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TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN: HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION HE2

Prepared for:
Pensarn
W/11/4094



Prepared by
Will Steele

Report No. **2004/81**
Project No. **48427**

Other documents enclosed:
**Historic Landscape Character Areas; Swyddffynnon 26, Banc Esgair-Mwn/
Rhos Tanchwarel 36, Cefn-Meurig 38, Tyngraig 90, Berthddu 104**

A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

2. Historic Landscape Character

Pensarn consists of four separate land holdings in Ceredigion. Three of these holdings (W/11/4094, 4094a and 4094b) were visited on the 26th July 2004. All fall within the Upland Ceredigion Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest HLW (D) 2. This area has been further divided as part of the Historic Landscape Characterisation Project. These areas (HLCAs) are intended to define places where local land-use patterns have left particularly strong or distinctive evidence in the landscape.

The home farm of Pensarn (W/11/4094) lies some 800m west of the hamlet of Swyddffynnon in Ystrad Meurig community, between Swyddffynnon (26) and Berthddu (104) HLCAs. This is an undulating landscape of scattered farms and small regular fields with the occasional small stand of woodland. Hedges are often grown out giving an open feel to some areas. The processes behind the creation of this landscape are not known but interpretations favour systematic enclosure in few episodes rather than piecemeal encroachment (Murphy 1999).

W/11/4094a, in Ystrad Meurig community rises from the valley of the Nant Cwmtarw to the fringe of Mnydd Bach in the north. The hamlet of Tyngraig lies just outside the southern boundary. The settlement pattern in this area consists of scattered farmsteads and cottages within a system of small fields. Fields in the valley bottom are irregular but become increasingly uniform at higher elevations suggesting later episodes in the enclosure of mountain land. This holding falls within Tyngraig HLCA (90).

W/11/4094b., the largest of the four land parcels, is situated within Ystrad Fflur community on the edge of the Cambrian Mountains. It occupies that part of Banc Esgair-Mwyn/ Rhos Tanchwarel HLCA (36) known as Rhos Marchnant. The river forms the northern boundary of the holding. This is open moorland consisting of rough grazing with pockets of peaty land. Post and wire fences, sometimes on earth banks serve to divide the moorland, yet retain an open aspect. Hedges are not a feature of this landscape. Settlement here is dispersed with several abandoned dwellings. What is most striking about this landscape are the redundant lead mines. Esgair-mwyn, with its spoil tips still exposed and corrugated iron mine buildings, lies just outside the southern boundary of the holding and is a prominent landmark here.

Another holding (W/11/4094c.) is situated north of Ponrhydfendigaid village and falls within Cefn-Meurig HLCA (38). This is a distinctive landscape of dispersed settlement with small irregular fields around the farmsteads and larger enclosures beyond. This was in place by the time of the tithe maps (Gwnnws and Ysbyty Ystwyth parishes) of the second quarter of the nineteenth century, but sub-division of the larger fields seems to have continued into the late 19th century.

Archaeological and Historic Content

Prehistoric activity is suggested in the vicinity of the home farm (W/11/4094) by a record of a burnt mound (PRN 1980) by Cantrill in 1911. A mound at Pensarn, thought to be that described, was augered and found to be natural during field survey undertaken in 1995. The true whereabouts and condition of this mound are not presently known but the potential for prehistoric evidence within the farm boundary remains. Burnt mounds are typically assigned to the Bronze Age and comprise concentrations of heat cracked stones thought to be cooking places or alternatively the sites of sweat lodges.

Field name evidence from the Lledrod parish tithe map & apportionment (1844) hints at the former presence of a limekiln (Caer Rodyn, PRN 51223) and possible burial (Grave Y Cethin, PRN 51222) in fields to the south-east of the farmstead. No traces of any such features are visible on the ground today however.

Evidence for rural settlement provides the mainstay of archaeological and historic evidence on lands at Pensarn. Several abandoned cottage sites (PRNs 51541, 38016, 24572) flank the formerly open moorland of Mynydd Bach on holding W/11/4094a. They are now reduced to earthworks with at best the ruinous walls surviving. Their location and comparatively small size suggests origins in squatter settlement when population rise in the 18th and 19th centuries led to increased land pressure and some individuals being forced to seek marginal locations on which to build their homes.

Abandoned nineteenth century settlements are also a feature of W/11/4094b, in the Marchnant valley. Some sites such as Ty Newydd (PRN 51544) with substantial farmhouse, outbuilding range and associated fields (now apparent as relict boundary banks), for example were obviously established, and relatively self contained farmsteads. It is tempting to suggest that the smaller cottages, often with just one small outbuilding (PRNs 9074, 51547, 7156) were the homes of small holders or labourers, with incomes supplemented by work in nearby lead mines. Aside from Ty Newydd which is derelict, most of these sites are now ruinous. Some cottages marked on nineteenth century maps are still inhabited (eg. Gwar-ffordd PRN 7157 and Bog PRN 7201) and fall outside the Tir Gofal application area.

Esgair-mwyn lead and silver mine (PRN 8310) lies just outside the southern boundary of the holding. Early records suggest that the mine was working in 1756 when it was let to Lord Powis. By 1854 it was in possession of the Esgair Mwyn Mining Company, and the total nineteenth century lead ore output recorded at 30,000 tons. The mine closed in 1927 (Protheroe-Jones 1992) and is now derelict, characterised by massive spoil heaps (some of which extend on to the farm holding) and redundant corrugated iron buildings. The mining industry relied largely on water power. Two leats (PRNs 9097, 9098) associated with this complex cross the south-east portion of the holding.

Further archaeological content on holdings W/11/4094, 4094a, 4094b. is discussed in the gazetteer below. A desk based assessment revealed no specific archaeological or historic features on holding W/11/4094c.

B2) HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FEATURES

All known historic environment features are marked on Map 1 of this agreement

These are divided into three types:

- i) Archaeological and Historic Features: Archaeological sites, earthwork monuments, ruined structures and individual historic garden features.
- ii) Traditional Buildings: Structures built before 1918 using traditional materials and methods of construction.
- iii) Historic Parks and Gardens: Discrete areas of land laid out in an ornamental way for the pleasure of the owner.

All historic environment features have been allocated categories of importance:

Site Status A: Sites and Monuments of National Importance.

Site Status B: Sites/Features of Regional Importance.

Site Status C: Sites/Features of Local Importance.

Site Status D: Minor and damaged sites.

Site Status U: Sites requiring further investigation.

General requirements

Historic earthworks, stone structures, archaeological sites, traditional buildings, parks and gardens must all be retained and protected against damage. The management of these features must comply with the following general requirements.

