

531600

CLWYDIAN RANGE

09'

62

0

1

2

3

61

4

5

6

7

8

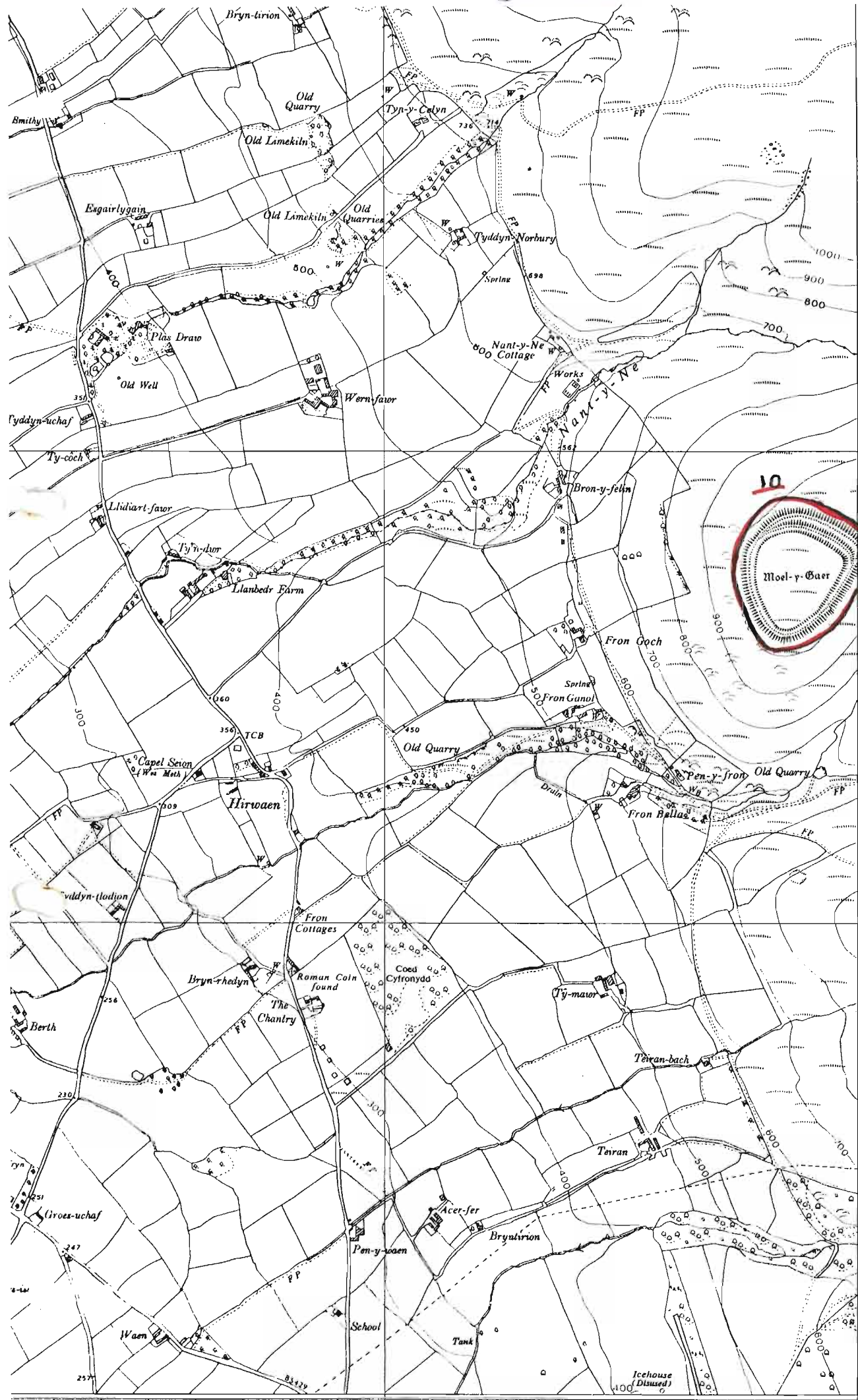
315

LLANBEDR PH

LAT 53° 08'

