



UPLANDS INITIATIVE FIELD PROJECTS 2003-2004

Eastern Snowdonia (North) Survey Area North Wales

Archaeological Survey Report



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SUMMARY

An archaeological identification survey of the Eastern Snowdonia (North) area of North Wales (SH 720 730 centred) was undertaken in November 2003 and with a further phase of investigation in January and February 2004 (Fig 1). The work was undertaken by Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) on behalf of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) as part of the Uplands Initiative. The fieldwork consisted of an identification survey to identify, locate and describe archaeological and historical features within the defined survey area.

The survey area of Eastern Snowdonia (North) is located on the northern edge of the Snowdonia range within the old county of Caernarvonshire; the majority of it is within the Snowdonia National Park, on open crags forming the flanks of the Carneddau ridge and moorland plateaux overlooking Conwy Bay to the north and the mouth of the Conwy valley to the east. The study area incorporates parts of both the North Arllechwedd (Gw)12 and Lower Conwy Valley (Gw)4 Historic Landscapes within the Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales and an extensive area of Eastern Snowdonia to the south of the study area has been previously surveyed by Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd. The OA North 2003-2004 survey area comprised c30 sqkm, encompassing enclosed and improved agricultural land, as well as large open tracts of heath and grassed moorland.

There was abundant evidence of human activity across practically the entire study area during the prehistoric period; the utilisation of the moorland landscape having its origins in the upland economies and lithic procurement of the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods. On the northern limits of the study area is the Graiglwyd axe factory and ritual/ceremonial monuments abound across the study area, the most spectacular of which is the complex of stone circles and funerary cairns located on Cefn Coch and Cors y Carneddau just to the south of the axe factory. Some of these funerary monuments appear to define the line of a putative prehistoric routeway extending out from the axe factory and there is a further possible routeway extending east/west across the natural pass of Bwlch y Ddeufaen. This latter routeway was subsequently adopted by a Roman Road. Bronze Age settlement in the area is suggested by the presence of cairnfields and large numbers of burnt mounds on the boggy, gently sloping plateaux of the area.

The Iron Age was marked by the Braich y Dinas hillfort above Penmaenmawr and the much smaller Dinas hillfort on the igneous outcrop overlooking Llanfairfechan. In the Roman period the most obvious feature is the course of the Roman road that ran from Canovium fort, located on the Conwy to the east, and extended westwards towards Segontium fort at Caernarfon, using for part of its length the line of a prehistoric routeway. Settlement that has generally been ascribed to the Roman or Iron Age periods consists of enclosed hut circles that are widely distributed across the study area

Medieval settlement is well represented within the study area in the form of many farmsteads with surrounding field-systems and evidence for cultivation within the fringes of the present day enclosed lands. However, the same settlement practice continued into the post-medieval period, and there is a possibility that some of these settlements were reused

or founded in the post-medieval period. The medieval period is also represented by numerous shielings on the higher unenclosed lands.

The post-medieval period saw the continuation of the medieval settlement patterns, but also the establishment of numerous stock control enclosures across the unenclosed lands. Stone and slate extraction became the major industry within the local area during the nineteenth and early twentieth century. The largest extraction site (to the north of the study area) started life as two independent quarries at Graiglwyd and Penmaenmawr with the exploitation of the igneous rock of the Penmaen outcrop from the 1830s.

In total, 283 new sites were identified in addition to the 227 sites already known. The new sites included four burnt mounds, 17 cairns and cairnfields, 16 field boundaries and field-systems, 20 clearance cairns, six hut circles, 16 farmsteads and farmhouses, 44 longhouses and shielings, ten quarries, six trackways and 86 stock management features.

The survey has highlighted a very significant prehistoric resource and there is a need for selective excavation and dating to rationalise the chronological relationships of the landscape. There is also a need for pollen analysis to elucidate the vegetational history of the area and to define the impact of man upon it. The often extensive multi-phased field-systems and settlement on the fringes of the study area and the Dinas and Caer Bach hillforts require further intensive survey to enhance previous work.

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The field survey was undertaken by Peter Schofield, who was variously assisted by Chris Ridings, Martin Sowerby, Andy Lane and Ben Curtis. The report was written by Peter Schofield, and the illustrations were by Christina Robinson. The report was edited by Jamie Quartermaine and Alan Lupton. The project was managed by Jamie Quartermaine.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was invited to undertake an archaeological identification survey of the northern portion of the Eastern Snowdonia survey area (SH 720 730 centred) of North Wales on behalf of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) as part of the Uplands Initiative.

1.2 OBJECTIVES

- 1.2.1 The objectives of the project were:
- to promote a wider and deeper understanding of upland areas and their role in Welsh history, in accordance with the aims of the Uplands Initiative
 - to provide an accurate Level 1 survey of all identified monuments (OA North 2002a).
- 1.2.2 To achieve these objectives the study area was subject to a desk-based assessment and walk-over survey. The desk-based study, carried out in October 2003, consisted of a search of both published and unpublished records held by the National Monuments Record of Wales, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust and the library and archives at OA North's offices in Lancaster. The field work was carried out at different times of the year to fit in with access availability and weather conditions; it was undertaken initially during November 2003, with a further phase of investigation in January and February 2004.
- 1.2.3 This report sets out the results of the work, accompanied by a summary gazetteer of new sites (*Appendix I*).

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

- 2.1.1 A project design was submitted by OA North in response to a request for archaeological surveys of extensive areas of the Welsh Uplands; it was designed to meet the requirements of a brief by RCAHMW. The project design provided for an initial archaeological desk-based study, followed by a field identification survey for six survey areas: Mynydd Hiraethog, Clwydian Range, Dyffryn Tanat, North Berwyn, Ceiriog and Eastern Snowdonia. Of these surveys the two areas for Dyffryn Tanat and Eastern Snowdonia were commissioned to be carried out by OA North, and the present report relates to the Eastern Snowdonia (North) area only (Figs 1 and 2). In all respects the work has been carried out in accordance with the project design.

2.2 DESK-BASED SURVEY

- 2.2.1 **National Monuments Record (NMR):** an assessment was made of data held by the RCAHMW, Aberystwyth, which was overlain onto digital 1:10,000 mapping for the study area.
- 2.2.2 **Sites and Monuments Record (SMR):** an assessment was made of data held by the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT), which was also overlain onto the digital base map for the area.
- 2.2.3 **Aerial Photographs:** aerial photography from the NMR office was also consulted along with RCAHMW aerial photographic interpretation of the study area. Information relating to possible new sites was annotated onto the field walking maps in GIS format.
- 2.2.4 **Ordnance Survey Mapping:** first and/or second edition mapping was available for the entire survey area, and was examined for indications of historic sites not previously represented in the NMR and SMR databases.
- 2.2.5 **World Wide Web:** historic landscape characterisation, parish records, census data and transcripts of some public records were obtained from archives and local histories on the internet. More modern data on the parish was also gleaned, which provided information about recent developments in the area.

2.3 IDENTIFICATION SURVEY

- 2.3.1 An identification survey to Level 1 (OA North 2002a) was undertaken across the Eastern Snowdonia (North) study area. The identification survey represents the minimum standard of record for field investigation, and is aimed at the discovery of previously unrecorded sites. Its objective is to record the existence, location, and extent of any archaeological site. The emphasis of the record lies on the written

description, which, in this instance, includes comments on character and condition, and sites have been graded in terms of condition and archaeological significance. Sites already identified within the study area by the NMR and SMR were checked and recorded at the same level of consistency as the newly discovered sites. The whole survey area, including both the major unenclosed commons and surrounding improved and enclosed fringes, was examined. The survey aimed to identify, locate and record archaeological sites and features on the ground and involved four elements: reconnaissance, mapping, description and photography. This generated core information for entry into the NMR and additional archive information, in accordance with the RCAHMW Data Standard for Upland Survey (RCAHMW, 2003).

- 2.3.2 Each area was walked in transects of between 20m and 50m, depending on local topography and ground cover. The archaeological detail was mapped using Leica differential GPS equipment, which used post-processed corrections from a base station to achieve an accuracy of $\pm 0.25\text{m}$. The digital survey data was transferred, via DXF file format, into a CAD system (AutoCAD14), and was then superimposed onto the digital base map (Fig 3). The descriptive records were input on-site into a database on a Psion portable palm computer; the more complex sites were also sketched onto paper *pro-forma* sheets. A photographic record of the sites was maintained in 35mm black and white print format, colour slides, and also using digital colour photography; the digital photographs were used to accompany the present report.

2.4 GAZETTEER OF SITES

- 2.4.1 All of the information concerning archaeological sites within the assessed area was collated into a gazetteer (*Appendix 1*), which provides brief details of their location, period, character and altitude. Locations are given as eight-figure National Grid References where possible, and the position of each site is indicated on Figure 3.

2.5 ARCHIVE

- 2.5.1 A full archive has been produced to a professional standard in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (1991) and the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. The archive is provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format, both as a printed document and digitally. A synopsis, including the index to the archive and a copy of the report, will be placed in the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW at Aberystwyth and the Gwynedd Sites and Monuments Record, GAT, Bangor.

3. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1.1 The survey area of Eastern Snowdonia (North) (SH 720 730 centred) is located on the northern edge of the Snowdonia range within the old county of Caernarvonshire and the majority of it lies within the Snowdonia National Park, on open crags forming the flanks of the Carneddau ridge and moorland plateaux overlooking Conwy Bay to the north and the mouth of the Conwy valley to the east (Fig 1). The area extends from the steeply-peaked ridgeline of the Carneddau ridge from Foel Fras to Foel Dduarth in the south-west, to the coastal communities of Llanfairfechan and Penmaenmawr to the north. To the east it is bounded by the wide mouth of the Conwy valley and settlements at Henryd and Rowen and to the south the continuation of the Snowdonia range. The study area has gently sloping moorland plateaux at the foot of the Carneddau ridge; these are interspersed with a group of hills running south-west to north-east between Foel Lwyd and Cefn Maen Amor, and the northern coastal hills from Foel Lus down to Clip yr Orsedd and Penmaenmawr. The plateaux are drained towards the coast at Llanfairfechan on the north-west by Afon Ddu, to the north-east towards Capelulo by Afon Gyrach; the Afon Tafolog drains central and southern parts of the study area into the Conwy Valley towards Rowen in the south-east.
- 3.1.2 The majority of the study area lies between the 300m and 450m OD and is broadly characterised as partially enclosed and open grassed moorland running on plateaux at Waun Llanfair, Cerrig Gwynion and around Ffridd Arw. On the west side of the study area the Carneddau ridge rises along summits from Foel Dduarth to Foel Llwyd with the highest point of the study area being in the south-west at Drum where it is 770m OD. The study area is divided by a line of hills running south-west to north-east from Foel Lwyd, over Tal y Fan to Cefn Maen Amor, with the Bwlch y Ddeufaen pass providing a natural route between the two portions of the study area; the moorland to the south of this line has been subjected to enclosure in the 1850's. The study area overlooks the narrow lowland coastal strip to the north with hills rising up from Penmaenmawr at Graiglwyd, Craig Hafodwen and Foel Lus. The enclosed and improved farmlands are concentrated on the edges of the study area; they are located around the south-east side of Llanfairfechan in the north-west, and also along the upper improved limits of the Conwy valley along the eastern edge of the study area. The landscape of the study area forms part of both the North Arllechwedd and Lower Conwy Valley Historic Landscapes, designated numbers (Gw)12 and (Gw)4 respectively within the Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales.

