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TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN: HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION (HE2)

**Prepared for:
Cefncoed Mawr**



**Tir Gofal Reference No
W/12/4763**

**ACA Report No. 2005/29
Project Record No. 49572**

**Prepared by
Philip Poucher**

**Other documents enclosed:
Historic Landscape Character Areas 241 Dolaucothi - Pumpsaint & 242 Cwrt-y-
Cadno.**

A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

2. Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

This farm holding lies in an upland area to the northeast of Pumpsaint, located on the valley slopes overlooking Afon Cothi. The south-eastern half of the farm holding lies within two Historic Landscape Character Areas, 241 Dolaucothi - Pumpsaint & 242 Cwrt-y-Cadno. These character areas are intended to define places where local land-use patterns have left particularly strong or distinctive evidence in the landscape and the descriptions include general management priorities. The enclosure pattern in this farm holding is one of medium sized irregular fields with areas of woodland, and a settlement pattern of dispersed farmsteads. The irregular field boundaries are characteristic of the gradual enclosure of farmland over a relatively long period of time, possibly from the late Medieval/early Post Medieval period onwards. Cefn Coed Mawr farmstead (PRN 52185) is known to have been in existence in the late 18th century, along with a 2nd farmstead to the north (PRN 52184), by which time many of the current field boundaries would probably have been in existence. The boundaries are first recorded on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888 which shows the current boundaries in place, but also shows many of the fields were further subdivided into smaller units. It would also appear that the smaller farmstead had been abandoned by this time. The internal field boundaries were abandoned at some point in the later 20th century.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTENT

There is a record of a standing stone (PRN 7560) having previously been located in this area. These stones are general thought to be Bronze Age in date, used for ritual/religious activity and as boundary markers. The origin of this record is uncertain and the exact whereabouts of the stone is unknown. In the 19th century a significant collection of Roman gold-work and jewellery (PRNs 1958 & 1669) was recovered from this area. This was an area of known activity during the Romano-British period, with gold mining at Dolaucothi to the south and a Roman fort at Pumpsaint to the southwest. The Roman finds may have been buried by the standing stone, used as a convenient marker, for recovery at a later date. An unusual roughly square enclosure (PRN 1943) lies near the summit of the hill north of the farmstead. The date and function of this feature is unclear although it has been suggested it may represent the remains of a Roman practice camp, although the layout and location is also characteristic of some form of late Iron Age/early Romano British enclosure. Activity may have continued in the gold mine/Pumpsaint area after the Romano-British period but the remaining recorded archaeology within this farm holding is Post Medieval in date. As mentioned above two farmsteads (PRNs 52185 & 52184) had been established within this holding by the late 18th century, and an older settlement (PRN 52191) is suggested on an estate map of c1770. This estate map also shows several water channels cut into the hillside to provide both Ty yr hendy house (PRN 52191), Cefn Coed Mawr (PRNs 52185) and Dolaucothi Mansion to the south with water,

some channels can still be traced through the woodlands and fields. An earthwork enclosure (PRN 52186), first recorded on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888 may be an agricultural feature similar to the sheepfold (PRN 52188), also noted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map but no longer visible on the ground. A trackway (PRN 49973) has also been recorded from both the c1770 estate map and 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888 and from ground survey work which appears to have provided the original access to these dispersed farmsteads.

KEY OBJECTIVE

The management priority for this farm is to retain the landscape continuity, through the sympathetic maintenance of field boundaries, the upkeep of traditional buildings and the maintenance and preservation of water and woodland management remains. Important settlement remains such as the enclosure PRN 1943, the site of Ty yr Hendy house (PRN 52191) and the former Penlan Dole farmstead (PRN 52184) should also be preserved.

Proposed Tree Planting

Areas of possible tree planting and restoration have been proposed by the CCW project officer as preliminary thoughts on the Tir Gofal management plan.

Specifically this includes

- Expanding a small block of woodland on the west side of Allt Dolaucothi to join the rest of the woodland. This area may represent elements of ancient oak woodland (area 1).
- Restoration planting within a clump of Beach on the western side of Allt Dolaucothi. The clump may represent elements of parkland planting (area 2).
- Stock exclusion and underplanting on two wooded areas to the south of the farmstead. The farmer has already agreed to this. The areas are believed to be part of the parkland landscape planting (areas 3 & 4).
- Possible planting of individual trees in fields south of the farmstead to recreate a parkland feel.

The registered parkland associated with Dolaucothi Mansion was laid out in the 19th century along the Afon Cothi floodplain to the south and southwest of Dolaucothi Mansion. The Afon Cothi floodplain extending to the northeast of the Mansion also retains a parkland aspect, designed to incorporate riverside walks and the planting of specimen trees. The farm holding of Cefncoed Mawr lies outside this recognised designed landscape area although it is possible the designed landscape may extend beyond these recognised limits. As part of the greater Dolaucothi estate the Cefncoed Mawr farm holding may contain elements of deliberate planning in character with the rest of the estate.

