

**THE UPLANDS ARCHAEOLOGY INITIATIVE  
PROJECT 2007-08  
AREA 6 LLYN BRIANNE (S)**



Prepared  
by  
Cambria Archaeology  
for  
RCAHMW



## **INTRODUCTION**

This report represents one element of the Uplands Archaeology Initiative. The Welsh uplands reflect strongly the economic and social history of Wales, their exploitation, and later abandonment, which was part of a wider rural depopulation during the eighteenth and particularly the nineteenth centuries.

### **Objectives**

The Uplands Archaeology Initiative aims to promote further understanding of the archaeology and history of the Uplands of Wales, in order to provide integrated methodologies related to their needs. The identification of evidence relating to past human activity will be achieved through research and field survey, which will be followed by synthesis and publication. The project will fill gaps in the archaeological record, and provide a holistic picture of the varied remains that relate to past human activity within the upland landscape context.

### **Methodology**

The project comprised three main elements: 1) an initial desk-based assessment of known sites within the survey area and the creation of a project database; 2) field visits to record the known sites and identify new sites; and 3) the completion of the project database and reporting.

The desk-based assessment and preparatory work for the archaeological field-survey included the following:

- A visit to and search of the Regional HERs (Cambria Archaeology and Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust).
- Reference to other databases on ENDEX, including databases compiled by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments in Wales (RCAHMW), and Cadw-Welsh Historic Monuments.
- Reference to oblique and vertical aerial photographs held with the NMR
- Examination of estate maps and tithe maps in Carmarthen Record Office and the NLW
- Identifying and contacting landowners

The fieldwork included:

- Survey using 30m-50m transects
- Pro-forma recording of sites and features
- Photographic recording of sites and features
- Annotation of maps

The reporting and archiving phase included:

- Completion of the project database
- Preparation of a report outlining the project results
- Preparation of maps that illustrate the archaeological resource of the area

### **Air photo mapping**

A GIS table of possible features plotted from aerial photographs was provided by RCAHMW. These were used as another reference source during the fieldwork, and appraisal and confirmation of the features identified from APs, as well as a statement of their value to the field project, formed an aspect of the reporting. NPRNs were only assigned to features whose existence could subsequently be

confirmed in the field. The following observations are made with regard to the AP mapping:

There are some inherent difficulties with the identification of features from APs, such as varying light and weather conditions, the time of year and ground conditions and ground cover. Valley sides are sometimes too heavily in shadow to identify features.

Unsurprisingly, field visits often showed the desk-based interpretations of features identified on APs to be erroneous, highlighting the need to confirm the existence and identification of such features on the ground. Other potential features turned out to be natural landforms. Plotted features were however, useful in indicating areas where features might be anticipated (i.e. tracks might lead to a specific site, or banks might define an enclosed area within which a settlement might prove to be located).

In some instances, linear features (banks and ditches) were only partially plotted. In other instances, linear features that were clear on the ground had not been identified or plotted from aerial photographs. Perhaps relating to the above, there was sometimes inconsistency between what feature types were or were not plotted, so that some tracks or field boundary banks were plotted while others were not.

### **Abbreviations used in this report**

All sites recorded on National Monuments Record database are identified by their National Primary Record Number (NPRN). Sites on the county Historic Environment Records (HERs) are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN), and all sites mentioned within this report are located by their National Grid Reference (NGR).

References to cartographic and documentary evidence and published sources are given in brackets throughout the text, full details, along with other useful sources are listed in the bibliography and sources section at the back of the report. Detailed sources for individual PRNs and NPRNs are not given. Initials and dates included in the PRN descriptions identify compilers and the dates the records were made or amended.

Research was also carried out in the National Monuments Record (NMR) and National Library of Wales (NLW) in Aberystwyth, and the County Records Office (CRO) in Carmarthen. Historic Landscape Areas (HLAs) are designated by Cadw (Welsh Historic Monuments).

## **THE STUDY AREA**

Area 6, Llyn Brianne (S), lies to the east of Llyn Brianne reservoir, between Rhandirmwyn and Abergwesyn, centred on NGR SN82034922. It comprises a long narrow strip of upland landscape that straddles the Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion and Powys border. The boundary is defined in most places by commercial coniferous forestry plantation, much of which was planted by the Forestry Commission, after the construction of Llyn Brianne Reservoir in 1972. The reservoir also forms part of the western boundary of the study area.

The block is approximately 17.5 square Km in extent and comprises almost entirely unenclosed moorland. Access is via public roads and footpaths. Apart from the extreme southern section, all of the area lies above 200m (Ordnance datum), and in parts rise to 500m AOD. Much of the area is steeply sloping; there is very little level ground.

Most of the southern part of area 6 lies within the registered Towy Valley Historic Landscape Area (HLA), specifically the 'Craig-Y-Bwch' character area (HLCA 221), which is distinct from the surrounding landscape, particularly the enclosed farmland on the floor of the Tywi valley to the west and south.

The northern part of Area 6, lies just outside the registered Elan Valley HLA, which stretches as far south as Abergwesyn (just north of the study area). However, the study area has much in common archaeologically with the upland landscape described in the Elan Valley HLA.



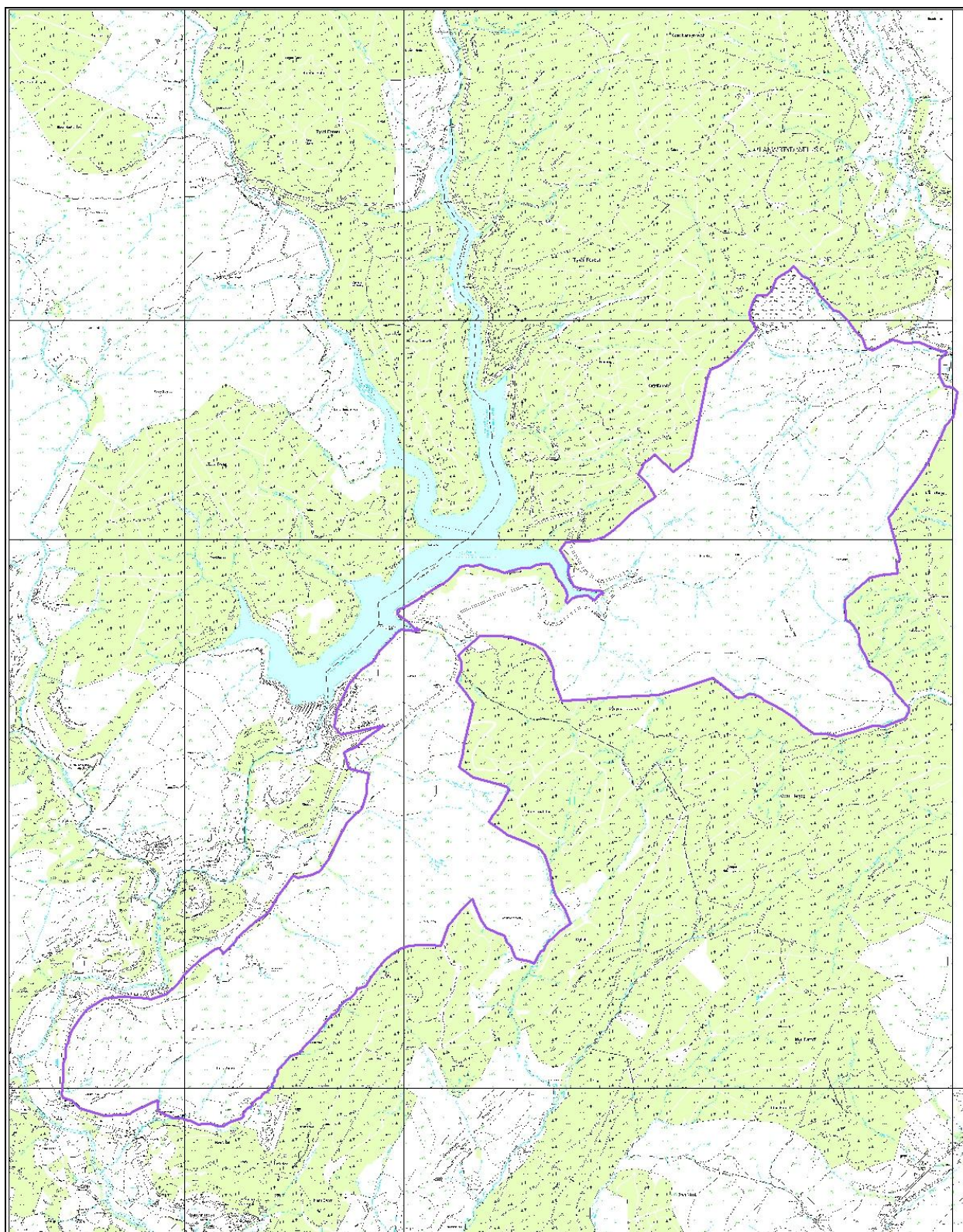


Figure 1: Location plan showing survey area.



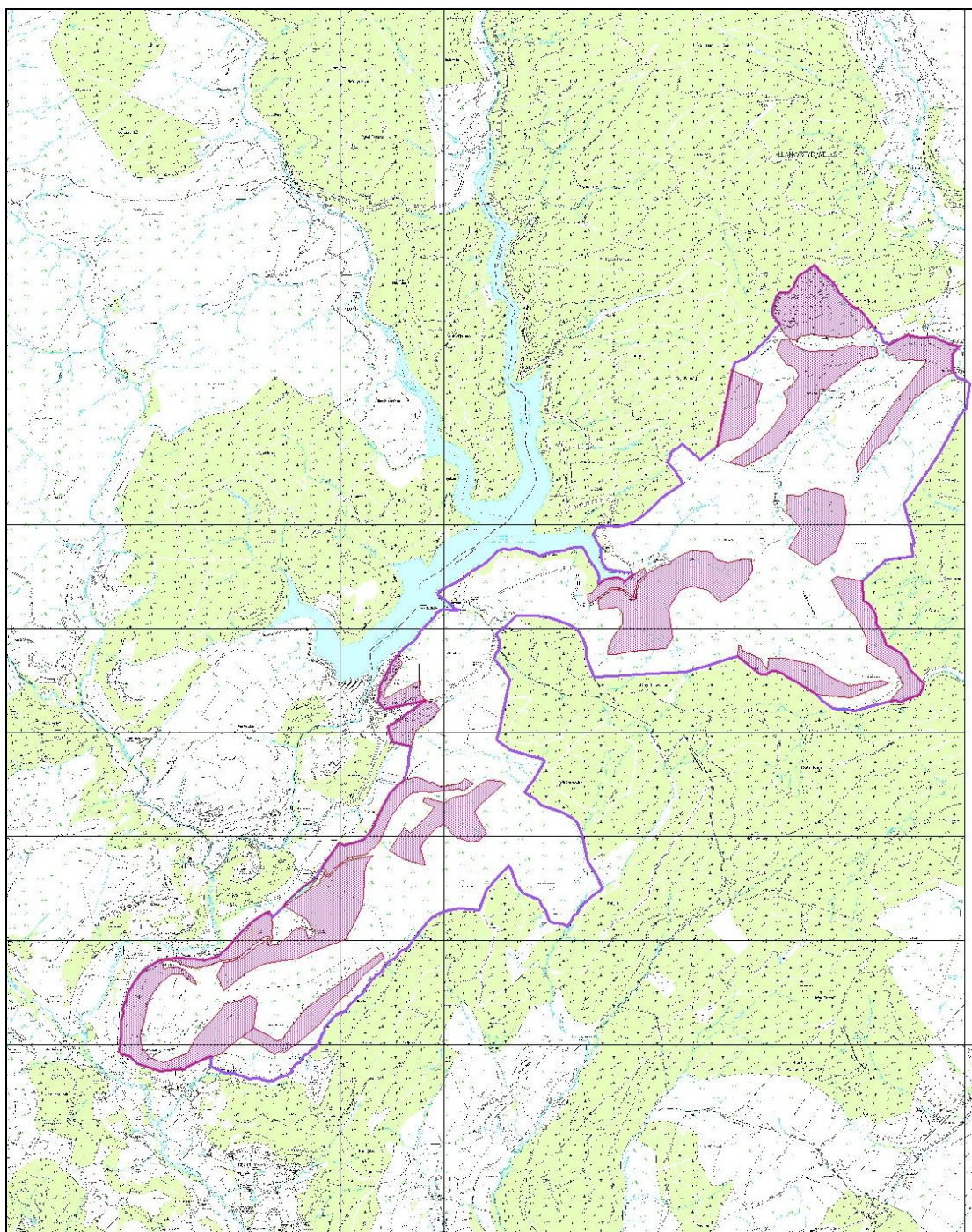


Figure 2: Plan of survey area and areas not walked (purple shading). These areas were too steeply sloped or too boggy to allow detailed investigation.

## HISTORIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION AND COMPONENTS

The strikingly open character of the landscape within the study area has largely been defined by its continued use as common upland grazing. Historic maps depict the area as open pasture as it is today. However, archaeological features identified within the bounds of the study area (sheep folds, abandoned farm and cottage sites, mine workings etc), demonstrate that the area was used for a wider range of economic activities in the past. Until the relatively recent past these uplands supported substantial communities of hill-farmers, shepherds, peat-cutters and miners, who made their livings in areas, which are now empty of habitation and industry.

Together these sites form coherent relict upland landscapes. The study area should not be seen as a series of isolated, insular archaeological sites and features. The relationships, spatial and temporal, physical and conceptual, between individual sites in the wider landscape context is perhaps more significant than the sites themselves. Paths, trackways, and boundaries connected communities with each other and their means of support, and defined their limits both physically and conceptually. It is clear that from pre-history through to the present day, boundaries and routeways have been created, referenced, and redefined, and that these are perhaps some of the most enduring and significant of landscape features with relation to our understanding of upland landscapes.

