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## **Graig Farm W/12/2802**

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



Report No. 2002/72

Report Prepared for:  
Countryside Council for Wales

CAMBRIA ARCHAEOLOGY

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Graig Farm  
Tir Gofal Farm Visit Historic Environment Report

By

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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**

Graig Farm lies around 1 mile to the north of the village of Llanwrda, and consists of a large upland holding centred on Mynydd Llansadwrn. The current Graig Farm farmhouse lies close to Tir-Y-Graig cottage (PRN 6949) and is a modern development. The farmstead of Tir-Y-Graig has previously been recorded as a one storey thatched cottage. This and an adjacent barn are no longer part of the farmstead and do not form part of this report.

A series of platforms and long huts centred on SN69303469 make up the majority of sites within the holding of Graig Farm, however due to heavy and extensive bracken cover at the time of the site visit, many of these sites could not be identified. The deserted farmstead (PRN 40390) which contains an interesting pet grave within its enclosure, is a indicator to the shifting patterns of settlement within upland areas, although the pattern of stone built field boundaries as shown on the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1891 remain largely unchanged.

## **MAIN MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **Prn 40388, Prn 37876, Prn 37877, Prn 37878, Prn 37879 - Platforms**

#### **Prn 40391, Prn 40392, Prn 40389 Long Hut**

Many of these sites could not be identified during this visit due to bracken cover.

Ideally these sites should be maintained as visible landscape features. Any bracken control undertaken should take account of the extensive archaeology in these areas and techniques should be used that will not cause damage to above or below ground archaeology. No ground breaking works should be undertaken within 15 metres of these sites. Stocking levels need to be kept at a level that will not cause erosion to these sites and stock feeders should not be located on or within 15 metres of these sites.

### **Prn 40390 Farmstead & Prn 45722 Inhumation**

This deserted farmstead and pet grave should be maintained as visible landscape features. The surviving masonry elements should be protected from damage and erosion by controlling stock levels, as well as ensuring that stock feeders are not placed within 15 metres of the enclosure surrounding the whole farmstead. Also in order to maintain the upstanding structural elements vegetation growth should be regularly cut back and prevented from taking over the surviving structural elements.

All other sites that have been identified should be maintained in their current condition. Field boundaries in some areas showed extensive erosion possibly due to pressure of stock and lack of maintenance. To prevent further damage these boundaries should be maintained using appropriate traditional materials and techniques.

## GAZETTEER OF SITES AND MONUMENTS

<b>PRN</b>	3392	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69103470
<b>Site Type</b>	BANK (EARTHWORK)	<b>Period</b>	Unknown		

### Description

This site was not identified during the site visit but has previously been recorded as an earthwork bank of unknown significance.

### Recommendations

There were no visible sign of erosion or damage in the field containing this earthwork

**Site Category** D

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<b>PRN</b>	6956	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69433450
<b>Site Type</b>	LONGHOUSE?	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

### Description

There were no visible traces of this longhouse when visited. Presumably any above ground remains have been lost since being recorded by the RCAHMW in 1972.

### Recommendations

No ground disturbance should take place within the site of this former longhouse, the area between Craig-Beynon and the field to the west. This is in order to protect any buried archaeological remains.

**Site Category** C

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<b>PRN</b>	37767	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69663450
<b>Site Type</b>	COTTAGE	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

### Description

This cottage was noted by Cambria Archaeology in 2000 as having been cleared, and the surrounding field improved. No visible signs of any upstanding or buried structures could be seen, however a large pile of rubble stone was noted in the south west corner of the field.

### Recommendations

Although there are no surviving above ground remains of this cottage, there may be surviving buried remains. Ground breaking works in this area should be avoided.

**Site Category** D

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<b>PRN</b>	37876	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69233466
<b>Site Type</b>	PLATFORM	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

### Description

Due to extensive bracken cover this site could not be identified.

### Recommendations

Ideally this site should be maintained as a visible landscape feature. Any bracken control should take into account the extensive archaeology in the area and techniques should not be used that will cause damage to above or below ground archaeology. No ground breaking works should be undertaken within 15 metres of this site.

**Site Category** C

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<b>PRN</b>	37877	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69363467
<b>Site Type</b>	PLATFORM	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

### Description

Due to extensive bracken cover this site could not be identified.

