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TIR GOFAL MANAGEMENT PLAN: HERITAGE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION (HE2)

**Prepared for:
Llwyniorwerth Uchaf**



**Tir Gofal Reference No
W/11/5688**

**ACA Report No. 2006/76
Project Record No. 54263
Prepared by
Philip Poucher**

Other documents enclosed:

**Murphy, K. & Ludlow, N. 2000: Ceredigion Historic Landscape Characterisation.
Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Interest in Wales.
Historic Landscape Character Area 88 Rhos Rhydd, 123 Cwm Magor & 130
Cwmnewidion.**

A) INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

2. Historic landscape character & archaeological and historical content

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

This farm consists of two adjoining holdings occupying the ridge of Llanerch Pentir/Pen Pegwns and the valley slopes of Cwm Magwr, a short distance east of the small settlement of Cnwch Coch. These holdings lie in the Upland Ceredigion Area of Outstanding Historic Interest, which has been further assessed as Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCA). These character areas are intended to define places where local land-use patterns have left particularly strong or distinctive evidence in the landscape and the descriptions include general management priorities. The upland area of the Llanerch Pentir ridge lies within HLCA 88 Rhos Rhydd, the lower valley slopes to the north lying within HLCA 123 Cwm Magor and the western tip of the holdings lying within HLCA 130 Cwmnewidion. The enclosure pattern in this area consists of large enclosures in the upland area with small to medium irregular enclosures on the lower valley floor. 18th century estate maps and 19th century tithe maps show much of the fertile lower valley slopes had already been enclosed in a pattern similar to today, and have probably been under cultivation since the Medieval period. The mapping evidence suggests the upland areas on top of the ridge consisted of open sheepwalks until the later 20th century when the current pattern of large enclosures were established. The settlement pattern in this area consists of dispersed farmsteads and cottages. Two such sites are shown within these holdings on 19th century maps but both were abandoned by the early 20th century.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTENT

Activity and possible settlement in this area during the Iron Age is indicated by the presence of the small hillfort (PRN 2005) of Castell Carreg-wen within these farm holdings. A large hilltop enclosure (PRN 56298) marked on the old series Ordnance Survey map of 1834 may also be Prehistoric in date but unfortunately not enough is understood of this site to determine its function and date, it may equally be a Post Medieval agricultural enclosure or the result of mining activity amongst other possibilities. An area of ridge and furrow (PRN 1993) has also been identified in this area, suggesting possible Post Medieval arable agriculture on this ridge although there is doubt as to whether these features are actually the remains of ridge and furrow. Early 19th century maps shows a rural settlement (PRN 56297) within the holding, presumably a cottage and outbuildings functioning as a small farmstead. This site may have been abandoned by the time of the tithe map of 1847 but a second cottage with outbuildings (PRN 56296) had been established within the holding, although this too had been abandoned by the early 20th century.

KEY OBJECTIVE

The management priority for this farm should be the maintenance and preservation of important hillfort and enclosure remains.

B2) HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FEATURES

All known historic environment features are marked on Map 1 of this agreement

These are divided into three types:

- i) Archaeological and Historic Features: Archaeological sites, earthwork monuments, ruined structures and individual historic garden features.
- ii) Traditional Buildings: Structures built before 1918 using traditional materials and methods of construction.
- iii) Historic Parks and Gardens: Discrete areas of land laid out in an ornamental way for the pleasure of the owner.

All historic environment features have been allocated categories of importance:

Site Status A: Sites and Monuments of National Importance.

Site Status B: Sites/Features of Regional Importance.

Site Status C: Sites/Features of Local Importance.

Site Status D: Minor and damaged sites.

Site Status U: Sites requiring further investigation.

General requirements

Historic earthworks, stone structures, archaeological sites, traditional buildings, parks and gardens must all be retained and protected against damage. The management of these features must comply with the following general requirements.

