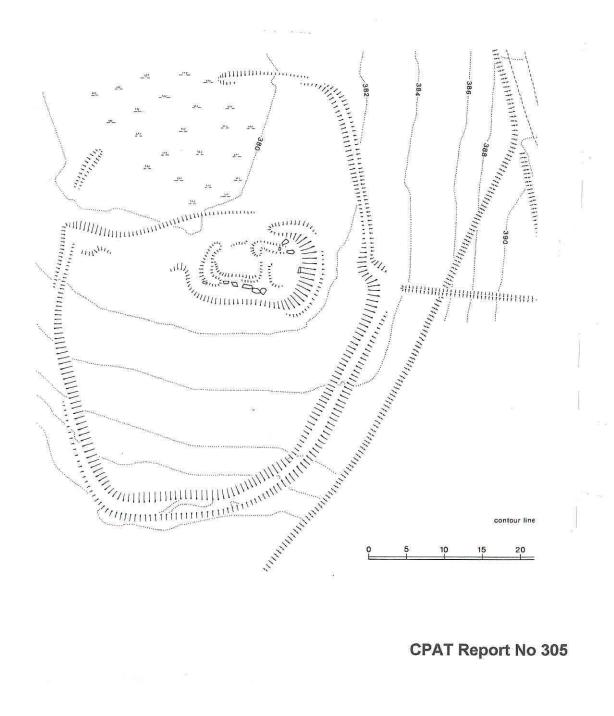
THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Deserted Medieval and Later Rural Settlements in Radnorshire: The Second Report



CPAT Report No 305

Deserted Medieval and Later Rural Settlements in Radnorshire: The Second Report

FIELD ASSESSMENT

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Report for Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments

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MEDIEVAL AND LATER DESERTED RURAL SETTLEMENT IN RADNORSHIRE

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Medieval and Later Deserted Rural Settlements in Radnorshire

1 Introduction

- 1.1 In 1996/97 with funding from Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments, a report was compiled which assessed the known population of deserted rural settlement sites in Radnorshire, the central portion of the modern county of Powys (Silvester 1997a). A cursory examination of some of the aerial photographic collection in the National Monument Record at Aberystwyth, a study of the data held in the regional Sites and Monuments Record, and field visits and detailed recording on a sample of the known settlements generated the information around which the report was fashioned. The products included an analysis of the types of deserted rural settlement sites in Radnorshire that are normally cited as medieval and early post-medieval in date, and a list of well-preserved, diagnostic examples which could be recommended for statutory protection, a handful of which were the subjects of measured surveys included in the report. Subsequently, visits with the regional Inspector of Ancient Monuments for Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments were arranged for a number of sites.
- 1.2 The following year saw the extension of the DRS study to Montgomeryshire (northern Powys), Denbighshire and the eastern part of Conwy County Borough, the last two formerly integral parts of the former county of Clwyd. The methodology honed in Radnorshire was repeated and the results were disseminated in a second report (Silvester 1997b).
- 1.3 A provisional decision to examine in 1998/99 the remaining areas in CPAT's region, namely Breconshire, Flintshire and Wrexham County Borough, was modified at the suggestion of Cadw who considered that the list of statutorily protected deserted rural settlement sites in Radnorshire could only be satisfactorily completed if all the known sites were critically assessed involving field visits wherever necessary. It was agreed that southern Radnorshire, (south of a line through Llandrindod Wells) should be completed by visiting all the sites not examined during 1996/97, including those from a further phase of aerial photo prospecting of the sort previously undertaken in 1996/97. In addition it was anticipated that during the 1998/99 programme the northern part of Breconshire could be covered to the same level as southern Radnorshire, given the estimated number of known sites lying to the north of the Wye and Usk valleys.
- 1.4 An unforeseen problem during the preliminary work on this stage of the project was the very large number of potentially relevant sites that had been detected by the RCAHMW aerial mapping programme of the military ranges on Mynydd Epynt during 1996/97 (Driver 1997). When the scale of the new data became clear, the overall level of fieldwork in northern Breconshire had to be modified, with the result that the assessment of deserted rural settlement in Breconshire remains in its early stages (Silvester: forthcoming), though it is anticipated that this will be completed in the next financial year (1999/2000), subject to appropriate resources being made available. However, it also became apparent as the current fieldwork programme developed that the completion of the whole of Radnorshire was feasible within 1998/99, a tidier solution to the obvious problems of overall coverage and reporting that would have occurred if part of the county had remained under-examined.
- 1.5 The report that follows covers all the known medieval and early post-medieval sites that have been recorded in Radnorshire, and builds on and in places supersedes the first report (Silvester 1997a). Some of the introductory information that was offered in the first report, namely 'The Background History to the Study in Central Wales' (section 2) and 'Sources' (section 6) are not replicated here, although a brief statement on the latter is included.

2 Scope of the Study

2.1 The Geographical Area The old county of Radnorshire, effectively the central region of the modern county of Powys has been described more fully in the first report (Silvester 1997a, para 3). It is one of the smallest of the old counties of Wales, it extends across an area of some 474

square miles and it is distinguished by the large number of individual tracts of upland common, particularly in the south of the county and along what might be termed its central spine. In the west are more extensive areas which merge with those of northern Breconshire and Ceredigion, and along the eastern fringe are river valleys that provide an almost lowland environment, more in keeping with the rolling hills of Herefordshire across the border with England. Above all then, it is a region of topographical diversity.

- 2.2 Monument Definition Since the inception of the survey in 1996, CPAT has adopted GAT's approach in defining the monument types to be included in the survey. Their scoping definition stated: 'any site which represents the remains of a deserted rural settlement which is characterised by the ruined remains of a stone-built structure (or structures) which is rectangular in plan and/or the presence of a rectangular, levelled platform which probably formerly held a building, and which does not appear to belong more properly to another monument class (e.g. barn, cottage, farm)...' GAT Interim Statement of Background and Methodology: December 1995).
- 2.3 The chronological range of the Gwynedd study 'post-Roman and pre-nineteenth century' has, however, not been followed exactly. Excluded from the study, except where there origins remain in doubt, are the very large number of new farmsteads and cottages which were or appear to have been established on the commons and waste between the 17th and 19th centuries. It is estimated from a cursory study of early Ordnance Survey, tithe and estate maps that there could be several hundred of these on and around the commons of Radnorshire. Some are already on the SMR but many more have still to be accurately located and described, and their study and analysis would represent a project in its own right. It was thought to be impracticable to incorporate these into the present programme, not least because of the distortion that such numbers would introduce to the study.

3 Aims of the Study

- 3.1 Four basic aims of the study, envisaged at the initiation of the project and outlined in the first report (Silvester 1997a, section 5), are repeated here:
- 3.1.1 GAT noted in their pilot study report that: "the nature of the resource in this instance, the monument type, was so varied and so little-understood, that some sort of basic classification [was] required. Sites have been inconsistently described and listed on the SMR and in evaluation reports, as 'hut', 'long hut', 'platform', 'platform hut', 'platform house', 'house platform', 'house platform', 'hut platform', 'farmstead', 'homestead' etc" (GAT 1996, section 2.1.2). What holds true for Gwynedd is equally pertinent to Radnorshire, and a fundamental aim of this study was to move towards a more systematic and useful classification of site types whilst standardising terminology.
- 3.1.2 Quantification of the resource was another broad objective. Though it would be naive to assume that a realistic impression could be achieved for Radnorshire as a whole, some recent fieldwork programmes at least provide a working guide to the scale of the situation. Extrapolation from these specific surveys to Radnorshire as a whole might be possible, though it has not been attempted in this report.
- 3.1.3 A further aim was to examine the current condition and test the reliability of the records that exist for a proportion of the extant sites. These have been compiled over several decades by a number of archaeologists and/or organisations, both professional and local, and the survey offered the opportunity to access the standard of individual records, both the descriptions and, in upland areas where control points are few, the precision with which they have been located. The enhancement of the regional SMR falls under the same generalised heading.
- 3.1.4 Fourthly, focusing on the vulnerability of these sites and the threats to their continuing existence, the final objective centred on the future conservation and management of the more significant sites, primarily those visited during the field survey. Very few sites are currently scheduled and the survey offered an opportunity for scheduling enhancement of a monument class which is rarely examined as a entity.

4 Methodology

4.1 The basic approach to the data has remained unaltered since the project was initiated, namely:

i) desk-top analysis of the resource
ii) assessment in the field
iii) evaluation of data from i) and ii)
iv) report preparation and input into SMR

- 4.2 Desk-top analysis The main analysis for Radnorshire, using a free-standing database (as elaborated in Silvester 1997a, para 4), was completed in 1996, but since that time some new work has been undertaken by the National Trust on their common land holding known as The Begwns, south of Painscastle, and by CPAT on Llanbedr and Rhulen Hills, a simultaneous survey which was mentioned *en passant* in the first report (Silvester 1997a, para 12). The results were not then integrated into the database, but this has now been rectified. Data from the current RCAHMW-funded study of two commons in north Radnorshire, Cwmgwyn and Medwalleth Common and Llanbister and Moelfre Hills, have not been incorporated as this work is still in progress, but at the time of writing upwards of thirty additional sites, many of them platforms, have been recorded.
- 4.3.1 Aerial Photograph prospecting It was noted in the first report that a systematic search of all the vertical aerial photography available for Radnorshire was not feasible because of the considerable quantity of material involved (Silvester 1997a, para 6.4). However, the assessment of a sample of RAF photography taken in the later 1940s demonstrated that as a prospecting tool the photography for Radnorshire was excellent, in contrast to the mediocre return obtained from a study of comparable photography for Montgomeryshire and Denbighshire (Silvester 1997b, para 6.4.1).
- 4.3.2 During the current programme a small amount of time was devoted to examining further runs of vertical photographs held in the National Monuments Record in Aberystwyth, and by luck rather than design some photography (RAF/106G/UK1190) taken on 24 February 1946 over Aberedw Hill and adjacent commons proved to be particularly rewarding. Of nearly fifty anomalies recorded on the photographs, fifteen were confirmed as terraced platforms, or less commonly long huts. Some were associated with enclosures, extensive tracts of cultivation ridges and occasional strip fields, and a further seven settlement sites were identified during follow-up fieldwork. Field visits showed that many of the remaining anomalies were quarries, a clear indicator of the mis-identification that can arise from the rapid scanning of vertical photos. Certainly this aspect of the study has resulted in a completely new picture of rural settlement on one upland Radnorshire common and has fed useful information into one of the case studies below (section 12). It has also resulted in several scheduling recommendations.
- 4.4 Fieldwork Those sites in Radnorshire not visited in 1996/97 were examined in the field during the current programme. As in the earlier season it was anticipated that an average of up to four sites a day could be recorded, although one of the controlling factors in the earlier sampling strategy had been accessibility, and in completing the study of the county's deserted settlements, it has been necessary to reach more remote locations, a time-consuming process that reduces daily targets. The same pro forma site recording sheets were adopted as in previous years. These forms were used for all authentic sites, and were supplemented by sketches and, where appropriate, colour and/or monochrome photography. A total of 161 site visits were made and 105 of these provided positive data on deserted rural settlements relevant to this study
- 4.5 The programme also allowed for a small number of measured surveys of specific sites. These are of sites which are being recommended for scheduling and they are cross-referenced in Appendix 3. It can also be noted here that where a measured plan already exists this is noted in Appendix 2.
- 4.6 Evaluation The Radnorshire monuments were evaluated for the purposes of archaeological analysis, record enhancement and future management. This involved the interrogation of the database and the manipulation of the data within it. The fourth of the *pro forma* sheets covering scheduling assessments, was considered, and the results assessed to provide, in conjunction with professional judgement, a list of sites which are believed to be of sufficiently high quality for statutory protection.

4.7 Report preparation and SMR input This report has been compiled at the end of the survey and is regarded as a summary of what amounts to a considerable amount of data for one county. These data will be passed to the regional SMR at the termination of the project.

5 Sources

5.1 These were considered in some detail in the first report and here only a summary is offered. The main source of data was the Regional Sites and Monuments Record housed in Welshpool, supplemented by the National Monuments Record in Aberystwyth. Historic maps were thought to be a potentially useful though largely untested source of data, and in the event provided little of significance, although they have been used in the case study of the Aberedw Commons (Section 12 below). Vertical aerial photography has been used profitably (see Section 4.3 above), primarily in the identification of new archaeology, and some oblique aerial photography was also made available by RCAHMW. Fieldwork was extensive and resulted not only in the verification (and occasionally the rejection) of sites but also the discovery of new deserted rural settlements in the vicinity of known examples.

6 Terminology

- 6.1 The earlier Radnorshire report carried a section on nomenclature (Silvester 1997a, section 8), which identified the range of terms that had been adopted in the classification of deserted rural settlements, and explained the usage adopted for the current programme. Subsequent to the preparation of the Montgomeryshire/Denbighshire report a meeting on 2 April 1998 between Cadw and project staff from two of the Trusts resulted in the development of a draft terminology framework for the study of deserted rural settlements in Wales.
- 6.2 The draft terminology has yet to be moulded into a final form, but this report takes cognisance of the descriptive terms in the simplified forms which have been provisionally agreed, specifically in the site database. Rather more licence has been retained in the descriptive text which follows.

The Results

7 Numbers

- 7.1 During the current phase of work a further 161 site visits were made and from these 105 sites were considered to meet the criteria adopted for the DRS study. Of the remainder a significant proportion were anomalies detected on the RAF aerial photographs which proved on examination to be either surface quarries or features that were no longer discernible on the ground and could not consequently be verified. Observations on these non-DRS sites have been submitted to the SMR but will not be alluded to further in this report. Mis-attributions or mislocations resulting from seemingly inadequate or imprecise data in the SMR were responsible for most of the remaining visit 'failures'.
- 7.2 When the overall picture for Radnorshire is assembled, the number of extant deserted rural settlement sites is impressive (Fig 1). It should be noted here that where multiple sites occur as at Beili Bedw the actual number of individual platforms and long huts is included in the total. 288 sites have been confirmed in the field with a further six examples probable though not totally convincing. A very few sites were not assessed in the field, usually due to the remoteness of the location which made a visit completely uneconomical, but in two instances where landowner hostility prevented access.
- 7.3 There are a further 31 sites where the evidence is now equivocal. Examples include the Pentre deserted village site (PRN 2484) near New Radnor which was shown on a photograph taken by Professor St Joseph in 1970. By the time of a visit by the Ordnance Survey ten years later, the only remnants of the complex of platforms and associated enclosures were two field boundaries. A hafod near Gaer Farm (PRN 6465) has now been destroyed by the Llanelwedd quarry above Builth Wells while a platform at Ableys Green Wood near Presteigne (PRN 34811) reported in 1979 has now been built over. Not all of the 31 sites, however, should be seen as the casualties of ground improvement and other destructive agents. The failure to find a site in the field may be due to a locational error either at the time of the original identification or in the transmission of information on to the record.
- 7.4 It also has to be appreciated that our evidence for deserted rural settlement in Radnorshire, though extensive, provides nothing like a complete picture. That many more sites remain to be identified and recorded is signalled by just a few examples. The field visit to a site above the Clywdog Brook (PRN 34861) in Abbeycwmhir, a platform which itself resulted from a casual observation from a nearby road and upon close examination appeared unlikely to be relevant to this study, identified at least two and possibly three earthworks elsewhere along the valley of the Clywedog Brook. Along the Marteg Valley in St Harmon, north of Rhaiadr, Royal Commission oblique photographs showed a dispersed pattern of at least three long huts on one of the ridges west of the village. But the walk to these sites also revealed a long hut with a series of associated enclosures, two individual platforms and a pair of platforms, all new discoveries (PRNs 70009-70012). On the next ridge to the north two further sets of earthworks were recognised and Royal Commission photographs not previously made available to the project highlighted another two sites.
- 7.5 Also indicative of the seriously incomplete picture presented by the current state of knowledge is the examination of the commons in the county undertaken under the Uplands Initiative. Fieldwork on the conjoined commons of Rhulen, Llanbedr and Glascwm produced more than thirty new examples of platform sites in 1996/97 (Hankinson and Silvester 1997), and a similar level of recovery is now coming from the northern part of Radnorshire where the Cwmgwyn and Medwalleth commons, and the Llanbister and Moelfre Hills are currently being examined. Aerial photograph assessment and fieldwork on Aberedw Common described in a case study elsewhere in this report, has produced new data, comparable to the other commons in its ubiquity but more variable in its nature. Only one Radnorshire common, The Begwns, has failed to produce significant numbers of new settlement sites during systematic survey. Its atypical yield during a National Trust survey in 1997 amounted to one interesting complex of platforms and enclosures by Neuadd Ford (PRN 36977-36983) and a separate platform and appended enclosure at Cwm Ford (PRN 36962: E Plunkett Dillon: pers. comm.). Conceivably this could be a result of the extensive ploughing that occurred across the southern half of the area during the Second World War, but it is probable too that the topography of the Begwns may also have a bearing on this picture.

7.6 There is presently no means of estimating the population of deserted rural settlement sites in Radnorshire. It should be noted, however, that there are more than 60 commons of varying sizes in Radnorshire and no more than half a dozen have been examined intensively. Nor has systematic survey been initiated in the lower enclosed lands where desertions might also be anticipated. Given that over 30% of the sites listed here derived either from aerial photograph analysis or from associated project-specific fieldwork and that a further 11% have come from Upland Initiative projects of the last few years, the retrievable population of deserted sites in the county is undoubtedly significantly larger than the present figure of nearly three hundred.

8 The Setting of DRSs

- 8.1 The completion of fieldwork on all but a very small number of sites allows us to assess with more confidence the topographical setting of medieval and early post-medieval settlements in Radnorshire. The picture is necessarily biased, both by the survival of sites, and perhaps more fundamentally at present, by the emphasis on sites in unimproved uplands as a result of upland surveys. The assessment would of course benefit from the incorporation of data for occupied farms which could be shown to go back to the 16th century if not earlier, and contrasts between the two data sets might be instructive
- 8.2 Altitude Radnorshire is a hilly county with very little low-lying ground, even in the eastern borderland where the ground starts to open out as small tributaries runs towards the Wye, Teme and Lugg, yet rarely falls below 183m (600') OD. That the lowest settlement site is registered at 180m OD (PRN 23591) thus comes as little surprise, and indeed below 305m (1000') only 37 sites have been recognised to date. It is at the other end of the altitude scale that the figures appear more remarkable. Over 427m (1400') OD Darvill's upper limit beyond which the signs of human activity markedly diminish (Darvill 1986, 20) there are 27 sites (or more than 9% of the total) and most of these (21) are platforms rather than long huts in remote upland valleys as might be anticipated. Most of these are to be found in the northern part of the county, the highest being at 495m OD (PRN 6679). But by far the largest number of sites are encountered between 320m-410m OD with more than 200 in all, or more than 70% of the total, and there 17 sites recorded at 380m OD alone.
- 8.3 Orientation The orientation of the site, whether it be long hut or platform, will frequently depend on the slope, on the direction of a watercourse and its valley, or some other facet of the natural micro-topography. Only in level areas devoid of natural controls is the orientation of a particular site likely to be left to the whim of the builder, and in Radnorshire such locations are relatively rare. Thus one would not expect to recognise any degree of preference creeping into the orientation of the recorded sites and this is born out by the statistics. There is a slight weighting in favour of east/west but in overall terms this is unlikely to be significant.

