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**TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN:
HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION
(Call Out)**

**Prepared for:
Pengaer**

Tir Gofal Reference No: W/13/4715



**Report Number: 2005/9
Project Record Number: 50476**

**Prepared by
Alice Pyper**

INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

Call Out Visit

A farm visit was undertaken at the request of the Countryside Council for Wales to address specific management issues on this farm. The aim of this report is to make an assessment of these issues in order to provide management recommendations to be incorporated into the Tir Gofal Management Plan. This report is not intended to assess the structural condition or stability of any given site.

The Call Out Report responds to management concerns regarding specific sites, it does not provide management advice for all known sites on the farm, for these recommendations please refer to the Historic Environment Report 1 (HE1).

Historic landscape character

Pengaer farm lies in the community of Cilgerran. It includes two holdings which fall within historic landscape character area (HLCA) 413: Crossway - Glanpwllafon Teifi Valley. These areas are intended to define places where local land-use patterns have left particularly strong or distinctive evidence in the landscape. Pengaer farmstead lies within holding b, which is a short distance to the northeast of holding a. The field and settlement pattern, of dispersed farmsteads amongst medium sized fields had been established by the mid nineteenth century, and has remained fairly stable since this time, although there has been some substantial boundary decline/loss in the northern portion of holding a, during the later part of the twentieth century.

Site Management of the Promontory Fort 'Y Gaer' PRN 1172 - SN16034098

This monument was first recorded by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) in 1925 and has since been recorded by the Ordnance Survey. It is sited on a triangular promontory above the steep sided Cwm Ffrwdd valley to the southeast. Widely spaced ramparts to the north cut off the promontory and enclose an area of approximately 60 x 40 metres. It is thought that the site is an inland promontory fort in origin; a defensive enclosure created by constructing one or more lines of ramparts across a neck of land, in order to defend or restrict access to a spur or promontory. These sites are often found on the coast but are also, as in this case, found inland. They are generally recorded as having being constructed in the Iron Age (circa 600 BC - 100AD). Sites such as these may have been used over very long periods of time and therefore, were probably put to many different uses.

The site has been cultivated in the past and the banks are greatly diminished. However, there is a strongly likelihood that buried archaeological remains survive in this area. This area is now under permanent pasture and while this management regime is maintained the site lies in a stable condition. To the south and east the ground drops away steeply and these slopes are densely covered with gorse and bracken in the higher areas but lower down they become increasingly wooded.



Looking across the interior of the promontory fort PRN 1172 to the southeast, showing the fence line which it is proposed to renew

An old fence line is located where the ground drops away at the break of slope and provides a barrier between the grazed enclosure and the shrubby, wooded slopes below. It is proposed that this fence line is reinstated and improved to provide an adequate stock-proof barrier. This seems an appropriate measure to carry out in order to maintain the current grazing regime on the site of the promontory fort. It is hoped that the existing fence posts can be reused, but if it is necessary to renew any of the posts, or to insert additional fence posts, then posts should be struck into position rather than post holes excavated.

Building Restoration - Cwm Cottages – SN16104090

Cwm Cottages lie at the foot of the Cwm Ffrwdd valley, tucked against the steep wooded slopes. These were once a row of quarry workers homes, serving the quarry on the opposite side of the valley to the southeast. The cottages are shown on both the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps of 1889 and 1907 although it is clear on the later map that two of the units were unoccupied and possibly derelict at this time. At least one of the cottages continued to be occupied until the middle of the 20th century.



The row of quarry workers cottages seen from the southwest

The cottages are a continuous row of five single storey stone built units. It is unclear whether each of these units was a cottage; those at either end are smaller and lack a chimney or fireplace. Collapsed pigsties are also attached at either end of the row. The three central units are double fronted with a slightly off centre doorway with small windows flanking to either side. Large projecting stone chimney breasts stand at one end of each cottage and two of the cottages have evidence of blocked openings in the rear (northwest) wall.

The cottages are now in a derelict condition, none of them are roofed and although most of the walls still stand to roof height the wall tops are looking fragile, and the timber lintels over the window openings and fireplaces are beginning to fail. In addition the remains are becoming quite overgrown with ivy and saplings which are taking root within the masonry. Efforts have been made in the recent past to remove some mature trees which threaten to damage these structures through shedding boughs or root disturbance.

Discussions during the farm visit centred on preventing further damage or deterioration of these structures and the possibility was discussed of reinstating a roof on these cottages. Although these cottages were probably originally slate roofed the expense of reinstating slate would, in this case, be prohibitive. A corrugated iron roof would not seem out of place on cottages such as these, and this material may represent a practical alternative. The advantages of roofing these buildings are numerous; covering the structures and keeping them dry would prevent further damage by water ingress, seedlings would be prevented from re-establishing themselves in the

masonry, and a sound roof over the structures would allow the buildings to be used as a storage facility.

In the event that re-roofing these cottages is not undertaken, regular efforts should be made (where safe to do so) to cut back intrusive vegetation. Ivy stems and saplings should be cut off above the roots. No attempts should be made to remove roots unless a programme of consolidation can be carried out simultaneously. Also ivy should be allowed to die in place. It may be appropriate to spot treat the roots to prevent re-growth, however the approval of the Tir Gofal Project Officer should be sought in advance.

Building Restoration

It is understood that there are other projects for building restoration which may be carried out through Tir Gofal. Guidelines for building restoration are provided in the Tir Gofal Management Plan, but if further information is required then please contact Cambria Archaeology.

It is recommended that prior to any restoration works on buildings that a simple photographic record is undertaken. Guidelines for the photographic recording of buildings are appended to this report.

REFERENCES

Maps

Ordnance Survey (6" to 1 mile) Sheet SN14SE, 1965

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

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

Tithe Map Llantood Parish, Pembrokeshire; 1839.

Apportionment Llantood Parish, Pembrokeshire; 1838.

Other Sources

Teifi Valley Historic Landscape Characterisation. Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales.

Historic Landscape Character Area 413: Crossway - Glanpwllafon. Teifi Valley.

Tir Gofal Traditional Buildings

Requirements for General Photographic Surveys of Buildings

The purpose of the survey is to produce a photographic record of the building prior to any demolition, alterations or renovation being started, as well as recording any fixtures, fittings or features which come to light during the works. This survey may be the only record of the original form of the building available for future reference. The survey will then be referenced within the Regional Site and Monuments Record for Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire and Ceredigion (held and managed by Cambria Archaeology), and deposited with the National Monument Record in order that the information is publicly available for study and reference.

Photographs should be taken using 35mm format colour print film (preferably Kodak or Fuji). ASA 200 film is a good standard for most light conditions but ASA 400 should be used where light conditions are poor. 36 exposure film should be used in all cases and at least one whole film must be exposed. Alternatively, a digital camera may be used. Please contact Cambria Archaeology for further information on the quality of digital image required.

Photographs should be taken of all exterior and interior wall elevations which are affected by the proposed works together with photographs of the interior roof detail where this is altered. Features of particular interest (e.g. obvious differences in wall makeup, windows and doors whether blocked up or not, fireplaces, timber framing) should also be fully photographed. If available a scale, of noted measurement, should be placed within any detailed shots but this is not essential.

A plan of the building is also required to record the direction in which each of the photographs has been taken. Architectural drawings can be used where available or a sketch plan can be produced. Location reference numbers on the plans should be copied onto the backs of the prints together with brief descriptive details of the location. If using a digital camera this information should be used to name the photographs.

A copy of the survey should be provided to Cambria Archaeology, The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, SA19 6HU either directly or via the Countryside Council for Wales Tir Gofal Project Officer.