ELAN LINKS, ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION CARN RICET, ELAN VALLEY, POWYS



Report by: Trysor

For: Elan Links, Elan Valley Trust

April 2023



ELAN LINKS, ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION CARN RICET, ELAN VALLEY, POWYS

By

Jenny Hall, MCIfA & Paul Sambrook, MCIfA Trysor

Trysor Project No. 2020/654

For: Elan Links, Elan Valley Trust

April 2023

38, New Road Gwaun-cae-Gurwen Ammanford Carmarthenshire SA18 1UN <u>www.trysor.net</u> enguiries@trysor.net





Cover photograph: The lost Carn Ricet cairn revealed in two small trenches, looking east.

ELAN LINKS, ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION CARN RICET, ELAN VALLEY, POWYS

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD - REPORT NUMBER: Trysor 2020/654

DYDDIAD 19^{ed} Ebrill 2023 DATE 19th April 2023

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan bartneriad Trysor. Mae wedi ei gael yn gywir ac yn derbyn ein sêl bendith.

This report was prepared by the Trysor partners. It has been checked and received our approval.

JENNY HALL MCIFA Jenny Hall

PAUL SAMBROOK MCIFA Paul Sambrook

Croesawn unrhyw sylwadau ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn.

We welcome any comments on the content or structure of this report.

38, New Road, Gwaun-cae-Gurwen Ammanford Carmarthenshire SA18 1UN 01269 826397 82. Henfaes Road Tonna Neath SA141 3EX 01639 412708

www.trysor.net

enquiries@trysor.net

Trysor is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and both partners are Members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, <u>www.archaeologists.net</u>

Jenny Hall (BSc Joint Hons., Geology and Archaeology, MCIfA) had 12 years excavation experience, which included undertaking watching briefs prior to becoming the Sites and Monuments Record Manager for a Welsh Archaeological Trust for 10 years. She has been an independent archaeologist since 2004 undertaking a variety of work that includes upland survey, desk-based assessments, evaluations and watching briefs.

Paul Sambrook (BA Joint Hons., Archaeology and Welsh, MCIfA, PGCE) has extensive experience as a fieldworker in Wales. He was involved with Cadw's pan-Wales Deserted Rural Settlements Project for 7 years. He also undertook Tir Gofal field survey work and watching briefs. He has been an independent archaeologist since 2004 undertaking a variety of work including upland survey, desk-based assessments, evaluations and watching briefs.

Event Record PRN – CPAT HER

PRN	164242
Name	Elan Links, Archaeological Evaluation, Carn Ricet, Elan
	Valley
Туре	EVALUATION
NGR	SN8715570933
Easting	287155
Northing	270933
Summary (English)	In January 2023, Trysor undertook an evaluation at Carn Ricet, to the side of the Monks Trod on the Elan Valley Estate, SN8715570933. Carn Ricet was shown as an extant feature on 19 th century maps but over the course of the 20 th century disappeared from view. Cairn material was found within two small trenches. © Trysor 2023
Crynodeb (Cymraeg)	Ym mis Ionawr 2023, cynhaliodd Trysor werthusiad yng Ngharn Ricet, wrth ochr Llwybr y Mynaich ar Stad Cwm Elan, SN8715570933. Dangoswyd Carn Ricet fel nodwedd sy'n bodoli ar fapiau o'r 19eg ganrif ond diflannodd o'r golwg yn ystod yr 20fed ganrif. Cafwyd hyd i ddeunydd carnedd o fewn dwy ffos fechan. © Trysor 2023
Description	In January 2023, Trysor undertook an evaluation at Carn Ricet, to the side of the Monks Trod on the Elan Valley Estate, SN8715570933. Carn Ricet was shown as an extant feature on 19 th century maps but over the course of the 20 th century disappeared from view. Cairn material was found within two small trenches. © Trysor 2023
Sources	Trysor, 2023, Elan Links, Archaeological Evaluation, Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys
Copyright	@Trysor 2023

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

CONTENTS

1. Summary	2
2. Introduction	2
3. Copyright	2
4. The excavation site	3
5. Methodology	9
6. Stratigraphy	11
7. Archive	13
8. Discussion	14
9. Acknowledgments	17
10. Public Benefit	17
11. Sources	17
Appendix A: Photographs	19
Appendix B: Written Scheme of Investigation	40
Appendix C: Archive Index	56

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

1. Summary

1.1 In January 2023, Trysor, on behalf of the Elan Valley Trust, undertook an archaeological excavation of the Bronze Age cairn of Carn Ricet, SN8715570933, as part the NLHF funded Elan Links scheme.

1.2 The cairn has been denuded and for some years had disappeared from view. The site has previously been subject to geophysical survey to help identify the location and extent of the monument (Brooks, I, 2019) and the 2023 evaluation excavation was undertaken to confirm the exact location of the cairn and establish the condition of its buried remains.

1.3 The evaluation demonstrated that the base of the cairn does survive as a buried feature and that it is thought likely that any cremation burials beneath the cairn remain undisturbed, despite the erosion of the upper part of the cairn.

2. Introduction

2.1 Elan Valley Trust, through the NLHF funded Elan Links scheme, commissioned Trysor undertake an archaeological investigation of Carn Ricet Bronze Age cairn, SN8715570933, which is located to the northern side of the mountain route known as the Monks' Trod, running between the mountain road from Rhayader to Cwmystwyth and Claerwen.

2.2 This project is part of Elan Links 4a: Safeguarding Elan's Historic Environment strand of the HLF project which seeks to ensure that key built heritage and ancient heritage sites are protected to safeguard and maintain their condition into the future.

2.3 Trysor produced a written scheme of investigation, see Appendix C, following CIfA standards and guidance (CIfA, 2020a, b & c) as well as guidance provided by Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT, undated). It was approved by the curatorial archaeologist at Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust.

3. Copyright

3.1 Trysor hold the copyright of this report and of the paper and digital archive but grants Elan Valley Trust full use of the material without restriction. For other people or organisations paper copies may be made of this report without gaining permission to reproduce but it must be noted that Figures 6 and 15 include other copyright material and should not be copied.

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

4. The excavation site

4.1 Carn Ricet is found at SN8715570933, approximately 3.2km westsouthwest of Pont ar Elan, in the Elan Valley, Powys, see Figure 1. The cairn is recorded in the National Monuments Record under NPRN 30480 and in the regional Historic Environment Record, managed by Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust, under PRN 818. It is not a scheduled monument.

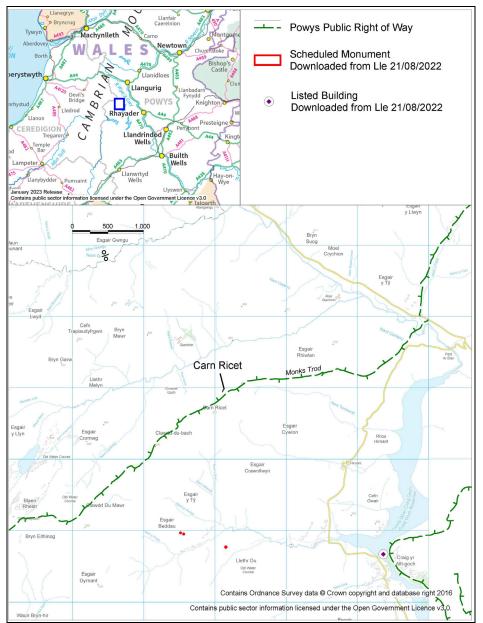


Figure 1: Location of Carn Ricet, HER PRN 818, and NMR NPRN 304804.

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

4.2 The Monk's Trod, a public right of way, and a routeway of some antiquity, passes close to its southern edge. The public right of way, a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) with restrictions, is in a slight hollow, and in recent years this has become damp and rush-filled. Walkers and other users have been using the drier ground to the north of the public right of way, including the area of the cairn.

