



# **Penlan**

**W/12/2666**

## **Tir Gofal Farm Visit Historic Environment Report**



**PENLAN FARMSTEAD**

Report No. 2002/85

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CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

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Penlan  
Tir Gofal Farm Visit Historic Environment Report

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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 Systems 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 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**

Penlan farm comprises the farmstead of Penlan to the north of the holding, with undulating regular open fields to the south and to the east the land rises to a commanding viewpoint where Pen y Gaer Hillfort (Prn 3963) is situated. In a wooded valley, which extends from the farmstead of Penlan in a southerly direction, is situated a small cottage site Clyn byr (Prn 45742) shown on the tithe map of Llanginning (1840). The historic farmstead of Penlan survives although the old farmhouse (Prn 45741) has been demolished and superseded by an early 20<sup>th</sup> century house situated alongside the farm track to the south west. The farm buildings are shown on the tithe map of Llanginning (1840) and still survive in varying states of preservation.

## **MAIN MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Prn 45737 STABLE; COW SHED**

In the short term, the building should be maintained in as stable a condition as possible. In the longer term this building could potentially be restored and reused.

Intrusive woody vegetation which is growing within the masonry or building itself should be cut back and the roots treated to prevent regrowth. The wall tops should be consolidated and capped to prevent further water penetrating the wall core and eroding the masonry bonding. In the event of the building undergoing further restoration works it is advised that a photographic record should be carried out, before and during the works being carried out.

### **Prn 45738 BARN**

This building would also be a worthwhile restoration project especially considering the owner is keen to undertake the repair and maintenance of the building. The slate roof requires urgent repairs before water ingress begins to damage the masonry structure. The stonework should be repointed using lime mortar.

## GAZETTEER OF SITES AND MONUMENTS

<b>PRN</b>	3963	<b>Site Name</b>	PEN Y GAER	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN25992083
<b>Site Type</b>	HILLFORT	<b>Period</b>	IRON AGE		

### Description

Although there is little indication of the hillfort on the ground, there are probably sensitive archaeological deposits surviving below ground level. It seems likely that the current field boundary to the south and west may indicate the line of the defensive bank and ditch; indeed the existing boundary banks may well be the remnants of the ramparts.

### Management Requirements

The site of the hillfort is currently under permanent pasture and appears to be under no threat with the current management regime. Any renewal of the fencing in this area should ideally cause as little disturbance as possible, using the existing fence line and post holes where possible. Please consult with Cambria Archaeology if this is being considered. Any ground disturbing activities in this area should be avoided.

**Site Category** A



PRN 3963 PEN Y GAER HILLFORT – viewed from the north west.



<b>PRN</b>	45056	<b>Site Name</b>	PENLAN	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN25722132
<b>Site Type</b>	WELL	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

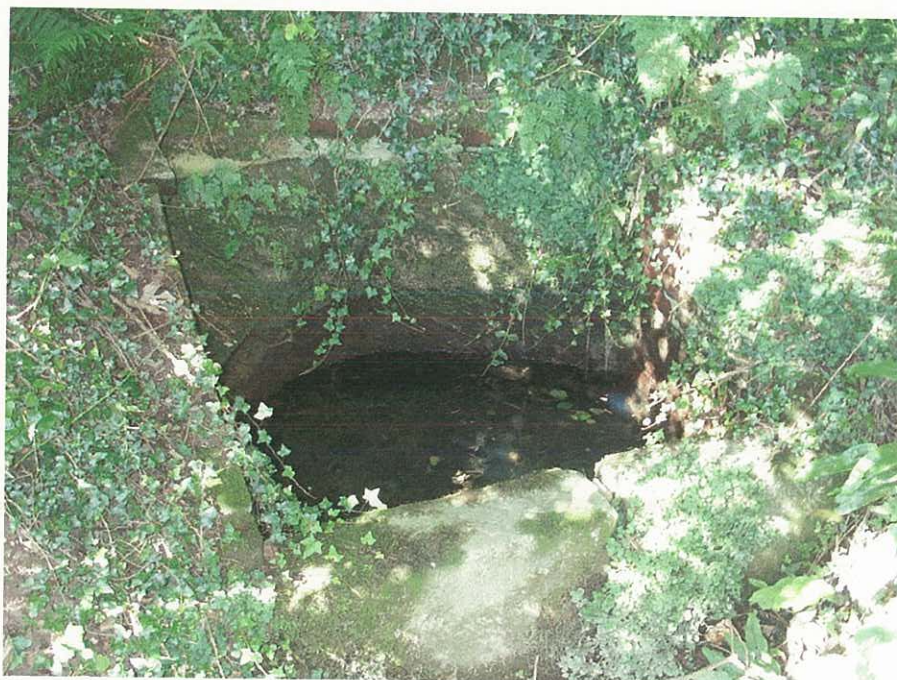
### **Description**

A well is situated to the west of the historic farmstead of Penlan to the north of the farm trackway. It is cut into the rock with a brick built coping. Remnants of a sloping roof can be identified though the well is now uncovered. A post to the south remains, part of an electric pump and hoist which served the well.

