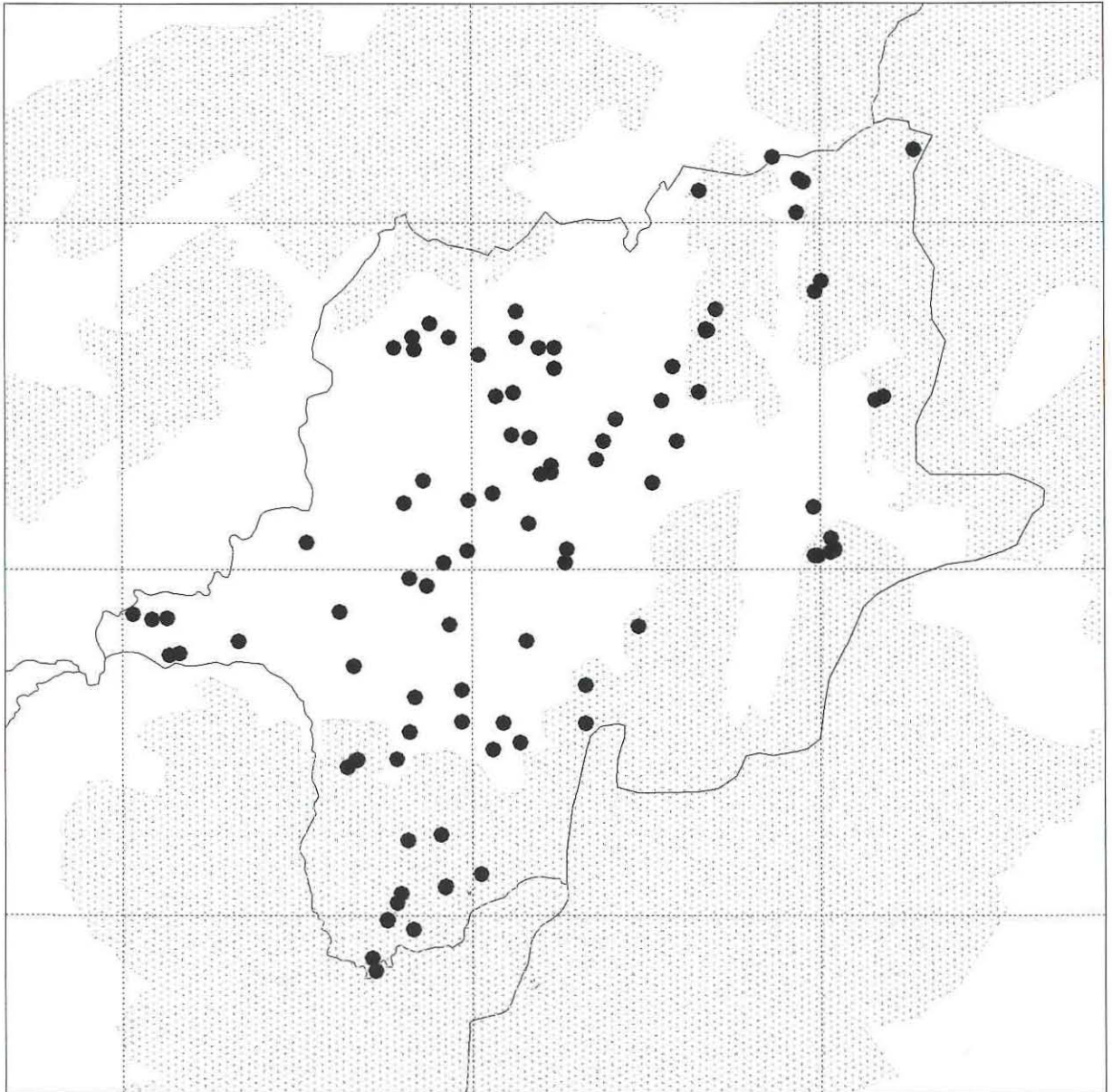


Prehistoric Funerary & Ritual Sites: Dyfi Catchment

INTERIM PROJECT REPORT



CPAT Report No 460

**Prehistoric Funerary & Ritual Sites:
Dyfi Catchment
INTERIM PROJECT REPORT**

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Report for Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments

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cover: distribution of prehistoric funerary and ritual monuments in the Dyfi catchment, Powys.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The survey of Prehistoric Funerary and Ritual Sites in the Dyfi catchment of western Montgomeryshire followed the format adopted for similar surveys in the Upper Severn Valley (Gibson 1998 and forthcoming), Denbighshire and East Conwy (Jones 1999) and Flintshire and Wrexham (Jones 2000) and North Radnorshire (Jones 2001). It was designed as a comprehensive study of Neolithic and Bronze Age sepulchro-ritual monuments in the region and was based on the existing records contained in the regional Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) maintained by CPAT.
- 1.2 The survey of these important monuments was undertaken with the following objectives: to undertake an audit of the surviving state of monuments; to assess the present form and condition; to redefine and standardise the site types and site type definitions in the SMR; to assist users and researchers of the SMR; to recommend sites for scheduling. The project was funded by Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments and carried out during the 2001/02 financial year (Project No. 715).
- 1.2 The only previous study undertaken for the area as a whole was the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Montgomeryshire (RCAHM 1911).
- 1.3 Restrictions imposed as a result of Foot and Mouth during 2001 delayed the fieldwork programme to such an extent that it was decided to postpone all fieldwork until the following financial year. This report therefore presents an interim statement, based solely on the desk-top assessment of existing records. A final report will be produced once the fieldwork has been completed during 2002-3. Scheduling recommendations will be the subject of a separate report submitted to Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments during 2002-3.

2 METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 The SMR was interrogated to produce a project database of all sites which potentially fell into the category of Neolithic or Bronze Age funerary and ritual sites. This was based on an extract of site types (Types 1-3) which matched any of those given in Appendix 1. It included sites where the most likely interpretation (ie Type 1) was not necessarily either prehistoric or belonging to funerary or ritual monuments, but where other, less likely interpretations (Types 2 to 3) fell within the scope of the study. For example, the SMR includes a number of cairns which are likely to be clearance cairns, but which may alternatively be burial cairns. Also, there were a number of sites which were included as possible round barrows, but which are now thought to be land-form sites such as glacial moraines.
- 2.2 The initial extract produced 189 sites, which were reassessed, taking into account the SMR description and any readily available published or other written sources such as CPAT site visit forms or Cadw Field Monument Wardens' reports. This reassessment led to 90 sites being excluded from the study on the grounds that they were considered to be not prehistoric in date, or belonged to a category of monument other than funerary or ritual, or because they were duplicate records. This included 8 records for placenames or fieldnames where site visits over the years had failed to produce any evidence of an archaeological site. A further 6 placenames remain in the project database to be visited to check for any possible features. Placenames have generally been included in the SMR as a result of Welsh names such as *maen*, *carreg*, *carnedd*, *domen*, *gorsedd* etc., being assumed to denote the site of a burial mound, standing stone, or stone circle. Welsh names such as these may more often refer simply to a stony field or a field containing a large boulder, rather than to an archaeological feature. The entries for all sites within the initial database were thoroughly examined with the intention of enhancing the SMR by improving the detail and accuracy of records, regardless of their inclusion or exclusion from the final project database.
- 2.3 The site type for each individual database entry was edited to correspond with the revised list of monument types (see Appendix 2). Further revisions will be necessary following fieldwork.
- 2.4 In the following report, sites are discussed by site type.

3 THE SURVEY

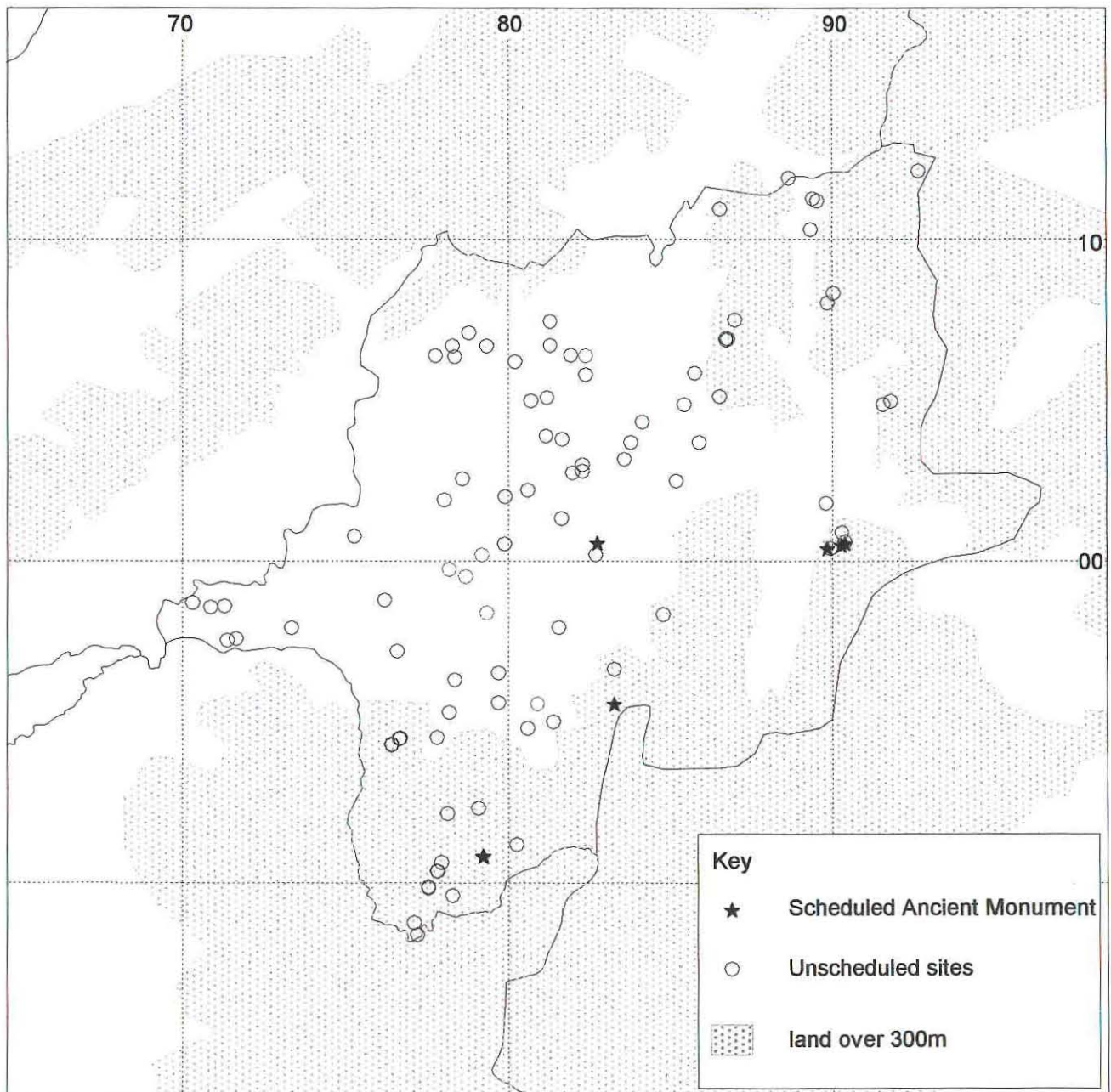
- 3.1 The reassessment of monuments during the desk-top stage of the project has led to revisions of the existing records, recategorising and redescribing sites according to revised monument type definitions (see below). The results have been used to produce a summary of the relative numbers of sites and possible sites in each of the prehistoric funerary and ritual monument types currently listed in the regional SMR, together with the current number of scheduled sites (Table 1). At present there are a significant number of sites for which Type 1 is recorded as something other than prehistoric funerary and ritual, but where the Type 2 classification falls within the scope of the study. These sites will be reassessed through fieldwork and reclassified accordingly.

