

Characterising the Double Ringwork Enclosures of Gwynedd: Meillionydd

Excavations, July 2011

Preliminary Report



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Cover image: Members of the excavation team, standing in postholes in trench 3 (Photo: R. Karl)

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Introduction

Research context

The research context for this project has already been outlined in previous reports (Waddington 2010; Waddington and Karl 2010, 3-4). These preliminary reports also detail the excavations carried out at *Meillionydd* in 2010.

This second excavation season at the double ringwork enclosure of *Meillionydd*, near Rhiw, aimed to produce additional information on the nature of these hilltop monuments, which are largely confined to the Llŷn Peninsula. This work is deemed very important and aims to explore the nature of settlement monumentality in northwest Wales in the first millennium BC. Despite producing the most well preserved, abundant and comprehensively surveyed prehistoric settlements and hillforts in Wales, the archaeology of this area remains poorly understood (Smith 2001). The emergence and development of monumental foci, such as the hillforts, ringworks and hilltop enclosures, remain particularly enigmatic. Whilst displaying a large variety of forms, characteristics, size and chronological sequences, these monuments were the focus for extensive settlement and gathering practices. They indicate that new attachments to place were being formed in the first half of the first millennium BC, and their creation required the conspicuous consumption of resources and the organisation of human labour that created networks of debt and obligation between different groups (Sharples 2007), thereby creating new communities.

Unusual characteristics of the north Welsh evidence are the occurrence of early phases of hillfort construction in the Late Bronze Age, such as *The Breiddin* in Powys (Musson 1991), *Moel y Gaer Rhosemor* in Clwyd (Guilbert 1975) and *Castell Odo* in Gwynedd (Alcock 1960). The latter site belongs to a poorly understood group of monuments concentrated on the Llŷn Peninsula (fig 1), termed 'weak double ringworks' (RCAHMW 1964). Double ringworks are focussed upon low hilltops and consist of two circular concentric banks with internal roundhouses. The enclosures are likely to have been the permanent residences of several family groups, and it seems likely that they were places where communities gathered seasonally, when specialised activities or events were carried out, such as artefact production, ceremony and feasting. The enclosures have parallels with the artefact-rich Late Bronze Age ringwork enclosures of eastern England, such as *Mucking North Ring* (Bond 1988) and *Springfield Lyons* (Buckley and Hedges 1987). Furthermore, the curvilinear shapes of the enclosures are similar to other dated sites on the Llŷn and suggest that some may even have been initially occupied as early as the second millennium BC (e.g. *Melltteyrn Uchaf*; Ward and Smith 2001; Smith and Hopewell 2007).

The double ringwork enclosures offer a unique and as yet largely untapped resource for studying the origins of settlement monumentality in the Late Bronze Age and Earliest Iron Age (c. 1000 – 600 BC). Despite the presence of ten double ringwork sites on the Llŷn Peninsula, only one has been excavated prior to this project – *Castell Odo* (Alcock 1960). This site produced a rare and important assemblage of ceramics dating to c. ninth to seventh centuries BC, which were largely deposited within a dark earth artefact-rich deposit (or midden). This deposit was sealed beneath the earlier Iron Age bank (the latter feature was constructed c. sixth – fifth centuries BC), and it was associated with an early timber settlement defined by a palisade boundary with internal timber roundhouses. It is possible that a similar sequence of activity may be present at *Meillionydd*.

Location and site description

A detailed site description has already been provided in a previous report (Waddington and Karl 2010, 4-5) and thus will also not be repeated in detail. However, for orientation purposes, *Meillionydd* is a 'double ringwork' enclosure near Rhiw, located at NGR SH21902905, on the south-western end of the Llŷn Peninsula in Gwynedd, northwest Wales (fig 1). The site is located on a gently rounded hilltop, at 190m OD, with excellent views of the western tip of the Llŷn Peninsula and surrounding coast, as well as other parts of Gwynedd, such as Anglesey. The hilltop forms a spur projecting from the higher slopes of Mynydd Rhiw. The double ringwork enclosure of *Castell Odo* is clearly visible from the hilltop to the west, and the impressive stone Iron Age hillforts of *Tre'r Ceiri* and *Garn Boduan* can be seen in the distance to the northeast.

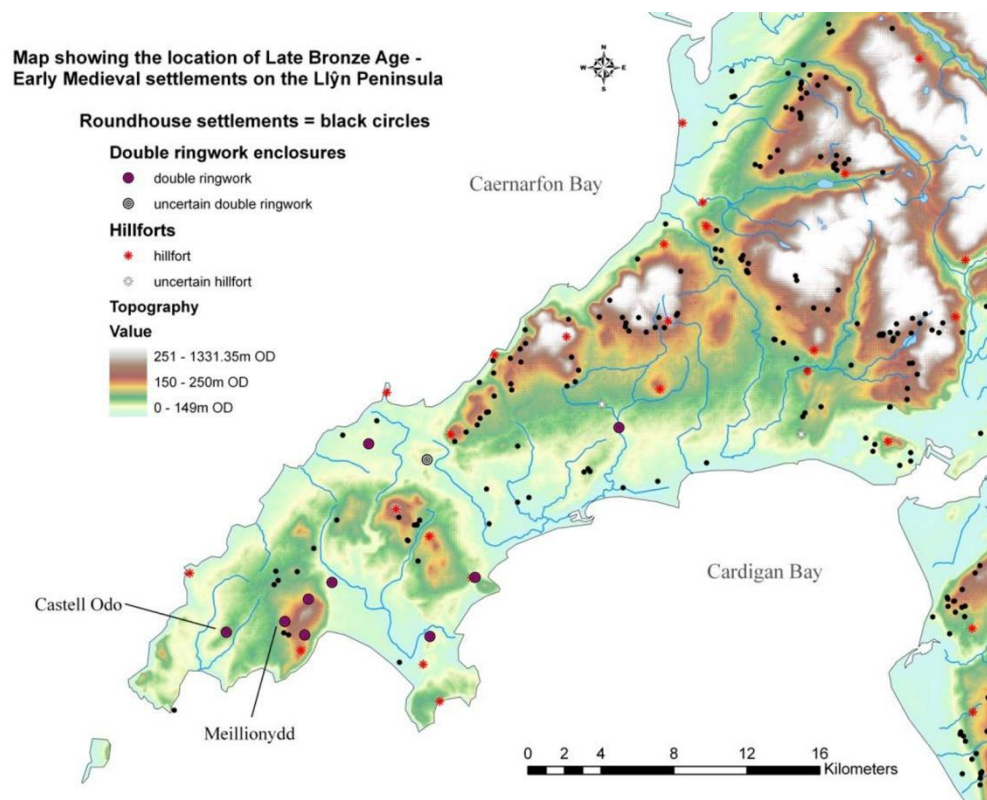


Figure 1: Map of the Llŷn Peninsula, showing the location of the site as well as all other later prehistoric hillfort and settlement sites in the area (image: K. Waddington)

Research objectives

The excavations at *Meillionydd* are aiming to test whether the site has Late Bronze Age origins and is associated with occupation deposits, similar to those recovered from *Castell Odo*, as well as to:

- gather data on the construction and phasing of the enclosure boundaries;
- assess the sequence of occupation practices within the interior of the enclosure;
- produce dateable materials and provide a chronological sequence for this site, as well as other double ringwork enclosures in the area.

The excavations in 2011 continued the work carried out at *Meillionydd* in 2010. The second season of excavation aimed to reopen and extend the trenches opened on the eastern side of the enclosure, so that the excavations of all archaeological deposits and features may be completed, thus enabling the sequences to be fully explored and understood. It was originally planned to

- extend trench 1 c. 9m to the southeast, in order to excavate the remainder of the quarry hollow and to assess its relationship with the outer bank and outer ditch,
- partially reopen and extend the north-western end of trench 1 to expose a new a larger area of the inner bank and roundhouses (c. 6m by 6m),
- extend the south-western corner of trench 2 by 5m by 5m so that the occupation features identified beneath the bank may be investigated and the inner facing of the outer bank may be examined in greater detail,
- reopen trench 3 (10m by 10m), enabling the excavation of the roundhouses to be fully completed and
- open a new trench 4 (c. 15m by 3m), only if there is time, on the western side of the enclosure to examine a long narrow slot through the inner and outer boundaries (fig 2).