4.3 The probable Bronze Age cairn at Carn Ricet was identified as being at High Risk in a Heritage at Risk survey carried in 2017 as part of the supporting documentation for the Elan Links NLHF bid (Trysor, 2017) Visitor erosion, from walkers and wheeled transport, on the Monks Trod, had spread the cairn in recent years to the point where it was no longer readily visible. In order to protect it, it needed to be better understood, and its location identified.

4.4 The cairn is shown on historic mapping, including the Ordnance Survey's Original Surveyors' Drawings of 1820, see Figure 2, and the First Series Ordnance Survey map of 1833. It is consistently shown as being positioned immediately to the northern side of the Monks' Trod track as can be seen also on the 1889 and 1903 Ordnance Survey, see Figures 3 and 4.

4.5 The cairn was recorded by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments in 1911 when it was thought to be the remains of a stone cairn, see Figure 5 (RCAHMW, 1913, number 396). The cairn was denuded and turf-covered with a few "foundation" stones protruding. It was said to 150 feet (45.7 metres in circumference) which would give a diameter of around 14.5 metres. A small mound of stones on top of the turf-covered remains of the cairn was also noted and was interpreted as a possible marker for a sheep walk.



Figure 2: The 1820 Original Surveyors Drawing showing "Carn Rhicet" marked to the north of the trackway

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

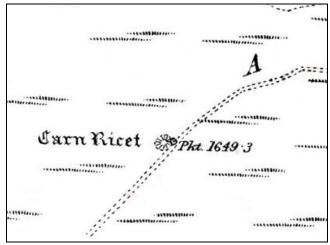


Figure 3: The 1889 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map showing the cairn as a mound with antique writing denoting it as an antiquity. Note also that a Picket (Pkt) is shown inserted into the eastern side for a spot height of 1649.3 feet.

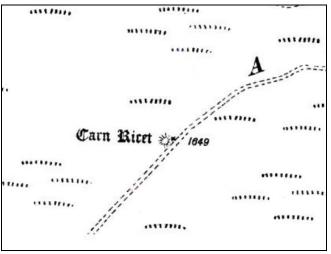


Figure 4: The 1903 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map showing the cairn and picket

396. Carn Ricet (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Rad. 14 N.W.; lat. 52° 19′ 28″, long. 3° 39′ 22″). Owners, The Birmingham City Council.

There are here at present only the remains of a fine stone mound; a few of the foundation stones, just visible in the turf, are probably in their original position. It would appear to have been about 150 feet in circumference, and must have been a conspicuous object on almost the highest point of the high land between this county and Cardiganshire. An ancient trackway across the mountain runs past the carnedd. Nothing is known of the period of its destruction, but a small mound of stones has been heaped upon its foundations, and doubtless out of its ruins, to mark the boundary of a sheepwalk. A number of white quartz stones is scattered around the site.— Visited, 19th May, 1911.

Figure 5: Extract from the RCAM's Radnorshire Inventory of 1913

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

4.6 In 1970, the RCAHMW recorded that the later small mound of stones was still present and suggested that they might be marking a drover's road. In 1977 the Ordnance Survey said they could see no sign of the remains of the "fine stone mound" the RCAHMW mentioned in 1911 but there was the small mound of stones described as being 2 metres in diameter and 0.40 metres high (Ordnance Survey, 1977).

4.7 Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust visited the site in 2000 as part of the Cadw grant-aided Prehistoric Funerary and Ritual Sites project. They described the original cairn as being c. 4 metres in diameter and 0.2 metres high. The centre was slightly hollow and the southwest side of the cairn was not clear. The whole was turf-covered with small stones, including quartz, visible. A small modern stone pile was seen on the north side of the original cairn. They highlighted the threat from vehicles and visitors using the adjacent trackway.

4.8 Trysor visited the site in July 2009 as part of the RCAHMW grantaided Uplands Survey (Trysor, 2010). The original cairn was very poorly defined and it was not possible to give its dimensions. No stone was visible through the turf. A small spread of stone lay in the north of the area of the cairn but was less than 1 metre wide and 0.10 metres high.

4.9 In June 2019, when the site was visited by Trysor and Emma Guy, the Rights of Way and Access Officer for Powys County Council, the site was not obvious. The small mound of stone had disappeared and the ill-defined original cairn was not clear.

4.10 Oral accounts from local walkers suggest that the later mound of stone was spread and dispersed during the later decades of the 20th century by dirt track bikes using it as a ramp.

4.11 In November 2019, Ian Brooks of Engineering Archaeological Services, led geophysical survey of the area where the cairn was thought to be, helped Vic Pardoe, David James and Trysor. A 20 metre squares was surveyed using both fluxgate gradiometer and resistivity methods, see Figure 6. The fluxgate gradiometer survey recorded a circular anomaly within a band of magnetic disturbance, whilst the resistivity survey shows a series of enhanced resistance anomalies which it was thought might be the response to a spread cairn (Brooks, I, 2019).

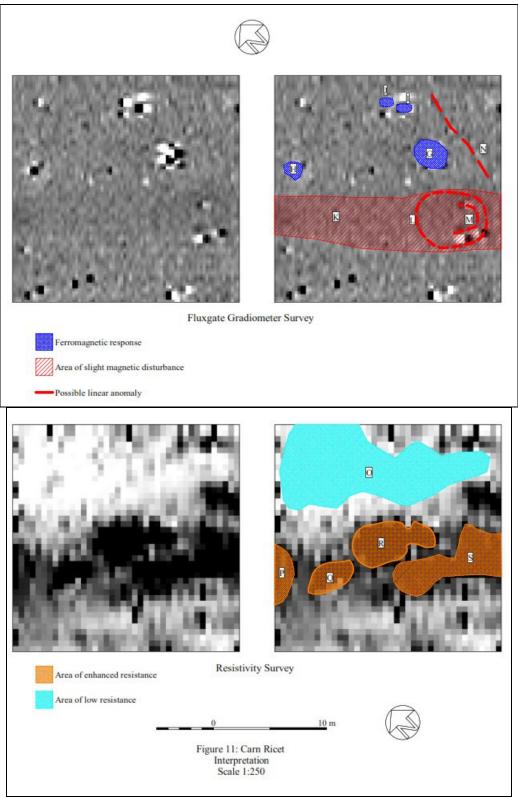


Figure 6: Results from the geophysical surveys undertaken by Ian Brooks of Engineering Archaeological Services in 2019. © EAS Ltd

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

4.12 The cairn is situated at just below 500 metres above sea level and to the northern edge of the long, flat ridge of Clawdd Du Bach which separates the Nant Hirin valley to the north from the lower Elan Valley and its tributaries to the south. The land drops away to the north-northwest down to the Nant Hirin which lies at about 370 metres above sea level. Views from the cairn are therefore restricted to the uplands to the west-southwest clockwise around to the east, with Clawdd Du Bach blocking all views to the south.

4.13 Notably, the cairn is set on a low rise and would have been visible on the skyline when approaching from the saddle separating Clawdd Du Bach from Esgair Rhiwlan to the northeast. This may suggest that it have acted as a waymarker on the route through the Elenydd uplands.

4.14 The site is underlain by sandstone and mudstone of the Rhuddnant Grits Formation, sedimentary bedrock which was formed between 438.5 and 433.4 million years ago during the Silurian period. The bedrock is overlain by glacial deposits which were formed between 116 and 11.8 thousand years ago during the Quaternary period. These would have been laid down during the last Ice Age. The thin soils at the site are classed as "very acid loamy upland soils with a wet peaty surface" which are typically found on grass and heather moorlands.

4.15 The cairn lies within the Elenydd SSSI, an extensive SSSI covering 22,770 hectares. This SSSI is described by in its citation as "the most important areas of hill land in Wales for nature conservation. It is of outstanding interest for its range of breeding birds of upland and woodland. Much of the hill vegetation is also of special interest." (NRW, accessed 18/02/2020). It also lies within the Elenydd Mallaen Special Protection Area which is described as an "extensive site includes heath and blanket mire-dominated uplands (rising to about 460 m) and is intersected by valleys containing woodlands and grasslands. It is one of the most important areas of hill land for nature conservation in Wales. Crags are frequent throughout the site. The site is especially important for a number of breeding raptors, some of which are resident throughout the year. The diversity and quality of upland habitats provide an abundance of suitable feeding and nesting sites" (JNCC, accessed19/02/2020, p.72).

