

THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Prehistoric Funerary & Ritual Sites:
Black Mountains, Brecknockshire
PROJECT REPORT



CPAT Report No 600

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Report for Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments

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CONTENTS

		page
1	INTRODUCTION	2
2	METHODOLOGY	2
3	SURVEY	4
4	CHAMBERED TOMBS	12
5	CISTS	23
6	LONG BARROWS	25
7	RING DITCHES	27
8	ROUND BARROWS	19
9	ROUND BARROW CEMETERIES	34
10	STANDING STONES	36
11	STONE CIRCLES	40
12	STONE SETTINGS	42
13	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	44
14	BIBLIOGRAPHY	44
APPENDIX 1	SITE TYPES EXTRACTED FOR INITIAL SMR INTERROGATION	48
APPENDIX 2	CONSOLIDATED MONUMENT TYPE DEFINITIONS	49
APPENDIX 3	SCHEDULING DISCRIMINATION CRITERIA	62
APPENDIX 4	GAZETTEER OF SITES BY TYPE	65
APPENDIX 5	GAZETTEER OF SITES BY PRN	69

Illustrations

Fig. 1	Distribution of Prehistoric Funerary & Ritual sites in the Black Mountains	5
Fig. 2	Distribution of sites by altitude	7
Fig. 3	Monument siting	8
Fig. 4	Palaeoenvironmental potential	11
Fig. 5	Distribution of Chambered tombs	22
Fig. 6	Distribution of Cists	24
Fig. 7	Distribution of Long barrows	26
Fig. 8	Distribution of Ring ditches	28
Fig. 9	Distribution of Round barrows	31
Fig. 10	Distribution of Round barrows by type	32
Fig. 11	Distribution of Round barrows by size	33
Fig. 12	Distribution of Round barrow cemeteries	35
Fig. 13	Distribution of Standing stones	39
Fig. 14	Distribution of Stone circles	41
Fig. 15	Distribution of Stone settings	43

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The survey of prehistoric funerary and ritual sites in the Black Mountains of south-eastern Brecknock followed the format adopted for similar surveys in the Upper Severn Valley (Gibson 1998a), Denbighshire and East Conwy (Jones 1999), Flintshire and Wrexham (Jones 2000) and Radnorshire (Jones and Owen 2003). 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 2003/04 financial year (Project No. 715).
- 1.3 Many of the prehistoric funerary and ritual monuments within the area have been included in two previous studies, the inventory of Later Prehistoric Monuments and Unenclosed Settlements in Brecknock (RCAHMW 1997), and Prehistoric Landscapes of the Eastern Black Mountains (Olding 200), although the latter concentrates mainly on adjacent areas of Monmouthshire and Herefordshire. The present study, however, is the first to examine all potentially relevant sites recorded in the SMR.
- 1.4 Restrictions imposed as a result of Foot and Mouth during 2001 led to a reorganisation of the work programme with the result that the desk-based preliminaries were undertaken for Brecknock ahead of schedule, during 2001-02, with the field survey conducted during 2003-04.

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 317 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 68 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. A further 8 records were for placenames or fieldnames which had 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. Where site visits over the years had failed to produce any evidence of an archaeological site the records were excluded from the study, while others were visited to check for any possible features and then excluded if none were identified. 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 were necessary during and following subsequent fieldwork.
- 2.4 As many sites as possible were visited, with the exception of those which were recorded as having been

destroyed. Priorities for visiting were made on the basis of the following criteria: all non-scheduled and potentially extant sites together with any scheduled sites where the status or condition of the site remained uncertain. In all, a total of 241 sites were visited during the project. In the course of visiting known sites, 6 previously unknown prehistoric funerary and ritual sites were recorded, as well as 13 sites not related to the study. Three new records were created for round barrow cemeteries to record significant groupings of round barrows which were already recorded. Following field visits a further 128 sites were excluded from the project database, leaving a final total of 122 sites included within the study.

- 2.5 New site details and details of current land-use and the condition of the monument were recorded on site visit forms in the field, the information subsequently being added to the project database. Photographs of individual sites were taken as and when appropriate. Details from the site visit forms were subsequently entered into the SMR to update the existing record and provide a basis for the present report.
- 2.6 During the course of the fieldwork, and subsequently, a judgement was made on whether to recommend individual sites for scheduling, on the basis of the National Assembly's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments (*Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology*, Welsh Office Circular 60/96, 5 December 1996, Annex C). For the purpose of the project, the scheduling criteria have been summarised (see Appendix 3) and assessed for each site visited on a separate form.
- 2.7 In the following report, sites are discussed by site type. Appendices 4 and 5 provide a gazetteer of all prehistoric funerary and ritual sites included within the study ordered by Type and PRN.

3 THE SURVEY

3.1 The reassessment of monuments during the project has led to significant 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).

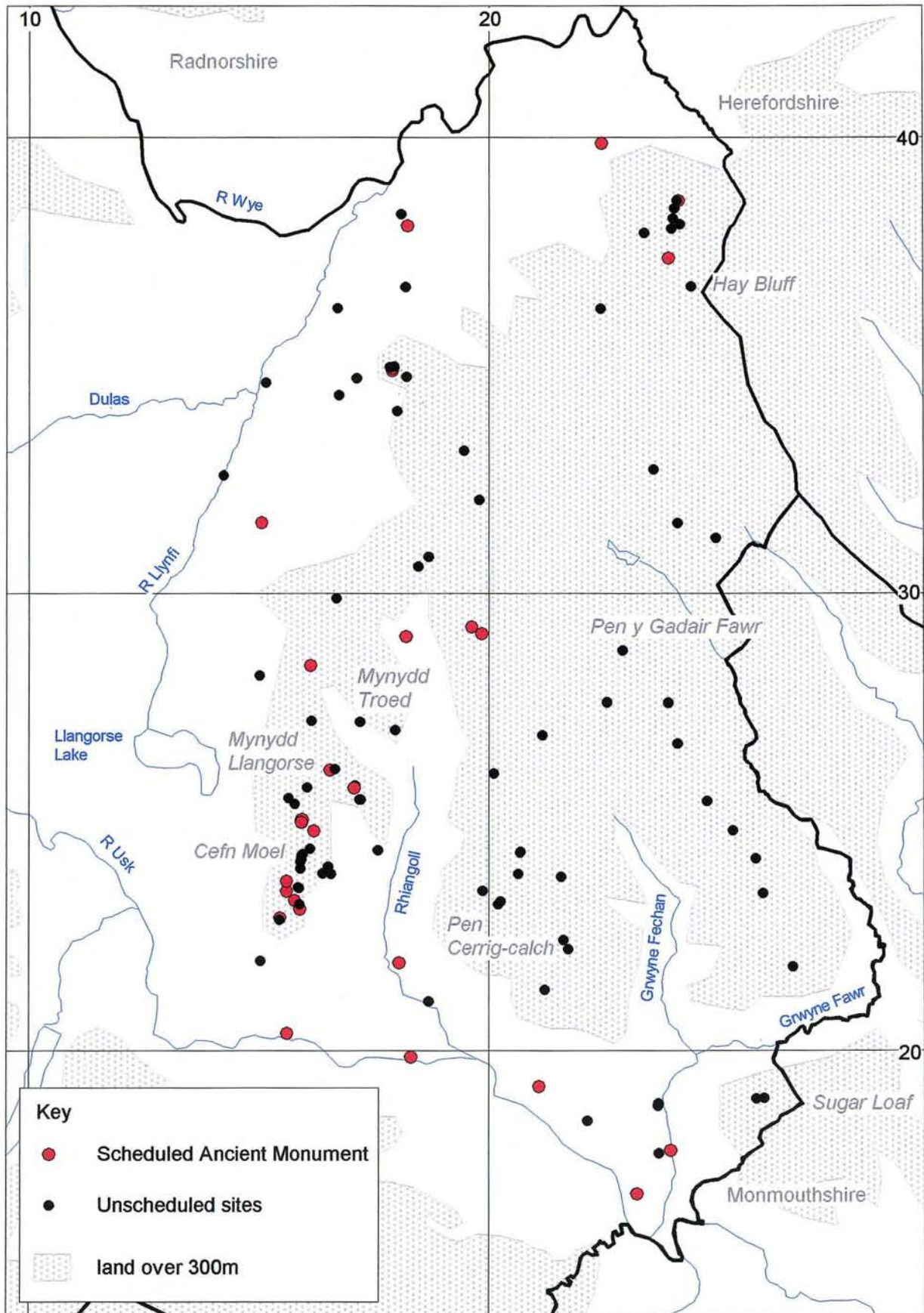
Table 1: Summary of Monument Types

Monument type	unscheduled sites	scheduled sites	Totals	% scheduled
Carved stone	-	-	--	-
Chambered tomb	3	8	11	73
Cist	3	-	3	100
Cremation burial	-	-	-	-
Cremation cemetery	-	-	-	-
Cursus	-	-	-	-
Henge	-	-	-	-
Inhumation	-	-	-	-
Long barrow	-	1	1	-
Mortuary enclosure	-	-	-	-
Palisaded enclosure	-	-	-	-
Pit	-	-	-	-
Pit avenue	-	-	-	-
Pit circle	-	-	-	-
Prehistoric monument complex	-	-	-	-
Ring ditch	1	-	1	-
Round barrow	56	16	72	21
Round barrow cemetery.	1	3*	4	75
Standing stone	17	6	23	26
Stone circle	1	1	2	50
Stone row	-	-	-	-
Stone setting	5	-	5	-
Timber circle	-	-	-	-
Totals	87	35*	122	28

* 3 round barrow cemeteries comprising sites already scheduled

- 3.2 As might have been expected, round barrows comprise by far the largest number of sites (72 sites), accounting for 59% of all sites. All other monument types represented within the study area are present in comparatively small numbers, with the exception of standing stones (23 sites), which account for 19% of sites, and a significant number of chambered tombs (11 sites), accounting for 9% of sites. The general lack of ring ditches may be seen as a direct reflection of land-use, which is predominantly pasture or moorland.
- 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 & Ritual sites in the Black Mountains



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Distribution of Sites

- 3.4 The general distribution of sites (Fig. 1) shows particular concentrations of monuments along the upland ridges and summits. A significant grouping occurs on the northern edge of the Black Mountains, including Twyn y Beddau cairn and Pen y Beacon stone circle, both situated on an upland terrace, below Hay Bluff. The concentration of sites must to some extent be seen as a reflection of patterns of fieldwork, particularly in relation to upland surveys, a situation most clearly demonstrated by the significant concentration of sites on the south-western block of upland overlooking Llangorse, known as Cefn Moel.
- 3.5 The majority of the area lies above the 300m contour, with Pen y Gader Fawr rising to 800m, and Pen Alltmawr at 720m, both surmounted by burial cairns, clearly demonstrating the prominent locations as favoured sitings.
- 3.6 An examination of the relative altitudes of sites (Table 2; Fig. 2) shows that 81% are located above the 300m contour and 10% sites lie above 600m. This is largely a reflection of the regional topography which is dominated by significant blocks of upland divided roughly north to south by minor river valleys.

Table 2: Distribution of sites by altitude

Altitude	no. sites	%
under 100m	5	4
100-199m	14	12
200-299m	3	3
300-399m	43	34
400-499m	35	28
500-599m	10	9
over 600m	12	10
Total	122	100

Monument siting

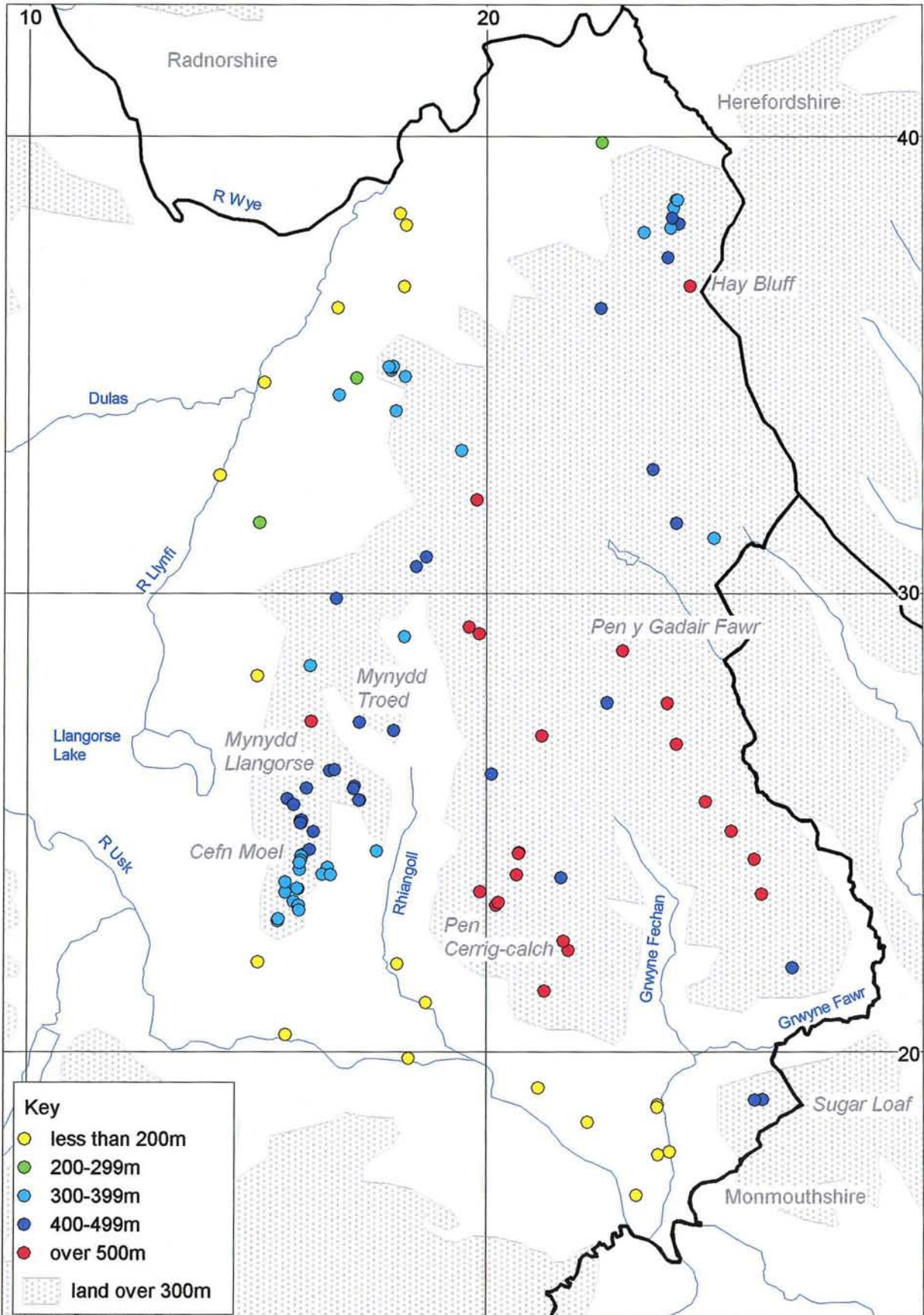
- 3.7 It was not possible to assess all sites within the study and those which have been excluded from the figures for monument siting (Table 3; Fig. 3), as well as from Tables 5-6, include those which have been destroyed and those which were either not visited or not definitely located during the field visits, leaving 94 sites for which an assessment was possible.

Table 3: Monument siting

Siting	no. sites	%
col	10	11
hill slope	20	22
plateau	14	14
ridge	27	28
river terrace	3	3
shoulder edge	7	8
summit	11	11
valley bottom	3	3
Total	95	100

- 3.8 There is a clear trend for prehistoric funerary and ritual monuments to be situated in prominent locations, either on summits or ridges, or in locations such as the shoulder edge (or false crest) or a col, which give the appearance of being on the skyline when viewed from the valley below. Locations such as these account for 58% of sites. Of the remaining sites, most are located on the large blocks of upland which form the Black Mountains, either on the plateau (14%) or the lower hill slopes (22%), with only six sites in valley bottom or river terrace sitings.

