

THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Brecon Beacons Assessment Study

CPAT Report No 483

Brecon Beacons Assessment Study

FIELD ASSESSMENT

By R J SILVESTER and R HANKINSON

July 2002

Report for the National Trust

Brecon Beacons Assessment: an Overview

Over the years many surveys have been completed of the archaeology of different parts of the Brecon Beacons, to different standards. In 2001, the National Trust, concerned about a perceived incompleteness in the archaeological record for the northern Beacons, commissioned the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (henceforward CPAT) to undertake a sample assessment of the existing record for some limit areas in order to establish the comprehensiveness of the record. Foot and mouth restrictions forced the survey to be postponed for twelve months and the study was finally undertaken in May 2002.

The area

The survey took in three relatively small tracts of the northern Beacons, on the slopes and top of Allt Ddu (SO 0224), on the slopes of Pen Milan (SN9923) and on the northern slopes of Y Gym (9822). These areas had previously been examined by a fieldwork team some years ago when significant amounts of archaeology had been recorded. Subsequently, some discrepancies had been identified in those records that related to settlement sites, when work for the Cadw-funded D(eserted) R(ural) S(ettlement) programme was running in the late 1990s.

The present survey

Over the three-day period, in excess of 120 sites were examined, and where necessary new records generated. Some problems were identified in the existing records and these are commented on below. No attempt was made to walk transects systematically or to prospect for new sites, other than in moving from one known site to another.

Locational accuracy

Some sites in the original survey had been accurately located, but there were instances where sites could not be found when the given National Grid Reference was visited or on rarer occasions that some sites were found to be mislocated by several hundred metres. The problems in identifying the locations of sites in open moorland should not be underestimated: the present survey had the advantage of hand-held G(lobal) P(ositioning) S(ystem) sets with an anticipated accuracy of 30m or better, but the earlier survey would, we assume, had had to rely on compass bearings. This might explain why, for instance, a whole group of sites was badly mislocated by linear distances of several hundred metres on the slopes of Pen Milan.

Misinterpretations

This element of the original work does not constitute a major concern for us, although the incorporation of a reasonable prehistoric hut and enclosure, probably worthy of consideration for scheduling, into the infrastructure details of a 19th-century cottage in Cwm Llŵch, meant that its importance went unrecognised. Generally, misinterpretations were on a more minor scale such as the failure to interpret correctly putative 20th-century military features in the area of Allt Ddu.

Omissions

More serious are the omissions from the earlier record. The failure to recognise medieval and post-medieval house platforms appears to be a consistent one, although several of the largest platforms were recognised. Some sort of perspective can be put on this by the fact that the Cadw-funded study of DRS sites identified eight platforms (at least four of which have been recommended for scheduling) and several enclosure boundaries on a shelf north-west of Y Gym, where only two platforms had been located in the earlier survey.

Another group of three sizeable platforms had been overlooked in the valley to the east of Allt Ddu, one of them, interestingly, overlain by the boundary of the common. New individual platforms were located elsewhere to add to others found during the DRS survey of a few years ago.

Few new long huts were found, only one good example coming to light. One or two less tangible shelters were identified for the first time. Including those recorded during the DRS programme, twenty-one new platforms and long huts were recognised.

Inconsistencies in the recording of certain site types cause some concern but also some confusion. All of the northern ridges have very large numbers of shallow quarries on them, ranging from single trial pits to some complexes more than one hundred metres long. No one should be in any doubt that there are significant difficulties in recording quarry complexes, but for the northern Beacons there was no obvious consistency in their recording. In some places every discrete quarry had been recorded, in other places only a sample, and in some cases no record at all seemed to exist. Because of uncertainties in the locational accuracy of some recorded sites, it was frequently not possible to tell whether a quarry had been previously recorded, the exceptions being where there were distinguishing features such as the appearance of a later shelter wall. We are unable to estimate how many quarries went unrecorded; we were able to identify twenty quarries previously recorded, were unable to identify five quarries at the national grid references given, and recorded twenty-seven quarries which appear not to have been previously recorded.

The recording of tracks, holloways and the like was also inconsistent. The amazing system of braided holloways spanning out from the commons entrance onto Pen Milan seems to have gone unrecognized, whilst relatively minor tracks were recorded.

Drainage ditches (grips) were recorded below Y Gym but again not consistently. There are large numbers of these, probably inserted into the landscape since the Second World War, and we would not normally expect to record them in our fieldwork. Those recorded in the earlier survey below Y Gym were only a proportion of the extant (if non-functioning) examples.

Scheduling recommendations

As a result of our fieldwork we would suggest that the following sites are recommended to Cadw for their consideration for scheduling:

- i) Enclosure (PRN 34675).
- ii) Cairn on Pen Milan (PRN 82222)
- iii) Cairn on Pen Milan (PRN 82222)
- iv) Prehistoric enclosure (PRN 82212)

Archaeological Sites (orderd by PRN)

PRN: 34064 Allt Ddu NE trackway II **NGR:** SO03062450
Site type: Trackway **Period:** Unknown

There are two possible suspects for this record. One runs tangentially up the slope from NW to SE for at least 200m; it is effectively a shallow gully little more than 0.5m. It was recorded only at SO 02972449.

The second, more likely track runs pretty well e to W. It was identified at SO03012449 and fades into a broader track at SO03092450. The gully is obvious and is on the uphill side and there could be a flattened track beside it.

PRN: 34070 Allt Ddu N hut group **NGR:** SO02782448
Site type: Hut **Period:** Unknown

One feature has internal diameter of 2mand external diameter of 4m, an earth bank with some stone inside. The other is square, 4m overall, sunk into slope with stone revetments on the W, S and E. A large stone forms the N side.

Probably a military feature.