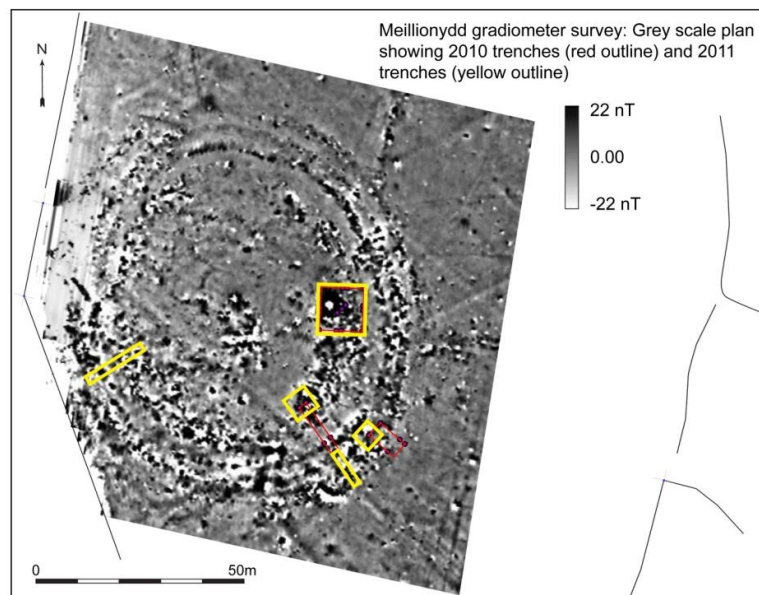


Figure 2: Geophysical survey of *Meillionydd*, showing the position of the trenches originally planned to be opened in 2011 (adapted from Smith and Hopewell 2007, fig 11).

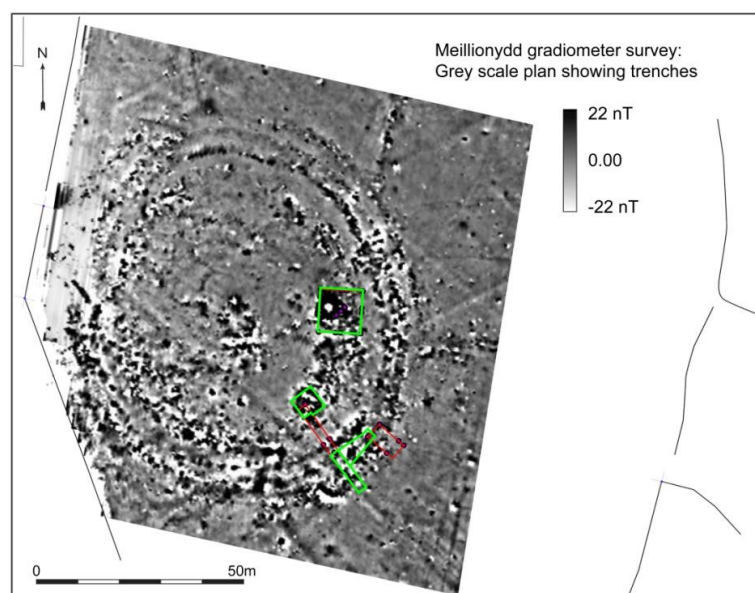


Figure 3: Geophysical survey of *Meillionydd*, showing the position of the trenches as actually excavated in 2011 (adapted from Smith and Hopewell 2007, fig 11).

After further consideration on site while starting to set out and open up the trenches, it was decided to slightly change that strategy. Instead of opening a new trench 4 in the western part of the site, and the planned 5 by 5 meter extension of trench 2, it was decided to extend trench 2 along the inner edge of the outer rampart to connect trenches 2 and 1 east extension. This was done to gain a better understanding of the stratigraphic relationship between the quarry hollow between inner and outer bank (Waddington and Karl 2010, 9) and the outer bank itself on a length of c. 10 meters (fig 3). It was hoped that this would help to better clarify this relationship while also achieving the aim of excavating the occupation features identified beneath the bank in trench 2 in 2010.

Methodology

The excavations were carried out in the stratigraphic method (Harris 1989; Harris et al. 1993). All contexts were recorded in single context recording on Bangor University's standard context record sheets, as were small finds and samples. In addition, where appropriate, single and multiple context plans were drawn on permatrace. Digital documentation photographs of features and quadrants / trenches were taken in RAW format using a Pentax *istDL2 digital SLR camera with a SMC Pentax DA 18-55 mm F3.5-5.6 AL lens at 6 Megapixel resolution. In addition, digital photographs for three-dimensional photographic recording were taken in RAW and JPEG format using a Nikon D50 digital SLR camera with a AF-S DX 18-55mm F3.5-5.6G ED lens at 6 Megapixel and 1 Megapixel resolution respectively and processed using AgiSoft PhotoScan Standard Edition for creating 3D renderings. The trenches were recorded as 3D survey points using a Leica GPS 1205 Smart Pole with +/- 1.5 cm accuracy, averaged out of 4 independent measurements. All records, plans, photos and 3D measurements were taken by staff, students and volunteers under guidance and supervision of the excavation directors, who also checked the records for correctness and completeness. All students, and almost all volunteers, performed all these tasks (with the exception of surveying) at least once, in most cases repeatedly over the course of several days. Finds were recorded using standard finds record sheets, with individual team members responsible for finds recording and the excavation directors for keeping the site diary as well as the general excavation record book.

The excavations: preliminary results

Trench 1 East extension

Trench 1 East extension aimed to investigate the stratigraphic relationship between the quarry hollow identified on its inner side during the 2010 excavations (Waddington and Karl 2010, 9), to examine the structure of the outer bank itself, and to confirm or rule out the presence of an outer ditch surrounding the site, which had been interpreted in the analysis of the geophysical survey results (Smith and Hopewell 2007; see fig 4 below). The excavation was successful in identifying the relationship between quarry hollow and outer bank – the latter was probably constructed mostly from the material excavated from the quarry hollow, with the hollow terminating at the inner facing of the outer bank – and in further clarifying the structure of the outer bank itself. The bank had been constructed, much as was already recorded in trench 2 in 2010, as a simple dump rampart, but in the area exposed in trench 1 East extension, the structure also produced evidence for a well-set inner facing constructed from substantial, but not dressed, stones. Even though trench 1 East extension extended to well outside the outer bank, no clear evidence for an outer ditch could be identified. At the very most, a very shallow, slight depression at the outer side of the outer bank (fig 5) could be

the remains of a very shallow ditch, which would, however, hardly have cut into the natural. Accordingly, the interpretation of the geophysical survey results will have to be reconsidered, since there was certainly no significant ditch on the outside of the outer bank of *Meillionydd*.