10 Metres
360000

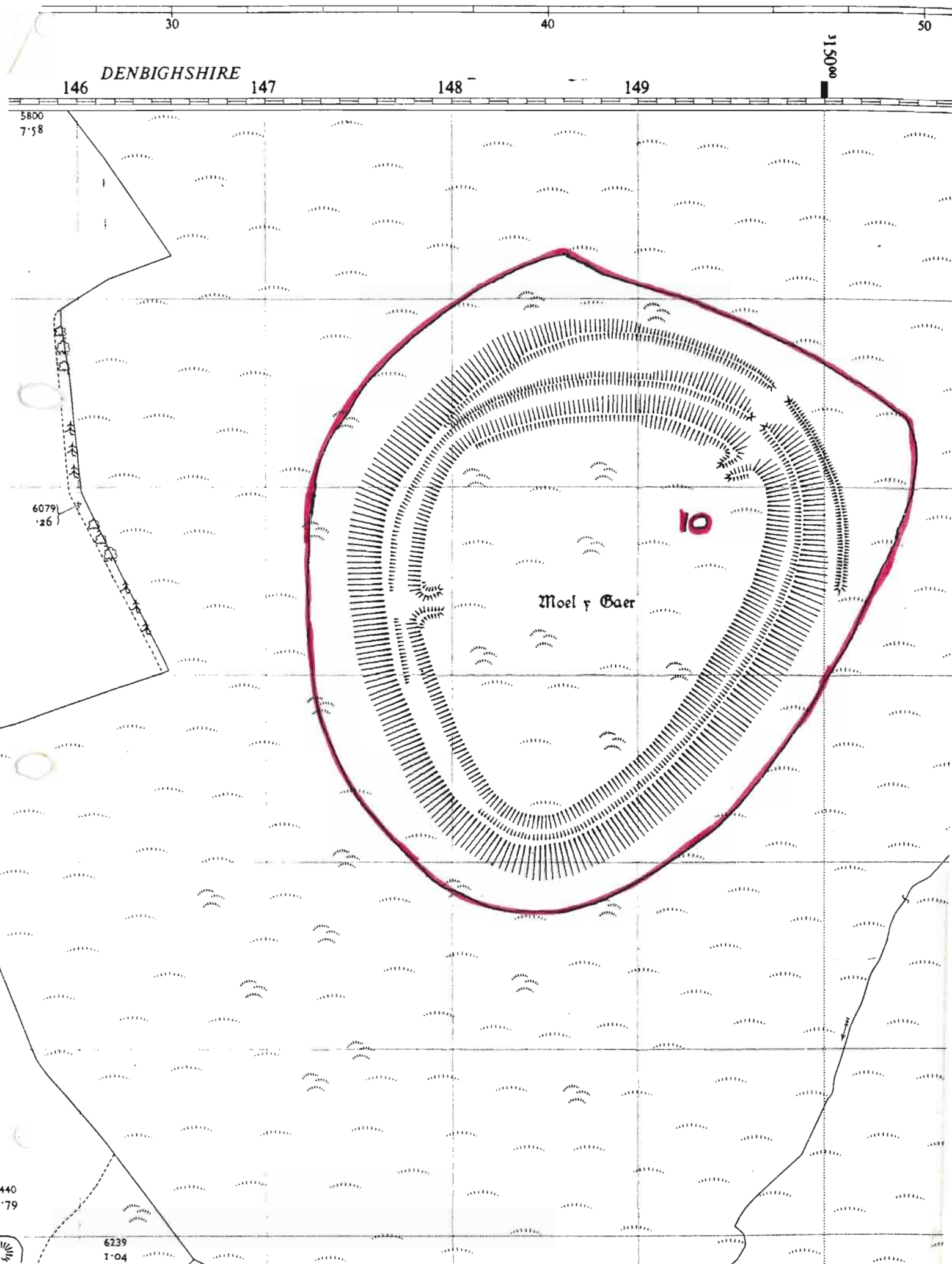
Furlongs



14

LONG 3° 17' W

315



5800
7.58

146

DENBIGHSHIRE

147

148

149

315000

6079
.26

Moel y Gaer

10

5440
1.79

6239
1.04

CADW:WELSH HISTORIC MONUMENTS

Ancient Monuments Record Form

01 Site number	02 Cross reference	03 G.R. number	
04 County Clwyd.	05 County number De 10.	06 Local Authority Glyndwr.	
07 Community Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd.	08 NGR SJ 149618	09 Height OD 320	10 File number ANC/1636
11 Site Name Moel-Y-Gaer camp.			

