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

**Prepared for:  
Morfa-Uchaf**

**Tir Gofal Reference No  
W/11/4302**

**ACA Report No. 2006/4**

**Project Record No. 49919**

**Prepared by  
Philip Poucher**

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# **A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES**

## **2. Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content**

### ***HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER***

This farm consists of four holdings lying on and near the Ceredigion coast around Llangranog. The main holding, W/11/4302, lies around the farmstead of Morfa-Uchaf on the south side of Llangranog, holding W/11/4302/b lies adjacent to the west and holding W/11/4302/c backs onto the settlement of Llangranog. The final holding of W/11/4302/a lies c2km to the southwest. Holding W/11/4302/b is apparently not included within the Tir Gofal scheme.

The enclosure pattern in this area is a mixed one, with areas of medium sized irregular fields encompassing holdings W/11/4302/b & c and the southern part of holding W/11/4302 and more regular fields in the northern part of W/11/4302 and around W/11/4302/a. Woodland clings to the steeper valley slopes within W/11/4302 and streambanks within W/11/4302/c with larger fields at the heads of the steep valley and cliff slopes. The irregular fields are characteristic of the piecemeal enclosure of farmland over relatively long periods of time and were probably well established by the time they were first recorded on the tithe maps of 1841. The more regular fields are characteristic of later enclosure, although some had been established by the time of the tithe map. The northern part of W/11/4302 and much of W/11/4302/a appears to have been enclosed in its current pattern during the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The settlement pattern in this area consists of dispersed farmsteads and cottages with the small nucleated settlement of Llangranog. This particular pattern may be relatively early, settlement at Llangranog may have Medieval origins and the current pattern had already been established by the time of the old series Ordnance Survey map of 1834.

### ***ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTENT***

Morfa Uchaf lies in an archaeologically rich area, notable for its prehistoric remains. The Scheduled hillfort, Castell Bach, lies between holdings W/11/4302 and 4302/b and another hillfort, Pen y Castell lies just east of Morfa Uchaf, near to the farm of Eisteddfa. A short distance southwest is another hillfort, Gaer Llwyd, so it is clear that the area was of considerable importance in - and probably before - the Iron Age. This is given added credence by the reports of two standing stones adjacent to holding W/11/4302. Standing stones are generally thought to be Bronze Age in date (c2000 - 500BC) and may have been sites for ritual and religious activity and/or landscape markers. It is also possible that these standing stones are associated with, or were part of, Bronze Age cairns or barrows. All of this is indicative of a landscape that was of great significance in prehistory, and which has the potential for further remains to be discovered, although no above ground Prehistoric remains were identified within the holdings during the farm visit.

Morfa Uchaf (PRN 55656) itself is a large farmstead, possibly dating from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, with traditional farm buildings surviving. Other cottages (PRNs 55659 & 55660) are also marked within these farm holdings on 19<sup>th</sup> century maps but they have since been abandoned. The 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889 also marks a lookout station (PRN 55658) on Pen Rhip, although the form this took is unclear.

***KEY OBJECTIVE***

The management priority for this farm is the maintenance and preservation of traditional farm buildings within the Morfa-Uchaf farmstead complex (PRN 55656). The traditional farm buildings are in varying states of deterioration and require work to ensure their preservation.

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## **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.

<b>Name (&amp; PRN)</b>	<b>Period/Site type</b>	<b>NGR</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>SAM/listing</b>	<b>Management required</b>
<b>PENRHIP (<u>1377</u>)</b>	<b>Unknown/ Enclosure?;Natural Feature</b>	<b>SN30815400</b>	<b>D</b>		<b>Generic</b>
<p>A possible enclosure has been identified in this area from aerial photographs, described as rectilinear and adjacent to 1-3 possible circular features (PRN 1378). No archaeological features are visible at ground level and the suggestion has been made that this 'enclosure' may actually be natural, caused by underlying geology and also by the fact that this area was often used as the cattle feeding station which apparently left circular marks on the ground. <i>Visited</i> 18/01/2006 (PP)</p>					
<b>PENRHIP (<u>1378</u>)</b>	<b>Unknown/ Natural feature</b>	<b>SN30825391</b>	<b>D</b>		<b>Generic</b>
<p>A circular feature, possibly three, seen on aerial photographs and originally recorded as either the remains of a possible beacon station along with PRN 1377, or barrow remains. This was rejected by Ordnance Survey field inspectors who described the features as natural grass covered knolls and outcrops. No archaeological features were visible during the farm visit, and this area was apparently commonly used to feed cattle, with the cattle feeding station also leaving circular marks on the ground. <i>Visited</i> 18/01/2006 (PP)</p>					
<b>MORFA-UCHAF (<u>55656</u>)</b>	<b>Post Med/ Farmstead</b>	<b>SN3085453104</b>	<b>B</b>		<b>Generic</b>
<p>A farmstead complex south of Llangranog. The farmhouse carries a date plaque of 1792, and the farmstead is first recorded on the Ordnance Survey original surveyors drawings of 1811. The farmhouse stands fairly centrally in the complex, facing east, with traditional farm buildings arranged to the south and west, and modern farm buildings to the north. Farmsteads are archaeologically sensitive areas and may have seen continued occupation over a long period of time. Traditional buildings are described in section ii. <i>Visited</i> 18/01/2006 (PP)</p>					
<b>(<u>55657</u>)</b>	<b>Post Med/ Pond</b>	<b>SN3096953020</b>	<b>C</b>		<b>Generic</b>
<p>A pond measuring roughly 18m by 12m to the south of Morfa-Uchaf farmstead. The pond is still full of water, first marked on the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1905 with a sluice at the north-western edge at the head of a stream running off towards Maes-y-morfa. The 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889 marks the pond slightly further to the west. <i>Visited</i> 18/01/2006 (PP)</p>					

