PREHISTORIC FUNERARY AND RITUAL SITES PROJECT: WEST CONWY AND NORTH GWYNEDD

SMRCE

GAT Project No. G1629

Report No. 449



Prepared for Cadw

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd

SURVEY OF PREHISTORIC FUNERARY AND RITUAL MONUMENTS IN WALES: WEST CONWY AND NORTH GWYNEDD

GAT Project No. G1629

Part 1: Survey report

Prepared for Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments

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Cover picture: 'Ruin with a view' Cairn PRN 12909, Nant Peris, looking towards Llyn Peris and Llyn Padarn

> Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd

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1. SUMMARY

This survey is part of a larger project encompassing the whole of Wales, being carried out by the four Welsh archaeological trusts with funding by Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments. It developed from an initial project carried out in the Upper Severn Valley by Dr Alex Gibson for the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (Gibson 1998). This distilled the results of extensive aerial photographic survey and research excavation work (Gibson 1999) in that area and demonstrated the existence of numerous, and sometimes complex, previously unknown early monuments. Apart from showing the value of these monuments it showed that many were at risk or without statutory protection.

2. INTRODUCTION

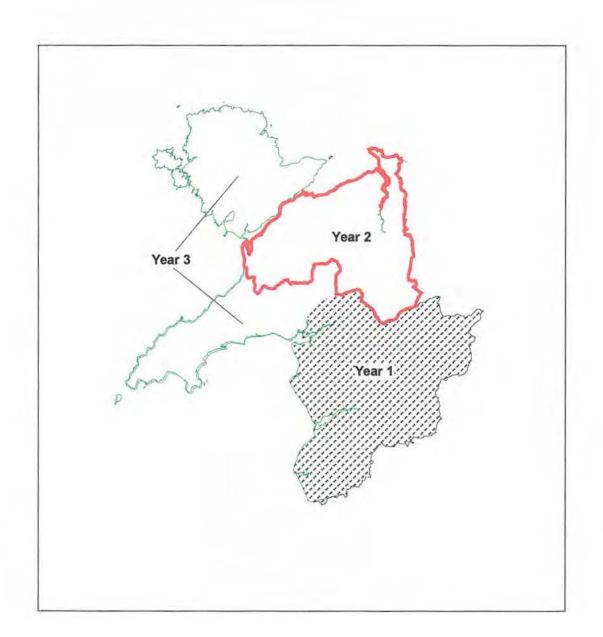
The survey continued from the previous year's work in Meirionnydd, forming the second year of a three year project covering the whole of north-west Wales. The survey was based on the existing Gwynedd Sites and Monuments Record and the project was divided into areas using the subdivisions of the area that formed the districts of Gwynedd before local government reorganisation in 1996. The area for the present year comprised west Conwy, formerly the Aberconwy district of Gwynedd (and pre-1974 part of Denbighshire) and north Gwynedd, formerly the Arfon district of Gwynedd (and pre-1974 part of Caernarfonshire).

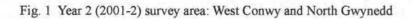
As in Meirionnydd, prehistoric funerary and ritual monuments form an important part of the archaeological remains. This area has a greater modern population and, with the main Snowdon massif. is more visited and its monuments are generally more accessible and better known than those of Meirionnydd. This is certainly the case with the Druid's Circle above Penmaenmawr, which lies by a well-trodden route - the North Wales Path, and others monuments in the vicinity should perhaps be known too, but are either difficult to see or to understand. There are others that are equally accessible and visible, such as Maen-y-bardd chambered tomb, above Roewen, Conwy, the Bwlch-y-ddeufaen standing stones, further up the valley and Llety'r Filiast chambered tomb on the Great Orme. The easy accessibility also has its impact on the presentation of the monuments, particularly with regard to the frequently visited summit cairns, the prehistoric nature of which is generally unappreciated and they are nearly all modified or damaged. However, there are many lesser monuments, mainly cairns, but including standing stones, that are unknown or neglected in terms of public visitor value. The best known are those with names attached, some of which probably derive from 18th century romantic ideas. such as the Druid's Circle, while others may have earlier origins, such as Carnedd y Saeson (Cairn of the Englishmen) or Barclodiad y Gawres (Apronful of the giantess) or Bedd y canwr (Grave of the hundred men). In the past these monuments were given greater attention than at present to judge by the fact that nearly half of all round barrows have been robbed.

The area contains large expanses of upland and relatively little lowland, with even less that is suitable for arable. There are many quite well-preserved monuments on the lower upland while the lowland is largely devoid of prehistoric funerary and ritual monuments. However, aerial photographic work identified the important Neolithic ritual centre at Llandegai, Bangor, and other features have been recognised from the air on the coastal plain near Llanfairfechan. It is reasonable to suppose that there may be numerous other features in the lowlands that are ploughed down and no longer visible, particularly in the fertile Conwy Valley. The lack of aerial photographic work means that the monuments comprising the present survey should not be taken to represent the whole picture.

Acknowledgements

The fieldwork was carried out by Jane Kenney, David Hopewell and the author. Data inputting was by Pamela Hughes and GIS distribution maps were produced by Kate Geary, all other figures by the author. Thanks must also go the numerous farmers and landowners who readily gave permission for access despite the background of the Foot and Mouth crisis, and particularly to the National Trust Property managers, Ilan Jones of the Ysbyty Estate and Elfyn Jones of the Carneddau Estate, for arranging access with their tenants.





3. PROJECT OBJECTIVES

In terms of the quality of the existing record Gwynedd is particularly fortunate because, unlike the majority of Wales, the whole area, apart from that formerly in Denbighshire, has been the subject of Royal Commission inventories of ancient and historic monuments, as well as more recent extensive work by Gresham and Kelly in Meirionnydd. However, the long period that has elapsed since the work of the Commission and the addition of new sites as a result of the Upland Surveys, for instance, suggest that the record is far from complete, that knowledge is uncertain about the present condition or survival of the recorded monuments and that a fresh survey is desirable. Surprisingly, despite the attention given to many of them by antiquaries or others intent on simply robbing, in the 19th century or earlier, there has been only minimal research excavation of these types of monument, partly because of the sheer inaccessibility of many of them and partly because the most significant of them, particularly the chambered tombs, are all protected, scheduled ancient monuments.

There are about 900 recorded prehistoric funerary and ritual monuments in Gwynedd. They form one of the largest classes of monument in the Gwynedd Sites and Monuments Record, comprising about 9% of the total. Quite a high proportion is protected, when compared to other major monument classes, with 22% of all examples being Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs): although the rate of protection is quite variable across the area if the former administrative district areas are compared (Table 1).

Project Year	Area	Area, ha	Total no.	No. SAMs	% SAMs
2000-1	Meirionnydd	152,000	320	49	16
2001-2	Arfon (North Gwynedd)	41,000	80	-8	10
	West Conwy	60,000	187	44	24
2002-3	Anglesey	72,000	123	48	39
	Dwyfor	62,000	128	29	23
	Total		826	178	22

Table 1 Totals of prehistoric funerary and ritual monuments in north-west Wales based on preliminary SMR selection

The high proportion of this class of monument protected can be compared, for instance, with the 11% of hut circle settlements that were SAMs prior to recent enhancement work, which raised it to about 22%. However, the public interest in, and the scientific value of, prehistoric burial and ritual monuments would suggest that all of them are valuable, so it is appropriate to increase the proportion protected. One of the main aims of the project is therefore to identify the most valuable monuments that are not, at present, protected.

4. METHODOLOGY

As with the previous year, the number of monuments involved has increased from that originally identified by query of the SMR, which was 267 (Table 1). This increased to 324 after a revised query and eventually to 352 after addition of a few new sites recognised during the survey and to the new numbering of several sites which had been incorporated in group numbers, as 'cairn fields'. However, after field visits, 77 of these have been identified as of other site type, e.g. clearance cairns, or as natural features and a few could not be located. The methodology has followed that used in the first year with only minor improvements. The desktop work comprised collection of all the background information needed about each site to allow informed visits, and included copies of the detailed SMR paper records for each site along with copies of other background information, particularly published descriptions and drawn records. 1:10000 scale maplets were copied for each site. Indexes were printed for each 1:10000 map square as well as 1:25000 maplets covering the same areas. on which the relevant sites were marked.

The project followed closely the approach and recording methods developed by CPAT and discussed at the monitoring meetings as a well as at a field visit day led by Frances Lynch. The work here and at the other Trusts has not led to any major revision of methods and these seem to have worked well. A project field recording form was designed, which incorporated the previously used recording fields and allowed easier input of the data. Another form was used to input information from the desktop stage, such as bibliographic references and artefactual records (Appendix 6).

A sketch plan was made of every site that warranted it, excluding, for instance, most simple mounds and standing stones and it is hoped that these will provide a more useful record to assess changes during future visits than just descriptions and photographs. A selection of these sketch plans are produced in this report to approximate scale, illustrating the field record of each monument type, but not intended to be of publication standard.

Photographs were taken of every worthwhile site in duplicate to vary the exposure and in tandem in colour negative and colour transparency using a common 1m scale. In all 25 colour negative and 25 colour transparency films were used, about 900 frames on each, i.e. about 450 separate shots. At least two photographs were taken of every site that was assessed as of Class A value (National Importance), Film and frame numbers were included on the field record form and entered on the database.

The survey recording form (Appendix 6) included all the fields used by CPAT plus the following, all of which have been entered into the database:

1. Slope class: Level, Slight, Low, Medium, Steep.

2. Site prospect: Prospect of the site itself, not the slope, i.e. 'viewshed', expressed as an arc of view, e.g. SW-N.

3. Reverse Prospect: The area/arc from which the site would be clearly prominent, e.g. from a plateau area towards a summit or false crest. Very often, but not always, this is simply the reverse of the site prospect. For instance, sites on a slope or in an enclosed position may have a good prospect but not be prominently visible from elsewhere. In practice this was difficult to apply and false crest positions gave the best corroboration of reverse prospect. However, it proved a very useful stimulus to thinking about the site location while actually on site, and when comparing viewpoints towards monuments from others.

4. Orientation: Some monument types have oriented structures, and the nearest geographical quadrant to NW/N/NE etc was recorded. Most such monuments must be recorded as to/from orientation, e.g. NW/SE, for instance Stone rows and Cists. The orientation of standing stones was recorded as the direction of the 'faces' because most are approximately flat slabs. Chambered tombs/long cairns have a general orientation but also have a 'head' end and so are recorded as oriented in a single direction.

5. Topography, general: A simple description of the geographical setting of the site e.g. upland hill slope, lowland plateau or coastal plain.

6. Vegetation, site.

7. Vegetation, area.

8. Land use, site.

9. Land use, area.

 Management text: a short comment on the threats, condition, deterioration, value and recommendations.

The monument type summaries list the Condition and Status, which were recorded as:

Condition:	Status:
A: Intact	AA: Scheduled ancient monument
B: Mostly intact	A: National value
C: Some damage	B: Regional value
D: Substantial damage	C: Local value
E: Destroyed	D: Minor value
N: Not applicable	E: Requiring further assessment
U: Unknown/not located/not	F: Not applicable (Not located/Other site type
visited/submerged/buried	etc).

This year the ownership details have been more satisfactorily incorporated in the database, with separate fields for owner, owner's address, tenant, and tenant's address.

Some additional recording was carried out as part of the desk-top work. This comprised the following fields and was entered onto the database as a separate table (Appendices 5-7):

1. Archaeological Records 1-3: Archaeological event, e.g. Accidental discovery, Antiquarian excavation, Description, Research excavation.

2. References 1-3: Harvard reference of any publication.

3. Artefacts recorded: Text description.

4. Artefact location (museum etc).

5. Name: Traditional name associated with monument.

6. Name translation/interpretation.

7. Name type: Descriptive, Topographic, Folklore.

All records have been entered onto the ACCESS database. This generally follows the design of the CPAT database in terms of fields and field format and it should be possible to compare and probably combine the data from different Trust areas to allow overall analysis. However, it should be sufficient to query each database separately and to combine the results.

The leaflet 'Introducing Prehistoric Burial and Ritual Sites' has been distributed to landowners wherever possible. However, relatively few have been required so far because the great majority of sites in this area are in open hill land with public rights of way, often common land, where it is often difficult to identify and confirm ownership or National Trust land for which permission has been sought through the land agents. The leaflet has also proved useful as general information to people other than actual landowners, such as neighbouring householders or interested passers-by. Where it has been necessary to seek permission to visit sites on enclosed land without public rights of way, permission has never been refused, although the occasional farmer who already has Scheduled Ancient Monuments on his land has been somewhat reluctant. In many cases farmers would welcome more background information about archaeological sites on their land. Quite a number of farms visited are now in the Trr Gofal scheme and this is leading to a new attitude: that archaeological sites may be of some benefit in providing some of the justification for the grant award, and often there are new access paths available that make site visits easier.

5. GEOGRAPHICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The area is dominated by the uplands of Eryri (Snowdonia) with the relatively smaller areas of the coastal strip and the Conwy Valley. However, the great range of altitude needs to be broken down further to understand land use. Three areas can be distinguished:

a. The central upland massif, above c. 250m OD, comprising mainly unimproved pasture on thin stony soils.

b. The upland margins, between about 100-200m OD, comprising mainly partly improved pasture on acidic, poorly drained soils.

c. The lowlands, below 100m OD, consisting of the coastal strip, the Great Orme and the Conwy Valley and comprising mainly improved pasture on better quality soils.

Although most of the area has been well recorded archaeologically because of the surveys of the RCAHMW (1956 and 1960), the roughness of the terrain and the obscuring nature of the blanket peat, heather and tussock grass means that particularly in the uplands margins there is still potential for further discoveries. There is a concentration of known sites in these upland margins but this must be partly a matter of selective preservation because many of the lowland sites may have been destroyed or obscured by modern agriculture, as exemplified by the multi-period complex of settlement, funerary and ceremonial features identified at Llandegai, Bangor, from the air and subsequently by excavation (Houlder 1967 and 1968).

The overall distribution of monuments in this area (Fig. 2) is very uneven with a particular concentration in the upland area south of Penmaenmawr, centred on the Druid's circle complex at Cefn Coch. The lack of accompanying settlement evidence raises serious questions and this area will be covered in greater detail in the general discussion after the survey results.

During the Neolithic the focus of settlement seems to have been on the lowlands and outside the present study area there are concentrations of Neolithic funerary monuments in Anglesey, paralleled by concentrations of surface finds of stone axes. The complex at Llandegai was likely to have been a regional focus, not necessarily a centre of settlement in its own right and it has been postulated that it may have had some relationship to control over products from the Graig Lwyd axe factory although the distribution of finds of axes themselves at Llandegai and elsewhere, does not seem to support this idea.

The focus of settlement in the second millennium BC is unknown, because of the complete lack of evidence from west Conwy and north Gwynedd. Despite the presence of the valuable resource of copper and its exploitation at the mines of the Great Orme there is no evidence of an accompanying centre of settlement or funerary deposits. The concentration of funerary and ritual monuments of broadly that period is in the upland margins and uplands and need not mean that the settlement was also situated there. However, the upland margins may, at certain periods, have been the geographical focus for funerary and ritual activity for other reasons. These areas provided better drained and naturally more open areas than the lowlands and provided the best natural land routes, like the ridge ways of south-east Britain. Particular beliefs may have led to the placing of funerary monuments close to focal points of route ways, on the boundaries of territory or on high ground with commanding views or closer to an imagined spiritual world.

Extensive remains show that the focus of settlement in the later first millennium BC is clearly on the upland margins and the lowland. In contrast to the second millennium, evidence of the funerary and ceremonial customs or monuments of the first millennium is almost unknown in our area. Two small round barrows are situated close to and probably in association with the hill-fort of Pen-y-gaer Llanbedr-y-cennin, overlooking the Conwy Valley. Both have been excavated, but before the benefit of modern dating techniques (Hughes 1906) and produced only charcoal and scraps of copper and bronze, but at least did not prove to be typically Bronze Age type cremation burials in pots. Elsewhere, burials may be represented by a very few cists that are known without covering mounds, perhaps paralleled by the long cist for an extended inhumation with a late Iron Age sword at Gellinog Wen, Llangeinwen. Anglesey, also excavated by Hughes (Lynch 1981, 282-4). Clearly, cists without covering mounds will only rarely be discovered and the decline in the custom of including pottery with burials makes them more difficult to date.

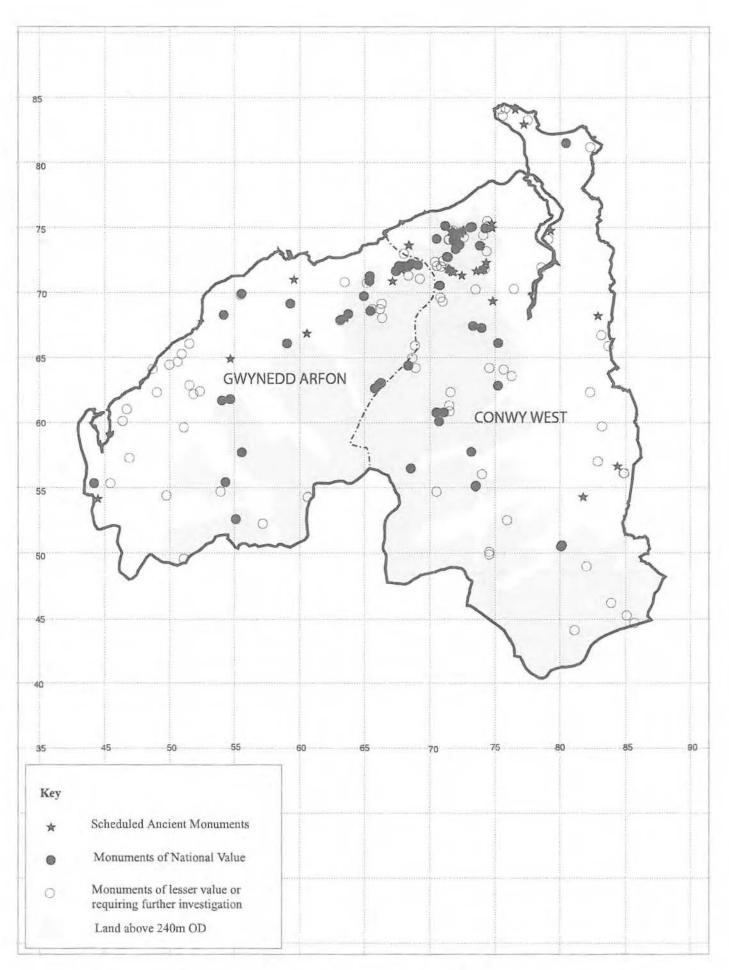


Fig. 2 Distribution of all sites recorded as prehistoric funerary and ritual in West Conwy and North Gwynedd

The earliest antiquarian descriptions of the monuments in the area are those of the 17th century by Edward Lhuyd and in a manuscript said to be by Sir John Wynn of Gwydir. The latter provides a very early description of the Druid's Circle, Penmaenmawr: '... This monumente standes rownd as a circle compassed about with a stone wale, and within the wale, close unto the wale, are longe greate stones rownd aboutes the circle standdinge uppon there endes in the grownd. There are of these stones now standynge in this circle, as I take ytt, twelve, wherof some of them are ii yardes and three quarters. some two yardes, some a yarde and three quarters above grownd, besydes what is within the grownd; the cyrcle within these longe stones, which wee call Meini Hirion, is every way in breadth some sixe and twenty yardes;...' (Williams 2001).

Further notes derive from descriptions by travellers, such as Pennant (1783) and the local antiquary. Richard Farrington in the late 18th century (Kelly 1974). General antiquarian activity in this area seems to have been at least as great as that in Meirionnydd, to judge by the large number of barrows with evidence of robbing (Fig. 3). Unfortunately, very few of these early excavations left any kind of record, probably because few of them produced any worthwhile finds. Also, the people active in this area were not so much in the mainstream of antiquarian activity as the wealthy gentry like Williams Wynne in Meirionnydd, with greater time and resources to contribute to the archaeological journals. During the 19th century, it is only chance finds that are recorded in the area. like the barrow with urns and bronzes found while landscaping a garden at Crug, near Caernarfon in 1855 and others in 1868 (Stanley and Way 1868, 259-61) and a barrow with urns and a bronze pin uncovered during construction work at the Penmaenmawr quarry (Earwaker, 1891). There are several other records of chance finds from the second half of the 19th century, the earliest from 1853, but most of the extensive robbing seems to have gone unrecorded. Artefacts that were recovered found their way to Bangor Museum, Chester Museum, the National Museum of Wales and even the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford.

