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TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN: HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION (HE2)



Looking east across Banc Llwynceiliog. By the tree in the middle distance are the remains of the farm Trefly (PRN 24468) and on the hillslope beyond are the 'Gwenlais/Anell leats' (PRN 8883).

**Prepared for:
Llwynceiliog**

**Tir Gofal Reference No SE/10/4430
ACA Report No. 2005/31
Project Record No. 52220**

**Prepared by
Alice Pyper**

Other documents enclosed:

Historic Landscape Character Area Description 242: Cwrt-y-Cadno
Historic Landscape Character Area Description 246: Banc Llwynceiliog
Historic Landscape Character Area Description 247: Mynydd Mallaen

A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

2. Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content

Historic Landscape Character

Llwynceiliog Farm lies in the community of Cynwyl Gaeo, Carmarthenshire, within a landscape recognised to be of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales and registered by Cadw, CCW and ICOMOS (HLW (D) 8).

The Dolaucothi Landscape comprises the upper part of the middle reaches of the River Cothi and its valley west of Mynydd Mallaen. The prime importance of the area is in its relict evidence for Roman and later gold mining.

The landscape of Llwynceiliog Farm comprises: to the east, a stretch of upland extending onto the Mynydd Mallaen, a plateau of unenclosed moorland which has historically been open commonland used for the pasturing of animals, but also showing evidence of some settlement and mineral exploitation (Mynydd Mallaen Historic Landscape Character Description 247); below this to the west the topography drops into the steep sided valley of the Afon Cothi, a landscape of fairly large improved fields, intermixed with deciduous woodland and conifer plantations (Banc Llwynceiliog Historic Landscape Character Description 246); the western part of the holding lies in the valley floor of the Afon Cothi which also forms the farms western boundary, here the small irregular fields maybe a medieval or early post medieval creation (Cwrt y Cadno Historic Landscape Character Description 242).

The landscape around the farm of Nant-ystalwyn has changed very little since the 1st edition maps of the late 19th century, in fact, probably for many hundred years. The land rises very steeply from the River Towy and the Ceredigion/Powys border, with little or no internal divisions, then ends at the edge of the Towy Forest, a vast area of 20th century conifer plantation.

Archaeological and Historic Content

Llwynceiliog Farm is rich in archaeological content, with three stretches of Roman aqueducts or leats constructed to serve the gold mines at Dolaucothi passing through the farm holding. Due to the unique nature of these remains they are, in part, Scheduled Ancient Monuments (CM 200, 211, 213). During the farm visit a possible prehistoric round barrow was also identified (PRN 53154) which may form part of a group with two other round barrows sited outside the farm holding. The farm is also rich in post medieval evidence of settlement and landuse, including two dwellings on the upland areas (PRN 6228, 24468) one of which is also a scheduled ancient monument (CM 212). The results of a National Trust Survey have been used to inform the gazeteer of this report.

The land at the Nantystalwyn holding is so steep and rocky that there are probably no archaeological sites (none are known), and the only use for the land is grazing sheep.

This was obviously exploited in the early 19th century when Nant-ystalwyn farm was built, unusually at the time, solely for sheep-rearing. Indeed, other than the farm buildings, the only known historic feature within the farm is a sheep fold, lying on a small parcel of land to the east of the main holding.

Key Objective

The key objective for the Historic Environment of this farm is the preservation of the Roman remains of the aqueducts and leats. It is therefore of utmost importance that the course of these leats are not subjected to any ground intrusive activities, including ploughing/reseeding or erosion by stock or vehicles.

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
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1	DOLAU COTHI AQUEDUCT; COTHI LEAT (1947)	Roman aqueduct; leat	SN6883542996	A	Cm200k&j	Specific
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The remains of a leat, parts of which are a scheduled ancient monument, (CM 200, section K & J). Much of the leat is visible as a linear feature running across several fields. Parts of it are quite well preserved as a broadly level shelf in the hillside c. 2m across. In other sections however, it is reduced to a vague break in slope which closely follows the contours. A survey by the National Trust points out that it is most easily appreciated from the road below Llwynceiliog farm, where it can be seen as a darker green than the surrounding grass where it crosses pasture and a clear line of differential growth where it crosses bracken. It is important that the line of the leat should not be subjected to any ground intrusive activities, such as ploughing or reseedling.

