

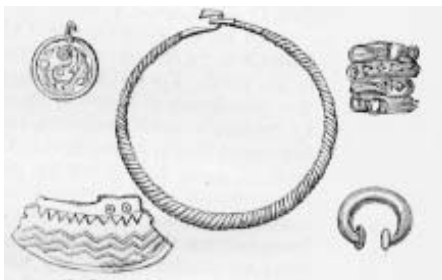


2: Caernarfon : Masnach trwy rCanrifoedd

Gan Martin R. Ellis

Mae i Gaernarfon olygfeydd ysblennydd gan ei bod yng nghesail mynyddoedd wedi eu llunio yn yr Oes Iâ ddiwethaf ac yn gorwedd rhwng dwy afon, sef Afon Cadnant ac Afon Seiont. Bu'r rhain yn hafan i forwyr yn ystod sawl mileniwm, a phwrpas y llyfryn hwn yw i dynnu sylw ein darllenwyr i'r amryw ffyrdd y mae pobl wedi gadael eu olion ar yr ardal.

Yn y dyddiau cyntaf ar ôl i'r iâ gilio, tua 10,000 CC, pan yr oedd tyfiant yn araf gychwyn, gadawodd ein cyn-dadau dwmpathau mawr o gregyn, yn dweud wrthym beth oedd eu prif fwyd.



Fel yr oedd y tywydd yn cynhesu, gwnaeth y dyn oes cerrig gelfi ffint ac adeiladu siambrau claddu, cromlechi, a chylchoedd cerrig.

Daeth defnydd o fetalau ac hefyd newid defodau claddu - gyda thomeni mawr yn cael eu hadeiladu ar gyfer wrnau. Fel y daeth y defnydd o haearn yn gyffredin yng nghyfnod y Rhufeiniaid, adeiladwyd nifer o drefgaeri ar gopâu bryniau gogledd Cymru, rhai yn dal i gael eu defnyddio hyd at 150- 200 OC, efallai hyd at amser yr Ymerawdwr Severus, y sawl y credir iddo adeiladu Clawdd Offa.

Adeiladodd y Rhufeiniaid system eang o ffyrdd, caeru a threfi, tai fila a ffermydd i'r pendefigion. Awgryma

2: Caernarfon : Trading through the Centuries.

By Martin R Ellis

Caernarfon enjoys some of the most spectacular of views as it nestles close to mountains sculpted by the last Ice Age and stands astride the two rivers, Seiont and Cadnant, that have been havens to mariners throughout several millennia, and it is the purpose of this series of chapters to bring to our readers attention the many ways in which the people of this area have left their mark on the countryside.

In the early days after the Ice retreated, in about 10,000 BC, when vegetation was slowly taking hold on the ground, our ancestors left large mounds of shells, telling us about their main diet.

As the climate warmed up stone-age man left flint spoils from the manufacture of stone tools and erected burial chambers, henges and stone circles.

Metals came into use and with them a change in funeral rites - many large barrows being built to accommodate urns. As iron came into common usage in the Greek/Roman periods large hilltop fortified towns were widespread in North Wales, some being occupied as late as 150-200 AD, perhaps to the time of Emperor Severus, who is believed to have built what we now know as Offa's Dyke. Roman rulers built extensive



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Pennod-Chapter II

ddarganfyddiadau diweddar bod eu disgynyddion wedi aros yng Nghymru yr ystod helbulon yr Oesoedd Tywyll.

'Roedd Caernarfon yn dref bwysig iawn gyda gwarchodlu fawr (fel y mae'n debyg y bu am ganrifoedd lawer cyn hyn) a pharhaodd felly i oesoedd y Saint a'r Brenhinoedd a beth oedd wedi dod yn genedl gydnabyddiedig.

Wrth edrych yn ôl, gallwn ddychmyg'r mathau o longau masnach a rhyfel a ddaeth i Gaernarfon hyd at amser y Groegiaid a'r Rhufeiniaid beth bynnag, gan fod gennym gymaint o dystiolaeth archeolegol, ysgrifenedig, a mewn lluniau. O gofio fod cofadeiliadau cerrig i'w cael yn helaeth ar arfordir Môr Iwerydd gwledydd Ewrop, gallwn dybio bod llongau hwylio'r môr yr un mor fawr mewn defnydd cyn belled â'r

road systems, forts and towns and the new aristocracy built villas and farms. Recent finds suggest that their descendants stayed on in Wales during the troubled times of our Dark Ages. Caernarfon was a very important



town with its large garrison (as it probably had been for many centuries before) and continued to be so into the age of the Saints and Kings of what had become an identifiable nation, a period that had been presaged by invaders building fortlets around the 5th Century AD.



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