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TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN: HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION (HE2)

**Prepared for:
Llwyn-y-brain**



**Tir Gofal Reference No
W/12/3942**

**ACA Report No. 2005/21
Project Record No. 48464**

**Prepared by
Will Steele**

**Other documents enclosed:
Historic Landscape Character Areas:
Ystrad Tywi: Llangadog - Llandovery 208; Llanwrda Parish 257**

A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

2. Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content

Historic Landscape Character

The mansion of Llwyn-y-brain overlooks the floodplain of the river Twyi, and lies about three kilometres to the southwest of Llandovery. The estate lands comprise eight separate holdings scattered about the northwest valley sides and rolling hills behind. All holdings fall within the community of Llanwrda.

The surrounding landscape is recognised as being of considerable landscape value and falls within the Tywi Valley Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest (HLW (D) 5). The principal significance of this landscape is as a setting for the many planned parks and gardens and gentry houses which are positioned along the valley and its hinterland (Cadw 1998). This is a non-statutory, advisory designation which aims to provide information and raise awareness on areas with significant landscape value, to aid their protection and conservation.

The area has been further assessed as part of the Historic Landscape Characterisation Project. The immediate environs of the Llwyn-y-brain mansion fall within Historic Landscape Character Area 208: Ystrad Tywi: Llangadog - Llandovery which includes the flood plain and lower valley sides of the Tywi valley. The enclosure pattern of medium sized fields is thought to be relatively recent, possibly established during the 18th century, and it was certainly in place by the time the tithe survey was published in 1840.

The remainder of this holding and the other land holdings fall within Historic Landscape Character Area 257: Llanwrda Parish (257). From the floodplain the land rises into rolling hills and steep sided valleys which are overlain by irregular medium sized fields and scattered woodland stands. Enclosure had probably taken place by the early post-medieval period, by which time the present pattern of farms had probably developed.

Archaeological and Historic Content

Llwyn-y-brain has been a house of substance since at least the 16th century when it was let to George Devereux, one-time High Sheriff of Pembrokeshire, Carmarthenshire and Cardiganshire and brother of Walter Devereux the 1st Earl of Essex. He was suspected of harbouring Catholics at Llwyn-y-brain (R. Rooney 2005 pers. comm.) and became implicated in the Essex revolt of 1601 when his estates were confiscated. The Devereux connection ceased in 1610 but a field behind the mansion is remembered as being named *Cae Deverox*.

The character of the present house is distinctively Georgian with little, if any earlier elements visible. It is a large, three storey double pile house with hipped roof and *porte cochere* and an attached service wing. The present appearance differs slightly from that recorded in early illustrations (eg. Jones 1987, 120) which show a fully gabled frontage with small pane sash windows. The service yard and buildings lie behind the house to the northwest.

Llwyn-y-brain is described by Lewis (1833) as "embracing within its grounds a pleasing variety of scenery... and sheltered by luxuriant plantations behind." The original plantation trees are now lost and beech specimens from the grounds were felled during WW2 for the manufacture of mosquito aircraft (R. Rooney 2005 pers. comm.). Commercial woodland has since replaced most, if not all of the original planting. The gardens to the east of the house are well maintained and closely follow the layout shown on an estate plan of 1856. To the north is the one and a half acre walled garden, placed so as to gain advantage of the south-facing aspect. It is brick built and features an ornamental front (south) wall, surmounted by ceramic round finials.

The main approach, now a farm trackway, is from the east via a lodge on the valley road (A40) and skirts around the edge of the parkland before reaching the house. The rear entrance is from the service yard and circumvents the rest of the park to the west. Other features which contribute to the estate character include an impressive range of service buildings, an aviary and a boating pond. Only those features which fall within the Tir Gofal application area are discussed within the gazetteer below.

The present owner-occupier has a long family history at Llwyn-y-brain which can be traced back to one Samuel Hill of Penhill, Llangathen in 1646.

Key Objective

As a group, the mansion, gardens and parkland at Llwyn-y-brain are of exceptional interest. Consideration should be given to preserving the overall appearance of these features and ensure that wherever possible original features are maintained.

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 (01558 823131). 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 Cambria Archaeology.

