

A SURVEY OF DEFENDED ENCLOSURES IN CARMARTHENSHIRE, 2007-08: GAZETTEER OF ORDNANCE SURVEY GRID SQUARES SN22, SN23 & SN24



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Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust
For Cadw



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A SURVEY OF DEFENDED ENCLOSURES IN CARMARTHENSHIRE, 2007-08: GAZETTEER OF ORDNANCE SURVEY GRID SQUARES SN22, SN23 & SN24

Gan / By

F Murphy, R Ramsey, M Page and K Murphy

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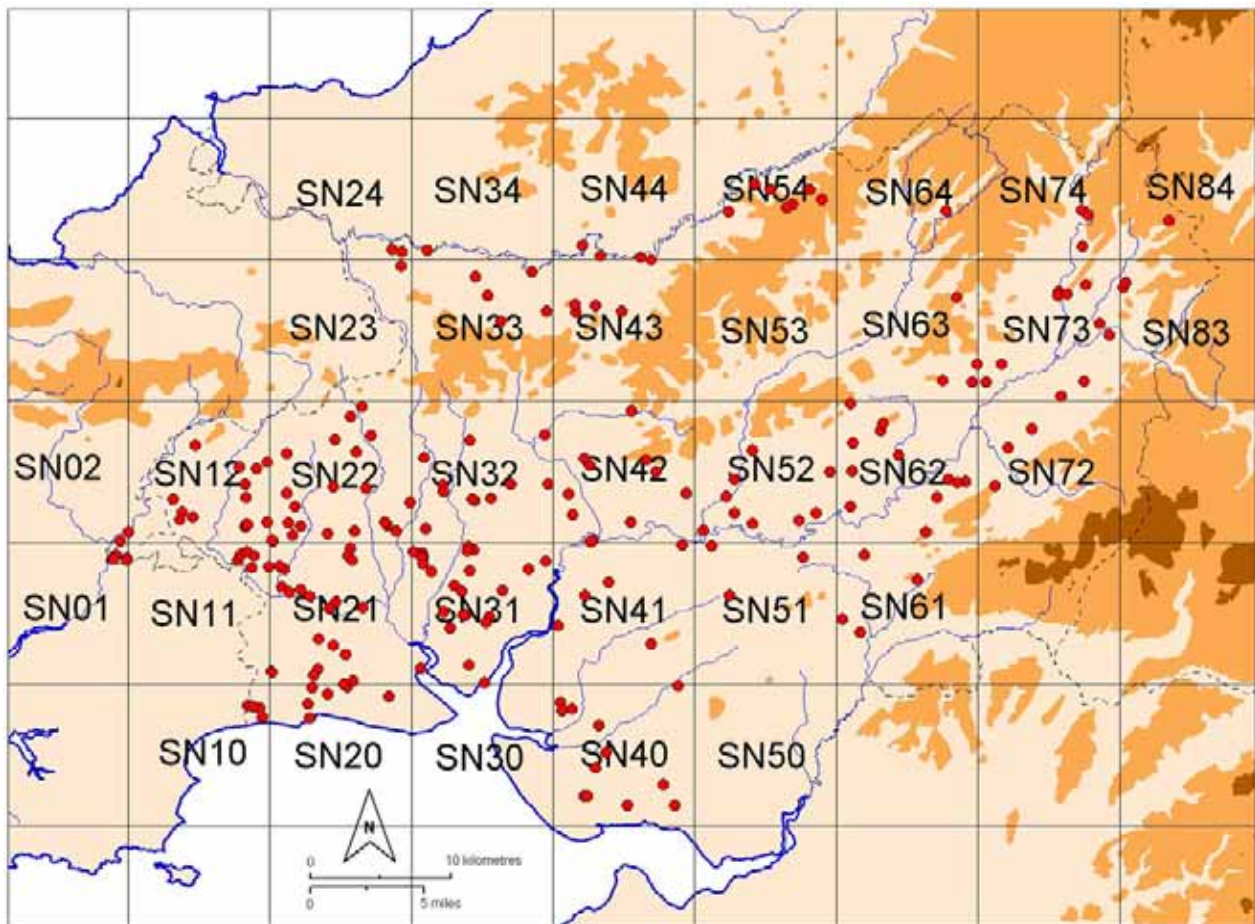
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SITE GAZETTEER OF 10KM GRID SQUARES SN22, SN23 & SN24

For ease of handling the site gazetteers have been arranged into Ordnance Survey 10km grid squares. Each gazetteer consists of one or more 1:50,000 maps showing the overall location of each site followed by the individual entries for each site. Each entry comprises: a printout from the Historic Environment Record, including a site description; where available a ground photograph and an aerial photograph; and a 1:5000 map.

Some of the 1:5000 maps show details of the site plotted from cropmarks shown on aerial photographs. These plots are supplied by RCAHMW Crown Copyright ©.



Index to the gazetteers of defended enclosures and related sites. Gazetteers are arranged by 10km grid squares.



Map based on the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 map showing the distribution of sites in 10 km grid square SN22.

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3927 Y Gaer

PRN 3927 NGR SN21222634

SITE NAME GAER Y MAPSHEET SN22NW

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Prehistoric?;Iron Age? CONDITION C

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

Y Gaer is an oval, univallate enclosure lying on a very gentle southwest-facing slope at 205m above sea level. Internally it measures c.125m N-S and 100m E-W. The north and west sides of the defence are overlain by a hedgebank. The remaining defensive circuit is very poorly preserved, with the bank standing to a maximum of 0.3m in height (on the northeast side) and the ditch a shallow linear depression. Aerial photographs show a complete circuit of the defences where they are not covered by the hedgebank, with no sign of an entrance. The entrance is therefore assumed to lie on the west side beneath the hedgebank, and the pattern of the hedges strongly supports this. In 2007 the site is currently under improved pasture.

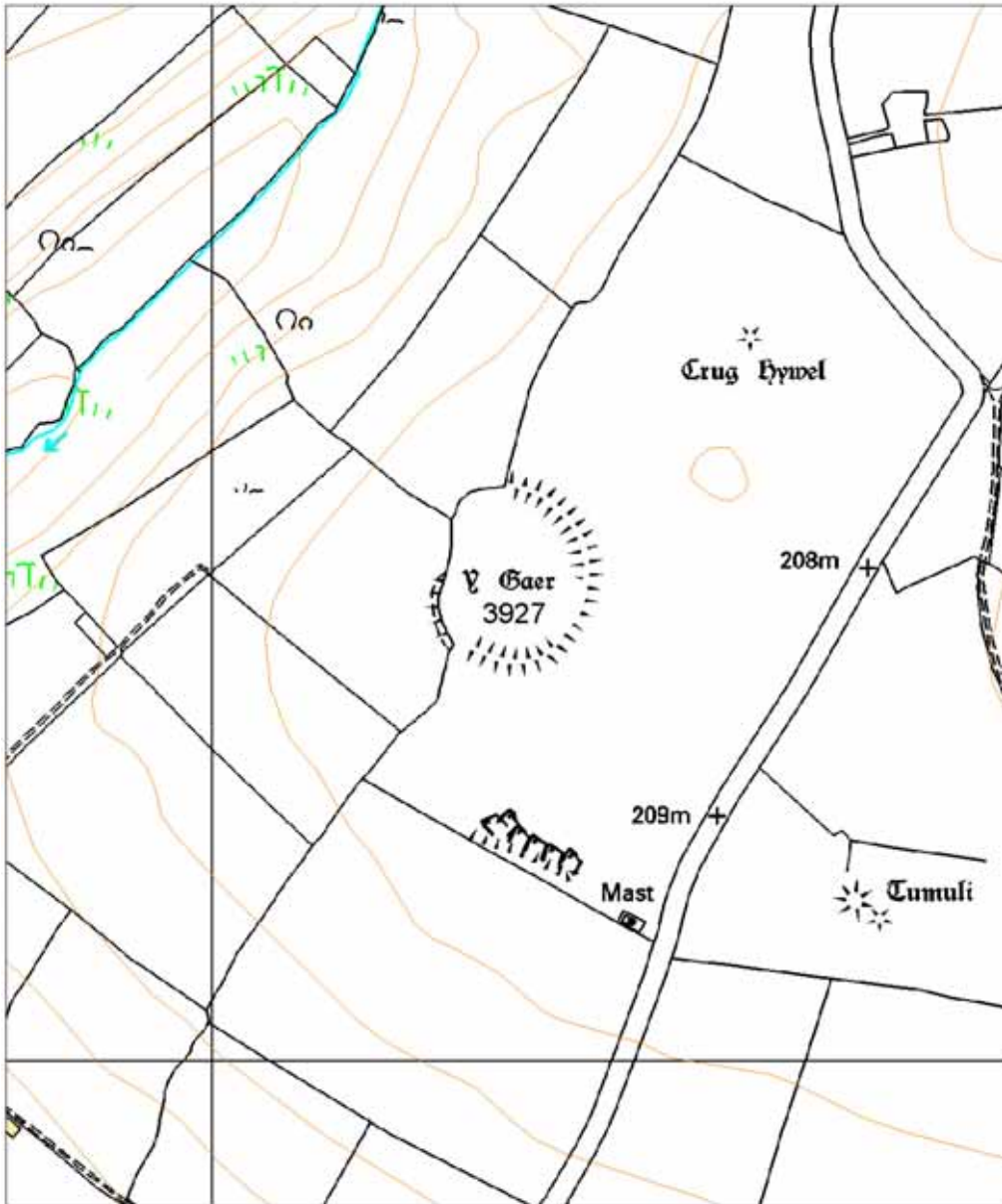
K Murphy and R Ramsey 30 January 2008



Looking N over low earthworks of site.



Aerial photograph of 3927. RCAHMW Crown Copyright © reference DI2007_1685.



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3940 Castell Mawr

PRN 3940 NGR SN27152758

SITE NAME CASTELL MAWR MAPSHEET SN22NE

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Prehistoric?;Iron Age? CONDITION C

SITE STATUS SAM

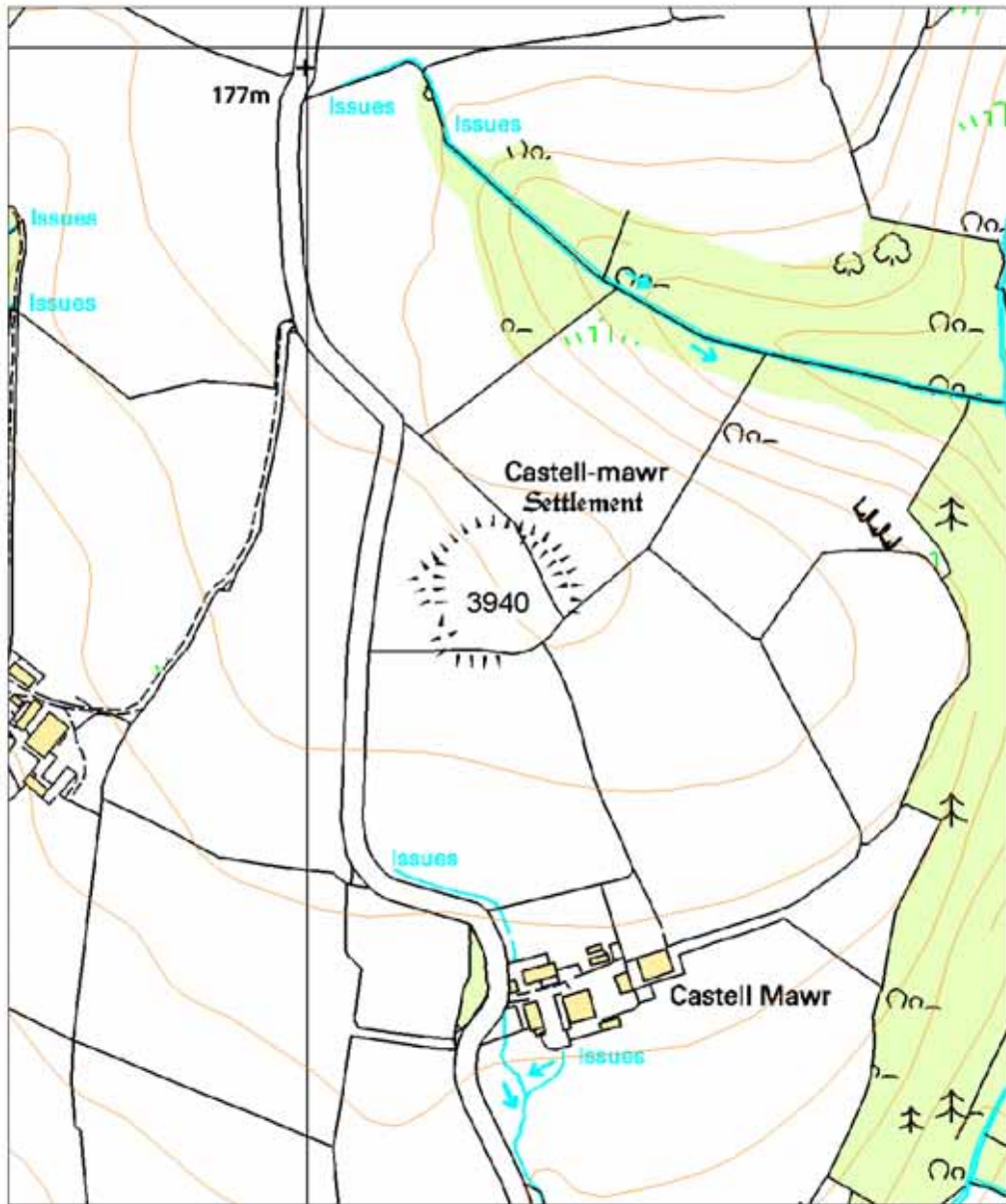
DESCRIPTION

Castell Mawr is a univallate, polygonal defended enclosure occupying part of the summit and upper western slopes of a rounded hill at 170m above sea level. The enclosure measures c.95m across internally. The enclosure is protected by a bank and ditch. The bank rises to c.0.7m above the interior and up to 1.7m above the ditch. A 0.5m high counterscarp lies along the north side of the ditch. Aerial photographs show this counterscarp, though much reduced, on the south and east sides. The entrance is on the west side. There is a low triangular projection on the outside of the bank on the north side of the entrance. A 60m long second bank, with entrance through its centre, provides additional protection to the entrance. The featureless interior slopes down gently from east to west. The site is under improved pasture.

K Murphy February 2008 - compiled from several sources



Aerial photograph of 3940. RCAHMW Crown Copyright © reference DI2007_1682.



