

Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report
Upper Cowsland Farm
W/13/2013

Report Number 2002/20

**Report prepared for
CCW**



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CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

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UPPER COWSLAND FARM
TIR GOFAL FARM VISIT REPORT

By

Alice Pyper

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Tir Gofal Application Number W/13/2013
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INTRODUCTION

This report is intended to provide a statement on the condition and recommended management of all known archaeological and historical sites and features on the 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.

Method Statement

The farm visit consisted of two phases.

Phase 1 was a rapid search of all readily available documentary, cartographic and published sources to try to understand the historical development of the farm and the wider landscape and to identify new sites of archaeological interest. The searches undertaken for this visit include information held in the regional Sites and Monuments Record, the relevant County Records Office and the National Library of Wales. New sites, or areas of interest were plotted onto a GIS-based map for use in the field and for the final report.

Phase 2 was a site visit to assess the extent, character and current condition of the archaeological and historical sites identified during the research phase, although because of constraints, recording is rapid, usually photographs and site notes, and some of the sites may not have been visited. The information gained during the visit has been used to assign the farm and its individual sites to a management category, which have determined the management recommendations for each site.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF FARM

Upper Cowsland Farm (PRN 44358) lies on the undulating countryside to the north west of Kilgetty. The farm consists of two holdings, the larger of the two is centred on the farmstead itself and extends down to a watercourse at its eastern limit. The smaller holding is situated to the north east of the farmstead separated only by one field. This arrangement has existed since the Tithe survey of Begelly of 1841. A right of way is provided through the intervening field. In total the farmstead is approximately 17 hectares with generally medium to small sized, regularly shaped fields. The farm boundaries are hedges; some overgrown and supplemented with post and wire and in some areas built on low stone banks.

The earliest documented indication of the farm appears on a map of the Picton Castle Estate dated at 1774 held at the National Library of Wales which shows the holding existing almost in its current form, although without the smaller holding to the north west. This map depicts the farmstead clearly, with three sets of buildings arranged around a rectangular farmyard, similar to the existing farm. Notably the building positioned on the west side of the farmyard is considerably shorter than the existing building (PRN 44364).

The Tithe map and apportionment of Begelly Parish (1841) shows the farm holding existing in its current form, with the farm boundaries corresponding largely to those evident today. At this time the farm was owned by Sir Richard Phillips and tenanted by William Webb.

The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888 (1:2500) records the first sign of mine workings which lie to the south of the farmstead on a neighbouring field. This includes an "Old Shaft", the remains of the short-lived Hacket colliery (PRN 23796) that was in production from approximately 1855 until 1856 and formed part of the Thomas Chapel group of collieries (Price 1982, p102). Within the Upper Cowsland holding is an "Old Engine House" (PRN 44362) and an additional structure within an enclosure (PRN 44520) which has been cut by the construction of the railway cutting.

The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map (1881) shows the farmstead, almost in its current form, with the barn to the west extended. The east barn also appears to have a small outshoot on the west side, which no longer exists. Between the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map and the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map (1907) the farmstead has changed little except for the addition of a couple of outshoots to either side of the west barn.

The construction of the railway did not take place until 1914 and opened to traffic in 1915 when the colliery was opened at Reynalton. However, the enterprise was not successful and in 1921 the Reynalton colliery was abandoned and the rails were sold off (Price 1982, p177).

The farm is currently owned by the Burchmore family who take a great interest in the historical aspects of the farm.

MAIN MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The main area of archaeological interest lie in the historic mine workings which are evident to the south east of the farm. These are a characteristic feature of this area where coalmining was an important element in the local history. This has been researched and documented by M. Price in "Industrial Saundersfoot" (1982).

Considering the local importance of the mine workings, it would be valuable to take this opportunity to undertake an archaeological assessment of the associated features. These elements also present a good opportunity to provide public or educational access.

The farm boundaries should be retained and managed in a sustainable manner.

