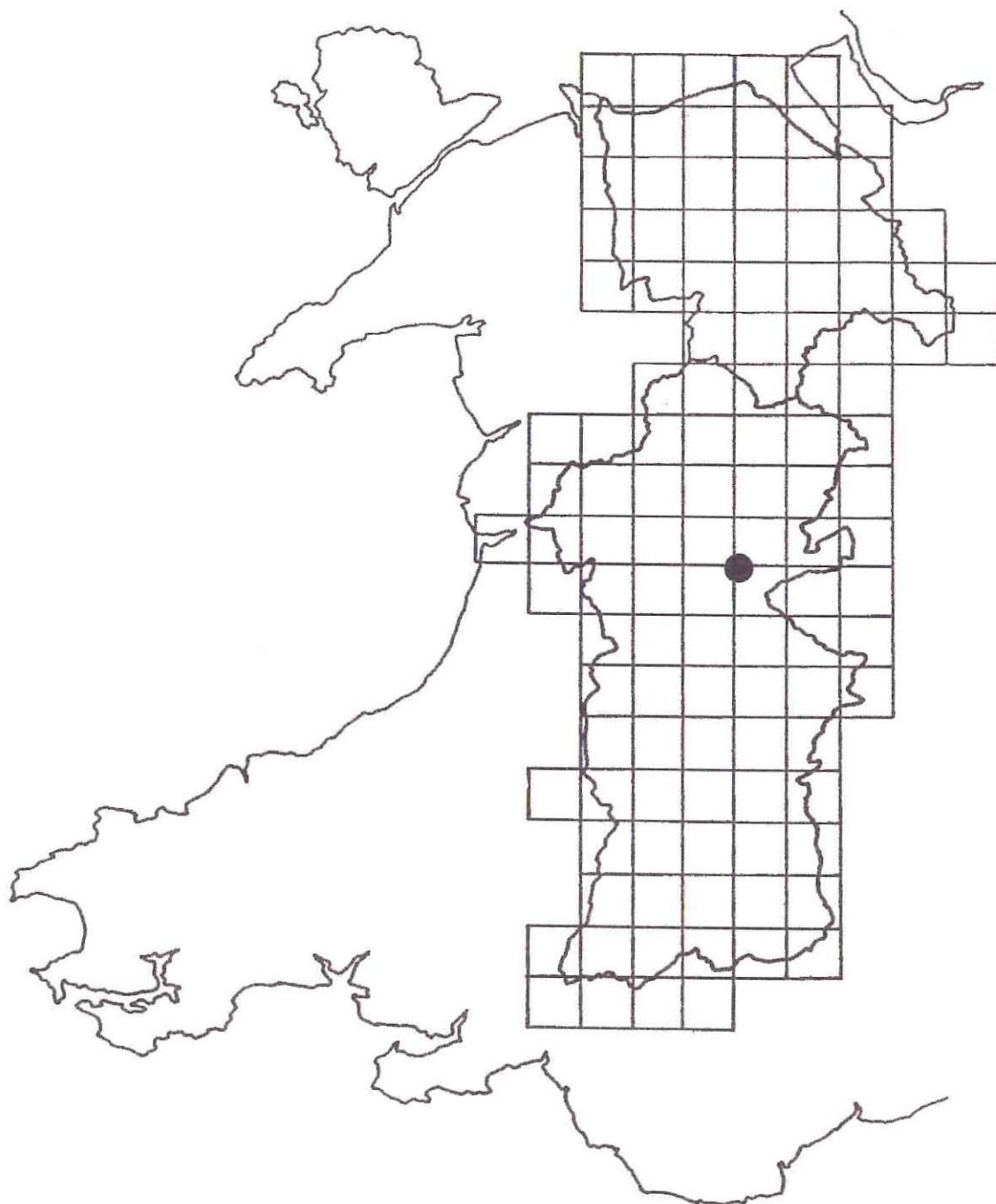


THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

*Proposed Carno-Newtown 132kV Overhead
Powerline*
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT



CPAT Report No 170

*Proposed Carno-Newtown 132kV Overhead
Powerline*

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

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March 1996

Report prepared for Marweb plc

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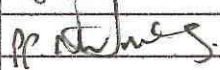
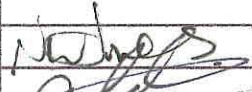

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CPAT Report Record

Report and status

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In September 1995 the Contracting Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT), was invited by Manweb plc (Oswestry district) to provide a specification and quotation for a desk-top and fieldwalked assessment of a proposed overhead electricity transmission line running between Parc y Sarn, west of Carno (SN 9450 9640) and Cil Gwrgan Farm, Aberbechan (SO 1480 9365), in Powys.

1.2 The assessment is covered by a brief (CPAT ASB 148), prepared in July 1995 for Manweb by the Curatorial Section of CPAT, acting in their capacity as archaeological curators for the county.

1.3 The CPAT specification and quotation were subsequently accepted by Manweb and the desk-top study and fieldwalked assessment were carried out during March 1996.

2 GEOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The proposed transmission line corridor, which, for the purposes of this assessment is 50m in width, follows an approximate east/west line between Parc y Sarn, 2km south-west of Carno (SN 9450 9640) and Cil Gwrgan Farm (SO 1480 9365), c. 3km north-east of Newtown (fig. 1).

2.2 Commencing at Parc y Sarn at an altitude of 400mOD, the line descends in a north-easterly direction to a level of 190mOD in the Carno valley. At Craigrfryn Farm the line turns to the east and ascends to 260mOD before turning to the south-east to pass

through the col between the hills known as Cryniarth and Allt Fawr. The line continues in the same direction along a series of intermittent shelves on the north-east side of the Carno valley, at altitudes between 200mOD and 250mOD, before turning north-eastward to cross the col known as Bwlch y Garreg at c. 330mOD. From Bwlch y Garreg the line turns south-eastward and descends gradually to the stream valley of Nant Rhyd Rhos-llan, in the vicinity of Melin-y-gloch Farm, at 145mOD. The route from Melin-y-gloch takes a generally easterly course, ascending and descending a series of rounded hills and ridges to a maximum elevation of 240mOD before descending to 125mOD in the valley containing the Highgate Brook and following it and the Bechan Brook to Aberbechan. The line then crosses the Severn valley at c. 95mOD and meets the existing high voltage transmission line near Cil Gwrgan Farm.

2.3 The soils covered by the transmission line corridor are in general clay loams and silty clay loams, the most common type being stagnogleys of the Cegin Soil Series. The underlying geology from which the soils are derived is composed of grits and shales of Silurian age belonging to the Llandovery, Wenlock and Ludlow Series.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Readily available documentary, cartographic and aerial photographic sources contained within the following repositories were consulted for the desk-top study: The Regional Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, Welshpool; The National Monuments

Record (NMR), Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales, Aberystwyth; The National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth; Welshpool Library.

3.2 In addition to the above named repositories, a list of sources held by the Powys County Record Office was examined; they were found to contain no material not also held by the National Library of Wales.

3.3 Following completion of the desk-top research, a fieldwalk survey was undertaken to determine the present condition of the recorded archaeological sites and to prospect for previously unrecorded sites. The survey was carried out using transect walking techniques, adapted to suit the local field pattern, but generally at 30m intervals.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Evidence of Prehistoric activity in the transmission line corridor is fairly limited, the only site which may date to this period is the probable Bronze Age barrow, site No CN13 (fig. 8), discovered during the fieldwalk survey. Placename evidence suggests that there may have been sites in the vicinity of Nant Rhyd Rhos-llan (grid squares SO 0495 and 0694), but in both cases no traces of sites were seen on the ground. As far as can be ascertained at present no areas of intensive Prehistoric activity are traversed by the corridor.

