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Glangors W/11/2762

Tir Gofal Farm Visit Historic Environment Report



Glangors farmstead

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CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

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Glangors Tir Gofal Farm Visit Historic Environment Report

By

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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 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.

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 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 Geographical Information System based map for use during the field survey and for the final report.

Phase 2 was a farm visit to assess the extent, character and current condition of the archaeological and historical sites identified during the research phase. Due to time constraints recording is rapid and consists of photographs and sites notes. Some of the sites may not have been visited. The information gained during the visit has been used to determine their management recommendations.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF FARM

Glangors holding (Prn 47699) is situated approximately 1.5 km to the south east of Tregaron, on the west side of the Nant Cou valley, in the parish of Caron. The holding is approximately 27.5 hectares in size and incorporates undulating upland divided by a tributary of the Nant Fleinog. The farm was visited on the 3rd October 2002.

The holding of Glangors falls within the Upland Ceredigion Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest and has been characterised as part of the Historic Landscape Character Area: 109 Nant Cou and Nant Ochrgarreg.

The tithe map of this area shows a very different landscape to that which is observed today. The area occupied by the holding was tithe free and unenclosed. Just a single holding is indicated, named Eithin bach and occupied and owned by Thomas Jones. The nature of this farmstead, isolated within unenclosed land would suggest that it originated as a squatter settlement during the eighteenth century. Settlements of this kind were often built on unenclosed land, according to the tradition that if a cottage could be built in one night and have smoke coming from the chimney at daybreak, then the occupant was entitled to keep it as their own. Obviously these cottages were insubstantial by their nature, but were often rebuilt in more durable materials at a later stage. It is possible that the holding of Eithin-bach may relate to the modern farmstead of Glangors where the original cottage has been rebuilt to form the current farmstead of Glangors, which now consists of a farmhouse and an adjoining former cow shed.

The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1891 shows that further small dispersed settlements had sprung up during the middle of the 19th century, including the cottages of Gwar-drysgol (Prn 47700), Gwar-ffynon (Prn 47703), Red Gate (Prn 47704) and Bwlch-newydd (Prn 47702). The field pattern, which is still evident today, also appears to have been established by this time.

Glangors has a distinctive character, largely due to the nature of the dispersed historic settlements and small irregular fields which were established as a result of 19th century population growth. The field boundaries are largely stone and earth banks, with relic hedges upon them, although in some places these have been replaced with post and wire fencing.

MAIN MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Prn 47700 GWAR-DRYSGOL COTTAGE

The owners are anxious to prevent this building from deteriorating further and hope to be able to reuse it in the long term. This would be a very worthwhile undertaking. In order to stabilise the structure the walls need to be consolidated and a roof covering reinstated. However, before a roof is replaced it is advisable to consult with the local planning authority to check if planning permission is required.

In the short term the saplings, which are growing either within or in close proximity to the building, should be cut back and the stumps treated to prevent regrowth. The wall tops should also be capped or covered by a waterproof membrane to prevent further erosion of the mortar

bonding. Where the walls appear unstable it may be necessary to install a temporary buttress or prop.

It is hoped that the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) will be able to undertake a record of this building prior to any works being carried out. However, if this is not possible then alternative arrangements for a building record should be made. Please consult with Cambria Archaeology in advance of any works to this structure.

GAZETTEER OF SITES AND MONUMENTS

PRN	47700	Site Name	GWAR- DRYSGOL	Grid Reference	SN68605813
Site Type	COTTAGE	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

A cottage, named Gwar-drysgol on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps (1891 and 1906) survives as a roofless shell. The stone walls remain standing to roof height and the plan and many details are still visible. The cottage is aligned northeast – southwest along an adjacent trackway. The cottage and the associated structures are constructed in rubble with roughly hewn stone lintels over the openings and stone sills. Although much of the bonding has eroded out of the walls, there is evidence of lime mortar bonding and a render finish on the cottage. The remains of corrugated iron roofing sheets lie in the northeast extension to the cottage.

An enclosure and other associated structures also survive. To the northeast is an enclosure with an area 1.2 x 2 metres at the north end, which is lined or marked out with kerb stones. It is unknown what the function of this feature was. To the rear of the cottage is a pigsty and the remains of outbuildings or yards.

The cottage itself is a single cell structure, with the remains of a brick lined bread oven still in place at the northeast gable end. The cottage has a central doorway in the southeast facing elevation which has been partially blocked to create a window. Windows to either side of the doorway have also been partially blocked. An extension to the southwest gable end appears to be a cow shed, accessed by two doorways in the northwest facing elevation, one of which has been blocked.

Since the wall tops have become exposed to the elements much of the mortar bonding has washed out of the walls and they have become unstable. Of most concern is the northwest gable of the cowshed, which is beginning bow outwards. Saplings are also becoming established within the buildings and soon the roots will also destabilise the structure and the branches will dislodge stones on the wall tops.