### The archaeological resource

Parts of the study area, especially the hill slopes and valley bottoms have at one time or other been subject to development pressure, primarily flooding (for the Llyn Brienne reservoir), road building, ploughing or forestry plantation. This has resulted in the loss or partial damage to some features.

Deserted settlements have generally collapsed to a state of relative stability, while banks and ditches may have been eroded by livestock or obscured by moss, grass and peat development. These factors all conspire to a greater or lesser degree to make it difficult to ascertain the precise form, extent, function or antiquity of many feature types. As a consequence, there may be difficulties in the attribution of some features to specific site types or periods. This is especially true of some deserted buildings.

### Trackways

The study area contains a series of trackways and fords that are all dated to the post-medieval period, although some will certainly have earlier origins (Table 1).

NPRN	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	NGR
245004	Nant-y-Brain/Pen-y-Gwaith Trackway	Trackway	SN8351050900
245050	Nant-y-Brain Trackway	Trackway	SN8329250340
245068	Cwm Nant-y-glo Trackway	Trackway	SN7792045080
245074	Chwarel Ystrad Ffin Trackway	Trackway	SN7803045840
245083	Nant Gwrach Trackway 1	Trackway	SN8208049920
245084	Nant Gwrach Trackway 2	Trackway	SN8194049640
245086	Nant Gwrach Trackway 3	Trackway	SN8194549544
245087	Cefn Uchaf Trackway	Trackway	SN8387049940
245088	Nant Culent Trackway	Trackway	SN8334050890

245089	Nant y Brain Trackway	Trackway	SN8486051150
245091	Esgair Garn Trackway	Trackway	SN8234049950
245092	Nant Gwrach Trackway 4	Trackway	SN8217049700
245093	Nant y Ffin Trackway	Trackway	SN7990048140
245000	Nant Rhydgoch Ford	Ford	SN8415051700
245002	Culent Tributary Ford I	Ford	SN8364050980
245003	Culent Tributary Ford II	Ford	SN8358050930

Table 1: Communication and transport features.

Trackway NPRNs 245089, 245092, 245028, and at Ystradffin (SN78804659) Cwm Henog (SN84534847) and at Nant y Craf (SN83965154) represent significant and long established points of access from the valleys to the upland areas. These are presumably primarily for taking livestock on and off the upland areas. Other important access routes may now be obscured by forestry.

Trackway NPRNs 245083, 245066, 245088, 245044 appear to link the Nant Culant and Nant Gwarch valleys, although curiously each track appears to peter out before they link up with each other. Trackways 245074 and 245002 are both associated with mining/quarrying activities.

### ***Banks, ditches and boundaries***

Only the slopes and valley bottoms of the northeastern, northwestern and southern fringes of the study area have been subject to agricultural enclosure represented by fairly regularly shaped field patterns on historic mapping. These are generally now represented by denuded banks, now topped with post and wire fencing.

AP mapping and the field survey have also identified numerous sections of banks, (with or without ditches) located on the higher unenclosed land. For whatever reasons, these 'boundary' banks are often only intermittently clear, and it is difficult to extract a clear impression of what area they may have intended to enclose or define (e.g. Banks 245030, 445060, 245029 and 245031 at SN 81134918 and banks 245043, 245085, 245046 and 245080 at SN79484639). Although typological differences between these ditches may be discernable, their antiquity is uncertain.

Two other observations were made during the fieldwork. Firstly, several banks and ditches appear to be associated with streams, either leading from an upland area, down slope to the point at which a stream gully first appears (e.g. NPRNs 245054, 245081, 245043, 245090). Secondly, some banks appear to run between stream sources, effectively isolating the slopes between the streams (e.g. 245057, 245082 and 245080).

Small banked field enclosures surrounding settlements established in unenclosed areas are also present (e. g. Nant y Glo farmstead, and NPRNs 245109, 113222, 245077, 245103, 245033) although what period these may derive from is uncertain.

In more recent times the unenclosed uplands have been divided up into large parcels by post and wire fencing and are subject to varying degrees of grazing pressure. Some formerly unenclosed areas of rough pasture have more recently been fenced off, ploughed and converted to improved pasture.



### **Prehistoric**

The Early Bronze Age is generally held to be the time when major colonisation of the uplands occurred, and the only prehistoric sites recorded in the survey area are five Bronze Age burial mounds (NPRNs 30467, 245047, 245058, 245063 and 245064). Of these, only two were previously recorded (NPRNs 304670 and 245047) and one of these (NPRN 304670) is a Scheduled Ancient Monument. The three new sites are generally low stone cairns that are considered to be possible Bronze Age burial mounds. One of the new sites (NPRN 245063; NGR SN8309448676) appears to have a cairn and a surrounding ditch and is located on the shoulder of the slope, a typical location for Bronze Age burial mounds in this region.

NPRN	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	NGR
304670	Cerrig Cewri; Carreg Cewri	Round barrow	SN80144651
245047	Carn Twrch Round Barrow	Round barrow	SN7956646498
245058	Cefn Blaencwmhenog Cairn	Cairn	SN8349449500
245063	Mynydd Trawsnant Cairn	Cairn	SN8204148620
245064	Mynydd Trawsnant Cairn?	Cairn/Natural feature?	SN8183048630

Table 2: Prehistoric features. NPRN 304670 is a SAM.

### **Roman and early medieval**

Although no features relating to the Roman and Early Medieval periods have yet been identified within Area 6, activity in the area during these periods should not be ruled out. The Roman exploitation of minerals is well attested in other parts of Wales, and this was one of the primary objectives of the conquest of upland areas. It has been suggested that mining within the study area could pre-date the historically documented exploitation during the medieval period (K. Murphy 2000).

On the western boundary of Area 6 is the small settlement of Ystrad-Ffin, which may have begun as an ecclesiastical community during the early medieval period. The presence of a chapel at Ystrad-Ffin (Capel Peulin) is first mentioned in 1339, when the Manor of Nant-Y-Bai was granted as a grange to the Cistercian monks of Strata Florida (Ludlow 1998). The fabric of the present chapel is recent, having been rebuilt in 1821, but the site itself may have considerable time depth. The saint to which it is dedicated - St. Paulinus - was reputed to be the teacher of St. David. By the 9<sup>th</sup> century his community is described as comprising 'numerous buildings' (Sambrook and Page 1995).

### **Medieval**

Some of the Manor of Nant-Y-Bai is incorporated within the south-western part of study area. As mentioned above, it was granted during the medieval period as a grange to the Cistercians of Strata Florida, probably by Gruffydd ap Rhys in c.1200. The location of the nucleus of this upland grange is unknown, but is thought to originally have been around Ystrad-ffin (NPRN 245098; NGR SN78784659), which lies in a substantial area of tithe free lands close to Capel Peulin (K. Murphy 2000).

The manor of Nant-y-bai is apparently shown in a survey of 1629 (held by Carmarthenshire Record Office, Lort Muniments 17/678. The map was not available during this study) The manor retained native tenurial customs until the end of the Medieval period (K. Murphy 2000). The part of the estate in Area 6 may still be identifiable, based on the 1629 survey map, which would be a

significant survival of a plot of land that existed by the Medieval period and survived at least until the Post-Medieval period.

Cistercian granges such as Nant-y-bay were primarily used for mountain pasturing of cattle, and large flocks of sheep. These extensive pastures provided an income for the grange partly from rents and dues, but increasingly from the wool trade. In 1200 the monks of Strata Florida were granted a licence by the Crown to export their wool to France and Flanders, without paying duty. The granges would have operated the traditional system of transhumance often called the 'hendre - hafod' system, practised widely throughout Wales. Stock was over-wintered on lower land (close to the 'hendref', the established winter dwelling), and brought to upland pastures for grazing during the summer months, where temporary shelters - 'hafodydd', and folds were erected.

Within the study area, the only forms of domestic/agricultural buildings thought to be of medieval date are two hut platforms (NPRNs 245095 – NGR SN84425149 and 245007 NGR SN81584963) and a possible settlement/farmstead (NPRN 245059; NGR SN8435648474). These rectangular platforms are set at right-angles to the slope, and would have probably supported timber buildings. These may represent early hafotai, but without excavation it is difficult to be certain.

The other medieval, or possible medieval, sites are two banks (NPRNs 245097; NGR SN77904490 and 245105; NGR SN79104580) and a possible deserted rural settlement (DRS) or sheepfold (NPRN 91334; NGR SN81594965), although this feature may well be post-medieval.

Although no supporting physical evidence has yet been identified within the study area, it is likely that lead mining was being carried out during the medieval period, under the Cistercians. It was certainly occurring by the late 13th-century, when historical documentation records that the crown took the 'eleventh foot' of ore in taxation (K. Murphy 2000).

NPRN	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	NGR
245095	Esgair Nant y Brain Platform	Platform	SN84425149
245007	Clyn-Glas Long Hut	Platform hut	SN81584963
91334	Unknown sheepfold	Sheepfold	SN81594965
245097	Nant y glo Bank 1	Bank and ditch	SN77904490
245098	Ystradyffin;Ystrad-Yffin;Nant-Bau;Rhandir Abad	Settlement; Grange?	SN78784659
245105	Ystrad Ffin Bank	Boundary bank	SN79104580
245059	Cwm Henog Settlement	DRS	SN8435648474

Table 3: Medieval sites.

### **Post-medieval**

The vast majority (80 out of 108) of sites recorded within the study area date from the post-medieval period. These reflect two major uses of the uplands during this period, agriculture and lead mining.

Although there is no recent settlement, there are twenty three abandoned farm and cottage sites, which show that until relatively recently, this upland area was not just worked but inhabited (Table 4). At Esgair Nant-Y-Brain the area is characterised by a large number of deserted farmsteads, and houses within, and adjacent to areas of enclosure around the lower slopes and river valleys. A deserted farmstead complex (NPRN 245100; NGR SN78554485) appeared to have been carved out of common land and several cottages and small settlements, such as Bron Culent (NPRN 245118, NGR SN84175181) and Nant

Rhyd Goch (NPRN 245117; NGR SN83675180), are shown on the 1906 Ordnance Survey map.

Other agricultural features include an enclosure (NPRN 113231; NGR SN79134548), a wall that may be the remains of a sheep dip (NPRN 245040; NGR SN8200949621) and a number of former boundary banks, although many of these banks are undated (see table 6).

NPRN	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	NGR
245106	Esgair Garn Farmstead	Farmstead	SN82124973
245115	Clyn Glas Farmstead	Farmstead	SN81564975
245117	Nant Rhyd Goch Farmstead	Farmstead	SN83675180
245118	Bron Culent Farmstead	Farmstead	SN84175181
245119	Pen y Gwaith Farmstead	Farmstead	SN83185050
309590	Gwegil Hindda Farmstead	Farmstead	SN83815125
245100	White Hall Uchaf Farmstead	Farmstead	SN78554485
245039	Trawsnant Farmstead	Farmstead	SN8024449242
17928	Ystradffin Farmhouse	Farmhouse	SN78784659
245006	Nant Gwrach building	Long hut	SN81934959
245008	Clyn-Glas Hut	Long hut	SN81544987
309591	Nant y Craf House Site	Long hut	SN83645127
245099	Nant Bai long hut	Long hut	SN79104540
245005	Pen-y-Gwaith,	Building	SN8324050420
245010	Ystrad Ffin	Building	SN7877946590
245033	Nant y Ffin	Building	SN7942046977
245041	Bwlch y Ffin	Building	SN7966047930
245042	Bron Culent	Building	SN8404951877
245070	Nant-y-Brain	Building	SN8334550346
245079	Cefn Hafod y Maen	Building	SN8111046320
245026	Nant Henog settlement	DRS	SN8392048256
245062	Cefn Blaencwmhenog settlement	DRS	SN8309448676
245077	Trawsnant settlement	DRS	SN8046048618
245102	White Hall Uchaf cultivation ridges	Cultivation ridge	SN78624492
245061	Trawsnant cultivation marks	Cultivation marks	SN8058049420
245103	Nant Bai enclosure	Enclosure	SN79134548
245040	Nant Gwrach Wall	Wall	SN8200949621

Table 4: Post-medieval agricultural settlements and associated features.

Although the character of the study area has been largely defined by its long use for upland grazing, there is some evidence to suggest that in pockets of more fertile soil arable was also practised (Sambrook and Page 1995). Traces of cultivation are present within the study area in the form of a possible cultivation ridge at White hall Uchaf (NPRN 245102, NGR SN78624492) and cultivation marks at Trawsnant (245061; NGR SN8058049420).

Significant levels of rural depopulation began in the mid nineteenth century, and continued into the twentieth century. The abandonment of the uplands was part of this wider rural depopulation within Wales. Alongside the agricultural use of the uplands was the industrial exploitation of their mineral wealth.

