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

**Prepared for:  
Plaspaun**

**Tir Gofal Reference No  
W/12/5772**

**ACA Report No. 2006/50  
Project Record No. 55990**

**Prepared by  
Alice Pyper**

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# **A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES**

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 Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content**

### **HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER**

Plaspaun Farm consists of two holdings which fall within the communities of Meidrim to the south and Trelech to the north. The larger holding, in which the farmstead of Plaspaun lies, occupies a minor river valley; a tributary of the Afon Dewi Fawr. The smaller holding lies to the southeast in the Afon Dewi Fawr valley itself. The landscape is one of steep sided valleys dotted with pockets of woodland opening up onto exposed hill tops. There is a field pattern of irregular small fields in the lower regions, with a more regular pattern on the higher ground. This pattern was established in the late 19th century and is recorded on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey. Although largely unchanged since then, some field boundaries appear to have been lost on the high ground.

### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC CONTENT**

Although no prehistoric archaeology has been recorded within the holding itself there is evidence of Iron Age activity in the area testified by the promontory fort which lies on the hilltop above holding W/12/5772/b. In addition, a sub-rectangular cropmark has been recorded to the south of the trackway to Plaspaun farm (PRN 11319). This may be evidence of prehistoric occupation, however the farm visit revealed no further information about the nature of this feature, nothing is visible on the ground surface, so for the time being it will remain an enigma.

The other recorded sites on the farm holdings are settlement related; there is the farmstead itself of Plaspaun (PRN 55913) and the remains of cottages; PRNs 56201, 55917.

### **KEY OBJECTIVE**

The key management objective for the historic environment of this farm is the preservation of the cropmark site PRN 11319. In addition landscape features such as field boundaries and traditional buildings should be maintained using materials and techniques appropriate to the locality.

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## B2) HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FEATURES

All known historic environment features are marked on Map 1 of this agreement

These are divided into three types:

- i) Archaeological and Historic Features: Archaeological sites, earthwork monuments, ruined structures and individual historic garden features.
- ii) Traditional Buildings: Structures built before 1918 using traditional materials and methods of construction.
- iii) Historic Parks and Gardens: Discrete areas of land laid out in an ornamental way for the pleasure of the owner.

All historic environment features have been allocated categories of importance:

Site Status A: Sites and Monuments of National Importance.

Site Status B: Sites/Features of Regional Importance.

Site Status C: Sites/Features of Local Importance.

Site Status D: Minor and damaged sites.

Site Status U: Sites requiring further investigation.

### **General requirements**

Historic earthworks, stone structures, archaeological sites, traditional buildings, parks and gardens must all be retained and protected against damage. The management of these features must comply with the following general requirements.

- Do not remove any material from archaeological sites or historic features, or deposit spoil, farm waste or rubbish.
- Ensure contractors and all other workers on the farm are aware of the historic environment features and comply with the requirements of this agreement. They should take appropriate measures to avoid accidental damage.
- Do not carry out any excavation, erect any new structure or plant any trees without the prior approval of the Project Officer.
- Do not site new fencing or vehicular tracks on archaeological or historic sites without the prior approval of the Project Officer.
- Ensure that the use of metal detectors and the reporting of discoveries complies with the Treasure Act 1996 and associated codes of practice. The Portable Antiquities Scheme website (<http://www.finds.org.uk>) provides valuable guidance and information.
- Please report all discoveries of archaeological interest to Cambria Archaeology (01558 823131). This enables them to maintain an up-to-date record of archaeological discoveries.

**"Scheduled" Ancient Monuments (SAMs) have statutory protection and consent from Cadw may be required for works to these monuments. Consult the Project Officer for advice.**

**"Listed Buildings" also have statutory protection and permission from the Local Planning Authority may be required for some works. This also applies to**

**buildings within the curtilage of a listed building. Consult the Project Officer for Advice**

In addition to these general requirements you must comply with the specific sets of prescriptions set out below:

## **i) ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC FEATURES:**

**Archaeological sites, earthwork monuments, ruined structures and individual historic garden features.**

### **Location and description:**

A search of the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) held by the Cambria Archaeology has identified the following sites and monuments which are indicated on Map 1.