12 Description

The encampment crowns the summit of a hill of very inconsiderable altitude, when compared with Moel famma, towering above it on the east, from which it juts out westward towards the vale like a promontory. Its only approachable side from the purpose of attack, is on the east, where it is connected by a narrow neck of land, itself precipitous to the north and south; on this side, a third agger is added. The area enclosed by the inner rampart, measures in the broadest part, east and west, about 500 ft. - north and south, about 600 ft. rises rather abruptly from the rampart on the north w. and west, and on the south e., as far as that part where the third agger commences: here the inner rampart is higher than the area, and in transversing the neck of land northwards, follows the course of a ridge of rock. The hill being unapproachable on the west and south e., it is probable that the ramparts were never very high on these sides. Now there is but little more than a trace of them, with the exception of those protecting the western gate, the elevation of which, though probably not now so great as it once was, is very visible. On the east, another gate was similarly guarded, and a roadway was traceable to the unguarded opening in the second rampart. On this side, being the most vulnerable, the ramparts appear to have been much bolder, and are still more perfect. The line of the ramparts in those parts of the encampment where they are in good preservation, is tolerably regular; their height, being about 4 ft., but in those parts on the eastern side, where the second and inner ramparts coincide with the natural barrier of rock, they may have been somewhat lower. There is no spring or well within the area, but about half-way down the western side of the hill below the entrance on that side, there is a strong spring of clear water. <1.>

Camp: Moel Y Gaer. The fortifications of the Caer assume the form of a band drawn around the upper part of the hill, which is more or less conical. The fortifications on the w. side consist of two somewhat weak ramaparts and fosses. The fosse inside the outer agger, which is now to a considerable extent filled up, is here cut in shaly rock. On the inside of this fosse the ground rises sharply, on the top of which is the inner rampart with a shallow ditch inside. The inner rampart on either side of the west entrance incurves for a distance of about 20 paces. The outer rampart becomes more pronounced at the N.W. corner. The fosse again is cut in the rock. Not far from the W. end of the N. side a third rampart starts its course which is continued for some 300 yds. For the first 100 yds. it is on average 30 paces distant from what is now the middle rampart. On the N.E. side, the three ramparts are strong. The main entrance is on this side, slightly to the N. of the highest level of the neck. This consists of a gap of about 10 yds. wide in the outer and middle ramparts. In the inner rampart the gap is 25 yds. further S. Here the rampart on either side of the passage curves inwards into the interior for about 22 yds. This passage is about 5 paces wide. The outer agger and fosse came to an end just to the south of the neck of land. On the s.e. where the slope is fairly steep, the inner agger almost disappears, there being only a trace of it visible at the top of a sharp scarp, which rises above the outer rampart. At the s. corner the defences are almost obliterated. The camp measures in circumference between 900 and 1,000 paces (along the top of the outer ramparts), the area enclosed being about 10 acres. No traces of habitations of any kind are discoverable. <2

The rampart rises at its highest about 5 ft. above the interior but in a number of places the inner scarp is very slight or non-existent. Inside the rampart there are signs of an inner quarry ditch on the north and very slight suggestions of one on the south e. cont.

13 Site type/Period – general/Period – specific/Form

Hillfort / Prehistoric / Iron Age/ Earthwork /

14 Proportion of Site Scheduled/Survival within Scheduled Area/Condition

1 / 2 / C

15 Area

16 Land Class, on site

/ Heathland 1 /

17 Land class, around site

/ Heathland 1 /
/ 6. Land Boundary. Fence. /

18 Site Status

S.A.M.

19 Area Status

20 Owner(s)

Clwyd County Council,
Shire Hall,
Mold,
Clwyd.

21 Occupier(s)

22 Legal Action – See AM107C

23 Works File

ANCIENT MONUMENTS RECORD FORM

continuation form

01

Moel-Y-Gaer camp. De 10.

(12 Description. cont.)

