



01/04/2000

Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology

# Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report

## Ynysgreigiog

### W/11/49

ACA Project Record Nø9854

Report prepared for CCW  
by ACA

April, 2000

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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/11/49

**Address** Ynysgreigiog, Ynysgreigiog

**NGR** SN67529428

**TG Project Officer** Arfon Williams, Aberystwyth

**Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology Project Record Number** 39854

**Visit Officer** Nigel Page

**Visit Date** 20/03/00

## **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 -</b>	<b>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</b>	<i>Registered Parks and Gardens of Historic Interest</i>
	<b>Red Banding</b>	<i>Registered Landscapes of Historic Interest</i>
<b>Category B -</b>	<b>Amber</b>	<i>Sites and Monuments of Regional Importance Grade 2 Listed and Other Buildings of Regional Importance</i>
<b>Category C -</b>	<b>Green</b>	<i>Sites / Features of Local Importance Buildings of Local Importance</i>
<b>Category D -</b>	<b>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.

## Description of Ynysgreigiog Farm

Ynysgreigiog is a large farm of approximately 267 acres (108ha) on the southern side of the Dyfi Estuary. The farm, as its name suggests, occupies a rocky outcrop in the surrounding reclaimed marsh and has land both on the marsh and on Mynydd Coronwen to the southwest. Estate maps dating from 1788 of the neighbouring farms of Ynys Fach (PRN 39390 - now part of Ynysgreigiog) and Ynys Eidol show that the field pattern and boundaries were in existence by the mid- to late-18th century. The farm almost certainly pre-dates this, the house (PRN 21497) is of a type that was most common in the period between the late-16th century and the early-18th century. In its present form the farm includes land that was held by five different holdings during the mid 19th century and it contains the sites of some abandoned farms, smallholdings and cottages which date from the 18th and 19th centuries. The ~~Ysguber-y-Coed~~<sup>\*</sup> parish tithe map of 1845 shows three of the current buildings, the house PRN 21497; the old cowhouse and barn PRN 39386; and the former cowhouse PRN 39388. It also shows two further buildings that have since disappeared. The L-shaped cowhouse (PRN 39387) was shown on the OS 1st edition map of 1890 by which time the current layout had been established. The boundaries across the site are an interesting mixture of 18th century, or earlier earth banks, banks with hedges, banks and drainage ditches, stone walls and modern stock fences. Many of the boundaries around Ynys Fach are low earth banks which follow the ridge lines of the rocky outcrop on which the farm sits. Originally these boundaries must have either been substantially bigger or topped with a hedge to make them effective for stock control. There are also low, very eroded boundary banks on Mynydd Coronwen.

\* Llanfihangel Gencorhlyn

Tir Gofal Scheme Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and Management Recommendations:	Tir Gofal Application No W/11/49 Ynysgreigiog
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PRN 9273      Site name YNYS-GREIGIOG      NGR SN67279460  
Site type BARN      Period Post Med      Site Status

#### Description

A small timber-framed open sided hay barn in a drystone enclosure. A building first appears in this location in the early- to mid-20th, although the enclosure is shown on the 2nd edition OS map of 1906. The barn had previously been recorded as a cottage, but there is no record, or tradition of a cottage on this site.

#### Recommendations

The barn should be maintained in its present condition.

Management Category C      Visited by NAP      Visited On 20/03/00

PRN 13627      Site name YNYSEIDOL BOG      NGR SN674953  
Site type COMMON LAND      Period Mediaeval;Post Med      Site Status

#### Description

An area of overgrown, wet marsh land which has formed part of the region's common land since the medieval period.

#### Recommendations

The common is part of a SSSI and no specific archaeological management is required.

Management Category C      Visited by NAP      Visited On 20/03/00

PRN 21497      Site name YNYSGREIGIOG      NGR SN67389485  
Site type DWELLING      Period Post Med      Site Status

#### Description

A late medieval lateral chimney house of a type rare in Ceredigion (Smith 1998 fig 63). The house sits on a rocky outcrop overlooking the reclaimed marshland of the Dyfi Estuary. It is a stone-built, three story house with a slate gable roof. The NW gable has an end stack and both gables extend slightly above the roof line. The house is of a type that was most common in the period between the late-16th century and the early-18th century.

#### Recommendations

This house is of sufficient interest to be worthy of consideration for inclusion on the Listed Building schedule.

Management Category A      Visited by NAP      Visited On 20/03/00

PRN 39385      Site name YNYSGREIGIOG      NGR SN67329480  
Site type FARM      Period Post Med      Site Status

#### Description

See farm description.