More formal survey and recording took place with Harold Hughes, who excavated at Pen-y-gaer hillfort, mentioned above, and with W.B. Lowe (1912) and E. Davies (1929). Excavations in modern style were carried out by W.J. Hemp at Capel Garmon chambered tomb (Hemp 1927) and by W.E. Griffiths at the Druid's Circle complex, Penmaenmawr (Griffiths 1960). Surprisingly, the only other modern excavations have been by C. Houlder at the Llandegai Neolithic henges (Houlder 1967 and 1968) and P. Crew at a group of summit cairns above Llanllechid (Crew 1985).

The structural, artefactual and dating evidence from the various records will be discussed with the relevant survey results, below.

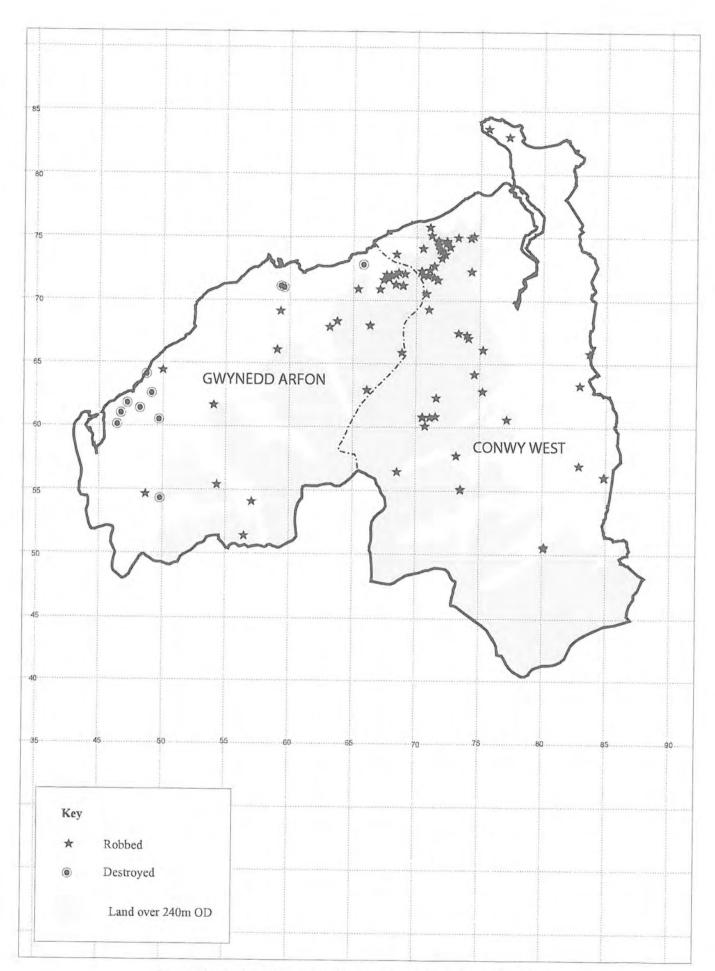


Fig. 3 Distribution of all prehistoric funerary and ritual sites in West Conwy and North Gwynedd recorded as robbed or destroyed

6. THE SURVEY

The general results of the survey are summarised in Table 2. This shows the numbers of monuments of different types and of the numbers of each that are protected as Scheduled Ancient Monuments (Class AA) as well as those new sites assessed during the survey as also being of national value (Class A).

Monument type	Total	SAM	Class A Value	Other value	
Carved stone	1	0	0	1	
Chambered tomb	7	7	0	0	
Chambered tomb?/site of	13	0	1	12	
Cist/cist cemetery	4	0	1	3	
Cremation	2	0	0	2	
Cursus	1	1	0	0	
Henge complex	1	1	0	0	
Round barrow	142	29	59	54	
Round barrow?	60	11	2	47	
Round barrow cemetery (group number)	3	0	0	3	
Standing stone	20	7	8	5	
Standing stone, site of/not located	6	0	0	6	
Standing stone in round barrow	3	2	0	-1	
Standing stone, group	1	1	0	0	
Standing stone, row	1	1	0	0	
Stone circle/stone circle?	8	5	2	1	
Duplicate site number	3	0	0	3	
Non-site/natural feature	19	2	0	17	
Site of other type/period	59	1	0	58	
Totals	354	68	73	213	

Table 2 Summary	list of	monument	type	s and	values
raore - ournary				/	

The monument types and sub-types are discussed separately in the following section which summarises the survey results and provides distribution maps of each, indicating those that are scheduled monuments or assessed as of national value. A general discussion of the overall archaeological results and of the management implications is provided at the end. The full results of the survey, with all the field information on the database, are included as a gazetteer in Part 2.

The monument types used follow those defined by CPAT and there have been no alterations or additions. There are relatively few of the publicly better-known monuments such as chambered tombs and stone circles and the majority of these are scheduled sites and have been relatively well recorded in the past. There are also a few monument types found in lowland areas, which are not present here. These include mortuary enclosures, pit circles, pit groups and timber circles.

The monument type summaries list the Condition and Status, as described above.

There are few monuments in the Gwynedd SMR recorded only as place names compared with lowland areas of Wales. This is partly because most monuments survive as upstanding features in upland areas and partly because there has not yet been a systematic study of the field name evidence on Tithe maps.

The total number of recorded sites exceeds that originally envisaged partly because it includes a number of sites that were identified during hand checking of SMR lists, for instance those that had been recorded under unusual or incorrect site types or periods. Also, a few PRN numbers were group numbers and in this case new PRNs were given so that every individual monument now has a separate number.

All sites listed were visited except a small number of cairns that were part of groups of which a visit showed them to be small marker cairns or clearance cairns. All the sites listed as natural features or of

other site type or period were identified as such as a result of actual visits. The visits also resulted in the recording of a number of cairns that were definitely man-made features but could not be certainly identified as either clearance or funerary features. These are included as 'round barrow?'

All 68 sites that are SAMs were visited. This was necessary to ensure that all monuments of this class were assessed under the same conditions with equivalent recording. It also ensured that the values assessed using the defined criteria of national importance were comparable between protected sites, already accepted to be of national importance, and the rest. This should give a better idea as to which of the unprotected sites are also possibly of national value (Class A). The results of the assessment of monument value are discussed below, 7.3.

6.1 CARVED STONES

Number of sites: 1. SAM: 0. Class A status: 0. Other: 1.

Table 3: Carved stones summary

Condition:	Status:
A: Intact	AA: Scheduled ancient monument
B: Mostly intact	A: National value
C: Some damage	B: Regional value
D: Substantial damage	C: Local value
E: Destroyed	D: Minor value
N: Not applicable	E: Requiring further assessment
U: Unknown/not located/not	F: Not applicable (Not located/Other site type
visited/submerged	etc).

Мар	PRN	Site name	Con	Stat	Siting
SH84SW	5283	Inscribed boulder, Trawsnant	U	E	Upland valley side

Discussion

The one example of a free-standing stone with a cup-mark was not located although its description by John Latham for the National Trust survey of Ysbyty (Latham 1987), of 'cup-marks in a cross shape', suggests that it is most likely to be medieval in date. However, possible cup-marks also occur on slabs that form elements of cairns on Moel Wnion (PRN 314) and Carnedd Dafydd (PRN 749).

The rarity of cup-marked or otherwise decorated stones of prehistoric date is significant and contrasts with the 'Irish' influence of curvilinear decoration that occurs on Anglesey. However, this is at odds with the presence of the portal dolmen style of chambered tombs, which has close parallels in Ireland. Cup-marks are probably part of a separate tradition and several stones with such marks have been recorded in Meirionnydd, two in association with cairn rings. It may be that similar stones have just not been recognised in the present area. However, using the experience gained from Meirionnydd of the type and setting of such stones, suitable stones close to other monuments were looked at this year. but without finding any cup-marks.

6.3 CHAMBERED TOMBS (Figs 4-5)

Number: 7. SAM: 7. Uncertain/Possible site of, 13. SAM: 0, Class A: 1, Other: 12

Table 4: Chambered tombs summary

Condition:	Status:
A: Intact	AA: Scheduled ancient monument
B: Mostly intact	A: National value
C: Some damage	B: Regional value
D: Substantial damage	C: Local value
E: Destroyed	D: Minor value
N: Not applicable	E: Requiring further assessment
U: Unknown/not located/not	F: Not applicable (Not located/Other site type
visited/submerged	etc).

MAP	PRN	SITENAME	Con	Stat	Siting
SH45SE	2354	Chambered tomb (unlocated), Mynydd y Cilgwyn	E	F	Hill slope
SH46SE	1633	Burial chamber (possible), Rhos, Llanfaglan	E	F	Lowland plateau
SH46SE	3132	Burial chamber - site of, Castellmai	E	F	Hill slope
SH46SE	3131	Burial chamber - site of, Caer Efail, Llanfaglan	E	D	Lowland plateau
SH55NW	398	Burial chamber - site of, Glan yr afon	U	F	Valley side
SH55NW	399	Burial chamber - site of, Glan yr afon wood	A	C	Valley side
SH56NW	627	Burial chamber (poss.), N.E. of Bryn, Felinheli	C	Е	Coastal plain
SH66NW	221	Sling burial chamber	В	AA	Hill slope
SH76NE	1544	Porthllwyd cromlech - site of	E	F	Valley floor
SH77SE	3448	Chambered cairn (poss.), Ty'n y groes	E	F	Lowland plateau
SH77SE	2489	Chambered tomb (poss.) - site of, Tal-y-cafn	U	E	Valley floor
SH77SE	2475	Hendre Waelod burial chamber (Allor moloch)	в	AA	Valley floor
SH77SW	3487	Burial chamber, site of Blaen-y-bardd	E	F	Hill slope
SH77SW	530	Burial chamber, nr. Maen y bardd	В	AA	Hill slope
SH77SW	529	Maen y bardd burial chamber	В	AA	Hill slope
SH78SE	5441	Burial chamber (poss.), Pen bwlch, Gt. Orme	U	F	Hill slope
H78SE	648	Llety'r Filiast burial chamber, Great Orme	С	AA	Valley bottom
H85NW	4671	Maen Pebyll long barrow (burial chamber)	С	AA	Hill slope
H85SW		Capel Garmon burial chamber	В	AA	Upland plateau
SH88SW		Burial chamber, (poss.), Maingc y gynhadledd	С	A	Hill slope

Discussion

This is a well-studied monument class and all the extant, identifiable examples are SAMs. The rest are all either destroyed sites, antiquarian references to possible sites or uncertain and unclassifiable sites. Only one of the latter is possibly of high value, PRN 4545, Maingc y gynhadledd, not a chambered tomb in the usual sense, but a megalithic construction, described as a possible cist (Lynch 1969a, 307) is perhaps most likely to be an antiquarian folly, part of landscaped parkland on the hill above Gloddaeth Hall. Gloddaeth is a historic building with a medieval core and its parkland landscape has not yet been studied and recorded.

Most of the accepted tombs lie in marginal land on the fringe of the upland, between 200-350m OD, apart from Llety'r Filiast on the Great Orme, Porthllwyd on the floor of the Conwy Valley and a site of uncertain authenticity at Bryn, Felinheli, Caernarfon.

Visits were made to the areas of all the sites recorded from antiquarian references and which have had further discussion by Kelly (1974). However, despite using the information available no new

discoveries were made, apart from one unusual stone (see Standing Stones, below). In some cases the antiquarian references are probably fanciful interpretations of natural groups of stones, while a few have description so convincing that they most likely were genuine monuments that have since been cleared. Some of the references were not very specific and a lengthy search of each area would be required. Considering the condition of the Sling burial chamber, in overgrown scrub woodland, despite its being listed as an ancient monument, it would not be surprising for even large constructions to be demolished and the stones re-used.

The types and location of these tombs have been well covered by Lynch (1969a). Three are portal dolmens - those of Maen y bardd, Porth Llwyd and Hendre Waelod, as is probably also that of Llety'r Filiast. These form a fairly closely associated group in terms of type and location, focussed on the Conwy Valley. Lynch points out their possible cultural association with the portal dolmens of the Llyn peninsula. The tomb at Capel Garmon is an odd, isolated occurrence of a Cotswold-Severn type with the nearest close comparison being the tomb of Ty Isaf in Breconshire (ibid. 143). It is so distinctive that it has to be regarded as representing a genuine cultural outlier belonging to an intrusive social group. There are several supposed sites of chambered tombs mentioned by antiquaries, some possibly genuine examples that have since been cleared away but some that may have been natural features. Sling at Tregarth, near Bangor is a fairly certain example with one massive slab, resting on an upright. However, it is so incomplete that it is unclassifiable. Roewen East (PRN 530), quite close to Maen v bardd, is a rather small cist-like chamber in a long mound that is difficult to understand because it has been incorporated in a terrace of a Romano-British and Medieval lynchetted field system. It has been compared to the trapezoidal cairn of Tinkinswood, Glamorgan but Lynch rather sees it mainly as a cist rather than a chambered tomb (ibid. 306-7). The present survey suggests that the mound was certainly long but the cist could have been inserted in it. The final extant example is that of Maen Pebyll. formerly interpreted as a ruined chambered tomb in a long cairn but regarded by Lynch as at least uncertain and possibly just a natural feature (ibid, 145-6).

Most of the tombs have a generally easterly orientation but with no clear uniformity. That at Sling. Tregarth, on the other hand, lies on a west-facing slope and must have opened to the west. Hendre Waelod (also known as Allor Moloch -The altar of terror!) in the Conwy valley also lies on a westfacing slope although the portal stones face uphill, to the south-east. The chamber of Maen y Bardd, high on a hillside with a significant south-easterly slope, commands impressive views over the valley and a restricted view of the river and may have been constructed with these in mind. However, interestingly, the nearby chamber or cist in a rather amorphous, unclassified mound (Roewen East, PRN 530) faces along the slope, to the north-east, which provides it with a 'glimpse' of the mouth of the Conwy estuary.

All these tombs can be expected to be closely associated with contemporary areas of farming and at Maen y bardd there are extensive field systems and settlements of probably later prehistoric and medieval date, if not earlier, since there is a kerb cairn there also (PRN 4695). The other tombs lie in areas without such good preservation. Llety'r filiast is of great potential interest because of its unusual location on the Great Orme which is a quite restricted area with much evidence of prehistoric activity, but which has unfortunately also led to much disturbance. The only tomb that has been excavated and produced useful finds is that of Capel Garmon which, because it is unique in this area, is not very helpful. Finds from the chamber passage were of one piece of Early Neolithic Ebbsfleet ware and pieces of two Beakers. Lynch regards the Ebbsfleet ware as providing a stylistic link with material from actual Severn-Cotswold tombs (*ibid.* 160-1).

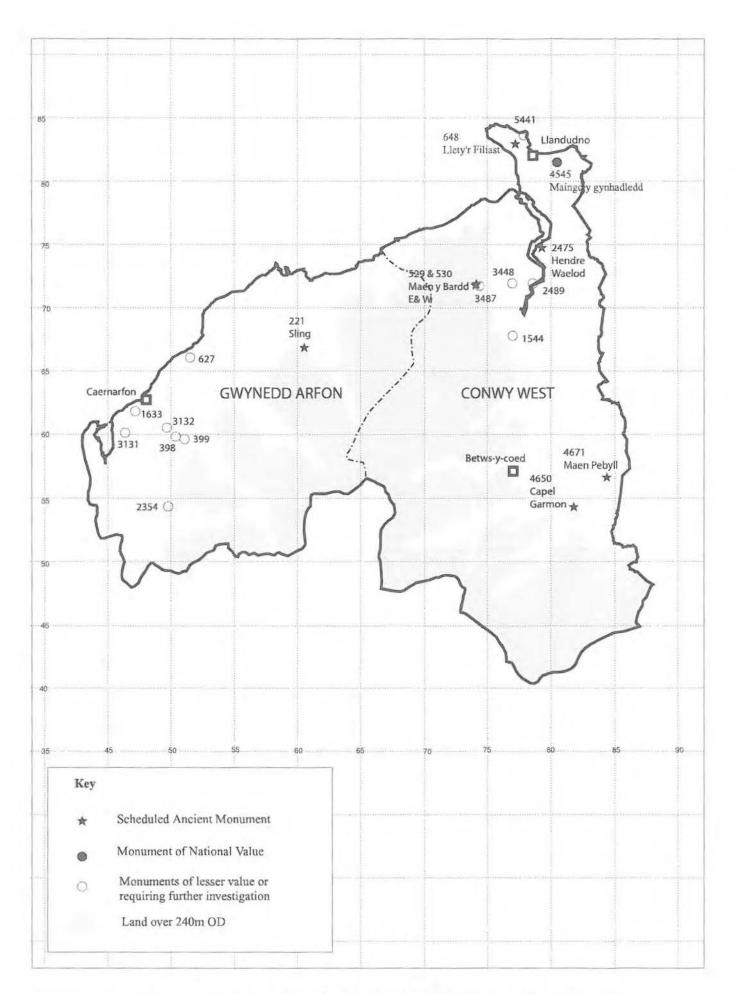


Fig. 4 Distribution of chambered tombs and long cairns in West Conwy and North Gwynedd

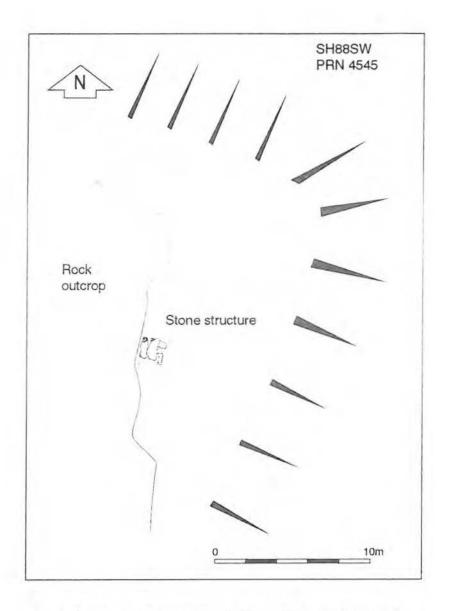


Fig. 5 Possible chambered tomb at Mainge y Gynhadledd, Llandudno

6.4 CISTS AND CREMATIONS (Figs 6-7)

Number: 2 extant, 4 destroyed or uncertain. SAM: 0, Class A status: 1.

Table 5: Cists and cremations, summary

Condition:	Status:
A: Intact	AA: Scheduled ancient monument
B: Mostly intact	A: National value
C: Some damage	B: Regional value
D: Substantial damage	C: Local value
E: Destroyed	D: Minor value
N: Not applicable	E: Requiring further assessment
U: Unknown/not located/not	F: Not applicable (Not located/Other site type
visited/submerged	etc)

OSMAP	PRN	SITENAME	Con	Stat	Siting
SH76SW	3764	Cist near Afon y bedol	A	A	Upland plateau
SH77NW	737	Cist N. of Tyddyn Grasod	С	В	Upland col
SH55SE	3391	Cist with urn - findspot, Glan yr afon	E	F	Lowland plateau
SH55SE	3393	Cists - Bwlchgyfin	E	F	Upland valley floor

OSMAP	PRN	SITENAME	Con	Stat	Siting
SH67SE	4079	Urn burial - findspot, Pen y bryn Manor	E	F	Lowland plateau
SH46SE	3101	Urn burial, Maes y Barcer, Caernarfon	Е	F	Lowland plateau

The small number of these monuments must be largely because they represent 'flat' burials unmarked by a cairn or mound and so in each case have been discovered purely by chance. The exception is the one regarded as of national value, the cist near Afon y Bedol, lying in very poor marshy rough grazing on the hill side overlooking Nant y Benglog, Capel Curig. It is a long cist, some 2m by 1m with massive side slabs that protrude above the present peaty land surface. Its position suggests it may have originally been contained within a mound, perhaps of peat, which has since eroded away. This would make it more understandable as a long cist, presumably for an inhumation burial, whereas the smaller cists and urns of flat cemeteries held cremations. Slab-built cists are also present in quite a number of cairns, mainly where they have been exposed by robbing. These are included under the description of cairns, below. Such cists are generally rectangular, rather than square and some are of sufficient size that they might have contained a crouched burial. The Afon Bedol cist is larger than most of these 'cairn cists'. The same is also the case with the cist at Tyddyn Grasod, which lies in a small col between local hillocks in upland above the Conwy Valley. It is 1.9m by 1m, also protruding from the ground, suggesting that it was formerly in a cairn or mound. By contrast, the 'five or six' cists at Bwlchgyflin, in the base of the valley at Drws y Coed, Nantlle, discovered by chance in the 19th century and not seen since, seem to have been part of a 'flat' cremation cemetery, the cists taking the place of urns. The remaining cist was discovered while ploughing in the 19th century on the lowland slopes near Caernarfon. It contained an urn with ashes, presumably a cremation, but both have since been lost.