### Recommendations

Ideally this site should be maintained as a visible landscape feature. Any bracken control should take into account the extensive archaeology in the area and techniques should not be used that will cause damage to above or below ground archaeology. No ground breaking works should be undertaken within 15 metres of this site.

**Site Category** C

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<b>PRN</b>	37878	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69363467
<b>Site Type</b>	PLATFORM	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

**Description**

Due to extensive bracken cover this site could not be identified.

**Recommendations**

Ideally this site should be maintained as a visible landscape feature. Any bracken control should take into account the extensive archaeology in the area and techniques should not be used that will cause damage to above or below ground archaeology. No ground breaking works should be undertaken within 15 metres of these sites.

**Site Category** C

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<b>PRN</b>	37879	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69393466
<b>Site Type</b>	PLATFORM	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

**Description**

Due to extensive bracken cover this site could not be identified.

**Recommendations**

Ideally this site should be maintained as a visible landscape feature. Any bracken control should take into account the extensive archaeology in the area and techniques should not be used that will cause damage to above or below ground archaeology. No ground breaking works should be undertaken within 15 metres of these sites.

**Site Category** C

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<b>PRN</b>	40388	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69803515
<b>Site Type</b>	PLATFORM	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

**Description**

Due to extensive bracken cover this site could not be identified.

**Recommendations**

Ideally this site should be maintained as a visible landscape feature. Any bracken control should



take into account the extensive archaeology in the area and techniques should not be used that will cause damage to above or below ground archaeology. No ground breaking works should be undertaken within 15 metres of these sites.

**Site Category** C

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<b>PRN</b>	40389	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69723501
<b>Site Type</b>	LONG HUT	<b>Period</b>	Medieval?/ Post Med?		

**Description**

Two-celled long hut located in improved pasture field. Overall dimensions are 11m east-west x 5m; the western cell is 6m long, the eastern 5m. The structure stands on a slight platform, cut into a gentle slope at the western end of the long hut, with a positive platform to the eastern end. The interior of the hut is slightly sunk into the surface of the field. Some drystone walling is seen in the eastern gable end wall. Wall bases are generally less than 0.3m high.

**Recommendations**

Maintain as a visible landscape feature. No ground breaking works should take place on or within 15 metres of this site. Stocking levels need to be kept at a level which will not cause erosion to the site, and stock feeders should not be located on or within 15 metres of this site.

**Site Category** C



Plate 1 – Long Hut from the south west (PRN 40389)

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<b>PRN</b>	40390	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69273493
<b>Site Type</b>	FARMSTEAD	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		



### Description

A Post Medieval farmstead complex. Not shown on the parish tithe survey and probably dating to the mid 19th century in origin. The complex includes the foundations of a 4-celled dwelling/byre, on a north east – south west axis, measuring 22m x 6m overall. It was well-built of large, local stone slabs, but the drystone walls now stand to a maximum of 0.5m in height in general, with parts of the northern side still standing to c.2m high and incorporating some former structural openings. The rectangular parcel which encloses the whole complex is defined by earth and stone banks topped with planted blackthorn hedging. A smaller garden plot attached to the south west corner of the dwelling has mature sycamore and ash trees growing on its banks which may give some indication of the age of the settlement. A grave (PRN 45722) is located within the garden plot.

### Recommendations

This deserted farmstead should be maintained as a visible landscape feature. The surviving masonry elements should be protected from damage and erosion by controlling stock levels, as well as ensuring that stock feeders are not placed within 15 metres of the enclosure surrounding the whole farmstead. Also in order to maintain the upstanding structural elements vegetation growth should be regularly cut back and prevented from taking over the surviving structural elements.

**Site Category** C



Plate 2 – North face of farmstead (PRN 4039) from the west

<b>PRN</b>	40391	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69203467
<b>Site Type</b>	LONG HUT	<b>Period</b>	Medieval?/ Post Med?		

### Description

Long hut which is now only identifiable by low earth and stone wall bases, up to 0.3m high,

defining a structure 11m NNE-SSW x 4m. The SSE end is badly damaged and indistinct. It comprises of two cells, the western cell is c.3m in length and contains possible entrances in the northern face. Located on a natural terrace on otherwise steeply sloping ground.

### Recommendations

Ideally this site should be maintained as a visible landscape feature. Any bracken control should take into account the extensive archaeology in the area and techniques should not be used that will cause damage to above or below ground archaeology. No ground breaking works should be undertaken within 15 metres of this site.

