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# **TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN: HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION (HE2) YEAR 5 REVIEW**

Prepared for:  
**Cwm Nant Yr Eryr**



General landscape view looking down the valley from Esgair Hendre.

Tir Gofal Reference No  
**W/12/1193**  
Prepared by  
**Will Steele**

Report No. **2006/10**  
Project No. **53227**

# **A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES**

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 Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content**

### **Historic Landscape Character**

Cwm Nant Yr Eryr is centred on NGR SN66834820 in the community of Cynwyl Gaeo, Carmarthenshire close to the county boundary with Ceredigion.

The surrounding landscape encompasses the Afon Twrch and its tributaries. The farm comprises of a steep north-west facing slope rising from the valley floor to incorporate Esgair Hendre and other local summits behind. The field pattern of this area is varied, seemingly having evolved over a period of many centuries and comprises the small, irregular earth banked fields of long established enclosure as well as the larger, wire fenced enclosures of more recent agricultural improvement. Isolated farmsteads and cottages form the basis of the settlement pattern and in addition to the home farm of Ty Cerrig, two other settlements are recorded on nineteenth century maps, both now abandoned. The farmstead of Cwm Nant Yr Eryr itself is a modern creation.

The eastern part of the holding comprises steeply undulating common land with occasional rock outcrops. Much of this area is unimproved pasture with peaty deposits in some of the valleys and incorporates part of the boggy upland of Blaenclawdd. Occasional wire fences divide the area. Settlements of historic character are noted in the archaeological record but otherwise the primary use of the area in the historic period has been sheep walk.

Forestry plantations are a more recent feature within the landscape.

## **Archaeological And Historic Content**

In a sheltered location above the small stream at the southern boundary of the farm lie the remains of three probable settlement sites, comprising two long huts (PRNs 56094, 56096) and a possible platform (PRN 56095). Sites such as these are poorly researched and difficult to date but one explanation is that they were seasonal dwellings, perhaps shepherds huts, associated with the movement of livestock to summer pastures. Dates between the 17th and 19th centuries, or even during the medieval period are possible.

The lower part of the farm, comprising the north-west facing valley side of the Afon Twrch is within a landscape of long established enclosure with several permanent settlements recorded on nineteenth century maps. Of these, only Ty Cerrig (PRN 56098) is a working farmstead today, the others (PRN 55486, 56097) having long since been deserted.

Other activities have also left their mark. In the western part of the farm are the remains of a former lead mine (PRN 26641). Little is known about its history, although in May 1974, it was announced as being under the auspices of the Ty Cerrig Lead Mining Co. (Hall 1993, 48). The remains today incorporate just two adits, a few shafts and their spoil tips suggesting activity on a modest scale (PRNs 55487, 55488, 55489, 55490, 56093). Individual archaeological features are described further in the gazetteer below.

## **Key Objective**

The house and buildings at Ty Cerrig form an unusually intact nineteenth century farmstead group with many features typical of a mixed arable and livestock farm. Consideration should be given to preserving their overall appearance and ensure that wherever possible original features are maintained.

Further management advice for individual buildings is provided below.

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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.

	Name (& PRN)	Period/Site type	NGR	Status	SAM/listing	Management required
1	<a href="#">(56094)</a>	Post Medieval long hut	SN68004751	B		Generic

The grassed over remains of a rectilinear structure, long hut, on a terrace levelled out of the slope above a stream.

Comprises the well preserved earth and stone wall bases of E, S and W sides (10m EW by 5m NS), the north side being formed by a cut into the slope. There may be an entrance at the rear end of west wall. Appended to E end is a sunken compartment 3m EW by 5m NS open to S. Reed growth obscures further detail. The site is within an area of rough pasture. (WWS February 2006).



The grassed over remains of the long hut. Reed growth obscures further detail.

1	<a href="#">(56095)</a>	Post Medieval platform	SN68044754	B		Generic
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Probable platform aligned E-W along the contour and measuring approximately 11m long by 6m wide. In the same area are several other vague depressions which could also be man made (WWS February 2006).