Table 1	Orientation	Number	Percentage
	N/S	58	19.7
	NE/SW	38	12.9
	E/W	70	23.8
	SE/NW	50	17.0
	All Others (4 directions)	71	24.1

8.4 Aspect It is reasonable to assume that those who lived in these deserted medieval and later settlements had at least some control over where they lived and, in the many cases where the position was elevated, some say in the aspect or view that the site enjoyed. Of course the position of the mother settlement in the valley below may have had a considerable influence, and despite the fact that many farms then were established beyond the edge of the cultivated ground (and are now on common land) there may well have been manorial constraints on where they could be

sited. Nevertheless, one might anticipate a preference for south-facing slopes which would offer more sun throughout the year and more shelter from the harder weather, and this is borne out to some extent by the figures, for nearly 50% have a southerly aspect. Yet fieldwork has demonstrated that there are a significant number of sites facing north - nearly 28% of the total - and in some places clusters of north-facing sites as at the northern end of Radnor Forest above the little village of Llanfihangel Rhydithon where more than a dozen platforms lie along the slopes above the Maes Brook. Furthermore a north-facing farm may not always have been an attractive proposition - some farmers today consider such a farm preferable because in time of summer drought the grass is less likely to burn off than on a farm facing south. Aspect, then, may have been important but it was certainly not an over-riding factor in the location of medieval settlement, and this is demonstrated by the figures in Table 2.

Aspect	Number	Percentage
N	18	6.1
N to E	31	10.5
E	31	10.5
E to S	65	22.1
S	37	12.6
S to W	46	15.6
W	23	7.8
N to W	35	11.9

Table 2

- 8.5 Water Supply The proximity of water does not, on the face of it, seem to have been a primary concern in the location of settlement. Only 22 of the recorded sites lie within 10m of a recognisable water supply, almost invariably a stream, while 173 are over 100m from water. It is of course impossible to determine whether there were closer water supplies at the time of the occupation a spring since dried up or even a well but on the basis of this evidence water is not likely to have been a major factor in determining the location of a settlement.
- 8.6 Topography A sizeable majority of the known settlements are either on the sides of either valleys (107) or hills (157), though the distinction between these two categories can be blurred. Only five sites have been recorded as occupying valley floors and with one exception these are long huts, presumably of the hafod variety. Equally rare are sites on hill tops (four examples with three more on saddles) and spurs (four examples). A favoured position particularly for platforms, though not immediately quantifiable from the data available, is on the lip of a break of slope above a valley.
- 8.7 Slope Slope is of indirect importance in the location of settlements, and inevitably relates to the topography. It is self-evident that that there will be some hillsides too steep for a settlement to be established. In fact there are 21 platforms recorded on what has been described as steep ground, a subjective judgement admittedly, but necessitating nevertheless much effort in spoil shifting in order to create a level site for a house. Exceptional in this respect is one of the Llanfihangel Rhydithon sites referred to above which lies towards the bottom of such a steep slope that the fan at the rear of the platform is around 6.5m high. There are others where it is equally surprising that the angle did not act as a deterrent. The majority though lie on gentle and moderate gradients, and it reflects on the nature of the Radnorshire landscape that there are only 13 sites (less than 5%) which occupy what we have classed as level ground.
- 8.8 Conclusions. It has to be accepted that the dataset for Radnorshire is not an unbiased sample of rural settlement in the region. Indeed it is heavily weighted to better preserved sites in the frequently unenclosed uplands and in relative terms the number of sites recognised on improved lands at lower altitudes is small. Nevertheless, this does not mean that the present picture of general settlement location is badly distorted. The topography of much of Radnorshire is such that sites in the bottoms of valleys are unusual and this can be seen from the pattern of modern settlement as well. Equally ridge and hill-top sited settlements are unusual. Medieval and later settlement, particularly when permanent, favoured hillslope locations. These could be virtually anywhere and aspect does not seem to have been a controlling factor. Height was significant but only above about 450m OD.

9 Site Morphology

- 9.1 The first report on Radnorshire DRSs contained a section on site morphology (Silvester 1997a, section 9), based on a sample of over 160 sites. This section is updated here, now that the overall number of sites has risen to nearly 300. In the earlier report we defined two basic types, the terraced platform or platform and the long hut. Both of these remain as fundamental types although as an element of terminology platform is now used as an umbrella term. A third basic type the shelter has been introduced as a result of work in Montgomeryshire and Denbighshire. Some sub-divisions are inevitable and these are considered below.
- 9.2.1 Long Huts By definition these are normally rectangular and the site type represents the building or structure itself rather than the setting prepared for it. Most of the buildings show a simple rectangular outline, but less commonly there are visible divisions or partitions, and obvious or presumed entrances. Thirty-eight examples have been recorded and quite a number of them are in the more mountainous western parts of Radnorshire where other site types are rare.
- 9.2.2 Long huts have a considerable size range, and on this basis alone some variation in function might be anticipated. The longest recorded example, Pont Marteg Longhouse II (PRN 33948) is in the Marteg valley near Rhaiadr with external measurements of 27.4m by 6.4m, and at least four compartments. There are also a couple of large examples close to each other on the northwestern flank of Aberdew Hill: Pen Waun Pool I (PRN 33968) has an overall length of 21.9m and Pen Waun Pool II (PRN 33970) is 23.2m long, but both are atypical in their appearance. At the lower end there are several which have external measurements under 10m long (e.g. Graig longhouse: PRN 2096; and Aberedw Hill hafod: PRN 3747), while the majority (over 60%) are between 10m and 16m externally.
- 9.3.1 Platforms. Platforms are of course earthworks, the artificially constructed bases on which long huts and perhaps other structures were built. It remains an assumption, though a wholly reasonable one on the evidence of those platforms with structural traces surviving on them, that the majority of platforms were designed for buildings which have left no above-ground structural traces, probably because they were constructed of degradable materials. Large numbers of such platforms exist in Radnorshire with 201 recorded in Appendix 2, around 68% of the dataset (Fig 2).
- 9.3.2 Most are cut into the natural slope and the spoil from this operation was usually though not invariably thrown forward to level out a platform at the front where the ground fell away; all but a few platforms lie down the slope and thus at right angles to the contours. We have termed the artificial scarp at the rear, the 'fan', and the artificial slope at the front, the 'apron'. Few of the platforms appear to have hoods, the curved bank thrown up above the fan to deflect water. Common on the 'house platforms' in north-west Wales (Gresham 1954, 22), their appearance in Radnorshire is sufficiently rare to merit special comment. Aberedw Hill enclosure (PRN 36924) is one such site.
- 9.3.3 Very occasionally where the ground is almost level the whole earthwork is raised as a platform. One of the earthworks on Penybont Common (PRN 6726) falls within this category as does one of the newly detected nucleated group at Neuadd Ford on The Begwns (PRN 36982). In these cases the platforms run out from the natural slope and are artificially raised on only two or three sides. They are in effect variations on a common type, lacking the fan at the rear but retaining the front apron.
- 9.3.4 The term 'platform house' which was used by Cyril and Aileen Fox for sites in Radnorshire (1939; 1949) and then by Colin Gresham in Meirionydd (1954) has been avoided on the grounds that it is too presumptive. Indeed it is somewhat ironic that in one of his two published assessments of Radnorshire platforms, Cyril Fox specifically used the term for the large platforms at Dyrysgol, St Harmon (PRN 902 and 4457) these amongst the very few platforms which were probably not occupied by houses (see below).
- 9.3.5 The platforms reveal a considerable range of size. At the lowest end of the range there are some that are little more than 7m long including both fan and apron (e.g. Castell y Blaidd IV: PRN 33987), and it is most unlikely that they were constructed for a dwelling but rather for an ancillary structure of some sort. At the other end of the range are the Dyrysgol sites mentioned above, with

PRN 902 no less than 46.9m in length. Because of variations in the size of the aprons and fans which can be seriously affected by the slope of the ground and the natural topography in general, the internal length of the platform is a better gauge of size. The smallest platforms are little more than 4m in length, the largest, at Dyrysgol, is 36.0m. But these are the exceptions. Nearly 47% of platforms are between 11m and 14m in length and there are relatively few - probably no more than nine - over 20m in length. The size of the fans which usually acts as a broad indicator of the angle of slope on which the platform is set (and also, of course, an indicator of the amount of work that went in to creating the platform), also reveals considerable variation. Most are sunk to a depth of 1m to 2m, but there are a few as deep as 5m (e.g. Llewetrog platform III: PRN 35466; and Cefn Wylfre platform house: PRN 38325) while Cwm Merwys IV (PRN 6853) with its 6.6m fan has already been noted above.

- 9.4.1 Platforms with Long Huts Fifty sites show a combination of platforms with the foundations of buildings on them. There is nothing exceptional about them and they may appear close to or even in association with a structure-less platform. As such groupings appear on unimproved moorland, it seems unlikely that post-occupation factors can be invoked to account solely for the difference. But at the same time it is clear than pasture improvement through rotation and ploughing will have a detrimental effect on low foundations while leaving the platforms themselves superficially intact. This is clear revealed at Beili Bedw (see below, section 13) where two platforms have lost all surface traces of the buildings that were planned by the Ministry of Works in 1960. But a series of examples in the first report reflect a more common situation where only part of the structure survives. A platform at Pant-y-Ilyn (PRN 4089) has the rear of the building visible but the front half has largely disappeared and a similar disparity occurs at the Rhewl platform (PRN 33923) where the surviving side walls run from the rear of the platform but fade out at just over 9m, though the base of the platform is at least 15m long.
- 9.4.2 The buildings on these platforms create a not dissimilar picture to those long huts without earthwork associations referred to above. Yet there are some differences. Only 42% of the sites have external lengths between 10m and 16m, and this is in large part because longer huts are more frequently encountered on platforms. There are for instance six huts between 16m and 18m in length, a size range completely absent in the 'free-standing huts', and at the maximal end of the range is the Pont Marteg longhouse I (PRN 33949) in the Marteg Valley where the building, atypically, lies on a platform along the slope, and is 35m long and Red Hill platform IV (PRN 35485) which appears to be perhaps 27m long. Just conceivably the former may represent two buildings end to end. In the lower platform sizes of around 11m to 13m in internal length we currently have about one platform in nine or ten with a structure visible on it. But at 15m and more the ratio falls to 1:3 or 1:4.
- 9.5 Shelters These were a not uncommon site type in Montgomeryshire and Denbighshire. At present they are barely represented in Radnorshire.
- 9.6 Miscellaneous Amongst the large number of sites recorded in Radnorshire there are a few that cannot be easily accommodated in the classes outlined above. Two sites which were grouped together in the first report are worth alluding to again. The earthwork on Carneddau (PRN 23101) is a long enclosure with banks less than 0.5m high but a overall length of 19.2m and an external width of 8.5m. One end is almost impossible to detect, the other has what appears to be a central entrance formed by earthwork 'arms' running not at right-angles off the long sides but curving off at an oblique angle. While it is possible that such a width could have been roofed, the curiosity of the short side with its apparent entrance sets it apart, and there must be some doubt that it is a structure at all (see Musson 1994, 149). PRN 34864 on Bryngwyn Common, is a long earthwork enclosure about 18.9m in overall length and 9.7m in width. This has a gully outside the bank on three sides, a small stream forming the fourth side; there are disturbances in the two long sides that could be entrances but it is more likely that the gap in the short, east end is the original access. As with the previous example, it is not certain that this was ever a roofed structure. No further certain examples of this type have been identified, but a rectangular earthwork, Pen Waun Pool II (PRN 33968) on Aberedw Hill could fall within this category. Overall, about 22m long, its south end appears now to be completely open and there is no obvious reason why the bank should have disappeared entirely in an area where there has almost certainly been little later activity. It may not, however, have been the primary structure for a terraced platform (PRN 33967) lies 16m downslope.

10 Typology

- 10.1 This study has assembled a mass of evidence for deserted rural settlement in the old county of Radnorshire and distinguished three basic structural types, the platform, the long hut and the shelter, together with variant forms. That this distinction is to a large extent superficial has been indicated in this report and indeed in earlier ones, and if any significant progress is going to be made in developing a picture of rural settlement in the medieval and later periods a more searching classificatory scheme needs to be evolved. An analysis of the data from Denbighshire and Montgomeryshire (Silvester 1997b, section 9) separated out sixteen topological groups based on their structural characteristics, associations and locations, and at the time it was argued that this framework could be tested and revised against data from other regions of Powys and the old county of Clwyd. The Radnorshire dataset offers such an opportunity.
- 10.2 In combining elements of morphology and topography, together it has to be said with an assessment of function based largely on analogy and surmise, it is inevitable that some overlap emerges. Several groups have been amalgamated and a couple of new ones introduced. The descriptions given here are thus based on those for Montgomeryshire and Denbighshire, with modifications, and is followed by a commentary on some of the relevant aspects.
- 10.3 1) *Small structures grouped under the general heading of shelters.* These can be square, rectangular or irregular in shape, though the length is usually less than twice the width. They are not usually accompanied by features such as fields, but may be integrated with small pounds or enclosures. There are no particularly favoured topographical locations, and they are found on valley floors, on hill sides and even ridge tops.

2) Long huts sited in an isolated location. No maximum size. Some have signs that the ground was terraced or platformed to accommodate the structure, but most show no such modifications. No associations with other features. Usual locations are valley floors, natural terraces etc, in the uplands, but on rare occasions found at lower altitudes and in enclosed landscapes.

3) Long huts with enclosures. The enclosures may surround, adjoin or be adjacent to the long huts, and be of varying size. Locations frequently close to valleys as on shoulders or nearby slopes, also on terraces. Sometimes ancillary features within the enclosure. Generally these types of site are features of the uplands.

4) *Isolated terraced platforms*. Found in the uplands without any associations and rarely with any clear signs of structures on them. Occasionally encountered at lower altitudes on enclosed land, possibly suggesting that lesser earthworks have been removed during subsequent ground improvement. Generally on hillslopes. Comparable with (2).

5) *Terraced platforms by or within enclosures*. Sometimes in isolated locations, sometimes part of a dispersed settlement pattern. Upper hillslopes, and on the commons, occasionally elsewhere. Comparable with (3).

6) *Terraced platforms associated with cultivation*. Sometimes supporting structural remains, accompanied by strip fields or cultivation ridges. Usually on or near to enclosed land.

7) Long huts associated with cultivation. May be accompanied by strip fields or cultivation ridges. Usually on or near to enclosed land. The structural equivalent of (6).

8) Paired platforms, or platform and long hut together, usually within 50m of each other and presumed to be contemporary. May have an associated enclosure or field associations. This overlaps with several other categories.

9) Miscellaneous sites such as the ditched platforms described above (section 9.6).

10) Sheepcotes Distinguished by unusually long platforms or huts or a combination of the two. The few Welsh examples may have monastic links, in contrast to a wider range of ownership in England.

11) Nucleated groups . Either terraced platforms and/or long huts in groups of three or more; four or five are relatively common but larger groups are most unusual.

12) Post-medieval buildings such as farmhouses or cottages erected on or close to the waste. and probably in the 18th century or later, though conceivably on an earlier site.

13) Platforms or long huts set along the contour. Often associated with other elements.

14) Single platforms or long huts within a complex of enclosures and pounds.

15) Barns

Site Type	Category	RadNos	Rad%	Denb	Denb%	Mont	Mont
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Shelters	1	2	0.7	9	10.8	11	8.0
Isolated long huts	2	6	2.1	15	18.1	36	26.3
Long huts/enclosures	3	17	5.8	15	18.1	5	3.6
Isolated platforms	4	82	27.8	10	12.0	40	29.2
Platforms/enclosures	5	17	5.8	2	2.4	8	5.8
Platforms/cultivation	6	8	2.7	11	13.3	6	4.4
Long huts/cultivation	7	3	1.0	5	6.1	1	0.7
Paired platforms	8	34	11.6	2	2.4	20	14.6
Pairs/enclosure	8E	6	2.1				
Miscellaneous	9	3	1.0	3	3.6	1	0.7
Sheepcotes	10	2	0.7	3	3.6	2	1.5
Nucleated groups	11	78	26.8	7	8.4	0	
Nucleated groups/fields	11F	3	1.0				
Post-med buildings	12	6	2.1	1	1.2	6	4.4
Contour platforms	13	8	2.7	0		1	0.7
Complexes	14	12	4.1				
Barns	15	3	1.0				
Total	1	291	99.0	83	100.0	137	100.0

Table 3

Note In the above table 'E' = enclosure; 'F = field system'

- 10.4 The figures presented in the table above are indicative and the comparative figures from Denbighshire and Montgomeryshire are useful if only for displaying general trends, though that fact that they represent only a sample of the sites in those counties necessitates some caution.
- 10.5.1Commentary In Radnorshire very few shelters (1) have been reported, and they are not, generally a feature of the commons. Isolated long huts (2) are more common yet not in comparison with the other counties whose numbers tend to be bolstered by remote hafod-type structures in high upland valleys. As similar terrain is found more to the north and west of the county where fieldwork has been less extensive, the low numbers are not unexpected (Fig 3). However, the number of long huts set within or beside their own enclosures (3) is potentially more significant and can usefully be compared with the similar number of platforms accompanied by enclosures (5). These are found on the commons yet also at lower altitudes as with Newhouse Ford hafod (PRN 2047) in a valley south or the River Ithon near Llandrindod Wells, and it should be observed that a little further to the north two more sites, this time platforms (Bank House platforms V and VI: PRNs 2635 and 34870), both have enclosures. As several of the Beili Bedw platforms have small enclosures or

pounds around, though much denuded, it is clear that this is a not uncommon phenomenon, and indeed they do appear to be a typical element of the dispersed settlement pattern found on the commons and elsewhere. It remains to be established whether the correlation of house site and enclosure is symptomatic of both seasonal and permanent occupation, but the evidence of Hafod y Nant Criafolen in the Brenig valley now in eastern Conwy (Allen 1979) would suggest that that is the case, as does the particularly remote location of sites such as Castle Bank enclosure (PRN 33980).

- 10.5.2The association of platforms and long huts with relict cultivation traces (6 & 7) is more difficult to demonstrate convincingly. On Aberedw Hill and Penybont Common the association is one of geographical proximity. But whereas with the latter there can be little doubt of the relationship (Silvester 1997a, fig.7), on Aberedw Common there is an extensive range of cultivation ridges and in some places strip fields, around the edges of the common initiating quite complex landscapes which might have some chronological depth. While again the association appears solid for some sites, especially where both elements occupy what appear to be otherwise archaeologically barren zones, it needs to be confirmed by a more rigorous examination of the evidence in others. What this signifies in terms of settlement type is also something that needs to be considered, but cannot be attempted here, and indeed is probably best conducted within detailed case studies, for the implications relate to the nature of the associated farming regime rather than the settlement itself. It is, however, worth stressing that other sites may well have relict agricultural traces which have ot yet been identified, and realistically aerial photographic analysis is a better guide than fieldwork. Certainly the number of associations could thus be rather higher than is presently credited.
- 10.5.3The appearance of pairs of platforms (8) is a phenomenon which was widely recognised in Montgomeryshire, less so in Denbighshire except on the western edge of the Berwyn. It reappears regularly in Radnorshire, and the obvious interpretation is that the earthworks reflect a farmstead complex of house and ancillary building, with one platform often being smaller than the other. It must be noted at this stage that where the platforms are discrete earthworks they are individually counted, but where conjoined they are usually counted as a single entity. In fact about twenty platform pairs have been identified in Radnorshire overall.
- 10.5.4Professor C Dyer has recently distinguished in the Cotswolds an earthwork type comprising a long and relatively narrow structure which on the basis of field and documentary evidence he has identified as roofed sheepcotes (Dyer 1995). In an extension to his research he has isolated the paired platforms at Dyrysgol (PRN 902 and 4457) as one of the two probable sheepcotes which have been published in Wales (C Dyer: pers. comm.). Both of these could be of monastic origin but in England such structures appear on the land of both secular and monastic owners. Dyrysgol is certainly unusual in its size. As noted above the earthwork overall is 46.9m long with the platform itself 36.0m long. On this is a building which internally is 33.1m long and 5.2m wide though the walls are now very low. It compares well with the smallest of the Cotswold examples at Naunton (Dyer 1995, fig 2).
- 10.5.5Contrary to an Ordnance Survey statement from 1978, the second platform (PRN 4457) at Dyrysgol, less than 100m to the south-east, is still in existence. It is smaller than its neighbour, but with an external length of 40.1m and an internal length of 30m is still significantly larger than any other platform in the county. It does not, however, show any traces of a structure on top of it. There are several other platforms over 30m long in Radnorshire. One of a pair at Cwm y Bont (PRN 6084) is 34m long by 17.4m wide, the length of the actual platform being 26m. And PRN 33922 at Camnant, north of Hundred House, is 35m long externally, and internally is 27.0m by 7.5m. But both of these are likely to be exceptionally large farmstead platforms, especially the latter which has associated enclosures.
- 10.5.6Larger groups of platforms (11), from three through to five or six, are uncommon but not rare. These are here classed as nucleated settlements, but this terminology may be misleading. Groups of three, perhaps even four, platforms might constitute elements of an individual farmstead, rather than, say, the homes of a kin group. Five groups of three, three each of four and six platforms have been identified. Neuadd Ford and Beili Bedw stand out because of the number of buildings or platforms that are involved, seven in the case of the former, seventeen in the latter including two outliers. Grouped platforms like these do not occur without associations. Of six at Bank House (Silvester 1997, fig 5), two have small enclosures appended to them, and this is true also for

almost all of the Neuadd Ford platforms and many of those at Beili Bedw (see below). Yet field systems of whatever kind do not seem to form obvious associations. And there is also ambiguity in the evidence as to whether these represent seasonal or permanent habitations, a point which is picked up on below.

