

Dinas, Allt Wen, Dwygyfylchi, Conwy

Topographic and Condition Survey



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

Dinas, Allt Wen, Dwygyfylchi, Conwy

Topographic and Condition Survey

Project No. G2490

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Cover photograph: Allt Wen after the fire from Sychnant Pass

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Summary

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust was grant aided by Cadw to carry out a topographic survey and condition report on Allt Wen, which had been largely cleared of vegetation by a fire in June 2016. The survey, which covered all safely accessible parts of the burnt area of the hill, was carried out in February and March 2017. Allt Wen is a small rocky hill on the north-eastern end of the Carneddau Range, above the village of Dwygyfylchi, Conwy, on which there is a small hillfort (PRN 713, SH74757744). The survey was undertaken to record features not usually visible and to assess the condition of the hillfort and identify any potential problems caused by increased erosion. It revealed several new minor features across the hill side, including an area of small extraction pits and a trackway, and considerable additional detail about the fort, especially the presence of facing stones to the rampart. A detailed plan of the fort was produced and areas of erosion identified, all along footpaths rather than as a result of the fire.

Cafodd Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd gymorth grant gan Cadw i gynnal arolwg topograffig a llunio adroddiad cyflwr ar Allt Wen, lle'r oedd tân ym mis Mehefin 2016 wedi clirio'r llystyfiant i raddau helaeth. Cynhaliwyd yr arolwg ym mis Chwefror a mis Mawrth 2017, roedd yn cwmpasu pob rhan o'r bryn a oedd wedi llosgi a oedd posib eu cyrraedd yn ddiogel. Bryn creigiog bach yw Allt Wen, mae'n gorwedd ar ben gogledd-ddwyreiniol y Carneddau, uwchben pentref Dwygyfylchi, Conwy, lle mae yna fryngaer fechan (PRN 713, SH74757744). Cynhaliwyd yr arolwg i gofnodi nodweddion nad ydynt yn weladwy fel arfer, i asesu cyflwr y fryngaer a nodi unrhyw broblemau posibl wedi'u hachosi gan erydiad cynyddol. Datgelwyd nifer o fân nodweddion newydd ar draws y llethr, gan gynnwys ardal o byllau cloddio bach, llwybr, a manylion ychwanegol sylweddol am y gaer, yn enwedig presenoldeb wynebfeini i'r rhagfur. Cynhyrchwyd cynllun manwl o'r gaer a chafodd ardaloedd o erydiad eu nodi, i gyd ar hyd llwybrau troed yn hytrach nag o ganlyniad i'r tân.



Plate 1. Allt Wen overlooking the village of Dwygyfylchi
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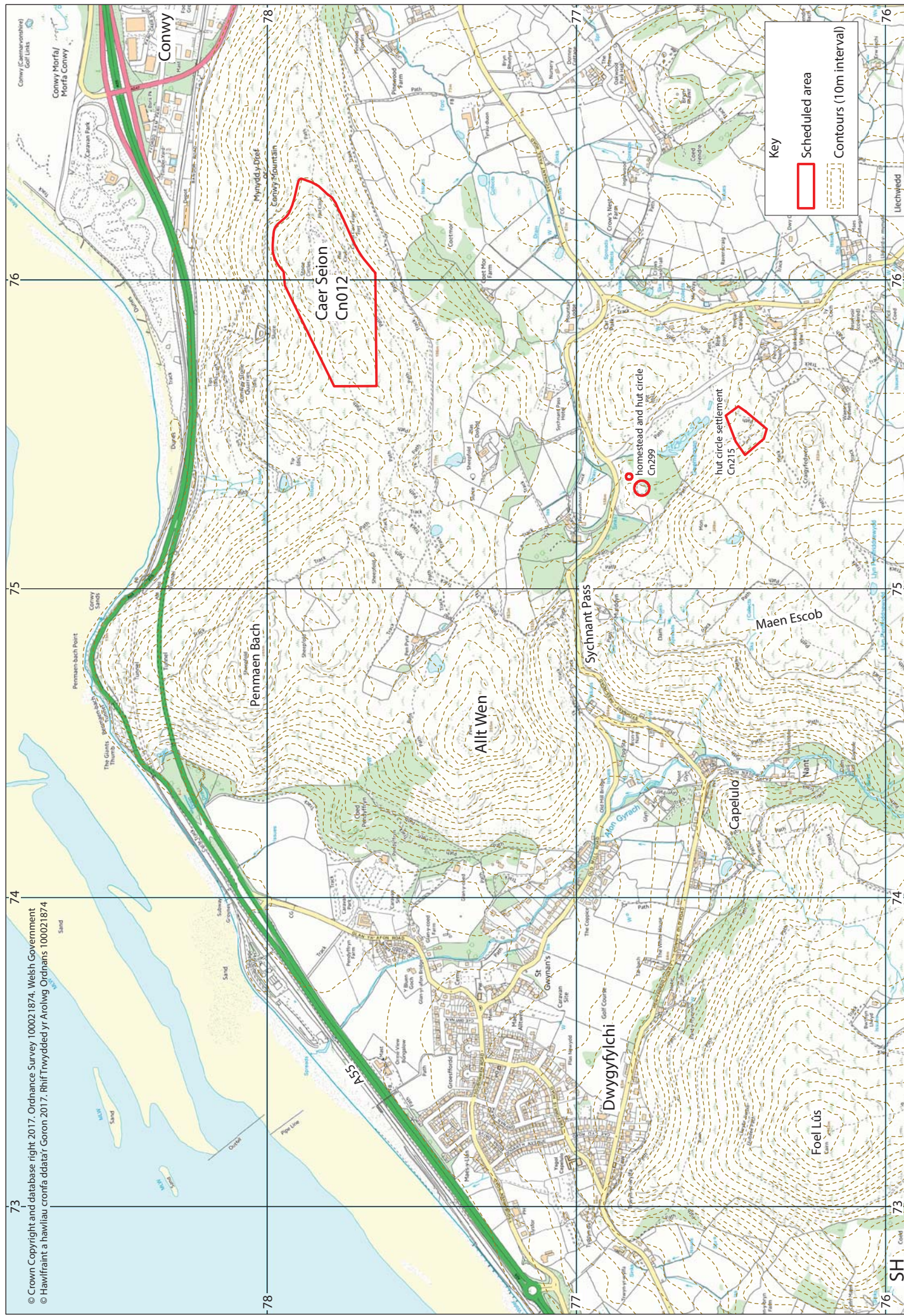


Figure 1. Location of Allt Wen and surrounding hills

1. Background

Allt Wen is a small rocky hill on the north-eastern end of the Carneddau Range, over-looking the village of Dwygyfylchi on the north Welsh coast (SH74757744) (figure 1, plate 1). The summit of the hill is at 255m OD and the southern, western and northern sides are very steep while the eastern side is more gradual, resulting in most paths ascending the hill from that side. The southern side in particular is a sheer scree slope with rocky outcrops, and this over-looks Sychnant Pass, which has for centuries been an important pass across the hills avoiding having to cross the sands around the foot of Penmaen Bach, the hill to the north of Allt Wen (plate 2).



Plate 2. Allt Wen showing the extent of the burning. Maen Escob is in the foreground with Penmaen Bach behind Allt Wen and the Great Orme in the far distance.
(© Crown Copyright: RCAHMW; © Hawlfraint y Goron: CBHC)

The summit of Allt Wen is a fairly gently sloping plateau, with a lump of rock on its southern side forming the summit itself. On this fairly broad summit area is a hill fort (PRN 713), with a single rampart enclosing all the more level ground.

About 1.3km to the north-east of Allt Wen is the slightly lower hill of Conwy Mountain, on which is another hillfort, known as Caer Seion (PRN 2816, SAM Cn012). Allt Wen is overlooked to the south by the Maen Escob ridge and to the south-west by Foel Lûs.

Allt Wen, and most of the surrounding hills, are formed of rhyolite, part of the Conwy Rhyolite Formation, which is an igneous rock dating to the Ordovician Period. The ridge of Conwy Mountain, however, is formed by an outcrop of volcanic tuff. The rhyolite is formed from silica-rich magma, but also contains occasional bands of mudstone formed in the shallow Ordovician seas (Geology of Britain Viewer).

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) surveyed the Allt Wen hillfort for the Caernarvonshire Inventory (RCAHMW 1956, 87) and gives the following description

Dinas, Allt Wen, a small hill-fort, pentagonal in plan, enclosed by a single rampart about 8ft. thick of



roughly coursed dry masonry. On the N. there are traces of an outer ditch 15 ft. wide and of an inner quarry-trench, and here the rampart is best preserved, standing in places more than 3 ft. high. The entrance is 10 ft. wide, at the N.E. corner, the adjacent rampart being thickened, with doubtful traces of a guardhouse in the angle N. of the passage. One possible hut site occurs against the N. rampart. Condition: poor, much ruined. (RCAHMMW 1956, 86)

The site was inspected by George Smith as part of the Defended Enclosures project in 2005 and he gave the following description and notes:-

Location

A prominent isolated high summit with extensive views in all directions.

Short description

A small hillfort on a prominent hill, adjoining the hill with the larger fort of Caer Seion. Defended by a single substantial stone bank reinforced by a ditch on the north side. A single simple entrance approached via a winding track from a small valley on the north-east (coastal) side. A remote and seemingly impractical site with traces of only one round hut within.

Site visit notes

The ramparts are relatively small but neatly made and better preserved over much of the circuit than previous descriptions record. The ditch is also well preserved and considerably outside the rampart because of the steep slope. The interior is largely intact because visitors walk on and around the ramparts. However, despite the interior being easily visible with an even cover of heather there are no signs of hut platforms. The one hut platform described by the RCHM at the N is still visible but it may be just a chance terrace where there is a natural ridge of rock. There are several areas of trample damage (issues 1-7). (Smith 2005, 17)

Smith (2005, 7) lists the hillfort as being of national importance, although it is not scheduled, and notes the problem of erosion by visitors.