Table 1: Summary of Monument Types

Monument type	Type 1	Type 2	Totals	scheduled
Carved stone	-	-	-	-
Chambered tomb	-	1	1	-
Cist	1	-	1	-
Cremation burial	-	-	-	-
Cremation cemetery	-	-	-	-
Cursus	-	-	-	-
Henge	-	-	-	-
Inhumation	-	-	-	-
Long barrow	-	-	-	-
Mortuary enclosure	-	-	-	-
Palisaded enclosure	-	-	-	-
Pit	-	-	-	-
Pit circle	-	-	-	-
Ring ditch	-	-	-	-
Round barrow	54	11	65	4
Round barrow cem.	14	1	15	-
Standing stone	10	3	13	1
Stone circle	2	-	2	2
Stone row	-	-	-	-
Stone setting	2	-	2	-
Timber circle	-	-	-	-
Totals	83	16	99	7

- 3.2 As might have been expected, round barrows comprise by far the largest number of sites (65 sites), accounting for 65% of all sites. Although 15 round barrow cemeteries are recorded, with one exception they relate to groups of circular features identified from aerial photographs which, following fieldwork, are likely to be largely discounted. All other monument types represented within the study area are present in comparatively small numbers, with the exception of standing stones (13 sites).
- 3.3 It will be noted that not all of the relevant monument types in the regional SMR are represented within the study area. At present it is not possible to say whether this is the result of regional variations in funerary and ritual monuments, or perhaps more likely, whether this reflects the limited number of excavations and lack of good cropmark evidence.

Fig.1 Distribution of Prehistoric Funerary and Ritual sites in the Dyfi catchment, Powys



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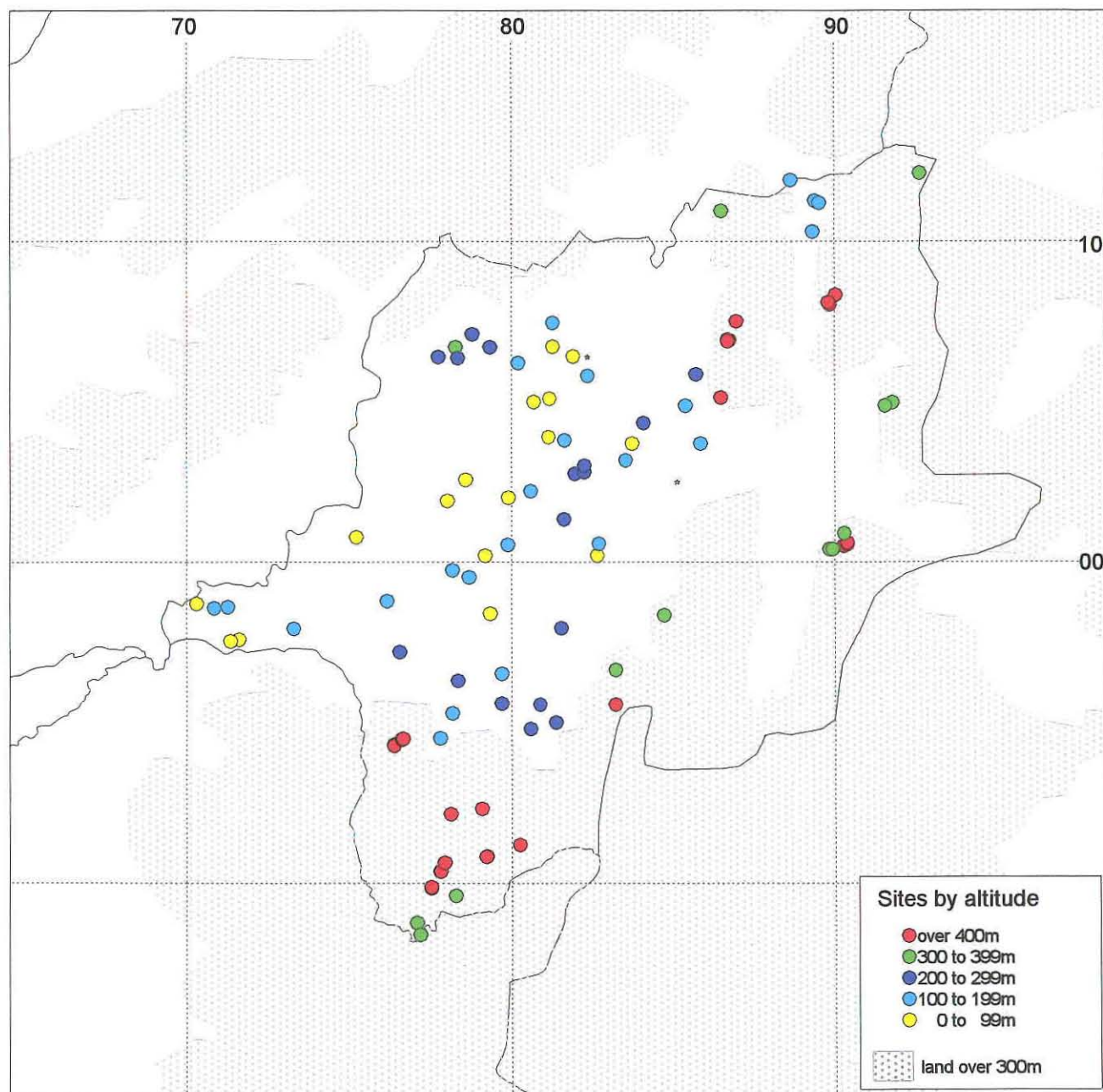
Distribution of Sites

- 3.4 The general distribution of sites (fig. 1) shows no significant trend, although the majority of sites would appear to lie on the lower ground of the Dyfi valley. There is, however, a significant grouping of sites on the higher ground in the south of the area.
- 3.5 An examination of the relative altitudes of sites (Table 2; fig. 2) shows that the 61% are located above the 200m contour and 28 sites lie above 400m. This is largely a reflection of the regional topography which is dominated by significant blocks of upland to the south and east of the area, in the upper reaches of the Dyfi catchment.

Table 2: Distribution of sites by altitude

Altitude	no. sites
<100m	16
100-199m	23
200-299m	18
300-399m	14
> 400m	28
Total	99

Fig.2 Distribution of sites by altitude in the Dyfi catchment, Powys



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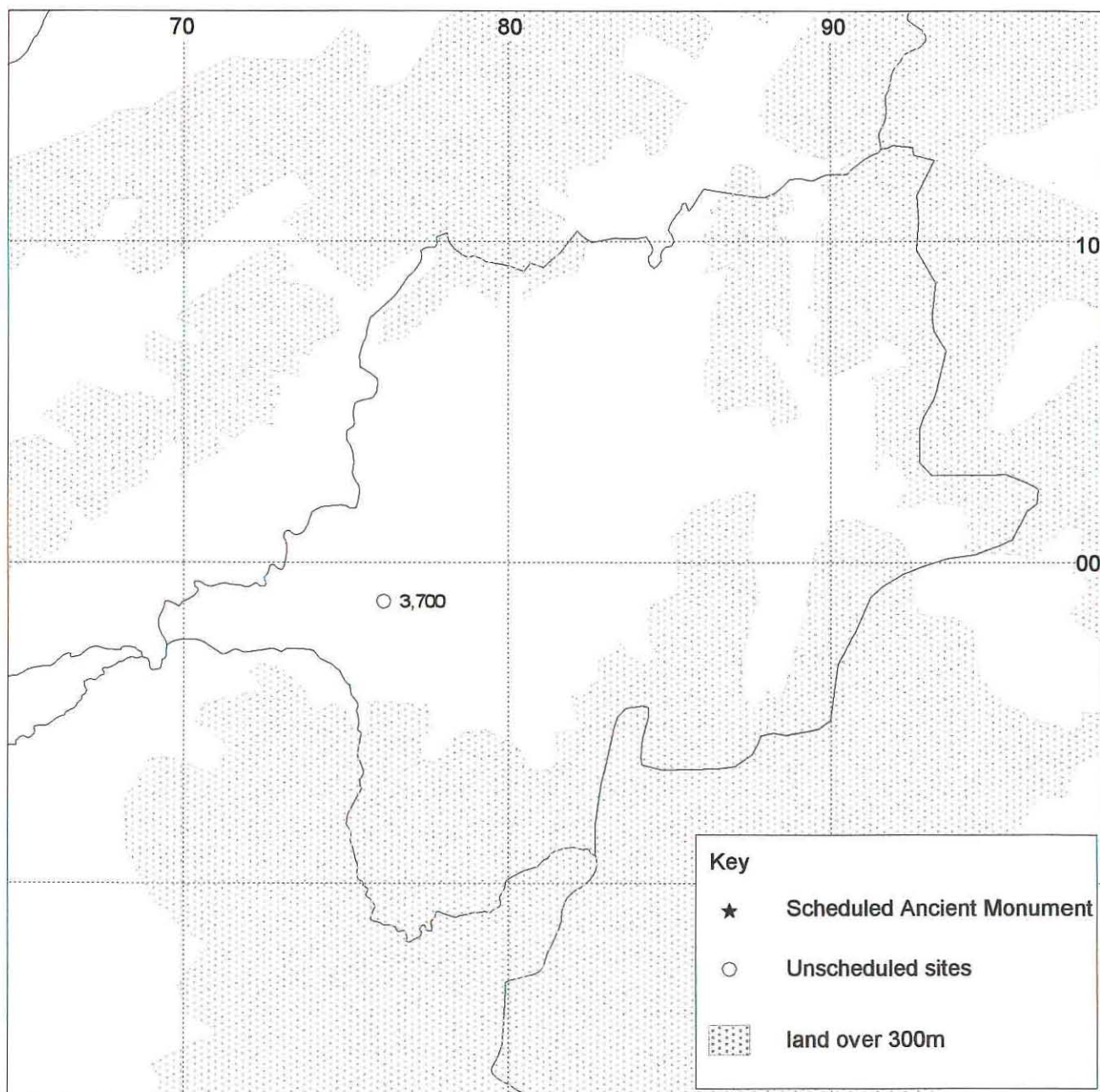
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4 CHAMBERED TOMBS

- 4.1 There is only one record for a possible chambered tomb within the study area, Cae Garreg Lwyd Stone PRN 3700 (fig. 3). The present record suggests that this is likely to be a natural boulder, or perhaps a boundary stone although there is a local tradition that it is the capstone of a cromlech (RCAHM 1911).

