

A SURVEY OF DEFENDED ENCLOSURES IN CEREDIGION, 2006: GAZETTEER OF ORDNANCE SURVEY GRID SQUARE SN35



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A SURVEY OF DEFENDED ENCLOSURES IN CEREDIGION, 2006: GAZETTEER OF ORDNANCE SURVEY GRID SQUARE SN35

Gan / By

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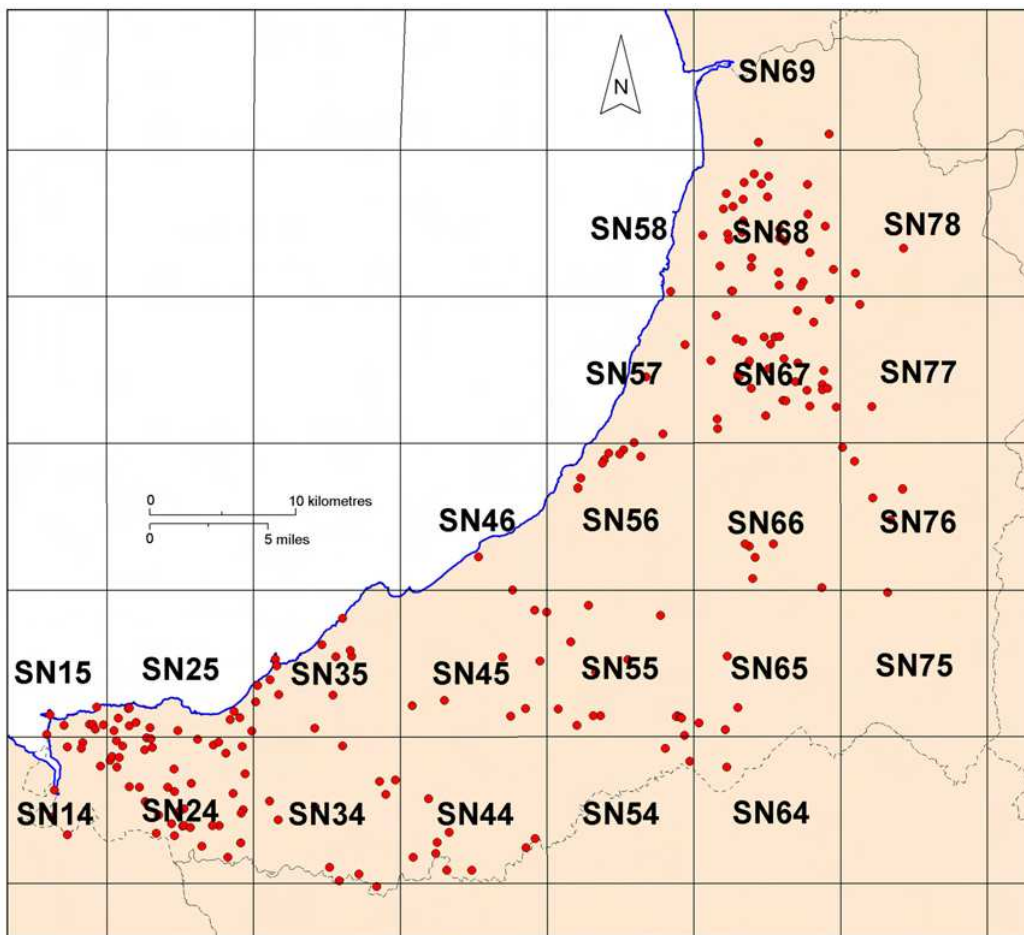
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SITE GAZETTEER OF 10KM GRID SQUARE SN35

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; a 1:500 map; and where available a ground photograph and an aerial photograph.

Many of the 1:500 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.



1:50,000 Distribution map of sites in 10km grid square SN35.

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1029 GAER-WEN

PRN 1029 NGR SN34635630

SITE NAME GAER-WEN;GARN WEN

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION C

SITE STATUS SAM;ACK

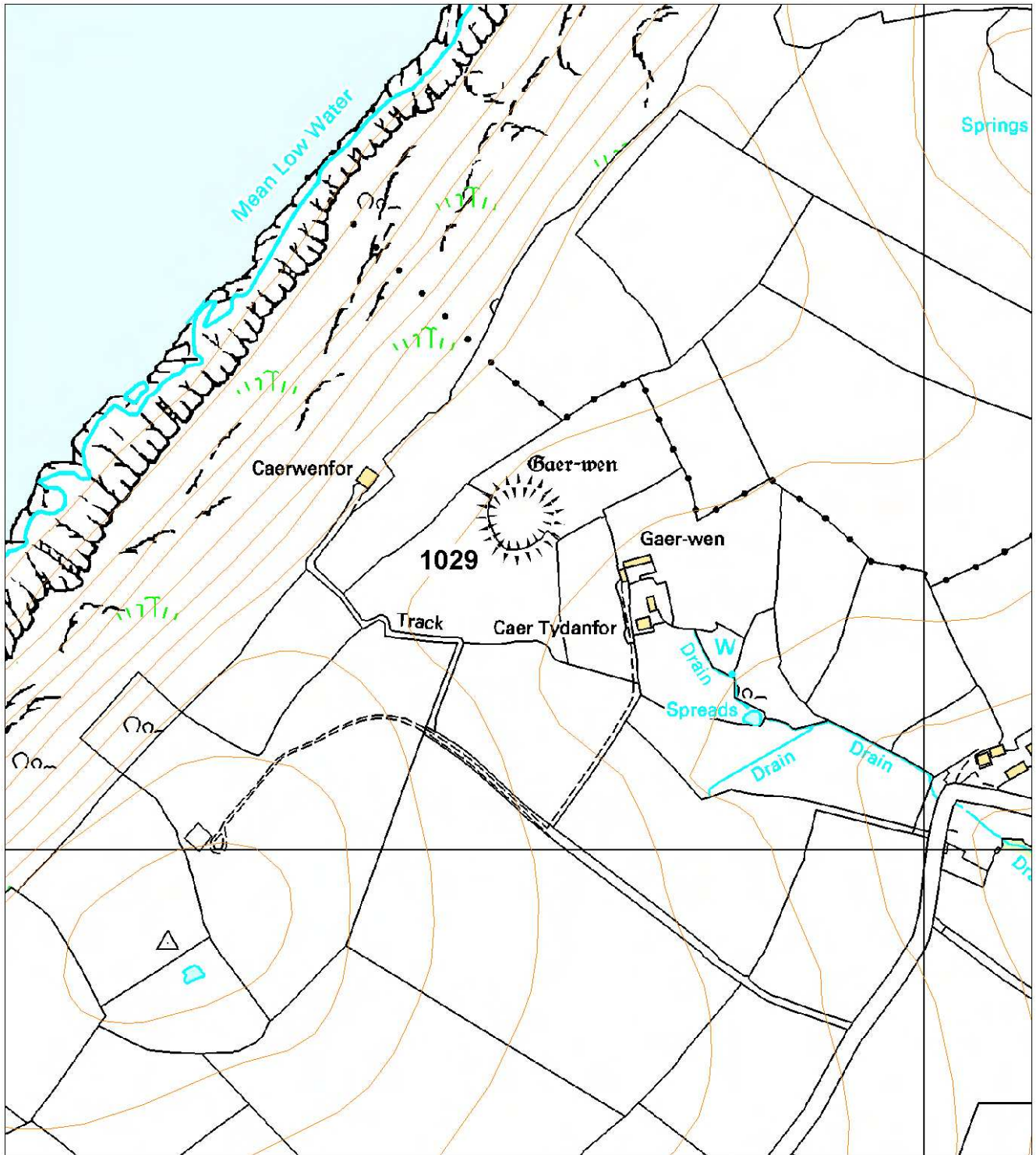
DESCRIPTION

Gaer-wen is a small, sub-circular defended enclosure located at 180m above sea level on a gentle southeast-facing slope. To the northeast of the site for c. 80m the land continues to rise for several metres before falling away sharply to the sea. The site is defined by a low bank, up to 1.2m high. This is topped by a ruinous field wall on the southern side. There is no obvious ditch or entrance on the ground, but aerial photographs show lush grass growth over a ditch on the north side and a clear southeast-facing entrance through the bank. The enclosure measures approximately 60m diameter internally, and approximately 90m externally. A circular hollow with a drainage hood over it in the southern part of the site may be the site of a round-house. The site is under rough pasture with some bracken growth and scrub on sections of the bank.

