

TIR GOFAL FARM VISIT REPORT CERRIGANAU

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CERRIGANAU
Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report

By

Cambria Archaeology

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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

Cerriganau consists of three holdings. Two of the holdings, including the Cerriganau farmstead, are located on small islands of high ground on the southern edge of Cors Fochno. The northern edges of both holdings are reclaimed marsh and bog, and they both exhibit the characteristic straight drainage channels of reclaimed land. The third holding lies several kilometres to the south in an area of rolling hills, which to the southeast rise to a height of c.500m.

The earliest reference to Cerriganau (PRN 44857) found during this study, refers to Cerrig taranau – owned by Jonathon Hughes – and it is shown on a map of *Cors Fochno and the Several Islands situate therein with Part of the Navigable River Dovey, in the County of Cardigan* surveyed by T Lewis in 1790 (copy held in the Sites and Monuments Record, Llandeilo). This map also recorded Ynyscapel farm (PRN 44863), as Ynys Cappel, owned by Richard Daniel. The area occupied by the third holding, which includes Wileirog-isaf and Maenuwch farms, was shown on an undated, but certainly 18th century, estate map (NLW ref: Gogerddan Collection R.M. B86). The map showed that the present layout of fields and tracks on Wileirog-isaf farm had been established by the 18th century, but not all the internal boundaries of Maenuwch farm were shown, although, the main farm boundary, which incorporates the eastern boundary of the present holding, was shown in its present position.

The boundaries at Wileirog-isaf and Maenuwch are a mixture of earth banks, topped with mature hedges, which were formerly laid, but many are now grown out and no longer stock proof, and some stone faced banks. At Cerriganau and Ynyscapel the boundaries are a mixture of earth banks, topped with mature hedges, some well-maintained hedgerows and drainage ditches on the low-lying reclaimed marsh along their northern sides.

Some of the farm buildings at both Wileirog-isaf (PRNs 44865 and 44867) and Maenuwch (PRN 44871 and 44872) were shown on the 18th century map, although they have since undergone some alteration.

MAIN MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The following list of recommendations outlines the main requirements necessary to protect and enhance the historic character and landscape of the farm and the individual features it contains.

The present layout of boundaries dates largely from the 18th century and, where possible, the boundaries should be retained.

The four separate farmsteads that make up the current holding all have a number of traditional buildings in varying states of repair. All of the buildings should be maintained in their present condition and be regularly monitored to identify any defects before they can cause major structural damage. Any repair works should use traditional, preferably local material to preserve the overall character of the buildings. See individual entries in the gazetteer for detailed recommendations.

PRN 44871: The building should be maintained in its present condition and specialist advice should be sought on how to preserve the sections of clom walling. This building should be considered for a visit from the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales in order to carry out a more detailed inspection and survey.

GAZETTEER OF SITES AND MONUMENTS

PRN	6095	Site Name	Ynyscapel	Grid Reference	SN64499048
Site Type	chapel	Period		Site status	

Description

The supposed site of chapel, described in 1872 as ‘the site (with foundations) of an ancient chapel long disused’ (Nichols 1872, 199). Nothing visible on the ground, although aerial photographs may show a rectangular enclosure. There may be surviving buried remains associated with the chapel and any burials that may have taken place in its vicinity.

Recommendations

The exact site of the chapel is unknown, so it is not possible to make specific management recommendations.

Site Category D

PRN	44858	Site Name	Cerrig-tranau-Ucahf	Grid Reference	SN63439000
Site Type	Farm building	Period	Post-medieval	Site status	

Description

Single storey building, constructed from random rubble set on a foundation of large boulders. The roof is gabled and consists of thick slate or stone tiles, with a mortar coating visible on the inside. The north, front, elevation is whitewashed. This building, which probably dates from the 18th century, was shown on the Llanfair Genau'r glyn Parish tithe map of 1847 but it has been altered and repaired on several occasions. Internal changes include the construction of a grain hopper, which also acts as a support for an internal wall, which may at one time have been the original southeast gable wall. A lean-to extension on the rear, south, wall was also constructed partly to act as a support for the south wall. There is a small lean-to addition to the west gable wall, which may have been intended as a kennel, or small store.

There is a single storey cowshed attached to the eastern end, which forms the rest of this southern range of buildings. This range of buildings is generally in good condition and the walls and roof structure are sound.

Recommendations

The building should be maintained in its present condition. Regular monitoring should be carried out to identify any defects that need repair. All repairs should be carried out using traditional, preferably local materials.

