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# TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN: HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION (HE2)



Prepared for: Hendre Farm

Tir Gofal Reference No W/13/4432

Cambria Report No. 2005/20

Prepared by Helen Milne

# **A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES**

# 2. Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content

## Historic Landscape Character

Both the field and settlement pattern within the Hendre holding, and in the wider locality are very distinctive. Both are thought to have been strongly influenced by a specifically Welsh form of land tenure, which originated in the medieval period, and persisted in this part of Pembrokeshire until relatively recently. The northern portion of the Hendre holding is characterised by a number of distinctive narrow strip fields. These are very important components of the historic landscape as they represent the only physical remains of the earlier, larger sub-divided open-field system mentioned above. The general field pattern in the area is one of medium sized, irregular (tending towards oblong) enclosure. Field boundaries mostly consist of earth and stone banks, sometimes with stone facing, and often with hedges on top. Some of these boundaries are impressive in their scale, and a distinctive element of this landscape is the use of monoliths for gateposts. The settlement pattern in the area is typified by a high density of small hamlets, which reflects the medieval settlement pattern of 'vills'. In many cases former hamlets have shrunk, and gradually transformed into single or paired farms, a large number of which have been identified with settlements that are listed in the Black Book of St. David's of 1326. Although Hendre has not been identified with any of the settlements listed, circumstantial evidence suggests that the farm and nearby deserted rural settlement site may have medieval origins.

Hendre farm lies within two historic landscape character areas (HLCAs). HLCA: 288 Treledydd - Tretio -Caerfarchell, and HLCA 293 Comin: Dowrog -Treledydd - Tretio. These areas are intended to define places where local land-use patterns have left particularly strong or distinctive evidence in the landscape. The descriptions give fuller accounts of the history and landscape character of the wider area.

## Archaeological and historical content

The character of the area within and around the Hendre holding is defined in a large part by historic landscape features and traditional buildings. The likely early origins of the settlement sites, and associated field-system make this an area of high archaeological importance. Numerous standing stones within the bounds of the holding represent potentially earlier archaeological remains.

## Key objective

The strip field system represents a rare survival of native Welsh tenurial custom, and the preservation of any physical remains of this system, with the associated settlement sites, is the major priority for this farm.

# **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	HENDRE ( <u>39840)</u>	Post Med deserted rural settlement	SM7833272	26 A		Specific

A number of dwellings, field enclosures, and tracks marked on the Tithe Map (1841), but largely gone by the time the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map was published in 1891. At the time of a field visit in July 1999 despite much vegetation cover, many earthwork features and remnants of stone walls, probable buildings and former paths/ tracks were in evidence which coincide with the tithe map evidence. During the archaeological farm visit, and also during a previous visit by Cambria Archaeology in 1999, the area was very overgrown with thorn and gorse, and this should be addressed.

It has been argued that this deserted settlement site represents post-medieval squatter occupation on the edges of Dowrog Common. However, the remains are quite substantial, and there is place-name evidence to suggest that both Hendre farm and this site were occupied contemporarily (see PRN 51,748). Ludlow and Murphy (2000) have pointed out that in this area of Pembrokeshire, groups of post-medieval farm buildings often occupy the site of a medieval 'vill' or hamlet. This has given rise to the dominant settlement pattern of the area, represented by a high density of small nucleations or hamlets. Ludlow and Murphy also note an unusual arrangement of twinned farms characteristic of the area, which it has been suggested may be a tangible survival of a Welsh custom in which land was held not by individual ownership, but by two persons. It seems just as plausible that Hendre farm and the deserted settlement site were part of one of these twinned farm settlements. If this is the case, this may be a very important site archaeologically, and every effort should be made to protect and preserve the archaeological remains in this area for posterity and possible further investigation.



