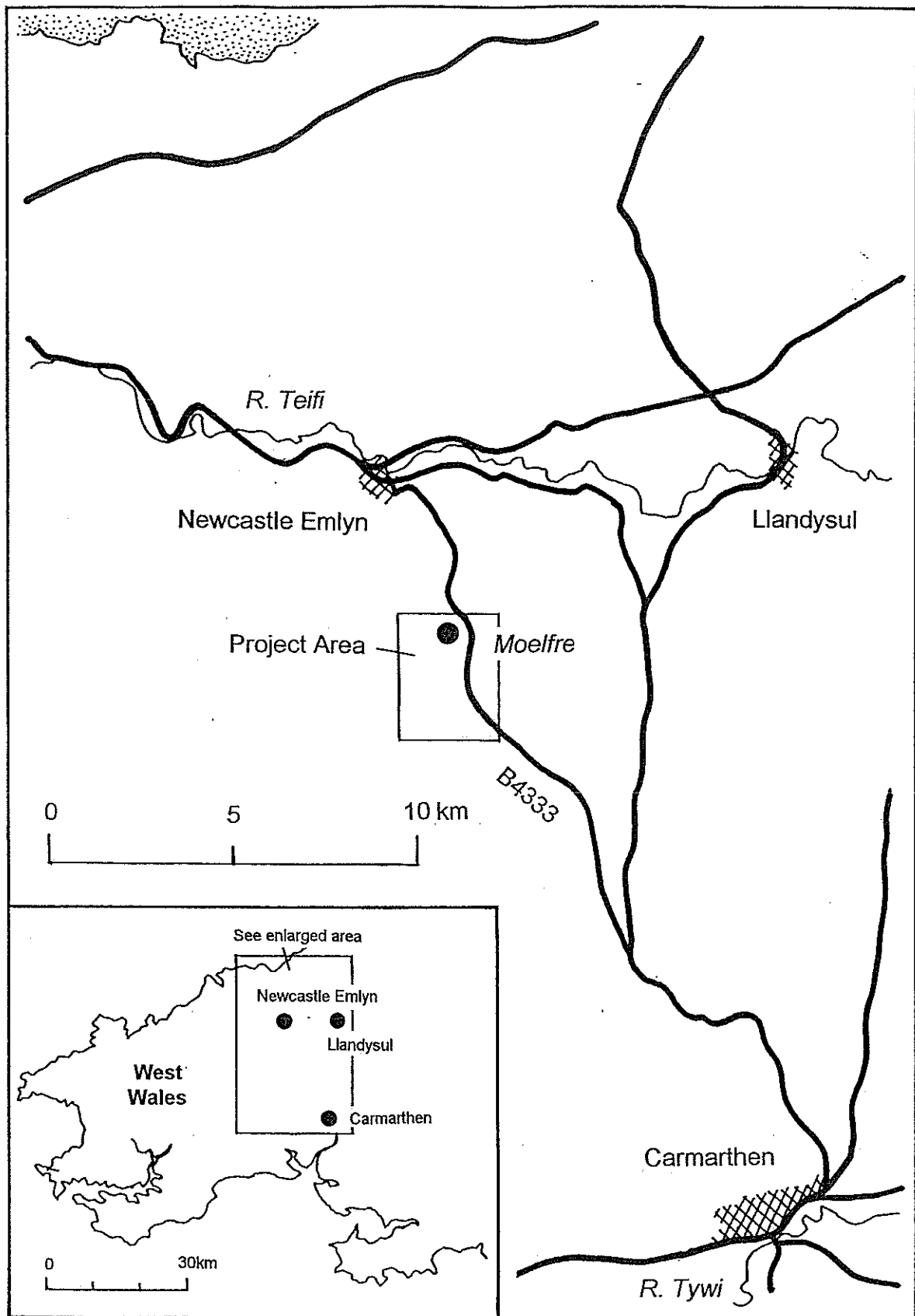


Fig. 1: Blaen Bowi - location map

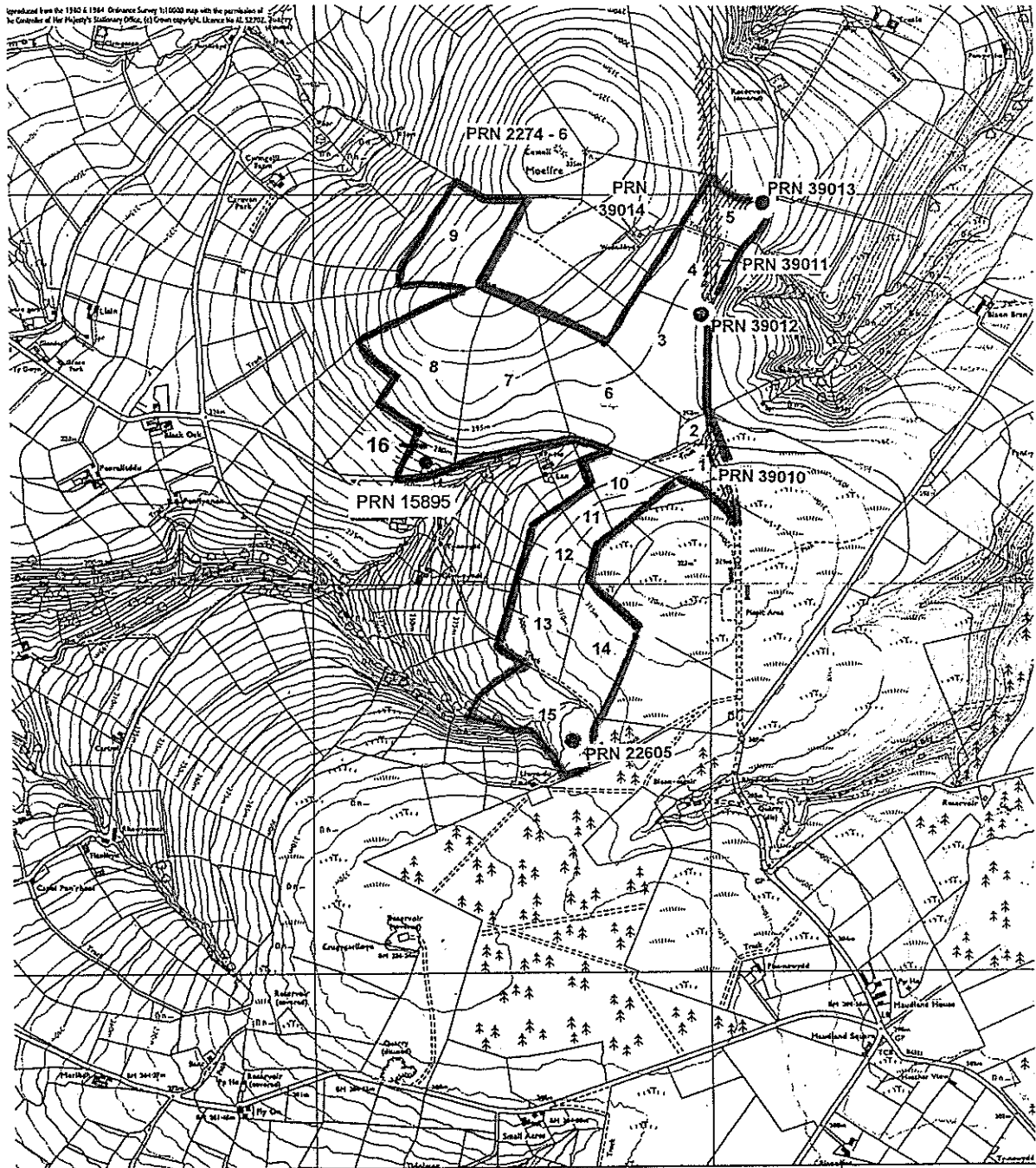


Fig. 2 Blaen Bowi: the archaeological resource.

|   |
|---|
| Scale: 1:10 000                         |
| Maps: SN 33 SW and SN 33 NW             |
| Date: 17th June 1999                    |
| Prepared by: AR<br>Dulas Ltd            |
| Client:<br>DJ Construction              |
| Blaenbowi Wind Cluster<br>Site Boundary |
| Figure 2                                |

## 2.0 SUMMARY

### 2.1 Summary of the archaeological resource

This section contains brief descriptions of archaeological/historic sites, features, buildings and deposits, within and in the immediate environs of the project area. They are listed by their type and individual Primary Record Number (or PRN) as allocated in the Sites and Monuments Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire.

Refer to Fig. 2 for PRNs and field numbers given for the purpose of this project. Categories are as defined in Section 1.4. See Section 3.3. for a gazetteer and detailed descriptions of sites.

#### 2.1.1 Sites within the development area

PRN 22605 - SN 32683458 - TRYAL BACH - Cottage?; post medieval  
Category D; condition, site destroyed

PRN 39010 - SN 3305 3518 - SN 3300 3538- Trackway; post medieval?  
Category D; condition, grassed earthwork / linear feature

PRN 39011 - SN 3297 3570 - SN 3286 3658 - Trackway; post medieval?  
Category D; condition, grassed earthwork / linear feature

PRN 39012 -SN 3298 3567 - Gravel Pit; post medieval  
Category D; condition, filled in and afforested

PRN 39013 - SN 3314 3598 - Dwelling?; post medieval  
Category D; condition, unknown - *site not visited*

PRN 15895 - SN 322 353  
*Gravel Pit; post medieval; condition - grassed earthwork / hollow; Category D*

#### 2.1.2 Sites immediately beyond the project area

PRN 2274 - SN 3261 3612,  
PRN 2275 - SN 3266 3612 and,  
PRN 2276 - SN 3264 3610 -  
CRUGIAU MOELVRE - a group of three adjacent Round Barrows - Bronze Age, Category A;  
condition, good but threatened by animal grazing. Scheduled Ancient Monument Carm 107

PRN 39014 - SN 3283 3588 - WAUN-LWYD - Dwelling; post medieval,  
Category C; condition poor, gable ends standing but precariously balanced.