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3941 Pencastell

PRN 3941 NGR SN25712895

SITE NAME PENCASTELL MAPSHEET SN22NE

SITE TYPE PROMONTORY FORT FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Prehistoric?;Iron Age? CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

Pencastell is a multivallate inland promontory fort, with widely spaced ramparts, lying at 170m above sea level, in deciduous woodland. The site is very well defended to the east, north and west by very steep slopes that fall away to steams 40m below the site. To the south land rises steadily away from the promontory, and three lines of rampart protect this easily approachable side. The outer, southern, (c.65m E-W) rampart lies mostly in a field. According to a Dyfed Archaeological Trust site visit in 1984 this rampart had only then been recently removed and survived as a spread of stone and clay. The western end of this rampart survives in woodland, but it is very overgrown. The Ordnance Survey record an entrance in the approximate centre of this outer rampart.

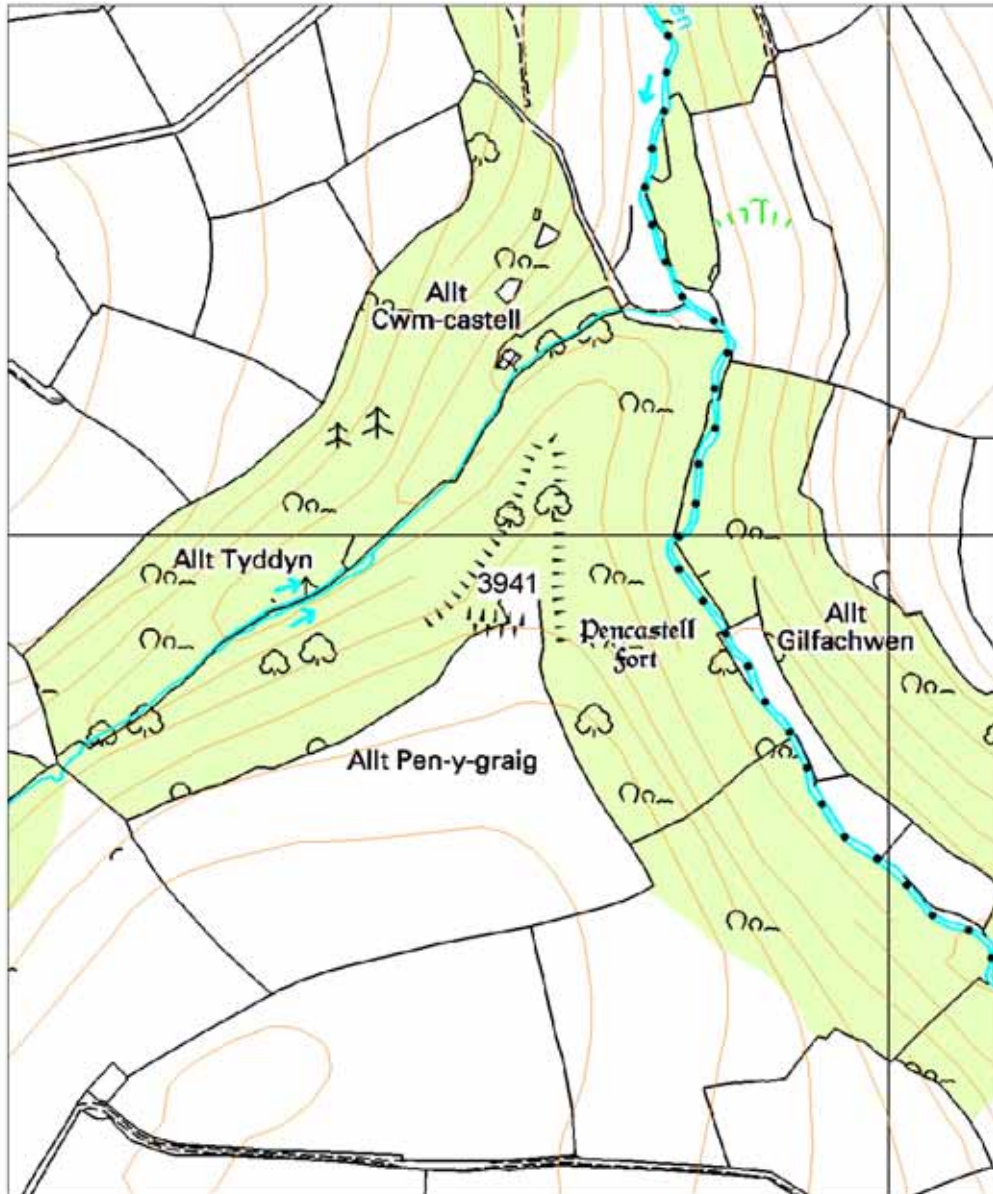
There is a c.25m gap between the outer rampart and the middle one, and a gap of c.8.0m between the middle and inner rampart. Both these are well preserved with the banks standing to c.4 - 5m above their (now) shallow ditches. The eastern end of the middle rampart has been quarried away. The entrance through the middle and inner rampart seems to have been between the west end of the ramparts and the steep slope. The inner rampart is quite short, c.25m long.

The internal area is triangular in shape, and measures approximately 70m N-S and a maximum of 25m E-W behind the inner rampart.

K Murphy and R Ramsey 11 January 2008



Looking E along ditch of inner rampart



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3945 Gilfach Wen

PRN 3945 NGR SN26502963

SITE NAME GILFACH WENMAPSHEET SN22NE

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Prehistoric?;Iron Age? CONDITION C

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

This site was first recognised by the Ordnance Survey from 1946 aerial photographs, and was recorded as the western half of a possible univallate enclosure.

On the ground, in 2008, a curving length of low bank c.60m long with a faint ditch to the north defines the north and northwest sides of the enclosure. Elsewhere very faint traces of the bank confirm that this is indeed an oval enclosure approximately 90m E-W and 70m N- S. There is no trace of an entrance.

The site lies on a gentle south-facing slope at 195m above sea level. It is under improved pasture.

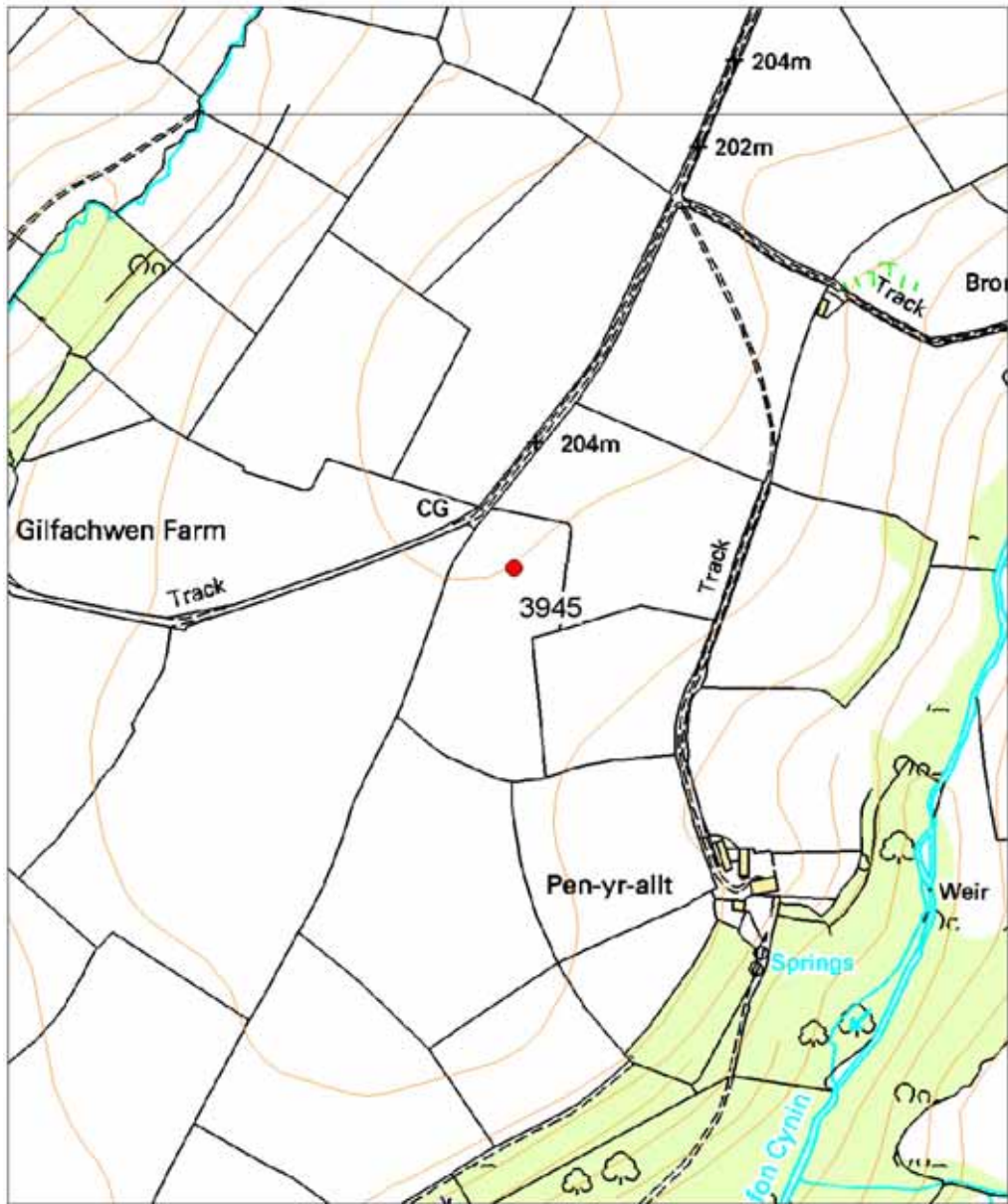
K Murphy and R Ramsey 11 January 2008



Looking S towards site of enclosure.



Looking WsW along line of bank, N side of enclosure.



1:5000

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3952 Hafod Camp

PRN 3952 NGR SN21802256

SITE NAME HAFOD CAMP MAPSHEET SN22SW

SITE TYPE PROMONTORY FORT FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Prehistoric?;Iron Age? CONDITION B

SITE STATUS SAM;ACK

DESCRIPTION

Hafod Camp is a univallate inland promontory fort with an annexe situated at 90m above sea level. To the east, south and west the steep natural slopes, which provide a good natural defence, have been scarped along their top edge to provide an additional defence. A substantial curving rampart, c. 90m long, defends the easily approachable side on the northwest. The bank of this rampart rises 2.3m above the interior and 5m above the ditch. It is overgrown with trees and bracken. The ditch is approximately 10m wide and 2m deep. The entrance lies between the eastern terminal of the bank and the steep slope. At the entrance the counterscarp is clubbed. The interior is triangular shaped, c.75m N-S and 90m E-W at its widest behind the bank. The interior is under improved pasture.

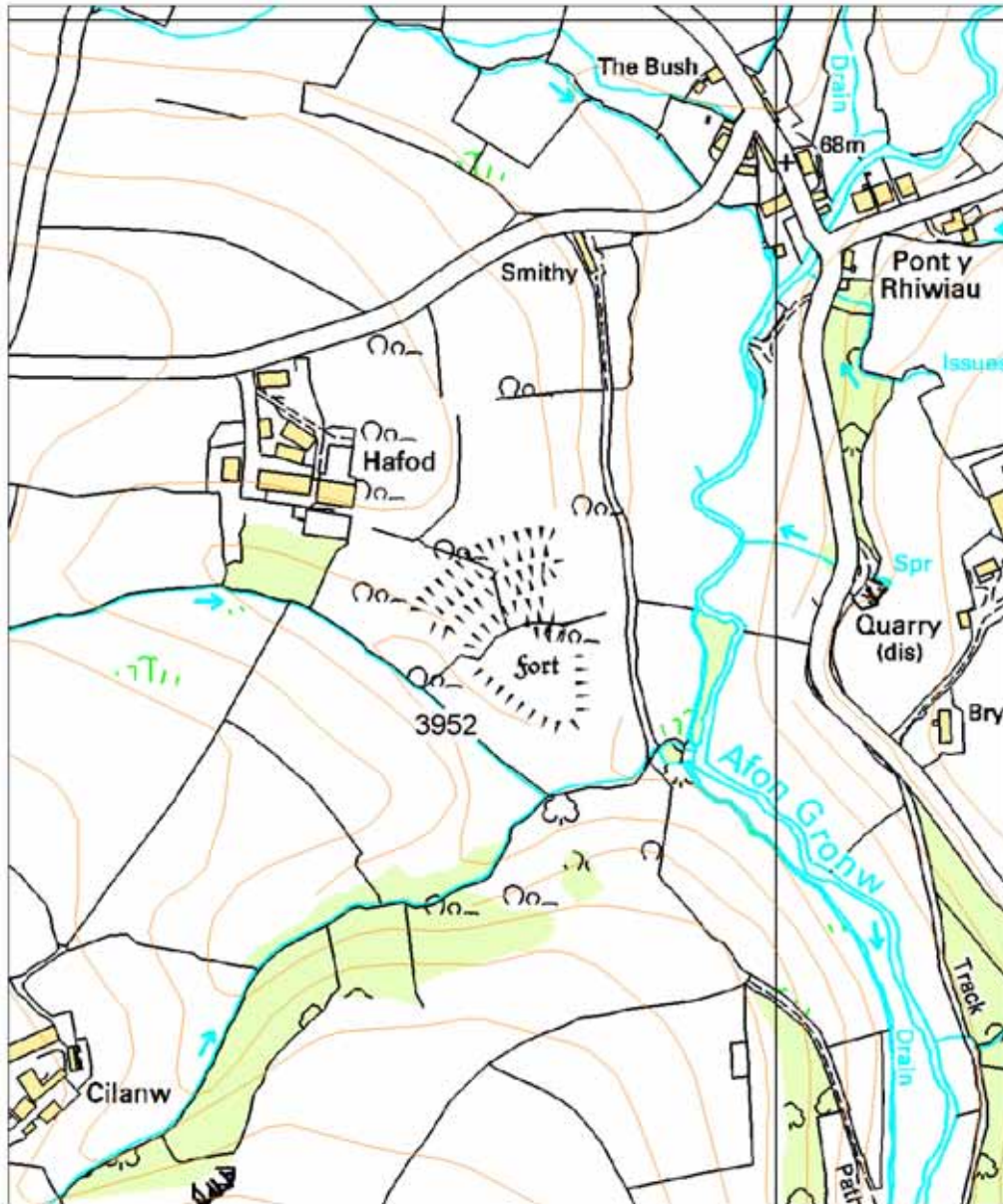
The annexe lies to the north and is defended by a rampart approximately 30m from the inner rampart. The outer rampart is much weaker than the inner, being c. 2m high with a mainly filled in ditch up to 1m deep. At its southwest end the annexe rampart curves to the southeast and runs up to the inner rampart. There are two (modern?) gaps in the annexe rampart.

The RCAHM in 1917 recorded that in about 1800 a number of Roman coins were found in the fort.

K Murphy February 2008 - compiled from several sources



Aerial photograph of 3952. RCAHMW Crown Copyright © reference DI2007_1700.



