

39041.

01/10/99

Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology

Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report

Blaenwaun Ganol

W/11/438

ACA Project Record No 39041

**Report prepared for CCW
by ACA**

October, 1999

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Tir Gofal Application Number W/11/438

Address Blaenwaun Ganol, Llanwnnen, Lampeter,
Ceredigion

NGR SN509488

TG Project Officer Arfon Williams, Aberystwyth

Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology Project Record Number 39041

Visit Officer Ken Murphy

Visit Date 30/09/99

TIR GOFAL SITE MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

As used in accompanying site gazetteer.

Category A - Sites and Monuments of National Importance

Category B - Sites and Monuments of Regional Importance

Category C - Sites/Features of Local Importance

Category D - Sites/Features needing further investigation (including damaged sites or sites with no defined physical presence).

TIR GOFAL COLOUR CODING

As used on accompanying holding maps.

Category A - Blue	<i>Scheduled Ancient Monuments Grade 1 and 2* Listed Building</i>
Red	<i>Other Sites and Monuments of National Importance Other Buildings of National Importance</i>
Red toning	<i>Registered Parks and Gardens of Historic Interest</i>
Red Banding	<i>Registered Landscapes of Historic Interest</i>
Category B - Amber	<i>Sites and Monuments of Regional Importance Grade 2 Listed and Other Buildings of Regional Importance</i>
Category C - Green	<i>Sites / Features of Local Importance Buildings of Local Importance</i>
Category D - Grey	<i>Sites / Features of Unknown Importance</i>

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE STATUS

Terms used in gazetteer.

SAM.

Scheduled Ancient Monument. SAMs are notified under section 1 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The register of SAMs is maintained and administered by Cadw.

LB1, LB2* & LB2.

Listed Building categories. 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.

HL - Landscapes of Exceptional and Great Historic Interest.

Defined by the Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales: Part 2.1 Landscapes of Exceptional and Great Historic Interest. The register is advisory only, and has no statutory powers. The register is being compiled by Cadw in partnership with the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and is concerned with man-made, historic elements of the landscape.

HGP - Register of Historic Gardens & Parks.

Defined by the Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales: Part 1 - Parks & Gardens. The register is advisory only, and has no statutory powers. The register is being compiled by Cadw in partnership with the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) and is concerned with man-made, historic elements of the landscape.

<i>PRN</i> 9458	<i>Site name</i> BLAENWAUN GANOL	<i>NGR</i> SN51004894
<i>Site type</i> GATE POST	<i>Period</i> Post Med;Modern	<i>Site Status</i>

Description

This stone stands approximately 1.6m high and is 0.7m wide and 0.3m thick. It is now used as a gate post. In 1979 it was recorded prostrate and was noted as a possible Bronze Age standing stone. There is nothing in the size or shape of the stone to suggest that it ever was anything other than a gate post - there are other similar sized stones in use as gate posts on the farm.

Recommendations

There are no management recommendations.

<i>Management Category</i> D	<i>Visited by</i> KM	<i>Visited On</i> 30/09/99
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<i>PRN</i> 18616	<i>Site name</i> BLAENWAUN UCHAF	<i>NGR</i> SN50624905
<i>Site type</i> QUARRY	<i>Period</i> Post Med	<i>Site Status</i>

Description

A small, steep-sided quarry pit c. 10m by 10m and 4m deep in woodland.

Recommendations

There are no management recommendations for this site.

<i>Management Category</i> D	<i>Visited by</i> KM	<i>Visited On</i> 30/09/99
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<i>PRN</i> 18620	<i>Site name</i> BLAENWAUN GANOL	<i>NGR</i> SN50624854
<i>Site type</i> SAND PIT	<i>Period</i> Post Med	<i>Site Status</i>

Description

This quarry in a corner of a field measures c. 30m by 30m and is 4m deep. It lies under pasture and scrub.

Recommendations

There are no management recommendations for this site.

