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TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN: HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION (HE2)

**Prepared for:
Llettyngors**

**Tir Gofal Reference No
W/12/5762**

**ACA Report No. 2006/90
Project Record No. 54505**

Prepared by Will Steele

A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

2. Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content

Historic Landscape Character

Llettyngors consists of two separate land parcels in the community of Llanfynydd, Carmarthenshire. The surrounding landscape encompasses rolling hills of enclosed pasture, bisected by the Afon Cothi and its tributaries with pockets of long established deciduous woodland along the steeper slopes. Settlement is dispersed comprising of scattered farmsteads and cottages, although the village of Llanfynydd lies nearby to the northeast.

During the historic period most of the area lay within the southern half of the commotes, and later hundreds, of Cetheiniog and Maenordeilo (Rees 1932). The two commotes were held of the independent Welsh lordship of Cantref Mawr until the establishment of the county of Carmarthen in 1284. The relative homogeneity of the present landscape may represent a historical unity of land-use. Ridge and furrow cultivation has been recorded in the Tywi floodplain to the south but this area may always have been largely pasture, and north of Llanegwad lay an area of waste or common called 'Killardun Forest' (Rees 1932). Enclosure within the area may have been of relatively late date, the majority of the fields being medium-sized and regular.

Archaeological and Historic Content

A defended enclosure (PRN 652; SAM Cm 156) has been recorded on the summit of a ridge known as "Banc y rhyfel" (the War bank) on the western side of the main holding (/5762). It is an oval earthwork defended by a single bank on the north, east and west sides but with no artificial enhancements to the south. The field below the bank is known as "Cae'r Castell" (Tithe Schedule No.2282).

The enclosure is likely to date to the Iron Age and is typical of many of the similar defended settlements within the region, many hundreds of which still survive as earthworks in the landscape. Such sites are commonly viewed as defensive structures, although recent interpretations suggest that they were also built with an element of ostentation and display in mind. Excavated examples have revealed traces of settlement such as round houses, other, post built structures and storage pits.

The other recorded sites on the farm are settlement related; there is the farmstead itself of Llettyngors (PRN 56873) and the former farmstead site of Cilganwr (PRN 56874).

Key Objective

The management priority for Llettyngors is the sensitive management of Dyffryn Camp (PRN 652; SAM Cm 156). Detailed management advice is provided below.

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	BANC Y RHYFEL;DYFFRYN CAMP (652)	Iron Age hillfort	SN54072656	A	SAM	Specific
<p>A small univallate defended enclosure, situated on a ridge and relying on natural defences in the south. The earthwork commands an excellent view into the valleys to the north and south. The ridge on which it stands is known as "Banc y rhyfel"</p> <p>Oval enclosure on hilltop, defended by a single bank on the E and W sides surviving to an interior height of up to 1m, an exterior height of up to 2m. The ditch is traceable as a slight dip 15cm deep on the E. 60cm deep on the W. On the north there is a scarp giving a bank 2m high externally, while on the S the natural steep slopes do not appear to have been artificially strengthened. The interior and N scarp has been ploughed in the past to regenerate grass for pasture; the banks on E and W are not ploughed.</p> <p>The enclosure lies within improved pasture land. Stable grass cover predominates although gorse bushes now cover the outer face of the western bank. Cadw Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) condition reports record erosion through livestock trampling as an ongoing problem: there are active erosion faces on the eastern bank and between the gorse bushes on the western bank.</p>						



Gorse bushes on the western bank of Dyffryn Camp

LLETTYNGORS;LLETTY- YN-Y-GORS [\(56873\)](#) **Post Medieval farmstead**

SN5455426516 B

Generic

A working farmstead with a historic 19th century core centred on a rectangular yard. This layout is unchanged since at least 1889 when it is recorded on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map.

The buildings in the farmyard include whitewashed stone and slate outbuildings of the 19th century: a large threshing barn, cart house granary to the E, lofted stables to the N and modified cow house opposite to the W. A modernised nineteenth century house (concrete render, modern windows) with opposing chimneys lies at the head of the yard.

