

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol
Dyfed
Neuadd y Sir
Stryd Caerfyrddin
Llandeilo
Sir Gaerfyrddin
SA19 6AF



Dyfed Archaeological Trust
The Shire Hall
Carmarthen Street
Llandeilo
Carmarthenshire
SA19 6AF

Ffon 01558 823131
Ffacs 01558 823133
Ebost: info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk

Telephone 01558 823131
Fax 01558 823133
Email: info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk

TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN: HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION (HE2)

**Prepared for:
Manorafon Farm**



**Tir Gofal Reference No
W/12/6468**

**DAT Report No.2009/31
Project Record No. 63723**

**Prepared by
Will Steele**

Other documents enclosed:

**Historic Landscape Character Area descriptions 196: Ystrad Tywi: Llandeilo- Llangadog and
225: Bethlehem; Listed Building Descriptions 20921 Courtyard of farm buildings at Manorafon;
20922 Centre building of farm-court at Manorafon**

A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

2. Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content

Historic Landscape Character

Manorafon Farm comprises two separate land holdings which lie a short distance to the south-east of Llandeilo on the opposite bank of the Tywi. Both holdings fall within the community of Cyngor Bro Dyffryn Cennen in Carmarthenshire.

The high landscape value of this area is recognised by its inclusion within the Tywi Valley Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest (HLW (D) 7). Each landscape is divided into 'character areas', which are intended to define places where local land-use patterns have left particularly strong or distinctive evidence in the landscape. The farm falls within areas 196: Ystrad Tywi: Llandeilo- Llangadog and 225: Bethlehem, incorporating the river floodplain and the low rounded hills beyond.

The open character of the floodplain with its loose field systems and lack of settlement and woodland contrasts with the pattern of dispersed farms, small pasture fields and small woods on the valley sides. It is likely that this general landscape pattern, which was in place by the mid 19th century (Llandeilo Fawr and Llangadog tithe maps), may have been established by the medieval period. The farm was once part of a medium sized gentry estate, and today encompasses its former parklands, comprising scattered individual trees on the slopes with carefully placed clumps of mixed deciduous and coniferous trees on the flood plain below. The parkland character is mirrored in the lands of other gentry houses nearby and combines to lend a parkland aspect to much of the Tywi Valley.

Archaeological and Historic Content

Manorafon was a gentry estate owned in 1749 by Thomas Thomas, agent to the Edwinstford estate, and then called Manervabon. In 1807 John M'Clary of 8 Hart Street, London and William M'Clary of Manervabon advertised the estate for sale as a good family house with stables, coach-house, walled garden and "a complete farm-yard adjoining, consisting of a Barn, Granary, Dairy, Stabling for 6 horses, Sheds for 20 head of cattle and Dog Kennel" (based on the Listed Building Description).

In 1840 it was the home of the Pugh family, by which time the old house had been demolished and Greenhill, a house 400m to the south-east was enlarged as the seat, then named Manorabon. The estate remained under the ownership of the Pughs until 1928 when it was separated and sold, forming what is today known as Manorafon Farm. Manorafon house and surrounding lands remained unsold until the 1940s when bought by the Thomas' of Cwm Crymlyn who renamed it as Crymlyn Manor. Since the old mansion had been demolished, the only house at Manorafon farm was then the bailiffs cottage so a new house was built. Of the old mansion little trace now remains save for a wall at the front of the garden.

The farm is significant today in that it retains one of the most important model farm complexes to survive within the county: the farm court at the core of the complex is

Grade II listed as a very rare example of a complete enclosed farm complex of around 1800.

The parkland is today in a somewhat degenerated state although a sense of its former character remains. The tree clumps on the valley floor survive whilst many of the individual parkland trees of the lower valley sides are now gone.

Key Objective

The present day area of Manorafon Farm includes many of the former lands of the now dissolved gentry estate of Manorafon, incorporating the site of the old mansion, much of its former parkland and the home farm.

The management aims are the protection and enhancement of the estate landscape character of the farm through the repair and restoration of the traditional farm buildings and the restoration of the historic parkland through targeted tree planting.

Detailed management advice is provided below.

B2) HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FEATURES

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

These are divided into three types:

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

All historic environment features have been allocated categories of importance:

Site Status A: Sites and Monuments of National Importance.

Site Status B: Sites/Features of Regional Importance.

Site Status C: Sites/Features of Local Importance.

Site Status D: Minor and damaged sites.

Site Status U: Sites requiring further investigation.

General requirements

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

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

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

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

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

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

i) ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC FEATURES:

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

Location and description:

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

Other sites may be known to the landowner and these should be identified to the Project Officer who will pass the information to the Dyfed Archaeological Trust.

	Name (& PRN)	Period/Site type	NGR	Status SAM/listing	Management required
1	MANORAFON FARM (94487)	Post Medieval boundary wall	SN64942314	B	Specific
	A mortared stone wall lines the left side of the drive leading to Pentre-parr mansion. The wall is of rough rubble stone construction standing to approximately 1.2m with a mortared weathering protecting the top. The wall is today broken down in sections. Vegetation growth is prising apart masonry bonds and the walls are in a poor state of repair in some locations.				



The wall follows the line of the driveway to Pentre-parr. View facing east.

MANORAFON FARM (94486)	Post Medieval drive	SN65242357	B	Generic
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The west drive to Manorafon Farm, in use today as the only access to the farmstead. The drive diverts from the road at SN65302339 before taking a curving course across the parkland past the old mansion site on the left and meeting the farmstead.

The Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1887) marks a loose avenue of trees lining the drive. Many of the trees marked on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map have since been lost.



Facing northeast along the main drive. Many of the original trees are now gone.

MANORAFON FARM **Post Medieval mill** **SN65602368** **B** **Generic**
[\(94484\)](#) **pond**

A holding pond with sluice is recorded around 100m to the south-east of Manorafon Farm on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1887).

The pond has since been filled in and no obvious surface traces now remain. The area is today under pasture.

MANORAFON FARM **Post Medieval** **SN65502369** **B** **Generic**
[\(94485\)](#) **drive**

The former east drive to Manorafon Farm (the original mansion site). Identified on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1887) diverting from the road at Pontbren Araeth, passing the now destroyed Manorafon Lodge before crossing parkland in a general westerly direction, eventually meeting the farmstead.

The drive has since fallen out of use and is today visible as a faint earthwork where it is terraced into the side of the slope. The area is today under pasture.

Historic Environment Objectives:

The purpose of the management is to:

- Ensure the survival of visible features.
- Ensure archaeological deposits beneath the ground surface are not disturbed.
- Prevent progressive degradation by adopting sustainable farming practices.

In order to achieve this you will need to observe the following:

Generic Management Prescriptions - see also General Requirements - Section B2

1. Maintain the agreed stocking level to encourage a sound grass sward or low growing vegetation, without poaching or causing erosion.
2. Do not install new drains or underground services.
3. Locate feeding and watering stations away from archaeological and historic features.
4. Avoid using heavy machinery on sites or close to archaeological and historic features, especially in wet weather.