View of the platform from the east.

- |   |                         |                               |                     |                 |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | <a href="#">(56096)</a> | <b>Post Medieval long hut</b> | <b>SN68284759 B</b> | <b>Specific</b> |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|

Ruinous single cell drystone structure, 7m N-S by 5m E-W, on ill defined platform in sheltered location by a stream. Comprises well preserved angular stone wall bases with a possible entrance in the east wall. Interior and much of surrounding platform is now reed covered but otherwise rough pasture predominates (WWS February 2006).



The long hut, now obscured by reed growth.

- |                |                         |                                |                     |                |
|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
| <b>UNKNOWN</b> | <a href="#">(55486)</a> | <b>Post Medieval farmstead</b> | <b>SN67244858 B</b> | <b>Generic</b> |
|----------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|

Situated close to the edge of enclosed farmland below Esgair Hendre. Comprises the grassed over wall bases of a large two cell structure (15m long x 6m wide) and a smaller ancillary structure, (5m long by 5m wide) aligned on a terrace cut in the hillslope. A stone walled enclosure, possibly a garden, lies a short distance to the north.

The building and enclosure appear on the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition map of 1888 but are un-named, presumably having been abandoned by that time (WWS February 2006).





The remains of the farmstead as seen from the south-east.

**TY CERRIG** ([55487](#))

**Post Medieval adit SN67094819 B**

**Generic**

Part of Ty Cerrig lead mine (PRN 26641). Comprises the dumps of an adit and an air shaft into it. (WWS February 2006 after Hall 1993). Marked as disused on the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition map (1888).

The remains lie within a pasture field above an area of bog and are relatively free of vegetation except for the spoil tips, which are now obscured by scrub (WWS February 2006).



Looking north-west towards the remains of the adit and dumps.

**TY CERRIG** ([55488](#))

**Post Medieval  
shaft**

**SN67194817 B**

**Generic**

An *old shaft* identified on the OS map of 1888, probably serving adit PRN 55487 and part of Ty Cerrig lead mine (PRN 26641) Approximately 12m in diameter with a spoil dump downslope. Now infilled. The site is in an area of rough pasture (WWS February 2006 after Hall 1993).

**TY CERRIG** ([55489](#))

**Post Medieval adit SN67424812 B**

**Generic**

Adit driven eastwards into the face of a small crag, the dumps situated below. Part of Ty Cerrig lead mine (PRN 26641). The adit is situated in an area of rough pasture. It is open and unfenced (WWS February 2006 after Hall 1993).





The mouth of the adit.

**TY CERRIG** ([55490](#))

**Post Medieval  
shaft**

**SN67424813 B**

**Generic**

An infilled shaft, or winze lying a few yards west of adit PRN 55489, part of Ty Cerrig lead mine (PRN 26641). It is stone lined, approximately 2m in diameter with a small rectangular platform 3m by 0.6m on the SW side. Situated within an area of rough pasture (WWS February 2006 after Hall 1993).



The shaft and platform as seen from the east.

**TY CERRIG** ([56093](#))

**Post Medieval  
shaft**

**SN67424814 B**

**Generic**

A shaft, situated some six or so metres to the north of adit (PRN 55489) and shaft (PRN 26641), part of Ty Cerrig lead mine. The shaft, approximately 3m in diameter, has been infilled. It is situated within an area of rough pasture (WWS February 2006 after Hall 1993).

**NANT YR ERYR** ([56097](#))

**Post Medieval  
cottage**

**SN66524804 B**

**Generic**

Cottage shown on OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition map of 1888 but not on later sources. The site was not seen during the Tir Gofal visit (WWS February 2006).

## **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**

**[\(56094\)](#); [\(56095\)](#); [\(56096\)](#)**

**SN68284759**

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

Heathland regeneration by reducing stocking levels has been suggested as part of the Tir Gofal management plan for some of the more extensively grazed areas of the farm.

- Monitor the condition of archaeological monuments in these areas. Consider scrub control if their condition worsens by cutting vegetation close to ground level.