- Do not remove any material from archaeological sites or historic features, or deposit spoil, farm waste or rubbish.
- Ensure contractors and all other workers on the farm are aware of the historic environment features and comply with the requirements of this agreement. They should take appropriate measures to avoid accidental damage.
- Do not carry out any excavation, erect any new structure or plant any trees without the prior approval of the Project Officer.
- Do not site new fencing or vehicular tracks on archaeological or historic sites without the prior approval of the Project Officer.
- Ensure that the use of metal detectors and the reporting of discoveries complies with the Treasure Act 1996 and associated codes of practice. The Portable Antiquities Scheme website (<http://www.finds.org.uk>) provides valuable guidance and information.
- Please report all discoveries of archaeological interest to Cambria Archaeology (01558 823131). This enables them to maintain an up-to-date record of archaeological discoveries.

"Scheduled" Ancient Monuments (SAMs) have statutory protection and consent from Cadw may be required for works to these monuments. Consult the Project Officer for advice.

"Listed Buildings" also have statutory protection and permission from the Local Planning Authority may be required for some works. This also applies to buildings within the curtilage of a listed building. Consult the Project Officer for Advice

In addition to these general requirements you must comply with the specific sets of prescriptions set out below:

i) ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC FEATURES:

Archaeological sites, earthwork monuments, ruined structures and individual historic garden features.

Location and description:

A search of the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) held by the Cambria Archaeology has identified the following sites and monuments which are indicated on Map 1.

Other sites may be known to the landowner and these should be identified to the Project Officer who will pass the information to Cambria Archaeology.

	Name (& PRN)	Period/Site type	NGR	Status SAM/listing	Management required
1	CASTELL-CAREG-WEN <u>(2005)</u>	Iron Age/ Hillfort	SN68837496	A	Specific
<p>This site is marked on the 1835 Ordnance Survey map. It lies on a local summit or spur at 220m above sea level. To the west, north and south the land falls away steeply from the site, but to the east it falls into a saddle and then rises steadily. A bank c20m long, 5m wide and up to 1m high cuts off the spur on the east/northeast side, defending the summit area of c60m by 40m. The outer sides of the spur may have been scarped. The site is now under improved pasture. (Murphy, Ramsey & Page 2005).</p> <p>Hillforts are generally recorded as having being constructed in the Iron Age (circa 600 BC - 100AD) but scientific dating of some archaeologically excavated sites has indicated that they may be Bronze Age in date (c2000 - 500BC). Hillforts are usually viewed as defensive structures built with the intention of defending and securing property. They are also locations for dwellings that were used on a seasonal or permanent basis. Sites such as these may have been used over very long periods of time and, therefore, were probably put to many different uses. <i>Visited 19/06/2006 (PP)</i></p>					



LLANNERCHPENTIR **Unknown/ Ridge** **SN69527545** **U** **Generic**
(1993) **and furrow**

An area of narrow ridge and furrow running north-east to south-west identified by Ordnance Survey inspectors in 1978. Early Ordnance Survey inspectors believed there may be a confusion between the ridge and furrow and the enclosure (PRN 56298) visible on the old series OS map of 1834, although the banks of the enclosure appear to be aligned roughly NNW-SSE on the old series map whereas the ridge and furrow is described as running north-east to south-west.

This area lies on the summit of a steep sided ridge, now under pasture. This summit is marked as open pasture on the tithe map of 1847, and open rough ground on both the 1st (1888) and 2nd (1905) edition Ordnance Survey maps. There are no obvious remains of ridge and furrow visible during the site visit, although short sections of linear depressions were noted in this area of the given grid reference that had the impression of trackway remains and small quarrying scrapes, although mining activity has also been noted in the hills to the south. Too little is understood about activity in this area to conclusively identify any features. *Visited 19/06/2006 (PP)*

CASTELL-CAREG- **Post Med/ Cottage** **SN6865474902** **B** **Generic**
WEN (56296)

A cottage first marked on the tithe map of 1847. The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1887 shows several buildings, suggesting a cottage with a range of outbuildings, possibly functioning as a small farmstead complex. Few above ground remains now exist, stone wall foundations and a building platform are visible, now used as an animal feeding station. *Visited 19/06/2006 (PP)*

CWM MAGWYR ISAF **Post Med/** **SN6892275510** **B** **Generic**
(56297) **Deserted rural**
 settlement

A small streamside cottage and outbuildings, presumably operating as a small farmstead, marked on the original Ordnance Surveyors drawings of 1820-1 and the old series Ordnance Survey map of 1834. The site may have been abandoned by the time of the tithe map of 1847 as the site is marked as 'old buildings'. The site lies in a small streamside glade and the grass covered remains of two, possibly three buildings can still be traced. Lines of large stones visible amongst the grass cover defines a central stone-built building measuring c8.5m by 7m, aligned east-west. To the north grass covered banks define a smaller building measuring roughly 5m by 5m against the northern edge of the glade. Low earthworks to the west may define further buildings but this area is obscured by nettles. *Visited 19/06/2006 (PP)*



NE facing. Large stones denoting the remains of a building in the centre of deserted rural settlement PRN 56297.