K Murphy 14 December 2005 - From Cadw and Ordnance Survey descriptions.



Aerial photograph RCAHMW Crown Copyright © reference 95-cs-2060.



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Scale: 1:500

1101 YNYSLOCHDIN

PRN 1101 NGR SN31475533

SITE NAME YNYSLOCHDIN

SITE TYPE PROMONTORY FORT FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION C

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

Ynyslochdin is a superbly naturally defended small coastal promontory fort. On three sides vertical sea cliffs provide the defence. A bank and ditch protect the easily approachable south side. This rampart has been constructed across the narrowest point of the promontory. It is approximately 18m long, 12m wide and 1m high, with a slight external (south side) depression marking the line of a silted ditch. A lower level in the centre of the bank marks the entrance. A circular hollow 3m diameter on the east end of the bank may mark the site of a WW2 installation, or some other recent disturbance. The bank defends a promontory approximately 80m by 50m. A very slight bank running along part of the cliff edge on the east side may be part of the defensive circuit, but is perhaps more likely to be an old field bank, now mostly fallen into the sea. Two or three very slight circular terraces within the interior may mark the site of round-houses. Immediately to the north of the fort is the island itself of Ynyslochdin. This was not accessed in 2005, but more hollows on this island may mark the site of more houses. It is unknown whether the island formed part of the promontory at the time of the fort's use and has subsequently separated into an island. The site is under grass and grazed.

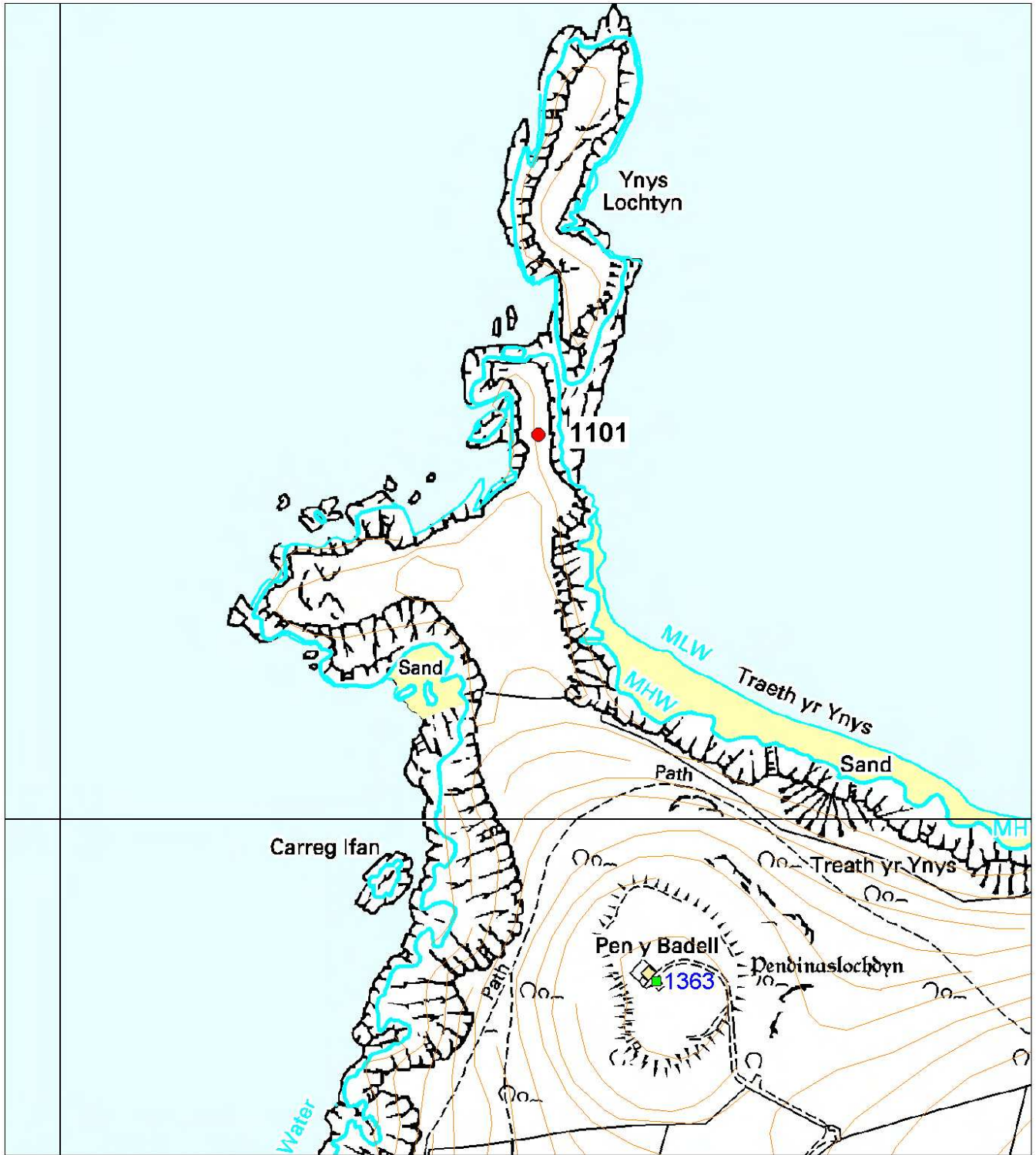
K Murphy 9 June 2005



Aerial photograph RCAHMW Crown Copyright © reference 99-cs-2281



Ground photograph looking at defensive bank from exterior of fort.



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Scale: 1:500

1355 CASTELL BACH

PRN 1355 NGR SN36045809

SITE NAME CASTELL BACH

SITE TYPE PROMONTORY FORT FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION B