PRN: 34071 Allt Ddu N trackway II **NGR:** SO027322452
Site type: Trackway **Period:** Unknown

Only a sheeptrack.

PRN: 34072 Allt Ddu N hut I **NGR:** SO02692451
Site type: Hut ? **Period:** Unknown

Rectangular hollow surrounded by slight bank, 5m x 2.5m overall. An apron on the N and some stones to give overall dimensions close to those in original report.

Probably a military feature.

PRN: 34074 Allt Ddu SW quarry II **NGR:** SO02462366
Site type: Quarry ? **Period:** 19th Century ?

Large area of surface quarrying, waste and some stacked slabs. One largish slab-built shelter which appears to have had a slab roof, now partly collapsed.

PRN: 34077 Cwm Gwdi E structure **NGR:** SO02292429
Site type: Hut ? **Period:** Unknown

Sub-rectangular hollow edged by drystone walling, obvious on NW, odd stones on SW and some stone on NE. No clear entrance. Set on natural mound.

PRN: 34124 Pen Milan E quarry **NGR:** SN99772319
Site type: Quarry ? **Period:** 19th Century ?

A linear quarry with causeways, at least 30m long, and with rubble piled below them, was identified at a maximum of 60m from the original NGR. It seems probable that this was the stone quarry in the original record and the NGR has ben changed accordingly.

PRN: 34128 Pen Milan E hut platform **NGR:** SN99842342
Site type: Hut ? **Period:** Unknown

At almost exactly the correct NGR is a sloping platform, axially aligned down the slope. On its SW side is one 'wall' of rubble. There is nothing else to suggest that a building was set here and this is perhaps surprising for stone robbing on this slope would be very unlikely. At best this can be classified as a 'possible' site.

PRN: 34186 Afon Tarell E trackway II **NGR:** SN97842210
Site type: Trackway **Period:** Unknown

No evidence of a trackway at or near the given NGR. The description of it being in the valley bottom suggests an error in location.

PRN: 34413 Allt Ddu N hut **NGR:** SO02722449
Site type: Hut **Period:** Unknown

Oval depression, 2m NW/SE by 1m internally, but 4m in diameter externally and 0.5m deep. Probably a military feature.

Wrongly located previously because of error in trackway identification

PRN: 34415 Allt Ddu E trackway III **NGR:** SO02902414
Site type: Trackway **Period:** Unknown

Distinctive holloway in places perhaps up to 3m deep. It dog-legs up the hill at one point, and here also is has braided with a less hollowed track running on a parallel course a few metres away.

PRN: 34416 Allt Ddu E trackway IV **NGR:** SO02892405
Site type: Trackway **Period:** Unknown

Crosses an earlier platform (PRN 82248) at a low level. Joins with another track PRN 34415 at SO03002407.

PRN: 34428 Allt Ddu N trackway VI **NGR:** SO02722425
Site type: Trackway **Period:** Unknown

Probably served quarry (PRN 34429).

PRN: 34429 Allt Ddu N quarry I **NGR:** SO02712427
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Quarry confirmed.

PRN: 34430 Allt Ddu N quarry II **NGR:** SO02802425
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

A group of quarries, with some smaller quarry hollows upslope. Served by one or more tracks. Note that upright stone showing on photograph is a modern erection.

PRN: 34431 Allt Ddu N quarry III **NGR:** SO02692425
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Dimensions broadly as given in record and the drystone shelter wall still in place. Debris piles of shale slabs lie downslope and there is another shelter constructed in this.

PRN: 34432 Allt Ddu N quarry IV **NGR:** SO02812416
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Quarry complex accessed by track @ SO 02762415, but a substantial quarry excavation at SO02812416 more likely, and revetments deliberately constructed.

PRN: 34433 Allt Ddu N quarry V **NGR:** SO02702414
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Nothing at the NGR given which puts it on the flat top of the ridge in a boggy area, an unlikely place for a quarry.

PRN: 34434 Allt Ddu SW quarry **NGR:** SO02502395
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

A linear quarry located at SO02612398. This could be the correct site but there are many quarries on this ridge and this NGR is over 100m out.

Alternatively a more extensive system of quarry pits intermittent along an outcrop. A walkers' cairn adjacent at SO 02572394. The linear pits continue as far S as SO 02452384.

PRN: 34435 Allt Ddu SW barrow **NGR:** SO02502375
Site type: Round barrow ? **Period:** Prehistoric ?

Not located at or close to given NGR.

PRN: 34475 Pen Milan NE quarry I **NGR:** SN99682344
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Line of quarries recorded on the GPS as SN 99692349, so probably to be equated with PRN 34475.

PRN: 34478 Pen Milan N quarry I **NGR:** SN99592357
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Scattered group of small quarries at SN99652357.

PRN: 34488 Pen Milan NW quarry II **NGR:** SN99472350
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Series of quarries centred along linear rock outcrop, running ENE/WSW for about 200m. Up to 5m deep. Revetment walls in spoil.

PRN: 34489 Pen Milan N quarry II **NGR:** SN99652353
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Scattered group of small quarries. Most of them have spoil tips that have been re-worked by the National Trust for path construction.

PRN: 34491 Pen Milan N quarry IV **NGR:** SN99472350
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Series of deep quarry pits, up to 4m deep, along outcrop.

PRN: 34492 Pen Milan NW quarry III **NGR:** SN99342337
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Linear but irregular, on edge of scarp of shelf above another shelf.

PRN: 34482 Pen Milan W quarry II **NGR:** SN99332329
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

A small surface quarry, little more than surface scratching, at the correct NGR. Other surface quarries at SN99112319; SN99132325; SN99182327; SN99152330; SN99232335; SN99342338; SN99752347 and SN99352350. Probable that some of these may equate with PRNs 34481, 34484, 34485 and 34486. However, lack of detail in those records coupled with the presumably imprecise locations prevents correlation.