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3954 Castell Draenog

PRN 3954 NGR SN21292145

SITE NAME CASTELL DRAENOG MAPSHEET SN22SW

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Prehistoric?;Iron Age? CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

Castell Draenog is a bivallate, oval or sub-rectangular defended enclosure occupying a south-facing gentle slope at 175m above sea level. On the ground slight earthworks are visible, but these are very slight and it not easy to trace the defensive circuit with any confidence. Aerial photographs are a better means of understanding the site. Indeed, the earthworks are now so reduced that a photograph taken in the dry summer of 1984 shows the site as a cropmark. On this photograph the enclosure appears more sub-rectangular than oval, with internal measurements of c.75m by c.75m. The entrance is west-facing, and appears to be an overlapping entrance through both the inner and outer ditch. There seems to be a wide break in the outer ditch on the south side. The cropmark photograph also shows a possible faint, small, inner enclosure, and an outer cropmark ditch to the north may mark the line of an annexe.

In 2007 the site was under improved pasture.

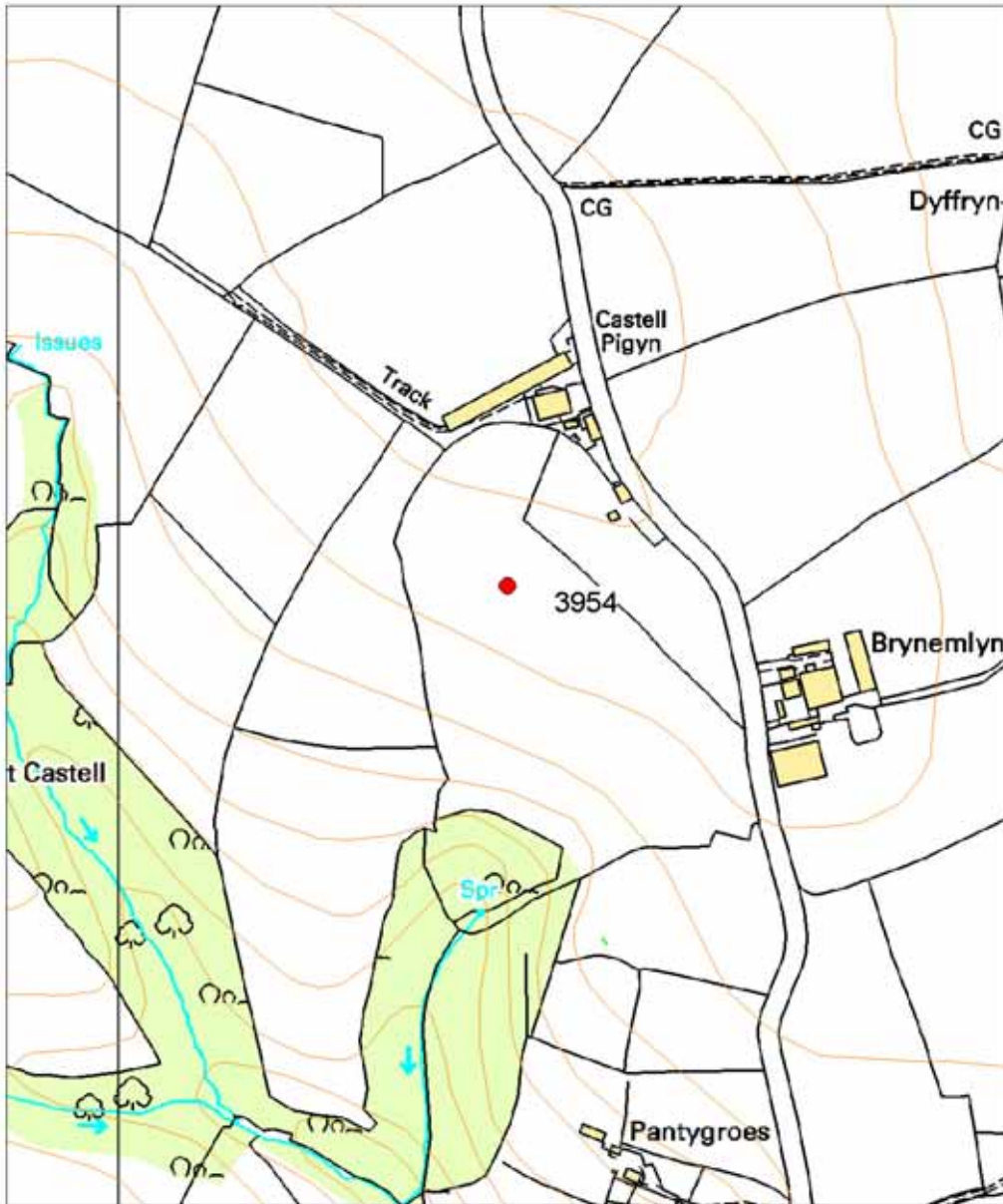
K Murphy and R Ramsey 30 January 2008



Looking NW over site.



Aerial photograph of 3954. Reference DAT AP86-68.22.



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3956 Beili Mawr

PRN 3956 NGR SN22172118

SITE NAME BEILI MAWR;BRODAWEL MAPSHEET SN22SW

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE;ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age?;Roman?;Medieval CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

Beili Mawr is rectangular enclosure lying on an east-facing slope at 140m above sea level. It measures c.55m by 50m internally. A low, c.12m wide bank defines the enclosure. It is best preserved on the west side where it measures up to 0.3m high externally and 0.7m high above the interior. There is a trace on an external ditch on the west side. A hedgebank runs along the bank on the east side of the enclosure. Aerial photographs show a possible entrance towards the south end of the east side. A rectilinear hollow towards the southeast corner of the interior may be a building platform. In 2007 the site was under improved pasture.

The site is likely to be a late Iron Age or Roman defended enclosure, but a medieval date cannot be ruled out, especially in light of the site's name.

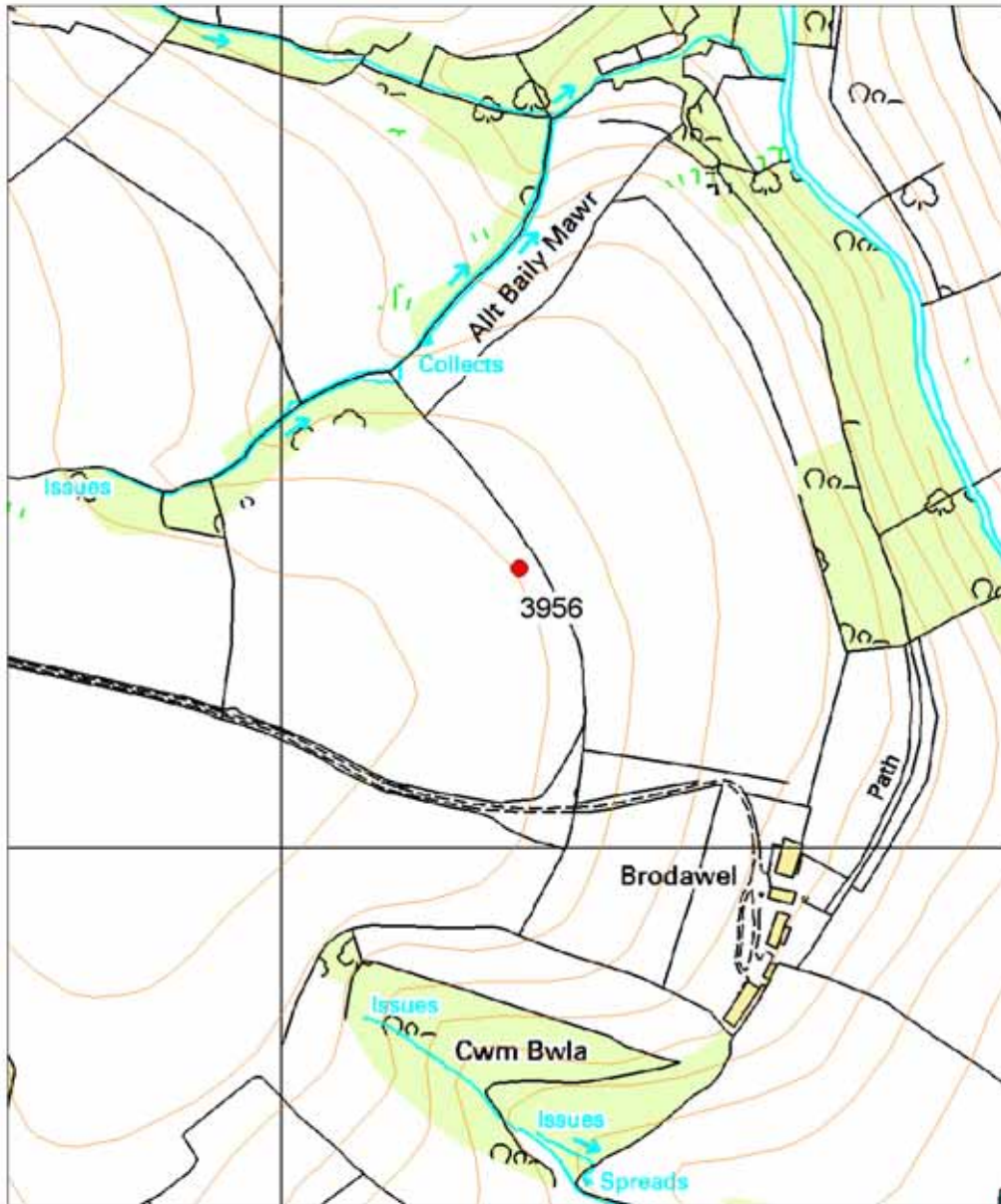
K Murphy and R Ramsey 7 December 2007



Looking NE across enclosure.



Aerial photograph of 3956. RCAHMW Crown Copyright © reference DI2007_1683.



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3963 Pen Y Gaer

PRN 3963 NGR SN26002083

SITE NAME PEN Y GAER FAWR;PENGARE VAWR;PENGARE VACH MAPSHEET SN22SE

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Prehistoric?;Iron Age? CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

The RCAHM in 1917 noted the field name on the tithe schedule of 'Pen y gaer fawr' and they reported that the remains of a small circular enclosure surrounded by a ditch were visible when they visited the site in 1912. They also reported that a quern stone had been found on the site.

In later years the Ordnance Survey were unable to find any trace of the enclosure on the ground, but noted its presence on vertical aerial photographs.

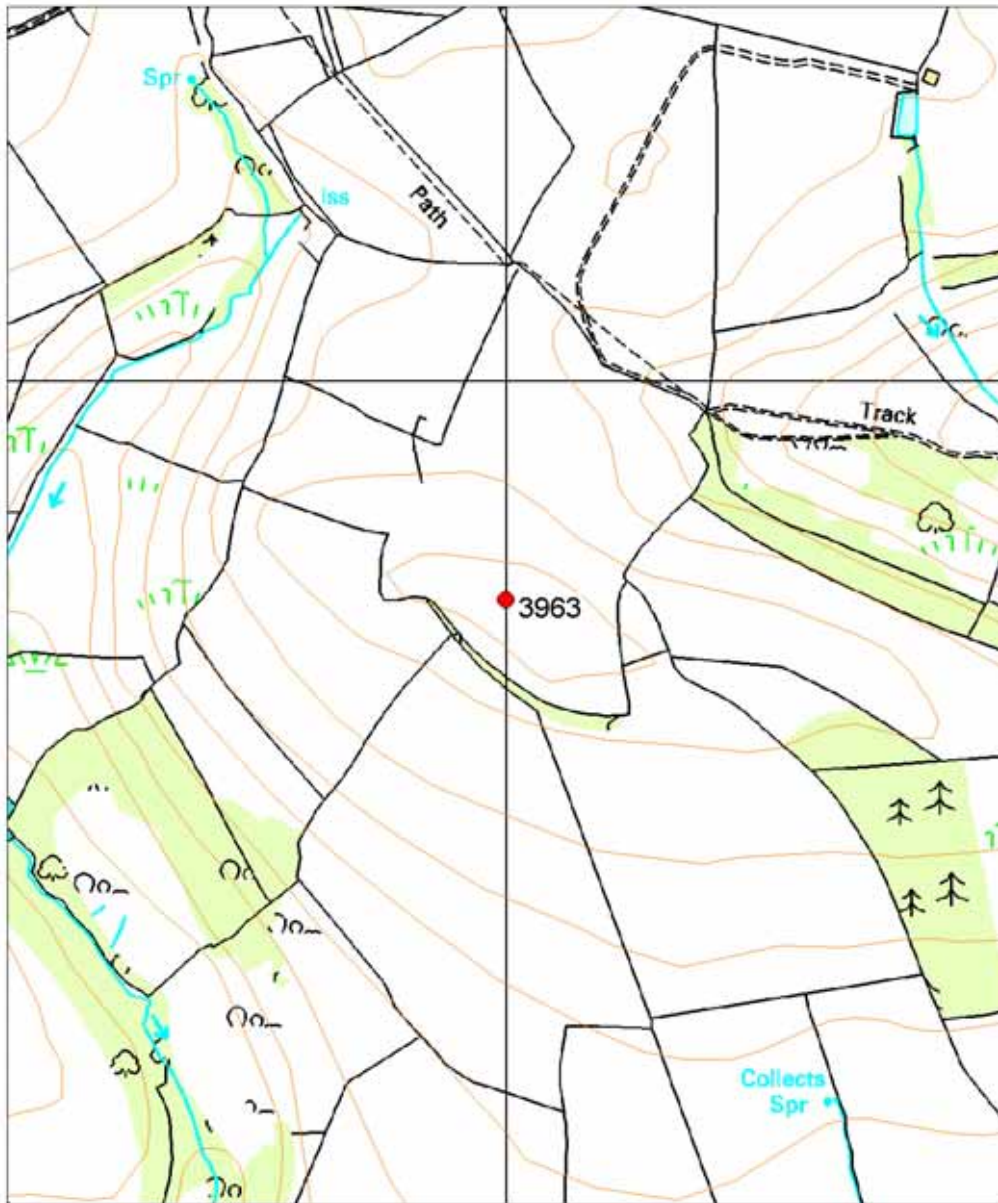
The site visit in 2008 was able to trace the remains of a curving bank, up to 0.3m high that appeared to represent the north side of the enclosure. A curving hedgebank may define the south side of the enclosure.

The enclosure lies on a rounded hilltop at 140m. In 2008 the site was under improved pasture.

K Murphy and R Ramsey 3 January 2008



Looking SE over site of enclosure.



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3965 Bron Niwl

PRN 3965 NGR SN29932286

SITE NAME BRON NIWL;CASTELL BRON NIWL MAPSHEET SN22SE

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION D

SITE STATUS SAM;ACK

DESCRIPTION

This site was levelled in 1983.

