HISTORIC TOWN SURVEYS OF CARDIGAN AND TREGARON

PART 3 TREGARON TOWN

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TREGARON TOWN

Introduction

> "*The town, which is small, stands in a valley, near some wild hills…..[which] contain within them...some of the wildest solitudes and most romantic scenery in Wales*."
> (George Borrow, *Wild Wales*, 1862, p.450).

Tregaron is a small market town, nestled at the foothills of the Cambrian mountains, and is located 11 miles north of Lampeter, 18 miles southeast of Aberystwyth and was once an important place of rest for drovers driving cattle and sheep over to England. It is located on the fringes of the Upland Ceredigion character area as recognised in the *Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales* (Cadw, *et al* 1998), which was one of only 36 'outstanding' landscapes identified in Wales (see Murphy 1999).

The historical development of the town owes much to its specific location at a crossroads, at a point of convergence of routes to the north, south, east and west, and as a crossing point over the river. There is a strong religious history attached to the town, which lies close to both Strata Florida and Llanddewi Brefi, both important religious centres in the medieval period, with Tregaron also playing a role in the spread of non-conformity and the Chapel movement in more recent times. From its earliest origins the town has largely enjoyed a peaceful history, and it seems fitting that one of Tregaron's most famous figures, Henry Richard, became known as 'the Apostle of Peace' for his moral and religious opposition to war in the Victorian period. Tregaron also lay on a Cistercian pilgrimage route linking Strata Florida with Llanllyr, and in many ways has depended on the 'tourist trade' for its economic survival for the last seven hundred years, welcoming visitors to its market and fairs, and serving the needs of drovers and travellers passing through on their way to farther destinations. Various topographical writers have described the town during their tours, with John Leland commenting on the Church as 'standing apon a round coppe of cast yearth'. In his 'Itinerary though England and Wales' (undertaken between 1536 and 1539) Leland noted that Tregaron was the chief town in the Penarth Hundred, suggesting that it was well established and an important administrative centre by the 16th century, and he also noted the expanse of Cors Caron bog, 'out of which the Inhabitants ther about digge Turfes for Fier'.
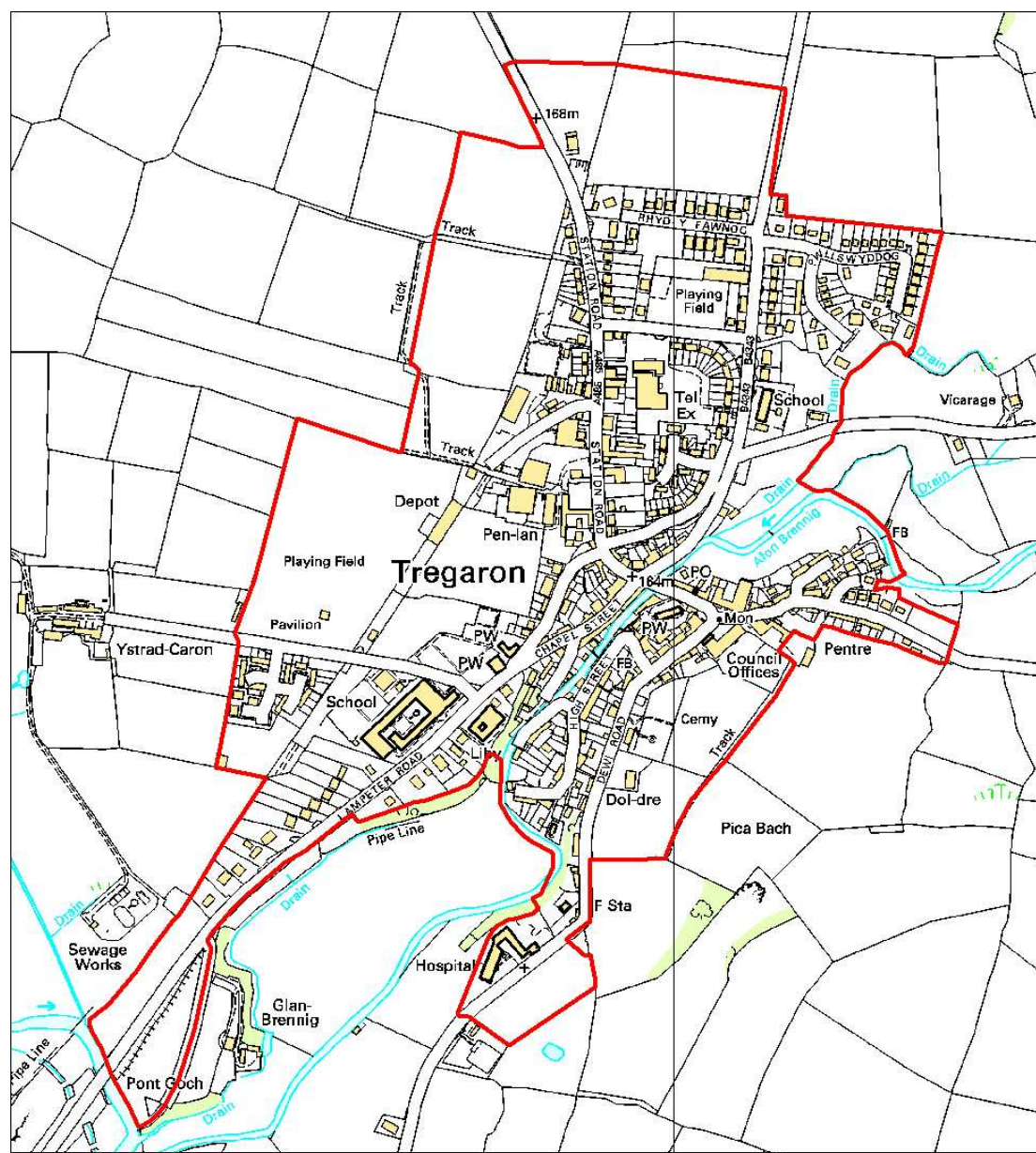
The origin of the name of 'Tregaron' is not entirely clear. One school of thought is that it owes its existence to its Patron Saint, Saint Caron, an ecclesiastic who was canonised after his death in AD219 and allegedly buried within the mound of earth on which the Parish Church tower now stands. Indeed the *Ffair Garon*, once the largest fair in Wales, was traditionally held over three days in March, the middle one of which (16th) corresponds with the anniversary of Saint Caron's death (Evans 196?). However, it is also possible that the name relates to the town as being a 'treflan', as defined by Hywel Dda, with the 'tref' being a community loyal to the king, and the 'llan' a settlement near a church. The town lay within the lordship of Caron and might therefore have taken its name from being a 'treflan' within the Caron parish of the district. According to Wmffre, earlier references show the name simply to have been *Caron*, with the prefixing of *tref* not evidenced before the 15th century (2004:557).

The current layout of the town reveals a great deal about its medieval origins, which centred originally around the Church and the mill at Pentre. Stages in the development of the town are clearly defined architecturally as well as cartographically, and although much of the medieval fabric of the town has been

replaced during phases of post-medieval rebuilding, nonetheless the present arrangement of streets and narrow lanes testify to the town's historic development.

The Survey Area

The area of the study extends to include the extent of the town as defined by Ceredigion County Council's (CCC) Unitary Development Plan (UDP) (Deposit Version September 2002) as seen in Figure 1 below. This includes areas of as yet undeveloped fields on the northern and western extents of the town, which have been proposed for mixed community, employment, residential and recreational development.

Figure 1 Extent of Tregaron settlement as defined by the CCC UDP

Historical Development

Wales, in common with England, was not mapped until Christopher Saxton surveyed both countries in the 1570s. Nor was Wales included in the Domesday survey, which confined itself to the lands previously held by King Harold in 1066 before his defeat by Norman king William the Conqueror. At this time Wales was not under English rule, but divided instead into regions governed by individual Welsh lords, with Tregaron falling within the area of Dyfed-Deheubarth. Historical researches of the earliest foundations of the town are limited by a lack of documentary sources, but it appears that Tregaron was certainly an important local centre in the early Middle Ages, having been granted a Royal Charter in 1292 to hold a weekly market and an annual fair. This fair, the Ffair Garon, was once a three day event held on the 15th, 16th and 17th March, and was a major social and trading event for the sale of poultry, horses and pigs. In the same year the lordship of Caron was granted by Edward I to Geoffrey Clement, with Tregaron remaining in the possession of the Clement family until the mid-15th century (Soulsby and Jones 1976: 41).

However, hints of a much earlier foundation for the town are suggested by the early Christian inscribed stones found within the fabric of St Caron's Church in 1804, which suggests that there was a church occupying this site from as early as the 6th century. Moreover, the circular shape of the churchyard (found similarly in the neighbouring parish churches at Llanddewi Brefi, Llangybi, Llanfair Clydogau and elsewhere) suggests an even earlier, and possibly prehistoric, religious significance for the site prior to its appropriation by the Christian tradition. It has even been suggested that the current church is potentially built over a Bronze Age round barrow (Ludlow 2000), a type of prehistoric funerary and ritual monument dating to c. 1800BC, although local tradition instead favours the site as the burial place of St. Caron in the 3rd century AD.

Prehistoric
As noted above, the shape of the churchyard itself suggests the potential for prehistoric activity within the heart of the town, dating to perhaps the Bronze Age or earlier. Within the surrounding local area there are a number of well–preserved prehistoric sites, such as the Iron Age hillforts at Sunnyhill, Castell Flemish and Castell Rhyfell, although stray finds of artefacts including a stone axe[1], flint flakes, bronze implements and cinerary urns points to continuous activity in the area certainly from at least the late Neolithic onwards. One of a series of burnt mounds dating to the Bronze Age was excavated at Felin Fulbrook (Williams, *et al* 1987) and a succession of hearths on the margins of Cors Caron were noted by Powell (in Rees 1936: 120), which suggest that the area in and around Tregaron was occupied certainly from the Bronze Age, with radiocarbon dates from Felin Fulbrook firmly placed at the start of the second millennium BC. Another burnt mound is also recorded on the former Penlan Farm, located along Station Road. Although there was occupation in the wider area during the Iron Age, the rapid growth of the raised bog at Tregaron from 700BC onwards as a result of climatic change and increased wetness (Davies 1994: 220, in Davies and Kirby (eds.)) is suggested to have caused a temporary depopulation of the area. However, palaeoenvironmental evidence for deforestation in the neighbourhood of Cors Caron c.400BC suggests a period of recovery and the establishment of new settlements and farms, and as such the earliest agricultural origins of Tregaron town might stem from this period.
Roman

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[1] According to Curiad Caron, this was discovered near the site of the present hospital, and now deposited in the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff (1985:2).

During the Roman occupation of Ceredigion there were forts at both Llanio and Trawscoed, the former defending the Sarn Helen roman road where it crossed the river, some 4.8km southwest of Tregaron. At this distance there appears to have been little impact on Tregaron and its indigenous population from the Roman invaders, although there is likely to have been a substantial *vicus* (civilian settlement) around the fort at Llanio, where the indigenous population from the wider locale could trade with the Roman soldiers. However, there are no known Roman artefacts recovered from in and around the Tregaron area, and in this area at least, it would seem that the patterns of settlement and fields would have continued as they were since prehistoric times, with very little in the way of Roman influence on the lives of its inhabitants. The only Romano-British influences, which can be said with any certainty to have filtered through to the Tregaron area, were the adoption of Christianity and the usage of Latin personal names.

Medieval[2]
The early Christian period, dating from the 5th to the 11th centuries, was a crucial time in the development of the rural demographic in Wales. Changes at this time had a profound effect on the landscape, both in physical terms, as evidenced archaeologically by the spread of memorial stones, wells and chapels, and also in social terms, through the foundations of modern settlement patterns and administrative boundaries. St David, the Patron Saint of Wales, is said to have addressed an important Church Synod meeting in nearby Llanddewi Brefi in c.AD545, which had been convened to discuss discipline within the church and to stamp out the Pelagian Heresy. St David at this time was a renowned evangelist and theologian, and following complaints from the gathered crowd unable to hear his address, legend has it that the ground rose under his feet as he spoke, thus creating the mound on which the present parish church in Llanddewi Brefi now stands. With Tregaron just 3 miles from here, it is tempting to conclude that if Llanddewi Brefi was established enough as a settlement to attract a Church Synod to convene there in the 6th century, then Tregaron may indeed have been similarly populated and receptive to the early Christian movement. The well of Ffynnon Garon, just outside the town, may have been a focal point of pre-Christian ritual practice, as the water within it was believed to contain healing properties (Curiad Caron 1998). As Rees notes, pre-Christian 'holy wells' posed a delicate problem to the early Christian missionaries, with these 'sacred' pagan sites needing to be carefully appropriated into the Christian tradition[3]: as such, they were often consecrated and used for baptism even before the building of a parish church (1936: 62).

Certainly the known archaeological evidence of an early Christian stone associated with St Caron's Church would suggest that there was already an early religious foundation for the town. The inscribed 'Potentina' stone, dated to the 6th century, was noted within the south wall of St Caron's Church by Pembrokeshire antiquarian Richard Fenton on his *Tour* in 1804, but during restoration works in 1805 this stone and three others were seen by fellow antiquarian and historian Samuel Meyrick lying loose in the churchyard, and were removed by him to his home in Herefordshire in 1828. Another shaped and decorated stone, bearing an ornamental Celtic cross on one face and a single-word inscription 'ENEVIRI' ('the

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[2] The medieval period in Wales covers a period from c.410AD to 1485, but is sub-divided into the early medieval period, or early Christian, which broadly ranges in date from AD410 to 1066, with the medieval *per se* ranging from 1066 to 1485.
[3] Indeed, the early Christian church is likely to have drawn on local myth and legend to legitimise their own position, and appropriating the power of existing sacred places was a key way of gently bringing 'pagan' beliefs and rituals into the fold of Christianity and thus successfully spreading the Christian religion.

grave of Enevir') on its edge, dated to the 8th century or later, was also taken from Tregaron church by Meyrick to his stately home, Goodrich Court. Both decorated stones are now within the National Museum of Wales, although the whereabouts of the others area unknown. It would therefore seem that there was at least some form of church or early Christian religious site established at Tregaron certainly by the 6th century, and it is likely that a small nuclear settlement gradually grew out of this association, with the church as its focus, over the next few centuries. In his 1960s guide to the Parish Church of St Caron, Rev. W Evans notes that a local historian, Daniel Davies, states that a church was erected on the present site in the years 1017 to 1019, but gives no clue as to how this particular date was reached. Rees also quotes these dates, attributing them to 'Mr Daniel Davies, Ton', but again with no record of how this can be evidenced. None of the other documentary sources consulted during this survey make mention of these specific dates for the construction of a church here, although clearly the Christian religion had been long established in Tregaron prior to the Norman conquest.
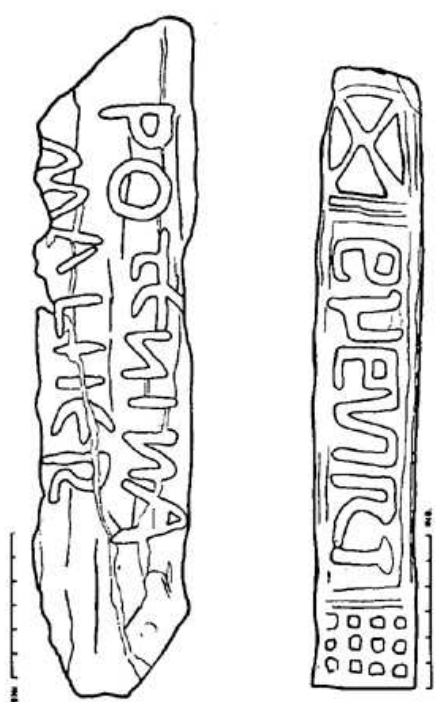
FIG. 104. No. 132.   FIG. 105. No. 133
(inscription).

Figure 2 Inscribed early Christian stones from Tregaron church (after Nash-Williams)

During the Norman period, generally a tumultuous time in Welsh history, Tregaron was seemingly spared the ravages of war and destruction afforded to other Cardiganshire towns. This was largely a result of its origin: as an indigenous Welsh settlement, Tregaron had grown organically out of much earlier foundations, as opposed to having developed through an association with defensive castles, as was the case at Aberystwyth, Cardigan, and Lampeter. Indeed, as was seen during the Roman conquest, it was Llanio which saw the construction of fortifications in Norman period, in the form of *Tomen Llanio*, a substantial earthen motte built c.1136. Unlike the fledgling town of Cardigan, which endured endless attack and destruction during the 12th and 13th centuries, Tregaron avoided all such conflict, and was therefore a more peaceful and stable community, allowing for steady economic and social growth. During the 12th

century the Welsh prince Rhys ap Gruffydd was a powerful force in Ceredigion, staging the first Eisteddfod at Cardigan castle in 1176, and it was during his patronage in 1184 that work began on the construction of the current site of Strata Florida abbey, and he generously bestowed gifts of land to its Cistercian monks. In 1188 Archbishop Baldwin, accompanied by Giraldus Cambrensis, two abbots, Rhys ap Gruffydd, the Lord of Lampeter and their associated retinues, passed through Tregaron on their way from Llanddewi Brefi to Strata Florida (Rees 1936: 125). Following Rhys ap Gruffydd's death, Llywelyn the Great seized control of much of Ceredigion, and he bestowed the lordship of Caron to Cynan ap Meredydd, who rebelled against Edward I, and was subsequently defeated. As a result, in 1292 Edward gave the lordship of Caron to the Clement family, and also bestowed a Royal Charter allowing a weekly market and an annual fair to be held at Tregaron, which greatly influenced the future development of the town.

