

THE MYNYDD Y FFYNNON PROJECT

F O R E S T

A R C H A E O L O G I C A L



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Report prepared for: ADAS
as part of the Mynydd y Ffynnon Project

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Forest Archaeological Survey

Cover Illustration: One of the boundary stones associated with the enclosure of the former commons of the Mynydd y Ffynnon uplands (see 1.6.7, p.10). The stone is found on Bryn Llychese, at the boundary between moorland and forestry, characteristic elements of the Mynydd y Ffynnon landscape.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background.

1.1.1 The area which is termed the Mynydd y Ffynnon survey area occupies part of a large block of upland in the heart of the Cambrian Mountains in central Wales between the Castell valley on the north, the Ystwyth Valley on the south, the Rheidol Valley on the west and the Wye Valley to the east (see Project Design: The Archaeology and Historic Landscapes of the Mynydd y Ffynnon Area, prepared by Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology and the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, 1997). The larger 'Landscape Study Area' is defined by these rivers and the A44 trunk road, which links Aberystwyth with east Wales. The area is bisected by the Ceredigion/Powys county border.

1.1.2 The area consists of open hill land and forestry plantations to a maximum height of 573m OD, and is a land block that falls within the Cambrian Mountains ESA. ADAS and Forest Enterprise, as large landowners and land agents in the region, have developed a joint project for Mynydd y Ffynnon which is termed 'a new Welsh upland vision for the restoration of upland ecosystems' and is defined as:

"a pilot scheme for the uplands aimed at restoring indigenous upland habitats and their wildlife conservation whilst ensuring that there are true economic returns for forestry and agriculture and hence the rural economy of the same area."

1.1.3 Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology (ACA) (formerly the Dyfed Archaeological Trust) and the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT), after discussion with ADAS, Forest

Enterprise and Royal Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments in Wales (RCAHMW), are conducting a joint archaeological survey of the Mynydd y Ffynnon region. In 1996, an Archaeological Survey Area in the centre of the Mynydd y Ffynnon upland was designated for archaeological field survey work, and a detailed desk-top survey of the landscape history of the whole area was carried out (Sambrook & Silvester, 1997).

1.1.4 As a continuation of the 1996 survey programme, the detailed survey of blocks of upland adjacent to the main valleys was carried out during the early summer of 1997, providing valuable contextual, distributional and site-specific information for the Mynydd y Ffynnon project and assisting considerably in building a picture of past land-use and activity in the area between the Wye and the Ystwyth (Silvester, 1997; Sambrook & Darke, 1997). This was followed during autumn 1997 with a survey and assessment of known archaeological sites within the afforested portions of the Mynydd y Ffynnon study area. This report presents the findings of the latter survey carried out by ACA & CPAT in the afforested areas during September, 1997.

1.2 The Survey Area.

1.2.1 The survey area considered by this study includes all Forest Enterprise owned land within the wider Landscape Study Area, with the exception of plantations at the heart of the historic Hafod Estate and the Bwlchgwaller forest compartment to the south of Hafod (some of this area has already been the subject of detailed archaeological field survey (Murphy, 1996). The forest plantations of the Mynydd y Ffynnon survey area mask an historic landscape which varies in

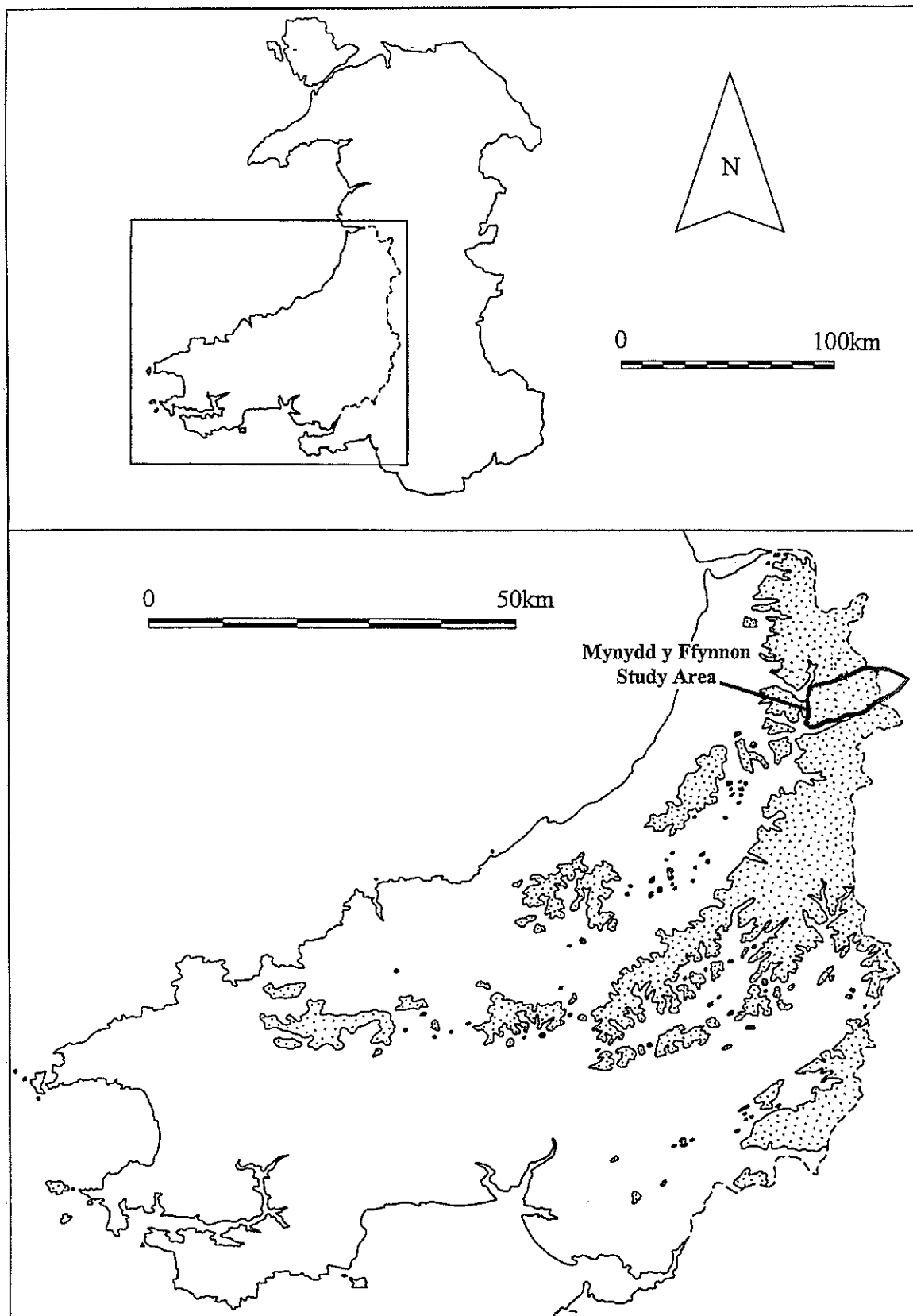


Fig.1; Location of the Mynydd y Ffynnon Study Area.

character from the sloping flanks of the Castell, Wye and Ystwyth river valleys, to the floodplains and steep sides of deeply incised river valleys such as those of the Myherin, Rhuddnant and Diliw, and areas of higher, former moorland dissected by these valleys (Fig. 9 & 10).

1.2.2 The recorded archaeology of the area, much of which has been derived from the surveys recently funded by RCAHMW, is predominantly related to the settlement history of this upland block and includes numerous deserted rural settlements (DRSs), including upland farmsteads and smaller cottages and shepherding huts, as well as associated features such as enclosures and field systems. Another important element in the archaeological resource is related to the metal mining tradition of the area, with several small or medium scale lead mines being found within the study area. Most of these workings date to the later 19th century, but some are known to have been worked before the mid-18th century. The southern part of the survey area borders on the heart of the historic Hafod estate and includes the areas of some of Thomas Johnes' 18th century plantation boundaries, as well as other estate features. (NB: Table 1 provides a full list of sites recorded within the afforested area prior to this study).

1.3 Methodology.

1.3.1 Desktop

As noted above, the Mynydd y Ffynnon Project began in 1996 with a desktop assessment of the recorded history and archaeology of the survey area and a limited archaeological field survey (Sambrook & Silvester, 1996), which was followed in 1997 by two further field surveys (Sambrook & Darke, 1997; Silvester, 1997). This background of detailed study within the wider study

area provided a valuable source of information and experience which could be drawn upon in assessing the archaeology of the afforested portions of the survey area and meant that no further historical research was required (although further desktop work was carried out in relation to the digitizing of historic map data, see 1.3.3 below). This is an important consideration, for rarely are results of previous research readily accessible to fieldworkers in this manner. The importance of this information makes this survey quite unique in terms of recent assessments of forest archaeology in Wales. It also underlines the overall value of the Mynydd y Ffynnon Project to our understanding of the archaeology and landscape history of the area.

1.3.2 Fieldwork

Fieldwork was carried out by two persons (one CPAT and one ACA staff member) during late September and early October, 1997. The primary objective of the field survey was to locate and assess all those sites (37) within the survey area which were already recorded on the regional Sites and Monuments Records (SMRs). Twenty days were allocated to complete this element of the project and, helped by reasonable weather conditions during this period, full coverage of the survey area was achieved within the time allocated. A secondary objective was to record any other sites which were encountered in the forests, identified on historic map sources or identified on FC holding maps. Those new sites recorded represented a 100% increase in the number of known archaeological sites in the survey area (from 36 to 71). Each new site has been given a unique Primary Reference Number (PRN) and its details entered into the relevant SMR database.

TABLE 1: PREVIOUSLY RECORDED SITES

CEREDIGION				
PRN	NGR	NAME	TYPE	PERIOD
5475	SN76527555	The Arch	Folly	Post Mediaeval
9178	SN791801	Nantycreiau	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
9375	SN79057595	Rhos Nantperfedd	Cottage?	Post Mediaeval
11421	SN765755	The Arch	Finds	Mesolithic
13157	SN815822	Peraidd Fynydd	Finds	Roman
19896	SN77217752	Ty Gwyn	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
25540	SN76387496	Bwlch yr Oerfa	Monastic site?	Med; Post Med
25868	SN795829	Old Esgairlle	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
25902	SN774789	Nant Syddion	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
25903	SN777792	Nant Syddion, North	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
25904	SN782797	Nantycreiau, West	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
25907	SN780783	Dolwen	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
25908	SN784784	Dolwen, East	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
25909	SN775777	Nant Rhuddnant	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
25910	SN781799	Nant Rhuddnant, East	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
25911	SN77027655	Llaneithyr Mine	Metal Mine	Post Mediaeval
25914	SN75107535	Brignant	Metal Mine	Post Mediaeval
25985	SN766770	Llaneithyr North	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
33190	SN773790	Nantsyddion	Farmstead	Post Mediaeval
33191	SN777786	Dolwen	Farmstead	Post Mediaeval
33192	SN774787	Dolwen II	Farmstead	Post Mediaeval
33195	SN771774	Tygywyn	Farmstead	Post Mediaeval
33196	SN768777	Tynymaes	Cottage	Post Mediaeval
33230	SN738793	Nant Rhys I	DRS	Post Mediaeval
33231	SN836793	Nant Rhys II	Farmstead	Post Mediaeval
33232	SN84217755	Bryn Diliw	DRS?	Post Mediaeval
33233	SN841773	Diliw II	DRS	Post Mediaeval
34942	SN79018249	Ty'n Ochr	Cottage	Post Mediaeval
POWYS				
PRN	NGR	NAME	TYPE	PERIOD
230	SN82368189	Cae Gaer	Fort	Roman
816	SN85377867	Cam Bwlch y Cloddiau	Round Barrow	Bronze Age
1511	SN85707925	Cam Fach	Round Barrow	Bronze Age
22077	SN83958001	Ffos Bryn Du	Quarry	Modern
22078	SN84558206	Pant Mawr	Metal Mine	Post Med
26986	SN84558207	Pant Mawr Wood	Building	Post Med
26987	SN84928186	Pant Mawr	Metal Mine	Post Med
26988	SN84528189	Pant Mawr	Metal Mine	Post Med

1.3.3 Mynydd y Ffynnon: Mapping in the Forest Areas

(by David Thomas, CPAT)

The survey within the forested areas of Mynydd y Ffynnon was aided by field maps produced by digital mapping techniques developed by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust as part of a pilot survey of archaeological sites on the Forest Enterprise estate in Wales carried out between 1996 and 1997 (Thomas and Earwood 1996; Thomas 1997). The pilot survey was undertaken in selected forests in Clwyd and Powys to test the most effective methods for collecting archaeological data and offering management advice. The digital mapping technique was developed because it was believed that a significant proportion of the visible archaeology within the forests might be related to previous land use which was mapped on the early editions of the Ordnance Survey. The technique allows accurate positioning of features shown on the historic maps against the modern Forest Enterprise stock maps. It also allows point data from CPAT's SMR to be located in relation to the stock map.

The field maps for the Mynydd y Ffynnon programme were produced by digital rectification of the Ordnance Survey second edition six inch map to modern grid co-ordinates in AutoCAD. The data was then transferred as a DXF file into a MapInfo GIS (Geographical Information System) format using the same conventions as those used in CPAT's pilot survey. All buildings, boundary features, trackways, watercourses, areas of deciduous, conifer and mixed woodland, and bogs and ponds were digitized.

The Forest Enterprise digital stock map, giving details of forest boundaries, compartment and sub-

compartment boundaries, roads and rides, was provided by Forest Enterprise in a DXF format. This was then transferred into a MapInfo format and used as an overlay on the historic map data. The CPAT SMR is also available as a MapInfo table and this was read in as a further overlay. Paper maps were then produced to be used in the field.

