

CPAT Report No 982

The Brecon Beacons

The Scheduling Enhancement Programme



THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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R J Silvester

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Report for Cadw

The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust

7a Church Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7DL

tel (01938) 553670, fax (01938) 552179

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The Scheduling Enhancement Programme: Introduction

A scoping study was conducted at Cadw's request in the second quarter of the financial year 2007/8, to identify in overall terms the number of sites and features recorded in the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) that might still need to be assessed in order to complete the scheduling enhancement programme for prehistoric and Roman sites in the region, taking the study from the earliest times through to around 400 AD. It was needed to inform their thinking on priorities for scheduling enhancement in the two years up to April 2010 when the provisions of the Heritage Reform White Paper are timetabled to be implemented.

The scoping report was submitted to Cadw in September 2007 and was discussed at a meeting of the trusts' directors and Cadw on 3 October. This was followed by a further meeting between the trusts and Dr Mike Yates on 7 November, as a result of which some preliminary work on a general scheduling enhancement programme across the whole of Wales was conducted by some but not all trusts during the remainder of 2007/8. All four trusts are currently involved, at the time of writing, in this programme, with a view to completing it by the end of the financial year 2009/10.

A series of enhancement programmes had already taken place during previous years across Powys and the former county of Clwyd, in some cases going back into the early 1990s, to study thematically a range of monument types including: unenclosed prehistoric settlements identified through their lithic concentrations (2001-2), prehistoric funerary and ritual monuments (from 1997 until 2005/6 with follow-up programmes in two subsequent years), hut circles/round huts (from 1998 to 2008), defended enclosures of Iron Age and Roman date (in 1993, 1995, 1998 & 2006 to 2007) Roman military establishments (2004 to 2008), and Roman roads (2002 to 2004). Such enhancement programmes were designed not only to identify sites which held sufficient potential to qualify them for scheduling as sites of national importance, but also to undertake a rationalisation of the HER, through the validation of authentic sites and rejection of spurious examples, the amplification of existing records as necessary, and the removal of duplicate records.

The scoping study in 2007 utilised a recent extract from the HER to identify: a) all sites and features of prehistoric and Roman date and b) all recorded examples of specific site types such as 'enclosure', 'pound', field system' and the like where the period had been defined as 'unknown'. Sites already assessed during the enhancement programmes of previous years were then removed from this database. Similarly, sites which had nothing better than a four-figure grid reference were removed in the belief that there was no realistic prospect of identifying any such site on the ground, an approach paralleling that followed by the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust.

The study identified over 1600 sites (or cultural heritage assets to use the current phraseology) across Powys and the former county of Clwyd where assessment might be useful. Some site types such as burnt mounds, field systems including pit alignments, and caves appeared to provide in themselves typologically discrete studies, but it was equally clear that there were some areas of east and north-east Wales where concentrations of various types of site suggested that a more geographically defined approach might be a more efficient mechanism for assessment. Where a field element might be involved in the assessment, it was felt that it would be a more economical use of resources to look at the sites of varying types as a group rather than to examine them individually over different years.

One such geographical area lying at the southern extremity of the Clwyd-Powys region was the Brecon Beacons. In terms of the defined site types the Brecon Beacons area is represented more frequently than any other, with at least five of the eight site types well represented. Furthermore, it has already received considerable attention in recent years during the Prehistoric Funerary and Ritual Monuments programme in 2004-06 and the prehistoric Round Huts programme in 2007/08. But the Brecon Beacons has other issues that need to be addressed. As noted in the Round Huts report (Hankinson et al 2008, 4), there is a considerable duplication of records in the Historic Environment Record, with some sites appearing twice, even three times, as a result of data on the same site being acquisitioned and entered at different times from the RCAHMW's Inventory work. In some instances

too, different recorders had visited the same site in different years, leading to duplicate site records with varying levels of detail, each with its own PRN. It was one of the positive outcomes of the Round Huts project that the HER benefited from a degree of rationalisation in the records for the Brecknock uplands, and that has been carried on during the current enhancement programme.

Table 1: Occurrence of specific sites types against geographical areas

<i>Area</i>	<i>Black Mountains</i>	<i>Brecon Beacons</i>	<i>Clwyd-ans</i>	<i>Elan Valley</i>	<i>ŷpynt</i>	<i>ŷynydd ŷiraethog</i>	<i>ŷevern ŷalley</i>	<i>ŷanat ŷalley</i>	<i>ŷale of ŷlwyd</i>	<i>Vest ŷonts plands</i>
<i>Site type</i>										
<i>Burnt mounds</i>		■			■					■
<i>Caves</i>		■	■						■	
<i>Mines and quarries</i>										
<i>Cairnfields</i>	■	■		■						
<i>Enclosures</i>	■	■	■		■	■	■	■	■	■
<i>Field systems</i>	■	■		■		■	■	■		
<i>Roman settlement</i>							■			
<i>Roman religious sites</i>									■	

Five research objectives, common to all the scheduling enhancement projects, were identified in the proposals for grant-aid submitted to Cadw in their final version in March 2008. These were in order:

- a) an assessment of the archaeological significance of the various site-types and the sites that comprise them, within both the regional and particularly the national framework.
- b) the identification of those sites that might merit further examination through ground survey, geophysical survey and evaluation.
- c) the recommendation of future management strategies, specifically including scheduling.
- d) the enhancement of the regional HER and through it the Extended National Database (END) maintained by the Royal Commission.
- e) the dissemination of information through publication if appropriate.

Particular emphasis here is placed on objectives a), b), c) and d).

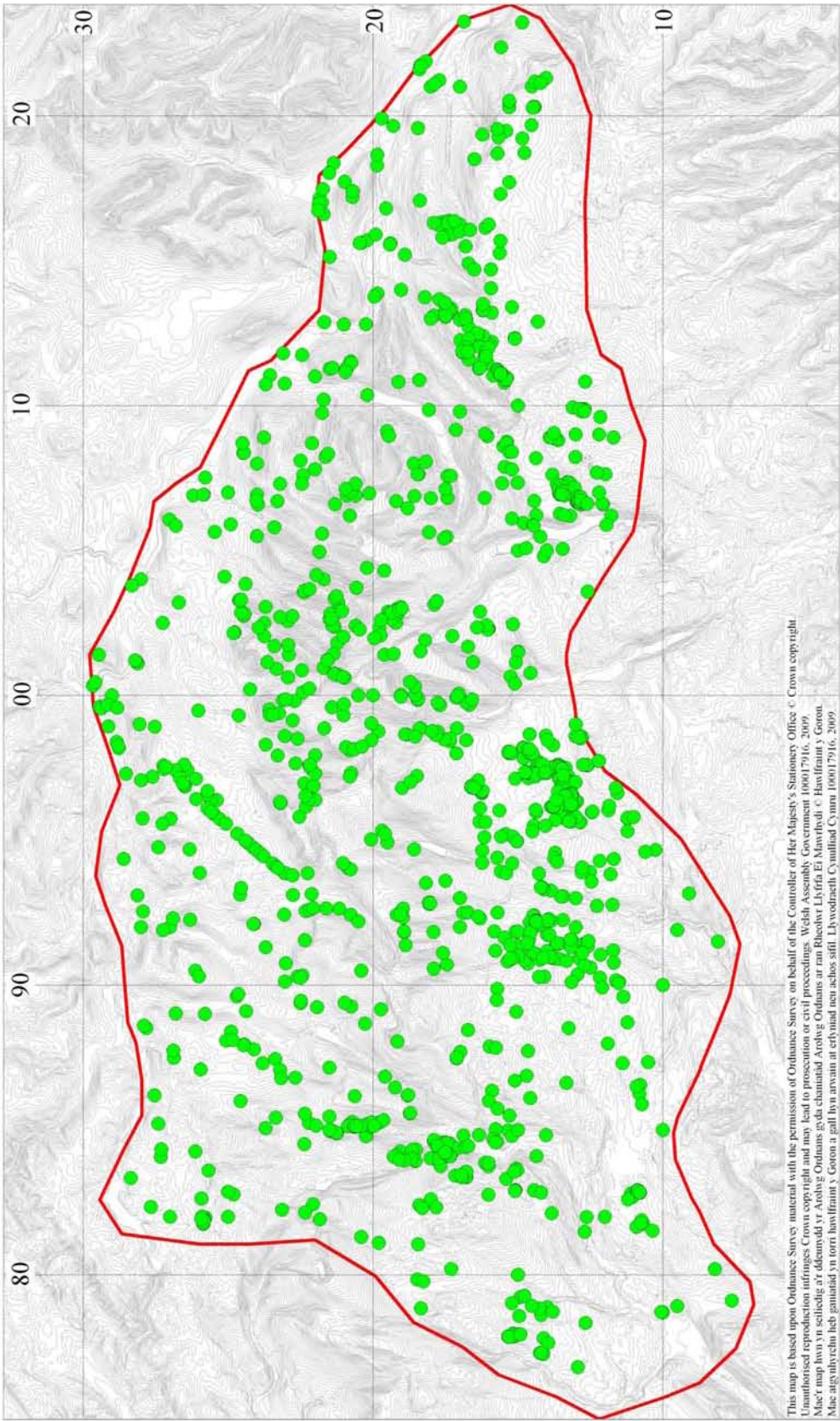


Fig. 1 Brecon Beacons study area and distribution of sites

The Brecon Beacons: Methodology

The preliminary stages of the Brecon Beacons study were wholly desk-top based, defining and checking the integrity of the database, assessing the authenticity of the remaining, unassessed sites and features within it, and establishing which if any sites might merit a field visit which in turn might lead to a scheduling recommendation. A basic assumption from the commencement of the project was that no site would be recommended for statutory designation without a field visit being undertaken as a preliminary.

An up-to-date copy of the HER was provided by the curatorial section of the Trust, and from this the total archaeological resource in the geographical area of the Brecon Beacons was identified.

The HER currently carries a total of over 10300 sites for the Brecon Beacons, but the removal of all sites and features specifically attributed to the post-Roman era (i.e. from the Early Medieval through to the 20th century) left 1303 records in total which formed the core database for the study, a number which increased to 1317 with the addition of new discoveries or the modification of existing records during the fieldwork phase. From this number 130 scheduled sites were removed, and over 550 sites which could immediately be identified as having been examined during earlier projects.

A further 28 caves and cave occupation sites were deferred to be reported on separately in order to avoid duplication, because of their coverage within another of the scheduling enhancement assessments during 2008/09, although field assessment was carried out concurrently as this was identified as a more efficient approach to both data sets. Two Roman settlement sites were also removed as they have been covered in Report 963 (see Table 2 below), 21 sites were found now to be outside the CPAT region, and a similar number of sites likewise which were known to have been lost in opencast quarrying.

Most of the record carried some form of period attribution, but there were 229 sites within the Brecon Beacons where the period was defined as 'Unknown'; ten sites had already been looked at during earlier scheduling enhancement projects and another 14, all caves, were deferred to the concurrent programme.

Table 2 Current state of research on the Scheduling Enhancement Programme 2008/09

		HER record numbers	Records assessed	Finds	Records enhanced	Records: minor changes	Site visits	SAM recs.
Vale of Clwyd	CPAT Report 948	726	168	99	25	6	8	0
Roman Settlement	CPAT Report 963	51	41	313	13	12	1	1
Roman Religious Sites	CPAT Report 964	25	21		12	7	2	0
Brecon Beacons	CPAT Report 982	1317	485	71	51	37	108	8

Removing all of these from the HER for the purposes of the assessment, left over six hundred for further assessment, though this number was reduced by the removal of a further 71 finds, 44 place-names, 4 buried features, 5 site complexes which integrated amalgamated other records in the HER and 37 multi-period records, none of which were considered to be useful guides for potential schedulings. Fourteen records were found to be duplicates of others in the HER and an assessment of the remaining records led to 179 being discarded for one reason or another – cropmarks, palaeoenvironmental records, imprecise or generalised details, dubious records and the like and a further 65 were assessed from the desk-top record as not being of sufficient significance to make a

scheduling recommendation a realistic possibility. About four sites were so remote and distant from other known features that it was decided that it was uneconomical to make site visits to them.

Site visits were made to a number of individual sites and complexes of sites. In total 108 recorded sites were assessed in the field. Exactly 50 are reported on in the Appendix where a substantive addition or modification has been made to the existing archaeological record.

Observations and Discussion

Walls

Several individual stretches of wall are recorded in the HER such as those on Pentre Cribarth above Craig-y-nos (PRNs 12408 and 12409). Generally it has been assumed that as discrete and often isolated features these were unlikely to meet the standard scheduling criteria. One exception to this general rule of thumb has been identified. On Mynydd Llangynidr there is a 'wandering wall' over 1km long (PRN 5537) which runs along the spine of the common for a large part of its length and is an obvious feature to anyone walking across the common. It must be prehistoric even if its function can be no more than a matter for speculation. It is worth designation in its own right, because of its sheer scale and rarity value.



The wandering wall on Mynydd Llangynidr (PRN 5537). Photo CPAT 2695-094

Burnt Mounds

A number of burnt mounds have been examined during the current programme, and in addition one new burnt mound has been discovered in visiting other sites. Full records have been made but it has been decided to hold these over until 2009/10 when the burnt mound project is due to be completed, to enable all of the relatively small number of such sites to be treated as a group. Recommendations for scheduling, however, are included here in case burnt mound visits can be combined with visits to other recommended sites in the area.

Cairnfields

Fieldwork in the Brecon Beacons has over the years revealed a number of cairnfields. Some of these have been perceived to be more likely to be sepulchral than agricultural in origin and were covered during the Prehistoric Funerary and Ritual programme. There are others, however, where there is a spatial association with other settlement features such as field and enclosure banks and also less commonly round huts. Others seem to have no visible associations of any sort, and it is here that the nature of the cairnfield needs to be considered. The cairns will be the only visible element of a variety of land-use which has left no additional traces, namely the clearance of cultivation plots which did not need to be defined by boundaries, but were constrained only by natural scarps and slopes and the scale of the agriculturalists' aspirations.

However, for cairnfields to merit consideration for statutory protection, it is felt that they must be associated with other contemporary features. The small cairnfield at Waun Llech on a common below Mynydd Llangynidr is a good example of its kind but apart from a hazy and imprecise reference to a hut and enclosures nearby it stands alone. That on Cerrig y Llwyni (known to the Royal Commission and hence the NMR and HER as Craig y Llwyni) is a reasonably well-known cairnfield associated with occasional other features including at least one hut and fugitive walls, all lying on now cleared ground sloping down to the north. On the opposite side of the valley about 500m distant is the scheduled prehistoric settlement of Cwm Criban (Br254 (Pow)) and it could be argued that despite the distance involved, the cairnfield implying agriculture was associated with the settlement, particularly in the apparent and perhaps surprising absence of relict agricultural traces immediately below the settlement. However, it would not be feasible to extend the scheduled area defined in Br254 to incorporate the cairnfield as the 'dead ground' between the two is too great, and the nature of the cairnfield itself does not readily lend itself to a scheduling proposal.



The Cerrig Duon enclosure (PRN 12498) from the south-east. Photo CPAT 2695-099

Enclosures

Some of these were visited during the Round Hut study where they had integral dwellings. Such was Ffald Newydd Enclosure I (PRN 35887) where the fugitive hut did not warrant designation. Taken in conjunction with the surrounding enclosure, clearly a good though small example of a Bronze Age pound, a much stronger case can be made for scheduling. Likewise the Cerrig Duon hut circle (PRN 12500 – see CPAT Report 913) and platform (PRN 12503) are in themselves arguably of no more than regional significance, the inclusion of the small nearby enclosure – PRN 12498 – within this group enhances the importance and points to a potential group scheduling, the distance across the three elements being less than 85m.

The Hepste Valley

Without any doubt the Hepste Valley is one of the richest prehistoric landscapes in the Brecon Beacons. The National Archaeological Record team in October 1985 – their pre-Royal Commission days - did a more than adequate job of surveying the extensive remains in the valley, and these were drawn up on film at a scale of 1:1000, four sheets covering SN91SE. For presentational reasons these were presented in a much reduced and simplified form in the *Inventory* of 1997 and the remains are displayed across two illustrations (RCAHMW 1997, figs 143 & 144). This in itself dilutes the overall picture of the sheer scale of prehistoric activity here, but even together the published plans are no substitute for the larger-scale plans held in the NMR archive.

A detailed analysis of this prehistoric landscape which spreads across nearly 400 hectares is beyond the remit of this study, but it is worth emphasising that the archaeological remains do not reveal a uniform pattern, nor perhaps a single phase of exploitation. The most obvious and arguably the outstanding element of the landscape are the fields and enclosures (A) towards the south-western end of the complex. The picture here may not be complete because there is some limited evidence (displayed on RCAHMW 1997, Fig 143) that there were further prehistoric remains on ground later to be enclosed around the post-medieval holding of Blaen Hepste which now are only fragmentary. Even on the open ground the lines of the enclosures look to have been interrupted in places but the overall picture is remarkable. To this pattern should be added several more developed enclosures, which presumably had dwellings in or close to them. Clearance cairns occur but only sporadically.

Between complex A and the abandoned post-medieval farm of Hepste Fechan is a zone of clearance cairns (or cairnfield) with some intermittent wandering walls (B) from which no clear pattern emerges. A similar if slightly more diffuse pattern of cairns occupies the opposite, eastern bank of the Hepste, again with just occasional walls apparent (C). Whether B and C should be treated as a single entity is a point for academic discussion, as is any consideration as to whether the cairnfields on the east bank of the Hepste, separated by 400m with only a few isolated cairns linking them, should be treated as a single entity or as individual foci of activity. What does seem clear is that further north still around Ffald Newydd there is a heterogeneous collection of enclosures, walls, huts and even a burnt mound (D). Finally, on Waun Tincer there is a straggle of huts (though not so many in our view as the RCAHMW claimed) and cairns, and perhaps too the large Waun Tincer enclosure at the southern end (E).