Fig.3 Distribution of Chambered tombs in the Dyfi catchment, Powys



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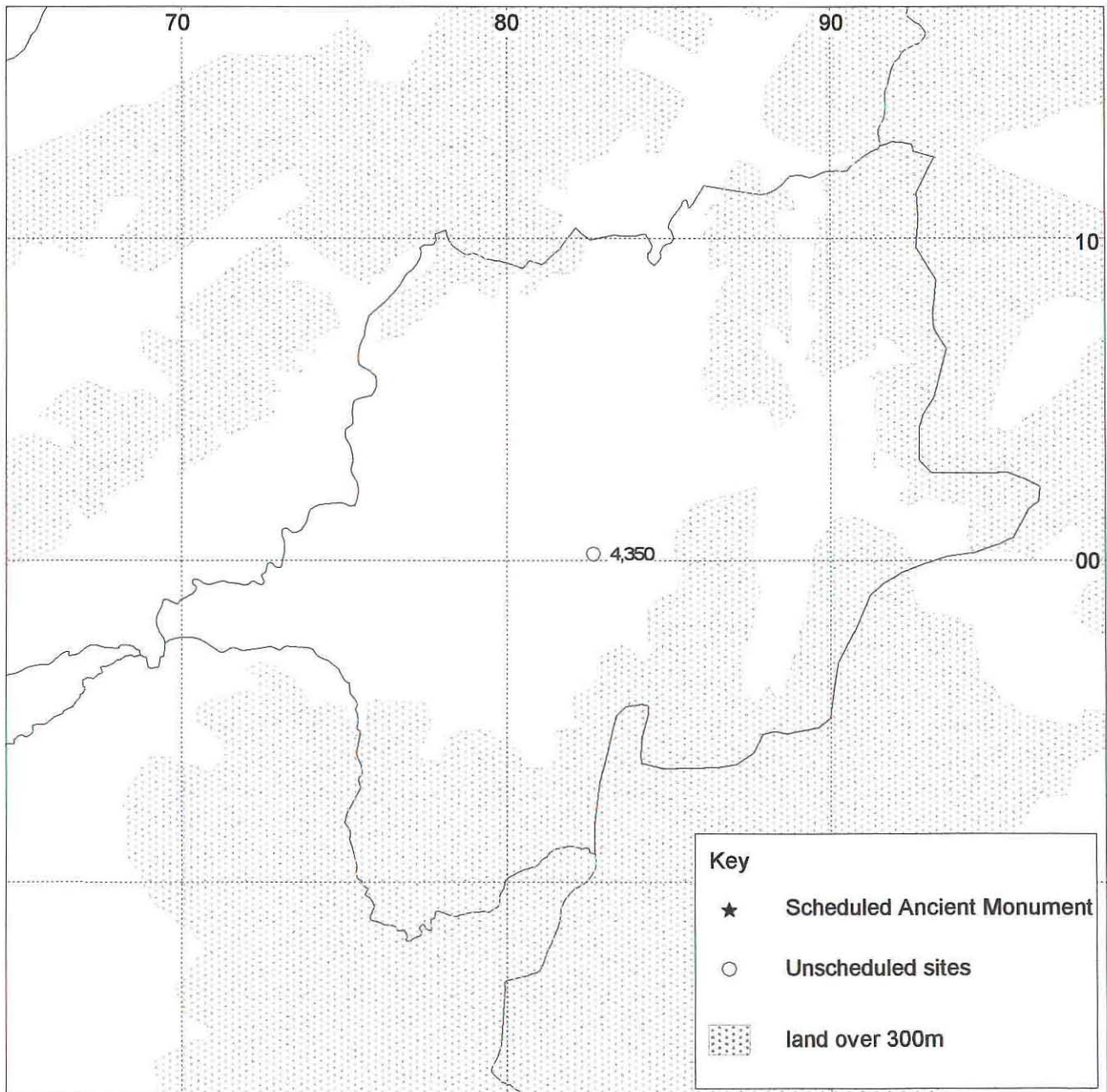
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5 CISTS

- 5.1 There is only one record for a possible cist within the study area Cae yr Hen Eglwys Cist PRN 4350 (fig. 4). During ploughing around 1900 the plough struck a rounded boulder, beneath which was an empty cavity c. 0.6m across and 0.9m deep. All the stones were removed and there is no record of any artefacts (RCAHM 1911).

Fig.4 Distribution of Cists in the Dyfi catchment, Powys



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6 ROUND BARROWS

- 6.1 Round barrows take a variety of forms which are often difficult to distinguish in the field: earthen mounds (barrows), stone mounds (cairns), some defined by ring banks (ring cairns), small circular cairns (c. 5m diam.) with an outer kerb of disproportionately large stones (kerb cairns), some defined by kerbs or with other structural features (structured cairns) and some defined by low platforms (platform cairns). A further sub-type, Round barrow (large), includes sites which either due to size (over 30m diameter) or height (over 3m) would appear to be set apart from smaller monuments. Earthen barrows and stone cairns can sometimes be distinguished, their construction materials generally reflecting local geology and soils. As these various monuments tend to be broadly contemporary and to have much the same function, allowing, perhaps, for regional/typological idiosyncrasies, they have been treated here under the broad title of round barrow as they tend to share a common sepulchro-ritual role.
- 6.2 There are 65 round barrows or possible round barrows of various forms recorded in the SMR (fig. 5; Tables 3 and 4), only four of which are scheduled. The majority of sites are currently recorded as known or possible earthen barrows (37 sites) or stone-built cairns (23 sites), although there are also three ring cairns and 2 structured cairns. The figures are not definitive but are subject to the vagaries of field observation, monument preservation and fieldworkers' interpretation and are likely to change considerably once fieldwork has been completed.
- 6.3 It has been argued that a wealth of archaeological information may be preserved within the fragile contexts which are receiving protection from the covering mounds of round barrows, either in the form of satellite burials and/or protected land surfaces (Gibson 1998a). Round barrows should not, therefore, simply be viewed in terms of the survival of the upstanding monument, but also in relation to an important archaeological resource sealed beneath it.

Table 3: Round barrows within the study area.

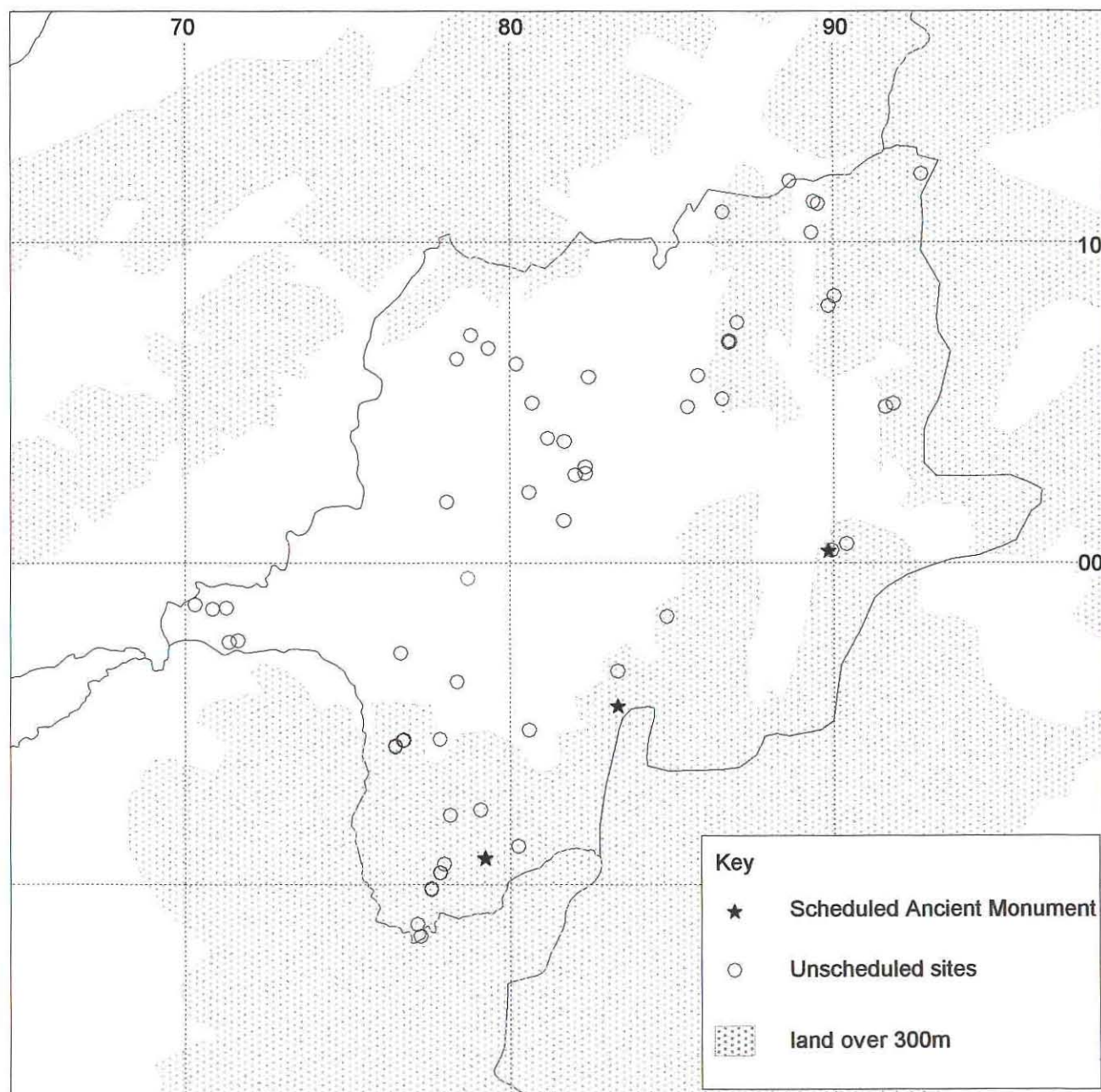
PRN	Site name	NGR	Type 1
89	Foel Fadian Barrow I	SN83289556	Round barrow
708	Carn Gwilym cairn I	SN79249084	Round barrow (cairn)
709	Carn Gwilym cairn II	SN79239082	Round barrow (cairn)
719	Ffridd Cwm y Ffynnon Barrow	SH91830498	Round barrow
1266	Bwlchlluan Cropmark	SH78360636	Round barrow ?
1267	Ffridd Rhyd y Biswail Enclosure	SH79350670	Round barrow ?
1268	Rhyd y Biswail Cropmark	SH788071	Round barrow ?
1280	Pwll du cropmark	SH78050191	Round barrow ?
1288	Rhydgwial Cropmark	SH824058	Round barrow ?
1290	Capel Seion Cropmark	SH807050	Round barrow ?
1292	Foel Cropmark	SH802062	Round barrow ?
1293	Carneddgerig Barrow	SH86540512	Round barrow (cairn)
1303	Poesnant Cropmark	SH81160389	Round barrow ?
1311	Allor Cairn I	SH89840040	Round barrow (structured cairn)
1312	Gwalia Enclosure	SH85460487	Round barrow ?
1340	Morben Isaf Barrow	SN70859856	Round barrow ?
1354	Carneddau Hafod Wnnog Cairn I	SN76439431	Round barrow (cairn)
1355	Carneddau Hafod Wnnog Cairn II	SN76429428	Round barrow ?
1359	Hengwm Cropmark	SN77839452	Round barrow ?
1673	Gelli Wen Mound	SH89401127	Round barrow ?
1674	Glan yr Afon Cairn Site	SH89341031	Round barrow ?
1718	Cefn Coch Barrow	SH81990275	Round barrow (structured cairn)
1721	Rhosysilio Cropmark	SH806022	Round barrow ?
1723	Fron Goch Cropmark	SH81650133	Round barrow ?
1769	Cae Garnedd Placename	SN78709952	Round barrow ?