- Do not remove any material from archaeological sites or historic features, or deposit spoil, farm waste or rubbish.
- Ensure contractors and all other workers on the farm are aware of the historic environment features and comply with the requirements of this agreement. They should take appropriate measures to avoid accidental damage.
- Do not carry out any excavation, erect any new structure or plant any trees without the prior approval of the Project Officer.
- Do not site new fencing or vehicular tracks on archaeological or historic sites without the prior approval of the Project Officer.
- Ensure that the use of metal detectors and the reporting of discoveries complies with the Treasure Act 1996 and associated codes of practice. The Portable Antiquities Scheme website (<http://www.finds.org.uk>) provides valuable guidance and information.
- Please report all discoveries of archaeological interest to Cambria Archaeology. This enables them to maintain an up-to-date record of archaeological discoveries.

"Scheduled" Ancient Monuments (SAMs) have statutory protection and consent from Cadw may be required for works to these monuments. Consult the Project Officer for advice.

"Listed Buildings" also have statutory protection and permission from the Local Planning Authority may be required for some works. This also applies to

buildings within the curtilage of a listed building. Consult the Project Officer for Advice

In addition to these general requirements you must comply with the specific sets of prescriptions set out below:

i) ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC FEATURES:
Archaeological Sites, Earthwork Monuments, Ruined structures and individual historic garden features.

Location and description:

A search of the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) held by the Cambria Archaeology has identified the following sites and monuments which are indicated on Map 1.

Other sites may be known to the landowner and these should be identified to the Project Officer who will pass the information to the Trust.

Name (& PRN)	Perion/Site type	NGR	Status SAM/listing	Management required
YSTRAD-MEURIG (1980)	Prehistoric burnt mound?	SN68306635	U	Generic
A damaged burnt mound was identified at this location by Cantrill in 1911. No traces of a burnt mound were identified during field survey by Cambria in 1995. A mound in the vicinity was augered but found to be natural (Williams, G 1994 in Manning 1997).				
PANT-Y-GWAITH; ESGAIR-MWYN (7156)	Post Medieval cottage	SN75166928	B	Generic
A single cottage shown and identified on the tithe map and apportionment (1847) as Esgairmwyn house and garden but described as unoccupied. The cottage, and an outbuilding, appear on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map (1888) but are un-named, seemingly abandoned by the time of the 2nd edition (1905). The cottage is now roofless and in a semi-collapsed state, occupying a terrace cut in to the hillside with its long axis along the slope. It measures c.7m by 6m with walls still standing to full one and a half storey height in places. The outbuilding, to the east, is reduced to a rubble platform c.8m by 6m. A stone walled paddock of about half an acre lies in front of the buildings to the north. The site lies in pasture. It is relatively free from vegetation with no specific management threats identified.				
TY NEWYDD (7187)	Post Medieval farmhouse	SN75757016	B	Generic
A farmhouse in the abandoned farmstead of Ty-Newydd (PRN 51544). It is of rubble stone with a slate roof and features a symmetrical three bay façade offset to the east to accommodate the main fireplace. It is now in a derelict and deteriorating condition.				
CASTELL (9074)	Post Medieval farmhouse	SN75447007	B	Generic
An abandoned farmhouse or cottage on Rhos Marchnant. First appears on the Old Series map of 1834 and was apparently still occupied on the 1905, 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map. Now roofless, with semi-collapsed walls defining a two unit building (13m east-west by 6m north-south). The ruins of an outbuilding (c.4m north-south by 3m east-west) defined by a low earth and stone bank on all but the west side, which is left open, lie c.10m to the northeast. Enclosure boundaries and scattered trees, presumably the remains of an orchard or garden lie to the north of the cottage. It is not known exactly when the site was abandoned but it is marked as occupied on an Ordnance Survey map of 1964.				



The view south along a relict field bank towards Castell Cottage

GLAN-Y-NANT ([9082](#)) **Post Medieval** **SN75216955** **B** **Generic**
cottage

A drystone cottage recorded as being renovated in 1979. A pound was noted to the south. The cottage was never renovated and is now ruinous, the walls standing to a maximum height of 1.4m and defining a two unit building measuring c.8m north-south by 5m east-west. An adjacent enclosure, presumably the pound referred to is defined by low grassed over walls. The site now lies in pasture.

EAGAIR-MWYN ([9097](#)) **Post Medieval leat** **SN76306973** **B** **Generic**

A former leat serving Esgair-Mwyn metal mines (PRN 8310). Not seen during the archaeological farm visit but recorded as in fair condition when visited under the Cambrian Mountains Metal Mines Project in 1988.

ESGAIR-MWYN ([9098](#)) **Post Medieval leat** **SN76006983** **B** **Generic**

A former leat carrying water from the Afon Marchnant to the Esgair-Mwyn metal mines (PRN 8310). It is in fair condition today and appears to have been constructed by digging a ditch and, in places, using spoil to form a bank on the downslope side. The full length of the leat was not walked during the archaeological farm visit but, where seen, was found to average c.1.5m wide by 1m deep. The leat is now grassed over.

BWLCH-Y-BAEDD **Post Medieval** **SN70447007** **B** **Generic**
([24571](#)) **cottage**

An abandoned small holding on the southern flank of Mynydd Bach. It first appears on the Old Series Ordnance Survey map of 1834 but is not shown in accurate detail until the First Edition map of 1888. A two-unit building appears on the roadside, with another small building positioned to the south-east. Several small enclosures are also present.

The buildings are now ruinous. The main range, on part of a platform terraced in to the hillslope is roofless. It measures approximately 16m east-west by 6m north-south with walls surviving to full height indicating a one-and-a-half storey design. A fireplace suggests that the west unit, at least served as living space. The outbuilding to the south-west is in a semi-collapsed state. It measures c. 5m north-south by 3m east-west with attached enclosure and may represent a former pigsty. The enclosure walls to the south and west of the buildings survive with the occasional outgrown hedgerow tree. Tree and scrub growth is becoming established around the site which otherwise lies in pasture.



The front (south facing) elevation of Bwlch-y-baedd cottage.

Y MWNT;MOUNT
[\(24572\)](#)

Post Medieval
cottage

SN70367011 B

Generic

A ruinous cottage on the edge of Mynydd Bach. It appears on the 1888, 1st edition Ordnance Survey map but is shown in outline on the 1905 edition, apparently abandoned. It is roofless and in a semi-collapsed state. Walls stand to a maximum height of 1.5m defining a building 10m east-west by 6m north-south. An outbuilding, 5m square, to the west is now reduced to wall footings. The site lies in the margins of a pasture field. It is grazed periodically. No specific management threats identified.



Mount cottage as seen from the south. Mynydd bach lies behind, to the north.

PEN-Y-LON [\(38016\)](#)

Post Medieval
cottage

SN70237019 B

Generic

The earthwork remains of a nineteenth century cottage on the southern flank of Mynydd Bach. It is one of two buildings shown facing each other across a road on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map (1888) and identified as Pen-y-lon. Only the wall footings and enclosure banks with grown out hedgerow trees survive today. The remains of the cottage itself consist of a level platform (c.7m east-west by 6m north-south). The sites lies in the corner of a pasture field which is grazed periodically. No specific management threats identified.

