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TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN: HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION (HE2)

Prepared for: Dolebolion



Tir Gofal Reference No W/11/5742

DAT Report No. 2008-100 Project Record No. 55981

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Other documents enclosed: Historic Landscape Character Area descriptions: no 191; no 23; no 31; no 37 & no 118

Listed building description: no 80853 Llwyn-y-celyn farmhouse

A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

2. Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content

Historic Landscape Character

This farm comprises two holdings of land labelled, for the purposes of this report, 'A' and 'B', centred on NGRs SN74376662 and SN60292382 respectively. Holding 'A' is on the eastern side of Pontrydfendigaid, in the community of Ystrad Fflur, Ceredigion and holding 'B' lies to the northwest of Llandeilo in the community of Llangathen, Carmarthenshire.

Holding 'A' lies within several Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCAs). These character areas are intended to define places where local land-use patterns have left particularly strong or distinctive evidence in the landscape and the descriptions include general management priorities (Murphy & Ludlow, 2000).

The holding lies within HLCAs 23 Ffair Rhos, 31 Rhos Brynberllan, 37 Pantyfedwen/Crofftau & 118 Ystrad Fflur and encompasses an area of relatively unenclosed upland with stands of woodland on steeper slopes, bounded on the lower valley slopes to the north and south by an enclosure pattern of small to medium sized irregular fields. The settlement pattern consists of dispersed farmsteads and cottages. During the medieval period this area would have lain within the demesne land and granges of Strata Florida abbey. The unenclosed land is likely to have been open for most of its history and the current wire fence boundaries are recent additions. Land to the south in the Teifi valley is likely to have been divided into farms leased out on a commercial basis by the late medieval period if not earlier. This may have formed the origins for the current enclosure and settlement pattern in this area, which had been established in its current form by the late 18th to early 19th century. The northern part of the holding appears to have been open common land enclosed in small holdings and squatter settlements throughout the 18th and 19th century, reaching its current layout by the time of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888.

Holding 'B' lies within HLCA 191 Nantgaredig - Derwen Fawr. The enclosure pattern in this area consists of medium to large irregular fields with a settlement pattern of dispersed farmsteads and cottages. The irregular nature of the field systems is characteristic of the gradual enclosure of farmland, possibly developing from the earlier Post Medieval period onwards. The current boundaries were in place by the time of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1887, although some of the smaller fields have been amalgamated into larger enclosures during the 20th century. The settlement pattern appears to have been in place by the 18th century as the farmstead of Llwyn-y-celyn includes an 18th century farmhouse.

Full descriptions of the relevant HLCAs are provided at the end of this report.

Archaeological and Historic Content

Possible round barrows and burial cairns (PRNs 8624, 41101, 41105 & 41106) appear to represent the earliest recorded archaeology within holding 'A', indicating a ritual and funerary landscape during the Bronze Age. The defended enclosure of Pen y Bannau (PRN 2040) also lies in this area, generally considered to date from the Iron Age, although similar monuments have been found to have earlier origins. Traces of round houses within the enclosure suggest settlement and activity in this area during the Iron Age. This site has been designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (Cd109).

Strata Florida Abbey was founded nearby in 1164 and became the centre of Welsh culture and influence. The holding lies within the demesne lands and granges of the abbey, and is therefore likely to have witnessed a variety of activity throughout the medieval period. Some of the deserted rural settlements, shelters, (PRNs 41102, 41103, 41114, 41328 & 41331,) and possible pillow mounds (PRN 41107 & 56353) may therefore have medieval origins. By the end of the medieval period much of the Abbey's lands were being divided up and leased out to farms on a commercial basis, which suggests some of the farmsteads (PRNs 41068, 56351 & 56352) recorded in this area may have late medieval origins, although many are not recorded until late 18th and 19th century maps.

By the time of the detailed 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889 Dolebolion farmstead (PRN 56351) is shown, as are two cottages at the northern end (PRNs 56355 & 56357) and one at the western end (PRN 7147) of the holding, adjacent to a woollen factory (PRN 19686). A variety of differing land-use is recorded throughout the holding with enclosed fields, open pastures, peat cuttings (PRN 56354) and quarries (PRNs 19697). One of the main features of the historic environment of this area is perhaps the lead mining complex (PRN 9310), most active during the 19th century.

Holding 'B' is crossed by the A40, which runs along the main historical route corridor into west Wales. However, this section is no longer thought to represent the line of the Roman road, which is believed to be located to the south of the holding (Schlee, 2004). The farmstead of Llwyn-y-celyn itself (PRN 56359) appears to have been in place by the 18th century as it contains a rare survival of an 18th century farmhouse, grade II listed.

A gazetteer of all the recorded archaeology within the farm boundaries appears below.

Key Objective

The large number of recorded archaeological features makes the management priorities for this farm varied, including the preservation and maintenance of Scheduled remains and listed buildings, as well as the preservation of other traditional buildings and important mining remains.

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 the Dyfed Archaeological Trust (01558 823131). This enables them to maintain an up-todate 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 Dyfed Archaeological Trust 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 the Dyfed Archaeological Trust.

	Name (& PRN)	Period/Site type	NGR	Status SAM/listin	g Management required
1	BRON-Y-BERLLAN (94340)	Post-Medieval building	SN746366	30 B	Specific

Two-storey building of uncertain function, possibly a stable, within Bron-y-berllan farmstead (PRN 41068), located between the threshing-barn (PRN94339), to the west, and the long farmbuilding (PRN 41080), to the east, abutting both. It measures approximately 6.5 metres long and 4.5 metres wide, with a doorway in the south-facing frontage and a window aperture in the opposite, rear wall. The gable ends appear to stand to full height but the front and rear walls have been damaged by the branches of a tree growing within the building. The roof has completely gone. Squared recesses low in the wall, just inside the doorway to the left and within the southern corner of the eastern wall, suggest probable wooden partition within the building.





(Left), Front of building PRN 94340, looking north. (Right), interior of building, looking east.

Rectilinear building with lime rendered masonry, no remaining roof, roofing material on floor of building consisting of wooden beams and purple slate. Fallen rubble to the front of the building (UWCL 2000). Recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit, aligned approximately east-west along the southern boundary of farmstead PRN 41068. The two-storey building is in a poor state, with the roof gone and a large oak tree growing within the walls, rooted into the bank behind the northern, rear wall. This has collapsed part of the building frontage and the stonework here appears to be leaning outward. Five entrances are identifiable within the frontage, with wooden lintels but no interior details could be determined due to the damage caused by the tree and the collapsed roofing material.





(Left) frontage of long farmbuilding (PRN 41080) and (right) looking west, the interior.

3 **BRON-Y-BERLLAN** (41081)

Post-Medieval pigsty

SN7463566275 B

Specific

Pigsty complex. UWCL 2000. Recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008) as measuring approximately 7 metres X 4.5 metres, comprising a house (4 metres long) and open pen. The gateway to the pen is in the southeast corner and the walls are of lime-mortared, undressed stone. The west and south-facing walls of the pen stand to a height of approximately 1 metre but the top courses of stone of the east-facing wall have been dislodged. The southern gable-end of the pig-house stands to full height but the northern end has largely collapsed. The roof is completely gone and there is no sign of roofing material. If the pig-house was slated it seems possible that the tiles have been removed for use elsewhere. The sty is located on a north-south boundary wall to the southwest of farmhouse PRN 41082.



Looking east, the Bron-y-berllan pigsty

4 PEN Y BANNAU CAMP Iron Age hillfort SN74206692 A SAM Specific (2040)

Small, strongly defended Iron Age hillfort on top of a steep sided ridge. Several hut circles are visible inside the defences. Hillforts are generally recorded as having being constructed in the Iron Age (circa $600\,BC$ - 100AD) but scientific dating of some archaeologically excavated sites has indicated that they may be Bronze Age in date (c2000 - 500BC). Hillforts are usually viewed as defensive structures built with the intention of defending and securing property. They are also locations for dwellings that were used on a seasonal or permanent basis. Sites such as these may have been used over very long periods of time and, therefore, were probably put to many different uses.



Looking northwest, the rampart banks and ditches defending the northern entrance of the enclosure.

Pen-y-Bannau is a univallate hillfort in a strong naturally defensive location. Its northern end lies at 340m, but the interior slopes down to the south to below 310m. Steep slopes provide a good natural defence to the west, south and east and these are augmented by ramparts. The built defence on the east and south side is provided by a wall (now rubble) and to the west by a scarped slope. At the northern end the wall increases into a substantial bank. Two further substantial banks, 1m - 2m high internally and up to 4m externally both with ditches, protect the northern, most easily approachable side. The entrance is gained round the eastern end of these two outer banks, and obliquely through a gap mid-way along the inner bank on the northern side. This is quite a complex entrance. On aerial photographs the east end of the middle bank is clearly clubended and there is an in-turn to the inner bank on the east side. The interior is long and narrow, 190m north south and 50m east - west. There is a natural step down within the interior 60m south of the entrance dividing the fort in two. This is so distinct that the 1st Ed Ordnance Survey 1:2500 of 1888 depicted only the northern part of the fort, and on aerial photographs the northern part seems to form the main defended area with the lower section to the south an added annexe. The site is under improved pasture.' (K.Murphy, 2005).