### **Recommendations**

If there are any works to be carried out on this well, please inform Cambria Archaeology.

**Site Category** C



PRN 45056 PENLAN WELL – situated to the north of the farm track

<b>PRN</b>	45737	<b>Site Name</b>	PENLAN	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN25782131
<b>Site Type</b>	STABLE; COW SHED	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

### **Description**

A stone built range situated on the south side of the old farmyard, orientated on a roughly east – west axis. This two storey building has lost it's roof in recent years and the west (gable) wall has largely collapsed together with the western end of the south wall. The building appears to have functioned as a stable at the west end with a central doorway flanked by window openings to either side. At the east end the remains of cow stalls remain, accessed by a central transverse doorway with opposing doorway to the south, leading to a central feed passage with flanking manure passages to either side. The double cow stalls are partitioned in large pieces of slate. Vegetation has begun to become established within the exposed wall tops and within the building.

### **Management Requirements**

The owner hopes to be able to undertake its restoration at some time in the future and this would be a very worthwhile project. In the short term, the building should be maintained in as stable a condition as possible. In the longer term this building could potentially be restored and reused. Intrusive woody vegetation which is growing within the masonry or building itself should be cut back and the roots treated to prevent regrowth. The wall tops should be consolidated and capped to prevent further water penetrating the wall core and eroding the masonry bonding. In the event of the building undergoing further restoration works it is advised that a photographic record should be carried out, before and during the works being carried out.

**Site Category** C



PRN 45737 PENLAN – combined stable and cowshed



<b>PRN</b>	45738	<b>Site Name</b>	PENLAN	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN25772135
<b>Site Type</b>	BARN	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

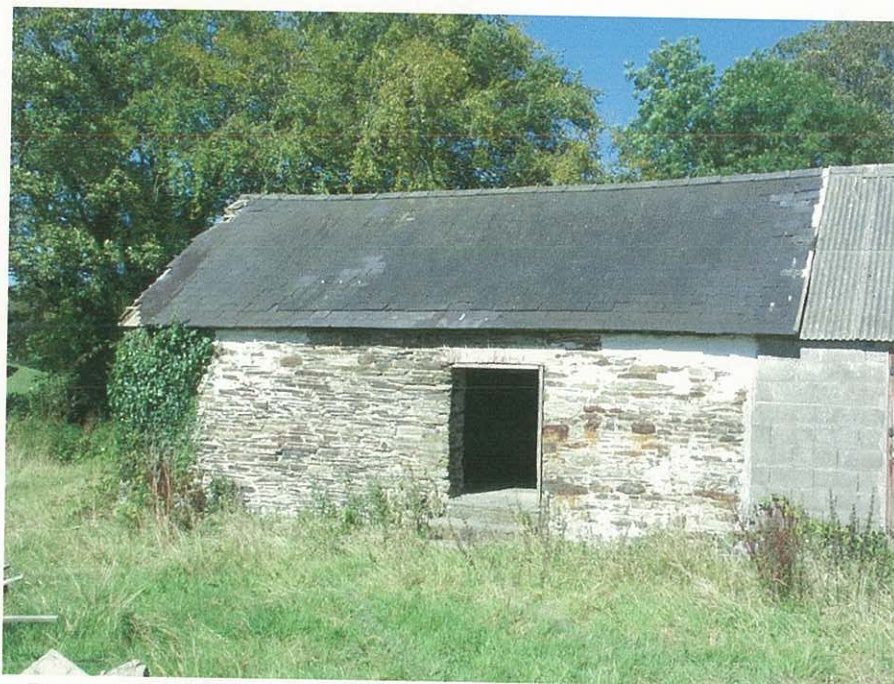
### **Description**

A stone built range is situated to the north side of the farmyard. The west end of this range is stone built with a slated roof, to the east is a brick/breeze block extension with a corrugated asbestos roof. The lower barn, to the west is of great interest, with the remains of a drive shaft and internal fly wheels at the west gable end driven by some form of external engine on the north side. The slate roof is in a poor condition and the supporting timbers are beginning to fail. The stone work appears to be in a fair condition, although in some areas the pointing has eroded.

### **Management Requirements**

This building would also be a worthwhile restoration project especially considering the owner is keen to undertake the repair and maintenance of the building. The slate roof requires urgent repairs before water ingress begins to damage the masonry structure. The stonework should be repointed using lime mortar.

**Site Category** C



PRN 45738 PENLAN BARN – with drive shaft surviving internally

<b>PRN</b>	45739	<b>Site Name</b>	PENLAN	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN25762132
<b>Site Type</b>	BARN	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

#### **Description**

To the west of the farmyard is a barn which has largely been rebuilt in breeze block. The south gable end does retain some of the original stonework which is beginning to bow out on the internal face.

#### **Management Requirements**

Ideally the remaining stonework in this barn should be repaired and retained.