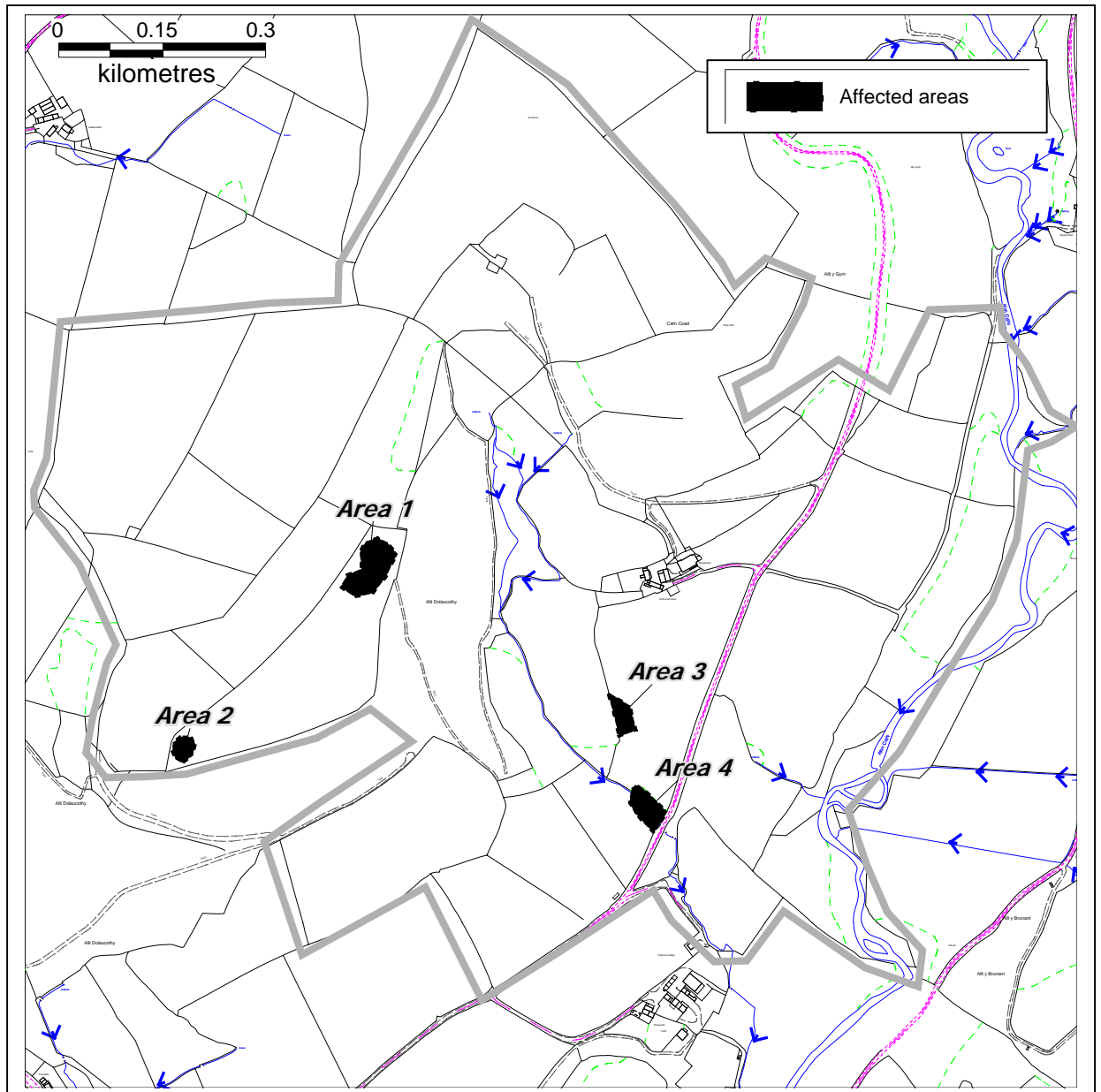
Recommendations

Area 1; The small block of oak woodland may originally have been part of the greater woodland of Allt Dolaucothi but later may have been deliberately redefined as a separate distinctive block. A former sheepfold (PRN 52188) lay on the edge of the woodland in the corner of the field, although no trace now remains. This is the only site potentially affected by the proposed planting works. Any planting outside the area of the sheepfold would not have a detrimental impact on the historic character.

Area 2; Although part of the greater estate landscape this area is hidden from view from the former Dolaucothi mansion by Allt Dolaucothi and is unlikely to have been part of a designed parkland landscape. No archaeological sites are affected by proposed work here.

Areas 3 & 4; Area 4 has developed around a stream while area 3 has developed in what was formerly the corner of a field (the east-west field boundary has now gone) so they may be natural developments. It is not considered that work in these areas will have a detrimental impact on the historic character of the area.

Some individual trees are marked to the south of the farmstead on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888 and it is advised that any proposed planting in these areas recreate this pattern rather than establish a new pattern of individual planting. See attached copy of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map.