GRAVE Y CETHIN **Unknown burial?** **SN68616610** **U** **Generic**
[\(51222\)](#)

This field is named "Grave Y Cethin" on the tithe schedule (1844). The significance of this place-name is not known but it may be a reference to a burial nearby. The landowner has no further information to support this and no sign of an antiquity was observed in this field during the archaeological farm visit.

CAER RODYN [\(51223\)](#) **Post Medieval lime** **SN68876610** **U** **Generic**
kiln?

A field identified as "Caer Rodyn" on the tithe schedule (1844), the odyn element suggesting the presence of a limekiln in the vicinity. Nothing to suggest a limekiln was observed here during the archaeological farm visit.

GWAR-HELYG [\(51224\)](#) **Post Medieval** **SN68066652** **B** **Generic**
cottage

A ruined cottage site on farmland c.1km west of Swyddffynnon. It first appears on the 1889, 1st edition, Ordnance Survey map where it is named "Gwar-helyg." It is of rubble stone and follows a two unit ground floor plan. The cottage remains stand to near eaves height around the north end indicating a one and a half storey design. Around the south end they are diminished with only the low, spread wall footings surviving. The site lies in the corner of a pasture field. It is fenced out and partially overgrown with bracken. No specific management threats were identified.



Looking north towards Gwar-Helyg cottage (now ruinous).

GWAR-HELYG [\(51536\)](#) **Post Medieval well** **SN68066647** **B** **Generic**

The site of a former well. It appears on the 1888, 1st edition Ordnance Survey map, positioned some 30m to the south of Gwar-helyg cottage (PRN 51224, now ruined). No structural traces of a well survive at this location today. The site lies within a pasture field.

1 **GWENHAFDRE-FACH;** **Post Medieval** **SN67846655** **B** **Specific**
CYNHAWDRE [\(51537\)](#) **cottage**

A former cottage site on farmland c.1km west of Swyddffynnon. A building appears on the 1888, 1st edition Ordnance Survey map, named as Gwenhafdre-fach but becomes known as Cynhawdre on the 2nd edition of 1905. A three unit cottage is shown with an outbuilding to the northeast, and surrounding enclosures. The cottage and enclosures have been bulldozed into a large mound with a ring feeder now positioned on what remains of the cottage platform. A platform (c.7m squared) survives where the outbuilding once stood.



The site of Gwenhafdre-fach, viewed from the north-east.

MANCHESTER & MILFORD RAILWAY CO. ([51539](#)) **Post Medieval railway** **SN69496929 B** **Generic**

A segment of disused single track railway (PRN 28222) opened in the late nineteenth century. Marked as an embankment on the Ordnance Survey map data. The railway was not seen during the archaeological farm visit. Current condition not known.

([51540](#)) **Post Medieval well** **SN69346947 B** **Generic**

A well marked on the 1st (1888) and 2nd (1905) edition Ordnance Survey maps. It is absent from recent map data, apparently infilled now.

PEN-LLAIN ([51541](#)) **Post Medieval cottage** **SN70087022 B** **Generic**

The site of a cottage formally known as Pen-llain. It appears on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map (1888) on the edge of an area of unenclosed land known as Mynydd Bach. It has long since been abandoned and is now reduced to earthworks. A level platform (c.9m east-west by 6m north-south) and wall footings are all that remains of the cottage today. A central opening in the south wall probably represents the original doorway. Remnant enclosure banks surround the site on all but the north side where the road passes. The site lies in the corner of a pasture field and is now grassed over. No specific management threats were identified.

([51543](#)) **Post Medieval clearance cairn** **SN70166985 C** **Generic**

About 6 small round clearance cairns to a maximum diameter of 4m are scattered about this field. They are now covered with scrub and grown out tree growth.



One of the clearance cairns, now partially obscured by scrub growth.

TY NEWYDD ([51544](#)) **Post Medieval farmstead** **SN75747016 B** **Generic**

A derelict nineteenth century farmstead on Rhos Marchnant. Although buildings are shown at this location on the Old Series map of 1834 the farmstead does not appear in its present form until the Ordnance Survey map of 1888. The farmhouse (PRN 7187) stands adjacent to a long range of agricultural buildings behind a long yard. A ruinous pigsty lies a short distance to the north. The farmstead was shown as occupied as recently as the 1964, 6" Ordnance Survey map but is now in a derelict and deteriorating condition. It is now a barn owl roost.

([51545](#)) **Post Medieval ford** **SN75497036 C** **Generic**

A ford marked crossing the Afon Marchnant on the 1888 Ordnance Survey map. A modern bridge now carries the track across the river. No traces of the ford survive.

([51546](#)) **Post Medieval footbridge** **SN75477036 C** **Generic**

A footbridge across the Afon Marchnant, marked on the 1888 Ordnance Survey map. No traces of a footbridge survive at this location today.

GWAR-FFYNNON ([51547](#)) **Post Medieval cottage** **SN75506972 B** **Generic**

A single building within a square enclosure, all within a larger field shown on the tithe map and described as "Gwairffynnon" cottage, garden and field. The 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps show two buildings, enclosures and a well called Gwar-ffynnon. Not seen during the archaeological farm visit but presumed abandoned.

ESGAIR-MWYN ([51548](#)) **Post Medieval well** **SN75246927 B** **Generic**

A well marked on the 1888 Ordnance Survey map, just to the east of Esgair-mwyn cottage (PRN 7156). Not seen during the archaeological farm visit.

([51549](#)) **Post Medieval stepping stones** **SN75796965 C** **Generic**

Stepping stones marked on the 1888, 1905 Ordnance Survey maps carrying the footpath across a stream. Site not seen during the archaeological farm visit. Present condition unknown.

([51550](#)) **Post Medieval boundary stone** **SN75746947 C** **Generic**

A stone is marked on the tithe map (1847) as being used as a boundary marker. Site not seen. The condition of this feature is not presently known.

[\(51551\)](#) **Modern engine SN75576928 B Generic**
platform

A rectangular concrete platform, with metal fixings for an engine or other machinery apparatus, beside a leat (PRN 9097) at Esgair-Mwyn metal mining complex (PRN 8310). The platform measures approximately 8m by 4m on a general north-south alignment. Its function is not known but it is described as a loading facility following a visit under the Cambrian Mountains Metal Mines Project in 1988.

[\(51552\)](#) **Post Medieval SN75676953 B Generic**
enclosure

Appears as a small rectangle in outline on the 1888, 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map only. The site was not seen during the archaeological farm visit. Unknown function. Possible interpretations could include a livestock handling facility or an abandoned shepherds hut or hafod (summer dwelling). The present condition of this site is unknown

[\(51553\)](#) **Post Medieval peat SN75556971 B Generic**
workings

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) record and area of peat cutting, approximately 416m north-east of Esgair-Mwyn. Patches of extraction are identified at NGRs SN75566972, SN75626974, SN75476964. We have no further information on the nature or extent of these workings. The site was not seen during the archaeological farm visit.

[\(51554\)](#) **Post Medieval long SN75457014 B Generic**
hut?

