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

**Prepared for:  
Fforest Farm**



**Tir Gofal Reference No  
W/11/6185**

**DAT Report No.2009-43  
Project Record No. 56744**

**Prepared by  
Mike Ings**

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## **A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES**

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 Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content**

#### **Historic Landscape Character**

During the initial consultations for this application Fforest Farm comprised four holdings of land within the communities of Llanddewi Brefi and Tregaron, Ceredigion. The home-farm holding, centred on NGR SN67575802, has subsequently been sold although Dyfed Archaeological Trust were unaware of this at the time of the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit of 03/04/2009.

The remaining holdings, within Llanddewi Brefi community and centred on NGRs SN70775193, SN73135278 and SN71185093, are depicted on the 1906 Ordnance Survey 6" map as lying within an area of rough-grazing and moorland, enclosed into large regular-shaped fields. It is probable that this is late, possibly late 18th-19th century, enclosure of once common land, and the landscape remains largely unchanged through to the present day. The conifer plantations that border the farm have been planted since the beginning of the 20th century.

#### **Archaeological and Historic Content**

The three holdings lie within a landscape rich in prehistoric monuments and deserted medieval - post-medieval settlement sites.

There are four Bronze Age (c2000 - 500BC) round barrows located on the unenclosed uplands, with two at Pen y corn (PRNs 5151 and 5152), Llethr Llwyd (PRN 9007) and Bryn Gwyddel (PRN 9008). These are circular mounds of earth or stone placed over the location of a burial, possibly a crouched inhumation in a stone lined grave referred to as a cist or a pottery urn containing cremation ashes.

The deserted settlement sites on the farm include the Bryn Catel building platforms (PRN 31075), Bryn Gwyddel long hut (PRN 36057) and Cynau long hut (PRN 36059). The latter has been designated a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM CD 199). The exact date of these sites is not known but they represent a period when agriculture was being practised more intensively on the uplands than is now seen. They may be 18th or 19th century since, during this period, the Ceredigion uplands were home to substantial communities - hill-farmers, shepherds, peat-cutters and miners all made their livings in areas which are now, frequently, uninhabited. Alternatively, these deserted dwellings may be relics of the medieval and post-medieval 'hafod/hendref' tradition of farming. Permanent homes (hendrefi) were built in the valleys, on more fertile, lower-lying ground, and in the summer this land was used for arable while livestock was taken to the uplands for grazing. 'Hafotai', temporary summer dwellings, were constructed to watch over the stock.

The Fforest farmstead is located within the Tregaron holding that has now changed hands. Although the farm buildings were seen during the Tir Gofal visit, at the

invitation of the new owners, the updated record for the farmstead is not included in the gazetteer, below, as it no longer forms part of the Tir Gofal scheme.

### **Key Objective**

The management priority for this farm is the preservation and maintenance of the prehistoric and deserted settlement sites, particularly the Scheduled Ancient Monument CD199, for which detailed management recommendations are provided below.

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## **B2) HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FEATURES**

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

These are divided into three types:

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

All historic environment features have been allocated categories of importance:

Site Status A: Sites and Monuments of National Importance.

Site Status B: Sites/Features of Regional Importance.

Site Status C: Sites/Features of Local Importance.

Site Status D: Minor and damaged sites.

Site Status U: Sites requiring further investigation.

### **General requirements**

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

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

valuable guidance and information.

- Please report all discoveries of archaeological interest to the Dyfed Archaeological Trust (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 Dyfed Archaeological Trust has identified the following sites and monuments that 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.

	<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>CYRNAU (<a href="#">36059</a>)</b>	<b>Medieval?; Post medieval? long hut</b>	<b>SN73205313</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>SAM CD199</b>	<b>Specific</b>

The site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM CD 199). The ruined remains of a quite substantial long hut. Single building, drystone, large slabs in walls. Measures 10 metres north-south x 5 metres. Wall bases up to 0.5 metres high. grassy site, some reed growth. No internal division, but there appears to be opposed entrances halfway along south half of building, conforming with the medieval style of house for this area. Cross contour on a slight building platform. Erosion a long term threat. (RPS August 1998)



*Looking southeast across Cynau long hut (PRN 36059)*

It is a single structure, apparently without any associated ancillary buildings or other structures nearby. The long hut has been built in a sheltered position on a piece of relatively flat ground at the foot of a slight slope. It is close to running water in the form of a small stream. Today the ground near to the building is quite wet and boggy. The eastern entrance is certainly clear but that on the western side appears more doubtful. A stone now stands across this break in the line of the wall - possibly representing blocking of the entrance after the house had fallen into disuse for it to be used as an animal pen or shelter requiring only one entrance or, alternatively, it represents re-occupation or change of use while the building was still used. (KR, 1999)

The remains have high archaeological potential because of their lack of disturbance and the possibility that wall collapse into the building will have served to cover and protect the interior, preserving internal structures and original floor surfaces. The scheduled area is a square with sides 20 metres enclosing the building. (2000).