4.2 The most extensive evidence of Roman activity in the corridor relates to the road network centred on the Roman fort at Caersws. Three areas of suggested Roman road alignment are

crossed by the corridor, and although the precise location of the road in each case has not been confirmed, the alignments are plausible. One site (PRN 1778, fig. 2) which has not been securely dated, but which could belong to this period has been recognised in the corridor; the alignment of banks is suggestive of a Roman origin, possibly a campaign fort. Further archaeological work on the site would be required to determine its true character and dating.

4.3 The Dark Age Aberbechan dyke (PRN 1041; SAM Mg 061, fig. 8) falls within the corridor; this site is protected as a Scheduled Ancient. It is thought to be a defensive structure of Welsh origin, possibly broadly contemporary with Offa's and Wat's dykes.

4.4 Only one site of likely Medieval date, the probable house platform site No CN9 (fig. 4), was recognised in the corridor. The houses and farms which are situated in the immediate vicinity of the corridor are likely to be Post Medieval although this does not preclude the potential that they may have been built on the sites of earlier structures. Traces of ridge and furrow cultivation (eg sites CN3, CN4, PRN 4643) have been recognised at various points on the corridor, however, in all cases the morphology of the ridge and furrow is more suggestive of a Post Medieval date.

4.5 Post medieval and modern occupation in the corridor is well-attested. The house/farm sites of Llidiart Cae Cyd (site No CN2, fig. 2), Gwlybfanau (site No CN 5, fig. 3), and Twmpath Melin (site No CN6, fig. 3), all of which are located in the westernmost portion of the corridor, are evidence of a changing pattern of

settlement in the vicinity of the village of Carno. At the eastern end of the corridor, the water powered Corn and Fulling mills at Aberbechan and their associated leats, added to the Aberbechan wharf of the Montgomery Canal, demonstrate a reasonable level of industrial activity in this period. The remainder of the corridor passes through an area of isolated farmsteads and use of the corridor would have been almost exclusively for stock rearing, evidence of which is provided by the sheep dipping pool (site No CN 11, fig. 5), discovered during the fieldwalk survey.

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND AREAS (See Appendix 1 and Figs 2-8)

5.1 The archaeological sites within the transmission line corridor which were revealed by the desk-top study and subsequent field survey are listed in Appendix 1, and marked on Figs 2-8. The boundary of the corridor has been applied rigidly, and this should be taken into account if any changes to the line greater than 25m to either side of its proposed line are made.

5.2 Included with the location and descriptive data for each site is a designation of the sites perceived importance; the categories assigned are described below.

Category A - Sites designated as being of national importance which meet the criteria for scheduling or listing. It is presumed that sites in this category will be preserved and protected in situ.

Category B - Sites of regional or county importance which do not meet the criteria for scheduling or listing, but

which are nevertheless of particular importance within the region. Preservation in situ is the preferred option for these sites, if loss or damage is unavoidable, appropriate detailed recording should be undertaken.

Category C - Sites of district or local importance which merit adequate recording in advance of loss or damage.

Category D - Minor and damaged sites for which rapid recording is considered to be sufficient, or sites for which the information provided by the desk-top assessment and field survey is considered to be sufficient.

Category E - Sites whose importance could not be fully determined from the desk-top assessment and field survey.

5.3 The project brief specifies that the archaeological potential of areas in which archaeology is apparently absent should be assessed; this will be attempted below.

5.4 Much of the transmission line corridor traverses ground which is either too steeply sloping or poorly drained, and this makes the likelihood of the presence of sub-surface archaeological features minimal in these areas. Of the areas in which archaeology is apparently absent, only the section of natural terraces between Cwm Clyd (SN 9985 9624) and Cwm Mawr (SO 0085 9566) appears to be a particularly suitable location for archaeological sites; clearance features such as the mound of stone, earth etc at SO 0047 9570 suggest that the fields in this area have been cleared for agriculture and it is possible that surface archaeological features were removed as part of this process.

6 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Recommended mitigation measures for the archaeological sites and areas identified in the transmission line corridor are detailed below. For ease of reference the sites are dealt with in order beginning with the western end of the line near the windfarm substation and ending at the connection with the existing high voltage transmission line in the vicinity of Aberbechan. It should be noted that the final decision on the mitigation measures required rests with the Archaeological Curator, the measures suggested below are for guidance only.

6.2 SITE CN1 (fig. 2)

In view of the minor archaeological interest and poor state of preservation of this site no mitigation is required.

6.3 SITE CN2 (fig. 2)

Despite the poor state of preservation of this site it would be preferable if the electricity transmission line poles were placed such that the site will not be affected by any proposed groundworks. The site should be identified by easily recognisable markers prior to the commencement of construction to minimise the risk of accidental damage.

6.4 SITE CN3 (fig. 2)

This site is no longer extant, no mitigation is required.

6.5 RR643 (fig. 2)

The suggested line of this road follows the modern main road, a watching brief should be carried out on any excavations within 50m of the road to determine whether any sub-surface features related to this site survive.

6.6 PRN 1778 (fig. 2)

It would be preferable if the electricity transmission line poles were placed such that the site will not be affected by any proposed groundworks and the site identified by easily recognisable markers prior to the commencement of construction to minimise the risk of accidental damage. If this is not possible, the uncertainty regarding the nature and dating of this site, and its potential importance suggest that further archaeological work should be carried out. If any excavations are planned for the area including, and encompassed by, the identified banks they should first be subject to archaeological evaluation, any trench could be sized and sited so that it was subsequently suitable for pole placement.

6.7 SITE CN4 (fig. 2)

This site is no longer extant, no mitigation is required.

6.8 PRN 1424 (fig. 2)

It seems likely that this site is of natural origin, a watching brief during any excavations in its immediate vicinity may confirm or deny this hypothesis.

6.9 SITE CN5 (fig. 3)

The corridor passes through the centre of this former farmstead. It would be preferable if the electricity transmission line poles were placed such that the site will not be affected by any proposed groundworks. The individual buildings which make up the site should be identified by easily recognisable markers prior to the commencement of construction to minimise the risk of accidental damage.

6.10 SITE CN6 (fig. 3)

It would be preferable if the electricity transmission line poles were placed

such that the site will not be affected by any proposed groundworks. The site should be identified by easily recognisable markers prior to the commencement of construction to minimise the risk of accidental damage.

6.11 PRN 1440 (fig. 3)

It seems likely that this site is of natural origin, a watching brief during any excavations in its immediate vicinity may confirm or deny this hypothesis.

6.12 SITE CN7 (fig. 3)

It would be preferable if the electricity transmission line poles were placed such that the site will not be affected by any proposed groundworks. The buildings, although derelict, are still in fairly good condition and they should be identified by easily recognisable markers prior to the commencement of construction to minimise the risk of accidental damage.

6.13 SITE CN8 (fig. 3)

No surface evidence of this site survives. A watching brief during any excavations in its vicinity may reveal evidence of this former structure.

6.14 PRN 1434 (fig. 3)

It seems likely that this cropmark represents the former location of Site CN8. A watching brief during any excavations in its vicinity may reveal evidence of this former structure.

6.15 SITE CN9 (fig. 4)

Due to its archaeological potential it would be preferable if the electricity transmission line poles were placed such that the site will not be affected by any proposed groundworks. The site should be identified by easily recognisable markers prior to the commencement of construction to minimise the risk of accidental damage.

6.16 SITE CN10 (fig. 4)

This site is no longer extant, no mitigation is required.

6.17 SITE CN11 (fig. 5)

It would be preferable if the electricity transmission line poles were placed such that the site will not be affected by any proposed groundworks. The site should be identified by easily recognisable markers prior to the commencement of construction to minimise the risk of accidental damage.

6.18 PRN 4811/RR642 (fig. 5) The exact line of this road has not yet been conclusively proven. A watching brief during any excavations in this area may provide information on the road alignment.