	Name (& PRN)	Period/Site type	NGR	Status SAM/listing	Management required
1	LLWYN-Y-BRAIN (53406)	Post Medieval walled garden	SN73683295	B	Specific
<p>A fine walled garden to the north of Llwyn-y-brain mansion (PRN20926). The garden is roughly rectangular, aligned northeast - southwest and covers about one and a half acres. The high walls are built of brick and capped with slate slabs with narrow buttresses set at regular intervals. There was once a building against the south wall, the stone rear wall of which survives and is now incorporated in the garden perimeter. The rest of the south wall consists of an ornamental entrance and section of wall comprising a series of inverted brick arches supporting ceramic round finials.</p> <p>The garden appears on an estate plan of Llwyn-y-brain of 1856. It is shown as an irregular rectangle of around one acre and remained as such until at least 1887 (Ordnance Survey First Edition map) but had been extended to about one and a half acres by 1906 (Ordnance Survey Second Edition map) when the garden appears in its present form for the first time. Several glass houses are shown but none of these survive.</p> <p>The perimeter walls are intact and stable but masked by ivy in places. An orchard has been recently established inside the garden.</p>					



LLWYN-Y-BRAIN **Post Medieval** **SN73613309 B** **Generic**
[\(53407\)](#) **boating lake**

A boating lake of approximately a third of an acre in farmland to the north of Llwyn-y-brain mansion. The lake is formed by a stone dam across a natural stream valley and is sealed with a clay lining.

The area of the lake has remained constant since at least 1906 when the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map was published and the central island is shown. An earlier lake, without island, is recorded at the same location on an estate plan of 1856 and had apparently dried up by 1887 (it appears as marsh on the Ordnance Survey First Edition) - the present owners who have a long family history at Llwyn-y-brain remember that the lake was restored in the late nineteenth century.

LLWYN-Y-BRAIN **Post Medieval boat** **SN73613312 B** **Generic**
[\(53408\)](#) **house**

A boat house is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. No obvious traces survive.

LLWYN-Y-BRAIN **Post Medieval** **SN73783323 C** **Generic**
[\(53409\)](#) **pond**

A small field pond which is retained by an earth dam on the down slope side. The pond is relatively clear of vegetation and still holds water. It is recorded on an estate plan of Llwyn-y-brain of 1856.

LLWYN-Y-BRAIN **Post Medieval** **SN73873287 B** **Generic**
[\(53410\)](#) **drive**

The main approach to Llwyn-y-brain mansion. The drive appears on an estate plan of Llwyn-y-brain of 1856. It runs from a lodge on the valley road (A40) to the east and skirts around the edge of the park before reaching the house. The drive has since fallen out of use as the main entrance but remains in active use as a farm trackway.

LLWYN-Y-BRAIN **Post Medieval** **73543270 B** **Generic**
[\(53411\)](#) **drive**

The service drive at Llwyn-y-brain diverts from a minor road before passing through an impressive stone walled gateway and winding gently around the back of the parkland before reaching the service yard. On the south side, iron post and rail fencing divides the drive from the parkland below. The drive is recorded on an estate plan of Llwyn-y-brain of 1856. It is still in use today.

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

**LLWYN-Y-BRAIN WALLED GARDEN
(53412)**

SN73683295

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

The aim is to slow down decay of the garden walls and enhance visibility.

The following is recommended.

- Cut back ivy growth on the walls leaving the roots in situ. This will reduce weight on the walls from excessive vegetation growth.
- Young trees growing on/ within the walls to be cut off at the roots and spot treated to prevent re-growth. This will prevent displacement of brickwork by uprooting or collapse.
- Vegetation removal to be followed up with a programme of consolidation and re-pointing using a traditional lime mortar mix. As a general rule repointing is not necessary until mortar has weathered back to a depth equivalent of the joint width or is very loose. Seek specialist advice on an appropriate mix.
- Mature trees growing near to the walls to be monitored. Unstable specimens to be cut off at the roots before being allowed to fall naturally. This will prevent damage by trees/ branches collapsing on to the walls.

Work should only be undertaken if it is considered safe to do so.

ii) TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS:

There are no Traditional Buildings in the Cambria Archaeology Historic Environment Record for the application area

iii) HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS:

Location and Description:

A historic park or garden is a discrete area of land laid out in an ornamental way, originally for the pleasure and use of its owner. A sub-category of park is the deer park, laid out for management and containment of deer.

