# Trannon Moor Archaeological and Historic Landscape Survey



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Report for Powys County Council

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# TRANNON MOOR, POWYS AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC LANDSCAPE STUDY

#### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Trannon Moor Windfarm on the hills immediately to the south of the Carno Valley in what was southern Montgomeryshire was granted planning permission in April 1994 and opened in 1996. Among the conditions agreed between the then Montgomeryshire District Council and the developers, National Wind Power, at the time that planning consent was granted was for the latter to make an annual grant for environmental work within the windfarm area.
- In April 1997 the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust who had conducted the initial historic landscape assessment of the windfarm site (Owen 1993) and subsequently undertaken both excavation and a watching brief before and during construction work (Silvester 1995; Hankinson 1996) were invited by Powys County Council (as successors to Montgomeryshire District Council) to submit proposals for a historically-oriented landscape study during 1997.
- 1.3 A programme of work was prepared which focused on the assessment, management and interpretation of the historic landscape, and the first stages of the programme were agreed with Powys County Council and National Wind Power in August 1997.

# 2 Topographical and Archaeological Background

- 2.1 The area of the windfarm is dominated by the Twr Gwyn ridge which descends from Bryn Amlwg in the north (SN 922 973) to Bryn yr Oerfa in the south (SN 915 945), and acts as a watershed between the upper reaches of Afon Cledan to the east and Afon Trannon to the west. Another ridge from Bryn yr Oerfa across Esgair Draenllwyn to Bryn yr Aran (SN 935 955) acts as a watershed between Afon Cledan on the north-west and Afon Gerniog on the south-east. Except for Afon Trannon which runs south-westwards, the aforementioned streams together with Afon Cwm-calch represent the dominant drainage pattern flowing south-eastwards into the Carno valley.
- 2.2 The windfarm occupies moorland divided into large tracts of land by wire fences. Much of this land has been improved and some point in the past and drainage channels are visible in the wetter patches. South of the windfarm is a continuous forestry plantation extending over several square kilometres.
- 2.3 In spite of the absence of habitations, Trannon is archaeologically significant area. Several fine prehistoric burial cairns and a stone alignment have been known for many years, and other cairns were identified during the preliminary survey (Owen 1993, 3). In addition the discovery of two worked flints during the excavations in 1995 (Silvester 1995, section 3.3.3) confirmed a level of domestic activity on the moors during the prehistoric era. A circular enclosure could be later prehistoric in origin and, traversing the area is a metalled road which with its solid surface, side gullies and culverts appears to have all the hallmarks of a Roman road (Silvester 1995) though this interpretation has not been universally accepted. From more recent times there are the signs of such traditional upland activities as summer pasturing (in the form of a hafod) and peat cutting.
- 2.4 The programme of work proposed for the Trannon study over several seasons comprised a number of independent assignments:
  - i) a monitoring assessment of the impact of the windfarm on the historic landscape;

- ii) the compilation of aerial photographic mapping data for the area encompassing Trannon Moor between Afon Cwm-calch and Afon Cerniog;
- iii) the assessment of existing borehole and environmental data for the area;
- iv) measured surveys of significant archaeological and historical monuments on Trannon;
- v) and in the longer term, the sampling of specific palaeoenvironments and the limited exploration of individual monuments. The work undertaken in 1997 covered the first two assignments on the list above.
- 3 Monitoring report on the condition of archaeological sites within the Trannon windfarm area
- 3.1 Impact of construction on the archaeology
- 3.1.1 The archaeological input during the planning and initial phase of construction of the windfarm development on Trannon Moor was designed primarily to minimise the impact of the scheme on the archaeological resource of the area. The site is now in operation and it appears from the monitoring undertaken in September 1997 that the mitigation strategies adopted have been largely successful.
- 3.1.2 Only two sites identified in the initial archaeological survey of the area (Owen 1993) were disturbed by construction activities, and this disturbance was anticipated. In neither case did the resulting damage result in total site loss. A third site nearly suffered accidental damage during construction due to a misunderstanding. Fortunately, the ground disturbance which occurred adjacent to that site does appear to have uncovered related archaeological deposits.
- 3.1.3 The most significant of the archaeological sites which was disturbed is the Roman road (PRN 7755), which was cut in two places by site access tracks. Mitigation measures were implemented during the construction phase of the scheme which involved preservation by record (i.e. excavation) of 2m-wide sections within the two areas which were due to be truncated (Silvester 1995, section 3.1). Examination of the areas following implementation of the scheme demonstrated that the total length of road affected in the western area (at SN 914 950) was 40m; the length of road affected in the eastern area (at SN 918 951) was 25m. In both cases it is likely that only the central 15m of the early road was actually damaged, the remainder of the affected stretch apparently being covered by spoil during landscaping works.
- 3.1.4 A mound of stone and earth (PRN 7747), possibly a prehistoric cairn was the only other site to suffer damage. Examination of this site at the time of site marking prior to construction, indicated that it was only a spoil heap related to an adjacent modern quarry and did not merit protection as an archaeological site. Approximately 90% of the site still survives, the remainder having been disturbed by drainage work. Its present appearance confirms that it has little archaeological significance.
- 3.1.5 A misunderstanding relating to the use of the marker posts that defined archaeological sites, which were not sprayed in a unique colour, nearly led to machine damage occurring to a building (PRN 8769; Hankinson 1996, section 3.6). Topsoiling took place to within 0.3m of the site but was halted before any direct damage was sustained by the building itself. However, examination of the area revealed that associated material had been disturbed during machining. This material suggested that the building had been in use as late as the 19th century.
- 3.1.6 The remaining archaeological sites within the windfarm were visited to ascertain their present condition. It was confirmed that all survived intact, demonstrating the success of the mitigation measures adopted by National Wind Power and their contractors.