6.19 PRN 1563 (fig. 5)

A watching brief during any excavations in this field may provide further information on the origin of the placename.

6.20 PRN 1583 (fig. 6)

A watching brief during any excavations in this field may provide further information on the origin of the placename.

6.21 PRN 22883 (fig. 8)

This site is no longer extant, no mitigation is required.

6.22 SITE CN12 (fig. 8)

It would be preferable if the electricity transmission line poles were placed such that the site will not be affected by any proposed groundworks. If this is not the case archaeological excavation of any proposed location for a pole should be carried out. The line of the leat should be identified by easily recognisable markers prior to the

commencement of construction to minimise the risk of accidental damage.

6.23 SITE CN13 (fig. 8)

Owing to its potential importance this site should be avoided. It should be marked out in order that no accidental damage occurs. The site should be identified by easily recognisable markers prior to the commencement of construction to minimise the risk of accidental damage.

6.24 PRN 1041 (Mg 061) (fig. 8)

This site is statutorily protected as an archaeological site of national importance and must be avoided unless Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) is granted by Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments. Reference to the scheduling information held by CPAT shows that there is a gap of 10m between the edge of the scheduled area and the Bechan Brook, if at all possible the line should be routed through this gap or on the opposite side of the brook. The boundary of the scheduled area should be identified by easily recognisable markers to avoid any disturbance to it. It should be noted that operations such as fencing and tree felling are prohibited within the scheduled area without SMC.

6.25 PRN 1811 (fig. 8)

The line of the turnpike is occupied by the present road, it therefore seems unlikely that any disturbance to it will be envisaged and no mitigation should be required.

6.26 PRN 4643 (fig. 8)

Efforts should be made to minimise the damage caused to this area of ridge and furrow by site works, passage of machines etc. If significant damage is envisaged the areas in question should be subjected to measured survey.

6.27 SITE CN14 (fig. 8)

It would be preferable if the electricity transmission line poles were placed such that the site will not be affected by any proposed groundworks. If this is not the case archaeological excavation of any proposed location for a pole should be carried out. The line of the leat should be identified by easily recognisable markers prior to the commencement of construction to minimise the risk of accidental damage.

6.28 PRN 26909 (fig. 8)

It would be preferable if the electricity transmission line poles were placed such that the site will not be affected by any proposed groundworks. If necessary, the site should be identified by easily recognisable markers prior to the commencement of construction to minimise the risk of accidental damage.

6.29 RR64 (fig. 8)

The exact line of this road has not yet been conclusively proven. A watching brief during any excavations in this area may provide information on the road alignment.

7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 The scheduled area of the Aberbechan Dyke (PRN 1041/SAM Mg 061) is an archaeological site of national importance. The present course of the proposed transmission line will need to be moved to avoid crossing the scheduled area. Application for the necessary permission (SMC) required in order to cross the area from Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments may well result in delays in the construction of the transmission line, and may not be successful.

7.2 The sites specified in Section 6 above should be identified by easily recognisable markers placed before the commencement of construction to ensure that no damage is caused during that phase of the project.

7.3 If the recommended mitigation measures detailed above are carried out the potential archaeological impact of the project should be significantly reduced. The measures required may include archaeological excavation of proposed pole locations and watching briefs during excavations in selected areas.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

8.1 The writer would like to thank the staff of the following organisations for their help and assistance:-

National Library of Wales,
Aberystwyth

National Monument Record,
RCAHMW, Aberystwyth

Regional Sites and Monuments Record,
Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust,
Welshpool

Welshpool Library

9 SOURCES

9.1 References

Davies, A., 1904 The History of the Parish of Carno, *Montgomeryshire Collections* 33, 166.

Fox, C., 1955 *Offa's Dyke*, 273.

Jones, I.E., 1971-2 The Township of Llyslyn, Carno, *Montgomeryshire Collections* 62, 202-11.

Lewis, S., 1833 *A Topographical Dictionary of Wales II*.

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Morgan, T.O., 1853 *Archaeologia Cambrensis* 4, 4.

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Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments in Wales, 1911, *Inventory of the Ancient Monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire I - County of Montgomeryshire*, 120.

9.2 Documentary Sources

1714 National Library of Wales
Glansevern 9721-2.

1797 National Library of Wales
Glansevern 9890.

1810 National Library of Wales BRA
1955/Parcel 878 No 21.

9.3 Cartographic Sources

1802 map of Carno in Jones (1971-2).

1820 National Library of Wales
Harrison Map Volume 6, p2.

1829 National Library of Wales
Llanwnnog Parish Deposit (Enclosure maps).

1839 Aberhafesp Tithe map.	1885 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 35.8.
1840 Bettws Cedewain Tithe map.	
1842 Llanllwchaearn Tithe map.	1885 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 36.5.
1846 Llanwnnog Tithe map.	
1849 Carno Tithe map.	1885 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 36.6.
1886 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 27.16.	1884 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 36.7.
1886 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 28.13.	1884 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 36.8.
1885 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 34.4.	1885 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 36.11.
1886 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 34.8.	1885 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 36.12.
1885 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 35.1.	1901 (revised) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 second edition map, Montgomeryshire 35.7.
1886 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 35.2.	
1885 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 35.3.	
1886 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 35.6.	
1885 (survey) Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 35.7.	

9.4 Aerial Photographic Sources

RAF Vertical Aerial Photography

CPE/UK/2079/2360-70 and 4360-90,
taken 19/5/1947 at 1:9800.

CPE/UK/2474/3007-14 and 4015,
taken 9/3/1948 at 1:10000.

CPE/UK/2531/3044-46, 3054, 3057,
and 3060-61, taken 24/3/1948 at
1:10000.

541/40/3418-23, taken 11/5/1951 at
1:10000.

541/49/3032-45, taken 9/6/1948 at
1:10000.

Ordnance Survey Aerial Photography

72/332/715-20 and 747-62, taken
22/8/1972 at 1:7400.

72/333/980-89, taken 22/8/1972 at
1:7400.

76/046/047-048, 107-15, 120-23, and
130-33, taken 28/4/1976 at 1:7900.

81/006/001-02 and 014, taken
22/8/1972 at 1:7400.

Appendix 1

Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites

Parc y Sarn Sheepfold	PRN 0	SITE NO	CN1	NGR SN93509606
Sheepfold	Modern	IMPORTANCE	D	

DESCRIPTION

Ruined rectangular sheepfold of post and wire construction, located at W terminal of electricity transmission line. Post dates first edition 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map (Mont 34.8), surveyed in 1886.

Llidiart Cae Cyd House Site	PRN 0	SITE NO	CN2	NGR SN94809690
House Site	Post medieval	IMPORTANCE	C	

DESCRIPTION

Former house lying parallel to minor road, first depicted on a map of 1802 (Reproduced in Mont Coll 62), the first edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map (Mont 34.4), surveyed in 1885, suggests that it was subsequently known as Ty'n Llidiart. Recent road improvement work for the Trannon windfarm has disturbed this location somewhat, and it is difficult to determine how much of the house was previously extant. It seems likely that evidence relating to the southern part of the house may survive beneath the ground, but the northern part has probably been lost. Situated immediately to S of minor road heading W from Carno, small stream nearby on W side.

1802 map reproduced in Jones I.E., 1971-2, Montgomeryshire Collections 62, "The township of Llyslyn, Carno", 202-211.

1849 Carno Tithe map.

1885 (survey) Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map (Mont 34.4).

Plas Llyslyn Farm Ridge and	PRN 0	SITE NO	CN3	NGR SN95189725
Ridge and Furrow	Post medieval	IMPORTANCE	D	

DESCRIPTION

Ridge and furrow cultivation of fairly narrow separation, aligned NNE/SSW, visible on AP dated 1947. No longer visible.

