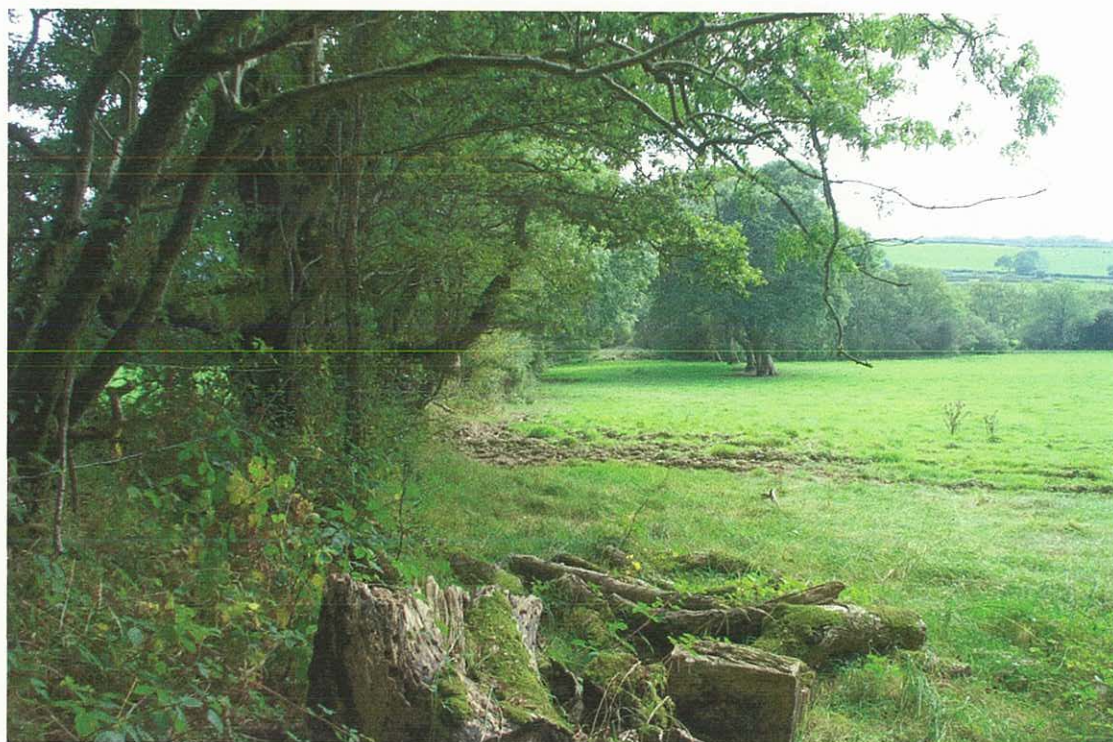


SEPT 2002



## **Droslyn Farm W/13/3235**

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



**Relic field boundaries (Prn 45775)**

Report No. 2002/89

Report Prepared for:  
Countryside Council for Wales

CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

REPORT NO. 2002/89  
PROJECT RECORD NO. 44252

September 2002

Droslyn Farm  
Tir Gofal Farm Visit Historic Environment Report

By

Alice Pyper

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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**

Droslyn Farm holding (Prn 45773) is situated on the south facing slopes north of the Afon Marlais. At the farm's highest point are the impressive remains of the Iron Age hillfort of Caerau Gaer, a scheduled ancient monument. Medieval remains are represented by place name evidence (Prns 4903 and 4912) and evidence of earlier farming systems are fossilised within the existing field patterns (Prn 45775). Numerous cottages have been identified from 19<sup>th</sup> century map evidence although the physical remains of these sites are in various states of preservation. The farmstead of Droslyn itself contains an impressive collection of farm buildings which form a coherent group, exhibiting signature features indicative of the origin of the farm as part of the Henllan Estate, of which it still forms part.

## **MAIN MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Prn 4905 Caerau Gaer Hillfort SAM Pe 176**

The following management recommendations have been formulated in consultation with Cadw:

Ideally the management of the site should aim to create a permanent grass cover over the site, which will protect the ground surface and the archaeological features.

Preferably, the gorse and scrub cover should be cut and removed from the ramparts. Stems should be cut at ground level and the roots left undisturbed. The brash should not be burnt within the scheduled area. The ramparts would then have to be routinely topped to prevent regrowth.