#### 2.1.3 Field boundaries

The field boundaries within the project area are generally low, straight earth and stone rubble banks, all are grassed, fenced on at least one side, and have no ditches. Most of the boundaries support intermittent thorn hedges with occasional gorse whilst some, usually the roadside boundaries, have well established deciduous tree growth. On some there are traces of former fences which ran along their tops. Map evidence shows that they were established between 1841 and 1891 but the boundary between Fields 3 and 6 and the western boundaries of fields 3, 4, and 5 represent part of the boundary separating the parishes of Cenarth and Llangelier (formerly Penboy and Kilrhedyn).

## 2.2 Conclusions and recommendations

### 2.2.1 Conclusions

The project area contains a number of archaeological features / structures.

The destroyed cottage site of Tryal Bach (PRN 22605 ) in Field 15, of which there is now little or no trace on the ground was the only site prior to this assessment that was recorded in the Sites and Monuments Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire (SMR). All other archaeological features within the project area were discovered during this assessment and were accordingly allocated their own individual Primary Record Number (PRN) and incorporated into the SMR.

The former quarry, marked as a gravel pit (PRN 39012) on the 1st edition 6" Ordnance Survey map, in the north east corner of Field 3 is now filled in and is not threatened by the proposed development. *The gravel pit (PRN 15895) in Field 16, from c.1900, is represented as a slight hollow. It is not a significant feature and has removed any earlier archaeology; its presence has been recorded and no further action is suggested.* The probable trackway in Field 1 (PRN 39010) and Fields 4 and 5 (PRN 39011) may require further investigation to establish more fully their true character, should they be affected by the proposed development. The dwelling (PRN 39013) in the north east corner of Field 5 was inaccessible at the time of the field visit, its condition is therefore unknown.

Outside the project area, but immediately to the north, are three round barrows, Crugiau Moelvre (PRNs 2274-2276), which are a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Carm 107), the form and composition of which within the landscape will be visually affected by the proposed turbines.

There are no statutory conditions upon the remainder of the archaeological resource and the area is not included within the Cadw/ICOMOS register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales?

### 2.2.2 Recommendations

Sites within the project area fall within two categories:-

- those sites that may be **directly** affected, ie. physically damaged by the proposed development.