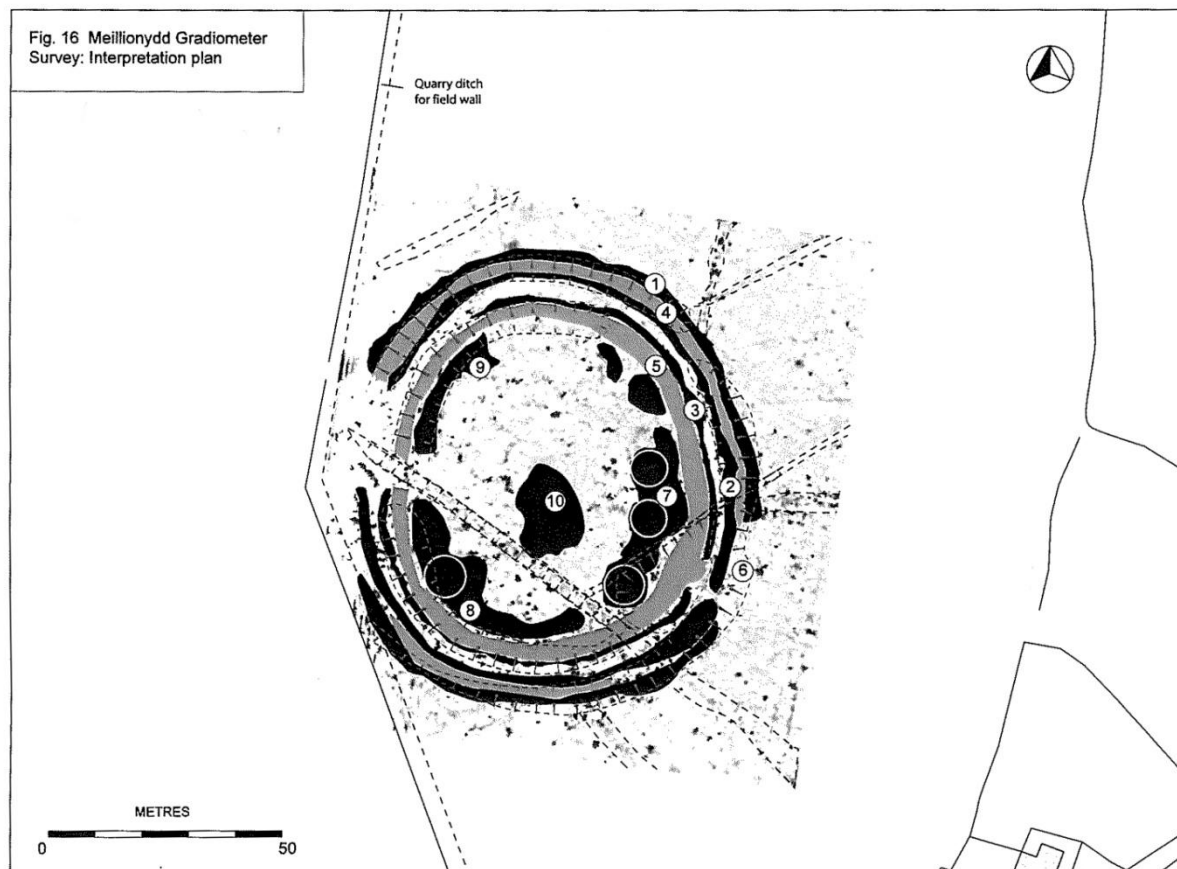


Figure 4: Interpretative plan of the geophysical survey at *Meillionydd* (suspected banks are indicated in grey and occupation deposits or ditches are indicated in black; Smith and Hopewell 2007, fig 16).

The quarry hollow, already identified in trench 1 in 2010, can now be said to have extended directly to the inner facing of the rampart, which was located ca. 2 meters from the western edge of trench 1 East extension. Added to the c. 5 meters already excavated in 2010, this gives a total width of the quarry hollow of c. 7 meters in the area of trench 1 and its East extension. It seems as if this hollow was constructed to level the area on the inner side of the outer bank. Much of this quarry scoop excavated already in trench 1 in 2010 was infilled with silty deposits intermixed with quite substantial blocks of stone (fig 5), which probably formed the inner facing stones of the outer bank and either slumped into the quarry hollow when the outer bank collapsed, or more likely, were dumped into the quarry scoop when the bank was slighted near to or at the end of the occupation of the site.



Figure 5: Northeast-facing section of trench 1 East extension (stitched from two separate images). Due to time restraints, the basal deposits making up the lower bank were not fully excavated.

The inner facing stones (fig 6) of the outer bank seem to have been set on the ground at the eastern end of this levelled area, and the bank constructed by moving material from the quarry hollow to

create a simple dump rampart (fig 5). Much of the body of the outer bank consisted of yellow to orange coloured sandy soil and was quite difficult to distinguish from the natural, which almost has the same colour and texture in this area, which further strengthens the assumption that much of the material used for the body of the rampart had simply been excavated from the internal scoop and shovelled to the outside to create the bank. As opposed to the inner facing, which was reasonably well preserved in trench 1 East extension, no clearly set line of outer facing stones of the outer bank could be identified. However, some large boulders were found, particularly in the northeast facing section of trench 1 East extension (fig 5), in roughly the place where such an outer stone facing of the bank would be expected, making it likely that the outer bank of *Meillionydd* had been constructed with both an inner and an outer stone facing.



Fig. 6: Inner facing stones and bank slump into the quarry hollow in trench 1 East extension.

To examine whether such an outer wall facing did exist, an aim for a future excavation season at Meillionydd will be to open up the area between the northeastern edge of trench 1 East extension and the southern edge of trench 2 to examine a larger area of the outer edge of the outer bank in order to assess whether more evidence for an outer stone facing of the outer bank can be identified.

Trench 1 West extension

Trench 1 West extension was opened to expose a larger area of the roundhouse identified at the western end of trench 1 in 2010. For this purpose, the north-westerly c. 3 meters of the fully excavated features in trench 1 had been covered with plastic sheeting before backfilling in 2010, and this area was reopened this year and the trench was extended a further c. 3 meters to the northwest and c. 3 meters to the northeast. After cleaning, the extension trench was extended by another 80 cm along its southeast edge, in order to fully expose the continuation of the linear feature (fig 7) which was excavated in 2010 in trench 1. This feature is interpreted as either the potential foundation trench for the inner stone facing of the inner bank, or possibly an embanked hedge (due to the linear arrangement of large stones at the base of this feature).



Figure 7: Post-excitation photo of the eastern part of trench 1 West extension, showing the curving linear feature (left side of image), the roundhouse plank wall slot and some internal features in the roundhouse floor. Due to time restraints, the archaeology along a 1m wide strip along the north-eastern side of the trench (foreground in photo) was not fully excavated.

This linear feature ran roughly straight but turned to slightly curve in the north-eastern part of the newly exposed area (fig 7). This may reveal an inturn for an entrance into the inner enclosure, which based on the geophysical results, is suspected to lie north of trench 1 West extension. As observed in the trench excavated in 2010, this feature contained some larger boulders which had been deliberately set into the shallow ditch, but the feature was less well preserved in this area. Some of the boulders remaining in the feature showed clear evidence of having been scraped repeatedly by a plough, which seems to have dislodged some of the boulders, since the stone setting was not as regular in this area as it had been in the 2 meters exposed in 2010. It was also observed that the topsoil cover in much of this area was of lesser thickness than in the area exposed in 2010. One of the interesting questions for a future season will be to explore whether this linear feature actually does turn in to form an entrance passage into the inner part of the enclosure, or whether it is associated with the roundhouse immediately to the west of it.

The parts of the roundhouse exposed in the north-western end of trench 1 in 2010 had been characterised by a particular high density of postholes in the roundhouse floor, and by evidence for at least 2 subsequent construction phases, the first in timber, the second in stone. Both observations were further confirmed by the excavation of a larger part of this roundhouse in 2011. While the drystone wall that defined the later, stone phase of roundhouse construction in this area was also less well preserved in the northern, newly excavated parts of trench 1 West extension, it was still just about identifiable in this area, though no well constructed facing stones survived. As remarked above in the context of the linear feature, this area seems to have been more strongly affected by ploughing. The wall slot of the timber face, however, was equally well preserved in the newly opened areas as it had been in the areas opened in 2010, and continued in a curve for about 1.5 meters

beyond the north-eastern edge of the 2010 trench, where it terminated in a relatively sizeable pit, possibly a post-pit for a door post (fig 7, 8).

Again, much of the roundhouse floor in the newly exposed parts of trench 1 West extension was filled with numerous postholes, and also with two sizeable pits, one of irregular shape, one roughly round. Both of the pits contained some ash deposits and showed some evidence of having been subjected to heat, and both contained remains of clay lining, in one case still containing some conserved bits of grain or large seeds. This may indicate that they served as storage or alternatively as cooking pits, though this will have to be confirmed by further analysis.



Figure 8: Post-excavation photo of the western part of trench 1 West extension, showing the internal features in the roundhouse floor and the stone rubble infill visible in the sections. Due to time restraints, the archaeology along a 1m wide strip along the north-eastern side of the trench (foreground in photo) was not fully excavated.

As already established in 2010, at the end of its use, the roundhouse in trench 1 West extension had been infilled with stone rubble, containing among other pieces a substantial amount of heat affected stones and plunge stones (either stones discoloured from burning, or stones discoloured and shattered due to the thermal shock of being plunged into cold water). With larger sections exposed during the 2011 excavations, it can be seen (fig 8) that this was a substantial stone packing, of c. 50 cm depth, and is certainly a deliberate infill. As already discussed in the 2010 preliminary report (Waddington and Karl 2010, 13), this is clear evidence of an elaborate and labour-intensive closing rite, in which the banks of the enclosure seem to have been deliberately slighted and the material thus collected and used to infill the roundhouses.

Due to time constraints, three potential postholes and some ephemeral deposits in the north-eastern meter of trench 1 West extension could not be excavated during 2011 and were covered with plastic sheeting. This area will be reopened in a future season to complete excavation of all features in this area.

Trench 2 extension

Trench 2 extension aimed at examining the occupation features discovered, but not excavated underneath the outer bank in 2010 (fig 9) and to follow the inner edge of the outer bank to gain a better understanding of the stratigraphic relationships between the outer bank and the quarry hollow. Trench 2 extension also served to connect the area excavated in trench 2 in 2010 with trench 1 East extension of 2011.