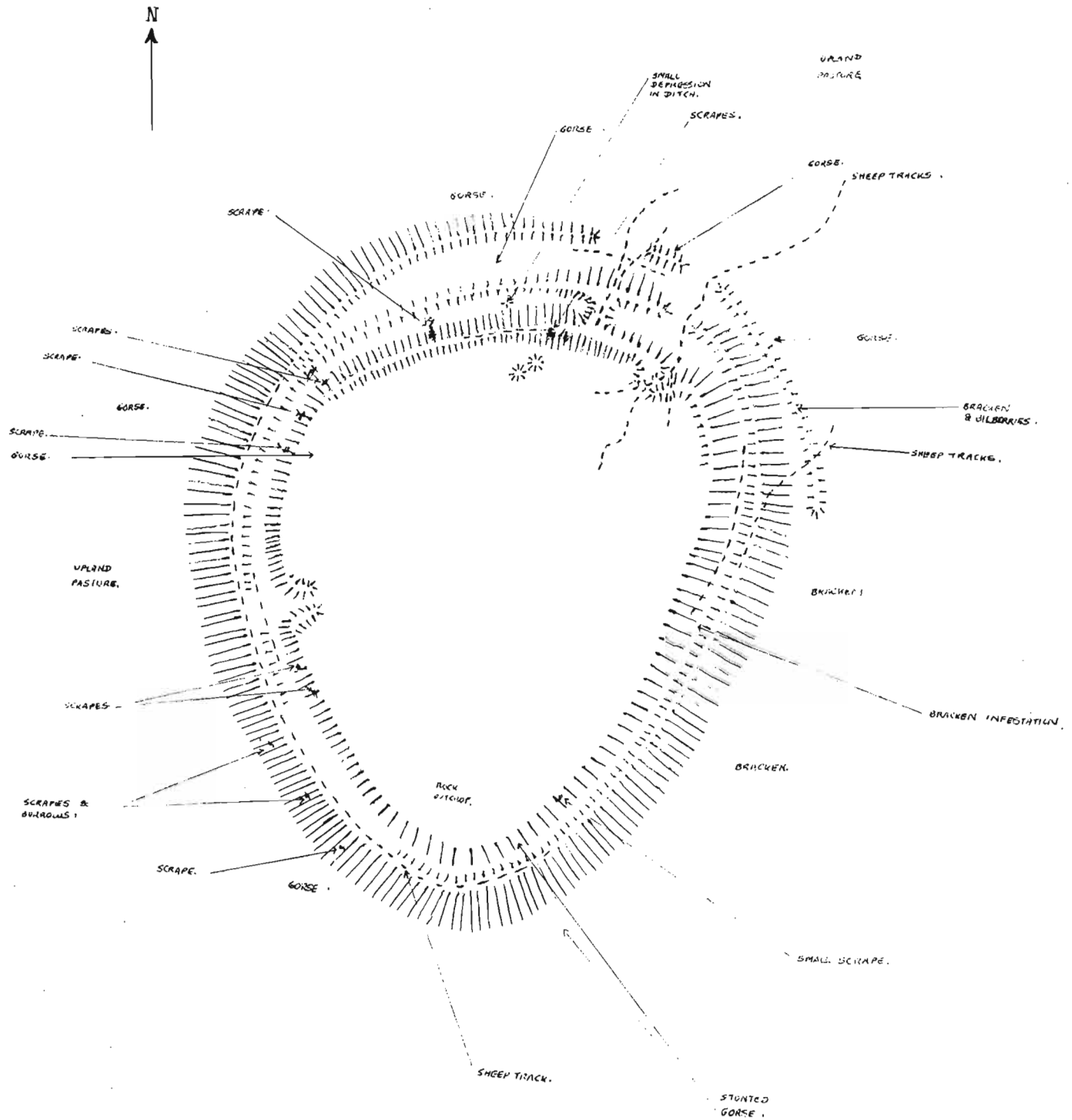
Externally the rampart falls between 20 ft. and 25 ft. to the ditch bottom, except at the eastern entrance. The site has two original entrances, eastern and western, the eastern facing the saddle is simpler and is symmetrical in plan. The counter-scarp banks on either side die out to leave a gap about 40 ft. between the ends. Surface evidence of occupation is meagre. There is only one possible hut platform and this may be part of the adjacent inner quarry ditch. <3.>

Excavations were carried out by W.W. Ffoulkes in 1849 near the N.E. entrance. It was found that the bank was constructed of stone. Part of the inner rampart to the N. of the E. gate was found to have been thoroughly burnt. A sherd of red glazed Roman pottery and a piece of stone roughly chipped to a circular form were the only finds. <4.>