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

5. Methodology

5.1 Between the 24th and 26th January 2023, a trench was excavated across the presumed site of the cairn, see Figure 7. The probable location of the cairn had been established a geophysical survey undertaken by Ian Brooks in November 2019 (Brooks, 2019). The geophysical survey had identified a feature thought to be the cairn, see Figure 6. As the site lies within the SSSI and SAC areas, permission for the excavation was sought from NRW by the Elan Valley Trust.

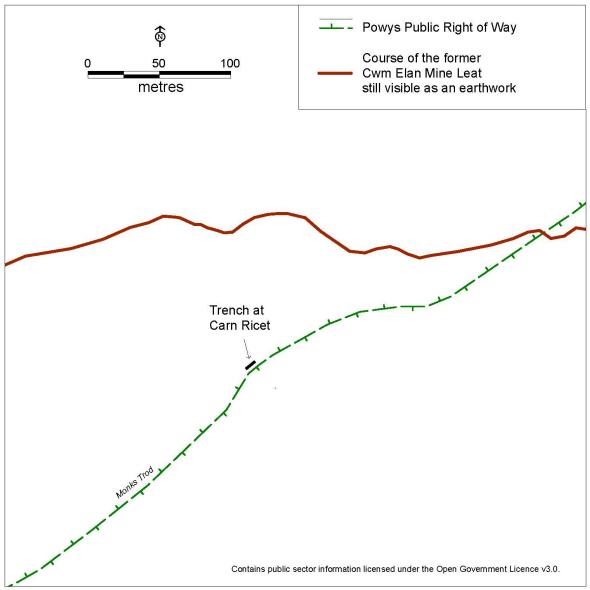


Figure 7: More detailed location map

5.2 The site was over 3.3 kilometres distant from the nearest parking at Pont ar Elan and with a rise of over 137 metres, access to the site was on foot. Excavation kit was pared down to what could be carried by two people.

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

5.3 Snow had fallen in the previous days and the melting snow on the hill assisted in the identification of the cairn as it had collected around the edges of the slight mound of the cairn and made the earthwork visible.

5.4 The site code used was CRN2020. The excavation was to have been undertaken during 2020, but the Covid pandemic interrupted the original timescales and the site code given in the WSI was adhered to. The following number sequences were used to record individual contexts and photographs, see Table 1.

Number Sequence	Used For	Numbers Used
001 to 099	Context numbers	001 to 004
101 to 199	Photograph numbers	101 to 111
201 to 299	Drawing Numbers	201 to 202
301 to 399	Sample Numbers	None

Table 1: Number sequences used

5.5 The evaluation was carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Field Evaluation* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020b).

5.6 The trench was hand excavated and the intention was to put it across the central part of the cairn. An initial trench was laid out 5 metres northeast to southwest by 1 metre. The turf was removed carefully and laid to one side on terram for reinstatement later. Once the turf was removed, cairn material started to become visible. It became clear that the northeast half of the trench was beyond the edge of cairn material so the trench was truncated by 0.25 metres at the northeast end. The trench was then extended to the southwest in order to uncover the southwestern edge of the cairn, leaving a gap of 1.55 metres between the two parts of the trench. The second part of the trench was 1.7 metres long.

5.7 The trench was cleaned after removal remaining turf and peat. Vertical gridded photographs were taken to aid drawing a plan offsite. A measured sketch section of the northwest section was drawn.

5.8 Colour digital photographs were taken using a 24M pixel camera with appropriate scales. Details and copies of the photographs are included in Appendix A.

5.9 The purpose of the evaluation was to confirm if the geophysics had identified the cairn and what condition the cairn was in, so after the

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

cairn material was exposed and recorded no further excavation was undertaken and the trench was backfilled and turf relaid.

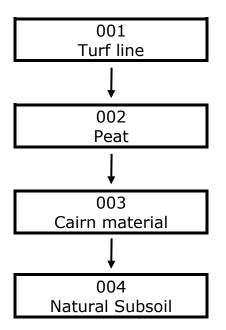
6. Stratigraphy

6.1 The stratigraphy in the trench was recorded, see Figures 8 and 9.

Context Number	Туре	Description	Interpretation
001	Layer	Turf up to 0.1 metres deep	Turfline
002	Layer	A peaty soil	Peaty topsoil
003	Layer	Small to medium-sized stones, including some quartz	Cairn Material
004	Layer	Clay	Natural Subsoil

6.2 Context Catalogue

6.3 The excavation of the trench rapidly saw the removal of the turfline (001) which exposed the stones of the cairn (003). Outside of the cairn there was a peaty soil (002) which overlay a clay subsoil (004).



Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

6.3.1 Within the trench, the main core of the cairn appeared to be intact, although there may have been some disturbance or truncation of material along its northeastern, downslope side. There was no evidence of a kerb around the edge of the cairn or any surrounding ditch.

6.3.2 Some stone from the cairn was scattered a short distance either side of the cairn body, presumably as a result of past erosion. Anecdotal evidence collected by Trysor over several years of fieldwork in the area indicates that several decades ago the cairn mound was used by scramble bikers as a ramp, a process which may have disturbed some stone but does not appear to have impacted on the base of the cairn.

6.3.3 There was no evidence of a cist or any other internal feature in the exposed cairn material.

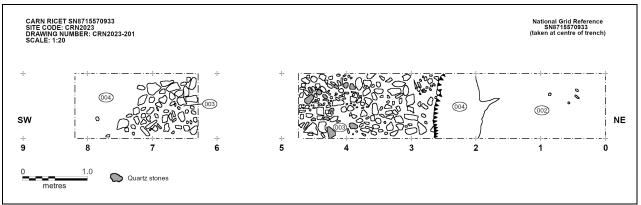


Figure 8: The plan of the evaluation trench, showing the truncated eastern side.

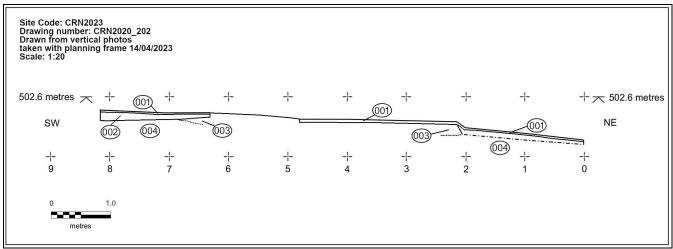


Figure 9: The northwest section of the evaluation trench.

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

7. Archive

7.1 The archive and a copy of the report and photographs will be deposited with the National Monuments Record in Aberystwyth. The photographs are in TIFF format. The draft index to the archive is in Appendix C.

7.2 A further copy of the report will be supplied to the Historic Environment Record at Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust.

8. Discussion

8.1 This short evaluation excavation was undertaken to investigate the denuded cairn at Carn Ricet.

8.2 It was previously thought that the monument had probably been damaged by a combination of stone robbing to surface the adjacent Monks' Trod track and vehicle damage in the 20th century caused by motorbikes and off-road vehicles driving over the site.

8.3 A geophysical survey undertaken by Ian Brooks of Engineering Archaeological Services in 2019 (Brooks, 2019) appeared to show that the base of the cairn survived as a buried archaeological feature, beneath the turf cover.

8.4 The evaluation trench, which extended to 8.2metres long by 1 metre wide, was positioned on a southwest to northeast axis to extend across the central part of the cairn and across the surface either side of the monument.

8.5 The excavation of this trench demonstrated that:

8.5.1 The base of the cairn survives intact, or largely intact. The excavation identified the southwest and northeast edges of the cairn and from this it appears that the cairn measures approximately 4 to 4.5 metres in diameter.

