

# Early Medieval Ecclesiastical and Burial Sites in Mid and North-East Wales

## The Field Assessment and its Impact on the Overall Study



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## Early Medieval Ecclesiastical and Burial Sites in Mid and North-East Wales

### The Field Assessment and its Impact on the Overall Study

#### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 In 2001/02 Cadw funded the four Welsh Archaeological Trusts to conduct a study of the evidence of early medieval ecclesiastical activity in their regions, in broad terms covering the period from the beginning of the 5<sup>th</sup> century AD to the end of the 11<sup>th</sup> century. This decision was in part a reaction to one of the more obvious lacunae identified by Messrs Musson and Martin in their 1998 report on the state of the archaeological resource in Wales as defined in the four regional Sites and Monuments Records. In practical terms the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust had already conducted some work on the topic, while the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust was able to undertake no more than a preliminary scoping study during the first year. Notwithstanding these variations in the overall pattern, the Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Project is seen to be an important pan-Wales initiative, with significant implications not only for enhancing the scheduled ancient monument stock but also for adding considerably to our general knowledge of the period.
- 1.2 Five specific aims were identified for the study in the east and north-east Wales region, namely: i) an assessment of the nature and prevalence of the evidence that relates to the early medieval ecclesiastical landscape; ii) the identification, as objectively as possible, of the major and the likely early ecclesiastical sites; iii) the identification of potential sites of national importance with a view to recommending statutory protection; iv) the compilation of data compatible across the four trusts in order to facilitate any future pan-Wales assessment; and v) the enhancement and where necessary the modification of data held in the regional SMR.
- 1.3 The initial stage of the study comprised a detailed desk-top analysis of the early medieval evidence across mid and north-east Wales, utilising a wide range of data, archaeological, historical and place-name. It also defined a system of site grading, developed by three of the Trusts, to determine the *relative* standing of early churches and church sites in Wales. This formed the subject of the first report, which was circulated in April 2003 as CPAT Report no. 468.
- 1.4 The second phase of the project, which commenced at the beginning of the financial year, 2002/03, and continued throughout that year and into 2003/04, involved the field examination of potentially relevant sites. It was appreciated from the onset that the physical survival of early medieval ecclesiastical remains was both variable and thin, and that for a variety of site types, the existing information suggested that while the site itself might have an early medieval origin, the structure currently occupying that site was much more likely to be medieval or even later. For instance, of nearly one thousand historic church sites in Wales, many of which are thought to have originated in the pre-Conquest era, only one – Presteigne in central Powys – can be convincingly shown to have surviving fabric from that era. However, the sub-circular churchyards in which many of these churches are or were set provide more substantive evidence of early medieval activity. Some of the sub-parochial chapel sites in the region – and curiously there are far fewer of these than in some western parts of Wales – may have their genesis in the early medieval centuries, but again physical traces from that period are absent. And holy wells which are frequently thought of as early medieval because of their frequent attribute of a British saint's name are intrinsically

undatable. On the other hand there are some site types such as early medieval inscribed stones and cross slabs where the chronological attribution is usually indisputable.

- 1.5 Sites that might benefit from detailed field examination were initially identified from the completed database that had been prepared during the desk-top assessment. As this contained some thirteen hundred entries, this was a not altogether straightforward task, based as the data entries were on records of very variable quality and age. The latter in fact is a more significant factor than for some other thematic studies, for there is a long antiquarian tradition of identifying and attributing monuments to the early medieval era, with a strong and early tradition of integrating saint's cults based on the often hagiographical literature, and the folk traditions that have piled up in relation to chapels, wells and the like. As a consequence many records are both early in origin – and for this one only has to examine Edward Lhuyd's *Parochialia* (Morris 1909-11) – and now wholly unverifiable.
- 1.6 A fair proportion of the sites recorded in the database were, it appears, no longer visible on the ground. The Ordnance Survey had been assiduous, particularly in the 1970s, in trying to track down and accurately locate such sites as wells, with only variable success, and on occasions their results had been checked and corroborated in the field by CPAT or by other agencies. Such sites have generally been excluded from field examination, on the general, yet reasonable, assumption that what was not visible to expert archaeological investigators in the 1970s was hardly likely to manifest itself to other archaeologists thirty years later. Where, however, another extant site in the vicinity was being visited the opportunity might be taken to examine the 'lost' site, and this served on at least one occasion to demonstrate that earlier records should not always be taken at face value. The well, known as Ffynnon Ddewi (PRN 3453) at Llanddewi Abergwesyn and seemingly confused with the apparently mythical Ffynnon Thewy (PRN 3414) by Francis Jones in 1954, was claimed to have been destroyed by CPAT when fieldworkers visited the site in 1980. However, beside the track leading to Llanddewi Abergwesyn church, a small stream issues through a stone surround into an oval 'pool' which is edged by stone. In the absence of any evidence to the contrary, this can be identified as the surviving remains of Ffynnon Ddewi which seem not to have been destroyed.
- 1.7 Inscribed and decorated stones have been largely, but not wholly, omitted, because of the ongoing and comprehensive study, currently being conducted by Drs Edwards and Redknap in conjunction with Mr J Lewis, in the preparation of a revised edition of Nash-Williams' magisterial corpus on *The Early Christian Monuments of Wales* (1950). Churches, too, have been excluded as almost all of these were examined in detail by one of the writers for the pan-Wales 'Churches Project' in the late 1990s. But the handful of known, abandoned parish churches were not examined at that time, and they together with the churchyards which may constitute some of the primary evidence of early medieval activity but were only examined on a cursory basis then, are seen as important to the current study.
- 1.8 The situation in late December regarding visits to sites of potential early medieval significance is shown in Table 1.
- 1.9 This report represents the final statement on the overall results from the project. It builds on the earlier reports (Silvester and Hankinson 2002; 2003) and incorporates sections from them as and where necessary, in order to produce an overview. Statements on different site types follow this introduction and there is a gazetteer which details the sites and monuments that were visited during the fieldwork programme, but excludes all other sites which may have formed part of the initial study and for which new documented data were gathered but which were not examined in the field. It includes, too, the several detailed surveys, some such as Glasbury already included in an earlier report, conducted as part of the programme, together with descriptions as required. Geophysics surveys of a handful of sites are also

included. Recommendations regarding the future management of specific sites are contained within a separate report.

*Table 1: Sites Visited*

Site Type	Number in database	Number targeted for visits	Number visited
Abandoned churches	10	8	9
Burial Sites	42	9	10
Chapels	132	67	59
Churchyards	205	12	45
Holy wells	194	107	81
Inscribed and decorated stones, standing stones and crosses	248	16	39
Others	-	0	9
Place names	13	0	5
Shrines/Hermitages	9	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>259</b>

## 2 Abandoned churches

- 2.1 The earlier reports have drawn attention to the fact that there are relatively few former churches of parochial status which now remain as detectable ruins. There are a rather larger number where church-shift (the ecclesiastical version of the better-known settlement shift) has occurred with more modern buildings replacing their predecessors but in a different setting in the churchyard. And there are a few instances where a church has gone either because of ostensibly poor siting on the part of the original builders when constructing their church, usually on a flood plain where the building later became prone to the impact of drastic floods or - in the case of Llanwddyn (Monts) beneath Lake Vyrnwy - where the church founder(s) could not possibly have foreseen the requirements of their modern descendants for water storage in reservoirs. The two obvious examples where the church has been lost to flooding are Llansantffraid Glyn Dyfrdwy in Denbighshire (usually now known as Carrog) which was swept away by the Dee in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century and its replacement rebuilt on a different and less vulnerable spot around which the later village has developed (Silvester 1995, 13), and Glasbury In Radnorshire. The earthworks of this site, both the church foundations and the semi-circular churchyard, were described in the second report (Silvester and Hankinson 2003, 3), and will be more fully assessed elsewhere (Silvester and Hankinson, forthcoming). A full survey of the church earthworks was undertaken as part of the project and the plan is reproduced again in the set that follows this text (Plan 1).
- 2.2 In all there are perhaps no more than a dozen abandoned parish churches in the region that are known to us, and it should be remembered that because they were not in use these were not assessed during the Cadw-funded pan-Wales study of historic churches. Llangynog (PRN 16878), and the paired churches of Llanddewi Abergwesyn (PRN 1188) and Llanfihangel Abergwesyn (PRN 4424) all in Breconshire seem to have been abandoned because they no longer had viable congregations. Halkyn in Flintshire (PRN 16472) was transferred to a new site in 1877-8, some 150m further away from Halkyn Castle, home of the Duke of Westminster. One is tempted to believe that a similar desire for greater privacy lay behind John Jesse's decision in 1863 (Hubbard 1986, 187) to rebuild the church of

Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd in Denbighshire (PRN 16815) 400m further to the south and away from his home at Llanbedr Hall. The decision in the 1840s to replace St Mary's in Newtown, Montgomeryshire with a larger church, that of St Davids, nearly 500m to the south, was ostensibly because of the threat of flooding to the former (Silvester 1992, 140). Only Llandysul in Montgomeryshire (PRN 16840) appears to have been deserted in favour of a site lower down the hill and more convenient for its congregation.

- 2.3 The ruins of the old St Peter's at Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd and the church at Newtown are exceptional for the degree of survival that they exhibit (see the site gazetteer). Usually, deliberate demolition has occurred, whether as a safety measure (cf the analogous but very recent situation at Llanilltyd chapel in Breconshire where the building was de-roofed and the walls taken down because they were unsafe) or because they provided such an extremely convenient source of building stone for new secular structures. Little then can be said of Llangynog, Llanddewi Abergwesyn and Llanfihangel Abergwesyn where the remains of each church has largely been levelled or left as low foundations. At Halkyn there is only a platform with no surface evidence whatsoever of the church structure itself though surrounding gravestones define its perimeter, but even the Halkyn earthwork is better than the situation at Llandysul where it is now impossible to determine the siting of the church from surface evidence, the only survival being a stone-built porch incorporating an 18<sup>th</sup>-century doorway that was converted into a storage shed when the church itself was demolished. That said it would be possible, using the porch as a guide, to plan the approximate position of the old church from the large-scale first edition of the Ordnance Survey map.
- 2.4 Given that there is only one accredited example of a church in the region with pre-Norman fabric – Presteigne in the historic county of Radnorshire – it appears extremely unlikely that any of the abandoned churches listed above will have contained, in their final form, any similarly early fabric. None of them is recorded as having associated Early Medieval stones, although, in Breconshire in particular, this cannot be a denial that such stones may not once have existed. However, on the basis of their churchyard morphology (for which see section 3, below), it can be argued that almost all of them may have had their origins in the Early Medieval period (see relevant entries in the gazetteer of sites). The exception is probably Newtown where St Mary's was originally a dependent chapel to Llanllwrchaiaern, a little lower down the Severn, and was presumably founded around the same time that the planned town was established in a bend in the Severn (Silvester 1992, 140). If the others did have pre-Conquest origins, there is clearly significant archaeological potential on these sites, despite the obvious disturbance associated with graveyard activity. Ironically, St Mary's in Newtown is currently the only scheduled site in the group (Mg056).
- 2.5 Finally, there are only two historic churches which are (or were) currently redundant. Llandefaelog Tre'r-graig in Breconshire (PRN 16826) has been converted into private accommodation in the last three or four years and was the subject of some archaeological recording, while Llangwm in Conwy (PRN 16874) when last seen was boarded up.
- 2.6 As a postscript to this section there has been one place – Llaneglwys in Brecknock on the western side of the Wye – where the name strongly points to the presence of a church of which nothing is known. The name has a reasonably pedigree: in its earliest form it appears as 'Nanteglus' in 1241 while 'Laneglus' can be attributed to 1372 (see Morgan and Powell 1999). A local historian has suggested to us that the name occurs as a result of the area being within a grange of the Cistercian abbey of Dore (Herefordshire), and that the name thus refers back to the abbey. Whether this conjecture is credible or simply a justification for our failure to locate a lost church site is a moot point, but it remains a fact that no one has yet been able to identify such a site at Llaneglwys.

### 3 Churchyards

- 3.1 The link between circular or sub-circular churchyards on the one hand and early medieval ecclesiastical activity on the other is not universally accepted, but amongst specialists there seems to be a general consensus that, in conjunction with other forms of evidence, some level of curvilinearity can indicate early origins (Edwards and Lane 1992, 5; Petts 2002, 25). The sub-circular churchyards of the region were examined sporadically during the pan-Wales Churches survey, and the present programme has been built on the data that were gathered at that time (for a limited analysis see Silvester 1997). It is not proposed to update any of the statistics given in Silvester 1997 – this will be done at a later date, probably in time for the conference on The Archaeology of Early Medieval Celtic Churches to be held at Bangor in September 2004 – but rather to examine a handful of churchyards where recent observations have added to the overall picture.
- 3.2 A gradually increasing number of churchyards exhibit traces of relict boundaries that have previously gone unnoticed. Some of these were initially identified during the church surveys in the second half of the 1990s, others which were suspected then have been revisited during the present survey, particularly where other fieldwork relating to this survey was being undertaken in the neighbourhood.
- 3.3 Battle churchyard (PRN 2953) is predominantly rectangular churchyard, perched on the north-eastern lip of the Yscir valley. That it has been enlarged in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century there can be no doubt. But within the rectangular yard are traces of a former sub-circular enclosure. North-east of the church a massive yew sits on a bank curving around from the north-east to the east, together with a hollow beyond it in the angle between the bank and the churchyard wall that should indicate an external ditch. The bank fades as it reaches the churchyard wall on the east but the slight curve to the wall implies that it may have followed an earlier boundary, and on the north side of the churchyard the wall appears to have been set into a pre-existing bank. In diameter this curvilinear enclosure will have been around 50m and if truly circular the church as it currently exists will have been almost central. Only a few miles away the churchyard at Llandefaelog Fach (PRN 2957) has a largely rectilinear appearance, but on the south side of the church no earthwork survives to reveal an earlier boundary; instead a line of eight mature yews, two of them now no more than large stumps, arc around to define a semicircle which is now followed by a footpath, a recent introduction. There is no reason for this particular configuration of trees and they clearly were planted to follow or even lie on the course of a former boundary, a common enough practice in churches in the region. The expansion of the churchyard can probably be attributed to the erection of the Penoyre mausoleum in 1816, when this edifice in its own walled enclosure required a considerable amount of space that was not available in the existing churchyard.
- 3.4 The earlier circuit at Llanddewi'r Cwm (Brecs) was surveyed as part of this project (Plan 2). The present churchyard is polygonal in shape and apart from an arcing south-eastern corner shows no traces of curvilinearity. However, close scrutiny reveals a more oval, and even smaller, circuit within the present boundary. Clearest to the south and east of St David's church, the scarp bank is disrupted only by the bole and roots of a yew tree. On the west and north the circuit is less obvious: on the west this is particularly as a result of graves being cut across its line. Overall, there is a clear picture of a former curvilinear churchyard.
- 3.5 But of course there are some churchyards where such landscape analysis is ultimately of little use in detecting the earlier churchyard, assuming that it existed. Llanganten churchyard (PRN 2969) is an instance where the church setting, coupled with the location beside a river, might anticipate the presence of a curvilinear churchyard. But despite the presence of one or two faint earthworks, there is nothing convincing here.

- 3.6 Between these two extremes are churchyards such as Llanwrtyd (PRN 2980) reflecting a morphological amalgam. There is no obvious reason why part of the churchyard there should be curvilinear, but given that the lane, presumably of some antiquity in itself, follows this boundary it is reasonable to assume that any expansion to the churchyard would have been on the opposite side, and that the curvilinear would have given way to the rectilinear.
- 3.7 What should we make of the small sub-circular earthwork which until its recent demolition held the chapel of St Illtyd (PRN 587) on the moorland ridge to the south-west of Brecon. It has long been suggested that this might be a re-used prehistoric enclosure and this may be correct. In some quarters there has been a tendency to see circular churchyards, almost exclusively, as an adopted relic of prehistoric activity. This view might be appropriate for regions such as south-west Wales and Cornwall where embanked native farmsteads of an earlier era might provide a convenient location for a newly established graveyard or church, but in the south and east of Wales where there are fewer of these earthworks the argument is less convincing. Nevertheless in the case of Llanilltyd and the occasional curvilinear hill top churchyard such as Llanmerewig in north Powys the argument may carry more credence. Llanilltyd is a complex earthwork, almost certainly of several phases. It requires a more thorough survey than it has and it also needs better protection than it currently carries.
- 3.8 There are also a small group of churches that appear to have had double enclosures. Possibly these might reflect the growing size of a church and its congregation, and the need to create a larger graveyard. But there is the possibility that the two circuits might be contemporary and that we are seeing double enclosures as have been revealed in south-west Wales (James 1992). Llanafan Fawr (Brecs) is a potential but unproven *clas* site (Silvester 1997, 116). Its earthworks to the south of the big churchyard were surveyed in 1993 (Jones 1993) and the picture has now been completed by further work within the churchyard (see Plan 3). The platform that supported the former chancel of the church, demolished in 1887, is immediately obvious at the eastern end of the church. Much more significant in the context of this report is the earlier churchyard enclosure which can be traced as a continuous, low scarp around the south and east sides of the church, developing into a more substantial earthwork on the west, and on the north where it presents a fairly flattened alignment. This inner enclosure has been long abandoned, and the outer enclosure, too, has been modified. The modern road has chopped through its western side, and it is tempting to think that the inn on the far side of the road originally lay beside the churchyard boundary, but there is no substantive evidence to support the view. Finally it can be noted that Llanafan Fawr is unusual though not unique in Powys in having the reputed tomb of St Afan within the churchyard.
- 3.9 To this we can add Glascwm (Rads) where the incomplete inner enclosure has also been surveyed as part of this project (Plan 4). The evidence here is less convincing, but there is undoubtedly a distinct platform defined by a scarp bank on the north and west sides of the church, and it is possible to trace this through the heavily grave-occupied eastern side. Little in the way of a convincing extension is, however, evident on the south. Probably also in this class is Darowen above Machynlleth where a small inner enclosure can still be detected within its much larger oval counterpart. Each of these sites has been recognised through fieldwork. Aerial photography, whether oblique or vertical, has not made an impact on the churchyard stock as it has in south-west Wales. An exception, however, is Llan (Monts) in western Montgomeryshire where the small churchyard some 80m across in maximum diameter appears to lie eccentrically within a much larger enclosure some 300m across, the latter represented for around 50% of its circuit, by extant or relict field boundaries.

#### *4 Chapels*

- 4.1 The assumption throughout this study has been that there and were a large and significant number of chapels in the region which have over the centuries been abandoned and in many instances. Some of these may have functioned in the early medieval era, while some such as Capel Glyn Collwn in Breconshire (PRN 81679), will only have come into existence in the Middle Ages. Many have collapsed, have been integrated into vernacular buildings or were demolished leaving, at best, foundations or more usually a local tradition which in some cases has been passed down to the present day. Many others have probably left no record at all.
- 4.2 Sources of information are disparate and locational data are often imprecise, reliant as we often are on antiquarian records. Only where these have been captured by the Royal Commission's Inventory programme and subsequently updated, or visited by Field Investigators from the Ordnance Survey are sites likely to be pinpointed with a degree of accuracy. A discussion on the available sources is given in the first report (Silvester and Hankinson 2002, 16).
- 4.3 The list presented in Appendix 4 of that first report offered – at least as far as we are aware - the first catalogue of lost and abandoned chapels in east and north-east Wales, though it was acknowledged that inevitably it could be nowhere near complete. No distinction was made between those that were likely to have had their origins in the early medieval era and those of a later era.

#### *4.4 Chapels as standing buildings*

- 4.4.1 Some well-known chapels remain in an excellent state of preservation. In Breconshire Capel Coelbren (PRN 816) has been rebuilt: there is an unsubstantiated tradition that it was an ancient oratory. The chapel housing St Winefride's Well at Holywell in Flintshire (PRN 102417) is exceptional in as much as it is still functioning. As the 'church of Haliwel' was referred to as early as 1093, the well if not the chapel was certainly in existence by the time of the Norman Conquest, although of course tradition has it that the well was created in the 7<sup>th</sup> century when Winefride was decapitated. The ruined chapel near Wigfair to the south-west of St Asaph in Denbighshire is also a well-chapel, housing Ffynnon Fair (PRN 102141), and there is thus an implication that the additional characteristic, namely the presence of a sacred well, enhances the chances of preservation. That this is not entirely the case is demonstrated by the remote chapel of Llanilltyd in Breconshire (PRN 16882) which was only recently reduced to its foundations because of safety concerns after its function as a place of worship had disappeared. However, this building was only 19<sup>th</sup>-century in date (Haslam 1979, 352), even though as a site it was much earlier.
- 4.4.2 Capel Banhadlog Chapel near Llandinam (PRN 1543) is one of those many places where there is still evidence of a structure, in this case a standing building, but with no convincing evidence of its early origin. A grange chapel to Wigmore Abbey, we have Rees' authority that it was in existence in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, and the Tithe survey points to an associated cemetery. Whether it goes back into the early medieval period is totally impossible to gauge.

#### *4.5 Chapels as foundations*

- 4.5.1 A handful of chapels in the region have been reduced to recognisable foundations. Aberllynfi in northern Breconshire (PRN 527) is a good example, and indeed for some time it may have had a parochial function. Low walls survive to a height of around 1m but appear to have

been stabilised by the addition of pitched coping stones; it is the presence of inset wall faces for the narrower chancel, together with the comparatively long length of the building that reveals the chapel, although its site has always been recorded on maps. More interestingly, perhaps it lies in the shadow of the motte and bailey castle at Aberllynfi. This earthwork occupies a spur-cum-river terrace which has been sharply scarped by water erosion where a minor stream joins the Wye, and the chapel occupies a spot at the base of the stream terrace and just outside the bailey. It seems probable that castle and church were founded at pretty well the same time in the wake of the Norman Conquest of the area around the turn of the 11<sup>th</sup> century, and the same could probably be argued for the nearby Pipton chapel (PRN 521) beside a former course of the River Wye, the site of which cannot be accurately placed now.

- 4.5.2 The remains of a church called 'Llan Coit', now Llangoed (PRN 81715), remain on the banks of the Wye near Llangoed Castle. The foundations of the chapel, perhaps medieval in origin, are overlain by a 19<sup>th</sup>-century tomb set in what was by that time, clearly, a private graveyard. But the location is suggestive, and there are hints of a curvilinear enclosure, unfortunately much disturbed and far from intelligible, to the north of the chapel. This site has been surveyed as part of the project (Plan 5).

#### 4.6 *Rediscovered chapels*

- 4.6.1 That a chapel existed at Llanfair Trelwydion seems to have been known, at least locally, for some time, but it is not shown on William Rees' map of the south Wales and the borders in the 14<sup>th</sup> century (1932) the only written reference that has been encountered is in a recent book on Radnorshire place-names, even though its presence should have been suspected. Nothing indubitably ecclesiastical is evident on the site, but there are other earthworks in the vicinity which point to the earlier presence of vernacular buildings and some sort of settlement seems likely. Geophysics is a possibility because the dowser who claimed rows of burials here can probably be ignored (PRN 81682).
- 4.6.2 In this context we might also point to the chapel associated with St Alud (or St Eluned) in the vicinity of Brecon which is reputedly 5<sup>th</sup>-century and first referred to in the first half of 12<sup>th</sup> century. It could be argued that this has never been lost, but Richard Kay visited Slwch in Sept 1949, and recorded and sketched what he considered to be the chapel enclosure on the north side of the lane several hundred metres to the west of the presently recognised site (R Kay's notebooks now in NMR). It is clear, however, from early Ordnance Survey maps that what he perceived to be the chapel enclosure was in fact a tree plantation ring, and while re-use is not impossible, an estate map by Edward Thomas in the 1780s confirms the position of the chapel further east. It is believed to have become derelict in the 17th century, and traces of a structure were still visible in the early 19th century.
- 4.6.3 The chapel lay at the centre of a large, near circular enclosure (PRN 35884), c 90m in diameter, which was still visible in late 19th century. There is, too, an associated well dedicated to the saint (PRN 38588). The chapel complex is now scheduled, the scheduled area located on the highest point of a sloping pasture field, named 'Gwrlod y Capel' on the Tithe map. But no trace of a building survives on the site which is defined by a series of hollows/irregular platforms in a topographically irregular area at the south-west end of the field, and the existing scheduling description is difficult to tie in with the visible remains which seem to include surface quarries and their associated spoil. Some of these platforms may have had buildings on them but none is totally convincing. Of the church enclosure very little appears to survive.

#### 4.7 *Lost chapels*

4.7.1 There appear to be many lost chapels and it seems probable that only exceptional fortune or extensive archaeological works are likely to relocate them. Llwyn y Fynwent (PRN 3051) near Llangammarch is a case in point where a place-name evinces and antiquarian tradition hints strongly at a chapel of ease at a farm still bearing the name. But no positive traces of the chapel have ever been identified. On the other hand the reputed chapel near Darowen, known as Cae yr Hen Eglwys (PRN 1298) was detected only when the landowner ploughed the ground up in around 1900. It is perhaps hardly surprising that there are no visible remains, and we should perhaps be grateful for the rough sketch plan in the Royal Commission's Inventory for Montgomeryshire.

4.7.2 The chapel of Felindre, near Glasbury, may have had its origins in the Norman era – reputedly a Norman door arch was moved to the house of Old Gwernyfed in the 18th century – if not earlier. But it fell into ruin in the 18th century and its site is now occupied by the village hall, although no trace of the chapel seems during its construction.

4.7.3 Capel Madog (PRN 1644) near Rhaiadr, referred to as Llanvadauc in the 12th century, may have been a principal centre of worship in the commote on the west bank of the Wye. Very little of the chapel remains, other than an amorphous and slightly levelled platform and two sides of a rectangular enclosure that may have been its graveyard.

4.7.4 Henllan above Builth Wells, claimed as the site of the first church at Llanelwedd was reputedly in existence in the 14th century. The site occupies a slightly domed knoll but there is now no visible surface trace of the building. However, its interior was partly excavated in 1910 when flooring and wall foundations were found, but unfortunately no plans were made at that time. A sketch plan of the site by Richard Kay in 1950 shows a polygonal enclosure with the possible site for the chapel in its north-east quadrant. Now, around the west side of the knoll extending to the south-west is a low scarp bank, with perhaps a hint of an external gully; this appears to be curvilinear but needs to be confirmed. Geophysics on the site has been conducted by ArchaeoPhysica Ltd as part of this Cadw survey, and their report is presented in its entirety as Appendix 5. It reveals the presence of anomalies in the north of the surveyed area which conform to Kay's observations and which is interpreted in the geophysics report as a church with a nave and chancel in one, though the latter could have a polygonal end, and a north transept. There are the remnants of a curvilinear enclosure and, more unusually in geophysics terms, the presence of a number of graves oriented east to west. Henllan ranks as one of the more likely candidates for an abandoned early medieval foundation in central Powys. This tradition of an earlier chapel which preceded the present church but on a different spot finds a parallel at Pant yr Hen Eglwys (PRN 81767) in Llanefydd (Denbs). Again there is now no trace of this earlier structure, and in this case the substantive evidence for such a sequence seems less promising than at Llanelwedd.

4.7.5 To Theophilus Jones we owe the recognition of a chapel in the field called Waun y Capel on the banks of the River Cwannon in Breconshire. But apart from a mound of rubble identified by the Ordnance Survey in 1975 but now apparently gone, there are no physical remains to ponder. Melai chapel in Llanfair Talhaiarn (PRN 81562) was referred to be Archdeacon Thomas and there is evidently post-medieval documentary evidence for its existence, but its site is now uncertain.

4.7.6 The site of St Leonard in Glyn church or chapel (PRN 17011) is now unknown, although it is reasonably well documented in the medieval period, and seems to have been known by one of Lhuyd's correspondents at the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Saint Mordeym's Chapel at Nantglyn (PN 17495) is unusual in that its site is pretty well documented, but as yet no indications have been identified. Early Ordnance Survey maps mark the position of the

chapel, and an unsubstantiated report of parchmarks has been made, but apart from one evaluation that failed to find any traces in an area peripheral to the presumed location nothing has been achieved. A geophysical survey of the area, undertaken by ArchaeoPhysica as part of this Cadw programme (see Appendix 6), has shed little further light on this issue, and St Mordeyrn's chapel remains an enigma.

- 4.7.7 Missing from the list are the one or two chapels for which no location can be postulated. Llandegeman Fawr Chapel (PRN 674) is an example of where even rigorous fieldwork may be of little use. Theophilus Jones classed this as an extinct chapel dedicated to Saint Decumen and thus one of seven religious houses in Dyfed mentioned in laws of Hywel Dda. The credibility of this association must remain in question, and it is unclear whether this is the sole evidence for a chapel at this spot! Such also is Aber Henllan, one of the two chapels in Llansantffraid Cwmdeuddwr (Rads) referred to by Lewis in 1833: while its partner, Capel Madoc, is readily placed, we are largely ignorant of the site of Aber Henllan (PRN 3468). Likewise two miles away from Llagynidr (Brecks) it has been claimed that there was previously a chapel on the banks of the Crawnant, but its position is unknown. On the other hand, modern field archaeology coupled with an assiduous search may yield better data, and analysis of some primary records such as the Tithe surveys has clarified a number of the uncertainties. Samuel Lewis (1833) speculated that Llysdinam, near Newbridge (Brecks) had once had its own chapel or church, and this would have remained anonymous had not an incidental scan of an early Ordnance Survey map revealed that its location had been pinpointed in the 19th century.
- 4.7.8 Finally, Pen Cerig Calch chapel site (PRN 72430) represents a different sort of problem. Possibly the wrong grid reference has been attributed to this site. Certainly the location on a steeply sloping hill side is not likely for a church building.

#### *4.8 Chapels in folklore*

- 4.8.1 There are those buildings claimed as chapels for which little substantive evidence exists to confirm a tradition, usually antiquarian. Such is Aber Henllan Chapel (PRN 3468) where the label seems tenuous, and may be the result of 19<sup>th</sup>-century antiquarian speculation on the origins of a local stream name. Then there is Theophilus Jones' record of the chapel (or oratory) of St Cenau which was removed in 1790 by the local farmer. But a careful reading of the report does not demonstrate the presence of a building, and it is possible that the report has gradually become elaborated over the last couple of centuries. Hendre church (PRN 81556) in the Henfache township of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant was posited by Archdeacon Thomas, usually a reliable authority. The absence of any collaborative evidence is however a concern with this one.

#### *4.9 Conclusions*

- 4.9.1 What conclusions can we draw from this study of chapels? Firstly, as with the abandoned churches considered above, it is probably highly unlikely that even where only the visible foundations of a chapel remain, they will be of early medieval origin. There must be an almost incontrovertible presumption that any surviving above-ground evidence will be medieval or conceivably even post-medieval in date. Rather it is to the accompanying graveyard that we must look for indicators of curvilinearity. Henllan near Builth Wells could fall into this category, as do one or two of those around Crai. But in total there are not many of these and they form an important group of sites.

- 4.9.2 The presence of a British “saint’s” name in association can at best be used as broad guide – the excavated example of Capel Maelog (Britnell 1990) is illuminating in this respect, for the earliest chapel on the site seems to be of the 12<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup> century, and only very rarely – the case of St Eluned’s chapel near Brecon, mentioned by Giraldus Cambrensis in the later 12<sup>th</sup> century, is an exception – do the records go back into the medieval centuries. However, a small number of chapels are traditionally early medieval in origin: St Cenau’s Chapel in Llangenny (Brecon) is one such, as is Capel Llewelyn in Welshpool; though its precise location has not been identified, an associated graveyard was found in 1986, although the skeletons that were radiometrically dated were of the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century.
- 4.9.3 Others, on the basis of the extremely limited evidence available to us, are probably of post-Conquest origin. Maescelyn Chapel, once dedicated to St Mary, is generally thought of as the predecessor of the church within the planned settlement of Crickhowell (Brecon), but the date attributed to it is the 12<sup>th</sup> century at the earliest, and there seems no reason to push it back into the early medieval era.
- 4.9.4 Foundations are sometimes given a ‘chapel’ appellation. Cae yr Hen Eglwys, the name of a field near Darowen (in western Montgomeryshire), had foundations supposedly of the chapel, though the reference is vague. A further problem is a traditional tendency, to identify earthwork platforms and even structures to churches and chapels on very tenuous grounds. Thus we find it with the earthwork at Dyrysgol in St Harmon (Rads), Hen Ddinbych (Denbs) and also with the Glog ‘Chapel’ Enclosure in Kerry (PRN 6146) which evidently has no tangible religious associations and the Llandybo earthworks (PRN 1711). A curious circular platform has been claimed as the site of a church near Doleglwys House (PRN 4145). In the first two cases there are good reasons for interpreting the remains as medieval sheepcotes, in the last case, a house platform. But the interesting question, particularly in the case of the first two, is whether there was a long-term folk memory which identified religious connotations for sites which had monastic associations.
- 4.9.5 Then, it is clear that many chapels have disappeared leaving no significant surface trace. In rare instances such as Capel Spon, sufficient detail remains to pinpoint the position which can then be confirmed by other mechanisms, in that particular case, geophysics, but there is no doubt that this is a potentially significant area for further research.
- 4.9.6 Few generalisations can even be attempted. It has been argued (in the second report) that Crai (Breconshire) had a significant number of chapels and that Henllan (Denbighshire), according to Archdeacon Thomas also had a significant number. But there is no means of determining whether such numbers in a parish were typical or exceptional. It is tempting to think that Crai and Henllan were exceptional not in the number of chapels but in the fact that there are records of a sort for them, but this of course, can only be a supposition.

## 5 Early monastic sites

- 5.1 Is it likely that such sites remain as visible earthworks? It seems improbable. Several have been suggested. A theory emerged early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century that the original *clas* foundation at Glasbury (PRN 516) was on Ffynnon Gynydd Common, the theory subsequently gaining credence with no supporting evidence. It is possible to refute the view, the result of an unwarranted assumption (Silvester and Hankinson, forthcoming). Likewise there is nothing in the archaeological record to confirm the presence of a similar institution on Llowes common (PRN 407) – it is again antiquarian speculation. Other *clas* sites are equally difficult to tie down – in Montgomeryshire both Llangurig and Llandinam are believed to be *clasau* but there is really nothing archaeological to confirm the attributions. Further north, the monastery at Bangor-on-Dee (PRN 100149) whose monks were slaughtered by

Aethelfrith at the battle of Chester in 616, has remained elusive to all who have looked for it, but Gwytherin (PRN 81726) at least has some early medieval stones in the churchyard, even if their presence is not in itself a direct indicator of a monastic establishment.

## 6 *Holy Wells*

- 6.1 Holy wells have exerted a fascination (see for instance Rattue 1995), and more rarely even an obsession, for some, and a significant literature exists on the holy wells of Wales. Not only is there the volume devoted to the subject, by the well-known historian, Francis Jones - who published his work in 1954, although regrettably not updated when the paperback edition appeared in 1992 – but also leaflets and other more ephemeral literature appear from time to time (Anon, n.d.). Jones' work in particular is thorough and detailed and is unlikely to be improved upon, other than perhaps in the provision of specific locational information about extant wells which is the most obvious omission.
- 6.2 There is a long and well-established tradition linking early medieval 'saints' and holy men to wells and water sources, and this requires us to treat the concept of the holy well seriously, particularly where these are within or close to putative sites of early medieval origin. Yet the attribution of a saint's name to a particular well is no guarantee that the saint had any direct link with that well, for it is feasible that the well acquired its appellation at a later date as a result of the site's proximity to a nearby church with the same dedication, or because of a growing body of folk tradition. But equally it may be asked why a well carries a name of potential early medieval origin when it is located far from any other feature associated with that person: Ffynnon Drillo (PRN 81727) near Llansannan is a good example of such an appellation that appears to defy explanation.
- 6.3 Even today, however, the presence of a well or water source which is reputed to be of 'holy' origin is often a well-known feature of the landscape. Its nature and function may be understood and appreciated by the local population, even if its condition leaves much to be desired.

### 6.4 *Definition*

- 6.4.1 The term 'holy well' can and has been ascribed to a variety of water sources, including wells, springs and surfacing underground streams. 'Holy well' is thus a generic term, but no less relevant for being so. Presumably, to those who named and used the wells, it was the provision of water rather than the mechanism by which it appeared that was important.
- 6.4.2 The concept of 'holiness' often merges with the supposed curative properties, hence the recognition of what Jones called 'healing wells' (1992, 140). Jones, indeed, categorised wells under five headings which it is useful to reiterate here:

*Class A:* wells bearing the names of saints or designations such as the Trinity (Drindod), God (Duw) etc

*Class B:* wells associated with churches, chapels, feasts, pilgrimages etc. To Jones some of these may once have borne the names of saints

*Class C:* wells with reputed healing characteristics, but not covered under Classes A and B

*Class D:* wells named after apparently secular people, although the possibility exists that some of these might be minor and otherwise unknown saints

*Class E: miscellaneous wells*

6.4.3 For the purposes of this study it is the Class A and B wells that are significant, together with perhaps some Class C sites. But healing attributes are not in themselves a criterion for inclusion as the spring at the Llanwddyn *Hospitium* confirms: there is some limited oral evidence that Ffynnon y Mynaich had healing properties, though these were unknown to Jones who grouped it in his Class D (1972, 202), and certainly nothing that can be inferred about its significance and use prior to the Hospitallers' era (Silvester 1997b, 68).

6.4.4 The total number of "historic" wells gleaned primarily from the Sites and Monuments Record with some additional sites from other sources is just over two hundred. Approximately ninety wells have names which imply a relationship with a known saint or have another similar connection which would place them within Jones' Class A, although in some instances the ecclesiastical association seems rather tenuous. Even where a well is named after a particular saint there is no certainty that the naming is original, as there is at least the possibility that the association may have emerged at a later date, as a result of its geographical proximity to a nearby church, for example.