<i>Management Category</i> D	<i>Visited by</i> KM	<i>Visited On</i> 30/09/99
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<i>PRN</i> 39041	<i>Site name</i> BLAENWAUN GANOL	<i>NGR</i> SN5148
<i>Site type</i> PROJECT RECORD	<i>Period</i>	<i>Site Status</i>

Description

Recommendations

<i>Management Category</i>	<i>Visited by</i> KM	<i>Visited On</i> 30/09/99
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PRN 39042	Site name BLAENWAUN GANOL	NGR SN5148
Site type FARM	Period Post Med, Modern	Site Status

Description

The farm holding of Blaenwaun Ganol now includes the land and buildings of Blaenwaun Uchaf. Blaenwaun Ganol farmstead, PRN 39050) dates to the second half of the 19th century, but the site is clearly more ancient. The original Blaenwaun Uchaf farmstead (39043) lay 300m to the north of Blaenwaun Ganol farmstead and is equally ancient, but was removed to its present location (39055) in c. 1876. The land of the holding is totally enclosed, but nevertheless three distinct though overlapping zones of enclosure can be detected. To the east of Blaenwaun Ganol and old Blaenwaun Uchaf the land falls away gently onto poor quality rushy and boggy ground. The tithe map and early OS maps show that in the 19th century this was partially enclosed. Indeed, the enclosure pattern of this area is still weak and defined by low stony earth banks topped with straggling hedges and/or ditches. In some instances the hedges on the banks have completely gone and the area has reverted back to moorland. In a zone roughly from Blaenwaun Ganol and old Blaenwaun Uchaf farmsteads to the west up to the Llanwenog/Llanwenog parish boundary on gently sloping east-facing land the field system is old-established and consists of small irregular enclosures surrounded by earth banks topped with hedges. The land-use here is improved pasture and the boundaries are in fair to good condition with very little dereliction of hedges. Some hedges contain distinctive hedgerow trees particularly those that line the lane that runs east from Blaenwaun Uchaf farmstead. The third zone lies in Llanwenog parish on the highest point of the farm to the south of Blaenwaun Ganol. The enclosure pattern here though dating to at least 1840 has the appearance of being more recent than that to the east. Apart from roadside boundaries which are in good condition the low earth banks are now devoid of stock-proof hedges though two of them have lines of mature beech trees on them.

Recommendations

It is important that the field boundaries of what is probably the most ancient enclosed land - in the zone to the west of Blaenwaun Ganol farmstead - are maintained in their current condition; this will require management and a little repair work where gaps have begun to open in some hedges. Elsewhere the less ancient enclosure pattern has begun to break down; no maintenance or management of boundaries is required where this has occurred.

Management Category B	Visited by KM	Visited On 30/09/99
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PRN 39043	Site name BLAENWAUN UCHAF	NGR SN51954910
Site type FARMSTEAD	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

This is the original site of Blaenwaun Uchaf farm prior to its relocation in about 1876. According to the owners of Blaenwaun Ganol the present Uchaf was built in 1876. This corresponds with the documentary evidence - the old farm is marked on the tithe map of 1844 but was deserted and the buildings gone by the OS survey of 1887. It is represented by a 'yard' defined by hedgebanks with a enclosure surrounded by hedgebanks to the west. The buildings consisted of two parallel ranges facing each other across the yard. These are now represented by low earthworks. It is uncertain which was the house and which the outbuildings. To the east of the buildings lies a pond (39044), to the southwest a gin (39045) and to the west a corn-drying kiln (39046).

Recommendations

It is unusual to discover a deserted farm in such good condition with most of its elements readily identifiable. Care should be taken not to disturb the remains of this site. It is particularly important that no earth-moving machinery is used on the site.

Management Category B	Visited by KM	Visited On 30/09/99
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PRN 39044	Site name BLAENWAUN UCHAF	NGR SN51024912
Site type POND	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

This pond is now largely silted-up. It is approximately 20m by 20m square and is formed by a massive earth dam on its north, south and east sides. The dam is 4-5m wide and 3m high. Mature trees have rooted on the dam. It is unclear whether the dam was present in 1844 at the tithe survey - it was recorded in 1887 by the OS when Blaenwaun Uchaf farm had been abandoned.

Recommendations

This pond should be maintained in its current condition.

Management Category B	Visited by KM	Visited On 30/09/99
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PRN 39045	Site name BLAENWAUN UCHAF	NGR SN50964907
Site type GIN	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

This gin which lies in the old 'yard' of the deserted farm of Blaenwaun Uchaf is not marked on any maps. It lies on a slight slope which runs down from west to east and it is marked by a circular terrace/platform partly cut into and partly built out on the slope. The circle is approximate 8m diameter and stands to 0.5m high on the downslope side. A slight central boss presumably accommodated a central post/axle. The gin is now grass-covered, but the present owners of Blaenwaun Ganol remember a cobbled surface to the gin. The purpose of the gin is unknown.

