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# Historic landscape characterisation – Caernarfon - Nantlle

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GAT Project G1627

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European Pathways to Cultural Landscapes

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*Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd*  
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

*Front cover* At the seaside, Dinas Dinlle, c. 1910.  
(The foreground is part of area 19; the hillfort marks the northern edge of area 47.)

## Y DDÔL A AETH O'R GOLWG

(Dôl Pebin y Mabinogion)

Yn Nhal-y-sarn ystalwm  
Fe welem Lyfni lân,  
A'r ddôl hynafol honno  
A gymell hyn o gân;  
Ac megis gwyrth y gwelem  
Ar lan hen afon hud  
Y ddôl a ddaliai Pebin  
Yn sblander bore'r byd.

Yn Nhal-y-sarn ysywaeth  
Ni welwn Lyfni mwy,  
Na gwartheg gwyrthiol Pebin  
Yn eu cynefin hwy.  
Buan y'n dysgodd bywyd  
Athrawiaeth llanw a thrai:  
Rhyngom a'r ddôl ddihalog  
Daeth chwydfa'r Gloddfa Glai

R Williams Parry, 1945

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## APPENDIX I

Extracts from the Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales
Dyffryn Nantlle HLW (Gw) 9



## **Part A**

### **General information**

## 1 Preface

- 1.1 Natural forces and human activity acting together over the last six thousand years have contrived to produce a landscape of great beauty and variety in Wales, a national asset that is essential both to our national identity and to our individual "sense of place" and well-being. The diversity and imprint of human activity on the landscape is everywhere to be seen, from the enigmatic stone monuments of the prehistoric period and the magnificent castles and abbeys of the medieval period to quite commonplace and typical features like field boundaries that can often be of great age. But the landscape is more than just attractive scenery or a record of the past; it also provides a place for us to live, work and sustain ourselves, through farming, forestry, tourism and so on, processes that all shape, and will continue to shape, the landscape.
- 1.2 Recognising and raising awareness of the importance and wealth of the historic fabric of the landscape has been the central theme and message of the, non-statutory, Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales, the first part of which, covering thirty-six "outstanding" landscapes, was published in January 1998. This is being compiled as a joint initiative between Cadw, Welsh Historic Monuments, the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) and the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), working in collaboration with the four Welsh Archaeological Trusts, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales and the Welsh unitary authorities.
- 1.3 The Historic Landscapes Register provides a first step national overview of the historic content of the Welsh landscape. The next step, so essential to the process of informing the way in which aspects of the historic landscape may be managed, is to make available more detailed information about the character of this landscape at a more local level. This is achieved through a process known as historic landscape characterisation which has been developed in Wales jointly by Cadw, CCW and the Welsh Archaeological Trusts. This involves the identification of geographically definable and mappable areas of historic character, as determined by the range and distribution of surviving archaeological and historic features and the main types of historic land use patterns or historic "themes" that have shaped the area. The key historic characteristics of the area are then identified along with recommendations for their positive management.
- 1.4 This report is one in a series of landscape characterisation exercises being undertaken by the Welsh Archaeological Trusts with grant aid from Cadw. These studies will initially concentrate on those areas identified on the Historic Landscapes Register, although it is accepted that the whole of the Welsh landscape can be said to be, in one way or another, historic. Information is being prepared in a form which is compatible with CCW's landscape assessment and decision-making methodology, known as *LANDMAP*. It will be made available to a wide range of organisations and will feed into various initiatives to protect and manage the Welsh countryside, most notably the Tir Gofal agri-environment scheme. It is also seen as making a particularly important contribution to raising awareness and heightening a feeling of local distinctiveness.
- 1.5 The Historic Landscapes Register and these characterisation exercises fully acknowledge the dynamic and evolving nature of the landscape. They promote the view that protecting the legacy of the past in the landscape is not to be achieved by preventing change or fossilising the landscape but rather by informing the process of change, creating tomorrow's landscapes without necessarily sacrificing the best of yesterday's.

## 1 Rhagair

- 1.1 Mae'r grymoedd naturiol a'r gweithgaredd dynol a fu'n gweithredu ar y cyd dros y chwe mil o flynyddoedd diwethaf wedi cyfrannu at y broses o gynhyrchu tirwedd o harddwch ac amrywiaeth hynod yng Ngymru, ased cenedlaethol sy'n hanfodol i ni o ran ein hunaniaeth genedlaethol a hefyd o ran ein lles a'n 'hymdeimlad o berthyn i le' unigol. Gellir gweld ymhobman yr amrywiaeth a'r olion a adawyd ar y tirwedd gan weithgaredd dynol, o henebion cerrig enigmatig y cyfnod cynhanesyddol a chestyll ac abatai gwych y cyfnod canoloesol, i'r nodweddion eithaf cyffredin a nodweddiadol fel ffiniau caeau a all yn aml fod yn hen iawn. Ond nid dim ond golygyfeydd deniadol neu gofnod o'r gorffennol yn unig yw'r tirwedd; mae hefyd yn darparu lle i ni fyw, gweithio a chynnal ein hunain ynddo, drwy gyfrwng amaeth, coedwigaeth, twristiaeth ac ati, oll yn brosesau sy'n llunio, ac a fydd yn parhau i lunio'r tirwedd.
- 1.2 Bu cydnabod a chodi ymwybyddiaeth o bwysigrwydd a chyfoeth ffabrig hanesyddol y tirwedd yn thema ac yn neges ganolog y gofrestr anstatudol, *Cofrestr O Dirweddau O Ddiddordeb Hanesyddol Eithriadol Yng Nghymru*, y cyhoeddwyd y rhan gyntaf ohoni, sy'n cwmpasu trideg chwech o dirweddau 'eithriadol' ym mis Ionawr 1998. Caiff y Gofrestr ei llunio fel menter ar y cyd rhwng Cadw, Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru a'r Cyngor Rhyngwladol ar Henebion a Safleoedd (ICOMOS) sy'n gweithio mewn cydweithrediad a phedair Ymddiriedolaeth Archeolegol Cymru, y Comisiwn Brenhinol Henebion Cymru ac awdurdodau unedol Cymru.
- 1.3 *Y Gofrestr o Dirweddau o Ddiddordeb Hanesyddol* yw'r cam cyntaf, trosolwg cenedlaethol o gynnwys hanesyddol tirwedd Cymru. Y cam nesaf, mor hanfodol i'r broses o lywio'r modd y gellir rheoli agweddau ar y tirwedd cenedlaethol, yw trefnu bod gwybodaeth fwy manwl ar gael ynglyn a chymeriad y tirwedd hwn ar lefel fwy lleol. Cyflawnir hyn drwy broses a elwir yn nodweddiad tirweddau hanesyddol a ddatblygwyd yng Nghymru ar y cyd a Cadw, Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru ac Ymddiriedolaethau Archeolegol Cymru. Golyga hyn nodi ardaloedd o gymeriad hanesyddol y gellir eu diffinio a'u mapio'n ddaearyddol, yn ol yr hyn a benderfynir gan ystod a dosbarthiad y nodweddion archeolegol a hanesyddol sy'n goroesi a'r prif fathau o batrymau defnydd tir hanesyddol neu 'thema' hanesyddol sydd wedi llunio'r ardal. Nodir nodweddion hanesyddol allweddol yr ardal felly ynghyd ag argymhellion ar gyfer eu rheoli'n gadarnhaol.
- 1.4 Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn un o gyfres o ymarferion nodweddiad tirweddau hanesyddol yr ymgymmerir ag ef gan Ymddiriedolaethau Archeolegol Cymru gyda chymorth grant gan Cadw. Bydd yr astudiaethau hyn yn canolbwyntio yn y lle cyntaf ar yr ardaloedd hynny a nodwyd yn y *Gofrestr O Ddiddordeb Hanesyddol*, er y caiff ei dderbyn bod modd disgrifio tirwedd Cymru gyfan, mewn un ffordd neu'r llall, fel un hanesyddol. Mae gwybodaeth yn cael ei pharatoi ar ffurf sy'n cydweddu a methodoleg asesu tirweddau a gwneud penderfyniadau Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru, sef *LANDMAP*. Bydd ar gael i ystod eang o sefydliadau a chaiff ei fwydo i fentrau amrywiol er mwyn diogelu a rheoli cefn gwlad Cymru, yn bennaf y cynllun agri-amgylcheddol sef, *Tir Gofal*. Caiff ei weld hefyd yn gwneud cyfraniad arbennig o bwysig i'r broses o godi ymwybyddiaeth a dwyshau'r ymdeimlad o arbenigrwydd lleol.
- 1.5 Cydnabyddia'r *Gofrestr O Dirweddau O Ddiddordeb Hanesyddol* a'r ymarferion nodweddiad hyn yn llawn natur ddeinamig y tirwedd sy'n parhau i esblygu. Hyrwyddant y farn mai nid trwy rwystro newid neu ffosileiddio'r tirwedd y mae diogelu treftadaeth y gorffennol yn y tirwedd, ond yn hytrach drwy lywio'r broses o newid, gan greu tirweddau'r dyfodol heb o anghenraid aberthu tirweddau gorau'r gorffennol.

## 2 Background and acknowledgements

### 2.1 The study area

- 2.1.1 Dyffryn Nantlle (HLW(Gw)9) has been identified on the *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales* by Cadw, CCW and ICOMOS (Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments, 1995, p 102). It contains important and well-preserved evidence of land use and settlement from the prehistoric period onwards. These remains contribute significantly to the present character and appearance of the landscape, a portion of which lies within Snowdonia National Park.
- 2.1.2 The study area is situated in the county of Gwynedd, and the historic county of Caernarvonshire. Roughly triangular in shape, it includes part of the coastal plain of Arfon, stretching from Llanfair-is-gaer in the north to Aberdesach in the south, and from the coast up to the top of Snowdon. The eastern side of the triangle coincides with the southern extent of the characterisation project described in report 352 (G1584 - Ardal Arfon) and is formed by the ridge running from Snowdon down to Waunfawr, while the southern side is a line running roughly from Snowdon through Rhyd Ddu, along the Cwm Silyn ridge and down over Y Foel to the sea at Abererch. The western edge of the area is defined by the seashore.
- 2.1.3 The major settlements in the study area are the towns of Caernarfon and Penygroes, with smaller villages at Rhyd Ddu, Waunfawr, Bontnewydd, Llandwrog, Nantlle, Rhostryfan, Rhosgadfan and Carmel. Most of the area, however, is rural, characterised by varied and various field patterns, and there are also significant industrial archaeological remains as well as tracts of high mountain wilderness.

### 2.2 Acknowledgements

- 2.2.1 The authors are grateful to several people for their contributions to this project. Colleagues within and outside the Trust offered helpful advice throughout, especially those involved in the informal 'characterisation working party' comprising the WATs, Cadw and CCW. Kate Geary provided the SMR data in a number of formats; John Roberts gave help with the illustrations; Jeff Spencer produced the final maps for the report and Margaret Mason proof-read the draft report and made suggestions in discussions throughout. The work was carried out, and the report compiled, by Dafydd Gwyn and David Thompson.