Table 1: Sites that may be directly affected by the proposed development

| site   | nature of threat | level of impact  | archaeological response  |
|--|------------------|------------------|--|
| trackways<br>(PRNs 39010 & 39011)                                | groundworks      | potentially high | avoid turbine construction in area of trackways<br>preliminary archaeological evaluation to establish nature |
| gravel pit<br>(PRN 15895)  | groundworks      | potentially high | (no further action)  |
| Tryal Bach<br>cottage<br>(PRN 22605)<br>?Dwelling<br>(PRN 39013) | groundworks      | potentially high | avoid turbine construction in area of cottage and ?dwelling site   |
| field boundaries   | groundworks      | potentially high | record cut sections  |

- those sites upon which the proposed development will have an **indirect** impact.

The proposed windfarm will have a *visual* impact on above-ground sites. The site of the three adjacent Round Barrows, Crugiau Moelvre (PRNs 2274-6), a Scheduled Ancient Monument, is close enough to the proposed windfarm development site to be affected in this way  
*Impact - low.*

## 2.3 Acknowledgements

This report was written by Richard Ramsey of *Archaeoleg CAMBRIA Archaeology*. Acknowledgements to: Neil Ludlow, of *Archaeoleg CAMBRIA Archaeology*, for writing the landscape history and development section, report editing, and undertaking project management; to Mr. Guto Jones, for permitting access to the project area; staff of the National Library of Wales for their assistance; staff of the Carmarthenshire Records Office for their help and assistance.

Additional information was incorporated in March 2000; the fieldwork was undertaken by Hubert Wilson of *Archaeoleg CAMBRIA Archaeology*.

## 2.4 Archive deposition

The archive, indexed according to the National Monuments Record (NMR) material categories, will be deposited with the Sites and Monuments Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire, curated by *Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology*, Shire Hall, 8 Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire. It contains the following:-

A.1. Copy of the final report

A.4. Disk copy of report

B.4. Field notebooks

D.1. Catalogue of site photographs

D.2. Colour slides

D.3. Mono prints and negs

G.1. Source documentation

I.4. Final report - manuscript

I.4. Final report - typescript

I.4. Final report - disk

I.4. Proofs

I.4. Paste-ups

L.1. Project research design/specification

L.4. General admin.

M.1. Non-archaeological correspondence

There is no material for classes C, E, F, H, J, K and N.

## 2.5 List of sources consulted

### Databases

Sites and Monuments Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire, curated by *Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology*, Shire Hall, 8 Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire.

### Manuscript maps

National Library of Wales, '*Emmanuel Bowen's Map of South Wales*', 1729

National Library of Wales, Ordnance Survey Original Surveyors' Drawings, 2" to the mile, Sheet 187, 1811-12 (revised 1832).

National Library of Wales, Parish of Penboyr, Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1840

National Library of Wales, Parish of Kilrhedyn, Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1841

National Library of Wales, Plan of the Llangeler, Penboyr and Kilrhedyn Inclosure, County of Carmarthen Enclosure Award, 1866. Scale, 8 Chains to the inch.

Rees, W., 1932, South Wales and the Border in the XIVth century.

### Published maps

ADAS Series Agricultural Land Classification Map, Wales, 1:250000, 1977

British Geological Survey, Geological Map of Wales 1: 250000 1st edition Solid, 1994

British Museum, Maps C.7 c.1., Saxton's Map of Radnorshire, Brecknockshire, Cardiganshire and Carmarthenshire, of 1578.

Ordnance Survey, 1" to the mile Old Series, Sheet 41, 1831.

Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Carmarthenshire Sheet XXII NE, First Edition, 1891 (Surveyed 1887)

Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Carmarthenshire Sheet XXII NE, Second Edition, 1907 (1904 Revision from 1887)

Ordnance Survey, 1: 10560, Carmarthenshire Sheet XIII SE, First Edition, 1891 (Surveyed 1887)

Ordnance Survey, 1: 10560, Carmarthenshire Sheet XIII SE, Second Edition, 1907 (1904 Revision from 1887)

Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Sheet SN 33 NW, 1964

Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Sheet SN 33 SW, 1964

Ordnance Survey, 1:25000, Explorer 185, 1998 Revision

Rees, W., 1932, South Wales and the Border in the XIVth century.

Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1:250000, Sheet 2. Wales, 1983

*Aerial photographs*

RAF 106G/UK/1471 Frame Nos. 3256, 3257 and 3258 (National Monuments Record). 1948

Meridian Air Maps SN33SW 230/230 10939 and 10940. 1955

Meridian Air Maps SN33SW 230/230 37521 and 37522. 1955

Meridian Air Maps SN33NW 230/230 37531 and 37531. 1955

*Unpublished works*

Ludlow, N., 1998 (a), 'St Llawddog, Cenarth', *The Welsh Historic Churches Project, Carmarthenshire* (unpublished *Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology* client report; copy held with Sites and Monuments Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire).

Ludlow, N., 1998 (b), 'St Celer, Llangeler', *The Welsh Historic Churches Project, Carmarthenshire* (unpublished *Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology* client report; copy held with Sites and Monuments Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire).

Ludlow, N., 1998 (c), 'St Llawddog, Penboyr', *The Welsh Historic Churches Project, Carmarthenshire* (unpublished *Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology* client report; copy held with Sites and Monuments Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire).

*Published works*

Hilling, J. B., 1992, *Cilgerran Castle; St Dogmaels Abbey; Pentre Ifan Burial Chamber; Carreg Coetan Arthur Burial Chamber*.

Lewis, S, 1833, *A Topographical Dictionary of Wales*, Vol II.

Lloyd, J. E. (ed.), 1939, *History of Carmarthenshire*.

Parry, C., 1987, 'Survey and Excavation at Newcastle Emlyn Castle', *The Carmarthenshire Antiquary*, Vol. XXIII.

RCAHMW, 1917, *Inventory: Carmarthenshire*.

Rees, W., n.d., *An Historical Atlas of Wales*.

Richards, M., 1969, *Welsh Administrative and Territorial Units*.

