



# UPLANDS INITIATIVE FIELD PROJECTS 2009-10

## Bwlch y Pentre Survey Area

North Wales

## Archaeological Survey Report



**Oxford Archaeology North**

March 2010

**RCAHMW**

Issue No: 2009-10/999  
OA North Job No L10087  
NGR: SH 883 476

**Document Title:** UPLANDS INITIATIVE FIELD PROJECTS 2009-10  
BWLCH Y PENTRE SURVEY AREA

**Document Type:** Archaeological Survey Report

**Client Name:** RCAHMW

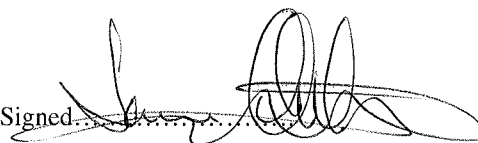
**Issue Number:** 2009-10/999  
**OA Job Number:** L10087

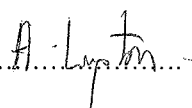
**National Grid Reference:** SH 883 476

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## SUMMARY

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An archaeological identification survey of a mountainous region on the south side of the Vale of Conwy around Bwlch y Pentre (SH 883 476 centred), North Wales was undertaken between August and October 2009, 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 project comprised an initial archaeological desk-based study, followed by a field identification survey for the study area.

The survey area of Bwlch y Pentre covers an area of 12.1 sqkm and is dominated by high peaks at the southern end consisting of the ridge between Carnedd y Filiast and Trum Nant Fach, along with a chain of lower hills running from Foel Frech to Moel Eglwys. The study area consists of sloping open and enclosed moorland which rises from approximately 300m to over 600m on the highest ridges, with the moorland being fringed by improved and semi-improved enclosure on the lower slopes.

In total, 16 sites were established by the desk-based study as being recorded within the HER and NMR, of which all were updated and 14 were given additional new NMR numbers. In total, 88 new sites were identified by the field survey, representing a substantial numerical increase in the number of sites within the study area.

The previously discovered sites identified in the NMR and HER were limited to two Bronze Age funerary cairns, and 14 post-medieval sites representing stock management structures, quarries and boundary stones.

Most importantly the present survey has identified a particularly rich prehistoric resource, in the form of an agricultural cairnfield/field-system covering some 31 hectares which is surrounded by funerary/ritual monuments.

No sites of definitively medieval date had previously been discovered within the study area, but the present survey has been able to add three new transhumance-type sites of upland domestic structures that are probably earlier than post-medieval in date.

In total, 72 sites have been ascribed to the post-medieval period, nine are modern and thirteen are of unknown date. The majority of the identified sites reflect the relatively recent exploitation of large tracts of open and post-Enclosure Act moorland sheepwalks. Sites from the period are divided relatively equally between sheep folds/stock management structures, and boundary stones and marker cairns in the more elevated areas, and clearance cairns within the lower improved fields. Other features consist of moorland trackways, limited peat cutting areas, and small-scale quarry scoops.

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## CRYNODEB

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Ymgwymerwyd ag arolwg archeolegol i adnabod yr ardal fynyddig ar ochr ddeheuol Dyffryn Conwy, o amgylch Bwlch y Pentre (SH 883 476 canol), rhwng Awst a Hydref 2009, gan Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) ar ran Comisiwn Brenhinol Henebion Cymru (CBHC) fel rhan o Fenter yr Uwchdiroedd. Cyflawnodd y prosiect astudiaeth archeolegol wrth y ddesg i ddechrau, yn cael ei ddilyn gydag arolwg adnabod yn y maes ar gyfer yr ardal astudiaeth.

Mae ardal yr arolwg, Bwlch y Pentre, yn cwmpasu ardal 12.1 cilomedr sgwâr, yng nghysgod copaon uchel ar yr ochr ddeheuol, yn cynnwys yr esgair rhwng Carnedd y Filiast a Trum Nant Fach, gyda chadwyn o fryniau is yn rhedeg o Foel Frech i Foel Eglwys. Mae'r ardal dan astudiaeth yn cynnwys gweunydd llechweddog agored a chaeedig, sy'n codi o tua 300m i dros 600m ar yr esgair uchaf, ac mae'r gweunydd wedi'u hamgylchynu gan dir caeedig wedi'i wella a'i led wella ar y llethrau isaf.

Pennodd yr astudiaeth ddesg gyfanswm o 16 safle oedd wedi'u cofnodi dan HER a NMR, ac fe ddiweddarwyd pob un gyda 14 yn cael rhifau NMR newydd, ychwanegol. Nodwyd cyfanswm o 88 safle newydd gan yr arolwg maes, sy'n gynydd sylweddol yn nifer y safleoedd o fewn ardal yr astudiaeth.

Roedd y safleoedd a ganfuwyd yn flaenorol ac a nodwyd yn yr NMR a'r HER wedi'u cyfyngu i ddwy garnedd angladdol Oes Efydd, a 14 safle ôl-ganoloesol yn cynrychioli strwythurau rheoli stoc, chwareli a cherrig ffiniau.

Yn fwyaf pwysig, mae'r arolwg presennol wedi adnabod adnodd cynhanesyddol arbennig o gyfoethog, sef maes carnedd/system maes amaethyddol yn cwmpasu tua 31 hectar sydd wedi'i amgylchynu gan gofebion angladdol/defodol. Hefyd canfuwyd nifer o garneddau angladdol newydd.

Nid oedd unrhyw safle o ddyddiad canoloesol pendant wedi'i ganfod cyn hyn o fewn yr ardal astudiaeth, ond mae'r arolwg cyfredol wedi medru ychwanegu tri safle trawstrefa newydd o strwythurau cartref uwchdirol sydd yn ôl pob tebyg yn gynharach nag ôl-ganoloesol o ran dyddiad.

Priodolwyd cyfanswm o 64 safle i'r cyfnod ôl-ganoloesol, mae naw yn fodern a thri ar ddeg o ddyddiad anhysbys. Mae'r mwyafswm o'r safleoedd a nodwyd yn adlewyrchu'r defnydd cymharol ddiweddar o ddarnau mawr o weunydd agored a chaeedig ar ôl y Ddeddf Amgáu Tiroedd. Mae safleoedd o'r cyfnod yn cael eu rhannu'n gymharol gyfartal rhwng corlannau/strwythurau rheoli stoc, a cherrig ffiniau a charneddau marcio yn yr ardaloedd uwch, a charneddau cliro o fewn y caeau isaf wedi'u gwella. Mae nodweddion eraill yn cynnwys llwybrau gweunydd, ardaloedd torri mawn cyfyngedig, a chrafbantiau chwareli bychain.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank the Staff of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW), in particular David Leighton, David Thomas, Salvatore Garfi and Medwyn Parry, and also the staff of the reader services of the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth. OA North is also grateful to all the landowners and estate managers who generously allowed the survey team onto their land. In particular, we would like to thank Mr Mainwaring of Mainwaring Estates and Mr Warburton-Lee of Gilar.

We would like to thank Jackie Johnson, Land Charges Officer at Gwynedd County Council, and both Sophie Watson of the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust and Nina Steele of the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust for providing Historic Environment Record (HER) details.

The field survey and desk-based assessment were undertaken by Peter Schofield, assisted by David Maron. The report was written by Peter Schofield, who also produced the illustrations. The report was edited by Jamie Quartermaine, who also managed the project.

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was invited to undertake an archaeological identification survey of the mountainous region on the south side of the Vale of Conwy around Bwlch y Pentre (SH 883 476 centred), North Wales, on behalf of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) as part of the Uplands Initiative (RCAHMW 2008). The study area encompassed 12.1 sqkm of relatively gentle upland landscape (Fig 1).

## 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 2002).

1.2.2 To achieve these objectives the study area was subjected to a desk-based assessment and walkover survey. The desk-based study, carried out in July 2009, consisted of a search of both published and unpublished records held by the National Monuments Record (NMR) of Wales, the Historic Environment Records (HERs) of both Clwyd Powys and Gwynedd Archaeological Trusts, and the library and archives at OA North's offices in Lancaster. The fieldwork was carried out to fit in with access availability and weather conditions, and was undertaken between August and October 2009.

