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Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology

Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report

Plas-y-Bryniau

W/11/1096

ACA Report Number 2001/13

ACA Project Record 40435

**Report prepared for CCW
by ACA**

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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/11/1096

Address

Plas-y-Bryniau

NGR SN564614

Bethania, Llannon, Ceredigion, SY23 5NR.

TG Project Officer

Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology Project Record Number 40435

Visit Officer

Anwen Cooper

Visit Date

19/10/00

TIR GOFAL FARM VISIT REPORT

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

The report structure is as follows:

- explanation of archaeological site status and management categories used in the gazetteer.
- a brief statement on the historical background to the farm which enables the reader to put the specific sites into context.
- the main body of the report is a gazetteer of sites previously known or identified during the visit. The gazetteer identifies sites by their Primary Record Number (PRN) which is the reference number used in the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). It also locates them by National Grid Reference (NGR).
- list of sources consulted during the research for this project.
- explanation of colour coding used on the map.
- site location maps identifying by PRN the location of each site in the gazetteer.
- photographs of specific sites are included where the author considers it useful in order to identify a site or stress a particular management issue.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE STATUS

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 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 historic elements of the landscape.

TIR GOFAL SITE MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

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).

Description of Plas-y-Bryniau Farm, PRN 42047

Plas-y-Bryniau Farm lies in the undulating upland landscape of central Ceredigion, about 12km to the north of Lampeter. The holding includes three separate pieces of land; one at Bryn y Gorlan and two at Plas y Bryniau. Only the area that immediately surrounds Plas-y-Bryniau Farm itself was visited. The farm lies at the margins of the upland and includes areas of improved pasture, marshland and rough grazing that lie between 250 and 300m OD. Whilst there is ample evidence of the prehistoric occupation of this area, none is known of within the holding itself. However, the visit enabled identification of at least one possible prehistoric site and it is possible that others are yet to be discovered. The history of the more recent occupation of the land within the holding is better known and the current owners were extremely helpful in recounting their families' occupation of the land for many generations. The farm includes a high concentration of nineteenth century farmsteads, many of which have been deserted.

Plas-y-Bryniau Farm itself was first recorded on the tithe survey of Nantcwnlle parish in 1839, when it was occupied by Evan Jones and known by the name of Common-fynnedd-fach. At this time, it was approached by a single track from Talsarn to the south and consisted of two parallel rows of buildings, aligned east-west. Most of the land around the farm was unenclosed, as was much of that around the contemporary farms at Croes Winter and Common fynnedd that now lie within the holding. During the mid-nineteenth century, the land within the holding was enclosed and the structure of the current field system established. The farm buildings at Plas-y-Bryniau were extended and added to and other smallholdings were built at Common-fynnedd-fach, Cwm, and Pen-banc. By this time, the farmstead at Common-fynnedd had been abandoned. This mid-nineteenth century landscape was recorded on the 1st edition OS map of 1891. A further, impressive farmhouse and buildings were built at Hafod-hir-uchaf towards the end of the nineteenth century and the road that ran from the south to Plas-y-Bryniau Farm was extended to meet the road at Croes Winter. These changes are recorded on the second edition OS map of 1906. Whilst the system of field that was established during the nineteenth century has remained virtually unaltered since, most of the contemporary farms have been abandoned. The owners occupy an early twentieth century farmhouse that was built at Plas-y-Bryniau. They have converted the buildings at Hafod-hir-uchaf to provide holiday accommodation and rent the house at Croes Winter to tenants.

Management Recommendations

The owners have a personal interest in and attachment to the history of the land at Plas-y-Bryniau and are sympathetic to the management of the archaeological features. The various elements of the nineteenth century landscape within the holding are generally very well preserved. The history of its occupation over the past two centuries is particularly interesting and deserves further research.

PRN 5951	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN565619
Site type CROPMARK	Period Unknown	Site Status

Description

Cropmark, identified from aerial photographs by the OS Archaeology Division in the 1950's. Its form and nature is unknown and the photographs were not accessible.

Recommendations

The field has been heavily ploughed and it is likely that any subsurface features will have already been damaged. The owner now plans to plough the field occasionally to improve the quality of the pastureland. Ploughing in this area should be carried out at a minimum depth to preserve what survives of the archaeology.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 5952	Site name CWM	NGR SN567614
Site type CROP MARK	Period Unknown	Site Status

Description

Cropmark, identified from aerial photographs by the OS Archaeology Division in the 1950's. Its form and nature is unknown and the photographs were not accessible.

Recommendations

The field has been heavily ploughed and it is likely that any subsurface features will have already been damaged. The owner now plans to plough the field occasionally to improve the quality of the pastureland. Ploughing in this area should be carried out at a minimum depth to preserve what survives of the archaeology.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 9222	Site name COMMON-FYNYDD	NGR SN56656105
Site type FARMSTEAD	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Ruined farmstead of Common-fynnedd, consisting of two houses and several outbuildings (orientation east-west) arranged on opposite sides of a trackway which approached the farm from the south then turned eastwards into the farmyard. The building footings are completely grassed over and stand to a max. height of 0.8m. The farm was formerly occupied by the great grandmother of the current owner. Before this it was occupied by two families, who reputedly fell out. One of these families left after the dispute and filled the well to the west of the farmyard with stones.