During a farm visit to Llwynceiliog, the length of the leat within the farm holding was observed. The line of the leat can be seen with difficulty within the triangular woodland parcel between the road and the track leading to Glan-meddyg, due the undergrowth of bramble, however it seems to survive reasonably intact. In the fields immediately to the east of the wood the leat is observed as a levelling off of the natural hillslope, and its course is easily traceable. Its profile appears to be most well preserved in the hedgebanks. In the field directly behind and to the southeast of Llwynceiliog farm the leat is well preserved and survives as an almost level terrace over 2 metres wide. Where it continues northeast into the valley behind the farm it becomes less clear, in part due to the rough terrain and bracken. To the north, the course of the leat becomes increasingly difficult to trace in improved fields where reseedling and cultivation has taken place.

These images are observations along the course of the leat at various points across the holding from a southwest to northeast direction

	
Part of leat to the west of Llwynceiliog farm, where it is visible as a levelling off of the hillslope.	A very well preserved section of leat survives in the fields immediately to the southeast of Llwynceiliog.

	
<p>The course of the leat becomes difficult to trace in rough ground and marsh in the valley below Banc Llwynceiliog</p>	<p>Those fields to the east of the farmstead have little remaining traces of the leat, except the profile is usually preserved in the field boundaries which cross-section it.</p>

2 ANNELL AQUEDUCT Roman SN69904275 A Cm211 Specific
(North);GWENLAIS/ANNELL aqueduct;leat
LEAT (8883)

SAM Carn 211. This feature was originally considered to be the line of a Roman aqueduct taking water from the River Annell to the Dolaucothi gold mines. Recent survey and research has recognised that a channel running a considerable distance across unenclosed land supplied water to the scheduled section of the feature and it could not have been fed from the Annell. The multiple channels have been explained as a result of the severe change of gradient needed to bring water around this route and the problem of managing this, either the channel had to be rebuilt a number of times or the flow was split between channels. However recent investigation suggests that one or more of the channels may have been cart tracks. It has been postulated that the upper channel might be an ancient excavation along the back of a mineral load, the leat could then have supplied water for hushing. It has also been suggested that the leat, rather than taking its load all the way to the mine, may have followed the contours of Cefn-y-Bryn north and east almost to Rhiw Garegog, before dumping its load in a tributary of the Cothi just below this point. A maximum of four channels are visible within the Scheduled section of the feature. The majority of the site is in a stable condition under turf. An erosion scar at SN 69944267. At the southeastern end of the feature at SN70004263 a trackway cuts across it, this does not appear to be recent. It is not metalled but has been cut down to bedrock. To the southeast of this point some sheep feeding has taken place, this does not appear to have caused any serious problems as yet, but it should not be continued on this site.

Traditionally these lines are said to be the course of sled routes to collect peat from the mountain.



The 'Gwenlais / Annell leats' can be seen coursing across the contours of the bank



The upper reaches of the leats survive as a terracing in the hillslope.

3 **(8884)** **Roman aqueduct SN6854942804 A Cm 213 Specific**

The Upper Cothi Leat runs approximately 30m above the Cothi leat. There are four sections of the leat which have been scheduled (CM 213); a,b,c & d. However the leat must continue along the contour between these sections, but these areas have lost the definition of the scheduled areas. Clearly visible on the north-west facing slope of Banc Llwyn-y-ceiliog, it is partly incorporated into field boundaries. In places it survives c.2m across and 0.5m deep. During a farm visit to Llwynceiliog, the length of the leat within the farm holding was observed. At the southwestern limit of the leat within the farm holding, the leat is not an upstanding visible feature. It becomes visible in the field boundary which crosses it and then becomes a break in the profile of the hillslope when it enters the unimproved cwm, this is where most of the scheduled section lies. The section to the east of the stream and east of the farmstead does not survive as an earthwork and appears to have been largely eroded.