6.5 *Authenticity and date*

6.5.1 The over-riding difficulty with any holy well, particularly in the context of this study is the authenticity of the site. Generally it is impossible to ascertain the period in which it was built and even a positive attribution of a well to a particular saint is absolutely no guarantee of an early medieval origin. Pilleth church in Radnorshire is almost certainly a post-Conquest foundation, and St Mary's well, set immediately adjacent to its north wall, is perhaps of similar date. Yet it is not inconceivable that the church was established at this particular point on the hillside because the well was already known and venerated, and the dedication could be a later acquisition. Conversely the unnamed well in Llandefalle churchyard (PRN 4485; see below) may have had some significance in the early medieval era when the circular enclosure at Llandefalle was created, but the chances of demonstrating it seem remote. Furthermore it may be impossible to tie down a surviving well to a record of a holy well even from a relatively recent source such as Francis Jones (1954). The well reputedly by Llandrindod Old Church, above Victorian Llandrindod Wells, is a case in point (PRN 81710): there is a likely candidate in a nearby field but no certainty on its authenticity.

6.5.2 Possibly only the well of Gwenfrewi (St Winifred) at Holywell, the best known holy well in the region, can be securely attributed to the early medieval era as it was first referred to in 1093 (Edwards and Lane 1992, 8). And for very few is it even possible to trace their 'holy' attribute back into the medieval era.

6.5.3 Maen-du well (PRN 81732), near Brecon cannot with any certainty be taken back earlier than the date of 1754 which is carried on the building which shelters it. Francis Jones (1992, 146) classed it as a holy well because people resorted to it and items were deposited there. The appearance of the building with its corbelled roof suggests that efforts may even have been made to copy the tradition of the small, corbelled-roof, monastic cells of the early medieval period which are found in Ireland.

6.5.4 Wells other than that at Holywell are less fortunate in their documentation and even excavation is unlikely to offer a satisfactory solution. Ffynnon Degla at Llandegley (Denbs) was excavated in 1935 and revealed a limited amount of stratigraphy beneath the paving but no dating evidence (Edwards and Lane 1992, 8), while more recently the well of St Eluned

near Brecon has been partially examined, although again without any significant discoveries (P Dorling: *pers comm.*).

## 6.6 Form

- 6.6.1 The morphology of holy wells has attracted little attention, Francis Jones for instance being more concerned with the history and traditions of such wells rather than their physical structure, devoted only a few paragraphs (1992, 1) to the subject.
- 6.6.2 At its most basic level the well was a totally wholly natural phenomenon which remained (or appears to have remained) physically unmodified. Trinity Well I, near Guilsfield (PRN 97) is but one holy well that acquired a 'holy' epithet but remained much as it was, while St Ceneu's Well, Llangenny (Breccs; PRN 4002), set in close proximity to the lost chapel or oratory of St Ceneu on the far side of the river from Llangenny village and church, is little more than a hollow fed by a spring which at one time is reported to have been covered by a stone slab.
- 6.6.3 More commonly, some modifications to the area immediately surrounding the water source were undertaken. The sides or base may have roughly slabbed to create a cistern or pool, perhaps with an overflow channel in place. Thus Ffynnon Digain (PRN 100428) has slabs on edge to form the sides and back of the pool, the front being open to allow the water to escape.
- 6.6.4 Such simple structures should be distinguished from the more elaborately constructed pools and cisterns such as the stone-lined tank with an overflow at Pistyll y Clawdd in Montgomeryshire (PRN 82), the large rectangular pool at Ffynnon Dyfnog with its inlet and outlet channels (PRN 100603), near the church at Llanrhaeadr-yng-Nghinmeirch and Ffynnon Sarah which consists of a large, rectangular well pool, sunk into the slope, its walls, of mortared random rubble (PRN 100763).
- 6.6.5 Others which seem more prevalent in Montgomeryshire than elsewhere consist of roofed alcoves, sometimes with drystone side and rear walls and a small, rock-cut, stone trough in the base to capture spring water. Often these wells are associated with a particular saint, lending credence to the possibility of an early medieval origin, although the existing structures undoubtedly represent later refurbishments. Good Montgomeryshire examples of the type include St Myllin's Well near Llanfyllin (PRN 56) and St Cadfan's Well, near Llangadfan (PRN 1230), both relatively near the churches dedicated to their saints. The cobbled ramp which leads down to the stone revetted Ffynnon Erfyl (PRN 1323) is another type of structure, though there is some doubt as to the attribution; it is situated at some distance from the church of Llanerfyl in Montgomery, on the other side of the River Banwy. However, it would be incorrect to assume that this was a specifically Montgomeryshire phenomenon: for instance Ffynnon Ishow at Partishow (PRN 3219) with its drystone-built alcove, 1.5m high, capped by a sandstone slab roof., falls within this class of wells with roofed chambers.
- 6.6.6 Finally there are more sophisticated remains where the well is integrated into another structure. St Winefride's well at Holywell is the famous well where a sumptuous Perpendicular chapel was built over the well. Ffynnon Fair chapel, a Perpendicular building, contains the well of the same name (PRN 102142).

## 6.7 Associations

6.7.1 A relatively few churches have wells immediately adjacent to them. Pilleth (Rads; PRN 287) Llanfair Caereinion (Monts; PRN 758), St Eluned's chapel (Brecks; PRN 38588), and Llandefalle (Brecks; PRN 4485) are examples. Rather larger are the number of wells in the general vicinity of a church: Fynnon Eigon (PRN 1063) lies 150m away from Llanigon church (Brecks), Ffynnon Ishow (PRN 3219) is in the valley below Partrishow (Brecks), Ffynnon Afan (PRN 5886) is located to the south-west of the church at Llanafan Fawr (Brecks), St Tydecho's Well (PRN 1217) is close to the church at Garthbeibio (Monts), St Cadfan's Well (PRN 1230) is by the road leading up to Llangadfan church (Monts), and so on. Others, however, are at a rather greater distance as with Fynnon Erfyl (PRN 4289) near Llanerfyl, Ffynnon Idloes in Llanidloes (PRN 1539) and Ffynnon Garmon Well near Llanfechain (PRN 1485). Ffynnon Gyngar (PRN 81723) is said to have been about half a mile from St Cyngar's church at Hope, although we have been unable to locate it precisely, and Ffynnon Digain (PRN 100428) is well to the north of St Digain's church at Llangernyw (Denbs), and St Cynhafal's Well (PRN 100611) is nearly 500m from the church of the same name at Llangynghafal (Denbs). Some recorded holy wells cannot now be located. Such is the holy well (PRN 81710) near the old church at Llandrindod which F Jones referred to (1992, 217), and in the south-west corner of the old churchyard at Halkyn (Flints) was a hollow, generally believed to be the holy well mentioned in 1699 by Edward Lhuyd (PRN 100344). Conversely, there are wells still in evidence and close to churches, but which lack any sort of attribution: thus there are unnamed wells with supposed curative properties close to the church at Penegoes (Monts; PRN 5158), and the Royal Commission in the past have speculated whether the unnamed spring to the east of Cefnlllys church (Rads; PRN 81700) was a holy well.

6.7.2 In one or two places wells with reputed powers seem to congregate together. At Garthbeibio in western Montgomeryshire there are three wells within a kilometre of each other and with the parish church which looks to have early origins. Of these the most interesting is probably St Tydecho's Well (PRN 1217). Not only does it share the saint's name with the church, but it is reputedly to have had a stone head, presumably a depiction of the saint, on one side of it. This has now disappeared, and the well is difficult to find.

6.7.3 There are of course other putative associations, usually with megalithic structures which Jones drew attention to and which might by implication encourage a belief in the antiquity of the well (Jones 1992, 14). But in most of the examples cited in this region the stones have now gone, and any relationship remains speculative.

## 6.8 Condition

6.8.1 As long as holy wells served a practical purpose, were believed to have healing properties, or continued to be venerated for their holy associations, they were likely to be preserved in some form. Once these conditions no longer applied, the physical form of the well was threatened.

6.8.2 Many of the wells recorded by Edward Lhuyd's correspondents at the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century can no longer be traced, and the Holy Well at Meifod (PRN 4369) is a good example of how a well appears at least in folklore to have developed a tradition or a reputation which then dissipated in parallel with the physical disappearance of the well itself. Ffynnon Drillo (PRN 81560) is a good example of deliberate removal. The well not that far from Llandillo church was backfilled by previous owners, even though in the past it was regularly frequented by local people. Now only its site is known. Ffynnon Gwydd, near the church

atb Disserth in Radnorshire (PRN 81709) can no longer be identified, and Ffynnon Nefydd at Llanefydd (PRN 81728) has been grassed over.

6.8.3 Like some other monuments, wells are likely to undergo refurbishment and re-housing, often without reference to their historic potential. Thus the spring well behind Llandefalle church in Breconshire (PRN 4485) which is not known to have any specific 'holy' attributes, but is nevertheless set within the early curvilinear church enclosure, was formerly enclosed by stone walls on three sides, creating a pool about one metre square and 0.5m deep. It is now encased in brick with a concrete top in which is set a manhole cover, and any evidence of its previous form is either hidden or destroyed. Ffynnon Sarah in Denbighshire (PRN 100763) has a large, rectangular well pool, sunk into the slope, together with a flight of four steps down to water level in the south-east angle and an overflow channel, possibly of recent construction, leading from the west side of the pool to a stream. According to a proud notice set beside it was recently restored by the local council.

6.8.4 In the case of Ffynnon Dyfnog at Llanrhaeadr-yng-Nghinmeirch in Denbighshire (PRN 100603), the refurbishment is less well dated. The main element is a large well pool, broadly rectangular and of well-squared masonry, and set in a hollow, the pool fed by what appears to be a copious stream. This emerges from a conduit topped by a concrete lintel which appears to be relatively modern. Above and behind this a dry gully leads back to what was probably the 'cave' of earlier records, in which the spring rose, but is now just a shallow concavity. On the north side of the gully a drystone revetment wall is clearly associated with it. The 'cave' was certainly the origin of the water supply at the time of Richard Fenton's visit in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, when the pool, too, was in existence. But perhaps this itself was a feature of the landscaping that was instituted around Llanrhaiadr Hall in the later 18<sup>th</sup> century. There is nothing to suggest that it goes back into the medieval ages, even though the proximity of the well bearing the same saint's name as the nearby church hints at a longer tradition.

6.8.5 But relatively important wells such as St Eluned's near Brecon (Wellspring Fellowship, n.d.) are now virtually invisible, no more than a hollow marking the spot.

## 6.9 Protection

6.9.1 Holy wells are a type of site which don't attract as much attention as some of the other, larger and more mainstream monument types that are considered in this report such as churches or early medieval inscribed stones. Nevertheless, they should be recognised as having a potentially long history and for some communities they hold more significance and are probably more treasured because of their nature than some other historic features whose utility is no longer required and valued.

6.9.2 Scheduling wells as monuments of national importance is not a procedure that has been employed to protect holy wells, at least in eastern Wales, except for three specific cases: Ffynnon Gegidog near Abergele (PRN 102012; De186), Ffynnon Fair near St Asaph (PRN 102142; De 038), which of course is an integral part of the chapel mentioned above, and St Eluned's Well (PRN 38588: SAM Br236). Like other built structures such as bridges, planning legislation is perceived to be the best method of affording them some protection. This form of protection has been given to some well-known wells such as Ffynnon Ishow Well (PRN 3219) at Partrishow, but in all only seven holy wells are listed, all grade II (Cadw: *pers comm.*), although occasionally there is an erroneous belief in the local community of others being protected, as is the case with Ffynnon Digain Holy Well (PRN 100428) in Llangernyw, also near Abergele, where the village information board claims it is

listed. At under 5% of the total number of wells listed here this does not appear to be a particularly satisfactory level of protection

### 6.10 Conclusions

6.10.1 The study of holy wells is one which, although superficially straightforward, presents significant and perhaps insoluble problems in determining the integrity and date of a site. No attempt therefore has been made to visit all the known holy wells in the region. Nevertheless, a sample has been looked at, and an attempt made, with varying success, to locate some of those whose existing records were rather vague. As Edwards (1996, 59) has pointed out few have been properly recorded or indeed excavated, and few, too, are protected. This project may not have added any wells to the list of early medieval monuments but it has resulted in fuller and more accurately located records being entered into the regional SMR, and also emphasised that holy wells are a diminishing resource which ought to be recognised more widely.

## 7 Cemeteries

- 7.1 Only a very limited number of burial sites and cemeteries of potential early medieval origin are known in the region (see Silvester and Hankinson 2002, 19), and several of these were identified through rescue excavations, so further fieldwork is unlikely to have a meaningful outcome.
- 7.2 Some others recorded in the regional SMR have been ruled out as a result of a combination of further documentary research and fieldwork. Gorn Hill Cemetery (PRN 1542), near Llanidloes, if the 19<sup>th</sup>-century reference is correct is likely to have been a 17<sup>th</sup>-century burial place, and if it does have a longer history there is no record of it.
- 7.3 One of very few such sites which have been not been revealed by excavation is that recorded at Meusydd, Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant (Denbs; PRN 102775) on a single CUCAP oblique aerial photograph taken in 1975. Slight marks appear to represent an unenclosed group of burials; this site has not been dated, but from its appearance it could belong to the early medieval period. Inevitably, there are no surface traces, but conceivably a limited intervention might clarify the nature of the site and possibly even its date.
- 7.4 One further site which is likely to represent a funerary monument of the period is a possible square-shaped barrow (PRN 106503) at Coed Bell, near Prestatyn, which was found by members of the public, and might be an extant example of the type of early medieval burials found during excavations by CPAT at Tandderwen, near Denbigh in 1986-7.
- 7.5 Finally there are one or two archaeological features that are traditionally claimed as the grave of a particular saint. On Mynydd Iltyd is Bedd Iltyd (PRN 582), the much damaged remains of what was probably a Bronze Age cairn. It is, of course, conceivable that the claim that it is the grave of St Iltyd, whose chapel is sited nearby, is accurate and that the holy man was indeed buried in a convenient stone tomb. It is more likely, however, that the association materialised over the centuries, the obvious burial monument being associated with the local saint rather than some mythical or legendary character.

## 8 Inscribed Stones

- 8.1 The present study did not set out to conduct a thorough survey of inscribed and decorated stones in east and north-east, despite the fact that arguably they are the most direct form of indicator of early medieval ecclesiastical activity. The fact that a comprehensive survey of all such stones is being completed by Nancy Edwards and Mark Redknapp obviates the immediate need for such an assessment, although some have
- 8.2 The region has relatively few stones compared with other areas. Table 2 generated from data prepared by one of the writers for the National Committee for the Recording and Protection of Early Medieval Inscribed Stones and Stone Sculpture reveals this to be the case in terms of such stones that are to be found in functioning churches and churchyards, but excludes those found in other locations. A full list of those known in north-east and mid Wales is provided here in Appendix 1.
- 8.3 Of course, stones continue to be identified, although not frequently. The three stones at Hope Church are examples (PRNs 81751-53), although strictly speaking only one of these is a recent discovery (Jones et al 2001).

*Table 2: Early Medieval Stones in Churches and Churchyards*

County	Total number of stones	Total in interior	Stones within church	Stones built into interior	Stones built into or close to exterior	Stones in churchyard
Anglesey	37	20		7	17	0
<b>Brecon</b>	27	20	14	6	4	3
Caernarfon	17	12	5	2	5	0
Carmarthen	21	13		2	3	4
Cardigan	25	20		1	4	0
<b>Denbigh</b>	3	0	0	0	0	3
<b>Flint</b>	5	3	2	1	2	0
Glamorgan	55	40	8	5	4	3
Merioneth	11	6	1	2	4	1
Monmouth	3	2	1		0	0
<b>Montgomery</b>	9	7	6	1	2	0
Pembroke	51	24	14	3	14	8
<b>Radnorshire</b>	0					
<b>Total</b>	264	167			59	22

- 8.4 Many stones are housed in churches where their long-term protection seems ensured. Some such as the fine cross-slab in St Meilig's church at Llowes in Radnorshire (PRN 399) came from well away from the church, but the building was clearly seen as the most appropriate home for it and it is still scheduled despite being in the church (check). Others are less well documented. It seems likely that they have always been associated with the site of the church, yet generally this cannot be substantiated. The stones at Defynnog (PRN 574), Llanddettty (PRN 647), Llanspyddid (PRN 599), Trallong (PRN 579), Llanwrtyd (PRN 50216), all fall within this category. The Llanhamlach church stone (PRN 621) came from the nearby rectory where it was first identified as lintel in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. It seems likely that the church or churchyard was its original place of deposition. Others seem likely to have been within the perimeter of the churchyard since their erection. Thus the stone in

Llanlleonfel church (PRN 3048) is assumed to have been outside and Thomas has developed an elaborate case for its origins and the form of the monument that it came from (Thomas 1999).

- 8.5 Few stones remain outside except in Breconshire, although there are occasional examples in churchyards. The two small ring-crossed stones at Llanelieu (PRN 5829) are set in concrete outside the porch, and are gradually collecting lichen, Llangernyw Church (PRN 99998) has two outside the south transept. The great cross of Maen Achwyfan (PRN 102328; FI 05) is an exception and it has certainly suffered because of its exposure to the elements. The Bryn Gwylan inscribed stone (PRN 17494) is an exception, having been first identified and then dug up by the owner, and is now in store with him.
- 8.6 A significant number of stones have also been transferred to museums, whether the National Museum in Cardiff or to provincial museums, particularly Brecon which has the Erwhelm Cross Shaft (PRN 941), the Neuadd Sharman Cross (PRN 939), the Cildu Farm Pillar Stone (PRN 3047), the Victorinus Stone (PRN 35911), and the Turpil Stone (PRN 50456). Cardiff has the Ty Newydd Cross Slab (PRN 609).
- 8.7 Some stones have been lost to view. Such is the Bryn Cynon Stone (PRN 389) with its primitively incised cross and other markings which was first recognised by the Ordnance Survey in 1952, but apparently not seen after that date. The Talybont Pillar Stone (PRN 650) was recorded as early as the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, but can no longer be traced, and Lhuyd was also responsible for recording the Latin and ogam-inscribed Pentrey Goch Garreg Stone (PRN 3145) in the Crai area.
- 8.8 Similarly, the *Catvc* stone (PRN 465), one of the two stones known to have been in the church at Llandefaelog Fach to the north of Brecon is lost in the sense that it appears to have been immured in the church wall in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century as readily available building material and can no longer be recognised. The other (PRN 475), probably because of its more remarkable figurative depiction, did not suffer the same indignity. Two of the three stones known from Llanfrynach church in the 19<sup>th</sup> century have disappeared, probably the same befalling them as the *Catvc* stone.
- 8.9 There are also a number of stones recorded in antiquarian sources that can no longer be traced. The Llangynidr Stone (PRN 979) was recorded by Theophilus Jones in Brecknock at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century but can no longer be traced.
- 8.10 The authenticity of others must be questioned. The Upper Pen y Fforest Cross (PRN 410) is a boulder whose head has been fashioned into a disc, but the identification of a cross is not convincing. Likewise the Llanhamlach Standing Stone (PRN 615) has no attributes that mark it as distinctively early medieval, a period which is but one of three suggested for it.
- 8.11 Finally some note must be made of those stones within ecclesiastical boundaries which are not decorated or inscribed. The large standing stone located no more than two metres from the south-east corner of the south porch of Llanwrthwl Church is of putative prehistoric significance and it must be assumed that it was already in position when the church was constructed, although whether its presence was instrumental in the establishment of the church at this place is open to debate.

## 9 Conclusions

- 9.1 North-east and central Wales are not overly rich in the remains of early medieval ecclesiastical sites and features. Despite its size it is probably the poorest of the four Trust regions in this respect. It is probably reasonable to conclude that in academic terms not a great deal of new information or fresh ideas has been derived from the study. The vast majority of sites which might conceivably be claimed to have an early medieval origin cannot be so proved. Those features and monuments that are indubitably early medieval - inscribed stones and to a lesser degree curvilinear churchyards - are or have been the focus of modern studies. Few early medieval sites, *per se*, are likely to be recommended for statutory protection, although the study has drawn attention to several medieval sites and features that might warrant attention.
- 9.2 This can perhaps be gauged also by returning to the earlier stages of this project. In the preliminary desk-top assessment a system of grading known and potential early medieval ecclesiastical sites was developed in conjunction with two of the three other Welsh Archaeological Trusts. This aimed to determine the relative standing of early churches and kindred sites across the country by adopting consistent criteria, with Grade A sites having attributes that could be used as incontrovertible signs of early (i.e. early medieval) origins. The criteria first laid out in the first report (Silvester and Hankinson 2002, 22) are repeated here in Appendix 2. The categorisation of all the sites identified in the desk-top assessment were originally tabulated in the first report (Silvester and Hankinson 2002, Appendix 7) and are here presented in revised form as Appendix 3, following the fieldwork assessment.
- 9.3 A reasonable proportion of the Category A sites have been visited as well as some in the lower categories, but very few significant changes in the categorisation have resulted. The only one of note is the enhancement of Glasbury to Class A on the basis of the fieldwork described above, and two other church sites - Gresford and Llanbedr Ystrad Yw - have been re-assessed to the A category because of their documentary records. On the other hand a significant number of sites have been relegated to Category C because the significance of their circular churchyard morphology is still not universally accepted as an indicator of early beginnings.
- 9.4 What the project has achieved is the rationalisation and tidying of the archaeological record in the regional SMR. Nowhere is this better seen than in the record of the partially stone-lined well at Esgym Brook (PRN 5392), set into a stone-revetted cutting within a mound which has proved to be the remains of a drystone-built limekiln. Such enhancement should be viewed as a positive achievement.

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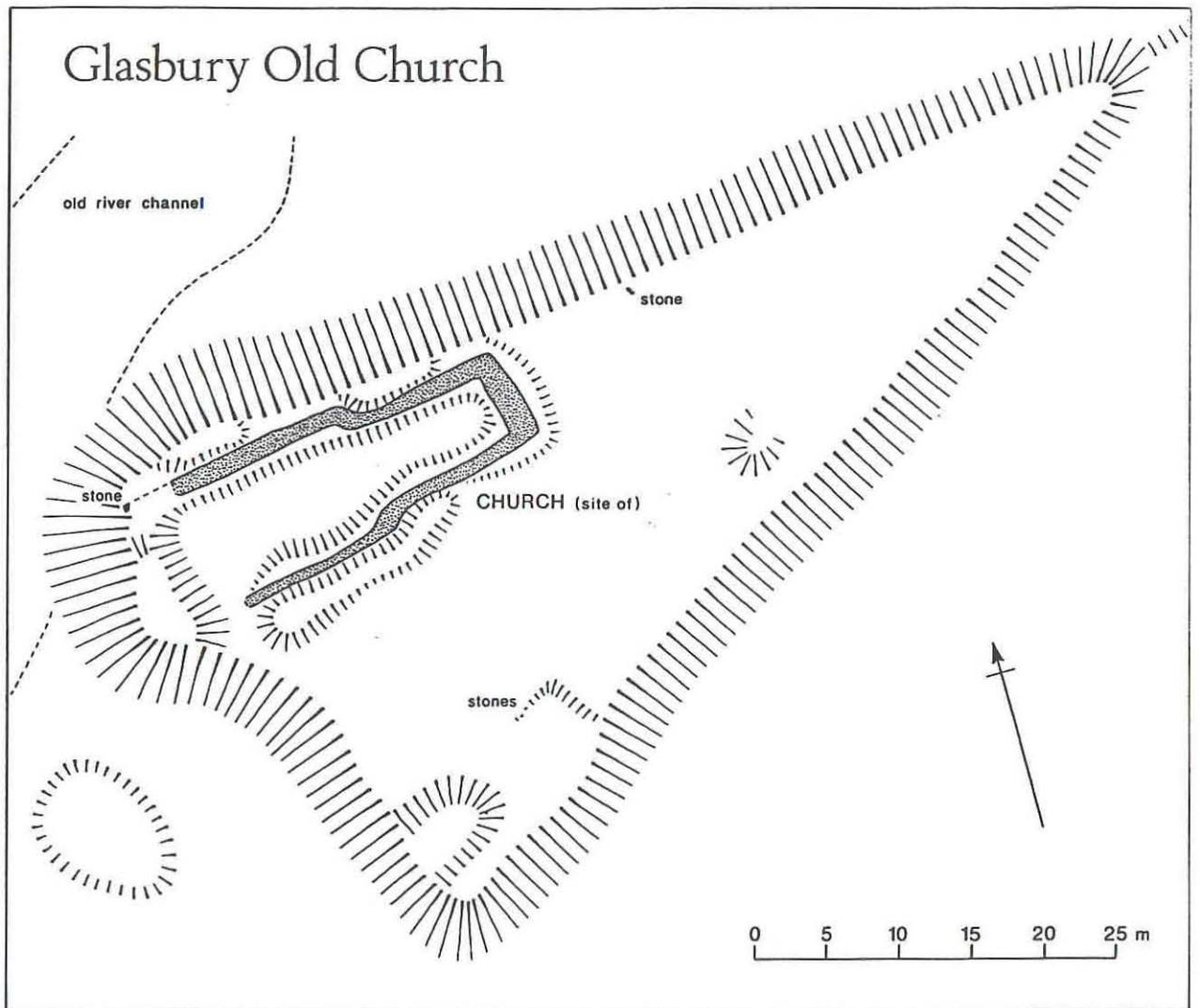
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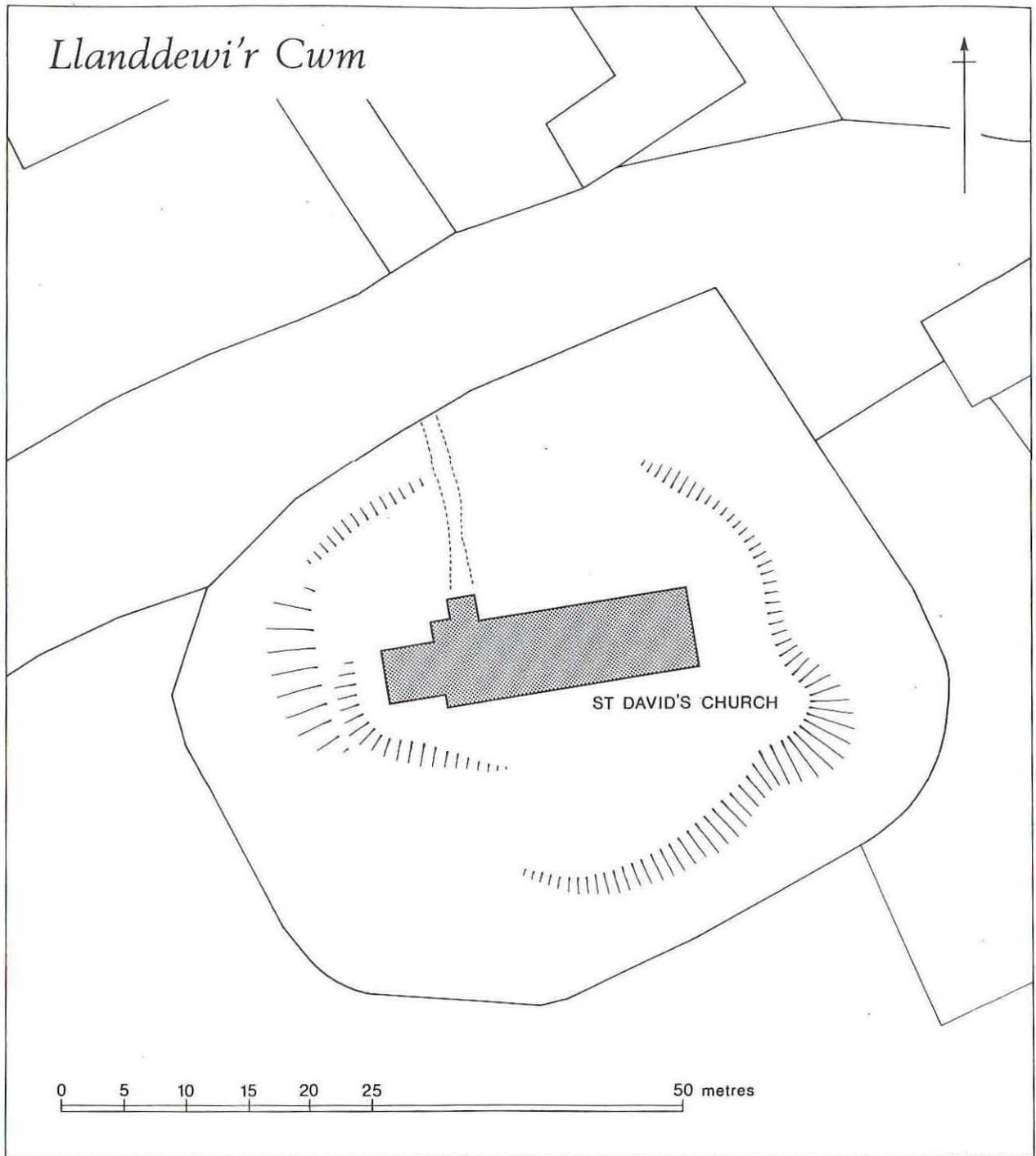
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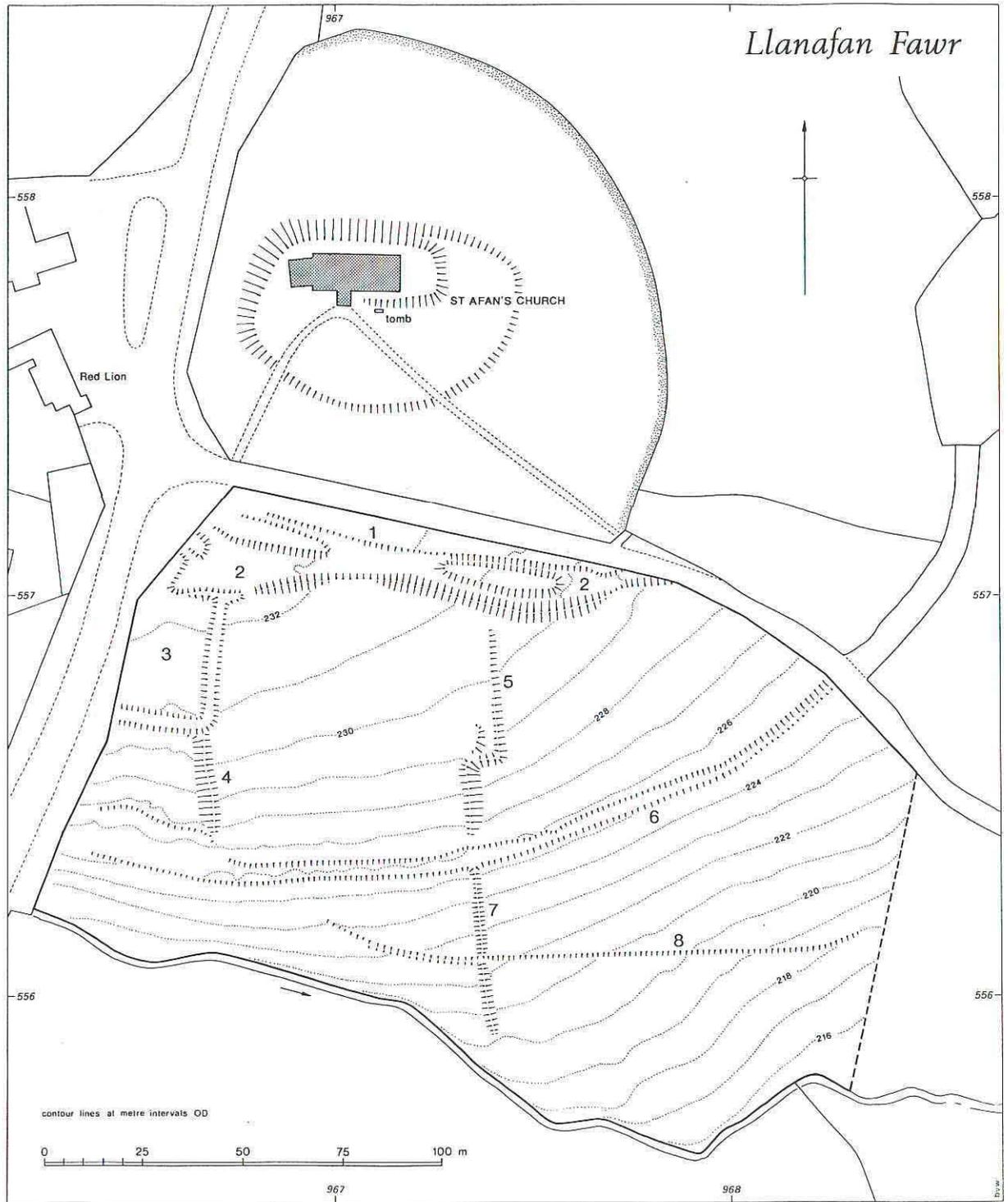
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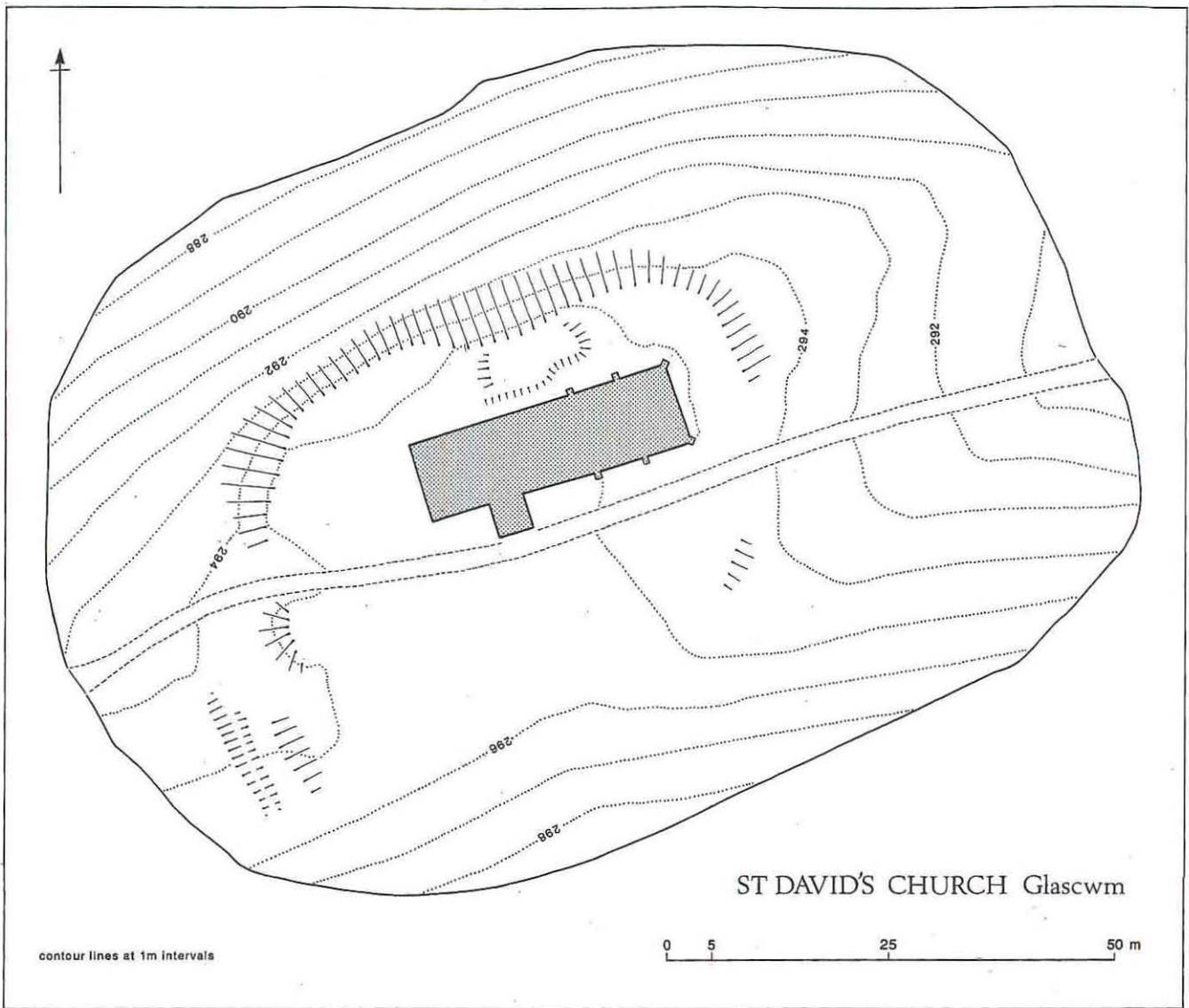
Plan a) Glasbury: old church site