Recommendations

The footings of the farm buildings have been left open by the owner in amongst a dense conifer plantation. They are now completely grassed over and in a stable condition. They should be maintained as stable ruins and kept clear of intrusive vegetation. Any loose stones should be left in situ. Ideally, the area should not be grazed with cattle.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 19426	Site name HAFOD-HIR-UCHAF	NGR SN56006127
Site type HAFOD?	Period Post Med?	Site Status

Description

Hafod-Hir-Uchaf Farm, consisting of a farmhouse (PRN 42060), farm building (PRN 42058 and cartshed (PRN 42059) which are laid out in a u-shaped arrangement and set within a low banked enclosure and beech plantation. They stand on a terraced platform on a south facing hillside on the western side of Plas-y-Bryniau Farm. First recorded on the 2nd edition OS map of 1906. See individual building descriptions for more details.

Recommendations

The farmhouse and farm buildings have recently been renovated and converted to provide high quality holiday accommodation. This has been done in a way which is sympathetic to the original buildings and many of the original features have been retained, including a range of old farm equipment. The fine enclosure and beech plantation in which it stands should be retained. No specific management recommendations.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42029	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN56656165
Site type FARMSTEAD	Period Post Med?	Site Status

Description

Croes Winter Farm, first recorded on the tithe survey of 1839. The farmyard consists of a house and cottage (PRN 42030), and farm building (PRN 42031) with a cowshed (PRN 42032), cartshed (PRN 42033) and barn (PRN 42034). The buildings are arranged in two rows on opposite sides of the farmyard (orientation north-south), with the house and adjoining cottage to the west and the farm building to the east. See individual site descriptions for more details.

Recommendations

The farmhouse is in excellent condition and is now occupied by tenants. The farm building is in good working order and many of the original internal features survive. The farm building should be kept in its current condition and any repairs or alterations should be made in a way which is sympathetic to the original structure of the building. (See individual site recommendations for more details).

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42030	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN56646165
Site type FARMHOUSE;COTTAGE	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Two-storey rubble farmhouse with gabled slate roof and later adjoining workers cottage. Orientation north-south. Forms the western range of the farmyard at Croes Winter Farm (PRN 42029). The original farmhouse was first recorded on the tithe survey of 1839. The cottage which is attached to the south of it was added at some point during the mid to late nineteenth century and is first recorded on the 1st edition OS map of 1891. The house was formerly occupied by the current owner's grandfather. It has recently been modernised and rendered and is now occupied by tenants.

Recommendations

The farmhouse has been fully rendered and modernised and is now occupied by a tenant. No specific management recommendations.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42031	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN56666164
Site type FARM BUILDING	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Two-storey, whitewashed rubble farm building (plate 1) with dressed stone quoins and a gabled roof consisting of a cowshed (PRN 42032), cartshed (PRN 42033) and barn (PRN 42034). Orientation north-south. It forms the eastern range of the farmyard at Croes Winter Farm (PRN 42029). First recorded on the tithe survey of 1839. See individual site descriptions for more details.

Recommendations

The farm building is in very good working order and the owner has taken particular care to retain the original internal features. The owner has no immediate plans for the building. It should be maintained in its current condition and repairs and alterations should be carried out in a way that is sympathetic to the original structure of the building. (See individual site recommendations for more details).

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42032	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN56666164
Site type COW SHED	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

One and a half storey cowshed, at the northern end of the farm building that forms the eastern range of the farmyard at Croes Winter Farm (PRN 42029). Whitewashed interior, slate roof. The original cow passage survives along the length of the eastern wall. Accessed formerly by three symmetrically arranged doors in the western wall. The southernmost of these has since been blocked in. All openings are square headed with timber lintels.

Recommendations

The cowshed is in very good working order and the farmer has taken particular care to retain the original internal features. It should be maintained in its current condition and repairs and alterations should be carried out in a way that is sympathetic to the original structure of the building. If possible, the original cow passage against the eastern wall should be retained.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42033	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN56666164
Site type CART SHED	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

One and a half storey cartshed, making up a central portion of the farm building that forms the eastern range of the farmyard at Croes Winter Farm (PRN 42029). Whitewashed interior and slate roof. Accessed by a centrally positioned double width doorway in the western wall, which is square headed with a timber lintel. The fittings have been replaced and the internal wall that once separated the cartshed from the cowhouse to the north has been removed.

Recommendations

The cartshed is in very good working order and the farmer has taken particular care to retain the original internal features. It should be maintained in its current condition and repairs and alterations should be carried out in a way that is sympathetic to the original structure of the building.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42034	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN56666164
Site type BARN	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Two storey barn with a gabled tin roof, making up a central portion of the farm building that forms the eastern range of the farmyard at Croes Winter Farm (PRN 42029). Accessed by two opposing double doors in the eastern and western walls both of which are headed with stone voussoirs. An early twentieth century, American oil engine survives within the barn although it no longer functions. This apparently replaced an earlier machine that was powered by a horse gin in the yard to the east of the barn. The loft floor survives in the southern part of the room but has been removed to the north to accommodate modern farming practices.

Recommendations

The cartshed is in very good working order and the farmer has taken particular care to retain the original internal features. It should be maintained in its current condition and repairs and alterations should be carried out in a way that is sympathetic to the original structure of the building.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42035	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN56666164
Site type STABLE	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Two storey stable block with a gabled tin roof, making up the southern part of the farm building that forms the eastern range of the farmyard at Croes Winter Farm (PRN 42029). The interior is whitewashed and the original flagged slate and cobble floor survives in places. Accessed at ground floor level by a single-width, centrally positioned door in the western wall which is headed with stone voussoirs. The remaining openings are square headed with timber lintels. Accessed at first floor level via a stone stairway against the southern gable wall. The loft joists survive in good condition.