### 2.3 Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in this report.

CCW	Countryside Council for Wales
CRO	Caernarfon Record Office
GAT	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust
GIS	Geographic Information System
HLC	historic landscape characterisation
LNWR	London & North Western Railway
NLW	National Library of Wales
PRO	Public Record Office
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record
TCHS	<i>Transactions of the Caernarvonshire Historical Society</i>
THSC	<i>Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion</i>
UDP	Unitary Development Plan
UWB	University of Wales, Bangor
WATs	Welsh Archaeological Trusts

## 2.4 A note on spelling

- 2.4.1 Caernarfon has been spelled in several different ways in English. **Caernarfon** is now the currently accepted and official spelling for the town. However, the county to which the town gave its name was always Caernarvonshire. The railway which had the town as its objective in the 1860s was officially known as the Carnarvonshire Railway, and an independent Carnarvon and Llanberis Railway was projected in 1864-5. Similarly, although the village of Waunfawr has long been known to officialdom as Waenfawr, the local spelling is used here.

### 3 Evolving historic characterisation methodology

- 3.1 Historical landscape characteristics are the tangible evidence of the activities and habits of the people who occupied, developed, used and shaped the land to serve human needs in the past; they reflect the beliefs, attitudes, traditions and values of these people. They include the physical remains of all aspects of human activities and exploitation in the past (above and below ground, known and potential), and our understanding, interpretation and even perception of those remains. They may reflect a variety of activities occurring at one time, or evolving functions in different periods of time.
- 3.2 The Countryside Commission (in its document *Views from the Past*, 1996) states that as managers we should be concerned with the historic character of the present landscape, and not with the study of the past for its own sake. It places the idea of 'historic landscape character' at the centre of this concept.
- 3.3 Characterisation is defined as *the process of identifying and defining the particular characteristics which make each area distinctive*, and is rapidly emerging as a sound basis for describing, understanding and managing the environment. It is the great depth of human activity which underpins much of that which we feel is important about locality and landscape, and helps give an area its local distinctiveness. Historic landscape characterisation sets out to establish the historic depth within the modern landscape by identifying its principal historic components.
- 3.4 The term 'historic character' is generally preferred to 'historic landscape', as it is now accepted that all landscape is historic in that it reflects, to a greater or lesser degree, the processes which have occurred in history and which have formed its present appearance.
- 3.5 At present there is no standard, accepted methodology for establishing the historical character of landscape, but recent work in Wales has suggested that a practical approach based on considering the evidence as a series of themes may provide an answer. At a landscape level, what is significant in historical terms might include field boundary patterns (whether they are irregular or regular, their size, date *etc.*); settlement patterns (whether scattered or nucleated, date of origin *etc.*); the relict remains of earlier periods which are to be found in upland or marginal landscapes; the effect of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century estates on the landscape; the impact of industry, military installations and so on.
- 3.6 The dominant historic themes or patterns in a locality help define local historic character. The combination of these characteristics give an area its local distinctiveness, and it is the definition of areas of local distinctiveness which leads to character areas.
- 3.7 The process of characterisation can be briefly summarised as -
- |  |   |                    |
|--|---|--------------------|
| (one or several) components                | → | dominant patterns  |
| (one or more) dominant patterns            | → | coherent character |
| coherent character (with definable limits) | → | character area     |
| (several) character areas                  | → | local landscape    |
- 3.8 Characterisation is a practical tool intended to aid management in its broadest forms. It is essential, therefore, that the process identifies key historic landscape characteristics which are features and/or patterns that can actually be managed, and that the success of this management can be measured for monitoring purposes.
- 3.9 The reports emerging from characterisation work contain a number of elements. The first part of the report contains general information concerning the background to the project, the methodology employed, a glossary of terms and general management issues. The second part contains information relating to the specific area under study, including (a) a general historical introduction to the area divided thematically; (b) a description of each character area split into three parts (an historical background, key historic landscape characteristics and conservation and management priorities – accompanied by a map of the area and an illustration); and a select bibliography.



## **4 GIS-related *proformae***

- 4.1 This section contains instructions on filling in the GIS-linked recording forms created as part of the project (see appendix II). The form consists mainly of 'tick boxes' compatible with a table to be created (for example) in Mapinfo, and has now been standardised across Wales. This information is intended to be linked to GIS tables used by *LANDMAP*, and the form contains a number of fields which can be cross-referenced to any subsequent *LANDMAP* exercises.
- 4.2 The form is loosely divided into three parts – the first identifies the study area by name, number, project and location, and contains general information; the second is a list of historic landscape 'themes' which is intended to act both as a check-list and to ensure systematic recording (which can be transferred to a database) of all character areas to a certain level (the current list of themes is included in section 6 below); and the third relates to management issues.

### ***PROJECT NO***

This simply records the individual project number each Trust assigns to the particular project (e.g. G1627).

### ***AREA***

This is the name of the area as used in the project: this will usually be based on a geographical, historical or cultural association.

### ***HLCA NO.***

This is simply a consecutive number (beginning at 1) assigned to areas within the project. In this case, PRNs have also been allocated to the areas and these are displayed at the top of the character area descriptions in this report.

### ***HLCA NAME***

As above, a historic, cultural or simple geographic name is preferred (e.g. (Pen y Groes), otherwise a more general topographical description (e.g. rolling meadow) might be more appropriate.

### ***LOCATION***

A six figure central grid reference should be sufficient.

### ***SUMMARY OF CHARACTER***

This should be succinct, preferably fewer than c. twenty words (e.g. for Caernarfon - *Roman fort, castle, walled medieval town, slate quay, sequence of housing stock*). This is intended as *aide-memoire* for writing the report.

### ***GENERAL HISTORIC INTEREST***

This is simply a summary of the information contained below in the individual themes to sum up the principal historical interest in the area.

### ***THEMES***

Boxes within each theme should be ticked where that element exists as a significant factor at landscape scale within an area. The ticked boxes will form the basis of the free-text description in the report: this description should refer to as many of the ticked boxes as is thought appropriate, and supply supporting information. An up-to-date list of themes is included below.

### ***PRINCIPAL CURRENT LAND USES***

This field summarises the broad principal land uses within the area in an attempt to try to identify which future management mechanisms (e.g. Tir Gofal for agriculture, UDPs for residential/urban areas) might be relevant to managing the area.

### ***RECORDED BY / DATE***

Name of compiler and date, following standard practice.

***KEY HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISTICS***

This should be a simple list of the principal components within the area (for example - parkland, gentry houses, substantial farmsteads, limestone walls) which make it distinctive.

***CONSERVATION PRIORITIES & MANAGEMENT***

This summarises the key historic landscape components which underlie (and are essential to) the character of the area and therefore need to be managed if the historic character of the area is to be maintained. This can be a summary of the relevant part of the main area entry in the report.



## **5 Current themes in historic landscape characterisation**

### **SUBSISTENCE**

#### **AGRICULTURE (Field pattern)**

- Unenclosed/open
- Evolved/irregular
- Regular (small)
- Regular (medium)
- Regular (large)
- Large enclosures
- Med. strips
- R+F
- Estate owned and improved
- Varied
- C20th post-war
- Other
- Not present/Unknown

#### **AGRICULTURE (Field boundary)**

- Dry-stone wall
- Stone-faced bank
- Stone-faced bank with hedge
- Hedge
- Distinctive hedgerow trees
- Earth bank
- Dyke
- Ditches
- Mortared walls
- Slate pillars
- Pale
- Sheepfolds
- Post+wire fence
- Other
- Not present/Unknown

#### **FORESTRY**

- Ancient woodland
- Other broadleaf woodland
- Plantation
- C20Forestry
- Scrub/unmanaged
- Coppice
- Charcoal burning
- Other
- Not present/Unknown

+ supporting information (date, historical associations, archaeological data *etc.*)

## ARCHAEOLOGY

### RELICT

- Prehistoric settlement/fields
- Medieval settlement/fields
- Prehistoric ritual
- Post-medieval settlement/fields
- Turbary
- Other
- Scattered
- Not present/Unknown

### INDUSTRIAL

- Quarrying
- Mining
- Manufacturing
- Mill
- Brewery
- Metal processing
- Other processing
- Craft/cottage
- Rural industry
- Other
- Not present/Unknown

### BURIED

- Cropmark/parchmark
- Urban deposits
- Find scatters
- Palaeoenvironmental evidence
- Other
- Not present/Unknown

### MILITARY

- Prehistoric
- Roman
- Early medieval
- Anglo-Norman
- Edwardian
- Welsh
- Tudor
- Civil War
- C19th
- WWI
- WWII
- Other
- Not present/Unknown

+ supporting information (date, historical associations, archaeological data *etc.*)

## **BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

### **SETTLEMENT PATTERN**

Loosely dispersed scatter  
Dense scatter  
Clustered  
Ribbon  
Nucleated – planned  
Nucleated – organic  
Business/commercial  
Other  
Not present/Unknown  
Specify date (if relevant)

### **BUILDING TYPE**

Farmhouse  
Cottage  
Terraced housing  
Shops  
Place of worship  
Processing  
Distinctive vernacular style (specify in character summary)  
Other  
Not present/Unknown

### **PRINCIPAL BUILDING MATERIAL**

Stone – random  
Stone – coursed  
Clay/earth  
Wood  
Brick  
Concrete  
Other

### **PRINCIPAL ROOFING MATERIAL**

Slate  
Tile  
Thatch  
Stone tile  
Concrete tile  
Metal  
Other

### **ORNAMENTAL / LEISURE**

Deer park  
Parkland/garden  
Garden/park (C20)  
Tourism  
Sports facilities  
Hunting estate  
Other leisure

### **ECCLESIASTICAL**

Cemetery (medieval)  
Cemetery (modern)  
Church (medieval)  
Church (post medieval)  
Monastic  
Chapel (nonconformist)  
Other

+ supporting information (date, historical associations, archaeological data *etc.*)

## **INFRASTRUCTURE**

### **COASTAL/MARITIME**

- Sea defences
- Intertidal features
- Harbour/fishing
- Other
- Not present/Unknown

### **COMMUNICATION**

- Footpaths
- Tracks
- Lanes-winding
- Lanes-straight
- Turnpike
- Major road
- Ports/docks
- Airfields
- Bridges
- Communications towers
- Public rail
- Industrial rail
- Other rail
- Canal
- Other
- Not present/Unknown

### **RESOURCES**

- Power generation
- Power distribution
- Water supply
- Peat cutting
- Other
- Not present/Unknown

+ supporting information (date, historical associations, archaeological data *etc.*)