Hendre deserted rural settlement (PRN 39,840) with Hendre farm in the background

### 2 HENDRE (51745) Medieval;Post SM78382760 B Specific Med field system

The three areas identified on the attached map as field systems, represent places within the Hendre holding for which historic map evidence shows large fields subdivided into strip shares (with boundaries marked as dashed lines). In their original form strip shares would have been conceptual divisions of a larger area, probably marked by pegs, or other less permanent markers. The strip shares at Hendre are not the long, narrow curving strips typical of an 'English' open field system, but are characteristically short strips and rectangular 'shares' (lleini in Welsh). They are thought to represent a survival from native Welsh tenure, and their presence on nineteenth century maps confirms the continuation of a situation noted by George Owen in c. 1600, when he remarked that much of the land in Pebidiog (St. David's area) was unenclosed. "During the medieval period farmland was cultivated in open-field systems (also called sub-divided fields or common fields). In this system land was held communally and was divided into strips or shares within large openfields. Uncultivated common and waste lay beyond the open-fields. Traditionally, strips within the open fields were not assigned to a farmer, but were rotated on an annual basis. Enclosure of these open-fields typically occurred during the post-medieval period. The enclosure of the open-fields of St David's peninsula was not completed until the early to mid 19th-century. During the late 18th- and early 19th-century these open-field systems were rapidly transformed into a landscape of large, regular fields" (Murphy & Ludlow, 2000). Available historic maps were created much later than the likely origins of the strip-field system, and it is therefore likely that some of the long north to south boundaries on the holding represent the edges of fields that were formerly divided into strips. This overall morphology of the field pattern within the Hendre holding, strongly suggests that the individual field systems marked out on historic maps were formerly part of a larger whole system of strip shares. In the case of this system (PRN 51,745), later boundaries define the physical presence of the strip shares, and these are marked on current map sources and can still be seen on the ground. However, the boundaries are becoming 'swamped' due to re-colonisation by shrubs from the common within a relatively short space of time. The fact that this area is so readily reverting to scrub suggests that the land was won from waste. The form of enclosure suggests that this happened during the medieval or early post-medieval period.

# 3 HENDRE (51748) Post Med SM78332714 B Specific farmstead

Hendre farmstead consists of a farmhouse, which is said to have been built in 1847 for Watts Williams (PRN 51,749). The farmhouse lies separately, slightly removed from a range of traditional rubble-stone outbuildings (PRN 51,750). The new farmhouse replaced an earlier one, which stood further west, probably in the area that the outbuildings still occupy. The archaeological potential of the area around the present Hendre farmstead is very high. The construction of the new farmhouse post-dates the parish tithe map for St. David's (1840-1) by about six years. However, the tithe map does not make it clear where on the site the earlier farmhouse lay. Various historic maps from the earlier nineteenth century show groups of buildings in the area of the present outbuildings, and to the north (the deserted rural settlement PRN 39,840). It is possible that the outbuildings actually incorporate at least parts of the former farmhouse within the fabric of

the current range. It is likely however, that there are below ground remains of earlier buildings in the vicinity of the farmstead. The western end of the farmstead occupies an area which may represent an earlier settlement site. Not only does the name 'Hendre' point to this possibility, but there is a field name which suggests that Hendre itself and the deserted settlement to the north were once occupied contemporarily, forming a small nucleated settlement. The meaning of 'Llain rhwng y ddwy dre' (the name given in the tithe apportionment to field north of the outbuildings) is literally 'blade between the two settlements/ townships'. Historic map evidence demonstrates that the settlement to the north had been abandoned by the mid nineteenth century, while Hendre itself has seen continued occupation.



Part of the range of outbuildings at Hendre viewed from the north-west

### 5 HENDRE (51751) Post Med well SM78192719 U Specific

This well appears on historic map sources, and from what could be seen during the archaeological farm visit, there are associated structural remains. The well is currently extremely overgrown with brambles, and has a corrugated iron housing around the wellhead.

6	<u>(51752)</u>	Bronze age? stone	SM78512720 B	Specific	
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A standing stone shown on various historic map sources, still extant. 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. It is not clear whether the stones within the bounds of Hendre farm are pre-historic, as the local geology is characterised by glacial erratics, and large monoliths are frequently used as gateposts in the Hendre farm area. Stones such as these were sometimes errected much later as cattle rubs, however given their size, this seems a less likely option. Whatever their date and interpretation, they form a very distinctive element of the local landscape, and should be preserved in situ.

## HENDRE (51746)

Medieval;Post SM78372725 U Generic Med field system

A further area where historic map evidence shows large fields subdivided into strip shares. The strips in this area were not formalised by the addition of boundaries, and so there is no remaining physical evidence on the ground for this part of the system. Again, the wider field pattern suggests that this set of strip shares was part of a larger system.

HENDRE (51747)	Medieval;Post	SM78312700	U	Generic
	Med field system			

A further area where historic map evidence shows large fields subdivided into strip shares. The strips in this area were not formalised by the addition of boundaries, and so there is no remaining physical evidence on the ground for this part of the system. Again, the wider field pattern suggests that this set of strip shares was part of a larger system.

