

FEB 2003



CEFN-GWEIROG W/11/2793

Tir Gofal Farm Visit Historic Environment Report



Report No. 2003/36

Report Prepared for:
Countryside Council for Wales

CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

REPORT NO. 2003/36
PROJECT RECORD NO. 44165

February 2003

Cefn-gweirog
Tir Gofal Farm Visit Historic Environment Report

By

Alice Pyper

Cambria Archaeology is the marketing name of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited.

The report has been prepared for the specific use of the client. The Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd can accept no responsibility for its use by any other person or persons who may read it or rely on the information it contains.

ARCHAEOLEG CAMBRIA
Ymddiriedolaeth Archaelolegol Dyfed Cyf
Neuadd y Sir, Stryd Caerfyrddin, Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA19 6AF
Ffon: Ymholiadau Cyffredinol 01558 823121
Adran Rheoli Trefladaeth 01558 823131
Ffacs: 01558 823133
Ebost: cambria@acadat.com Gwefan: www.acadat.com

CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY
Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited
The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF
Tel: General Enquiries 01558 823121
Heritage Management Section 01558 823131
Fax: 01558 823133
Email: cambria@acadat.com Website: www.acadat.com

The Trust is both a Limited Company (No. 1198990) and a Registered Charity (No. 504616)
CADEIRYDD CHAIRMAN: B.C.BURNHAM, MA PHD FSA MIFA. CYFARWYDDWR DIRECTOR: E G HUGHES BA MIFA

CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Method Statement	3
General Description of farm	4
Main Management Recommendations	4
Gazetteer of Sites and Monuments	6
Site and Area Status Glossary	41
References	41
Farm Map 1	42
Farm Map 2	43
Requirements for General Photographic Surveys of Buildings	45
Quality Assurance Report	46

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 (Prn 45811)

Cefn-gweiriog is a farm with outstanding archaeological and historical interest. Of great significance is the complex of lead mining and processing features and structures which survive in good condition. The lead ore treatment complex which consists of lead processing buildings is a scheduled ancient monument (SAM Cd 126). However, there are many other features associated with mining which lie outside of the scheduled area, but which are also considered to be of great importance. Indeed a fascinating aspect of the mine is the survival of all the features relating to each of the separate processes involved in winning lead ore and converting it to a finished product and which are represented in a coherent complex.

The mine is particularly well documented, it is clear that what started out as a venture showing great promise later came to very little; it is recorded that only 24 tons of lead ore were sold and that operations were suspended in 1890 after only nine years of production (Burt, Waite, Burnley, n.d., p8). The mine structures are recorded as being built in 1881, and appear to have been built to a high standard of craftsmanship. This is plain from the surviving remains; even the smallest structures have been constructed with a high level of detailing.

In other respects the farm holding is of great archaeological potential, quite apart from the mining interest. The holding consists of over 233 hectares, which includes a large area of unenclosed upland. This hill grazing was not investigated during the farm visit, however there are records for this area which include a settlement site and sheepfolds, (Prns 9271, 9270), structures associated with an earlier era of farming the landscape. There is undoubtedly a high potential for further archaeological remains on the upland, which lie unrecorded at present, especially in the light of the extensive archaeological remains which lie only just outside the farm boundary. These include a group of bronze age round barrows and a group of structures which relate to a medieval or post medieval settlement, sites which lie just to the south of the farm boundary.

MAIN MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The old lead mining complex of Bryndyfi or Neuadd-llwyd presents a wonderful opportunity to promote public access and education. It is a discreet complex of structures which allow a readily understandable exploration of different processes involved in lead production. However, in its current condition the lead mine complex presents a significant safety concern to the farmer who has recently noticed an increased number of visitors to the mine. There are undoubtedly areas of the mine which are currently unstable and also open structures and mine shafts which are a hazard to the farmers own family, as well as visiting enthusiasts.

Bearing in mind the significance of the structure and its potential for providing an insight into the late 19th century mining industry, a programme of works to consolidate and make safe those areas of concern should be actively encouraged and promoted. This would undoubtedly be a sizable programme, and would require the services of a specialist who could provide advice on appropriate methods for stabilizing ruinous buildings; Cadw would be able to advise on this subject and should be consulted regarding any works undertaken within the scheduled area.

It is recognized that a programme of this nature would be a long term venture. In the short term there are various measures which could be undertaken which would help to delay further deterioration of these structures. These include general site clearance and controlling vegetation growth, this would largely mean cutting ivy at its roots to prevent further growth, but allowing it to die in place.

GAZETTEER OF SITES AND MONUMENTS

PRN	5442	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68339339; SN68499374; SN68729387
Site Type	TRAMWAY	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

A tramway extends from the levels and shafts to the north east of the farm holding (Prn 45785) and follows the contour around the north west side of the hill. To the north west of the farmhouse Neuadd-llwyd (Prn 7104) the tramway was carried on a bridge over the trackway which served the farmhouse. There are no remains of the bridge except a stone revetment which stands approximately 2 metres high. The course of the tramway is visible as a narrow, level linear cut around the hillside. To the south west of the reservoirs (Prn 45787) there is a rock cutting through the hill which takes the tramway in a south east direction to the mine processing works (Prn 5445). The route of the tramway is not so visible at the southern end, however it presumably ended at the ore bins on the north side of the mine building (Prn 45788).

For the most part the tramway is a clearly visible linear feature approximately 2.5 metres wide, although the central part of the tramway is overgrown with brambles and bracken.

Recommendations

The tramway should continue to be maintained as a visible historic landscape feature, as described above, the central section of the tramway is rather overgrown with brambles. However, this section of the tramway now falls within an area of the holding which has recently been sold.