Evidence for industrial use of the landscape encompassed by the study area is prolific. Quarries are present, place-names such as 'Nant-y-glo' reflect the availability of coal, and the lead mines at Nant-y-Brain (NPRN 245113; NGR SN83205045) and Ystrad Ffin (NPRN 33921; NGR SN78604610) still form a



significant part of the historic landscape character. Other mining features such as adits, levels and shafts are also fairly numerous within the study area. A high proportion of the mining remains date from the 18<sup>th</sup> and early to mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, as this is when prospecting and extraction occurred on a large scale. It is probable that lead mining in the area predates the more readily identifiable remains from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

NPRN	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	NGR
245113	Nant-y-brain/Abergwesyn	Lead Mine	SN83205045
245049	Nant-y-Brain Adit	Adit	SN8437051510
245065	Nant-y-Brain Adit	Adit	SN8330050630
245048	Nant-y-Brain Trial Excavation	Trial excavation?	SN8340450379
245070	Nant-y-Brain building	Building	SN8334550346
245067	Nant-y-Brain Wheel-Pit	Wheel-pit?	SN8322050390
245073	Nant-y-Brain Hopper	Hopper?	SN7803045840
33921	Ystrad Ffin Lead Mines	Lead Mine	SN78604610
245121	Pen y Foel shaft I (dis)	Mine shaft	SN8324150169
245122	Pen y Foel shaft II (dis)	Mine shaft	SN8321450295
245051	Esgair Nant y Brain	Mine shaft?	SN8443651376
245104	Pen-y-Darren shaft	Shaft	SN78504500
245005	Pen-y-Gwaith building	Building	SN8324050420
245052	Trawsnant Quarry	Quarry	SN8434051440
245055	Clyn Glas Quarry 1	Quarry	SN8171249830
245056	Clyn Glas Quarry 2	Quarry	SN8162949856
245066	Nant Gwrach Quarry	Quarry	SN8223449839
245072	Esgair Nant y Brain Quarry	Quarry	SN8431051420
245094	Cefn Isaf Quarry	Quarry	SN8035048660

Table 5: Post-medieval industrial sites.

Other potential industrial features include two lengths of bank and ditch, which had been identified as possible disused leats at Nant-y-Glo (Bank 1 and Bank 2) (NPRN 245097, NGR SN77904490 and NPRN 245101; NGR SN78254496). Bank 2 does follow the contour of the slope, but the fieldwork for this study has suggested that all of the features visible as lengths of bank and ditch may be boundary banks rather than industrial in origin (see Table 6 below).

At Pen-Y-Darren, a series of 4 metal mine shafts (NPRN 245104; NGR SN785450) have previously been identified, but were not apparent on the ground during this survey. A number of quarries are also present within the survey area (Table 5).

### **Sites of unknown date**

The sites of unknown date reflect the nature of the dated sites and appear to be a mix of probable agricultural and industrial features. An undated cairn is also present (NPRN 304671; NGR SN83084983). The cairn, which is Scheduled Ancient Monument, is made up from large blocks of quartz that do occur in the vicinity, indicating that the stones were chosen deliberately. The choice of quartz and the siting of the cairn, on a prominent crest are typical characteristics of Bronze Age burial monuments in southwest Wales. Most of the other sites are made up of banks that probably largely date from the post-medieval period (Table 6).

NPRN	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	NGR
304671	Esgair Garn, Cairn, Llanddewi Abergwesyn	Cairn	SN83084983

245024	Chwarel Ystrad Ffin Long Hut	Long hut?	SN77924572
245027	Carn Twrch long hut	Long hut?	SN8008146329
245028	Cwm Nant-y-glo bank	Boundary bank	SN7786445236
245029	Coed Ffos-y-garth bank 1	Bank and ditch	SN8120049310
245030	Coed Ffos-y-garth bank 2	Boundary bank	SN8087049300
245031	Coed Ffos-y-garth bank	Boundary bank	SN8123024920
245036	Cefn Isaf bank 1	Bank and ditch	SN7952948443
245043	Ystrad Ffin bank 1	Bank and ditch	SN7946646504
245046	Carn Twrch bank	Bank	SN7950346021
245053	Nant Fuddai enclosure	Enclosure	SN8310551691
245054	Nant Cwm Bys bank	Bank	SN8212850283
245057	Esgair Garn bank	Bank	SN8308049770
245082	Pen y Foel bank	Bank	SN8388050360
245090	Esgair Garn bank	Bank	SN8295049950
245097	Nant-y-Glo Bank 1	Bank and ditch	SN77904490
245101	Nant-y-Glo Bank 2	Bank and ditch	SN78254496

Table 6: Undated sites.

### **Modern sites**

Relatively recent development has had a strong visual impact on the area. The construction of the Llyn Brianne dam in 1972 flooded the valley above, and a new road was constructed around the perimeter of the reservoir. Commercial coniferous forestry plantation borders the study area, and is a very visible landscape component. Much of the plantation dates from the 70s and was planted by the Forestry Commission after the construction of the reservoir. Recent emphasis has been on amenity uses for existing forestry plantation.

The six modern sites contain features typical of the past land use of the area, but they also include two cairns constructed by visitors reflecting the more recent leisure-orientated aspects of the uplands.

NPRN	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	NGR
245035	Nant y Ffin Cairn	Cairn	SN8016547632
245037	Cefn Isaf Bank 2	Bank	SN7942748361
245038	Cefn Isaf Building	Building?/ enclosure?	SN7942748361
245044	Craig Bron y Cwrt Cairn	Cairn	SN7728044870
245069	Cefn Isaf Trial Excavation	Trial excavation?	SN7952448460
245078	Mynydd Trawsnant Iron Structures	Unknown	SN8263848927

Table 7: Modern sites.

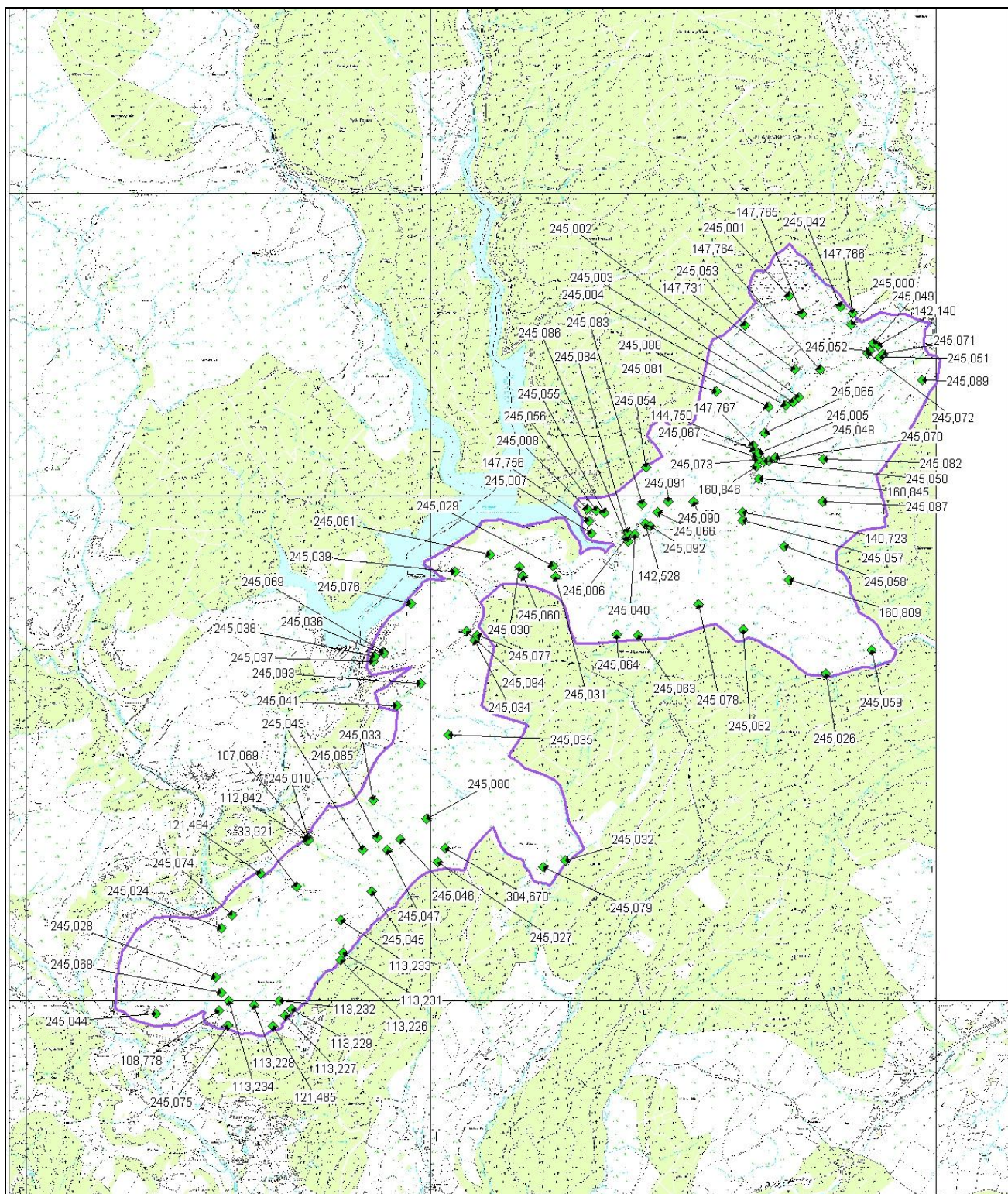


Figure 3: Location of sites recorded during the survey.

Please note: Some of the sites plotted on the above map have been annotated with incorrect National Primary Record Numbers (NPRNs). For the correct numbers see concordance list below (page 15).



**OLD NPRN****NEW NPRN**

63526	245030
63527	245031
63550	245051
107069	17928
108778	245097
108779	245097
112842	245098
113226	245099
113227	245100
113228	245101
113229	245102
113231	245103
113232	245104
113233	245105
121484	245108
121485	245109
140723	304671
142140	245095
142528	245106
144750	245113
147731	309591
147756	245115
147764	309590
147765	245117
147766	245118
147767	245119
160809	245120
160845	245121
160846	245122

NPRN	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	NGR	PERIOD
245100	White Hall Uchaf Farmstead	Farmstead	SN78554485	Post-medieval
17928	Ystradffin Farmhouse	Farmhouse	SN78784659	Post-medieval
245010	Ystrad Ffin	Building	SN7877946590	Post-medieval
245041	Bwlch y Ffin	Building	SN7966047930	Post-medieval
245102	White Hall Uchaf cultivation ridges	Cultivation ridge	SN78624492	Post-medieval
245044	Craig Bron y Cwrt Cairn	Cairn	SN7728044870	Modern

Table 9: Sites between 200m and 249m OD.

NPRN	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	NGR	PERIOD
245068	Cwm Nant-y-glo Trackway	Trackway	SN7792045080	Post-medieval
245074	Chwarel Ystrad Ffin Trackway	Trackway	SN7803045840	Post-medieval
245093	Nant y Ffin Trackway	Trackway	SN7990048140	Post-medieval
245000	Nant Rhydgoch Ford	Ford	SN8415051700	Post-medieval
245095	Esgair Nant y Brain Platform	Platform	SN84425149	Medieval
245118	Bron Culent Farmstead	Farmstead	SN84175181	Post-medieval
309590	Gwegil Hindda Farmstead	Farmstead	SN83815125	Post-medieval
245006	Nant Gwrach building	Long hut	SN81934959	Post-medieval
245040	Nant Gwrach Wall	Wall	SN8200949621	Post-medieval
245049	Nant-y-Brain Adit	Adit	SN8437051510	Post-medieval
245042	Bron Culent	Building	SN8404951877	Post-medieval
245024	Chwarel Ystrad Ffin Long Hut	Long hut?	SN77924572	Unknown
245028	Cwm Nant-y-glo bank	Boundary bank	SN7786445236	Unknown

Table 10: Sites between 250m and 299m OD.

NPRN	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	NGR	PERIOD
245004	Nant-y-Brain/Pen-y-Gwaith Trackway	Trackway	SN8351050900	Post-medieval
245050	Nant-y-Brain Trackway	Trackway	SN8329250340	Post-medieval
245084	Nant Gwrach Trackway 2	Trackway	SN8194049640	Post-medieval
245086	Nant Gwrach Trackway 3	Trackway	SN8194549544	Post-medieval

245088	Nant Culent Trackway	Trackway	SN8334050890	Post-medieval
245089	Nant y Brain Trackway	Trackway	SN8486051150	Post-medieval
245092	Nant Gwrach Trackway 4	Trackway	SN8217049700	Post-medieval
245002	Culent Tributary Ford I	Ford	SN8364050980	Post-medieval
245003	Culent Tributary Ford II	Ford	SN8358050930	Post-medieval
245007	Clyn-Glas Long Hut	Platform hut	SN81584963	Medieval
245106	Esgair Garn Farmstead	Farmstead	SN82124973	Post-medieval
245115	Clyn Glas Farmstead	Farmstead	SN81564975	Post-medieval
245117	Nant Rhyd Goch Farmstead	Farmstead	SN83675180	Post-medieval
145119	Pen y Gwaith Farmstead	Farmstead	SN83185050	Post-medieval
245039	Trawsnant Farmstead	Farmstead	SN8024449242	Post-medieval
245008	Clyn-Glas Hut	Long hut	SN81544987	Post-medieval
309591	Nant y Craf House Site	Long hut	SN83645127	Post-medieval
245099	Nant Bai long hut	Long hut	SN79104540	Post-medieval
245005	Pen-y-Gwaith,	Building	SN8324050420	Post-medieval
245033	Nant y Ffin	Building	SN7942046977	Post-medieval
245026	Nant Henog settlement	DRS	SN8392048256	Post-medieval
245077	Trawsnant settlement	DRS	SN8046048618	Post-medieval
245103	Nant Bai enclosure	Enclosure	SN79134548	Post-medieval
245113	Nant-y-brain/Abergwesyn	Lead Mine	SN83205045	Post-medieval
245065	Nant-y-Brain Adit	Adit	SN8330050630	Post-medieval
245067	Nant-y-Brain Wheel-Pit	Wheel-pit?	SN8322050390	Post-medieval
245073	Nant-y-Brain Hopper	Hopper?	SN7803045840	Post-medieval
33921	Ystrad Ffin Lead Mines	Lead Mine	SN78604610	Post-medieval
245122	Pen y Foel shaft II (dis)	Mine shaft	SN8321450295	Post-medieval
245051	Esgair Nant y Brain	Mine shaft?	SN8443651376	Post-medieval
245104	Pen-y-Darren shaft	Shaft	SN78504500	Post-medieval
245052	Trawsnant Quarry	Quarry	SN8434051440	Post-medieval
245066	Nant Gwrach Quarry	Quarry	SN8223449839	Post-



				medieval
245072	Esgair Nant y Brain Quarry	Quarry	SN8431051420	Post-medieval
245037	Cefn Isaf Bank 2	Bank	SN7942748361	Modern
245038	Cefn Isaf Building	Building?/ enclosure?	SN7942748361	Modern

Table 11: Sites between 300m and 349m OD.