SITE STATUS SAM

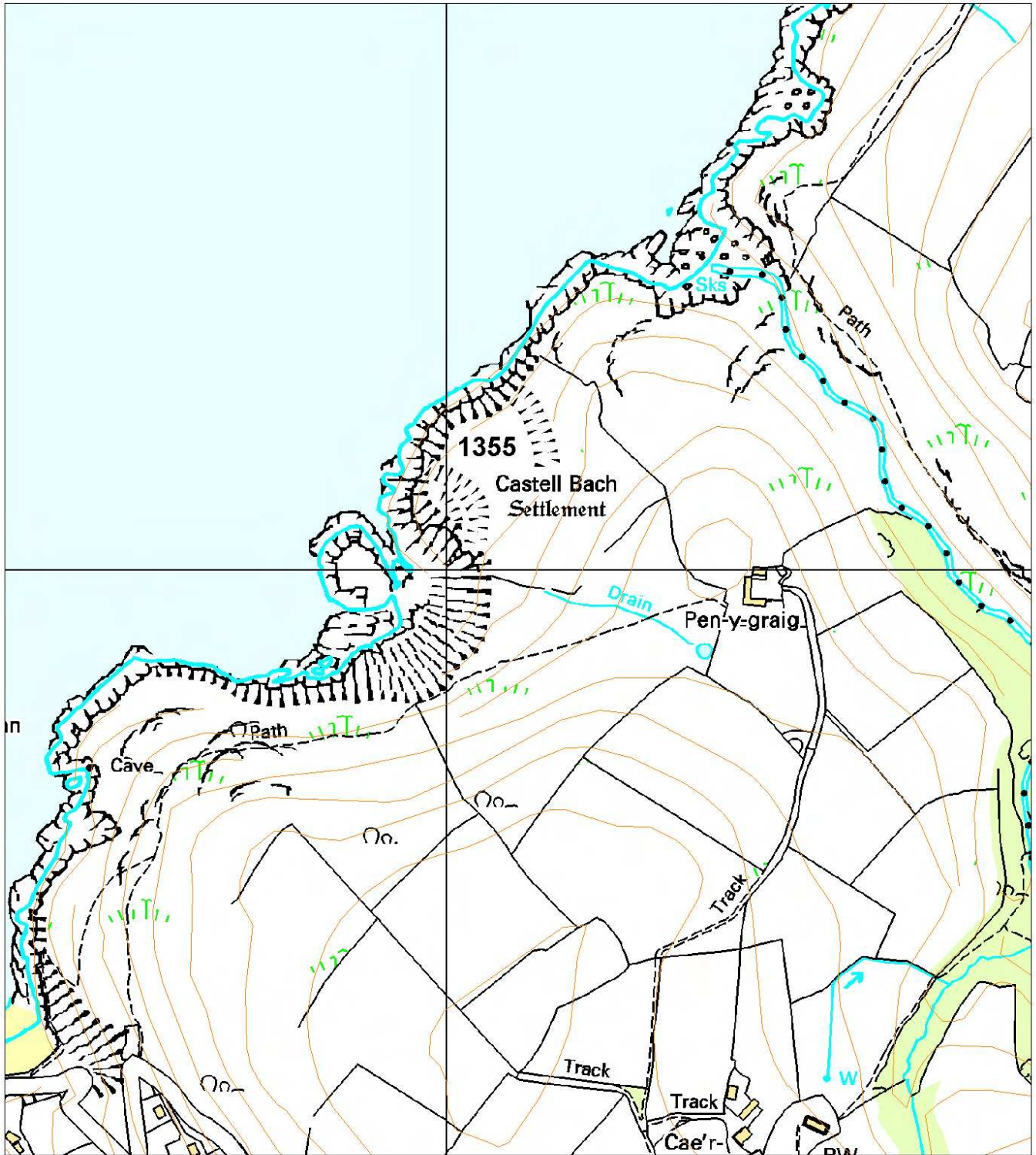
DESCRIPTION

Castell Bach is a bivallate coastal promontory fort with a concentric annexe lying just 20m above the sea, naturally defended to the north and west by sea cliffs. Two sets of curving bank and ditch c. 90m long defend the easily approachable east/northeast side and enclose an area of about 0.3ha. There is no obvious entrance. A second slighter defensive bank with evidence of a stone revetment lies approximately 100m to the east, and extends from a natural scarp to the sea cliffs. The interior of Castell Bach is overlooked from the scarp. A survey by K Ray indicated that the inner enclosure originally had just one bank and ditch, and that the second was added at the same time as the outer defence. The site is under pasture.

K Murphy 14 December 2005 - from Cadw and Ordnance Survey descriptions.



Aerial photograph Cambria Archaeology



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Scale: 1:500

1357 CASTELL ABER-DEUDDWR

PRN 1357 NGR SN35585549

SITE NAME CASTELL ABER-DEUDDWR

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE;CASTLE? FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age?;Roman?;Early Medieval?;Medieval CONDITION B

SITE STATUS SAM

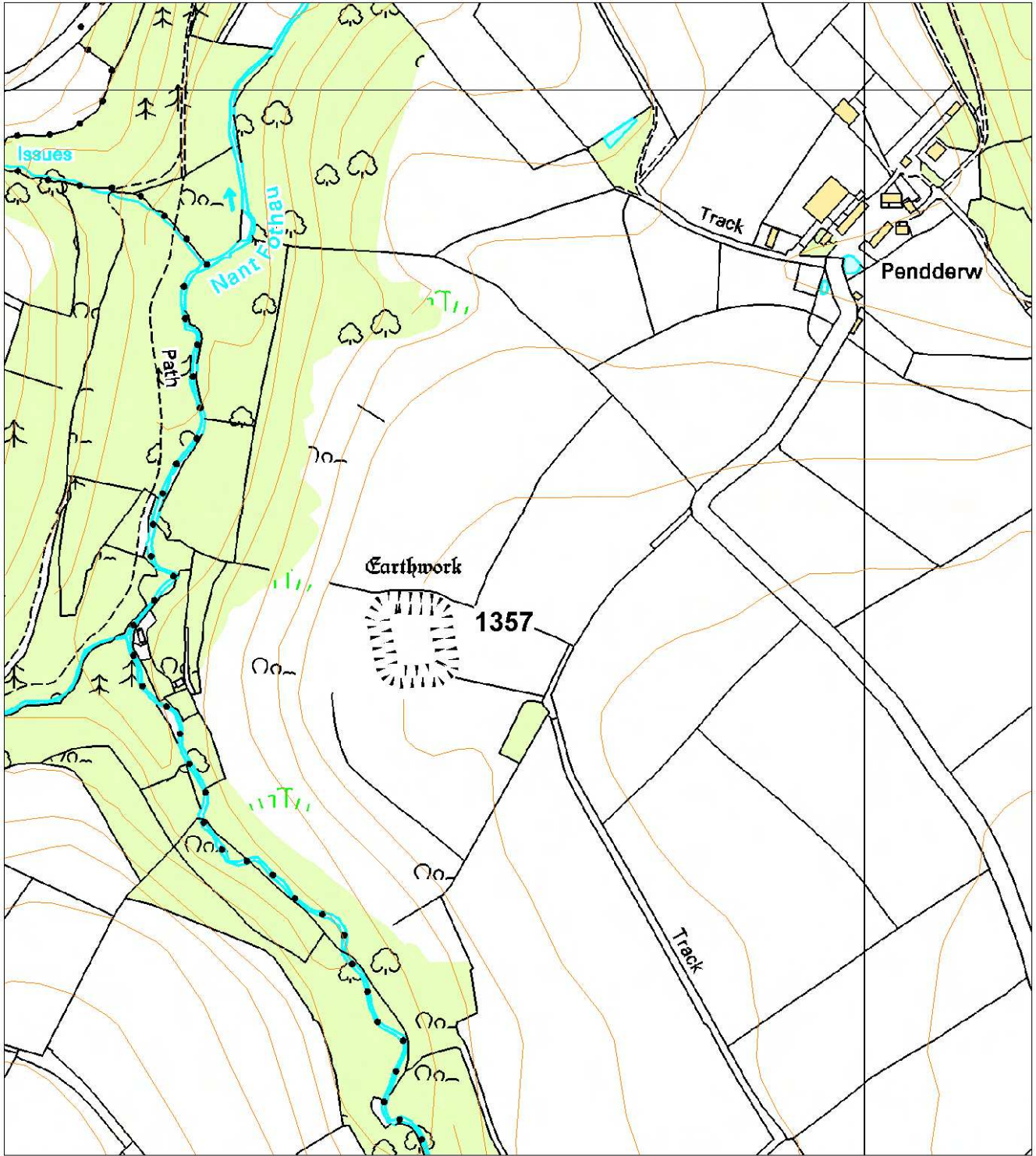
DESCRIPTION

Castell Aber-deuddwr is a rectangular defended enclosure lying on a west-facing slope at 140m above sea level. A bank up to 1.6m high with an external rock-cut ditch 1.2m deep and a slight counterscarp bank surround it. There is a simple entrance in the southeast corner. Internally the enclosure measures 70m north - south and 55m east - west. The internal area is featureless and under improved pasture. The bank and ditch is scrub covered. It has been suggested that this was Caerwedros, the centre of the commote of the same name.

K Murphy 14 December 2005 - from Cadw and Ordnance Survey descriptions.



Aerial photograph Cambria Archaeology



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Scale: 1:500

1363 PENDINASLOCHDIN

PRN 1363 NGR SN31555485

SITE NAME PENDINASLOCHDIN

SITE TYPE HILLFORT FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age:Bronze Age;Roman CONDITION C

SITE STATUS SAM;ACK

DESCRIPTION

Pendinaslochdin lies in a superb naturally defensive location on the summit of a steep sided hill at 150m above sea level. It commands wide-ranging views inland and over Cardigan Bay. The hillfort is irregular in shape and c. 1.4ha in extent. The defensive circuit of the hillfort makes full use of the steep break of slope. On the north and east sides, where the hill is at its steepest and includes low cliffs, a bank 5m wide and up to 5m high is evident - really this is just a scarping of the slope with no evidence of a ditch. On the south side the bank is more substantial with an external ditch, while to the southeast the defences become almost bivallate with a bank, ditch and bank. The entrance must lie on the southeast side, but it is unclear whether it is under a modern track-way entrance or further to the south. A MoD installation lies at the highest point of the sloping interior. Several hollows in the interior may be sites of round-houses. An excavation during construction of the MoD installation revealed a possible round-house and four-post structure. A Bronze Age radiocarbon date came from a post-hole and a Romano-British date from the round-house. The site is under rough pasture.