The following images are observations of its course across the holding from a northeast to southwest direction

	
<p>The leat does not survive as a visible upstanding earthwork in the fields to the northeast of the farmstead.</p>	<p>This scheduled section of the leat is not very well preserved as an earthwork.</p>
	
<p>Where the leat is most visible is in the rough, unimproved areas to the west of the stream</p>	<p>The profile of the leat can be seen in the fenceline in the distance but otherwise is no longer visible as an earthwork</p>

4 **TREFLY (24468)** **Post Medieval SN69444263 B Specific**
farmstead

A farmstead marked on the Old Series 1831 (sh 41). Also shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map 1888. It appears to be disused at this time. A National Trust survey of 1998 describes this farmstead as a ruined 3-room structure with walls standing up to 1.2 metres high and 1m wide (NT 80424). Seen on the farm visit in 2005 and it appears much as described by the National Trust. Damage has occurred from two tracks; one track cuts right through the building going directly up the slope and a further track skirts around the south of the building. Both of these appear to be in regular use. The location of these tracks is

unfortunate, but now they are in place they do not appear to be causing further damage. Recent quarrying activity has taken place to the east of the site, this does not appear to have affected the site.



The outline of a small 3 room building and further enclosure walls remain of a farm called Trefly

Ffos y Iar sheepfold
[\(67586CPAT\)](#)

Post Medieval
sheep fold

SN8292258826 C

Generic

'Old Sheepfold' depicted on 1st edition (1891) and later Ordnance Survey maps. The site was not seen during the farm visit

CEFN Y BRYN [\(6228\)](#)

**Medieval?;Post
Medieval? long
hut**

SN70704262 B Cm 212

Generic

Excavated long hut site which stands on a spur overlooking a stream to the south. A long hut is a simple rectangular building which may or maynot be a domestic dwelling. It seems likely however, that this may be a 'hafodtai' a seasonal dwelling used when stock were taken to the uplands to graze in the summer. When seen in 1998, it was noted that those parts of the site that remained deturfed following the 1969 archaeological excavation, exposed coursed drystone walling, which appeared as low earth wall bases where the turf remained in place. This site is a scheduled ancient monument CM212. Recent reports from the Cadw Field Monument Warden suggest that this site is in a stable condition. When visited in 2005 the excavated stone walls and surfaces were gradually becoming grown over with moss and grass. The stonework appears stable. Some old fencing posts lie on and near the site, these are now embedding in the turf and removing them would probably cause damage, and it appears better to let them rot in place.



The excavated remains of a small upland dwelling, lying at the edge of Mynydd Mallaen

5

[\(53154\)](#)

**Bronze Age?
cairn; round
barrow**

SN6961642651 U

Specific

A possible cairn approximately 240 metres to the south - southeast of the round barrows PRNs 1962 & 1963. Five stones project from the turf in an otherwise stone free area. Earth and turf covered mound 0.30m high at maximum and approximately 4 metres diameter. One stone recently dislodged by tractor tracking up to a feeder 50 metres to the northeast. It seems likely that this may be the remains of a round barrow or cairn, constructed in the Bronze Age to hold a burial, either a cremation or an inhumation.



This may be the remains of a round barrow, which forms a group with those that can be seen on the horizon.

CEFN Y BRYN (6229) **Post Medieval?** **SN705427** **C** **Generic**
peat workings?

Area of probable peat cutting extending north across the farm boundary. Apparent piecemeal digging, no clearly traceable cuttings. Site visited but ground cover made it impossible to determine what was there.

LLWYN CEILIOG **Post Medieval** **SN6850743032** **B** **Generic**
(25095) **major dwelling;**
farmstead

Quite an extensive farmstead complex is shown on the historic maps and is mentioned as a historic home described by Francis Jones in 1987.

(39413) **Post Medieval** **SN68584319** **C** **Generic**
trackway; road

This road ran from Llwynceiliog northeast to Pant-glas and beyond providing access to a number of properties to the south of the River Cothi including Maes-yr-haidd.

(51852) **Post Medieval** **SN69904274** **C** **Generic**
sheepfold

A sheepfold is marked on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map, 1905. No trace of this sheepfold was observed on the farm visit in 2005.