(55658)

**Post Med/  
Coastguard  
lookout**

**SN3094554205 U**

**Generic**

The 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889 marks the end of this small promontory of Pen Rhip as a 'lookout station'. No building appears to be marked however, and the site is no longer labelled on the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition map of 1905. No upstanding structural remains are visible in this area, although a roughly circular cropmark c5m across is visible on the level ground of the promontory. Without further investigation it is impossible to say what this feature represents, naturally occurring cropmarks and marks left by cattle feeding stations have been noted in the vicinity, see PRNs 1377/8. *Visited* 18/01/2006 (PP)

MORFA-BANC (55659)

**Post Med/ Cottage SN3012053019 U**

**Generic**

A cottage first marked on the tithe map of 1841. The 1<sup>st</sup> (1889) and 2<sup>nd</sup> (1905) edition Ordnance Survey maps show the cottage, called Morfa-banc, lying against the trackway surrounded by a small enclosure. Current condition unknown. The holding within which this cottage lies is apparently not included within the Tir Gofal scheme.

(55660)

**Post Med/ Cottage SN3117953140 B**

**Generic**

A small cottage marked in the corner of the field on the tithe map of 1841. The site is no longer marked on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. This corner of the field overlooking a small stream is currently fenced off, enclosing an area of rough ground and trees. A possible building platform is visible on the rough ground, aligned east-west, but it could not be examined closely. *Visited* 18/01/2006 (PP)

## **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)

## 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
1	<b>MORFA-UCHAF</b> <u>(55656)</u>	<b>Post Med/ Farmstead</b>	<b>SN3085453104</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>Specific</b>

A farmstead complex south of Llangranog. The farmhouse carries a date plaque of 1792, and the farmstead is first recorded on the Ordnance Survey original surveyors drawings of 1811. The farmhouse stands fairly centrally in the complex, facing east, with traditional farm buildings arranged to the south and west, and modern farm buildings to the north.

To the south stands a detached farm building, built of mortared stone with a slate roof and cobbled floor. A former lofted stable occupies the western end, with a large barn occupying the rest of the building, partly lofted, with the date '1878' carved into a roof timber.

The remaining farm buildings lie in an L-shaped range to the west. The northern part consists of 3 barns of varying sizes. The northernmost two are partly mortared stone built with drystone built rear walls, and corrugated iron roofs. The northernmost has large openings to the north and east, the central barn has a doorway and window opening to the east, a stove pipe emerging from the south-eastern corner and internally limewashed. The southernmost of the 3 barns is built of mortared stone with a slate roof, possibly originally lofted, internally limewashed and abutting the northernmost buildings.

The southern part of the L-shaped range consists of a large mortared stone built barn with a part brick gable wall and a corrugated iron roof. Two doorways and windows open to the north, with an unusual pointed window placed into an opening in the western gable wall. Milking machinery remains inside. Attached to the southeast is a smaller mortared stone built barn with a corrugated asbestos roof, and evidence of an original smaller barn visible in the gable wall.

The roofs of all the traditional farm buildings are in various stages of deterioration and the rear wall of the northernmost part of the L-shaped range is visibly bowing in places. *Visited 18/01/2006 (PP)*



**SE facing shot of the detached barn to the south of the farmhouse.**



**NE facing shot of part of the L-shaped range of farm buildings. The deteriorating roofs are clearly visible.**

### **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.

## **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 1 on MAP 1**

**MORFA-UCHAF (55656)**

**SN3085453104**

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

The aim of the management for this site should be to ensure the survival of the traditional buildings and maintain the historic character of the complex of traditional farm buildings as a whole. The roofs of all the traditional farm buildings are in varying degrees of deterioration, and as a result the buildings can be used for little other than storage. The rear wall of the northernmost part of the L-shaped range of farm buildings is also visibly bowing.