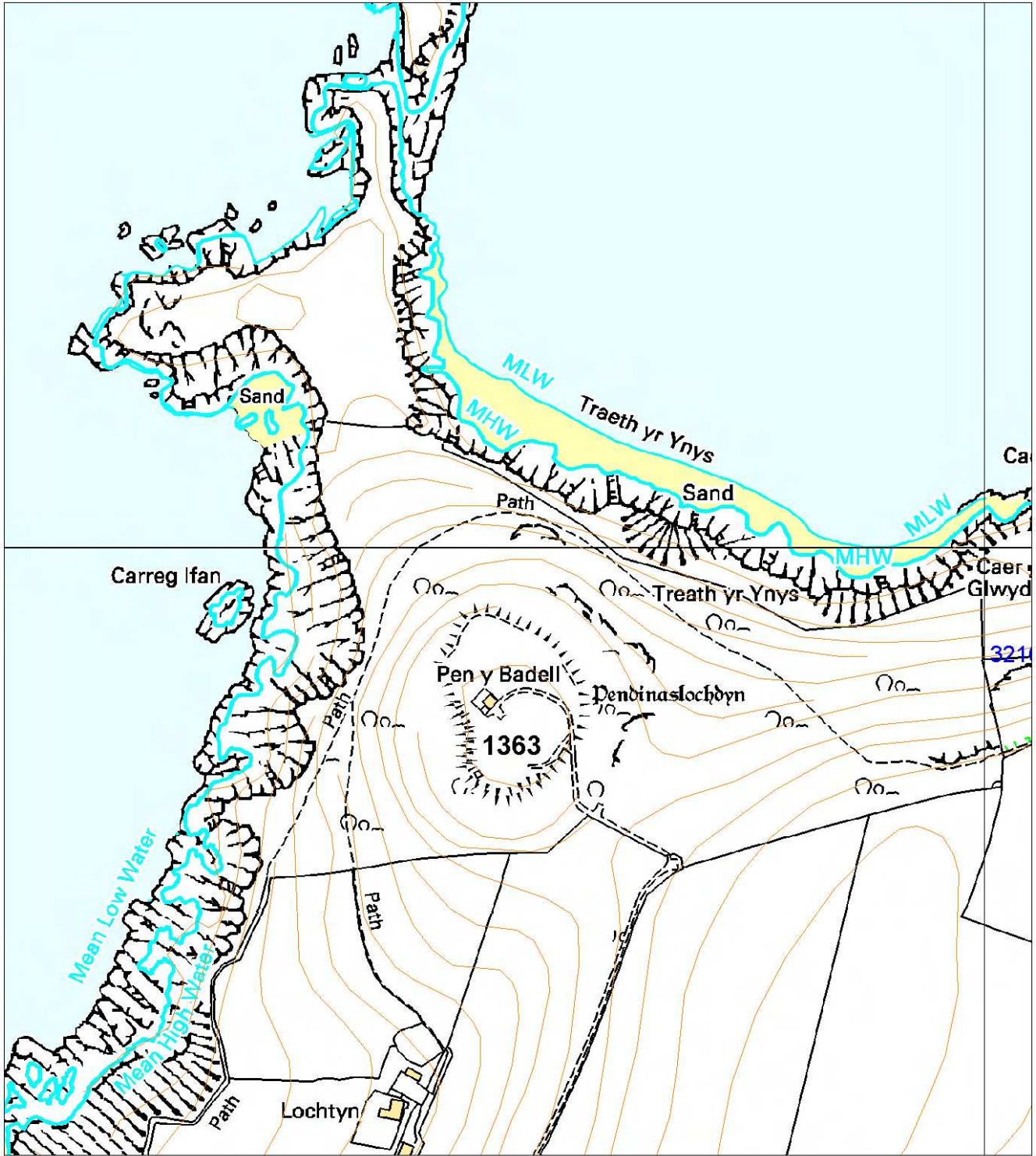
K Murphy 14 December 2005



Aerial photograph Cambria Archaeology.



Ground photograph - distant view of the hillfort.



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Scale: 1:500

1367 CASTELL BLAEN-IGAU

PRN 1367 NGR SN34155060

SITE NAME CASTELL BLAEN-IGAU

SITE TYPE PROMONTORY FORT FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION C

SITE STATUS SAM

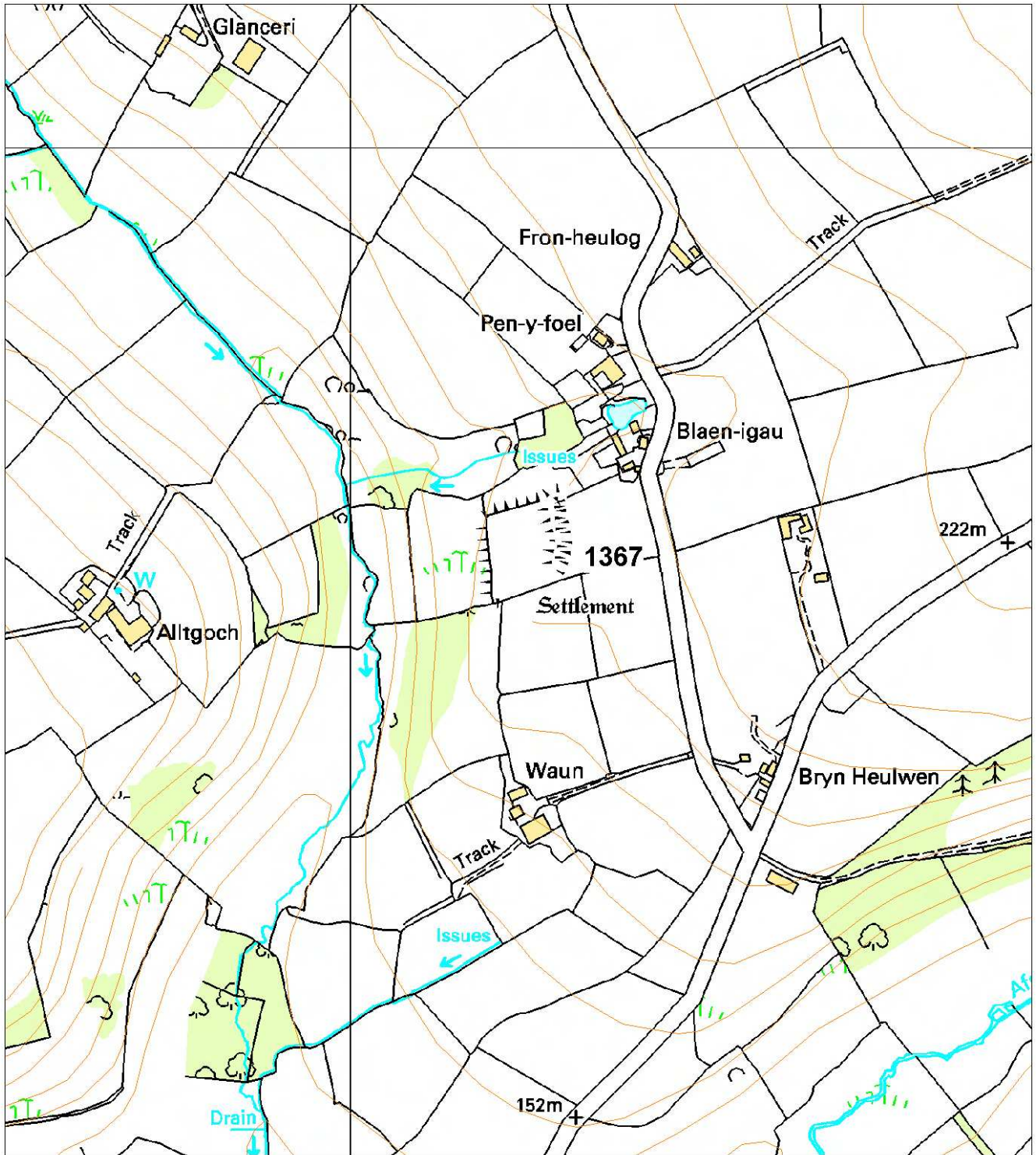
DESCRIPTION

Castell Blaen-igau is an inland promontory fort lying at 190m above sea level naturally defended by steep slopes to the north and west. A substantial curving bank defends the east and south sides; this defines a sub-rectangular internal area of c. 0.4ha. The bank rises up to 2.5m from the interior of the fort, and is 3m - 4m above the bottom of the ditch. These defences are best preserved on the east, and fade to the south, dwindling to nothing on the southwest. On the north and west side there is scarping of the natural steep slope. There is no obvious entrance. The interior is under improved pasture and the banks are covered in scrub.

K Murphy 14 December 2005 - from Cadw and Ordnance Survey descriptions.