(51853) **Post Medieval** **SN6827142814** **B** **Generic**
hollow way

A possible hollow way recorded by the National Trust (80366).

(51854) **Post Medieval** **SN6829642849** **C** **Generic**
quarry

A quarry recorded by the National Trust (80473)

(51855) **Post Medieval** **SN6832842871** **C** **Generic**
trackway

Trackway recorded by the National Trust (80466)

(51856) **Post Medieval** **SN6895742609** **C** **Generic**
trackway

Trackway recorded by the National Trust (80476). Shown as a track on the 2nd ed Ordnance Survey

(51857) **Post Medieval** **SN6863942541** **C** **Generic**
enclosure

Enclosure shown on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey, 1905

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 **DOLAU COTHI AQUEDUCT; COTHI LEAT** **SN6883542996**
(1947)

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

Parts of the leat which runs through Llwynceiliog are scheduled, however even where the scheduling does not extend there are likely to archaeological remains which survive below ground. It is therefore important that the entire length of the leat remains undisturbed from any damaging activities, including cultivation or reseedling or other ground disturbing practices. Any works which may affect the leat at any point along its course should be discussed with Cambria Archaeology as first point of contact who will then consult with Cadw where the scheduled area is concerned.

Site 2 on MAP 1 **ANNELL AQUEDUCT (North);** **SN69904275**
GWENLAIS/ANNELL LEAT (8883)

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

It is recommended that no further sheep feeding should take place at this location or at any other within close proximity of the Scheduled site. Any further sheep feeding should be relocated down the slope in order to prevent as little traffic over the site as possible. If there are any potentially damaging operations taking place in this area then please consult with Cambria Archaeology in advance.

Site 3 on MAP 1 (8884) SN6854942804

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

There are two sections of the leat which runs through Llwynceiliog which are scheduled, however even where the scheduling does not extend there are likely to archaeological remains which survive below ground. It is therefore important that the entire length of the leat remains undisturbed from any damaging activities, including cultivation or reseedling or other ground disturbing practices. Any works which may affect the leat at any point along its course should be discussed with Cambria Archaeology as first point of contact who will then consult with Cadw where the scheduled area is concerned.

Site 4 on MAP 1 **TREFLY (24468)** **SN69444263**

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

Traffic using these routes should endeavour to stick the trackways and not cause damage or erosion to the fragile remains of the building of Trefly. Any further realignment or work on the tracks which may affect either the building remains, or the associated enclosure banks should be carried out in consultation with Cambria Archaeology.

Site 5 on MAP 1

(53154)

SN6961642651

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

The site of this possible cairn or round barrow should be protected from further damage from vehicles tracking up and down the slope. The site of the barrow could be avoided by vehicles keeping further to the southeast of the site.

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
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LLWYN CEILIOG
(25095)

Post Medieval
major dwelling;
farmstead

SN6850743032 B

Generic

The farmstead consists of an impressive farmhouse, in the Dolaucothi estate tradition with a projecting two-storey porch. To the southwest and adjoining the farmhouse is a former cow shed. On the opposite side of the yard is a stone barn and lofted cart shed with yellow brick dressings. The farm buildings are all in good condition, having recently benefited from restoration through the ESA scheme.



Llwynceiliog Farmhouse and adjoining cow shed



The barn at Llwynceiliog is currently being restored

Nant-ystalwyn, farmhouse (67584CPAT)	19th century house	SN8053057534	A	Listed Building 24524	Generic
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The farmstead of Nantystalwyn is historically significant and is well known locally. It lies to the east of the river Towy and just below and to the west of an old route used by the Welsh cattle drovers to bring cattle from the fairs at Pontrhydfendigaid and Ffair Rhos on their way east. It is likely that cattle were also driven past the farm up to Rhayader across Drygarn. Nantystalwyn was prominently marked on a map of 1803, which indicates that the farm had achieved a level of importance at that time (Moore-Colyer 2002, p128).