Other sites may be known to the landowner and these should be identified to the Project Officer who will pass the information to Cambria Archaeology.

	<b>Name (&amp; PRN)</b>	<b>Period/Site type</b>	<b>NGR</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>SAM/listing</b>	<b>Management required</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>PANT Y FFYNNON (11319)</b>	<b>Unknown enclosure?</b>	<b>SN28912335</b>	<b>U</b>		<b>Specific</b>
<p>A subrectangular cropmark, c.50m x 55m, immediately to the south of the trackway from Pant-y-ffynnon to Plas-poinau has been identified from aerial photographs taken in 1955. The aerial photographs show an enclosure which may be the relic remains of an Iron Age settlement. When visited in 2006 there were no visible remains on the ground. The farmer has no knowledge of the site. This field has been cultivated for many years with crops including root crops and maize and the farmer has never noticed anything unusual in this area. At the time of the farm visit the field had been reseeded in the previous autumn, no earthworks were visible and stone fragments appear scattered across the ground, but in no discernable concentrations. Visited 10/03/2006 (Alice Pyper)</p>						
						
<p><i>The site of the cropmark has been regularly cultivated and recently reseeded. There is no visible evidence of this feature on the ground surface.</i></p>						
<b>3</b>	<b>(56203)</b>	<b>Post Medieval trackway</b>	<b>SN2991123356</b>	<b>C</b>		<b>Specific</b>

A trackway recorded on the Tithe Map of Meidrim Parish 1844. Trackway still in use and lined either side with hedges. At the hairpin bend a quarry has been cut into the hillslope and is currently used as a feeding station. *Visited 10/03/2006 (Alice Pyper)*

**PLASPAUN; PLAS-  
POENAU (55913)**      **Post Medieval  
farmstead**      **SN2925923397 B**      **Generic**

The farmstead of Plas-Poenau is recorded on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889 (Carms sheet 30.14). Although now enlarged the basic layout of the farmstead appears little changed on 2005 mapping.

Historically the farmstead was composed of two opposing ranges, almost parallel to each other. The northern range occupying the higher ground is now two adjoining farmhouses, the western house is a later 19th century rebuild. That to the east has been modernised. At the eastern end of the range is a two storey stable block, with a central doorway and flanking windows to either side and three openings above. The upper floor is accessed by external steps at the eastern gable. The roof is slated and the external walls rendered. Although in a fair condition at present, this building is in need of some repair. The scheme would present a welcome opportunity to undertake some remedial work, which would put the building in good order for the foreseeable future.

The opposing, southern range consists of a brick built range which would appear to be a later build, probably early 20th century, although it probably replaced an earlier building shown on the 1st edition. At the western end is a stone faced rendered building with a granary accessed by external steps at the gable.

The farmer recalls a wheel pit formerly located to the south of this range, although this has been obscured with the erection of a larger shed to the south of the building. *Visited 10/03/2006 (Alice Pyper)*

**(55917)**      **Post Medieval  
cottage**      **SN3022022812 B**      **Generic**

A roadside cottage within an enclosure is recorded on the 1889 1st edition Ordnance Survey map (Carms sheet 30.14). There are little upstanding remains of this cottage, a section of walling no greater than 0.5 metre high is visible within the roadside enclosure which now forms part of the garden of Cenllaith cottage. *Visited 10/03/2006 (Alice Pyper)*

**(56200)**      **Post Medieval  
pond**      **SN2916523390 C**      **Generic**

A subrectangular shaped pond, shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889 (Carms sheet 30.14). Large earth banks survive on the south and east sides. The pond is heavily silted up and trees (mostly alder) have colonised the interior while brambles have colonised the southern banks. There is little standing water but water flows through it. The pond is thought to have been a holding pond to supply the water wheel in the farmstead. No trace of a leat or pipe is visible although the farmer has come across a subsurface pipe may have supplied water to the wheel whilst carrying out works to the west of the farmyard. *Visited 10/03/2006 (Alice Pyper)*



*The pond has largely silted up so there is no standing water and has become populated with trees.*