- Slates are missing from the roof of the detached farm building to the south of the farmhouse, and the roof is apparently beginning to separate at the apex. This roof structure should be repaired and missing and loose slate reattached using materials and techniques appropriate to the farmstead complex as a whole.
- The corrugated iron roofing of the large southernmost barn forming the lower section of the L-shaped range appears to be in the best condition of all the traditional farm buildings. However, this roofing is beginning to deteriorate in places on the northern side, and some sheeting is missing from the southern side allowing weather to penetrate the building. The missing and damaged sheets should be replaced with appropriate materials to maintain a weatherproof covering.
- Sheets of corrugated iron are missing from the two northernmost barns of the L-shaped building range, holes are also appearing and the edges deteriorating. Damaged and deteriorating sections on this roof should be replaced with appropriate materials.
- The rear wall of the two northernmost barns is visibly bowing. The structural integrity of this wall line should be investigated and consolidation undertaken if required. Care should be taken to consolidate using appropriate materials and techniques as this area of walling appears to be drystone built.
- Slates are missing and the underlying timber roof structure is deteriorating on the southernmost of the 3 adjoining barn buildings within the L-shaped range. This roof should be repaired/replaced as necessary to ensure the survival of this range, using materials and techniques appropriate to these traditional farm buildings.

This farm is already within the Tir Gofal agreement and the amount of work suggested above would probably exceed the funding available within Tir Gofal. If all the works suggested are therefore not possible then it may be advisable to prioritise the repair of the roof of the detached farm building to the south of the farmhouse.

### **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:*

**Cambria Archaeology Historic Environment Record**

**Ordnance Survey 1834 Old Series 1" map, No.LVII**

**Ordnance Survey 1889 1st edition 1-2500 Carmarthenshire.XXXI.2, 6, 9 & 10**

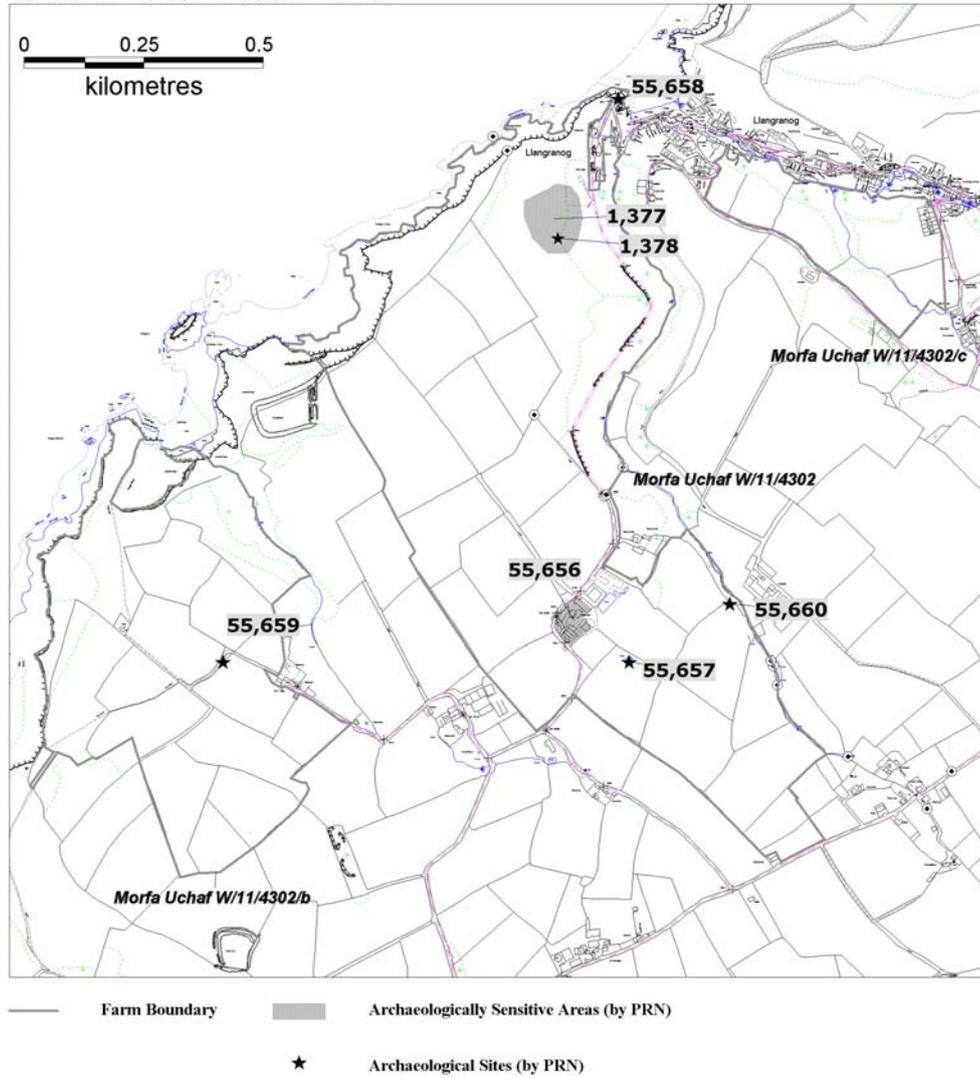
**Ordnance Survey 1905 2nd edition 1-2500 Carmarthenshire.XXXI.2, 6, 9 & 10**