Recommendations

The stable is in very good working order and the farmer has taken particular care to retain the original internal features. It should be maintained in its current condition and repairs and alterations should be carried out in a way that is sympathetic to the original structure of the building. The original cobbled and slate flagged floor should be retained. The owner would like to reroof the stable with slate. This would enhance the appearance and condition of the building.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42036	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN56636157
Site type QUARRY	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Infilled quarry, not recorded on any historical maps. It now survives as a shallow depression in the field to the south of Croes Winter Farm.

Recommendations

The quarry has now been infilled and is completely grassed over. No specific management recommendations.

Management Category D	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42037	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN56976163
Site type MILL POND	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Sub-circular millpond, c.15m in diameter at the northeastern corner of Plas-y-Bryniau Farm. Defined to the north by a substantial earthen bank c.1m wide and 1.8m high. It still holds water, but is silted up and overgrown with young trees (plate 2).

Recommendations

The millpond is now completely silted up and overgrown with young trees. The bank that defines its northern edge is in good condition. The owner would like to clear the pond to restore its original character. Clearance of the pond, retaining the original profile, would enhance the feature.

Management Category B	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42038	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN56976167
Site type MILL	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Ruined mill building, c.3m wide by 8m long, at the north eastern corner of Plas-y-Bryniau Farm. Drystone rubble construction, no roofing material survives. The wall footings survive to a height of c.0.6m. A large grinding stone and iron cogs and fittings still lie within the walls of the building (plate 3) although some have apparently been robbed for scrap metal. The wheel pit has been infilled and the run-off leat to the northwest has silted up. The building is overgrown with young trees. It was first recorded on the 1st edition OS map of 1891.

Recommendations

The complex of the surviving mill building, millpond and an upstanding lime kiln (which stands just beyond the boundary of the farm) is unusual and deserves protection. The footings of the mill building are covered with vegetation but in a fairly stable condition. Any intrusive vegetation should be cleared. The wheelpit alongside the building has been infilled. The grinding stone is now encompassed within a small tree but is also in a stable condition. The iron fittings from within the mill building are loose and the owner is concerned that they may be removed by passers-by for use as scrap metal. Given the proximity of the site to the public road these fittings may be best preserved by removing them from the site for safe-keeping on the farm. Archaeological advice should be sought to ensure that these items are fully recorded prior to their removal. Any loose stone should be left in situ. The field to the north of the mill should not be ploughed to preserve the remains of a run-off leat which ran across it.

Management Category B	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42039	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN56926164
Site type PEAT CUTTING	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Peat cutting field. There is no visible evidence of the turbaries on the ground.

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations.

Management Category D	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42040	Site name PLAS-Y-BRYNIAU FARM	NGR SN56486125
Site type FIELD SYSTEM	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

The field system at Plas-y-Bryniau Farm was largely laid out during the course of the mid to late nineteenth century and was first recorded in its current form on the 1st edition OS map of 1891. Prior to this, much of the land within the current holding was used for summer grazing with the exception of the land that immediately surrounds Croes Winter and Common-fynned-uchaf farms, which was enclosed by the time of the tithe survey in 1839. The nineteenth century enclosure fields are generally small and somewhat irregular and include marshland, rough pasture and improved pasture. They are generally defined by hedged stone earthen banks, planted in places (in particular around Plas-y-Bryniau Farm) with beech trees. On the higher ground, they are defined by low earth and stone banks, some hedged and some faced with laid stone. They are distinctive for their incorporation of stone-built sheep crawls.

Recommendations

The surviving field boundaries on the holding are generally in good condition and should continue to be maintained in their current state. The sheep crawls within them are unusually well preserved and should be retained.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42041	Site name PLAS-Y-BRYNIAU FARM	NGR SN56286131
Site type CAIRN	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Site of a cairn, recorded on the 1st edition OS map of 1891. No trace of the cairn survives within the dense conifer plantation although there are many loose stones in the area. During the later nineteenth century and early twentieth century, the site was reputedly used for a windmill which powered the threshing machine on the farm.

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations.

Management Category D	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42042	Site name PLAS-Y-BRYNIAU FARM	NGR SN56736112
Site type TRACKWAY	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Narrow trackway (c.2m wide), running from east to west towards Cwm Farm. First recorded on the 1st edition OS map of 1891. Defined by earth and stone banks, c.0.6m high, now covered with grass. The route is now completely blocked with gorse.

Recommendations

The trackway is now grassed over and covered with gorse and is no longer used as an access route. Any intrusive vegetation should be removed. It should be retained as an integral part of the nineteenth century landscape.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42043	Site name CWM FARM	NGR SN56936115
Site type FARMSTEAD	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Ruined farmstead of Cwm, including a house, cowhouse, animal pen, pigsty, yard, garden and sheep dip (plate 4). First recorded on the 1st edition OS map of 1891. The farm was laid out with the house and cowhouse (orientation north-south) to the west of a trackway and the garden and yard to the east. The detached animal pen and pigsty lay further to the south on either side of this trackway. The buildings have all been completely demolished although the platform (c.0.6m high) on which they stood survives and the footings of the pigsty stand to a height of 0.3m. The waste from a more recent quarry, immediately to the west has been dumped upon the platform and obscures the original position of the house. There are many loose stones in this area which probably derive from both the former buildings and the quarry. The garden enclosure is defined by a low bank (c.0.5m high) which is planted with ashes. The sheep dip to the north of this survives in good condition.