## 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
2	TY CERRIG ( <a href="#">56098</a> )	Post Medieval farmstead	SN66804822	B		Specific
<p>A working upland farmstead with large two storey L-plan house as its centrepiece and a number of outbuildings of character set around a rectangular yard. The current layout that is little altered from that shown on the OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition map of 1888. Buildings are of slate and stone construction with cut stone heads to door and window openings marking a single stylistic theme, and include many features typical of a mixed arable and livestock farm, including threshing barn, lofted stable, cow shed, granary and pigsties. It is said that water power was used to drive barn machinery (winnowing, threshing etc.) in the past but no evidence of this survives today.</p>						

Pigsties and an open fronted shed in the north of the complex have been converted for alternative use but surviving buildings are generally in good order. A lofted stable and a cow shed within the complex are in need of attention if they are to be maintained in the long term.



Looking along the main drive towards Ty Cerrig. The threshing barn is on the left.

3	TY CERRIG ( <a href="#">56099</a> )	Post Medieval cow shed	SN66794822	B		Specific
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A nineteenth century cow shed on the west side of the yard at Ty Cerrig. It is a long, low building of whitewashed rubble stone with a slate roof and four evenly spaced doors with cut stone heads facing onto the farmyard. The rear wall is masked by modern sheds.

In overall appearance it is reasonably intact although two of the doorways have been blocked to create windows. No historic internal fixtures or fittings remain. It is in a reasonable condition but the roof on the

rear pitch requires attention where many of the slates are displaced.



The cow shed and lofted stable at Ty Cerrig.

- |          |  |   |                     |                 |
|----------|--|---|---------------------|-----------------|
| <b>4</b> | <b>TY CERRIG</b> ( <a href="#">56100</a> ) | <b>Post Medieval<br/>threshing barn;<br/>stable</b> | <b>SN66804820 B</b> | <b>Specific</b> |
|----------|--|---|---------------------|-----------------|

A substantial L-plan range comprising threshing barn and lofted stable on the south side of the yard at Ty Cerrig. Like other buildings in the group, the range probably dates to the nineteenth century.

It is of whitewashed rubble stone with a slate roof still present in part and cut stone door heads. The stable is on a general east-west alignment and has a door then window, then door then window, facing on to the yard, with a loft pitching hole above. Internally the stall platforms survive as do elements of the historic wooden stall partitions and hay racks. In this way, five animals were stalled facing across the building. Attached at the east end is the threshing barn, aligned north-south and perhaps with two threshing floors originally. It is said that barn machinery was driven by a water wheel but no evidence of this survives today. An internal doorway gives access between the stable loft and threshing floor. Narrow ventilation slits are a characteristic feature in the lateral and end walls.

The building is reasonably intact but requires attention if it is to be maintained in the long term. The loft floor is dangerous; joists inside the stable are in the process of collapse and the loss of their binding influence threatens to destabilise the lateral walls.



## **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 2 on MAP 1**

**TY CERRIG ([56098](#))**

**SN66804822**

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

Building restoration is proposed under Tir Gofal capital works options. An aim of the farm visit is to assess the intended restoration of the buildings and consider priorities over the distribution of capital works money.

Ty Cerrig is an unusually well intact farmstead of the nineteenth century with many original features remaining. Surviving buildings are, for the most part in good order although a lofted stable and a cow shed within the complex are in need of attention if they are to be maintained in the long term.

The following general guidelines apply.

- The priority is to maintain the farmstead complex as a whole, ensuring that all buildings are maintained in a weatherproof and structurally sound condition
- As a general rule, original features should be repaired rather than replaced, otherwise replacement features should be in the original style of the building.

**Site 3 on MAP 1**

**TY CERRIG ([56099](#))**

**SN66794822**

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

Building restoration is proposed under Tir Gofal capital works options. An aim of the farm visit is to assess the intended restoration of the buildings and consider priorities over the distribution of capital works money.

In overall appearance, the cow shed is relatively intact, and a central element of the nineteenth century farmstead group. Restoration should be considered a priority.