8.5.2 The trench had a relatively thin turf (001) over the cairn body (003) and the surrounding peat (003). No artefacts of significance were found, with only a single, very small piece of glazed 19th century pottery found in the turf.

8.5.3 The exposed part of the cairn was seen to consist of small to medium sized stones which were tightly packed and appeared to confirm this was a well-constructed funerary cairn rather than a more recent marker cairn. The stones appeared to be of local origin and included fragments of white quartz, which are found in the area.

8.5.4 The excavation did not involve the lifting of any cairn material. It is not known how deep the stone extends and the nature of further archaeological layers presumed to be preserved beneath the cairn is not known.

8.6 In summary the evaluation demonstrates that the base of the cairn body has survived beneath the turf. The cairn appears to have been a Bronze Age funerary cairn rather than a later marker cairn and the Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

surviving stone is likely to protect sealed archaeological layers, which may include an original cremation burial.

8.6.1 The evaluation did not identify any other features.

8.6.2 Whilst further excavation could lead to a better understanding of the monument, the priority should be to protect Carn Ricet from future damage from users of the BOAT and two-wheeled vehicles using the Monks' Trod.

8.6.3 The cairn belongs of a group of fine Bronze Age monuments focused on the upper Elan Valley, see Figure 11. It is intervisible with the hills to the north of the upper Elan Valley and also enjoys views across the Nant Hirnant valley to the north and across to the rocky hillocks above the glacial lakes of Llynnoedd Cerrig Llwydion at the heart of Elenydd. Carn Ricet is not intervisible with contemporary monuments to the south along the lower Elan Valley or to the southwest along the Claerwen Valley.

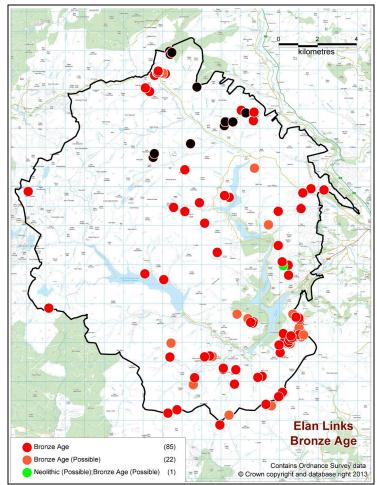


Figure 10: A map of the Bronze Age features as recorded at the time of the Elan Links NLHF grant application in 2017. The sites in black are intervisible with Carn Ricet.

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

8.7 In view of the probable date of the cairn at Carn Ricet, its relationship of the cairn with a larger cairn group and the evident survival of buried archaeological stratigraphy and the vulnerability of the site, consideration should be given to scheduling the site to ensure its future protection and management.

8.7.1 Consideration should be given to marking the location of the monument, perhaps by reinstating a stone cairn over the buried cairn base or by fencing or marking around around the archaeologically sensitive area of the cairn to ensure it is not further damaged.

9. Acknowledgments

9.1 Trysor would like to acknowledge the help of the Elan Valley Trust and members of the NHLF funded Elan Links team with setting up the excavation. Thanks also to Vic Pardoe who helped with de-turfing and initial exploration of the cairn.

10. Public Benefit

10.1 A handout was prepared for anyone who was walking the Monks Trod to let them know why the excavation was taking place. No-one passed by on the days the excavation took place probably due to the time of year and the weather.

10.2 It was not possible to send social media posts directly from site due to lack of signal but bilingual posts were made either that evening or the next day and shared on Twitter and Facebook with limited engagement.

10.3 The archive and a pdf version of the report will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, as well as a pdf version of the report and photographs deposited with the regional Historic Environment Record making the record of the excavation available to people in the future.

10.4 A summary will be prepared for Archaeology in Wales 2023.

11. Sources

11.1 Maps Ordnance Survey, 1820, Original Surveyors Drawing Ordnance Survey, 1889, 1:2500, Radnorshire XIV.NW Ordnance Survey, 1903, 1:2500, Radnorshire XIV.NW

11.2 Other Sources Brooks, I, 2019, *Maen Hir and Carn Ricet: Geophysical Surveys*, EAS Client Report 2019/11

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020b, *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Field Evaluation*, available online from the CIfA website, <u>www.archaeologists.net</u>

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020a, *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials* available online from the CIfA website, <u>www.archaeologists.net</u>

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020c, *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* available online from the CIfA website, <u>www.archaeologists.net</u>

CPAT, Undated, General Requirements for Archaeological Field Evaluations in the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust Area

JNCC, last accessed 17/04/2022, http://data.jncc.gov.uk/data/3634580a-cabc-4218-872f-8660a1760ad8/uk-spa-vol3-web.pdf

NRW, last accessed 17/04/2022, https://naturalresources.wales/media/661167/SSSI 1172 Citation EN0 012519.pdf

Ordnance Survey, 1977, 495 Record Card, SN87SE1

RCAHMW, 1913, An Inventory of the Ancient Monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire, Vol III County of Radnor

Trysor, 2010, Uplands Initiative Elenydd (Central)Archaeological Survey - Parts One & Two

Trysor, 2017, Elan Links Heritage at Risk Part One

Trysor, 2017, Elan Links Heritage at Risk Part Two – Site Gazetteer

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

APPENDIX A: PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo Number	Description	Date Taken	Direction
CRN2020_101	A general view across the site of Carn Ricet. The melting snow helps identify the location of the cairn, seen here as the slight dish-like feature which lies between the two ranging poles.	24/01/2023	West-southwest
CRN2020_102	A general view across the site of Carn Ricet showing the cairn marked out in advance of the evaluation excavation.	24/01/2023	Southwest
CRN2020_103	<i>A general view across the site of</i> <i>Carn Ricet the start of turf-lifting for</i> <i>the evaluation excavation.</i>	24/01/2023	West-southwest
CRN2020_104	The view after the first spade-full of turf had been lifted showed that small stones lay immediately below the surface.	24/01/2023	East-northeast
CRN2020_105	A view of the southwest end of the evaluation trench, after the removal of the turf. The stones of the denuded cairn are shown to lay just beneath the turf cover, suggesting the monument has survived below ground.	24/01/2023	Southeast
CRN2020_106	A view of the evaluation trench, after the removal of the turf, which more cairn material revealed beneath a thin turf cover.	24/01/2023	Northeast
CRN2020_107	A view of the evaluation trench, after the removal of the turf, which more cairn material revealed beneath a thin turf cover. The stone appears to peter out as the trench proceeded downslope to the northeast, indicating that the main body of the cairn was to the southwest of the centre of this trench.	24/01/2023	Southwest
CRN2020_108	A view of the extended trench, which was opened further to the southwest to try to identify the southwestern edge of the cairn. This view shows that the cairn has survived as a buried feature.	26/01/2023	Northeast
CRN2020_109	A view of the extended trench, which shows the northeast edge of the cairn. This edge shows signs of having been truncated. Evidence of the clay subsoil is seen in the foreground.	26/01/2023	Southwest

Photo Number	Description	Date Taken	Direction
CRN2020_110	A view across the evaluation trench showing the exposed cairn.	26/01/2023	East-northeast
CRN2020_111	A view across the evaluation trench showing the exposed cairn. The Monks' Trod track lies in the background, seen here as a reed- filled gully. The footpath in front of the reeds is the line used by current walkers and scramble bikes and threatens to erode the eastern side of the buried cairn (between the two ranging poles).	26/01/2023	Southeast
CRN2020_112	A view of the site following backfilling and the relaying of the turf. A small pile of stones taken from the spoil was left on the surface at the centre of the cairn to better mark its location.	26/01/2023	Southeast
CRN2020_113	<i>A view of the site during the evaluation with Vic Pardoe photographing the trench with a drone.</i>	24/01/2023	Northeast
CRN2020_114	A view of the Monks' Trod to the northeast of the cairn showing the impact of vehicle use on the route in recent times. With the roadway set to be reopened there is a high level of threat to the buried archaeology at Carn Ricet, which is likely to include an undisturbed burial.	25/01/2023	Northeast
CRN2020_115	A panormamic view from Carn Ricet shows that the cairn was located to offer views and/or be seen from the Nant Hirin valley to the west, the high ground northeast of Llynnoedd Cerrigllwydion to the west- southwest and the high ground along the upper Elan Valley. There only short and limited views in other directions.	26/01/2023	West
CRN2020_116	<i>A view from the cairn towards the rocky outcrops near Llynnoedd Cerrigllwydion. Rising ground blocks views to the southwest</i>	26/01/2023	West-southwest
CRN2020_117	<i>A view of the upper Nant Hirin valley from the cairn.</i>	26/01/2023	West
CRN2020_118	<i>A view from the cairn across the</i> <i>Nant Hirin valley towards Glanhirin</i> <i>Farm.</i>	26/01/2023	Northwest