PEN PEGWS;PEN **Unknown/** **SN6949375459** **U** **Generic**
PEGWNS (56298) **Enclosure**

A large enigmatic enclosure marked on the old series Ordnance Survey map of 1834. The map shows a straight bank aligned roughly NNW-SSE forming the western side, and an L-shaped bank forming the south and eastern side, all located on the north-western summit of a prominent ridge. No feature is marked on later map sources and the only earlier map is the original surveyors drawings of the Ordnance Survey that appears to mark two small circular features in this area. The hillside is named 'Pen Pegwyns' on early maps but otherwise there is little clue as to the function and date of this feature. Ordnance Survey inspectors in the 1970s identified apparent ridge and furrow (PRN 1993) in this area. although that ran NE-SW. Prehistoric

defended enclosures are found in upland locations such as this, and Post Medieval mining activity has also been noted in nearby hills.

The site lies at the western end on the top of an exposed ridge of tussocky pasture. The ridge has steep slopes to the north and south and falls into a saddle before continuing to the west. A prominent bank roughly 40m long traverses the ridge which may form part of this enclosure, although the rest of the site is difficult to identify from a walkover survey. Exposed sections reveal the bank is at least partly made up of outcropping bedrock and it is unclear which side, if any part, of the enclosure it formed. Further investigation is required to identify the nature and date of this feature, aerial photography may reveal more information but adequate photos were not available at the time of this survey. *Visited 19/06/2006 (PP)*



SW facing. Looking along ridge at the prominent bank, possibly part of enclosure PRN 56298

(56875)

**Post Med/
Trackway**

SN6925375222 B

Generic

A trackway running across the top of a prominent ridge, first marked on the original surveyors drawing for the Ordnance Survey in 1821-2. This may be a trackway of long-standing, connecting the dispersed farmsteads in this area, as well as running past an Iron Age hillfort (PRN 2005) and an enigmatic and undated enclosure (PRN 56298). The trackway is still in use for much of its length, and can still be traced on the ground for the rest. *Visited 19/06/2006 (PP)*

Historic Environment Objectives:

The purpose of the management is to:

- Ensure the survival of visible features.
- Ensure archaeological deposits beneath the ground surface are not disturbed.
- Prevent progressive degradation by adopting sustainable farming practices.

In order to achieve this you will need to observe the following:

Generic Management Prescriptions - see also General Requirements - Section B2

1. Maintain the agreed stocking level to encourage a sound grass sward or low growing vegetation, without poaching or causing erosion.
2. Do not install new drains or underground services.
3. Locate feeding and watering stations away from archaeological and historic features.
4. Avoid using heavy machinery on sites or close to archaeological and historic features, especially in wet weather.
5. Do not plough archaeological or historic features, or cultivate so close as to cut into the remains. A minimum buffer zone of 2m is advised. In the case of

monuments already under cultivation and where the agreement does not exclude the monument from cultivation, ensure that the depth of cultivation is not increased.

6. Remove any dead and unstable trees from the vicinity of archaeological and historic features with care, leaving roots to rot in situ. Ensure that machinery does not cause further disturbance. Agree with the Project Officer a suitable method for repairing any damage caused, for example, by wind-throw.

7. Control scrub on archaeological and historic features by cutting. Roots must be left in the ground and must not be pulled or dug out. Treatment with an approved herbicide may, exceptionally, be permitted in agreement with the Project Officer. (Capital Works Option).

8. Do not burn materials on site.

9. Ensure that rabbits are kept under control, but not by excavating within an archaeological or historic feature.

10. Consult your Project Officer a suitable method for repairing any damage caused by burrowing animals. (Capital Works Option)

Specific Management Requirements for individual archaeological and historic features.