It is intended that repairs will be made to the roof, re-slating and repairing roof timbers as necessary.

The following is recommended:

Care should be taken to re-use the maximum number of old slates possible. New slates should, ideally match the type, colour, texture, size and thickness of the existing ones. Welsh or Spanish slate can be used.

As a general rule, original features should be repaired rather than replaced otherwise replacement features should be in the original style of the building. Re-use or repair elements of the old roof structure as far as is practically possible.

Consider re-opening blocked doors to enhance the historic appearance of the building.

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

Building restoration is proposed under Tir Gofal capital works options. An aim of the farm visit is to assess the intended restoration of the buildings and consider priorities over the distribution of capital works money.

In overall appearance, the range is an unusually intact example of its type. It is also the largest building within the farmstead group. Restoration should be considered a priority.

It is intended that unstable loft floor will be repaired by replacing damaged or rotten joists.

The following is recommended:

As a general rule, original features should be repaired rather than replaced otherwise replacement features should be in the original style of the building. eg. it is intended that the unsafe granary floor joists will be replaced. New materials should match existing ones.

Consider how features, which reflect the history of the building (eg. wooden stalls, hay racks) could best be retained and maintained in any future usage.

### **iii) HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS:**

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

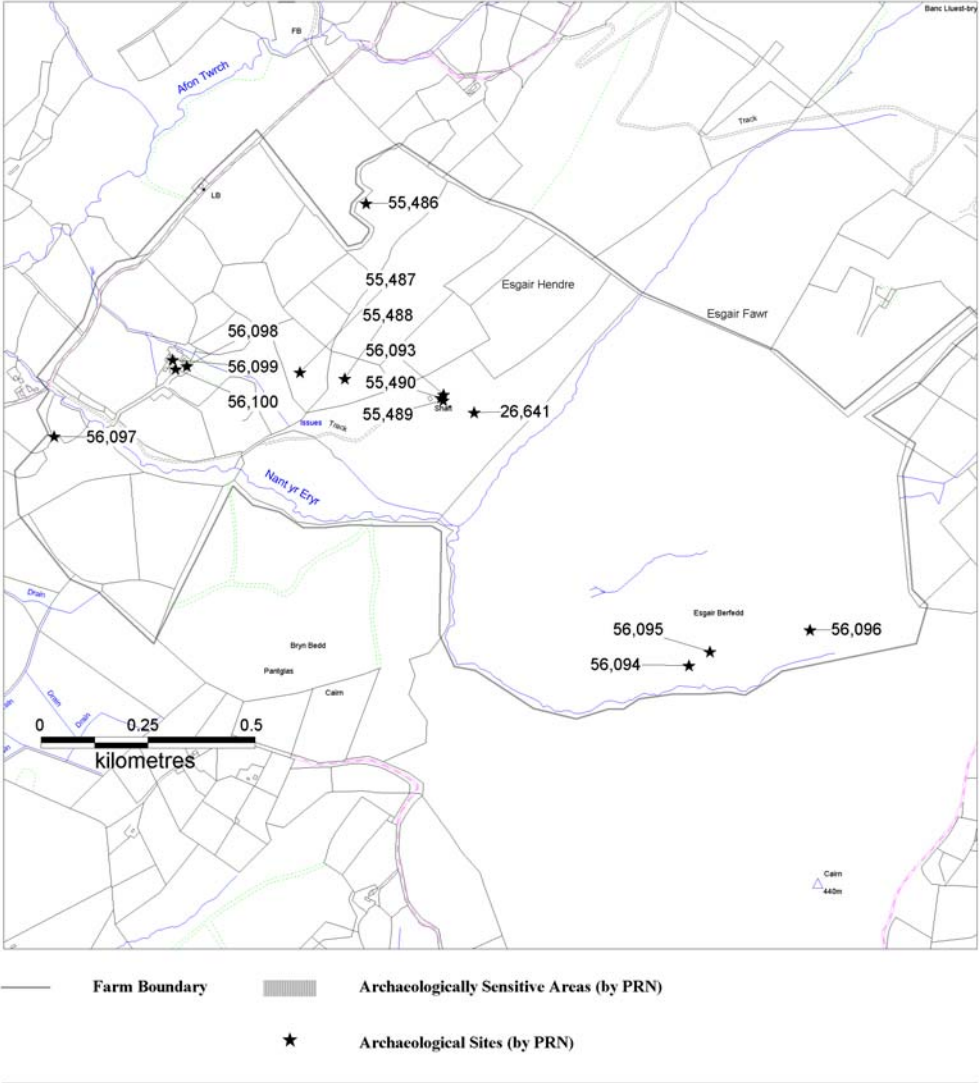
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*This HE2 report supercedes the information given in the [HE1 report](#) for this farm.*

