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BETTER WOODLANDS FOR WALES MANAGEMENT PLAN HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION (WHE1)

**BlaenLlwydiarth
BWW Reference No 3346**

**Prepared by
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Project Record No. 62214**

13/11/2006

INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content

This application comprises woodland to the north and west of BlaenLlwydiarth farmstead (SN09692639) within the community of Maenclochog, Pembrokeshire. The historic mapping suggests that the woodland has become established over the course of the last century or so: the area is identified as fields or brushwood and furze on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1889) and has emerged through regeneration since.

This area also forms part of the Preseli Registered Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest (Cadw 1998). This is a non-statutory, advisory designation which aims to provide information and raise awareness of areas with significant landscape value, to aid their protection and conservation. This area has been further assessed as part of the Historic Landscape Characterisation Project and falls within Area 266: Llangolman.

The surrounding landscape encompasses the upper Eastern Cleddau valley and its tributaries, the land rising steeply from between 60m and 80m in the valley bottom before levelling out onto undulating ground between 130m and 200m. Established broadleaved woodland occupies some of the steeper valley slopes but is not otherwise a common landscape component.

The area also contains Pembrokeshire's densest concentration of slate quarries. A total of 13 named quarries, and several more informal workings, are more-or-less strung out in an east-west line across the volcanic ash slate exposure, which crosses the area. Part of the North Pembrokeshire Branch of the Great Western Railway (PRN 62140) passes through the woodland on route to the extensive workings at Rosebush, whilst there is a line of several small quarries (PRN 62139) along a minor road at the eastern end of the application area. Historic sources also make reference to a lead vein (PRN 25496), reported to have been discovered on the Bishop of St. David's land in the parish in 1771, probably in the Llwydiarth (Forest) area. There is no record of any lead mining remains within the consultation area however.

A scheduled promontory fort, Castell Forlan (PRN 1309 SAM PE284) lies close to the western boundary of the woodland. It belongs to a class of monument which is commonly assigned to the Iron Age (600BC to 43AD). Such sites are commonly viewed as defensive structures, although recent interpretations suggest that they were also built with an element of ostentation and display in mind. Excavated examples have revealed traces of settlement such as round houses, other post built structures and storage pits. Further archaeological content is discussed in the gazetteer below.

Historic Environment Objectives

The purpose of the management is to

- Ensure the survival of visible historic features.
- Ensure archaeological deposits beneath the ground surface are not disturbed.
- Prevent progressive degradation of historic environment features by promoting sympathetic woodland management.
- Ensure the long-term preservation of features associated with historic woodland.
- Maintain or restore the historic configuration and visual character of the historic landscape.

GENERAL MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

All historic earthworks, structures, archaeological sites and traditional buildings must be retained and protected against damage. The following list identifies those Historic Environment Features affected by this application and the accompanying mapping shows each of these and identifies a sensitive area surrounding it. These sensitive areas must be actively managed for the life of the woodland management plan in accordance with the following requirements, in line with the Forestry Commission's *Forestry & Archaeology Guidelines, 1995*.

Planning

- Ensure that new planting and re-planting schemes are planned to avoid the sensitive areas surrounding historic environment features. Ideally these sensitive areas should not simply be left as unplanted islands in otherwise continuous woodland. Wherever possible these sensitive areas should be incorporated into larger buffer zones or clearings to facilitate access and ongoing management. Specific planting schemes involving historic environment features should be discussed with Cambria Archaeology at the planning stage.
- In areas of grazed woodland, grazing regimes and stocking levels should be approved by Cambria Archaeology prior to implementation. Similar approval should also be sought prior to significant changes to agricultural regimes.
- Consideration should be given to lessening the visual impact of new planting on historic environment features and historic landscapes.
- Consideration should be given to allowing / maintaining public access to historic environment features in woodland where this is both safe and practical. Specific access and interpretation schemes involving historic environment features should be discussed with Cambria Archaeology at the planning stage.
- Ensure contractors and all other workers are aware of the historic environment features and comply with these requirements. They should take appropriate measures to avoid accidental damage.