5. Do not plough archaeological or historic features, or cultivate so close as to cut into the remains. A minimum buffer zone of 2m is advised. In the case of monuments already under cultivation and where the agreement does not exclude the monument from cultivation, ensure that the depth of cultivation is not increased.
6. Remove any dead and unstable trees from the vicinity of archaeological and historic features with care, leaving roots to rot in situ. Ensure that machinery does not cause further disturbance. Agree with the Project Officer a suitable method for repairing any damage caused, for example, by wind-throw.
7. Control scrub on archaeological and historic features by cutting. Roots must be left in the ground and must not be pulled or dug out. Treatment with an approved herbicide may, exceptionally, be permitted in agreement with the Project Officer. (Capital Works Option).
8. Do not burn materials on site.
9. Ensure that rabbits are kept under control, but not by excavating within an archaeological or historic feature.
10. Consult your Project Officer a suitable method for repairing any damage caused by burrowing animals. (Capital Works Option)

Specific Management Requirements for individual archaeological and historic features.

The following individual sites and monuments are subject to specific management prescriptions which are in addition to and (in the case of conflict) take precedence over the generic requirements:

Site 2 on MAP 1

MANORAFON FARM [\(94487\)](#)

SN64942314

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

The following Tir Gofal management recommendations apply:

- Consider restoring the wall taking care to match the type of stone used and method of coursing. Reform the mortared weathering to protect the top.
- If wall restoration is not carried out consider cutting trees and other vegetation growing out of the walls in order to slow down the natural decay process. Spot treat to prevent re-growth.

ii) TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS:

Location and Description:

Traditional buildings are those built before c.1918 using traditional materials and methods of construction, to serve the needs of customary farming practices. Typically, they will use locally available materials and skills, though mass-produced materials (bricks, corrugated iron) may sometimes be locally characteristic.

The following traditional buildings have been identified:

	Name (& PRN)	Period/Site type	NGR	Status SAM/listing	Management required
2	MANORAFON FARM (64483)	Post Medieval farmstead	SN65282369	A	Specific
	<p>The home farm to the former gentry estate of Manorafon. The original mansion, which has now been almost entirely destroyed was situated at Manorafon Farm but was moved south of the road to Greenhill and named Manorabon. The name was later changed to Crymlyn Manor in the late 1940s.</p> <p>Manorafon Farm has an impressive model farm complex of the late 18th or early 19th century with a four sided farm court with centre calves cote and an attached later 19th century cart shed range at the southwest. It is in recognition of their good survival that these buildings are today Grade II listed as a very rare example of a complete enclosed farm complex of c1800.</p>				
3	MANORAFON FARM (94480)	Post Medieval farm courtyard	SN65312371	A LBII	Specific
	<p>A four sided farm court of the early 19th century at Manorafon Farm, rubble stone built with hipped slate roofs. Farm buildings are positioned around a rectangular yard measuring approximately 34m by 30m, with the entrance range and a barn range at either end and cow houses linking the two sides.</p> <p>The entrance range has a raised gable over the entry arch with an octagonal lantern and cockerel weathervane. A similar broad arch is blocked to the left and two similar arches to the right are obscured by a modern sliding door. Above are seven square loft windows. Stable doors and windows face onto the courtyard on the opposite (east-facing) elevation. The barn range opposite the entrance range has high arched barn doors in the centre and a symmetrical arrangement to either side consisting of ventilation slits, then an arched entrance then a door with loft loading door over. The building interior retains <i>in situ</i> fly wheels and belt driven machinery. Historic maps verify that the machinery was probably initially driven by a horse engine before being replaced by a culvert fed water wheel (OS 1887, 1906), later destroyed by modern sheds. Along the south side of the courtyard the cow shed has had its front wall removed and replaced with timber slats. An inscription on one of the roof trusses inside reads "D P 1861" and is said to relate to the raising of the roof - information which was provided to the present owners by the son of the farm manager to David Pugh. Interior fixtures and fittings have been removed. The north cow shed range opposite is today partially obscured by a modern milking parlour. Several original doorways remain but interior fixtures and fittings have been removed.</p>				



An entry arch provides access to the farm court. Seen from the west.

The farm court retains good historic character: the layout is unchanged since the early 18th century, and the buildings have escaped large scale modernisation such that the pattern of original door and windows openings is intact. Traditional cast iron rainwater goods have been replaced with modern substitute materials in some locations and a number of the historic doors and windows have been lost. Modern breeze block structures detract from the historic character of the farm court, comprising a milking parlour and cattle yards. Their effect is cosmetic however as they have not, in the main, required major alterations to the historic buildings themselves.

Condition: It is in recognition of their survival as a complete group that these buildings are today Grade II listed. The owners maintain the buildings routinely but in recent years they have developed some signs of neglect with localised ivy growth on the walls and some deterioration to the roofs. A rapid appraisal identified several areas needing attention including the southern part of the threshing barn, the southern facing elevations of southern courtyard buildings and the north part of the entrance range. Less localised problems include saplings established in the wall tops in a few locations and occasional missing or displaced roof slates.

3 MANORAFON FARM Post Medieval calf SN65322372 A LBII Specific
[\(94481\)](#) house

A late 18th or early 19th century calf house, the centre piece to the farm court at Manorafon. The calf house has a slate hipped roof, with replacement red brick and timber stall partitions internally. The building has alternating doors and louvred windows arranged symmetrically. According to the farmer it was originally divided internally into eight small pens with very decorative woodwork and gates.



The calf house, seen from the south.

Condition: The calf house is Grade II listed individually as a component part of the model farm group at Manorafon. The owners maintain the buildings routinely. The calf house is currently in a fairly stable condition. A rapid appraisal of the building noted no pressing concerns.

4 **MANORAFON FARM** **Post Medieval cart** **SN65312369** **A** **LBII** **Specific**
[\(94482\)](#) **shed**

A later 19th century cart house range attached to the southwest of the farm court at Manorafon Farm. The cart house has a slate hipped roof with five stone arched openings in the front (northwest) facing wall. The cart shed range is listed as part of the farm court as a very rare example of an enclosed farm complex.



The front, northwest, facing elevation of the cart shed.

Condition: The cart shed is included within the listing for the farm court. It relates to a later phase of building sometime during the later 19th century. The owners maintain the buildings routinely but in recent years they have developed some signs of neglect. The cart house is in a fairly weatherproof condition although has several missing or displaced slates on the rear roof pitch and localised climbing vegetation growth on the rear walls.

5 **MANORAFON FARM** **Post Medieval** **SN65272370** **A** **Specific**
[\(94483\)](#) **cottage; cart shed;**
 stable

To the west of the farm court is the former bailiffs cottage and an attached symmetrical range with projecting wing at either end, probably a cart house and stables originally. The modern farmhouse lies behind to the west.



Facing west to the possible cart house and stable building.

Condition: These buildings are not listed in their own right, however they are part of the farmstead group and therefore fall within the curtilage of the listed buildings and so are subject to the same constraints. The cottage is today an occupied dwelling and therefore ineligible for any Tir Gofal grant. Ivy growth now covers much of the rear and side walls of the adjoining cart house and stable range, and a number of roof slates are missing or displaced.