Figure 9: Photo of walling and unexcavated postholes (dark fills are visible) in the south-western corner of Trench 2, 2010 – the wall sits immediately in front of the line of stones, overlying the postholes.

Rather unexpectedly, trench 2 extension produced quite a complex stratigraphic sequence, and there was evidence for occupation in this area. While the sequence in trench 1 East extension was relatively straight-forward and as to be expected, revealing stone- and silt-rich fills in the quarry hollow and a single dump rampart with inner facing stones, in trench 2 extension, more than two thirds of the length of the trench produced evidence for yet another stone roundhouse. This roundhouse, located between the inner and outer bank of the enclosure and – at least on the side exposed – set mostly into the quarry hollow, is particularly well preserved due to its protected position on the hill slope inside the inner bank (fig 10). At an estimated diameter of c. 8 meters, it is about the same size as the other stone-built roundhouses so far identified on the site (Waddington and Karl 2010, 10-3, 17-25). Where its wall is freestanding, it also seems to be constructed in the same technique as the wall of the roundhouse excavated in trench 3B in 2010 (Waddington and Karl 2010, 21-4, especially fig 13), with a well-built inner and outer stone facing, partially consisting of relatively substantial boulders, and an earth and rubble core. However, for much of its excavated length, the roundhouse actually cuts the inner edge of the outer bank, and in this area, it is physically built into the bank. Here, the wall only has an inner stone facing, as the body of the bank is used as the core of the roundhouse wall. In trench 2 in 2010, a curvilinear arrangement of large and relatively closely set stone boulders were identified along the front of the bank, and originally interpreted as the disturbed remains of the inner facing wall of the outer bank (Waddington and Karl 2010, fig 8).



Figure 10: Trench 2 extension with the roundhouse in the foreground.

Following the results of this year's season, however, it seems reasonable to assume that these deposits are associated with the inner wall of the later stone roundhouse. The inner roundhouse wall becomes increasingly less well preserved as it draws closer to this area, and it appears to be made up from large boulders set into the truncated bank. These discoveries have completely transformed our understanding of this area, and reveal how complex occupation practices were on the site. This is interesting, in that not only had *Castell Odo* also a roundhouse built into one of the banks near its entrance, although into the inner rampart, but its banks also seemed to be particularly strongly slighted in the area of the entrance (Alcock 1960). This could be indicative that in the 2010 season, trench 2 only narrowly missed the entrance passage and that the rampart in this area was so badly preserved because of similar intensive slighting of it during the closure of the site.

Quite interestingly, the stone setting already exposed, but not excavated in 2010, which at first looked to be aligned with the (inner) stone facing of the roundhouse wall, turned out to be somewhat out of alignment (fig 10), and also set slightly lower, than the facing stones of the roundhouse wall. Rather, these stones seem to align quite well with the line of the inner facing stones of the outer bank of the enclosure (fig 10), and thus most probably are the last remains of that inner stone facing of the bank, lying low enough to have been left in place when the roundhouse was cut into the inner side of the outer bank. If that should be the case, it is also particularly noteworthy that they seem to be laid in a considerably stronger curve than the inner facing stones of the bank at the far end (in fig 10) of trench 2 extension and in trench 1 East extension, which might be additional evidence that the outer bank started to curve inwards in this area to form an entrance passage, which then can be assumed to be located immediately north of trench 2, 2010.

As with the other roundhouses on site, several features could be observed in the floor of the roundhouse, likely to be postholes and/or pits. These were, however, not excavated in 2011 due to time constraints, and were covered with plastic sheeting to be excavated in a future season. Likewise, the postholes which were exposed but not excavated in trench 2 in 2010 were again left to be excavated in a future season, as they are stratigraphically earlier than the house. Similarly, the roundhouse wall and bank in this area was not removed but was also covered in plastic sheeting and left in situ for a future excavation season. This will enable for the entire bank in this area to be fully exposed and excavated, and should hopefully also achieve the objective of fully exposing the entire later stone roundhouse, which will hopefully be very well preserved in this area and can be fully excavated in the next season.

Trench 3

Trench 3 was not completely excavated in 2010, though in the majority of areas (quadrants 3A, B and C) most features had been mostly excavated and the topsoil removed and the area cleaned and recorded in quadrant 3D. As far as excavated and recorded features are concerned, these have already been described in detail in the 2010 interim report (Waddington and Karl 2010, 17-25). Only the bulks between the trenches (called 3E and 3F during excavation in 2011) had not been started at all. All of trench 3 except for those parts of trench 3B that had completely been excavated in 2010 were reopened in 2011. All exposed features had been covered with plastic sheeting in 2010, and backfilled areas were excavated to the level of the sheeting by a mechanical digger, with the bulks excavated entirely by hand. The aim of reopening trench 3 was to completely excavate this area, which was accomplished during the 2011 season.

Quadrant 3B

Quadrant 3B was almost completely excavated in 2010, with only the facing stones of the wall of the earlier stone roundhouse (Waddington and Karl 2010, 23) remaining for 2011. The removal of these stones exposed the cut for this earlier roundhouse phase, with no other features present underneath.

Quadrant 3A

Quadrant 3A had mostly been excavated in 2010, with only a few possible features remaining for 2011. Of these, only one feature, considered to be a small potential posthole in 2010, turned out to be a rather sizeable posthole with a shallow pit to the west of it, with the pit having been exposed to fire or at least substantial heat, possibly an ash pit or hearth. The other, considered to be a potentially sizeable posthole, turned out to be a very sizeable double posthole, possibly the door post of a south-easterly entrance into a timber roundhouse (other posts of which were identified in trench 3D, see fig 11). This could either be another building phase in roughly the same spot as the phases already identified in 2010, or alternatively, it could represent the outer post ring of the first timber roundhouse identified in 2010 in trench 3. Either way, its postholes are evidence of a very substantial timber roundhouse having stood in the area of trench 3, with an estimated diameter of c. 12-13 meters.

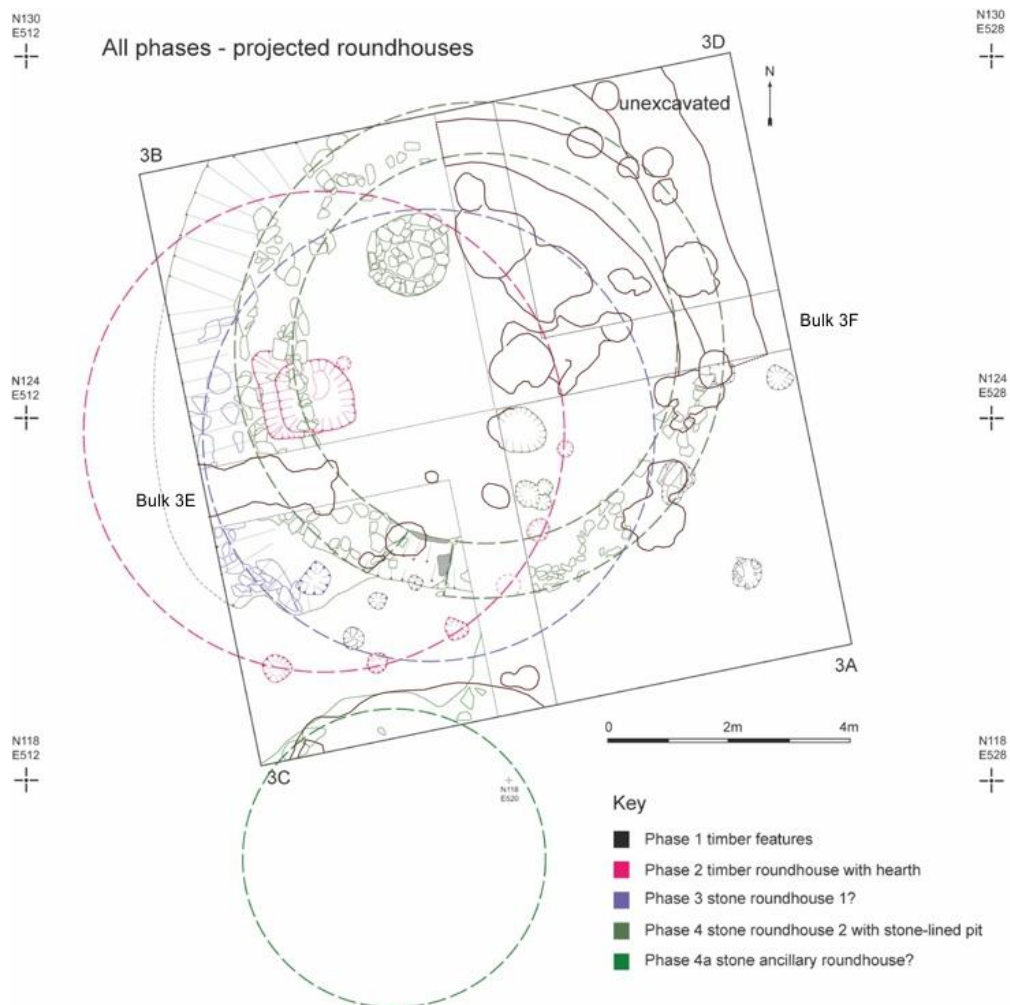


Figure 11: Draft plan of trench 3. Features in brown are new features excavated in 2011 (based on a vertical view of the trench created with AgiSoft Photoscan; 2010 plan digitized by M. Higgins, 2011 features sketched in by R. Karl).