A Cadw field visit in 2000 recorded that the site was in very good condition under short turf grazed by sheep. Erosion previously noted on the middle bank, to the west of the entrance, had recovered somewhat and the rabbit hole on the inside of the bank no longer looked active, although there appeared to be rabbit activity elsewhere, immediately alongside the entrance. (H.B. Burnham, 2000).

No problems with the site were noted during the Tir Gofal farm visit (21/10/08). It remains under a stable cover of low grass and vegetation that is, presumably, still grazed although no livestock were in the area during the visit. There were no obvious signs of animal burrows or erosion.

5 BRON-Y-BERLLAN Post-Medieval SN74626630 B Specific (94339) threshing barn

Two-storey threshing-barn, part of the Bron-y-berllan farmstead (PRN 41068). Recorded during the Tir Gofal farm visit (21/10/2008), in the northwest corner of the farmstead, to the rear of the cart-shed (PRN 41079) and adjacent to barn PRN 94340. Wheel-pit (PRN 41069) is adjacent to its exterior western wall, with remnant of the iron wheel still within it. A ventilation slot is located within the barn wall above the wheel-pit. The main, wide entrance to the building is from the west with gently tapering sides and a wooden lintel. The undressed stone, lime-mortared walls generally stand full height but the roof is completely gone. A series of sawn-off wooden blocks protrude from the inner western wall at the height of the main entrance, probable remnants of roof supports or loft beams. The doorway in the eastern wall, opposite the main entrance, is blocked by fallen stones, dislodged from the wall edges by the branches of trees growing within the building. The north-facing interior wall is also the rear wall of the cart-shed and appears to have been consolidated as part of the restoration of that building. A rusting iron ?seed-hopper is parked within the barn.





(Left), looking east through entrance of threshing-barn PRN 94339. (Right), interior of barn, looking north.

PEN Y BANNAU (5401) Unknown enclosure

SN74256698 U

Generic

Enclosure first described in 1926 but thought not to be an antiquity. RPS September 2001. Not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit of 21/10/08.

PEN Y BANNAU (5653) Unknown SN74296695 U Generic earthwork

A mound of unknown purpose and date. May be a recent feature. Not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/08).

TY-MAWR (7147) Post-Medieval SN73246646 B Generic dwelling

Dwelling recorded as being in poor condition by RCAHM in 1976. RPS September 2001. Not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

BANC GWYN (8383) Unknown SN74506660 U Generic earthwork

Earthwork of unknown significance. RPS September 2001. Site not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

ABBEY CONSOLS; Post-Medieval lead SN74306610 B Generic

mine;zinc mine

BRONBERLLAN; FLORIDA; CWM MAWR NO.2 MINE;

STRATA FLORIDA

(9310)

Small metal mine complex. Recorded lead ore output-1500 tons; Zinc ore output-2000 tons. In operation throughout the 19th century. The area of the mine complex was recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008). The northern part of the area is now under a modern motoring track and a modern trackway crosses the area from northeast to southwest, the levelling for which appears to have created numerous stone spoil heaps.



Looking south, area of mining complex showing modern trackways

The leat (PRN 41095) runs north-south to the east of the area. A few remnants of stone structures still survive that presumably date to the 19th century mine, including the corner of a building and a possible boundary wall.



Surviving stone walls dating from the 19th century mining complex

UNKNOWN (19686) Post-Medieval SN73216639 B Generic factory

A former woollen mill on the banks of the Afon Teifi, near Pontrhydfendigaid village. Present use and condition unknown. The site was not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

GRAIG FACH (19697) Post-Medieval SN75006700 C Generic quarry

Small quarry shown on 1964 Ordnance Survey map. The site was not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

FLORIDA MINE (41066) Post-Medieval SN7439766115 B Generic dwelling

Office or Mine Captain house associated with the Florida mine. The building was not recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008), although the area where it is located on the 1889 1st edition Ordnance Survey map was seen to be under low intensity grazing and no building remains were obvious.

FLORIDA MINE (41067) Post-Medieval SN7441066115 B Generic privy house

Privy of Florida Mine office building. 3m x 2m small stone out building. 2m high at S-W, 0.7m at N-E. Probably toilet. Gully 0.2m deep x 1m wide. runs through toilet. probably for drainage(UWCL 2000). The

building was not recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008), although the area where it is located on the 1889 1st edition Ordnance Survey map was seen to be under low intensity grazing and no building remains were obvious.

BRON-Y-BERLLAN Post-Medieval SN74606628 B Generic (41068) Farmstead

A deserted farmstead complex with the farmhouse and outbuildings in poor condition when seen in 2000. Recorded on the 1888/1889 1st edition Ordnance Survey map as an 'L'-shaped complex of farmbuildings, comprising a cart-shed with hayloft (PRN 41079), threshing-barn with associated wheel-pit (PRN 41069) and a long farm-building - probable cow-barn. The farmhouse (PRN 41082) is located to the south with, to the southwest, a nearby pigsty (PRN 41081). On the western edge of the farmstead is a sheepfold (PRN 41070).



Looking north, Bron-y-berllan Farmstead

BRON-Y-BERLLAN (41069)

Post-Medieval wheel pit

SN7462566295 B

Generic

Small wheel pit adjacent to Bron-y-berllan farm cart house building, 3.5metres x 2.2metres x 2metres deep. Lime mortared walls, in state of collapse. Part of the cast iron wheel frame still stands in the pit. Fed by leat, with water running off via the subterranean tailrace. UWCL 2000. Wheel-pit recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit, located alongside the threshing barn to the rear of the cart-shed.



The wheel-pit PRN 41069, looking northwest.

BRON-Y-BERLLAN (41070)

Post-Medieval enclosure; sheep fold

SN7459066305 B

Generic

Drystone wall approximately 7 metres (East), 18 metres (South), 15 metres (West). Evidence of northerly wall. Entrance on east side. Early 20th century agricultural machinery in enclosure. 1919 horse drawn rake. UWCL 2000. Recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit, on the western side of the farmstead (PRN 41068), lying on northern field boundary.



Looking east, corner of the sheepfold with Bron-y-berllan cartshed in background

BRON-Y-BERLLAN Post-Medieval leat SN74586628 B Generic (41071)

Tailrace. 15m long, subterranean point is 40cm x.15cm 3 sides are walled, is underground for 5m, then an open rodding, 4m in length, 1.5m in width and 30cm deep. Recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008) within area of low intensity grazing.

BRON-Y-BERLLAN Post-Medieval SN7467566310 B Generic (41083) enclosure

Rectangular enclosure $12 \times 15 m$ covered by fairly matured trees. Lies east of the farm building (PRN 41082). Probably drystone walling and contemporary with farmstead. Associated trackway and Spoil heap. Recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008) as a levelled platform demarked by wall-tumble. A standing stone gatepost, with a hole drilled through it, is located to the east of the enclosure and a stream runs alongside it. The area is under short grass and reeds and surrounded by mature trees.



Looking northwest, enclosure PRN 41083 with gatepost to the right

BRON-Y-BERLLAN Post-Medieval leat SN74586629 B Generic (41084)

Approx 1.5m wide from ridge to ridge. Approx 20cm deep. Length 60m to track. (UWCL 2000). Recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit as being under low intensity grazing.

BRON-Y-BERLLAN Post-Medieval SN74536630 C Generic (41085) trackway

Trackway runs west through farm. Runs West in direction of Florida mine and East to agricultural lands revetted. Possibly improved to serve lead mine width of about 3m. UWCL 2000 Recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit, running through an area of low-intensity grazing, cut into the side of the north-south hillslope.

BRON-Y-BERLLAN Post-Medieval SN74606627 B Generic (41086) boundary bank

Drystone wall enclosing garden approx. 1m high by 2m width butted on to pigsty on western side of house. Gate entrance in middle of wall in front of house on south side. Seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008) as a largely grassed-over stone bank. Some very large boulders are located upon the southwest corner of this boundary.

FLORIDA MINE (41088) Post-Medieval SN74606637 B Generic mining feature

Four shafts or pits largely infilled and running East-West. Irregular in shape and ranging from 12mx9m in size to 6mx8m and 3.5-4m deep (UWCL 2000). Mining features noted during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008), located on the hillslope to the north of Bron-y-berllan Farmstead (PRN 41068), within an area under low intensity grazing.

FLORIDA MINE (41089) Post-Medieval SN74536637 B Generic mining feature

Oblong feature difficult to discern. Possible level / destroyed partially. (shown on 2nd edition. 25" Ordnance Survey - 1905). Grassed over spoil heaps to East. 2 troughs to the N, unknown origin - possibly trial pits (UWCL 2000). This feature was not found during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

FLORIDA MINE (41090) Post-Medieval SN74456634 B Generic ?wheel pit

Recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008) as a stone-lined pit approximately 2 metres square within an area of low-intensity grazing. No immediate threats apparent to the structure.