A sub-rectangular earthwork banked on three sides (east, south and west) by a low earth and stone bank (c.1.5m wide by 0.5m high). It measures 10m by 6m with the west side left open.

[\(51555\)](#) **Post Medieval SN75806985 B Generic**
enclosure

A rectangular outline marked on the 25", Ordnance Survey map of 1888 implying an enclosure or abandoned building. Appears only as a scatter of stones on the 1905 edition. Unknown function. Possible interpretations could include a livestock handling facility or a former shepherds hut or hafod (summer dwelling). The site was not seen during the archaeological farm visit and its present condition is not known.

[\(51556\)](#) **Post Medieval spoil SN75606922 Generic**
tip

Spoil tips associated with Esgair Mwyn metal mine (PRN 8310), centred on NGR SN75596921. Now grassed over.

Historic Environment Objectives:

The purpose of the management is to:

- Ensure the survival of visible features.
- Ensure archaeological deposits beneath the ground surface are not disturbed.
- Prevent progressive degradation by adopting sustainable farming practices.

In order to achieve this you will need to observe the following:

Generic Management Prescriptions - see also General Requirements - Section B2

1. Maintain the agreed stocking level to encourage a sound grass sward or low growing vegetation, without poaching or causing erosion.
2. Do not install new drains or underground services.
3. Locate feeding and watering stations away from archaeological and historic features.
4. Avoid using heavy machinery on sites or close to archaeological and historic features, especially in wet weather.
5. Do not plough archaeological or historic features, or cultivate so close as to cut into the remains. A minimum buffer zone of 2m is advised. In the case of monuments already under cultivation and where the agreement does not exclude the monument from cultivation, ensure that the depth of cultivation is not increased.
6. Remove any dead and unstable trees from the vicinity of archaeological and historic features with care, leaving roots to rot in situ. Ensure that machinery does not cause further disturbance. Agree with the Project Officer a suitable method for repairing any damage caused, for example, by wind-throw.
7. Control scrub on archaeological and historic features by cutting. Roots must be left in the ground and must not be pulled or dug out. Treatment with an approved herbicide may, exceptionally, be permitted in agreement with the Project Officer. (Capital Works Option).
8. Do not burn materials on site.
9. Ensure that rabbits are kept under control, but not by excavating within an archaeological or historic feature.
10. Consult your Project Officer a suitable method for repairing any damage caused by burrowing animals. (Capital Works Option)

Specific Management Requirements for individual archaeological and historic features.

The following individual sites and monuments are subject to specific management prescriptions which are in addition to and (in the case of conflict) take precedence over the generic requirements:

Site 1 on MAP 1

**GWENHAFDRE-FACH; CYNHAWDRE
[\(51537\)](#)**

SN67846655

In addition to the Generic Management Prescriptions listed above the following management is recommended.

Poaching by livestock around the ring feeder is damaging to earthwork and buried archaeological remains. The feeder should be moved a minimum of 5m away from earthwork traces of any buildings.

ii) TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS:

Location and Description:

Traditional buildings are those built before c.1918 using traditional materials and methods of construction, to serve the needs of customary farming practices. Typically, they will use locally available materials and skills, though mass-produced materials (bricks, corrugated iron) may sometimes be locally characteristic.

The following traditional buildings have been identified:

Name (& PRN)	Perion/Site type	NGR	Status SAM/listing	Management required
PENSARN (51538)	Post Medieval farmstead	SN68466606	B	Generic

A nineteenth century farmstead some 800m west of Swyddfynnon. The farmhouse is positioned at the head of the yard opposite a long, low cow house. Modern agricultural buildings lie behind the historic core to the north and west. Although buildings appear at this location on earlier maps, the farmstead does not appear in its present form until the Second Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1905.

Historic Environment Objectives:

The purpose of the management is to:

- Promote the survival of traditional buildings on the farm
- Prevent progressive decay of traditional buildings through neglect.
- Promote the sympathetic use of traditional buildings within sustainable farming practice.

In order to achieve this you will need to observe the following:

Generic Management Prescriptions - see also General Requirements section B2

1. Those traditional buildings in a weatherproof and a structurally sound condition must be maintained in a weatherproof condition.
2. Those traditional buildings or parts of traditional buildings that have not been previously modified must be maintained using traditional materials and methods of construction.
3. Characteristics and features which reflect history and function of the traditional buildings identified in this agreement must not be removed.
4. Wherever practicable, repair original features rather than replace them. (Capital Works Option)
5. Repairs should be unobtrusive and make use of appropriate traditional materials and methods of construction. (Capital Works Option)
6. When repair is not possible, replacement features must be modelled on the originals, using the same materials and methods of construction. (Capital Works Option)
7. Ensure the retention and sympathetic repair of historic coverings and finishes such as lime-wash, lime-render or weather-boarding. The appropriate traditional materials must be used. (Capital Works Option)
8. Do not disturb protected species (such as bats or barn owls) that use the building. If these species are present you will need a licence from CCW to carry out any work on the building.

iii) HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS:

There are no Historic Parks and Gardens in the Cambria Archaeology Historic Environment Record for the application area

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This HE2 report supercedes the information given in the [HE1 report](#) for this farm.

Sources consulted:

Ordnance Survey Old Series map 1834 Sheet 57, 1"

Tithe Map & Apportionment 1844 Lledrod Parish

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Ordnance Survey 1888 Cardiganshire Sheet 16.13, 25"

Ordnance Survey 1905 Cardiganshire Sheet 16.13, 25"

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Ordnance Survey 1888 Cardiganshire Sheet 16.06, 25"

Ordnance Survey 1905 Cardiganshire Sheet 16.06, 25"