The site lies on an east-facing slope at between 160m and 170m. Immediately to the southeast the slope steepens forming a natural defence. Classification is difficult, but it is probably best termed a defended enclosure that incorporates a steep slope into its defensive circuit, rather than a promontory fort.

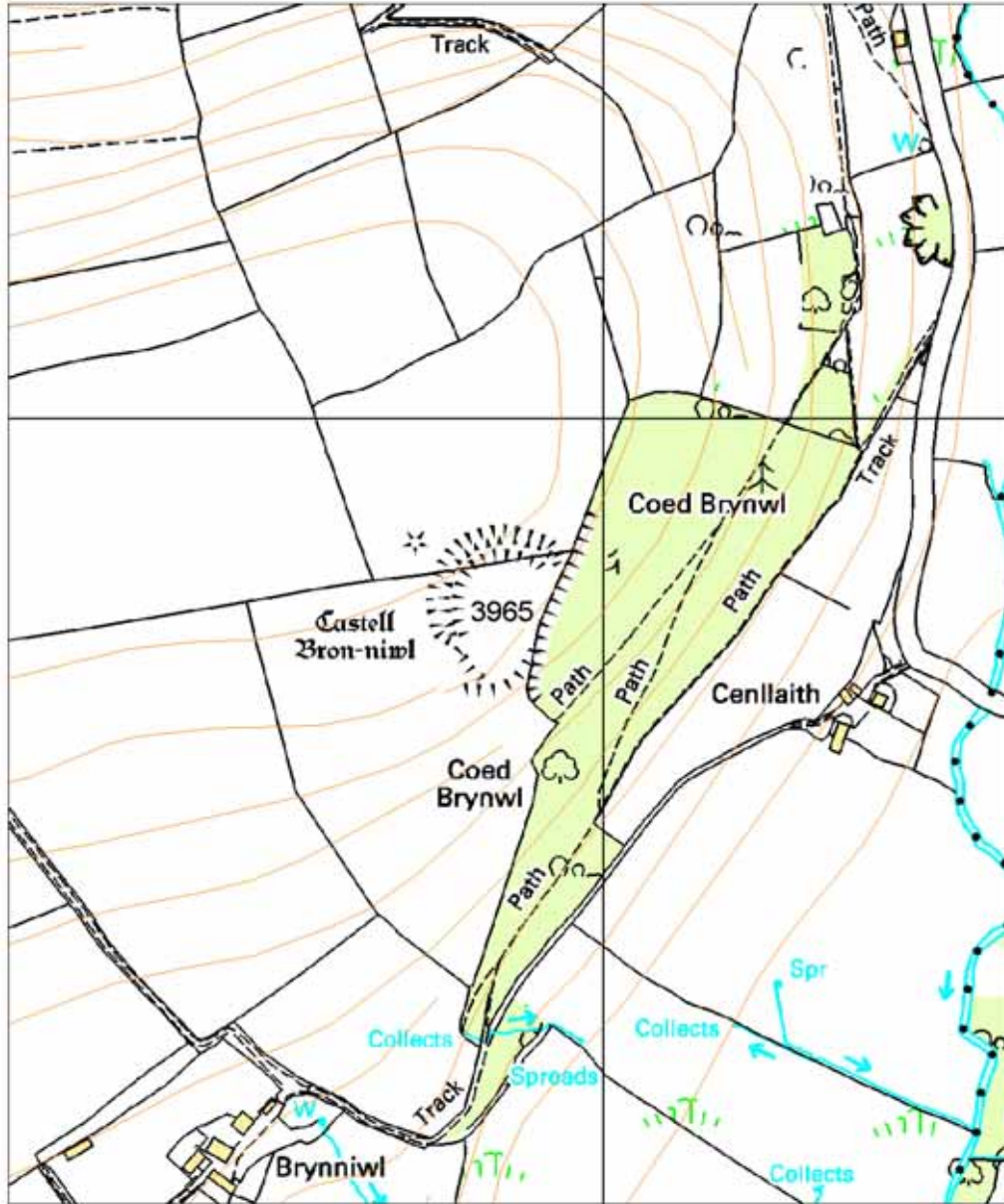
Prior to its levelling the site was a univallate enclosure, roughly circular, with an internal diameter of approximately 85m. The bank stood c.3m above the interior and 4m above the ditch. There was a simple entrance on the southwest. During levelling it was clear that the bank was made from shattered stone and earth.

Since levelling, the site is effectively a cropmark with the bank visible as a slight rise 15-20m wide and the ditch as a slight hollow. The site is under improved pasture.

K Murphy February 2008 - compiled from several sources



Aerial photograph of 3965. RCAHMW Crown Copyright © reference DI2007_1691.



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3969 Cilsant

PRN 3969 NGR SN26812384

SITE NAME CILSANT;PEN GAER FACH MAPSHEET SN22SE

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age;Medieval? CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

Pen Gaer Fach or Cilsant is a univallate, oval defended enclosure occupying the highest point of a rounded spur at 150m above sea level. The site commands wide-ranging views to the north, south and east. The enclosure has an internal diameter of c.70m. It is divided in two by an E-W hedgebank. To the north of the hedge a low bank with traces of an external ditch define the enclosure. The bank survives to a maximum height of 0.8m on the northwest side, but weakens to the east and west. To the south of the hedge a cropmark ditch, visible on aerial photographs, defines the site - this ditch is just visible on the ground as a faint depression. In 1975 the Ordnance Survey recorded a possible entrance on the north side where the ditch seemed to be interrupted. This was less evident in 2008. In 2008, the site was under improved pasture.

Pen Gaer Fach is clearly an Iron Age defended enclosure, but Terry James has suggested it was the caput of Bleddri ap Cadifor, the last native lord of Blaen-cuch and Cilsant, remaining in use into the 12th century. It may also have had an ecclesiastical connection, as a dubious inscribed stone is recorded as coming from the site (PRN 3967).

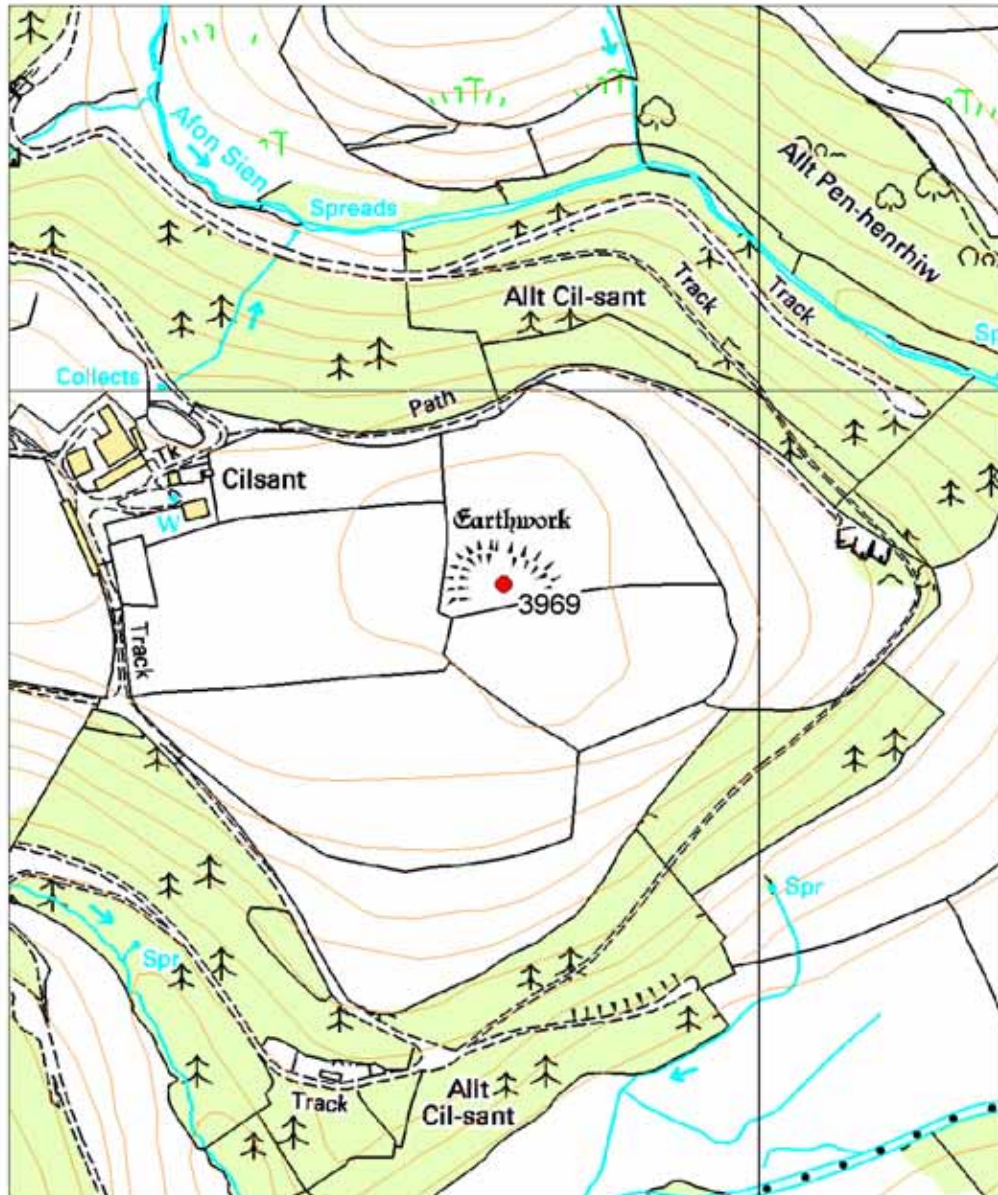
K Murphy and R Ramsey 1 February 2008



Looking S towards earthwork enclosure.



Aerial photograph of 3969. Reference DAT AP84-64.7.



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5072 Castell Mawr

PRN 5072 NGR SN24622730

SITE NAME CASTELL MAWR MAPSHEET SN22NW

SITE TYPE PROMONTORY FORT FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION B

SITE STATUS SAM

DESCRIPTION

The site of Castell Mawr occupies a blunt inland promontory situated at 170m above sea level. It is naturally well protected to the south, east and north by slopes that drop steeply to streams c.30m below. The easily approachable western side is defended by a c.110m long curving rampart cutting off a triangular-shaped internal area c. 110m E-W by 100m N-S. The rampart consists of a bank rising approximately 1m above the interior and 2.5m above the ditch. The ditch is largely silted up and survives to c.1m deep and 11m wide. A gap towards the southwest probably marks the site of an entrance. The bank is reduced at its northeastern end where it is crossed by a vehicular trackway. The interior of the site is under improved pasture. The rampart is covered with trees and shrubs.

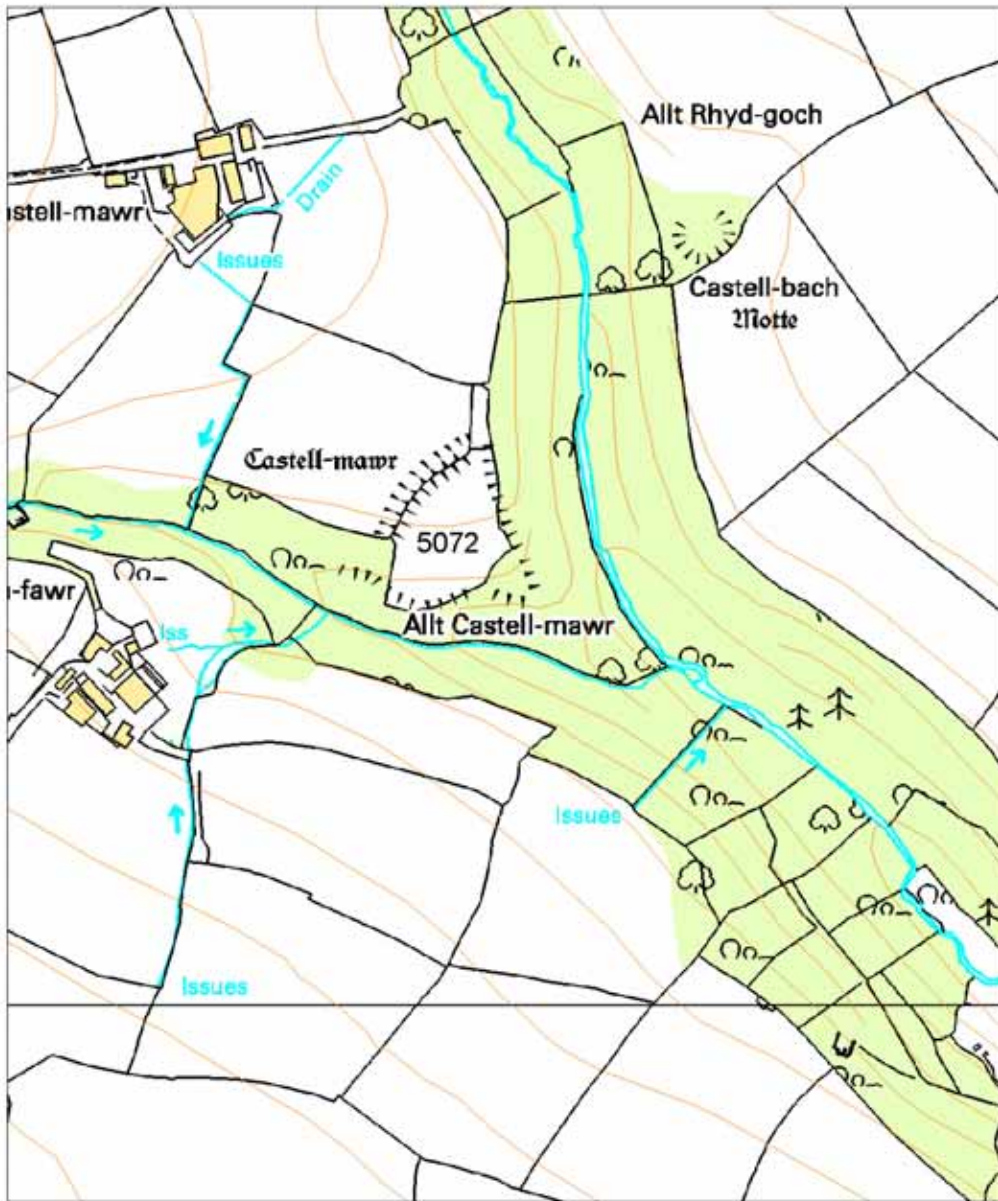
At the tip of the promontory, at the southeast end of the site, a 2m wide rock-cut ditch isolates a small mound c.25m across (PRN 11953) apparently created from material thrown up from the ditch. The surface of this mound has been disturbed in the past with a hole up to 1.4m deep dug into it. There is also some animal disturbance. It is very overgrown.

This mound is not an Iron Age feature, and is more likely to be medieval. Therefore, this site is considered an Iron Age promontory fort that has been re-used in the medieval period.