Alternatively, if the owners are not happy to see total gorse and scrub removal, the gaps through the gorse and scrub cover should be widened so that stock movements are not concentrated into narrow tracks. The gorse and scrub on the remainder of the ramparts should be trimmed to 1 metre in height. The cutting of gorse and scrub to this height will improve the light penetration to the ground surface and the turf layer. However, this approach would require subsequent yearly 'hedge-cutting' of the gorse to maintain this low height. Any works on the monument should be undertaken when conditions are dry.

Areas of erosion should be protected to encourage natural recovery of grass cover. This may be achieved by pinning chicken wire over the affected areas. If the eroded areas do not recover, they should be reseeded and protected.

Stock levels should be controlled to limit erosion and it may be necessary to avoid grazing the site during periods of prolonged wet weather.

Feeders, drinkers or feed supplements should not be located within the scheduled area to prevent poaching of the ground surface. If there is little alternative for the location of feeders or feed supplements they should be frequently moved to avoid erosion, although vehicular use should be limited when conditions are wet.

The site should be managed to protect the underlying archaeology and to enhance the visibility of the earthworks. Therefore no ground intrusive activities should take place within the scheduled area and the area should be kept clear of any dumping.

**Prn 45776 Llandybie Cottage**

The remains of this cottage should be retained. Ideally vegetation should be controlled to prevent further destruction of this site.

**Prn 45777 Troslyn Fach Cottage**

Ideally the area of woodland within which this cottage site lies should be managed to protect the cottage remains. Where vegetation is growing within or in close proximity to the masonry remains these should be cut back and treated to prevent regrowth.

## GAZETTEER OF SITES AND MONUMENTS

<b>PRN</b>	4903	<b>Site Name</b>	FFYNON DEWI	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN13521569
<b>Site Type</b>	HOLY WELL?	<b>Period</b>	Medieval		

### Description

This well was not seen during the farm visit and it's full extent and condition is unknown.

### Recommendations

Please consult Cambria Archaeology if any works are to be undertaken on, or in the vicinity of this feature.

**Site Category** D

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<b>PRN</b>	4905	<b>Site Name</b>	CAERAU GAER	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN13981610
<b>Site Type</b>	HILLFORT	<b>Period</b>	Iron Age	<b>Site status</b>	SAM Pe176

### Description

"Circular enclosure consisting of a fairly flat interior surrounded by a single bank and ditch except on the east side where there are two additional outer banks and on the south west where there is also an additional bank." Cadw description 1981.

The site is currently under pasture with high gorse and scrub growth on the slopes of the earthwork defences. The site is currently suffering erosion in various places around the ramparts and poaching of the ground surface around the outer edges of the defences. This largely seems to be due to the movement of animals through narrow gaps in scrub and gorse over ramparts. This is probably exacerbated by the movement of animals to the feeders located within the scheduled area.

### Recommendations

The following management recommendations have been formulated in consultation with Cadw:

Ideally the management of the site should aim to create a permanent grass cover over the site, which will protect the ground surface and the archaeological features.

Preferably, the gorse and scrub cover should be cut and removed from the ramparts. Stems should be cut at ground level and the roots left undisturbed. The brash should not be burnt within the scheduled area. The ramparts would then have to be routinely topped to prevent regrowth.

Alternatively, if the owners are not happy to see total gorse and scrub removal, the gaps through the gorse and scrub cover should be widened so that stock movements are not concentrated in the LB



narrow tracks. The gorse and scrub on the remainder of the ramparts should be trimmed to 1 metre in height. The cutting of gorse and scrub to this height will improve the light penetration to the ground surface and the turf layer. However, this approach would require subsequent yearly 'hedge-cutting' of the gorse to maintain this low height. Any works on the monument should be undertaken when conditions are dry.

Areas of erosion should be protected to encourage natural recovery of grass cover. This may be achieved by pinning chicken wire over the affected areas. If the eroded areas do not recover, they should be reseeded and protected.

Stock levels should be controlled to limit erosion and it may be necessary to avoid grazing the site during periods of prolonged wet weather.

Feeders, drinkers or feed supplements should not be located within the scheduled area to prevent poaching of the ground surface. If there is little alternative for the location of feeders or feed supplements they should be frequently moved to avoid erosion, although vehicular use should be limited when conditions are wet.

The site should be managed to protect the underlying archaeology and to enhance the visibility of the earthworks. Therefore, no ground intrusive activities should take place within the scheduled area and the area should be kept clear of any dumping.

