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

**Prepared for:
Cwm Fforest**

**BWW Reference No
3819**

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Project Record No. 98548

INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content

The consultation area comprises woodlands in the vicinity of the modern cottage of Swn-y-don, centred on NGR SN02353889. The woodlands occupy part of the coastal plain north of Mynydd Carningle, within the community of Dinas Cross, Pembrokeshire.

Historic maps (Ordnance Survey 1889, 1907) indicate that much of the woodland is a comparatively recent creation, with the only woods at that time being confined to the steeper slopes. Much of the consultation area identified is shown as being under small fields at the end of the 19th century.

The surrounding landscape is designated as the Newport and Carningli Landscape of Historic Interest in recognition of its considerable landscape value. The area has been further assessed under the Historic Landscape Characterisation project. These holdings fall between areas 362: Holmhouse - Tycanol and 363: Bryn - Henllan. The surrounding landscape is relatively open in character, consisting of farms and fields with little woodland present. Field boundaries follow the lines of strip fields, which are reminiscent of medieval open field agriculture and are probably rooted in patterns of native land tenure.

The presence of a number of monuments, including standing stones suggest that the surrounding area was an important ritual landscape during the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods, within view of Carningle hillfort, other upland monuments and coastal sites. There are no confirmed sites of this date within the farm boundary however, although a possible defended enclosure (PRN 94219) in woodland to the west of Swn-y-don may have prehistoric origins. In the lee of the earthworks is the former farmstead of Dyffryn-isaf (PRN 64489). The farmstead is in an advanced state of decay and its original appearance is now difficult to interpret although a corbelled arched fireplace in the end gable wall suggests that the house may be of some antiquity. The tithe map (c.1843) mentions an old road which may have led up from the farmstead past the defended enclosure in the general direction of Bridge Farm and the road between Dinas Cross and Newport.

Additional archaeological sites are described in the gazetteer below.

Historic Environment Objectives

The purpose of the management is to

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

GENERAL MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

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

Planning

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

Mitigation

- Do not plant or re-plant trees within the defined sensitive areas surrounding historic environment features without the prior approval of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust.
- Do not carry out any excavation or erect any new building or structure in the vicinity of historic environment features without the prior approval of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust.
- Do not site new fencing or vehicular tracks within the sensitive areas of historic environment features without the prior approval of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust.
- Do not remove any material from the sensitive areas of historic environment features or deposit spoil or rubbish on them.
- Do not store timber or machinery within the sensitive areas of historic environment features.
- Do not use heavy machinery in the sensitive areas of historic environment features, especially in wet weather.
- Do not harvest or otherwise fell trees within the sensitive areas of historic environment features without prior discussion with the Dyfed Archaeological Trust.

- No intrusive archaeological investigation (such as excavation, field-walking to collect surface finds or metal detecting) should be allowed without the prior approval of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust, to ensure that such work complies with appropriate guidance - the *Institute of Field Archaeologists Code of Conduct and Standards and Guidance*, and the *Code of Practice for Responsible Metal Detecting in England and Wales, 2006*.

Proactive management

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

Legislation and Guidance

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

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

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FEATURES

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

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

~~PRN 64489~~ DYFFRYN-ISAF **PRN 111349** Post Medieval farmstead SN02243899

A ruinous small farmstead complex, recorded on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1889) with two loosely opposing main ranges and a separate smaller building to the rear. It is not clear if this is the Diffryn Trevaure mentioned in land tax returns of 1793 in the parish (Charles 1992, 39). The site is on a terraced natural shelf above Cwm Dyffryn and today lies within mature deciduous woodland. The farmhouse ruin in the west of the complex consists of two rooms, the north of which has a partially surviving end chimney, its corbelled arched fireplace suggesting some antiquity. The plan of the outbuildings is no longer discernible. The complex lies within deciduous woodland and is currently in a fairly stable condition. Stone and slate has been taken from the building in the past and used to create bivouacs and other structures. This activity seems to have stopped now (WWS 2008).