1832	Craig y Dullfan Cairn	SN77128876	Round barrow (cairn)
1833	Banc Llechwedd Mawr Cairn I	SN77558985	Round barrow (cairn)
4047	Nant y Bwlch Cairn	SH92711213	Round barrow (cairn) ?
4069	Lluest Ty'n yr Wtra Cairn	SH85780585	Round barrow (ring cairn)
4292	Esgair y Ffordd Cairn	SN79109233	Round barrow (cairn)
4299	Esgair Graflwyn	SN83289665	Round barrow (ring cairn) ?
4360	Banc Llechwedd Mawr Cairn II	SN77568988	Round barrow (cairn)
4371	Dol y Garnedd Cairn	SN71629758	Round barrow ?
4978	Graig Y Gronfa Cairn	SH86551095	Round barrow ?
4980	Ty Coch Cairn	SN71279859	Round barrow (cairn)
4981	Twmpath y Crynwyr Cairn	SN71359753	Round barrow (cairn)
4988	Cefn Modfedd Barrow	SN7836096310	Round barrow ?
5080	Moelfre Barrow	SN84809835	Round barrow
5170	Bwlch Gelli Las Barrow	SH823030	Round barrow ?
5171	Pen y Graig Cropmark	SH81680380	Round barrow ?
6161	Mynydd Bychan Cairn	SN7815092160	Round barrow (cairn) ?
6163	Allor Cairn II	SH89940040	Round barrow (cairn) ?
6164	Lled Croen yr Ych Cairn	SH904006	Round barrow (cairn) ?
16604	Mynydd Lluest Fach ring cairn	SH89860802	Round barrow (ring cairn)
16605	Mynydd Lluest Fach cairn	SH90040833	Round barrow (cairn)
22129	Foel Uchaf Cairn	SN8025891196	Round barrow ?
34009	Mynydd y Cemmes cairn III	SH87010751	Round barrow (cairn) ?
34997	Mynydd y Cemmes cairn I	SH86790691	Round barrow (cairn) ?
34998	Mynydd y Cemmes cist	SH86730693	Round barrow (cairn) ?
34999	Mynydd y Cemmes cairn II	SH86740688	Round barrow (cairn) ?
70752	Hyddgen round barrow I	SN77839037	Round barrow (cairn)
70753	Hyddgen round barrow II	SN77849037	Round barrow (cairn)
70755	Hyddgen round barrow III	SN77969063	Round barrow (cairn) ?
70756	Hyddgen round barrow IV	SN77969063	Round barrow (cairn) ?

Table 4: Round barrows recorded in Type 2 within the study area.

PRN	Site name	NGR	Type 1	Type 2
1183	Collfryn mound	SH88651191	Non antiquity	Round barrow ?
1765	Morben Isaf Mound	SN703987	Pillow mound ?	Round barrow ?
3868	Cefn Coch Mound	SH823028	Non antiquity	Round barrow ?
4840	Ffridd Cwm Ffynnon Cairn	SH91590488	Clearance cairn	Round barrow (cairn) ?
4984	Bwlch Main Spoil Heaps	SN766972	Spoil heap	Round barrow ?
5000	Rhosygarreg Mound	SN806948	Non antiquity	Round barrow ?
5955	Gelli Wen Mound II	SH89531120	Non antiquity ?	Round barrow ?
6227	Hengwm Cairn	SN77228839	Clearance cairn	Round barrow (cairn) ?
6254	Pen y Darren Cairn I	SN76669448	Non antiquity	Round barrow ?
6255	Pen y Darren Cairn II	SN76689449	Non antiquity	Round barrow ?
6256	Pen y Darren Cairn III	SN76709450	Non antiquity	Round barrow ?

Fig.5 Distribution of Round barrows in the Dyfi catchment, Powys



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7 ROUND BARROW CEMETERIES

- 7.1 The current definition for a round barrow cemetery is a group of two or more round barrows or ring-ditches within reasonably close proximity to each other. The SMR currently records 15 possible round barrow cemeteries (fig. 6; Table 5), although with one exception they relate to groups of circular features identified from aerial photographs which, following fieldwork, are likely to be largely discounted.

Table 5 Round barrow cemeteries within the study area

PRN	Site name	NGR
1264	Cae Cwta Cropmark	SH77770640
1265	Ffridd Bwlchlluan Cropmark	SH783067
1283	Bryn Wg Isaf Cropmark	SH799020
1285	Glyn Cerig Cropmark	SH81300745
1286	Esgair Wian Cropmark	SH81310671
1289	Cochshed Cropmark I	SH812051
1314	Ffridd Fawr Cropmarks	SH859037
1343	Garthgwynion Cropmark	SN73319793
1349	Cwm Byr Cropmarks	SN782953
1350	Coed y Belan Cropmarks	SN797956
1351	Cleiria Cropmark	SN79709652
1363	Bryndan Cropmarks	SN81589794
1364	Afon Dulas Cropmark	SN814950
1713	Pant Cropmarks	SH81940641
16608	Mynydd Lluest Fach clearance cairns	SH898018

PRN 1264 Cae Cwta Cropmark

Four circular cropmarks some 8m in diameter (RAF AP, 1946). No further detail.

PRN 1265 Ffridd Bwlchlluan Cropmark

A series of circular cropmarks up to 10m diameter (RAF AP, 1946). No further detail.

PRN 1283 Bryn Wg Isaf Cropmark

A series of circular cropmarks (RAF AP, 1946). Presumed to be natural features by OS.

PRN 1285 Glyn Cerig Cropmark

A series of circular cropmarks (RAF AP, 1946). Presumed to be natural features by OS.

PRN 1286 Esgair Wian Cropmark

Two circular cropmarks around 12m diameter (RAF AP, 1946). Presumed to be natural features by OS.

PRN 1289 Cochshed Cropmark I

A series of circular cropmarks (RAF AP, 1946). Presumed to be natural features by OS.

PRN 1314 Ffridd Fawr Cropmarks

A series of circular and oval cropmarks (RAF AP, 1946). Presumed to be natural features by OS.

PRN 1343 Garthgwynion Cropmark

A series of circular cropmarks (RAF AP, 1946). Presumed to be natural features by OS.

PRN 1349 Cwm Byr Cropmarks

A series of circular cropmarks (RAF AP, 1946). Presumed to be natural features by OS.

PRN 1350 Coed y Belan Cropmarks

A series of circular cropmarks (RAF AP, 1946). Presumed to be natural features by OS.

PRN 1351 Cleiria Cropmark

A series of circular cropmarks (RAF AP, 1946). Presumed to be natural features by OS.

PRN 1363 Bryndan Cropmarks

Two circular cropmarks roughly 7m and 10m diameter (RAF AP, 1946). Presumed to be natural features by OS.

PRN 1364 Afon Dulas Cropmark

A series of circular cropmarks (RAF AP, 1946). Presumed to be natural features by OS.

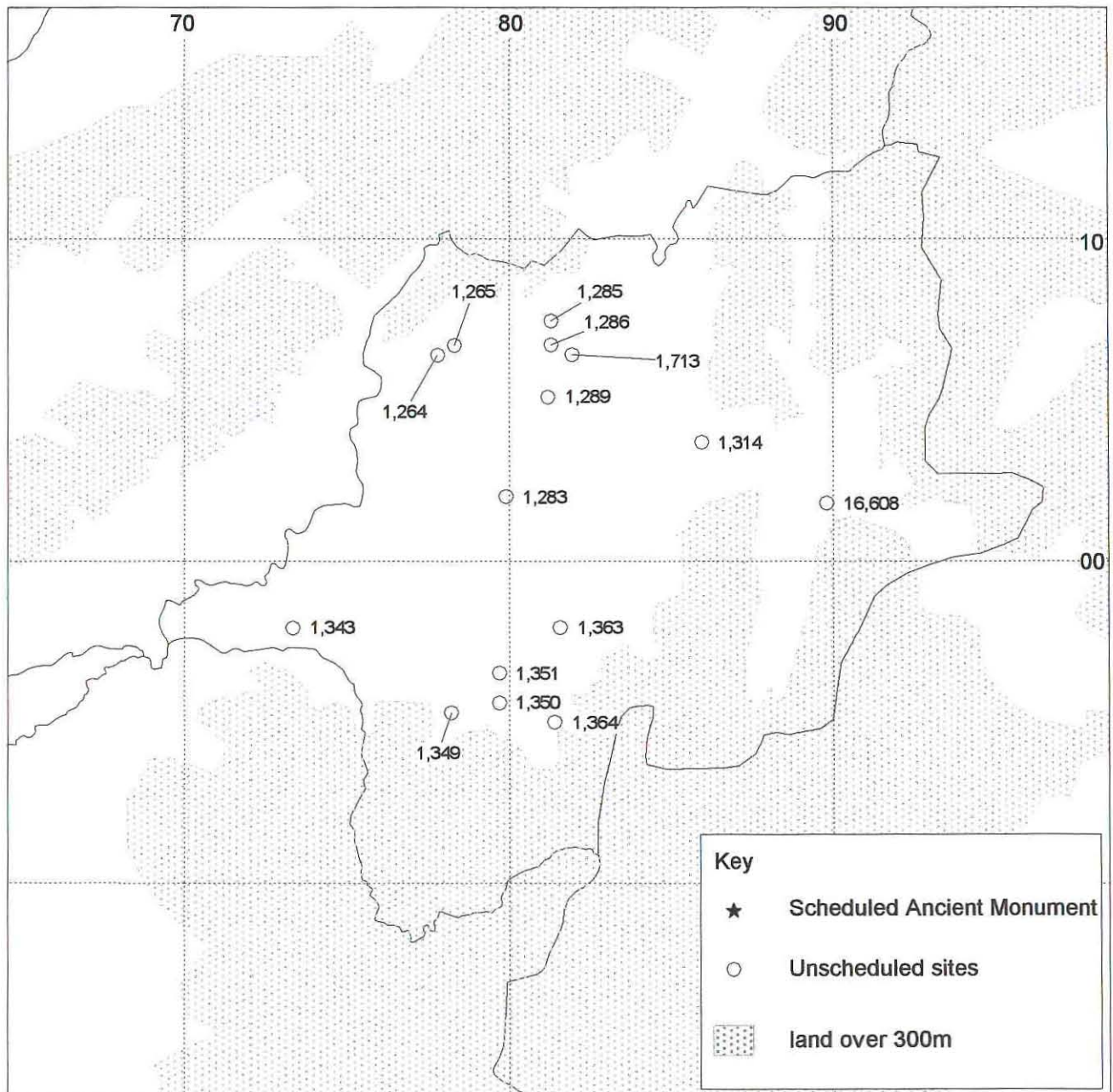
PRN 1713 Pant Cropmarks

Three circular cropmarks each 7m diameter (RAF AP, 1946). Presumed to be natural features by OS.

PRN 16608 Mynydd Lluest Fach clearance cairns

Several small scattered clearance cairns, almost without exception on the west side of the ridge. Generally 2m-4m in diameter (Silvester 1994). Presumed to be field clearance, although possibly a Round barrow cemetery (cairnfield).

Fig.6 Distribution of Round barrow cemeteries in the Dyfi catchment, Powys



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8 STANDING STONES

8.1 There are 13 single standing stones or possible standing stones within the study area (fig. 7; Table 6).

Table 6: Standing stones within study area

PRN	Name	NGR
714	Cae y Garreg Stone	SH79880054
715	Maen Llwyd Stone Site	SH75260078
1297	Rhos Dyrnog Stones	SH82750057
1299	Maen Llwyd Stone	SH83590317
1717	Carreg Noddfa Stone	SH8520002500
1727	Cae Cerrig Gwynion Stone	SH838037
1767	Cae Garreg Lwyd Placename	SN79359840
1770	Cae Garreg Lwyd Placename	SN78209975
1771	Rhosygarreg Placename	SN80909557
4315	Gareg Lwyd Stone	SH78600257
5159	Cae Garreg Lwyd Placename 11	SH79190020
5167	Cae Maen Llwyd Placename	SH824064
70250	Coed Glyntwymyn Stone	SH84150434

PRN 714 Cae y Garreg Stone

A boulder standing 0.9m above the ground and measuring 1.16m across.

PRN 715 Maen Llwyd Stone Site

A standing stone moved in 1970 from a field known as Cae Maen Llwyd (SH 7526 0078) in advance of a new housing development. The stone, which measures 2.1m high and 1 to 1.2m wide, now lies on traffic island (SH 7530 0081).