<u>(51753)</u>	Bronze age? stone	SM78242712	U	Generic		
A standing stone shown on various historic map sources, it is not clear whether this stone is still extant.						
<u>(51754)</u>	Bronze age? stone	SM78122714	B	Generic		
A standing stone shown on various historic map sources, still extant						
<u>(51755)</u>	Bronze age? stones	SM78092721	U	Generic		
A standing stone shown on various historic map sources, it is not clear whether this stone is still extant.						

(51756) Bronze age? stone SM78322744 U Generic

A standing stone shown on various historic map sources, it is not clear whether this stone is still extant.

# **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 HENDRE (39840)

#### SM78332726

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

During the archaeological farm visit, and also during a previous visit by Cambria Archaeology in 1999, the area was very overgrown with thorn and gorse. Scrub clearance is recommended for this site to enhance visibility. This can be followed by light grazing at times when the ground is stable (ie. not when the ground is waterlogged or very dry).



Site 2 on MAP 1

HENDRE (51745)

SM78382760

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

No changes to the layout of boundaries should occur in the area marked on the attached map. Existing boundaries should be maintained using appropriate materials and techniques. Ideally, light scrub clearance in the area would be beneficial to maintain visibility of these boundaries, and prevent them becoming 'swamped' by encroaching scrub from the common.

#### Site 3 on MAP 1

HENDRE (51748)

#### SM78332714

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

The archaeological potential of the area around the present Hendre farmstead is high, and Cambria

Archaeology should be informed if any ground-breaking works are carried out within the farmstead, or within its' immediate vicinity.

Site 5 on MAP 1 HENDRE (51751) SM78192719

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

The landowner intends to clear the area during pond re-creation. If any further associated archaeological features become apparent during scrub clearance, Cambria Archaeology should be informed. Care should be taken to preserve any structural elements of the well.

Site 6 on MAP 1

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

(51752)

This management is applicable to other stones that are still extant. When these stones lie in exposed places where stock frequently graze (such as PRN 51,752), it is important to ensure that erosion caused by trampling and cattle rubbing does not cause instability in the stones. Where there are signs of erosion around the base of a stone, stock should be kept clear until a stable grass sward develops. This can be achieved by placing branches and gorse foliage around the base of the stone to discourage livestock.

SM78512720

# 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
4	HENDRE (51750)	Post Med farm buildings	SM783327	/14 A	Specific

It is possible that these outbuildings actually incorporate at least parts of the former farmhouse within the fabric of the current range. One of the group of outbuildings has been converted by the present owners of Hendre, for residential purposes. The recently converted building lies on the northern side of the farmstead and is single storey, orientated east-west, and constructed of rubble stone. The owner has retained original door and window openings. This building is marked on the tithe map, but its' original function is unknown. The configuration of openings, and the lack of chimneys make it unlikely to have been the original farmhouse, although it may have been modified during its' history. The remainder of the traditional outbuildings are dilapidated and in urgent need of repairs, in order to maintain them in a weatherproof condition. This range retains a number of traditional features peculiar to Pembrokeshire, in particular the coating of concrete (probably replacing lime mortar) covering slate roofs. This sort of pointing is characteristic of vernacular buildings in Pembrokeshire. In exposed places it was a traditional means of preventing moisture penetrating between slates (from rain driven horizontally by the wind), and is becoming a rarity as it has been replaced by the use of roofing felt beneath slates. The east-west barn range (parallel to, and south of the renovated building) has a particularly interesting variety of pointing on the roof. There are evenly spaced 'ribs' running from the apex down to the eaves, presumably a way of encouraging run off. This building is single storey, rubble built, and occupies the north side of a square vard formed by two rows

of buildings, meeting at a right angle. The south elevation had become unsound in the past and is now supported by some make-shift buttresses. Attached to the east end of the row described above is the only two-storey outbuilding in the range. It is constructed of rubble stone, with access to the second storey gained via an external set of stone steps on the eastern gable-end. The front elevation faces north, and comprises a window opening (now bricked up) and door to the ground floor, and a window opening (with louvred panelling) and ventilation slit to the first storey. This probably represents a stable. Three buildings form the east side of the yard. These are all rubble built, with lime mortar between the joints and lime wash in evidence in some locations. There are variations in roof height: the central building in the row has a higher roof line, and consequently the roofs on the two buildings either side are butted up to this building. The two southerly buildings in the row have distinctive upstanding rubble-stone copings at the gable ends.