Mitigation

- Do not plant or re-plant trees within the defined sensitive areas surrounding historic environment features without the prior approval of Cambria Archaeology.
- Do not carry out any excavation or erect any new building or structure in the vicinity of historic environment features without the prior approval of Cambria Archaeology.
- Do not site new fencing or vehicular tracks within the sensitive areas of historic environment features without the prior approval of Cambria Archaeology.
- Do not remove any material from the sensitive areas of historic environment features or deposit spoil or rubbish on them.
- Do not store timber or machinery within the sensitive areas of historic environment features.
- Do not use heavy machinery in the sensitive areas of historic environment features, especially in wet weather.
- Do not harvest or otherwise fell trees within the sensitive areas of historic environment features without prior discussion with Cambria Archaeology.
- No intrusive archaeological investigation (such as excavation, field-walking to collect surface finds or metal detecting) should be allowed without the prior approval of Cambria Archaeology, to ensure that such work complies with appropriate guidance - the *Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct and Standards and Guidance*, and the *Code of Practice for Responsible Metal Detecting in England and Wales, 2006*.

Proactive management

- Control scrub and naturally regenerating trees within the sensitive areas of historic environment features. Such vegetation should be cut off at ground level with its roots being left in the ground rather than pulled up or dug out. Ensure that machinery does not cause further disturbance.
- Remove any dead or unstable trees from the vicinity of historic environment features, leaving roots to rot in situ. Ensure that machinery does not cause further disturbance.
- Where appropriate, undertake regular brashing of trees within the sensitive areas of historic environment features.
- Remove brash or other dead vegetation from the sensitive areas of historic environment features with care. Ensure that machinery does not cause further disturbance.
- Wherever practicable, repair and reuse original historic environment features, such as boundary walls, rather than replace them. Repairs should be unobtrusive and where possible make use of appropriate traditional materials and methods of construction. Schemes of repair should be discussed with Cambria Archaeology prior to implementation.

Legislation and Guidance

- **Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)** have statutory protection and consent from Cadw will be required for works to these monuments.

- **Listed buildings** have statutory protection and permission from the Local Planning Authority will be required for some works. Listed status may also apply to buildings and structures within the curtilage of a listed building.
- Areas of **historic parkland** of national importance are included on the Cadw/ICOMOS *Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales*. There are also many non-registered parks of lesser quality but which, nevertheless, form an important component in the historic environment and require appropriate management.
- A number of **historic landscapes** are registered in the Cadw/ICOMOS/CCW *Registers of Outstanding and Special Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales*.
- The reporting of **archaeological finds** arising from woodland work must comply with the *Treasure Act, 1996*. Guidance on this and on the reporting of other **portable antiquities** can be found on the Portable Antiquities Scheme website (<http://www.finds.org.uk>).

Scheduled and listed sites and registered areas are identified as such below.

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FEATURES

A search of the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) held by Cambria Archaeology has identified the following historic environment features. These are listed and described below and are shown on the accompanying map. Each feature is allocated a unique reference number (a Primary Record Number - PRN) that should be quoted in any correspondence.

Each site listed must be managed in accordance with the General Management Requirements outlined above. Where sites require specific management this is set out below. These Specific Management Requirements are in addition to and (in the case of conflict) take precedence over the General Management Requirements.

PRN 1309	CASTELL FORLAN;CASTELL VORLAN	Iron Age hillfort	SN09152658
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This site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM PE284). A very fine Iron Age promontory fort with well preserved triple defence system of banks and ditches, though the exterior ditch, if ever there was one, has disappeared. The site is fenced off from the outlying field by a fence on the outer rampart. The defensive features are now overgrown with hawthorn, hazel and oaks, and bracken and brambles. However, the site appears to be in a stable condition and is not suffering from erosion problems. The interior of the fort is completely afforested, minor windblow has occurred on the western side of the block, with the resultant root damage (Mees 1998).

This site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Seek management advice from Cadw.

PRN 62139

Post Medieval quarry

SN10032663

Linear quarrying activity, extending along the line of a minor road for approximately 100m. Identified on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1890).

**PRN 62140 G.W.R. NORTH
PEMBROKESHIRE BRANCH**

**Post Medieval railway
segment**

SN09292649

Embanked section of the G.W.R. North Pembrokeshire Branch passing through BlaenLlwydiarth woodland. The railway was opened from a junction west of Clynderwen (GWR) to Rosebush in 1876 and worked intermittently until closure in 1949 (Richards 1998, 22). Now dismantled.