**RCAHMW. Coflein Online Database**

**Tithe Map 1841 Penbryn Parish**

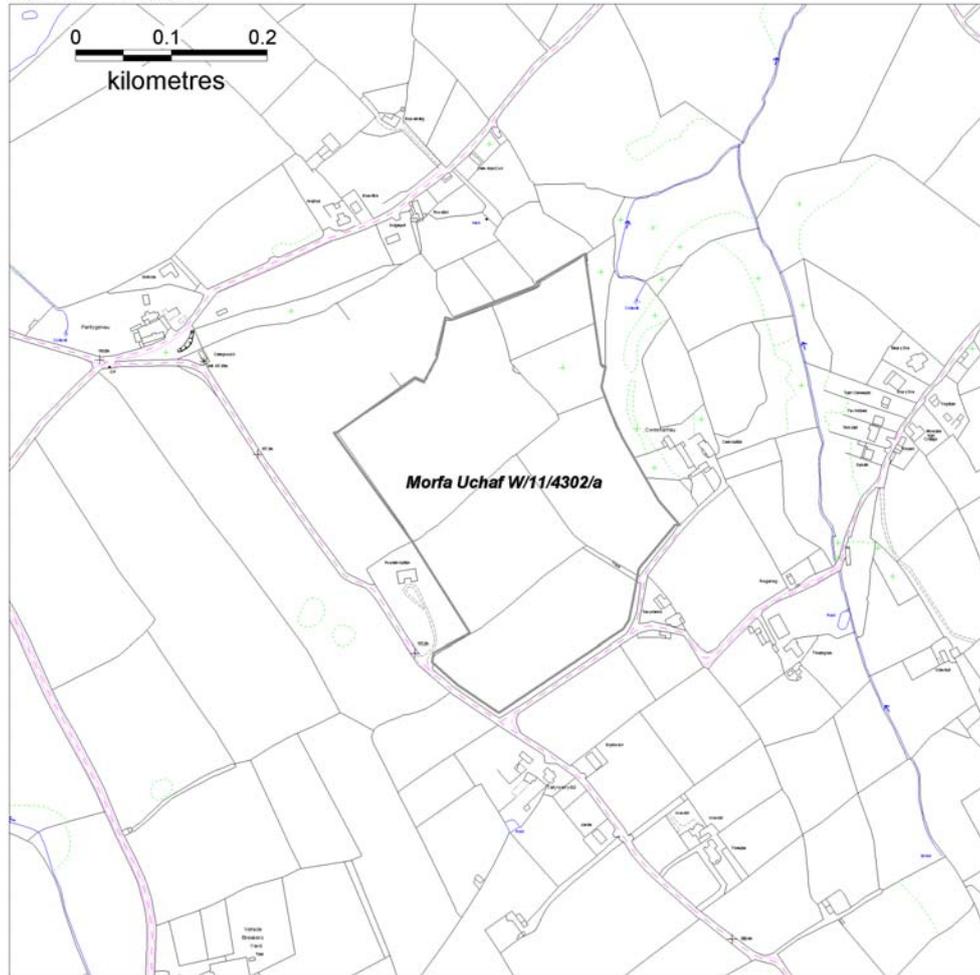
**Tithe Map 1841 Llangrannog Parish**

Morfa-Uchaf W/11/4302, W/11/4302/b & W/11/4302/c



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Morfa-Uchaf W/11/4302/a



- Farm Boundary
- Archaeologically Sensitive Areas (by PRN)
- ★ Archaeological Sites (by PRN)

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