PRN: 34493 Pen Milan NW cairn **NGR:** SN99512357
Site type: Cairn **Period:** Prehistoric ?

This site could not be located at the NGR given it is conceivable that it could be a misplaced reference to one or other of the 'new' cairns identified several hundred metres away.

PRN: 34502 Y Gym NW trackway **NGR:** SN98392272
Site type: Trackway **Period:** Unknown

Main access route onto Y Gym from NT headquarters.

PRN: 34503 Y Gym NW quarry I **NGR:** SN98382270
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Hollow about 15m long by 10m wide and 2m deep.

PRN: 34504 Y Gym NW quarry II **NGR:** SN98372279
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

One quarry above the other; both deep, well-over 2m, in relation to their size. Thorn tree grows on edge of lower one, and adjacent an attempt has been made to create a shelter.

PRN: 34505 Y Gym NW quarry III **NGR:** SN98382282
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Relative to PRN 34504 this is not locatable. Might it be PRN 82258?

PRN: 34520 Y Gym NW drainage work XIV **NGR:** SN98192249
Site type: Ditch **Period:** Unknown

One of several in the immediate vicinity. Forms part of a herringbone pattern..

PRN: 34528 Y Gym SW trackway II **NGR:** SN97872197
Site type: Trackway **Period:** Unknown

The NGR given is the site of enclosure PRN 34675. The trackway could lie in enclosed ground to the W or be a mistaken interpretation of a drainage grip.

PRN: 34530 Y Gym NW fence **NGR:** SN98082251
Site type: Fence ? **Period:** Unknown

No obvious fence line but instead at SN98102247 a grip, one of several in the vicinity. This one runs in the right direction.

PRN: 34539 Pen Milan W quarry VIII **NGR:** SN99112367
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Not located at or near the given NGR, although there is a natural boulder stream here. Given that there are other incorrect NGRs in the vicinity it seems more likely that this is the likely explanation.

PRN: 34540 Pen Milan W quarry IX **NGR:** SN99082371
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Not located at or near the given NGR, although there is a natural boulder stream here. Given that there are other incorrect NGRs in the vicinity it seems more likely that this is the likely explanation.

PRN: 34541 Pen Milan W quarry X **NGR:** SN99122369
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Not located at or near the given NGR, although there is a natural boulder stream here. Given that there are other incorrect NGRs in the vicinity it seems more likely that this is the likely explanation.

PRN: 34544 Allt Ddu NE enclosure I **NGR:** SO03252458
Site type: Enclosure **Period:** Iron Age ?

Already recorded as PRN 929, though with a different and probably less accurate NGR.

PRN: 34555 Allt Ddu NE enclosure II **NGR:** SO03302455
Site type: Enclosure **Period:** Unknown

Abandoned intake. The boundary consists of a bank of variable height which near the S corner is 0.5m internally but only 0.3m externally. Broad flat-bottomed gully outside.

PRN: 34556 Allt Ddu NE quarry **NGR:** SO03242442
Site type: Quarry ? **Period:** 19th Century ?

Estimated at 60m long and 2m.

PRN: 34557 Allt Ddu E wall **NGR:** SO03312441
Site type: Wall **Period:** Unknown

Earthen bank with drystone facing or revetting. Otherwise as described.

PRN: 34558 Allt Ddu E bank **NGR:** SO03292441
Site type: Bank **Period:** Unknown

Probably the remnant of an earlier common boundary, superseded by the existing boundary.

PRN: 34559 Allt Ddu NE platform **NGR:** SO03072428
Site type: Platform ? **Period:** Unknown

Platform is large and amorphous and irregular in shape. Part of it is damp, suggesting it has been naturally created, and it is not convincing as a building platform.

PRN: 34566 Allt Ddu NW platform **NGR:** SO02592456
Site type: Platform ? **Period:** Unknown

Platform, roughly levelled, and approx. aligned N/S. Apron and end of platform on N is revetted in stone on both E and W sides though not around N edge. The S, fan end is irregular as though incompletely dug, although as this platform is exceptionally wide it could be that it was occupied by at least two buildings. Might have been abandoned as too damp for a spring is not apparent on the platform. 18m x 12m overall (paced).

PRN: 34569 Allt Ddu W barrow **NGR:** SO02332394
Site type: Round barrow ? **Period:** Prehistoric

Not located at or close to given NGR.

PRN: 34572 Allt Ddu SW quarry **NGR:** SO02412368
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Quarry location is satisfactory but description does not tally.

PRN: 34591 Cwm Llwh W butts I **NGR:** SO00192350
Site type: Shooting butt **Period:** Post Medieval

Site could not be located. Probably the NGR is inaccurate.

PRN: 34596 Cwm Llwh SW farmstead **NGR:** SN99932292
Site type: Farmstead **Period:** Unknown

Description okay, although the building occupies the S angle of the enclosure.

Note that the quarry and the oval hut and its enclosure have been given separate PRNs.

PRN: 34601 Pen Milan E hut platform **NGR:** SN99882347
Site type: Platform ? **Period:** Unknown

Platform confirmed and on a WNW/ESE axis, but the rubble which lies in front of it to the ESE (but not really below it) has some structure. Facing stones on an NNE/SSW axis form a probable wall, 1.1m wide and 7m long and there are traces of a return running WNW near its S end, thus pointing to the S and E walls of a structure. But this picture appears to be complicated by the presence of possibly another wall line near but outside the S corner. On the N side the return if this is what it is appears as a slightly raised bank, and on the W there is virtually no convincing evidence other than the occasional stone. Overall, however, it gives the impression of a building of dome 6.4m x 4.3m with maximum surviving height of 0.4m

The platform then is rather largely than was necessary for the building. There is not trace of anything set on the 'open' upper part of it.