3.1.7 We may note that approximately 14 archaeological sites are situated within 50m of windfarm features, and it is worth bearing in mind that any ground disturbance beyond the present limit of an individual windfarm feature could have an impact on an archaeological site. Sites within 50m of windfarm features are listed below in order of their proximity to areas of windfarm activity.

Within 10m

PRN 7747 (quarry, see section 1.4),

PRN 7755 (site roads).

Within 20m

PRN 4304 (site road)

PRN 7751 (cable trench)

PRN 7753 (site road)

PRN 7761 (turbine area)

PRN 8769 (site road).

Within 30m

PRN 7748 (site road)

PRN 7757 (site road).

Within 40m

PRN 7742 (site road)

PRN 7754 (site road).

Within 50m

PRN 1396 (site road)

PRN 7750 (turbine)

PRN 7760 (site road).

### 3.2 Additional archaeological information from the monitoring assessment

- 3.2.1 The area of the windfarm encompasses relatively open moorland with few identifying features which can be used to pinpoint the location of archaeological sites. It became evident when visiting sites that two of those included in the initial field survey had been wrongly located (PRNs 7756 and 7759). The errors were noticeable when the site positions were compared to windfarm features. Neither site was under threat during the windfarm construction works. Correct grid references for PRN 7756 and PRN 7759 are SN 9145 9598 and SN 9113 9591 respectively.
- 3.2.2 Other discrepancies in the information relating to archaeological sites identified in the initial survey were also noted. In general, the revisions were related to the fact that the survey was carried out as long ago as 1992; subsequent fieldwork has led to the refinement of site recognition and analysis in upland areas.
- 3.2.3 Sites which have been re-evaluated are detailed below.

PRN 1398 - site type redefined as Ring cairn

PRN 4310 - site type redefined as Ring cairn?

PRN 4359 - site type redefined as Ring cairn

PRN 4875 - site type redefined as Stone setting

PRN 4876 - site type redefined as Ring cairn. Located outside windfarm area.

PRN 7739 - site type redefined as Clearance feature

PRN 7744 - site type redefined as Boundary stone?

PRN 7747 - redefined as spoil mound relating to adjacent modern quarry (but see below, section 4.3.2)

PRN 7751 - original description does not include a reference to a dam on the stream with a central sluice gate, adjacent to the fold The dam would have increased the depth of the stream so it could be used for dipping purposes.

PRN 7752 - mound more likely to be related to excavations during construction of dam (see PRN 7751).

PRN 7754 - site type redefined as Boundary stone.

PRN 7757 - site type redefined as Boundary stone.

PRN 7758 - site type redefined as Wall? Level area 4m to north-west may represent a platform measuring 4.5m square.

PRN 7760 - site type redefined as Peat platform?

PRN 7761 - site type redefined as Hut platform?

# 4 The Aerial Mapping Programme

- 4.1.1 A programme of digital mapping from cartographic and aerial photographic sources was carried out to provide a broader context for the archaeology on Trannon Moor. The study area of 1461ha included the whole of the former unenclosed moorland as defined on the tithe maps between Afon Cwm-calch to the north-west and Afon Cerniog to the south-east. The south-western boundary was defined by the forestry plantation (see above and fig 1). The windfarm itself occupies c.520 ha of this area.
- 4.1.2 The wider study area enables the archaeology and historic landscape of the upland block to be viewed as a whole rather than the artificial boundary provided by the windfarm development.

