



Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology

01/12/99

# **Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report**

## **Mwche Farm**

### **W/12/726**

ACA Project Record No 39110

Report prepared for CCW  
by ACA

December, 1999

Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology  
Shire Hall,  
8, Carmarthen Street,  
Llandeilo,  
Carmarthenshire  
SA19 6AF  
Tel: (01558) 823121/823131  
Fax: (01558) 823133  
Email: [cambria@acadat.com](mailto:cambria@acadat.com)



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

**Tir Gofal Application Number** W/12/726

**Address** Mwche Farm, Llansteffan

**NGR** SN32561164

**TG Project Officer** Ann Humble, Haverfordwest

**Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology Project Record Number** 39110

**Visit Officer** Nigel Page

**Visit Date** 23/11/99

## **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.

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

Tir Gofal Scheme	Tir Gofal Application No W/12/726
Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and Management Recommendations: Mwche, Carmarthenshire	

PRN 2155 Site name ST TEILO'S NGR SN31971050  
Site type CHAPEL Period Mediaeval Site Status

#### Description

There is supposed to be a medieval chapel dedicated to St. Teilo in this area, but nothing was seen during this visit.

#### Recommendations

No specific management recommendations.

Management Category D Visited by NAP Visited On 23/11/99

PRN 2159 Site name GRAIG DDU NGR SN322102  
Site type HILLFORT? Period Iron Age Site Status

#### Description

Not seen.

#### Recommendations

The grid reference assigned to this site is fairly vague, but it does locate it in a single field. The site was not identified during the farm visit despite walking across the field in which it is located, so it is not possible to make specific management recommendations. It may be necessary to make searches of all available aerial photographs of the area to try and accurately locate this site.

Management Category D Visited by NAP Visited On 23/11/99

PRN 10965 Site name MOCHER;MWCHE NGR SN32561164  
Site type SETTLEMENT Period Mediaeval Site Status

#### Description

There was a settlement at Mwche in the medieval period. References in very late-15th - early-16th century documents refer to a Mochey, later Moghey. It is not known when the modern form of the name was first used. The modern farm incorporates the neighbouring farm Pentowyn, although the buildings are not part of the Mwche holding. The yard complex is largely modern, with few historic buildings. The house is much modernised and altered, a large granary buildings has been converted to holiday accommodation and the former cartshed (PRN 39308) is in a dilapidated condition. The farm contains in the low-lying reclaimed marshland and on the hillslopes above the Afon Taf.

#### Recommendations

Mwche has origins in at least the later medieval period and although it is now much altered the yard area is probably the original medieval settlement site. The current field pattern was probably established by the 18th century, and some of the roads and tracks will be earlier still. Mwche is within the Taf and Tywi Estuary Historic Landscape (Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales- Cadw, CCW and ICOMOS UK 1998). This is not a statutory designation, but it does presume in favour of retaining in situ those elements of the landscape considered to be of historic value. In this case that includes the farm and its buildings, the field pattern and the layout of roads and tracks.

Management Category B Visited by NAP Visited On 23/11/99

PRN 15733 Site name PONT-Y-MWCHE NGR SN32451192  
Site type BRIDGE Period Post Med Site Status

#### Description

Stone-built, single arch hump-backed bridge. Some recent damage to the coping stones has been repaired using concrete.

#### Recommendations

It would be preferable if the concrete coping could be replaced with stone to return the bridge to reflect its historic character.

Management Category C Visited by NAP Visited On 23/11/99

Tir Gofal Scheme	Tir Gofal Application No W/12/726
Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and Management Recommendations: Mwche, Carmarthenshire	

**PRN** 15736      **Site name** BLACK SCAR      **NGR** SN31481064  
**Site type** LIME KILN      **Period** Post Med      **Site Status**

#### **Description**

Stone-built half round kiln with 2 drawing arches. There may have been a third arch, now collapsed. The structure is now overgrown, there are some fairly large and mature trees growing on it which are beginning to affect the fabric of the kiln. Large cracks are visible in the W face above the draw arch.

#### **Recommendations**

The larger trees growing on the structure are damaging the standing remains and they should be removed to relieve the pressure on the cracks in the fabric.

**Management Category** C      **Visited by** NAP      **Visited On** 23/11/99

**PRN** 21311      **Site name** BLACK SCAR      **NGR** SN31231075  
**Site type** FERRY HOUSE      **Period** Post Med      **Site Status**

#### **Description**

Ferry House is shown on 2nd edition OS maps but not 1st edition. A.Gale, Feb 1995. There is a modern tin boat shed and the remains of a small bell house.