## OTHER

### HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS

Place-name  
Artistic  
Folklore/legend  
Events  
Literary  
Persons  
Other  
Not present/Unknown

+ supporting information (date, historical associations, archaeological data *etc.*)

## **6 Managing historic character**

### **6.1 Rural land-use change**

- 6.1.1 There have been many pressures on the rural environment and the countryside over the last 50 years as a result of changes in land use and shifting priorities for agriculture (the principal rural land use). Agricultural intensification and the maximisation of productivity were the priorities up until the mid-1980s, and as a consequence the character of rural landscapes changed dramatically during this period as hedgerows and trees were removed to create more efficient farming systems. Reclamation of the hills and marginal land led to the removal of significant upstanding archaeological sites and palimpsest landscapes.
- 6.1.2 Currently, due to agricultural over-production and a general greater awareness of and concern for the quality and protection of the rural environment, the implementation of the Common Agricultural Policy provides a number of incentives to farmers and landowners to manage their land in an environmentally sensitive manner. The all-Wales Tir Gofal scheme includes provision for the conservation of certain habitats and the protection and enhancement of stone walls and boundaries, as well as sites and features of archaeological and historic landscape interest.
- 6.1.3 However, of the estimated 27,000 farms in Wales, only c. 600 farms per year are currently entering into such agreements, which leaves the vast majority outside any formal management scheme, and so many important archaeological sites and landscape features continue to be lost. The challenge therefore is to identify historic landscape priorities for conservation, protection, enhancement or even restoration both within the scheme and without it.
- 6.1.4 Three of the principal advantages of an approach using character areas are that (a) it is able to identify and map both local distinctiveness and national importance; (b) by identifying physical features which can be managed it can feed directly into land management and development planning strategies; and (c) it sets the management of individual features within their local landscape context, allowing emphasis to be placed on those features which best define local landscape character. It can assist in management plans by setting priorities for management and enhancement, highlighting intrinsic values, and encouraging links to multi-purpose management.
- 6.1.5 Characterisation is about management: if we are going to manage effectively, we must know what is there, what is important and what we want to do with it. Character areas can tell us what is distinctive (*i.e.* important both locally and nationally) about a particular area, and therefore what needs to be managed in order to retain that area's distinctiveness (character).

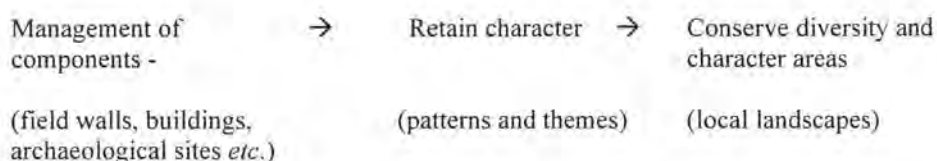
### **6.2 General considerations**

- 6.2.1 Positive management should be aimed at halting and, if necessary, reversing any trends that can be shown to be causing unacceptable damage to the historic landscape resource. If at the same time management can actually enhance the historic landscape, then that is even better. It is essential that such management is continuous, and contains provisions for monitoring and review.
- 6.2.2 One of the basic tenets underpinning management is that we should be aiming to continue (rather than halt) the evolution of the landscape: to do this we must first identify what is important and significant in historic landscape terms. It is the overall historic character of the present landscape (as evidenced in important and significant groupings and patterns) which we should aim to retain, but in order to do this we must concentrate management actions at the level of individual components. We must identify, conserve and enhance the local and regional historic diversity of our landscapes.
- 6.2.3 Agri-environment and other rural initiatives offer the opportunity to integrate the needs of the historic environment with modern land-use requirements to produce a workable, effective management system. More importantly, they should result in a working, viable landscape.

which should provide ways and means for the various human activities in an area to be integrated with each other and with conservation, at the same time providing opportunities for study, research, education, interpretation and quiet enjoyment.

6.2.4 This means that sites and features of historic landscape interest are positively managed for their own sake, rather than just left unimproved. It is important that the management of such features is integral to the management of the farm, or the scheme or park or whatever, as a whole, rather than an isolated, unrelated activity.

6.2.5 By working at the most basic level, management can be used to retain the general historic character of the area -



6.2.6 A management plan should specify conservation objectives for a site/area and how they will be monitored; it should identify points at which some response will be made if monitoring shows that a feature is changing; it should establish what activities/processes will be the subject of monitoring; it should establish what management of on-going activities is required; and identify the types of development or activities which might adversely affect the site.

6.2.7 Not all the sites and features which comprise the historic environment require the same detailed level of management: some sites can be adequately managed by the application of simple, general strategies, while more complex sites merit more detailed, site-specific, problem-led responses.

### 6.3 Mechanisms - general

6.3.1 It is envisaged that characterisation has many potential applications to management including -

- assisting in developing landscape conservation and enhancement projects, by identifying elements and patterns of the historic environment which are considered either typical of a local area (provide local distinctiveness) or are of particular importance (rare at a national level);
- targeting resources within grant aid by government and other organisations towards conserving elements and patterns of the historic environment in the same way;
- developing policies for unitary development plans (UDPs);
- assisting in determining planning applications, especially large-scale developments such as roads, wind-farms, mineral extraction, large-scale landfill, waste disposal, reclamation, water schemes, major settlement and major industrial development;
- aiding the management of land by farmers, and large corporate landowners such as industrial companies, water or electricity companies, the forestry industry and the National Trust;
- providing baseline information for local areas against which future change can be monitored, for example as part of the Tir Gofal scheme;
- providing general information not already on the SMR which can be used to inform advice given as part of a number of rural initiatives such as Tir Gofal, Woodland Grant Schemes *etc.*;
- providing advice in a rural framework to conservation agencies including Cadw, the Countryside Council for Wales, the Environment Agency, local authorities, national parks and others;

- providing information to a number of wider initiatives, including contributing to our academic understanding of landscape, stimulating further research, raising public perception of the landscape, and the preparation of policy statements by public bodies.

#### 6.4 Mechanisms - specific

- 6.4.1 ***Tir Gofal*** is open to applications from farmers throughout Wales. Within the scheme, payments will be made to farmers for observing 'codes of good environmental practice', one of which is care and enhancement of the historic environment. As the scheme is a 'whole farm' scheme, it allows archaeological management strategies sensitive to the character of the landscape as a whole to be integrated with farming practices. Characterisation is useful for monitoring purposes, as it sets out the wider historic environment framework within which individual farm plans will sit. It can also help prioritise management within a broader landscape context.
- 6.4.2 ***Unitary Development Plans*** address 'land use' issues and the UDP for Gwynedd is currently being compiled by Cyngor Gwynedd, taking into account the previous *LANDMAP* initiative which has just been completed.
- 6.4.3 ***Countryside strategies*** are the responsibility of local authorities (together with others), which have a general duty under section 1 of the Countryside Act, 1981, to have regard to the desirability of conserving the natural beauty and amenity of the countryside in the exercise of their functions relating to land. Countryside strategies principally address management of the countryside in areas outside settlement limits, but they are also a mechanism, at least in part, for implementing development plan policies. In Wales, such strategies are supported by CCW.

Local authorities have a number of powers which have implications for the management of the historic environment including the power to establish Country Parks (section 7 of the Countryside Act 1968); the ability to declare Local Nature Reserves (section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949); the ability to enter into access agreements with landowners (section 64 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949); the ability to buy derelict land (often of industrial archaeological interest) for reclamation purposes (section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949); the duty to make Tree Preservation Orders where appropriate (section 198 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990); and the duty to apply The Hedgerow Regulations 1997 which controls the removal of certain important hedgerows (from section 97 of the Environment Act 1995). Other powers are treated separately below.

Many local authorities have a countryside warden service which would benefit from characterisation information.

- 6.4.4 ***Local Agenda 21 programme*** At Rio, governments committed themselves to setting up national targets for safeguarding and improving the environment. Local Agenda 21 and Local Biodiversity Action Plans provide the means of meeting these targets, and of promoting the principles of sustainable development, at a local level. Both initiatives are about embracing a conscientious vision of the long-term future by identifying what matters locally and paying serious attention to the global costs of maintaining local lifestyles.

This has implications for archaeology and the historic environment. At a local level, sense of place is a fundamental aspect of quality of life. The present day landscape underpins our sense of the place in which we live. Much of its character and distinctiveness is derived from the historic environment (archaeology and the built heritage in all its forms). The historic environment is of course both fragile and non-renewable. We have a responsibility to maintain it so that future generations can also appreciate and benefit from it in the same way that we do. However, the landscape is not static. Just as today's landscape is a product of the changing relationships between people and their environment through time, so it must be allowed to continue to change.

The point of sustainability is that it promotes change which meets the needs of the future whilst retaining the integrity of the historic environment. In order to do so decisions have to be made about the relative importance of different elements. Traditionally, evaluation has been based on individual sites, with particular examples being selected out for special protection (known as



scheduling). However, it is the sum total of historical and archaeological features, not individual sites, which gives landscape much its grain and it is often the more ordinary features that create 'local distinctiveness'. In order to ensure that decisions about the future of the historic environment are made on a secure basis, sound information needs to be gathered. Historic landscape characterisation work of the kind being carried out by the Trusts provides historic environment audits, from which decisions of this kind can be made.

- 6.4.5 **Biodiversity Action Plans** Cyngor Gwynedd is currently preparing a Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) for Gwynedd: this will to a large extent be informed by the *LANDMAP* exercise recently carried out, which means that historic environment information is available. In addition, the Trust is communicating with the person responsible for the LBAP.

LBAPs are a means by which Local Government Authorities can implement the biodiversity recommendations established after the Rio Summit. They achieve this by building up local partnerships and taking account of both national and local biodiversity priorities to develop strategies for the conservation of species and habitats of local significance. As we are still at the early stages of our involvement, more information will be forthcoming at a later date, but it is already obvious that the type of general information coming from characterisation projects will be able to feed into such plans.

At a general level, archaeology is of relevance to LBAPs because it raises awareness of the historical origins of the contemporary environment. There are no purely 'natural' environments in Britain; the landscape is the product of millennia of human activity. Our knowledge of the changing relationship between people and their environment through history allows us to understand the land-use activities which have led to the creation of contemporary landscapes, and comment from an informed historical perspective on those practices which could be encouraged in order to protect and conserve particular landscapes and ecosystems.

- 6.4.6 **Access** is a key issue in the countryside, if we are to enjoy the landscape and all its inherent interests and in turn engender understanding and respect for the countryside and the way it works. In addition to the rights of way network, the Countryside Rights of Way Act has been passed by Parliament. As many of the best-preserved and most fragile palimpsest archaeological sites and landscapes lie within areas to which there will shortly be greater public access, this has potential implications for archaeological management.

Historic landscape characterisation can identify these areas (*i.e.* where there are well-preserved yet fragile archaeological remains) and thus highlight the potential management problems if the areas are 'opened up' to public access. It may even be that such areas could be excluded from unfettered access under new legislation, either permanently or on a temporary basis.