#### Recommendations

The present management regime of the farm is sensitive to the character of the farm and to the historic buildings and features it contains.

Management Category B      Visited by NAP      Visited On 20/03/00

<b>PRN</b>	39386	<b>Site name</b>	YNYSGREIGIOG	<b>NGR</b>	SN67329474
<b>Site type</b>	BARN;COWSHED	<b>Period</b>	Post Med	<b>Site Status</b>	

#### **Description**

Single-storey, random rubble built structure with a slate gabled roof. The rafters and joists of the roof structure are semi-worked and appear to be small tree trunks or large branches. The laths, or roof batons are split withies. The building is divided into a barn and storage area in the northern half and a cowshed in the southern half. Entry to the barn area is via a central double door with a timber lintel, a slatted wooden door is still in place. The cowshed area is entered through two square headed doors with stone lintels. This building appears on the tithe map of 1845 and probably dates from the 18th century.

#### **Recommendations**

A survey should be undertaken of the standing fabric of the building and of the constructional details, particularly of the roof. The survey results will provide information on the current condition of the building and identify any major defects that require urgent repair. The results of the survey should be used to devise a programme of repair and consolidation that will at least maintain the building in a stable condition.

<b>Management Category</b>	B	<b>Visited by</b>	NAP	<b>Visited On</b>	20/03/00
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<b>PRN</b>	39387	<b>Site name</b>	YNYSGREIGIOG	<b>NGR</b>	SN67299480
<b>Site type</b>	COWSHED	<b>Period</b>	Post Med	<b>Site Status</b>	

#### **Description**

Single storey, L-shaped cowshed of random rubble construction with a slate gabled roof. The building contains a number of open sheds with square headed openings, one of the openings has been blocked by a modern wall. The sheds open onto a small yard below the house. This building was first shown on the OS 1st edition map of 1890. Open sheds such as these were typically used for housing young beasts and fatstock.

#### **Recommendations**

This cowhouse is in current use and in a good state of repair. It should be maintained in its present condition.

<b>Management Category</b>	C	<b>Visited by</b>	NAP	<b>Visited On</b>	20/03/00
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<b>PRN</b>	39388	<b>Site name</b>	YNYSGREIGIOG	<b>NGR</b>	SN67349481
<b>Site type</b>	COWSHED	<b>Period</b>	Post Med	<b>Site Status</b>	

#### **Description**

Small rectangular cowshed with loft above. The building is of random rubble construction with a slate gable roof. The loft is approached via steps on the east gable end, and it has a central half-dormer pitching door with a slate pitched roof in the south elevation. There is a feed hatch from the loft to the cowhouse below. The cowhouse is entered via a slightly off-centre door in the south wall and there are three small square windows in the same wall. All the openings are square headed and the windows are probably 20th century insertions. The building is no longer used for cattle, which were formerly stalled in a single line along the rear wall. This building was shown on the Ysgubor-y-Coed tithe map of 1845 and it probably dates from the late 18th or early 19th century.

#### **Recommendations**

This building is in good condition and it is currently used to house ewes and new-born lambs. It should be maintained in its present condition.

<b>Management Category</b>	C	<b>Visited by</b>	NAP	<b>Visited On</b>	20/03/00
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<b>PRN</b> 39389	<b>Site name</b> YNYS FACH	<b>NGR</b> SN67079504
<b>Site type</b> COWSHED;BARN	<b>Period</b> Post Med	<b>Site Status</b>

#### **Description**

A two-storey stone-built cowhouse with loft above. There is a ruinous two-storey extension on the southwest end which still stands to gable height. The southwest gable of the surviving section has been cement rendered to protect the slate tiles. The cowhouse forms the southeast side of a small yard defined by stone and earth banks and entered through a gateway marked by two large upright stones. There are two openings in the ruinous extension, a door and small window, both are headed by a timber lintel. The four main openings in the main building are three doors and a pitching door in the loft. All of these openings have segmental arch heads in blue brick. There are two ventilation loops, one either side of the centre door. The northeasternmost door of the three leads into a lean-to type extension. Internally the cowshed was arranged so that the cows were stalled looking along the building. The cowshed was shown on the tithe map of 1845 and it probably dates from the late 18th or early 19th century.

#### **Recommendations**

This building is in good condition apart from the extension of the southwestern end. The building should be maintained in present condition.