### 3.0 THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCE

#### 3.1 Site location and topography

The proposed windfarm site occupies a parcel of land comprising fifteen fields covering an area of approximately 64 hectares lying within National Grid squares SN 320 340 and SN 320 350. The site, and indeed the area as a whole, is dominated by Moelfre, a hill which, though isolated, forms an extension of the upland bloc to the west, rising to a summit height of 335 metres OD; the project area occupies its southern flank, lying between 325 metres and 260 metres OD. It is bounded to the east by the B 4333 Newcastle Emlyn to Cynwyl Elfed road and is bisected east to west by a minor road to Capel Iwan which approaches Blaen Bowi farmhouse. The fields to the south of the project area are bounded to the east by forestry plantation, and bounded downhill to the south by an unnamed stream. The fields to the north slope gradually downhill southwards from the summit of Moelfre (335m OD), towards the Capel Iwan road, whilst those to the south of this road trend downhill to the south west from the higher ground of the forestry.

The underlying solid geology consists of Ordovician shales of the Ashgill series with little evidence of remnant drift deposits (British Geological Survey, 1994). The natural soil is a Cambic stagnohumic gley with some Manod C brown podsols represented in the downslope fields (Soil Survey of England and Wales, 1983).

All the fields within the project area are currently under pasture, mostly for sheep but with some cattle, and are very occasionally shallow ploughed (Mr. Guto Jones, landowner, *pers. comm.*). The fields surrounding Waun Lwyd (PRN 39014), the deserted settlement immediately to the north, and outside, the project area are currently under cultivation and supporting a crop of barley.

The project area is split unevenly between the ecclesiastical parishes of Penboyr and East Cilrhedyn. It is not included within the Cadw/ICOMOS register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales.

#### 3.2 Landscape history and development

The project area and its surrounding region have been subject to human settlement from prehistoric times onwards; settlement, however, later declined and was not to rise again probably until the post-medieval period. Very little recorded archaeology was represented within the project area and the present study has been able to record a few new sites; in addition, the agricultural landscape of the area - its fields, hedges and boundaries - are a relatively recent creation. The fields to the south of the project area are bounded to the east by forestry plantation, which represents the greatest change in landscape usage since the prehistoric period and which, alongside the bare flanks of Moelfre itself, form the defining element of the present landscape of the region.

For detailed descriptions of sites and field boundaries see Section 3.3 below.

##### 3.2.1 The prehistoric and Roman periods (8500 BC - c.400 AD)

Like many primarily upland Welsh landscapes, the project area and its environs have preserved much evidence of prehistoric activity, chiefly in the form of standing earthworks from the bronze age (2500 - 700 BC), and iron age (700 BC - 1st century AD). Preservation has been assisted by the low-intensity agricultural regimes traditionally practised within the region. Nevertheless, the distribution of such sites is not dense in the environs of the project area, although more may be revealed by future fieldwork. Evidence for earlier prehistoric activity within Carmarthenshire as a whole is mainly limited to knowledge obtained through examination of palaeoenvironmental evidence from peat deposits .

Three bronze age round 'barrows' or burial mounds (Crugiau Moelvre; PRNs 2274 - 2276 inclusive) form prominent landscape features of region, occupying the summit of Moelvre immediately to the north of the project area (RCAHM, 1917, 225). They represent a site type which is present in relatively large numbers within the landscape in this region, suggesting a settled population during this period.

A circular cropmark was apparently noted in a cover search of aerial photographs undertaken by the client on 11 September 1998, but only appeared on one photograph. No such cropmark was noted during the aerial photographic search undertaken during the present project.

### 3.2.2 The medieval period (c.400 - 1500 AD)

The project area, as an upland region, it may not have been subject to intensive settlement during the medieval period. However, the surrounding region contains monuments from the period and there is possible evidence for contemporary agriculture.

#### early medieval (c.400 - 1110 AD)

Pre-Norman administration of West Wales was based on small kingdoms or *gwledydd*, which had been established before the 8th century AD. One such *gwlad* was Dyfed which, at this time, comprised what is now Pembrokeshire and western Carmarthenshire. Within each *gwlad* were smaller units of administration or estates known as *cantrefi*, which derived their name from their composition from a hundred 'townships' or *trefi*; the cantref was divided into groups of trefi called *cwmwdau* (or 'commotes'). The precise date for the evolution of the latter administrative units is not known, however, and they may have arisen during the post-Conquest period. The project area lay within the commote occupying that part of Cantref Emlyn east of, and above, the River Cych, and for that reason became known as Emlyn Uwch Cych (Rees, n.d., 24-5; Richards, 1969, 66).

The area formerly lay within the parishes of Penboyr and East Cilrhedyn, the parish churches of which both appear to have origins within the later medieval period, at least (Ludlow, 1998, (a) and (b). Later 19th century changes to the parish boundaries left it lying within Cenarth and Llangeler, whose churches have equally early origins. However, formal parish administration was an Anglo-Norman introduction into Carmarthenshire where it was not firmly fixed until the post-medieval period and, in areas, was not finally defined until relatively recently; the boundary within the two parishes within the project area must be under suspicion as a relatively late creation following, as it does, the post-enclosure roadway now represented by the B4333, and may have accompanied the reorganisation of the parishes.

Whilst much speculation can be undertaken on the nature and extent of pre-Norman administration, both ecclesiastical and secular, there is scant record for this period in terms of physical archaeology within the region, and none in the immediate environs. This absence is a characteristic of upland Carmarthenshire as a whole.

#### later medieval (1110 - 1500 AD)

The post-Conquest history of the region may, unlike the early medieval period, have left some evidence of human land use within the project area.

Unlike so much of the surrounding area Emlyn Uwch Cych remained in Welsh hands for nearly 200 years after the initial Anglo-Norman conquest of South-West Wales, which saw Emlyn Is Cych - the other commote of Cantref Emlyn - divorced from the cantref to form the Anglo-Norman Lordship of Cilgerran (Hilling, 1992, *et. al.*). From its centre at Newcastle Emlyn, Emlyn Uwch Cych was to form an axial component of the estates of the great Rhys ap Gruffydd ('The Lord Rhys'), the last native lord of South-west Wales and a major baron in his own right during the 12th

century. His grandson, Rhys ap Maredudd, secured his hold on the region by building the castle from which Newcastle Emlyn derives its name.