Historic parks of national importance are included on the Cadw/ICOMOS Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales. There are also many non-registered parks of lesser quality but which, nevertheless, form an important component in the historic environment and require appropriate management.

The following parks and gardens have been identified:

Name (& PRN)	Period/Site type	NGR	Status SAM/listing	Management required
LLWYN-Y-BRAIN (53412)	Post Medieval park	SN73773273	B	Generic
To the southeast of the mansion is a medium sized park. It is quite simple in layout and consists of a few large pasture fields, a few scattered trees and a wooded backdrop. Both of the approaches to the house skirt the rear of the parkland. The parkland appears on an estate plan of Llwyn-y-brain of 1856. It retains an open character and is still under pasture today. The owners have replaced some of the lost parkland trees in recent years.				

Historic Environment Objectives:

The purpose of the management is to:

- Maintain or restore the historic configuration and visual character of the historic garden or parkland.
- Ensure the long-term preservation of features associated with the historic garden or parkland.

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

Generic Management prescriptions

1. Original features identified in the agreement must be retained and maintained. Repairs (including repairs to walling and fences) should be unobtrusive and make use of appropriate traditional materials and methods of construction. (Capital Works Option)
2. When repair is not possible, replacement features must be modelled on originals, using the same materials and methods of construction. (Capital Works Option)
3. Drives and historic tracks together with associated walling, revetment and bridges identified in the agreement must be maintained and, where necessary, restored using appropriate traditional materials and methods of construction. (Capital Works Option).
4. New tracks should not be created.

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Project record number 48464.
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This HE2 report supercedes the information given in the [HE1 report](#) for this farm.

Sources consulted:

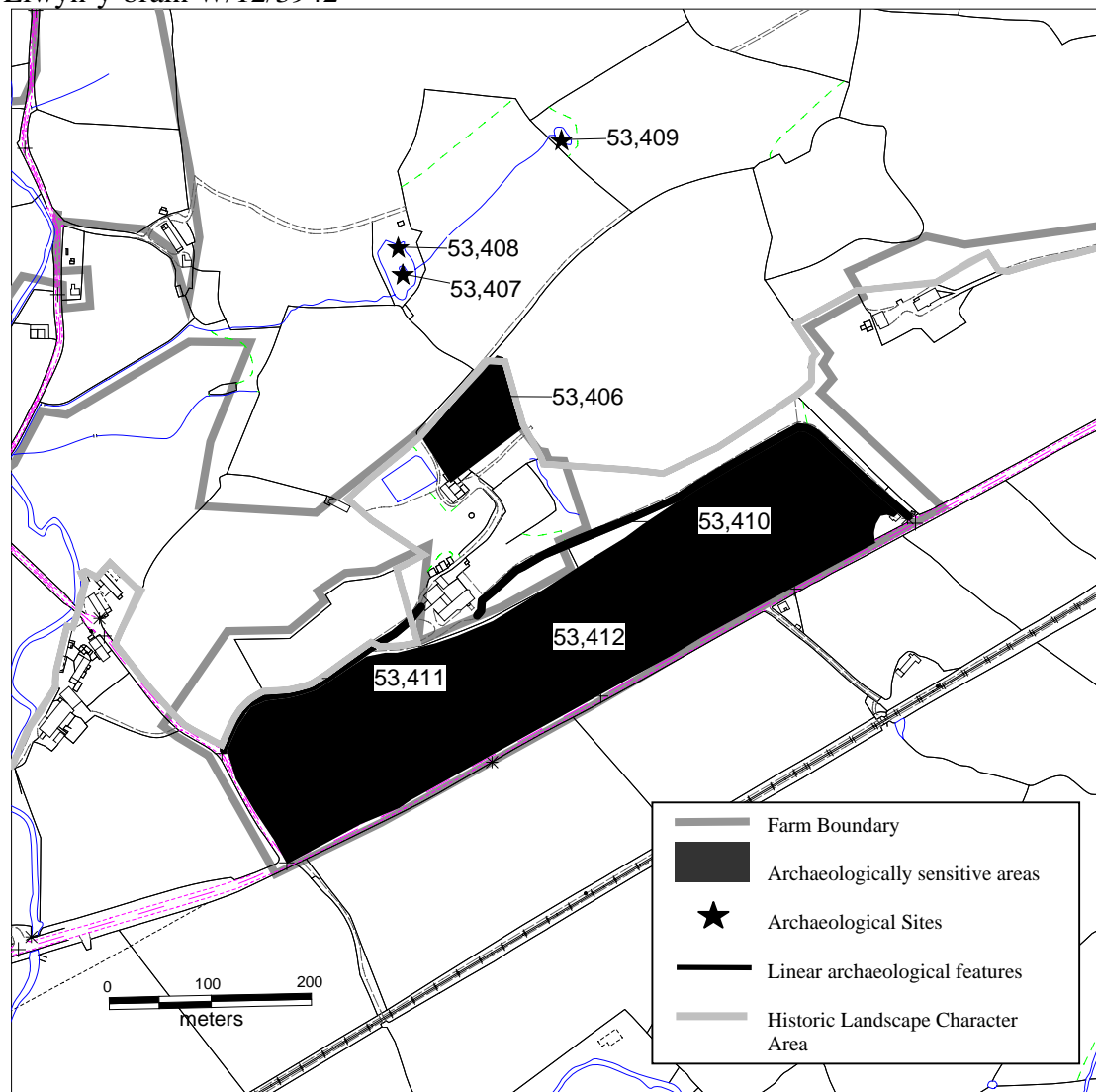
Maps

Estate plan (1856) Plan of Llwyn-y-brain and desmesne. (in private ownership)
Tithe Map & Apportionment 1840 Llandingat parish
Ordnance Survey 1888 Carmarthenshire Sheet 17.16, 25"
Ordnance Survey 1887 Carmarthenshire Sheet 26.03, 25"
Ordnance Survey 1887 Carmarthenshire Sheet 26.04, 25"
Ordnance Survey 1887 Carmarthenshire Sheet 26.07, 25"
Ordnance Survey 1906 Carmarthenshire Sheet 17.16, 25"
Ordnance Survey 1906 Carmarthenshire Sheet 26.03, 25"
Ordnance Survey 1906 Carmarthenshire Sheet 26.04, 25"
Ordnance Survey 1906 Carmarthenshire Sheet 26.07, 25"

Other Sources

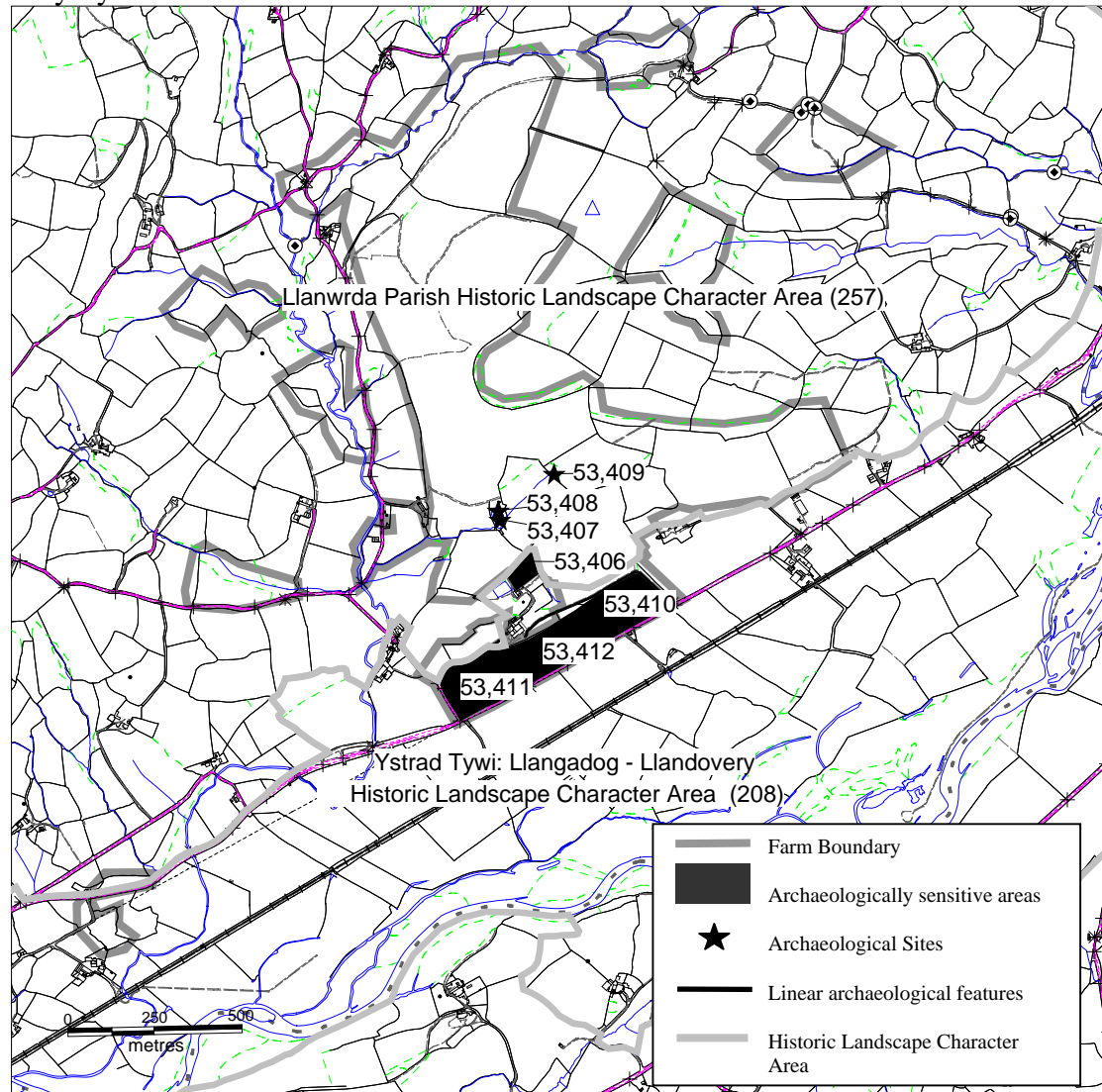
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Mynydd Myddfai, Tywi Valley, Dolaucothi, Taf and Tywi Estuary Volum1. An unpublished Report by
Cambria Archaeology for Cadw.