Fig. 2 Distribution of sites by altitude in the Black Mountains

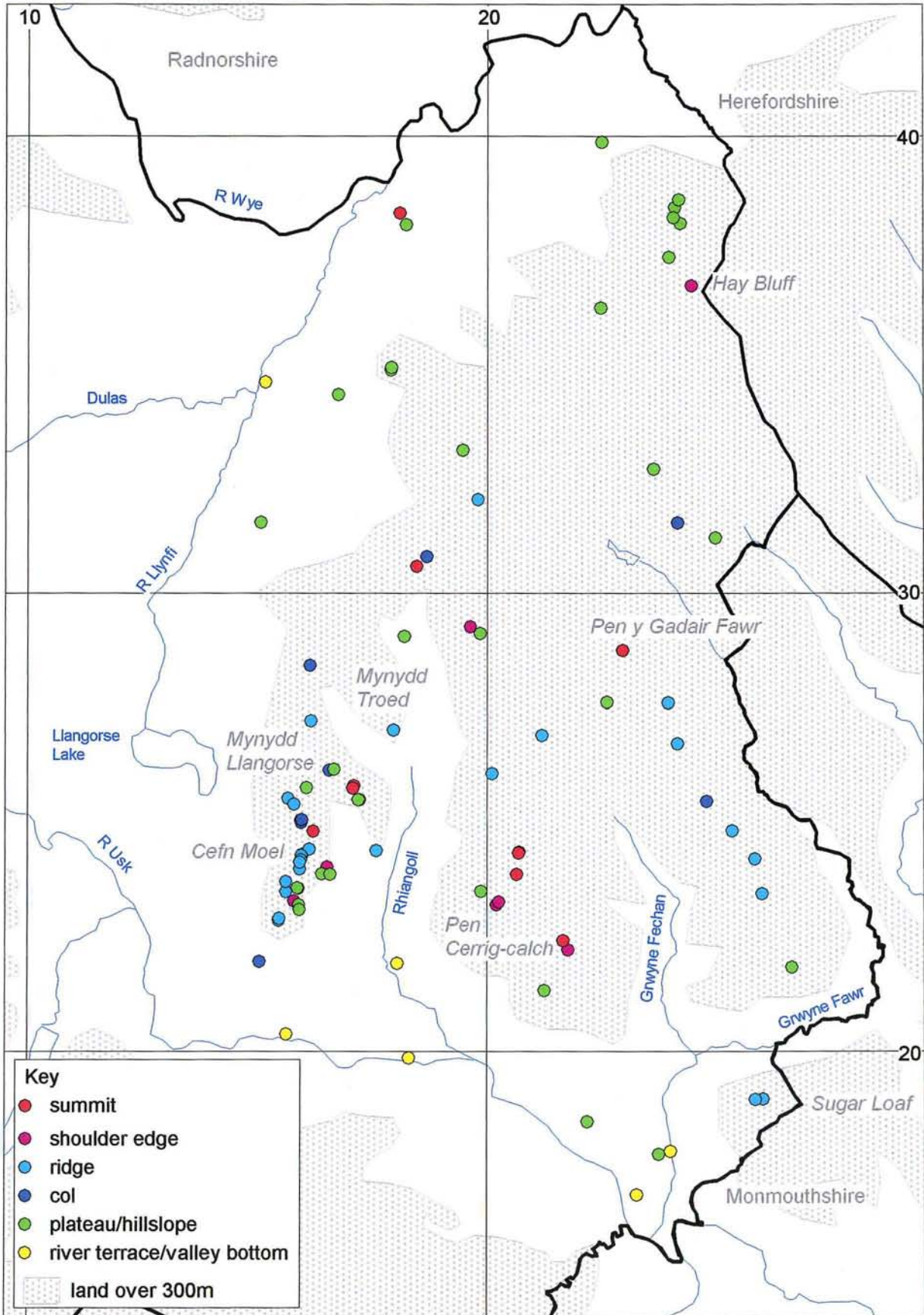


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Fig. 3 Monument siting



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Monument Survival

3.9 The present state of preservation for all monuments in the study is summarised in Table 4.

Table 4: Monument survival

state of preservation	no. sites	%
Intact	19	16
Near intact	19	16
Damaged	62	51
Near destroyed	3	3
Destroyed	1	1
Moved	-	-
Unknown	16	13
Total	122	100

3.10 Although the majority of sites (54%) have suffered at least some damage, generally as a result of ploughing, robbing for stone, or antiquarian investigation, it is interesting to note that 32% of sites survive intact or nearly so, and only one site is recorded as destroyed or presumed destroyed. Those sites where the condition remains unknown are sites which were not located on recent field visits. In some instances this may be due to the site being poorly located or interpreted in the past, while in others it may suggest that no visible trace survives. The latter category would, of course, have preserved sub-surface remains.

Monument Condition and Threats

3.11 In terms of the physical condition of those monuments for which an assessment was possible, 78 sites (83%) are in good condition with little or no obvious erosion, 15 sites (16%) are in moderate condition with some active erosion and only one site is in poor condition with serious erosion problems. The latter is the chambered tomb at Penywyrlod, Talgarth, where previous damage to the monument has left an exposed, quarried face, which is actively eroding.

3.12 Each site has been assessed with regard to active and potential threats (Table 5), which have been graded according to their likely impact on the site as well as the potential timescale involved.

Table 5: Active and potential threats

Threat	Impact			
	High	Medium	Low	
agriculture (general)	-	1	2	3
burrowing	-	-	-	-
development	-	-	-	-
extraction	-	-	-	-
forestry	-	-	-	-
natural erosion	-	1	65	66
ploughing	-	-	-	-
robbing	-	-	-	-
stock erosion	-	3	9	12
vehicle	-	2	2	4
visitor erosion	-	-	10	10
Total	-	7	87	95

3.13 As one might expect for a largely upland area, natural erosion is by far the most common threat, accounting for 69% of cases. Visitor erosion is also a significant threat to a minority of sites, usually related to stone robbing for the construction of walkers' cairns. Agricultural threats, which may also be taken to include vehicle erosion, only affect seven sites.

3.14 Encouragingly, the majority of sites (92%) are considered to be subject to a low impact threat, with only

8% subject to a medium impact threat.

Fragility and vulnerability

- 3.15 The fragility of a monument is largely determined by its type and composition. Those constructed of stone, or with a high percentage of stone in their composition are likely to be less fragile than those composed entirely of earth. The surviving height of the monument is also significant since lower earthwork sites are not only more likely to be ploughed, but are also more likely to have preserved features and deposits disturbed by any ploughing. In general, the assessment of vulnerability is largely based on present land-use and management, together with any likely changes in the near future. Although at present the study has not considered specific threats, it is clear from the field visits that in most cases the greatest threat comes from ploughing, as one might expect.

Table 6: Monument fragility and vulnerability

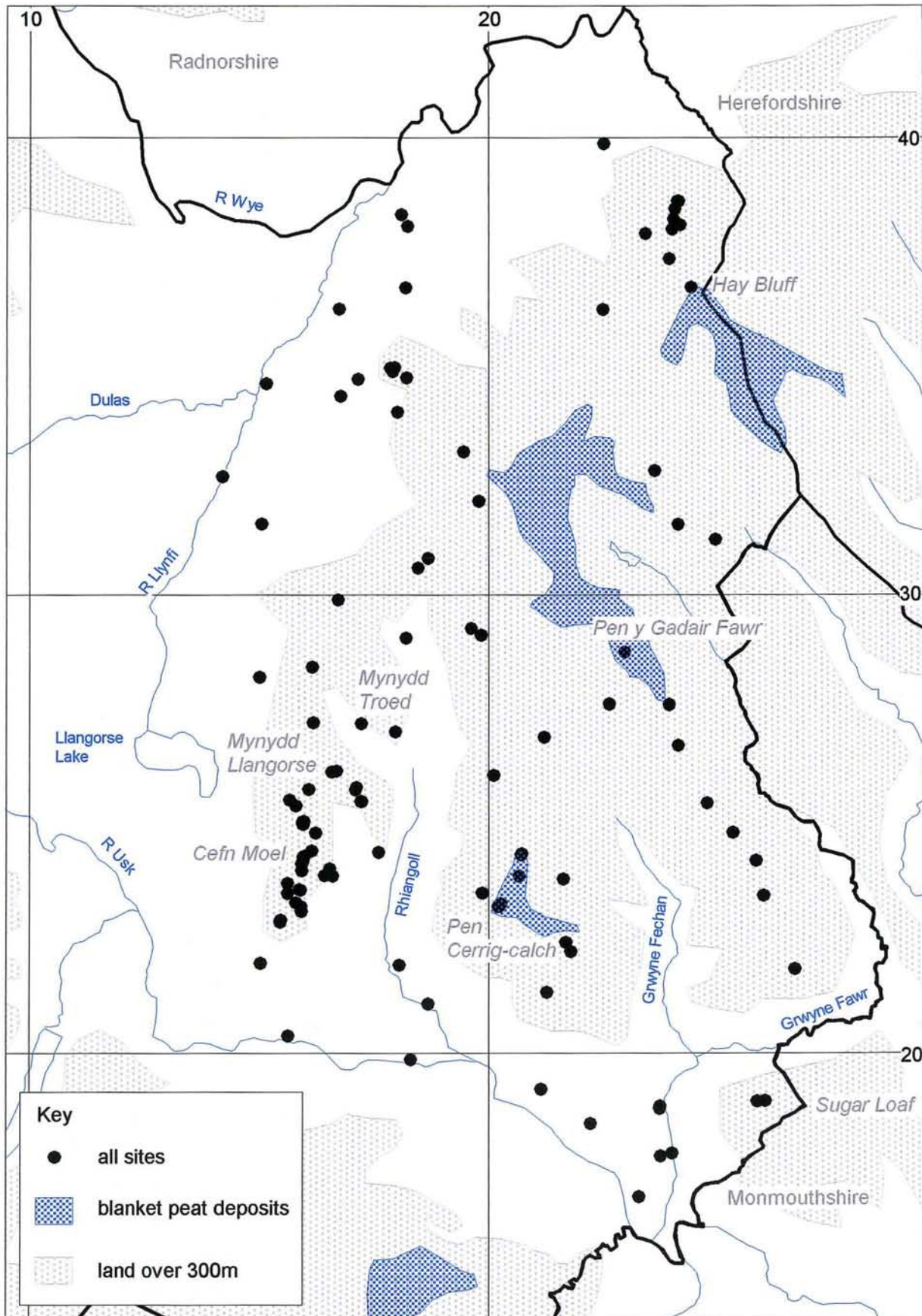
Vulnerability	Fragility			
	High	Medium	Low	
High	-	-	-	-
Medium	-	4	-	4
Low	-	3	88	90
Total	-	7	88	95

- 3.16 Of the 95 sites for which an assessment was possible, the majority (92%) are of low fragility, and none are considered to be highly fragile. In terms of vulnerability, again the majority (96%) are of low vulnerability, and none are thought to be highly vulnerable. Only four sites were recorded as being both moderately fragile and vulnerable: Penywylod chambered tomb (PRN 568); Pen y Beacon cairn (PRN 3118); Cockalofy cairn (PRN 5389); and Pen Cerrig-Calch cairn (PRN 3212). With the exception of Penywylod, where natural erosion is resulting from previous agricultural damage, the remainder are all fairly slight monuments suffering moderate visitor erosion.

Palaeoenvironmental potential

- 3.17 During the course of field visits the palaeoenvironmental potential has been assessed for the area immediately surrounding each monument. This has been achieved by identifying areas of potential, such as blanket peats, valley or basin peats, raised bogs, wet flushes, or pools, and recording their proximity to the site, so that a 'high' rating is within 50m, 'medium' within 100m, and 'low' over 100m, or not present. The approximate distance of the deposits, and its direction from the site, has also been recorded.
- 3.18 None of the monuments for which an assessment was possible were considered to have any significant palaeoenvironmental potential within 100m. There are, however, areas of considerable potential within the Black Mountains as a whole, associated with areas of blanket peat (Fig. 4).

Fig. 4 Palaeoenvironmental potential



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4 CHAMBERED TOMBS

- 4.1 There are 11 chambered tombs or possible chambered tombs recorded within the study area, of which 8 are scheduled (Fig. 5; Table 7).

Table 7: Chambered tombs within study area

PRN	Site name	NGR
512	Little Lodge Barrow	SO18223806
515	Croes Llechau Barrow	SO16963546
552	Ffostyll Long Cairn II	SO17893489
553	Ffostyll Long Cairn I	SO1790634946
568	Penywyrld Long Cairn Talgarth	SO15053156
638	Mynydd Troed Long Cairn	SO16142843
639	Ty Isaf Chambered Long Cairn	SO18192906
687	Gwernvale Chambered Long Cairn	SO2111119217
1062	Penywyrld Long Cairn Llanigon	SO2248639878
12376	Cwrt y Prior chambered tomb ?	SO150282
72243	Twyn y Beddau chambered tomb	SO24183810

PRN 512 Little Lodge Barrow

The following description is taken from RCAHMW 1997, pp 51-3. The long barrow 320m west of Little Lodge Farm occupies gently-sloping ground above the steep northern side of a tributary valley of the River Wye, about 130 m above OD. The site was first described and is still best known from excavations by Vulliamy, undertaken in 1929, when a major chamber complex was identified just south of the mound's centre, with a contiguous pair of small chambers in the south end. The present form of the mound is a broad platform 55.5m long on a north-south axis, its outline is emphasised by cultivation at the ends and on the concave east side. The west side is straighter, partly protected by a hedge and with a more definite scarp that seems to continue as a natural feature to the south. The maximum width of 22m is now seen at about 17m from the rounded north end. The site is extensively robbed, and survives to a maximum height of only 1.8m, the remnant surface covered in earth and stones, some of which, measuring up to 0.5 by 0.3m, may derive from destroyed chambers.

The main chamber complex, 19m from the south end of the mound, was dominated by a large transverse slab, to the north-east of which six upright slabs and some dry-laid walling defined the outline. Only three of these are now detectable, the most prominent standing transversely 2.8m long, 0.45m thick and 0.9m high. On the evidence of Vulliamy's plan, there was a main chamber of uncertain size with at least one transeptal chamber about 1.5m square and at least 1m high. The chamber contained many unburnt human bones, apparently without artefacts. Besides charcoal flecks the funerary deposit included bones of a red deer, an ovid and a small bovid. The human bones represented five adult males, an old woman, and two (or possibly three) children. Recent re-examination of some of the bones shows they represent one youth and four adults, mostly male. Amongst the items in this bone collection is 'a very heavily worn upper right M1 [molar] of a red deer'.

The two southern chambers now in disarray, when excavated lay contiguous, with one common side. Though planned, they were not described in detail by Vulliamy. The larger was wedge-shaped, its south-east corner badly disrupted by tree roots. It measures 2.0m north-south by 1.4m and consists of five stones, the tallest on the north side being 0.9m high. The smaller chamber to the west formerly measured about 1.3m by 0.8m but has lost its north and west slabs, which may be among those now seen on edge outside the south slab and in the middle of the larger chamber (which appear to have been added). Three slabs just breaking the surface west of this complex, and another adjacent on the south, are of unclear function. The only find here was an untrimmed flint flake.

Both chambers uncovered by Vulliamy might well have been of side-transepted entry, though the mound is so badly disturbed that in its present form it defies more precise classification.

PRN 515 Croes Llechau Barrow

The following description is taken from RCAHMW 1997, pp 47-8. About 500m south-west of Pontithel, about 120m above OD, close to the site of the former farm Bryn-y-Groes, stood a chambered tomb which has entirely disappeared. Interpretation of the site is almost entirely dependent upon Edward Lhuyd's description of c. 1700.

Under the heading 'Yn Glos y Lhecheu in Brynlhysk par: Brecon' Lhuyd described five features by means of annotated sketches:

- 1) depicts a megalithic chamber with its coverstone in place, stating 'This Crom' was formerly supported by 5 stones but at present by 2. Some small stones are interpos'd between ye rest it mount southward 5 ft. & a half long & 3 foot & a half broad and ft. thick ye concave is abt a yd. high'.
- 2) shows two stones entitled 'abt 2 yd long dist. from ye Crom' abt 2 yd & a halfe'.
- 3) seems to represent a long slab either in plan or standing on edge: 'This is ye farthest from ye Crom. this is sidewise abt 15 yd dist. from ye Crom, westward abt 10 ft. long & 3 broad'.
- 4) shows three stones in plan, apparently upright in the ground, forming three sides of a box-like structure: 'This is a Kistvaen dist. from ye Cromlech about 6 yd northw'. The individual stones were: 'A foot & a half high, 5 ft. long'; '3 ft. & a half long, & above 2 ft. high'; '3 ft. & a half long & 2 high'.
- 5) is the plan of three sides of a long chamber: 'This is abt 12 ft. Long & 4 broad, dist. from ye Crom about 13 yd westward'. The end stone was '6 ft. long', fully covering the thickness of the side slabs, with an added note 'ye rest a ft. high'. One side was apparently composed of four contiguous stones, beside which is a note '4 ft L & i broad'. The other side shows two separate stones noted as '6 ft L' and 'abt 6 L'.

Despite ignorance of their individual orientations these features may be variously interpreted as (1) a megalithic chamber of uncertain size at the eastern end of the group; (2) an attendant element adjacent to the chamber, possibly a false portal, though its relative attitude is not known; (3) from its dimensions and general location this was conceivably the capstone of the long chamber (5); (4) clearly depicts a small side chamber of three walls with no capstone; and (5) describes a major second chamber at the west end of the group.

This monument survived in whole or in part at least until the first decade of the 19th century, when it was noted by Colt Hoare (1802) and Fenton (1917, 22). They also located it in the field Clos y llechau, then on Bryn y Groes farm. Theophilus Jones (1809, 338) was the first to refer to the field name Croeslechau (sic). Although the unpublished 1814 OS map shows and names Bryn-y-groes farm, and the printed 1832 1-inch map depicts a cromlech symbol immediately adjacent on the south and named Croesllechau in antiquity type, the farm had been abandoned before the tithe assessment of 1839 and by then the names of both farm and field were no longer in use. The site is now lost and its location has been deduced using only these earlier written sources.

On the basis of Lhuyd's sketch the chambers were accommodated on a site about 20 m by 10 m. The site has been examined for traces of the structure, but whereas part of the monument's spine may yet be located by excavation from beneath a hedge, most of the area occupied by this tomb appears to have been taken into arable during or before the early nineteenth century. Consequently at present, not a trace remains visible.

PRN 552 Ffostyll Long Cairn II

The southern of a pair of chambered tombs, together with PRN 553. The following description is taken from RCAHMW 1997, pp 41-3. The present form of the southern barrow is roughly sub-rectangular in plan with rounded corners, 36m long (north-north-east to south-south-west) by 23m broad. It tapers in slightly from the north end, the shape having been largely determined by ploughing. Towards the north end the mound stands about 2m above field level, and at the south end two-thirds of the barrow area forms a plateau about 0.5m high.

Within the remaining stony mound at the north end is a series of seven upright slabs of local, finely laminated, irregularly-weathered sandstone representing a former chamber. Two on the east and four on the west are separated by 1.6m, and are joined at the north end by a vertical blocking stone 1.2m high by 0.23m thick. Because of weathering only one stone survives on the west 1.3 m above the present floor of the chamber and on the east the stones are 0.9m high. There is a broken line of talus to the north of the chamber, amongst which appear the margins of smaller orthostats of unknown structural significance.

One or two flat stones, up to 1.0m across and 0.2m thick, lie scattered around the mound, but none is identifiable as a former capstone. The mound has suffered considerably from robbing and agricultural usage. This is particularly seen in the flattening and extension of its southern end by about two metres since its excavation in the 1920s.

Three brief seasons' digging were conducted at the southern barrow by Vulliamy, 1921-3 (1921, 300-305; 1922, 150-2; 1923, 320; 1925, 161-2). The farmer believed that the mound had formerly been higher, and that quantities of human bones had come to light during quarrying for road-making around 1875. The burial chamber was cleared the first year. Internally it was about 3.3m long by 1.2m wide. The east side of the chamber had collapsed inwards, revealing individual slabs up to 2.0m high, 1.3m wide and 0.2m thick. A large covering slab, at least 2.4m by 2.1m, had been displaced to the south-west, and an additional stone found in the chamber may also have covered part of it. Finds from chamber filling included bones at two levels. Associated with charcoal not far below the surface were burnt bones, fragmented and small, possibly of goat, pig, ox and other domestic animals. Some 0.3m to 0.45m lower, apparently on the original floor of the chamber and throughout its full length, was a large quantity of human bones with fewer animal bones of a similar fauna, though including cat. These lay in confusion and few appeared anatomically related. The majority were split and broken, many tightly wedged between stones. There was no pottery, and only three flint fragments were noted.