The two cremation burials were both discovered by chance, both in inverted urns. One was from near the mouth of the valley at Abergwyngregyn, near Bangor, in the 19th century and since lost. The other came from the outskirts of Caernarfon in 1946 and was a Middle Bronze Age urn now in the NMW.

It may be relevant that the two 'long cists' both lie in upland, and in both cases in areas where there is a variety of other types of funerary and ritual monument present, which could fairly be taken to represent cemeteries or ritual complexes. Both complexes lie somewhat above areas that would have been suitable for associated farming settlement - on the slopes of the Conwy Valley and in Nant y Benglog. The cremations however, are in better quality farmland and are likely to be just single chance exposures from larger cemeteries. As such they deserve more attention than they seem to warrant and their place of discovery should be included in any assessment for development, for instance.

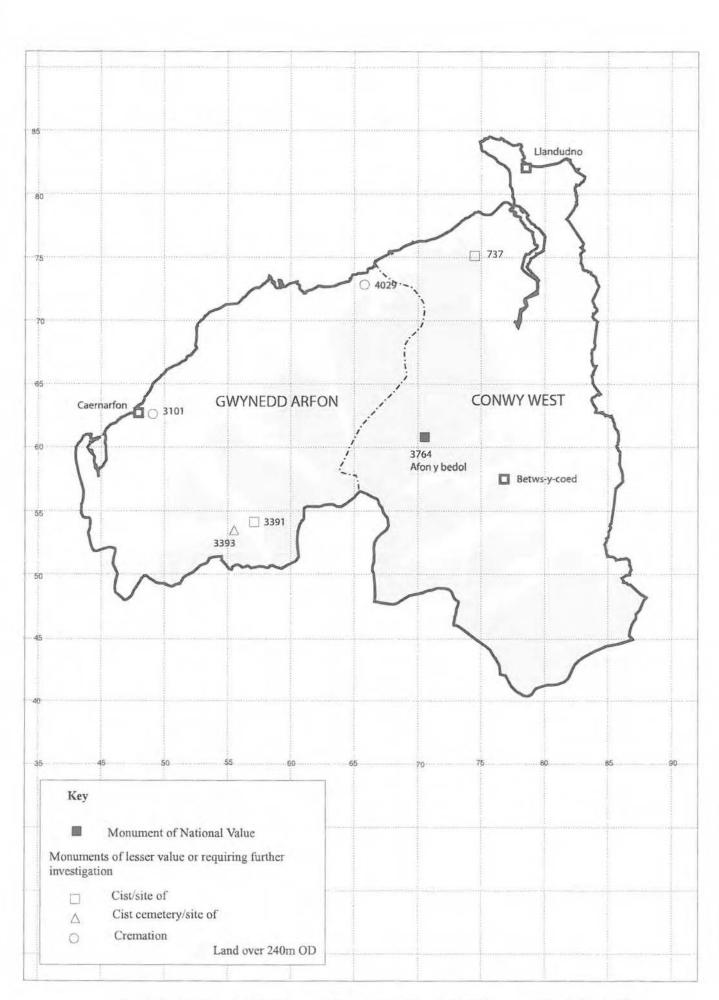
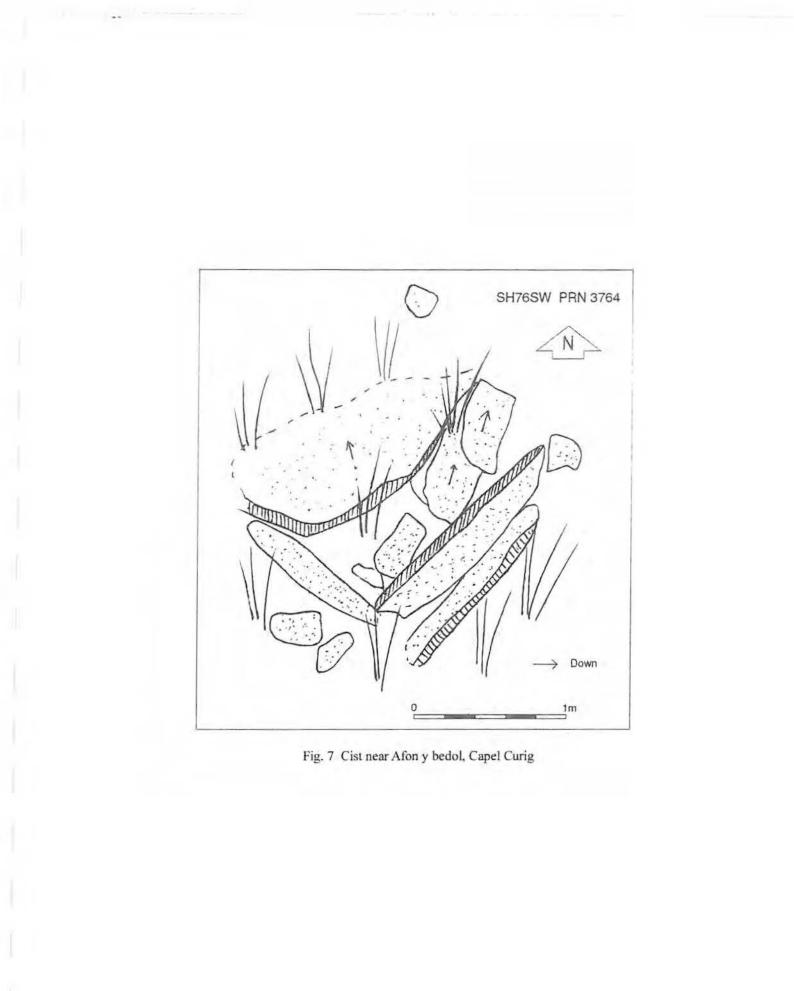


Fig. 6 Distribution of cists. cist cemeteries and cremations in West Conwv and North Gwvnedd



6.5 HENGES AND CURSUS (Fig. 8)

Henge

Number: 0 extant, 2 destroyed or uncertain. SAM: 0, Class A status: 0.

Cursus

Number: 1 extant, 0 destroyed or uncertain. SAM: 1, Class A status: 0.

Table 6: Henges and Cursus, summary

AA: Scheduled ancient monument
A: National value
B: Regional value
C: Local value
D: Minor value
E: Requiring further assessment
F: Not applicable (Not located/Other site type
etc)

OSMAP	PRN	SITENAME	Con	Stat	Siting
SH57SE	2314	Cursus - site of, Llandegai	В	AA	Lowland plateau
SH57SE	222	Henges and Neo. settlement, Llandegai	D	F	Lowland plateau

The Neolithic ceremonial complex at Llandegai has been well known since its excavation in 1966-7 as the only such complex in North Wales although final publication is only just under way. The site lay in arable land and was only discovered by aerial photography. The monuments survived largely as subsoil features such as ditches, therefore. The site of the henges was excavated in advance of development and now lies under an industrial estate. However, the site produced so many features and of such complexity that much evidence must still survive below ground. Its importance as a multi-period complex means that the possibility of survival of some features, if only in part, must be taken into account in any further development of the site. The cursus lay partly in the excavated area and extended into an area of arable and cricket ground beyond, where aerial photographs also showed the presence of a variety of other features. This area is now a Scheduled Ancient Monument but the arable land is regularly ploughed and deserves organised surface collection and monitoring of the effects of continued ploughing.

The henge and cursus complex lies on a rather undistinctive area of slightly raised lowland. It seems surprising that it attracted such a concentrati0on of activity, with Neolithic settlement, Bronze Age burial, Iron Age settlement and an Early Medieval cemetery. Its chief attraction seems to have been that it was an area of particularly good land, fairly level and with reasonable soils in a general area where such land was scarce. As a ceremonial complex it was not in a prominent or distinctive location but may just have been a suitable large fairly open, level area. This clearly was needed for the scale and extent of monuments involved. An open area may also have been needed if viewpoints for alignments of whatever type were involved. This is suggested by the close similarity in the angle that the opposed entrances of the two henges form, both at about east to north-east. The cursus, however, is aligned approximately east to south-east. The complex may also have been generally sited in a 'nodal' communications position between an ancient trackway over the hills to the south -east and a sea passage via the estuary of the Afon Ogwen.

Although the complex is unique in this area there is only one nearby probable Neolithic monument the chambered tomb at Sling, Tregarth. Apart from the presence of a number of such tombs on Anglesey and in the Llyn, the group of tombs in the Conwy Valley area suggests a separate Neolithic community there and therefore the potential presence of an undiscovered ceremonial complex in the floor of the valley, which may yet be discovered by aerial photography.

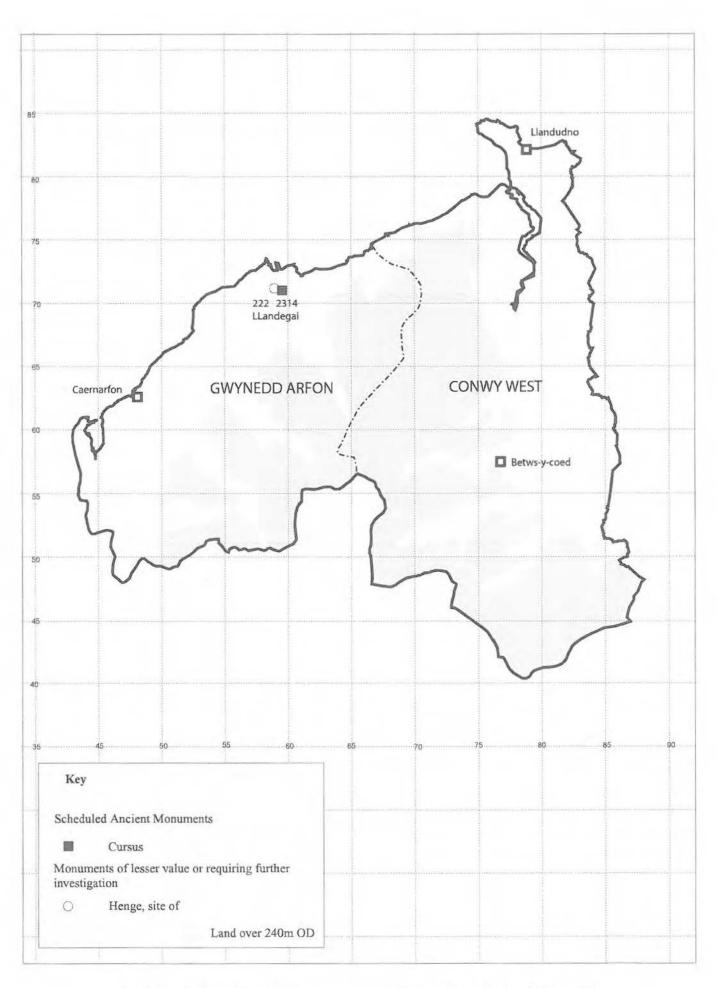


Fig. 8 Distribution of henges and cursus monuments in west Conwy and north Gwynedd

6.6 ROUND BARROWS (Figs 9-22)

Number: 170 extant, 32 destroyed or uncertain. SAM: 40, Class A status: 61.

Table 7: Round Barrows, summary by sub-type, general value and comparison with Meirionnydd

Status:

AA: Scheduled ancient monument

A: National value

B: Regional value

C: Local value

D: Minor value

E: Requiring further assessment

F: Not applicable (Not located/Other site type etc)

Sub-type	AA	A	В	C	D	E	F	Total	Meirionnydd total
Simple cairn	23	41	35	16	1	11	3	130	170
Mound	6	5	3	1	1	5	1	22	8
Kerb cairn	6	8	9	-	L.	1	1-	25	7
Ring cairn	2	5	1	-	1	1		10	16
Structured cairn	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	4	5
No data (not located/destroyed etc)	1	-	•	-	2	4	4	11	-
Total	39	62	48	17	6	22	8	202	212

As the largest group of prehistoric funerary or ritual monuments this is the only group for which more detailed analysis is justified (Tables 7-11). The great majority, however, are just simple cairns as in Meirionnydd with only small numbers of other sub-types (Table 7). No certain examples of platform cairns were recorded. The most noticeable difference between the two areas is in the larger numbers of mounds and kerbed cairns in West Conwy and North Gwynedd (eg Figs 10-14). A few sites were noted that were small diameter rings of stones with no sign of internal cairn filling (eg Figs 19-20). These seem best described as 'kerb rings' but to maintain the present classification have been recorded as kerbed cairns. Simple cairns are most frequent in the size range 5-9m dia., as was the case in Meirionnydd. Overall, both North Caernarfon and Meirionnydd have round barrows that are smaller than in Denbigh/East Conwy and the Upper Severn. The most frequent size there was in the range 10-19m dia. with a high proportion of 20m or over while there were very few of that size in the West Conwy and North Gwynedd areas. The difference is mainly to be accounted for by the preponderance of earthen mounds, rather than cairns, in the former areas. There is also a possibility that size has some cultural/chronological basis with a contrast between larger mounds with single inhumations in the Beaker period and some smaller cairn variants with cremations as late as the end of the second millennium BC. The distribution and topographic location of different round barrow types and sizes therefore might tell us something about use of the landscape in different periods.

Dia. metres	Simple Cairn	Mound	Kerb cairn	Ring cairn	Structured cairn	No data	Total	%
<5	28	2	8	1	-		39	23
5-9	51	3	11	3	2	-	70	41
10-19	31	10	5	4	2	-	52	31
20-29	4	3	-	1	-	1	8	5
30+	1	-	+	-	18	-	1	1
Total	115	18	24	9	4	-	170	
No data	15	4	1	1	2.43	11	32	

Table 8: The size of round barrows

Dia. metres	N. Caernarfon W. Conwy		Meirionnydd		Denbigh/ E. Conwy		Upper Severn		
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
<5	39	23	55	31	30	14	40	18	
5-9	70	41	63	35	54	25	66	29	
10-19	52	31	57	25	77	35	86	38	
20-29	8	5	5	3	44	20	27	12	
30+	1	1	1	+	8	4	7	3	

Table 9: Comparison of round barrow sizes between project areas

In terms of topographic location the largest proportion occur on upland plateau (Table 10). A larger proportion occur on summits than in Meirionnydd, just a reflection of the proportion of higher upland than Meirionnydd, where the greatest proportion occurred on local summits and hill ridges. The figures here might also be taken to show that ring cairns and structured cairns (Figs 15-18) are rarely found on summits. Summit cairns tend to be large simple cairns (eg Figs 21-2), sometimes with kerbing but so often badly damaged by trampling and re-modelling as to be of uncertain original structure. The siting of ring cairns, in particular, in saddles/passes, or in valleys, points a probable a different function than the rest, probably more ceremonial than funerary and paralleling similar siting in Meirionnydd. However, such sitings on routes just provides a different kind of prominence to those in physically prominent positions, so the difference may only be apparent. Some barrows are on clearly isolated summits but many are on summits that form part of upland ridges that would have been used as early routeways.

	Simple Cairn	Mound	Kerb cairn	Ring cairn	Structured cairn	No data	Total	%
Hillslope	22	2	11	-	1	- m.	36	
Hill ridge or promontory	9	3	1	-	-	-	13	
Summit	21	2	3	1	-	-	27	
Saddle, pass or col	14	2		3	-		19	
Upland plateau	31	5	5	2	3	-	46	
Local ridge or promontory	5	1	1	-	-	-	7	
Local summit	6	1	-	71	-	-	7	
Local saddle or col	1	-	-	1	-	-	2	
Valley floor/side	5	2	3	2	ě.	-	12	-
Coastal plain or lowland plateau	1	•		•	•	•	1	
Total	115	18	24	9	4	-	170	
No data	15	4	1	1	-	11	32	

Table 10: The siting o	f round	barrows
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In terms of altitude all types of barrow are found most frequently between 301-400m (Table 11). This must be tempered against the loss of many sites in lowland areas where barrows may have been earthen mounds and more subject to agricultural clearance. Unfortunately aerial photography has not been so successful at filling in the record here in the way that it has in the Upper Severn valley, for instance.

Even so it is significant that a great number of monuments exist in the upland, clearly beyond the limits of arable farming at any period.

Altitude m OD	Simple Cairn	Mound	Kerb cairn	Ring cairn	Structured cairn	No data	Total	%
0-100	3	5	-	-		-	8	5
101-200	5	2	2	1	-	-	10	6
201-300	25	2	7	1	1	-	36	21
301-400	33	9	8	4	3	•	57	34
401-500	30		5	3	-	-	38	22
>500	19	· •	2	-			21	12
Total	115	18	24	9	4	-	170	
No data	15	4	1	I	-	11	32	

Table 11: The altitude of round barrows

The overall distribution is dominated by a concentration in the northern part of the area, between the Aber Valley and the Conwy Valley. This is likely to be related to the presence of a major routeway running through this area because of the outcropping cliffs of Penmaenmawr that prevent a coastal route along this line. The same route was later followed by a Roman road and later still by a coach road. Since the amount of available better quality, lower-lying agricultural land is limited in the immediate area here, the prehistoric monuments must relate either to populations either to east or west. However, funerary monuments weren't just restricted to the upland here, as demonstrated by the rich barrows found on the lower, north-facing slope of Penmaenmawr (PRN 2879) that produced 11 urns. 2 pygmy cups, a stone cup, a bronze pin and 8 cremation burials (destroyed during early quarry track building). This gives us some evidence that there was a well-established and affluent local community here added to which there are round huts and cultivation terraces in the area.

The Cefn Coch group of stone circles is unique in the whole area and its location must have depended on the same factors that resulted in it becoming the focus for a large number of monuments of all types but dominated by cairns. Several sub-groups of these can be identified in the general vicinity of Cefn Coch:

- 1. Waun Llanfair/Bryniau Bugeilydd.
- 2. Waen Gyrach/Cefn Maen Amor.
- 3. Bwlch y Ddeufaen.

Slightly further to the west there are three groups around the Aber Valley:

- 1. Cras, on the west side.
- 2. Within the valley and on its southern rim.
- 3. On the east side below Foel Dduarth.

Surprisingly, within the whole of the rest of the area, apart from those on the summits of Drosgl and the Carneddau, there are only two other major groups of cairns, those at Moel Faban, Llanllechid and at Tal-y-braich, north-west of Capel Curig. Apart from this latter group all the others can be shown to be closely associated with areas of settlement and likely to be directly related and this will be discussed further in a case study of the Waun Llanfair/Bryniau Bugeilydd group (7.2, below).