<b>Management Category</b> C	<b>Visited by</b> NAP	<b>Visited On</b> 20/03/00
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<b>PRN</b> 39390	<b>Site name</b> YNYS FACH	<b>NGR</b> SN67029511
<b>Site type</b> FARMHOUSE	<b>Period</b> Post Med	<b>Site Status</b>

#### **Description**

Remains of a stone-built house with a gabled roof. The house, which is now roofless and in a ruinous condition, consisted of a main northeast-southwest range with a smaller, gabled range on the northeast end of the northwest side. A small rectangular extension, that was central along the main range was located in the angle of the two ranges. The smaller gabled range had an enclosure on its northwest side. The site is now overgrown and is partially covered, with rubble and fallen masonry making it difficult to determine an exact ground plan. A door in the northeast wall of the main range leads from the small extension. There is a stone vent loop in the southwest end of the main range which suggests that this area of the building formerly held animals. It may be that the house was originally a longhouse, where people and animals were housed in the same building, before developing into its final form. The longhouse is one of the earliest types of farm buildings and if Ynys Fach farmhouse has developed from the longhouse tradition it may argue for a long occupation of this site.

#### **Recommendations**

Ynys Fach farm is included in a survey dating from 1788 which shows that the layout of fields, tracks and the main buildings were well established by the later 18th century. The possible origins of the house as a longhouse is interesting because it may indicate a longer history of occupation on this site. The house should be maintained in its present condition.

<b>Management Category</b> C	<b>Visited by</b> NAP	<b>Visited On</b> 20/03/00
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<b>PRN</b> 39391	<b>Site name</b> YNYS FACH	<b>NGR</b> SN67049505
<b>Site type</b> PIGSTY	<b>Period</b> Post Med	<b>Site Status</b>

#### **Description**

Double in-and-out pigsty constructed from random rubble. The sleeping compartments were covered by a gable roof, probably slate, which has now been lost. The sleeping quarters are c.2m x 2m with a similar size yard in front. This type of pigsty is the most common and it is found in Wales from the 18th century onwards, although this example dates from the late 19th century.

#### **Recommendations**

The surviving structure is in reasonable condition and it should be maintained in its current state.

<b>Management Category</b> C	<b>Visited by</b> NAP	<b>Visited On</b> 20/03/00
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Tir Gofal Scheme	Tir Gofal Application No W/11/49
Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and Management Recommendations: Ynysgreigiog	

PRN 39392 Site name CORONWEN NGR SN69859389  
 Site type DWELLING Period Post Med Site Status

#### Description

Small two-storey stone built cottage with slate gable roof and stone stack on east gable. The north, front elevation has a central door flanked on either side by a small wood-framed window. The two windows in the upper floor are positioned above those in the ground floor, giving the front of the house a regular appearance. Internally the lower floor is divided into two rooms arranged either side of a central passage. The wooden passage partitions and much of the original detailing survives in good condition. There is a small irregular garden enclosure to the east of the house which is currently stocked with timber trees.

#### Recommendations

The condition of this house, especially the interior is of great interest. There are plans to sell the house and gardens to a private occupier. The internal fixtures should, where possible be retained and the house itself be maintained in as reasonable a condition as possible.

Management Category C Visited by NAP Visited On 20/03/00

PRN 39393 Site name CORONWEN NGR SN69999387  
 Site type COWSHED Period Post Med Site Status

#### Description

Two-storey, cowshed of random rubble construction with slate gable roof. The cowshed is aligned northeast-southwest and it sits on a terrace on a northwest facing slope over a small stream valley from the cottage at Coronwen (PRN 39392). Entry to the lower floor was via two doors headed by timber lintels in the northwest wall. There are four vent loops in the loft wall. The southwest gable has been rebuilt in modern blockwork at some time in the past.

#### Recommendations

This building is still used as part of the current farm operations and it should be maintained in its present condition.

Management Category C Visited by NAP Visited On 20/03/00

PRN 39394 Site name YNYSGRIGIOG NGR SN67559495  
 Site type PEAT CUTTING AREA Period Post Med Site Status

#### Description

Area of peat bog formerly used by locals for peat cutting. The peat cutting has reduced the level of the area by some 0.5-1m below the surrounding ground surface. A strip of higher ground running across the area may have been an access route, or it may be an area left uncut when extraction ceased.