K Murphy February 2008 - compiled from several sources



Aerial photograph of 5072. RCAHMW Crown Copyright © reference DI2007_1692.



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5077 Plas Cerdin

PRN 5077 NGR SN24072069

SITE NAME PLAS Y CERDIN;PARC Y CASTELL MAPSHEET SN22SW

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Prehistoric;Iron Age CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

The tithe map records this field as Parc y Castell, as noted by the RCAHM in 1917. The RCAHM recorded no visible earthworks at this location.

Parc y Castell is an oval, bivallate defended enclosure that has internal measurements of c.50m N-S and 35m E-W. It lies on a moderately steep west-facing slope at 120m above sea level. An oval hollow defines the site, on the west side of which are two concentric curving lengths of low bank, up to 0.4m high. These fade to the north and south. A hedgebank probably lies over the eastern side of the defences. The site of the entrance is unknown. There is possibly a further concentric bank c.40m downslope, to the west, but this is uncertain and may be a natural break of slope. In 2008, the site was under improved pasture. The field was ploughed in 1983 but nothing unusual was noted at that time.

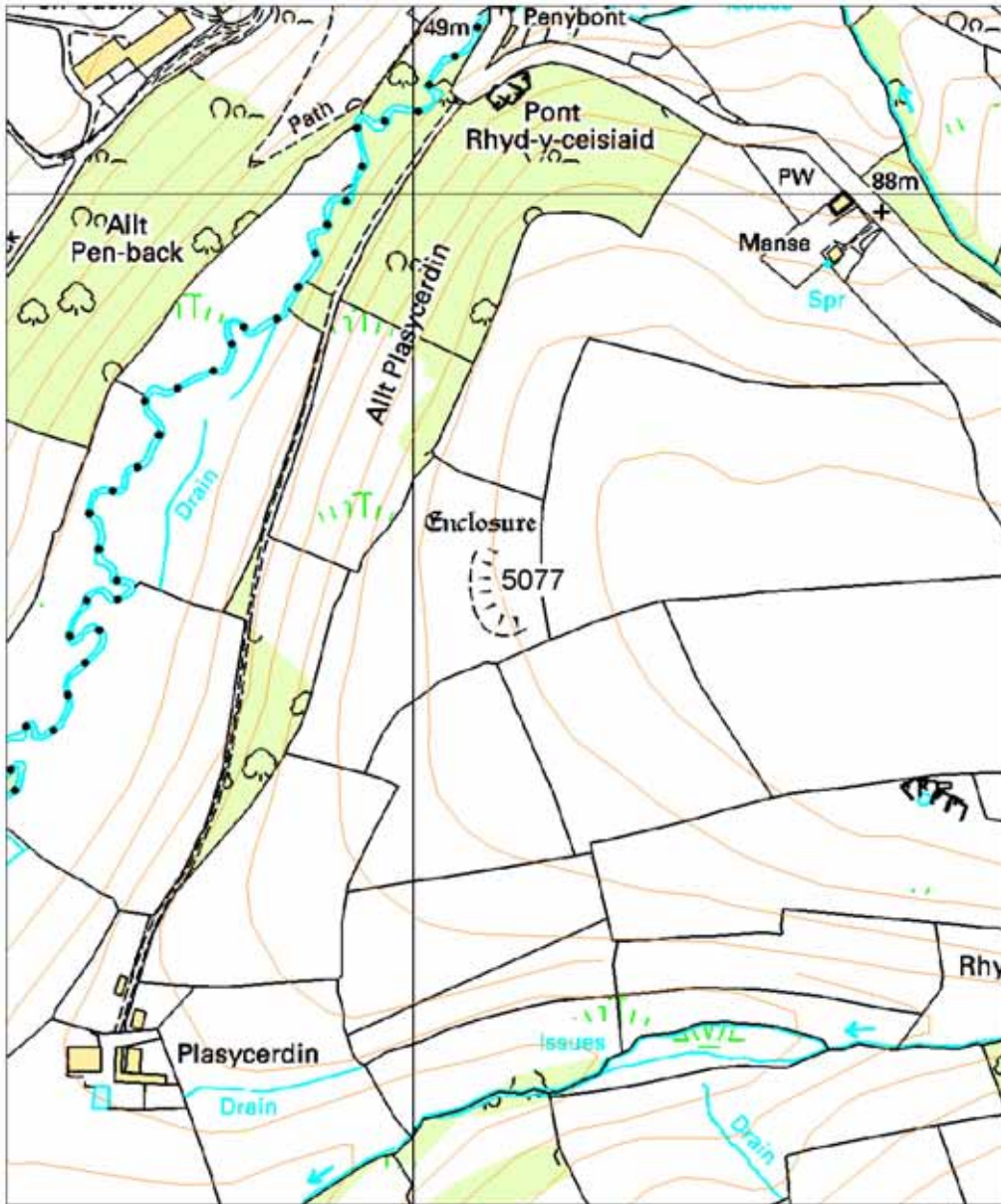
K Murphy and R Ramsey 1 February 2008



Looking NE towards earthwork enclosure.



1955 aerial photograph of 5077. Reference Meridian 210-220 10986.



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8348 Lan

PRN 8348 NGR SN21602055

SITE NAME LAN;LLAN;PARC-Y-FYNWENT MAPSHEET SN22SW

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION C

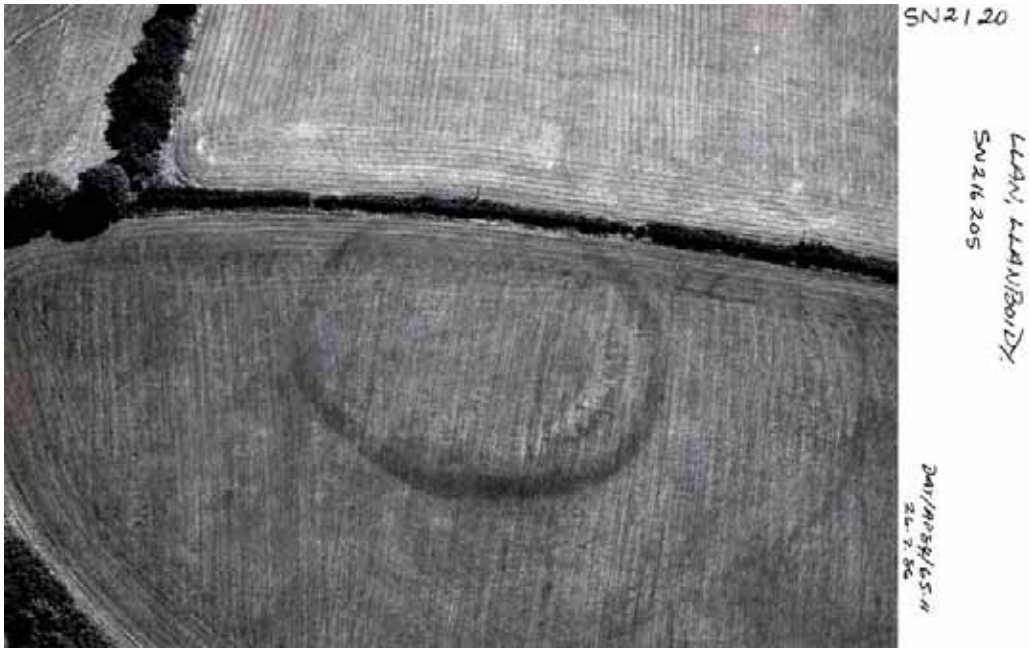
SITE STATUS SAM

DESCRIPTION

Lan is a circular, concentric defended enclosure occupying a gentle south-facing slope at 120m above sea level. It is best appreciated on aerial photographs taken in 1984 where the ditches show as distinct cropmarks. These photographs show an almost complete inner enclosure ditch that has an internal diameter of c.50m. There is no trace of an entrance through this ditch, so it presumably lies beneath a hedgebank that runs east-west across the south side of the enclosure. Concentric to the inner enclosure is a fainter outer cropmark ditch c.120m in diameter. An in-turned entrance on the south side of the outer enclosure is linked to the presumed entrance to the inner enclosure by flanking ditches. On the ground there is no trace of the outer enclosure. The inner enclosure is defined by a spread bank inside the ditch that has an average height of 0.6m. However, on the northwest side it survives better and reaches approximately 1.3m in height.

The field in which the site lies was known as 'Parc-y-fynwent', suggesting early medieval ecclesiastical reuse - see PRN 5078.

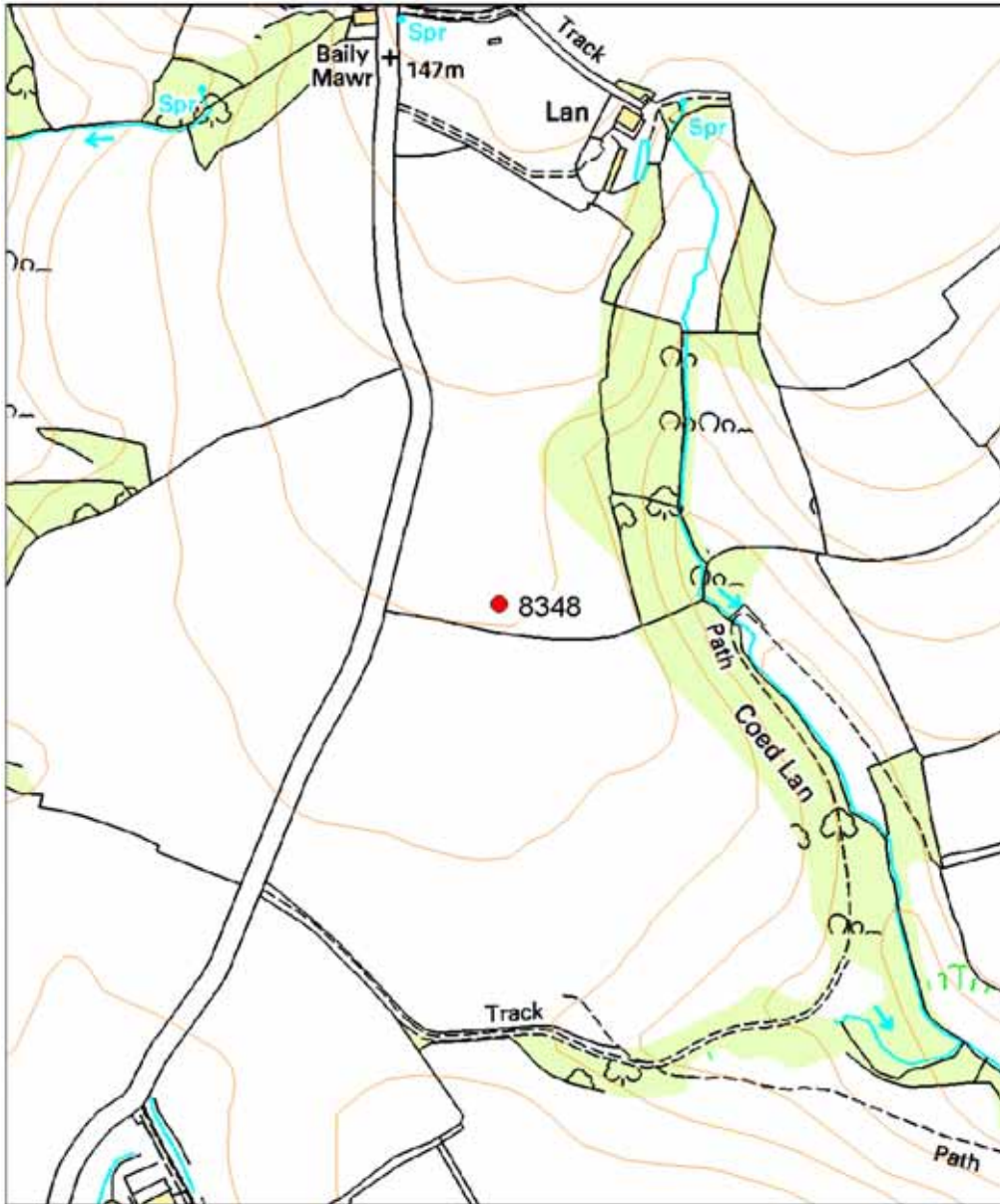
K Murphy February 2008- compiled from several sources



Aerial photograph of 8348. Reference DAT AP84-65.11



Aerial photograph of 8348. RCAHMW Crown Copyright © reference DI2007_1693.



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11148 Blaenweneirch

PRN 11148 NGR SN20142024

SITE NAME BLAENWENEIRCH I MAPSHEET SN22SW

SITE TYPE CROPMARK;ENCLOSURE? FORM Cropmark

PERIOD Prehistoric?;Iron Age? CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

A cropmark that shows on aerial photographs as a curved section of two closely spaced concentric ditches that are truncated by a road and hedgebank. The site is situated on a south facing hillslope at 130m above sea level. In 2007 no earthworks were visible on the ground. The site lies in a field under pasture.

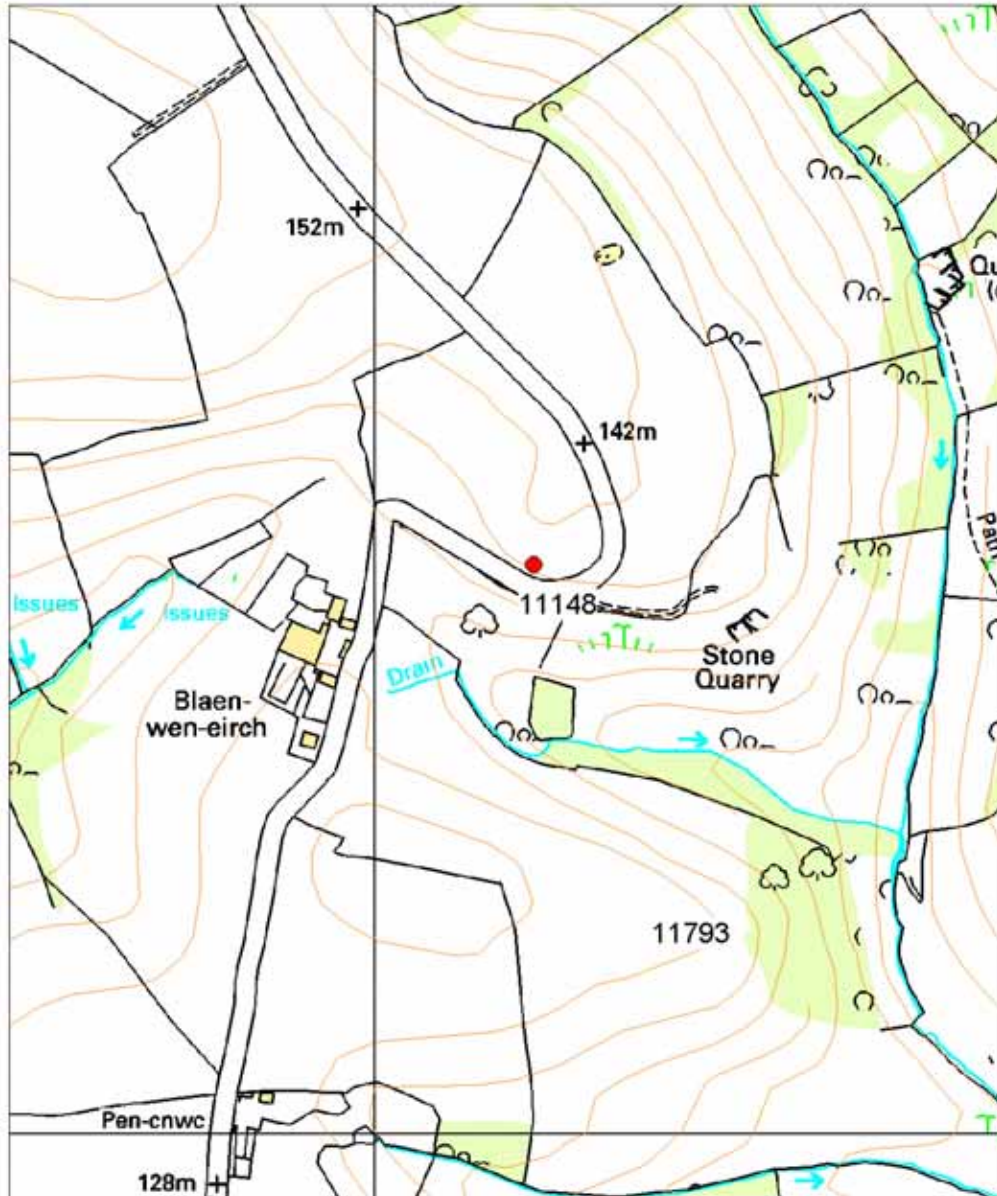
F Murphy and R Ramsey 4th March 2008



Looking SE across area of cropmark enclosure



Aerial photograph of 11148. RCAHMW Crown Copyright © reference 925010.62.