3.2 GEOLOGY

- 3.2.1 The solid geology of the study area consists mainly of Ordovician slates, shales and tuffs with intrusions of igneous microdiorite rock to the north and north-east around Clip yr Orsedd, Dinas, Garreg Fawr. The soils are predominantly peats overlying Cambic stagnohumic gleys, which are waterlogged reduced mineral soils (Neville George and Smith 1961; Soil Survey 1983)

3.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.3.1 **Prehistoric:** there was abundant evidence of human activity across practically the entire study area during the prehistoric period; the utilisation of the moorland landscape having its origins in the upland economies and lithic procurement of the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods.
- 3.3.2 **Neolithic:** the period is dominated by the close proximity of the study area to the Graiglwyd axe factory on its northern limits, and the igneous intrusion forming the source of lithic exploitation has outliers running into the study area around Clip yr Orsedd in the north, and to the west at Dinas and Garreg Fawr above Llanfairfechan (RCAHMW 1956, xli-lvii). Axe flaking debitage and axe rough-outs were widely scattered in the parishes of Llanfairfechan and Dwygyfylchi (Williams *et al* 1998, 5). The source of stone at Dinas was utilised and rough-outs, broken polished axes, waste flakes and hammer stones were found on the moorland to the east of it near Afon Maes-y-bryn (Davies 1961, 1); in addition, there are also findspots of axe hammers and hand axes to the west on the Garreg Fawr intrusion (NMR 275443 and 275445). Distinctive non-lithic remains of the period are limited to the Maen-y-Bardd chambered tomb (NMR 348) which survives within later field-systems in the south-east of the study area.
- 3.3.3 **Bronze Age:** ritual/ceremonial monuments are abundant within the study area, and the most spectacular of which is the complex of stone circles and funerary cairns located on Cefn Coch and Cors y Carneddau just to the south of the axe factory. The complex has its origins in the late Neolithic and possibly controlled access and distribution from the axe factory along prehistoric pathways leading away to the lowlands (Burl 2000, 189). The complex consists of five stone circles (NMR, 93512, 93513, 300889, 300946 and 303031) within a distance of 750m from each other and includes the famous embanked stones of the Druid's Circle (NMR 300889, Plate 2). When this was excavated in 1957, a cist and two pits were revealed, each of which contained a cremation within inverted enlarged food vessels (Burl 2000, 192). In addition to the stone circles single funerary round cairns were identified (NMR 303029, 303049), together with a cairn cemetery on the west end of the complex at Cors y Carneddau (NMR 303030, Plate 3) containing three kerbed cairns and a substantial outlier measuring 16m in diameter by 2.6m high (NMR 56439). The prehistoric routeway running east to west from the axe factory is probably marked further to the east by the stone circle, burial mound and standing stone at Maen Crwn (NMR 303072, 303073, Plate 4).

- 3.3.4 The theme of stone circles, funerary cairns and standing stones marking out putative prehistoric routeways across the uplands is also shown along the natural mountain pass of Bwlch y Ddeufaen. Here the prehistoric route runs east to west from the lowlands around Rowen (GAT nd, *Communications*, 1) and over the raised mountain pass. The route is marked by the Cerrig Pryfaid stone circle (NMR 93572), the Bwylch y Ddeufaen standing stones (NMR 303022, Plate 8), and both Maen y Bardd and Picell Arthur standing stones (NMR 303083, 302555); further to the west the route is marked by incised stones near Ffridd Newydd (NMR 302981, 302982), along with numerous single funerary cairns (including NMR 303020, 303021, 303006, 303007, 302960, 302985).
- 3.3.5 There are no readily identifiable Bronze Age settlements within the study area but funerary monuments are well represented throughout. The majority of upland funerary monuments consist of funerary round cairns in prominent topographical settings upon exposed crags, and on the edges of plateaux, ridgelines and the saddles between hills. A large proportion of these monuments are well preserved with only the capping stone of the cist having been removed or disturbed. The distribution of cairns is fairly even throughout the study area with isolated summit cairns on the Carneddau ridge in the south-west (NMR 303004, 303005), summit cairns are also evident to the north on Foel Lus and Moelfre (NMR 275442 and 303029) and on the edge of the moorland plateau overlooking the sea at Maes y Bryn (NMR 303032).
- 3.3.6 There are several locations within the study area where funerary cairns form distinct cemetery groupings, including the Cors y Carneddau cemetery that has already been discussed (*Section 3.3.2*). In the south-west of the study area around Carnedd y Saeson are a group of seven kerbed cairns with cists within 130m of each other (NMR 275425, RCAHMW 1956, Aber 67). Likewise, there is a concentration of three cairns in the north-east of the study area located on the ridgeline at Cefn Llechwedd which overlooks both Graiglwyd, the Great Orme and the Conwy valley (NMR 349). This latter cemetery consists of a ring cairn, a kerbed cairn and a cairn containing a cist. Along the ridgeline to the north-east of this group is an unenclosed cist burial (NMR 303095) and the Hafoty stone circle (NMR 303098). The most extensive cairnfield (NMR 300928) is located around Bryniau Bugeilydd on the shallow ridgeline to the south of the stone circle complex at Graiglwyd and to the east of the boggy plateau draining into the Afon Maes-y-bryn. The cairnfield contains at least four funerary cairns, but as many as twenty other possible clearance cairns within an area of around 1000 yards by 500 yards and is an indicator that the land was subject to agricultural exploitation.
- 3.3.7 The potential for settlement in the area is enhanced by the fact that there are numerous large burnt mounds located to the west of the Bryniau Bugeilydd cairnfield (NMR 303098 - including NMR 303027 and 303028). Elsewhere the majority of the boggy, gently sloping plateaux within the study area often contain substantial burnt mounds located on or nearby the streams draining down to the lowlands. These sites include examples in the north-west on Afon Maes-y-bryn (NMR 303027, 303028, Plate 9), Afon Glan Sais (NMR 302983, 302984) and a

tributary of Afon Ddu (NMR 303023), in the west on a tributary of Nant y Felinfach (NMR 302956, 302957, 275428) and in the south-east on a tributary of Afon Roe (NMR 303047).

- 3.3.8 **Iron Age:** there is limited but substantial evidence for Iron Age activity within the study area. The general areas overlooking the sea to the north and down the Conwy valley to the east are littered with hillforts and defended hilltop enclosures. The most impressive of these was the Braich y Dinas hillfort above Penmaenmawr (just to the north of the study area) occupying the western ridge of the Penmaen outcrop, which has subsequently been quarried away in modern times. The site had contained between 100 and 170 hut circles and excavations in the early twentieth century uncovered much occupation evidence although this was mainly from the Roman period (Williams and Davidson 2002, 4). Within the study area itself, in the north-west, is the much smaller Dinas hillfort on the igneous outcrop overlooking Llanfairfechan (NMR 95310). It is a walled and terraced enclosure of only 40m diameter with approximately 13 hut circles inside. Small areas of the site were partially excavated in the 1920's although this did not reveal much occupation evidence (*ibid*). Immediately adjacent to the hillfort, in the east and north-east, are two small groupings of additional hut circles with cultivation terracing of potentially the same date (NMR 303010, 275432). In the east of the study area, overlooking the Conwy valley, is the small hillfort of Caer Bach (NMR 94907), it was defended by an earth bank with an external ditch that was c80m in diameter and had a heavily robbed stone wall inside. The fort has a denuded entrance on the south-east and there is evidence of only one hut circle internally.
- 3.3.9 **Roman:** activity for the period in the area is well represented although it is difficult to identify any changes to the rural settlement patterns from the preceding period. It has been suggested that the Romans were not interested in exploiting the mineral resources within the immediate area (Williams and Davidson 2002, 4), and were more concerned with extending communications over the top of the upland area. To this end the most obvious feature for this period is the extant course of the Roman road that ran from Canovium fort, located on the Conwy to the east, and extended westwards towards Segontium fort at Caernarfon. The road utilised the course of the putative prehistoric routeway over the pass of Bwylch y Ddeufaen (Plate 11), and within the general vicinity (not in the study area) three milestones have been discovered, two of them recording 'five miles' and 'eight miles' to Canovium respectively (GAT nd, *Communications*, 1).
- 3.3.10 Settlement that has generally been ascribed to the Roman period consists of enclosed hut circles that are widely distributed in many areas within the study area and the vast majority fall within the fringes of the study area in a band of land ranging in height from 200m-400m OD. There are also some unenclosed hut circles, which do not have a diagnostic chronology and could potentially date from the Late Bronze Age through to the Roman period. Many of the sites have been re-used in later periods, especially as foundations to build later multi-cellular sheepfolds or have been overlain by later settlement. The most spectacular survival is that of the hut circle enclosures, with probable contemporary terraced and walled

field systems, that were located in the south-eastern part of the study area at Maen y Bardd. Here the band of settlement runs along a gentle sloped natural bench in the highest intake of partially improved fields from the south of Caer Bach hillfort all the way down to the south of Tyddyn-ddu farmstead, and clusters around the course of the Roman road. The field-system incorporates at least six settlements and enclosures within the surviving landscape (NMR 303065-68, 303080 and 303087, RCAHMW 1956, Caerhun 117-137), although not all may be contemporary as, for example, one enclosure seems to respect the Roman road (NMR 303080), whilst another seems to have field walls cut by the road (NMR 303067) (RCAHMW 1956, Caerhun 122 and 120). Additional settlement, adjacent to the Roman road but higher up the mountain pass, is sparse although two hut circles survive just to the south of Cerrig Pryfaid stone circle (NMR 303048), and further to the west is a fragmentary linear hut circle settlement located on the slope of Foel Lwyd just above the boggy plateau drained by the Afon Ddu (NMR 275431, 303025, 303026). On the north-west and western sides of the study area, enclosed hut circle settlements and field-systems survive in a band running around the outcrop of Garreg Fawr, and overlooking the coast above Llanfairfechan and the valley below Foel Dduarth containing the Afon Anafon. The settlements run from Camarnaint farmstead in the north, around as far as Foel Dduarth in the south, and settlement of this type seems to run further downslope out of the study area although with less extensive field-systems than on the east of the study area. The most impressive site is the well preserved hut group near Camarnaint (NMR 95686, RCAHMW 1956, Llanfairfechan 396) which consists of a group of what appear to be seven enclosed hut circles and an associated field system. The enclosed settlements around Garreg Fawr and Foel Dduarth are likewise found within terraced field-systems and have been built upon by multi-cellular sheepfolds (NMR 15114, 93743, 302990, 308677, 308679, RCAHMW 1956, Aber 31-38).