The following individual sites and monuments are subject to specific management prescriptions which are in addition to and (in the case of conflict) take precedence over the generic requirements:

Site 1 on MAP 1

CASTELL-CAREG-WEN Hillfort (2005)

SN68837496

In addition to the Generic Management Prescriptions listed above the following management is recommended.

The aim of the management for this site should be the preservation and maintenance of this important Iron Age site. The hillfort lies in an area of improved pasture, with a consistent grass covering with no obvious signs of erosion. Rock has been quarried away from the hillside on which the hillfort stands, which at one end is getting very close to the defensive bank of the hillfort.

- Quarrying activity will destroy any below ground remains of Iron Age activity and care should be taken not to extend the quarry any further into the area of the hillfort.
- The current management regime for this area should be maintained as this appears to be keeping vegetation down but maintaining a consistent protective grass cover. Ground breaking activity such as ploughing should be avoided in this area.

ii) TRADITIONAL BUILDINGS:

There are no Traditional Buildings in the Cambria Archaeology Historic Environment Record for the application area

iii) HISTORIC PARKS AND GARDENS:

There are no Historic Parks and Gardens in the Cambria Archaeology Historic Environment Record for the application area

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This HE2 report supercedes the information given in the HE1 report for this farm.

Sources consulted:

Cambria Archaeology Historic Environment Record

Murphy, K. & Ludlow, N. 2000: Ceredigion Historic Landscape Characterisation. Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Interest in Wales.

Historic Landscape Character Area 88 Rhos Rhydd, 123 Cwm Magor & 130 Cwmnewidion.

Murphy, K, Ramsey, R & Page, M. 2006. A Survey of Defended Enclosures in Ceredigion.

Cambria Archaeology Report No. 2006/20, PRN 54269

Ordnance Survey 1820-1 Original Surveyors Drawing Sheet 314

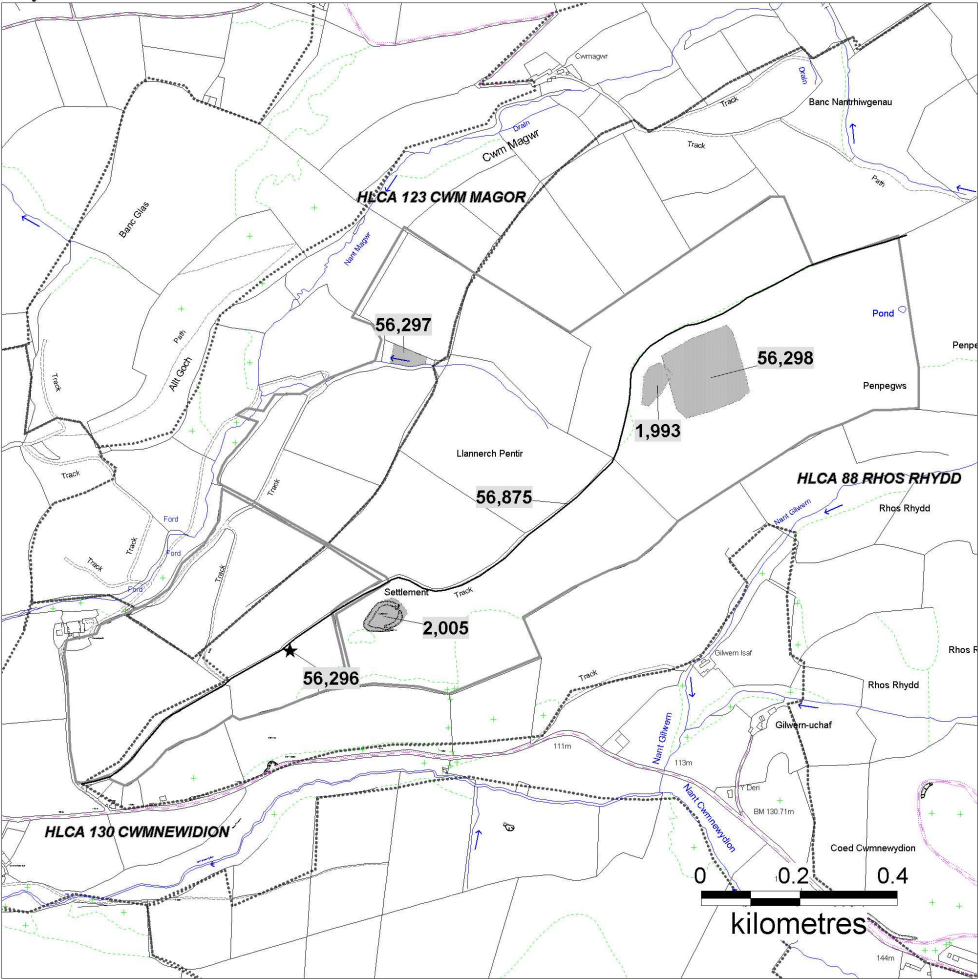
Ordnance Survey 1834 Old Series 1" map, No.LVII