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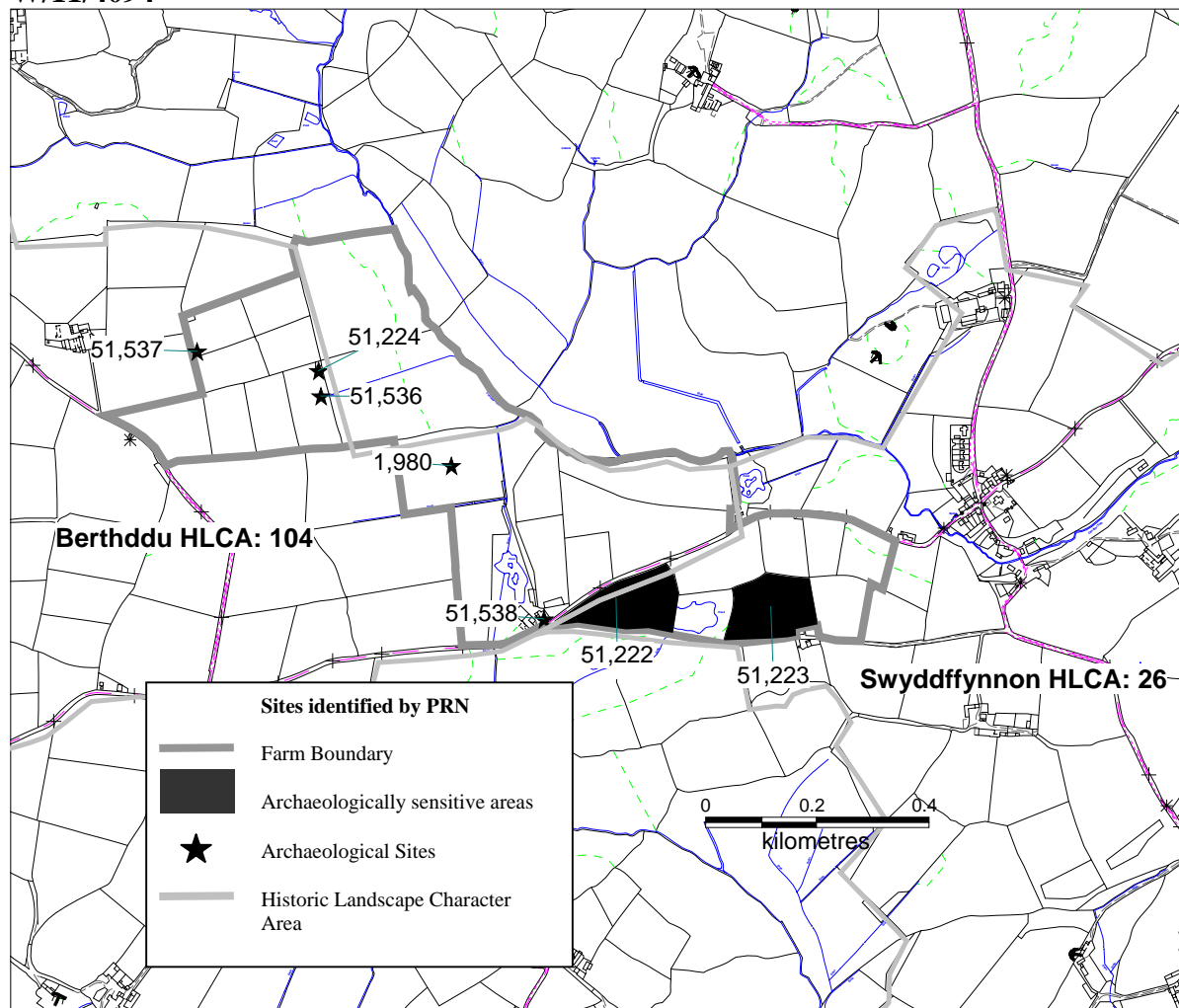
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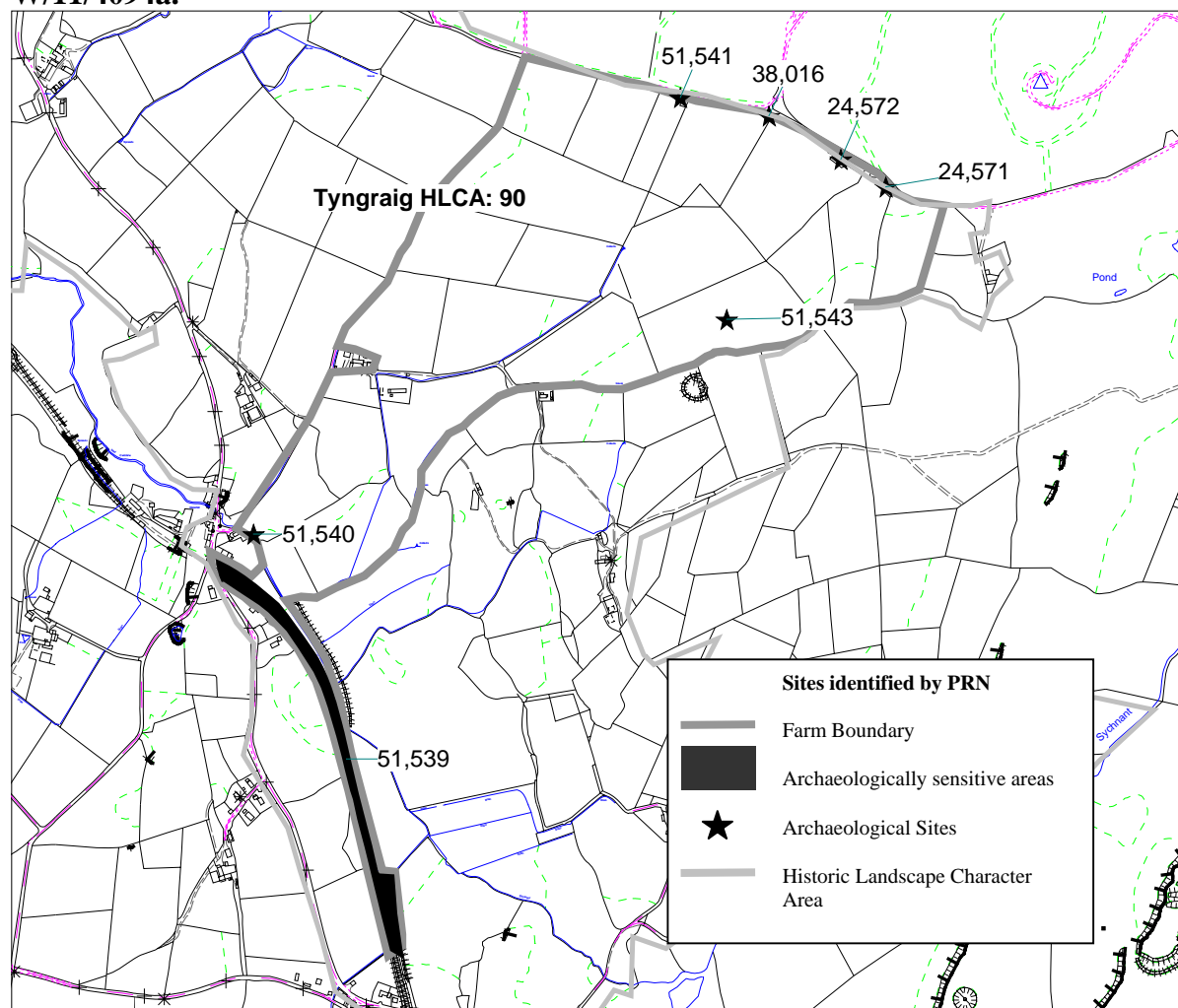
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