Site Category A



Prn 5442 – a rock cutting for the tramway to serve the mine processing complex

PRN	5445	Site Name	NEUADD-LLWYD LEAD MINE;BRYNDYFI;NYADD LLWYD	Grid Reference	SN68289340
Site Type	METAL MINE-LEAD	Period	Post Medieval	Site status	SAM Cd 126

Description

The lead mine is a very fine and well preserved example of lead ore treatment complex. The scheduled area comprises two semi-circular stone lined hoppers adjacent to a stone flagged platform (Prn 45788), below is the ore crushing building and the adjacent wheel pit (Prn 45789). Below this building is a complex which includes a further building (Prn 45791), four buddles (Prn 45792), a second wheel pit (Prn 45793) and a series of settling tanks (Prn 45794). To the west of the scheduled area is a stone and brick outfall (Prn 45797).

Recommendations

As denoted by its scheduled status, this site is of national importance. It is a very well preserved example of the mine processing works, and demonstrates a high quality of construction and engineering in its layout. The site would ideally lend itself to interpretation and educational/open access. However, the site in its current condition is a danger to the public and is understandably a cause of concern for the owner. In the long term, ideally the site should be subject to a programme of conservation which would entail stabilizing dangerous areas and putting gratings over such features as the wheel pits and open levels and shafts.

In the short term, there are various measures which could be undertaken which should help to improve the visibility of the site and also slow the process of deterioration. Please see individual site descriptions and recommendations. As a general point the erosion of the masonry around the buddles and settling tanks could be alleviated by moving the location of sheep feeders away from the scheduled area, a situation which is currently encouraging stock from congregating on the monument.

Site Category A



Prn 5445 – a general view of the mine processing complex

PRN	7104	Site Name	NEUADD- LLWYD	Grid Reference	SN68639381
Site Type	FARMHOUSE	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

The ruinous remains of the farmhouse Neuadd-llwyd is situated in the lee of a rocky outcrop to the southwest of the mining remains (Prn 45785). The house formed part of the farm of Neuadd-llwyd as recorded on the tithe map, a separate entity entirely, both in tenancy and ownership, to Cefn-gweirog. The tithe apportionment (1845) records the tenant as Edward Richards and the landowner the Reverend Lewis Charles Davies (of Ynys hir).

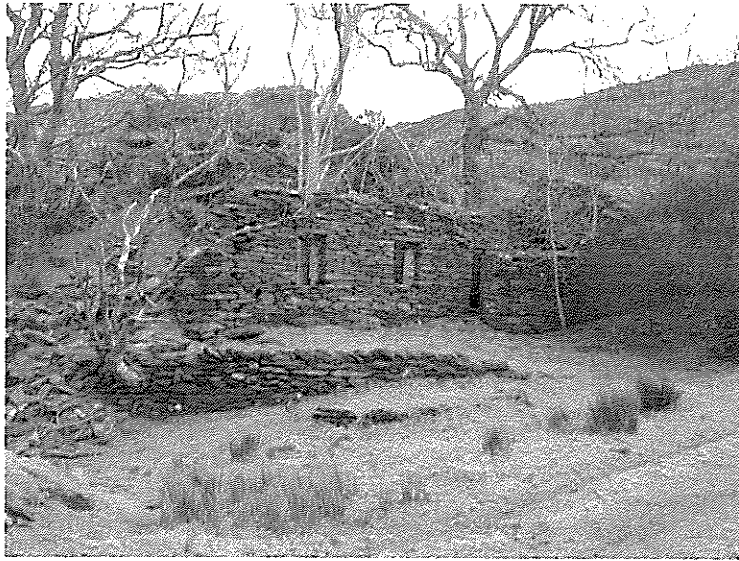
The house has been identified as a good example of a single internal fireplace house, of sub-medieval origin (early 16th century). It is thought the house was originally a hall house, which at a later stage had a fireplace inserted into the hall creating a small lobby from the entry, (Jenkins & Jones, 1998, p241, 246.)

The house is in a deteriorating condition, and the fireplace has now collapsed. It is apparent from the leaning of the external walls, in particular the east gable and the northeast corner, that they are structurally unstable, probably due to a large mature tree which is growing in close proximity to the walls.

Recommendations

As described above, this building is of historical significance, and ideally efforts should be made to delay its deterioration and try to stabilize the remains. The most important aspect of this work would be to cut back tree growth, particularly where young saplings are becoming established within the masonry walls and in the immediate vicinity. There are also a couple of mature trees growing both within the building itself and also in close proximity to the exterior. Ideally these should also be removed if this could be achieved without causing further damage to the building. In addition the masonry would benefit from consolidation and capping using an appropriate lime based mortar.

Site Category B



Prn 7104 – the remains of Neuadd-llwyd farmhouse

PRN	9270	Site Name	OGOF MORRIS	Grid Reference	SN68959299
Site Type	LONG HUT ; SHEEPFOLD?	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

A rectangular structure is recorded on the mountain at a place named Lluest yr Afon-ddu. It is recorded as a sheepfold on the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1886. It is possible it had origins as a long hut, a simple one or two roomed rectangular building which may have been occupied as a cottage or animal shelter. As this structure was not visited during the farm visit it is difficult to be more specific and the condition of this structure is unknown.

Recommendations

Any remains should be maintained, and damaging activities which may cause erosion should be avoided from this area.

Site Category D

PRN	9271	Site Name	TAREN NEUADD- LWYD; LLUEST YR AFON-DDU	Grid Reference	SN68539314
Site Type	LLUEST	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

The remains of a dwelling with an associated field parcel on the streamside are recorded on both the first and second edition Ordnance Survey maps (1886 and 1904). The character of the recorded settlement, in conjunction with the place name 'Lluest yr Afon-ddu', indicates that the site is probably a post-mediaeval lluest type settlement – a shepherding dwelling found in the Cambrian Mountains area, particularly in Ceredigion (Cadw 2002, p12).

This site was not visited as part of the farm visit and its current condition is unknown.