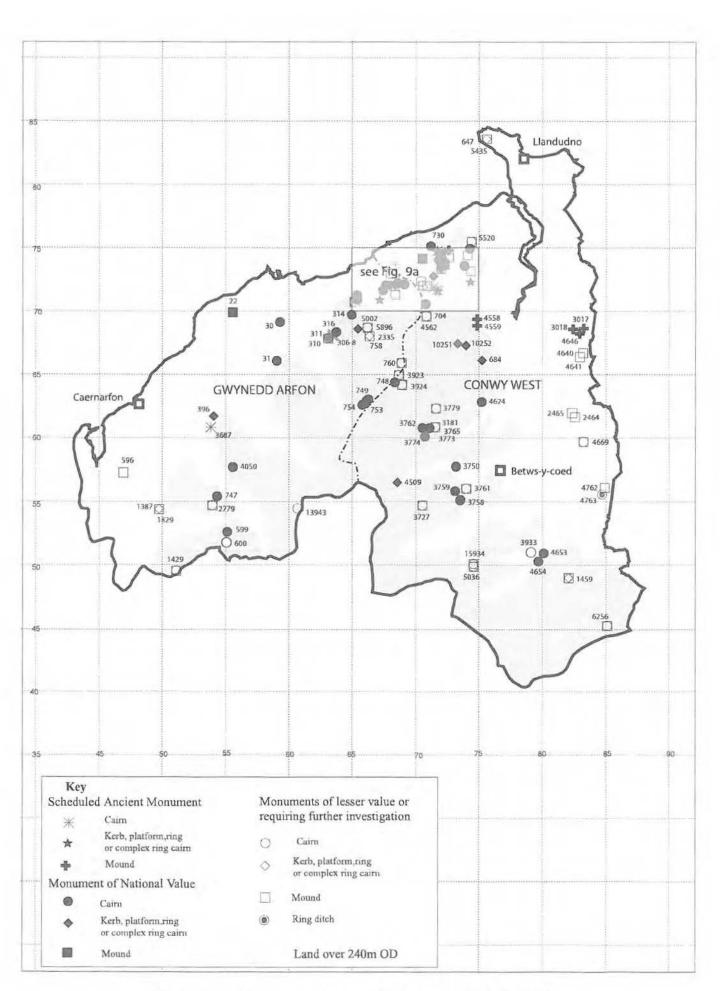
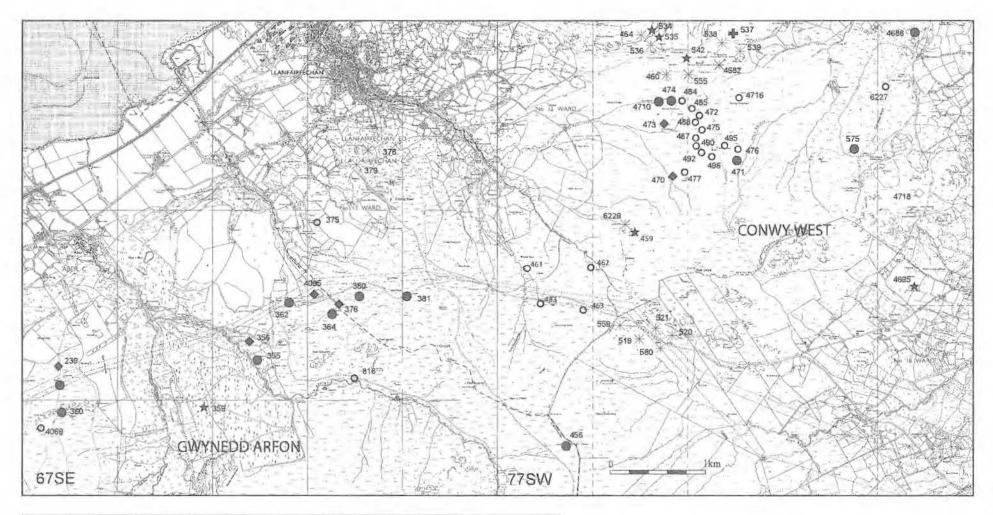


Fig. 9 Distribution of round barrows in West Conwy and North Gwynedd



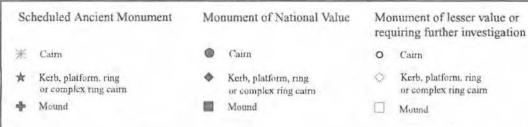


 Fig. 9a. Distribution of round barrows in Abergwyngregyn and Llanfairfechan, SH67SE and SH77SW.
Based on the Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 scale maps.
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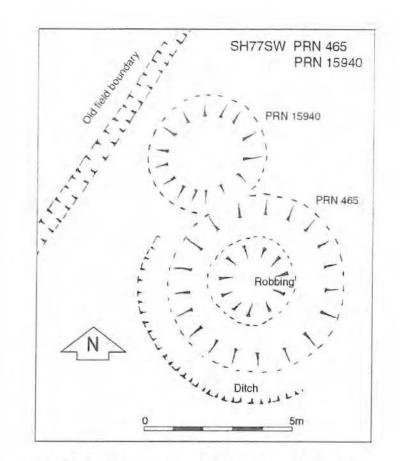


Fig. 10 Round barrow, mounds, Maes y Bryn, Llanfairfechan

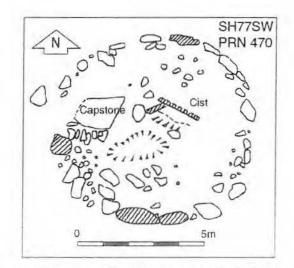


Fig. 11 Kerb cairn with cist, Waun Llanfair, Llanfairfechan

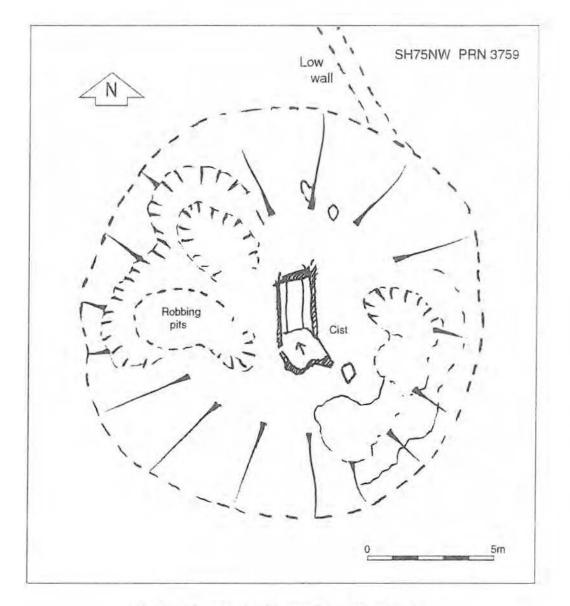


Fig. 12 Cairn with cist, Clogwyn Llwyd, Capel Curig

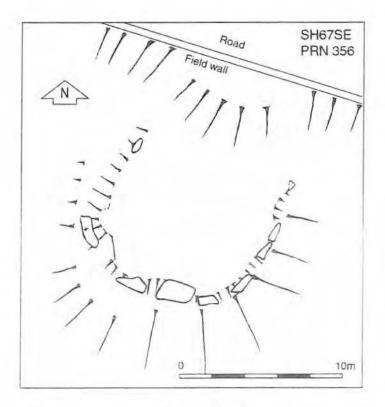


Fig. 13 Large kerbed cairn Foel Dduarth, Abergwyngregyn

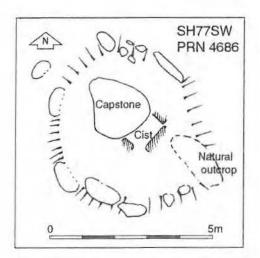


Fig. 14 Small kerbed cairn, Tyddyn Grasod, Henryd



Fig. 15 Ring cairn, Drosgl, Llanllechid

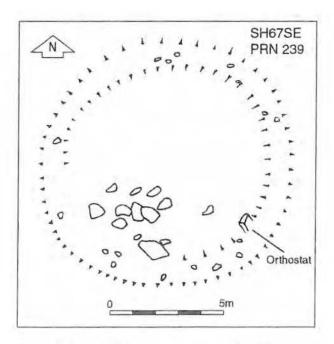
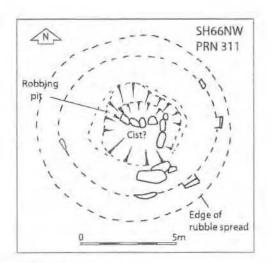
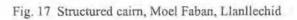


Fig. 16 Ring cairn, Fridd Ddu, Abergwyngregyn





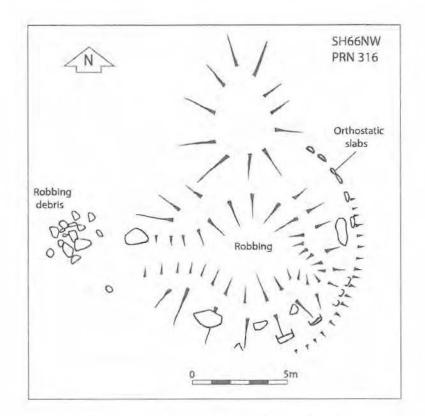


Fig. 18 Structured cairn, Bwlch ym Mhwll-le, Llanllechid

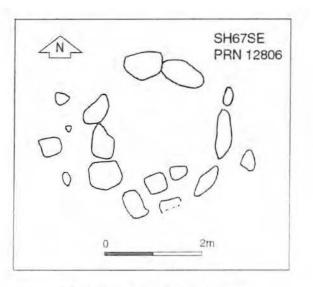


Fig. 19 Kerb ring, Abergwyngregyn

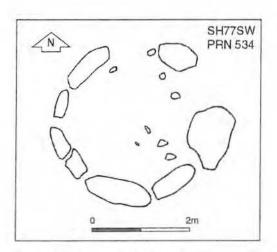


Fig. 20 Kerb ring, Cefn Coch, Penmaenmawr

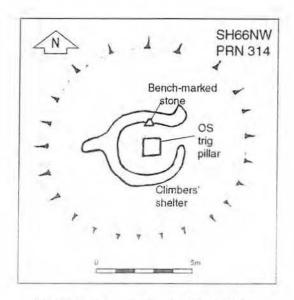


Fig. 21 Large summit cairn, Moel Wnion

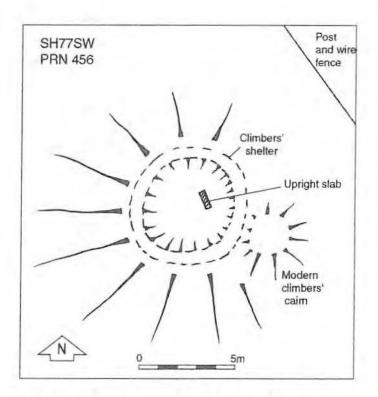


Fig. 22 Large summit cairn, Carnedd y Ddelw

6.7 STANDING STONES (Figs 23-6)

Number: 17 extant, 3 set in a round barrow, 9 uncertain. SAM: 9, Class A status: 8.

Table 12: Standing stones, summary

Condition:	Status:
A: Intact	AA: Scheduled ancient monument
B: Mostly intact	A: National value
C: Some damage	B: Regional value
D: Substantial damage	C: Local value
E: Destroyed	D: Minor value
N: Not applicable	E: Requiring further assessment
U: Unknown/not located/not	F: Not applicable (Not located/Other site type
visited/submerged	etć)

a. Standing stone

OSMAP	PRN	SITENAME	Con	Sta	Siting
SH45NW	2265	Standing stone, S. of Bodfan	В	A	Coastal plain
SH77SW	562	Maen Penddu standing stone	A	AA	Plateau
SH77SW	576	Standing stone, Hafoty	A	AA	Valley side
SH76SW	3763	Standing stone	В	A	Upland plateau
SH56SW	3713	Standing stone - Parciau Gleison	A	A	Local promontory
SH45SW	1313	Maen Llwyd Standing stone, Glynllifon	В	AA	Level lowlands
SH77SW	4678	Maen Crwn Standing stone	В	A	Hill slope
SH77SW	524	Standing stone, Bwlch y ddeufaen	В	AA	Pass
SH77SW	525	Standing stones, Nr Maen y bardd	A	AA	Hill slope
SH76SE	10749	Orthostat/Standing stone	A	В	Hill slope
SH67SW	3893	Standing stone (pos.), Ffridd Fedw	В	В	Hill slope
SH56NW	631	Standing stone	В	A	Local summit knoll
SH77SW	523	Standing stone, Bwlch y ddeufaen	В	AA	Pass
H45SE	12906	Standing stone, Penbryn Mawr	A	A	Plateau
H45NE	12904	Standing stone, Glynllifon	В	A	Level lowlands
H55NW	12907	Standing stone? Plas Glan yr Afon	A	E	Hill slope
H85NW	4676	Stone, Maen Sertan	D	AA	Valley bottom

b. Standing stone set in a round barrow

OSMAP	PRN	SITENAME	Con	Sta	Siting
SH67SE	332	Standing stone and cairn, Coed	A	E	Valley side
SH77SW	526	Standing stone, Nr Maen y bardd	А	AA	Hill slope
SH77SW	527	Standing stone, Nr Maen y bardd	В	AA	Hill slope

c. Standing stone? not located/natural feature/other site type or period

OSMAP	PRN	SITENAME	Con	Sta	Siting
SH77SE	2474	Standing stone – Maes y castell	E	E	Lowland plateau
SH84SE	1790	Standing stone, 19 th C	A	В	Hill slope
SH84SE	1791	Standing stone, 19th C	A	В	Hill slope
SH84SE	1792	Standing stone, 19th C	С	В	Hill slope
SH45NE	5529	Standing stone (poss.), Glynllifon Park	А	С	Alluvial plain of small stream
SH45SE	12905	Standing stone, Bryn Trallwyn Uchaf	А	С	Top of hill slope
SH84NW	6253	Standing stone? Coed cefn Gwyn	U	Ξ	Valley bottom, edge of

SH77SW	4689 Standing stone (alleged), Maen y	U	E	Hill slope
SH78SE	5434 Standing stone (poss.), Gt. Orme's	А	D	Plateau

Excavations elsewhere in Wales (Williams 1988) generally show standing stones to be associated with burials of Early Bronze Age date, although their location tends to suggest that they lay along routeways. However, rather than just marking routeways it is equally likely that the routeways were chosen for burial. No standing stones in this area have been excavated in modern times but a funerary function can be presumed for the three examples set in cairns. Also, the areas around one stone, that of Maen Llwyd, Glynllifon, Caernarfon (PRN 1313) was excavated in the 19th century and this produced a cremation burial and a food vessel (Wynn 1875).

Standing stones may have been set up for various reasons in different periods and there are several uncertain examples that may have been boundary markers, gate-posts or cattle rubbing stones. One group (PRN 1790-1) was set up by a landowner in the 19th century to commemorate his son's safe return from the Crimean Wars. Another group, not included in the database, marks a pack-horse way over a high pass between Dyffryn Nantlle and Cwm Pennant.

Most of the stones are best explained as lying along routeways, such as those in the Bwlch y Ddeufaen and by Maen y Bardd although this may be deceptive because there are concentrations of other types of funerary monuments in these areas anyway. There are only two standing stones that are set in specifically prominent (local) positions but these may simply overlook nearby routeways – those at Felinheli (PRN 631) and Parciau Gleison, Llanrug (PRN 3713). There are some in the lowland where routeways are less easy to identify, like that of Maen Llwyd, Glynllifon (PRN 1313) and one at Bodfan (PRN 2265), close to the coastal promontory fort of Dinas Dinlle. Several possible monuments have been mentioned from the vicinity of Plas Glan yr Afon, near Caernarfon, destroyed in the 19th century. One possible new standing stone has been discovered by the owner of this 18th century house during renovations – a large vertical stone exposed by the fireplace was found to extend into the loft-space above the second storey! (PRN 12907).

Apart from the groups around Bwlch y Ddeufaen and Maen y Bardd there are surprisingly few standing stones in this large area which has numerous cairns and no shortage of suitable stones. This must be significant when contrasted with the much larger number that exist within the lowland of south Caernarfon, where, due to the more intensive agriculture and rarer outcropping of stone, fewer might be expected. The overall comparison of areas, after completion of the pan-Wales survey, should be able to make some valuable observations.

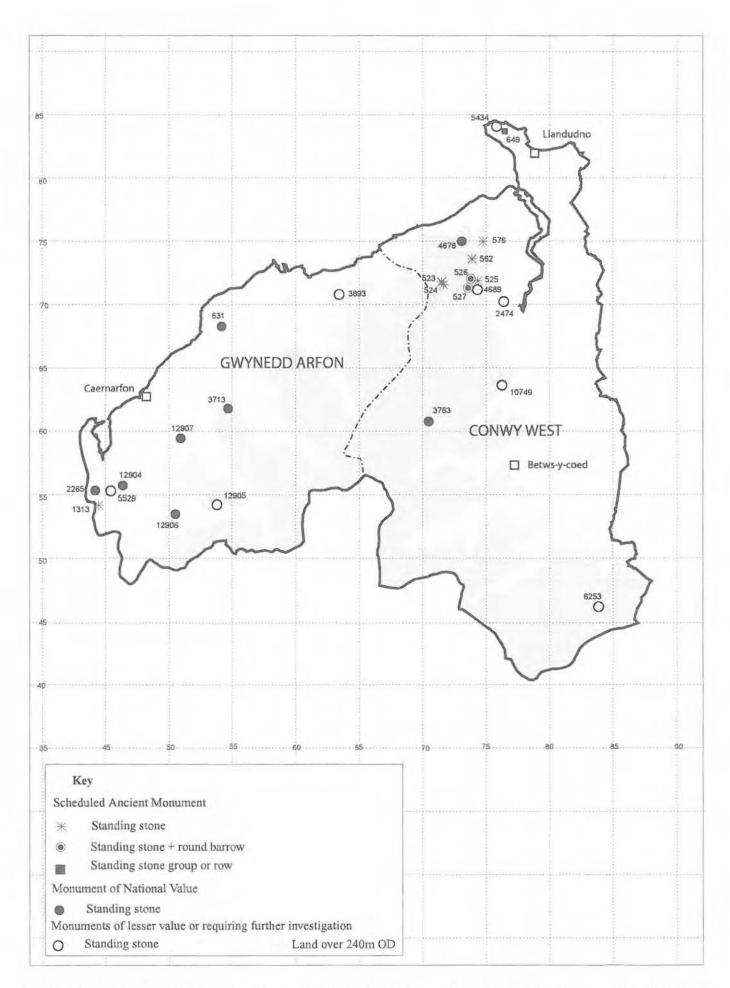


Fig. 23 Distribution of standing stones, standing stones in round barrows and stone groups in West Conwy and North Gwynedd

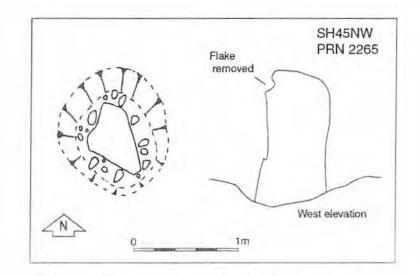


Fig. 24 Standing stone, plan and elevation, Bodlan, Dinas Dinlle

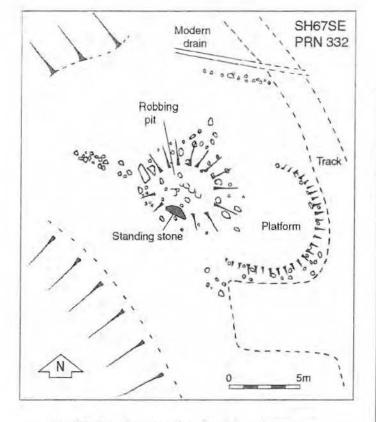


Fig. 25 Standing stone in cairn, Abergwyngregyn

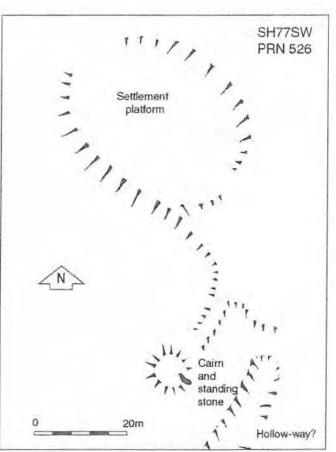


Fig. 26 Standing stone in cairn, near Maen y Bardd, Roewen

6.8 STONE CIRCLES (Figs 27-9)

Number: 8 extant, 1 destroyed or uncertain. SAM: 6, Class A status: 2.

Table 13: Stone circles, summary

Condition:	Status:
A: Intact	AA: Scheduled ancient monument
B: Mostly intact	A: National value
C: Some damage	B: Regional value
D: Substantial damage	C: Local value
E: Destroyed	D: Minor value
N: Not applicable	E: Requiring further assessment
U: Unknown/not located/not	F: Not applicable (Not located/Other site type
visited/submerged	etc)

OSMAP	PRN	SITENAME	Con	Sta	Siting
SH77SW	5066	Stone circle, Cefn Maen Amor	С	A	Plateau
SH77NW	728	Stone circle, E. of Red Farm	А	А	Hill slope
SH77SW	528	Cerrig Pryfaid stone circle	В	AA	Hill terrace
SH77SW	539	Stone ring, Cefn Coch	А	AA	Upland plateau
SH77SW	541	Druid's Circle, Cefn Coch	В	AA	Ridge
SH77SW	543	Stone circle, Cefn Coch	A	AA	Pass
SH77SW	544	Stone circle, Cefn Coch	В	AA	Upland plateau/ridge
SH77NW	736	Stone circle, Cefn Llechen	В	AA	Hill slope
SH46SE	3130	Stone circle - site of, Llanfaglan	E	D	Near hill top

There are very few examples of this monument class, but these still form an important type with great rarity value, with their possible relation to henges. Nevertheless, this is not a homogeneous site type. There is great variety in size, from a diameter of 5 to 23m and only one, the Druid's Circle, comprises a ring of orthostatic megaliths. The rest consist of circles of quite low stones, some of boulders, others of small orthostats. The smaller diameter stone circles cannot be certainly separated from ring and structured cairns while PRN 544 at Cefn Coch is an oval setting of large boulders which, while megalithic, is difficult to classify and is not strictly a stone circle.