In identifying features that should be considered for statutory designation, it is difficult to argue a case for any of the individual features that constitute areas B and C, other than those burial monuments – seven in number – which have already been scheduled. Areas D and E do have some features, which might be considered, and here it is the enclosures that are probably most significant. The biggest issue is whether Area A should be scheduled in its entirety, an area in excess of 44ha. There are elements within the complex which would justify scheduling in their own right, but it would be illogical to schedule one or two of the field enclosures but not the others. This is a well-preserved prehistoric landscape which merits holistic protection, and this is what is recommended at the end of this report, even though some individual elements have also been assessed.

Further it is suggested recommended that in pursuing the scheduling recommendations for the Hepste Valley Cadw requests full-size copies of the NAS plans for inclusion in the scheduling documentation. These are presently the only accurate and suitably scaled plans that are available for the valley.

Appendix 1 – Site List ordered by name

Afon Tawe enclosure	12541	SN8526620713	Landform?	Unknown
Afon Tawe enclosure	12542	SN8526620035	Landform?	Unknown
Allt Fach clearance cairn I	12419	SN83991784	Clearance cairn	Unknown
Allt Fach enclosures, enclosure	12462	SN8442417799	Non antiquity ?	Unknown
Blaen Onneu cairns	12677	SO16101707	Cairnfield	Prehistoric
Careg Haffes Enclosure II	80770	SN84441671	Enclosure	Post Medieval
Carn Y Felin enclosure I	17339	SO08891387	Enclosed settlement	Prehistoric
Carn y Felin enclosure II	17340	SO09021379	Enclosed settlement	Prehistoric
Cefn Esgair Carnau burnt mound	33633	SN9773014330	Burnt mound	Prehistoric
Cefn Esgair Carnau cairnfield	33631	SN9746113553	Cairnfield	Prehistoric
Cerrig Duon enclosure?	12498	SN84952147	Enclosure	Bronze Age
Cerrig Duon settlement platform	12503	SN8495021508	Platform	Prehistoric
Clo Cadno Wall	5337	SO12021632	Wall	Prehistoric
Craig Y Llwyni settlement	12635	SO06631290	Unenclosed settlement	Prehistoric
Cwm Crew E hut	12572	SN99871685	Hut	Prehistoric
Cwm Crew E hut	26346	SO0010517008	Shelter	Prehistoric
Cwm Crew W enclosure complex	26411	SN99841846	Non antiquity	Bronze Age
Cwm Crew W hut	26352	SN9996319048	Hut	Prehistoric
Cwm Crew W hut	26354	SN9994319021	Store	Post Medieval
Cwm Crew W mound	26350	SN9972717698	Burnt mound	Prehistoric
Cwm Gwddi platform 1	34084	SO0218424699	Platform	Modern
Cwm Gwddi platform 2	34085	SO0215524738	Platform	Modern
Cwm Haffes shelter	12460	SN8410517341	Shelter	Post Medieval
Cwm Llwh platform and enclosur	34600	SN9987323207	Platform	Medieval
Cwm Llwh SW hut and enclosure	82212	SN99862300	Enclosure	Bronze Age
Dyffryn Clawnon settlement	17391	SO109154	Unenclosed settlement	Prehistoric
Fan Hir shelter	12467	SN8394118528	Shelter	Post Medieval
Ffald Newydd Enclosure I	35887	SN9761014130	Hut	Bronze Age
Hepste Fechan Enclosure II	3282	SN96271340	Enclosure	Iron Age
Hespte Fechan farmstead	33577	SN97311408	Farmstead	Prehistoric
Llyn Llywarch Enclosure I	50286	SN96821656	Enclosure	Bronze Age
Mynydd Llangynidr wall	5537	SO11891611	Wall	Prehistoric
Mynydd y Garn enclosure I	2298	SN95991326	Longhut and Enclosure	Prehistoric ?
Mynydd y Garn enclosure III	12590	SN95641317	Enclosed settlement	Prehistoric
Mynydd y Garn enclosure IV	12591	SN96131364	Enclosed settlement	Post medieval
Mynydd y Garn field enclosure	12589	SN96471336	Enclosed settlement	Prehistoric
Mynydd Y Garn Hut Circle	17523	SN95801299	Hut	Prehistoric
Mynydd Y Garn settlement and fi	23791	SN9576613430	Non-antiquity	Geological
Mynydd y Garn stone setting	84902	SN9651813364	Unknown	Bronze Age ?
Nant Crew enclosure	12570	SN99631668	Enclosure	Medieval ?
Nant Tawe Fechan burnt mound	84913	SN8397219095	Burnt mound	Prehistoric
Nant Tawe Fechan enclosure	12443	SN8463417916	Enclosure	Post Medieval
Nant Tawe Fechan enclosure	12463	SN84321851	Enclosure	Medieval ?
Nant Tawe Fechan settlement, en	12465	SN8430418658	Sheepfold	Post Medieval
Nant yr Offeiriad Sheepfold	34133	SN99312101	Sheepfold	Unknown
Odyn Fach enclosure	3330	SO09601216	Enclosure	Unknown
Pen Milan cairn I	82222	SN99322356	Round barrow (cairn)	Bronze Age
Pen Milan cairn II	82223	SN99322346	Round barrow (cairn)	Bronze Age
Pont Nant-y-moch platform settl	33376	SN86461924	House platform	Medieval
Ty Hendrey house platform	33306	SN8437017105	Hut platform	Prehistoric
Waun Tincer cairnfield	33756	SN96841340	Cairnfield	Prehistoric
Y Gyrn SW enclosure I	34501	SN98212093	Landform	Unknown

Appendix 2 – Gazetteer of newly assessed sites

2298 Mynydd y Garn enclosure I SN95991326 Longhut and Enclosure**Medieval***Old description*

Sub-oval enclosure 21m N-S by 16m E-W. Rectangular building some 10m by 3m set against inside of NE wall to N of entrance. All walls now some 1.2m wide by 1m high. Prob of relatively recent agricultural origin. See also PRN 5734.

(US 75) Between 320m and 380m above O.D. on the S. to S.E.-facing slope overlooking the RIVER HEPSTE is about 60ha of settlement and field systems, including enclosures, isolated lengths of bank or wall, hut circles, and cairns which are presumed to date from later prehistoric times. The hillside is bisected by a shallow N.-S. running dry valley.

The enclosures are mainly irregularly-shaped and bounded by heather-covered rubble and boulder banks up to 0.4m high and about 2m wide. The largest, on the E. (US 75 i) is of about 3.5 ha., and to its S.W. is one of about 1.25 ha. (US 75 ii) There are several smaller enclosures, some clearly more recent in date, though possibly reconstructed over earlier foundations (for example, (US 75 iii-iv). One of these (US 75 iii) (21m (N.-S.) by 16m) with walls up to 1m high and 1.2m wide, though of coursed stone and having seen use as a sheepfold in recent times, is not unlike some Romano-British homesteads in appearance. Disjointed wall sections are also to be found both within and outside the enclosures, suggesting an original pattern of considerable complexity. Within the smaller of the two main enclosures (US 75 ii) are two small poorly-defined hut circles (US 75 v-vi), each 4.5m in overall diameter, and defined by rubble banks up to 0.3 m high. Close to them are stone piles which may obscure further habitation sites. There is another, larger, hut (US 75 vii) 9m N.-S. enclosed by banks 1.5 m wide and 0.2 m high and a further example with no entrance, (7m (N.-S.) by 6m), adjoining a field bank forming its S.W. wall (US 75 viii). On enclosed land further to the W. are two others (US 75 ix-x), 4.5 and 4m in diameters, respectively.

Clearance cairns seem to be restricted to the eastern half of the site, and are particularly concentrated around the 330m contour (US 75 xi). The majority are of rubble and boulders, generally circular or oval, ranging in size from 2m to 10m in diameter and up to 0.3 m high, though rectangular, triangular and linear clearances are also represented. A further three cairns are sufficiently large and regular to be considered as having been funereal. Two lie above the 330 m contour (US 75 xii-xiii) and both are about 7 m in diameter and 0.4 m high, with a slight central hollow. A further example (US 75 xv) and the hengiform earthwork (US 75 xiv) are described separately elsewhere (RC 108 and RC 110).

These features cannot be seen upon A.P.s, R.A.F. F21/58/3618/ 0012-3 21 vi 60).

RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

This enclosure was not visited during the DRS programme but should have been. It equates with RCAHMW US75iii (for which see the accompanying gazetteer), but the present writer is reluctant to agree with the Romano-British comparison.

What is present here is, on the NW, a rubble-walled longhut, with a partition wall not quite central; there could be an opening in the short NW wall, and there certainly is one in the opposite SE wall. This element is difficult of access because of rubble and rushes in the interior.

The long hut opens out into a small paddock or enclosure on the SE. In places the external face of its enclosing rubble wall has some facing stone. A small hollow in the centre is probably a sink hole. Another larger sink hole lies to the N just outside the enclosures.

Appended to this small enclosure is a larger one which is sub-rectilinear in form. It has some facing stone in places along the internal face, and an entrance on the S, close by a field enclosure wall

running up from the S. On the W there appears to be a butt joint with the smaller enclosure, suggesting the latter could be earlier, and on that basis the whole complex should be medieval or later.

The complex sits on a natural shelf above the Hepste. It should be noted here that PRNs 5734 and 33590 also refer to this site, but that the claim for a recent sheepfold should be treated with caution (RS 11/08).

3282	Hepste Fechan Enclosure II	SN96271340	Enclosure	Iron Age
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Old description

Circular enclosure 21m NE-SW by 22m NW-SE internally. 2m wide entrance in NW. Bounded on N by stone revetted scarp 1.3m high cut into hillside. Bounded on S by stony wall 4m wide by 0.8m high externally and 0.2m internally.

New description

This was visited by CPAT in March 2007 as part of the Defended Enclosures project but was considered not to be relevant to that project. It was visited again by CPAT in October 2008, and the following description amalgamates the field descriptions made on the two visits.

This is a pastoral enclosure lying at the junction of three redundant field boundaries and represents one of the focal points of a group of field enclosures in the NW side of the Hepste valley. The stone banks approach the site from the N, S and SE. However, it does not appear to have been given an individual number code, although it lies in the US75 complex.

The enclosure is D-shaped though with all sides slightly curvilinear, and measures approximately 30m in overall diameter, or more specifically from aerial photography 28m WNW/ESE by 31m NNW/SSE. It is distinguished by a stony bank which is generally 4m or a little more wide.

The interior of the site has been levelled into the natural, S-facing, slope, creating a higher, internal slope to the bank on the N side. And it is on this side that the bank is grass-covered and then the scarp has been covered with surface stone. Other parts of the perimeter too look to have a bank beneath the surface stone. On the N, this is at least 1.0m high internally, but only 0.4m high externally, whereas on the S, the bank is 0.7m high externally and only 0.2m high internally.

A simple entrance gap, 1.5m wide, lies towards the northern end of the W side, and here the bank beneath the stone broadens to a width of around 6m, and the stone spread too is wide than elsewhere. Immediately inside the entrance gap the interior is covered by rushes, but there are indications of features. The stone here could signal a funnel wall, or perhaps the edge of a structure/building, and there are further grass-covered stones to the south. A building is a possibility but whether curvilinear or rectilinear is not clear.

Further evidence of internal features was just visible, perhaps defining a central partition running NW/SE, although this is only really visible where it meets the SE part of the surrounding bank.

Another possible entrance lies on the S, where the absence of stone is marked, but the bank beneath does continue as a scarp so its authenticity is in question.

3330	Odyn Fach enclosure	SO09601216	Enclosure	Unknown
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Old description

Oval shaped enclosure some 37m by 20m with slight ditch around side enclosed by steep slopes (CPAT site visit, 1981). Presumably same feature as rectangular enclosure noted by OS, 1964.

New description

This could not be found at the stated NGR. In an area where there are many spreads of loose surface stone, it might be possible to overlook a slight enclosure in the absence of thorough fieldwork over the whole hillside. However, the rectangular feature that it is linked to in the original description are the cottage ruins now recorded PRN 84914 (RS 02/2009).

5337 Clo Cadno Wall**SO12021632 Wall****Prehistoric***Old description*

Irregular tumbled dry-stone wall some 800m long and now nowhere more than about 0.3m high running across Clo Cando. Apparently pre-dates some of the shake holes in its path. Off-shoots visible at both ends. Appears to bear no relationship to existing allotment and is poss part of a prehistoric field system. A long low stony wall (c800m long x .3m high) rambling across Clo Cadno to below Gam Caws. At intervals the wall falls into shake holes, but never goes around any; this would suggest it is pre shake hole and of some age. Offshoots visible at both ends but only discernable for a short distance.

New description

This feature is fully described by RCAHMW in the Brecknock Inventory as US105 (1997, 264).

(US 105) A low stone bank crosses Llangynidr Common, covering a distance of about 1 km in a roughly S.S.E.-N.N.W. direction crossing land lying between about 490 and 515 m above O.D.

The size and lithology of component boulders varies throughout its length in general they appear to reflect the material of outcropping rock and contents of local boulder clay. In some places it resembles a wall and stands up to 0.8 m high, and may be widespread over 2.5 m of ground. A remarkable, though by no means unique aspect of this feature is its behaviour in relation to superficial geology and soil. Whereas there are considerable stretches of apparently undisturbed linear rubble, in places the wall seems to occupy low troughs, almost as if excavated into the earth. In some cases these troughs might better be defined as sinkholes. The wall leads an ambivalent course in relation to these natural features in certain instances the linear bank disappears at the sink-hole edge whilst in others it may be traced across the collapsed ground. At a point not far from the wall's more southern terminal, its line crosses a sinkhole almost supported upon a bridge 2 m below ground level.

Assuming few changes in local geography, the wall builders appear to have had no topographical preferences for its course, though in two places the wall skirts escarpment edges.

At the more southerly terminal there is a staggered T-junction followed by a brief intermittent continuation of the wall's main axis. From the first main junction (the more northerly) an appendage travels at right angles almost 200 m in a nor-norwesterly direction. Before it becomes indistinct, this line crosses one large sinkhole about 10 m in diameter and 4 m deep, into which the wall has clearly fallen.

The two shorter southern terminal adjuncts are less than 50 m long. Neither appears to travel far.

About 850 m towards the N.N.E. there is a further T-junction, the original wall line having turned N., then slightly W. of N., it becomes aligned along a further axis, travelling nearly W.-E. and the original line peters out about 60 m to the N. of the junction. Beyond this there are three short N.-running adjuncts of no more than 25 m each, the final one of which marks the wall's ascertainable terminus.

Although no direct connection exists between them, there is fugitive evidence for a further line at right angles to the main axis which runs N.N.W.-S.S.E. This would have had a gap of about 150 m between projections of the two lines. This second line, about 150 m long, runs alongside CARN CAWS, with a further minor adjunct about 30 m long turning back to the E., roughly parallel to the major axis. The age of this bank and the processes which formed it remain enigmatic. (RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description).

CPAT 2008: In summary this is classed as a low stone bank running for over one kilometre across Llangynidr Common on a north-east to south-west alignment. Its terminals as given by the RCAHWM are at SO 1191 1609 and SO1304 1670. In places the wall appears to have been trenched into the ground surface, and in other places it has observable relationships with the geomorphology of the area. It has been mapped in the 1997 Inventory as Fig 165.

At its western end it meets another stony bank running at right angles to it, though this gives the impression of being of fractionally slighter construction. This bank is reasonably continuous and the anomaly shown in its southern arm on Fig 165 is a result of utilising a rock outcrop, so that there is a continuous, albeit zig-zag course, with the other course shown as a dashed line being fictitious. Its south-eastern end fades out in damp, rough and hummocky moorland, its northern end fades out on a plateau but could conceivably be peat-covered beyond. A detached and wholly separate bank beneath Carn Caws could be associated with the main bank.

This feature or group of features, better described as a boundary system than a field system, has few obvious parallels in the Brecon Beacons area, and its status should be considered in this light (RS 2008).

12419 Allt Fach clearance cairn I SN83991784 Clearance cairn Unknown

Old description

(US 6 iii) A cairn (presumably from ground clearance) of turf-consolidated rubble 2 m in diameter and 0.1 m high. RCAHWM, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

No trace of a clearance cairn at the given NGR of SN83991784, although there is a possible cairn at SN8401517786, of loose rubble, c 2m across and 0.3m high, located immediately S of a field drain. Not certainly the same site as US6iii, but no others located in the area. NJ09

12443 Nant Tawe Fechan enclosure SN8463417916 Enclosure Post Medieval

Old description

The larger enclosure (US 9 i), is trapezoidally shaped, 14.5 m N.W.-S.E., 14 m N.E.-S.W., 9 m S.E.-N.W. 11.5 m N.E.-S.W., lying within a boulder wall 2 m wide and 1 m high. The building is adjacent to its S.W. wall on the W. corner. It is 7.8 m S.W.-N.E. by 4.5 m, has an entrance in the S.W. end, and from the way its walls are coursed, may have succeeded the enclosure in date.

RCAHWM, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

Irregular rubble-walled enclosure, description as RCAHWM 1995. Adjoining building to W (PRN 33326; SN8466317902) and second enclosure to E (PRN 12444; SN 8462117916) are all part of a complex which is most likely post medieval. The two enclosures are linked by a ruinous rubble wall. NJ09

12460 Cwm Haffes shelter SN8410517341 Shelter Post Medieval

Old description

The second site (US 13 ii), about 30 m S., is poorly defined, and measures 3 m overall. This is walled by a bank 0.9 m wide and 0.4 m high. There is a marked scarp behind the settlement suggesting deliberate landscaping of the site. Although the nature of walling on the larger site seems to indicate recent occupation, this may well indicate re-use of a hut-circle originally connected with further settlement remains a short distance to the N.

RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

The remains of a small, rectangular, stone hut/shelter lie on a well-defined terrace backed by a lynchet. The structure measures 3.3 E-W x 2.9m overall and, together with a sheepfold PRN 12459 appear to post-date a series of former cultivation terraces PRN 33333 (NJ 09)

12462 Allt Fach enclosures, enclosure SN8442417799 Non antiquity ? Unknown

Old description

To the N.W. of the enclosure group, are shallow hillside scoops (US 14 ii), 5 m long, 3 m wide and up to 1 m deep. Rather than represent habitation sites, these may result from quarrying, .

RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

One obvious small shelf c. 5 x 3m, backed by natural outcrop 1m high with no obvious signs of working. Certainly not a hut platform and unlikely to be a quarry as there is abundant building stone in the surrounding scree. There are one or two other, similar, but smaller shelves nearby, also likely to be natural (NJ 09).

12463 Nant Tawe Fechan enclosure SN84321851 Enclosure Medieval ?

Old description

(US 15;Fig.89) There is a rush-grown platformed structure (US 15 i) adjacent to the current enclosure boundary in NANT TAW FECHAN about 320 m above O.D. It is 6 m N.-S. by 3.7 m internally, bounded on the N.W. and S. by a boulder-built wall and ditch, the wall measuring 0.9 m wide by 1 m high. The N. wall includes on its inner face a large upright slab, 1.5 m long and 0.8 m high, by 0.3 m thick. The front, E. side of the platform is built out over the contour 1.54 m, upon a rubble-revetted wall 2 m wide. RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

On the north side of the boundary wall there is a levelled area, terraced into the slope on the W, which gives the appearance of a platform, but with no evidence for a building, although at the northern end there is a large upright slab forming the S side of a bank, with smaller stone on the N side. The east side is stone-revetted and continues as a ruinous boundary to the south of the wall, and there is a stony bank on the west which continues SW. The whole appears to pre-date the boundary wall and is likely to be an earlier enclosure encroaching onto the common. The 'platform' may be spurious (NJ 09).

12465 Nant Tawe Fechan settlement, enclo SN8430418658 Sheepfold Post Medieval

Old description

A further 70 m upstream on the W. bank is a rectangular enclosure (US 15 iii), the N. portion of which is eroded away by the stream. Only the W., S. and E. corners remain. Its surviving rubble and boulder enclosure walls are about 2 m wide, 0.9 m high, and measure 8.8 m (S.W.), 5.2 m (S.E.) and 4.5 m (N.E.). RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

Rubble-walled sheepfold, or possible a hut, sited on a natural terrace above the stream. Erosion of the terrace on the N side has removed the N end. The structure is roughly rectangular, 8.8m N-S x 5.2m externally, 3m wide internally. Walling 0.8m wide and 0.6m high. The inner edge of the S wall is well faced on the interior. A partly turf-covered rubble wall extends W from the SW corner (NJ09).

12467	Fan Hir shelter	SN8394118528	Shelter	Post Medieval
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Old description

About 12 m S.S.E. is a smaller, rectangular enclosure (US 17 ii), 4 m N.-S. by 3 m, possibly the remains of an associated shelter. This has an entrance in the W. side. Its boulder walls are 0.5 m wide and 1 m high. RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

Rectangular shelter 3.7m N-S by 2.7m externally with walling 0.5m thick and up to 1.3m high, entrance on W. Sited on natural terrace, sheltered from W. See also PRN 12466 (NJ09).

12498	Cerrig Duon enclosure	SN84952147	Enclosure	Bronze Age ?
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Old description

(US 31 i) In an elongated reed-bottomed hollow about 420 m above O.D., on a slightly raised part of the valley side, invisible from all angles but above, lies a penannular enclosure. From upslope, N.-S., its diameter is 15 m from E.-W., between the unjoined wall termini on the S., the distance is from 11-12 m. It is cut on the E. by a stream at a point alongside the entrance, and the watercourse has been channelled alongside a piece of boggy ground on the S. of the feature, which widens E.-W. to about 125 m and extends about 20 m N.-S. It is possible that the original structure was built alongside a spring, or even that it was intended partly to enclose a pond, now silted up. The embanking wall is 2 m wide and rises to 0.75 m high enclosing a stone-strewn interior devoid of convincing structures. RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

A curvilinear enclosure well-described by the RCAHMW. It is surrounded by a low rubblestone wall, broken on the SSE where the extension of a marshy area fuelled by at least one stream may have removed the bank. However the surviving bank terminals appear fairly tight and there is virtually no visible rubble lying around so it is possible that it was always incomplete on this side. There is in addition a 2m-wide gap on the east side that could have formed an entrance to the enclosure.

The interior is partially clear of stone, but as the RCAHMW indicates there are no convincing structures, although in the west sector a few embedded stones might signal a fugitive construction.

The shelf on which the enclosure lies gets a little shelter from the west, and there are good distant views to the east and north-east (RS 03/2009).

12503	Cerrig Duon settlement platform	SN8495021508	Platform	Prehistoric
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Old description

(US 31 vi) About 30 m N.W. and uphill of the penannular enclosure (US 31 i), is a rectangular slope-scooped platform occupied by a rubble-built structure, probably a hut. Few stones have survived on the W., uphill side, but the N. and S. walls survive as rubble scatters about 2 m wide. It is about 7 m wide overall.

RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

A possible platform a few metres to the north-west of PRN 12498. At the rear (on the west) there is a gentle scarp, perhaps no more than 0.4m high which has probably been fashioned by the removal of stone. The scarp edges the platform which has a faint, east-bearing slope to it. On the north side loose rubble picks up the gentle curve to the scarp and there are traces of natural stone beneath the rubble. This rubble continues on the east as a stone-strewn scarp up to 5m high and then on the south rubble arcs around to complete the feature. Individually the elements are not wholly convincing, but

collectively this looks reasonably convincing as the ovoid platform for a structure. It is internally about 8m north to south by around 3.5m (RS 03/2009).

12541 Afon Tawe enclosure SN8526620713 Landform? Unknown

Old description

(US 35) Although almost 700 m apart, for convenience of access three sites on the E. side of the N.-S. Abercraf-Trecastle road are described in this entry. (US 35 i) The most northerly is an earthwork 370 m above O.D., emphasised by longer grass and reeds, lying at a point where the road and AFON Tawe are separated by a distance of no more than 20 m. At a point about 20 m S. of where a stream enters the river is a curving bank about 12 m long, 1.5-2 m wide and 0.3 m high, running N.-S. The northern terminal is 5 m above the river. This feature lies on the opposite river bank from the fugitive wall (US 33 iiie). RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

This is not very satisfactory. There is a scarp bank with a level area behind it to the east., but it could be little more than a river terrace-type feature and is not convincing as a man-made antiquity (RS 03/2009).

12542 Afon Tawe enclosure SN8526620035 Landform? Unknown

Old description

(US 35) Although almost 700 m apart, for convenience of access three sites on the E. side of the N.-S. Abercraf-Trecastle road are described in this entry. (US 35 ii) Nestling above the AFON Tawe at a height of 345 m above O.D., on a N.-facing hollow opposite the terrace feature described below (p.000), is an irregular flat area roughly 25 m around. This is separated from the river, 3 m below by the remnant of a rubble bank, which survives 12 m long and 0.6 m high. About 5 m behind (E.) of this bank are possibly the remains of an upstanding turf-covered wall, about 6m long and 0.8 m wide. RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

A vague earthwork, satisfactorily described by the record originator. It is probably more convincing than PRN 12541 (US35i) but again could have had a natural rather than a man-made origin, a result of water action over many centuries. Its position too is not conducive to settlement. It is sheltered within a large natural hollow, but only from the south and east - it is completely open to the west and north (RS 03/2009).

12570 Nant Crew enclosure SN99631668 Enclosure Medieval ?

Old description

(US 64) On the floodplain of NANT CREW, about 360 m above O.D., on enclosed pasture, is a semicircular earthwork about 20 N.N.E.-S.S.E. by 10 m wide, occupying a low-lying position on the stream bluff.

RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

Sub-circular enclosure with low, partly turf-covered rubble bank. Lies on NW side of stream and is partly overlain at the NE end by a later boundary wall. It is probably medieval if not later (CPAT 2008).

12572 Cwm Crew E hut**SN99871685 Hut****Prehistoric***Old description*

(US 65) On the N.-facing southern valley side of NANT CREW, 360-80 m above O.D., are a series of at least three platform houses and round huts (US 65 i-iii), which might represent continuous or sporadic occupation from prehistoric until medieval times. Further up the valley (in SN 01 N.E.) over 450 m above O.D., the limits of ancient agricultural or pastoral activity are defined by ragged margins of the cleared scree.

Cantrill MSS, N.M.W. not surveyed by R.C.A.M.

RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

No record could be found that indicated that this complex had been visited during the Round Hut survey but there is a record from the DRS survey which seems to indicate that the features may all be of the same, broadly medieval, date, but that they were located one kilometre to the east. This fits in with the RCAHMW's description which puts the sites in the Nant Crew valley, not the Taf Fawr valley, and makes more sense in terms of the aspects referred to in the text The NGR has been corrected accordingly to SN99871685 (RS 2008).

12589 Mynydd y Garn field enclosure**SN96471336 Enclosed settlement****Prehistoric***Old description*

(US 75) Between 320 m and 380 m above O.D. on the S. to S.E.-facing slope overlooking the RIVER HEPSTE is about 60 ha of settlement and field systems, including enclosures, isolated lengths of bank or wall, hut circles, and cairns which are presumed to date from later prehistoric times. The hillside is bisected by a shallow N.-S. running dry valley. The enclosures are mainly irregularly-shaped and bounded by heather-covered rubble and boulder banks up to 0.4 m high and about 2 m wide. The largest, on the E. (US 75 i) is of about 3.5 ha., and to its S.W. is one of about 1.25 ha. (US 75 ii) There are several smaller enclosures, some clearly more recent in date, though possibly reconstructed over earlier foundations (for example, (US 75 iii-iv). One of these (US 75 iii) (21 m (N.-S.) by 16 m) with walls up to 1 m high and 1.2 m wide, though of coursed stone and having seen use as a sheepfold in recent times, is not unlike some Romano-British homesteads in appearance. Disjointed wall sections are also to be found both within and outside the enclosures, suggesting an original pattern of considerable complexity. Within the smaller of the two main enclosures (US 75 ii) are two small poorly-defined hut circles (US 75 v-vi), each 4.5 m in overall diameter, and defined by rubble banks up to 0.3 m high. Close to them are stone piles which may obscure further habitation sites. There is another, larger, hut (US 75 vii) 9 m N.-S. enclosed by banks 1.5 m wide and 0.2 m high and a further example with no entrance, (7 m (N.-S.) by 6 m), adjoining a field bank forming its S.W. wall (US 75 viii). On enclosed land further to the W. are two others (US 75 ix-x), 4.5 and 4 m in diameters, respectively. Clearance cairns seem to be restricted to the eastern half of the site, and are particularly concentrated around the 330 m contour (US 75 xi). The majority are of rubble and boulders, generally circular or oval, ranging in size from 2 m to 10 m in diameter and up to 0.3 m high, though rectangular, triangular and linear clearances are also represented. A further three cairns are sufficiently large and regular to be considered as having been funereal. Two lie above the 330 m contour (US 75 xii-xiii) and both are about 7 m in diameter and 0.4 m high, with a slight central hollow. A further example (US 75 xv) and the hengiform earthwork (US 75 xiv) are described separately elsewhere (RC 108 and RC 110). These features cannot be seen upon A.P.s, R.A.F. F21/58/3618/0012-3 21 vi 60).

RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

One of a number of field enclosures that make up an agrarian settlement complex on the north-west side of the Hepste Valley. There is no immediately obvious reason why this should have been recorded

but not the others that make up the complex, nor whether this one is specifically referenced in the RCAHMW description in the HER. It is part of PRN 17520 which represents the best general number to match the RCAHMW description (RS 10/08).

12590 Mynydd y Garn enclosure III**SN95641317 Enclosed settlement****Prehistoric***Old description*

(US 75) Between 320 m and 380 m above O.D. on the S. to S.E.-facing slope overlooking the RIVER HEPSTE is about 60 ha of settlement and field systems, including enclosures, isolated lengths of bank or wall, hut circles, and cairns which are presumed to date from later prehistoric times. The hillside is bisected by a shallow N.-S. running dry valley. The enclosures are mainly irregularly-shaped and bounded by heather-covered rubble and boulder banks up to 0.4 m high and about 2 m wide. The largest, on the E. (US 75 i) is of about 3.5 ha., and to its S.W. is one of about 1.25 ha. (US 75 ii) There are several smaller enclosures, some clearly more recent in date, though possibly reconstructed over earlier foundations (for example, (US 75 iii-iv). One of these (US 75 iii) (21 m (N.-S.) by 16 m) with walls up to 1 m high and 1.2 m wide, though of coursed stone and having seen use as a sheepfold in recent times, is not unlike some Romano-British homesteads in appearance. Disjointed wall sections are also to be found both within and outside the enclosures, suggesting an original pattern of considerable complexity. Within the smaller of the two main enclosures (US 75 ii) are two small poorly-defined hut circles (US 75 v-vi), each 4.5 m in overall diameter, and defined by rubble banks up to 0.3 m high. Close to them are stone piles which may obscure further habitation sites. There is another, larger, hut (US 75 vii) 9 m N.-S. enclosed by banks 1.5 m wide and 0.2 m high and a further example with no entrance, (7 m (N.-S.) by 6 m), adjoining a field bank forming its S.W. wall (US 75 viii). On enclosed land further to the W. are two others (US 75 ix-x), 4.5 and 4 m in diameters, respectively. Clearance cairns seem to be restricted to the eastern half of the site, and are particularly concentrated around the 330 m contour (US 75 xi). The majority are of rubble and boulders, generally circular or oval, ranging in size from 2 m to 10 m in diameter and up to 0.3 m high, though rectangular, triangular and linear clearances are also represented. A further three cairns are sufficiently large and regular to be considered as having been funereal. Two lie above the 330 m contour (US 75 xii-xiii) and both are about 7 m in diameter and 0.4 m high, with a slight central hollow. A further example (US 75 xv) and the hengiform earthwork (US 75 xiv) are described separately elsewhere (RC 108 and RC 110). These features cannot be seen upon A.P.s, R.A.F. F21/58/3618/ 0012-3 21 vi 60).

RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

There is nothing of any obvious significance at the given NGR. The record coincides with the RCAHMW's US75 ii which is claimed as a field enclosure of about 1.25ha. However, fig. 143 in the Inventory does not show an enclosure here, although on the ground there is a stretch of stony bank about 35m+ long (recorded at SN 95651318) which could be the result of clearance, arguably from peat cutting (RS 11/2008).

12591 Mynydd y Garn enclosure IV**SN96131364 Enclosed settlement****Post medieval***Old description*

Same as for PRN 12590 above.

New description

An irregular but broadly polygonal enclosure (= US 75iv) defined by a rubblestone wall which in a few places is several drystone courses high. On the N side virtually no stone is visible, but there is a continuation as a stony, overgrown linear bank. There are hints of a similar bank beneath the wall elsewhere.

Against the inner side on the W is an irregular, rectilinear structure; collapsed material on the E side of this feature hints at a gable end. Its entrance on the S has jambstones that seem to confirm a medieval or perhaps post-medieval origin.

The enclosure is set on level ground next to a shallow valley.

Certainly there is a medieval/post-medieval enclosure here, and there is the possibility of a prehistoric predecessor (RS 11/08).

12635 Craig Y Llwyni settlement

SO06631290 Unenclosed settlement Prehistoric

Old description

(US 99; Fig. 126) On the W. of CRAIG Y LLWYNI, overlooked by an old discontinuous boundary wall on the N. side of the stream and occupying ground between the Old Limekilns and Old Seepfolds marked on the O.S. 1:50,000 map, but closer to the former than the latter, are a number of cairns, fugitive walls and clearances. These are variously shaped and sited, some more regular and circular, others ill-defined. The group is bifurcated by the E.-W. track of a nineteenth century mineral railway (presumably for lime), and to the E., the site is overlain by a quarry tip, presumably of overburden removed during limestone extraction. (US 99 i) Within the natural scree-lain escarpment overlooking the stream to its N., is a circular hut, 3 m in diameter, lying on a slight shelf within the slope, open on the N.E. (US 99 ii) Close to (US 99 i) and lying at right angles to the hill is a U-shaped structure about 5 m long, and 3.5-4 m wide internally, a little like a reversed shooting butt, barely discernible among the scree. Its walls, of stones up to 1 m long, are 1 m thick and almost 1 m high. (US 99 iii) The northern, downslope margin of the cleared ground, overlooking the stream to its N., is covered in swathes of small grade stones among larger boulders for a distance of about 110 m. This line continues to the S.W. as a quarry face about 4 m deep. On the N.E. the clearance feature peters away beyond the hut sites (US 99 i) and (US 99 ii). (US 99 iiii) One is possibly a clearance cairn, about 6 m in diameter, 0.5 m high, all of small grade stone. (US 99 iv) An ill-defined stony eminence about 4 m in diameter. (US 99 v) On a slight platform, adjacent to the tramway embankment, and separated from it by only 3 m, is a penannular grouping of 6-8 stones open on the N. and about 4 m from N.-S. The stones stand no more than 0.3 m long and the more westerly are buried edgewise in the ground. It seems most likely to have been a hut, though might be a kerb cairn. (US 99 vi) A fugitive grass-grown vaccinium covered wall, travelling E. by S. uphill for about 30 m. (US 99 vii) A boulder clearance cairn 6 m long by 5 m wide. (US 99 viii) A boulder clearance cairn 7 m long (E.-W.) and varying from 3 to 6 m wide. (US 99 ix) An overgrown cairn, 4-5 m in diameter, the hollow centre exposed, possibly robbed for its limestone content. (US 99 x) A small cairn, elongated E.-W., 6 m by 5 m. (US 99 xi) A partly overgrown boulder cairn about 7 m in diameter and 0.25 m high. (US 99 xii) A handful of boulders, possibly having been a cairn, but truncated by the tramway. (US 99 xiii) A cairn of bilberry-covered fieldstones with a few boulders 9 m long E.-W. by 5 m wide. The centre appears to be robbed. (US 99 xiv) A large area of boulders and fieldstones about 30 m across (E.-W.) by 25 m (N.-S.), possibly all that remains of a settlement site. There is a swathe of stone, possibly a wall, about 10 m long (N.N.E.-S.S.W.) appended to this clearance mass, and parallel to it. (US 99 xv) A loose scatter of stone giving the impression, possibly illusory, of a wall. (US 99 xvi) and (US 99 xvii) are boulder scatters up to 3 m in diameter. (US 99 xviii) A scatter of large stones, about 8 m E.-W. and 3.5 m N.-S. This appears to be part of a linear feature travelling downhill on the W. (US 99 xix) A narrow swathe of fieldstones, probably a wall, about 23 m long, accentuated by summer vegetational growth. (US 99 xx) A linear, wall-like clearance feature. (US 99 xxi) Two small scatters of limestone boulder, possibly associated with quarrying. (US 99 xxii) A small cairn elongated N.-S., 2.5 m long, 1 m wide and 0.2 m high. (US 99 xxiii) A triangular-shaped clearance cairn, 5 m by 9 m by 7 m, though rather dispersed and ill-defined. (US 99 xxiv) An elongated cairn of fieldstones 5.6 m E.-W. by 9 m long (N.-S.), overlooking the stream to N. (US 99 xxv) A similar clearance cairn 5 m long by 2 m wide, which may pass beneath tipped overburden from the limestone quarrying. (US 99 xxvi) A fugitive dogleg length of wall some 60 m long (N. stretch running W. by N.-E. by S. S. stretch E. by N.-W. by S. (US 99 xxvii) At the S. end is a limestone boulder spread on an axis of about 12 m N.N.E. by 10 m

N.N.W.- S.S.E. First noted by B.O'Hanlan of Merthyr Tydfil C.S.Briggs, *Arch.in Wales* 26 (1986), p. 61. RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

This is the general record number for Craig-y-llwyni which is a broad, sloping terrace dropping gently to the north and north-west before falling sharply into the valley that contains Cwm Criban. Compared with the plateau above and to the south it is relatively stone-free, presumably in part as a result of prehistoric clearance. Some parts appear to have been more heavily 'improved' perhaps more recently. It is north-facing and clearly intervisible with the huts and enclosures below Buarth-y-caerau to the north-west.