The aim of the digital mapping carried out for the Mynydd y Ffynnon project was simply to produce a basic field map to be used as an aid to site location during site visits. This forms only one part of the methodology that was used during the pilot survey of the Forest Enterprise estate.

1.4 Condition of Archaeological Resource.

1.4.1 Although it is not within the brief of this particular report to pass comment on management issues relating to the archaeological resource, it is nevertheless appropriate to make some general comments on the current condition of archaeological sites within the survey area.

1.4.2 Few sites can be said to have been wholly removed as a result of forestry operations. Where this has occurred it has mostly been due to either road building activities within the forest or from deep ploughing carried out before plantation (the latter being a phenomenon almost wholly confined to those areas planted during the mid or late 1950s). The majority of sites survive in relatively good condition, even where there has been some impact from forestry operations.

1.4.3 It is certainly also true to say that in some cases the protection that forest cover provides from wind, rain and agricultural land improvement has

enhanced the survival of some fairly fragile archaeological features. This is perhaps best illustrated in the case of the field system associated with the settlement at Nantycreiau (PRN 35260).

1.4.4 One of the main concerns, from an archaeological perspective, is certainly the possibility that, unless clearly identified, some sites may be inadvertently damaged during future felling or planting operations. Pressure on the archaeological resource comes not only from planting itself, but also from associated activities. The tendency for forest access roads and turning bays to be constructed along the line of pre-existing trackways or linear features such as field boundaries and leats, which often served to link settlements or industrial sites, also has archaeological implications. The accurate identification of sites and features will hopefully enable those managing future forest operations to avoid unnecessary damage to the archaeological resource.

1.4.5 It is proposed that management prescriptions for all archaeological sites in the Mynydd y Ffynnon area will be drawn up and discussed with ADAS and Forest Enterprise after the completion of EU funded fieldwork in 1998.

1.5 Hazards.

1.5.1 An issue which is directly related to the condition of archaeological sites is that of safety. The hazards of working in the environment of a forest plantation will be well known to Forest Enterprise staff and contractors and need not be discussed here. However, in an area which is dotted with old metal mining sites, it is necessary to draw attention to the unseen hazards which may be present in the landscape.

This is all the more important as it became apparent during the field survey that some shafts and levels are not recorded by OS sources nor by recent mine surveys. For this reason, an attempt has been made in this report to highlight potential dangers in detail, through both text and illustration (see Figs. 2-7).

1.5.2 It must be stressed that each of the metal mine sites within the study area is potentially dangerous in as much as there is generally no certainty as to the character and condition of underground workings. At the main mining sites within the study area, there exist a number of capped or infilled shafts. It is not possible in any instance to know exactly how any of these shafts have been closed off, nor how much weight any capping could bear before collapsing. There also exist a number of open vertical shafts or stopes which present a more obvious hazard as well as numerous open levels and adits, which may certainly present dangers to heavy machinery, not to mention ill-equipped or inexperienced 'investigators' seeking to explore underground workings.

1.5.3 As an experienced caver familiar with examining old mine workings, Richard Hankinson of CPAT has some knowledge of the underground condition of some of the more accessible mine workings and, where relevant, this information is included in the individual site descriptions in the site gazetteer section of this report.

1.5.4 It must be emphasised that although considerable effort has been made by this survey to examine known mining features and identify previously unrecorded mining features with as much detail as possible, in view of the safety issues previously mentioned, it is

in no way claimed that the site descriptions presented in this report are comprehensive. It is likely that other hazards, not identified by this or any other source, are present in the landscape and for this reason caution is advised when working in the vicinity of any old mining site.

1.6 Survey Results.

1.6.1 Prior to this survey there were 36 recorded archaeological sites within the afforested areas under consideration (see Table 1). Each of these sites has been visited and site descriptions of each are provided in the Site Gazetteer of this report. This survey has identified a further 35 sites of archaeological interest within these forests. These new sites were identified through a combination of field survey, close analysis of map evidence (historic map sources or and modern Forest Enterprise holding maps were consulted) as well as through consultation with Forest Enterprise staff. (Table 2 provides a full list of sites recorded during this study).

Whereas the survey has achieved a significant increase in the number of recorded archaeological sites in the Mynydd y Ffynnon forests, it cannot be claimed that this survey has provided a conclusive record of archaeological sites in the forests of the area. The distribution maps of recorded sites (Figs. 9 & 10) show clearly that there remain significant areas which contain no recorded sites, whilst the nature of the afforested terrain makes it likely that other features and sites survive beneath the forest cover. Future survey work in felled areas may elucidate further sites.

1.6.2 The overall range of historical and archaeological sites in the afforested area provides examples of

site types which are generally representative of the main themes encountered across the Landscape Study Area as a whole. These themes and the relevant sites can be analysed according to archaeological period (the dates used here are derived from Rees, 1992).

1.6.3 'Stone Age' - Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Neolithic periods (225,000BC - 2000BC).

Little evidence of activity has been recorded within the Landscape Study Area. Indeed, it comprises no more than a single, unfinished, stone mace-head (PRN 11421) found near The Arch believed to be of Mesolithic or Neolithic date. It is generally supposed that the area was only used as a seasonal hunting ground for early communities, which would have themselves been based closer to the ancient west coast, in the now inundated Cardigan Bay.

1.6.4 Bronze Age (2000 - 600BC).

Evidence of Bronze Age metal mining in the Cwmystwyth area indicates that there was a more significant and permanent presence of human communities in the district from the 3rd millennium BC onwards. It is supposed that settlement would have been focused on the valleys which dissect the Cambrian Mountain block, but no archaeological evidence of such settlement has yet been identified. Within the afforested portions of the Landscape Study Area are found the scheduled funerary cairns of Carn Bwlchcloddiau (PRN 816) and Carn Fach (PRN 1511), typical Bronze Age field monuments. The possible location of another cairn (PRN 35254) was identified by the survey, based on historic map evidence, at Bryn Llwyd, although there is now no surface evidence for a cairn here.

1.6.5 Iron Age & Romano-British (600BC - AD410). There are no identified sites of Iron Age date within the Landscape Study Area and evidence for Romano-British activity rests on the Roman fortlet of Cae Gaer (PRN 230) and the find of a single Roman earthenware lamp on Peraidd Fynydd (PRN 13157).

1.6.6 Dark Age & Mediaeval (AD410 - 1485).

There is no direct recorded evidence for human activity within the Mynydd y Ffynnon upland block for almost 1,000 years, spanning the Dark Age and Mediaeval periods. It is, however, possible that by using historical evidence relating to neighbouring areas, or through analysing early post-Mediaeval sources, we can gain a sketchy outline of how the uplands of the area were being used during this period.

One important source of evidence comes from the written testimony of John Leland, who visited Cwmystwyth during 1538 and described the industries of the valley. Importantly he described the treeless landscape around Cwmystwyth. Leland implies that former woodlands had been destroyed by a combination of charcoal burning and over-grazing. This opens the possibility that the Mynydd y Ffynnon landscape prior to the 16th century may have included a mixture of upland pasture and natural woodland and that the rather barren moorland environment, which has been characteristic since at least Leland's day, is in part the result of human activity.

It is known that the portion of the study area which was within the Cwmystwyth Grange of Strata Florida Abbey (i.e. the area south of the Afon

Mynach) was being used during the mediaeval period as upland pasture for cattle and sheep owned by the abbey. Additionally, documentary evidence from the early 16th century tells us that the abbey was letting out holdings in the area to tenant farmers by the early post-Mediaeval period (Morgan, 1991). Amongst the properties named in the abbey's rent rolls is Blaen Myherin (PRN 33166), one of the now abandoned farmsteads located on Forestry Commission land (Morgan, 1991).

Whereas a property such as Blaen Myherin may have developed as a farmstead by the 16th century, there are smaller deserted rural settlement sites (DRSs) dotted around the study area which are suspected to be the huts and cottages of the shepherds who have tended flocks on these hills over recent centuries. The regional term to describe such small shepherding stations is *lluest* (pl. *lluestau*). Although it is certain that the *lluest* is a post-Mediaeval phenomenon, the origins of the system are less clear and it is not impossible that the roots of the *lluestau* lie in the ancient *hafod* system. This refers to the mediaeval (and earlier) practice of moving cattle and sheep to the upland pastures (*hafodydd*) during the summer months, when they would be tended by cowherds and shepherds who would remain on the hills with the animals. Unfortunately, there is a dearth of archaeological excavation evidence with regard to such DRS sites and our understanding of the chronology and function of specific examples is greatly limited. At present, it can only be speculated that DRS sites such as the remote examples newly recorded in Cwm Rhuddnant (PRN 35263 & 35264) may have mediaeval origins.

1.6.7 Post Mediaeval (1485 - 1900).

Most of the recorded archaeology of the study area pertains to the post-Mediaeval period. In terms of both previously and newly recorded sites, there is a clear numerical bias towards metal mining sites and DRS sites in the archaeological record. Other industrial activities also figure, such as quarrying, as well as features related to agricultural activity and those related to the 18th century plantations and ornamental estate landscaping of Thomas Johnes of Hafod.

The Site Gazetteer provides details of all sites, therefore specific comment is not generally required here, but it is felt important that those sites considered to be of greatest significance are mentioned.

The metal mining sites of the study area are all small or medium scale workings, but their historic and archaeological importance rests not with their size, but with the quality of surviving features. Previous studies have not usually endeavoured to investigate mining features 'obscured' by forestry plantations. However, the efforts made during this survey to reach even remote and difficult locations has shown that forestry plantations actually hide relatively well preserved mining sites. This is as true of mining complexes such as Old Esgairlle or Tygwyn (Mynach Vale) as much as single levels. The survival of features such as adits, levels, spoil tips, leats and wheelpits within the plantations in many respects exceeded expectations, although it must be noted that mine buildings generally only survive in plan, their walls having been robbed out or demolished. The leat systems which supplied water to Tygwyn, Old Esgairlle and Nantycreiau are all quite extensive and discernible, although some damage has been incurred long

some leats with the construction of forest roads. Furthermore, the opportunity to examine these mining complexes closely has enabled the identification of more features, some of which may be quite old. The best examples of this is the large open cut recorded in the forest west of the main mine area at Nantycreiau, which is suspected to be an early working. Nantycreiau was of course noted to be an old mine when resurrected Lewis Morris in the mid-18th century.

The question of the Deserted Rural Settlements and *lluestau* of the area has been hinted at in a previous section (1.6.6). An important source which has enabled several new sites to be located are late 19th century 1:10560 series of OS maps which show a number of these small, rectangular, drystone structures, characteristically located in the shelter of a stream valley and close to a stream's edge. Physically, they resemble small sheepfolds, and indeed they may well have been used as such over the past century, but many may well have origins as shepherding huts. Some *lluestau* did not develop to be anything more than temporary shelters, but those positioned in the most accessible and sheltered locations often developed into permanent residences and their inhabitants made efforts to cultivate small parcels of land to supplement the meagre living that shepherding provided. A classic *lluest* would include a dwelling and one or two small fields or garden plots, within which the furrows of raised beds often survive; they were often described as being small *oases* of green in the drab upland landscape of the Cambrian Mountain environment. Good examples of sites which appear to belong to this *genre* were recorded by the survey, undoubtedly the finest being that at

Nantycreiau (PRNs 35259 & 35260), which was considered by the fieldwork team to be a significant archaeological site. Here the well preserved drystone walls of the dwelling survive, along with an adjacent garden plot. However, two features set this site apart from many other *lluest* type sites; firstly, the dwelling stands on a levelled platform and, secondly, the upslope end of the platform is furnished with a distinct 'drainage hood', intended to prevent water flowing downslope into the dwelling. Both these features are more commonly associated with mediaeval hut platforms and may indicate that this site has its origins mediaeval times. Moreover, this site is also associated with a small field system, linked to the garden plot by a bank and trackway, within which faint traces of cultivation ridges can be seen. This shows that whatever its origins, this settlement had developed into a small farmstead before abandonment. We have no knowledge of why or when it was abandoned, although it is significant that it does not appear on any known historic map and can therefore be assumed to have been abandoned before the original OS survey of c.1820.

It was not intended to extend the survey into the heart of the Hafod Estate, which has been the subject of recent survey work by ACA (Murphy, 1996). However, the plantations and landscaping endeavours of Thomas Johnes of Hafod during the late 18th and early 19th centuries did extend northwards into the presently afforested area. The survey included a field examination of the original Johnesian plantation boundaries around Coed yr Arch and Coed y Cwn, north of The Arch and north of Pwll Peiran. Large sections of the earth banks and

stone walls which were constructed to enclose these early plantations survive within the forest and have been plotted in Fig. 8. Two finds which are believed to relate to the activities of Johnes were discovered along the Peiran river, both previously unrecorded in the regional SMR. At the confluence of the Nant Hylles with the Peiran, the remains of a large earth dam were recorded (PRN 35265) which may well have created a reservoir intended to control water flow down the Peiran and to the ornamental cascades which Johnes had constructed further downstream. Beneath Pont y Twll (PRN 19754) which carries the Devil's Bridge - Cwmystwyth road over the Afon Peiran, the river has been redirected to flow through a rock cut tunnel excavated parallel to the original river bed. This tunnel opens onto an artificial cascade, from which the river flows into a deep pool. Edge set slabs can be seen standing in the river bed on its downstream margin, apparently deliberately placed to create the pool.