Characterisation also has the potential to inform leaflets, trails and other interpretative material.

- 6.4.7 **Tourism** The Wales Tourist Board (WTB) has the strategic responsibility for encouraging people to visit Wales and for the provision of tourist facilities. In recent years tourism has become one of the most important growth sectors of the economy. Unitary authorities all have a tourism strategy of some description, and historic characterisation has a part to play in sustainable 'green tourism' in that it can help identify local distinctiveness which can be used both to attract visitors (by way of advertising), create atmosphere and to inform quality initiatives such as local walks, guides and other recreational activities. It can also direct visitors to areas with a robust historic environment, and away from those which are particularly fragile.
- 6.4.8 **Management agreements** In addition, local authorities have the ability (under section 39 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981) to enter into management agreements with landowners. This is an area which could be explored further from the historic environment perspective, as such agreements could cover not only individual monuments but also historic landscape characteristics (such as boundary types).
- 6.4.9 **Other local authority programmes** Local authorities have programmes for economic development, highways maintenance, environmental education and coastal protection. These would all benefit from the information which is being compiled through the characterisation projects, and, in the other direction, the safeguarding of the historic environment would benefit from those drawing up these programmes having direct access to historic landscape

characterisation data. In fact, information at this broad level would probably be more useful than detailed, site-specific SMR data.

- 6.4.10 **Forestry Commission** Information from characterisation projects will be invaluable in contributing to national and regional indicative forestry strategies, indicating where new proposals for planting are likely to be acceptable (or unacceptable) from an historic environment perspective. On a day to day basis, it can provide information at a landscape level which can inform proposals for new planting. It will be particularly useful when considering proposals under any of the challenge schemes.
- 6.4.11 **Environment Agency** is responsible for producing Local Environment Action Plans (LEAPs) and Catchment Management Plans (CMPs). The historic environment does not have a high profile in either of these, and both could therefore benefit from information which characterisation can provide.
- 6.4.12 **Other bodies** Historic landscape characterisation information can be used to educate and inform a wide range of organisations and individuals including statutory agencies, voluntary bodies (RSPB, Woodland Trust, North Wales Wildlife Trust, British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, National Trust) town councils, community councils, farming unions and others. It is our experience that often it is easier to explain the importance of, and inherent interest of, the historic environment by using historic characterisation, than by the more traditional means of individual archaeological sites and excavations.

Local distinctiveness and a sense of place, which are of undoubted interest to people, can all be conveyed by such means, and the potential importance of this aspect of characterisation cannot be emphasised too strongly.

## 7 Glossary of keywords and expressions

### 7.1 Definitions

#### *Character*

the overall impression created by an area of landscape which is susceptible to being described

#### *Characterisation*

the process of identifying and defining the particular characteristics which makes different areas of landscape distinctive

#### *Character area*

is where component elements form dominant patterns to allow the definition of an area which can be clearly described: historic character areas are either

a) areas which embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or theme, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction: or

b) areas which show organisation of space either during one particular period or through time. This may be visible in the arrangement of fields or siting of settlements; or a pattern of land-use which represents traditional practices unique to a community; or in the sheer density of remains relating to either a single theme/period or succession of periods/themes; or the grouping together of buildings *etc* which are distinctive in style, design or method of construction; or a transportation system reflecting an important innovation in engineering.

#### *Coherent character*

where the components and patterns across an area of landscape are consistent, coherent character can be defined which can lead to character areas

#### *Component*

the most basic building blocks of the historic landscape, including walls, farms, cottages, archaeological monuments *etc.*, which, when combined, form dominant patterns

#### *Dominant patterns*

patterns formed by components such as field walls which are visually dominant in an area: the spread of a single dominant pattern, or the coincidence of two or more, leads to coherent character

#### *Element*

another word for component (preferred)

#### *Evaluation*

The process of attaching value (non-monetary) to a particular area of landscape, usually by reference to an agreed set of criteria in the context of the assessment

#### *Feature*

another word for component (preferred)

#### *Historic landscape*

the physical remains in the current landscape of the evidence for past human exploitation of the environment over time

#### *Relict*

historic landscape components which are no longer in use are described as relict for management purposes

## 7.2 Process of characterisation

This can be briefly summarised as -

- (several) components → dominant patterns
- (one or more) dominant patterns → coherent character
- coherent character (with definable limits) → character area
- (several) character areas → local landscape

## 7.3 Levels at work

<i>level</i>	<i>action</i>
landscape	strategic policies, overviews ( <b>national</b> )
character areas	management policies - <i>LANDMAP</i> , UDPs, countryside strategies ( <b>regional</b> )
(coherent character	<i>stage of characterisation (general management guidelines)</i>
patterns/groupings	characterisation is undertaken at this level ( <b>local</b> )
components	define what's important/typical & manage landscape components ( <b>site specific</b> )

## 7.4 Useful descriptive terms

### *presence*

conspicuous, evident, missing

### *scale*

open, exposed, enclosed, secluded, confined, intimate, small scale, medium scale, large scale

### *diversity*

uniform, simple, diverse, complex

### *unity*

unified, ordered, interrupted, fragmented, chaotic, rambling, structured, organic

### *balance*

harmonious, balanced, discordant, chaotic

### *enclosure*

confined, enclosed, open, exposed

### *texture*

smooth, textured, rough, very rough

### *colour*

monochrome, muted, colourful, garish

### *movement*

remote, vacant, peaceful, active

*form*

straight, angular, curved, sinuous

*stimulus*

boring, bland, interesting, invigorating

*other*

palimpsest, aesthetic value, visual amenity, educational potential, sense of place, distinctive character, common character, historically complex, domesticated character, essentially wild

## **Part B**

### **Caernarfon - Nantlle specific information**

## 8 Historical processes and background

### 8.1 Agriculture

- 8.1.1 The present day landscape of the area is very much a product of the late eighteenth and the early-to-mid nineteenth centuries. This is not simply in terms of the arrival of large-scale industrialisation, but also of a number of coincident and related factors, such as:

enclosure (both legal and illegal) of comparatively large areas such as the Waun Wina, Moel Tryfan/Moel Smytho/Mynydd Cilgwyn (area 14), Nebo (area 15) and Traeth Dinlle (areas 19 and 46);

a more pro-active role towards land improvements adopted by the gentry, which included the re-building of Plas Brereton (area 26) and Glynllifon (area 10), as well as the creation of specific estate styles of farmhouses and farm buildings by Newborough and Vaynol; and

a more pro-active role taken on by professionals (for example a solicitor at Bryn Bras (area 45), and a land agent at Glan Gwna (area 29);

- 8.1.2 However, this said, there is substantial evidence for the prehistoric origin of many of the field patterns in the marginal parts of the area (*i.e.* the sea-facing slopes between the largely unenclosed uplands, and the much-improved lowlands).
- 8.1.3 Evidence for prehistoric settlement and associated field systems is perhaps most notable on the enclosed slopes below Mynydd Tryfan, especially the areas around Rhosgadfan/ Rhostryfan (area 22) and Mynydd y Cilgwyn (area 25), which are characterised by stone-built walls, usually circular or irregular in pattern, and often of orthostatic construction. Llwyndu-bach (see illustration for area 25), which was excavated by Bersu in the 1940s, is a good example of a concentric circle enclosure (late prehistoric in date) which has an associated field pattern which radiates out from it. There are other excellent examples to the north (centred on SH505580) and the south (centred SH495570) of Rhostryfan, where an essentially prehistoric fieldscape and settlement landscape has been preserved below later walls.
- 8.1.4 Another large area of relict (prehistoric) fields associated with settlements is Cae Rhonwy (area 38), although here the relict fields, which appear as grassed-over lynchets rather than in-use stone-walled fields, appear to be sub-rectangular (rather than sub-circular) in shape.
- 8.1.5 Most of these settlements are scheduled and the scheduled area often includes parts of the (presumably associated) field system. Some of the early lynchets in the Rhostryfan area have been recorded by the Royal Commission (RCAHMW 1960), although unfortunately these are now out of date as much more information has come to light, mainly from aerial reconnaissance. However, other areas have not been adequately recorded, and as none of the field boundaries have been investigated archaeologically, dating is by association only.
- 8.1.6 It is also possible to detect prehistoric origins in some of the enclosed fields at lower altitudes, again distinguished by the characteristic curvilinear shape of the boundaries, many of which appear to radiate out from circular hilltop enclosures. There are examples around Gadlys (area 36 – SH481580) and probably Llety (area 36 – SH501609).
- 8.1.7 There are no areas of recognisable former quillies visible in the modern landscape, and indeed none are shown on the relevant tithe maps, even around the farms and houses which preserve medieval township names (such as Coedalun - SH475613, Castellmai - SH498605, Rhedynogfelen - SH465575, Treflan - SH535585 (see area 40), Dinlle - SH435565, Llanfaglan - see below, Llanwnda - see below, Baladeulyn - SH493530, Dolbedin - SH478521, Eithinog - SH455535, Bryn Cynan - SH440531, and Llanllyfni - SH470519 (a present-day settlement)).
- 8.1.8 Much of the land around and to the south of Caernarfon (areas 1, 28, 29, 30 and 36) was owned by the Church before the Dissolution. Land here belonged to Aberconwy Abbey (Rhedynogfelen - SH465575: the Cistercians came here first from Strata Florida in 1186).



Bangor (Llanfaglan - SH470600, and Llanwnda - SH475585) and Clynog Fawr (Bodellog - unlocated, Gored Gwyrfa - SH45610, Llanfaglan church - SH455606 and Llanwnda church - unlocated). Clynog had disposed of all of its land in Arfon and Llyn by the late fifteenth century, and all of the other church lands, except those of the Bishops of Bangor, became crown property after the Dissolution. (A current GAT project is looking at Monastic Landscapes.)