The hillfort is as described. The defences are formed mainly by scarping the hill-side, and using the material to form a low rampart on the downhill side. <5.>

The east entrance of the site is well preserved. The bank on the northern side of the entrance measures 1.6 m. On the south side the bank measures 1.5 m. high and is covered by bilberry bushes. It is crossed by a sheep track. The interior of the entrance measures 2.3 m. across. To the north of the east passage way, the inner ditch continues for 22 paces, and is then crossed by a turf covered bank measuring .7 m. high, forming a causeway 7.5 m. across. On the north side of the causeway, rock has been exposed on the north side of the rampart. The outer northern rampart supports some gorse. A sheep track crosses a break in the rampart measuring 9 paces across. The inner ditch is marked by a small circular depression embedded with stone which measures .7 m. diameter and .2 m. in depth. The inner northern rampart is affected by a series of sheep scrapes. The highest part of the rampart is marked by a scrape measuring .5 m. deep and 1m. across. Two further scrapes below this, measure .3 m. deep by 1 m. across, and .6 m. deep by 3.3 m. across. Fine stone has been scattered down the rampart over an area of 5 m. and two larger stones have been exposed. There is also some evidence of rodent damage in this area. The inner rampart supports a few stunted gorse bushes. The north side of the interior is marked by the remains of two hut circles. The inner rampart is marked by a further scrape measuring .4 m. deep and 2 m. across. Fine stone has been scattered down the rampart into the inner ditch. The floor of the scrape has partially regained a covering of turf. A sheep track follows the summit of the inner rampart. The summit of the north w. rampart is marked by a scrape measuring .3 m. in depth, and 2 m. across. Stone has been scattered down the north side of the rampart. The floor of the scrape has regained a covering of turf. A smaller scrape marks the inner bank of the central rampart. The north w. edge of the interior is marked by a few stunted gorse bushes. Gorse is also present on the western edge of the interior, the west ditch, and below the western side of the site. The west entrance measures 3.5 m. across. The north bank is marked by a minor sheep scrape. There is evidence of stone embedded in the banks. The inner west s.w. rampart is marked by two sheep scrapes partly recovered by turf. Further scrapes occur along the outer south w. rampart, and there is also some evidence of rodent damage in this area. There is a further scrape on the inner southern rampart measuring .2 m. in depth and 1.5 m. across. The floor of the scrape is partially covered by turf. A sheep track passes along the summit of the outer S. rampart. Part of the south e. ditch is covered by bracken. A few minor scrapes occur along the east edge of the interior. The interior of the site is turf covered and grazed by sheep. <6.>

AM107A



Site No: De 10. Site Name: Moel-Y-Gaer camp.

25 Assessment of Importance of Monument

26 Scheduling Procedure

Date	/	/19	/Recommended/IAM,.....
	/	/19	/(Approved (Not Approved/PIAM,.....
	/	/19	/(Recommended (Not Approved/Ancient Monuments Board
	/	/19	/Notices Sent
	/	/19	/Monument included in Schedule

27 Monument not scheduled, de-scheduled because:

28 Archaeological History: Event/Name/Date Excavation. / Ffoulkes, W. Wynne. / 1849 / Finds: " A piece of Roman Pottery well fabricated, of a deep red colour, with the remains of a glaze. Fired rock-stone. Ashes enclosed on 3 sides by 3 large stones, placed to form 3 sides of a square a fourth being placed over this little receptacle as a covering. A piece of mountain stone rudely chipped down into a circular form. A piece of limestone of peculiar shape. Great quantities of burnt oak, & the entire stool of an oak tree. " Arch. Camb./1850/P.174-181.