The farmstead retains a 19th century layout and many contemporary features, however changing agricultural practices have seen some modifications. The interiors of the agricultural buildings have been remodelled and some door openings have been blocked or modified. Modern sheds lie to either side of the historic core. Buildings are generally in good condition although there are structural concerns with the lower (S) wall of the threshing barn, and the rear (N) roof pitch of the stable is in poor repair.

CILGANWR ([56874](#))

**Post Medieval
farmstead**

SN5431726316 B

Generic

Minor farmstead recorded on Llanfynydd parish tithe map & apportionment of 1840 but not named on later sources. Just one building is marked in outline on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1889) suggesting that the farmstead had been abandoned by that time.

No surface traces of any buildings or enclosures relating to the former farmstead remain today. A roughly level area in otherwise sloping ground is now all that marks the site.



The site of the former farmstead of Cilganwr. No obvious surface remains survive today.

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

BANC Y RHYFEL;DYFFRYN CAMP [\(652\)](#)

SN54072656

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

Cadw Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) condition reports have recorded livestock erosion as an ongoing issue. There are active erosion faces on the eastern bank and between the gorse bushes on the western bank. Grant aid is available within Tir Gofal to deliver improved management. The following recommendations are made in consultation with Cadw.

The management aim is to improve the condition of the defended enclosure. In particular:

- Establish and maintain a permanent grass cover over the exposed areas of the site;
- Remove scrub (ie. gorse) growth to improve the appearance of the site;
- Prevent disturbance of the ground surface;

Tir Gofal recommendations;

- Cut scrub on the western bank. Remove cut vegetation from the area of the earthworks. These areas may require subsequent protection and re-seeding to establish grass cover (Tir Gofal capital works options).
- Consider infilling active erosion scrapes with inert material from elsewhere and reseed to restore the profile of the banks and allow the recovery of erosion scars.
- Graze at a level which will prevent the breakdown of grass cover. Exclude livestock temporarily from damaged areas to allow the recovery of erosion scars. Temporary electric fencing can be used.
- Consider Tir Gofal reversion options. Cease reseedling or ground breaking activities within the scheduled area (see attached map).

Please note: any works, which would have the effect of demolishing, destroying, damaging, removing, repairing, altering, adding to, flooding, or covering up a monument must have scheduled monument consent, e.g. infilling of erosion, fencing, ploughing. Cutting of vegetation does not require scheduled monument consent.

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	LLETTYNGORS;LLETTY-YN-Y-GORS (56873)	Post Medieval farmstead	SN5455426516	B		Specific
<p>A working farmstead with a historic 19th century core centred on a rectangular yard. This layout is unchanged since at least 1889 when it is recorded on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map.</p> <p>The buildings in the farmyard include whitewashed stone and slate outbuildings of the 19th century: a large threshing barn, cart house granary to the E, lofted stables to the N and modified cow house opposite to the W. A modernised nineteenth century house (concrete render, modern windows) with opposing chimneys lies at the head of the yard.</p> <p>The farmstead retains a 19th century layout and many contemporary features, however changing agricultural practices have seen some modifications. The interiors of the agricultural buildings have been remodelled and some door openings have been blocked or modified. Modern sheds lie to either side of the historic core. Buildings are generally in good condition although there are structural concerns with the lower (S) wall of the threshing barn, and the rear (N) roof pitch of the stable is in poor repair.</p>						



The threshing barn, cart house, granary and lofted stables on the east side of the farmyard at Llettyngors.

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

LLETTYNGORS;LLETTY-YN-Y-GORS
(56873)

SN5455426516

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

Building restoration is proposed under Tir Gofal capital works options.

Despite having experienced modernisation, Llettyngors is a relatively intact nineteenth century farmstead with a number of original features surviving. Surviving buildings are generally in good order although there are structural concerns with the lower

(S) wall of the threshing barn and the rear (N) roof pitch of the stable is in poor repair.