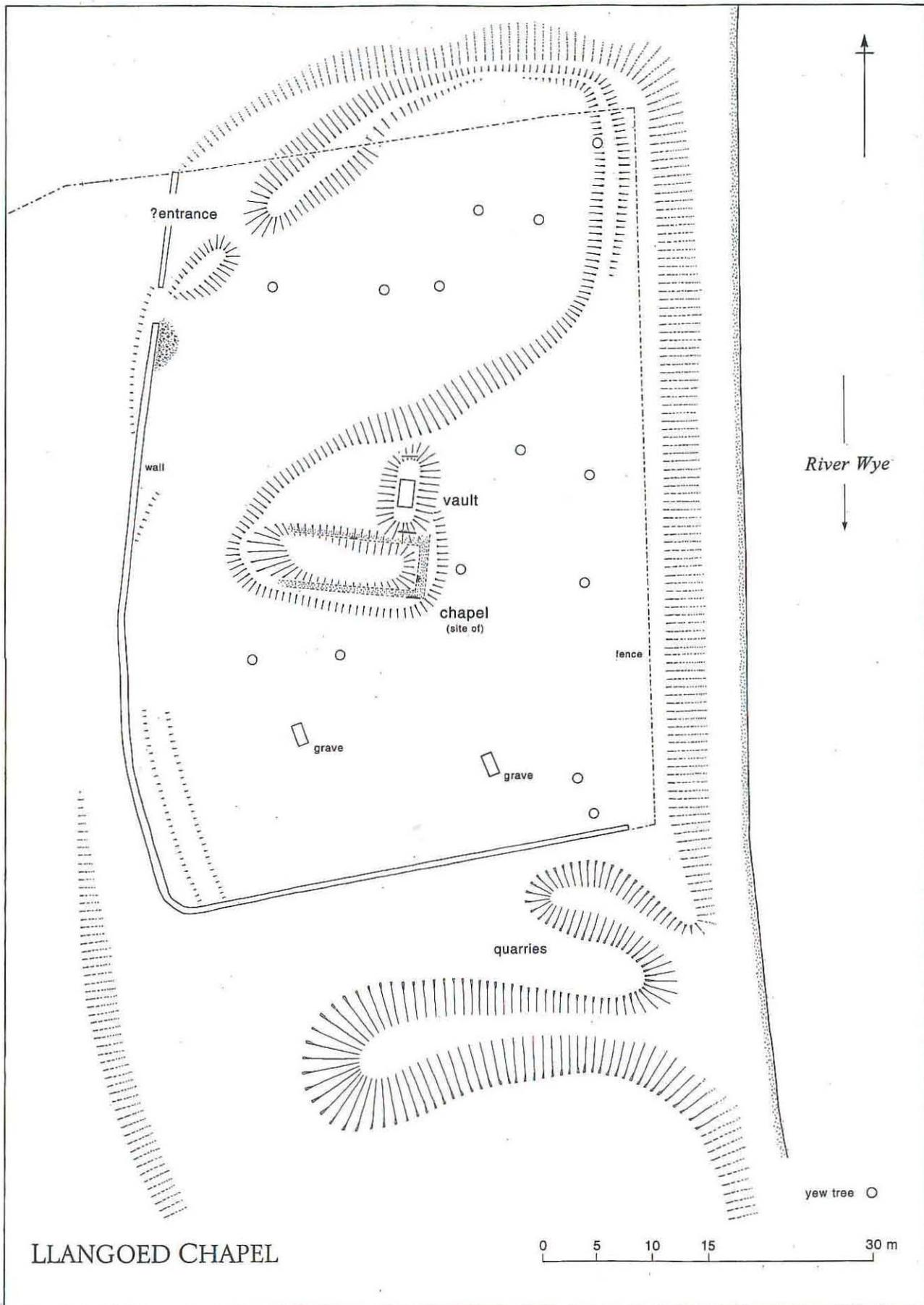
Plan b) Llanddewi'r Cwm: churchyard



Plan c) Llanafan Fawr: churchyard



Plan d) Glascwm: churchyard



Plan e) Llangloed: chapel and enclosure

## Appendix 1: Early Medieval Inscribed and Decorated Stones in the Region

<i>Name</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Old county</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>Map</i>	<i>PRN</i>
Aberhydfder Stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN859278	SN82NE	1510
Banc Dolhelfa stone	Inscribed stone	Radnor	SN93537454	SN97SW	6714
Blaen-y-cwm inscribed stone (former location)	Inscribed stone	Merioneth	SJ02173259	SJ03SW	23254
Brohomaglus inscribed stone	Find	Denbigh	SH85905127	SH85SE	100407
Bryn Beddau inscribed stone	Inscribed stone	Denbigh	SJ05255324	SJ05SE	100755
Bryn Cynon Stone	Decorated stone	Radnor	SO18104942	SO14NE	389
Bryn Gwylan inscribed stone	Inscribed stone	Denbigh	SH89196989	SH86NE	17494
Bryn Gwylan Inscribed Stone	Find	Denbigh	SH892699	SH86NE	106383
Bryngwyn Church (St Michael), stone	Decorated stone	Radnor	SO18674947	SO14NE	385
Capel Colbren Stone	Inscribed stone ?	Brecon	SN849117	SN81SW	683
Carno Church (St John the Baptist), cross	Inscribed stone	Montgomery	SN96329647	SN99NE	918
Cildu Farm Pillar Stone	Decorated stone	Brecon	SN90524659	SN94NW	3047
Clocaenog Moor Stone	Inscribed stone	Denbigh	SJ05215294	SJ05SE	101553
Clyro cross-slab	Inscribed stone	Radnor	SO213437	SO24SW	81755
Corwen Church (St Mael & St Sulien), pillar stone	Cross	Merioneth	SJ07904340	SJ04SE	100816
Crai inscribed stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN8924	SN82SE	19395
Cwm Criban Stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SO0732713205	SO01SE	928
Cwmdu Church (St Michael), cross	Cross	Brecon	SO1805523824	SO12SE	673
Cwmdu Church (St Michael), stone I	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SO173215	SO12SE	50452
Cwmdu Church (St Michael), stone II	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SO1805323836	SO12SE	672
Cwmdu Church (St Michael), stone III	Decorated stone	Brecon	SO1806123837	SO12SE	5704
Defynnog Church (St Cynog), cross slab	Decorated stone	Brecon	SN92522794	SN92NW	17647
Defynnog Church (St Cynog), stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN92532793	SN92NW	574
Dyserth Church cross I	Cross	Flint	SJ05627931	SJ07NE	72188
Dyserth Church cross II	Cross	Flint	SJ05627931	SJ07NE	72189
Erw y Groes Placename	Cross	Montgomery	SJ08701722	SJ01NE	1691
Erwhelm Cross Shaft Site	Cross	Brecon	SO035494	SO04NW	941
Flint, Croes Atti	Cross	Flint	SJ25337207	SJ27SE	100130
Gresford Church (All Saints), cross	Cross	Denbigh	SJ3461954388	SJ35SW	16670
Gwespyr wheel cross	Cross	Flint	SJ113831	SJ18SW	19152
Gwytherin Church (St Winifred), stones	Standing stone	Denbigh	SH87676147	SH86SE	100446
Hondon Cross	Cross	Radnor	SO15134996	SO14NE	2082
Hope Church stone I	Decorated stone	Flint	SJ30965836	SJ35NW	81751
Hope Church stone II	Decorated stone	Flint	SJ30965836	SJ35NW	81752
Hope Church stone III	Decorated stone	Flint	SJ30965836	SJ35NW	81753

<i>Name</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Old county</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>Map</i>	<i>PRN</i>
Levelinus Stone	Inscribed stone	Denbigh	SH86935209	SH85SE	100403
Llanafan Fawr Church (St Afan), cross slab I	Decorated stone	Brecon	SN96915577	SN95NE	5882
Llanafan Fawr Church (St Afan), cross slab II	Decorated stone	Brecon	SN96915577	SN95NE	5883
Llanafan Fawr Church (St Afan), cross slab III	Decorated stone	Brecon	SN96915577	SN95NE	5884
Llanafan Fawr Church (St Afan), stone	Decorated stone	Brecon	SN96915577	SN95NE	3005
Llanddetty Church, stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SO12802023	SO12SW	647
Llanddew Church (St David), stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SO05493074	SO03SE	484
Llanddewi Ystradenni church inscribed stone	Inscribed stone	Radnor	SO108686	SO16NW	81757
Llandefaelog Fach Church (St Maelog), stone I	Decorated stone	Brecon	SO03403239	SO03SW	465
Llandefaelog Fach Church (St Maelog), stone II	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SO03403239	SO03SW	475
Llandrinio Church (St Peter and St Paul), cross	Cross	Montgomery	SJ29501705	SJ21NE	6038
Llanelieu Church (St Ellyw), stone I	Decorated stone	Brecon	SO1848534175	SO13SE	563
Llanelieu Church (St Ellyw), stone II	Decorated stone	Brecon	SO1848534175	SO13SE	5829
Llanerfyl Church (St Erfyl), stone	Inscribed stone	Montgomery	SJ03380975	SJ00NW	1741
Llanfihangel Talylyn Church (St Michael), stone	Cross ?	Brecon	SO11422839	SO12NW	2375
Llanfrynach Church (St Brynach), stones	Decorated stone	Brecon	SO07532580	SO02NE	613
Llanfrynach Church (St Brynach), stones	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SO075258	SO02NE	72098
Llanfrynach Church (St Brynach), stones	Decorated stone	Brecon	SO075258	SO02NE	72099
Llangammarch Wells Church (St Cammarch), stone	Decorated stone	Brecon	SN93464832	SN94NW	3046
Llangors Church (St Paulinus), stone I	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SO13502762	SO12NW	628
Llangors Church (St Paulinus), stone II	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SO13502762	SO12NW	629
Llangors Church (St Paulinus), stone III	Decorated stone	Brecon	SO13502764	SO12NW	636
Llangynidr Stone	Standing stone ?	Brecon	SO156194	SO11NE	979
Llanhamlach Church stone	Decorated stone	Brecon	SO08962644	SO02NE	621
Llanhamlach Church stone II	Decorated stone	Brecon	SO089264	SO02NE	12308
Llanlleonfel Church, stone I	Decorated stone	Brecon	SN9387449936	SN94NW	3048
Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant Church (St Dogfan), cross	Cross	Denbigh	SJ12382602	SJ12NW	101048
Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant Church (St Dogfan), stone	Decorated stone	Denbigh	SJ124260	SJ12NW	33856
Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, stone heads	Decorated stone	Denbigh	SJ12242626	SJ12NW	26989
Llanspyddid Church (St Cattwg), stone	Decorated stone	Brecon	SO0118828182	SO02NW	599
Llanwrtyd Church (St David), stone	Decorated stone	Brecon	SN86364779	SN84NE	50216
Llanwrtyd cross-inscribed stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN8647	SN84NE	81756
Llanwyddelan Church (St Gwyddelan), stone	Inscribed stone	Montgomery	SJ0824701190	SJ00SE	23173
Llowes Church (St Meilig), cross	Cross	Radnor	SO19244171	SO14SE	399
Maen Achwyfan cross	Cross	Flint	SJ12887876	SJ17NW	102328
Maen Llia Stone	Inscribed stone ?	Brecon	SN92421918	SN91NW	3225

<i>Name</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Old county</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>Map</i>	<i>PRN</i>
Maen Madoc stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN91811576	SN91NW	33454
Maen Madog Stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN91831577	SN91NW	825
Meifod Church (St Tysilio and St Mary), cross slab	Cross	Montgomery	SJ15541318	SJ11SE	6049
Meifod cross-inscribed stone	Inscribed stone	Montgomery	SJ15541318	SJ11SE	81754
Meliden cross	Cross	Flint	SJ062807	SJ08SE	72190
Merthyr Cynog Church (stone)	Decorated stone	Brecon	SN984374	SN93NE	12317
Merthyr Cynog Church (stone)	Decorated stone	Brecon	SN984374	SN93NE	12318
Nant Crew inscribed stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN993165	SN91NE	12307
Nant Ddu Stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SO002150	SO01NW	924
Neuadd Sharman Cross Site	Cross	Brecon	SO01234760	SO04NW	939
New Radnor Cross Head	Cross	Radnor	SO21036081	SO26SW	5237
Partrishow Church (St Ishow), cross	Cross	Brecon	SO2789022420	SO22SE	3218
Partrishow Church (St Ishow), stone	Decorated stone	Brecon	SO27772339	SO22SE	3220
Pen Lan Wen Standing Stone	Decorated stone	Brecon	SN894419	SN84SE	3034
Pen y Mynydd Stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN9115	SN91NW	3226
Penmyarth Park Stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SO18811992	SO11NE	980
Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), cross site	Cross	Montgomery	SJ02452656	SJ02NW	17
Pentre Poeth Stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN88292645	SN82NE	797
Pentrey Goch Garreg Stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN877235	SN82SE	3145
Pillar of Eliseg	Cross	Denbigh	SJ2026044520	SJ24SW	101161
Plas Isaf Cross	Inscribed stone	Denbigh	SH95806757	SH96NE	101440
Pont Glan Tanat Uchaf Stones	Decorated stone	Denbigh	SJ13722435	SJ12SW	5989
Scottish Pedlar; Pedlar's Stone	Cross	Brecon	SO2139	SO23NW	1067
Talybont Pillar Stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SO1221	SO12SW	650
Tanydderwen Stone	Inscribed stone	Denbigh	SH99177392	SH97SE	101980
Trallong Church (St David), stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN96612959	SN92NE	579
Trecastle inscribed stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN8729	SN82NE	19394
Tremeirchion Church, cross site	Cross	Flint	SJ08287308	SJ07SE	16661
Turpil Stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SO225193	SO21NW	50456
Ty Illtud Long Cairn, decorated stones	Decorated stone	Brecon	SO09842638	SO02NE	50435
Ty Newydd Cross Slab	Decorated stone	Brecon	SO08502617	SO02NE	609
Upper Pen y Fforest Cross	Cross	Radnor	SO18884359	SO14SE	410
Victorinus Stone Site, Dark Age	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SO106252	SO12NW	35911
Waterloo Stone	Inscribed stone	Montgomery	SJ12252615	SJ12NW	3953
Whitford Church (St Mary), stone A	Incised stone	Flint	SJ14617818	SJ17NW	102360
Whitford Church (St Mary), stone B	Cross ?	Flint	SJ14617818	SJ17NW	102361

<i>Name</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Old county</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>Map</i>	<i>PRN</i>
Whitford Church pillar stones	Inscribed stone	Flint	SJ14617818	SJ17NW	102357
Ystafell Fach Stone	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN85894516	SN84NE	50215
Ystradgynlais Church (St Cynog), stone I	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN78721005	SN71SE	3223
Ystradgynlais Church (St Cynog), stone II	Inscribed stone	Brecon	SN78721005	SN71SE	72100
Ystradgynlais Church (St Cynog), stones	Decorated stone	Brecon	SN7872910057	SN71SE	2689

## Appendix 2

### AN EARLY MEDIEVAL ECCLESIASTICAL CATEGORISATION

The following system of grading was developed to determine the relative standing of early churches and church sites in Wales. One of the spurs in the development of a suitable methodology was the appearance of a similar system adopted by T A Hall for characterising high-status churches in Dorset (2000, 7), though A Preston Jones' tabulation of churchyard data for Cornwall is not dissimilar (Jones 1992, 110). Both, however, attempted a quantitative grading by employing numeric values, something that has been avoided here.

The system presented here witnesses a collaborative exercise between A Davidson (GAT), N Ludlow (ACA) and the writer which, it is hoped, can be utilised in the fourth area of Wales, Glamorgan and Gwent. Certain of the attributes, considered in greater detail above, are seen as indicators of greater or lesser importance in the identification of early ecclesiastical sites (and it should be stressed that the following system is applicable only to churches and chapels and not to stand-alone cemeteries). As might be anticipated the potential importance of an indicator as a signal of early medieval beginnings is reflected in its grading. Thus Grade A attributes can broadly be viewed as an incontrovertible sign of early origins, Grade B as a probable indicator and Grade C as a possible indicator.

It is fair to note that there has been some give and take amongst the compilers in grading these attributes, and that what is presented here reflects a consensus view. Almost all of the attributes are discussed above, though one or two are currently not relevant within Clwyd and Powys.

#### *Grade A*

1. Documented pre-Conquest (1066) church
2. Clas/portionary church evidence
3. Direct archaeological evidence (e.g. excavated cist graves, radiocarbon dated deposits etc)
4. Saint's grave/capel y bedd
5. Siting within Roman fort etc

#### *Grade B*

1. Multiple churches in same churchyard
2. Church plan form
3. Archaeological evidence, undated but compatible with early medieval date
4. Decorated stones, in situ
5. Inscribed stones, in situ
6. Artefacts of early medieval date
7. Prehistoric associations; features in the immediate vicinity

#### *Grade C*

1. Churchyard morphology
2. British dedication
3. Placename: *eglwys; lann; merthyr*
4. Several dependent chapels
5. Wells bearing saint's name nearby
6. Antiquarian statement on site antiquity

### *Notes*

*Documented churches.* A relatively tight definition has been adopted here, no latitude allowed. For instance the majority of churches in Domesday Book are not recorded as having existed in the pre-Conquest era and have thus been excluded from this categorisation.

*Dependent chapelries.* There is no indication of what number of chapels attached to a church might be significant in the context of early medieval origins. For the purposes of the grading system below, the totally arbitrary figure of three has been adopted.

*Artefacts of early date.* Included here as indicators are the various artefacts of putative early medieval date but now lost or destroyed, for which there are firm traditions or medieval references.

Free-standing crosses are included in the decorated stone category.

*Wells.* Any decision as to when a holy well should be associated with a church or chapel site is necessarily arbitrary. For the purposes of this classification we have adopted a radial distance of 250m from the church as our guide. This, however, is not based on empiric data but on what is judged to be an acceptable distance.



Name	PRN	Doc	Clas	Mon'try	Portion	Burial	Multiple	Plan	Stones	Artefacts	Assocs	C'yard	Dedication	Placename	Dependent	Well	Overall	Visite
Gwenddwr	16788			A									C				B	
Llansannan	16885				A								C				B	
Ysceifiog	16977				A												B	
Dyserth	102073								B			C	C	C		C	B	X
Llangernyw	16869								B			C	C				B	X
Llanfrynach	16859								B			C	C				B	
Llanddew	16819						B		B			C	C				B	X
Ceneu's oratory	4002								B			C	C			C	B	
Llanwyddelan	7585								B			C	C				B	X
Llanerfyl	16409								B			C	C				B	X
Cwm	16756								B			C	C			C	B	
Llanddulas	16825								B			C	C				B	
Trallong	16963								B			C	C				B	X
Llanwrthwl	16894								B			C	C				B	X
Llanhamlach	16879								B			C	C				B	X
Llanfihangel Talyflyn	16857								(B)			C	C				B	
Llanelieu	16843								B			C	C				B	X
Llandefaelog Fach	31233								B			C	C				B	X
Llanddetty	16818								B			C	C				B	X
Defynnog	16764								B			C	C		C		B	
Aberyscir	16704								B			C	C				B	
Ystradgynlais	16979								B			C	C				B	
Llangammarch Wells	16862								B			C	C				B	
Old Radnor	16929								B			C	C				B	X
Llanlleonfel	32166								B			C	C				B	X
St Cennan's Chapel	4910								B				C			C	B	X
Capel y Fynon	0								B				C				B	
St Eluned's Chapel	617										x	C	C			C	B	X
Darowen	32601											C	C			C	B	X
Llanigon	16881											C	C			C	B	
Hirnant	16414											C	C			C	B	X
Llanbister	16816											C	C				B	X
Llanwrtyd	16895											C	C				B	X
Battle	16707											C	C				B	X
St Mordeyrn's Chapel (Nantglyn)	100592											C	C				B	X
Bryngwyn	17248								B			C	C				C	
Penegoes	16395											C	C			C	C	X
Llanbadarn-y-garreg	16812											C	C			C	C	X
Llanstephan	16892											C	C			C	C	X

<i>Name</i>	<i>PRN</i>	Doc	Clas	Mon'try	Portion	Burial	Multiple	Plan	Stones	Artefacts	Assocs	C'yard	Dedication	Placename	Dependent	Well	Overall	Visite
Llanarmon Dyffryn Ceiriog	100998											C	C			C	C	
Llangynidr	16877											C	C	C			C	
Llandefalle	16827											C	C			C	C	X
Llanfilo	16858											C	C			C	C	X
Llanefydd	16841											C	C			C	C	
Llanmerewig	16404											C	C				C	
Llanllwchaiarn	15849											C	C				C	
Llangynyw	16405											C	C				C	
Llangynog	16482											C	C				C	
Llangadfan	16678											C	C				C	X
Llanfyllin	16860											C	C				C	
Llanfechain	16408											C	C				C	
Llandysilio	16410											C	C				C	
Guilsfield	16786											C	C				C	
Garthbeibio	16368											C	C				C	X
Llansantffraed in Elvel	16888											C	C				C	X
Cemmaes	32576											C	C				C	
Bettws Cedewain	16711											C	C				C	
Berriew	16709											C	C				C	
Aberhafesp	16688											C	C				C	
Rhulen	16944											C	C				C	X
Nantmel	16918											C	C				C	
Llanyre	16898											C	C				C	
Llanrhaeadr-yng-Nghinmeirch	16884												C			C	C	X
Llangunllo	16872												C			C	C	X
Llanfaredd	16848											C	C				C	
Old Llandrindod	16835												C			C	C	
Llandeilo Graban	16830											C	C				C	X
Llandegley	16829											C	C				C	
Llanddewi Ystradenni	16822											C	C				C	
Llanelian-yn-Rhos	16713												C			C	C	X
Disserth	20110												C	C			C	X
Boughrood	17716											C	C				C	X
Aberedw	17243											C	C				C	
Whitford	102359												C			C	C	
Llanfwrog	16951											C	C				C	
Meliden	16938											C	C				C	
Llanynis	16896											C	C				C	X
Llanychan	16876											C	C				C	

<i>Name</i>	<i>PRN</i>	Doc Clas	Mon'try Portion	Burial MultiplePlan	Stones Artefacts	Assocs	C'yard	Dedication	PlacenameDependent	Well	Overall	Visite
Llandrillo yn Edeyrnion	16833						C	C			C	
Llandegla	16828							C		C	C	
Gwyddelwern	16789						C	C			C	X
Bodfari	16719								C	C	C	X
Bryneglwys	16725							C			C	
Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr	16347						C		C		C	X
Llysfaen	16901							C		C	C	
Llanddewi Abergwesyn	16820						C			C	C	X
Llywel	16903						C	C			C	
Llyswen	16902						C	C			C	X
Llanwnnog	16403						C	C			C	
Llangenny	16868						C	C			C	
Llangattock	16866						C	C			C	
Llanarmon Mynydd-mawr	16807						C	C			C	
Llanddewi'r Cwm	16823						C	C			C	X
Llan-y-Wern	16803						C	C			C	
Garthbreny	31225						C	C			C	X
Llangedwyn	16867						C	C			C	
Tregynon	32492						C	C			C	
Llanwrin	15842						C	C			C	
Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain	16890						C	C			C	
Nantglyn	16917									C	C	X
St Trillo's Chapel	100500							C			C	X
St Ilid's Chapel	3137							C			C	
Llangynog	16878							C			C	X
Capel Madog	1670							C			C	X
Capel Beuno	102471							C			C	
Capel Aelhaiarn	100771							C			C	X
Llandyssil	15893						C				C	X
Llanilltyd	16882						C				C	X
Llanfihangel Abergwesyn	16852						C				C	X
Halkyn (old)	16472						C				C	X
Llangar	16864						C				C	X
Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd	16815						C				C	X
Penstrowed	16392							C			C	
Manafon	16907						C				C	
Machynlleth	16904						C				C	
Llanllugan	32541						C				C	
Llanidloes	16880							C			C	

Name	PRN	Doc Clas	Mon'try Portion	Burial	Multiple	Plan	Stones	Artefacts	Assoc	C'yard	Dedication	Placename	Dependent	Well	Overall	Visite
Llanfihangel-yng-Ngwynfa	16407									C					C	
Llanfair Caereinion	32637									C					C	X
Llan	16383									C					C	
Criggion	16677									C					D	
Castle Caereinion	16739										C				C	
Marchwiel	100145										C				C	
Worthenbury	16976										C				C	
Whitewell	16974												C		C	
Ruabon	16950									C					C	
Glyn Ceiriog	16889										C				C	
Chirk	16745										C				C	
Rhayader	16940										C				C	
Graig y Don Hermitage	1144												C		C	
Llansantffraed Cwmdeuddwr	16887										C				C	
Llanddewi Fach	16821										C				C	
Llanbedr Painscastle (	16814									C					C	
Llanbadarn Fynydd	16811										C				C	
Llanbadarn Fawr	16810										C				C	
Llananno	16806										C				C	
Knighton	16801										C				D	
Heyop	16795										C				C	
Cregrina	16752										C				C	X
Colva	16751										C				C	
St Cynog's cell	81731												C		C	
Nannerch	16915									C					C	
Mold	16913									C					C	
Llanasa	16809										C				C	
Hawarden	16792										C				C	
Cilcain	16747									C					C	
Caerwys	15838										C				C	X
Llanrhudd	102594										C				C	
Cantref	16734										C				C	
Llangynhafal	16875										C				C	
Llangwyfan	16837										C				C	
Llanferres	16849										C				C	
Llanfarchell	16767										C				C	
Crickadarn	16682									C					C?	
Llantysilio	16893										C				C	
Llanelidan	16842										C				C	

<i>Name</i>	<i>PRN</i>	Doc	Clas	Mon'try	Portion	Burial	Multiple	Plan	Stones	Artefacts	Assoc	C'yard	Dedication	Placename	Dependent	Well	Overall	Visite
Llandyrnog	16838												C				C	
Henllan	100581												C				C	
Efenechtyd	16774											C					C	
Clocaenog	16749												C				C	
Llanafan Fechan	16805												C				C	X
Llandefaelog Tre'r-graig	16826												C				C	
Betws yn Rhos	16714											C					C	
Talgarth	16959												C				C	
Talachddu	16958											C					C	
Maesmynis	16906												C				C	X
Llansantffraed juxta Usk	16886												C				C	X
Llangasty Tal-y-Llyn	16865												C				C	
Llanganten	16863												C				C	X
Llanfeugan	16850												C				C	
Llanfaes	6880												C				C	

## HENLLAN, BUILTH WELLS, POWYS

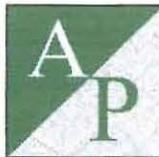
Electrical Resistance Survey of the Henllan enclosure within the Royal Welsh  
Show Ground

On behalf of the Clywd Powys Archaeological Trust

Project HCS20041

MJ & ACK Roseveare

March 2004



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## NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

The results of the electrical resistance survey of the enclosure named Henllan within the Royal Welsh show ground at Builth Wells exceeded expectations. It had long been presumed that a prominent knoll had been surmounted by a church with potentially an associated burial ground but apart from a sketch map of the earthworks from the 1950's and an antiquarian excavation nothing was known.

The survey has shown the site to indeed have had a church and burial ground but has also revealed it to have had a far more complex development than could have been predicted. Of the church itself little has been determined apart from the basic plan of a nave with attached, potentially apsidial, chancel and a large northern transept. This was apparently later overlaid with a much smaller structure at an angle, potentially not of ecclesiastical purpose. To the south of the church is a large polygonal burial ground with clear evidence of burials and at least two stages of development, the first of which is apparently an oval burial ground within a circular enclosure on the summit. The later polygonal enclosure survives in part today as a low bank surmounted by trees.

There is evidence of a large surfaced area extending from the south east corner of the burial ground to the church and apparently cut through this are several discrete burials. The primary access to the complex seems to have been from the north east corner where a pair of walls flank the approach from the bottom of the knoll. There a small ditch indicates further archaeological features may exist.

Today the site is surrounded on all sides by car parks for the show ground, all of which are deeply terraced into the hillside and some of which have encroached upon the monument, in particular the remains of the circular enclosure which survives in only fragmentary form. In addition, wheeled traffic has cut deeply into the ground where access can be gained onto the knoll from below. Finally modern tree planting has reached the church itself on the north side.

March 2004

# 1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

## INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This project is a CADW-funded survey for the Clywd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) of the Henllan enclosure at grid reference 30426 25221 within the Royal Welsh show ground, Builth Wells.

## THE BRIEF

- 1.2 The requirements for the geophysical survey were discussed with Bob Silvester at CPAT with regard to the likely targets and environmental parameters.
- 1.1 The objectives of this project were kept fairly broad, in particular to locate the remains of any church and to survey the presumed site of an attached burial ground to again confirm its existence. There was also a need to determine the impact of the modern land use upon archaeological structures and to assess the condition of what remained to inform future management of the monument.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND LANDSCAPE CONTEXT

- 1.2 The monument is sited on a prominent knoll surrounded by car parks deeply terraced into the knoll itself. Access is predominantly from the northern side where an earthwork bank was confirmed by the geophysical survey to have been part of the original entrance into a burial ground.
- 1.3 Little is known about the church or its surroundings; it is not known when it ceased to be a place of worship or for how long the site has been in ecclesiastical use. A sketch survey was undertaken in the 1950's which depicted the visible structures, namely a polygonal enclosure bank, a broad hollow corresponding to an antiquarian investigation of the church and a smaller hollow of unknown purpose. Before that there is a tradition of an excavation of the church but no record has become evident of this.

## GEOPHYSICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

- 1.3 The site is well drained with steep slopes on all sides apart from the east where a shallower slope exists. Trees used to stand on the bank of the enclosure but many have fallen or been felled in recent years. Small stands of conifers have fairly recently been established near the summit, the northern and southern ones seem to have encroached upon the monument.
- 1.4 The soil is fairly deep with few outcropping boulders.
- 1.5 Weather conditions during the survey were essentially dry but with some brief showers. Heavier rain had fallen during the previous week but had drained sufficiently for survey to proceed.

## 2 DESCRIPTION OF WORK

### INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Dual depth electrical resistance survey was selected as being the most likely to produce useful data within the available budget. The survey was undertaken in March partly to avoid wet weather earlier in the year which would have reduced the effectiveness of the technique. Survey was spread across the 15th and 16th of March.

### SET OUT

- 2.2 A system of 20m square grids was set out on Ordnance Survey coordinates to an accuracy of within 0.1m using a Trimble RTK GPS (sub-centimetre resolution) to establish a set of baselines crossing the hilltop.
- 2.3 Individual lines of survey were marked by tapes to provide spatial control in 2D.

### GEOPHYSICAL TECHNIQUE

- 2.4 The equipment used was a Geoscan Research RM15A with attached multiplexer MPX15 and configured as a twin probe array. This was used to collect two data sets simultaneously, one at a resolution of 0.5m x 1.0m with 0.5m AM probe separation and the other at a resolution of 1.0m x 1.0m at 1.0m AM probe spacing. These allow the measurement to be sensitised to different depths of current flow, in approximate terms above and below 1m respectively. An instrument gain of x10 was selected to maximise amplitude resolution and therefore potentially provide more detail of individual features.
- 2.5 Other instrument settings were as follows:

Current: 1 mA

Frequency: 137 Hz

Max voltage: 40 V

Filter speed: medium

### DATA PROCESSING & IMAGING

- 2.6 The survey data was converted to resistivity by calculation of the appropriate geometry factor which takes into account the relative positions of all four probes of the array at each measurement location.
- 2.7 Processing was intentionally kept simple to avoid the introduction of artifacts into the data. A Gaussian low pass filter of diameter 3m was applied to both data sets to reduce point to point variation and then the data was interpolated to 0.5m square resolution in both cases. The data was imaged in Surfer and various presentation options tested for their effect, primarily histogram equalisation and arctangent compression.

### 3 DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

- 3.1 Numbers in bold refer to anomalies illustrated on interpretation plan, DWG 03 in this report.
- 3.2 The plot coordinates are the Ordnance Survey grid in metres.

#### DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE

##### 1, THE ENTRANCE

- 3.3 This region of the survey would appear to have been the primary entrance into the monument. A low stony bank (collapsed wall?) is extant along the southeastern edge of the current track up the side of the knoll; the data implies the existence of a second one parallel to it on the other side of the track. A low resistance region exists between these and the soil is quite dark which may suggest the presence of a filled in holloway. The surface is badly damaged by wheel ruts. A pronounced region of low resistivity immediately south of these features has been interpreted as cultivated soil on the outside of the enclosure.

##### 2, PROBABLE GRAVES

- 3.4 There are several clear discrete low resistivity anomalies aligned east to west situated in a region of higher resistivity, see **4**. In the context of this monument, their common size (< 1m x 2m) and orientation suggests they are grave shafts. Their clarity is likely to be a factor of the contrast between them and **4** and not any intrinsic visibility. For this reason similar features elsewhere in the survey may not be detectable.

##### 3, DEEP DITCH FILL?

- 3.5 In the deeper data set there is an arc of low resistivity passing beneath **4**. This seems to coincide with the edge of an oval area of low measurements **13** and may have once defined it, perhaps a broad ditch. It is not apparent outside the area of **4** which apparently has relatively sparse burials which may imply that more intense burial activity has removed it elsewhere.

##### 4, PAVED / COBBLED AREA?

- 3.6 A broad sweep of high resistance values correspond with a belt of stony ground felt beneath the probes of the instrument. This feature does not produce a strong anomaly in the deeper data which suggests strongly that it is a relatively superficial structure lacking depth, characteristic of paving or some other hard surface. Its presence here is difficult to understand, especially as burials **2** seem to have been cut through it.

##### 5, 8 & 11 LARGE REGULAR PIT TYPE FEATURES

- 3.7 Within the enclosure and therefore within the probable region of burials there are three large broadly rectangular low resistivity features, 5 and 11 in particular seem to be more pronounced within the deeper data. It seems fairly clear that these are pits but their function is uncertain. In a burial context it is possible that these are soil filled vaults that

lack masonry over them. If so, this suggests that the burial ground was in use well into the post medieval period. Alternatively, they could be plague pits or similar mass burials but their clarity suggests that they are lined with a relatively impermeable material at depth because moisture has to be trapped within them.

**6, HIGH RESISTIVITY FEATURE**

- 3.8 There is no obvious interpretation of this feature but it is large and extremely resistive. It is not impossible that it is a wartime concrete base or something similar.

**7 & 12, DITCH FILLS**

- 3.9 These are two linear low resistivity features that are apparently ditch fills. Several shorter sections exist (depicted but not numbered on DWG 03). Their function is unknown.

**9, BURIED MASONRY / STONY BANK**

- 3.10 Outside the southern edge of the enclosure there is a short section of high resistivity anomaly that seems to represent a stony feature that once perhaps encircled the hilltop. Is this the remains of an early churchyard, preserved where it lies outside the newer polygonal one?

**10 & 15, POLYGONAL ENCLOSURE**

- 3.11 The burial ground seems to have been defined by a broad high resistivity feature typical of a stony bank or a thick spread of tumble from a collapsed wall. This can be traced right around the monument except to the north where the church **19** stood.

**13, LOW RESISTIVITY OVAL FEATURE**

- 3.12 Within the polygonal enclosure and apparently passing beneath the surface **4** there is a clear low resistivity area. This seems to represent an area of deep conductive soil and in this context is almost certainly a well-used burial ground. It may be bounded by ditch **3** and may have been central within the postulated earlier circular enclosure marked by **9**. This may be the site of the earliest burials on the site.

**14 & 17, PROBABLE MASONRY**

- 3.13 A short section of high resistivity anomaly is present against the internal face of the polygonal enclosure on the west side. It would appear to be masonry, perhaps a retaining wall. A similar feature seems to form the westernmost part of the southern edge of the paved area **4** immediately nearby.

**16, LARGE PIT**

- 3.14 This seems to correspond to the hollow noted in the 1950's and may be a relatively recent feature, however, its situation in a corner of the burial ground would support an alternative interpretation as a charnel pit.

**18, A BUILDING**

3.15 This small structure is clearly at odds with the church remains which it apparently overlays. It was presumably erected on the site after the demolition of the church but no function is suggested.

**19, THE CHURCH**

3.16 The most striking feature is the size of the church. It seems to have had a nave without aisles and a chancel separated from it by a wall. It is possible that this wall was once the east wall of a smaller church and has been removed to allow the construction of a new chancel further east. To the north is a large transept but there is no sign of any similar structure to the south.

3.17 It is possible that the chancel has an apsidial end; the presence of stone rubble on the surface has obscured the image but the chancel seems to lack square outer corners.

## 4 CONCLUSIONS

### ARCHAEOLOGY

- 4.1 The site has proved more complex than expected with signs of two phases of enclosure, one circular and apparently removed in part by the presumably later polygonal one. The circular one, combined with the prominent setting on a hill top could indicate a possible Early Christian foundation.
- 4.2 There are copious indications of human burials in the form of discrete grave cuts and regions of low resistivity across wide areas of the hill top.
- 4.3 The presence of the church is now confirmed and its exact location known although the shape of the east end is ambiguous.
- 4.4 Overall, Henllan seems to represent a complete, multiphased and potentially long-lived site of ecclesiastical activity mostly invisible from the surface. For this reason it is essential that it receives greater protection than it currently has, in particular from car park expansion, tree planting and recreational driving across the site.

### GEOPHYSICS

- 4.5 In spite of wet conditions before the survey the results are of good quality and extremely informative. The use of dual depth survey has allowed the extent of deeper features to be traced and allowed structural relationships to be explored, e.g., between the surface 4 and features beneath it.

### THE PROJECT

- 4.6 It is hoped that the results of this project have added substantially to our knowledge of the archaeology of Henllan and will assist in the management of the monument in the future.

## 5 QUALIFICATION OF RESULTS

### GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 The survival of archaeological features may be uneven across the survey and the variation in physical properties within archaeological and non-archaeological features is also likely to vary. For this reason geophysical survey can demonstrate the existence of archaeological features but cannot conclusively demonstrate their absence without *a priori* knowledge and comparative data. Where detectable materials vary with depth the nature of the geophysical response will be related to that depth and not necessarily the archaeology.

LIMITS OF INFERENCE

- 5.2 The date of any feature cannot be determined from geophysical data measured at or above the surface of the ground. Features may, from their plan form, appear to be of a certain archaeological era but cannot be taken as indicative of any particular antiquity from the data in this report alone. It is also difficult to be sure of relative dates where features impinge because the geophysical anomalies do not define the exact physical relationship between the archaeological features.
- 5.3 Any indication of feature depth is based upon our knowledge of the geophysical properties of the subsurface. Calculations of depth from anomaly form alone is difficult and is complicated by the complexities of archaeological features and their surroundings. Sometimes, however, an estimate of depth is possible by studying other factors, e.g., land-use and soil type.
- 5.4 The clarity of geophysical anomalies is limited by the resolution of the survey data. Some features may produce anomalies too low in amplitude to be measured by available equipment, in other cases the survey may be too coarse to detect the anomalies of small features or the detail of larger ones. From standard sampling theory an anomaly can only be identified if it is coherent over more than a single measured value and the very smallest anomaly that can be detected in any direction is equal in size to the minimum sampling interval in that direction.
- 5.5 No assessment can be made of the nature or extent of buried features outside the survey area and care should be taken when extrapolating these findings into adjacent areas unless the physical and environmental properties of the subsurface are known.