#### Recommendations

This area is being proposed as a habitat area within the Tir Gofal scheme and is therefore protected from further direct damage. This type of wetland environment has enormous archaeological potential (the waterlogged and often anaerobic conditions preserve a wide range of archaeological material not usually recovered from dry sites) and it should be kept waterlogged

Management Category C Visited by NAP Visited On 20/03/00



Tir Gofal Scheme	Tir Gofal Application No W/11/49
Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites and Management Recommendations: Ynysgreigiog	

PRN 39395 Site name TY'N-Y-CORNEL NGR SN67249396  
Site type COTTAGE Period Post Med Site Status

#### Description

The ruins of a small rectangular stone-built cottage. Originally with a gable roof the northeast gable survives to a height of c.4m. Trees and fallen rubble on the structure of the house make it difficult to be certain of the exact ground plan, but it appears to consist of two areas separated by a central gable wall, the southwest area being slightly the larger of the two. The northeast area is an internal room and it has a stone fireplace constructed against the central wall with a chimney that leads to a smoke vent which exits the central wall at head height in the southwest area. This suggests that the southwest area may have been external, certainly when the fireplace was in use. It may be that the southwest end of the house was abandoned leaving only the northeast room occupied. This may have resulted in the fireplace being built and vented through the wall into the abandoned area of the house rather than constructing a full height chimney and stack. Ty'n-y-cornel was shown on the tithe map of 1845 and probably dates from the late 18th or early 19th century.

#### Recommendations

The structure is currently fairly stable, although the vegetation cover will cause problems as it matures. There are no plans within the farm management to intrude onto the site, so the standing structure should be maintained in its present condition.

Management Category C Visited by NAP Visited On 20/03/00

PRN 39854 Site name YNYSGREIGIOG NGR SN67529428  
Site type PROJECT RECORD Period Site Status

#### Description

#### Recommendations

Management Category Visited by NAP Visited On 20/03/00

**Map**

Tithe Map, 1845 Ysgubor-y-coed tithe map and apportionment, -

Ordnance Survey, 1888 OS 1st edition 1:2500, Cards.II.10

Ordnance Survey, 1890 OS 1st edition 1:10560, sheet Cards.II.SW

Ordnance Survey, 1905 OS 2nd ed 1:2500, sheet Cards.II.9

Ordnance Survey, 1905 OS 2nd ed 1:2500, Cards.II.10

**Written Description**

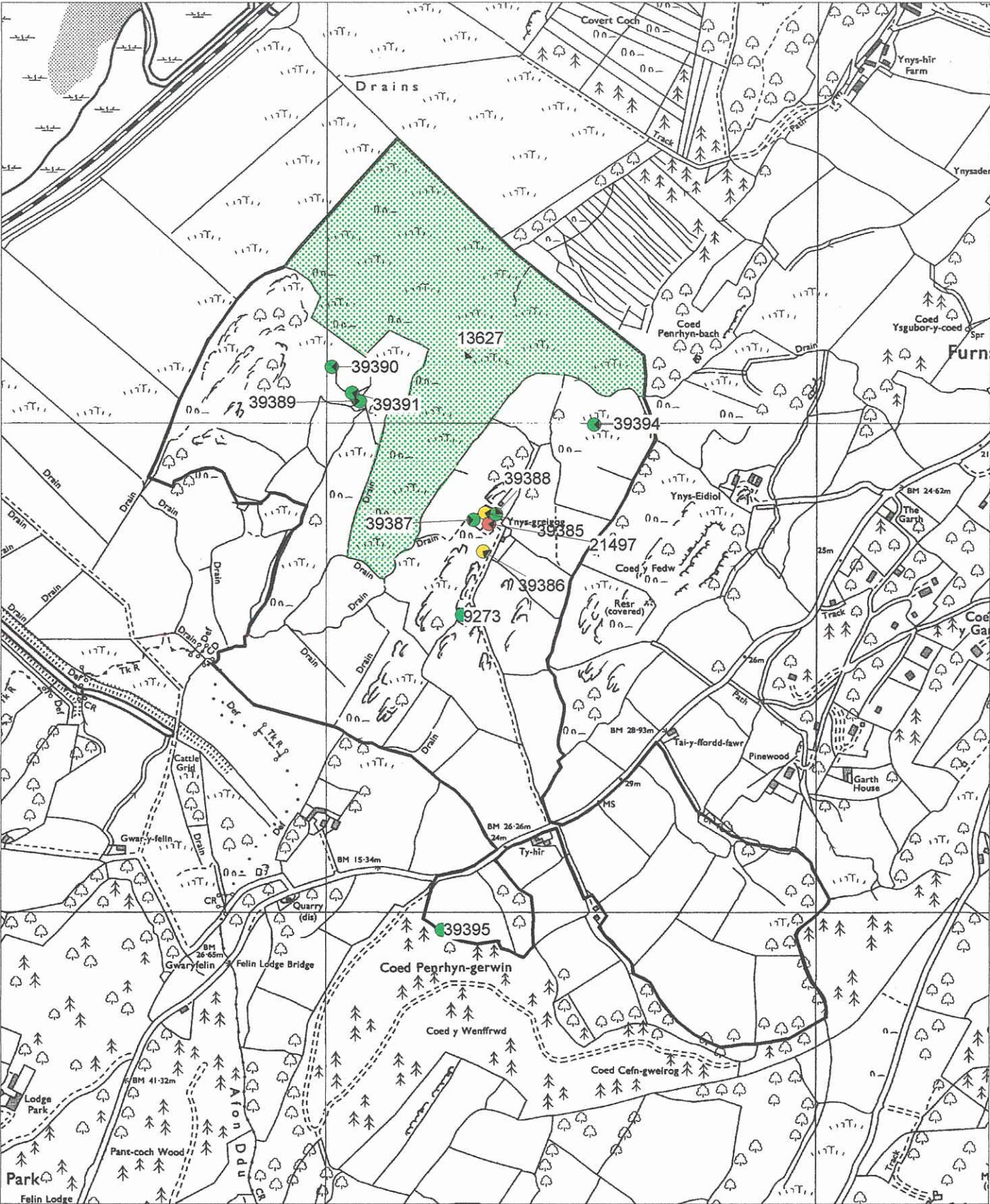
Rural Surveys Research Unit, 1988 The Common Lands of England and Wales, Cards 30