A fourth significant theme in the landscape history of the area, although one to which no specific sites are assigned within afforested areas, relates to the enclosure of common land between the Ystwyth and the Castell during 1865-66. By an Act of Parliament of 1865, the commons of the parishes of Llanfihangel y Creuddyn Uchaf, Cwmrheidol and Llangurig were enclosed for the first time. The relevant Enclosure Award Map (NLW, 1865) gives no detail of parcel boundaries created by the Act, but it must be suspected that most of the field or holding boundaries within the central uplands of the Landscape Study Area post-date 1865. A series of boundary stones bearing the inscription 'W.W.W 1865, (see cover illustration) were recorded by the 1996 field survey

carried out by CPAT staff (Sambrook & Silvester, 1997). They appear to mark the boundary of land enclosed by Sir Watkin Williams Wynne, however they do not respect any present physical boundaries. Some of the boundaries created after 1865 may now serve as forest holding boundaries, but there is not enough clear evidence to be certain of this.

1.7 Summary.

At the behest of ADAS, the Mynydd y Ffynnon Forest Archaeology Survey was jointly carried out by Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology and the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust during the autumn of 1997. This follows previous desktop and field survey carried out within the Mynydd y Ffynnon Landscape Study Area by the two archaeological trusts. The survey was greatly enhanced by the provision of

digitized Forest Enterprise stock holding map information, which was combined with historic map evidence to provide an invaluable reference map for use in the field. A two man team visited and assessed all known archaeological sites within the afforested portions of the Landscape Survey Area. During fieldwork, a significant number of new archaeological sites were encountered and recorded, representing a two-fold increase in known sites within the forests of the area.

Several of these new sites are considered to be archaeologically and historically significant, including features associated with metal mining, settlement and 18th century Hafod estate landscaping, the three main historic themes encountered by the survey.

TABLE 2: NEW SITES

CEREDIGION

PRN	NGR	NAME	TYPE	PERIOD
35248	SN759775	Llaneithyr	Field System	Post Mediaeval
35249	SN76007747	Llaneithyr	Mound	Post Mediaeval?
35250	SN82418139	Trawsnant	DRS	Post Mediaeval
35251	SN84137740	Diliw	Building	Post Mediaeval
35252	SN84257747	Coed Diliw	Fold?	Post Mediaeval
35253	SN83377943	Nant y Gorlan	DRS?	Post Mediaeval
35254	SN77217633	Bryn Llwyd	Cairn?	Bronze Age?
35255	SN79147676	Nant Hylles	DRS	Post Mediaeval
35256	SN756757	Rhosygell	Quarry	Post Mediaeval
35257	SN83588002	Bymant	DRS?; Fold?	Post Mediaeval
35258	SN82968040	Nant Llychese	DRS?; Fold?	Post Mediaeval
35259	SN78657953	Nantycreiau	DRS	Med; Post Med
35260	SN78687951	Nantycreiau	Field system	Post Mediaeval
35261	SN79978008	Nant Myherin	Level	Post Mediaeval
35262	SN79958023	Nant Myherin	Quarry	Post Mediaeval
35263	SN79207783	Cwm Rhuddnant I	DRS	Med?; Post Med'
35264	SN79217781	Cwm Rhuddnant II	Fold?	Med?; Post Med'
35265	SN77797513	Afon Peiran	Dam	Post Mediaeval
35266	SN801795	Blaen Myherin	Field System	Post Mediaeval
35267	SN80147955	Blaen Myherin	DRS	Med?; Post Med'
35268	SN77077772	Aberdeuddwr	Farmstead	Post Mediaeval
35269	SN77227811	Aberdeuddwr II	Fold?	Post Mediaeval
35270	SN81198275	Nant Cae Mawr	Level	Post Mediaeval
35271	SN77277507	Henffordd	Cottage	Post Mediaeval
35272	SN76557562	Penybwlch	Cottage	Post Mediaeval
35273	SN772777	Aberdeuddwr	Field System	Post Mediaeval
35274	SN77967523	Ty'n Nant	DRS	Post Mediaeval
35275	SN7676;7776 7675;7775	Hafod Plantations	Boundaries	Post Mediaeval
35276	SN775748	Peiran Leat	Leat	Post Mediaeval
35277	SN79958252	Blaen Ergyr	Metal Mine	Post Mediaeval
35278	SN81728158	Pistyll Fawr	Quarry	Post Mediaeval
35279	SN77897538	Sgubor Fawr	Farmstead	Post Mediaeval

POWYS

PRN	NGR	NAME	TYPE	PERIOD
38383	SN84658220	Nant yr Eryr	Fishpond	Post Mediaeval
38384	SN83158242	Rhos Pant Mawr	Leat	Post Mediaeval
38385	SN84177781	Afon Diliw	Sheepfold	Post Mediaeval

SITE GAZETTEER

PREVIOUSLY RECORDED SITES IN CEREDIGION

5475	SN76527555	The Arch	Folly	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3043

DESCRIPTION: Stone arch built across Devil's Bridge to Cwmystwyth road by Thomas Johnes, Hafod to commemorate the Jubilee of George III in 1803.

9173	SN793829	Esgairlle	Shaft	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4045

DESCRIPTION: Single shaft belonging to the Esgairlle Mine complex, which mostly lies outside Forest Commission land. The shaft mouth is now blocked and fenced off, but there is no indication as to how the shaft was closed and it may still be dangerous.

19754	SN77007500	Pont y Twll; Pwll Peiran Bridge	Bridge	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3048

DESCRIPTION: Stone built, single arched bridge which carries the Devil's Bridge - Cwmystwyth road over the Afon Peiran. It incorporates an unusual ornamental feature which probably dates to the period when the Hafod estate was managed by Thomas Johnes. The flow of the river does not pass beneath the single arch of the bridge (which appears to only carry water during times of flood), but has rather been redirected to flow through a rock cut tunnel excavated parallel to the southern side of the original river bed. This tunnel opens onto an artificial cascade, from which the river flows into a deep pool on the western side of the bridge. This pool may also be artificial, as some edge set slabs can be seen standing in the river bed on its downstream margin as if deliberately placed to create a build up of mud and shingle.

9178	SN789801	Nantycreiau Mine	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3003/3004

DESCRIPTION: Nantycreiau Mine was mentioned by the antiquarian Lewis Morris as early as the mid-18th century, when he noted it to be an abandoned old working. Morris himself was involved in the resurrection of the mine. Although a remote site, it proved a productive mine for most of the 19th century but closed during the early 20th century. The highest workings in the upper reaches of the Nantycreiau valley consist of levels driven into the steep valley sides with fairly large cascades of spoil spread down the valley. The infilled uppermost workings may represent the earliest surviving workings at the mine, along with the large opencut in the valley bottom (22 below). The site of the main processing area of the mine was covered by the construction of the forestry road to the mine in 1992 (a wide turning bay now occupies the spot), but fragmentary remains of buildings, including the ore crusher house and its large wheelpit are still present.

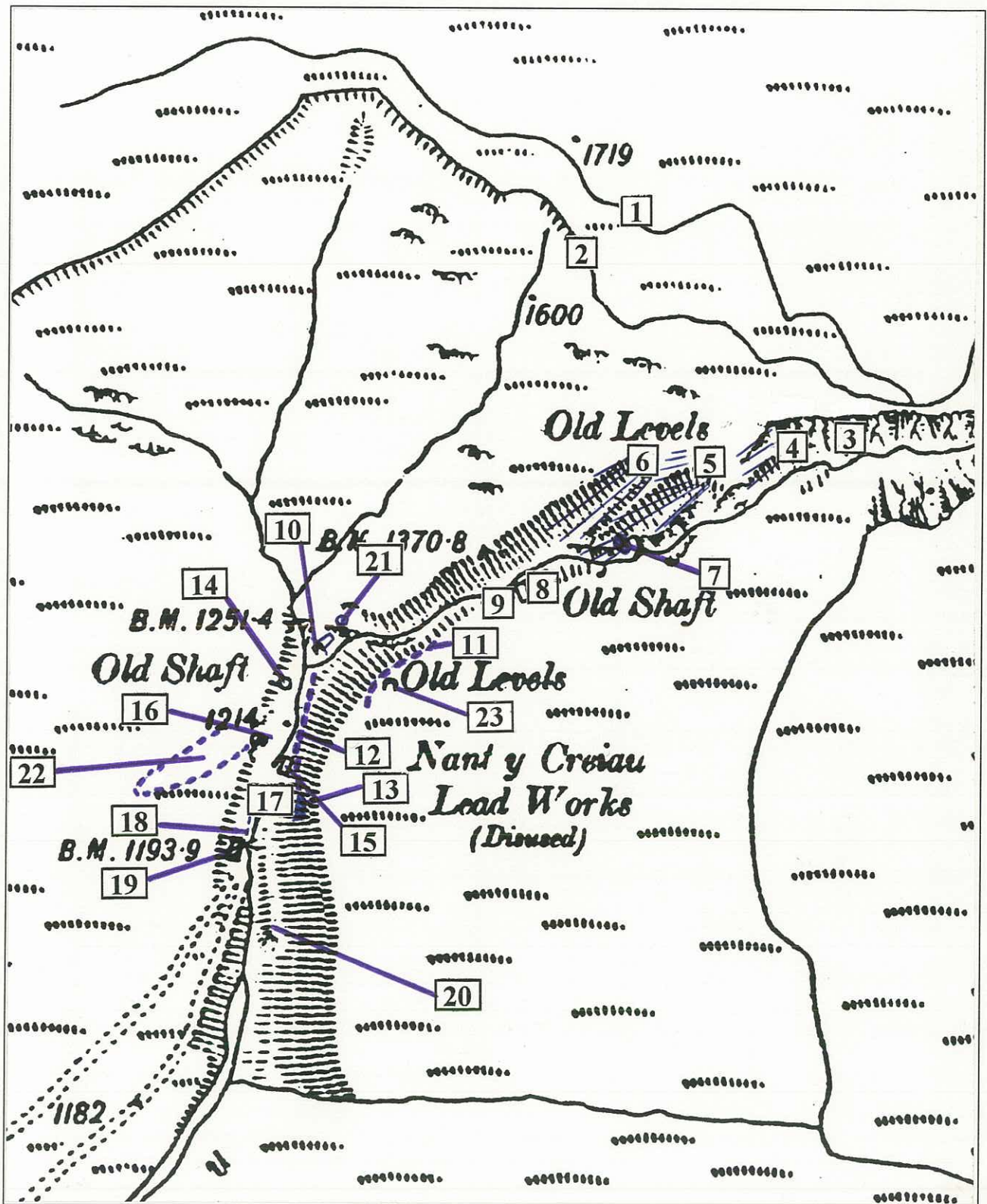


Fig.2 Nantycreiau Mine (Annotation on enlarged 2nd edition 1:10560 OS Map).

The recorded features which make up the Nantycreiau mine complex are listed below ;(these concur largely with those listed by Robert Protheroe-Jones in 1992, although some new features are also included);

- 1) **Leat.** Carrying water from Llynnoedd Ieuan to supplement the water supply for mine workings at Nantycreiau and in the Castell Valley.
- 2) **Leat.** Carrying water from Llynnoedd Ieuan to supplement the water supply for mine workings at Nantycreiau and in the Castell Valley. This leat, and 1 above extend across open moorland towards Llynnoedd Ieuan, outside the afforested area. Neither have been fully examined in the field.
- 3) **Small spoil tip.** No associated level opening evident at present.
- 4) **Collapsed level entrance with spoil tip beneath.**
- 5) **Spoil tip cascading downslope,** no associated level opening evident.
- 6) **No. 2 Level.** Rock cut and accessible, includes about 45m of workings which open into a series of precarious stopes. Large spoil tip downslope.
- 7) **Level,** entrance still partly open but almost completely infilled, no more than c.3m deep at present. Possible early working.
- 8) **Open cut,** described by Protheroe-Jones as an infilled engine shaft. Workings beneath this cut are still accessible through the No.3 Level and it is known that the floor of the cut is extremely unsafe, being held up only by fragile supports (Hankinson, personal observation).
- 9) **No. 3 Level.** Accessible for a short distance (c.30m) but regarded as very unsafe. Workings are partly water filled and there are openings in the passage floors into flooded shafts and stopes beneath. Added to this, it is apparent that the base of the open cut (8) described above is particularly dangerous. (Hankinson, personal observation).
- 10) **No. 4 Level.** The entrance to this level has collapsed and no opening now exists. However, at the foot of a rock exposure at this point, loose rubble may obscure the workings - running water can be heard and a slight draught felt through the rubble. Timbers exposed in the valley bottom a few metres to the south-west may be former props of the collapsed level entrance.
- 11) **Possible tramway bed** between No.3 level and the dressing floor area.
- 12) **Remains of a tramway bed** between the No.4 Level and the ore dressing area.
- 13) **Development rock tip** from the No.4 Level.
- 14) **Site of Western Shaft,** now blocked or infilled.

15) **Wheelpit** and crusher house, ruinous but still clear in plan. Some modern rubbish dumped into the wheelpit.

16) **Quarry** with a rock cut level open in north-western corner. The level is accessible for some 20m and then blocked by infilled workings, probably related to the open cut (22) below (Hankinson, pers. comm.).

17) **Dressing floor area**, now obscured by forestry road and turning bay built during 1992.

18) **Remains of a culvert** of drystone construction.

19) **Site of ruined building** of which only part of west wall survives, rest collapsed into stream valley.

20) **Extensive spoil tip**, originating from crusher house and tipped along two tip lines along valley slope.

21) **Run-in shaft**, with possible horse-gin platform on western side.