- 3.3.11 **Early Medieval - Medieval:** the record of medieval settlement is well represented within the study area although only one site is described as being early medieval within the NMR/SMR. This is the enclosed multi-phased hut settlement near Fairy Glen, which is sat, in a sheltered dip in the ridgeline on Cefn Llechen in the north-west of the study area, and consists of both round and rectangular huts with some being partially overlain by later phases of development.
- 3.3.12 Evidence for cultivation and settlement from the medieval and possibly early medieval periods is found at the edges of the study area in the form of farmsteads with surrounding field-systems within the fringes of the present day enclosed lands surrounding the bulk of the study area; these are in much the same places as the more extensive Iron-Age/Romano-British settlements, and probably reflects the re-use of favoured places. Field-systems with extensive terracing, field walls and longhouses are recorded in the west of the study area around Foel Dduarth (NMR 275456, 308694), and on the slopes of Dinas (NMR 275489, 275492). To the east of the study area the Maen y Bardd prehistoric landscape is overlain by longhouse settlements, a walled field system (NMR 24300) and multiple longhouse settlements (NMR 15149, 15165, 15167, 15168, 309192).

- 3.3.13 Throughout the central upland core of the study area are more isolated single and grouped examples of often well preserved longhouses (some with cultivation). These occupy the better drained slopes and sheltered edges of tributary streams, and are within reach of mountain paths and trackways. This distribution suggests a more seasonal exploitation of the more remote areas of the upland, predominantly for sheep grazing. For example, the rectilinear houses (probably shielings) are well spread out on the tributary streams on the slope above the Afon Tafolog in the south-east of the study area (e.g., NMR 275478-80), indeed there are settlements of this type following the Roman road right over the pass of Bwylch y Ddeufaen.
- 3.3.14 **Post-Medieval:** the largest proportion of pre-survey sites are from the post-medieval period and the remains are dominated by upland agricultural stock management and extractive industrial activity. The post-medieval period saw a crystallisation of the ownership of the upland landscape with gentrified estates increasing their landholdings. By the nineteenth century much of the land around the study area was owned by several prominent families, including the Lords Newborough of Glynllifon, the Assheton-Smiths of Faenol, the Williams-Wynns of Wynnstay and the Bulkeleys of Beaumaris (GAT nd, *Area 2008: Enclosed Uplands*, 2). The unenclosed common lands of the majority of the west, north and east of the study area is currently part of the Crown Estate lands, and it is characterised as having being subject to encroachment and piecemeal enclosure along its edges throughout this period (Withers 1995, 35). The local estate owners actively encroached and enclosed parts of mountain pasture which has led to an abundance of *ffridd* placenames within the locality (Hooke 1997, 89). The south-east of the survey area (to the south of Tal-y-fan) in turn was subject to parliamentary enclosure in 1856 which led to a period of widespread protest with the local farmers destroying boundary walls (GAT nd, *Agriculture*, 1). The unimproved upland elements of the study area were subject to a proliferation of stock management features (including large communal multi-cellular sheepfolds) that cover much of the land within the study area and in places mask the foundations of occupation from previous periods. There is evidence that much of the boggy plateaux in the unenclosed commons were subjected to peat cutting for fuel; sites such as the well-preserved peat house on Tal-y-Fan (NMR 24396, Plate 1) and the possible peat stack below Penygadair (NMR 303064) bear witness to this practice.
- 3.3.15 Stone and slate extraction became the major industry within the local area during the nineteenth and early twentieth century. The largest extraction site (to the north of the study area) started life as two independent quarries at Graiglwyd and Penmaenmawr with the exploitation of the igneous rock of the Penmaen outcrop from the 1830s, initially for setts and then for aggregate production (Williams and Davidson 2002, 5). There is evidence of more modest exploitation within the study area itself, with relatively small localised quarries that were exploited mainly for local wall building, and these were for the most part located around the slopes of the hills of Foel-Lwyd and Tal y Fan. The exception to this pattern was the slate quarry on the northern slope of Tal y Fan (NMR 275506, Plate 6), which was

exploited intermittently from at least 1553 until 1913 and was famous for its distinctive brown-green rustic slates which were extensively used by the local Arts-and-Crafts architect Herbert Luck North (GAT nd, *Area 2008: Enclosed Uplands*, 2).

- 3.3.16 The opening up of the coastal route to the north of the study area, which eventually became the post road improved by Thomas Telford in the 1820s, and then the Chester to Holyhead branch railway in 1848, led in part to the rapid development of nucleated settlements at Penmaenmawr and Llanfairfechan as holiday resorts and industrial centres. The local workforce from Penmaenmawr would have for the most part been engaged on the Penmaen stone quarries (GAT nd, *Communications*, 2), although a dual economy of farmer/quarrymen was practised within the farms of the area in the nineteenth century (GAT nd, *Settlement*, 2).

4. RESULTS OF THE DESK-BASED STUDY

4.1 DESK-BASED STUDY SUMMARY

- 4.1.1 ***Cartographic Evidence:*** examination of the historic maps, and the Ordnance Survey first and subsequent editions of 6" to 1 mile map provide an insight into the development of the enclosed lands. The study area has an elevated and exposed character by comparison with the surrounding topography of the coastal strip and valley sides and, consequently, has seen limited intensive agricultural exploitation on the fringes within its documented history. Cultivation in the form of intake of marginal lands is found predominantly on the moderately sloping upper edges of the valley sides around Llanfairfechan in the north-west, and above Henryd and Rowen in the east. The landscape pattern in these areas is of dispersed sometimes ruinous farmsteads on the lower land around Maen y Bardd, Rhiw and Hafoty Gwyn in the south-east of the area, Ty'n-y-ffridd in the east and Tyddyn-y-waen, Camarnaint, Blaen-llwyn and Blaneau in the north-west. The land on the fringes of the enclosed cultivated land has at various times been subject to piecemeal *ffridd*-type enclosure, the most extensive of which is above the 'mountain wall' above Llanfairfechan where the uplands slope down on the plateaux drained by Afon Ddu and Afon Glan-Sais. Small *ffridd* enclosures with farmsteads survive upon the uplands in the north and west of the area around Ffridd-y-foel, Ty'n-y-ffridd, Waen Gyrach, Tyddyn-grasod and Llwyn-penddu. Large-scale walling resulting from parliamentary enclosure of unimproved moorland common has taken place in the south and south-east parts of the study area to the south of a line between the Carneddau ridge at Blaen y Ddalfa and over to the outcrops of Foel Lwyd and Tal y Fan; the land contained has not been intensively improved, and has had only low intensity pastoral land use in recent times. Sheepfolds and stock management features have survived extensively within the upper reaches of the improved intakes and throughout the unimproved commons of the study area, and large multi-cellular sheepfolds are found dispersed throughout the area for communal stock management.
- 4.1.2 The majority of other sites first seen on the earlier OS, first edition mapping (1890-1) consist of extractive quarries, which have had a localised impact on the landscape, especially around the hills of Foel Llwyd and Tal y Fan. Of particular note are the houses (NMR 275441) located just downslope and to the north of Tal y Fan quarry (NMR 275506), which along with the now un-named farmstead of Llwyn-penddu may have served as housing for both mining and upland pastoral exploitation. The management of water from the upland lakes of Snowdonia at the turn of the twentieth century, to supply the surrounding lowland communities and industry, is well represented to the south of the present study area (Scott Jones 2003, 13). Within the study area itself are two areas of smaller exploitation: the Afon Gyrach above Penmaenmawr and the Afon Glan-Sais above Llanfairfechan which have been harnessed by small reservoirs. The former is still in use and was

built after the first edition mapping was produced (1890-1), the latter, now disused (NMR 275579) was constructed by the Llanfair-fechan Water Works Co by the time the first edition mapping was produced.

- 4.1.3 The rich prehistoric funerary, ceremonial and settlement remains that are evident within the study area today have been intermittently recorded from the time of the OS first edition mapping. The more obvious sites such as the hillforts of Dinas and Caer Bach are recorded, along with the partial recording of the ceremonial/funerary complex on Cors y Carneddau and Cefn Coch. The summit cairns on the Carneddau ridge and the summit cairn on Moelfre are likewise recorded along with several of the cairns adjacent to the route running through Bwylch y Ddeufaen, and the cairn cemetery at Carnedd y Saeson. The pass of Bwylch y Ddeufaen with the Roman road running through it is recorded, although the standing stones, which give it its name, are not recorded. This is unusual as standing stones within the study area as a whole are well represented on the first edition mapping. Examples of standing stones are recorded at Maen Crwn, Maen Penddu and Maen Hir. The standing stone of Maen Hir is marked as being on a 'medieval boundary' which runs upslope from the lowlands and takes in the large erratic stone at Maen Amor, and runs south along Cefn Maen Amor incorporating several smaller boundary stones and possibly Maen Penddu standing stone.
- 4.1.4 ***Gwynedd Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), National Monuments Record of Wales (NMR)***: in total, 227 unduplicated sites were identified between the SMR and NMR, 45 Prehistoric, one Neolithic, 44 Bronze Age, ten Iron Age, 18 Roman, two Early Medieval, 67 Medieval, 30 Post-Medieval and ten of unknown date (Table 1, Fig 3). Digital air photo mapping was supplied by the RCAHMW under the auspices of the Uplands Initiative, and any information relating to potential archaeological sites was transcribed onto the field walking maplets.

5. SURVEY RESULTS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1.1 The study area incorporated approximately 30 sqkm of enclosed and unenclosed land and the survey examined both known and previously unknown sites which ranged in date from the prehistoric to the post-medieval periods. Some of these were individual monuments, such as a single cairn or sheepfold, but many were part of larger groups, particularly cairnfields and field-systems, which have been combined into a single record because of obvious relationships between them. All the sites identified by the documentary study were examined, their locations and extent were updated where required on the mapping and the site descriptions were enhanced. Both new and old sites are indicated on Figure 3.
- 5.1.2 **Previously Recorded Sites:** the desk-based study identified 227 pre-survey sites, which comprised 141 NMR sites, of which 74 were updated with additional information, and 86 unduplicated SMR sites that were also updated and given NMR numbers. The greater majority of the known sites were confirmed by the identification survey but a small number, despite extensive searching, could not be located.
- 5.1.3 **New Sites:** in total, 283 new sites were identified and are summarised according to their broad date below in Table 1 showing substantial numerical increases in the sites within the study area.

Period	Pre-Survey Number	Post-Survey Number	Numerical Increase
Prehistoric	45	57	12
Neolithic	1	1	0
Bronze Age	44	48	4
Iron Age	10	10	0
Roman	18	25	7
Early Medieval	2	2	0
Medieval	67	150	83
Post-Medieval	30	173	143
Unknown	10	44	34
Total	227	510	283

Table 1: Pre- and Post- Survey Site Numbers

5.1.4 **Altitude range of sites:** the overall site density was 17 sites per sqkm, which was spread according to altitude as shown in Table 2. The greatest density of sites occurred within the 300-324m OD range.