## 6 REFERENCE

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

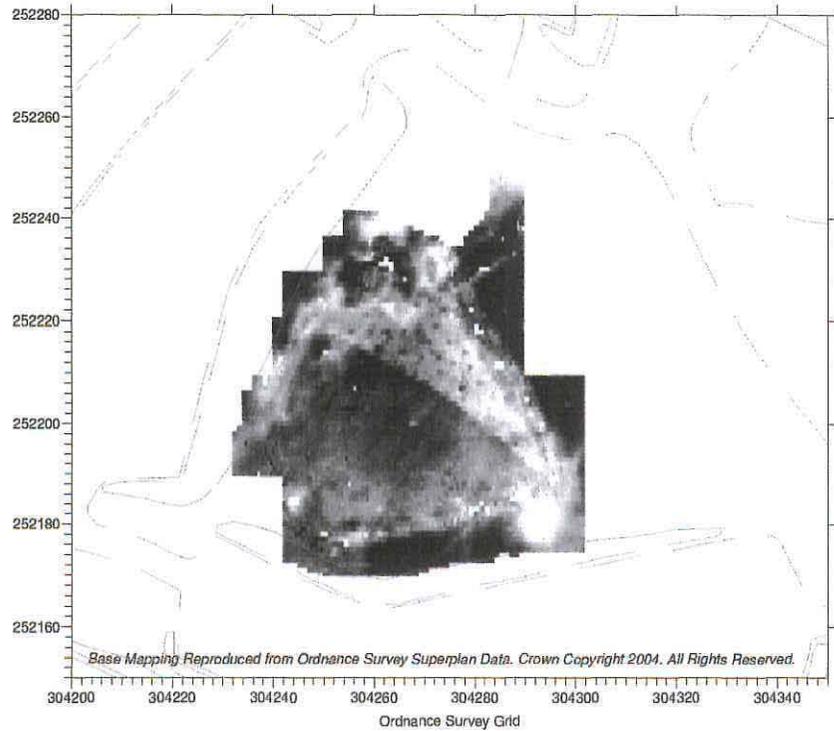
Thanks are extended to Bob Silvester of CPAT for inviting us to undertake this survey.

### PUBLICATION & ARCHIVING STATEMENT

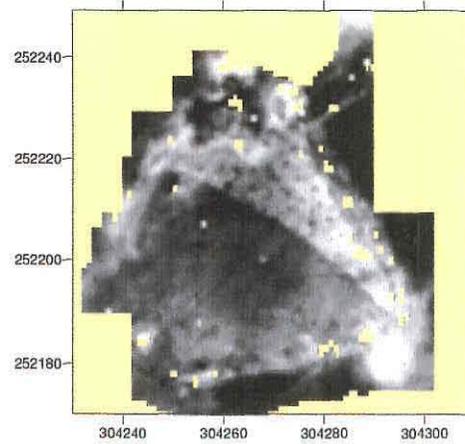
- 6.1 Copies of reports are passed to the client for further dissemination; it is presumed that the client will forward copies to the relevant SMR, etc., although we will if requested.
- 6.2 Publication of results may proceed if it can be demonstrated that they are of sufficient benefit to the wider archaeological community, after discussion with the client and the curator. Smaller summaries can be provided by inclusion in annual fieldwork summaries, etc.. Images may from time to time appear on our website; if the project has been cleared for publication and is not subject to any remaining confidentiality arrangements a small report may also be published using this medium. The exact location of any survey will not usually be made available on the internet.

### STATEMENT OF COMPETENCE

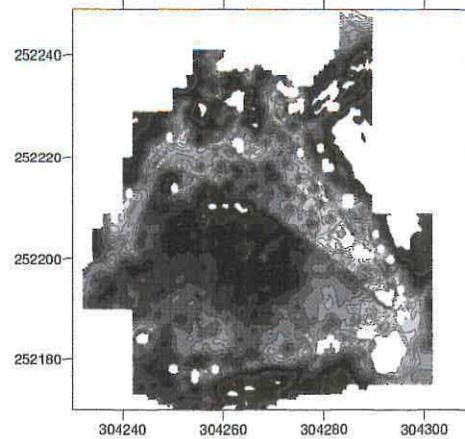
- 6.3 The principal staff at ArchaeoPhysica are Full Professional Members of the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA). All ArchaeoPhysica staff abide by the Principles of Conduct and the Code of Practice of the EAA and also the guidance on standards published by the Institute of Field Archaeologists' (IFA), their "Code of Conduct" and their "Code of Approved Practice".
- 6.4 Work is conducted to standards beyond those embodied within the English Heritage guidance document "Geophysical survey in archaeological field evaluation" (David, 1995), revision due 2003.
- 6.5 Analysis and interpretation is undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced member of staff who was present during survey. At the discretion of the company this *competent person* is usually qualified to postgraduate level in archaeological prospecting.



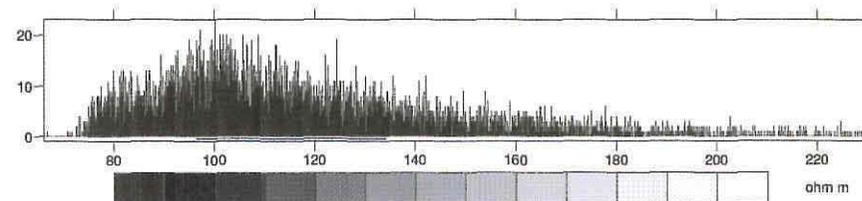
Raw upper resistance data after conversion to resistivity  
 Image Resolution:  
 0.5m x 1.0m  
 Data Resolution:  
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 White is high resistivity  
 Survey resolution:  
 0.5m east - west, 1.0m north - south.  
 Grid format:  
 20m, traverses north - south  
 Instrument:  
 Geoscan Research RM15 + MPX  
 Settings:  
 Current: 10mA  
 Gain: 1  
 Filter speed: Medium  
 Frequency: 137 Hz

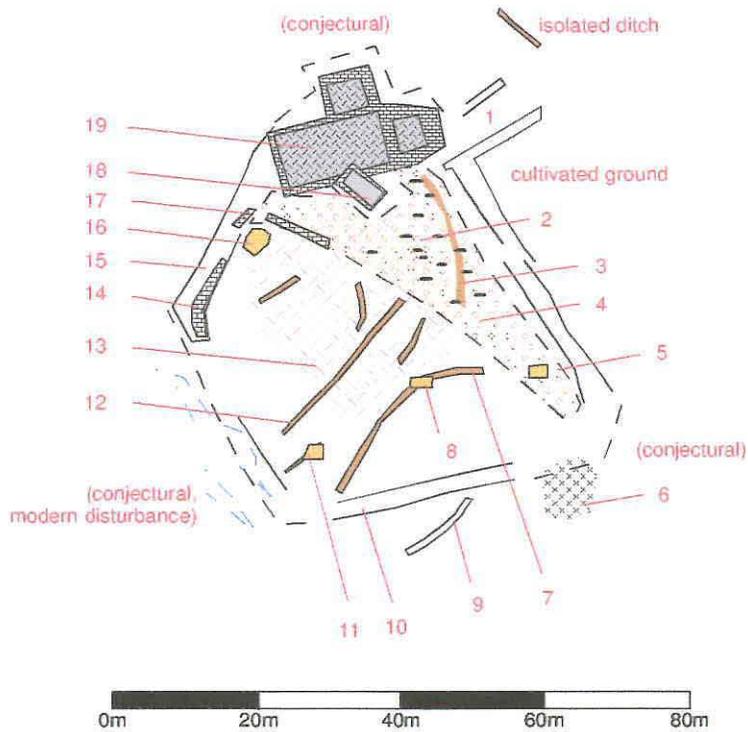
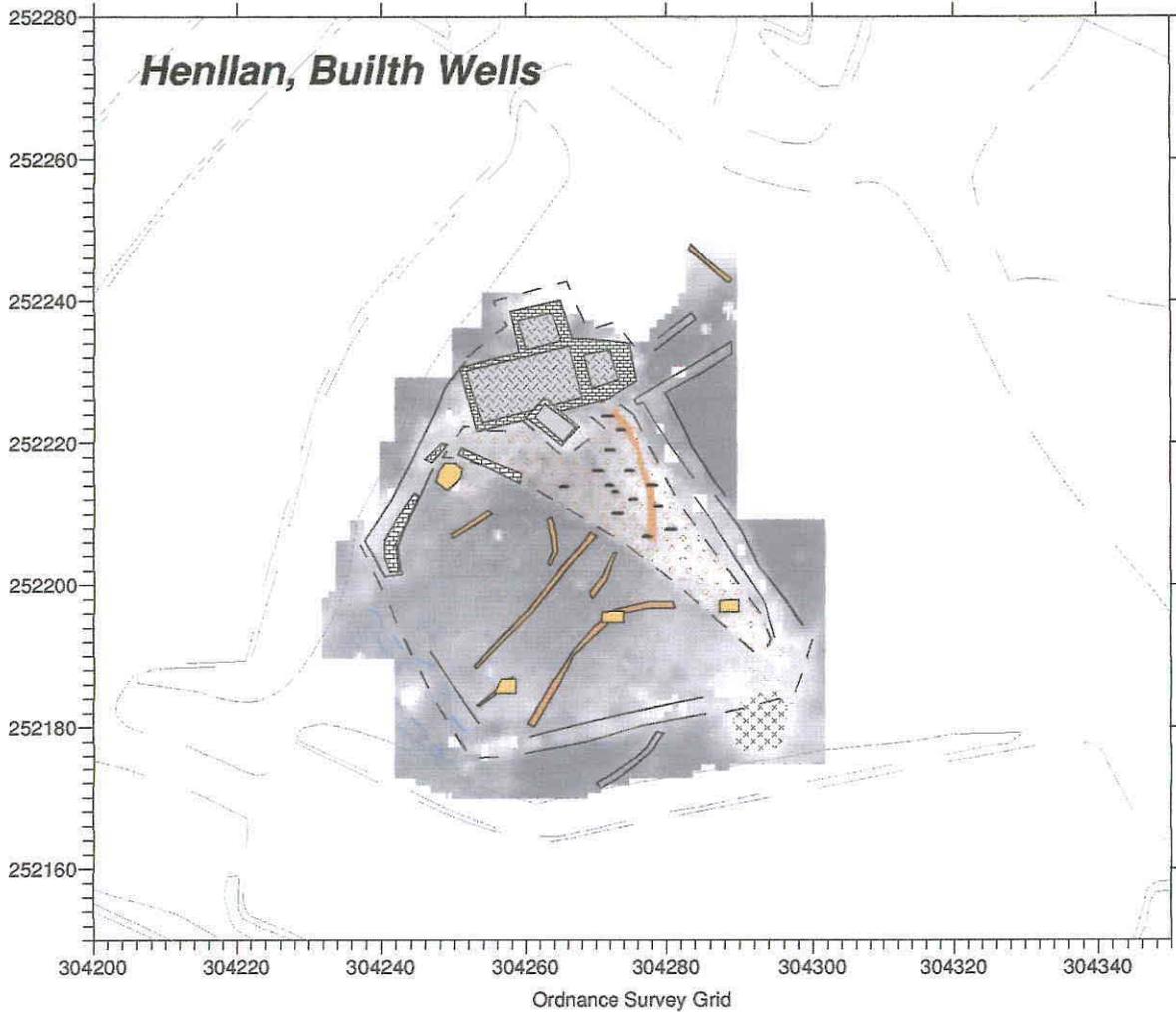


Data after application of 3m diameter Gaussian lowpass filter  
 Image Resolution:  
 0.5m x 0.5m  
 Data Resolution:  
 77 - 200 ohm (clipped from 56 - 329) across 100 greytone  
 White is high resistivity  
 Survey resolution:  
 0.5m east - west, 1.0m north - south.  
 Grid format:  
 20m, traverses north - south  
 Instrument:  
 Geoscan Research RM15 + MPX  
 Settings:  
 Current: 10mA  
 Gain: 1  
 Filter speed: Medium  
 Frequency: 137 Hz



Contour plot to highlight edges of anomalous areas





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## Project NCS20041 Nantglyn, North Wales.

### 1. Interim summary of results.

There are no signs of any features that can conclusively be identified as ecclesiastical. Against the existing road at the southern edge of the survey there are indications of masonry from two small detached buildings, both of which are quite likely to have been cottages, especially as a domestic hearth had been found very close by during an earlier CPAT excavation.

The north-eastern part of the survey has a faint curving anomaly that may be a wide ditch. This is in a suitable position to have been part of a churchyard boundary and it could be an eastward continuation of the curving northern field boundary. This and signs of a similar arc of boundary depicted on old OS maps and now beneath the farm are the only structural hints at the existence of a large circular or oval enclosure typical of an Early Christian site.

Immediately west of the arc within the survey there is a faint high resistance linear feature that would appear to be wall footings. Could this be a later edition of the same boundary?

### 2. Survey details.

#### Instrument:

Geoscan Research RM15A with MPX15 multiplexer

#### Array:

Dual twin probe, 0.5m and 1.0m AM probe spacing

#### Settings:

Current 1mA

Gain x1

Max Voltage 40V

Frequency 137Hz

Filter speed Medium

#### Resolution:

0.5m x 1.0m upper data, 1.0m x 1.0m lower data

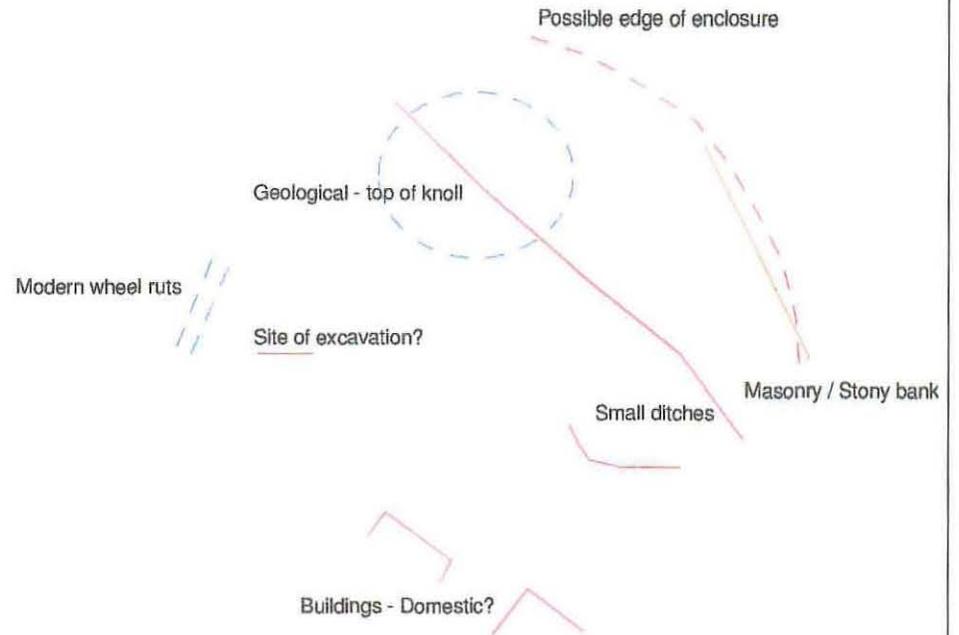
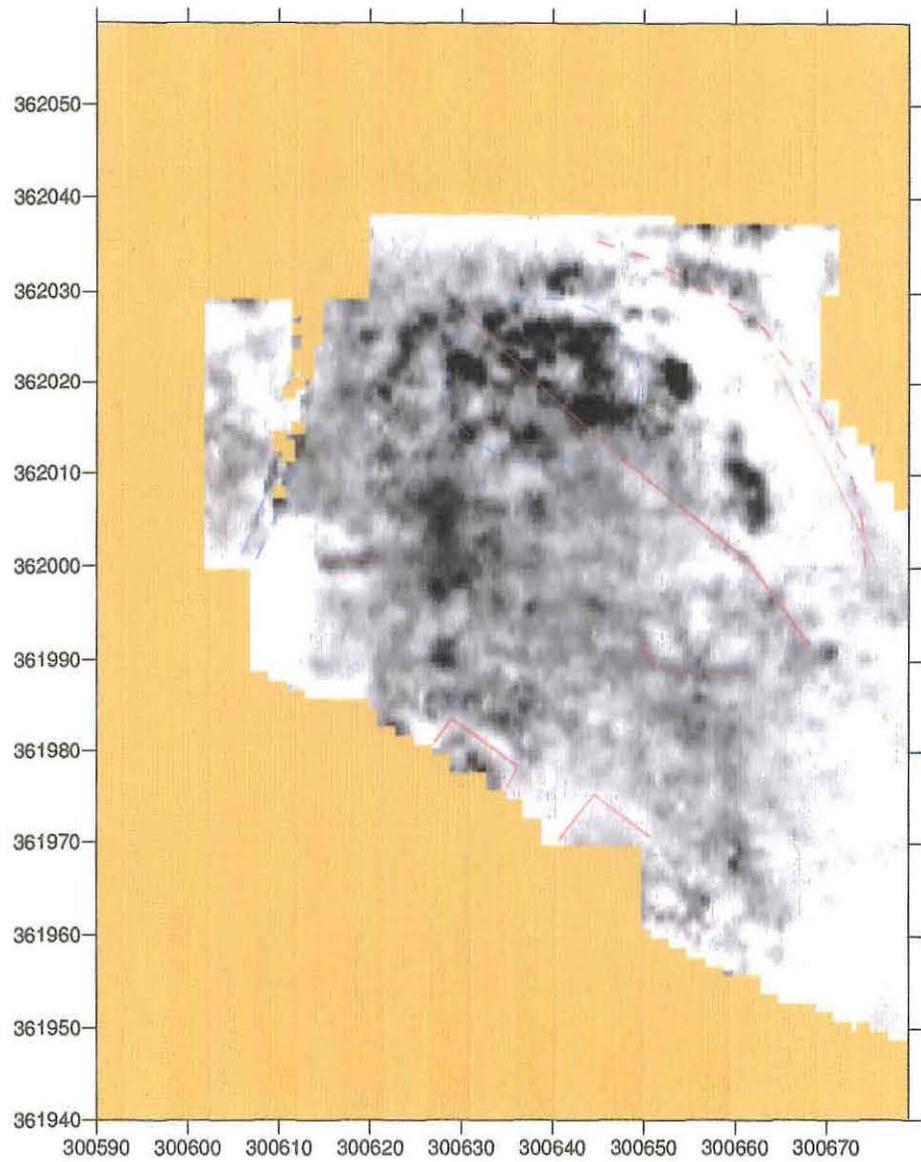
#### Date of survey:

13-14<sup>th</sup> March 2004

### 3. Progress of project.

The data has taken a substantial amount of time to show anything as it is dominated by high amplitude geological effects. A full report (similar to that for Henllan) will follow this interim at the earliest opportunity.

MJ Roseveare, March 2004



**List of Sites Visited, Ordered by Site Name**

<i>Name</i>	<i>PRN</i>	<i>Old County</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>Map No</i>
Aber Henllan Chapel	3468	Radnor	SN89957229	SN87SE
Aberllynfi Chapel	527	Brecon	SO17233799	SO13NE
All Saints Well	100357	Denbigh	SJ34595519	SJ35NW
Alltgymbyd "old Chapel"	106491	Denbigh	SJ20405480	SJ25SW
Battle Church, churchyard	2953	Brecon	SO0080630968	SO03SW
Bedd Ffrymder	81768	Denbigh	SH982706	SH97SE
Bedd Illtyd Stone Setting	582	Brecon	SN97392639	SN92NE
Beddau Dark Age cemetery	100408	Denbigh	SH85905127	SH85SE
Bodfari Church, yard	105818	Flint	SJ09257012	SJ07SE
Boughrood Church, yard	16082	Radnor	SO1277739276	SO13NW
Bryn Cynon Stone	389	Radnor	SO18104942	SO14NE
Bryn Gwylan inscribed stone	17494	Denbigh	SH89196989	SH86NE
Cae Abba Addi Poss Hermitage Site	102794	Denbigh	SJ21684181	SJ24SW
Cae Capel Building	5685	Brecon	SN87482315	SN82SE
Cae Gosper Fieldname	101342	Denbigh	SJ32304240	SJ34SW
Cae Henllan Church, Llanelwedd	1601	Radnor	SO04275219	SO05SW
Cae Henllan placename	456	Brecon	SO02623652	SO03NW
Cae yr Hen Eglwys foundations	1298	Montgomery	SH82790056	SH80SW
Cae yr Hen Fynwent	81554	Flint	SJ20855970	SJ25NW
Caergwrle Chapel	101297	Flint	SJ30485707	SJ35NW
Capel Aelhaiarn (site of)	100771	Merioneth	SJ08705033	SJ05SE
Capel Banhadlog Chapel	1543	Montgomery	SN98118059	SN98SE
Capel Coelbren	81678	Brecon	SN84971170	SN81SW
Capel Dolwen	17924	Montgomery	SH97820750	SH90NE
Capel Glyn Collwn	81679	Brecon	SO07801715	SO01NE
Capel Gwenfrewi/Penbryn Capel	100444	Denbigh	SH87666140	SH86SE
Capel Hwlkyn	102588	Flint	SJ10066935	SJ16NW
Capel Madog	1644	Radnor	SN93896575	SN96NW
Capel Maes-y-bwlch	81676	Brecon	SN84583520	SN83NW
Capel Nant-ddu	81719	Brecon	SO00341475	SO01SW
Capel Ogwen	81561	Denbigh	SH858786	SH87NE
Capel Senni	81677	Brecon	SN929233	SN92SW
Capel Taf Fechan	81748	Brecon	SO0513	SO01SE
Caple Llan Ycha placename	81564	Brecon	SO24721848	SO21NW
Cappele chapel	81769	Denbigh	SH90304740	SH94NW
Carneddau Chapel	1616	Radnor	SO04835316	SO05SW
Cascob Church (St Michael), yard	16257	Radnor	SO23906636	SO26NW
Cefn Fynydd Chapel site	101902	Denbigh	SJ062513	SJ05SE
Cefn-y-bedd placename	81749	Brecon	SO004514	SO05SW
Cildu Farm Pillar Stone	3047	Brecon	SN90524659	SN94NW
Clyro Well	4278	Radnor	SO22504343	SO24SW
Coed Bell rectilinear feature	106503	Flint	SJ08778291	SJ08SE
College chapel	81765	Flint	SJ0570	SJ07SE
Corwen Church (St Mael & St Sulien), y	105908	Merioneth	SJ07934342	SJ04SE
Craig y Rhiwarth cave II	80328	Brecon	SN84611565	SN81NW
Cregrina Church, yard	16285	Radnor	SO12365210	SO15SW
Darowen Church (St Tudyr), yard	7695	Montgomery	SH83000181	SH80SW
David's Well	3457	Radnor	SO05987858	SO07NE
Dol Capel Placename	1737	Montgomery	SH97820750	SH90NE
Dyserth churchyard	105826	Flint	SJ05647938	SJ07NE
Eglwys Caradog Cave	1534	Brecon	SN84491580	SN81NW
Erwhelm Cross Shaft Site	941	Brecon	SO035494	SO04NW
Esgyrn Brook Limekiln	5392	Brecon	SO24483716	SO23NW

<i>Name</i>	<i>PRN</i>	<i>Old County</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>Map No</i>
Felindre Chapel	<b>523</b>	Brecon	SO18643680	SO13NE
Ffynnon Beuno	<b>100790</b>	Merioneth	SJ07584691	SJ04NE
Ffynnon Ceneu Well	<b>4002</b>	Brecon	SO24141810	SO21NW
Ffynnon Cilyn Well	<b>1540</b>	Montgomery	SN95238459	SN98SE
Ffynnon Dadur Well	<b>1725</b>	Montgomery	SH82940183	SH80SW
Ffynnon Ddewi Well	<b>3453</b>	Brecon	SN85325258	SN85SE
Ffynnon Ddu Well	<b>781</b>	Montgomery	SO08809403	SO09SE
Ffynnon Ddu Well	<b>1218</b>	Montgomery	SH98731186	SH91SE
Ffynnon Ddueno Well	<b>101537</b>	Flint	SJ31365191	SJ35SW
Ffynnon Diefer Well	<b>102014</b>	Flint	SJ09467002	SJ06NE
Ffynnon Digain Holy Well	<b>100428</b>	Denbigh	SH87146833	SH86NE
Ffynnon Drillo	<b>81727</b>	Denbigh	SH9154864973	SH96SW
Ffynnon Drillo	<b>81560</b>	Merioneth	SJ03273750	SJ03NW
Ffynnon Dyfnog Well	<b>100603</b>	Denbigh	SJ07966334	SJ06SE
Ffynnon Elwoc	<b>101997</b>	Denbigh	SH95267719	SH97NE
Ffynnon Erfyl Well	<b>1323</b>	Montgomery	SJ03131008	SJ01SW
Ffynnon Fach Well	<b>1690</b>	Montgomery	SJ07931682	SJ01NE
Ffynnon Fair	<b>100344</b>	Flint	SJ2095570985	SJ27SW
Ffynnon Fair	<b>81740</b>	Denbigh	SJ08066311	SJ06SE
Ffynnon Fair Chapel	<b>102141</b>	Flint	SJ02917107	SJ07SW
Ffynnon Fair Holy Well	<b>102142</b>	Flint	SJ02907107	SJ07SW
Ffynnon Fair Well	<b>256</b>	Radnor	SN96916842	SN96NE
Ffynnon Fair Well	<b>758</b>	Montgomery	SJ10360648	SJ10NW
Ffynnon Fair Well	<b>3215</b>	Denbigh	SO2663522460	SO22SE
Ffynnon Fair Well	<b>100696</b>	Denbigh	SH95384894	SH94NE
Ffynnon Farcel Well (site of)	<b>102022</b>	Denbigh	SJ06736612	SJ06NE
Ffynnon Fynws Well	<b>100827</b>	Merioneth	SJ0740	SJ04SE
Ffynnon Gadfarch	<b>1276</b>	Montgomery	SH76840093	SH70SE
Ffynnon Gattwg	<b>692</b>	Brecon	SO20531812	SO21NW
Ffynnon Gedwyn	<b>1850</b>	Montgomery	SN96498951	SN98NE
Ffynnon Gegidog	<b>102012</b>	Denbigh	SH9764275668	SH97NE
Ffynnon Geiliog Well	<b>1698</b>	Montgomery	SJ06201335	SJ01SE
Ffynnon Gwydd	<b>81709</b>	Radnor	SO0438258313	SO05NW
Ffynnon Gynydd Well	<b>408</b>	Radnor	SO1641141284	SO14SE
Ffynnon Idloes Well	<b>1539</b>	Montgomery	SN95668468	SN98SE
Ffynnon Ishow Well	<b>3219</b>	Brecon	SO27772238	SO22SE
Ffynnon Iwan	<b>81744</b>	Montgomery	SJ0522	SJ02SE
Ffynnon Leinw Well Basin	<b>100239</b>	Flint	SJ18596771	SJ16NE
Ffynnon Leucu	<b>81724</b>	Flint	SJ06967706	SJ07NE
Ffynnon Nefydd	<b>81728</b>	Denbigh	SH9827270830	SH97SE
Ffynnon Oerog Well	<b>101207</b>	Denbigh	SJ26194205	SJ24SE
Ffynnon Rhigog Well	<b>3883</b>	Montgomery	SH98471185	SH91SE
Ffynnon Sadwrn Well	<b>101471</b>	Denbigh	SJ04076722	SJ06NW
Ffynnon Sarah	<b>100763</b>	Denbigh	SJ06435154	SJ05SE
Ffynnon Sulien	<b>100813</b>	Merioneth	SJ0688344098	SJ04SE
Ffynnon y Capel	<b>81738</b>	Flint	SJ33445415	SJ35SW
Ffynnon y Creiriwr	<b>81737</b>	Denbigh	SJ05476969	SJ06NE
Ffynnon y Gwrlodan Well	<b>675</b>	Brecon	SO1821	SO12SE
Ffynnon y Saint	<b>81736</b>	Flint	SJ3945	SJ34NE
Ffynnon y Saint	<b>81739</b>	Denbigh	SH9275	SH97NW
Ffynnon y Saint Well	<b>100699</b>	Denbigh	SH98254947	SH94NE
Filo Well	<b>4492</b>	Brecon	SO11903320	SO13SW
Forden Well	<b>3810</b>	Montgomery	SJ23000053	SJ20SW
Garthbeibio Church (St Tydecho), yard	<b>7580</b>	Montgomery	SH98551189	SH91SE

<i>Name</i>	<i>PRN</i>	<i>Old County</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>Map No</i>
Gelli Talgarth Chapel	<b>863</b>	Brecon	SN97055738	SN95NE
Glasbury Clas	<b>516</b>	Brecon	SO164412	SO14SE
Glasbury old church site	<b>519</b>	Brecon	SO17633891	SO13NE
Glascwm churchyard	<b>16295</b>	Radnor	SO15595315	SO15SE
Glyntawe Church, churchyard	<b>16991</b>	Brecon	SN84811688	SN81NW
Gorn Hill Cemetery	<b>1542</b>	Montgomery	SN96328439	SN98SE
Gwyddelwern Church, yard	<b>105914</b>	Merioneth	SJ07464668	SJ04NE
Gwytherin Church (St Winifred), stones	<b>100446</b>	Denbigh	SH87676147	SH86SE
Gwytherin Church (St Winifred), yard	<b>16995</b>	Denbigh	SH87676147	SH86SE
Halkyn Church (St Mary), yard	<b>16996</b>	Flint	SJ20937105	SJ27SW
Halkyn Old Church	<b>16472</b>	Flint	SJ20977103	SJ27SW
Hendre church	<b>81556</b>	Denbigh	SJ09842858	SJ02NE
Hirnant Church, churchyard	<b>7631</b>	Montgomery	SJ05042295	SJ02SE
Holy Well	<b>4369</b>	Montgomery	SJ22331549	SJ21NW
Hope Church stone I	<b>81751</b>	Flint	SJ30965836	SJ35NW
Hope Church stone II	<b>81752</b>	Flint	SJ30965836	SJ35NW
Hope Church stone III	<b>81753</b>	Flint	SJ30965836	SJ35NW
Llan Guaered placename	<b>81558</b>	Flint	SJ42404663	SJ44NW
Llanafan Fawr Church (St Afan), cross	<b>5882</b>	Brecon	SN96915577	SN95NE
Llanafan Fawr Church (St Afan), cross	<b>5883</b>	Brecon	SN96915577	SN95NE
Llanafan Fawr Church (St Afan), cross	<b>5884</b>	Brecon	SN96915577	SN95NE
Llanafan Fawr Well	<b>6388</b>	Brecon	SN96795563	SN95NE
Llanbadarn-y-garreg Church (St Padarn)	<b>16229</b>	Radnor	SO11234876	SO14NW
Llanbadarn-y-garreg holy well	<b>81703</b>	Radnor	SO11184867	SO14NW
Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd Old Church	<b>16815</b>	Denbigh	SJ14535981	SJ15NW
Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd Old Church (St	<b>19740</b>	Denbigh	SJ14535981	SJ15NW
Llanddettty Church, stone	<b>647</b>	Brecon	SO12802023	SO12SW
Llanddettty Church, yard	<b>16492</b>	Brecon	SO12812024	SO12SW
Llanddew Church (St David), stone	<b>484</b>	Brecon	SO05493074	SO03SE
Llanddewi Abergwesyn Church	<b>1188</b>	Brecon	SN85255262	SN85SE
Llanddewi Abergwesyn Church, churchyar	<b>20122</b>	Brecon	SN85255262	SN85SE
Llandefaelog Fach Church (St Maeiog),	<b>475</b>	Brecon	SO03403239	SO03SW
Llandefaelog Fach Church, churchyard	<b>2958</b>	Brecon	SO03403240	SO03SW
Llandefalle Church well	<b>4485</b>	Brecon	SO10743560	SO13NW
Llandefalle Church, churchyard	<b>20196</b>	Brecon	SO10763558	SO13NW
Llandegeman Fawr Chapel	<b>674</b>	Brecon	SO19372106	SO12SE
Llandeilo'r Fan Chapel	<b>4377</b>	Brecon	SN8934	SN83SE
Llandrindod Old Church holy well	<b>81710</b>	Radnor	SO06566009	SO06SE
Llandysilio Church (St Tysilio), yard	<b>7608</b>	Montgomery	SJ2677919299	SJ21NE
Llandyssil Old Church	<b>16840</b>	Montgomery	SO19819525	SO19NE
Llaneglwys Uchaf Placename	<b>4439</b>	Brecon	SO05703875	SO03NE
Llanelieu Church (St Ellyw), stone I	<b>563</b>	Brecon	SO1848534175	SO13SE
Llanelieu Church (St Ellyw), stone II	<b>5829</b>	Brecon	SO1848534175	SO13SE
Llanerfyl Church (St Erfyl), stone	<b>1741</b>	Montgomery	SJ03380975	SJ00NW
Llanerfyl Church (St Erfyl), yard	<b>7574</b>	Montgomery	SJ03400977	SJ00NW
Llanfair Trellwydion chapel	<b>81682</b>	Radnor	SO10217315	SO17SW
Llanfechan placename	<b>81685</b>	Montgomery	SH7705	SH70NE
Llanfihangel Abergwesyn Church	<b>4424</b>	Brecon	SN85415265	SN85SE
Llanfihangel Abergwesyn Church, church	<b>20123</b>	Brecon	SN85415265	SN85SE
Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr churchyard	<b>105529</b>	Denbigh	SH98984941	SH94NE
Llanganten Church (St Cannen), yard	<b>2969</b>	Brecon	SO00955176	SO05SW
Llangar Churchyard	<b>85604</b>	Denbigh	SJ06354244	SJ04SE
Llangernyw Church, churchyard stones	<b>99998</b>	Denbigh	SH875674	
Llangernyw Church, yard	<b>105532</b>	Denbigh	SH87516746	SH86NE

<i>Name</i>	<i>PRN</i>	<i>Old County</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>Map No</i>
Llangoed church	<b>81715</b>	Brecon	SO12383987	SO13NW
Llangunllo Churchyard	<b>16034</b>	Radnor	SO21177128	SO27SW
Llangynog Church	<b>16878</b>	Brecon	SO02454599	SO04NW
Llangynog Church, churchyard	<b>5483</b>	Brecon	SO02454599	SO04NW
Llanhamlach Church stone	<b>621</b>	Brecon	SO08962644	SO02NE
Llanhamlach Standing Stone	<b>615</b>	Brecon	SO08942675	SO02NE
Llanifan	<b>81683</b>	Radnor	SO1561	SO16SE
Llanilltyd Church	<b>16882</b>	Brecon	SN97112611	SN92NE
Llanilltyd Church churchyard	<b>587</b>	Brecon	SN97122611	SN92NE
Llanlleonfel Church, stone I	<b>3048</b>	Brecon	SN9387449936	SN94NW
Llanlleonfel Church, stone II	<b>3415</b>	Brecon	SN9387449936	SN94NW
Llanlleonfel Church, yard	<b>2976</b>	Brecon	SN9387449936	SN94NW
Llanloddian placename	<b>81687</b>	Montgomery	SJ1008	SJ10NW
Llansantffraed in Elvel Church (St Bri	<b>16236</b>	Radnor	SO09955488	SO05SE
Llanspyddid Church (St Cattwg), stone	<b>599</b>	Brecon	SO0118828182	SO02NW
Llanspyddid Church (St Cattwg), yard	<b>16479</b>	Brecon	SO01192818	SO02NW
Llanstephan Church, well	<b>85279</b>	Radnor	SO12014212	SO14SW
Llanstephan Church, yard	<b>16214</b>	Radnor	SO12004212	SO14SW
Llanwrthwl Church (St Gwrthwl), yard	<b>2900</b>	Brecon	SN97576373	SN96SE
Llanwrthwl Church, standing stone	<b>883</b>	Brecon	SN97576372	SN96SE
Llanwrtyd Church (St David), stone	<b>50216</b>	Brecon	SN86364779	SN84NE
Llanwrtyd Church (St David), yard	<b>2980</b>	Brecon	SN86364778	SN84NE
Llanynis Church (St David), yard	<b>2984</b>	Brecon	SN99845087	SN95SE
Llechfaen chapel	<b>81716</b>	Brecon	SO08052843	SO02NE
Llowes Church (St Meilig), cross	<b>399</b>	Radnor	SO19244171	SO14SE
Llowes Church (St Meilig), yard	<b>16206</b>	Radnor	SO19224170	SO14SE
Llowes Monastery	<b>407</b>	Radnor	SO199431	SO14SE
Llwyn y Fynwent	<b>3051</b>	Brecon	SN89944300	SN84SE
Llys Edwin possible cemetery	<b>19508</b>	Flint	SJ24056932	SJ26NW
Llyswen Church (St Gwendoline), yard	<b>2549</b>	Brecon	SO13333801	SO13NW
Llyweni chapel	<b>81718</b>	Denbigh	SJ025680	SJ06NW
Lower Caerfaelog Church site	<b>1985</b>	Radnor	SO11007395	SO17SW
Maen Achwyfan cross	<b>102328</b>	Flint	SJ12887876	SJ17NW
Maen Du well	<b>81732</b>	Brecon	SO0390029635	SO02NW
Maes y Beddau placename	<b>852</b>	Brecon	SN93003690	SN93NW
Maes y Beddau placename	<b>1176</b>	Brecon	SO13191900	SO11NW
Maesmynis Church (St David), yard	<b>2677</b>	Brecon	SO02814976	SO04NW
Meity Isaf Chapel	<b>3138</b>	Brecon	SN8571126143	SN82NE
Melai chapel	<b>81562</b>	Denbigh	SH9067	SH96NW
Meusydd 'cemetery'	<b>102775</b>	Denbigh	SJ13252525	SJ12NW
Nantglyn Capel Saint Mordeyrn's	<b>17495</b>	Denbigh	SJ00656202	SJ06SW
Nantglyn Churchyard	<b>19781</b>	Denbigh	SJ00416213	SJ06SW
Neuadd Sharman Cross Site	<b>939</b>	Brecon	SO01234760	SO04NW
New Radnor Castle, church site	<b>5240</b>	Radnor	SO2160	SO26SW
New Radnor Cross Head	<b>5237</b>	Radnor	SO21036081	SO26SW
Newchurch churchyard	<b>16300</b>	Radnor	SO21625073	SO25SW
Pant yr Hen Eglwys placename	<b>81767</b>	Denbigh	SH982708	SH97SE
Pen Blaen Farm Church site	<b>4268</b>	Radnor	SO106508	SO15SW
Pen Cerig Calch chapel site	<b>72430</b>	Brecon	SO22302263	SO22SW
Pen Llys 'Church' site	<b>3009</b>	Brecon	SN99945847	SN95NE
Pen Y Coed Chapel Site	<b>19003</b>	Montgomery	SN99258949	SN98NE
Penegoes Church (St Cadfarch), yard	<b>7655</b>	Montgomery	SH76940096	SH70SE
Pentre Fidog Chapel	<b>105556</b>	Denbigh	SH87465133	SH85SE
Pentrey Goch Garreg Stone	<b>3145</b>	Brecon	SN877235	SN82SE