- 10.5.7Platforms or long huts which are set along the slope (contour platforms) rather than at right angles to it (slope platforms) have been singled out because they do not conform to what is clearly the standard pattern. 79% of the sites listed here are slope platforms (or buildings), and a further 8% are set between 45° and 80°. The reasons why the majority of platforms were set into the slope is a complex issue which cannot be addressed here, but many of those which are contour-related seem superficially to be late in date (see Silvester 1997a, section 9.2.6 for further discussion on this point). This relative chronology cannot however be taken as an immutable standard. There are certainly a few contour platforms which look to be early in date on the basis of their location or associations (e.g. one on the western edge of Y Berwyn within a dispersed group of slope platforms), and equally, later structures right up to the present are still set into the slope.
- 10.5.8The recognition at the relatively well-studied site of Beili Bedw of a later farmstead superimposed on the nucleated platform settlement (see below) is one of the many positive elements to emerge from this study. The rectilinear enclosures together with the long hut at their centre (PRN 70019) form an integrated farmholding, the elements of which tend to be missing from many of the sites already discussed. In a sense they presage the early modern farms on the commons. Using Beili Bedw as a model about a dozen such farmholdings can be distinguished amongst the deserted rural settlements visited for the study. Some of these are fairly clear-cut examples. Garn Fawr farmstead (PRN 2757) is an excellent example with a deeply cut platform, a fine pound and an embanked terrace above it, an approach track between the two, and other enclosures, at a height which is well above the general altitude of modern farms in the neighbourhood. There is an Ordnance Survey plan, sadly inadequate, of this settlement. Moelfre Hill settlement (PRN 70044; Fig 4) is similar, as are the two Fron Top Longhouses (PRN 7039 and 7040; Fig 5), perhaps the Camnant Platform (PRN 33922); and from the earlier study the Pant y Rhiw House Site (PRN 3778; SAM RD158, and used as a cover illustration for this report) with another site nearby - the Upper House Enclosure (PRN 33981; Fig 6) - and the Cwm-twrch Platform Settlement (PRN 34817). There is no substantive dating evidence for these sites, indeed there can be no certainty that they represent a particular stage in the development of farmholdings which has a chronological niche. It is little more than a hypothesis at the present, though one that can now be tested by further work, that some at least of these sites are developed farmsteads that emerged early in the post-medieval era. The only signal of date comes from Beili Bedw where excavated glass is of late 16th-century or early 17th-century origin.

Three Case Studies

11 The Glascwm Valley

- 11.1 There are few east to west routeways in central Radnorshire. The high commons provide barriers which in the past were traversed by tracks but today only rarely by metalled roads, and most of the deep valleys terminate in narrow cwms that necessitate steep climbs to the crests of the commons. An exception is the valley of the Clas Brook which runs westwards towards the Edw, a tributary of the Wye and is separated by only a narrow watershed of no more than a few hundred metres from the valley of an unnamed streamlet that runs east to form a feeder of the small river Arrow. There is now a minor road linking the two valleys.
- 11.2 Just below the watershed is the village of Glascwm, a focus of a few houses and post office ringed by outlying farms. But the place-name derived from *clas* reveals a more significant past when there was a mother church in the valley and the churchyard with its inner and outer curvilinear encloses reinforces this early importance, though Richard Morgan prefers a derivation from *glas* meaning 'blue' (Morgan 1998, 57). An earlier visit to Glascwm during the Radnorshire Historic Settlements study in January 1994 resulted in the identification of six or seven platforms cut into both the northern and southern slopes of the valley and within three hundred metres of the church. Because of their proximity to the village centre these platforms have not been classed as deserted rural settlements, but fall within a group of settlements in Radnorshire and northern Breconshire where earthworks are set around or within existing villages (Silvester 1997, 118). Although one or two of the Glascwm sites have now been examined in detail, they have not been incorporated in the statistics of this study, as they are not immediately relevant to the consideration of deserted rural settlement.
- 11.3 These are though only part of the overall picture. Individual platforms have been recorded 600m and 900m to the east of the church (PRNs 35496 and 34823 respectively), and another is 2km away in the same direction (PRN 35499). South-west of the church overlooking, and about 25m higher, the Clas Brook, is a group of platforms (PRN 70051) now utilised by the farmholding of Gellidywyll. The precise nature of this site remains unclear as access was refused by the landowner, but there could be as many as five platforms in the group, one of which is now utilised by the present farmhouse. On the opposite side of the valley but at a slightly higher altitude is a further group of at least two platforms (PRN 70052), one of which is occupied by a barn, although the occurrence of the name, Llwyn-brain, on the modern Ordnance Survey map does presume that there was formerly a farm here. And further to the west on the lower flank of a common known as Little Hill is a group of six platforms (PRNs 33998-33999; 50331-50334) scattered across the hillside at different altitudes.
- 11.4 Systematic survey has taken place only on the open common on the south side of the valley (Hankinson and Silvester 1997), but on the evidence currently available most of the deserted settlement sites are on the north side, enjoying a southerly aspect, and it is quite possible that further sites might be identified in future. Platforms appear both in the improved lands close to the base of the valley as well as on the open common at higher altitudes. Both grouped platforms and isolated examples are present creating a disparate pattern but one that had a recognisbale medieval focus in its church. Glascwm might be exceptional in the level of medieval settlement that it attracted, yet it offers a pointer to the more general picture that might be anticipated for Radnorshire, and also strengthens the argument for the resilience of platforms in enclosed landscapes.

12 The Documented Decline on the Commons

12.1 The commons of Radnorshire have revealed extensive traces of what are presumed to be both medieval and post-medieval rural settlement. Numerous sites have been recognised using standard archaeological techniques such as aerial photographic analysis and fieldwork. But as far as can be ascertained little work has been completed on the documentary and cartographic

context of rural settlement on the commons. A cursory examination indicates that any analysis is likely to founder on the dearth of early documentation and pre-19th century maps for these rural areas, but it is nevertheless worth assessing the available evidence for one area.

- 12.2 The Radnorshire commons appear in various forms, and in all nearly 70 blocks are registered ranging in size from no more than 0.1km² while others such as Aberdew Hill and Glascwm Hill which then link in with Red Hill, Rhulen Hill and Llandeilo Hill cover over 20km². The topography of the commons also varies: Aberedw Hill rises almost precipitously above the valley of the Wye while the Begwns, north of Painscastle are rather more gentle in their topography and are consequently more accessible.
- 12.3 Even a cursory examination of a modern map shows specific enclosures on the unenclosed land of the common, with hints too, in the configuration of modern fields, of intakes on the periphery the enclosed land.
- 12.4 This small piece of work examines only a small area of the Commons: from Aberedw Hill in the west (SO 0851) to Black Hill in the east (SO 1752) and from Perthi Common in the north (SO 0954) to the vicinity of Painscastle (S01646).
- 12.5 Analysis of successive maps the 2nd edition of the Ordnance Survey 1:10560 map from c.1902, the 1st edition of the same map from around 1890, and the Tithe Maps for the parishes of Aberedw (1843), Bryngwyn (1844), Colva (1840), Cregrina (1839), Glascwm (1840), Llanbadarn y Garreg (1839), Llanbedr Painscastle (1848), Llanddewi Fach (1843), Llandeilo Graban (1841), Llanfihangel Nant Melan (1842) and Rhulen(1839), and the Ordnance Surveyors' drawings which for this area date from 1817 show the progressive intake of land around the edges of the commons. During the 20th century, more often than not these intakes have been small, probably no more than few hectares. The creation of a single field, sometimes as a result of a convenient re-entrant in the common edge, has been the norm, though there have been some more substantial intakes and one small common Beili-bychan or Ffynnonau Common, south of Llansantffraed-in-Elvel has been completely enclosed.
- 12.6 A similar picture emerges from a comparison of the 1st and 2nd editions of the Ordnance Survey maps. There are one or two areas shown as open land in 1905 and enclosed on the modern map which were depicted as enclosed on the 1st edition. Conceivably these could be cartographic errors, but perhaps more likely they reflect changing patterns of farming with previously enclosed land falling into disuse and then being reclaimed again. There are also a few significant intakes. North-west of Painscastle a spur of open common running off Lanbedr Hill and covering perhaps 40 hectares was enclosed sometime between 1890 and 1902.
- 12.7 However extensive, these late 19th-century and early 20th-century intakes were rarely associated with newly established farmsteads. Rather they marked the expansion of existing holdings, focused on farms lower down the valleys sides .
- 12.8 The picture of earlier 19th-century encroachment is in many ways similar to that presented above. Relatively small intakes on the edges of the commons can be recognised from a comparison of the Tithe and Ordnance Survey maps. Very few large intakes are evidenced. And a further stage in this process is witnessed by the Ordnance Surveyors' drawings from 1817. This map at a small scale of 2" to 1 mile (1:31680) is inevitably less detailed and less reliable than its 1:10560 successors and, in some aspects, the Tithe Survey too. But the 1817 survey does seem to portray the common boundaries with some degree of care and again indicates a steady level of encroachment on to for instance Aberedw Hill during the early 19th century.
- 12.9 What is clear is that there are further intakes which appear as islands of enclosure, sometimes with a cottage or farmstead as their focus, on the otherwise open commons and that these predate the 19th-century maps. Whether they are from early in the 19th century, or from the 18th or even the 17th century cannot be established in the absence of suitable cartographic sources for this particular block of common land. That they were frequently referred to in the tithe apportionment as having the same owners as the commons themselves tends to confirm that they were traditional encroachments grudgingly accepted by the landowners.

- 12.10 The picture can be amplified a little by reference to a string of documents dating from the late 17th In his will which was proved in 1696 the Reverend Rice Price of Boughrood century. (Radnorshire), lord of the manor of Colwyn, established the Boughrood Charity and it was the Trustees of this charity who were cited as the owners of some of the commons in Cregrina, Rhulen and more significantly from the point of view of this study, Aberedw parishes at the time of the Tithe assessment. It is evident that the Reverend Rice Price owned considerable tracts of land in the later 17th century and in 1684 a series of leases, now archived in the National Library at Aberystwyth, formalised various intakes on land that he owned. Morris Prees of Llanvareth (Llanfaredd) was leased one acre of land ' formerly enclosed from the common of Aberedw' for forty years (NLW: Tredegar Papers 118/16), Rees Lloyd of Aberedw, yeoman, was granted a lease, also for forty years, on 'one messuage or cottage where the said Rees Lloyd doth now dwell, one barn, one garden and one acre and a half of arable and pasture lands belonging in Blaen Mylun within Aberedw, formerly enclosed from the common or waste adjoining' (NLW: Tredegar Papers 118/18), Rees Gwynne was given a forty-year lease on a dwelling house, garden and lands in Aberedw which he 'had formerly enclosed from the common', at a yearly rent of 1s 6d and a couple of hens ((NLW: Tredegar Papers 137/131), and a similar lease to John Probert, a yeoman of Aberedw 'of one dwelling house, one barn, one sheepcote annexed to the house of Griffiths Jones, one outhouse or "cilhouse", one garden and five parcels of arable and pasture lands of about 4 acres in Blaen Mylyn within the parish of Aberedw formerly enclosed from the common' (NLW: Tredegar Papers 137/132). Instructive too is a lease dating to 1660 granted by Sir Edmond Sawyer of Heywood, Berkshire to Bridget Daines, the wife of the late James Price, a yeoman of Aberedw, concerning a tenement 'newly erected and built upon the waste within Aberedw at a place called Blain Mylwyn together with a parcel containing 4 acres' (NLW: Tredegar Papers 119/19).
- 12.11 The assiduity with which Rice Price leased out even small pieces of land that had been enclosed on his common has left a record of encroachment at the end of the 17th century which can be utilised, albeit indirectly, in this study. It is not possible to tell whether these records reveal a complete picture of enclosure on Aberedw Hill, but the fact that most of those cited above are dated to the same year, 1684, with a couple of others from 1678, indicates a determination on the part of the lord of the manor to establish his rights and optimise his revenue. As with many of the encroachments two centuries later these were small and apparently piecemeal intakes of no more than a few acres and though they cannot be located with great precision, the general trend is guite clear. The Milo Brook, a tributary of the River Edw, lies in one of several finger-like valleys that penetrate Aberedw Hill from the south, the Tithe Map naming the common as Aberedw Hill to the west and Pant ty Eglwys Common to the east. Two farms, Blaenmeilwn (Blaenmilo on modern maps) and Penblaenmeilwn, are named on the Tithe map in the valley bottom, the former at a respectable 290m OD, the latter near the head of the valley at 340m OD. Modern maps show an intermediate farm, Blaenmilo-uchaf which was formerly called Merdyhir and is shown as such on the Ordnance Surveyors' drawing of 1817. In the valley of the Milo Brook the Tithe map also shows, rather unusually, two ruined buildings on the east side of the stream, as well as two other named farms - Pentwyn and Myrdy-uchaf higher up the valley - both of which have now disappeared from modern maps.
- 12.12 The picture that emerges is of a series of small holdings up the valley, culminating in the detached block of enclosures around Pen-blaen-Milo at 340m OD. There can be little doubt that the cottages established on intakes from the common in the late 17th century and referred to in Rice Price's leases find their 19th-century reflection in the farms along the Milo Brook. Consequently in the early post-medieval period the valley formed part of the common.
- 12.13 In passing it can also be noted that there is little evidence that the commons in the late 17th century were known by their parish appellations. The Price leases refer to 'Mynith Pentre Moyle' in Aberedw and 'Rhos Tair towarchen' in Glascwm. Llan-fraith Hill in Llanbadarn y Garreg parish to the east of Aberedw was termed Mintllywd Bank Common and Allt Ffraith Common in the 18th century (*NLW: Mayberry 4624*). Even as late as 1819 Aberedw had a common called Coed y Glyn (*NLW: British Records Association 1977, 16*) and as noted above part of what is now known as Aberedw Hill is described as Pant yr Eglwys Common on the Tithe map. Even in 1859 there is a reference to 'the Glyn Common or Aberedw Hill' (*NLW: British Records Association 1977, 106*), but by and large the Ordnance Surveyors' drawing reveal that the commons were named after

their parishes by the start of the 19th century. In previous centuries they seem to have been known by topographical or perhaps local farm names.

- 12.14 There are no signs on these 19th-century maps of the frequent house platforms that are found around the edges of the commons such as those of Aberedw. The farmsteads and cottages that were occupied at the time of the tithe survey, are the traditional stone buildings which are found throughout the Welsh uplands, even if they have now been reduced to foundations or piles of rubble. Those examples that have been examined are not established on deep platforms terraced into the hillsides.
- 12.15 But if there are no cartographic indicators, nevertheless inferences can be drawn from the information that is available. The fields that are associated with these new cottages and farmsteads on the waste show as small blocks of enclosures that are grouped together with the dwelling near the centre, or less frequently at one end. In general terms they form compact blocks readily visible on large-scale maps, and they are significantly different from the strip fields, some with ridging, that are visible on Aberedw Hill. The late 17th-century leases reveal a pattern of encroachment up the valleys, suggesting that the relict fields on the common above belong to a period when farming had reached maximum altitudes and before a retraction which must be linked to the late medieval era.
- 12.16 The platforms and their associated fields lie beyond the modern and 19th-century layout of fields. Where there is an association as where the strips and the 19th-century fields are contiguous, it appears that the layout of the latter may have been influenced by the former. Indeed in one instance improvement works underway at the time of the RAF flights in 1946 appear to show the destruction of strip fields encased in later fields.
- 12.17 The absence of any tangible links with the 19th-century field patterns strongly suggests that the platforms and their associated cultivation traces are considerably earlier and to apply a medieval date seems reasonable.

13 Beili Bedw

- 13.1 Beili Bedw, outside St Harmon, is unique in Radnorshire and perhaps in Powys for the number of platforms that constitute the nucleated settlement. An increasing number of settlements have revealed five or six platforms but nothing yet discovered compares with this concentration of well over a dozen platforms above the Marteg Valley. In this aspect alone Beili Bedw justifies its scheduled status.
- 13.2 The site seems to have been first recorded in 1911 by the Royal Commission and, in the light of the current study, it is interesting to note their description of what is now readily classed as a medieval settlement. '... just north of Beili Bedw farm is a confused mass of earthworks mounds, banks and earthworks, not marked on the Ordnance Survey sheet, of which from superficial observation only, it is difficult to arrive at any conclusion concerning their origin. It seems evident that they were not thrown up for military purposes, and they may possibly be due to agricultural operations. On the other hand tradition is persistent that they represent the site of the old church of St Harmon' (RCAHMW 1913, 143).
- 13.3 It was in 1960 that ploughing damaged the southern end of the settlement, a survey being conducted by the then Ministry of Works in advance of the land improvements. In the following year Leslie Alcock was invited to excavate at Beili Bedw and over two seasons he examined three of the platforms. However, only interim reports were published, and it was thirty years before a final excavation report emerged from the pen of Paul Courtney (1991).
- 13.4 Three plans of Beili Bedw exist: that by the Ministry of Works from 1960 is the only measured survey; a sketch plan from the Ordnance Survey dates to 1978 and another smaller-scale outline plan was prepared for the excavation publication (Courtney 1991, fig 1). None of these is wholly satisfactory. The picture of Beili Bedw as presented by the Ministry of Works reveals a range of platforms, some with rectangular buildings on them, a couple of small, rectilinear enclosures at

the heart of the complex with field boundaries radiating from them, and some rather smaller enclosures to the west of the small rectilinear fields which are depicted as much slighter features accompanying a large hollow. The various platforms are treated as though they form integral elements of a complete and coherent settlement. This is clearly not correct. There is a chronological depth to the earthworks at Beili Bedw which seems to have escaped attention even in the excavation report.