Ordnance Survey 1887/8 1st edition 1-2500 Cardiganshire.XI.9 & 10

Ordnance Survey 1905 2nd edition 1-2500 Cardiganshire.XI.9 & 10

Tithe Map 1847 Llanfihangel y Creuddyn Parish

Llwyniorwerth Uchaf W/11/5688 & W/11/5688/a



—	Farm Boundary	■	Archaeologically Sensitive Areas (by PRN)	—	Linear Archaeological Feature (by PRN)
.....	Historic Landscape Character Area	★	Archaeological Sites (by PRN)		

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UPLAND CEREDIGION

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 88 RHOS RHYDD

GRID REFERENCE: SN 697753

AREA IN HECTARES: 281.3

Historic Background

The early history of this small block of upland pasture has not been researched, but by the 18th century it was divided between the Crosswood and Nanteos estates. Late 18th- and early 19th-century estate maps (NLW Crosswood Deeds No.5, Ser IV, Vol 1, 16; NLW Vol 45, 41 and 42; NLW Nanteos 348 and 349) show this area as unenclosed sheep-walk with isolated, minor enclosures on the fringes. By the tithe survey of 1847 (Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn parish) the area had been sub-divided into a few very large enclosures, but aerial photographs of the 1940s record it as having reverted back to unenclosed sheep-walk.

Description and essential historic landscape components

This landscape area is located at the western end of a rounded ridge which achieves a maximum height of 310m. To the west, north and south the land falls away steeply down to c. 100m into the valleys of the Newidion and Magwr. Included in this area is the ridge crest and sides. There are no occupied settlements. Most of the land is now improved grazing, though pockets of rough pasture and patches of bracken are present on steep slopes. The area has been divided by wire fences. Some of these fences follow the lines of old, low earth banks - these can be equated with those recorded on the tithe map - though others are on new lines. Medium-sized conifer plantations have been established on steep south-facing slopes; these are interspersed with stands of old established hardwoods.

Recorded archaeology includes the major site of Castell Gareg-wen Iron Age hillfort, and a small earthwork enclosure of unknown date. Other sites are minor: a sheep-fold and cultivation ridges; the latter indicating arable farming across this area in the Medieval or post-Medieval period.

To the north, west and south this area is well defined by enclosed and settled valley land (areas 94, 123, 130). To the east definition is less obvious, and this area tends to merge with area 47.

UPLAND CEREDIGION

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 123 CWM-MAGOR

GRID REFERENCE: SN 689757

AREA IN HECTARES: 76.7

Historic Background

The settlement history of this narrow, blind, very steep-sided and isolated valley before the mid 18th-century has not been researched. Cwm-magor was a tenanted farm in the Nanteos estate, and is shown on a 1764-5 estate map (NLW Nanteos 349) as a holding very similar in character to that of today - an isolated farmstead with small fields on the valley floor, and unenclosed land starting on the lower slopes and continuing up the valley sides on to higher ground. By 1819 Blaen cwm-magor and Cwm-magor had been acquired by the Crosswood estate. Estate maps of this date (NLW Crosswood Vol 1, 16 and 41) show Blaen cwm-magor farmstead as today with small enclosures on the valley floor. Interestingly the Cwm-magor map shows plots of unenclosed arable land on some of the lower slopes. Owing to the topography it is likely that the fertile valley floor has been subjected to more intensive agriculture and enclosure from at least the Medieval Period, than the little used, rough ground of the steep valley sides.

The garden at Llanerch-pentir is recorded on the Welsh Historic Gardens Database.