Archaeological sites on the holding which require action are detailed below, for other management recommendations see the gazetteer of individual sites.

PRN 44359 - The Reynalton Railway Extension

The railway is a significant feature relating to the mining industry which is an important element in the history of this area. The vegetation should be cleared or thinned to a manageable and stable state to expose the remaining earthworks as a visible landscape feature.

PRN 44360 - Embankment and culvert

The vegetation on the embankment should be thinned or cleared and a management scheme introduced which will keep the vegetation in control. The levels of stock should be managed to minimize poaching which is currently a problem.

PRN 44361 - Stone bridge

The boundary of the farm falls short of the bridge. However a stone retaining wall is situated to the north of the structure on the west bank and this requires clearance of the intrusive vegetation and some consolidation of the masonry.

PRN 44362 - Site of Building

The remains of this building should be carefully cleared of intrusive vegetation by cutting back, and allowing vegetation to die back before removal. Any upstanding remains should be consolidated. Archaeological advice should be sought prior to works being undertaken.

PRN 44364 - Cow/Cart shed

The cow/cart shed requires attention to the severe structural faults in the south east corner as soon as possible. The roof, which is at least partly the cause of the problem, should be renewed and made fully watertight with enough overhang at the eaves to prevent rainwater washing down into the wall tops. These repairs should be undertaken using traditional materials and techniques. The historic internal floor surface and fittings should be retained and repaired using traditional materials.

PRN 44365 - Cow shed

This cow shed is in fair condition. Most of the structure is stable, however in some areas the masonry needs consolidating particularly the quoins at the north west corner and the stone jambs around the doorway. The roof has corroded in places and needs repairing or renewing in the near future. All repairs and maintenance should be carried out using traditional materials.

See gazetteer for detailed management recommendations.

KEY TO MANAGEMENT CATEGORIES

Category	Importance	Colour on map	Detail
Category A	Sites and Monuments of National Importance	Blue	Scheduled Ancient Monuments Grade 1 and 2* Listed Buildings
		Red	Other Sites and Monuments of National Importance Other Buildings Of National Importance
		Red Toning	Registered Parks and Gardens of Historic Interest
		Red Banding	Registered Landscapes of Historic Interest
Category B	Sites and Monuments of Regional Importance	Amber	Sites and Monuments of Regional Importance Grade 2 Listed Buildings and Other Buildings of Regional Importance
Category C	Sites and Monuments of Local Importance	Green	Sites and Features of Local Importance Buildings of Local Importance
Category D	Sites and Monuments of Unknown Importance	Brown	Sites and Features needing further investigation including damaged sites or sites with no physical definition

SITE AND AREA DESIGNATIONS

The following abbreviations are used in the gazetteer to refer to site and area status designations.

SAM Scheduled Ancient Monument

SAMs are notified under Section 1 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. The schedule of SAMs is maintained and administered by Cadw.

LB1, LB2* and LB2 Listed Buildings

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. Local Authorities are statutory consultees for listed buildings.