Aerial photograph Cambria Archaeology



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Scale: 1:500

1368 CASTELL BACH

PRN 1368 NGR SN30255352

SITE NAME CASTELL-BACH

SITE TYPE PROMONTORY FORT FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION C

SITE STATUS SAM

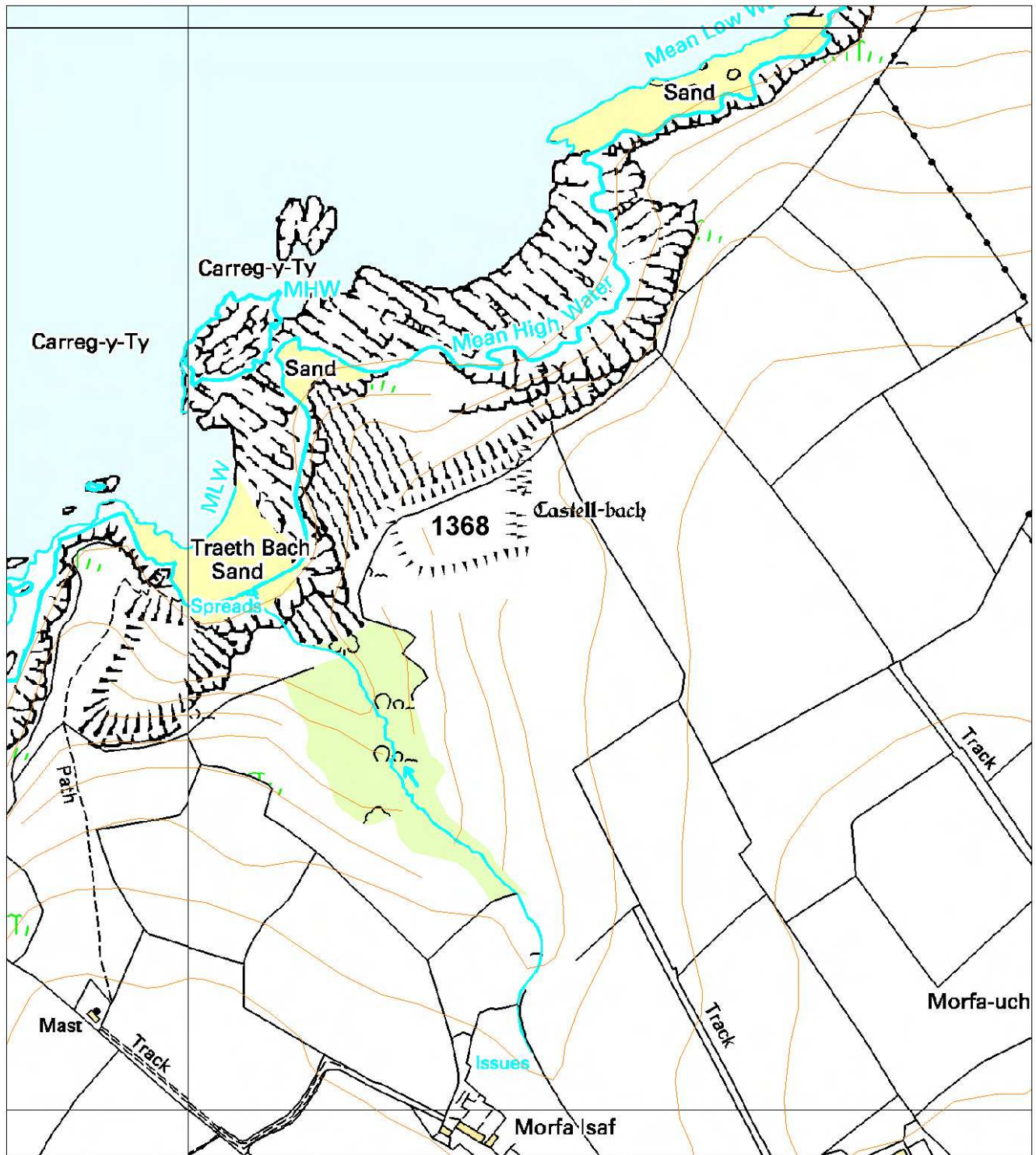
DESCRIPTION

Castell-bach is a coastal promontory fort at 100m above sea level. On the north and west sides the land falls steeply away to the sea, and on the south side to a stream, providing natural defences. The promontory on the east side is cut off by a single bank and ditch, giving a roughly rectangular internal area of 0.67 ha. The bank is 1.5m - 2m high internally and rises 2.5m above the bottom of the ditch. The ditch is 0.8m deep and 3m wide. A break mid-way along the bank probably indicates the site of the entrance, but is now used by farm vehicles. The interior is under improved pasture and the defences and steep slopes under scrub.

K Murphy 14 December 2005 - taken from Cadw and other descriptions.



Aerial photograph Cambria Archaeology



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Scale: 1:500

1373 LLANGRANNOG

PRN 1373 NGR SN31105391

SITE NAME LLANGRANNOG

SITE TYPE PROMONTORY FORT FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION C