RAF Aerial Photograph CPE/UK/2079/4363 (taken on 19/5/1947, at 1:10000).

Caersws-Carno Roman Road	PRN 0	SITE NO	RR643	NGR SN95339779
Road	Roman	IMPORTANCE	C	

DESCRIPTION

Possible line of Roman road heading NW from Carno. The farm called "Sarn" nearby suggests that there was a road of some antiquity on this line; this may only be a reference to a former turnpike but Morgan (1853) mentions evidence of a road parallel to the turnpike which was visible in the farmyard of Sarn. The main road, which is thought to follow the same approximate course, may have removed any traces of this earlier road; it was not seen during the

Appendix 1

Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites

walkover survey.

Davies Mrs A., 1904, Montgomeryshire Collections 33, "The History of the Parish of Carno", 166.

Margary I.D., 1973, Roman Roads in Britain, 345-6.

Morgan T.O., 1853, Archaeologia Cambrensis 4, 4.

Bont y Sarn Earthwork	PRN 1778	SITE NO	NGR SN95289790
Enclosure ?	Roman ?	IMPORTANCE E	

DESCRIPTION

Possible sub-square enclosure bisected by modern A470 main road (a potential Roman road line). Banks are visible on the NE, SE and SW sides, although some disturbance has been caused by the road and railway. There is no surface evidence of a corresponding bank on the NW side, but its former line may be represented by a field boundary. Where the bank is crossed by the line corridor it is up to 2m high externally but only a maximum of 0.4m high internally; this might suggest a former field boundary, but could be a result of ploughing/levelling in the present field. One fragment of low density slag was recovered from the field during the walkover survey, this may be a fragment of furnace lining. The overall shape of the surviving banks and their relationship with the suggested line of a Roman road may be indicative of a Roman origin, but it is likely that excavation and perhaps a detailed survey would be needed to confirm this hypothesis.

RAF Aerial Photograph CPE/UK/2079/2366 taken on 19/5/1947 at 1:9,800.

Craigfryn Ridge and Furrow	PRN 0	SITE NO	CN4	NGR SN95729820
Ridge and Furrow	Post medieval	IMPORTANCE D		

DESCRIPTION

Narrow ridge and furrow aligned NNW/SSE in field to N of Craigfryn farm. No longer visible.

RAF Aerial Photograph CPE/UK/2079/2365, taken on 19/5/1947 at 1:9800.

Gwlybfanau Farmstead	PRN 0	SITE NO	CN5	NGR SN97289803
Farmstead	Post medieval	IMPORTANCE B		

DESCRIPTION

Farmstead composed of 3 discrete buildings, all ruinous. Most N major building measures 8m N/S x 11m E/W with internal E/W aligned division. Little walling can be seen on its S side which may have been open or has completely collapsed. Small doorway in N wall. A 3m x 3m square structure visible only as foundations is located immediately to the N overlooking a stream valley. To the SE, the other major building is a long rectangular structure, 25m E/W x 5m

Appendix 1 Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites

N/S, with a northern extension at its W end. Including the extension it has 4 units in total; the most E unit contains rafters, slates and ridge tiles and was probably the last to have gone down - it may have been the house.

1802 map reproduced in Jones I.E., 1971-2, Montgomeryshire Collections 62, "The Township of Llyslyn, Carno", 202-11.

1849 Carno Tithe map.

1886 (survey) Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map (Mont 28.13).

1885 (survey) Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map (Mont 35.1).

Ordnance Survey Aerial Photograph 76 046 113, taken on 26/4/1976 at 1:7900.

Twmpath Melin House Site	PRN 0	SITE NO	CN6	NGR SN97739766
House	Post medieval	IMPORTANCE	C	

DESCRIPTION

Rectangular house, now almost completely destroyed, which was surrounded by a garden or enclosure. Wall faces can be seen which allow its shape to be discerned, but these account for only perhaps 10% of the whole. Although the walls were evidently stone built a number of bricks scattered around suggests that they may have formed part of the structure. Structural details cannot be determined from the above ground remains, but an anomaly of wall faces at the NW corner may suggest a chimney or entrance. It is likely that structural evidence survives below ground.

1829 National Library of Wales Llanwnnog Parish Deposit (Enclosure maps)

1846 Llanwnnog Tithe map

1885 (survey) Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map (Mont 35.1).

Cwm-gerwyn Farmstead	PRN 0	SITE NO	CN7	NGR SN98609714
Farmstead	Post medieval	IMPORTANCE	B	

DESCRIPTION

Four buildings located within enclosure. Most northerly building is the house which is derelict but otherwise in reasonable condition, adjacent to this is a ruinous building which could have been a pigsty or may have been for domestic use. The most easterly building is a stock building/barn which appears to be still in use for storage, and the most southerly is a barn which is mostly timber framed with corrugated iron cladding, with the exception of the SW end wall which is of stone and may represent the survival of an earlier building.

1829 National Library of Wales Llanwnnog Parish Deposit (Enclosure maps)

1846 Llanwnnog Tithe map

1886 (survey) Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map (Mont 35.2).

Appendix 1

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Parc-y-rhiw Building	PRN 0	SITE NO	CN8	NGR SN99329648
Building	Post medieval	IMPORTANCE	D	
DESCRIPTION				
Rectangular building aligned N/S depicted on the 1846 Llanwnnog Tithe map. Described as shed in Tithe apportionment, and not depicted on subsequent maps. The proximity of the rectangular cropmark PRN 1434 suggests that it represents this building. Nothing related to the building is visible on the ground at this location.				
1846 Llanwnnog Tithe map				
Ffridd Isaf Platform	PRN 0	SITE NO	CN9	NGR SO01049564
Platform	Medieval	IMPORTANCE	B	
DESCRIPTION				
Probable platform cut into steep NW facing slope. Platform appears to be aligned E/W and slopes to NW, although the outline may have been masked somewhat by pasture improvement. Deep stream valley 5m to N.				
Creigiau Sheepfold	PRN 0	SITE NO	CN10	NGR SO01159584
Sheepfold	Modern	IMPORTANCE	D	
DESCRIPTION				
Square shaped sheepfold depicted on the second edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map. Not depicted on the first edition map and no longer extant.				
1901 (revised) Ordnance Survey second edition 1:2500 map (Mont 35.7).				
Rhos y Pegan Sheep Dipping	PRN 0	SITE NO	CN11	NGR SO03229604
Sheep Dipping Pool	Modern	IMPORTANCE	C	
DESCRIPTION				
Sheep dipping/washing pool created by stone and concrete dam across stream below waterfall. Dam originally had sluice gate as shown by vertical slots at either side of gap. Concrete ramp on N side leads to steeply angled pen from which sheep would have been driven into the pool. Wooden posts set vertically in pool, function unknown. Fenced pens (ruinous) for stock handling are situated to the E.				

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Aberbechan Corn Mill Leat	PRN 0	SITE NO	CN12	NGR SO12409466
Mill Leat	Post medieval	IMPORTANCE	C	

DESCRIPTION

Mill leat for Aberbechan Corn Mill. At the point where water was abstracted from the Bechan Brook (SO 1240 9466) the leat appears to have been lined with concrete, although it is likely that this was not the case for the rest of its course and was probably a later modification. About 30m downstream from the abstraction point are the remains of a concrete dam which would have dammed the water to a sufficient height for it to flow down the leat when required; this was undoubtedly contemporary with the concrete lining for the leat. The remains of the leat are visible for a short distance to the SE of the abstraction point as a U-shaped ditch, but the greater part of the leat would appear to have been backfilled as a result of pasture improvement, its course has been determined from the cropmark visible on an aerial photograph taken in 1972. Leat ran from SO 1240 9466 to SO 1313 9430.