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11780 Parc y Gaer

PRN 11780 NGR SN21202350

SITE NAME PARC Y GAER MAPSHEET SN22SW

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Cropmark

PERIOD Prehistoric?;Iron Age? CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

Parc y Gaer is a small univallate enclosure occupying a southeast-facing slope at 150m above sea level. Aerial photographs show what seems to be a faint sub-circular earthwork bank and ditch defining an internal area c.30m in diameter. There is no obvious trace of an entrance. The 2007 site visit recorded very low earthworks on the ground at this location, although some elements of these were of an old field boundary. No specific earthwork could be related to the enclosure visible on the aerial photograph. Essentially this then is a cropmark site. In 2007, the site was under improved pasture.

K Murphy and R Ramsey 7 December 2007



Looking N over site of enclosure.



Aerial photograph of 11780. Reference DAT AP84-93.4.



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11793 Blaenwauneirch II

PRN 11793 NGR SN20202015

SITE NAME BLAENWAUNEIRCH II MAPSHEET SN22SW

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE? FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Prehistoric?;Iron Age? CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

This oval shaped cropmark of a possible univallate defended enclosure was identified during aerial survey in 1984. It is situated on a NW facing hillslope at 120m above sea level. It is approximately 50.0m in diameter, and in 2008 the defensive bank was just visible as a low ploughed out earthwork with a maximum height of 0.35m. The interior of the enclosure was concave in appearance. There was no trace of an entrance on the ground, nor do the aerial photographs show one clearly. The site lies within a field under pasture.

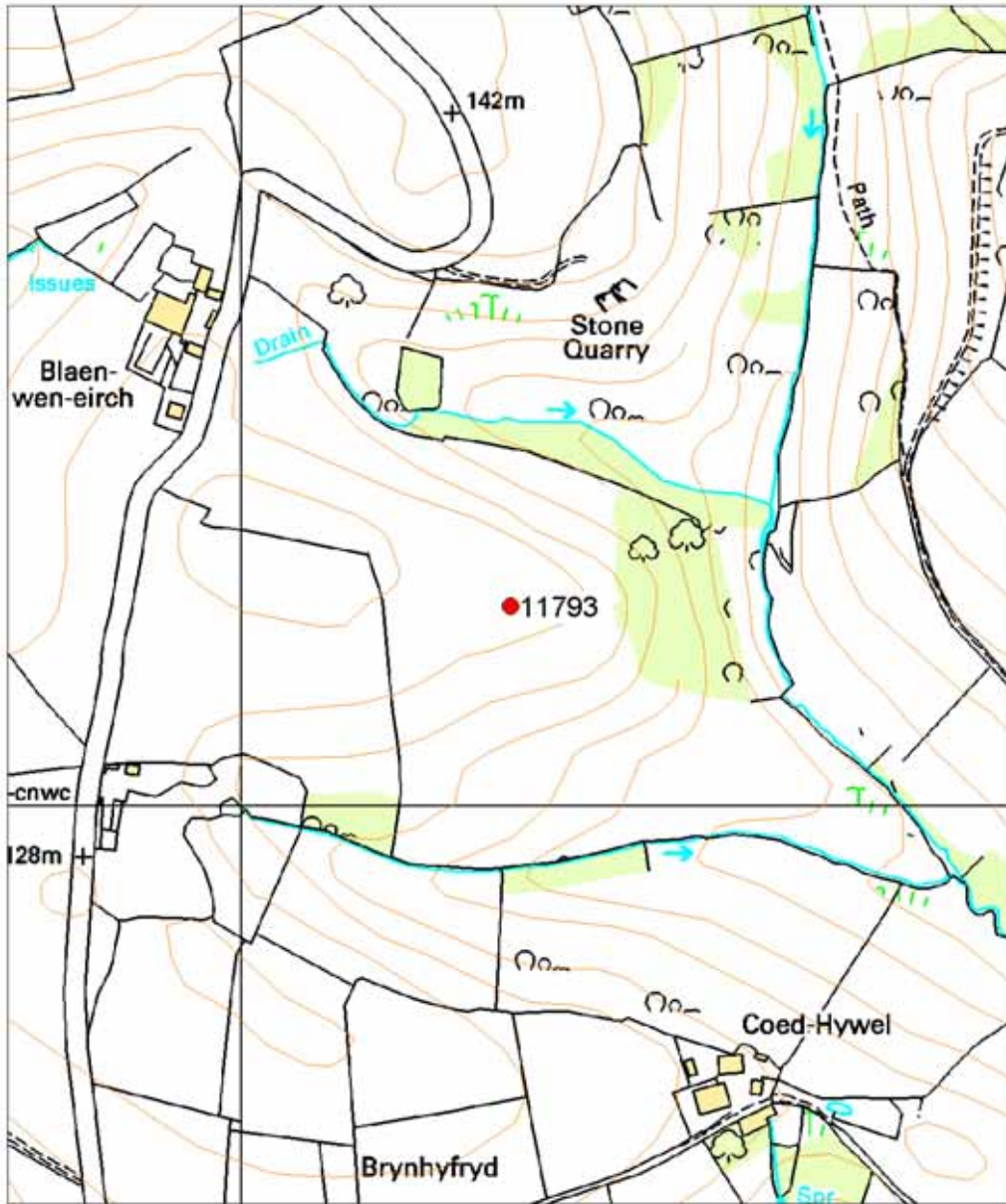
F Murphy and R Ramsey 5 March 2008



Looking NE across area of slight earthwork of defended enclosure



Aerial photograph of 11793. Reference DAT AP84-69.25.



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11794 Penygraig I

PRN 11794 NGR SN24482398

SITE NAME PENYGRAIG I MAPSHEET SN22SW

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE? FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Prehistoric?;Iron Age? CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

This is a rectangular enclosure defined by a cropmark ditch, visible on aerial photographs. Its internal dimensions are c.55m by 25m, with the long axis east-west. There is a north-south linear cropmark and a circular mark within the enclosure. On the ground the site is marked by a slight linear depression surrounded by a very low earthwork bank that corresponds with the inner edge of the ditch - essentially though this is a cropmark site. The earthworks indicate an entrance at the east end.

The aerial photographs also appear to show that the rectangular enclosure overlays, or is overlain, by a 45m diameter sub-circular cropmark - but this is not clear.

The site lies on a gentle south-facing slope at 140m above sea level. In 2008, the site was under improved pasture.

K Murphy and R Ramsey 1 February 2008



Looking NW across site.

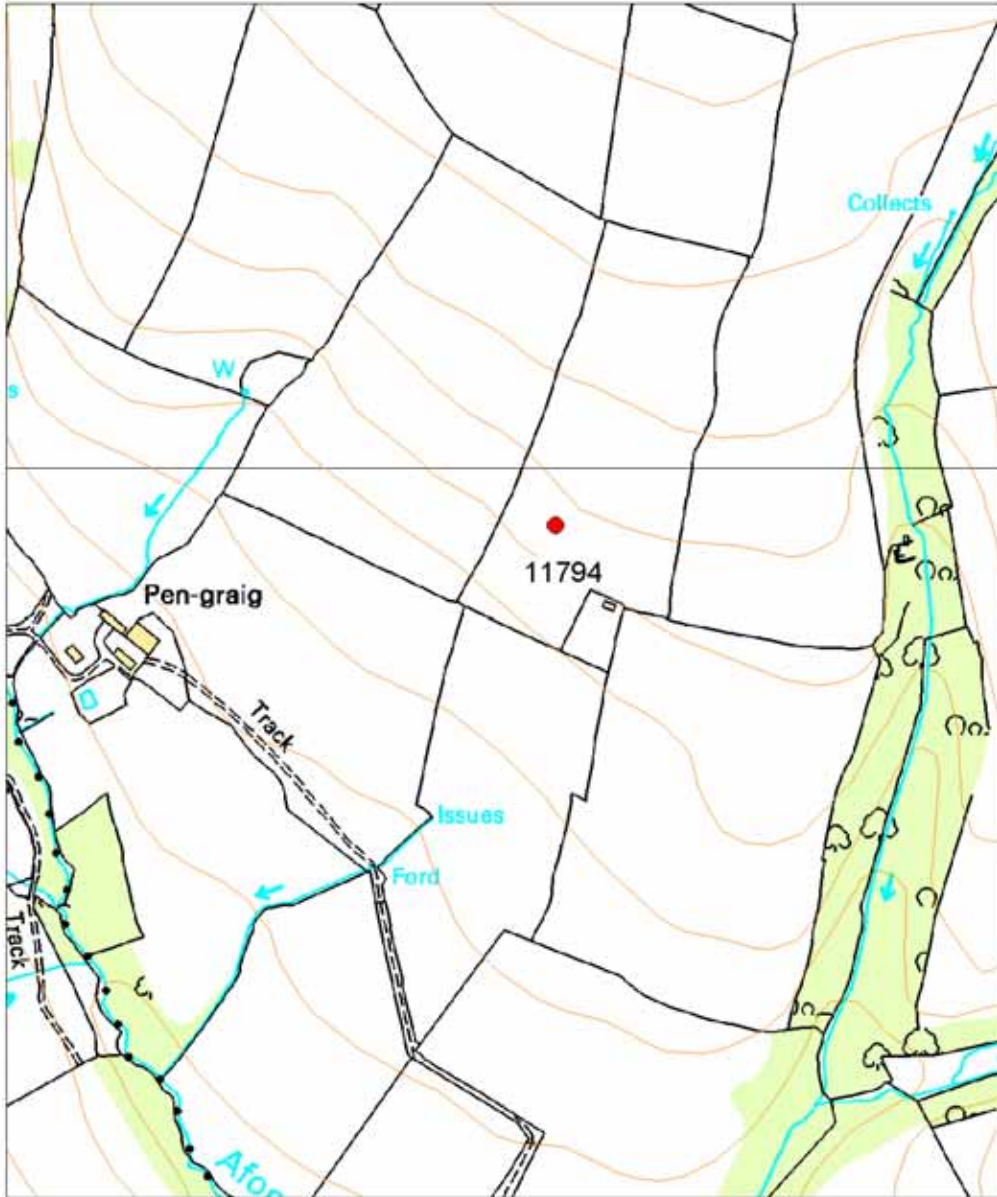


SN 2423

PL 11794
Ranygrug

AP 84-63.2
26/07/1984

Aerial photograph of 11794. RCAHMW Crown Copyright © reference DAT 63.2.



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11795 Trafel yr Ych

PRN 11795 NGR SN28272123

SITE NAME TRAFEL-YR-YCH I MAPSHEET SN22SE

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Prehistoric?;Iron Age? CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

Trafel-yr-Ych is a complex defended enclosure occupying a fairly steep south-facing slope at 70m above sea level. The site was discovered by aerial photography, and it is through this medium that the site is best understood. Aerial photographs show a cropmark ditch defining an inner circular enclosure with an internal diameter of c.45m. There are hints of bivallate defences on the north side. Concentric to the inner enclosure, but approximately 45m distant from it, is a fainter cropmark ditch defining a concentric annexe. This can be seen to the north, northwest and west sides of the inner enclosure. There seems to be an entrance on the eastern side of the inner enclosure approached by a trackway with flanking ditches. Approximately 50m to the east of the inner enclosure there appears to be a sharp cornered rectangular enclosure, c.40m by 30m.

On the ground this site is represented by a series of curving banks - the defensive banks accompanying the ditches - that stand to a maximum height of 0.5m. The earthworks confirm the bivallate nature of the inner enclosure. Within the inner enclosure two mounds may mark the position of buildings. In 2008, the site was under improved pasture.