PRN 64490 Post Medieval well SN02183906

A well, recorded on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1889). Possibly associated with nearby Dyffryn-isaf farmstead. Site not visited. According to the owners there are no obvious built traces of the well now surviving (WWS 2008).

PRN 64492 Post Medieval cottage SN02323920

Former cottage site in woodland. Identified on the tithe map (c.1843) but absent by the time of the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1889). The ruinous remains are now entirely gone with only one section of standing wall remaining, possibly part of an end gable. A dense under storey of brambles makes further interpretation of the layout of the cottage and its enclosures difficult (WWS 2008).

~~PRN 94211~~ PRN118192 Modern hut circle SN02293916

The earthwork lies within a small triangular field enclosure above Cwm Dyffryn. Wall bases approximately 0.3m wide define a circular building 6m diameter with a probable entrance to west. A former stone slab floor surface is visible inside. It is remembered locally that this is the remains of a "bender" (a simple shelter of bended tree branches), built by hippies in the 1970s as a camp during the summer solstice. No management recommendations (WWS 2008).

**Unknown standing stone?; SN02253903
gatepost?**

PRN 94215

A roughly shaped semi-circular sectioned stone, standing approximately 0.6m high by 0.5m wide at its base, tapering to a rounded top. The stone is situated at a break in a relict hedge bank, defining a small paddock enclosure and may have served as a gatepost, although the possibility that it could have been a standing stone in the prehistoric or medieval periods cannot be discounted (WWS 2008).

PRN 94218

Unknown gravestone

SN02393919

A gravestone survives in this general location with a Welsh dedication (WWS 2008).

PRN 94219

**Iron Age? defended
enclosure?**

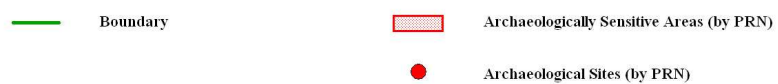
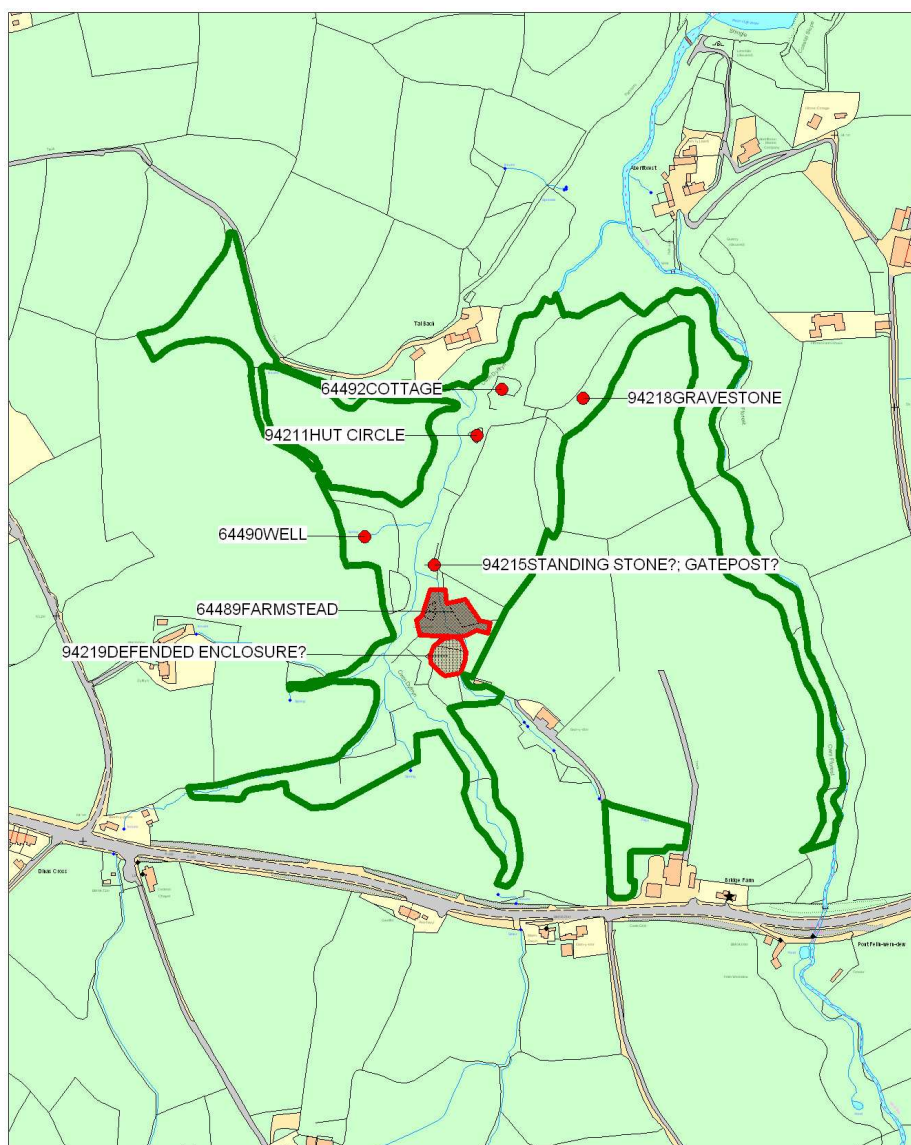
SN02263895