Photo Number	Description	Date Taken	Direction
CRN2020_119	A view from the cairn across the Nant Hirin valley towards the higher ground of the upper Elan Valley, with Pumlumon in the far distance. Carn Ricet would have been intervisible with cairns along the north side of the upper Elan Valley.	26/01/2023	North-northwest
CRN2020_120	A view from the cairn towards Aberglanhirin Farm (near the stand of trees) and the hills which divide the Elan Valley from the Wye to the north.	26/01/2023	Northeast

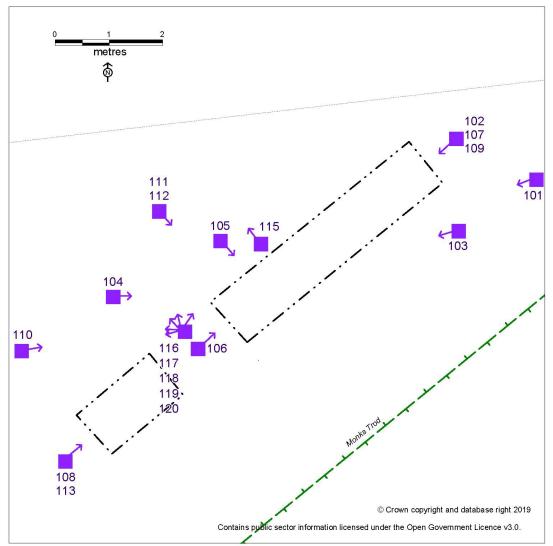


Figure 11: Location of photographs CRN2020_101 to CRN2020_120, excluding photo 114 which was taken further to the northeast at approximately SN87217096.



Plate 1: CRN2020_101. A general view across the site of Carn Ricet. The melting snow helps identify the location of the cairn, seen here as the slight dish-like feature which lies between the two ranging poles. Looking west-southwest.



Plate 2: CRN2020_102. A general view across the site of Carn Ricet showing the cairn marked out in advance of the evaluation excavation. Looking southwest.



Plate 3: CRN2020_103. A general view across the site of Carn Ricet the start of turflifting for the evaluation excavation. Looking west-southwest.



Plate 4: CRN2020_104. The view after the first spade-full of turf had been lifted showed that small stones lay immediately below the surface. Looking east-northeast.



Plate 5: CRN2020_105. A view of the southwest end of the evaluation trench, after the removal of the turf (001). The stones of the denuded cairn (003) were shown to lay just beneath the turf cover, suggesting the monument has survived below ground. Looking southeast



Plate 6: CRN2020_106. A view of the evaluation trench, after the removal of the turf (001), which revealed more cairn material (003), beneath a thin turf cover. Looking northeast.



Plate 7: CRN2020_107. A view of the evaluation trench, after the removal of the turf (001). The stone petered out as the trench proceeded downslope to the northeast, indicating that the main body of the cairn was to the southwest of the centre of this trench. Looking southwest.



Plate 8: CRN2020_108. A view of the extended trench, which was opened further to the southwest to try to identify the southwestern edge of the cairn. This view shows that the cairn has survived as a buried feature. Looking northeast.



Plate 9: CRN2020_109. A view of the extended trench, which shows the northeast edge of the cairn. This edge shows signs of having been truncated. Evidence of the clay subsoil is seen in the foreground. Looking southwest.



Plate 10: CRN2020_110. A view across the evaluation trench showing the exposed cairn. Looking east-northeast.



Plate 11: CRN2020_111. A view across the evaluation trench showing the exposed cairn. The Monks' Trod track lies in the background, seen here as a reed-filled gully. The footpath in front of the reeds is the line used by current walkers and scramble bikes and threatens to erode the southeastern side of the buried cairn (between the two ranging poles). Looking southeast.



Plate 12: CRN2020_112. A view of the site following backfilling and the relaying of the turf. A small pile of stones taken from the spoil was left on the surface at the centre of the cairn to better mark its location. Looking southeast.



Plate 13: CRN2020_113. A view of the site during the evaluation with Vic Pardoe photographing the trench with a drone. Looking northeast.



Plate 14: CRN2020_114. A view of the Monks' Trod to the northeast of the cairn showing the impact of vehicle use on the route in recent times. With the roadway open to two-wheeled vehicles again there is a high level of threat to the buried archaeology at Carn Ricet, which is likely to include an undisturbed burial. Looking northeast.

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys



Plate 15: CRN2020_115. A panormamic view from Carn Ricet shows that the cairn was located to offer views and/or be seen from the Nant Hirin valley to the west, the high ground northeast of Llynnoedd Cerrigllwydion to the westsouthwest and the high ground along the upper Elan Valley. There only short and limited views in other directions. Looking west.



Plate 16: CRN2020_116. A view from the cairn towards the rocky outcrops near Llynnoedd Cerrigllwydion. Rising ground blocks views to the southwest. Looking west-southwest.



Plate 17: CRN2020_117. A view of the upper Nant Hirin valley from the cairn. Looking west.



Plate 18: CRN2020_118. A view from the cairn across the Nant Hirin valley towards Glanhirin Farm. Looking northwest.



Plate 19: CRN2020_119. A view from the cairn across the Nant Hirin valley towards the higher ground of the upper Elan Valley, with Pumlumon in the far distance. Carn Ricet would have been intervisible with cairns along the north side of the upper Elan Valley. Looking north-northwest.



Plate 20: CRN2020_120. A view from the cairn towards Aberglanhirin Farm (near the stand of trees) and the hills which divide the Elan Valley from the Wye to the north. Looking northeast.

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

APPENDIX B:

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION CARN RICET, ELAN VALLEY SN87157092 February 2020 Amended August 2021

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2.	Location of Carn Ricet	1
3.	Objective of the Written Scheme of Investigation	2
4.	Nature of the Archaeological Resource	2
5.	Scope of Work	8
6.	Methodology	8
7.	Recording – Excavation and Post Excavation	10
8.	Contingency Arrangements	10
9.	Reporting	11
10.	Health & Safety	11
11.	Public Benefit and Outreach	11
12.	Archive	12
13.	Resources to be used	12
14.	Qualification of personnel	12
15.	Specialists	13
16.	Insurance & Professional indemnity	13
17.	Project identification	13
18.	Monitoring	13
19.	Sources	14

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

1. Introduction

1.1 Elan Valley Trust, through the HLF funded Elan Links scheme, has commissioned Trysor heritage consultants to provide a Written Scheme of Investigation for an archaeological investigation at Carn Ricet, SN87157092, on the north side of the Monk's Trod and to undertake the archaeological evaluation.

1.2 This is part of Elan Links 4a: Safeguarding Elan's Historic Environment strand of the HLF project which seeks to ensure that key built heritage and ancient heritage sites are protected to safeguard and maintain their condition into the future.

1.3 The probable Bronze Age cairn at Carn Ricet was identified as being at High Risk in a Heritage at Risk survey carried in 2017 as part of the supporting documentation for the HLF bid (Trysor, 2017) Visitor erosion, from walkers and others on the Monks Trod, has spread the cairn in recent years to the point it is no longer readily visible. In order to better protect it, it needs to be better understood.