PRN: 34603 Pen Milan NE trackway **NGR:** SN99712415
Site type: Trackway **Period:** Unknown

Runs tangentially downhill from E to W. Correct width given. However, at E end it appears to be more an enclosure boundary consisting of a bank with an external gully (at SN 99952412) than a terraceway.

PRN: 34604 Pen Milan NE bank **NGR:** SN99682414
Site type: Bank **Period:** Unknown

Site confirmed. The curvilinear section is inexplicable except that PRN 34603 runs down the slope to the apex of the curve suggesting that this bank, which is the former common boundary, curved out to meet it. Earthen bank with stone facing.

PRN: 34611 Y Gym N wall **NGR:** SN98752196
Site type: Wall **Period:** Post Medieval

This runs for several hundred metres down the valley on the W side of the stream. Roughly built, drystone, up to nearly 1m high. Not followed for whole length.

Boundary wall.

PRN: 34617 Y Gym W hut **NGR:** SN98332164
Site type: Hut **Period:** Unknown

Recorded in more detail during the DRS study. Two-cell structure, the top (S) end seemingly open, hence the term porch.

Set in a natural hollow with fine views over the valley below.

PRN: 34619 Y Gym NW platforms **NGR:** SN98372258
Site type: Platform **Period:** Unknown

These are the group of three platforms (nos PRNs 34619, 81344 and one unnumbered) at SN98312265.

PRN: 34620 Y Gym NW quarry **NGR:** SN98382275
Site type: Quarry **Period:** 19th Century ?

Linear quarry cut to at least 2m; runs SSW/NNE along edge of ridge.

PRN: 34621 Y Gym NW hut **NGR:** SN98372284
Site type: Hut ? **Period:** Unknown

Not located. presumed to be an incorrect NGR.

PRN: 34625 Pen Milan N platform **NGR:** SN99552404
Site type: Platform ? **Period:** Unknown

Platform is authentic; height of fan at rear closer to 1.3m. One or two large lumps of stone on platform. Also true that many natural 'platforms' on this hillside.

PRN: 34626 Pen Milan N cairn **NGR:** SN99632408
Site type: Cairn ? **Period:** Unknown

Mound as described. Now interpreted as a small heap of spoil from a natural rabbit warren, the lowest entrance to which is immediately upslope. Not an antiquity.

PRN: 34675 Y Gym W enclosure **NGR:** SN97872197
Site type: Enclosure **Period:** Unknown

Roughly hexagonal enclosure defined by earthen bank, but an area of disturbance shows a mix of peaty earth and small stones, but without any visible structure. Each side is relatively straight. An entrance gap c.2m wide on the WNW side. There is also one anomalous section on the WSW where the bank is missing, and as this does not appear to be the result of erosion, it is possible that there was a building here, for though there is no trace of it, the ground appears to be level in contrast to the ground slope.

Overall 25.7m N/S by 27.3m WNW/ESE. Bank up to 0.9m high internally and 0.3m externally. Probably an animal pen.

Sited on interfluvial ridge about 50m above and to the SE of the common boundary.

PRN: 34684 Y Gym NW wall **NGR:** SN98102274
Site type: Wall **Period:** Unknown

This could be the partially collapsed boundary wall of the common (recorded at SN98112265) which runs for a considerable distance. However, the given NGR is in enclosed land below the boundary and was not examined, and the alignment is wrong, so it must be assumed that the recorded wall is an old boundary in the enclosed land.

PRN: 34687 Y Gym NW quarry **NGR:** SN98202287
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Estimated to be c.50m long and about 4m deep, cut into the top of a rock outcrop.

PRN: 82205 Cwm Gwdi platform I **NGR:** SO02452455
Site type: Platform **Period:** Medieval

Possible building platform, aligned NW/SE; gentle fan on SE and SW sides (with thorn trees on slopes), and a largely natural apron derived from a continuous scarp at the base of a hill. Some loose stone on surface of platform. 12.6m WNW/ESE x 9.8m.

Set forward from the base of the steeper part of the hill slope but not on the level.

PRN: 82206 Cwm Gwdi platform II **NGR:** SO02452450
Site type: Platform **Period:** Post Medieval

Small building platform, aligned NNW/SSE; slight fan and rather more pronounced apron. One or two blocks of stone on surface of platform. Sheep track across top of apron. 8.4m NNW/SSE x 5.1m. Not wholly convincing as a platform but appears reasonably authentic.

Lies towards bottom of steep hill slope but higher than some neighbouring sites.

PRN: 82207 Cwm Gwdi platform III **NGR:** SO02622456
Site type: Platform **Period:** Medieval

Small building platform, aligned NNW/SSE and crossed by track. Its arcing fan has slumped and the current configuration may thus be misleading. The front half of the platform and the apron is much more distinctive, with sharp slopes all round. Small pile of largish stones towards the front of the platform. Overall 11.8m NNW/SSE x 5.8m.

Lies towards bottom of steep hill slope, just above where ground levels out.

PRN: 82208 Cwm Gwdi earthwork **NGR:** SO02322456
Site type: Gun emplacement ? **Period:** Modern

Sub-rectangular enclosure, the interior hollowed, and aligned pretty well E/W. On the N, downhill side, material thrown up to form outer bank. Possibly a gun emplacement though we cannot rule out a hut site.

Overall measurements 6.1m x 4.4m (excl. outer bank).

On flattish ground adjacent to valley.

PRN: 82209 Cwm Gwdi platform IV **NGR:** SO03082414
Site type: Platform **Period:** Medieval

Substantial rectangular platform aligned E/W. Curved fan at W end with some stone projecting from it, though nothing to indicate that this is structural. Apron fairly well defined. On the platform itself banks suggest the presence of a building, just possibly on two levels.

Possibly linked to R5 by bank and another possible bank running E/W suggesting possible enclosure around this site. Needs further groundwork.