Quadrant 3C/E

Quadrant 3C had also mostly been excavated in 2010, but not quite as completely as quadrants 3A and B. It had originally been a 4 by 4 meter quadrant, with a 1 meter wide bulk left between it and quadrants 3A and B to allow the creation of a main cross-section through trench 3. The area of the bulk, named 3E, will be discussed together with quadrant 3C, since it is technically part of this quadrant.

The main feature left unexcavated in 2010 in quadrant 3C was the cut at the southern edge of the quadrant, assumed to be the cut for another roundhouse. Excavation of this area proved as much, with the feature dug out of the hillside much like the cuts for the stone roundhouse phases further north in trench 3 and in particular in quadrant 3B. A few larger stones were found along the edge of this cut, but did not form a clear and well built stone facing for a roundhouse wall. Whether a stone walled roundhouse was set in this cut will thus have to be confirmed by further excavations to the south of trench 3, a possible task for a future excavation season.



Figure 12: Gully in area 3E.

The other feature that had been left unexcavated in quadrant 3C in 2010 was the wall of the last stone roundhouse phase. This was removed in 2011 and two postholes exposed underneath what had been thought to be the end of the wall next to what was assumed to potentially be a south-west facing entrance into this roundhouse (fig 11). These postholes clearly preceded the stone built phase but could not yet be associated with any already identified phase of building activity. Potentially, at least the larger of these postholes could be part of an inner post ring of the substantial timber roundhouse.

In bulk 3E, three further postholes, one of them (the southernmost) a double posthole, could be identified, with the latter possibly part of the large timber roundhouse also identified in quadrants 3A and D. The other two have no clear association with any other features. In addition to these postholes, situated almost exactly under the western end of the bulk, a quite deep and wide gully was found (fig 12), which as of yet cannot be associated with any other building activity in this area either. Further excavation to the west of trench 3 might allow to understand this feature, also a possible task for a future season.

Quadrant 3D/F

Quadrant 3D had only been deturfed and cleaned, but not excavated in 2010. After deturfing and re-cleaning the area in 2011, the features already observed in 2010 – the rubble fill of the last stone roundhouse phase and a linear feature also containing many, but somewhat larger stones (cf. Waddington and Karl 2010, 24-5 and fig 15) – were recorded. The latter feature turned out to be very similar to, if somewhat wider and less regularly set than, the linear feature that had been observed in trench 1 in 2010 and 1 East extension in 2011. It is also a shallow ditch with larger stone boulders in more or less regular intervals, and presumably is a foundation trench for the inner facing of an almost completely slighted inner bank or for a banked hedge. It was also observed in area 3F, the bulk associated with 3D, but was not identified in 2010 in quadrant 3A, where it was too unclear to be identifiable as a distinct feature (though it did seem to show, albeit only very slightly, in the southern section of quadrant 3A).

This linear feature in this area also seemed to truncate several quite substantial postholes of the large timber roundhouse also identified in trench 3A in 2011, which thus seems to predate this linear feature. That all of the postholes in the bottom of and along the linear feature belong to the same structure is however unlikely, and some of the postholes in this area cannot be associated with any larger structures at the moment.



Figure 13: Stone lining at bottom of possible furnace pit.

After the removal of the rubble infill of the last roundhouse phase (which was rather shallow in this area on the lower side of the terrace in which the roundhouse was set), several features were identified in the floor of the roundhouse. Some of these were further postholes which cannot yet be assigned to any larger structures. Three other features were pits, one quite irregular near the centre of trench 3, and two abutting pits in the northern part of bulk F (one of them extending into 3D). Of these, the irregular pit was rather shallow, but contained substantial amounts of ash and charcoal and may have been yet another ash-pit, hearth or a severely truncated cooking pit. The ovoid pit in area 3F was packed with stones, much like the last phase of the roundhouse and the stone-lined pit discovered in 2010 in quadrant 3B right next to it, though it was not stone-lined like its western neighbour. This indicates that it may have been in use during the final phase of occupation of this area and was filled with stones during the final closure of the final roundhouse phase. This pit in turn seemed to have cut the sub-rectangular pit to the east of it, which contained a number of set stones, several lightly burnt or heat-exposed clay layers, substantial amounts of ash and charcoal and a small piece of slag, indicating that it may have been used as some kind of furnace¹. It also had a stone-lined bottom, but not stone-lined sides (fig 13).

Finds

Small finds

Finds numbers 1-38 were assigned during the 2010 excavations and have been reported in a previous preliminary report (Waddington and Karl 2010, 25-6). In the 2011 excavations, the following finds were recorded:

FN	Trench	CN	Material	Description
39	3D	224	Stone	Rubbing stone
40	3C	225	Stone	Rubbing stone
41	3B	226	Stone	Smoothing stone
42	3D		Stone	Smoothing / hammer stone
43	1West	3	Pottery	Rim of modern glazed pottery
44	1West	3	Stone	Stones
45	3D		Glass	Shard
46	3C	117	Stone	Flintstone
47	3C	117	Charcoal	Sample
48	3C	117	Clay	Burnt clay
49	1West	7	Pottery	Piece of modern glazed pottery
50	1West	5	Stone	Possible rubbing stone
51	3D	128	Stone	Whetstone
52	3D	128	Charcoal	Sample / small piece
53	3D	128	Clay	Defined lump of clay with charcoal particles
54	3D	128	Charcoal	Sample / big piece
55	3D	128	Charcoal	Sample / deposit
56	3C	104	Stone	Hammer stone
57	2Ext	455	Charcoal	Sample / deposit
58	2Ext	455	Stone	Rubbing stone

¹ An interpretation of this feature as a furnace was also suggested by David Chapman of Ancient Arts when he visited the site on 23/7/2011.

FN	Trench	CN	Material	Description
59	3E	4	Coke, glass	Modern
60	3C	104	Charcoal	Sample (possibly contaminated) / small piece
61	3E	4	Stone	Small flint
62	1West	28	Charcoal	Sample / deposit
63	3C	104	Stone	Small flint
64	1	9	Charcoal	Sample / large piece
65	3A	201	Charcoal	Sample / small pieces
66	3A	201	Bone	2 pieces of burnt bone
67	3D	130	Stone	Grinding / smoothing stone
68	3D	130	Charcoal	Sample / large amount
69	1West	28	Bristle	Bristle of boar bristle brush (initially mistaken for carbonated bone needle)
70	3A	242	Stone	Mynydd Rhiw stone
71	3D	130	Charcoal	Sample / large piece and small fragments
72	3D	128	Slag	3 large pieces of slag with charcoal
73	3C	104	Clay	2 pieces of burnt clay
74	1West	351	Charcoal	Sample / deposit
75	3D	252	Charcoal	Sample / several pieces
76	3D	252	Charcoal	Sample / fragment of twig
77	1West	351	Charcoal	Sample / deposit
78	1West	28	Charcoal	Sample / small pieces
79	3E	116	Chalk	Piece
80	1West	28	Charcoal	Sample / some pieces
81	3E	101	Stone	2 Hammerstones
82	3E	101	Stone	Smoothing stone
83	3D	252	Stone	Black shiny stone
84	3D	252	Charcoal	Sample / pieces
85	2Ext	308	Stone	Shiny black stone
86	2Ext	308	Stone	Possible hammer- / rubbing stone
87	3E	108	Stone	Possible hammerstone
88	3E	108	Charcoal	Sample
89	3E	108	Stone	Pebble (counter?)
90	3D	252	Charcoal	Sample / twig
91	1West	351	Stone	Burnt hammerstone
92	2Ext	308	Charcoal	Sample / 2 twigs
93	2Ext	308	Stone	Whetstone
94	3E	110	Stone	Flint
95	3D	252	Stone	Smooth pebbles
96	3E	108	Soil	Sample / charcoal layer
97	1West	364	Charcoal	Sample / pieces
98	2Est	309	Charcoal	Sample / twigs
99	3E	110	Charcoal	Sample
100	3E	110	Stone	Smoothing stone, gaming piece
101	2Ext	309	Charcoal	Sample
102	2Ext	309	Charcoal	Sample
103	2Ext	309	Charcoal	Sample
104	1West	5	Stone	Red possible stone counter
105	1East	460	Charcoal	Sample / twig and small fragments