The hillfort is set in an archaeologically rich landscape with medieval long huts, prehistoric cairns, a burnt mound and roundhouse settlements (figures 1 and 2); see appendix I for full details of HER¹ and NMR² sites on and immediately around Allt Wen. The landscape is dominated by Caer Seion (or Caer Lleion) hillfort (PRN 2816, SAM Cn012), 1.3km to the north-east of Allt Wen (plate 3). This is a fairly large fort of about 3 hectares. It was excavated in 1906 and 1909 and more extensively in 1951-2, but no pottery or other datable artefacts were found and it was interpreted as being occupied during the Middle to Late Iron Age, but not into the Roman period. The fort had two phases of defences; a single stone wall around the hill, and a smaller and stronger fort at the west end of the hill. There are platforms for over 50 timber and stone round houses inside the fort (Smith 2012, 72). Small excavations in 2008, and the radiocarbon dates subsequently obtained, suggest the small fort was in use by the end of the 3rd century BC and the larger fort was in existence sometime between 600 and 400 BC (Smith 2012, 75).

The chronological relationship between the Caer Seion and Allt Wen forts is not known. As Caer Seion has roundhouses within it but Allt Wen probably has none it is possible that they performed different functions and could be contemporary.

On the evening of 4th June 2016 a fire started on the slopes of Allt Wen and continued to burn for more than 36 hours and extended over much of the hill (plate 2, figure 3). It threatened houses at the base of the hill as well as causing problems with smoke across neighbouring roads (Daily Post 5th June 2016³). The North Wales Fire Service believed that the fire was caused deliberately (Daily Post 10th June 2016⁴).

The area of the hillfort had previously been largely covered in heather and most of the area around was overgrown with heather and low gorse. The fire removed all this vegetation cover exposing the thin soil below, leading to the risk of erosion but also exposing even subtle earthworks. The present survey was undertaken to record features not usually visible and to assess the condition of the hillfort and identify any potential problems caused by increased erosion.

1 Historic Environment Record

2 National Monuments Record

3 <http://www.dailypost.co.uk/news/north-wales-news/dwygyfylchi-residents-fears-after-fire-11430689>

4 <http://www.dailypost.co.uk/news/north-wales-news/huge-conwy-gorse-fire-deliberate-11453354>



Plate 3. View showing relationship of Allt Wen to Caer Seion on Conwy Mountain (© Crown Copyright: RCAHMW; © Hawlfraint y Goron: CBHC)

2. Methodology

2.1. Survey

A Trimble R8 GNSS/R6/5800 Global Positioning System (GPS) was used to survey the archaeological features on the ground. The burnt area was walked over searching for archaeological features and where these were located the GPS was used to record the tops and bases of slopes and the outline of stone features. The search did not just concentrate on the hillfort but also on the surrounding burnt slopes and all archaeological features found were recorded. The outlines of the paths entering the hillfort were also surveyed in detail with the GPS to record the limits of erosion.

The steep ground on southern and western side of the hill was not investigated as this is covered in loose scree and was considered too dangerous. These areas were also so steep that archaeological features are unlikely to be present.

A long hut (PRN 722) was surveyed even though it was just outside the burnt area, but it was considered close enough and important enough to include. This site was heavily overgrown so the survey could only be quite approximate and could not pick up much detail but it provides a better survey of this site than was previously available.

The GPS survey was undertaken on 1st and 6th February 2017 by the author.

In October 2016 Toby Driver of RCAHMW flew over Allt Wen and took 36 photographs. He specifically flew 360 degrees around the site to photograph it from all angles. High resolution digital copies of 20 of these photographs were purchased by GAT with the appropriate licenses for use. Three photographs were for illustrative use in the report but all were used to create a 3D model of the area.

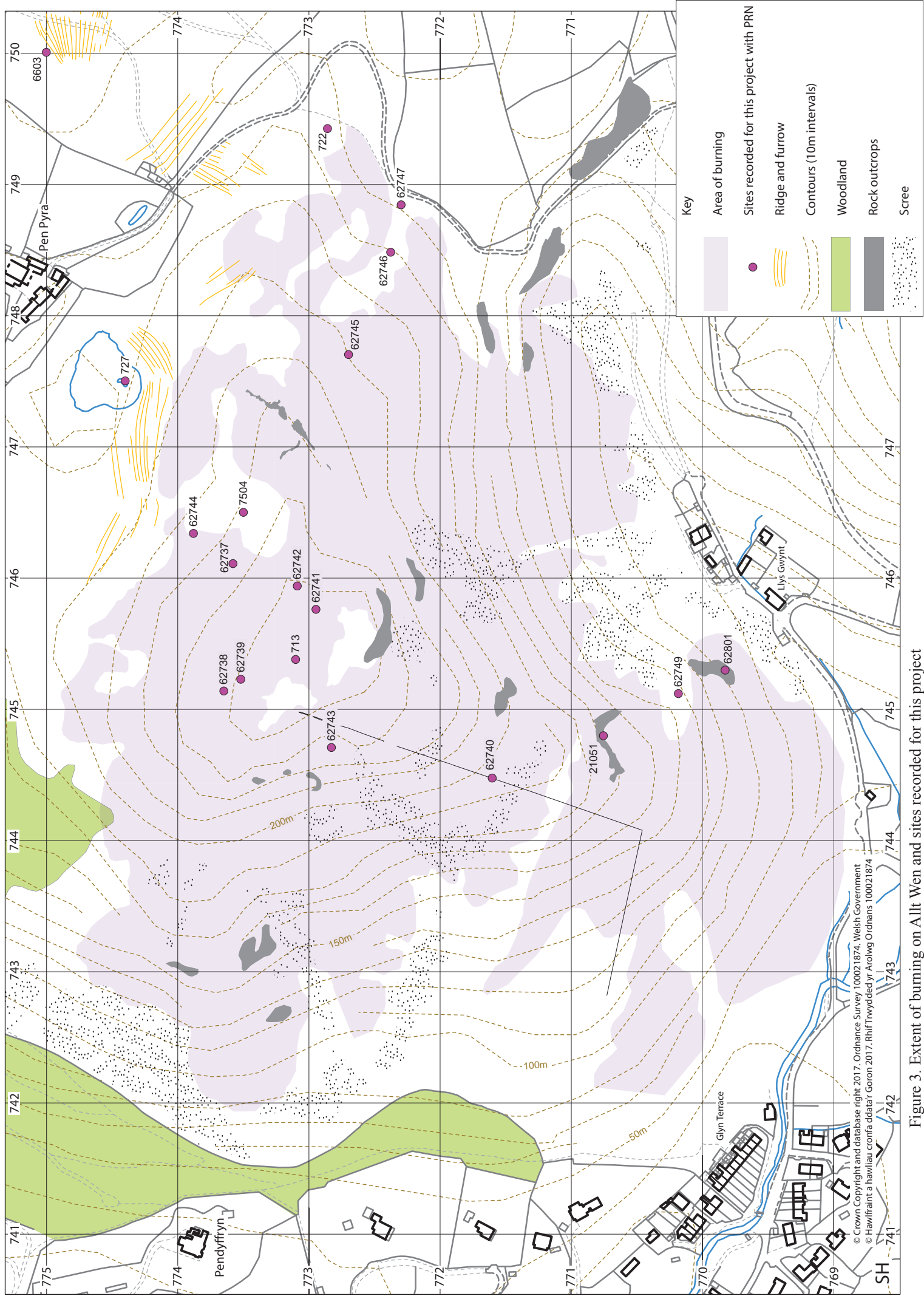


Figure 3. Extent of burning on Allt Wen and sites recorded for this project

Agisoft Photoscan Professional was used to combine all 20 photographs into a general 3D model of the area. This was located by identifying points on the photographs that had been surveyed on the ground and in-putting these coordinates. This enabled a georeferenced orthomosaic to be produced giving a completely vertical combined image of the whole burnt area of the hill. This was seen to be insufficiently high resolution for the area of the hillfort so 5 photographs were selected to produce a separate 3D model just of the hillfort. This was also georeferenced and an orthomosaic created giving a higher resolution image of the hillfort. The orthomosaics were used to trace non-archaeological features such as paths and bedrock outcrops on to the survey of archaeological features. The general orthomosaic was used to create an outline survey of burnt mound PRN 727 and an associated causeway, even though these lie well outside the burnt area.

The MapInfo Geographical Information System program was used to combine the different sources of information. Other aerial photographs added to this included the NextPerspective aerial photographs supplied to the Gwynedd HER and a 1986 photograph from the Central Register of Aerial Photographs, Wales (library no 8606, frame 5486-0045). These aerial photographs provided evidence of ridge and furrow (PRN 6603) near Pen Pyra Farm, so the opportunity was also taken to trace this and add the tracings to a smaller scale plan of the area (figure 2).

There was no reception for the GPS base station correction in the area of sheepfold PRN 7504 so the outline of the feature has been traced from the orthomosaic created from the aerial photographs. Much of the feature was unburnt and overgrown. Even in the part that had been burnt bracken had regrown during the summer so the feature was heavily obscured when the photographs were taken. The outline is therefore rather imprecise, especially the line of the curving wall.

The combined plan of the area was then taken out on to site on 1st March 2017 and checked against what could be seen on the ground. Hachures were sketched onto the plan. Some facing stones not previously surveyed were noticed on the southern rampart and these were surveyed with the GPS equipment for addition to the plan. More hollows and mounds were also recognised lower down the slopes of Allt Wen and these were also added.

Photographs were taken of the archaeological features and notes written so that full descriptions could be given in the report.

2.2. Archiving

The digital archive will be submitted to RCAHMW for long term curation and the report submitted to the Gwynedd HER. A database of sites has been produced for ease of entry into the HER. This includes a summary of each site, which is translated into Welsh, as are the site names.

3. Results

Figure 3 shows the general location of sites described below and the full extent of the burnt area. Figure 4 shows the area of most detailed survey and how figures 5 and 6 (detailed survey plans) related together.

3.1. Hillfort

The hillfort covers an area of 1.23 hectares over the summit of Allt Wen (figure 5, plate 4). The summit itself is a small rocky outcrop, at 255m OD, but a gently sloping plateau extends to the north and this is what forms the hillfort. A single rampart surrounds this plateau with what may be a ditch outside the northern rampart which has hints of a counter-scarp bank. The only probable entrance is in the north-eastern corner of the hillfort.