PRN 1297 Rhos Dyrnog Stones

A stone 2.1m high and 0.8m wide is said to mark a medieval township boundary though it is more probably a reused standing stone. The stone lies in field called Cae yr Hen Eglwys within the township of Noddfa, the name of which implies a place of refuge or sanctuary, its limits being probably described by three stones (Lewis 1833), the others being PRN 1299 and 1717.

PRN 1299 Maen Llwyd Stone

A semi-recumbent stone 1.1m high and 0.7m wide is said to mark a medieval township boundary. The stone lies within the township of Noddfa, the name of which implies a place of refuge or sanctuary, its limits being probably described by three stones (Lewis 1833), the others being PRN 1297 and 1717.

PRN 1717 Carreg Noddfa Stone

The stone is said to have marked the boundary of the medieval township of Noddfa, the name of which implies a place of refuge or sanctuary, its limits being probably described by three stones (Lewis 1833), the others being PRN 1297 and 1299. The stone was broken up around 1905 and fragments built into a garden wall at SH 85460187. The original siting at is recorded as SH852025. Possibly a re-used Bronze Age standing stone.

PRN 1727 Cae Cerrig Gwynion Stone

A small white stone since destroyed by the railway (RCAHM 1911).

PRN 1767 Cae Garreg Lwyd Placename

Fieldname which may suggest a standing stone.

PRN 1770 Cae Garreg Lwyd Placename

Fieldname which may suggest a standing stone.

PRN 1771 Rhosygarreg Placename

Placename which may suggest a standing stone.

PRN 4315 Gareg Lwyd Stone

A boulder measuring 3-4m by 2.1m by 1.8m lies on a south facing slope in a field called in field called Cae Garreg Lwyd. The stone is probably natural, although originally recorded as a standing stone (RCAHM 1911)

PRN 5159 Cae Garreg Lwyd Placename 11

Fieldname which may suggest a standing stone.

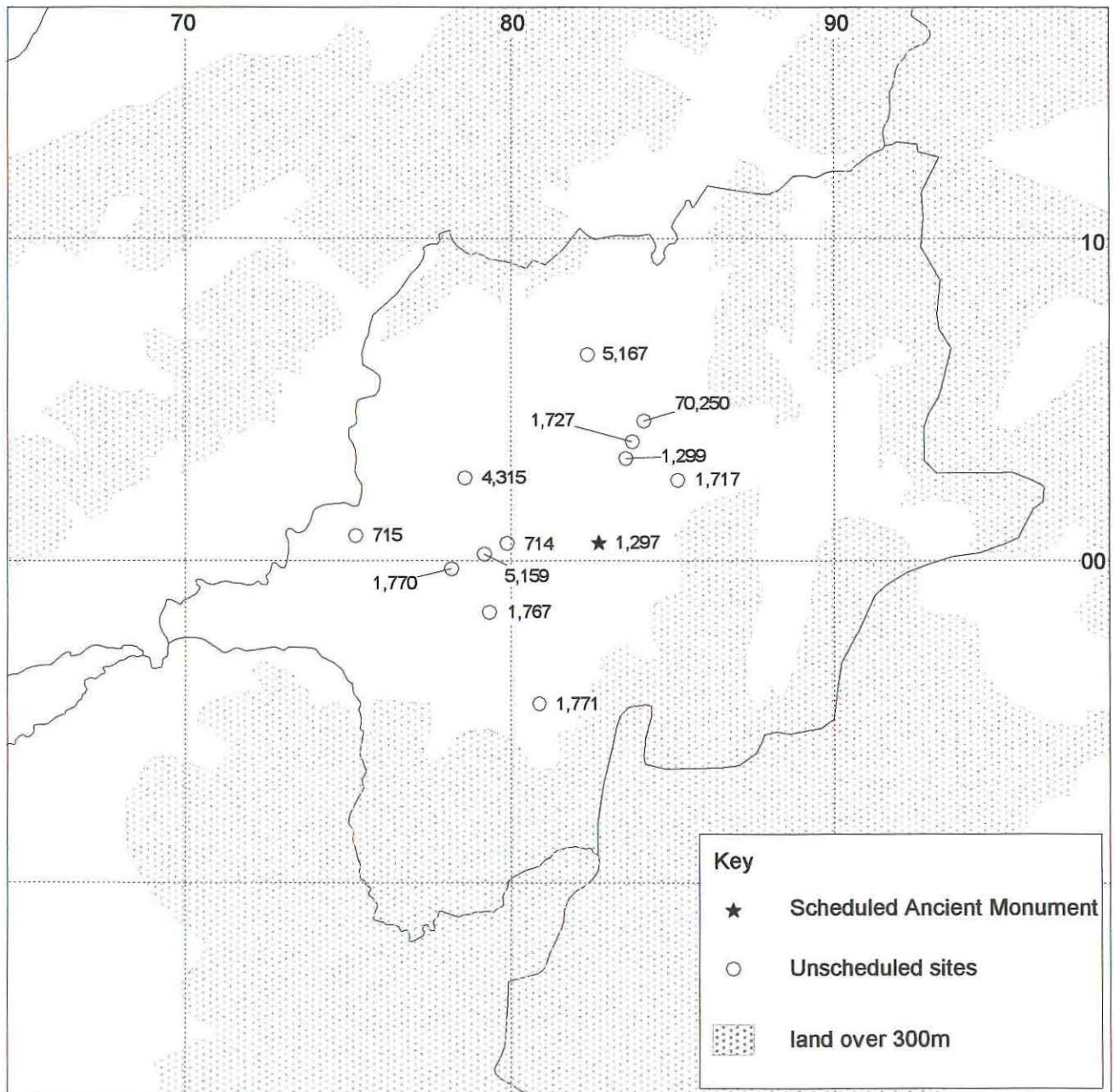
PRN 5167 Cae Maen Llwyd Placename

Fieldname which may suggest a standing stone.

PRN 70250 Coed Glyntwymyn Stone

A small standing stone, 0.5m high, 0.35m wide and 0.18m high, located close to a spring overlooking the river valley.

Fig.7 Distribution of Standing stones in the Dyfi catchment, Powys



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9 STONE CIRCLES

- 9.1 There are 2 recorded stone circles within the study area (fig. 8; Table 7), both of which are scheduled.

Table 7: Stone circles within study area

PRN	Name	NGR
721	Cerrig Caerau stone circle	SH90280050
722	Lled Croen yr Ych Circle	SH90400055

PRN 721 Cerrig Caerau stone circle

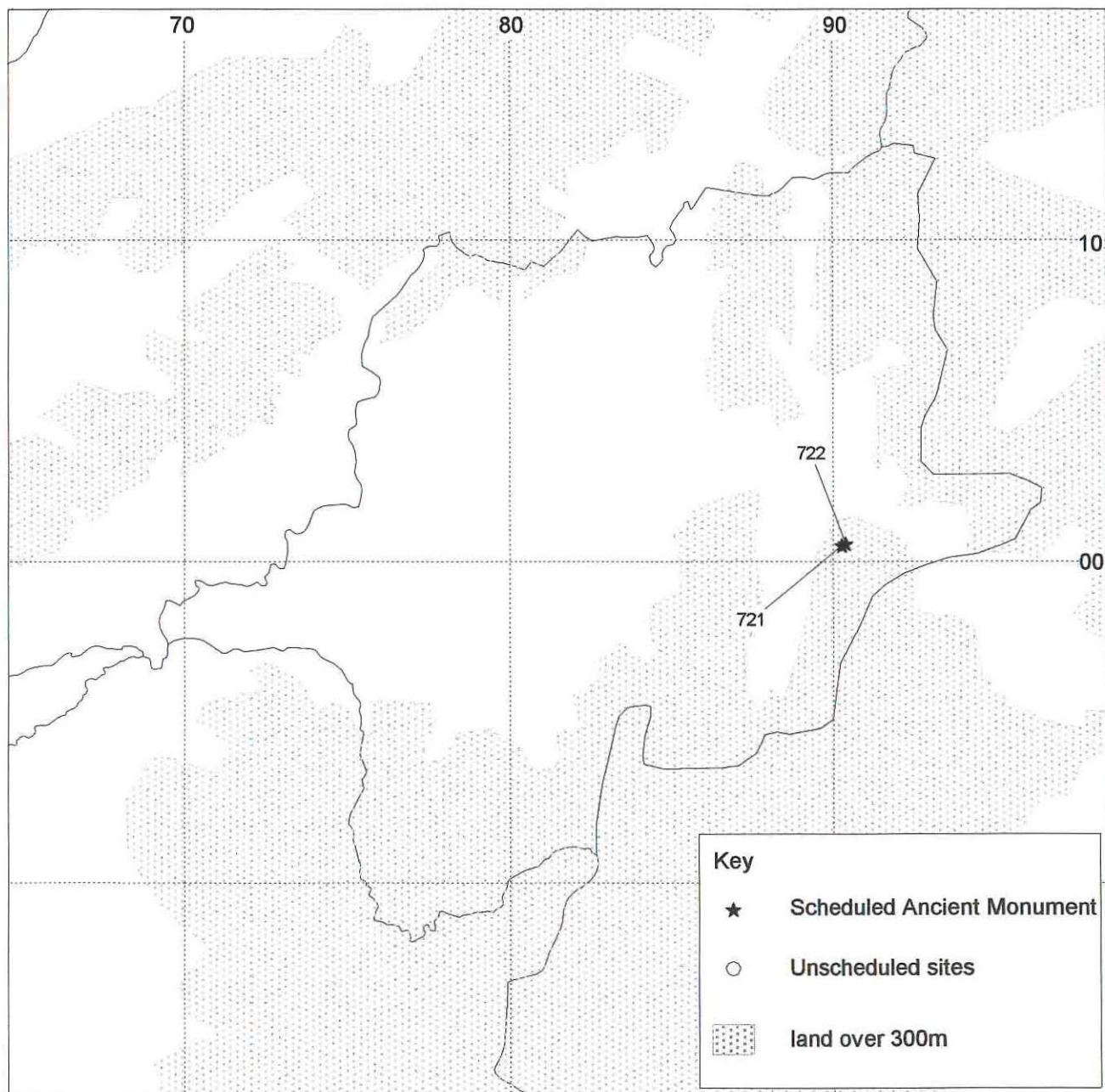
A stone circle 22.2m in diameter consisting of eight recumbent stones lying in animal worn hollows on unimproved moorland. They are unevenly spaced and each measures between 1.2m and 2.0m. Situated in close proximity to Yr Allor cairn and Lled-Croen-yr-Ych stone circle (PRN 722) (Hoyle 1984, 53; fig 4)

PRN 722 Lled Croen yr Ych Circle

One of two stone circles (with PRN 721) said to be nearly perfect c. 1866. The circle is approximately 26m in diameter with four stones definitely surviving, three being in situ. A fifth apparently lies beside its original depression and fragments of a sixth beside another depression. There are 11 recognisable depressions which may have held stones. Re-survey with astro-compass and tape suggests two possible arcs which may fit the stones/depressions, with an outlier corresponding to one of Thom's calendar dates. (OS card). Two smaller outliers are visible immediately to the north-west of the circle.

The present appearance bears little resemblance to plan published by Grimes (1963, fig. 24) from a survey in 1960s before the heather moor was improved. Outlying stones have now disappeared and the circle has probably been added to by stones which have been recently moved. (Brassil 1987c, 7-8).

Fig.8 Distribution of Stone circles in the Dyfi catchment, Powys



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10 STONE SETTINGS

- 10.1 There are two sites currently recorded as stone settings within the study area (fig. 9; Table 8), neither of which is scheduled. Stone settings are difficult to define, to date and to interpret, and the two sites listed are quite different.

Table 8: Stone Settings within the study area.