Looking east, ?wheel-pit PRN 41090.

FLORIDA MINE (41091) Post-Medieval SN74456638 B Generic leat?

A shallow depression in the ground running north to south. Runs to wheelpit, PRN 41090, shallow Collapse? This feature was not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

FLORIDA MINE (41092) Post-Medieval SN74456632 B Generic mining feature

Possible stone lined leat. Width of entrance 80cm, height 60cm, width of stone border 40cm, stone arch at entrance. UWCL 2000 Site was recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008), within an area of low intensity grazing. No immediate threats apparent to the structure.



Arched entrance to leat PRN 41092, looking north.

FLORIDA MINE (41093) Post-Medieval SN74416633 B Generic mine shaft

Open shaft in approximate position of shaft marked on 1st edition Ordnance Survey 1905 25". 10m in length (facing East-West) 2 metres north-south. Roughly rectangular. UWCL 2000. Levelled platform, cut into the hillslope bedrock, aligned north-south, recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit and taken to be the location of the shaft. Site is grassed over in an area of low intensity grazing.

FLORIDA MINE (41094) Post-Medieval SN74376631 B Generic mine shaft

2 metres in length north-south, 7 metres east-west. UWCL 2000. Recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008) as a fenced off, deep, vertically cut open shaft.



Looking east, open shaft PRN 41094

FLORIDA MINE (41095) Post-Medieval leat SN7438066360 B

Generic

Running downhill for approx. 180m past mine shaft (PRN 41094) and feeding the small reservoir (PRN 41096) continuing on to wheel pit (PRN 41097). (UWCL 2000). Recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/08/2008), aligned alongside field boundary, approximately 1 metre wide and 0.60 metre deep. Feature is grassed over and lined with mature trees.

FLORIDA MINE (41096) Post-Medieval SN7437366280 B Generic reservoir

Marked on 2nd edition 25" Ordnance Survey Map. UWCL 2000 Recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008) on the line of leat PRN 41095. Feature is approximately four metres square with steeply cut edges into the bedrock. The east and west edges are grassed over and there is a pile of loose stones that appears to have washed down from exposed rock to the north.



Looking north, square-cut reservoir on line of leat PRN 41095

FLORIDA MINE (41097) Post-Medieval SN7436066260 C Generic trackway

Trackway visible 5m running N-S presumably from mine shaft PRN 41094 to scarp above main level

(UWCL 2000) Area seen, during Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008), to be under short grass cover.

FLORIDA MINE (41098) Post-Medieval SN7437066230 B Generic wheel pit

Wheelpit partial remains. Marked on 2nd edition. 25" Ordnance Survey map fed by leat (PRN 41095). Remains of possible feed channel on east. Partially destroyed by later quarry activity (UWCL 2000). Possible remains of wheel-pit seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit, at top of mined escarpment. However, the location was inaccessible and the feature appeared partially destroyed so a definite identification is impossible.

COED PEN-Y-BANNAU Post-Medieval SN74206642 B Generic (41100) mining feature

The adit cuts into solid bedrock. There is a 2nd adit to the left, 2m in length, probably a test adit. This feature was not seen during the Tir gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

RHOS BRON-Y- Bronze Age? SN74356695 U Generic BERLLAN (41101) round barrow?

Sub-circular mound approx 17m diameter large stones protruding irregularly round circumference (mainly south and west) One large stone southwest. Possible stone alignment of several metres. The mound was seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008) but its identification as a Bronze Age round barrow is still debateable. It is grass-covered and in a stable environment of low-intensity grazing.

RHOS BRON-Y- Medieval?;Post SN74326705 B Generic BERLLAN (41102) Medieval? shelter

Rectangular dry stone structure 4m E/W by 3.2 N/S. Wall base low comprising large stone slabs. 10m to east there is a low earth and stone bank running to south (of no known relation). Hut is also scooped into slope (UWCL 2000). This site was not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008), although the area was seen to be under stable, low-intensity grazing and no immediate threats to the archaeology were apparent.

RHOS BRON-Y- Medieval?;Post SN74206700 B Generic BERLLAN (41103) Medieval?

deserted rural settlement

Deserted rural settlement complex consisting of rectangular house with an enclosure appended to it. Small shelter, PRN 41102, 30 metres due south (UWCL 2000). This site was not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008), although the area was seen to be under stable, low-intensity grazing and no immediate threats to the archaeology were apparent.

RHOS BRON-Y- Medieval?;Post SN74206700 B Generic BERLLAN (41104) Medieval? long hut

Dry stone walls surviving 1metre width, length 7metres northeast-southwest and 3.75metres wide. Rectangular enclosure to north. Cultivation on the hills to the east and northeast (UWCL 2000). This site was not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008), although the area was seen to be under stable, low-intensity grazing and no immediate threats to the archaeology were apparent.

RHOS BRON-Y- Unknown cairn? SN74216655 U Generic BERLLAN (41105)

Earthen, no stones showing on surface, 2.5metre diameter, possible clearance cairn or cairn (burial). Possibly associated with PRN 41106 (8 metres south) on west side of hill. (UWCL 2000). The site was not found during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008) - not at co-ordinates recorded and the area of hillslope was under thick bracken cover.

RHOS BRON-Y- Unknown cairn? SN7422166548 U Generic BERLLAN (41106)

Cairn with earth on top, 4m by 2.5m. Possible clearance cairn, appears to be stratified. Possibly associated with PRN 41105 8m north on west side of hill (UWCL 2000)

RHOS BRON-Y- Post-Medieval? SN7449566726 B Generic

BERLLAN (41107) pillow mound?

Pair of probable shelters or pillow mounds about 3metres by 2.5metres. This site was not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008), although the area was seen to be under stable, low-intensity grazing and no immediate threats to the archaeology were apparent.

RHOS BRON-Y- Medieval?;Post- SN7448866745 B Generic

BERLLAN (41114) Medieval deserted rural settlement

A deserted rural settlement on a gentle, north facing slope, which includes a platform, with a possible garden terrace alongside. The longhouse measures $8.1 \text{m} \times 18 \text{m}$ and there is a classic drainage hood at its southern end. The terrace to the east measures $9 \text{m} \times 18 \text{m}$, with cultivation ridges parallel to contour. The features are rather ephemeral (UWCL 2000). This site was not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008), although the area was seen to be under stable, low-intensity grazing and no immediate threats to the archaeology were apparent.

RHOS BRON-Y- Medieval;Post- SN7441966632 B Generic BERLLAN (41328) Medieval shelter

A sub-rectilinear structure 2 metres x 2.5 metres facing east which has an adjacent sub-circular mound and a clearance cairn behind it of a later date. A recent clearance cairn appears to have been created on top of or adjacent to earlier structures associated with the nearby settlement site (PRN 41114) to the north (UWCL 2000). This site was not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008), although the area was seen to be under stable, low-intensity grazing and no immediate threats to the archaeology were apparent.

RHOS BRON-Y- Bronze Age? SN7421666559 U Generic BERLLAN (41329) cairn?;clearance cairn

Possible cairn or clearance cairn. Located on the Eastern side of hill and is roughly 2m in diameter. Grassed over (UWCL 2000). Site located, during Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008) on hillslope, under short grass and bracken. Most of the cairn remains grassed over but several exposed stones are apparent on top of the feature.



Looking north, cairn (largely grassed-over) PRN 41329, with Pen-y bannau Camp in background

RHOS BRON-Y- Medieval;Post- SN7448866745 B Generic BERLLAN (41330) Medieval platform

A platform which measures 8.1 metres x 18 metres and has a classic drainage hood. An associated "garden" terrace measuring 9 metres x 18 metres with cultivation ridges running parallel to the contour of the hill lies a short distance to the east (UWCL 2000). This site was not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008), although the area was seen to be under stable, low-intensity grazing and no immediate threats to the archaeology were apparent.

RHOS BRON-Y- Medieval;Post- SN74456695 B Generic BERLLAN (41331) Medieval long

hut;shelter

Collapsed structure measuring 5 metres x 3 metres. It is east facing and cut into the hillside. The walls of the structure are c.1metre thick. Two stones lie opposite the entrance (UWCL 2000). This site was not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008), although the area was seen to be under stable, low-intensity grazing and no immediate threats to the archaeology were apparent.

RHOS BRON-Y- Post-Medieval? SN74506650 U Generic BERLLAN (41332) leat?