Llwyn-y-brain W/12/3942



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Llwyn-y-brain W/12/3942



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CARMARTHENSHIRE: TYWI VALLEY

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 208 YSTRAD TYWI: LLANGADOG - LLANDOVERY

GRID REFERENCE: SN 723316

AREA IN HECTARES: 925.40

Historic Background

A large, narrow area stretching from Llangadog in the southwest to Llandovery in the northeast, which lies in the fertile alluvial floodplain of the River Tywi. The valley was the major historic route corridor into West Wales and the Roman road from Carmarthen to Llandovery, which lies just within the northwest edge of this character area, followed the interface between the alluvium and the solid geology of the north side of the Tywi. A later turnpike more-or-less followed the course of this Roman road, as does the present A40(T) - see Areas 182 and 196. The River Tywi in this area is active and subject to course changes across the valley floor, and the wooded nature of the valley was commented upon by early writers including Leland in the 1530s (Smith 1906), who appear to be describing the floodplain. Therefore, the present pattern of regular fields is probably of later date, while. Enclosure may have been undertaken during the 18th century, but had definitely taken place by the time the tithe surveys were conducted in the second quarter of the 19th century. In addition, settlement on the floodplain has always been minimal. There are, however, a few farms and dwellings in the area, also occupying the interface or situated upon glacially derived 'islands' within the floodplain; one of these, Pentremeurig, has 16th century origins and was assessed for 7 hearths in 1670 (Jones 1987, 155). The disposition of these habitations may then reflect earlier settlement patterns. Peat deposits have been noted between the alluvium and the underlying geology elsewhere within the Tywi Valley (Page 1994, 4,9), where they were thought either to represent such 'islands' in the floodplain, or a drying of the floodplain (see also Area 196) and while no prehistoric sites have been recorded within the area it must be stressed that within the Tywi Valley, this period is among 'the least known' (Cadw/ICOMOS, 1998, 28). During the Medieval period the river formed one of the major boundaries of Carmarthenshire, separating Cantref Mawr on the north bank from Cantref Bychan on the south bank (Rees, 1932). As such, the landscape area has experienced a chequered history of tenure and was troubled by warfare until the end of the 13th century; Cantref Mawr, unlike Cantref Bychan which was subject to 12th century conquest and reconquest, remained an independent Welsh lordship until 1284 (Rees 1953, xv) and the Post-Medieval house at Ystrad may be the site of the Medieval *llys* of Gwestfa Ystradmyns within which this area partly lay. There does not appear to have ever been a bridge across the Tywi between Llangadog and Llandovery but there were at least two, possibly three historic fords. The turnpike, established in 1763-71 (Lewis 1971, 43) more-or-less followed the line of the Roman road and is now represented by the A40(T). The A4069 on dry ground between Llangadog and Llandovery on the south side of the valley also follows the line of a turnpike begun in 1779 (*ibid.*). The floodplain, meanwhile, is crossed by the former LNWR main West Wales railway line which was opened, as the 'Vale of Towy Line', by the Llanelli Railway and Dock Company in 1858 (Gabb, 1977, 76). Little industry has developed in this area although a woollen factory possibly operated at Pentremeurig.