A possible defended enclosure occupying a blunt inland promontory on the coastal slope between Dinas Cross and Newport. The enclosure is naturally defended by the steep slopes of Cwm Dyffryn to the north and west whilst the land rises gently away to the east and south (WWS 2008).

Sources consulted:

Historic Environment Record for Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire
Cadw/ ICOMOS 1998 Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales. Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments
Charles, B.G. 1992 The Place-Names of Pembrokeshire. National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth.
Jones, W.M 1997 Earthwork at Swn-y-don, Dinas Cross, Pembs. Field notes held in Detailed Record File (PRN 94219) , Historic Environment Record
Murphy, K. & Ludlow, N. 2003 Historic Landscape Characterisation of Pen Caer, Newport and Carningli, Manorbier, and Stackpole Warren. Report produced by Cambria Archaeology for Cadw
Ordnance Survey 1889 1st edition Pembrokeshire Sheet 05.10, 25"
Ordnance Survey 1907 2nd edition Pembrokeshire Sheet 05.10, 25"
Ordnance Survey 1889 2nd edition Pembrokeshire Sheet 05.14, 25"
Ordnance Survey 1907 2nd edition Pembrokeshire Sheet 05.14, 25"

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



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*WS - 03/02/2010 (16:44:48) - HTML file produced for Better Woodlands for Wales WHE1 report, Dyfed Archaeological Trust Project record number 98548.
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APPENDIX:

Historic Landscape Character Area descriptions 362: Holmhouse - Tycanol; 363: Bryn – Henllan