The body of the mound outside the north end of the chamber, yielded further burials in 1922, including a cremated child of six, some adult bones, and the tibia of a 7-month old foetus; also animal bones, fragments of rough pottery and 17 pieces of calcined flint and chert. Finally, in 1923, nothing was found in a large, deep pit sunk by the east side of the chamber, but the site of the 1922 discoveries again yielded a cremated child's skeleton, unburnt adult bones, and fragments of flint. There was also a sherd of coarse blackish pottery (later interpreted as of a round-bottomed bowl of Neolithic A type). The human remains from the chamber consisted of some 600 fragments of bones and teeth representing nine or more individuals of both sexes and various ages.

RCAHMW 1997 found it difficult to match some features of their own survey with the pre-excavation plan. However, the tomb clearly had at least one chamber. Although it has been suggested that the site may be a variant upon the terminal chamber class, due to the method of excavation and the large amount of material already removed from the monument, the site may originally have been terminally transected.

PRN 553 Ffostyll Long Cairn I

The northern of a pair of chambered tombs, together with PRN 552.

The following description is taken from RCAHMW 1997, pp 43-6. This barrow is rather larger than the other. It seems most likely the one described by Rev. T Price as being 45 yards [41 m] long, 20 yards [18 m] wide and about 2 yards [1.8 m] high' (Price 1842, 32). This compares with current dimensions of 41.5m long by 22.0m at widest for an oval-shaped mound which remains roughly the same height. Its south flank has been eroded into a straight scarp by ploughing giving the western tip a pointed form. The mound's surface has been greatly disturbed by early excavation and through invasion by uncontrolled livestock. Within the western end is an oval hollow about 3.0m in diameter. The broader, eastern end has the only extant chamber, without capstone. The central area is roughly level, 15m long by 9m wide, on which lie two large slabs, the most northerly being trapezoid, 2.7m long by 2.3m wide by 0.25m thick, the other, 2.3m long by 0.9m wide and 0.12m thick. To the south-east are a further 4 slabs, one of which is 2.6m long and 0.9m wide by 0.27m thick. The principal chamber in the east end of the barrow consists of five upright stones, with no surviving capstone. The central stone, blocking the space between the eastern pair of side stones, leans to the east, and both stones of the north side of the chamber lean outward. All are from 0.8 - 1.0m high, from the present surface and from 0.7 to 1.3m wide, by 0.25-0.5m thick. According to Vulliamy, prior to his excavation the main burial chamber had been rifled and the broad end of the mound flattened. (Vulliamy 1923, 320-324; 1925, 161)

The surviving eastern chamber had already been despoiled by 1922 when a new western chamber was discovered, and a covered cist was found in the middle of the north side of the mound. This covered cist was of local sandstone, 1.3 by 0.9m by 1.1m high, and was capped by a smooth-bellied stone 2.6m long and 0.3 - 0.6m thick. Vulliamy's photograph of the exploratory entrance into this site shows that the

digging method was badger-like. Three of the slabs now lying in the north central area (two of them over 2m long by 0.12-0.2m thick) probably derive from this cist but the largest one does not adequately match, in size or position, the capstone depicted in the excavation report. South-east of these a group of four slabs may have belonged to the same cist or to the eastern chamber. The longest, 3.5m by 1.0m by 0.27m, could have been a principal supporter of the latter, but the other three are at most 1.0 - 1.7m long by not more than 0.2m thick.

The chamber contained human remains, together with horse, dog, ox and pig bones, within the lowest part of undisturbed deposits. These were scattered and broken, some in correct anatomical relation to each other. Some flint waste flakes were noted, and pottery 'of a finer paste and more compact texture than that from the south barrow'. Among the six or seven individuals represented in the cist were two children between 6 and 11 years old.

The western chamber comprised two widely-spaced massive side-slabs attaining 1.05m in height above the level where the bones of four individuals were found with animal bones and one flint flake. There is now a slight hollow adjacent to the site of this excavated chamber.

Vulliamy's opinion that the mound had been enlarged to a long shape from an original round cairn has generally been ignored, though it is unclear as to quite why the claim was made in the first place. Corcoran suggests that it was originally trapezoid in plan, and that its present form results from multiperiod construction. Also, the possibility is mooted that the north and east chambers may have originally occupied smaller, individual cairns. Unfortunately the excavation record is so poor as to defy reasonable re-interpretation. It is possible that the eastern chamber was the principal funerary element, but there is no certainty as to the relative status of the other chambers.

PRN 568 Penywyrlod Long Cairn, Talgarth

The following description is taken from RCAHMW 1997, pp 38-40. Situated 400 m south of Penywyrlod Farm, 260m above OD, near the crest of a ridge ascending from the valley system of the Afon Llynfi and at the edge of a widening tract of cultivable land, this is the largest and most substantial long cairn of the Black Mountains group. In spite of its prominent position and size it eluded recognition until 1972, partly disguised by tree cover. Its existence was only appreciated after removal of stone for use as agricultural hard-core had exposed and wrecked some internal structures. Excavation in September 1972 (Britnell & Savory 1984) had the limited objectives of examining and recording disturbed areas prior to moth-balling the site for access at an unknown future date.

In its natural condition before excavation the grass-grown mound was 60m long north-west to south-east, its maximum width near the broader, south-eastern end was 25m and its maximum height 3m. The quarry had been driven in near the east corner, passing over and destroying one side-chamber and exposing another on the north-east side, thereby revealing some of the main elements of a false portal and of a main chamber beyond the axis of the mound.

During excavation the cairn's original outline was defined by exposure of revetment walls at the north-east corner of the narrow end, around the greater part of the south-east horn of a forecourt, and adjacent to the entrances of three side-chambers in the north-east side. The main structure was 52.0m long, by an estimated width of from 22.5m across the broader, south-east end, to 11m at the other, and its orientation was 33 degrees west of north. The forecourt horns curved in to a depth of about 6m, ending at the remains of a false portal deduced to have been formed by two parallel slabs 1.5m apart, between which a low transverse threshold would have carried a blocking of dry-stone walling, the whole H-shaped arrangement being capped by a large slab now displaced to the north-east.

Cairn mass comprised weathered or split sandstone blocks and slabs, with an outer casing of small stones and earth. Stability of the interior during construction had been ensured by a strong cross-wall at one point, possibly one of a series. Outward thrust was borne by two lines of revetment up to 1.5m apart. The inner one was solidly built to a greater height than the outer, which in turn was of 'thin, cleft sandstone plaques', surviving to 0.3m high in six or seven courses. The original height of the outer cairn line was felt unlikely to have risen more than 0.5m, in contrast to the 1.5m achieved upon the forecourt flank leading to the portal. Some extra-revetment material was present, notably at the north-west end, where a slab-filled trench provided foundation for what may have been buttressing.

Of the unexcavated main chamber, the only one so far detected on the SW, presumably entered from that side, only two orthostats were visible, between which was a supposedly deliberate filling of earth and sandstone chips almost to the under surface of the partly exposed capstone. Stability of the uprights here had been ensured by an inner cairn of large, inward tilted thrust-blocks. Of the three lateral chambers on the north-east side, Chamber north-east I had been almost totally destroyed. It had consisted of orthostatic slabs forming two separate compartments placed end to end, 2.0m by 1.2m and 1.6 m by 1.0m, the outer one entered from a short passage between the revetment walls, through a gap of 0.5m between small portal slabs. Chamber north-east II had lost its coverstones and its remaining side slabs had fallen inwards, but its original form was clear as a single chamber 2.85m long by 1.0m wide and up to 1.3m high, sealed by a structural slab from a formal but false entrance passage between the revetment walls. Chamber north-east III was not explored much beyond its entrance passage between the revetment walls. It had a functional entrance 0.3m wide between portal slabs (similar to those of Chamber north-east I) beneath the edge of a coverstone 1.2m broad.

Though no undamaged chamber has been fully explored, and the main chamber in particular may contain essential functional evidence, variation may already be seen in the use of the side-chambers. No substantial human remains had survived in Chamber north-east I, but those in the inner compartment could represent a dedicatory deposit, as also may some in Chamber north-east II. The latter had contained a considerable quantity of disarticulated human bones, the long bones piled against the foot of the side walls. In Chamber north-east III disarticulated remains forming only part of the potential ossuary deposit were recovered from the chamber's outer end, with a flint knife, part of a possible bone flute and a variety of animal bones. From beneath the extra-revetment material opposite the entrance here came several fragments of Abingdon Ware.

The excavator felt the site had been planned and erected in a single phase. Though full assessment requires further excavation, it is clearly related to the laterally-chambered class with dummy forecourt. Whether or not its portal originally sheltered a terminal chamber is at present unclear.

The site has an active erosion problem, and the cairn material exposed by quarrying is subject to further weathering.

PRN 638 Mynydd Troed Long Cairn

The following description is taken from RCAHMW 1997, pp 35-6. This mound overlooks the basin centred upon Llangorse Lake, just over 350m above OD on the S-facing slope ascending the col between Mynydd Troed to the north-east (609m) and Mynydd Llangorse to the south (506m).

The site was discovered by OGS Crawford in 1921, when only two uprights were visible. Grimes made a sketch plan in 1926, showing possibly three orthostats and three exposed stone faces within a mound showing considerable disturbance. In 1966 sections were cut from opposite sites of the mound to provide information on the original ground surface and superincumbent deposits for soil and pollen study (Crampton & Webley 1966).

The barrow's long axis is aligned 20 degrees east of true north and at about 30 degrees east of the maximum slope of the ground, which here rises at about 7 degrees. The mound is 26.3m by 15.0m wide, and 1.4m high from the hillslope, which falls just over 0.3m along the cairn's length. The shape of the mound is roughly quadrangular with a rounded tail to the south, though with a more square northern perimeter. To the north the site merges into the irregular surface of a natural, level platform. There are now three hollows on the mound, the possible sites of former chambers.

A perimeter wall built upon unprepared ground was located in the excavation. It still stood up to 22 courses (and 0.43m) high by 11m across. This had collapsed in the west cut but, protected by a 'canted pile of slabs', was extant on the east. The only other feature revealed was a vertically placed slab 0.6m long, 1.1m within the line of the western wall.

The exposed chamber occupies the most northerly hollow and comprises three upstanding stones, the western one 1.15m long and 0.3m wide, leaning south-east at 24 degrees from the vertical, and the northern one 0.7m long and 0.15m thick, leaning south at 23 degrees. The remaining stone is 0.75m long

by about 0.12m thick, leaning to the south at 26 degrees. None of the hollows is more than 0.3m deep, nor is any stone of greater visible height. The tips of two further stones, possibly orthostatic, about 0.4 m long and 0.1 to 0.15m thick, and aligned roughly east to west, appear near the centre line of the cairn, to the W of the central hollow. At least five more stones were shown to be visible at the surface, four being proposed as possible capstones.

Excavation yielded some cherty flint flakes and three types of Neolithic pottery very similar to that from Ty Isaf from the buried surface. Both surviving and excavated features suggest a denuded long barrow contained by a revetment wall, the remains of one certain chamber, and hints of the presence of two others.

Possession of a single eastern chamber might suggest that this was a terminal-chambered tomb. However, as there appear to be indications of other chambers, more exhaustive excavation is required before the precise morphology of the site can be ascertained.

PRN 639 Ty Isaf Chambered Long Cairn

The following description is taken from RCAHMW 1997, pp 36-8. The mound at Ty Isaf lies about 265m above OD at the lower end of the ridge descending from Castell Dinas, between the Afon Rhiangoll and a small tributary joining it from the north-west. It was discovered by OGS Crawford in 1921, when two chambers were visible, with indications of others. The chambers were totally excavated in 1938 by Grimes (1939). Before excavation the mound was of pointed-oval shape, 32.9m long, 15.25m wide and up to 1.8m high, orientated slightly east of north. The extent of structures revealed was 30.2m, the greatest width probably being at least 17m, reducing to 13.5m at about two-thirds of the original length, with a maximum height of 1.5m. After excavation the mound was carefully restored to its previous dimensions and although these still remain the same, one capstone has disappeared and the site and its environs are vulnerable to erosion from farm animals and agricultural machinery.

The overall structure comprised:

- (1) A wedge-shaped cairn with double drystone walls (with extra-revetment) extending far beyond the superficial limits of the mound, its northern and wider end having incurved horns ending on :
- (2) The false portal, in the form of an H. Behind this were :
- (3) A pair of chambers (I-II) symmetrically placed back to back at right-angles to the main axis, entered independently from the sides of the cairn. A short distance south was
- (4) A double walled rotunda linked with the cairn revetment walls on the east side, and enclosing
- (5) A large transepted gallery (III), its main axis lying roughly north-west to south-east, and entered from the south-east. Immediately outside the rotunda at the south end was
- (6) Another much-ruined chamber (IV), placed upon, though at right-angles to the main axis. It opened originally to the east.

Levelling was suspected on the east side with the use of marker stones during a preparation stage. Around the principal structures (of which chamber III and its rotunda were thought to have been built before chambers I and II), the body of the cairn consisted of loosely packed sandstone blocks and slabs. Large flat slabs were pitched with a buttressing effect for revetment walling. In upper levels these were laid horizontally. Cairn mass was retained by a double line of revetment, the inner being more coarsely built and sinuous than the outer, which was more truly aligned and consisted of carefully laid, thin slabs. This attained a maximum height of 0.43m with 15 courses.

On the west side the revetments appeared independent of other structures, spaced only 0.5m apart at their eroded south end but 1.3m apart at the entrance to chamber I and round the north-west horn, where the inner line broke before reaching the portal. On the east side both revetments were virtually destroyed in the north-east quarter of the cairn. It is possible that no inner wall ever existed there. Towards the south both lines were a continuation of those forming the rotunda encircling chamber III at a spacing of up to 2.0m. The inner walling here remained to a maximum height of 0.56m, enclosing an oval area of about 10.4m by 7.3m, and showing contemporaneity with the inner cairn revetment in the smooth merging of foundation courses. The outer rotunda circuit was of good thin slabs reaching a maximum height of about 1.7m, well reinforced by slabs pitched against it within the cairn body.

Though its false portal was probably set in the original ground surface at about the same time as the

chamber uprights, the inturned walling of the funnel-shaped forecourt sides was laid upon a deposit which deepened to almost 1m at the portal. The first construction phase would therefore seem to have progressed from south to north, ending at the forecourt.

The positioning of the four chambers respected the cairn's axial symmetry, though the axis of chamber III lay askew to the main orientation. Old Red Sandstone uprights formed principal elements of their compartments. Inner passages were supplemented with dry walling where necessary, even corbelled inwards to lessen the gaps to be spanned with cover-stones. The outer passages through the double revetments were lined only with laid slab walling. Chamber I on the west was rectangular, about 3.3m deep by 1.2m, its orthostats ranging in height from 0.86 to 0.96m. A small inner compartment was paved with slabs and the passage to the outside had the form of an ante-chamber defined by two pairs of slabs set transversely. Chamber II on the east was also rectangular, some 2.7m deep by 1.5m, three of its four side orthostats leaning inward, but the north-east entrance pillar supporting one remaining capstone at a height similar to that of chamber I. The passage to the inner revetment was narrow at about 0.7m. Chamber III, entered from the south-east of the rotunda by a passage that widened from 0.7m to 1.5m, led over a low sill into a central chamber 2.1m deep by 1.5m. The south-west and north-east transepts, both entered through small openings formed on one side by leaning conglomerate pillars, measured about 3.3m by 1.2m and 1.7m by 1.2m respectively. The plan of Chamber IV at the extreme south end of the cairn was incomplete, but it must have been at least 2.7m long east to west by 1.2m. The survival of some cairn material to the south suggested that access here was from the east.

The burial chambers seem to have been used as ossuaries over an indeterminate period which involved the practice of collecting bones from decomposed corpses. Chamber I contained bone groups from at least 17 individuals, mainly at the side walls and even pushed into crevices. At primary levels were leaf-shaped arrowheads, a complete stone axe, a bone pin and plain pottery. In Chamber II, by contrast, were the remains of only one person with parts of at least six bowls, but there had been two final burials in the passage. Chamber III contained the grouped remains of at least nine individuals, including two more finally laid out in the passage. Artefacts were confined to plain potsherds. Chamber IV, though possibly original in the layout of the Neolithic tomb, contained only cremated bone and the flat base of a Bronze Age cinerary urn. Chamber I had also been re-used. This was demonstrated by a few beaker fragments at an upper level.

Completion of the cairn and its forecourt with a neatly laid outer revetment was seen by the excavator as a comparatively late event in the construction sequence, with a formal shaping of the whole tomb involving the addition of extra-revetment material for stability. As a solution to the problem of re-entry to chambers thus closed at ground level Grimes suggested access from above, into the unroofed part of the passages between the two lines of walling. The poorly preserved state of the south end of the cairn may well result from less substantial construction there, owing to the attachment of less importance to that end.

The plan of the monument does not fit comfortably with any of the three tomb types. Its rotunda, a particularly unusual feature, might reasonably be interpreted as having formed an earlier focus for the trapezoid long cairn. The presence of such a feature has drawn some to suggest that it was a multi-period site, built in stages, an interpretation not favoured by the excavator.

PRN 687 Gwernvale Chambered Long Cairn

The following description is taken from RCAHMW 1997, p25 and pp 56-60. The Gwernvale chambered long cairn is sited on an alluvial terrace about 76m above OD, 5m above the flood plain on the north side of the Usk valley, 0.5km west of Crickhowell. Only the most prominent stones of one chamber survive, exposed in the levelled verge on the north side of the A40 trunk road, of which the realignment was the occasion for a major excavation (Britnell and Savoury 1984). Exposed to the elements since excavation, the stones are now weathering and de-laminating.

Before excavation and through two centuries of antiquarian observation the one visible chamber was enclosed in a small field, passed on its north side by the former road, but there was no conclusive evidence of a mound, nor had any further stone structures been suspected. Apparently the monument at one time served as a land boundary.