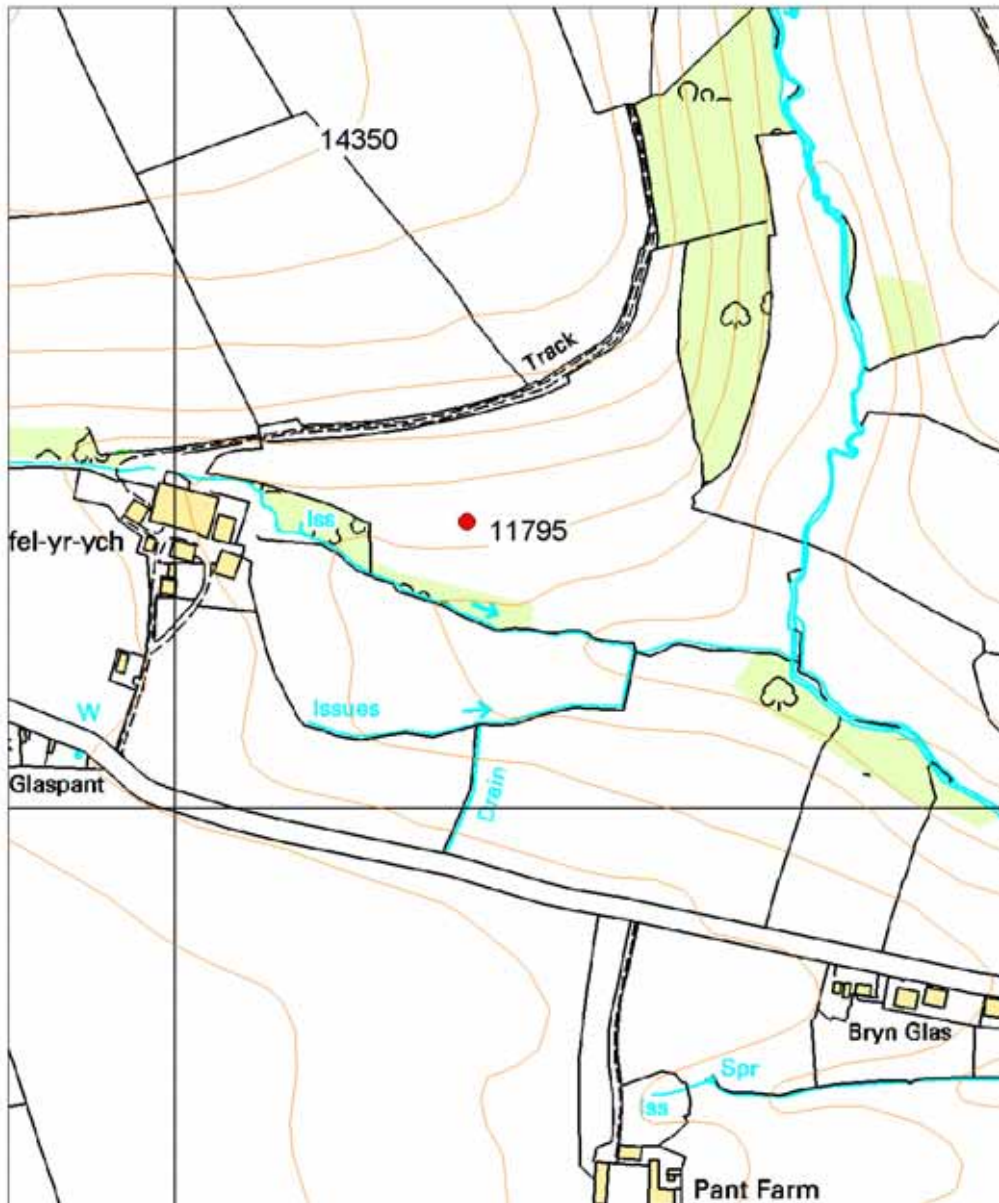
K Murphy and R Ramsey 1 February 2008



Looking E over site.



Aerial photograph of 11795. Reference DAT AP89-196.16.



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14350 Trafel yr Ych II

PRN 14350 NGR SN28102150

SITE NAME TRAFEL-YR-YCH II MAPSHEET SN22SE

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Cropmark

PERIOD Iron Age? CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

This is a sharp-cornered rectangular defended enclosure occupying the high point of a gentle south-facing slope at 130m above sea level. Aerial photographs show a cropmark ditch surrounding an internal area c.45 by 35m. The ditch is shown as a very strong cropmark. The ditches at the northern corner overlap; this is a trait noticed on other sites, eg Penpedwast enclosure (PRN 52107). The entrance seems to be on the west side, beneath a hedgebank. There are no earthworks or other surface traces of the site. In 2008, the site was under improved pasture.

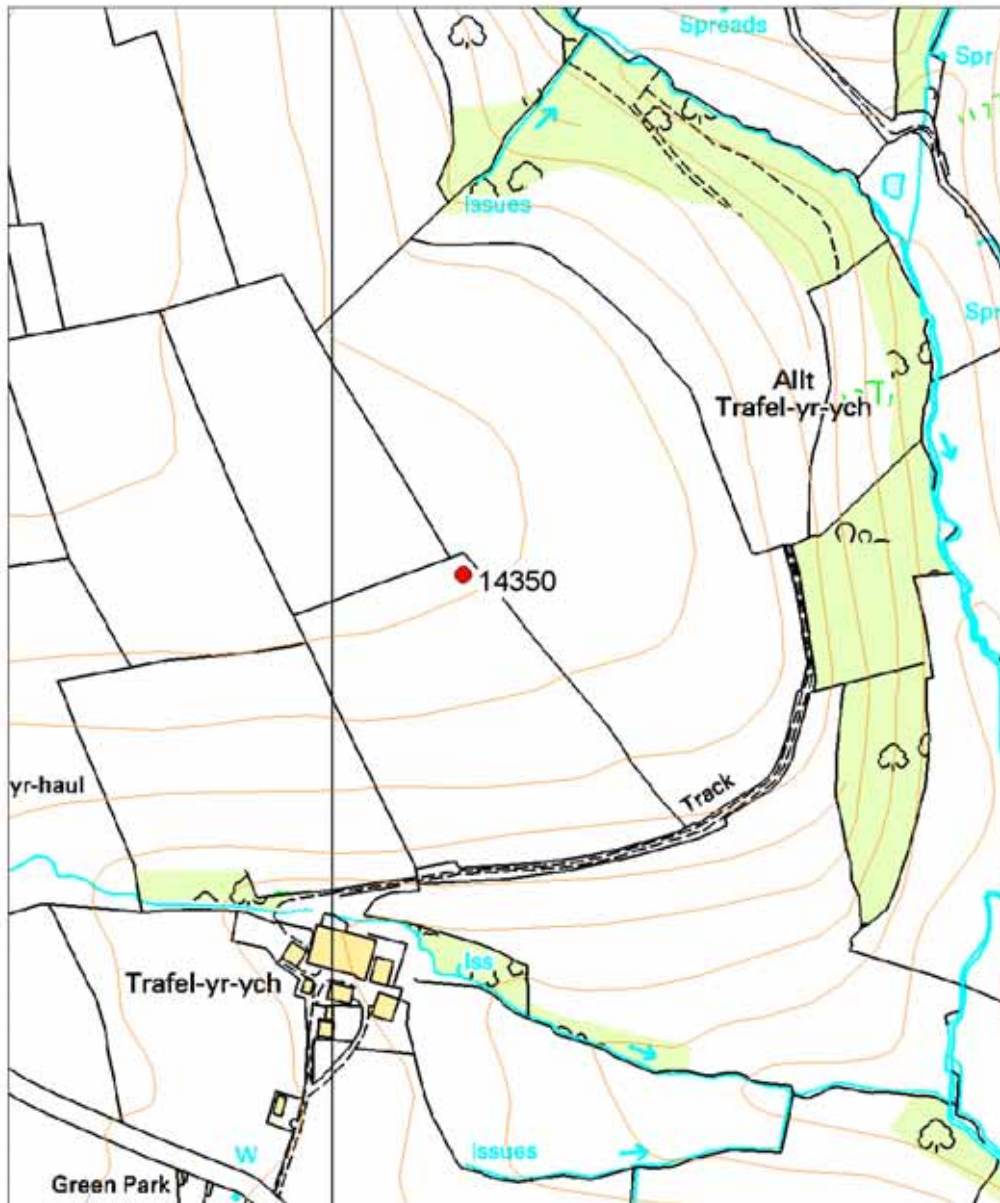
K Murphy and R Ramsey 1 February 2008



Looking NE over cropmark enclosure.



Aerial photograph of 14350. Reference DAT AP89-197.14.



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63958 Meidrum Church

PRN 63958 NGR SN28912086

SITE NAME MEIDRIM PARISH CHURCH MAPSHEET SN22SE

SITE TYPE PROMONTORY FORT FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Prehistoric;Iron Age CONDITION C

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

In 1917 the RCAHM were the first to note that Meidrim Parish Church may occupy a site of a prehistoric earthwork. The Ordnance Survey in 1967 characterised the site as an inland promontory fort, with traces of a bank running across the 'neck' of this promontory.

The bank of the promontory fort defences survives best by the churchyard entrance where it is up to 1.3m high. This is presumably the western defence to the site. Elsewhere the defensive bank is not now visible.

The inland promontory, at 50m above sea level, on which the site is located is naturally well defended to the north, south and east by steep slopes. The church and graveyard now occupy the interior of the fort and therefore the fort's original size is difficult to estimate, but it seems to have been c.85m east-west and 50m north-south.

K Murphy and R Ramsey 1 February 2008



View of defensive bank by church yard entrance.

63959 Llanwinio Parish Church

PRN 63959 NGR SN26112647

SITE NAME LLANWINIO PARISH CHURCH MAPSHEET SN22NE

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE? FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Prehistoric;Iron Age CONDITION C

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

The RCAHM in 1917 noted that the shape of the churchyard suggested an earlier camp, supported by the place name of a nearby cottage 'Dan y Gaer'.

The polygonal churchyard, c. 85m across, which was formerly more oval, occupies the top of a rounded hill at 190m above sea level. The churchyard boundary on the north side is substantial, and may incorporate an earlier bank. Within the churchyard there is a smaller earthwork enclosure, and a low bank concentric to the churchyard on the north side, some 45m away may also have a connection. All these features may be associated with the church, or they could be part of a prehistoric enclosure.

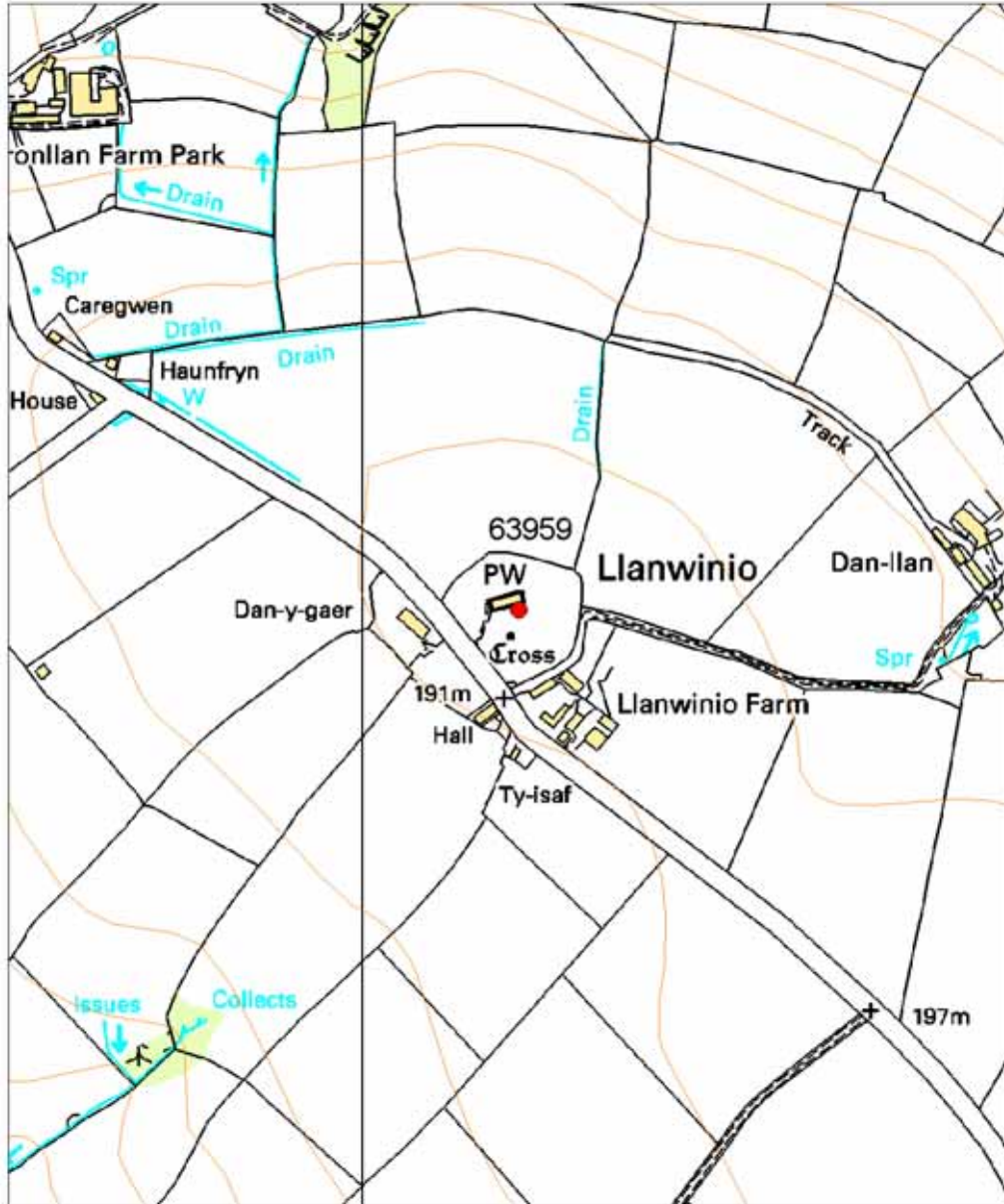
K Murphy and R Ramsey 8 January 2008



Looking NE along churchyard boundary, N side.



Aerial photograph of 63959. Reference DAT AP89-61.16.



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Map based on the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 map showing the distribution of sites in 10 km grid square SN23.