1.2.3 This report sets out the results of the work, accompanied by a summary gazetteer of new sites (*Appendix 1*).



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## 2. METHODOLOGY

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### 2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 A project design (OA North 2008) 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 issued by RCAHMW (2008). The project design provided for an initial archaeological desk-based study, followed by a field identification survey for the following areas: Carnedd Moel Siabod (North), Carnedd Moel Siabod (South), Bwlch y Pentre and Llyn Celyn (South). OA North was commissioned to undertake survey of one of these project areas and the present report relates to the Bwlch y Pentre area only (Figs 1 and 2).

### 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 **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.

2.2.3 **Historic Environment Record (HER):** an assessment was made of HER data held by both the Clwyd Powys and the Gwynedd Archaeological Trusts (CPAT and GAT), which was overlain onto the digital base map for the area.

2.2.4 **Ordnance Survey Mapping:** all available historic mapping for the survey area (provided by RCAHMW), was examined for the survey area for indications of historic sites that were not previously represented in the NMR and HER 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 2002) was undertaken on the Bwlch y Pentre 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 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 HER were checked and recorded at the same level of consistency as the newly discovered sites. The whole survey area, including both the upland commons and surrounding improved and enclosed fringes, was examined.

The survey involved four elements: reconnaissance, mapping, description and digital photography. This generated core information for entry into the NMR and additional archive information, in accordance with the RCAHMW Revised Data Standard for Upland Survey (RCAHMW 2004).

- 2.3.2 Each area was walked in transects of between 30m and 50m apart, depending on local topography and ground cover. The archaeological detail was mapped using Leica differential GPS equipment which used real-time EGNOS corrections from geo-stationary satellites to achieve an accuracy of up to  $\pm 0.5$ m. The digital survey data was transferred as shapefiles into a GIS system (ArcGIS 9.3), and was superimposed onto the embedded digital Ordnance Survey data (Figs 3 and 4). 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 using digital colour imagery and the images 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, type and altitude. Locations are given as ten-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 NMR, RCAHMW at Aberystwyth, Clwyd HER at CPAT, Welshpool and the Gwynedd HER at GAT, Bangor.

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### 3. TOPOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

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#### 3.1 LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

3.1.1 The survey area of Bwlch y Pentre covers an area of 12.1 sqkm and consists of rolling moorland and the north facing slopes and foothills of the Arenig mountains on the north-eastern edge of Snowdonia National Park (Fig 1). The southern side of the area is defined by the county boundary between Gwynedd and Conwy and all but the western edge of the survey area lies in the latter county (Fig 2). The undulating ridgeline summits on the southern end include: Carnedd y Filiast (highest at 669m OD), Bwlch y Pentre and Trum Nant Fach, whilst a curving chain of lower hills form the northern half of the survey area, containing Foel Frech, Copa Ceiliog, Garn Prys and Moel Eglwys, the latter slope being particularly gentle. The survey area and steep flanking mountain slopes are curved around a narrow isolated tributary valley containing the Afon Ceirw which drains east into Cwm Penanner, and there is an elevated hanging valley on the western edge of the area which drains the boggy slopes of Cwm y Gylchedd via Nant y Gylchedd. Relatively gentler slopes face to the west and north from the lower ridgeline of foothills towards the Vale of Conwy above Ysbyty Ifan and Pentrefoelas (Plate 1). At present the upland is mostly enclosed by large parcels of fenced, parliamentary enclosure boundaries and in a few places, on the lower slopes, there are also earlier farm garth boundaries, but the common above Ysbyty Ifan at the west end of the survey area (in the ancient parish of Gwernihowel) remains open.

#### 3.2 GEOLOGY

3.2.1 The exposed solid geology of the survey area is faulted into three bands and consists entirely of sedimentary rocks. The bulk of the area is of Ordovician age with newer Silurian aged rock on the northern edge. The largest band of Ordovician age rock is of the Bala (Caradoc) series and forms the bulk of the south and centre of the survey area, the other band is of the Bala (Ashgill) series and forms the north-eastern edge of the area. The newer band of Silurian age rock covers the central/northern edge of the area and is of the Undivided Wenlock series (British Geological Survey 1994; Neville George and Smith 1961). The overlying soils are a mixture of various soil types dependant on the parent rock (Soil Survey 1983). The area is dominated by loamy, permeable upland soils of the Hafren association on the chain of lower hills and the mountainous ridgeline in the south. The elevated southern ridgeline has very acidic peaty soils of the Crowdy 1 association near the summits. These areas are surrounded by soils on the lower flanks of the hills consisting of a mixture of permeable or well-drained loamy upland soils of the Wilcocks 2 association on the north and east flanks and of the Manod association on the steeper central valley sides (*ibid*).

#### 3.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

3.3.1 **Prehistoric:** prior to the present survey two sites were recorded within the study area as being prehistoric, and more specifically Bronze Age, in date. Both of the

sites consisted of funerary cairns with internal stone cists, with one located at Foel Frech (NMR 303173; Plate 2), and the other at Garn Prys (NMR 303326; Plate 3) in the west and centre of the survey area respectively. These were not summit cairns, but were on the lower shelved land on the flanks of the hills. The majority of prehistoric sites recorded (and scheduled) in the mountainous region, immediately surrounding the study area, are summit cairns, although examples of cairns located on lower land are mirrored to the south at Llyn Celyn (OA North 2009). A dubious cairn (NMR 400520; RCAHMW 1914; Inventory No 94), now removed, was recorded in the valley floor on the north side of the Afon Ceirw (external to the present survey area).

- 3.3.2 The surrounding region of the Vale of Conwy, on all but the south of the survey area, is replete with both upstanding monuments and/or antiquarian evidence of prehistoric activity. Funerary evidence is particularly evident (Lynch 2002, 21), and there are many denuded cairns, that are often recorded as having cists that were formerly exposed, and have now been removed; these dot the landscape around Cerrigydrudion parish (named ‘the stones of the heroes/daring ones’) (Davies 1929). Groups of barrow and cairn cemeteries are located on the Hiraethog Moors (OA North 2005) and in the Brenig Valley (Lynch 1993), with the former area containing stone rows located above the village of Pentrefoelas (Davies 1929; OA North 2003) and the latter also containing an abundance of ritual sites, in particular ring cairns (Lynch 1993; Lynch 2002, 22). One particular regional variant, found located on the south end of the Hiraethog Moors, were small ‘ring’ cairns, each containing a single central upright stone (Owen and Silvester 1993; OA North 2003). Agricultural development and occupational sites have been recorded in several areas and range from Mesolithic/Neolithic flint scatters and Bronze Age occupational debris exposed within Llyn Aled Isaf reservoir (Brassil 1989), through to limited excavated occupation evidence, and a small cairnfield (no more than 30 clearance cairns) in the Brenig Valley (Lynch 1993), and to a more extensive multi-period farmed landscape, of field-systems, cairnfields, and, occupation sites, surveyed and partially excavated on the Denbigh Moors (Manley 1991). The Ceirw valley was dominated in the Iron Age by a pair of hillforts at Caer Caradog and Caer Ddunod, located on the slopes to the east of Cerrigydrudion village.
- 3.3.3 A series of huts and a small alignment of stones, both of unknown date, were recorded in the survey area, and in the Clwyd Powys HER, located on the northern flank of Garn Prys. These sites had been identified by Canon Ellis Davies (1929) and/or the RCAHMW (1914; Inventory Number 90); subsequently, they have been identified as being of post-medieval or modern in date (NMR 509297 and 509298). The huts may relate to ‘five stone circles’ identified on Garn Prys in 1744 (Davies 1929, 80).
- 3.3.4 **Medieval to Post-Medieval:** there is no clear physical or documentary evidence for the dispersed upland habitation and exploitation in the survey area in the medieval period, such as longhouses and/or other domestic structures and elements of field-systems, which are prevalent elsewhere in the region (OA North 2009; Davies 1977). The huts recorded on Garn Prys (*Section 3.3.3*) relate to later upland stock management and shepherd’s shelters. Previously identified sites within the Clwyd Powys HER are limited to three types of monument visible on historic OS mapping (recorded from this source), including sheepfolds (NMR 509288-509290, 509293-509296), small quarries (NMR 509291 and 509292) and boundary stones following

the county and parish boundaries (NMR 509285-509287). One putative site of a much disturbed 'homestead' (NMR 303174), originally identified as a walled stone circle/enclosure (Davies 1929, 133), lay just to the west of the survey area in a sheltered cwm near Cerrig Ellgwm Isaf.