Several other castles were founded within Emlyn including Tomenseba (PRN 2273), a motte castle - possibly without a bailey - lying some 90 metres due north of the project area (Rees, 1932; RCAHM, 1917, 226). The context for the establishment of the latter is not known, however; it may be a castle of the Welsh lords but equally may represent an Anglo-Norman campaign castle of brief occupation.

In either case, the immediate environs of the project area represented a 'Welshry', ie. land held under existing, native forms of tenure as opposed to the familiar manorial system typical of the 'Englishries'. Land may therefore have been farmed piecemeal from a common bloc of land, possibly represented by the common known to have occupied Moelfre and its environs in the post-medieval period (see 3.2.3 below). There is no reason why the trackways within the area (PRNs 39010 and 39011), which might even represent an early north-south routeway across Moelfre prior to the establishment of the B4333 route, may not have their origins within the medieval period, while to the north a pattern of cropmarks may represent former field boundaries associated with a drainage system for which there is no ground evidence; however, the latter lie beyond the project area. The latter may, however, be prehistoric in origin, or be 'assarts' (encroachments made into marginal land) belonging to the land-hunger at the close of the medieval period.

The area remained in Welsh hands until 1289 when, after an unsuccessful rebellion, Rhys ap Maredudd's lands were confiscated by the crown and remained intermittently in royal hands until 1536 when, at the Act of Union, Emlyn Uwch Cych was absorbed into the County of Carmarthen. Emlyn Is Cych became a part of Pembrokeshire.

East Cilrhedyn Parish lay either side of the River Cych, in both the lordship of Cilgerran and Welsh Emlyn and similarly came to lie in both Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire.

### *3.2.3 The post-medieval period (1500 AD to present)*

The post-medieval period in Carmarthenshire is characterised by a rapid population acceleration from at least the mid 18th century, reaching a high point in 1871; in the rural north of the county there has subsequently been a steady decline.

The population increase has left its mark on the landscape in many forms, chiefly the enclosure of moorland and common land, often including its cultivation, and the establishment of new settlements on the fringes of marginal land. The result of both of these trends can be seen within the project area.

The tithe map for Penboyr parish, of 1840, and East Cilrhedyn parish, of 1841, show that most of the project area was, by this period at least, common land; in this case, the definition meant unenclosed moorland which was not always subject to all the legal restrictions on common usage. The process of enclosure of the Carmarthenshire landscape has, as has been noted, its origins within the prehistoric period, but the vast majority of present field systems have their origins within the 18th and 19th centuries, a phenomenon common to many predominantly upland areas. The driving mechanism took a number of forms - parliamentary enclosure, enclosure by estates, enclosure by private individuals and enclosure by squatters on the fringes of common land. The tithe maps show that 1841 Fields 6-8 were partially enclosed by 1841, and Field 15 was fully enclosed as Park-y-drummen and Park-y-bedw.

Map evidence shows that almost all of remainder of the present field boundaries within the project area were established between 1841 and 1891 (Cilrhedyn and Penboyr parish tithe maps; Ordnance Survey 1:10560 First Editions). The underlying process was probably parliamentary

enclosure, but in the absence of an award map this cannot be proven; an award map of the area to the east, in the National Library of Wales (1866), does not include the project area but demonstrates that the process was underway by at least 1866. The boundary between Fields 3 and 6 and the western boundaries of fields 3, 4, and 5 (Fig. 2) represent part of the boundary separating the parishes of Cenarth and Llangeler (formerly Penboyr and Kilrhedyn) and may have earlier origins; however, it has been suggested above that the parish boundary here may be a 19th century creation.

The trackways (PRNs 39010 and 39011) appear to reflect the present system of boundaries but are earlier, being shown on Sheet 187 of the Ordnance Survey Original Surveyors' Drawings of 1811-12. They may be early (see above).

Tryal bach (PRN 22605), a former cottage within the project area, now gone, was present by 1841 (National Library of Wales, Parish of Kilrhedyn, Tithe Map, 1841) when it was both owned and occupied by John Evans and therefore associated with a tenurial system that pre-dated the later 19th century enclosure. Both the dwelling PRN 39013, and Waun Lwyd (PRN 39014) to the north of the area, however, are from the later 19th century.

The greatest change in the land-use of the area since the clearances of the prehistoric period is represented by the extensive coniferous plantation undertaken to the south and west of the project area since the mid 20th century; none of this, however, encroaches on the project area itself.

### 3.3 Gazetteer of sites

This section contains detailed descriptions of archaeological / historic sites, features, buildings and deposits, listed by their individual Primary Record Number (or PRN) as allocated in the Sites and Monuments Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire (SMR).

Refer to Fig. 2 for PRNs and field numbers allocated for the purpose of the project (see Section 3.3.3 below).

Refer to Appendix 2 for copies of selected map sources.

The project area was field-walked on 1st September 1999.

#### 3.3.1 Sites within the project area

##### **PRN 22605 - SN 3268 3458 - TRYAL BACH COTTAGE**

**Cottage; post medieval; condition - site destroyed; Category D**

A rectilinear building shown on the tithe map of 1841 when it was both owned and occupied by John Evans (National Library of Wales, Parish of Kilrhedyn, Tithe Map, 1841) and still occupied in 1891 (Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Carmarthenshire Sheet XXII NE, First Edition, 1891) but deserted by 1907 (Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Carmarthenshire Sheet XXII NE, Second Edition, 1907). On aerial photographs from 1955 (Meridian Air Maps No. 37521, 1955) and later Ordnance Survey Map editions the deserted building and its enclosures were still visible on the ground. During the assessment field visit it was noted that the site has been totally destroyed with little or no trace left on the ground.

##### **PRN 39010 - SN 3305 3518**

**Trackway; post medieval?; condition - grassed earthwork / linear hollow features; Category D**

A linear earthwork approximately 25 metres long and orientated N-S. This feature on the ground is effectively two parallel linear earthworks, running close to the eastern boundary of Field No. 1, each of which is approximately 7 metres wide and discontinuous. There is no clear map evidence for these features, but they show up as continuous features on aerial photographs (Meridian Air Maps No. 37521, 1955). They appear to be former routes of the main road (B 4333) to the east.