A Flat U-shaped ditch, possibly a leat associated with the mine at foot of hill (UWCL 2000). Not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

RHOS BRON-Y- Post-Medieval leat SN74506650 B Generic BERLLAN (41333)

The feature measures 24 metres x 2 metres with a 1metre high bank. Potentially associated with a mine shaft running due southeast (SN746666). Not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

(56350) Post-Medieval mill SN7346466297 B Generic race

A mill race feeding a corn mill in Pontrhydfendigaid, marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888. Not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

(56352) Post-Medieval SN7465066570 B Generic farmstead

The earthwork remains of a possible farmstead complex recorded by the RCAHMW. It consists of a small rectangular enclosure set within a larger enclosure. There is a possible continuation of the farmstead boundaries, approx. 80m to the east of the main complex. Not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

(56353) Unknown bank SN7495066679 U Generic

A series of linear features recorded by the RCAHMW. They consist of three small, wide banks that may be possible pillow mounds. The other features are long and irregular, they may be the remnants of an early field system. Not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

(56354) Unknown peat SN7491067110 C Generic cutting

A large area of peat cutting recorded by the RCAHMW. Extending from the area, in a north-east to south-west orientation is a linear bank feature, possibly an early field boundary. Not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit 921/10/2008).

TAL-Y-FAN (56355) Post-Medieval SN7428067359 B Generic cottage

A cottage with associated enclosures marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888 and 2nd edition of 1905. The site is shown in outline only on modern maps and is presumed ruined. Not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

TAL-Y-FAN (56356) Post-Medieval well SN7428567433 B Generic

A well marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888, just to the north of Tal-y-fan cottage (PRN 56355). Not shown on modern mapping and not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

GRAIG FACH (56357) Post-Medieval SN7501167311 B Generic cottage

A cottage with associated enclosures and small outbuildings, marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888. Only shown in outline on modern mapping, presumed ruined, and not seen on the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

GRAIG FACH (56358) Post-Medieval well SN7502067393 B Generic

A well marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888, to the north of Graig-fach cottage (PRN

56357). Not shown on modern mapping and not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit.

LLWYN-Y-CELYN Post-Medieval SN6038323947 B LB2 Generic (56359) farmstead

A haphazard farmstead complex, marked on 19th century maps, that includes a Grade II listed building (LB 80853) consisting of an 18th century farmhouse with an attached cowhouse added after 1840. It was listed as a rare surviving small farmhouse of the type that characterised Carmarthenshire before the 19th century. A new farmhouse was built in 1936, since when the old house has not been inhabited. The farmstead was not visited during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

(56360) Post-Medieval SN6027123987 C Generic quarry

A quarry marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1887. Not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

(56361) Post-Medieval SN6043423695 B Generic milestone

A milestone marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1887. Labelled as 'Carmarthen 13, Llandilo 2'. Not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

(<u>56362</u>) Roman road SN6034423719 U Generic

A section of the A40 passing through this farm holding, following the line of the supposed Roman road PRN 3419. This has now been discounted (Schlee, 2004)

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 that are in addition to and (in the case of conflict) take precedence over the generic requirements:

Site 1 on MAP 1

BRON-Y-BERLLAN (94340)

SN74636630

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

The stone building is completely roofless and a tree growing within the walls is causing damage to the structure. Ideally the building would be restored and made weathertight, preferably with a slate roof. Grant aid is available through Tir Gofal for the maintenance and repair of traditional buildings. Future maintenance should consider how best to keep the character of the farmstead group as a whole, rather than focusing on one particular building at the expense of the others.

Option 1: Repair

As a general rule remedial work should be guided by the need to ensure long-term survival, whilst maintaining the character of the building.

Re-roofing

- Although repair is always preferable to replacement, keeping as much of the original fabric of
 the building in place as possible, this option is unavailable as the roof has gone. It is likely to
 have originally been roofed with slates but such a replacement might prove prohibitively
 expensive given the scale of works that are required. An acceptable alternative is the use of
 galvanised corrugated-iron, now a recognised historic material in its own right.
- Replacing roof timbers: As a general rule, replacement features should be modelled on similar surviving examples. Where these do not exist the emphasis should be on matching details appropriate for the locality and buildings age.

Option 2: Preventative maintenance

The management aim is to prevent the progressive decay of the buildings.

- Consolidate areas of loose masonry using a traditional lime mortar mix, trying to follow the original mix and appearance as far as possible.
- Consider capping the wall tops of derelict and ruinous structures in order to prevent water from washing out lime mortar bonds and accelerating collapse.
- Consider cutting back vegetation on the walls, leaving the roots in situ. Spot treat to prevent re-growth.

 Monitor mature trees close to the building. Here, the tree growing within the walls needs to be removed as its branches are causing damage to the stonework.

Site 2 on MAP 1

BRON-Y-BERLLAN (41080)

SN74606628

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

The long farmbuilding (PRN 94340) is in a poor state of disrepair, with the roof collapsed and a mature tree growing within the walls, dislodging the masonry and making the structure somewhat unstable, suggesting that restoration would be prohibitively expensive. This report cannot advise whether the building is reparable but the current remains are now under threat.

The management aim within Tir Gofal is to prevent the progressive decay of the building. The farmbuilding is not only being damaged by the tree but also has vegetation growing on the walls.

Preventative maintenance

- Monitor mature trees close to the building and consider felling mature trees that are at risk of
 windthrow and remove branches that pose a threat from falling. The oak tree is damaging the
 building and ideally needs to be removed.
- Consider cutting back vegetation on the walls, leaving the roots in situ. Spot treat to prevent re-growth.
- Consolidate areas of loose masonry using a traditional lime mortar mix, trying to follow the original mix and appearance as far as possible.
- Consider capping the wall tops of derelict and ruinous structures in order to prevent water from washing out lime mortar bonds and accelerating collapse.

Site 3 on MAP 1

BRON-Y-BERLLAN (41081)

SN7463566275

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

Although the walls of the pigpen are in generally good condition, with the exception of the eastern side, the walls of the pig-house have tumbled and the roof has gone. Structural restoration and re-roofing of the building would therefore seem prohibitively expensive. The current ruins are now under threat from encroaching vegetation and some control of this would be advised. The remaining wall tops might also benefit from consolidation.

Preventative maintenance

- Monitor mature trees close to the building and consider felling mature trees that are at risk of
 windthrow and remove branches that pose a threat from falling. The oak tree is destroying the
 building and ideally needs to be removed.
- Consider cutting back vegetation on the walls, leaving the roots in situ. Spot treat to prevent re-growth.
- Consolidate areas of loose masonry using a traditional lime mortar mix, trying to follow the original mix and appearance as far as possible.
- Consider capping the wall tops of derelict and ruinous structures in order to prevent water from washing out lime mortar bonds and accelerating collapse.

Site 4 on MAP 1

PEN Y BANNAU CAMP (2040)

SN74206692

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

Pen-y-bennau Camp is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and, as such, possibly subject to specific recommendations from Cadw.

The management aim is to retain a low growing vegetation cover over and around the monument and the current farming techniques are ideally suited towards the management of the site.

Tir Gofal recommendations:

- No ground-breaking activities to be undertaken within the area of the monument or a ten metre buffer zone around the edge
- Do not place livestock feeders or mineral licks within the area of the monument.

Site 5 on MAP 1

BRON-Y-BERLLAN (94339)

SN74626630

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

The threshing barn is completely roofless and trees growing within the walls have dislodged masonry from the eastern sidewall. Ideally the barn would be restored and made weathertight, preferably with a slate roof. Grant aid is available through Tir Gofal for the maintenance and repair of traditional buildings. Future maintenance should consider how best to keep the character of the farmstead group as a whole, rather than focusing on one particular building at the expense of the others.

Option 1: Repair

As a general rule remedial work should be guided by the need to ensure long-term survival, whilst maintaining the character of the building.

Re-roofing

- Although repair is always preferable to replacement, keeping as much of the original fabric of the building in place as possible, this option is unavailable as the roof of the barn has gone. It is likely to have originally been roofed with grouted slates but such a replacement might prove prohibitively expensive given the scale of works that are required. An acceptable alternative is the use of galvanised corrugated-iron, now a recognised historic material in its own right.
- Replacing roof timbers: As a general rule, replacement features should be modelled on similar surviving examples. Where these do not exist the emphasis should be on matching details appropriate for the locality and buildings age.

Option 2: Preventative maintenance

The management aim is to prevent the progressive decay of the buildings.

- Consolidate areas of loose masonry using a traditional lime mortar mix, trying to follow the original mix and appearance as far as possible.
- Consider capping the wall tops of derelict and ruinous structures in order to prevent water from washing out lime mortar bonds and accelerating collapse.
- Consider cutting back vegetation on the walls, leaving the roots in situ. Spot treat to prevent re-growth.
- Monitor mature trees close to the building. Here, the trees growing within the walls need to be removed as their branches are causing damage to the stonework.

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/listi	ng Management required
BRON-Y-BERLLAN	Post-Medieval	SN7463566	310 B	Generic
(41079)	harn			

A two-storey lime-mortared stone building comprising a cart-shed, with dressed stone arches, and a hayloft accessed by external stone steps. The building was recorded during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008) as having undergone some restoration work. This includes a new roof of box-profile corrugated-iron, supported by a steel frame, and a modern door fitted into the hayloft entrance.



Looking north, cart-shed PRN 41079, with modern roof and looking west, showing hayloft entrance.