29 Visits: Name/Date

Ellis Davies. / 27.4.1926 /

F.A.H. / 6.6.62 /

White, J.H. / F.I. / 29.4.63 /

D.S. / 26.8.66 /

Bell, L.M. / F.M.W. / 23.5.1989 /

30 Sources: Source Type/Collection/Author/Date/Title/Other

Desc. Text. / Arch Camb. / 1850 / P. 174-181. / <1.>

Desc. Text. / Ellis Davies. / Prehistoric & Roman Remains of Denbighshire. / 1929 / P. 186-189. / <2.>

Desc. Text. / Arch. Camb. / 1965 / P. 157-159 / <3.>

Desc. Text. / Clwyd Archaeological Record. / (A.M.'S. Eng. & Wales.) 1958 / P. 102 / M.C.W. / <4.>

Desc. Text. / Illus. / Clwyd Archaeological Record. / White, J.H. / F.I. / 29.4.63 / <5.>

Desc. Text. / Bell, L.M. / F.M.W. / 23.5.1989 / <6.>

Desc. Text. / (24 Site Management.) / Bell, L.M. / F.M.W. / 23.5.1989 / <7.>

CADW Scheduled Ancient Monument Record
SAM Information Section 1 (General Information)

100607

SAM No: DE010(DEN)	AI No: 1	File No: 1636	Schedule Ref: 9/1636/DE010(DEN)//
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SAM Name: Moel-y-Gaer Camp

NGR: SJ149618	Additional NGR:	Scheduled: Yes
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Primary	1:50, 000 116	1:10, 000 SJ16SW	1:2, 500 SJ1461
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Additional

Primary	Unitary Authority(UA): English: Denbighshire Welsh: Sir Ddinbych	Community: Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd
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Additional

English:

Welsh:

Area(Ha): 8.23	Class: Prehistoric Domestic and Defensive
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Summary:

**CADW Scheduled Ancient Monument Record
SAM Information Section 1 (General Information)**

SAM No: DE010(DEN)	SAM Name: Moel-y-Gaer Camp
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Archaeological History:

Events	Name	Date	Source
Full excavation	Ffoulkes	1849	

Sources:

Type	Collection	Author	Year	Source
Descriptive text	AM7			1
Title:		Other:		
.....				
Map	1:10,000 / 1:2,500			13
Title: Current Scheduled Area		Other:		
.....				
Descriptive text	Arch Camb		1850	8
Title:		Other: p 174-181		
.....				
Descriptive text		Davies	1929	9
Title: Prehistoric & Roman Remains of Denbighshire		Other: pp 186-9		
.....				
Descriptive text	Clwyd Arch Record		1958	11
Title:		Other: P 102 M.O.W		
.....				
Illustration	Clwyd Arch Record	White	1963	12
Title: F.I. 29.4.63		Other:		
.....				
Descriptive text	Arch Camb		1965	10
Title:		Other: pp 157-9		
.....				
Aerial photograph			1984	5
Title: 84-MB-317,320		Other:		
.....				
Aerial photograph			1986	6
Title: 86-MB-572		Other:		
.....				
Descriptive text	AM107	Bell L M	1989	2
Title:		Other:		
.....				
Plan: sketch	AM107	Bell L M	1989	3
Title:		Other:		
.....				
Photograph	AM107	Bell L M	1989	4
Title:		Other:		
.....				
Aerial photograph			1993	7
Title: 93-08-0004 / 935100-66		Other:		
.....				

**CADW Scheduled Ancient Monument Record
SAM Information Section 1 (General Information)**

SAM No: DE010(DEN)

SAM Name: Moel-y-Gaer Camp

Sources:

Type	Collection	Author	Year	Source
Descriptive text	AM107C	Bell L M	1996	19
Title:		Other:		

.....

**CADW Scheduled Ancient Monument Record
Archaeological Item Information**

Section 1: General

AI No: DE010A		AI Name: Moel-y-Gaer Camp		
NGR: SJ14876175	Altitude(m): 320	Trust PRN:	Endex PRN:	
Site Type (FMW): Hillfort				
Period	General: Prehistoric Specific: Iron Age			Date:
Site Type (Broad):		Site Type (Narrow):		
Components:				

Status: Scheduled Ancient Monument

Form: Earthwork		Condition: Fair
Proportion SCH: Complete	Survival within SCH. Area: Almost complete	
Summary:		

Section 2: Internal use only - A.I. Monitoring

Date	Name	Office	Purpose	Condition
23/05/89	Bell L M	FMW	Routine	
Land Class On: Grassland / Heathland - Heathland; Other - Land boundary				
Land Class Around: Grassland / Heathland - Heathland; Other - Land boundary				
04/06/96	Bell L M	FMW	Routine	Stable
Land Class On: Grassland / Heathland - Heathland				
Land Class Around: Grassland / Heathland - Heathland; Other - Land boundary				