The three buildings forming the east side of the yard, showing lime wash on the central building, and east-west barn range in the background, with 'ribbed' pointing on the roof slates

The extreme southern gable-end is deteriorating rapidly: it is bulging outwards, with lime mortar crumbling from the joints. It appears that the western elevation of this building has suffered from collapse, as it has been replaced by concrete breeze-blocks.



The rear of the row seen above, showing deterioration of the southern gable-end

To the west of this L-shaped range, a long, low, east-west orientated rubble-stone building has had its' gable end modified to accomodate a wider entranceway. Areas of roofing on the entire range have been replaced in the past with a variety of materials. including some corrugated iron and corrugated plastic. It is assumed that the original roofing material was slate with a mortar coating. However, in this context there is a historical precedent for corrugated iron, and this would be the preferred option for cheaply ensuring that the buildings remain weatherproof. To the south-east of the main barn range, but clearly associated is a small square stone building with very thick walls. There is a door opening with wooden lintel on the north-west elevation. There is no remaining roof structure, but the tops of the walls give the impression that the building may have been higher previously. The building appears on the more detailed maps of the later nineteenth century, although its' function is unknown.



Small square stone building viewed from west

HENDRE (51748)	Post Med	SM78332714 B	Generic
farmstead			

Hendre farmstead consists of a farmhouse (PRN 51,749), and a range of outbuildings (PRN 51,750). Both the farmhouse and the range of traditional farm buildings are described separately.

HENDRE <u>(51749)</u>	Post Med	SM78402712 A LB.II	Generic
	farmhouse		

The farmhouse is a Cadw grade II listed building. It is a large farmhouse of the mid nineteenth century, which is said to have been built in 1847 for Watts Williams, replacing a previous farmhouse which stood further west. The Cadw listing describes it as an unusually elaborate farmhouse to an interesting centralised plan, and notes the following features: "Large farmhouse in squared rubble stone with broad slate hipped eaves roof and single long roughcast central stack. Near square plan with NW rear wing. Two-storey three-window front of large segmental-arched sashes with marginal glazing bars, slate sills and small stone voussoirs. Similar small stones to jambs. Segmental-arched centre doorway, heavily moulded 4-panel door with upper panels arched and each arch subdivided into two arches with centre pendant. Segmental-arched overlight. 2-window E side, the lower windows with yellow-brick jambs, and one part-blocked. Rear has large centre stair-light and, to left, projecting short tower carrying iron water-tank. W side has one upper window and NW angle is chamfered with one similar window on each floor. Rear wing has brick ridge stack and hipped N end, lean-to rear and 2-storey 3-window W front with door between left and centre windows. Windows have brick cambered heads and brick jambs, glazing bar sashes, smaller above" (Cadw list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest, Pembs. Ref. 25/C/55(2)).

## **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.

 Characteristics and features which reflect history and function of the traditional buildings identified in this agreement must not be removed.
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:

### Site 4 on MAP 1

### HENDRE (51750)

SM78332714

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

Although these buildings have lost some of the integrity of their historic fabric, they form a distinctive historic component of Hendre farm, and every effort should be made to ensure that the important contribution they make to the wider historic landscape character of the area is retained. The extreme southern gable-end is deteriorating rapidly: it is bulging outwards, with lime mortar crumbling from the joints. This needs to be stabilised.

There is evidence that lime-mortar and lime-wash were the materials used to weatherproof these buildings, and ideally these should be used in any repair work carried out.

It is assumed that the original roofing material was slate with a mortar coating. However, in this context there is a historical precedent for corrugated iron, and if re-slating were too costly, this would be the preferred option for cheaply ensuring that the buildings remain weatherproof.

# iii) HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS:

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

HM - 12/10/2004 (17:50:05) - HTML file produced for Tir Gofal HE2 report, ACA Project record number 49843. Dyfed Archaeological Trust (Cambria Archaeology), The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, SA19 6AF. tel (01558) 823131, fax (01558) 823133, email cambria@acadat.com, website www.acadat.com

This HE2 report supercedes the information given in the <u>HE1 report</u> for this farm.