Historic Environment Objectives:

The purpose of the management is to:

- Promote the survival of traditional buildings on the farm
- Prevent progressive decay of traditional buildings through neglect.
- Promote the sympathetic use of traditional buildings within sustainable farming practice.

In order to achieve this you will need to observe the following:

Generic Management Prescriptions - see also General Requirements section B2

1. Those traditional buildings in a weatherproof and a structurally sound condition must be maintained in a weatherproof condition.
2. Those traditional buildings or parts of traditional buildings that have not been previously modified must be maintained using traditional materials and methods of construction.
3. Characteristics and features which reflect history and function of the traditional buildings identified in this agreement must not be removed.
4. Wherever practicable, repair original features rather than replace them. (Capital Works Option)
5. Repairs should be unobtrusive and make use of appropriate traditional materials and methods of construction. (Capital Works Option)
6. When repair is not possible, replacement features must be modelled on the originals, using the same materials and methods of construction. (Capital Works Option)
7. Ensure the retention and sympathetic repair of historic coverings and finishes such as lime-wash, lime-render or weather-boarding. The appropriate traditional materials must be used. (Capital Works Option)

8. Do not disturb protected species (such as bats or barn owls) that use the building. If these species are present you will need a licence from CCW to carry out any work on the building.

Specific Management Requirements for individual Traditional Buildings:

The following individual traditional buildings are subject to specific management prescriptions which are in addition to and (in the case of conflict) take precedence over these generic requirements:

Site 2 on MAP 1

MANORAFON FARM ([64483](#))

SN65282369

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

Listed Buildings: Manorafon Farm is a rare complete enclosed farm complex of around 1800 with some later 19th century additions. The farm court, centre building and cart house range (PRNs 94480-94482) are today Grade II listed. The other traditional buildings within the group are not individually listed although they do lie within the curtilage of the listed buildings and are subject to the same constraints.

Work that affects the character of a listed building require listed building consent. Like-for-like repair is normally allowed, but because interpretation of what is meant by like-for-like may vary it is strongly advised to seek the advice of the local planning authority building conservation officer.

Priorities: The farm court and centre calf house (PRNs 94480-94481) are the earliest buildings within the group and are today Grade II listed. The buildings are beginning to show signs of neglect with localised ivy growth on the walls and some deterioration to the roofs. It is in light of this that these buildings should be the primary focus of any Tir Gofal grant aid. Restoring the attached cart house range which is also listed should be a secondary consideration whilst the restoration of the cart shed and stable should be considered a lower priority.

Detailed management advice for the individual buildings is provided below.

Site 3 on MAP 1

MANORAFON FARM ([94480](#)); ([94481](#))

SN65312371

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

The farm court and centre building are the earliest buildings within the group and are today Grade II listed. The buildings are beginning to show signs of neglect with localised ivy growth on the walls and some deterioration to the roofs. It is because of this that these buildings should be the primary focus of any Tir Gofal grant aid.

1. The management focus is to return the buildings of the farm court to a stable and weatherproof condition using historically appropriate materials and methods of construction. Repairs should be undertaken on a like for like basis, modelled on the originals using similar materials and methods of construction.

The following recommendations apply:

1. Masonry

Remove climbing vegetation from the walls and treat any remaining roots with a herbicide. Follow up with masonry consolidation and re-point open joints to a nearly flush finish. Try to replicate the composition and appearance of the original lime mortar mix as closely as possible. Remove saplings where they penetrate stone walls. Spot treat to prevent re-growth.

N.B. South end of threshing barn -after vegetation removal, reconsolidation and re-pointing replace the

loft door to prevent ingress of water which could potentially erode masonry bonds and promote instability (see guidelines below for reinstating joinery elements).

N.B. North end of entrance range - a large crack in the west facing wall implies movement. It is not known if the crack remains active. Seek advice from a structural engineer or experienced builder who has experience of working on historic buildings.

2. Roof repair

Reinstate slipped or missing slates in order to prevent damage to roof timbers. Replacement slates should aim to match the type, colour, and size of the originals as closely as possible.

Roof timbers - missing roof slates above the southern end of the threshing barn have led to water ingress which is promoting rot in the roof timbers. The emphasis on roof restoration should be on repair rather than replacement. New roof timbers should be replaced on a like for like basis taking care to match the original construction as closely as possible.

Retain or restore the original detail of the ridge and edges of the roof to preserve local traditions.

A secondary aim if funding is available is to enhance the historic external character of the buildings by repairing or reinstating historic doors or windows, reinstating joinery paintwork and replacing cast iron rainwater goods.

- Reinstall joinery elements (doors, windows) to traditional specifications. Inappropriate doors and windows can significantly impair the character of a historic building. As the character of the original doors and windows are not always known it may be necessary to choose replacements based on comparison with examples from similar buildings. Contact the Dyfed Archaeological Trust for further advice if necessary.
- A correct historic finish in this region would favour the use of an estate paint colour. Stained or varnished finishes are not appropriate. The traditional estate paint finish at Manorafon Farm would appear to be a black matt colour.
- Rainwater goods are not a typical feature of traditional farm buildings in the region with roof eaves commonly giving sufficient overhang to clear runoff. Farm buildings at Manorafon retain cast iron gutters and down pipes in some areas, which although not necessarily an original feature of all the buildings are nevertheless an important historic characteristic of the farmstead. The emphasis should be on repairing existing cast iron rainwater goods, and replacing missing sections on a like for like basis. Inappropriate substitutes can erode the historic character of the building and should be avoided.
- Modern breeze block structures (milking parlour, cattle yards) detract from the historic character of the farm. Consider removing modern structures which are no longer in use taking care not to harm any of the historic buildings in the process.

Site 4 on MAP 1

MANORAFON FARM ([94482](#))

SN65312369

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

The cart house is included within the listing for the farm court (Grade II). It remains in a fairly weatherproof condition and is not therefore considered to be a primary focus for Tir Gofal building restoration.

Restoring this building should be a secondary aim after repairs have been completed on the buildings of the farm court (PRNs 94480, 94481).

Site 5 on MAP 1

MANORAFON FARM ([94483](#))

SN65272370

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

The cart house and stable are not listed structures in their own right although they do lie within the

curtilage of the listed buildings and are subject to the same constraints.

Restoration of the cart house and stable should be targeted only after the listed farm court and cart house have benefited from Tir Gofal grant aid.

The following is recommended in order to slow down the process of decay to the building in the event that traditional building restoration is not carried out. Tir Gofal management recommendations:

- Cut back ivy growth on the building, leaving the roots in situ. Spot treat with a suitable herbicide to prevent re-growth.

iii) HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS:

Location and Description:

A historic park or garden is a discrete area of land laid out in an ornamental way, originally for the pleasure and use of its owner. A sub-category of park is the deer park, laid out for management and containment of deer.

Historic parks of national importance are included on the Cadw/ICOMOS Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales. There are also many non-registered parks of lesser quality but which, nevertheless, form an important component in the historic environment and require appropriate management.