The rampart appears to be highest at the eastern end of the northern side but this is deceptive as little of the rampart is upstanding and most of it has slipped down the steep natural slope, giving the impression of a bank nearly 5m high on the northern side (plate 5). The rampart is much better preserved at the western end of the northern side where it is up to about 0.5m high on the inner side (although much of it is no more than 0.1m high) and up to about 3m on the northern side, although again much of this height is due to the hill slope (plate 6). The highest upstanding section of rampart is on the eastern side where it survives up to about 1m above the footings of the outer facing stones and up to 0.7m internally (plates 7 and 8).

It is clear that the rampart was not just a bank of earth but was stone-faced on both the interior and exterior. The facing stones survive in places all round the circuit but in most places only the lowest course survives (plates 9 and 10). More of these facing stones were found than expected as some can be seen even on the southern and western sides where the rampart has almost entirely eroded away (plate 11). On the northern side there is a short section where two or possibly three rough courses survive, but these are rather haphazardly placed and it is possible that these have been rebuilt at some time (plate 12).

In most cases only the exterior facing stones survive but a section of the northern rampart has both exterior and interior facing stones and from this it can be seen that the rampart was originally about 3.75m wide (plate 13). There also seems to be a third line of stones between the two, which could possibly be an earlier line of outer facing, suggesting the rampart has been made wider during the use of the fort. Only excavation will clarify the significance of this third line. A widening of the northern rampart seems probable as the inner and outer facing stones surviving on the southern side give a probable width of only about 2.5m on this side. The distance on the well-preserved section along the eastern rampart between the outer facing stones and the inner foot of the bank is about 3.8m but the lack of visible inner facing stones means that the original width cannot be measured. It is possible that some inner facing stones do survive along this section buried within the slumped bank.

On the southern side the rampart has almost entirely eroded away, except for at its eastern end. However the facing stones and a thin scatter of smaller stones between them show where it was. The remains currently slope down as the upper part of the natural hill slope at this side. On much of the western side the rampart is not present as a bank but as the upper part of the natural slope with the outer facing stones visible about 2.7m down the slope (plate 14). Only on the western end of the northern side and the southern end of the eastern side is a bank visible upstanding significantly above the level of the fort interior. On the northern part of the eastern side the rampart has been almost entirely lost. The surviving eastern rampart ends steeply and neatly at its northern end but this is probably because its footings are supported by rock outcrops, and it must originally have continued. Further north the rampart was built along the edge of a steep slope and has eroded down the slope.

The only possible entrance to the hillfort is in the north-eastern corner (PRN 62737). This was noted in the Inventory (RCAHMW 1956, 86), where the entrance is described as being 10ft wide. While it is likely that this is the entrance, it is far from a well-defined feature. Where the eastern rampart descends the slope towards this point it has almost entirely been eroded away and is little more than a sharp change of slope at the top of the natural hillside. However at the very northern end some rampart material does seem to survive. This appears as an area of small stones apparently faced on the eastern side by medium sized stones (plate 15). This facing is not very clear but the line of stones is consistent enough to be convincing. At the northern end two large stones and some smaller ones seem to form a facing at right angles, creating a squared-off end to the rampart. There is a linear hollow about 2.5m wide between this possible facing and the rocky outcrop that forms the north-eastern corner of the fort. The linear hollow runs from the north-west down towards the south-east and becomes a slight benched trackway no more than 1.3m wide, marked on its northern side by a steep natural slope and outcrops of rock (plate 16). There

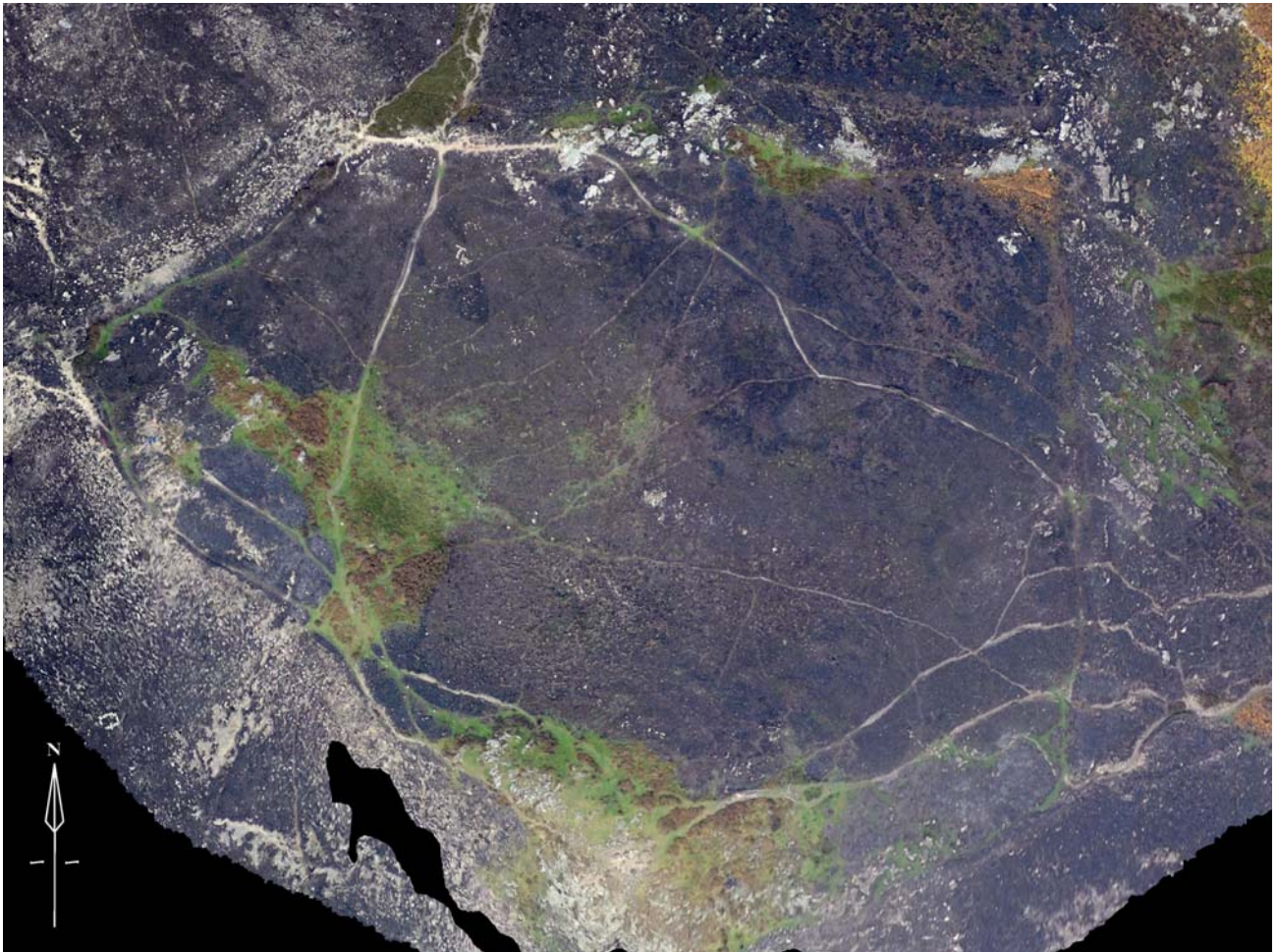


Plate 4. Image produced from high resolution orthomosaic of hillfort created from RCAHMW aerial photographs (© Crown Copyright: RCAHMW; © Hawlfraint y Goron: CBHC)



Plate 5. The eastern end of the northern rampart, view from the east



Plate 6. The western end of the northern rampart, view from the west

Plate 7. Interior of highest part of eastern rampart from south-west



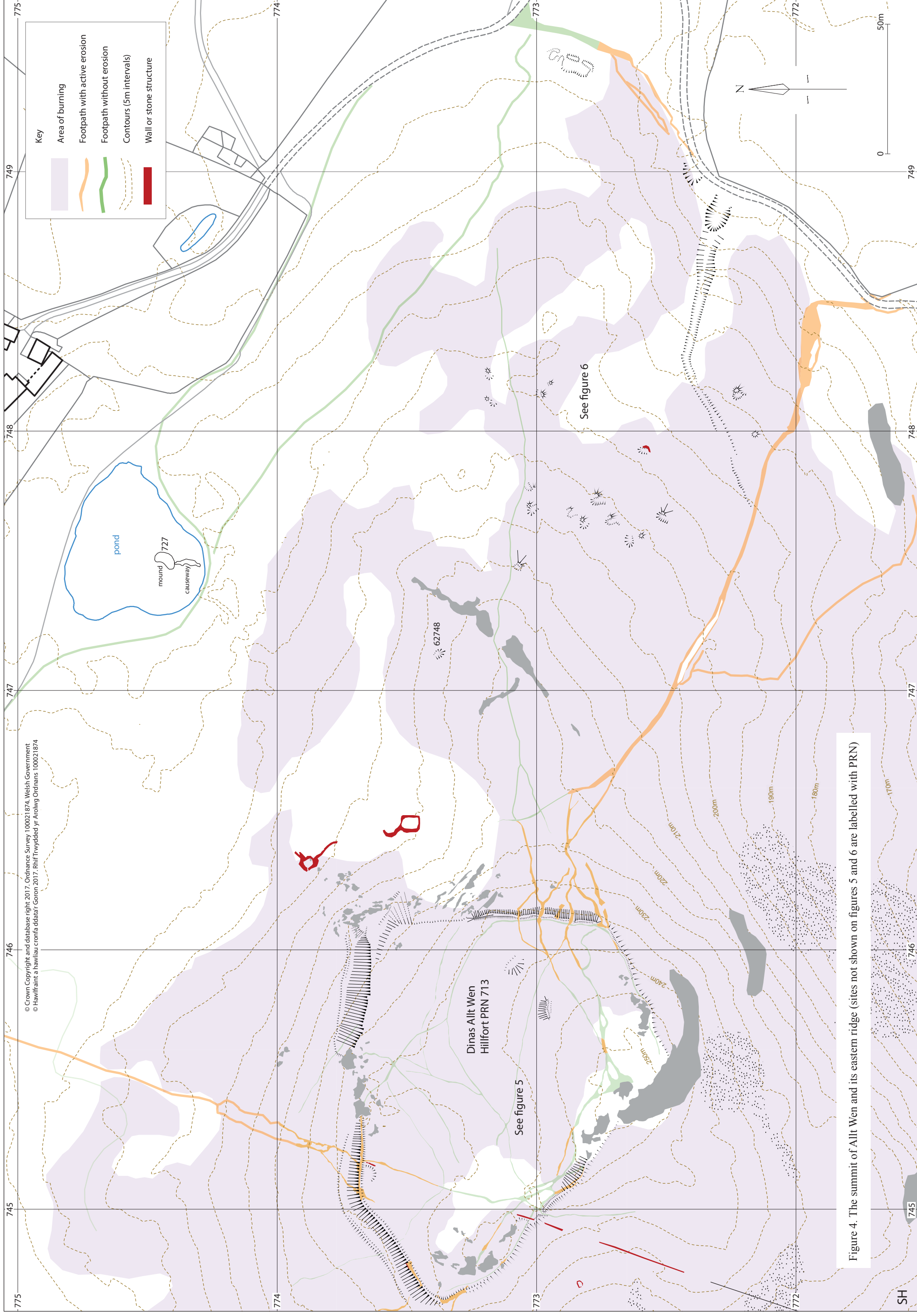
Plate 8. Eastern rampart showing outer facing stones and height of surviving rampart, from south-east