Sources consulted: Maps Ordnance Survey (6" to 1 mile) Sheet SM72NE, 1965 Ordnance Survey Old Series Original Surveyor's Drawings, Sheet 183, 1810. Ordnance Survey 1st. Ed. Pembrokeshire (25" to 1 mile) Sheet XIV.12; 1889. Ordnance Survey 1st. Ed. Pembrokeshire (25" to 1 mile) Sheet XIV.16; 1889 Ordnance Survey 1st. Ed. Pembrokeshire (25" to 1 mile) Sheet XV.9 1889. Ordnance Survey 2nd. Ed. Pembrokeshire (6" to 1 mile) Sheet XV.9 1889. Tithe Map St. David's Parish, Pembrokeshire; 1840-41. Apportionment St. David's Parish, Pembrokeshire; 1838.

Aerial Photographs AP Vertical: Meridian Airmaps 1955/ 170-220, 12434-5

**Other Sources** 

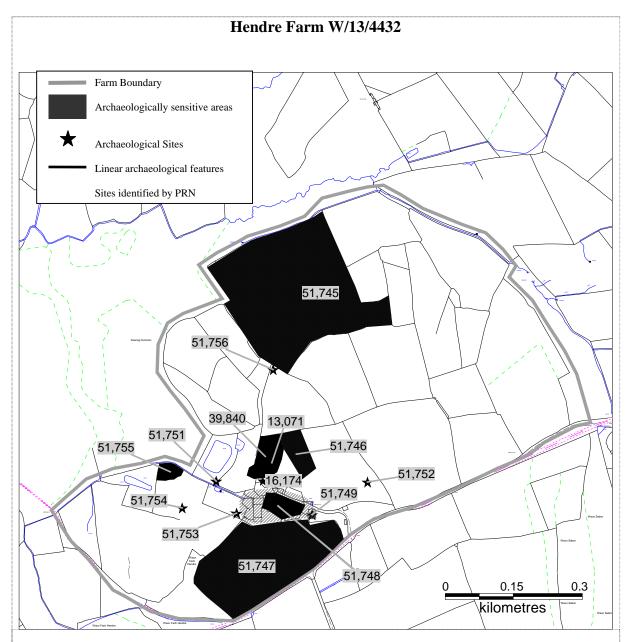
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Cadw list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest Ref. 25/C/55(2) Hendre, Fishguard Rd.



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## ST DAVID'S PENINSULA AND RAMSEY ISLAND

# HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 288 TRELEDDYD - TRETIO - CAERFARCHELL

#### GRID REFERENCE: SM763280 AREA IN HECTARES: 1911

#### **Historic Background**

A large area of modern Pembrokeshire located on St David's Peninsula, of great historic landscape interest. It lay within the medieval Cantref Pebidiog, or 'Dewisland', which was held directly by the Bishops of St David's, having represented the core of the bishopric from 1082 when it was granted (or confirmed) by Rhys ap Tewdwr, king of pre-Conquest Dyfed, to Bishop Sulien. The character area lies mainly within the parish of St David's, which had a number of subordinate chapels, and even today preserves a remarkable ecclesiastical topography. The area is crossed by the Ffos-y-mynach ('monks' ditch'), an earthwork traditionally held to be an early medieval boundary which may be rooted in fact as it does not respect St David's parish boundary and may represent an earlier division. A strong pre Anglo-Norman conquest ecclesiastical tradition is confirmed by the archaeology of the area, with three concentrations of Early Christian Monuments and three dark age cist cemetery sites. In addition, there are a number of *llan* place-name elements perhaps representing lost chapels, many of which may be later medieval in origin, as devotional rather than formal chapels-of-ease. However, many of these have the place-name element 'old' and may have early medieval origins. From 1115, when Bernard, was appointed Bishop of St David's, Anglo-Norman systems of feudal government and ecclesiastical administration were introduced into Pebidiog, which was conterminous with the later Hundred of Dewsland created in 1536. A small part of the area to the east lies within Llanhywel parish, a medieval division of Pebidiog, which was retained by the crown until 1302 when the benefice was appropriated to St David's Cathedral. Whitchurch, also in the east, did not become a parish until the post-medieval period, originally being a chapelry of St David's parish. The major part of the character area was divided between the 'manors' of Welsh Hundred and Tydwaldy. However, Welsh tenurial systems appear to have persisted, though variously adapted, and many feudal rights and obligations continued even into the early 20th-century. Pebidiog was renowned for its fertile arable land. According to the census in George Owen's Taylors Cussion, it was one of the most densely populated regions of Pembrokeshire in the 16th century, with the most plough teams, and was particularly productive of barley. There were proportionately very few dairies. The Black Book of St David's of 1326 gives some idea of the population density at an earlier period, listing within Welsh Hundred, among others, the vills Carnhedryn, Lleithyr, Treleddyd, Trelewyd, Treleidr, Tremynydd, Treliwyd, and Penarthur, and in Tydwaldy, the vills Penbery, Tre-hysbys, Treiago, Tremynydd (again), and Tretio. All were semimanorial, held by a version of Welsh custom in which an infield-outfield system was practised, where land was held not by individual ownership, but by two persons and their co-owners. In fact 'gavelkind' had only recently been abolished in Pebidiog when Owen wrote in c.1600, that the land was still unenclosed 'and exposed to tempests'. Eighteenth- and early 19th-century maps also show much of the land as still unenclosed. This tenure has given rise to the dominant settlement pattern of the area, represented by a high density of small hamlets, mainly with Tre- place-names and largely based on the medieval vills. Tretio, Treleidr and Treleddyd are among the hamlets shown as small nucleated settlements on estate maps of the late 18th-century, some of which are shown surrounded by a subdivided field system, the best examples being at Treleddyd and Gwrhyd-Mawr. The sub-divisions or strips in these systems are not the long, narrow curving strips typical of an 'English' open field system, but rather rectangular 'shares' scattered across a wide area; a survival from Welsh tenure. Each hamlet or township had its own system but most hamlets - and presumably the medieval 'vills' - were associated with two small separate areas of common land, one called 'common' and one called Waun or 'moor', the latter being waste-land. Each hamlet is now occupied by a group of post-medieval farm buildings. These sometimes include a chapel which, though normally of late 18th- or 19th-century date and from a variety of denominations, appears in some instances to occupy an earlier religious site, for example at Carnhedryn there is a nearby Early Christian Monument, Caerfarchell has a nearby cemetery site and Llandidgige has a documented medieval chapel. This tenurial system was at its very end by the late 18th-century. A map of Treleddyd from 1786 shows dispersed, unenclosed strips, but by 1821 this pattern had been enclosed and many of the strips transformed into rectangular-shaped fields. In other examples the St David's tithe map shows a pattern in which former strips are detectable in the overall pattern of enclosed, rectangular and irregular-shaped fields. Large holdings, such as

Pwllcaerog, are the sites of former hamlets which gradually transformed into single or paired farms. Paired farms are a feature of this landscape. Smaller isolated farms, like Penlan, appear to be quite late, and were probably established on the former open fields of the hamlets or of St David's in the 16thand 17th-century, while the nucleated settlement at Whitchurch seems to be entirely modern. In addition, there is a Deserted Rural Settlement site near Hendre, which like most of its contemporaries, represents an 18th century squatter settlement on the fringes of Dowrog Common. The economy of the area has remained overwhelmingly agricultural, characterised since the mid 20th-century by early potato-growing, but many quarries were established along the coast during the post-medieval period, as well as at least one limekiln.