SITE STATUS

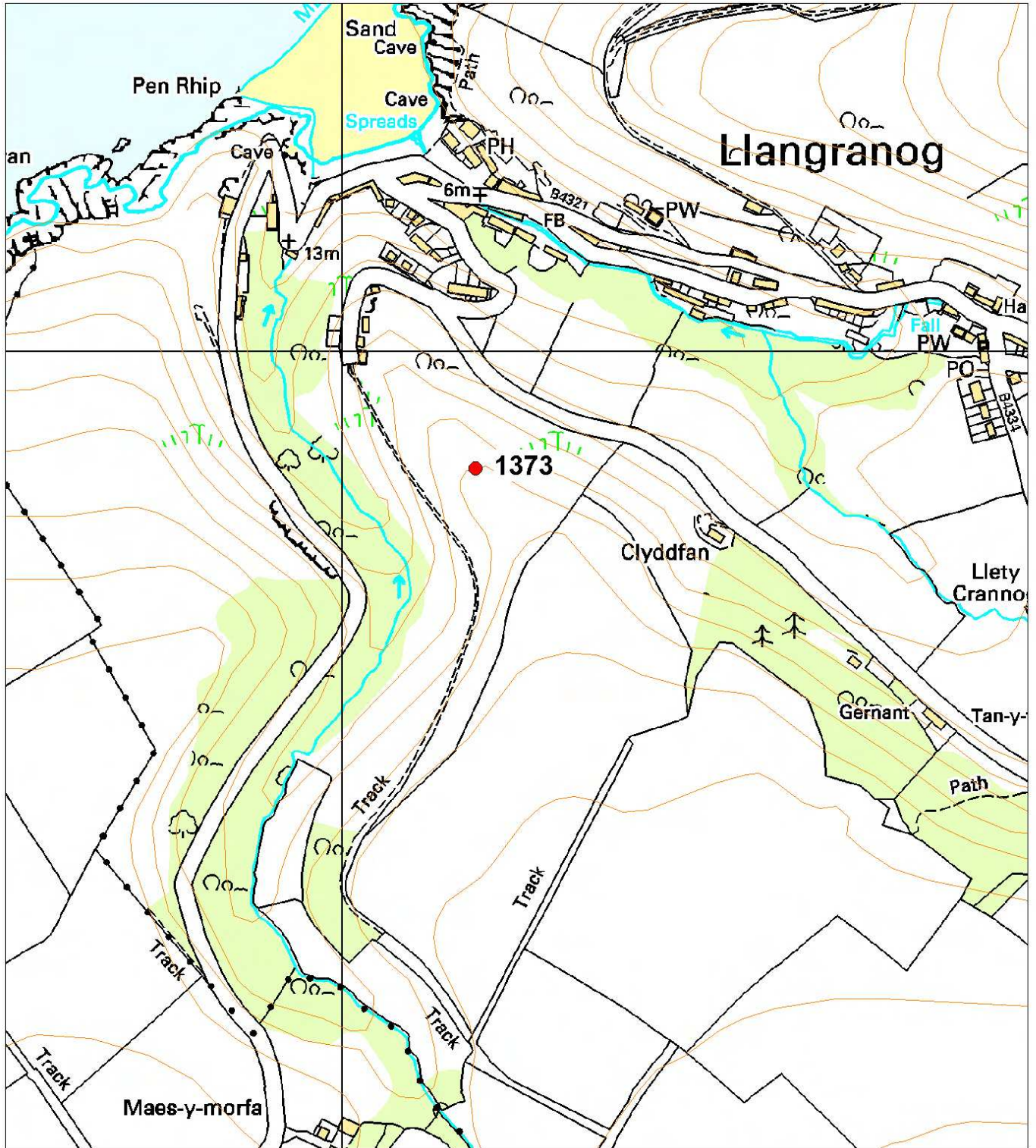
DESCRIPTION

This fort is located on rocky inland promontory, at 90m above sea level, overlooking the sea. It is a good naturally defended site; to the southwest and northeast the land falls away almost vertically. To the northwest, down the nose of the promontory, the fall is more gentle, but still steep, while to the southeast the promontory is separated from a plateau of farmland by a natural saddle 70m wide and 8m deep. The face of this saddle on the promontory side is steep and rocky, and has the impression of being artificially fashioned into a defensive element, but this is not the case. The top of the promontory slopes down in a series of rocky steps from southeast to northwest, and is gorse and bracken covered, which hinders the identification of archaeological remains. Nevertheless, some 30m northwest of the rocky face of the saddle mentioned above, a bank c. 5m wide and 0.8m high with a ditch on its southeast side and counterscarp bank southeast of the ditch runs southwest -northeast across the promontory. These earthworks stop short of the steep slope on the northeast side, perhaps indicating the site of an entrance. Approximately 70m northwest of these earthworks a rocky bank runs across the promontory southwest -northeast. On first appearance this could be a defence against those trying to enter the fort from northwest, but it is more likely that it is an entirely natural feature. Some of the steep slopes on the edge of the fort have been quarried for stone in the past, but this activity does not seem to have damaged the fort.

K Murphy 17 November 2005



Ground photograph showing earthwork defences.



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Scale: 1:500

1375 GAER LLWYD

PRN 1375 NGR SN30145240

SITE NAME GAER LWYD

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION C

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

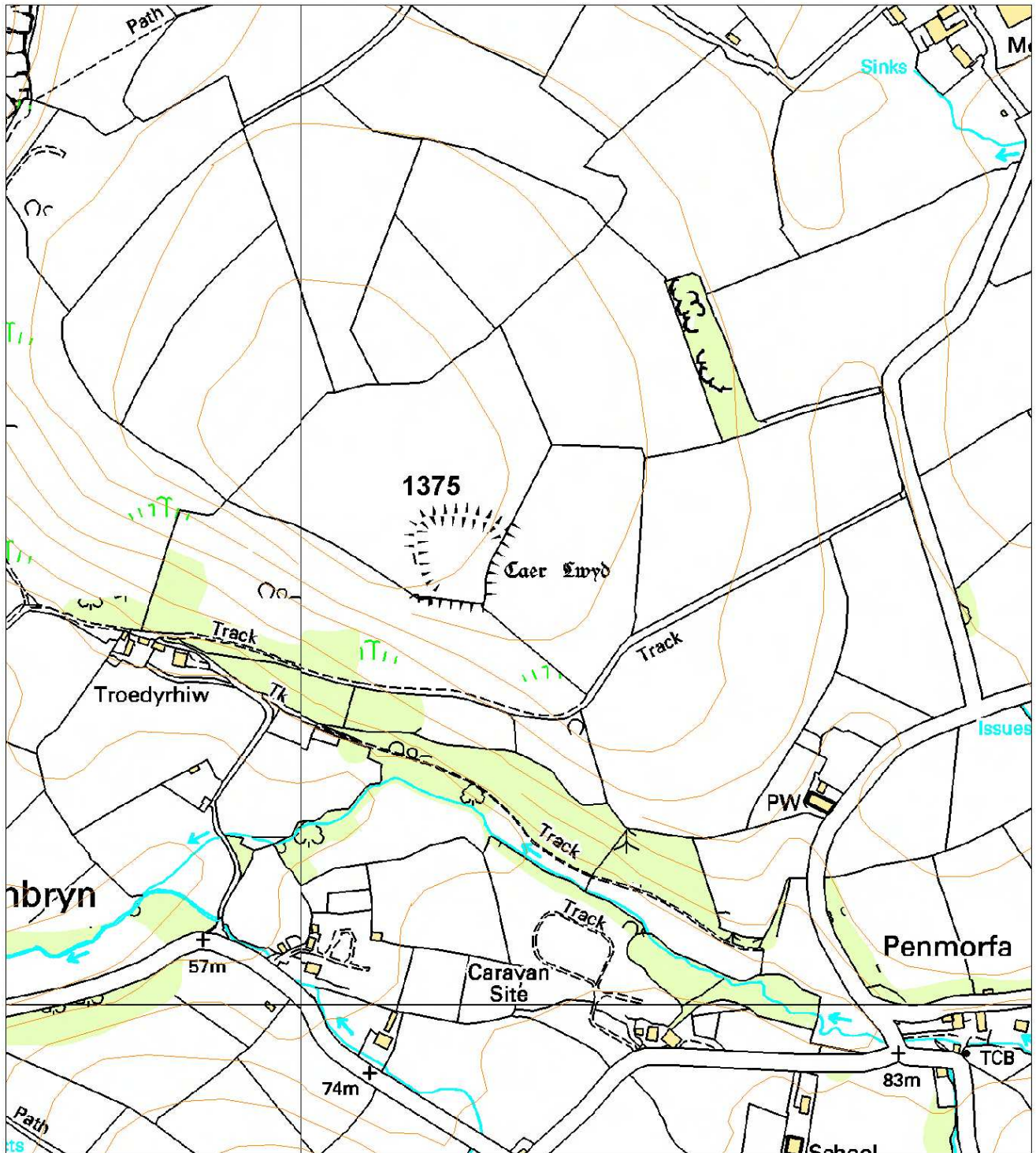
Gaer Lwyd is a defended enclosure located on gently sloping ground on a scarp edge at 150m above sea level, just off the highest point of a rounded hill. It is overlooked. The steep scarp slope that falls away by over 80m forms the defence to the south side of the site. A very spread defensive bank forms the defence to the west and north. This bank is up to 15m wide and 0.7m high. A depression outside the bank marks the line of a silted/in-filled ditch. The entrance to the fort is on the southwest corner, where the defensive bank stops short of the scarp slope. The east side of the fort is defended by a 3m high sharp break of slope. This seems to be a natural slope that has been artificially steepened to provide a defence. There is no trace of a ditch on this side. The interior of the fort approximates to a 70m square. It has the impression of having been terraced in order to provide a more level surface than that offered by the natural topography. Approximately 110m southeast of the fort a bank, 80m long, 18m wide and 1.5m high, parallel to the eastern side of the fort may be an outer line of defence, but equally this could be a natural feature. In 2005, the site was under improved pasture.

This is probably the 'Gaer Lwyd' that D Prys Williams recorded as having been demolished shortly before 1905.

K Murphy 22 November 2005



Ground photograph looking over earthworks.



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Scale: 1:500

1386 CRUGIAU

PRN 1386 NGR SN35395285

SITE NAME CASTELL CRUGIAU;GAER;MAERDY GAER

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age?;Roman?;Early Medieval? CONDITION C

