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TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN: HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION (HE2)

**Prepared for:
Waun-gron Uchaf**

Tir Gofal Reference No

W/13/4239



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A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

2. Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content

Historic Landscape Character

Waun-gron Uchaf lies a short distance to the west of Trevaughan, Whitland, in the community and parish of Lampeter Velfrey. Three distinctive historic landscape character areas are present on the farm. These are described below.

On the highest ground at between 60m and 90m, in which the farmstead itself lies, are small-to-medium sized irregular fields of improved pasture divided by hedges on earth and stone banks. The banks are up to 3m wide and 1m high. Hedges bordering the property are well maintained and in good condition. Hedges dividing pasture from woodland have virtually gone, and wire fences on the banks provide stock-proof boundaries. The remaining hedges, between pasture fields of the farm, are fairly well managed, but with some gaps. The date of this field system is unknown, but was established by the tithe survey of 1842.

Deciduous woodland on a steep valley side lies to the southeast of the house. The area of woodland is similar to that shown on the 1842 tithe map. However, boundary banks running across the slope with the woodland indicate that some, if not all, the woodland was farmland at sometime in the historic past. These banks become increasingly stony towards the bottom of the slope.

A deserted farmstead lies on the flat valley floor on the southern side of the farm. Here, the boundaries of the small irregular fields are a mixture of stone-faced banks, 2m wide and up to 1m high, and collapsed dry stonewalls. This mixture of boundary types indicates at least two periods of construction, with the banks an apparent continuation of the field system in the woodland and pasture to the north, and the walls sub-division of this earlier system. This is a wet area covered with scrubby woodland.

Archaeological and Historic Content

Waun-gron Uchaf house (53025) probably dates to the late 17th century, according to the RCAHMW in 1981, although now apart from large chimneys and a rear projecting turret there is little external evidence of antiquity. The tithe map shows a single outbuilding (45258) - barn? - within the farmyard, this had increased to at least two by 1891. The Ordnance Survey map of this date also shows a circular feature (pound?) to the north of the house and other circular structures (one may be a gin - horses walking in a circle to power machinery) to the west of one of the outbuildings. Overall the range of outbuildings shown on historic maps does not seem commensurate with such a substantial farmhouse. The 'barn' is currently being rebuilt as a dwelling, not now part of Waun-gron Uchaf holding, and there is no trace of the other outbuildings and structures. A 'well' (53026) is marked on historic and modern maps to the southeast of the house.

An old track (53028) runs down the slope to the south of the house, where it is marked by a slight hollow-way along side a hedgebank, and then down the steeper slope in deciduous woodland. Here it is distinct hollow-way 2m - 3m deep flanked by substantial banks. On flat ground close to the river stony banks flank it. It crosses the river by means of a ford, although a footbridge (of which there is now no trace) is marked on historic maps. A deserted farmstead (53027) lies immediately to the east of the track on flat ground close to the river. Named a smithy on the apportionment of the 1842 tithe map, it had become a small, but abandoned, farmstead by the time of the 1891 Ordnance Survey map. It survives as low stonewalls.

Key Objectives

The key objective is to prevent further deterioration and damage to the site of the old farmstead 53027.

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
Site 1	Waun-gron Wood (53027)	Post Medieval/Smithy;Farmstead	SN1912015017	B		Specific

This site is first recorded on the 1819 Ordnance Survey map. It is also marked on the tithe map of 1842, and recorded in the apportionment as 'Smiths Shop & Co'. By the time of the 1891 Ordnance Survey map it seems to be an abandoned, small farmstead or smallholding.

The site now lies in scrubby woodland, but its key elements can be made out - these are remarkably similar to those shown on the 1891 map. The buildings are ruinous and built of local stone. The house is c. 9m by 4m with a door in the south wall and massive chimney in the east gable standing up to 2m high. There is probably a smaller chimney in the west wall. The house is of one cell, but probably originally had timber dividing walls. There is a small outshot to the north side of the house, and possibly one to the south. An annexe (4m by 4m) with separate entrance is attached to the west wall of the house. This probably had an agricultural or craft function. The main outbuilding lies to the southwest of the house and consists of three cells, each with a separate entrance. It has been built in several phases. A small outbuilding to the north may have been a pigsty, but this is not certain, as it is overgrown. Immediately to the north of this two upright stones are the setting for a grindstone or similar. The farmstead is approached from a short track to the west flanked by collapsed dry-stone walls. Other boundaries to the small paddocks and garden plots of this holding are of similar construction, or are of more massive stone-faced banks.