#### **Recommendations**

Maintain in present condition.

**Management Category** C      **Visited by** NAP      **Visited On** 23/11/99

**PRN** 23580      **Site name** FFYNON-FACH      **NGR** SN33151159  
**Site type** COTTAGE      **Period** Post Med      **Site Status**

#### **Description**

The site of a 19th century cottage. All that remains today is part of the rear, S, wall and the terrace of the cottage platform and a small terrace to the E which may have been the garden. There is a pile of rubble a short distance to the W that may have been a former outbuilding.

#### **Recommendations**

The site is located in the corner of a field and could therefore be excluded from any destructive processes such as ploughing. It should be possible to, maintain the sit in its present condition without affecting the overall management and uses of the field.

**Management Category** C      **Visited by** NAP      **Visited On** 23/11/99

**PRN** 29979      **Site name** RIVER TAF FLOOD DEFENCES      **NGR** SN31961221  
**Site type** FLOOD DEFENCES      **Period** Post Med      **Site Status**

#### **Description**

A post mediaeval flood defence bank. The OS 1st edition shows a flood defence bank running south from Cwm-Celyn. This is marked on the current 1:10000. It is approximately 800m long and marks the edge of the salt marsh. A. Gale, Feb. 1995. The bank is now owned by the National Trust and still forms the primary flood defence for this part of the farm.

#### **Recommendations**

This bank is still the active flood defences for the reclaimed land behind it and should, therefore, be maintained in its present condition.

**Management Category** B      **Visited by** NAP      **Visited On** 23/11/99

Tir Gofal Scheme	Tir Gofal Application No W/12/726
Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and Management Recommendations:	Mwche, Carmarthenshire

PRN 39110 Site name MWCHE NGR SN32561164  
Site type PROJECT RECORD Period Mediaeval Site Status

#### Description

#### Recommendations

Management Category Visited by NAP Visited On 23/11/99

PRN 39111 Site name MWCHE NGR SN32251119  
Site type QUARRY? Period Post Med Site Status

#### Description

A small hollow, cut into the base of a W facing slope. The hollow measures c.15m x 10m and it is possibly a small quarry pit.

#### Recommendations

Maintain in present condition.

Management Category D Visited by NAP Visited On 23/11/99

PRN 39306 Site name MWCHE NGR SN31451073  
Site type TRACKWAY Period Post Med Site Status

#### Description

A track leading to the ferry house at Black Scar Point. The track is probably a medieval route in origin. Today it is a hollow way bounded by a bank and mature hedge on both sides.

#### Recommendations

Maintain in present condition.

Management Category C Visited by NAP Visited On 23/11/99

PRN 39307 Site name MWCHE NGR SN31721335  
Site type INSCRIBED STONE? Period Unknown Site Status

#### Description

A carved stone now used as a gate pillar, c.1.2m high x 0.4m wide. The stone is a flat slab body with rounded shoulders topped by a circular head. The stone had been covered with tar in the past, but this is now beginning to erode. Some inscribed decoration is beginning to show through the tar in places. The head has a band around the outer edge of its face. The band is filled with a sunburst decoration. There may be three horizontal lines in the centre of the face, although this is not certain. The stone has a socket just below the shoulder on its E edge. The back of the stone has been roughly cleaned, but not smoothed or carved. Whilst the stone is still covered with tar it is not possible to say anything about its date or function, although it is unlikely that it was originally intended to be a gate post. There are two small square holes in the front of the body of the stone that appear to have lead inserts that may have been related to a former use.

#### Recommendations

The stone should be professionally cleaned to uncover any decoration and to allow some analysis of the possibly date and former functions of the stone. Once cleaned it will be possible to make recommendations regarding the future management of the stone.

Management Category C Visited by NAP Visited On 23/11/99

<b>PRN</b>	39308	<b>Site name</b>	MWCHE	<b>NGR</b>	SN31721335
<b>Site type</b>	CART SHED	<b>Period</b>	Post Med	<b>Site Status</b>	

**Description**

Single storey, four-bay stone built structure with a corrugated asbestos roof. The building is aligned E-W and stands at the NE corner of the yard. The three W bays contained depressed semi-circular headed openings, although only two now survive, the westernmost opening has collapsed. The centre arch is also in danger of collapse, it is currently supported by timber props. Internally the bays have been divided by modern block and brick walls. A modern block-built pen has been constructed in front of the building. This building is probably the last of the historic farm buildings left at Mwche.

**Recommendations**

This building should be consolidated and made safe. It may be possible to reconstruct the broken arch and restore the building to its original appearance.