Overall dimensions of earthwork 22.8m E/W by 8.9m.

At base of steep slope as ground levels out.

PRN: 82210 Allt Ddu quarry III **NGR:** SO03132446
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Linear quarry running E/W parallel to contours for c.100m. Up to 5m deep on uphill side.

PRN: 82211 Cwm Gwdi platform V **NGR:** SO02432455
Site type: Platform **Period:** Medieval

Sub-rectangular platform; fan at rear is modified natural terrace slope. Apron built out to N and crossed by sheep track. Aligned N/S. 9m long x 4.5m wide overall (paced).

Towards base of steep N-facing slope, approx. 20m to SW of spring.

PRN: 82212 Cwm Llwlch SW hut and enclosure **NGR:** SN99862300
Site type: Enclosure **Period:** Bronze Age

D-shaped enclosure defined by a low rubble wall which shows no visible coursing and little structure; variable survival but entrance probably on straight, E side. Overall measurements (paced) 27m N/S x 29m with a bank in places 2.0m wide and 0.3m high/

At the S end of the E wall against its external ace is a sub-circular hut, distinguished by large stones up to 1m long. Collapsed stone in the interior confuses the general plan of this feature. Possibly its entrance is on the N.

Positioned at the head of Cwm Llwlch where it abruptly narrows from a broad U-shaped valley to a more narrow V-shaped valley. On almost level ground.

Originally recorded as part of the PRN 34596 farmstead complex but clearly very different from it.

PRN: 82213 Cwm Llwlch SW quarry I **NGR:** SN99772295
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Quarry in Cwm Llwlch above valley floor.

No dimensions recorded.

PRN: 82214 Cwm Llwlch SW quarry II **NGR:** SN99832290
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Quarry in Cwm Llwlch above valley floor. The highest and most southerly of the three associated with the Cwm Llwlch farmstead (PRN 34596)

No dimensions recorded.

PRN: 82215 Cwm Llwlch SW quarry III **NGR:** SN99842291
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Quarry in Cwm Llwlch above valley floor. The central one of the three associated with the Cwm Llwlch farmstead (PRN 34596)

No dimensions recorded.

PRN: 82216 Cwm Llwlch SW quarry IV **NGR:** SN99852293
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Quarry in Cwm Llwlch above valley floor. The lowest of the three associated with the Cwm Llwlch farmstead (PRN 34596) and the closest to it.

No dimensions recorded.

PRN: 82217 Cwm Llwh shelter **NGR:** SN99712305
Site type: Shelter **Period:** Post Medieval

A roughly rectangular shelter built against a rock outcrop on its W side, the most prominent part of the latter is a large slab of slate protruding from the slope. The foundations of the shelter wall show on the S and to a lesser extent on the E, but nothing obvious on the N. Overall dimensions 3.5m NNW/SSE x 3.7m.

PRN: 82218 Pen Milan cultivation **NGR:** SN99852424
Site type: Ridge and Furrow **Period:** Post Medieval

Area of cultivation ridges, an excellent example of 'betting'. Ridges of variable width, some 3-4m wide and up to 0.5m high above adjacent gullies. Two groups at right angles to each other.

On gentle N-facing slope and unlike the surrounding area very little bracken encroachment on the ridges

Overall area not measured but probably in range of 40m N/S by 40m E/W.

PRN: 82219 Pen Milan braided trackways **NGR:** SO00072462
Site type: Trackway **Period:** Post Medieval

A network of braided trackways branches out from the entrance to the common, becoming even more frequent as they ascend the hill and the common itself widens out.

Presumably these would show well on APs and could be mapped accordingly.

PRN: 82220 Pen Milan platform **NGR:** SN98972376
Site type: Platform **Period:** Medieval

Rectangular platform, aligned SE/NW, low but obvious fan pulled around to the sides; pronounced apron. No convincing traces of a structure on the platform. Sheep track runs tangentially over SW side. Overall dimensions 13.8m NW/SE x 7.8m.

One edge of slope above valley of Glyn Tarrell with sloping shelf behind it.

PRN: 82221 Pen Milan hollow **NGR:** SN99002375
Site type: Earthwork **Period:** Unknown

A small embanked hollow, sub-rectangular in appearance but with rounded corners. Interior is hollowed below ground level, the spoil thrown up around the sides. It is definitely man-made, could conceivably be where a boulder has been removed; equally it could be a small and somewhat atypical hut site; in a different geographical context it might have been identified as a mineral 'trial'.

Overall dimensions: 6.3m NW/SE includes outer bank x 4.8m; bank to 0.4m high.

On a slightly sloping shelf overlooking the valley to the W and N. The shelf is relatively stone-free.

PRN: 82222 Pen Milan cairn I **NGR:** SN99322356
Site type: Barrow **Period:** Bronze Age

A spread of loose rubble including one large boulder, roughly circular, although the periphery in places grass-covered. The density of a stone is in marked contrast to the surrounding almost stoneless ground, particularly to the N where a level terrace.

7.3m NE/SW x 8.0m x max 0.4m high.

Set on gently sloping ground above the terrace, and a notch in the terrace gives excellent views over the valley to the NW.

PRN: 82223 Pen Milan cairn II **NGR:** SN99322346
Site type: Barrow **Period:** Bronze Age

A spread of packed rubble, roughly circular, although the periphery in places grass-covered. The density of stone contrasts with the almost stoneless moor around it.

5.9m NE/SW x 7.1m x max 0.3m high.

Set on gently sloping ground above flat ridge.

PRN: 82224 Pen Milan quarry I **NGR:** SN98972344
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Small, irregularly shaped quarry beside trackway.

PRN: 82225 Pen Milan quarry II **NGR:** SN99052335
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Small, linear quarry on break of slope. It continues intermittently (according to rock exposures) from NGR given to SN99122344; below it, on the slope, are debris trails and piles.