*Looking northeast across Cynau long hut (PRN 36059), showing close proximity of power cable pole.*

The site was visited during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit of 03/04/2009. It lies within a remote area of upland grazing, alongside a flowing stream. The most immediate threat to the archaeology was the placing of a power cable pole in the vicinity and these works were monitored by the Cadw Field Monument Warden (2008). The ruins appear to be in a stable condition with no further immediate concerns for its preservation.

**PEN Y CORN** ([5151](#))

**Bronze Age round SN69485152 B  
barrow**

**Generic**

A turf-covered, round cairn of stones and small boulders, including some quartz, situated on the top of a steep-sided ridge (450m above OD) in open moorland. The cairn, which has been dug into here and there, has a diameter of 13 metres northeast-southwest by 15 metres transversely and a height of 1 metre. There are no traces of a cist or a kerb. (ASP, 1978). The site was not visited during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit of 03/04/2009.



**PEN Y CORN** ([5152](#))      **Bronze Age round barrow**      **SN69345135**      **B**      **Generic**

A substantially intact round barrow observed in the field in 1978 (Ordnance Survey, 1978). The site was not visited during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit of 03/04/2009.

**CARREG CRYLL** ([8525](#))      **Bronze Age? standing stone?**      **SN70155125**      **C**      **Generic**

Careg Curyll is a natural stone outcrop, part of an outcropping reef of sandstone stretching across open moorland below the crest of a ridge. (ASP, 1978). The site was not visited as part of the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit (03/04/2009).

**LLETHR LLWYD** ([9007](#))      **Bronze Age round barrow**      **SN73605300**      **B**      **Generic**

A small, low, unconsolidated cairn approximately 5 metres in diameter and 0.15 metres high, found on Llethr Llwyd. (RCAHM, 1981).



*Looking west over Llethr Llwyd round barrow PRN 9007)*

The site was visited during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit of 03/04/2009 and seen to be in a stable condition within a remote area of open moorland. The monument is under a cover of low-growing grass with low-intensive sheep grazing and there did not appear to be any immediate threats to the site. The barrow commands panoramic views to the south and west.

**BRYN GWYDDEL** ([9008](#))      **Bronze Age round barrow**      **SN73305270**      **B**      **Generic**

An oval cairn, 12.5 metres X 10.3 metres and approximately 0.8 metres high, grassed over with a hollow at the centre, found on Bryn Gwyddel (RCAHM 1981).



*Looking south over Bryn Gwyddel round barrow (PRN 9008)*

The site was visited during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit of 03/04/2009, when it was seen to be under a cover of grass in an area of rough-grazing, with a few exposed stones. There did not appear to be any immediate threats to the monument. The barrow commands panoramic views to the south and west.

**BRYN CATEL** ([31075](#))      **Medieval?; Post-Medieval?**      **SN69805050**      **B**      **Generic**  
**settlement**

Three building platforms of uncertain date (EM 1988). These sites were not visited during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit of 03/04/2009.

**BRYN GWYDDEL** ([36057](#))      **Medieval?; Post-Medieval long hut**      **SN72915243**      **B**      **Generic**

Foundations of a long hut, 6 metres x 3 metres along an East-West axis. Just the tops of stone slabs protrude through turf. No details visible. Possible a field boundary runs North off Northeast corner of hut - uncertain. Area disturbed by land improvement? No platform, built on slope. Grass with some reed growth (RPS August 1998).



*Looking west over area of Bryn Gwyddel long hut (PRN 36057). No archaeological deposits were noted during the Tir Gofal farm visit.*

The area of the site was visited during the Tir Gofal archaeological farm visit of 03/04/2009 but no archaeological remains were noted at the given co-ordinates or in the immediate vicinity. It is possible that the recorded stone slabs have now been totally grown over and it was evident that stones did lie just below the turfline in places, although whether natural bedrock or archaeological deposits is unknown. The area of the site was undisturbed, under grass and low-growing vegetation and if the site does lie here it does not appear to be under any immediate threat.

**CRAIG CRYLL** ([94355](#))      **Post-Medieval**      **SN69695117**      **B**      **Generic**  
**cottage**

Cottage recorded on the 1906 Ordnance Survey 6" map. Not shown on modern mapping, presumed abandoned. This site was not seen during the Tir Gofal archaeological site visit of 03/04/2009.