##### **PRN 39011 - SN 3297 3570**

**Trackway; post medieval?; condition - grassed earthwork / linear hollow features; Category D**

Two parallel continuous linear earthwork banks and hollows running N-S from the south east corner of Field No. 4 to the north west corner of Field No. 5 and continuing into the fields beyond the project area. A trackway is depicted here on Sheet 187 of the Ordnance Survey Original Surveyors' Drawings of 1811-12, but not on any later maps. The features are well represented on aerial photographs (Meridian Air Maps No. 37521, 1955). Again, they appear to be former routes of the main road (B 4333) to the east. At the southern end of these features is the former gravel pit (PRN 39012).

##### **PRN 39012 - SN 3298 3567**

**Gravel Pit; post medieval?; condition, filled in and afforested; Category D**

A former quarry / gravel pit possibly still in use in 1891 (Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Carmarthenshire Sheet XIII SE, 1891) although even then it was known as Old Gravel Pit. On later Ordnance Survey maps it is no longer marked as a gravel pit and had seemingly therefore fallen into disuse. It is now back-filled and has been planted, in the last few years, with conifers.

##### **PRN 39013 - SN 3314 3610**

**Dwelling; post medieval; condition unknown; Category D**

There is cartographic evidence (Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Carmarthenshire Sheet XIII SE, 1891) and aerial photographic evidence (Meridian Air Maps No. 37521, 1955) for this site which indicate the presence of a small building with enclosure situated in the north east corner of field No. 5. The building is not shown on the Tithe map. Condition unknown as access was not gained at the time of the assessment field visit.

##### **PRN 15895 - SN 322 353**

**Gravel Pit; post medieval; condition - grassed earthwork / hollow; Category D**

A former quarry / gravel pit occupying most of Field 16. It was established between 1891 and 1907 (Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Carmarthenshire Sheet XIII SE, First and Second Editions) and labelled as such on the Ordnance Survey, 1:10560 SN33NW of 1964, by which time however it was probably disused.

### 3.3.2 Sites immediately beyond the project area

PRN 2274 - SN3261 3612

PRN 2275 - SN3266 3612 and,

PRN 2276 - SN3264 3610 - CRUGIAU MOELVRE

**ROUND BARROWS**; Bronze Age; condition, good; Category A; Scheduled Ancient Monument Carm 107

A group of three adjacent Round Barrow burial mounds located in the field to the north east of Field No. 9. 'They present no sign of having been disturbed' (RCAHM, 1917, 225).

PRN 39014 - SN3283 3588 - WAUN - LWYD

**Dwelling/ Farmstead**; condition unknown; Category C

This site was not present on the Kilrhedyn Tithe Map of 1841 but was built and enclosed some time between then and 1887 (Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Carmarthenshire Sheet XIII SE. 1891). Subsequent cartographic evidence indicates that it was inhabited as recently as 1964 (Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Carmarthenshire Quarter Sheet SN 33 NW. 1964). The dwelling is currently deserted but the land surrounding it is being farmed. The true condition of this site is unknown as access was not gained during the field visit, however, two gable ends to the main dwelling are extant although precariously leaning and in danger of collapsing.

### 3.3.3 Field boundaries and usage

Each field within the project area was allocated a number for the purpose of this project. See Fig. 2 for field numbers.

The nature of the field boundaries was noted, but they were subjected only to rapid recording during the assessment visit.

The earliest map evidence for enclosure within the project area is from the tithe maps for the parishes of East Cilrhedyn (1841) and Penboyr (1840) copies of the relevant areas can be seen in Appendix 2.

#### Field 1 (NGR SN 3298 3529)

Name in 1840 - Not enclosed

Usage in 1840 - ?

Current Usage - Pasture

Boundaries - Low lying grassed earth banks with post and wire fencing on top. Conifers planted for shelter at E end of N boundary with occasional gorse growing in fencing on W end of N boundary

#### Field 2 (NGR SN 3295 3539)

Name in 1840 - Not named on Tithe

Usage in 1840 - 'Plantation'

Current Usage - Pasture and small animal fold / enclosure

Boundaries - Low earth banks, post and wire fencing, conifers, occasional deciduous mature tree and thorn hedging.

#### Field 3 (NGR SN 3289 3562)

Name in 1840 - Not named on Tithe

Usage in 1840 - 'Plantation'

Current Usage - Pasture

Boundaries - E boundary (adjacent to road) is low earth bank with much discrete thorn and gorse hedging. Post and wire fencing inside bank. Conifers in NE corner to fill old gravel pit. N boundary is low earth bank with fence either side, S boundary with Field 6 is 1.5m high grassed earth bank which is double fenced, and has no other vegetation. The NW boundary is a 1.2m high earth bank topped with intermittent gorse and sloe bushes.

#### Field 4 (NGR SN 3296 3580)

Name in 1840 - Not named on Tithe

Usage in 1840 - 'Plantation'

Current Usage - Pasture

Boundaries- The NW boundary is a 1.2m high earth bank with intermittent gorse and sloe mix of deciduous and conifers planted in SW corner

**Field 5 (NGR SN 3305 3593)**

Name in 1841 - Cae Penycloed (The southern part of a much larger enclosed field)  
Usage in 1841 - 'Plantation'  
Current Usage - Pasture  
Boundaries - Eastern, roadside boundary is well established oak, hazel and thorn set upon low earth bank with internal post and wire fencing. N boundary is 1.6m high substantial earth bank with drainage ditch on its S side. W boundary is 1.2m high earth bank with intermittent gorse and sloe bushes. S boundary is a low earth bank with fence adjacent to Waun Lwyd E-W track.

**Field 6 (NGR SN 3276 3548)**

Name in 1841 - Waun Lwyd  
Usage in 1841 - ?  
Current Usage - Pasture  
Boundaries - N boundary with Field 3 is 1.5m high grassed earth bank which is double fenced, and has no other vegetation. NW boundary is 1.2m earth bank with occasional gorse bush. All other boundaries are low earth bank with post and wire fencing.