Plate 9. Exterior facing stones on eastern rampart, from east



Plate 11. Exterior facing stones on southern rampart, from east



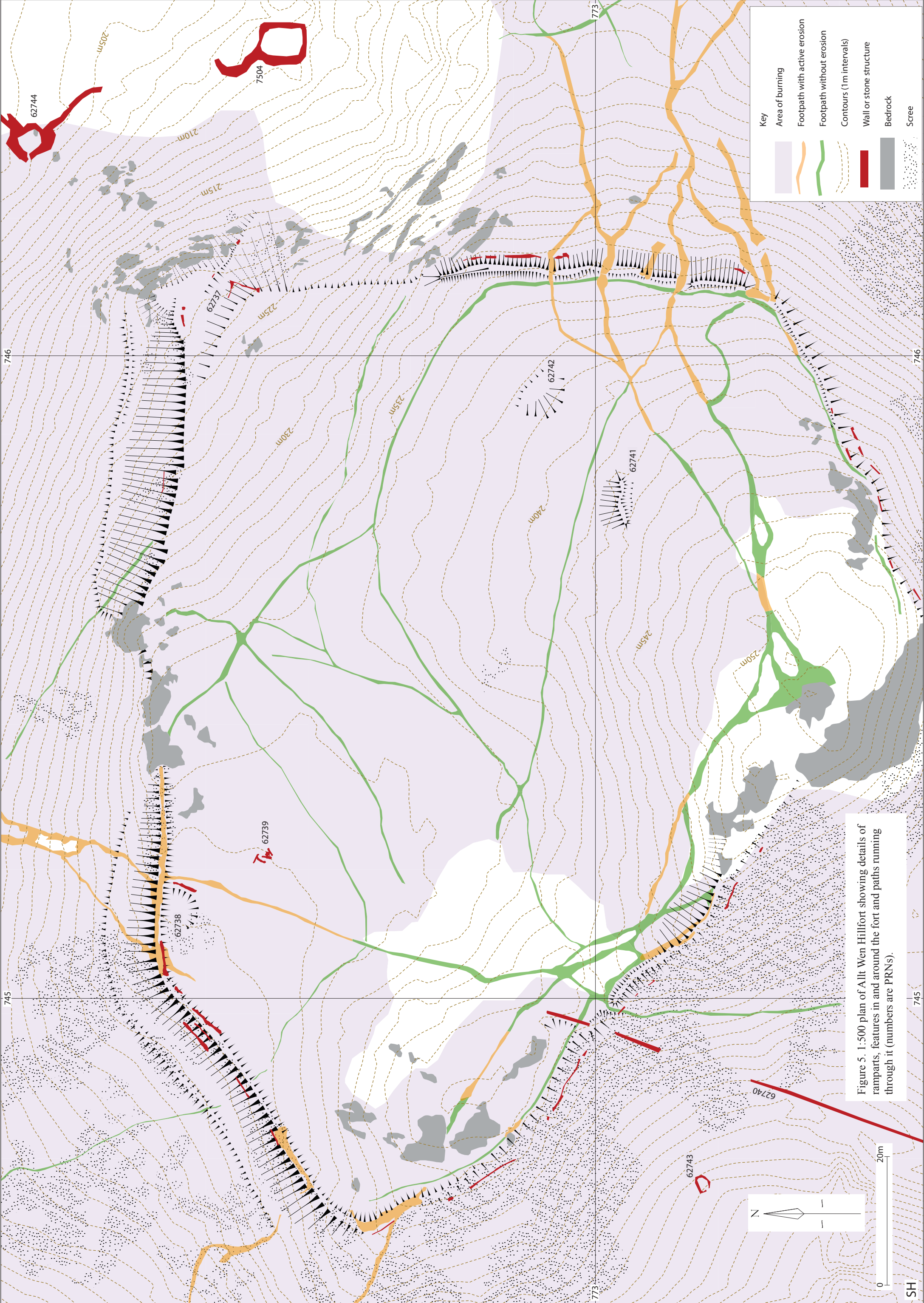


Figure 5. 1:500 plan of Allt Wen Hillfort showing details of ramparts, features in and around the fort and paths running through it (numbers are PRNs).

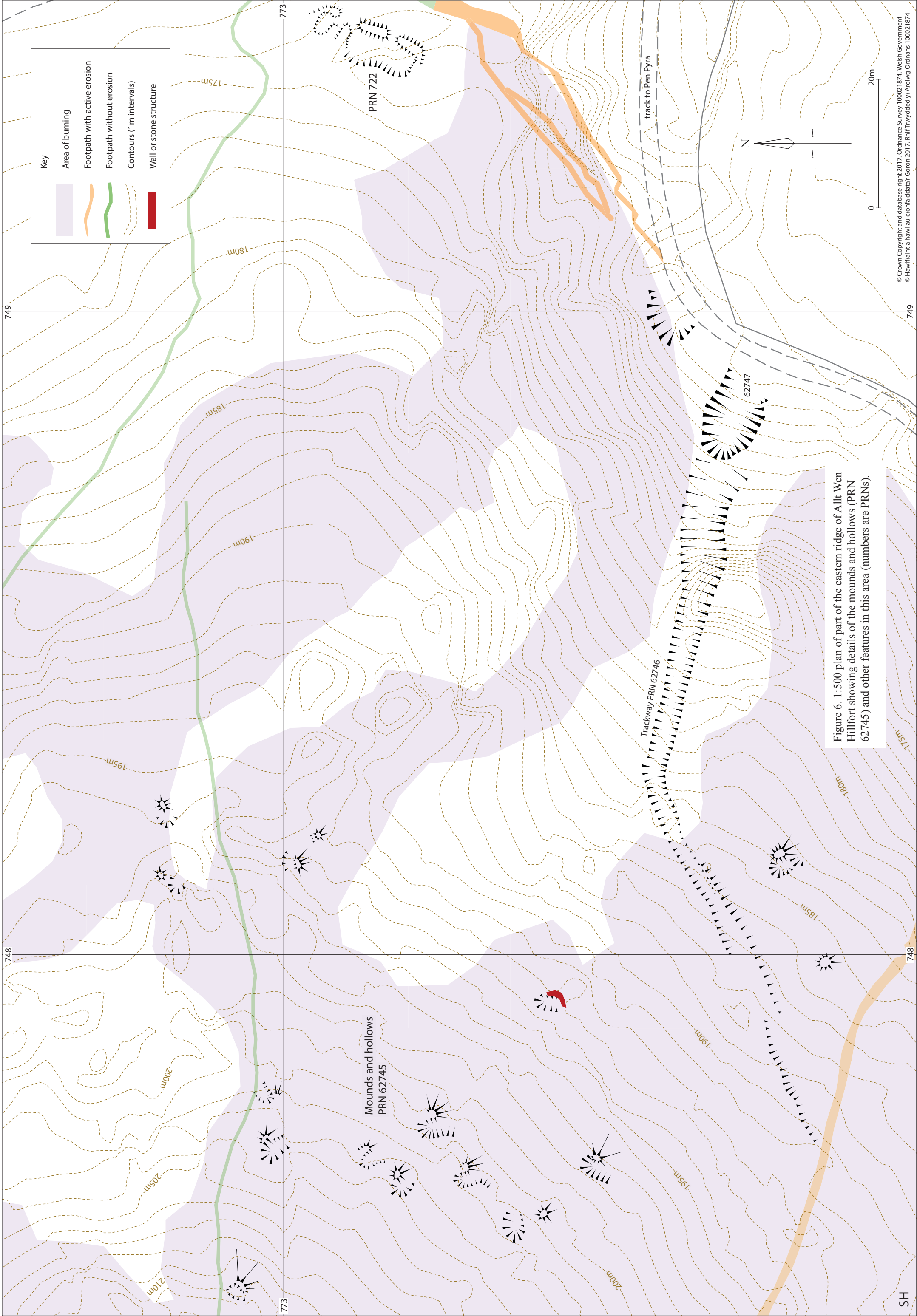


Figure 6. 1:500 plan of part of the eastern ridge of Allt Wen Hillfort showing details of the mounds and hollows (PRN 62745) and other features in this area (numbers are PRNs).



