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TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN: HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION (HE2)

Prepared for:
Wernmacwydd
Llanfihangel-ar-Arth, Pencader.



Prepared by
Helen Milne

Farm Visited on the
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SECTION A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

Historic landscape character:

Wernmacwydd farm has one holding, which lies on the southern bank of the Teifi, to the west of the small settlement of Llanfihangel ar Arth. The pattern of dispersed farmsteads, with occasional small settlement nucleations, had been established by the mid nineteenth century and has remained essentially stable since this time. Within the holding there has been some general boundary re-organisation, (both addition and removal) during the course of the last 150 years, resulting in the pattern of regular fields which characterise the present landscape.

Within the land parcel there are a large number of mature trees (mostly oak), dispersed across the holding, which are not associated with present field boundaries. It has been suggested that these may be parkland trees associated with landscaping of the former Wernmacwydd estate. Although historically the house was a major dwelling, available historic map sources contain no evidence to suggest that the estate was landscaped in a major way. However, mature trees from former field boundaries may have been retained deliberately to give a parkland 'feel' to the landscape at some time in the past. The farmer has expressed an interest in planting trees to replace dying specimens. These trees now form a distinctive characteristic of the historic landscape, and are marked on the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1891. Re-planting with the same species of tree would help to maintain and enhance the historic landscape within the bounds of the holding.

Another important characteristic of the Wernmacwydd holding historically was the wooded nature of the slopes on the south side of the Teifi. Although the remaining woodland is not as extensive as it once was (some has been felled in the relatively recent past), there is a substantial area left of 'Allt Wernmacwydd', and coppiced trees suggest that it has been actively managed in the past. It is important that future management of this woodland retains evidence of past woodland management and exploitation.

Archaeological and historical content:

The most prominent aspect of the historic environment within the farm boundary is the farmstead itself. Historical sources record that Wernmacwydd was occupied from at least the early seventeenth century by the Lloyd family, from whom it passed into the hands of Howells, and later Joneses. The farmhouse is a large three-storey, three-bay dwelling, with a smaller two-storey annex to the north-west gable end. To the south-west of the farmhouse lies a large range of traditional farm buildings, which appear on map sources from the late nineteenth century. There is also the site of a former farmyard pond at the western end of the stead, which the farmer plans to restore.

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.

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.
- 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 the Trust 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:

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


Location and description:

A search of the regional Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) held by 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.

(This information has been supplemented by a field visit on 29/04/04 by Helen Milne of Cambria Archaeology)

No on Map	PRN	Site Name/type	Period	NGR	Importance (status)	Management
	50826	Farmstead	Post-medieval		B	Generic
Farmstead incorporating dwelling (PRN 24045) and range of traditional outbuildings, including two barns, a pig-sty and a possible wash-house, (see description in traditional buildings section PRNs 50827, 50828, 50829, 50830). There is also the site of a former pond, which the farmer wishes to re-instate (see below, PRN 50833).						

No on Map	PRN	Site Name/type	Period	NGR	Importance (status)	Management
1	50833	Pond	Post-medieval	SN4374 3991	C	Specific see below
Former pond to west of farmhouse, north of barn range. Level platform covered with rushy growth. Marked as site of pond on historic map sources. Substantial embankment on western edge implies possibility of buried features associated with original construction of pond.						
 <p style="text-align: center;">Site of former pond (to be restored)</p>						

No on Map	PRN	Site Name/type	Period	NGR	Importance (status)	Management
	50831	Well	Unknown	SN4377 3789	C	Generic management recommendations apply

Well in farmyard to west of dwelling, capped with slate slab, internal features not seen. The farmer reported that the structure of this well was very similar to the well described below (PRN 50832). Internal condition unknown, currently protected from damage by capping slab.