**Field 7 (NGR SN 3249 3550)**

Name in 1841 - Waun Lwyd  
Usage in 1841 - ?  
Current Usage - Pasture  
Boundaries - N boundary is 1.2m high with occasional gorse bush. W boundary is wholly planted with maturing conifers and fenced. S boundary is fenced and has well established hedge with much deciduous tree growth and external ditch on road side. Low earth bank and fencing shared with Field 6.

**Field 8 (NGR SN 3230 3558)**

Name in 1841 - Waun Lwyd  
Usage in 1841 - ?  
Current Usage - Pasture  
Boundaries - S boundary is mix of gorse and conifers and fenced. E boundary is conifers and fenced. Animal fold newly created at N end of this field is sheltered by planted conifers, with access from Field 7. N boundaries are 1.2m high banks and are fenced

**Field 9 (NGR SN 3238 3589)**

Name in 1841 - Not named on Tithe  
Usage in 1841 - ?  
Current Usage - Pasture  
Boundaries - N, S and E boundaries are all earth banks with occasional thorn and gorse and are fenced. There are planted conifers for shelter at all corners except SE. The W boundary is fenced only, with no bank.

**Field 10 (NGR SN 3277 3525)**

Name in 1841 - Not enclosed on Tithe  
Usage in 1841 - ?  
Current Usage - Pasture  
Boundaries - E boundary with forestry is much denuded with fence on forest side and there are remnants of former fence running along the top of the low earth bank. S boundary is low earth bank, grassed with fence. W boundary is fenced with earth bank and occasional deciduous tree growth, thorn and gorse.

**Field 11 (NGR SN 3270 3517)**

Name in 1841 - Not enclosed on Tithe  
Usage in 1841 - ?  
Current Usage - Pasture  
Boundaries - E boundary is remnant denuded earth bank and fence posts with fence on forest side. S boundary is low earth bank, fenced but bank is denuding badly. W boundary fenced earth bank with occasional thorn and deciduous tree.

**Field 12 (NGR SN 3262 3507)**

Name in 1841 - Not named on Tithe  
Usage in 1841 - ?  
Current Usage - Pasture  
Boundaries - A former E-W boundary has been removed from the centre of this field, slight remains visible. All other boundaries are low earth banks, fenced as Fields 10 and 11.

**Field 13 (NGR SN 3257 3489)**

Name in 1841 - Not named on Tithe  
Usage in 1841 - ?  
Current Usage - Pasture  
Boundaries - A former E-W boundary has been removed from the centre of this field, slight remains visible. E boundary is earth bank, fenced. S boundary is fenced alongside track and conifer planted. W boundary is conifer planted, with earth bank and fenced.

**Field 14 (NGR SN 3273 3482)**

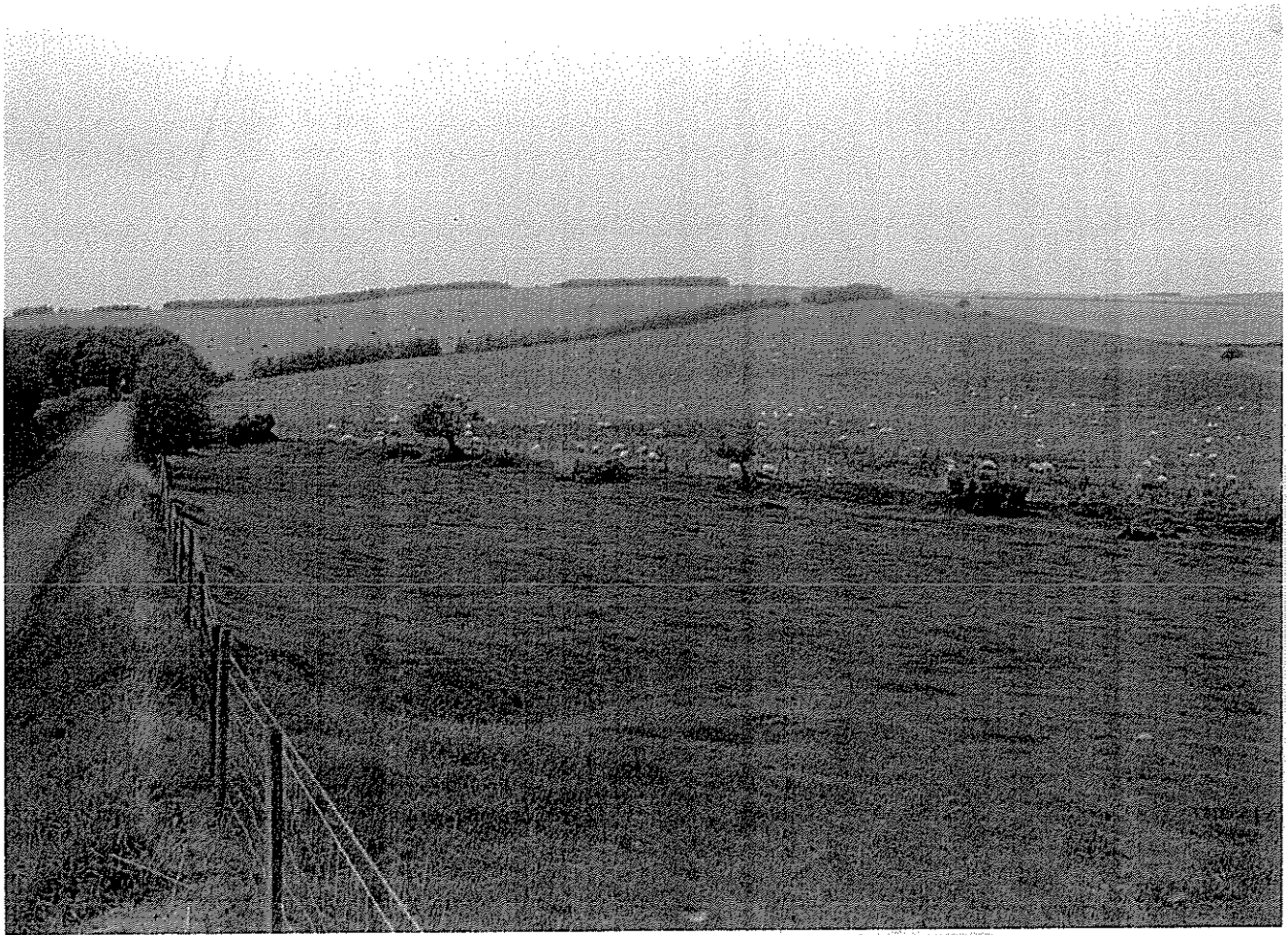
Name in 1841 - Not named on Tithe  
Usage in 1841 - ?  
Current Usage - Pasture; recently cut for hay  
Boundaries - N boundary is earth bank and forestry fence. W boundary is earth bank and fenced. S boundary is fenced, with earth bank.