PRN	Site name	NGR
1184	Glyndwr's Covenant Stones	SN783896
6165	Cerrig Cors Hodnant Stones	SH903009

PRN 1184 Glyndwr's Covenant Stones

Two unhewn blocks of white quartz known as Cerrig Cyfammod Glyndwr, almost certainly placed with intention, with a small natural outcropping boulder between them, situated on the north-west slope of Plynlimon, 100yds above right hand bank of River Hyddgen and in a shallow depression between two cairns. Traditionally the site where Glyndwr 'held parley and made his covenant' in 1401. They are 31m apart aligned north to south (RCAHM 1911)

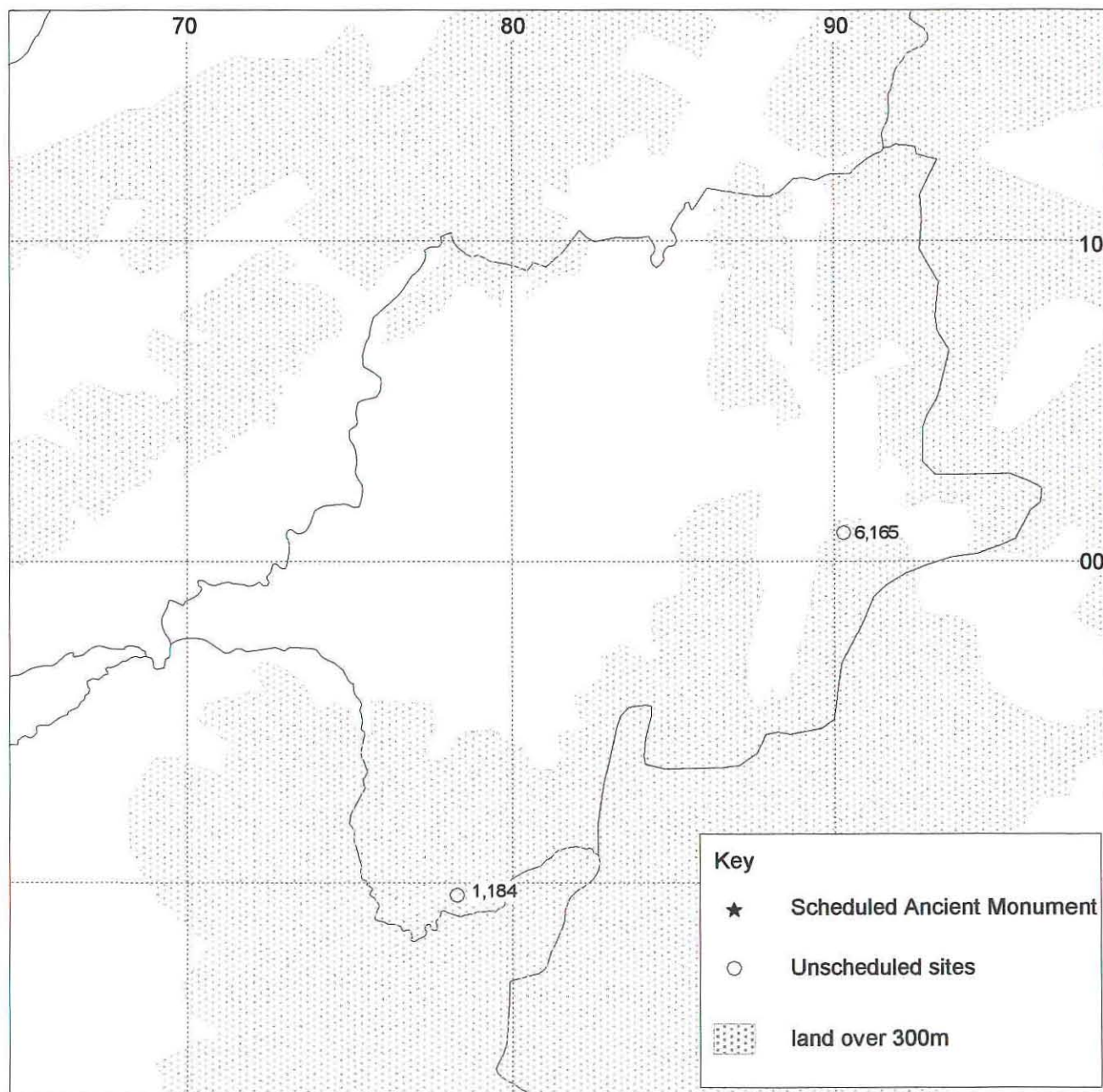
The first stone (SN 7831 8963) is an irregular quartz block 1.2 x 1.0m at the base and 0.7m high, apparently not earth-fast. The second stone (SN 7832 8966) is an irregular quartz block 0.8 x 0.7m at the base and 0.4m high, apparently earth-fast. A third stone, a granite boulder, is 1100m away at SN 78228856 on Pen Cor-maen. Irregular, 2m x 1.7m at base and 1.1m high (OS 1978)

This site may be reclassified following fieldwork as the description implies independent standing stones, rather than a stone setting.

PRN 6165 Cerrig Cors Hodnant Stones

A possible stone setting comprising 10 stones forming an irregular sided 'V' pointing roughly west-south-west. None of the stones is higher than 0.1m and they vary in size from 0.1m by 0.15m to 0.8m by 0.4m.

Fig 9 Distribution of Stone settings in the Dyfi catchment, Powys



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APPENDIX 1

INITIAL SMR EXTRACT OF TYPE 1 FOR THE FOLLOWING SITE TYPES:

Barrow
Barrow cemetery
Burial
Cairn
Caimfield
Carved stone
Chambered tomb
Cist
Cist burial
Clearance Cairn
Cremation
Cursus
Cup marked stone
Henge
Incised stone
Inhumation
Long barrow
Megalithic tomb
Mortuary enclosure
Palisaded enclosure
Pillow mound
Pit
Pit alignment
Pit avenue
Pit circle
Prehistoric monument complex
Ring cairn
Ring ditch
Rock carving
Round barrow
Round cairn
Square barrow
Standing stone
Stone circle
Stone row
Stone setting
Timber circle
Timber setting

APPENDIX 2 CONSOLIDATED MONUMENT TYPE DEFINITIONS

The following represents a consolidated list of monument type definitions covering the prehistoric funerary and ritual monument surveys undertaken by CPAT to date. The aim is to produce a comprehensive list of monument type definitions as additional areas of Wales are covered in due course, adding new types and sub-types and amending definitions as appropriate, as work proceeds. It is self-evident that the definitions do not as yet adequately cover all known monument types in Wales. The purpose of the following list of monument type definitions is firstly to ensure greater consistency in the SMR, secondly to provide a simpler means of grouping apparently similar types of which might be known in detail from excavation or only superficially as field monuments, and thirdly in order to simplify future SMR inquiries.

The general approach has been where possible to use simple and widely accepted terms, to group a range of monuments within a single type, with the use of sub-types where necessary, and to avoid unnecessary proliferation of monument types which might complicate the processes of data input and output. All monument types may be applied with or without a following question mark - eg 'Round barrow ?', and in some instances sub-types are given in brackets - eg 'Round barrow (cairn)'.

The following categories of information are given for each of the prehistoric funerary and ritual monument types.

Definition

A short summary of the form, function and dating of the monument types as they appear in the current dataset. A fuller discussion of the form, function, dating and associations of each monument type is given in the project report (Gibson 1998).

Sub-types

A list of sub-types currently used, together with additional definition if necessary, eg Round barrow (kerb cairn). Sub-types are defined in the 'Definition' text above.

Dimensions

A summary of the dimensions of the monument type as it appears within the current dataset.

To be distinguished from

A summary list of some of the types of monument which the particular monument type might be confused with and which should be avoided if possible.

Same as

Reference is given to the same or similar monument types as given in English Heritage's Monument Class Descriptions (available on <http://www.eng-h.gov.uk/mpp/mcd>) and RCHME's *Thesaurus of Monument Types: A Standard for Use in Archaeological and Architectural Records* (1995).

References

References are given to a number of basic reference works, but the emphasis is upon local works.

Carved stone

Definition

An imprecise term referring to any natural rock outcrop or stone not readily portable which displays markings or decoration considered to be of prehistoric ritual significance. Known examples occur on isolated stones, which may not be in their original locations.

Sub-types

Carved stone (cup-marked): a rock or worked stone slab bearing one or more circular depressions/cups chipped out of rock with a hard stone or metal tool. The cups vary in size between c. 2 and 6cm in diameter. Generally thought to be religious or territorial symbols probably dating from the Late Neolithic to the end of the Bronze Age.

Dimensions

-

To be distinguished from

boundary stones, early Christian monuments, inscribed stones, crosses, milestones, gravestones, ogham stones, architectural carvings, mortar stone.

Same as

English Heritage's 'Cup marked stone', 'Cup and ring marked stone'

RCHME Thesaurus terms 'Carved stone', 'Rock carving', 'Cup marked stone', 'Cup and ring marked stone'.

References

Baildon 1909

Barnatt & Reeder 1982

Beckensall 1983

Beckensall 1986

Marshall 1986

CHAMBERED TOMB*Definition*

Monument with evidence of a burial chamber composed of upright stones and considered to be a funerary monument of generally Neolithic date. The burial chamber may be covered by a capstone and may be enclosed within a round or long mound or cairn. The burial chamber will generally be significantly larger than a cist.

*Sub-types**Dimensions*

-

To be distinguished from

Cists, round barrows, long barrows, pillow mounds, standing stones, stone settings

Same as

No close parallel in English Heritage's Monument Class Descriptions, but as sub-types distinguished in brackets it would include 'Entrance Graves' and 'Simple Passage Grave'.

RCHME Thesaurus terms 'Chambered Tomb', as well as 'Chambered Cairn', 'Chambered Long Barrow', 'Chambered Long Cairn', 'Chambered Round Barrow', 'Chambered Round Cairn', 'Passage Grave'.

References

Lynch *et al.* 2000, 63-77

Cist*Definition*

Isolated stone-lined pit assumed to have held a human burial of prehistoric or later date. It is generally assumed that the shorter cists are more likely to be Bronze Age in date, while the longer cists may be Iron Age or later.

Sub-types

Cist (long) >1.2m

Cist (short) <1.2m

Dimensions

Examples currently identified as falling within the monument type definition locally are between 0.5 and 2.1m long and 0.3 to 0.5m across.

To be distinguished from

Cist found in association with a round barrow, cist graves.

Same as

No close parallel in English Heritage's Monument Class Descriptions.
RCHME Thesaurus term 'Cist'.

References

Gibson 1998a, 44

Cremation burial*Definition*

Single cremation burial possibly accompanied by grave goods and/or contained within a pit and/or a ceramic vessel but not associated with surface features, of later Neolithic to middle Bronze Age or Romano-British date. The cremation may have been inserted into a natural mound which could therefore have assumed the significance of a round barrow - Cremation (natural mound).

Sub-types

Cremation (natural mound): cremation inserted into a natural mound which has the appearance of a round barrow.

Dimensions

-

To be distinguished from

Cremation burials associated with round barrows, henges.

Same as

Single example within English Heritage's 'Cremation Cemetery' Monument Class Descriptions.
RCHME Thesaurus terms 'Cremation', and 'Cremation Pit'.

References

Britnell 1994

Gibson 1998a, 46

Cremation cemetery*Definition*

More than one cremation burial, possibly accompanied by grave goods and/or contained within a pit and/or a ceramic vessel but not associated with surface features, of later Neolithic to middle Bronze Age or Romano-British date.

Sub-types

No sub-types have yet been defined locally.

Dimensions

-

To be distinguished from

Cremation burial, cremation burials associated with round barrows, henges.

Same as

English Heritage's 'Cremation Cemetery' Monument Class Description.
RCHME Thesaurus terms 'Cremation Cemetery'.