BRON-Y-BERLLAN Post-Medieval SN7464066278 B Generic (41082) Farmhouse

Farmhouse in an advanced state of decay, remains of roofing and internal structural material. Constructed of stone, with combination of lime mortar and earth bonding in the walls. Brick-built oven range. A range of outbuildings to the north and a small garden to the front.





Bron-y berllan farmhouse (PRN 41082) with cart-shed behind, looking northwest, and looking south, from the cart-shed.

DOLEBOLION (56351) Post-Medieval SN7365666420 B Generic farmstead

A small farmstead complex of loosely arranged farm buildings marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888, with a long farmbuilding attached to the probable farmhouse. Modern mapping and aerial

photographs suggest that the expansion and alteration of the farmstead since the end of the 19th century has removed most of these traditional buildings. The farmstead was not visited during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

LLWYN-Y-CELYN Post-Medieval SN6038323947 B LB2 Generic (56359) farmstead

A haphazard farmstead complex, marked on 19th century maps, that includes a Grade II listed building (LB 80853) consisting of an 18th century farmhouse with an attached cowhouse added after 1840. It was listed as a rare surviving small farmhouse of the type that characterised Carmarthenshire before the 19th century. A new farmhouse was built in 1936, since when the old house has not been inhabited. The farmstead was not visited during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (21/10/2008).

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 that 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.

iii) HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS:

There are no Historic Parks and Gardens in the Dvfed Archaeological Trust Historic

Environment Record for the application area

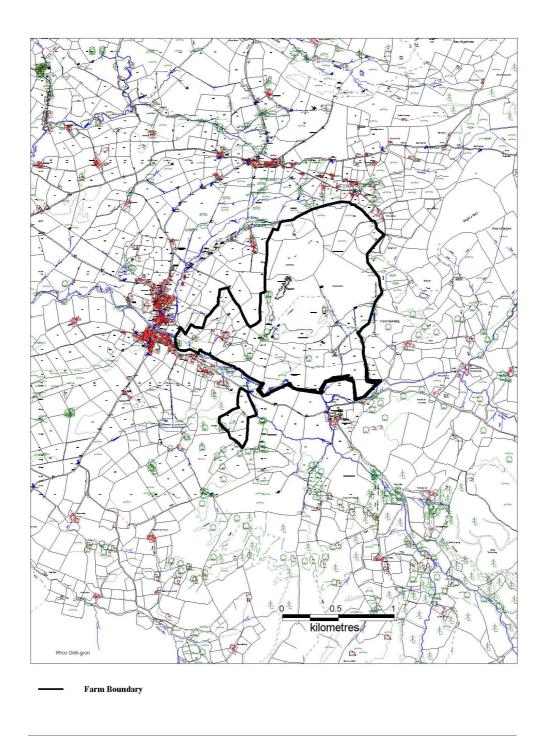


Fig 1: Location map for holding 'A'

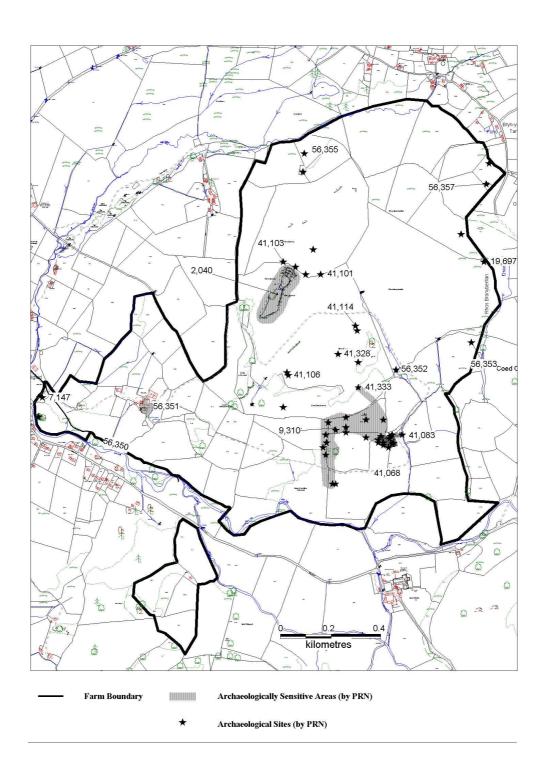


Fig 2: Holding 'A'

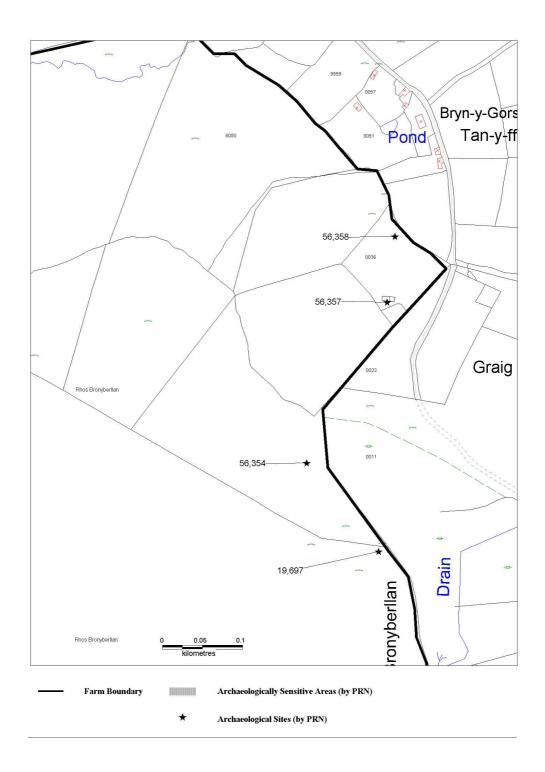


Fig 3: Map showing northeast area of holding 'A'

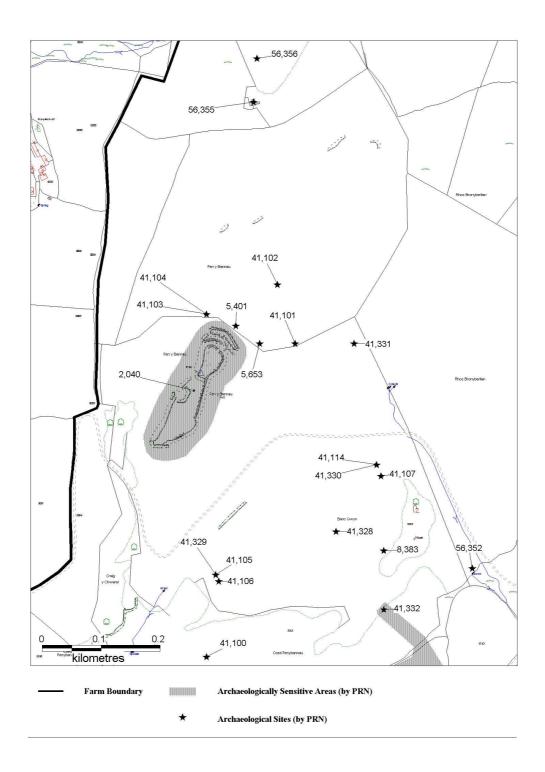


Fig 4: Map showing northwest area of holding 'A'

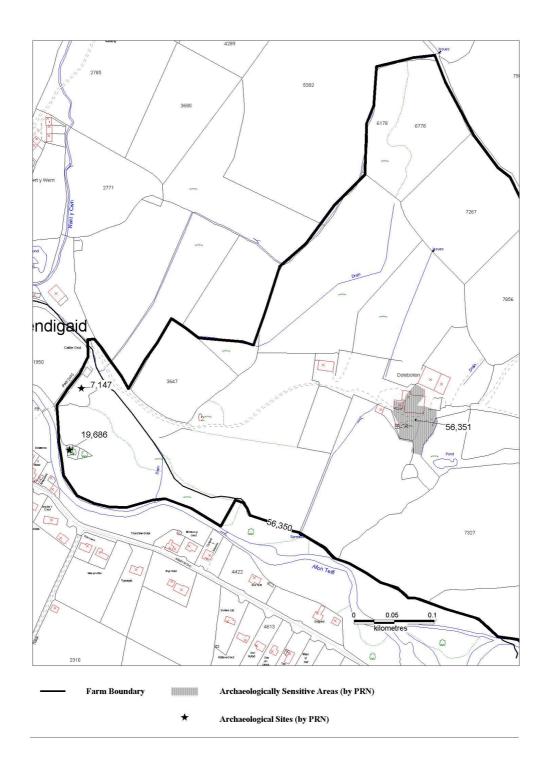


Fig 4: Map showing southwest area of holding 'A'