**Field 15 (NGR SN 3258 3467)**

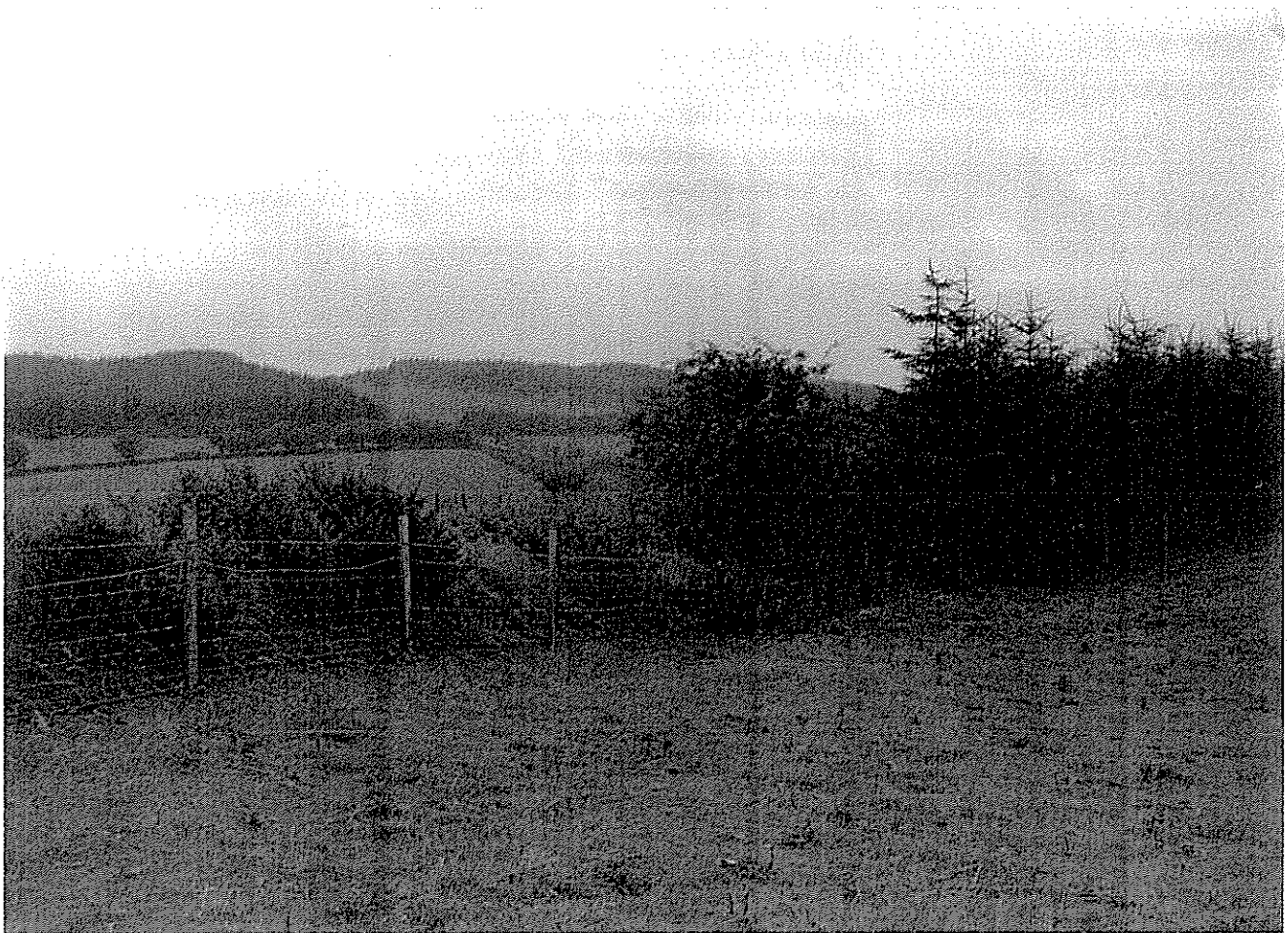
Name in 1841 - Park y Drummen & Park y Bedw  
Usage in 1841 - ?  
Current Usage - Pasture  
Boundaries - Many of the boundaries shown on Ordnance Survey, 1:10560 Carmarthenshire Quarter Sheet SN33SW 1964 have been removed and some remnants of low earth banks remain butting out to the N of the S boundary downslope. The former W boundary, which forms the W limit of the project area, has been removed. The N boundary is fenced S of an access trackway to Glyn-y-mel Farm. The forestry fence forms the E boundary. The S boundary is a low bank, fenced, and within a wooded area along the stream.

**Field 16 (NGR SN 3220 3530)**

Name in 1841 - Not enclosed on Tithe  
Usage in 1841 - ?  
Current Usage - Rough grazing  
Boundaries - Mainly occupied by former gravel pit PRN 51895. The southern boundary follows an unclassified road to Capel Iwan and is an earthen bank, supplemented with a dry-stone wall probably contemporary with the gravel pit (c.1900). Other boundaries are wire fences.



*Photo 1: Fields 1, 6 and 7 looking north-west from Field 1*



*Photo 2: View from Field 4 looking south with Trackway (PRN 39011) and Gravel Pit (PRN 39012) in foreground and Field 1 on horizon in gap between forest plantations.*