Site Category C

PRN	44859	Site Name	Cerrig-tranau-Ucahf	Grid Reference	SN63459001
Site Type	Barn	Period	Post-medieval	Site status	

Description

Two-storey rubble building, which now houses the dairy. Formerly a barn with a granary above, with a single pitching door to the loft on the south end of the west elevation. Whitewashed exterior and gabled slate roof. This building forms the north range of the yard. It was built sometime between 1847 and the early 1880s, as it is first shown on the Ordnance Survey 1:10560 map published in 1891 (sheet Cards.III.NE). This building is generally in good condition and the walls and roof structure are sound and it remains in daily use.

Recommendations

Maintain this building in its present condition. Regular monitoring should be carried out to identify any defects that need repair. All repairs should be carried out using traditional, preferably local materials.

Site Category C

PRN	44860	Site Name	Cerrig-tranau-Ucahf	Grid Reference	SN63449003
Site Type	Farm building	Period	Post-medieval	Site status	

Description

Single-storey rubble building with a slate gable roof. This building forms the north range of the yard. It was built sometime between 1847 and the early 1880s, as it is first shown on the Ordnance Survey 1:10560 map published in 1891 (sheet Cards.III.NE). The 1st edition map also shows a leat running to the building, which may have powered a waterwheel. There is a slight hollow in the field to south of the building that may have been part of the leat. This building is in daily use and is currently in good condition. The walls and roof structure appear sound.

Recommendations

Maintain this building in its present condition. Regular monitoring should be carried out to identify any defects that need repair. All repairs should be carried out using traditional, preferably local materials.

Site Category C

PRN	44861	Site Name	Cerrig-tranau-Ucahf	Grid Reference	SN63598983
Site Type	Quarry	Period	Post-medieval	Site status	

Description

Small quarry shown on Ordnance Survey 1st edition map published in 1891 (sheet Cards.III.NE). The quarry is still used today to provide and store shale for use around the farm and to store farm implements and supplies.

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations are required for this site. However, the quarry should not be used for disposal of waste or disused machinery.

Site Category D

PRN	44862	Site Name	Cerrig-tranau-Ucahf	Grid Reference	SN63578996
Site Type	Sluice	Period	Post-medieval	Site status	

Description

A sluice marked on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1:10560 map (sheet Cards.III.NE) published in 1891. The sluice was part of the water management system that supplied water to the farm and to a waterwheel that formerly drove machinery in the yard buildings. No longer visible.

Recommendations

No specific management recommendations.

Site Category D

PRN	44874	Site Name	Wileirog-fach	Grid Reference	SN64499048
Site Type	Deserted Rural Settlement	Period	Post-medieval	Site status	

Description

An abandoned cottage called Wileirog-fach, which was first shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1:10560 map of 1891 (sheet Cards.VI.NW). The windows and doors are now boarded up, but the structure appears to be in a relatively sound condition.

Recommendations

This building should at least be maintained in current condition. It could be renovated and brought back into use as a domestic dwelling.

Site Category C

PRN	44863	Site Name	Ynyscapel	Grid Reference	SN64459044
Site Type	Farm	Period	Post-medieval	Site status	

Description

Small, probably 18th century farm. The yard area consists of the house, a small cowshed, an open hay barn and a small stone-built structure that may be the remains of a pigsty. The cowshed has undergone various changes and is currently in good condition. The open hay barn has stone pillars supporting a corrugated zinc roof. Some of the openings on the north side of the barn have been filled with breezeblocks and corrugated zinc. This building is modern; it does not appear on early 20th century Ordnance Survey maps of the area. The possible pigsty structure is constructed from random rubble with a slate gabled roof. It was shown on the Llanfair Genau'r glyn Parish tithe map of 1847 and today it is used as a wood store. The walls are in reasonable condition, but the roof structure has partially collapsed.

The cowshed is constructed from random rubble, with a slate gabled roof. The building has been altered in the recent past, when the north wall was rebuilt and the building re-roofed to include a large lean-to shed to the north. A blocked opening visible at ground level in the south elevation, is evidence of much earlier alterations. This building is in good condition.

Recommendations

The yard buildings should be maintained in their present condition. The roof structure on the possible pigsty building could be repaired using traditional materials.

Site Category C



PRN 44863, cowshed showing the modern extension to the rear.