NPRN	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	NGR	PERIOD
245083	Nant Gwrach Trackway 1	Trackway	SN8208049920	Post-medieval
245059	Cwm Henog Settlement	DRS	SN8435648474	Medieval
245070	Nant-y-Brain	Building	SN8334550346	Post-medieval
245061	Trawsnant cultivation marks	Cultivation marks	SN8058049420	Post-medieval
245048	Nant-y-Brain Trial Excavation	Trial excavation?	SN8340450379	Post-medieval
245121	Pen y Foel shaft I (dis)	Mine shaft	SN8324150169	Post-medieval
245055	Clyn Glas Quarry 1	Quarry	SN8171249830	Post-medieval
245056	Clyn Glas Quarry 2	Quarry	SN8162949856	Post-medieval
245094	Cefn Isaf Quarry	Quarry	SN8035048660	Post-medieval
245029	Coed Ffos-y-garth bank 1	Bank and ditch	SN8120049310	Unknown
245030	Coed Ffos-y-garth bank 2	Boundary bank	SN8087049300	Unknown
245031	Coed Ffos-y-garth bank	Boundary bank	SN8123024920	Unknown
245036	Cefn Isaf bank 1	Bank and ditch	SN7952948443	Unknown
245053	Nant Fuddai enclosure	Enclosure	SN8310551691	Unknown
245035	Nant y Ffin Cairn	Cairn	SN8016547632	Modern
245069	Cefn Isaf Trial Excavation	Trial excavation?	SN7952448460	Modern

Table 12: Sites between 350m and 399m OD.

NPRN	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	NGR	PERIOD
245091	Esgair Garn Trackway	Trackway	SN8234049950	Post-medieval
245047	Carn Twrch Round Barrow	Round barrow	SN7956646498	Bronze Age
245105	Ystrad Ffin Bank	Boundary bank	SN79104580	Medieval
245079	Cefn Hafod y Maen	Building	SN8111046320	Post-medieval
245043	Ystrad Ffin bank 1	Bank and ditch	SN7946646504	Unknown
245054	Nant Cwm Bys bank	Bank	SN8212850283	Unknown
245082	Pen y Foel bank	Bank	SN8388050360	Unknown
245090	Esgair Garn bank	Bank	SN8295049950	Unknown

Table 13: Sites between 400m and 449m OD.

NPRN	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	NGR	PERIOD
245087	Cefn Uchaf Trackway	Trackway	SN8387049940	Post-medieval
304670	Cerrig Cewri; Carreg Cewri	Round barrow	SN80144651	Bronze Age
245058	Cefn Blaencwmhenog Cairn	Cairn	SN8349449500	Bronze Age
245062	Cefn Blaencwmhenog settlement	DRS	SN8309448676	Post-medieval
304671	Esgair Garn, Cairn, Llanddewi Abergwesyn	Cairn	SN83084983	Unknown
245027	Carn Twrch long hut	Long hut?	SN8008146329	Unknown
245046	Carn Twrch bank	Bank	SN7950346021	Unknown
245057	Esgair Garn bank	Bank	SN8308049770	Unknown

Table 14: Sites between 450m and 499m OD.

NPRN	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	NGR	PERIOD
245063	Mynydd Trawsnant Cairn	Cairn	SN8204148620	Bronze Age
245064	Mynydd Trawsnant Cairn?	Cairn/Natural feature?	SN8183048630	Bronze Age
245078	Mynydd Trawsnant Iron Structures	Unknown	SN8263848927	Modern

Table 15: Sites between 500m and 549m OD.

## **OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION**

The settlement sites within this study area offer a good opportunity for investigation of the small rural settlements that were typical of much of Wales during the medieval and post-medieval periods. The study area group has the potential to provide direct comparisons between sites thought to be medieval and sites of supposed post-medieval date within a closely defined area of landscape.

Detailed topographic survey and targeted excavation could be carried out on a selected group of sites, which could be selected by altitude and/or by type, to provide good comparative information of similar sites of differing dates. So for example, the medieval Clyn-Glas Long Hut (NPRN 245007; NGR SN81584963) at 300m OD could be compared with the supposed post-medieval Nant Bai Long Hut (NPRN 245099; NGR SN79104540), which is also located at 300m OD.

Similarly the medieval deserted rural settlement site at Cwm Henog (NPRN 245059; NGR SN8435648474) could be compared with the nearby post-medieval deserted settlement at Nant Henog (NPRN 245026; NGR SN8392048256). They lie at 380m OD and 340m OD respectively, and there is evidence, in the form of a trackway that leads to Nant Henog that cuts the enclosure at Cwm Henog, of possible continuity of use and phases of occupation, with one settlement being replaced by a later one. The problems of accurately dating settlements of this type in the region has been discussed elsewhere (Sambrook 2006, 109) and these two neighbouring sites could provide an important opportunity for the direct comparison between similar sites of supposed different periods. This would allow a critical evaluation of the current techniques for assigning dates to sites of this type as well as providing important data about how these sites functioned and the lives of those who lived in them.

Several linear features identified in the field, or partially plotted from APs would merit more detailed surveying and plotting to establish their true extents. A detailed survey of the industrial sites at Ystradffin and Pen y Gwaith would also provide a better understanding of these sites.



## APPENDIX 1: GAZETTEER OF SITES

**NPRN:** 245095  
**NGR:** SN84425149  
**SITE NAME:** ESGAIR NANT Y BRAIN PLATFORM  
**SITE TYPE:** PLATFORM  
**PERIOD:** Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Probably a house platform, terraced into a north-northwest facing slope. The platform is 5.2m wide by 15.2m long. It is cut by a track at the northwest end. A ditch on the west side is c. 0.2m deep. The platform is cambered and may be located in a former quarry. Interior aligned NNW/SSE and raised approx 0.3m above level of surrounding ground, probably as a result of the small springs to either side. Fan is well defined, steep-sided and matches the line of the raised interior at its SSE end. Location of apron is evident but it has been effectively lost due to construction of the mine track which passes the site on its NNW side. Overall dimensions 19.0m NNW/SSE x 6.6m; interior 15.9m NNW/SSE x 4.2m. There are no contemporary associations evident. A later mine track cuts the NNW end of the platform (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245106  
**NGR:** SN82124973  
**SITE NAME:** ESGAIR GARN FARMSTEAD  
**SITE TYPE:** FARMSTEAD  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Structure  
**CONDITION:** D  
**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A possible longhouse 14m northeast - southwest, by 5m wide with D-shaped enclosure adjoining northeast end, and field wall running in front of southeast face, and enclosing a midden. (RCAHM archive OS, 1976). The site was also noted as a sheepfold (OS 1964), but this is probably wrong. Simple, single unit rectangular building aligned NE/SW. Walls slumped rather than collapsed and may have been rebuilt for later use as a sheepfold. Entrance on SE side. No obvious fireplace. Interior sunken compared to the surrounding area. Overall dimensions of building 15.2m NE/SW x 6.1m x 0.8m high max. Total area approx 30m across. Associations: adjoining stone walled enclosures, at least 2, to NE and SE, which may be contemporary. To NE of enclosures is a rectilinear stone structure, 1.5m NW/SE x 1.2m, revetted into the slope and open to the SW; this may have been a store, or perhaps even a water source as the surrounding area is fairly wet. Location: situated on relatively level possibly natural or partly artificial terrace on steep NW facing slope of spur between two stream valleys. (CPAT, DRS project). Tapering of walls (0.90m wide at top, 1.20m at base. Building located at significant point of access to uplands including track NPRNs 245083 and 245085 (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245113  
**NGR:** SN83205045  
**SITE NAME:** NANTYBRAIN/ABERGWESYN  
**SITE TYPE:** LEAD MINE  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Structure

**CONDITION: C**

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A lead mine operating between the 1840s and 1883. Geology: Two or three lodes were worked on a north-south strike with galena mineralisation. Workings: There is a deep adit at SN84305157. A further adit can be seen at SN83255025. There are two shafts at SN83235018 and SN83215029, the lower of which connects to the second adit mentioned above. Surface trials can be seen in a number of places on the slopes of Esgair Nant Y Brain and Pen Y Foel. A leat off the Nant Ddwfn supplied water to the waterwheels for pumping and crushing. The old metalled track along the north-eastern slopes of Esgair Nant Y Brain is probably the original miners' trackway.

There are a number of earthwork survivals of tramway track beds leading out onto the spoil heaps from the workings. Power The waterwheel pit at SN83155055 was used for pumping the shafts and in 1871 a 30x2.5ft waterwheel was apparently installed. A second smaller waterwheel pit can be seen at SN83155049 which still displays an intact axle and parts of the rim. Immediately prior to closure in 1850 two engines were installed and the dressing floors were expanded with a crusher house, jiggers and buddles, foundations of which can still be seen. Processing evidence exists of manual dressing and mechanised forms of processing in the form of a crusher house and platforms for jigger bases as well as round buddles. Ore bins and a picking/washing floor are also present.

**NPRN:** 245115

**NGR:** SN81564975

**SITE NAME:** CLYN GLAS FARMSTEAD

**SITE TYPE:** FARMSTEAD

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Building

**CONDITION:** D

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Description: two-unit rectangular building aligned E/W. Entrance to each unit on S side and slight gap (0.5m wide) at S end of internal dividing wall. Building has been cleverly placed immediately downslope of an area of springs, which has both minimised the need for levelling of the site prior to construction and provided a good water supply. No obvious fireplace. Walls have slumped rather than collapsed, although this appearance could be partly due to construction methods. Later unit appended onto exterior of E end, two later units appended to exterior of W end. Appended units were probably some form of stores. Overall dimensions of building 19.8m E/W x 6.1m x 1.3m high max. Original building 14.4m E/W x 6.1m. Associations: surrounded by earth/stone banked field system. Location: within hollow created by springs on W facing slope. (CPAT, DRS project)

What was previously described as an 'earth/stone banked field system' (see above), appears to be an additional range of buildings, attached at right angles to the main farm building (visible as rubble-stone walls). This additional range may represent agricultural outbuildings, and is represented on the ground as low turf covered banks/ walls, whose dimensions seem inconsistent with those of a 'field-system'. The range forms a right angle with the previously identified main building, joining at the southwest end, and is aligned northwest - southeast. Within this range several separate cells are visible all of which are c. 9m in width. The closest to the main building is c.10m in length internally, the second is c. 16m long internally, and the third consists of several smaller units, although the exact dimensions at this end of the range were not clear.

These additional features probably represent outbuildings and stock shelters which were part of the farmstead. Their current condition by comparison to the main building (whose rubble-stone walls survive to a greater height), can be

explained by the fact that the outbuildings may have been less substantial than the main building, or that they fell out of use prior to the main farm building (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245117  
**NGR:** SN83675180  
**SITE NAME:** NANT RHYD GOCH FARMSTEAD  
**SITE TYPE:** FARMSTEAD  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Building  
**CONDITION:** D  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

This is recorded as the ruins of a smallholding marked on the tithe map, but was almost destroyed when it was recorded by CPAT in 1980.

A rubblestone building, cut into a south facing moderately steep slope, overlooking Nant Rhyd-goch. The building is 30m in length in total, with walls generally c. 0.6m wide, surviving to a height of 1.3m in places. There are two central units both c. 4.7m wide (N-S), the eastern one is c. 9m (E-W), and the western one c. 7m (E-W). At the east end is a small add-on c. 2.5m (E-W). At the west end is an additional, narrower unit with three small cells. All these measure c. 4.3m (N-S), and all measuring c. 1.7m - 2m (E-W) (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245118  
**NGR:** SN84175181  
**SITE NAME:** BRON CULENT FARMSTEAD  
**SITE TYPE:** FARMSTEAD  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Building  
**CONDITION:** D  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

This is recorded as the ruins of a building marked on the tithe map by CPAT in 1980. A rubblestone building, orientated north - south, on rough ground and a moderate slope above Nant Rhyd-goch. The building is 23m in length in total, with walls c. 1m wide, surviving to a height of 1.9m in places. There are four units c. 6.4m wide (E-W). The northern unit is c. 3m in length (N-S), the next unit moving south is c. 5.5m (N-S), and the next to the south is c. 5.1m (N-S). The southern unit is c. 6.9m long (N-S). The southern room of the building contains several cast iron objects, which appear to be for agricultural/domestic use. A press (possibly for wool), a boiling bucket with spout (possibly a pig slops boiler), a water tank/ boiler (?), and a stand (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245119  
**NGR:** SN83185050  
**SITE NAME:** PEN Y GWAITH FARMSTEAD  
**SITE TYPE:** FARMSTEAD  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Building  
**CONDITION:** D  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Ruins of smallholding marked on tithe map (CPAT 1980). Description: possible site of settlement named on OS 1:25,000 pathfinder map. Evidence of activity present, but probably related to nearby mine site. Rectangular structure may be settling tank or processing feature. Rough platform to W has uneven interior and ill-defined apron suggesting it is perhaps a result of quarrying. L-shaped stone

wall to NE is possible stock shelter. (CPAT, DRS project) No additional comments from 2007 Uplands Survey (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245120  
**NGR:** SN8353949166  
**SITE NAME:** CEFN BLAENCWMHENOG CAIRN  
**SITE TYPE:** MARKER CAIRN  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Structure  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A marker cairn. Possibly a walkers' cairn or relating to peat cutting in adjacent bog? Angular stones of varying sizes have been piled up to c. 1.30m high, 2.20m diameter, forming a very visible pinnacle on top of a natural stone outcrop (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245121  
**NGR:** SN8324150169  
**SITE NAME:** PEN Y FOEL SHAFT I (DIS)  
**SITE TYPE:** MINE SHAFT  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Other structure  
**CONDITION:** U  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Mine shaft located near confluence of two streams. Level platform to northeast of shaft. 2007 Uplands Survey (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245122  
**NGR:** SN8321450295  
**SITE NAME:** PEN Y FOEL SHAFT II (DIS)  
**SITE TYPE:** MINE SHAFT  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Other structure  
**CONDITION:** U  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Mine shaft possibly linked to wheel pit? NPRN 245067

**NPRN:** 245000  
**NGR:** SN8415051700  
**SITE NAME:** NANT RHYDGOCH, FORD  
**SITE TYPE:** FORD  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** U  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Ford crossing Nant Rhyd goch, shown on OS 1st edition. Trackway leads from Llwyn-derw to Nant-y-craf old farmstead (CPAT).