**(56201)**      **Post Medieval  
cottage**      **SN2990923441 B**      **Generic**



A 'Cottage & Garden' is recorded in 1844 on the Tithe for Meidrim Parish in a parcel of land which was belonging to 'Pandy Mill'. There are no upstanding remains of the cottage which was orientated N-S, however there is a levelling out of the slope c 8m wide (E-W) near the field gate. *Visited 10/03/2006 (Alice Pyper)*



*A slight depression at the foot of the slope is the only visible evidence of the cottage which was recorded on the Tithe map*

(56202)

**Post Medieval  
linear earthwork**

**SN2997123493 C**

**Generic**

A linear earthwork channel c 1.5 m wide running E-W parallel with the stream, evidence of stone rubble lining on S side. Low bank of earth on N side. Relic field boundary? Drainage channel? *Visited 10/03/2006 (Alice Pyper)*



*A linear depression running across the field, is of unknown function, but may be a drainage channel*

## **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**

**PANT Y FFYNNON (11319)**

**SN28912335**

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

Future management of this site should endeavour to reduce the impact of agricultural practices on this site. Although there is no visible evidence of the site at ground level, it is likely that subsurface archaeological deposits still survive. Ploughing operations undoubtedly erode subsurface archaeological deposits, so ideally further cultivation on the site should cease.

#### **Site 3 on MAP 1**

**(56203)**

**SN2991123356**

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

Any further quarrying should endeavour not to damage the trackway or the hedges to either side.

## 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	<b>PLASPAUN; PLAS-POENAU</b> ( <a href="#">55913</a> )	<b>Post Medieval farmstead</b>	<b>SN2925923397</b>	<b>B</b>		<b>Specific</b>

The farmstead of Plas-Poenau is recorded on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889 (Carms sheet 30.14). Although now enlarged the basic layout of the farmstead appears little changed on 2005 mapping.

Historically the farmstead was composed of two opposing ranges, almost parallel to each other. The northern range occupying the higher ground is now two adjoining farmhouses, the western house is a later 19th century rebuild. That to the east has been modernised. At the eastern end of the range is a two storey stable block, with a central doorway and flanking windows to either side and three openings above. The upper floor is accessed by external steps at the eastern gable. The roof is slated and the external walls rendered. Although in a fair condition at present, this building is in need of some repair. The scheme would present a welcome opportunity to undertake some remedial work, which would put the building in good order for the foreseeable future.



*The stable range at Plaspaun*

The opposing, southern range consists of a brick built range which would appear to be a later build, probably early 20th century, although it probably replaced an earlier building shown on the 1st edition. At the western end is a stone faced rendered building with a granary accessed by external steps at the gable.





*The southern range of buildings at Plaspaun, right of these buildings was a waterwheel, now dismantled*

The farmer recalls a wheel pit formerly located to the south of this range, although this has been obscured with the erection of a larger shed to the south of the building. *Visited 10/03/2006 (Alice Pyper)*

**CENLLAITH (22479)**

**Post Medieval  
cottage**

**SN30212275 B**

**Generic**

Cottage is recorded on both the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps (1889, 1906). At some point subsequent to the publication of the 2nd edition however, the cottage was abandoned in favour of a new house built to north. The cottage remains now fall within the garden of the new house. *Visited 10/03/2006 (Alice Pyper)*

**SOAR (55914)**

**Post Medieval  
cottage**

**SN3018522786 B**

**Generic**

A single building is shown located by the roadside on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889 (Carms sheet 30.14). This building is stone built with ceramic tile roof with a single doorway on the southeastern elevation. Currently used as an outbuilding of Cenllaith cottage. *Visited 10/03/2006 (Alice Pyper)*



*The building named 'Soar' on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map is currently used as an outbuilding to the cottage at Cenllaith.*

## **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**

**PLASPAUN; PLAS-POENAU (55913)**

**SN2925923397**

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

Although the stable is in a reasonable condition at present, it is in need of some repair. The scheme would present a welcome opportunity to undertake some remedial work, which would put the building in good order for the foreseeable future.