22) **Large opencut**. Runs for c.100m north-east to south-west, presumably following the trend of mineral veins across the valley. Possibly an early working i.e. pre-19th century.

23) **Level**. The 1st edition 1:10560 OS map appears to show a level entrance here. Not seen during fieldwork.

9375	SN79057595	Rhos Nantperfedd	Cottage?	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3036

DESCRIPTION: No evidence found. Area recently felled.

11421	SN765755	The Arch	Finds	Mesolithic?
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Compartment No. 3043?

DESCRIPTION: An oval stone, interpreted as being an unfinished macehead of possible Mesolithic date, was found near the Arch, on Forestry Commission land, probably during the 1970s. It appeared to have eroded out of a bank. The stone was a pebble which measured 9cm x 7.5cm and had an unfinished hourglass perforation pecked into opposing faces to a depth of 1cm, but had been discarded or lost before completion.

13157	SN815822	Peraidd Fynydd	Finds	Roman
Compartment No. 4040				

DESCRIPTION: A Roman earthenware lamp was found on Peraidd Fynydd in 1845. It is believed to date to the 2nd - 4th centuries AD and to originate from Egypt.

19896	SN77217752	Ty Gwyn; Mynach Vale	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
Compartment No.3029/3021				

DESCRIPTION: The Ty Gwyn Mine (also known as Mynach Vale Mine) occupies a large area, effectively divided into three separate blocks of land by the Afon Mynach and present forest plantations. Each of these three portions of the site contain interesting features associated with the mine workings, ranging from spoil tips, levels and shafts to the sites of ruinous buildings and other structures. Safety problems appear to be raised by a number of open workings which have not been previously highlighted and are not necessarily shown on earlier OS maps and site plans. It should be remembered also that the infilled workings in the vicinity may have been inadequately capped when the mine was abandoned and should also be treated with extreme caution. The three component areas of the mine area are:

A) The area around the old Tygwyn farmstead, which includes;

- 1) An extensive but now flattened spoil tip
- 2) An infilled shaft which appears to be located beneath a minor forest access roadway

B. The main mine area, to the south of the Afon Mynach, which is open or thinly afforested and is separated from the above portion by a thicker parcel of forest, and includes;

- 3) A relatively well preserved mine building.
- 4) An infilled wheelpit
- 5) A slightly damaged wheelpit
- 6) A well preserved wheelpit, partly infilled with modern rubbish.
- 7) A well preserved arched opening to a watercourse/leat, partly open and partly subterranean, which crosses the site, east - west and empties into the river. This served as a tailrace for the wheelpits on the main mine site.
- 8) A badly ruined building, just about discernible in plan.
- 9) Another badly ruined building, also just about discernible in plan.

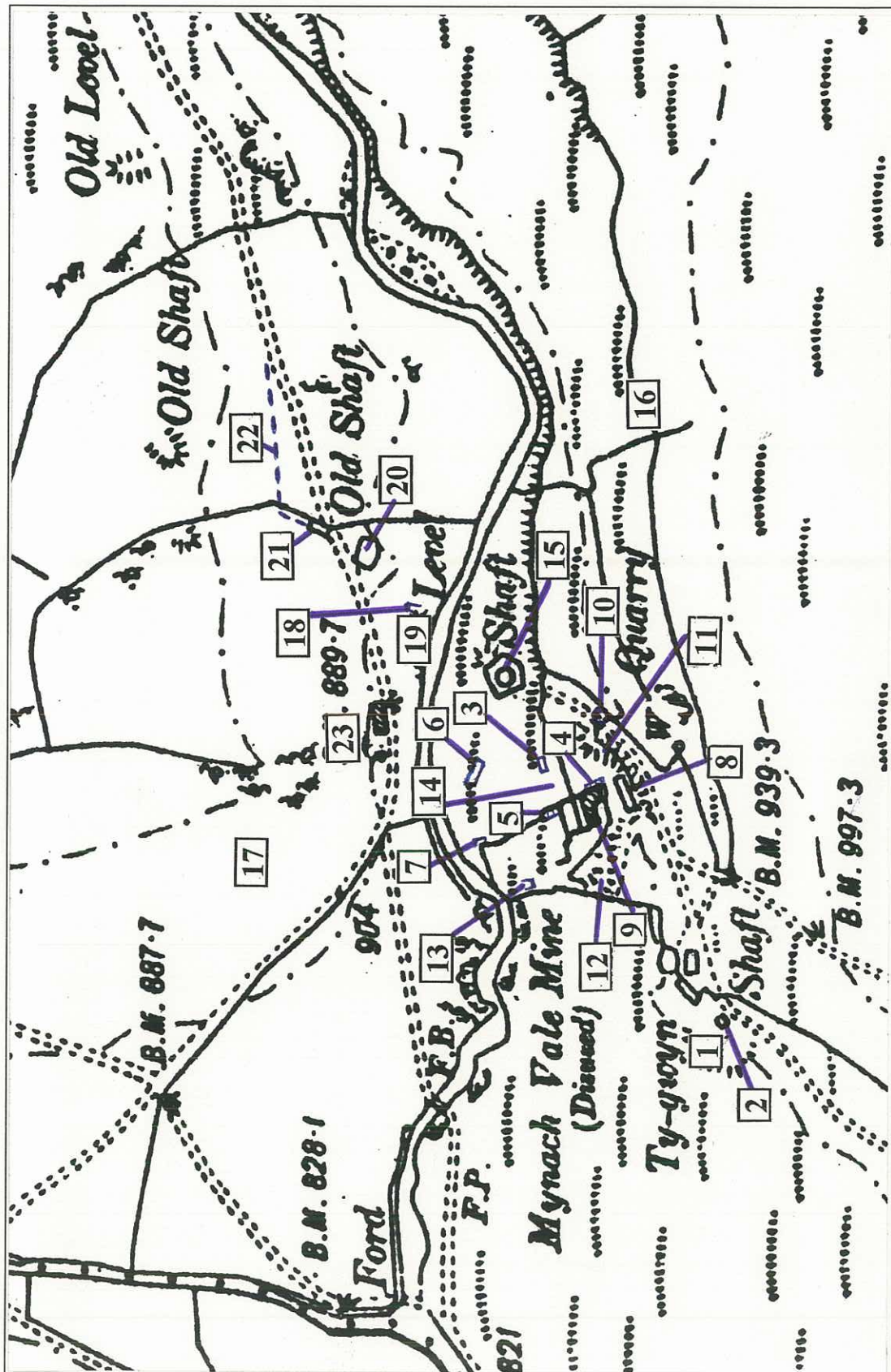


Fig.3; The Tygwyn (Mynach Vale) Mine
(Annotation on enlarged 2nd edition 1:10560 OS Map).

10) **An open shaft**, which has a stream running into it, but which is partly blocked by a car chassis wedged into its mouth. Thick vegetation made viewing this opening impossible. Potentially dangerous.

11) **Spoil tip**.

12) **Spoil tip**.

13) **Level entrance**, now infilled, but with water flowing freely out of it, possibly originating from the stream which enters the shaft described in 10 above.

14) **Area of finings** suggesting that a processing floor was in this area. Possibly the remains of buddle pits.

15) **Capped shaft**, not identifiable, although part of a surrounding wall still stands.

16) **Leat**, which drew water c. 1km upstream on Afon Rhuddnant.

C. Area north of the Afon Rhuddnant;

17) **Magazine**, ruined and hidden in thick forestry at SN77697721.

18) **Level entrance** in roadside - open and accessible.

19) **Spoil tips** with traces of copper ores.

20) **Infilled** or capped shaft, probably originally connected with the open level (18) described above. Levelled area alongside shaft mouth may have been the site of a horse gin.

21) **Wheelpit** in good condition. There may have originally been a shaft to the west of the wheelpit which was also connected to level 18 (Hankinson, pers. comm).

22) **Leat**, which drew water c. 1km upstream on the Afon Rhuddnant.

23) **Quarry**. A mines building stood here in late 19th century but this has been demolished and only a few roofing slates testify to its existence.

(NB: Other levels and shafts upslope to the east belong to the same sett but for the purposes of the SMR record are known as Nant Rhuddnant Mine, described below.) Whereas the features described above were mostly part of the working Mynach Vale Mine on the 1891 1st edition 1:10560 OS map, these higher workings were disused at that time).

25540	SN76387496	Bwlch yr Oerfa	Settlement; Monastic Garden?	Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3051

DESCRIPTION: This is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, described as a mediaeval monastic garden. It has been suggested that the site may be associated with the mediaeval monastic grange of Cwmystwyth, part of the extensive holdings of the abbey of Strata Florida. The site includes the stone footings of a large rectangular building, 17m x 6m, along with two enclosures, each 35m x 17m, which include earthwork ridges indicative of cultivation. SAM No. Cd 149.

25868	SN795829	Old Esgairlle	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4045

DESCRIPTION: This mine covers an extensive area and despite afforestation and forest road construction, many of its component features survive. Those identified during the site visit include;

- 1) Slight remains of a mine building. Little idea of original size or plan determinable.
- 2) Area of spoil tips which have been partly cleared. Protheroe-Jones (1992) noted that a shaft on the south lode believed to be in this area was not visible, but it is possible that an infilled shaft on the slope to the east of this area (12 below) is in fact that which was mentioned by OT Jones (1922, 93) and to which Protheroe-Jones alluded.
- 3) Area of disturbed spoil tips. Probably originating from a level on the Middle Lode described by OT Jones (1922, 92) as being in this area, but it is not now traceable.
- 4) Run-in level, the lowest of three levels on the North Lode at Old Esgairlle described by OT Jones (1922, 92). Although its entrance is blocked, the long cutting approaching the level mouth still retains stone revetted sides. Two moderate spoil tips from this working lie undisturbed to the west. A short distance to the north of this cutting is a small excavation which may represent a trial working dug in the search for the lode.
- 5) Run-in level, the median working of the North Lode at Old Esgairlle described by OT Jones (1922, 92). Again, although now blocked, the level has a cutting approaching its entrance which has stone revetted sides. The spoil tip from this level has been cut through by a modern forestry roadway.
- 6) The upper level working the North Lode at Old Esgairlle described by OT Jones (1922, 92) and still open. OT Jones noted that it opened directly onto stopes on the lode, and a deep aperture in the slope directly west of the level mouth is the top of one of these stopes. This opening is fenced off but remains a deep and dangerous feature. A moderate spoil tip is dumped downslope to the west.

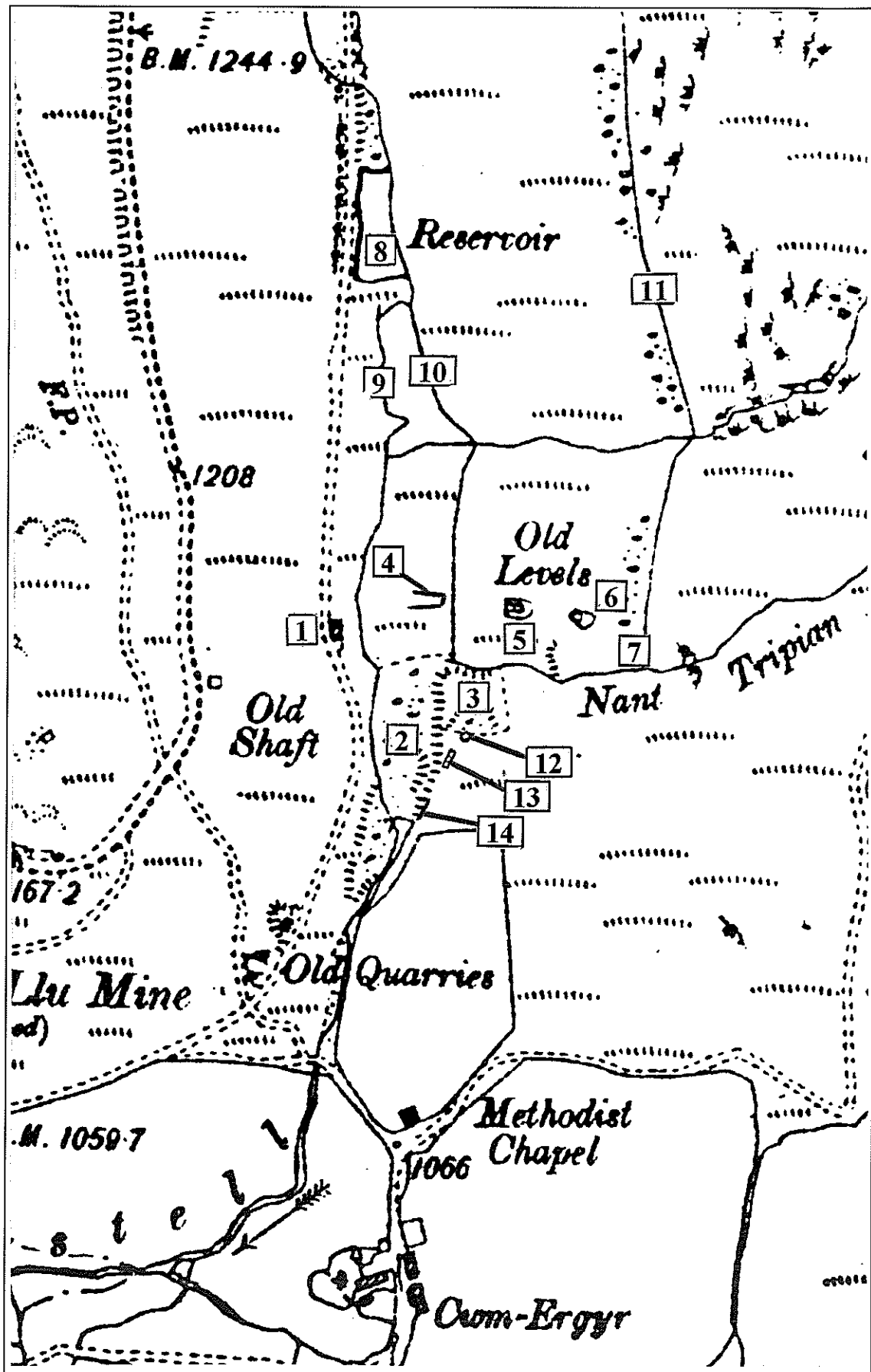


Fig.4; Old Esgairlle Mine. (Annotation on enlarged 2nd edition 1:10560 OS Map).