Recommendations

The piles of rubbish and rubble from the adjacent quarry should be removed to restore the character of the area. The footings of the former buildings are grassed over and in a stable condition. Any loose stones from these should be left in-situ and the bank that defines the garden should be maintained as an upstanding earthwork. The sheep dip and pond should be retained.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42044	Site name PLAS-Y-BRYNIAU FARM	NGR SN57436080
Site type MINE WORKINGS	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Linear sequence of distinct hollows (c.2m deep) and spoil heaps (c.1.5m high) on the western edge of Plas-y-Bryniau Farm. The hollows and spoil heaps are almost completely grassed over although there are areas of small, loose stones along the western side of the scar (plate 5). Probably the remains of mineral extraction, with the excavations clearly following a seam. The mining clearly predates the late nineteenth century field boundary which crosses it.

Recommendations

The extraction hollows and spoil heaps are grassed over and in a stable condition. Any loose stones should be left in situ. The spoil heaps should not be levelled and the extraction hollows should not be infilled. Further survey in the area to the east of the farm may reveal other evidence of mineral extraction to provide a context for this site.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42045	Site name PLAS-Y-BRYNIAU FARM	NGR SN57436088
Site type BARROW	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Low, circular earthen mound, c.3m in diameter and 0.4m high on the cusp of a west facing slope at the eastern edge of Plas-y-Bryniau Farm. The mound lies just to the west of a nineteenth century field boundary and seems unlikely to be the product of clearance. The site commands extensive views to the east over the Brecon Beacons. It could represent the remains of a Bronze Age barrow.

Recommendations

The mound is grassed over and in a stable condition. The owner recalls that it is one of several circular mounds on the land which are not clearly identifiable as clearance cairns, although he could not remember the location of the others. Further survey work would establish the nature of these mounds and provide a context for this particular site. The field should not be ploughed in this area and any loose stones should be left in-situ.

Management Category B	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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<i>PRN</i>	42046	<i>Site name</i>	PLAS-Y-BRYNIAU FARM	<i>NGR</i>	SN57226089
<i>Site type</i>	QUARRY	<i>Period</i>	Post Med	<i>Site Status</i>	

Description

Small, sub-rectangular quarry, c.30m by 10m by 3m, (orientation north-south), to the east of Pen-banc Farm on the eastern side of Plas-y-Bryniau Farm. Probably used to extract material for the construction of the nearby farm.

Recommendations

The quarry is largely grassed over and in a stable condition although there are several piles of loose stones around it. Any loose stone should be left in-situ.

<i>Management Category</i>	D	<i>Visited by</i>	AJC	<i>Visited On</i>	19/10/00
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<i>PRN</i>	42047	<i>Site name</i>	PLAS-Y-BRYNIAU FARM	<i>NGR</i>	SN56396127
<i>Site type</i>	FARMSTEAD	<i>Period</i>	Post Med	<i>Site Status</i>	

Description

Plas-y-Bryniau Farmstead, consisting of a house (PRN 42048), farm building (PRN 42029) and stables (PRN 42063). Arranged on two sides of a trackway with the house and farm building to the west and barn and stables to the east. Orientation east-west. First recorded on the tithe survey of 1839. See farm description and individual building descriptions for more details.

Recommendations

The surviving buildings should be maintained in their current condition and any alterations and modifications should be carried out in a way that is sympathetic to the character of the original buildings. See individual site recommendations for more details.

<i>Management Category</i>	C	<i>Visited by</i>	AJC	<i>Visited On</i>	19/10/00
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<i>PRN</i>	42048	<i>Site name</i>	PLAS-Y-BRYNIAU FARM	<i>NGR</i>	SN56396127
<i>Site type</i>	FARMHOUSE	<i>Period</i>	Post Med	<i>Site Status</i>	

Description

Two-storey rubble farmhouse with roughly dressed stone quoins and a gabled slate roof. Orientation east-west. Forms the southern end of the western range of farm buildings at Plas-y-Bryniau Farm (PRN 42047). First recorded on the tithe survey of 1839. Asymmetrical elevation, with the door and small windows to either side set slightly to the north of the building. The ground floor openings are headed with brick voussoirs, the first floor openings are directly beneath the eaves. It has recently been renovated, reroofed and repointed. The fittings have been replaced.

Recommendations

The original farmhouse has recently been restored and is in excellent condition. It should be maintained in its current state.

<i>Management Category</i>	C	<i>Visited by</i>	AJC	<i>Visited On</i>	19/10/00
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PRN 42049	Site name PLAS-Y-BRYNIAU FARM	NGR SN56406127
Site type CART SHED	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

One and a half storey, rubble and mortar cartshed with a gabled slate roof. Forms the northern end of the western range of farm buildings at Plas-y-Bryniau Farm. First recorded on the 1st edition OS map of 1891. Accessed by a double-width, full-height, centrally positioned doorway in the eastern wall which has been partially blocked in and replaced with a window. An original single-width doorway in the western wall survives intact and is square headed with a timber lintel. The interior was not visited.

Recommendations

The carthouse has undergone some modification but is in good working order and should be maintained in its current state.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42050	Site name COMMON-FYNNEDD-FAWR	NGR SN56266087
Site type FARMSTEAD	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Ruined farmstead of Common-fynnedd-fawr, formerly consisting of a house and at least one farm building set within a trapezoidal enclosure at the southern end of Plas-y-Bryniau Farm. Very little survives of the buildings and there has obviously been considerable disturbance in the area, which is littered with piles of stones. The surviving wall of the house is of rubble and lime mortar construction and stands to a height of c.1m, orientation east-west (plate 6). No roofing material or openings survive. The corner of a detached building survives to the north of this to a height of c.1.4m and is surrounded by piles of rubble. The enclosure to the south of the house survives in reasonable condition and is defined by low banks planted with beech trees. First recorded on the tithe survey of 1839 as a single range of buildings, aligned north-south.