Height Range	Existing Sites	New Sites	Total
175-199m	0	2	2
200-224m	3	7	10
225-249m	10	7	17
250-274m	20	15	35
275-299m	14	22	36
300-324m	42	59	101
325-349m	11	20	31
350-374m	28	37	65
375-399m	20	26	46
400-424m	64	34	98
425-449m	9	15	24
450-474m	2	16	18
475-499m	1	12	13
500-524m	0	5	5
525-549m	0	1	1
550-574m	0	3	3
575-599m	0	0	0
600-624m	0	1	1
625-649m	0	0	0
650-674m	0	0	0
675-699m	1	0	1
700-724m	1	0	1
725-749m	0	0	0
750-774m	1	1	2
Total	227	283	510

Table 2: Pre- and Post- survey site numbers with respect to altitude

5.1.5 **Range of site types:** the sites identified from the present survey, and previously identified within the record fall into 40 general types, which are defined as shown in Table 3.

Type	Existing Sites	New Sites	Total
Barn	1	3	4
Boundary Bank/Wall	0	6	6
Boundary Stone, Marker Cairn	2	3	5
Boulder, Mound, Natural Feature	2	1	3
Bridge	1	0	1
Burnt Mound	9	4	13
Cairn, Cairnfield, Cist, Ring Cairn, Round Barrow	44	17	61
Chambered Tomb	2	0	2
Chapel	1	0	1
Clearance Cairn(s)	0	20	20
Country House Garden	2	0	2
Cultivation Terrace, Terrace	2	3	5
Dam	0	1	1
Deserted Rural Settlement, Settlement	11	0	11
Earthwork, Feature	0	3	3
Enclosed Settlement, Enclosure	18	4	22
Enclosure Bank/Wall, Wall	0	9	9
Farmhouse, Farm Building, Dwelling, Farmstead	2	16	18
Field, Field Boundary, Field System	8	16	24
Findspot	5	0	5
Hafod, Homestead, Longhouse	38	44	82
Hillfort	1	0	1
Hollow Way	0	1	1
House, Hut	4	2	6
House Platform, Platform, Platform House	11	9	20
Hut Circle, Hut Settlement, Hut Platform	15	6	21
Incised Stone, Monument, Rock Cannon	0	3	3
Lynchet	0	1	1
Mine Building	0	1	1
Peat Cutting, Peat Processing, Peat House	3	3	6
Quarry, Scoop	6	10	16
Ridge and Furrow	0	3	3

Sheep Fold, Sheep Shelter, Shelter, Stock Enclosure	11	86	97
Standing Stone	12	0	12
Stone Circle	11	0	11
Structure	2	1	3
Trackway	0	6	6
Trial	0	1	1
Water Wheel	1	0	1
Wreck	0	1	1
Total	223	287	510

Table 3: Range of Site Types

5.2 PREHISTORIC

5.2.1 There was a profusion of evidence of prehistoric activity within the environs of the study area, comprising for the most part of funerary cairns, along with possible clearance cairns and discrete ceremonial landscapes. The earliest recorded structural evidence was the Neolithic chambered tomb on Maen y Bardd (NMR 348) which was incorporated into a discrete later multi-phase relict landscape. The ceremonial landscape was dominated by the complex of late Neolithic-early Bronze Age stone circles and funerary monuments overlooking the Graiglwyd axe factory at Cefn Coch and Cors y Carneddau (NMR 56439, 93512, 93513, 300889, 300946, 303030, 303031, 303049). Other ceremonial elements included the stone circle, standing stone and funerary cairn at Maen Crwn (NMR 275437, 303072, 303073), the stone circles of Cerrig Pryfaid and Hafodty (NMR 93572, 303098), and numerous standing stones, including Picell Arthur, Bwylch y Ddeufaen, Maen Penddu and Maen Hir (NMR 302555, 303022, 303070, 303094). There were plentiful funerary monuments of the Bronze Age, with cairn cemeteries including Carnedd Saeson (NMR 275425), Cefn Llechwedd (NMR 349) and Bryniau Bugeilydd (NMR 300928), and numerous summit cairns and cairns located along ridgelines, plateaux and saddles upon the open moorland and hillsides of the study area. Prehistoric settlement activity in the area was suggested by the presence of burnt mounds across the study area, which were for the most part on the shallow sloping boggy plateaux that drain into the lowlands (e.g. NMR 275428, 302956, 302957, 302983, 302984, 303023, 303027, 303028, 303047).

5.2.2 **Bronze Age:** several new sites were added which were attributed a potential Bronze Age date, and include an additional possible funerary cairn adjacent to Maen Crwn stone circle. The complex itself has a partially surviving stone circle (NMR 303073) and standing stone (NMR 303072) which were separated by an enclosure wall. To the north of the wall is a partially quarried away funerary cairn (NMR

275437) and to the west of this is a denuded low circular earth-covered mound measuring approximately 11m in diameter by up to 0.6m in height with a hollow in the top (NMR 278603). The area surrounding the stone circle has been cleared of surface stone at some period and more than 18 small clearance cairns cover an area of approximately 70m square around the stone circle (NMR 275444). In the field to the north of the stone circle was an embanked ring cairn located on the RCAHMW aerial photo interpretation (NMR 278606) which apparently had been previously unrecorded.

- 5.2.3 A wide distribution of previously recorded funerary cairns exist within the study area and apart from the new discoveries at Maen Crwn the only other possible new overtly funerary monument was a small round cairn located away from the Roman road at the head of the Bwylch y Ddeufaen pass (NMR 278644). It was c6m in diameter, up to 0.5m in height and was constructed of small-medium sized well-packed rounded lichen-covered stones. The extensive cairnfield of both funerary and clearance cairns located above the ridgeline on Bryniau Bugeilydd (NMR 300928) curves around in an arc on the ridgeline and incorporated two burnt mounds on the lower boggy plateau to the west (NMR 303027, 303028, Plate 9); the field survey discovered five small clearance cairns (NMR 275533-275537) immediately to the north-west of the northernmost burnt mound. To the north-east of the study area, on the ridgeline of Cefn Llechen, are the remains of a previously discovered uncapped cist (NMR 303095), and there is the potential of other monuments of this type within the immediate vicinity as slabs of similar stones were exposed although they were difficult to see amongst the gorse cover. To the north of the site, on a flattened area on the ridge, was a small cairn that may have been funerary in origin (NMR 278613).
- 5.2.4 The sites of burnt mounds are well represented throughout the boggy plateaux of the study area, and three further putative examples were found in the present field survey. They were less massive and obvious than the vast majority of previously recorded examples but survive nonetheless. There are two examples on the boggy plateau of Waun Llanfair in the north-west of the study area. The first is located on the east side of Ffridd Forfudd near a tributary of the Afon Ddu (NMR 278518). It is a crescentic mound measuring 16m long by 8m wide and up to 0.4m in height. The second example is located to the west of Maes y Bryn at the confluence of two tributary streams of Afon Maes-y-bryn (NMR 275523). It is shown on the RCAHMW aerial photographic interpretation and survives as an hour-glass-shaped mound, measuring 11m long by 3m wide and up to 0.4m in height. The final example is located in the west of the study area on the boggy plateau below Foel Ganol, at the head of a tributary stream of Nant y Felin-fach (NMR 278535). It is shown on the RCAHMW aerial photographic interpretation and survives as an amorphous mound measuring 10m in diameter by 0.3m in height. The profusion of burnt mounds on the gently sloping boggy plateaux within easy reach of streams that drain into the lowlands from within the study area, are in typical locations for such monuments which required the use of an adequate water supply (Laurie 2004, 92). The location of certain clearance cairns in Bryniau Bugeilydd cairnfield (NMR

275533-275537) within close proximity to a burnt mound (NMR 303028), and the more extensive cairnfield on the better drained ridgeline above to the east, would suggest that there was some associated settlement within the environs of these sites.

5.2.5 **General Prehistory:** the largest newly recorded site that was attributed to a broad prehistoric date is the extensive cairnfield located on the broad, flat elevated ridgeline of Garreg Fawr in the west of the study area. The area consists of at least nineteen circular clearance cairns (NMR 278513) with an outlier to the south (NMR 278511). They measure on average between 3m and 6m in diameter by up to 0.4m in height and spread out over an area of 150m long north to south by 75m wide. The site is in the vicinity of an area of clearance marked as modern within the SMR (SMR 4074) but on the present field survey evidence, the cairns would appear to be of considerable antiquity, and though there is an outside possibility that they were funerary in nature, given their prominent positions and relatively large size, but are most likely to be clearance cairns.

5.2.6 There is evidence for incised 'arrow stones' within the west of the study area, running from adjacent to the Roman road, on the southernmost extent of Garreg Fawr (NMR 302981, 302982) and further to the north, on the eastern slope of Garreg Fawr above Camarnaint farm (NMR 302986). Within the general area are two further very dubious possible marker stones that were located by the present field survey. The first is a non-earthfast small flat stone measuring no more than 0.7m square by 0.3m deep (NMR 275580); it was located adjacent to a gateway by a sheepfold on the northern end of Ffridd Newydd and had over thirty striation marks on the surface. The stone is most likely to be either some type of rubbing stone or more likely a geological feature. The second site is an earthfast stone slab, measuring 1.5m long by 0.8m wide, and is located to the south of a ruinous farmstead on the east side of Garreg Fawr above Camarnaint farm (NMR 275550). The slab has no linear incisions but has 23 circular depressions on the surface. While there is the possibility that this was a cup marked slab, the depressions are perhaps more likely to be natural in origin; however, none of the surrounding earthfast slabs have similar geological formations.

5.3 IRON AGE/ROMAN

5.3.1 Evidence for settlement and exploitation in these periods is well represented within the study area. The most obvious surviving sites include the two Iron Age hillforts of Dinas and Caer Bach (NMR 95310, 94907) and the Roman road running up and over the Bwylch y Ddeufaen pass in the south of the study area. Hut circle settlements, both enclosed and unenclosed with field systems ranging from small fragmentary elements to complete landscapes are represented in the study area, although their exact dating is uncertain. The most complete field-system is located on Maen y Bardd (NMR 278685, 278686) where a band of sites survives on the upper valley slope to the south of Caer Bach hillfort and adjacent to the Roman road. There are six settlements and enclosures (NMR 303065-68, 303080 and 303087) which are surrounded by multi-phased terracing and field

walls (RCAHMW 1956, Caerhun 117-137, RCAHMW aerial photographic interpretation). A single additional hut circle was discovered in a field on the west side of the main field-system complex (NMR 278691). Hut circle settlements are evident at various places along the course of the Roman road over Bwylch y Ddeufaen pass and beyond, although they become scarcer on the most elevated sections. There are hut circles located just to the south of Cerrig Pryfaid stone circle (NMR 303048) and further west, on the western side of Foel Lwyd, is a fragmentary linear field-system with associated hut circles. The sites run for some 550m north to south along the edge of the hillside above the boggy plateau drained by Afon Ddu (NMR 275431, 303025, 303026). Occasional enclosed hut circle groups are also seen to the north-west, along the freer draining edge of the boggy plateau above the narrow valley containing the Afon Ddu (NMR 278516, 278517).