- 3.3.5 Within the medieval period the study area lay within the Crown lordship of Denbigh, that had originally been wrested from the principality held by Llewelyn Ap Gruffudd by Edward I and was presented to his favourite the Earl of Lincoln (Evans 2001, 24). The area was relatively uninhabited in the early medieval period, especially the rugged upland areas, although it was exploited for its extensive upland woodland resources, hunting and moorland grazing. The mountains formed suitable areas for both legal and illegal assarting, the encroachment of ffridd enclosures in the late medieval period and possibly earlier. Both manorial and monastic landholders exploited the upland pastures with vaccaries and granges and documents provide evidence of a strong Cistercian influence in North Wales in this period (Roberts 2001, 14). It is probable that the majority of farming involved the pioneering exploitation of marginal uplands for the pasturage of cattle rather than sheep, although the Cistercians were known, from the thirteenth century, as accomplished sheep farmers and woollen traders, and may have had some sheepwalks at that date (*ibid*). Of particular relevance to the present survey area is the putative site of a monastic grange and chapel held by the Cistercian Abbey of Aberconwy at the aptly named modern farm Capelle/Capellau ('the chapel'). This is the eastern end of the area (RCAHMW, 1914, Inventory Number 103), and presumably held some of the land within the hills in the survey area (*ibid*), such as Moel Eglwys ('church hill') to the north.
- 3.3.6 After the Dissolution of the Monasteries, monastic landholdings were carved up and divided between the Crown and regional Welsh landed elite (Evans 2001, 26). Part of the Aberconwy lands were granted by Henry VIII to Cadwaladr, great grandson of the lay steward of Aberconwy lands in Hiraethog, Maredudd ap Tudur; this land was to become the Foelas and Gilar estates. It was the local elite who were eventually to hold large swathes of land in both the lowlands and uplands of Wales, and this culminated in the vast estates of the nineteenth century. For the immediate survey area prominent men in the sixteenth century included Dr Ellis Price of Plas Ioilyn (just to the north of the survey area), who's extended family also held the fine, and still extant, sixteenth-seventeenth century house at Gilar (NMR 27199; Fig 2), some half a mile south of the parent house (adjacent to the survey area) (Hague 1958).
- 3.3.7 Encroachments on the commons, held as Crown Lands, were undertaken by manorial lords, and tenants alike, with widespread cattle-based transhumant hafod-style settlement and agriculture in the region. These encroachments were to continue down the centuries by a process of neglect (by the Crown), corruption and stealth (*op cit*, 31). Large tracts of the upland moorland presumably remained ostensibly Crown Lands in the post-medieval period; however, the farms and cultivable lands surrounding these areas, together with certain encroachments on to the commons, were increasingly amalgamated into large estates through crown leases. There was a further phase enclosure, added after the tithe schedule, which reflects the large scale acquisition of Crown Lands by means of the Enclosure Acts of the mid-1860s. The only part of open upland common to survive the Enclosure Act was the common held in the parish of Gwernihowel, which is located on the west end of the survey

area. This was probably partly because of the vagaries of its ownership, initially as a detached part of Corwen township in Merionethshire but was then transferred to Ysbyty Ifan in Denbighshire. The Enclosure Acts consolidated holdings of common grazing into enclosed sheepwalks, with the upland farms often owned by large landed estates, although private ownership by small-scale landowners had become prevalent increasingly during the twentieth century.

- 3.3.8 The region, being mostly composed of land in Cerrigydrudion parish, was described in the nineteenth century as consisting of ‘dreary mountains and moorland where the main agriculture was pastoral, of both cattle and sheep, and where the main industries comprised woollen yarn production for the manufacture of socks’ (Lewis 1833). The pattern of agricultural practice may not have changed significantly for many centuries; woollen manufacture had been important since at least the medieval period of monastic exploitation. From the sixteenth century onwards woollen production in the form of ‘Welsh Cotton’, a rough material often exempt from tax, was produced by the farmers. It was then purchased at regional fairs, such as one at Cerrigydrudion, by buyers (called ‘Broggers’), who then sold the material on in the main market centres of Oswestry, Shrewsbury and Welshpool (Lynch 1993, 179).

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## 4. RESULTS OF THE DESK-BASED STUDY

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### 4.1 DESK-BASED STUDY SUMMARY

- 4.1.1 ***Cartographic Evidence:*** examination of the historic maps, the Ordnance Survey (OS) first and subsequent editions of the 6" and 25" to 1 mile mapping, has the potential to inform the development of the enclosed lands and higher unenclosed moorland; however, in practice there was little significant difference revealed between the extensive OS first edition mapping (1876-80) and that of today. The general pattern of enclosure had already been formalised by Enclosure Acts in the decade before the OS first Edition mapping. There are several old ffridd enclosures surrounding the farms at Blaen y Cwm, Pentre Cwm-mawr and Pentre Cwm-bach in the centre of the survey area and formalised straight-sided boundaries crossing the roughly-grazed uplands. In general, there is an increased sub-division of boundaries over time between the various editions of OS mapping; however, only a few areas of enclosed upland, in particular to the west and east of Moel Eglwys, are visibly improved on the mapping up to present day. The common land of Gwernihowel, on the west edge of the survey area, remains open today. Very few sites of archaeological interest are marked on the historic OS mapping, these consist of single examples of sheep folds, sheep shelters, a trackway on the south flank of Garn Prys, and numerous boundary stones following both the county and parish boundaries.
- 4.1.2 ***Aerial Photographic Interpretation:*** digital aerial photographic mapping and interpretation was supplied by the RCAHMW under the auspices of the Uplands Initiative. The interpretation identified very limited potential remains of archaeological interest. The most important being areas of peat cutting on Trum Nant Fach and, in addition, a possible trackway on Garn Prys. These sites clearly relate to highly visible episodes of post-medieval moorland exploitation.
- 4.1.3 ***Gwynedd Historic Environment Record (HER), Clwyd Powys Historic Environment Record, National Monuments Record of Wales (NMR):*** in total, 16 unduplicated sites were recorded within the HER and NMR; comprising two Bronze Age sites and fourteen post-medieval sites (Table 1; Figs 3).

## 5. SURVEY RESULTS

### 5.1 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1.1 The survey examined both known and previously unknown sites, which ranged in date from the Bronze Age through to the post-medieval and modern periods. The majority of the sites consisted of widely dispersed single monuments, although larger groups of sites were evident, in particular, the structures associated with a large prehistoric cairnfield, and groupings of boundary marker stones. All the sites identified by the documentary study were examined; their locations and extent were updated on the mapping, as required, and the site descriptions were enhanced. Both new and old sites are indicated on Figure 3. In total, three portions of the study area measuring 0.5sq km were not subject to walkover survey as access was not granted by the landowner, and several disparate portions of land, measuring 0.16sq km, comprised plantation woodland, similarly, were not investigated.
- 5.1.2 *Previously Recorded Sites:* the desk-based study identified two pre-survey NMR sites, whilst a further 14 unduplicated HER sites were also updated and given new NMR numbers. The majority of the known sites were confirmed by the identification survey; however, a few sites, despite extensive searching, could not be located.
- 5.1.3 *New Sites:* in total, 88 new sites were identified representing a substantial numerical increase in the number of sites within the study area and are summarised below (Table 1).

Period	Pre-Survey Number	Post-Survey Number	Numerical Increase
Prehistoric	0	9	9
Bronze Age	2	7	5
Medieval	0	5	5
Post-Medieval	14	73	59
Modern	0	9	9
Unknown	0	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>88</b>

Table 1: Pre- and Post-Survey Site Numbers

- 5.1.4 *Altitude range of sites:* the overall site density was 8.6 sites per sqkm, which was spread according to altitude as shown in Table 2. The greatest density of sites was between the 375-399m OD range.

Height Range	Existing Sites	New Sites	Total
300-324m	0	1	1
325-349m	0	3	3
350-374m	2	11	13



375-399m	5	26	31
400-424m	3	12	15
425-449m	2	13	15
450-474m	1	6	7
475-499m	1	7	8
500-524m	0	2	2
525-549m	0	2	2
550-574m	0	0	0
575-599m	0	1	1
600-624m	1	1	2
625-649m	1	3	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>104</b>

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 NMR and HERs, fall into eleven general types, which are defined as shown in Table 3.