#### 4.2 Sources and methods

- 4.2.1 Cartographic: The tithe maps of Llanbrynmair and Carno parishes, produced in 1839 and 1842 respectively, are the earliest maps which record the study area in any detail. With the accompanying apportionment they provide the first evidence of how the upland block was exploited by the surrounding communities. The first edition of the Ordnance Survey six inch series, published in 1891, is the first metrically accurate map of the upland and together with the second edition, published in 1903, provides important evidence of how the upland appeared and how it changed around the turn of the century.
- 4.2.2 Aerial Photography: A number of vertical aerial photograph sorties cover the study area from 1947 onwards. These include one sortie by the RAF, CPE/UK/2079, flown in May 1947 which covers the whole area at a time of low sunlight which picks out a high level of detail on earthwork sites. A sortie from January 1963 (RAF 5607), taken during a light covering of snow, also reveals a high level of detail but only covers the southern part of the study area.
- 4.2.3 Two later sources were consulted, namely the J. A. Storey sortie flown in April 1984 and the Geonex sortie flown in July 1992. These identified later changes in the upland, particularly attempts to drain the boggy areas.
- 4.2.4 The opportunity was also taken to re-assess the data in the regional Sites and Monuments Record. As a result of this several new sites have been added to the list for the area (see Appendix 2).
- 4.2.5 Mapping Methods: The above sources were digitised into vector data and rectified to modern coordinates using AutoCAD. The data were then transferred into MapInfo tables using the DXF format.
- 4.2.6 Significant features from the cartographic sources including boundaries, trackways, streams and structures were digitised as were features of archaeological significance visible on the aerial

photographs. The widespread traces of peat cutting (see below) were not recorded in detail but an attempt was made to illustrate the extent and direction of the activity.

#### 4.3 Results

- 4.3.1 The tithe maps show that this upland block was largely exploited as sheepwalk, divided between various properties in the parish of Carno, but undesignated waste in Llanbrynmair parish. One portion of the Carno upland was described as a public turbary (Fig \*). A number of trackways are mapped, though not the track that has been identified as a Roman road (PRN 7755).
- 4.3.2 The first edition of the Ordnance Survey maps in some detail the extensive series of trackways giving access to the upland, though like the tithe map it does not include the possible Roman road. Few of the fence lines now in evidence had been established by 1891. The map also shows that the potential for lead mining was investigated as two trial shafts are recorded (at SN 9188 9629 and SN 9194 9632). The earthworks and a small structure related to these sites were recorded as PRN 7747 during the field evaluation.
- 4.3.3 The second edition of the Ordnance Survey map records fewer trackways giving access to the uplands, though it does record for the first time the suggested Roman road. The fence lines visible today appear to have been partially defined by this time, indeed some of them appear to be in the process of being established as there are isolated sections mapped.
- 4.3.4 The early aerial photography of the immediate post-war era is an important record of the appearance of the uplands before attempts were made to drain them. They show the scale of the exploitation of the upland resources by the surrounding communities. Many of the trackways are significantly sunken and braided by frequent use and the peat deposits across the survey area were heavily cut for fuel. One of the sunken trackways appears to underlie the suggested Roman road.
- 4.3.5 Overall the digital mapping programme using the sources described above shows the various ways in which this block of upland has been exploited by the surrounding communities and the effect that this has had on the historic landscape.
- 4.3.6 The Trannon Moor windfarm occupies part of an upland tract which has a long and intense history of exploitation. It was used as summer grazing for stock and for peat cutting as fuel, and attempts were made to extract lead. At a much earlier time it was utilised as a place for burial, and other prehistoric activity cannot be ruled out.
- 4.3.7 The scale of the peat cutting could suggest more than just a local interest, perhaps even a commercial activity. Excluding the areas to the south of Trannon farm, now under the forestry plantation, the cuttings cover some 818 ha. However, no data are known to us that would allow comparison of the size of other turbaries exploited by local communities on a subsistence basis with that on and around Trannon Moor, and in the absence of corroborative evidence it would be premature at present to develop the argument for commercial exploitation.
- 4.3.8 Peat cutting also provides the context for some of the sites recorded during the field evaluation. The stone built house recorded at SN 906961 (PRN 8769) lies on dry ground close to an area of heavy peat cutting and close to two platforms (PRN 17831 and 17832). These may represent the remains of a peat cutter's shelter and platforms for stacking the cut peat. Other peat stacking platforms were recorded during the field evaluation as PRNs 7746, 7748, 7752, 7759.
- 4.3.9 The mapping also suggests the need to re-assess the date of the Roman road. The metalled trackway was first classed as Roman in 1973 (Owen 1993, 4), and the excavation of sections through it in 1995 demonstrated its morphological similarity to the established design for such constructions. Nevertheless, there is no record of the feature on either the tithe map or the first edition of the Ordnance Survey map. While it is not impossible that the nineteenth-century surveyors missed the road it would be a surprising omission for it is a substantial construction in

contrast to the less substantial trackways that are mapped, some of which cross the line of the road. In addition a distinct realignment of the road occurs where it passes through a gate on the line of a fence first mapped on the 1903 map, and this could be taken to indicate that the road is either contemporary or later than the fence.

4.3.10 At present then, there is conflicting evidence for a Roman road on Trannon, and the problem is probably insoluble without more work along the course of the road, not only within the area of the windfarm but also its extension westwards and perhaps to the north-east too.

#### 5.1 References

## 5.1.1 Cartographic Sources

Tithe map of Carno parish with apportionment, registered 1842 (National Library of Wales).

Tithe map of Llanbrynmair parish with apportionment registered 1839 (National Library of Wales).