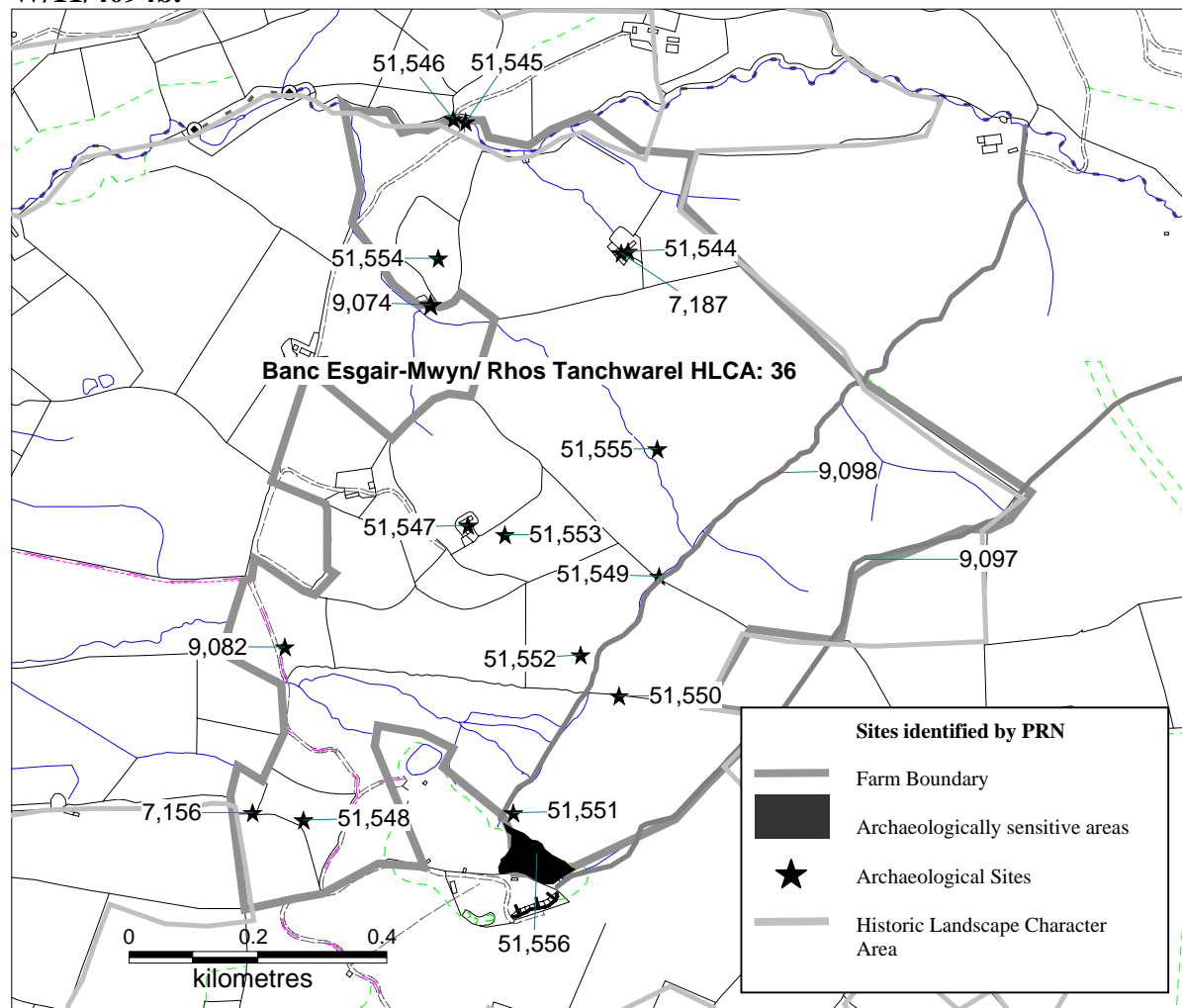
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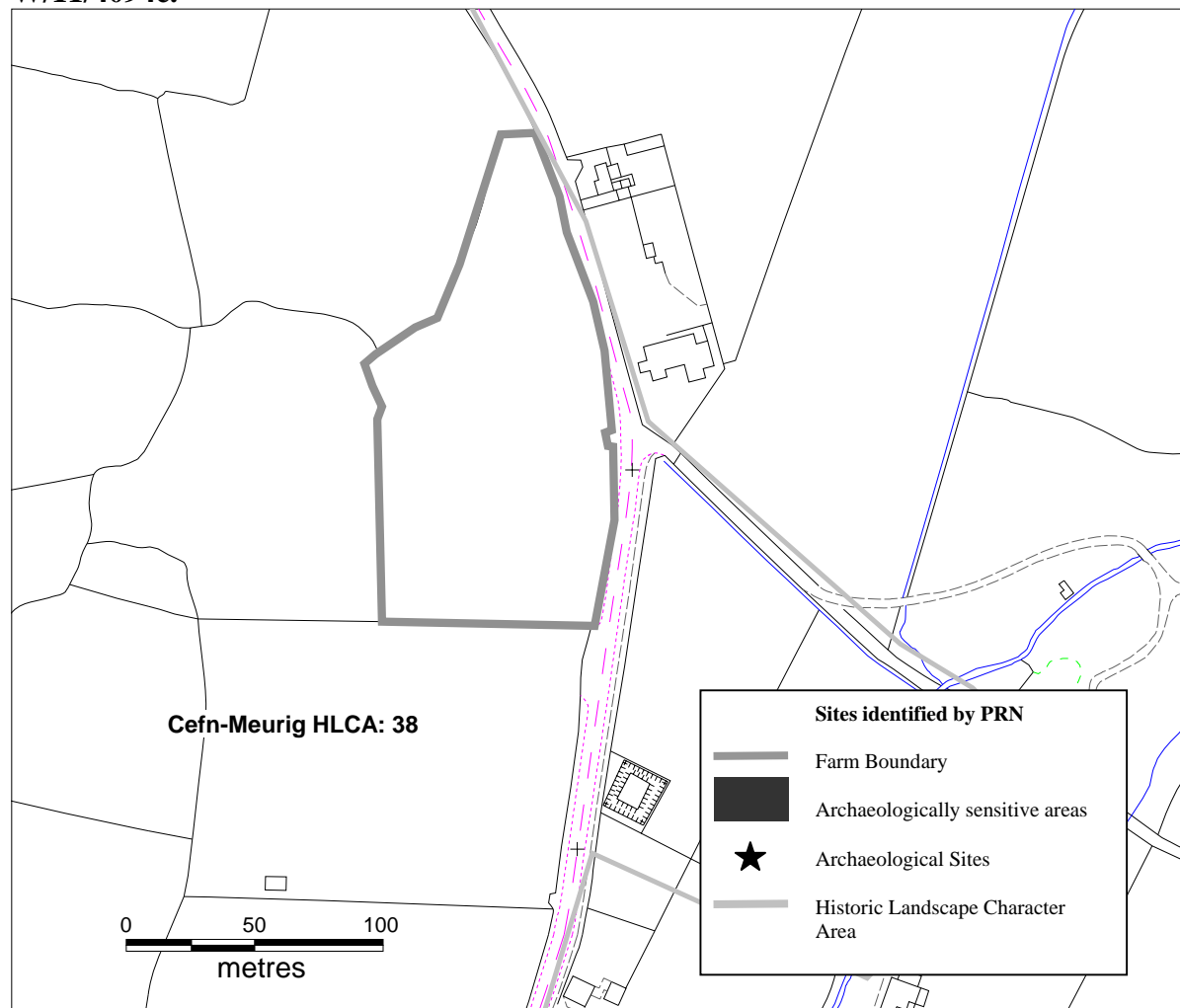
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UPLAND CEREDIGION