PRN: 82226 Pen Milan quarry III **NGR:** SN99202355
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Group of contiguous quarry hollows. No measurements taken.

PRN: 82227 Pen Milan quarry IV **NGR:** SN99492403
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Small quarry on N-facing slope, 5m E/W x 3m wide; it is one a series of intermittent quarry scoops running along the slope.

PRN: 82228 Pen Milan quarry V **NGR:** SN98902369
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Small linear quarry, 10m SW/NE x 3m wide, on the lip of slope where rock outcrops. It continues south-westwards as far as SN98872365.

PRN: 82229 Pen Milan quarry VI **NGR:** SN98852360
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Linear quarry; one part is trench-like and has shelter walls built of rubble with it (at SN98862359)

PRN: 82230 Pen Milan quarry VII **NGR:** SN99642346
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

A linear quarry running across the ridge from east to west.
Possibly coincides with already known example.

PRN: 82231 Pen Milan quarry VIII **NGR:** SN99692348
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Linear quarry running diagonally up the slope for at least 100m N to S.

PRN: 82232 Pen Milan hut **NGR:** SN99772320
Site type: Hut **Period:** Post Medieval ?

A double-celled building, near square, with the cells lying side by side. The S cell is in better condition than its northern counterpart which also appears to be rather more roughly built. No obvious entrance to the N cell though perhaps in the short E wall. The obvious entrance to the S cell, though somewhat unusual, seems to have been at the SW angle. Built into the party wall is an upright slab with a circular depression in its S face.

Overall measurements 6.9m N/S by 5.0m with a maximum height of 0.5m.

Set on a large, natural shelf well above the valley floor.

In its description this has some similarities to PRN 34598 which was not identified on the ground, yet the descriptions are not directly comparable and the location is well out. However, as it would be virtually impossible to miss PRN 82232 during fieldwork we are tempted to think that the two are one and the same.

PRN: 82233 Cwm Llwh enclosure **NGR:** SN99862319
Site type: Enclosure? **Period:** Prehistoric

Rubble wall of piled stone with little form to it, generally around 2m wide and up to 0.3m high. In three sections which in total length is about 130m, and hint at an enclosure but one which is either incomplete or much disturbed.

No certain internal features but possibly an earthwork fan at SN99862320, though no other traces of a platform.

Located at base of slope immediately above valley floor.

PRN: 82234 Pen Milan platform **NGR:** SN99102369
Site type: Platform **Period:** Medieval

Platform aligned NW/SE; approximately rectangular with a fan on the back, SE end and around the SW side. The NW front is defined by a natural scarp with the only evidence of an apron being a raised section at the N end of the NE side. A sheeptrack crosses this NW end.

Overall dimensions are 9.5m NW/SE by 7.9m with the fan 1.3m deep.

Set into a steep slope facing NW with good views to the W and N.

PRN: 82235 Pen Milan trackway I **NGR:** SN98962349
Site type: Track **Period:** Post Medieval

Terraceway, up to 5m wide, running in SSE direction and ascending to the crest of Pen Milan. At the NGR given, its course is taken up by two parallel sunken tracks. Further N it continues to SN 98922357, while to the S it ends at SN 98992333.

PRN: 82236 Pen Milan mound **NGR:** SN99822414
Site type: Mound **Period:** Unknown

An approximately circular mound, with convex profile. Function uncertain. It lies within an area enclosed by a relict bank, passing 3m to the S and is thus unlikely to be a result of clearance.

Overall dimensions are 4m diameter and 0.8m high.

Set on a hillslope with aspect in all directions except the S.

PRN: 82237 Pen Milan trackway II **NGR:** SN99932408
Site type: Track **Period:** Post Medieval

Braided trackway ascends the Pen Milan spur from flatter ground to the NE. Up to 3m across.

PRN: 82238 Pen Milan quarry IX **NGR:** SN99202364
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Stone quarry on crest of spur, its working face about 40m long by 4m high. Rubble waste downslope has partly filled the fan of a platform on the level ground below, to the N.

PRN: 82239 Pen Milan quarry X **NGR:** SN98962359
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Trench quarry 40m long, 3m wide and 1.5m deep

PRN: 82240 Pen Milan quarry XI **NGR:** SN98942350
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Rock outcrop quarried.

PRN: 82241 Pen Milan quarry XII **NGR:** SN98922357
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Two small quarry scoops.

PRN: 82242 Pen Milan quarry XIII **NGR:** SN98872357
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Linear quarry, NNE/SSW, about 50m long with a 2m high face. Shelter built of rubble at SW end.

PRN: 82243 Pen Milan quarry XIV **NGR:** SN98872357
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Small quarry scoops in outcrop.

PRN: 82244 Pen Milan long hut **NGR:** SN98912364
Site type: Long hut **Period:** Medieval

Rectangular building with stone foundations, aligned NE/SW. Hint of external facing to part of NE wall. Entrance not clearly evident but probably in the NW wall. Slightly terraced into slope at SW end. Turf-covered heap of stone beyond SW end may have provided raw material.

Overall dimensions of building 8.9m NE/SW by 4.9m with walls no more than 0.2m high.

Set on a broad shelf that interrupts an otherwise steep NW-facing slope.

Note also that 10m to the SW there is a fan which could conceivably be the location of a platform but the evidence is simply too ambiguous.

PRN: 82245 Pen Milan shooting butt **NGR:** SO00122340
Site type: Butt **Period:** Post Medieval

An approximately square structure, the N and E sides formed by stone revetments, the W and S sides by a minor (and apparently modern) gully. Turfed interior at same level as the walling.

Overall 2.8m E/W by 2.7m N/S.

Probably related to the firing range for which the targets, higher up the valley, are still shown on modern OS maps. Set on the S side of a rivulet.