1st Edition Ordnance Survey 6" series. Montgomery sheets XXVII SE, XXVII SW, XXXIV NE, XXXIV NW, XXXIV SE, XXXIV SW, published 1891. (National Library of Wales).

2nd Edition Ordnance Survey 6" series. Montgomery sheets XXVII SE, XXVII SW, XXXIV NE, XXXIV NW, XXXIV SE, XXXIV SW, published 1903. (National Library of Wales).

## 5.1.2 Aerial Photographic Sources

Vertical run: CPE/UK/2079, Frames 2351-2359, 4042-4044, 4348-4351 (RAF, 19th May 1947). (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales and Central Registry for Aerial Photography in Wales)

Vertical run: CPE/UK/2531, Frames 3040-3045 (RAF, 24th March 1948). (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales and Central Registry for Aerial Photography in Wales)

Vertical run: 5607, Frames 36-41 (RAF, 22nd January 1963). (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales and Central Registry for Aerial Photography in Wales)

Vertical run: 05 84, Frames 123-126, 206-212; 07 84, Frames 47-49; (J. Storey, April 1984). (Powys Council).

Vertical run: 75 92, Frames 35-39; 79 92 Frames 239-243 (Geonex, 13th June 1992). (Countryside Council for Wales).

#### 5.2 References to secondary sources

Hankinson R. 1996. Carno Windfarm, Trannon Moor, Carno - Archaeological Watching Brief CPAT Report No 184: Welshpool.

Owen W.G. 1993. The Proposed Carno Windfarm, Powys - Archaeological Field Evaluation. CPAT Report No 45: Welshpool.

Silvester R.J. 1995. Excavations on the site of the Carno Windfarm, Powys. CPAT Report No 156: Welshpool

## Appendix 1

#### Proposals for work in 1998

To date, work has concentrated on two areas; in examining and re-assessing the known monuments 'within' the windfarm, and in collecting new information through desk-based analysis of aerial photography and early maps. Both exercises have been aimed at improving the base line archaeological record in order to develop a GIS model of the historic landscape, which can be utilised for promoting the archaeology to the public and in the formulation of management proposals for each site or group of sites can be started. However, in order to develop the GIS model further, there is a need for the preparation of detailed measured surveys of the more the more complex monuments so that there are detailed visual representations which will assist in their understanding and interpretation. A list of those sites recommended for measured survey is given below. Further work should be undertaken on developing the GIS model and integrating it with existing landscape and vegetational data and the possibility of historic landscape characterisation and assessment should be examined.

# Proposed tasks

#### 1. Monitoring

The condition of the known monuments and should continue to be monitored, and recorded, in the field.

## 2. Measured survey

The following sites require measured survey: PRNs 910, 1396, 1398, 4308, 4309, 4310, 4311, 4359, 4875, 4876, 4878, 7739, 7740, 7741, 7742, 7751, 7754, 7755, 7756, 7758 and 8769

# 3. Further GIS modelling

The resulting survey data from 2 above should be incorporated into the GIS model. The prospect of integrating the historic landscape model with existing vegetational and landuse data should be explored.

# 4. Management plans

The definition of historic landscape character areas within the GIS model should be attempted (in the manner of the CCW LANDMAP process) with a view to developing landscape policy areas. Individual sites requiring management plans as a priority should be identified.

#### 5. Photography

Preparation of a photographic record of known sites.

#### 6. Public display

Sites with potential for illustrative and educational purposes should be identified and the feasibility of producing such material discussed with the National Windpower and Powys County Council.

910 Twr Gwyn Mawr cairn

Round barrow

SN91819591

Bronze Age

Flat topped cairn constructed of large stones on a peat surface. 1.5m high by 26.5m north-west to south-east by 22m wide. Part excavated in 1855. Three cremations and flints found in cist. Boundary fence now cuts across NNW to SSE. Sheepfold against south-east side.

Large central hollow caused by 19th century excavations. Stone piled around exterior. Otherwise as described (RH 5/11/97).

1396 Twr Gwyn Bach building

House?

SN91899519

Post medieval

Remains of building 9m north-south by 5.5m wide. Tumbled turf covered walling about 1m thick, maximum height 0.4m. Lichen covered stone construction. Possible annexe 3.5m across at south-east. Formerly noted as a barrow (Hamer, E, 1868 RAF photo 1948).

Undisturbed. As described. (RH 5/11/97).

1398 Careg Lwyd cairn I

Round barrow?

SN91909576

Bronze Age

Kerb cairn 5m diameter with ring up to 1m wide composed of slabs up to 1.6m long and 0.5m high. Scatter of stones visible near centre and one large recumbent stone. Formerly noted as a hut.

1.5m to south of similar cairn (PRN 4359). (RH 5/11/97).

1400 Trannon find

Find

SN9196

Bronze Age

Bronze flat axe with no flanges or stop ridges. Found 1830 on Trannon Hills.