**Site Category** C

<b>PRN</b>	45740	<b>Site Name</b>	PENLAN	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN25772129
<b>Site Type</b>	BUILDING PLATFORM	<b>Period</b>	POST MEDIEVAL		

#### **Description**

The site of cow shed is clearly identifiable by the remaining 9 bays of concrete cow stalls and troughs which still stand in position to the south of the farmyard. The concrete hard standing is still visible.

#### **Management Requirements**

Retain as a visible historic feature.

**Site Category** C

<b>PRN</b>	45741	<b>Site Name</b>	PENLAN	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN25802136
<b>Site Type</b>	BUILDING PLATFORM	<b>Period</b>	POST MEDIEVAL		

#### **Description**

There are no upstanding remains of the former farmhouse of Penlan which is shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map (1891) as a T-shaped building. However, the building platform is still visible.

#### **Management Requirements**

This area should not be subjected to any ground intrusive activities.

**Site Category** C

<b>PRN</b>	45742	<b>Site Name</b>	CLYN BYR	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN25652061
<b>Site Type</b>	COTTAGE	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

#### **Description**

The site of this cottage is very overgrown and was not seen as part of the farm visit due to the impenetrable undergrowth.

#### **Management Requirements**

Ideally this area should be managed to prevent damage being caused to the remains by intrusive vegetation.

**Site Category** D

<b>PRN</b>	45743	<b>Site Name</b>	PENLAN	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN25732134
<b>Site Type</b>	QUARRY; POND	<b>Period</b>	POST MEDIEVAL		

**Description**

To the west of the farmyard is the site of a former slate quarry. The quarry has subsequently filled with water and is now a large pond.

**Management Requirements**

Retain the pond in a stable condition.

**Site Category** C



<b>PRN</b>	45744	<b>Site Name</b>	PENLAN	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN25792132
<b>Site Type</b>	SHED	<b>Period</b>	MODERN		

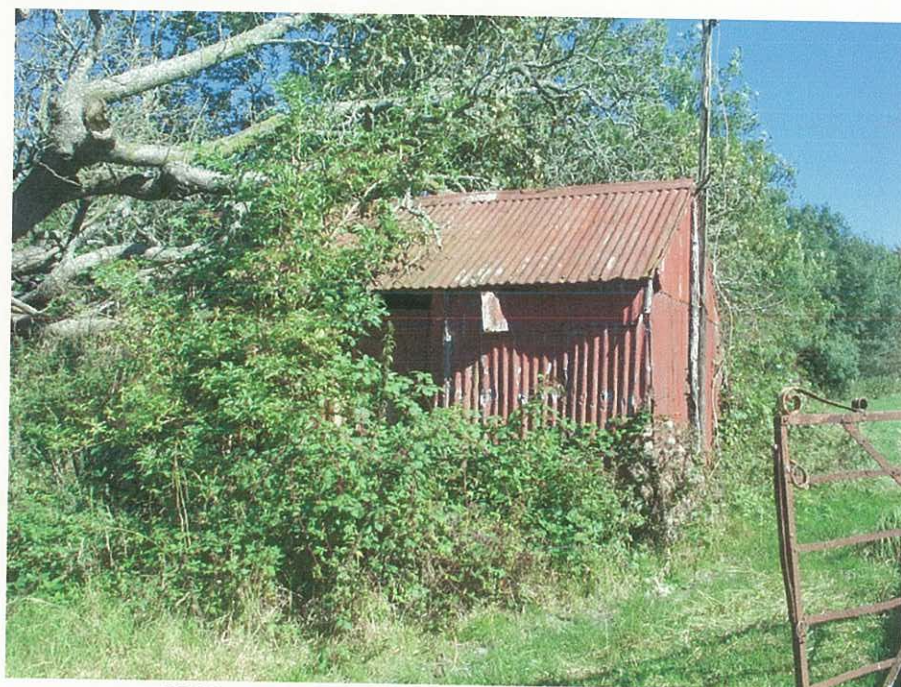
### **Description**

A small rectangular corrugated iron shed is situated to the east of the farmyard set on a concrete hardstanding.

### **Management Requirements**

Although this shed is a relatively recent addition to the farmyard it is nevertheless historically significant. Increasingly structures such as this are lost. This small building makes an important historical contribution to the overall character of the farmyard.

**Site Category** C



PRN 45744 SHED – part of Penlan Farmstead

## **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**

Tithe Map and Apportionment for the Parish of Llanginning 1840  
Ordnance Survey 1891 Carmarthenshire XXXVII.NE  
Ordnance Survey 1907 Carmarthenshire XXXVII.NE


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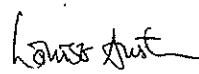
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Position Principal Archaeologist (Curatorial)



Signature  Date 8<sup>th</sup> November 2002

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





# Penlan


Tir Gofal Historic Environment Consultation  
 Countryside Council for Wales Reference W/12/2666  
 Cambria Archaeology Reference PRN44213  
 National Grid Reference SN25922114

 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

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