The farmhouse is a Grade II Listed Building: "A large early C19 farmhouse in an upland setting, reflecting a change from mixed farming to specialist sheep rearing. The house had a central stair-hall arrangement with hall to L and parlour to R. The long adjoining service unit or 'back-kitchen' to the L is contemporary and there is no division. Listed as a rare and unaltered example of an upland farmhouse built for a specialist sheep farmer, which marks an important change from the long-house tradition."

The farmhouse, although standing empty and unlivd in since the 1950's, is in a reasonable condition at present and the owner has endeavoured to keep the structure weatherproof. However, it is reaching a stage where a considerable injection of funds is required to ensure its long-term survival and for this to happen, a long-term use needs to be identified.



The farmhouse at Nantystalwyn

6	Nant-ystalwyn, farm buildings (67585CPAT)	19th century farm building	SN8051757551	A	Listed Building 24524	Specific
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Farm buildings arranged in a U-shape to west of house, a grade II Listed Building. Smith & Jones 1963 state 'Opposite [the house] stand the buildings, mostly in ranges parallel with the house, and of modest scale. They incorporate what must be the key to a farm in such a barren place - a sheep-dip'. Nant-ystalwyn was built in the early 19th century as a specialist sheep farm, an unusual deviation from the mixed farming typical of the time; presumably most of the farm buildings are related to sheep-rearing in one way or another. The farm buildings should be seen as 'curtilage' of the house, and thus treated as Listed Buildings in considering any works.

There are two parallel ranges of buildings which survive at Nantystalwyn, a third, a barn, has been demolished. The long range furthest away from the house is in good condition, having recently been re-roofed with zinc and extensively re-pointed. The range nearest the house is in a poor condition, some sections of the corrugated iron roofing sheets have been lost and the structure appears unstable in places. Although this building has undergone various alterations and additions in the past, there is still a large proportion of historic fabric surviving within it. Ideally this should be salvaged and repaired in order to create a functional, useful building again.



This sheep shed at Nantystalwyn has recently been reroofed and renewed doors partly funded by an ESA grant.



This farm building, which seems to have performed a number of functions at different times, is in a poor state of repair.

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 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 6 on MAP 1

NANTYSTALWYN (24468)

SN8051757551

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

Ideally the range of farm buildings at Nantystalwyn should be repaired. In their current state they will rapidly deteriorate and will be lost in a few years. They still retain much of their historic fabric which not only holds important clues about their previous form and function, and about how the farm functioned as a whole, but also add 'group value' to the farmstead and their collapse would be a loss to this historically important farmstead.

Any works affecting the buildings at Nantystalwyn may require Listed Building Consent, and should be discussed with the Local Planning Authority in advance. In addition Cambria Archaeology should be consulted in order to ensure that an adequate record can be made of the areas affected prior to works being undertaken.

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:

Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments and ICOMOS. 1998. Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest In Wales: Dolaucothi (HLW (D) 8)