PRN	44864	Site Name	Ynyscapel	Grid Reference	SN64579007
Site Type	Deserted Rural Settlement	Period	Post-medieval	Site status	

Description

A group of three structures shown on the Llanfair Genau'r glyn Parish tithe map of 1847 as cottages and gardens. They had disappeared by the time the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1:10560 map (sheet Cards.III.NW) was produced in 1891. There are no above ground remains of any of these structures, although a probable building platform and a stone-faced bank do survive. This site is currently excluded from major farming operations such as ploughing, but there is some erosion from animal tracks.

Recommendations

Maintain this site in its current condition and continue to exclude the area from ploughing or other ground breaking operations. Restrict animal numbers on the site, although regular grazing will prevent the site from becoming overgrown.

Site Category D



PRN 44864, a raised platform and several banks are all that remain of a small group of cottages. Note the erosion of the animal tracks across the banks.

PRN	44865	Site Name	Wileirog-isaf	Grid Reference	SN60718559
Site Type	Barn	Period	Post-medieval	Site status	

Description

Large, 18th century, two-storey threshing barn constructed from roughly coursed rubble, with a slate gabled roof. The cobbled threshing floor survives. The southwest elevation, which fronts the yard, has two square headed cart openings at the southeast end. A set of external stone steps leads to a door to a small loft, which covers the southeast end of the interior. The wall above the southern of the two cart openings has been rebuilt in red brick, possibly to link the barn to the house and provide a second cart opening. Much of the rear, northeast, wall has also been rebuilt in red brick. The threshing floor has opposing doors on either side. The threshing machine was water-driven for some of its life. The wheel pit was capped with concrete in 1961 and it is now used as a cesspit. Some of the drive gear survives on the internal southeast wall of the threshing barn.

The barn is currently in good condition and both the roof structure and the walls appear sound.

Recommendations

This building should be maintained in its present condition and the cobbled threshing floor should be retained. Regular monitoring should be carried out to identify any defects before they can cause structural problems. Any repairs that are required should be carried out using traditional, preferably local materials to retain the overall character of the building.

Site Category C



PRN 44865 18th century threshing barn showing cart openings and central winnowing door



PRN 44865 wheel pit capped with concrete in 1961. Note the extensive rebuilding.

PRN	44867	Site Name	Wileirog-isaf	Grid Reference	SN60698560
Site Type	Cowhouse	Period	Post-medieval	Site status	

Description

Single storey cowshed, constructed from roughly coursed rubble with a slate gabled roof. This building was shown on an 18th century estate map (NLW ref: Gogerddan Collection R.M. B86), but it has been heavily altered since. The central section has been adapted to a loose shed by removing the front, southeast facing, wall. It is possible that only the northeast end of the building survives to any great degree in its original form, although, even this has been altered by the insertion of simple square headed openings. The building is in good condition and the roof structure and walls appear sound.

Recommendations

Maintain this building in its present condition. Regular monitoring should be carried out to identify any defects before they can cause structural problems. Any repairs that are required should be carried out using traditional, preferably local materials to retain the overall character of the building.

Site Category C



PRN 44867 northeast end of 18th century cowhouse.

PRN	44868	Site Name	Wileirog-isaf	Grid Reference	SN60698558
Site Type	Cowhouse	Period	Post-medieval	Site status	

Description

This building was originally a double-sided loose shed, which opened onto two small yards. Presumably the shed was divided lengthways by an internal division. The shed was constructed with stone piers supporting a slate gabled roof. It was converted in 1943 into a cowhouse with small dairy attached. During the conversion the loose shed opening were blocked and windows inserted. The building is constructed from coursed rubble with a slate gabled roof.

This building is first shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1:10560 map (sheet Cards. VI.NW) as an L-shaped structure built up to the southwest corner of PRN 44867).

Recent renovation has included replacing some of the roof structure. A later addition on the northeast wall housed a single in-and-out pigsty and possibly a small boiler house for preparing feed. There is slate feed chute in the yard wall of the pigsty.

Recommendations

This building should be maintained in its present condition. Ongoing renovation works on the building should retain its historic character.

Site Category C



PRN 44868 former loose shed showing blocked openings and pigsty.

PRN	44869	Site Name	Wileirog-isaf	Grid Reference
Site Type	Hay barn	Period	Post-medieval	Site status

Description

Open hay barn, first shown on the Ordnance Survey 2nd edition map (sheet Cards.VI.NW) of 1906. The barn consists of timber uprights supporting a corrugated tin roof. The southwest end has been partially rebuilt in concrete blocks.

Recommendations

Maintain this building in its present condition. Regular monitoring should be carried out to identify any defects before they cause major structural problems, particularly to the roof structure.

Site Category C



PRN 44869 Open hay barn, first shown on Ordnance Survey 2nd edition map of 1906.