FN	Trench	CN	Material	Description
106	1East	49	Charcoal	Sample / large lumps, big deposit
107	3E	110	Charcoal	Sample / twig under wall slump
108	1East	460	Charcoal	Sample / lumps at west end of extension
109	1West	9	Charcoal	Sample / lumps under large outer facing stones
110	1West	364	Charcoal	Sample / varying sizes of lumps
111	1West	363	Stone	Burnt stone
112	1West	9	Charcoal	Sample
113	1West	352	Charcoal	Sample
114	1West	368	Charcoal	Sample / from posthole
115	1East	463	Charcoal	Sample / from below bank slump
116	2Ext	310	Charcoal	Sample / twigs
117	2Ext	311	Charcoal	Sample / twigs and lumps
118	1West	364	Charcoal	Sample
119	1West	352	Stone	Quartz
120	1East	49	Charcoal	Sample / twigs ?
121	3E	2	Coke	Coke (modern)
122	2Ext	312	Charcoal	Sample / twigs, deposits
123	2Ext	312	Charcoal	Sample / twigs
124	2Ext	312	Charcoal	Sample / twigs
125	1West	364	Charcoal	Sample
126	3D	237	Charcoal	Sample / large lumps
127	3D	129	Stone	Unusually shaped quartz
128	3D	237	Clay	Lumps of clay
129	1West	376	Charcoal	Sample
130	3E	109	Stone	Smoothing stone
131	2Ext	455	Charcoal	Sample / chunks
132	2Ext	315	Charcoal	Sample / chunks
133	2Ext	309	Stone	Hammerstone
134	3E	129	Stone	Grindstone
135	2Ext	313	Charcoal	Sample / twig
136	2Ext	313	Clay	Lumps of daub?
137	1West	5	Stone	Hammerstone
138	1West	5	Stone	Hammerstone
139	1West	5	Stone	Possible sling or smoothing stone?
140	1West	5	Stone	Quartz
141	3F	130	Stone	Spindlewhorl
142	3F	129	Stone	Hammerstone
143	1West	5	Stone	Counter
144	1West	5	Stone	Counter
145	1West	5	Stone	Counter
146	1West	5	Stone	Possible counters
147	3E	109	Charcoal	Sample
148	2Ext		Stone	Hammer- / cooking stone
149	3E	124	Charcoal	Sample
150	3F	129	Stone	Rubbing stone
151	3F	262	Charcoal	Sample / branch
152	3F	262	Charcoal	Sample

FN	Trench	CN	Material	Description
153	3F	262	Clay	Burnt clay
154	2Ext	321	Charcoal	Sample
155	1West	28	Charcoal	Sample / big pieces
156	1West	28	Stone	Counter
157	3D	262	Charcoal	Sample
158	3F	299	Charcoal	Sample / branch
159	2Ext	321	Charcoal	Sample / twigs
160	3F	262	Stone	Mynydd Rhiw Stone
161	3F	262	Stone	Possible hammerstone
162	3F	262	Stone	Quartz – cooking stone?
163	3E	214	Charcoal	Sample
164	1West	366	Charcoal	Sample
165	1West	385	Charcoal	Sample
166	1West	354	Stone	Counter
167	1West	354	Charcoal	Sample / twig
168	1West	366	Charcoal	Sample / twig
169	1West	385	Clay	Burnt clay
170	1West	367	Charcoal	Sample / twig
171	3D	298	Charcoal	Sample / lump
172	3D	298	Clay	Lump of burnt clay
173	2Ext		Charcoal	Sample
174	1West	391	Stone	Broken quernstone
175	3F	262	Charcoal	Sample
176	1West	389	Stone	Counter
177	1West	397	Stone	Smoothing stone
178	1West	354	Stone	Counter
179	1West	354	Stone	Burnt pumice stone
180	1West	377	Charcoal	Sample
181	1West	366	Charcoal	Sample
182	1West	377	Charcoal	Sample
183	3F	299	Charcoal	Sample
184	1West	363	Charcoal	Sample
185	1West	399	Stone	Rubbing stone
186	1East	479	Charcoal	Sample
187	3D	262	Stone	Hammer- / smoothing stone
188	1West	396	Charcoal	Sample / twigs
189	3D/F	568	Charcoal	Sample / twigs
190	3D/F	568	Slag	c. 4x2 cm piece of light slag
191	1West	396	Clay	Burnt clay (small fragment)
192	1West	385	Stone	Smoothing stone
193	1West	363	Charcoal	Sample / twigs and fragments
194	1West	367	Charcoal	Sample / twig
195	1West	395	Charcoal	Sample / twigs
196	3D/F	568	Charcoal	Sample / from underneath stone layer at bottom of possible furnace

Table 1: List of small finds recovered from the excavation at *Meillionydd* in 2011.

Samples

In addition to small finds, a large number of soil and phosphate samples was also recovered. Sample numbers 1-69 were assigned in 2010, with the following samples taken in 2011:

SN	CN	Description
70	229	Phosphate / 14C and soil sample
71	230	Phosphate and soil sample
72	232	Phosphate and soil sample
73	231	Soil sample
74	128	Phosphate and soil sample
75	351	Phosphate sample
76	351	Phosphate sample
77	351	Phosphate sample
78	28	Phosphate sample
79	28	Phosphate sample
80	28	Phosphate sample
81	351	Phosphate sample
82	351	Phosphate sample
83	28	Phosphate sample
84	231	Phosphate sample
85	28	Soil sample
86	242	Soil sample
87	242	Phosphate sample
88	239	Phosphate sample
89	239	Soil sample
90	201	Phosphate sample
91	201	Soil sample
92	104	Soil sample
93	104	Phosphate sample
94	128	Phosphate and soil sample
95	456	Phosphate and soil sample
96	229	Charcoal sample
97	255	Soil sample
98	253	Phosphate sample
100	252	Phosphate and soil sample
101	364	Charcoal sample (big)
102	364	Sample of clumpy clay
103	363	Sample of reddish-black layer
104	508	Phosphate and soil sample of orange-brown layer
105	108	Soil sample
106	108	Phosphate sample
107	130	Soil sample
108	246	Soil sample
109	258	Soil sample
110	246	Phosphate sample
111	258	Phosphate sample
112	259	Soil sample
113	259	Phosphate sample

SN	CN	Description
114	110	Soil sample
115	110	Phosphate sample
116	463	Phosphate and soil sample
117	129	Phosphate and soil sample
118	312	Soil sample
119	110	Charcoal sample
120	273	Phosphate sample
121	273	Soil sample
122	274	Soil sample
123	274	Phosphate sample
124	275	Soil sample
125	275	Phosphate sample
126	272	Soil sample
127	272	Phosphate sample
128	314	Soil sample
129	314	Phosphate sample
130	313	Soil sample
131	313	Phosphate sample
132	309	Soil sample
133	309	Phosphate sample
134	265	Phosphate and soil sample
135	267	Phosphate and soil sample
136	269	Phosphate sample
137	289	Soil sample
138	317	Soil sample
139	289	Phosphate sample
140	117	Phosphate sample
141	117	Soil sample
142	117	Charcoal sample
143	262	Phosphate and soil sample
144	262	Phosphate sample
145	321	Soil sample
146	321	Phosphate sample
147	117	Phosphate sample
148	117	Soil sample
149	269	Soil sample
150	367	Phosphate sample
151	367	Soil sample
152	366	Phosphate sample
153	366	Soil sample
154	354	Phosphate sample
155	354	Soil sample
156	262	Soil sample
157	385	Phosphate sample
158	287	Soil sample
158	356	Soil sample
159	356	Phosphate sample

SN	CN	Description
160	298	Phosphate sample
161	389	Phosphate sample
162	298	Soil sample
163	389	Soil sample
164	391	Soil sample
165	477	Soil sample
166	477	Phosphate sample
167	478	Phosphate sample
168	478	Soil sample
169	363	Phosphate sample
170	363	Soil sample
171	299	Phosphate sample
172	299	Soil sample
173	395	Sample of clay lining with preserved seeds
174	395	Soil sample
175	568	Soil sample
176	404	Soil sample
177	404	Phosphate sample
178	405	Sample of clay lining of pit [403]
179	406	Sample of clay lining of pit [402]
180	407	Sample of charcoal spread at bottom of pit [402]
181	483	Soil sample
182	483	Phosphate sample
183	453	Phosphate sample from outer side of outer bank
184	453	Soil sample from outer side of outer bank

Table 2: List of samples taken during the 2011 excavations at *Meillionydd*.