#### **Site Category A**



PRN 4905 - CAERAU GAER HILLFORT

<b>PRN</b>	4912	<b>Site Name</b>	PARC GROES WEN	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN141155
<b>Site Type</b>	CROSS?	<b>Period</b>	Medieval		

**Description**

This site is known from place name evidence (Tithe Map and Apportionment of Llanddewi Velfrey Parish 1841, No.552) which suggests the site of a Medieval cross. No evidence of this site was identified during the site visit.

**Recommendations**

If any further information is known about this site, please inform Cambria Archaeology.

**Site Category** D

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<b>PRN</b>	19555	<b>Site Name</b>		<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN13801574
<b>Site Type</b>	QUARRY	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

**Description**

A quarry is recorded in this location of the Tithe Map and Apportionment of Llanddewi Velfrey Parish (1841, No.545.), but appears to be disused by the time the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey was recorded in 1891 where it is identified as "Old Quarry".

**Recommendations**

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

**Site Category** C

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<b>PRN</b>	45774	<b>Site Name</b>		<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN14041573
<b>Site Type</b>	COTTAGE	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

**Description**

This cottage site is recorded on the tithe map of 1841. It appears to have become disused by the time the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map was surveyed in 1891, no buildings are visible at this stage.

The site is currently within an area of unmanaged woodland which is very overgrown. Consequently the cottage site itself was not visible.

**Recommendations**

Ideally the area of woodland within which this cottage site lies should be managed to protect the cottage remains. Where vegetation is growing within or in close proximity to the masonry remains these should be cut back and treated to prevent regrowth.

**Site Category** C

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<b>PRN</b>	45775	<b>Site Name</b>		<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN14171557
<b>Site Type</b>	FIELD SYSTEM-STRIP	<b>Period</b>	Medieval; Post Medieval		

### Description

Both the tithe map (1841) and the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1891 show a field pattern which is indicative of medieval strip fields. These long narrow fields have been fossilized into field boundaries which have largely been lost. However, traces of the field boundaries survive either as a low earth bank and a line of mature hedgerow trees.

### Recommendations

These relic field boundaries, although no longer stock proof, are the vestiges of an earlier system of farming and should be preserved as visible historic landscape features.

**Site Category** C



PRN 45775 – RELIC FIELD BOUNDARIES

<b>PRN</b>	45776	<b>Site Name</b>	LLANDYBIE	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN13971537
<b>Site Type</b>	COTTAGE	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

### Description

The remains of a cottage are still upstanding in places to a height of approximately 2 metres high. This small rectangular building is recorded on the tithe map (1841) and identified on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1891 as "Llandybie". It appears latterly to have been used as a barn or shelter, indicated by the large double doorway of brick construction inserted into the south elevation. The remains of the other walls appear to have been of clom or mud construction built upon stone plinths approximately 1 metre high - only the plinths now survive. At the west end is the collapsed remains of a chimney stack. To the north survives an asbestos and corrugated iron lean-to. The remains are becoming somewhat engulfed by encroaching vegetation.

### Recommendations

The remains of this cottage should be retained. Ideally vegetation should be controlled to prevent further destruction of this site.

**Site Category** C



PRN 45776 – LLANDYBIE COTTAGE

<b>PRN</b>	45777	<b>Site Name</b>	TROSLYN FACH	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN14041573
<b>Site Type</b>	COTTAGE	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

### **Description**

This cottage site is recorded both on the tithe map of 1841 and the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map (1891) as Troslyn Fach. It appears to have become disused at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century as the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map only records the outline of the enclosure, no buildings are visible at this stage.

The site is currently within an area of unmanaged woodland which is very overgrown. Consequently the cottage site itself was not visible.

### **Recommendations**

Ideally the area of woodland within which this cottage site lies should be managed to protect the cottage remains. Where vegetation is growing within or in close proximity to the masonry remains these should be cut back and treated to prevent regrowth.

**Site Category** C

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**PRN** 45778 **Site Name** **Grid Reference** SN14031533

**Site Type** COTTAGES **Period** Post  
Medieval

**Description**

The tithe map of 1841 records three cottages in this area. They had evidently been lost when the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map is recorded in 1891. Currently this field is under pasture and the only suggestion of the existence of these buildings are low amorphous earthworks (no higher than 0.30 metre high) to either side of a depression which leads off the trackway to the north west.