Plate 12. The only section of outer facing stones more than a single course high (on northern rampart, viewed from the north)



Plate 13. Section of northern rampart with both inner and outer facing stones and a possible middle line



Plate 14. View along western rampart from south-east

Plate 15. Looking up at the northern end of the eastern rampart ending in possible entrance facing stones (in front of ranging rod), view from the north



Plate 16. Probable trackway to the entrance of the hillfort, view from the north-west



Plate 17. Stones probably forming inner facing to eastern end of northern rampart, but suggested as a “doubtful” guardhouse, view from the west



Plate 18. Counter-scarp bank along northern side of fort

is also a single rock that seems to have been deliberately set on edge marking the side of the track. At its base this track leads to a somewhat more level area and fairly gentle slopes lead either down to where there is currently a small pond or up slightly to the eastern ridge. However there is no sign of a continuation of the track in either of these directions, although this area had avoided the burning and was still heavily vegetated.

The rock outcrop in the north-eastern corner of the fort is largely devoid of traces of rampart. The eastern end of the northern rampart is probably marked by a line of three stones, two carefully laid adjacent to each other and the third about 0.7m from them (plate 17). The RCAHMW suggest “doubtful traces of a guardhouse in the angle N. of the passage” (RCAHMW 1956, 86) and it is probably these stones that are referred to. They make more sense as part of the inner face of the rampart, the stones of which can be seen slumping down the slope to the north. This does suggest a slight curve to the north at the very end of the northern rampart which could possibly have accommodated a small guardhouse on an area of level ground.

Around the northern side of the fort at some distance down the hill slope from the foot of the rampart is a level shelf. In places the outer edge of this seems to be defined by a very low counter-scarp bank. This is a subtle feature and depends on the light and the angle to make it appear as a distinct bank, but it does seem to be a real feature (plate 18). It seems probable that the shelf is actually the in-filled remains of a ditch, though excavation would be needed to prove this. The shelf is quite flat and is not obviously an in-filled ditch, although the small amount of material in the counterscarp bank does suggest at least a shallow ditch. The RCAHMW interpreted this feature as a ditch, but looked at closely on the ground this interpretation is not certain. The RCAHMW also suggests a quarry hollow along the inside of the rampart. Along most of the inside of the rampart there is a narrow levelled area and this could be the remains of a quarry hollow but again it is flat rather than hollowed. This may represent levelled ground to build the rampart on rather than a quarry as such, although in that case it is unclear where the material for the rampart came from. Relatively small excavation trenches would enable the presence, depth and character of a quarry hollow or outer ditch to be confirmed with relatively little effort.

There were a small number of features identified inside the hillfort, the descriptions of which are included below. This includes one possible hut circle (PRN 62738), which now fully exposed looks less convincing and is probably a natural hollow or perhaps the end of a quarry hollow for the rampart. There is also a slight platform (PRN 62742) that could have supported a small structure but this is rectangular rather than circular and there is no evidence that it is directly related to the hillfort. It would therefore appear that there were no huts or roundhouses within the area of the fort.



Plate 19. Hollow within hillfort suggested as being a hut circle (PRN 62738) but this seems unlikely. Stones of boundary PRN 62740 on the foreground with fence post. View from E

3.2. Features within the hillfort

PRN 62738 Possible hut circle, Allt Wen

Grid reference: SH7451477365

Period: Iron Age or natural

Figure 5, plate 19

A semi-circular hollow measuring 6.2m by 4.5m located up against the inside of the northern rampart of Allt Wen hillfort. The hollow is up to 0.3m deep and opens towards the west. There is no trace of a stone wall associated with this hollow. The soil is very thin here so it is very unlikely that the foundations of a wall are buried, giving very little evidence to demonstrate that this is the remains of a roundhouse. There is a short section of walling on the lip of the hollow but this is straight and is on exactly the same alignment as the wall/fence (PRN 62740) that cut right across the hill. This piece of walling is therefore not part of a roundhouse wall. It seems probable that the hollow is of natural origin, made to appear more artificial by the presence of the rampart and late wall, or that it is the end of a quarry hollow for the rampart.

PRN 62739 Stone graffiti, Allt Wen

Grid reference: SH7452377352

Period: Post Medieval

Figure 5, plates 20 and 21

Medium sized stones laid out on a flat area inside the Allt Wen hillfort to form two letters, probably "TW". The letters are about 1.5m high. These are someone's initials marked out here when the area was not covered in heather, as it has been for many years. Other scatters and rough lines of stones in the same area suggest that there was a tradition of writing initials in stones here and that there were originally several of these but none of the others are now recognisable. The initials were entirely obscured by heather until a fire in June 2016 burnt off all the vegetation on the hill.



Plate 20. Initials (PRN 62739) marked out in stone inside the hillfort, view from SW



Plate 21. Section of orthomosaic of hillfort showing stone initials and other scatters of stone in the area that may have also formed letters

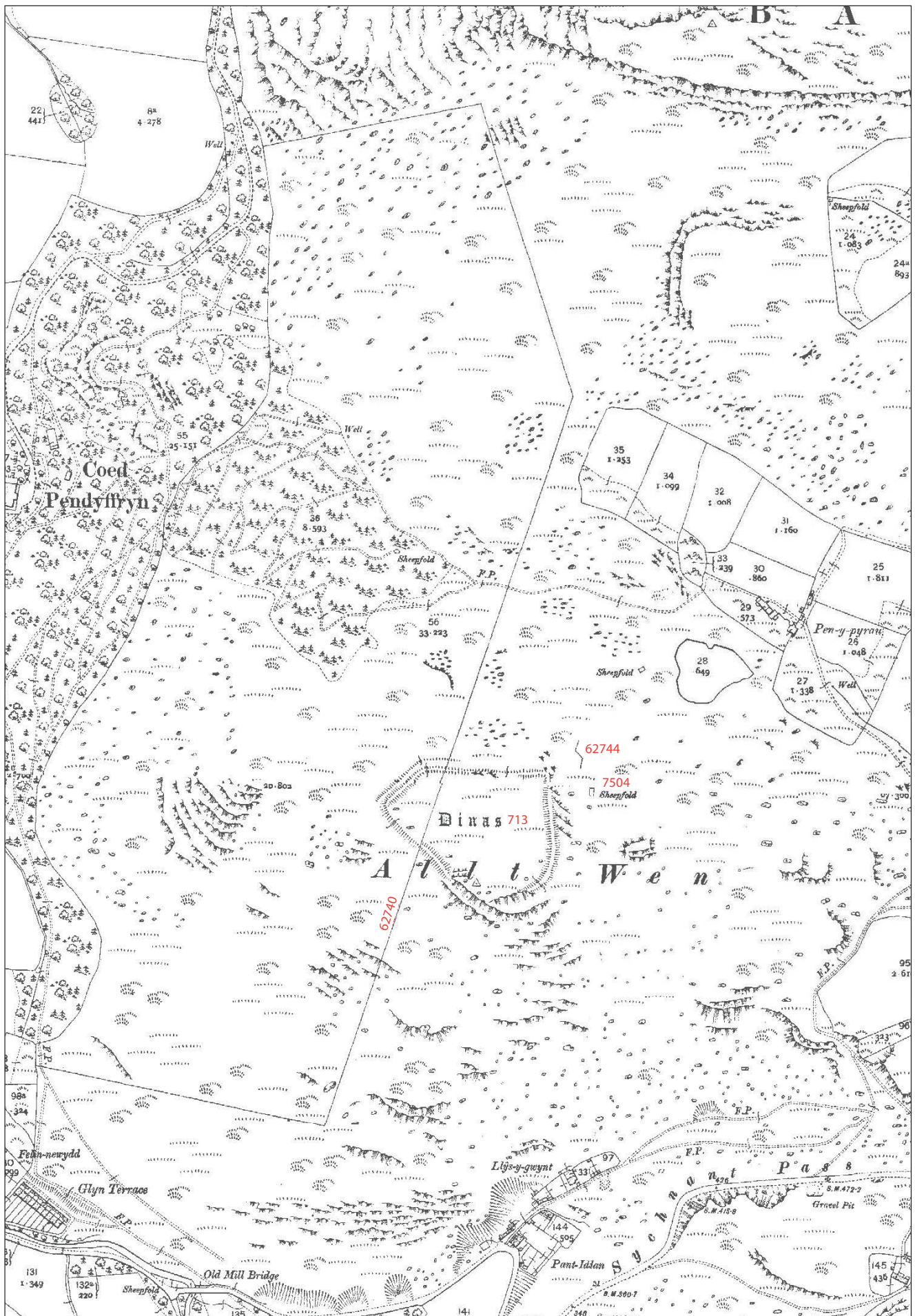


Figure 7. 3rd edition 25 inch County Series Ordnance Survey map, part of Caernarvonshire sheets IV.11 and IV.15 (1913). (PRNs of features shown on the map are marked in red).

PRN 62740 Boundary across Allt Wen

Grid reference: SH7448377262

Period: Post Medieval

Figures 3, 4 and 5, plate 22

A remarkably straight former boundary running across Allt Wen. It is particularly visible on the south-western side of the hill where remains of iron fence posts can be seen marking the line and towards the top of the hill footings of a wall can be seen. The wall footings are about 0.5m wide and only survive as a single course but it appears that the boundary might originally have been a wall, replaced by a fence. Alternatively it might have been a wall on the more level areas and a fence on the steeper slopes. There is very little trace of the boundary where it crossed the flat plateau just below the summit, except for a footpath largely following the line of the boundary. Also, near the northern side of the fort, adjacent to hollow PRN 62738, are the remains of wall footings surviving for about 4m, with pieces of iron fencing. Nothing of the boundary survives down the northern side of the hill except for very occasional displaced remains of iron fence posts. However the footpath on this side follows the line of the boundary almost exactly.

The boundary is shown on the 25 inch OS maps (figure 7). It ran from just north of Glyn Terrace east-south-east up the hill to the top of the southern ridge of Allt Wen where it turned north-east and continued in an absolutely straight line for 700m right across Allt Wen and the hillfort. It turned north-west near Pen Pyra then west back down to the foot of the hill. This seems to have enclosed the part of the hill belonging to Pendyffryn.