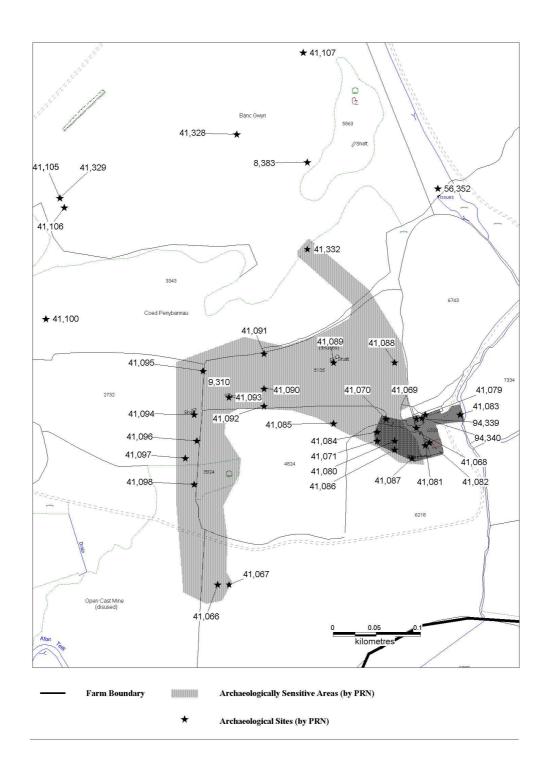


Fig 5: Map showing south area of holding 'A'

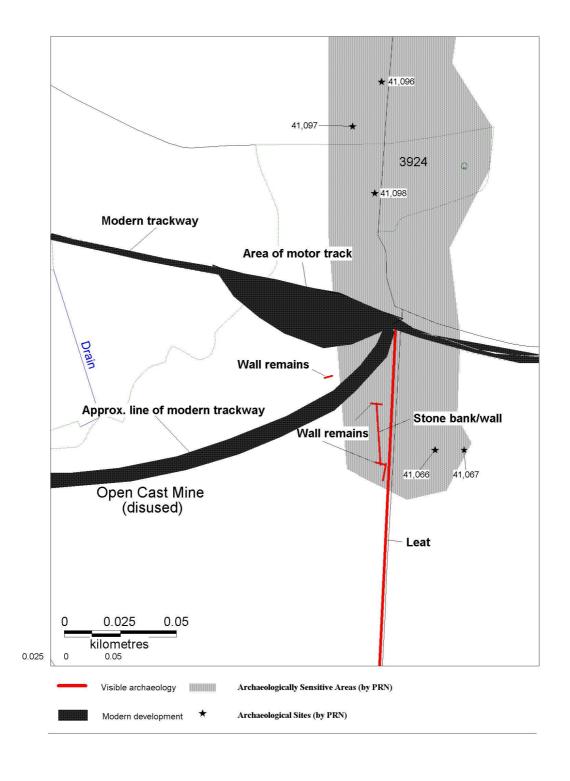


Fig 6: Map of mining area PRN 9310, showing location of remaining structures and extent of modern development.

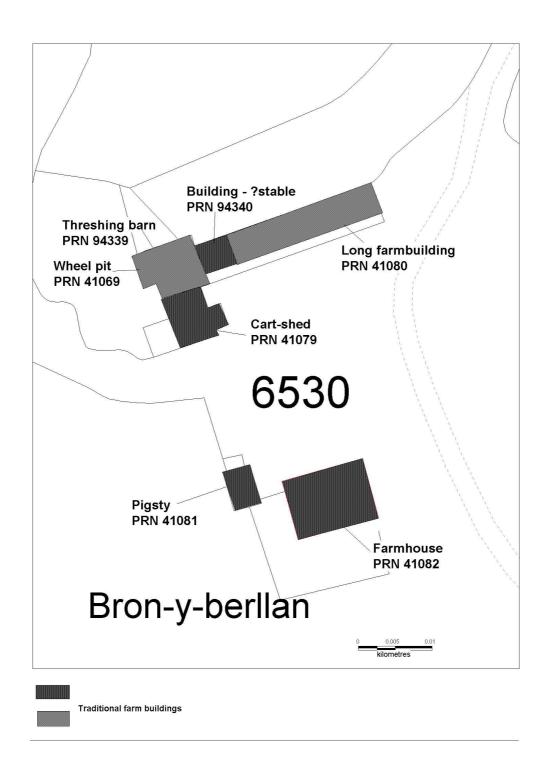


Fig 7: Map of Bron-y-berllan farmstead

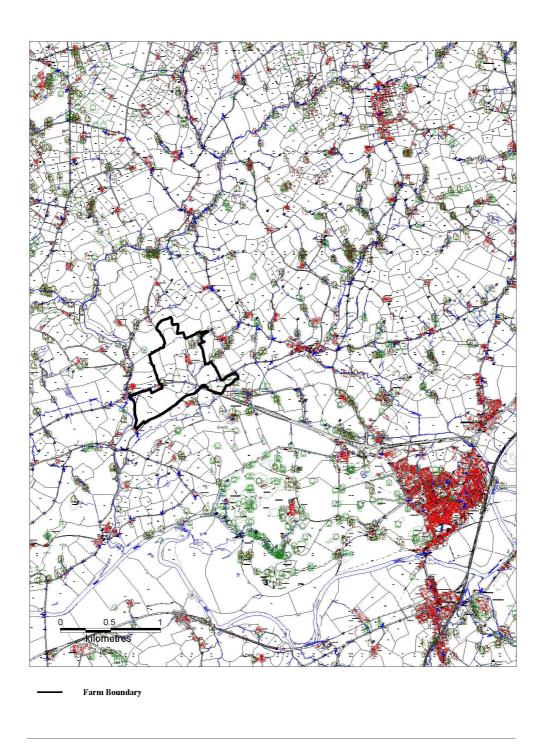


Fig 8: Map showing location of holding 'B'

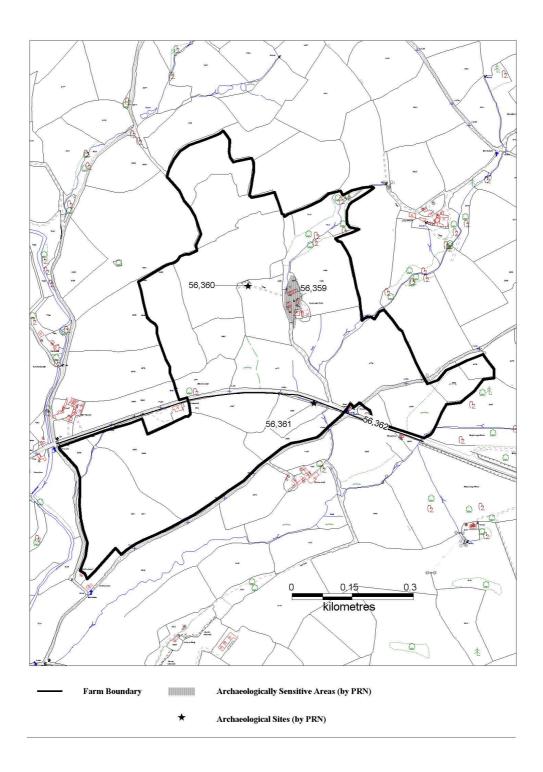


Fig 9: Map of holding 'B'

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This HE2 report supersedes the information given in the HE1 report for this farm.

Sources consulted:

Cadw. SAM file no. Cd109

Cadw. Listed Building Database

Historic Environment Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire

Murphy, K & Ludlow, N 2000 Carmarthenshire Historic Landscape Characterisation-Volume 1

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

Ordnance Survey 1834 Old Series 1" map, No.LVII

Ordnance Survey 1886/7 1st edition 1-2500 Carmarthenshire.XXXIII.10 & 11

Ordnance Survey 1906 2nd edition 1-2500 Carmarthenshire.XXXIII.10 & 11

Ordnance Survey 1888 1st edition 1-2500 Cardiganshire.XVI.15 & 16

Ordnance Survey 1905 2nd edition 1-2500 Cardiganshire.XVI.15 & 16

Ordnance Survey 1889 1st edition 1-2500 Cardiganshire.XXI.3 & 4

Ordnance Survey 1905 2nd edition 1-2500 Cardiganshire.XXI.3 & 4

RCAHMW. Coflein Online Database

Schlee, D., 2004, Roman Military Roads, Forts and Vici

LISTED BUILDING DESCRIPTION: LB 80853 LLWYN-Y-CELYN FARMHOUSE

Llwyncelyn Farm is shown on the 1839 Tithe map, but although the house is not shown, its character suggests that it is C18, with improvement by way of inserted sash windows in the second half of the C19. The cow house was also added after 1840 and is shown with the house on the 1887 Ordnance Survey. A new farmhouse was built in 1936, since when the old house has not been inhabited.

A 1-storey former house of limewashed rubble stone, and steeply pitched thatch roof (in poor condition and partly covered in corrugated iron sheets). A stack has been taken down from the L end, and a reduced stack survives to the R but obscured by vegetation. The 2 window front has a boarded door R of centre and is flanked by 4-pane horned sash windows, of which the L-hand has a brick jamb and sill, showing it to be an insertion. Attached to the L gable end, at a lower level where the ground falls, is a C19 cow house with stable of rubble stone and tile roof. Openings have stone cambered heads. A boarded door is R of centre, L of which is an added lean-to and a window inserted into a former doorway. On the R side is another window inserted in a former doorway further L, and a doorway at the R end.