Moore-Colyer R.2002. Welsh Cattle Drovers

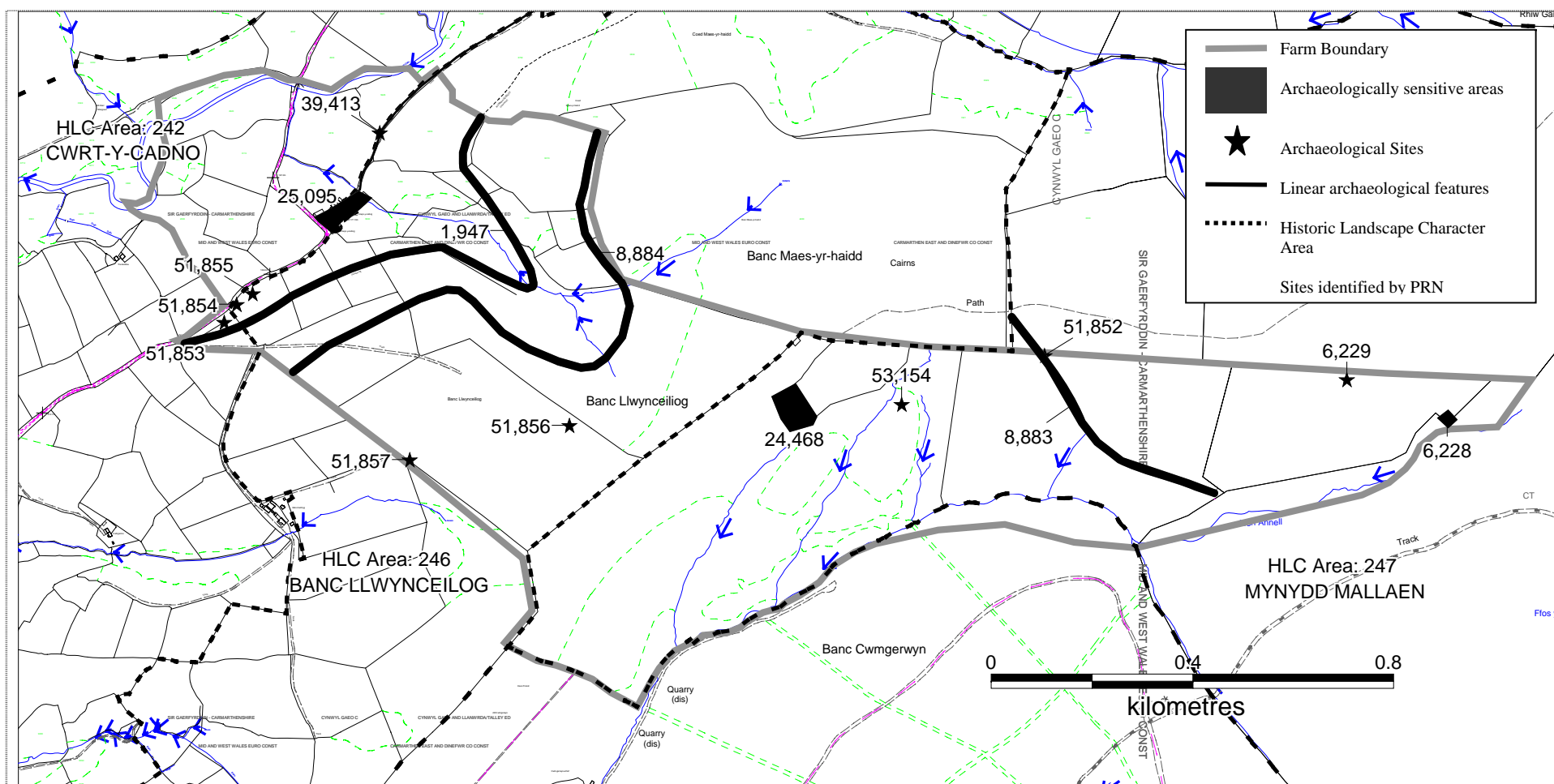
Ordnance Survey, 1888. 1st edition Carmarthenshire Sheet IX.10

