



A R C H A E O L E G  
**CAMBRIA**  
A R C H A E O L O G Y

**HAFOD: CAE GWARTHEG FELLING  
(RECORD NO. 35850)  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Report commissioned by: Forest Enterprise  
Report by: K Murphy BA MIFA**

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HAFOD: CAE GWARTHEG FELLING (35850)  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

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## **HAFOD: CAE GWARTHEG FELLING - ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This survey was commissioned by Forest Enterprise in order to formulate Harvesting Plans that take account of archaeological constraints.

Archaeoleg Cambria Archaeology undertook the commission. The existence of the Hafod Archaeological Database - a survey previously commissioned by Forest Enterprise and Hafod Trust - was of utmost importance in identifying the archaeological and cultural heritage remains, in helping place these remains in a local, regional and national context and in formulating recommendations for the management of the remains. Because of the existence of the archaeological database, no new documentary and cartographic research was required for the current project. Fieldwork was undertaken to evaluate in detail the possible impact of the felling programme on the known archaeology and to identify sites not recognised in the course of compiling the database. Several new sites were identified - these have been allocated Primary Record Numbers (the number that precedes the description of individual sites). This is a sequence of numbers used by the Dyfed Sites and Monuments Record and by the Hafod Archaeological Database.

Each site has been allocated a value in accordance with national criteria. Five classes are employed:

1. Sites of national importance, usually Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Listed Buildings, or sites worthy of listing or scheduling
2. Sites of regional or county importance
3. Sites of district or local importance
4. Minor sites or sites that are so badly damaged that too little now remains to justify their inclusion in a higher grade
5. Unknown

Recommendations have been made for the management of individual sites during felling. When formulating these proposals a presumption in favour of preservation is assumed.

## **GENERAL OBSERVATIONS**

The archaeological survey/proposed felling area comprises that part of Forest Enterprise's Hafod estate to the south of the River Ystwyth from the concrete bridge at the eastern end to FE's boundary at the west, and bounded on the southern side by the forestry drive which leads from the concrete bridge up the steep slope of Cae Gwartheg (Map 1). The topography consists in the main of very steep north-facing slopes, including precipitous cliff faces, with a narrow band of flatter ground alongside the Ystwyth, and less steep slopes and rounded hills on the higher ground to the south.

The archaeological/cultural heritage remains are of limited type; they mostly comprise paths/walks/tracks, bridges and boundaries (walls and banks). The paths, walks, tracks and bridges are important elements in the historic Hafod landscape and should be preserved. Generally, the boundaries are of less value. Nevertheless several good examples of boundary walls presumed to have been built in the late 18th-century or early 19th-century will potentially be affected by the felling programme; every effort should be made to ensure that damage to these is minimised.

Two fording places of the Ystwyth lie on the boundary of the survey area. The approach tracks to these fords have an archaeological significance, but the fords themselves have no evidence of construction and therefore no archaeological value.

For ease of description, the survey area has been divided into three zones (Map 1):

- I) The western zone (Map 2). From FE's western boundary to Nant Ffin, the upper slopes of Cae Gwartheg and part of the northern bank of the Ystwyth. The archaeology of this zone is generally of district or local importance and comprises mostly boundaries and paths/tracks.
- II) The central zone (Map 3). On lower slopes from Nant Ffin to the east of Nant Bwlch-Gwallter. Archaeologically, this is the most sensitive of the three zones; it contains evidence of paths and walks laid out by Thomas Johnes as well as later tracks. The archaeology in this area is of generally of county or regional importance.
- III) The eastern zone (Map 4). A narrow strip of land consisting of a steep north-facing slope and flat flood-plain of the Ystwyth. The archaeology in this zone is generally of district and local importance.



## THE WESTERN ZONE (Maps 2 & 3)

Mostly a steep north-facing slope with some flatter ground alongside the Ystwyth to the west of Nant Ffin and gentler slopes with rounded hills the higher ground of Cae Gwartheg. The archaeology consists of boundary walls and banks, tracks and paths, a possible metal mines and three rubble dumps. The course of the Gentleman's Walk, laid out in the late 18th-century, runs across the upper slopes of Cae Gwartheg and then descends down the steep slopes on the eastern side of Nant Ffin to the Ystwyth, crossing the river by a 'flying bridge'. There is no detectable surface evidence for this walk or the bridge. Archaeological fieldwork should be easier following felling, and it is hoped that evidence for the Gentleman's Walk will then become apparent on the ground.

**33538. Wall** (Photos. 1 & 2. General shots). A dry-stone wall running alongside the River Ystwyth. Well-built with some capstones pitched at 45 degrees *in situ*. A gateway is present where the track 33950 crosses this wall. The wall stands in places to its full height of c. 1.5m, but is generally lower due to collapse. Some short sections of complete collapse are present. The style of the wall indicates that it may have been built by Thomas Johnes as part of his estate improvements.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* Care should be taken during felling not to unduly damage this wall. Should access be required for an extraction track, then the existing gateway or one of the breaches caused by collapse should be utilised.

**32950. Track** (Photo. 3. General shot). This track runs diagonally up a steep hillside on an earthwork terrace. It fades out on the higher slopes to the south-west. At its north-east end it passes through a gateway in the wall 33538 and is presumed to ford the Ystwyth as its line seems to be continued by track 32938 on the opposite bank. The date of this track is unknown - it is not shown on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 1st Ed.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* This is a robust element of the historic landscape. The only recommendation is therefore that heavy vehicles should not use this track in wet weather if there is a danger of causing deep ruts.

**32983. Track** (Photos. 4 & 5. General shots). On the north bank of the Ystwyth. Included here as a possible route of an extraction track from felling on the south bank. This track runs down a steep south-facing slope from a carriage drive to its north on a well-built terrace c. 3m wide. From a hairpin bend to the east the track runs across the flood plain of the Ystwyth. Here in dense undergrowth there is no physical evidence for its course. Wheeled vehicles have used this track in the recent past as rutting has revealed a cobbled/hard-core surface on the terraced section.

*Value:* 2

*Recommendations:* Should it be necessary to use this track for extraction purposes, then a new hard-core surface should be provided on its terraced section to prevent rutting and disturbance to the original surface.

**32951. Possible mine shaft.** A hole approximately 1m across and 2m deep may be an old mine shaft, though this is not certain.

*Value:* 5

*Recommendations:* For safety reasons, care will need to be taken with heavy machinery in the vicinity of this possible shaft.

**33537A. Boundary wall** (Photos. 6 & 7. Detail of wall and general shot). This Dry-stone wall stands to its full height of c. 1.5m in a few sections with capstones pitched at 45 degrees, but is generally lower. There are some short lengths of complete collapse and several breaches have made for access. Wall probably built by Thomas Johnes during estate improvements.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* Care should be exercised during felling not to further damage this wall. Should access be required for extraction then one or more of the existing breaches should be used.

**33537B. Boundary bank/wall** (Photos 8 & 9. General shots). This boundary seems to have been originally a bank onto which a wall-facing was later added. It is generally in good condition. Its date is unknown, though the wall-face may have been added by Thomas Johnes during as part of his estate improvements.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* This is a robust element of the historic landscape. Should access be required through this boundary for extraction access, then a single breach should be made. The bank/wall terminals to this breach should be restored to so prevent decay of the boundary.