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 | PEN LAN-DOLAU (1943) | Unknown/ Enclosure;earthwork | SN66274216 | B | Specific |
| | <p>An enclosure of unknown significance. Marked on both the 1st (1888) and 2nd (1906) edition Ordnance Survey maps. In c1956 the boundary banks were described as c4ft (c1.2m) high. The site has since been ploughed reducing the banks to c0.2-0.4m high but the line of the banks is still traceable. The enclosure is roughly square, measuring c40m by 38m, with a possible entrance midway along the southwestern side. There is the suggestion of an external ditch, most pronounced on the southwestern side, c1m wide and c0.2m deep. It is situated on a level area below the summit of the hill. The farmer reported that no stonework was turned up during the ploughing. The site is no longer ploughed, covered by short grass with no signs of erosion and lying in an improved field grazed by sheep. The date and function of this feature is unclear. One suggestion is that it represents a Post Medieval agricultural feature, however it stands proud of, and on a slightly different alignment to, the current field boundaries. When first examined by Jones in c1956 he speculated the site may represent a Roman 'practice camp', although the plan as shown on Ordnance Survey maps appears to lack the regularity of a Roman camp. The size and shape of the enclosure, and its location below the summit of the hill, is also characteristic of late Iron Age/early Romano-British enclosures, although without further evidence it is impossible to tell. <i>Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)</i></p> | | | | |
| |  | | | | |
| | <p><i>Looking northeast at the bank of the enclosure, standing roughly 0.3-4m high.</i></p> | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------|-----------------|
| 2 | TYNLAN;PENLAN DOLE (52184) | Post Med/ Farmstead | SN66224195 | B | Specific |
| | <p>A small farmstead site marked on an estate map of c1770 and the old series Ordnance Survey map of 1831.</p> | | | | |

The structures are still marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888 but they may have been abandoned by this time. The site is now divided by a field boundary. On the eastern side of the boundary earth and stone banks c0.5m high define a rectangular structure at the northern end of a level platform c12m long, defined at its southern edge by another short bank. An area of levelling on the western side of the field boundary probably defines the associated yard and gardens. Former trackways run off to the northwest and southwest. The site lies in improved fields, grazed by sheep and divided by a wooden post and wire fence. The majority of the site appears in a relatively stable condition, although a long standing large pile of dead wood partly covers the northern end of the structure, preventing grass growth. *Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)*



Looking southeast across the building remains of Tynlan/Penlan Dole farmstead. The pile of deadwood is visible at the edge of the photo.



Looking northwest across the buildings remains.

3

[\(52186\)](#)

**Post Med/
Enclosure**

SN65684156 B

Specific

A square enclosure in the corner of the field marked on the 1st (1888) and 2nd (1906) edition Ordnance Survey map. Still visible, defined by four low (c0.8m) and broad (c2.5m) banks. Mature trees grow on the banks, no internal features are visible. The interior is covered in bits of dead wood and is often used by sheep as a shelter during bad weather. Erosion scars have been noted on some of the banks, and tree cover is preventing the re-growth of low vegetation. Hedgerows are due to be established along the field boundaries forming the eastern and southern edges of the enclosure. *Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)*



Looking east at the banks of the enclosure with mature trees growing along them. 1x1m scale.

- 4 TY YR HENDY** ([52191](#)) **Medieval;Post** **SN66354159 B** **Specific**
Med/ House

A site numbered on an estate map of c1770. No feature is drawn but the site is described as 'Site of Ty yr handy House'. Although no building is actually marked on the map water channels dug in the mid 18th century convey water to this site, indicating the house probably existed at that time. Any structural remains appear to have been long gone by the mid 19th century however, as no features are marked in this area on either the Ordnance Survey original surveyor drawing of 1819/20, or the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888. Today this site is visible as a level area cut into the top of the field in front of a kink in the field boundary. The area has been 'softened' by ploughing and no definite identifiable remains of the house can be traced, but the siting of the house is still clearly visible. The site lies in a field of improved grassland, grazed by sheep. *Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)*



Looking southeast at the site of the former house, visible as a hollow/level area in the sloping field.

- CAE GARREG LWYD** ([7560](#)) **Bronze Age/** **SN660410 U** **Generic**
Standing stone

This record of a Bronze Age standing stone is of uncertain origin, but may refer to the field name Cae Garreg Lwvd. During the 19th century this was the findspot of a significant collection of Roman goldwork

and jewellery, which may imply that a stone did indeed stand here, the Roman hoard may have been buried near such a landmark. Standing stones are generally thought to be Bronze Age in date (c2000 - 500BC) and may have been sites for ritual/religious activity and/or landscape markers. Sites such as these may have been used over very long periods of time and, therefore, were probably put to many different uses. No evidence of this standing stone was identified during the farm visit and the farmer had no knowledge of such a feature. Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)

ALLT DOLAUCOTHI **Post Med/ Leat** **SN66214167** **B** **Generic**
(49967)

A leat or water channel marked on an estate map of Dolaucothi, thought to date to around 1770. The western end of this feature is visible as faint earthwork running through the wood. The line of the channel is then lost as it passes through an improved field just east of the woodland. The channel seems to have supplied water to Cefn Coed Mawr farm (PRN 52185), and is one of a number of channels which were taken off springs in a field named Cae Garw. Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)