It has previously been observed that these circles seem to belong to the same general monument class as Bronze Age funerary monuments rather than Neolithic ceremonial monuments. Even the Druid's Circle has an outer bank and could be regarded as a very large ring cairn. The circles are grouped in an area that is also a focus for Bronze Age funerary monuments. Within the Cefn Coch group and close to the Druid's Circle there is another monument which is a large circular stone bank, 17m dia. (PRN 542) with an inner and outer kerb, including some uprights. Excavation (Griffiths 1960) produced cremation burials with pottery and radiocarbon dates in the Early Bronze Age, and this has been classified as a ring cairn. However, Griffiths also excavated three of the stone circles, PRN 539, 541 and 544. All three produced stone axes so a Neolithic origin is presumed and some connection with the Graig Lwyd axe factory is to be expected, although two also produced evidence of funerary activity in the Early Bronze Age.

The tight distribution of stone circles within a very small area must be significant but is difficult to explain. Timber circles have been found in lowland areas in the Upper Severn and Tanat valleys where stone may have been unavailable. However, the same cannot be said here, where standing stones occur quite widely in lowland Anglesey and south Caernarfon. The only possible outlying example in the present area is one at Llanfaglan, Caernarfon, marked on the first edition of the OS one inch scale map but not recorded thereafter, presumably destroyed, and which could possibly have been a spurious feature.

All these examples are notable for their similar topographic location, on fairly level terraces or plateaux. None are in visually prominent positions but provide good prospects from them and it seems significant that all lie alongside major tracks. Only two extant circles are not protected, PRN 728 and 5066, both circles of relatively small stones.

The circle east of Red Farm, PRN 728 (Fig. 28) lies in an enclosed field not far east of the Maen Crwn standing stone and some association between the two seems likely. It is a large circle, 18m dia. (the same as the Druid's Circle) lying on a gentle slope but set on a neat circular artificial terrace. It has quite restricted views only over the upland basin to the south. The field has been improved and only four stones remain, around the perimeter of the platform. However, the platform itself is well-preserved and any internal features, as well as holes of the missing stones are likely to be well preserved

The circle at Cefn Maen Amor, PRN 5066 (Fig. 29) is a much smaller circle, 7m dia. consisting of one large squarish recumbent boulder and five other smaller stones set on edge in an arc. It lies on upland plateau and has been partly truncated by a trackway. There is no sign of a cairn or bank to suggest that it might be just an eroded cairn. It has added value for a possible association with the nearby Maen Penddu standing stone (a scheduled monument) and a cairn.

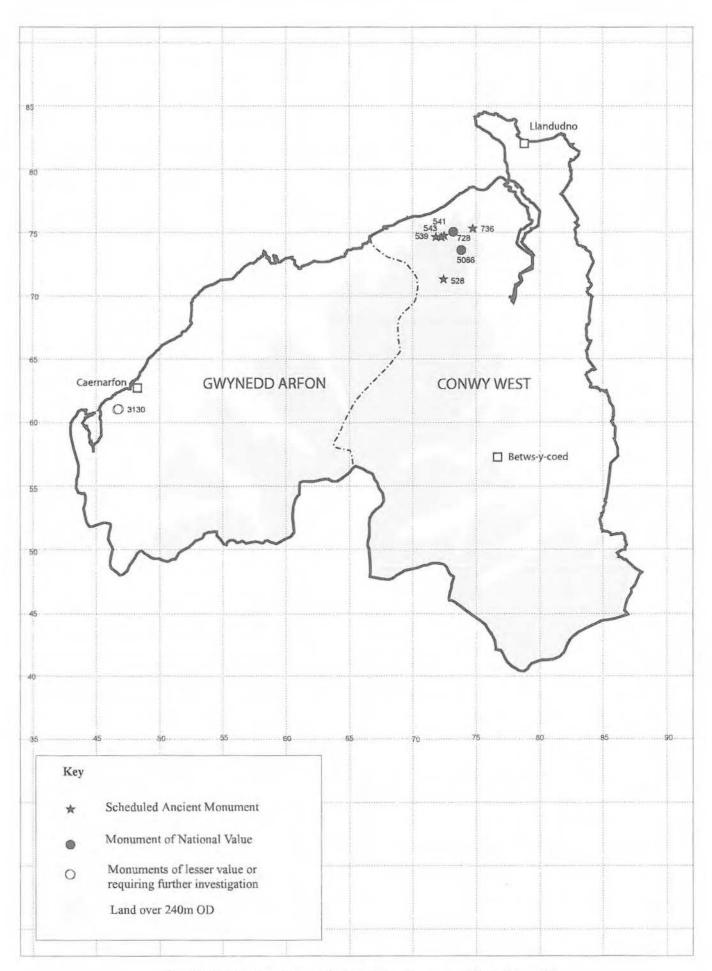


Fig. 27 Distribution of stone circles in West Conwy and North Gwynedd

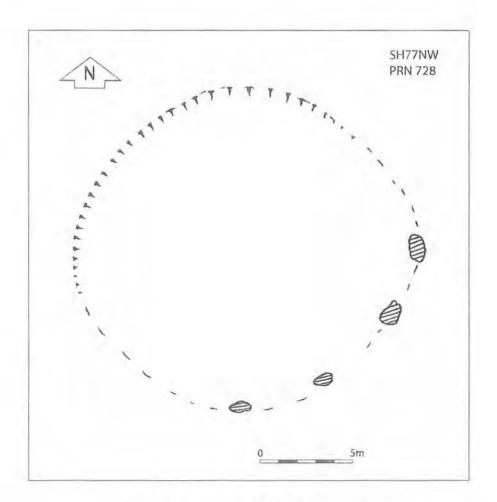


Fig. 28 Stone circle, East of Red Farm, Penmaenmawr



Fig. 29 Stone circle, Cefn Maen Amor

6.8 STONE ROW (Fig. 23)

Table 14: Stone row, summary

Number: 1 extant, SAM: 1, Class A status: 0.

Condition:	Status:
A: Intact	AA: Scheduled ancient monument
B: Mostly intact	A: National value
C: Some damage	B: Regional value
D: Substantial damage	C: Local value
E: Destroyed	D: Minor value
N: Not applicable	E: Requiring further assessment
U: Unknown/not located/not	F: Not applicable (Not located/Other site type
visited/submerged	etc)

OSMAP	PRN	SITENAME		Sta	Siting
SH78SE	649	Hwylfa'r ceirw stone row, Great Orme	A	AA	Cliff top

This single example is of uncertain interpretation or date, but still an unusual and impressive monument that is scheduled and deserves further investigation. It consists of a double row of neatly spaced orthostats that leads directly up and down a significant slope. This makes it seem unlikely to be an avenue as such although it has been suggested that it leads to an access point down the cliffs. Some nearby, possibly medieval fields are defined by similar lines of stones so a prehistoric date cannot be certain. However, some prehistoric ceremonial activity might be expected with the presence on the Great Orme of a Neolithic chambered tomb, a possible standing stone, the Bronze Age copper mining and hut circle settlement.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 THE STATE OF PRESENT UNDERSTANDING AND PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

7.1.1 Neolithic

The earliest funerary and ritual evidence from this area is that from the chambered tombs, with a distribution suggesting colonisation up the Conwy Valley. These are mainly of one type, the portal dolmen, part of an Irish Sea culture, with only one being different – the tomb of Capel Garmon, the furthest south-east, of Cotswold-Severn type, suggesting a separate social group, colonising via Mid-Wales. However, the only settlement evidence of that period comes from beneath the Llandegai henges, near Bangor and there is no corresponding focus of Earlier Neolithic monuments to suggest that Llandegai was already an important centre from that period. There is only one probable earlier Neolithic monument anywhere near - the rather uncertain ruinous tomb at Sling, Tregarth, 4km to the south-east. Llandegai was certainly an important focus of ceremonial activity by the Later Neolithic and seems to have maintained its importance into the Early Bronze Age, demonstrated by the presence of urned cremation burials.

Also in use, at around the same time as the Llandegai henges were the stone circles at Cefn Coch. Penmaenmawr where Graig Lwyd stone axes were found as well as evidence of funerary and ritual use into the Early Bronze Age. Cave burial was also being practised within the later Neolithic as evidenced by finds from Kendrick's Cave, Llandudno.

Actual dating evidence from this period is limited to five excavated sites – the Capel Garmon chambered tomb (Hemp 1927), the Llandegai Henges (Houlder 1967 & 1968 and Lynch forthcoming) and the three stone circles at Cefn Coch (Griffiths 1960). The lack of investigation and dating of any of the portal dolmens is most to be regretted. Some work is needed if only to understand their structure, all of which are unclear, for example Maen y bardd and Llety'r Filiast. Investigation is also needed of one or more of the undated stone circles, such as Cerrig y Pryfaid, or that close to the Maen Crwn standing stone, to provide dates and to see whether they were perhaps primarily Neolithic ceremonial monuments or just variant Bronze Age cairn circles.

7.1.2 Bronze Age

Standing stones are a significant element of the monuments in this area but have not been the subject of any research. Some are massive examples, lying close to trackways, like those in the Bwlch y Ddeufaen supporting the idea that routes were defining factor in their placement. However, there are other examples that are either smaller or more isolated with no clear relation to routes. Isolated examples may mark burials such as the Maen Llwyd stone at Glynllifon, Caernarfon, which produced a Food Vessel and a cremation (Wynn 1875). This funerary function seems to be confirmed by the two examples of standing stone actually incorporated in cairns, at Roewen and Abergwyngregyn (Figs 25-26). Such may also be the function of free-standing orthostats close to the stone circles at Cefn Llechen (PRN 736) and Cerrig y Pryfaid (PRN 528), unless they were markers for astronomical alignments. No standing stones have been the subject of modern investigation and only excavation can help to produce understanding of their date and function. Standing stones also have great public appeal, which makes the inability to provide interpretation and dating more regrettable. Reinvestigation of the Maen Llwyd stone could be justified in rescue terms because ploughing closely around it is threatening its stability and also its context. The same is also the case at the Bodfan stone, close to Dinas Dinlle, Caernarfon, another lowland stone in an exposed field position and of uncertain attribution. The stone of Maen Crwn, Penmaenmawr, is a very prominent and impressive stone, alongside to the North Wales long distance path and is worthy of better understanding because of its amenity value.

Round barrows. Of the 202 round barrows, 21 have produced finds (Fig. 30 and Appendix 3) of which 12 have produced pottery. Unfortunately most were accidental or robbing finds in the 19th century and many of the finds are lost without proper descriptions. The barrows with finds that did survive include single finds of collared urns and three barrows with multiple finds. One of these at Carnedd Howel (PRN 30), produced a Neolithic bowl and two food vessels and two produced both collared urns. pygmy cups and bronze pins at Penmaenmawr (PRN 2879) and Bryn Crug, Bethel (PRN 36). It seems

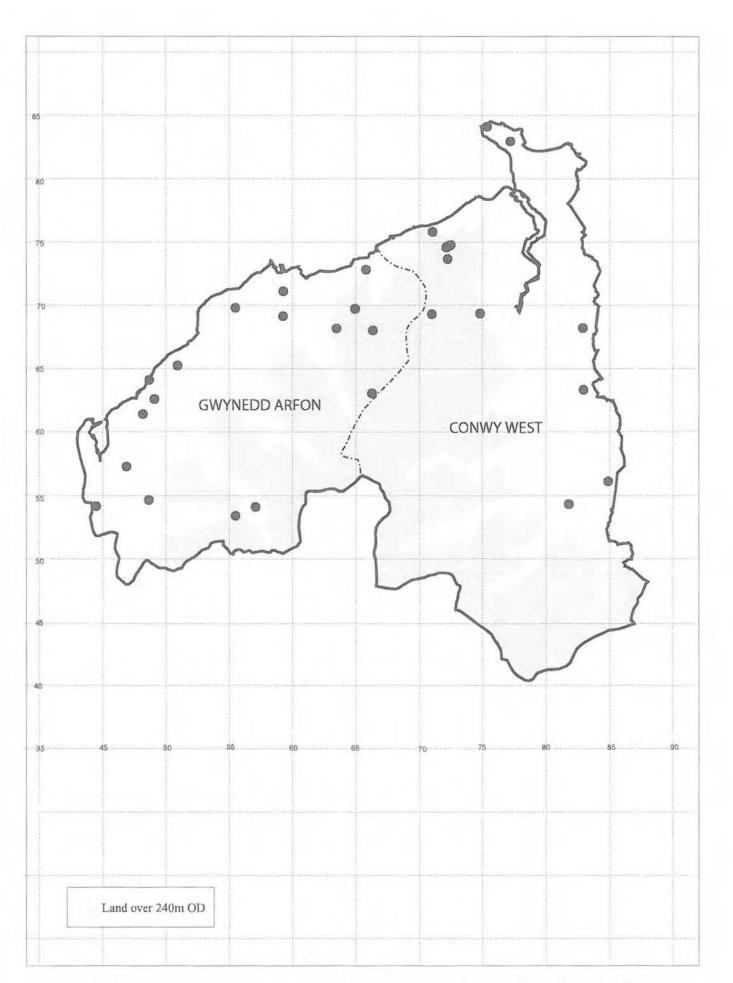


Fig. 30 Distribution of all prehistoric funerary and ritual sites in West Conwy and North Gwynedd with associated finds

significant that all three of these richer barrows are in lowland environments. Two have since been destroyed while one is part of a landscaped garden. Archaeological excavations as such have been very limited. Two barrow mounds lying in close association with the hillfort of Penygaer, Roewen were excavated by Harold Hughes in 1905, but the finds were only charcoal, burnt bone and copper alloy fragments, with no dateable evidence. Modern excavations have been limited to two sites, those of a ring cairn at Cefn Coch, Penmaenmawr (PRN 542) (Griffiths 1960) and of a group of small cairns on the summit of Drosgl, Llanllechid (Crew 1985). The former produce a collared urn, cremation and a radiocarbon date in the Early Bronze Age. The latter produced only undated cremations and a whetstone in stone slab cists. Lack of excavation in general also means that unmarked cist or urn burials are almost entirely unknown although they can be expected to exist around some barrows.

There is therefore insufficient evidence at present to provide any explanation of sequence or cultural affinity of the many funerary monuments. Particularly desirable is a better understanding of the date of the cairn variants in relation to the simpler cairns, like those at Drosgl. In this respect it would be best to study closely grouped cairns where there is a variety of types present. The best of these groups is that at Waun Llanfair south of Cefn Coch, Penmaenmawr, where there is a variety of cairns in well-defined sub-groups and with good environmental potential. Such environmental potential is usually not present for monuments in lowland or summit settings and this area has been chosen for environmental assessment, described below.

7.2 ENVIRONMENTAL LANDSCAPE CASE STUDY: WAUN LLANFAIR (Figs 31-2)

This area was first highlighted by the RCAHMW (1956) for the concentration of funerary monuments and their possible relation to a network of early trackways. There are five groups of cairns here (A-E). The largest group of monuments is that close to the low hill promontory of Bryniau Bugeilydd where there is a 'cairnfield' of eleven cairns with another group of three just 250m to the west, another group of four 300m to the south-east and another group of three 500m to the south (Fig. 31). However, what has been recognised after the present visits is that two of these groups of cairns and possibly all four have areas of settlement associated with them. The settlement remains have not been recognised before because they are so slight and are masked by blanket peat. The exception nearby is that at Foel Llwyd (Area E), which lies in a similar topographic position, about 1km to the south-west. It consists of a settlement of more substantially stone-built huts, which incorporates two cairns. In addition, there are three burnt mounds in this area, two near the Bryniau Bugeilydd group and one close the Foel Llwyd settlement. The position of the burnt mounds strongly suggests some association with the settlement/cairn groups and if true provides good potential for understanding the nature of upland Bronze Age settlement in the area. As a test of this it is likely that there should be another burnt mound close to Bryniau Bugeilydd south (Area D).

Cairn Group A. On the shoulder of the promontory of Bryniau Bugeilydd, between the low summit and a rise to higher ground to the east, is a small, level area one side of which is enclosed by a low, irregular stony bank (Fig. 32). Within the bank are two small cairns, one a ring bank, the other a cist within a ring bank, both about 5m in diameter. At the south side of the enclosure bank is another small ring bank, built into or built over by the enclosure bank. About 10m south of the enclosure is another group of boulders that is probably the disturbed remains of another cairn (PRN 473). The topographic position, layout and presence of the enclosing bank suggest the ring banks are actually small huts, one of which, at least, has later been modified to form a funerary monument.

Cairn Group B. About 250m to the south-east, across a small valley is the main group of eleven cairns. These are mainly small and simple mounds 3 to 5m diameter although one, with a cist, is 8.5m diameter. The cairns are well scattered and seem on the whole too neat and precisely placed to be clearance cairns, apart from which there are no enclosures or other signs of agricultural activity although three seem to be simply small dumps of clearance stone and one consists of stone piled around a rock outcrop. One of the cairns had previously been identified as a burnt mound by the RCAHMW but, if correctly relocated, consisted of larger stones than is usual for burnt mound and seems more likely to be another cairn. However, of the rest, four had central robbing pits, two had probable cists and one probable kerbing. New features were located, comprising a length of wandering wall at the south of the cairn group, following the contour (PRN 15943) and at the south east, a small enclosure formed by a bank and natural scarps around a natural terrace (PRN 16616 Fig. 32) within which are signs of activity comprising a small cairn and a line of stones. This could well be a small

settlement area similar to that described above. It is well grown over and quite level so that hut platforms might not be visible, whereas the enclosure described previously is well grazed and exposed to view.

Cairn Group C. Further to the south-east around the contours is a group of four cairns. Two are on the top of the plateau overlooking the basin and two are on a terrace below it. One has a cist and kerbing and is larger than most here at 10m dia. The other three are all small, 3.5 to 4.5m dia., one with a cist and all four have been robbed. The terrace on which two of the cairns lie has two post-medieval small sheepfolds and these lie on a level area of unusually irregular ground. It is suggested that this may be the disturbed remains of a settlement area associated with the cairns. Running down the slope, west from this area for about 100m is a low rubble bank. This meets another similar but much longer bank (PRN 15944), which runs from near to cairn group B and continues in a very 'wandering' line around the contour to near to cairn group D. Neither end has a clear termination. Along its length it incorporates another small simple cairn, 5m dia. Neither of these walls or the cairn have previously been recorded, despite the visits of the RCAHMW (1960) and a recent aerial mapping survey for the RCAHMW. Further features would certainly be identified if a measured survey was carried out.

Cairn Group D. 500m to the south of group C are three cairns. One is a large kerbed cairn, 8m dia.. with a cist (Fig. 11 above) and two are small, simple cairns. All three have been robbed. Two other cairns were recorded by the RCAHMW here but they seem to be natural outcrops. The area has been rather disturbed by later clearance and there are two small sheepfolds. Within the cairn group is a low, circular terraced platform, 6m dia., which has been identified as almost certainly a hut platform. The very slight nature of this feature makes it difficult to recognise and similar features would be easily missed. It is only recognisable here because it lies within an area of slightly better grazing that has been grazed to short turf, whereas most of the area is short scrubby heather. The location of the cairns and hut seem to be related to this better grazing, probably where there is a deposit of underlying glacial till, like an alluvial 'fan' which supports grass rather than heather. Similar areas occur around the basin at cairn groups B and C.

Cairn Group E. The settlement at Foel Llwyd, 1km to the south lies in exactly the same topographic position as groups A to D, just above the marshy basin. It consists of three stone-walled round huts and enclosure walls. A small cairn, 5m dia. is incorporated in the angle of one of a small rectangular structure/platform. Another larger kerbed cairn, 8m dia., with a robbed cist, lies 60m to the south-east. It lies on the slope but has been carefully terraced up to make it level. About a hundred metres to the west of the settlement, in the marsh is a burnt mound. The settlement may just re-use the area of the cairns and be of the more usual date for such settlements of later prehistoric to Romano-British date. However, it seems less regularly built, and the huts of smaller size than most of those. There is also an abundance of loose stone available here, at the foot of the stony slopes of Foel Llwyd, compared to the situation at cairn groups A to D.

Some features about these cairn groups stand out. They comprise mainly simple small mounds but at three of them there is one larger, more complex cairn. It would be interesting to find the relative dates of the cairns. For instance, were the larger cairns early, 'founding' cairns? At each of the cairn groups there are indications of possibly contemporary settlement. The numbers of cairns, however, seem to outweigh the evidence of settlement in terms of both extent and complexity. Possibly the settlement was extremely marginal at this altitude and the areas continued to be used for funerary purposes after the focus of settlement moved to lower ground, perhaps during climatic deterioration in the Later Bronze Age (Caseldine 1990, 66). In this case we might expect cairns to re-use or be built over house sites, as seems to be the case at cairn group A.