Type	Existing Sites	New Sites	Total
Boundary Bank, Boundary Stone, Boundary Wall Marker Cairn	4	13	17
Building Platform, House Platform, Longhouse	0	4	4
Cairn	2	5	7
Cairnfield, Clearance Cairn	0	27	27
Deserted Rural Settlement	1	0	1
Enclosure	0	1	1
Peat Cutting	0	3	3
Quarry	2	12	14
Sheep Fold, Sheep Shelter, Shepherd's Shelter	7	18	25
Standing Stone	0	1	1
Trackway	0	4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>104</b>

Table 3: Range of Site Types

## 5.2 BRONZE AGE/PREHISTORIC

5.2.1 **Prehistoric Funerary Cairns:** previously discovered potentially funerary sites, defined within the NMR and HER as prehistoric, were limited to two putative Bronze Age cairns, each with internal stone cists, at Foel Frech (NMR 303173; Plate 2) and Garn Prys (NMR 303326; Plate 3). Neither cairns are summit cairns, and instead were located on spurs of land on the lower flanking slopes, but with

good viewsheds. Both cairns had been damaged by later disturbance to some degree as a result of antiquarian investigations.

5.2.2 The current survey identified numerous further potentially prehistoric sites (Fig 4), six of which are almost certainly funerary cairns. Two of the cairns could be classed as summit cairns; however, they were located adjacent to the summits, on land that was slightly sheltered and just below the summits. One example was located near the summit of Moel Eglwys (NMR 509367; Plate 4), which consisted of a round cairn, measuring 6m in diameter by only 0.25m high, that had been disturbed by a probable antiquarian investigation. The second example was discovered near to the summit of Copa Ceiliog (NMR 509360; Plate 5), and survived as an embanked ring of earth and stone measuring 8m in diameter by 0.4m high; however, it is not a ring cairn as such, and is in actuality a disturbed round cairn. The cairn has a slightly offset internal rectangular depression which may relate to either the remains of a now disappeared stone cist, or to an antiquarian investigation. The Copa Ceiliog cairn had a wide viewshed to all but the north-east, whilst the Moel Eglwys cairn had views to all but the south-west. The Copa Ceiliog cairn probably relates to a cairn recorded by Rev H Longueville Jones in 1855, which was subsequently dismissed by Davies (1929, 82), who apparently had been looking for it on the wrong hill (Garn Prys instead), and had therefore suggested that the cairn was the boundary marker cairn that was there (NMR 509337).

5.2.3 **Prehistoric Cairnfield:** the largest concentration of putative prehistoric sites is clustered in the north-east of the survey area on the gently sloping northern flanks of Moel Eglwys (Fig 4). The area contains the complex remains of a very large cairnfield located above Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf (NMR 509345; Plate 6). The cairnfield consists of a grouping of at least 160-170 clearance cairns covering an area of at least 31 hectares (Fig 5), although the cairns are more dispersed on the western half of the area. The majority of the cairns are small, measuring between 3-4m in diameter by only 0.4m high, but form distinct areas of field clearance for prehistoric agriculture. There are examples of more recent clearance cairns and stone dumps which overlay some earlier cairns but these were obviously more modern in date. The cairnfield is overlain by three long, parallel boundary banks which are orientated roughly north/south (NMR 509346, 509348 and 509351). The lower northern end of the middle banks is by other walls to form a large sub-oval enclosure (NMR 509350). This would appear to be the vestiges of a co-axial field system and may reflect a later phase of agricultural exploitation. The western and southern limits of the cairnfield are defined by stream gullies, whilst the lower northern edge is bounded by an area of mire. The cairnfield is demarcated on the southern edge by a shallow ridgeline, which contains four possible funerary cairns (NMR 509341; Plate 7, 509342; Plate 8, 509344 and 509355). Each cairn is turf-covered and measures between 5m and 9.5m in diameter and is up to 0.5m high. A single, putative standing stone demarcates the northern end of the cairnfield (NMR 509347; Plate 9). The stone, measuring up to 1.2m high, is potentially of prehistoric date as it does not relate to modern enclosure boundaries and no similar stones were found in the survey area, although it could alternatively be a livestock rubbing stone. Examples of these sites are notoriously difficult to date from their morphology alone, although the close proximity to other probable Bronze Age sites might be indicative of a similar date (Lynch 2002, 24). Other clearance cairns, of unknown date, were identified outwith the cairnfield (Fig 5), particularly on the north-east

side of Moel Eglwys. These cairns may reflect a combination of modern field clearance and the fragmentary remains of prehistoric clearance and cultivation within more improved land.

### 5.3 MEDIEVAL

5.3.1 **Domestic Sites:** no sites of probable medieval date had previously been discovered within the survey area, but the current survey discovered five new sites associated with probable upland transhumance type domestic occupation. As elsewhere in the region (OA North 2009) the distribution of such sites conformed to the pattern of dispersed singular sites or small settlement groups on what would have been pre-Enclosure Act open common land. The most readily identifiable example consisted of a cohesive grouping of three sites found in close association, and located in a sheltered cwm along the course of Nant y Gylchedd, at the western end of the survey area. The group consisted of the foundations of a two- or three-celled longhouse (NMR 509357; Plate 10) measuring 11m long by 7m wide, a sheep fold (NMR 509358) and an ancillary building platform (NMR 509359). The foundations of an isolated two-celled longhouse were identified on the northern end of the survey area at Gilar (NMR 509366). It measured up to 14m long by 6m wide and had a small sunken yard on the western end, a flattened platform on the eastern end and a D-shaped stock enclosure on the northern end. The final site of possible medieval date consisted of a single-celled sub-rectangular building platform (NMR 509353) located towards the north end of the survey area. It measured 9m long by 7m wide and was located at the southern terminus of the westernmost boundary bank that overlay the cairnfield at Cefnhirfynydd (NMR 509351). The platform had an associated sub-circular stock enclosure attached to the northern end measuring 11m long by 9m wide.

### 5.4 POST-MEDIEVAL/MODERN

5.4.1 **Agricultural Landscape:** in total, 73 sites have been ascribed to the post-medieval and modern periods, and form the majority of the identified sites (Table 1). The sites reflect the relatively recent exploitation of large tracts of moorland. The land is either currently open moorland common, gradually improved moorland enclosed by Enclosure Act, or small areas of titheable agricultural fringe lands located adjacent to farms within Cwm Penanner. Many sites relate extensive moorland sheep walks, and comprise numerous sheep folds, sheep shelters and shepherd's shelters (up to 25 examples) scattered across the whole study area. The number of these features demonstrate that sheep farming, and to some extent cattle farming, have been a major enterprise across the moorland at altitude during the post-medieval period.

5.4.2 **Industrial Landscape and Communications:** the evidence for industrial activity is limited within the survey area to a combination of 14 small-scale quarries (Plate 11) located within the land that was partially improved in the nineteenth/ twentieth centuries, and three surviving areas of peat cutting, all located on the elevated deep, peat-covered, moorland of Trum Nant Fach in the south-east of the survey area. The quarries were all associated with localised extraction for either domestic/agricultural construction or for aggregate to construct and maintain large modern farm trackways. One particularly extensive tract of peat cutting, identified

from aerial photographic interpretation, is located on Trum Nant-Fach (NMR 509319) and was found in close association with an access trackway that ran up along the county boundary from Nant Fach farm in the valley (NMR 509320). The cuttings reflect post-medieval or earlier activity for domestic farm needs on what was, until the mid-nineteenth century, open common land. Other trackways of archaeological interest are limited to three examples, all reflecting access up onto and through the moorland, on the north and south flanks of Garn Prys (NMR 509386 and 509377), and to the east of Moel Eglwys (NMR 509312).