Smith,P, 1998 The Domestic Architecture of the County. The Rural Domestic Architecture: Ffermdy Plas a Bwthyl, In G County History volume 3: Cardiganshire in Modern Times pp233-288

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not to scale

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not to scale





Plate 1: PRN 39394 - area of old peat cutting.



Plate 2: PRN 39390 - the overgrown remains of Ynys Fach farmhouse.



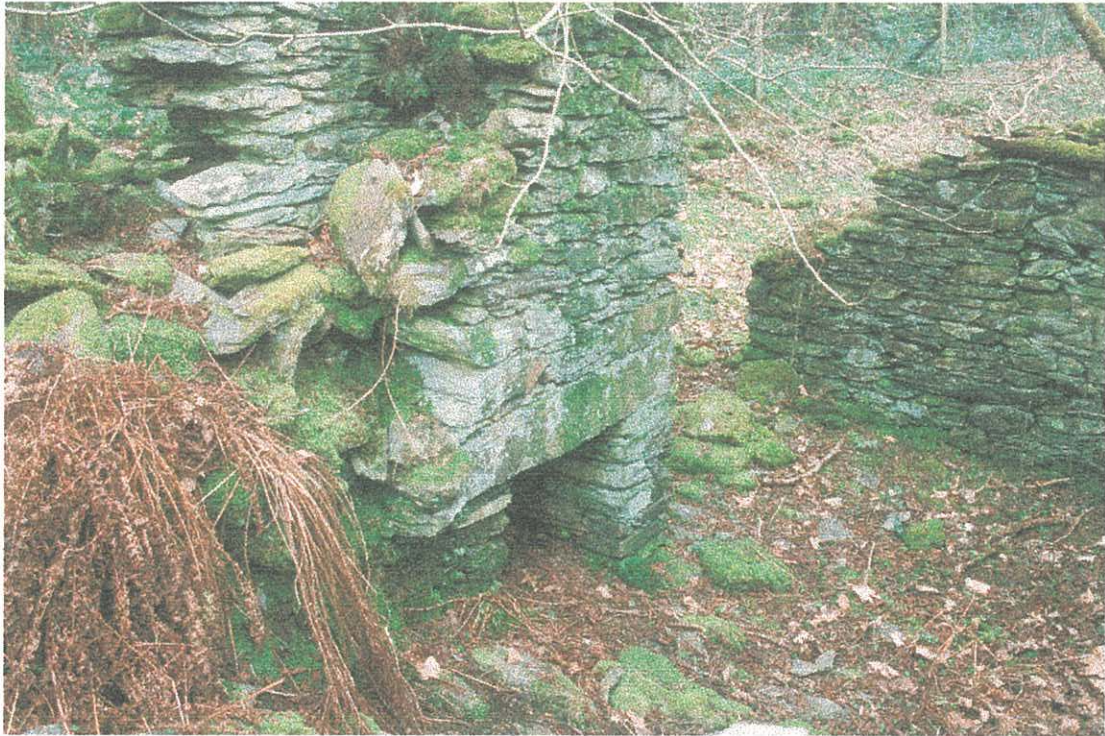


Plate 3: PRN 39395 - the stone-buil fireplace in the north room of Ty'n y cornel