From contemporary accounts, in the eighteenth century the remains appeared as 'a huge tablet of unhewn rock, mounted upon five supporters ...inclining to the south, and open in the front to the north; it was placed on a high mound ... and formerly there seem to have been stones placed edgewise also round what is now almost a semi-circle'.

The site was noted by Pennant, the Rev. Evan Evans, Colt Hoare and George Mansby, and was later noted in the County History and by the Rev. Henry Thomas Payne. An excavation campaign of 1804 resulted from a meeting between Colt Hoare and *inter alii* Theophilus Jones and Henry Thomas Payne. Surviving accounts showed the site to have possessed drystone walling between the orthostats, and it brought to light small bits of charcoal and several small bones. It seems to have been the first long barrow excavation by Colt Hoare, and it remains the best documented megalith excavation in Wales before c. 1850. Payne describes the chamber 'nearly 7ft 4ins [2.2m] long, 4ft 6ins [1.4m] deep and only 2ft 6ins [0.75m] high. The incumbent stone measured 10ft [3.1m] in length, 7ft 8ins [2.3m] in breadth and 1ft 6ins [0.45m] in thickness.' Interestingly the excavators did not entirely concur upon the resolution of the question they had originally posed: was the site sepulchral or altarial? Poole was keen to apportion blame to Colt Hoare and his circle or ransacking the monument. The surviving chamber was planned by Grimes during the 1920s.

The 1977-78 excavations revealed evidence for pre-cairn activity dating from the Mesolithic, together with Neolithic occupation beneath the east end of the cairn. The original cairn within its outer revetment was just over 45m long, narrowing from its greatest width of just under 17m near the east end to only about 6.5m at the eroded west end. Though only one side of the forecourt survived, its funnel shape could be deduced as penetrating to a depth of about 5m between two fairly straight lengths of revetment angled in from a broadly curved east end and reducing in width from 6m to the 2m length of a blocking slab at the base of a false portal. The height of the completed cairn can be deduced, from extant features of the chambers, to have decreased from at least 2.5m at the false portal through 2m over Chamber 1 and 1.5m over Chambers 2 and 3 at mid-length, to perhaps as little as a final 0.5m at the west end.

The excavators have proposed a sequence of building phases, beginning with the erection of the chambers and their main passages, stabilised with heavy material, within a predetermined plan, then built up as successive lines of inner and outer revetment. The body of the cairn and the inner walling were of weathered sandstone slabs and boulders, the outer walling being of generally smaller (apparently) quarried stone. The outer revetment was originally continuous across the entrance to the chambers, the material between it and the inner revetment being stabilised into cross-walling where necessary to form extensions of the true chamber passages, to be opened and closed again after access for burial.

The four chambers were sited in neat relationship to the cairn axis, the most westerly having been virtually obliterated. The other three were lined with upright slabs or pillars of which only a few had survived to their full height, with neat filling of dry walling in the intervening spaces. They were entered by way of supposedly slab-roofed passages with similar walling. Chamber 1 (the former 'cromlech'), measuring 3.0m x 1.6m internally, was the highest, with headroom of some 1.7m. It occupied the central part of the cairn and was formed polygonally by six uprights. The approach was by a curving passage from a point 3m further to the west, on the south side of the cairn. Chambers 2 and 3 were sited virtually back to back, about 2m apart and set transversely to their short passages from the south and north sides respectively, measuring 2.7m x 1.2m and 4.9m x 1.4m, both with an internal height of at least 1.3m. The former existence of Chamber 4, entered from the south side, was deduced from residual features close to the eroded west end.

Intermittent opening and closing of Chambers 1-3, possibly extending over a period of 600 years, may be deduced from the disturbance of the deliberate blocking material of their passages. Final external blocking of access to the chambers was affected partly by raking down unstable stretches of the cairn walling and partly by the importation of new quantities of stone, with the apparent intention of masking all the external features of the cairn.

Very little human skeletal material was found. In the previously disturbed Chamber 1 were fragments of at least two individuals, and of only one in Chamber 2, perhaps suggesting deliberate emptying just before final closure. Chamber 2 was also the source of contemporary pottery (fragments of six bowls in the general tradition of undecorated Abingdon ware). Pottery associated with the final blocking process

included decorated Peterborough tradition vessels. The only other certain Neolithic finds were an arrowhead fragment and a flint core.

The Gwernvale tomb is a lateral-chambered example with a dummy forecourt. On the basis of C14 dates the cairn appears to have been begun around the end of the fourth millennium and remained in use for up to 600 years.

PRN 1062 Penywyrlod Long Cairn, Llanigon

The following description is taken from RCAHMW 1997, pp 60-2. Facing north-west on a slope, about 450m east of Pen-y-wyrlod, about 260m above OD on the edge of farmland probably enclosed during the late 18th century, are the denuded remains of a chambered long cairn consisting mainly of small sandstone slabs up to about 1.5m high. The pear-shaped mound is 18.2m long (oriented 70 degrees east of north), and 9.5m wide near the broader (east) end, reducing to 7.5m near the W end.

The ground immediately adjacent and above the site is disturbed by minor stone quarrying. Several large tabular slabs protrude from the surface, and similar stones were used in chamber construction. The site has been closely confined by recent boundary features on three sides, obviously absorbing much cairn material and affecting its present form. It is possible that reference to the site as a Druidical Altar in 1898 might infer the survival of a capstone until that date (Morgan 1898).

The site's condition has been dramatically affected by excavation (Morgan & Marshall 1922). During digging campaigns in 1920 and 1921 the Woolhope Club sank a central trench 14 ft [4.3m] along the mound axis and cleared out the main chamber. Exploration from the western apex revealed the elements of the smaller, western chamber. Trial holes were also made in other parts of the mound which included a trench from the north-west towards the main chamber, in vain search of a retaining wall, surrounding upright stones or a ditch. It seems likely that considerable damage was done on the north-east side of the chamber, and that stones were dislodged by an unknown interloper. So although representative of sites considered original by the excavators, the current positions of all visible stones almost certainly results from resetting during the excavation.

The mound was found to lie upon a 'natural soil' which sloped from south to north, the stone debris on the north tailing out much further than on the south. Its mass consisted almost entirely of large flat stones placed in horizontal layers from the ground upwards, the interstices filled with smaller stones. There was practically no soil except at the surface. It was not possible to determine the origin of a charcoal deposit several inches thick lying to the south-east of the cist.

What now appears as a roughly rectangular chamber, about 2.0m long by 1m, was originally about 2 ft 6 ins wide [0.7m], by 5 ft 6 ins [1.7m] long by 5 feet [1.5m] high. No stone now protrudes higher than 0.9m. The end stones leaned westward and the side stones leaned northward, probably under the weight of a capstone. 'A supporting wall of thin slabs' about 0.6m high had been built against the outer faces of the eastern end stone and the southern side stone; the western end stone 'rested on the original level of the site, and was embedded to a depth of 5 to 6 inches [0.15m] in the clay bed'. The stones are 0.16-0.30m thick. The chamber had been filled to a depth of about 1.2m with stones and black earth containing bones. There were traces of fire, not certainly ancient. No burned material was found except two bones. At the base of the chamber were more bones and two black coarse potsherds from a vessel about 6 inches [0.15 m] in basal diameter. The chamber was floored with rough paving slabs.

The western chamber on the north side of the axis of the mound comprised two parallel slabs 4ft [1.2m] apart, but now only 0.95m apart, forming the east and west ends of a cist. There was only one remaining side stone, broken, fallen in from the north, while a slab resting on the eastern end stone and sloping away to the east was probably a displaced capstone. The south-east angle of the chamber, contained a small pocket surrounded and covered by stones. Within this in a confined space, small charcoal fragments were interdigitated with small stones.

Another upright stone similar in size to the eastern end stone of the western chamber stood parallel to it 1.0m further east, but the excavators discounted its possible structural significance, as also they dismissed the smaller upright slabs on the north side of the mound near the larger chamber, while a slab lying flat at the southern edge was found not to be the coverstone of a cist.

The finds from the excavation, which were not obtained in consistently controlled conditions, belong to at least three distinct periods. The coarse sherds and the bones from the lowest level in the chamber are presumably from primary inhumation. But sherds of unprovenanced coarse, reddish pottery are conceivably from a later burial phase. Unfortunately 27 teeth, several flint flakes and a scraper were also taken from disturbed earth. In the circumstances it is impossible to distinguish any grouping of the twenty or so individuals represented, including children of various ages as well as adult men and women.

The excavation spoil also yielded dozens of small blue glass beads, and tubes of vitreous paste, divided externally into rounded segments, probably of Romano-British date, together with an unstratified Roman small brass coin of Crispus (AD 317-326) picked up near the north-west corner of the main chamber. These may have been planted to confuse the excavators.

On the available evidence, the site seems to represent a variety of terminal-chamber tomb. But much may have been lost through erosion and the excavation record is poor. Drawing attention to its unusual pear-shape, Corcoran suggested a two-stage building for the site, forwarding the idea that the more eastern chamber may originally have been built in a circular cairn. However, it is doubtful if there is yet sufficient the evidence to support such a multi-period theory.

PRN 12376 Cwrt y Prior chambered tomb ?

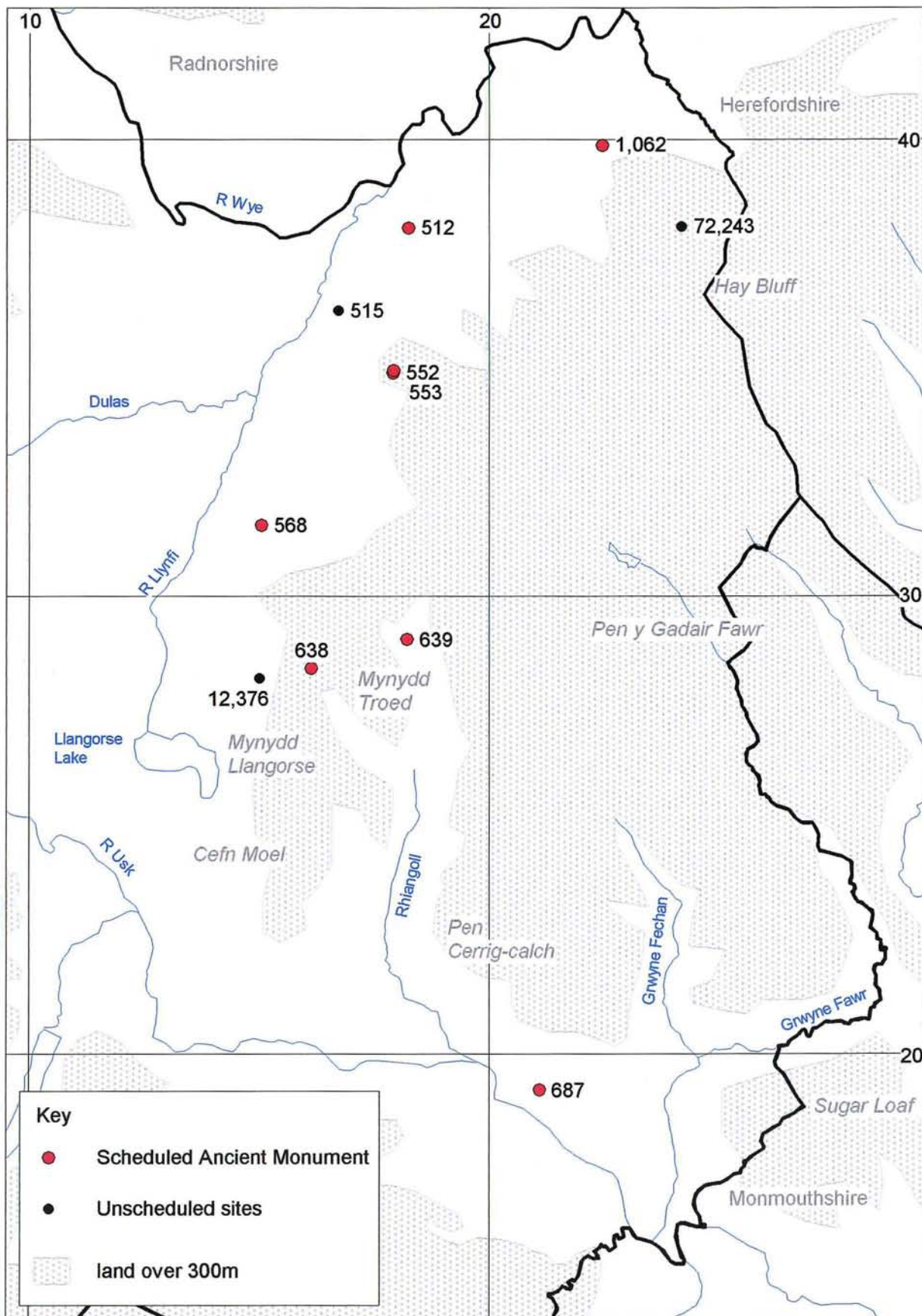
In 1909 the Revd. Daniel Lewis mentioned 'the remains of a cromlech' here, but in his time 'there was only one stone of considerable dimensions remaining'. Although some large stones can be traced in fields in this area, none can be definitely associated with a burial chamber (RCAHMW 1997, 64).

PRN 72243 Twyn y Beddau chambered tomb

A trapezoidal mound has been identified between Twyn y Beddau and Pen y Beacon stone circle, the appearance of which suggests a long barrow or chambered tomb. The mound, which is orientated south-west to north-east, is 27m long, 14.5 wide at the uphill, south-west end, and tapering to 11m at the north-east, with a height of around 1.8m high. The south-western end is slightly raised, with three stones visible through the turf, suggesting a possible chamber. The mound is sited on a plateau, with views to the north and west. A trackway lies along the east side, and both the east and west sides are flanked by gullies/holloways which may originally have been the quarry ditches.

Around 1800 Theophilus Jones recorded a site, which may refer to this mound, 'at some distance from Twyn-y-beddau, on the left hand of the track leading to Llanthony, and not far from the mouldering ruins of an old public house called 'Rhydwrnen', is another tumulus, called Twyn-cae-yr-eithyn; it is in the form of a parallelogram, measuring about thirty yards by twelve' (Jones 1911). The mound would appear to correlate well with Jones's description, particularly when one considers that although the site is some distance from the present road, the OS surveyors' drawing shows that the road passed immediately west of the cairn, and is likely to be the gully or holloway noted above. To the east of the cairn are the earthwork banks of an enclosure, within which are two building platforms. The surveyors' drawing also shows a road heading east, just north of the enclosure, crossing a stream. It is therefore possible that these building platforms were the site of the public house 'Rhydwrnen' (Rhyd = ford) noted by Jones.

Fig. 5 Distribution of Chambered tombs



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5 CISTS

- 5.1 There are three possible cists recorded in the Black Mountains, all associated with Twyn y Beddau (Fig. 6; Table 8)

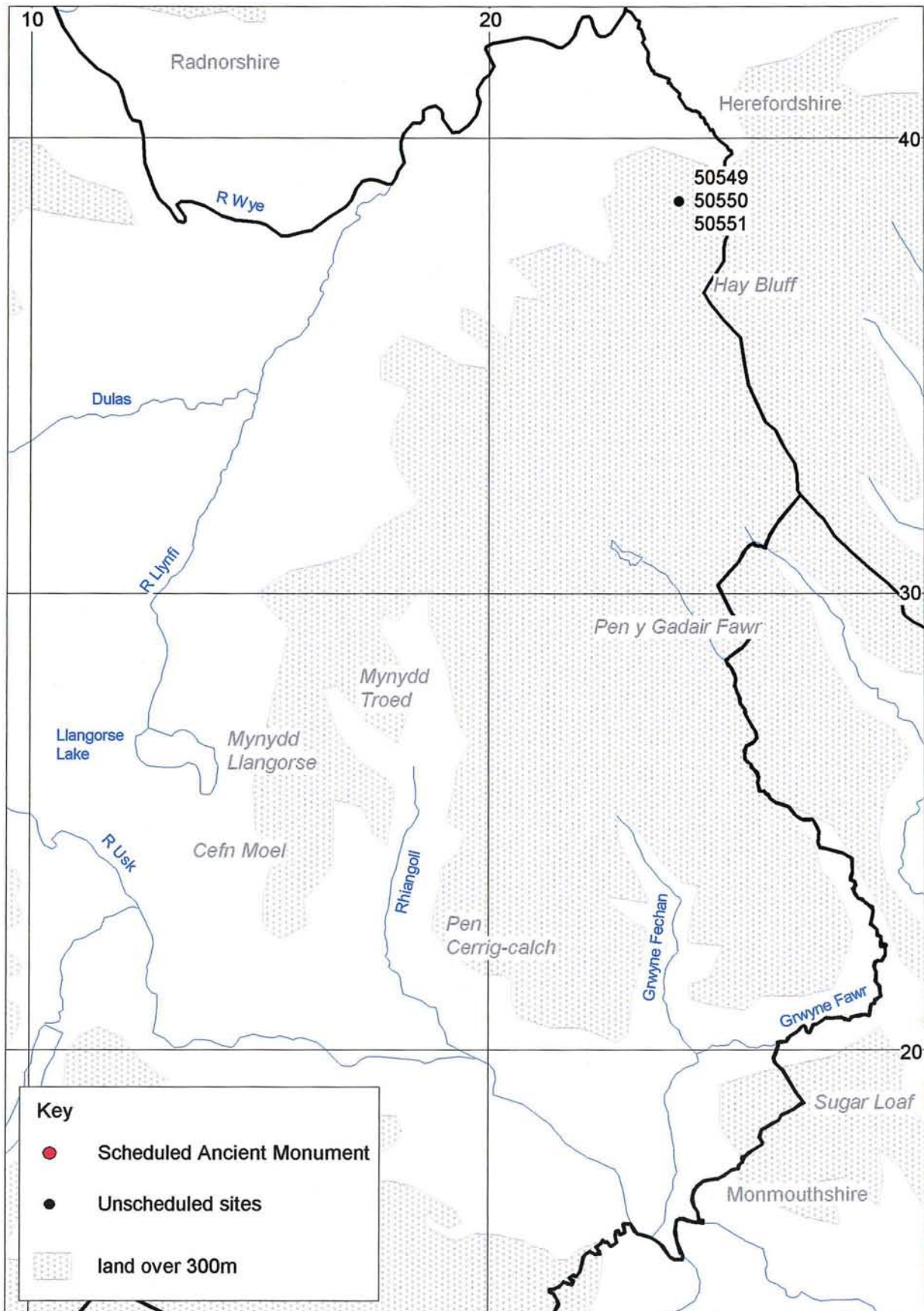
Table 8. Cists within the study area.