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## 6. CONCLUSION

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### 6.1 DISCUSSION

- 6.1.1 The survey has identified a moderately high density of sites distributed throughout the study area, most of which were associated with post-medieval stock management, agriculture and habitation, although there were also significant concentrations of prehistoric sites associated with both funerary and agricultural functions. Previous surveys have highlighted a relatively small number of sites whilst the present survey has increased the number of already identified monuments within the NMR/HER by 550%.
- 6.1.2 **Prehistoric Cairnfield:** the evidence for prehistoric agriculture is particularly rich and extensive within the survey area (Fig 4). The large cairnfield complex on the shallow north-facing slope of Moel Eglwys, near Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf (NMR 509345; Plate 3 and 12), covers some 31 hectares and contains some 160-170 clearance cairns (Fig 5). The cairnfield is almost certainly prehistoric in date, and conforms to a pattern of extensive agricultural management seen elsewhere in the British Isles (Quartermaine and Leech forthcoming) and reflects a process of primary clearance of forest and the improvement of the land to enable a basic level of agricultural activity. If confirmed, the cairnfield would be one of the largest cairnfields in Wales. The region surrounding the survey area has several investigated areas of surviving cairnfield, on the moorland fringes, in the Brenig Valley and on the Denbigh moors (Lynch 1993; Manley 1991).
- 6.1.3 The cairnfields reflect potentially the expansion of settlement and agriculture up into the higher lands during Bronze Age, when the climatic conditions were benign, and prior to the climatic watershed of 1100-1000BC (Lynch 2002, 20). There was a small cairnfield of at least thirty cairns of possible Bronze Age date investigated in the Brenig Valley (Lynch 1993, 101). The majority of the cairns were 3-4m in diameter and were protruding through the thin peaty soil, which mirrors the majority of the cairns in the Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf cairnfield (Plate 7). Similarly, a larger funerary cairn was found in close association with the cairnfield (Brenig 14), which mirrors the ridgeline of funerary cairns and the standing stone surrounding Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf (Plates 8 and 9). No direct dating evidence was recovered from the Brenig cairnfield although the pollen diagrams revealed peat formation starting in the Bronze Age (*op cit*, 162).
- 6.1.4 A much larger area of three adjoining sections of multi-period (but undated) field-systems and cairnfield are located some 7.5km to the north-east of the survey area, on the shallow north-facing slopes near Cerrigydrudion. The north-facing aspect is mirrored at Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf, and it is suggested that this direction was preferable because of the prevailing wind direction rather than the sun-gathering south-facing slopes (Manley 1991, 66). The most interesting of these areas was at Graig Fechan where a cluster of around sixty clearance cairns, two parallel field boundary banks, and an 'enclosure/hut' were identified (Manley 1991, 62, Fig 1). The similarities with the Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf cairnfield are immediately apparent, with clearance cairns (2-5m in diameter) protruding through the peaty soil surface; it also had a series of modern field clearance dumps placed within the cairnfield. Both

had vestiges of the development of a field system; at Graig Fechan some of the cairns were aligned reflecting the existence of a former boundary; and at Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf clearance cairns were incorporated within the parallel field banks indicating that the cairns were a part of the development of boundaries. The 'enclosure/hut' at Graig Fechan, a 12m diameter ring of stones was excavated and the small 'hut' on the edge of the enclosure (possibly a secondary feature) was radiocarbon dated to around 1200-800BC. The enclosure may have been a denuded and re-used funerary or ring cairn located within the cairnfield (not their interpretation) as there was little, if no, domestic refuse recovered from the site.

- 6.1.5 The Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf cairnfield (Fig 5) is clearly multi-phased as it is overlain by a series of three parallel field banks, an enclosure, and has a house platform with enclosure on the southern edge. Such a development is seen in many field-systems, often where clearance cairns have been incorporated into the construction of the field banks, such as at Town Bank in Cumbria (Quartermaine and Leech forthcoming), and would appear to reflect a later phase of co-axial field system development. As well as the clearance cairns, the agricultural exploitation of the field-system is evidenced by the northern end of later enclosure NMR 509350, where the boundary survives as a sharp earthen lynchet, which has built up over time by soil movement through agricultural processes. The cairnfield, similar to the Graig Fechan example, has been subject to some modern clearance, with stone dumps and more obvious clearance cairns placed adjacent to, and in some cases on top of, earlier cairns. The cairnfield has seemingly had an extended development from primary exploitation of former woodland, to incorporating a field system and potentially also arable agriculture, and is paralleled at Town Bank, West Cumbria (Quartermaine and Leech forthcoming).
- 6.1.6 The cairnfield was potentially an anomalous survival of a once more prevalent regional agricultural exploitation of the band of gently sloped moorland fringelands at the 350-400m altitudes. The enclosures containing the cairnfield, located on the northern flanks of Moel Eglwys, were only enclosed in the 1860s, and have been depicted until recently as rough grazing on the OS mapping. The enclosures around Moel Eglwys seem to have been improved in a piecemeal manner since then, leaving the cairnfield intact, whilst also leaving a scatter of probable prehistoric clearance cairns further to the east (Fig 4). The relatively flat fields on the extreme eastern end of the survey area have now been almost totally improved.
- 6.1.7 **Prehistoric Funerary Sites:** round cairns that had previously been recorded were limited in number, but the present survey has provided evidence for a wide distribution of these monuments, with up to eight examples found throughout the survey area. The monuments were located either on the lower flanks of the hills, on sheltered ground just below the summits of the hills, or placed on a shallow ridgeline adjacent to the cairnfield at Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf. Only one cairn had an observable outer kerf of stones (NMR 303326; Plate 3), whilst many had evidence of either a partially surviving cist, or a rectangular depression within the cairn which is common for examples in the region (Lynch 2002, 21). It is likely that most, if not all, have been disturbed by antiquarian investigation or agricultural clearance.
- 6.1.8 **Medieval to Post-Medieval Agriculture and Settlement:** the study area was exploited during the medieval and later periods for its natural resources and moorland grazing and the mountains formed suitable areas for both legal and illegal

encroachment of ffridd enclosures. The establishment of transhumant hafod-style settlement and agriculture was followed by the enclosing of ffridd enclosures which coalesced as a band of dispersed pioneer settlement on the fringes of the uplands with permanent enclosure and homesteading on pockets of cultivable soil. This included the farms within Cwm Penanner in the centre of the survey area at Blaeny-cwm, Pentre Cwm-mawr, and Pentre Cwm-bach. Hafod sites with attached enclosures were documented as encroaching onto the moorland at the modern farm sites of Hafod Eddig and Hafoty-bach on the northern edge of the survey area (Davies 1977, 57, Fig 2).

- 6.1.9 The upland pastures were exploited by manorial estates, monastic houses and illegal squatters; there was a documented grange owned by the Cistercian abbey of Aberconwy located at the modern farm of Capelle/Capellau ('the chapel') on the eastern edge of the survey area, which presumably grazed the lands above at Moel Eglwys ('church hill'). Archaeological evidence for medieval/early post-medieval occupation at these types of sites is well known within the region (Silvester 2006) and in the vicinity of the survey area sites were investigated in the Brenig Valley that revealed sixteenth century pottery and occupational debris (Lynch 1993, 179).
- 6.1.10 No sites of probable medieval date had previously been discovered within the survey area, whilst the current survey discovered five sites associated with probable upland transhumance type domestic occupation. The distribution of such sites conformed to the pattern of dispersed singular sites or small settlement groups on what would have been pre-Enclosure Act open common land. The first of these sites consisted of a cohesive grouping of three structures found in a sheltered cwm along the course of Nant y Gylchedd, and included a two- or three-celled longhouse (NMR 509357; Plate 10), a sheep fold, and an ancillary building platform. The site probably reflected upland occupation associated with Cerrigellgwm-Isaf farm in the valley below. The second site consisted of the foundations of an isolated two-celled longhouse with an attached yard and stock enclosure which were identified on the northern end of the survey area on the hillside above Gilar on the lower slopes of Garn Prys (NMR 509366). This transhumant site may have been associated with the permanent farmstead of Hendre Brys which is located within the valley to the north (Davies 1977, 57, Fig 2). The final site of possible medieval date consisted of a house platform with adjacent stock enclosure located on the northern flank of Moel Eglwys (NMR 509353). The platform was located on the southern edge of the large cairnfield and on the end of one of the long parallel field banks. It is uncertain if this site was associated with transhumance type settlement or arable agriculture associated with the field banks.
- 6.1.11 ***Post-Medieval/Modern Agriculture and Industry:*** the remains of post-medieval agriculture make up the vast majority of sites within the study area, and are mostly split into stock management features located on the unenclosed moorland sheep walks and down into the enclosed fringe lands, and undated/modern clearance cairns located in the improved post-Enclosure Act fields. The relatively late enclosure of most of the survey area has led to efforts to clear the land of stone, with both hand-gathered and machine-dumped stone evident. The areas around Moel Eglwys have particular concentrations of modern clearance, often overlying earlier clearance episodes. In addition some small-scale quarries have been opened up in the same period, although these were for local agricultural and building needs. Access onto the sheep walks has required the construction of various sinuous trackways, some of

which could also have served as access to peat cutting areas. In particular, there is one up onto Trum Nant Fach where various elements of peat cutting have been identified.