1401 Rhyd y Mwyn enclosure

Enclosure?

SN91899612

Unknown

Possible circular enclosure (RAF, AP, 1948). Presumed natural and rejected by OS (12 6 80).

1449 Carreg Hir stone site

Standing stone

SN91949472

Bronze Age

Standing stone site, with stone now removed. Stone described as 4m long. Two recumbent stones, 1.6m and 1.1m long, at SN91919473 may be remains of of this stone. See also PRN3581.

1463 Cerig Fforchog placename

Non antiquity?

SN91679490

Unknown

Name suggests stone. Probably a reference to natural outcropping. Possibly secondary use as boundary mark.

3571 Twr Gwyn battle site I

Battle site

SN91819593

Dark Age

Traditional site of battle in AD 949. No further detail.

3581 Esgairdraenllwyn cairn

Round barrow

SN92659442

Bronze Age

Cairn, some 14m n-s by 12m E-W by 0.4m high. Part turf covered. Lies on highest part of low ridge. Named as Carreg Hir by OS, 1835 apparently confused with stone PRN1449 which is now thus named.

3850 Twr Gwyn enclosure

Enclosure?

SN91929601

Unknown

Possible circular enclosure (RAF, AP, 1948). No further details.

4304 Trannon stone

Standing stone?

SN91869648

Bronze Age

Recumbent stone 1.5m long by 0.8m wide. Maximum thickness 0.4m at one end tapering to the other. Possibly former boundary marker.

15m from nearest windfarm activity. Undisturbed. (RH 5/11/97).

4308 Trannon enclosure

Enclosure?

SN91999573

Iron Age?

Circular enclosure 17.5m diameter, defined by turf-covered bank 3-4m wide and 0.3m high with gap in south side. Inside there is a 4m long line of stones (possible line of walling. Suggested ring cairn by RCAHM (1973 archive) and suggested iron age enclosure (PS 1978).

As described. Undisturbed (RH 5/11/97).

4309 Careg Llwyd stone alignment

Stone row

SN91949569

Bronze Age

Recumbent stone 3.1m long and 1m square. One end chisel shaped and lies in a hole 0.6m deep by 6m across. To the north c21m is a line of 5 virtually recumbent stones from 0.8 to 1.5m in length. Four other stones are partially visible. Large recumbent stone at S end may have originally been upright. Line of stones is c.24m long. There are 6 or 7 stones of significant size in the alignment with smaller stones in the intervening gaps. Piossibly a double row of stones. (RH 5/11/97).

4310 Trannon Moor cairn

Ring cairn?

SN92049609

Bronze Age

Sub-circular ring 3.5 metres diameter consisting of small boulders (average dimensions 0.6m by 0.4m by 0.2m) resting on a ring of partly buried stones. Probable kerb carin although superficially like a peat stack base.

As described (RH 5/11/97).

4311 Blaen y Cwm cairn

Round barrow

SN92149599

Bronze Age

Turf covered stony mound 7m diameter and 0..2m high. Probable cairn base (RAF AP1948). Pile of stones at west possibly removed from cairn.

As described (RH 5/11/97).

4312 Trannon stones

Non antiquity?

SN919961

Unknown

Natural scatter of boulders. Forming fortuitous alignments of ten or more single stones.

4359 Careg Lwyd cairn II

Round barrow?

SN91909580

Bronze Age

Kerb cairn 5m diameter with a ring up to 1m wide composed of slabs up to 1.6m long by 0.5m high. Centre contains stone 1.5 in diameter from PRN 1398. Formerly noted as possible hut (Hamer, E, 1868).

As described. 1.5m to N of similar cairn (PRN 1398). (RH/5/11/97).

4875 Brynyraren stones

Stone setting

SN93059505

Bronze Age?

Three stones some 0.3m high set on edge in L-shape. Further stones (possibly originally standing) scattered in area. Possibly remains of stone circle or kerb cairn. Reportedly not an antiquity (OS 1981).

Not affected by windfarm. Setting of 4 upright stones arranged in an approximate T-shaped pattern. Stones between 3m and 10m apart x up to 0.5m high. Possibly post medieval ? (RH 4/11/97).

4876 Brynyraren cairn I

Round barrow

SN92979481

Bronze Age

Turf covered cairn consisting of a ring of stones c6m across by 0.3m high. Central stone cist (1m square) of four edge set stones. Diameter of cairn 7m, height 4m.

Outside area of windfarm, not affected.

4878 Brynyraren cairn II

Round barrow

SN93409570

Bronze Age

Cairn base 10m diameter by 0.3m high. Heavily robbed. Sited on spur overlooking Cledan valley.

Remains of cairn in poor condition. Recent fencing crosses cairn which is located on a change in direction of the boundary. (RH 5/11/97).

5083 Esgairdraenllwyn enclosure

Enclosure?

SN92709430

Bronze Age

Apparent small round enclosure (RAF, AP, 1963). No such feature noted by OS, 1981. Possibly a natural feature (OS, 1981).