The Talbot Hotel in the main square of the town boasts an origin as an old drover's inn dating to the 13th century, and has been serving the needs of travellers and the community ever since. It is likely, too, that the water-corn mill in the Pentre area of the town was also first established at this time, with small workers' cottages clustering around the mill, creating a small settlement separated from the rest of the town by the main market square.

Acting as host to a weekly market and annual fair assured Tregaron's place as one of the key agricultural market towns in Ceredigion, trading in sheep, cattle, horses and poultry. Very little information is available for the historical development of the town during the 14th and 15th centuries, although it remained in the Clement family, and can be presumed to have been largely stable (see Rees 1936: 13-15).

Post Medieval (c.1486-1900)
Under the lordship of the Clement family the development of the town must have been steady and sustained, as by the first half of the 16th century, Tregaron had become the chief town of the Pennarth Hundred, suggesting it was not only a commercial centre, but an administrative centre as well, with free courts administering justice. The annual *Ffair Garon* was at one time also one of the largest fairs in Wales.

Although mentioned by Leland in his *Itinerary* of 1535, Tregaron achieved greater notoriety in the 16th century as the birthplace of the so-called Welsh 'Robin Hood', Twm Shôn Catti. Separating fact from fiction in the many accounts of Twm's antics appears to reveal the possible presence of two separate characters: one, a cunning highwayman and thief who tricked a wealthy widow into marriage, ending up a JP in Brecon; the other, Thomas Jones, of Fountain Gate (Porth-y-Ffynnon), a gentleman, bard, and heraldic scholar, who lived a life as a highly respectable man, mixing in aristocratic circles, and highly regarded as an accomplished genealogist. It would seem that the latter, Thomas Jones, has had the misfortune of being posthumously identified as 'the wild wag of Wales' solely on the basis of having received a pardon from Elizabeth I in 1559 for an unknown misdemeanour in his youth. The legends and myths which surround the alleged antics of Twm Shôn Catti inspired what is hailed as the first Anglo-Welsh novel, written by TJ Llewelyn Pritchard of Swansea, published in 1826 as '*The Adventures and Vagaries of Twm Shôn Catti, alias Thomas Jones of Tregaron, a wild wag of Wales'.* However, some of the tales attributed to Twm, or Thomas Jones, appear also to have been told also of other legendary rogues, and therefore cannot be relied upon for historical accuracy.

Following the dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII in 1539, when the bells of Strata Florida abbey were allegedly transferred to Tregaron, there was a

general decline in the standard of discipline within the church, both as a religion and as a profession, and an increasing disillusionment with the church and its officials culminated in a rise in Nonconformity in the 17th century. The residents of Tregaron embraced the Nonconformist cause, but were forced to meet in secret and in remote locations following the Reformation. The terrain surrounding Tregaron, with its mountainous landscape and dispersed agricultural settlement, facilitated this underground movement and spread of Nonconformism.

The 17th century was an era of Civil War and general lawlessness, and having largely escaped the ravages of earlier skirmishes, Tregaron found itself caught up for the first time in the indiscrimination of conflict, suffering at the hands of Col. Gerard, who on passing through Tregaron on his way from Montgomeryshire to Haverfordwest, is reported to have swept away everything he could lay his hands upon (Anon., 1909). This was deemed particularly unfair as Cardiganshire's loyalties lay with the Royalists, and the impact of this plundering on the townscape of Tregaron is unclear, although it is likely that the bells from Strata Florida abbey were sold off and smelted for arms at this time. Tregaron, too, was not immune from those who made a living as professional thieves, such as the notorious '*Plant Matt*' bandits, the two sons and a daughter of Tregaron publican Bartholomew Evans, landlord of an old hostelry later known as the 'Old Crown' (Rees 1936: 105). The brothers allegedly terrorised a wide area for many years, evading capture and organising their nocturnal raids from a remote cave at Devil's Bridge until eventually they were caught following the murder of a Judge travelling to preside over Sessions at Rhayader.

Despite the somewhat chequered history of the town during the 17th century, this era spawned the surviving first documentary records for the town, which give a more detailed insight into the lives of Tregaron's inhabitants. Extracts from the Registers and Vestry Book of St Caron's Church chronicles a period from 1653 to 1816, listing baptisms, burials and marriages, as well as the outcome of meetings dealing with parish business. An entry in 1678 records an Act of Parliament passed by Charles II, which demanded that the dead of the parish should be buried in woollen shrouds, in an attempt by the government at Westminster to bolster the woollen industry of England and Wales. A hefty fine of £5 was levied for failure to comply. The woollen industry did indeed grow to be one of the main industries in the area in the 18th century, with the hosiery and flannel woven by the women of Tregaron gaining a reputation for its quality far afield. Rees (1936: 33) compiled a list of residents of the parish from entries in *Llyfyr Gwyn,* the White Book of Caron, for the years 1654-1670, and mentions 40 separate residents, although these are all male. Nonetheless, Register entries for 1675-1690 records 12 different female names as having been baptised in the Church. It is unclear as to why the residential records state only males, but one possible explanation is that only the head of an individual household was noted, and this would typically have been a man.

A snapshot of Tregaron at the beginning of the 18th century is also provided by historical accounts which record the wrangling over the status of the town as a borough in 1730. This dispute involved the right of burgesses in Tregaron to vote in elections to return a Member of Parliament to Westminster, with the House of Commons voting that Tregaron's Charter was invalid. According to an article in the *Welsh Gazette* in 1909, this was on the grounds that Tregaron had no municipal structure, and therefore that its votes were void. According to Wmffre, comments such as "not above forty house" and "about sixty or seventy cottages in the town" from interested parties in the dispute suggests a more likely average of around fifty households within Tregaron town at this time (2004: 558). Despite the growth of the woollen industry in the 1700s, by the end of the 18th century Tregaron town was still only a relatively small and nucleated settlement, with a

cluster of houses around the mill at Pentre and on the crossroads bridging the river and around St Caron's Church, although there is likely to have been some additional urban expansion in the second half of the century, and thus an increase in the number of cottage dwellings on both sides of the river. The main square in front of the Talbot Hotel separated the Pentre cluster from the other zones, and would have played host to the weekly market. The other larger fairs held during the course of the year, including the hire fairs, sheep fairs and *Ffair Garon*, were held on fields on the edge of the town. An entry in the Cambrian Register of 1796 also mentions that during the 18th century there used to be a 'square walled place, open to the sky, to lay bones dug up from old graves' in an area on the north side of the Church (Soulsby and Jones 1976: 42).

One of the earliest cartographic depictions of Tregaron is on Christopher Saxton's engraving of Cardigan, dated to 1610, which shows the town as a seemingly major urban centre, especially when compared with pictorial representations of other contemporary Cardiganshire settlements on the same map (see Figure 3). However, this should be seen more as a symbolic indication of the status of Tregaron within the Penarth Hundred, rather than an accurate depiction of its actual physical size.
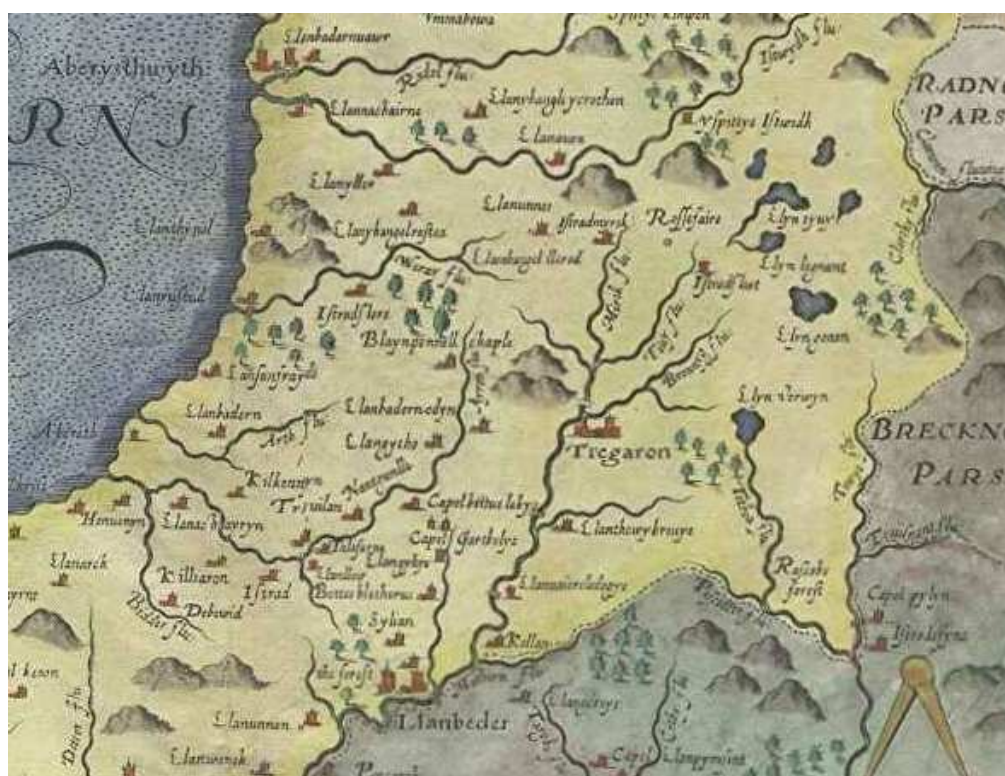
Figure 3 Detail from Saxton's 1610 map of Cardigan

Tregaron continued to be depicted on various other maps produced during the 17th and 18th century (e.g. Bill's 1626 and Blaeu's 1645 maps of Cardiganshire, and Taylor's 1718 map of Cardiganshire and its Hundreds), although it is Cary's 1794 map of Cardiganshire which shows the town spanning both sides of the river for the first time (see Figure 4). Unfortunately his depiction is in insufficient detail to accurately plot the extent of settlement at the end of the 18th century, although it does appear to show significant dwellings clustered around the crossroads and bridge, and illustrates a greater level of settlement compared to just the churches which are depicted for neighbouring villages. The range of

buildings of The Talbot are shown, as are houses around the church, in the area of Pentre, as well as along Chapel Street.

Figure 4 Detail from Cary's Map of Cardiganshire 1794

Figure 5 illustrates the extent of the late 18th century town in relation to the Tregaron of today. The roads leading into and out of town are the same as they have been for centuries, and the development of the town has been shaped by its topographic location as a place of convergence, with the river also exerting an influence over the way in which the town could, and has, spread.

During the 18th century there was a religious revival in Tregaron as the Nonconformist movement grew with the spread of Welsh Methodism. By 1742 there were allegedly 20 people worshipping in the open air at Tanyrallt Uchaf farm[4], and the Methodists quickly grew to be a powerful religious body in the town, moving to old Penlan in 1758. With this religious revival came also a degree of expansion within the town, including the building of the first Bwlchgwynt Chapel in 1774, which was served by two small roads, Chapel Street from the bridge (leading into Lampeter Road) and a small lane which ran between the small cottages on Station Road and Trefelin (Penyrodyn lane).

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[4] A settlement located on one of the mountain roads to the northeast of the town.
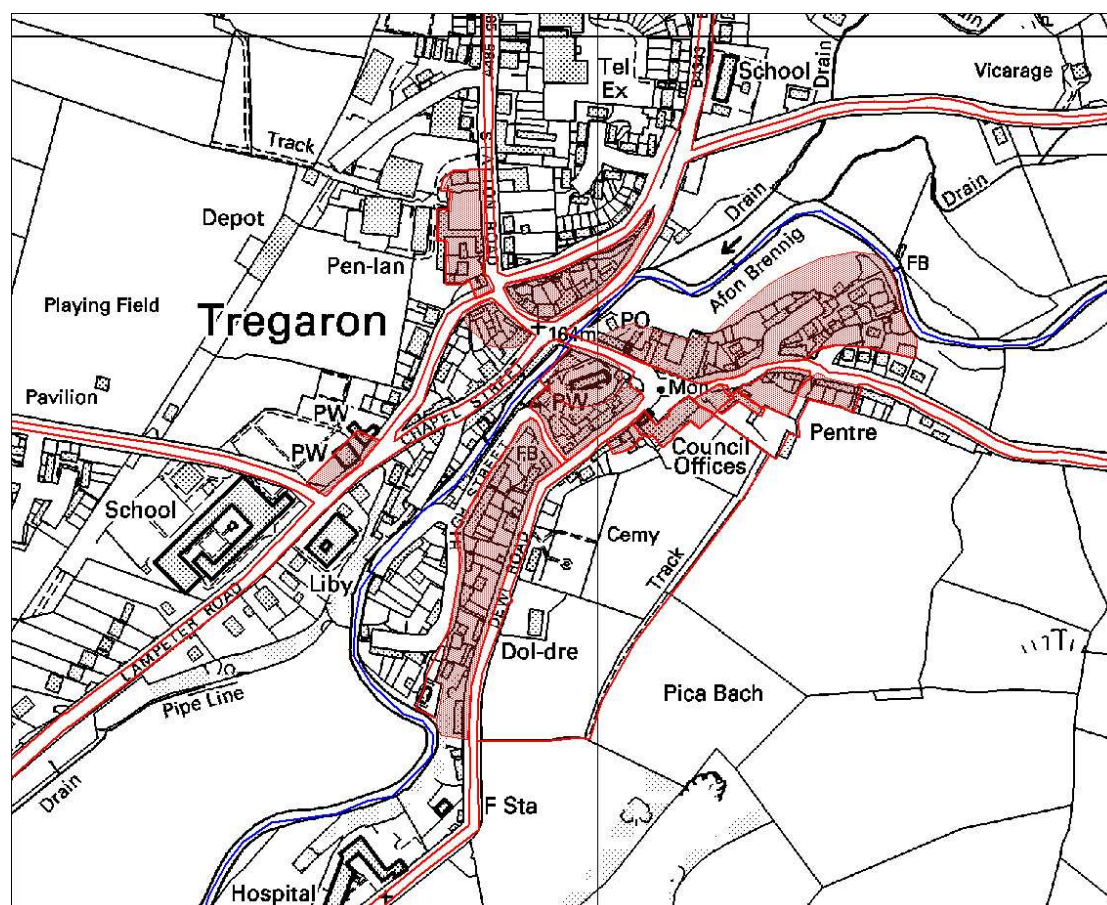
Figure 5 Extent of the 18th century town in relation to modern Tregaron

19th century
In his article on 'The Tregaron of Henry Richard', Jones (1990: 147) describes the
Tregaron of 1809 as follows:

> *'To most visitors it was a nondescript huddle, grouped around a
> church of surprisingly noble proportions and a very large
> churchyard, a square of houses which looked more like a
> triangle, and a straggle of decrepit cottages on the banks of the
> river and strung along the roads into and out of the place.'*

However, its significance as a market town and place of trade saw the opening of
the Aberystwyth and Tregaron bank in 1810, which issued bank notes with black
sheep symbolically representing the value of the note, hence its colloquial name
as the 'Black Sheep Bank' (see Figure 6).   Although this initial bank went
bankrupt in 1814, a century later Tregaron boasted four separate banks, two on
the square, one in Chapel Street and the other by the bridge, which is testimony
to its economic importance as a place of trade.

In 1820-21 Tregaron was surveyed by the Ordnance Survey in advance of the
publication of the First Series maps in 1834, and the original surveyors' drawings
from this period show the spread of the town with St Caron's Church at its centre
in much more detail (see Figure 7). Their survey, at a scale of roughly two inches
to a mile, depicts a number of houses clustered around the Church and to the
south, in an area between the river and west of the road out to Llanddewi Brefi
(Dewi Road).

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Figure 6 'Black Sheep Bank' £2 note

The town square is clearly marked, as are buildings fronting the square on its northern and eastern sides[5], with the settlement around the mill at Pentre depicted as extending as far as the banks of the Brennig. By this time there was also urban settlement on the western side of the river, in two small areas enclosed by roads[6], with another small cluster on Station Road, of which 'Trefelin' house is now the oldest surviving remnant. Bwlchgwynt Chapel is also clearly

Figure 7 Detail from the OS original surveyors' drawings 1820-21

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[5] This depicts the area now occupied by Barclays Bank and Memorial Hall on the north, and the Talbot Hotel and Council offices on the east.
[6] In the area now occupied by the Llew Coch, Nat West Bank and the former Sunnyhill hotel on one side, and the row including Medical Hall, La's Florist and nos. 4-7 Station Road on the other.

marked on the map, although is inaccurately depicted at the junction of the lane leading to Ystrad Caron, whereas in reality it is set a little away from the corner.