The following is recommended:

- Allocation of Tir Gofal capital works money should consider how best to maintain the farmstead complex as a whole, ensuring that all buildings are maintained in a weatherproof and structurally sound condition
- 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. New slates can be mixed with old ones across the roof or reserved for less prominent slopes. Welsh or Spanish slate can be used.
- Wherever possible repair original features rather than replace them. Re-use or repair elements of the old roof structure as far as practically possible.
- It is recommended that structural works are considered in order to stabilise the lower (S) wall of the threshing barn. This work should be carried out maintaining as much of the historic fabric as possible with similar replacement materials used where necessary. Original characteristic features (eg. ventilation slits) should be replicated in any rebuild.

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:

Historic Environment Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire

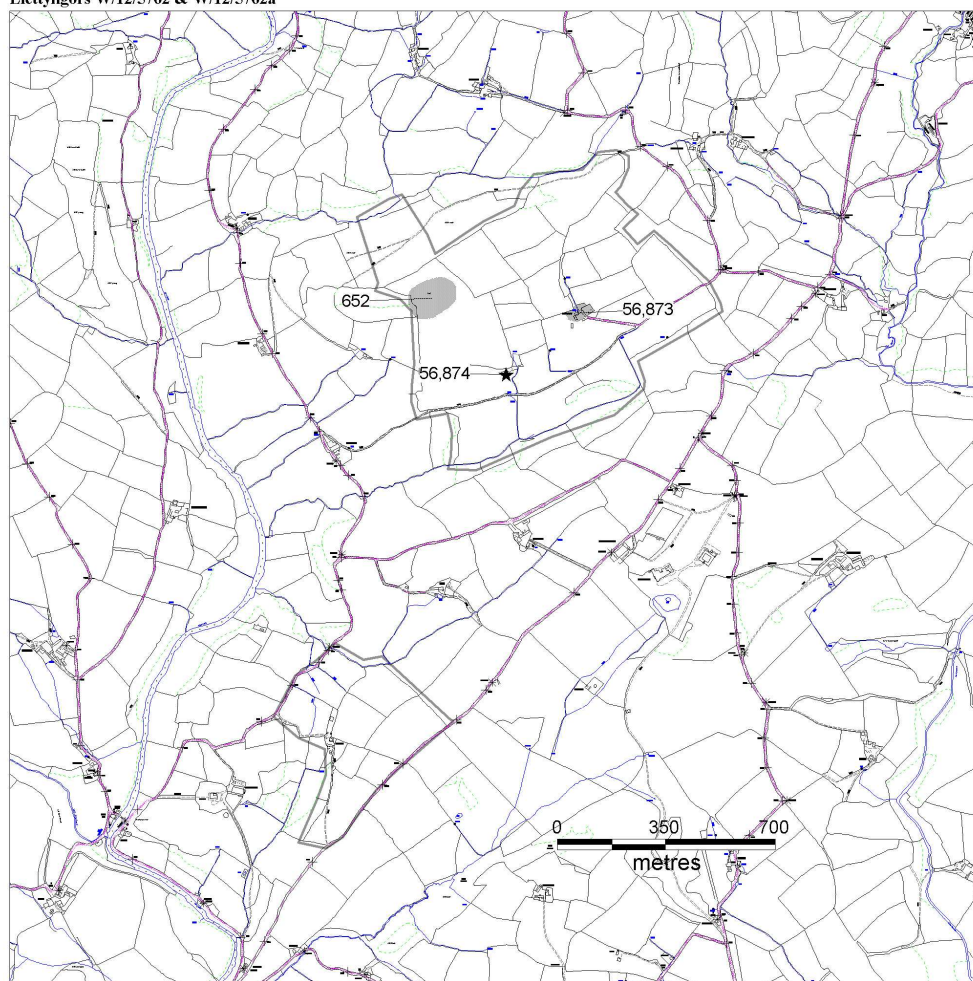
Cadw. SAM file no. Cm156

Ordnance Survey 1831 Old Series 1" map, No.XLI

Ordnance Survey 1889 1st edition 1-2500 Carmarthenshire.XXXII.4, 8 & 12

Ordnance Survey 1906 2nd edition 1-2500 Carmarthenshire.XXXII.4, 8 & 12

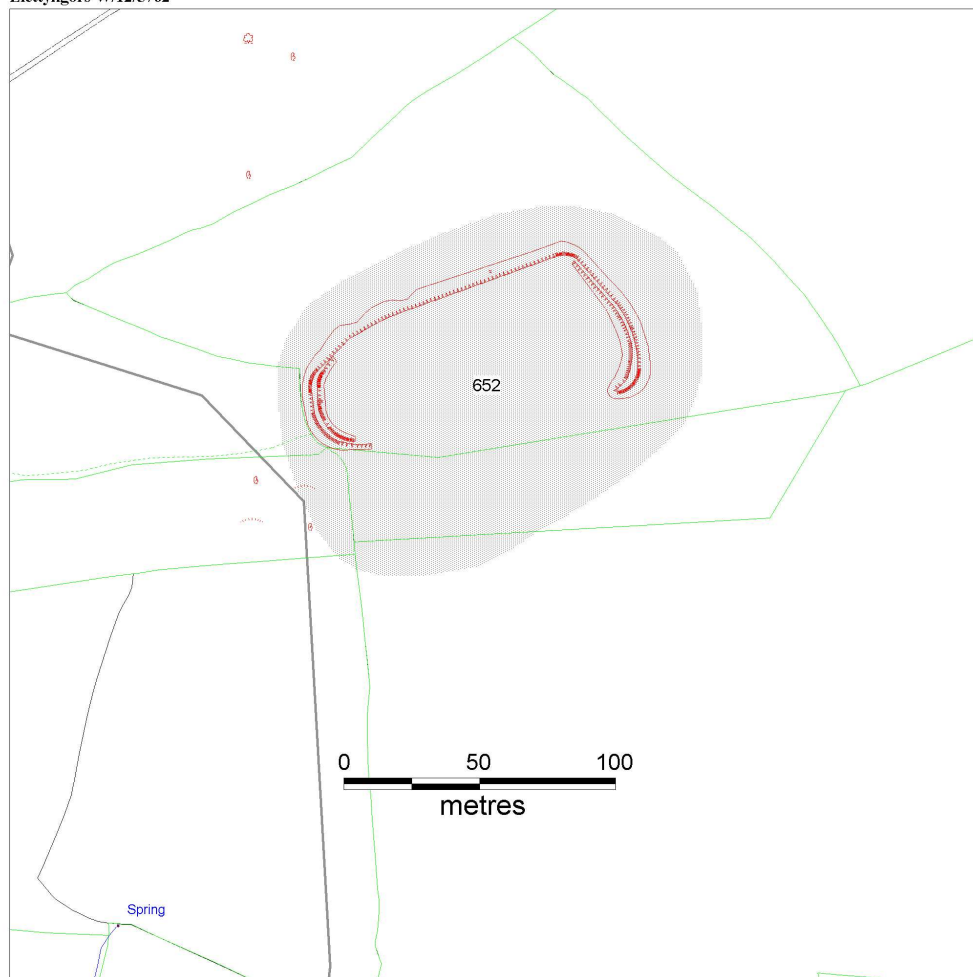
Llettyngors W/12/5762 & W/12/5762a



—	Farm Boundary	■	Archaeologically Sensitive Areas (by PRN)	—	Linear Archaeological Feature (by PRN)
.....	Historic Landscape Character Area	★	Archaeological Sites (by PRN)		

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Llettyngors W/12/5762



—	Farm Boundary	■	Archaeologically Sensitive Areas (by PRN)	—	Linear Archaeological Feature (by PRN)
.....	Historic Landscape Character Area	★	Archaeological Sites (by PRN)		

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