- 13.5 The rectilinear enclosures at the centre of the complex are depicted on the Ministry of Works plan as atypical, and on the ground their boundaries are of considerable size and appear not to have been much damaged by later ploughing. But they are not alone in this. The smaller enclosures between 10m and 20m to the west and referred to above, show similarities in design and scale, and there can be little doubt that they are all broadly contemporary. Between these two groups of enclosures, as the 1960 plan reveals, is a rectangular building, degraded by later and probably relatively recent agricultural activity, but sufficiently clear to indicate that on the basis of its location it forms the focus of nucleated activity. It differs from almost all the other sites within the Beili Bedw complex in not being set on a terraced platform. There are two other earthworks that may be related: about 55m to the north of the building is a sunken platform, atypical in its form, set against another substantial field boundary, and about 40m to the north are the much damaged remnants of a small rectangular building not depicted on any of the plans.
 - 13.6 The field evidence for a later farmstead set amidst the abandoned earthworks of the Beili Bedw settlement is strong, and by removing this layer of later activity from the plan, the layout of the earlier nucleated settlement takes on a more coherent form. Furthermore it is worth noting that Courtney isolated a fragment of late 16th-century/early 17th-century glass in the excavated assemblage and clearly felt uneasy about attributing this to the occupation of the present farmstead of Bailey Bedw, 300m to the south-west (Courtney 1991, 242). But the isolation of a later farmstead on the site provides a valid context for the discovery, and on the basis of dead reckoning the glass beaker is of broadly the right period for this element of the site.
 - 13.7 The remaining earthworks represent a still unusually extensive settlement. There are five pairs of platforms if we include the most south-westerly pair shown on the OS sketch, one element of which was inexplicably missed from the MoW survey, and excavated platform B which has a transverse platform, also omitted in 1960. Of the four individual platforms, two have small subsidiary platforms which are not shown on the plans and a third immediately to the west of the later farmstead appears to have been truncated by the construction of another platform beneath it. A fifth platform, that isolated 150m to the north of the settlement, can now hardly be recognised as such. Improvement has had a more dramatic effect on this earthwork than on any of the others: the building shown by the MoW on its platform has been eradicated and the earthwork now looks like a large quarry scoop rather than the site of a dwelling.
 - 13.8 It is also clear from field observation that three of the terraced platforms are set within their own small paddocks or enclosures. The remains of these are slight and were not shown on the earlier plans. Their presence, however, confirms that at Beili Bedw we are looking not at an open settlement, but one where individual farmsteads set within their own holdings were grouped together, a layout design which we can see also at the Neuadd Ford settlement on the Begwns.
 - 13.9 The inadequacies of the existing plans of the site need to be rectified, and it is recommended that in view of its SAM status, the Welsh Royal Commission be asked to produce an accurate and interpretative measured survey of the settlement.

14 Settlement Overview

14.1 This analysis of deserted rural settlement in central Powys releases several concepts that are worth following up. Gauging the scale and extent of deserted rural settlement on anything but the micro-scale remains an aim that can only be aspired to. It is apparent from the blocks of common that have been covered systematically that particularly around the edges of the unenclosed land remnants of settlement are not unusual. In that these zones act as a focus for settlement in the medieval and perhaps early post-medieval period (and also now channel the attention of the field

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investigator centuries later), there is an inbuilt bias to the recognition of settlement pattern more generally. Little is really known about what happened in the interspace between the commons which are generally at high altitudes and the modern farms which tend to be much lower though usually above the valley floors. It is reasonable to assume that the modern farms had postmedieval and medieval predecessors: in some cases buildings of the 16th, perhaps even the 15th century, survive or are encapsulated in later structures, and the survival of platforms around farms such as Gwellidywyll in Glascwm is also indicative. But was the land above the farmsteads given over completely to farming or are there deserted sites which have yet to be detected? Radnorshire, or more accurately the broad central spine of it, is rather exceptional in that its landscape of steep-sided valleys and relatively flat hills and ridges allows few places where buildings can be constructed on level ground; the valley floors, so it might be assumed, were by and large too damp for permanent settlement - they tend to be avoided today - and the ridge tops were too exposed. Here more than in many other regions establishing a farmholding demanded some moulding of the ground with the subsequent creation of earthworks. This, in turn, has an implication for the recognition of abandoned sites: the chances of recovery are, I think, much greater.

- 14.2 It is perhaps a mistake to segregate too readily deserted rural settlements from their occupied counterparts. Buildings that go back to the 16th century and 17th century have much to tell us about their individual settings and the wider patterns of location that materialised in earlier centuries. Here Radnorshire is particularly well served because of the on-going survey of its rural housing by the Welsh Royal Commission, and this avenue of research should be pursued.
- 14.3 A comparison, admittedly subjective, between Radnorshire and the neighbouring county of Montgomeryshire, suggests a greater abundance of deserted settlement sites in the former. There is some predictability in the siting of settlements in Radnorshire, particularly where the commons are involved as has been noted above; but in Montgomeryshire the sites are scattered randomly and in the absence of extensive systematic survey it is chance rather than method that will increase the numbers. What is absolutely certain is that there are many well-defined and preserved rural settlements still to find in Radnorshire and that further targeted fieldwork would increase the numbers of known sites significantly.
- 14.4 When Cyril and Aileen Fox started their work in Glamorganshire over sixty years ago, the identification of earthwork platforms as 'house sites' was a novel concept, the opening up of a new field of research as Gresham put it (1954, 21). Platforms in Radnorshire were first noted by Cyril Fox and later by Richard Kay and members of the Radnorshire Society. They were photographed from the air by St Joseph and later by Musson. And examples steadily made their way on to the regional Sites and Monuments Record through the efforts of the Ordnance Survey and later others. But what is remarkable are the sheer numbers of such sites: on the commons, on enclosed ground which may once have been common, and at lower levels where they share contours with modern farming establishments. In central Radnorshire one can predict that platforms will crop up virtually anywhere, and around villages as well as in the country. Large nucleated groupings are rare - there is nothing to compare with Beili Bedw except perhaps around some of the villages such as Old Radnor and Kinnerton (Jones and Owen 1996). But groups of three, four and five platforms are more frequent, their regularity perhaps suggesting family or kin units, though it will take excavation to distinguish ancillary structures from farmhouses. Overall we are surely observing one of the most common site types in the archaeological record, yet one that has largely been overlooked.
- 14.5 The association between settlements and relict agriculture at high altitude is a positive return in Radnorshire. Relatively few traces have been recorded anywhere in Wales (see Briggs 1985) to compare with the moors of south-west England, and it is now becoming increasingly obvious that some areas are much more likely than others to reveal signs of earlier cultivation. The Radnorshire Commons appear to be especially prolific in this respect, and there is considerable scope for further work on what looks to be an informative relationship.
- 14.6 Seasonal settlement or at least its identification is a perennial problem. Where stone-built long huts are found in the remote valleys that infiltrate the extensive upland tracts of western Radnorshire, it is reasonable to assume that they reflect summer usage, though whether medieval or post-medieval has yet to be established. But the Radnorshire commons proffer a different

problem. Deserted settlement traces tend to cluster round the edges of the commons. Few are found in what might be classed as the 'interior' of the commons in traditional hafod locations. So either summer pasturing manifested itself in a different form in these areas or perhaps some of the platforms and long huts around the fringes functioned as hafodydd. If this is the case we do not have the methodology at present to distinguish them, and surface morphology is unlikely to provide a definitive answer. In this context we might instructively compare two sites that have been excavated. Hafod y Nant Criafolen in the Brenig valley consists of seven huts of which four at least were set in their own small enclosures. Beili Bedw as noted below has a large number of platforms, some of which were set in or beside small enclosures. The excavated finds suggest that the sites might have been in contemporary usage, though neither assemblage was particularly rich. Hafdo y Nant Criafolen was identified as a summer settlement by the excavator (Allen 1979), though a discordant view has since been voiced (Briggs 1985, 304), while Beili Bedw has never been seen as anything other than a permanent settlement (Courtney 1991). One of course consists of long huts, the other of platforms, but possibly the main difference is the altitude with Hafod at around 405m OD and Beili Bedw at 350m OD!

14.7 In proposing a typology (section 10.3) the writer is very conscious that the study of rural settlement forms is still in its infancy in this part of the United Kingdom. Relatively little effort has been put into elucidating medieval settlement in the past, much less so post-medieval settlement, and it is disheartening to record that when considering platform settlements, parallels and exemplars have to be sought in papers that were written between 45 years and 60 years ago (Gresham and Fox respectively). The platform in fact is emerging as fundamental site type in mid Wales yet it is ill-represented in the literature and little analysed. To attempt any sort of classification is an invitation to have it critically undermined, yet at the same it time it is a fundamental means of generating a framework that will advance the study.

15 Site Management

- 15.1 As a result of the first Radnorshire survey, nine sites or site groups were nominated for statutory protection (Silvester 1997a, section 14), and several of these have since been designated as Scheduled Ancient Monuments. A further 18 individual sites and 5 site groups are recommended for consideration here. Full details are provided in Appendix 3 where the sites are arranged alphabetically by name. Note that those sites marked with an asterisk now have detailed site plans which are included in the illustrations at the end of this report.
 - 902 Dyrysgol Platform I Cwm Blaen Erw Platform II 2118 2757 Garn Fawr Farmstead 7040 Fron Top Longhouse I* 33922 Camnant Platform 33967 Pen Waun Pool Platform 33968 Pen Waun Pool Long Hut 33980 Castle Bank Enclosure and Platforms 33981 Upper House Enclosure I* 33999 Gellidywyll Platform V 33998 Gellidywyll Platform VI 34816 Cwm-piban Platform II 34840 Ffoeslaprey Platform II 34841 Ffoeslaprey Platform III 34842 Ffoeslaprey Platform I 34863 Bryngwyn Hill 35414 Llanbedr Hill Platform House 36924 Aberedw Hill enclosure 36934 New Buildings Long Hut
- 36973 Cwmblaenerw Brook Platform 36977 Neuadd Ford I 36978 Neuadd Ford II 36979 Neuadd Ford III 36980 Neuadd Ford IV 36981 Neuadd Ford V 36982 Neuadd Ford VI 36983 Neuadd Ford VII 36998 Pen-blaen-milo Platform 38325 Cefn Wylfre Platform House 50331 Gellidywll Platform I 50332 Gellidywll Platform II 50333 Gellidywll Platform III 50334 Gellidywll Platform IV 70010 Lingen II 70044 Moelfre Hill settlement II* 70045 Cefn Wylfre Platform I 70046 Cefn Wylfre Platform II 70047 Cefn Wylfre Platform III

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Appendix 1

Project Design: March 1998

APPLICATION FOR GRANT AID TO CADW: Henebion Cymru

Grant-aid programme THREAT RELATED ASSESSMENTS

Submitted by Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust 1998/99

Date of submission 30 January 1998 Revision date 9 March 1998

1 Code number and project title CPAT 658

MEDIEVAL RURAL SITES: N BRECKNOCK AND S RADNOR

 Location: NGR, Community, SAM no/SMR no Not applicable.

3 Summary of proposals for current/forthcoming year

Rapid field assessment of potential deserted medieval and early post-medieval long-huts and terraced platforms in N Brecknock and S Radnor, complementing similar studies successfully completed in Radnorshire in 1996/97 and eastern Conwy, Denbighshire and Montgomeryshire in 1997/98. It forms part of a broader study currently being carried out over much of Wales, for the purpose of monument management and protection and enhancement of the Sites and Monuments Records.

The original programme, outlined in previous papers, envisaged selective fieldwork and completion of the project over three years. Following advice from AMI this has now been amended to allow for a more comprehensive assessment of sites in the field. It is now anticipated that survey work will be undertaken in S Brecknock, Flintshire, and Wrexham in subsequent seasons.

It is now envisaged that all sites rather than a selection of relevant sites will be visited in the field in North Brecknock together with visits to all the sites not visited in S Radnor in 1996/97.

Work to be undertaken in N Brecknock will include prospecting of vertical AP sources for the identification of sites new to the record. It is also envisaged that ground surveys of selected sites will be undertaken for the purpose of both illustration and scheduled ancient monument enhancement.

Other anticipated inputs to the project include the following: Ordnance Survey digital mapping data from Powys County Council, Wrexham County Borough Council and Flintshire County Council; field data from Brecon Beacons National Park.

- 4 Description of the site(s), area, material etc and assessment of archaeological importance See details given in applications for 1996/97 and 1997/98 financial years.
- 5 Nature of threat, the likely extent of timing and destruction Agriculture, land improvement and afforestation are likely to represent the major threat to this class of monument.

6 Research objectives

- a. Definition, classification and quantification of the classes of sites representing deserted rural settlements in N Brecknock and S Radnor between the early medieval and early post-medieval periods.
- An assessment of the archaeological and historical significance of these sites in both a regional and national context.
- c. Assessment of the vulnerability of this element of the archaeological resource, review of the scheduling criteria which might be appropriate regionally, and recommendations for future

management strategies.

d. Enhancement of the Regional SMR and END.

7 Proposed work programme

See also <u>Project Management Plan</u> in section 15. The anticipated work programme includes the following elements (as numbered in the <u>Project Management Plan</u>):

1 Administration

Project Management, AMI monitoring, Financial statements, Audited statement, CPAT Committee reports, Half-Year and Annual Reports, Archaeology in Wales Report, Liaison meetings with AMI and other Trusts.

2 Survey preparation

Regional Sites and Monuments Record interrogation. Creation of project database for recording. Analysis of sample of vertical aerial photographic coverage and earlier cartographic sources for identification of new sites.

3 Fieldwork/data capture

Liaison with landowners concerning access. Rapid field assessment and recording. Measured survey of selected sites to be recommended for protection. Record creation and amendment. Selected ground survey

4 Report preparation

Preparation of ground survey artwork. Report preparation and dissemination, with recommendations for scheduling enhancement. Also included here is provision for preparation of a paper (by RJS) to be delivered at and the costs of attending the International Medieval Conference, Leeds, July 1998, and the preparation of a paper (by RJS) to be delivered at the Medieval Settlement Research Group Annual Conference, University College, Newport, 10–11 April 1999, both of which concern work undertaken as part of this project.

5 Scheduling recommendations

Assisting Regional Ancient Monuments Inspector with Scheduled Ancient Monument recommendations arising from past and current years.

6 Archive

Submission of records and archive to Sites and Monuments Record.

8 Specialist requirements Not applicable.

9 Proposed timing of work programme

To be completed during course of financial year. See <u>Project Management Plan</u> Timetable in section 15.

10 Presentation of results

Preparation of a survey report in <u>CPAT Report</u> series, as previously, including the following elements: summary of work undertaken; methodology; synthesis of results: background, interpretation, classification, and appraisal of the significance of the archaeological resource in a regional and national framework; gazetteer of sites included in field survey; review of scheduling criteria; site management recommendations; general and specific; recommendations for further work in other areas.

Copies of report for limited circulation, 2 copies of which are to be lodged with Cadw and 1 with RCAHMW. Circulation to other bodies and individuals (eg Local Authority, ADAS) as appropriate, following discussion with Cadw, bearing in mind <u>General Guidance</u> note 1.5 (October 1995) re reports including recommendations for scheduling.

11 End products

- a During the coming financial year
- 1. Survey report and recommendations etc in CPAT Report series, as outlined in section 10.
- Project archive (field record forms, slides, prints, negative) to be deposited with Regional SMR.

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- 3. Enhanced Regional SMR data, to be fed into END in due course.
- 4. Summary report in Archaeology in Wales 1998.

b Year by year until the completion of the project

1. Consideration to be given to one or more works of synthesis for publication in appropriate journals of monographs.

12 Progress

The following reports have been produced as part of the programme to date:

1996/97

Silvester, RJ, 1997 Deserted Medieval and Later Rural Settlements in Radnorshire, CPAT Report 227, May 1997.

1997/98

Silvester, RJ, 1997 Deserted Medieval and Later Rural Settlements in Eastern Conwy, Denbighshire and Montgomeryshire, CPAT Report 251, October 1997, Draft Report.

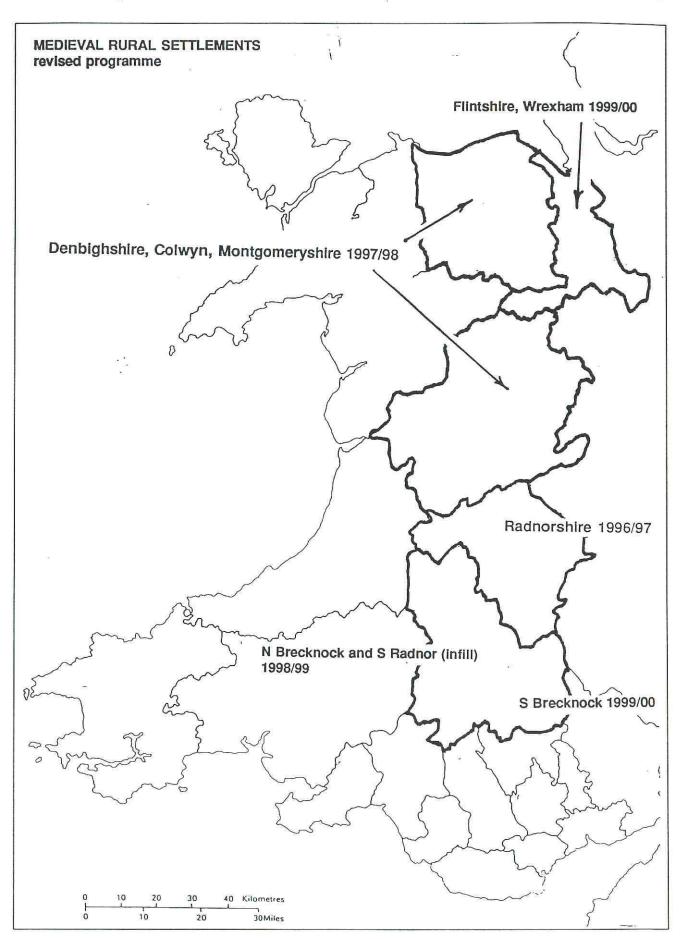
Forthcoming

Silvester, R J, Deserted rural settlements in North-east and central Wales, *Medieval or Later Rural* Settlement Conference Proceedings.

13 Project supervisor

a

- Name Bob Silvester
- b Qualifications BA, MIFA
- c Position in organisation Deputy Director
- d List of unpublished excavations
- e Details of other commitments during the coming year



Deserted Medieval Rural Settlements: N Brecknock and S Radnor 1998/99 The revised programme anticipates completion of the rapid assessment of long huts and terraced platforms in S Brecknock, Flintshire and Wrexham during 1999/00.