PRN	Site name	NGR
50549	Twyn y Beddau Cist I	SO24113861
50550	Twyn y Beddau Cist II	SO24113861
50551	Twyn y Beddau Cist III	SO24113861

PRN 50549-51 Twyn y Beddau Cist I-III

Three stone lined graves are recorded 32m SW of Twyn y Beddau cairn (PRN 1064), each measuring some 1.2m long (Poole 1886). A number of cists ancillary to Twyn y Beddau cairn (PRN 1064) have been recorded. Theophilus Jones (1911, 108-9) describes three graves on the north-west side, about 35 yards distant, one of them defaced, but the others lined with slabs at the sides. Crawford's notes of 1921 in the OS mention two cists lying some 50m west of the mound, one 1.2m long and the other 1.8m long, potentially the same features. RCAHMW 1997 notes some shallow hollows in the turf to the north-west, on the opposite side of the road to the mound, which they believed probably fortuitous, but were perhaps what Crawford had seen as cists. These are apparently part of a cemetery which may be associated with the cairn and thus Bronze Age, although possibly Dark Age. No visible trace remains.

Fig. 6 Distribution of Cists



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6 LONG BARROWS

6.1 There is only one possible long barrow recorded within the study area (Fig. 7; Table 9).

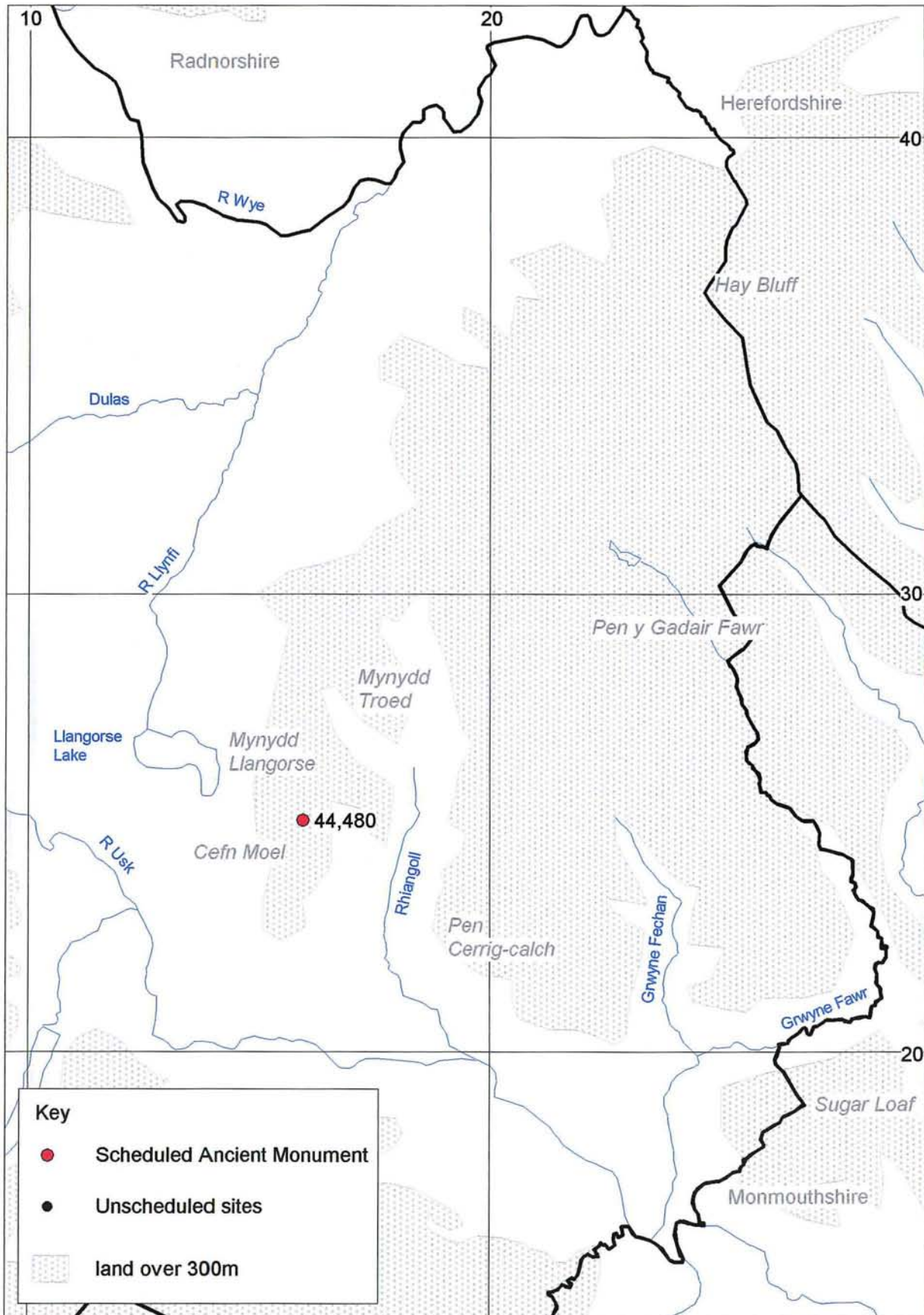
Table 9: Long barrows within the study area.

PRN	Site name	NGR
44480	Blaen y Cwm Uchaf Cairn IV	SO15962506

PRN 44480 Blaen y Cwm Uchaf Cairn IV

There is an elongated mound on the east side of Blaen y Cwm col, close to a group of three round barrows (PRNs 642-4). The mound, which is orientated north-west to south-east, is 14m long, 7m across, and up to 0.7m high, and is suggestive of a long barrow (PRN 44480), although the location would be unusual.

Fig. 7 Distribution of Long barrows



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7 RING DITCHES

7.1 There is only one possible ring ditch recorded within the study area (Fig. 8; Table 10).

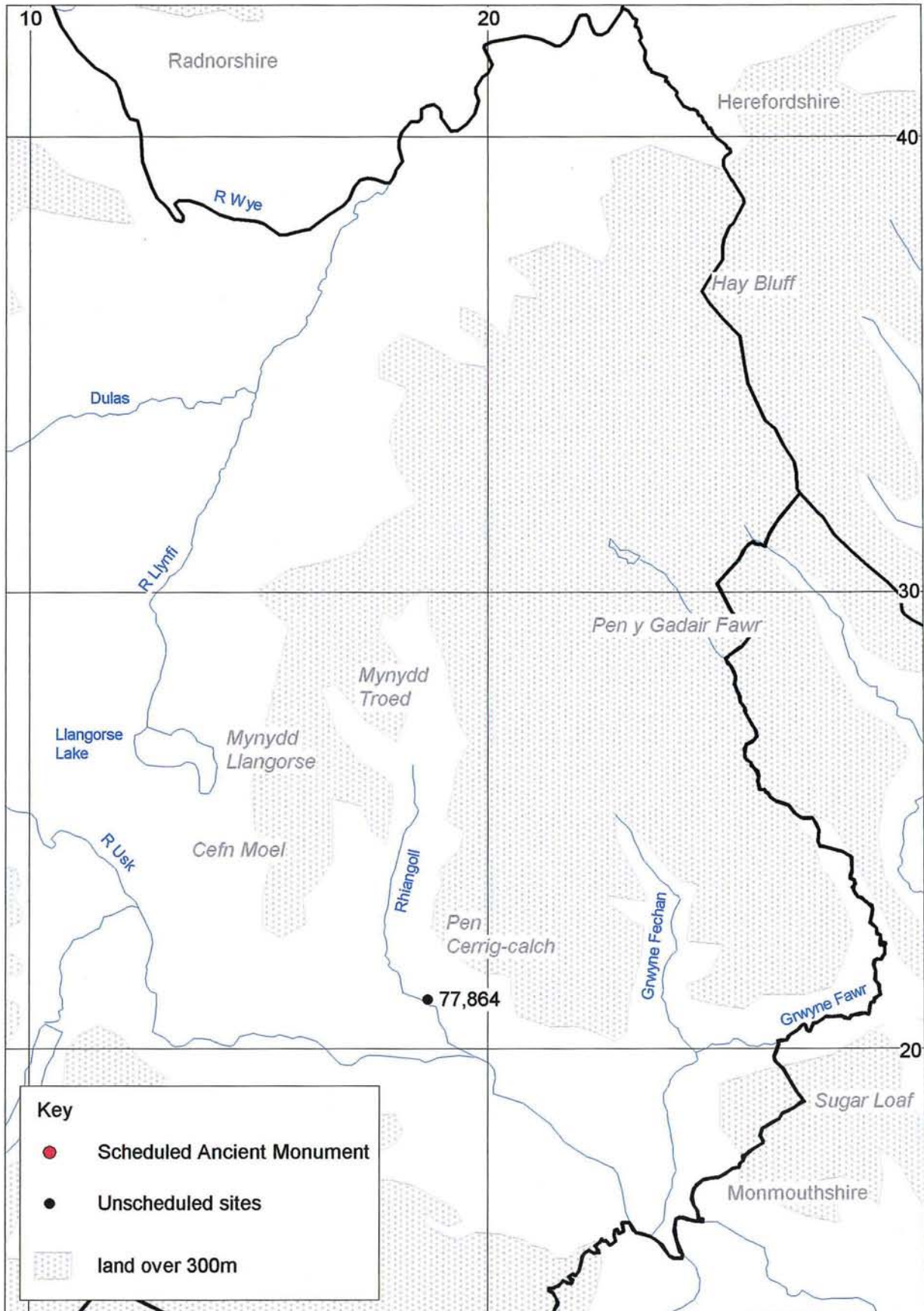
Table 10: Ring ditches within study area.

PRN	Site name	NGR
77864	Tretower ring ditch	SO18672107

PRN 77864 Tretower ring ditch

The SMR records a possible ring ditch in a field close to Tretower Court, on the floodplain of the Afon Rhiangoll. A field visit revealed no evidence for an upstanding earthwork.

Fig. 8 Distribution of Ring ditches



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8 ROUND BARROWS

- 8.1 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 diameter) 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.
- 8.2 There are 72 round barrows or possible round barrows of various forms recorded within the Black Mountains (Fig. 9), of which 16 are scheduled. A breakdown of round barrows by sub-type (Fig. 10; Table 11) indicates that the majority are recorded as upstanding earth, or earth and stone mounds with no distinguishing characteristics. The figures also include possible sites, and those sites which have been either destroyed or were not located during the survey and for which a sub-type cannot therefore be determined. The figures are not definitive but are subject to the vagaries of field observation, monument preservation and fieldworkers' interpretation.

Table 11: Round barrow sub-types

Type	No. of sites
Round barrow	12
Round barrow (cairn)	44
Round barrow (kerb cairn)	2
Round barrow (large)	-
Round barrow (platform cairn)	2
Round barrow (ring cairn)	2
Round barrow (structured cairn)	10
Round barrow (very large) ?	-
Total	72

- 8.3 The distribution of sub-types reveals a concentration of structured cairns to the south-west of the area, compared with more simple earthen or stone mounds further north and east. The relatively low numbers of structured cairns may be a reflection of condition and covering vegetation, so that features such as a kerb are not generally visible. The only ring cairn and kerb cairns are also to be found in the south-west.
- 8.4 Round barrows show a considerable variation in size (Fig. 11; Table 12) with the majority of sites in the area measuring less than 10m in diameter, 15 sites between 10 and 20m in diameter and only four sites between 20 and 30m in diameter. The generally small size of the monuments can be seen as a reflection of their upland location, a pattern also noticed in other areas surveyed to date. There are 14 sites for which diameters are not recorded due to the sites having been lost or destroyed.

Table 12: Round barrow sizes

Size range	No. of sites	%
<10m	39	54
10-20m	15	20
20-30m	4	6
not recorded	14	20
Total	72	100

- 8.5 There is a clear trend for round barrows to be situated in prominent locations, either on summits or ridges, or in locations such as the shoulder edge (or false crest) or a col, which give the appearance of being on the skyline when viewed from the valley below. Such sitings account for 74% of round barrow locations,

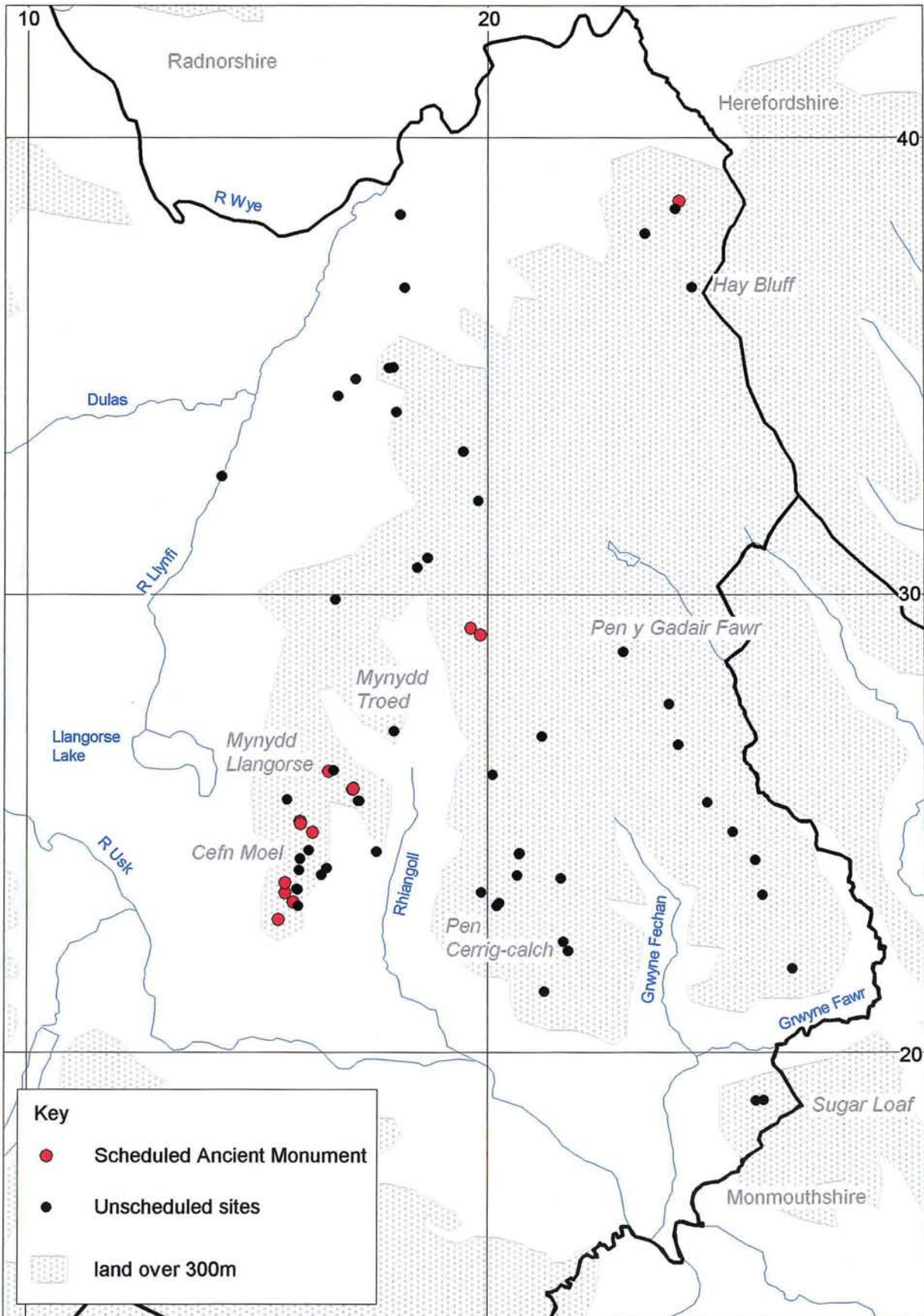
although statistics were only available for 60 of the 71 round barrows (Table 13).

Table 13: Round barrow siting

Siting	no. sites	%
col	6	10
hill slope	8	13
plateau	10	15
ridge	20	33
river terrace	-	-
shoulder edge	7	12
summit	10	17
valley bottom	-	-
Total	61	100

- 8.6 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.