- 5.3.2 On the western end of the Roman road, at the edge of the study area around Foel Dduarth, are extensive multi-phased field-systems (NMR 275456, 308694, RCAHMW 1956, Aber). The RCAHMW aerial photographic interpretation and inventory show areas of field-systems to both the north and south of Nant y Felinfach. They include both enclosed and unenclosed hut circle settlements within terraced and enclosed fields (e.g. NMR 93743, 308679). The relict tide mark of settlement for this period runs further north on the western edge of the study area with the hillside of Garreg Fawr having a possible enclosed hut group covered by a multi-cellular sheepfold on the west side (NMR 308677), a fragmentary hut circle settlement with some field walls atop the northern summit of the hill (NMR 278506) and an impressively well preserved hut circle settlement with field-system to the north-east of Camarnaint farm (NMR 95686/308685).
- 5.3.3 In the north-west of the study area the most extensive settlement evidence is found surrounding the outcrop of Dinas hillfort on the south-east side of Llanfairfechan. The shallower north-east and south-west slopes of ground falling away to the edge of the surrounding plateau ridgeline have been utilised for terracing in both this and succeeding periods (Plate 7). Hut circle settlements outside the defences of the hillfort (NMR 275432, 303010) are associated with terracing lynchets facing north-west in the north and south-east in the south. The hut circle settlement to the south (NMR 303010) is incorporated into one of the terrace lynchets running across the contour of the slope, but the field-system, especially to the south of the hillfort, is overlain by cultivation and field banks of a different orientation and of a later period. To the north-west of the study area there is sparse evidence of settlement within this period reflecting a greater level of later improvement. Whereas the settlement evidence on the north-facing slopes of the hillsides, facing Llanfairfechan, have traces of cultivation and settlement surviving as far down as 230m OD, the south-facing slopes of the hillsides, on the corresponding hill to the east of Llanfairfechan, has been subject to later improvement all the way up to the 'mountain wall'. There is however evidence of a denuded linear boundary associated with several clearance cairns on unenclosed land to the south of Penmaenmawr Quarry (NMR 278633). Given the intensive nature of activity on

the surrounding land, this may be an occasional survivor of a much larger complex, and one that may have been linked to those settlements and cairnfields that are located to the south of the quarries but just to the north of the present study area (Williams and Davidson 2002, Figs 3, 4 and 5).

5.4 EARLY MEDIEVAL/MEDIEVAL

- 5.4.1 The study area is very well represented by medieval period sites, from single longhouses, house platforms and shielings up to complex field-systems containing multiple settlement elements. However, many of these may potentially have either been established or re-occupied in the post-medieval period, as there is an explosion in upland sites associated with post-medieval activity which often masks earlier land-use. What is certain is that there are many sites and areas showing evidence of multi-phased occupation and exploitation, which would suggest that the earliest phases extend back at least to the medieval period. The earliest known site dated to this period is a case in point; is the enclosed settlement in the north-east of the study area set within a shallow dip on the ridgeline of Cefn Llechen (NMR 303097), it clearly has several phases of both sub-circular and rectangular huts, and is dated to the early medieval period in the NMR entry.
- 5.4.2 Within the enclosed lands on the fringes of the study area evidence of derelict farmsteads can be found. The derelict farmsteads on the lower slopes, especially in the south-east of the study area, are for the most part post-medieval in date (e.g. Hafoty Gwyn, NMR 278689); however, where small irregular-shaped fields enclose areas around the farmsteads, it has been shown that often a late medieval origin may be likely (Withers 1995, 35). The process of piecemeal enclosure of hafoddau/sheilings on the slopes (not *ffridd* enclosure) is a reflection of permanence being afforded to what was once a temporary settlement at these altitudes. On the west side of the study area it is more difficult to say whether the derelict farmsteads have medieval origins, although two sites in the upper reaches of improved fields, one recently derelict at Tyddyn-y-waen (NMR 278532), and one derelict for at least a hundred years, underneath the 'mountain wall' below Waun Llanfair (NMR 275429, Plate 10), may be from this period.
- 5.4.3 The study area is covered in several specific places by extensive, multi-phased field-systems and deserted settlement remains along the fringes of the enclosed cultivated lands and open commons. The pattern forms a tide mark of land-use in much the same places as previous periods, often with the re-use in the medieval period of terracing and fields from the Iron Age/Roman periods. There are several places of significant localised survival of features, much of which has been previously discovered, but the present field survey has provided extra information on these monuments. The most extensive previously identified field-system and longhouse settlements of this period is at Maen y Bardd, where many of the cultivation terraces are overlain by well-established longhouse settlements (Hooke 1997, 88). The field-systems contain longhouse settlements that for the most part

are located at their edges (NMR 15149, 15164, 15165, 15169), and were possibly related more with the rectangular fields running downslope rather than the terraces running across it (RCAHMW 1956, Caerhun 117-137).

- 5.4.4 In the north-west of the study area there is also evidence of multiphased field-systems, the most obvious being on the shallow north-eastern and south-eastern slopes of Dinas above Llanfairfechan. As previously noted (*Section 5.3.2*) the hillsides are covered in cultivation lynchets running across the slope, which are associated with hut circle settlements (NMR 275511, Plate 7); however, there is an additional phase of both low field banks and terraces running along a different alignment which were probably associated with platform houses and longhouses nestling around the sides of the Dinas outcrop (NMR 275491, 303009). The greatest concentration of farmsteads newly discovered by the present field survey, comprising longhouses, platform houses and terraces, is located in the north-west on the slopes to the south of Llanfairfechan (e.g. NMR 275594-275600, 275501-278503). The complex of sites are densely packed on the slope above and between Camarnaint and Ty'n-rhedyn farms, with clusters of lynchetted field systems with longhouses and stock management features; and incorporate relict parts of a well preserved hut circle settlement (NMR 95686/308685). The survival of sites of these types is remarkable as they are found within a field intake quite far down on the hillside, with one platform house located at only 230m OD adjacent to Ty'n-rhedyn farm (NMR 278529). This survival contrasts completely with the south-facing valley slope to the north where intensive improvement has removed evidence for early remains far up the valley side.
- 5.4.5 Running further from this complex, on the fringe between the *ffridd* enclosures of later periods and the unenclosed common between Garreg Fawr in the west and Afon Glan Sais in the east, are surviving elements of more dispersed settlement for this period; these are often very fragmentary plots of cultivation seen on the ground but more recognisably shown on the RCAHMW aerial photographic interpretation, and are associated with single longhouses and platform houses (NMR 275427, 275461-275463, 275551, 275554, 275560, 275561, 278510). To the west of the study area, within the field-systems and settlement of the previous period below Foel Dduarth (*Section 5.3.2*), is evidence of some later platform houses and longhouses (NMR 15113, 275471), which presumably utilised the ancient cultivation terraces. Immediately east of this field-system complex are slightly more elevated areas of cultivation and settlement, along the Roman road and on the edge of the boggy plateau being drained into the Nant y Felin-fach, which survive in a very fragmentary state (NMR 275456, 278534, 278545, 278546).
- 5.4.6 There are several additional areas where settlement and cultivation are evident at higher altitudes for this period in the study area. To the south-east within unimproved parliamentary enclosure on the steeper south-facing slope of Tal y Fan, immediately above the Maen y Bardd field-system complex, are two small areas of clearance cairns (NMR 278642, 278643), which could relate to further land clearance from this or previous periods. Within the centre of the study area

on the flat well-drained plateau of Cerrig Gwynion is an isolated longhouse with surrounding cultivation and ephemeral field-system (NMR 275448); it was described as being Romano-British in the SMR (SMR 4705), but consists of a longhouse, a sheep shelter, a small fragmentary fields-system and clearance cairns in an area up to 100m in diameter. Its form is more consistent with a medieval date than a Roman one.

- 5.4.7 Upland exploitation in the form of probable transhumant shielings are evident throughout the open common and unimproved parliamentary enclosure of the study area in isolated single and grouped settlements. They are located along the narrow sheltered valleys of mountain streams (especially Afon Ddu and Afon Tafolog) and even on the more elevated and inhospitable hillsides up towards the Carneddau ridge (e.g., NMR 275475, Plate 5). Many of them were associated with ancillary stock enclosures, sheepfolds and peat cutting areas but it is often difficult to pinpoint whether or not they have medieval origins. A newly discovered shieling settlement at Ffridd Arw (NMR 275569), in the centre of the area on a tributary stream above Afon Ddu, is associated with an area of peat cutting on the flat moorland to the south-west (NMR 275570) that was originally shown on the RCAMW aerial photographic interpretation. On the higher ground in the south of the study area, on ground climbing up the north side of Pen y Castell towards the Carneddau ridge, are shielings within what were potentially later stock enclosures (e.g. NMR 278678) that sit on mountain streams, and also unenclosed settlements of multiple shielings slightly higher up (NMR 278679). Even higher up on Foel Llwyd on the southern limits of the study area are the denuded remains of shielings with adjoining small sub-oval stock enclosures that are partially shown on the RCAHMW aerial photographic interpretation (NMR 278681, 278682).

5.5 POST-MEDIEVAL

- 5.5.1 ***Agricultural Exploitation:*** in total, 173 sites have been ascribed to the post-medieval period, and form the majority of the total number of sites. However, there is some uncertainty in determining dates for the settlements, particularly between later medieval and the post-medieval periods, purely on the basis of the physical evidence, particularly when agricultural settlement has remained largely unchanged until relatively recent times. Some sites may have an earlier origin and may re-use previously favourable sheltered locations, sometimes upon earlier platforms and foundations. Likewise there is also documented history of at least early post-medieval stone quarrying within the study area.
- 5.5.2 Definite post-medieval settlement and stock management features extend over the majority of the study area and there is a dramatic increase in the number of features associated with the controlling of stock, predominantly sheep, on both the unimproved enclosed lands and upland commons. The increase in the importance of sheep is seen in the distribution of large multi-cellular sheepfolds dotted around the study area which would have been used (and indeed some still are) for communal stock control and maintenance. Newly recorded examples, include

examples on or near Maen Crwn, Buarth Cwm-Ithel and Afon Tafolog (NMR 278591, 278658, 278665).