## 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**

**CYRNAU** ([36059](#))

**SN73205313**

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

The site is located within upland heath and grassland, with no immediate threats apparent. The Cadw Field Monument Warden last visited in the summer of 2008 in response to the insertion of a power cable pole close to the site and found the monument to be in a stable condition and unchanged from its scheduling description.

Tir Gofal management recommendations, made in consultation with Cadw, are to retain a low-growing vegetation cover over the monument, with no breaks in the ground surface, and the current farming techniques should be ideally suited.

- Sheep should continue to be grazed on the site, with no supplementary stock feeding on or near the monument. .
- No groundbreaking activities should be undertaken within the area of the monument or a ten-metre buffer zone around the edge.



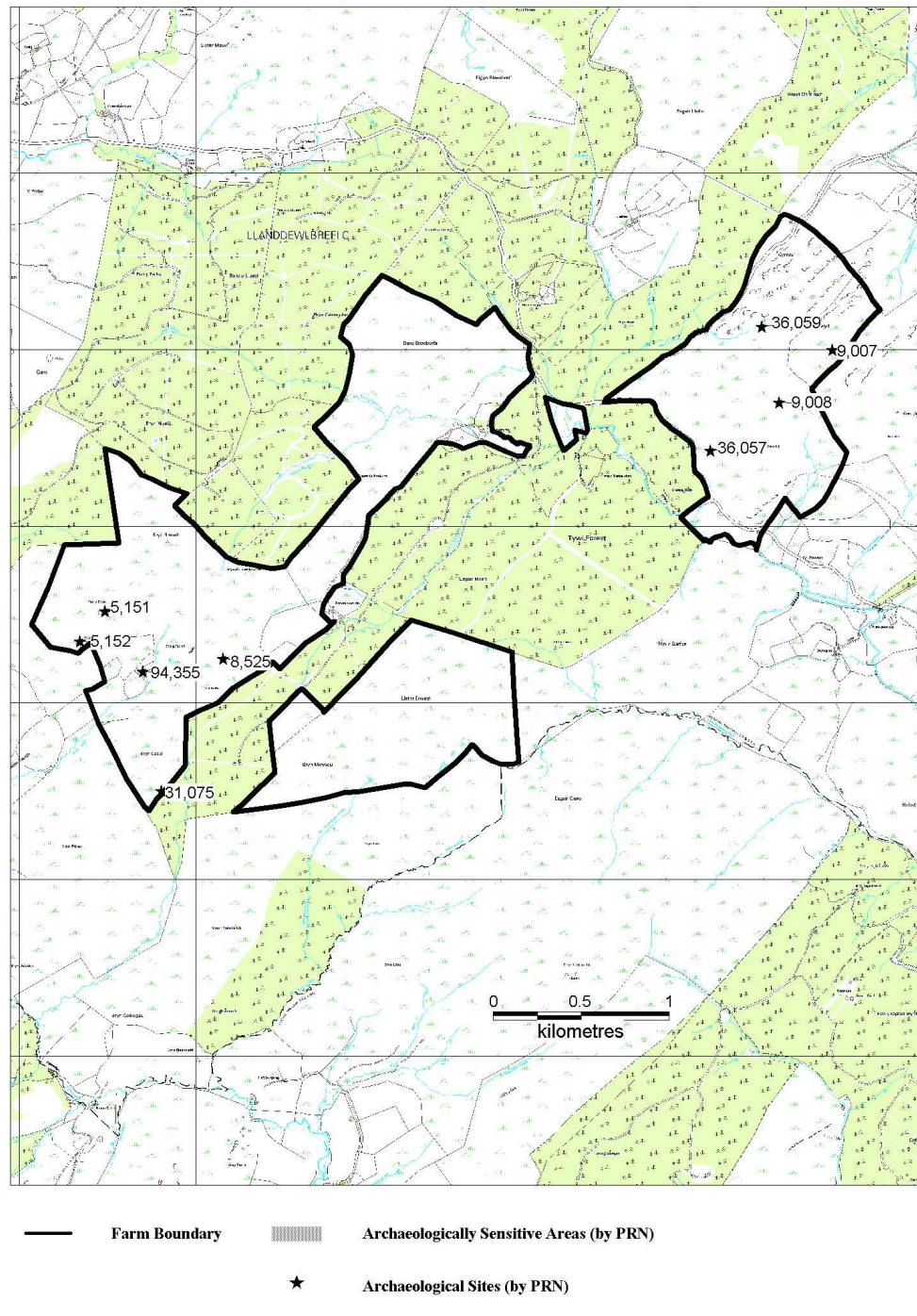
- Rushes encroaching onto the site should be controlled through cutting. They should not be pulled up as this could damage archaeological deposits.