**32949. Track** (Photo. 10. General shot). This track runs diagonally up the steep valley side on a terrace 2 - 2.5m wide. The terrace is revetted on the down-slope side by a stone wall. At the up-slope end this track is closed off by the boundary 33537B.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* Elements of this track are vulnerable to damage by felling and extraction - it should not therefore be used as an extraction track. The outer edge of the track with the revetment wall is also vulnerable to damage. Logs/trees should not be dragged across this outer lip unless it is protected.

**33096. Public footpath.** Only immediately to the west of Nant Ffin bridge (32948) is there any trace of built elements to this path. Here there is slight terracing on the bridge approach. Elsewhere the path meanders around fallen trees and rock outcrops.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* Care should be taken during felling that damage does not occur to the earthwork terrace on the approach to Nant Ffin bridge.

**33535. Wall** (Photos. 11 & 12. General shots). At its North-east end this dry-stone wall has collapsed. The rubble is moss-covered. Further to the south-west the wall revets a natural terrace c. 2m high. The wall is again in poor condition.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* None

**33536. Wall.** This wall has no collapsed and its exact location is difficult to detect for much of its course.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* None

**33540. Path** (Photo. 13. View of extraction track where it overlies path). The course of this path is not now easy to detect on the ground. Towards its south-west end a slight earthwork hollow may mark its course. At its north-east end a hollow-way over 1m deep is probably the remains of an old extraction track and overlies the course of this path.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* None

**33541. Path.** (Photo. 13. As above). As with 33540, the line of this path is difficult to trace on the ground and its course is followed by an extraction track.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* None

**32953. Quarry.** Small quarry pit on a steep slope.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* None

**32954. Path** (Photo. 14. General shot). A terrace up to 2m wide leads up from the Nant Ffin bridge to the foot of a small waterfall. It is not certain if this terrace is a natural feature that has been enhanced to provide a path or is an entirely artificial feature. Either-way, the path on the terrace leads to a possible viewing point at the foot of the waterfall. Possibly created by Thomas Johnes. Conifers have been planted on the terrace.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* This is a fairly robust element of the historic landscape and given its location it is unlikely that any substantial damage will occur to it during felling operations.

**33563. Wall** (Photo. 15. General shot). The wall is in good general condition. In some lengths it stands to its full height of c. 1.5m with capstones set at 45 degrees *in situ*. Some areas of collapse. Broadleaf trees have been planted at regular intervals alongside this wall. This wall was probably built by Thomas Johnes as part of his estate improvements.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* Precautions should be taken to ensure that no damage occurs to this wall during felling operations.

**33004. Track.** The course of this track is now followed by a forestry drive. Nothing of the original survives.

*Value:* 4

*Recommendations:* None

**35416. Stone Dump** (Photo. 16). See also report *Hafod: Proposed Felling - Archaeological Recommendations*, November 1997. A massive dump of stone, c. 30m by 30m and 4m high. There is no obvious structure to this dump. Its date is unknown, but it may be the result of clearance off wall 33547 in association with the construction of the forestry drive, and therefore of recent date.

*Value:* 4

*Recommendations:* None

**33547. Wall** (Photos. 17, 18 & 19. General shots and detail of wall). See also report *Hafod: Proposed Felling - Archaeological Recommendations*, November 1997. A well-built dry-stone wall which survives to its full height complete with capping stones in several places, but generally it is beginning to collapse and stands to less than 1m high. At A it has been breached for access. To the south-west of A it has been mostly buried or destroyed by a forestry drive, though at its far south-west end it is in better condition.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* Access across/through for extraction should be via the already created breach at A. Creating further breaches in the wall should be avoided, but if necessary these should be made where the wall is in a collapsed state.

**35847. Stone dump** (Photo. 20). Conical dump of stone, 6m diameter, 3.5m high. On the north side a revetment wall to this dump indicates some structure. Possible deposited as a result of the demolition of wall 33547 during forest drive construction and therefore modern.

*Value:* 4

*Recommendations:* None

**35848. Stone dump** (Photo. 21). Dump of stone approximately 4m across and 2m high, revetted with by a dry-stone wall on the north side. As with 35847 and 35416 it is probably derived from the demolition of wall 33547 and is of modern date.

*Value:* 4

*Recommendations:* None

## THE CENTRAL ZONE (Map 4)

The lower slopes of the Ystwyth valley from Nant Ffin to just east of Nant Bwlch Gwallter. The archaeological remains in this zone mostly comprise paths and tracks. These are important elements in the Hafod historic landscape; action should be taken to ensure that no undue damage occurs to them during felling. These elements are particularly vulnerable to damage where they are constructed across or up steep slopes.

**32948. Nant Ffin Bridge** (Photo. 22). The style of the dry-stone abutments on this bridge suggest that it may be of late-18th century date and connected with Thomas Johnes's improvements. The bridge has now been restored for pedestrians - its lies on a public footpath.

Value: 2

Recommendations: Care should be taken during felling so that no damage occurs to this bridge.

**32947. Wall** (Photo. 23. Wall to right of track 32946). See also report *Hafod: Proposed Felling - Archaeological Recommendations*, November 1997. A ruined dry-stone wall. Mostly represented by a low rubble bank with hardly any upstanding masonry. There is a breach/low point in the rubble bank at A adjacent to a small stream. This may be a route used for extraction in the past. The wall encloses a roughly rectangular area which may have been a garden.

Value: 3

Recommendations: Action should be taken to prevent further damage to the wall. The breach at A should be used as the access point through across the wall. No new breaches should be made.

**32946. Nant Ffin Track** (Photos. 23 & 24. General shots). See also report *Hafod: Proposed Felling - Archaeological Recommendations*, November 1997. Towards the Alpine Bridge this track runs along a distinct terrace cut into the valley side. On flatter ground by the wall 32947 and Nant Ffin, its exact course is not clear though its general line is not in doubt. Perhaps created by Thomas Johnes in the late-18th century. Now followed by a public footpath.

Value: 2

Recommendations: Where the track runs along level ground the potential damage is slight. There is the potential for damage where the track runs on the terrace. Here the dragging of felled trees across the track should be avoided, or if this is not possible the outer lip of the terrace should be protected where trees are dragged across it.

**33543. Modern extraction track.**

See also report *Hafod: Proposed Felling - Archaeological Recommendations*, November 1997.

Value: 4

Recommendations: None

**32958. Path/Track** (Photo. 25. General shot). This track/path runs diagonally up a steep slope on a 3m wide terrace which is revetted on the down-slope side by dry-

stone walling. Surface disturbance at its lower end suggests that this track may have been used for extraction purposes in the past.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* This track should not be used for extraction purposes. Care must be taken to prevent damage to the potentially vulnerable outer lip of the track during felling and extraction.

**32959. Path.** (Photo. 26. Showing low linear hollow at west end). See also report *Hafod: Proposed Felling - Archaeological Recommendations*, November 1997. At the eastern end there is no clear trace of this path on the ground. To the west of wall 33547, it exists as a linear hollow some 2m wide and 0.3m deep with a low bank to the north-west. Further to the south-west its course becomes lost amongst ruts and hollows caused by extraction. It is likely that here the course of the path is followed by an extraction track.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* The surviving earthwork element of this path to the west of wall 33547 should be protected from damage during felling and extraction.