7) Another infilled level was noted a short distance to the south, alongside the Nant Tripian. This level is not described by OT Jones. It may have worked the Middle Lode. A moderate spoil tip is dumped to the west.

8) Reservoir. A small reservoir has been created by damming one of the upper tributaries of the Afon Castell just north of Old Esgairlle. The dam still functions and water flows over a modern spillway. Cast iron pipework including a stopcock emerging from the dam would probably have been used to direct water to the processing area when the mine was functioning (whether it served Esgairlle or Old Esgairlle mines is unclear). It seems possible that one leat on the eastern side of the river originated from this reservoir (see 10 below).

9) Leat. The lowest of three parallel leat courses identified during the site visit and the only one of the three which is not shown on the late 19th century 1st edition 1:2500 OS Map. This leat seems to tap into the river at approx. SN79498307 (although afforestation has disturbed the area and the first section of the leat is lost). It can then be traced southwards towards the lower part of the mine site, but is significantly interrupted by a level (see 4 above), making it likely that the leat relates to an earlier period of activity.

10) Leat. The middle of three parallel leat courses identified during the site visit. It appears to originate from the reservoir described above (8), but afforestation and road building has disturbed and obscured the point where the leat would be expected to link with the reservoir. There is some indication on 19th century OS maps that the leat may actually have originated further north, from the direction of Eisteddfa Gurig and then flowed just alongside the eastern edge of the reservoir - this may suggest that the reservoir created by the dam post-dates the leat. Otherwise its course southwards from the dam towards the main mine site is evident. It passed directly above an old level (4 described above) and some slippage around the level entrance has destroyed part of the leat course. Whether or not the leat went further than Nant Tripian is unclear. A large spoil tip (3) lies directly in its path to the south of the stream, but beyond the tip, and apparently aligned with the leat, is a wheelpit (13 below) which may have been fed by the leat. This would obviously imply that the intervening spoil tip is a later working.

11) Leat. The upper of three parallel leats identified during the site visit. This leat runs above the higher level on the North Lode, but ends at Nant Tripian - it may simply have supplemented this natural stream, which flows directly into the main mine site. A linear feature which runs downslope south-west from the direction of Nant Tripian may itself have been another leat tapping into the stream and carrying water down to the main mine site.

12) Shaft. OT Jones (1922, 93) noted that a shaft on the South Lode was located 14 fathoms (84 feet) south of the adit on the middle level. An infilled shaft hidden in the forest at the edge of the spoil tips believed to originate from that level is quite possibly that which Jones described.

13) Wheelpit. Although ruined and infilled, this wheelpit remains an identifiable feature and is c.9m x 3m in dimension. It may be associated with winding or pumping

gear on the shaft described above (12). There is no clear indication on the ground as to an associated leat or tailrace, but a leat (10 above) may have provided its water.

14) Wheelpit? A short distance downslope of, and seemingly aligned with the above described wheelpit is the fragmentary masonry of a structure which may be another wheelpit. Only one portion of walling, c.8m long survives in the edge of a steep bank at the edge of the main mine site. The levelling and removal of material from this area has, however, removed the rest of the structure.

25879	SN82628126	Nant Fagwr Fraith	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3005

DESCRIPTION: A single level, which remains open. The entrance is very wet as the stream pours over from above. It is also obscured by a large amount of brash left by felling operations.

25902	SN774789	Nant Syddion	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3005

DESCRIPTION: This is small level which remains open. A relatively large spoil tip lies outside the level mouth but there is little sign of ore bearing rock. It is likely that this level failed to locate any significant ore veins. It is known to have been worked as late as 1913 (Hughes, 1991, 105).

25903	SN777792	Nant Syddion, North	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3004/3006

DESCRIPTION: Entrance to level remains open to a height of c.1.5m, its floor choked with mud and water. The absence of a spoil tip suggests that spoil was dumped straight into the Myherin river, which passes a short distance to the east. Access to these workings is possible. There is nothing to suggest that much, if any, ore was found. The workings date to the period around 1898 (Hughes, 1991, 105).

25904	SN782797	Nantycreiau, West	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3005

DESCRIPTION: The impression that the visible remains of West Nantycreiau give is of a mine which was developed almost up to the point where it could have started producing ore, but which was abandoned before it was fully completed. The lower adit (6) was abandoned upon reaching ore; the upper adit (5) and shaft (3) were probably connected and some ore is visible on the tip below this adit. However, there is little evidence of a transport system which would then have coped with significant quantities of ore. An axle found in the forest just east of the shaft (3) may have been intended for surface winding and the upper level would have provided drainage for these workings, making pumping unnecessary (Hankinson, pers. comm).

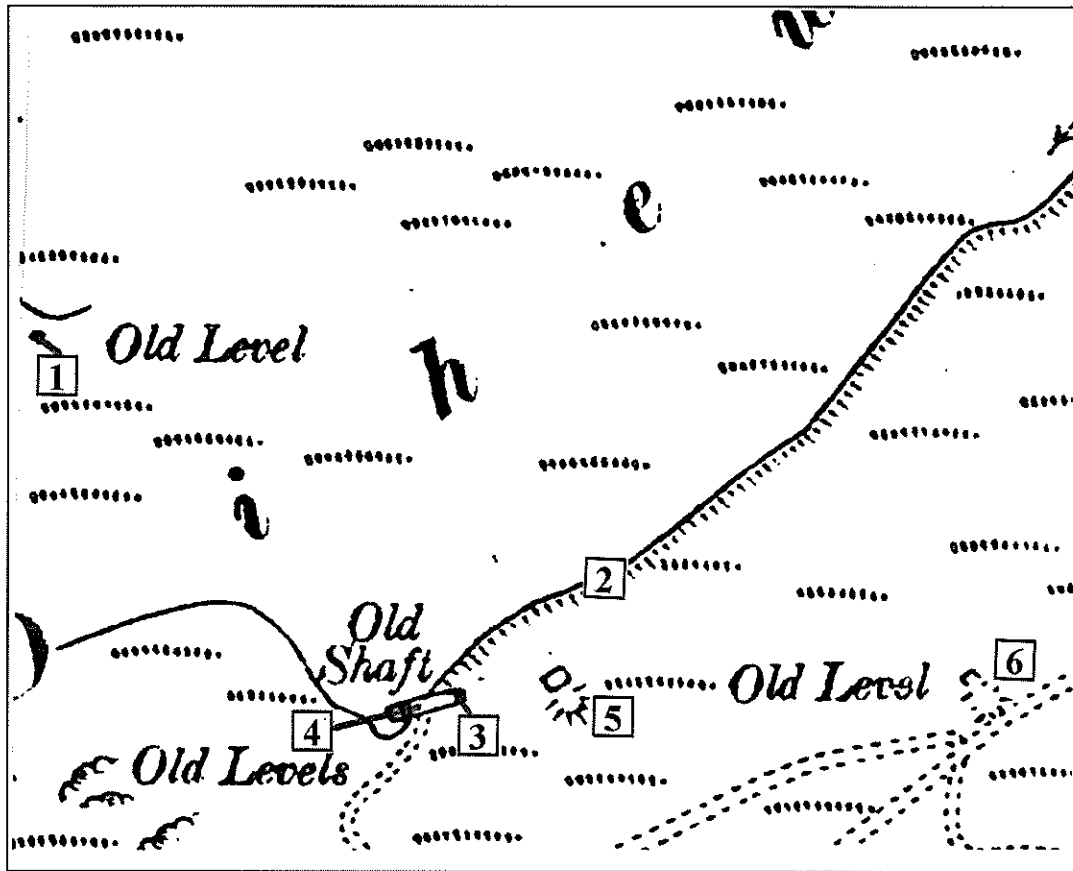


Fig.5; West Nantycreiau (Annotation on enlarged 1st edition 1:10560 OS Map).

The surviving features at West Nantycreiau are spread across a fairly wide area and are presently separated from each other by fairly dense forestry. The component features were identified by Robert Protheroe-Jones in 1992, and are described here in the order that he adopted;

- 1) **A level** outside the forest boundary to the north, identified by Protheroe-Jones as Esgair Gwynion Mine. This identification is incorrect as Esgair Gwynion is several kilometres to the west, near Ysbyty Cynfyn, where there is indeed another mine working. It is more likely that this level connects underground with the West Nantycreiau workings. Its entrance is very wet and mud choked.
- 2) **Leat**. This is a leat which brought water from Llynnoedd Ieuan, to the east and supplemented the water supply to the Castell Mine, to the north. It can be followed for some distance eastwards through the forest and across the open moor. It is significant that the opencast at West Nantycreiau cuts through this leat, suggesting that some work was carried out here after the leat had gone out of use. Protheroe-Jones suggests that a wooden launder box or trough carried water across the opencut, but it is notable that spoil from the cut has been thrown across the leat course further to the west, which would have made the passage of water impossible.
- 3) **‘Engine shaft’**. This opening is shown as an old shaft on early OS maps, but it should be noted that the ‘shaft’ is not vertical, but rather steeply inclined. It is possible that this is the top of a stope which has broken through to the surface. Ladder

fragments are still visible in the opening. The opening has a wide and loose collapse core and is highly dangerous. Hughes (1991, 104) suggests that there was a pumping wheel at Nantycreiau, fed by the leat from Llynnoedd Ieuan. The remains of a wheel axle and other deteriorated metalwork in the forest to the east of the shaft suggest that an engine of some kind may have once operated at the surface in association with this working, however, there is no evidence to show that a pumping wheel had ever stood here. Indeed, it is feasible that the upper adit (5) described below acted to drain these workings.

4) Collapse trench/opencast. This is the cut referred to above (2) and, as noted, it is significant that the cut not only lies across the line of the old leat which fed Castell Mine, but that spoil cast out of the cut blocks the leat to the west, suggesting strongly that it post-dates the period of use of the leat. It is not known if it has been caused by the collapse of a stope beneath, but the presence of spoil around its western edge tends to suggest that it was, in part at least, deliberately excavated.

5) Shallow (upper) adit. This adit is infilled and grassed over. A substantial development rock tip remains downslope. It seems likely that this adit was connected with the shaft described above (3) (Hankinson, pers. comm.).

6) Deep (lower) adit. This level is open and accessible. A large and undisturbed spoil tip remains. Some lead ore is still visible in the walls of the level. Tramlines remain in position within the working. A trial level reportedly existed due east of this adit, close to the west bank of Nantycreiau stream, but was not found either by Protheroe Jones in 1992 nor by this survey.

25907	SN780783	Dolwen; De Broke	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3023

DESCRIPTION: Two adjacent shafts associated with the Dolwen Mine, of which little is known. Some spoil around the shaft mouths but no other obvious associated features. Shafts are open and appear to be quite deep.

25908	SN784784	Dolwen, East	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3023

DESCRIPTION: This may be the main mine site at Dolwen, but there are no traces of any structures either on the ground nor on early OS maps. There are fairly large spoil tips here, with some galena present. Some 30-40m east of these tips an infilled level or trial working is located, with two spoil tips nearby.

25909	SN775777	Nant Rhuddnant	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3021

DESCRIPTION: This series of mine workings has exploited the same lode as the Tygwyn or Mynach Vale Mine to the west and Dolwen to the east. The precise boundaries, physical and chronological, between these mines are undefined. Protheroe-Jones (1992) takes the Afon Mynach as the boundary between Mynach Vale and Nant Rhuddnant, but as there are working levels and shafts shown on either side of the river on the 1891 OS 1st edition 1:10560 map, it seems that Mynach Vale was not confined to the southern side of the river. The Nant Rhuddnant workings should perhaps be defined as the series of disused shafts and levels marked on the same map to the north east of the Mynach Vale Mine, extending upslope onto Pen Corbed. However, it is quite likely that there is an element of overlap between the two mines and that Nant Rhuddnant included part of the area of the later Mynach Vale mine. Its relationship, if any, with Dolwen, which is located on top of Pen Corbed, is unknown. These workings comprise;

- 1) **Old Level** and small spoil tip.
- 2) **Old Shaft.** A large, infilled shaft, with development rock tip. Note that there are traces of a possible associated adit with its own spoil tip a short distance downslope.

- 3) **Old Level** with spoil tip.

Old Level. A possible open cut or prospecting working, with little spoil. No opening in hillside apparent.

- 5) **Old Level.** A level or adit, the mouth of which has been buried by the construction of a forestry road. However, a linear cut approaching the mouth of the level is still visible.

25910	SN781799	Nant Rhuddnant, East	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3021

DESCRIPTION: An old trial shaft is shown here on the 1st edition OS 1:10560 map of 1891. Its relationship with the neighbouring mines of Mynach Vale, Dolwen and Nantsyddion is unknown. The site has been damaged by the construction of a forestry road and turning bay across this location. The only evidence for the shaft (which is apparently now beneath the road) is a fragment of drystone revetment wall to the north of the road and a large spoil tip to the south.