Many of the cairns identified by RCAHMW are recorded under their own PRNs. However, a number of other cairns were also recognised, some of which may already have been seen but not accurately recorded. These have not been given new PRNs, but are at: SO 06661 12855 (4m by 3m by 0.6m high); SO 06628 12830 (3m diam by 0.4m); SO 06693 12876 (8m by 0.4m); SO 06714 12934; SO 06760 12939 (this could be PRN 12648, misplaced); SO 06691 12839; SO 06673 12827; and SO 06663 12858 (RS 2009).

12677 Blaen Onneu cairns **SO16101707** **Cairnfield** **Prehistoric**

Old description

(US 106 ii) To the S. of (US 106 i), lying on the S.W.-facing slope on the plateau edge lie three extensive, amorphous collections of fieldstone. These may enhance existing natural hollows. The most westerly is about 10 m N.-S. by about 12 m. Around it the fieldstone and boulders appear to have been disturbed, though whether by natural or human agency is unclear. About halfway along the N. edge a wall line emerges for about 2 m, travelling due N. To the E. of this is a moon-shaped clearance heap with an irregular inner (S.W.) profile, about 15 m N.W.- S.E. long overall, by some 4 m at greatest width. About 13 m to the N.E. is a further collection of stone. This one is in the outline profile of a hog's head, up to 15 m long (W.-E.) by 9 m N.-S. On the lower, flatter ground to the E. of this and to the N. of an area used for slaking lime, are two small cairns, both about 3 m in diameter and no more than 0.25 m high. Between them and the larger clearances two small groups of wall termini are visible the more westerly length runs 10 m E. by N. to W. by S. with a short tangent of 5 m striking out at 2 o'clock from about halfway up. The other terminal, only 4 m E., comprises three conjoined lengths, each about 1.5 m long. RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

Much of this area is covered by dense bracken, and it is not possible to see some of the features referred to in the RCAHMW text. However the two small cairns on the lower, flatter ground are visible. One at SO 16144 17056 is about 4.5m E/W by 5m and 0.3m high. It appears quite regular in shape and could be mistaken for a burial cairn. A second lies close by at SO 16156 17051 is 5m E/W by 6m by 0.2m and is of more irregular appearance. A little beyond it to the south-west at SO 16129 17046 is a more amorphous feature, a low bank that might even represent a sub-rectangular hut. Bracken disguises all other features except perhaps for a wall stub at SO 16118 17058 (RS 2008).

17339 Carn Y Felin enclosure I **SO08891387** **Enclosed settlement** **Prehistoric**

Old description

Stone banked enclosure surrounds small sink-hole or cave entrance (Jones, P.M. & Palmer, K. 1992, 49).

(US 100) There are two small enclosures lying along the CWAR YR HENDRE ridge 565 m above O.D. on the northern S.-facing slope of a dry valley. (US 100 i) The first is a square enclosure of large limestone boulders about 30 m by 12 m with walls upstanding to c. 1 m. It appears to incorporate a hut

circle in the N.W. corner. Some 30 m to the E. of the eastern enclosure wall is a cave entrance from which it is said bovid remains were recovered, which are now at the N.M.W.

Noted by P.M.Jones of Tredegar

RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

Enclosure (US 100i), internally about 13m N/S by 12m E/W (paced); the 30m of the RCAHMW entry is assumed to be a typographical error.

The rubblestone wall is constructed of blocks of limestone, piled to a height of nearly 1m in places; some attempts have been made to create a face to the wall - downhill on the east side is particularly impressive. Three sides are clearly defined but on the south it is difficult to make out the wall because it appears to employ a boulder stream.

The hut circle in the north-west corner could not be verified - the jumble of stone here is not convincing. The south-west corner on the other hand has a hint of a concave outer face which may or may not be a fortuitous deposit of boulders. Another 'wall' comes off the south-east corner but peters out in the scree.

Within the enclosure is a small cleft in the rock, the entrance to a cave? Another similar one lies to the south-east of the enclosure.

The whole shelters beneath the hill-crest and is thus afforded some protection, but the aspect is very limited. This could be prehistoric but equally could perhaps be medieval (RS 02/2009).

17340 Carn y Felin enclosure II

SO09021379 Enclosed settlement Prehistoric

Old description

Small enclosure near to PRN 17339 (Jones, P.M. & Palmer, K. 1992, 49). (US 100) There are two small enclosures lying along the CWAR YR HENDRE ridge 565 m above O.D. on the northern S.-facing slope of a dry valley. (US 100 ii) About 300 m S.E. of the above, on sloping ground under the shelter of a scarp, lies a similar, smaller embanked enclosure, elliptical in form and c. 8 m (0-0) by 10 m (0-0). There appears to be an internal hut platform, rectangular (c. 3 m by 2 m (0-0)), built against the upper (scarp-edge) wall. Noted by P.M.Jones of Tredegar
RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

Enclosure (US 100ii), more segmental than elliptical in shape. It is rubble walled, with some facing stones on the south-east, and stands to a height of around 0.7m in places. There is no obvious entrance, although a large stone(s) set into the south wall looks jamb-like. Internal measurements were paced at 8m E/W by 7m N/S.

The RCAHMW could be correct about an internal platform, but it was snow-covered at the time of the visit. There is a good aspect over the plateau to the north-east (RS 02/2009).

17391 Dyffryn Clawnon settlement

SO109154 Unenclosed settlement Prehistoric

Old description

Enclosures, banks and field clearance heaps on flat area of moorland. Approximate NGR (Jones, P.M. & Palmer, K. 1992, 50).

(US 102) Close to the junction of the old track climbing from LLANGYNIDR to TREFIL at CWM PYRGAD are a series of clearances and enclosures lying upon a heath and reed-grown plateau. On a projecting spur of moorland between the upper reaches of NANT PYRGAD and a minor stream are

settlement remains comprising three stretches of walling, a platform, embanked enclosures and a hut circle within an area 170 m square. The settlement lies between 420 m and 460 m above O.D. on land sloping away towards the west. (US 102 i) Bounding the N. edge of the area, overlooking the steep fall to Nant Pyrgad, is a collapsed wall 165 m in length, spread to 2 m wide and 0.3 m high. (US 102 ii) Bounding the E. end of the site is a length of stony bank, oriented N.-S., 55 m long and spread to 2 m wide and 0.3 m high. (US 102 iii) To the S. of this are two conjoined C-shaped banks, open to the E., the more northerly measuring 21 m N.-S. by 14 m overall and the other 21 m N.-S. by 12 m. The banks are stony, between 1.3 and 2.0 m wide and up to 0.3 m high. (US 102 iv) To the S. of these, immediately E. of a spring, is a hut circle terraced into the W.-facing slope. It measures 8.0 m E.-W. by 5.5 m overall the internal area is 5.0 m E.-W. by 3.0 m and the enclosing bank, incorporating stones up to 0.6 m long, rises to 0.3 m above floor level. (US 102 v) To the N.W. is a stony bank 35 m long, oriented N.W.-S.E. It is spread to 2 m wide in parts and stands to 0.3 m high remains of an L-shaped wall 7.0 m N.-S. by 3.0 m adjoin the N. side. (US 102 vi) To the N. is a stone-edged platform measuring 5.1 m N.W.-S.E. by 5.4 m. It is terraced into the slope 0.9 m deep on the N.E. and built up to 0.6 m high on the S.W.

RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

This PRN covers a number of features which are probably elements of a single coherent system, though the vegetation undoubtedly masks some features, and effectively restricts the overall impression of what is almost surely part of a field or enclosure system. The setting is a flattish spur tipping gently to the west. In addition to those elements already described there may be an open ended enclosure, about 7m by 7m, at SO 10932 15414, and perhaps a clearance cairn at SO 10930 15432, with more dumped material nearby at SO 10907 15444. Not enough coherence to the system to qualify it for a scheduling recommendation (RS 2008).

17523 Mynydd Y Garn Hut Circle SN95801299 Hut Prehistoric

Old description

Best preserved hut circle in area of hut circles cairns and linear banks, components of complex settlement. On S facing slope of Mynydd y Garn. Covers area of c.60ha between 320-380m OD. Measures 6x4m internally, bounded by stony bank 1.5m wide and 0.4m high. (Leighton, D.K. & Percival, D.J., 1986.4, 25-6).

New description

This hut circle was authenticated (though as PRN 12594) during the round huts study in 2006, though with some reservations on the part of the fieldworker. The current visit to the given NGR encountered various heaps of stone lying amidst dense rushes. These look suspiciously like modern stone clearance (see field notes). An enclosure wall was encountered at SN 95782 13064 (RS 11/2008).

23791 Mynydd Y Garn settlement and field SN9576613430 Non-antiquity Geological time

Old description

Possible enclosed settlement, captured from 1:25,000 map (OS, 1988)

New description

At the NGR the area was covered with tussocky grass on peat. 40m to the E are regular limestone outcrops creating a lengthy scarp edge. There is nothing else to see here and an examination of the 1:25000 map indicates that this record should never have been created (RS 11/2008).

26346	Cwm Crew E hut	SO0010517008	Shelter	Prehistoric
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Old description

Remains of drystone walled round hut (7m diameter). Possibly associated with sites 103 and 104. Located on mid E slope of Cwm Crew, about 70m above Nant Crew stream. Main views up and down the valley to the NW and SE, and also to the S (Skeats, R 1995).

New description

Very small stone-built shelter facing downslope to W and possibly open-ended in that direction. Measures c.1.4 x 1.0m internally, 2.7 x 2.7m externally with walling up to 0.3m high. It is not certain that this is the same feature recorded by Skeates at SO00051704, although the location is about right. There is certainly no sign of a prehistoric hut in this area. CPAT 2008

26350	Cwm Crew W mound	SN9972717698	Burnt mound	Prehistoric
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Old description

Peat-covered mound (7m long, x 6m wide), probably constructed of stone underneath, shallow pit on-top - possible prehistoric burial mound (barrow).

Located on SE upper-mid slope of Gwaun Crew, adjacent to a small stream-bed. Extensive views in most directions (SE, SW and NE) (Skeats, R 1995).

(BM 14) On the S. side of, and adjacent to a stream flowing down the S.E.-facing slope into NANT CREW about 500 m above O.D., is a mound 8.5 m in diameter and 0.4 m high. Its edge seems to mark a change in vegetation and the mound itself supports short-cropped turf in contrast to longer grasses which surround it. On the stream side of the mound there is a slight, though perceptible indentation suggestive of the 'kidney' shape common to some larger examples of burned mound.

RCAHWW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

Turf-covered mound measuring 7.5m SW-NE by 6.5m NW-SE, sited on SE-facing slope on the SW side of a small stream gully. The earthworks give more impression of a platform than a typical burnt mound and the upslope side appears to have been cut slightly into the slope. The 'hollow' is covered in reeds and faces the stream. On the downslope side the mound is at most 0.7m high, although this in part includes the natural slope. The general form and position next to a stream are suggestive of a burnt mound, although there is no visible stone. The general location is unusual, however, although there is no other obvious explanation for the feature (CPAT 2008).

26352	Cwm Crew W hut	SN9996319048	Hut	Prehistoric
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Old description

Ruined drystone walled oval hut (4m long, 3.6m wide, 0.9m high), on a platform. Probably part of site complex 198. Located on mid-slope of Cwm Crew W slope, about 220m above Nant Crew stream. Main view to S, restricted in other directions. (Skeats, R 1995).

New description

Sub-rectangular dry-stone walled structure terraced into slope at W end. Measures 5.3 x 4.8m overall with walling perhaps 0.9m wide and up to 0.7m thick. Associated with nearby buildings. Previously recorded at SO00021903 (CPAT 2008).

26354	Cwm Crew W hut	SN9994319021	Store	Post Medieval
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Old description

Ruined drystone walled oval hut (6m long, 5m wide, 0.8m high), on platform. Located on mid E slope of Cwm Crew, about 210m above Nant Crew stream; Main view to S, restricted in other directions; comprising part of broader hut complex (198) (Skeats, R 1995).

New description

Sub-circular, dry-stone walled structure c. 2.1m across internally with walling 0.8m high and 0.5m thick. Terraced into the slope on the SW side and now open to the NE, although it is difficult to determine how much of this is due to collapse. There is further collapsed walling projecting downslope to the E. The structure may be a store associated with nearby buildings. Previously recorded at SN99951904 (CPAT 2008).

26411	Cwm Crew W enclosure complex	SN99841846	Non antiquity	Unknown
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Old description

Enclosure complex comprising: enclosure (223) and platform/enclosure (224). Circular enclosure (33m outer diameter, 25m inner diameter) surrounded by a collapsed and partly soil-covered dry-stone wall (2.2m thick, 0.15-0.25m high), with a possible entrance facing SE, within which lies uneven ground surrounding a stone slab paved platform. 7m to the S lies a roughly circular platform (12.5m diameter, external; 9.62m diameter, internal - possibly another enclosure or possibly a hut platform - cut into the hillslope at NW end, with N half surrounded/revetted by a dry stone wall (1m wide). Located on Cwm Crew W slope, about 135m above Nant Crew stream; views up and down Cwm Crew valley to NE and SW. (Skeats, R 1995).

New description

There is no trace of an enclosure complex anywhere near SN99841846 although there are a number of natural boulder streams and stone spreads which could have been mistaken for archaeology. There is a concentration of stone c. 8 x 5m at SN9990618526 which has some groups of stone suggestive of walling, but the whole is not convincing (CPAT 2008)

33306	Ty Hendrey house platform	SN8437017105	Hut platform	Prehistoric
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Old description

10 SN84361710. A hut platform is located on a steep SE facing slope at 300m above O.D. The level area of oval plan measures 5m (N-S) by 4m, is cut back to a depth of 1.2m and built out to a height of 1m. The platform is grassy and contains a small boulder. The platform appears to be backed by stone dump material. This could be due to later clearance but could be connected with platform building on the immediate uphill side, of which there are faint traces. NAR: as above visited DKL 5.6.85

New description

Possible pair of hut platforms, not well-defined in reeds and bracken. Sited on steep SE-facing slope c. 10m N of a fence. The upper platform is covered in reeds and is perhaps 4m across, cut into the slope by 0.5m. The lower platform, 1.6m below the upper, measures 5m N-S x 4m E-W and has one boulder to N of centre, and others exposed on the slope to the W. Both are too small for medieval huts, but could be prehistoric (NJ 09).

33376	Pont Nant-y-moch platform settlement	SN86461924	House platform	Medieval
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Old description

42 SN86461924. Platforms, Pont Nant-y-moch. Br. 10b.

To the W of Pont Nant-y-moch, on the lower SE-facing slopes of Cefn Cul at 365m above O.D., are at least two building platforms. The larger measures 5.0m NW-SE x 4.5m and is cut into the hillside to a depth of 1.0m. On the NE side is a bank 1.7m wide x 0.5m high and red sandstone rubble is visible over the site, suggesting a former building. Some 10m to the NE is a more vague, turf-grown platform, measuring approximately 6m NW-SE x 4m, cut into the hillside to a depth of 1m and built up to 1m high on the SE with stones up to 0.8m long. There are possibly other platforms in the area, especially to the S and W, but upcast and spoil from later drainage ditches have obscured these. To the N of a minor stream nearby may be further platforms, but are extremely eroded and may even be natural slumping of the ground. Visited BAM. 26 MAY 88.

NAR: as above, with additional detail: The bank upon the larger platform forms an arc which suggests the remains of a round hut. Visited DKL 8.6.88.

New description

This small group of features are medieval (or possibly early post-medieval), not prehistoric, and constitute a hafod grouping looking east across the valley of Nant Tywynni. At SN 8647919254 is a rectangular platform which probably equates with the more north-easterly of the two platforms described by the RCAHMW. There is some stone scattered across the platform which confuses its layout and may have confused the NAS into suggesting a round hut.

The second platform is at SN 8647619245 and has a lot of stone around it.

In addition there is a small scoop above it at SN 8646519244 which could have been for a subsidiary structure though other origins cannot be ruled out.

Finally at SN 8645419234 is a surprising rectilinear stone heap. It could be simply from clearance, but looks to have been fashioned in some way (RS 03/2009).