The ford is marked on current map sources and is still in use. Trackway and associated footbridge appear to be quite modern (HGW 2007).

**NPRN:** 245001  
**NGR:** SN8354051980  
**SITE NAME:** CRAIG-CARREG FAN, POND

**SITE TYPE:** POND  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Landform  
**CONDITION:** U  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Pond shown on OS digital mapping (CPAT). Nothing visible from distance, seems an unlikely location for a pond, natural or otherwise, therefore not visited during Upland Survey (2007) (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245002  
**NGR:** SN8364050980  
**SITE NAME:** CULENT TRIBUTARY, FORD I  
**SITE TYPE:** FORD  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** U  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Point where stream crosses trackway connecting Nant-y-brain to old lead mines. No evidence of any associated construction/ groundworks apparent during Upland Survey visit (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245003  
**NGR:** SN8358050930  
**SITE NAME:** CULENT TRIBUTARY, FORD II  
**SITE TYPE:** FORD  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** U  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Point where stream crosses trackway connecting Nant-y-brain to old lead mines. No evidence of associated construction or groundworks apparent during Upland Survey visit (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245004  
**NGR:** SN8351050900  
**SITE NAME:** NANT-Y-BRAIN/PEN-Y-GWAITH, TRACKWAY  
**SITE TYPE:** TRACKWAY  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** U  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Trackway connecting Nant-y-brain to old lead mines near Pen-y-Gwaith farmstead. Shown on OS 1st edition (CPAT). A well used trackway, terraced into the slope in places, built up/ embanked in other places. Associated with Nant-Y-Brain Lead Mines, it may post-date trackways associated with Gwegil Hindda farmstead. It may have originally continued east to Nant-Y-Brain farm, but this is no longer apparent (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245005  
**NGR:** SN8324050420  
**SITE NAME:** PEN-Y-GWAITH, BUILDING  
**SITE TYPE:** BUILDING  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval



**FORM:** Document

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Possible building shown on OS 1st edition and digital mapping possibly associated with lead mining activities (CPAT). A square stone building, measuring 8m x 8m, surviving to a height of c. 0.5m. The location and shape of this building, and the presence of machinery (although it may not be in situ) suggests that it is associated with the Pen-Y-Gwaith mine (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245006

**NGR:** SN81934959

**SITE NAME:** NANT GWRACH BUILDING

**SITE TYPE:** LONG HUT

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** U

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Description: two-unit rectangular building in very ruinous condition. Aligned ENE/WSW. ENE unit is in better condition with more obvious walling and wall-facing. Entrance on NNW side. WSW unit has more turf covering the wall lines, although internal and external faces to the WSW wall are evident. Entrance on NNW side, but poorly defined. SSE wall of ENE unit is more of a revetment against the base of the adjacent slope. NE corner of ENE unit is being lost to stream erosion with walling visible in stream bank, this part can only deteriorate. ENE unit is wider than WSW, but settlement seems most likely interpretation. Associations: none evident. Location: situated on valley floor at base of steep NNW facing slope. (CPAT, DRS project).

No additional comments following 2007 Upland Survey (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245007

**NGR:** SN81584963

**SITE NAME:** CLYN-GLAS LONG HUT

**SITE TYPE:** PLATFORM HUT

**PERIOD:** Medieval

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** U

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Description: single unit rectangular building aligned NE/SW. Full length of NE and SE sides terraced into slope with some suggestion of apron at W corner. Entrances centrally placed in NW and SE walls. SE wall extends to SW beyond building, becoming a (probable) bank which curves W then NW around SW end of building. A narrow rectilinear structure appears to have been added to the SW end (runs NW/SE) which was probably a dairy store. Some possibility of rebuilding at SW end suggested by potential wall lines. Step in the fan at NE end. Overall dimensions 20.5m NE/SW x 10.6m, building 9.2m NE/SW x 6.6m x <0.7m high, added structure on SW 2.4m wide x 4.6m long (NW/SE) x 0.5m high max. Associations: none. Location: situated on moderate W facing slope. Siting appears to have been influenced by pre-existing natural hollow. (CPAT, DRS project).

The description above does not correspond with the building encountered at this location during the 2007 Upland Survey. Presumably it has been wrongly located. The existing building is thick walled, built of rough stone rubble, and terraced into slope. It is aligned NE - SW, and has two cells. Walls survive to a height of 1.2m

in places, and are between 1m and 1.3m thick. Externally the measurements are 15.7m (NE - SW) x 6m (SE - NW). The larger cell is 7.2m (NE - SW), and the smaller cell at the southwest end measures 4m (NE - SW) internally. There are two possible entrances (one to each cell), on the northwest side. (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245008  
**NGR:** SN81544987  
**SITE NAME:** CLYN-GLAS HUT  
**SITE TYPE:** LONG HUT  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** U  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Description: small rectilinear DRS site beside road. Seen on CUCAP TH17. (RJS 18/06/99). However fieldwork had already been completed in this area when this site was registered and because of its extreme remoteness no further visit could be entertained. (CPAT, DRS project) No evidence of this feature could be located during the 2007 Upland Survey. It may have been covered by road embankment? (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 33921  
**NGR:** SN78604610  
**SITE NAME:** YSTRAD FFIN LEAD MINES  
**SITE TYPE:** LEAD MINE  
**PERIOD:** Post Medieval  
**FORM:** Complex  
**CONDITION:** V  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A small quarry associated with the prospecting for, or mining of metal ores before the 20th century. RPS Dec.2002. A flooded quarry previously identified as Ystrad Ffin Lead Mine, but spoil tip and local pers. comm. suggest this may have been a slate quarry. No other mine-like features in the vicinity, although low wall footings visible across entrance to quarry during the 2007 Upland Survey may be the remains of a dam. The first edition Ordnance Survey map (OS 1st. Ed. Carms. 6" to 1 mile Sheet X NW; 1891), records the site as 'Old Quarries' (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 17928  
**NGR:** SN78784659  
**SITE NAME:** YSTRADFFIN FARMHOUSE  
**SITE TYPE:** FARMHOUSE  
**PERIOD:** Post Medieval?  
**FORM:** Building  
**CONDITION:** A  
**SITE STATUS:** LB2  
**DESCRIPTION:**

17th century or earlier origin. Present structure 18th - 19th century. Rubble. 2 storey. Slate roof. Window sashes have cambered heads and glazing bars. An historic home, which was once the residence of Thomas Jones (Twm Sion Cati). Ystradffin is a working farm and the house is an occupied farmhouse. RPS Nov 2002. No additional comments following 2007 Upland Survey (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 91334  
**NGR:** SN81594965  
**SITE NAME:** UNKNOWN SHEEPFOLD  
**SITE TYPE:** SHEEPFOLD

**PERIOD:** Medieval; Post Medieval

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** U

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Small DRS with outfield banks (mapped on 1:25000). (TAJ 1998).

Existing record identifies this feature as both a sheepfold and a DRS. May be same feature as NPRN245007, but insufficient information available to ascertain if this is so, therefore it may be an additional feature not identified during 2007 Upland Survey (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 304671

**NGR:** SN83084983

**SITE NAME:** ESGAIR GARN, CAIRN, LLANDDEWI ABERGWESYN

**SITE TYPE:** CAIRN

**PERIOD:** Unknown

**FORM:** Documents

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:** SAM BR363

**DESCRIPTION:**

On the west end of Esgair Garn 465 m above O.D. on the crest of a moorland spur is a circular stone-built cairn, which includes blocks of quartz. It is 15.9 m in diameter and 0.9 m high at the centre, where a modern cairn adds 0.6 m of height. O.S. Card SN 84 NW 3. It is noteworthy that the majority of the stones forming the cairn appear to have originally been particularly selected for their varying quartz content. An obvious outcrop of this material was not observed in the immediate area around the cairn (OS 1977) (HGW 2008).

RCAHMW Site Description: A cairn, 15.9m in diameter and 0.9m high, that has been observed to have been constructed largely of stones containing quartz, which does not otherwise occur in the vicinity. A small modern cairn surmounts this monument, reaching an overall height of 1.5m. (source Os495card; SN84NW3) J.Wiles 04.04.02.

As above. A round barrow of 16m diameter surviving up to 2.5m, at the centre where there is a modern? cairn. Located on the crest of a hill with clear views except to the east and southeast. Upland Survey 2007 (HGW2008).

**NPRN:** 309590

**NGR:** SN83815125

**SITE NAME:** GWEGIL HINDDA FARMSTEAD

**SITE TYPE:** FARMSTEAD

**PERIOD:** Post Medieval

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Ruinous stone foundations of bipartite long house, with two larger earthwork enclosures close by as part of farm complex. Recorded during RCAHMW aerial reconnaissance. 2002/5031-58, 59, 60. T Driver.

Ruins of smallholding marked on tithe map (CPAT 1980).

Description: ruinous rectangular building aligned NE/SW and named as Gwegil-hindda on the modern Ordnance Survey map. Consists of main unit at centre (c. 5.5m x 8m internally), with contemporary smaller unit to SW (c. 2.5m x 5.5m internally). To NE of main unit is a later addition. All above of drystone walled construction and situated on terrace cut into the moderate NW facing slope. To SW of building is a terrace, but with no building traces beyond a loose heap of stones. Entrances to all units on NW side, although not easily defined due to collapse of that wall. Associations: earth banked enclosures to W and NE. Two

circular embanked scoops to E with linear hollows to their NE may be crop/ dairy stores. Scoops c.5m diameter x 1.5m-1.0m deep, linear hollows 4m long x 2m wide x 0.5m deep. (CPAT, DRS project)  
No additional comments from 2007 Uplands Survey (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 309591  
**NGR:** SN83645127  
**SITE NAME:** NANT Y CRAF HOUSE SITE  
**SITE TYPE:** LONG HUT  
**PERIOD:** Post Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Small-holding marked on tithe map, in ruins (CPAT 1980).  
Site Description: Agricultural building associated with adjacent manse (NPRN: 309949) (RAJ, RCAHMW, 28/1/04).  
Description: drystone built rectangular building aligned east - west, and described on map as Nant-y-craf. Two-cell, with larger on the east side. West cell has single entrance on south side. East unit has apparently opposing entrances on north and south sides, with further entrance on south side, towards east end. Raised area in northwest corner of east unit - function unknown. East end wall approx 1.5m thick suggesting fireplace location. Small rectangular addition on east end. Overall dimensions 21.4m E/W x 6.3m x 0.8m high (max). Associations; also within the semi-enclosed area to the south are the remains of 2 further buildings; 1) is 5.5m NE/SW x 3m x 0.7m high, of turf-covered walling with entrance on northwest side, 2) is 7m NNW/SSE x 6.5m x 0.7m high with entrance on east-northeast side, of partially turf-covered walling and probably 2-unit as internal division is evident, although south-southeast end has collapsed downslope. Location: situated in abandoned course of subsidiary stream on generally southeast facing moderate slope. (CPAT, DRS project).  
No additional comments from 2007 Uplands Survey (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 304670  
**NGR:** SN80144651  
**SITE NAME:** CERRIG CEWRI; CARREG CEWRI  
**SITE TYPE:** ROUND BARROW  
**PERIOD:** Bronze Age  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:** SAM CM341  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Previously visited during the prehistoric funerary and ritual sites (PFRS) project in 2002. The PFRS project described the site as a poorly preserved barrow. It is a cairn of loose stones, situated at the top of a ridge in open moorland, with a diameter of 15m, and is c. 1m high. There is a modern walkers' cairn of stone north of the centre, which appears to be made from stones taken from the barrow itself, and an excavated hollow to the south. A stone built shelter to the north side may have been constructed for sheep.

The PFRS project noted a possible association with a barrow, which lies c. 300m to the south (PRN 4167), and a standing stone (PRN 4168) which was recorded in the vicinity by the Ordnance Survey, but was not located during the PFRS visit, or the upland survey project (2007/ 2008).

RCAHMW Site Description: 1. A cairn, 14m in diameter and 1.5m high, that has been mutilated by an excavated hollow S of the centre, a modern cairn to the N, where there is also a stone shelter. 'Traces of fire and burnt bones' are said to have been revealed by these disturbances. (source Os495card; SN84NW1) J.