Ordnance Survey, 1888. 1st edition Carmarthenshire Sheet IX.14

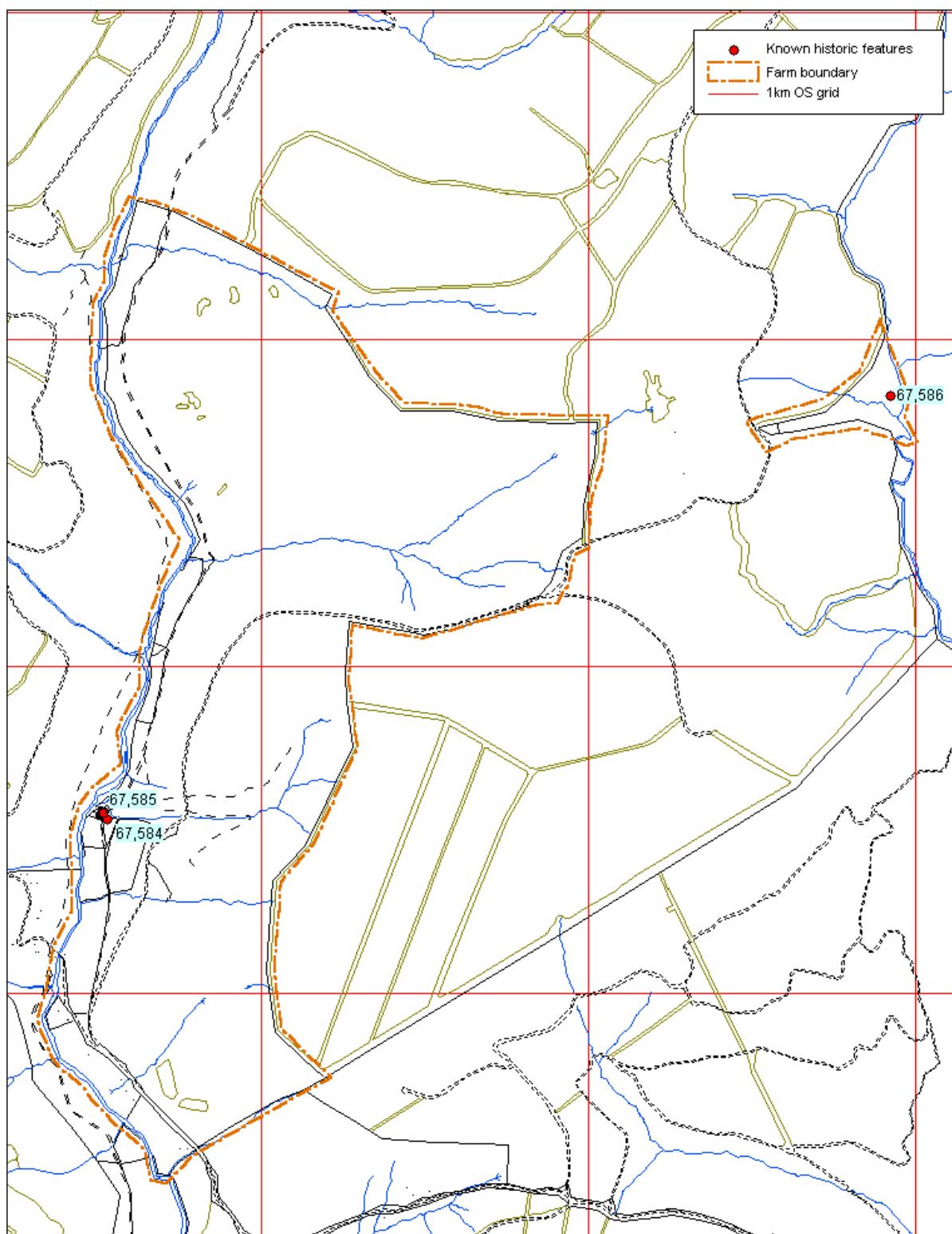
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CARMARTHENSHIRE: DOLAUCOTHI

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 242 CWRT-Y-CADNO

GRID REFERENCE: SN 689435

AREA IN HECTARES: 570.60

Historic Background

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

Description and essential historic landscape components

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

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

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

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

Conservation priorities

Pumpsaint village is a Conservation area; any development must respect this status. The old house site and gardens are owned by the National Trust, who have formulated their own management plans. Outside the village and park the main priorities concern the decay evident in some of the boundary hedges, as this is beginning to erode the historic character of parts of this area; this problem needs to be addressed. Historic farm buildings form an important component in this landscape. Although most are in use and in a good state of repair, some consideration may have to be given as to how they can be best used/reused and maintained for future generations.

CARMARTHENSHIRE: DOLAUCOTHI

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 246 BANC LLWYNCEILIOG

GRID REFERENCE: SN 682416

AREA IN HECTARES: 306.30

Historic Background

An area of planted coniferous forest occupying the western flank of Mynydd Malláen. It once lay within Cwmwd Cao of Cantref Mawr which remained an independent Welsh lordship until 1284 and largely retained native systems of tenure throughout the Medieval period. It is an upland area, now enclosed with large, regular fields which are late in origin, having been established since the tithe survey of 1840. There is now no settlement, which may reflect the predominant situation during the historic period, but an abandoned farmstead has been recorded. There is evidence for prehistoric occupation in the form of Bronze Age ritual features (round barrows) and the area is crossed by Roman aqueducts leading to Area 243.

