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**TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN:
HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION
(Call Out)**

**Prepared for:
Pen-y-banc
Tir Gofal Reference No: W/12/6395**



The entrance to Pen-y-banc farmstead.

Project Record Number: 56736

**Prepared by
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Introduction

The farm was visited in March 2008 at the request of the Tir Gofal Project Officer to address specific management issues on this farm. In particular:

- The restoration of parkland associated with the 19th century and earlier mansions of Dolgarreg.
- The restoration of some traditional buildings within the farmstead (re-roofing, door restoration).

The aim of this report is to make an assessment of these issues in order to provide management recommendations to be incorporated into the Tir Gofal Management Plan. This report is not intended to assess the structural condition or stability of any given site.

1. Recommendations for parkland restoration through the Tir Gofal scheme

Description

Penybanc today incorporates some of the former lands of Dolgarreg, including much of its parkland.

The grounds as depicted on the tithe (1840) and Ordnance Survey maps (1887) comprising open grassland punctuated by scattered individual trees and occasional clumps. Mixed plantations shroud the house and wooded slopes behind, providing a wooded backdrop.

The area retains a parkland feel today with its open character largely intact and a few individual native and exotic parkland trees remaining. It is noticeable however that a number of trees have been lost, whilst others may be reaching the end of their natural lives.

Future management should address how best to maintain the historic configuration and visual character of the parkland. The applicant has agreed to carry out parkland restoration in several of the fields which fringe the main drive (Ids. 2014, 2017, 2053, 2054 on Ordnance Survey 1st edition).

Tir Gofal management recommendations:

1. Take care to maintain open vistas within the parkland. Do not plant new hedgerows along fence lines within the parkland.
2. Plant replacement parkland trees.
 - The 25 inch 1st edition Ordnance Survey map is most appropriate and accurate map to be used as the baseline for any future restoration of the parkland. Positions of parkland trees should follow as closely as possible the planting scheme represented on it (Ordnance Survey 1887).
 - Tree species should be based on the evidence of species represented in the parkland. No one species should dominate.
 - It may be possible to provide further advice on appropriate tree species following consultation with the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust or other parks and garden specialists at a later date.



Facing east across the parkland. A few of the original historic plantings remain.

2. Recommendations for traditional building restoration through the Tir Gofal scheme.

Description

The farmstead of Pen-y-banc is centred on NGR SN73953174, situated in a sheltered location on the south side of the Tywi Valley. Its precise origins are uncertain although it is named by the time the Ordnance Surveyors Drawings were published (1805-12), and recorded on the tithe map (1838), though not in sufficient detail to clarify its early development. What is certain however is that the present layout was already established when the Ordnance Survey 1st edition was published in 1887 when a number of buildings are shown loosely based around a central L-plan arrangement with the east end of the yard left open.

The farmstead is a typical example of a medium sized mixed farm of the Tywi Valley and retains good historic character. Buildings are of stone and slate construction, often with whitewashed walls. Doors and widow openings generally have stone heads or wooden lintels with doors painted black, or later pitched. The buildings within the group are generally well maintained and in a weatherproof condition.

On the north side, enclosed by a stone garden wall, is a substantial farmhouse with massive left end chimney, with a four bay facade and a columned porch offset slightly to the right. A second doorway is in the lower pine end, past the chimney breast. The house possibly represents a Georgian remodelling of an older residence.

Adjoining the farmhouse to the left (west) is a long, whitewashed threshing barn, stable/ hayloft range with high barn doors, which are characteristic of the region.

At right angles on the west side of the yard is a whitewashed single storey cow house and lofted carthouse range. This building is adjoined by a small open fronted shelter shed, possibly originally for young stock down-the-slope to the south.

Opposite the house, on the south side of the yard, is a carthouse/ granary building with red brick dressings to door and window openings suggesting that this is probably the most recent building within the group.

Tir Gofal management recommendations:

Future management should address how best to maintain the character of the farmstead group as a whole. The landowner has suggested carrying out repairs to the roof of the cowshed, and repairing the rear threshing door to the barn.

Re-roofing

The roof of the cow house is in need of attention with some of the slates having become displaced.

- Maintain the original roof with patch repairs where possible. Carefully match the original materials used.
- Retain any original detail in any repairs (eg. the style of the ridge tiles or the distinctive line of slates hung under the eaves).

Door repairs

The barn doors are original but are in need of restoration. The doors should be repaired to the same format as the original design, or renewed if repair is not practically possible. They are equally sized plank construction with a removable centre post and wooden latches, painted black on the exterior.