- 8.1.9 Vaynol and Glynllifon were the largest estates in the area. The pattern of change on the Vaynol estate, which developed from the Crown manor of Dinorwig, was profound. The earliest maps are the surveys carried out in 1777, which enable a partial reconstruction of the way in which agricultural practices on the estate developed, and detailed surveys dated c. 1800, which contain vast amounts of very useful and interesting material. The estate surveys of 1869 show in some places very regular enclosures which may represent deliberate policy by the estate, elsewhere wandering walls which in some places represent pre-modern settlement, and in others may be a consequence of squatter-encroachment on the wastes before the parliamentary enclosure of 1808, which benefited the Vaynol estate very considerably.<sup>1</sup> The pattern of small holdings established by the quarrymen on the commons was to some extent confirmed and continued by Thomas Assheton-Smith III in order to avoid creating nucleated communities of landless men.
- 8.1.10 There are several descriptions of the state of agriculture (which contain explicit and implicit references to the nature of the landscape) in Caernarvonshire around the turn of the eighteenth/nineteenth century. In 1794, George Kay produced his *General View of the Agriculture of Caernarvonshire* (Kay, 1794). Hyde Hall made detailed observations on the state of farming in the area as a result of his travels between 1808 and 1811 (E Gwynne Jones, 1952) (which have been critically analysed by Deiniol Williams (Williams, 1941)), and another contemporary writer, the Revd. Walter Davies, makes specific references to Caernarvonshire in his report on north Wales to the Board of Agriculture (Davies, 1810).
- 8.1.11 There appears to have been a close correlation between the quality of the farming and the state of the fences (a term which included stone walls (Kay, 1794, 146). Building the latter was, of course, a considerable enterprise, as indicated in the statement, relating to properties in the parish of Llanllyfni, that 'a strong wall has been made at the joint expense of all these tenants between the Upper Ffrith and sheepwalk and the inclosed lands to keep off the sheep' (Kay, 1794, 72).
- 8.1.12 Other problems were perceived to have been caused by the 'intermixture of holdings' (Roberts, 1973, 17), especially with regard to access. This had roots in the past, with the subdivision of a farm upon a lessee's death, but obviously caused innumerable problems still.
- 8.1.13 Anecdotal evidence suggests that while the lowland areas have been considerably improved in recent years (with field boundaries being removed), marginal and upland zones have survived largely intact (although a few instances of land clearance have resulted in the loss of archaeological and historical features).

## 8.2 Relict archaeology

- 8.2.1 The early prehistoric period is relatively poorly represented in the area. The only dated site from this period is the find of a mid bronze age urn near the base of the standing stone in Glynllifon Park (RCAHMW, 1960, 198). There are also several cairns in the marginal areas, such as the side of Dyffryn Nantlle (areas 37 and 42), which may date from this period, but none has been excavated.
- 8.2.2 Mention has already been made of the extensive prehistoric settlements and associated field systems covering large areas of the lower mountain slopes, around the edges of the unenclosed mountain land, especially around Rhostryfan and Rhosgadfan. The settlements at Hafotty Wernlas and Llwyndu Bach have been excavated and produced material from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD, but as these were not 'modern' excavations they cannot be relied upon to have produced a detailed chronology (RCAHMW, 1960). This area contains some of the most extensive and well-preserved prehistoric remains in north Wales.

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<sup>1</sup> CRO Vaynol 4194; see for instance fol. 15r and fol. 24r for regular enclosures of the early nineteenth century, 28r for an example of early enclosure.



- 8.2.3 Several similar, but now 'isolated', settlement sites exist within both marginal areas (for example, areas 25, 37 and 42) and to a lesser extent within the improved fieldscapes of the lowlands (areas 34 and 36). Usually these sites comprise the remains of (prehistoric) hut groups situated in the corners of improved fields (for example near Saron, SH465592), but single hut circles also survive (for example at Penbryn Mawr, SH462539), often below later remains.
- 8.2.4 The lower part of the Arfon plateau is dominated by the huge multi-vallate hillfort of Dinas Dinlle (SH550653 - also associated with the Mabinogion), and there are several smaller 'ring forts' on other hills inland, for example at Bryngwydion (SH441535), Foel (SH450505), Gadlys (SH 481580) and Hen Gastell (SH471574). Unfortunately, none of these small forts has been excavated, and although they are assumed to be prehistoric in date they do look remarkably similar to the Irish 'rath' sites, and the relationship between them and the hut group settlements has not been established: the potential for future analysis is considerable.
- 8.2.5 There is an interesting (again undated) sub-square enclosure at Dinas y Prif (SH460576), which occupies a low-lying position just above the Foryd, and which is adjacent to a series of hut circle settlements.
- 8.2.6 The distribution of deserted 'long hut' settlement sites, usually taken to be medieval in date, coincides largely with the relict prehistoric settlement remains, *i.e.* in marginal areas around the edges of the unenclosed mountain land (areas 25, 37 and 42). There is a well-preserved series of sites, along with ridge and furrow cultivation, which was recently discovered along the southern ridges of Dyffryn Nantlle (in an area around SH510520). They occur more rarely in improved fields, usually as isolated features and often overlying earlier sites (for example at Penbryn Mawr - SH462539). Again, the precise date and nature of these sites has not been examined.
- 8.2.7 Recent aerial photography has begun to demonstrate the potential for discovering further relict sites (mainly hut circle sites, often with associated field system remains, within the improved fieldscapes of the Arfon plateau just to the north of this area (see project G1584, report 351, area 23), and it would seem likely that, given the right conditions, there are plenty of buried sites awaiting discovery.

### 8.3 Settlement

#### 8.3.1 Overview

- 8.3.1.1 As with other areas of Wales, the influence of powerful landowning families remains very evident in the landscape. The most powerful family within the study area were the Wynnes of Boduan and of Glynllifon, ennobled as the Lords Newborough from 1787, at a time when, ironically, their influence in the county was beginning to wane. In addition, several substantial Caernarvonshire estates, whose centres lay outside the present study area, also held land here, primarily Vaynol, as well as a number of gentry estates such as that of the Gamons family, Griffith of Cefnamwlch and Bryncir of Bryncir and their successors.
- 8.3.1.2 Archival coverage for the area is remarkably good, including not only the very extensive Newborough and Vaynol archives in the Caernarfon Record Office but also the papers of the various smaller estates and the papers of the major legal practices of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, in particular those of Henry Rumsey Williams, Caernarvonshire's leading Tory solicitor, of Owen Poole and of John Evans of the Porth yr Aur practice. The importance of these three collections can hardly be over-estimated, including as they do not only their occasional consultancy on behalf of the largest estates but also their work for the smaller landowners. In many instances these archival holdings include map coverage from the late eighteenth century, before the population explosion and quickening of the pace of landscape change in the early nineteenth, as well as documents from the medieval period.
- 8.3.1.3 Few of the farms recorded by estate or tithe maps in the eighteenth and nineteenth century were large. Few were more than fifty acres in extent, and many no more than twenty. In the case of those which formed part of the greater estates, there is occasionally some 'polite' architectural influence (see below) apparent in the design of the farmhouse (*e.g.* Penbryn Mawr), and the larger of these tend to have farmyards immediately adjacent, sometimes including traces of an earlier dwelling.

8.3.1.4 A distinctive form of settlement, particularly evident on Moel Tryfan (area 14), in Nebo (area 15) and above Waunfawr (area 16), is the small cottage within a small regular enclosure or *parc*, either by itself or as part of a broader pattern of such small holdings. These reflect the growing demand for labour in the slate industry and population pressures evident from the late eighteenth century. Those on Moel Tryfan are believed to have originated from 1798 onwards, and by and large the present pattern of enclosure is already established by 1888 when the first 25 inch Ordnance Survey maps were produced. The less complete map coverage for earlier years suggests that enclosures were well advanced by the 1820s, and probably reached more or less their present extent in the 1860s. Those on Nebo are slightly later in origin than Moel Tryfan,<sup>2</sup> whereas those on Waunfawr are believed to represent encroachment from the 1760s.<sup>3</sup> Whilst many of these dwellings are unimproved *crog-lofftydd*, sometimes with lateral extensions, these areas are remarkable for the variety of housing styles they exhibit. From the 1930s onwards, as smallholdings became united, many of the associated dwellings ceased to be inhabited and others were demolished to make way for more modern houses.

### 8.3.2 *Isolated settlements*

8.3.2.1 In a number of places within the study area, isolated farms survive, such as at the head of the Nantlle valley (principally areas 11 and 42), where the farms Ffridd, Gelli Ffrydiau, Talmignedd and Drws y Coed preserve the boundaries evident on estate maps of the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century, though the dwellings themselves are mostly substantial nineteenth-century farmhouses.

### 8.3.3 *Dispersed settlements*

8.3.3.1 Over much of the study area, dispersed settlements, whether of farmsteads or of high-status houses, are evident. These include a number of substantial landowning houses.

8.3.3.2 The most important of all, in terms of political and economic influence, was Glynllifon (area 10), where a house of c. 1600 was replaced by a more modern house c. 1761, apparently designed by Sir John Wynne himself. A copy of the plan of the demesne as it was in this period survives in the Caernarfon Record Office.<sup>4</sup> Part of this structure survives in the later Renaissance-style house erected between 1836 and 1848; this, together with the stable of 1849<sup>5</sup> and the slightly later estate workshops and other buildings, were taken over by the County Agricultural College after the war, but the future of the entire complex is currently uncertain. The demesne was emparked in the 1830s, which resulted in the demolition of a number of smaller farms.

8.3.3.4 Lesser landowning houses were Parkia (Parciau - now demolished), Plas Brereton (both area 26, near Caernarfon), and Dinas (area 36), typically late eighteenth-century or nineteenth-century dwellings in which the influence of polite architectural style is manifest. Polite influence is apparent in diminishing degree to the level of their larger tenanted farms.

8.3.3.5 Denser settlements of dwellings with smallholdings attached are evident above the former mountain wall on Moel Tryfan (area 14), at c. 250m OD, typically *crog-lofftydd*, sometimes with lateral extensions and perhaps a *bendy*. The social and economic pressure which brought these into being are mentioned above. In a number of locations, short terraces of two-up-and-two-down dwellings have been constructed, possibly representing speculative building by cottagers with little capital (see tal y Sarn - area 7).

### 8.3.4 *Nucleated - village settlements*

8.3.4.1 The villages of Llandwrog (area 5), Dinas-Llanwnda (area 3) and Llanllyfni (area 12) are centred on churches which are probably in each case an early Christian foundation (all have Celtic dedications). However, all three settlements assumed their present form in the nineteenth century, Llandwrog as an estate village under the patronage of the Lords Newborough of

<sup>2</sup> John Chapman, *Parliamentary Enclosures in Wales* (?).

<sup>3</sup> Hobley, *Hanes Methodistiaeth Arfon*.

<sup>4</sup> Ref?

<sup>5</sup> Royal Commission *Inventory* vol 2, p. 186.

Glynllifon, with its substantial church, designed by Kennedy, and its markedly estate-derived architecture, Dinas-Llanwnda owing to its location on a road- and later also a rail-junction, and Llanllyfni as a dormitory village within the Nantlle slate quarrying belt.