PRN	44870	Site Name	Maenuwch	Grid Reference	SN85116092
Site Type	Cowhouse	Period	Post-medieval	Site status	

Description

Small cowhouse and loose sheds opening onto a yard. This building was first shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1:10560 map (sheet Cards.VI.NW) published in 1891 and it was constructed as part of a major rebuilding programme that also included the construction of the house on its present site. The building is of rubble construction with a slate gabled roof. The piers for the loose boxes are of stone. The loose box openings have been partially blocked using corrugated tin and concrete blocks.

Recommendations

This building should be maintained in its existing condition. Regular monitoring should be carried out to identify any defects before they cause major structural damage.

Site Category C



PRN 44870 Cowshed and loose boxes.

PRN	44871	Site Name	Maenuwch	Grid Reference	SN60928512
Site Type	Farm building	Period	Post-medieval	Site status	

Description

18th and 19th century two-storey animal shed and granary. The northwest end consists of a granary, reached by an external set of stone steps, with a cart shed below. The central section and the southeast end have been used as animal sheds. The northwest section may be a later addition, as there is a clear break in the stonework in the northeast wall, however, there is no corresponding break in the southwest wall. This possibility is also suggested by an 18th century estate map (NLW ref: Gogerddan Collection R.M. B86) and the Llanbadarn Fawr tithe map of 1846, which both show a smaller building in this location. It seems to have reached its present size by the time the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1:10560 map (sheet Cards.VI.NW) was produced in 1891. The building is of roughly coursed rubble construction, with a new corrugated zinc roof. The southwest and northeast walls of the central section of the loft are unusual and interesting as they have clom walls, a material not usually associated with agricultural buildings of this type or date.

The northeast wall of the ground floor of the central section has two vent loops, which appear to have been adapted from larger openings, which clearly indicates a change of use for this section of the building. It is possible that this was the original farmhouse, converted to agricultural use when the new house was built during the expansion of the farm in the mid- to late-19th century. More detailed recording and analysis is required to unravel the complex history of this building. The building is in generally good condition, with a new roof, although the sections of clom walling are vulnerable to weathering.

Recommendations

This building should be maintained in its present condition. Specialist advice should be sought on how to preserve the section of clom walling. The building should be considered for a visit from the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales to provide a more detailed inspection and survey.

Site Category B



PRN 44871 the northwest gable wall of building showing blocked cart opening and stone steps to first floor granary.



PRN 44871 the central section of the building showing the clom wall to the loft. The vent loops on the ground floor have been adapted from larger openings. The break between the central section and northwest section of the building (to the right) is clearly visible.

PRN	44872	Site Name	Maenuwch	Grid Reference	SN60918514
Site Type	Farm building	Period	Post-medieval	Site status	

Description

A small stone-built barn, which formerly had a gabled roof. This building appears to have been shown on an 18th century estate map (NLW ref: Gogerddan Collection R.M. B86). The walls are stable, but the roof has gone and the roof structure removed, although the slates have been saved by the owner.

Recommendations

The surviving walls should be maintained in their present condition. Any areas of loose or unstable masonry should be consolidated and made safe. Consolidation works should be carried out using traditional, preferably local materials.

Site Category C



PRN 44872, small 18th century barn, with oil-pump engine house extension.

PRN	44873	Site Name	Maenuwch	Grid Reference
Site Type	Pigsty	Period	Post-medieval	Site status

Description

Two in-and-out pigsties constructed sometime between 1891 and 1908. Stone-built with pitched corrugated zinc roof. Only of the sties is still roofed. The surviving roof and the walls are sound.

Recommendations

Maintain the pigsties in their present condition. These structures could be brought back into use as lamb or sheep holding pens.

Site Category C



PRN 44873 late 19th century pigsties with a small shed to the left of the photograph. Although small, these structures could still be used as lamb or sheep holding pens.

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.

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Cartographic sources

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- 1790 *Cors Fochno and the Several Islands situate therein with Part of the Navigable River Dovey, in the County of Cardigan* surveyed by T Lewis in 1790 (copy held in the Sites and Monuments Record, Llandeilo).
- 1846 Llanbadran Fawr parish tithe map and apportionment (Clarach Township)
- 1847 Llanfair Genau'r glyn Parish tithe map and apportionment
- 1891 Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1:10560 map (sheet Cards.III.NW)
- 1906 Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 1:10560 map (sheet Cards.III.NW)
- 1891 Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1:10560 map (sheet Cards.VI.NW)
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