- If practically possible repairs should be carried out instead of wholesale replacement.
- When repair is not possible, replacement features must be modelled on the originals, using the same materials and methods of construction. Sawn plain pine planks of the same width should be used (preferably in a good quality pine such as Douglas Fir).
- Door furniture such as original hinges, latches etc. should also be re-used wherever possible and if not should be replaced on a like-for-like basis.
- Wherever possible historic finishes should be retained. Paying particular attention to any “estate colours” as appropriate. In this instance black paint is the appropriate finish.



The doors have been subjected to repairs in the past.

References

Maps

Ordnance Surveyors Drawings 1809-10, Sheet No. 181

Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1887 Carmarthenshire Sheet 26.08, 25"

Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 1906 Carmarthenshire Sheet 26.08, 25"

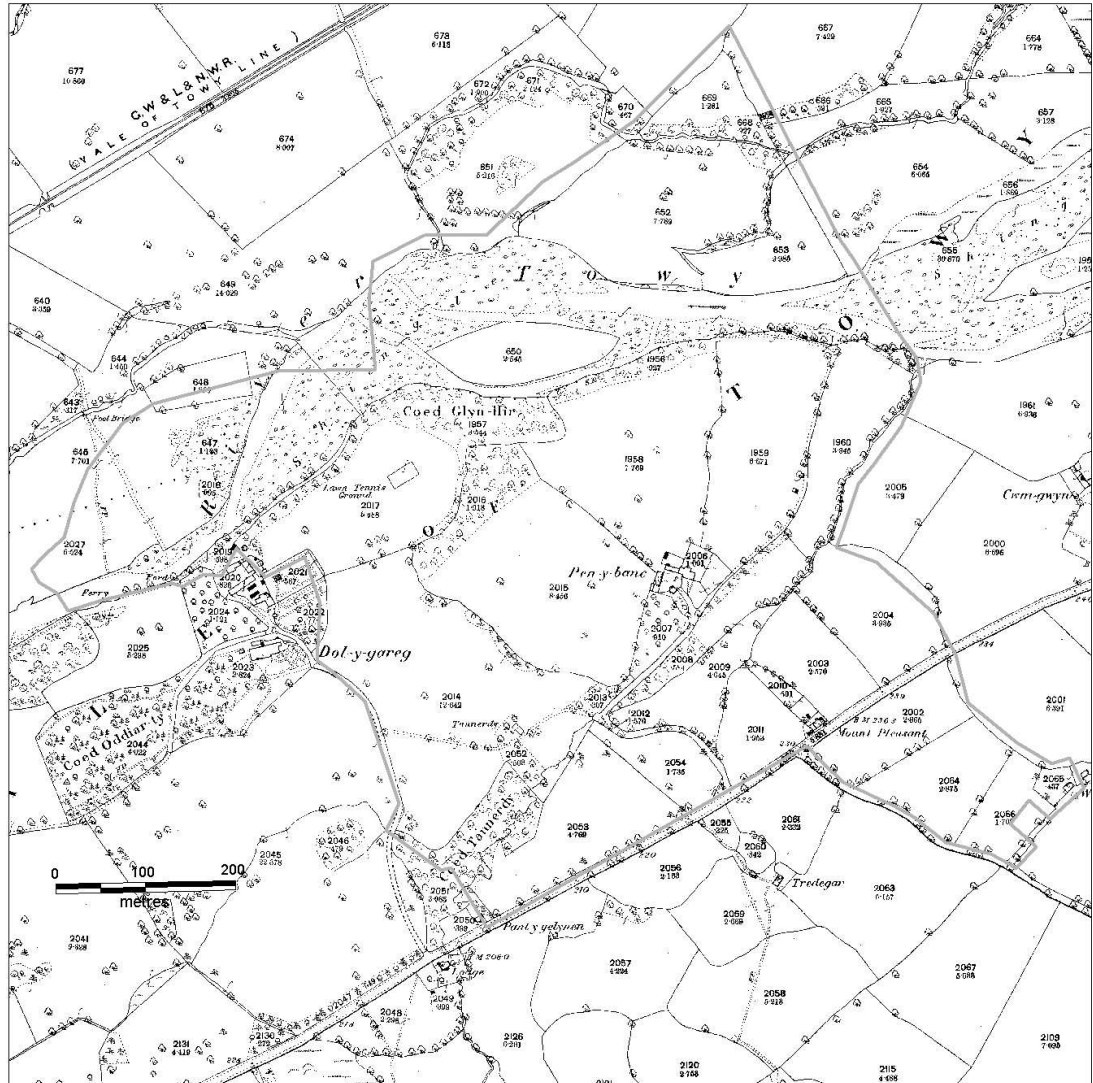
Tithe Map & Apportionment 1840 Mythffai Parish

Other Sources

Jones, F 1987 Historic Carmarthenshire Homes.

Wardle, S. 2002 Dolgarreg: Tir Gofal Farm Visit Report. Unpublished report by Cambria Archaeology for Countryside Council for Wales

Extract from Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1887)



— Farm Boundary

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