#### Description and essential historic landscape components

This is a large and complex historic landscape character area encompassing most of the northern part of St David's Peninsula. The land is generally level or gently sloping, with most slopes south-facing, located on average between 50m and 80m. Part of the northern area includes high sea cliffs, along the top of which runs the Pembrokeshire Coast Path. It is an agricultural landscape, and the whole area is divided into small- to medium-sized fields. Fields come in a variety of shapes, and though most are irregular or tending to the rectangular, there are small sub-systems of short strip-shaped fields, such as those close to Treleidr, Treleddyd and Gwrhyd-Mawr, that have clearly evolved from an open, subdivided field system. Across such an extensive tract of landscape there is clearly variety in the field boundaries, but most consist of earth or earth and stone banks, with some rubble banks and dry-stone walls present. Hedges where present are low and windswept, and often reduced to straggling lines of bushes and gorse. Wire fences supplement most of the historic boundaries. A notable feature of parts of the landscape is the use of mortared-pillars or monoliths for gateposts. Apart from occasional very small conifer plantations, it is essentially a treeless landscape. Agricultural land-use is improved pasture with a small but significant proportion of arable land. Rough, rushy ground and unimproved pasture is also present in small amounts. Several small, 20th century irrigation reservoirs make a contribution to the character of the area. The settlement pattern is complex. The most obvious elements are several, small, dispersed agricultural hamlets - Tretio, Caerfarchell, Rhodiad, Carnhedryn, Gwrhyd-Mawr, Treleidr and Treleddyd. These consist of very tight groupings of farmhouse, cottages, farm outbuildings and in some instances chapels. Buildings, including the chapels, are generally of late 18thor 19th-century date, stone-built, bare stone or cement rendered, and with slate roofs some of which are covered with a cement skim. Usually each hamlet has a dominant farm, with a two storey house built in the polite Georgian tradition, a large range of stone-built outbuildings and extensive modern agricultural structures in steel, concrete and asbestos. Close to the main farm may be a second farm, in the Georgian tradition or in the vernacular style, and several one, one and a half, and two storey cottages in the vernacular tradition. In some instances examples of sub-medieval dwellings are present. At Carnhedryn modern dwellings in a variety of styles and materials add to the character of the settlement, but in most of the hamlets recent development is very limited or non-existent and the 18thand 19th-century agricultural character of these settlements is still evident. In several instances hamlets are surrounded by a pattern of enclosed strip fields, now much degraded, representing the survival of the medieval open or sub-divided fields of the settlement. Paired and/or very large farms, such as Pwllcaerog, are another element of the settlement pattern. Buildings types are similar to those in the hamlets, with the large modern agricultural outbuildings providing a strong element in the landscape. Smaller dispersed farms are in a variety of styles: cement-rendered stone-built 19th century vernacular with a single small range of stone-built outbuildings; early 19th-century cut- and-coursed stone minor gentry houses with extensive ranges of contemporary outbuildings; and 20th century brick or concrete farmhouses with modern outbuildings. In addition to the agricultural dwellings, there is a scattering of modern houses across the area in a variety of styles and materials, but these are not common elements of the settlement pattern. There are 36 listed buildingsa in the area - a very high density for a rural area of dispersed settlement. Llanhywel Church is Grade II\* listed while the church at Whitchurch is Grade II listed. Grade II listed farmhouses include Hendre, Lleithyr, and Penbery. There are 10 listed buildings at Caerfarchell including the farmhouse and outbuildings, the Manse, outbuildings and pigsty, Hamilton House and outbuildings and the old post office, all Grade II, and the chapel which is Grade II\*. The 8 listed buildings at Rhodiad-y-Brenin include Gwrhyd Bach farmhouse - a classic example of the sub-medieval North Pembrokeshire house, with a round chimney and lateral outshut and Gwrhyd Canol farmhouse, the chapel, the bridge and the old village pump, all Grade II. Penlan Farm, outbuildings and well enclosure are each Grade II listed, as are Treledydd Fawr, Ty-canol, with its wall with beeboles, and Tremynydd Fawr farmhouse, coachhouse and 2 ranges of outbuildings. Cerbyd old farmhouse and a range of outbuildings are both Grade II listed. The vicarage at Whitchurch and its outbuildings are both Grade II listed. Pont-y-Cerbyd and Pont Penarthur bridges are also both

Grade II listed. Hendre Eynon and Pwllcaerog were also both sub-medieval North Pembrokeshire farmhouses. There are also post-medieval hamlet chapels at eg. Carnhedryn and Tretio. Several camp sites and caravan parks are present, and some farm buildings have been converted to provide tourist facilities and accommodation. A council waste disposal site is located at the extreme southern limit of this area. The major transport link in this area is the A487 St David's to Fishguard road, a former turnpike, with the B4583 to the north a secondary road. Other roads are narrow, winding and flanked by high banks.

Recorded archaeology is rich and diverse, with a significant early medieval component. It comprises **a** scheduled neolithic chambered tomb at Lecha, three possible chambered tombs and a possible stone circle, four possible bronze age round barrows and three possible standing stones. There are two scheduled iron age hillforts, and an iron age or Roman findspot. Early medieval burials have been recorded at Caerfarchell, Tremynydd and Waun-y-beddau. Early Christian Monuments occur at Carnhedryn, Penwaun, Penarthur - now moved to St Davids Cathedral - and Whitchurch, while the Ffos-y-mynach earthwork may be early medieval. There are medieval chapel sites, and possible sites, at Llandigige, Penbery, and Treleidr chapel sites, while Gwrhyd was still standing in the 18th century. A possible motte stands near Treiago. In addition are the medieval settlement at Pwllcaerog, with a watermill, other post-medieval mills and bridges, a post-medieval deserted rural settlement, gravel pit, many quarries and a limekiln, and other enclosures of unknown character.