<b>Management Category</b>	C	<b>Visited by</b>	NAP	<b>Visited On</b>	23/11/99
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**Map**

Ordnance Survey, 1889 Carmarthenshire Sheet XLV.14, 1st ed 1:2500 not shown on this map

Ordnance Survey, 1889 Carmarthenshire Sheet XLV.11, 1st Ed 1:2500

Ordnance Survey, 1906 Carmarthenshire Sheet XLV.14, 2nd ed 1:2500

Ordnance Survey, 1907 Carmarthenshire Sheet XLV.SE,

Rees W, 1932 South Wales & Border in the 14th century, SW sheet

**Aerial Photograph**

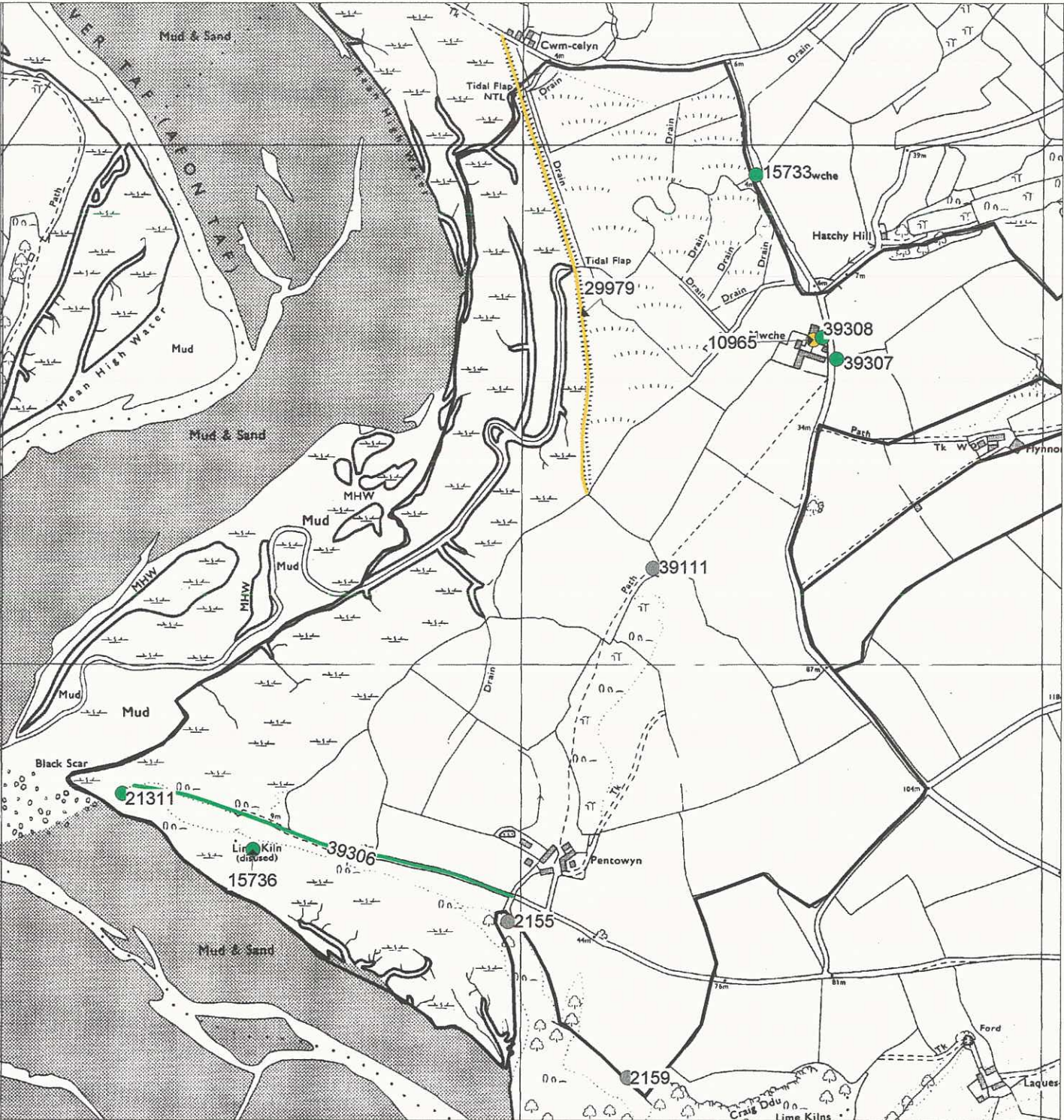
RAF, 1946 106G-UK-1423 3006-7,

James TA, 1978 TAJ-AP-SN3110, Colour 73



Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report  
Mwche: ACA Record No.39110