Recommendations

This gin survives in relatively good condition, with little surface damage. It does, however, lie close to a field gate and care needs to be exercised to ensure that it is not subjected to damage from machinery or stock.

Management Category B	Visited by KM	Visited On 30/09/99
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PRN 39046	Site name BLAENWAUN UCHAF	NGR SN50944909
Site type CORN DRYING KILN?	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

The owners of Blaenwaun Ganol farm state that the remains of a corn drying kiln may lie in a hedgebank to the west of old Blaenwaun Uchaf farm. The site is now very overgrown and nothing was seen during a site visit (Sept 1999). The field is known as Cae'r Odyn on the apportionment of the 1844 tithe map.

Recommendations

There are no management recommendations for this site.

Management Category D	Visited by KM	Visited On 30/09/99
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PRN 39047	Site name BLAENWAUN UCHAF	NGR SN511491
Site type CULTIVATION RIDGE	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Narrow ridge and furrow is visible in a small field of rough ground and marsh. The narrowness of the ridges, probably less than 1m, indicates hand cultivation - lazy beds - rather than ploughing. An old lane leads down to this ridge and furrow from Blaenwaun Uchaf to the west. The small field in which these ridges lie was not created until after the tithe survey of 1844.

Recommendations

Maintain as existing.

Management Category C	Visited by KM	Visited On 30/09/99
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PRN 39048	Site name BLAENWAUN GANOL	NGR SN50984874
Site type QUARRY	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

A small quarry pit, 15m by 5m now mostly infilled with rubbish.

Recommendations

There are no management recommendations for this site.

Management Category D	Visited by KM	Visited On 30/09/99
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<i>PRN</i> 39049	<i>Site name</i> BLAENWAUN GANOL	<i>NGR</i> SN50994893
<i>Site type</i> GATE POST	<i>Period</i> Post Med	<i>Site Status</i>

Description

A rounded boulder c. 1.2m high, 1.2m wide and 1.2m thick has been used as a gate post. It is inscribed '1882' in neatly carved numbers.

Recommendations

Maintain as existing.

<i>Management Category</i> C	<i>Visited by</i> KM	<i>Visited On</i> 30/09/99
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<i>PRN</i> 39050	<i>Site name</i> BLAENWAUN GANOL	<i>NGR</i> SN5093893
<i>Site type</i> FARMSTEAD	<i>Period</i> Post Med	<i>Site Status</i> 50934893

Description

Blaenwaun Ganol is an old established farmstead - it was certainly in existence by the early 19th-century. The location of the farm buildings are recorded on the 1844 tithe map but according to the present owners the farmhouse was rebuilt in c. 1860. It would seem that the outbuildings were constructed contemporaneously with or soon after this as a window sill on the old stable is dated: D J BUILT 1878. The stone-built outbuildings comprise a cowshed with attached pig sty, a cart house with stables? and the dated stables with a mill at the east end. The mill has been allocated number 39051. A 20th century brick-built cow shed has been attached to the stables and there is an assemblage of modern farm buildings at the farmstead. The stone-built farm buildings are in fair to good condition. The farmhouse has been modernised

Recommendations

Maintain as existing.

<i>Management Category</i> B	<i>Visited by</i> KM	<i>Visited On</i> 30/09/99
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<i>PRN</i> 39051	<i>Site name</i> BLAENWAUN GANOL	<i>NGR</i> SN50954890
<i>Site type</i> CORN MILL	<i>Period</i> Post Med	<i>Site Status</i>

Description

This mill is integral to a stable block dated on a window sill: D J BUILT 1878. The mill now has no internal fittings. A metal overshot wheel is situated immediately to the east of the building. This was supplied by a concrete race (broken) from a mill pond that lay to the southwest (SN50934887). The pond is now filled in and covered with a modern concrete farm buildings. What seems to be a date stone with the number '56' carved on it has fallen into the wheel pit.

Recommendations

Maintain as existing.

<i>Management Category</i> B	<i>Visited by</i> KM	<i>Visited On</i> 30/09/99
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<i>PRN</i> 39052	<i>Site name</i> BLAENWAUN GANOL	<i>NGR</i> SN51004893
<i>Site type</i> POND	<i>Period</i> Post Med	<i>Site Status</i>

Description

A pond, approximately 20m by 20m, retained by an earth and stone dam on the northern eastern and southern sides.