The pattern of hamlets and former sub-divided fields characterise and separate this area from the historic landscape areas comprising dispersed farms and fields which lie to the west, and south, although in no instance is it possible to define a hard-edged boundary; rather there is a zone of change. To the northern side, boundary definition of this area is very clear as it borders either open moorland or the sea. Character areas to the east have yet to be defined, but here the landscape is one of dispersed farms and systems of large fairly regular fields.

#### **Conservation priorities**

Maintain traditional field boundaries. In order to maintain the historic integrity of the small hamlets, modern development within and on the fringes of these settlements should be discouraged. 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.

**Sources:** Charles 1992; Cooper 2001; Dicks 1968; Fenton 1811; Fox 1937; Howell 1993; Howells 1971; Howells 1987; James 1981; James 1993; Jenkins n.d.; Lewis 1833; Llanhowell tithe map and apportionment, 1842; Ludlow 1998; National Library of Wales Picton Castle 1; National Library of Wales RKL Coll (496) Llanhowell No 5; National Library of Wales RKL Coll (496) Llanhowell No 21; National Library of Wales RKL Coll No 39: National Library of Wales RKL Coll No 42; National Library of Wales 14229<sup>6</sup> No 77; Pembrokeshire Record Office D/RTP/HIG/11; Pembrokeshire Record Office D/RTP/J H Harries 6/7; Pembrokeshire Record Office D/RTP/J H Harries 6/73; Pembrokeshire Record Office D/RTP/J H Harries 6/74; Pemb

### ST DAVID'S PENINSULA AND RAMSEY ISLAND

# HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 293 COMIN: DOWROG - TRELEDDYD - TRETIO

#### GRID REFERENCE: SM771273 AREA IN HECTARES: 218.7

#### **Historic Background**

An area of modern Pembrokeshire lying centrally within St David's Peninsula, which appears to have been open, wet common throughout history. It lay within the medieval Cantref Pebidiog, or 'Dewisland', which was held directly by the Bishops of St David's, having represented the core of the bishopric from 1082 when it was granted (or confirmed) by Rhys ap Tewdwr, king of pre-Conquest Dyfed, to Bishop Sulien. From 1115, when Bernard, was appointed Bishop of St David's, Anglo-Norman systems of feudal government and ecclesiastical administration were introduced into Pebidiog, which was conterminous with the later Hundred of Dewsland created in 1536. However, Welsh tenurial systems appear to have persisted, though variously adapted, and many feudal rights and obligations continued even into the early 20th-century. The area comprises a number of distinct, but united expanses of unenclosed land, by far the largest of which is 'The Dowrog', whose name is derived from dwfr, 'water', and the suffix -og meaning a 'watery place or marsh', indicating that the land was always wet, though peat-cutting was undertaken in drier areas. First mentioned in 1670, The Dowrog does not appear in the Black Book of St David's of 1326, and so presumably was never subject to formal, manorial common administration, and was treated as informal waste. However, a small area to the northwest was waste or 'moor' belonging to the medieval vill of Treledydd, while a larger area to the northeast was the formal Tretio Common. Here, clearly defined encroachments appear to be 'quillets' of open fields rather than squatter encroachments, possibly representing 13th- or 14th-century encroachments from the vill of Tretio. In general, the very wet nature of the area has prevented concerted efforts at encroachment. Part of the area is now managed by the West Wales Wildlife Trust.

#### Description and essential historic landscape components

This historic landscape character area consists entirely of unenclosed common. It covers of several interconnected tongues of land which occupy the bottoms of hollows and open valleys in the centre of St David's parish, lying between 45m and 55m. It is a wet area, marshy and peaty, with occasional stretches of open water. Very little grazing now takes place, and on the few drier areas scrubby woodland is beginning to develop. Peat was formerly cut on the common. There are no settlements or buildings within the area.

Recorded archaeology is limited to a bronze age standing stone and possible round barrow, a Roman findspot, peat cuttings and a post-medieval gravel-pit.

This is a very well defined historic landscape character area. It is surrounded by a landscape of fields and farms.

#### **Conservation priorities**

Maintain the open aspect of this area.

**Sources:** Charles 1992; James 1981; Lewis 1833; St David's tithe map and apportionment, 1840-41; Willis-Bund 1902