**35415. Wall.** See also report *Hafod: Proposed Felling - Archaeological Recommendations*, November 1997. A band of rubble along the crest of a steep slope seems to represent the remains of a boundary - a boundary that predates the dry-stone walls and earth banks at Hafod. The rubble is very spread. Felling and extraction will not cause further damage.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* None

**32956. Path** (Photos. 27 & 28. 27 shows terrace on lower slopes. 28 shows rutting on higher slopes). This path runs up a steep valley side from the Alpine Bridge. On the lower slopes this path is located on a distinct terrace cut into the valley side. On the higher slopes wheeled vehicles have caused deep rutting and the line of the path cannot be traced. Its date is uncertain: it may be the work of Thomas Johnes.

*Value:* 2

*Recommendations:* Action should be taken to ensure that the terraced section of this path on the lower slopes is not damaged during felling or extraction.

**32992. Path** (Photo. 29. General shot). This is a worn path, there is no indication of engineering. At its western end it runs diagonally down a steep valley side from the terrace of track 32994. It crosses Nant Bwlch Gwallter by a simple railway-sleeper bridge. This path has been recently incorporated into a Hafod circular walk.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* Because of its location and slight physical remains it is unlikely that this feature will suffer any damage during felling.

**32993. Track - public footpath** (Photos. 30 & 31. 30 shows causeway across gully. 31 the extraction track running up the steep slope on the course of this track.). This track was superseded by track 32994 from the Alpine Bridge up to bridge 33001 on Nant Bwlch Gwallter. At its western end this track is cut across by 32994, but to the east its course soon becomes apparent on the ground. It runs on a terrace 3m wide and crosses a shallow gully on a stone-built causeway. To the east of the causeway, in

dense woodland, the line of this track becomes indistinct. The Ordnance Survey 1:2500 1st Ed. map shows this track turning to the south to the west of Nant Bwlch Gwallter to run up a steep slope. On this steep slope an extraction track has destroyed all evidence of this earlier track. A public footpath follows the course of this track from the Alpine Bridge to where it turns sharply to the south.

*Value:* 2

*Recommendations:* The terrace on which this track is located and the stone-built causeway should be protected during felling and extraction. The causeway in particular is vulnerable to damage.

**32994. Alpine Bridge Track** (Photos. 32 & 33. General shots). A well-engineered track running up the steep valley side to the east of the Alpine Bridge. It lies on a terrace, rock cut in places, and revetted by stone walling on the down-slope side where it crosses a gully. Towards the bridge on a steep slope the track is beginning to suffer severe water erosion and unless immediate remedial measures are taken it will be lost. Elsewhere the track is a fairly robust structure. At its eastern end it has been truncated by an extraction track. This track seems to replace track 32993 and is probably of early- or mid-19th century date. Its course probably overlies Johnes's late 18th-century Gentleman's Walk.

*Value:* 2

*Recommendations:* Heavy machinery should not use this track. The potentially vulnerable outer edge of this track should be protected is felled logs are to be hauled across it.

**32999. Path.** Marked on early Ordnance Survey maps and the official line of a public footpath, this path is not now evident on the ground.

*Value:* 4

*Recommendations:* None

**33000. Path - The Gentleman's Walk** (Photos. 34, 35 & 36. General shots and detail of revetment wall). The walk runs down a steep slope to a crossing point of the Nant Bwlch Gwallter on a narrow, well-constructed terrace approximately 1m wide. The terrace is revetted for most of its length on the down-slope side by 3-4 courses of dry-stone walling. This is part of the Gentleman's Walk constructed in the late 18th-century. It is potentially a vulnerable feature.

*Value:* 2

*Recommendations:* Great care must be taken during felling and extraction to ensure that no damage occurs to this path. Logs must not be hauled across the line of the path.

**33001. Site of Bridge.** The crossing point of the Nant Bwlch Gwallter by the Gentleman's Walk. Nothing now survives of this bridge.

*Value:* 4

*Recommendations:* None

**35849. Path - Gentleman's Walk** (Photo. 37. Shot of terrace on spur). From the bridge 33001 to the east the Gentleman's Walk must have lead up a very steep and now eroding slope - here there is no trace of the walk. Physical remains of the walk survive where it crosses a spur at A. Here there is terrace cut into the hillside with a

low bank built-up on its down-slope side. This terrace is lost amongst dense undergrowth immediately to the east of A. Further to the east it is likely that the line of this path is overlain by the forestry drive.

*Value:* 2

*Recommendations:* Care should be taken during felling to ensure no damage occurs to the earthwork terrace at A. Logs should not be hauled across this earthwork.

**32998. Track.** A c. 3m wide earthwork terrace of a former track is evident in places immediately to the north of a forestry drive. This track is the former route up to and beyond bridge 33002 (below) and is overlain for most of its course by the forestry drive. It is not marked on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 1st Ed and is therefore probably of late 19th-century or early 20th-century date. The remains are fairly robust.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* None

**33002. Pont Allt Dihanog (Photo. 38).** Stone-built abutments survive on the downstream side of this bridge. The remainder of the structure has been rebuilt in concrete in order to carry a forestry drive. The construction on the original bridge is late 19th-century or early 20th-century.

*Value:* 2

*Recommendations:* There is little chance of any damage occurring to this structure during felling.



## THE EASTERN ZONE (Map 5)

**32992. Path** (Photos. 39 & 40. 39 is a general shot, 40 shows the junction of this path where it drops down into the hollow-way of track 32997). There is no structural evidence for this path to the east of Nant Bwlch Gwallter. It follows the easiest line through dense forestry. Now part of a circular walk. A public footpath follows part of its course. At its eastern end it runs down into the hollow-way of track 32997. At this point there is deep rutting caused by wheeled vehicles.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* None

**32999. Path.** There is no physical evidence for this path. Its course is definitive public footpath.

*Value:* 4

*Recommendations:* None

**33581. Rubble boundary** (Photo. 41). A short length of wall, now reduced to a linear rubble heap. This wall presumably predates most of the other boundaries on the Hafod estate. Its date of construction is unknown.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* None

**32997. Track** (Photos. 40, 42-44. 40 shows hollow-way and junction with path 32992, 42 & 43 the junction of this track and the forestry drive, 44 the causeway element of the track). This track is well-defined. At its eastern end it now runs down from a forestry drive and then along a low causeway with a steep drop on the northern side down to the flood plain of the Ystwyth. At its western end it runs in a slight hollow-way down to the flood plain to a fording place of the Ystwyth. This track forms part of the Hafod circular walk and is a public footpath. It is a robust element of the historic landscape.

*Value:* 3

*Recommendations:* If this track is to be used during felling operations, then action should be taken to prevent deep rutting by wheeled vehicles during wet conditions. Rutting could be a particular problem in the hollow-way where there is surface water. Here it is recommended that a hard-wearing surface is constructed.

**33582. Possible wall.** A line of rubble marks the line of this very ruinous wall.

*Value:* 4

*Recommendations:* None

**Line of Path** A path is marked on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 1st Ed. alongside the river at A-A. This may be the course of Gentleman's Walk. There is now no trace of a path here.