33577 Hespste Fechan farmstead

SN97311408 Farmstead

Prehistoric

Old description

34 SN97311408

An enclosure, associated with a number of cairns, lies on the SE facing slope of Waun Tincer on the W side of the river Hepste. The enclosure, centred at 97331405, is heart-shaped and measures 135m (N-S) by 120m with a perimeter bank consisting largely of consolidated rubble, but unconsolidated on the NW. In places the bank is spread to c.4m in width. On the N and NW, the edges of shake holes lying outside the enclosure have been skirted but the bank has started to collapse into them. There are two possible entrance gaps, on the N and on the NE, both c.1.5m wide. Immediately to the E of the N entrance a later wall, some 1.5m wide and 0.8m high, has been built on top of the bank (which at this point is itself 0.3m high). After running along the bank for about 15m, the wall turns S into the interior of the enclosure, fading into a rubble bank some 1.5m wide and 0.3m high, about 35m from the entrance. The wall appears to have been constructed with material from the earlier bank. The interior contains three cairns and a possible hut circle, viz:

97341409. Cairn (linear) 18m (NW-SE) by 3m, 0.2m high; consolidated rubble.

97341405. Cairn 8m dia., 0.3m high; loose rubble consolidated around the edges, NW side is collapsing into a small shake hole.

97311401. Cairn 6m dia., 0.3m high; loose rubble consolidated around the edges.

97311406. Cairn measuring 5m dia. overall, its edge slightly raised as a vague bank 1.5m wide and 0.2m high, composed of consolidated rubble. Interior filled with loose stones. Possibly a former hut circle, subsequently filled in. Hollowing at the centre may have been caused by shake hole development beneath.

Outside the enclosure, are the following features:

97271413 to 97291411. An ill-defined bank up to 4m wide and 0.3m high, consisting mainly of consolidated rubble and small boulders, runs NW for about 30m from near the NW entrance to the enclosure, to the edge of a shake hole about 20m dia., which has been used as a stone dump.

97281421. Cairn 15m (NW-SE) by 8m, with a "tail" 15m long and 2m wide running NW, 0.3m high; loose rubble consolidated around the edges.

97291417. Cairn 13m (E-W) by 12m, 0.5m high; consolidated rubble, small boulders.

97221409. Cairn 5m (NW-SE) by 3m, 0.2m high, consolidated rubble.

97231409. Cairn, triangular in shape, measuring approx. 6m (N-S), 5m (SW-NE), 5m (SE-NW), 0.3m high; consolidated rubble.

97301394. Cairn, pear shaped, measuring 20m (E-W) by 12m at the W, tapering to the E, 0.2m high; consolidated rubble.

NAR:

97331405: enclosure measures 135m (N-S) by 120m, defined by a stony bank spread to 4m wide and averaging 0.3m high, with possible entrance gaps on the N and NE. The interior is occupied by three roughly circular cairns, the largest 8m in diameter and 0.3m high, and a low linear stone pile 18m long. A number of large stone piles lie outside the enclosure, including a stony bank projecting from near the N entrance for a distance of c.30m. Surveyed at 1:1000 (see drawing NAS 37)

Antiquity Model (enclosure only): Enclosure [NR]

DKL/DJP 11.85

New description

This large enclosure of around 1.2ha has been fully and adequately described by the RCAHMS. In places the surrounding bank is little more than 0.3m high, but on the NE side it is up to 0.5m. The site was visited during the Round Hut study in 2006 but evidently the suggestion that there was a hut circle that had subsequently been filled with dumped stone did not impress the fieldworkers. In the light of other similar features further to the N but in the same complex this view might be worth reconsidering (RS 11/2008).

33631 Cefn Esgair Carnau cairnfield SN9746113553 Cairnfield Prehistoric

Old description

SN97191349 (centred) On the NW slope of a ridge upon the crest of which are located a number of large cairns (NAR 1), lies a cairnfield comprising a number of smaller stone piles with linear features. They lie between the larger cairns and the river Hepste, between elevations of 330m and 360m O.D. The cairns number about 38. The majority are circular in plan and vary between 2m and 6m in diameter and average about 0.3m in height. They are mainly composed of unsorted stones, consolidated with light vegetation. A large proportion of them lie between 97031301 and 97331352, along a level NE-SW running terrace, below and to the NW of the ridge. A feature of the NE end of this group is the use of shake holes as stone dumps. A small circular enclosure at 97061341, lying amongst the cairns, is possibly a hut circle. The linear features are vague and fragmentary, and are generally about 2m wide, although spreading has caused an exaggerated width. Height averages c.0.2m. A bank at 97061343 and another at right angles to it on the NE, suggest a former enclosure, as do two banks in the vicinity of 97301351 which run parallel, NE-SW, about 20m apart for 40m. Taken together, the distribution of the cairns and the banks can be seen to form, very roughly, three sides of a rectangle. NAR: as above Surveyed at 1:1000 (see drawing NAS 43) Antiquity Model: Cairnfield [NR] (centred on 9716 1342) DKL/DJP 3.86

(US 79;Fig.113) On the more southerly aspect of CEFN ESGAIR CARNAU overlooking the RIVER HEPSTE is a spread of cairnfield features up to about 800 m long by 150-200 m wide comprising some 50 or more stone piles or amorphous cairns, and a handful of short, linear features lying between 330 m and 375 m above O.D. The majority of the cairns are circular, varying in diameter from 2 to 6 m, and averaging about 0.3 in height. All are composed of mixed grade rubble limestone and Old Red Sandstone, and many are consolidated with vegetation. There is a particular concentration on part of the hill along a terrace aligned N.E.-S.W., below, and to the N.W. of the ridge. The following is a selection giving some idea of the variety of types which occur here. (US 79 i-ii) Are respectively a small amorphous cairn some 4.9 by 3.4 m and 0.15 high and a stony patch 3.7 by 2.8 and about the same height, lying on the eastern aspect of the hill. On the higher, featureless

plateau are a number of larger examples. (Sites US 79 iii-x are described in detail below). Overall, these are sited along a line roughly about 650 m long from N.E. to S.W. by 240 m wide. Six lie in slight depressions roughly 0.3 m deep. They vary in size between 13.2 m in diameter by 1.1 m high and 9.1 m in diameter by 0.5 m high, and are generally well preserved though centrally mutilated. An important feature at the N.E. end of this area is the apparent use of shake-holes as stone dumps. This dumping may be illusory, and these are probably what are elsewhere termed 'negative cairn features' or 'stone ponds' (pp.000-000). The linear features are fugitive and fragmentary, generally about 2 m wide, but hardly rising to more than 0.2 m. The recognition of two banks (US 79 xi) at right angles close to the river, and similarly, the parallel N.E.-S.W. banks (US 79 xii) closer to the N. of the grouping suggest partial field or enclosure boundaries. Lying below the river bluff upon the recent floodplain of the HEPSTE, are two (presumably recent) longhouses, and also, occupying an abandoned meander core, an indeterminate structure, which, to judge from its form and position (US 79 xiii), may be of much greater antiquity. (US 79 iii) The most southwesterly of the group is 15 m N.-S. by 13 m with a maximum height of 0.8 m. Shake-holes are appearing both on the N. margin, and to the S.E.1 (US 79 iv) A slightly oval mound 12 m (N.-S.) by 11 m in diameter and 0.6 m high. The cairn has been trenched E.-W., and the material left to add height to the site.2 (US 79 v) In a slight declivity on the spine of a low ridge is a cairn 11.6 m in diameter and 0.6 m high with a slight central depression.3 (US 79 vi) N.E. of the last is a very disturbed cairn 10.5 m in diameter and about 0.4 m high. Shake-holes appear to be developing on the S.E. 4 (US 79 vii) There is a structure similar to the above situated in a slight depression 9.3 m in diameter and 0.5 m high, added to on the S. margin by a recent stone pile.5 (US 79 viii) A cairn 17.1 m in diameter and 1.2 m high. The centre is badly damaged by robber craters and a small cairn of stones built into a small shelter, to the N. It is impinged upon by two shake-holes.6 (US 79 ix) A much disturbed cairn base 11 m by 9.5 m. (US 79 x) On the N. end of CEFN ESGAIR-CARNAU, upon a S.-facing slope is a much-disturbed round cairn 8.8 m N.E.-S.W. by 8 m with a maximum height of 0.25 m. There are two ruined longhouses and a third, indeterminate structure, all probably of medieval or later date, towards the S. end of this area.7

1. O.S. Card SN 91 SE 1;Roese, Thesis, no.86.

2. Roese, Thesis, no.88.

3. Roese, Thesis, no.89.

4. Roese, Thesis, no.90.

5. Roese, Thesis, no.91.

6. O.S.Card SN 91 SE 2;Roese, Thesis, no.92.

7. centred upon 9705 1353;NAR 109.

RCAHMS, 1995 - Draft Inventory descriptionThe cairnfield is fairly extensive and while the majority of cairns are lacking any regular form or structure, three cairns appear to stand out as being more regular and potentially funerary - PRNs 87032-4. There is a distinct group of larger funerary cairns to the east, PRNs 838, 3277-81 and 87035, which are now grouped as a round barrow cemetery PRN 87058. (CPAT 2004)

New description

A cairnfield on the E bank of the Hepste containing a large number of cairns as the RC record makes clear. Some already have their own PRNs, e.g. 23796, 23797, 23799 & 23800.

The positions of the following cairns were recorded, but individual PRNs were not given to them:

i) SN 97136 13369 (6m N/S x 5m x 0.4m); ii) SN 97150 13407 (5m E/W x 5m x 0.4m); iii) SN 97062 13383 (4m x 4m); iv) SN 97024 13357 (2m across); v) SN 97068 13418 (6m linear); vi) SN 97068 13446 (5m N/S x 4m); vii) SN 97079 13467 (3m N/S x 2m).

The cairn PRN 23798 could not be found at the NGR given in the HER. The cairnfield occupies slightly sloping and shelving ground on the E side of the Hepste. The Royal Commission did find other features, but the description suggests they were relatively slight, and no attempt was made to identify them during the current visit (RS 2008).

33633 Cefn Esgair Carnau burnt mound SN9773014330 Burnt mound Prehistoric*Old description*

84 SN97731433 (revised from 9773 1432)

A cooking mound lies within a sharp bend of a stream which feeds the Afon y Waun. The mound is roughly semicircular in shape and measures 15m (NE-SW) by 10.5m with a maximum height of 1m. On its SE (stream) side there is a shallow, but characteristic, indentation. The mound is turf-covered but occasional patches of blackened earth, charcoal and small jagged broken stones are visible. Apart from some erosion on its streamward side, this cooking mound is in good condition.

NAR: as above

Surveyed at 1:1000 (see drawing NAS 37)

Antiquity Model: Burnt Mound [NR] DKL/DJP 8.3.84

(BM 16) Below and W. of CEFN ESGAIR CARNAU, about 355 m above O.D. is a cooking mound lying within a sharp band of the small stream which feeds the AFON Y WAUN. It is situated in the same general area as a large number of clearances and enclosures (US 79). RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description.

New description

A substantial mound, hollowed out on the east, the NAR record being perfectly adequate. There is virtually no visible surface stone, but on the west in particular stone lies immediately below the surface. The nearby stream diverts around the a stony material of the mound, and some erosion from the stream shows small stone fragments in the exposed face, though difficult to distinguish burnt stone from red sandstone (RS 12/2008).

33756 Waun Tincer cairnfield SN96841340 Cairnfield Prehistoric*Old description*

SN96841340 (centred) (revised from 968 135) A group of small cairns lies in the vicinity of linear banks, two platforms and a small ruined rectangular building, all of which are situated on the gentle E facing slope of Waun Tincer, on the W bank of the river Hepste. They lie between elevations of 330m and 340m O.D. If all the features are contemporary, the platforms suggest a Medieval or later date. A short distance to the W, however, lies a field system (NAR 10) of likely prehistoric date. It remains possible, therefore, that the platforms and rectangular building are intrusions into a much earlier landscape, of which the cairns and banks are part. The cairns are mainly circular in shape, varying in diameter between 2.5m and 7m with maximum height 0.4m, and are composed of unsorted stones consolidated with light vegetation. One at SN96901340 appears to rest on a platform and may be the site of a building. Group of at least 10 small irregular cairns, but includes one possible funerary cairn, PRN 23794 (CPAT 2004).

New description

This PRN covers a cairnfield on the W bank of the Hepste, south of the abandoned farmholding of Blaen Hepste. The Royal Commission record offers the fullest description and indicates that there are other features intermixed with the cairns, while the CPAT 2004 record claims at least 10 cairns. In 2008, the following cairns were noted using GPS technology, but no systematic search was made to identify all the cairns:

- i) SN 96918 13542 (cairn is 8m SE/NW by 6m);
- ii) SN 96881 13487 (7m N/S by 6m) and is recorded elsewhere as PRN 23795 . This could with a little more curvilinearity be mistaken for a burial cairn, but there is a tail of material out to the W.
- iii) SN 96880 13459 (11m E/W by 5m by 0.7m high)
- iv) SN 96868 13414 possibly equating with PRN 23793
- v) SN 96872 13394
- vi) SN 96879 13392
- vii) SN 96847 13404

There are also other features including:

viii) a stone wall, little more than aligned blocks of stone which could result from the clearance of stone off a plot. Starts at SN 96880 13462 and terminates at 96854 13437.

ix) A sinuous wall from SN 96849 13387 to 96863 13330; of dumped stone set on a slight natural scarp.

x) at SN 96885 13419. Possibly a very ruined long hut or a shelter, created from a clearance cairn. Two and a half low walls or banks give a rectilinear 'feel' to the structure, though its integrity is not proven.

xi) A possible hut circle at SN 96839 13321, but alternatively could be a shelter. It is cut back a little into a natural slope (itself unusual for a hut circle), so that it faces down the valley to the south-west. Its back edge has some stone piled up on it, while placed stone, now grassed over arcs round to the S. From a distance this could be prehistoric. Internally there is some hollowing of the ground surface. Its dimensions are about 5m NW/SE by 4m. Photographed from the S.

The extent of the cairnfield was not gauged, and some cairns undoubtedly went unexamined. The linear 'walls' are probably associated, but less certainly the structures if this is what they are. The complex occupy a number of shelves about the Hepste, and are of more significance than the group of cairns, opposite, on the E side of the Hepste (RS 2008).

34084	Cwm Gwdi platform 1	SO0218424699	Platform	Modern
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Old description

Square area (11.4 x 8m) enclosed on all four sides by a bank (2m wide) and ditch (1m wide) Located on Cwm Gwdi W. Copyright R Skeats 1996

New description

Rectangular raised platform surrounded by a slight ditch and counterscarp. Possibly associated with former army camp nearby (NJ 2009).

34085	Cwm Gwdi platform 2	SO0215524738	Platform	Modern
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Old description

C-shaped bank (about 30m long and 3m wide), with old tree growing out of it - ? enclosure. Located on Cwm Gwdi W. Copyright R Skeats 1996

New description

A levelled area c. 6.5m x 7m has been cut into the N-facing slope, with excavated material being thrown up around to create a bank on the slope above and to either side, most prominent on W. The levelled area has a mound of turf-covered rubble c. 5 x 3m. Although the site looks like a hut platform it seems too recent and may be associated with the former army camp nearby. NJ 2009

34133	Nant yr Offeiriad Sheepfold	SN99312101	Sheepfold	Unknown
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Old description

Rectangular drystone walled structure (39.3x12.5m), with four rectangular/square spaces (24.3x9.2m; 11.9x5.1m; 5.2x4.9m; 7.75x3.4); and a round space (3.4m dia, with a 0.5m wide entrance on the N side, 0.8m high), entrances at E and W ends; E entrance flanked by a wall (14.9m long). Average wall thickness 0.7m. Located on S side of Nant yr Offeiriad, near the confluence with Blaen Taf Fawr. Copyright R Skeats 1996

New description

Multi-cellular sheepfold of rubble wall construction, measuring 15 x 11m overall, located on S side of stream. The southern half has a later horseshoe-shaped shelter built within. The northern half is divided into two by a broad rubble wall within which there is a 'passage' with a paved floor. The

passage has an opening at the W end and extends no more than 0.7m before turning N and presumably running the length of the wall although the north end is, and has always been, blocked. This may be a later feature within the fold. No obvious function for the passage, which is too small for sheep - ?dog kennel (CPAT 2008).

34501 Y Gyrn SW enclosure I SN98212093 Landform Unknown

Old description

Ruined drystone walled rectangular enclosure (40m long), almost completely buried under peat. Located at top of steep slope on Y Gyrn SW side. Copyright R Skeats 1996

New description

Another triumph for the Skeates team. The location is a moderately steep moorland valley side, next to a boggy stream which has generated a number of platform-like flushes; tussock grass and rushes give an undulating and uneven surface. The only feature that looks vaguely authentic is a low scarp which runs for at least 15m and more and is about 0.6m high, on the north side of the stream and at an angle to it. One upright slab projects from it. It must be a natural formation (RS 2008).

34600 Cwm Llwhch platform and enclosure SN9987323207 Platform Medieval

Old description

Oval enclosure (50.9m long, 36m wide), rectangular platform outside the enclosure on the W side (13.7m long, 9.7m wide), and square structure, possibly a hut outside at the N end (2.2m long, 2.2m wide). Located on gentle slope at end of Cwm Llwhch, on W side. Copyright R Skeats 1996

New description

Rectangular hut platform 9.8m x 6.7m, aligned E-W. Fan 0.8m high x 1.5m, apron 0.8m high x 3m. There is a small rectangular, stone structure 6m from the NE corner (SN9988123211), measuring 2 x 1.2m internally, 3.8 x 2.7m externally. 10m SSW of the SW corner there is a hollow cut into the slope, measuring 5.2 x 2.8m and up to 1.5m deep, possibly a store.

A rubble wall/bank 1.5 to 2m across and 0.3m high extends S from the SW corner for 30m before curving E then S, forming part of an enclosure 23m across E-W. There are further discontinuous lengths of rubble wall to the N, from SN9992123273 to SN9993223282, and from SN9989423230 to SN9990623252 (NJ 2009).