Overall the remains of this farmstead are in good condition, but a few large trees that have taken root on the walls of the house and on other structures are causing problems.



The large chimney of the house of the deserted farmstead.

Waun-gron Uchaf
(53025)

**Post Medieval/
Farmstead**

SN1914215345 B

Generic

The first historic record of Waun-gron is 1681. It is uncertain if this is to Waun-gron Uchaf or Isaf, or both. Francis Phillips who died in 1682 is described as 'of both the Waungrons'. Major Frances Jones considers this to be a reference to Waungron Mansion and Waun-gron Isaf, but it is more likely to refer to Waun-gron Uchaf and Isaf. Later published historic references seem to relate to the mansion. Waun-gron Uchaf is depicted on the tithe map as a house and outbuilding. By 1891 more outbuildings had been added, including a circular feature which may have been a pound and a second circular feature, to the west of an outbuilding, which may have been a gin. Only the house now survives. The first recorded outbuilding, The 'barn', (45258), is in separate ownership from the house and is (in 2004) being rebuilt as a dwelling.

The house is considered to date to the 17th century by the RCAHMW. It is stone built under cement render. It is built on a slope with two storeys to the front of the house, and three to the rear. The front (north) elevation has a central front door and five symmetrically placed windows - the openings have been enlarged. The partly dismantled remains of a substantial chimney are apparent in the west gable wall. The rear of the house is three storey - with a three storey projecting turret. An outshot with a massive chimney is attached to the eastern end of the south side.



Rear of Waun-gron Uchaf house

Waun-gron Uchaf
(45258)

**Post
Medieval/Barn**

SN1909115354 D

An outbuilding recorded on the 1842 tithe map now (2004) being rebuilt as a dwelling. It is referred to as a barn. Not now part of Waun-gron Uchaf farm holding.

Waun-gron Uchaf
(53026)

**Post
Medieval/Well**

SN1918215316 D

Generic

A well is marked on the 1891 Ordnance Survey map and modern OS maps. It lies in undergrowth, but appears to be a natural spring rather than a structure.

(53028)

**Post
Medieval/Track**

SN19141513 C

Generic

This track is shown on early 19th century maps. It connected Waun-gron Uchaf farmstead with lands to the south. It is not now used. It runs down the slope to the south of the house, where it is marked by a slight hollow-way along side a hedgebank, and then down the steeper slope in deciduous woodland. Here it is a distinct hollow-way 2m - 3m deep flanked by substantial banks. On flat ground close to the river stony banks flank it. It crosses the river by means of a ford, although a footbridge is marked on historic maps.



The trackway running down-slope in woodland.

(53029)

**Post
Medieval/Quarry**

SN1910415121 D

Generic

A small, old quarry, 8m by 5m and 2m deep lies in woodland alongside an old track

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

(53027)

SN1912015017

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

The aim is to reduce tree-root damage to the site of the old farmstead 53027. Scrub and small trees should be removed from the site of the old farmstead and spot treated to prevent re-growth. Larger trees rooted on and immediately adjacent to surviving structures should be felled and spot treated. Care must be taken during felling that trees are not dropped across walls and structures. Establish a follow-up programme of regular sapling clearance.

Sources Consulted

Charles B G 1992, The Place-names of Pembrokeshire

Jones F 1996, Historic Houses of Pembrokeshire

Ordnance Survey 1819, Old Series, Sheet 40

Ordnance Survey 1891, 1:2500 Carmarthenshire XLIV NW

Ordnance Survey 1890, 1:2500 Carmarthenshire XLIV NW

Tithe map and apportionment 1842, Lampeter Velfrey Parish

ACA Project record number 50499

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This HE2 report supercedes the information given in the [HE1 report](#) for this farm.