A drawing of Tregaron, quaintly described as *'Sketched from Nature & Drawn on Stone by W. Eldridge'* was published in 1827 and depicts the town with a mixture of thatched cottages and houses and a resplendent church tower, following its rebuilding in 1805 (see Figure 8). The image appears to be viewing the town from the north at the point where Bryn Caron now stands, with presumably the more substantial dwellings closest to the bridge being those of the *Llew Coch* (The Red Lion pub), Ormond House and North End (Vanog).

Figure 8 Lithograph print of Tregaron by W. Eldridge, published 1827 (NLW 13558182)

The first mention of Tregaron within historic directories occurs within Pigot and Co.'s *National Commercial Directory* published in 1835. In it, the town is described as consisting 'chiefly of one street, the houses of which are irregular, and many of them ancient buildings of stone. It is a place of very little trade but the fairs are well attended….with the March fair…also a large one for stockings.' (p.796). Tregaron is mentioned within various historic directories spanning a period from 1835 to 1926, which charts the expansion of Tregaron in socio-economic terms. These directory entries paint an interesting picture of the development of Tregaron and its population during an important time in the historic development of the town. In 1835 six inns and public houses are recorded[7], with residents including nine gentry and clergy and twenty-seven shopkeepers and traders, only one of which was female[8]. There were four carpenters, three shoemakers, three 'retailers of beers' (in addition to the public

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[7] The Black Lion, Crown & Anchor, Fountain, Hosiers' Arms, Old Red Lion and Talbot Inn.
[8] Esther Phillips, retailer of beer.

houses), two blacksmiths, two grocers and drapers, two unspecified shopkeepers, and one miller, tea dealer, butcher, tailor, saddler, tin-plate worker, chemist, stone-mason and maltster. In terms of family names, amongst the innkeepers, shopkeepers and traders there were six Davies, five Jones, four Evans, three each of Rees, Thomas and Williams, two Edwards and Owens, and one each of Morgan, Phillips and Roderick. Undoubtedly it was a close-knit community of extended families. According to Samuel Lewis in his *Topographical Dictionary*, Tregaron town had 655 inhabitants[9] in 1833, and the town can be assumed to have contained more than the 50 houses recorded a hundred years previously.

The Tithe Map and Apportionment of 1842 (Figure 9) records the individual plots and dwellings in detail for the first time, and is a much more accurate depiction of the town than the Ordnance Surveyors' original field drawings of two decades previous. For Tregaron town, which was surveyed at a scale of four chains to one inch, there were 75 separate field entries mapped and recorded in the Apportionment, mainly identifying individual cottages/houses with gardens, although 14 entries were for small garden plots alone, with no dwellings.
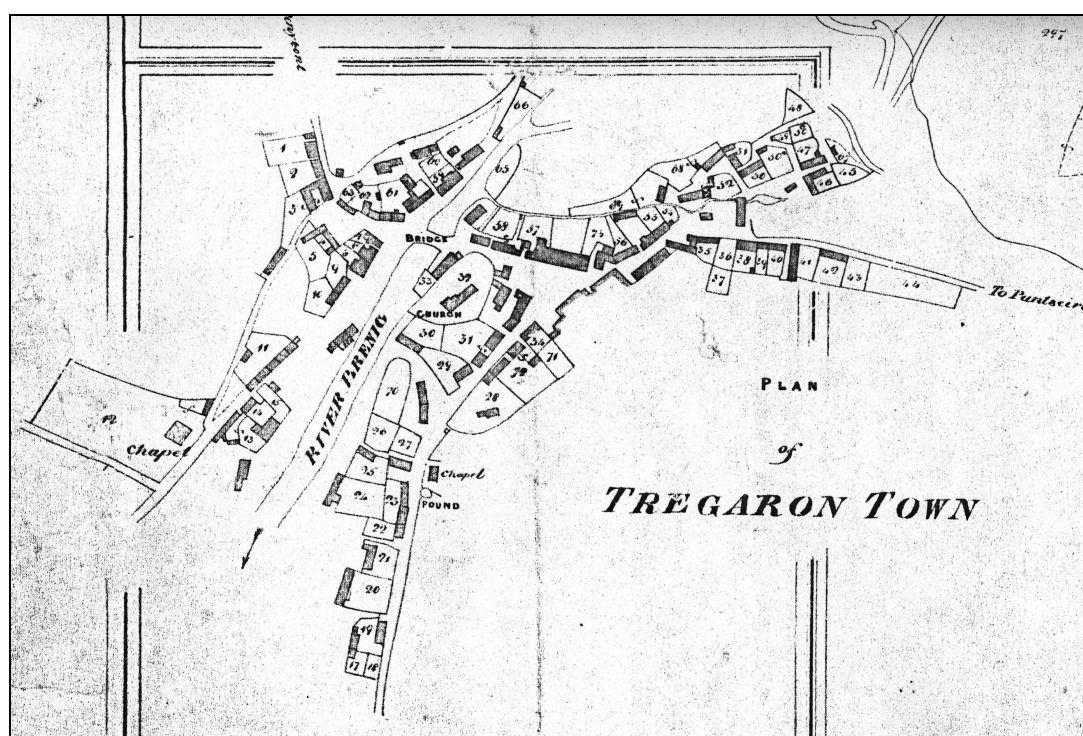
Figure 9 Detail of Tregaron town as surveyed for the Tithe Map and Apportionment 1842

The area to the south of the town, bounded by the river to the west and Dewi Road to the east, was annotated on the overall Parish of Caron Tithe map as an area of Common, extending as far as the site now occupied by the hospital. When compared to the extent of the town as indicated in the 1820 OS surveyors' drawings (as seen in Figure 7), the intervening twenty years between the making of these maps and the Tithe shows a gradual steady expansion of the town, a trend which was to gather considerable pace throughout the mid-19th century. A Wesleyan Methodist chapel had been built in the intervening years, with a pound adjacent, and there were also houses recorded for the first time opposite, and

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[9] This figure also includes the townships of Argoed and Ystrad, within the parish of Tregaron, but as these were only small settlements, their inclusion is unlikely to distort the figure too greatly.

along from, the Bwlchgwynt chapel between Chapel Street and the river. Chapel Street remained largely undeveloped, with the exception of a house and yard (no. 16 on the Tithe, and now the Cambrian Coffee Shoppe/Riverside), and a row of three cottages with an adjacent pair of houses (nos. 6-10 on the Tithe), which is now recognised as Medical Hall and the Surgery (Salop House).

Tregaron as a town particularly flourished in the mid-19th century through its importance as a centre for droving. Animals bought in south Cardiganshire, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire converged on Tregaron, from whence they were driven across the mountains via Abergwesyn and Hereford, or via Llandovery and Brecon, to enter England and to graze on the lush pastures of Northamptonshire and the Home Counties (Moore-Colyer 2002). The animals were shod in a compound behind the Talbot Hotel, with Tregaron the last lowland station before the start of the arduous upland route across the mountains and to the English fairs. At its height this industry supported six different blacksmiths in the town to shoe the cattle, and shows the importance of droving to the local economy. The town also supported 11 pubs and various hotels, not to mention the various other commercial outlets and industries such as grocers, drapers, carpenters, hosiers, and shoemakers.
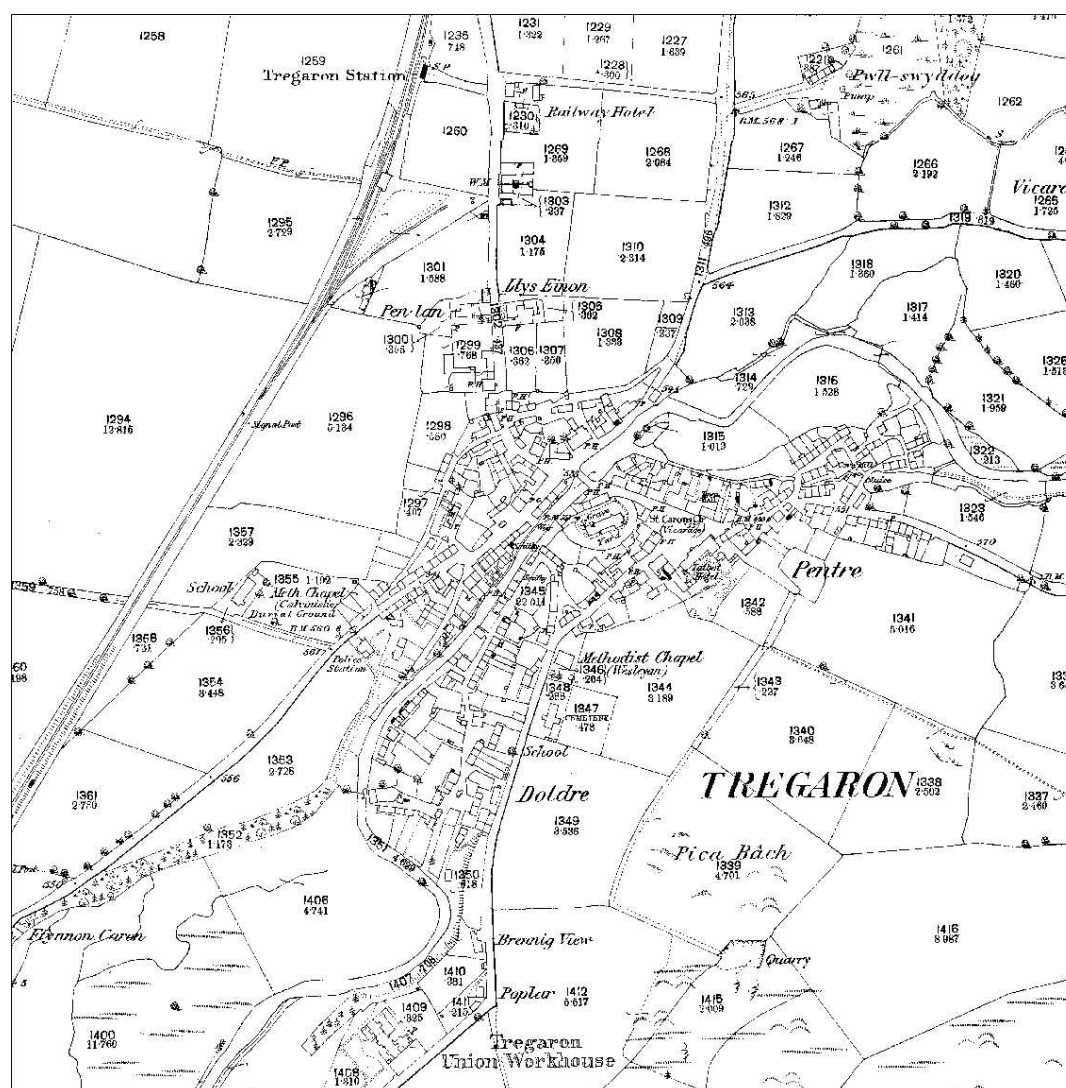

Figure 10 Tregaron as depicted on the OS 1st Edition 25" map, published 1889

The construction of turnpike roads also helped boost the fortunes of the town, with the main Abergwesyn mountain road and droving route to England remaining toll-free, thus increasing Tregaron's popularity as the place from which to drove over to the Herefordshire borders. In 1833 Lewis estimated the population of the town to have been 665 inhabitants: by 1844, according to the new edition of Pigot & Co.'s *Directory,* there were about 800 in town, an increase of 20% in a decade. New trades listed, and directly linked to the increased droving trade included two cattle dealers, a horse dealer, a pig dealer, and a farrier. There were also an increased number of tailors, hosiers, joiners and butchers, with other new trades including a bookbinder, a cooper, a glover, a wheelwright, an earthenware dealer, and, perhaps most surprisingly, seven individual egg dealers. The previous family names still appeared, some having expanded, with new surnames added including that of George, Hughes, Lewis, and Lloyd. The number of traders listed in 1844 had more than doubled from 27 to 64 in under ten years, and included four women, three of which were beer retailers. By 1851 there were three woollen factories operating in Tregaron, employing 176 knitters and 63 tailors, with the girls of the area gathering on the bridge on a Tuesday morning to sell their stockings, which were bought and then taken by peddlers to the industrial valleys of Glamorgan to be sold on (Curiad Caron 1998: 10).

By the 1860s Tregaron was a thriving small town and enjoying its zenith. Rather unfairly, despite the significant expansion of the town in the mid-19th century, the description of Tregaron within commercial directories was rarely revised, and in subsequent *Directories* up until 1895 Tregaron is still listed as consisting chiefly of one street (with the exception of Worrall 1875), although clearly this was inaccurate. In 1859 *Slater's Directory* (late Pigot & Co) the Talbot was listed as the principal inn, with 'the business of the inland revenue for this locality…transacted here' (p.140), whilst the nearest railway was listed as 'Lampeter Road, twenty-eight miles distant' (p.141). However, by the publication of the 1868 *Directory* the railway had reached Tregaron, and a station was noted as three minutes' walk from the town.

The coming of the railway changed the fortunes of the town, both for better and for worse. There was a noticeable urban expansion following the laying of the Manchester and Milford Railway, linking Carmarthen with Aberystwyth, which arrived in Tregaron from the south in 1866. However, it also signalled the end of traditional droving, and facilitated the trend of economic migration of the young to the different employment opportunities now available in south Wales and London. The woollen industry was also heavily affected, as new markets opened up and people moved away to sell their wares. When the Ordnance Survey published their 1st Edition 25" map in 1889 the railway had cut a swathe in the landscape and had resulted in a flurry of new building. In the intervening years between the Tithe Map and the OS 1st Edition Tregaron had acquired a number of new dwellings (largely hugging both sides of the riverbank, including Well Street, High Street and Chapel Street), a workhouse, two schools, a Wesleyan Methodist chapel and a police station, as well as the railway station itself and accompanying Railway Hotel (as seen in Figure 11). The Tregaron Union Workhouse opened in 1876 on the southern fringes of the town, and the 1881 census records 15 residents (3 staff and 12 inmates), although only one was listed as from Tregaron[10].

Comparisons between the town in the 1840s and its extent in 1889 (Figure 11) shows that there had been a particular flurry of urban expansion in the Dol-dre

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[10] Most of the inmates were from the surrounding area, including five from Llanddewi Brefi, three from Gwnws, with the majority under 12, and often from the same family.

area of town, in the area formerly marked on the Tithe as Common Land. Jones (1960: 74) links this expansion into this area of former Common Land to two factors: one, the growth of the hosiery trade, and second the construction of the turnpike road to Lampeter. When the turnpike road replaced the old parish road to Lampeter in 1840, this part of the Brennig was deepened and partly canalised, which meant that the area of Common Land, previously prone to flooding, was now reclaimed.
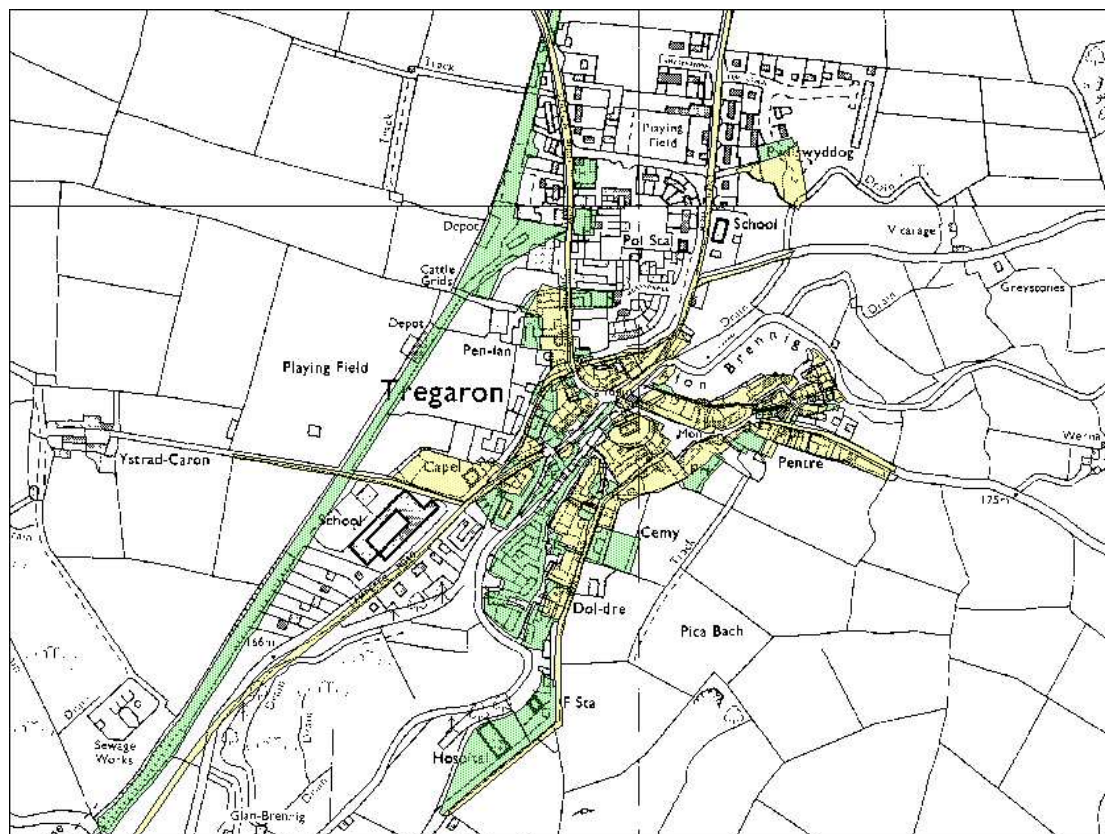
Figure 11 Expansion of the town between 1842 and 1889

Even before 1840, the pressure of economic expansion on the town meant an increased demand for land and resources from the burgeoning rural population, most of who were employed in the woollen industry. 'Squatter settlements' became common, with the traditional method of claiming a parcel of land being the construction of a *tŷ unnos*, literally 'a one-night house'. A custom at this time held that if a person were able to build a house between dusk and dawn, with smoke rising from the chimney by the morning, then they had claim to the freehold right of that defined parcel of land. It seems that the area of Dol-dre was largely developed in this way: the threading of yarn between needles to delimit a plot shows that the majority of these *tŷ unnos* were claimed by knitters and hosiers, who then constructed a turf house overnight to lay claim to their tenancy. Once ownership was established these turf houses were gradually rebuilt in stone and expanded, often with the original sods of the *tŷ unnos* removed one by one through the new front door. The canalising of the river also facilitated the development of the town along both Chapel Street and High Street, with a number of new houses built right up to the banks of the Brennig. Many of the new houses along Chapel Street in particular were 'parlour shops', often opened by enterprising widows in the front room of their houses to try and make a living, with their success usually dependent on the patronage of their extended family.