Fig. 9 Distribution of Round barrows

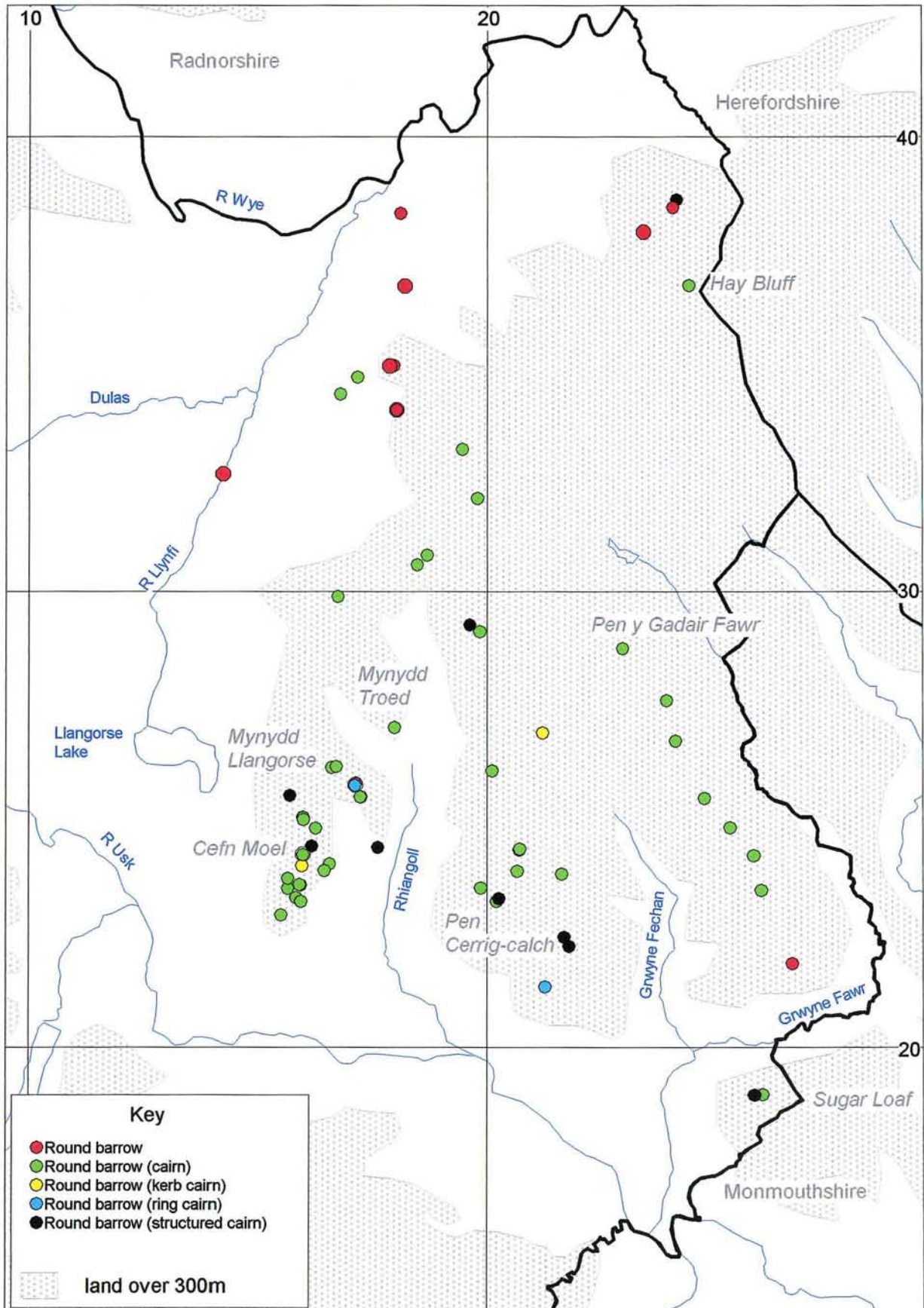


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Fig. 10 Distribution of Round barrows by type

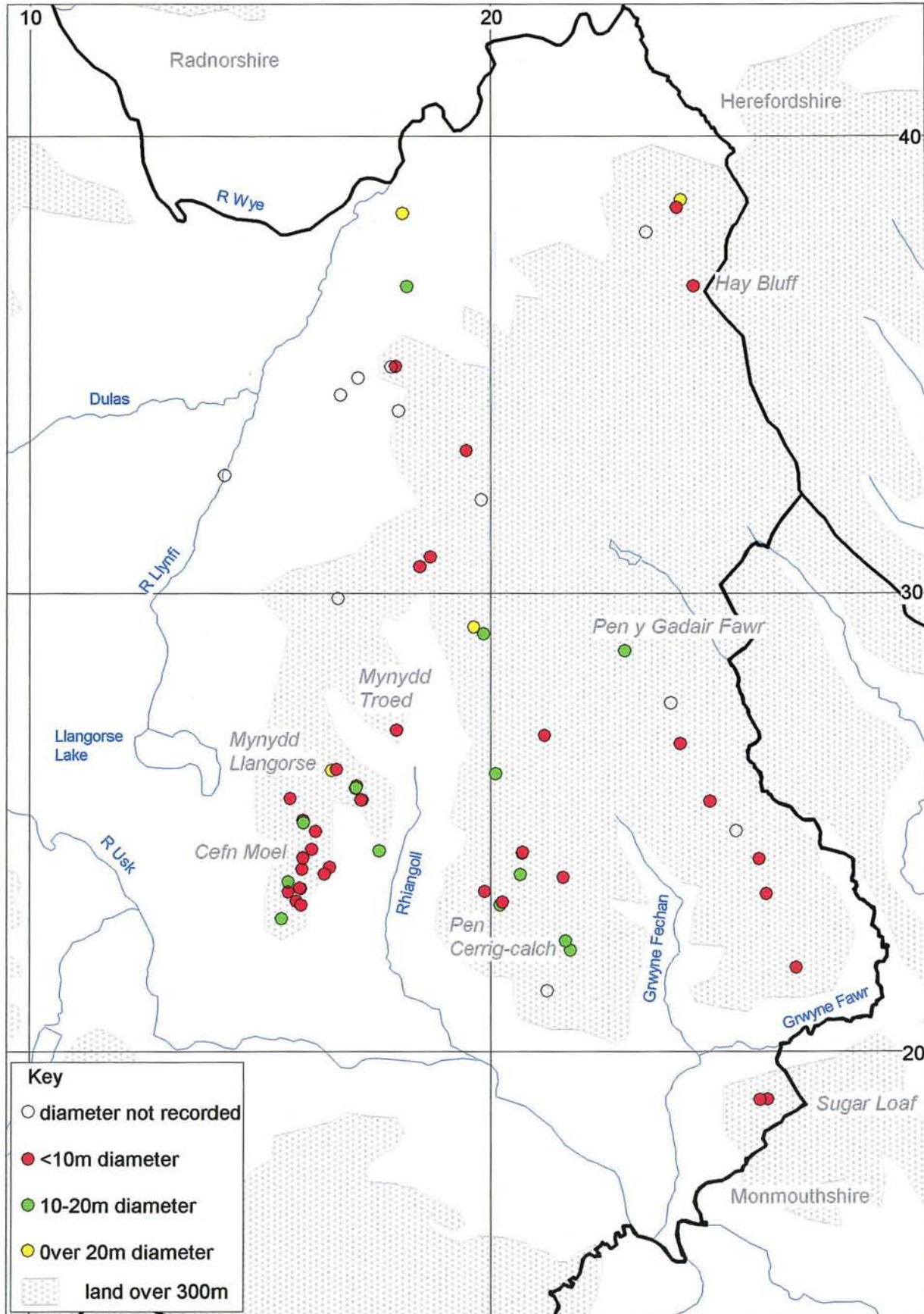


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Fig. 11 Distribution of Round barrows by size



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9 ROUND BARROW CEMETERIES

- 9.1 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. Presently, only four such groupings have been identified within the study area (Fig. 12; Table 14).

Table 14 Round barrow cemeteries within the study area

PRN	Site name	NGR
12368	Cefn Moel cairns	SO15932423
17335	Pen Tir Ridge Cairns	SO1708125751
44481	Blaen y Cwm Uchaf Cairn Cemetery	SO1593124999
81675	Pen yr Heol Las barrow cemetery	SO15612371

PRN 12368 Cefn Moel cairns

A well-preserved cairn (PRN 65032), c. 8.2m diameter and 0.5m high, has a level area to the south-east which may be a conjoining platform cairn (PRN 65033), which has five edge-set slabs forming the south-east part of a kerb.

PRN 17335 Pen Tir Ridge Cairns

On the south side of the summit of Pen Tir is a well-preserved ring cairn (PRN 65034), 8.2m in diameter, with a conjoining platform cairn 10.6m in diameter on the west side.

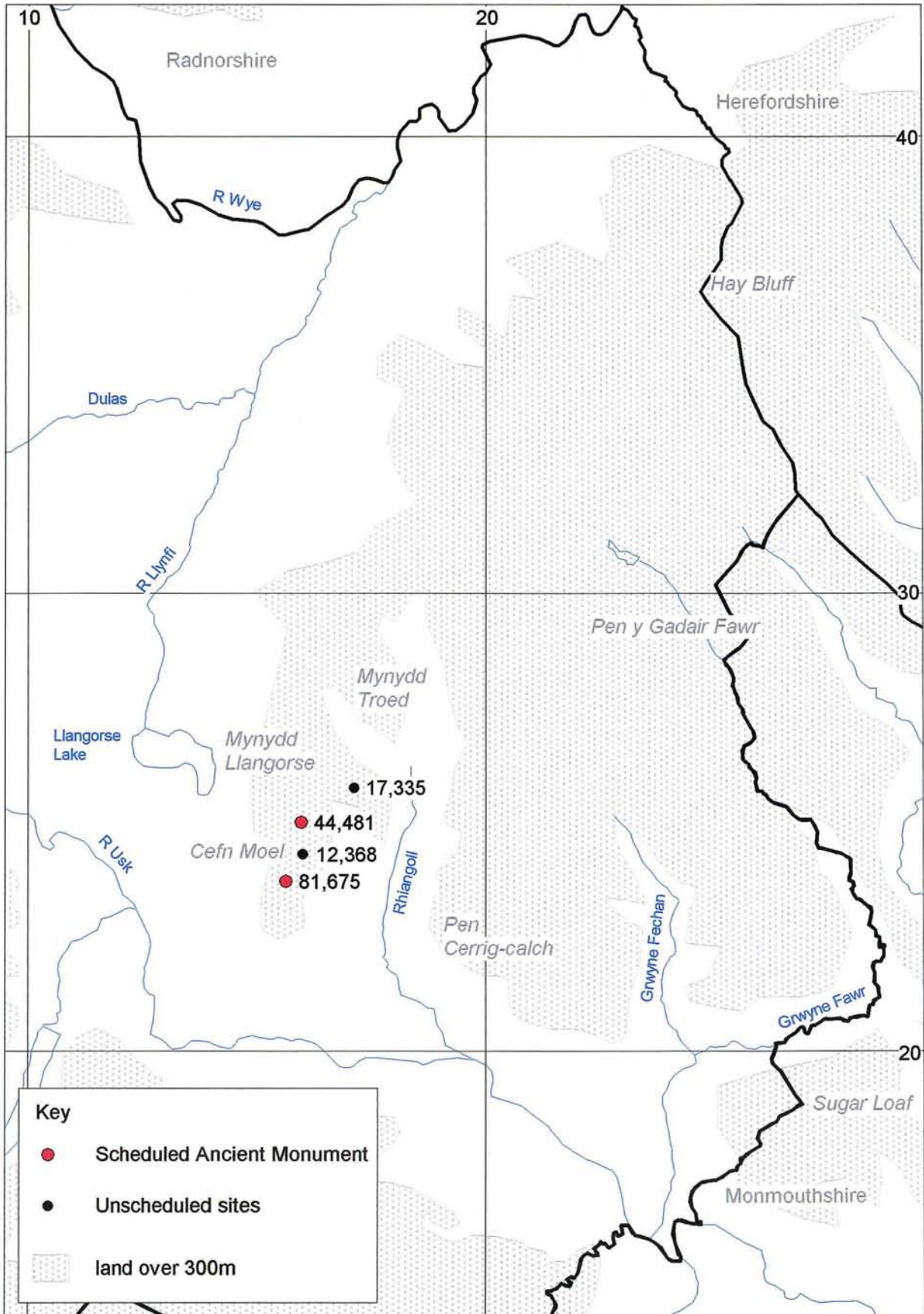
PRN 44481 Blaen y Cwm Uchaf Cairn Cemetery

An unusual, well-preserved and intact example of a complex of burial monuments, comprising three large, well-preserved and prominent round cairns (PRNs 642-4) in a line north to south and running for 40m adjacent to and east of the footpath from Cefn Moel to Mynydd Llangorse. There is an elongated mound on the east side of the col, which may be a long barrow (PRN 44480), although the location would be unusual.

PRN 81675 Pen yr Heol Las barrow cemetery

A pair of burial cairns are situated on Pen yr Heol Las, comprising a larger southern cairn (PRN 670) and a secondary cairn (PRN 81674) to the north, sited only 3m apart.

Fig. 12 Distribution of Round barrow cemeteries



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10 STANDING STONES

10.1 There are 23 standing stones or possible standing stones within the study area, of which six are currently scheduled (Fig. 13; Table 15).

Table 15: Standing stones within the study area

PRN	Name	NGR
661	Llwyn y Fedwen Standing Stone	SO15622038
663	Tretower Stone	SO18042192
665	Bwlch Standing Stone	SO15032196
689	Standard Street Standing stone	SO22181846
694	Cwrt y Gollen Stone	SO23251686
978	Penmyarth Fish Stone	SO1828919855
2354	Penlan Standing Stone I	SO15902309
2409	Cwm Shenkin Stone	SO15792540
2441	Druid's Altar Stone	SO23971782
3130	Nant Bwch Stone	SO23603272
3205	Maen Llwyd Stone	SO22602762
4088	Castle Green Stone	SO15143463
4517	Coed Ynys Faen Stone II	SO23701879
4921	Coed Ynys Faen Stone I	SO23711884
5107	Capel y Ffin Stone Circle	SO24953122
5373	Penmoile Cottage Stone	SO23721775
35696	Upper Island standing stone	SO22483624
39563	Cefn Moel standing stone	SO15452286
39659	Cefn Moel stone I	SO15952428
39661	Cefn Moel stone II	SO15932418
39662	Cefn Moel stone III	SO15912413
39673	Blaen-y-cwm uchaf stone	SO1606325764
81299	Waen-goch standing stone	SO24123155

PRN 661 Llwyn y Fedwen Standing Stone

A large and impressive standing stone c. 4.3m high, 1.4m long and 1.15m wide, aligned north-east to south-west sited on a slight rise near edge of a river terrace with land falling to south towards the River Usk. The stone is one of the tallest in Wales and is probably the stone used as a marker for tithelands by Brecon monks in the thirteenth century (RCAHMW 1997, SS 32).

PRN 663 Tretower Stone

A large standing stone c. 2.25m high, 1.15m long and 0.75m thick, aligned north-east to south-west and sited on the east side of a hedge on the valley floor of the Usk (RCAHMW 1997, SS 33).

PRN 665 Bwlch Standing Stone

A standing stone considered to have been Ogham inscribed by Macalister in 1922 is considered recent, the marks resulting from grooving by barbed wire (RCAHMW 1997). However, there seems no obvious reason to supposed that the stone itself is not an antiquity. The erect stone is situated on the south-east side of the col at Bwlch, and measures 1.8m high, and 0.45m square in section, tapering towards the top. The stone is well-weathered and covered in lichen, with no indication of an inscription, although there are some linear marks on the north-north-east side.

PRN 689 Standard Street Standing stone

A large and impressive upright stone, 1.98 m high with a bluntly pointed head, roughly rectangular in section, 1.65 m long by 0.65 m thick. The north-east face is badly fissured vertically and prior to 1921 was inscribed '1844', but this has now weathered away. Traces of an oval surrounding mound which in 1962 measured about 15 m long by 9 m wide, are no longer visible. It is impossible to know if the position it now occupies in an angle of the parish boundary is owed to a prehistoric or a medieval origin

(RCAHMW 1997, SS 37)

PRN 694 Cwrt y Gollen Stone

The large and impressive standing stone is sited at the entrance to the Cwrt y Gollen Army Training School and measures c. 4.25m high, 1.05m long and 0.7m thick, aligned north-north-east to south-south-west (RCAHMW 1997, SS 36). The sandstone is weathered but some graffiti is visible on the east-south-east side:

JP 188?

WL BLAIN 1768

HA + date?

Other slight inscribed marks are also visible, including a possible arrowhead.

PRN 978 Penmyarth Fish Stone

The massive standing stone lies in Penmyarth, on the banks of the River Usk. The stone, which derives its name from its profile, like that of an upstanding fish, is c.4.5m high, 1.2m wide and 0.45m thick, and aligned almost north to south (RCAHMW 1997, SS 29). It is of Old Red Sandstone. The stone was noted by Theophilus Jones, writing around 1800, 'between Penmiarth House and the river Usk . . . is a Men hir which is perhaps of a greater height than any in the principality, being from twelve to thirteen feet' (Jones 1911).

PRN 2354 Penlan Standing Stone I

An upright sandstone slab 0.85m high, 1.05m long and 0.35m thick, aligned 20 degrees east of north, and sited on a natural terrace with good views down the Usk valley.

PRN 2409 Cwm Shenkin Stone

An upright stone 0.7m high, 0.75m long and 0.4m thick, leans slightly to the west and is surrounded by a slight scoop of sheep-scour (RCAHMW 1997, SS 30). There is a second stone visible just to the south, but it is uncertain if they are associated.

PRN 2441 Druid's Altar Stone

The Druid's Altar stone stands to the north of Golden Grove on a rectangular terrace on the west side of a pasture field. The stone is c. 1.2m high, 0.4m wide, and 0.3m thick, with small stones on the surface at its base (RCAHMW 1997, SS 40).

PRN 3130 Nant Bwch Stone

A large upright slab, 1.8m high, 1.5m long and 0.2m thick, and aligned north to south is set transversely in a field bank next to a gateway. There are, however, no holes to suggest use as a gatepost. A ruined farmstead lies just to the south with which the stone may be associated.

PRN 3205 Maen Llwyd Stone

A very impressive standing stone, 2.28m high, 0.92m long and 0.28m wide, aligned almost exactly east to west, is situated on the west side of a shoulder with views to the south, although it would only have been visible from the south and west. The south side has a date inscribed 1777 and the north edge has initials, possibly PGT.

PRN 4088 Castle Green Stone

The upright stone is situated in a flat pasture field on the flood plain of Afon Llynfi. The stone, which is aligned west-south-west to east-north-east, is 1.15m high, 1.1m long and 0.8m wide. The base has been exposed by stock erosion which has formed a broad circular depression around the stone. The southern face of the stone is fractured and fallen pieces lie around.

PRN 4517 Coed Ynys Faen Stone II

One of two standing stones in an area of regenerated forestry plantation, neither of which could be located during a recent visit due to the vegetation. The stone is recorded as being 1.88 m high, 1.98 m broad and 0.53 m thick (RCAHMW 1997, SS 38).

PRN 4921 Coed Ynys Faen Stone I

One of two standing stones in an area of regenerated forestry plantation, neither of which could be located during a recent visit due to the vegetation. The stone is recorded as being 0.84 m high, 0.64 m broad and 0.51 m thick. (RCAHMW 1997, SS 39).

PRN 5107 Capel y Ffin Stone Circle

There is a possible standing stone aligned north-west to south-east, 0.6m high, 0.7m long and 0.4m wide, situated on level ground below an upland ridge. In the surrounding area are a number of other stones which were previously recorded as a stone circle, although they do not actually form a circle and are all natural.