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 362 HOLMHOUSE - TYCANOL

GRID REFERENCE: SN 043387

AREA IN HECTARES: 446

Historic Background

A large area of modern Pembrokeshire, comprising the coastal plain lying between Mynydd Carningli and the sea-cliffs to the north, surrounding the town of Newport. It mainly comprises long, narrow rectangular fields, of both arable and pasture. The presence of a number of monuments, including a standing stone and possible stone pair, suggest it was an important ritual landscape during the neolithic and bronze age periods, within view of Carningli hillfort, other upland monuments, and coastal sites. The area lies within the medieval *Cantref* Cemaes. Cemaes was brought under Anglo-Norman control in c.1100 by the Fitzmartins who retained it, as the Barony of Cemaes, until 1326, when they were succeeded by the Audleys. The Barony was coterminous with the later Hundred of Cemaes, which was created in 1536, but many feudal rights and obligations persisted, some until as late as 1922. Most of this character area lay within the boundary of the borough of Newport, which, according to a charter of 1278, is more-or-less coterminous with Newport parish, and represented land over which the burgesses had right of common. The burgesses appear to have been free from rent or dues, possibly this represents a legacy from a pre-existing Welsh tenurial system. Many of the fields of this area appear to have been strip-fields, and were depicted as such on a map of 1758. At this date to the west of the town these fields were still largely unenclosed, with quillets of long narrow strips extending from the town west to the parish boundary and from the sea to one or two hundred metres south of the main A487(T). To the east of the town and in small pockets to the west amongst the strips lay small fields, the long narrow shape of which showing that they had been enclosed from blocks of several field strips. However, there is no clear evidence that these strip-fields represented arable open fields. Indeed, archaeological evaluation in 2001 revealed very shallow topsoil which did not appear to exhibit evidence of a long history of ploughing; moreover, it was recorded by Thomas Phaer, in 1552, that the Newport area was 'bare in corn but plenty enough in cattle'. The strips may therefore represent land divisions according to native forms of tenure, as in the strip fields of the St Davids peninsula and Pen Caer. Lying centrally within the area, alongside the A487(T) – a medieval and earlier routeway – was the medieval pilgrimage chapel of Capel Dewi, but such chapels rarely appear to have been accompanied by any form of settlement. Also lying within the area are two former demesne holdings, also mentioned within the charter of 1278, both of which are surrounded by a patchwork of larger enclosures. Rhigian demesne, on the coastal plain, lies in a valley and features irregular enclosures, while Parc-y-marriage, lies on the slopes of Carningli and features more regular enclosures, which may be later in origin. Holm House, in the centre of the area, was mentioned in 1276 when it was a possession of the burgess William Pecke, of Newport; later a gentry house it has now devolved into two farms. It too lies within a pocket of small irregular fields. It seems likely that Parc-y-marriage and Holm House were established on the boundary between the strip-fields and higher unenclosed land to the south. The strip-field pattern extends into the parish of Dinas, which was a medieval knight's fee, held of the Barony of Cemaes by Welsh tenure. Within this section is another holding, Trewreiddig, which also has a recorded medieval date and occupies a similar location to Holm House and Parc-y-marriage. It is this mixture of medieval strip-fields held by the community and demesne holdings with more regular fields that has produced the distinctive field pattern of this area. Superimposed over these earlier systems are farms founded in the 18th century such as Ty-canol, which carved regular-shaped, large fields out of the strip-fields. This process of enclosure and farm foundation was just about complete by the tithe survey of 1844 and has resulted in the landscape we see today.

Description and essential historic landscape components

This historic landscape character area consists of an undulating coastal plain. The general trend of the land slopes from the south, from Mynydd Carningli, to the north coast. It is a landscape of fields and farms. Improved pasture is the chief agricultural land-use, with a little arable land and even less rough ground. Parts of this area are windswept, and therefore it is not characterised by trees: there are few large hedgerow standards and the only woodland comprises small, scrubby deciduous copses in sheltered hollows and valleys. Non-agricultural land-use includes campsites and caravan parks. Pockets

of long narrow fields attest that parts of this area formerly comprised strip-fields. However, most fields tend towards the large and regular. Boundaries are of substantial stone-faced banks topped with hedges. Hedges are generally well maintained, with some overgrown examples in the more sheltered locations. The agricultural holdings of this area are relatively large, with the majority regularly distributed along the steeper north-facing slopes to the south of the A487(T) road which crosses from west to east. Farmhouses and other dwellings are in a variety of styles, built of local stone, but frequently cement rendered, with slate roofs, and mainly date to the 19th century. An exception is the former rectory, Gelli Olau, a substantial three-storey 18th century house in the Georgian tradition. Pen-y-feidr, the only other three-storey house in the area, is also in the polite Georgian tradition, but is mid 19th century in date. Associated with it are substantial stone-built agricultural buildings set informally around the yard. Some of these date to the early 19th century and are two-storey, others to later in the same century. There are examples of houses dating from the mid 19th century in the vernacular tradition and in the Georgian style. Twentieth century houses are also present. Most farms have one or two ranges of 19th century stone built outbuildings and 20th century steel, concrete and asbestos agricultural buildings, but these are not the dominant landscape components as found in some agricultural historic landscape areas. There are several small historic bridges along the main road, including a listed example dated 1811. Archaeological sites are numerous and varied, but do not strongly characterise the historic landscape, other than two bronze age standing stones and the neolithic chambered tomb of Carreg-y-Gof. Other sites include a holy well, the site of a dark age inscribed stone and the site of a medieval chapel.