Recommendations

Any remains of this settlement should be maintained, and damaging activities which may cause erosion should be avoided from this area.

Site Category D

PRN 19528 **Site Name** **Grid Reference** SN68589352

Site Type QUARRY **Period** Post
Medieval

Description

A quarry is recorded in this location on the first and second edition Ordnance Survey maps (1886 & 1904). The extraction of stone from this area, in close proximity to the reservoirs (Prn 45787) suggest that the material was used in the construction of the dams associated with lead ore treatment works at the Bryndyfi lead mine.

This quarry was not seen during the farm visit and its current condition is unknown.

Recommendations

Any remains of this quarry should be maintained as a visible historic landscape feature and not infilled.

Site Category C

PRN 19567 **Site Name** **Grid Reference** SN68379339

Site Type QUARRY **Period** Post
Medieval

Description

A quarry is recorded in this location on the first and second edition Ordnance Survey maps (1886 & 1904). The extraction of stone from this area, in close proximity to the Bryndyfi lead mine (Prn 5445) suggest that the material was used in the construction of the lead ore treatment works.

This quarry was not seen during the farm visit and its current condition is unknown.

Recommendations

Any remains of this quarry should be maintained as a visible historic landscape feature and not infilled.

Site Category C

PRN	25818	Site Name	YNYS MINE;YNYSTUDUR MINE;YNYSTY- DOR;YNYSTYDOR;YNYS	Grid Reference	SN68109310
Site Type	METAL MINE- LEAD	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

An area of mine working is visible only 300 metres to the south west of the treatment works at Bryndyfi. A level clearly penetrates the natural hill slope with a vertical mine shaft at it the eastern extent. The mine shaft has been subject to some investigation by friends of the farmer, and it is allegedly in excess of 130 feet deep. To the west of the level is the remains of a spoil tip some 2-3 metres high. A trackway leads from these workings in a north easterly direction towards the lead ore treatment works (Prn 5445).

This area of workings is currently grazed. The level itself has a number of fairly mature trees growing within it, otherwise the workings are largely grass covered at present with some gorse and substantial areas of bracken taking over during the later months of the year. The vertical mine shaft is situated above a field boundary to the east and is currently unfenced with heather, grass and bracken growing at its edge.

Recommendations

The farmer is understandably concerned about the safety problems posed by the exposed mine shaft and proposes to fence off the immediate area around the shaft. This would appear to be the most prudent course of action. The rest of this area should preferably be maintained in its current condition and left to be lightly grazed by sheep.

Site Category C



Prn 25818 – a level penetrating the hillside

PRN	45432 45785	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68699385
Site Type	LEVEL	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

To the north east of the farm holding is an extensive level which is indicated both by an extensive level mouth entrance and series of depressions and shafts which lead in a southerly direction into the hillside. The level mouth is constructed with two masonry walls to either side, standing approximately 1 metre high with horizontal capping stones. The entrance into the level is currently obscured by gorse to either side and a large holly tree. There are two shafts which define the southern limit of the level workings, both are fenced off, the northern most of the two has saplings growing out of the shaft edges. The southern most of the two shafts has been used for burning rubbish.

Recommendations

The exposed mine shafts are undoubtedly a cause for concern for the farmer who has undertaken to fence them off. This has caused one of them to become quite overgrown which is an unwelcome side effect of this action. However, in the light of the safety concerns posed by the shafts this appears to be the most satisfactory short term solution. Perhaps in the longer term however, enquiries could be carried out into the feasibility of fixing a grating over the shaft entrance, which would also be a more effective solution to the question of safety.

Site Category A



Prn 45785 – the level mouth is served by the tramway Prn 5442

PRN	45833 45786	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68369357
Site Type	MAGAZINE	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

A small square building is situated 50 metres to the northwest of the reservoirs (Prn 45787). The building is constructed in stone, with three walls remaining. It stands to approximately 2.2 metres at its highest point, the north gable end. It appeared to have an entrance on the east side. The internal walls are marked by a scar or horizontal recess at approximately a metre in height. It is presumed that this may have housed some kind of shelving. The building is marked on both the first and second edition Ordnance Survey maps (1886 & 1904) and the plan of the Brydyfi or Neuadd-Ilwyd Mine (1882) identifies it as a Powder Magazine.

The building appears to have lost much of its bonding matrix and the wall tops and gable appear very loose.

Recommendations

The building, although ruinous appears to be in a reasonably stable state, although areas of the wall tops are loose. Ideally in order to prevent its further deterioration the building should be consolidated and repointed using an appropriate lime base mortar.

Site Category A



Prn 45786 – the powder magazine associated with the lead mine Prn 5445

PRN	45834 45787	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68419352
Site Type	RESERVOIR	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

Up the hill to the north east of the lead ore treatment complex are the three reservoirs which provided the head of water to power the water wheels. The two upper most are the larger at around 40 metres by 45-50 across. The remains of the lower reservoir are represented by a damp wooded depression. The water is held by large turfed over revetment dams. The sluices are still visible and in some cases are still carrying water, finely constructed with stone lining and stone slab caps.

The two upper reservoirs and dams appear to be in a good and stable condition. The lower of the reservoirs is somewhat obscured by tree growth and has in the past been used as a dump.

Recommendations

The reservoirs and revetment dams should continue to be maintained in their current condition. The lower reservoir should be cleared of rubbish and left open. This area should be monitored to remove any trees which may pose a threat, by falling, which may damage the sluices and the dam wall. If resources allow, it would be preferable to fell those trees in the immediate area of these structures.

Site Category A



Prn 45787 – the middle of the three reservoirs serving the mine Prn 5445

PRN	45435 45788	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68319339
Site Type	PLATFORM	Period	Post Medieval	Site Status	SAM Cd126

Description

This platform is situated at the upper most extent of the lead ore treatment works. This area is defined as a paved area enclosed by walls to the north west and south east which are approximately 2 metres high, it is unclear whether these walls survive largely at full height, although to the west they have degraded a little. At the north east end are two semi-circular ore bins, which survive largely intact although the northern one has lost a supporting lintel over the front opening.