Plate 22. Remains of boundary (PRN 62740) running SW down from hillfort, view from NE

PRN 62741 Mound on Allt Wen



Plate 23. Mound (PRN 62741) inside hillfort, view from E

Grid reference: SH745477729

Period: Post Medieval

Figure 5, plate 23

An elongated, rather irregular oval mound measuring c.10m by 5m and aligned east-west roughly along the contours. The downhill (northern) side of the mound is 1.3m high and the uphill (southern) side is c.0.2m high. Immediately to the south is a very slight hollow running along the base of the mound. This is similar to mounds and hollows found lower down the hill (PRN 62745) but the mound is larger with only a minimal hollow. Its function is unknown.

PRN 62742 Platform on Allt Wen

Grid reference: SH7459477309

Period: Unknown

Figure 5, plate 24

A level, sub-rectangular platform measuring about 6.8m by 3m aligned north-west to south-east running along the contours of the hill slope inside the Allt Wen hillfort. It is terraced into the hill slope so that the upslope side is about 0.8m high, but this slopes fairly gradually and the feature is not well-defined. This is a fairly slight and subtle feature but does provide a level platform within the area of the hillfort that would be just large enough for a small building. The platform can only be seen now (March 2017) because of the heather having been burnt off. When the vegetation grows back this feature will be impossible to find.



Plate 24. Slight platform (PRN 62742) inside the hillfort, view from the SW

3.3. Other features

PRN 722 Long Huts, Remains of, E of Allt Wen

Grid reference: SH7494277286

Period: Medieval

Figure 6, plate 25

A rectangular building set with the long side into the hill and orientated north-east to south-west along the contours of the hill. The interior measures about 10m by 3.5m. There is an entrance towards the middle of the south-eastern side but also a gap in the north-eastern corner, which is possibly not original. No wall can be seen on the north-western side and this appears as a rather irregular slope cut into the hill, about 1m high. The south-eastern wall is up to 0.7m high. The walls are very overgrown with bilberry and bracken so details could not be seen but some facing stones are just visible through the vegetation. There is a large boulder in the north-eastern part of the interior which presumably fell in after abandonment as the building would be unusable with it there.

Immediately adjacent on the north-eastern side are the remains of a smaller structure with an interior measuring about 3.2m by 1.8m. This appears more oval than rectangular but is so overgrown that its real shape is hard to identify. The walls survive up to 0.5m high and there is an entrance in the southern side immediately next to the long hut.

This certainly seems to be a long hut with adjacent outbuilding. It is not positioned in the classic medieval manner with the short end cut into the slope, so it may be later medieval. There is no evidence to suggest that it is early medieval in date as it was previously classified in the HER.

This was surveyed with a GPS on 01/02/2017 but the survey is very rough as the site is so over grown and it avoided the fire that cleared much of the rest of the hill. A holly tree and a small rowan are growing on the long hut walls, which could threaten their stability in the long term.



Plate 25. Long hut
PRN 722 rom SE with
ranging rod next to
entrance

PRN 727 Burnt Mound, NE of Allt Wen

Grid reference: SH74807780

Period: Bronze Age

Figure 4, plate 26

This crescent-shaped mound of burnt stone is located in a small pond and has a causeway running south from it. The causeway must have been added after the pond had formed to allow access to the mound and is therefore clearly not an original feature and is probably recent. The orthomosaic created from aerial photographs for project G2490 revealed the mound and causeway and allowed them to be added to a plan of the area. However when the site was visited on the ground (01/03/2017) the water level in the pond was so high that only the top of the mound was visible and it could not be inspected on the ground.



Plate 26. Photograph
of burnt mound (PRN
727) in the pond near
Pen Pyra Farm taken by
George Smith of GAT on
04/10/2004 (from Further
Information File)

PRN 6603 Ridge and Furrow, Nr. Pen Sychnant

Grid reference: SH74657735

Period: Medieval?

Figures 2 and 3, plate 27

The ridge and furrow east of Pen Pyra was reported to the HER by Richard Kelly in August 1996 when it was described as “really well-developed ridge and furrow cultivation around SH750775 SE of Pen-pyra Farm near Sychnant pass” (letter in FI file). No other information was given and it does not seem to have been inspected since. It is assumed that the area was fairly clear in 1996 but most is now overgrown with gorse and heather. However when looking at the area for G2490 it was noticed that some ridge and furrow could be seen on aerial photographs. The opportunity was taken to trace the furrows that could be seen where gorse and heather were sparse when the photographs were taken. Some ridges are also visible in the short grass next to the track to Pen Pyra. This shows small groups of ridge and furrow mainly to the east of Pen Pyra with a few to the south. The ridges run in a variety of different directions and seem to represent very small fields or unenclosed furlongs. This may have been from a recent period of agricultural expansion such as the Napoleonic Wars but the curve of most of the ridges suggests traditional medieval ploughing techniques. The ridges visible near the track are variable in width between 2m and 4m but are no more than 0.1m high.



Plate 27. Ridge and furrow next to track to Pen Pyra (part of PRN 6603), view from the NW

PRN 7504 Sheepfold, Allt Wen

Grid reference: SH7407577055

Period: Post Medieval

Figure 5, plate 28

A rectangular stone-built structure measuring about 6m by 4.3m internally and aligned almost exactly north-south. The walls are well-built and about 0.6m wide and survive to up to 0.5m high. A rough wall runs from the north-west corner to enclose a small area. This wall is very collapsed and confused. The structure is heavily overgrown



Plate 28. Largely overgrown sheepfold (PRN 7504) with curving wall in foreground, view from N

with bilberry and details are difficult to identify. Only the curving wall and the northern end of the structure were burnt in the fire, leaving most obscured by vegetation.

The rectangular structure, but not the curving wall, is shown on the 25 inch OS maps from 1889 onwards and is labelled as a sheepfold (figure 7). There is nothing to indicate that this was ever anything but a post medieval sheepfold even though it has previously been recorded as a deserted medieval settlement.

PRN 21051 Possible quarry, Llys Gwynt

Grid reference: SH7448077076

Period: Post Medieval

Figure 3, plate 29

The HER has not previously had a description of this site, only a reference to SNP Industrial Record, No.772704. This seems to have been identified from aerial photographs as a quarry. The original grid reference given is SH745771 and this seems most likely to refer to the crags at the current grid reference. Although these crags do curve round to resemble a quarry, close inspection failed to identify any firm evidence that it had been a quarry. Particularly it is in an inaccessible position and no trace of any access routes or inclines were found, so it seems highly unlikely that stone was removed from here. The face of the crags appeared quite natural and no drill holes were visible.



Plate 29. Crag previously suspected of being a quarry (PRN 21051) but appears natural, view from S

PRN 62743 Small shelter, Allt Wen

Grid reference: SH7447177283

Period: Post Medieval

Figure 5, plate 30

A small roughly oval structure measuring 2.8m by 2.2m. It is formed of a single line of stones that does not seem to have been the base of a wall so it is hard to see this as a shelter or fold. There is a gap in the south-western side and it is aligned north-east to south-west sloping down the hill, not in any way terraced into the slope. This feature is located on a slightly flatter part of the western side of Allt Wen. This would normally have been impossible to see when the area was covered in heather but has been clearly visible since the hill was burnt in June 2016.



Plate 30. Small shelter or arrangement of stones (PRN 62743) with view over Dwygyfylchi, view from NE

PRN 62744 Sheepfold and walling, east of Allt Wen

Grid reference: SH7463477388

Period: Post Medieval

Figure 5, plates 31 and 32

A small, much collapsed fold to the north of PRN 7504. This small sub-circular structure has been built at the right angled junction of two short sections of denuded walling. The structure measures about 3.5m by 2.8m internally and 5.9m by 5.0m externally but its precise dimensions are difficult to determine because there is a large amount of collapsed stone both inside and outside it. The walls are up to 0.5m high and there is possibly an entrance in the western side but this is far from certain. The wall running to the north-east from the fold is about 4.5m long, whereas that running to the south-east is about 11.5m long and is better preserved, standing to up to 0.5m high.

The 1889 and 1913 25 inch OS maps, but for some reason not the 1900 map, show a short zigzag wall in this location but do not indicate the fold (figure 7). The zigzag wall is almost certainly a shelter wall for sheep and the fold must have been added at some time.



Plate 31. Wall leading from small sheepfold (PRN 62744) with fold in background, view from SE

Plate 32. Small collapsed sheepfold (PRN 62744) from SW



PRN 62745 Hollows and mounds on the lower slopes of Allt Wen

Grid reference: SH74777727 C

Period: Post Medieval

Figure 6, plates 33 to 35

A group of at least 15 small mounds next to slight hollows are scattered over the lower part of the eastern slope of Allt Wen. The mounds measure no more than about 6m by 3m and are rarely over 0.3m high (although one is about 0.7m high). The hollows are a similar size and about 0.3m deep. The mounds are formed of small loose stones and occasional larger stones clearly dug from the hollows and cast over the downhill side. The hollows open out to the downhill side. In one case a mound was found without an obvious adjacent hollow and in another the hollow and the mound were about 2m apart, when in the other cases they are immediately adjacent. One mound has a rough wall constructed on top (plate 35), little more than a linear heap of stones from the hollow. This may have been to convert the hollow into a rough shelter or it may just be that more larger stones than usual were extracted from this hollow and placed on top of the mound.

Most of the mounds are scattered over the south facing slope of the ridge but a few were found on the top of the ridge and some could be under vegetation on the northern side of the ridge. There are other very slight hollows and scatters of stone that may be other more eroded mounds and hollows but these were not surveyed as they were



Plate 33. Mound and hollow
(part of PRN 62745) from
c.SH74765 77247, view
from SW



Plate 34. Mound and hollow
(part of PRN 62745) from
c.SH74757 77256, view
from S



Plate 35. Mound and
hollow with rough wall
(part of PRN 62745) from
c.SH74788 77258, view
from W

too uncertain.

There was no trace of mineral oxides in the spoil mounds to hint at what might have been extracted. The stone is the usual rhyolite of the area and not the more mineral-rich mudstone that is present in occasional bands. The size of the mounds shows that the hollows were not dug much deeper than they appear at present. All the mounds and hollows are very similar in size and form so they must have been created by the same activity, but their function is not at all clear.