## **6.2 SITE VISIBILITY**

- 6.2.1 The identification of surviving archaeological sites within the study area has to a greater or lesser extent been dictated by the topography and current ground conditions. The upper reaches of the hillsides on the south end of the survey area, and to a certain extent some of the open common at Gwernihowel on the west, are covered in blanket peat. Prehistoric occupation and monuments in these locations, unless of great size, may be masked beneath the peat, as peat inception in the surrounding region probably started within the Bronze Age (Lynch 1993; Lynch 2002). Of the lower lands there is a juxtaposition of both rough grazing lands, where areas of tall grasses and undergrowth may mask some sites, and more improved enclosures, particularly around Moel Eglwys, where many fields have been cleared of stone (and archaeological monuments). Despite these caveats, the site identification appears to have been fairly good within much of the survey area, and even where modern clearance has taken place prehistoric monuments have been recorded in considerable abundance (Fig 5).



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## 7. RECOMMENDATIONS

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### 7.1 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER WORK

- 7.1.1 It is recommended that investigation in the form of palynological sampling and peat coring be undertaken within the survey area. Sampling should take place in the boggy areas on the western limits of the study area at Cwm y Gylchedd and sampling should also take place in the boggy areas immediately adjacent to the northern end of the prehistoric cairnfield at Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf. This would not provide an absolute chronology for the sites, but palynological work from peat adjacent to the sites would be able to determine periods of agricultural, and, more specifically, arable activity in the vicinity of the sites.
- 7.1.2 It is imperative that detailed topographic survey should be undertaken on the whole of the cairnfield at Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf, as it is important to analyse the various constructional phases of the complex and their relationship to various nearby ritual/funerary monuments. Likewise, a detailed survey should be undertaken of all of the funerary cairns identified within the survey area. Detailed topographic survey could elucidate the relationship between the component parts of site complexes and, for single sites, could identify their function, and period of use.
- 7.1.3 It is recommended that the localised quarrying sites could benefit from detailed topographic survey in order to define their extent and relationships with associated features, such as trackways and shelters. The quarries recorded in the project are all associated with small-scale post-medieval extraction for domestic/farm construction and as aggregate for upland trackways.

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## APPENDIX 1: GAZETTEER OF NEW SITES

NPRN	NGR	TYPE	PERIOD	ALTITUDE
303173	SH8690047620	Cairn	Bronze Age	385
303326	SH8937448672	Cairn	Bronze Age	385
509285	SH8678645699	Boundary Stone	Post Medieval	465
509286	SH8669245138	Boundary Stone	Post Medieval	620
509287	SH8687044920	Boundary Stone	Post Medieval	625
509288	SH8725146052	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	475
509289	SH8692945808	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	440
509290	SH9102848038	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	395
509291	SH9048247680	Quarry	Post Medieval	425
509292	SH9015247985	Quarry	Post Medieval	405
509293	SH9051647657	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	420
509294	SH9088548653	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	370
509295	SH8917548933	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	355
509296	SH8892646610	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	405
509297	SH8910048700	Deserted Rural Settlement	Post Medieval	395
509298	SH8880048900	Boundary Stone	Post Medieval	395
509299	SH8890946662	Clearance Cairn	Modern	410
509300	SH9183548362	Quarry	Post Medieval	385
509301	SH9134348261	Clearance Cairn	Unknown	390
509302	SH9136848373	Clearance Cairn	Unknown	390
509303	SH9128048592	Clearance Cairn	Unknown	380
509304	SH9120148593	Clearance Cairn	Unknown	380
509305	SH9117348496	Clearance Cairn	Unknown	385
509306	SH9119748488	Clearance Cairn	Unknown	385
509307	SH9113348433	Clearance Cairn	Prehistoric	395
509308	SH9115748363	Clearance Cairn	Prehistoric	395
509309	SH9109648089	Quarry	Post Medieval	400
509310	SH9127548151	Quarry	Post Medieval	390
509311	SH9181348120	Quarry	Post Medieval	375
509312	SH9180648079	Trackway	Post Medieval	375
509313	SH9182648213	Quarry	Post Medieval	380
509314	SH9183248264	Quarry	Post Medieval	385
509315	SH8801046067	Boundary Stone	Post Medieval	585
509316	SH8855445699	Peat Cutting	Post Medieval	545
509317	SH8867746253	Peat Cutting	Post Medieval	460
509318	SH8967046474	Sheep Shelter	Post Medieval	455
509319	SH8952346325	Peat Cutting	Post Medieval	480
509320	SH8943746071	Trackway	Post Medieval	520
509321	SH8983146565	Quarry	Post Medieval	425
509322	SH8973046655	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	415
509323	SH8931046663	Sheep Shelter	Post Medieval	400
509324	SH8706646258	Boundary Stone	Post Medieval	440
509325	SH8705246231	Boundary Stone	Post Medieval	440
509326	SH8702846187	Boundary Stone	Post Medieval	440
509327	SH8696346062	Boundary Stone	Post Medieval	435
509328	SH8696444900	Marker Cairn	Post Medieval	635
509329	SH8724044896	Quarry	Post Medieval	645

509330	SH8689045195	Marker Cairn	Post Medieval	620
509331	SH8744245394	Marker Cairn	Post Medieval	645
509332	SH8730046003	Sheep Shelter	Post Medieval	490
509333	SH8721745856	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	490
509334	SH8712645710	Sheep Shelter	Post Medieval	500
509335	SH8758147165	Shepherds Shelter	Post Medieval	465
509336	SH8771847632	Marker Cairn	Post Medieval	475
509337	SH8871748373	Marker Cairn	Post Medieval	535
509338	SH8800147640	Clearance Cairn	Modern	450
509339	SH8796547534	Clearance Cairn	Modern	440
509340	SH9055248641	Clearance Cairn	Modern	380
509341	SH9058748805	Clearance Cairn	Prehistoric	370
509342	SH9056048725	Cairn	Bronze Age	375
509343	SH9057748738	Clearance Cairn	Prehistoric	375
509344	SH9054048710	Cairn	Bronze Age	380
509345	SH9016648725	Cairnfield	Prehistoric	380
509346	SH9034248801	Boundary Bank	Prehistoric	370
509347	SH9004348910	Standing Stone	Unknown	355
509348	SH9049148814	Boundary Bank	Prehistoric	370
509349	SH9042648914	Clearance Cairn	Unknown	355
509350	SH9037148889	Enclosure	Prehistoric	360
509351	SH9018648722	Boundary Bank	Prehistoric	380
509352	SH9040948417	Clearance Cairn	Modern	405
509353	SH9019048578	House Platform	Unknown	395
509354	SH9055548877	Clearance Cairn	Unknown	365
509355	SH9024848454	Cairn	Bronze Age	405
509356	SH8659947076	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	350
509357	SH8670846831	Longhouse	Medieval	365
509358	SH8676246746	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	370
509359	SH8681146705	Building Platform	Unknown	375
509360	SH8781047951	Cairn	Bronze Age	475
509361	SH8791048071	Sheep Shelter	Post Medieval	490
509362	SH8663548839	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	315
509363	SH8662048569	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	325
509364	SH8824948495	Quarry	Post Medieval	460
509365	SH8810848518	Quarry	Post Medieval	445
509366	SH8787749648	Longhouse	Medieval	330
509367	SH9071348011	Cairn	Bronze Age	440
509368	SH9069248065	Clearance Cairn	Unknown	440
509369	SH9066048020	Clearance Cairn	Post Medieval	445
509370	SH9061548002	Clearance Cairn	Unknown	445
509371	SH9058047884	Clearance Cairn	Post Medieval	445
509372	SH9052448083	Clearance Cairn	Post Medieval	435
509373	SH9010048142	Clearance Cairn	Modern	415
509374	SH9022247949	Quarry	Post Medieval	405
509375	SH8950948430	Quarry	Post Medieval	415
509376	SH8904948374	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	475
509377	SH8887248064	Trackway	Post Medieval	450
509378	SH8927648602	Clearance Cairn	Modern	400
509379	SH8940848687	Clearance Cairn	Modern	375
509380	SH8923148743	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	370