As Figure 11 demonstrates, the expansion of the urban settlement in Tregaron virtually doubled in the fifty years between 1840 and 1890. During this time a number of earlier cottages and buildings were demolished and rebuilt, and new areas were colonised. As such, the prevailing architecture visible in the centre of Tregaron today dates largely from this mid-late 19th century period of economic and urban growth, having been built over the earlier foundations of the medieval-18th century town. By the time the Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition map was published in 1905, there had been very little additional building undertaken, with the chief additions being the County School built in 1899 (now the Library) and a few new dwellings behind Trefelin and along Station Road.

20th century
By the turn of the 20th century, the development of Tregaron was almost complete. The railway signalled the end of traditional droving, with animals now transported by rail rather than road, thus rendering a large part of Tregaron's economy redundant. The woollen industry also suffered from a decreased demand for its goods, with a result that by 1929, all five mills which had been operating in Tregaron in 1880 had closed. However, the market and fairs continued to flourish, and Tregaron retained its importance as an agricultural market town. The railway also served as a means of importing goods, and the position of Tregaron as an administrative centre was also consolidated. Indeed, Tregaron magistrates met on the first Tuesday of the month right up until 1978, when the court was then moved to Aberystwyth. A new council school was built in 1913, and in 1914 the Workhouse was closed, and was converted instead into a TB sanatorium. The Town Hall was built in 1877 by the Powells of Nanteos, who owned most of the town until 1918, when their Sunny Hill estate was divided into lots and sold. It was renamed Memorial Hall in 1918, after being sold to a consortium of local individuals who wished to retain the building in honour of their dead from the recent First World War.

Although the railway allowed the migration of people out of Tregaron, largely to the coalfields of south Wales, it also brought with it new families and traders, such as Rees Jones, a draper from Cardiff, who came to Tregaron in 1874 and set up the Emporium (now Rhiannon's). Jones employed a tailor, dressmaker and milliner, and set up shop in a number of different buildings until moving to the grander premises on the square, which had been built in 1887 on the site of the former Bristol Arms public house. By the outbreak of the First World War in 1914 there were four Banks and four schools, suggesting that Tregaron was still prospering, and despite the decline in traditional droving, there were still three cattle dealers and a pig dealer trading according to the historical *Directories*.

Religious observance and the Methodist movement remained important in Tregaron, and despite the numerous public houses in town there were also two Temperance Hotels (Brynawel and Hafdre) to cater for those of more restrained persuasion.

Development in Tregaron between 1905 and 1918 saw only very small pockets of urban expansion, with the Intermediate School building doubling in size in 1909 and the addition of Lluest in 1910, which served as the headmaster's house. Twyn-yr-odyn on Station Road was also built in 1916, next to the former New Lamb Inn[11]. In 1909 the cattle-market was re-established in the field behind Wern Villa and Caron House, both of which had been built in 1891, and has been expanded and developed since then and remains in use as the mart today.

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[11] Redeveloped in 1965 as two houses, Hyfrydle and Esger Villa.

The inter-war years saw some expansion on the fringes of the town, particularly along Lampeter Road. Gwynfryn and Tegfan, as semi-detached bungalows, were apparently dismantled from Sunny Hill Farm in 1924 and re-erected on their current site, whilst the grand brick-built Maesaleg was constructed in 1937 for the retiring first headmaster of the Intermediate School. It was also during this period, in 1926, that the current Nat West Bank building was constructed on the site of the storehouse and stables of the Llew Coch, on 'Little Square' (Sgwar Fach). An old photograph of Tregaron bridge, taken from the Church tower in c.1890, shows what appears to be a single-storey integral cottage and stable with steps on its gable end leading to a feed-store above (see Rees 1936: 129), which was demolished to make way for the half-timbered building which replaced it, itself now a Grade II listed building. Beyond the Vicarage, on the edge of Banc Sunny Hill, the town also boasted a golf course in the 1930s.
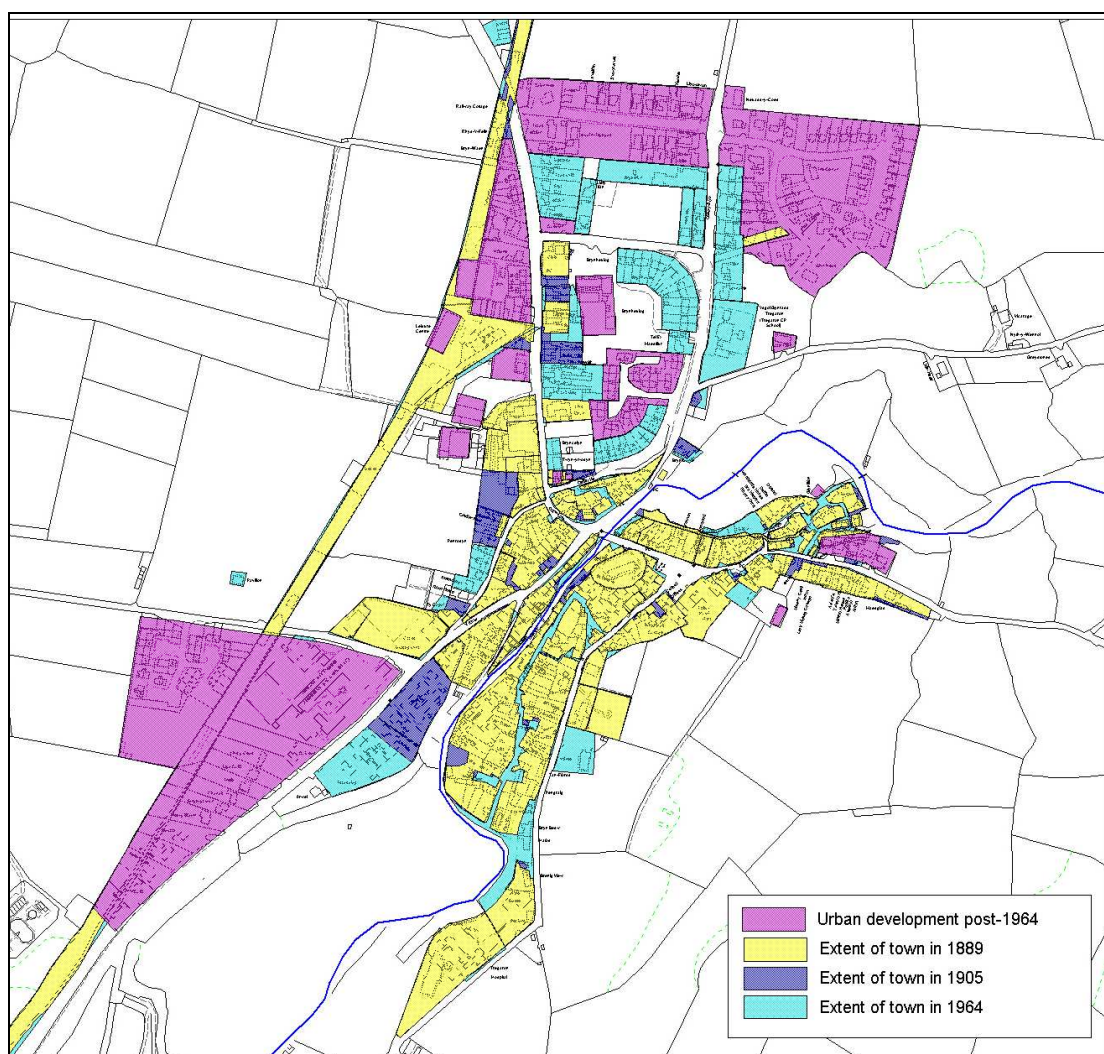
Figure 12 Development of town from 1889 to present

The post-war era has seen two key phases of urban development: the first in the 20 years immediately after the war, which saw the construction of small pockets of council housing in the town; and, post-1965, the establishment of private housing estates and the redevelopment of the former Station Yard as an Industrial Estate. Figure 12 clearly demonstrates the extent of this expansion. The Brynheulog estate was built immediately after the end of the war during the late 1940s, with the current telephone exchange replacing the manual Chapel

Street Post Office exchange in 1949. The police station also moved from Lampeter Road (Ffynnon Garon) to a new purpose-built station opposite the County Primary School in 1963 (Maesfflur, now an extension of Bryntiron Residential Home and Day Centre)[12]. Alongside the school there is a line of post-war houses, including Neuadd Wen, built in 1958 as the new Bwlchgwynt manse. The Maesyrawel estate was built in two stages: the first, in 1952, is evidenced by the houses following the curve of the lane towards the now-vanished New Lamb Inn, with the second stage added in 1972. The small Minygors estate on Station Road was also completed in 1955.

Post-1965 there has been renewed development within the town. The railway closed with the Beeching cuts in the 1960s and the area of the former station and goods yard has since been redeveloped as an industrial estate and bowling green. A new leisure centre has been built over the area of the former goods shed, and there is nothing of either the shed or the station extant today. The sole surviving building associated with the railway is Railway Cottage, the last house on Station Road, which housed the keeper of the level crossing gates. Much of the former railway line has been built over, especially in the area of Lampeter Road, which has been redeveloped as Tregaron Comprehensive School, the Maesamlwg council housing estate and the private dwellings forming a ribbon development on the southwestern fringes of the town.

On the north side of town there are two modern private housing estates, Rhyd-y-Fawnog and Pwllswyddog/Lon Caron, the latter having been built over an area of medieval settlement, and obliterating the early row of cottages which once stood there. In the 18th century there was once a small community here attached to the Sunny Hill estate, owned by the Powell family of Nanteos, and would have been a small suburb of the main Tregaron town. Similarly, redevelopment of housing in the Pentre area of town has seen the disappearance of the medieval mill-pond and leat associated with the water Corn mill, which had also seen continuous occupation since at least the 15th century, if not earlier[13]. The former workhouse, which had been a TB Sanatorium since 1914, was converted into a hospital in 1960s, and remains as such today, although its future is currently uncertain. A new purpose-built wing was added to the main building in 1982, having been erected within the lawn and gardens of the site.

The Known Archaeological Resource

Information sources

Historical documentary evidence
Wales was not included in the Domesday survey, and therefore one of the first historic documentary sources to indicate a thriving settlement at Tregaron came when the Lord of Caron received a Royal Charter in 1292, allowing a weekly market and a yearly fair to be held in Tregaron, as granted by King Edward I.

As noted earlier, Wales was not mapped until Saxton in the 1570s, although by the time of Jansen's map of 1646 Tregaron is depicted as a bright and thriving town. Tregaron appears on other historic maps (e.g. Seller 1701, Carrey 1794) but the town itself was not mapped in any detail until the 1820s and the original

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[12] The police station closed during the 1980s and a new police office has only recently been re-instated within Tregaron Hospital.
[13] The first mention of a mill here was in 1431, although the area of Pentre was probably occupied from at least the 13th century onwards.

Ordnance Survey surveyors' drawings, followed thereafter by the Tithe map of 1842.

Ancient documents pertaining to the parish church, the Registers and Vestry book of St Caron's Church, 1653-1816, and the White Book of Caron, 1787-1846, also provide interesting insights into the historical development of the town of Tregaron. Extracts from these are contained within Rees (1936: 25-41). Parochial vestries had to maintain their own poor, repair the by-roads of the parish, apprentice poor orphans, and decide the amount of the Poor Rate, etc.

Tregaron is mentioned by topographical writers of the 16th, 18th and 19th centuries, including John Leland (1536-9: see Toulmin Smith 1964), Theophilus Jones (in the *Cambrian Register*, 1796: see Rees 1936: 7-8), Malkin and Barber in *Tours in Wales, 1803*, Samuel Meyrick in 1805 (Meyrick 1810), Lewis in his *Topographical Dictionary* (1833), and George Borrow in *Wild Wales* (1862), amongst others.

All historical and contemporary sources are listed at the back of this report in Appendix 2.

Topography and standing buildings
The present layout of Tregaron is characterised at its centre by the large commercial square, with a discontinuous frontage of small shops interspersed with private houses, and the more densely populated areas of Dol-dre and Pentre, whose dwellings retain their original 19th century architectural and spatial character. The historic growth of Tregaron has been largely slow but steady, and as a result the original nuclei of the settlement (the Church and square, Pentre, Dol-dre, Chapel Street, Station Road) remain clearly visible (Carter 1966: 270). Later 20th century development and spread is largely confined to the northern fringes of the town, and is easily distinguished in architectural terms from the earlier settlement patterns of the town, which owes its present form to Tregaron's origins in the medieval period.

Very little of the medieval fabric of the early town remains, with perhaps the only visible remnants those within the 14th century tower of St Caron's Church, although this underwent a substantial rebuild in the early 1800s and again in 1878-9. The font, however, would appear to be of 14th century workmanship, but any earlier remnants are sadly lacking. There is nonetheless a good possibility of buried medieval remains being discovered within the town, perhaps within the cellars of later buildings which replaced their earlier counterparts, and particularly in the remaining undeveloped 'garden' areas in the centre of town. Within the remaining open spaces within the town, particularly the area between the river and Pentre settlement, traces of archaeological material relating to domestic occupation of the town from the 13th century onwards might well be recovered through excavation.

The layout of the town has changed little since the 15th century, and largely owes its arrangement to the foundation of the Church, and its strategic location at a crossing point on the river and a convergence of roads. In this way, the layout of the modern town and roads is living evidence of its medieval origins, even though the structures of the early town have long since been replaced. The narrow streets and 'higgledy-piggledy' arrangement of houses and cottages in the Dol-dre and Pentre areas particularly reflect the piecemeal expansion of the town, especially from the 18th century onwards.

Plate 1 Undeveloped areas either side of the Brennig, looking over to, and from, Pentre

The majority of the historic fabric of the town as seen today dates from the considerable expansion of the town during the 19th century. However, there are some earlier structures of note, which includes the Talbot Hotel and the cottages on Station Road, in particular 'Trefelin', a grade II listed building. A particular feature of Trefelin is the well-preserved cobbled paving at the front and rear of the house, and suggests a mid-18th century date for the house, making it one of the oldest surviving secular houses in Tregaron. The house, of rubble-stone with a slate roof, is listed by Cadw 'as a rare survivor of the pre-19th century houses of the town, still with the small upper windows typical of the Georgian period' (1998: 6).

Plate 2 Trefelin 18th century cottage, and other likely cottages of 18th century date

Although the Talbot Hotel claims 13th century origins as an old drovers' inn, none of this 13th century fabric remains. Also a listed building, the earliest remnants date to the late 18th century and are visible as the lower left wing to the larger 19th century grand hotel entrance (see Plate 3). Outside, the mounting steps are still visible on the gable end. The range to the right of the central, three-storey block is the converted former mid-19th century coach-house and stables.

Plate 3 Views of the Talbot Hotel

Surviving early and mid-19th century fabric elsewhere in the town is limited, although interestingly is evidenced most conspicuously by the religious buildings in the town, namely St Caron's Church and both Methodist Chapels[14].

Plate 4 Examples of surviving early and mid-19th century architecture in the town

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[14] The current Bwlchgwynt Calvinist chapel built in 1833 (altered 1865) and Wesleyan Chapel on the other side of the river, now ruined.

Elsewhere, the areas of expansion in the first half of the 19th century have been subject to later redevelopment, certainly in the case of the *Tŷ Unnos* at Dol-dre, of which there are little surviving upstanding archaeological remains except in the form of some of the individual plot boundaries. The dripstone chimneys still visible on some properties in Well Street, Dol-dre and Pentre suggest they were once thatched cottages, before being modernised into their current state.