Recommendations

What remains of the former farmstead is in an unstable condition and the area is littered with piles of rubble which may relate to the original buildings. Any loose stones within the settlement enclosure should be left in-situ. The enclosure boundaries should be retained and maintained in their current state. The surviving walls of the former farm buildings should be maintained as stable ruins.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42052	Site name PEN-BANC FARM	NGR SN57086096
Site type FARMSTEAD	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Ruined farmstead of Pen-banc (plate 7), consisting of a house (PRN 42053), cowhouse (PRN 42054) pigsty (PRN 42055). The main range of buildings includes the house and cowhouse which are positioned at the centre of two enclosures (orientation north-south) and approached from the east by an L-shaped track. The detached pigsty lies to the east of the main buildings (orientation east-west) at the northern end of the easternmost enclosure. The western enclosure has been planted with conifers and was not visited. The southeastern enclosure is defined by a high (c.1.4m) hedged stone and earth bank with an elaborately built sheep crawl in the northwestern corner (plate 8). First recorded on the 1st edition OS map of 1891. See individual site description for more details.

Recommendations

This ruined farmstead is the best preserved of all those on the holding and its conservation should be prioritised. The ruined buildings are now unstable and infilled with rubble and overgrown with nettles. They should be consolidated and maintained as stable ruins. The enclosure in which they stand is in good condition and should be maintained in its current state. See individual site recommendations for more details.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42053	Site name PEN-BANC FARM	NGR SN57086096
Site type FARMHOUSE	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Ruined single-storey rubble and lime mortar farmhouse with a gabled roof, forming the southern part of the main range of farm buildings at Pen-banc Farm (PRN 42052). No roofing material survives. The walls stand almost to roof height and several of the internal features survive including the fireplaces in the northern and southern gable walls, small storage recesses in the walls and a possible oven in the south western corner. Accessed by a centrally positioned door in the eastern wall. The interior is overgrown and filled with rubble. A later 'lean-to' has been constructed against the western wall.

Recommendations

The walls of the farmhouse are becoming unstable and should be consolidated to prevent their immanent collapse. The site should be kept clear of intrusive vegetation and rubbish.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42054	Site name PEN-BANC FARM	NGR SN57086096
Site type COW HOUSE	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Ruined single-storey rubble and lime mortar cow house with a gabled roof, forming the northern part of the main range of farm buildings at Pen-banc Farm (PRN 42052). The wall to the west stands to a height of 1.2m. That to the east, stands to a height of 0.4m and is grassed over. The interior is infilled with rubble and rubbish and is overgrown.

Recommendations

The walls of the cow house are becoming unstable and should be consolidated to prevent their immanent collapse. The site should be kept clear of intrusive vegetation and rubbish.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42055	Site name PEN-BANC FARM	NGR SN57096096
Site type PIGSTY	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Remains of a former detached pigsty c.5m by 2m, to the west of the main range of farm buildings at Pen-banc farm. The footings survive to a height of 0.6m and are completely grassed over.

Recommendations

The footings of this building are now grassed over and in a stable condition. They should be maintained as stable ruins and kept clear of rubbish and intrusive vegetation.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42056	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN56716155
Site type QUARRY	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Infilled quarry, first recorded on the 1st edition OS map of 1891. It now survives as a shallow depression in a field to the south west of Croes Winter Farm.

Recommendations

The quarry has now been infilled and is completely grassed over. No specific management recommendations.

Management Category D	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42057	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN55636163
Site type FINDSPOT	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Site of a gold coin found by the owner in a small enclosure (former garden?) to the south of the farmyard at Croes Winter Farm. It was donated to the maid with whom he found it and its current whereabouts is not known.

Recommendations

No specific management conditions.

Management Category D	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42058	Site name HAFOD-HIR-UCHAF FARM	NGR SN55996113
Site type FARM BUILDING	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Two-storey rubble farm building with a gabled slate roof, consisting of a stables, cowhouse, coolhouse and garage. Forms the northern range of the farmyard at Hafod-Hir-Uchaf Farm. Orientation east-west. The openings have been modified but are uniformly headed with brick voussoirs. The building has recently been renovated, reroofed and repointed during its conversion to provide holiday accommodation.

Recommendations

The building has recently been converted to provide high quality holiday accommodation. This has been done in a way which is sympathetic to the original building and many of the original features have been retained.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42059	Site name HAFOD-HIR-UCHAF FARM	NGR SN55966112
Site type CART SHED	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Single storey, open fronted rubble cartshed with a gabled slate roof, forming the western side of the farmyard at Hafod-Hir-Uchaf Farm. The building has recently been renovated, reroofed and repointed during its conversion to provide holiday accommodation.

Recommendations

The building has recently been converted to provide high quality holiday accommodation. This has been done in a way which is sympathetic to the original building and many of the original features have been retained including a range of old farm equipment.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42060	Site name HAFOD-HIR-UCHAF FARM	NGR SN560611
Site type FARMHOUSE	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Fine, two-storey, west-facing, late nineteenth century dressed rubble farmhouse with a gabled slate roof. Forms the eastern side of the u-shaped arrangement of farm buildings at Hafod-Hir-Uchaf Farm (PRN 19426). Symmetrical design with a diamond shaped pattern of slates at the centre of the roof. The openings are headed with brick voussoirs. The building has recently been renovated, reroofed and repointed.