Description and essential historic landscape components

This area comprises the high south-east valley side of the upper Cothi valley. It lies between 180 m and 330 m. The area has been enclosed into large, fairly regular fields by earth banks and hedges, but these are now mostly redundant - the hedges either gone or marked by straggling lines of bushes and small trees - and wire fences provide stock-proof barriers. Much of the land is improved grazing, but there is rougher ground on some steep slopes and at higher levels, particularly at the northeastern end of the area where larger former fields merge into unenclosed moorland. There are stands of ancient deciduous woodland on very steep slopes, and a couple of small conifer plantations are also present. Rough tracks and paths are the only transport links. There are no settlements. The earthworks of Roman aqueducts which traverse the valley side are distinct elements of the landscape. Overall the appearance of this area is of improved pasture divided by wire fences, with woodland on steep slopes.

Recorded archaeology comprises two Bronze Age round barrows, a Roman reservoir and aqueducts, and an abandoned farmstead.

There are no standing buildings.

Banc Llwynceiliog is a distinct character area. It provides a buffer between farms and fields on the valley floor (Areas 241 and 242), and higher open moorland (Area 247) and upland forestry (Area 245). To the southwest lies the distinctive area of Dolaucothi Gold Mines (Area 243).

Conservation priorities

There are few historic landscape conservation priorities in this character area. It is probably desirable to allow the degraded old boundaries to remain in their current state so allowing the area to return to open moorland/pasture. Consideration should be given to the management of the ancient broadleaf woodland.

CARMARTHENSHIRE: DOLAUCOTHI

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 247 MYNYDD MALLÁEN

GRID REFERENCE: SN 726433

AREA IN HECTARES: 2424.00

Historic Background

An area representing the unenclosed moorland of the Mynydd Malláen plateau, lying above 300 m. It was formerly divided between the Cao and Malláen commotes of Cantref Mawr, which remained an independent Welsh lordship until 1284 and largely retained native systems of tenure throughout the Medieval period. As an upland area, land-use was primarily concerned with the mountain pasturing of animals, and it appears to have been largely unenclosed during the historic period, as it still is today. It is depicted as open pasture on the earliest historic maps and is recorded as being partly common land during the Medieval period. Physical evidence for prehistoric use of the landscape exists in the form of landmark ritual sites, represented by Bronze Age round barrows and a possible standing stone, which were intended to be prominent visual features within the landscape.. A late Medieval - early Post-Medieval rabbit warren occupied the southern flank of the plateau, and evidence for limited Post-Medieval enclosure exists in association with the longhuts characteristic of informal upland settlement in southwest Wales during this period (Sambrook and Ramsey, 1999). There are several small former lead and copper mines on the edges of the area, which may have early origins. Mining was already being undertaken in this area by the late 13th-century, the crown taking the 'eleventh foot' of the ore in taxation (Rees 1968), but had largely ceased by the mid 19th-century. The area has no recent settlement.

Description and essential historic landscape components

Mynydd Malláen is a high, undulating and isolated plateau which achieves heights of over 450 m. To the west and north, its very steep and often craggy sides fall away into the valleys of the Tywi and Cothi. To the south the edge of the plateau is more broken, but the slopes here are still steep. Essentially Mynydd Malláen is open moorland - rough grazing, bracken and blanket peats - with a little improved pasture on the southern edge. On some steep slopes fringing the plateau there is a little scrubby woodland, and a small conifer plantation is included in the area. There are some old earth boundaries on the fringes of the plateau, but occasional wire fences provide stock-proof boundaries.

Recorded archaeology is relatively rich and comprises Bronze Age round barrows and a possible standing stone, Medieval - Post-Medieval rabbit warrens, longhuts and field system, trackways, lead and copper mines, and unknown earthworks.

There are no standing buildings.

This is a very well-defined area. It is either bordered by farms and fields in valley bottoms (Areas 242 and 218), high, semi-enclosed valley sides (Areas 246 and 250), or forestry (Areas 217 and 245).

Conservation priorities

There are no historic landscape conservation priorities in this area.