Plate 5 Examples of dripstone chimneys in Well Street and Pentre

Exploring the town on foot affords a fresh perspective of Tregaron's historic development, with its narrow winding lanes and hidden nooks and crannies revealed, especially in the area of Pentre and Dol-dre. For the most part, wherever one stands in the town, the view is dominated by the formidable presence of the Church and its tower, whilst the stark contrast in architectural styles within and between the different parts of the town is living proof of its separate small flurries of expansion. In the area of Pentre-Isaf, this is especially noticeable, with little low cottages (such as Plas Bach) hemmed in by the later 19th century cottages and terraced houses of Glanllyn.

Plate 6 The Church and town, and mixing the old with the new in Pentre

Other interesting features can be seen along Chapel Street and in the houses built on the riverbank, on both sides of the river. At the side of the Cambrian Coffee Shop adjacent to 'Riverbank' (itself an architecturally interesting house) there is a narrow alleyway, also cobbled, leading to a pedestrian bridge across the river, suggesting certainly an early 19th century date for the alley. Some of the houses in this range backing onto the river are also likely to have much earlier origins than their current architecture belies.

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Plate 7 Cobbled alley and Chapel Street, front and rear

Another interesting area lies within that of the 'High Street', which, like Pentre, is a mix of architectural styles, including the low cottages now combined as 'Glanyrhosyn' and the later 19th and early 20th century terraced houses. It is also interesting to note here that two of the distinctive open garden plots recorded on the tithe in 1842 in this area (nos. 26 and 70), still remain undeveloped even today.

Plate 8 'Glanrhosyn', and the open garden plots, largely unchanged since 1840

Further down 'High Street' and fronting the river there is another row of early stone-built cottages, probably of early to mid-19th century date, which also retain a cobbled alley separating the dwellings and giving access to the gardens behind (see Plate 9).

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Plate 9 Early cottages fronting the river, and detail of the cobbled alley

The mid to late 19th century historic fabric of the town, which evidences the pinnacle of the town's popularity and expansion, is particularly visible in the Chapel Street and Dol-dre areas of the town, and also on the fringes, with the construction of the workhouse and 'Poplar' on Dewi Road to the south, and the Railway Hotel to the north. The large and imposing 'Monarch' on Chapel Street was built in 1861 by a local builder, John Owens, who intended calling it the Railway Hotel, in the hope that the Manchester and Milford Railway line would soon reach Tregaron. However, when the railway eventually arrived in 1866, the station was some distance away, and so Owens called it the Monarch Inn instead (Tregaron WI 1984: 15), with an alternative Railway Hotel built closer to the new station.

Plate 10 the former Monarch Inn, Railway Hotel, Workhouse and Poplars

Within the area of Chapel Street on the west side of the river, there was a blend of both commercial and domestic architectures, with cottages and houses intermingling with shops and workshops, dating mostly from the 19th century.

Plate 11 Mid-late 19th century parlour shops and houses along Chapel Street

The frontages on the east side of the river, to the northeast of the Church and approaching the square, are evidence of the later rebuilding of the original properties which once existed there in the late 18th and early 19th century, and evidence the growth in the town during the mid-Victorian period, which saw new and more splendid buildings replacing the earlier workshops and dwellings.

This historic fabric, dating from this expansion of Tregaron in the late 19th-early 20th century, is extremely well-preserved in the overall architectural style which dominates the central townscape today, which is predominantly neo-Georgian. Throughout the town, especially in the area of the main square, there are other clear examples of the architectural style of this period, as evidenced by Barclays Bank (built in 1905 on the former site of Castle Stores) and Rhiannon's (built in 1887 on the former site of the Bristol Arms).

Plate 12 Examples of later 19th century rebuilding in the town, replacing earlier dwellings and workshops

Listed buildings in the town which date to this period include the 1893 statue of Henry Richard gracing the square, and the Nat West Bank, dated to 1924-6, which is listed 'as an exceptional inter-War building utilising the revival of timber-framing skills to traditional designs, [and is] the only such building in Cardiganshire' (Cadw 1998: 5) (Plate 13)[15]. The most modern listed building is the red telephone kiosk outside the Memorial Hall, which dates to between 1936 and 1952.

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[15] Other listed buildings in the town include St Caron's Church with its late 14th century tower, the Talbot Hotel with its 18th century wing, the Bwlchgwynt Chapel founded in 1774, and Trefelin, a surviving example of a mid-18th century house (Cadw 1998).

Plate 13 Statue of Henry Richard, Nat West Bank, and phone box, all Grade II Listed Buildings

During the first half of the 20th century there were small pockets of development within the town, including some typical 1930s houses along Station Road, and the first small council housing estates. The coming of the railway had also brought with it the availability of different building materials, seen especially in the 'bacon and egg' brickwork visible in the houses along Station Road, dating to the late 19th and early 20th century.

Plate 14 'Bacon and egg' brickwork, 1930s houses and the 1955 Maesamlwyg estate

The 'industrial' area of the town which developed with the railway, between the railway line and Station road, remains largely devoted to manufacture and industrial units, with Express Contract Drying (food colouring and flavouring manufacturers) in the area of the former Station Yard, as well as other smaller units including the Farmers Co-op and DJ Tyres. The area of the former Goods

Shed serving Tregaron Station has now been redeveloped as a Leisure Centre, with no traces of the original Station remaining either: the area is now used as a bowling green.

Plate 15   The Leisure Centre and bowling green, built over earlier railway buildings

In terms of later 20th century architecture and redevelopment, there are the familiar small housing estates on the north side of town, with some ribbon development of bungalows and houses on the outskirts of town along the Lampeter Road. Tregaron Comprehensive School also demonstrates the typical architecture of the 1960s.

Plate 16   Post-1965 estates, Ribbon development and the comprehensive school

Archaeological interventions
Apart from non-intrusive building recording and survey, the only archaeological work known to have been carried out in Tregaron town relates to a watching brief undertaken during the demolition of Gelli Gron, formerly the Ivy Bush Hotel, which is located next to the Talbot. This work was undertaken in 2000 as part of

a road widening scheme at the junction of the Abergwesyn road with the square by Ceredigion County Council (Jones 2000). On 10th July 1848 "Batty's Menagerie" visited Tregaron, and one of the circus elephants died in the stable at the Ivy Bush Inn, from drinking water contaminated with lead. The elephant is said to be buried 'behind the Talbot Hotel', although the exact site is unknown. However, it is possible that it lies in the area now currently utilised as the car-park for the Talbot.

During the watching brief on the demolition of the cottage at Gelli-Gron, during which a foundation trench was dug in the rear yard, it was noted that the house had been stone-built, of likely 18th century date, and of central-entry-stair-passage plan. No medieval features were observed during the supervision of the trench excavation, although the site falls within the medieval core of the early town. Medieval remains may be still preserved beneath part of the site. The former stable and cart-house of Gelli-Gron is currently used as a bottle store by the Talbot and fortunately was not included in the demolition plans. The site of the elephant's demise therefore remains extant, and offers potential as a quirky tourist feature.

Archaeological potential
In total seven separate character areas relating to the historic development of the town have been identified. These are:

Area 1   East Tregaron – medieval core of town, which sprung up initially around the church, and includes the square

Area 2   West Tregaron – also of early origins, with settlement shown on 18th century maps, medieval and post-medieval in date with additional 19th century expansion

Area 3   Tregaron Hospital – the former Workhouse, built in 1876, which became a TB sanatorium in 1914, and then a cottage hospital in the 1960s

Area 4   Dol-dre – area of 19th century development

Area 5   Pentre – small area of medieval settlement, with increasing development in the 18th and 19th centuries

Area 6   Outer Tregaron – large area of late 19th and 20th century development on the western and northern edges of the town, on the west side of the river, including the railway

Area 7   Outer fields – fields on the western and northern fringes of the present town, which may date to the medieval period

These are discussed in detail in Appendix 1, and are illustrated in Map 2.

On the basis if these seven historic character areas for the town, three planning zones have also been identified, and are discussed in more detail in the following section, and are illustrated in Figure 113.

Figure 13: Tregaron Town Planning zones

TREGARON TOWN PLANNING ZONES

ZONE 1   MEDIEVAL SETTLEMENT CORE

Key Historic Environment Elements

Medieval core of town, which sprung up initially around the church, and includes the square and the core of the town to the west of the river, also of early origins, with settlement shown on 18th century maps. Corresponds to historic character areas 1, 2 and 5.

Tregaron Historic Town Survey   Planning Zone 1 Medieval Settlement Core

Listed Buildings

9909	II	Church of Saint Caron
10691	II	Trefelin, Station Road
18476	II	Henry Richard Memorial
18478	II	The Talbot Hotel
18479	II	Telephone Call Box by the Memorial Hall
18477	II	National Westminster Bank
18480	II	Bwlchgwynt Chapel

Planning Objectives
- Preserve the topography and morphology of the town's historic cores through the retention of historic property boundaries and surviving historic buildings
- Where appropriate seek to enhance the historic topography and morphology of the town through re-instatement of historic property boundaries
- Where demolition or alteration is proposed to standing buildings identify and protect elements and features which form part of the historic character of the zone.
- Where it is not possible to retain all historic features of standing buildings appropriate recording will be required.

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- Consider and apply, where possible, planning 'gain' mechanisms to enable the presentation and interpretation of the medieval town.
- Consider and develop the tourism potential of the historic environment of the zone
- Preservation of archaeological remains *in situ* above and below ground is the Authority's preferred option. 'Preservation by record' is considered a second best option.

Applicable Unitary Development Plan Policies
ENVB1.5   ENVB1.7   ENVB1.8   ENVB1.9   ENVB1.10   ENVB1.13

Planning Constraints
1. Where nationally important archaeological deposits will be adversely affected by proposed development planning consent will not be granted
2. New development should maintain and enhance the medieval morphology/topography of Tregaron Town
3. New development should ensure the protection of the historic character of the town
4. Alteration/demolition of historic standing buildings will require assessment/evaluation of the historic fabric to be affected by the proposal.
5. Where important historic fabric is threatened and preservation *in situ* is not appropriate archaeological recording to secure preservation by record will be required.
6. Alterations to standing buildings should ensure the protection of the historic character of the town
7. Intrusive archaeological field evaluation will be required to determine the character, condition, significance and depth of archaeological deposits where threatened prior to the determination of any application.
8. Dependent on the results of evaluation developers may be required to secure the preservation *in situ* of threatened buried archaeological deposits through foundation design.
9. Developers will be required to provide details of foundation design with planning applications where preservation *in situ* is required.
10. Where remains of less than national importance are threatened by proposed development mitigation may require full archaeological excavation of threatened deposits to ensure 'preservation by record'.

ZONE 2   POST-MEDIEVAL SETTLEMENT CORE

Key Historic Environment Elements

The post-medieval town expansion, which sprung up largely to the south of the church, with *Tŷ Unnos* erected on the area of the former common, and settlement shown on 19th century maps. Corresponds to historic character areas 3 and 4.
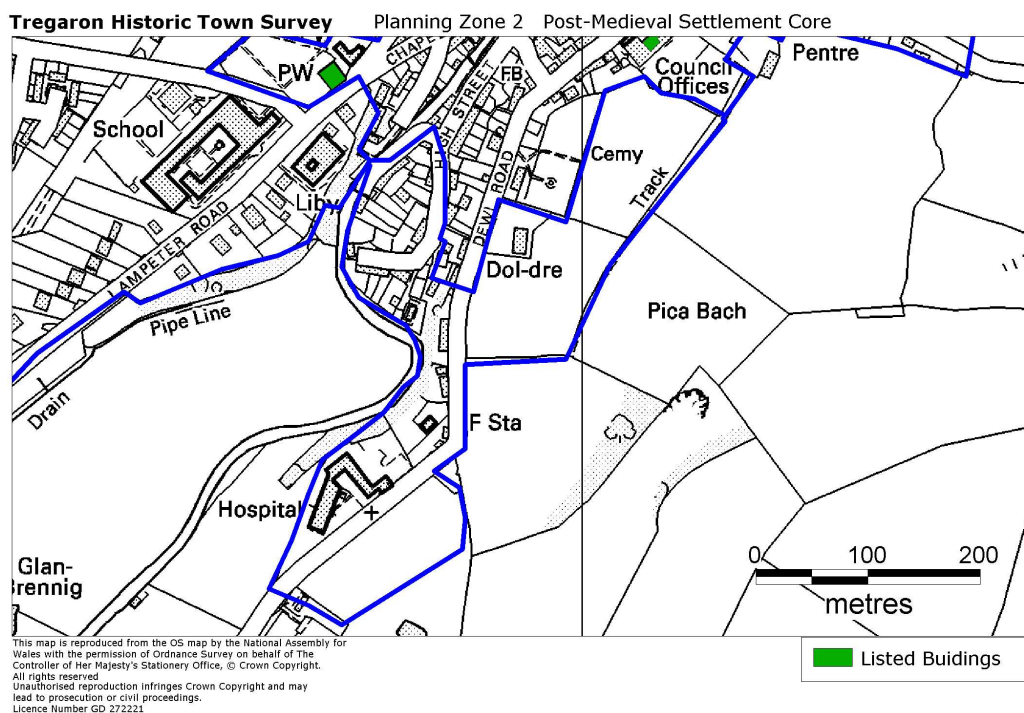
Listed Buildings

There are currently no listed buildings within the area, however, there is evident historic detail still visible in a number of the cottages in the Dol-dre area. Buildings and gardens of particular interest include those along Well Street, High Street and along the riverside at Glangro.

Planning Objectives
- Preserve the topography and morphology of the town's historic cores through the retention of historic property boundaries and surviving historic buildings
- Where appropriate seek to enhance the historic topography and morphology of the town through re-instatement of historic property boundaries
- Where demolition or alteration is proposed to standing buildings identify and protect elements and features which form part of the historic character of the zone.
- Where it is not possible to retain all historic features of standing buildings appropriate recording will be required.
- Consider and apply, where possible, planning 'gain' mechanisms to enable the presentation and interpretation of the medieval town.
- Consider and develop the tourism potential of the historic environment of the zone

- Preservation of archaeological remains *in situ* above and below ground is the Authority's preferred option. 'Preservation by record' is considered a second best option.

Applicable Unitary Development Plan Policies

ENVB1.5   ENVB1.7   ENVB1.8   ENVB1.9   ENVB1.10   ENVB1.13

Planning Constraints

1. Where nationally important archaeological deposits will be adversely affected by proposed development planning consent will not be granted
2. New development should maintain and enhance the medieval morphology/topography of Tregaron Town
3. New development should ensure the protection of the historic character of the town
4. Alteration/demolition of historic standing buildings will require assessment/evaluation of the historic fabric to be affected by the proposal.
5. Where important historic fabric is threatened and preservation *in situ* is not appropriate archaeological recording to secure preservation by record will be required.
6. Alterations to standing buildings should ensure the protection of the historic character of the town
7. Intrusive archaeological field evaluation will be required to determine the character, condition, significance and depth of archaeological deposits where threatened prior to the determination of any application.
8. Dependent on the results of evaluation developers may be required to secure the preservation *in situ* of threatened buried archaeological deposits through foundation design.
9. Developers will be required to provide details of foundation design with planning applications where preservation *in situ* is required.
10. Where remains of less than national importance are threatened by proposed development mitigation may require full archaeological excavation of threatened deposits to ensure 'preservation by record'.

ZONE 3   MODERN SPREAD OF TOWN POST-1900

Key Historic Environment Elements

The largely post-1900 town expansion, which sprung up largely on the northern and western sides of the town, with settlement shown on 20th century maps. Corresponds to historic character areas 6 and 7, and includes the outer fields, which may be medieval in origin.

Tregaron Historic Town Survey   Planning Zone 3   Modern Spread of Town Post-1900
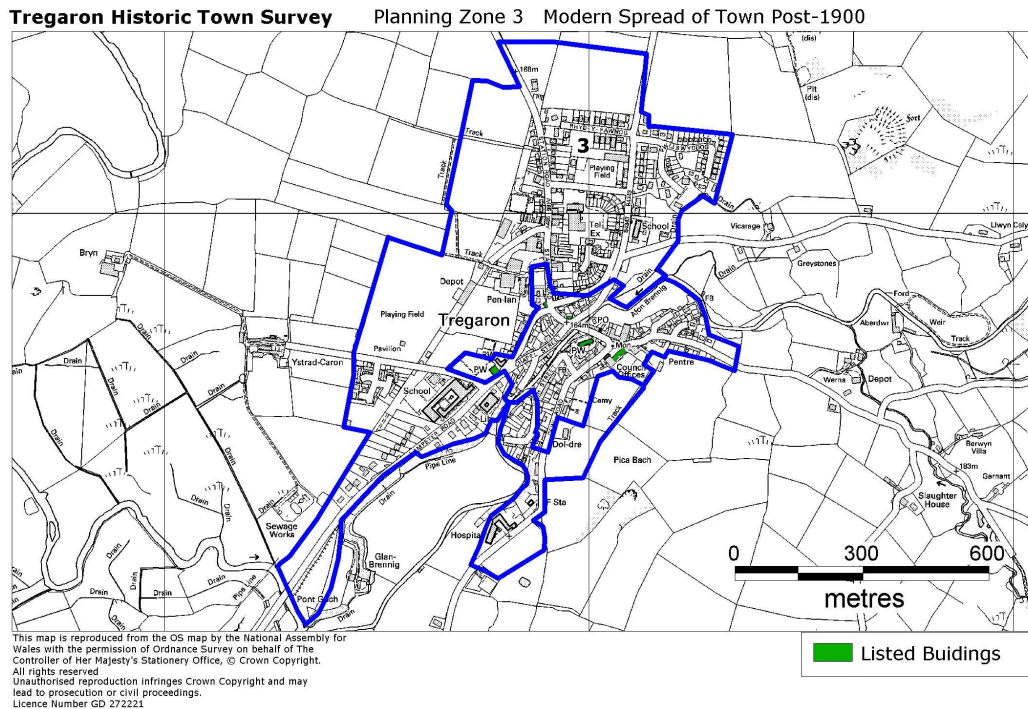
Listed Buildings

There are currently no listed buildings within the area. However, this area encompasses the former railway line and associated structures, little of which remains extant, with the exception of the Railway Hotel and Railway Cottage. The outer fields may also date to the medieval period.