Recommendations

The farmhouse has recently been renovated and is in excellent condition.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42061	Site name CROES WINTER	NGR SN56646162
Site type CHURN STAND	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Stone churn stand, c.1m high by 1.5m wide on the roadside to the south of the farmyard at Croes Winter Farm (PRN 42029). It is now covered in grass.

Recommendations

The churnstand is now grassed over but is in a stable condition. It should be cleared and retained as an integral part of the Croes Winter Farm complex.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42062	Site name PLAS-Y-BRYNIAU FARM	NGR SN
Site type FARMHOUSE	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Site of the original farmhouse of Plas-y-Bryniau Farm. The site was not visited but the owner recalled that it survived as a shallow, rectangular depression at the corner of the field.

Recommendations

The site of the original farmhouse should not be ploughed. The platform on which it stood should be kept clear of rubble and vegetation.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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PRN 42063	Site name PLAS-Y-BRYNIAU FARM	NGR SN56406125
Site type STABLE	Period Post Med	Site Status

Description

Remnant of a former rubble-built stable block forming the northern end of the eastern range of farm buildings of Plas-y-Bryniau Farm. The walls to the north, south and west have been replaced and none of the original openings survive. It was first recorded on the 2nd edition OS map of 1906.

Recommendations

The surviving wall of the stable was not accessible, but if possible should be retained.

Management Category C	Visited by AJC	Visited On 19/10/00
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Map

Tithe Map, 1839, Tithe map and apportionment, Nantcwnwlle Parish

Tithe Map, 1843, Tithe map and apportionment, Llanbadarntrfeglwys Parish

Ordnance Survey, 1891, Cardiganshire Sheet XXNW1:10560, 1st edition

Ordnance Survey, 1906, Cardiganshire Sheet XXNW 1:10560, 2nd edition

Ordnance Survey, 1964, -, SN56S

Written Description

Thomas RG, 1928, Transactions of the Carmarthenshire Antiquarian Society, Vol.21 p.51

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 historic elements of the landscape.

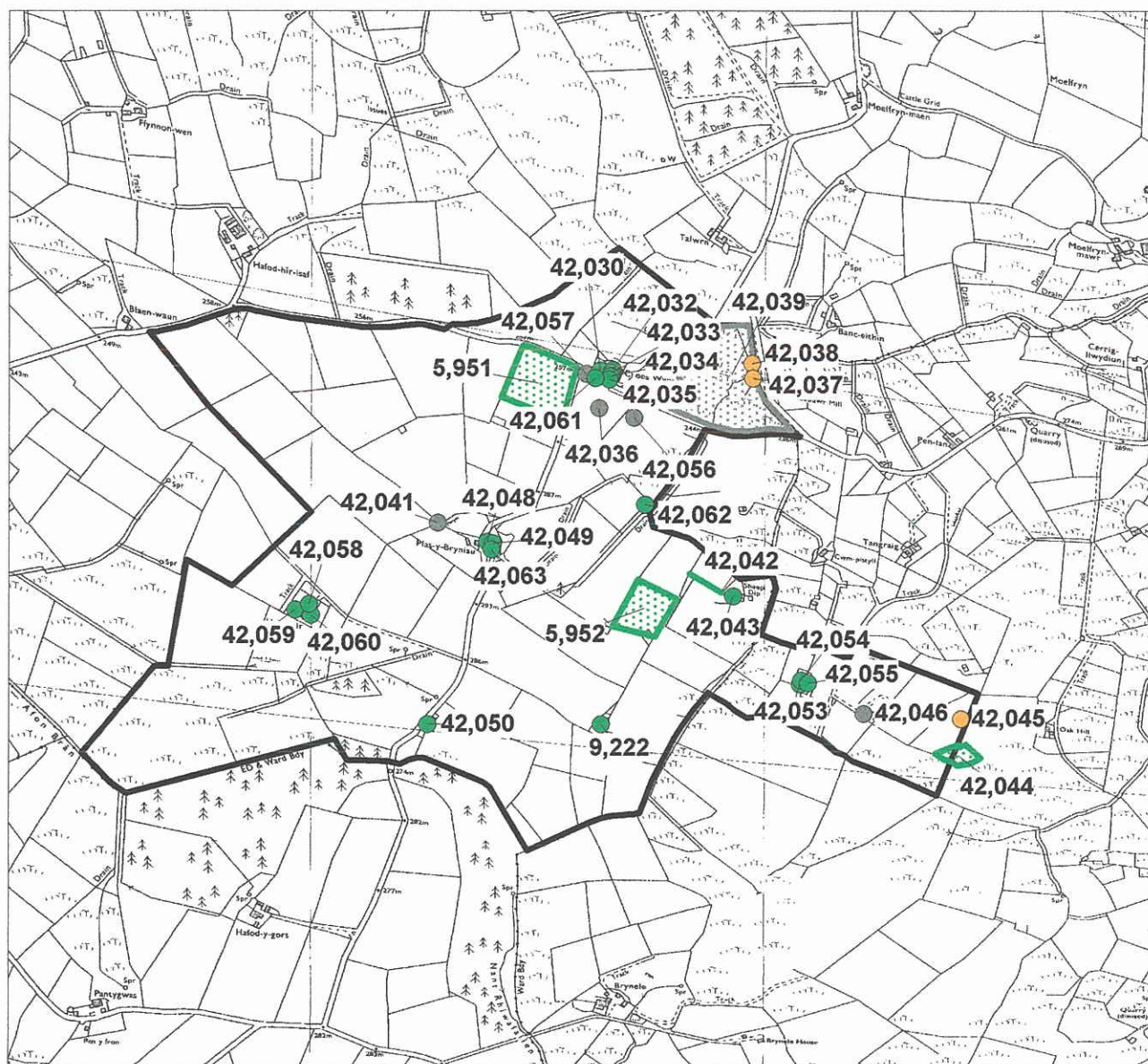
HGP - Register of Historic Gardens & Parks.