- 5.5.3 The type of land-use upon the upland commons and the field boundaries within the field-systems surrounding the fringe of the study area have probably remained almost static within the post-medieval period; however, there seems to be three types of activity which have encroached onto the land of the study area. The first is the improvement and drainage of fields and rationalisation of field boundaries on the lower slopes on the fringes of the study area; this is particularly evident on the slopes to the east of the study area around the farmsteads of Hafodty and Ty'n-y-ffridd where rougher ground shown on the first edition mapping has been cleared and field boundaries added. The second activity was parliamentary enclosure in the eighteenth/nineteenth century which has occurred in the south-east of the study area. This has left a pattern of often arbitrarily straight enclosures walls and fences upon the moorland. The enclosure of this portion of the study area has not apparently been to the detriment of archaeological sites within it as the later nineteenth century/modern pastoral regime has remained of low intensity. The final, and perhaps most interesting, activity is the piecemeal enclosure of parcels of upland common above the highest intake in the form of *ffridd* enclosures. This has been occurring intermittently since at least the early post-medieval period (*Section 3.3.14*) and has left a pattern of small islands of land often with associated farmsteads on the commons. Judging by field-name evidence the *ffridd* enclosures would have remained uncultivated when enclosed apart from those fields closest to the farmstead (Hooke 1997, 90). The most extensive area of *ffridd*-named enclosures is in the north-west of the study area on the slopes above Llanfairfechan with Ffridd Newydd, Ffridd Fadog, Ffridd Arw, and Ffridd Forfudd still marked on current mapping. *Ffridd* enclosure with definite settlement set within is seen in the north-west above the 'mountain wall' intake and surrounding a small plot at Pen-y-Cafn farmhouse (NMR 16712). Across on the north-eastern limits of the study area are *ffridd* enclosures around the farmsteads of T'yn-y-ffridd, Waen Gyrach (NMR 278598), and Ffridd-y-Foel. Around both of the latter sites are more extensive remains of cultivation and *ffridd* settlement not shown on the OS mapping, highlighted on the RCAHMW aerial photographic interpretation and partially seen on the ground (NMR 278541-278543, 278610-278611). There is evidence of this type of settlement on the fringe of the eastern side of the study area, from Tan-y-Braich in the south (NMR 278653), up to Llwyn-penddu (NMR 278624) and on to Tyddyn-grasod in the north (NMR 278595). In general, the field survey revealed that where mapped examples of *ffridd* enclosure survived, further partial remnants of fields, settlement and, in some cases, cultivation were evident on the ground.

- 5.5.4 **Industrial Exploitation:** it does not seem that industry was a major concern in the area, and localised stone/slate extraction and peat cutting seem to be the only exceptions. Penmaenmawr in the north is traditionally associated with stone quarrying, which resulted in the destruction of the Graiglwyd axe factory and Braich y Dinas hillfort. Extraction in the survey area is of a more modest scale

with smaller quarries often with associated worker temporary/seasonal accommodation especially around the hills of Tal y Fan and Foel Llwyd. Simple examples of this would be the quarries and mine buildings on the west and south sides of Foel Llwyd (NMR 278635-278636 and 278638-278639). The most impressive of these sites is Tal y Fan slate quarry (NMR 275506, Plate 6) in the east of the study area, where a well-constructed miners hut also survives on site. The area downslope and to the north of the quarry contain both a small enclosed hut settlement (NMR 275441, 278620-278623, 278625) and the *ffridd* farmstead at Llwyn-penddu (NMR 278624). They were possibly both associated with mining, localised cultivation and exploitation of the uplands for stock management and peat collection. The settlement here contains a fragmentary peat house (NMR 275468), as do several of the now derelict farmsteads. Within the study area as a whole there is evidence of peat cutting amply shown on the RCAHMW aerial photographic interpretation and evidence of both a practically complete peat house (NMR 24396, Plate 1) and a possible peat stack (NMR 303064).

- 5.5.5 Other extant sites of interest within the study area from this period include the derelict breached remains of the late nineteenth century reservoir above Llanfairfechan (NMR 275579), the crash site of a World War II Liberator bomber with commemorative plaque, located upon the south-west slope of Moelfre, and the site of a possible commemorative 'rock cannon' monument. By analogy with other regional examples, this was putatively from the Napoleonic War era, and is located just above Camarnaint farm in the north-west of the study area (NMR 275539, Tim Iliffe *pers comm*).

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 DISCUSSION

- 6.1.1 The survey has recorded a broad range of monuments and landscapes dating between the Late Neolithic right through to the present, with the most significant resources being the ceremonial landscape containing stone circles and funerary cairns at Cors y Carneddau and Cefn Coch (Burl 2000, 189). The complex as a discrete group forms one of the most enduring and celebrated prehistoric complexes in north Wales. The study area also contains several additional areas where stone circles, sometimes with nearby funerary cairns, and standing stones define the lines of what were almost certainly prehistoric routeways. One such alignment includes the Cerrig Pryfaid stone circle (NMR 93572) and Bwlch-Y-Ddeufaen (NMR 303022) standing stones which mark the pass, containing the later Roman road, running east/west over from the Conwy valley towards the coast. Many funerary cairns are located within the corridor of this putative route (NMR 303020, 303021, 303006-303008, 302985). A similar example is found at Askham Fell, Cumbria (Quartermaine and Leech forthcoming), where the natural pass between two valleys is marked by an alignment of round cairns, standing stones and even a stone avenue. It is significant that the Roman road followed the exact same route and would suggest that the road was the formalisation of what was by then an ancient routeway. In addition, there is a marked alignment of prehistoric funerary monuments in the north at Cefn Coch, which includes five stone circles, (e.g. the Druid's Circle - NMR 300889), numerous funerary cairns (e.g. NMR 303030) and standing stones; these seemingly define an ancient routeway that extended out from the Graiglwyd axe factory.
- 6.1.2 Cairns are distinctive within the study area, many appearing to be funerary in function, and often surviving particularly well with only the lid of the cist being disturbed. The cairns are predominantly located on the broad ridges of steep crags, summits of hills, along plateau and saddles between hills that all look down into surrounding steep glacial valleys. Such topographic settings are typically favoured for Bronze Age funerary monuments (Quartermaine and Leech forthcoming). The grouping of extant remains of extensive funerary cairnfields at Carnedd y Saeson and Cefn Llechwedd, along with numerous single funerary cairns, form a significant proportion of the prehistoric sites found in the study area. There is also evidence of extensive cairnfields located on better drained land on the edge of boggy plateaux at Bryniau Bugeilydd and Garreg Fawr, which, along with the numerous burnt mounds actually located on the streams draining the sloping boggy plateaux throughout the study area, hint at prehistoric habitation within the environs.
- 6.1.3 There is a wide selection of both enclosed and unenclosed settlement evidence within the study area, the most impressive single sites being the hillforts of Dinas and Caer Bach. A strongly evident feature is the extent of discrete areas of multi-phased field-systems and settlement found for the most part in a tidemark around

the fringes of the study area, ranging in height from 240m to 450m OD. They are located on the upper edge of field intake and onto the unenclosed common. The most extensive and well preserved elements at Maen y Bardd and Foel Dduarth show signs of use and settlement from the Iron Age/Roman and Medieval periods, and at the former site continuing through to dispersed post-medieval farmsteads. These sites form a palimpsest of fields, cultivation terraces and settlement running across the landscape. Additional areas of similar (although smaller) field-systems have been recorded, particularly around the lower slopes of Dinas hillfort and further to the west on the lower slopes of Garreg Fawr above Llanfairfechan.

- 6.1.4 The explosion in post-medieval stock management features along with stone quarries, *ffridd* enclosures, peat extraction and farmsteads/shielings form a significant resource. Of particular note are the stone quarries around Tal y Fan with putative quarrymen's houses, the well-preserved peat house on the north side of Tal y Fan and the regionally distinct dispersed large multi-cellular communal sheepfolds.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

- 7.1.1 Within the study area is a remarkable multi-period relict landscape that dates back to the Neolithic, and for the most part there is both excellent survival and site visibility for their components monuments. In particular the survey has highlighted a prehistoric landscape that contains a high proportion of monuments, which have a funerary and ceremonial character, with some areas of potential settlement in the form of cairnfields with associated burnt mounds on lower boggy plateaux. Further intensive survey of these complexes would inform future strategies of excavation, sampling for dating, and possibly elucidate the relationships between the separate elements of the complexes. Given the presence of numerous burnt mounds on the boggy plateaux, there is considerable potential for undertaking pollen analysis to establish the vegetational history and development of land use within the region. Such an approach would potentially indicate the extent of any upland clearance in the area.
- 7.1.2 The often extensive multi-phased field-systems and settlement on the fringes of the study area require further intensive survey to enhance previous work (including RCAHMS 1956). This would identify key areas where detailed keyhole excavation and environmental sampling may clarify the phasing relationships between monuments of different date within the field-systems. Survey could elucidate the form of archaeological features and their inter-relationships, along with their relationship with local topographical settings.
- 7.1.3 Both Dinas and Caer Bach hillforts warrant further work including full documentary investigation of any previous archaeological investigation, and also intensive survey to fully record internal features and possibly locate areas of potential for trial excavations on such important but enigmatic sites.
- 7.1.4 The survey has highlighted a rich resource of settlement remains from the medieval and post-medieval remains, which, because of the relatively static agricultural practices in these uplands, have the potential to reflect an extended occupation. There is a case for undertaking archaeological investigation of selected settlement sites, which would entail detailed survey work and below ground investigation, in conjunction with absolute dating techniques, in order to clarify the pattern of change of the agricultural exploitation.

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APPENDIX 1

GAZETTEER OF NEW SITES

NPRN	NGR	TYPE	PERIOD	ALTITUDE
275425	SH67837174	CAIRNFIELD	Prehistoric	290
275426	SH69227252	HUT CIRCLE	Romano-British	370
275427	SH69647308	PLATFORM HOUSE	Medieval	280
275428	SH68867217	BURNT MOUND	Prehistoric	340
275429	SH70797458	LONG HUT	Medieval	340
275430	SH71037241	CAIRN	Prehistoric	350
275431	SH71347253	HUT CIRCLE	Romano-British	390
275432	SH70127394	HUT CIRCLE	Prehistoric	300
275433	SH71407185	LONG HUT	Medieval	410
275434	SH71827158	CAIRN	Prehistoric	405
275435	SH71687163	CAIRN	Prehistoric	405
275436	SH73397396	LONG HUT	Medieval	360
275437	SH73267499	CAIRN	Prehistoric	420
275438	SH70837483	MARKER CAIRN	Post-Medieval	410
275439	SH72127448	MARKER CAIRN	Post-Medieval	415
275440	SH71727158	CAIRN	Prehistoric	405
275441	SH73917346	LONG HUT	Medieval	420
275442	SH73247618	CAIRN	Prehistoric	362
275443	SH69007350	FINDSPOT	Prehistoric	300
275444	SH73177505	CAIRNFIELD	Prehistoric	420
275445	SH69907340	FINDSPOT	Prehistoric	220
275446	SH68037202	CAIRN	Prehistoric	265
275447	SH72007150	FINDSPOT	Prehistoric	410
275448	SH72797410	LONG HUT	Medieval	400
275449	SH71947492	PLATFORM HOUSE	Medieval	360
275450	SH72977355	ENCLOSURE	Medieval	435
275451	SH70507380	FINDSPOT	Prehistoric	295
275452	SH67607170	CULTIVATION	Medieval	220
275453	SH67907203	CAIRN	Medieval	260
275454	SH68027204	STRUCTURE	Medieval	270
275455	SH68367218	ENCLOSURE	Medieval	290
275456	SH68507219	FIELD SYSTEM	Medieval	320
275457	SH68697223	STRUCTURE	Iron Age	315
275458	SH68977205	LONGHOUSE	Medieval	370
275459	SH69027193	PLATFORM HOUSE	Medieval	410
275460	SH69047192	SHEEP FOLD	Prehistoric	410
275461	SH69307276	LONG HUT	Medieval	345
275462	SH69367287	PLATFORM	Medieval	320
275463	SH69407315	ENCLOSURE	Medieval	310
275464	SH69637332	FARMSTEAD	Post-Medieval	260
275465	SH69657334	LONGHOUSE	Medieval	255
275466	SH69637345	TERRACE	Medieval	245