<i>Name</i>	<i>PRN</i>	<i>Old County</i>	<i>NGR</i>	<i>Map No</i>
Peter's Well	81711	Radnor	SO201578	SO25NW
Pipton Chapel	521	Brecon	SO16773806	SO13NE
Pistyll Cynllo holy well	81708	Radnor	SO1107773289	SO17SW
Pistyll y Clawdd Well	82	Montgomery	SJ15391091	SJ11SE
Plas-Uchaf Church site	100524	Denbigh	SH93276679	SH96NW
Pont Glan Tanat Uchaf Stones	5989	Denbigh	SJ13722435	SJ12SW
Pont Y Capel Placename	100381	Denbigh	SJ33625422	SJ35SW
Rhulen Church (St David), yard	16283	Radnor	SO13774982	SO14NW
Saint's Well	243	Radnor	SO04947430	SO07SW
Spwdwr Chapel	100084	Flint	SJ21426491	SJ26SW
St Bennion's well	81745	Montgomery	SJ28051814	SJ21NE
St Cadfan's Well	1230	Montgomery	SJ01101044	SJ01SW
St Cenau's Chapel	4910	Brecon	SO24141817	SO21NW
St Chad's Well	100213	Flint	SJ45324037	SJ44SE
St Collen's Well	70933	Denbigh	SJ204446	SJ24SW
St Dogfan's Well	101576	Denbigh	SJ09452901	SJ02NE
St Eluned's Chapel	617	Brecon	SO05792861	SO02NE
St Eluned's Chapel enclosure	35884	Brecon	SO05792861	SO02NE
St Eluned's Well	38588	Brecon	SO05792861	SO02NE
St Iild's Chapel	3137	Brecon	SN89032717	SN82NE
St Leonard in Glyn Church	17011	Flint	SJ33625422	SJ35SW
St Mary's well, Pilleth	287	Radnor	SO25636823	SO26NE
St Michael's Well	1689	Montgomery	SJ08121686	SJ01NE
St Michael's Well Pentre	102290	Flint	SJ17426495	SJ16SE
St Mordeyrn's Well	100595	Denbigh	SJ00436225	SJ06SW
St Myllin's Well	56	Montgomery	SJ1393019525	SJ11NW
St Peter's Chapel	101535	Denbigh	SJ369575	SJ35NE
St Tydecho's Well	1217	Montgomery	SH98571197	SH91SE
Tair y Wen Chapel	3119	Brecon	SO243388	SO23NW
Tair y Wen Chapel	5385	Brecon	SO23833886	SO23NW
Tan y Fedw Chapel	3140	Brecon	SN89132573	SN82NE
Tan y Fedw tractor shed	31224	Brecon	SN8906825791	SN82NE
Trallong Church (St David), stone	579	Brecon	SN96612959	SN92NE
Trallong Church, churchyard	15936	Brecon	SN96612958	SN92NE
Tremeirchion Church, yard	16431	Denbigh	SJ08287308	SJ07SE
Trinity Well	1251	Montgomery	SJ25951593	SJ21NE
Trinity Well I	97	Montgomery	SJ21891296	SJ21SW
Trinity Well II	4370	Montgomery	SJ28691222	SJ21SE
Turpil Stone	50456	Brecon	SO225193	SO21NW
Twyn Y Beddau Cist I	50549	Brecon	SO24113861	SO23NW
Ty Illtud Long Cairn, decorated stones	50435	Brecon	SO09842638	SO02NE
Ty'n y Llan Spring	3418	Brecon	SN93934990	SN94NW
Tywysog Chapel Site	101815	Denbigh	SJ00306673	SJ06NW
Upper Pen y Fforest Cross	410	Radnor	SO18884359	SO14SE
Victorinus Stone Site, Dark Age	35911	Brecon	SO106252	SO12NW
Waun Tywysog chapel	81766	Denbigh	SH995661	SH96NE
Waun y Capel Chapel	3333	Brecon	SO11871786	SO11NW
Well Houses Well	735	Brecon	SN87124702	SN84NE
White Well Alleged Holy Well	100215	Flint	SJ49484137	SJ44SE

## List of Sites Visited, Ordered by Site Type

<i>Site Type</i>	<i>PRN</i>	<i>Old County</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>NGR</i>
Cave occupation	1534	Brecon	Eglwys Caradog Cave	SN84491580
Cemetery	100408	Denbigh	Beddau Dark Age cemetery	SH85905127
Cemetery	102775	Denbigh	Meusydd 'cemetery'	SJ13252525
Cemetery ?	852	Brecon	Maes y Beddau placename	SN93003690
Cemetery ?	1176	Brecon	Maes y Beddau placename	SO13191900
Cemetery ?	1542	Montgomery	Gorn Hill Cemetery	SN96328439
Cemetery ?	19508	Flint	Llys Edwin possible cemetery	SJ24056932
Cemetery ?	81554	Flint	Cae yr Hen Fynwent	SJ20855970
Chapel	521	Brecon	Pipton Chapel	SO16773806
Chapel	523	Brecon	Felindre Chapel	SO18643680
Chapel	527	Brecon	Aberllynfi Chapel	SO17233799
Chapel	617	Brecon	St Eluned's Chapel	SO05792861
Chapel	674	Brecon	Llandegeman Fawr Chapel	SO19372106
Chapel	863	Brecon	Gelli Talgarth Chapel	SN97055738
Chapel	1543	Montgomery	Capel Banhadlog Chapel	SN98118059
Chapel	1601	Radnor	Cae Henllan Church, Llanelwedd	SO04275219
Chapel	1616	Radnor	Carneddau Chapel	SO04835316
Chapel	1644	Radnor	Capel Madog	SN93896575
Chapel	3051	Brecon	Llwyn y Fynwent	SN89944300
Chapel	3137	Brecon	St Ilid's Chapel	SN89032717
Chapel	3333	Brecon	Waun y Capel Chapel	SO11871786
Chapel	4377	Brecon	Llandeilo'r Fan Chapel	SN8934
Chapel	17011	Flint	St Leonard in Glyn Church	SJ33625422
Chapel	17495	Denbigh	Nantglyn Capel Saint Mordeyrn's	SJ00656202
Chapel	17924	Montgomery	Capel Dolwen	SH97820750
Chapel	19003	Montgomery	Pen Y Coed Chapel Site	SN99258949
Chapel	100381	Denbigh	Pont Y Capel Placename	SJ33625422
Chapel	100444	Denbigh	Capel Gwenfrewi/Penbryn Capel	SH87666140
Chapel	100524	Denbigh	Plas-Uchaf Church site	SH93276679
Chapel	100771	Merioneth	Capel Aelhaiarn (site of)	SJ08705033
Chapel	101297	Flint	Caergwrle Chapel	SJ30485707
Chapel	101342	Denbigh	Cae Gosper Fieldname	SJ32304240
Chapel	101535	Denbigh	St Peter's Chapel	SJ369575
Chapel	101902	Denbigh	Cefn Fynydd Chapel site	SJ062513
Chapel	102588	Flint	Capel Hwlkyn	SJ10066935
Chapel	105556	Denbigh	Pentre Fidog Chapel	SH87465133
Chapel	102141	Flint	Ffynnon Fair Chapel	SJ02917107
Chapel	81715	Brecon	Llangoed church	SO12383987
Chapel	81716	Brecon	Llechfaen chapel	SO08052843
Chapel	81718	Denbigh	Llyweni chapel	SJ025680
Chapel	81719	Brecon	Capel Nant-ddu	SO00341475
Chapel	81748	Brecon	Capel Taf Fechan	SO0513
Chapel	81765	Flint	College chapel	SJ0570
Chapel	81769	Denbigh	Cappele chapel	SH90304740
Chapel	81676	Brecon	Capel Maes-y-bwlch	SN84583520
Chapel	81677	Brecon	Capel Senni	SN929233
Chapel	81678	Brecon	Capel Coelbren	SN84971170
Chapel	81679	Brecon	Capel Glyn Collwn	SO07801715
Chapel	81682	Radnor	Llanfair Trelwydion chapel	SO10217315
Chapel	81558	Flint	Llan Guaered placename	SJ42404663
Chapel	81561	Denbigh	Capel Ogwen	SH858786
Chapel	81562	Denbigh	Melai chapel	SH9067
Chapel	81564	Brecon	Caple Llan Ycha placename	SO24721848
Chapel ?	1298	Montgomery	Cae yr Hen Eglwys foundations	SH82790056

<i>Site Type</i>	<i>PRN</i>	<i>Old County</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>NGR</i>
Chapel ?	1985	Radnor	Lower Caerfaelog Church site	SO11007395
Chapel ?	3119	Brecon	Tair y Wen Chapel	SO243388
Chapel ?	3140	Brecon	Tan y Fedw Chapel	SN89132573
Chapel ?	3468	Radnor	Aber Henllan Chapel	SN89957229
Chapel ?	4910	Brecon	St Cenau's Chapel	SO24141817
Chapel ?	5685	Brecon	Cae Capel Building	SN87482315
Chapel ?	100084	Flint	Spwdwr Chapel	SJ21426491
Chapel ?	101815	Denbigh	Tywysog Chapel Site	SJ00306673
Chapel ?	3138	Brecon	Meity Isaf Chapel	SN8571126143
Chapel ?	72430	Brecon	Pen Cerig Calch chapel site	SO22302263
Chapel ?	81766	Denbigh	Waun Tywysog chapel	SH995661
Chapel?	81683	Radnor	Llanifan	SO1561
Church	519	Brecon	Glasbury old church site	SO17633891
Church	1188	Brecon	Llanddewi Abergwesyn Church	SN85255262
Church	4424	Brecon	Llanfihangel Abergwesyn Church	SN85415265
Church	5240	Radnor	New Radnor Castle, church site	SO2160
Church	16472	Flint	Halkyn Old Church	SJ20977103
Church	16815	Denbigh	Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd Old Church	SJ14535981
Church	16840	Montgomery	Llandyssil Old Church	SO19819525
Church	16878	Brecon	Llangynog Church	SO02454599
Church	16882	Brecon	Llanilltyd Church	SN97112611
Church ?	4268	Radnor	Pen Blaen Farm Church site	SO106508
Church ?	81556	Denbigh	Hendre church	SJ09842858
Churchyard	587	Brecon	Llanilltyd Church churchyard	SN97122611
Churchyard	2976	Brecon	Llanlleonfel Church, yard	SN9387449936
Churchyard	5483	Brecon	Llangynog Church, churchyard	SO02454599
Churchyard	16991	Brecon	Glyntawe Church, churchyard	SN84811688
Churchyard	16996	Flint	Halkyn Church (St Mary), yard	SJ20937105
Churchyard	19740	Denbigh	Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd Old Church	SJ14535981
Churchyard	20122	Brecon	Llanddewi Abergwesyn Church, churc	SN85255262
Churchyard	20123	Brecon	Llanfihangel Abergwesyn Church, ch	SN85415265
Churchyard	105532	Denbigh	Llangernyw Church, yard	SH87516746
Churchyard	2953	Brecon	Battle Church, churchyard	SO0080630968
Churchyard	105818	Flint	Bodfari Church, yard	SJ09257012
Churchyard	16082	Radnor	Boughrood Church, yard	SO1277739276
Churchyard	16257	Radnor	Cascob Church (St Michael), yard	SO23906636
Churchyard	105908	Merioneth	Corwen Church (St Mael & St Sulien	SJ07934342
Churchyard	16285	Radnor	Cregrina Church, yard	SO12365210
Churchyard	7695	Montgomery	Darowen Church (St Tudyr), yard	SH83000181
Churchyard	7580	Montgomery	Garthbeibio Church (St Tydecho), y	SH98551189
Churchyard	105914	Merioneth	Gwyddelwern Church, yard	SJ07464668
Churchyard	16995	Denbigh	Gwytherin Church (St Winifred), ya	SH87676147
Churchyard	7631	Montgomery	Hirnant Church, churchyard	SJ05042295
Churchyard	16229	Radnor	Llanbadarn-y-garreg Church (St Pad	SO11234876
Churchyard	16492	Brecon	Llanddetty Church, yard	SO12812024
Churchyard	2958	Brecon	Llandefaelog Fach Church, churchya	SO03403240
Churchyard	20196	Brecon	Llandefalle Church, churchyard	SO10763558
Churchyard	7608	Montgomery	Llandysilio Church (St Tysilio), y	SJ2677919299
Churchyard	7574	Montgomery	Llanerfyl Church (St Erfyl), yard	SJ03400977
Churchyard	105529	Denbigh	Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr churchyard	SH98984941
Churchyard	2969	Brecon	Llanganten Church (St Cannen), yar	SO00955176
Churchyard	16236	Radnor	Llansantffraed in Elvel Church (St	SO09955488
Churchyard	16479	Brecon	Llanspyddid Church (St Cattwg), ya	SO01192818
Churchyard	16214	Radnor	Llanstephan Church, yard	SO12004212
Churchyard	2900	Brecon	Llanwrthwl Church (St Gwrthwl), ya	SN97576373

<i>Site Type</i>	<i>PRN</i>	<i>Old County</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>NGR</i>
Churchyard	2980	Brecon	Llanwrtyd Church (St David), yard	SN86364778
Churchyard	2984	Brecon	Llanynis Church (St David), yard	SN99845087
Churchyard	16206	Radnor	Llowes Church (St Meilig), yard	SO19224170
Churchyard	2549	Brecon	Llyswen Church (St Gwendoline), ya	SO13333801
Churchyard	2677	Brecon	Maesmynis Church (St David), yard	SO02814976
Churchyard	7655	Montgomery	Penegoes Church (St Cadfarch), yar	SH76940096
Churchyard	16283	Radnor	Rhulen Church (St David), yard	SO13774982
Churchyard	15936	Brecon	Trallong Church, churchyard	SN96612958
Churchyard	16431	Denbigh	Tremeirchion Church, yard	SJ08287308
Churchyard	105826	Flint	Dyserth churchyard	SJ05647938
Churchyard	16295	Radnor	Glascwm churchyard	SO15595315
Churchyard	16300	Radnor	Newchurch churchyard	SO21625073
Churchyard	16034	Radnor	Llangunllo Churchyard	SO21177128
Churchyard	19781	Denbigh	Nantglyn Churchyard	SJ00416213
Churchyard	85604	Denbigh	Llangar Churchyard	SJ06354244
Cist ?	50549	Brecon	Twyn Y Beddau Cist I	SO24113861
Cross	399	Radnor	Llowes Church (St Meilig), cross	SO19244171
Cross	410	Radnor	Upper Pen y Fforest Cross	SO18884359
Cross	939	Brecon	Neuadd Sharman Cross Site	SO01234760
Cross	941	Brecon	Erwhelm Cross Shaft Site	SO035494
Cross	5237	Radnor	New Radnor Cross Head	SO21036081
Cross	102328	Flint	Maen Achwyfan cross	SJ12887876
Decorated stone	389	Radnor	Bryn Cynon Stone	SO18104942
Decorated stone	563	Brecon	Llanelieu Church (St Ellyw), stone	SO1848534175
Decorated stone	599	Brecon	Llanspyddid Church (St Cattwg), st	SO0118828182
Decorated stone	621	Brecon	Llanhamlach Church stone	SO08962644
Decorated stone	3047	Brecon	Cildu Farm Pillar Stone	SN90524659
Decorated stone	3048	Brecon	Llanlleonfel Church, stone I	SN9387449936
Decorated stone	5829	Brecon	Llanelieu Church (St Ellyw), stone	SO1848534175
Decorated stone	5882	Brecon	Llanafan Fawr Church (St Afan), cr	SN96915577
Decorated stone	5883	Brecon	Llanafan Fawr Church (St Afan), cr	SN96915577
Decorated stone	5884	Brecon	Llanafan Fawr Church (St Afan), cr	SN96915577
Decorated stone	5989	Denbigh	Pont Glan Tanat Uchaf Stones	SJ13722435
Decorated stone	50216	Brecon	Llanwrtyd Church (St David), stone	SN86364779
Decorated stone	50435	Brecon	Ty Illtud Long Cairn, decorated st	SO09842638
Decorated stone	81751	Flint	Hope Church stone I	SJ30965836
Decorated stone	81752	Flint	Hope Church stone II	SJ30965836
Decorated stone	81753	Flint	Hope Church stone III	SJ30965836
Decorated stone	99998	Denbigh	Llangernyw Church, churchyard ston	SH875674
Enclosure	35884	Brecon	St Eluned's Chapel enclosure	SO05792861
Grave	81749	Brecon	Cefn-y-bedd placename	SO004514
Grave ?	81768	Denbigh	Bedd Ffrymder	SH982706
Hermitage ?	102794	Denbigh	Cae Abba Addi Poss Hermitage Site	SJ21684181
Hermitage ?	80328	Brecon	Craig y Rhiwarth cave II	SN84611565
House	106491	Denbigh	Alltgymbyd "old Chapel"	SJ20405480
Inscribed stone	475	Brecon	Llandefaelog Fach Church (St Maelo	SO03403239
Inscribed stone	484	Brecon	Llanddew Church (St David), stone	SO05493074
Inscribed stone	579	Brecon	Trallong Church (St David), stone	SN96612959
Inscribed stone	647	Brecon	Llanddettty Church, stone	SO12802023
Inscribed stone	1741	Montgomery	Llanerfyl Church (St Erfyl), stone	SJ03380975
Inscribed stone	3145	Brecon	Pentrey Goch Garreg Stone	SN877235
Inscribed stone	17494	Denbigh	Bryn Gwylan inscribed stone	SH89196989
Inscribed stone	50456	Brecon	Turpil Stone	SO225193
Inscribed stone	35911	Brecon	Victorinus Stone Site, Dark Age	SO106252
Limekiln	5392	Brecon	Esgyrn Brook Limekiln	SO24483716

<i>Site Type</i>	<i>PRN</i>	<i>Old County</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>NGR</i>
Machinery store	31224	Brecon	Tan y Fedw tractor shed	SN8906825791
Monastery	407	Radnor	Llowes Monastery	SO199431
Monastery	516	Brecon	Glasbury Clas	SO164412
Place name	456	Brecon	Cae Henllan placename	SO02623652
Place name	1737	Montgomery	Dol Capel Placename	SH97820750
Place name	4439	Brecon	Llaneglwys Uchaf Placename	SO05703875
Place name	81767	Denbigh	Pant yr Hen Eglwys placename	SH982708
Place name	81685	Montgomery	Llanfechan placename	SH7705
Place name	81687	Montgomery	Llanloddian placename	SJ1008
Quarry ?	3009	Brecon	Pen Lllys 'Church' site	SN99945847
Round barrow (ring cair)	582	Brecon	Bedd Illyd Stone Setting	SN97392639
Spring	81738	Flint	Ffynnon y Capel	SJ33445415
Square barrow ?	106503	Flint	Coed Bell rectilinear feature	SJ08778291
Standing stone	615	Brecon	Llanhamlach Standing Stone	SO08942675
Standing stone	883	Brecon	Llanwrthwl Church, standing stone	SN97576372
Standing stone	3415	Brecon	Llanlleonfel Church, stone II	SN9387449936
Standing stone	100446	Denbigh	Gwytherin Church (St Winifred), st	SH87676147
Stone setting	5385	Brecon	Tair y Wen Chapel	SO23833886
Well	56	Montgomery	St Myllin's Well	SJ1393019525
Well	82	Montgomery	Pistyll y Clawdd Well	SJ15391091
Well	97	Montgomery	Trinity Well I	SJ21891296
Well	243	Radnor	Saint's Well	SO04947430
Well	256	Radnor	Ffynnon Fair Well	SN96916842
Well	287	Radnor	St Mary's well, Pilleth	SO25636823
Well	675	Brecon	Ffynnon y Gwrlodan Well	SO1821
Well	692	Brecon	Ffynnon Gattwg	SO20531812
Well	735	Brecon	Well Houses Well	SN87124702
Well	758	Montgomery	Ffynnon Fair Well	SJ10360648
Well	781	Montgomery	Ffynnon Ddu Well	SO08809403
Well	1217	Montgomery	St Tydecho's Well	SH98571197
Well	1218	Montgomery	Ffynnon Ddu Well	SH98731186
Well	1230	Montgomery	St Cadfan's Well	SJ01101044
Well	1251	Montgomery	Trinity Well	SJ25951593
Well	1276	Montgomery	Ffynnon Gadfarch	SH76840093
Well	1323	Montgomery	Ffynnon Erfyl Well	SJ03131008
Well	1539	Montgomery	Ffynnon Idloes Well	SN95668468
Well	1540	Montgomery	Ffynnon Cilyn Well	SN95238459
Well	1689	Montgomery	St Michael's Well	SJ08121686
Well	1690	Montgomery	Ffynnon Fach Well	SJ07931682
Well	1698	Montgomery	Ffynnon Geiliog Well	SJ06201335
Well	1725	Montgomery	Ffynnon Dadur Well	SH82940183
Well	1850	Montgomery	Ffynnon Gedwyn	SN96498951
Well	3215	Denbigh	Ffynnon Fair Well	SO2663522460
Well	3457	Radnor	David's Well	SO05987858
Well	3810	Montgomery	Forden Well	SJ23000053
Well	3883	Montgomery	Ffynnon Rhigos Well	SH98471185
Well	4002	Brecon	Ffynnon Ceneu Well	SO24141810
Well	4278	Radnor	Clyro Well	SO22504343
Well	4369	Montgomery	Holy Well	SJ22331549
Well	4370	Montgomery	Trinity Well II	SJ28691222
Well	4485	Brecon	Llandefalle Church well	SO10743560
Well	4492	Brecon	Filo Well	SO11903320
Well	100213	Flint	St Chad's Well	SJ45324037
Well	100215	Flint	White Well Alleged Holy Well	SJ49484137
Well	100344	Flint	Ffynnon Fair	SJ2095570985

<i>Site Type</i>	<i>PRN</i>	<i>Old County</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>NGR</i>
Well	100357	Denbigh	All Saints Well	SJ34595519
Well	100428	Denbigh	Ffynnon Digain Holy Well	SH87146833
Well	100595	Denbigh	St Mordeyrn's Well	SJ00436225
Well	100603	Denbigh	Ffynnon Dyfnog Well	SJ07966334
Well	100696	Denbigh	Ffynnon Fair Well	SH95384894
Well	100763	Denbigh	Ffynnon Sarah	SJ06435154
Well	100790	Merioneth	Ffynnon Beuno	SJ07584691
Well	100827	Merioneth	Ffynnon Fynws Well	SJ0740
Well	101207	Denbigh	Ffynnon Oerog Well	SJ26194205
Well	101471	Denbigh	Ffynnon Sadwrn Well	SJ04076722
Well	101537	Flint	Ffynnon Ddueno Well	SJ31365191
Well	101576	Denbigh	St Dogfan's Well	SJ09452901
Well	101997	Denbigh	Ffynnon Elwoc	SH95267719
Well	102014	Flint	Ffynnon Diefer Well	SJ09467002
Well	102022	Denbigh	Ffynnon Parcel Well (site of)	SJ06736612
Well	102142	Flint	Ffynnon Fair Holy Well	SJ02907107
Well	102290	Flint	St Michael's Well Pentre	SJ17426495
Well	408	Radnor	Ffynnon Gynydd Well	SO1641141284
Well	3219	Brecon	Ffynnon Ishow Well	SO27772238
Well	100239	Flint	Ffynnon Leinw Well Basin	SJ18596771
Well	100699	Denbigh	Ffynnon y Saint Well	SH98254947
Well	100813	Merioneth	Ffynnon Sulien	SJ0688344098
Well	102012	Denbigh	Ffynnon Gegidog	SH9764275668
Well	38588	Brecon	St Eluned's Well	SO05792861
Well	70933	Denbigh	St Collen's Well	SJ204446
Well	81703	Radnor	Llanbadarn-y-garreg holy well	SO11184867
Well	81708	Radnor	Pistyll Cynllo holy well	SO1107773289
Well	81709	Radnor	Ffynnon Gwydd	SO0438258313
Well	81710	Radnor	Llandrindod Old Church holy well	SO06566009
Well	81724	Flint	Ffynnon Leucu	SJ06967706
Well	81727	Denbigh	Ffynnon Drillo	SH9154864973
Well	81728	Denbigh	Ffynnon Nefydd	SH9827270830
Well	81732	Brecon	Maen Du well	SO0390029635
Well	81736	Flint	Ffynnon y Saint	SJ3945
Well	81737	Denbigh	Ffynnon y Creiriwr	SJ05476969
Well	81739	Denbigh	Ffynnon y Saint	SH9275
Well	81740	Denbigh	Ffynnon Fair	SJ08066311
Well	81560	Merioneth	Ffynnon Drillo	SJ03273750
Well	85279	Radnor	Llanstephan Church, well	SO12014212
Well ?	3418	Brecon	Ty'n y Llan Spring	SN93934990
Well ?	3453	Brecon	Ffynnon Ddewi Well	SN85325258
Well ?	6388	Brecon	Llanafan Fawr Well	SN96795563
Well ?	81711	Radnor	Peter's Well	SO201578
Well ?	81744	Montgomery	Ffynnon Iwan	SJ0522
Well ?	81745	Montgomery	St Bennion's well	SJ28051814

## Gazetteer of Visited Early Medieval Sites

56 St Myllin's Well Montgomery SJ1393019525 SJ11NW

Formerly believed to be a holy well, this restored well/spring, listed as Grade II, overlooks the small town of Llanfyllin. It was also known as Ffynnon Coed y Llan., St Myllin is said to have baptised converts in it. Rags were tied to bushes nearby by sick visitors.

It consists of a stone built (mortared) alcove set into the hillslope. The facade is arched and has flanking walls, while the rear part is squared with the roof formed from slabs. A sunken 'tank' in the floor is partly rock-cut, but mostly of mortared walling. At the back of the alcove, a gap above a sloping stone set into the rear wall provides the outlet for spring water. An overflow runs beneath the well access path, emerging on the other side as a series of ornamental pools before disappearing into a drain. The alcove is 2.0m long x 1.1m high x 1.4m wide, while the water 'tank' is 1.6m long x 0.8m wide x 0.3m deep.

82 Pistyll y Clawdd Well Montgomery SJ15391091 SJ11SE

The well consists of a rectangular cistern defined by stone walled revetment of squared blocks, measuring 1.6m NNW/SSE x 1.2m and it is apparently 0.3m deep, although probing demonstrated this is silted and the actual depth is at least 0.6m. Walling is evident on the NNW, WSW and ENE sides, while the remaining side is probably rock-cut but obscured by vegetation. The level of the water is c.0.1m below the top of the walling. A modern plastic pipe carries spring water from the W which runs into that corner of the tank. Excess water exits at the E corner, where there is a dip in the revetment, and runs down a small gully which ends at the nearby stream. The second spring mentioned by previous visitors was not evident at the time of the visit.

The well is obviously maintained by Forest Enterprise, for an access path runs towards it and crosses a recent sleeper bridge. The crest of the hill behind the site is called 'Moel y Sant' on modern OS maps, perhaps reinforcing the belief that the well itself may have had sacred properties.

97 Trinity Well I Montgomery SJ21891296 SJ21SW

A natural spring with curative associations, but there is no surviving evidence for a structure. It was still frequented in 1910. In fact there is a series of three natural springs near the base of a steep S-facing scarp overlooking a minor stream on the W side of Gaer Fawr. Each spring occupies a hollow which appears to have been created and enlarged by the action of the running water. The most substantial is that on the W, where a trickle of water issues from the base of a rock outcrop. The rock appears to be an impure limestone, whose permeability is probably the means by which the spring obtains its supply of water. There is no trace of any associated structures.

Francis Jones also records a "Garth Fawr well.....visited on Trinity Sunday...." from a different information source. There is a Garth house, but no identifiable Garth Fawr hill, and accordingly it seems likely that this is an incorrect spelling of "Gaer Fawr well" which could be an alternative name for Trinity Well.

243 Saint's Well Radnor SO04947430 SO07SW

The existing description refers to a spring running into a natural stone basin, though this was filled with mud. Its use is further suggested by the 'ffynnon' element in the name of a nearby farm.

A field visit failed to identify the well. The stream that ran below the well, down the valley towards the farm is now dried up and leaf-filled, but there is a well-defined channel that may indicate that it is active in wet seasons. Absolutely no sign of the well could be identified at the NGR given, but in some places vegetation might disguise relict traces. Only full clearance might reveal further information.

A holy well with a stone basin, said to have been destroyed in the 19th century by roadworks, yet this seems to be contradicted by Jones (1992) who relates that it was formerly much frequented by young couples, to whom it was supposed to bring good luck after drinking sweetened water. It was also considered - in 1911 - to be good for eye complaints.

No physical trace of the well structure survives at the given NGR. There is a trickle of water issuing from the rock outcrop on the E side of the road, where it has been cut back during previous road widening. Also there is a metal manhole cover in the roadside footpath adjoining the location of the well, which may hide some associated evidence. The only confirmation of the site is given by the cottages called 'Ffynnon Fair' on the opposite (W) side of the road, approximately 50m to the S.

## 287 St Mary's well, Pilleth

Radnor

SO25636823

SO26NE

Holy well on the north side of the tower of St Mary's church. Consists of an oblong enclosure approached by steps which lead to the water at its south end. The steps were apparently discovered when the well was cleaned in c.1910-11, though the SMR also considers the possibility that it was part restored after a fire in the church in 1894. Allegedly the well was famous in the Middle Ages for the relief its waters gave to those with eye trouble.

The well consists of a sunken trench aligned approximately north/south, with stone revetment walls forming its east and west sides. On the north side bedrock is visible, while on the south side steps lead down to the base of the well from ground level. A modern pipe is inserted into the east revetment and the whole has the look of having been restored. Overall dimensions are 4m N/S by 1m wide by 1m deep.

## 389 Bryn Cynon Stone

Radnor

SO18104942

SO14NE

Bryn Cynon lies some 500m-600m to the west of Bryngwyn with its possible early hill-top church and a recumbent stone sporting a primitively incised cross and other markings was recorded by the Ordnance Survey there in 1952. In a subsequent visit in 1973 the OS could not locate, it, nor could CPAT in 1978, so it was assumed to have been removed or destroyed.

Similarly in 2003, the Bryn Cynon stone could not be identified. The farm holding is no longer in domestic occupation but a new agricultural building has been constructed there. No check was made as to whether there was any local knowledge of the stone's whereabouts.

## 399 Llowes Church (St Meilig), cross

Radnor

SO19244171

SO14SE

A square-headed slightly tapering cross-slab c.2m high by 0.8m wide by 0.3m thick. It is decorated on the front with a large cross in high relief: the front being a Latin wheel cross of Celtic Irish type with square arm-ends, plain narrow wheel, wide rounded armpits and a slightly splayed stem, the upper arms being filled with reticulated pattern in shallow relief; the back has a plain Latin cross without a wheel in high relief. It is probably 11th century although it may be older.

Now in Llowes church (St Meilig's) to where it was moved from the churchyard in either 1956 or 1965. It is said to have originally been located at Croes-feiliog before being moved to the churchyard (M Redknap forthcoming).

## 407 Llowes Monastery

Radnor

SO199431

SO14SE

Traditionally the site of a 6th-century monastery exists on Llowes common.

No surface traces of buildings or anything else that identify a religious establishment are visible. The disturbed ground noted at the given grid reference appears to represent an area of shallow stone quarrying consisting of irregular hollows and spoil mounds. Similar features are present on other parts of the common, though the workings are not generally as concentrated.

**408** Ffynnon Gynydd Well Radnor SO1641141284 SO14SE

A grade II-listed well located on the north edge of Ffynnon Gynydd Common and known as 'Finnon Kynid' in 1653. Rees' map of 1932 suggests that it was also known as Ffynnon Cynidr and was extant in the 14th century.

The small, open, well-house of wooden construction was apparently erected over the well between 1900-1910 and the earlier well chamber partially covered over. That earlier well chamber is probably represented by a stone basin. A commemorative tablet was said to be broken, weathered and defaced when visited by CPAT in 1981.

The existing structure consists of a stone tank formed from edge-set slabs, overall 1.05m N/S by 0.8m and 0.6m deep, with a recent plywood cover. There are holes in the N and S slabs for the passage of water and some coins in the silt at the bottom; the present overflow for the chamber is towards the S end of the W side. The tank lies centrally within an open wood-framed well house with two entrances on the E side, slatted benches at N and S ends, and a slate roof. The base of the well house is constructed of dressed stone blocks with a commemorative tablet in the rear wall reading 'Ffynnon Gynidr. Erected in loving memory of Walter Fenwick de Winton. Aged 27. Who died in Central Africa March 28 1892 serving God, his country and his fellow men. Draw water out of the wells of salvation.' There is also a stone kerb and paving at the front of the well house, facing the road. A second spring emerges from beneath a low wall, approximately 5m to the SW. Overall dimensions 3.5m N/S by 1.4m and 3.0m high.

**410** Upper Pen y Fforest Cross Radnor SO18884359 SO14SE

Claimed as a stone with a wheel-headed ?cross, this is situated on the road verge at its junction with a trackway. It consists of a large natural sandstone boulder which has been worked to leave a thick sub-circular disc, 0.6m wide by 0.5m high, on a broader shoulder. The south-west side of the shoulder is markedly higher than the north-east side, suggesting the stone may have been re-sited. The lower part of the disc is 0.4m thick, tapering to 0.25m thick at the top. The disc is seemingly well-weathered, but there is no visible decoration on either face, although the worked shoulder has a 'pecked' appearance showing evidence of tool marks.

The main face of the disc on the north-east side carries a pronounced groove, 0.08m wide, forms the junction between it and the main body of the boulder, but a narrow groove is also visible in the same position on the opposing face. A possibly worked stub projects to the south-west from the base of the stone at its south-east end. The fresh nature of the peck marks on the shoulder suggests either that this part was formerly buried and protected from erosion, in contrast to the disc, or that no markings were ever made on the disc. Overall dimensions 1.3m north-west/south-east by 0.9m wide and 1.0m high.

**456** Cae Henllan placename Brecon SO02623652 SO03NW

A field named 'Cae Henllan Fawr' on Llandefaelog Fach Tithe map perhaps mean 'old church field'. Nothing of archaeological significance was noted during a CPAT visit of 1979. In 2002 no obvious traces of a structure showed in this field, which appears to have been well improved. The ground slopes fairly steeply to the west, so any site here would have required a platform. It is perhaps possible that this was formerly glebe land and that the name signals the past ownership of the field?

475 Llandefaelog Fach Church (St Maelog), Brecon SO03403239 SO03SW

A decorated stone (of sandstone) in Llandefaelog church, 2.43m long by 0.4m wide by 0.1m thick. Simply put it displays a figure standing on a panel surmounted by a cross of double bands. It is late 10th century in date.

It was first recorded by Edward Lhuyd at the end of the 17th century. The earliest record of its location describes it as serving 'to cover a low wall contiguous to the outside south wall of the church'. It was fixed inside the church by 1872, but moved outside again to the wall of the Penoyre vault during the 19th century. Finally it was moved inside the church in c.1952 and retains its scheduled status (Redknapp forthcoming).

484 Llanddew Church (St David), stone Brecon SO05493074 SO03SE

Rectangular stone, consisting of a plain equilateral cross in a circle, together with a faint inscription which may read Wli[gu]e.

According to Macalister, writing in 1949 it was found during restoration work, perhaps in 1884. It was said, then to have been built into the south wall of the south transept of the church. It is now believed to be in the vestry.

Dated to 8th-9th century, though there have been suggestions that it is panel of an altar, with the inscription dating to the 12th century.

516 Glasbury Clas Brecon SO164412 SO14SE

St Cynidr is believed to have founded a church at Glasbury in the 5th or 6th century, and antiquarian speculation placed this near to the well on Ffynnon Gynydd Common. This developed in the 7th century into a monastic settlement of the 'clas' type. Later the story was elaborated and the saint was said to have been buried there.

Nothing is now visible at this locality.

519 Glasbury old church site Brecon SO17633891 SO13NE

This raised triangular mound, clearly of artificial origin, is situated on the flood plain approximately less than 100m to the south of the River Wye and just upstream from its confluence with Afon Llynfi. The mound is flat-topped and between 1.5m and 2m high, though it reduces in height to merge with the natural ground surface to the east-north-east. The overall shape is of an isosceles triangle with its central axis running from the base on the west-south-west to the apex on the east-north-east. There are a few surface irregularities in the mound surface, probably representing later disturbance. The mound measures a total of 90m from base to apex and 50m across the base. In addition there is an extensive and apparently semi-circular enclosure to the south-east, of which the mound forms the north-west corner.

The site of the church is readily apparent in the extreme north-west corner of the mound and its base projects beyond the baseline of the earthwork to the west by approximately 5m. The building was aligned east to west, measured 34.8m by 14.8m, and now has a hollow interior. The approximate line of the walls can be determined by linear gullies from which the stone has been robbed, and there are low and irregular linear banks outside the gullies, which represent spoil from the robbing process. Stone projects from much of the presumed wall alignments, but generally appears to have been disturbed and is not structural. There is a larger mound of spoil and stone at the west end which may cover the base of a tower or at least the west wall, and the north-west corner can be detected from an in situ stone. The plan of the visible remains reveals a narrower eastern chancel.