Appendix 2

Radnorshire Rural Settlement Site Gazetteer

Note: the last column contains the typology classification given to the site (see above section 10.3)

Settlement Sites

PRN	Name	Map Square	Grid Ref	Site Type	Altitude	Plan	Category
902	Dyrysgol Platform I	SN97SE	SN95107389	Platform	385	Fox	10
2047	Newhouse Ford Hafod	SO06SE	SO08266029	Long hut	280		3
2066	Castell Tinboeth Platform II	SO07NE	SO09197553	Platform	380		4
2096	Graig Longhouse	SO15NW	SO13345890	Long hut	380		8E
2097	Graig Platform	SO15NW	SO13325880	Platform	350		4
2117	Cwm Blaen Erw Platform I	SO15SW	SO10605136	Platform	340		4
2118	Cwm Blaen Erw Platform II	SO15SW	SO10725159	Platform	335		4
2635	Bank House Platform V and enc	SO05SE	SO08446061	Platform	250	CPAT	11
2757	Garn Fawr Farmstead	SO15NW	SO10255763	Platform	335	OS	14
2819	Pistyll Gwyn Platforms	SO06SW	SO02416150	Platform	290	OS	8
3587	Castell Tinboeth Platform Hous	SO07NE	SO09177553	Platform	380		4
3741	Pant y Llyn Enclosure	SN96NW	SN93706903	Platform	435	os	5
3747	Aberedw Hill Hafod	SO04NE	SO08164994	Long hut	400	OS	3
3759	Sarn Geufron Platform	SN97SW	SN91137155	Platform	430		13
3764	Rhiw Riad Longhouse	SN97SE	SN96177177	Long hut	270		14
3778	Pant y Rhiw House Site and Enc	SO05NE	SO08085737	Platform	380	CPAT	14
3796	Aberedw Hill Longhouse	SO05SE	SO08265007	Platform	410		3
4119	Esgair y Ty Platform House	SN87SE	SN89757247	Platform	373	OS	4
4125	Aberhenllan hafod?	SN87SE	SN89947225	Long hut	335	OS	3
4127	Esgair Rhiwlan Longhouse	SN87SE	SN88537111	Long hut	411		4
4147	Pen y Clawdd Platform	SO17SE	SO18797031	Platform	370		4
4164	Moel Dod Platform House	SO07NE	SO07797640	Platform	427		5
4190	Nant y Ffrwd Hut I	SN86NE	SN86486868	Long hut	389		1
4193	Esgair Gris Longhouse	SN86NE	SN88796840	Long hut	389		?
4195	Nant Caletwr Farmstead I	SN86NE	SN86966890	Farmstead	366		2
4197	Llwydnant Enclosure	SN86SE	SN89556359	Long hut	411	OS	2
4417	Little Hill Platform	SO06SE	SO07416031	Platform	350	OS	4
4450	Gwernarglwydd Farmstead	SO15NE	SO15135945	Long hut	297	os	3
4451	Gwernarglwydd Long House	SO15NE	SO15115932	Long hut	297		14
4457	Dyrysgol Platform II	SN97SE	SN95147387	Platform	380		10

PRN	Name	Map Square	Grid Ref	Site Type	Altitude	Plan	Category
5190	Llidiart Wen Farmstead	SN97SE	SN96747099	Farmstead ?	396	os	5
5216	Cwm y Bont Platform III	SO15NE	SO18885676	Platform	380	os	8
5334	Aberedw Hill Hafod II	SO05SE	SO08275001	Long hut	405		3
6084	Cwm y Bont Platform I	SO15NE	SO19065711	Platform	410		8E
6085	Cwm y Bont Platform II	SO15NE	SO19095714	Platform	410		8E
6479	Bryngwyn Hill Platform II	SO14NE	SO17834986	Platform	430		4
6480	Bryngwyn Hill Platform III	SO14NE	SO17864489	Platform	425		8
6656	Cerriggwynion house platform	SN96NE	SN97326605	Platform	320		4
6679	Cwm Lluest farmstead	SO17NW	SO02447881	Long hut	495		13
6687	Penybont Common platform	SO16NW	SO12756511	Platform	240		6
6703	Blaen y Bwlch hafod	SN97SE	SN95177341	Platform	400		4
6726	Penybont Common platform	SO16SW	SO12596413	Platform	260	CPAT	11
6728	Penybont Common	SO16SW	SO12546460	Platform	255	CPAT	11
6841	Newhouse Farm platform	SO26NW	SO23206527	Platform	335		4
6843	Fron Wen platform	SO16NE	SO17306604	Platform	360		4
6844	Fron Wen platform	SO16NE	SO17246600	Platform	350		5
6845	Cwm Merwys platform I	SO16NE	SO16856559	Platform	340		8E
6846	Treforgan platform	SO16NE	SO16336634	Platform	340		4
6847	Treforgan platform	SO16NE	SO16296627	Platform	360		4
6848	Treforgan platform	SO16NE	SO16196617	Platform	385		5
6851	Cwm Merwys platform II	SO16NE	SO16576603	Platform	375		4
6852	Cwm Merwys platform III	SO16NE	SO16706583	Platform	350		4
6853	Cwm Merwys platform IV	SO16NE	SO16676574	Platform	365		4
6854	Cwm Merwys platform V	SO16NE	SO16496559	Platform	400		4
6858	Cwm Merwys platform VIII	SO16NE	SO16476525	Platform	405		4
6863	Cwm Merwys hafod	SO16SE	SO16726393	Long hut	400		2
6864	Cwm Merwys platform	SO16SE	SO17216386	Platform	460		4
6870	Vronlase Dingle platform	SO16SE	SO16356328	Platform	410		4
7039	Fron Top Longhouse II	SO17NW	SO11987920	Long hut	450		14
7040	Fron Top Longhouse I	SO17NW	SO11807918	Long hut	445	CPAT	14
7042	Bongham Bank Farmstead	SO06SE	SO07516104	Long hut	315		12
7046	Craig Goch Hafod	SN97SW	SN90407132	Platform	320		9

PRN	Name	Map Square	Grid Ref	Site Type	Altitude	Plan	Category
7933	Green Hollow	SO27SW	SO23887178	Platform	420		4
7938	Gors Cribin-Ilwyd	SO27SW	SO23457029	Platform	350		4
16296	Ednol Platform 1	SO26SW	SO23206476	Platform	350		4
17972	Moelfre Hill settlement I	SO17NW	SO11677617	Platform	390		4
17988	Little Hill house platform II	SO05NE	SO07805962	Platform	320		4
21585	Park Shed	SO07SE	SO05947225	Building	415		9
23101	Carneddau earthwork	SO05SE	SO07495426	Earthwork	350		9
23106	Carneddau hafod	SO05SE	SO05895307	Long hut	370		2
23590	Tyrhydvellin house platform	SO05NW	SO02235538	Platform	185		4
23591	Purgatory house site	SO05NW	SO02255527	Platform	180		4
33900	Dol-y-fran Platform I	SO17SE	SO15897435	Platform	395		4
33902	Dol-y-fran Platform II	SO17SE	SO16017438	Platform	400		4
33904	Cefn Goleu I	SN97SE	SN97017351	Platform	425		5
33910	Yr Allt Earthworks	SO07SE	SO07857491	Platform	400		4
33912	Banc y Dolau/Red Lion Hill Hou	SO07NE	SO05717639	Shelter	470		1
33922	Camnant Platform	SO15NW	SO10135618	Platform	310		14
33923	Rhewl Platform	SO16SW	SO11366108	Platform	280		4
33928	Penybont Common Terrace	SO16SW	SO12616408	Platform	255	CPAT	11
33929	Penybont Common Terrace 2	SO16SW	SO12906417	Platform	290		4
33930	Penybont Common Platform 3	SO16NW	SO11926512	Platform ?	260		4
33935	Beilibedw Stream Long hut	SO15NE	SO17405605	Long hut	385		13
33938	Llynheilyn Platform III	SO15NE	SO16615795	Platform	380		11
33939	Bank House Platform I	SO15NE	SO08466044	Platform	295	CPAT	11
33940	Bank House Platform II	SO15NE	SO08456043	Platform	295	CPAT	11
33941	Bank House Platform III	SO15NE	SO08436039	Platform	295	CPAT	11
33942	Bank House Platform IV	SO15NE	SO08436038	Platform	295	CPAT	11
33943	Cwmbrith Bank Platform V	SO15NE	SO08646041	Platform	350	CPAT	11
33944	Aberedw Hill Platform IV	SO15NE	SO08284995	Platform	390		11
33946	Graig Platform II	SO15NW	SO13355886	Platform	350		4
33947	Gwernarglwydd House Site	SO15NE	SO15155928	Long hut	295		11
33948	Pont Marteg Longhouse II	SN97SE	SN95357150	Long hut	235		13
33949	Pont Marteg Longhouse I	SN97SE	SN95807147	Long hut	250		13

PRN	Name	Map Square	Grid Ref	Site Type	Altitude	Plan	Category
33953	Bwlchgwyn Rocks Longhouse	SN97SE	SN94287282	Long hut	360		2
33954	Blaen y Bwich Farmstead II	SN97SE	SN94997296	Platform	425		3
33956	Llandegley Rocks platform	SO16SW	SO12996124	Platform	370		4
33957	Cefn-y-grug	SO16SE	SO16516419	Platform	400		4
33958	Cwm Merwys	SO16NE	SO16776575	Platform	340		4
33964	Blaenmilo Platform I	SO04NE	SO08894975	Platform	400		8
33965	Blaenmilo Platform II	SO04NE	SO08904938	Platform	340		8
33966	Blaenmilo Farm Longhut I	SO05SE	SO08505010	Long hut	400		3
33967	Pen Waun Pool Platform	SO05SE	SO07905167	Platform	395		5
33968	Pen Waun Pool Longhut I	SO05SE	SO07915168	Long hut	400		9
33970	Pen Waun Pool Longhut II	SO05SE	SO07885170	Long hut	395		9
33971	Pen Blaen Milo Farmstead	SO05SE	SO08925168	Farmstead	340		12
33979	Castle Bank Garn Enclosure and	SO07NE	SO07557783	Platform gr	440		8E
33980	Castle Bank Enclosure and Plat	SO07NE	SO07367756	Platform	450		8E
33981	Upper House Enclosure I	SO05NE	SO07555698	Farmstead	340	CPAT	5
33983	Castell y Blaidd Building and	SO17NW	SO12287977	Long hut	410		3
33984	Castell y Blaidd Platform I	SO17NW	SO12257956	Platform	430	CPAT	11
33985	Castell y Blaidd Platform II	SO17NW	SO12277960	Platform	435	CPAT	11
33987	Castell y Blaidd Platform IV	SO17NW	SO12187957	Platform	430	CPAT	11
33991	Maes Brook	SO06NE	SO17106607	Platform	345		11
33994	Beilibedw stream platform	SO05NE	SO17575605	Platform	380		3
33998	Gellidywyll Platform VI	SO15SW	SO14225283	Platform	390		11
33999	Gellidywyll Platform V	SO15SW	SO14305283	Platform	382		11
34800	Pistyll Gwyn Platform II and E	SO06SW	SO02446150	Platform	290		4
34805	Newchurch Hill Enclosure and L	SO15SE	SO19285030	Long hut	390		3
34812	Graig Platform	SO05NE	SO07795663	Platform	340		4
34815	Cwm-piban Platform I	SO14NW	SO14004927	Platform	360		4
34816	Cwm-piban Platform II	SO14NW	SO14004935	Platform	310		4
34817	Cwm-twrch Platform Settlement	SO15SW	SO15475454	Enclosure	420		14
34819	Caer Fawr Platform IV	SO05SE	SO05625308	Platform	340	CPAT	11
34823	Wern House Platform	SO15SE	SO16435354	Platform	370		4
34824	Cefn Wylfre Farmstead	SO15SW	SO13475093	Platform	365		5

PRN	Name	Map Square	Grid Ref	Site Type	Altitude	Plan	Category
34825	Beili Farm Platform I	SO15SW	SO13505063	Platform	325		5
34826	Beili Farm Platform II	SO15SW	SO13425071	Platform	325		5
34827	Beili Farm	SO15SW	SO13265055	Farmstead	250		12
34829	Dol-y-fran house	SO17SE	SO16267417	Building	350		13
34831	Carneddau platform	SO05SE	SO05455310	Platform	345		5
34832	Ffoeslaprey Platforms IV - V	SO17SE	SO16647337	Platform	385		8
34835	Dafarndywarch Platform I	SO17SE	SO16027402	Platform	350		8
34836	Dafarndywarch Platform II	SO17SE	SO16037403	Platform	350		8
34838	Cefn Goleu II	SN97SE	SN97117358	Long hut	400		3
34840	Ffoeslaprey Platform II	SO17SE	SO16957331	Platform	365		8
34841	Ffoeslaprey Platform III	SO17SE	SO16927336	Platform	375		4
34842	Ffoeslaprey Platform I	SO17SE	SO16927330	Platform	435		8
34845	Castle Bank Platform I	SO07NE	SO07507777	Platform	450		11
34846	Castle Bank Platform II	SO07NE	SO07487773	Platform	450		11
34847	Castle Bank Platform III	SO07NE	SO07467769	Platform	450		11
34848	Castle Bank Platform IV	SO07NE	SO07467779	Platform	455		11
34849	Castle Bank Platform V	SO07NE	SO07107707	Platform	410		4
34850	Castle Bank Platform	SO07NE	SO07377750	Platform	450		4
34853	Gamallt Platform I	SN97SE	SN96507130	Platform	350		4
34854	Penrhiw Platform House	SN97SE	SN95357150	Platform	310		15
34855	Yr Wylorn Platform I	SN97SE	SN96117195	Platform	350		?
34857	Cefn Goleu III	SN97SE	SN97177331	Platform	420		3
34860	Pant-y-rhiw platform I	SO05NE	SO07695778	Platform	345		8
34862	Byrgwm Woods Platform house I	SO14NW	SO11834676	Platform	330		12
34863	Bryngwyn Hill	SO14NE	SO17664954	Long hut	410		14
34864	Bryngwyn Hill	SO14NE	SO17874924	Earthwork	390		9
34866	Byrgwm Woods building II	SO14NW	SO11794676	Long hut	330		12
34869	Pant-y-llyn structure	SN96NW	SN93616880	Long hut	430		2
34870	Bank House Platform VI	SO05SE	SO08426062	Platform	250	CPAT	11
34871	Penybont Common Platform	SO16SW	SO12606408	Platform	255	CPAT	11
34872	Penybont Common Terrace	SO16SW	SO12596407	Platform	250	CPAT	11
34873	Cwmbrith Bank Platform VI	SO15NE	SO08636040	Platform	350	CPAT	11

PRN	Name	Map Square	Grid Ref	Site Type	Altitude Plan	Category
35316	Rhulen Hill Platform I	SO14NW	SO13294945	Platform	330	8
35317	Rhulen Hill Platform II	SO14NW	SO13274946	Platform	325	8
35347	Cwm Mawr Platform I	SO15SE	SO15135158	Platform	430	4
35378	Mawn Pool Platform	SO14NW	SO13674876	Platform	420	4
35394	Llancoed-du Platform	SO14NW	SO14714917	Platform	410	4
35397	The Pant Platform	SO14NE	SO15904869	Platform	370	6
35398	Lettypeod Platform I	SO14NE	SO16244870	Platform	370	4
35401	Lettypeod Platform II	SO14NE	SO16344882	Platform	330	8
35402	Lettypeod Platform III	SO14NE	SO16394881	Platform	330	8
35404	Lettypeod Platform IV	SO14NE	SO16454873	Platform	340	4
35408	Llyn y March Platform I	SO14NW	SO14414784	Platform	400	4
35410	Llyn y March Platform II	SO14NW	SO14074790	Platform	410	8
35411	Llyn y March Platform III	SO14NW	SO14074792	Platform ?	410	8
35414	Llanbedr Hill Platform House	SO14NW	SO13924797	Building	410	7
35415	Llanbedr Hill Building	SO14NW	SO13844804	Building	415	15
35417	Upper Lundy Platform	SO14NE	SO15714781	Platform	405	4
35434	Llanbedr Hill Platform	SO14NW	SO13624804	Platform ?	410	4
35440	Penbedw Platform I	SO14NW	SO13054785	Platform	405	8
35441	Penbedw Platform II	SO14NW	SO13034784	Platform ?	400	8
35444	Penbedw Hut	SO14NW	SO13164793	Long hut	435	3
35458	Llewetrog Platform I	SO14NW	SO12334708	Platform	370	4
35460	Llewetrog Platform II	SO14NW	SO12454716	Platform	385	4
35464	Pen-y-cwm Building	SO14NW	SO12834753	Building	375	3
35466	Llewetrog Platform III	SO14NW	SO11984689	Platform	365	4
35480	Bailey Building	SO15SE	SO16165022	Building ?	405	3
35481	Red Hill Platform I	SO15SE	SO16205047	Platform	400	8
35482	Red Hill Platform II	SO15SE	SO16205041	Platform	400	8
35483	Red Hill Platform III	SO15SE	SO16215056	Platform	395	4
35485	Red Hill Platform IV	SO15SE	SO16045009	Platform	430	4
35496	Rhiw Fwnws Platform	SO15SE	SO16275322	Platform ?	385	4
35499	Sychcwm Platform	SO15SE	SO17605304	Platform	380	4
36924	Aberedw Hill enclosure	SO15SW	SO10805235	Platform	395	5

PRN	Name	Map Square	Grid Ref	Site Type	Altitude Plan	Category
36931	New Buildings Enclosure	SO15SW	SO10295057	Enclosure	360	?
36933	New Buildings Platform	SO15SW	SO10285032	Platform	365	6
36934	New Buildings Long Hut	SO15SW	SO10305021	Long hut	365	7
36935	Blaenmilo-uchaf Platform	SO05SE	SO09915063	Platform	355	6
36936	Blaenmilo-uchaf Platform	SO15SW	SO10125035	Platform	365	6
36937	Bank House Platform VII	SO06SE	SO08396095	Platform	255	4
36938	Gwars Barn Platform I	SO15SW	SO11095315	Platform	350	6
36939	Gwars Barn Platform II	SO15SW	SO11115317	Platform?	345	6
36940	Wylfre I	SO15SW	SO11035260	Platform	380	5
36942	Wylfre platform	SO15SW	SO11905242	Platform	350	4
36943	Hungry Green platform	SO15SW	SO11885329	Platform	315	4
36952	Upper Wood Platform	SO06SW	SO15606334	Platform ?	335	13
36958	Llanhailo enclosure	SO15NW	SO13305500	Long hut	355	15
36962	Cwm Ford	SO14SW	SO14904469	Platform	330	5
36968	Ffynnonau Platform	SO05SE	SO09255298	Platform	275	4
36970	Glanoer platform I	SO15NW	SO11965753	Platform	250	8
36973	Cwmblaenerw Brook Platform	SO15SW	SO10745143	Platform	325	4
36974	Castle Bank platform	SO05NE	SO08885620	Platform	325	?
36977	Neuadd Ford I	SO14SW	SO14224436	Platform	350	11
36978	Neuadd Ford II	SO14SW	SO14224436	Platform	350	11
36979	Neuadd Ford III	SO14SW	SO14224436	Platform	350	11
36980	Neuadd Ford IV	SO14SW	SO14224436	Platform	350	11
36981	Neuadd Ford V	SO14SW	SO14224436	Long hut	350	11
36982	Neuadd Ford VI	SO14SW	SO14224436	Platform	350	11
36983	Neuadd Ford VII	SO14SW	SO14224436	Long hut	350	11
36984	Pilleth Court Platform	SO26NE	SO25726828	Platform	230	4
36985	Pendre platform	SO05NE	SO09635662	Platform	335	4
36986	Gwernfach building I	SO05NE	SO09785671	Long hut	345	3
36988	Glanoer platform II	SO15NW	SO11965753	Platform	250	8
36989	Llanhailo platforrm	SO15NW	SO12685526	Platform	260	12
36991	Blaenmilo Farm Long Hut II	SO04NE	SO08904946	Long hut	350	8
36992	Pant-y-rhiw Longhouse	SO05NE	SO07795732	Long hut	360	7

PRN	Name	Map Square	Grid Ref	Site Type	Altitude	Plan	Category
36993	Pant-y-rhiw Platform II	SO05NE	SO07685772	Platform	345		8
36994	Blaen-y-cwm Platform	SO04NE	SO08574982	Platform	400		4
36995	Cefn-rhyscog Hill Building	SO14NW	SO10094946	Building	350		8
36996	Cefn-rhyscog Hill Platform	SO14NW	SO10104948	Platform	350		8
36997	Clwt-rhin Platform	SO15SW	SO10855126	Platform	345		4
36998	Pen-blaen-milo Platform	SO15SE	SO09025160	Platform	340		4
36999	Llan-fraith Hill II	SO15SW	SO11325032	Platform	370		5
38311	Allt Dderw Platform	SO15SE	SO16305057	Platform	380		4
38325	Cefn Wylfre Platform House	SO15SW	SO14105079	Platform	420		4
50135	Llynheilyn Platform I	SO15NE	SO16595803	Platform	380		11
50136	Llynheilyn Platform II	SO15NE	SO16605800	Platform	380		11
50225	Caer Fawr Platform I	SO05SE	SO05615308	Platform	366	CPAT	11
50226	Caer Fawr Platform II	SO05SE	SO05595309	Platform	366	CPAT	11
50227	Caer Fawr Platform III	SO05SE	SO05605311	Platform	366	CPAT	11
50244	Cwmbrith Bank Platform IV	SO06SE	SO08666042	Platform	345	CPAT	11
50245	Cwmbrith Bank Platform III	SO06SE	SO08656041	Platform	345	CPAT	11
50246	Cwmbrith Bank Oval Platform	SO06SE	SO08646038	Platform	345	CPAT	11
50247	Cwmbrith Bank Platform IV	SO06SE	SO08646041	Platform	350	CPAT	11
50299	Gwaunceste Hill Platform I	SO15NE	SO17705515	Platform	375		11
50300	Gwaunceste Hill Platform II	SO15NE	SO17715520	Platform	380		11
50301	Gwaunceste Hill Platform III	SO15NE	SO17645547	Platform	381		11
50302	Gwaunceste Hill Platform IV	SO15NE	SO17725528	Platform	380		11
50313	Aberedw Hill Platform I	SO04NE	SO08234994	Platform	395		11
50314	Aberedw Hill Platform II	SO04NE	SO08244995	Platform	395		11
50315	Aberedw Hill Platform III	SO04NE	SO08254996	Platform	395		11
50331	Gellidywll Platform I	SO15SW	SO14215281	Platform	382		11
50332	Gellidywll Platform II	SO15SW	SO14265280	Platform	382		11
50333	Gellidywll Platform III	SO15SW	SO14275281	Platform	382		11
50334	Gellidywll Platform IV	SO15SW	SO14425277	Platform	382		11
50336	Ffordd Las House platform	SO07NW	SO04807718	Platform	450		5
50345	Cwmmaerdy Platform I	SO15NW	SO13505886	Platform	320		11
50346	Cwmmaerdy Platform II	SO15NW	SO13505887	Platform	320		11