Planning Objectives

- Preserve the topography and morphology of the town's historic cores through the retention of historic property boundaries and surviving historic buildings
- Where appropriate seek to enhance the historic topography and morphology of the town through re-instatement of historic property boundaries
- Where demolition or alteration is proposed to standing buildings identify and protect elements and features which form part of the historic character of the zone.
- Where it is not possible to retain all historic features of standing buildings appropriate recording will be required.
- Consider and apply, where possible, planning 'gain' mechanisms to enable the presentation and interpretation of the medieval town.
- Consider and develop the tourism potential of the historic environment of the zone

- Preservation of archaeological remains *in situ* above and below ground is the Authority's preferred option. 'Preservation by record' is considered a second best option.

Applicable Unitary Development Plan Policies

ENVB1.5   ENVB1.7   ENVB1.8   ENVB1.9   ENVB1.10   ENVB1.13

Planning Constraints

1. Where nationally important archaeological deposits will be adversely affected by proposed development planning consent will not be granted
2. New development should maintain and enhance the medieval morphology/topography of Tregaron Town
3. New development should ensure the protection of the historic character of the town
4. Alteration/demolition of historic standing buildings will require assessment/evaluation of the historic fabric to be affected by the proposal.
5. Where important historic fabric is threatened and preservation *in situ* is not appropriate archaeological recording to secure preservation by record will be required.
6. Alterations to standing buildings should ensure the protection of the historic character of the town
7. Intrusive archaeological field evaluation will be required to determine the character, condition, significance and depth of archaeological deposits where threatened prior to the determination of any application.
8. Dependent on the results of evaluation developers may be required to secure the preservation *in situ* of threatened buried archaeological deposits through foundation design.
9. Developers will be required to provide details of foundation design with planning applications where preservation *in situ* is required.
10. Where remains of less than national importance are threatened by proposed development mitigation may require full archaeological excavation of threatened deposits to ensure 'preservation by record'.

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Black and White:

RAF Sheet 140 106G/UK/1470 4th May 1946   Frame nos. 3417-20

RCAHMW   1998 983511-04
                  983511-05
                  983511-08
                  983511-09
                  983511-13
            1999 995048-04
            2002   5039-41

Colour slide:

RCAHMW   28th July 1989   89-CS-752
            31st March 1998   98-CS-182   Tregaron from the SE
                                98-CS-183   Tregaron from the SE
                                98-CS-185   Tregaron from the NW
                                98-CS-186   Tregaron from the S
                                98-CS-190   Tregaron from the NE
            11th January 1999   99-CS-0271
            5th August 2002   2002-CS-0983

Meridian Airmaps:

75 002   frame 361
75 003   frame 488
75 217   frame 023
78 008   frame 078
93 526   frame 004
94 138   frame 009
94 340   frame 031
96 231   frame 080

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1901 Census

The Crosswood Deeds, NLW, ref: GB 0210   created 1184-1939

> *The Vaughan family of Trawsgoed or Crosswood in Cardiganshire resided on the
> same site for more than six centuries. The collection comprises estate and family*

records, 1184-1939, of the Vaughan family of Crosswood/Trawsgoed, later the Earls of Lisburne, relating to properties in a very large number of parishes in the county of Cardigan. There are a large number of title deeds relating to properties in the parishes of Aberystwyth, Cilcennin, Cwmystwyth, Dihewid, Gwnnws, Llanafan, Llanbadarn Fawr, Llanbadarn Trefeglwys, Llanddewi Aberarth, Llanddewi Brefi, Llanfihangel Genau'r Glyn, Llanfihangel y Creuddyn, Llanfihangel Ystrad, Llanilar, Llanrhystud, Lledrod, Tregaron, Ysbyty Ystwyth and Ystrad Meurig. The archive consists of mainly title deeds, but there are also rent rolls and rentals, probate documents, documents relating to tithe payments, and a small quantity of correspondence and legal papers.

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- Tregaron Rural District Council 1863-1974
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  Tregaron Poor Law Union was formed in 1837, comprising 22 parishes in northeast Cardiganshire, overseen by a Board of Guardians. The Union constructed a workhouse in Tregaron in 1876. In the 1930s, its responsibilities passed to Cardiganshire County Council. Records of Tregaron Union, Cardiganshire, 1870-1935, including minute books, 1875-1930; general ledgers, 1870-1931; financial statements, 1909-1924; relief order books, 1916-1931; attendance registers, 1905-1915; and correspondence files (clerk), 1924-1930.
- Cardiganshire Highways Boards Records 1852-1902
  Highways Boards were created by the Highways Acts of 1835 and 1862 in order to improve the quality of roads in Britain. The 1835 Act permitted the unification of parishes into districts that were responsible for maintaining highways. The later legislation allowed Justices of the Peace to divide the county into Highways districts according to their own judgement. These districts were governed by boards made up of Justices of the Peace and way-wardens from constituent parishes. The Highways Boards were abolished in 1894, when their responsibilities transferred to the Urban and Rural District Councils. Highways Board Districts in Cardiganshire included Aberaeron, Llandysul, Llanfihangel Geneu'r Glyn, Lampeter, Newcastle Emlyn (part in Carmarthenshire) and Tregaron. Archive holds Tregaron District Highways Board records including minute book, 1889-1894; and ledgers, 1893-1894.
- Cardiganshire Petty Sessional and Magistrates Courts Records 1861-1988
- Cardiganshire Rural Sanitary Authority Records 1872-1897
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- Tregaron Rural District Council 1863-1974
  Records of the Clerk's department, 1863-1974, including minutes of the council and committees, 1885-1974, and the Tregaron Board of Guardians, 1863-1907, councillors' and officers' records, 1894-1970, correspondence, 1926-1974, legal agreements, 1926-1974, registers of land charges, 1955-1973, records of licences, 1933-1973, electoral registers, 1949-1970, and evacuation records, 1939-1965; records of the Treasurer's department, 1876-1974, including general financial records, 1892-1974, records of loans, 1876-1974, valuation records, 1911-1974, rating records, 1927-1974, rental records, 1956-1974, and registers of salaries, 1936-1974; reports and correspondence of the Medical Officer of Health, 1946-1973; records of the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, including reports, 1940-

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Historic Town Surveys of Cardigan and Tregaron

Part 3   Tregaron Town

Appendix 1

Tregaron Historic Landscape Character Areas

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

Through the analysis of this spatial data and the visual assessment of the standing elements of the towns built heritage the following urban historic landscape character areas have been defined.

	Tregaron Town Character Area Name	Tregaron Town Summary Description
1	East Tregaron	An area which encompasses the known extent of the medieval core of the town, which sprung up initially around the Church
2	West Tregaron	This area relates to the early part of town located on the west side of the river, clustered around the crossroads, which appears as settlement on 18th century maps
3	Tregaron Hospital	This area consists of what is currently Tregaron Hospital, located on the outskirts of town on the east side of the river
4	Dol-dre	An area of mid-19th century development
5	Pentre	A small area of medieval settlement
6	Outer Tregaron	A large area of later 19th and 20th century development on the west side of the river, and on the western and northern edges of the town
7	Outer Fields	This area consists of undeveloped fields on the western and northern fringes of the town, which may date to the medieval period

Tregaron Historic Town Survey
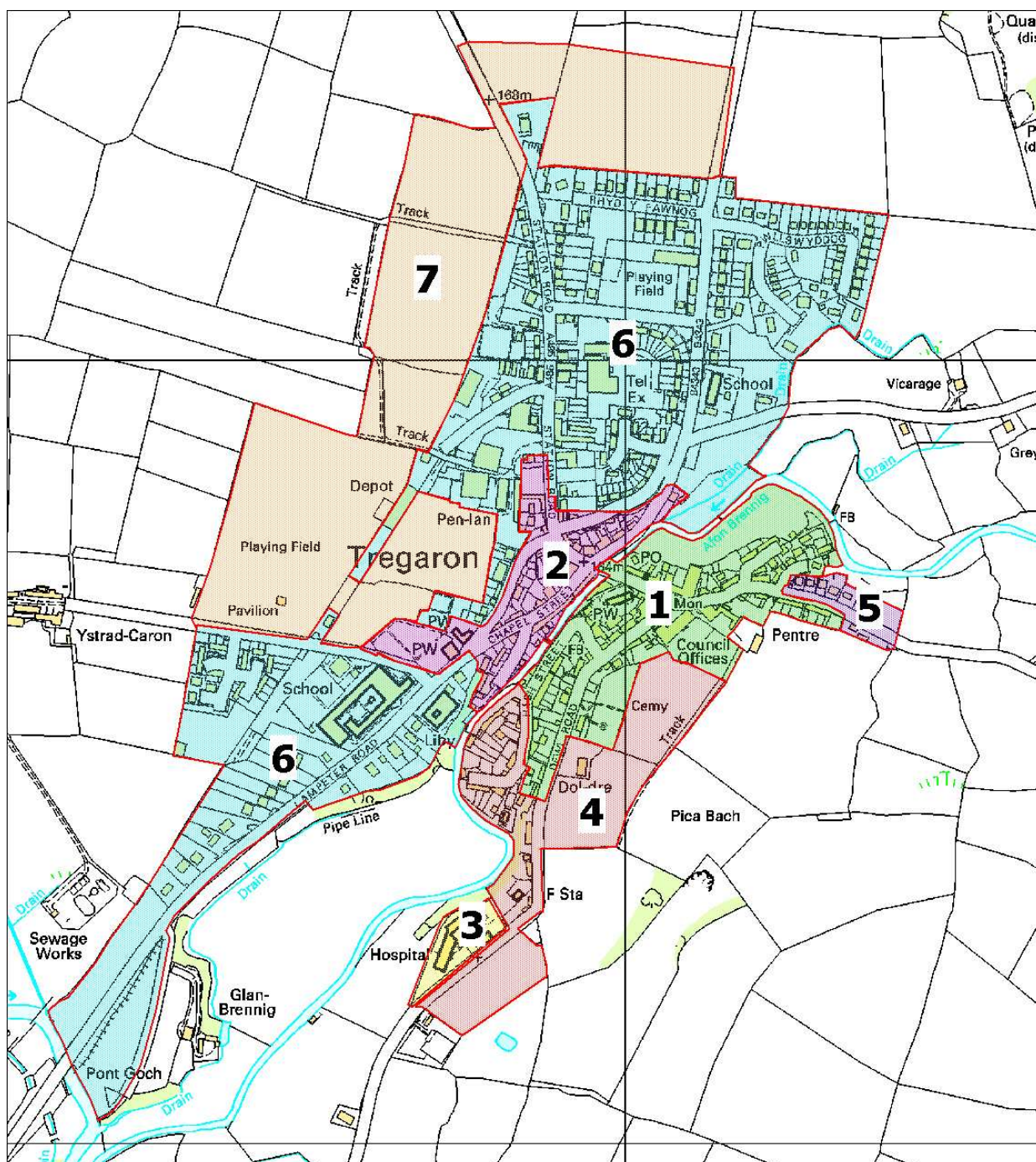
This map is reproduced from the OS map by the National Assembly for Wales with the permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright. All Rights Reserved. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. Licence number GD272221.

Figure 1: Tregaron Town Character Areas

TREGARON TOWN CHARACTER AREAS

Area 1   East Tregaron

Character area description
An area which encompasses the known extent of the medieval core of the town, which sprung up initially around the Church. This area also includes the market square, which lies between the church and another area of medieval settlement focussed around the mill at Pentre.

This area forms a visually distinctive central part of Tregaron town, with neo-Georgian architecture fronting onto the main square. The Church is dominant in the town centre, as is the market square which continues to hold a weekly market. The Talbot Hotel, which claims 13th century origins, is also a key component of this character area, as is the statue of Sir Henry Richard, who was born in Ty Gwyn cottage in 1812. This 18th century thatched cottage was unfortunately demolished to make room for the car-park, but Propsect House, where Henry Richard later lived, is still extant behind the Llew Coch in Area 2.

Historical development
Early Christian stones dating to the 6th century were found at St Caron's Church, and the presence of a well at Ffynnon Garon, renowned for its healing properties, suggests an early religious foundation for the town. The church is said to have been built here c.1017, but its location within a circular enclosure suggests the site may have had an earlier ritual significance in the prehistoric period, dating to the later Neolithic or early Bronze Age. In 1188 Archbishop Baldwin and others passed through Tregaron on their way from Llanddewi Brefi to Strata Florida, suggesting there was already a fledgling town in existence at this time. During the Norman period the town lay within the lordship of Caron and was well established by the 13th century, when a Royal Charter granted a weekly market and annual fair to Geoffrey Clement, then Lord of Caron. A mill and associated settlement at Pentre dates to at least the 15th century. The frontages on the east side of the river, to the north/northeast of the church, are evidence of the later rebuilding of the original properties which once existed there in the 18th and early 19th century, and evidence the growth of the town during the mid-Victorian period, which saw new and more splendid buildings replacing the earlier workshops and dwellings.

Archaeological resource
The Character Area includes upstanding remains of the medieval church, set within its distinctive circular enclosed churchyard. Surrounding the church is the medieval core of the town, although any medieval houses have been largely rebuilt and altered. However, some medieval fabric may remain within these buildings, and it is possible that the boundaries of individual plots are likely to have remain unchanged for centuries. An area of especial interest is the riverside, which has remained undeveloped but lies close to the Pentre area of medieval settlement.

Very little of the medieval fabric of the early town remains, with perhaps the only visible remnants those within the 14th century tower of St Caron's Church, although this underwent a substantial rebuild in the early 1800s and again in 1878-9. The font, however, would appear to be of 14th century workmanship, but any earlier remnants are sadly lacking. There is nonetheless a good possibility of buried medieval remains being discovered within the town, perhaps within the cellars of later buildings which replaced their earlier counterparts, and particularly in the remaining undeveloped 'garden' areas in the centre of town. Within the

remaining open spaces within the town, particularly the area between the river and Pentre settlement, traces of archaeological material relating to domestic occupation of the town from the 13th century onwards might well be recovered through excavation. Dripstone chimneys evident on some of the older cottages in this area suggest that these buildings were once thatched, and are likely to be of at least 18th century date, if not earlier.

Historic fabric dating to the mid-Victorian expansion of Tregaron is well-preserved in this Character Area in the predominant neo-Georgian architectural style exemplified by Rhiannon's (built in 1887 on the site of the former Bristol Arms), Spar and Neuadd (built c.1840), and constructed over the top of the former mill race) and Barclays Bank (built 1905 on the site of the former Castle Stores). Additional 19th century architecture is also visible along Dewi Road, which replaced earlier medieval and 18th century buildings.

Current designations
The area currently contains a number of listed buildings, including the parish Church of St Caron, the Talbot Hotel, the red telephone kiosk, and the statue of Sir Henry Richard.
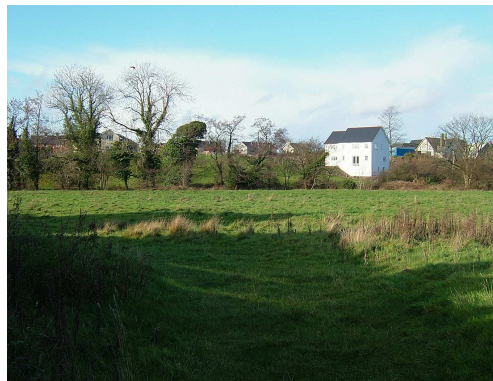
Historic Landscape Character Area 1   East Tregaron

Photographs

Area 2   West Tregaron

Character area description
This area relates to the early part of town located on the west side of the river, clustered around the crossroads, which appears showing settlement on 18th century maps. Settlement here was arranged around the Sgwar Fach, a point of convergence for roads leading into the town from the north (Pontrhydfendigaid and Strata Florida), the west (Trawscoed and Aberystwyth) and the south (Llanio and Lampeter), before crossing the bridge into the rest of Tregaron.

Settlement here is likely to date to the medieval period, although it flourished particularly in the 18th century and saw considerable expansion in the 19th century. This area also forms a visually distinctive part of Tregaron town, notably with the crossroads at Sgwar Fach, the parlour shops along Chapel Street which back onto the river, the cottages at the bottom of Station Road and the Llew Coch public house.