References

Britnell 1994
Gibson 1998a, 46

Cursus*Definition*

Markedly long and narrow ditched enclosure with parallel sides and closed ends associated with ritual activity of Neolithic date and often spatially associated with other funerary or ritual monuments of Neolithic or early Bronze Age date. The only examples currently falling within the monument type definition are cropmarks, but earthworks normally defined by a bank and external ditch are known elsewhere in the British Isles.

Sub-types

No sub-types have yet been defined locally.

Dimensions

Examples currently identified as falling within the monument type definition locally are between a minimum of 80 metres and a maximum of 380 metres long and between 8-20 wide.

To be distinguished from

Mortuary enclosures, Roman roads, ditched trackways, remnant field boundaries.

Same as

English Heritage's 'Cursus' Monument Class Descriptions.
RCHME Thesaurus term 'Cursus'.

References

Barrett *et al.* 1991
Gibson 1994
Gibson 1999b
Gibson 1998a, 14
Houlder 1968
Loveday 1985
Musson 1994

Henge*Definition*

Circular earthwork or cropmark monument normally comprising a ditch with an internal or external bank and one or more entrances, associated with ritual of funerary activity of later Neolithic date and normally spatially associated with other funerary or ritual monuments of Neolithic or Bronze Age date. The ditch is normally proportionally much wider than that of a Ring ditch. Because of the relatively low numbers the monument type definition covers both henges and hengiform monument types. Internal settings may include timber circles, pit circles, stone circles, stone settings, central mounds, cremation pits, etc.

Sub-types

Henge (hengiform monument): a variety of sites which do not readily fall into the category of henge, but are thought to be related monuments. Types of hengiform monument currently identified include smaller sites possibly with segmented ditches, and a large circular ring bank (25m diameter or more), without an entrance.

Dimensions

Examples currently identified as falling within the monument type definition locally are for henges, between

about 8-60 metres in overall diameter and with ditches between 1-5 metres across, and for embanked circles, between 30-110 metres in overall diameter.

To be distinguished from

Ring ditches, round barrows, roundhouse drainage gullies, ring cairns, windmill mounds, and timber circles, pit circles or stone circles appearing singly.

Same as

English Heritage's 'Henge' and 'Hengi-form Monument' Monument Class Descriptions.
RCHME Thesaurus terms 'Henge' and 'Hengiform Monument'.

References

Gibson 1994
Gibson 1995a
Gibson 1998a, 17
Harding & Lee 1987

Inhumation

Definition

A single inhumation of prehistoric or later date which does not appear to be associated with any burial structure such as a cist or round barrow.

Sub-types

Inhumation burial (natural mound): inhumation burial inserted into a natural mound which has the appearance of a round barrow.

Inhumation (cave burial): inhumation within a cave. Cave sites may also contain evidence of multi-period occupation.

Dimensions

-

To be distinguished from

cist, cremation, round barrow, grave

Same as

References

Brassil and Gibson 1999

Long barrow

Definition

Earthwork or cropmark indications of long, roughly rectangular or trapezoidal mound of earth and/or stone or markedly oval mound presumed to have been used for sepulchro-ritual activity of early to middle Neolithic date. In the case of cropmark sites the original mound may be indicated by lateral ditches or trenches for timber revetments.

Sub-types

No sub-types have yet been defined locally.

Dimensions

Examples currently identified as falling within the monument type definition locally are between about 20-60 metres in length, 8-18 metres in width and 0.3-3.0 metres in height, being possibly higher or wider at one end.

To be distinguished from

Bank barrow, pillow mounds or waste heaps connected with quarrying and mining, natural moraines.

Same as

English Heritage's 'Long Barrow' Monument Class Descriptions.
RCHME Thesaurus term 'Long Barrow'.

References

Ashbee 1966
Gibson 1998a, 9
Gibson 2000
Masters 1973
Phillips 1936
Piggott 1972
Whittle 1991a
Vatcher 1965
Vyner 1984

Mortuary enclosure*Definition*

Sub-rectangular cropmark enclosure of varying length and of presumed funerary or ritual activity of early to middle Neolithic date. The only example falling within this monument type definition is spatially associated with a further funerary monument of Neolithic date. The monument type is to be used sparingly and with due consideration.

Sub-types

No sub-types have yet been defined locally.

Dimensions

The only example currently identified as falling within the monument type definition locally is about 30 wide and 40 metres across.

To be distinguished from

Cropmark cursus monuments and long barrows.

Same as

English Heritage's 'Long Mortuary Enclosure' Monument Class Descriptions.
RCHME Thesaurus term 'Mortuary Enclosure'.

References

Barclay & Russell-White 1993
Gibson 1995
Gibson 1998a, 13
Loveday 1985

Palisaded Enclosure*Definition*

One or more rows of pits identified from cropmarks or excavation, forming the perimeter of an enclosure which may be associated with Neolithic funerary or ritual activity. In Wales there are currently only two examples known, both of which are within the Walton Basin in Radnorshire, although there are a number of examples from the rest of Britain and Europe. In Britain, three main types have been identified, depending on the nature of construction. The first type has a perimeter of individual postholes, as at Walton (Dempsey 1998) and also at Meldon Bridge, Peeblesshire (Burgess 1976), Forteviot, Perthshire (Harding and Lee 1987, 409-11), Dunragit, Dumfries (Mercer 1993), Newgrange, Co Meath (Sweetman 1985) and Ballynahatty, Co Down (Hartwell 1991;

1994). The second type has a perimeter composed of closely-spaced postpits, as at Hindwell in the Walton Basin (Gibson 1999a) and also at Greyhound Yard, Dorchester (Woodward *et al* 1993). The third type has a perimeter with uprights set in bedding trenches, as at West Kennet I and II (Whittle 1991b; 1992), Mount Pleasant, Dorset (Wainwright 1979), and Knowth, Co Meath (Eogan 1984, 219).

Sub-types

No sub-types have yet been defined locally.

Dimensions

Palisaded enclosures show considerable variation in size, although the full circumference is only known in three examples: Mount Pleasant, Ballynahatty and Forteviot. The enclosed area varies from 0.64ha at Newgrange to 35ha at Hindwell, although the latter is by far the largest in Britain.

To be distinguished from

Segmented ditches associated with hengiform monuments (see henges), pit circles, timber circles, stone circles represented by stone holes.

Same as

RCHME Thesaurus term Stockaded enclosure.

References

Burgess 1976
Dempsey 1998
Eogan 1984, 219
Gibson 1998c
Gibson 1999a, 14-19 and 155-158
Gibson 1999c
Harding and Lee 1987, 409-11
Hartwell 1991; 1994
Mercer 1993
Sweetman 1985
Wainwright 1979
Whittle 1991b
Whittle 1992
Woodward et al. 1993

Pit

Definition

Cropmark apparently of large pits of unknown function found in association with funerary and ritual monuments of Neolithic and early Bronze Age date in upper Severn Valley area. The monument type is to be used sparingly and with due consideration.

Sub-types

No sub-types have yet been defined locally.

Dimensions

Examples currently identified as falling within the monument type definition locally are between 8-10 metres in diameter.

To be distinguished from

Similar cropmarks not associated with known funerary and ritual monuments of Neolithic and early Bronze Age date.

Same as

No close parallel in English Heritage's Monument Class Descriptions.

No close parallel RCHME Thesaurus terms.

References

Gibson 1998a, 27

Pit avenue

Definition

Two parallel rows of pits, possibly originally for upright timbers, forming an avenue. Only known example in Wales is in the Walton Basin, in association with a palisaded enclosure, as at Meldon Bridge, Peeblesshire (Burgess 1976).

Sub-types

No sub-types have yet been defined locally.

Dimensions

The only recorded example is 75m long, with at least 10 pits in each row, the rows being 12m apart.

To be distinguished from

Pit alignment

Same as

References

Burgess 1976

Gibson 1999a

Pit circle

Definition

One or more concentric circular setting of pits identified from cropmarks or excavation, and considered to be associated with funerary or ritual activity of later Neolithic or early Bronze Age date. Excavation may show that a site should be reclassified as a timber circle or stone circle, but might otherwise represent a circle of cremation pits or votive pits.

Sub-types

No sub-types have yet been defined locally.

Dimensions

The more certain examples currently identified as falling within the monument type definition locally are between about 6-10 metres in diameter and composed of between 6-11 pits.

To be distinguished from

Segmented ditches associated with hengiform monuments (see henges), excavated pit circles shown to have been timber circles, stone circles represented by stone holes, palisaded enclosures.

Same as

English Heritage's 'Pit Circle' Monument Class Descriptions.

RCHME Thesaurus term 'Pit Circle '.

References

Barclay 1993

Cleal *et al.* 1995

Gibson 1992

Gibson 1994

Gibson 1998a

Harding 1981

Prehistoric Monument Complex

Definition

A grouping of two or more prehistoric funerary and/or ritual monuments which is perceived as having some association. An example might be a round barrow and standing stone in close proximity, or a group including a wider range of monuments.

Sub-types

No sub-types have yet been defined locally.

Dimensions

No definition of extent although monuments would normally be within reasonably close proximity, rather than part of a wider landscape.

To be distinguished from

Round barrow cemetery

Same as

References

Ring ditch

Definition

One or more concentric ditches with no visibly surviving internal mound identified by excavation or by cropmarks and assumed to be associated with funerary and/or ritual monuments of later Neolithic to middle Bronze Age date. More frequent smaller examples (<30 metres in diameter) are assumed to be the ploughed out remains of a round barrow or internal ring-bank.

Sub-types

Ring ditch (Large): rarer larger examples (30-60 metres in diameter) have relatively narrow ditches, they appear too large to have enclosed a barrow and may have enclosed an internal ring bank and/or be related to henge monuments.

Dimensions

Examples currently identified as falling within the monument type definition locally are between about 5-30 metres.

To be distinguished from

round barrows with associated cropmark ring ditches, roundhouse drainage ditches, henges, Roman gyruses, ringworks.

Same as

No close parallel in English Heritage's Monument Class Descriptions.
RCHME Thesaurus term 'Ring Ditch'.

References

Britnell 1982
Gibson 1994
Gibson 1995a
Gibson 1998a, 47
Warrilow *et al.* 1986

Round barrow

Definition

Round mound of earth and/or stone with a flattened or rounded top presumed to be for burial and/or other ritual activity of Neolithic, Bronze Age date or early medieval date. The mound may be enclosed by a circular or intermittent outer ditch and may have a complex structure including stone kerbs, stone settings or burial cists. Two or more associated Round Barrows are also classed as a Barrow Cemetery. Ring ditches are a related type with no visibly surviving internal mound, the smaller examples of which are generally considered to be ploughed-out round barrows. Included in the definition are sites first identified as ring ditches subsequently found to have an internal mound. Due to difficulties in distinguishing the internal structure of unexcavated and damaged sites and for ease of information retrieval subdivisions of the type are included in brackets. Where no sub-type is indicated, the mound is either assumed to be predominantly composed of earth, or the site has been lost or destroyed and surviving records may be insufficient to determine the exact nature of the monument. The definition includes round barrows which may form part of a henge.

Sub-types

Round barrow (cairn): a circular cairn assumed to be predominantly composed of stone.

Round barrow (kerb cairn): a small circular cairn (c. 5m diam) with an outer kerb of disproportionately large stones (interior normally has low infilled).

Round barrow (platform cairn): a circular cairn with a levelled flat top.

Round barrow (ring cairn): a circular bank of stone surrounding a hollow central area, the inner and/or outer edges of which may be retained by stone kerbs or spaced stones.