Recommendations

The owners are anxious to prevent this building from deteriorating further and hope to be able to reuse it in the long term. This would be a very worthwhile undertaking. In order to stabilise the structure the walls need to be consolidated and a roof covering reinstated. However, before a roof is replaced it is advisable to consult with the local planning authority to check if planning permission is required.

In the short term the saplings, which are growing either within or in close proximity to the building, should be cut back and the stumps treated to prevent regrowth. The wall tops should also be capped or covered by a waterproof membrane to prevent further erosion of the mortar bonding. Where the walls appear unstable it may be necessary to install a temporary buttress or prop.

It is hoped that the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) will be able to undertake a record of this building prior to any works being carried out. However, if this is not possible then alternative arrangements for a building record should be made. Please consult with Cambria Archaeology in advance of any works to this structure.

Site Category C



Prn 47700 – the remains of Gwar-drysgol cottage and cowshed

PRN	47701	Site Name	YSGOLDY GORS- NEUADD	Grid Reference	SN69235803
Site Type	CHAPEL; SCHOOL ROOM	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1891 records this building as a chapel. According to records held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) it was built in 1854. It is now converted to domestic usage.

Recommendations

This building is used for domestic purposes, therefore it falls outside the Tir Gofal scheme.

Site Category

PRN	47702	Site Name	GWNDWN-MELYN; BWLCH NEWYDD	Grid Reference	SN69365784
Site Type	COTTAGE	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

A cottage called Bwlch-newydd is recorded in this position on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1891. On the later edition Ordnance Survey map of 1906 it has been renamed as Gwndwn Melin. The farmhouse and buildings form a continuous range orientated on a northeast – southwest axis.

A cow shed situated at the northeast end of the range is constructed with stone rubble walls and a corrugated tin roof. A large modern open sided shed has been erected adjacent to the buildings. The cow shed at Gwndwn-melyn appears to be in a stable condition and weatherproof condition.

Recommendations

The cow shed at Gwndwn-melyn should continue to be maintained in a weatherproof condition, and any further repairs should be carried out using traditional building materials.

Site Category C



Prn 47702 – cottage and cow shed of Gwndwn-melyn

PRN	47703	Site Name	GWAR- FFYNON	Grid Reference	SN68805823
Site Type	COTTAGE	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

The remains of a cottage, recorded on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps of 1891 and 1906, now forms a lean-to component to a large modern barn. The cottage, orientated on a northwest to southeast axis, survives in plan with stone walls reaching approximately 2 metres high. A large proportion of the northeast facing elevation has been rebuilt in breeze block. Retained within the early fabric are various features which indicate the form of the cottage and associated buildings. At the southwest end are two low doorways and an exterior paved causeway which suggest its earlier function as a cow shed. Within the centre section, a window opening with stone lintel and sill is preserved.

Gwar-ffynon is currently kept in a weatherproof and stable condition.

Recommendations

The remains of Gwar-ffynon, although heavily modified, retains a great deal of its early fabric and much could still be learnt about its history and earlier form. Therefore, the remains of the earlier building should continue to be retained in a weatherproof condition.

Site Category C



Prn 47703 – Gwar-ffynon now forms part of a larger farm building

PRN	47704	Site Name	LLIDIART-COCH; RED GATE	Grid Reference	SN68965853
Site Type	COTTAGE	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

Red Gate cottage is initially recorded on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1891. Its name might suggest that the cottage was associated with a toll gate, however no building is recorded on the tithe map of 1843 when tolls were still being collected. The cottage is still recorded on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1906 although the name has taken on its Welsh form, Llidiart-coch.

Today there are no upstanding remains of the cottage, although a slight break in the line of the adjacent trackway banks would indicate its location.

Recommendations

Although there are no visible remains of the cottage there are likely to be sensitive archaeological remains surviving in this location. Consequently this area should be protected from any ground intrusive activities and the feeding of livestock in this location should be avoided.

Site Category D

PRN 47705 **Site Name** **Grid Reference** SN68915855

Site Type ENCLOSURE **Period** Post
Medieval

Description

A square enclosure is indicated on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps of 1891 and 1906. The outline of the enclosure is still visible and the southwestern bank survives in part with overgrown hedgerow trees lining the top of the bank. Within the interior of the enclosure various trees have grown up including birch, holly, oak and blackthorn.

Recommendations

The remains of this enclosure should be maintained as a visible historic landscape feature.

Site Category C



Prn 4470 – the remains of an enclosure are still clearly visible

SITE AND AREA STATUS GLOSSARY

The following abbreviations are used in the gazetteer to refer to site and area status. These schedules, lists and registers are compiled and maintained by Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments.