**Recommendations**

There are undoubtedly sensitive archaeological remains surviving in this area. Under the present management regime this site appears to be under no threat. This site should continue to be maintained as existing, and no ground intrusive activities should take place in this area.

**Site Category** C



PRN 45778 – EARTHWORK REMAINS OF COTTAGES

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**PRN** 45779 **Site Name** **Grid Reference** SN13981533

**Site Type** COTTAGE **Period** Post  
Medieval

**Description**

A cottage is recorded in this location on the tithe map of 1841. No further trace of it is recorded on the later 19<sup>th</sup> century mapping. There is now no physical evidence of this site which is currently under pasture.

**Recommendations**

It is very likely that sensitive archaeological remains survive in this area. Under the present management regime this site appears to be under no threat. Maintain as existing.

**Site Category** C

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**PRN** 45780 **Site Name** DROSLYN **Grid Reference** SN13821563

**Site Type** BARN **Period** Post  
Medieval

### **Description**

A large stone barn is situated to the south of the farmyard. The barn is constructed with roughly hewn stone built to courses and large stone quoins. The original openings have flat stone arches. The north elevation originally had four doorways two of which have been half stone blocked to create windows. Two ventilation slits flank the existing doorway. The arrangement of the openings in the north elevation suggest that this building was formerly a cow shed. The west, gable elevation has a large double doorway inserted and much of this wall has been rebuilt in breeze block. The roof is pitched slate.

This barn is in reasonably good condition, although some ivy is beginning to encroach at the east gable end where the pointing is also eroded.

### **Recommendations**

This barn should be retained in a stable and watertight condition. Any repairs should be carried out using traditional materials.

**Site Category** C



PRN 45780 – STONE BARN



**PRN** 45781 **Site Name** DROSLYN **Grid Reference** SN13821565

**Site Type** OUT BUILDING **Period** Post  
Medieval

**Description**

A low one storey range of lean-to sheds line the farmyard to the east. They are largely constructed out of corrugated iron backing on to the stone boundary wall.

**Recommendations**

Maintain as existing.

**Site Category** C

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**PRN** 45782 **Site Name** DROSLYN **Grid Reference** SN13811564

**Site Type** CART SHED **Period** Post  
Medieval

**Description**

At the southern end of the range Prn 45783 is a cart shed built as a cross wing to the main range. To the east, in the gable wall, is a fine stone arched cart entry above which is an inserted window to the loft over the cart shed.

**Recommendations**

The cart shed is currently in reasonable condition and Mr. Freeman is keen to maintain the building in a good state of preservation. Any repairs should be carried out using traditional materials.

**Site Category** C



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PRN 45782 and 45783 – range of farm buildings incorporating a cart shed

**PRN** 45783 **Site Name** DROSLYN **Grid Reference** SN13811565

**Site Type** FARM BUILDING **Period** Post  
Medieval

**Description**

Extending from the farmhouse to the cart shed (Prn 45782) is a low one storey range of farm buildings. A large double doorway has been inserted into the central section to form a large open barn area.

**Recommendations**

This building is in fair condition and should continue to be maintained in a stable state of preservation. Any repairs should be carried out using traditional materials.

**Site Category** C

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**PRN** 45784 **Site Name** **Grid Reference** SN13861588

**Site Type** GRAVEL PIT **Period** Post  
Medieval

**Description**

An "Old Gravel Pit" is identified on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1891.

**Recommendations**

Any visible remains of this feature should be retained as a historic landscape feature.

**Site Category** C

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**PRN** 45785 **Site Name** **Grid Reference** SN13861570

**Site Type** QUARRY **Period** Post  
Medieval

**Description**

An "Old Quarry" is identified on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1891.

**Recommendations**

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

**Site Category** C

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## **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**

Ordnance Survey 1891. 1<sup>st</sup> edition Pembrokeshire XXIX.NE  
Ordnance Survey 1907. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Pembrokeshire XXIX.NE  
Tithe Map 1841? and Apportionment 1840 Llanddewi Velfrey Parish

**Droslyn Farm  
W/13/3235**

**REPORT NUMBER 2002/89**

September 2002


This report has been prepared by Alice Pyper

Position: Archaeologist (Tir Gofal)

Signature  Date 15<sup>th</sup> November 2002

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

Position: Director

Signature  Date 15<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




Droslyn  
Tir Gofal Historic Environment Consultation  
Countryside Council for Wales Reference W/13/3235  
Cambria Archaeology Reference PRN 44252  
National Grid Reference SN13831574

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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