Round barrow (structured cairn): a circular cairn assumed to be predominantly composed of stone and with evidence of deliberate construction such as a kerb or inner stone setting.

Round barrow (large): rarer, larger examples the size of which would appear to set them apart from smaller monuments. Sites may be large in diameter (over 30m in diameter), or in height (over 3m), the latter possibly being of late Neolithic date.

Round barrow (very large): Exceptionally large examples, over 60m in diameter, the size of which sets them apart from all other monuments of this type. Presently only one monument, Gop Cairn, Flintshire, recorded within this sub-type, measuring c. 100 x 68m and 12m high.

Dimensions

Example currently identified as falling within the monument type definition locally are between about 3-30 metres in diameter and between about 0.3-3.0 metres in height.

To be distinguished from

Clearance cairn, cairnfield, walkers' cairn, spoilheap, hut circles, embanked stone circles, natural mounds, ring ditches, isolated cists, chambered tombs, marker cairns, square barrows, mottes, garden viewing platforms.

Same as

Includes English Heritage's 'Ring Cairn', 'D-shaped Cairn', 'Oval Barrow' Monument Class Descriptions.

RCHME Thesaurus terms 'Round Barrow', 'Bell Barrow', 'Bell Disk Barrow', 'Bowl Barrow', 'Fancy Barrow', 'Monumental Mound', 'Oval Barrow', 'Pond Barrow', 'Round Cairn'.

References

Britnell 1982
Gibson 1993
Gibson 1994
Gibson 1998a, 57
Lynch 1993
Warrilow *et al.* 1986

Round barrow cemetery

Definition

A group of two or more round barrows or ring-ditches within reasonably close proximity to each other, possibly

associated with other monument types.

Sub-types

Round barrow cemetery (pair)

Two round barrows in close proximity and assumed to be associated. For the purpose of data management it may be considered appropriate to record other groupings by reference to the number of barrows in brackets eg Round barrow cemetery (5).

Round barrow cemetery (cairnfield)

A group of small cairns within close proximity, assumed to be associated with funerary and/or other ritual activity of Neolithic, Bronze Age. To be distinguished from clearance cairns.

Dimensions

Currently, the largest barrow cemetery locally comprises about 8 monuments.

To be distinguished from

Clearance cairns and the kind of dispersed complex or barrow area represented at eg - Four Crosses, Dyffryn Lane and Sam-y-bryn-caled, to which no particular site type is currently applied.

Same as

English Heritage's 'Round Barrow Cemetery' Monument Class Descriptions except that two rather than five is considered as the minimum number.

RCHME Thesaurus term 'Barrow Cemetery'.

References

Gibson 1998a, 47

Standing stone

Definition

One or less frequently two adjacent upright or originally upright stones of unknown function and set in stonehole, of which those found in association with funerary and ritual monuments of Neolithic to middle Bronze Age date may be more readily assumed to have had a ritual function.

Sub-types

Standing stone (pair): Two adjacent upright, or originally upright stones. Sometimes consist of a 'male' and 'female' stone. Assumed to have has a ritual function.

Dimensions

Examples currently identified as falling within the monument type definition locally are between about 0.3 metres and 3.6 metres in height.

To be distinguished from

Stone rows, stone settings, cattle rubbing stones, boundary stones, early Christian monuments, inscribed stones, crosses, milestones, mere stones, stone gate posts, pillar stones.

Same as

English Heritage's 'Standing Stone' Monument Class Descriptions.

RCHME Thesaurus term 'Standing Stone'.

References

Burl 1976

Gibson 1998a, 30

Morgan 1992

Stone circle

Definition

Circular setting of free-standing and normally spaced stones assumed to represent a ritual monument of later Neolithic to middle Bronze Age date. The definition also covers square settings of four stones which are likewise stones assumed to represent a ritual monument of later Neolithic to middle Bronze Age date. The definition also includes settings of pits shown by excavation to have once held standing stones and also covers stone circles which may form part of a henge.

Sub-types

Stone circle (kerb circle): a circle of edge-set stones which are abutting to form a more or less continuous kerb.

Dimensions

Examples currently identified as falling within the monument type definition locally are between about 5-22 metres in diameter and comprise between 4-54 stones generally between 0.2-0.6 metres high.

To be distinguished from

Round barrow (ring cairns), round barrow (kerb cairns), modern gorseddau, stone setting.

Same as

English Heritage's 'Small Stone Circle' and 'Large Regular Stone Circle' Monument Class Descriptions. RCHME Thesaurus terms 'Stone Circle'.

References

Burl 1976

Burl 2000

Gibson 1998a, 40

Grimes 1963

Stone row

Definition

One or more roughly parallel rows of three or more upright stones set at intervals presumed to have been used for ritual activity of Bronze Age date.

Sub-types

Stone row (avenue) a double row of upright stones forming an avenue, normally in association with other monuments such as stone circles.

Dimensions

Example currently identified as falling within the monument type definition locally have individual rows up to about 60 metres long, with individual stones between about 0.3-2.0 metres high and spaced at intervals of about 1.0-2.5 metres, with parallel rows set between about 2.0-4.0 metres apart.

To be distinguished from

Field boundaries or other features formed of upright slabs.

Same as

English Heritage's 'Stone Alignment' Monument Class Descriptions, except that no distinction is made with 'Avenues'.

RCHME Thesaurus term 'Stone Alignment'.

References

Burl 1993

Grimes 1963

Gibson 1998a, 34

Stone setting

Definition

An imprecise term referring to an arrangement of upright stones that is not readily identifiable as either a stone row or stone circle or any other well-defined type of megalithic monument.

Sub-types

No sub-types have yet been defined locally.

Dimensions

-

To be distinguished from

Stone rows, stone circles.

Same as

No close parallel in English Heritage's Monument Class Descriptions.
RCHME Thesaurus terms 'Stone Setting'.

References

Gibson 1998a, 31

Timber circle

Definition

Sites which have been shown by excavation to have consisted of one or more concentric settings of upright posts set in individual postholes associated with funerary or ritual activity of later Neolithic or early Bronze Age date. The definition also covers timber circles which may form part of a henge.

Sub-types

No sub-types have yet been defined locally.

Dimensions

Examples currently identified as falling within the monument type definition locally are between about 3-18 metres in diameter and composed of between 6-36 posts.

To be distinguished from

Pit circles, segmented ditches, posthole settings of roundhouses, stake circles or settings below which are a component of round barrows, tree-planting circles.

Same as

English Heritage's 'Timber Circle' Monument Class Descriptions.
RCHME Thesaurus terms 'Timber Circle'.

References

Gibson 1994

Gibson 1998a, 23

Gibson 1998b

APPENDIX 3

PREHISTORIC FUNERARY AND RITUAL MONUMENTS: SCHEDULING ASSESSMENT

Discrimination criteria

The following 6 criteria apply to prehistoric funerary and ritual sites. The allocation of low, medium and high score to individual monuments based on an interpretation of existing evidence and a field visit is suggested below.

Survival

This is one of the major scheduling criteria. The survival of a monument's archaeological potential above, but principally below ground, is particularly important, and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features. Survival relies on knowing the original extent and height of the monument, which in many cases can only be guessed at. Comparison with previous visit descriptions, particularly those from pre-1940, may indicate changes in the monument's survival which would also have implications for vulnerability.

High - over two thirds of the perceived original extents of the site left intact

Medium - one third to two thirds left intact

Low - less than one third left intact

Potential

This is intended to cover sites whose possible importance is not immediately obvious. The main criteria to consider might be: whether the monument has any unusual features, further study of which could reveal new evidence about that type of monument; what is the potential for a surviving buried landsurface beneath the monument which might provide stratigraphic or dating evidence; associated palaeoenvironmental potential. Sites which no longer have a visible upstanding component and only survive as cropmarks may nevertheless retain significant structural, artefactual, ecofactual and environmental evidence.

For most sites the main groups of context for the preservation of structural, artefactual, ecofactual and environmental evidence are:

- 1 Visible structure of the monument
- 2 Buried structure of the monument
- 3 Buried landsurface
- 4 Associated finds
- 5 Palaeoenvironmental potential

High - three or more of these factors are wholly or largely intact

Medium - one or two of these factors are wholly or largely intact

Low - none of the factors are wholly or largely intact

Group value

Defined simply in terms of the existence of other types of monument within 1km of the site, although this distance is not an absolutely fixed. This is particularly relevant when defining possible barrow cemeteries or clusters of funerary and ritual monuments.

High - more than 5 associated sites within 1km

Medium - 2 to 5 associated sites within 1km

Low - less than 2 associated sites within 1km

Archaeological Documentation

A very small percentage of sites have been excavated, and even fewer fully reported. Of those which have been excavated, many were investigated at a time when recording and excavation techniques were not necessarily to a modern standard. Many sites may, however, have been described in some detail, as for example, by Ellis Davies in Flintshire and Denbighshire. Information from documentary sources is therefore a supporting criterion, rather than a main criterion for selection.

The main types of record will be: detailed description; measured survey; published excavation

High - two or more categories

Medium - one category

Low - brief or no description and/or only sketch survey

Historical Documentation and Associations

The existence of good historical documentation and/or associations may raise the value of the monument. This may take the form of place-names, literary sources, pictorial sources, association with historical events or legends/folk lore.

High - two or more relevant sources

Medium - a single relevant source

Low - no such sources

Amenity and cultural value

The following is suggested on the basis of the present state of the monument and should also take into account the landscape value of a particular monument as well as its possible value as a cultural icon.

High - remains easily visible and understood by layperson

Medium - remains extant but not easily understood

Low - remains not visible, disturbed or destroyed

Palaeoenvironmental potential

The location of potentially significant palaeoenvironmental deposits such as blanket peats, valley or basin peats, raised bogs, or wet flushes within close proximity to a monument. In lowlands in particular, palaeochannels or kettle-holes may be a potential source of evidence. Also, although sites may be in enclosed and improved land, there may be unimproved land nearby where deposits have formed as a result of poor drainage. In coastal areas there may be landsurfaces buried beneath dune systems.

The approximate distance of the deposits, together with their extent should be recorded on the general site visit form. Where possible, the depth of deposits should be estimated (eg using a ranging rod).

High - within 50m

Medium - within 100m

Low - over 100m or none visible

Management criteria

Condition

The surviving condition will depend on the nature and structure of the site, subsequent land-use and development, and erosion. Sites which are predominantly of stone construction eg round barrow (cairn), will be more likely to survive substantially intact than purely earthwork eg round barrow sites. Erosion may be due to natural forces, animals, or man eg visitor. Although there is obviously some overlap with survival, this is intended to be qualitative rather than quantitative assessment.

Good - site is in good condition with no signs of erosion

Medium - moderate condition, some signs of erosion

Poor - poor condition with serious erosion

Fragility

This relates to the structural nature of the site, rather than the level of any threat, which is vulnerability. Most sites are likely to have reached a fairly stable state in terms of natural weathering and low intensity interference. However, some sites may have reached a state where particular components may now be deemed fragile eg exposure of buried landsurface, cairn internal structure or burial cist.

High - low earthwork sites and cropmarks, exposed and unstable internal features

Medium - more robust earthwork sites, predominantly stone structures partially turf covered

Low - predominantly stone structures mostly turf covered

Vulnerability

The level of vulnerability of a site is related to the nature of the immediate environment and current/proposed landuse. Sites in areas of predominantly arable farming will be more vulnerable than those in pastoral locations. Stone structures may be subject to robbing. Sites adjacent to developed or industrial areas may be at risk from development. The attitude of the owner/tenant may also be relevant.

High - unsympathetic land-use (eg ploughing), high immediate threat

Medium - stable land-use, possible longer term threat

Low - stable land-use, sympathetic owner, no longer term threat