Description and essential historic landscape components

This area comprises the flood plain of the Tywi together with the lower, gently sloping valley sides. Within this area the flood plain of the Tywi rises some 20 m, from 40 m OD at the west end to 60 m OD at the east end, over a distance of 7 km. The lower valley sides rise up to a maximum of 60 m to 70 m. Above these lower slopes valley sides rise steeply, particularly on the northern side towards Llandovery, to over 150 m. This part of the Tywi valley provides a natural route-corridor. The Romans utilised the route for the Llandovery-Carmarthen road, and in more recent times turnpike roads were constructed on both sides of the valley. The course of the turnpike on the northern side is now followed by the A40(T), that on the south side by the A4069. The railway that runs along the flood plain on a low embankment also uses this route corridor. Where areas of deposition and erosion are evident on the Tywi there is no strong field patterning, and scrubby, rushy ground prevails. These areas are, however, fairly restricted and most of the area is divided into reasonably regular, medium-sized fields. Field boundaries are hedges without banks and earth banks topped with hedges. The former are planted on the valley floor presumably to facilitate flood-water drainage. Some hedges are accompanied by ditches. Most hedges are well maintained, though a significant number are becoming derelict. Wire fences supplement most hedges. Many hedges possess distinctive hedgerow trees, and these, together

with isolated trees and small copses lend a parkland aspect to the area. This may be a planned effect, designed to merge with the parks on the north side of the valley associated with gentry houses. Settlements are confined to low terraces which lie slightly above the flood plain and to the valley sides. A wide range of economic and social classes are represented by the buildings of the area from the gentry house of Ystrad, with an area of parkland, through to small roadside cottages. However, the settlement pattern is dominated by farms dispersed along a river terrace to the south of Llanwrda, on the lower slopes of both sides of the river. Farmhouses are quite substantial and tend towards the 'polite' with extensive, large semi-formal outbuildings, mainly supplemented with modern agricultural buildings.

Recorded archaeology is confined to buildings and the ford sites.

There are many distinctive buildings but none are listed. They include the gentry house at Glan-Dulais, the 18th- and 19th-century Ystrad house and park, and Pentremeurig with 16th century origins. Farmhouses are generally quite substantial - more so than the simple two storey, three-bay structures common elsewhere - and generally of 18th- or 19th-century date, stone built and polite, rather than vernacular. 20th century brick-built farmhouses are also present. Farm buildings are also large and are often arranged in a semi-formal setting with the farmhouse. 19th century stone-built examples and 20th century brick outbuildings are represented, and most farms possess large assemblages of modern agricultural buildings

This is a fairly distinct character area, and contrasts with the character areas of enclosed farmland with smaller farmsteads that bound it to the north and south (Areas 201, 207, 210, 214, 228, 257), with the urban areas of Llangadog and Llandovery (Areas 206, 212), and with former parkland to the northeast (Area 209).

Conservation priorities

Most of the historic landscape components in this character area are in a reasonable state of preservation. However, the decay evident in some of the boundary hedges is beginning to erode the historic character of parts of this area; this problem needs to be addressed. Historic farm buildings form an important component in this landscape. Although most are in use and in a good state of repair, some consideration may have to be given as to how they can be best used/reused and maintained for future generations. Otherwise maintain as existing.