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA DESCRIPTIONS

UPLAND CEREDIGION

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA:

23 FFAIR RHOS

GRID REFERENCE: SN 745678 **AREA IN HECTARES:** 165.5

Historic Background

Ffair Rhos lay within Strata Florida Abbey's Mefenydd Grange. It was granted a fair by the Abbey. Post-Dissolution, Ffair Rhos's fairs were the greatest in Ceredigion. Fair days were 25 July, 15 August and 14 September, and in James I's time were said to attract 5000-6000 people (Howells 1974/75, 270). Jones (1974, 17) states that one fair was still held in 1974. One of the attractions of the fairs was the transport links; Ffair Rhos is located at the junction of a major north-south route and an east-west route that passes over the mountains giving access to the towns of east Wales and England. The settlement pattern and land-use in the Medieval period is unknown. At the Dissolution of the Abbey its former lands were granted to the Earl of Essex, and in 1630 most were purchased by the Crosswood estate. A map drawn up for the Crosswood estate in 1815 (NLW Crosswood 347), which seems to have been for an enclosure act that was never awarded, shows a scatter of smallholdings across Ffair Rhos. No schedule accompanies the map, but it would seem that these were squatter settlements on common land, with perhaps some difference shown between those that had been established for 20 years or more, and so were to be granted legal title to the land, and those of less than 20 years. In the absence of an enclosure award, squatter settlement and small-scale enclosure seems to have continued apace in the first half of the 19th century, as the tithe map of 1847 (Gwnnws Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1847) records more cottages and smallholdings. Settlement reached its peak in the mid 19th-century. A chapel was constructed here in 1905 (Percival 1998, 523). It is now redundant. Many of the 19th century dwellings have been recently modernised, or are undergoing modernisation.

Description and essential historic landscape components

An upland valley or hollow between 240m to 400m centred on the hamlet of Ffair Rhos. Ffair Rhos is a small linear settlement on either side of a minor road. Dispersed over the landscape are numerous farmsteads, cottages and small-holdings. Land-use is rough pasture, tending towards ungrazed moor. Peaty deposits are common. Some improved pasture is present on lower ground towards the east end of the area. There are no significant stands of trees. The whole area has been parcelled up into an irregular field system. The boundaries to this system comprise earth banks or earth and stone banks. Hedges are not generally present except on the lower ground close to Ffair Rhos hamlet, but even here they are derelict and no longer stockproof. Wire fences now top most of the older bank boundaries, and some new wire boundaries have been created. Many of the older enclosures on the higher slopes no longer function and have been merged into larger units. Older buildings are of stone with slate roof; modern buildings are of rendered concrete with slate or concrete tiles. Williams (1990, 59) records a Medieval perimeter boundary to Ffair Rhos, but this has not been seen by the present author.

Apart from a minor metal mine and a redundant chapel, recorded archaeology comprises several deserted cottages.

The boundaries of this landscape area are not particularly well defined. To the north, east and west it fades into unenclosed moorland or land that has now mostly reverted to moor. To the west lies area 41:; land consisting of large enclosures of improved and unimproved ground.

Ground photographs: 15

Aerial Photographs: 10, 22, 23, 24, 27

UPLAND CEREDIGION

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 31 RHOS BRYNBERLLAN

GRID REFERENCE: SN 745668 AREA IN HECTARES: 75.9

Historic Background

This area probably formed part of Strata Florida Abbey's demesne. This was acquired in 1567 by John Stedman, and remained in the Stedman family until 1746, when Richard Stedman died intestate. The estate then passed to the Powell family of Nanteos. It is likely that this area was open sheep-walk throughout the Medieval Period down to modern times. The earliest large scale maps of the area, a 1819 estate map and the tithe map (NLW Vol 45, 73; Gwnnws Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1847), show the area as sheep-walk fringed with woodland on the south and southwest sides (roughly the same as the present woodland extent). It is only recently that subdivision seems to have occurred.

Description and essential historic landscape components

A steep-sided and craggy hill to the east of Pontrhydfendigiad ranging in height from 250m to 350m. Some low earth banks are present on the lower slopes, though these are no longer a barrier to stock except where reinforced with a wire fence. Wire fences are also present on higher ground; these subdivide the area into a series of large enclosures. None of these boundaries however detract from the unenclosed appearance of this area. Land-use is mostly of improved pasture with rougher ground on steeper slopes. The southern slopes of the hill are clothed with ancient broadleaf woodlands.

As well as several earthworks of undefined age and character, the recorded archaeology includes the major Iron Age hillfort of Pen y Bannau.

This area is well defined by field systems of small enclosures to the south, west and north (areas 23, 118). To the east there is less good definition between this area and the block of large enclosures of area 35.

Ground photographs: 15, 23

Aerial Photographs: 9, 10, 11

UPLAND CEREDIGION

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 37 PANTYFEDWEN/CROFFTAU

GRID REFERENCE: SN 745648 **AREA IN HECTARES:** 325.6

Historic Background

In the Medieval Period this area formed part of Strata Florida Abbey's Pennardd Grange. At the dissolution the Earl of Essex was granted abbey lands, the greater portion of which was purchased by the Crosswood estate in 1630. This area, however, seems to have lain within the abbey demesne and was acquired by John Stedman in 1567. On the death of Richard Stedman in 1746, who died intestate, the land passed to the Nanteos estate. It is likely that the settlement pattern of scattered farms dates to the Medieval Period and was developed and supported by later estate owners. Estate maps of the Nanteos estate of 1819 (NLW Vol 45, 59, 64, 65), demonstrate that this area has changed considerably in the past two centuries. Woodland areas have remained fairly constant, but the field systems have altered and developed while the number of settlements has decreased. Talwrn, Crofftau and two further abandoned farms near Crofftau were shown in 1819 as farmsteads surrounded by a few small enclosures set in unenclosed sheep-walk or sheep pasture. Some new enclosures had been created by the time of the tithe survey (Caron Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1845), but the majority of enclosures in this area were laid out post 1845. Dereliction of some landscape components has occurred; former small enclosures around the two deserted farms have reverted to large enclosures and some areas of former enclosure have been planted with conifers.

Description and essential historic landscape components

A heavily wooded area on a north-facing valley side of the upper Teifi valley and minor valleys of north-flowing tributary streams. The area varies in height from 190m towards the floor of the Teifi valley to 350m at its southern limits. Some of the slopes are steep and craggy. It encompasses a variety of landscape types including field systems of small to large enclosures, unenclosed land, deciduous woodland and conifer plantation. The settlement pattern is one of dispersed farms around which are

systems of small fields with larger enclosures and small blocks of unenclosed land further out. The type of field boundary varies considerably; dry-stone walls are generally found at higher levels and earth banks and stone-faced earth banks on the lower slopes, though there is much intermixing of type. Hedges are present on some of the banks, particularly on the lower slopes, but these are now mostly derelict. Wire fences supplement these historic boundaries. Improved grazing lies within the fields. Interspersed amongst the woodland on the steeper slopes is rougher ground, with occasional patches of bracken. Older traditional buildings are of stone with slate roofs. Recent buildings are of rendered concrete with slate or concrete tiles. Large tracts of intermixed deciduous and conifer woodland lie on the north-facing slopes above Strata Florida Abbey.

Apart from the cottages mentioned above, recorded archaeology consists of the remains of a post-Medieval metal mine, a Bronze Age round barrow and a possible Bronze Age standing stone.

To the south this area is bounded by a large tract of forestry plantation (area 3). To the north and west the area's borders are less well defined. Here this area merges with the enclosed land of areas 27, 30 and 118.

Ground photograph: 25

Aerial Photographs: 1, 12, 13 **UPLAND CEREDIGION**

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 118 YSTRAD FFLUR

GRID REFERENCE: SN 746664 **AREA IN HECTARES:** 334.8

Historic Background

Strata Florida Abbey which is located in this area was founded in 1164. The foundation is attributed to Robert Fitz Stephen, but Lord Rhys ap Gruffydd took over the foundation, and it is to him that the first building in 1184 is recorded (Radford; Cadw 1992). The Abbey became a centre of Welsh culture and influence, and attracted many land grants which were to compose its granges. Land within this landscape area lay within the Pennardd Grange and Mefynydd Grange, perhaps as part of the abbey demesne. It is likely that by the end of the Medieval Period, if not earlier, abbey granges and demesne were divided into farms which were leased out on a commercial basis. This may have been the origin of the settlement pattern we see today. The granges were granted to the Earl of Essex on the dissolution, who sold them to the Crosswood estate in 1630. Abbey demesne was acquired by John Stedman in 1567. He built Abbey Farm mansion adjacent to the abbey. The present house dates mainly to the late 17th-century, and is largely unchanged since the 1740s (Smith 1998, 270). However, Richard Stedman died intestate in 1746 and the estate passed to the Powells of Nanteos. Nanteos had considerable holdings here in the 19th century. A church to serve the local community was constructed on the north side of the abbey ruins in the 17th century. Later history of the area is unresearched, however, historic maps including the tithe maps (Caron Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1845; Gwnnws Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1847) and late 18th-century estate maps (NLW Crosswood Vol 1, 66; NLW 45; 59, 62, 63, 71, 72), demonstrate that this area had achieved much of its present character (field systems, settlement pattern, lead mines) by then. Abbey Consols metal mine was most active in the mid to late 19th-century.