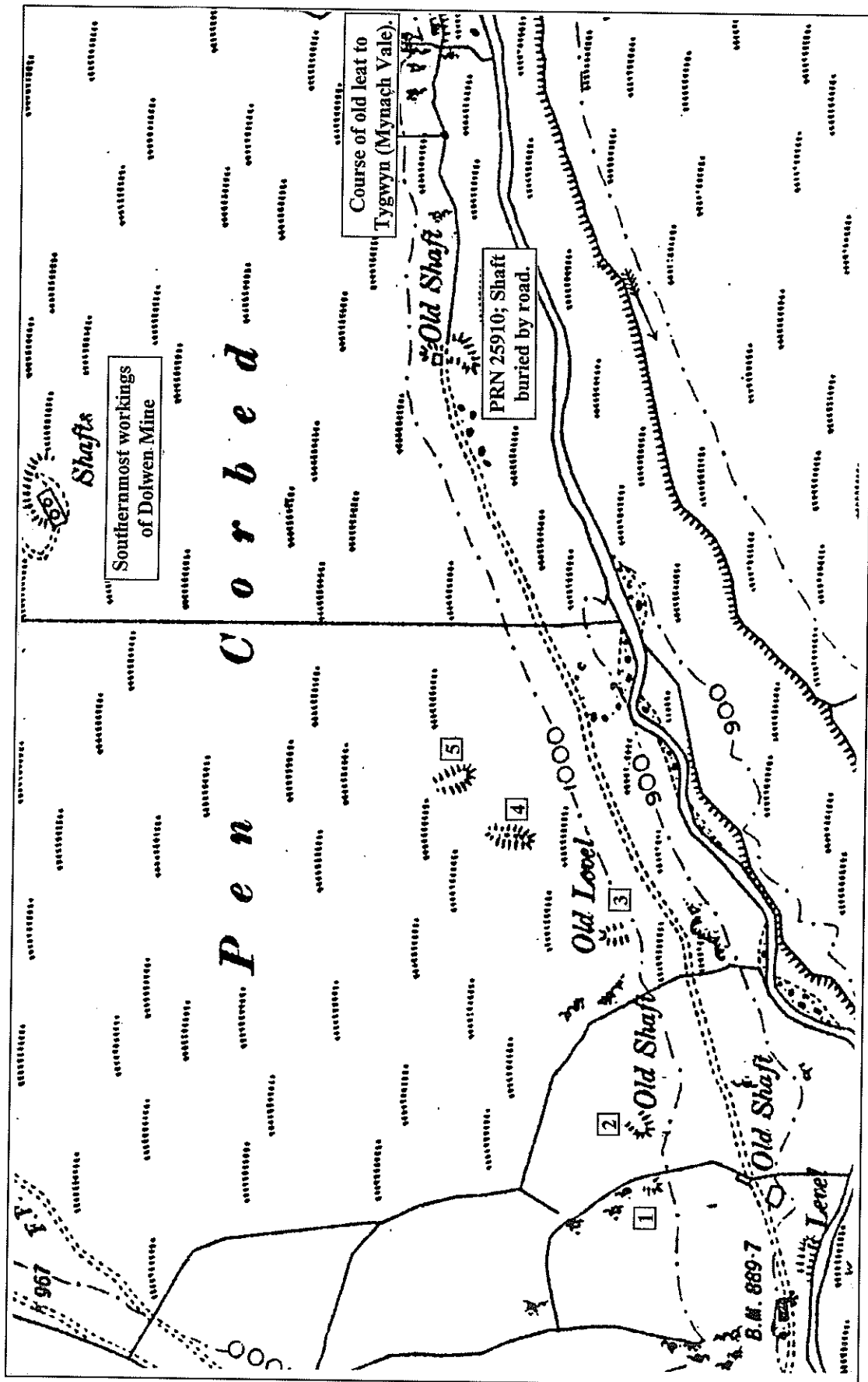


Fig.6; Nant Rhuddnant (Annotation on enlarged 2nd edition 1:10560 OS Map).

25911	SN77027655	Llaneithyr Mine	Metal Mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3030

DESCRIPTION: There are several features surviving at this site;

- 1) A capped or infilled shaft surrounded by a grassy spoil mound and two tip lines.
- 2) A small prospecting quarry some 40m NE of (1).
- 3) A level to SW of the shaft noted above (1), entrance blocked, but with a 30m long tramline cutting leading to a large spoil tip outside the forest boundary which is composed of oreless rock. This is possibly a drainage adit for the workings located to the south-east of the nearby forestry road. Immediately to the south west of the level mouth is a D-shaped earth bank enclosing a small platform, 6m x 3m, which may be the remains of a structure associated with the mine.

South east of the forest road which now divides the site is a thickly afforested area which includes;

- 4) A capped or infilled shaft.
- 5) A capped or infilled shaft. Traces of a rectilinear building or structure c. 6m x 6m lies to the south east of this shaft and a rectilinear depression to the north west may also represent a mine building or other structure.
- 6) Newly recorded infilled level. Possibly a trial working associated with Llaneithyr.

25914	SN75107535	Brignant	Metal Mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3052

DESCRIPTION: This site is recorded as an old mine on the 2nd edition 1:10560 OS map of 1906 on which a single amorphous tip is shown. Spoil tips alone now mark the site and there is at present no trace of a level or shaft associated with these tips.

25985	SN766770	Llaneithyr North	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. Unknown

DESCRIPTION: This mine remains unlocated. It was a short lived venture mentioned in a single 19th century source. Originally, it was recorded in the regional SMR as being somewhere to the north of Llaneithyr farm, by virtue of its name. But on reflection it may be more likely to be further south, in the vicinity of Llaneithyr Mine (PRN25911 above). It should be mentioned that the boundaries of Llaneithyr farm once extended well to the south of the Afon Mynach.

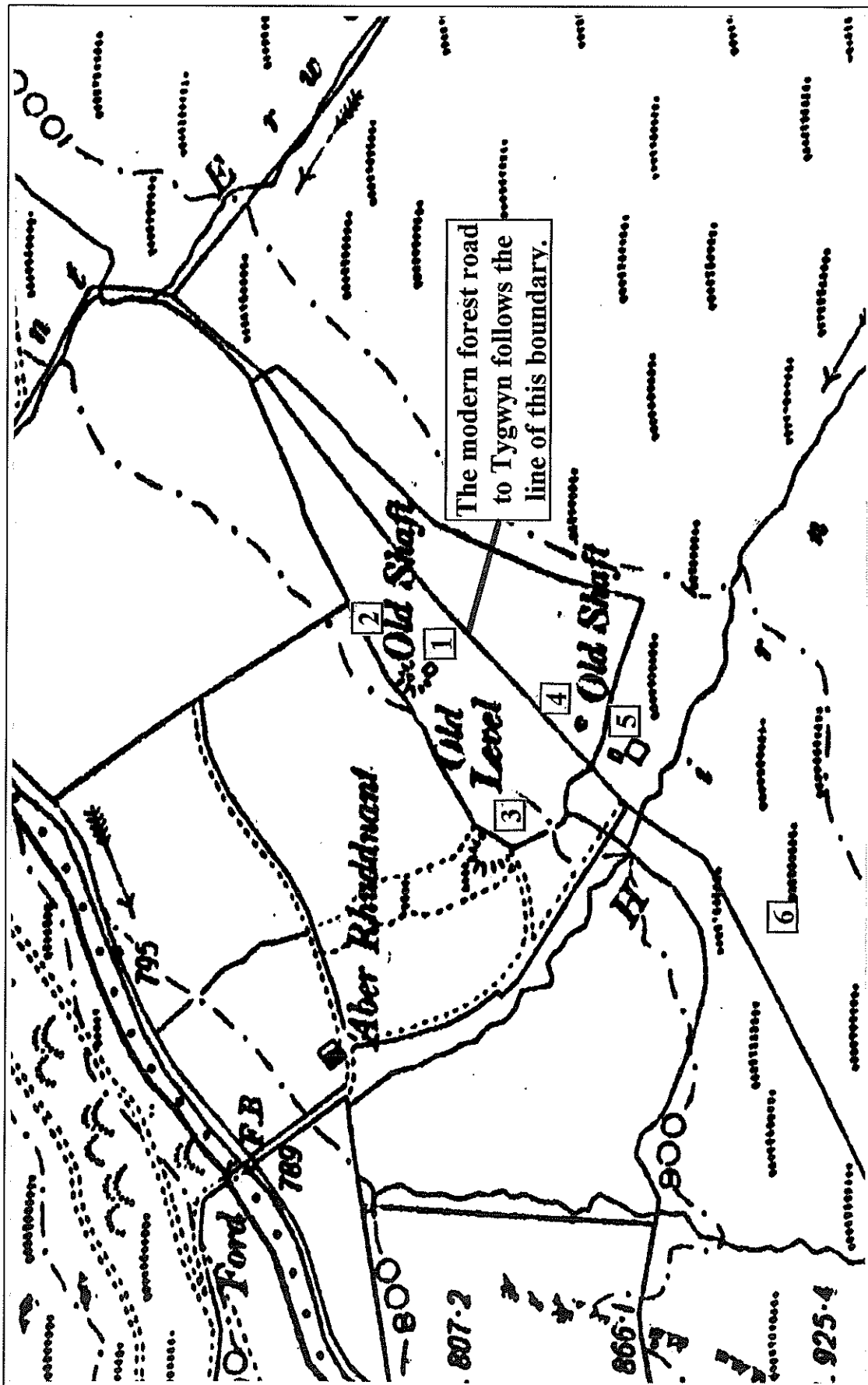


Fig. 7; Llaneithyr Mine. (Annotation on enlarged 2nd edition 1:10560 OS Map).

33166	SN800796	Blaen Myherin	Farmstead	Med?; Post Med
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Compartment No. 3017

DESCRIPTION: Blaen Myherin is located in a sheltered natural basin at the head of the Myherin valley. Formerly, its large sheepwalk extended over 1km north-eastwards onto the high moor of Cefn Blaenmyherin. This is one of the most important and historic settlement sites within the uplands of the Mynydd y Ffynnon study area due to the fact that it is listed in mid-16th century rent rolls describing properties rented out by the Strata Florida estate to tenant farmers. It is possible therefore that it was an upland property of Strata Florida before the dissolution of the abbey in 1538. The present range of buildings at Blaenmyherin includes a typical 19th century cottage, which despite remaining roofed is now in poor repair - the southern gable wall being in a state of collapse. To the west of the house is an L-shaped outbuilding in a much better condition and retaining many original features of its stable and byre. Graffiti on the doors and stable partitions of this outbuilding date back to the first decade of the 20th century and the appearance of the building suggests that it dates to the later 19th century. See also PRN 35267.

33190	SN773790	Nantsyddion	Cottage	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3021

DESCRIPTION: Small upland cottage or farmstead which has been present since the earliest map source consulted (i.e. the Ordnance Survey's Original Surveyors Drawings of 1820). Nantsyddion sheepwalk extended to the top of the ridge to the north-west and its boundary there is shown on mid-18th century estate maps of Nanteos properties in the Castell valley (NLW Nanteos Map Book). This suggests that a dwelling has been present at Nantsyddion since at least the mid-18th century, but the origins of the settlement are unknown. Cottage is intact and maintained as a bothy by the Mountain Bothies Association. One zinc roofed stone outbuilding also stands.

33191	SN777786	Dolwen	Cottage	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3022

DESCRIPTION: Small upland cottage or farmstead which has been present since the earliest map source consulted (i.e. the Ordnance Survey's Original Surveyors Drawings of 1820). Dolwen sheepwalk was extensive and included all the land between the Afon Myherin and Nant Rhuddnant as far east as Llyn Rhuddnant. The origins of the settlement are unknown. Cottage is intact and maintained as a bothy by the Mountain Bothies Association, but outbuildings shown on early maps have been removed.

33192	SN774787	Dolwen II	DRS	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3014

DESCRIPTION: A cottage of unknown characteristics is shown here on 19th century OS maps, including the Original Surveyors Drawings of 1820, although it is only noted as a 'Sheepfold' by the time of the 1891 1st edition 1:10560 OS map. The

site seems to have been buried by the present forestry road, although some earthwork banks remain north of the road which may be part of a paddock associated with the dwelling.

33195	SN771774	Tygwyn	DRS	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3029

DESCRIPTION: The dwelling here is a substantial, but ruinous, drystone structure, measuring 17m x 6m and standing up to c.0.8m in height. At present there is no visible evidence of internal partition. The surviving walls are threatened by several trees which have fallen and now rest atop them. A short distance to the north east an ancillary building is also seen, represented by a single, ruinous, gable end wall. A number of wide earth banks run away from the dwelling, all shown on late 19th century OS maps. Some mining features are present close to the house (see Tygwyn/Mynach Vale Mine above).

33196	SN768777	Tynymaes	DRS	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3010

DESCRIPTION: 19th century OS maps show a cottage here, but the site of the dwelling seems to have been lost due to the construction of a forestry road, although it is possible that the edge of the cottage survives beneath the south-eastern edge of the road,. Enclosures associated with the dwelling survive.

33230	SN738793	Nant Rhys I	DRS	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4024

DESCRIPTION: This site represents the earliest of two dwellings at Nant Rhys, and was replaced during the 19th century by the surviving cottage to the west. Despite some disturbance caused by planting and subsequent felling in the vicinity, the outline of a rectangular building, presumably the dwelling, measuring c.11m x 5m, are still clearly visible and potentially of archaeological significance. It is possible that the structure has been partially robbed of stone on its northern side to construct a modern sheep dip nearby in that direction. A large sub-circular enclosure which is seen on OS maps to the east of the dwelling has been damaged by earlier forestry operations, although some relatively well preserved portions of the enclosing drystone wall still stand at its eastern edge. The relationship of the dwelling to this large enclosure suggests this to have been an upland shepherding station since early post mediaeval times, possibly with mediaeval roots. The precise characteristics of this site are not easily understood due to the presence of a large amount of brash across the area.