ALLT DOLAUCOTHI **Post Med/ Field** **SN66224176** **C** **Generic**
(49968) **boundary**

A low bank, the remains of a field boundary which was seen on an estate map (Dolaucothy Estate, ?1770). The boundary was then described as a 'hedge' - presumably what remains is the hedgebank. Although the bank has relatively little intrinsic archaeological value, it is of interest since it is specifically marked on the ?1770 map and appears to indicate the boundary between land owned by the Johnes and Davis families. It is also an area which contains a number of water channels, recorded on the ?1770 map. Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)

ALLT DOLAUCOTHI **Modern;Post Med/** **SN66154184** **B** **Generic**
(49969) **Well**

A brick built well, now fenced off. The well is of interest since it represents the continuation of a tradition of using this field for local water supplies. (See PRNs 49967, 49970, 49971) Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)



The fenced off brick built well, with broken slate covering.

ALLT DOLAUCOTHI **Post Med/ Water** **SN66204134** **B** **Generic**
(49970) **channel**

The earthwork remains of a water channel. The channel is clearest at its north end, but is traceable along the boundary of the wood where it appears as a terrace in the slope. This channel is one of a number marked on an estate map of Dolaucothy, thought to date to around 1770 (see also PRNs 49967 and 49971). The channels were all fed from a field at the northern end of Allt Dolaucothi which contains a number of springs. The water was conveyed to Dolaucothy Farm, probably to power a water mill also seen on the ?1770 map. The line of the water channel is no longer visible as it emerges from the woodland and crosses the improved fields to the south. Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)

ALLT DOLAUCOTHI **Post Med/ Water** **SN66214146 B** **Generic**
[\(49971\)](#) **channel**

An estate map of Dolaucothi (?1770) shows a number of channels being fed by a stream in this area. These channels conveyed water to Dolaucothy Farm, and also to the farm at Cefn Coed Mawr. On the ground, this area is difficult to interpret. There are earthwork remains of watercourses, but it is not clear how many of these have been caused by the shifting course of the stream, and how many may have artificial origins.

Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)

ALLT DOLAUCOTHI **Post Med/** **SN66204163 C** **Generic**
[\(49973\)](#) **Trackway**

A trackway seen on an estate map of around 1770. The track still survives, but has been re-surfaced for much of its length within the woodland and part of it is also open as a public walk through the woods. The line of the trackway is still traceable through the improved fields to the south of the woodland. *Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)*



Looking north along the line of the trackway.

CEFN-COED-MAWR **Post Med** **SN66454150 B LB2** **Generic**
[\(52185\)](#) **farmstead**

A farmstead complex including traditional buildings which have been grade II listed as a representative example of an unspoilt upland farmstead. The farmhouse has been dated to the mid to late 18th century, remodelled in the later 19th century when the walls were raised and the farmstead rearranged. The barn range opposite was remodelled at this time from an earlier barn with a somewhat unusual plan. An early 19th century cow shed to the south with an integral lofted stable was extended and re-roofed in the late 19th century. All three of these buildings are whitewashed regularly with woodwork painted red, consistent with the Dolaucothi estate, as requested by the National Trust. More modern animal and storage metal sheds surround the farmstead. An estate map of c1770 marks garden enclosures to the west of the farmhouse, this area is now occupied by a large cattle shed. The listed buildings are well maintained by the current farmer, in accordance with the wishes of the owners, the National Trust. The barn and cow shed are still in use housing cattle and storage (see also management prescriptions section ii). *Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)*



Looking south over the farmstead complex.

[\(52187\)](#)

Post Med/ Cottage SN66384104 C

Generic

A small cottage is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map with small enclosures to the rear, divided in two. The cottage would appear to be a mid/late 19th century structure, as no feature is marked on the Ordnance Survey original surveyors drawing of 1819/20. A rectangular enclosure is still marked on recent Ordnance Survey maps but no trace of any feature, other than a roughly level area next to the trackway, is visible on the ground. *Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)*

[\(52188\)](#)

**Post Med/ Sheep SN66074156 C
fold**

Generic

A sheepfold marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888 at the corner of the field, no feature was discernable during the farm visit. *Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)*

[\(52189\)](#)

**Post Med/ Water SN66254157 B
channel**

Generic

The approximate line of a water channel marked on an estate map of c1770 providing water to Cefn Coed Mawr. The channel is described as 'made by Richard Davies about 30 years last' (ie c1750). A trench roughly 1.5-2m wide and 0.5-0.7m deep can be traced along the southern field boundary, running towards Cefncoed Mawr farmstead, this may represent remains of this water channel. *Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)*



Looking east along the line of the possible former water channel. 1x1m scale.