The following parks and gardens have been identified:

	Name (& PRN)	Period/Site type	NGR	Status SAM/listing	Management required
6	MANORAFON (25583)	Post Medieval park	SN6523	B	Specific
	A substantial area of parkland associated with the former gentry estate of Manorafon. The parkland straddles the Tywi flood plain and lower valley sides complementing the setting of both Manorafon Farm: the old mansion site, and the later seat, today known as Crymlyn Manor.				
	The Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1887) records scattered individual trees on the slopes with carefully placed clumps on the valley floor. The planting of individual specimen trees appears to have been predominantly broadleaved whilst historic maps (OS 1887, 1906) indicate that the valley floor copses were a mixture of broadleaved and conifer species. Lining the southwest drive to Manorafon Farm is a loose avenue of broadleaved trees.				
	Elements of the historic planting are degraded although the area retains a strong parkland feel today. The valley floor clumps, consisting of mixed scots pine, lime, ash and oak trees all survive, although some specimens are nearing the end of their natural lives. The open character of the valley sides remains largely intact with a few broadleaved trees (lime, oak, ash) remaining. It is noticeable however that a number of trees have been lost, whilst others may be reaching the end of their natural lives. A few of the individual trees shown lining the drive remain.				



Facing west across the parkland. Few of the individual parkland trees now remain.



The valley floor clumps remain a prominent feature in the landscape. Facing west.

Historic Environment Objectives:

The purpose of the management is to:

- Maintain or restore the historic configuration and visual character of the historic garden or parkland.
- Ensure the long-term preservation of features associated with the historic garden or parkland.

In order to achieve this you will need to observe the following:

Generic Management prescriptions

1. Original features identified in the agreement must be retained and maintained. Repairs (including repairs to walling and fences) should be unobtrusive and make use of appropriate traditional materials and methods of construction. (Capital Works Option)
2. When repair is not possible, replacement features must be modelled on originals, using the same materials and methods of construction. (Capital Works Option)
3. Drives and historic tracks together with associated walling, revetment

and bridges identified in the agreement must be maintained and, where necessary, restored using appropriate traditional materials and methods of construction. (Capital Works Option).

4. New tracks should not be created.

Specific Management Requirements for individual Park and Garden features:

The following individual features are subject to specific management prescriptions which are in addition to and (in the case of conflict) take precedence over these generic requirements:

Site 6 on MAP 1

MANORAFON ([25583](#))

SN6523

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

Future management should address how best to maintain the historic configuration and visual character of the parkland. The applicant has expressed an interest in carrying out parkland planting in some areas. Tir Gofal management recommendations:

Plant replacement parkland trees

- The 25 inch 1st edition Ordnance Survey map is most appropriate and accurate map to be used as the baseline for any future restoration of the parkland. Positions of parkland trees should follow as closely as possible the planting scheme represented on it (Ordnance Survey 1887).
 - Replacement planting should focus on reinstating scattered individual trees on the lower valley slopes as well as under storey planting in the valley floor clumps. Historic maps (OS 1887, 1906) do not indicate that scattered individual trees were a characteristic of the valley floor.
 - Replanting lost broadleaved trees along the drive should also be considered. Consider removing *Ilex* close to the farmstead which currently detracts from the historic parkland character.
 - Tree species should be based on the evidence of species represented in the parkland.
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Dyfed Archaeological Trust, The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, SA19 6AF.

tel (01558) 823131, fax (01558) 823133, email info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk, website www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk

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

Sources consulted:

Historic Environment Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire

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

Murphy,K & Ludlow,N 2000 Carmarthenshire Historic Landscape Characterisation - Black Mountain And Mynydd Myddfai, Tywi Valley, Dolaucothi, Taf and Tywi Estuary Volume 1. Unpublished DAT report

Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1886 Carmarthenshire Sheet 33.12, 25"

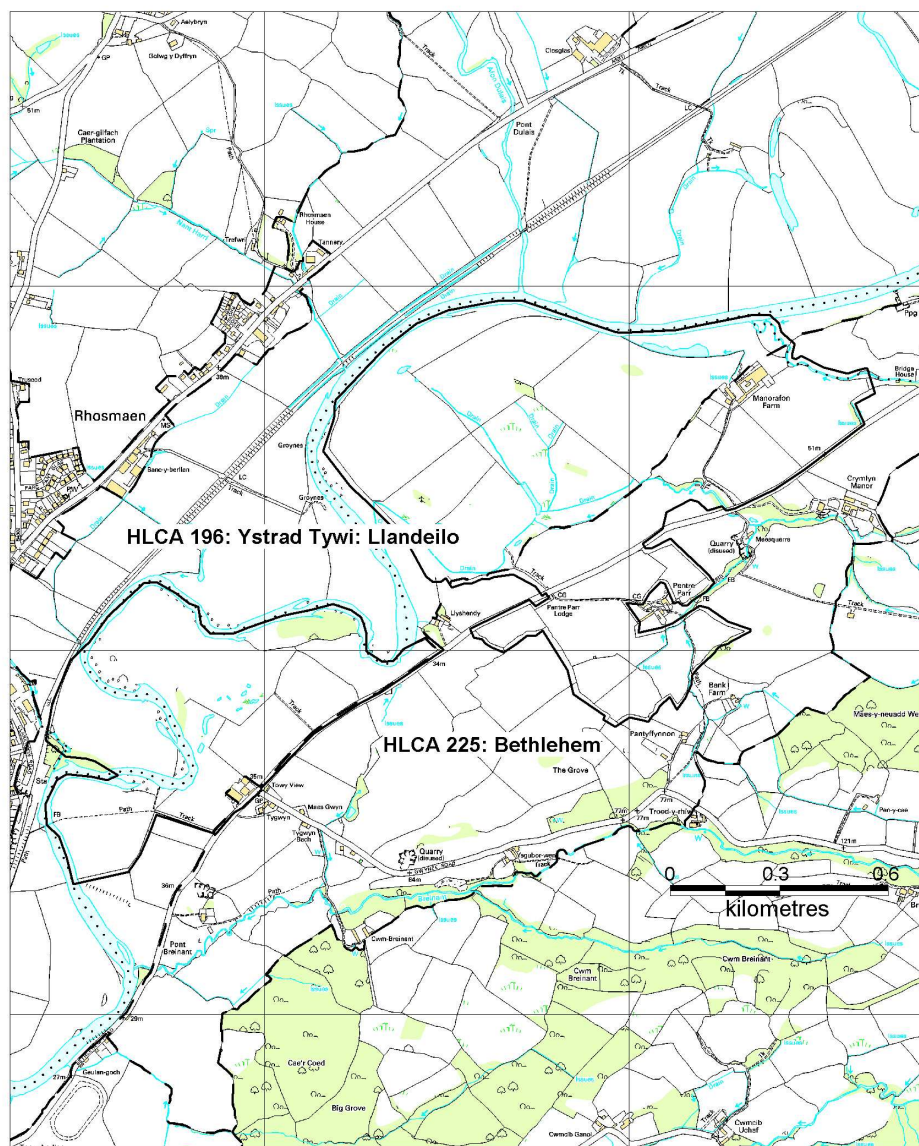
Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 1906 Carmarthenshire Sheet 33.12, 25"

Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1887 Carmarthenshire Sheet 34.09, 25"

Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 1906 Carmarthenshire Sheet 34.09, 25"

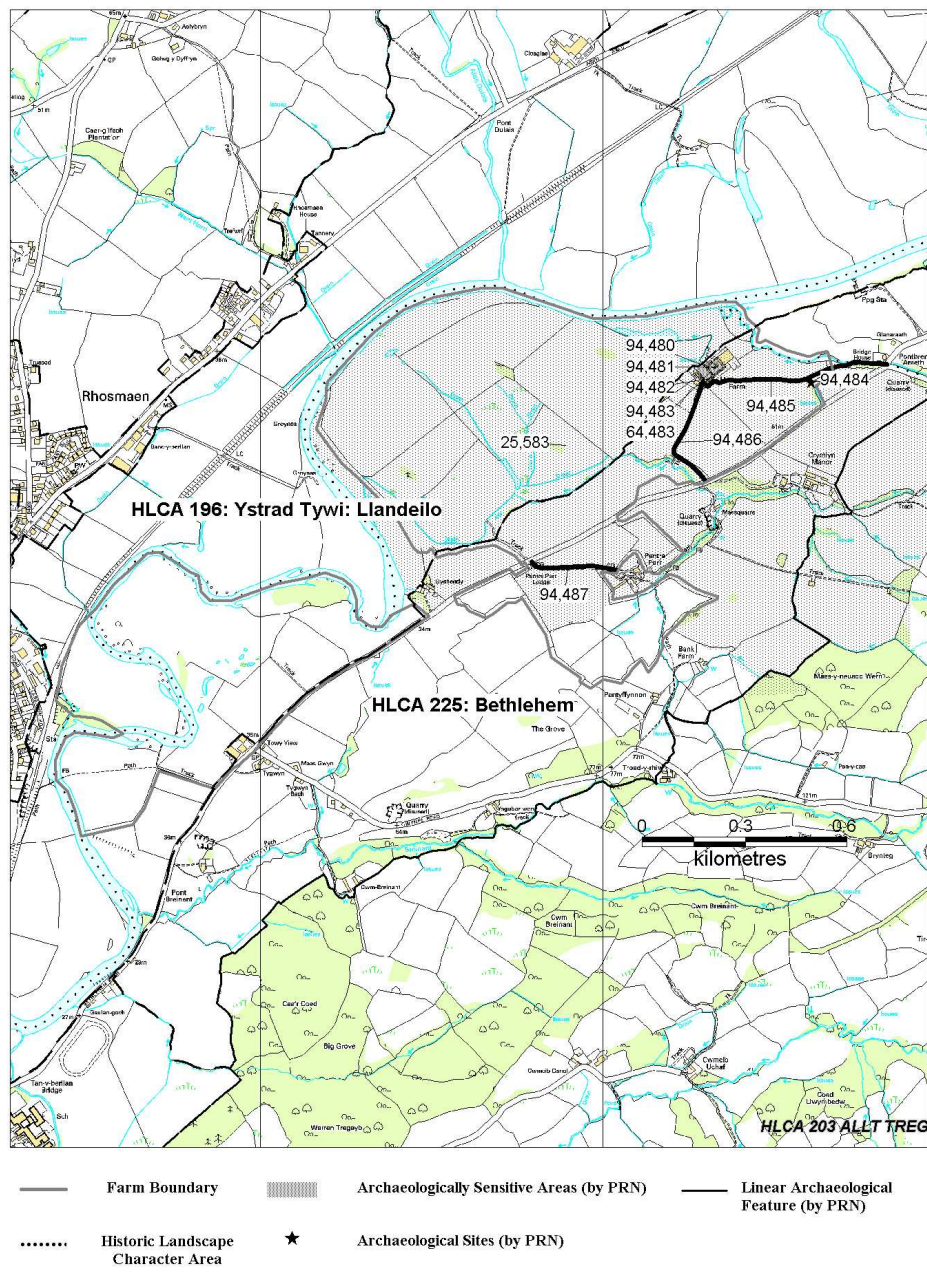
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Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 1906 Carmarthenshire Sheet 33.16, 25"