**Site Category** C



Plate 3 – Long Hut (PRN 40391) from the north east

<b>PRN</b>	40392	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69283473
<b>Site Type</b>	LONG HUT	<b>Period</b>	Medieval?/ Post Med?		

### Description

Single cell long hut which is defined by low earth and stone wall bases. The structure measures 11m east-west x 5m. No internal features are apparent on the surface. It is located on a natural east sloping terrace on top of a steep slope, around 30 metres down from the main beak of slope.

### Recommendations

This site should be maintained as a visible feature. Any bracken control should take into account the extensive archaeology in the area and techniques should not be used that will cause damage to above or below ground archaeology. No ground breaking works should be undertaken within 15 metres of this site.

**Site Category** C





Plate 4 – Long Hut (PRN 40392) from the north east

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<b>PRN</b>	45720	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69733499
<b>Site Type</b>	EARTHWORK?	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval?		

#### Description

A low mound approximately 30 metres to the south of long hut (Prn 40389). It is roughly circular with an uneven surface. Possibly associated with the nearby long hut, or a naturally occurring landscape feature (rock outcrop).

#### Recommendations

Retain as a visible landscape feature.

**Site Category** D

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<b>PRN</b>	45721	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69553492
<b>Site Type</b>	EARTHWORK?	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval?		

#### Description

An uneven and roughly circular earthwork feature, measuring 2 metres in diameter and less than 0.5 metres in height. It may possibly be an artificial earthwork feature, but there are a number of rock outcrops in the vicinity which suggest that this is a more natural feature.

#### Recommendations

Retain as a visible landscape feature.

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**Site Category** D

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<b>PRN</b>	45722	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69283493
<b>Site Type</b>	INHUMATION	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

**Description**

Stone edged north - south grave measuring 0.75 metres long by 0.5m wide. Located in the garden of farmstead (Prn 40390) it has a regular undressed stone slab headstone at its north end. It could probably be the grave of a pet.

**Recommendations**

Maintain as Prn 40390.

**Site Category** C



Plate 5 – Inhumation (PRN 45722) with farmstead beyond

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<b>PRN</b>	45723	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69273504
<b>Site Type</b>	BANK (earthwork)	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

**Description**

Two parallel earth banks measuring around 2 metres wide and less than 0.5 metres high and 11 metres apart. They run downslope to the north and appear to be aligned with a break in the north east corner of the boundary surrounding the nearby farmstead (Prn 40390). They are probably an integral part of the enclosure system related to the farmstead, and could form a trackway leading from the farm down off the hill to the north

**Recommendations**

Maintain as a visible landscape feature. No ground breaking works should take place on or within 15 metres of this site. Stocking levels need to be kept at a level which will not cause erosion to the site, and stock feeders should not be located on or within 15 metres of the site.

**Site Category** C



Plate 6 – Double banks (PRN 45723)

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<b>PRN</b>	45724	<b>Site Name</b>	Graig Farm	<b>Grid Reference</b>	SN69253462
<b>Site Type</b>	BARN?	<b>Period</b>	Post Medieval		

**Description**

Low stone and earth banks forming an east – west enclosure on a gently sloping area of ground immediately to the south of a field boundary. The enclosure measures 13 by 5 metres, the banks measuring around 1 metre in width, and has a 4 metre wide opening in its north face, suggesting that it is a former field barn.

**Recommendations**

Maintain as a visible feature. No ground breaking works should take place on or within 15 metres of this site. Stocking levels need to be kept at a level which will not cause erosion to the site, and stock feeders should not be located on or within 15 metres of the site.

**Site Category** C





Plate 7- Barn (PRN 45724)

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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**

1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map, 1891, Carms sheet XVII.SW

2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map, 1907, Carms sheet XVII.SW



**Graig Farm**  
**W/12/2802**

**REPORT NUMBER 2002/72**

**November 2002**

This report has been prepared by Simon Wardle

Position: Archaeologist (Tir Gofal)

Signature S. Wardle Date 13/3/3

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 13/03/03



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


# Graig Farm

Tir Gofal Historic Environment Consultation  
 Countryside Council for Wales Reference W/12/2802  
 Cambria Archaeology Reference PRN45600  
 National Grid Reference SN69593489

 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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