These features have previously been entirely concealed by heather and are only visible because of the fire that cleared the vegetation from most of the hill in June 2016.

If the hollows were to extract something the trackway (PRN 62746) running across the slope below them may have been used to remove this material. However there are no paths linking the hollows to the track way or other reasons to connect these features.

The date of the hollows and mounds is not known but it is assumed that they are post medieval until further evidence is found.



Plate 36. Trackway (PRN 62746) onto eastern slope of Allt Wen, from NW

PRN 62746 Trackway, lower slopes of Allt Wen
Grid reference: SH7484877238

Period: Post Medieval

Figure 6, plate 36

The earthwork remains of a trackway defined by a linear hollow running from SH74876 77232, where it is cut by a borrow pit (PRN 62747), to SH 74770 77216, where it ends by the main footpath up Allt Wen. It starts running straight up hill from south-east to north-west and is up to 1m deep in the lower parts. It becomes shallower going up the slope and is about 0.5m deep where it turns towards the south-west and runs almost along the contours. Here it becomes slighter and is seen as a slight ledge in the hill slope. At the lower end the hollow is up to 7m wide but the width of the track itself seems to have been no more than 1.5m.

This might be an earlier footpath up Allt Wen but the lack of zigzagging on the lower steeper section and the fact that it does not seem to be orientated towards the hill top suggests otherwise. The western end is not close to any other feature and there is no evidence of what it might have led from. The lower steep section is so direct that it resembles an incline. If there was any peat on the hill it might be considered to be for removing cut peats but there is no evidence that there was ever any depth of peat anywhere on Allt Wen. There is a group of mounds and hollows (PRN 62745) north-west and uphill from the track, with two downhill. It is possible that the track was related to these but their function is not known.



Plate 37. Borrow pit (PRN 62747), from S

PRN 62747 Borrow pit, lower slopes of Allt Wen

Grid reference: SH7488477230

Period: Post Medieval

Figure 6, plate 37

Small quarry or borrow pit measuring c.15m by 9m. Aligned north-west to south-east immediately adjacent to the track to Pen Pyra Farm. The north-western side dug into the hill is about 4m high and it opens on to the track. Probably a borrow pit for making the track. There is another smaller borrow pit 9m to the north-east at SH 74899 77240.

PRN 62748 Hollow, east of Allt Wen

Grid reference: SH7471477338

Period: Post Medieval

Figure 4

A small sub-circular hollow dug into the hill slope and opening out downhill to the north-west. It measures 4.6m by 3.3m and is up to 1.2m deep on the uphill side. This may be related to the group of hollows and mounds on the other side of the ridge (PRN 62745) but there was no obvious mound associated with this hollow.

PRN 62749 Hollow above Llys Gwynt

Grid reference: SH7451277019

Period: Post Medieval

Figure 3, plate 38



Plate 38. Hollow (PRN 62749) above Llys Gwynt, view from WNW

A large oval hollow, clearly man-made, aligned north-west to south-east. It measures about 10m by 6m and is partly dug into the hill slope with the south-eastern side defined largely by a bank of spoil. The uphill, north-western end is about 3m deep and the south-eastern bank is about 0.5m high. This feature is dug into quite a steep slope on the southern ridge coming down from Allt Wen. It is at c.140m OD and almost directly above Llys Gwynt but the ground below is very steep and there is no obvious access route to the hollow from the valley below. Its function is unknown.

PRN 62801 Cave above Llys Gwynt

Grid reference: SH7453076983

Period: Unknown

Figure 3, plates 39 and 40

An opening is visible in the crag above Llys Gwynt. Local tradition related that this was the entrance to a Roman mine but according to a pamphlet printed in 1896 (Paget 1896) local quarrymen visiting the feature in 1893 considered it to be a natural cave. Lady Paget, who wrote the pamphlet, had her friends investigate the cave in October 1896 and they described an extensive cave with three chambers. The first chamber was 76 yards long with a smaller chamber beyond it 44 yards long, 5 ft wide and 7 ft high. Beyond that was a built wall and then another cave measuring 60ft long, 5ft 4 inches wide and 6ft 9 inches high. The walling suggests that the caves were used by people but the investigators were certain that they were natural caves and not mines.



Plate 39. Crag above Llys Gwynt
with at least two caves

Davies (1978) notes that:-

Three, possibly four, tunnel entrances can be seen on the south-western slope of the Alltwen mountain; they can be seen as one starts to ascend the Pass. They probably date before the coming of S.D. Darbshire [early 1850s], and were probably made in search of copper in the band of black soft shale that dips sharply into the mountain and, owing to its comparative softness, accounts for a deep dent in its profile. The late William Hughes, Isfryn, told me that he could remember a mine shaft at the foot of this shale band — by his first home Llys-gwynt.

He suggests that Lady Paget was incorrect in assuming that these were natural caves and that these were mines or at least exploratory tunnels.

The area was inspected on 12/03/2017 but the opening is some distance up the face of the crag and an experienced team with climbing equipment would be needed to explore the site safely. Even the ascent up the scree to the foot of the crag was not considered safe for lone working. The site was therefore not closely inspected. Two openings can be seen in the crag; a smaller one to the south-western end of the crag and a larger one in the middle of the crag. The latter is clearly the one that Lady Paget had investigated and photographed. Although the Geology of

Britain Viewer shows a band of mudstone near this location the openings are clearly in the rhyolite crag, and while there may be mine shafts in the mudstone, which were not located, the openings in the crag do not seem to be targeting the mudstone. The inaccessibility of the openings, especially the main one, and the lack of spoil or any traces of access routes, strongly support Lady Paget's contention that these are natural caves. The possibility that they were used by people at an unknown period, possibly of some antiquity, does make them worth investigation if the opportunity arose.

Plate 40. Close-up of crag with both caves visible



Air crash site

The National Monument Record (NMR) lists the site of an air crash in 1941 when a trainee pilot was killed (NPRN 295456) (see figure 2 for location). This crash is also included on the NMR under NPRN 507055 with a different and clearly erroneous grid reference. Terence Hill (Hill 1998) has investigated this crash and claims to have found the crash site at SH755769 on the small hill opposite the Sychnant Pass Hotel (outside the current survey area). This location seems more likely than the southern slope of Allt Wen as the plane was flying from the east and was likely to hit on the eastern side of the pass. As the NMR grid reference seemed unlikely to be the precise location of the crash and the screes at that location are loose, steep and dangerous this area was not searched for crash wreckage.

4. Condition, Threats and Recommendations

The vegetation has been burnt off almost the entire area of the hillfort, with just small patches of grass left (figure 5). This is particularly significant on the rampart where the stones forming the rampart are covered by barely 2cm of charred soil at best, with many areas entirely exposed. There is no significant evidence of water erosion in these exposed areas but if they remain exposed it seems highly likely that heavy rains would create gullies through the surviving material. Especially on the steeper slopes (plate 14) facing stones are likely to become loose and be lost, meaning that the slight hints of the location of the rampart that survive today will have gone. However there is hope that vegetation will return fairly rapidly. On the lower, warmer slopes, even at the start of March, new gorse shoots could be seen emerging. It seems likely that the heather inside the fort will return, although it has been quite intensely burnt. Where soil is particularly thin or almost non-existent on parts of the rampart there must be some question of roots of existing plants surviving but eventually seeds may blow in and cause recolonization. On some of the steeper natural scree slopes there must be some significant doubt about the previous heather cover returning, although this may give opportunities to some rarer species, but natural re-vegetation across the hillfort seems likely.

It might be worth considering encouraging re-vegetation by reseedling the ramparts. However this would have to be done with expert advice and an appropriate seed mix as the introduction of invasive and inappropriate species might protect the archaeology but could be disastrous for the natural habitat.

The most significant erosion across the site is on the footpaths and this existed before the fire. The loss of vegetation could potentially accelerate some of this erosion but no significant examples of that were seen. However the winter of 2016/2017 has not been notable for very heavy rains and another winter might bring very different results.

The worst erosion caused by footpaths is on the main access route through the eastern rampart (plates 41 and 42). The route into the fort has braided and there are four active access points into the fort with two older ones that are not currently active. This spreads the extent of the damage. Where the paths cross the rampart they have eroded through the full depth of the rampart and into the natural deposits below. In the long term these paths seem to be a significant threat to the best preserved eastern rampart. It would seem worthwhile carrying out remedial work on this side. If a built path or steps were constructed to one gap, which was reinforced to minimise further erosion, and the other gaps filled in, further erosion might be minimised or even avoided entirely. However this would be an expensive solution and Allt Wen does not receive a very large number of visitors, although it is quite a popular dog walking spot for locals.

Although there is some erosion on the paths inside the hillfort and all vegetation had been worn away on some of the rampart tops prior to the fire this does not generally seem to be causing serious damage. The exception is a short section of path up part of the western rampart which is causing some significant erosion in to the body of the rampart.

It is therefore recommended that reseedling of the ramparts is considered as well as the possibility of creating a built pathway into the hillfort on the eastern side to reduce long term erosion on the paths here. The site should also be monitored to ensure that vegetation is returning and that no significant erosion does develop.

This site has been recommended for scheduling (Smith 2005) and it is again recommended that this be undertaken. All other hillforts in the area are scheduled and, although this is simpler in plan than most, it is important as a representative of the variety of hillfort form. The site has perhaps been seen as a minor site enclosed by little more than a low bank. However when the wall was upstanding around the hill top, faced with pale stone, it would have been impressive, and there is little reason to assume that this site was of low or minor status. Even where the rampart is largely eroded away the survival of facing stones indicates the scale of the rampart and this survey demonstrates that the preservation of the site is better than perhaps generally realised.