**CADW Scheduled Ancient Monument Record
SAM Visit Description Text**

SAM No: DE010(DEN)	SAM Name: Moel-y-Gaer Camp
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Visit Date: 23/05/89

Visited By: Bell L M

Description Text: Arch. Camb. / 1850 / P. 174-181. :

The encampment crowns the summit of a hill of very inconsiderable altitude, when compared with Moel Famma, towering above it on the east, from which it juts out westward towards the vale like a promontory. Its only approachable side from the purpose of attack, is on the east, where it is connected by a narrow neck of land, itself precipitous to the north and south; on this side, a third agger is added. The area enclosed by the inner rampart, measures in the broadest part, east and west, about 500 ft. - north and south, about 600 ft. rises rather abruptly from the rampart on the north w. and west, and on the south e., as far as that part where the third agger commences: here the inner rampart is higher than the area, and in transversing the neck of land northwards, follows the course of a ridge of rock. The hill being unapproachable on the west and south e., it is probable that the ramparts were never very high on these sides. Now there is but little more than a trace of them, with the exception of those protecting the western gate, the elevation of which, though probably now not so great as it once was, is very visible. On the east, another gate was similarly guarded, and a roadway was traceable to the unguarded opening in the second rampart. On this side, being the most vulnerable, the ramparts appear to have been much bolder, and are still more perfect. The line of the ramparts of the encampment where they are in good preservation, is tolerably regular; their height being about 4 ft., but in those parts on the eastern side, where the second and inner ramparts coincide with the natural barrier of rock, they may have been somewhat lower. There is no spring or well within the area, but about half-way down the western side of the hill below the entrance on that side, there is a strong spring of clear water.

Davies, Ellis. / Prehistoric & Roman Remains of Denbighshire. / 1929 / P. 186-189 / :
Camp: Moel Y Gaer.

The fortifications of the Caer assume the form of a band drawn around the upper part of the hill, which is more or less conical. The fortifications of the Caer assume the form of a band drawn around the upper part of the hill, which is more or less conical. The fortifications on the west side consist of two somewhat weak ramparts and fosses. The fosse inside the outer agger, which is now to a considerable extent filled up, is here cut in shaly rock. On the inside of this fosse the ground rises sharply, on the top of which is the inner rampart with a shallow ditch inside. The inner rampart on either side of the west entrance incurves for a distance of about 20 paces. The outer rampart becomes more pronounced at the north west corner. The fosse again is cut in the rock. Not far from the west end of the north side, a third rampart starts its course which is continued for some 300 yards. For the first 100 yards it is on average 30 paces distant from what is now the middle rampart. On the north east side, the three ramparts are strong. The main entrance is on this side, slightly to the north of the highest level of the neck. This consists of a gap of about 10 yards wide in the outer and middle ramparts. In the inner rampart the gap is 25 yards further south. Here the rampart on either side of the passage curves inwards into the interior for about 22 yds. This passage is about five paces wide. The outer agger and fosse came to an end just to the south of the neck of land. On the south east side where the slope is fairly steep, the inner agger almost disappears, there being only a trace of it visible at the top of a sharp scarp, which rises above the outer rampart. At the south corner the defences are almost obliterated. The camp measures in circumference between 900 and 1000 paces (along the top of the outer ramparts), the area enclosed being about 10 acres. No traces of habitations of any kind are discoverable.

Arch. Camb. / 1965 / P. 157-159 / :

The rampart rises at its highest about 5 ft. above the interior but in a number of places the inner scarp is very slight or non-existent. Inside the rampart there are signs of an inner quarry ditch on the north and very slight suggestions of one on the south east. Externally

**CADW Scheduled Ancient Monument Record
SAM Visit Description Text**

SAM No: DE010(DEN)

SAM Name: Moel-y-Gaer Camp

the rampart falls between 20 feet and 25 feet to the ditch bottom, except at the eastern entrance. The site has two original entrances, eastern and western, the eastern facing the saddle is simpler and is symmetrical in plan. The counterscarp banks on either side die out to leave a gap of about 40 feet between the ends. Surface evidence of occupation is meagre. There is only one possible hut platform and this may be part of the adjacent inner quarry ditch.