[\(52190\)](#)

**Post Med/ Water SN66334166 B
channel**

Generic

The approximate line of a water channel marked on an estate map of c1770. According to notes on the map it 'conveys water to Tvr Handdv and from thence to Kencoed House'. The line marked on the estate map

takes the course of the channel roughly along the eastern field boundary at the top of the field. A slight levelling out is visible along this boundary, although it is unclear if this represents the remains of a water channel or has been caused by plough action. *Visited* 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)

[\(53951\)](#)

Unknown/ Stone SN6584541589 U

Generic

A collection of several large stones lying in a slight hollow within an improved field. The stones are a mixture of grey ?sandstone and conglomerate distributed in a seemingly random order in a small area of the field. The feature was noted as a site of interest by the farmer during a farm visit (21/3/05), although its provenance is unknown. It may represent a natural feature, natural shale rock does outcrop in this field. *Visited* 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)

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

PEN LAN-DOLAU ([1943](#))

SN66274216

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

The field is occasionally ploughed although the site of the enclosure is now avoided. However, an

exclusion zone of 10m should be maintained around the site to preserve the site and any possible ditch remnants around the banks. The current grazing regime should be maintained as the site currently appears in good condition and stable.

Site 2 on MAP 1

TYNLAN;PENGLAN DOLE [\(52184\)](#)

SN66224195

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

No ground breaking should be undertaken within 10m of this site. The area of dead wood should ideally be moved away from the site, to prevent damage from in situ burning and allow a protective grass cover to re-grow. Care must be taken when removing brash, any machinery used will have to avoid the archaeological area, preferable done on dry day when ground breaking will be less likely from machinery.

Site 3 on MAP 1

[\(52186\)](#)

SN65684156

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

Mature trees along the banks do define this feature however they are also preventing grass growing and are unlikely to be replaced by new trees once they fall. Erosion scars have also been noted on the banks, presumably caused by sheep using the enclosure as shelter during bad weather. Hedgerows are due to be established along the field boundaries forming the western and southern boundaries of this enclosure, these could be extended around the enclosure, some mature trees may have to be removed to allow vegetation re-growth inside. To retain this as a sheep shelter a gateway may be required to restrict access and allow the erosion scars to repair.

Site 4 on MAP 1

TY YR HENDY [\(52191\)](#)

SN66354159

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

Although ploughed in the past ground breaking activity should be avoided within this hollow/level area.

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) | Period/Site type | NGR | Status | SAM/listing | Management required |
|--------------|------------------|-----|--------|-------------|---------------------|
|--------------|------------------|-----|--------|-------------|---------------------|

CEFN-COED-MAWR
[\(52185\)](#)

**Post Med/
Farmstead**

SN66454150 B LB2

Generic

A farmstead complex including traditional buildings which have been grade II listed as a representative example of an unspoilt upland farmstead. The farmhouse has been dated to the mid to late 18th century, remodelled in the later 19th century when the walls were raised and the farmstead rearranged. The barn range opposite was remodelled at this time from an earlier barn with a somewhat unusual plan. An early 19th century cow shed to the south with an integral lofted stable was extended and re-roofed in the late 19th century. All three of these buildings are whitewashed regularly with woodwork painted red, consistent with the Dolaucothi estate, as requested by the National Trust. More modern animal and storage metal sheds surround the farmstead. An estate map of c1770 marks garden enclosures to the west of the farmhouse, this area is now occupied by a large cattle shed. The listed buildings are well maintained by the current farmer, in accordance with the wishes of the owners, the National Trust. The barn and cow shed are still in use housing cattle and storage. *Visited 21/03/2005 (Phil Poucher)*



Looking west at the farmhouse.



Looking west at the cow shed.

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:

Estate Map ?1770 Dolaucothi estate, property held by Johnes and Davis.

Ordnance Survey 1819/20 Original Surveyors Drawings sheet 190.

Ordnance Survey 1831 Old Series 1" map, No.XLI

Tithe Map 1840 Conwil Gaeo Parish

Ordnance Survey 1888 1st edition 1-2500 Carmarthenshire.VIII.16

Ordnance Survey 1906 2nd edition 1-2500 Carmarthenshire.VIII.16

Ordnance Survey 1888 1st edition 1-2500 Carmarthenshire.IX.13

Ordnance Survey 1906 2nd edition 1-2500 Carmarthenshire.IX.13

Plunkett Dillon, E. & Swanson, C. 1998 National Trust Survey: The Dolaucothi Estate