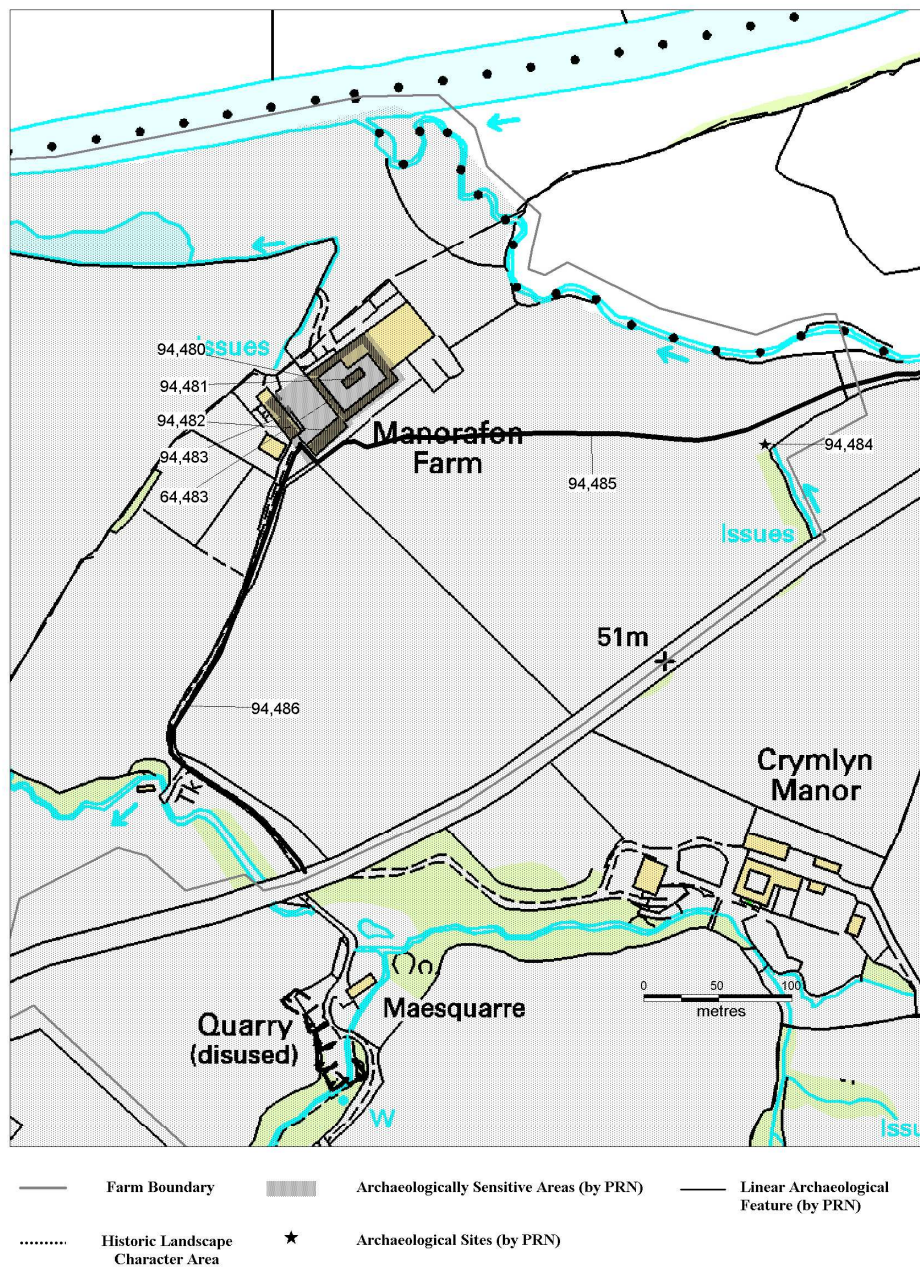


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| | Farm Boundary | | Archaeologically Sensitive Areas (by PRN) | | Linear Archaeological Feature (by PRN) |
| | Historic Landscape Character Area | | Archaeological Sites (by PRN) | | |

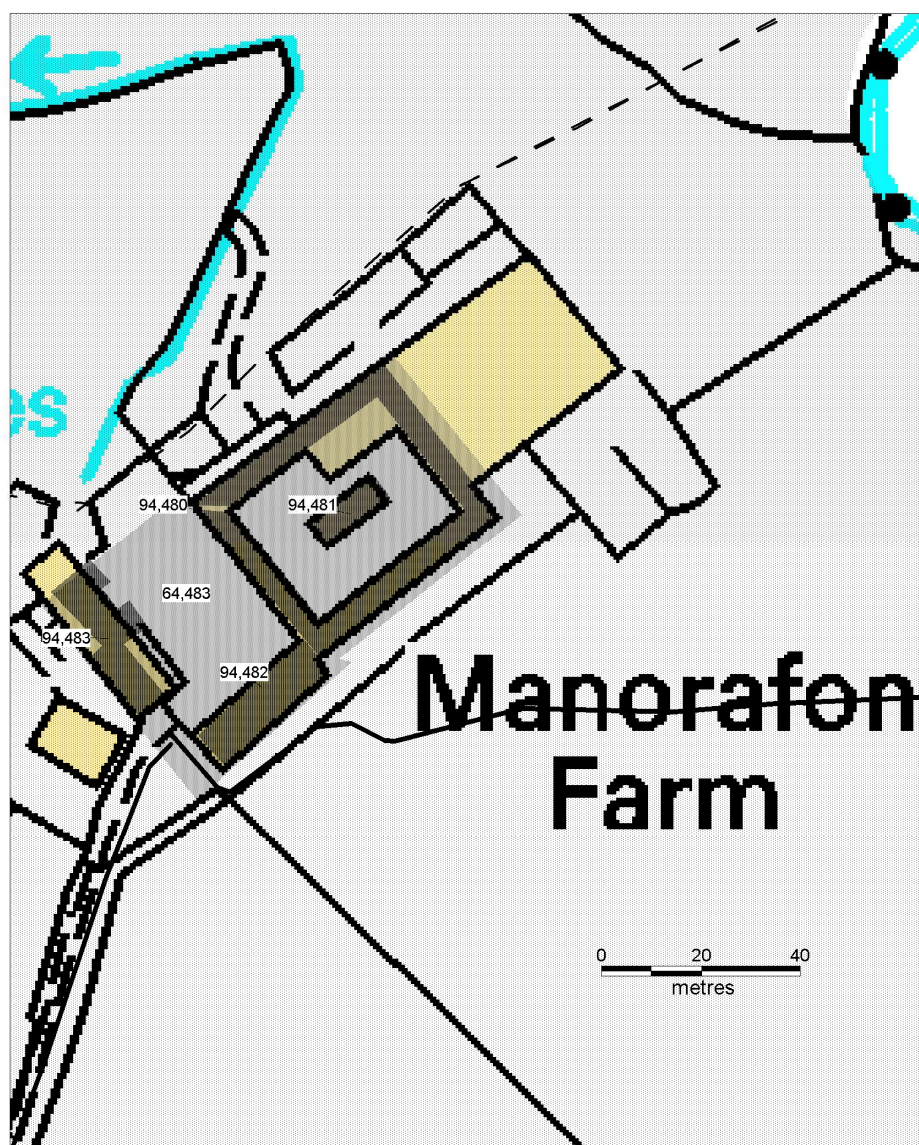
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—	Farm Boundary	■	Archaeologically Sensitive Areas (by PRN)	—	Linear Archaeological Feature (by PRN)
.....	Historic Landscape Character Area	★	Archaeological Sites (by PRN)		

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20921 Courtyard of farm buildings at Manorafon

Late C18 or early C19 (pre 1807), model farm complex with buildings surrounding a square courtyard, and also with a centre building (listed separately). Manorafon was a gentry estate owned in 1749 by Thomas Thomas, agent to the Edwinsford estate, and called Manervabon. The Thomas family were occupants in the late C18. In 1807 John M'Clary of 8 Hart Street, London, and William M'Clary of Manervabon advertised the estate for sale as a good family house with stables, coach-house, walled garden and 'a complete farm-yard adjoining, consisting of a Barn, Granary, Dairy, Stabling for 6 horses, Sheds for 20 head of cattle, and Dog Kennel'. Colonel McLary was occupant in 1810, but by 1840 it was owned by the Pugh family. D.H. Pugh M.P. reroofed and extended the complex in 1861. Sometime before 1840 the old house was demolished and Greenhill, a house S of the road, was enlarged as the main seat, and renamed Crymlyn Manor. The complex is marked on the 1841 Tithe Map.

Included despite alteration to S side as a very rare example of a complete enclosed farm complex of c1800.

Francis Jones, *Historic Carmarthenshire Homes*, 1987, p 130;
The Cambrian, 18 July 1807;
Information from owner.

C19 tie-beam and collar roofs generally, with wishbone struts, one in S range dated DP 1861. In W range the original main principals survive. 9 bay roof S of throughway, one bay roof to throughway and 8 bays to N. Some 16 bays to S range, with 4 windows on rear wall. Barn range has later roofs and remains of belt-driven machinery. Added SW cart-shed has undivided interior with 10-bay roof.