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 26 SWYDDFFYNNON

GRID REFERENCE: SN 693659

AREA IN HECTARES: 159.5

Historic Background

In the Medieval Period this area lay within Strata Florida Abbey's Mefenydd Grange. A water mill was recorded here (Williams 1990, 57). The place-name Swyddffynnon may indicate residence of an official of the grange. At the dissolution all Strata Florida's holdings were granted to the Earl of Essex. Soon after, the land around Swyddffynnon seems to have been purchased by the Lloyds of Ffosyleiddiaid and later acquired by the Vaughans of Crosswood. Historic maps including the tithe map of 1844 (Lledrod Tithe Map and Apportionment) and late 18th-century estate maps (NLW Crosswood Vol 1, 62; NLW Crosswood Vol 2, 18) show the area very much as it is today - scattered farms and small enclosures - with no indication of the processes involved in its evolution, though it is likely that most of the farms date to the later Medieval Period, if not earlier. However, aerial photographs taken in 1999 for this project seem to indicate strip divisions in some fields, suggesting a former sub-divided or common field system. The origin of the hamlet of Swyddffynnon is uncertain although it was sufficiently populous in 1743 for a chapel to be built (Percival 1998, 523).

Description and essential historic landscape components

Undulating ground ranging from 160m to 205m on the north east side of Cors Caron (area 1) centred on the hamlet of Swyddffynnon. The landscape is one of scattered farms and small enclosures with small stands of deciduous and conifer woodland. Boundaries are of earth banks or stone and earth banks topped with hedges. Hedges are in fair to good condition; some have been replaced or supported with wire fences. Improved pasture is the predominate land-use, though some patches of rougher grazing are evident. Houses are mostly stone-built with slate roofs. Farms have modern buildings attached to them. The hamlet of Swyddffynnon comprises a nucleated settlement, including a small school, and is a mixture of older stone-built dwellings and modern buildings of rendered concrete.

The recorded archaeology of this area consists mostly of post-Medieval sites. These are, however, varied, and as well as including domestic and ecclesiastic standing structures, a mill, woollen factory, gin, metal mine and smithy are also recorded. Time depth to the landscape is provided by place-names indicating the site of a Medieval holy well and a Bronze Age round barrow.

This area is very well defined to the south and east where it runs down to Cors Caron (area 1). To the north it fades into an area of larger enclosures (area 108). To the west is enclosed land and rough grazing (area 93).

Ground photographs: 17, 94

Aerial Photographs: 1, 3

UPLAND CEREDIGION

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 36 BANC ESGAIR-MWN/RHOS TANCHWAREL

GRID REFERENCE: SN 760703

AREA IN HECTARES: 546.6

Historic Background

In the Medieval Period this area formed part of Strata Florida Abbey's grange of Mefenydd and Cwmystwyth. At the Dissolution the Earl of Essex was granted abbey lands, the greater portion of which was purchased by the Crosswood estate in 1630, including lands close to this area. The history of this area is uncertain, though its unenclosed upland nature probably ensured that it was considered Crown land. The southern part of the area came to the interest of the Crosswood estate in the early 19th-century when there were plans to enclosure this area by act of parliament, and a survey was undertaken to facilitate this in 1815 (NLW Crosswood 347), but no award was granted. The 1815 survey shows the area almost entirely unenclosed. By the time of the tithe survey (Gwnnws Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1844; Spuddy Ystwyth Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1848) the majority of this area was still unenclosed. Unenclosed land in the northeastern portion of this area, on the eastern boundary of Ystwyth parish was subjected to illegal encroachments prior to 1846, recorded on a map in the National Library of Wales (NLW Map 7181). These encroachments seem to consist of large enclosures, and were therefore carried out under the aegis of an estate or by tenant farmers, and were not the small-scale work of squatters. It would seem that following the tithe survey most of this area was subjected to enclosure, dividing it into very large fields. The origin of the settlement pattern of dispersed farmsteads and cottages may have its foundations in the 18th- and 19th century squatting, but this is not certain. Most of these settlements are now deserted. Esgair-Mwn lead mine was probably very ancient when it was re-discovered in the 18th century and worked for the Crown. The 18th century seems to have been its most profitable period of working, though production continued throughout the 19th century and down to 1927. In the 1940s the mine was reopened for the purpose of working the rich tips (Bick 1974, 34-35). Other mines within this area are also ancient - Glogfach and Glogfawr - though their history is not so well recorded.

Description and essential historic landscape components

This area lies between 270m and 420m to the west of unenclosed land and includes the east-west aligned valleys of the Gwyddyl, Garw and Marchnant in its southern part, and the southern slopes of the Ystwyth valley to the north. Although it has a general appearance of being unenclosed, there are many large enclosures formed by earth banks. Few hedges are present, and the banks are topped with wire fences. In some instances the earth bank boundaries are derelict. Close to the farmsteads and cottages are smaller enclosures, of improved pasture. Here some of the bank boundaries have hedges, but these are rarely stock-proof. Houses are stone-built with slate roofs. Distinctive landscape components are old lead mines. Spoil heaps are particularly prominent in this area, but stone buildings and ancillary features including a corrugated-iron machine shed at Banc Esgair-Mwn are present. The high east-west aligned ridges between valleys consist of improved grazing with rougher ground on steep slopes. Valley bottoms tend towards very rough grazing with peaty pockets. Farmsteads situated on lower valley slopes have small enclosures with improved pasture.

Recorded archaeology in this area comprises almost entirely deserted settlements and remains of the metal mining industry.

This landscape area is not particularly distinct from its neighbours. To the east area 35 comprises many similar characteristics, but is of higher elevation and contains large tracts of conifer plantation. Area 41 to the southeast is lower lying and with a field system of smaller enclosures. Only on the northwest and northeast sides is there a clear distinction between this area and those that bound it. A block of forestry plantation (area 5) bounds this area to the northeast. Smaller enclosures and scattered farmsteads/cottages (areas 42 and 91) comprise the land to the northwest.

Ground photograph: 32

Aerial Photographs: 23, 25

UPLAND CEREDIGION

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 38 CEFN-MEURIG

GRID REFERENCE: SN 725680
AREA IN HECTARES: 166.4

Historic Background

In the Medieval Period part of this area lay within Strata Florida Abbey's grange of Mefenydd. At the dissolution the Earl of Essex was granted abbey lands, the greater portion of which was purchased by the Crosswood estate in 1630, including lands in this area. As with other granges owned by Strata Florida, it is likely that Mefenydd had been divided into farms which were let on a commercial basis by the end of the Medieval Period, if not earlier. The settlement pattern in this area may therefore originate in the 15th or 16th centuries. On historic maps this area comprises several disparate types of landscape. The tithe maps (Gwnnws Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1847; Ysbyty Ystwyth Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1848) show it partly unenclosed, partly enclosed with small enclosures and partly enclosed with large enclosures. Earlier, late 18th-century estate maps (NLW Crosswood Deeds Vol 1, 68; Morgan Richardson Dep. 4) of Cefn Meurig farm, Cloddiau farm and a farm that no longer exists, show a similar pattern with the farmsteads set in a cluster of three or four small fields surrounded by a system of larger fields or unenclosed land. Clearly from at least the late 18th-century there was a process of carving out smaller fields from larger ones. This process was still in operation at the time of the tithe survey, but seems to have been completed by the mid-to-late 19th-century. Since the late 20th-century the field systems have been in decline.