PRN 62141

**Post Medieval mining
feature?**

SN09912663

A circular mound recorded on the Ordnance Survey 2nd edition map (1907) in area of furze and emerging deciduous woodland. Uncertain function though it may be associated with possible lead workings (PRN 25496). The present condition of the mound is not known.

Sources consulted:

Maps

Ordnance Survey 1889 Pembrokeshire Sheet 18.09, 25"

Ordnance Survey 1907 Pembrokeshire Sheet 18.09, 25"

Other Sources

Historic Environment Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire

Mees, S.E. 1998 CADW Scheduled Ancient Monument Record SAM Visit Description Text

Historic Environment Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire

Cadw/ ICOMOS 1998 The Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales. Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments

Murphy & Ludlow 2001 Historic Landscape Characterisation: Characterisation of three landscapes on the Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales. Preseli, St. David's Peninsula and Ramsey Island, Skomer Island. Unpublished report by

Cambria Archaeology.

Richards, A.J.R. 1998 The Slate Quarries of Pembrokeshire. Gwasg Carreg Gwalch, Llanrwst

Other sites may be known to the landowner and these should be made known to Cambria Archaeology in order to update the Regional Historic Environment Record and where necessary amend management advice.

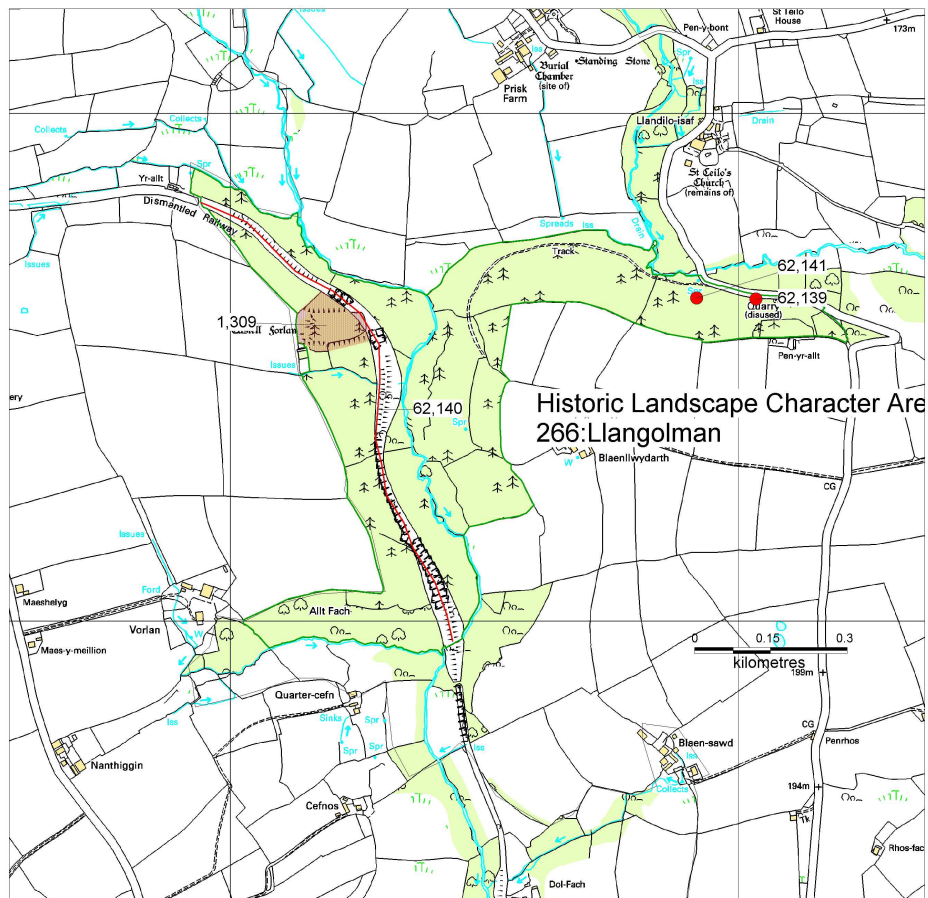
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APPENDIX:

Historic Landscape Character Area 266: Llangolman



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|---|---|
| — Application Boundary | Archaeologically Sensitive Areas (by PRN) |
| — Linear Archaeological Features | ● Archaeological Sites (by PRN) |

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