PRN	Name	Map Square	Grid Ref	Site Type	Altitude	Plan	Category
50347	Cwmmaerdy Platform III	SO15NW	SO13485889	Platform	320		11
50349	Gwernarglwydd Longhouse II	SO15NE	SO15175941	Platform	297		11
50350	Gwernarglwydd Platform II	SO15NE	SO15115932	Platform	297		11
70000	Llan-fraith Hill platform II	SO15SW	SO11385023	Platform	355		4
70001	Goetre Barn Building	SO07NE	SO07687557	Building	385		8
70002	Goetre Barn Platform	SO07NE	SO07697559	Platform	380		8
70003	Ysgwd-ffordd Platform I	SO07SE	SO09307260	Platform	365		8
70004	Ysgwd-ffordd Platform II	SO07SE	SO09327258	Platform	365		8
70005	Beili Bedw Platform I	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	335		11
70006	Beili Bedw Platform II	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	330		11
70007	Beili Bedw Platform III	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	340		11
70008	Beili Bedw Platform IV	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	350		11
70009	Lingen I	SN97NE	SN97987343	Platform	345		4
70010	Lingen II	SN97NE	SN97847336	Long hut	365		14
70011	Lingen III	SN97NE	SN97747330	Platform	380		13
70012	Lingen IV	SN97NE	SN97547320	Platform	395		8
70013	Llansantffraed in Elvel Platfo	SO05SE	SO09665461	Platform	280		8
70014	Llansantffraed in Elvel Platfo	SO05SE	SO09675462	Platform	280		8
70015	Beili Bedw Platform V	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	340	MofW	11
70016	Beili Bedw Platform VI	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	340	MofW	11
70017	Beili Bedw Platform VII	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	340	MofW	11
70018	Beili Bedw Platform VIII	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	345	MofW	11
70019	Beili Bedw Building	SN97NE	SO99627345	Building	345	MofW	14
70020	Beili Bedw Platform IX	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	340	MofW	11
70021	Beili Bedw Platform X	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	340	MofW	11
70022	Beili Bedw Platform XI	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	355	MofW	11
70023	Beili Bedw Platform XII	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	355	MofW	11
70024	Beili Bedw Platform XIII	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	355	MofW	11
70025	Beili Bedw Platform XIV	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	345	MofW	11
70026	Beili Bedw Platform XV	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	340	MofW	11
70027	Beili Bedw Platform XVI	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	330	MofW	11
70028	Beili Bedw Platform XVII	SN97NE	SO99627345	Platform	330	MofW	6

PRN	Name	Map Square	Grid Ref	Site Type	Altitude	Plan	Category
70029	Llanerchi Wood platform	SN96SW	SN90836362	Platform	315	F	4
70042	Birches platform	SO17NE	SO18557928	Platform	350		4
70044	Moelfre Hill settlement II	SO17NW	SO11687611	Platform	400	CPAT	14
70045	Cefn Wylfre Platform I	SO15SW	SO13545083	Platform	375		11F
70046	Cefn Wylfre Platform II	SO15SW	SO13555080	Platform	375		11F
70047	Cefn Wylfre Platform III	SO15SW	SO13585076	Platform	370		11F
70049	Cwm Shenkin Platform I	SO15SE	SO19435367	Platform	435		4
70050	Cwm Shenkin Platform II	SO15SE	SO19515370	Platform	430		4

Appendix 3

Scheduling Recommendations and Descriptions

Note that these are arranged alphabetically to facilitate consultation of site groups.

Name Aberedw Hill enclosure Community Glascwm Landowner Glanusk Estate, Crickhowell Map Square SO15SW Altitude in metres 395

Description

i) Long hut on platform with enclosure around it. (RJS 17/06/98)

ii) The platform has a well-defined fan at the rear which is pulled round to the sides for a considerable distance, leaving 'entrance gaps' close to the SE end. Above the fan is a 'hood' formed by a bank which follows the fan around the head of the platform but fades out on the side. The hood lacks a gully but does have flat ground outside it. The apron is also pronounced. On the platform is an immediately recognisable long hut, its grass-covered walls showing as banks, though some stone is apparent at the SE end. The NW side is the most difficult to distinguish, merging with the rear if the platform which is at a higher level than the interior of the building. Signs of collapsed material inside the building. An entrance probably at the SE end. Overall dimensions of the platform are 27.5m on NW/SE by 19.3m SW/NE, both including the hood. Internal dimensions are 17.5m by 8.1m; the fan is 1.3m deep, the apron, 1.3m high. The building externally is 10.5m NW/SE by 4.7m and internally 7.9m by 2.2m with a bank at most 0.3m high. Animal burrowing is disturbing the SW side of the earthwork.

Set within a rectangular enclosure which is still depicted on the modern OS map.

It is terraced into a slope of regular gradient, both above and below the site. There is a good aspect across the valley (RJS 24-12-98).

Criteria

Aberedw Hill enclosure scores high on discrimination criteria for association, clustering, survival, diversity of features, potential and amenity value. Under management criteria the condition is good and the fragility and conservation value are medium.

References Shows as enclosure on modern OS maps

PRN 34863

 Name
 Bryngwyn Hill
 Map Square
 SO14NE
 Grid Ref
 SO17664954

 Community Panscastle
 Altitude in metres
 410

 Landowner
 ?Major de Winton, Maesslwch Castle, Glasbury-on-Wye, Herefordshire
 Herefordshire

Description

Complex of enclosures/fields, mostly rectangular in form, with at least one long hut and a small D-shaped pound with curving sides adjacent, and a second less convincing long hut nearby. Heavy bracken cover, even at an optimum time of year, prevents a full appreciation of this site which may be the same as PRN 6470 though the GR for this is several hundred metres to the south-west.

The building is rectangular, 13.8m by 6.7m overall, and consists of a stoney bank which, on the basis of the sharp slope on the downhill (E) side, may be stone-faced. It is faintly terraced into the slope. There is a possible, ill-defined entrance on the north side, a little more than half way along from the west corner and adjacent to the edge of the pound. A field or enclosure bank runs parallel to the south side of the structure and little more than one metre from it.

Criteria

Bryngwyn Hill scores high on discrimination criteria for association, survival, diversity of features and potential, and medium for amenity value. Under management criteria the condition is good and the fragility medium.

Name Camnant Platform Community Glascwm Landowner Mr M J Dyke, Gwernfach, Hundred House

Map Square SO15NW Altitude in metres 310

Description

i) Quarry scoop or platform. Visible on RAF 106G/UK/1190/4046 (24.02.46)

ii) A massive platform with associated features and boundaries sheltering in a valley.

The platform itself, oriented fractionally off N/S, is massive, both in terms of breadth and length, but despite the length there is only a slight slope to it. Its fan is of significant size with bare rock protruding and two thorn trees growing from it, and it continues round the long sides for about 6-7m before merging with natural scarps containing rock outcrops. At the front is a high. No visible structure on the platform, though there is some loose stone showing, though this could simply be the result of clearance and improvement. The overall length of the platform is 35.5m N/S by 13.6m E/W. Internally, it is 27.0m by 7.5m.

This platform is evidently part of a larger complex. An enclosure boundary runs parallel to the platform, less than 2m to the W, and there are other boundaries running off elsewhere. A second, smaller and squarer platfom is located at a lower level about 14m to the N of the main one and in line with it. This is raised on all sides and its apron appears to be stone-revetted. It has boggy ground immediately to the N. 13m to the E is a sub-circular 'store', consisting of a bank of stone and earth terraced slightly into the hillside, its interior slightly sunken.

The complex occupies a dry re-entrant between rock plateaux/knolls. The main platform runs down the slope and gains some protection and shelter from this siting. (RJS 09/11/98)

Criteria

The Camnant Platform is an exceptionally platform with some interesting associated features, and though in enclosed land is still well preserved. It scores high on discrimination criteria for association and clustering, and medium for survival, diversity of features, potential and amenity value, and under management criteria its condition fragility and vulnerability are medium.

References Aerial photograph = RAF 106G/UK/1190/4046 (24.02.46)

Name Castle Bank Enclosure and PI Community Llanbadarn Fynydd Landowner Crown Estate Commissioners Map Square SO07NE Altitude in metres 450

Description

Large sub-rectangular enclosure with visible house sites located on RCAHMW APs 955051-63. The large enclosure is sub-divided by a track which runs in to the platform sites following a natural break in slope from the NE enclosure bank. Three possible platform sites are enclosed by a bank and located to the SW side of the enclosure.

The main platform appears to measure 27m long x 12m wide externally and $11.2 \times 7.2m$ internally. The platform is raised 0.4m at the SE end and cut in 3m at the NW below a second platform which has a NE-SW alignment. This platform measures 26.8m long x 7.8m wide externally by 19.5 x 3m wide internally; there is a suggestion of a building located on the NE end. This platform may form an L-shape with a further platformed area which extends to the SE off it. This platformed area measures 22.5m along the NW-SE axis and lies adjacent and above the scarp of the house site on its NE side.

Ground slopes naturally from the NW affording some shelter. Substantial enclosure banks measure 2m wide x 1m high.

Criteria

The Castle Bank Enclosure and Platforms score high on discrimination criteria for association, clustering and diversity, and medium for survival, potential and amenity value, and under management criteria everything except conservation criteria can be categorised as medium.

References

RCAHMW aerial photograph 955051-63.

PRN 38325

Name Cefn Wylfre Platform House Community Aberedw Landowner Mr S. Marsh-Smith, Gromain, Erwood. Map Square SO15SW Altitude in metres 420 Grid Ref SO14105079

Description

Approximately L-shaped building situated on a platform cut into a steep SE facing slope. In ruinous condition. Plan of building is defined by stone banks up to 0.5m high - little likely facing stone is to be seen. The building appears to have been three-unit, with two main units aligned NE/SW separated by a probable passageway. The third unit adjoins the most NW unit on its NE side, and is arch-shaped with a curved stone revetment at its NE end. The alignment of the walls of the two main units does not quite match giving an irregular outline, with the NW unit offset slightly to the SW.

The building measures 17.5m NW/SE x 11.5m overall. Level area of platform measures 23m NW/SE x 13.5m, cut into the slope to a depth of 5m on the NW side and built up to a height of c.4m on the SE side. Platform slopes slightly to the SE. Apron appears more as a terrace, while fan is deep and irregular.

Criteria

No assessment was made at the time that this site was visited during the Radnorshire Hills survey (Upland Initiative) in 1997. It is included here on the basis of professional judegment.

Name Cefn Wylfre Platform I Community Aberedw Landowner Mr S. Marsh-Smith, Gromain, Erwood.

Map Square SO15SW Altitude in metres 375

Grid Ref SO13545083

Description

Northernmost of a group of 3 platforms located on common. Well-defined fan and apron, although N side of fan is partially disturbed by a sunken trackway. Interior is rectangular but uneven, suggesting some past animal disturbance. Sheep track crosses apron. Could be 1 of the 2 platforms recorded under PRN 2122. Appears to be associated with the nearby earth banked field system and area of ridge and furrow to N.

Criteria

Cefn Wylfre Platform I scores high on discrimination criteria for association, clustering and survival, and medium for potential and amenity value. Under management criteria it is good for condition, and medium for fragility.

References

PRN 70046

Name Cefn Wylfre Platform II Community Aberedw Landowner Mr S. Marsh-Smith, Gromain, Erwood Map Square SO15SW Altitude in metres 375

Grid Ref SO13555080

Description

Central of a group of 3 platforms located on common. Located c.20m S of PRN 70045. Well-defined fan and apron, although SW end of apron is crossed by a sheep track. NW end of fan has been modified from normal appearance to provide a triangular area adjoining the interior at the same level. Sheep track crosses N side of fan leading into interior. Small amount of animal burrowing at base of fan. Could be 1 of the 2 platforms recorded under PRN 2122. Appears to be associated with the nearby earth banked field system and area of ridge and furrow to N.

Criteria As Cefn Wylfre Platform I.

References

PRN 70047

Name Cefn Wylfre Platform III Community Aberedw Landowner Mr S. Marsh-Smith, Gromain, Erwood Map Square SO15SW Altitude in metres 370 Grid Ref SO13585076

Description

Southernmost of a group of 3 platforms located on common. Fan is quite shallwo and not well-defined, although definitely present. Apron well-defined but has anomalous mound attached to S corner. Interior has a reasonable amount of shatterred stone showing through the turf suggesting it was occupied by a rectangular building. Only exterior of building is visible although there is a hint of an internal division. Approx 30m distant from PRN 70046. Appears to be associated with the nearby earth banked field system and area of ridge and furrow to N.

Criteria

As Cefn Wylfre Platform I except for diversity of features which is medium.

Name Cwm Blaen Erw Platform II Community Glascwm Landowner Glanusk Estate, Crickhowell Map Square SO15SW Altitude in metres 335

Description

i) PLATFORM. 16.2M LONG. 9.1M WIDE. W FACING SLOPE. HOOD 2.1M HIGH. TERRACED TO 1.5M.

ii) Well-defined terraced platform. Extremely clear fan which swings round to sides to embrace the top of the platform, more so on the SE than on the NW. The apron also clear though with a gentle scarp, ad particularly noticeable from below. The level platform itself is hiummocky - there are no obvious signs of a building but slight falls towards the SW and NW sides might herald wall edges and the this patch too is more mossy. But impossible to determine any meaningful dimensions and the heavy bracken cover is not helpful. Externally it is 25.1m SW/NE by 14.9m NW/SE. The platform itself is 16.2m by 7.7m. The fan is 1.7m high, the apron 0.9m.

No obvious associations.

There is a good aspect along the valley which also offers a water supply. Other platforms within 300m. (RJS 24-12-98)

Criteria

Cwm Blaen Erw Platform II is a typical example of a platform which is in a good state of preservation, in an area where such sites are relatively frequent. It scores high on discrimination criteria for association, clustering and survival, and medium for potential and amenity value, and under management criteria its condition is good, vulnerability low, and the fragility and conservation value medium.

References

None

PRN 34816

 Name
 Cwm-piban Platform II
 Map Square
 SO14NW
 O

 Community Panscastle
 Altitude in metres
 310

 Landowner Mr S Marsh-Smith, Gromain, Erwood, Powys
 Powys

Grid Ref SO14004935

Description

One of two platforms recorded in Radnor Soc. Newsletter N0.19, 1986 on N side of road below N side of Rhulen Hill. Noted on steep slope 35yds below track with outline of buildings and smaller platform on its S side.

Criteria

Cwm-piban Platform scores high on discrimination criteria for association, survival, diversity of features and amenity value, and medium for clustering and potential. Under management criteria it is medium for fragility and conservation value and good for condition.

References

Radnor Soc. Newsletter No.19, 1986

Name Cwmblaenerw Brook Platform Community Glascwm Landowner Glanusk Estate, Crickhowell Map Square SO15SW Altitude in metres 325 Grid Ref SO10745143

Description

Rectangular platform terraced into steep WSW facing slope c.30m ENE of stream. Overall area measures 21.8m ENE/WSW x 19.3m. Levelled area measures 11.8m ENE/WSW x 5.3m, cut into slope to a depth of 2.2m on ENE side and built up to a height of 2.1m on WSW side. On SSE side of levelled area is a triangular terrace joining and level with it , measuring c.11m NNW/SSE x 5m, and tapering to the SSE. This terrace is not repeated on the NNW side and it seems likely that it represents the site of the entrance.

Criteria

Cwmblaenerw Brook Platform scores high on discrimination criteria for association, clustering and survival, and medium for potential and amenity value. Under management criteria it is medium for fragility and good for condition.

References

PRN 902

NameDyrysgol Platform IMap SquareSN97SECommunity St HarmonAltitude in metres385Landowner Mr W Hughes, Dolhelfa Ganol, near Llangurig, Powys

Grid Ref SN95107389

Description

HOUSE PLATFORM. 36.2M LONG NNW-SSE. 7.6M WIDE. WALL REMAINS SEEN AS BANKS. ENTRANCE IN E. BUILDING FLANKED BOTH SIDES BY DEEP DRAINAGE DITCHES.

Terraced platform with foundations of long hut on it. A second platform (PRN 4457) referred to by Fox in 1939, could not be located by the OS in 1978. Also an adjacent shooting box.

Silvester 1998 --- An extremely long platform cut into a south-facing hillslope. Both fan and apron are quite pronounced though the slope is gentle and the sides of the fan come down for only a short distance. On the platform two long banks are prominent though these only stand about 0.3m high, or perhaps fractionally more towards the south end. There are short breaks in these side walls, more so on the west than on the east, and indeed Fox noted them in 1939. There is no obvious return to the bank on the north side, yet the banks do not appear to continue as far as the fan which might have disguised such a return; on the other hand Fox's plan did suggest the walls carried up to the fan. On the south there is the slightest indication that the wall carries across. One possible partition shows as a faint scarp about 7m south of the fan. Both long sides have shallow, relatively narrow, gullies outside the banks.

At the south end the interior the ground is boggy and poached by livestock. Some surface stone shows here and probing suggests there is considerable stone only 0.1m below the surface. Elsewhere the occasional slab of stone is visible and it is evident that improvement has done some damage. At the south end of the east side the bank veers inwards slightly - again this could be improvement damage.

20m to the NW is what looks like a natural rock outcrop but is in fact an 18thC shooting box, no so ruined as to be difficult to recognise. 31m SSE is a stony embankment with a right-angled bend in it. This is up to 1m high. One arm of a small stream passes around its outer edge. Conceivably this could be two walls of a building, the rest removed by erosion, though both arms are nearly 9m long.

Criteria

Dyrysgol Platform I is exceptional and is recommended here primarily on the basis of that as a site type it is rare in Wales, less so in England. Though it is in improved pasture, and will no doubt be prone to further erosion. It scores high only on survival and medium on archaeological documentation, diversity, potential and amenity value. Of the management criteria its condition and vulnerability are medium and its fragility is high.

References Fox 1939; OS

Name Ffoeslaprey Platform I Community Llanbister Landowner Crown Estate Commissioners Map Square SO17SE Altitude in metres 435 Grid Ref SO16927330

Description

One of two adjacent platforms on south facing slopes below Rhoschrug Hill. Located on the edge of the common in area of rough pasture where the turfed-over platforms remain in fairly good condition.

The platform is orientated N-S and adjacent platform PRN 33840 is located c.10m east and may have been an ancillary building. Ground slopes moderately from the north affording some protection. The platform is cut in 1.5m at the N side and raised O.8m at the S end, where a leat cuts across the platform contouring downhill from PRN 34840.

Platform measures 26.4m along the N-S axis by 10.7m wide externally and 16.4 by 6.7m internally. There is considerable animal burrowing in the base of the scarp and the the west bank of the platform is a natural scarp also slightly disturbed by animal burrowing.

Criteria

Ffoeslaprey Platform I scores high on discrimination criteria for association and clustering, and medium for survival, potential and amenity value. Under management criteria it is medium for everything.

References

PRN 34840

Name Ffoeslaprey Platform II Community Llanbister Landowner Crown Estate Commissioners Map Square SO17SE Altitude in metres 365 Grid Ref SO16957331

Description

A long, broard well-defined platform, sufficiently wide to take a small building lengthways. The fan is sharp, and the more northern (rear)half of the platform is level. Towards the front, however, the surface is less regular and there is a slight downward slope; the apparent bank on the east side is no more than the residue of a natural slope of the interfluvial spur.

