

FOOTPRINTS ~ OLION TRAED

Footprints – A Journey Through Our Past

Footprints is a journey into this past. We hope it is just the start of a longer, and maybe meandering, journey for you as you set out to discover the history that happened here.

The earliest evidence for 'human' settlement in north east Wales dates to about 230,000 years ago. Archaeologists have found evidence of the people from that period at Pontnewydd cave, near St Asaph. The finds include Neanderthal teeth and crude stone tools.

Following the end of the last Ice Age, c. 8000BC, Mesolithic peoples moved through this area using the rivers. They were hunter-gatherers; living as nomads in a wooded landscape. There is evidence they were here. Small flint tools, known as microliths, have been found near Borras, Wrexham.

During the Neolithic period (c.4300 – 2300BC) people started to settle in farming communities. They built the first communal structures known as long barrows. They started to clear the woodland using stone axes, and examples of these have been found at Darland, Borras and Johnstown.

C.S. & P. Lea's Map of the Counties of Denbighshire & Flintshire.
Map C.S. & P. Lea o Siroedd Dinbych a'r Fflint.

Olion Traed – Taith Trwy Ein Gorfennol.

Siwrnai i'r gorffennol yw 'Olion traed'. Gobeithiwn y bydd yn gam cyntaf mewn taith hir ac ystumiol efallai wrth i chi fynd ati i ddarganfod pa hanes a ddigwyddodd yma.

Mae'r dystiolaeth gynharaf o aneddiadau 'dynol' yng ngogledd ddwyrain Cymru yn dyddio'n ôl tua 230,000 o flynyddoedd yn ôl. Mae archeolegwr wedi darganfod dystiolaeth fod pobl o'r cyfnod hwn wedi bod yn ofog Pontnewydd, ger Llanelwy. Mae'r darganfyddiadau'n cynnwys dannedd Neanderthaliaid ac offer carreg crai.

Wedi diwedd yr Oes iâ ddiwethaf, tua 8000CC, symudodd bobl Fesolithig drwy'r ardal hon trwy ddefnyddio'r afonyn. Helwyr-gasglwyr oeddyn; yn bwyl fel nomadaid mewn tirlun coediog. Ceir dystiolaeth eu bod wedi bod yma. Darganfuwyd offer bach wedi'u gwneud o fflint, a elwir yn ficolithiau, ger Borras yn Wrecsam.

Yn ystod y cyfnod Neolithig (tua 4300 – 2300CC) dechreuodd bobl ymgartrefu mewn cymunedau ffermio. Aethant ati i adeiladu'r adeileddau cymunedol cyntaf sef crugiau hir. Dechreuanant glirio'r coetiroedd yn defnyddio bwyelli carreg a darganfuwyd enghreifftiau o'r rhain yn Darland, Borras a Johnstown.

Holt Bridge on the River Dee, by Richard Wilson
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Pont Holt dros yr Afon Ddyfrdwy, gan Richard Wilson
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