Four sided farm court, rubble stone with slate hipped roofs. Four sides, the two principal ranges the entrance range to W and the barn range to E, both originally partly lofted, with lower single-storey cow-sheds on N and S. A later C19 cart-shed range has been added running W from the SW corner. W front is lofted with 7 square loft windows (one concealed by later C19 addition), and raised gable over centre window with roundel. On main ridge behind gable is octagonal lantern with lead roof and cockerel weather-vane. C20 slats to sides. Centre ground floor cambered-headed entry to broad throughway, similar broad arch blocked to left, and two similar to right obscured by C20 sliding door. Door at extreme left. All openings with stone voussoirs. Throughway is cobbled with plank door to S. Courtyard side (probably stabling) is 5-bay, similar gable, loft windows and through-arch, but window, door and window to right; door, added door, window and window, door, window to left. All original openings with stone voussoirs. S range of cowsheds has had front wall removed in C20 and replaced in timber slats. One original door survives each end. E barn range is hipped with tall cambered-arched barn door to centre and symmetrical arrangement each side of vent loop, broad cambered cart-entry and then door with loft door over. Vent-loop to left of barn door is enlarged, and cart-entries are blocked with inserted door. Rear of barn has centre projection with cambered arch. N range appears to have been cow-house; three doors visible, right side obscured by C20 addition. Later C19 cart-shed range added at SW has slate roof hipped at W end. N front of rock-faced stone with 5 cambered-arched entries, stone voussoirs and keystones also rock-faced.

20922 Centre building of farm-court at Manorafon

Centre building to enclosed model farm court of c1800 at Manorafon. Marked on 1841 Tithe Map. The building seems to have been a calf-house since the C19, but may not have been that originally. An 1807 sale advertisement mentions stables for 6 horses. The arrangement of doors and wide window openings may indicate that this was originally intended as stabling.

Included as a component part of the important model farm group at Manorafon.

The Cambrian, 18 July 1807;

Carmarthen Record Office, Llandeilo Fawr Tithe Map.

Red brick and timber dividing walls to calf-pens. Later C19 wishbone trusses to roof.

Farm-building, latterly calf-house, rubble stone with slate hipped roof. Single storey with matching N and S sides of window, door, window; window, door, window. Stable doors, louvred and shuttered windows, all with stone voussoirs to cambered heads. Two similar windows each end wall. One of doors on S side is blocked.

CARMARTHENSHIRE: TYWI VALLEY

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 196 YSTRAD TYWI: LLANDEILO - LLANGADOG

GRID REFERENCE: SN 662250

AREA IN HECTARES: 769.40

Historic Background

A long, narrow area stretching from Llandeilo in the west to Llangadog in the east, which lies in the fertile alluvial floodplain of the River Tywi and includes a short stretch of one of its tributaries, the Afon Dulais. The valley was the major historic route corridor into West Wales and the Roman road from Carmarthen to Llandovery, which forms the north-western edge of this character area, was constructed along the interface between the alluvium and the solid geology of the north side of the Tywi, and was more-or-less followed by a later turnpike and the present A40(T) - see also Area 182. The River Tywi in this area is particularly active and subject to constant and radical course change across its valley floor, cutting and re-cutting its way through the alluvium and leaving behind a complex of meanders and ox-bow lakes (Ludlow 1999, 21). Evidence from maps, documents and aerial photography suggests that the course has changed greatly even since the Post-Medieval period. The Roman road was therefore directed along the higher ground just off of the valley floor, and settlement on the floodplain itself has always been minimal; there are now no farms or dwellings within the area. However, the landscape had been enclosed, in the present pattern of regular fields, by the time the tithe surveys were conducted in the second quarter of the 19th century; the process was probably undertaken during the 18th century. Earlier and prehistoric environments and settlement patterns of the Tywi Valley are among 'the least known' (Cadw/ICOMOS 1998, 28), but the interface between the floodplain and higher ground would have been an important area of activity for early human communities in the region, providing easy access to the resources of the river and its associated wetlands whilst providing a dry occupation site. *Ad hoc* archaeological work has suggested that there are glacially deposited raised areas of ground on the valley floor (*ibid.*), and peat deposits have been noted between the alluvium and the underlying geology elsewhere within the Tywi Valley, for example at Abergwili and Pensarn, near Carmarthen (Page 1994, 4,9). Here they were thought either to represent 'islands' in the floodplain, or a drying of the floodplain, while Bronze Age stray find sites, and possible round barrows, testify to prehistoric activity within the area. During the Medieval period the river formed one of the major boundaries of Carmarthenshire, separating Cantref Mawr on the north bank from Cantref Bychan on the south bank (Rees, 1932). As such, the landscape area has experienced a chequered history of tenure and was troubled by warfare until the end of the 13th century. Cantref Mawr, unlike Cantref Bychan which was subject to 12th century conquest and reconquest, remained an independent Welsh lordship until 1284 (Rees 1953, xv). There never appears to have been a bridge across the Tywi between Llandeilo and Llangadog, but a possible ford, and perhaps a Medieval battle site, are suggested by the name 'Rhyd-y-Saeson' near Llangadog. A turnpike, established in 1763-71 (Lewis, 1971, 43) more-or-less followed the line of the Roman road although the course through Cwm-Ifor was straightened under Thomas Telford in the 1820s (Carmarthenshire Record Office, Cawdor Maps 172) with the subsequent development of the village. The entire area is crossed by the former LNWR main West Wales railway line which was opened, as the 'Vale of Towy Line', by the Llanelly Railway and Dock Company in 1858 (Gabb, 1977, 76).

Description and essential historic landscape components

The flood plain of the River Tywi between Llandeilo and Llangadog rises a little over 20 m over 9 km. It averages 1.5 km in width. This stretch of the Tywi, unlike the lower section between Carmarthen and Llandeilo (Area 182), has an active erosion and deposition cycle over long stretches of its course, with shifting meanders. In these locations the marshy, scrubby and rough ground is present. Elsewhere the floodplain has been divided into a rather loose pattern of medium- to large-sized irregular and regular fields of improved pasture by hedges without banks and earth banks topped with hedges. The former are planted on the valley floor presumably to facilitate flood-water drainage. The condition of these enclosures varies considerably. In certain locations, particularly close to the river, hedges are virtually redundant and wire fences run along the earth banks. In other areas hedges are well maintained and in good condition. Many hedges possess distinctive hedgerow trees. There is no woodland and no settlement in this character area. The wooded nature of the valley, however, was commented upon by early writers including Leland in the 1530s (Smith 1906), who appears to be describing the floodplain.

The railway line which runs along the floodplain on a low embankment is a distinctive landscape element.

Recorded archaeology is limited but includes Bronze Age finds and possible round barrow sites near Llandeilo and Cwm-Ifor. Other later features include road and rail bridges, stations and other railway furniture. The importance of buried deposits within the floodplain cannot, however, be overstressed.

There are no distinctive buildings.

The loose field systems and lack of settlement and woodland on the flood plain of the Tywi provides a distinct character area and stands in contrast to the surrounding area of occupied land (Areas 191, 201, 202, 204, 205 and 225).

Conservation priorities

There are few historic landscape conservation priorities in this character area, but some consideration should be given to the management of hedgerows, the decay of which is beginning to affect the character of this area.