Historical development
This area of town is also likely to have developed at a similar time to the *treflan* surrounding the church, and is located at a strategic point on the other side of the river, at a point of convergence of roads into and out of Tregaron. The annual *Ffair Garon* was held on fields on this side of the river, although the actual site itself has now been built over. As the town thrived with the granting of a weekly market and annual fair under Edward I, it is likely that medieval houses once existed in the area, although these have been superceded by 18th and 19th century building. However, some of the original plot boundaries, particularly along Chapel road may remain the same. Expansion in the 18th and 19th century saw an increase in urban growth in this area, and the Non-Conformist cause was well-established in the town with the construction of the Bwlchgwynt Chapel in 1774. Along Chapel Street there was considerable development in the mid-late 19th century, when parlour shops and dwellings were established backing onto the river, leading from the Cambrian Coffee Shop (originally of 18th century build) up to the bridge. This was largely the result of the deepening and partial canalisation of the river, which prevented it from flooding and thus opened up new areas of land for urban expansion both here and in Dol-dre (Area 4).

Archaeological resource
The architecture in this area is a mix of post-medieval stone cottages (e.g Trefelin, and Nos. 1-3 Station Road), typical neo-Georgian (e.g. the Llew Coch), mock-Tudor (the National Westminster Bank building) and late 19th century parlour shops, which retain much of their original character today. As such, the historic character of Tregaron and its development is well-preserved in this area through the visible architectural fabric of the town, although any medieval remains are likely to have been destroyed. Nonetheless, the rear yard areas of the cottages on Station Road may contain some buried medieval deposits, and medieval fabric may be retained within some of the buildings, particularly Trefelin and the Cambrian Coffee Shop and adjoining property. There is also the possibility of buried remains within the undeveloped gardens and areas down Currier Street.

Medieval deposits relating to the site of the Ffair Garon may be preserved beneath the later buildings which now occupy the site, although they are likely to have been compromised.

Current designations
There are a number of listed buildings within this area, including the Bwlchgwynt Chapel, the National Westminster Bank building, and Trefelin, the sole intact 18th century house surviving within the town.

Historic Landscape Character Area 2   West Tregaron

Photographs

Area 3   Tregaron Hospital

Character area description
This area consists of what is currently Tregaron Hospital, located on the outskirts of town on the east side of the river. This area is at the margin of the Tregaron settlement boundary as defined by CCC's UDP, and is sited at a bend in the ancient road leading from Tregaron to Llanddewi Brefi.

Historical development
The first building recorded here cartographically was the Tregaron Union Workhouse, built in 1876. It is likely that this land was prone to flooding prior to the deepening and partial canalisation of the river when the turnpike road to Lampeter was built, and was therefore reclaimed in the later 19th century, as was the common which lay beyond it to the north.

The Workhouse closed in 1914 and was converted instead into a TB sanatorium, eventually becoming a cottage hospital in the 1960s. This was extended with an additional wing built into the lawn and garden and opened in 1982.

Archaeological resource
Much of the character of the former Workhouse is preserved within the façade of the current hospital building, and is visually distinctive as the first building encountered when approaching the town from the south, on the east side of the river.

Current designations
The current future of the hospital in uncertain, and any redevelopment of the site for community use should ideally aim to preserve the character of this historic building, even though it is not currently a listed building.

Historic Landscape Character Area 3   Tregaron Hospital

Photographs

Area 4   Dol-dre

Character area description
An area of mid-19th century development, boosted by two factors: the growth of the hosiery trade, and the deepening of the river in 1840, which allowed the land to be reclaimed, having been previously prone to flood. This area consists of a maze of narrow lanes and jumbled houses, to the south of the medieval core of the town and on the east side of the river, with some well-preserved stone cottages within its midst.

Dol-dre is a visually distinctive character area in the historic development of the town, and is best appreciated on foot.

Historical development
Prior to the 1840s this area was Common Land, and would have been in use from the earliest origins of the town in the medieval period as a place for grazing livestock, especially for the animals brought to the weekly market and annual sheep fairs. When the turnpike road on the west side of the river replaced the old parish road to Lampeter in 1840, the river was deepened and partly canalised, thus reclaiming the land which had previously been prone to flooding.

The burgeoning rural population, mostly employed in the woollen industry, put a pressure on land and resources in the town, and 'squatter settlements' sprung up on the Common in the form of *tŷ unnos*. Literally overnight, small plots were claimed by knitters and hosiers threading yarn between needles, and once ownership was established the overnight turf houses were rebuilt in stone.

Archaeological resource
Some of the original plots and stone-built houses remain extant within this area. There are a number of impressive cottages within Dol-dre, particularly within the area of Well Street, with some dripstone chimneys extant, suggesting that these houses were once thatched. The cottages facing onto the river at Glangro also retain some original features, such as cobbled paving. The higgledy-piggledy nature of the narrow lanes and urban development in this area still preserved within the layout of this area, and is a unique and visible feature in the history of Tregaron town.

On the other side of Dewi Road, and contemporary with the redevelopment of the former Common, a fine Wesleyan Methodist chapel was constructed in 1840, although this is now ruined. What is currently the Red Kite Centre was formerly a National School, opened in 1873, which continued as a Church School until 1950.

Current designations
There are currently no designations on the buildings here, which seems remiss given the surviving original character of some of the stone cottages and garden plots. Any development in this area should seek to preserve the unique historic character of this particular part of town, including the old school and ruined chapel.

Historic Landscape Character Area 4   Dol-dre

Photographs

Area 5   Pentre

Character area description
A small area of medieval settlement, which one included a mill, leat, mill race and mill pond, and which saw increasing development in the 18th and 19th centuries as the woollen industry expanded. This area is also fronting onto the main droving road out of Tregaron across the mountains to England, the road to Abergwesyn, which featured heavily in the success of Tregaron as a droving town, as the road was untolled, unlike others in the area.

The former mill and associated features have been largely built over and encroached by some redevelopment in the 20th century, but much of the 18th and 19th century character remains visible in some of the cottages, the lanes which lead to them and possibly within the boundaries of some individual plots.

Historical development
A mill was mentioned as present at Pentre in 1431, but is likely to have been even earlier that that, perhaps of 12th or 13th century origin. Pentre was separated from the settlement around the church by the large square, fronted by the Talbot Hotel, and was a water-mill responsible for grinding corn grown in the manor as owned by the Lordship of Caron, itself a Norman creation. The bondmen who worked at the mill would have had simple dwellings around their place of work, although these early houses have long since been replaced by later 18th, 19th and 20th century buildings.

The hamlet of Pentre, separated from the rest of Tregaron town by the main square fronted by the Talbot Hotel and former Ivy Bush Inn, was well established by the turn of the 19th century. Dwellings to the east of the mill, and further along the Abergwesyn Road, were of later 19th and 20th century build.

Archaeological resource
The millpond and leat serving the former mill have been built over, although the mill itself has been converted to a dwelling. The mill race is also built over, running under the stage of the Memorial Hall before rejoining the river opposite the Llew Coch. Buried archaeological features pertaining to the mill may still be present within garden contexts, although no machinery is readily apparent.

The historic character of this area is retained within the narrow winding lanes which weave their way around Pentre, and in the rows of stone cottages, and later 19th century terraces. There are also some isolated examples of early stone-built dwellings which have been encroached upon by later 19th and 20th century development, but which visibly demonstrate the historic development of Tregaron town in this area. The remains of two water pumps in this area also add to the historic character of the town.

Current designations
There are no current designations for this area, although it is possible that medieval remains may be buried within garden contexts.

Historic Landscape Character Area 5   Pentre

Photographs

Area 6   Outer Tregaron

Character area description
A large area of later 19th and 20th century development on the west side of the river, and on the western and northern edges of the town. This area characterises the 19th century expansion of Tregaron, particularly with the coming of the railway in the 1860s, and other social and economic developments in the Victorian period, such as the founding of two new schools and the building of a police station.

A notable phase of urban development also took place particularly in the years following the aftermath of WWII, when there was an increased demand for housing, resulting in small pockets of council houses, with other private housing estates developed during the 1960s and beyond. All of these are clearly visible within the architectural fabric of the town and are testimony to its historic development.

Historical development
The expansion of urban settlement in Tregaron virtually doubled in the fifty years between 1840 and 1890. During this time a number of earlier cottages and buildings were demolished and rebuilt, and new areas were colonised.

During the first part of the 20th century there was only limited development in the town, possibly a reflection of the economic downturn experienced by Tregaron when the droving trade and other traditional industries declined following the coming of the railway. However, following the end of WWII, there was renewed urban growth, with the construction of much more housing stock, particularly from the 1960s onwards, which has doubled the size of Tregaron once more.

Archaeological resource
Stages of expansion in the town are clearly revealed by the architectural fabric which remains apparent today. Although the railway was dismantled following the Beeching cuts in the 1960s, vestiges of buildings associated with it survive, including the Railway Hotel and Railway Cottage. 'Bacon and Egg' brickwork made possible by importing bricks using the railway is visible throughout the town, but especially within the terrace of house along Station Road, opposite the former goods shed (since redeveloped as a leisure centre).

Elsewhere, 20th century redevelopment is readily apparent within the ribbon development along the Lampeter Road, the architecture of the Comprehensive School, and the housing estates spanning both sides of the road to Pontrhydfendigaid, and between here and Station Road.

Current designations
There are currently no designations on any of the buildings in this area, although there are some potentially worthy candidates in the form of the former Police Station, the County Primary School and Railway Cottage.

Historic Landscape Character Area 6   Outer Tregaron

Photographs

Area 7   Outer fields

Character area description
This area consists of undeveloped fields on the western and northern fringes of the town, which may date to the medieval period.

Historical development
This area remains undeveloped so far, although has been compromised by the building of the railway in the 1860s, which is now disused. Part of the area remains open fields to the west of the former railway line, with the other part currently used as playing fields by the Comprehensive School. The only built structures in this area are the former railway depot and a sports pavilion.

Archaeological resource
As the area is largely undeveloped, it is possible that some medieval remains may lie buried within these fields. Extant field boundaries to the west of this area suggest the presence of medieval strip fields, although some of these boundaries have been grubbed out in the playing field area.

Current designations
There are no current designations in this area.

Historic Town Surveys of Cardigan and Tregaron

Part 3   Tregaron Town

Appendix 2

Tregaron Historic Environment Record Gazetteer

PRN:	5136	NGR:	SN67995969
SITE NAME:	TREGARON PARISH CHURCH; ST CARON'S	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	CHURCH	STATUS:	LB2
PERIOD:	Medieval; Post-Medieval		

DESCRIPTION:

Medieval parish church, medium sized. The chancel/nave, without structural division, was entirely rebuilt in c.1826-77 when the vestry/boilerhouse was built, only the west tower having been retained from the medieval building. See early medieval predecessor PRN 50161 for site description, discussion and management recommendations. NDL 2004

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PRN:	6841	NGR:	SN68195977
SITE NAME:	BRENNIG	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	COTTAGE	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post-Medieval		

DESCRIPTION:

Pair of cottages recorded by RCAHM in 1976 and noted as stone built 18th century cottages having or having had a wickerwork chimney hood. RPS September 2001

PRN:	6842	NGR:	SN67905978
SITE NAME:	TREFELIN	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	DWELLING	STATUS:	LB2
PERIOD:	Post-Medieval		

DESCRIPTION:

A house recorded as a mid 18th century, 2-storey, rubble-stone built house. Said to have been an Inn during the 19th century, and is marked as such on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Grade II listed as a rare survival of a pre-19th century house in Tregaron. (PP 2006)

PRN:	6844	NGR:	SN67895944
SITE NAME:	DOL-DRE	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	COTTAGE	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post-Medieval		

DESCRIPTION:

The cottages are now recorded by the RCAHMW as derelict, single-storey cottages. Built of mortared rubble-stone with slate roofs, no mention of a wickerwork chimney hood. (PP 2006)

PRN:	6845	NGR:	SN67825964
SITE NAME:	CHAPEL STREET COTTAGE	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	COTTAGE	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post-Medieval		

DESCRIPTION:

A cottage on Chapel Street recorded by the RCAHMW. The cottage is described as possibly 18th century, built of rubble-stone, with a modern slate roof and small sash windows. Internally there is a Victorian slate fireplace on the 1st floor and a cast iron oven on the ground floor. (PP 2006)

PRN:	8110	NGR:	SN67995969;SM99002204

SITE NAME:	POTENINA STONE;TREGARON PARISH CHURCH	FORM:	O.Struct

SITE TYPE:	INSCRIBED STONE	STATUS:	

PERIOD:	Early Medieval		

DESCRIPTION:

Fragmentary Group I ECM (Latin-inscribed stone), of probable 6th century date, now in the National Museum and Gallery of Wales, Cardiff. The inscription translates as `Potenina wife'. The stone was first recorded in 1804 when it was built into the south wall of Tregaron parish church PRN 5136. The church was repaired 1804-5 when Samuel Meyrick removed the stone and took it to his home, Goodrich Hall in Herefordshire. It was donated to NMGW in 1935. What remains of the stone is in two adjoining fragments, the surviving remnants being in good condition. NDL 2004, from N Edwards forthcoming

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PRN:	8111	NGR:	SN67995968

SITE NAME:	ENEVERI STONE;TREGARON PARISH CHURCH	FORM:	O.Struct

SITE TYPE:	INSCRIBED STONE	STATUS:	

PERIOD:	Early Medieval		

DESCRIPTION:

Group II or Group III ECM (cross-carved stone with inscription), with a possible date-range from the 7th to the 11th centuries, now in the National Museum and Gallery of Wales, Cardiff. The inscription translates as `of Enevir'. The stone was first recorded in 1804 when it was built into the south wall of Tregaron parish church PRN 5136. The church was repaired 1804-5 when Samuel Meyrick removed the stone and took it to his home, Goodrich Hall in Herefordshire. It was donated to NMGW in 1935. The stone is slightly damaged but otherwise in good condition. NDL 2004, from N Edwards forthcoming

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PRN:	8112	NGR:	SN67995969
SITE NAME:	TREGARON PARISH CHURCH	FORM:	O.Struct
SITE TYPE:	INSCRIBED STONE	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Early Medieval		

DESCRIPTION:

Lost Group II ECM (cross-carved stone), of probable 7th - 9th century date. It was incised with a linear Latin ring-cross. The stone was first recorded in 1805 after which it appears to have been lost. NDL 2004, from N Edwards forthcoming

PRN:	8113	NGR:	SN67995968
SITE NAME:	TREGARON PARISH CHURCH	FORM:	O.Struct
SITE TYPE:	INSCRIBED STONE	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Unknown		

DESCRIPTION:

Lost stone, apparently from Tregaron parish churchyard PRN 50161, which is described as a Group II ECM in the sources, but is not listed in Dr N. Edwards recent survey of ECMs. Not early medieval? NDL 2004

PRN: 8303   NGR: SN68065968

SITE NAME: HENRY RICHARD STATUE THE   FORM: O.Struct

SITE TYPE: COMMEMORATIVE MONUMENT   STATUS: LB2

PERIOD: Post-Medieval

DESCRIPTION:

A memorial statue erected in 1893 and dedicated to Henry Richard (1812-88). Henry Richard was a native of Tregaron, Liberal MP for Merthyr, called 'the Member for Wales' and 'the apostle of Peace'. The statue is cast in Bronze standing on a granite plinth, made by Albert Toft of London and Moore of Thames Ditton, showing Henry Richard standing to speak with papers headed 'PEACE' n one hand, spectacles in the other. Grade II listed. (PP 2006)

PRN: 8321   NGR: SN6860

SITE NAME: TREGARON   FORM: Finds

SITE TYPE: FINDS   STATUS:

PERIOD: Bronze Age

DESCRIPTION:

PRN:	8933	NGR:	SN68065971
SITE NAME:	TALBOT HOTEL	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	INN	STATUS:	LB2
PERIOD:	Post-Medieval		

DESCRIPTION:

A grade II listed mid 19th century Inn, incorporating elements of an earlier Public House. It is listed as a well-preserved coaching and drovers inn built on a scale rare in this area. In the mid 19th century as well as serving as a hotel and public house, it also acted as the posting house, excise office and hired out horses and gigs. (PP 2006)

PRN:	8991	NGR:	SN680597
SITE NAME:	TREGARON CHURCHYARD	FORM:	Finds
SITE TYPE:	FINDSPOT	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Medieval		

DESCRIPTION:

PRN:	8992	NGR:	SN680597
SITE NAME:	TREGARON CHURCHYARD	FORM:	Finds
SITE TYPE:	FINDSPOT	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Medieval		

DESCRIPTION:

PRN:	10695	NGR:	SN67955984
SITE NAME:	LLYS-EINON	FORM:	Place-name
SITE TYPE:	LLYS?	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Early Medieval?; Medieval?		