Site of well in farmstead

No on Map	PRN	Site Name/type	Period	NGR	Importance (status)	Management
	50832	Well	Unknown	SN4376 3940	C	Generic management recommendations apply

A very finely constructed circular well, located within a field boundary bank. The well is open at the top, with no super-structure, and no suggestion of there having been one in the past. The shaft is carefully lined, with flat platy stones forming a perfect cylindrical shaft, the base of which could not be seen. Diameter c. 0.8m. Depth unknown. The positioning of the shaft on the line of a field boundary bank suggests that the well shaft pre-dated the boundary bank, which was in place by the mid nineteenth century. Currently overgrown by the hedge. Poor visibility, partly due to an old gate, which has been used for stock-exclusion.



No on Map	PRN	Site Name/type	Period	NGR	Importance (status)	Management
	50834	Trackway	Unknown	SN4365 971: SN4371 975	C	Generic management recommendations apply

This short length of trackway may once have been part of a longer track linking Wernmacwydd with Blaen Y Waun farmstead to the south-west. The section, which is marked on historic and modern map sources, appears on the ground as a well-defined sunken lane with hedge banks on either side. If it was once part of a longer route, no further remains of this route are now visible within the farm boundary. The length of track still defined by hedge banks should be retained.



End of sunken lane viewed from north

No on Map	PRN	Site Name/type	Period	NGR	Importance (status)	Management
	50806	Trackway	Unknown	SN4408 4014: SN4371 3975	C	Generic management recommendations apply

A defined trackway, running through woodland (Allt Wernmacwydd) on steeply rising ground on the south bank of the Teifi. It appears on the Old Series Ordnance Survey Original Surveyor's drawings of 1811-12.

The track is cut into the hill slope, and is now only used as a footpath, although its' width suggests that it may have been used for wheeled vehicles in the past. Management should aim to ensure that the trackway does not become colonised by volunteer saplings, and that it is not lost to bank erosion and collapse.



Trackway running through Allt Wernmacwydd, showing potential problem with erosion.

Historic Environment Objectives:

The purpose of the management is to:

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

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

Management Prescriptions - see also General Requirements – Section C

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:

50833 Pond to west of farmstead

The farmer intends to re-instate this pond, which appears on historic map sources. Excavation of the pond should be undertaken with caution in order to protect any remaining structural elements. Care should be taken when excavating near the embankment on the western side of the area, which retained the original pond, and also to retain structural elements, such as dams, walling and timber pilings.

2. 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:

No on Map	PRN	Site Name/type	Period	NGR	Importance (status)	Management
	24045	Wernmacwydd historic dwelling	Post-medieval	SN4374 3986	B	Outside remit of scheme
<p>Dwelling described by Francis Jones in 1987 and shown on various historic maps, including Old Series Original Surveyor's drawings of 1811 – 12. Historical sources record that Wernmacwydd was occupied from at least the early seventeenth century. The present farmhouse is a large three-storey, three-bay dwelling, with a smaller two-storey annex to the north-west gable end, and an out-shot to the rear. The windows are off-set from the north-west end to accommodate a large chimney, which formerly housed an ingle-nook. The entirety of the exterior of the building has been rendered with tan-brown roughcast, and the window openings have been modified to accommodate upvc windows with white plastic frames and glazing bars.</p>						

No on Map	PRN	Site name/type	Period	NGR	Importance (status)	Management
	50827	Barn range	Post-medieval	SN4375 3987	C	Generic management recommendations apply
<p>Barn range lying to south-west of farmstead opposite and parallel to farmhouse. This long range, whose core structure is depicted on various historic map sources, is comprised of a central, tall building, orientated north-east south-west, with a lower extension to the north-east end, and shorter wing adjoining north side at right angles. The range follows the contour of the slope, with the north-west end being lower than the south-east end. The gable end of the right-angled wing faces the farmhouse, and has a small window opening to the second floor. These elements are all of rubble stone construction, and roofed with slate.</p> <p>There has been some significant modification to the range, both internally and externally, making it difficult to fully understand the original layout and functions. Breeze-blocks have been used for modifications and additional lean-to structures, which are likely to date from the building's use as a milking parlour by the previous owner. The main entranceway on the north-east side of the central section has been widened in the past (this may have been deliberate, or due to arch collapse), and has subsequently been partially infilled using breeze-blocks. There has also been some modification to the entrance of the lower barn. The height of the doorway has been raised to roof level, and has been edged with concrete blocks. Two further doorways on the north-east side of the building (one in the main barn, and one in the smaller barn) have been infilled using concrete blocks, but both retain their original shape and size. The central portion of the barn has been re-roofed in the past, and has lead/ tin(?) covers over what may have been lights, or ventilation openings. The entire building is whitewashed and in a reasonable, weatherproof state of repair.</p>						