1.4 If the original cairn structure can be identified it may be possible to restore it as a landmark and reinforce the use of the public right of way footpath to the south around the cairn.

2. Location of Carn Ricet

2.1 Carn Ricet lies at around 492 metres above sea level on the northern edge of a plateau in the Elan Valley. The land drops away to the north-northwest to the Nant Hirin at 370 metres above sea level. The Monk's Trod, a public right of way and a routeway of some antiquity, passes by its southern edge. The public right of way, a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) with restrictions, is in a slight hollow, and in recent years has become damp and rush filled. Walkers and other users have been using the drier ground to the north of the public right of way including the area of the cairn.

2.2 The cairn lies within the Elenydd SSSI, an extensive SSSI covering 22,770 hectares. This SSSI is described by in its citation as "the most important areas of hill land in Wales for nature conservation. It is of outstanding interest for its range of breeding birds of upland and woodland. Much of the hill vegetation is also of special interest." (NRW, accessed 18/02/2020). It also lies within the Elenydd Mallaen Special Protection Area which is described as an "extensive site includes heath and blanket mire-dominated uplands (rising to about 460 m) and is intersected by valleys containing woodlands and grasslands. It is one of the most important areas of hill land for nature conservation in Wales. Crags are frequent throughout the site. The site is especially important for a number of breeding raptors, some of which are resident throughout the year. The diversity and quality of upland habitats provide an abundance of suitable feeding and nesting sites" (JNCC, accessed19/02/2020, p.72)

2.3 The site lies on sandstones and mudstones of the Rhuddnant Grits Formation laid down approximately 433 to 439 million years ago in the Silurian Period. The local environment at that time was deep seas and the rocks formed from slurries of debris from the continental shelf sediments into the deeper seas which were then re-deposited as graded beds (BGS, 2020). Although the soil is recording as being a blanket bog peat soil, (LANDIS, accessed 19/02/2020) the cairn area is drier without a deep peat cover.

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

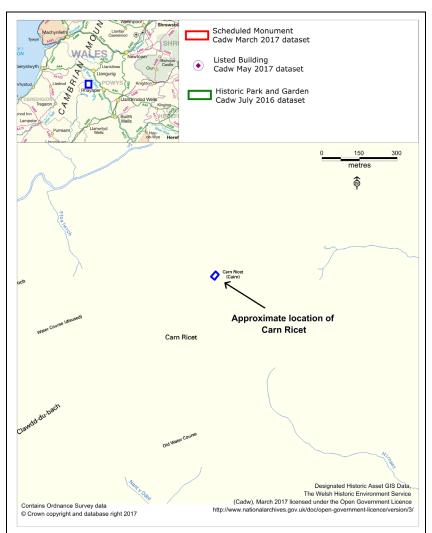


Figure 1: The approximate location of the cairn at Carn Ricet, Elan Valley

3. Objective of the Written Scheme of Investigation

3.1 The objective of this written scheme of investigation (WSI) is to specify the method to be used for the archaeological works.

3.2 The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (CIfA, 2014b) was used to write this Written Scheme of Investigation.

4. Nature of the Archaeological Resource

4.1 The Carn Ricet Cairn was identified as one of 80 historic assets at risk within the Elan Links boundary (Trysor, 2017). It is recorded in the National Monuments Record curated by the RCAHMW under NPRN 304804 and in the regional Historic Environment Record managed by Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust under PRN 818. It is not a scheduled monument.

4.2 The cairn is thought to be a Bronze Age funerary monument, stone cairn which would cover a Bronze Age burial. It is clearly shown as a mound on 19th century and early 20th century maps, see Figures 2, 3, 4 and 5.



Figure 2: The 1820 Original Surveyors Drawing showing "Carn Rhicet" marked to the north of the trackway



Figure 3: The 1833 1 inch to 1 mile Ordnance Survey map showing "Carn Rhicet"

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

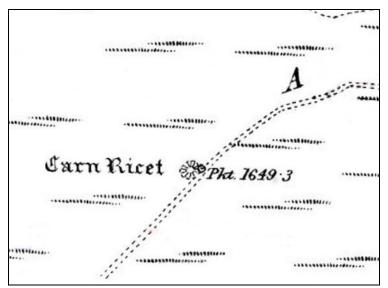


Figure 4: The 1889 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map which shows the cairn as a mound with antique writing to show it as an antiquity. Note also that a Picket (Pkt) is shown inserted into the eastern side for a spot height of 1649.3 feet

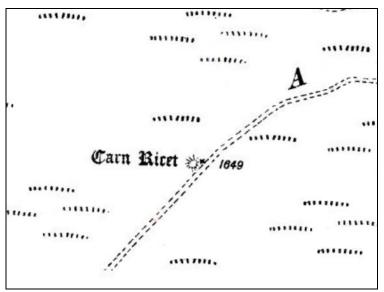


Figure 5: The 1903 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map showing the cairn and picket

4.3 The site was recorded by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments in 1911 when it was thought to be the remains of a stone cairn, see Figure 6 (RCAHMW, 1913, number 396). The cairn was denuded and turf-covered with a few "foundation" stones protruding. It was said to 150 feet (45.7 metres in circumference) which would give a diameter of around 14.5 metres. A small mound of stones on top of the turf-covered remains of the cairn was seen and was interpreted as a possible marker for a sheep walk. Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

396. Carn Ricet (6 in. Ord. Surv. sheet, Rad. 14 N.W.; lat. 52° 19′ 28″, long. 3° 39′ 22″). Owners, The Birmingham City Council.

There are here at present only the remains of a fine stone mound; a few of the foundation stones, just visible in the turf, are probably in their original position. It would appear to have been about 150 feet in circumference, and must have been a conspicuous object on almost the highest point of the high land between this county and Cardiganshire. An ancient trackway across the mountain runs past the carnedd. Nothing is known of the period of its destruction, but a small mound of stones has been heaped upon its foundations, and doubtless out of its ruins, to mark the boundary of a sheepwalk. A number of white quartz stones is scattered around the site.— Visited, 19th May, 1911.

Figure 6: Extract from the RCAM's Radnorshire Inventory of 1913

4.4 In 1970, the RCAHMW recorded that the later small mound of stones was still present and suggested that they might be marking a drover's road (RCAHMW, 1970). In 1977 the Ordnance Survey said they could see no sign of the remains of the "fine stone mound" the RCAHMW mentioned in 1911 but there was the small mound of stones described as being 2 metres in diameter and 0.40 metres high (Ordnance Survey, 1977).

4.5 Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust visited the site in 2000 as part of the Cadw grantaided Prehistoric Funerary and Ritual Sites project. They described the original cairn as being c. 4 metres in diameter and 0.2 metres high. The centre was slightly hollow and the southwest side of the cairn was not clear. The whole was turf-covered with small stones, including quartz, visible. A small modern stone pile was seen on the north side of the original cairn. They highlighted the threat from vehicles and visitors using the adjacent trackway.

4.6 Trysor visited the site in July 2009 as part of the RCAHMW grant-aided Uplands Survey. The original cairn was very poorly defined and it was not possible to give its dimensions. No stone was visible through the turf. A small spread of stone lay in the north of the area of the cairn but was less than 1 metre wide and 0.10 metres high.

4.7 When the site was visited by Trysor and Emma Guy, the Rights of Way and Access Officer for Powys County Council, in June 2019, the site was not obvious. The small mound of stone had disappeared and the ill-defined original cairn was not clear.

4.8 Oral accounts from local walkers suggest that the later mound of stone was spread and dispersed by dirt track bikes using it as a ramp.

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys



Figure 7: The site of Carn Ricet in 2009

4.9 A geophysical survey of a 20 metre square was undertaken on 24th November 2019 as part of the Elan Links HLF funded project to locate and define the extent of the Carn Ricet cairn. A Fluxgate gradiometer and a Resistivity survey were carried out by Ian Brooks of Engineering Archaeological Services with help from Trysor and community volunteers (Brooks, I, 2019).