509381	SH8864448837	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	415
509382	SH8865148834	Shepherds Shelter	Post Medieval	415
509383	SH8903848830	Sheep Shelter	Post Medieval	390
509384	SH8906848852	Sheep Fold	Post Medieval	385
509385	SH8936449038	Clearance Cairn	Modern	325
509386	SH8860348960	Trackway	Post Medieval	390

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## ILLUSTRATIONS

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Figure 2: Bwlch y Pentre Study area

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

Figure 4: Probable prehistoric period sites

Figure 5: Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf Cairnfield (NMR 509345) and associated monuments

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Plate 3: Garn Prys Cairn (NMR 303326)

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Plate 9: Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf Standing Stone (NMR 509347)

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Plate 11: Ty'n-y-Ffridd Quarry (NMR 509309)

Plate 12: Google image of Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf Cairnfield (NMR 509345)

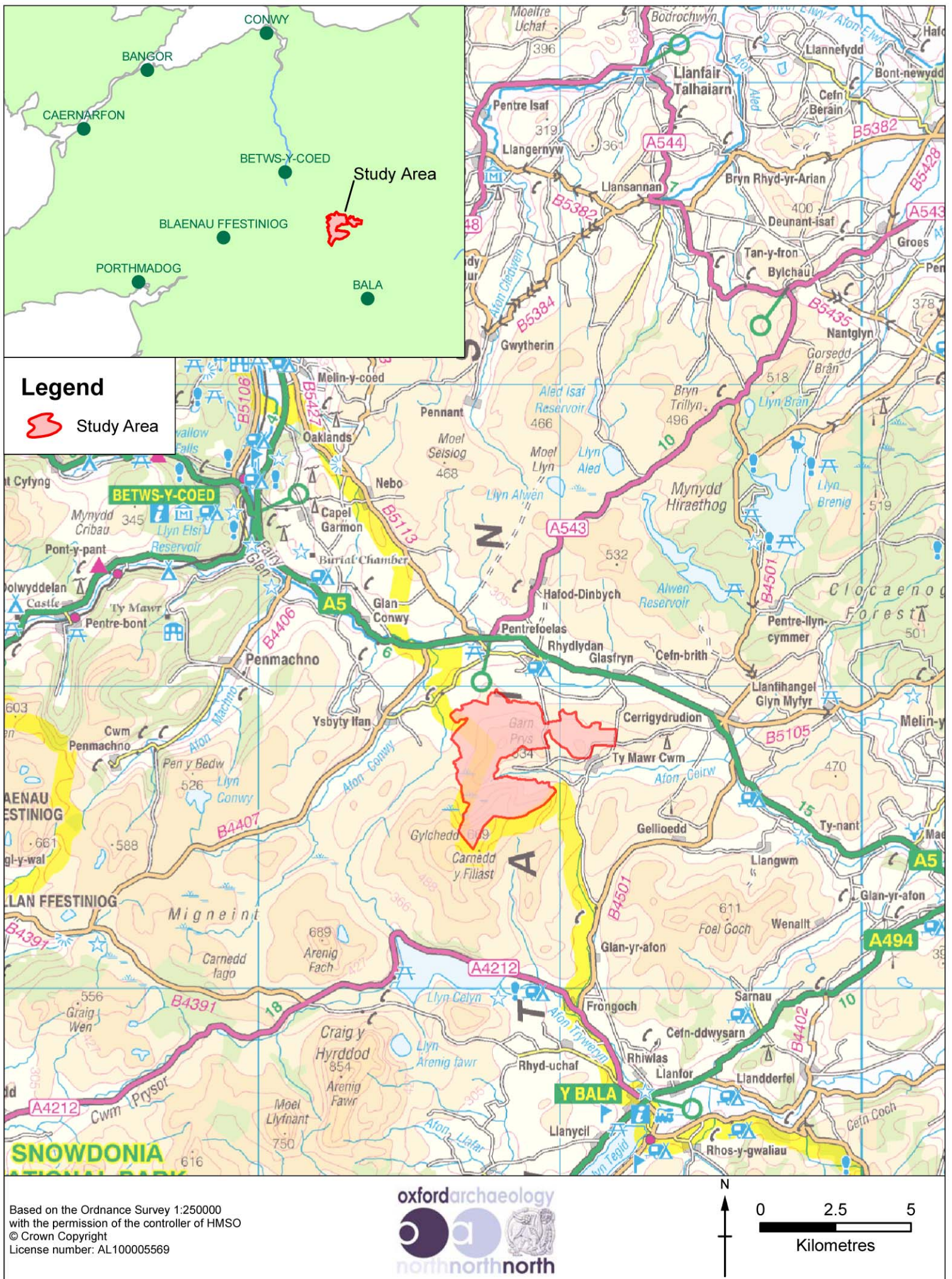


Figure 1: Location of Study Area



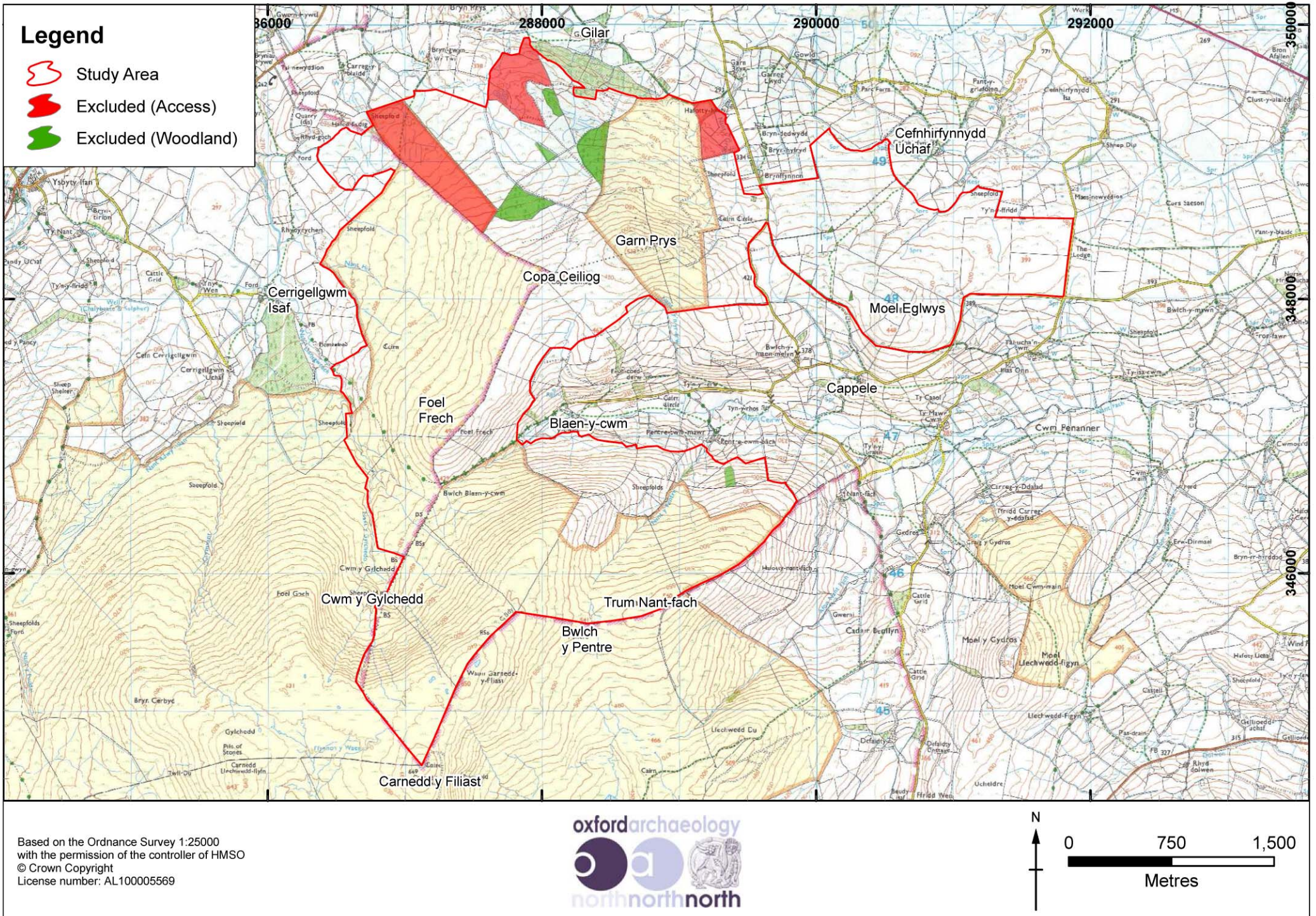
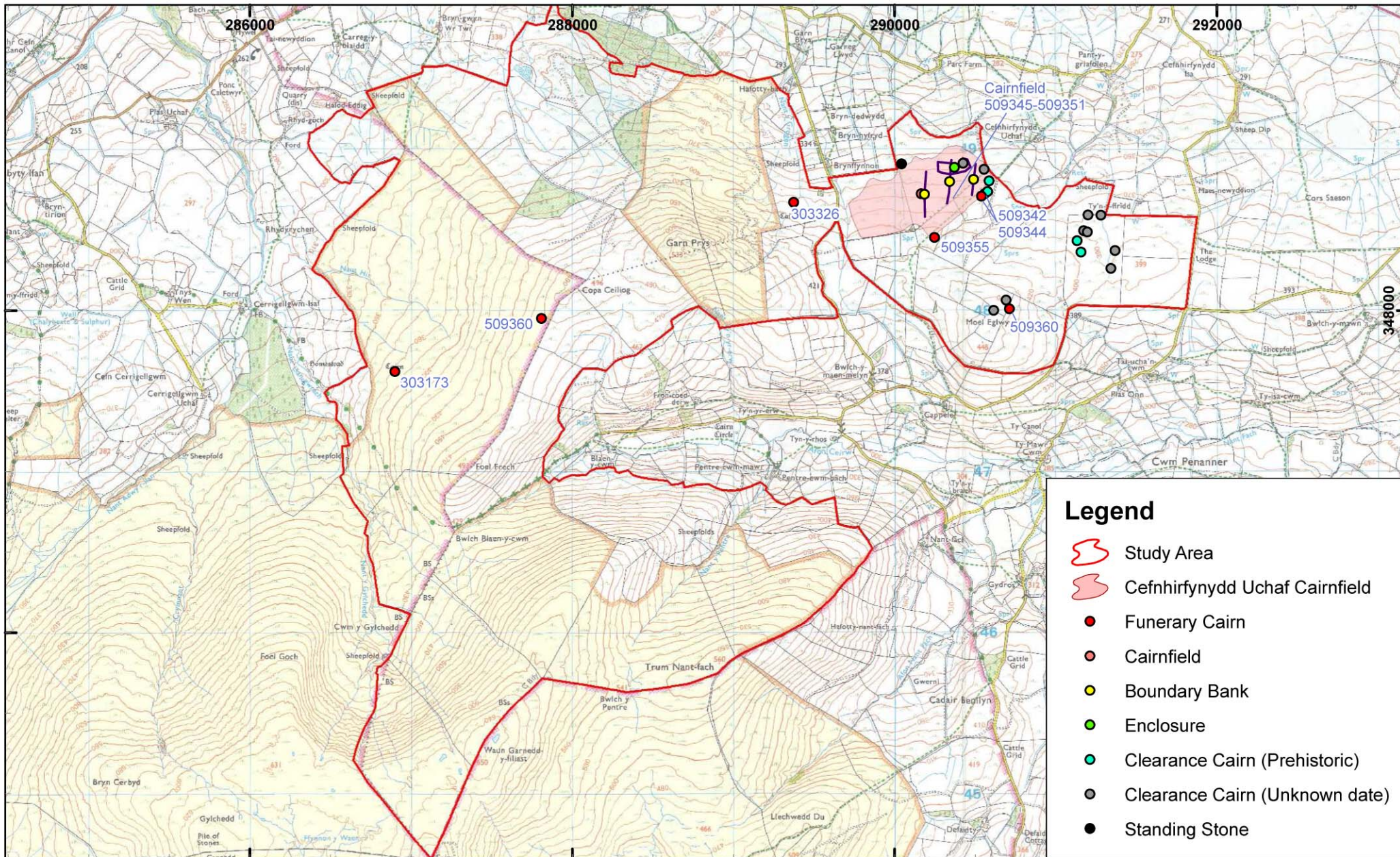


Figure 2: Bwlch y Pentre Study Area





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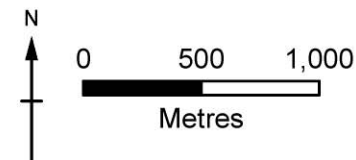


Figure 4: Probable prehistoric period sites

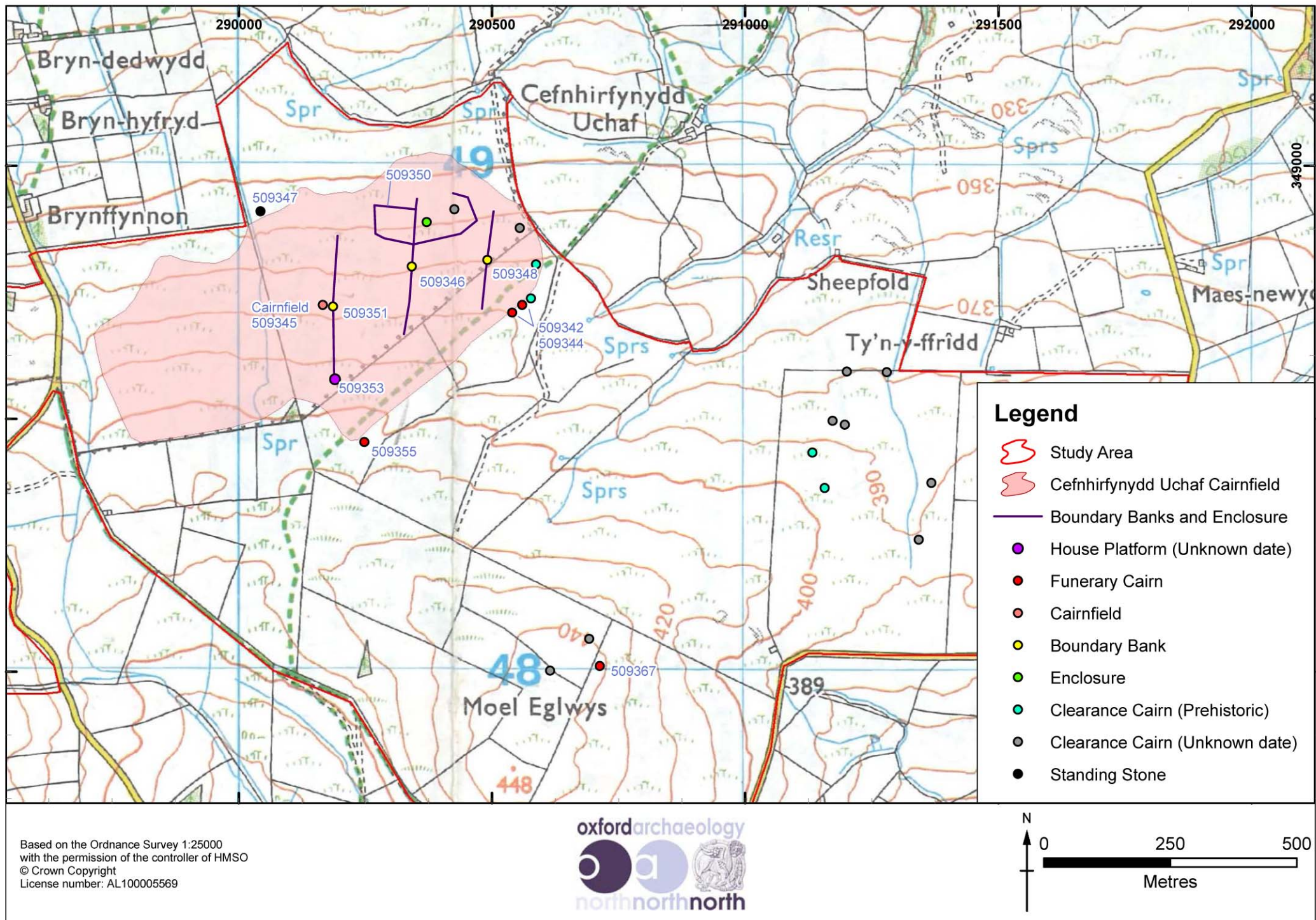


Figure 5: Cefnhirfynydd Uchaf cairnfield (NMR 509345) and associated monuments



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