The enclosing walls to this area appear to be relatively stable, although the tops appear to be uncapped. The interior has a considerable amount of debris and general rubbish.

Recommendations

This area should be cleared of debris and rubbish. However, it is clear that this area has been used for dumping machinery for many years and within the material there may be historically important artefacts, which may or may not relate to the mine workings. Indeed during the farm visit a drive shaft with a couple of fly wheels was identified along with a wrought iron picket gate which appears to match that still *in situ* at SN67989330. Therefore it is recommended that there is an archaeologist present during the clearing process to identify those remains which should be retained. Please inform Cambria Archaeology when these works are to be carried out.

Otherwise the structure should be maintained in its current condition. It is recommended that those branches which overhang the south east wall are also cut back to prevent them dislodging stones along the wall top.

Site Category A



Prn 45788 – two ore bins situated above a paved platform.

PRN	45836 45789	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68299337
Site Type	WHEEL PIT	Period	Post Medieval	Site Status	SAM Cd126

Description

The wheel pit is situated adjacent to the south east wall of the crushing mill. The wheel pit is constructed in stone with large stone slabs which skirt around the ledge. It is approximately 12 metres long and 2 metres deep.

The wheel pit appears to be in a structurally stable state, however the interior has become very overgrown with ivy, which obscures much of the internal stonework. The northeastern end is also largely obscured due to a large amount of general debris which has been tipped into the pit.

Recommendations

The open wheel pit is obviously of some concern to the farmer, who has had to retrieve stock that have fallen into it. In order to make it safer he has fenced the open side off.

The ivy, which is growing within the pit, should be cut at its base to prevent its further spread and the roots should be treated to prevent regrowth. In the short term the ivy should be left to die back in place, as its removal at this stage would probably cause more damage to the stonework. In the longer term, ideally the ivy should be removed and a programme of consolidation should take place to stabilize the masonry. This would involve repointing using an appropriate lime based mortar.

Site Category A



Prn 45789 – the wheel pit adjacent to the crushing mill Prn 45790

47681
PRN 45790 **Site Name** BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD **Grid Reference** SN68299338
Site Type CRUSHING MILL **Period** **Site Status** SAM Cd126

Description

The crushing mill is situated along the northwest side of the wheel pit. In the north west gable end is a round window high in the wall in the south east gable there is a tall arched window rising from the external ground level and a small window in the apex. The building still stands to full height although its roof has long since gone and the wall tops are beginning to degrade quite seriously.

Internally the building is completely empty, all the machinery workings appear to have been removed. However traces of machinery fixtures remain imbedded in the walls, for example the stubs of two large beams remain at floor level. The main areas of instability appear to be the northwest gable wall, which is leaning inwards, and the southwest wall where various areas of stonework have collapsed. An opening at ground level has lost its supporting lintel and the stonework above is cracking and collapse appears likely, some areas of internal facing have been lost. Although many areas look under immediate collapse it appears from the notes and recollections of the Cadw field monument warden that these same areas were threatening collapse some 15 years ago. The other major problem is ivy growth which has become well established and engulfed the south east gable wall almost entirely. There is also a substantial sapling growing at the foot of the wall.

Recommendations

The crushing mill appears to have been reasonably stable over the past few years. However, the condition of the fabric is in decline and without remedial works large parts will inevitably collapse. In the short term the ivy which is engulfing the south east gable wall should be cut at ground level and the roots should be treated to prevent regrowth. The ivy should then be left in place to die as removing it, without a programme of consolidation at the same time, would probably cause further damage and would be potentially dangerous. The sapling, which grows at the foot of this gable, should also be cut down and roots treated to prevent regrowth.

In the longer term the building should be subject to a programme of consolidation. The advice of a structural engineer should be sought to identify the best means to stabilise the building.

Site Category A



Prn 45790 – the crushing mill, little survives of the internal workings

PRN	47682 45791	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68279339
Site Type	MINE BUILDING	Period	Post Medieval	Site Status	SAM Cd126

Description

It has been suggested that the function of this building was a store or jigger shed (Protheroe Jones, 1992-3), and it appears to show evidence of different phases of construction. It consists of three walls which survive to full height. It appears the fourth side to the south west was always open. The entrance in the northwest gable end has a central doorway which has lost its lintel resulting in the collapse of some masonry above.

Recommendations

This building appears to be reasonably stable, however like the crushing mill (Prn 45788) without some intervention the fabric will inevitably deteriorate.

In the short term the vegetation should be controlled and ivy cut at ground level. It should then be left to die in place. Ideally the whole building should undergo a programme of repair and restoration using appropriate materials.

Site Category A



Prn 45791 – a mine building of unknown function; possibly a store or a jigger shed?

PRN	47683 45792	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68269339
Site Type	BUDDLES	Period	Post Medieval	Site Status	SAM Cd 126

Description

Below the mine building (Prn 45792) there are four buddles, constructed out of stone and approximately 0.3 metre deep. The northern most buddle which is most accessible is quite degraded and has lost the definition of the stone revetted sides. A tree grows out of the centre of the southern buddle.

Recommendations

Ideally the location of the sheep feeders should be moved away from the mine complex, as it appears that the sheep are congregating on some areas of the site, such as the buddles, and causing some erosion. The site should continue to be lightly grazed in order to prevent further vegetation growth.

Ideally the tree in the southern most buddle should be cut down to ground level and the roots left in place and treated to prevent regrowth. This should be carried out with utmost care to prevent damage being sustained to the masonry structures.