4.10 Ian Brooks described the results of the Fluxgate gradiometer magnetic survey, see Figure 8.

"The magnetic survey has four, discrete, magnetic anomalies (Anomalies G – J) with ferromagnetic type responses. These are likely to be the result of metal objects within the topsoil and are probably modern. There is however a limited range of less intense magnetic anomalies which are possibly of archaeological origins. Anomaly K forms a broad band, approximately 4.5 m wide, of slightly enhanced reading which run along the northern edge of holloway containing "The Monk's Trod". Within this band two curvilinear anomalies can be discerned. Anomaly L forms a complete oval, 6.2 x 4.85 m in size within which is a "C" shaped anomaly (Anomaly M) approximately 2.25 m in diameter. The origins of these anomalies are uncertain; however, they might be related to the position of Carn Ricet, itself or an associated feature. The only other potential magnetic anomaly is a linear anomaly (Anomaly N) which runs roughly north-south and is of uncertain origins." (Brooks, I, 2019)

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

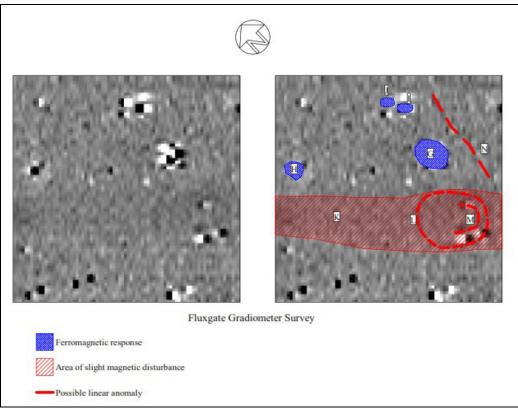


Figure 8: Results of the Fluxgate Gradiometer magnetic survey (from Brooks, 2019)

4.11 Ian Brooks described the results of the Resistivity survey, see Figure 9.

"The resistivity survey has a broad band of low resistance (Anomaly O) running across the northeastern side of the survey. This is, at least in part, a function of the local topography with potentially slightly deeper soils on the north facing slopes retaining more moisture. There are a series of enhanced resistance anomalies forming a rough band across the survey area (Anomalies P-S). These roughly correlate with Anomaly K in the fluxgate gradiometer survey and follow the slight ridge crossing the survey area. These areas of enhance resistance are likely to reflect scatters of stone within the topsoil, possibly the result of flattening the cairn marked on the historic mapping of the area.

However, there is no evidence that any buried archaeology associated with the cairn has been disturbed. This may include a ring ditch cut when the cairn was built and the burial cist where cremated human remains would have been interred." (Brooks, I, 2019)

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

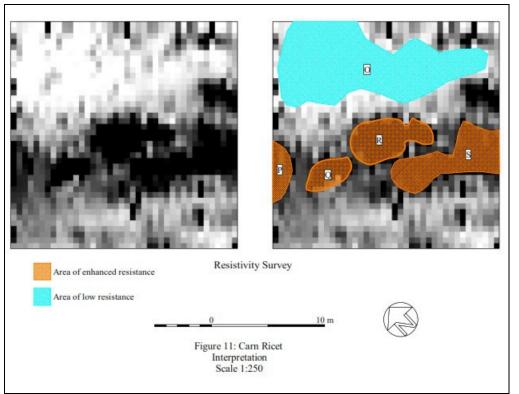


Figure 9: Results of the Fluxgate Gradiometer magnetic survey (from Brooks, 2019)

5. Scope of Work

5.1 A trench 1 metre wide and up to 20 metres in length will be excavated southwest to northeast across the probable area of the cairn. The trench will 5 metres long initially and increased as necessary to identify and define the cairn, up to a maximum of 20 metres.

5.2 Excavation will continue until the structure of the cairn, including kerbing or ditches has been identified, or natural is reached, whichever comes first. It is not intended to excavate any burials, or cists.

6. Methodology

6.1 It has been already agreed with the public rights of way officer from Powys County Council that the proposed excavation across the area of the cairn does not cross the Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) with restrictions, which lies in the rush-filled hollow to the south.

6.2 Agreement is to be sought from Natural Resources Wales for this WSI and proposed excavation within the Elenydd SSSI and Elenydd-Mallaen SPA.

6.3 The excavation will be undertaken by at least two people at all times, there will be no lone working. The Elan Valley Trust will be notified when the excavation will take place in order to inform tenants and other interested parties.

6.4 Community participants will be allowed to take part in the excavation, up to a maximum of five individuals at any given time. They will be required to wear appropriate clothing and be able to walk to the site, over 2 miles along the Monk's Trod from the Pont

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

ar Elan car park. Training will be given. A daily roundup will be placed on social media so that others can learn about the work and comment.

6.5 A daily risk assessment will be undertaken and all participants will need to adhere to it. The risk assessment will be revised as necessary during the day. It is not possible to have welfare facilities on site but there are public toilets at the Craig Goch dam 2 miles to the southeast. Hand washing facilities will be provided on site as well as an enhanced First Aid kit.

6.6 The site is accessible to the public as it is alongside the BOAT and on land on which anyone can walk, suitable measures will be put in place. Safety fencing or tape will be placed around any evaluation trenches whilst open. The trench will either be filled in at the end of the day or appropriate fencing used to isolate the site. All tools will be stored away from the footpath

6.7 The turf will be carefully removed and placed to the north of the cairn area away from the public right of way to the south of the cairn. The turf will be reinstated when the trench is backfilled. Soil and stone will be placed in separate piles.

6.8 All sources of ignition will be banned from the site. No fires will be lit and smoking will not be allowed on site, or on the walk to site.

6.9 All necessary precautions will be taken to avoid causing any unwarranted damage to roads, tracks, lands, properties, trees, drains and other features taking particular note of the SSSI and SPA status of the area. Trysor will deal with all comments and complaints by owners, tenants, visitors or interested parties, unless outside the scope of the excavation.

6.10 There will be no machinery or chemicals on site.

6.11 On completion of the works the contractor will leave the site in a professional condition and repair any disturbance to the site to the satisfaction of all interested parties.

6.12 The trench will be hand dug using appropriate tools.

6.13 Excavation will continue until the structure of the cairn, including kerbing or ditches has been identified, or natural is reached, whichever comes first. It is not intended to excavate any burials, or cists

6.14 Subsequent to the fieldwork component of this project, a pop-up display outlining the nature and purpose of the work will be provided in the nearby parking area at Pont ar Elan.

6.15 After the post excavation process it may be possible to define the correct location and extent of the cairn at Carn Ricet possibly including the creation of a new, small, cairn alongside the "Monks' Trod" trackway to return a lost landmark into the landscape.

7. Recording – Excavation and Post Excavation

7.1 A written record of all activity will be kept as well as context records on pro-forma sheets for all archaeological contexts, based on the CEU recording manual. The notes and context sheets will form part of the project archive.

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

7.2 A plan of the location of the trench and representative sections of the trenches will be drawn, at appropriate scales. If any archaeological features are observed, they will be excavated and recorded, photographed, and planned at an appropriate scale. Plans will be drawn on permatrace to a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50, as appropriate. All plans will be related to boundaries shown on 1:10000 Ordnance Survey mapping. Levels will be taken from a site datum which will be cross referenced to an Ordnance Survey datum.

7.3 Any artefacts will be dealt with in accordance with the guidance provided in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' <u>Standard and Guidance for the collection</u>, <u>documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials</u> (ClfA, 2014b). . All artefacts will be retained, cleaned and stored. They will be catalogued by context, including dimensions, weight, number, and description as relevant. Significant artefacts will be drawn at an appropriate scale.

7.4 Deposits of environmental or technological significance will be sampled according to *A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* published in 2002 as one of the Centre for Archaeology Guidelines by English Heritage.

7.5 In the event of human burials being discovered the Ministry of Justice will be informed. The remains will initially be left *in situ*, and if removal is required, a Ministry of Justice licence will be applied for under the Burial Act 1857.