PRN: 82246 Pen Milan quarry XV **NGR:** SN99762349
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Scattered group of quarries along side a track.

PRN: 82247 Allt Ddu platform I **NGR:** SO03082420
Site type: Platform **Period:** Medieval

Well-preserved rectangular platform aligned approximately E/W. The W end is cut into the slope to create the fan, but due to the nature of the topography this extends along almost all of the N side as well. Apron at E end.

Overall dimensions are 15.4m E/W by 8.8m N/S. Both fan and apron are about 1.3m high.

On hill slope with good views to NE, E and S.

PRN: 82248 Allt Ddu platform II **NGR:** SO03032399
Site type: Platform **Period:** Medieval

Rectangular platform aligned WNW/ESE; remains disturbed. Fan at WNW end has been partially filled in on its N side by material derived from a track, which runs across it in a NW direction, although the form of the fan is still apparent. The central portion of the platform is also crossed by another track (PRN 3416), this one used by vehicles and animals. The apron at the ESE end is quite pronounced but is also crossed by a sheep track.

Overall dimensions 25.3m E/W by 8.6m N/S. Fan 2.5m deep and apron 2.3m high.

PRN: 82249 Allt Ddu quarry III **NGR:** SO02712422
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Linear quarry showing as intermittent hollows over nearly 90m from NGR given to SO 02642420.

PRN: 82250 Allt Ddu quarry IV **NGR:** SO02732419
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Quarry about 15m long by 8m wide with shelter wall in its base. Downslope (and to the N) is a loading platform created by drystone quarry slabs being built up to provide the platform 3m WSW/ENE by 1.5m x 0.3m high.

PRN: 82251 Allt Ddu shelter **NGR:** SO02712415
Site type: Shelter **Period:** Post Medieval

Small shelter created between large blocks and slabs of stone to the sides, and a sloping back formed from the natural. At the front earth mounded up to create the effect of a hollow with an entrance at the NW corner. At the most 2m square.

Immediately below the top of the ridge.

PRN: 82252 Allt Ddu quarry V **NGR:** SO02362391
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Linear quarry perhaps 20m and 4m wide, and also subsidiary quarry hollows. Piles of debris on slope below former.

PRN: 82253 Allt Ddu peat cutting **NGR:** SO02742410
Site type: Turbary **Period:** Post Medieval

Peat cuttings showing as irregular and shallow depressions but with some straight edges. On was about 7m in diameter.

On flat top of ridge under heather cover.

PRN: 82254 Allt Ddu quarry VI **NGR:** SO02362410
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Linear quarry showing as series of scoops in slope, estimated to be in excess of 100m long.

PRN: 82255 **Y Gym mound** **NGR:** SN97872198
Site type: Mound **Period:** Unknown

Grass-covered mound, originally recorded as part of PRN 34675, but there is nothing to indicate that they are part of the same site complex. The mound sports better grass than the rough tussocks of the surrounding ground; it is sub-circular, flat-topped and the NW quadrant is slightly hollowed. It is sharp-sided on the N and W, gentler on the S and E where the material tails out, though this is also in part, a function of the gentle slope on which it is located.

It is 5.6m E/W by 4.8m N/S and up to 0.9m. Its function is obscure.

On gently sloping shelf above Glyn Tarrell.

PRN: 82256 **Y Gym quarry I** **NGR:** SN98462271
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Small area of quarrying, perhaps 15m by 5m. One of the quarry scoops has the appearance of a small square shelter, 1.9m across with rubble infill.

PRN: 82257 **Y Gym quarry II** **NGR:** SN98062155
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

Linear quarry, c70m long and around 10m wide in places; some revetting. One debris pile below quarry at N end.

More than half way down main W face of Y Gym.

PRN: 82258 **Y Gym quarry III** **NGR:** SN98442274
Site type: Quarry **Period:** Post Medieval

A linear quarry hollow located at SN98442274, 25m NE/SW by 4m wide and 1m deep.

PRN: 82259 **Allt Ddu platform III** **NGR:** SO03132416
Site type: Platform **Period:** Medieval

Platform overlain by common boundary and disturbed by trackway. Apparently set at about 45 degrees to slope. A few visible stones hint at a building.

Minimum 17m NE/SW by 12m (paced) with a fan 2.5m deep.

PRN: 81336 **Pen Milan platform I** **NGR:** SN99782418
Site type: Platform **Period:** Medieval

Description: sub-rectangular platform terraced into slope, aligned N/S. Fan on S has squared appearance and is well defined, with banks on its E and W sides. Apron on N is more rounded, probably due to erosion which has also left a N/S hollow at its N end. Interior slopes gently to N and has traces of a building suggested by intermittent parallel banks running N/S. Stone 0.7m long in N part of interior could be a hearth/fireback stone. Platform is cut centrally by a track line which has left a 2m wide hollow running E/W at the junction between fan and apron.

Overall dimensions 22.7m N/S x 15.6m.

Associations: track described above; a second track runs immediately to S of fan.

Location: moderate N facing slope, near common boundary.

PRN: 81337 Pen Milan platform II **NGR:** SN99502401
Site type: Platform **Period:** Medieval ?

Description: sub-rectangular platform terraced into slope. Deep, squared, fan on S. Apron attenuated and has less than one third of the interior. Interior level and mainly within the fan.

Overall dimensions 17.5m x 9.7m.

Associations: slight possible platform (interior 3m across) to E could be a subsidiary feature.

Location: situated on steep N facing hill slope.

PRN: 81340 Y Gym platform I **NGR:** SN98352280
Site type: Platform **Period:** Medieval

Description: sub-rectangular platform aligned NW/SE. Shallow fan on SE, low apron on NW. Interior slopes gently to NW.

Overall dimensions 15.3m x 6.1m.