Preliminary analysis

As the above finds list shows, a large number of finds were recovered during the 2011 excavations (table 1), including many charcoal samples which should provide a good set of radiocarbon dates from stratified contexts, which due to the quite complex stratigraphy on site, may allow for date refinement by means of Bayesian statistics. In addition, a large number of samples (table 2), mainly soil and phosphate samples, were collected during the excavation and are hoped to be processed as part of a planned community archaeology project in 2012.

The majority of the small finds were stone finds, again much like in 2010, including substantial numbers of possible smoothers, grinders, rubbing stones, whetstones, hammerstones, potential counters or stone gaming pieces, as well as pieces of Mynydd Rhiw stone, some small flints and pieces of quartz (not present in the geology of the site), and masses of burnt and / or firecracked stones, the latter mainly from the infill of the last stone roundhouses phases. In addition, some small pieces of slag were found in trench 3 (quadrant 3D/F), one of them in the feature tentatively interpreted as a possible furnace in the floor of the roundhouse. In addition, some modern finds (coke, fragments of glass and glazed pottery) were recovered from the topsoil.

Similar to 2010, the only clearly intentionally worked find was yet another half-fabricate of a stone spindlewhorl, in this case from a quite early phase of its production. This spindlewhorl, again found in trench 3 in the area close to, but this time not within the infill of the last stone roundhouse phase, is

shaped into roughly conical form and drilling the central hole was started on one side, but did not proceed far.

Preliminary conclusions and interpretations

Much like the excavations in 2010, the excavations in 2011 produced quite spectacular features and demonstrated a complex stratification of features in all parts of the site that have been examined as of yet. Thus, the excavations in 2011 can also be considered to have been very successful.

As in 2010, the excavations in 2011 also by and large confirmed the results of the geophysical surveys undertaken by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, though some of the interpretations made (Smith and Hopewell 2007, fig 16) based on the survey result have to be reconsidered in the light of the excavation results. While the presence of a double ringwork at *Meillionydd* has been proven beyond any doubt, it has now been established that the site was not surrounded by a substantial outer ditch as proposed by Smith and Hopewell (2007, fig 16; see fig 4 above), but rather consisted of an inner bank, a ditch outside of the inner bank which was later truncated by a c. 7 meter wide, flat bottom quarry hollow, and an outer bank, which in all likelihood was constructed from the material excavated from the quarry hollow, situated at the lower (outer) end of that hollow.

While the sequence of building activity and enclosing features can not be established with certainty at present, it seems possible that an early, possibly unenclosed, presumably Late Bronze Age and Earliest Iron Age transitional phase of occupation was the first building activity on the site, evidenced by the large c. 12-13 m diameter roundhouse discovered in quadrants 3A and D/F in 2011 (presumably belonging to the Llyn Fawr tradition of large roundhouse construction, c. 800-600 BC). Later, the site seems to have been enclosed, perhaps at first defined, by an embanked hedge or just a small bank, as observed in trenches 1 and 1 West extension as well as in trench 3 quadrant D/F, where this feature was found to overlie and truncate some of the postholes of the earlier roundhouse. Whether this early enclosure was associated with the earlier, u-shaped ditch identified in trench 1 in 2010, which would have been set about 5 meters further to the outside, cannot yet be said with certainty. This may have been followed by a phase characterised by the presence of a wider inner bank, possibly associated with the u-shaped ditch identified in trench 1 in 2010. However, no clear evidence for the existence of such a second phase of the inner bank has yet been identified. At a later stage, a quarry hollow was dug, truncating the earlier ditch, and the material taken from that hollow used to construct the outer bank, which at the very least had an inner stone facing, and probably also an outer stone facing. Again sometime later, at least one roundhouse (though more can possibly be identified on the geophysical survey results now that the excavations have demonstrated the presence of roundhouse building between the inner and outer bank) was constructed into the space between the inner and outer bank, using the area levelled by the quarry hollow and slightly cutting into the inner face of the outer bank. Finally, the banks of the site were deliberately slighted and the material taken from them deposited in the structures on site, particularly the roundhouses.

This sequence is paralleled in the sequence of roundhouse building activities on the inside of the enclosure, with frequent rebuilding of roundhouses in the same places. This started with an early phase of timber roundhouses, some of which may have had plank walls, as evidenced by the wall slot / gully in trenches 1 and 1 West extension, while others may have been built with cob walls or wattle and daub walls (the former would explain for the accumulation of redeposited clay-gravel across parts of the trench; no substantial evidence for the latter has been found yet). Then there may have been a

second phase of timber-built roundhouses erected in much the same places as the buildings of the first phase, as evidenced by the sequence in trench 3. In a possible third building phase, demonstrated by the severely truncated stone wall of a roundhouse in the west of trench 3 and possibly the later building phase in trench 1 and 1 West extension, stone roundhouses seem to have been erected, again almost in the same places as the timber roundhouses before. This was followed, at least in trench 3, by the erection of yet another stone-built phase. This last phase was possibly also the phase in which the stone roundhouse identified in trench 2 extension was built into the quarry hollow between inner and outer bank, since the building method used for the wall of the latter roundhouse is the same as the one used for building the last phase of stone roundhouse construction in trench 3. Finally, the roundhouses of the last phase were infilled with stones, presumably quarried from the banks as they were silted, in an elaborate and labour-intensive closing rite for the site.

In this context, it is also noteworthy that as of yet, all the intentionally crafted finds seem to come from a single structure, the final-phase stone roundhouse in trench 3, and are all probably associated with the last phase of activity – the elaborate closing rite – and include half-fabricates² (fig 14). The other roundhouses already partially excavated on the site, on the other hand, have not yet produced any intentionally shaped finds. This might indicate that as part of the closing rite, mementoes referring to the (last) use of the building being closed, were deliberately placed in the remains of the buildings. This could indicate that the multi-phased roundhouse in trench 3, or at least its last phase, had served as a workshop, an interpretation that could be strengthened by the find of a possible furnace and slag in this building in the 2011 excavations. In turn, this might imply that the other roundhouses excavated as yet, which did not produce intentionally shaped finds, had other functions, for instance cooking, as might be the case with the roundhouse in trench 1 and 1 West extension, which had pits which could have been used for cooking or grain storage in its floor. Alternatively, if a non-representational approach is taken to the material remains, it may be possible to argue that the unfinished spindlewhorl deposits do not reflect the day-to-day function of the roundhouse, but instead reflect activities or life-cycle rites which were focussed in the building during its abandonment. In such a scenario, the token deposits may have served to reference the lifecycle of the building, the as a whole settlement, or indeed some of its occupants. Eitherway, this apparent accumulation of unfinished objects in one building is unusual, and alongside the stone infill inside the building, certainly points towards a structured depositional practice.

Where the absolute dating of the site is concerned, this is still impossible to answer, since no radiocarbon dating has as yet been carried out, and the finds are hardly chronologically sensitive. The complete absence of any prehistoric pottery on the site still indicates that the site was occupied in the Iron Age, perhaps starting in the late Bronze to early Iron Age transition phase sometime in the 8th or 7th century BC. The complexity of the occupation and enclosure construction sequence indicates that the site was occupied for a considerable amount of time, with occupation possibly ending as late as the 2nd or even 1st century BC. The repeated rebuilding of roundhouses in more or less exactly the same spots on the site, with at least the earlier phases not set into deliberately cut terraces, would seem to indicate that much of this occupation of the site was continuous and not interspersed with periods of abandonment. However, clarity about the overall length and

² In fact, it can be argued that all intentionally shaped finds found so far are half-fabricates or at least were not used: even in case of the spindlewhorl found in 2010 where the hole for the spindle had broken through, the hole was still hourglass-shaped in the cross-section and was so narrow in the middle that a spindle would hardly have fitted through, and the possible saddle quern (Karl and Waddington *forthc.*, fig 9) shows hardly any signs of having been smoothed by use.

chronological position of the site within this rather long period of about 600-700 years will only be established once radiocarbon dates become available. It is planned to submit some selected samples still within 2011, so that it can be hoped that the interim report (planned for December 2011 or January 2012) may be able to partially address the issue of dating of the site more precisely.