The position of the cairn/settlement groups is closely related to the edge of the marshy basin. The long wandering contour wall seems to form no purpose as an enclosure or be related to any agricultural evidence. The cairns all lie up slope from the wall so the basin may have been important, perhaps as a rich grazing area, prior to some environmental deterioration that led to growth of the blanket peat. It may, on the other hand have been an area of woodland that was an important resource, to be conserved from grazing carried out on poorer land higher on the hill. During use of the burnt mounds a supply of fuel from the basin can be presumed, probably coppiced hazel. The indications are that the peat probably formed after the period of use of the burnt mounds. Environmental study of two burnt mounds in South Wales has shown the presence of cereal cultivation in the vicinity of both, so the present

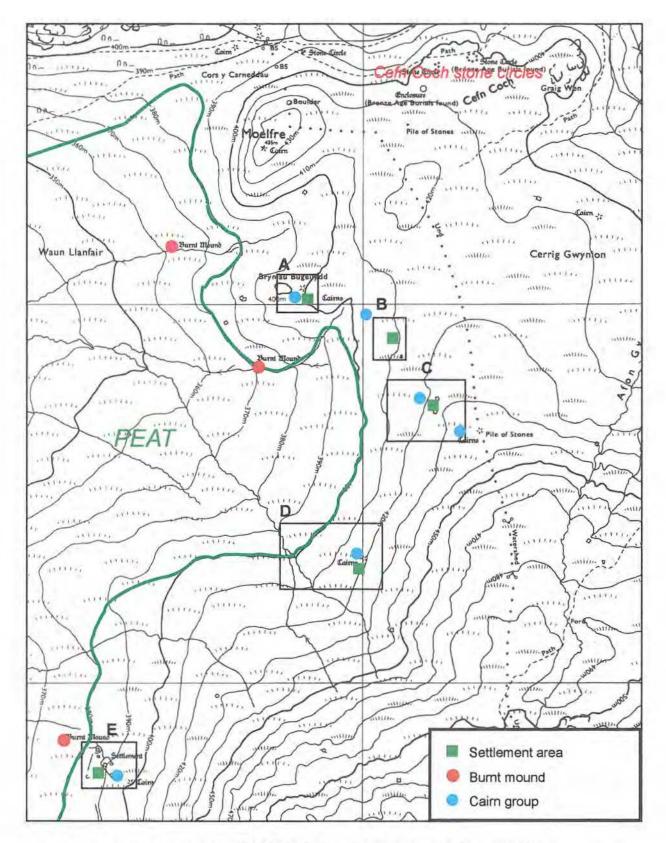


Fig. 31 Waun Llanfair, Llanfairfechan: General topography. Scale 1:10,000 Based on the OS 1:10,000 scale map. © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number AL 10002085.

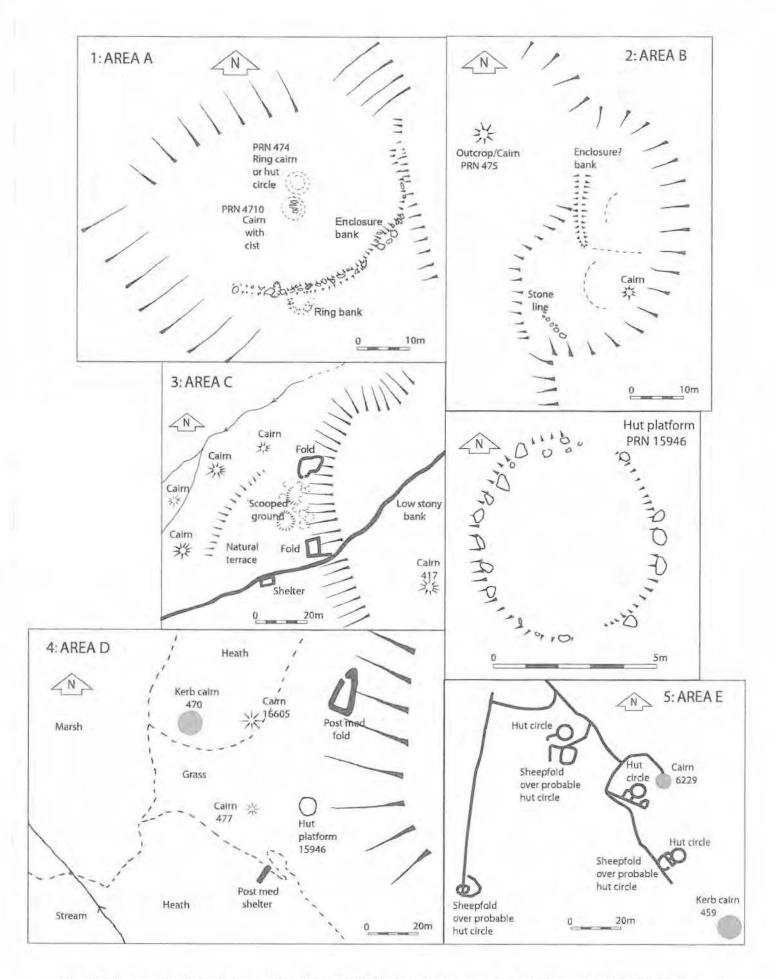


Fig. 32 Waun Llanfair, Llanfairfechan: Hut platform PRN 15946 and Area plans. 1-4 sketch plans. 5 after OS 1:1250 survey

environmental setting may be misleading (Caseldine 1990, 58). Astrid Caseldine made a preliminary visit to this area in January 2002, and the following assessment was produced.

Palaeo-environmental assessment, Waun Llanfair, Llanfairfechan, Conwy, by Astrid Caseldine

The area under investigation comprises a mixture of acid grassland, heath and blanket bog. The close proximity of the peat deposits to the archaeological remains suggests that they offer particularly high potential for palaeo-environmental study. A preliminary assessment of the peat deposits indicates that they vary from around 0.5 m to just over 1m in depth. Further work needs to be undertaken to determine the best locations for sampling. However, based on the initial visit to the area it would seem appropriate to sample at two or three sites taking into account the depth of peat and the proximity to the archaeological remains. As well as the general palaeo-environmental record, of particular interest is the relationship between human activity in the area and the date of peat initiation. It is important that the pollen profiles are adequately dated, and preferably that dating material is also recovered from some of the archaeological sites in the area to allow close integration of the environmental and archaeological evidence.

Although study of the burnt mounds, cairns and settlement themselves is needed, environmental study should be most immediately productive, providing information about the environmental history of the basin and perhaps dated episodes of human interference. The Bryniau Bugeilydd cairns seem to represent a distinctive and separate cultural episode to the larger and probably communal monuments on Cefn Coch, even though we know from excavations there that they continued in use until at least the Middle Bronze Age (Griffiths 1960). The Cefn Coch group can be argued to lie along an important routeway but the same cannot be said for Bryniau Bugeilydd. The cairns of the latter are generally quite small, lacking orthostatic stones and not built in prominent positions. The cairns may have doubled as both clearance heaps and funerary mounds, for instance the cists that are visible seem quite high in the mounds, rather than beneath them, perhaps indicating that they may have been added to pre-existing mounds. Any further speculation is unwarranted without evidence, for while several complex cairns have been investigated, like the cairn circles at Cefn Caer Euni, for instance (Lynch 1986), there has been a lack of study of small, simple cairns.

7.3 PUBLIC PERCEPTION, FOLKORE AND PRESENTATION (Fig. 33)

37 out of a total of 270 monuments have names associated with them (Appendix 4), a rather smaller proportion than was the case in Meirionnydd where 60 monuments out of 308 had associated names. Of 26 with folklore associations, 9 had personal names and 16 folk tale associations. 10 had descriptive names and 2 names associated with the topographic location. Of the references to personal names, Llywelyn and Dafydd are historical while in another case (Saint) Twrog has probably been applied fancifully to a prehistoric monument as probably with the cairn of Rhun, also a historical figure. Two are of unknown origin, Howel (a giant?) and Galcacus while the others are names of legend, Tristan, Arthur and Carrawg (a wild boar). The same is probably true of Filiast - the greyhound - and possibly Moel-y-ci - Hill of the dog, and Barclodiad-y-gawres - Apronful of the giantess. Other names derive from legend like Cairn of the English and Graves of the Hundred Men. Others are more mysterious but probably relate to folk tales - Maen y Bardd - the Bard's stone, Maingc y gynhadledd - the Bench/slab of the meeting place, Maen y Campiau - Stone of the (insects?), Maen Allor - Stone altar, Allor moloch -Altar of terror! Pen Llithrig y wrach - Slippery summit of the witch and Hwffa'r ceirw - Race course/path of the deer. One, Maen Pebyll - Stone tent, suggests a reference to early bards or hermits as a related name occurs in Meirionnydd - Pabyll Llywarch Hen -Tent of (the bard) Llywarch Hen. One, an isolated stone. Maen Sertan or Siertyr - Charter stone, was a boundary stone in the charter of Aberconwy Abbey, but was likely to have already been a recognised landscape feature and perhaps boundary marker.

Relatively few are purely descriptive. One, the site of a possible chambered tomb, Castell Rhidyn may be just a romantic name referring to rhedyn – bracken. Garnedd Goch – Red cairn, Maen Llwyd – Grey stone and Maen Crwn – Stout/fat stone are self-evident.

Only one monument has a name that may bear a direct archaeological reference – Carnedd y Ddelw (Fig. 22) – Cairn of the golden image, after the supposed finding of a gold object there, of which no further record survives.

Of the monuments with names only a few are widely known, like Maen y bardd and the Druid's Circle. Others deserve to be better known for their public interest value. In some cases information could be incorporated in local walks leaflets such as within the Great Orme country park, the Abergwyngregyn national nature reserve or the proposed community local nature reserve at Moel-y-ci, Bangor. Most obvious is the need for better presentation at the Cefn Coch and Bwlch y Ddeufaen groups of monuments, both heavily visited areas of great amenity value. This could involve some discrete signing or information panels, for example at the Bwlch y Ddeufaen or Penmaenmawr car parks. Information could also be supplied in relation to the North Wales long distance path, which passes Cefn Coch.

The summary reports alone will not provide sufficient public information, because of the limited circulation of local journals so some other sort of popular publications should be developed. Some of the more obvious monuments close to roads could also do with care and attention and creation of access, for instance the stone circle of Cerrig y Pryfaid, Bwlch y Ddeufaen and the Sling chambered tomb, Tregarth.

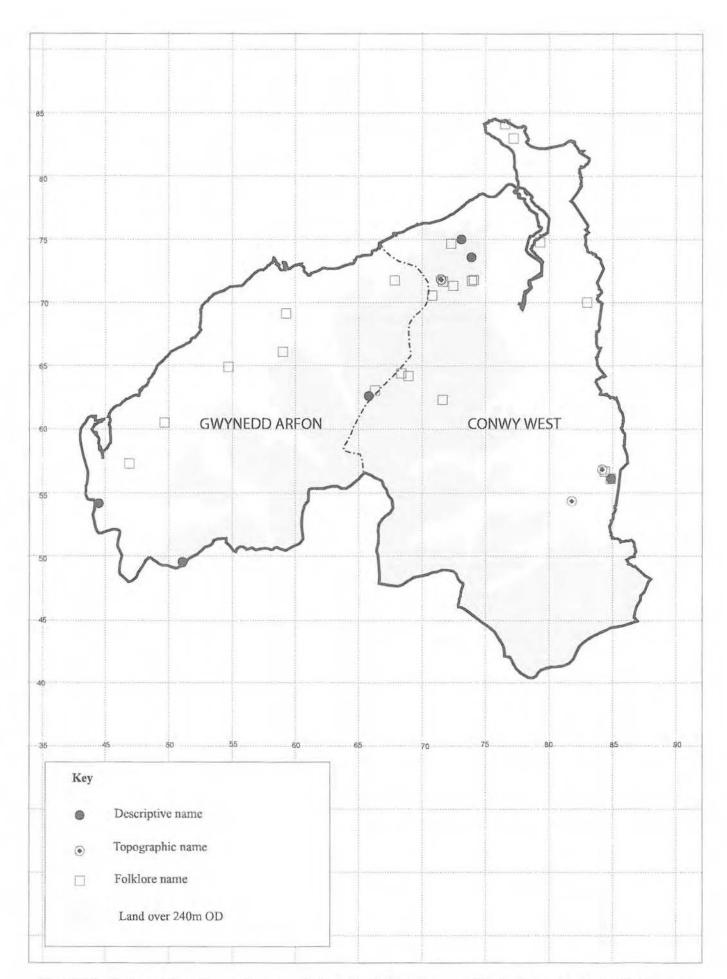


Fig. 33 Distribution of all prehistoric funerary and ritual sites in West Conwy and North Gwynedd with significant names

7.4 MANAGEMENT

Fig. 34 shows the distribution of all monuments with their recorded threat class. Those in the uplands tend to be at lower threat from those in the lowland, apart from those on frequently visited summits. Table 15 shows the threat class for the main threat type in each case. The majority of monuments are in upland so are either at no risk or only low risk from sheep trampling. The second most numerous threat is that of visitor disturbance, in this case relating mainly to monuments on summits that are regularly trampled or interfered with. There are only occasional cases of other types of threat, but nevertheless 38 monuments were recorded as having a medium threat and 8 with a high threat and all these deserve attention.

Those with a high threat include two scheduled monuments, Mwdl Eithin round barrow (PRN 4646) and Maen Pebyll long barrow (PRN 4671), both actively being eroded around their periphery by occasional ploughing for reseeding of pasture. Two summit cairns are being seriously affected by visitor trampling and remodelling - those of Carnedd Dafydd (PRN 749) and Y Garn (PRN 599) and both need recording and consolidation. Two other sites, however, are already largely destroyed round barrows. The remaining site is a low mound of a ploughed down round barrow that was robbed in antiquity and produced an urn (PRN 596). Its poor preservation means it is not of high value but it is a relatively rare survival in a lowland area.

	Threat	-			
Threat type	High	Medium	Low	Nil	Total
Agriculture	5	13	7		25
Stock		6	83		89
Forestry		1	1		1
Visitors	12	12	29		53
Natural/Vegetation		1	1		2
Construction		3			3
Clearance/robbing		2	2		4
Vehicles			3		3
	17	38	125	31	211

Table 15: Threat class compared to threat type

Altogether eight scheduled monuments are recorded as having a medium threat class, two from encroaching ploughing and three from heavy stock trampling and these all urgently need attention. Another is becoming overgrown and encroached upon by trees in forestry at Meuryn Isaf, Abergwyngregyn (PRN 359), with felling due in the near future. One, a cairn and stone circle at Cefn Coch (PRN 537) has been damaged in the past by insertion of an electricity pole into its centre. The last is the remaining area of the Llandegai henge complex comprising part of the cursus and other features, which although visible only as cropmarks, continues to be heavily ploughed on an annual basis which must be affecting survival of the remains.

Other monuments under medium threat include 17 of national value. Six of these are in improved pasture at risk from further ploughing and six are on summits at risk from visitor trampling and interference and two are at risk from heavy stock trampling.

Condition is often related to threat and monuments with high or medium threat are often those already damaged to some extent. Table 16 shows the condition in relation to monument type. Over half of all monuments are recorded as intact or nearly so (excluding the effects of natural decay) which provides a remarkable resource. This is largely down to the proportion of upland compared to lowland, where upstanding monuments of any kind are rare. The main monument class in a damaged condition comprises round barrows affected by visitor damage, heavy stock trampling or clearance. However, as most of these are stone-built cairns underlying archaeological evidence will be likely to survive despite damage to the upstanding visible remains.

	A	В	C	D	E	U
	Intact	Mostly intact	Some damage	Substantial damage	Destroyed	Unclassified
Carved stone	-	-	-	-	-	1
Chambered tomb	1	5	4	-	7	3
Circular feature	-	-		-	-	1
Cist/cremation	1	-	1	•	4	-
Cursus	-	1	-	-	-	-
Henge	-	-	+	1	-	-
Round barrow	81	33	39	13	12	24
Standing stone	14	10	1	1	1	2
Stone circle	3	4	1	-	1	
Stone row	1	-	-	-	-	4
	101	53	45	15	25	31

Table 16: Monument condition and type.

Monument evaluation has been carried out according to the same criteria previously used by all the WATs despite the reservations about its effectiveness as discussed in the report for Meirionnydd. It has been the General Status given by professional judgement that has been needed to provide a reasonable separation of overall value. This has been successful in that this has produced a fairly 'normal' range of monument values in terms of the proportions of monuments of high, medium and low value that were quite similar to the proportions recorded for Meirionnydd. The general value (status) of each site has been shown in the summary table for each monument type, above.

Environmental potential (Fig. 35). Although much of the area visited in 2001 was upland, where blanket peat is common, many summits, ridges and slopes have only limited soil cover. It is only plateau and basins that have higher environmental value and not all of these are valuable in terms of other criteria. As described above (7.2) the basin of Waun Llanfair, Llanfairfechan has a large number of funerary monuments with extensive nearby peat deposits. It is also close to the previously excavated complex of stone circles at Cefn Coch, which lacks associated environmental evidence. Waun Llanfair was the subject of a preliminary environmental assessment and it is planned to carry out sampling during 2002.

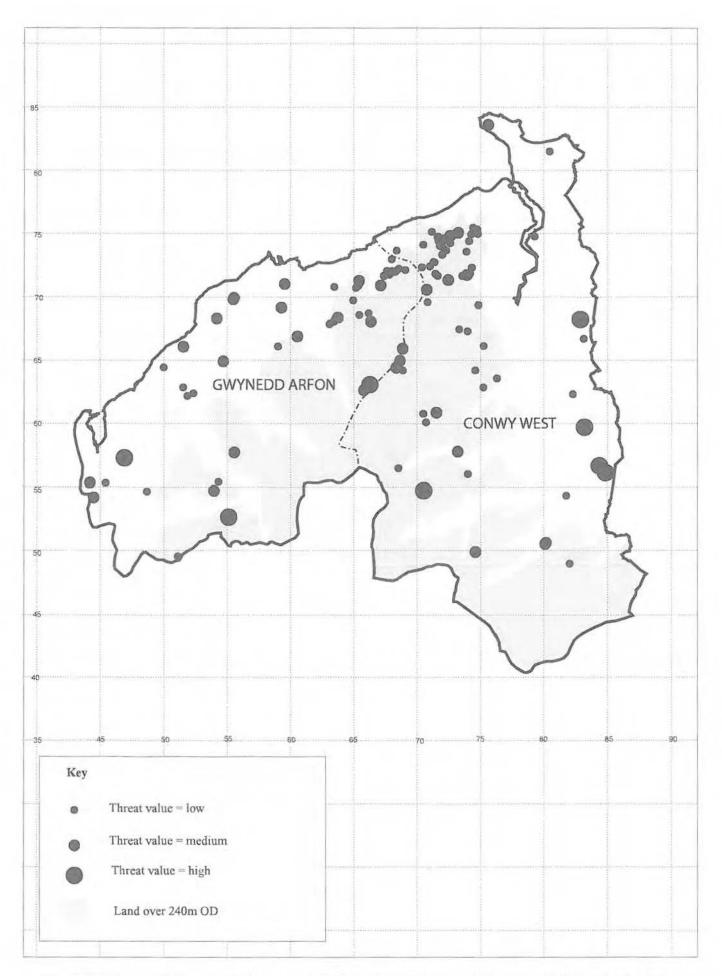


Fig. 34 Distribution of all prehistoric funerary and ritual sites in West Conwy and North Gwynedd showing threat class

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Prehistoric Funerary and Ritual Monument Survey, West Conwy and North Gwynedd: Appendix 1, Summary gazetteer in OS map order

OSMAP	PRN	NGR	Monument type	Sub-type	Gen clas
SH45NE					
	596	SH46905725	Round barrow	Mound	В
	5529	SH45445530	Standing stone/rubbing stone		С
	12904	SH45775588	Standing stone		A
SH45NW					
	2265	SH44205532	Standing stone		А
SH45SE					
	1387	SH48675464	Other site type/period	Hut circle	F
	1829	SH49765438	Round barrow, site of	Kerb caim	D
	2351	SH49705470A	Round barrow	Caim	E
	2354	SH49805430A	Chambered tomb, site of		F
	12905		Standing stone?		С
	12906	SH45985388	Standing stone		A
SH45SW					
	1313	SH44495415	Standing stone		٨A
SH46SE					
	1633	SH47206180A	Chambered tomb? site of		F
	3099	SH48206140A	Round barrow, site of		F
	3101	SH49116259	Cremation		F
	3109	SH49996442	Round barrow?	Caim	С
	3116	SH48706410A	Round barrow? site of		D
	3130	SH46706100A	Stone circle		D
	3131	SH46406010A	Chambered tomb, site of		D
	3132	SH49706050A	Chambered tomb, site of		F
	3620	SH49026230	Other site type/period	Rubbing stone	с
SH54NW					
	1429	SH51114952	Round barrow	Cairn	в
SH55NE					
	4050	SH55585771	Round barrow	Cairn	A
SH55NW					
1999 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 - 1997 -	398	SH50405980A	Chambered tomb?		F
	399	SH51105960A	Chambered tomb?		C