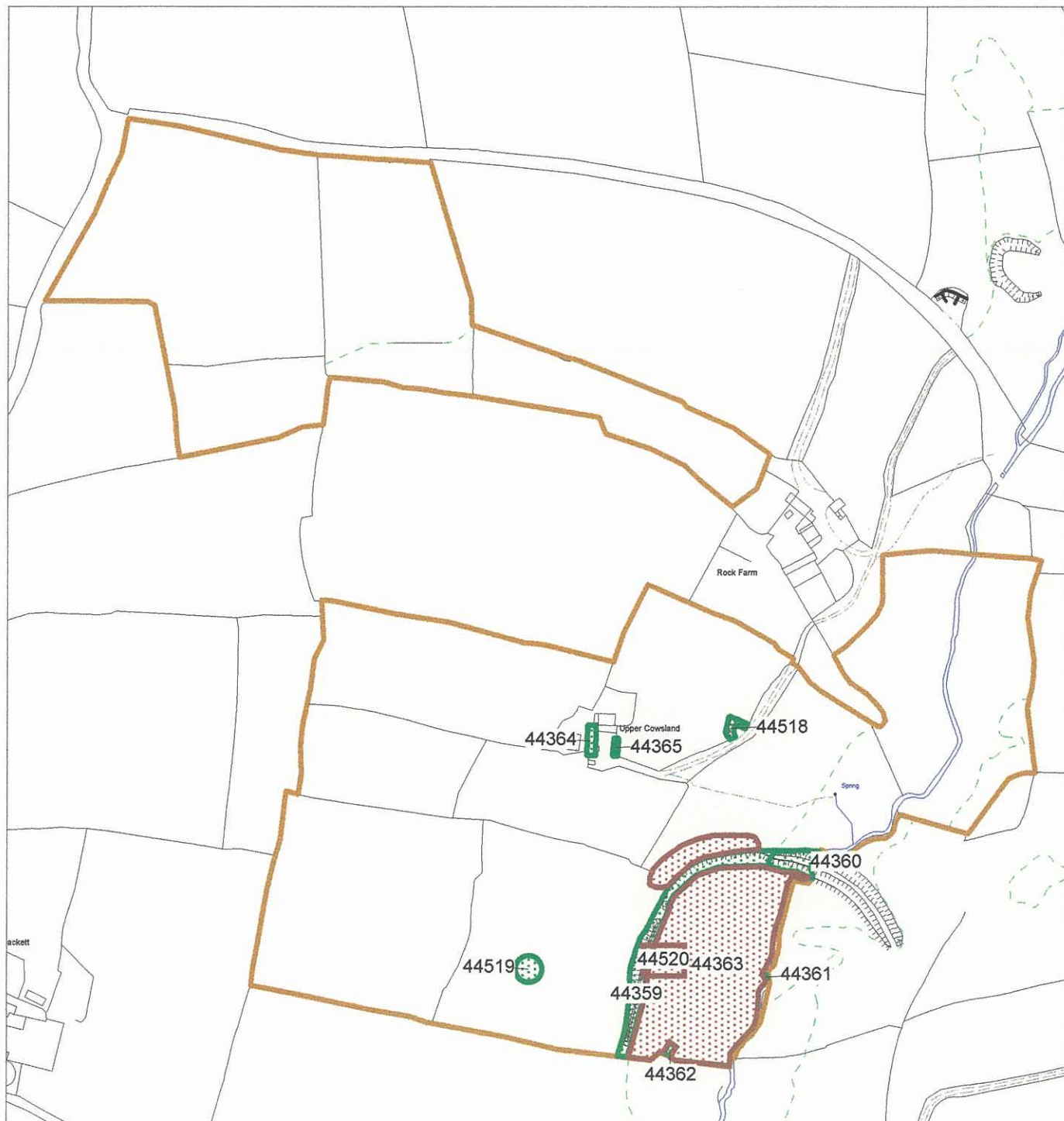
HLW Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales

Defined by the Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales, Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales: Part 2.1 Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest; Part 2.2 Landscapes of Special Historic Interest. The register is advisory only and has no statutory powers. The register was compiled by Cadw in partnership with the Countryside Council for Wales and the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)

HGP Register of Historic Gardens and Parks

Defined by the Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales, Part 1 Parks and Gardens. The register is advisory only and has no statutory powers. The register was compiled by Cadw in partnership with the Countryside Council for Wales and the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS)

Upper Cowsland Farm Tir Gofal Historic Environment Consultation
Countryside Council for Wales Reference Number W/13/2013
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GAZETTEER OF SITES AND MONUMENTS

PRN 23796 **Site name** HACKET & NEW HAYES COLLIERY **NGR** SN10160865

Site type COALMINE **Period** Post Med **Site Status**

Description

The Hacket and New Hayes Collieries were in operation for a limited time in the 1850's (although the Hacket pit was reputed to have earlier origins (Price 1982, p102)) and formed part of the larger Thomas Chapel group. The structures recorded on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888 (PRNs 44362 & 44520) were apparently associated with the Hacket colliery.