- 8.3.4.2 Otherwise nucleated settlements within the study area are of purely nineteenth-century origin and came into being to service the slate industry. Several different examples are to be found within the Nantlle area. As well as Llanllyfni, where the nineteenth-century houses spread out as a ribbon development from the medieval core, settlements include Pen y Groes (area 6), originally a smithy on a road junction, developed as a village by the Bryncir estate from c. 1820 onwards,<sup>6</sup> Tal y Sarn (area 7), constructed by speculative builders in the 1850s and '60s on the lands of Coedmadog farm, and Nantlle (area 13), in part an *ad-hoc* development of the 1850s, in part a 'company village' erected by the socially-conscious Unitarian management of Pen yr Orsedd quarry from the 1860s onwards. At Drws y Coed (area 11) are the remains of a miners' village, dating perhaps from c. 1830,<sup>7</sup> in which a number of houses remain inhabited, though others are roofless and dilapidated. These various settlements demonstrate the varieties of nucleation and building in communities associated with extractive industry (see below) and community infrastructure in the shape of chapels, shops, banks and post offices.
- 8.3.4.3 Other specifically quarry- or mine-nucleations within the area are Waunfawr (area 16), Rhostryfan, Rhosgadfan (area 22), Fron (area 21) and Carmel (area 24). These came into being as a result of encroachment on common land, and represent clusters of *tai moel* (landless houses) within areas otherwise colonised by smallholdings.<sup>8</sup> In many instances the original vernacular dwellings of the early nineteenth century survive, mixed in with later structures; in the case of Waunfawr, the pattern of the village is dominated by the late nineteenth century ribbon development, which partly obscures the *ad-hoc* and disordered community which preceded it and which survives upslope from the road.
- 8.3.4.4 The village of Groeslon (area 4) appears to have grown up around a smithy situated on the crossroads of the main north-south turnpike and the side roads to Llandwrog and to the Moel Tryfan commons. Land here was released for building, under strict quality controls, by Lord Newborough from 1870 onwards.<sup>9</sup>
- 8.3.4.5 One nucleated community has largely disappeared. The Foryd creek (largely area 31), as well as being the landing place for agricultural produce and lime in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century, had also been used since time immemorial to ship slates from Cilgwyn. Though it was only suitable for vessels of shallow draught, it continued to perform this function until the opening of the Nantlle Railway in 1828, its relative inconvenience compared with Caernarfon outweighed by the fact that the roads which led to it made it possible to avoid paying tolls at Dolydd and Pont Seiont gates. However, the houses and taverns which formerly stood along the shore are now no longer extant, leaving only the lime-kiln as evidence for its former role.<sup>10</sup>

### 8.3.5 *Nucleated - urban settlements*

- 8.3.5.1 The only pre-modern nucleated settlement in the study area is Caernarfon (area 01), traditionally 'the town', *y dre*, as Bangor is 'the city', *y ddinas*. The site of a Roman fort, later of a Welsh royal *llys* and its associated settlement, the present town preserves its medieval street pattern within the town walls and is dominated by the Edwardian castle and those walls. Early maps, such as Speed's of 1612, show the town beginning to grow beyond its medieval confines, a process that only accelerates in the early nineteenth century, with the increase in slate, and to some extent copper, exports. The bulk of the surviving housing stock dates from this period, though some older town houses survive within the town walls, in some cases in a state of extreme disrepair.

<sup>6</sup> NLW H.Rumsey Williams papers, lease of smithy at Pen y Groes to John Hughes, 1801.

<sup>7</sup> CRO Vaynol Papers 6871.

<sup>8</sup> W Gilbert Williams, *Moel Tryfan i'r Traeth* (Penygroes, 1983), *passim*.

<sup>9</sup> CRO: XD2/6656, 6657, 6659.

<sup>10</sup> UWB: Porth yr Aur 1937.



### 8.3.6 Building types

- 8.3.6.1 Even though the great bulk of surviving housing stock in the study area reflects the growth of the slate industry between 1800 and 1900, types of housing vary considerably. In terms of the morphology of individual dwellings, they vary from two-room structures in the miners' village at Drws y Coed (area 11), through *crog-lofftydd* (area 14), to two-up-and-two down types and to substantial double-fronted dwellings which nevertheless retain something of the vernacular. Examples of all these different types can be seen as detached dwellings or forming part of a row, generally a short one. A distinctive type which is particularly common on Moel Tryfan (area 14) is built to the traditional *crog-lofft* pattern but has noticeably large windows. This may represent the activities of one particular jobbing builder, but the size of the windows, especially compared to the small windows of earlier encroachment dwellings, may suggest a drop in the price of fuel, possibly a transition from locally-dug and -carted peat to coal brought in by rail.
- 8.3.6.2 A number of anomalous housing types were identified. The pyramid-roofed one-chimney house seems to have been a favourite of the Glynllifon estate in the 1820s; local tradition connects them with the architectural taste of Maria Stella Petronilla, Lady Newborough, and examples were noted at Llandwrog (area 5) as well as elsewhere on the estate outside the present study area. Another instance survives at Rhosgadfan (area 22), a rare example of a gentry-inspired design on the mountain commons, sitting incongruously amongst vernacular-derived terraces. A tall three-storey terrace at Pen y Groes (area 6) is known locally as the *tai American* ('American houses'), and may well represent the work, or at least the inspiration, of an emigrant builder who decided to return to his roots. Patterns of emigration are evident in house names like 'Spokane' (Pen y Groes) and 'Dakota' (Llanberis).
- 8.3.6.3 The coming of the national railway system is also clearly reflected in building materials. Brick, mainly yellow but some red as well, is commonly used in later nineteenth-century buildings, but instances of its use decline markedly more than a mile or two from the nearest station. Local field stones are very common, though there are some instances of coursed stone, and the use of quarry 'rags' (waste blocks), to build sheds and outhouses, and occasionally dwellings. In Caernarfon (area 1) the use of the locally-quarried pink sandstone is common. Most of the buildings in the quarry villages which came into being, or expanded rapidly, in the 1860s are stuccoed, and it is clear that this is due to the poor quality of the stone available by that stage, combined with the pressure to complete buildings cheaply.
- 8.3.6.4 The purple-blue-grey Arfon slate is practically universal as a roofing material, with the larger and less finely-grained slates predominating on buildings from before the 1840s. Patterned slate roofs are very rare.
- 8.3.6.5 Decoration on the more architecturally pretentious housing erected in the late nineteenth century remains very common. Wrought-iron work, in the shape of canopies, fencing and gates, is frequently very elaborate, the product of local smithies or of the (still operational) Brunswick Ironworks at Caernarfon (area 1).
- 8.3.6.6 Within the study area, the 'traditional vernacular' can perhaps be defined as dwellings that effectively represent a development from the medieval conception of the house as a one-cell unit, through the division into two cells, as at Drws y Coed (*vide* Jeremy Lowe), then into two cells, one of which is sub-divided horizontally by a loft. They can be characterised by their use of locally-available building materials. In its pure form, each house is conceived as a separate, free-standing unit.
- 8.3.6.7 In the 'industrial' tradition, however, the dwelling is conceived as part of a larger planned group, generally a terrace or row (though blocks of flats are evident elsewhere in Wales from the late eighteenth century), making use of limited ground space by developing on two- or three-stories, and also making use of commercially available, non-local building materials. However, there are few examples of this type within the study area.
- 8.3.6.8 In the 'industrial vernacular' tradition, however, the dwelling combines elements of both of the above. Typically in Gwynedd, the vernacular element is the use of stone as the main building material, while the industrial element is the two-up-and-two-down unit. The move from the strictly vernacular to this sort of building is perhaps the most significant step taken locally in

building tradition, there are, elsewhere in Gwynedd (Cwm Penmachno for instance) some interesting stages on the way. The earliest distinctly 'industrial' building in the Nantlle-Caernarfon area is probably Treddafydd in Pen y Groes (1837- area 6). However, there are also interesting examples of the development of local building traditions, such as the industrial interpretations of the vernacular exemplified in the cottages alongside, but at right-angles to, the road from Rhos Isa' to Rhosgadfan (area 22).

- 8.3.6.9 One final category which can be identified is the 'estate vernacular' in which dwellings re-interpret vernacular features in a consciously polite way, a style which could be described as the *cottage ornée*. These are probably best exemplified in this area by the *ty unicorn*, whether in rows as at Llandwrog (area 5), or singly as at Rhosgadfan (area 22 - a most unusual and striking building). Again, these are characterised by the use of local materials and/or the discreet use of commercially-produced materials, and consciously picturesque detailing.

#### 8.3.7 Place-name evidence

- 8.3.7.1 Few published studies have explicitly analysed place-name evidence within the study area, although Melville Richards's *Enwau Tir a Gwlad*<sup>11</sup> is a valuable source, and the *Ar Draws Gwlad*<sup>12</sup> series includes a number of Arfon place names.

### 8.4 Industrial

- 8.4.1 The chief industry of the study area was the quarrying of slate, which has now practically come to an end. The Nantlle (area 9) and Moel Tryfan regions (area 14) together represented the fourth most productive area of slate quarries in Wales, after the Ogwen and Peris areas and Blaenau Ffestiniog. Since they were the property of many different owners – the crown, minor local gentry, or wealthier magnates such as Lord Dinorben – the slate veins had to be exploited in a number of different but immediately adjacent quarries, with the result that the area never realised its full economic potential. This fact is reflected in the dual economy of quarry and smallholdings which persisted well into the twentieth century, and which has still not entirely died out, and in the strong vernacular character of the housing stock which the quarrymen constructed for themselves.
- 8.4.2 In the Nantlle area (areas 9, 13 and 14), by the early eighteenth century, gangs of quarrymen were working the rocks on the upland Cilgwyn common, paying no rent and calling no man master, and before the end of the century quarries had also been opened on the valley floor (area 9), where the excellent quality of the rock made quarrying profitable despite the problems of pumping and raising rock from the pits.
- 8.4.3 The extensive map coverage for this area in the period 1813 to 1816<sup>13</sup> reveals a number of quarries already developed, alongside tiny scratchings which in some cases later grew to a considerable size. By this period the original benches on hillsides or shallow diggings in the river meadows had given way to the area's characteristic deep pits, making use of pump-machinery and rope-ways for haulage. The use of chain inclines (from c. 1842) and blondins (from 1898) bequeathed some of the distinctive industrial archaeology of the region, including the enormous slate bastions used to tip rubble. The early (1868 onwards) use of mills and an intensive factory-type approach to processing slate, compared with other slate quarrying regions, is also reflected in the surviving archaeology.<sup>14</sup> A feature of the industry in Dyffryn Nantlle is the reliance of the quarries on water-power, mostly fed by an extensive system of leats from Llyn Ffynnonhonau, dating from 1816. Quarrying has now all but ceased in Nantlle.
- 8.4.4 Of the independent slate mills which formerly flourished in the area, one, the Inigo Jones slate works, remains in production, processing blocks brought in by road from Aberllefenni Quarry in

<sup>11</sup> Caernarfon, 1998.

<sup>12</sup> G.O.Pierce, T. Roberts, H.W.Owen, *Ar Draws Gwlad: Ysgrifau ar Enwau Lleoedd* cyf. 1 (Llanrwst, 1997).

<sup>13</sup> CRO Glynllifon 8356, NLW: Garnons estate survey, UWB Llysduas.

<sup>14</sup> CRO Pen yr Orsedd 375.