Central portion of barn showing modified entranceway



Barn range viewed from north, showing stone built wing at south-east end and breeze-block extensions.

No on Map	PRN	Site Name/type	Period	NGR	Importance (status)	Management
	50828	Agricultural building	Post-medieval	SN4376 3984	C	Generic management recommendations apply

Small barn range to south of farmhouse. Single unit, constructed of rubble-stone, white-washed and roofed with slate. Internal arrangement not seen. Much of original fabric intact, but slight modification to north-east side of building, with addition of brick-built lean-to, and concrete mounting for sliding doors.



Barn range viewed from north

No on Map	PRN	Site Name/type	Period	NGR	Importance (status)	Management
2	50829	Wash-house?	Post-medieval	SN4375 3990	C	Specific see below

Small building, part rubble stone, part red brick construction, with offset door at front (north-east gable end), and brick chimney at rear (south-west gable end). The south-east wall is completely constructed of brick, and has a small central window opening. This appears to be a brick rebuild of an earlier stone building of unknown function. The rebuild incorporating a chimney suggests a domestic function, and the farmer thought it might have been a wash-house. The building is in a poor state of repair, and is in need of re-roofing.



Possible former wash-house, showing chimney to rear.

No on Map	PRN	Site Name/type	Period	NGR	Importance (status)	Management
	50830	Pig-sty?	Post-medieval	SN4377 3993	C	Generic management recommendations apply

Small square building, rubble stone construction with central door to front (south-west wall). Also low boarded entrance-way to left of door. Currently used for storage, it has been re-roofed with corrugated plastic. Access not gained - external appearance suggests that the building is in a reasonable condition, and is weatherproof.



Pigsty viewed from the trackway to the west

Historic Environment Objectives:

The purpose of the management is to:

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

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

Management Prescriptions - see also General Requirements section C

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.

Specific Management Requirements for individual Traditional Buildings:

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

50829 Wash House?

The farmer wishes to demolish this building. Ideally it should be retained because of its' group value as part of the historic farmstead. The roof is in need of repair if the building is to be prevented from becoming more dilapidated. Some consideration may have to be given as to how best the building can be re-used and maintained as a functional element of the historic farmstead.

3. 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:

PRN	Register ref.	Name	NGR	Status	Management

Historic Environment objectives:

The purpose of the management is to:

1. Maintain or restore the historic configuration and visual character of the historic garden or parkland.
2. 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:

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.

Sources

Maps

Ordnance Survey (6" to 1 mile) Sheet SN43NW, 1965

Ordnance Survey (6" to 1 mile) Sheet SN44SW, 1965

Ordnance Survey 1st. Ed. Carmarthenshire (6" to 1 mile) Sheet XIV.NE; 1891.

Ordnance Survey 2nd. Ed. Carmarthenshire (6" to 1 mile) Sheet XIV.NE; 1907.

Ordnance Survey 1st. Ed. Cardiganshire (25" to 1 mile) Sheet XLVI.3; 1889.

Ordnance Survey 2nd. Ed. Cardiganshire (25" to 1 mile) Sheet XLVI.3; 1905.

Tithe Map Llanfihangel-ar-Arth Parish, Carmarthenshire; 1842?.

Apportionment Llanfihangel-ar-Arth Parish, Carmarthenshire; 1841.

Ordnance Survey Original Surveyors Drawings Sheet 187: 1811 - 12

Other Sources

Sites and Monuments Record (SMR).

Francis Jones, 1987: Historic Carmarthenshire Homes and their Families.

Carmarthenshire Antiquarian

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