The chapel remains reveal a rectangular structure with the nave slightly wider than the chancel. The walls, of laid slabs with lime mortar, and certainly well-constructed at the corners, survive to a height of around one metre in places, but the east, chancel end is no more than a rubble bank. In places, on both the north and south sides, the walls are capped with stones set on edge rather as a field wall. On the north side there is also some evidence of rebuilding with the wall face stepped in.

The external dimensions are 20.7m by 7.8m. No architectural features are observable and there is no evidence of surface treatment on the interior wall faces. Simple plans of the site have been prepared by R Kay and by RCAHMW.

The church is set into a bowl, largely and perhaps entirely natural, which is in fact a concavity in the river terrace scarp. In this respect it is akin to a platform site, but the ground does not appear to have been entirely levelled for the construction. The motte and bailey earthwork of Aberllynfi looms over the site.

**563** Llanellieu Church (St Ellyw), stone I Brecon SO1848534175 SO13SE

A rough stone slab, 0.8m high by 0.1m thick. It carries an incised cross-crosslet with curved cross-bars and dots in the interspaces, enclosed in a double ring. First recorded in 1909, it is now fixed against the outside of the west wall of the church porch, together with a second stone (PRN 5829). Dated to the 7th-9th centuries (Redknap forthcoming).

**579** Trallong Church (St David), stone Brecon SN96612959 SN92NE

A pillar stone, c1.8m high and 0.35m wide with the inscription: CVNOCENNI FILIVS/CVNOGENI HIC IACIT and in Ogam:- CVNACENNI[a]V[i]ILVVETO, and an incised ring cross. The inscription dates to the first half of 6th century, the ring cross to the 7th-9th centuries, although some have concluded that they are contemporary.

The stone was discovered c.1860 before the rebuilding (in 1861) of the church, and built into the internal splay of one of the windows to the west of the south door. It was moved to its present position against the north wall of the nave, just inside the main door of the church, prior to 1909 (M Redknap: forthcoming).

**582** Bedd Illyd Stone Setting Brecon SN97392639 SN92NE

Two recumbent stones, with traces of a mound or ring bank, are traditionally claimed to mark the grave of St Illyd whose chapel is situated nearby. A full description of the remains can be found in the SMR.

The site lies downslope of the crest of the broad ridge of Mynydd Illyd, at 340 m OD, to the south-west of Brecon. The feature is perhaps part of a robbed cairn or a ring cairn, and there is absolutely nothing to suggest an early medieval usage of the structure other than its proximity to Llanilltyd.

**587** Llanilltyd Church churchyard Brecon SN97122611 SN92NE

The churchyard at Llanilltyd has always been recognised as a complex earthwork of more than one phase, and the detailed plan prepared several decades ago by the Ordnance Survey shows some, though by no means all of the detail.

There is a smaller curvilinear enclosure set into one side of a larger one, the former with a maximum bank to bank diameter of around 46m (north-east to south-west), the latter about 92m along the same axis. The current appearance of these earthworks suggest that the smaller earthwork is earlier and that the larger

earthwork diverges from its line to join it. The implication then would be that although there is a broad consensus that the site probably originated as a prehistoric enclosure, it seems evident that it cannot be explained as a later and smaller churchyard being developed inside a larger and earlier enclosure. However, possibly the larger, cusped earthwork should be considered primary.

Both 'entrances' to the smaller enclosure have what appear, superficially, to be inturns to their bank terminals, but in both cases these are as likely to be the result of later disturbance, and indeed the integrity of the western entrance as an original feature needs to be questioned. There is also a broad low bank running diagonally across the outer enclosure and heading directly for the most southerly part of the inner enclosure bank; its origin needs to be explained. The outer bank of the larger enclosure is not in doubt but parts of it are now barely visible.

**599** Llanspyddid Church (St Cattwg), stone Brecon SO0118828182 SO02NW

A pillar stone, some 0.9m high by 0.4m by 0.2m, with carvings of ring crosses, now badly weathered. Lhuyd in 1698 reported an inscription - HIC JACOB JA - but this can no longer be detected. Attributed to the 9th-10th century (M. Redknap forthcoming).

The stone is now set in concrete with a modern wedge beneath its south side, in the churchyard, to the south of the church, and in alignment with a row of modern graves. It has probably been reset, but whether the churchyard was its original siting is not known.

**615** Llanhamlach Standing Stone Brecon SO08942675 SO02NE

A standing stone, 1.4m high by 0.4m square, is set into the roadside verge and has been variously interpreted as an early medieval monument, a Bronze Age standing stone or a milestone. Probably it is a Bronze Age monument which has seen later modifications, for all the faces other than the north-west one have been partly worked, there has been some smoothing and the east and south edges are worked to a bevel 0.1 m wide.

No inscription has ever been recognised, but the stone may have given a name to the nearby Peterstone Court..

It is now surrounded by a wooden fence which is gradually deteriorating, with partial collapse on two sides. The enclosed area is further choked by brambles. It is set some 4-5m away from the roadside edge.

**617** St Eluned's Chapel Brecon SO05792861 SO02NE

A reputedly 5th-century chapel associated with St Alud (or St Eluned) was first referred to in first half of the 12th century when 'Sancte Haellilde' appears in 1115x47, and Geraldus Cambrensis noted it as the site of her martyrdom. It may be the 'Lanhuleth' of 1372 and St Arbeth's chapel was noted in 1577, and later it was also recorded in 1649 and 1803. The chapel stood at the foot of the hill, Slwch Tump, at the top of Cerrigcochion Lane which was St Ellan Layne in 1536-7. It is believed to have become derelict in the 17th century. As a ruin it is depicted on Edward Thomas' map of the Slwch area in the early 1780s, and traces of a structure were still visible in the early 19th century. Worked ashlar in Slwch Farm, noted in 1949, may have come from the chapel.

It is recorded that the chapel lay at the centre of a large, near circular enclosure (PRN 35884), c 90m in diameter, which was still visible in late 19th century. There is an associated well (PRN 38588).

The chapel complex is now scheduled. The scheduled area is located on the highest point of a sloping pasture field, named 'Gwrlod y Capel' on the Tithe map for Brecon (St John the Evangelist). No trace of a building survives on the site which is represented by a series of hollows/irregular platforms in a topographically irregular area at the south-west end of the field. The existing description - he easternmost of four rectangular



Llandegeman Fawr is a lost chapel near Cwmdru between Brecon and Crickhowell, dedicated to Saint Decumen. It has been claimed, perhaps unrealistically, as one of the seven religious houses in Dyfed mentioned in laws of Hywel Dda.

The earliest version of the name, however, is 'Llandegemman' as late as 1816, and there is no place-name confirmation for a chapel (Morgan and Powell 1999).

The site is now occupied by farm buildings, showing no identifiable ecclesiastical features. The owner believes there is a local tradition that the chapel burnt down and the farm was built on the same site.

**675** Ffynnon y Gwrlodan Well Brecon SO1821 SO12SE

A holy well first recorded by Theophilus Jones in 1809 could not be located by the Ordnance Survey in 1975, nor by CPAT during the current study.

**692** Ffynnon Gattwg Brecon SO20531812 SO21NW

This well has a traditional association with St Catwg, perhaps indicating that it was a holy well.

Ffynnon Catwg consists of a spring emerging from a hollow on the west side of a minor road (cul-de-sac). Water flows over a brick wall, which has splayed stone walls flanking it to the north and south, altogether a modern structure. A pipe also emerges from the brick wall which carries a similar amount of water. All the water then flows into an iron grid at the base of the wall which leads to a pipe running under the road ending in a tank on its opposite side. Overall the area of spring and its associated structures is approximately 4m x 4m, with walls up to 1m high.

**735** Well Houses Well Brecon SN87124702 SN84NE

A group of buildings forming the 18th/19th-century Dol-y-coed spa, now unused and boarded up, with the roof of one building burnt down. Structures consists of a mass-concrete domed well-house with an attached square building (burnt roof) on the S and an additional E range. Rectangular detached building with pronounced roof overhang on S. Modern detached toilet block. A plaque on the wall of the detached building states that the spring was 'found in 1732 by Theophilus Evans and named Ffynnon Drewllyd or the stinking well'. There is no evidence that the spring was used prior to the 18th century, and its nature as a sulphur and chalybeate (iron-rich) spring would also seem to preclude an earlier use.

**758** Ffynnon Fair Well Montgomery SJ10360648 SJ10NW

The restored well of Ffynnon Fair on the edge of Llanfair Caereinion churchyard is situated just below the crest of a steep slope leading down to the river. The information board in the churchyard suggests it was resorted to for its healing properties. It was restored in 1975 and the exercise was repeated in 1990 by an MSC team. The existing structure retains water and consists of a mortared stone-built basin, c.3.5m by 1.2m with access by recent steps from south. To the north-east of the tank is a modern stone/concrete slab seat. A stone wall, interspersed with ironwork panels, forms the north-west boundary wall. There is a locked gate at the entrance to the well from the churchyard.

**781** Ffynnon Ddu Well Montgomery SO08809403 SO09SE

A holy well according to Jones in 1954.

The well is situated in the W angle of the crossroads. It seems to be intact and is difficult to understand why there are references alleging that it was culverted. The surviving structure consists of a hollow, approximately 3m in diameter, with stone revetting, 0.5m high, forming a D-shaped 'tank' at its base. An overflow runs E from the curved section, though this is really little more than a progressive narrowing of the tank, to meet the stream in 3m. The well area is heavily overgrown and it is not possible at the moment to get truly accurate measurements of the structure. There is a modern well in the S angle of the crossroads which may have been mistaken for the historic well in the past.

**852** Maes y Beddau placename Brecon SN93003690 SN93NW

A place-name, derived from the nearby farm and possibly indicative of a number of graves or cemetery.

The Tithe survey for Llanfihangel Nant Bran names a field centred at SN 9309 3675 as 'Bryn y Ferrwent', presumably a poor transcription of Bryn y Fynwent, and it retains that name today. It suggests that there may have been a cemetery there. There is also a platform on a part of this field to the west of the farm track. Although there is no visible evidence of graves in this field, the platform could conceivably represent the site of an early chapel and the name originates from an associated graveyard.

The owner examined the ground carefully the only time the field was ploughed in living memory, but nothing of interest was noted.

**863** Gelli Talgarth Chapel Brecon SN97055738 SN95NE

Referred to as 'Kethitalgarth' on Christopher Saxton's county map of 1578, this was a chapel of ease to Llanafan Fawr. Modern OS maps show this at the NGR given where there are building remains (see below), but alternative locations have been suggested including on the hill called 'Llanferch', now Lan Fach at approx SN 966572 or near the hill Y Garth at approx SN 943557.

The foundations are of a rectangular building, 16.6m north-east/south-west by 4.6m internally. It is sited on a level spur, and is claimed as a chapel that was later used as a house. Note the 'Pant yr Eglwys' place-name is nearby. A local source suggested that stone mouldings as well as rubble had been removed to Pisgah Chapel, a little more than one kilometre to the south-east.

The alternative locations were visited with the following results:

i) No evidence was found at Lan Fach which is on a very steep slope, though there is a possible sloping terrace, measuring c.20m E/W by 8m, on the west side of a small stream at SN 97025704.

ii) There is no visible trace of anything at SN 943557, but the field has been improved.

iii) Poole's description (1886) suggests that it may have been sited at Chwefri Cottages (at SN 95965724), half-way between Brynieuau and Cwmchwefri, but there is no visible confirmation of this - the house appears to have been recently rebuilt. There is, however, a platform visible at SN 969568.

A conversation with the owner of Gwern Mynach, Llanafan Fawr in the past suggested that stone had been taken from Gelli Talgarth to build the nonconformist chapel at Neuadd in 1848 (the date recorded on its datestone).

**883** Llanwrthwl Church, standing stone Brecon SN97576372 SN96SE

A probable prehistoric standing stone located no more than two metres from the south-east corner of the south porch of Llanwrthwl Church, at 180 m above O.D. A large, well-smoothed block, a rounded-quadrilateral in





**1298**    Cae yr Hen Eglwys foundations                      Montgomery    SH82790056                      SH80SW

When ploughing around 1900 the rectangular stone foundations of a building were exposed, said to be 7.6m by 5.8m. The footstone (threshold stone) of the door in the corner was deeply worn and it was identified as a possible church site, primarily because the name of the field has been given as 'Cae yr Hen Eglwys'. The two standing stones nearby were known as 'Cerrig Noddfa' or sanctuary stones. There was also an adjacent boulder-covered pit which may have no relevance.

No trace of the building now remains. The NGR points to a location on a gently south-facing slope, just below the ridge crest. It looks as though the field has seen pasture improvement on several occasions.

**1323**    Ffynnon Erfyl Well    Montgomery    SJ03131008                      SJ01SW

Ffynnon Erfyl wall formerly a curative well, originally arched.

The well now consists of a cobbled ramp descending below the adjacent field level which forms the flood plain of the River Banwy. Surrounding the ramp on its west, north and east sides is a mortared stone revetment wall with a post and wire fence set into its top. At the base of the ramp is a stone kerb which defines a slightly deeper rectangular trench running east/west. There is a quite noticeable flow of water from west to east along the trench, suggesting that it has tapped into an old watercourse. It seems reasonable to suggest that the motte and bailey castle within 100m to the north-east would have been built using the river to aid its defensive capability, if so then the well may lie on the old river course and is unlikely to be earlier in date. The existing flow of water within the well supports the contention that this was the line of an old watercourse. Well is still used as a water supply for stock. Overall dimensions 6.8m north/south by 6.2m by 1.0m deep.

**1534**    Eglwys Caradog Cave    Brecon                      SN84491580                      SN81NW

Tradition and confusion amalgamate to create uncertainty about Eglwys Caradoc. It is supposed to be on Craig-y-rhiwarth in the Brecon Beacons at around 320 m O.D. It was first mentioned early in the 19th century as the place where 'Gunless', Prince of Glewissig was believed to have died in the arms of his son Cathwg or Cadecus. Theophilus Jones described it as the saint's summer residence only, while other traditions considered it the permanent dwelling place of St. Gunleus. Other writers have erroneously placed the site in Glyntawe.

The site claimed as Eglwys Caradoc consists of a rock arch that once formed the opening of an old cave passage, 5m wide by 4m high. The rock behind this entrance has collapsed leaving a natural free-standing arch.

This does not really fit with the traditional site, for it is more a rock shelter than a cave and unlikely to have been habitable. Another cave (PRN 80328) on Craig Rhiwarth, which is sited 200m to the south-east at SN 84611565, is perhaps a more likely candidate. This second cave consists of a passage, c.30m long, passing east to west through a spur. Approximately 5m inside the W entrance, at a widening of the passage, is a sub-rectangular enclosed area defined by deliberately placed rocks. Some animal bone survives on the floor and this cave could certainly have been used as a temporary habitation.

**1539**    Ffynnon Idloes Well    Montgomery    SN95668468                      SN98SE

The precise grid reference for Ffynnon Idloes lies beneath the Llanidloes Town football club grandstand. The only possible feature in the vicinity is a hollow, 4m in diameter and 0.4m deep, located at SN 95648468, where it is crossed by a field boundary. There is, however, no definite evidence that this represents a well.





The site is situated on a small knoll on the valley floor, with good views of the valley in all directions.

**1689** St Michael's Well Montgomery SJ08121686 SJ01NE

St Michael's well was said to be 150 yards SE of the church and had become disused in 1911, although it was formerly used for baptisms. Apparently it was also known as Ffynnon Penisa'r llan.

The site of the well identified by RCAHMW in 1911 is apparently in the field by the school. There is now no visible trace of a well, and the landowner is also unaware of its presence. The only local knowledge which may be relevant concerns a pool which was apparently located just to the N of the school, but this has been filled in and is now built over. The well for the farm is apparently brick-built and is located to the NE of the farm so is unlikely to be related. Possibly water which issues from the ground at SJ 08071681 might be related to the well.

**1690** Ffynnon Fach Well Montgomery SJ07931682 SJ01NE

The site has been described as a small intermittent spring on the roadside near the Rectory. Nothing is evident in the road verges, but it seems most probable that the small flow of water running SE towards the road from within the garden of the Rectory, issues from this spring. The site was not accessed.

**1698** Ffynnon Geiliog Well Montgomery SJ06201335 SJ01SE

Ffynnon Geiliog, said by Francis Jones to be located 20 yards W of the camp on Allt Dolanog was supposedly resorted to on Trinity Sunday. Its name, 'Cock well', possibly derives from nearby cockpit. However, no evidence of a well was found at the given NGR, though there are some quarry pits nearby. An alternative location given by Jones (1992) was also checked and nothing was present. The nearest spring is a natural one at SJ 06101337.

**1725** Ffynnon Dadur Well Montgomery SH82940183 SH80SW

In 1978 it was noted that this allegedly holy well was formed from a natural spring which has been encased in drystone work, set into the outside of Darowen churchyard wall at the north-west end and now used as a drain

The well, on the outside of the churchyard bank, has been walled off (as stated above), with mortared rubble, perhaps 1.0m wide by about 0.8m high, and standing almost vertical in contrast with the sloping face of the bank. A damp gully wanders off down the slope to the north from this point.

**1737** Dol Capel Placename Montgomery SH97820750 SH90NE

A place-name suggests this was the site of a chapel. Uncut stone noted in 1910, but field now level and stone free. No surface trace of the chapel is evident on the ground.

**1741** Llanerfyl Church (St Erfyl), stone Montgomery SJ03380975 SJ00NW

A roughly quadrangular pillar stone, first mentioned by Edward Lhuyd in 1698/9. It is some 1.25m high by 0.5m wide by 0.25m thick, but with the top fractured away and the front partly damaged by fissuring. It is inscribed on one face in seven horizontal lines of good style fairly deeply incised roman capitals: HIC {IN} .

TVM{V}LO IA. CIT.R{O}STE. ECE.FILIA.PA. TERNINI. . AN(N)I(S) XIII.IN . PA(CE) (Nash Williams 1950), which translates as 'here in the tomb lies rosteece daughter of paterninus (aged) 13 years. in peace'.

It is claimed as c. 5th or early c. 6th date by Nash Williams.

The stone is currently against the west wall of the nave inside Llanerfyl church though it formerly stood in the churchyard, where a stone block marks its former position. Whether this was the original siting of this stone is not known (Edwards forthcoming).

It may be noted here that it is the presence of this stone which has led Knight (1999, 143) to posit an early minster here.

**1850** Ffynnon Gedwyn Montgomery SN96498951 SN98NE

Ffynnon Gedwyn is a medicinal well, the natural spring being surmounted by a modern brick cistern with a concrete flagged roof. There is another spring further to the S, next to the house.

**1985** Lower Caerfaelog Church site Radnor SO11007395 SO17SW

During building work in 1905 a probable church site was suggested by areas of pitching and cobbles, and a decorated pillar capital was found which was later transferred to Llanbister church.

Richard Morgan points to a possible place-name - 'gart mailauc' as early as c.1000 - and equate this with a 'garth' or enclosure around the 'chapel'. He suggests, however, that the ruins were those of the mansion of Mareddud Fechan, and that the 'maelog' may not necessarily have any association with the saint of that name (Morgan 1998).

At the rear of the modern (1905) house at Lower Caerfaelog - itself a successor to a ?post-medieval dwelling slightly further down the hill and just beyond the present owner's workshop - is a rockery containing at least one, visible architectural fragment. There is also a medieval roll moulding built into the kitchen extension (of more recent date than the house itself) adjacent to the rockery, and Mr Williams used other stone salvaged from the site in this extension. The modern house sits on a large platform, partially carved from the rock, the implication being that the platform is older than the 1905 house.

It is conceivable that the medieval architectural fragments are derived from Cwmhir Abbey, and there is no positive evidence of a chapel here. But the curiosity is the capital head which has been fashioned into a piscina with a drain hole (and now in Llanbister church). It is comparable with the stoup in Llanbister church, is of sizeable dimensions (0.42m square by 0.35m deep) and might indicate a chapel site.

**2549** Llyswen Church (St Gwendoline), yard Brecon SO13333801 SO13NW

The well-kept churchyard at Llyswen is small and more circular than most, occupying level ground on the valley floor of the Wye with the river little more than 100m to the north. The interior is raised by between 0.5-1.0m, and even on the north there is a small rise in height.

A stone wall revets the whole enclosure.

A very small extension has been added on the west where the entrance is. This interrupts the curvilinear form.

**2677** Maesmynis Church (St David), yard Brecon SO02814976 SO04NW

The church stands within a rectangular, embanked and ostensibly modern, churchyard. There is absolutely no curvilinearity to this churchyard.

**2900**    Llanwrthwl Church (St Gwrthwl), yard    Brecon    SN97576373    SN96SE

The present churchyard is small and irregularly rectilinear in shape, which includes a late 19th/early 20th extension on the west side which has increased the overall size by about one third. There has also been a minor change on the south where railings have provided a new boundary outside and on a slightly different alignment to that of the late 19th century.

On both the south and west these earlier boundary lines can still be detected, the former as a low bank, 0.3m high (internally) and 0.4m externally. On the west is a gentle scarp (surmounted by a mature yew) at the south-west corner), little more than 0.4m high but 5m or so wide.

These former boundaries represent the situation shown on the 1st edition of the Ordnance Survey map: a significantly rectangular churchyard. There is only a hint of a curvilinear boundary on the north-east and this is not convincing. Whilst there remains an impression that this may once have been a sub-circular enclosure there is now no evidence for it.

**2953**    Battle Church, churchyard    Brecon    SO0080630968    SO03SW

A largely rectangular churchyard, perched on the north-eastern lip of the Yscir valley. This yard has been enlarged, sometime after the appearance of the OS 2nd edition map, by the incorporation of a strip of land along the west side; the only sides remained the same, showing on the Tithe survey of 1847. The boundary was removed to accommodate the extension and no trace of this remains on the ground as it seems to have been no more than a stone wall.

Within this rectangular yard are traces of a former sub-circular enclosure. North-east of the church a massive yew sits on a bank curving around from the north-east to the east, up to 0.4m high and with a hollow in the angle between the bank and the churchyard wall that might indicate an external ditch. The bank fades as it reaches the churchyard wall on the east but the slight curve to the wall implies that it may have followed an earlier boundary.

On the north side of the churchyard the wall appears to have been set into a pre-existing bank. There is certainly a build-up of soil on both sides which is not continued further to the east.

The course of the curvilinear enclosure is much more difficult to see on the west side; possibly there are traces of a bank, running diagonally across the line adopted by the later west wall (now gone), but they are so slight that 'the eye of faith' cannot be ruled out.

In diameter this curvilinear enclosure will have been around 50m and if truly circular the church as it currently exists will have been almost central. An earlier SMR record suggesting that the survival of a low bank in the gardens of Bryn yr Hal and Y Dderwen cannot be substantiated. Landscaping in the latter has probably removed any boundary that existed and there is an abrupt drop of well over 1m from the churchyard into the gardens of the house. which now adjoin the church.

**2958**    Llandefaelog Fach Church, churchyard    Brecon    SO03403240    SO03SW

The modern churchyard at Llandefaelog has an elongated shape, slightly curvilinear on the north but more rectilinear to south.

The earlier churchyard was considerably more curvilinear. No earthwork exists to the south of the church - the

scarp immediately to the south of the church is a result of platform terracing to accommodate the building itself - but instead the originally line of the enclosure is picked out by a semi-circle of mature yew trees. There are eight of these, although two are represented only by stumps., and they are followed too by a footpath which adopts the same semi-circular course. However, the footpath is not shown on modern Ordnance Survey maps and may be of fairly recent design. What is more important is that there is no reason whatsoever for either the yews or the path to adopt this course, unless they were following some predecessor. The date of the removal of this earlier boundary is unknown but could well be around 1816 when the Penoyre mausoleum was erected. It is clear that the churchyard must have been extended to accommodate this building and all the graves around it and beyond the arc of yews are 19th and 20th-century in origin.

On the north side of the church a further stretch of early boundary is indicated by a bank with two or even three mature yews on it, and curving very slightly on a south-eastwards course. It diverges from the present northern boundary, and there is a drop from the bank to the wall. It can probably be assumed that there was originally an intermittently broad track running in from the west to a crossing of the Honddu and that the existing boundary on the north has been pushed into this to create a little further space.

All the yews in the churchyard with the exception of a very large yew to the north-east of the lychgate and possibly one beyond the eastern end of the northern bank, lie on the earlier boundary.

It can be suggested that this earlier enclosure will have been about 60m N/S and 45m E/W, and curvilinear in form with flattened sides.

**2969**    Llanganten Church (St Cannen), yard                    Brecon                    SO00955176                    SO05SW

Llanganten church is sited eccentrically within a medium-sized sub-rectilinear churchyard, two sides of which are dictated by adjacent watercourses. It seems unlikely that its present form is a close reflection of its original shape, but the evidence for an earlier enclosure is at best equivocal.

The church itself appears to be raised on a faint platform defined by a low broad scarp, <0.2m high, following a slightly curving course immediately to the south of the church.

Curving from the church boundary on the north, southwards with a height of perhaps 0.3m is another slight bank. The eye of faith might trace it as far as the present southern boundary. Neither is particularly convincing as an earlier boundary and the churchyard as a whole has a rather irregular surface.

**2976**    Llanlleonfel Church, yard                    Brecon                    SN9387449936                    SN94NW

This polygonal churchyard gives the impression of having been sub-circular originally. Over the centuries, however, its perimeter looks to have been shaved back to a series of flat facets.

**2980**    Llanwrtyd Church (St David), yard                    Brecon                    SN86364778                    SN84NE

The churchyard is strongly curvilinear on the west and south-west, but the rest of the perimeter defines a rectilinear area, and is of late 19th/early 20th-century origin. Its predecessor, too, had straight boundaries on the north and east, and that on the east is still marked by a scarp bank up to 1m high, which swings round to the south. Its line does not appear to match exactly that shown on the 1st edition OS map. Contrary to earlier statements in the SMR, the relict boundary is not curvilinear.

Llanwrtyd is thus a case where a curvilinear churchyard can be assumed from what survives on one side, for there is no obvious topographical incentive for the form. Subsequent enlargements have erased much of the early perimeter.

**2984** Llanynis Church (St David), yard Brecon SN99845087 SN95SE

Llanynis church and churchyard is remote. The churchyard is now sub-rectangular, a rather large yard for such an apparently small community and the church set well off to one side.

The eastern side of the present churchyard has a definite curve to it, at odds with the rest of the perimeter, and this reflects an earlier, smaller and much more curvilinear enclosure, some 40m in diameter from west to east, and perhaps 35m from north to south, in which the present church would have been centrally set.

About 8m out from the western end of the church is a slight scarp 0.3m high which fades out to the north and less rapidly to the south. Nevertheless, in ideal conditions this eastern area appears to be raised even where the scarp itself is imperceptible, and together with the bank beneath the modern boundary on south and east, forms a curvilinear enclosure.

**3009** Pen Llys 'Church' site Brecon SN99945847 SN95NE

Theophilus Jones, the Brecknock historian, noted a derelict church at this place at the beginning of the 19th century, and the 1st edition of the Ordnance Survey depicted the site of a church here, near the gentry house of Llysdinam. Quite a few decades later the Ordnance Survey field investigator (in 1964) suggested that the attribution was an error, for there was only a quarry at the spot.

There is certainly no sign of a building now, but the quarry is real enough, internally 13m by 3m by 1.0m deep. There are other earthworks further west along the spine of the ridge. These consist of a D-shaped embanked enclosure with an elongated oval enclosure adjoining its east side. No evidence of a building is present in either of these enclosures, though the larger, more easterly one does have a flat area near its east end which would have been suitable.

The owner commented that there used to be a well on the north side of the hill which collapsed when it was being dug out; it is unknown whether this was in any way related to the church site.

**3047** Cildu Farm Pillar Stone Brecon SN90524659 SN94NW

A pillar stone was originally sited at Cildu Farm in the parish of Llanwrtyd. It bears a ring-cross with five symmetrically disposed roundels at the centre and in the interspaces, the stem below being flanked by oblique bars. It is possibly of the 7th-9th centuries, but could be of the 9th-11th centuries (M. Redknapp forthcoming).

It is now housed in Brecon Museum.

**3048** Llanlleonfel Church, stone I Brecon SN9387449936 SN94NW

An incised pillar stone, 1.6m high and 0.8m wide. It has two linear Greek crosses on one side of the 6th/7th centuries and a Latin inscription, probably of later, 8th-century date, on another, recording that: "(silent in the shroud) Iowert and Ruallaun in the tomb await in peace the dreadful coming of the judgment". It was first noted in Lhuyd's Parochialia Notes in 1698, and was moved into church between 1924 and 1945 (probably in the 1930s). (M Redknapp forthcoming).

Its the subject of a detailed assessment by Charles Thomas (1999).

**3051** Llwyn y Fynwent Brecon SN89944300 SN84SE





the observation noted above.

**3219** Ffynnon Ishow Well Brecon SO27772238 SO22SE

Ffynnon Ishow was visited by Richard Fenton at the beginning of the 19th century who noted that 'below the church [of Partrishow] saw the Sainted Well of (Isho), being a very scanty oozing of water, to which, however, was formerly attributed great virtue, as within the building that encloses it are little niches to hold the vessels drank out of and the offerings they left behind'.

The well now consists of a drystone-built alcove, 1.5m high, capped by a sandstone slab roof. It has been cut into the slope on the north bank of the stream, to the west of the church. There is a stone slab platform south of the entrance which enters the alcove and descends as a ramp, 0.9m long, to the well chamber. The well interior widens slightly from 0.6m at the entrance to 0.7m at the rear. The well chamber is 0.7m square with 0.1m of water at its base, though it is at least 0.5m deep (below the edge of the ramp). A lintel-capped recess at the base and rear of the chamber is 0.5m long by 0.45m wide, while above it is a second recess, 0.25m wide by 0.25m deep and 0.18m high, formed of flat slabs on its sides, base and top. A small shelf juts out of the stonework at the north-east corner of the well chamber. Many coins in the well chamber and upper recess reveal that it is now used as a wishing well.

Listed structure

**3333** Waun y Capel Chapel Brecon SO11871786 SO11NW

Traditionally a chapel lay in the field called Waun y Capel. According to Theophilus Jones the ruins were formerly visible on bank of the River Crawnon. The Ordnance Survey in 1975 observed an amorphous mound of rubble, some 6m long by 4m wide and 0.5m high. Attention has also been drawn to the name of the adjacent farm, Cae Madog.

No visible trace now remains of the alleged chapel in the two fields bordering the disused lane running north-west to south-east, between road and river. A mound in the field to the north-east of the old lane is more probably related to an access track which runs north-east at this point and is defined by a stone embankment and terrace. Local landowners know the small field to the north-east as the site of a cemetery, but have never seen any associated features, and it may be that such lore is ultimately derived from Theophilus Jones' History of Breconshire.

**3415** Llanlleonfel Church, stone II Brecon SN9387449936 SN94NW

In addition to the Iowert and Ruallaun stone in Llanlleonfel church, Macalister recorded a second stone in the churchyard which has never been satisfactorily traced. There are, however, two curious stones erected on sloping ground beyond the north-eastern angle of the church, one about one metre away, the other about 4m away. These are rough slabs, uninscribed, and might be considered to be extremely rustic gravemarkers, but unlike anything seen elsewhere, although there is another rustic marker, this one inscribed, a little further to the east.

The writer cannot recall whether he noticed these stones in his earlier visit in 1996, and there seems to be a curious absence of other written references to them. Charles Thomas has, however, developed an elaborate theory to explain their presence as part of an early medieval tomb (Thomas 1999).

**3418** Ty'n y Llan Spring Brecon SN93934990 SN94NW

Jones listed this as a holy well in 1809.

The site consists of a sub-circular hollow, c.5m diameter by 0.5m deep, and partly rush-filled. A brick and concrete construction in the west looks to be a modern origin. Only its proximity to the church at Llanlleonfel appears to give rise to the suggestion of an earlier origin.

**3453** Ffynnon Ddewi Well Brecon SN85325258 SN85SE

It has been claimed that this well had been destroyed by 1980, this may not be the case. Beside the track leading from the church at Llanddewi Abergwesyn, a small stream issues through a stone surround into an oval 'pool' which is defined by stone. It is perhaps 1.5m in diameter and at least 0.6m deep and the water is presumably carried from this into the Irfon. A modern water pipe also feeds into this pool, but the pool itself has the appearance of something older. In the absence of any better evidence this is suggested as the remains of Ffynnon Ddewi Well and it is evident from the field visit sheet of 1980 but not from the SMR entry that this spring and its surround had been cleared out only a short time before that visit.

**3457** David's Well Radnor SO05987858 SO07NE

Ffynnon Ddewi or David's Well was described as much frequented and highly esteemed in Carlisle's Topographical Dictionary of Wales (1811). The well is sited on a north-east-facing slope, within 10m of a stream (Llaithddu Brook). It consists of a hollow, up to 0.9m deep, which retains water within a wider shallow hollow. There is some revetment walling on the south-east side of the hollow, and traces of loose stone on the other sides, and the overall diameter is 4.0m. Water flows down the slope to the north-east where it joins the stream. A possible septic tank overflow emerges on the upslope (south-west) side.

**3468** Aber Henllan Chapel Radnor SN89957229 SN87SE

Traces of an ancient chapel called Aber Henllau were claimed by a C. Lewis in around 1842. Subsequently an unattributed statement in the SMR claims that the building was not a chapel.

The site consists of the ruinous remains of an L-shaped stone building on a terrace above the stream. There are two units at right-angles to each other, but no evidence of them defining separate phases. The north unit is aligned east/west and measures 12.4m by 5.5m, while the south unit is aligned north/south and measures 15.6m by 6.1m. The walls are defined by stone banks up to 0.5m high, though there are a few short sections where faced rubble walling is evident. The west wall of the north unit has been lost perhaps as a result of stream erosion in the past, though this is not a current threat. On the east side of the south unit there is a scarp 0.3m high, which curves to the south-west around the southern end of the building; it ends at the edge of the stream gully, thereby forming a possible associated enclosure.

There is no visible evidence confirming that this was the site of a chapel, but the structure is quite large for a dwelling. In conversation with the local farmer it emerged that the stream which passes the site is still known as 'Henllan'.

There are good views to the north and south, up and down the valley.

A disused leat passes 5m to the east of the building; approximately 100m down the valley to the south the bank which forms the west side of the leat is utilised as the east side of a rectangular enclosure. The enclosure measures 25m east/west by 12m and is defined by slight earth banks and scarps.

**3810** Forden Well Montgomery SJ23000053 SJ20SW

Francis Jones noted a holy well to which pilgrimages were made and this is possibly, though not certainly, it. A brick-built well, c. 1m wide and of unknown depth, situated on the south side of the adjoining house of Isfryn. It has been recently refurbished with a corbelled brick upper section capped by an iron cartwheel. There is no evidence that the visible structure is any earlier than the 18th century or of anything other than domestic origin.

There are, however, a number of other wells in the locality, and potentially any one of these might be the holy well listed by Jones.

**3883** Ffynnon Rhigos Well Montgomery SH98471185 SH91SE

This was formerly classed as a holy or medicinal well, originally being a cold water spring for treating eye complaints. It showed as a marshy area of hillside in 1978.

From a distance it appears to be no different from the 1978 statement.

**4002** Ffynnon Ceneu Well Brecon SO24141810 SO21NW

St Genau's well was said to have been located near the oratory of the saint that was taken down in 1790. When the building was dismantled a farmer found an iron bell "of a curious form", which was exhibited to the Society of Antiquaries in London in February 1809, and is now housed in the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff.

In 1980 it was claimed that the site of the spring was marked by loose stone and a covering slab. The spring can now be identified where water emerges in the base of a shallow hollow on a steep wooded slope. A few stones are visible but no covering slab. Downslope, in improved grassland, there is a stone tank (which is bolted together by iron rods) and a brick cistern with a stone slab cover.

Possibly either or both of these features were mistakenly recorded as the well, although it is perhaps not impossible that farming requirements have led to the construction of a new cistern and the destruction of the older one.

The overall dimensions of the hollow are 2m E/W by 1m wide by 0.5m deep.

**4268** Pen Blaen Farm Church site Radnor SO106508 SO15SW

Locally it is said there was a church at Pen Blaen Farm but how such a story developed is not known. The Royal Commission in 1913 postulated a tithe barn here.

That there was quite a fine building here until a generation or so ago, was confirmed by the owner of the land. But it was largely demolished, probably as it had become hazardous. Only low foundation walls are now left, and there is nothing to indicate a religious establishment here. No mention of a chapel here was made by the present owners and a late 18th/early 19th-century estate map shows nothing of any relevance other than the farm itself.

Information from Mr Powell of Blaenmilo-uchaf, Aberedw.

**4278** Clyro Well Radnor SO22504343 SO24SW

Known as the 'Monks Well' this was recorded as a holy well - its dimensions 1.2m by 0.7m and by 0.9m deep -



Subsequently the demolition of the church has led to a levelling up of the interior to create a platform.

**4439** Llaneglwys Uchaf Placename Brecon SO05703875 SO03NE

The placename Llaneglwys encourages belief in an early church here, and this is supported by local tradition. William Rees depicted a chapel here in the 14th century (Rees 1932). The earliest form of the place-name is 'Nanteglus' in 1241 and 'Laneglus' appears in 1372. Morgan and Powell claim the church stands beside Scithwern Brook (1999). However, no such site has been identified in the area.

No evidence of a church site was apparent in the vicinity when visited in 2003. A local historian - Mr C G Clark of Dan-yr-Allt, Llaneglwys - suggested to us that the name originates from the area being within a landholding - given around 1180 by Walter Clifford - of the Cistercian Abbey of Dore. Llaneglwys was apparently never directly referred to as a grange but may have been one in conjunction with those at Gwenddwr and Trawscoed in the district. The earlier form of the name is apparently 'Nanteglwys', where the 'eglwys' element is believed to refer to the abbey rather than a church in the immediate area.

**4485** Llandefalle Church well Brecon SO10743560 SO13NW

The well in the northern part of Llandefalle churchyard was formerly enclosed by stone walls on three sides - its south side remaining unfaced - to give a pool 1m by 1m by 0.5m deep. There are no known traditions associated with it but its location hints at it being a holy well. It is now encased in brick with a concrete top in which is set a manhole cover. Clean water spouts from the south-west side of the brick casing to form a small stream which links with another running from further east in the churchyard and then runs south-westwards.