Recommendations

The extent of the Hacket and New Hayes collieries is currently undefined although the structures recorded (PRN 44362 and 44520) almost certainly relate to the Hacket colliery. See individual features for management recommendations.

Management Category * **Visited by** AMP **Visited On** 15/01/02

PRN 44359 **Site name** REYNALTON RAILWAY **NGR** SN10100862

Site type RAILWAY **Period** Modern **Site Status**

Description

The Reynalton railway extension was built during 1914-15 when the pit at Reynalton was developed. It is documented that the route of the extension followed the line of the contours to reduce costs. The route of the Reynalton extension can be traced in the fields to the south east of Upper Cowsland farm (plate 1). A cutting in the hillside extends in a north east direction for a distance of c. 110 metres from the Reynalton direction and gradually arcs to the south east in a large embankment over the stream. The cutting with battered sides is c 2-3 metres in depth and is overgrown and largely impenetrable.

Recommendations

The railway is a significant feature relating to the mining industry which is an important element in the history of this area. The vegetation should be cleared or thinned to a manageable and stable state to expose the remaining earthworks as a visible landscape feature.

Management Category C **Visited by** AMP **Visited On** 15/01/02

PRN 44360 **Site name** REYNALTON RAILWAY **NGR** SN10210866

Site type RAILWAY EMBANKMENT **Period** Modern **Site Status**

Description

The embankment is a very impressive feature, with high battered sides reaching approximately 8 metres in height. It appears to survive to its original height and although overgrown the route of the railway could be followed. There do not appear to be any remains of the railway other than this monumental earthwork, and the sale of the rails after the railway closed has already been mentioned. The stream has been culverted through the embankment in two iron riveted pipes c. 0.5m in diameter. Above the iron pipes is a smaller ceramic pipe c. 0.25. in diameter which is a later insertion. The embankment is currently quite overgrown with scrub and young trees and the south side is also quite heavily poached.

Recommendations

The vegetation on the embankment should be thinned or cleared and a management scheme introduced which will keep the vegetation in control. The levels of stock should be managed to minimize poaching which is currently a problem.

Management Category C **Visited by** AMP **Visited On** 15/01/02

PRN 44361

Site name

NGR SN10180859

Site type BRIDGE

Period Post Med

Site Status

Description

A finely constructed stone bridge connects the land on either side of the stream to the east of the farm holding. It has a low arch constructed with roughly dressed stone voussoirs c 1.10m high and 3.5m wide (plate 3). The bridge is angled across the stream in a north east - south west direction. It appears on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888/9 (1:2500) with a footpath which runs to Upper Cowsland Farm to the north west and to the old road to the east (now abandoned) which ran up to the New Hayes pit from the crossroads to the south. The 1st edition map also shows a field boundary to the east side of the stream which extended in a north east direction to the site of the old New Hayes colliery. This may indicate the route of a trackway which connected the New Hayes and Hacket collieries. It would seem that the bridge is a relic of the Hacket and New Hayes mining complex. The bridge although currently in a reasonable condition is becoming quite overgrown.

Recommendations

The boundary of the farm falls short of the bridge. However a stone retaining wall is situated to the north of the structure on the west bank and this requires clearance of the intrusive vegetation and some consolidation of the masonry.