*Value:* 4

*Recommendations:* None



PHOTO. 1



PHOTO. 2





PHOTO. 3



PHOTO. 4





PHOTO. 5



PHOTO. 6





PHOTO. 7



PHOTO. 8





PHOTO. 9



PHOTO. 10





PHOTO. 11



PHOTO. 12





PHOTO. 13



PHOTO. 14





PHOTO. 15



PHOTO. 16





PHOTO. 17

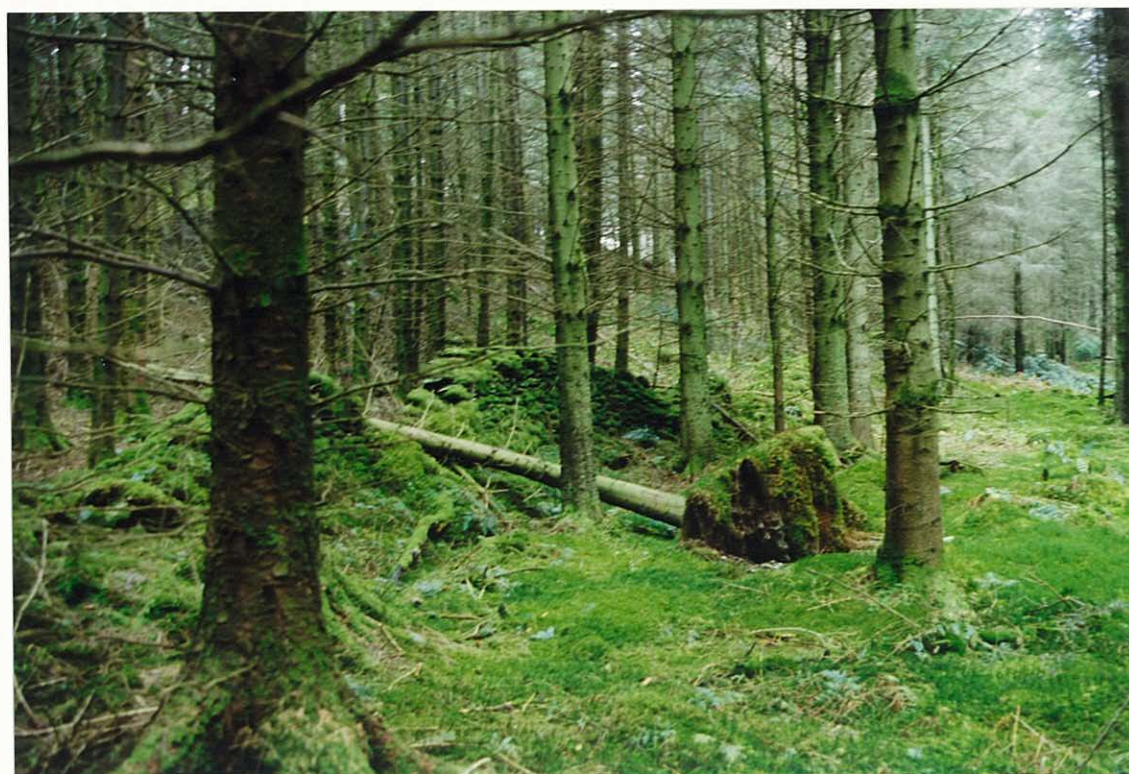


PHOTO. 18





PHOTO. 19



PHOTO. 20





PHOTO. 21



PHOTO. 22





PHOTO. 23



PHOTO. 24





PHOTO. 25