Associations: redundant field bank of a former enclosure encompassing this site and the similar platform (PRN 81341) passes to NE and SE.

Location: situated on gentle NW facing slope.

PRN: 81341 Y Gym platform II **NGR:** SN98342277
Site type: Platform **Period:** Medieval

Description: rectangular platform aligned NW/SE. Slight fan on SE, low apron on NW. Interior hummocky but distinct as it is fairly level in relation to the slope.

Overall dimensions 12.7m x 6.0m.

Associations: located 25m to S of platform PRN 81340. Field bank of the surrounding enclosure passes to SE.

PRN: 81344

Y Gym NW platform II

NGR: SN98322266

Site type: Platform

Period: Medieval

Description: smaller of two platforms about 4m apart. This is aligned ESE/WNW and has a pronounced fan and a slight irregular apron. There is some stone on the surface of the platform but nothing overtly structural; and one large block protruding from the swept-round side of the fan on the N. Also on the N is the hint of a building scarp.

Description: larger of two platforms about 4m apart. This is aligned E/W and has a well-defined fan, though not high, and is swept around to the sides. Particularly on the S material has been piled up on the side to form a bank. There is no apron as such. Instead there are what could be two sides of a building that occupied the platform on the S and W and a hint of a side on the N; little stone is in evidence, just a grassy bank, and the short end is no more than a scarp. There is virtually no indication of this building below the fan, just a single stone.

Overall dimensions: 17.3m ESE/WNW x 9.4m

Associations: there is another platform a few metres to the W, and the main platform (PRN 34619) to S.

Location: flattish shelf below the higher slope of the hill and above the drop to the valley of Glyn Tarrell.

Overall dimensions: 18.0m E/W x 12.2m

Associations: a second platform immediately to the N and the fainter indications of a more amorphous platform about 10m or so the NW.

Location: flattish shelf below the higher slope of the hill and above the drop to the valley of Glyn Tarrell.

PRN: 81368

Blaenglyn platform III

NGR: SN98292290

Site type: Platform

Period: Medieval

Description: Fine platform which has retained its shape well. Not quite at right angles to the contour. Sharp fan pulled around in a U-shape. Pronounced apron with traces of a wall bank on it, particularly on NW side. Not possible to define the whole of the building fully.

Overall dimensions 21.0m N/S x 8.0m.

Location: Good view over valley.

PRN: 81363

Blaenglyn platform I

NGR: SN98252255

Site type: Platform

Period: Medieval

Description: large platform transected by public footpath. Good fan though spreads widely, 'nobbly' apron. One large upright slab, perhaps incidental to the use of the structure ? No convincing trace of a building, just an occasional hint.

Overall dimensions 18.1m E/W x 9.2m.

Associations: Below platform and to SW, about 10m - 15m is a long platform or hollow along the contour. Its purpose is unclear and it is uncertain whether it is contemporary with the main platform.

PRN: 81364

Blaenglyn platform II

NGR: SN98442288

Site type: Platform

Period: Medieval

Description: Platform with shallow fan, swept around to the sides. Gentle apron. Interior almost level.

Overall dimensions 8.7m N/S x 6.7m.

Associations: Spring with stream no more than 30m away.

Location: Excellent views down the valley

PRN: 81365 Carno platform

NGR: SN98532298

Site type: Platform

Period: Medieval

Description: Elongated scoop down the slope, probably but not certainly a platform. Shallow and gently sloping fan pulled round to both sides. Apron almost non-existent, there is a very slight change in front of the thorn tree which might define it. Sloping interior. Thorn trees at either end. Reasonably convincing, perhaps 70%.

Overall dimensions 8.9m N/S x 5.8m.

Location: Excellent views down valley.

PRN: 81366 Blaenglyn longhouse I

NGR: SN98352270

Site type: Longhouse

Period: Medieval

Description: Building on a platform, almost certainly a long house. Building narrow in relation to length. Walls show as earthen banks - no real stone visible but probing would no doubt show differently. Various gaps in long sides, but one (in SW wall) is more likely to be the entrance than the others. Back wall (SE) has disappeared. Front (NW) wall merges with apron to give a pronounced rise, above footpath to W. Fan is distinctive, merging with the enclosure bank running down from above.

Overall dimensions (platform) 22.7m NW/SE x 9.4m, (building) 15.3m NW/SE x 6.7m x 0.4m high.

Associations: Second building on platform c.5m to NE, therefore a paired site. Alignment of buildings is fractionally different. Gap in the intervening enclosure bank may be original.

Location: Buildings are on a shelf that only drops slightly. Behind the ground rises to the ridge with outcrops. Base of the slope is utilised for the fans of both buildings. In front of the buildings (NW) the ground begins to slope gently down and becomes progressively steeper. Excellent views into the valley.

PRN: 81367 Blaenglyn longhouse II

NGR: SN98352270

Site type: Longhouse

Period: Medieval

Description: Building on a platform, almost certainly a long house, though not so well defined as similar site (PRN 81366), which is adjacent. Building narrow in relation to length. Walls show as earthen banks - no real stone visible but probing might show differently. Side (long) walls of building are incomplete. This is particularly true of the NE wall, but the SW wall is also fragmented. As the adjacent site, the back wall (SE) is not complete, while the front (NW) wall is well built up and merges with apron. Fan quite slight.

Overall dimensions (platform) 15.3m NW/SE x 6.6m, (building) 11.1m NW/SE x 4.6m x 0.2m high.

Associations: Second building on platform c.5m to SW, therefore a paired site. Alignment of buildings is fractionally different. Gap in the intervening enclosure bank may be original.

Location: Buildings are on a shelf that only drops slightly. Behind the ground rises to the ridge with outcrops. Base of the slope is utilised for the fans of both buildings. In front of the buildings (NW) the ground begins to slope gently down and becomes progressively steeper. Excellent views into the valley.