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 Farm Visit Report
Plas-y-Bryniau Farm
ACA Report No.2001/13
Map1
SN 56 SE

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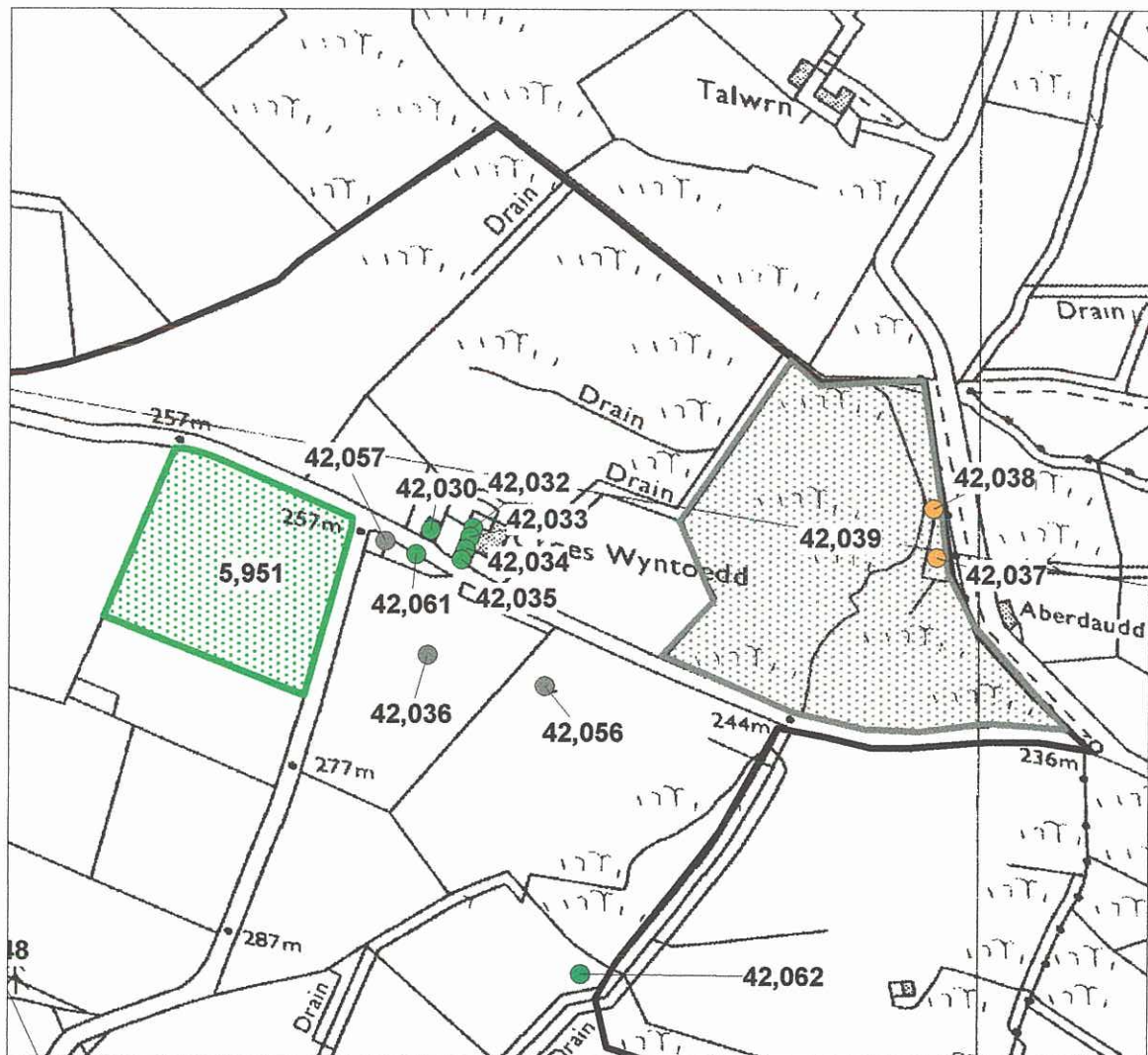
Scale 1:15000



Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report
Plas-y-Bryniau Farm
ACA Report No.2001/13
Map 2
SN 56 SE

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Scale 1:5000



Plates



Plate 1 - the barn and stables at Croes Winter Farm (PRN 42033 and 42034).



Plate 2 - the millpond at Croes Winter Farm (PRN 42037).