scale 1:10000





Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report  
Mwche: ACA Record No.39110

scale 1:10000

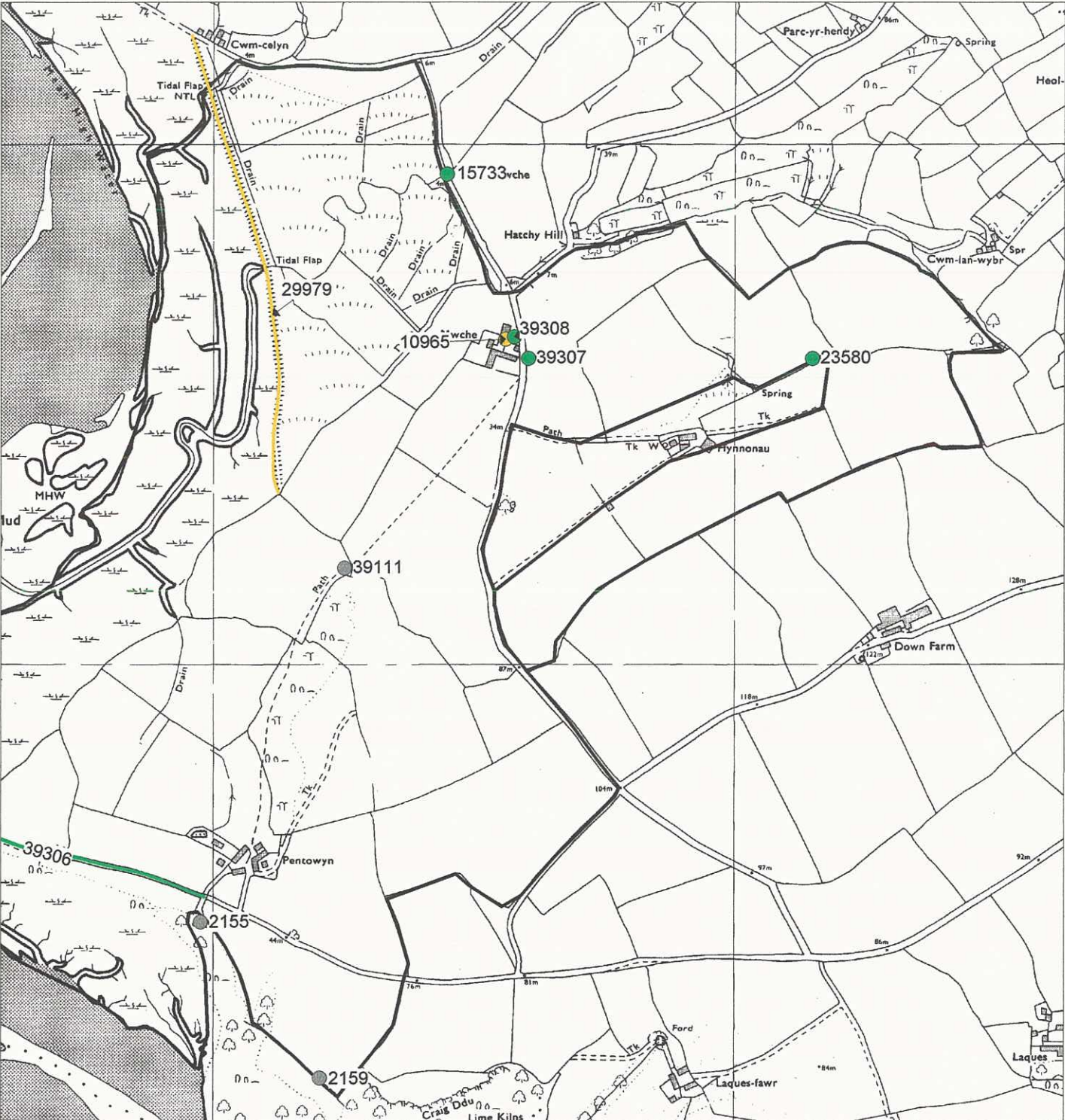






Plate 1: PRN 39307 - Inscribed stone gate post.



Plate 2: PRN 39308 - cart shed, this is one of the last historic buildings within the yard complex.





Plate 3: PRN 15736 - the drawing arch of the limekiln at Black Scar.



Plate 4: PRN 23580 - the rear wall and house platform of Ffynnon fach cottage.