DESCRIPTION:

A 'Llys' place-name which in some cases has been known to relate to a Medieval dwelling/settlement. Wmffre (2004) records an early version of the name as 'Castell Inon' from c1760, 'Llys Einion' is recorded from c1834 onwards. (PP 2006)

PRN:	12967	NGR:	SN680597
SITE NAME:	TREGARON	FORM:	Documents; Topo
SITE TYPE:	TOWN	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Medieval; Post-Medieval		

DESCRIPTION:

PRN:	19018	NGR:	SN67805928
SITE NAME:	TREGARON HOSPITAL	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	HOSPITAL	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Modern		

DESCRIPTION:

A 20th century hospital in Tregaron, re-using buildings of the former Tregarn Workhouse. The workhouse was built in 1876, converted into a tuberculosis sanatorium in 1914 and subsequently a hospital from the 1960s (PRN 46307). (PP 2006)

PRN:	19019		NGR:	SN67775961
SITE NAME:	BWLCHGWYNT CHAPEL		FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	CHAPEL		STATUS:	LB2
PERIOD:	Post-Medieval			

DESCRIPTION:

A large Calvinistic Methodist chapel founded in 1774/5, built in the Classical style. Enlarged in 1809 and then rebuilt in 1833 and altered in 1865. The fatade was stuccoed in the late 19th century. Said to be a copy of Capel Y Garn in Bow Street. Grade II listed as one of the larger Calvinistic Methodist chapel of the area with a good interior. (PP 2006)

PRN:	19021		NGR:	SN67965959
SITE NAME:	TREGARON METHODIST CHAPEL		FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	CHAPEL		STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post-Medieval			

DESCRIPTION:

The Weslyan Methodist cause was established in Tregaron in 1808, with a chapel first built here in 1840. Rebuilt in 1873, it housed around 400 people. The building was recorded in 1998 as demolished. A garden of remembrance now marks the site of the chapel. (PP 2006)

PRN:	19240	NGR:	SN67856006

SITE NAME:	TREGARON STATION	FORM:	Building

SITE TYPE:	RAILWAY STATION	STATUS:	

PERIOD:	Post-Medieval

DESCRIPTION:

The railway arrived in Tregaron in 1866, and closed in the 1960s.

PRN:	41358	NGR:	SN68105968

SITE NAME:	GELLI-GRON TREGARON	FORM:	None

SITE TYPE:	WATCHING BRIEF	STATUS:	

PERIOD:	General

DESCRIPTION:

As part of a road widening scheme, conservation consent was granted by the National Assembly for Wales for the demolition of the property known locally as 'Gelli-gron', The Square, Tregaron. The demolition of the property however was subject to an archaeological condition. The Curatorial Section of Cambria Archaeology requested that the works be monitored as an archeological watching brief during the construction of a landscaped area. The watching brief revealed the likelihood that the property was first established at some time in the mid-late 18th century. The only significant artefacts recovered were those discovered beneath the floorboards in the Parlour room. No artefacts found were earlier than the late 19th century. The 'Threatened Buildings Section' of RCAHMW identified the need to record the standing structure prior to demolition. The RCAHMW perfomed this initial recording themselves, a copy of the illustrations is included in the report. CN 2003based on CAP 2000

PRN: 46307   NGR: SN67805928

SITE NAME: TREGARON UNION WORKHOUSE   FORM: Building

SITE TYPE: WORKHOUSE   STATUS:

PERIOD: Post-Medieval

DESCRIPTION:

Workhouse built by Tregaron Poor Law Union in 1867. It comprised two parallel ranges separated by a short central connecting block. The rear accomodation block has been demolished, but the entrance block is used by the local hospital. LB November 2003

PRN: 50161   NGR: SN67995969

SITE NAME: TREGARON PARISH CHURCH;ST CARON'S   FORM: Earthwork

SITE TYPE: CHURCH   STATUS:

PERIOD: Early Medieval

DESCRIPTION:

Early medieval B site, ie. medium-probability early medieval origins. Churchyard occupied by the medieval Tregaron parish church PRN 5136 (now divided as Caron-is-clawdd parish). The church was listed, as `Carnoun' or `Caraoun', in the `Taxatio' of 1291, and had been recorded in 1284. The church was probably a Welsh foundation, Ceredigion remaining in Welsh hands during most of the 12th and 13th centuries. However, it may have earlier origins. The oval/subcircular churchyard is considerably raised above its surroundings, while the church stands on a pronounced mound. This may be a re-used bronze age round barrow, but given its valley-floor location is probably more likely to represent a natural, glacial drumlin. A Group I ECM (PRN 8110) and two Group II ECMs (PRNs 8111-8112) were first recorded within the church and/or churchyard, where they may have been +/- in situ?. The churchyard is central, and nuclear to the medieval `town' of Tregaron (PRN 12967), which has the informal, Welsh morphology typical of a `treflan'. The large parish may or may not be coterminous with a pre-Conquest parochium. NDL 2004

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PRN:	8993	NGR:	SN6859
SITE NAME:	PENLAN FARM	FORM:	Documents
SITE TYPE:	BURNT MOUND	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Prehistoric		

DESCRIPTION:

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PRN:	62176	NGR:	SN67985974
SITE NAME:	TREGARON BRIDGE	FORM:	O.Struct
SITE TYPE:	BRIDGE	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

Tregaron Bridge crossing Afon Brennig. Recorded by the RCAHMW as built on two arches with c3.5m spans and a, presumably central, arch with a span of c7m. The current road bridge is presumably a modern rebuild as the 1st (1889) and 2nd (1905) edition Ordnance Survey maps show the bridge crossing the river at a different angle to current OS maps, (PP 2006)

PRN:	62177	NGR:	SN68235977
SITE NAME:	PLAS BACH	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	DWELLING	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

A small cottage recorded by the RCAHMW. Stone built with gable end stone chimney stacks and a pitched slate roof, with an off centre recessed entrance. Current condition unknown. (PP 2006)

PRN:	62179	NGR:	SN6809759685
SITE NAME:	GELLI-GRON;IVY BUSH HOTEL	FORM:	Documents
SITE TYPE:	HOUSE;PUBLIC HOUSE	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

A building recorded by the RCAHMW. Described as an 18th or early 19th century 2-storey house, stone-built with a central-entry stair-passage. A kitchen and lean-to have been added to the NE gable end, with a stable and cart house at the SW gable end. Marked as a Public House on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Site partially demolished in 2000 by Ceredigion County Council as part of a scheme to widen the mouth of the Abergwesyn road. A watching brief recorded the works. (PP & NC 2006).

PRN:	62180	NGR:	SN67955975
SITE NAME:	NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK;NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	BANK	STATUS:	LB2
PERIOD:	Modern		

DESCRIPTION:

Built in 1924-6 as the National Provincial Bank, probably to the designs of Palmer & Holden, architects to the bank. It has been grade II listed as 'an exceptional inter-War building utilising the revival of timber-framing skills to traditional designs, the only such building in Cardiganshire'. (PP 2006)

PRN: 62181   NGR: SN68075969

SITE NAME: RED TELEPHONE BOX   FORM: O.Struct

SITE TYPE: TELEPHONE BOX   STATUS: LB2

PERIOD: Modern

DESCRIPTION:

A red painted cast-iron phone box situated in the centre of Tregaron. Built in 1952 to the standard 1936
K6 design of Sir Giles Gilbert Scott. Grade II listed. (PP 2006)

PRN: 62182   NGR: SN67795956

SITE NAME: COUNTY SCHOOL   FORM: Documents

SITE TYPE: SCHOOL   STATUS:

PERIOD: Post Med

DESCRIPTION:

Following the Welsh Intermediate Education Act of 1889 a County School was established in Tregaron in
1897. The building, which cost ú2500, was built to house 200 pupils. It was enlarged in 1909, and again
in 1950. (PP 2006)

PRN: 62183   NGR: SN68065968

SITE NAME: TREGARON MARKET   FORM: Documents

SITE TYPE: MARKET PLACE   STATUS:

PERIOD: Post Med

DESCRIPTION:

The market place in Tregaron. A weekly market is mentioned in Kelly's directory of 1895, along with
cattle and horse fairs. (PP 2006)

PRN:	62184	NGR:	SN67915976
SITE NAME:	5-7 STATION ROAD	FORM:	Documents
SITE TYPE:	BLACKSMITHS WORKSHOP	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

A blacksmiths workshop in Tregaron, marked on the tithe map of c1842 but no longer marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Currently a commercial premises, 5-7 Station Road (PP & NC 2006).

PRN:	62185	NGR:	SN6820359726
SITE NAME:	TREGARON MILL	FORM:	Documents
SITE TYPE:	MILL	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

A mill with an associated mill leat and pond on the east. Recorded on the tithe map of c1842, labelled as a corn mill on the 1st (1889) and 2nd (1905) edition Ordnance Survey maps. (PP 2006)

PRN:	62186	NGR:	SN68085971
SITE NAME:	TREGARON TOWN HALL;MEMORIAL HALL	FORM:	Documents
SITE TYPE:	TOWN HALL	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

The town hall for Tregaron, centrally located on the market square. Marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889, and described in Kelly's directory as a small building. Labelled as the Memorial Hall on current Ordnance Survey maps. (PP 2006)

PRN: 62187   NGR: SN67925965

SITE NAME: FORM: Documents

SITE TYPE: BLACKSMITHS WORKSHOP   STATUS:

PERIOD: Post Med

DESCRIPTION:

A blacksmiths workshop on the riverbank first marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889.
The building appears to have been built at some point between the tithe map of c1842 and the 1st
edition OS map. Still marked on the 2nd edition OS map of 1905. (PP 2006)

PRN: 62188   NGR: SN67945953

SITE NAME: TREGARON SCHOOL;NATIONAL   FORM: Documents
SCHOOL;YSGOL-EGLWYS TREGARON

SITE TYPE: SCHOOL   STATUS:

PERIOD: Post Med

DESCRIPTION:

The former Tregaron National School situated on the east side of the town. Built in 1872/3 to house 145
children and renovated in 1879. It is marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889 as
cruciform in plan. Now used as the Church Hall and Sunday School. (PP 2006)

PRN:	62189	NGR:	SN67985953
SITE NAME:		FORM:	Documents
SITE TYPE:	CEMETERY	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

A cemetery on the east side of Tregaron, adjacent to the former Weslyan Methodist Chapel (PRN 19021). The chapel was built in 1840, the cemetery is first recorded on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Current Ordnance Survey maps show that it has expanded to the north. (PP 2006)

PRN:	62190	NGR:	SN67795960
SITE NAME:	FFYNNON GARON	FORM:	Documents
SITE TYPE:	POLICE STATION	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

A police station in Tregaron marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Current condition unknown, it may have been converted into a private dwelling. (PP 2006)

PRN:	62191	NGR:	SN67695964
SITE NAME:	BLAENCARON SCHOOL	FORM:	Documents
SITE TYPE:	SCHOOL	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

A school building built to the rear of the Calvinistic Methodist chapel (PRN 19019) sometime between the tithe map of c1842 and the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Current condition unknown but the building is no longer marked on Ordnance Survey maps. This would appear to be the Blaencaron School built in 1883 to hold 54 children. (PP 2006)

PRN:	62192	NGR:	SN67915967
SITE NAME:		FORM:	Documents
SITE TYPE:	BLACKSMITHS WORKSHOP	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

A blacksmiths workshop first recorded on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Located on the western bank of the river to the rear of properties fronting the road. No longer labelled on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1905. (PP 2006)

PRN:	62193	NGR:	SN67925972
SITE NAME:		FORM:	Documents
SITE TYPE:	POST OFFICE	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

A post office on Chapel Street, Tregaron, marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Listed in Pigot & Co.'s directory in 1844, run by Mary Jones. Current condition unknown. (PP 2006)

PRN:	62194	NGR:	SN67946005
SITE NAME:	RAILWAY HOTEL	FORM:	Documents
SITE TYPE:	HOTEL	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

The Railway Hotel, presumably built at some point between the arrival of the railway to Tregaron in 1866 and its appearance on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Current condition unknown. (PP 2006)

PRN:	62195	NGR:	SN67935970
SITE NAME:		FORM:	Documents
SITE TYPE:	BANK	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Modern		

DESCRIPTION:

A bank on Chapel Street first recorded on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1905. (PP 2006)

PRN: 62196   NGR: SN68055971

SITE NAME: FORM: Documents

SITE TYPE: BANK   STATUS:

PERIOD: Modern

DESCRIPTION:

One of two banks on Tregaron market square marked on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1905, one of which was Barclays Bank. (PP 2006)

PRN: 62197   NGR: SN68075971

SITE NAME: FORM: Documents

SITE TYPE: BANK   STATUS:

PERIOD: Modern

DESCRIPTION:

One of two banks on Tregaron market square marked on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1905, one of which was Barclays Bank. (PP 2006)

PRN: 62198   NGR: SN67865948

SITE NAME: FORM: Documents

SITE TYPE: BLACKSMITHS WORKSHOP   STATUS:

PERIOD: Modern

DESCRIPTION:

A blacksmiths workshop first recorded on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1905. (PP 2006)

PRN:	62266	NGR:	SN6798459716
SITE NAME:	CROWN AND ANCHOR;CENTRAL GARAGE	FORM:	Documents
SITE TYPE:	PUBLIC HOUSE;PETROL STATION	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

The Crown and Anchor Inn once stood in this location, but was demolished during the 1970s to extend the petrol station forecourt of Castle Garage. The Crown and Anchor was run as a public house from the 1820s until 1912, when it became a butcher's shop (the Central Meat Stores). Central Garage was established on the site in 1922 (NC 2006).

PRN:	62267	NGR:	SN6801359744
SITE NAME:	PARISH TITHE BARN;CROWN STORES	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	TITHE BARN	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Medieval;Post-Med		

DESCRIPTION:

Site of the former parish Tithe Barn, behind 'Gernos' . 'Gernos' was once The Old Crown Inn, and the former tithe barn used as its stores. The upper storey was also once used as a schoolroom in the 19th century (NC 2006).

PRN:	62268	NGR:	SN6803459681
SITE NAME:	BRISTOL ARMS	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	PUBLIC HOUSE	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

The site of the former Bristol Arms public house, appearing on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map. In 1887 the site was rebuilt as 'Emporium', a drapers established by Rees Jones, who had moved to Tregaron from Cardiff in 1874. Currently Rhiannon's craft shop (NC 2006).

PRN:	62269	NGR:	SN6802359649
SITE NAME:	WENALLT	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	PUBLIC HOUSE;DWELLING	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

Originally a public house, the Wenallt Arms, as shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (1889). Now a private dwelling (NC 2006).

PRN:	62270	NGR:	SN6801259662
SITE NAME:	BLACK LION INN;LLWYNONN	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	PUBLIC HOUSE;DWELLING	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

Formerly the Black Lion Inn, and shown as a public house on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (1889). Located opposite the former Wenallt Arms (PRN 62269). The date of '1874' is shown on its gable end. Now a private dwelling, Llwynonn. (NC 2006).

PRN:	62271	NGR:	SN6821959725
SITE NAME:	PENTRE	FORM:	Documents
SITE TYPE:	MILL POND	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Medieval; Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

Location of the former mill pond which served the mill (PRN 62185). Area has now been built over by houses (Edelweiss and Brianne). The mill race associated with the pond, and linking it to the Brennig, has also been built over, with the race running under the stage of the Memorial Hall before rejoining the Brennig opposite the Llew Coch (NC 2006).

PRN:	62272	NGR:	SN6802759702
SITE NAME:	CASTLE STORES	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	PUBLIC HOUSE; SHOP; DWELLING	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

A former public house, The Hosiers Arms, dating to the beginning of the 19th century, later becoming known as the Pontargamddwr Arms until 1904, when it became Castle House/Stores. The original Castle Stores was on the site now occupied by Barclays Bank, which was built in 1905 after Castle Stores moved across the road to the Pontargamddwr Arms, taking the name with them. In 1936 it became a tobacconist and confectioners. Now a private dwelling, with a Red Kite centre open in the summer months in the former stores. (NC 2006).

PRN:	62273	NGR:	SN6800659729
SITE NAME:	GERNOS	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	PUBLIC HOUSE;DWELLING	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Medieval;Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

Site of the former 'Old Crown Inn' public house, as shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (1889). The storehouse behind (Crown Stores) made use of the former parish Tithe Barn (PRN 62267). Now a private dwelling, formerly known as 'Pant' in 1912, becoming 'Gernos' in 1945. (NC 2006).

PRN:	62274	NGR:	SN6797259763
SITE NAME:	LLEW COCH;RED LION	FORM:	Building
SITE TYPE:	PUBLIC HOUSE	STATUS:	
PERIOD:	Post Med		

DESCRIPTION:

The Red Lion public house, shown on the 1842 Tithe Map and Apportionment, and is likely to date from at least the beginning of the 19th century, if not before. Remains a public house today, bearing the same name (although known now for its Welsh translation, Llew Coch). The stores and stables for the pub gave way in the 1920s for the building of the half-timbered and distinctive Nat West Bank. (NC 2006).

PRN:	62275	NGR:	SN6793659756

SITE NAME:	SUNNY HILL HOTEL	FORM:	Building

SITE TYPE:	PUBLIC HOUSE;DWELLING	STATUS:	

PERIOD: Post Med

DESCRIPTION:

Fomer Sunny Hill Hotel, now a private dwelling, although the pub sign is still visible on the east side of the building. Originally built c.1840 as the Nanteos Arms by the Powell family of Nanteos. Current building rebuilt in the 1890s as the Sunny Hill Hotel. (NC 2006).