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14318 Pengelli

PRN 14318 NGR SN29253955

SITE NAME PENGELLI MAPSHEET SN23NE

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION C

SITE STATUS

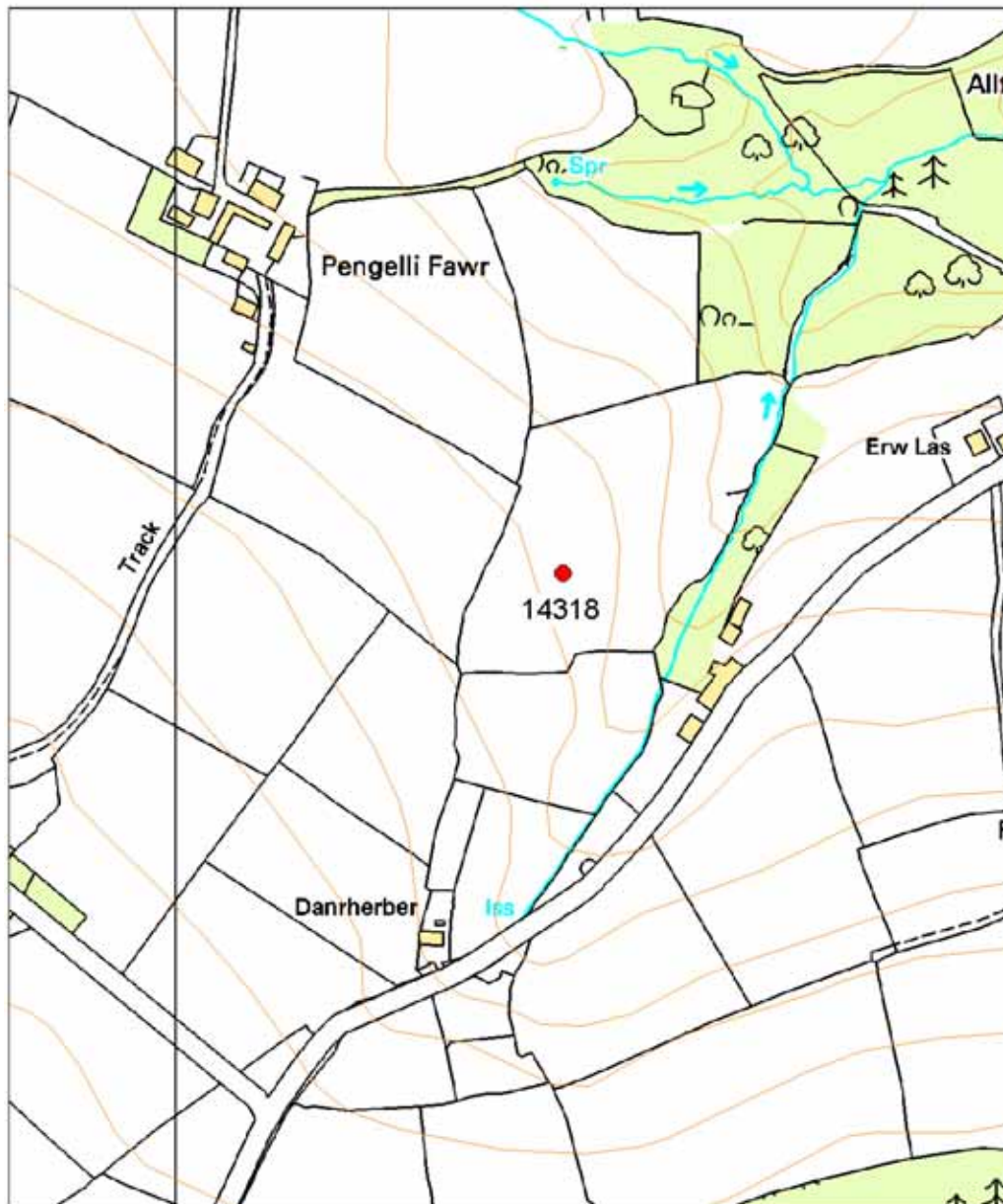
DESCRIPTION

Pengelli is a sub-rectangular defended enclosure surviving as a very low earthwork located on a moderately steep east-facing slope at 130m above sea level. Aerial photographs show a low bank with possible external ditch surrounding a roughly rectangular area c. 50m SW-NE and 35m SE-NW. There is no obvious entrance. On the ground the site survives as discrete lengths of bank up to 0.45m high. Some 40m to the NW of the enclosure there is a sub-circular depression with a possible surrounding low bank - this may be an annexe or outwork to the main enclosure. The enclosure lies on poorly drained pasture with a lot of rush growth.

K Murphy and R Ramsey 19 February 2008



Aerial photograph of 14318. Reference DAT AP89-98.22.



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Map based on the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 map showing the distribution of sites in 10 km grid square SN24.

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2094 Pengelli Fach

PRN 2094 NGR SN29324059

SITE NAME PENGELLI-FACH MAPSHEET SN24SE

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Cropmark

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

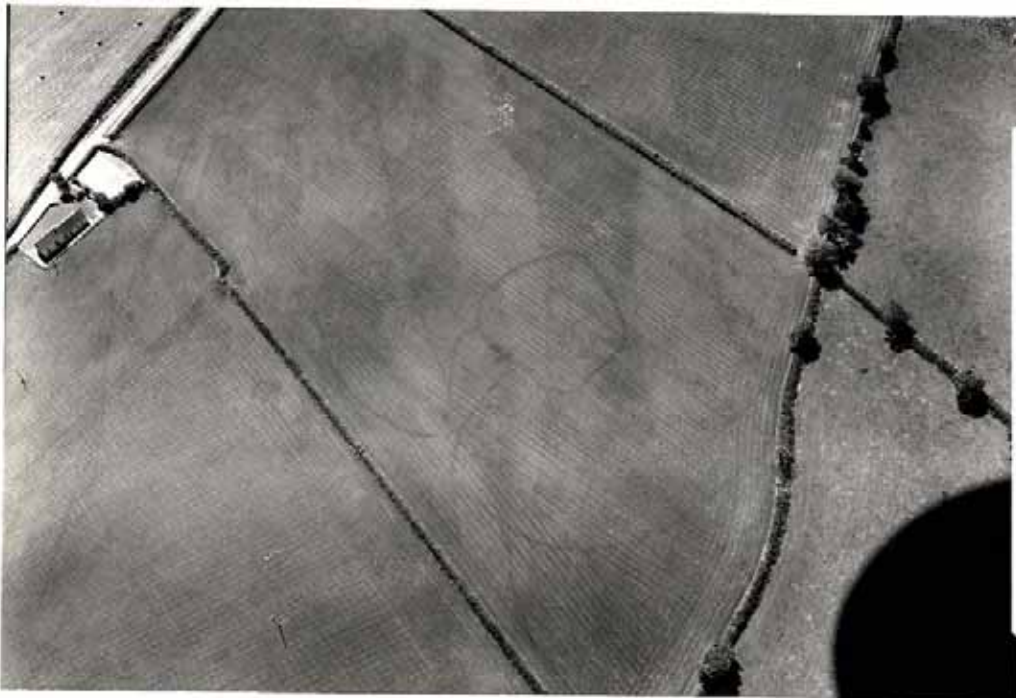
DESCRIPTION

Pengelli-fach is a univallate, cropmark defended enclosure with a concentric annexe occupying a gentle north-facing slope at 120m above sea level. It is a cropmark site, and the aerial photograph distinctly shows the ditch of the inner enclosure, but the ditch of the concentric enclosure less so. The inner enclosure is sub-rectangular in shape, c.44m N-S and 40m E-W. It has an east-facing entrance approached by a trackway with flanking ditches. At their eastern ends these ditches splay out to form the beginnings of the ditch to the annexe. The annexe is measures c.150m across. Cropmark splodges at the entrance to the inner enclosure may mark pits or post-holes. Apart from a very slight depression in the vicinity of the inner enclosure, there is no trace of this site on the ground. In 2008, the site was under improved pasture.

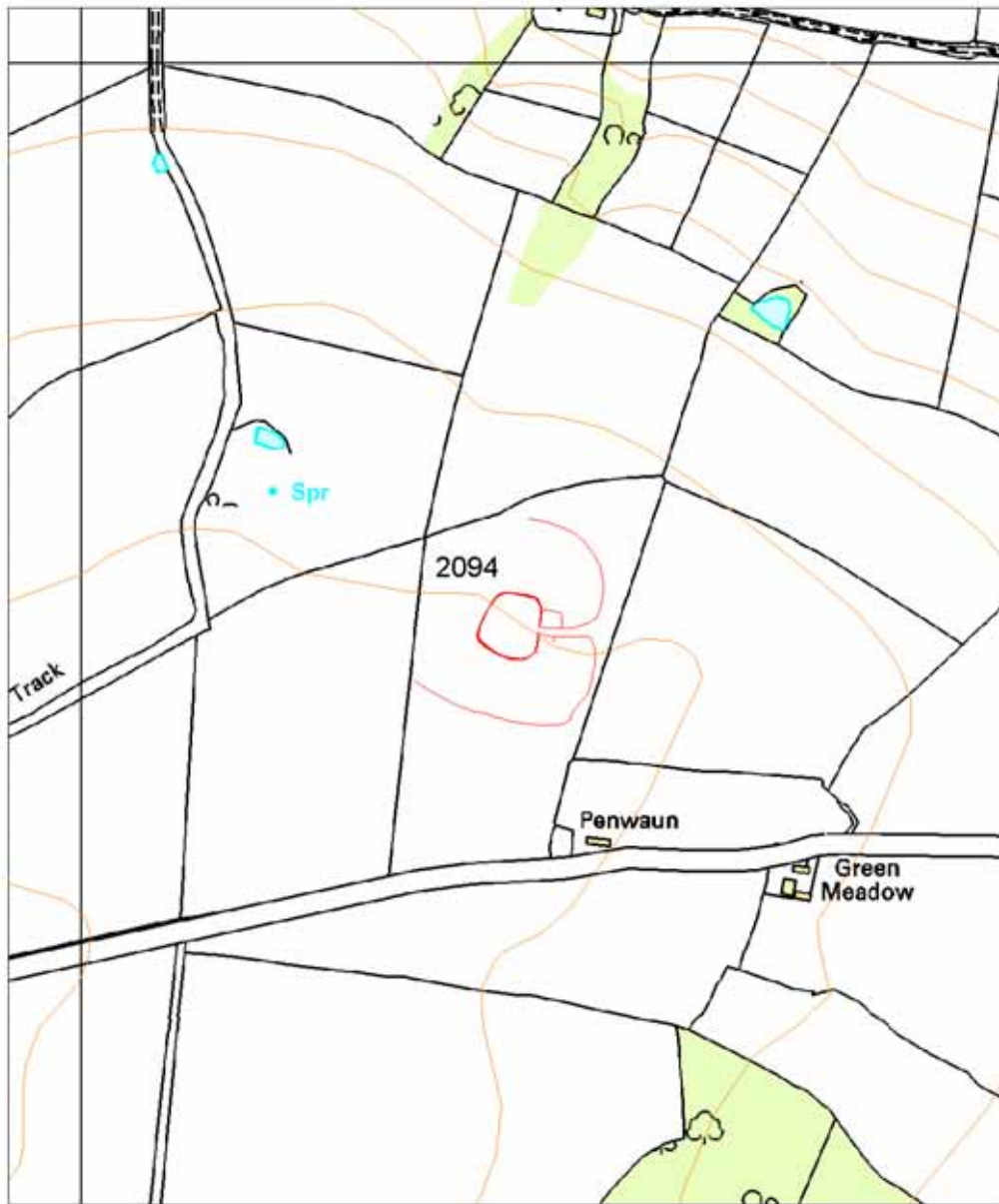
K Murphy and R Ramsey 8 February 2008



Looking NE over cropmark enclosure.



Aerial photograph of 2094. Reference DAT AP89-99.25.



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35753 Pant Allt Gillo

PRN 35753 NGR SN28654073

SITE NAME PANTALLTGILLO MAPSHEET SN24SE

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Cropmark

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

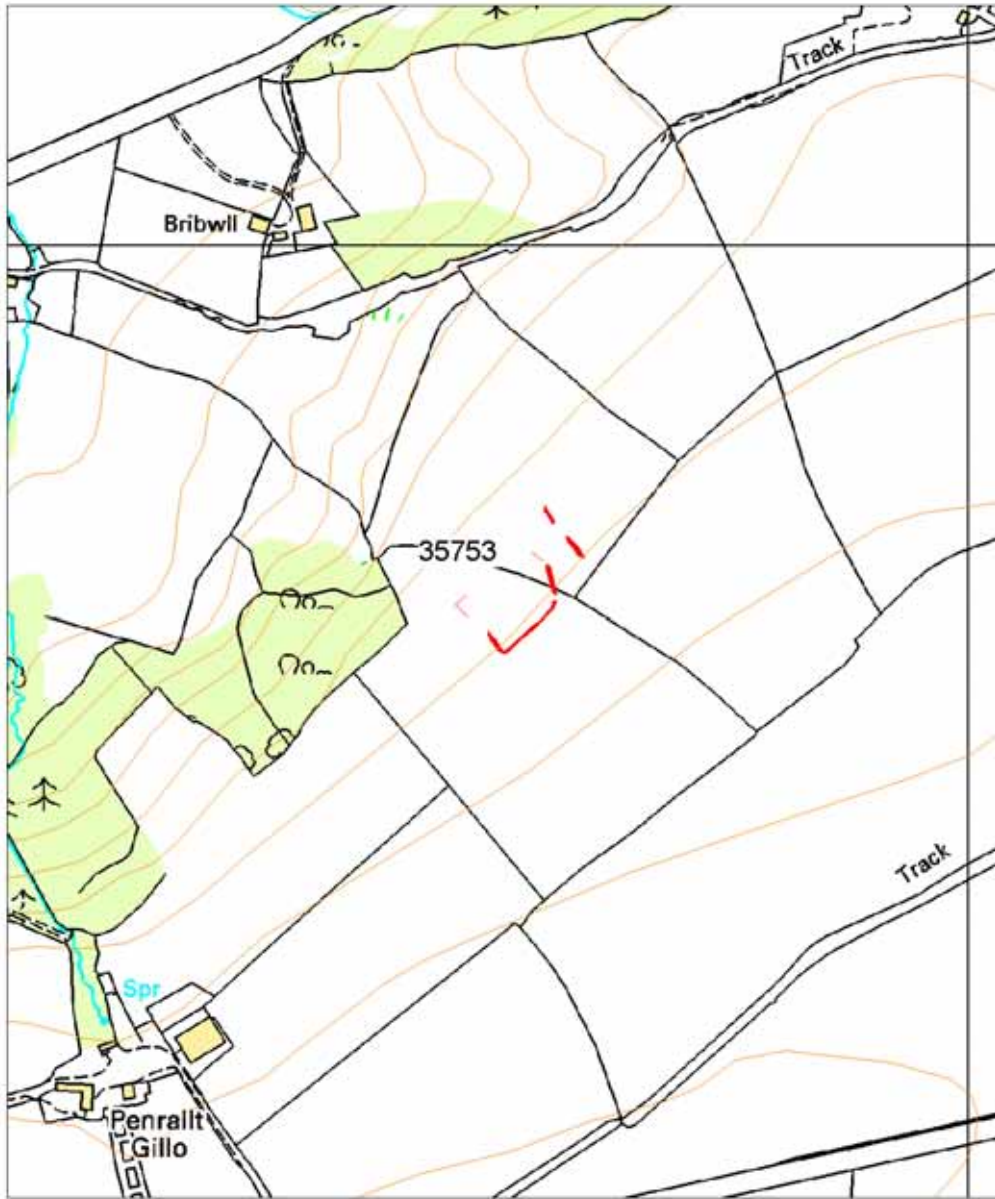
DESCRIPTION

Aerial photographs show the cropmark ditches of a rectangular defended enclosure lying on a NW-facing slope at 100m above sea level. The cropmark ditches are not traceable for the full circuit; they survive best on the east, southeast and northeast sides, but are barely visible on the western side of the enclosure. The enclosure measures c. 63m SW-NE and 47m SE-NW. Approximately 20m from the NE end is a second parallel ditch, approximately 47m long with a central gap. This may represent an extra defence for the entrance, which may lie on this side, and is evidence that this is a bivallate enclosure. On the ground the site is marked by a level terrace on an otherwise uniform slope. There is no other surface evidence for the enclosure. In 2008 the site was under improved pasture.

K Murphy and R Ramsey 8 February 2008



Looking N over site of enclosure.



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