Platform overall is 22.9m long by 10.5m wide; internally 14.9m long by 8.0m wide. The height of the fan at the rear is 1.4m and the platform is raised by 0.5m at the front.

A leat, presumably later in date, runs below the east side of the platform, curving round to folow the south side.

The platform has been constructed adjacent to another (PRN 34842) on a south-facing hillslope with a deep stream gulley to the east and one of smaller size to the west.

Criteria

Ffoeslaprey Platform II scores high on discrimination criteria for association and clustering, and medium for survival, diversity of features, potential and amenity value. Under management criteria it is medium for everything except conservation value.

Name Ffoeslaprey Platform III Community Llanbister Landowner Crown Estate Commissioners Map Square SO17SE Altitude in metres 375 Grid Ref SO16927336

Description

A large platform, deeply cut into the hillside, with a well-defined fan at the rear and an equally clear scarp to the front of the platform. On the west side of the fan the scarp bank is pulled into the interior possibly as a result of animal disturbance. The finer detail of the platform is obscured by extensive patches of bracken.

Platform overall is 31.2m long by 12.9m wide; internally 19m long by 5.4m wide. The height of the fan at the rear is 3.1m and the platform is raised by 1.5m at the front.

Two further platforms (PRNs 34840 & 34842), both smaller in size, lie downslope, less than 100m away.

The platform is terraced into the base of a steep section of a south-facing hillslope, the ground being rather more moderate in its downward slope below the site. A small stream runs in a gulley to the east.

Criteria

Ffoeslaprey Platform III scores high on discrimination criteria for association and clustering, and medium for survival, potential and amenity value. Under management criteria it is medium for everything except conservation value.

References

PRN 7039 7940

Name Fron Top Longhouse II Community Llanbister Landowner Crown Estate Commissioners Map Square SO17NW Altitude in metres 450 Grid Ref SO11987920

Description

Two-roomed long hut aligned E - W with opposing N and S entrances in approx central position. Possible entrance in dividing wall. House is protected from surface drainage on N (upslope) side by a low bank. Walls survive to 0.4m high by 1.2 to 2.3m wide; N wall of W compartment only survives as a low bank <0.1m high. Foundations measure 12.4m along E-W axis by 6.2m wide externally; 9.8 by 2.1m internally.

House has contemporary enclosures on S and SW sides with earth banks surviving to 0.4m high by 1.5m wide. Ridge and furrow extends SE outside the enclosures, with ESE - WNW alignment. Second phase of ridge and furrow aligned N - S also visible on N side of road which may obscure the above; it is located in the E end of the enclosure near PRN 7040.

Criteria

Fron Top Longhouse II scores high on discrimination criteria for association and clustering, and medium on survival, diversity of features, potential and amenity value, and under management criteria all are medium except for low conservation value.

References RCAHMW AP 955054-45/46

 Name
 Garn Fawr Farmstead
 Map Square
 SO15NW
 Grid F

 Community Glascwm
 Altitude in metres
 335

 Landowner Mr Powell, Garnfawr, Bettws, nr Hundred House, Powys

Grid Ref SO10255763

Description

i) FARMSTEAD SITE. SE FACING SLOPE. HOUSE PLATFORM 8.5M N-S BY 4M WIDE. CUT TO 2M DEEP AND FALLS 0.6M FROM FRONT. 20M LONG TERRACE TO E AND ABOVE A CIRCULAR ENCLOSURE 18M DIA. SUNDRY BANKS RADIATE FROM SITE.

ii) Terraced platform associated with other features. The OS description is not as full as it could be for what is a fine site.

Terraced platform is deeply cut into the hillside, with a high fan that carries around the long sides for well over half their length. At the front the apron is less distinctive, much lower and rather irregular in form. The platform itself slopes only slightly, but towards the front some material is mounded up though there is no evidence that this is in any way structural. Indeed there is no evidence of a building on the platform - one or two stones protruding from the side fans, and some stone just visible in the front apron. Overall it is 18.3m N/S by 10.0m E/W. The platform itself is about 10.7m by 5.2m.

In line with the platform and immediately below it are the remains of a rectangular structure, utilising flattish ground rather than being terraced into the slope. The W, S and some of the E wall are visible with stone projecting from the S wall. Entry might be effected by the gap on the E side. East of the main platform is a terrace, about 21m long, running along the slope, defined by converging scarp banks. Below this is a track leading to the main platform, and below the track is

a sub-oval enclosure with a stony bank, utilising a natural outcrop on the E, and with a possible entrance on the S, though this is not entirely convincing. Another platform and rectangular structure beside the stream to the SW of the main platform. Various field and enclosure boundaries focus on the settlement.

Located on a gentle SE-facing hillside with good views, but dead ground to the NW. A modern farm tracks passes within a few metres to the NE.

Criteria

Garn Fawr Farmstead is a well-preserved example of an individual farmholding with platform and surrounding enclosures/pounds, one of which is particularly impressive. Though in improved pasture it retains its integrity. It scores high on discrimination criteria for association, survival, diversity of features and amenity value, and medium for clustering and potential, and all management criteria except conservation value.

References OS plan

NameGellidywll Platform IMap SquareSO15SWCommunity GlascwmAltitude in metres382Landowner ?Mr W M Hancock, 50 Eaton Terrace, London SW1v

Grid Ref SO14215281

Description

Simple platform located on mid valley slopes above the Clas Brook c.400m SE. Platform forms part of the Gellidywyll Platform Group, which are located on the SE facing slopes of Little Hill. One of a group of 6 platforms recorded in area of rough pasture on the common land above the track that contours the SE side of the hill above Gellidywyll Wood and Gellidywyll Farm, where on-site vegetation is dense bracken.

The platform has a SE aspect with some shelter provided from the NW. The availability of stone is fairly good and modern quarrying for local use has taken place on the S side of Little Hill and on the slopes above Gellidywyll Farm. The platform is orientated NW-SE and measures 14m long by 6m wide externally. Internal platform measures 12m by 4m, cut in 1.3m at right angles to the contours and platformed to 1.3m at the SE.

The platform remains in fairly good condition; a sheep track cuts across the site in an E-W direction and continues to Platform PRN 50332, located 4m to E.

Criteria

Gellidywyll Platform I scores high on discrimination criteria for association and clustering and medium for survival, potential and amenity value. Under management criteria it is medium for everything other than conservation value.

References

PRN 50332

 Name
 Gellidywll Platform II
 Map Square
 SO15SW

 Community Glascwm
 Altitude in metres
 382

 Landowner ?Mr W M Hancock, 50 Eaton Terrace, London SW1
 Solution SW1

Grid Ref SO14265280

Description

Large platform located on mid valley slopes above the Clas Brook c.400m SE. Platform forms part of the Gellidywyll Platform Group, which are located on the SE facing slopes of Little Hill. One of a group of 6 platforms recorded in area of rough pasture on the common land above the track that contours the SE side of the hill above Gellidywyll Wood and Gellidywyll Farm, in an area of bracken.

The platform has a SE aspect with shelter provided from the NW, where ground slopes steeply. The availability of stone is fairly good and modern quarrying for local use has taken place on the S side of Little Hill and on the slopes above Gellidywyll Farm. The platform is orientated NNW-SSE and measures 21m long by 8.5m wide externally. Internal platform measures 13m by 4.5m, cut in 1.5m at right angles to the contours and platformed to 1.8m at the SE. The apron is widely splayed.

The platform remains in fairly good condition; a sheep track cuts across the site in an E-W direction and continues to Platform PRN 50331, located 4m to W. The platform is located W side of the grassed over farm track that rises to the summit of the hill. Platform PRN 50333 located 12m SE.

Criteria As Gellidywyll Platform I.

References None

 Name
 Gellidywll Platform III
 Map Square
 SO15SW

 Community Glascwm
 Altitude in metres
 382

 Landowner ?Mr W M Hancock, 50 Eaton Terrace, London SW1

Grid Ref SO14275281

Description

Large platform with SW entrace platform, giving the site an L-shaped appearance, located on mid valley slopes above the Clas Brook c.400m SE. Platform forms part of the Gellidywyll Platform Group, which are located on the SE facing slopes of Little Hill. One of a group of 6 platforms recorded in area of rough pasture on the common land above the track that contours the SE side of the hill above Gellidywyll Wood and Gellidywyll Farm, in an area of bracken.

The platform has a SE aspect with shelter provided from the NW. The availability of stone is fairly good and modern quarrying for local use has taken place on the S side of Little Hill and on the slopes above Gellidywyll Farm. The platform is orientated NW-SE and measures 18.5m long by 5.5m wide externally. Internal platform measures 13m by 3.5m, cut in 1.5m at right angles to the contours and platformed to 1.8m at the SE, where the apron is widely splayed. The SW entrance platforms splays towards the grass track, continuous from the apron.

The platform remains in fairly good condition; a sheep track cuts across the site in an E-W direction. The platform is located E side of the grassed over farm track that rises to the summit of the hill. Platform PRN 50334 located SE.

Criteria As Gellidywyll Platform I.

References

PRN 50334

NameGellidywll Platform IVMap SquareSO15SWCommunity GlascwmAltitude in metres382Landowner ?Mr W M Hancock, 50 Eaton Terrace, London SW1

Grid Ref SO14425277

Description

Platform located on mid valley slopes above the Clas Brook c.300m S. Platform forms part of the Gellidywyll Platform Group, which are located on the SE facing slopes of Little Hill. Largest of a group of 6 platforms recorded in area of rough pasture on the common land above the track that contours the SE side of the hill above Gellidywyll Wood and Gellidywyll Farm, in an area of bracken.

The platform has a SE aspect with shelter provided from the NW, where ground slopes steeply. The availability of stone is fairly good and modern quarrying for local use has taken place on the S side of Little Hill and on the slopes above Gellidywyll Farm. The platform is orientated NW-SE and measures 23m long by 10m wide externally. Internal platform measures 16m by 4.5m, cut in 2m at right angles to the contours and platformed to 1.8m at the SE.

The platform remains in fairly good condition, located W side of a farm track that rises to the summit of the hill and a second track running uphill in a NE direction; c.40m above the roadside.

Criteria

Gellidywyll Platform IV scores high on discrimination criteria for association, clustering and survival and medium for potential and amenity value. Under management criteria it is medium for everything other than conservation value.

 Name
 Gellidywyll Platform V
 Map Square
 SO15SW

 Community Glascwm
 Altitude in metres
 382

 Landowner ?Mr W M Hancock, 50 Eaton Terrace, London SW1

Grid Ref SO14305283

Description

Simple platform located on mid valley slopes above the Clas Brook c.400m SE. Platform forms part of the Gellidywyll Platform Group, which are located on the SE facing slopes of Little Hill. One of a group of 6 platforms recorded in area of rough pasture on the common land above the track that contours the SE side of the hill above Gellidywyll Wood and Gellidywyll Farm, where on-site vegetation is dense bracken.

The platform has a SE aspect with some shelter provided from the NW. The availability of stone is fairly good and modern quarrying for local use has taken place on the S side of Little Hill and on the slopes above Gellidywyll Farm. The platform is orientated NW-SE and measures 15m long by 6.5m wide externally. Internal platform measures 11 by 3.5m, cut in steeply 2m at right angles to the contours and platformed to 1.5m at the SE end.

The platform remains in fairly good condition; Platform PRN 50333, located c.20m to E.

Criteria

Gellidywyll Platform V scores high on discrimination criteria for association and clustering and medium for survival and potential. Under management criteria it is medium for everything other than conservation value.

References

PRN 33998

 Name
 Gellidywyll Platform VI
 Map Square
 SO15SW

 Community Glascwm
 Altitude in metres
 390

 Landowner ?Mr W M Hancock, 50 Eaton Terrace, London SW1
 SW1

Grid Ref SO14225283

Description

Small platform with adjoining S entrance platform located on mid valley slopes above the Clas Brook c.500m SE. Platform forms part of the Gellidywyll Platform Group, which are located on the SE facing slopes of Little Hill. Located 30m upslope of and part of a group of 6 platforms recorded in area of rough pasture on the common land above the track that contours the SE side of the hill above Gellidywyll Wood and Gellidywyll Farm, where on-site vegetation is dense bracken.

The platform has a SE aspect with some shelter provided from the NW. The availability of stone is fairly good and modern quarrying for local use has taken place on the S side of Little Hill and on the slopes above Gellidywyll Farm. The platform is orientated NW-SE and measures 9m long by 5m wide externally. Internal platform measures 4.5m by 3m, cut in 1m at right angles to the contours and platformed to 2m at the SE end. Measurements include the entrance platform. The north side of the platform measures 7.5m long by 5m wide overall and the interior 2 by 1m; the fan curves around to form a horse-shoe around the small platform. The entrance platform measures 2m long by 3m wide.

The platform remains in fairly good condition and is covered in turf, but surrounded by bracken. A sheep track crosses SE-NW above the hood and branches through the site in an E-W direction, continuing downslope. The platform overlooks PRN 50334 and is located on the W side of the grass track that runs uphill to the summit.

Criteria

Gellidywyll Platform VI scores high on discrimination criteria for association and clustering and medium for potential and amenity value. Under management criteria it is medium for everything other than conservation value.

 Name
 Lingen II
 Map Square
 SN97NE
 Grid Ref
 SN97847336

 Community St Harmon
 Altitude in metres
 365

 Landowner
 Mr Duggan, Penybont (possibly Trewern Farm). Far Manager at Lingen is Mr Bruce
 Rowlands.

Description

Long hut set on a platform with appended enclosures and a earthen clamp.

A long hut of sizeable proportions, aligned N to S. The walls are low and spread but unmistakable on three sides; the S wall is however difficult to distinguish from the fan of the platform. No certain entrance though possibly on in the middle of the E side. Ground level within the building undulates but no obvious partition walls. The ground has been levelled to accommodate the building and at the front, N end is a high and distinctive apron. At the rear the fan is less obvious: the certain of a track immediately to the S has obliterated or disguised some of the fan. Rolls of disused wire fencing dumped on the structure. The building overall is approx 14.9m N/S by 6.2m E/W; internal measurements are 10.8m by 2.6m. The platform overall is 22.0m long and internally 16.5m while the measurements of the shorter axis are the same as those of the building. The walls of the structure are nowhere more than 0.4m high, the apron of the platform is 1.1m and the fan 0.9m.

A small pound lies adjacent to the building and there are field or enclosure boundaries running off to the W, E and S. 42m SW is an earthen clamp, its centre hollowed out.

Set on the edge of a valley with excellent views over the Marteg valley.

Criteria

Lingen II scores high on discrimination criteria for association, clustering, survival and perhaps amenity value, and medium for feature diversity and amenity value. Under management criteria it is medium throughout.

References

PRN	35414			

Name Llanbedr Hill Platform House Community Painscastle Landowner Mr S. Marsh-Smith, Gromain, Erwood. Map Square SO14NW Altitude in metres 410 Grid Ref SO13924797

Description

Former building situated on a platform within SE part of the field system, PRN 35413. Comprises the remains of a stone walled building (possibly sleeper walls for a timber building) aligned approx NNE/SSW constructed on a platform cut into the SSW facing slope. The building has a single main unit, measuring 9.1m x 3.3m internally, with entrances in its ESEand SSW walls. A possible second unit is suggested at the SSW end, but this has been largely disturbed by the construction of the adjacent common boundary. The banks which define the building are generally 1.0m wide x 0.4m high, and contain elements of internal and external wall-facing. Much of the WNW side is defined by a ESE facing terrace, which merges with a bank towards its SSW end. The NNE end of the building is cut into the slope and survives to 0.6m high. The fan at the NNE end of the platform is 1.1m deep. The building is protected on its ESE side by a bank 14m NNE/SSW x 3.5m x 1m high. To the ESE of the bank is an irregular earth banked enclosure measuring 10m NE/SW x 8m which has been cut at its SW end by the present common boundary. A further earth banked enclosure abuts the building on its NNE side and measures 11m WNW/ESE x 5.5m.

Criteria

Llanbedr Hill Platform House scores high on discrimination criteria for association, survival and feature diversity, and medium for clustering, potential and amenity value. Under management criteria it is medium for condition, fragility and vulnerability.

Name Moelfre Hill settlement II Community Llanbister Landowner Crown Estate Map Square SO17NW Altitude in metres 400

Description

Terraced platform with low but pronouced fan at the rear qhich is then caried round on to the north side where it continues for much of the long side. But on the S the fan extension swifty merges with the scrap bank of an a pound or enclosure, and there is damage on this side becaiuse of water run-off,. The apron is well-defined and has an enclosure bank running off it. The platform itself has a slight slope to it and suports the intermittent foundaions of a long hut, possibly refelcting the effects of differential erosion; some evidence of a compartment wall. No much stone could be found by probing but there is some in the bank. Overall dimensions of the platform are 20.4m NW/SE by 12.9m NE/SW. Internal measurements of the platform are 15.1m by 5.8m. The fan is 1.3m deep, the apron 0.8m high. The building has maximum dimensions of 13.3m by 6.0m and internal dimensions of 9.5m by 2.5m; the foundations are nowhere more than 0.3m high.

Associations include pounds and enclosures though the full extent of these has not bee guaged, and a trackway running up to the platform from the S.

On a NW facu=ing slope with limited views across the valley in tha direction.

Criteria

Moelfre Hill Settlement II scores high on discrimination criteria for association, survival, feature diversity and potential, and medium for clustering and amenity value. Under management criteria it is good for condition, and medium for fragility.

Name Neuadd Ford I Community Painscastle Landowner National Trust Map Square SO14SW Altitude in metres 350

Description

i) Terraced platform located by the National Trust on the Begwns. Part of PRN 36961.

ii) Terraced platform of unusual appearance with traces of a structure on the platform, an appended enclosure, and a long store-like hollow probably associated to the SW.

The terraced platform is unusually wide with sides that appear to splay before converging closer to the apron - in its shape it is thus somewhat unusual. The fan at the rear (the E) is pronounced and continues along the N and S sides as a pronounced scarp. Above the E fan is a broad (2m-wide) terrace now used by stock as a trackway: there is no hood here but the terrace might originally have functioned as a gully. The apron at the front is much less impressive. Set eccentrically on the platform are what appear to be the low foundations of a building though these are not entirely convincing. The W and S sides are clear, the latter a little bowed, and the N can be detected as a slight rise. But the E wall is lost. Some stone is visible on the surface, rather more appears to be grass-covered. The structure occupies the back and N side of the platform. Beside it (on the S) is open space, and in front of it is open ground at a fractionally lower level which is accessed by breaks in the scarp sides.

The dimensions of the platform are overall 20m ENE/WSW (excluding the rear terrace) by 15.5m NNW/SSE; and internally the platform itself is 14.8m by 7.5m. The fan at the rear rises to 1.6m, the apron is no more than 0.5m high. The building is >8m ENE/WSW by 4.6m NNW/SSE overall, and internally >4.8m by 2.4m. The walls stand no more than 0.25m high.

Attached to the platform on the NW side is an enclosure defined by a stony bank. It is set on the moderately steep slope and there is no evidence of levelling within it. It runs off the top of the E fan and comes back to the N side. Its dimensions were not gauged but from SW to NE it was about 24m across.

About 6m to the S of the platform is a scoop cut into the hillside, at a slightly lower point than the terrace. Including the side banks of piled spoil it is about 7m long and 4m wide, and there is a sort of fan but no apron. Between the banks it is hollowed out slightly, and it may have had a storage rather than an occupation function.

The platform is cut into the base of a moderately steep slope, as it begins to level out. The aspect is good, to both the S and W and also the NW. It is sheltered from the E by the rising hillside and there is a stream running within 200m to the S.

Criteria

Neuadd Ford I scores high on discrimination criteria for association, clustering, survival, and potential, and medium for archaeological documentation, feature diversity and amenity value. Under management criteria the condition is good and the fragility and conservation value medium.