Plate 41. Pathway eroded through eastern rampart

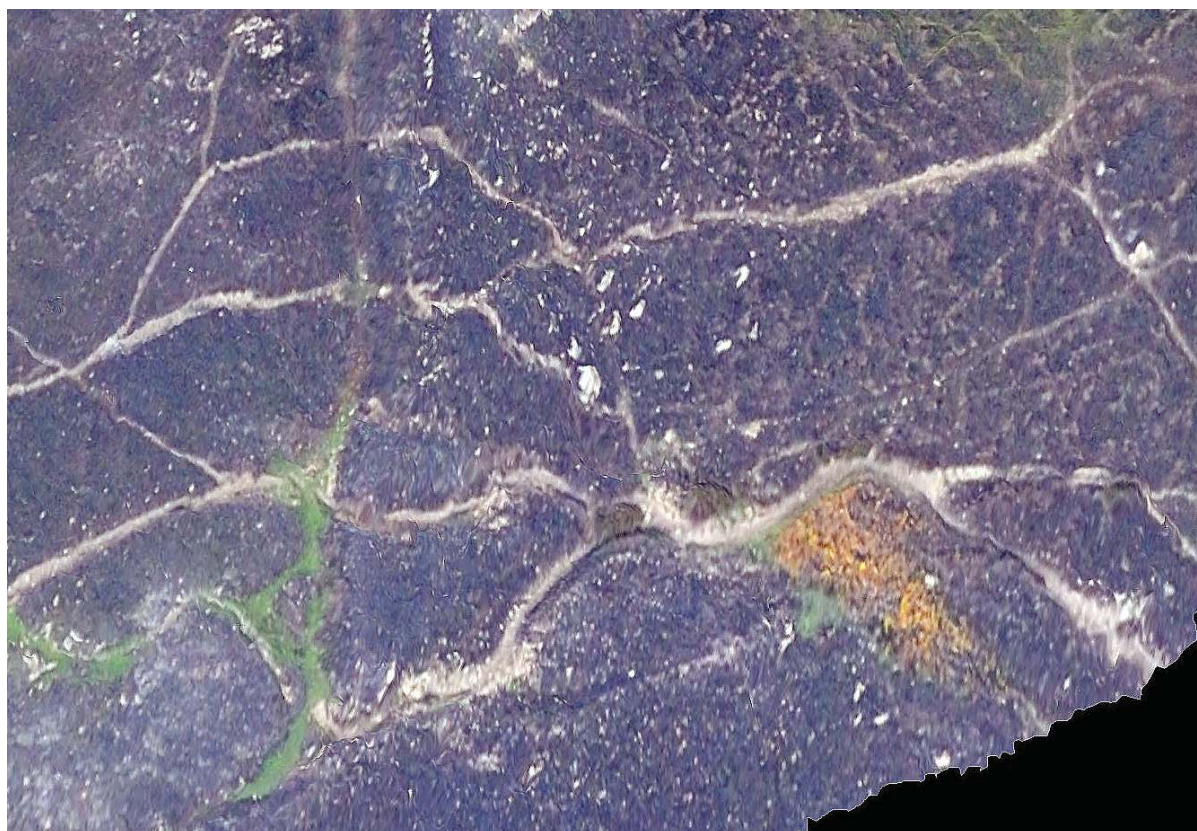


Plate 42. Section of orthomosaic of hillfort showing the footpath braiding and passing through the eastern rampart

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6. Acknowledgements

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Accessed 06/03/2017

Appendix I: HER and NMR Sites around Allt Wen

NB. Period given in this table is that included in the HER before this project. Some of the period descriptions have been improved for this project.

PRN	NPRN	Site Name	Existing HER or NMR Description	Period	NGR
	637	Glan-y-Coed	1882, late Victorian house with towered entrance.	Post Medieval	SH741773
713	300953	Dinas Allt Wen Hillfort, Above Dwygyfylchi	<p>Dinas Allt Wen (fig 86), a small hill-fort, pentagonal in plan, enclosed by a single rampart about 8ft thick of roughly coursed dry masonry. On the N there are traces of an outer ditch 15ft wide and of an inner quarry-trench, and here the rampart is best preserved, standing in places more than 3ft high. The entrance is 10ft wide, at the NE corner. The adjacent rampart being thickened with doubtful traces of a guard house in the angle N of the passage. One possible hut site occurs against the N rampart. Condition: poor, much ruined. <1> SH74557733. Dinas Allt Wen. [lb]. O. S. 6" 1964. <2></p> <p>Dinas Allt Wen is much as described by the RCAHM. The southern corner of the hill fort is a natural rock outcrop. Any trace of a hut circle against the northern rampart has been destroyed and there is no indication of a guardhouse in the angle north of the entrance passage. Published survey (25") revised. <3></p> <p>A small hillfort on a prominent hill, adjoining the hill with the larger fort of Caer Seion. Defended by a single substantial stone bank reinforced by a ditch on the north side. A single simple entrance approached via a winding track from a small valley on the north-east (coastal) side. A remote and seemingly impractical site with traces of only one round hut within. (Smith, 2005)</p> <p>The ramparts are relatively small but neatly made and better preserved over much of the circuit than previous descriptions record. The ditch is also well preserved and considerably outside the rampart because of the steep slope. The interior is largely intact because visitors walk on and around the ramparts. However, despite the interior being easily visible with an even cover of heather there are no signs of hut platforms. The one hut platform described by the RCHM at the N is still visible but it may be just a chance terrace where there is a natural ridge of rock. There are several areas of trample damage (issues 1-7). (Smith, 2005)</p>	Roman	SH74557733
722	303099	Long Huts, Remains of, E of Allt Wen	<p>Long hut, 55ft x 13ft. Orientated NE-SW, cross wall 8ft thick, 8ft from NE end, on level ground 600ft. Above OD. Entrance in SE side of larger room. Ground to NW and NE shows extensive traces of ploughing, probably medieval. Condition: ruined and overgrown. (RCAHMW, 1956)</p> <p>SH74947729. A long hut 13m x 5m. The NW (long) side is recessed into the hillside. Walls on the other sides are up to 1m across and 0.5m high. There is an entrance in the SE of similar construction. Probably an annexe. Surveyed at 1:2500. <2></p>	Early Medieval	SH74957729

PRN	NPRN	Site Name	Existing HER or NMR Description	Period	NGR
723		Long Hut, NE of Allt Wen	Long hut, 30ft x 15ft. Orientated NW-SE. Condition: ruined and overgrown. (RCAHMMW, 1956)	Unknown	SH74707756
727	303100	Burnt Mound, NE of Allt Wen	Along hut at SH74707756, 11m x 5m with rubble walls 0.2m high, except on the SW where it is a recessed into the hillside. Condition: poor. <2> Mound of burnt stone in a shallow pool at 600ft above OD. A low crescentic mound, 30ft by 20ft, open to the NW. The distance between the horns of the crescent is about 14ft. Condition: grass-grown. (RCAHMMW, 1956) Possibly Bronze Age, for type site see SS09NW6. <2> The mound at SH74757744 is 0.4m high and as described. Surveyed at 1:2500. <3> Map/illustration. <4> A crescentic-shaped small mound is visible as an island in the lake, approached via a possible modern causeway. (Smith, 2004)	Bronze Age	SH74757744
2825		Stone Ring, W of Plas Dolydd	Small stone ring, 4ft in diameter. The wall is 2ft thick, of one course of large stones, with an entrance about 2ft wide on the NW. Marks of later, probably medieval, ploughing surround the site. Condition: fair. <1> SH 5057741. A small ring of stones, some 1.8m diameter. It is too small to constitute a hut circle, and has a 'cist like' appearance, although its original function is not apparent. Surveyed at 1:2500. <2>	Medieval	SH75057741
2855		Cairn Ring Conwy Moun-tain	SH 74997754: A cairn ring 12m in diameter and 0.5m high lies on a level shelf on a N facing slope. The edge of the cairn is grass covered with a few stones in the centre. Discovered during field investigation. Surveyed at 1:2500. <1>	Unknown	SH74997754
5476		Enclosures, Penmaen-bach		Unknown	SH74807780
6603		Ridge and Furrow, Nr. Pen Sychnant		Unknown	SH75007750
6891		Area of Ridge and Furrow, Penmaenbach	An area c.200m square of ridge and furrow, running across the hillslope. <1>	Unknown	SH75207740
7092		Flint Core, Findspot, Dwygyfylchi		Prehistoric	SH74407690

PRN	NPRN	Site Name	Existing HER or NMR Description	Period	NGR
7504		Deserted Rural Settlement, Allt Wen		Medieval	SH74657735
	16672	Pendyffryn Hall	Pendyffryn Hall is a substantial 2-storey, stuccoed building with hipped roofs. The house and surrounds have been in use as country club and caravan park since the early 20th century.	Post-Medieval	SH74127761
21051		Quarry, Llys Gwynt		Post-Medieval	SH74507710
56338		Old Mill Bridge, NW of Hen Felin, Glyn Woods	Site identified using early Ordnance Survey Maps (McGuinness, 2014)	Post-Medieval	SH7429576901
56343		Footbridge W of Pentrefelyn, Penmaenmawr	Site identified using early Ordnance Survey Maps (McGuinness, 2014)	Post-Medieval	SH7407577055
56344		House, Pentrefelyn	Site identified using early Ordnance Survey Maps (McGuinness, 2014)	Post-Medieval	SH7403077050
56363		Pond, S of Pensychnant	Site identified using early Ordnance Survey Maps (McGuinness, 2014)	Post-Medieval	SH7516776898
56364		Structure, NW of Pensychnant	Site identified using early Ordnance Survey Maps (McGuinness, 2014)	Post-Medieval	SH7510277104
56365		Structure, SE of Pensychnant	Site identified using early Ordnance Survey Maps (McGuinness, 2014)	Post-Medieval	SH7522176898
	86437	Pendyffryn, Garden, Dwygyfylchi	This garden is depicted on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey 25-inch map of Caernarvonshire IV, sheet 11 (1900). Its main elements on that map include bowls, woodland with vista paths, kitchen garden, woodland, greenhouse, terrace and walk. C.H. Nicholas, RCAHWM, 10th August 2006.	Post-Medieval	SH7416777586
	295456	Air Crash Site, Airspeed Oxford N4568	This Oxford was assigned to 11 Fighter Training School (FTS) at RAF Shawbury. The pilot under training, LAC T W Gurnell, was briefed to undertake local circuits of the airfield and practice landings, but became lost and crashed in the Sychnant Pass on 3 August 1941.	Modern	SH74657709



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