35887 Ffald Newydd Enclosure I SN9761014130 Hut Bronze Age

Old description

Sub oval-enclosure 25m N-S by 20m E-W. Turfed over wall some 0.2m high (max). Entrance on E (uphill) side. Small poss hut circle against inside of N face. (US 78 i) On the river terrace overlooking the S. bank of the RIVER HEPSTE is a small sub-oval enclosure (25 m N.-S. by 20 m E.-W.) within a low turfed over perimeter wall about 2 m wide and 0.2 m high. The entrance lay on the E. uphill side and a small hut circle is located inside the N. wall. About 6 m E. of the N. side of the entrance is a small stone pile about 3 m by 2 m and adjacent to the S. side is a shake-hole 4 m N.-S. by 2 m E.-W. and 2 m deep. A further shake-hole some 5 m in diameter and 3 m deep appeared about 10 m to the N.N.E. between 1985 and 1987. On the N. bank of the HEPSTE, straddling both the river terrace and the post-glacial flood-plain on a southern aspect, is a group of three huts and series of field enclosures. The first (US 78 ii) (15 m (N.-S.) by 13 m (E.-W.)) consists of a western stony bank 1.5 wide by 0.3 m high protected from the river on the S. by what may be a man-made floodbank. It probably had an entrance on the N.E. Set above the floodplain is another small enclosure (US 78 iii) (20 m (N.E.-S.W.) by 13 m (N.W.-S.E.)) scarped into the natural slope on the W., with low wall orthostatic walling around the N.E. and E. and a slighter enclosure (US 78 iv) nestles against the western natural scarp

with low walling 0.3 high around the E. The largest, (US 78 iii) houses a rectangular platform, but otherwise there are no further indications of huts. Further along the floodplain, and to the N.W., below the river bluff, is a cairn 6 m in diameter and 0.3 m high, surrounded by a more ill-defined area of stone, indications of clearance under the shelter of extreme N.W. and S.E. parts of the floodplain. Immediately above the scarp on level ground is a hut-like structure (US 78 v) consisting of three interlocking stony circles averaging 5 m in diameter with rubble walls up to 0.3 m high. Adjacent disjointed linear walls were probably originally integrated into the field system on the hillside to the W. On the lower S.E.-facing slope of WAUN TINCER is a large enclosure (US 78 vi), associated with several large cairns. The main feature is heart-shaped, 135 m (N.-S. by 120 m) with a perimeter bank of consolidated rubble, though fragmented on the N.W. Originally it must have achieved a considerable height, as the collapse is 4 m in width, though the picture is a little confused owing to the situation of a later wall to the E. of the N. entrance, about 1.5 m wide and 0.8 m high. There are entrance gaps on the N. and E., and both are 1.5 m wide. Within, there are three cairns and a possible hut circle and outside it there is an ill-defined bank aligned a large shake hole and five clearance cairns, three of considerable size (greater than 10 m in diameter). On the gentle S.E.-facing slope of WAUN TINCER at elevations between 370 and 390 m above O.D. is a series of clearance cairns, hut circles and a linear bank making over 30 features in all. There are two well-defined hut circles interdigitated with more than a handful of half-circles and numerous clearance cairns. The features fall into two main groups, in the westernmost of which is the most complete circles (US 78 vii)(8.5 m in internal diameter and a S.E. entrance). To the N. of both groups is a discontinuous E.-W. bank, which appears to separate the huts from a further group of clearance cairns to the N. It seems possible that some of the circles may have been infilled by subsequent agricultural clearance. There is a full circle (6 m in diameter without entrance) upslope due N. of the W. part of the more S. group (US 78 viii). Opposite the settlement complex on the N. side of the river bank are two well-defined subrectangular enclosures with adjacent hut circles. The first (US 78 ix) an oval-shaped enclosure bounded by a bank on the S.E. and N.E., and on the N.W. by the river, is 30 m E.-W. by 16 m. There is a hut circle on the S. outside and incorporated into the bank, but some damage has been done here by converting it to a shooting box. About 40 m to the N.E. (US 74 x) is another small enigmatic enclosure, basically comprising a hut circle only 2 m in diameter set against (though separated from) the S.W. bank of a dog-leg wall enclosing an area to the E. about 8 m square. To the E. and beyond the quarrying features and later settlement (see below), on the N.W.-facing slope of CEFN ESGAIR CARNAU and S.E. of the RIVER HEPSTE, between 350 m and 360 m above O.D. is a group of stone piles making up a cairnfield which lies on a gently-sloping terrace above a river cliff (US 78 xi). The cairns are mainly circular or oval in plan, varying between 1.5 m and 8 m in diameter. Two are discontinuous banks, others are more shapeless. A nearby burnt mound is described elsewhere (BM 15). During the industrial period, the ancient settlement area was joined by a stone bridge, which was probably utilised by the occupants of the coursed homestead structure adjacent to the river. Around them, a series of quarries (US 78 xii) attest to considerable mineral extraction during this period. D.K.Leighton and D.J.Percival, *Arch.in Wales* 26 (1986) p. 25.

(US 78 i),(US 78 xi-xii) Cantref

(US 78 ii-x) Ystradfellte

RCAHMW, 1995 - Draft Inventory description

New description

This is US 78i in the RCAHMW Inventory. It was visited and described as part of the Round Huts study in 2006 but recorded under PRN 3516. The description is reproduced below with modifications. Sub-circular enclosure, about 20m to 25m across, on a terrace above Hepste river, composed of a partially turf-covered stone bank without any obvious facing or coursing. The bank is up to 2m wide and 0.5m high although more generally 0.2-0.3m high. There is a small sink hole on the east-south-east into which the stony bank is beginning to collapse, and there is also a gap, 7m wide, on the east side which presumably served as an entrance to the enclosure, unless stone has been robbed for another structure in the area. Alternatively, but rather less convincingly, a timber-built hut was sited here, as there are slight traces of a platform on the interior of the projected circuit of the bank. There is a more well-defined feature on the north side, comprising a sub-circular structure, presumably a hut, and the main enclosure appears to be pendant on this (RS 12/2008).

50286	Llyn Llywarch Enclosure I	SN96821656	Enclosure	Bronze Age
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Old description

Sub-triangular enclosure some 15m E-W by 14m N-S with an entrance in SE angle. Lies between huts par 3255 (to S) and par 50287 (to N).

New description

No new description. Not visited.

80770	Careg Haffes Enclosure II	SN84441671	Enclosure	Post Medieval ?
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Old description

This very fragmentary enclosure consists of a horseshoe shaped bank made up of a ruinous drystone wall. The feature is open to the south-east. The interior is partially dug out although it is now mostly filled with rubble.

New description

The enclosure is part of the general stone-walled field system which is presumably post-medieval. The collapsed rubble walling is now partly obscured by stone dumping and has been damaged by the placement of cattle feeders in the area (NJ09)

82212	Cwm Llwh SW hut and enclosure	SN99862300	Enclosure	Bronze Age
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Old description

None

New description

Examine in 2002 as part of the Brecon Beacons assessment survey. A D-shaped enclosure with hut.

82222	Pen Milan cairn I	SN99322356	Round barrow (cairn)	Bronze Age
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Old description

None

New description

Examined in 2002 as part of the Brecon Beacons assessment survey. A cairn around 8.0m diameter (RS 08/2008).

82223	Pen Milan cairn II	SN99322346	Round barrow (cairn)	Bronze Age
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Old description

None

New description

Examined in 2002 as part of the Brecon Beacons assessment survey. A cairn around 7.0m diameter (RS 08/2008).

84902	Mynydd y Garn stone setting	SN9651813364	Unknown	Bronze Age ?
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Old description

None

New description

Curious stone setting with upright slabs set in ground, some at right angles to others. About 4m N/S by 2.5m (paced) (RS 10/08)

84913 Nant Tawe Fechan burnt mound SN8397219095 Burnt mound Prehistoric

Old description

None

New description

A classic horseshoe-shaped burnt mound on the west side of small stream with the open side to the east-north-east, facing the stream. It is 10.5m NNW-SSE x 9.5m overall and up to 1.5m high on the downslope, south-south-east side (NJ 09).

APPENDIX 3

SCHEDULING RECOMMENDATIONS

Site Name: Mynydd y Garn settlement**PRN:** 17520**NGR:** SN96471336**Map:** SN91SE**Altitude:** 350m**Type:** Hut circle settlement**Form:** Structure

Period	Rarity	Documentation	Group Value	Survival	Fragility/Vulnerability	Diversity	Potential
X	X		X	X	X	X	X

Several individual elements of this complex are recommended below for scheduling designation, but as a complex with significant group value including enclosures, field walls and clearance cairns, together with huts, the whole area can also be recommended here.

The RCAHMW description follows – it is assumed to be a thorough one, but the details were not checked during the recent SEP programme. Again we would draw attention to the fact that the NAS's survey is at a greater scale and would be a more useful scheduling tool than the reduced version in the *Inventory*.

(US 75) Between 320 m and 380 m above O.D. on the S. to S.E.-facing slope overlooking the RIVER HEPSTE is about 60 ha of settlement and field systems, including enclosures, isolated lengths of bank or wall, hut circles, and cairns which are presumed to date from later prehistoric times. The hillside is bisected by a shallow N.-S. running dry valley.

The enclosures are mainly irregularly-shaped and bounded by heather-covered rubble and boulder banks up to 0.4 m high and about 2 m wide. The largest, on the E. (US 75 i) is of about 3.5 ha., and to its S.W. is one of about 1.25 ha. (US 75 ii) There are several smaller enclosures, some clearly more recent in date, though possibly reconstructed over earlier foundations (for example, (US 75 iii-iv). One of these (US 75 iii) (21 m (N.-S.) by 16 m) with walls up to 1 m high and 1.2 m wide, though of coursed stone and having seen use as a sheepfold in recent times, is not unlike some Romano-British homesteads in appearance.

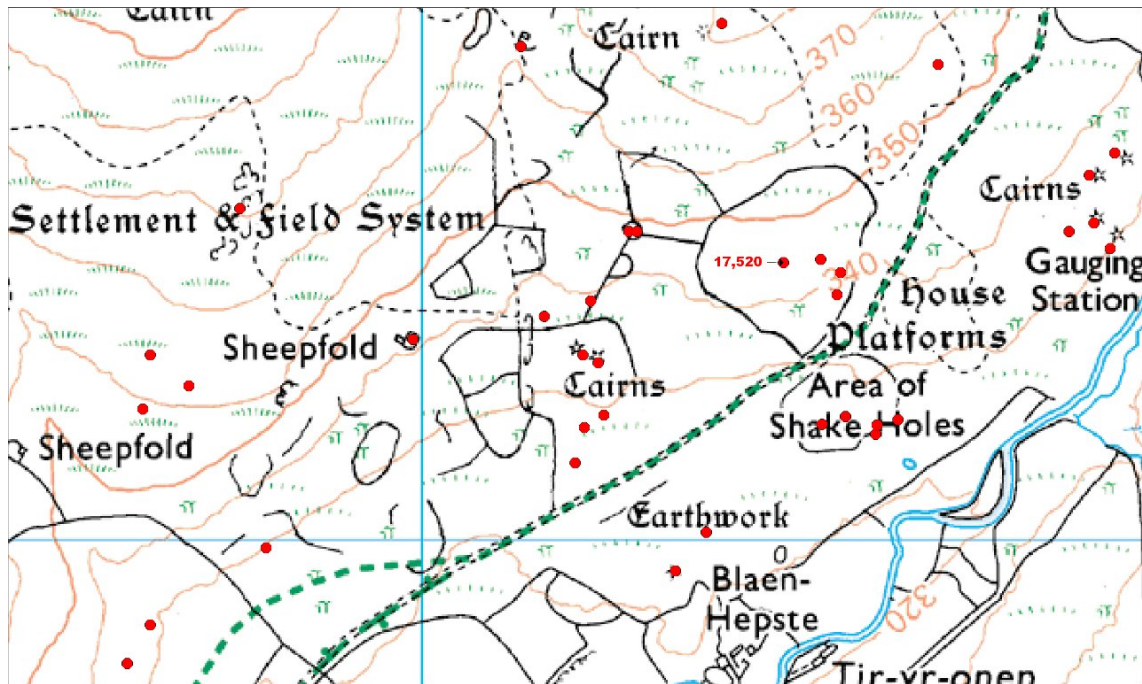
Disjointed wall sections are also to be found both within and outside the enclosures, suggesting an original pattern of considerable complexity.

Within the smaller of the two main enclosures (US 75 ii) are two small poorly-defined hut circles (US 75 v-vi), each 4.5 m in overall diameter, and defined by rubble banks up to 0.3 m high. Close to them are stone piles which may obscure further habitation sites. There is another, larger, hut (US 75 vii) 9 m N.-S. enclosed by banks 1.5 m wide and 0.2 m high and a further example with no entrance, (7 m (N.-S.) by 6 m), adjoining a field bank forming its S.W. wall (US 75 viii). On enclosed land further to the W. are two others (US 75 ix-x), 4.5 and 4 m in diameters, respectively.

Clearance cairns seem to be restricted to the eastern half of the site, and are particularly concentrated around the 330 m contour (US 75 xi). The majority are of rubble and boulders, generally circular or oval, ranging in size from 2 m to 10 m in diameter and up to 0.3 m high, though rectangular, triangular and linear clearances are also represented. A further three cairns are sufficiently large and regular to be considered as having been funereal. Two lie above the 330 m contour (US 75 xii-xiii) and both are about 7 m in diameter and 0.4 m high, with a slight central

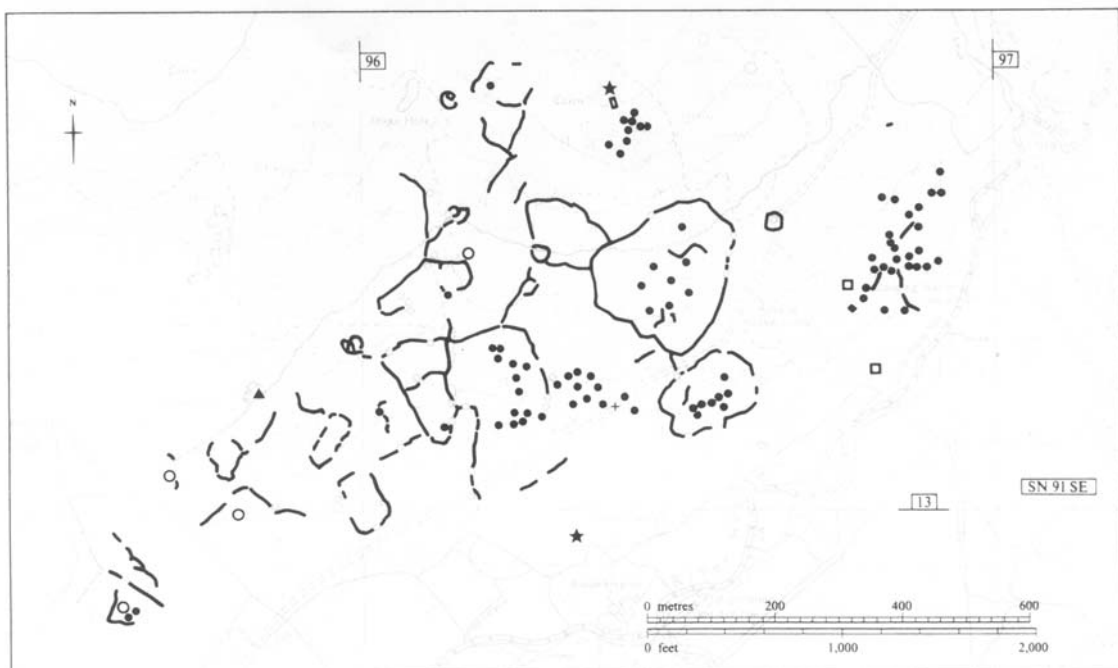
hollow. A further example (US 75 xv) and the hengiform earthwork (US 75 xiv) are described separately elsewhere (RC 108 and RC 110).

These features cannot be seen upon A.P.s, R.A.F. F21/58/3618/ 0012-3



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Site Name: Mynydd y Garn enclosure I**PRN:** 2298**NGR:** SN95991326**Map:** SN91SE**Altitude:** 350m**Type:** Longhut and Enclosure**Form:** Structure

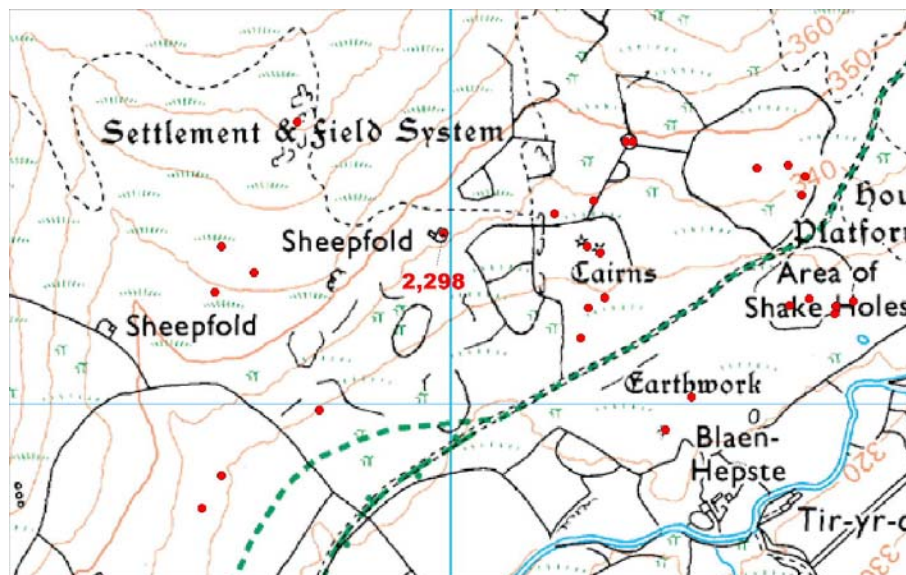
Period	Rarity	Documentation	Group Value	Survival	Fragility/ Vulnerability	Diversity	Potential
X			X	X		X	X

This enclosure was not visited during the DRS programme but should have been. It equates with RCAHMW US75iii (for which see the accompanying gazetteer), but the present writer is reluctant to agree with the Romano-British comparison.

What is present here is, on the NW, a rubble-walled longhut, with a partition wall not quite central; there could be an opening in the short NW wall, and there certainly is one in the opposite SE wall. This element is difficult of access because of rubble and rushes in the interior.

The long hut opens out into a small paddock or enclosure on the SE. In places the external face of its enclosing rubble wall has some facing stone. A small hollow in the centre is probably a sink hole. Another larger sink hole lies to the N just outside the enclosures. Appended to this small enclosure is a larger one which is sub-rectilinear in form. It has some facing stone in places along the internal face, and an entrance on the S, close by a field enclosure wall running up from the S. On the W there appears to be a butt joint with the smaller enclosure, suggesting the latter could be earlier, and on that basis the whole complex should be medieval or later.