SITE STATUS SAM

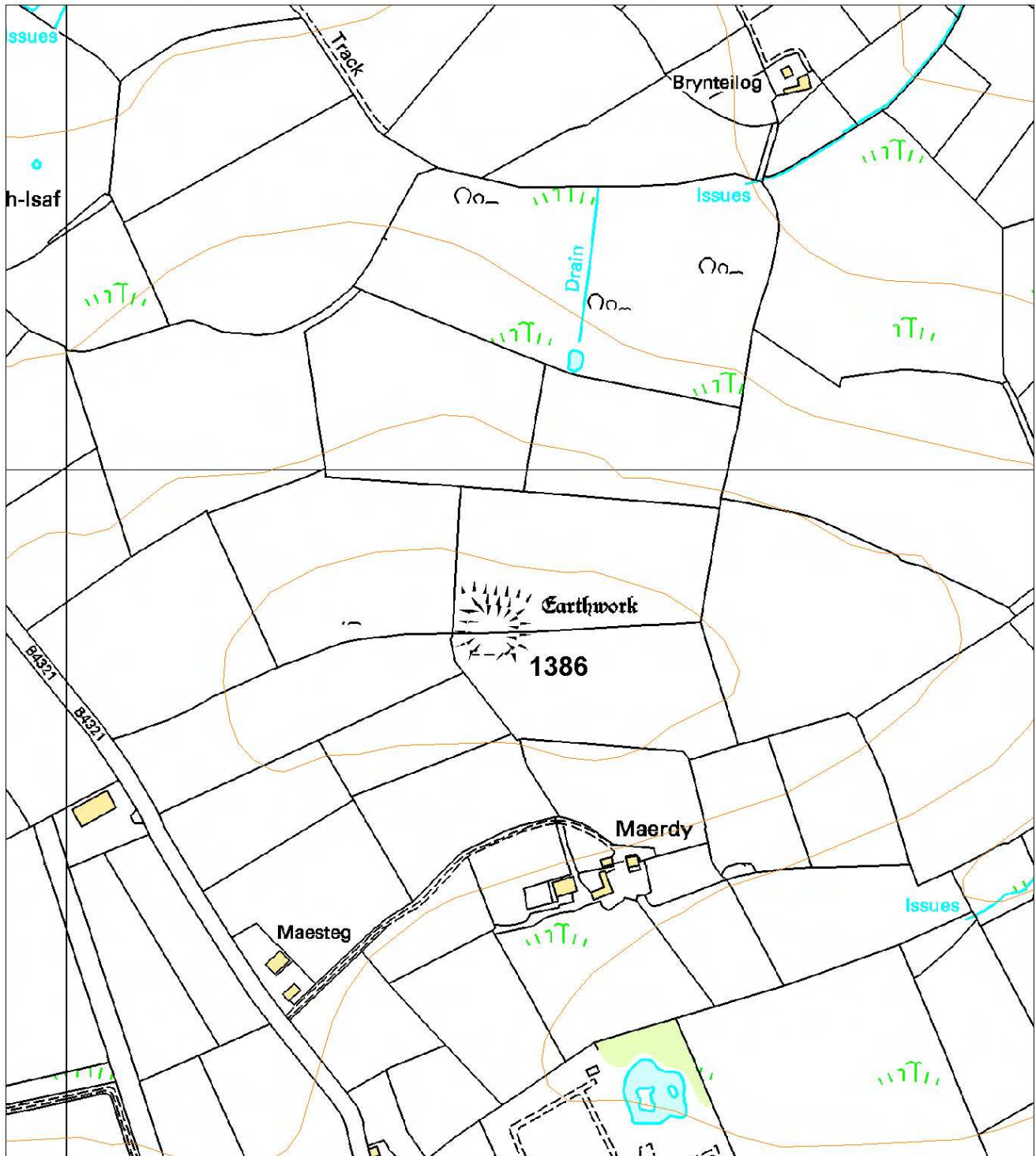
DESCRIPTION

Castell Crugiau is a small, rectangular defended enclosure located on the summit of a rounded hill at 230m above sea level. Internally it measures approximately 55m east - west and 48m north - south, 0.23ha in area. The earthworks are now much reduced and survive best in the southeast corner where they are up to 1.2m high externally. Elsewhere they are spread and up to 0.6m high. There is a trace of a ditch on the north side. The location of the entrance is unknown. The site is bisected by a hegebank, and is occasionally ploughed.

K Murphy 14 December 2005 - from Cadw and Ordnance Survey descriptions.



Aerial photograph Cambria Archaeology



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14248 NEUADD

PRN 14248 NGR SN36565590

SITE NAME NEUADD

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE FORM Cropmark

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

A circular enclosure is visible on aerial photographs. The enclosure is defined by a cropmark ditch, there are no earthworks or surface indications of the site. The photograph indicates near circular enclosure, approximately 80m in diameter. It is faint cropmark; there is no sign of an entrance. The site lies on a south-facing slope, which is not constant, but levels out slightly at the site of the enclosure. To the south of the site the land falls steeply away into a small valley. In 2005, the site was under improved pasture.

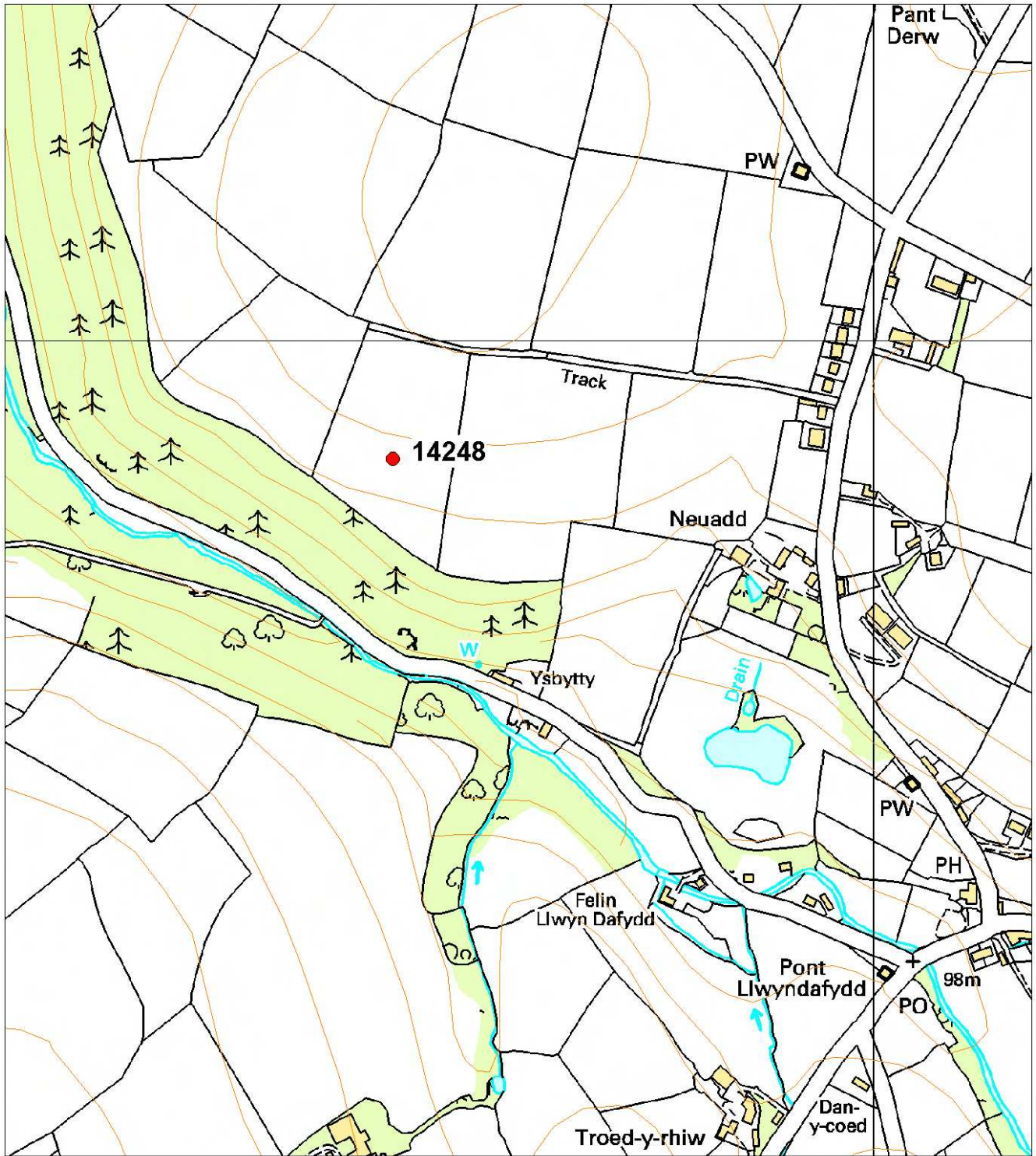
K Murphy 22 November 2005



Aerial photograph Cambria Archaeology



Ground photograph looking over site of earthworks.