Clwyd Archaeological Record. / (A.M.'S. Eng. & Wales.) / 1958 / P. 102 / M.O.W. / Excavations were carried out by W.W. Ffoulkes in 1849 near the north east entrance. It was found that the bank was constructed of stone. Part of the inner rampart to the north of the east gate was found to have been thoroughly burnt. A sherd of red glazed Roman pottery and a piece of stone roughly chipped to a circular form were the only finds.

Illus. Clwyd Archaeological Record. / White, J.H. / F.I. / 29.4.63

The hillfort is as described. The defences are formed mainly by scarping the hillside, and using the material to form a low rampart on the downhill side.

Bell, L.M. 23.5.1989

The eastern entrance of the site is well preserved. The bank on the northern side of the entrance measures 1.6 M. On the south side the bank measures 1.5 M. high and is covered by bilberry bushes. It is crossed by a sheep track. The interior of the entrance measures 2.3 M. across. To the north of the east passageway, the inner ditch continues for 22 paces, and is then crossed by a turf covered bank measuring 0.7 M. high, forming a causeway 7.5 M. across. On the north side of the causeway, rock has been exposed on the north side of the rampart. The outer northern rampart supports some gorse. A sheep track crosses a break in the rampart measuring 9 paces across. The inner ditch is marked by a small circular depression embedded with stone which measures 0.7 M. diameter and 0.2 M. in depth. The inner northern rampart is affected by a series of sheep scrapes. The highest part of the rampart is marked by a scrape measuring 0.5 M. deep and 1 M. across. Two further scrapes below this, measure 0.3 M. deep by 1 M. across, and 0.6 M. deep by 3.3 M. across. Fine stone has been scattered down the rampart over an area of 5 M. and two larger stones have been exposed. There is also some evidence of rodent damage in this area. The inner rampart supports a few stunted gorse bushes. The north side of the interior is marked by the remains of two hut circles. The inner rampart is marked by a further scrape measuring 0.4 M. deep and 2 M. across. Fine stone has been scattered down the rampart into the inner ditch. The floor of the scrape has partially regained a covering of turf. A sheep track follows the summit of the inner rampart. The summit of the north west rampart is marked by a scrape measuring 0.3 M. in depth, and 2 M. across. Stone has been scattered down the north side of the rampart. The floor of the scrape has regained a covering of turf. A smaller scrape marks the inner bank of the central rampart. The north west edge of the interior is marked by a few stunted gorse bushes. Gorse is also present on the western edge of the interior, the west ditch, and below the western side of the site. The west entrance measures 3.5 M. across. The north bank is marked by a minor sheep scrape. There is evidence of stone embedded in the banks. The inner west south west rampart is marked by two sheep scrapes partly recovered by turf. Further scrapes occur along the outer south west rampart, and there is also some evidence of rodent damage in this area. There is a further scrape on the inner southern rampart measuring 0.2 M. in depth and 1.5 M. across. The floor of the scrape is partially covered by turf. A sheep track passes along the summit of the outer south rampart. Part of the south east ditch is covered by bracken. A few minor scrapes occur along the east edge of the interior. The interior of the site is turf covered and grazed by sheep.

Visit Date: 04/06/96

Visited By: Bell L M

**CADW Scheduled Ancient Monument Record
SAM Visit Description Text**

SAM No: DE010(DEN)	SAM Name: Moel-y-Gaer Camp
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Description Text: The hillfort is lightly grazed by sheep. The ditches are largely under turf coverage. Sporadic growth of bilberry and stunted gorse on site. Slight increase in scrapes on northern ramapart causing some undermining of earthwork & exposing fine stone construction. The interior of the site lies under a coverage of turf and bilberry. The scrape on the summit of the north western rampart remains in a stable condition. A further scrape on the north western rampart has been undermined to a depth of 0.5 M. exposing the shale like stone construction. Rodent damage noted on either side of the western rampart, and both inner & outer south west ramparts. The inner south rampart is marked by a large rodent burrow. The south eastern side of the site is marked by a small scrape. Sporadic growth of gorse noted below south eastern rampart, also a number of small deciduous trees noted in this area. Bracken & gorse prevalent in east south eastern ditch. A small walkers cairn has been constructed in the interior of the site.

Visit Date: 06/06/96

Visited By: Bell L M

Description Text:

*** NO ENTRY FOR THIS VISIT ***