Description and essential historic landscape components

An area of sloping ground rising from 180m close to the village of Pontrhydfendigaid at its southeastern end, to almost 300m at the northwest. The historic landscape components consist of small irregular fields and scattered farms. On the southeastern lower slopes boundaries consist of earth banks and hedges. Hedges are in fair to good condition, though some are supplemented with wire fences. On the higher slopes the condition of the hedges becomes poorer and the nature of the boundaries shows some change, with stone and earth banks and derelict dry-stone walls intermixed with earth banks. At the highest levels, at the northwest end, the landscape is becoming derelict. There are some small stands of deciduous woodland. On the lower levels improved pasture dominates, becoming less prevalent on the upper slopes. At these higher levels a greater proportion of the land consists of rough grazing with bracken cover, though improved land is still present. Buildings are stone-built with slate roofs.

Recorded archaeology comprises a small metal mine and a possible Bronze Age cremation.

The boundaries of this area are fairly well defined. To the north and northeast this area fades into area 41, an area of large enclosures and rougher grazing. To the north and northwest lies the more open ground of areas 33 and 95, and to the south is the regular field system of area 30.

Ground photographs: 26, 31

Aerial Photographs: 28, 34

UPLAND CEREDIGION

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 90 TYNGRAIG

GRID REFERENCE: SN 697697

AREA IN HECTARES: 257.5

Historic Background

In the Medieval Period this area lay within Strata Florida Abbey's Mefenydd Grange. At the Dissolution the abbey's granges were granted to the Earl of Essex who sold them to the Crosswood estate in 1630. Most of the land in this area seems to have remained in the Crosswood estate through to the 20th century. In common with other granges, it is likely that by the end of the Medieval Period, if not earlier, Mefenydd had been divided into farms which were leased out and farmed on a commercial basis. Hafod place-names - Hafod-y-gofiant - suggest that these farms may have originated out of a system of transhumance. By the mid 19th-century, at the time of the tithe survey (Gwynnws Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1847) the landscape had achieved much of its present-day appearance; the field system had been laid out and the settlement pattern established. Earlier maps of the late 18th-century (NLW Crosswood Vol 1, 55, 58) indicate that landscape development was then taking place. Nant-byr isaf and Nant-byr uchaf farms are shown encroaching onto unenclosed land to the north. It is possible that both these farms were squatter settlements. On lower ground, Trgfriw-fawr farm's enclosure pattern was established by the late 18th-century, though further subdivision of larger fields occurred in the 19th century. The hamlet of Tyngraig developed in the 19th century, given impetus no-doubt by the opening of the Milford-Manchester railway through this area in 1866. A chapel was built here in 1869.

Description and essential historic landscape components

Centred on the upper, open valley of the north-flowing Sychnant, this area rises from 150m in the valley bottom to 350m on the eastern valley sides. Valley sides are mostly gently sloping, but some steeper slopes are present in the north. Included in this area is the hamlet of Tyngraig, but generally the settlement pattern is of scattered farms set in field systems of small, irregular enclosures. Boundaries comprise dry-stone walls, stony banks topped with hedges or stone-faced banks with hedges. On the lower levels hedges are generally in fair to good condition and are stock-proof. The higher up the valley side they are, the more derelict they become. Wire fences have replaced hedges at the highest levels, and even at low levels wire fences are present along some of the hedges and walls. Land-use is predominantly improved grazing, though a few fields of arable are present. There are some moderately large stands of broadleaf trees and some small conifer plantations. An unenclosed peat bog lies in the valley bottom towards the upper reaches of the Sychnant. Older buildings are of stone with slate roofs and included Rhydgaled, a listed example of a mid 19th-century two-storey cottage. Modern structures are of rendered concrete with slate or concrete tile roofs.

Recorded archaeology in this area mostly comprises post-Medieval sites. These include a small metal mine, extant buildings such as a chapel and cottages, deserted cottages on higher ground and a smithy. A time-depth element to the landscape is provided by an earthwork which may be an Iron Age enclosure, and a possible Bronze Age standing stone.

To the north this area is defined by a 20th century forestry plantation (area 4) and to the east by unenclosed and semi-enclosed higher ground (areas 33, 39 and 95). Small but characteristically distinct areas of enclosures lie to the south. Landscape character areas have yet to be defined to the west.

Ground photographs: 27, 91, 92

Aerial photographs: 30, 31, 32, 33, 63

UPLAND CEREDIGION

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 104 BERTHDDU

GRID REFERENCE: SN 675662

AREA IN HECTARES: 216.5

Historic Background

In the Medieval Period part of this area lay within Strata Florida Abbey's Mefenydd Grange. At the dissolution all Strata Florida's holdings were granted to the Earl of Essex. Soon after, the land in and around this area seems to have been purchased by the Lloyds of Ffosybleiddiaid, and may later have been acquired by the Vaughans of Crosswood. The origin of this landscape is not known. The regular field system suggests enclosure in a single or few episodes, rather than irregular encroachment. The date of enclosure is unknown, but it and the settlement pattern had been established by the tithe survey (Lledrod Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1844). A chapel was constructed in this area in the 19th century.

Description and essential historic landscape components

A southeast to northwest aligned ridge which achieves a maximum height of 270m. Its northeastern and southwestern flanks fall away rapidly to a low of 170m. This is an area of scattered farms and small- to medium-sized fairly regular enclosures; the larger enclosures generally located on the higher ground. The regularity of the enclosures is in contrast with the irregular field systems of areas 26, 93 and 103 to the east. Field boundaries consist of earth banks topped with hedges on the lower slopes, and stone-faced banks with mostly derelict hedges on the higher ground and ridge crest. Wire fences supplement many of the old boundaries. This is an open landscape with very few trees. Improved grazing is universal. Buildings are of stone with slate roofs.

Recorded archaeology is not particularly varied, and consists mostly of post-Medieval extant or abandoned buildings, with the only time-depth element to the landscape provided by a Bronze Age burnt mound or hearth.

Landscape character areas to the north, east and west have yet to be defined. To the south and southeast are the irregular enclosures of areas 26, 93 and 103, though there is no clear division between these and area 104.

Pensarn
W/11/4094

Report No. 2004/81
Project Record No. 48427

This report has been prepared by William Steele
Position: Tir Gofal Archaeologist

Signature Date

This report has been checked and approved by Louise Austin on
behalf of Cambria Archaeology, Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.
Position: Principal Archaeologist (Curatorial)

Signature Date.....

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