### **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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*AP - 11/04/2006 ( 15:32:02 ) - HTML file produced for Tir Gofal HE2 report, Cambria Archaeology Project record number 55990.*

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

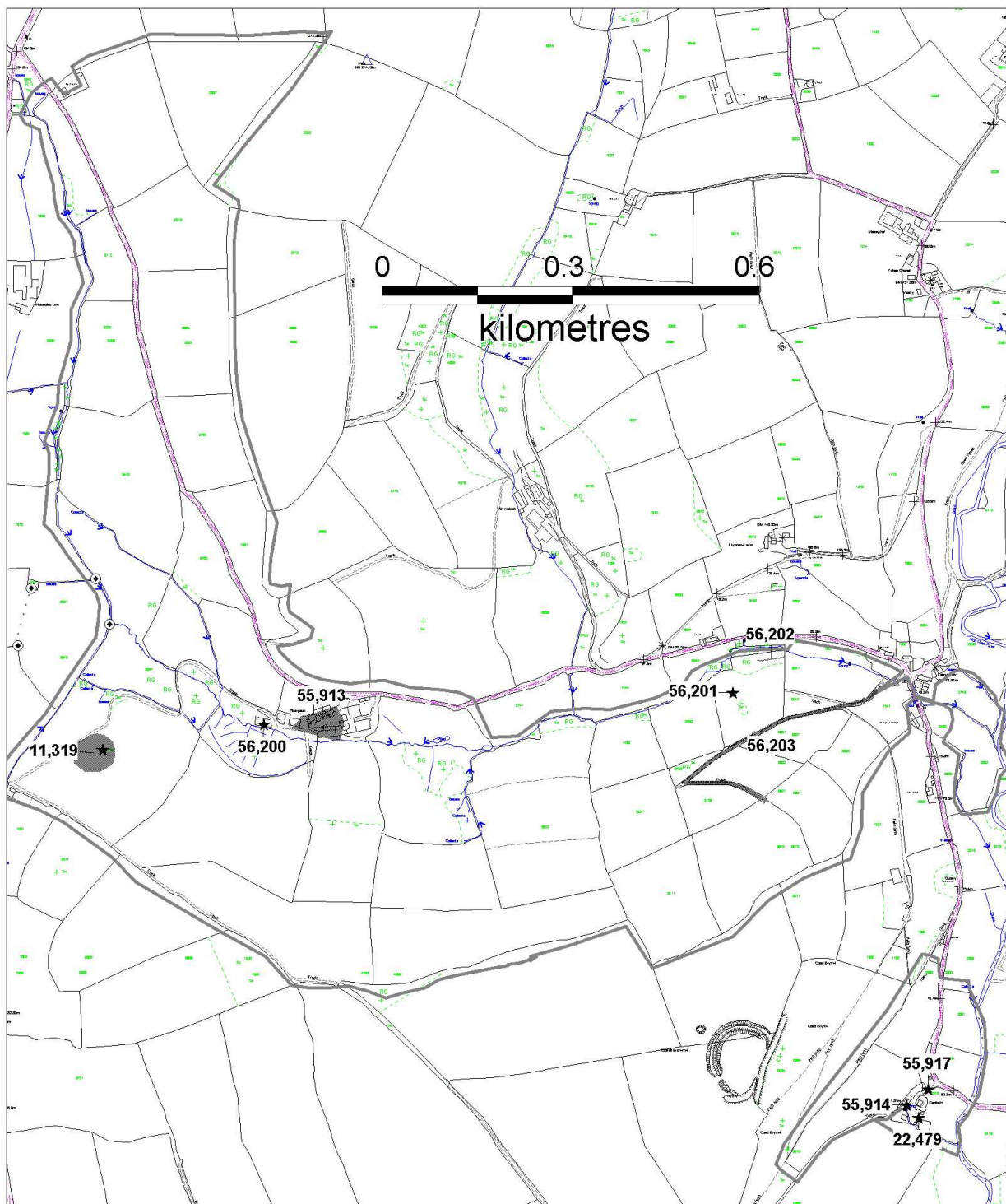
***Sources consulted:***

**Historic Environment Record**

**Ordnance Survey 1889. 1st edition 1:2500. Carmarthenshire sheet 30.14**

**Tithe Map 1844 Meidrim Parish.**

**Tithe Apportionment 1841 Meidrim Parish.**



Farm Boundary
  Archaeologically Sensitive Areas (by PRN)
   
 Archaeological Sites (by PRN)

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