Corris. Two writing slate mills on the banks of the Llyfni have been converted into dwellings; one is situated between Pen y Groes and Llanllyfni, the other at Pont y Cim.

- 8.4.5 Mineral extraction was carried out on an extensive scale at the head of the Nantlle valley, on Drws y Coed, Simdde Dylluan, Tal Mignedd and Benallt farms (area 11), where mines yielded copper, some lead and a little gold. Medieval working is indicated by a number of coffin adits on the higher reaches of Drws y Coed, and the mine was worked extensively from 1768 to the later eighteenth century,<sup>15</sup> a phase of working which is evident in the distinctive adit entrances, shelters and bucking stones on Fron Felen, and in early phases of mechanisation. Operations were revived in the Victorian period, and continued as late as 1920 at Simdde Dylluan and Drws y Coed and as late as 1931 at Benallt.<sup>16</sup> The ironstone mine at Garreg Fawr forms a spectacular landscape feature, with its series of openings following the vein up the hillside and the incline system.
- 8.4.6 The brickworks at Caernarfon (area 28) continues to operate and has now grown to a considerable size. Clay is extracted from a pit on site, and the entire process of brick-manufacture is carried out in one large building. The Hoffman kilns associated with the earlier phase of operations have been demolished.
- 8.4.7 Water-powered corn milling is attested from 1283, with the establishment of the royal mills on the Cadnant brook at Caernarfon, though it is possible that they were preceded by a Cistercian mill, possibly at Felinwnda (area 36).<sup>17</sup> Legal papers record the construction of corn mills on the rivers that flowed through Caernarfon in the late sixteenth century, when the Puleston family were forced to defend their monopoly.<sup>18</sup> The sites of, and in many cases the buildings associated with, corn mills survive in a number of locations. The surviving structures are for the most part nineteenth-century, and vary in size from the comparatively small as at Melin Nantlle through Melin Llwyn y Gwalch, with its distinctive low-pitched regency roof, to the substantial box-like mills at Bontnewydd and at Seiont nurseries (area 30 - see photograph).
- 8.4.8 Of the area's textile mills and *pandai*, little remains, though a considerable number of sites are recorded. A number of structures are identifiable and the sites of water-courses survive.

## 8.5 Communications

- 8.5.1 There is comparatively little evidence for pre-modern transport routes. The Roman roads from Caerhun to Segontium (Caernarfon), and from Segontium to Pen Llystyn (Bryncir) passed through the area, and it is reasonable to suppose that the latter route lay in part on the same general alignment as the modern A487.<sup>19</sup> Late eighteenth-century maps<sup>20</sup> show a presumably ancient route from Caernarfon to Penmorfa (where a Roman bath house was discovered in the nineteenth century), sending off branches in the direction of Clynnog and Rhyd Ddu, and it is known that this route was realigned and substantially upgraded by Huddart of Bryncir and Newborough of Glynllifon in the 1820s, with some of the survey work being carried out by Provis, Telford's assistant.<sup>21</sup> This road, and the Caernarfon-Beddgelert road, upgraded c. 1806,<sup>22</sup> preserves much of the engineering of an early nineteenth-century turnpike, in the shape of bridges and embankments, as well as some of the associated infrastructure, such as taverns.
- 8.5.2 More recent road-building includes the Nantlle diversion, constructed in the 1920s as a result of the collapse of the old turnpike into Dorothea Quarry, and the Llanllyfni by-pass, on which work began in the autumn of 1999.

<sup>15</sup> CRO: Vaynol 5047.

<sup>16</sup> D. Bick, *The Old Copper Mines of Snowdonia* (Newent, 1985), pp. 33-50.

<sup>17</sup> D. Williams, *Atlas of Cistercian Lands* (Cardiff, 1990) p. 36.

<sup>18</sup> A.J. Taylor, *The Welsh Castles of Edward I* (1986) p. 80, E.G. Jones, *Exchequer Proceedings (Equity) Concerning Wales* (Cardiff, 1939) p. 49, pp. 65-6 E. A. Lewis and J.C. Davies, *Records of the Court of Augmentations Relating to Wales and Monmouthshire* (Cardiff, 1954), p. 275, p. 284.

<sup>19</sup> Edmund Waddelove suggests a possible route in his *The Roman Roads of North Wales: Recent Discoveries* (privately published, 1999) pp. 223-45.

<sup>20</sup> For instance, CRO: XD2A/1643, Llanllyfni to Dolydd Birion, 1772.

<sup>21</sup> CRO XD2A/1646.

<sup>22</sup> CRO X/Plans/RD/1.



- 8.5.3 The Nantlle Railway, constructed between 1825 and 1828 from the Nantlle quarries to the sea at Caernarfon to plans drawn up by Provis and the Stephensons, survives as a landscape feature throughout most of its length, though some of its assets are under threat from modern road construction.<sup>23</sup> Road schemes are having an adverse impact on its successor, the standard-gauge Caernarfon to Afonwen line. The track-bed of the Welsh Highland Railway is currently (2001) being relaid by an organisation which is well aware of the heritage significance of the route, though it has proved necessary to alter some of the bridges in order to accommodate locomotives larger than the originals. One section of the route which it is not proposed to revive is the branch to Bryngwyn and the tributaries to the Moel Tryfan quarries, which combines both rope-worked inclines and corkscrew curves, and illustrates the development of narrow gauge railway technology as it grew from the hybrid systems of the early nineteenth century into a form which was adapted for British imperial needs in Africa and India.<sup>24</sup>
- 8.5.4 Caernarfon (area 1) also preserves a outstanding nineteenth-century dock landscape, including the sites of engineering works, still active in the case of the Brunswick Ironworks, the port office and warehousing.
- 8.5.5 Air transport is represented by the airfield at Llandwrog (area 46), now marketed as Caernarfon Airport, a site which was extensively developed by the RAF during the Second World War from 1940 onwards (it became the largest airfield in Wales), and in 1946 became a storage area for chemical weapons.<sup>25</sup> Many of the buildings and runways survive; one of the former is the recording studios of *Recordiau Sain*.
- 8.5.6 Other forms of communication system which have left their mark on the area include the pioneering Marconi wireless station between Waunfawr and Llanrug (area 42).

## 8.6 Defence

- 8.6.1 The huge hillfort of Dinas Dinlle (area 19) dominates the low-lying area south of the Foryd, and probably dates from the late prehistoric period. In addition to this, a number of small hilltop enclosures are known within the area (see above, paragraph 8.2.4).
- 8.6.2 Caernarfon itself (area 1) forms the most prominent defensive site within the area, in the form of the Edwardian castle and town walls built in conscious imitation not only of the Theodosian walls at Constantinople but possibly also the *caer* at the mouth of the Afon Seiont described in 'Breuddwyd Macsen Wledig'. The castle is a World Heritage site.
- 8.6.3 Other defensive sites from the modern period are represented in the area. In the demesne at Glynllifon is Fort Williamsburg (area 10), constructed c. 1761 with additions in 1773, a rectangular enclosure indented to form angle bastions with an ornamental gatehouse. This was an elaborate folly, and Lord Newborough even raised his own regiment to garrison it.
- 8.6.4 The other defensive site associated with Glynllifon is Fort Belan (area 46) at the western approach to the Menai straits, believed to have been constructed during the American revolutionary war, but also garrisoned in readiness to repel invaders during the Napoleonic wars. A dock was added in 1824. The fort itself is a north-south orientated rectangular structure with salients in the shorter sides, and contains early cannon and marine machinery. A gun battery was also established outside the Caernarfon town walls (area 1) between Porth yr Aur and the Eagle Tower during the Napoleonic period.
- 8.6.5 Caernarfon Airport was established as RAF Llandwrog, a training airfield, in July 1941, and went on to become the largest airfield in Wales during WWII.<sup>26</sup> Additional gun placements were built in the lower slopes on the north side of Dinas Dinlle. The airfield is now in civilian use.

<sup>23</sup> D.Rh. Gwyn, 'Transitional Technology: the Nantlle Railway', *Proceedings of the Durham International Early Railways Conference 1998* (Beamish 1999).

<sup>24</sup> *Halfway to Heaven*: Boyd

<sup>25</sup> R. Sloan, *Wings of War over Gwynedd* (Llanrwst, 1991), pp. 79-105.

<sup>26</sup> R. Sloan, *op. cit.*, *passim*.