1714 (reference to mill) National Library of Wales Glansevern 9721-2.

1797 (reference to mill) National Library of Wales Glansevern 9890.

1806 Llanllwchaearn Enclosure map.

1810 National Library of Wales BRA 1955/Parcel 878 No 21.

1840 Bettws Cedewain Tithe map.

1842 Llanllwchaearn Tithe map.

1884 (survey) Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map (Mont 36.7).

1884 (survey) Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map (Mont 36.8).

1885 (survey) Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map (Mont 36.12).

Ordnance Survey aerial photograph 72 332 761 taken 22/8/1972 at 1:7400.

Little Aberbechan Barrow	PRN 0	SITE NO	CN13	NGR SO12599457
Barrow ?	Bronze Age	IMPORTANCE	A/B	

DESCRIPTION

Sub-circular mound 0.6m high with regular convex profile. The lower part of the field in which it lies is uneven but there is no regularity to any of the other undulations. It seems likely that the shape of the feature has been modified by ploughing and was originally circular. Located 70m NE of stream and 30m SE of nearby fence.

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Aberbechan Fulling Mill Leat	PRN 0	SITE NO	CN14	NGR SO13909393
Mill Leat	Post medieval	IMPORTANCE	C	

DESCRIPTION

Mill leat from Bechan Brook leading to Aberbechan Fulling Mill. Water abstracted from brook at point where rock outcrops in river bed forming a natural weir. Leat curves round beneath a scarp slope and has been constructed by building a bank on the downslope side. Position of former mill pond occupied by modern bungalow. Leat ran from SO 1349 9391 to SO 1426 9357.

1714 (reference to mill) National Library of Wales Glansevern 9721-2.

1806 Llanllwchaearn Enclosure map.

1820 National Library of Wales Harrison Map Volume 6, p2.

1842 Llanllwchaearn Tithe map.

1885 (survey) Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map (Mont 36.12).

RAF aerial photograph CPE/UK/2474/4015, taken 9/3/1948 at 1:10000.

Craigfryn Cropmark	PRN 1424	SITE NO	NGR SN95779823
Non Antiquity		IMPORTANCE	D

DESCRIPTION

Apparently circular cropmark. Examination of relevant RAF aerial photograph shows that it is irregular in nature and is probably of natural origin. Nothing was seen on the ground at this location which slopes steeply to the S.

RAF aerial photograph CPE/UK/2079/2368, taken 19/5/1947 at 1:9800.

Cwm Cra Cropmark	PRN 1440	SITE NO	NGR SN98529733
Non Antiquity		IMPORTANCE	D

DESCRIPTION

Apparently circular cropmark. Examination of relevant RAF aerial photograph shows that it is irregular in nature and is probably of natural origin. Nothing was seen on the ground at this location.

RAF aerial photograph CPE/UK/2079/4373, taken 19/5/1947 at 1:9800.

Uwchlaur Coed Cropmark	PRN 1434	SITE NO	NGR SN99359650
Building	Post medieval	IMPORTANCE	D

DESCRIPTION

Apparently rectangular cropmark. The grid reference given for this site in the SMR suggests that it is probably due to the building (Site No. CN8) depicted on the Tithe map. Nothing was seen on the ground at this location.

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Allt Ffynnon Road	PRN 4811	SITE NO	RR642	NGR SO04609560
Road	Roman	IMPORTANCE	C	

DESCRIPTION

A stony area reported by the farmer which had been recognised during ploughing on the supposed line of the Roman road RR 642. No evidence for the road was seen on either the ground or the aerial photographic coverage.

Garreg Lwyd Placename	PRN 1563	SITE NO	NGR SO04859555
Standing Stone ?	Bronze Age	IMPORTANCE	D

DESCRIPTION

Fieldname recorded in the SMR as being suggestive of a standing stone. No stones present in the field.

Cae Carn Placename	PRN 1583	SITE NO	NGR SO06009459
Cairn ?	Bronze Age	IMPORTANCE	D

DESCRIPTION

Fieldname recorded in the SMR as being suggestive of a cairn. No evidence of a cairn was seen in the field.

Rook Wood Quarry	PRN 22883	SITE NO	NGR SO12049479
Quarry	Post medieval	IMPORTANCE	D

DESCRIPTION

Former quarry, now backfilled, that was probably used to supply building stone for local use. Described as "old quarry" on first edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map (Mont 36.7). Still visible on RAF aerial photograph taken in 1948.

1884 (survey) Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map (Mont 36.7).

RAF aerial photograph CPE/UK/2474/3013, taken on 9/3/1948 at 1:10000.

Aberbechan Dyke	PRN 1041	SITE NO	NGR SO12729447
Linear earthwork	Dark Age	IMPORTANCE	A

DESCRIPTION

Scheduled earthwork dyke (SAM Mg 061) composed of two parallel banks which run in an approximate NE/SW direction between SO 1271 9446 and SO 1343 9462. The SE bank has a gap at SO 1274 9448 caused by the cutting of the leat (Site No. CN 12) for Aberbechan Corn Mill. It should be noted that the scheduled area which includes the dyke is statutorily protected and this prohibits the carrying out of any groundworks in the defined area without

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scheduled monument consent (SMC) from Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments.

Fox C., 1955, Offa's Dyke, 273.

Philips D.W., 1932, Archaeologia Cambrensis 87, "Offa's Dyke", 456.

RCAHMW, 1911, Inventory of the Ancient Monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire Volume I - County of Montgomery, 120.

Montgomery Canal	PRN 26909	SITE NO	NGR SO14539373
Canal	Post medieval	IMPORTANCE B	
DESCRIPTION			
Line of Montgomery canal between SO 1470 9393 and Aberbechan Wharf (SO 1425 9352). On the SE side of the canal where it is crossed by the electricity line corridor there is a ratchet operated drainage mechanism designed to facilitate repairs to the canal.			

Forden-Caersws Roman Road	PRN 0	SITE NO	RR64 NGR SO14929359
Road	Roman	IMPORTANCE C	
DESCRIPTION			
The suggested line of the Roman road between the forts at Forden and Caersws crosses the electricity line corridor at the grid reference given above. This section of road has not been confirmed by fieldwork but is thought to follow the present main road. Lewis (1833) refers to a Roman road in the parish of Llanmerewig when he states that it "...may be traced in the lower part of the parish, near the River Severn".			

Lewis S., 1833, A Topographical Dictionary of Wales II.

Aberbechan Turnpike	PRN 1811	SITE NO	NGR SO13669400
Road	Modern	IMPORTANCE C	
DESCRIPTION			
Aberbechan turnpike running between Cil-Gwrgan gate at SO 1417 9362 and Aberbechan gate at SO 1310 9435. Probably dates to c. 1860 when turnpike act was passed (Pritchard 1961-2).			
Pritchard R.T., 1961-2, Montgomeryshire Collections 57, "Montgomeryshire Turnpike Trusts", 6.			

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Aberbechan Ridge and Furrow	PRN 4643	SITE NO	NGR SO13909405
Ridge and Furrow	Post medieval	IMPORTANCE	C
DESCRIPTION			

Area of ridge and furrow with two different alignments, N part runs ENE/WSW, S part runs NNE/SSW. Ridges c.4m wide. The straightness of the ridges irrespective of topography suggests that the ridge and furrow is of post medieval date.

Appendix 1

PROPOSED CARNO-NEWTOWN 132Kv OH POWER LINE SPECIFICATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT BY CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

1 Introduction

1.1 The proposal involves the erection of a 132kV overhead power line over a length of 25,200m between Cil Cwrgan Farm, Aberbechan (SO14809365) and Parc y Sarn, Trannon Moor (SN 94509640). The construction will involve the positioning of wooden posts at spacings of 110-160m with the use of twin H-poles where necessary. The route of the proposed line is marked on map extracts submitted with the planning proposal (M25546) but may be placed up to 25m either side of the central line within the wayleave corridor.