7739 Garreg Hir clearance cairn

Clearance cairn?

SN91719469

Unknown

Possible round cairn of turf and stones sited on ridge. 4.2m x 5.8m x 0.2m high. Function uncertain. Not affected by windfarm. More likely to be a clearance feature or a natural outcrop. (RH 04/11/97).

7740 Garreg Hir cairn II

Round barrow?

SN91829469

Bronze Age

Low round cairn on moderate NW-SE slope. Largely turf-covered but some visible stone. 5.6m by 5.3m by 0.3m high (Owen, W G 1993)

Probable cairn. No interference by windfarm. (RH 4/11/97).

7741 Bryn yr Aran cairn

Ring cairn

SN93199582

Bronze Age

Ring cairn sited on gentle east-west slope. Possible central cist. 7m diameter by 0.25m high (Owen, W G 1993j)

7742 Bryn yr Oerfa cairn

Cairn

SN91889468

Bronze Age?

Irregular circle of turf covered stones on slight north-south slope. 3.9m by 4.2m by 0.2m high. (Owen, W G 1993j). Possible cairn, but could also be clearance. 40m distant from nearby road. No disturbance visible. (RH 4/11/97).

7743 Twy Gwyn standing stone

Standing stone

SN91799605

Post medieval

Standing stone on ridge 120m north of Twr Gwyn cairn. Fairly well set and leaning to the north. 0.5m by 0.3m by 0.6m high. (Owen, W G 1993j).

Undisturbed. As described (RH 5/11/97).

7744 Rhyd-y-Mwyn standing stone

Boundary stone?

SN92009674

Post medieval

Standing stone. Upright and firmly set in peat. 0.87m by 0.3m by 0.3m. (Owen, W G 1993j).

Edge set stone aligned approximately NW/SE. Otherwise as described. (RH 5/11/97).

7745 Carreg Lwyd cairn

Mound

SN92259595

Unknown

Circular mound of turf-covered stone sited on moderate south-east facing slope below a ridge. Diameter 3.05m by 0.3m high (Owen, W G 1993j).

3m diameter mound of earth and stone with scoop to NW (upslope). Unlikely to be a cairn but interpretation unknown. (RH 5/11/97).

7746 Rhyd-y-Mwyn mound

Mound

SN92399604

Unknown

Possible peat platform on moderate south-east facing slope. 3.6m by 3/4m by 0.2m (Owen, W G 1993j).

No impact on site. Possibly a peat mound or possibly natural. (RH 5/11/97).

7747 Rhyd-y-Mwyn structure

Mound

SN91889629

Unknown

Mound of turf and stone on east facing slope. The site is close to and may have been derived from a quarry. (Owen, W G 1993j).

Mound of partly turf-covered stone adjacent to quarry used as windfarm borrow-pit. Small amount of disturbance but this has confirmed that the site is either a natural landform or a spoil tip from the quarry; it is certainly not a cairn. (RH 5/11/97).

7748 Cerrig Fforchog earthwork

Peat mound

SN91259499

Post medieval?

Peat mound on slight north-west/south-east slope 20m south of the road. 3m by 3m by 0.5m high (Owen, W G 1993j). 25m from nearest disturbance, not directly affected. (RH 5/11/97).

7749 Cerrig Fforchog cairn

Cairn?

SN91689502

Unknown

Small cairn of partly turf-covered stones sited on ridge. 2m by 2.5m (Owen, W G 1993j).

Probably a natural feature (RH 4/11/97).

7750 Cerrig Fforchog cairn II

Cairn?

SN91689498

Unknown

Small cairn of partly turf-covered stones sited on ridge. 2m b y 2m (Owen, W G 1993j).

Probably a natural feature (RH 4/11/97).

7751 Afon Trannon sheep pen

Sheepfold

SN90639559

Modern

Triangular sheep pen adjacent to the river and used for dipping purposes. Length of walls 13m, 9,2m and 10,1m. There are two gaps in the walling, 1.6m (adjacent to the river) and 2.3m wide (Owen, W G 1993j).

Undisturbed - cable trench passes 15m to NW. Description does not mention a dam on the river adjacent to the pen. Dam is c.10m long with a central sluice gate. Some concrete/cement visible in construction. The dam was evidently built to provide a sufficient depth of water in the stream for dipping/washing sheep. (RH 04/11/97).

7752 Afon Trannon mound

Mound

SN90649556

Unknown

Turf-covered mound on level ground. Possible peat platform 5.5m by 2.2m by 0.25m high. (Owen, W G 1993j). Mound previously thought possible it was a peat mound. Seems more likely to be the result of excavations relating to the washing pool of PRN 7751 or the nearby ford across the stream. (RH 4/11/97).

7753 Nant Twr Gwyn cairn

Clearance cairn?

SN91469580

Unknown

Small cairn on south-west facing slope. May extend 4m to NNE, 2m by 2m by 0.15 (Owen, W G 1993j).