Description and essential historic landscape components

Traditionally access into this blind, narrow valley has only been from the open, southwestern end, but in more recent times track-ways have been cut into the northern side and northeastern end. However, it is still a relatively isolated valley. The valley floor is at approximately 120m; the sides rise up to over 300m. Three farmsteads are distributed along the valley. On the valley floor and lower slopes, close to each farmstead, are small, irregular fields. Still on the valley floor and lower slopes but further away from the dwellings, slightly larger and more regular fields indicate a later episode or episodes of enclosure. Boundaries to the fields are formed from earth banks topped with hedges. Hedges are in fair to good condition, but are neglected and, in a few instances, becoming overgrown. Some hedges have been replaced with wire fences. Towards the southwestern end, on the banks of the Nant Magor are some small stands of deciduous woodland. Virtually every field is improved pasture. Buildings are stone built with slate roofs.

The bounds of this landscape character area are very well defined. Unenclosed land on steep-sided valley sides lies to the north, east and west (53, 54 and 88). Access between these areas and area 123 was very difficult. To the southwest this area merges with the enclosed land of visually similar character (areas 94, 130).

UPLAND CEREDIGION

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREA: 130 CWMNEWIDION

GRID REFERENCE: SN 710745

AREA IN HECTARES: 128.0

Historic Background

By the early 17th-century Cwmnewidion was a small independent estate owned by Hugh Vaughan (no relation to the Vaughans of nearby Crosswood), and comprised within this landscape character area Cwmnewidion Isaf and mill, Gilwern, and two Rhos-rhudd farms (Morgan 1997). As Morgan states (p23), the origins of wealth and status of the families of these small estates are lost. The Vaughans of Cwmnewidion were, however, sufficiently wealthy to have acquired ex-Strata Florida grange lands in Cwmystwyth. In the 1780s Cwmnewidion estate was purchased by the Crosswood estate (Morgan 1997, 196). Late 18th-century estate maps indicate that a similar field patterning to today's was then present (NLW Crosswood Deeds 5, Ser IV, Vol 1; 18 & 42). The map of Cwmnewidion shows enclosed land on the valley floor, heavily wooded valley sides with unenclosed land above. A similar pattern is shown on the Llanerchpentir map. From the mid 19th-century lead mining became an important element in the economy of the area. Several mines, Red Rock, West Frongoch, Wemyss and Graiggoch worked the western limits of the Frongoch lode (Bick 1974, 16-17). Wemyss at the eastern end of Cwmnewidion worked from 1861 to 1899 and Craiggoch from 1841 to 1889, though here evidence of earlier workings was noted in 1840. A chapel was constructed here in the 19th century.

Description and essential landscape components

Cwmnewidion is a narrow, steep-sided valley. The floor of the valley rises from 100m at the western end to over 200m at the east. The valley sides rise to over 300m. The landscape area includes the valley bottom and the lower slopes of the valley sides, but not the higher slopes. A minor road, but nevertheless important local route-way, runs along the northern side of the valley floor linking the fertile lands of the lower Ystwyth valley with Pontrhydygroes and Cwmystwyth. The settlement pattern is of dispersed farmsteads located at the foot of the steep valley sides with enclosed land spread across the valley floor. Enclosures are small and irregular and are formed by low earth banks. Banks were formerly topped with hedges, but apart from in the extreme western part of the area these hedges have gone and are now replaced by wire. Improved grazing predominates on the valley floor, giving way to poorer quality land on the lower slopes. Land here is enclosed into larger divisions, but the earth bank boundaries are redundant and replaced by wire. There are stands of deciduous woodland and 20th century forestry at the western end of the area. Farmsteads are stone built with slate roofs.

Remains of lead mines are an important and distinctive element in this landscape area. These are concentrated towards the eastern end of the valley and comprise dominant spoil heaps and mine buildings. The buildings of local stone are roofless, but stand in some instances to their full height. Included in the buildings is a generating station of Frongoch mine supplied by a pipeline from a reservoir to the north in area 47.

Other than metal mine remains, recorded archaeology consists of a mill site and a chapel.

The borders of this area are well-defined with steep valley sides to the north, west and east leading up to areas 47, 88 and 99. At the open western end of the valley this landscape area forms no clear boundary with the enclosed land of areas 51, 94 and 123.