1.2 This area lies in predominantly agricultural land comprising chiefly lowland grazing and rough upland pasture. There are few modern settlements within the area and little systematic archaeological survey has been undertaken in this region.

1.3 The Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust in their capacity as archaeological curators for the county have determined that an archaeological assessment is necessary to determine the implications of the proposed development on the archaeological resource. Accordingly a brief (No ASB148 dated 26th July 1995) has been prepared by CPAT Curatorial which describes the scheme of archaeological works required.

2 Objectives

2.1 The objectives of the evaluation are:

2.1.1 to reveal by means of a combination of desk-based assessment and field evaluation, the nature, condition, significance and, where possible, the chronology of the archaeology within the area of the proposed development in so far as these aims are possible;

2.1.2 to record any archaeological sites located during the fieldwork;

2.1.3 to prepare a report outlining the results of the field evaluation and incorporating sufficient information on the archaeological resource for a reasonable planning decision to be taken regarding the archaeological provision for the area affected by the proposed development;

2.1.4 to identify and recommend options for the appropriate management of the archaeological resource, including any further provision for that resource where it is considered necessary and with the ultimate aim of the continued preservation of the archaeological resource.

3 Methods

3.1 Stage one of the evaluation will involve the examination of all the readily available primary and secondary records relating to this

area, including documentary and cartographic sources. Archives and repositories will include the County Sites and Monuments Record held at CPAT, the National Monuments record housed with RCAHMW, Aberystwyth, County Archive Office, Llandrindod Wells, the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth and local and county museums.

3.2 Stage two will take the form of a fieldwalked survey systematically undertaken over the whole of the wayleave corridor at intervals not exceeding 30m. wide. Each located site of potential archaeological interest will be located on an appropriate map base at a scale of 1:10,000 or less. Any sites will be described and interpreted as surface indications allow and the relative importance of each site will be estimated. Areas of archaeological absence will be noted and evaluated for hidden archaeological potential.

3.3 Following the on-site work an illustrated and bound report will be prepared according to the principles laid out in the Assessment Brief (page 4). This will be in A4 format and contain conventional sections on: Site location, Topography and Geology; Historic Background; Excavation; Conclusions and Recommendations and References, together with appropriate appendices on archives and finds.

3.4 The site archive will be prepared to specifications laid out in Appendix 3 in the Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage, 1991).

4 Resources and Programming

4.1 The evaluation will be undertaken by a small team of two skilled archaeologists under the direct supervision of an experienced field archaeologist, who will also be responsible for undertaking the desk-based assessment. Overall supervision will be by Dr A Gibson, a senior member of CPAT's staff who is also a member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

4.2 All report preparation will be completed by the same field archaeologist who conducted the evaluation.

4.3 It is anticipated that the assessment and evaluation will take no more than 15 days in all and that the subsequent report would be prepared immediately thereafter, dependent on the client's instructions and the arrangement of a suitable timetable. The date of commencement, at the time of writing, has yet to be agreed with the client, and will be dependent on the state of the site and negotiated access. The archaeological curator will be informed of the detailed timetable and staffing levels when agreement has been reached with the client.