12m from nearest disturbance. Not affected. Possibly a clearance feature. (RH 04/11/97).

7754 Cerrig Fforchog boundary stone

Boundary stone?

SN91749515

Post medieval

Small irregular cairn on ridge. Possible recumbent standing stone, 1.1m x 0.3m x 0.1m, in this group of stones. Overall dimensions 4.1m x 2.2m x 0.4m high.

Site is more likely to represent recumbent boundary stone, with packing stones spread around. (RH 4/11/97).

7755 Trannon 'Roman' road

Road

SN90959502

Roman

Road/trackway running for c1km, surfaced with stone and earth and of uniform width (c3.75m), flanked on both sides by a ditch c0.2m to 0.25m deep and 1.20m wide. Wide stones below the road surface may be the remains of culverts. Joined at SN91569605 by a similar track which faded out after c70m. (Owen, W G 1993a, 41; Owen W G 1993c, 54).

Hogg proposed that the road is the Roman road from Penycrogbren, Dylife to Cae'r Noddfa, Carno (Bebb, R, Evans, W P, Owen, C E V & Parry, A 1973, 43; Hogg, A H A 1973, 9).

Line of road disturbed in two places by site roads, after archaeological excavations carried out. Most westerly area is crossed by site road at an oblique angle. Total length of road affected is 40m, although approximately 15m of this will only be covered by spoil. In the most easterly area total length of road affected is 25m, although it seems likely that only the central 15m has been lost, the remainder is probably covered with spoil and little damaged. (RH 04/11/97).

Excavation in 1995 showed the road to be well constructed along Roman lines but no dating evidence was discovered (Silvester, R J 1995).

7756 Nant Twr Gwyn standing stone

Standing stone

SN91459598

Post medieval

Standing stone on slight NW facing slope. Probably fallen from upright position and now inclining to W. 0.5m x 0.15m x 0.4m high.

Upright stone as described. Previous NGR of SN91389599 is incorrect, present NGR has been determined by comparison with wind turbine locations. (RH 04/11/97).

7757 Twr Gwyn Ridge boundary stone

Boundary stone?

SN91759650

Post medieval

Indistinct small cairn with single recumbent stone to W. Sited on slightly sloping ground on ridge at junction of fences. Group of stones at junction of fences. Most probable explanation is that they represent the packing stones of an upright stone used as a boundary marker. A pointed stonec.0.8m long, previously noted, may have been the upright stone. (RH 05/11/97).

7758 Afon Trannon wall

Wall?

SN91359661

Post medieval

Distinctive rectangular group of stones aligned NW/SE. 2.0m NW/SE x 1.0m NE/SW.

Line of stones aligned NW/SE, overall. Individual stones aligned NE/SW. Could represent the remains of a wall or stones placed underneath a fence. A relatively level area 4m to the NW, measuring 4.5m NW/SE x 4.5m may merit further investigation - Possible related hut platform? Overall dimensions 3m NW/SE x 0.8m x 0.3m high. (RH 04/11/97).

7759 Afon Trannon peat mound

Peat mound

SN91139591

Post medieval?

Sub-rectangular mound of peatr on brow of ridge. 11.0m x 4.5m x 0.3m high.

Site as described, but previous NGR of SN91059598 incorrect. Present NGR determined by comparison with wind turbines. (RH 04/11/97).

7760 Bryn yr Wyn peat platform

Peat platform

SN90369600

Post medieval?

Sub-rectangular platform with distinct banking on S and SW sides. Sited on slight NE facing slope at edge of area of peat cutting.  $9.5 \text{m} \times 7.4 \text{m}$ ,

Previously described as a platform. Seems very unlikely, it is more likely to represent a peat drying platform related to the nearby peat cutting. (RH 04/11/97).

7761 Bryn yr Wyn platform

Hut platform?

SN90639618

Post medieval?

Level platform on E facing slope. Distinct banking on W side only.

Distinct banking on W (upslope) side above area of rushes, measuring c.5m N/S  $\times$  1.5m  $\times$  0.4m. No other evidence - could be related to peat cutting? (RH 04/11/97).

8769 Bryn yr Wyn house site

House

SN906961

Post medieval

House site below Bryn yr Wyn. Some 8m by 5m with only lower courses of walling stone visible. (Owen, WG 1993, 41). Rectangular 2-unit building c.20m from adjacent site road. Nearly damaged during site work (see watching brief) but still intact. Disturbed material adjacent to site contains slate and glazed earthenware suggesting the building was in use in the 19th century. (RH 04/11/97).

8826 Blaen y Cwm house site

House?

SN92939602

Post medieval

Site of house or barn surviving only as stone foundation. No further detail.

17830 Twr Gwyn battle site II

Battle site

SN91819593

Medieval

Traditional site of battle in AD 1080. No further detail.

22094 Bryn yr Aran quarry (dis)

Quarry

SN9336796029

Post medieval?