Name Neuadd Ford II Community Painscastle Landowner National Trust Map Square SO14SW Altitude in metres 350 Grid Ref SO14224436

Description

i) Terraced platform located by the National Trust on the Begwns. Part of PRN 36961.

ii) a poorly defined platform which appears to have been damaged by the subsequent construction of an enclosure bank. It is one of several platforms in a nucleated group close to the common edge.

The fan at the rear (the E) and its extension along the N side are clear enough, but where the fan turns on the S side it fades out and appears to have been superseded by an enclosure bank with what is probably an external gully, now silted up. Outside this is a low and rather ragged dump of spoil, probably material cleared out from the gully, though conceivably a foundation course for a structure. Whether the bank incorporates the scarp of the platform is uncertain. At the front of the platform is the apron but this is asymmetric to the platform and relates more to a raised area on the platform which could be the site of a building, though only two or possibly three sides are visible..

The platform is 13.1m E/W by >7.7m N/S. Internally it is 9.0m E/W by <5.3m N/S. The fan is up to 0.8m high, the apron 0.4m. The length of the structure on the platform cannot be gauged but it may be 4.3m wide overall and 2.6m internally, with a maximum height of 0.1m.

The platform is set on gently sloping ground with good views to N and S. There is a water supply nearby.

Criteria As Neuadd Platform I.

References National Trust survey in preparation

PRN 36979

Name Neuadd Ford III Community Painscastle Landowner National Trust Map Square SO14SW Altitude in metres 350 Grid Ref SO14224436

Description

i) Terraced platform located by the National Trust on the Begwns. Part of PRN 36961.

ii) A somewhat amorphous platform bisected by an enclosure boundary; one of a group nucleated platforms close to the common edge.

The platform is not as clear as some, due in no small measure to the boundary that cuts across it. The rear fan is fine, as are the sides, and it is oriented NE/SW which is not precisely at right angles to the contours. The enclosure boundary and its W gully bisect the platform, probably running through what was the entrance. The apron to the W is distinctive.

The overall dimensions of the platform are 24.8m NE/SW by 9.5m NW/SE. Internally the platform itself is 16.1m by 6.4m. The fan is 1.3m high, the apron 1.0m.

The only direct association is the enclosure boundary described above.

In its setting the site is very similar to PRN 36978 a few metres to the N.

Criteria As Neuadd Platform I.

Name Neuadd Ford IV Community Painscastle Landowner National Trust Map Square SO14SW Altitude in metres 350 Grid Ref SO14224436

Description

i) Terraced platform located by the National Trust on the Begwns. Part of PRN 36961.

ii) A terraced platform but of uncertain integrity.

The terrace, which slopes gently down, has an obvious fan at the rear, but the evidence for an apron is equivocal. There is a slight drop but this could be due to the excavation of a visible gully that produced spoil for the enclosure bank which runs immediately to the SW of the terrace. The NW side of the terrace is edged by another boundary bank though this disappears as a feature just beyond the fan. And unusual is the width of the terrace. Its surface undulates but no obvious structure can be detected. Overall it could be about 15.5m NE/SW by 11.4m NW/SE. The internal measurements are 10.4m by 8.2m.

It is not clear whether either of the boundary banks that hem in this terrace, is contemporary with or supersedes the terrace (RJS 13/11/98).

Criteria As Neuadd Platform I.

References National Trust survey in preparation

PRN 36981

Name Neuadd Ford V Community Painscastle Landowner National Trust Map Square SO14SW Altitude in metres 350 Grid Ref SO14224436

Description

i) Long hut located by the National Trust on the Begwns. Part of PRN 36961.

ii) A rectangular building with a small enclosure attached, part of a complex site.

The long hut is not as clear-cut as might be anticipated in an area where stone robbing was probably limited. It long axis - from E to W - is downhill, but the interior has ben partially levelled. The long sides show as undulating humps, though enough can be seen to defines the wall lines; probing suggests stone is very close to the surface. The shorter E and W walls are much clearer with stone protruding and in the case of the former some external facing slabs. There is one gap towards the E end of the S wall which could be an entrance but this is not certain. About three-fifths of the distance twoards the E end is a partition wall, the ground level to the W slightly lower than that to the E. Overall it is 13.5m E/W by 4.8m N/S and internally 9.6m by 2.4m, with the walls to a maximum height of 0.5m.

Clasping the W end of the building is a sub-rectangular enclosure or plot though it is just conceivable that it represents another structure.

The aspect and location mirror the other sites in the PRN 36961 group. A shallow gully swings along the S side, possibly a winter bourne.

Criteria As Neuadd Platform I.

Name Neuadd Ford VI Community Painscastle Landowner National Trust Map Square SO14SW Altitude in metres 350 Grid Ref SO14224436

Description

i) Platform located by the National Trust on the Begwns. Part of PRN 36961.(RJS 29/10/98)

ii) Platform towards base of hillslope, part of a complex of sites.

Rectangular platform, an ENE/WSW alignment, is raised on three sides, but the flatness of the ground obviates the need for deep terracing. It is set an angle of perhaps 70 degrees to the slope and both the S and W sides are defined by low scarps, but on the N side there is also a low bank and a very shallow external gully which also effectively creates a rise. The uphill (E) end does not have an obvious fan -there is a tump a short distance beyond what appears to be the edge of the platform but this appears to be a natural feature. There is a break in the scarp on the S side which might herald the approach to the platform, but equally this could be to disturbance after the site was abandoned. No trace of a structure on the platform. Its dimensions are 14.1m ENE/WSW by 6.2m externally, and 11.8m by 3.8m for the platform itself.

No direct associations but there is an enclosure nearby.

The platform is set towards the base of the hillslope with the ground levelling out immediately to the W. Its aspect and water supply are similar to the others in the group that go to make up PRN 36961. (RJS 16/11/98)

Criteria As Neuadd Platform I.

Name Neuadd Ford VII Community Painscastle Landowner National Trust Map Square SO14SW Altitude in metres 350

Description

i) Terraced platform located by the National Trust on the Begwns. Part of PRN 36961 (RJS 29/10/98)

ii) A probable long hut on a terraced platform with an appended enclosure, part of a nucleated complex. The long hut, aligned E to W, has obvious W and S sides with low banks revealing the outline; the S wall towards the W end bulges outwards but his could result from post-abandonment factors. The W end which incorporates a platform element has stones protruding. The N side seems to be represented by a few stones only, and the E side is possibly defined by a wall which has merged into the fan at this end. About two-fifths to half way E is a partition wall with stones protruding, dividing the structure into two compartments. The platform which this structure occupies is not particularly prominent The fan is clear and seems to carry round the N side ending in an almost bulbous bank, the fan is less obvious on the S side. Overall the platform is 13.3m E/W by 6.4m, and internally <10.8m by 4.3m. The building cannot be precisely measured but is >11.7m E/W 4.5m externally and <10.8m by 2.1m.

An enclosure bank runs off the W wall northwards towards another bank running E/W up the hill.

Like PRN 36982 this is at the base of the hill slope with level ground immediately to the W. Aspect and water supply as other groups in the PRN 36961 complex.

Criteria As Neuadd Platform I.

References National Trust survey in preparation

PRN 36934

Name New Buildings Long Hut Community Aberedw Landowner Glanusk Estate, Crickhowell Map Square SO15SW Altitude in metres 365 Grid Ref SO10305021

Description

i) Outline of rectangular building near quarry and just to W of boundary of imrpoved land.

ii) (Visit 18/11/98) Rectangular long hut measuring 12.1m E/W x 6.6m x 0.3m high. Probable entrance 1.6m wide on S side. Built on a slight platform, measuring 16.4m E/W x 9.1m, cut into the gentle E facing slope. Levelled area of platform measures 12.7m E/W x 8.5m, cut into the slope to a depth of 0.3m on W side and built up to a height of 0.5m on E side. Site crossed by a sheeptrack which passes through the probable entrance. Field system defined by earth banks up to 4m wide x 1.0m high, located 5m to S (RH 19/11/98).

Criteria

New Buildings Long Hut scores high on discrimination criteria for clustering and survival, and medium for association, feature diversity, potential, and amenity value. Under management criteria the condition is medium, the rest low.

Name Pen Waun Pool Long Hut Community Llanelwedd Landowner Glanusk Estate, Crickhowell Map Square SO05SE Altitude in metres 400 Grid Ref SO07915168

Description

One of three possible hafod sites ?? located W of Pen-Waen Pool on 955092-63 (RCAHMW). Enclosure PRN 33970 to N.

(Visit 25/11/98) Rectangular structure, visible on 3 sides as broad, but low, banks. The lower end is open in that no return is visible on this (SW) side. Surrounding ground is hummocky, but the banks, though similar, rise above the general ground level. No internal partitions and the ground level within the feature drops slightly. A sheep track crosses towards the NE end and this has resulted in the lowering of both banks to give the impression (probably false) of entrances. Set directly above the platform (PRN 33967).

Criteria

The earthwork scores high on discrimination criteria for survival, and medium on association, potential and amenity value, and under management criteria its condition is good, and its fragility high. Its association with PRN 33967 enhances its group value.

References RCAHMW aerial photograph = 955092-63

PRN 33967

Name Pen Waun Pool Platform Community Llanelwedd Landowner Glanusk Estate, Crickhowell Map Square SO05SE Altitude in metres 395 Grid Ref SO07905167

Description

One of three possible hafod sites ?? located W of Pen-Waen Pool on 955092-63 (RCAHMW). Enclosure PRN 33970 to N.

(Visit 25/11/98) Split level terraced platform. Low but distinctive fan. Platform at 2 levels, both with slight slopes to them. Good apron with gentle slope to it, some ground disturbance by sheep. Set into shallow cwm on hillside, into which the platform has been cut. A building (PRN 33968) to the NE and perhaps ridge and furrow on the slope to the N. Note that the ground is very hummocky.

Criteria

The platform scores high on discrimination criteria for survival, and medium on association, clustering, diversity of features, potential and amenity value, and under management criteria its condition is good, and its fragility high.

References RCAHMW aerial photograph = 955092-63

PRN 36998

Name Pen-blaen-milo Platform Community Aberedw Landowner Glanusk Estate, Crickhowell Map Square SO15SE Altitude in metres 340 Grid Ref SO09025160

Description

Broad platform terraced into gentle SW facing slope, above steep sided stream valley. Located at break in slope. Overall dimensions are 23.0m NE/SW x 11.3m. Levelled area measures 14.3m NE/SW x 6.2m, cut into slope to a depth of 1.4m on NE side and built up to a height of 2.0m on SW side. Levelled area is hummocky but reasonably level and has a hawthorn bush growing on its SW end. NW and SE ends of fan curve outwards to merge with the slope.

Criteria

Pen-blaen-milo Platform scores high on discrimination criteria for survival and medium for association, clustering, potential and amenity value. Under management criteria it is medium for fragility and good for condition.

Name Upper House Enclosure I Community Glascwm Landowner Glanusk Estate, Crickhowell Map Square SO05NE Altitude in metres 340 Grid Ref SO07555698

Description

Farmstead/enclosure located N of Upper House Farm, visible on 955091-43/44 and recorded on OS map as "enclosure".

(Visit 20/11/98) Rectangular platform, measuring 19.4m NW/SE x 11.6m overall, cut into moderate NW facing slope of bowl open on NW side. Levelled area measures 15.7m NW/SE x 8.7m, cut into slope to a depth of 1.2m on SE side and built up to a height of 0.4m on NW side. Slight traces of a building, 13.6m NW/SE x 4.7m, suggested by traces of walling, 0.8m wide x 0.1m high, on NW and SW sides. Large heap of cleared stone, 5.7m diam x 1.0m high, occupies centre of platform. Platform is located on the N side of a levelled terraced enclosure, c.28m diam, enclosed by a stone bank, with remains of wall facing on outside. Appended to S of terraced enclosure is an apparently ovoid or sub-circular enclosure defined by an earth and stone bank, containing cultivation ridges (furrows 3m apart, ridges 0.1m high).

Criteria

Upper House Enclosure I scores high on discrimination criteria for association, clustering and diversity, and medium for survival, potential and amenity value, and under management criteria the condition is good, and the fagility medium.

References

Recorded on OS map as 'enclosure'. RCAHMW aerial photograph = 955091-43/44

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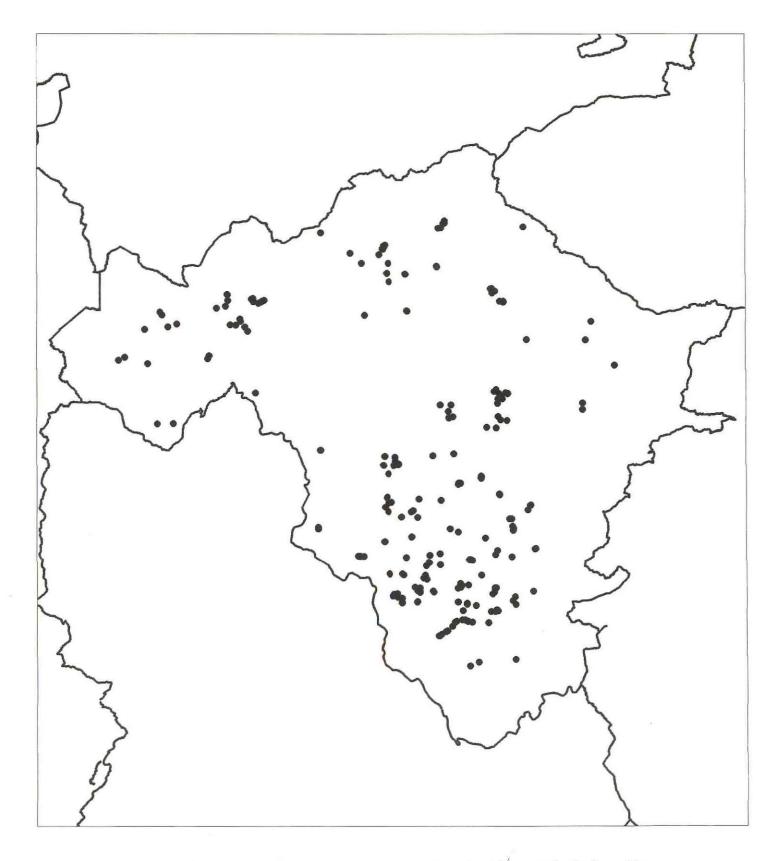
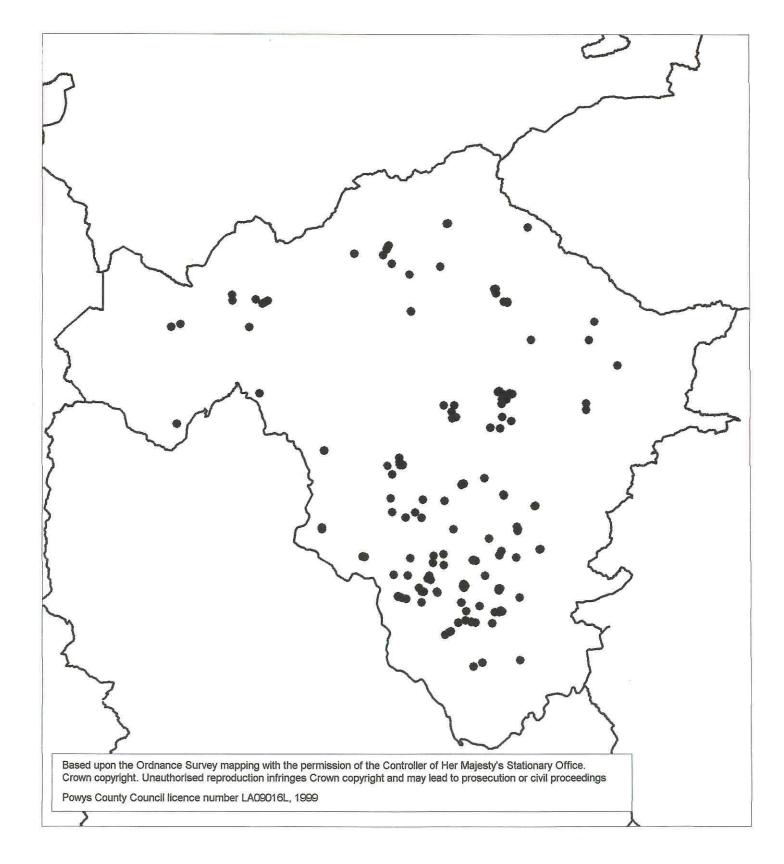


Fig 1: Distribution of known deserted rural settlements in Radnorshire



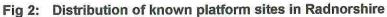
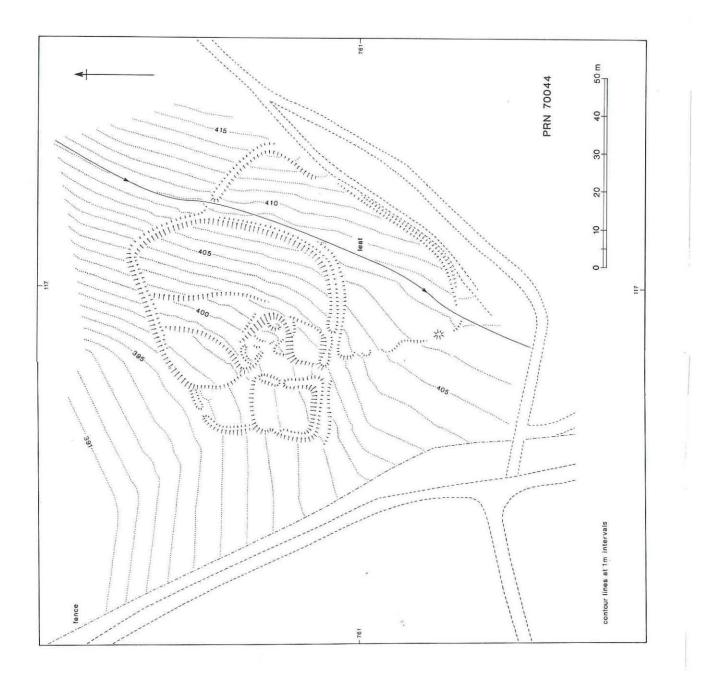




Fig 3: Distribution of known long huts in Radnorshire



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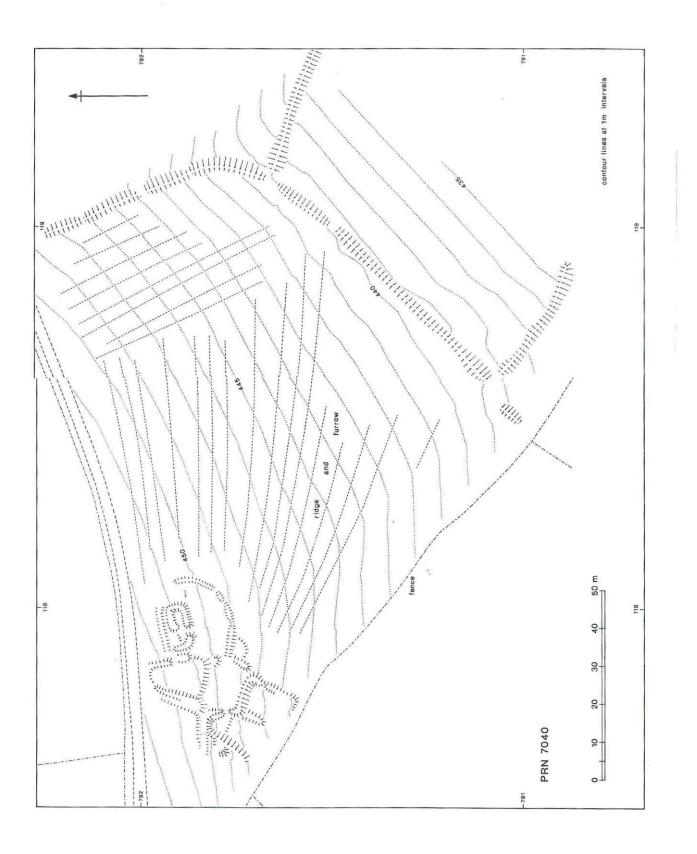






Fig 6: Upper House Enclosure, Glascwm (PRN 33981)

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