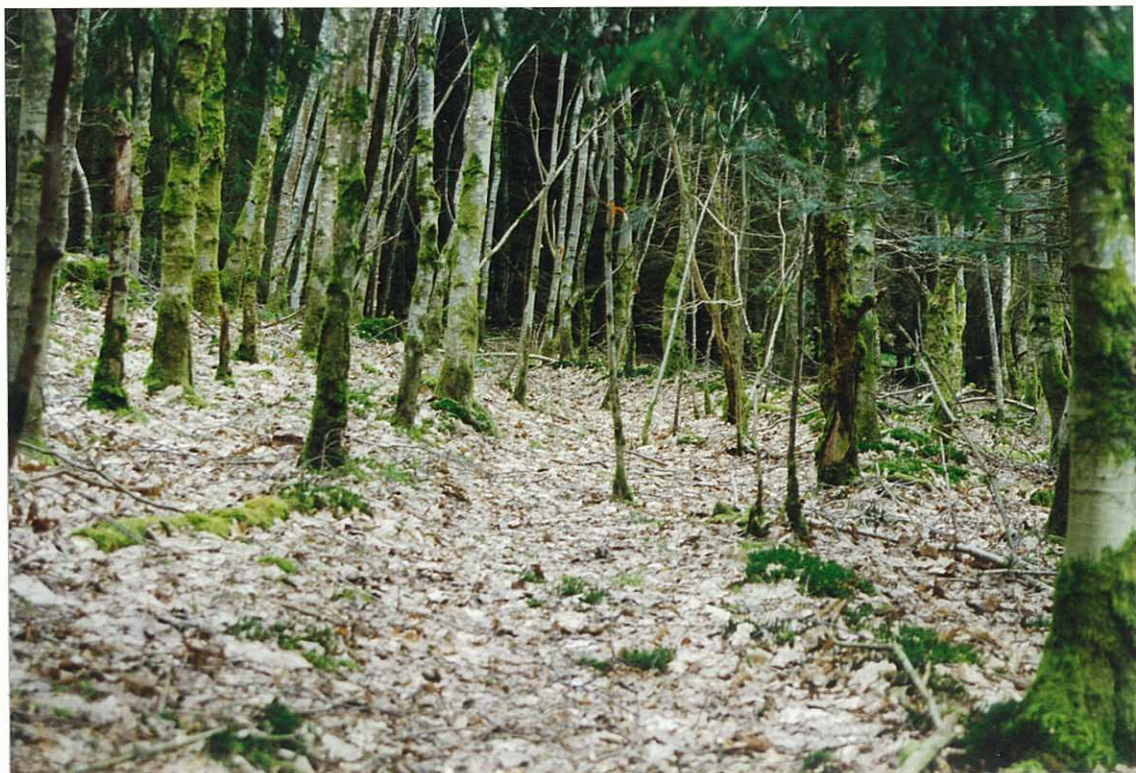


PHOTO. 26





PHOTO. 27

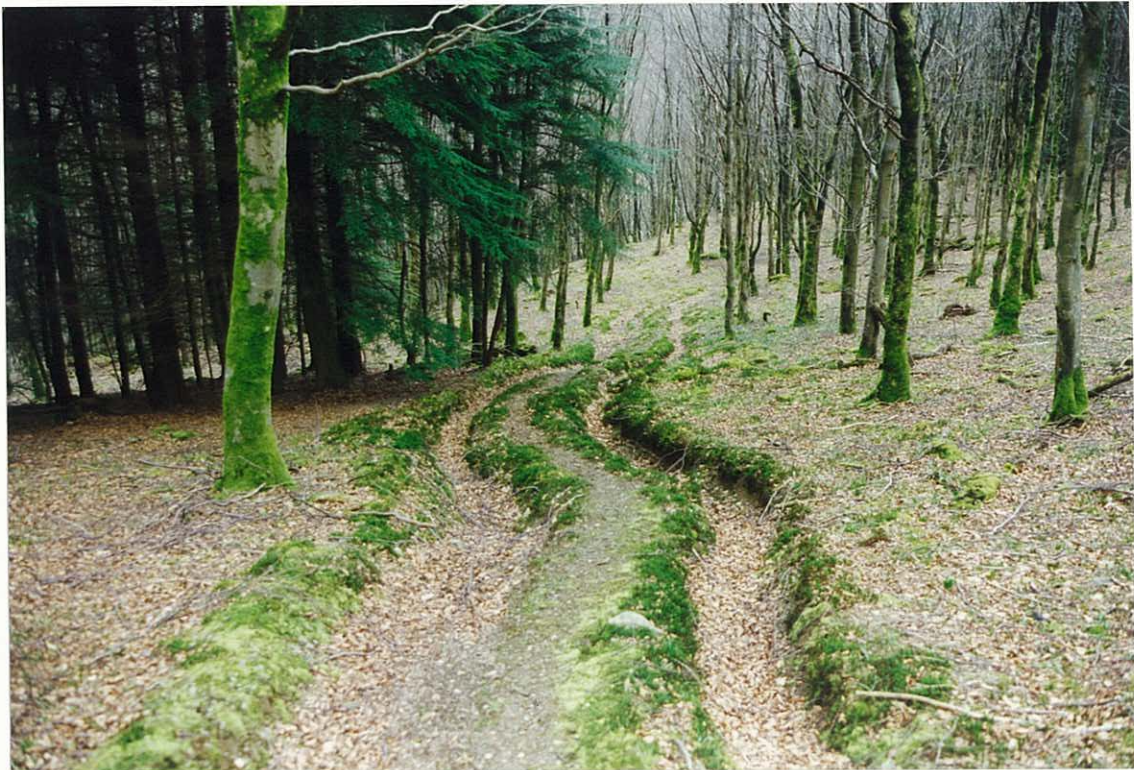


PHOTO. 28





PHOTO. 29



PHOTO. 30





PHOTO. 31



PHOTO. 32





PHOTO. 33



PHOTO. 34





PHOTO. 35



PHOTO. 36





PHOTO. 37



PHOTO. 38





PHOTO. 39



PHOTO. 40



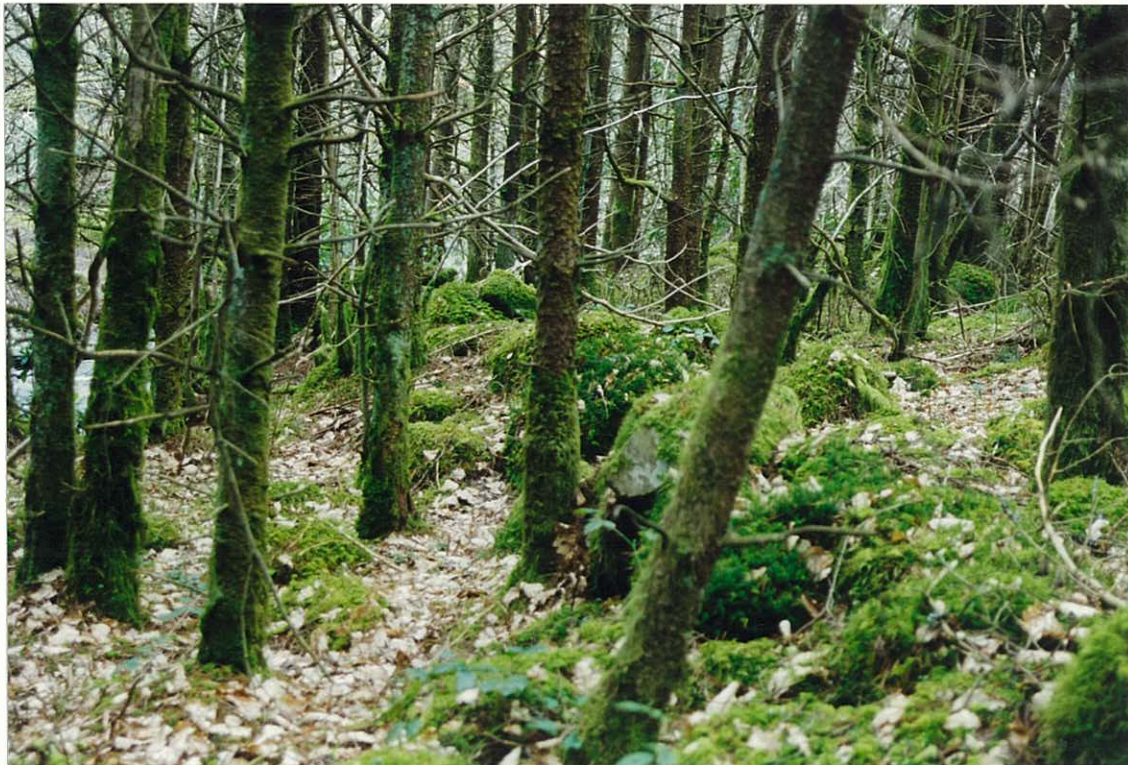


PHOTO. 41



PHOTO. 42



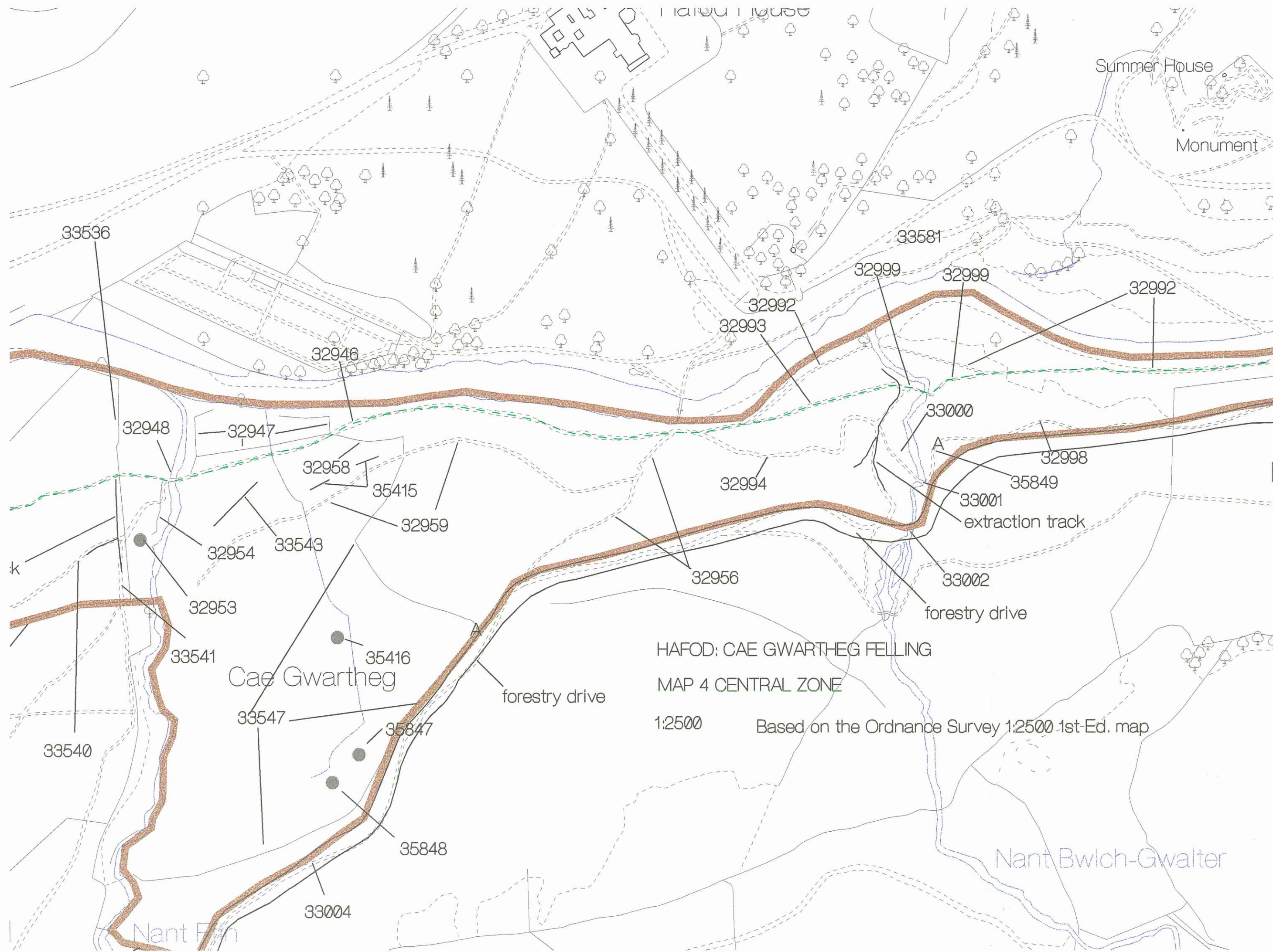


PHOTO. 43



PHOTO. 44