Ground photograph: 62

Aerial photographs: 29, 30

CARMARTHENSHIRE: TYWI VALLEY

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 225 BETHLEHEM

GRID REFERENCE: SN 690251

AREA IN HECTARES: 1737.00

Historic Background

A very large character area on the southeast side of the Tywi valley between Llandeilo and Llangadog, including part of the lower Sawdde valley. During the historic period the area lay within Cwmwd Perfedd of Cantref Bychan, which was invaded by the Anglo-Normans advancing from the east under Richard Fitz Pons who established a *caput* at Llandovery in 1110-16 (Rees n.d.). It was acquired soon after by the Clifford lords of Brecon as the Lordship of Llandovery. However, there were many episodes of Welsh rule and the area retained native tenurial customs until the end of the Medieval period when it was incorporated into modern Carmarthenshire. The eastern section of this character area formed part of the *patria* of Llangadog which was acquired by the Bishops of St Davids by the late 13th-century (Rees 1932). The area may have been a focus for human settlement with status and/or ritual associations from an early date. A Neolithic chambered tomb and a Bronze Age standing stone lie centrally within the area. The large Iron Age hillfort of Carn Goch, Area 222, intrudes into, and dominates Area 225, and was probably the centre of a large territory taking in most of the area south of the Tywi. There is evidence for early occupation of this site, possibly into the Neolithic, and the significance it gave to the area may have persisted after its abandonment under Roman rule - the most plausible villa site in southwest Wales, Llys Brychan, lies within Area 225 only 1.6km to the northeast of the fort (Jarrett 1962). Its name suggests that Llys Brychan was (re)occupied during the Medieval period as an administrative centre or *llys*, with connections - putative or otherwise - with Brychan, a dominant figure in early Medieval tradition. It is still the site of a dwelling. By the post-Conquest period, however, the majority of this area west of the Sawdde was administered within Cwmwd Perfedd as Maenor Vabon, from a centre, Llys Hendy, now represented by the Post-Medieval house at Manoravon/Crymlyn Manor (Rees 1932) recorded since the 18th century (Jones 1987, 130). The continuing status of this area is demonstrated by the perceived importance of the neighbouring Llangadog (Area 206) during the Medieval period, with a chapel-of-ease to Llangadog parish at Capel Tydist, the site of a house since at least the early 19th-century (Jones 1987, 21), and a further possible chapel site. Gentry houses are numerous within the area, and many of them were acquired by the

Dynevor estate including Mandinam, established by the 17th century and said to have been the residence of Jeremy Taylor following his chaplainship to the Earl of Carbery at Golden Grove (Jones 1987, 7), and Tygwyn which was the residence of the Vaughans of Derwydd in c.1650 with a demesne which comprised 214 acres in 1879 (Jones 1987, 190). Llwynymendy has origins within the 17th century at the latest (Jones 1987, 121) as do Pentre Parr and Beili-Dyffryn (Jones 1987, 7, 153), which later became part of the Dirleton estate. Nevertheless the present pattern of enclosures, which was in place by the early 19th-century (Llandeilo Fawr and Llangadog tithe maps), may have been established by the Medieval period - they are very irregular with many stands of ancient deciduous woodland. The steep-sided valley of the Afon Sawdde is a natural line of communication and the A4069 was a major Post-Medieval droving route, turnpiked from 1779 (Lewis 1971, 43). Typical 19th century rural development is exemplified by Bethlehem which is a nucleation around Bethlehem chapel on the present Llandeilo-Llangadog road - also a turnpike - and shown as a cluster of cottages in 1839, to which a post office and school were added later in the 19th century (Sambrook and Page 1995, 40). A 20th century housing estate has been added but overall there has been little recent development.

Description and essential historic landscape components

Bethlehem is a very large character area. It runs along the south side of the Tywi valley from just southeast of Llandeilo upstream past Llangadog and across the Sawdde valley. It rises in a series of low, rounded hills from 30 m on the Tywi floodplain to over 130 m on the southeastern flanks of the area. Dissecting the landscape are numerous small, steep-sided valleys. Essentially this is a landscape of boundaries to the fields consist almost entirely of earth banks topped with hedges, but a few stone-faced banks lie on higher ground. Hedges are generally in good condition and are well maintained; many have distinctive hedgerow trees. Land-use is predominantly improved pasture, with very little rough and rushy land. Deciduous woodland is mostly confined to the steep valley sides, where it provides a distinctive landscape component. Close to the Tywi valley the landscape has a parkland character; this is emphasised close to Crymlyn Manor by single trees and small clumps which indicate old park planting. There are numerous small, and one medium-sized conifer plantations in the area, mostly on higher ground. There are no nucleated settlements, the loose cluster of houses, a school and post office at Bethlehem is the only aggregate settlement of note. Dispersed farms and other houses dominate the settlement pattern. Most buildings are of 19th- and 20th-century date and stone built. There is a range of farmhouse types, but the majority are two-storeys and three-bays and in the vernacular tradition or more polite 'Georgian' style of the early- to mid-19th century. Larger dwellings are present, and smaller houses and cottages. The range of old, stone-built, 19th century farm buildings also reflects prevailing social and economic class; most are substantial ranges, often semi-formally arranged around a yard, though single ranges of smaller buildings are present on the smaller farms. Nearly all farms have modern agricultural buildings. Superimposed onto the old-established pattern of dispersed farms is a scattering of a small number of later 19th- 20th-century dwellings, in a variety of styles and materials.

Recorded archaeology is rich and diverse, comprising one definite and one possible Neolithic chambered tomb/Bronze Age long barrow, a Bronze Age standing stone and a possible round barrow. Also there is a further Iron Age hillfort on the western slope of Carn Goch (Area 222), and another hillfort to the west. Llys Brychan was excavated in 1961 when it was concluded to be a probable Roman villa site (Jarrett 1961). From the Medieval period are a chapel site and possible chapel site, while from the early Post-Medieval period are possible pillow-mounds, a well and a rubbing stone, in addition to enclosures of unknown date.

There are many distinctive buildings, and high-quality farmhouses. Mandinam house is Grade II listed and mainly from the 18th- and 19th-century, with double-saddle roofs. The contemporary houses at Tygwyn, Llwynymendy, Pentre Parr with its lodge and park, and Beili-Dyffryn are unlisted. The present farmstead at Llyshendy was built for the Dynevor estate (Judith Alfrey, *pers. comm.*). The chapel, school and post office at Bethlehem should be noted, in addition to mills, cottages and dwellings, bridges and a smithy site.

To the north this character area is well defined by the flood plain of the Tywi valley (Area 196) and by Felindre character area (Area 204). Where this area borders higher ground boundary definition is also good - to the south against Carn Goch (Area 222), Garn-wen (Area 226) and others (Areas 229, 230), but elsewhere (bounding Areas 203, 228 and 235) there is a zone of change rather than a hard-edged border.

Conservation priorities

This area lies within the Brecon Beacons National Park. Historic landscape conservation priorities must respect policies in the National Park Plan (1993) and the National Park Local Plan (1995). Most of the historic landscape components in this character area are in a reasonable state of preservation and therefore there are few historic landscape conservation priorities. However, the decay evident in a few of the boundary hedges is beginning to erode the historic character of parts of this area; this problem needs to be addressed. Consideration should be given to the management of the ancient broadleaf woodland. Historic farm buildings form an important component in this landscape. Although most are in use and in a good state of repair, some consideration may have to be given as to how they can be best used/reused and maintained for future generations.

Ground photographs: 92

Aerial photographs: 30