Management Category C

Visited by AMP

Visited On 15/01/02

PRN 44362

Site name HACKET COLLIERY

NGR SN10110854

Site type ENGINE HOUSE

Period Post Med

Site Status

Description

The remains of a building can be seen just within the southern boundary of the farm. It is labelled on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888/9 as the "Old Engine House". From the mapping evidence the building is rectangular and orientated on a north east - south west axis. The site of the building is now engulfed in vegetation and has been at least partially fenced off. The extensive vegetation makes this site difficult to assess, however a large quantity of stone within a depression c. 4-5m in diameter and some upstanding masonry survive. This building is almost certainly associated with the Hacket colliery which was in operation in the 1850's.

Recommendations

The remains of this building should be carefully cleared of intrusive vegetation by cutting back, and allowing vegetation to die back before removal. Any upstanding remains should be consolidated. Archaeological advice should be sought prior to works being undertaken.

Management Category C

Visited by AMP

Visited On 15/01/02

PRN 44363

Site name

NGR SN10150860

Site type SPOIL TIP?

Period Modern?

Site Status

Description

The slopes to the east of the railway cutting which fall away to the banks of the stream and immediately to the north west of the railway line where it arcs to the east are disturbed with a great deal of irregularities in the soil profile. This area probably represents spoil tips associated with the construction of the railway.

Recommendations

This area should be excluded from any ground disturbing activities.

Management Category D

Visited by AMP

Visited On 15/01/02

PRN 44364

Site name UPPER COWSLAND

NGR SN10050875

Site type CART SHED;COW SHED

Period Post Med

Site Status

Description

To the west of the farmyard is a long rectangular combined cart and cow shed orientated on a north south axis (plate 5). Both buildings are constructed out of roughly hewn flat coursed stone with some quartz quoins and a corrugated iron pitched roof. The east elevation has evidence of a lime render, and the south gable end is rendered with concrete.

The cart shed situated at the south end is slightly higher than the cow shed to the north and appears to have been a later addition. In the east elevation is a large cart entrance which butts up to the gable wall of the cow shed. There are two storeys to the cart house, the upper floor is entered by a door in the west elevation which was presumably accessed from the higher ground level (now removed) or ramp. The 2nd storey of the gable wall also has a pitching window.

The cow shed is divided into three sections, the lower section is accessed by a doorway with a brick arch, possibly inserted. The interior of this section has a cobbled floor with a timber stall partition projecting from the cross wall. The middle section is accessed by a doorway with a long timber lintel in the east elevation and to the north is a small high window. Internally this section has a concrete floor and no internal fittings were observed. The northern section of the building has a doorway in the east elevation and a ventilation slit to the north. In addition the gable end has a small rectangular opening. The interior of this section was not seen.

The south end of the building (the cart shed) is suffering from structural damage. The west wall has a large bulge and in the gable end is a crack which runs from the 2nd storey to the ground. This may be caused by, and is undoubtedly exacerbated by the eroded corrugated iron roof on the west side. This is allowing water to permeate the masonry and wash out the mortar.

Recommendations

The cart shed requires attention to the severe structural faults in the south east corner as soon as possible. The roof, which is at least partly the cause of the problem, should be renewed and made fully watertight with enough overhang at the eaves to prevent rainwater washing down into the wall tops. These repairs should be undertaken using traditional materials and techniques. The historic internal floor surface and fittings should be retained and repaired using traditional materials.

Management Category C

Visited by AMP

Visited On 15/01/02

PRN 44365

Site name UPPER COWSLAND

NGR SN10070874

Site type COW SHED

Period Post Med

Site Status

Description

To the east of the farmyard is a long narrow cow shed, orientated on a north south axis. This is constructed out of roughly coursed rubble with a pitched corrugated iron roof (plate 6). The southern end of the building has been rebuilt on the south and west walls with breeze block.

The northern end is divided into two sections. The north section is very low in height due the construction of the building across the slope. It has a doorway in the north gable end, with a timber lintel and crumbling stone jambs. In the west elevation a blocked doorway is visible at the north end, another doorway is in use at the southern end. Internally the roof is constructed out of plank collar trusses, these do not appear to be original, there are seats for earlier timber trusses which can still be seen in the wall tops. The middle section of the barn was not inspected internally.