Cadw. Listed Buildings Database nos. 16260, 16261 & 16262

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Sites and Monuments Record

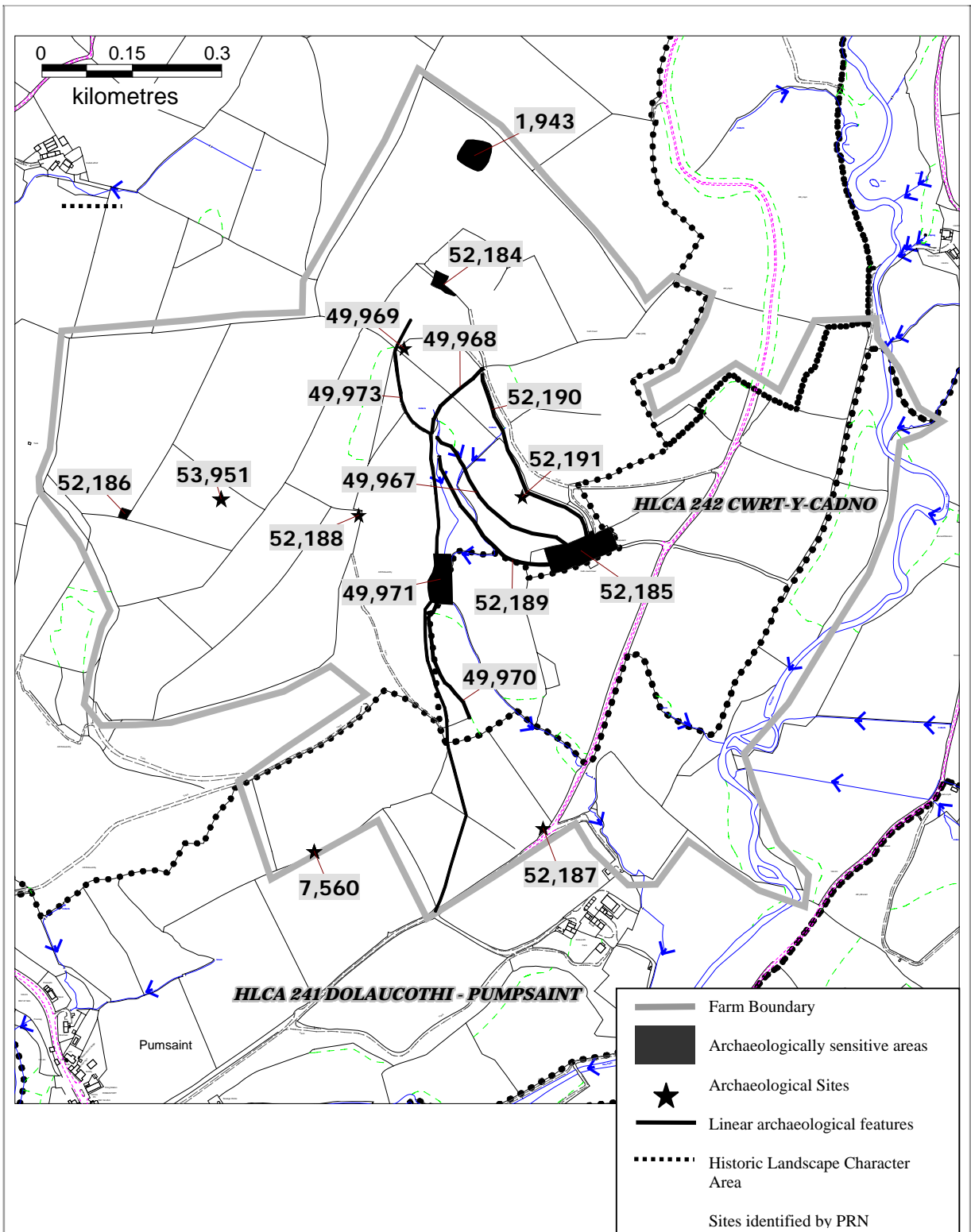
Kenneth Murphy & Neil Ludlow, 2000: Carmarthenshire Historic Landscape Characterisation.

Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Interest in Wales. Historic Landscape Character Areas

241 Dolaucothi - Pumpsaint & 242 Cwrt-y-Cadno.

Groom, P. 2004. Dolaucothi Woodlands. Historic Environment Report by Cambria Archaeology for the Forestry Commission.