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Scale: 1:500

14806 PEN Y CASTELL

PRN 14806 NGR SN317529

SITE NAME PEN Y CASTELL

SITE TYPE DEFENDED ENCLOSURE? FORM Earthwork

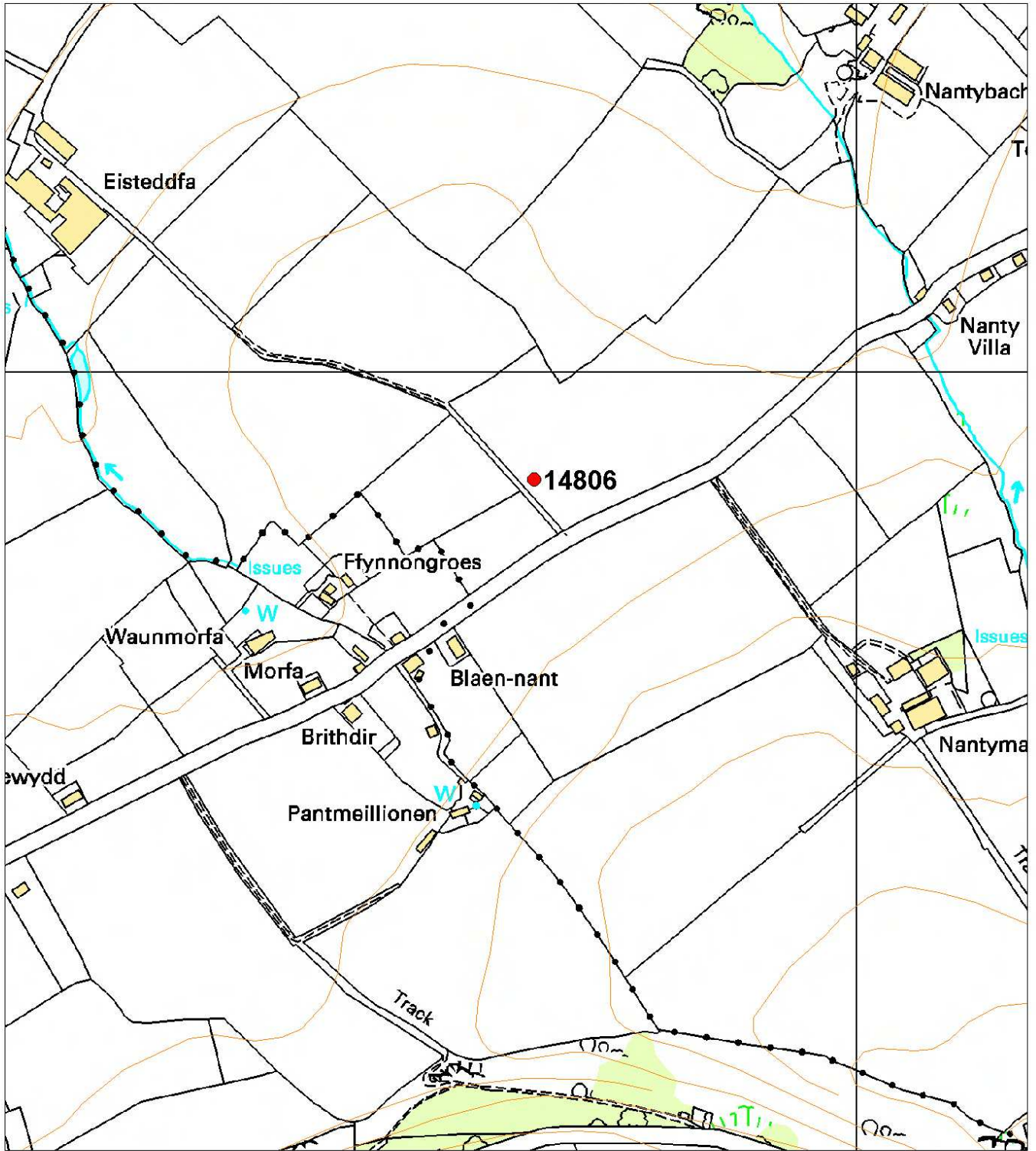
PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION D

SITE STATUS

DESCRIPTION

This site was described by K Ray in 1988 as occupying a shallow hilltop, and comprising an embanked enclosure much reduced by ploughing and obscured by a later field bank built across it. The grid reference provided by Ray must be incorrect as it refers to a fairly level pasture field, which has no trace of an earthwork. There is a shallow hill some 350m to the northwest of grid reference provide, but a rapid appraisal of it failed to discover any earthwork.

K Murphy 17 November 2005



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56245 FELIN LLWYN-DAFYDD

PRN 56245 NGR SN36685553

SITE NAME FELIN LLWYN-DAFYDD

SITE TYPE PROMONTORY FORT FORM Earthwork

PERIOD Iron Age CONDITION U

SITE STATUS

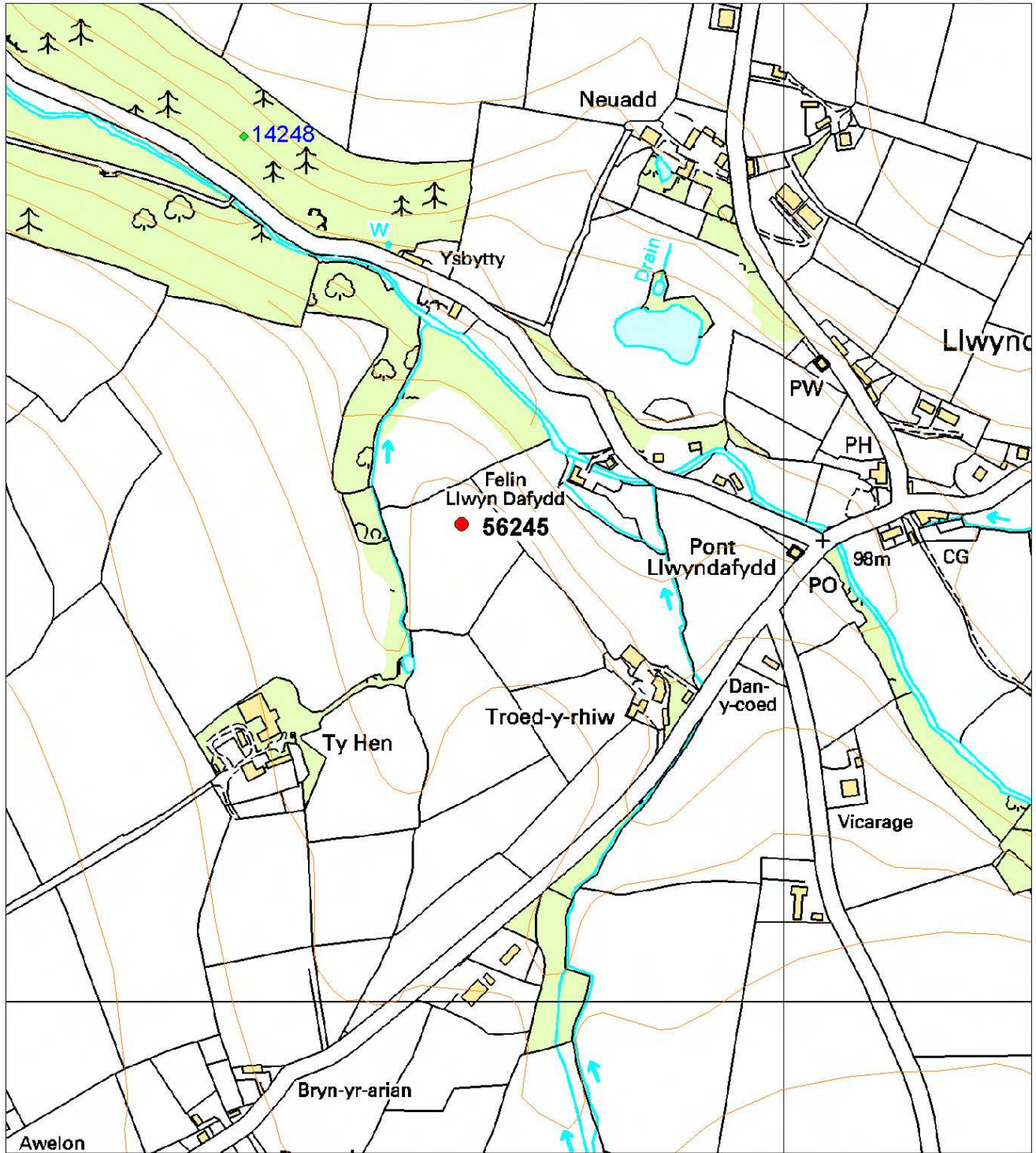
DESCRIPTION

Earthworks of a small promontory fort were noticed from the air by Toby Driver (RCAHMW) in 2004, but not photographed. Access to the land could not be arranged in 2005, so the character of this site has not been assessed. The site is located on a small inland promontory. To the west, north and east the land falls away by 10m -20m into small valleys. To the south the land is flat and the site is easily approachable. In 2005, the site was under improved pasture.

K Murphy 22 November 2005



Ground photograph - site in middle distance.



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REJECTED SITES

Three sites originally recorded as defended enclosures or similar on the Historic Environment were rejected:

1104 - originally recorded as a possible defensive site, this site was amended to a hedgebank following a field visit.