Wiles 04.04.02. 2. SAM No CM341(CAM) Remains of a burial mound, situated on a local plateau on the SW facing slopes of Mynydd Trawsnant. Circular on plan, measuring about 13.5m in diameter and up to 1.3m in height. It has a well-defined edge and several possible kerbstones are visible. Source: Cadw scheduling description. F. Foster 17/3/05.

Sited on a local rise. 13.20m diameter. up to 2.0m high. Includes a probably recent cairn towards the northern edge with a curved stone bank (a possible shooting hide?) to the east, and an excavated circular hollow to the west. Upland Survey 2007 (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245097  
**NGR:** SN77904490  
**SITE NAME:** NANT Y GLO BANK 1  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK AND DITCH  
**PERIOD:** Medieval?;Post-Medieval?  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Disused leat. RPS Nov 2002.

Feature does not appear on historic mapping or AP plotting, but is clearly visible on the ground. Its form and course and the absence of related mining features suggest that this feature is an enclosure boundary rather than a leat. Spot location erroneous (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245098  
**NGR:** SN78784659  
**SITE NAME:** YSTRADYFFIN;YSTRAD-FFIN;NANT-BAU;RHANDIR ABAD  
**SITE TYPE:** SETTLEMENT;GRANGE?  
**PERIOD:** Medieval  
**FORM:** Documents  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Grange of Strata Florida, thought to have an original nucleus around Ystrad-ffin, which is situated in tithe free lands and close to Capel Peulin. Later the nucleus moved to Nant Bau. JH 1994 based on Williams DH (1990).

**NPRN:** 245099  
**NGR:** SN79104540  
**SITE NAME:** NANT BAI LONG HUT  
**SITE TYPE:** LONG HUT  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Building  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A long hut type building was found at NGR SN7911445484, with associated enclosure PRN 13,393 marked on the Ordnance Survey first edition (Ordnance Survey Carmarthenshire (6" to 1 mile) Sheet X NW; 1891). The site is terraced into a southeast facing hill slope, on the Nant-bai valley base. It comprises a building, possibly two-cell, represented by undressed rubble wall bases, surviving to a height of 1m or more in places. The larger cell measures 6.5 x 4.5m internally with walls c. 0.8m thick, whilst the smaller cell is 3.0 x 4.5m internally (HGW 2008).

[Original description - Possible long hut type settlement site seen on APs. RPS 10.2001. This site was visited in December 2003 and no evidence of a long hut or



any other structure was found at the grid reference quoted, or along the stream valley and terraces adjacent].

**NPRN:** 245100  
**NGR:** SN78554485  
**SITE NAME:** WHITE HALL UCHAF FARMSTEAD  
**SITE TYPE:** FARMSTEAD  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Complex  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A farmstead complex which appears to have been carved out of common land, lying on south facing slopes above the Nant Y Bai valley and facing the Nant-y-mwyn lead mine remains located on the opposite side of the river. It is marked and named on the Ordnance Survey first edition (Ordnance Survey Carmarthenshire 6" to 1 mile Sheet X NW; 1891). Marked, but no longer named on the second edition Ordnance Survey map of 1906, it appears to have been abandoned by this time. On the ground the farmstead is visible as reasonably well preserved tumbled stone walls, with four associated field enclosures defined by low banks, surrounding the dwelling, with surviving evidence of associated cultivation ridges including NPRN 245016. The farmstead is orientated east - west. It has two cells, the larger measuring 11m x 5.5m externally, and the smaller at the west end measuring 6.4m x 5.1m externally. HGW 2008.

[Original description - Apparently a post-medieval farmstead complex carved out of common land. Now deserted. RPS 10.2001]

**NPRN:** 245101  
**NGR:** SN78254496  
**SITE NAME:** NANT-Y-GLO BANK 2  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK AND DITCH  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

This site was originally recorded from aerial photographs in 2002 as an old leat course. Evidence from the upland survey visit suggests it is more likely to be an enclosure boundary, as it does not appear to link with a water course, or any mining remains. The bank (c. 2m wide and 1.5m high) and ditch (c. 2m wide) run east - west along the countour of the slope (HGW 2008).

[Original description - Old leat course seen on 1946 RAF aerial photographs. Purpose unknown. RPS Nov.2002]

**NPRN:** 245102  
**NGR:** SN78624492  
**SITE NAME:** WHITE HALL UCHAF CULTIVATION RIDGES  
**SITE TYPE:** CULTIVATION RIDGE  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

An area of cultivation originally identified on 1946 RAF aerial photographs in 2002. Now lying in unenclosed rough pasture, the site is to the east of enclosed paddocks associated with White Hall Uchaf abandoned farmstead (NPRN 245014).

The site consists of 5 raised 'lazybed' type features averaging c. 2m in width. (HGW 2008).

An area of cultivation seen on 1946 RAF aerial photographs. RPS Nov.2002

**NPRN:** 245103  
**NGR:** SN79134548  
**SITE NAME:** NANT BAI ENCLOSURE  
**SITE TYPE:** ENCLOSURE  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** D  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Originally identified as a reservoir from RAF APs in 2002, no such feature was present. The upland survey site visit identified an enclosure complex associated with long hut (NPRN 245013). The enclosure is marked in this area on the Ordnance Survey first edition (Ordnance Survey Carmarthenshire (6" to 1 mile) Sheet X NW; 1891). The enclosure consists of a low bank c. 1.5m wide x 0.8m high, with an external ditch c.1.2m wide, apparently partially defining two enclosures surrounding the dwelling. (HGW 2008)

[Original text - A reservoir seen on 1946 RAF aerial photographs. RPS Nov.2002]

**NPRN:** 245104  
**NGR:** SN78504500  
**SITE NAME:** PEN-Y-DARREN SHAFT  
**SITE TYPE:** SHAFT  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Other structure  
**CONDITION:** U  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A series of 4 old metal mine shafts. RPS Nov.2002.

No mine shaft features could be identified on the ground during the uplands survey. (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245105  
**NGR:** SN79104580  
**SITE NAME:** YSTRAD FFIN BANK  
**SITE TYPE:** BOUNDARY BANK  
**PERIOD:** Medieval?;Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A boundary bank originally identified from 1946 RAF aerial photographs. Bank c. 1.2m high x 2.5m wide, orientated roughly northwest.-southeast. Does not appear to have been identified on the Royal Commission AP mapping. (HGW 2008).

A boundary bank visible on 1946 RAF aerial photographs. RPS Nov.2002.

**NPRN:** 113234  
**NGR:** SN78004500  
**SITE NAME:** NANT Y GLO PROJECT RECORD  
**SITE TYPE:** PROJECT RECORD

**PERIOD:** General

**FORM:** None

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Project record for the Nant y Glo Forestry Grant Scheme Application

**NPRN:** 245108

**NGR:** SN78314626

**SITE NAME:** NANT-Y-CAWS COTTAGE

**SITE TYPE:** COTTAGE

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Building

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A cottage site marked and named as 'Nant-y-caws' on both 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps of the area (OS Carms. 6" to 1 mile Sheet X NW; 1891, 1906). Now a ruin, with walls of rubble-stone surviving to a height of c 1m - 1.3m. The building is c. 8m in length x 5.3m wide externally, and the walls are c. 0.7m wide. There are a number of small trees growing amongst the walls. There is a 1.6m wide gap in the north wall, which may represent a former entrance. There is also a former opening (c. 0.7m wide) in the east wall, which has been neatly blocked with rubble-stone (HGW 2008).

[Original text - Cottage shown on 1906 6" OS map. Now ruined. RPS 10.2000]

**NPRN:** 245109

**NGR:** SN78434475

**SITE NAME:** WHITE-HALL-ISAF COTTAGE

**SITE TYPE:** COTTAGE

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Building

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A small south facing farmstead, which appears to have been carved out of common land. It lies to the southwest of Whitehall Uchaf, on the Nant Y Bai valley floor, overlooking the Nant-y-mwyn lead mine remains on the other side of the river. It appears to have been abandoned at a later date than Whitehall Uchaf, as it is marked and named on the Ordnance Survey first and second edition maps (Ordnance Survey Carms 6" to 1 mile Sheet X NW; 1891, 1906). On the ground the farmstead survives as tumbled stone walls surviving up to 1m in height. The farmstead is set in the northeast corner of a small enclosure. It has two cells, the larger measuring 4m x 5m internally, and the smaller measuring 3m x 5m internally. (HGW 2008).

[Original description - 19th century cottage. Shown on 1906 6" OS map. Now ruined. RPS 10.2001]

**NPRN:** 245024

**NGR:** SN77924572

**SITE NAME:** CHWAREL YSTRAD FFIN LONG HUT

**SITE TYPE:** LONG HUT?

**PERIOD:** Unknown

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Not located during the 2007 upland survey. A group of three banked oval features. possible settlement remains or ?pillow mounds identified from AP mapping. (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245010

**NGR:** SN7877946590

**SITE NAME:** YSTRAD FFIN BUILDING

**SITE TYPE:** BUILDING

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Ruin

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Behind NPRN17928 is a ruined stone rubble outhouse, pigsty or cottage site, north facing, on an east-west alignment. North wall absent, west gable end standing. Original building 8.60m x 2.60m, walls 0.60m thick, west wall extended north by 4.40m. (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245026

**NGR:** SN8392048256

**SITE NAME:** NANT HENOG SETTLEMENT

**SITE TYPE:** DESERTED RURAL SETTLEMENT

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Complex

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Deserted upland settlement site located in valley base next to Nant Henog stream. An extensive group of ?post-medieval buildings and assoc. enclosures visible as earthworks and tumbled drystone walls (AP vertical OS 17/8/95 95-722 0-14). Marked but not named on second edition Ordnance Survey of 1905. An extensive complex of buildings, in a sheltered location at the base of a slope next to a stream. Survives as low walls of rubble and earth covered banks. A trackway leads northeast from this site to NPRN 245059 then on to higher ground (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245027

**NGR:** SN8008146329

**SITE NAME:** CARN TWRCH LONG HUT

**SITE TYPE:** LONG HUT?

**PERIOD:** Unknown

**FORM:** Ruin

**CONDITION:** D

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Identified from APs as an oblong structure visible as an earthwork, possibly a long hut. A sparse scatter of stones over approx. 10m x 10m area was identified in this location, but no earthworks or other structures were visible (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245028

**NGR:** SN7786445236

**SITE NAME:** CWM NANT-Y-GLO BANK

**SITE TYPE:** BOUNDARY BANK

**PERIOD:** Unknown  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A substantial earthwork feature that may have started as a boundary bank and ditch, but which has developed into a significant access track following the course on the north side of the Nant Glo stream onto the uplands from Bron Y Cwrt cottages. The track peters out on reaching the high ground (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245029  
**NGR:** SN8120049310  
**SITE NAME:** COED FFOS-Y-GARTH BANK 1  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK AND DITCH  
**PERIOD:** Unknown  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

One of several boundary banks in this area (NPRNs 245030 and 245031). Surviving in places to a height of 0.60m and approx 1.50m wide with a possible ditch c.1.0m wide, on its south side. Traverses this area in roughly east-west direction, following the contour, over what is now unenclosed land, May indicate limit of formerly enclosed land to north (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245030  
**NGR:** SN8087049300  
**SITE NAME:** COED FFOS-Y-GARTH BANK 2  
**SITE TYPE:** BOUNDARY BANK  
**PERIOD:** Unknown  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

An earth boundary bank, av. 0.6m in height, and 1.3m diameter, which traverses the saddle of the hill in a roughly east-west direction. May mark a route across this area that pre-dates the modern road route. Following a similar course, but on a different contour,, it may be associated with NPRN 245030 and other disused boundary banks in this area representing former enclosure of what is now unenclosed land (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245031  
**NGR:** SN8123024920  
**SITE NAME:** COED FFOS-Y-GARTH BANK  
**SITE TYPE:** BOUNDARY BANK  
**PERIOD:** Unknown  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

An earth bank, which follows a different contour but the same route as the modern road. Up to 0.70m high and 1.20m wide, It appears to be a boundary bank, and may be associated with other disused boundary banks in this area (NPRNs 245030 and 245060) (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245032  
**NGR:** SN8132346392

**SITE NAME:** CEFN HAFOD-Y-MAEN SHEEP FOLD

**SITE TYPE:** SHEEP FOLD

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Ruin

**CONDITION:** B

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A two-celled structure constructed of local rubble-stone, quartz and grit-stone located in the valley base next to a stream. The larger cell is orientated northeast - southwest, and measures 14m x 8.3m, with walls c. 1.2m thick. The smaller cell abuts the southeast end of the larger cell and measures 6.2m x 5.7m, with walls c. 0.7m thick. The site has been used as a sheep fold, but evidence of rebuilds and alterations to the structure may suggest it was originally a dwelling (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245033

**NGR:** SN7942046977

**SITE NAME:** NANT Y FFIN BUILDING

**SITE TYPE:** BUILDING

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?