PRN 5373 Penmoile Cottage Stone

There is an upright stone aligned north to south, c. 1.1m high, 1.6m long and 0.6m thick, in the hedgeline on the west side of a footpath. The stone does not appear to be well-set and could be virtually resting on the ground. It may well have been moved from the field into the hedge.

PRN 35696 Upper Island standing stone

An upright stone c. 0.7m high, 0.85m long and 0.3m wide is aligned north to south and is situated on the west side of a small stream on a plateau sloping gently north-west. The stone is triangular in elevation, with the highest end at the north, and sloping to ground level at the south.

PRN 39563 Cefn Moel standing stone

A largely unimpressive block of sandstone 0.65m high, 0.6m long and 0.45m, surrounded on the north and east sides by a sheep-scoured depression. The stone may be a standing stone, or possibly a natural outcrop.

PRN 39659 Cefn Moel stone I

A small standing stone aligned north to south, and situated just to the west side of a broad ridge with good views west to Pen y Fan. The stone measures 0.6m high, 0.7m long and 0.3m wide.

PRN 39661 Cefn Moel stone II

An upright stone aligned 35 degrees east of north, measures 0.7m high, 0.75m long and 0.2m thick. The west side is exposed but the east side has a small earth/turf mound against it.

PRN 39662 Cefn Moel stone III

A possible standing stone 0.5m high, 1.1m long and 0.35m wide, aligned roughly east to west, sited on a broad ridge.

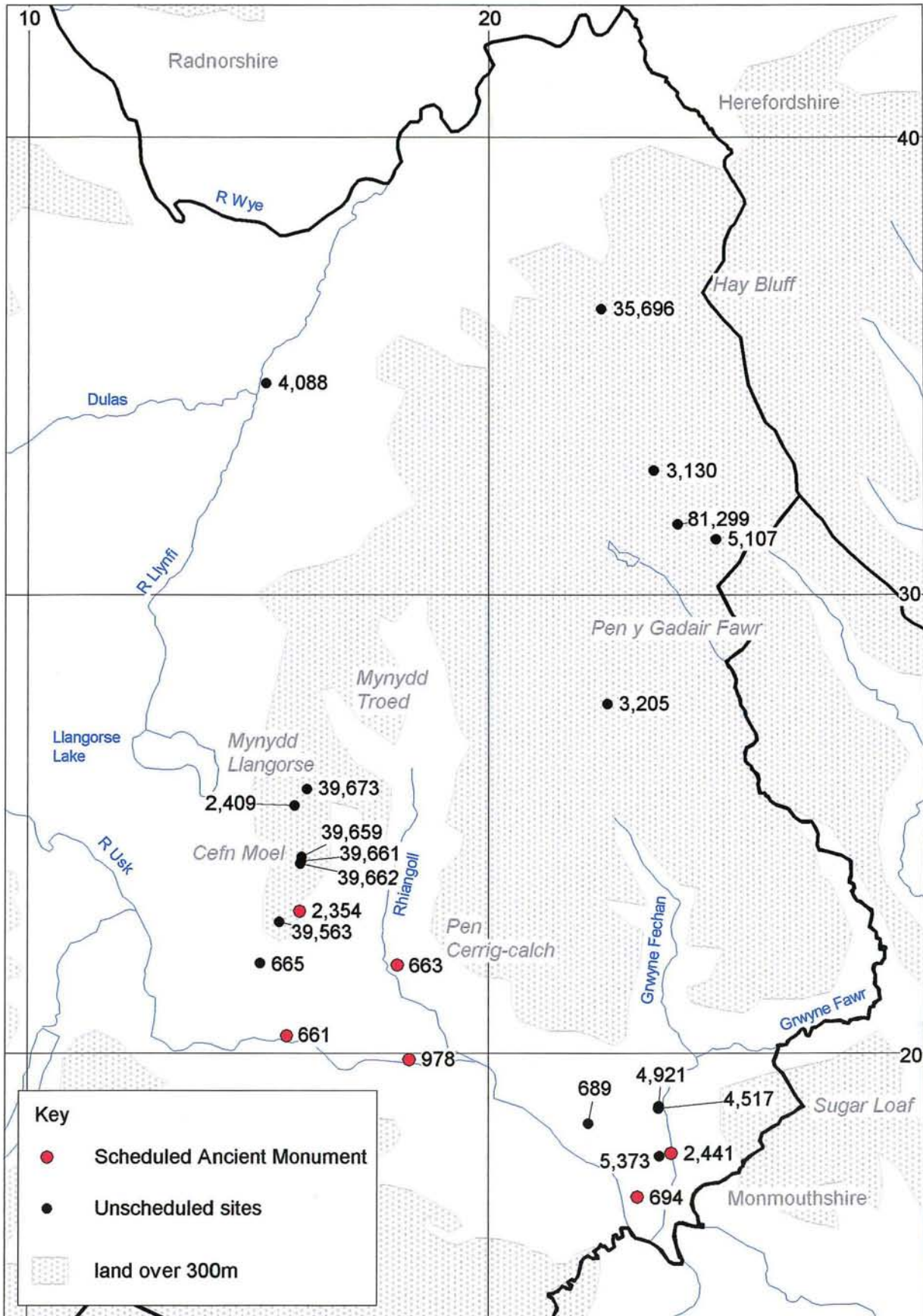
PRN 39673 Blaen-y-cwm uchaf stone

A small standing stone, or possibly a boundary stone, aligned north to south, 0.65m high, 0.56m long and 0.22m thick.

PRN 81299 Waen-goch standing stone

A large and impressive upright slab is situated in a slight saddle at the base of a scarp. The stone is aligned approximately north to south and stands 1.15m high, 1.85m long and 0.5m wide. A slight sheep scour around the base has exposed a spread of 18th or 19th-century pottery and brick.

Fig. 13 Distribution of Standing stones



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11 STONE CIRCLES

- 11.1 There is one known and one possible stone circle within the study area, of which one is currently scheduled (Fig. 14; Table 16).

Table 16: Stone circles within study area

PRN	Name	NGR
2439	Ffostyll Stone Circle	SO18203475
3125	Pen y Beacon Stone Circle	SO2392937358

PRN 2439 Ffostyll Stone Circle

According to D J James, 'Sir John Lloyd's report shows a photograph of a 'track' stone at the cross roads 400m SE of the long cairns (PRNs 552-3), now removed. Some older maps show 'Stone Circles' at this approximate location'. This stone cannot now be located and no early OS maps are known showing stone circles in this locality.

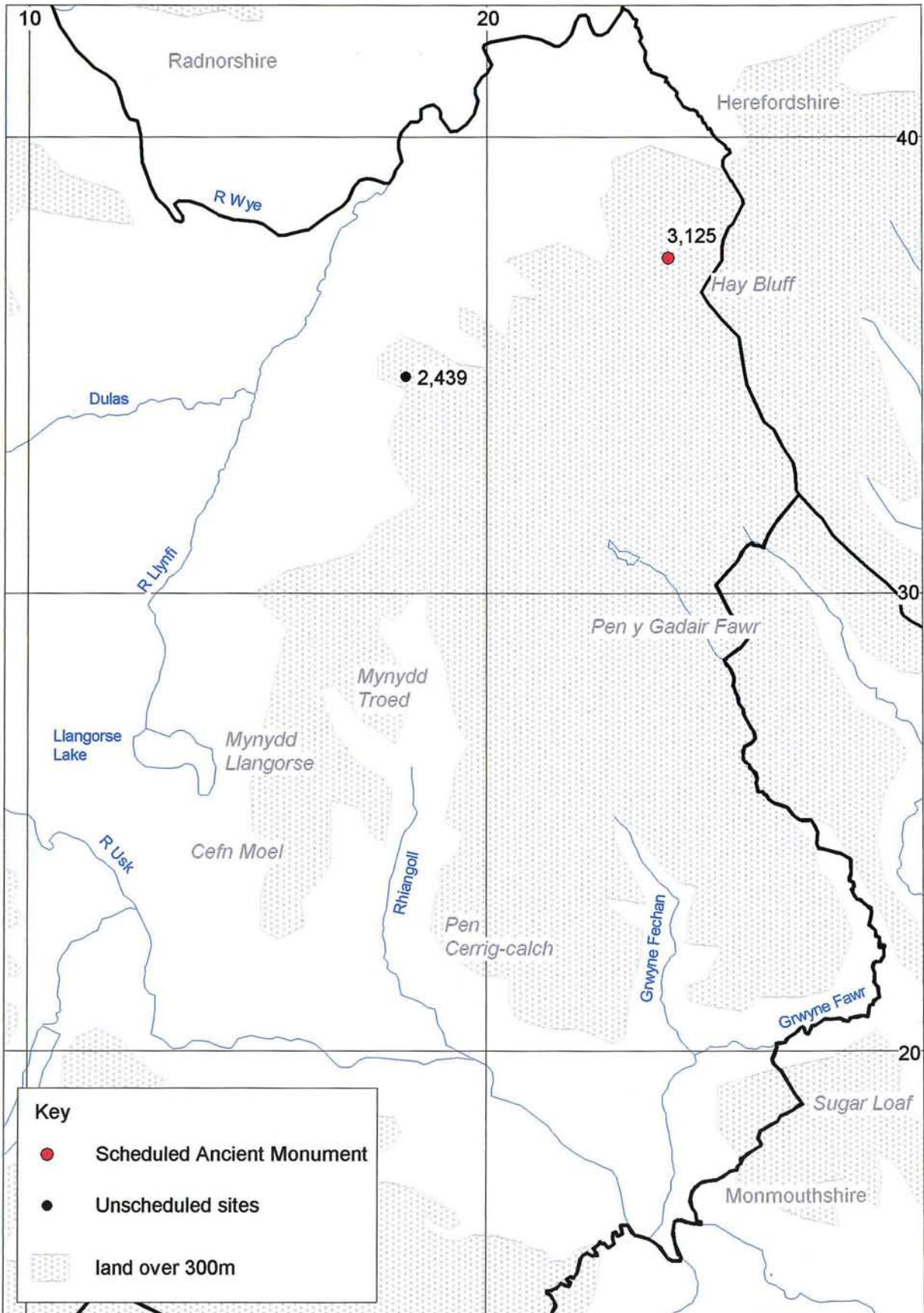
PRN 3125 Pen y Beacon Stone Circle

The following description is taken from RCAHMW 1997, pp 159-160. Beside the road traversing Hay Bluff on the plateau below Pen y Beacon, overlooking the Dgedi Brook valley at 470m above OD is a circle (also known as Blaenau) only one stone of which is now clearly visible. A car park has been located adjacent to the site, which is separated and partly protected from vehicle erosion by large stones deposited between the car park and the circle. These new stones initially confuse interpretation of the more fugitive, older features. Changes in site use have resulted from hardcore dumping alongside the car park margin in the recent past. Pitting on the site may possibly be due to the use of metal detectors. Extensive quarrying scars the hillside immediately below the site (on the west), so the survival of any nearby stone features, loose or ground-set is quite remarkable.

Antiquaries appear to have been aware that something ancient existed upon this site, and the surviving large upright might be one of those stones referred to by Edward Poole in the nineteenth century. A site styled 'The Ancient King' in local folklore seems to fit the location. During the 1950s, appreciating the stone grouping and more obvious upright to have been man-made, DP Webley first recorded a site (PRN 3117) (at Maes Coch) as a denuded long barrow. Only a later independent record made by DG Benson in 1970 properly demonstrated the existence of the circle.

The circle is between 29.5 and 30m in diameter, the slab-like stones set tangentially, excepting two taller examples on the south-east which lie radially. The latter appear as an unusual, entrance-like feature somewhat like that on the circle at Banc y Celyn, where its significance is also unclear. Rock is exposed internally, immediately behind the more southerly of these radials, and just over 1m to the north there appears to be a fallen, amorphously-shaped upright. Orthostats survive mainly in the south-east and north-west sectors, the closest spacing being less than a metre on the south-east. The nearby car park neatly avoids this ancient feature.

Fig. 14 Distribution of Stone circles



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12 STONE SETTINGS

12.1 There are five sites of this type currently recorded within the Black Mountains (Fig. 15; Table 17). Stone settings are difficult to define, to date and to interpret, and the three sites listed are quite different from one another.

Table 17 Stone Settings recorded under Type 1 within the study area.

PRN	Site name	NGR
2407	Llwyn Stone setting	SO172272
2428	Pen yr Heol Stones	SO16422393
3861	Mynydd Llangorse stone setting	SO16162722
5388	Maes Coch Stones	SO24033822
5722	Twyn y Beddau Stones	SO2438

PRN 2407 Llwyn Stone setting

The SMR records 'a group of perpendicular stones some 1.5m square, possibly representing a burial chamber or cist, plus a standing stone'. The site has not been accurately located, but is unlikely to be associated with a burial chamber.

PRN 2428 Pen yr Heol Stones

An unusual setting of four stones *c.* 4.5m east to west and 3.4m north to south, comprises one edge-set stone on the south side (0.42m high by 0.74m long by 0.08m thick), a large edge-set stone on the west side (0.55m high by 1.10m long by up to 0.45m thick), a boulder, possibly natural, on the east side (0.3m by 0.35m by 0.4m) and a recumbent stone on the north side (0.7m by 0.44m). The stones are situated on a natural shelf at the base of a south facing slope.

PRN 3861 Mynydd Llangorse stone setting

An unusual site comprising a number of parallel edge-set stones with a large slab either being a fallen upright or possibly a displaced capstone. There is no real trace of any surrounding mound, but there is another, smaller upright *c.* 10m to the north. All of the edge-set stones are aligned north-south, the largest being 0.7m high, 1.6m long and 0.3m thick. The main grouping of stones occupies an area of 3.7m north to south by 2.9m east to west. It is possible that these are the remains of a structured cairn with displaced capstone, or else an unusual stone setting.

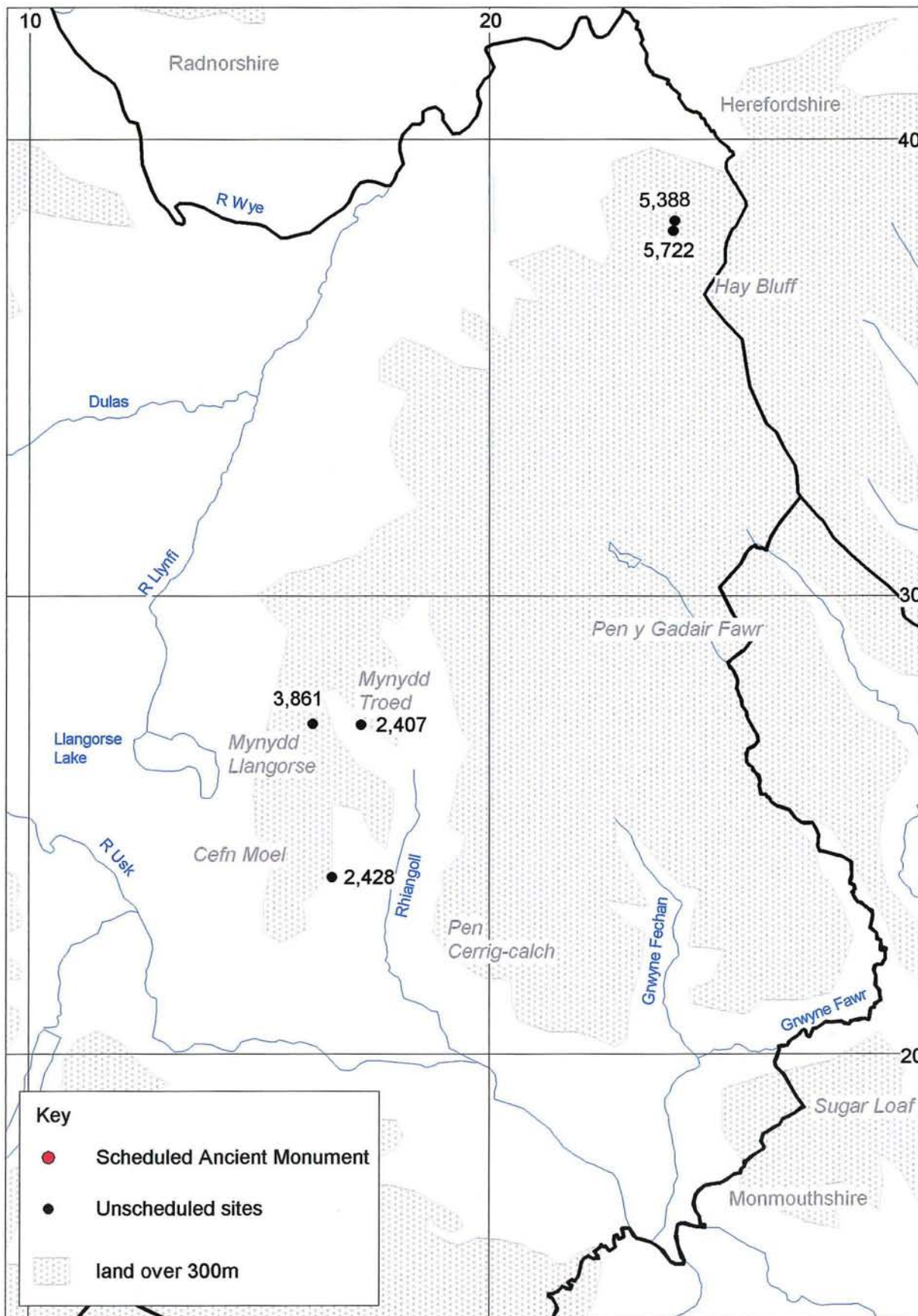
PRN 5388 Maes Coch Stones

Two small edge-set stones lie *c.* 2m apart, but are not aligned with each other, as might be expected in a stone row. The south-western stone measures 0.3m high, 0.46 long and 0.12m thick. The north-eastern stone measures 0.18m high, 0.36m long and 0.13m thick. A slight bank surrounds both, particularly the south-western stone, and this may be the result of ploughing. The stones appear to be arranged on an arc which would extend to the south-east. Another small stone is visible through the turf, lying to the south-south-west, and another *c.*10m to east-south-east, perhaps suggesting a stone circle, the diameter of which would be 12 to 15m, although this is rather conjectural.