To the north against the coastal strip and the town of Newport the definition of this area is clear. Elsewhere there is a merging of this area with its neighbours, and it is therefore not possible to define a hard-edged boundary.

Conservation priorities

Historic landscape components are generally in good condition. This is an agricultural area which may come under stress if the town of Newport continues to expand and if the campsites and caravan parks become more common. Careful management will be required to mitigate these potential developments if the area is to retain its character.

Sources: Ludlow 2001; Charles 1992; Jones 1996; National Library of Wales Llwyngwair Map 7 (1758), Map 8 (1758), Map 11 (1758); Newport Parish tithe map 1844; Owen 1897; Pembrokeshire Record Office HDX/18/1 (1809), HPR/33/33 (1772)

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 363 BRYN-HENLLAN

GRID REFERENCE: SN 014388

AREA IN HECTARES: 461

Historic Background

A large area of modern Pembrokeshire, comprising the coastal plain lying between Mynydd Carningli and the sea-cliffs to the north. It lies within the medieval *Cantref* Cemaes. Cemaes was brought under Anglo-Norman control in c.1100 by the Fitzmartins who retained it, as the Barony of Cemaes, until 1326, when they were succeeded by the Audleys. The Barony was coterminous with the later Hundred of Cemaes, which was created in 1536, but many feudal rights and obligations persisted, some until as late as 1922. This character area lies within the parish of Dinas, which represented 1 knight's fee, held of the Barony of Cemaes, by Welsh tenure. The Dinas name may come from Dinas Head, which itself may be named for its likeness to a *dinas* (large iron age defended enclosure) rather than from an actual fortification. In the *Extent of Cemaes*, of 1594, Dinas was held by a 'divers tenant' and valued at £4. The parish church of Dinas, St Brynach, lies within the area – Brynach was the 'patron saint' of Cemaes. Also within the area is the site of a cist cemetery at Bryn-henllan whose name suggests that it may have been the predecessor of St Brynach's. Both sites may have early medieval origins. The area around the church, now called 'Cwm-yr-eglwys', may represent the 'Trefawr', which was listed as a holding in the *Extent* along with Bryn-henllan and Fron Fawr, the latter now devolved into two farms. The present field pattern, of fairly small irregular fields, has the appearance of post-medieval enclosure. It is possible that a major landscape re-organisation may have taken place - the eastern half of the area, for instance, is labelled 'Forest' on Rees' map of 14th century south Wales. However, fossilised strip-fields are evident in the area immediately west of Bryn-henllan. The tithe map of 1841 shows some enclosed strip fields as well as small fields in a pattern not dissimilar to that of today, although some dwellings have disappeared, new clusters have developed and some of the smaller fields have been amalgamated. Dinas parish church was largely destroyed through coastal erosion in the mid 19th century and is now an incomplete ruin. A new church was built near what is now Bryn-henllan village, which, along with the earlier non-Conformist chapel nearby, became the nucleus for the new settlement. The A487(T), which crosses the area, more-or-less follows the line of a medieval (and earlier?) routeway. The ribbon-development at Dinas Cross, however, all appears to be post-medieval and the majority is 19th century and 20th century in origin. It now forms a settlement in its own right and has eclipsed Dinas and Bryn-henllan. Dinas/Cwm-yr-eglwys is now a popular holiday beach, with a nearby caravan park.

