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**TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN:  
HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION  
(Call Out Report)**

**Prepared for:  
Dyffryn Isaf**

**Tir Gofal Reference No:  
W/13/2991**

**Report Number: 2006/10  
Project Record Number: 44254**

**Prepared by  
Alice Pyper**

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## **Introduction**

A site visit was requested to Dyffryn Isaf farm, Llandissilio, in order to assess the impact of tree planting to the east of a mill building in an enclosure historically traversed by a mill leat (PRNs 46505 & 46506).

The enclosure is currently disused, unfenced and has been derelict for many years preceding the current occupiers tenure of about 5 years. Brambles have densely colonised the enclosure and much of it is impenetrable and the ground surface obscured. Self seeded species such as ash, hazel and birch also occur.

The proposals will involve clearing the enclosure of brambles first, cutting off the stems at ground level. A plastic weed suppressant membrane is to be laid down and the enclosure planted with a short rotation willow coppice, harvested on a 2 year cycle.

## **The leat remains**

The course of the leat is not readily visible; although a couple of transects from the bank to the stream had been cleared of brambles by the owner, there is no readily observable channel. A slight terracing out of the slope mid-way along the enclosure may suggest the leat location, however the enclosure has been subject to earthmoving by previous owners and it is uncertain to what extent this has levelled and possibly destroyed the remains of the leat.

Another possibility is that the leat was never a cut feature, it may have consisted of a wooden trough which sat upon or was raised slightly above ground level.

What remains can be identified are the vestiges of a dam wall in the stream to the east, recorded on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map as 'weir'. This would have raised the water level in the stream sufficiently to be able to divert water down the leat as it was required.

## **Management Recommendations**

Following the site visit and assessment of the proposals the following guidelines have been agreed to minimise any impact on archaeological remains.

1. On clearing the enclosure of brambles an assessment would be made to see if the line of the mill leat could be identified. If the course of the mill leat is visible as a terrace or break in the ground surface then this feature would be left unplanted, leaving a corridor of no less than 2 metres in width in the planting zone.
2. If, however, the course of the mill leat is not identifiable on the ground surface, then the course would be plotted with the aid of scaled historic maps (1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey) and a corridor of no less than 2 metres in width left unplanted in the planting zone.
3. It was agreed on site that the planting would not come within the 10 metres of the mill building.

4. If, in the future, a change of use is proposed and the willow coppice is no longer required, grubbing up the willow coppices would be avoided. Alternative methods of willow removal should be sought such introducing stock to the enclosure to graze. Alternatively, if further woodland species were introduced into the planting zone, they could eventually shade out the willow coppices.

Please feel free to discuss any of these comments with Cambria Archaeology.

**Dyffryn Isaf**  
**W/13/2991**

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This report has been prepared by Alice Pyper  
Position: Heritage Management Archaeologist (Tir Gofal)

Signature ..... Date .....

This report has been checked and approved by Ken Murphy on  
behalf of Cambria Archaeology, Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.  
Position: Assistant Director

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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