Site Category A



Prn 45792 – a system of four buddles, with interconnecting sluices

PRN	47 684 45793	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68279338
Site Type	WHEEL PIT	Period		Site Status	SAM Cd 126

Description

To the south, adjacent to the buddles (Prn 45793), is a wheel pit which widens out part way up. The wheel pit appears to be in structurally sound condition, although a close inspection was not carried out. A large mature tree has grown up at the east end of the wheel pit and now appears to be dying off. A further younger sapling is also growing up in this are.

Recommendations

The wheel pit appears to be in reasonable condition. However, trees growing in the masonry could potentially cause damage to the structure. Trees growing in this area should ideally be cut back at ground level and the roots treated to prevent regrowth. Care should be taken with cutting down and removal in order to prevent any damage to the structure.

The regrowth of young saplings in this area should be monitored and cut back on a regular basis.

Site Category A



Prn 45793 – the wheel pit which provided power for the buddles

PRN	47685 45794	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68259338
Site Type	SETTLING TANKS	Period		Site status	SAM Cd126

Description

At the lower end of the mine are a series of 18 rectangular settling tanks, divided up by low masonry walls approximately 0.4 metre high. Each tank is roughly 3 x 4 metres with interconnecting sluices from side to side in an east-west direction. The dividing walls survive at their best to the south but have almost entirely been degraded at the northern end. There also appears to be only one capping stone surviving which indicates the full height of the dividing walls.

The whole area of the settling tanks has become wooded with fairly mature but spindly trees. There is evidence that these trees are disturbing the masonry remains.

Recommendations

In the short term the trees should be left in place, however the situation should be carefully monitored and if any appear unstable and likely to fall they should be cut back at ground level and the roots left in place. The stumps should be treated to prevent regrowth.

If there is the opportunity for consolidation works to be undertaken then the trees should ideally be cut down. This should be carried out with great care to avoid damaging the fragile dividing walls of the settling tanks.

Site Category A



Prn 45794 – a series of 18 settling tanks, rather overgrown with trees.

PRN	45795	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68249341
Site Type	OFFICES	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

To the north of the lead ore treatment complex is a building, which is identified on the 1882 Plan of Bryndyfi, lead mine as the mine offices. The building is L-shaped. The main office is situated on a west facing bank, it has a slightly off-centre door with flanking windows to either side which are repeated on the first floor. To the south is a continuous one storey wing with just a wide centre doorway with a yellow brick arch. Both parts of the building are roofless shells, although the walls still stand to almost full height and the interior fittings have been removed.

The eastern section, which projects to the rear of the building, is one-storey unit with a fairly new corrugated iron roof. This section is currently being used by the farmer as a store.

Recommendations

This building forms an important part of the mine working complex and demonstrates another aspect of the processes which took place. The low level building to the side of the main house is thought to have been a secure store for the finished product; lead.

Ideally the building should be consolidated before the wall tops begin to degrade further.

Site Category A



Prn 45795 – the mine complex offices

PRN	45796	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68259344
Site Type	TY BACH	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

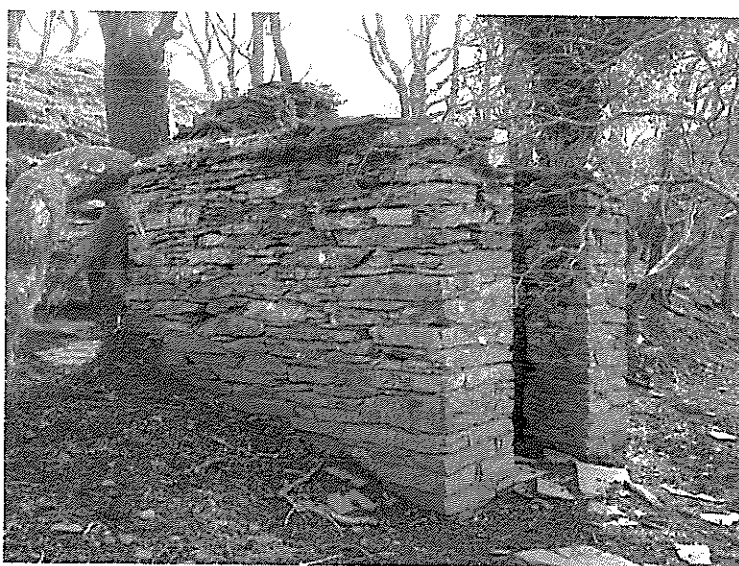
A small stone built ty bach is situated at the end of a small trackway which leads to the north of the mine office (Prn 45795). The building has no roof and the supporting lintel over the doorway has collapsed.

There is some ivy growth encroaching on the rear gable wall.

Recommendations

The ivy should be cut at ground level and left to die in place.

Site Category B



Prn 45796 – the ty-bach, built to serve the mine offices

PRN	45797	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68249337
Site Type	OUTFALL	Period	Post Medieval	Site Status	SAM Cd 126

Description

To the west of the lead ore treatment complex is a masonry outfall. At its western end is a yellow brick arch over the outfall. This brick arch has partially collapsed due to tree growth over the cappings which appear to have loosened the stonework and brickwork.

Recommendations

The trees which are growing on the top of the outfall should be cut back at ground level and the roots treated to prevent regrowth. Care should be taken to prevent further growth of intrusive woody vegetation which may cause further damage to this structure.

Ideally the brick arch should be consolidated and stabilised to prevent further deterioration of the structure.

Site Category A



Prn 45797 – the outfall from the mine processing complex

PRN	45798	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68199334
Site Type	CULVERT	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

A culvert channels the water from the leat (Prn 45799) under a series of large stone slabs to provide a bridging point.

Some of these stone slabs appear to have become dislodged or have possibly fractured.

Recommendations

Ideally the stone culvert should be repaired using appropriate materials similar to existing.

Site Category C



Prn 45798 – the culvert and leat exiting the mine processing complex

PRN	45799	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68239337; SN68199334; SN68159329
Site Type	LEAT	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

A linear channel off approximately 100 metres has been cut to direct the waste water which issues from the outfall (Prn 45797) away from the lead ore treatment works.