## **ii) TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS:**

**There are no Traditional Buildings in the Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record for the application area**

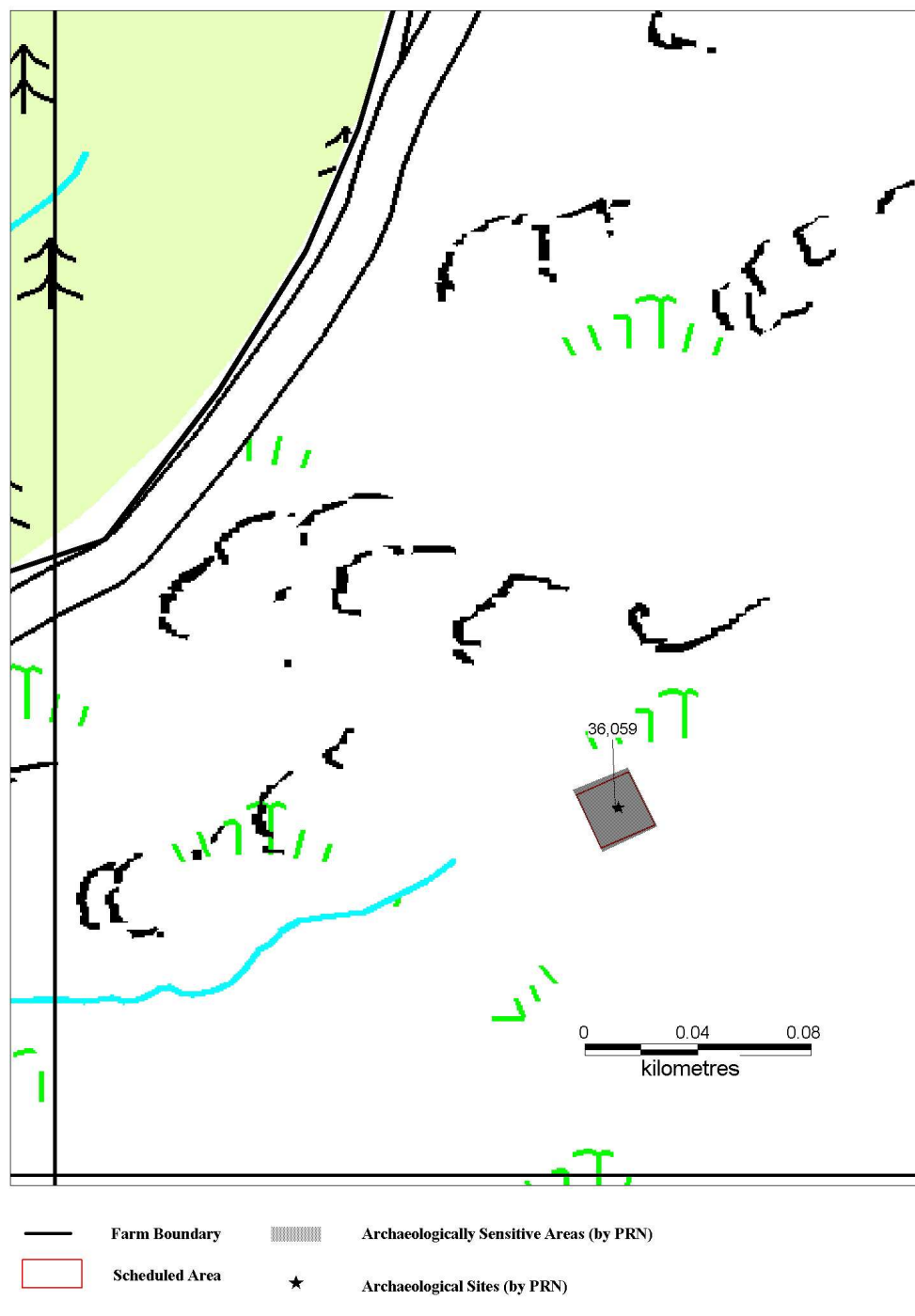
## **iii) HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS:**

**There are no Historic Parks and Gardens in the Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record for the application area**



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Fig 1: Location map of farm boundaries



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Fig 2: Extent of the Scheduled Ancient Monument CD199

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

*Sources consulted:*

**Historic Environment Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire.**

**1906 Ordnance Survey 6" map, 44035ne2.**

**1891 Ordnance Survey 6" map, 44027nw1**

**Dyfed Archaeological Trust, 2009, Tir Gofal Management Plan: Heritage Management Information (HE1), Ref. W/11/6185.**