Recommendations

Maintain as existing.

<i>Management Category</i> C	<i>Visited by</i> KM	<i>Visited On</i> 30/09/99
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PRN 39053	Site name BLAENWAUN GANOL	NGR SN50834854
Site type QUARRY	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

A small quarry pit situated in scrub at the edge of a field. The quarry measures 10m by 5m and is 2m deep.

Recommendations

There are no recommendations for this site.

Management Category D	Visited by KM	Visited On 30/09/99
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PRN 39054	Site name BLAENWAUN GANOL	NGR SN50404864
Site type QUARRY	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

A rounded shallow hollow approximately 30m by 20m in pasture may mark the site of an old quarry.

Recommendations

There are no management recommendations for this site.

Management Category D	Visited by KM	Visited On 30/09/99
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PRN 39055	Site name BLAENWAUN UCHAF	NGR SN50654913
Site type FARMSTEAD	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

According to the current owners of Blaenwaun Ganol Farm, Blaenwaun Ucha farmstead was moved from its old site 300m to the east of Blaenwaun Ganol (PRN 39043) to its present location in 1876. The farmhouse and outbuildings probably date to 1876. The tithe map and 1891 OS map support this. The farmhouse is two-storeyed with a catslide roof to rear, 3-bayed rendered and recently modernised. A range of outbuildings lies to the north of the house. These are stone built with some red-brick detailing under a slate roof. Essentially it consists of one east-west aligned range with a barn at right angles at the east end. The main range is single-storey with a half loft over. At a later date, but judging from the OS map, pre 1891 a stable wing was added to the west end this was later extended by the addition of a cart house. The whole range contains many original fittings including cow stalls, windows and doors. However it has been disused for some time; slates are missing and there is general neglect.

Recommendations

This farmstead contains an interesting collection of farm buildings. These have not been modernised. It would be desirable to restore them, if a new role for them could be identified.

Management Category B	Visited by KM	Visited On 30/09/99
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PRN 39056	Site name CORN-BWT	NGR SN50774937
Site type COTTAGE	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

A cottage is marked here on the tithe map. It is named as Corn-pwt on the OS 1891 map but called Corn-bwt by the present owners of Blaenwaun Ganol. It is now abandoned, derelict and planted over with conifers. It was not possible to identify any remains at the time of survey (Sept 1999) though the owners of Blaenwaun Ganol state that some low walls survive.

Recommendations

Maintain as existing.

Management Category B	Visited by KM	Visited On 30/09/99
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<i>PRN</i> 39057	<i>Site name</i> BLAENWAUN GANOL	<i>NGR</i> SN51274876
<i>Site type</i> STANDING STONE?	<i>Period</i> Unknown	<i>Site Status</i>

Description

A stone is marked in this location of the 1964 OS 1:10 560 map. It is not marked on the tithe map or on earlier OS maps. It was not seen in a survey of 1999.

Recommendations

None.

<i>Management Category</i> D	<i>Visited by</i> KM	<i>Visited On</i> 30/09/99
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Map

, 1844 Llanwnen parish tithe map,

Ordnance Survey, 1891 XXIII.SW, 1:10 560 map

Ordnance Survey, 1964 SN54NW,

TIR GOFAL APPLICATION: BLAENWAUN GANOL, CEREDIGION
COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS



Gate post 9458.



General view of farm, 39042, showing beech trees on old hedgebank - zone three of the enclosure pattern.

TIR GOFAL APPLICATION: BLAENWAUN GANOL, CEREDIGION
COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS



39043, the original site of Blaenwaun Uchaf farmstead. The gin is the low earthwork in the centre of the photograph.



Blaenwaun Ganol farmhouse, 39050.

TIR GOFAL APPLICATION: BLAENWAUN GANOL, CEREDIGION
COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS



Blaenwaun Ganol farmstead, 39050, showing the carthouse and the mill, 39051.



Blaenwaun Ganol farmstead mill, 39051

TIR GOFAL APPLICATION: BLAENWAUN GANOL, CEREDIGION
COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS



Gate post, 39049.



Blaenwaun Uchaf, 39055, outbuildings.

TIR GOFAL APPLICATION: BLAENWAUN GANOL, CEREDIGION
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Map scale 1:10,000

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