Recommendations

Maintain as a visible historic landscape feature.

Site Category B

PRN	45800	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68389348; SN68379340; SN68309337
Site Type	LEAT	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

The course of a leat can be faintly traced from the third, lowest reservoir which runs in a southerly direction to feed the water wheel (Prn 45789). It survives as a shallow depression in the turf sward.

Recommendations

Maintain as a visible historic landscape feature.

Site Category A



Prn 45800 – the head of the leat below the reservoirs Prn 45747

PRN	45801	Site Name	TYN Y NANT; TY NANT	Grid Reference	SN67959320
Site Type	COTTAGE	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

The location of a cottage is recorded on the tithe map of 1848 and continues to be recorded on the first and second edition Ordnance Survey maps of 1886 and 1904. It is named as Ty-y-nant and Tynant.

There are few upstanding remains which survive of this cottage although there are some low masonry walls which are probably remnants of the cottage or its associated enclosure.

This area is currently used as a location for several sheep feeders and is subject to a great deal of animal traffic which is not beneficial for the archaeological remains.

Recommendations

Although this obviously is a very convenient place to feed sheep, this action is causing some erosion to the remaining stone walls of the old cottage site. It would be preferable if an alternative area could be found in which to feed sheep to prevent any further damage to the masonry remains.

Site Category C



Prn 45801 – the site of Ty'n y nant cottage.

PRN	45803	Site Name	TYN YR HELYG	Grid Reference	SN67899233
Site Type	COW SHED	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

Set within a small stone walled enclosure is a long building arranged on an east-west orientation across the hill slope. There are two sections of building in plan; the upslope section is roofless and the walls are degraded to an approximate height of 1 metre. The down slope section of building appears to have been a cow shed with two doorways in the south elevation and a single central doorway in the north. It has a ventilation slit high in the west gable end. This section of the building is still roofed with corrugated iron, although the iron sheeting is corroded and some sheets have been lost.

The remains of a pigsty are visible at the lower end of the building, although the walls have degraded to almost ground level.

Recommendations

The farmer hopes to replace the roof on the lower section of the building. This action is to be welcomed and will help ensure its long term survival and usefulness. Before any works are to be carried out it is advised that a photographic record of the building should be carried out, this could be done either by the farmer or the Tir Gofal Project Officer, please see the attached guidelines.

The farmer proposes to cover the building in slate, this will be an appropriate material for the reroofing and any further consolidation of the masonry should be carried out using an appropriate lime based mortar.

It would also appropriate to cut off some of the overhanging branches of adjacent trees to prevent further damage being caused to the structure.

Site Category C



Prn 45803 – the cow shed at Ty'n yr Helyg

PRN	45804	Site Name	TY'N YR HELYG	Grid Reference	SN67899232
Site Type	BARN?	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

Opposite the cottage and cowshed (Prn 45803) is a small one storey building. The gable walls stand almost to full height, however the north wall is almost completely collapsed.

Recommendations

The remains of this building should be retained in as stable a condition as possible. Any intrusive vegetation which begins to establish itself within the masonry, or within close proximity to the building should be cut back.

Site Category C



Prn 45803 – the remains of a barn at Ty'n yr Helyg

PRN	45805	Site Name	LLWYN WALTER	Grid Reference	SN67859288
Site Type	COTTAGE; FARM BUILDING	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

The remains of a cottage and an adjoining farm building are being used as a location for sheep feeding. A new roof of corrugated iron is covering the building and some areas of the building have been built up with breeze block. At the south gable end is a substantial fireplace, which apparently has a bread oven although this could not be seen during the farm visit due to a store of breeze blocks.

The remains of a pigsty are also visible to the north of the building, although the walls are much degraded and stand no higher than 0.5 metre high.

Recommendations

The building is currently in a stable condition having recently been repaired and reroofed. It should continue to be maintained as existing.

Site Category C



Prn 45805 – the cottage and animal shed at Llwyn Walter

PRN	45806	Site Name	CEFN GWEIROG	Grid Reference	SN67599313
Site Type	FARMHOUSE	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

The farmhouse is currently occupied by the farmer.

Recommendations

No management recommendations apply.

Site Category C

PRN	45807	Site Name	CEFN GWEIROG	Grid Reference	SN67599315
Site Type	COW SHED	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

To the north of the farmhouse is a low one-storey stone built cow shed, roofed in slate. It is currently in good condition.

Recommendations

Maintain in current condition.

Site Category C

PRN	45808	Site Name	CEFN GWEIROG	Grid Reference	SN67599315
Site Type	BARN	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

A hay barn with open sides stands adjacent to the cow shed (Prn 45808). The slated roof is supported on six square, stone piers. The piers have been encased in a cement render which is beginning to flake off. Otherwise the building appears to be in good condition.

Recommendations

Maintain as existing.

Site Category C

PRN	45809	Site Name		Grid Reference	SN68059360
Site Type	COTTAGE	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

A cottage is recorded in this location on the tithe map of 1848 and the first and second edition Ordnance Survey maps of 1886 and 1904. This site was not visited as part of the farm visit and its current condition is unknown.

Recommendations

Any remains of this settlement should be maintained, and damaging activities which may cause erosion should be avoided from this area.

Site Category D

PRN	45810	Site Name	BRYNDYFI; NEUADD LWYD	Grid Reference	SN68319340
Site Type	MINE BUILDING	Period	Post Medieval		

Description

A small building is situated adjacent to the platform and ore bins (Prn 45788). It appears to have been only one storey high; most of the gable, which contains a fireplace, still survives at the north east end. It seems the building would have either been an office or perhaps a site hut for the mine workers.

Recommendations

This building should be consolidated, to prevent further collapse of the external walls. The fencing materials and other items which have been left within and around the building should be removed and stored elsewhere.