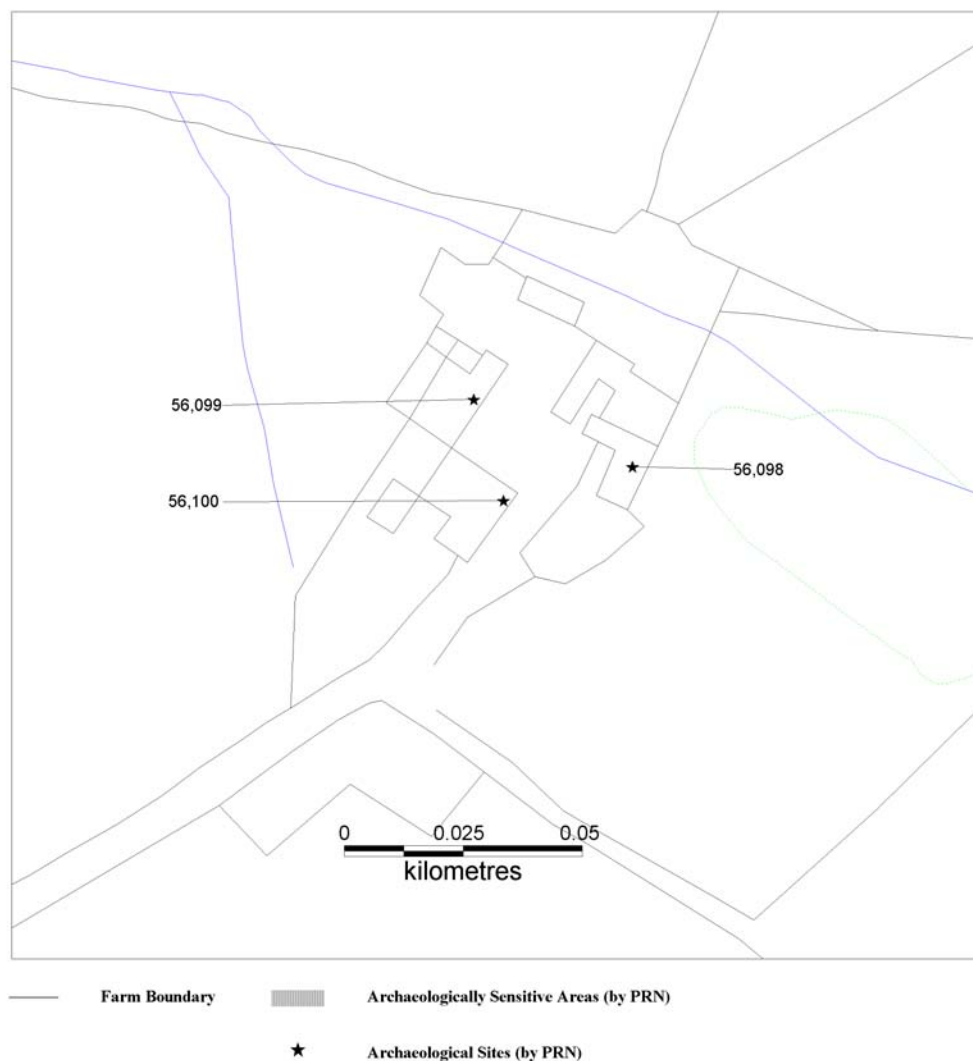
*Sources consulted:*

**Hall, G.W. 1993 Metal Mines of Southern Wales Griffin Publications, Hereford**  
**Ordnance Survey Old Series Map 1834 Sheet 57, 1"**  
**Ordnance Survey 1888 Carmarthenshire Sheet 02.13, 25"**  
**Ordnance Survey 1905 