Quarry (OS, 1:25000)

39900 Trannon Moor trackways I

Hollow way

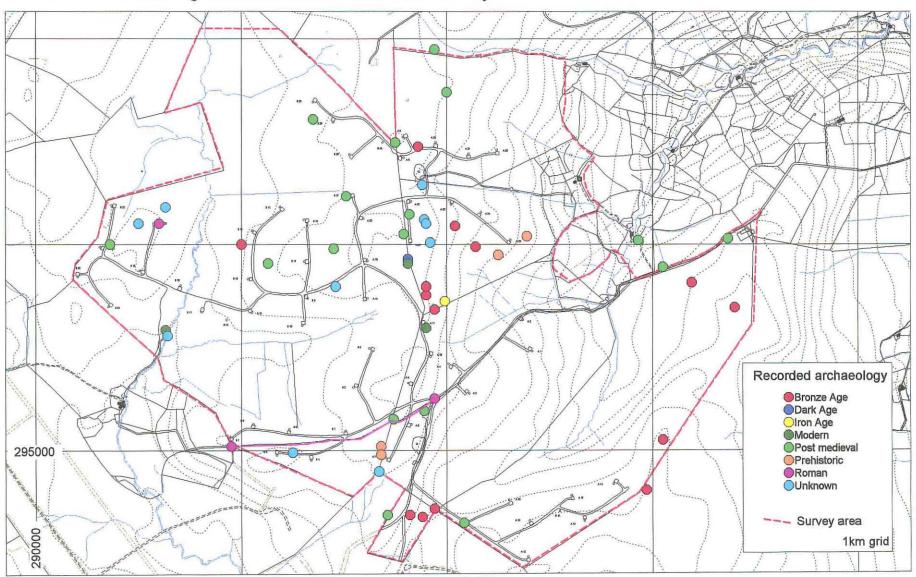
SN9308397762

Post medieval

Series of trackways visible on aerial photographs as hollow ways.

	Trannon Moor trackways II of trackways visible on aerial photographs as hollow	Hollow way ways.	SN9147897882	Post medieval
	Trannon Moor trackways III of trackways visible on aerial photographs as hollow	Hollow way ways.	SN9107298234	Post medieval
	Trannon Moor trackways IV of trackways visible on aerial photographs as hollow	Hollow way	SN9014896948	Post medieval
	Trannon Moor trackways V of trackways visible on aerial photographs as hollow	Hollow way	SN9194096948	Post medieval
	Trannon Moor trackways VI of trackways visible on aerial photographs as hollow	Hollow way ways.	SN9181996146	Post medieval
	Trannon Moor trackways VII of trackways visible on aerial photographs as hollow	Hollow way	SN9208394651	Post medieval
	Trannon Moor trackways VIII of trackways visible on aerial photographs as hollow	Hollow way	SN9305095893	Post medieval
	Trannon Moor trackways IX of trackways visible on aerial photographs as hollow	Hollow way	SN9456795893	Post medieval
39909 Extens	Trannon Moor peat cutting ive peat cutting on Trannon Moor visible on aerial pl	Peat cutting	SN9151196234	Post medieval ?

FIGURE 1: Archaeological sites recorded within the survey area

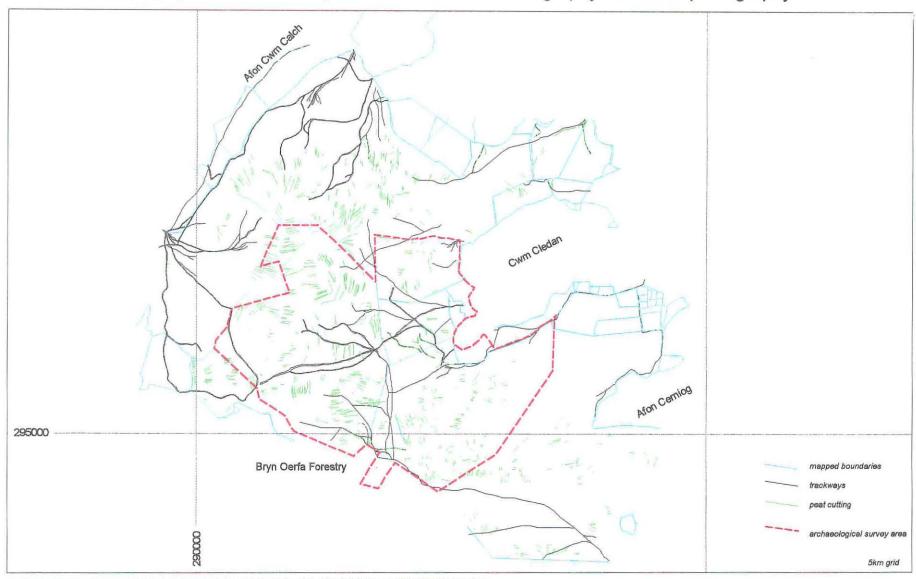


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FIGURE 2: Topographical features captured from historical cartography and aerial photography



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