Ground photograph: 74

Aerial photographs: 27

CARMARTHENSHIRE: TYWI VALLEY

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 257 LLANWRDA PARISH

GRID REFERENCE: SN 727352

AREA IN HECTARES: 2058.00

Historic Background

An area lying on the north-west side of the Tywi Valley. During the historic period it lay within the commote of Malláen, the late Medieval parish of Llanwrda and the later hundred of Cao (Rees 1932). The commote was held of the independent Welsh lordship of Cantref Mawr until the establishment of the county of Carmarthen in 1284, and in this area was subdivided into Gwestfa Llanwrda, probably administered from a *llys* at Neuadd Llanwrda (Area 210), and Gwestfa Ystrad Mynys, probably administered from a *llys* at Ystrad (Area 208). There is evidence for settlement from an early period; a possible Iron Age hillfort lies within the area while the Roman road from Carmarthen to Llandovery, turnpiked in 1763-71 (Lewis, 1971, 43) and now represented by the A40(T), partly forms its south-eastern edge. The road was probably the route taken by the Anglo-Normans advancing from the east under Richard Fitz Pons who established a *caput* at Llandovery in 1110-16 (Rees n.d.) and subdued Cantref Bychan to the south. This initial campaign may be the context for the establishment of the motte at Glan-Mynys, on the edge of the Tywi floodplain; it may, however, be an independent Welsh foundation lying as it does in association with the possible *llys* at Ystrad. There may be a Medieval settlement site at Cwmdwr in the west of the area, and a possible moated site lies just beyond the northern edge. The present system of medium-large irregular fields suggests enclosure by the earlier Post-Medieval period, by which time the present pattern of farms had probably developed. The landscape is more-or-less unchanged from that depicted on the Llanwrda tithe map of 1837. There are no villages within the area but there is an interesting late development at Siloh where an early 19th century chapel and public house, on the droving route from Cao to Llandovery which crosses the northern part of the area, became the focii for a small nucleation. There has been little recent development.

Description and essential historic landscape components

This very large character area lies on the northern side of the Tywi valley and includes much of the parish of Llanwrda. From the floodplain of the Tywi at approximately 60m the land rises steeply to over 130 m. To the north of this the area is characterised by rolling hills and small, steep-sided valleys lying between 100 m and 230 m. It is essentially a landscape of widely dispersed farms, small irregular fields and scattered woodland. Boundaries to the fields consist of earth banks topped with hedges. Over such a wide area there are differences in the management of hedgerows, but most are in good condition, though there is a tendency for them to become derelict at higher levels, and overgrown at lower levels. Many of the hedges have distinctive hedgerow trees, and these together with the numerous small stands of deciduous woodland (particularly distinctive on the steep valley sides) and medium-sized conifer plantations lend a wooded aspect to the landscape. Farmland land-use is almost entirely improved pasture, with very little rough grazing and rushy ground. There is no aggregate settlement; the settlement pattern is dominated by dispersed farms. Farmsteads are generally 19th century, stone-built, two-store and three-bay. Clearly over such a large area there is variation in type, but most are in the vernacular tradition, with fewer examples in the more polite 'Georgian' style. Older farm buildings are stone-built. There is a considerable variation in size and layout of these buildings, but mostly they are limited to one or two ranges, but with some larger more complex examples arranged formally around a yard. Most farms have modern agricultural buildings. There is virtually no modern residential development. Apart from a B road which cuts across the northern part of this area and which replaces the route of a Roman road from Llandovery to Pumsaint a little way to the north, all transport links in this area are local and consist of lanes, tracks and paths.

Recorded archaeology comprises a possible Iron Age hillfort, a Medieval settlement site, motte and possible chapel site, and a possible signal station of unknown date.

There are few distinctive buildings including Siloh and Tabor chapels, a former public house, dwellings, bridges and former mills.

To the north and west character areas have yet to be described, but here land rises into a series of low unenclosed and semi-enclosed hills. On other sides neighbouring character areas (Areas 208, 214 and 215) have similar landscape components to this area; here there is a zone of change rather than a hard-edged boundary.

Conservation priorities

Most of the historic landscape components in this character area are in a reasonable state of preservation. However, the decay evident in some of the boundary hedges is beginning to erode the historic character of parts of this area; this problem needs to be addressed. Consideration should be given to the management of the ancient broadleaf woodland. Historic farm buildings form an important component in this landscape. Although most are in use and in a good state of repair, some consideration may have to be given as to how they can be best used/reused and maintained for future generations. Otherwise maintain as existing

Ground photographs: 124

Aerial photographs: 27