33231	SN836793	Nant Rhys II	Cottage	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4024

DESCRIPTION: Small upland farmstead which was built to replace Nant Rhys I during the 19th century. According to a former inhabitant (Mr Tom Griffiths, Ysgubor Fach, Cwmystwyth) the reason for this was that the shepherding family which lived in the old Nant Rhys was virtually wiped out by an outbreak of typhoid and the Hafod estate provided a new home for the surviving members of the family. Nant Rhys

sheepwalk was extensive and included land either side of the county boundary. Cottage is intact and maintained as a bothy by the Mountain Bothies Association, but outbuildings shown on early maps have been recently removed.

33232	SN84217755	Bryn Diliw	DRS	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4016

DESCRIPTION: This site is located just outside the fence of the forest compartment, at the top of a high, steep and unstable valley slope overlooking the Afon Diliw. The eastern wall is beginning to erode over the edge of this slope. Historic map evidence shows the site to have been occupied during the 19th century, but its origins are potentially of early post-Mediaeval or Mediaeval date. It comprises low stone and earth banks, forming a rectangular structure divided into three compartments, overall measurements are 17m x 5.6m, the walls averaging c.0.80m thick. The southernmost compartment appears to be of a slightly different construction to the rest of the building - some evidence of a rip-joint on the western wall indicates that it may have been added to an earlier structure.

33233	SN84127744	Nant Diliw Fechan	DRS	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4015

DESCRIPTION: A deserted rural settlement which includes a ruined dwelling with an enclosed yard to its western side and an enclosed garden plot a short distance to the east. The dwelling is a drystone, rectilinear structure, sub-divided by an internal wall into two compartments. It measures overall c.11m x 5.6m, the walls rarely more than about 0.5m high. Possible traces of a hearth are visible in the western end of the structure. Abutting the western end is a small enclosed yard or fold measuring 6.3 x 6.0m. 8.5m beyond the eastern end of the dwelling is a probable garden plot, irregular in shape and about 22m in length. Its width is indeterminable as its northern side has been lost to stream erosion, although it was certainly over 12m wide at its eastern end.

34942	SN79018249	Ty'n Ochr	Cottage	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4044

DESCRIPTION: Site of cottage shown on 19th century OS maps. Noted as being uninhabited by 1841 Census returns, but occupied by a lead miner's family at the time of the 1881 census. Dwelling site within felled plantation area.

PREVIOUSLY RECORDED SITES IN POWYS

230	SN82368189	Cae Gaer	Fort	Roman
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Compartment No. 4036

DESCRIPTION: Parallelogrammic fort, 115m north-south x 83m east-west, situated on a spur between two stream valleys. Entrances are suspected through the north, south and west defences. The fort was protected by a single inner bank with a ditch and counterscarp, most pronounced on the east and west sides. Partial excavation in 1913 showed that the fort was of earth and timber construction. SAM No. MG057

816	SN85377867	Carn Bwlch y Cloddiau	Round Barrow	Bronze Age
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Compartment No. 4019

DESCRIPTION: Remains of a round cairn c.11m in diameter, 0.5m high. Stone has been robbed from the cairn to build two small shelters on the mound. Two kerb stones are exposed on the north side of the cairn given some indication of its structure. Some upright slabs now exposed may indicate a possible robbed out central cist. SAM No. MG087

1511	SN85707925	Carn Fach	Round Barrow	Bronze Age
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Compartment No. 4012

DESCRIPTION: Round cairn, approximately 12m in diameter and up to 0.6m high. Has been robbed of stone used to construct a large shelter which stands a few metres to the north-east and measures 5m x 3m and stands over 1m in height. SAM No. MG088

22077	SN83958001	Ffos Bryn Du	Quarry	Modern
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Compartment No. 4022

DESCRIPTION: Small, modern quarry.

22078	SN84558206	Pant Mawr	Metal Mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4033

DESCRIPTION: Level cut into back of 8m high waterfall. Roof collapse has partly blocked entrance and the workings are substantially flooded, access should be considered highly dangerous. Length of workings is not known, but small spoil tip suggests that this was an unproductive 19th century trial working opened in search of a continuation of the mineral lode worked at nearby Nanty Mine.

26986	SN84558207	Pant Mawr Wood	Building	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4033

DESCRIPTION: Rectangular building measuring 13m x 3.5m and divided into three compartments. Walls survive only to c.0.4m. Possibly associated with nearby mine workings. Some trees planted on site.

26987	SN84928186	Pant Mawr	Metal Mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4033

DESCRIPTION: Level cut into the west bank the stream. Now obscured by vegetation and fallen trees, but still open, with running water issuing from its mouth. With a fairly large spoil tip downslope. The workings are believed to be c.40m long but are largely flooded and access is considered dangerous. There is no evidence of ore being located here and the working is probably a 19th century trial related to activity at the Nanty Mine.

26988	SN84528189	Pant Mawr	Metal Mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4033

DESCRIPTION: Level cut into eastern bank of stream next to a 4m high waterfall. A short, narrow cut leads to the level entrance, but this is blocked by vegetation and fallen trees making access difficult. There is very little spoil to be seen downslope, suggesting this to have been an unsuccessful trial working. Probably associated with activity at the Nanty Mine.

NEWLY RECORDED SITES IN CEREDIGION

35248	SN759775	Llaneithyr	Field System	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3009

DESCRIPTION: Three parallel fields located on the north-western side of Llaneithyr cottage, the uppermost of which is within the forestry plantation. Large earth banks define this field, although the forest road above Llaneithyr has obscured some sections. The banks are probably late 18th or early 19th century in date and represent a small enclosure of part of the old Llaneithyr sheepwalk.

35249	SN76007747	Llaneithyr	Mound	Post Mediaeval?
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Compartment No. 3009

DESCRIPTION: A mound of unknown origin, 7m x 3m, over 1m high. Possibly created by forestry operations.

35250	SN82418139	Trawsnant	DRS	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4037

DESCRIPTION: A rectilinear, drystone structure, measuring 7.7 x 4m with single entrance 0.9m wide midway along western wall. Walls stand up to 0.8m high and are 0.7m thick. Situated on a level terrace alongside stream.

35251	SN84137740	Diliw	Building	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4016

DESCRIPTION: Drystone rectilinear structure, measuring 10.8m x 5m, with walls over 1m high. The southern wall runs along the edge of a river terrace and has been buttressed by the construction of a wide earth bank to prevent slippage in that direction. There are no signs of internal division, but there are two entrances in the northern wall. Adjacent to the northern side is a 16m long x 4m wide walled 'alley'. The presence of this feature suggests that the structure was a sheepfold or some other kind of agricultural building, rather than a dwelling.

35252	SN84257747	Coed Diliw	Fold; DRS?	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4016

DESCRIPTION: Rectilinear drystone structure, probably a fold rather than a deserted settlement site. Measures 9.7m x 7.3m, with ruinous, grassed over walls. A field boundary abuts the eastern end of the structure.

35253	SN83377943	Nant y Gorlan	DRS?	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4024

DESCRIPTION: A feature marked here on the 2nd edition 1:10560 OS map was probably a small *lluest* type dwelling or a sheepfold. The area has been ploughed, planted and felled and the resultant disturbance of the ground surface makes it impossible to discern any trace of the structure.

35254	SN77217633	Bryn Llwyd	Cairn?	Bronze Age?
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Compartment No. 3041

DESCRIPTION: The Original OS Surveyors Drawing of the area, made in 1820, shows a symbol elsewhere used to denote a cairn on top of Bryn Llwyd. The top of the hill has been greatly altered by a small quarry and the construction of a path and there is now no surface indication of a cairn. However, if such a structure was ever present here it is possible that some archaeological evidence will survive.

35255	SN79147676	Nant Hylles	DRS	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3035

DESCRIPTION: Probable abandoned shepherds dwelling located alongside stream. Its precise character is difficult to determine from surface remains; it may be either a dwelling with two compartments or a single room dwelling with an appended animal pen. Some drystone walling survives in the north-eastern compartment, but the south-western end of the structure is defined by more reduced earthwork banks. Like many of the *lluestau* or shepherds dwellings of the district, the site is located on a terrace alongside a minor upland stream, afforded some shelter by the sides of the stream valley. Its location alongside a rough forest trackway which has already caused some peripheral damage to the site means that it is certainly vulnerable to any widening of the trackway in the future.

35256	SN756757	Rhosygell	Quarry	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3053

DESCRIPTION: Small quarry. Probably recent - not on 19th century OS maps.

35257	SN83588002	Byrnant	DRS?; Fold?	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4025

DESCRIPTION: A feature marked here on the 2nd edition 1:10560 OS map was probably a small *lluest* type dwelling or a sheepfold. The area has been disturbed by a forest road and it is impossible to discern any trace of the structure.

35258	SN82968040	Nant Llychese	DRS?; Fold?	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4025

DESCRIPTION: A feature marked here on the 2nd edition 1:10560 OS map was probably a small *lluest* type dwelling or a sheepfold. The area has been deep ploughed and planted and the resultant disturbance of the ground surface makes it impossible to discern any trace of the structure.

35259	SN78657953	Nantycreiau	DRS	Med; Post Med
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Compartment No. 3003

DESCRIPTION: Rectangular, drystone structure c.7.5m x 4.8m, walls standing up to 1m high. Single entrance on south side. Stands on a levelled platform, cut across the hill contour, at the eastern or upslope end of which a drainage hood was built to help keep the platform dry. A stream passes c.4m west of the structure and c.4m to the south is a garden plot measuring c.10m². About 100m further to the south is an associated field system (see PRN35260 below).

35260	SN78687951	Nantycreiau	Field system	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3003

DESCRIPTION: Associated with DRS PRN35259 above is a small field system, linked to the dwelling by a trackway which seems to pass above the upper edge of the field boundary. Two, possibly three parcels occupy the flattish area at the bottom of a steep slope to the north-east. The largest field measures c.34m x 20m and contains traces of ridge and furrow ploughing. One, perhaps two smaller fields are appended to the western end of this parcel, each about 10m x 15m in size. Neither the dwelling nor the fields are shown on any known map, suggesting that they were out of use by the late 18th century.

35261	SN79978008	Nant Myherin	Level	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3001

DESCRIPTION: Small infilled level and spoil tip associated with the search for mineral lodes in the vicinity of Nantycreiau Mine during the 19th century.

35262	SN79958023	Nant Myherin	Quarry	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3001

DESCRIPTION: Relatively large quarry working with associated waste tips. This appears to be the western end of the proposed Blaen Myherin Tunnel planned by the Milford & Manchester Railway Company during 1867 (See PRN 35278 also).

35263	SN79207783	Cwm Rhuddnant I	DRS	Med?; Post Med?
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Compartment No. 3033

DESCRIPTION: Rectilinear structure comprising the base of a drystone wall, now much ruined. Measurement difficult as the structure has probably been partly eroded by the nearby stream and some forestry activity has caused a little disturbance and left some brash on the site. Nevertheless the building was originally c.8m in length and 5.2m wide, divided into two compartments (4.4m and 3.6m long respectively).

35264	SN79217781	Cwm Rhuddnant II	Fold?	Med?; Post Med?
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Compartment No. 3033

DESCRIPTION: A small D-shaped fold, partly obscured by brash. Measures 4.7m x 4.2m with a 1m wide gap in its western wall, facing the stream. Walls stand to 0.8m.

35265	SN77797513	Afon Peiran	Dam	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3037

DESCRIPTION: A large earth bank survives on the southern side of the stream, still measuring c.30m long and up to 3m high. Forestry roads partly obscure the area to the north of the stream, but there remains evidence of a complimentary bank here also. A large natural depression, as much as 70m², is evident to the east of the dam, credibly a drained reservoir. These are almost certainly the remains of a dam built to control the water flow of the Afon Peiran and probably dates to the late 18th or early 19th century when Thomas Johnes created his ornamental gardens further downstream.

35266	SN801795	Blaen Myherin	Field System	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3017

DESCRIPTION: A series of stone walled enclosures are still visible south of the present dwelling at Blaenmyherin and there is field evidence to suggest that other boundary banks once divided the area south and south-west of the farmstead into a series of enclosed parcels. Hints of buried stone walls or banks were noted in this area, although their precise plan and extent are unknown.

35267	SN80147955	Blaen Myherin	DRS	Med?; Post Med?
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Compartment No. 3017

DESCRIPTION: Less than 100m to the south-west of the present cottage at Blaen Myherin there appears to be the site of an earlier dwelling, represented only by a fragment of drystone walling built into a natural bank, but apparently including an old hearth. The OS Original Surveyors Drawing (OS, 1820) suggests that this was the position of Blaen Myherin farmhouse in the early 19th century. As previously noted, Blaen Myherin is potentially one of the most important and historic settlement sites within the uplands of the Mynydd y Ffynnon study area due to the fact that it is listed in mid-16th century rent rolls describing properties rented out by the Strata Florida estate to tenant farmers. It is possible therefore that this is the site of the early post-mediaeval or even mediaeval dwelling at Blaen Myherin.