PRN 5722 Twyn y Beddau Stones

On the south-west side of the base (of Twyn y Beddau cairn PRN 1064) are three upright stones 'said to mark the burial places of as many chieftains' (Poole 1886), although this possibly refers to the kerb stones of the cairn.

Fig. 15 Distribution of Stone settings



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APPENDIX 1

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

Barrow
Barrow cemetery
Burial
Cairn
Cairnfield
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 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

No sub-types have yet been defined locally.

Dimensions

Not currently defined

To be distinguished from

Cists, round barrow (ring cairns), long barrows, pillow mounds.

Same as

No close parallel in English Heritage's Monument Class Descriptions, but as sub-types distinguished in parentheses 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

Gibson 2002, 1-4

Cist*Definition*

Isolated stone-lined pit assumed to have held a human burial of prehistoric or later date.

Sub-types

No sub-types have yet been defined locally.

Dimensions

Examples currently identified as falling within the monument type definition locally are between 1-2 metres 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 2002, 32
Lynch *et al.* 2000, 63-77

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 2002, 32

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 2002, 5-7
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 2002, 7-9
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 2002, 4-5
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 2002, 5
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 2002, 34

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 2002, 10-11
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 2002, 27-32
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 1993a

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 Sarn-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 2002, 17-21

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
Gibson 2002, 11-14
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 2002, 15-16

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 2002, 16-17

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 2002, 10

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 area:

- 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 a absolutely fixed. This 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

**APPENDIX 4
GAZETTEER OF SITES BY TYPE**

Chambered tomb

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
512	Little Lodge Barrow	SO18223806
552	Ffostyll Long Cairn II	SO17893489
553	Ffostyll Long Cairn I	SO1790634946
568	Penywylod Long Cairn Talgarth	SO15053156
638	Mynydd Troed Long Cairn	SO16142843
639	Ty Isaf Chambered Long Cairn	SO18192906
687	Gwernvale Chambered Long Cairn	SO2111119217
1062	Penywylod Long Cairn Llanigon	SO2248639878
72243	Twyn y Beddau chambered tomb	SO24183810

Chambered tomb ?

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
515	Croes Llechau Barrow	SO16723626
12376	Cwrt y Prior chambered tomb ?	SO150282

Cist ?

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
50549	Twyn y Beddau Cist I	SO24113861
50550	Twyn y Beddau Cist II	SO24113861
50551	Twyn y Beddau Cist III	SO24113861

Long barrow ?

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
44480	Blaen y Cwm Uchaf Cairn IV	SO15962506

Ring ditch ?

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
77864	Tretower ring ditch	SO18672107

Round barrow

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
518	Coed y Polyn Barrow	SO18083832
554	Ffostyll Round Barrow I	SO17933497
5328	Pentir Cairn II	SO171258
5371	Partrishow Hill Barrow	SO26632184
5389	Cockalofty Cairn	SO24063844
5826	Ty Du Cairn II	SO1834

Round barrow ?

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
555	Ffostyll Round Barrow II	SO17843496
559	Ty Du Cairn I	SO1834
3122	Maes Coch Round barrow I	SO234379
4435	Garden Wood Barrow	SO18183672
12395	Tredustan Court burial site	SO142326
72106	Maes Coch Round barrow II	SO234379

Round barrow (cairn)

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
560	Wern Frank Wood Barrow	SO19453313
641	Mynydd Llangorse Cairn I	SO1656226147
642	Blaen y Cwm Uchaf Cairn I	SO1594025050
643	Blaen y Cwm Uchaf Cairn II	SO1594025040
644	Blaen y Cwm Uchaf Cairn III	SO1594325001
646	Pen Trumau Cairn II	SO19842913
670	Pen yr Heol Las Cairn I	SO15612371
671	Cefn Moel Cairn I	SO15462291
1056	Pentwynglas Cairn	SO20102607
1058	Pen Gloch y Pibwr Cairn I	SO2020123205
2353	Ffynnon Las Mound	SO15792329
2423	Ffynnon Las Cairn	SO15612349
2431	Cefn Moel Cairn III	SO16212481
2432	Cil Fawr Cairn	SO16522403
3105	Pen y Gader Fawr Cairn I	SO22942876
3118	Pen y Beacon Barrow	SO2442136730
3213	Pen Alltmawr Cairn I	SO2064523870
3221	Disgwylfa Cairn I	SO2597023440
5094	Pen yr Heol Mound I	SO16402388
5097	Bwlch Bach a'r Grib Cairn II	SO18453060
5103	Nant yr Ychen Cairn	SO24762547
5318	Bwlch Bach a'r Grib Cairn I	SO18683081
5319	Mynydd Troed Cairn	SO17962702
5661	Mynydd Pen y Fal Cairn I	SO26001896
65002	Pen Gwyllt Meirch Cairn	SO25322482
65003	Mynydd Bychan Cairn	SO19793206
65032	Cefn Moel burial cairn	SO15932423
79175	Nant y Ffin cairn	SO25822421
81674	Pen yr Heol Las Cairn II	SO15612371

Round barrow (cairn) ?

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
558	Park Wood Cairn	SO17133472
5104	Pen Twyn Mawr Cairn	SO24122672
5331	Pen Alltmawr Cairn III	SO20702435
5333	Cil Haul Cairn	SO167299
5974	Penlan Mound I	SO15912307
26971	Park Wood Cairn I	SO16753435
38411	Blaenau Draw cairn I	SO1666826164
38417	Pen Tir cairn II	SO17222546
39603	Ffynnon Las cairn II	SO15892320
39644	Ffynnon Las mound IV	SO15882356
39645	Ffynnon Las mound V	SO15862357
43239	Cwm Banw cairn	SO21592380
65001	Pen Twyn Mawr Cairn II	SO23922761
65017	Pen Tir cairn III	SO17192550
77861	Lewenau Draw cairn	SO19862350

Round barrow (kerb cairn)

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
12367	Cefn Moel cairn III	SO15922399
17319	Pen Twyn Glas Cairn	SO21182690

Round barrow (platform cairn)

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
65035	Pen Tir Ridge platform cairn	SO1708125751

Round barrow (platform cairn) ?

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
65033	Cefn Moel platform cairn	SO15932423

Round barrow (ring cairn)

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
65006	Darren Ring Cairn	SO21232133
65034	Pen Tir Ridge ring cairn	SO1708125751

Round barrow (structured cairn)

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
645	Pen Trumau Cairn I	SO19622927
669	Pentir Cairn I	SO17592439
2408	Cwm Shenkin Cairn	SO15652553
2429	Maes Clythan Wood Cairn	SO16132442
3211	Pen Cerrig Calch Cairn I	SO21752222
3212	Pen Cerrig Calch Cairn II	SO21662241
3214	Pen Alltmawr Cairn II	SO20692433
3508	Pen Gloch y Pibwr Cairn II	SO20252326
5775	Mynydd Pen y Fal Cairn II	SO25831895

Round barrow (structured cairn) ?

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
1064	Twyn y Beddau Cairn	SO2414338611

Round barrow cemetery

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
44481	Blaen y Cwm Uchaf Cairn Cemetery	SO1593124999

Round barrow cemetery (pair)

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
12368	Cefn Moel cairns	SO15932423
17335	Pen Tir Ridge Cairns	SO1708125751
81675	Pen yr Heol Las barrow cemetery	SO15612371

Standing stone

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
661	Llwyn y Fedwen Standing Stone	SO15622038
663	Tretower Stone	SO18042192
665	Bwlch Standing Stone	SO15032196
689	Standard Street Standing stone	SO22181846
694	Cwrt y Gollen Stone	SO23251686
978	Penmyarth Fish Stone	SO1828919855
2354	Penlan Standing Stone I	SO15892315
2441	Druid's Altar Stone	SO23971782
3205	Maen Llwyd Stone	SO22602762
4088	Castle Green Stone	SO15143463
4921	Coed Ynys Faen Stone I	SO23711884
35696	Upper Island standing stone	SO22483624
39659	Cefn Moel stone I	SO15952428

39661	Cefn Moel stone II	SO15932418
81299	Waen-goch standing stone	SO24123155

Standing stone ?

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
2409	Cwm Shenkin Stone	SO15792540
3130	Nant Bwch Stone	SO23603272
4517	Coed Ynys Faen Stone II	SO23701879
5107	Capel y Ffin Stone	SO24953122
5373	Penmoile Cottage Stone	SO23721775
39563	Cefn Moel standing stone	SO15452286
39662	Cefn Moel stone III	SO15912413
39673	Blaen-y-cwm uchaf stone	SO1606325764

Stone circle

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
3125	Pen y Beacon Stone Circle	SO2392937358

Stone circle ?

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
2439	Ffostyll Stone Circle	SO18203475

Stone setting

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
2428	Pen yr Heol Stones	SO16422393
3861	Mynydd Llangorse stone setting	SO16162722
5722	Twyn y Beddau Stones	SO2438

Stone setting ?

PRN	Site name	Grid reference
2407	Llwyn Stone setting	SO172272
5388	Maes Coch Stones	SO24033822

**APPENDIX 5
GAZETTEER OF SITES BY PRN**

PRN	Site name	Site type	Grid reference
512	Little Lodge Barrow	Chambered tomb	SO18223806
515	Croes Llechau Barrow	Chambered tomb ?	SO16723626
518	Coed y Polyn Barrow	Round barrow	SO18083832
552	Ffostyll Long Cairn II	Chambered tomb	SO17893489
553	Ffostyll Long Cairn I	Chambered tomb	SO1790634946
554	Ffostyll Round Barrow I	Round barrow	SO17933497
555	Ffostyll Round Barrow II	Round barrow ?	SO17843496
558	Park Wood Cairn	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO17133472
559	Ty Du Cairn I	Round barrow ?	SO1834
560	Wern Frank Wood Barrow	Round barrow (cairn)	SO19453313
568	Penywyrlod Long Cairn Talgarth	Chambered tomb	SO15053156
638	Mynydd Troed Long Cairn	Chambered tomb	SO16142843
639	Ty Isaf Chambered Long Cairn	Chambered tomb	SO18192906
641	Mynydd Llangorse Cairn I	Round barrow (cairn)	SO1656226147
642	Blaen y Cwm Uchaf Cairn I	Round barrow (cairn)	SO1594025050
643	Blaen y Cwm Uchaf Cairn II	Round barrow (cairn)	SO1594025040
644	Blaen y Cwm Uchaf Cairn III	Round barrow (cairn)	SO1594325001
645	Pen Trumau Cairn I	Round barrow (structured cairn)	SO19622927
646	Pen Trumau Cairn II	Round barrow (cairn)	SO19842913
661	Llwyn y Fedwen Standing Stone	Standing stone	SO15622038
663	Tretower Stone	Standing stone	SO18042192
665	Bwlch Standing Stone	Standing stone	SO15032196
669	Pentir Cairn I	Round barrow (structured cairn)	SO17592439
670	Pen yr Heol Las Cairn I	Round barrow (cairn)	SO15612371
671	Cefn Moel Cairn I	Round barrow (cairn)	SO15462291
687	Gwernvale Chambered Long Cairn	Chambered tomb	SO2111119217
689	Standard Street Standing stone	Standing stone	SO22181846
694	Cwrt y Gollen Stone	Standing stone	SO23251686
978	Penmyarth Fish Stone	Standing stone	SO1828919855
1056	Pentwynglas Cairn	Round barrow (cairn)	SO20102607
1058	Pen Gloch y Pibwr Cairn I	Round barrow (cairn)	SO2020123205
1062	Penywyrlod Long Cairn Llanigon	Chambered tomb	SO2248639878
1064	Twyn y Beddau Cairn	Round barrow (structured cairn) ?	SO2414338611
2353	Ffynnon Las Mound	Round barrow (cairn)	SO15792329
2354	Penlan Standing Stone I	Standing stone	SO15892315
2407	Llwyn Stone setting	Stone setting ?	SO172272
2408	Cwm Shenkin Cairn	Round barrow (structured cairn)	SO15652553
2409	Cwm Shenkin Stone	Standing stone ?	SO15792540
2423	Ffynnon Las Cairn	Round barrow (cairn)	SO15612349
2428	Pen yr Heol Stones	Stone setting	SO16422393
2429	Maes Clythan Wood Cairn	Round barrow (structured cairn)	SO16132442
2431	Cefn Moel Cairn III	Round barrow (cairn)	SO16212481
2432	Cil Fawr Cairn	Round barrow (cairn)	SO16522403
2439	Ffostyll Stone Circle	Stone circle ?	SO18203475
2441	Druid's Altar Stone	Standing stone	SO23971782
3105	Pen y Gader Fawr Cairn I	Round barrow (cairn)	SO22942876
3118	Pen y Beacon Barrow	Round barrow (cairn)	SO2442136730
3122	Maes Coch Round barrow I	Round barrow ?	SO234379
3125	Pen y Beacon Stone Circle	Stone circle	SO2392937358

3130	Nant Bwch Stone	Standing stone ?	SO23603272
3205	Maen Llwyd Stone	Standing stone	SO22602762
3211	Pen Cerrig Calch Cairn I	Round barrow (structured cairn)	SO21752222
3212	Pen Cerrig Calch Cairn II	Round barrow (structured cairn)	SO21662241
3213	Pen Alltmawr Cairn I	Round barrow (cairn)	SO2064523870
3214	Pen Alltmawr Cairn II	Round barrow (structured cairn)	SO20692433
3221	Disgwylfa Cairn I	Round barrow (cairn)	SO2597023440
3508	Pen Gloch y Pibwr Cairn II	Round barrow (structured cairn)	SO20252326
3861	Mynydd Llangorse stone setting	Stone setting	SO16162722
4088	Castle Green Stone	Standing stone	SO15143463
4435	Garden Wood Barrow	Round barrow ?	SO18183672
4517	Coed Ynys Faen Stone II	Standing stone ?	SO23701879
4921	Coed Ynys Faen Stone I	Standing stone	SO23711884
5094	Pen yr Heol Mound I	Round barrow (cairn)	SO16402388
5097	Bwlch Bach a'r Grib Cairn II	Round barrow (cairn)	SO18453060
5103	Nant yr Ychen Cairn	Round barrow (cairn)	SO24762547
5104	Pen Twyn Mawr Cairn	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO24122672
5107	Capel y Ffin Stone	Standing stone ?	SO24953122
5318	Bwlch Bach a'r Grib Cairn I	Round barrow (cairn)	SO18683081
5319	Mynydd Troed Cairn	Round barrow (cairn)	SO17962702
5328	Pentir Cairn II	Round barrow	SO171258
5331	Pen Alltmawr Cairn III	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO20702435
5333	Cil Haul Cairn	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO167299
5371	Partrishow Hill Barrow	Round barrow	SO26632184
5373	Penmoile Cottage Stone	Standing stone ?	SO23721775
5388	Maes Coch Stones	Stone setting ?	SO24033822
5389	Cockalofty Cairn	Round barrow	SO24063844
5661	Mynydd Pen y Fal Cairn I	Round barrow (cairn)	SO26001896
5722	Twyn y Beddau Stones	Stone setting	SO2438
5775	Mynydd Pen y Fal Cairn II	Round barrow (structured cairn)	SO25831895
5826	Ty Du Cairn II	Round barrow	SO1834
5974	Penlan Mound I	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO15912307
12367	Cefn Moel cairn III	Round barrow (kerb cairn)	SO15922399
12368	Cefn Moel cairns	Round barrow cemetery (pair)	SO15932423
12376	Cwrt y Prior chambered tomb ?	Chambered tomb ?	SO150282
12395	Tredustan Court burial site	Round barrow ?	SO142326
17319	Pen Twyn Glas Cairn	Round barrow (kerb cairn)	SO21182690
17335	Pen Tir Ridge Cairns	Round barrow cemetery (pair)	SO1708125751
26971	Park Wood Cairn I	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO16753435
35696	Upper Island standing stone	Standing stone	SO22483624
38411	Blaenau Draw cairn I	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO1666826164
38417	Pen Tir cairn II	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO17222546
39563	Cefn Moel standing stone	Standing stone ?	SO15452286
39603	Ffynnon Las cairn II	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO15892320
39644	Ffynnon Las mound IV	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO15882356
39645	Ffynnon Las mound V	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO15862357
39659	Cefn Moel stone I	Standing stone	SO15952428
39661	Cefn Moel stone II	Standing stone	SO15932418
39662	Cefn Moel stone III	Standing stone ?	SO15912413
39673	Blaen-y-cwm uchaf stone	Standing stone ?	SO1606325764
43239	Cwm Banw cairn	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO21592380
44480	Blaen y Cwm Uchaf Cairn IV	Long barrow ?	SO15962506
44481	Blaen y Cwm Uchaf Cairn Cemetery	Round barrow cemetery	SO1593124999
50549	Twyn y Beddau Cist I	Cist ?	SO24113861

50550	Twyn y Beddau Cist II	Cist ?	SO24113861
50551	Twyn y Beddau Cist III	Cist ?	SO24113861
65001	Pen Twyn Mawr Cairn II	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO23922761
65002	Pen Gwyllt Meirch Cairn	Round barrow (cairn)	SO25322482
65003	Mynydd Bychan Cairn	Round barrow (cairn)	SO19793206
65006	Darren Ring Cairn	Round barrow (ring cairn)	SO21232133
65017	Pen Tir cairn III	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO17192550
65032	Cefn Moel burial cairn	Round barrow (cairn)	SO15932423
65033	Cefn Moel platform cairn	Round barrow (platform cairn) ?	SO15932423
65034	Pen Tir Ridge ring cairn	Round barrow (ring cairn)	SO1708125751
65035	Pen Tir Ridge platform cairn	Round barrow (platform cairn)	SO1708125751
72106	Maes Coch Round barrow II	Round barrow ?	SO234379
72243	Twyn y Beddau chambered tomb	Chambered tomb	SO24183810
77861	Lewenau Draw cairn	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SO19862350
77864	Tretower ring ditch	Ring ditch ?	SO18672107
79175	Nant y Ffin cairn	Round barrow (cairn)	SO25822421
81299	Waen-goch standing stone	Standing stone	SO24123155
81674	Pen yr Heol Las Cairn II	Round barrow (cairn)	SO15612371
81675	Pen yr Heol Las barrow cemetery	Round barrow cemetery (pair)	SO15612371