Site Category A



Prn 45810 – the remains of a small building.

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

Surface plan of Bryndyfi or Neuadd-lwyd Mine, 1882.

Burt, R, Waite, P & Burnley, R. n.d. *The Mines of Cardiganshire*.

Jenkins, G H. & Jones, I G (ed). 1998. *Cardiganshire County History, Vol 3. Cardiganshire in Modern Times*.

Ordnance Survey, 1886. Cardiganshire sheet II.SW, 1: 10560


Ordnance Survey, 1904. Cardiganshire sheet II.SW, 1: 10560

Parish tithe map of Llanfihangel Geneu'r Glyn, Ysgubor y Coed Township 1847





Parish tithe apportionment of Llanfihangel Geneu'r Glyn, Ysgubor y Coed Township 1845

Protheroe-Jones, R. *Metal Mines Project 1992-1993*


Cefn-gweirog, Map 1
Tir Gofal Historic Environment Consultation
Countryside Council for Wales Reference W/11/2793
Cambria Archaeology Reference PRN44165
National Grid Reference SN67809324

 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 Parks and Gardens of Historic Interest
-  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

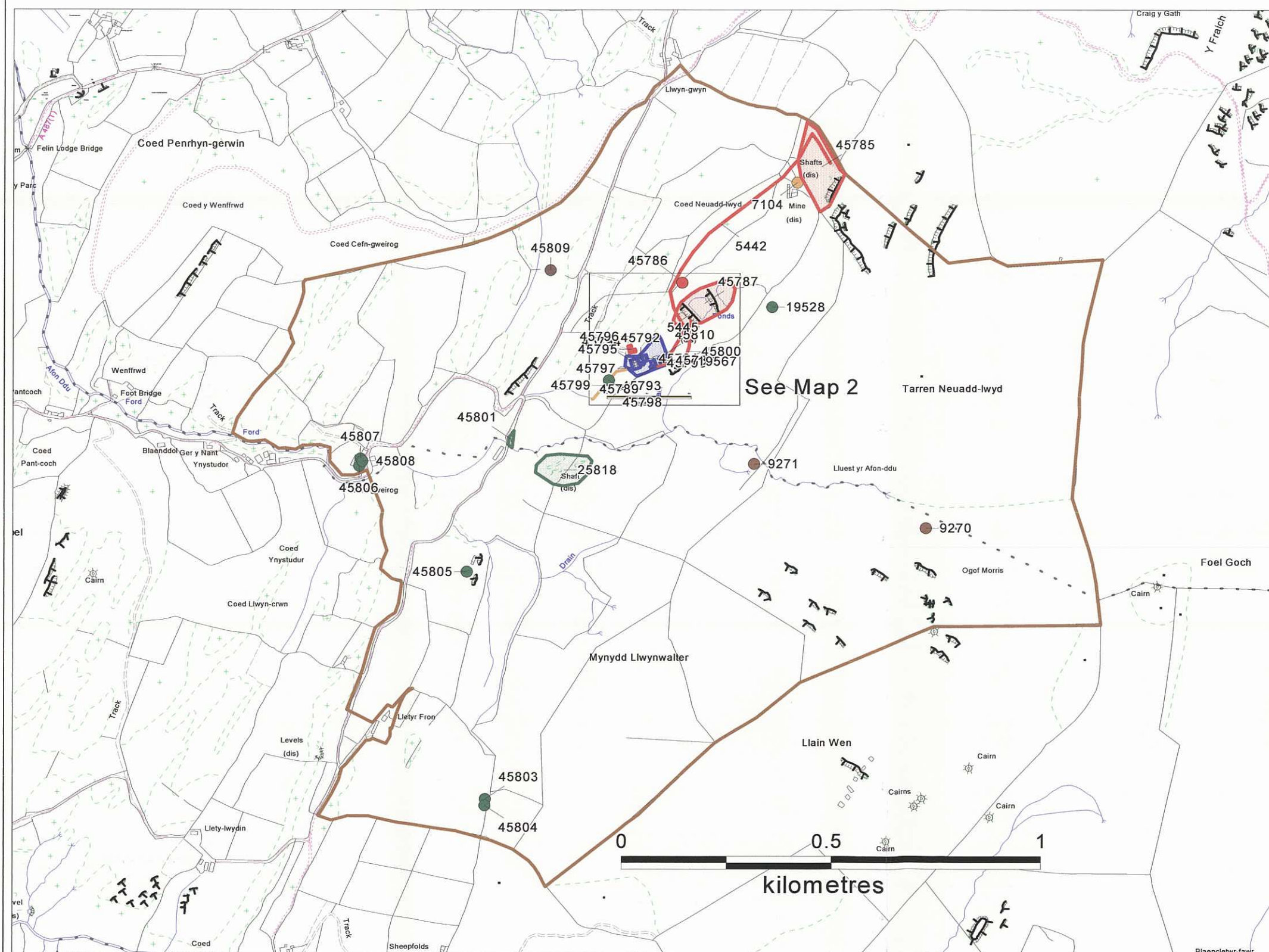
-  Sites and buildings of Local Importance

Site Category D – Unknown Importance

- Sites requiring further investigation and sites with no physical definition

This map is reproduced from the Ordnance Survey map by the National Assembly for Wales with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown copyright.