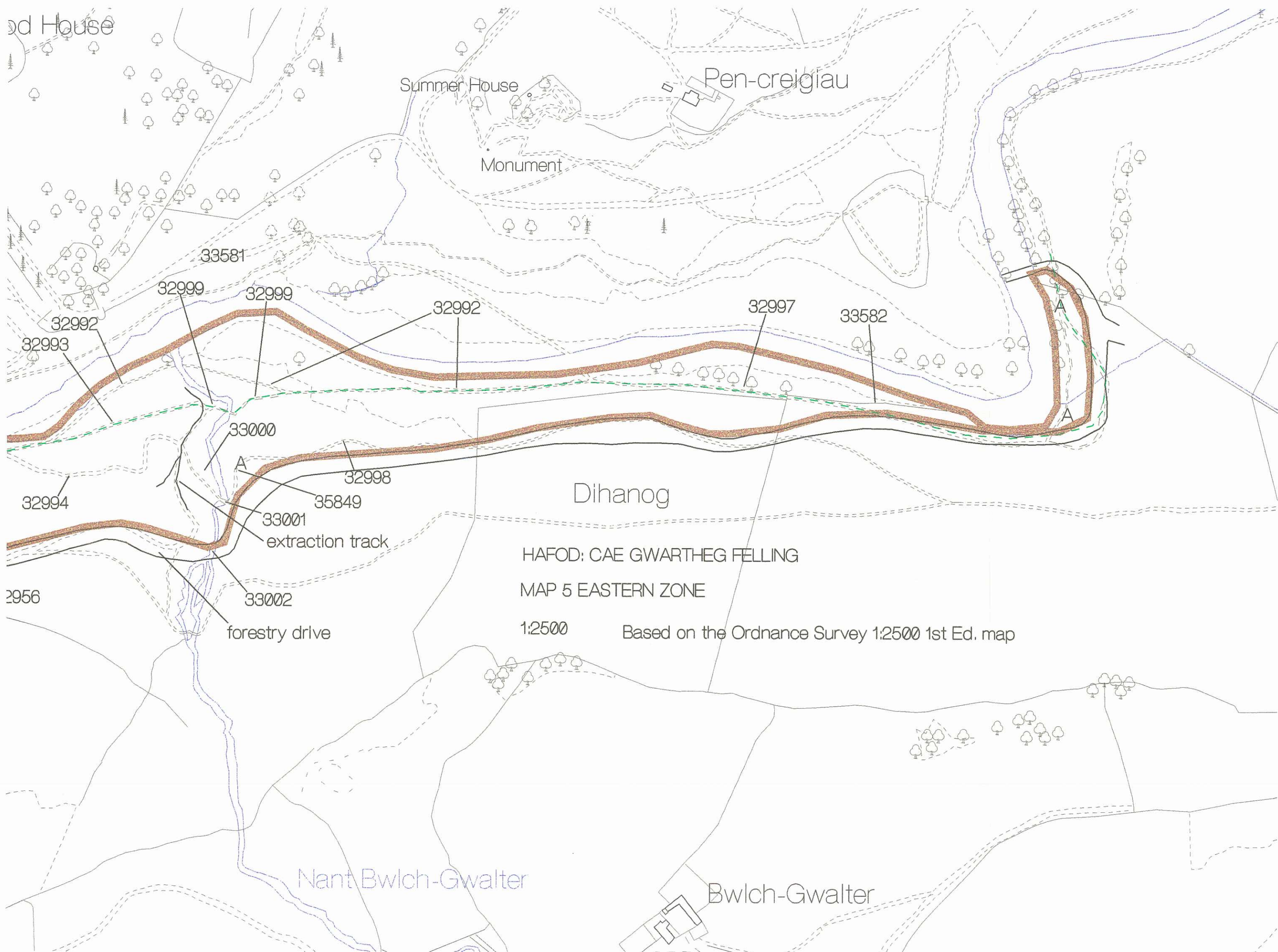
HAFOD: CAE GWARTHEG FELLING

MAP 4 CENTRAL ZONE

1:2500

Based on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 1st Ed. map





ad House

Summer House

Monument

Pen-creigiau

33581

32999

32999

32992

32997

33582

32992

32993

33000

A

32998

35849

33001

extraction track

33002

forestry drive

Dihanog

HAFOD: CAE GWARTHEG FELLING

MAP 5 EASTERN ZONE

1:2500