275467	SH70357324	SETTLEMENT	Medieval	280
275468	SH73907350	PEAT CUTTING	Post-Medieval	420
275469	SH73337554	FINDSPOT	Prehistoric	300
275470	SH74117439	CAIRN	Prehistoric	390
275471	SH67657177	LONG HUTS	Medieval	230
275472	SH68127214	STOCK ENCLOSURE	Post-Medieval	260
275473	SH68277238	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	265
275474	SH70577179	SHEEP FOLD	Medieval	440
275475	SH70447174	HAFOD	Medieval	430
275476	SH68667218	HUT PLATFORMS	Medieval	320
275477	SH72347129	LONGHOUSE	Medieval	410
275478	SH71927136	DESERTED RURAL	Medieval	390
275479	SH73367092	DESERTED RURAL	Medieval	320
275480	SH72447033	DESERTED RURAL	Medieval	380
275481	SH71927049	HAFODS	Medieval	440
275482	SH72726988	DESERTED RURAL	Medieval	405
275483	SH72147475	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	370
275484	SH70927472	HAFOD	Medieval	395
275485	SH70767470	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	350
275486	SH70787434	SHEEP SHELTER	Prehistoric	340
275487	SH70817440	SHEEP FOLD	Unknown	340
275488	SH70317426	HUT CIRCLE	Prehistoric	290
275489	SH70137388	FIELD SYSTEM	Medieval	310
275490	SH70147377	HUT CIRCLE	Prehistoric	375
275491	SH70187381	LONG HUTS	Medieval	290
275492	SH70457386	FIELD SYSTEM	Medieval	280
275493	SH70707387	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	310
275494	SH70037348	BARN	Post-Medieval	225
275495	SH70217348	PLATFORM	Unknown	255
275496	SH70407359	BOULDER	Unknown	280
275497	SH70697347	ENCLOSURE	Unknown	310
275498	SH70087318	CULTIVATION	Medieval	260
275499	SH70617328	FEATURE - CIRCULAR	Unknown	310
275500	SH70757333	FIELD SYSTEM	Medieval	330
275501	SH71647394	SHEEP SHELTER	Post-Medieval	410
275502	SH71687401	LONG HUT	Medieval	370
275503	SH71037447	ENCLOSURE	Medieval	380
275504	SH68647262	HUT CIRCLE	Prehistoric	300
275505	SH71507180	SLATE QUARRY	Post-Medieval	400
275506	SH73807330	SLATE QUARRY	Post-Medieval	470
275507	SH74307330	SLATE QUARRY	Post-Medieval	420
275508	SH69407200	QUARRY	Post-Medieval	470
275509	SH74397464	QUARRY	Post-Medieval	310
275510	SH73007570	QUARRY	Post-Medieval	190
275511	SH70237386	LYNCHET	Medieval	300
275512	SH70497391	FIELD BOUNDARY	Medieval	310
275513	SH70347397	FIELD BOUNDARY	Medieval	310

275514	SH70427389	FIELD BOUNDARY	Medieval	300
275515	SH70407389	CLEARANCE CAIRNS	Post-Medieval	300
275516	SH70447385	FIELD BOUNDARY	Medieval	300
275517	SH70437381	FIELD BOUNDARY	Medieval	300
275518	SH70157338	CLEARANCE CAIRN	Post-Medieval	250
275519	SH70127345	HOLLOW WAY	Medieval	250
275520	SH70687322	HAFOD	Medieval	320
275521	SH70117347	FIELD BOUNDARY	Unknown	250
275522	SH70507357	EARTHWORK	Unknown	290
275523	SH70587369	BURNT MOUND	Bronze Age	295
275524	SH70467414	FIELD SYSTEM	Medieval	320
275525	SH70467407	SHEEP SHELTER	Post-Medieval	320
275526	SH70717432	BOUNDARY BANK	Post-Medieval	315
275527	SH70657398	BOUNDARY BANK	Unknown	315
275528	SH70707423	MOUND	Prehistoric	320
275529	SH70917399	BOUNDARY BANK	Unknown	330
275530	SH71047445	WALL	Unknown	350
275531	SH71307434	HAFOD	Medieval	360
275532	SH71427363	HAFOD	Medieval	370
275533	SH71407419	CAIRN	Prehistoric	360
275534	SH71437419	CAIRN	Prehistoric	360
275535	SH71417422	CAIRN	Prehistoric	360
275536	SH71387419	CAIRN	Prehistoric	360
275537	SH71447420	CAIRN	Prehistoric	360
275538	SH71557433	WRECK	Post-Medieval	380
275539	SH69837339	ROCK CANNON	Post-Medieval	200
275540	SH71877447	SCOOP	Unknown	425
275541	SH71857429	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	395
275542	SH71857431	SCOOP	Unknown	395
275543	SH71537446	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	380
275544	SH71227465	CLEARANCE CAIRN	Post-Medieval	400
275545	SH71237467	STRUCTURE	Unknown	400
275546	SH69627350	CLEARANCE CAIRN	Post-Medieval	320
275547	SH69637337	CLEARANCE CAIRN	Post-Medieval	320
275548	SH69637348	HOUSE PLATFORM	Medieval	320
275549	SH69607337	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	320
275550	SH69607332	MONUMENT	Unknown	320
275551	SH69577307	ENCLOSURE WALL	Medieval	300
275552	SH69617299	ENCLOSURE WALL	Medieval	290
275553	SH69597297	SHELTER	Post-Medieval	290
275554	SH69587293	HAFOD	Medieval	300
275555	SH69337338	RIDGE AND FURROW	Medieval	300
275556	SH69327346	HOUSE PLATFORM	Medieval	290
275557	SH69347345	CLEARANCE CAIRN	Post-Medieval	290
275558	SH69737325	STOCK ENCLOSURE	Unknown	260
275559	SH69787260	SHEEP SHELTER	Post-Medieval	315
275560	SH69417277	RIDGE AND FURROW	Medieval	330

275561	SH69357267	RIDGE AND FURROW	Medieval	340
275562	SH69787272	PEAT CUTTING	Post-Medieval	315
275563	SH69867314	LONGHOUSE	Medieval	270
275564	SH70127314	CLEARANCE CAIRN	Post-Medieval	290
275565	SH72987495	FIELD	Medieval	300
275566	SH72987495	LONG HUT	Medieval	300
275567	SH70337299	FIELD BOUNDARY	Medieval	300
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275569	SH70517274	HAFOD	Medieval	335
275570	SH70447268	PEAT CUTTING	Post-Medieval	345
275571	SH70187252	CAIRN	Prehistoric	345
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275573	SH70817250	CLEARANCE CAIRN	Post-Medieval	355
275574	SH70877241	CLEARANCE CAIRN	Post-Medieval	365
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275577	SH71217211	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	400
275578	SH70287218	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	375
275579	SH70057270	DAM	Post-Medieval	325
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275581	SH69777212	SHELTER	Post-Medieval	405
275582	SH69717218	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	400
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275592	SH69967137	SHEEP SHELTER	Post-Medieval	485
275593	SH69757115	MARKER CAIRN	Post-Medieval	550
275594	SH69487367	HOUSE PLATFORM	Medieval	220
275595	SH69457361	LONGHOUSE	Medieval	240
275596	SH69437364	FIELD SYSTEM	Medieval	240
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275598	SH69397369	CULTIVATION	Medieval	205
275599	SH69457360	LONGHOUSE	Medieval	240
275600	SH69467357	LONGHOUSE	Medieval	245
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278502	SH69277357	ENCLOSURE	Medieval	290
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278504	SH69297360	LONGHOUSE	Medieval	280
278505	SH69307361	CULTIVATION	Medieval	280
278506	SH69247349	HUT CIRCLE	Roman	300
278507	SH69137353	QUARRY	Post-Medieval	300

278508	SH69137354	SHEEP SHELTER	Post-Medieval	300
278509	SH69437298	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	310
278510	SH69367284	FIELD	Unknown	330
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278512	SH68947290	TRACKWAY	Medieval	375
278513	SH69127299	CAIRNFIELD	Unknown	360
278514	SH69017320	SHELTER	Post-Medieval	360
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278529	SH69327377	HOUSE PLATFORM	Medieval	190
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278531	SH69027277	QUARRY	Post-Medieval	365
278532	SH68847283	FARMSTEAD	Post-Medieval	320
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278535	SH68487235	BURNT MOUND	Bronze Age	280
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278538	SH72917536	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	330
278539	SH72997522	ENCLOSURE WALL	Post-Medieval	360
278540	SH73077636	TRIAL MINE	Post-Medieval	250
278541	SH73577613	HOUSE PLATFORM	Medieval	280
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278543	SH73387601	LONG HUT	Medieval	310
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278546	SH68347230	LONG HUT	Medieval	280
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278554	SH69107187	SHEEP SHELTER	Post-Medieval	440

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278562	SH72627363	HAFOD	Medieval	430
278563	SH72647363	HAFOD	Medieval	430
278564	SH72637359	SHELTER	Post-Medieval	440
278565	SH72607337	HAFOD	Medieval	475
278566	SH72637332	HAFOD	Medieval	475
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278570	SH72847352	TRACKWAY	Unknown	450
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278582	SH73217408	HAFOD	Medieval	365
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278596	SH74457484	SHEEP SHELTER	Post-Medieval	300
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278607	SH73247519	BARN	Post-Medieval	270
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278609	SH73937555	HOUSE PLATFORM	Medieval	240
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278648	SH73107062	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	350