35268	SN77077772	Aberdeuddwr	Farmstead	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. Outside forest property

DESCRIPTION: Although outside the FC boundary, this site is included here because of its postulated relationship with a field system on the slope to the east (PRN35273 below). Aberdeuddwr is shown on the early 19th century 1inch: 1 mile OS map of the area but had disappeared by the time of the 1st edition 1:10560 series surveyed in the 1870's. It was probably a farmstead and a series of mounds and depressions visible from the adjacent forest road are all that remains to show its site.

35269	SN77227811	Aberdeuddwr II	Fold?	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3014;3022

DESCRIPTION: The 2nd edition 1:10560 OS map shows a small rectangular parcel here cut through by a footpath. The path has been replaced by a forestry road but most of the boundary bank of the enclosure survives to the west of the road. It was in part stone built but its purpose is not clear.

35270	SN81198275	Nant Cae Mawr	Metal Mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4043

DESCRIPTION: Run-in adit on south-east side of Nant Cae Mawr, near a small waterfall. Spoil tip downslope, the size and composition of which suggests this to have been a trial working.

35271	SN77277507	Henffordd	DRS	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3050

DESCRIPTION: Ruined stone dwelling. Shown as occupied on 2nd edition 1:10560 OS map of 1906. Ruins measure 13m x 5.5m with no trace of internal sub-division. However, a rip joint in the southern wall marks a division in the structure which is reflected in the walling either side; 9.5m of wall to the west is bonded by lime mortar, whilst 3.5m of wall to the east is of drystone construction.

35272	SN76557562	Penybwllch	DRS	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3043

DESCRIPTION: A small cottage stood at the site of the present car-park near the arch. No surface trace of the cottage survives.

35273	SN772777	Aberdeuddwr	Field System	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3021; 3022

DESCRIPTION: An interesting series of small enclosures defined by wide earth banks survives in the forestry at the south-western end of Pen Corbed ridge, seemingly focused on the site of the old farmstead of Aberdeuddwr, although it is possible that they relate to one of the other abandoned settlements in the vicinity, such as Tygwyn or Dolwen.

35274	SN77967523	Ty'n Nant	DRS	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3037

DESCRIPTION: An 18th century Crosswood Estate map (NLW Crosswood Deeds Vol.45) shows a cottage of this name on the northern side of Nant Perfedd. It seems to have been destroyed by the building of the forestry road here, although one fragment of an earth boundary bank associated with the settlement is still visible between the road and the stream.

35275	SN7676;7776; 7675;7775	Hafod Plantations	Boundaries	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3037; 3040; 3041; 3042; 3043; 3044; 3045; 3048; 3049; 3050

DESCRIPTION: Many of the boundaries of these early forest plantations, which all date to the period in which Thomas Johnes was active, can still be traced within the modern plantations. They fall into two categories of boundary; stone walls or earth banks, much as described by 19th century descriptions of Johnes' plantations. Within several of these old plantations, stands of mature beeches are to be found, almost certainly survivors and descendants of the original plantation.

35276	SN775748	Peiran Leat	Leat	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3048

DESCRIPTION: An old leat can be traced through the plantation here, tapping into the Afon Peiran about 300m north of Pwll Peiran and rejoining the river a short distance south of the farm complex. It appears on the 2nd edition 1:10560 OS map but beyond carrying water to Pwll Peiran, its precise purpose is not known.

35277	SN79958252	Blaen Ergyr	Metal mine	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4045

DESCRIPTION: Run-in level with a fairly large spoil mound to south-west, all now well grassed over. Not shown on any known map.

35278	SN81728158	Pistyll Fawr	Quarry	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4038

DESCRIPTION: Marked on the 2nd edition 1:10560 OS map as an 'Old Quarry'. However, this represents the beginning cut of the eastern end of the Blaen Myherin Railway Tunnel proposed by the Milford & Manchester Railway Company as part of a new railway line connecting the Wye and Myherin valleys, intended for construction in 1867. Work was also begun at the opposite end of the tunnel and is represented by more quarry workings along the Nant Myherin (PRN 35262).

35279	SN77897538	Sgubor Fawr	Farmstead	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 3037

DESCRIPTION: The site of the farmstead of Sgubor Fawr, shown on the 1847 Llanfihangel y Creuddyn Uchaf parish tithe map. During field survey work a boundary bank was noted in this vicinity, along the eastern edge of the Nant Hylles, which may be that enclosing an arable field known as 'Scubor Fawr' field, shown on the tithe map as parcel no.252. No trace of the dwelling was seen and nothing is known of its origins. It does not appear on later 19th century OS maps.

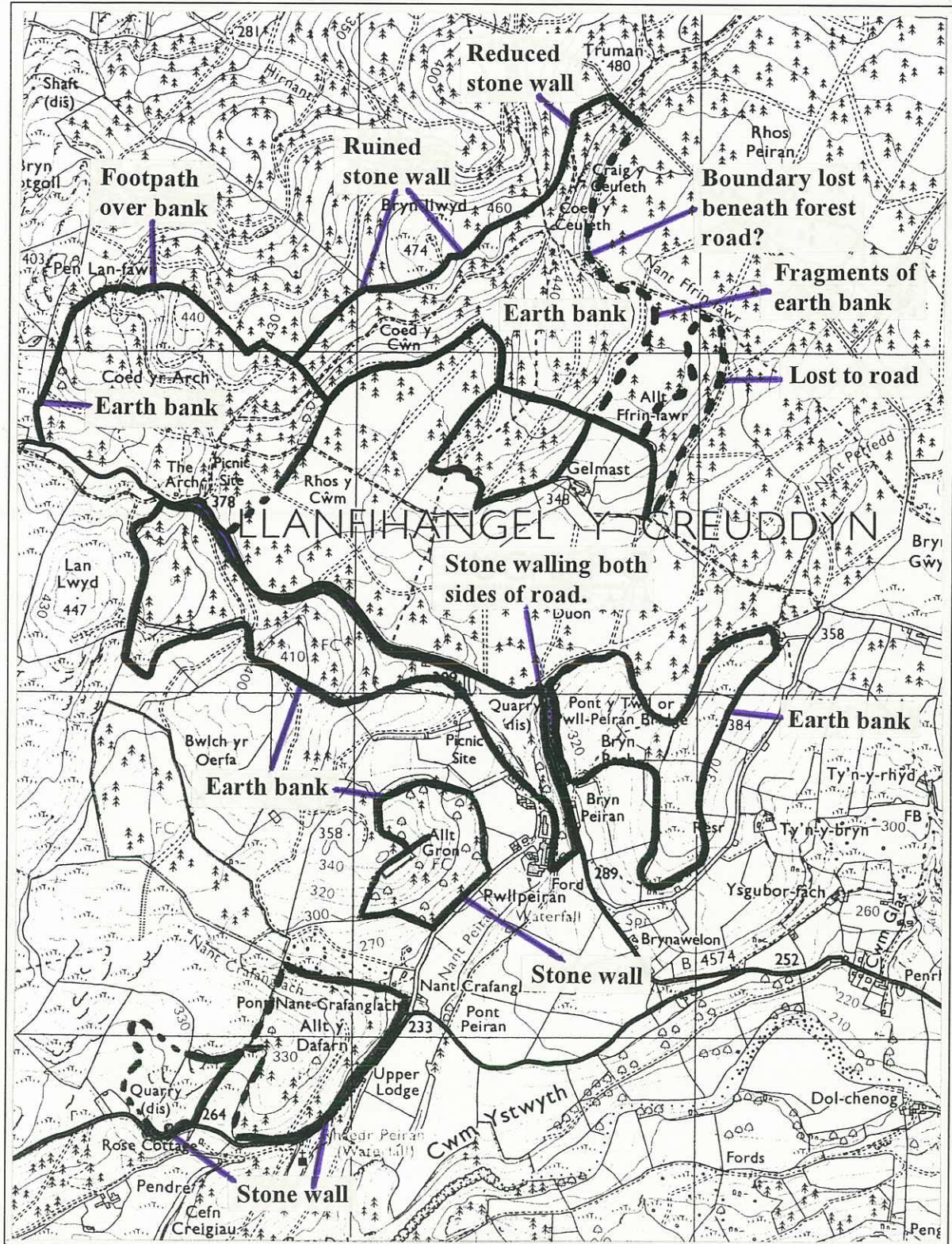


Fig 8; Early Hafod Plantation Boundaries (based on tithe map information) (see PRN 35275).

NEWLY RECORDED SITES IN POWYS

38383	SN84658220	Nant yr Eryr	Fishpond	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4033

DESCRIPTION: Sub-rectangular fishpond shown on 2nd edition 1:10560 OS map of 1903. The now drained pond was held by a large earth bank to the east and north, surviving portions of which are up to 5m wide and 1.5m high. The southern and western sides were formed by the edge of a natural river terrace. The modern forest road cuts through the bank in two places.

38384	SN83158242	Rhos Pant Mawr	Leat	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4033; 4034; 4035

DESCRIPTION: Leat which supplied the Nant yr Eryr fishpond. Runs westwards for over 1.5km. Much of its course has been destroyed by a forest road built along the same contour, but the point at which it tapped into the Afon Tarenig and the first several hundred metres of its course survive.

38385	SN84177781	Afon Diliw	Sheepfold	Post Mediaeval
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Compartment No. 4019

DESCRIPTION: A rectangular drystone walled sheepfold situated on a level terrace alongside the Afon Diliw. The fold measures 7.3m x 5.2m with walls 1m high x 0.8m wide. A curving wall of comparable build, 7.5m long, runs off its northern end, indicating this to be a fold rather than a deserted settlement site.

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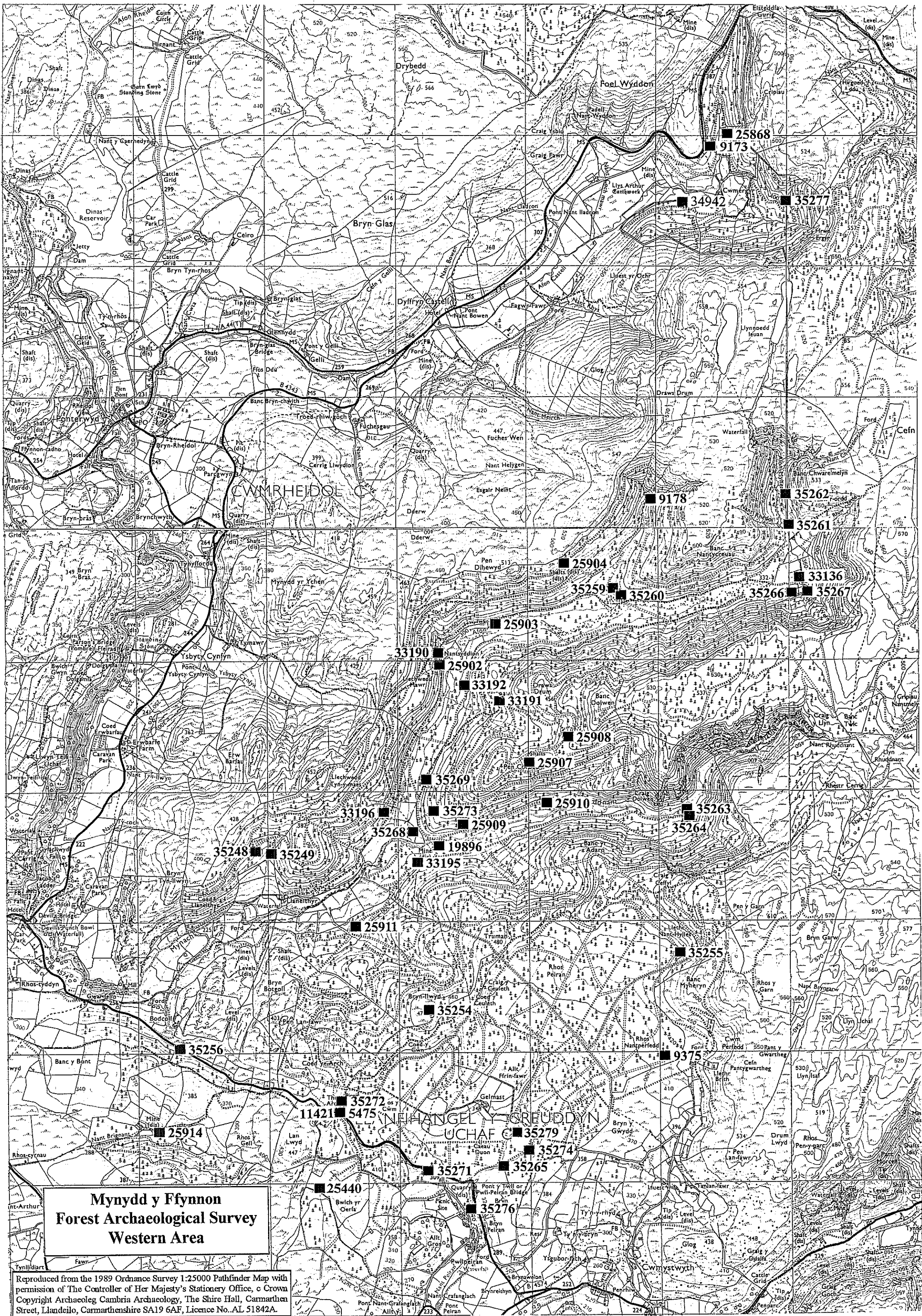
Llanfihangel y Creuddyn Uchaf Tithe Map (1847) & Tithe Schedule (1844).

OS Original Surveyors Drawings (1820) Sheet No. 311.

Map of 1865 Act of Enclosure Award for the Parishes of Llanfihangel y Creuddyn Uchaf and Llangurig. Held at National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth.

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**Mynydd y Ffynnon
Forest Archaeological Survey
Western Area**

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