7.6 Colour digital photographs will be taken, as appropriate, using an 18M pixel camera. A written record will be made on site of the photographs taken. Appropriate photographic scales will be used. The photographs will be archived with a full catalogue showing location of photographs and direction taken. Photographs will be archived in TIF format.

8. Contingency arrangements if archaeological features are discovered

8.1 In the event that archaeological remains are encountered where appropriate investigation falls outside the scope of this specification, a meeting between Trysor, and the client will be convened in order to agree a course of action. The client will be responsible for paying for any further work necessary such as curatorial monitoring, finds conservation, finds specialist, radio-carbon dating etc.

9. Reporting

9.1 Following the completion of the on-site work, a report on the archaeological work will be prepared according to the requirements of section 3.4 of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (CIfA, 2014a)*

9.2 The report will address the aims and purposes of the evaluation and be fully representative of the information gained including negative evidence. It will contain at a minimum:

- A non-technical summary of the archaeological works
- Introductory statement
- Aims and purposes of the archaeological works
- Methodology
- Results including documentary research, structural data and associated finds and/or environmental data recovered, details will be included in appendices as appropriate
- Interpretation
- Discussion/Conclusion
- Index to Archive and location of archive
- Illustrations, including a location plan
- Bibliography

9.3 Copies of the report will be provided to the client, to the National Monuments Record and the Powys Historic Environment Record.

10. Health & Safety

10.1 Trysor will undertake a risk assessment in advance of the fieldwork in accordance with their health and safety policy. This will be updated daily to take account of changing circumstances.

11. Public Benefit and Outreach

11.1 A summary of the work undertaken and its findings will be submitted to *Archaeology in Wales*, the annual review of archaeological work in Wales collated the Council for British Archaeology Wales (CBA Wales). If appropriate, a full report on findings will be submitted for publication with an appropriate regional or national archaeological journal within one year of the completion of the fieldwork element of the project.

11.2 The results of the work will be deposited in the NMR and regional HER making it publicly accessible to all, in line with current guidance, (NPAAW, 2017, RCAHMW, 2015 and WAT, 2018).

11.3 The purpose of the work and the history of the site will be discussed with the client and others on site, in order to widen understanding of why the work is important and broaden appreciation for the historic environment.

11.4 A daily roundup will be placed on social media so that others can learn about the work and comment.

11.5 Subsequent to the fieldwork component of this project, a pop-up display outlining the nature and purpose of the work will be provided in the nearby parking area at Pont ar Elan.

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

12. Archive

12.1 The paper and digital archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record and Historic Environment Record, including a copy of the final report in accordance with the CIfA's *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA, 2014c). This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. Digital archives will follow the standard required by the RCAHMW (RCAHMW, 2015).

12.2 After recording and reporting, any artefacts will be deposited in a suitable location, after consultation with the landowner.

13. Resources to be used

13.1 Jenny Hall, BSC, MCIfA and Paul Sambrook, BA, PGCE, MCIfA of Trysor will undertake the fieldwork outlined and reporting and archiving. During the fieldwork they will be equipped with standard field equipment, including digital cameras, GPS and first aid kit. Trysor have access to the computer hardware and software required to deliver the completed final report and archive to a professional standard.

14. Qualification of personnel

14.1 Trysor is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and both partners are Members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, www.archaeologists.net

14.2 Jenny Hall (BSc Joint Hons., Geology and Archaeology, MCIfA) had 12 years excavation experience, which included undertaking area and trench excavation, watching briefs and post excavation work. She worked on the extensive Stanwick Roman villa project in Northamptonshire for several seasons and undertook a year of postexcavation work with the project. In 1993 she became the Sites and Monuments Record Manager for a Dyfed Archaeological Trust for 10 years. She has been a partner in Trysor since 2004 undertaking a variety of work that includes upland field survey, desk-based appraisals and assessments, watching briefs and evaluations as well heritage interpretation and community-based projects.

14.3 Paul Sambrook (BA Joint Hons., Archaeology and Welsh, MCIfA, PGCE) has extensive experience as a fieldworker in Wales. He was involved with Cadw's pan-Wales Deserted Rural Settlements Project for 7 years. He also undertook Tir Gofal field survey work and watching briefs. He has been a partner in Trysor since 2004 undertaking a variety of work including upland field survey, desk-based appraisals/assessments, watching briefs and evaluations as well as community-based, non-intrusive projects and community heritage interpretation. Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

15. Specialists

15.1 Dee Williams (BA Archaeology and Classical Studies) graduated from the University of Wales, Lampeter. After University she pursued a career in field archaeology. Her first supervisory post was with Wessex Archaeology (Manpower Service Commission 1984-5) as the Finds Officer on a large multi-period urban excavation in Dorchester. From 1986 to 1994 she was employed as the Finds Officer with the Dyfed Archaeological Trust. From 1994 to the present she has worked as an administrator in the Department of Archaeology at Lampeter but continues her research interests in finds with specialisms in ceramics and glass.

15.2 Martin Locock (BA, MCIfA) – Martin has undertaken many bone reports for Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust and others. He has also undertaken studies of bricks and mortar.

15.3 Dr Ian Brooks (PhD, BA, MCIfA, FSA) - Flint assemblages of any size from a single artefact to many thousands of artefacts can be analysis. Recent projects have varied from a few artefacts recovered during the excavation of a late medieval house in North Wales to over 16,000 Mesolithic artefacts from Bath. In addition to standard typological studies Ian Brooks has developed specialist techniques to investigate the original source of the flint and the deliberate heat treatment of flint by the use of micropalaeontology.

15.4Wendy Carruthers (BSc, MSc) has worked as a freelance archaeobotanist for over 30 years, mainly analysing plant macrofossils from sites in southern and central England and Wales. After graduating in Manchester she worked as a field botanist for a year, followed by a couple of years on archaeological excavations as a digger and planner. I then took the Masters course in Plant Taxonomy at Reading, and started working as a freelance archaeobotanist after I graduated. In the early 1990s she was the English Heritage Archaeobotanist at the Ancient Monuments Laboratory for four years. Over the years she has analysed charred, waterlogged, mineralised, silicified and desiccated plant remains. She is particularly interested in preservation by mineralisation.

16. Insurance & Professional indemnity

16.1 Trysor has Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance.

17. Project identification

17.1 The project has been designated Trysor Project No. 2020/654. Identifying site code will be CRN2020. The Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust HER Event PRN is 164242.

18. Monitoring

18.1 Elan Valley Trust will be informed as to when work will start on site.

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

19. Sources

BGS, 2020, *British Geological Survey map viewer* accessed 11th February 2020 http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html

Brooks, I, 2019, *Maen Hir and Carn Ricet: Geophysical Surveys*, EAS Client Report 2019/11

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014a, Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014b, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014c, *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*

JNCC, accessed 19/02/2020, <u>http://data.jncc.gov.uk/data/3634580a-cabc-4218-872f-8660a1760ad8/uk-spa-vol3-web.pdf</u>

NRW, accessed 18/02/2020,

https://naturalresources.wales/media/661167/SSSI_1172_Citation_EN0012519.pdf

RCAHMW, 1913, An Inventory of the Ancient Monuments in Wales and Monmouthshire, Vol III County of Radnor

Trysor, 2017, Elan Links Heritage at Risk Part One

Trysor, 2017, Elan Links Heritage at Risk Part Two – Site Gazetteer

Jenny Hall & Paul Sambrook Trysor, February 2020 Amended August 2021 (Section 5.1 – directions of trench)

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

Appendix C Archive Index

Elan Links: Archaeological Evaluation Carn Ricet, Elan Valley, Powys

The archive will consist of the following categories and be deposited with the National Monuments Record in Aberystwyth.

A. Documentary:

A.1 Written Material

Site notes and context sheets

A.2 Drawings

Site plan and section on permatrace Site plan and section as jpg

A.3 Photographs

20 tiffs Photo catalogue within the report

A.4 Digital Material

Final report as pdf WSI as an appendix within the report Site handout

B. Material Archive

None