SAM - Scheduled Ancient Monument

This is a statutory designation. Scheduled Ancient Monuments are protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

LB1, LB2* & LB2 – Listed Building 1, 2* & 2

This is a statutory designation. Listed buildings are protected under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

HLW - Historic Landscapes of Wales

Historic Landscapes of Wales are defined by the *Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales: Part 2.1 Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest and Part 2.2 Landscapes of Special Historic Interest*. The register is advisory and has no statutory powers.

PGW - Parks and Gardens of Wales

Parks and Gardens of Wales are defined by the *Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales: Part 1 Parks and Gardens*. The register is advisory and has no statutory powers.

REFERENCES

Cadw: Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales

Upland Ceredigion Historic Landscape Character Area: 109 Nant Cou and Nant Ochrgarreg Valleys

Ordnance Survey, 1891. Cardiganshire sheet XXVII.NW. 1st edition 1:10560.

Ordnance Survey, 1906. Cardiganshire sheet XXVII.NW. 2nd edition 1:10560.

Tithe Survey and apportionment, 1843. Caron parish.

Glangors

Tir Gofal Historic Environment Consultation
 Countryside Council for Wales Reference W/11/2762
 Cambria Archaeology Reference PRN 44130
 National Grid Reference SN68835815

- Farm Boundary
- Historic Landscape Character Area

Site Category A - National Importance

- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Grade 1 and Grade 2* Listed Buildings

- Sites and Buildings of National Importance without a statutory designation

Registered Landscapes of Historic Interest

Site Category B - Regional Importance

- Sites and Buildings of Regional Importance including Grade 2 listed buildings

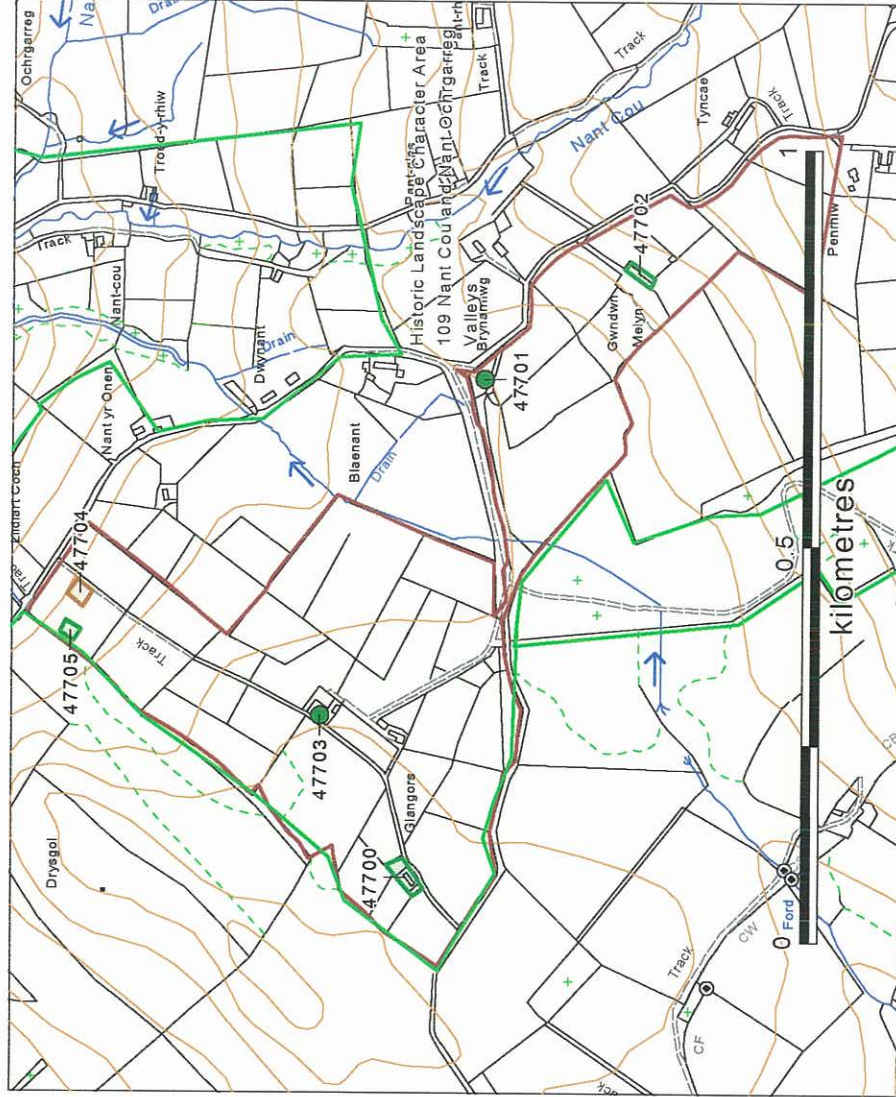
Site Category C - Local Importance

- Sites and buildings of Local Importance

Site Category D - Unknown Importance

- Sites requiring further investigation and sites with no physical definition

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