Based on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 1st Ed. map

2956

Nant Bwlch-Gwalter

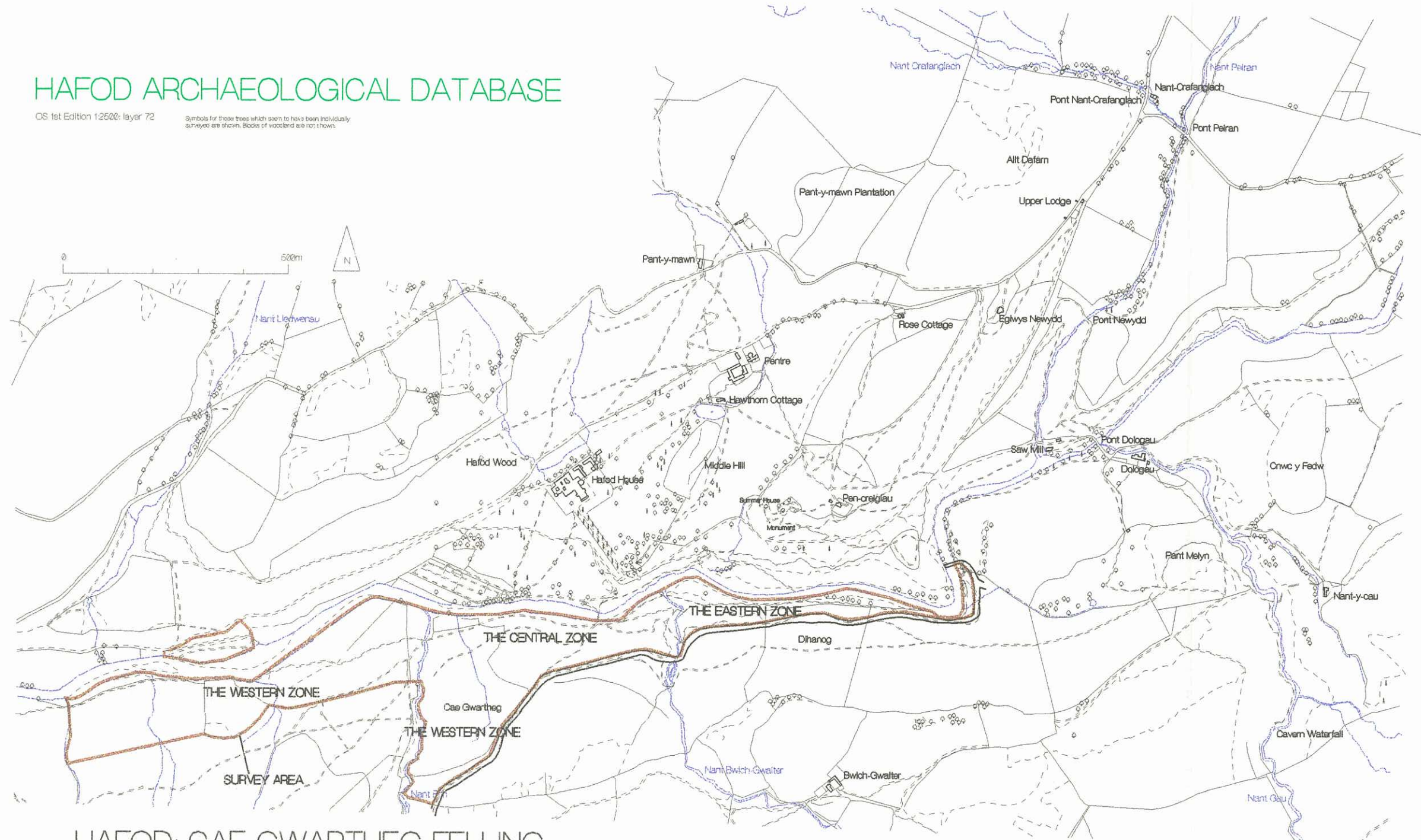
Bwlch-Gwalter



# HAFOD ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATABASE

OS 1st Edition 12500: layer 72

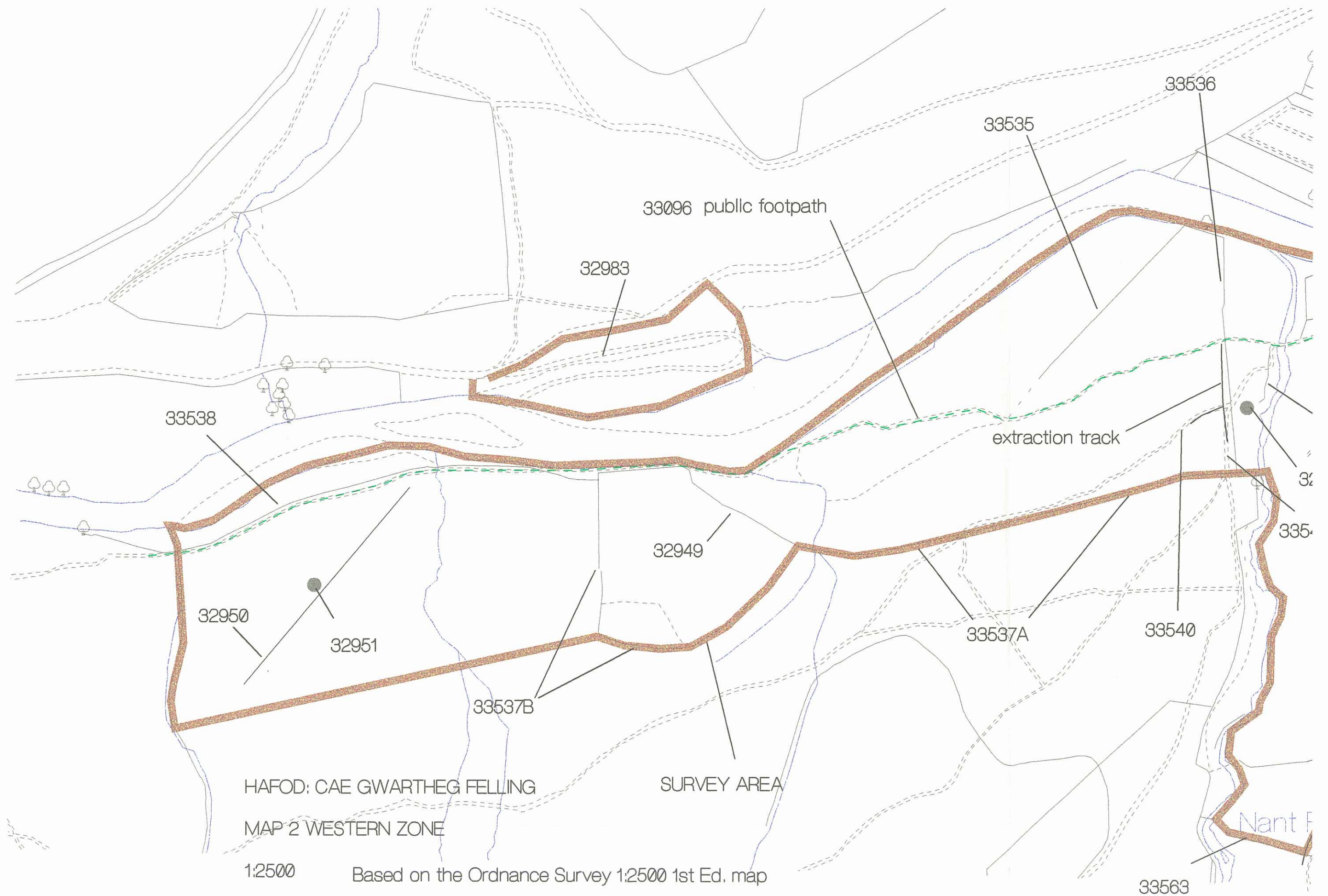
Symbols for those trees which seem to have been individually surveyed are shown. Blocks of woodland are not shown.