Description and essential historic landscape components

Bryn-henllan historic landscape character area lies on an undulating, sloping north-facing coastal plain between approximately 40m and 90m above sea level, with steeper, higher slopes up to 160m to the south. It is a complex area consisting of farms and fields, old hamlets and modern housing, and tourist facilities. Essentially it is an agricultural landscape that has experienced considerable change in recent years with many of the smaller farms converted to other uses. Agricultural land-use is almost entirely improved pasture, with very little arable or rough ground. Although swept by the winds from the Atlantic, parts of this landscape has a wooded appearance on account of the many trees planted for shelter. There is also some scrubby deciduous woodland and steep, sheltered valley sides. Fields are generally small and irregular in shape, with groups of long curved strip-shaped fields attesting to the former presence of open field systems. Boundaries are stone-faced banks topped with hedges. The condition of these varies, with some well maintained and stock-proof, but with many overgrown and others, in exposed locations, straggling. Dwellings are centred on two core areas, Dinas Cross and Bryn-henllan. These were two separate centres, but recent housing development has merged them into one. Older, almost exclusively 19th century, buildings are united by the use of local blue-grey and warm brown local dolerite stone (not usually cement rendered) and machine cut slate roofs – these buildings are not dissimilar to those found at Newport, 5km to the east. On the better quality houses consideration has been given to the patterns produced by contrasting/matching stone colour, and the use of courses of Cilgerran slate slabs and/or limestone quoins provides a formality lacking in lesser structures. At Dinas Cross the older houses, and a shop and public house, are arranged in a terrace.

Most date to the early-to-mid 19th century and are in the polite 'Georgian' tradition, although many show a strong vernacular element. Other older houses include later 19th century two-storey, three-bay detached dwellings, some said to be built by retired sea captains, in the polite 'Georgian' style. Mid 20th century detached 'villas' lie alongside the main A487(T) that runs through Dinas Cross, and a small, early 19th century chapel is situated on the road to the east. Bryn-henllan originally seems to have contained several small clusters of buildings, including one centred on the stone-built chapel of 1842. Dwellings are in various styles, with several late 19th century two-storey houses in the polite Georgian style, a collection of single storey double-fronted vernacular cottages, as well as small, three-bay houses in the vernacular tradition probably dating to the early 19th century. A pair of listed semi detached houses dated 1872, Llwynhendy and Hafod Llwyd, in the Georgian tradition, are typical of dwellings of this date and are said to have been built by retired sea captains. Other listed buildings include a cottage, a farmhouse and a chapel, which generally reflect the older type of building stock of the area. Small ranges of stone-built farm buildings attached or associated with some of these dwellings indicate the agricultural origins of the houses, but most of these farm buildings have been converted to non-agricultural use or are derelict. Mid 20th century, late 20th century and current housing development, either in small estates or individual dwellings, in a variety of styles and materials has united Dinas Cross and Bryn-henllan into one village. Included in this area are the remains of the medieval parish church at Cwm-yr-Eglwys and 19th century and other buildings at Pwllgwaelod. Here, as in other exposed locations a cement skim has been applied to the slate roofs. Farms in the area are relatively small, with houses in the same tradition as those described above. Older farm buildings are stone-built and of just one or two ranges. Many have been converted to non-agricultural use. This and the few examples of 20th century steel, concrete and asbestos agricultural structures indicate that many farms are not now engaged in agriculture. There are also a school, sports field, caravan park and tourist car parks. Apart from the ruined parish church at Cwm-yr-Eglwys, archaeological sites do not strongly characterise this landscape. Archaeology includes bronze age standing stones, a cist cemetery, a holy well and a limekiln.

Bryn-henllan is not an easy historic landscape character area to define, except at its northern edge where it borders sea cliffs or the distinctive landscape of Dinas Island. Elsewhere there is a merging of this area with its neighbours, and no hard-edged boundaries.

Conservation priorities

Many of the individual historic landscape components are in good condition. However, traditional farm buildings are under stress, and new uses must be found for them if they are to survive. Residential development is continuing to expand across farmland. This should be carefully managed if the historic agricultural character of the area is to be retained.

Sources: Charles 1992; Dinas Parish tithe map 1841; Howells 1977; Ludlow 2002; Pembrokeshire Record Office D/CT/26 (1839); National Library of Wales Llwyngwair Map 5; Rees 1932