**4492** Filo Well Brecon SO11903320 SO13SW

Francis Jones recorded the probable site of St Filo's well in 1954, when it was claimed that it occupied a 1.1m-square brick and concrete cistern. No trace of this well can now be seen in the vicinity of the churchyard.

**4910** St Cenau's Chapel Brecon SO24141817 SO21NW

Theophilus Jones claimed that the chapel (or oratory) of St Cenau had been removed around 1790. 'The situation of the original chapel or oratory....is marked by the finding of a small bell.... It was dug up some years back on a farm eastward of the old church, called Pen y daren, upon the summit of a rocky knoll....No vestige of the walls appears, but there was a considerable heap of rubbish where the bell was found, which was cleared away by the farmer'. The bell is now in the National Museum in Cardiff.

The chapel was reputedly near Ffynnon Cenau (PRN 4002).

But Jones' report does not in fact confirm that a building had been present on the site; the location on a rocky knoll might mitigate against this also. The only evidence on the Tithe map which supports Pen y daren farmland as being the location of a chapel is a field on the east bank of the river at SO 24021836, called 'Cae Llandwr'; and it is perhaps more likely that this refers to the field being on the bank (glan) of the river, however. Interestingly, the highly suggestive fieldname 'Caple Llan Ycha' (PRN 81564) is recorded on the Tithe map at SO 24721848, near Cwm Farm.

No trace of the building remains at Penydaren. Local knowledge gives its location at the revised NGR, where there is a holly tree and where there was formerly a large yew (said by the former landowner to be six feet thick). He also mentioned that there were traces of walling visible in the late 1950s but nothing is now



The incised crosses on the one stone have been said to resemble closely those noted on the structure of the chambered tomb, Ty Illtud (PRN 614).

**5392** Esgyrn Brook Limekiln Brecon SO24483716 SO23NW

This is recorded in the SMR as a partially stone-lined well, set into a stone-revetted cutting in a 4m-high mound which is probably natural.

In fact this is the remains of a drystone-built limekiln. The site is situated on the east side of the Esgyrn Brook, near its source. It consists of a semi-circular sloping stone revetment, up to 0.9m in diameter, forming the main hearth for lime burning. There are two C-shaped stone revetments, enclosing a possibly paved forecourt. This is centred on the hearth, whose stokehole is now blocked by a single stone. Above the kiln to the south-east is a mound, previously thought to be natural, but which is actually lime-rich rock that had been collected for burning. This material is found in a discrete rock band locally and is utilised for the same purpose at many points along the side of the Hay Bluff ridge. Some of the stones have been disturbed by visitors - the Offa's Dyke footpath passes near the site.

The overall area is approximately 10m in diameter.

**5483** Llangynog Church, churchyard Brecon SO02454599 SO04NW

The present boundary of the old churchyard at Llangynog is a grassy earthen bank, fronted in places by a stone revetment of roughly fashioned blocks which are visible only intermittently, probably because of some collapse and soil slippage. Essentially it is a revetted scarp bank, up to 0.8m high, around a raised churchyard which more generally is perhaps 0.5m above the surrounding ground. The bank is surmounted -by pines, one or two of which are in a parlous state.

The present shape is thus polygonal (cf 1st edition 25" Ordnance Survey map), its northern face dictated in large part by the stream terrace on which it is set. The straight eastern side cannot however be explained in similar terms.

Outside the current boundary is a lower, more curvilinear, slightly raised terrace, generally between 2m and 3m beyond the existing boundary. It is generally no more than 0.2-0.3m high, but is quite clear around the south and south-west sides, but is obscured by spoil around the south-east. It continues around the west and north-west, but on the north cannot be distinguished from the stream terrace, and indeed there is nothing obviously man-made on this side. There is little doubt that this marks an earlier more curvilinear churchyard.

One yew and one deciduous tree flourish within the churchyard.

**5685** Cae Capel Building Brecon SN87482315 SN82SE

Building footings, some 9m east to west by 5m and around 0.5m high, in a field called Cae Capel are locally believed to represent a chapel. There is no corroborative but it is possible that this is the Cappel y Fynwent referred to in PRN 3145.

There is no trace of a building on the Defynnog (Crai township) Tithe map at this location, but the apportionment carries three 'Cappel' fieldnames in the immediate vicinity. These are centred at SN 8743 2320, SN 8743 2314, and SN 8724 2315.

The site is still extant in a fenced off section of wooded dingle. It lies on the north-west side of the stream and consists of the ruinous foundations of a rectangular building aligned west-south-west/east-north-east. Both internal and external wall faces are visible, if intermittent, within linear spreads of stone. There is no surface

evidence of an entrance, but it is likely that the evidence of one survives. The walls of the building are between 0.9m and 1.0m thick and this might suggest a structure of some antiquity. Hazel trees are growing on the walls and within the interior. The overall dimensions of the building are 9.1m by 6.0m and the walling survives to a maximum height of 0.5m.

On the west, and to some extent the north, sides there are hints that the adjacent ground has been slightly levelled, perhaps this represents the enclosure/graveyard, but there is probably insufficient evidence to be certain of this. Local knowledge which was reputed to come from the father of the present lessee (himself in his 70s), suggests that a very old tree on the edge of the putative graveyard was used to preach from. At a guess it may be over 250 years old, but could be much older. The interior of the trunk is entirely rotten.

In discussions with the landowner, other information was gained regarding the site:

i) There are said to be two lead coffins here; someone is reputed to have searched with a metal detector but found nothing.

ii) Following on from i), there is a graveyard present.

iii) The area has been fenced off by the owners as part of a wildlife haven, in co-operation with BBNP. As a result it is no longer subject to agricultural use and its potential erosive effect.

**5829** Llanellieu Church (St Ellyw), stone II Brecon SO1848534175 SO13SE

A rough stone slab, 1m high by 0.2m wide by 0.1m thick, with a deeply incised ring cross, it was first recorded in 1909. Together with another stone (PRN 563) it is fixed against the outside west wall of the porch of Llanellieu church. Its base is set in cement and its top is capped in the same material. Dated to the 7th-9th centuries (M Redknap forthcoming).

**5882** Llanafan Fawr Church (St Afan), cross Brecon SN96915577 SN95NE

Sandstone slab found in the wall of the parish church during its 19th-century restoration, and now set into the internal east wall of the porch together with two others.

Its pecked decoration creates a cross with short horizontal and long vertical arms, each ornamented with a series of opposed herring-bones. Dated to the 9th-10th centuries, but similar decoration on continental stones can be 7th to 8th-century (M Redknap forthcoming)

**5883** Llanafan Fawr Church (St Afan), cross Brecon SN96915577 SN95NE

Gritstone slab found in the wall of the parish church during its 19th-century restoration, and now set into the internal east wall of the porch together with two others.

Carved in relief with an equal-armed cross, with arms springing from a central ring. Raised, parallel diagonal ribs in interspaces. Dated to the 9th-10th centuries. (M Redknap forthcoming)

**5884** Llanafan Fawr Church (St Afan), cross Brecon SN96915577 SN95NE

Gritstone slab found in the wall of the parish church during its 19th-century restoration, and now set into the internal east wall of the porch together with two others.

Decorated with a carved spiral. Dated to the 9th-10th centuries. (M Redknap forthcoming)

**5989** Pont Glan Tanat Uchaf Stones Denbigh SJ13722435 SJ12SW

Two stones bearing an incised cross within a circle, used as coping stones on the parapets of Pont Glan Tanat (not the nearby bridge over Nant Engyll). On the west parapet there is one stone with a complete design, next to which (to the north) is part of a second stone. The remainder of the second stone is placed on the east parapet. There are circular holes in the top of each stone where metal ties (some now missing) were placed to link the coping stones. However, there is also a single rectangular hole towards one end of each stone which appears to be in line with the centre line of the cross. The stones have been reworked to fit their present use. The circles are respectively 0.49m (on the complete stone) and 0.45m (on the broken stone) in diameter, and the precision suggests relatively modern workmanship. The material of which these two stones are composed is sandstone and is similar to a projecting course on the external faces of the bridge, at the base of both parapets. Each stone is 1.14m long x 0.5m wide x 0.15m thick.

The RCAHMW thought these to be gravestones. It is more likely that they relate to a press of some sort.

**6388** Llanafan Fawr Well Brecon SN96795563 SN95NE

The well is some 180m south-south-west of Llanafan Fawr church and may be the medicinal well called Ffynnon Afan or possibly Ffynnon Dduw noted in Llanafan Fawr by Lhuyd in 1698.

It consists of a linear hollow, 7m north-west/south-east by 2m wide and is about 1m deep. It is slightly wet in the base, but dry considering recent rain. A small amount of mortared stone is visible at the north-west end, but this appears to be relatively recent and may be related to drainage.

**7574** Llanerfyl Church (St Erfyl), yard Montgomery SJ03400977 SJ00NW

The original churchyard was sub-oval in shape, as shown on early Ordnance Survey maps, but it was extended eastwards in the 1930s. A line of yew trees above a scarp on the east side of the churchyard delineates the original enclosure. The churchyard is raised, about 0.5m on the south-east through to 2m on the west and north. It is set on the edge of the scarp above the valley of the Banwy.

The original north-eastern circuit now shows as an overgrown scarp. On the north-west the present wall-revetted side may reflect the original line. However, in the pasture field on this side there is a further terrace several metres out from the wall. In part this may integrate a natural river terrace, but there is a possibility that this has been modified and marks a slightly curving original boundary line. The evidence is suggestive but not firm.

**7580** Garthbeibio Church (St Tydecho), yard Montgomery SH98551189 SH91SE

The present churchyard at Garthbeibio is distinctively polygonal bounded by a drystone wall, probably dating from the 1862 restoration.

An earlier line, slightly more curvilinear, is visible inside the present churchyard. On the east side of the church this earlier boundary follows a fairly straight course, clearly visible close to the church but further north fading out as it runs towards the north wall of the present churchyard. At its south end it turns sharply through a right-angle and a mature yew tree occupies the crest of the scarp at this point. It then runs straight on the south side for a short distance but then starts to curve and this carries on onto the west side of the church where it then starts to straighten again.

On the north side it appears from the relict bank that part of the churchyard wall's course forming a slight peak is outside the earlier bank, but elsewhere the wall has replaced it.

No visible graves occupy the 'new' portion of the graveyard to the east of the church.

**7608** Llandysilio Church (St Tysilio), yard                      Montgomery                      SJ2677919299                      SJ21NE

The present churchyard, which is still used for burial, is broadly rectangular with rounded corners and is orientated north-west to south-east. This alignment is dictated by a dry valley on the north-east and here the boundary is a stone revetment wall reinforced by a low iron fence and with some mature trees on it. On the south-east and south-west there is a stone wall which on the latter and to a much lesser extent the former acts as a revetment to a churchyard bank. On the south-west this bank is about 1m high and the wall projects about 0.5m above it. Finally on the south-west the older boundary is now masked by a modern hedge, but still functions as the boundary to a new property.

There is however an earlier perimeter, one that is shown as an earthwork on the 1st edition of the Ordnance Survey map. This is much smaller than its 'modern' successor and appears to have been sub-rectangular with rounded corners. The north side is again dictated by the natural slope, for the boundary of the later churchyard on this side lies downslope whereas its predecessor probably occupied the lip of the slope. It is also visible on the west as a scarp bank from which some stone protrudes, although given the terracing in the modern churchyard below it the possibility of some recent landscaping cannot be dismissed. On the south the western scarp bank swings round, disappearing at the access path into the churchyard, What is visible suggests a slightly curving line. Two mature yews lie just on the inside of the line.

There is no indication of when one churchyard replaced the other. However, the earliest marked graves in the extended churchyard appear to date to the 1840s and 1850s.

**7631** Hirnant Church, churchyard                                      Montgomery                      SJ05042295                      SJ02SE

The churchyard is now an irregular shape, in part because the wall on the north side was inserted, probably in 1749, and the enclosure originally continued beyond it. Together with the slight earthworks of the former boundary outside the present north-east wall, this implies that there was originally a more circular enclosure. It slopes down from north to south with the church terraced slightly into the slope. It is well maintained.

The probable remains of the former churchyard boundary are visible on the north-east part of the circuit. This consists of an earthwork scarp running for c.27m on the exterior of the existing stone walled boundary, from a sharp curve in the wall. At its N end there is a short section of approximately 2m in length which appears to show an external ditch. Further to the NW, the earthwork disappears beneath a crossing stone walled revetment associated with the former farm of Ty Mawr (now a ruin). Perhaps the remaining portion of this side was lost when the house was built (potentially in the 17th century), as it appears to be on the projected line of the boundary. There is no particular evidence of a continued line in the grounds of the Rectory, but a line can be projected using the adjacent alignments. It seems likely that the building of the two houses would have removed all traces.

**7655** Penegoes Church (St Cadfarch), yard                                      Montgomery                      SH76940096                      SH70SE

The churchyard is of an irregular shape, but has been extended westwards at some point prior to the late 19th century. Its boundary now is a stone wall overgrown with ivy and holly bushes, and on the south-east and south acting mainly as a retaining wall. It is raised by 0.5m on the south, less than 1m on the north and east, but 3m to 4m on the south-east above the adjacent farm.

The former perimeter on the west side of the churchyard is shown by a curving relict bank which to the north-west of the church is perhaps 3m wide and 0.3m high. Its course on the west is clearer, a scarp bank up to 0.7m high and fairly straight. It fades from site to the south-west of the church.

**7695** Darowen Church (St Tudyr), yard                      Montgomery                      SH83000181                      SH80SW

Darowen has a large sub-oval churchyard, apparently little altered, although a slice has been taken off the southern edge during road modifications. Its boundary is a stone revetment wall around the southern perimeter and elsewhere it is hedged and fenced, although there is also a revetment wall to the rectory on the north.

There is also an inner earthwork, appearing as a slight platform, little more than 0.5m high. On the west this is most obvious, despite the fact that it has been interrupted by a post-medieval cemetery terrace. However, the underlying curve is still visible and in places the base of the earlier scarp is still apparent to the west of the terrace.

The earthwork also appears to the south-east of the church, along part of the north and slightly at the north-east. East of the church it can be seen only with the eye of faith, although a couple of yews may mark its position. Overall it can be suggested that this inner earthwork is of the order of 35m east/west by 30m north/south, and generally looks reasonably convincing as an early circuit.

, raises the church above the rest of the churchyard on the north, south and particularly the west side. The churchyard as a whole is raised by around 1m on the north and south, and about 0.3m on the west.

Ancillary features: a pair of wrought iron entrance gates set in stone pillars give access to the path leading to the south porch. A grassed-over path formerly led north to the old rectory, and at the end of this is a modern farm gate in the churchyard wall.

Vegetation: earliest yews are located on the south-east side, one in particular appearing ancient. The 19th-century trees in the churchyard were planted by Rev. Thomas Richards to replace the old yews that were withering.

Well: Ffynnon Dadur - an alleged holy well is located outside the churchyard but is not referred to in Jones's 'Holy Wells of Wales'.  
(CPAT Churches Survey)

**15936** Trallong Church, churchyard                      Brecon                      SN96612958                      SN92NE

There can be absolutely no doubt about the curvilinearity of the churchyard boundary on the north side. It is classically defined by the road curving around it.

Extending this on the west it appears that Persondy might lie across the original line and this can be confirmed by a scarp, fossilised in the south-west angle of the present churchyard enclosure. Beyond this to the east the natural river terrace scarp takes over, and there can be little doubt that this defined the earlier line of the churchyard.

On the east there has been so much disturbance to the ground that it is impossible to define the original course.

Overall it seems likely that the original enclosure was in the order of 55m from north to south and perhaps 45m+ from east to west.

Field Visit 10 April 2003

**16034** Llangunllo Churchyard                      Radnor                      SO21177128                      SO27SW

A rectangular churchyard around a presumed early church site. There is absolutely no convincing sign of curvilinearity, now or on any earlier maps.

**16082** Boughrood Church, yard Radnor SO1277739276 SO13NW

Boughrood churchyard is large and raised, noticeably on the east side where the churchyard level is 1m above the road beyond. The ground is almost level and topography was not a constraint on the shape.

A small piece has been added at the extreme, south end, post-dating the construction of the churchyard wall, which has been removed for some 10m, leaving a scarp.

On the south-west the external ground level is about 0.5m beneath the churchyard - originally a track or lane ran around this side. Yews and other evergreens sit on this along most of the curving section, but disappear as it straightens out opposite the north-west corner of the church.

On the north-east the build up of soil against the churchyard wall stops half-way along (see sketch), and there is then little differentiation in height between the external and internal faces.

Although there is nothing visible within the churchyard to indicate a scarp cutting across on the north side of the church, the evidence above might suggest that at an earlier date the boundary did cut across on a more curvilinear line than is presently evident.

curvilinear on the south and west sides, while the straighter sides on the north and east may, one suspects, have something to do with the design of the lane than lies beyond the perimeter.

**16206** Llowes Church (St Meilig), yard Radnor SO19224170 SO14SE

Llowes church has a curvilinear churchyard occupying flattish ground on the shelf above the Wye river terrace, although the interior does pitch down slightly.

The west end of the churchyard appears contrived. Its scalloped appearance suggests that the original boundary has been cut back; but this was before the present churchyard wall was instituted.

On the south-east the external level is initially around 1m below the internal level (starting from the south end). But above the house it is considerably more than 2m. The boundary is unlikely to have been altered on this side but it is perhaps likely that the church occupies a slight natural spur, and there has been some terracing to enable the house to be constructed on level ground. Opposite the west end of the chancel on the south side a gentle scarp rises up and this may be actual reflection of this spur.

**16214** Llanstephan Church, yard Radnor SO12004212 SO14SW

A medium-sized, irregularly oval churchyard on the south-west slope high above Wye Valley. It appears to be slightly raised, but in part this is due to the holloway around the north side. Internally ground slopes from north to south, the surface irregular with hollows and scarps that could be natural or the result of burial practice.

A scarp runs across the yard, directly below the church from and appears to have a slight curve in its alignment. It could be natural, or perhaps the boundary of an earlier enclosure. The presence of mature yews on it might hint at the latter, but other yews seem more randomly located.

There is however no obvious topographical reason for the present shape of the churchyard, and the presence of the well (PRN 85279) and the boggy area around it outflow might be significant.

**16229** Llanbadarn-y-garreg Church (St Padarn) Radnor SO11234876 SO14NW

The churchyard at Llanbadarn-y-garreg is set on level ground on the valley floor of River Edw. The river forms the south-east side of the churchyard which is an elongated D-shape. It is bounded on the south-east by a 3-4m revetted drop to river; on the north-east by a 2m high revetment wall; on the north by a stone wall reinforced with a hedge; on north-west as far as the west corner by an almost completely collapsed wall; and on the south-west by a reasonable wall though the coping stones largely gone.

It reveals no signs of obvious extensions or modifications.

**16236** Llansantffraed in Elwel Church (St Bri Radnor SO09955488 SO05SE

The church at Llansantffraed-in-Elwel sits on a mound which is most obvious at the east end where it is just under 1m high. It can probably be assumed that part of this mound at least was the result of the demolition of an earlier church on the site.

There is also a second less dramatic platform visible. This converges on the church platform towards the east end of the building, but further west is an earthwork in its own right. Three yews sit atop its crest on the north-west., one to the west and one to the south-west. Between the north-west and west yews a gentle scarp is visible rising to a height of no more than 0.4m. Between the west and south-west yews the scarp is still visible but it is more a part of a gradual rise that could be natural. East of the south-west yew the scarp is more prominent and rises to around 0.6m in height. Another five yews to the south-east of the church all occupy a scarp bank about 0.4m. These give the impression more of a linear group of trees and curvilinearity cannot be assured here. Nevertheless, the overall impression is of a small, sub-circular enclosure, about 35m north/south by 32m east/west.

Along the outer face of the eastern perimeter of the present churchyard the ground drops by about 1m. Inside the boundary there is a hollow, largely devoid of marked graves. It is difficult to determine whether this might simply a shallow quarry scoop at the back of the boundary, or a holloway. The fact that something rather similar lies on the sough side of the churchyard also, implies the former.

Field visit 12 May 2003.

**16257** Cascob Church (St Michael), yard Radnor SO23906636 SO26NW

Cascob churchyard is of medium size and is D-shaped. Contrary to Haslam's belief (1979), it lacks convincing signs of general curvilinearity, except on the north and north-east.

**16283** Rhulen Church (St David), yard Radnor SO13774982 SO14NW

The churchyard has an irregular outline, but can be classed as broadly curvilinear, except for the angular south-east corner which is bounded by straight alignments. These probably mark an undated extension, for outside both the east and north sides of the churchyard is a scarp bank, and its line is continued as a more gentle curving slope across the south-east quadrant of the present churchyard. This curving scarp might be seen as a natural slope but in this context is much more likely to be man-made.

The age of the extension cannot be gauged, but there are several mature yews around the perimeter including one on the line of this extension.

**16285** Cregrina Church, yard Radnor SO12365210 SO15SW

The churchyard is polygonal in shape and is perched above a steep fall to the River Edw.







there on the 1996 OS 1:25,000 map, but this is no longer extant.

**16995** Gwytherin Church (St Winifred), yard Denbigh SH87676147 SH86SE

Gwytherin churchyard occupies a ridge immediately above a shallow stream valley. The ridge can be traced for the full length of the yard and the church sits on top of it, its form being exaggerated by building spoil adjacent to the east end of the building.

The churchyard is now rectilinear, but it can be assumed that the southern boundary is an insertion and possible too that Ty'n Llan has been inserted into the yard.

The yard may thus originally have been longer and encompassed the field that contains the site of Penbryn Chapel and the ridge on which it sits. Thus the original yard would have contained two natural ridges with a damper low between them.

**16996** Halkyn Church (St Mary), yard Flint SJ20937105 SJ27SW

The present churchyard around the old church at Halkin is outlined by a low stone wall that defines an irregular polygon. On the flattish, north side the wall is about 1m high and the internal ground level only slightly higher than it is outside. On the west the wall forms an internal revetment to the slightly sloping ground. Overall there is little indication that the churchyard as currently defined is of any great age. This is confirmed by the presence of an inner scarp bank; on the south-east this is as much as 1m high and the churchyard wall lies 5m beyond it. On the flatter ground to the east it is rather slighter, little more than 0.3m or so. Nevertheless on these sides a near complete circuit can be recognised and although there is no confirmatory survey of it, it does appear to be curvilinear. On the north and west it is impossible to determine its course, but yew trees here, as on the south, do form alignments. Little weight can be attached to their siting however, as further yews lie much further to the west in the churchyard.

Many graves remain in place with gravestones and ledgers. The earliest noted was from 1716. Noticeably there are few graves between the earthwork scarp and the church wall on the south side, except for some stones placed up against the wall which are clearly in a secondary position.

**17011** St Leonard in Glyn Church Flint SJ33625422 SJ35SW

The church (or possibly chapel) may have been founded in the late 12th or early 13th century, and as 'capellis Sancti Leonardi de Glyn' was one of the possessions of Richard, Earl of Arundel, in 1397. Apparently it was still standing in the 15th century, but only ruins were left by 1699 (Pratt 1984).

The location of the church remains unknown, as no physical traces have been recognised. A number of possible sites have been suggested from placename evidence, of which Pont y Capel, in the township of Llai, appears to be the most likely location.

**17494** Bryn Gwylan inscribed stone Denbigh SH89196989 SH86NE

A Class I early medieval inscribed stone was found on Bryn Gwylan Farm in 1985 at approximately the given NGR (the best that Mr Vaughan, the owner, could manage from memory when he showed the writer the site). It was subsequently lifted by JCB and now resides just inside an ancillary building on the farm (at SH 88916992).

It is of local shale, 1.17m high x 0.4 - 0.6m wide x 0.1 - 0.2m thick. The right hand side is broken off. It is

inscribed in Roman capitals VERE with traces of a vertical line for a fifth letter. Possibly this represents a personal name.

It is described in Edwards 1987.

**17495** Nantglyn Capel Saint Mordeyrn's Denbigh SJ00656202 SJ06SW

The position of the chapel as shown on the earliest Ordnance Survey map is the edge of a flattish knoll overlooking the low ground around the confluence of the Lliwen and a tributary. Fractionally higher ground lies immediately to the east.

There is no trace of a building here now, and indeed no recent record of any substantive evidence. But something certainly survived into the late 17th century, according to Lhuyd. In the drought of 1976(?) someone claimed parchmarks of a building according to the landowner, but he seems not to have been convinced.

The northern and western side of the field harbouring the chapel site is defined by a ditched drain, with the land dropping off in both directions. Does this have any significance for a possible enclosure?

**17924** Capel Dolwen Montgomery SH97820750 SH90NE

Site of grange and chapel of Strata Marcella first noted by Lewis (1833). Williams (1990) gives this as the possible site of Capel Dolwen, said to be in ruins in 1792. No visible remains exist today, but the field in which it lay is said to be called Dol Capel or Cae Capel. Intermittent stone-walled sections of the field boundary could have utilised stone from the building.

**19003** Pen Y Coed Chapel Site Montgomery SN99258949 SN98NE

A chapel site, possibly associated with a house, is the only record (from 1978) of this structure.

No surviving structure is left to define the site of the chapel, though the probable sites of two buildings are evident on the ground. One of these is presumably the site of the house mentioned in the original description. The other site is presumably that of the chapel. The easternmost site is comprised of a terrace, approximately 10m long by 5m wide, while that to the west is represented by a faint platform, approximately 9m by 9m. There is no real evidence to confirm which one of these is the site of the chapel. There is a spring at the head of the stream gully to the E which was probably a water source for the buildings.

It is well-known locally that a chapel was located here, and the landowner believes it was a brick-built Non-conformist chapel with a slate roof, apparently without a burial ground. It was demolished when part of its roof was lost and it became unsafe. Apparently the building was last used for a service in the 1920s.

**19508** Llys Edwin possible cemetery Flint SJ24056932 SJ26NW

A group of faint cropmarks visible on a Geonex vertical aerial photograph taken in 1993, centred at the given location. Further work would be needed to confirm their authenticity. One cropmark appears to be circular with an approximate diameter of 25m, although its eastern side is poorly defined. Another cropmark has a rhomboid shape and is located approximately 20m to the south of the circular cropmark, this site is approximately 15m north/south x 15m east/west and has a mark at its centre. There appear to be further cropmarks in this field but they are insufficiently well defined on the photographs for their shapes to be accurately determined.

The two cropmarks recognised have similarities with the cropmark burial sites excavated at Tandderwen, near Denbigh in 1987-88. Their proximity to Llys Edwin (c.300m) may be of some significance.

Overlooked but not visited.

**19740**      Llanbedr Dyffryn Clwyd Old Church (St      Denbigh      SJ14535981      SJ15NW

A small, irregularly oval churchyard, much overgrown. It is raised above the surrounding ground level on the north by at least 1.5m with similar rises on the west and south. Only at the east end is there no rise, and here there is a simple stone wall with no obvious underlying bank. Some damage to the wall on the east, and some collapse at the west corner. Fragments of the east window of the church lean against the east wall. A flight of eleven steps leads up to the churchyard at the south-west corner.

A significant number of marked graves are still visible, including chest tomb, ledgers are upright gravestone. There is a late 18th-century railed tomb on the west and two more of indeterminate age at the east end.

Yews grow on either side of the porch.

**19781**      Nantglyn Churchyard      Denbigh      SJ00416213      SJ06SW

A polygonal churchyard, the modern form of which has changed a little since the late 19th century with the addition of a strip of land along its west side. Even allowing for this there is little obvious curvilinearity to the churchyard, the one concession being an arcing revetment wall to the north-east of the church. That said the straight-walled northern edge of the churchyard is a function of a late, well-built, stone revetment wall being added, and there is a near vertical drop of over 2m outside it. This side could originally have been more curvilinear, the whole being set on a spur which projects towards the stream.

It must be noted too that there has been a suggestion that there was originally a larger, three-acre enclosure to the north and east of the church.

**20122**      Llanddewi Abergwesyn Church, churchyar      Brecon      SN85255262      SN85SE

The churchyard shapes defies accurate description. It is polygonal and elongated, the north-east side following the river terrace of the Irfon. Similarly on the east the terrace is also used and here there is a slight curve to the boundary which consists of a flat-topped bank with a stone revetment. On the north-east where it follows the Irfon the boundary is of similar form with deciduous trees growing out of it.

On the north-west there is a grassy bank and outside this is deep gully, and this continues in similar fashion around the west side, after an abrupt change of direction at the north-west angle. The angle at the south-west is equally genuine, and there is no sign whatsoever of an earlier boundary. On the south side the scarp boundary drops straight down to a stream.

The church of Llanddewi lies off-centre towards the eastern end and one might suspect therefore that the original churchyard was smaller and has been extended westwards to take in the sloping ground that is such a feature of this end of the churchyard.

Graves with stones of various ages remain on the east, south and west sides of the church. There are also railed tombs. The most recent burial appears to be from 1990 so it is most probable that the graveyard is still consecrated.

Two yews lie to the south of the church.

**20123**    Llanfihangel Abergwesyn Church, church    Brecon    SN85415265    SN85SE

The churchyard at Llanfihangel occupies a spur projecting into the valley of the Irfon. The present boundary is defined by a well-constructed wall, up to 2m high which projects at least 0.5m above the churchyard floor. The churchyard is best described as polygonal.

An earlier churchyard boundary line is defined by a scarp bank, up to 1.4m high, and 5-6m inside the present wall on the south-west side. The mature yews on this side sit on the crest of this earlier scarp. As it runs towards the south-west corner of the church, it fades out (and it might be assumed from this that the church whose foundations remain was rather larger than its early predecessor).. On the north-west side there is a shallower scarp, again with mature yews on it, giving the impression of a slightly curving boundary; but as it runs north-east, it breaks into two separate scarps and fades out towards the 'top' (or north end) of the present churchyard. Certainly there is no substantive evidence for a curving boundary around the north side.

A number of yews remain within the churchyard, there are gravestones on the south and north sides of the church, and the church is still used for burial (the most recent from 2002). There is also a large Celtic cross of presumed Victorian date.

**20196**    Llandefalle Church, churchyard    Brecs    SO10763558    SO13NW

The north and west sides of Llandefalle churchyard retain a strong curve, and there is a suggestion that originally there was a track or hollow all around the north side. The south side has now been enlarged and squared off, but the earlier course can be seen as a scarp up to 0.6m high fronted by a 2-3m wide terrace. This curves to the south of the present churchyard path, before curving back under it to the south-west of the church and again due east of the church near the lychgate,. The eye of faith can also make out an enhanced bank beyond the churchyard wall on the east side.

**31224**    Tan y Fedw tractor shed    Brecon    SN8906825791    SN82NE

The building is a stone built (with mortar) agricultural machinery/vehicle shed with a slated roof, having a rectangular plan and an east/west alignment. There are two arched entrances in the north wall, which are wide and high enough for a farm cart or a small tractor. The main feature of interest in the building is a very ornately carved moulded stone window in its west (gable end) wall; this is not centrally placed and is blocked, suggesting it was probably imported from elsewhere as a decorative feature. The remainder of the building appears to be 19th-century in design. The building measures approximately 6.8m by 6m and is 4m high. The building is listed.

The window has holes in its basal stonework for three vertical glazing bars, changing to five at the top. There are also three surviving holes for horizontal glazing bars, though it is likely that there would have been more; this, and slight changes in the standard of the moulding forming the side of the window, suggests that some original parts of the window were lost in transit. No other features of the building suggest that it was a chapel and it is most likely that the window originated at Tan y Fed chapel (PRN 3140).

**35884**    St Eluned's Chapel enclosure    Brecon    SO05792861    SO02NE

Examination of the site area revealed possible traces of a sub-circular enclosure. The evidence is intermittent, but could represent an embanked enclosure of 40m in diameter; the traces of bank are little more than 2m wide and 0.3m in height. The south side of this putative enclosure has been lost, perhaps it was cut by the holloway that runs up from Slwch Farm.

The recorded diameter of the enclosure is 90m and it is difficult to relate this to the visible evidence. The overall area in which earthworks have been identified is much greater than 90m across and is more elongated

than circular.

**35911** Victorinus Stone Site, Dark Age Brecon SO106252 SO12NW

The stone was first recorded in 1695 at 'Pentre Yskythrog.....in ye midst of the high way', and in 1777 it was in a field by the roadside, probably as a result of the construction of the turnpike road. It was passed to Brecon Museum in 1951.

It is 1.7m high, 0.50m wide and 0.38m deep, and carries the inscription: NA[m]NIIFILIVsVICTORINI.

**38588** St Eluned's Well Brecon SO05792861 SO02NE

Known also as the 'Penginger Well' St Eluned's well is associated with a saint also known as St Lludd, St Alud and St Almedha, whose chapel was nearby.

The reputed location of the well is shown by a deeper depression, c.5m across by 1.5m deep, at the north end of a shallow hollow which measures approximately 20m by 10m overall. In contrast to a Cadw record from 1998, there were no evident traces of masonry walling or paving, despite there being minimal undergrowth at the time of the visit. It appears that some exploratory excavation was undertaken on the site by the Wellsprings Fellowship in the recent past.

Together with the chapel this is scheduled (Br 236).

**50216** Llanwrtyd Church (St David), stone Brecon SN86364779 SN84NE

A cross-inscribed pillar stone some 0.75m high by 0.22m thick with a width of 0.3m narrowing to 0.18m at base. Of 9th/10th-century date. Now in the old church at Llanwrtyd where its fractured base is set in concrete, with additional support from an iron bar set into the back of the stone and the church wall. In reasonable and secure condition.

Found at Ystafell Fach cottage in the late 19th century? Its original site is not known (M Redknap forthcoming).

**50435** Ty Illtud Long Cairn, decorated stones Brecon SO09842638 SO02NE

A chambered cairn with, on the supporting orthostats, a large number of incised crosses (some within diamonds) and other linear designs. These allegedly indicate the secondary use of the chamber as a hermitage, a view perhaps originating in the Glanusk edition of Theophilus Jones' "History of Brecknock", although the actual comment in that volume includes the statement that this "must be treated as an idle fable".

That the crosses do exist there can be no doubt. Up to seventy or more have been counted (RCAHMW 1997, 32). Some could be the equivalent of graffiti initials, an indicator of people visiting the cairn as the tradition linking it to St Illtud developed. Others, however, reputedly appear in a form that might have been current during the early medieval period.

**50456** Turpil Stone Brecon SO225193 SO21NW

It was first recorded in 1777, when it was located in a field 1 mile to the north-east of Crickhowell in a field and had apparently been removed from elsewhere. In 1866 it was transferred to Glanusk Park, and then in 1948 to Brecon Museum in 1948.

Its Latin inscription reads: CIT TVRPILLIICIA PVVERITRILVNI dVNOCA TI.

"Turpilli (h)ic iacit / pueri Triluni Dunocati".

The Ogham inscription is translated as: "The stone of Turpillius, the son of Trillunus".

It is dated to the first half of the 6th century (M Redknap: forthcoming).

**50549** Twyn Y Beddau Cist I Brecon SO24113861 SO23NW

One of three stone-lined graves recorded by Poole in 1886.

Possible traces of the cists described by Poole are situated as follows:

- 1) At 10m west-south-west of Twyn y beddau, there is a single edge-set stone pointing directly towards the centre of the barrow. Measures 0.7m east-north-east/west-south-west by 0.1m thick and 0.1m high.
- 2) Within 5m west of Twyn y beddau are two smaller stones aligned roughly east/west. These are within 3m of the road and may be disturbed. Overall length is 1.5m, though each stone is up to 0.5m long by 0.2m wide and 0.2m high.
- 3) Immediately on the side of the road and within 5m west-north-west of the barrow are at least three edge-set stones, overall length 1.2m. Individual stones are up to 0.3m long by 0.2m high and could form the edge of a cist aligned east/west.

Other stones are visible through the turf in the area, but nothing else which suggests a cist. Some stones may have been subsumed beneath the modern road.

**70933** St Collen's Well Denbigh SJ204446 SJ24SW

The well of the 7th-century St. Collen is said to be near to Pentredwr and was allegedly where he slew the Giant of Pentredwr.

The well at the given grid reference is presently used as a domestic supply for Abbey Cottage, but it is unknown whether there are any earlier features present. Access was restricted at the time of the visit owing to an ongoing housing development. The present siting as recorded casts some doubt on this being the location of the well, and it may be that St Collen's Well is one of those in the locality of the hamlet, which is 2km to the north.

**72430** Pen Cerig Calch chapel site Brecon SO22302263 SO22SW

No evidence of the chapel recorded in the NMR at this grid reference could be found or within 100m of it. The location is very steeply sloping and inappropriate for a building. It is most likely that the grid reference is incorrect, but there is no alternative location, given the lack of information in the original reference.

**80328** Craig y Rhiwarth cave II Brecon SN84611565 SN81NW

The cave site was first recorded during CPAT site visit of 1999, when it was suggested as the site of a temporary habitation. It is evident from detailed examination of the relevant sources that this is the site known as 'Eglwys Caradog', which is alleged to be the hermitage of St Gunleus.

The cave was first recorded by Jones (1809) who commented that it was a hermitage 'erroneously called



**81560** Ffynnon Drillo Merioneth SJ03273750 SJ03NW

The well, Ffynnon Drillo, dedicated to the saint, was located about a quarter of a mile (c.400m) from the church at Llandrillo (Thomas, 1913b, 100).

The site of the holy well is known to the owners, though there are no significant earthworks surviving. It was apparently sited at the base of the river terrace scarp which forms the south side of the field and probably within 100m of this grid reference, which is centred on a hollow, 3m in diameter by 0.3m deep, at the base of the scarp. It is believed to have been deliberately backfilled by previous owners, but was apparently well-frequented.

**81561** Capel Ogwen Denbigh SH858786 SH87NE

Chapel called 'Capel Ogwen', near the mouth of the Ogwen, at which fishermen's boats were blessed before going out to sea, recorded by Thomas (1913, 210).