4.4 Requirements relating to Health and Safety regulations will be adhered to by CPAT and its staff.

4.5 CPAT is covered by appropriate Public and Employer's Liability insurance.

A.M. Gibson 2nd March 1995

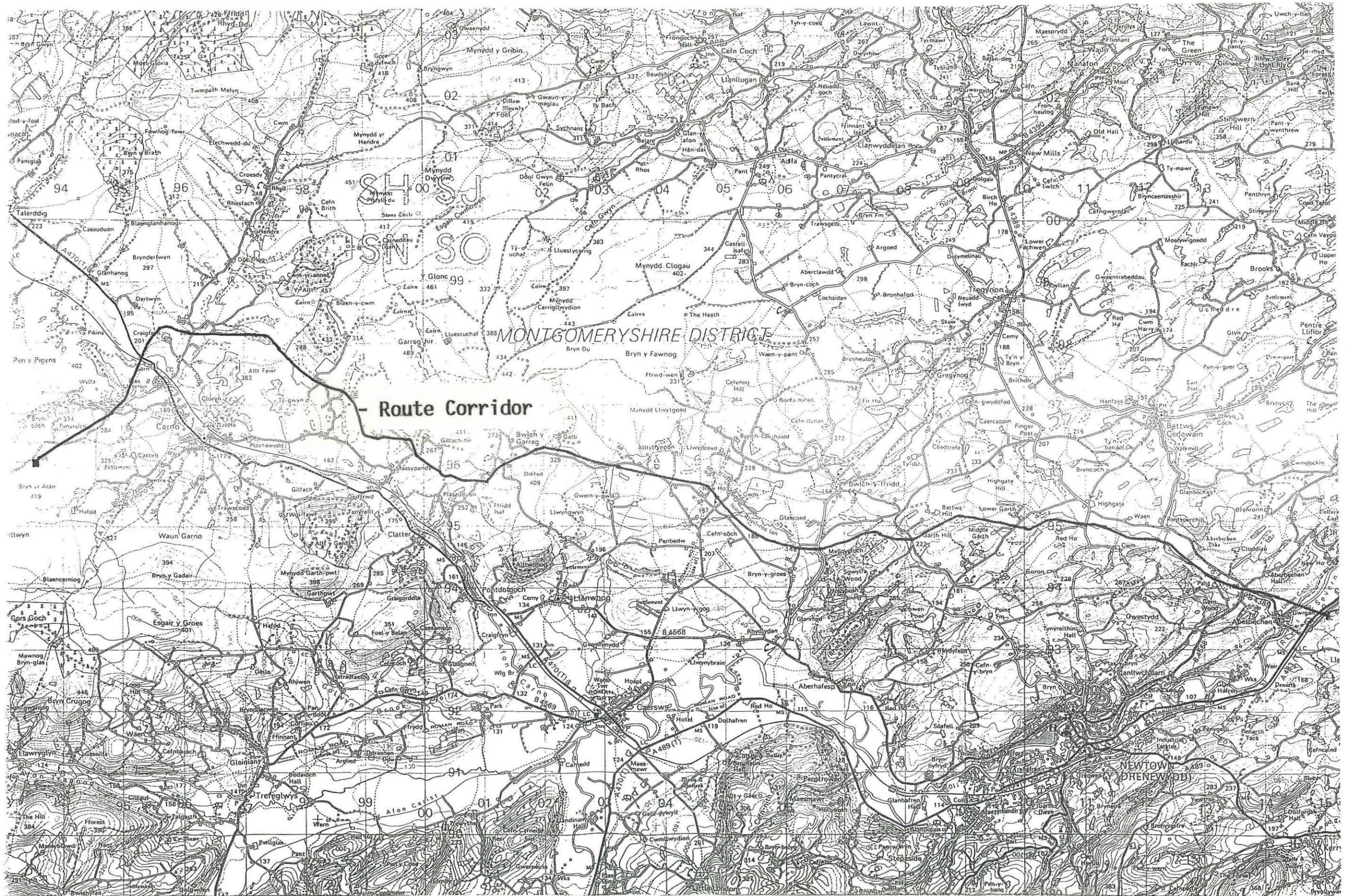


Fig 1 Location of Route Corridor Scale 1:60000

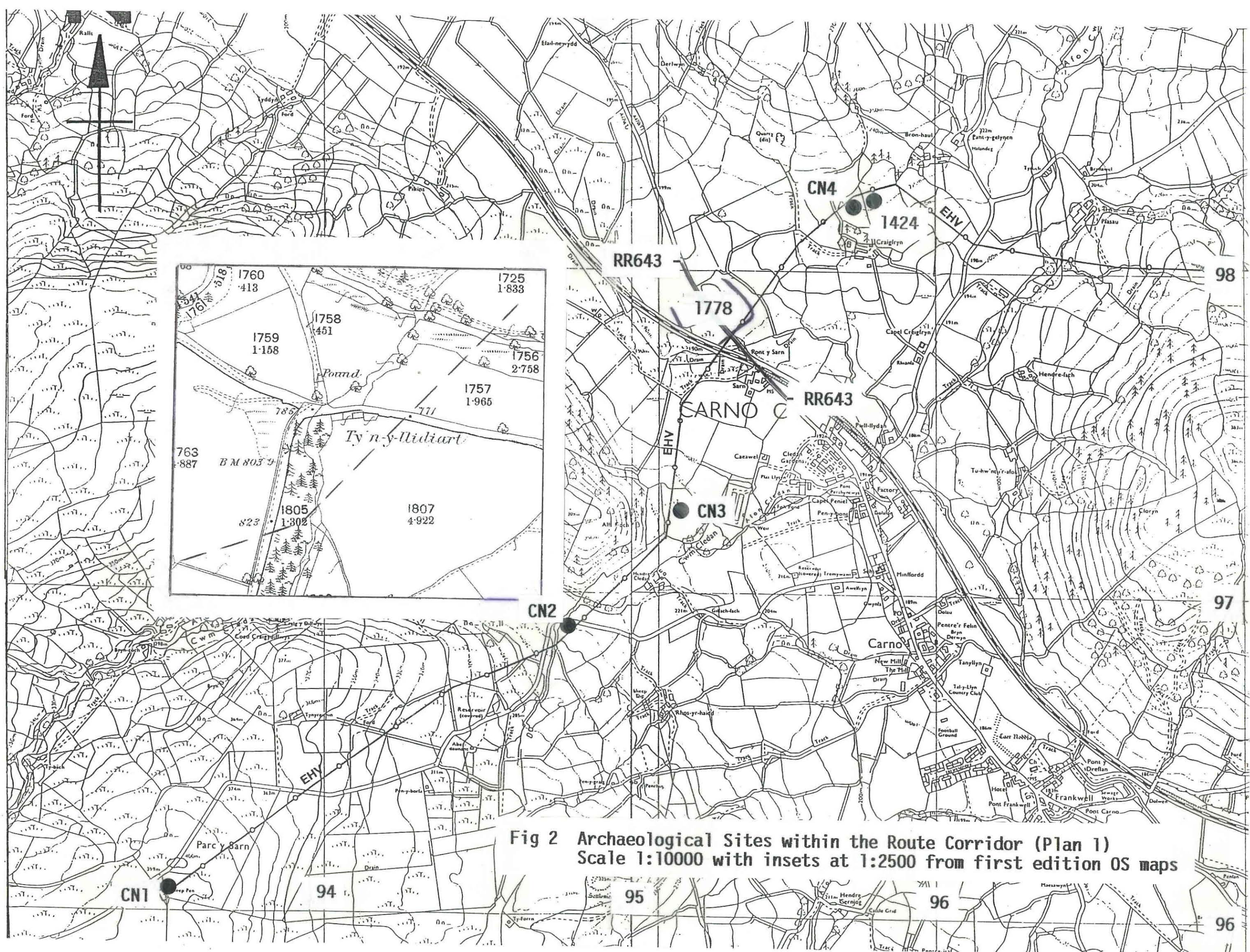


Fig 2 Archaeological Sites within the Route Corridor (Plan 1)
Scale 1:10000 with insets at 1:2500 from first edition OS maps

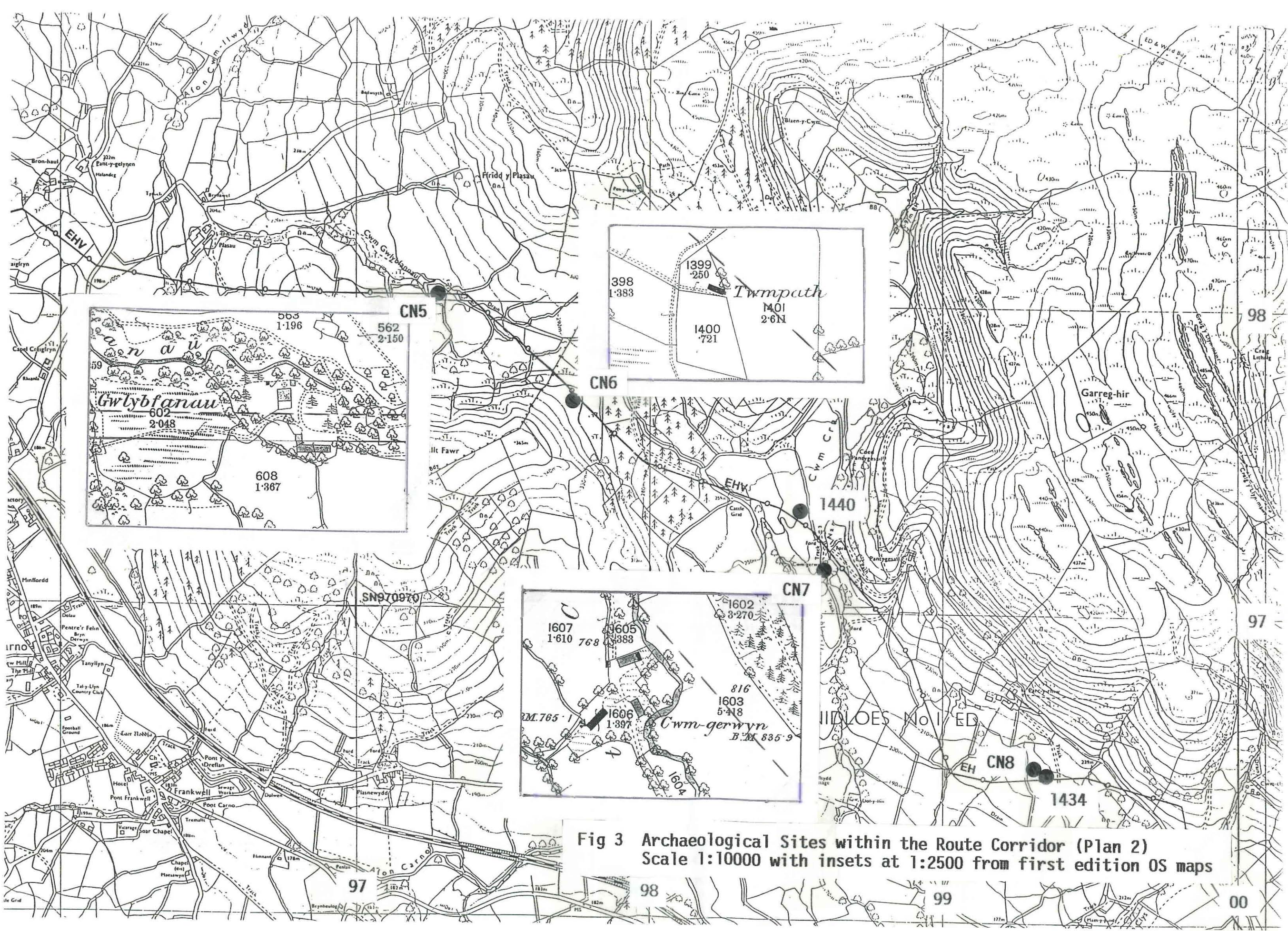


Fig 3 Archaeological Sites within the Route Corridor (Plan 2)
Scale 1:10000 with insets at 1:2500 from first edition OS maps