Meridian Airmaps. 1955. Aerial Photographs



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CARMARTHENSHIRE: DOLAUCOTHI

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 241 DOLAUCOTHI - PUMPSAINT

GRID REFERENCE: SN 663409

AREA IN HECTARES: 126.90

Historic Background

A small character area centred on the village of Pumpsaint which is a linear settlement either side of the A482, at the confluence of the Afon Cothi with its tributary, the Afon Twrch. It once lay within Cwmwd Cao of Cantref Mawr which remained an independent Welsh lordship until 1284, and largely retained native systems of tenure throughout the Medieval period. The A482 follows the line of the Roman road between the forts at Llandovery (*Alabum*) and Llanio (*Bremia*), past the Roman gold mines of Area 243 that were operational by the 1st century AD and necessitated the construction of a fort on the level ground beneath the present village. The fort site, *Louentium*, has been partially excavated (Jones and Little, 1974), and featured a detached bath-house building. Roman activity may have influenced subsequent settlement patterns. It has been claimed (Jones 1994, 88) that some gold exploitation persisted into the post-Roman period affecting the status of the surrounding area, which came to be regarded as important enough to be mentioned in the marginalia of the Book of St Chad (Jones 1994, 88), while a Medieval chapel, 'Llanpumpsaint', erected within the fort ramparts probably has pre-Conquest origins (Sambrook and Page 1994, 4). It was a chapel-of-ease to Cao parish mentioned in the will of Rhys Fychan in 1271 (*ibid.*), and was marked on Saxton's map of Carmarthenshire of 1578. However, there is no evidence that it was accompanied by any nucleation. The development of the present village was probably encouraged by the Post-Medieval development of the Roman road into an important droving road and, from the late 18th-century, a mail road, and by the Post-Medieval Dolaucothi estate within which the village partly lay. The present pattern of large, regular fields also suggests estate remodelling of the landscape. By the later 19th century Pumpsaint village contained a post office, public house, hall and stores. Dolaucothi House occupies the valley floor to the east of the village and was established by the Johnes family, a branch of the Jones family of Abermarlais, by 1679 when the house was already a building of some size, containing six hearths; in 1704 it was described as 'the capital messuage called 'Tyddyn Dole Cothi' (Jones 1987, 56). It was practically rebuilt in 1792-6 and by 1873 the estate comprised 3172 acres (*ibid.*). The house was requisitioned during the Second World War, the lead was stripped from the roofs and it was demolished in 1951 (Whittle 1999). The grounds were taken over by the National Trust in 1956. At the north end of the area is Brunant, a surviving gentry house with late 16th- or 17th-century origins (Jones 1987, 15).

Description and essential historic landscape components

This is a relatively small but complex character area. It lies across the valley floor and lower valley sides of the Afon Cothi upstream of Pumpsaint village at between 120 m and 200 m. In essence it is a late 18th- and 19th-century estate landscape which is superimposed over earlier landscape elements. There are two foci: Dolaucothi House and Pumpsaint village. The late 18th- and early 19th-century house at Dolaucothi has been demolished, except for a northern wing which now serves as a farmhouse. A coach house also survives. Many elements of the park and gardens associated with the house also survive, including a walled garden, a ha-ha, drives and possible landscaping for walks along the river. The most distinctive element of the park, however, is the planting, with many fine specimen trees remaining. The whole of the floodplain of the Cothi retains a parkland appearance. At the northeastern end of the area the early 19th-century gentry house of Brunant and its setting continue the parkland aspect to the Cothi floodplain upstream of the former house of Dolaucothi. A Roman fort lies beneath Pumpsaint village, but little surface evidence for it survives. Houses and other buildings in the village date mainly to the mid 19th-century, and were constructed by the Dolaucothi estate with a distinctive signature - a 'pattern-book' style of coursed rubble walls, steeply pitched slate roofs, barge-and fascia-boards (red painted) and casement windows with diamond panes. A chapel in the village dates to 1875, and close to it is a terrace of late 19th-century two-storey 'villa' houses not in the estate style. 20th century development is limited to a corrugated iron - tin - village hall and a few houses. Outside the village and parkland the area is divided into small irregular fields of improved pasture by earth banks topped by hedges. Hedges are not in good condition apart from those alongside roads and tracks. Many have long gaps and others are derelict. There are many distinctive hedgerow trees. Dispersed farms and other dwellings are generally in the Dolaucothi 1850s 'pattern book' style.

Outbuildings to the farms are in the same style. Apart from the A482 road which runs through Pumpsaint village, transport links are local - minor roads, lanes and tracks.

Recorded archaeology provides great time-depth, with nearly all periods being represented. It comprises a Neolithic findspot, a Bronze Age standing stone, the Roman road, fort, baths and coin hoard, the Medieval chapel site, an unknown cropmark, parkland features associated with the Dolaucothi estate, and buildings.

There are many distinctive buildings, most of them constructed on behalf of the Dolaucothi estate. The house at Dolaucothi has gone but the site represents an early 19th-century parkland with remnants of possible lime avenue, two enclosed gardens extant c. 1770, totally remodelled c. 1790, and altered and improved in the early 19th-century. The walled garden is partially intact and the whole is entered as ref. number PGW (Dy) 1 (CAM) in the Cadw/ICOMOS Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales (Whittle 1999). The stable block, carthouse, lodge and home farm are Grade II listed. Brunant, which contains 16th- or 17th-century elements, is also Grade II listed. There are 14 other Grade II listed buildings within the character area including Salem chapel from 1875, the public house, village hall, post office, stores, war memorial, forge and K6 telephone kiosk.

Although this area has very distinct historic components, its boundaries are not well defined; it merges with neighbouring areas to the northeast, east and southwest (Areas 242, 246 and 253), but is better defined to the south against Dolaucothi Gold Mines (Area 243).

Conservation priorities

Pumpsaint village is a Conservation area; any development must respect this status. The old house site and gardens are owned by the National Trust, who have formulated their own management plans. Outside the village and park the main priorities concern the decay evident in some of the boundary hedges, as this 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.