**FORM:** Ruin

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A ruined rectangular building, lying close to a small tributary of Nant Y Ffin. The building measures 7m x 5m externally, with walls constructed of rough rubble stone averaging 1m thick, and surviving to a height of c. 0.6m. The building is orientated northwest - southeast, with views to the west. It is associated with a rectangular enclosure, which measures c. 27m x 37m. Other enclosure earthworks may survive in the area, but are obscured by bracken growth. May be an agricultural building rather than a dwelling? (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245034

**NGR:** SN8043048570

**SITE NAME:** TRAWSNANT BANK

**SITE TYPE:** BANK AND DITCH

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** B

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Well preserved, and substantial field boundary bank, orientated southwest - northeast, surviving up to 1.0m high and 1.20m wide. Appears to be part of field system associated with DRS 245077 (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245035

**NGR:** SN8016547632

**SITE NAME:** NANT Y FFIN CAIRN

**SITE TYPE:** CAIRN

**PERIOD:** Modern

**FORM:** Other structure

**CONDITION:** B

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A pile of mixed stone, incl. sandstone and quartz, possibly imported from elsewhere, sited on a hilltop on the end of a spur, with views of valley to north, west and east with hills behind. Dimensions of cairn: height - 0.85m, diameter



1.7m. Appears most likely to be a modern commemorative monument to an unknown person, animal, or an event, location or view. (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245036  
**NGR:** SN7952948443  
**SITE NAME:** CEFN ISAF BANK 1  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK AND DITCH  
**PERIOD:** Unknown  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A bank (and ditch on south side) running east - west, on a northwest facing slope, which joins up with a natural ravine to the west. The bank is 2.2m wide, and the ditch 3m wide. Of uncertain purpose, but may be a drainage or other feature associated with the construction of the reservoir, or the track leading up to the ?communications mast on Cefn Isaf (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245037  
**GR:** SN7942748361  
**SITE NAME:** CEFN ISAF BANK 2  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK  
**PERIOD:** Modern  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Bank situated on level plateau on slope, (length c. 10m, height c. 1.5m, width c. 1.2m), orientated northwest - southeast. The bank has a level area on the west side, and appears to have been formed when the area was levelled. The feature may be associated with the construction of Llyn Brianne dam (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245038  
**NGR:** SN7943948409  
**SITE NAME:** CEFN ISAF BUILDING  
**SITE TYPE:** BUILDING?/ENCLOSURE?  
**PERIOD:** Modern  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

The low (0.40m) earthwork remains of a possible building orientated east - west and measuring c.5.40m x 12.0m. The east end is wider at 8.50m. 3 possible linear features on north side are 1.10m wide separated by 0.80m gaps, possible cultivation beds? although the feature has a possible air of modernity and may be associated with the construction of Llyn Brianne dam which the site overlooks (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245039  
**NGR:** SN8024449242  
**SITE NAME:** TRAWSNANT FARMSTEAD  
**SITE TYPE:** FARMSTEAD  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Ruin  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Trawsnant farmstead (no longer inhabited), has a linear plan, and is orientated east - west. It comprises a south facing, three bay, two storey former farmhouse measuring 25.0m long and 4.70m wide, with arched central doorway, and an attached single storey outbuilding to the east. There is a smaller, detached outbuilding to the west, slightly off line with the main farmstead. The farmstead is entirely constructed of rubble-stone. The farmhouse itself is now roofless, but the attached outbuilding to the east is roofed with corrugated tin, and has doors of corrugated tin. The smaller outbuilding to the west is also roofed with corrugated tin (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245040  
**NGR:** SN8200949621  
**SITE NAME:** NANT GWRACH WALL  
**SITE TYPE:** WALL  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Other structure  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Mortared stone wall remnant repaired with cement. 1.0m high, 0.4m wide and 13.5m long. Located across stream valley base (tributary of Nant Gwrach), at confluence with Nant Gwrach. The wall runs north - south across the course of the stream, and may be the remains of a sheep dip, or possibly a river crossing relating to the former routeway which the modern road has been built over in places (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245041  
**NGR:** SN7966047930  
**SITE NAME:** BWLCH Y FFIN BUILDING  
**SITE TYPE:** BUILDING  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Ruin  
**CONDITION:** E  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Small agricultural? building marked on 2nd edn. Ordnance Survey mapping. No traces evident on ground, which appears to have been recently ploughed. May originally have been served by hollow way. (HGM 2008).

**NPRN:** 245042  
**NGR:** SN8404951877  
**SITE NAME:** BRON CULENT BUILDING  
**SITE TYPE:** BUILDING ?  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Ruin  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Slightly raised rectangular wall lines (grassed over) set in quarried recess into hill slope, suggesting the former presence of a small building (c. 5.4m x 5m), perhaps built within a former quarry. Near Bron Culent farmstead (NPRN 147766) (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245043  
**NGR:** SN7946646504  
**SITE NAME:** YSTRAD FFIN BANK 1  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK AND DITCH  
**PERIOD:** Unknown  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A possible boundary bank and ditch, running north-south, 2.5m wide at base, 0.5m high. Associated ditch 2m wide at top, 0.5m deep to east of bank. The feature appears to be associated with an established trackway leading from/to Ystrad Ffin farmhouse (HGM 2008).

**NPRN:** 245044  
**NGR:** SN7728044870  
**SITE NAME:** CRAIG BRON Y CWRT CAIRN  
**SITE TYPE:** CAIRN  
**PERIOD:** Modern  
**FORM:** Other structure  
**CONDITION:** A  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A group of modern flags and other erections (including a solar garden light!) some including small rock piles. Possible commemorative features associated with this location/landscape (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245045  
**NGR:** SN7941446061  
**SITE NAME:** YSTRAD FFIN BANK 2  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK AND DITCH  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A bank (c. 3.3m wide) with ditch (c. 2m wide). This feature is not marked on current or historic map sources, and was not identified from APs but is clearly visible on the ground. Linear extent uncertain but from spot location it continues to north, while disappearing to south (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245046  
**NGR:** SN7950346021  
**SITE NAME:** CARN TWRCH BANK  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK  
**PERIOD:** Unknown  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A linear bank, considerably eroded and surrounded by peat growth, orientated northeast (40 degrees off north) - southwest. Listed as a trackway on the RCAHMW Llyn Brianne AP mapping project (2007), but visible as a low linear bank, c. 2.5m wide on the ground. No clear ditch identified. May form part of a once possibly continuous boundary bank running along the spine of this upland area, now represented by boundary NPRN245080, but possibly continuing southwest toward Cwm Nant y Glo (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245047  
**NGR:** SN7956646498  
**SITE NAME:** CARN TWRCH ROUND BARROW  
**SITE TYPE:** ROUND BARROW  
**PERIOD:** Bronze Age?  
**FORM:** Structure  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Possible round barrow sited at the end of a low spur, with good views of upland plateaux to northwest and south, closer views to east, clear view to Careg Cewri Bronze Age round barrow (NPRN 304670), and along ridge. c.12m diameter, and 1.5m high at centre (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245048  
**NGR:** SN8340450379  
**SITE NAME:** NANT-Y-BRAIN TRIAL EXCAVATON  
**SITE TYPE:** TRIAL EXCAVATION?  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Linear excavation with bank/ spoil tip on south side. Orientated northwest-southeast, c.20m long, x 6m wide. The bank is c. 1.3m high, and the excavation c. 1m deep. The site lies east-northeast of Pen-Y-Gwaith/Nant-Y-Brain mine. Possibly a trial excavation or other mining feature (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245049  
**NGR:** SN8437051510  
**SITE NAME:** NANT-Y-BRAIN ADIT  
**SITE TYPE:** ADIT  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Other structure  
**CONDITION:** U  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A rock-cut adit, associated with Nant-Y-Brain mine, c. 2m high and 1m wide, with bank of excavated material to north of entrance. Now filled with water, and fenced off within boggy and scrubby enclosure (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245050  
**NGR:** SN8329250340  
**SITE NAME:** NANT-Y-BRAIN TRACKWAY  
**SITE TYPE:** TRACKWAY  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Trackway leading up slope from main mine workings, upslope of building NPRN 245,005 towards a small building, which may be an explosives magazine (NPRN 245,070). The lower portion of the track is clearly defined, where it is supported by a stone wall revetment. The revetment appears to be up to 2m high, but is

largely obscured by tumble and bracken. The track, and evidence of the stone revetment peter out as the path climbs the hill slope (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245051  
**NGR:** SN8443651376  
**SITE NAME:** ESGAIR NANT Y BRAIN  
**SITE TYPE:** MINE SHAFT?  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Other structure  
**CONDITION:** U  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Possible mine shaft or other mining associated feature or trial excavation sited on spur of hill. Feature orientated east - west (total length c. 10m), with circular shaft head at east end (c. 5m diameter), and linear extension to west (c. 5m length). Earth embankment (spoil from excavations?) along northern edge of feature (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245052  
**NGR:** SN8434051440  
**SITE NAME:** TRAWSNANT QUARRY  
**SITE TYPE:** QUARRY  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Small possible quarry/ mining feature on south edge of trackway, measuring c. 8m x 5m, c. 3.5m deep. Close to NPRN 245,072, which may be associated. (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245053  
**NGR:** SN8310551691  
**SITE NAME:** NANT FUDDAI ENCLOSURE  
**SITE TYPE:** ENCLOSURE  
**PERIOD:** Unknown  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Unusual semicircular stone and earth banked enclosure (c. 11m x 17m) and c. 0.5m high). The south side is formed by a natural rock outcrop. Bank lined internally with vertical stone slabs. No entrance apparent, but is presumed to be a livestock enclosure located in sheltered position (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245054  
**NGR:** SN8212850283  
**SITE NAME:** NANT CWM BYS BANK  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK



**PERIOD:** Unknown  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

An irregular linear bank (c. 1.5m high, 3m wide) running northwest - southeast. Crosses a ridge between two minor peaks. As with several other banks in this area it appears to extend northwards from top of a stream gully. Possibly relating to land division or livestock management? continues in to area of forestry beyond study area (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245055  
**NGR:** SN8171249830  
**SITE NAME:** CLYN GLAS QUARRY 1  
**SITE TYPE:** QUARRY  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Small quarry site, (c. 18m x 5m), with spoil tip to southwest. Purpose of quarry unknown, possibly related to mining activity (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245056  
**NGR:** SN8162949856  
**SITE NAME:** CLYN GLAS QUARRY 2  
**SITE TYPE:** QUARRY  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A quarried area (c. 9m x 7m), cut into the southwest facing hill slope, with spoil heap downslope from cut. Features now grassed over. Purpose of quarry unknown, but possibly related to mining activity in the area (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245057  
**NGR:** SN8308049770  
**SITE NAME:** ESGAIR GARN BANK  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK  
**PERIOD:** Unknown  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A slightly curving bank, orientated northwest - southeast, c. 1m high and 3m wide, effectively isolating hill summit of Esgair Garn to north, on which cairn NPRN 304671 stands. A possible ditch was noted on the south side of the bank, but this could have been topographic. The bank was not large enough to be defensive, but it may be a significant boundary type since other similar example has been identified at NPRN245082 (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245058  
**NGR:** SN8349449500  
**SITE NAME:** CEFN BLAENCWMHENOG CAIRN  
**SITE TYPE:** CAIRN  
**PERIOD:** Bronze Age?

**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** D  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A small pile of stones 0.50m high and 1.0m diameter. topped with a large quartz boulder. This small cairn is located at west end of an apparently natural rocky outcrop which measures c. 10.5m east to west, and 5m north to south. Assumed to be a route marker, although there is no clear established track in the vicinity. Possibly of relatively recent origin, but possibly older (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245059  
**NGR:** SN8435648474  
**SITE NAME:** CWM HENOG SETTLEMENT  
**SITE TYPE:** DESERTED RURAL SETTLEMENT?  
**PERIOD:** Medieval?  
**FORM:** Ruin  
**CONDITION:** D  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Level terrace half way up valley slope, orientated north -south, with a south facing aspect, and views of local slopes up and down valley. Stone rubble on the terrace appears to represent remains of a building (footprint measures c. 5.8m x 9.3m). The building lies within a larger rectangular enclosure, the corner of which is cut by a track. The track leads down to DRS site NPRN 245026, thought to be post-medieval in origin (though possibly earlier) suggesting that NPRN 254059 is an earlier settlement (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245060  
**NGR:** SN8090049210  
**SITE NAME:** TRAWSNANT BANK  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** D  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A generally well preserved bank, c. 1.5m wide and 0.8m high, running across level ground. The alignment varies, changing from east to west, to northwest -southeast. Purpose uncertain since not delineating an obvious area (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245061  
**NGR:** SN8058049420  
**SITE NAME:** TRAWSNANT CULTIVATION MARKS  
**SITE TYPE:** CULTIVATION MARKS  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Cultivation marks (possibly lazy-beds?), occupying an area c.40m x 20m (width of ridges not measured). The cultivation marks lie in a level area between a rock ridge and the road, with no apparent associated field boundaries. Although the area appears to be confined to the north side of the road, this does not necessarily confirm that the marks post-date the road (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245062  
**NGR:** SN8309448676

**SITE NAME:** CEFN BLAENCWMHENOG SETTLEMENT

**SITE TYPE:** DESERTED RURAL SETTLEMENT

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?