All rights reserved. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.
Licence number: GD272825G



Cefn-gweirog, Map 2


Tir Gofal Historic Environment Consultation

Countryside Council for Wales Reference W/11/2793


Cambria Archaeology Reference PRN44165


National Grid Reference SN67809324


 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 Parks and Gardens of Historic Interest




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

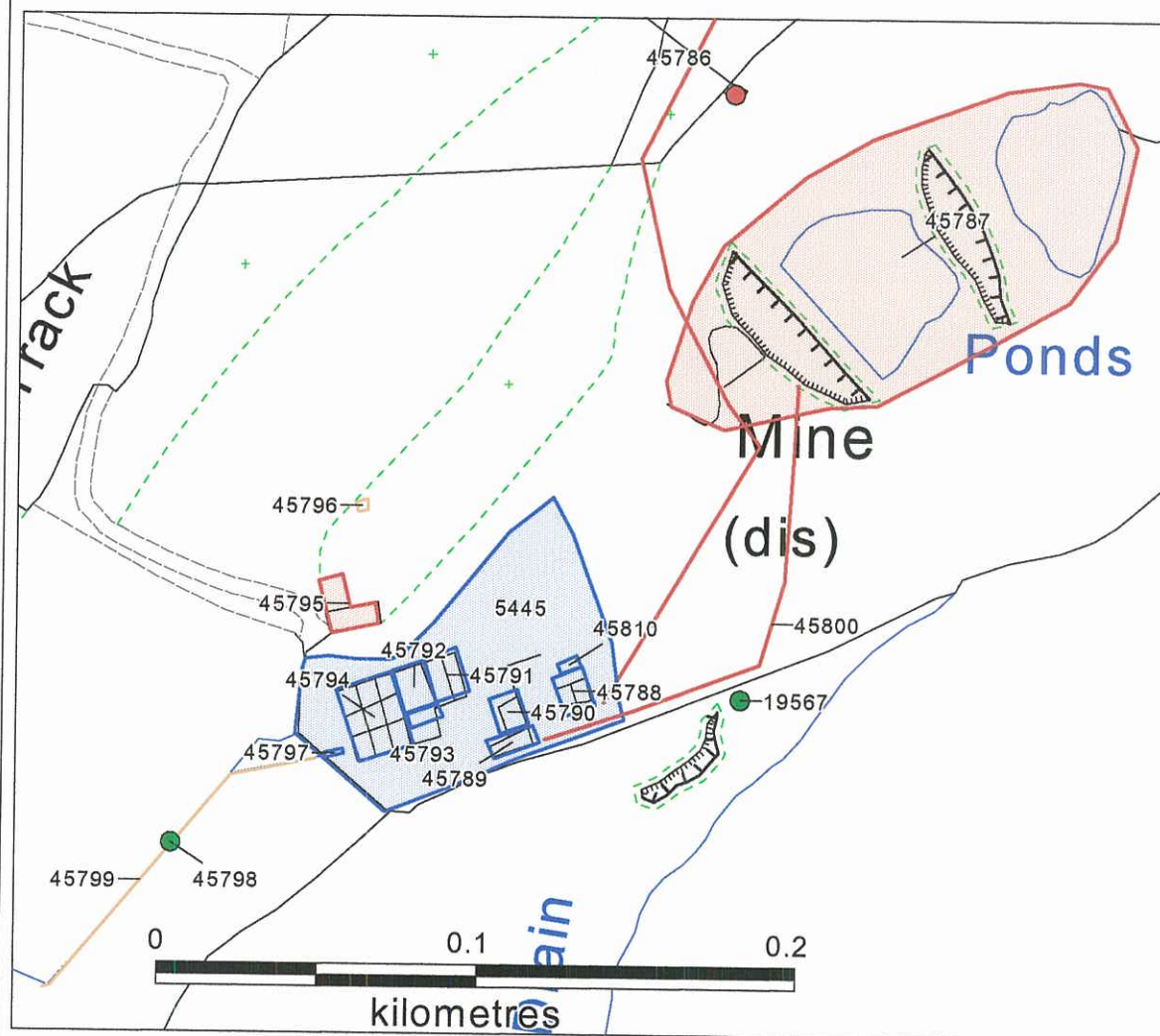
Site Category D - Unknown Importance

 Sites requiring further investigation and sites with no physical definition

This map is reproduced from the Ordnance Survey map by the National Assembly for Wales with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown copyright.

All rights reserved. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.

Licence number: GD272825G



Tir Gofal Traditional Buildings

Requirements for General Photographic Surveys of Buildings

The purpose of the survey is to produce a photographic record of the building prior to any demolition, alterations or renovation being started, as well as recording any fixtures, fittings or features which come to light during the works. This survey may be the only record of the original form of the building available for future reference. The survey will then be referenced within the Regional Site and Monuments Record for Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire and Ceredigion (held and managed by Cambria Archaeology), and deposited with the National Monument Record in order that the information is publicly available for study and reference.

Photographs should be taken using 35mm format colour print film (preferably Kodak or Fuji). ASA 200 film is a good standard for most light conditions but ASA 400 should be used where light conditions are poor. 36 exposure film should be used in all cases and at least one whole film must be exposed. Alternatively, a digital camera may be used. Please contact Cambria Archaeology for further information on the quality of digital image required.

Photographs should be taken of all exterior and interior wall elevations which are affected by the proposed works together with photographs of the interior roof detail where this is altered. Features of particular interest (e.g. obvious differences in wall makeup, windows and doors whether blocked up or not, fireplaces, timber framing) should also be fully photographed. If available a scale, of noted measurement, should be placed within any detailed shots but this is not essential.

A plan of the building is also required to record the direction in which each of the photographs has been taken. Architectural drawings can be used where available or a sketch plan can be produced. Location reference numbers on the plans should be copied onto the backs of the prints together with brief descriptive details of the location. If using a digital camera this information should be used to name the photographs.

A copy of the survey should be provided to Cambria Archaeology, The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, SA19 6HU either directly or via the Countryside Council for Wales Tir Gofal Project Officer.

**CEFN-GWEIROG
W/11/2793**

REPORT NUMBER 2003/36

March 2003

This report has been prepared by Alice Pyper

Position Archaeologist (Tir Gofal)

Signature Alice Pyper Date 24th March 2003

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

Position Principal Archaeologist (Curatorial)

Signature Louise Austin Date 26/03/03

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