CARMARTHENSHIRE: DOLAUCOTHI

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 242 CWRT-Y-CADNO

GRID REFERENCE: SN 689435

AREA IN HECTARES: 570.60

Historic Background

A narrow area following the valley floor of the Afon Cothi and its tributaries the Nant Dâr, Nant-y-garth and Afon Frongoch. It once lay within Cwmwd Cao of Cantref Mawr, which remained an independent Welsh lordship until 1284 and largely retained native systems of tenure throughout the Medieval period. The southern flanks of the valley bear physical evidence of Roman gold mining in the form of leats and aqueducts that supplied the workings found in Area 243. Within this area the pattern of small irregular fields is unlike that in Area 241 where enclosure appears to have been a creation of the Dolaucothi estate, and may be Medieval or early Post-Medieval in date, like the ridge-and-furrow observed in similar fields in the neighbouring Area 248. The place-name Ty'n-y-coed suggests the former presence of a contemporary settlement. The Dolaucothi estate did, however, impact on the area in a number of ways. It contains four significant gentry houses, all associated with the estate to varying degrees, of which Abermangoed had been established by the late 17th-century when 'the capital messuage and lands of Tir Abermangoed' belonged to the Jones family (Jones 1987, 3), but reverted to the Dolaucothi estate by 1733 and bears the architectural signature of the estate. Llandre Griffith meanwhile, was in 1701 the home of a branch of the Johnes of Dolaucothi and was later held in joint ownership with Abermangoed (Jones 1987, 103). Pant-coy, which burnt down in 1839, was owned in 1840 by the Earl of Cawdor but became part of the Dolaucothi estate and was the home of John Harries (1785-1839) and Henry Harries (1816-1862), wizards, soothsayers and conjurers, well-known throughout south Wales. Cefngarros was another estate farm with the architectural signature, formerly renowned for the nearby sulphur springs. The Cothi valley road had long been an important drovers route, and a chapel was constructed alongside the road at Cwrt-y-cadno. A school had been added by the late 19th-century but despite these focii and the patronage of the estate, the settlement village never developed as a nucleation with dwellings. There has been little recent development but there are late 20th-century coniferous plantations on Allt Dinbeth and Alt Ty'n-y-coed.

Description and essential historic landscape components

Cwrt-y-cadno character area lies in the upper Cothi valley and includes the valley floor which lies between 150 m and 190 m, and the valley sides that have been enclosed into fields up to approximately 220 m. Essentially this is a landscape of dispersed farms, small irregular fields and scattered woodland. The small irregular fields are divided by earth banks topped by hedges. Apart from along roads, lanes and tracks the hedges are generally in poor condition and are either overgrown, lines of straggling bushes or derelict. Wire fences provide the main stock-proof boundaries. There are many distinctive hedgerow trees, and these together with the numerous deciduous woods (particularly prominent on steep valley sides) and the several small- and medium-sized conifer plantations lend a wooded aspect to many parts of this area. Farmland land-use is almost entirely improved pasture, with small pockets of rougher grazing and rushy ground. Transport links are local only - minor roads, lanes and tracks. The settlement pattern is one of dispersed farms and other dwellings. There is no aggregate settlement. Farmhouses and outbuildings of the Dolaucothi estate provide a distinctive architectural signature. These are 'pattern-book' buildings dating to the 1850s, and are built of coursed stone and have casement windows with diamond panes. Farmhouses are of two storeys and three bays, and the central bay normally contains the front door projecting forward of the facade with a separate gable. The farm buildings of these farms tend to have a semi-formal arrangement in relation to the house, i.e. around a courtyard. Earlier farmhouses in the area are generally of late 18th- or early 19th-century date, are of a similar style and size to the estate examples but in a vernacular tradition, and usually rendered. Farm buildings associated with these have a informal arrangement with the house. Central to the area is Cwrt-y-cadno chapel. There is virtually no modern residential development.

Recorded archaeology comprises Roman leats and aqueducts, a house platform and a possible Medieval/Post-Medieval settlement site, a possible cemetery of unknown date and an unknown cropmark.

There are a number of distinctive buildings, many of them bearing the signature of the Dolaucothi estate. Cefn Coed Mawr, Grade II listed, is mid-late 18th-century, remodelled in the later 19th century, with good vernacular features and group value with its farm outbuildings. The barn is also Grade II listed, as is the early 19th-century cowshed with an integral lofted stable. Cefngarros, from c.1845, is typical of several former Dolaucothi estate farmhouses in the area and Grade II listed. Brynteg is Grade II listed, built in 1843 and probably influenced by the architectural pattern-books; the barn range is also Grade II listed. Pant-coy is Grade II listed being a late 19th-century cottage formed from earlier farm building; the previous house burnt down in 1839. The outbuildings are also Grade II listed. Cwrt-y-cadno chapel, built in 1899, is of good quality, adjacent to a K6 telephone box. There are several fords and bridges, and mill sites.

This area is well defined to the south, north and east where it borders steep valley sides, forestry plantations or open moorland (Areas 245, 247, 249 and 250). Definition is less good to the southwest where it merges with Area 241.

Conservation priorities

Pumpsaint village is a Conservation area; any development must respect this status. The old house site and gardens are owned by the National Trust, who have formulated their own management plans. Outside the village and park the main priorities concern the decay evident in some of the boundary hedges, as this 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.