Carmarthenshire Sheet 02.13, 25"**  
**Tithe Map & Apportionment 1840 Cynwyl Gaeo, Carmarthenshire**



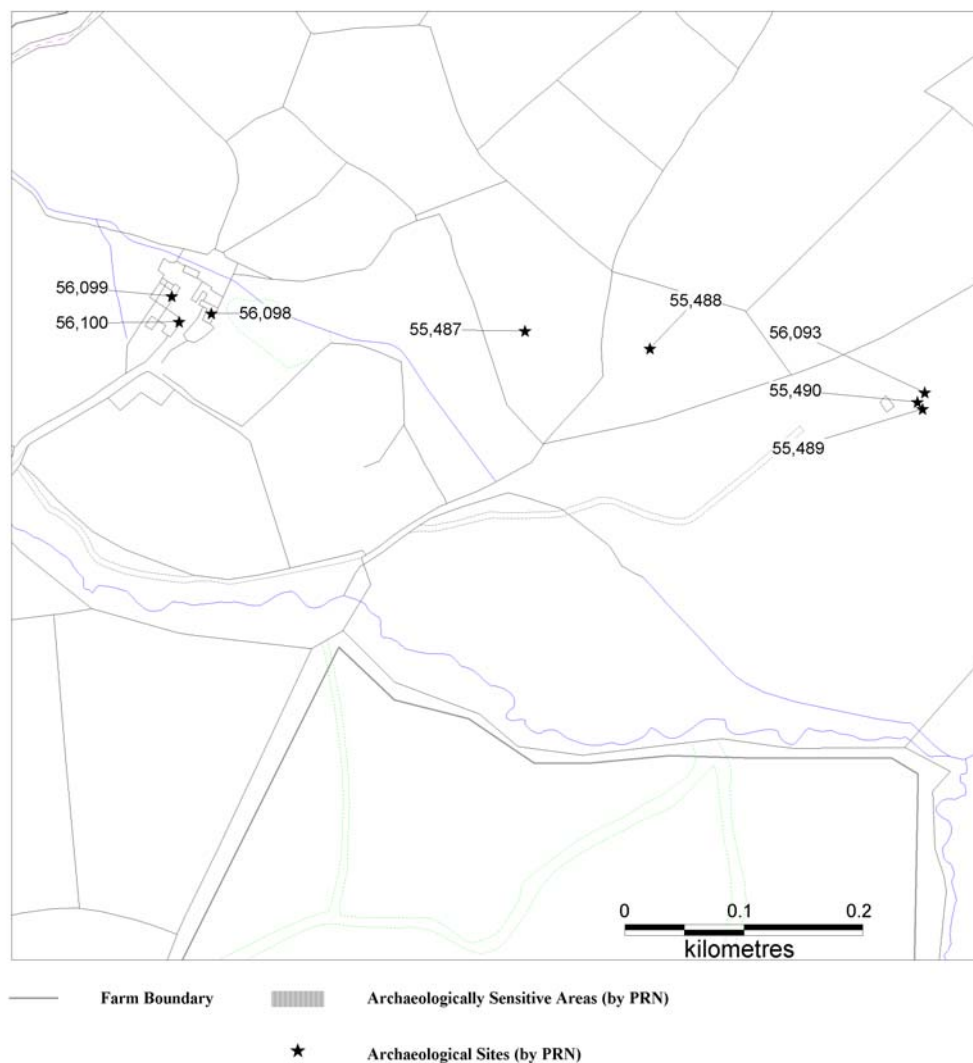
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Ty Cerrig Farmstead W/12/1193



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