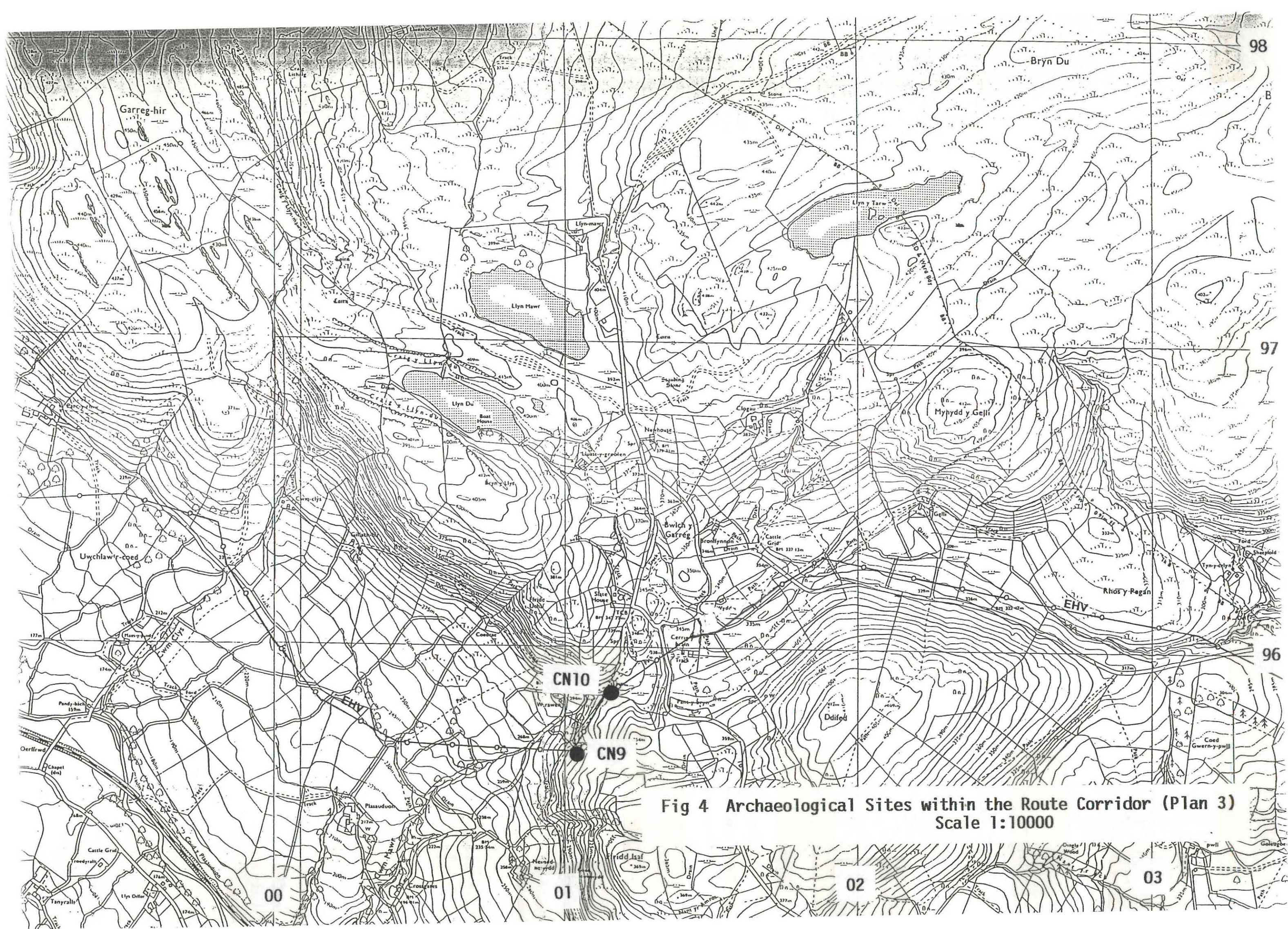


Fig 4 Archaeological Sites within the Route Corridor (Plan 3)
Scale 1:10000

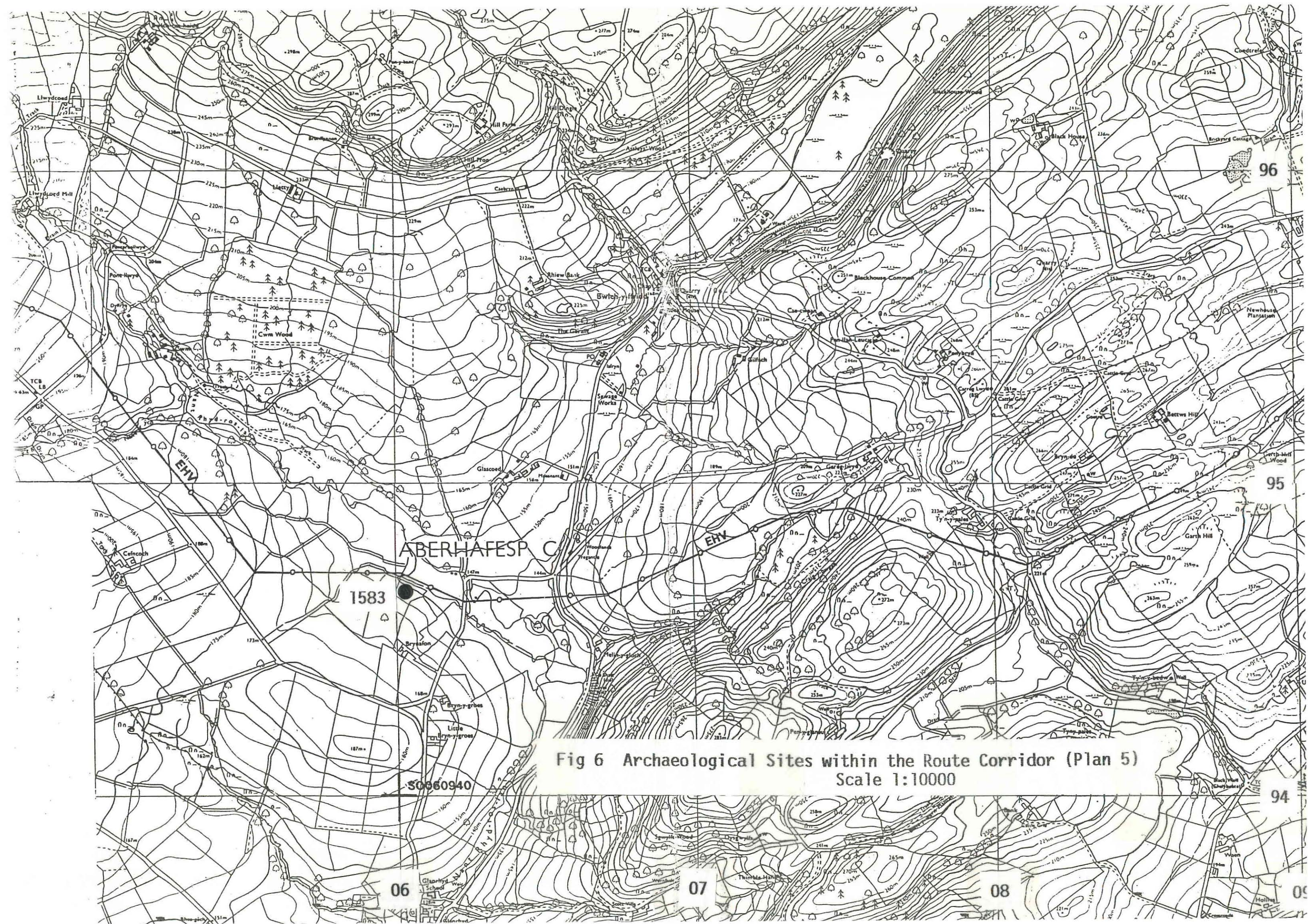




Fig 7 Archaeological Sites within the Route Corridor (Plan 6)
Scale 1:10000