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OSMAP	PRN	NGR	Monument type	Sub-type	Gen class
	747	SH54335542	Round barrow	Caim	А
	5762	SH50975967	Round barrow?	Caim	С
	5848	SH51225970	Non-site/natural feature		F
	12907	SH50405980	Standing stone		А
SH55SE					
	599	SH55135260	Round barrow	Cairn	A
	600		Round barrow	Caim	В
	1574	SH57205222	Round barrow?	Mound	С
	3391	SH57105410A	Cist, site of		F
	3392	SH56505140A	Round barrow, site of	Caim	F
	3393	SH55505340A	Cist cemetery, site of		F
SH55SW					
	2779	SH53965469	Round barrow	Caim	В
SH56NE					
	22	SH55506980	Round barrow?	Mound	D
	23	SH55566990	Round barrow	Mound	A
	30	SH59286914	Round barrow	Caim	A
	31	SH59036609	Round barrow	Caim	Α
SH56NW					
	36	SH50946524	Round barrow, site of		D
	627	SH51546604	Chambered tomb?		E
	631	SH54196827	Standing stone		A
SH56SW					
	396	SH54056170	Round barrow	Kerb caim	Α
	1832	SH50636465C	Other site type/period	Hut circle settlement?	Е
	3616	SH51866217	Other site type/period	Memorial stone	С
	3617	SH52356238	Other site type/period	Memorial stone	С
	3618	SH51546285	Other site type/period	Memorial stone	С
	3687	SH54706490	Round barrow?	Caim	AA
	3713	SH54706180	Standing stone		٨
	12908		Other site type/period	Memorial stone	C
SH57SE					
	222	SH59307110C	Henge		F
	2314	SH59557100	Cursus		AA
SH65NE					
	4509	SH68565648	Round barrow	Kerb caim	A

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OSMAP	PRN	NGR	Monument type	Sub-type	Gen clas
SH65NW					
	4506	SH63505590A	Other site type/period	Hut circle	F
	12909		Round barrow	Caim	В
	12910		Round barrow	Caim	В
SH66NE					
	758	SH66366802	Round barrow	Kerb caim	В
	760	SH68886589	Round barrow	Caim	в
	2335	SH66206870	Round barrow	Caim	в
	2336	SH65606870A	Round barrow, not located	Ring caim	E
	5001	SH65436888	Round barrow cemetery/clearance caimfield		F
	5002	SH65456858	Round barrow	Ring caim	А
	5896	SH66326912	Round barrow? not located	Cairn	Е
	12911		Round barrow	Kerb caim	в
	12912	SH65436888A	Round barrow	Cairn	A
	12913	SH65436888A	Round barrow	Caim	A
	12914	SH65436888A	Round barrow	Caim	A
	12915		Round barrow? not located	Caim	Α
SH66NW					
	221	SH60556686	Chambered tomb		AA
	306	SH63506817	Round barrow	Caim	AA
	307	SH63516815	Round barrow	Cairn	AA
	308	SH63456804	Round barrow	Caim	AA
	309	SH63056775C	Other site type/period	Field clearance caimfield	F
	310	SH63106783	Round barrow	Cairn	В
	311	SH63156789	Round barrow	Structured cairn	А
	314	SH64966972	Round barrow	Caim	A
	316	SH63746835	Round barrow	Cairn	A
	12916	SH63746836	Round barrow	Caim	А
SH66SE					
	748	SH68366438	Round barrow	Caim	А
	749	SH66286305	Round barrow	Caim	A
	753	SH66136293	Round barrow	Caim	A
	754	SH65806262	Round barrow	Caim	A
	3923	SH68676494	Round barrow	Caim	в
	3924	SH68926418	Round barrow	Caim	в
SH66SW		2000 00 202 200 0 0 0 0 0 0	1999 1997 1997 1997 1997 1997 1997 1997		

SH66SW

OSMAP	PRN	NGR	Monument type Sub-type	Gen class
	3980		Other site type/period Field cleara	nce caimfield F
	5671	SH61006490C	Duplicate number, same as 3980	F
	12917	SH65436888A	Round barrow? Kerb caim	В
	12918	SH65436888A	Round barrow? Kerb caim?	В
SH67SE				
	239	SH65417126	Round barrow Ring caim	А
	332		Standing stone & Round barrow Cairn	Е
	354	SH67837174	Round barrow cemetery/clearance cairnfield	AA
	355	SH67427163	Round barrow Caim	A
	356	SH67397166	Round barrow Kerb cairn	А
	357	SH68937118A	Other site type/period Spring hollo	ow F
	358	SH68977119A	Non-site/natural feature	F
	359	SH67147088	Round barrow Kerb caim	AA
	360	SH65397089	Round barrow Caim	А
	361	SH65387123	Round barrow Caim	А
	362	SH67647205	Round barrow Caim	A
	364	SH68287195	Round barrow Cairn	Е
	375	SH68027296	Round barrow Caim	С
	376	SH68377203	Round barrow Kerb cairn	А
	378	SH68427364	Round barrow Caim	AA
	379	SH68387361	Other site type/period Field cleara	nce caim/natural feature AA
	380	SH68597221	Round barrow Caim	A
	381	SH69107211	Round barrow Caim	A
	816	SH68377128	Round barrow Cairn	Е
	4069	SH65197071	Round barrow Caim	С
	4079	SH65817281A	Cremation	F
	4083	SH69247104	Round barrow?/other site type	Е
	4093	SH65257055C	Other site type/period Marker cair	m F
	4095	SH68037202	Round barrow Kerb caim?	A
	12795		Round barrow Ring caim	В
	12806		Round barrow Kerb caim	В
	12810		Round barrow Caim	В
	12919		Round barrow Structured c	aim AA
	12920		Round berrow Caim	AA
	15921		Round barrow/clearance cairn Cairn	AA
	15922		Round barrow/clearance caim Caim	AA

OSMAP	PRN	NGR	Monument type	Sub-type	Gen clas
	15923		Round barrow	Cairn	AA
	15924		Round barrow/clearance cairn	Cairn	AA
	15925		Round barrow	Kerb cairn	AA
	15926		Round barrow/clearance cairn	Caim	AA
	15927		Round barrow	Kerb caim	AA
	15928		Round barrow/clearance cairn	Caim	AA
	15929		Round barrow/clearance cairn	Cairn	AA
	15930	SH67647205A	Round barrow	Ring caim	Α
	15931		Round barrow?	Caim	в
SH67SW					
	2321	SH64607220A	Non-site/natural feature		F
	2344	SH62477100	Round barrow, site of	Caim	F
	3893	SH63477078	Standing stone		в
SH74NE					
	3974	SH77864713	Other site type/period	Shepherd's shelter	F
	6037	SH77564635	Other site type/period	Marker cairn	F
	6039	SH78554614	Other site type/period	Marker cairn	F
	6040	SH78544641	Other site type/period	Marker cairn	F
	6044	SH75704525	Other site type/period	Marker caim	F
	6047	SH77544579	Other site type/period	Marker caim	F
SH74NW					
	5036	SH74584985	Round barrow	Caim	С
SH74SE					
ULLI IUL	6077	SH78744248	Other site type/period	Marker caim	F
	6085	SH77954188	Other site type/period	Marker caim	F
	6089	SH79314120	Other site type/period	Marker caim	F
	6092	SH79054088	Other site type/period	Marker caim	F
SH75NW			Sand Die Operation		
511751414	3750	SH73195775	Round barrow	Caim	A
	3758	SH73555515	Round barrow	Caim	A
	3759	SH73525510	Round barrow	Caim	A
	3761	SH73525510 SH74015601	Round barrow		C
0117500	3701	511/1013001	YOUNG OUTOW	Cairn	C.
SH75SE	1000	51176062360	D		r.
01100000	3933	SH75955250	Round barrow? not located	Carn	E
SH75SW					

OSMAP	PRN	NGR	Monument type	Sub-type	Gen class
	3727	SH70535469	Round barrow	Caim	В
	15934	SH74585005	Round barrow	Cairn	С
SH76NE					
	684	SH75256611	Round barrow	Platform caim	А
	685	SH75206617	Duplicate number		F
	1544	SH77036777	Chambered tomb, site of		F
	5280	SH75206571	Other site type/period	Boundary stone/waymarker stone	F
SH76NW					
	704	SH70846959	Round barrow	Caim	в
	4558	SH74836936	Round barrow	Mound	AA
	4559	SH74836934	Round barrow	Mound	AA
	4562	SH71006930A	Round barrow, not located	Cairn	E
	10251	SH73326742	Round barrow	Ring caim?	A
	10253	SH73996715	Other site type/period	Field clearance caim	F
	10254	SH73966711C	Other site type/period	Field clearance cairnfield	F
	10255	SH73986727	Round barrow	Kerb caim?	A
	10290	SH74116701	Other site type/period	Rubbing stone	F
	10291	SH74116703	Other site type/period	Field clearance caim	F
	10292	SH74136703	Other site type/period	Field clearance caim	F
	10294	SH74156703	Other site type/period	Field clearance caim	F
	10296	SH74186705	Other site type/period	Field clearance cairn	F
	10297	SH74216707	Other site type/period	Hut circle?	F
	10298	SH74206710	Other site type/period	Field clearance cairn	F
	10299	SH74196709	Other site type/period	Field clearance cairn	F
	10300	SH74206708	Other site type/period	Field clearance caim	F
	10302	SH74126706	Other site type/period	Field clearance caim	F
SH76SE					
	4623	SH77146063	Other site type/period	Burnt mound/clearance cairn	F
	4624	SH75236284	Round barrow	Cairn	А
	10594	SH75236318	Other site type/period	Summit marker caim	F
	10649	SH75246282	Round barrow?	Caim?	С
	10650	SH75676406	Round barrow?	Cairn?	С
	10723	SH76556417	Other site type/period	Field clearance caim	F
	10749	SH76296356	Standing stone		в
SH76SW					
	3762	SH70526080	Round barrow	Cairn	٨

OSMAP	PRN	NGR	Monument type	Sub-type	Gen clas
	3763	SH70516077	Standing stone		А
	3764	SH70566080	Cist		A
	3765	SH71536085	Round barrow	Caim	в
	3773	SH71096079	Round barrow	Caim	A
	3774	SH70736010	Round barrow	Structured cairn	Α
	3779	SH71606232	Round barrow	Caim	в
	5035	SH70526080	Part of 3762		F
	5181	SH71506130A	Round barrow? not located	Cairn	E
	5621	SH71026310	Non-site/natural feature		F
	10653	SH74586418	Round barrow?	Caim	С
SH77NW					
	728	SH73237504	Stone circle		А
	730	SH71187513	Round barrow	Cairn	A
	736	SH74757531	Stone circle		AA
	737	SH74487508	Cist		в
	2879	SH71057580	Round barrow, site of		F
	5520	SH74427546C	Round barrow	Cairn	В
	15935		Round barrow?	Cairn	В
	15936	SH71197510	Round barrow?	Cairn	À
	15937	SH71177510	Round barrow	Caim	A
	15938	SH71157509	Round barrow	Caim	Α
	15939	SH71157511	Round barrow	Cairn	Α
	15947		Round barrow, not located	Caim	E
	15948		Round barrow	Cairn	В
SH77SE					
	2474	SH76477026	Standing stone, site of		E
	2475	SH79297475	Chambered tomb		AA
	2488	SH79137407A	Non-site/natural feature? not located		E
	2489	SH78607190A	Chambered tomb? site of		Е
	3020	SH75107300A	Other site type/period	Field clearance caim	F
	3448	SH77007190A	Chambered tomb? site of		F
SH77SW					
	456	SH70787055	Round barrow	Caim	А
	459	SH71397273	Round barrow	Kerb caim	A
	460	SH71727441	Round barrow	Caim	AA
	461	SH70417234	Round barrow	Caim	в

OSMAP	PRN	NGR	Monument type	Sub-type	Gen clas
	462	SH71037241	Round barrow?	Cairn	С
	463	SH70897198	Round barrow	Cairn	С
	464	SH71657468	Round barrow	Cairn	AA
	465	SH70527412	Round barrow	Mound	A
	470	SH71987334	Round barrow	Kerb caim	A
	471	SH72257366	Round barrow	Cairn	А
	472	SH72007394	Round barrow	Cairn	В
	473	SH71827401	Round barrow?	Kerb caim?	Е
	474	SH71847404	Round barrow	Ring cairn	A
	475		Round barrow/clearance cairn	Cairn	В
	476	SH72307366	Round barrow	Cairn	В
	477		Round barrow	Cairn	С
	478	SH71957378	Other site type/period	Field clearance caim	F
	483	SH70557201	Round barrow	Cairn	С
	484	SH71967408	Round barrow?	Cairn	в
	485	SH72007398	Round barrow	Caim	В
	486	SH71957392	Other site type/period	Field clearance caim	F
	487	SH72047390	Round barrow	Cairn	в
	488		Round barrow/burnt mound?	Cairn	в
	489	SH71957384	Other site type/period	Field clearance caim	F
	490	SH72037382	Round barrow	Cairn	В
	491	SH72017379	Other site type/period	Field clearance cairn	F
	492	SH72077379	Round barrow	Cairn	В
	493	SH72067324	Non-site/natural feature		F
	494	SH72097328	Other site type/period	Stone line	F
	495	SH72207370A	Round barrow	Cairn	В
	496	SH72227366	Round barrow	Cairn	в
	519	SH71647166	Round barrow	Cairn	АА
	520	SH71827158	Round barrow	Cairn	AA
	521	SH71687163	Round barrow	Cairn	AA
	523	SH71527178	Standing stone		AA
	524	SH71467183	Standing stone		AA
	525	SH74177182	Standing stone		AA
	526	SH73557164	Standing stone & Round barrow	Cairn	AA
	527	SH73927170	Standing stone & Round barrow	Cairn	AA
	528	SH72457132	Stone circle		AA
	529	SH74067178	Chambered tomb		AA

OSMAP	PRN	NGR	Monument type	Sub-type	Gen clas.
	530	SH74127189	Chambered tomb		AA
	534	SH71687476	Round barrow	Kerb caim	AA
	535	SH71727472	Round barrow	Kerb caim	AA
	536	SH71727473	Round barrow	Caim	AA
	537	SH72607480	Round barrow	Mound	AA
	538	SH72387470	Round barrow, not located	Caim	AA
	539	SH72507476	Stone circle		AA
	540	SH73267499	Other site type/period	Unidentified	F
	541	SH72287464	Stone circle	Embanked	AA
	542	SH72157456	Round barrow	Ring cairn	AA
	543	SH71847466	Stone circle?		AA
	544	SH72197463	Standing stone group		AA
	553	SH70837483	Other site type/period	Summit marker caim	F
	555	SH72127448	Round barrow	Caim	AA
	556	SH72627423	Round barrow	Caim	в
	559	SH71387183	Round barrow	Cairn	AA
	560	SH71727158	Round barrow	Ring cairn	AA
	562	SH73907357	Standing stone		AA
	575	SH73847359	Round barrow	Caim	A
	576	SH74797496	Standing stone		AA
	3487	SH74407170A	Chambered tomb, site of		F
	4678	SH73107499	Standing stone		A
	4679	SH72307457	Non-site/natural feature? not located		AA
	4681	SH72367454	Non-site/natural feature? not located		AA
	4682	SH72217458	Round barrow? not located		AA
	4683	SH73527021	Non-site/natural feature		E.
	4686	SH74277493	Round barrow	Caim	A
	4687	SH74297261	Other site type/period	Field clearance cairnfield	F
	4689	SH74227177	Standing stone? not located		E
	4695	SH74327230	Round barrow	Kerb caim	АА
	4707	SH72387462	Round barrow? not located	Cairn	AA
	4710	SH71837403	Round barrow	Cairm	A
	4718	SH74367314	Round barrow	Kerb caim	в
	5066	SH73867359	Stone circle		Α
	5077	SH71537175	Other site type/period	Peat cutting markers	F
	6227	SH74117439	Round barrow	Caim	С
	6229	SH71327275	Round barrow?	Cairn	A

OSMAP	PRN	NGR	Monument type	Sub-type	Gen class
	8078	\$1171487407	Round barrow? not located	Caim	E
	8079	SH71467405	Round barrow? not located		E
	8080		Round barrow? not located	Mound	E
	8081		Round barrow? not located	Mound	E
	8086	SH71637403	Other site type/period? not located		F
	8093		Other site type/period	Quarrying trial pit?	F
	8094		Round barrow? not located	Mound	E
	8095	SH71787478	Round barrow cemetery/clearance cain	nfield,	Е
	15940	SH70527412	Round barrow	Mound	A
	15941		Round barrow	Kerb caim	в
	15942		Other site type/period	Marker caim	F
	15943		Other site type/period	Wandering wall	F
	15944		Other site type/period	Wandering wall	F
	15946		Other site type/period	Round house platform	F
	16605	SH72007333	Round barrow	Cairn	В
	16616		Enclosure		
SH78SE					
	647	SH75618357	Round barrow	Kerb caim	в
	648	SH77228295	Chambered tomb		AA
	649	SH76568409	Stone row		AA
	4605	SH75408410A	Round barrow? site of		F
	5433	SH77548325	Round barrow?/other site type	Caim?/spoil heap	E
	5434	SH75828415	Standing stone?/natural feature		D
	5435	SH75418408	Round barrow?	Cairn?	E
	5441	SH77908360A	Chambered tomb?/natural feature		F
	15945		Other site type/period	Caim?/spoil heap	F
SH84NE					
	6256	SH85104517	Round barrow	Caim?	в
SH84NW					
	1459	SH82064895	Round barrow	Kerb caim?	в
	6253	SH83934613	Standing stone, not located		E
SH84SE	C.C.S.		a an		
	1790		Standing stone		в
	1790		Standing stone		В
	1792		Standing stone		в
	3219	SH85704460A	Round barrow? not located	Cairn?	в С

OSMAP	PRN	NGR	Monument type Sub-type	Gen clas
	6879		Circular feature, not located	Ë.
	6882		Other site type/period Summit marker cairn	D
SH84SW				
	3935	SH81744365	Non-site/natural feature	F
	5283	SH81154405	Carved stone, not located	E
	6271	SH80114278	Other site type/period Marker caim	F
SH85NW				
	626	SH84205680A	Round barrow? site of Cairn	F
	4669	SH83225969	Round barrow Cairn	D
	4670	SH80605590A	Non-site/natural feature	F
	4671	SH84385665	Chambered tomb	АА
	4672	SH84905609	Round barrow Cairn	В
	4673	SH84865609	Round barrow, site of Ring caim?	D
	4674	SH82915699	Non-site/natural feature	E
	4676	SH84085541	Standing stone	AA
SH85SW				
	3953	SH80285169A	Non-site/natural feature Natural feature? Clearar	ce caim? F
	4650	SH81795431	Chambered tomb	AA
	4651	SH84365482	Non-site/natural feature	F
	4653	SH80115049	Round barrow Cairn	А
	4654	SH80175059	Round barrow Caim	Δ
SH86NW				
	3017	SH82906820	Round barrow Mound	AA
	3018	SH82906820	Round barrow Mound	AA
	4640	SH83176669	Round barrow Mound	B
	4641	SH83706586	Round barrow? not located	Ē
	4646	SH82906820A	Round barrow Mound	AA
SH86SW				
	2464	SH82336231	Round barrow Mound	в
	2465	SH82956332	Round barrow, site of	F
	2468		Non-site/natural feature	F
SH87NW				
	2886	SH84847532	Round barrow Mound	A
	2887	SH84797548	Round barrow Mound	٨
SH87SW				
	412	SH83007000A	Round barrow/natural feature Mound	F

OSMAP	PRN	NGR	Monument type	Sub-type	Gen class
_	2890	SH82867410	Non-site/natural feature		F
	2892	SH80347065	Round barrow?/natural feature	Е	
	5678	SH80517047	Round barrow?/other site type	Mound	E
SH88SW					
	4541	SH82328116	Round barrow, site of		E
	4545	SH80488149	Chambered tomb?		A
	4560	SH80488149	Non-site/natural feature		F

Prehistoric Funerary and Ritual Monument Survey, West Conwy and North Gwynedd: Appendix 2, Sites with record or intervention