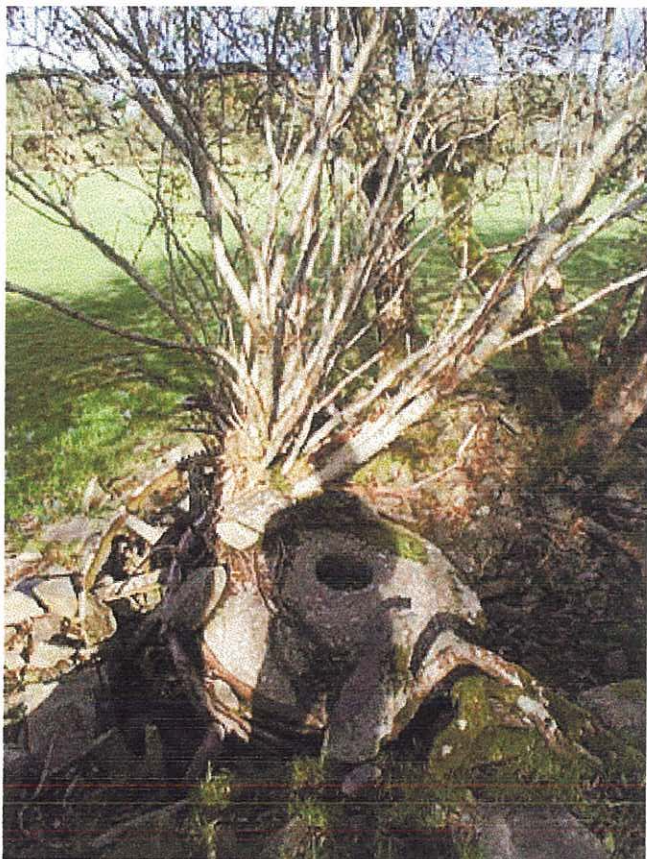


Plate 3 - the mill building and fittings at Croes Winter Farm (PRN 42038).



Plate 4 - the deserted farmstead of Cwm (PRN 42043).

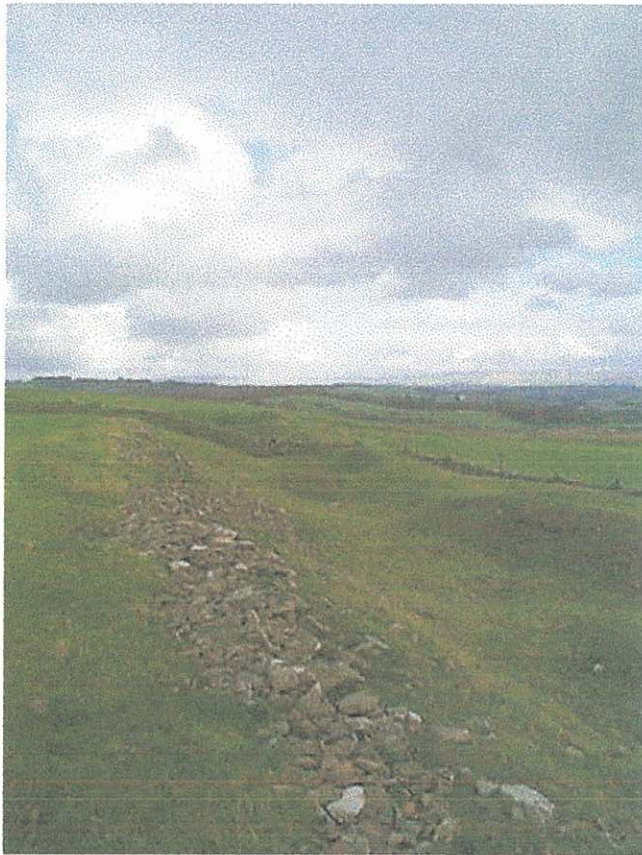


Plate 5 - mineral extraction (PRN 42044).



Plate 6 - rubble remains at Common-fynnedd-fawr ruined farmstead (PRN 42050).



Plate 7 - ruined farmstead of Pen-banc (PRN 42052).

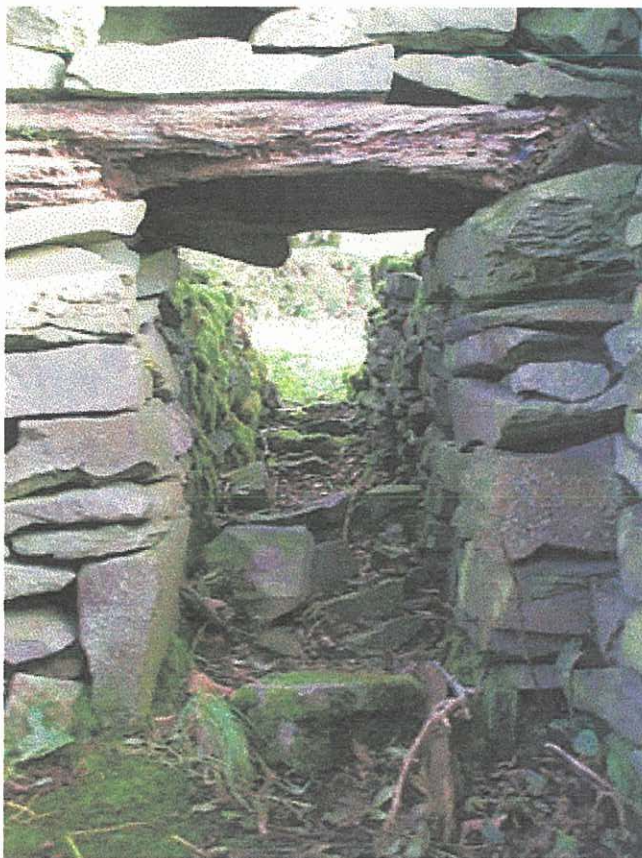


Plate 8 - sheep crawl at Pen-banc Farm (PRN 42052).

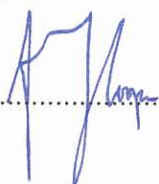
PLAS-Y-BRYNIAU FARM

PROJECT RECORD NUMBER 40435

JANUARY 2001


This report has been prepared by Anwen Cooper

Position Project Officer

Signature  Date 24/01/01

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

Position Principal Archaeological Officer (Curatorial)

Signature  Date 26/01/01

As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any comments you may
have on the content or presentation of this report