**FORM:** Ruin

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Possible deserted rural settlement site, on small elevated promontory in a sheltered position overlooking stream valley. There are views down the valley to the east, and of local slopes. The walls of stone rubble survive to a height of c. 0.5m, and the plan is rectangular, measuring 9m (N - S) x 4m (E - W) (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245063

**NGR:** SN8204148620

**SITE NAME:** MYNYDD TRAWSNANT CAIRN

**SITE TYPE:** CAIRN

**PERIOD:** Bronze Age?

**FORM:** Structure

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A rocky cairn up to 1.50m high, located on a possible round barrow of diameter 11m, with suggestion of surrounding ditch 3m wide. Sited on a ridge, just off the summit (i.e. not at the highest point), with clear views to the north and west. Alternatively, may be a natural rocky outcrop along ridge, upon which cairn has been constructed (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245064

**NGR:** SN8183048630

**SITE NAME:** MYNYDD TRAWSNANT CAIRN?

**SITE TYPE:** CAIRN?/NATURAL FEATURE?

**PERIOD:** Bronze Age?

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A low scatter of stones c. 4m in diameter, possibly a denuded cairn or mound, perhaps more likely a natural outcrop. Lies on the edge of level area at top of slope, on line of outcrop? overlooking slopes to the north. Similar in appearance to NPRN 245,063, but without obvious cairn (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245065

**NGR:** SN8330050630

**SITE NAME:** NANT-Y-BRAIN ADIT

**SITE TYPE:** ADIT

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Other structure

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A possible adit associated with Nant-Y-Brain/ Pen-Y-Gwaith mine workings. Opening c. 1.2m high, c. 0.8m wide. Located on the south side of trackway NPRN 245,004. Alternatively a natural spring (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245066

**NGR:** SN8223449839

**SITE NAME:** NANT GWRACH QUARRY

**SITE TYPE:** QUARRY

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Quarry (width c. 8m, length c. 5m, depth c. 2.5m) cut into a northwest facing hill slope, with spoil heap downslope purpose uncertain (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245067

**NGR:** SN8322050390

**SITE NAME:** NANT-Y-BRAIN WHEEL-PIT

**SITE TYPE:** WHEEL-PIT?

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Mechanical structure

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A possible wheel-pit, sited next to tributary of the Culent. A linear hollow c. 5m long and 1m wide, orientated north-south, appears to be stone-lined. Possibly linked to mine shaft NPRN 245122 by a partly rock cut linear gully (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245068

**NGR:** SN7792045080

**SITE NAME:** CWM NANT-Y-GLO TRACKWAY

**SITE TYPE:** TRACKWAY

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** B

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Seen from across valley. Well established route onto upland, appears to cross/cut boundary NPRN 245011. Terraced into slope in places, no associated boundary banks apparent. Runs up from Nant-y-glo farmstead, but peters out and branches when it reaches the uplands. Probably established access to upland pasturing. Similar to track NPRN 245,028, which leads from Bron-y-cwrt cottages to upland areas on the other side of Nant-y-glo valley (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245069

**NGR:** SN7952448460

**SITE NAME:** CEFN ISAF TRIAL EXCAVATION

**SITE TYPE:** TRIAL EXCAVATION?

**PERIOD:** Modern?

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A trapezoidal scoop, c. 0.5m deep, and 7m long. 3m wide at northeast end, 3.5m wide at southwest end. Slight banking (spoil heaps?) surround cut. Significance if any, unknown (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245070

**NGR:** SN8334550346

**SITE NAME:** NANT-Y-BRAIN BUILDING

**SITE TYPE:** BUILDING

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION: C**

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Rubble foundations of a small square, stone built structure, measuring c. 3.5m x 3.5m externally, with the internal space c. 1.5m squared. There is an entrance on the south side. Access is via a track (NPRN 245,050) leading up from Nant-Y-Brain mine. It's location at a distance from the rest of the mine workings, and its small size may suggest that it was an explosives magazine (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245071

**NGR:** SN8446951407

**SITE NAME:** ESGAIR NANT Y BRAIN BANK

**SITE TYPE:** BANK AND DITCH

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION: C**

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Short stretch (c. 7.8m) of earth bank (c. 0.7m high), and associated ditch. Function unknown, but the ditch may represent some sort of trial excavation, with spoil downslope. Proximity to NPRN 245051 suggests this feature may be to do with mineral prospecting (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245072

**NGR:** SN8431051420

**SITE NAME:** ESGAIR NANT Y BRAIN QUARRY

**SITE TYPE:** QUARRY

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION: C**

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A small quarry measuring c. 6.5m x 5.5m, and c. 2.5m deep. On the south edge of trackway NPRN 245,004. Close to a similar feature (NPRN 245,052) possibly relating to mining activity in the area. (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245073

**NGR:** SN7803045840

**SITE NAME:** NANT-Y-BRAIN HOPPER

**SITE TYPE:** HOPPER?

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Other structure

**CONDITION: C**

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Remains of a possible ore hopper measuring c. 5m x 4m, c. 2.5m high. L-shaped wall remnant defines a level area c. 3m (north - south) x 1.25m (east - west) on the west side, with possible chute at higher level to the east. The surface of the level area had finer ore fragments on it, suggesting it may have been a crushing floor. (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245074

**NGR:** SN7803045840

**SITE NAME:** CHWAREL YSTRAD FFIN TRACKWAY

**SITE TYPE:** TRACKWAY

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** B

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Substantial, well-built track leading from Chwarel Ystrad Ffin, down towards Bron-y-cwrt farmstead. In places it is terraced into the slope, with the north edge projecting out, supported by well built stone walls. Some sections of the track have been obscured by land-falls. Well built access track to Chwarel Ystrad Ffin (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245075

**NGR:** SN7799044760

**SITE NAME:** NANT BAI SHEEPFOLD

**SITE TYPE:** SHEEPFOLD

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** E

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Not seen during uplands survey. Probably destroyed (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245076

**NGR:** SN7979848934

**SITE NAME:** CEFN ISAF DWELLING

**SITE TYPE:** DWELLING

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A former dwelling lying in bracken and grass on unenclosed pasture. Occupies a fairly level area on northwest facing slope, orientated northeast - southwest, and overlooking valley now flooded by Llyn Brianne. Constructed of local rubble-stone slabs arranged horizontally, with occasional uprights. Building measures 14m x 5m externally, internally two cells, one measuring 7.5m x 2.8m, the other 3m x 2.8m. The building is linked by a field boundary to a banked trackway located to the northeast, and leading down into the flooded valley and around Cefn Isaf towards Trawsnant Farmhouse (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245077

**NGR:** SN8046048618

**SITE NAME:** TRAWSNANT SETTLEMENT

**SITE TYPE:** DESERTED RURAL SETTLEMENT

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Complex

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A deserted rural settlement site, including a stone building with associated enclosures. The site is overgrown with turf, but the building appears to have had thick walls (up to c. 1.2m in width), of un-dressed slabs that stand on end in places. The dimensions of the building are 15m x 6m and some walls remain to a height of c. 1.2m, with a central hollow. It is orientated north-south, and sited in a sheltered location, with views primarily to the north. Within the building, a 'cist-like' structure constructed from stone slabs is assumed to be an interior fitting or storage compartment of some kind (HGW 2008).



**NPRN:** 245078  
**NGR:** SN8263848927  
**SITE NAME:** MYNYDD TRAWSNANT IRON STRUCTURES  
**SITE TYPE:** UNKNOWN  
**PERIOD:** Modern  
**FORM:** Other structure  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A group of c. 15 metal structures, with two opposing 'A' frames held together with parallel bars. Uncertain function but possibly for military or agricultural purposes. Similar to hay drying racks, possibly peat drying racks? Now in fenced enclosure. (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245079  
**NGR:** SN8111046320  
**SITE NAME:** CEFN HAFOD Y MAEN BUILDING  
**SITE TYPE:** BUILDING?  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** U  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Possibly low remnant walls of a rectangular building, but not located during Upland Survey (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245080  
**NGR:** SN7995046800  
**SITE NAME:** CERRIG CEDNY BANK  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK AND DITCH  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** B  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Earthwork bank and ditch/trackway with possible structure at northern end, identified on RCAHMW aerial photographic survey. Not located during Upland Survey, but possibly part of continuous boundary feature along the crest of the ridge on Cefn Ystrad Ffin now only intermittently visible (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245081  
**NGR:** SN8282051040  
**SITE NAME:** NANT Y CRAF BANK  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK AND DITCH  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

An earthwork boundary bank and ditch orientated southwest - northeast (ditch c. 1m wide and 0.3m deep, bank c. 1.2m wide and 0.6m high). Traversing relatively level hill-top leading to stream gully. The only visible upstanding earthwork of several plotted from APs in this location (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245082

**NGR:** SN8388050360  
**SITE NAME:** PEN Y FOEL BANK  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK  
**PERIOD:** Unknown  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

An earth bank orientated southwest - northeast (c. 1m high x 3m wide), traverses saddle between two stream gullies effectively annexing the hill summit of Pen y Foel. APs and photos may suggest second bank on same alignment, but not noticed on the ground at the time (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245083  
**NGR:** SN8208049920  
**SITE NAME:** NANT GWRACH TRACKWAY 1  
**SITE TYPE:** TRACKWAY  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

A well established track orientated southwest - northeast (better preserved to east than west), on hill slope following the contour. May be associated with track NPRN 245,088 to the northeast, which is more substantial. Possible old route linking the Nant Culant and Nant Gwarch valleys although both tracks seem to peter out at the saddle between the two rivers perhaps suggesting the tracks are just well established sheep tracks (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245084  
**NGR:** SN8194049640  
**SITE NAME:** NANT GWRACH TRACKWAY 2  
**SITE TYPE:** TRACKWAY  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Remnant of trackway depicted on 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping. Route is now mostly covered by modern road (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245085  
**NGR:** SN7947046620  
**SITE NAME:** NANT GWRACH BANK  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK AND DITCH  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Bank (c. 1m high x 2.3m wide) with ditch (c. 0.8m wide) on east side, on north - south alignment. Bank appears from AP plot to run roughly between two streams, traversing slope (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245086

**NGR:** SN8194549544

**SITE NAME:** NANT GWRACH TRACKWAY 3

**SITE TYPE:** TRACKWAY

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** B

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Remnant of trackway depicted on 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping. Route is now mostly covered by modern road (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245087

**NGR:** SN8387049940

**SITE NAME:** CEFN UCHAF TRACKWAY

**SITE TYPE:** TRACKWAY

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A track running SSW –NNE, which is clearly visible in places, but fades out elsewhere. Clearly visible stretches were plotted during the RCAHMW AP mapping project. Some of these areas appear engineered - c. 1.75m wide, level and terraced into slope in places. Probably a well used sheep track, or associated with mine workings (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245088

**NGR:** SN8334050890

**SITE NAME:** NANT CULENT TRACKWAY

**SITE TYPE:** TRACKWAY

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** B

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

A well defined track, c. 1m wide, orientated southwest - northeast. Track follows the contour along north side of the Culent valley, extending from close to source at the west end of the valley, originally as far east as ford NPRN 245,000, although the eastern end of the track has been ploughed out. The west end of the track does not cross the saddle of land to meet up with NPRN 245,083, and so may ultimately just be a very well established sheep track (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245089

**NGR:** SN8486051150

**SITE NAME:** NANT Y BRAIN TRACKWAY

**SITE TYPE:** TRACKWAY

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** B

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Deeply incised path (c. 1.7m wide) snaking uphill slope from the direction of the enclosed land to the north. Track disappears when it reaches more level, open ground. Old access to upland area (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245090  
**NGR:** SN8295049950  
**SITE NAME:** ESGAIR GARN BANK  
**SITE TYPE:** BANK  
**PERIOD:** Unknown  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Denuded bank c. 0.8m high, 2m wide, orientated southwest - northeast. Appears to lead onto uplands from end of stream source, but again cannot be linked to a coherent field system. No ditch apparent. AP plotting suggests the bank may run down to join source of stream (as elsewhere) (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245091  
**NGR:** SN8234049950  
**SITE NAME:** ESGAIR GARN TRACKWAY  
**SITE TYPE:** TRACKWAY  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Trackway following contour on south side of Nant Gwrach, leading northeast from NPRN 245106. Cut into hill slope in places, associated with quarry NPRN 245066. Peters out to north, but presumably led towards mine workings at Pen y Gwaith (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245092  
**NGR:** SN8217049700  
**SITE NAME:** NANT GWRACH TRACKWAY 4  
**SITE TYPE:** TRACKWAY  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval?  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Trackway snaking up hill slope providing access to higher ground on Esgair Hir. Appears to have been recently re-worked, but probably has earlier origins (HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245093  
**NGR:** SN7990048140  
**SITE NAME:** NANT Y FFIN TRACKWAY  
**SITE TYPE:** TRACKWAY  
**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval  
**FORM:** Earthwork  
**CONDITION:** C  
**SITE STATUS:**  
**DESCRIPTION:**

Rock cut trackway running along south side of Nant y Ffin. Possibly leading to NPRN 245041(HGW 2008).

**NPRN:** 245094

**NGR:** SN8035048660

**SITE NAME:** CEFN ISAF QUARRY

**SITE TYPE:** QUARRY

**PERIOD:** Post-Medieval

**FORM:** Earthwork

**CONDITION:** C

**SITE STATUS:**

**DESCRIPTION:**

Roadside quarry, possibly associated with road construction since not depicted on historic mapping. c.20.0m north-south x 35.0m east-west (HGW 2008).

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### **Aerial Photographs**

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### **Maps**

Ordnance Survey (6" to 1 mile) Sheet SN61SW, 1965

Ordnance Survey Old Series, Sheet XLI, 1831.

Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup>. Ed. Carmarthenshire (6" to 1 mile) Sheet III SW; 1891.

Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup>. Ed. Carmarthenshire (6" to 1 mile) Sheet III SE; 1891.

Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup>. Ed. Carmarthenshire (25" to 1 mile) Sheet XLVIII.4; 1891.

Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ed. Carmarthenshire (6" to 1 mile) Sheet XLVIII NE; 1906.

Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup>. Ed. Carmarthenshire (25" to 1 mile) Sheet XLVIII.4; 1906.

Tithe Map Llanfair-ar-y-Bryn Parish, Carmarthenshire; 1841.

Apportionment Llanfair-ar-y-Bryn Parish, Carmarthenshire; 1840.

'A map of Cynnant Mountain' In the Parish of Llanvair-ar-y-bryn, Rhandir-Abbot, Carmarthenshire. Belonging to John Campbell Esq. By Richard Jones 1777. Cawdor/ Campbell Mapbook 1 (CRO Archive).