Map	PRN Draw l	Draw 2	Modifications	Exc author	Exc date	Pub date	Refs
SH45NE	596		Robbed, Destroyed		1853	1853	Cilmyn, AC, 73
SH45SE	1387		Robbed				
SH45SE	2351		Destroyed, under slate tip?				
SH45SW	1313		F	.G. Wynn	1875, 1931		AC1875 pp.303, 381. AC 1932, p. 199. 1951 Grimes. Prehist. Wales p. 108, Fig 34, p.219 No 683
SH46SE	3099				19th C		Hughes, H. 1919. AC Grimes, W.F. 1951, 216-7
SH46SE	3101		Accidental discovery		1946	1949	AC. Miscellanea 100-1
SH46SE	3116						AC 1853. Miscell, 155 Grimes 1951 206-7
SH46SE	3132						
SH54NW	1429						
SH55NW	5762						AC, 1922, 344
SH55SE	3391		Accidental discovery		1864		Jenkins, D.E. 1899. Beddgelert its facts fairies and folklore. 177
SH55SE	3393						J H Bransby, 1840 Descrip, & historical sketch of Beddgeler and neighbourhood
SH56NE	22		Exc/surface find		1934		
SH56NE	30				c. 1869		a. J. Ethnological Soc. Of London 1869-70, 309-11, b. Savory, H. 1958-60, BBCS, 18. P113
SH56NE	31						
SH56NW	36		Accidental discovery		1855, 1868	1868	W, O, Stanley and A. Way. AC: 14, 3rd set 259-61 & Arch Journ XXV
SH56SW	3687						A. Wynn Williams, 1858 King Arthur's Well, Llanddeiniolen
SH57SE	222				1967, 1968		C. Houlder Antiq 41 1967, 58 60, C. Houlder Antiq 42 1968, 216-221

мар	PRA	Draw I	Draw 2	Modifications	Exc author	Exc date	Pub aate	Kejs
SH66NE	758				P Crew	1976	198	5 Crew 1985 BBCS, 32, 290-32
SH66NW	306							
SH66NW	314							
SH66SE	748							
SH66SE	749							
SH66SE	754							
SH66SE	3924							
SH67SE	354							
SH67SE	4079			Exc./Accidenta I discovery		1824		Owen, E. 1864 AC 3rd ser Vol 10, 317
SH76NŴ	4558	Hughes 1906			H Hughes	1905	190	6 Hughes, 1906, AC. 247-8
SH76NW	4559	Hughes 1906			H Hughes	1905	190	6 Hughes 1906, AC, 247-8.
SH76NW	4562					Pre-1912	191	2 Lowe, W.B. 1912, Heart of Northern Wales, 1, 38. Savory, H.N. 1955, BBCS, 16, 232
SH76NW	10251	E. Hughes 19						
SH76SW	3765	Lowe, 1912,						
SH76SW	3779							
SH77NW	2879					1890	189	1 J. P. Earwaker, 1891. AC. 33-7
SH77SE	542	see below			W. E. Griffiths	1958-9	196	0 PPS, 26, 303-39
SH77SE	2475							
SH77SW	456							
SH77SW	461	(Photo) Lowe						
SH775W	471							
SH77SW	519	RCHMW 19						
SH77SW	523							
SH77SW	524							
SH77SW	527							
SH77SW	528	RCHMW 19						
SH77SW	529	RCHMW 19	Lynch 1969, N	M				
SH77SW	530	RCHMW 19						
SH77SW	539	PPS 1960 26			W. E. Griffiths	1958-9	196	0 Griffiths, 1960, PPS, 26, 317- 8, & 328 ff

Map PRN Draw 1 Draw 2 Modifications Exc author Exc date Pub date Refs

manp			Drun 2 moujicanon	,	Live multi-	1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 - 1999 -
SH77SW	541	see below		W. E. Griffiths	1958-9	1960 PPS, 26, 303-39
SH77SW	544	RCHMW, 19	PPS 1960?	W. E. Griffiths	1958-9	1960 PPS, 26, 303-39
SH77SW	562					
SH77SW	4678					
SH78SE	648	RCAHMW,				
SH78SE	649					
SH78SE	4605					
SH84SW	4727					
SH84SW	6272					
SH85NW	626					
SH85NW	4671	Davies 1929	Davidson 1988			E. Davies, 1929. Prehisoric and Roman rem's of Denbighshire 319-21. A Davidson 1988 AM Form
SH85NW	4672	2				
SH85NW	4673					
SH85NW	4676	С				
SH85SW	4650			a. Hemp b. Ya	a a. 1924 b.	1927 W, J, Hemp. AC 1927, LXXXII, Ser 7, VII 1-43. M.J. Yates & M Jones, AW. 31, 1-5.
SH86NW	4646	Davies 1929		Davies?	1911/12	1929 E Davies, Prehist & Roman Remains of Denbighshire 113 8
SH86SW	2465			2	1913	
SH87SW	412					
SH87SW	2892					
SH88SW	4545					

Map PRN Draw 1 Draw 2 Modifications Exc author Exc date Pub date Refs

Prehistoric Funerary and Ritual Monument Survey, West Conwy and North Gwynedd: Appendix 3, Sites with artefacts or dates

Monument type	Sub-type Artefacts	PRN MAP	SITENAME Artefact location	Period
Chambered tomb		648 SH78SE	LLETY'R FILIAST BURIAL CH	AMBER, GREAT ORME
	Pottery		Lost	
Chambered tomb		4650 SH85SW	CAPEL GARMON BURIAL CH	AMBER
	l flint waste flake, Bea	ker frags, 3 vessel	s NMW	
Cist cemetery, site of		3393 SH55SE	CISTS - BWLCHGYLFIN	
	Unurned cremations in	cists	Lost	
Cist, site of		3391 SH55SE	CIST WITH URN - FINDSPOT, (GLAN YR AFON
	Urn, burnt bone		Lost	
Cremation		3101 SH46SE	URN BURIAL, MAES Y BARCI	ER, CAERNARFON
	MBA urn, burnt bone		NMW	
Cremation		4079 SH67SE	URN BURIAL - FINDSPOT, PEN	N Y BRYN MANOR
	Urn, burnt bone		Lost	
lenge		222 SH57SE	HENGES, CURSUS AND NEO.	SETTLEMENT, LLANDEGAI
	Early Neolithic pottery dates	, Flintwork, Stone	Axes etc C14NMW, FML	
Other site type/period	Hut circle	1387 SH45SE	CAIRN, NW OF CAE-FORGAN.	, CARMEL
	'Pottery'		Glynllifon - lost	EBA?
Round barrow	Cairn	30 SH56NE	CAIRN WITH FOOD VESSELS.	CARNEDD HOWEL
	a. Neolithic bowl, b. Fo vessel d. Burnt bone	ood vessel um c. S	Small food Pitt Rivers Museum,	Oxford
Round barrow	Cairn	306 SH66NW	CAIRN (& URN BURIAL), MOI	EL FABAN
	B. A. um		Lost	
Round barrow	Cairn	314 SH66NW	CAIRN, MOEL WNION	
	Cup marked (?) slab		In Situ	
Round barrow	Cairn	471 SH77SW	CAIRNFIELD, CERRIG GWYN	ION
	Flint flake		Lost	
Round barrow	Cairn	749 SH66SE	CAIRN - CARNEDD DAFYDD	
	Cup-marked stone		In situ	

Monument type	Sub-type Artefacts	PRN MAP	SITENAME Artefact location	Period
Round barrow	Cairn	4672 SH85NW	CAIRN + BURIALS (Y GARNED	D?), E OF BRYN CYPLAU
	Cists, inhumation burial	5	Lost	
Round barrow	Kerb caim	758 SH66NE	CAIRN - DROSGL SUMMIT	
	Burnt bone			
Round barrow	Mound	596 SH45NE	BARROW, BENALLT, BETHESI	DA BACH
	Um		Lost	
Round barrow	Mound	4558 SH76NW	ROUND BARROW (N) NW OF P	EN Y GAER HILLFORT
	Charcoal, burnt bone, C	u, CuA frags		
Round barrow	Mound	4559 SH76NW	ROUND BARROW <s> NW OF I</s>	PEN Y GAER HILLFORT
	Charcoal, burnt bone, C	u & CuA frags.		
Round barrow	Mound	4646 SH86NW	MWDWL EITHIN, ROUND BAR	ROW
	Um, flint knife, flint bor	rer	Lost? (Not NMW)	
Round barrow	Ring cairn	542 SH77SW	RING CAIRN, CEFN COCH, ABO	OVE PENMAENMAWR
	a. Collared urn b. Potter cremation	ry fragments c. U	numed NMW	with b: 3470+/-143bp NPL 11, inside circle: 3355+/-155 NP10
Round barrow, not locat	Cairn	4562 SH76NW	TUMULUS - SITE OF, BWLCH Y	GWRYD
	'A' Beaker, burnt bone		Bangor Museum	
Round barrow, site of		36 SH56NW	URN BURIAL - BRYN CRUG, N	EAR BETHEL
			in, d. Bronze a. NMW b. Chester M loop palstav Lost d., e., f. NMW	us. C.
Round barrow, site of		2465 SH86SW	CAIRN, FARM YARD FARM	
	Urns, cremations		Lost?	2465
Round barrow, site of		2879 SH77NW	TWO BARROWS - SITE OF (+FI	NDS), PENMAENMAWR QUARRY
	a. 2 urns and pygmy cup bronze pins, c. Other ur			
Round barrow, site of		3099 SH46SE	TUMULUS + URN BURIAL - SIT	E OF. NR. BRYN SEIONT
	a. Urns b. Pygmy cup		b.NMW	
Round barrow?	Caim	5762 SH55NW	ROUND CAIRN AND URN, BRY	N BEDDAU ISAF
	Urn, burnt bone		Lost	
Round barrow?	Mound	22 SH56NE	TUMULUS, NEAR GOETRE UCI	HAF, PENRHOSGARNEDD
	Flint convex scraper		Lost	

Monument type	Sub-type Artefacts	PRN MAP	SITENAME Artefact location	Period
Round barrow? site of		3116 SH46SE	TUMULUS + URN BURIAL, WAT	ERLOO PORT, CAERNARFON
	Collared urn, burnt bone	2	NMW	
Round barrow? site of		4605 SH78SE	BARROW - SITE OF, MARINE DI	RIVE, GREAT ORME
	Ashes, charcoal		Lost	
Standing stone		1313 SH45SW	MAEN LLWYD STANDING STOP	VE, GLYNLLIFON
	Um, charcoal, burnt bor	ic	NMW	MBA Food Vessel
Standing stone group		544 SH77SW	STONE CIRCLE, CEFN COCH, A	BOVE PENMAENMAWR
	a. 2 cists & cremations d. Graig Lwyd axe	b. Fire pit c. Qua	rtz pebbless NMW	Fire pit 3080+/-145bp
Stone circle		539 SH77SW	STONE RING, CEFN COCH. ABO	VE PENMAENMAWR
	Graig Lwyd axe		Manchester Museum	
Stone circle	Embanked	541 SH77SW	DRUIDS' CIRCLE (STONE CIRCI	E), CEFN COCH
	a. Urn b. Food vessel & Urn frags e. Flint scrape flakes	a sea success as as a		

Prehistoric Funerary and Ritual Monument Survey, West Conwy and North Gwynedd: Appendix 4, Sites with names of topographic (T), descriptive (D) or folklore (F) interest

Monument type	Sub-type	PRN	MAP	Name identifier	Name English	Type
Chambered tomb		529	SH77SW	a. Maen y Bardd, b. Cwt-y-bugail, c. Cwt-y-Filiast	a. Bard's stone, b. Shepherd's hut, c. Greyhound's hut	F
Chambered tomb		648	SH78SE	Llety'r Filiast	Lodgings of the greyhound	F
Chambered tomb		2475	SH77SE	Allor Moloch	Altar of terror!	F
Chambered tomb		4650	SH85SW	Cae'r ogof (field name)	Field of the cave	т
Chambered tomb		4671	SH85NW	Maen Pebyll	Stone of the tent (camp?)	F
Chambered tomb, site of		3132	SH46SE	Castell Rhidyn		F
Chambered tomb?		4545	SH88SW	Mainge y gynhadledd	Bank of the meeting place	
Round barrow	Cairn	30	SH56NE	Carnedd Howel	Howel's caim	F
Round barrow	Cairn	31	SH56NE	Carnedd Moel-y-Ci	Cairn of the bare hill of the dog	F
Round barrow	Cairn	456	SH77SW	Carnedd y ddelw	Cairn of the image	F
Round barrow	Cairn	519	SH77SW	Barclodiad y Gawres	The apronful of the giantess	F
Round barrow	Cairn	748	SH66SE	Carnedd Llewelyn	(Prince) Llewelyn's caim	F
Round barrow	Cairn	749	SH66SE	Carnedd Dafydd	(Prince) Dafydd's caim	F
Round barrow	Cairn	754	SH66SE	Carnedd fach	Little cairn	D
Round barrow	Cairn	1429	SH54NW	Garnedd-goch	Red caim	D
Round barrow	Caim	2351	SH45SE	Bedd Twrog	Grave of (Saint) Twrog	F
Round barrow	Cairn	3779	SH76SW	Pen Llithrig y Wrach	Slippery top of the hag/witch	F
Round barrow	Caim	3924	SH66SE	Tristan's Caim		F
Round barrow	Cairn	4672	SH85NW	Y Garnedd Wen	The White Cairn	D
Round barrow	Mound	596	SH45NE	Grave of Galcacus		F
Round barrow cemetery/c	1	354	SH67SE	Carnedd y Sacson	Cairn of the English	F
Round barrow, site of	Ring cairn?	4673	SH85NW	Y Garnedd Rhun (possibly)	The Cairn of Rhun	F
Round barrow/natural fea	t Mound	412	SH87SW	Bedd-y-canwr	Grave of the hundred (men)	F
Round barrow?	Caim	3687	SH56SW	Glyn Arthur	(King) Arthur's valley	F
Round barrow?	Cairn	5762	SH55NW	Bryn Beddau Isaf	Hill of the graves	F
Round barrow? site of	Cairn	626	SH85NW	Pen y Carnedd (Farm)	Top of the cairn	т
Round barrow?/natural fe	a Mound	2892	SH87SW	Bedd Carawg	Grave of Carrog	F

Monument type	Sub-type	PRN	MAP	Name identifier	Name English	Туре
Standing stone		523	SH77SW	Bwlch y Ddeufaen	Pass of the two stones	Т
Standing stone		524	SH77SW	Bwlch y Ddeufaen	ditto	Т
Standing stone		562	SH77SW	1. Maen Penddu 2. Maen y Campia	1. Black-headed stone? 2, Stone of the games	D
Standing stone		1313	SH45SW	Maen Llwyd	Grey Stone	D
Standing stone		4676	SH85NW	Maen Sertan, Maen y Siartyr	Charter stone (Boundary stone, Aberconwy Abbey 1198)	D
Standing stone		4678	SH77SW	Maen Crwn	Stout stone	D
Standing stone & Round	l b Cairn	527	SH77SW	a. Ffon y Cawr, b. Picell Arthur	a. Stick of the giant b. Arthur's spea	ırF
Stone circle		528	SH77SW	Cerrig y Pryfaid	Stones of the insects?	F
Stone circle	Embanked	541	SH77SW	Druid's Circle		F
Stone row		649	SH78SE	Hwyffa'r Ceirw	(Race?/Course/Path of the deer	F

Prehistoric Funerary and Ritual Monument Survey, West Conwy and North Gwynedd: Appendix 5, Sites with recorded high environmental potential

MAP	PRN Monument	ype SITENAME	NGR	ALT S	tatus	Env value
SH55SE	1574 Round barrow?	CAIRN - E OF LLYN Y GADER	SH5720522	190	С	3
SH65NE	4509 Round barrow	CAIRN AND STANDING STONE - DYFFRYN MYMB	SH6856564	210	A	3
SH66NE	12912 Round barrow	CAIRN, DROSGL NORTH	SH6543688	500	A	3
SH66NE	12913 Round barrow	CAIRN, DROSGL NORTH	SH6543688	500	А	3
SH66NE	12914 Round barrow	CAIRN, DROSGL NORTH	SH6543688	500	А	3
SH66SW	12917 Round barrow?	CAIRN, DROSGL NORTH	SH6543688	500	в	3
SH66SW	12918 Round barrow?	CAIRN. DROSGL NORTH	SH6543688	500	в	3
SH67SE	380 Round barrow	CAIRN, N OF FOEL GANOL	SH6859722	310	A	3
SH67SE	381 Round barrow	CAIRN, NE OF FOEL GANOL	SH6910721	370	А	3
SH76NE	684 Round barrow	CAIRN, ABOVE CAE DU	SH7525661	395	A	3
SH77NW	5520 Round barrow	CAIRNFIELD - CEFN LLECHEN	SH7442754	280	в	3
SH77SW	473 Round barrow?	CAIRNFIELD, BRYNIAU BUGEILYDD	SH7182740	390	E	3
SH77SW	474 Round barrow	CAIRNFIELD, BRYNIAU BUGEILYDD	SH7184740	400	A	3
SH77SW	477 Round barrow	Cairn		420	С	3
SH77SW	485 Round barrow	CAIRN, BRYNIAU BUGEILYDD	SH7200739	405	в	3
SH77SW	4710 Round barrow	CAIRNFIELD, BRYNIAU BUGEILYDD	SH7183740	400	A	3
SH84NE	6256 Round barrow	CAIRN, BRYN CERBYD	SH8510451	375	В	3
SH84NW	1459 Round barrow	POSS. CAIRN BASE/HUT CIRCLE, YSBYTTY	SH8206489	320	в	3
SH84SE	3219 Round barrow?	n TUMULUS (POSSIBLE) - SITE OF, LLANDDERFEL	SH8570446	643	С	3
SH85NW	4676 Standing stone	STONE, MAEN SERTAN	SH8408554	310	AA	3
SH86NW	3018 Round barrow	MWDWL EITHIN, ROUND BARROW	SH8290682	389	AA	3
SH86NW	4646 Round barrow	MWDWL EITHIN, ROUND BARROW	SH8290682	389	AA	3

Prehistoric Funerary and Ritual Monument Survey, West Conwy and North Gwynedd: Appendix 6, Recording forms

Field Record Form

FUNERARY A			COLLOOLC	LAA TIARDI	DAR	CHAEOL	UGICA	LL	KU	91
7,719,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000	ND RITUAL N	IONU	MENT SURY	VEY, G1629	, For	m 1: N	1AP		-	
DESCRIPTION	Site Name					P	RN			
Monument type				Sub-type						
Period				Form						
Length	Wi	dth		Diameter		H	eight			
Slope	Slo			Site			everse			
class	asp	pect		prospect	-	pr	ospect	1		_
Orientation				Siting	1		_		_	_
Topography gen.				Land use, site						
Land use, area				Vegetation, site			1			
Vegetation, area				Gen. deterioral		table Slight Sor	ne Serious	Gen d	am/d	estroy
Threat I type			at 1 class			Threat 1 time				
Threat 2 type			at 2 class		1	Threat 2 time				
Threat 3 type		Thre	at 3 class		1	Threat 3 time				
TEXT Site location	n and monument de	scriptio	n				-			
EVALUATION CI	RITERIA									
	RITERIA Fragility		Vulnerability	Survi	ival		Potentic	11		
Condition			Vulnerability Histor docum		ival nity val	ne	Potentic Pal envi		ue	
Condition Group value Sum value	Fragility Arch docum Overall value		Histor docum High M. (30-24) (23-	Amer Ied Low	nity val Ger	ue n value class A = SAM)	A STATE OF CALMAN AND A STATE	ir val		D
Condition Group value Sum value	Fragility Arch docum		Histor docum High M. (30-24) (23-	Amer 1ed Low	nity val Ger	n value class	Pal envi	ir val		D
EVALUATION Cl Condition Group value Sum value TEXT Threat comi	Fragility Arch docum Overall value		Histor docum High M. (30-24) (23-	Amer 1ed Low	nity val Ger	n value class	Pal envi	ir val		D
Condition Group value Sum value	Fragility Arch docum Overall value ment and manageme		Histor docum High M. (30-24) (23-	Amer 1ed Low	nity val Ger	n value class	Pal envi	ir val	С	D

FUNERARY AND RITUAL MONUM	ENT SURVEY, G1629, DESKTOP RECORD FORM
OSMap	PRN
Drawn record1	
Drawn record2	
Drawn record3	
Excavations	
Date of excavation	
Date of publication	
Refs	
Artefacts	
Artefact location	
Period/C14date	
Name identifier	
Name English	
Name type	
Comments	

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