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278651	SH73507111	STOCK ENCLOSURE	Post-Medieval	325
278652	SH73667102	FARMSTEAD	Post-Medieval	305
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278663	SH71977066	PEAT WORKINGS	Post-Medieval	400
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278670	SH73247047	HAFOD	Medieval	340
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278672	SH71937084	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	390
278673	SH73727014	CLEARANCE CAIRN	Post-Medieval	350
278674	SH72796997	HAFOD	Medieval	390
278675	SH72776997	STOREHOUSE	Post-Medieval	390
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278677	SH72386968	STOCK ENCLOSURE	Post-Medieval	450
278678	SH72546958	FARMSTEAD	Medieval	450
278679	SH73727014	HAFOD	Medieval	530
278680	SH71616904	SHEEP FOLD	Post-Medieval	620
278681	SH71596891	FARMSTEAD	Medieval	550
278682	SH71336864	FARMSTEAD	Post-Medieval	550
278683	SH70886956	SLATE QUARRY	Post-Medieval	760
278684	SH73467156	FARMSTEAD	Medieval	365
278685	SH73807160	FIELD SYSTEM	Roman	340
278686	SH73817142	FIELD SYSTEM	Roman	320
278687	SH74167165	CLEARANCE CAIRN	Post-Medieval	300
278688	SH73967132	CLEARANCE CAIRN	Post-Medieval	290
278689	SH73897091	HAFOD	Medieval	270
278690	SH73827094	BARN	Post-Medieval	280
278691	SH73677139	HUT CIRCLE	Roman	330
278692	SH74024165	FARMSTEAD	Post-Medieval	320

ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure 1: Location Map

Figure 2: Eastern Snowdonia (North) Study Area

Figure 3: Site Distribution showing both pre- and post-survey sites

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- Plate 2: Druids' Circle, Cefn Coch, Penmaenmawr (NMR 300889)
- Plate 3: Cairn A, Cors y Carneddau (NMR 303030)
- Plate 4: Maen Crwn Stone Circle and Clearance Cairns (NMR 303073 and 275444)
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- Plate 11: The Roman Road running through the mountain pass at Bwlch y Ddeufaen

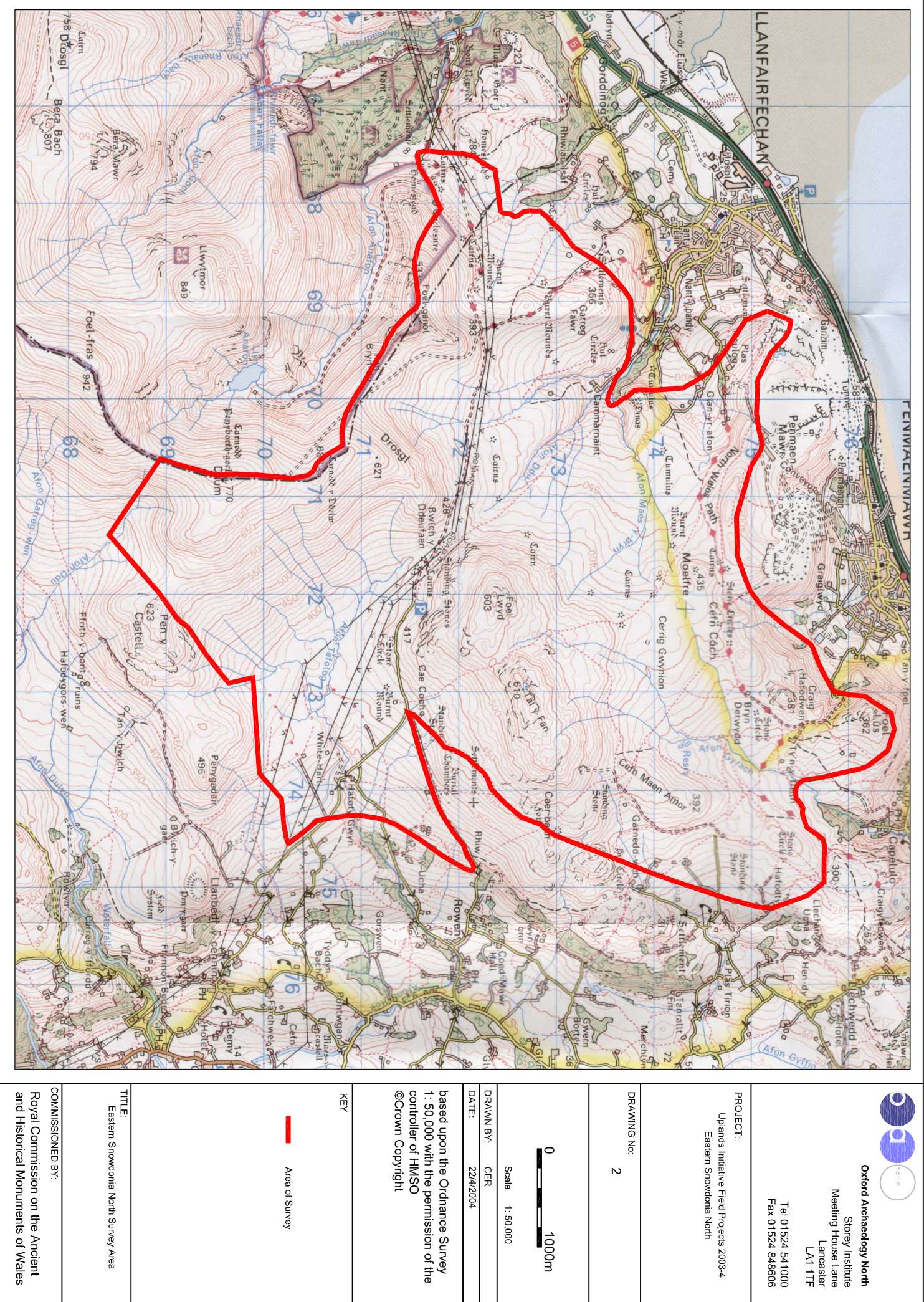


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Scale 1: 250,000 at A4



Figure 1: Location map



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PROJECT:
Uplands Initiative Field Projects 2003-4
Eastern Snowdonia North

DRAWING No:
2

0 1000m

Scale 1:50,000

DRAWN BY: CER

DATE: 22/4/2004

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KEY

Area of Survey

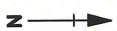
TITLE:
Eastern Snowdonia North Survey Area

COMMISSIONED BY:
Royal Commission on the Ancient
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Figure 2 : Eastern Snowdonia (North) Study Area

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Key: — Study Area Boundary
● Old Sites
● New Sites



Scale 1 : 50,000 at A4

0 1000m

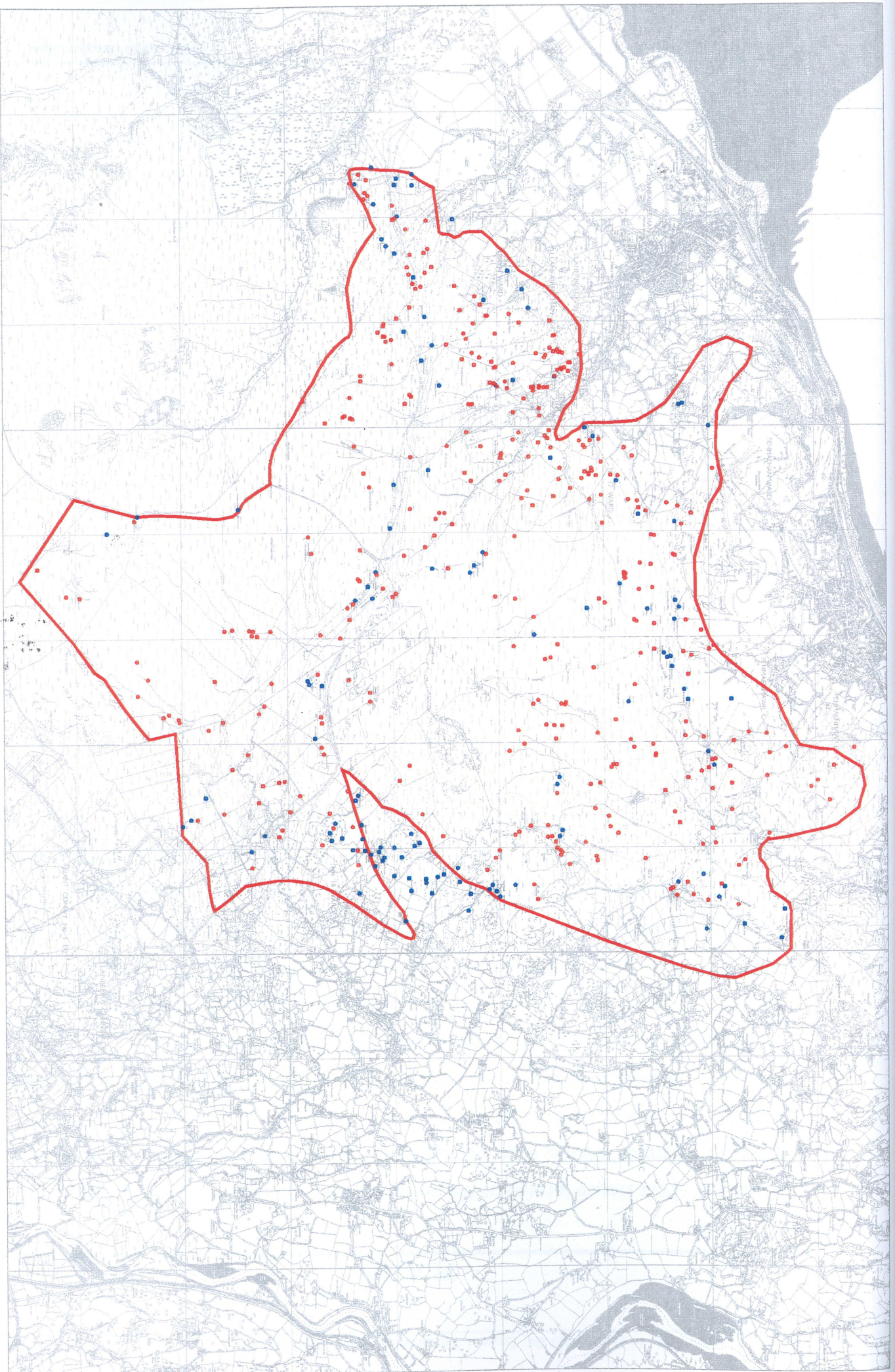


Figure 3 : Site distribution showing both pre- and post survey sites



Plate 1: Peat House located on the north-west side of Tal y Fan (NMR 24396)



Plate 2: Druids' Circle, Cefn Coch, Penmaenmawr (NMR 300889)



Plate 3: Cairn A, Cors y Carneddau (NMR 303030)



Plate 4: Maen Crwn Stone Circle and Clearance Cairns (NMR 303073 and 275444)



Plate 5: Shieling located on Llannerch Fedw (NMR 275475)



Plate 6: Slate Quarry on north side of Tal y Fan (NMR 275506)



Plate 7: Cultivation Lynchets below Dinas, Maes y Bryn (NMR 275511)



Plate 8: Standing Stones, on the mountain pass, Bwlch y Ddeufaen (NMR 303022)



Plate 9: Burnt Mound on level ground to the south-west of Moelfre (NMR 303028)



Plate 10: Medieval Farmstead on sloping ground to the west of Waun Llanfair (NMR 275429)



Plate 11: The Roman Road running through the mountain pass at Bwlch y Ddeufaen.



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