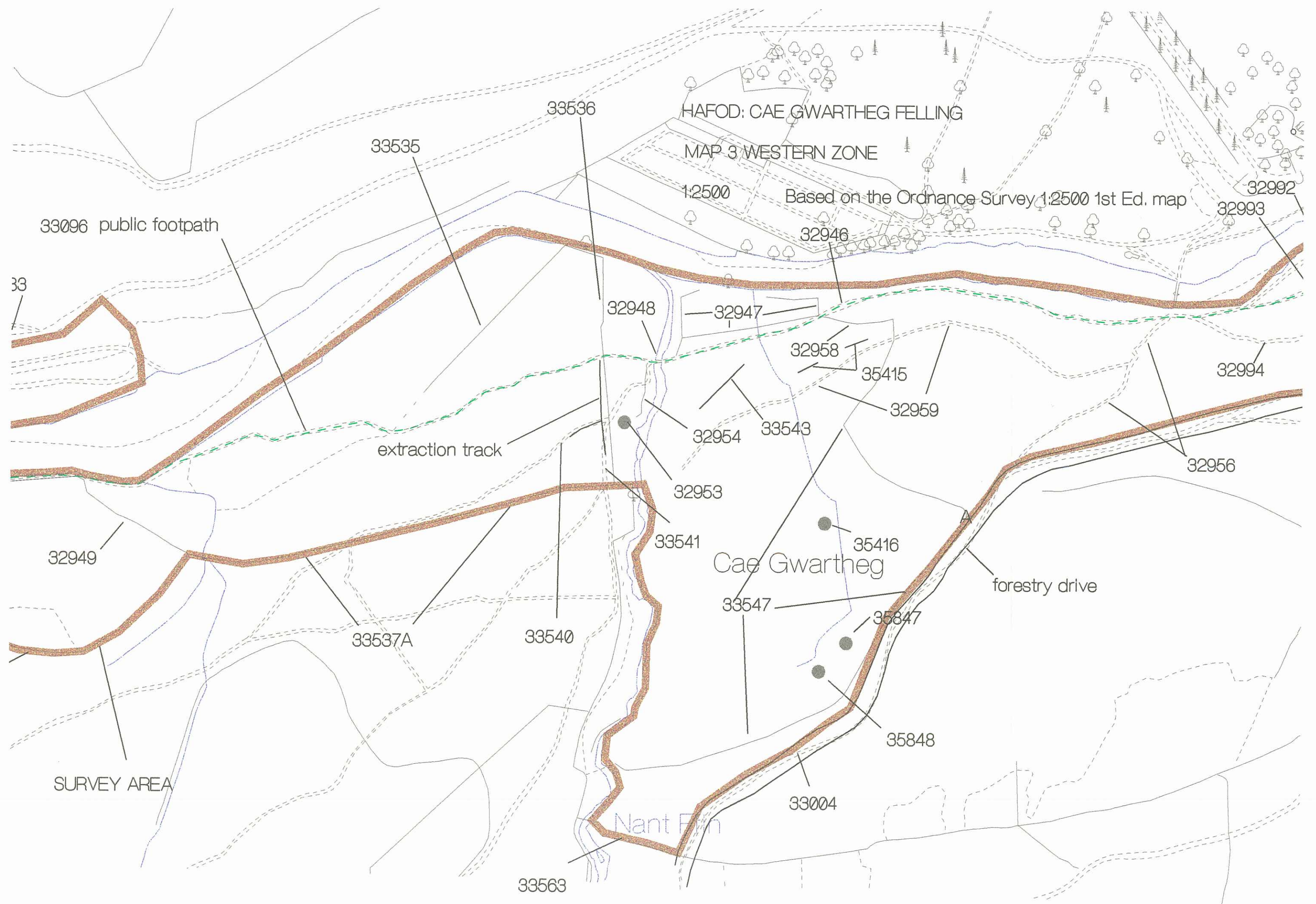
## HAFOD: CAE GWARTHEG FELLING ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECOMMENDATIONS Map 1 1:10,000

Based on the Ordnance Survey 1:25000 1st Ed. map









John Isherwood  
Forest Enterprise  
Canolbarth Forest District  
Bwlch Nant yr Arian  
Ponterwyd  
Aberystwyth  
SY23 3AD

29 April 1998

Dear John,

**Cae Gwartheg proposed felling**

Further to the submission of my report, Jenny Macve has forwarded some comments. Two of these are pertinent to the felling programme and are therefore included here as a supplement:

coincidental with the extraction track 33543 is the 'Western Cross Cut', a trial level opened by Chambers in 1860 and re-opened by Tarrent in 1941. The entrance to the level is no longer open, but as Jenny points out its presence has implications for safety

between path 32999 and the river there are heaps of boulders and old river channels, possibly also the site of a pond. This area should therefore be regarded as sensitive and it is recommended that care is taken during felling not to cause unnecessary ground disturbance

I hope that these additional observations do not cause too many problems.

Yours sincerely

Ken Murphy

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2 April 1998

Mr Ken Murphy  
Cambria Archaeology  
cc:  
FDM Canolbarth

Fax only: no confirmatory copy unless requested

Dear Ken.

Hafod: Cae Gwartheg Felling(Record No 35850)

We congratulate you on a thorough and well presented report! The comments and additions by Jennie Macve that follow deal with points of detail.

33538, 33537A, 33563: *Walls*. These walls are almost certainly parts of the "rough stone wall" which surrounded the demesne in Johnes's time (see Smith, J.E., 1810 pp 9 & 12, and 1834 estate plan).

32950: *Track*. An 1847 aerial photograph clearly shows a ford a short way upstream at 7525 7280. On the south bank, a track (?for extraction) leads from the ford through Logelas Wood - not quite on the same line as the public footpath - and stops when it reached Nant Ffin, at the approximate location of Nant Ffin Bridge. *Comment*: this could be investigated as a possible extraction route.

33537B *Bank/Wall*. This boundary is unlikely to have any connection with Thomas Johnes as this area did not form part of the estate in his time. It was a small enclosure forming part of Logelas, a farm on the Lisburne estate, which was purchased and added to Hafod by Henry Hoghton. (This fact does not detract from its possible antiquity or interest).

33535, 33536: *Walls*. These mark the former boundaries of Logelas Wood or Arddgoed Wood, forming part of the Hafod estate in Johnes's time, and possibly planted by him. (See 1834 estate plan and 1832 sale catalogue).

32954: *Path*. This is almost certainly a Johnesian path and viewing platform, though not documented or described. The waterfall itself shows evidence of interference by the 'hand of man', to improve its picturesque effect.

33547: *Wall*. This is the perimeter of the 9-acre enclosure called Cae Gwartheg, which formed part of the estate farm of Bwlchgwallter in 1834, and part of Tycoch at the Tithe Survey of 1847 (when it was an arable field). By 1864 it had become a plantation. The enclosure may pre-date Johnes.

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33543: *extraction track*. This feature is close to, or coincides with, the site of the 'Western Cross Cut', a trail level opened by Chambers in about 1860 and re-opened by Tarrant in 1941. The entrance to the level is no longer visible (perhaps filled in at the time of planting?), but its presence has implications for safety and sensitivity.

32959: *Path* and 35415: *Wall*. Either or both of these features may mark the southern boundary of Cae Gwartheg.

32956: *Path*. This track may well be the 'road to the farm' mentioned by B.H. Malkin, 1804, p. 342. It would have connected Hafod Mansion, via the Alpine Bridge or an older crossing, to Bwlchgwallter farm.

*Alpine Bridge to Nant Bwlchgwallter: east and west banks of Nant Bwlchgwallter from Ystwyth to forest road*. This whole area should be regarded as being very sensitive. There is a dense network of paths, of varying ages, and also probable relict water features, all of which merit further field study and assessment.

32994: *Alpine Bridge Track*. This may have been built by Johnes (post-Gentleman's Walk), or by a later owner to provide an easy walk to the falls above the Mossy Seat. (J.E. Smith, 1810, p.12).

32999: *Path*. The area between this path and the river contains heaps of boulders and dry watercourses, and is also the possible site of a pond (1834 Estate Map). It is very sensitive.

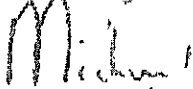
33000: *Path*. Roughly halfway along this path, on the west side, is a steep gully filled with boulders, which may be a relict water feature. Where the path reaches the stream at bridge site 33001, there may be the site of a small rustic building (see Plumtre, 1799).

32992: *Path*. The eastern section of this path may follow a former water-course (1834 estate plan).

33581, 33582: *Walls*. These may be traces of a pre-Johnes wall, removed by him when creating a broad strip of meadow along the south bank of the river. (Note: the location of 33851 has been omitted from the map.)

*Line of Path*. This area, east of the big bend in the river, was formerly part of the Ystwyth Meadow (1834 estate plan). It was crossed by the Gentleman's Walk as a 'straight path' (Cumberland 1795, p.25), which then continued into the grazing ground of Tyloga Field. Although all trace of the path may have been removed by flooding or forestry operations, care should be taken not to cause further disruption to the ground.

Best Regards



M.C. NORMAN  
Rheolwr y Cynllun  
Project Manager