The complex sits on a natural shelf above the Hepste. It should be noted here that PRNs 5734 and 33590 also refer to this site, but that the claim for a recent sheepfold should be treated with caution (RS 11/08).



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Site Name: Hepste Fechan Enclosure II**PRN:** 3282**NGR:** SN96271340**Map:** SN91SE**Altitude:** 380m**Type:** Enclosure**Form:** Structure

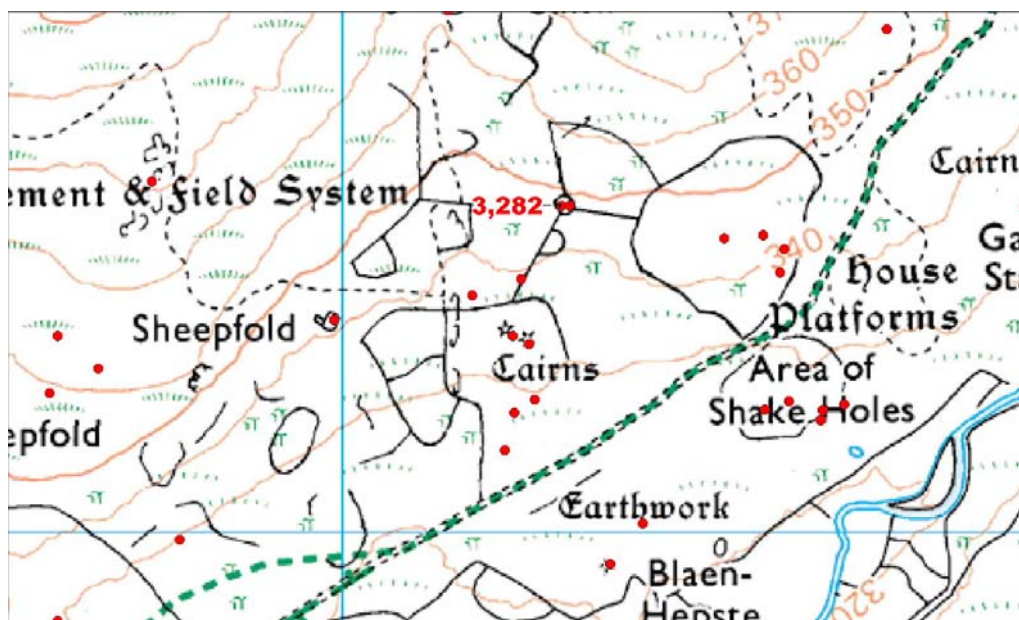
Period	Rarity	Documentation	Group Value	Survival	Fragility/ Vulnerability	Diversity	Potential
X			X	X		X	X

This was visited by CPAT in March 2007 as part of the Defended Enclosures project but was considered not to be relevant to that project. It was visited again by CPAT in October 2008, and the following description amalgamates the field descriptions made on the two visits.

This is a pastoral enclosure lying at the junction of three redundant field boundaries and represents one of the focal points of a group of field enclosures in the NW side of the Hepste valley. The stone banks approach the site from the N, S and SE. However, it does not appear to have been given an individual number code, although it lies in the US75 complex.

The enclosure is D-shaped though with all sides slightly curvilinear, and measures approximately 30m in overall diameter, or more specifically from aerial photography 28m WNW/ESE by 31m NNW/SSE. It is distinguished by a stony bank which is generally 4m or a little more wide.

The interior of the site has been levelled into the natural, S-facing, slope, creating a higher, internal slope to the bank on the N side. And it is on this side that the bank is grass-covered and then the scarp has been covered with surface stone. Other parts of the perimeter too look to have a bank beneath the surface stone. On the N, this is at least 1.0m high internally, but only 0.4m high externally, whereas on the S, the bank is 0.7m high externally and only 0.2m high internally.



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A simple entrance gap, 1.5m wide, lies towards the northern end of the W side, and here the bank beneath the stone broadens to a width of around 6m, and the stone spread too is wider than elsewhere. Immediately inside the entrance gap the interior is covered by rushes, but there are indications of features. The stone here could signal a funnel wall, or perhaps the edge of a structure/building, and there are further grass-covered stones to the south. A building is a possibility but whether curvilinear or rectilinear is not clear.

Further evidence of internal features was just visible, perhaps defining a central partition running NW/SE, although this is only really visible where it meets the SE part of the surrounding bank.

Another possible entrance lies on the S, where the absence of stone is marked, but the bank beneath does continue as a scarp so its authenticity is in question.

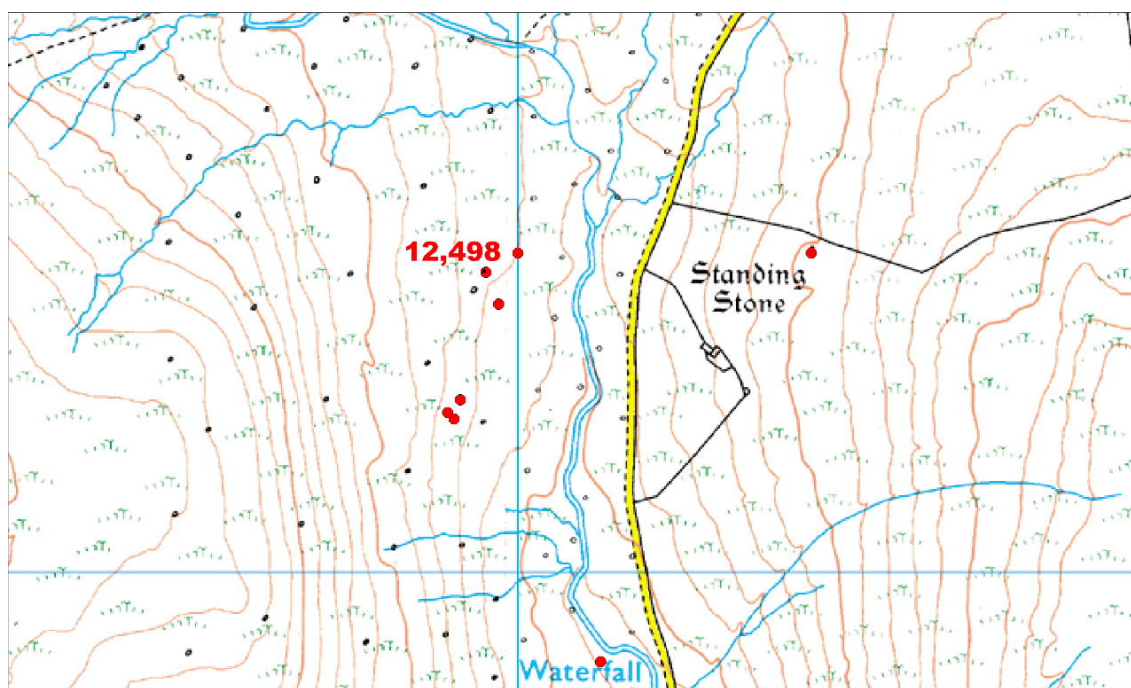
Site Name: Cerrig Duon enclosure**PRN:** 12498**NGR:** SN84952147**Map:** SN82SW**Altitude:** 425m**Type:** Enclosure**Form:** Structure

Period	Rarity	Documentation	Group Value	Survival	Fragility/ Vulnerability	Diversity	Potential
X			X	X			X

A curvilinear enclosure well-described by the RCAHMW. It is surrounded by a low rubblestone wall, broken on the SSE where the extension of a marshy area fuelled by at least one stream may have removed the bank. However the surviving bank terminals appear fairly tight and there is virtually no visible rubble lying around so it is possible that it was always incomplete on this side. There is in addition a 2m-wide gap on the east side that could have formed an entrance to the enclosure.

The interior is partially clear of stone, but as the RCAHMW indicates there are no convincing structures, although in the west sector a few embedded stones might signal a fugitive construction.

The shelf on which the enclosure lies gets a little shelter from the west, and there are good distant views to the east and north-east (RS 03/2009).



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Site Name: Mynydd y Garn enclosure IIII**PRN:** 12591**NGR:** SN96131364**Map:** SN91SE**Altitude:** 365m**Type:** Enclosed settlement**Form:** Structure

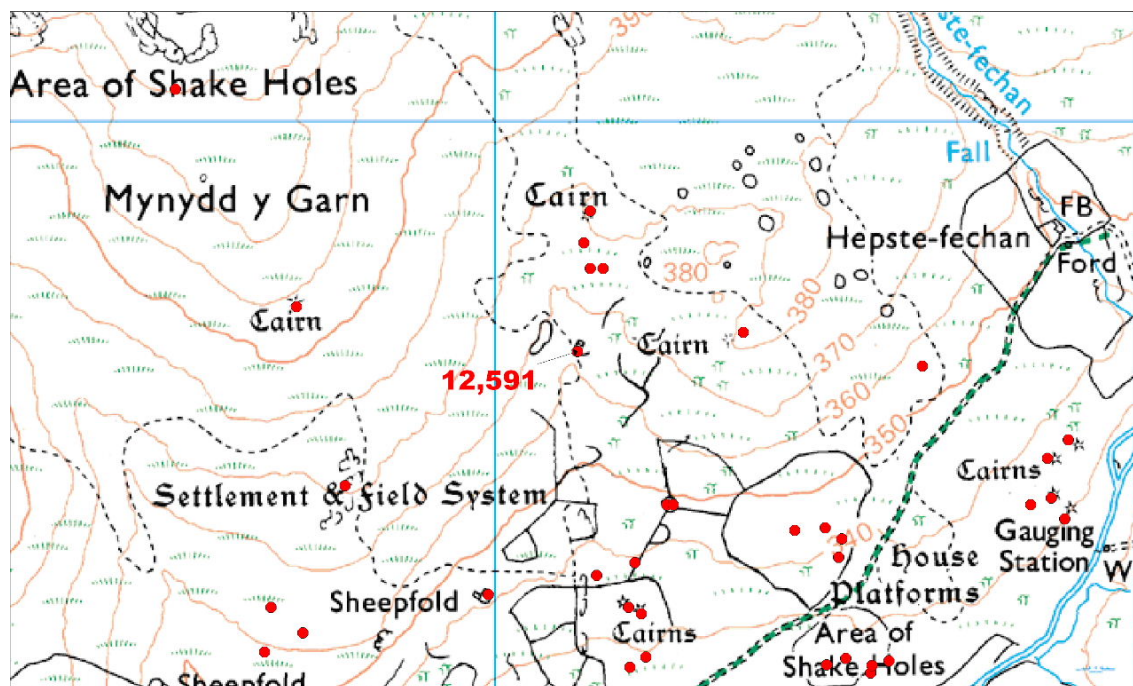
Period	Rarity	Documentation	Group Value	Survival	Fragility/ Vulnerability	Diversity	Potential
X			X	X		X	X

An irregular but broadly polygonal enclosure (= US 75iv) defined by a rubblestone wall which in a few places is several drystone courses high. On the N side virtually no stone is visible, but there is a continuation as a stony, overgrown linear bank. There are hints of a similar bank beneath the wall elsewhere.

Against the inner side on the W is an irregular, rectilinear structure; collapsed material on the E side of this feature hints at a gable end. Its entrance on the S has jambstones that seem to confirm a medieval or perhaps post-medieval origin.

The enclosure is set on level ground next to a shallow valley.

Certainly there is a medieval/post-medieval enclosure here, and there is the possibility of a prehistoric predecessor (RS 11/08).



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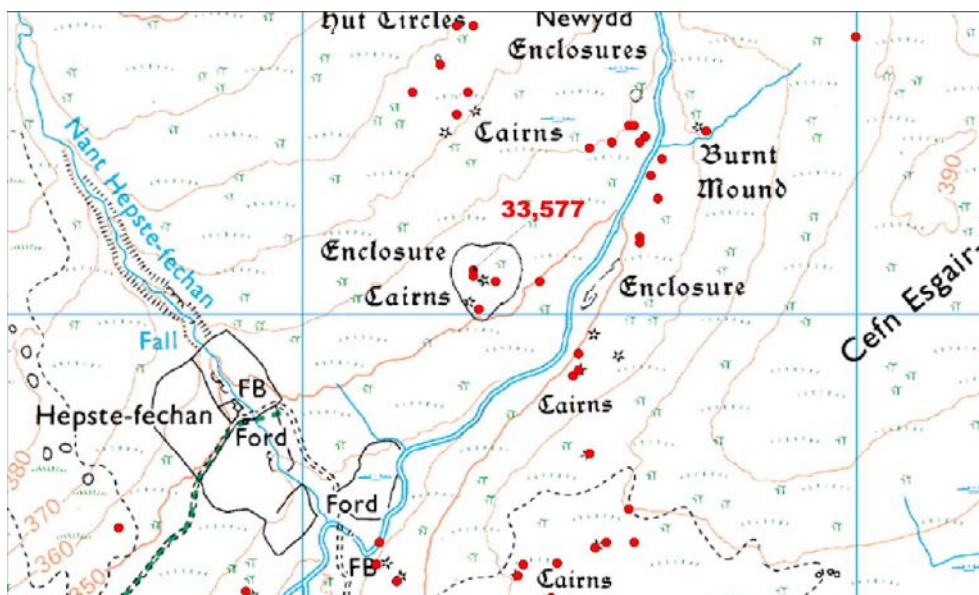
Site Name: Hespte Fechan farmstead**PRN:** 33577**NGR:** SN97311408**Map:** SN91SE**Altitude:** 350m**Type:** Farmstead**Form:** Earthwork

Period	Rarity	Documentation	Group Value	Survival	Fragility/ Vulnerability	Diversity	Potential
X			X	X	X	X	X

This large enclosure of around 1.2ha has been fully and adequately described by the RCAHMW in the following terms:

An enclosure, associated with a number of cairns, lies on the SE facing slope of Waun Tincer on the W side of the river Hepste. The enclosure, centred at 97331405, is heart-shaped and measures 135m (N-S) by 120m with a perimeter bank consisting largely of consolidated rubble, but unconsolidated on the NW. In places the bank is spread to c.4m in width. On the N and NW, the edges of shake holes lying outside the enclosure have been skirted but the bank has started to collapse into them. There are two possible entrance gaps, on the N and on the NE, both c.1.5m wide. Immediately to the E of the N entrance a later wall, some 1.5m wide and 0.8m high, has been built on top of the bank (which at this point is itself 0.3m high). After running along the bank for about 15m, the wall turns S into the interior of the enclosure, fading into a rubble bank some 1.5m wide and 0.3m high, about 35m from the entrance. The wall appears to have been constructed with material from the earlier bank. The interior contains three cairns and a possible hut circle

In places the surrounding bank is little more than 0.3m high, but on the NE side it is up to 0.5m. The site was visited during the Round Hut study in 2006 but evidently the suggestion that there was a hut circle that had subsequently been filled with dumped stone did not impress the fieldworkers at that time. In the light of other similar features further to the N but in the same complex this view might be worth reconsidering (RS 11/2008).



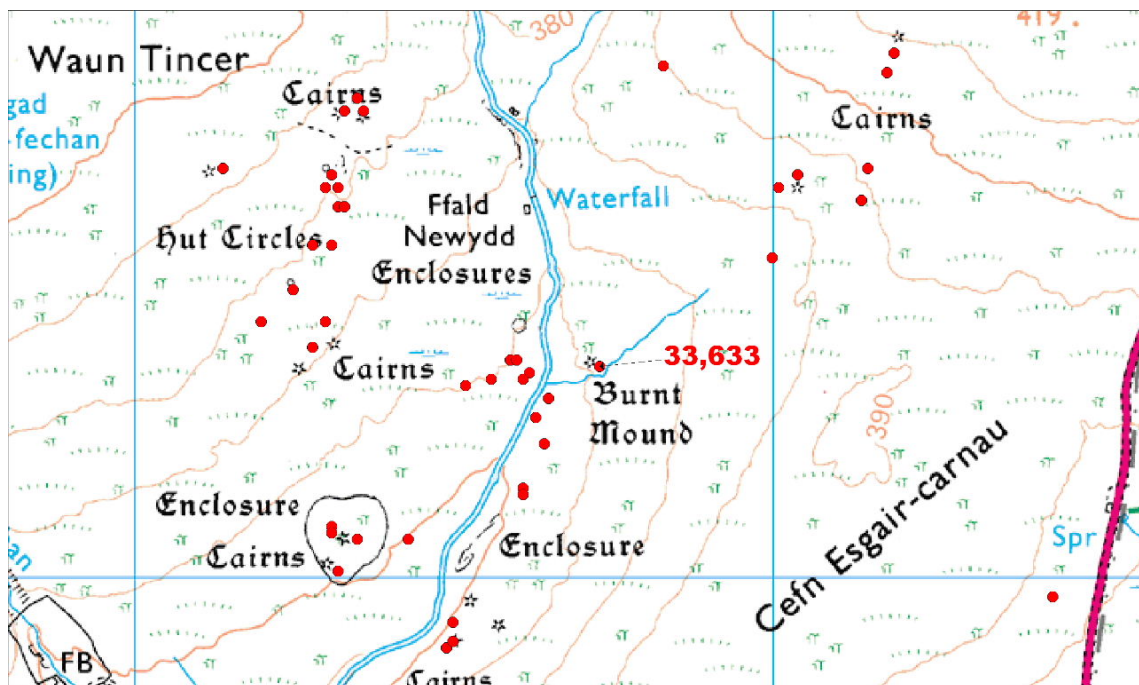
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Site Name: Cefn Esgair Carnau burnt mound**PRN:** 33633**NGR:** SN9773014330**Map:** SN91SE**Altitude:** 360m**Type:** Burnt mound**Form:** Earthwork

Period	Rarity	Documentation	Group Value	Survival	Fragility/ Vulnerability	Diversity	Potential
X	X		X	X			X

A substantial mound, hollowed out on the east, the NAR record being perfectly adequate. There is virtually no visible surface stone, but on the west in particular stone lies immediately below the surface. The nearby stream diverts around the stony material of the mound, and some erosion from the stream shows small stone fragments in the exposed face, though difficult to distinguish burnt stone from red sandstone (RS 12/2008).