The site of the chapel is suggested by two adjoining fields on the Llandrillo yn Rhos Tithe map which are called, respectively, 'Cae capel isa' and 'Cae capel ucha'. These are on the W side of a gully down which a stream (The Ogwen ?) is depicted as flowing on the Ordnance Survey 1":1mile map of 1840. The fields are within 300m of the beach at Colwyn Bay, and the 1840 OS map shows the stream joining another on the beach and flowing out to sea. The fields are now part of Eirias Park and are in the vicinity of the pool marked on the modern OS 1:25,000 map. Unfortunately the park has been heavily landscaped and no visible trace of the chapel was found.

**81562** Melai chapel Denbigh SH9067 SH96NW

Melai chapel lay in the parish of Llanfair Talhaiarn. It was in ruins in 1748, when it was noted that divine service had not been performed there for forty years. (Thomas, 1913, 222)

No certain evidence could be garnered from the Tithe survey of Llanfair Talhaiarn. Two possible locations are around Melai Farm at SH 90146772, and at Maes y Groes Farm (no longer extant) which is depicted on the OS 1" map (Sheet 79SW) of 1840 at SH 896 679.

The chapel was not found. It may be relevant that Melai Farm has a large group of good farm/estate buildings, probably of the 19th century. This suggests that a past owner was keen on improvement and might explain the absence of any evidence for the chapel.

**81564** Caple Llan Ycha placename Brecon SO24721848 SO21NW

A field named 'Capel Llan Ycha' is listed in the Llangenny Tithe survey. There is some doubt about the putative site of the chapel or oratory of St Cenau in this parish, and it is possible that this placename defines the field in which it lay.

Nothing is readily visible from the farm, but the fieldwalker was unable to contact owner. May repay a further visit to determine whether there are any physical remains or local knowledge of a site in this area.

**81676** Capel Maes-y-bwlch Brecon SN84583520 SN83NW

A possible chapel site. In 1764 there were no remains of a building but a tradition existed, and a sketch plan showing a gate called 'Clwyd y Cappel' and a 'Cwm y Cappel' indicated that it was near or on a farm called





**81703** Llanbadarn-y-garreg holy well Radnor SO11184867 SO14NW

A holy well recorded by the National Monument Record near the church at Llanbadarn-y-garreg at SO 11184867; the background to the attribution is not obvious. No well is shown on Ordnance Survey maps at that reference, nor is it obvious on the ground, but there is a spring, a rather unprepossessing feature, within 20m of the north-east edge of the churchyard at SO 11284880.

**81708** Pistyll Cynllo holy well Radnor SO1107773289 SO17SW

Pistyll Cynllo holy well is a spring near Llanbister church, described as "a noted spring" in Carlisle's Topographical Dictionary of Wales (1811).

The spring makes an appearance as a pool, about 1.5m north to south by 1m but irregular in shape, and possibly with some crude stonework around it, below what is probably an underground cistern with a concrete capping to it and from which a lead pipe offers a trickle of water into the pool. From it the stream has gouged a channel down the hill in what is a shallow valley. The pool is also fed by a modern large-bore ceramic pipe which brings water from higher up the valley. Furthermore there are other cisterns and the like slightly higher up the slope, one of them in the middle of what is a trackway of some antiquity. This cistern, which could conceivably predate that already described, had stone walls and is covered by corrugated tin; its wooden lid has gone but the rotting, wooden frame remains..

**81709** Ffynnon Gewydd Radnor SO0438258313 SO05NW

A holy well at Disserth. Practices relating to the well, including well-dressing, were described by Lhuyd in 1696. (Howse 1949).

Nothing was readily apparent from a search of the churchyard and no local information could be gleaned. The area of the wells which are depicted on the Ordnance Survey digital data (at SO 043583) was examined from a public footpath, but no evidence for a well was apparent. The site is occupied by a modern pond. The location of the holy well thus remains unknown.

**81710** Llandrindod Old Church holy well Radnor SO06566009 SO06SE

Francis Jones referred to a holy well by the old church at Llandrindod.

Due to the uncertain location given in the sources, it is unclear whether the site visited is the holy well referred to by Jones, although it does seem the most likely candidate. The site consists of a wet hollow approximately 15m x 15m, which has been fenced off from the rest of the field. There is no visible structure within the fenced area, but water issues from a small hollow at its northern corner, measuring approximately 3m in diameter x up to 1m deep.

**81711** Peter's Well Radnor SO201578 SO25NW

A well near Cwm Gwalley was known as Peter's Well in the 1850's, according to Jones (1992). Its exact position is unknown, but the SMR location given is of some springs in the vicinity of Cwm Gwalley Farm.

Fieldwork suggested that the site of well near Cwm Gwalley house is not particularly likely, although it was not possible to confirm suspicions as the owners were absent. Perhaps the most likely location for the site is in the base of the valley below Blaenycwm (see given NGR), where the Ordnance Survey maps record a well.

**81715** Llangoed church Brecon SO12383987 SO13NW

Llancoit was an estate granted to the see of Llandaff about 595 (Davies 1979). There is no contemporary mention of a church here at that time,

The remains of a church called "Llan Coit" (later Llangoed) were said to lie in what used to be the park of Llangoed Castle. The land was apparently given by Prince Iddon to the See of Llandaff in about 560 and also later also granted to the See by Rhydderch ap Iestyn in 1021 and by the Pope in 1119, though there is apparently no contemporary mention of a church. The site was seemingly last recognised by Poole in 1886, who refers to an old burial ground in the private grounds of Llangoed Castle, where a chapel is supposed to have stood.

The site of the burial ground identified by Poole is located on the west bank of the River Wye near Llangoed Hall Hotel. The enclosure is sub-rectangular, measuring approximately 85m north/south by 50m, and is defined by a mortared stone wall on its south and west sides. The east side abuts the riverbank and both the east and north boundaries are fenced. Within the enclosed area are three marked burials of 19th-century date, two spaced out on the south side are of 1867 and 1877, and a centrally placed vault covered by an earth mound. The vault has burials of 1818 and 1825 according to the headstone within an iron-railed enclosure on the crest of the mound. There are traces of a brick arch on the north side and a stone revetment on the south side of the mound, both of which protrude slightly from the earth mound. Immediately to the south of the vault and apparently overlain by the mound are the foundations of a rectangular building defined by broad, low banks, c.2.5m wide, on the west, south and east, but partially hidden by the mound of spoil from the vault on the north. A small amount of walling is visible on the south-east and north sides, though lime mortar is present in most of the banks, thereby demonstrating that walling was present. A lower section of bank on the south side suggests that this was the site of an entrance. On the north side of the building and vault is an apparently oval enclosure aligned n north-east/south-west and measuring approximately 45m by 27m. On the south-east this appears sunken, with an internal scarp. At the north-east end a bank emerges which curves around to form the north-west side. The south-west end of the enclosure appears to be open, but this may be due to subsequent erosion from an access route through a gap in the later, walled, boundary. The north part of the enclosure is crossed by the fence which forms the north boundary of the later enclosure.

**81716** Llechfaen chapel Brecon SO08052843 SO02NE

A chapel of ease at Llanhamlach Fan (now known as Llechfaen) fell down about 1700 according to the Brecknock historian, Theophilus Jones. The Tithe map for Llanhamlach names two adjoining fields as 'Tyle yr Eglwys'. These are centred at SO 0807 2805 and SO 0803 2791. The suggestion of these names, which are approximately 0.4km to the S of the village, is that there was a church or chapel in the vicinity.

Nothing significant has been identified within the two fields and there is no folk memory of a chapel. It is also possible that the field names lie on the direct route from Llanhamlach to Llechfaen so it might be that they simply reflect the 'steep way to the church'.

However, within the village at Upper Farm (SO 0795 2855) there is a round-headed doorway, built into the farmhouse but only visible from within an outbuilding. The arch is turned in rough blocks of sandstone and looks out of place in this agricultural context. There is a local tradition that the field opposite used to be a graveyard.

**81718** Llyweni chapel Denbigh SJ025680 SJ06NW

Edward Lhuyd records a former chapel of ease to Henllan, at Tyddyn y Capel in Llyweni township.

Tyddyn y Capel could not be located in the Tithe survey and the site has not yet been located. One possibility, however, is that the reference is to the supposed chapel at Waen Dywysog, 4km to the south-west of Henllan.



1992).

There is an almost square building capping a natural spring on the outskirts of Brecon. The building is of mortared stone, measuring 3.0m north-west/south-east by 2.9m and 3.0m high, with a corbelled roof in a pointed arch shape. The entrance, 0.8m wide and 1.0m high, on the south-east side with rudimentary steps leading down to the spring within. There is now no surviving door on the entrance, but evidence that there was one formerly. An inscription reads 'W.W.' over '1754' on the south-west jamb of the entrance.

Within the building, there is a horizontal round-headed arch formed of edge-set stones set in the floor, which only just protrude through the surface of the water. Water flows through a gap at the base of the south-west wall into a partially blocked stone-faced tank, from where a stone-lined channel runs south-east for about 30m in a curving arc to a larger pond, some 10m in diameter, before becoming a small stream.

The structures seem to have been refurbished, probably when the nearby housing estate was built, as the site is located within a recreational area on the edge of the estate. Other springs adjacent to the building are not marked by any structure but seem to represent an area of natural spring activity.

**81736** Ffynnon y Saint Flint SJ3945 SJ34NE

Well named by Lhuyd. Stream coming from the well said to be crossed by Pont y garreg bridge, but the well was not found.

**81737** Ffynnon y Creiriwr Denbigh SJ05476969 SJ06NE

A well called Ffynnon y Kreiriwr was recorded by Lhuyd in the late 17th century on Lleweni Green. The name was believed by Jones (1992) to be connected with Welsh 'crair' meaning relic.

The suggested location is of a well named Ffynnon Cneifiwr on the 1st edition of the Ordnance Survey map, but it appears that this well was only constructed in the 1840s for the nearby country house of Plas Newydd. Accordingly, it seems that the well named by Lhuyd may have been located elsewhere.

**81738** Ffynnon y Capel Flint SJ33445415 SJ35SW

A spring in Gresford parish, which was recorded by Lhuyd, may be that at the given location. This is depicted on the first edition Ordnance Survey 1:10,560 map (Denbigh 21SE), in the vicinity of Pont y Capel. At present the well lies outside Gresford parish, but was within it in the 1880s.

The site consists of a fenced-off enclosure, approximately 4m square, from which a small flow of water issues. A metal tank below is filled with water, but there are no other visible structures. It seems to be a natural hillside spring.

**81739** Ffynnon y Saint Denbigh SH9275 SH97NW

Ffynnon y Saint was situated in Tre Nant Tin, near Bryn Gwyn, Llanddulas, according to Francis Jones. Masonry surrounded the well which was ruinous in 1866. (Jones 1992)

The site of the well was not found, although the name of Ffynnonau Farm hints at a possible location. The general location is thus probably correct, but there are at least three wells and probably more springs mapped in the same grid square. The bedrock here is limestone.

**81740** Ffynnon Fair Denbigh SJ08066311 SJ06SE

**81744** Ffynnon Iwan Montgomery SJ0522 SJ02SE

An unlocated well said by Francis Jones (1992) to be on Garn Farm, Hirnant.

There is no local knowledge of this well. Garn Farm also remains to be located; perhaps it represents a previous name for one of the farms in the area. The only known holy well in the vicinity is Ffynnon Illog (PRN 42), approximately 250m north-west the church.

**81745** St Bennion's well Montgomery SJ28051814 SJ21NE

According to Francis Jones, Bennion's well in Llandrinio parish was probably associated with St Beuno (Jones 1992).

No trace remains of the well house depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. There was a recently cleaned out ditch alongside the boundary, but no features related to the well.

The named well may not be located at this NGR, anyway.

**81748** Capel Taf Fechan Brecon SO0513 SO01SE

There is no visible trace of this former chapel on the banks of the reservoir at the outflow of Nant Car fach. It seems most likely that the site is now beneath the water of Pontsticill Reservoir.

**81749** Cefn-y-bedd placename Brecon SO004514 SO05SW

The placename "Cavenabeth", probably meaning Cefn-y-bedd, is given for Cilmerly in Ogilby's Britannia of 1675. The 1" Ordnance Survey map of 1833 and the Llanganten Tithe survey of 1844 demonstrate that the name 'Cefn-y-bedd' was given to a farm which was at this location in the mid-19th century, while the name 'Cilmerly' applied to a farm approximately 1km to the west.

The "bedd" element might relate to St Cannen of Llanganten but given the history of Cilmerly it seems most likely that it relates to this being the place in which Llewelyn ap Gruffydd was killed in 1282. There is no visible evidence of any ecclesiastical connection, particularly as the village is of relatively recent origin.

**81751** Hope Church stone I Flint SJ30965836 SJ35NW

A fragmentary cross-carved stone found during church restoration in July 2000, in a heap of builders rubble which had been removed from the arcade wall between the north and south naves. Dated to the 8th-11th centuries. (N. Edwards forthcoming)

**81752** Hope Church stone II Flint SJ30965836 SJ35NW

Incomplete cross-carved stone built horizontally into the north wall of the north aisle of the church. Noted during church restoration in 2000. Dated to the 8th-11th centuries. (N. Edwards forthcoming)

**81753** Hope Church stone III Flint SJ30965836 SJ35NW

A fragmentary cross-carved stone built horizontally high up into the south wall of the south nave, towards its east end immediately above the buttress containing the boiler flue. Dated to the 8th-11th centuries. (N. Edwards forthcoming)

**81765** College chapel Flint SJ0570 SJ07SE

Archdeacon Thomas claimed a former chapel in a field called 'Cae'r Capel' on College farm in Henllan parish, which was later converted into a cottage. (Thomas, 1911, 31).

The present owner of College Farm had no knowledge of this site.

**81766** Waun Tywysog chapel Denbigh SH995661 SH96NE

A former chapel was noted at Waun Tywysog, 'at a spot still marked by an ancient yew tree, with a once famous well near it'. Adjacent field names included 'Cae'r Person' and 'Cae'r Clochydd'. Apparently some 'carved altar tombstones' were in the wall of Tywysog farmyard. (Thomas, 1911, 32)

No visible traces of a chapel survive at the derelict farmstead of Waen Dywysog. The buildings are in a state of collapse and some have been partially levelled. No trace of the recorded 'tombstones'.

**81767** Pant yr Hen Eglwys placename Denbigh SH982708 SH97SE

Archdeacon Thomas suggested that Pant yr Hen Eglwys, not far from the well of Ffynnon Nefydd, probably marked the site of the first foundation at Llanefydd. (Thomas, 1911, 43). The church guide refers to this, claiming that this was the name of the church.

The field name is not recorded in the Tithe survey and there are no physical traces of features in the field which might relate to a church. Perhaps the presence of the well near the corner of the field led to the suggestion that this was an earlier church site. The church history pamphlet suggests that according to tradition this was the site of St Nefydd's cell in the 5th or 6th centuries.

**81768** Bedd Ffrymder Denbigh SH982706 SH97SE

Bedd Ffrymder was once near the church at Llanefydd. It has been suggested that it may have been a corruption of the name, 'Rhun Dremrudd', the father of Nefydd. (Thomas, 1911, 43)

The structure known as 'Ffrymder's Grave' is described in the church history pamphlet as a circular ditch, with stones set on their ends around the grave. The site is said to have been cleared in the 1890s, but was located at 'the back of the churchyard'. The description could conceivably represent a structured cairn with kerbing. Not surprisingly no surface trace of the site is now evident.

**81769** Cappel chapel Denbigh SH90304740 SH94NW

Archdeacon Thomas claimed that a chapel had existed at Cappel farm, and also noted that the hill above was called Moel yr Eglwys.

No significant names, field or otherwise and have been identified, and the tenant farmer knows of nothing that





examine at present. Some water still flowing. Potential problems may be caused by a drain pipe at the top of the steps which discharges water from beneath the road.

**100381** Pont Y Capel Placename Denbigh SJ33625422 SJ35SW

There is good documentary evidence for a medieval chapel dedicated to St Leonard of the Glyn in Gresford. The documents relating to the site are described and transcribed by D Pratt (1984).

Pont y capel has been suggested as a possible site, although nothing of antiquity has been observed there in the past.

No physical remains have yet been recognised.

**100408** Beddau Dark Age cemetery Denbigh SH85905127 SH85SE

An Early Medieval cemetery of about 40 cist graves was found in an area of c.18m by 9m in a field called Dol Tre Beddau in 1820 during the construction of the Holyhead Road. One stone - the Brohomaglus stone (PRN 23053) - was inscribed. It lies on the north side of the valley of the Merddwr, close to its confluence with the Conwy, almost certainly on the edge of a river terrace.

From the scheduling description, it appears that the graves lay not on the line of the road itself but in the adjacent strip of land on the north which is now wooded, the site being scheduled in 1995.

The road here is deeply terraced but the scheduled area consists of concave cuts scalloped into the slope, with sloping spurs of potentially undisturbed ground in between. At the eastern end of the protected area one such spur supports a number of smoothed boulders resting on the ground surface, nearly a dozen in all. The Cadw FM warden has noted that one of these has incised grooves, but their significance cannot be ascertained.

In the field to the north of the wooded area, the ground is fairly level for around 20m before it starts to rise again.

The possibility that further cist graves exist, either in the undisturbed spurs between the quarried ground, or in the field to the north of the field, should be considered.

**100428** Ffynnon Digain Holy Well Denbigh SH87146833 SH86NE

This is reputedly the parish well of Llangernyw, though it lies some 800m away from the village. Two large edge slabs nearly one metre long form the sides of the well cistern, and abut, at the rear, another large slab with a flat slab on top and some stones filling the interstices. These together create a narrow wedge-shaped pool no more than 15cm wide at the front and 30cm at the rear. Overall it is probably around 0.5m deep but with water only about 0.1m in it. A channel filled with vegetation leads off it tangentially, and a modern plastic pipe suggests that the water is utilised by the landowner.

**100444** 'Capel Gwenfrewi' /Penbryn Capel Denbigh SH87666140 SH86SE

South of Gwytherin churchyard is another small field, originally probably part of a larger yard, containing the reputed site of Penbryn Capel or 'Capel Gwenfrewi'. The site occupies an elevated ridge or spur and is separated from the church by a damp hollow.

No traces of a building survive and no signs were encountered during geophysics in 1995. But the site is

believed to be that of a small chapel of St Winifred which was mentioned three times in the 18th century, the last in 1749 indicating that it had been destroyed. The chapel supposedly lay within an enclosure which formed the southern part of the churchyard. It contained the grave of St Winifred which consisted of a stone slab raised on four corner pillars. At either end were the gravestones of former members of the monastic house. The gravestone of St Winifred is recorded as being inscribed with a hand, a sword and a head.

**100446** Gwytherin Church (St Winifred), stones Denbigh SH87676147 SH86SE

Four stones are set in a line to the north of the church at Gwytherin and immediately beside the lip of the churchyard before it drops down to a stream. However, they are not set parallel to the edge nor to the church itself.

The westernmost stone has the deeply incised inscription VINNEMAGLI FILI SENEMAGLI (the stone of Vinnemaglus, son of Senemaglus) while the others are not inscribed. On average the stones are about 1m high and set a little over 2m apart. The uninscribed stone is considered to be 5th to 6th century in date.

Seven metres to the east of the group and in line with them is a shaped block of stone about 0.4m by 0.3m. Is this simply a block from the earlier church??

Tristan Gray Hulse has suggested that these stones were originally perhaps gravestones from the southern part of the churchyard near the chapel of St Winifred. Edward Lhuyd gives a line drawing of one stone inscribed with a design showing an upright on a plinth, supporting a wheel with a central cross. It is identified as "A Tombstone at Kappel Gwenfrewi in ye South part of Gwetherin Church Yard" (Lhuyd, 1909).

**100524** Plas-Uchaf Church site Denbigh SH93276679 SH96NW

Plas-Uchaf is believed to have been the site of an early parish church and graveyard. It is reported that a local vicar used to pray there. According to Archdeacon Thomas gravestones were dug up within living memory in a field below the site (Thomas, 1911, 53n).

No trace of a church can be seen at this location. There is some imported spoil in field along roadside boundary, but no evidence that this is masking any significant features.

**100595** St Mordeyrn's Well Denbigh SJ00436225 SJ06SW

St Mordeyrn's Well was shown on the large-scale Ordnance Survey map of 1899. Since then council houses and a police house have been added to the expanding village of Nantglyn. The well seems to have been capped, and now lies somewhere under the garden boundary of the police house. From local knowledge, it can be inferred that its precise location is not now recognisable.

**100603** Ffynnon Dyfnog Well Denbigh SJ07966334 SJ06SE

The main element of Ffynnon Dyfnog is a large well pool, largely rectangular and of well-squared masonry, about 5.7m by 3.8m overall. It is set in a hollow and the ground rises all around, except on the lower, east side. (At the time of the field visit the water level was so high that it was impossible safely to determine some points, including the depth).

The pool is fed by what appears to be a copious stream. This emerges from a conduit topped by a concrete lintel which appears to be relatively modern. Above and behind this a dry gully leads back to what was probably the 'cave' of earlier records, in which the spring rose, but is now just a shallow concavity. On the



Possibly recognised and refurbished during road improvements. There is also a water supply for stock a little to the south (c.10m) which might be related to the original reference. A reasonable flow of water emerges from a pipe beneath the road.

In addition to Ffynnon Beuno, there was a second well in the village known as Ffynnon Fair (but now Ffynnon Isa). It lay to the west of the church and Archdeacon Thomas thought the association with St Mary might indicate a later church dedication (1911, 154).

**100813** Ffynnon Sulien Merioneth SJ0688344098 SJ04SE

The well/spring is situated at the base of a 10m diameter hollow, 2.5m deep, on the lower, south-east-facing, slope of the Dee valley. The owner believes it was documented in the 12th century and was once used as the main water supply for Corwen.

The site consists of a slate slab tank (one slab fallen), 3m long (north to south) by 1.5m wide, with stone steps leading down into it at the south-east corner. An overflow channel on the south is 4m long by 1m wide and faced with drystone walling. A tank on the slope below acts as a reservoir.

The house and grounds (including the well) are Grade II listed.

**100827** Ffynnon Fynws Well Merioneth SJ0740 SJ04SE

A holy well in Llangar parish was noted in Lhuyd's Parochialia, but the location is vague, and it seems likely that the NGR given in the SMR is a general one for the area. Certainly there is no trace of a well to be seen along the minor road which passes through this grid square. Two rivulets meet the road at SJ 075045, but there is no evidence that they originate at a well or spring.

**101207** Ffynnon Oerog Well Denbigh SJ26194205 SJ24SE

Ffynnon Oerog well, the site of which is now occupied by waterworks. The previous name (Ffynnon Cerog) given to the site is a mis-reading of 'Ffynnon Oerog', meaning 'Cold Spring'. Evidently the water appears as a resurgence from the limestone hill to the N and NW. The water has been tapped to provide domestic water supplies. The site is likely to have been destroyed by construction work related to the waterworks.

**101297** Caergwrle Chapel Flint SJ30485707 SJ35NW

Documentary evidence suggests that a chapel of ease was situated at the foot of the hill on which Caergwrle castle stands. The area in question is occupied by housing and there are no apparent traces of a chapel. Some connection with Plas y Bold (presumably Plas yn Bwl) has been suggested, but the house does not appear to have an ecclesiastical origin. It may be that material from the chapel was used to build the house.

**101342** Cae Gosper Fieldname Denbigh SJ32304240 SJ34SW

Field which is thought to be the site of a chapel mentioned in a survey of 1620 and traditionally the site of a cross and/or a chapel. A cross is mentioned by Llwyd. The chapel was apparently called Capel Collen and lay in Dinhinlle Isaf township, it is said to have been superseded by Ruabon church after 1254.

No visible trace now exists of a church or churchyard in this field. The location given is on top of a broad north/south ridge, rising c.20m above the surrounding area, and giving it a prominent position with distant

views to east and west. It seems likely that any trace of the chapel or cross have been lost to past agricultural activity.

**101471** Ffynnon Sadwrn Well Denbigh SJ04076722 SJ06NW

Ffynnon Sadwrn was recorded by Lhuyd in 1698, who noted that it was located in Foxhall ground. A well chamber was recorded at this location in 1911, which is believed to have represent Ffynnon Sadwrn.

Unfortunately, it appears that the site has been subsequently levelled.

**101535** St Peter's Chapel Denbigh SJ369575 SJ35NE

The site of a chapel at Rosset Green, dedicated to St Peter, is mentioned in documents from 1562. It was apparently the private chapel of the commote of Marford and was demolished at the end of the 18th century.

No physical trace of the chapel is evident. The given NGR is likely to have been suggested as it contains Chapel Lane. The name is, however, likely to have been given to the thoroughfare as a result of the construction of a chapel in 1822 at its junction with the B5445. Other locations nearer the junction of the B5445 and B5102 have been examined and a raised area was seen in the public park to the north of the B5102, measuring approximately 20m by 8m overall, but it is unknown whether this relates to the chapel.

**101537** Ffynnon Ddueno Well Flint SJ31365191 SJ35SW

A Spring called Ffynnon Ddueno was enclosed within a square building, ruinous in 1911. The well house is not thought to be medieval, but it is believed that the well was referred to by Lhuyd.

The site is now occupied by a large spoil tip and the spring has ceased to flow.

**101576** St Dogfan's Well Denbigh SJ09452901 SJ02NE

A well situated in a hollow on the north-west side of the yard at Gwernfeifod. It consists of a coursed drystone revetment against the slope on the north-east, possibly with flanking revetments on the north-west and south-east, although this is masked by a corrugated iron cover. Water seems to be ponded up by a large slab at the front (south-west), to a depth of 0.5m. Total depth from the top of the revetment is 1.0m. A modern concrete ring well has been sunk 2m to south-west. Overall 2.0m north-east/south-west x 1.4m x 1.0m deep.

The 'Ffynnon Cwm Ffynnon' mentioned by Francis Jones appears to have been confused with this site; it is apparently located in the higher reaches of Cwm Ffynnon, according to the landowner.

**101815** Tywysog Chapel Site Denbigh SJ00306673 SJ06NW

A carved stone built into a farm wall near Tywysog house is also shown on early editions of the large-scale Ordnance Survey map. There are in fact two stones, one a pair of panels showing sets of male and female weepers, and taken from a Jacobethan tomb, and a second pair with heraldry, probably but not certainly from the same tomb.

There is no indication where these panels originated, although the owner states that she was told by the previous owner that the field into which these panels face is known as Cae(r) Fynwent. Also there are suggestions that Tywysog was a Catholic refuge in the 16th century and that there was a chapel there.

**101902** Cefn Fynydd Chapel site Denbigh SJ062513 SJ05SE

A lost church or chapel, supposedly in ruins, was recorded in Derwen at the beginning of the 19th century. Archdeacon Thomas located this at Pyllau Perth.

The roof of the old barn at Pyllau Perth (now Glanyraber) was removed in the 1960s, after a failed planning application to turn the old barn into a house. Some timbers were removed to Cefn Mawr, but those that remain in store there are undiagnostic. Others reputedly went elsewhere. There is thus no way of verifying the original 19th-century record, although that record in Archaeological Cambrensis is positive enough to suggest an authentic identification.

However, what is not immediately clear from Archdeacon Thomas' report (1911, 73) is whether the chapel itself was on this site or whether the roof timbers had been brought from elsewhere. There is nothing now standing to suggest a chapel, but equally the barn itself may also have gone for the surviving building to the south of Glanyraber has two fireplaces. A closer reading of the original source does seem to indicate that the church was situated elsewhere in the parish.

**101997** Ffynnon Elwoc Denbigh SH95267719 SH97NE

Ffynnon Elwoc is a well consisting of a water-filled, brick lined chamber capped by a stone slab, subsequently marked by a metal pipe set in concrete.

The site of the well is within a rushy hollow, c.5m diameter, at the north end of the field. Two gateposts are present in the immediate area, perhaps denoting that it used to be fenced off. There is no visible overflow gully and may have been piped to the nearby stream at the east edge of the field.

**102012** Ffynnon Gegidog Denbigh SH9764275668 SH97NE

Ffynnon Gegidog is set within a railed enclosure and is believed locally to have been efficacious in the cure of equine complaints. It consists of an internally stone-revetted tank, seemingly in two parts. The west part is over 1.0m deep and has surface water. There are also three large stones towards its north side. The east part is aligned north to south and is shallow in comparison at only 0.4m in depth. This part has a stony bottom and no surface water. The combination of features could represent a series of steps which lead down from the south-east corner around the east and north sides of the tank to the deepest part which is in the south-west corner. A few small trees are present within the enclosure. Overall dimensions 8.0m east/west by 5.7m and over 1.0m deep.

There is one reference to an inference that it might be the holy well of St Sior, but of course there is no direct evidence to associate the well with a local saint.

It represents a rare occurrence of a scheduled well (De186), going under the name of St George's well, Abergele.

**102014** Ffynnon Diefer Well Flint SJ09467002 SJ06NE

The site of a holy well named after St Deifer, an early patron saint of Bodfari Church, was noted in 1912 by the Royal Commission as being a choked and neglected spring

The well now consists of an enclosed pool. It has a brick back, stone sides and a stone front, all mortared. A projecting pitched slate slab functions as a cover for the back and beneath this is what may have been a piped outlet but there was no flow at the time of the visit and indeed the outlet looked blocked. At the base the trough is clogged with dirt, leaves and mud, but the well does look to have been refurbished in perhaps the last twenty

years or so. The overall dimensions are c.0.9m long, 0.5m deep and perhaps 1.0m or so high. Locally it retains its reputation as a holy well (Phillip Eyrton-Jones: pers comm).

**102022** Ffynnon Farcel Well (site of) Denbigh SJ06736612 SJ06NE

A well was recorded at this location by Lhuyd in 1698 and was presumed to be related to a saint. The outflow channel for the well was seen in 1914, but no subsequent evidence has been forthcoming. The area is occupied by a roundabout on the Denbigh bypass and a housing development. It is unlikely that any structure has survived.

**102141** Ffynnon Fair Chapel Flint SJ02917107 SJ07SW

A T-shaped chapel, of limestone. The shorter arm represents the top of the T, running north to south at the west end. This was partially open to the well which lies immediately to the west.

The gable ends of the shorter arm survive to full height; the north one has a bell-turret but no bell, and putlog holes, some of which go right through the wall. The south wall has an off-centre two-centred doorway of dressed limestone (which looks post-medieval but may not be). Above this but central are the remains of a two-centred, three-light window with some elements of the tracery still in place (Perpendicular); these dressings are predominantly of olive-coloured sandstone. Little of the west wall remains and indeed probably it was always incomplete, giving access to the well pool (though was this itself roofed?).

The stream from the well pool runs inside the building, alongside the south wall and exiting under the east window of the south arm. This east window has two lights with ogee-heads, all in olive sandstone. In the angle of this and the south wall, there appears to have been a compartment or something similar, with foundations still in place.

In the south wall of the main arm, a doorway with two-centred arch all in limestone; the large window in this wall has gone. In the east wall a large four-centred window with chamfered jambs, again all in sandstone. Below the window a large stone. Might this have supported an altar?

Nothing can be determined about the north wall window. Putlog holes in most walls.

The well pool is of sandstone, and the water must rise at the north end. A gully coming down the hill from the west was dry when the site was visited, but was probably not an original feature. The pool is rectangular and at the angles and in the centre of three of the sides were heptagonal projections (although one or two have now gone). Off the main pool was a basin accessed from the chapel and fed by water running under the pool wall; there may have been a second basin immediately to the south

In reasonable condition though much graffiti is visible on the pool surrounds.

**102142** Ffynnon Fair Holy Well Flint SJ02907107 SJ07SW

The well, as an integral part of Fynnon Fair chapel, is described under PRN 102141.

**102290** St Michael's Well Pentre Flint SJ17426495 SJ16SE

Ffynnon Fihangel was mentioned by Lhuyd at the end of the 17th century.

The well is defined by a D-shaped stone basin, with a straight east side and at least three courses of stonework



**102794**      Cae Abba Addi Poss Hermitage Site                      Denbigh                      SJ21684181                      SJ24SW

A triangular piece of land containing a cottage called 'The Hermitage' recorded by RCAHMW in 1914. There has been some later confusion due to the mis-interpretation of a nearby fieldname which actually appears to relate to a stream. There seems to be no reason for supposing that this placename relates to an ecclesiastical site.

**105529**      Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr churchyard                      Denbigh                      SH98984941                      SH94NE

The churchyard at Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr abuts the south-western bank of Afon Alwen, and is generally at least 2m above the level of the river.

It has a curvilinear west side and its south side, running back to the river, is fairly straight. The interior is raised about 0.5m on south and west and 0.8m at the east end. No traces of a relict boundary remain either inside or outside the present graveyard.

**105532**      Llangernyw Church, yard                      Denbigh                      SH87516746                      SH86NE

The church at Llangernyw is set in an elongated churchyard that enlargement in 1850 and more particularly in 1884.

There is however a curvilinearity to its original form, notwithstanding the fact that its southern side abuts the river valley and thus has its line already delineated. On the west and on the north there is a curve to the boundary, despite the fact that the Stag Inn runs right up to the edge and may even have shaved off a bit of the original enclosure. On the east there was a straight boundary running almost due north to south, and visible on the oldest Ordnance Survey maps. However, while this is still visible on the ground as a relict scarp, it is also clear that it had a predecessor which had more of a curve to it, also showing as an earthwork and linking up with the external wall on the north side. Thus much of the original churchyard boundary is curvilinear.

**105556**      Pentre Fidog Chapel                      Denbigh                      SH87465133                      SH85SE

The site of Pentre Fidog chapel is reputedly in the playing field to the south of the main A5 as it passes through Pentrefoelas. A mature yew tree marks the spot and is set on an almost circular tump, about 0.6m high, which then merges with a scarp which as it runs at right angles to the river is likely to result from playing field levelling rather than being a river terrace. There are no signs of a building, although one or two large boulders are heaping beside what is probably a natural outcrop about 20m to the south-south-east of the yew.

The chapel is said to date back to at least the 17th century. The only description that has come down is from the last survivor of the congregation, who died in 1847, and refers to the clay floor covered in rushes.

**105818**      Bodfari Church, yard                      Flint                      SJ09257012                      SJ07SE

The church appears to be established on a natural spur so that the ground falls away on all sides except the north-east. There is a drop of over 6m on the south-east and the south-west, and on the north-west a 2m drop shallows out to less than 0.5m further to the north-east. A steep scarp, 3m or so high, on the north-east defines the pre-1898 extent of the churchyard, but this is at least in part a product of the creation of a more level burial ground extension above.

If there was a curvilinear enclosure here there is now no trace. And the curvilinearity of the south-west end shown on the Tithe map cannot really be trusted. It is now sub-rectangular, tapering towards the south-west,

and this must be a reflection of the topography as much as any pre-existing earthwork..

**105826** Dyserth churchyard Flint SJ05647938 SJ07NE

From Tithe map evidence, there was an original polygonal enclosure, much of which was occupied by the church. It was extended eastwards in 1871, with a later extension to the south which was consecrated in 1916.

The perimeter of the pre-1871 churchyard is delineated by a low scarp bank, up to c.0.5m high, around the south-eastern and north-eastern sides of the church, and inevitably takes in the older marked burials including those with hooded tombs. But it is impossible without detailed survey to determine whether this boundary is curvilinear; the stylised depiction of the Tithe map would suggest not, but cannot be relied on, and the instinctive feeling for it is that there is a curve to the relict boundary on this side. Some yew trees sit on the bank but there is at least one mature example inside, and yew bushes are found on the approaches to the west door of the church.

On the north-west side of the church there is nothing distinctive but there are a couple of slight scarps, the origins of which remain obscure.

This is a heavily used churchyard and it is not surprising that there are difficulties in tracing any earlier boundary.

**105908** Corwen Church (St Mael & St Sulien), y Merioneth SJ07934342 SJ04SE

Corwen churchyard is now heptagonal, and though there is no substantive evidence whatsoever that its shape was originally curvilinear, it can reasonably be assumed that its perimeter boundary has been cut back.

**105914** Gwyddelwern Church, yard Merioneth SJ07464668 SJ04NE

A D-shaped churchyard, distinctively curved on the north and east sides, and also on the south for a shorter length. The impression from the existing layout is that the north-west and south-east sides have been shaved back and that the west side is a later creation.

In the 1990s in the pasture to the west of the churchyard a very low curving scarp was identified which it was suggested might be the original boundary of the church enclosure. This however could not be verified during a further field visit.

**106491** Alltgymbyd "old Chapel" Denbigh SJ20405480 SJ25SW

Rectangular stone building aligned north-west/south-east and in ruinous condition. The walls are of lime mortared angular stone and 0.5m thick, but with no decorated stonework evident, only roughly dressed quoins. The building comprises two rooms, of which the south-east may be the habitation as there is a possible fireplace at its south-east end, marked by a rubble pile. A lean-to addition abuts the south-east end, with an old trackway running north-west/south-east on its south-east side. Overall dimensions of building are 12.3m north-west/south-east by 4.5m and 1.8m high.

There is no physical evidence of an earlier ecclesiastical use for this building, though Alltgymbyd is said by the owner to be a former possession of Valle Crucis, so it is possible that there was a small grange chapel here which could have been re-used as a cottage. The appearance of the building renders this interpretation unlikely, however.

The earthwork is set on a north-facing slope just below the crest of a hill on which sites a round barrow. It is defined by a shallow gully on the east, north and west sides, c.0.5m wide and 0.1m deep, and on the south side a faint ledge or scarp. This gully encloses a rectangular area that is fairly flat and this hints at deliberate levelling but no real build up of material. Overall the site is perhaps 5m north-south and 4m east-west.

It has similarities to the square ditches excavated at Tandderwen, Denbigh, and the proximity off around barrow in this context might be noted. It has excellent views seawards. The vegetation of heather appears to have been cleared or even burnt in recent years. Without this treatment the earthwork would not have been visible.