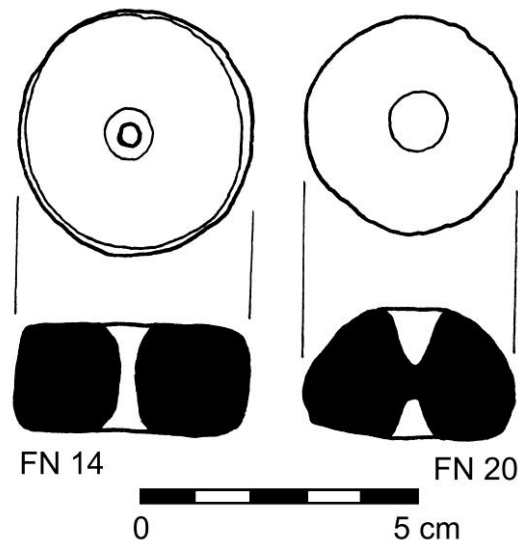


Figure 14: The two spindlewhorls found at *Meillionydd* in 2010.

Future work

As so often, the excavations in 2011 have opened up even more interesting questions, which will have to be answered in future excavation seasons. Some specific questions have already been alluded to in the description of this year's trenches, but a summary of these and some general remarks on questions that still have not been answered or arisen through the two seasons at the site are provided here as an outlook to the future.

The late Bronze Age occupation debris we hoped to find at *Meillionydd* has still eluded us to date, thus still leaving the question unanswered as to whether this site was first occupied roughly at the same time as *Castell Odo*, and developed in a similar sequence. We are still hoping that such deposits will be preserved in the western part of the site, but have chosen to concentrate more on the eastern side of the enclosure for the immediate future.

A third programme of fieldwork at *Meillionydd* is planned for July 2012. The overall objectives are to continue to collect data on the construction and phasing of the enclosure boundaries and buildings and to produce more datable materials to build up a chronological sequence for these monuments in Gwynedd. To achieve this, we plan to open up one new sizeable trench of c. 10 by 20 meters between the areas exposed by trench 1 (including its East and West extensions) and trench 2, encompassing the whole area uncovered in trench 2 extension in 2011 (fig 15). By this, we aim to:

- expose the outer bank on a length of c. 10 meters to establish whether the outer bank had an outer as well as an inner stone facing,
- excavate the outer bank on a length of c. 10 meters to establish whether there were any pre-bank features underneath the bank, in particular whether there was an earlier timber enclosure which was later built over by the bank (individual postholes have been identified

underneath the outer bank in both trench 2 and 1 East extension, but cannot yet be confirmed to be remains of a pre-bank fence line or palisade),

- re-open and completely excavate the area opened in 2011 as trench 2 extension, including the pre-bank occupation features not excavated in 2010 and left unexcavated as well in 2011),
- expose and excavate the whole substantial (estimated c. 8 meter inner diameter) stone roundhouse already partially exposed and excavated in 2011 in trench 2 extension,
- identify the stratigraphic relationships between the quarry hollow, the stone-built roundhouse apparently placed in the quarry hollow, the earlier u-shaped ditch identified in trench 1 in 2010, and the possible inner bank,
- continue to trace the linear feature (possible foundation of inner facing of inner bank or pre-bank embanked hedge) identified in trench 1 and 1 West extension in 2010 and 2011 and establish whether it turns in to form an entrance passage into the inner part of the enclosure,
- re-open and excavate the part of roundhouse already partially exposed and excavated in trenches 1 and 1 West extension in 2010 and 2011 to the northeast of these trenches and
- try to locate, expose and excavate the suspected entrance into the inner enclosure located to the northeast of trench 1 West extension towards trench 3.

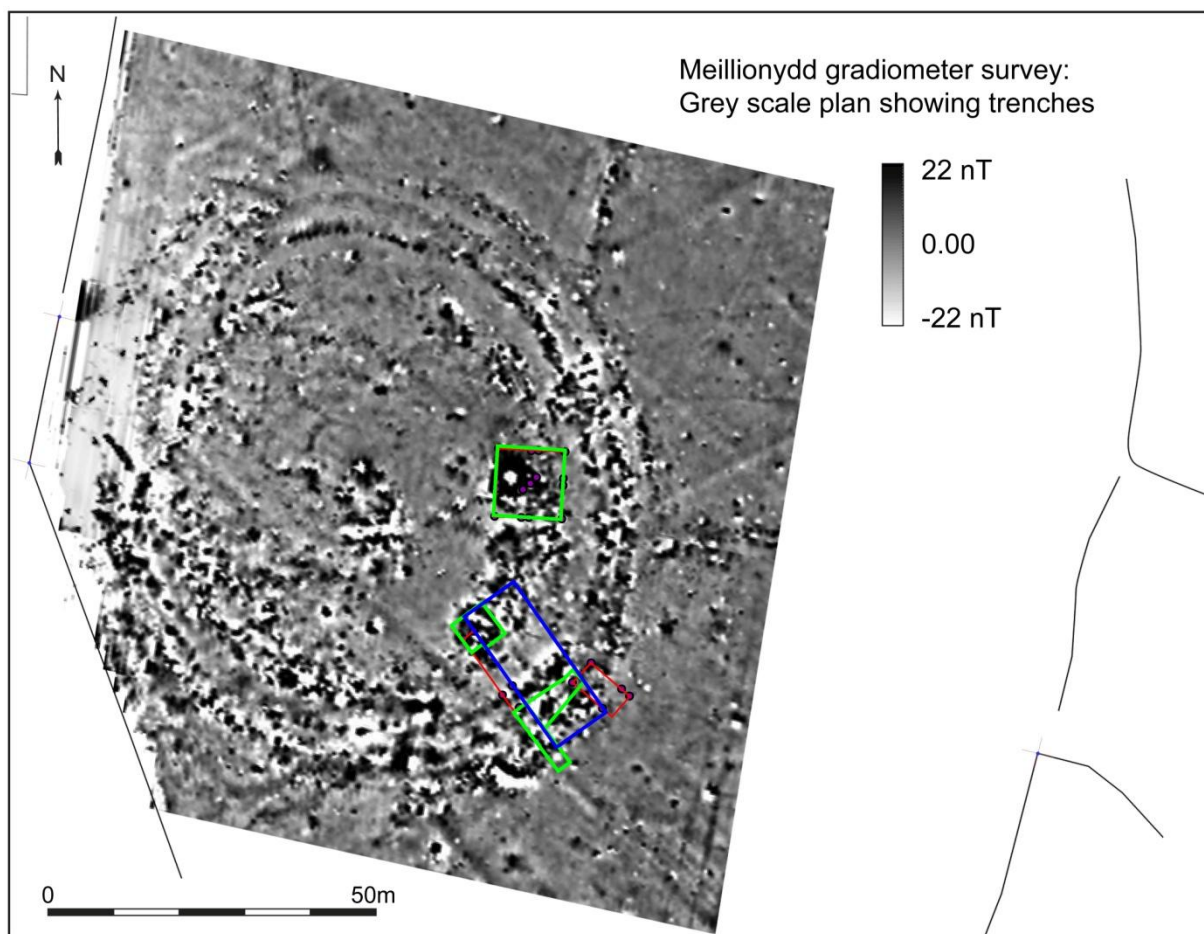


Figure 15: Geophysical survey of Meillionydd, showing (in blue) the position of the trench planned for the 2012 season (adapted from Smith and Hopewell 2007, fig 11).

It is planned to carry out these excavations between 1 and 27 July 2012 (a four week season), again with a team including c. 5 archaeology student volunteers / workplace students from Bangor University, c. 5 archaeology students from Cardiff University, and c. 6 archaeology and/or Celtic Studies students from Vienna University, who will all be trained in excavation, survey and recording skills.

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3D-renderings of the post-excavation state of trenches 1 West extension and 3 are available on request as 3D-pdfs or universal 3D.