Description and essential historic landscape components

This area consists of the valley floor of the Teifi to the east of Pontrhydfendigiad and the lower slopes of the valley side. It ranges in height from 180m on the valley floor to almost 300m at its northern end, where it climbs the valley side to include Pen-y-wern hir Farm. It is a landscape of small, irregular enclosures and scattered farms. Boundaries to the enclosures consist of earth banks with occasional stone-faced banks. Hedges on top of these banks are in fair to good condition, though off the valley floor they are becoming derelict. Most hedges are supplemented with wire fences. Occasionally a hedge supports distinctive hedgerow trees. Strata Florida Abbey has a concentration of dry-stone wall boundaries around it. There are some small stands of deciduous woodland. Improved grazing is the dominant landuse, with some pockets of rougher grazing on the valley floor. The ruins of Strata Florida

Abbey, the post-Medieval Church and Great Abbey Farm mansion and associated outbuildings provide a dramatic focus to this landscape. Other buildings are stone-built with slate roofs, modern buildings are of rendered concrete with slate or concrete tile roofs. The stone buildings and spoil heaps of old lead mines provide a distinctive landscape component to this area.

Recorded archaeology of this area is clearly focused on the abbey and its immediate environs. Greater time depth to the landscape is provided by a Roman coin hoard, a Dark Age inscribed stone, and reference to a Medieval mill site.

To the north unenclosed land (areas 31) and large enclosures (area 35) provide a sharp border with this landscape area. Enclosed land (areas 30, 37) to the south provides a less clear border - here there is a merging of landscape areas. To the west lies the village of Pontrhydfendigaid (area 32).

Ground photographs: 23, 115

Aerial photographs: 9, 10, 11, 12, 20

CARMARTHENSHIRE: TYWI VALLEY

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 191 NANTGAREDIG - DERWEN FAWR

GRID REFERENCE: SN 535233 AREA IN HECTARES: 2789.00

Historic Background

This is a very large character area lying on the northern side of the Tywi valley and stretching from Nantgaredig in the west to beyond Llandeilo in the east. The valley was the major historic route corridor into West Wales and the Roman road from Carmarthen to Llandovery followed the interface between the alluvium and the solid geology on the north side of the Tywi, whose course is now moreor-less followed by the modern A40(T). 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 but this northern margin 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, furthermore, may have been of relatively late date, the majority of the fields being medium-sized and regular. Llanegwad is the only early nucleation within the area. It may represent a pre-Conquest church and settlement with a radial system of boundaries possibly perpetuating an infield-outfield system (Sambrook 1995, 59). It is the site of a parish church, a motte and later - under the patronage of the Bishops of St Davids - a small borough, now a village. To the north at Allt-y-ferin is a second motte which belonged to the Lordship of Carmarthen to the east (Area 183), and may be the site of the 'Dinweilir' taken by the Welsh and recaptured in 1159 (Jones 1952, 61). It was associated with a former chapel. The remainder of the area is divided between the parishes of Llangathen and Llandeilo Fawr. At the confluence of the rivers Cothi and Tywi lay the core of Maenor Brunus, mentioned in the 12th century Llandaff Charters but probably pre-Conquest in origin (Richards 1974, 119), with a chapel at Llandeilo Rwnws on the banks of the Tywi and another near Pontargothi. The significance of the location was such that it was named (as 'Ystrad Brwnws') as the site of a battle between the Normans and the Welsh in 1116 (ibid.); the use of the Tywi Valley as a routeway led to its being the site of a further battle, near Derwen Fawr, in 1257 (Rees 1932). Maenor Brwnws was granted, at an unknown date but probably during the late 12th century, to the Premonstratensians at Talley (ibid.). The post-dissolution grange was represented by the gentry houses of Wythfawr and Ystradwrallt, which had been established by the 1540s (Jones 1987, 199); the latter may retain the 'Ystrad' element from Ystrad Brwnws. Penllwynau also lay in Llandeilo Rwnws estate and was later a gentry home (Jones 1987, 150). Cilsaen near Llangathen is a late Medieval house that became part of the Golden Grove estate in the 17th century (Jones 1987, 32) but its origins are earlier, being associated with the later princes of Deheubarth and termed 'manor' in early Post-Medieval documentation. Court Henry has 16th century origins and is associated with a small area of 19th century parkland and a de novo 19th century church (Lloyd 1991, 37-46), while a

second area of parkland at Allt-y-ferin is contemporary with the house of 1869 (Jones 1987, 6). The establishment of modern communications also influenced the settlement pattern. A turnpike, established in 1763-71 (Lewis, 1971, 43) more-or-less followed the line of the Roman road. The straight courses through Pontargothi and Derwen Fawr were however constructed under Thomas Telford in the 1820s (Carms Record office, Cawdor Maps 172) with the subsequent development of the two villages, and Felindre. The area is also crossed by the former LNWR main West Wales railway line which was opened, as the 'Vale of Towy Line', by the Llanelly Railway and Dock Company in 1858 (Gabb, 1977, 76). The present settlement of Nantgaredig is entirely modern and developed around the railway station.

Description and essential historic landscape components

A very large character area on the north side of the Tywi Valley and including part of the lower Cothi valley. It rises from the flood plain of the Tywi at 20 m OD in a series of low rounded hills that achieve a maximum height of over 120 m. The whole area is enclosed by medium-sized fields which are under pasture, nearly all of which is improved - there is very little rough or rushy ground. The fields are divided by earth banks topped with hedges. Hedges are generally well maintained and in good condition. Many possess distinctive trees. There are numerous small stands of deciduous woodland, particularly on steep valley sides where it may be ancient, with conifer plantations on the very steep valley sides of the Cothi. Dispersed farms provide the dominant settlement pattern. Older survivors, such as Llethr Cadfan provide time-depth to the settlement pattern not readily obvious in the extant buildings. Superimposed on to this ancient pattern of dispersed farms is a more recent nucleated settlement pattern. Llanegwad village has Medieval origins but surviving buildings indicate that its development belongs to the 18th- and 19th-century, with rapid expansion in the 20th-century. Felindre is a loose cluster of 19th- and 20th-century dwellings, but other nucleated, clustered and linear villages such as Nantgaredig, Pontargothi and Derwen Fawr, while having a small core of 19th-century buildings, are now essentially late 20th-century developments. The area has, like much of the Tywi Valley, a parkland feel and small areas of 19th century emparking surround Allt-y-ferin House and Court Henry. The low accessible hills to the north of the flood plain allowed for the development of an important east-west routeway along the Tywi valley, from the Roman to the modern period, represented by the present A40(T). The modern settlements described above, except for Nantgaredig which developed around a railway station, tend to be located along this road.

The recorded archaeology of such a large landscape area includes a range of sites from all periods. The majority of archaeological features relate to agricultural land-use but there are also two motte castles, of which Allt-y-ferin was added to an Iron Age inland promontory fort, Bronze Age standing stones and a henge monument at Nantgaredig.

The parish church of Llanegwad was rebuilt in the 1840s and like the 19th century church at Court Henry is unlisted. The Grade II listed Llethr Cadfan farmhouse and its Grade II* listed granary are both 17th century, and the early 19th-century Llwynhelig House and stable-block are also both Grade II listed. The area otherwise has a relative lack of distinctive buildings but the largely 18th- and 19th-century Court Henry, which is Grade II* listed, preserves an earlier core and the home farm has good quality masonry buildings. Farmhouses are generally of 18th- and 19th-century date, stone built with slate roofs. Most are of two storeys and three bays, in the Georgian tradition, but larger examples are present. Associated with the larger farmhouses are large assemblages of farm buildings, these are often arranged in a semi-formal basis reflecting the higher status of the holdings. Farmhouses in the vernacular tradition are present, but in a lesser number that those in a polite style. Smaller farmhouses and those in the vernacular tradition tend to have a more limited and smaller collection of farm buildings, often compacted into a single range.

The boundaries of this area are not clear cut as most of the neighbouring areas share similar historic landscape components. Part of the boundary to the south lies against the flood plain of the Tywi (Area 182), Dinefwr Park (Area 195) and Llandeilo town (Area 202); these provide reasonably clear definition. Elsewhere to the south, and to the west and east there is no hard-edged border between this area and Areas 183, 192 and 201, but rather a zone of change.

Conservation priorities

Most of the historic landscape components in this character area are in a good state of preservation. However, some consideration should be given to the maintenance of hedgerows and to the management of old deciduous woodland. 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. Llanegwad village is a proposed Conservation Area. Development here should respect this proposal.

Ground photograph: 57 **Aerial photographs:** 35, 37