Recommendations

This cow shed is in fair condition. Most of the structure is stable, however in some areas the masonry needs consolidating particularly the quoins at the north west corner and the stone jambs around the doorway. The roof has corroded in places and needs repairing or renewing in the near future. All repairs and maintenance should be carried out using traditional materials.

Management Category C

Visited by AMP

Visited On 15/01/02

PRN 44518

Site name UPPER COWSLAND

NGR SN10150876

Site type QUARRY

Period Post Med

Site Status

Description

A quarry is situated to the west of the track to Upper Cowsland Farm. This probably provided the stonework for the construction of the track and the buildings. It is shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888/9.

Recommendations

The quarry should be kept clear and retained as a visible historic landscape feature.

Management Category C

Visited by AMP

Visited On 15/01/02

PRN 44519

Site name

NGR SN10010859

Site type SPOIL TIP?

Period Post Med

Site Status

Description

A low mound is situated in the field to the west of the railway. It is c. 10 m in diameter and no higher than 0.5m. It is probably the remains of a spoil tip.

Recommendations

This spoil tip should be retained as a visible historic landscape feature; no ground breaking activities should disturb the site.

Management Category C

Visited by AMP

Visited On 15/01/02

PRN 44520

Site name

NGR SN10110860

Site type BUILDING

Period Post Med

Site Status

Description

The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888/9 shows a building within a square enclosure which was presumably related to mining at Hacket. The 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1907 shows the building, although the enclosure has gone by this point. The building of the railway in 1914-15 almost certainly destroyed the upstanding remains of the structure. However some remains of the building and enclosure may survive as archaeological deposits to the east of the railway cutting.

Recommendations

Although the upstanding remains of this building were most likely removed by the construction of the railway, some archaeological remains may survive to the east of the railway cutting. Therefore no ground disturbing activities should take place in this area.

Management Category D

Visited by AMP

Visited On 15/01/02

REFERENCES

Map

- Estate Map, 1774, Picton Castle Estate Map of Cowsland and Hacket, NLW vol.88 map 121
Ordnance Survey, 1809, Original Surveyors Drawings, sheet 181
Ordnance Survey, 1819, Old Series, p79
Tithe Map, 1841, Tithe Map and Apportionment for the Parish of Begelly, -
Ordnance Survey, 1888, Pembrokeshire sheet XXXV.NW.6, 1st edition 1:2500
Ordnance Survey, 1890, Pembrokeshire sheet XXXV.NW, 1st edition 1:10560
Ordnance Survey, 1907, Pembrokeshire sheet XXXV.NW.6, 2nd edition 1:2500
Ordnance Survey, 1908, Pembrokeshire sheet XXXV.NW, 2nd edition 1:10560

Written Description

- Price MRC, 1982, Industrial Saundersfoot, p.102-3, 177, 220, Fig 12
B G Charles, 1992, The Place-names of Pembrokeshire Vol II, p.473

Plates



Plate 1 – the remains of the Reynalton railway (PRN 44359) looking towards the cutting.



Plate 2 – the north side of the embankment (PRN 44360) of the Reynalton railway line.



Plate 3 – the north side of the bridge (PRN 44361) which may have linked the Hacket and New Hayes collieries.



Plate 4 – the site of the old engine house (PRN 44362).



Plate 5 – the cart shed and cow shed beyond (PRN 44364).



Plate 6 – the cow shed (PRN 44365) to the east of the farmyard.

**UPPER COWSLAND FARM
TIR GOFAL FARM VISIT REPORT**

REPORT NUMBER 2002/20

March 2002

This report has been prepared by Alice Pyper

Position: Tir Gofal Archaeologist

Signature...*Alice Pyper*... Date...*28/3/2002*...

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...*Louise Austin*... Date...*28/03/02*...

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.