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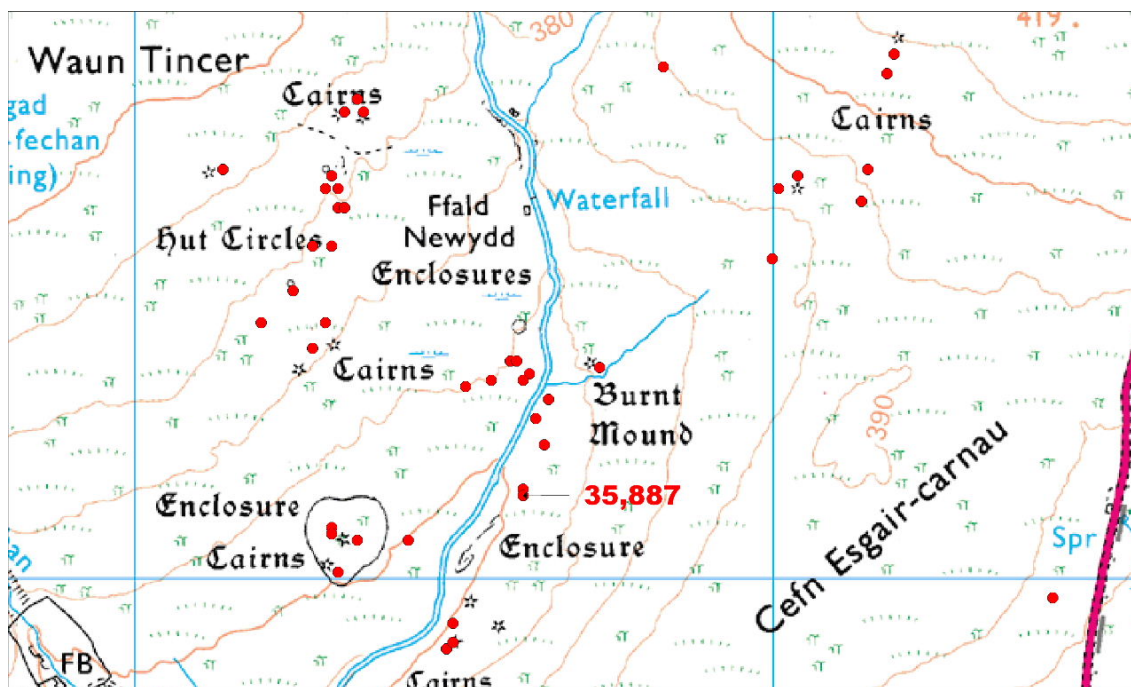
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Site Name:	Ffald Newydd Enclosure I			PRN:	35887		
NGR:	SN9761014130			Map:	SN91SE		
Altitude:	370m						
Type:	Hut			Form:	Structure		

Period	Rarity	Documentation	Group Value	Survival	Fragility/ Vulnerability	Diversity	Potential
X			X	X	X	X	X

This is US 78i in the RCAHMW Inventory. It was visited and described as part of the Round Huts study in 2006 but recorded under PRN 3516. The description is reproduced below with modifications.

A sub-circular enclosure, about 20m to 25m across, on a terrace above Hepste river, composed of a partially turf-covered stone bank without any obvious facing or coursing. The bank is up to 2m wide and 0.5m high although more generally 0.2-0.3m high. There is a small sink hole on the east-south-east into which the stony bank is beginning to collapse, and there is also a gap, 7m wide, on the east side which presumably served as an entrance to the enclosure, unless stone has been robbed for another structure in the area. Alternatively, but rather less convincingly, a timber-built hut was sited here, as there are slight traces of a platform on the interior of the projected circuit of the bank. There is a more well-defined feature on the north side, comprising a sub-circular structure, presumably a hut, and the main enclosure appears to be pendant on this (RS 12/2008).



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Site Name: Mynydd Llangynidr wall**PRN:** 5537**NGR:** SO11891611**Map:** SO11NW**Altitude:** 520m**Type:** Wall**Form:** Structure

Period	Rarity	Documentation	Group Value	Survival	Fragility/ Vulnerability	Diversity	Potential
	X			X	X	X	X

A wandering wall crossing Mynydd Llangynidr. It has been well described by the RCAHMW in the 1997 Inventory in the following terms:

(US 105; Pl. 7) A low stone bank crosses Llangynidr Common, covering a distance of about 1 km in a roughly SSE.-NNW direction crossing land lying between about 490 and 515 m OD.

The size and lithology of component boulders varies throughout its length; in general they appear to reflect the material of outcropping rock and contents of local boulder clay. In some places it resembles a wall and stands up to 0.8 m high, and may be widespread over 2.5 m of ground. A remarkable, though by no means unique aspect of this feature is its behaviour in relation to superficial geology and soil. Whereas there are considerable stretches of apparently undisturbed linear rubble, in places the wall seems to occupy low troughs, almost as if excavated into the earth. In some cases these troughs might better be defined as sink-holes. The wall leads an ambivalent course in relation to these natural features; in certain instances the linear bank disappears at the sink-hole edge whilst in others it may be traced across the collapsed ground. At a point not far from the wall's more southern terminal, its line crosses a sink-hole almost supported upon a bridge 2m below ground level.

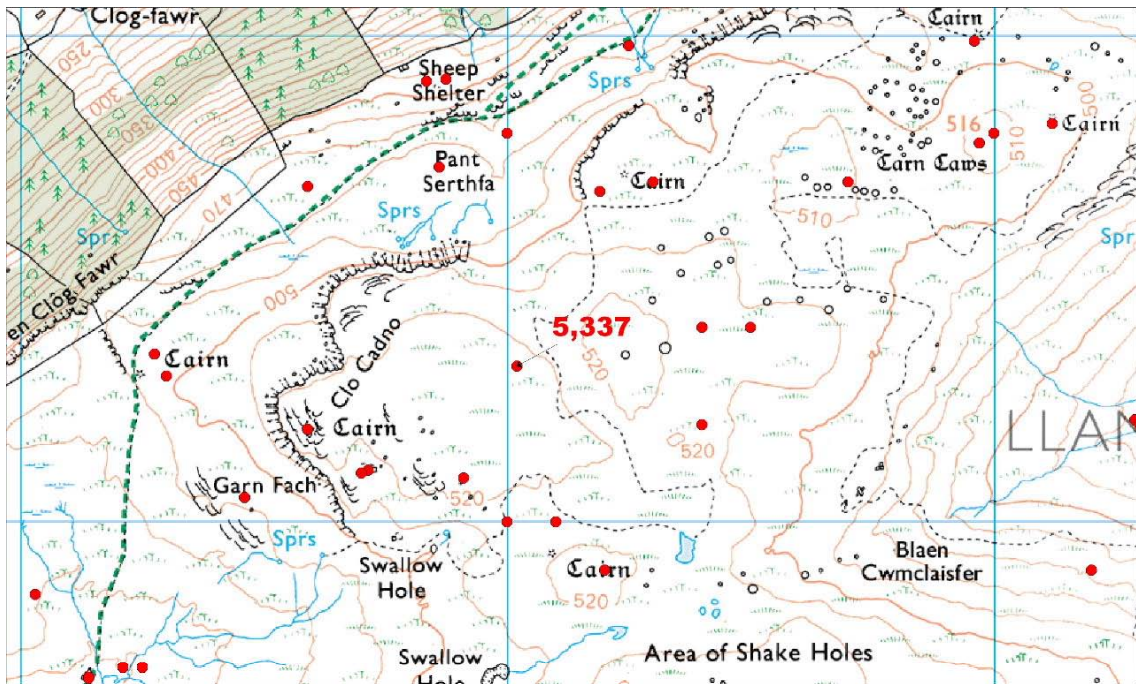
Assuming few changes in local geography, its builders appear to have no topographical preferences for its course though in two places the wall skirts escarpment edges.

At the more southerly terminal there is a staggered T-junction followed by a brief intermittent continuation of the wall's main axis. From the first main junction (the more northerly) an appendage travels at right angles almost 200 m in a NNW direction. Before it becomes indistinct, this line crosses one large sink-hole about 10m in diameter and 4m deep, into which the wall has clearly fallen.

The two shorter southern terminal adjuncts are less than 50m long. Neither appears to travel far.

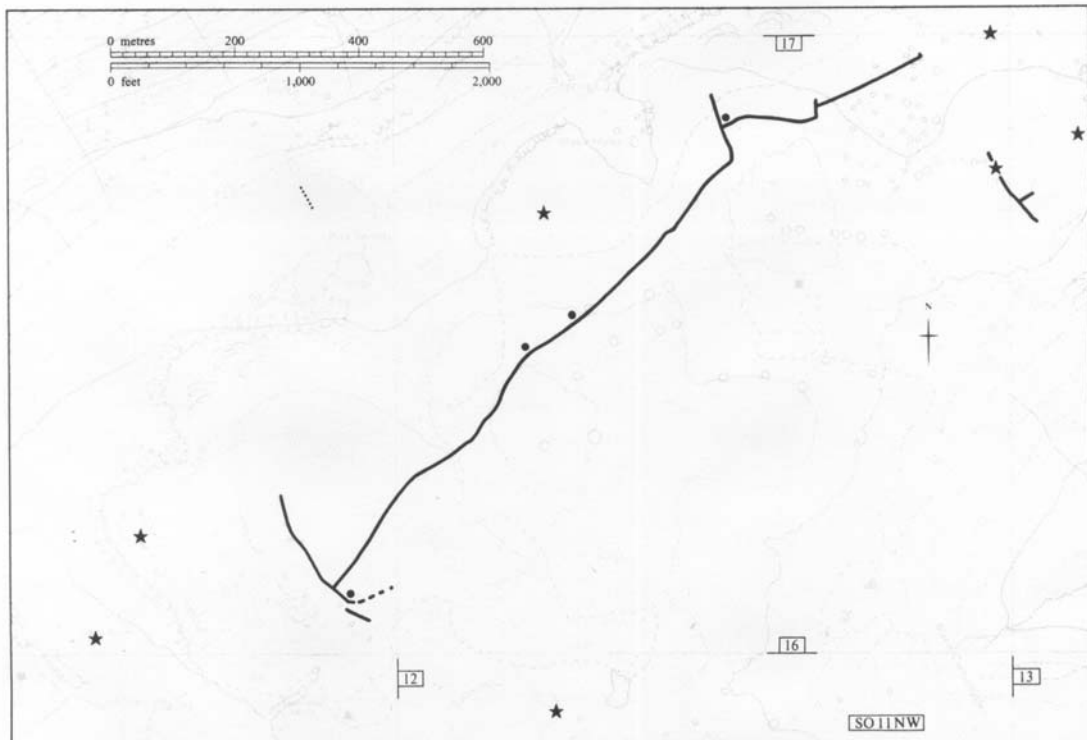
About 850m towards the NNE there is a further T-junction, the original wall line having turned N., then slightly W of N, it becomes aligned along a further axis, travelling nearly W-E and the original line peters out about 60 m to the N. of the junction. Beyond this there are three, short N-running adjuncts of no more than 25 m each, the final one of which marks the wall's ascertainable terminus.

Although no direct connection exists between them, there is fugitive evidence for a further line at right angles to the main axis which runs NNW-SSE. This would have had a gap of about 150 m between projections of the two lines. This second line, about 150 m long, runs alongside Carn Caws, with a further minor adjunct 30m long turning back to the E, roughly parallel to the major axis. The age of this bank and the processes which formed it remain enigmatic (RCAHMW).



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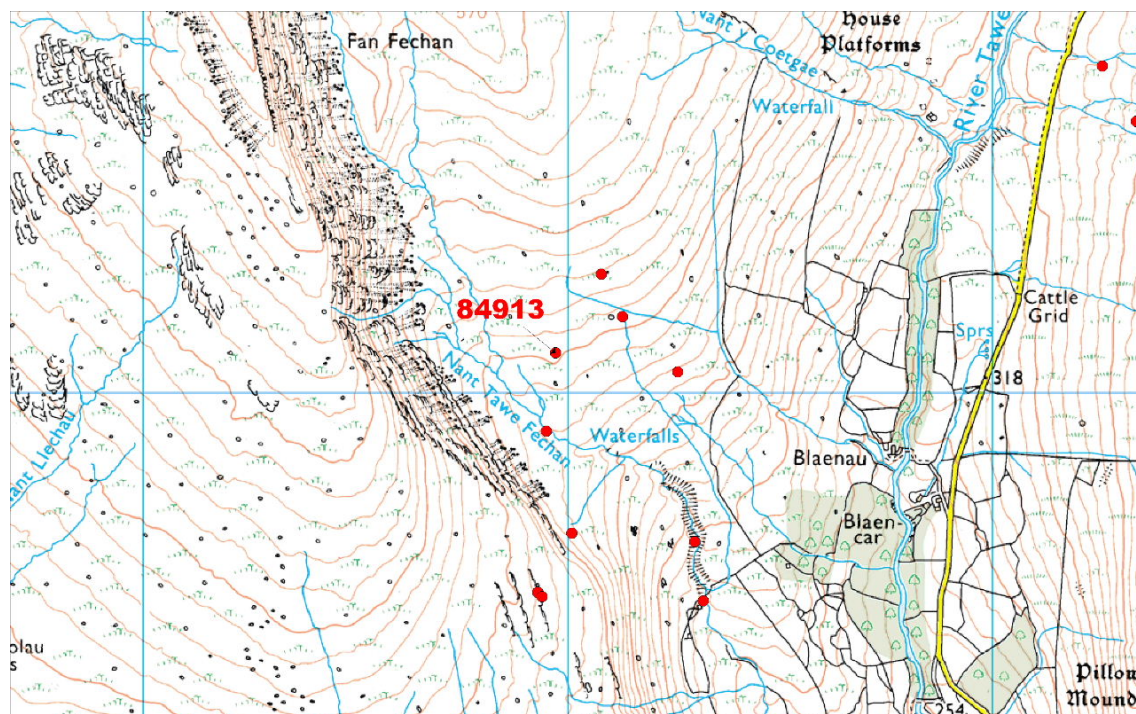


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Site Name: Nant Tawe Fechan burnt mound **PRN:** 84913**NGR:** SN8397219095 **Map:** SN81NW **Altitude:** 450m**Type:** Burnt mound **Form:** Earthwork

Period	Rarity	Documentation	Group Value	Survival	Fragility/ Vulnerability	Diversity	Potential
X	X			X		X	X

A classic horseshoe-shaped burnt mound on the west side of small stream with the open side to the east-north-east, facing the stream. It is 10.5m NNW-SSE x 9.5m overall and up to 1.5m high on the downslope, south-south-east side (NJ 09).



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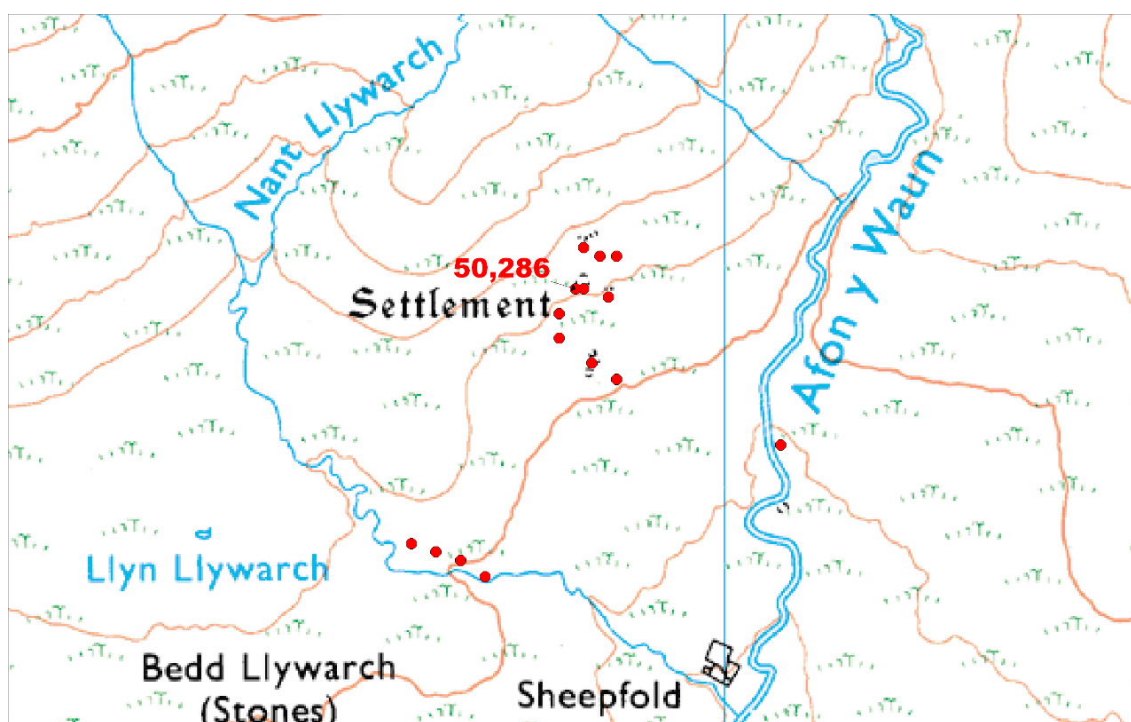
Site Name: Llyn Llywarch Enclosure I**PRN:** 50286**NGR:** SN96821656**Map:** SN91NE**Altitude:** 460m**Type:** Enclosure**Form:** Structure

Period	Rarity	Documentation	Group Value	Survival	Fragility/ Vulnerability	Diversity	Potential
X			X	X			X

This site was visited in 2006 in the course of examining adjacent hut circles. Two hut sites – PRNs 12562 and 50287 – were recommended for scheduling at that time but not the enclosure because it fell outside the remit of the project, even though it was almost certainly associated with the settlement sites.

The enclosure has not been re-visited during the current programme – it is remote – and the description provided by the RCAHMS in their *Inventory* is brief. Nevertheless, it is considered a suitable candidate for scheduling.

Roughly central to the group is an oval enclosure, internally about 11m E-W by 8m, possibly entered through the gap on the SE side (RCAHMS).



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