## 9 Historic character areas

9.1 The study area has been divided into forty-nine separate historic character areas as follows:

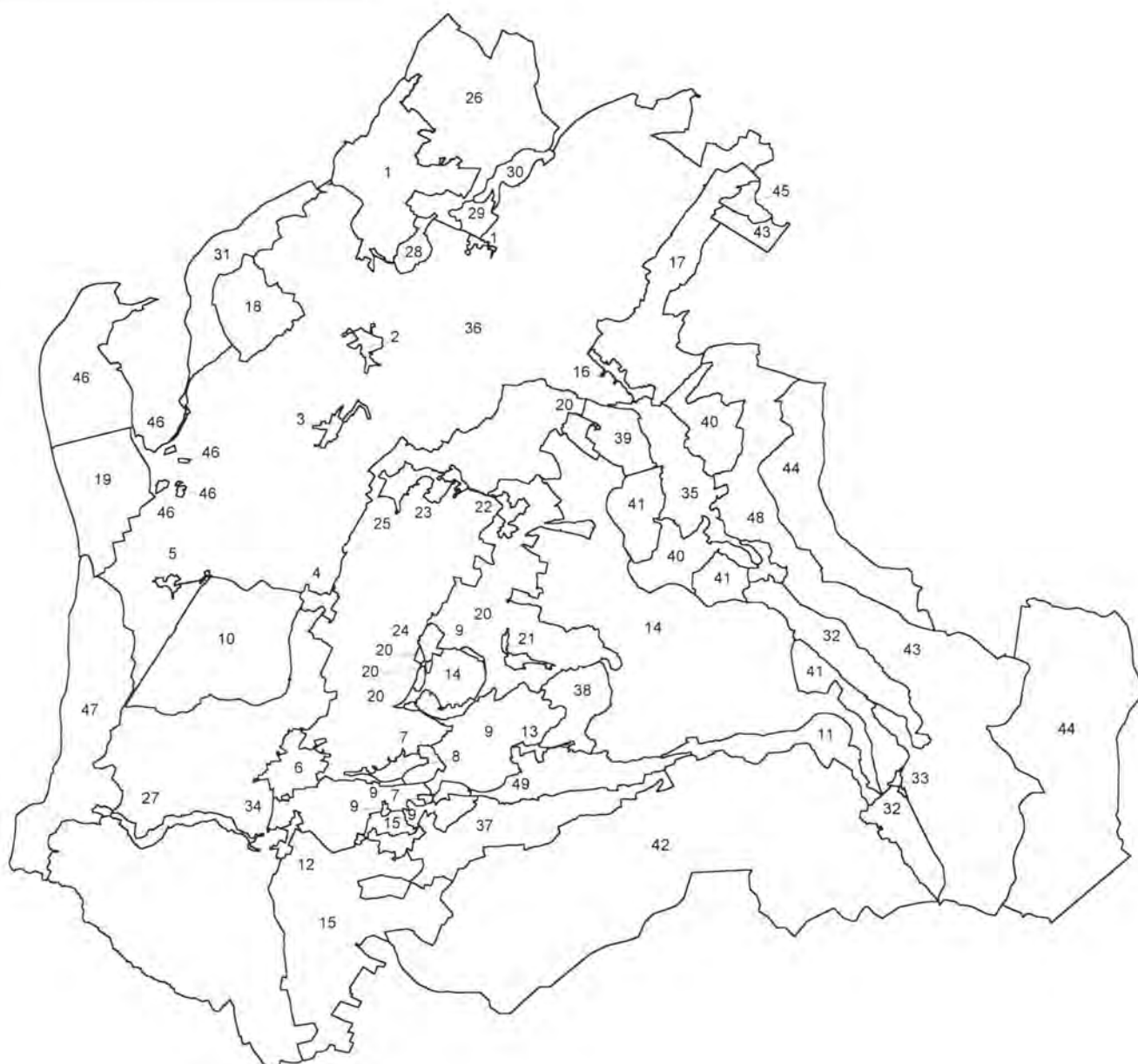
01	Caernarfon	(PRN 15700)
02	Bontnewydd	(PRN 15701)
03	Dinas-Llanwnda	(PRN 15702)
04	Groeslon	(PRN 15703)
05	Llandwrog	(PRN 15704)
06	Pen y Groes	(PRN 15705)
07	Tal y Sarn	(PRN 15706)
08	Cloddfa'r Coed	(PRN 15707)
09	Nantlle slate quarries	(PRN 15708)
10	Glynllifon demesne	(PRN 15709)
11	Drws y Coed	(PRN 15710)
12	Llanllyfni	(PRN 15711)
13	Nantlle village	(PRN 15712)
14	Mynydd Cilgwyn-Moel Tryfan-Moel Smytho	(PRN 15713)
15	Nebo	(PRN 15714)
16	Waukfawr	(PRN 15715)
17	Cefn Du Enclosures	(PRN 15716)
18	Pen y Graig	(PRN 15717)
19	Traeth Dinlle	(PRN 15718)
20	Moel Tryfan enclosures	(PRN 15719)
21	Fron	(PRN 15720)
22	Rhostryfan-Rhosgadfan	(PRN 15721)
23	Rhos Isa'	(PRN 15722)
24	Carmel	(PRN 15723)
25	Moel Tryfan – lower slopes	(PRN 15724)
26	Arfon plateau	(PRN 15725)
27	Llyfni river valley	(PRN 15726)
28	Caernarfon industrial area	(PRN 15727)
29	Glan Gwna holiday village	(PRN 15728)
30	Hen Felin (Glan Gwna)	(PRN 15729)
31	Foryd	(PRN 15730)
32	Llyn y Gadair	(PRN 15731)
33	Rhyd Ddu	(PRN 15732)
34	Lleuar	(PRN 15733)
35	Gwyrfaï valley	(PRN 15736)
36	Arfon plateau	(PRN 15735)
37	Nantlle valley lower slopes	(PRN 15736)
38	Cae Rhonwy and Gelli Ffrydiau	(PRN 15737)
39	Cilfechyd/Cyrnant	(PRN 15738)
40	Treflan	(PRN 15739)
41	Gwyrfaï valley afforested areas	(PRN 15740)
42	Nantlle valley upper slopes	(PRN 15741)
43	Gwyrfaï valley slopes	(PRN 15742)
44	Unenclosed mountain	(PRN 15743)
45	Bryn Bras Castle	(PRN 15744)
46	Fort Belan/Caernarfon Airport	(PRN 15745)
47	Dinas Dinlle-Aberdesach	(PRN 15746)
48	Salem/Plas y Nant	(PRN 15747)
49	Floor of Nantlle valley	(PRN 15748)

9.2 An overall location map showing the position of these areas in relation to each other is included at the beginning of this section.

9.3 Each area description has been divided into three sections following the model of earlier reports – historic background, key historic landscape characteristics and a management section.

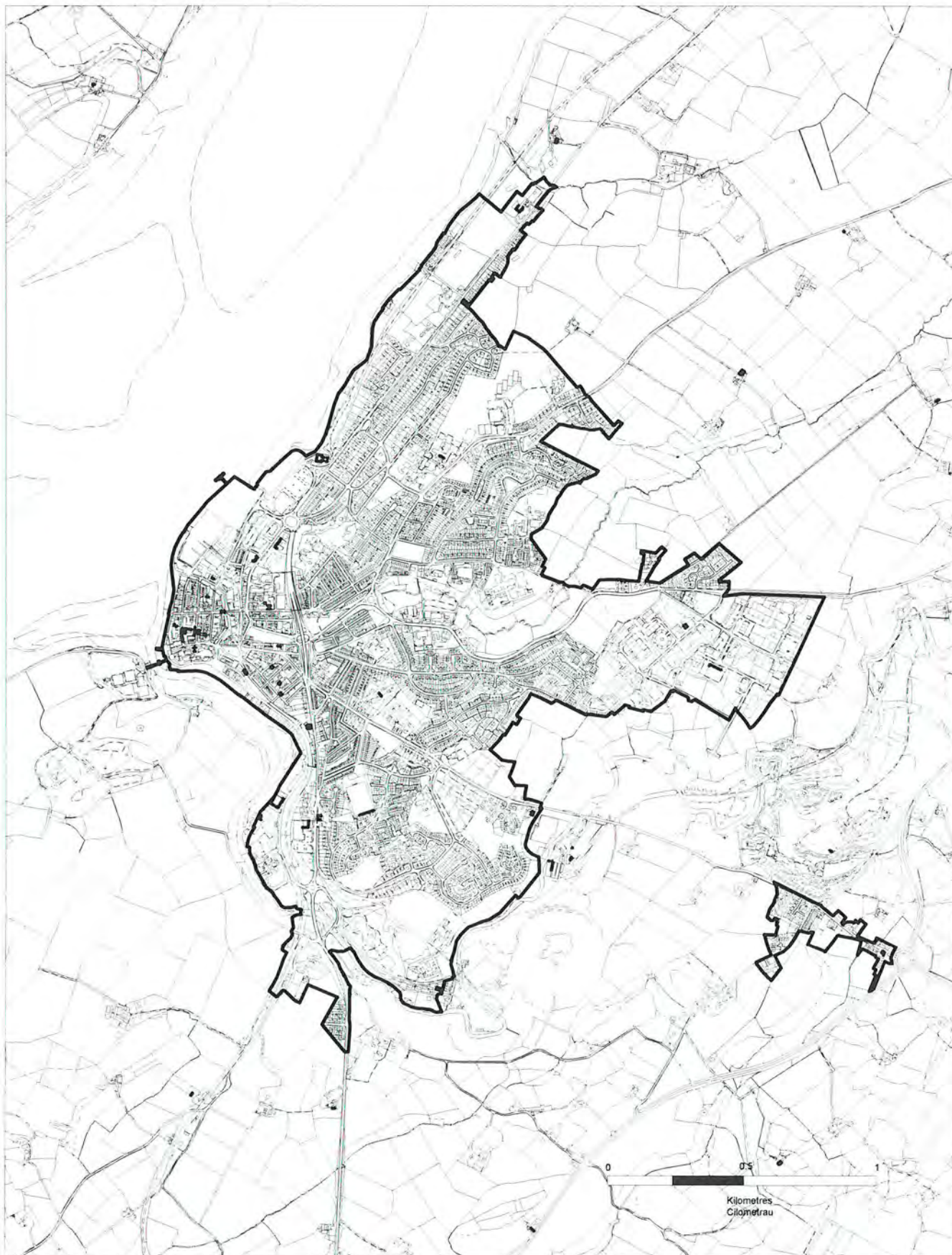


- 9.4 A map showing the extent and detail of each area is located facing the description. The area is outlined with a solid, black line. Each area has a single map with the exception of area 36, which extends across four.
- 9.5 Colour plates which give an impression of the overall texture and character of each area are also included following the description: many of these are aerial photographs, but sometimes a ground level view has been more appropriate.



**Location of study area & individual character areas**

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## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
01 - Caernarfon

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## 01 Caernarfon (PRN 15700)

### *Historic background*

The Roman fort site (*Segontium*), near the south-eastern limits of the present town, may have provided the earliest focus for civilian settlement, a possibility strengthened by the situation of the parish church of St Peblig immediately adjacent. The *llys* and a native settlement were established on the spur of rock between the confluence of the Seiont and the Cadnant with the Menai Straits before the Edwardian conquest; these were demolished to make way for a walled and castled borough at the end of the thirteenth-century.

Caernarfon's extra-mural growth was still limited by the time of Speed's survey of 1612, though the area which now corresponds to Penrallt had been colonised, and it is only with the growth of the slate industry, and to some extent copper exports, from the late eighteenth century that the town begins to grow, with the establishment of a new quay (below the castle) in the early nineteenth century, the Nantlle railway in 1812 and the Uxbridge Arms (Royal, Celtic Royal) Hotel. The town's growth was controlled, and to some extent quarrelled over, by the major landowning families – the Pagets of Plas Newydd, the Lords Newborough of Glynllifon, Assheton Smith of Vaynol, Thomas of Coed Helen and Garnons. Its growing importance is apparent in the provision of civic buildings such as the county hall, law courts, gaol, post office in the nineteenth- and twentieth-centuries, and its significance as a regional centre of dissent by the construction of a number of substantial chapels. The twentieth-century saw the construction of social housing on a significant scale and attempts to develop its tourist base.

### *Key historic landscape characteristics*

*Roman fort, castle, walled medieval town, slate quay, sequence of housing stock*

The castle and the walls form a World Heritage Site, and the intra-mural settlement preserves the medieval street-plan. At least one medieval building, which has recently been renovated, survives within the walls as well as a number of eighteenth-century town-houses, which are in poor condition. Nineteenth-century civic institutions, including the law courts and the former prison dominate the north-western part of the old town, as does Gwynedd County Council's modern Pencadlys complex, built in the 1980s. Nineteenth-century shops within the walls have recently been sympathetically renovated by Cwmni Tref Caernarfon.

The area immediately to the south-east of the Castle Square ('y maes') is dominated by early nineteenth century terraced housing (SH48106258C). Declining congregations mean that most of the town's large chapels will shortly probably be forced to close. Engedi (an imposing Calvinist Methodist building) is currently for sale.

The construction of a large faux-medieval multi-storey car-park on the site of the medieval mill-pool has had a significant impact on the townscape (SH48066273).

The two main arteries out of the area of the medieval town, the Bangor Road (to the north) and the Porthmadog road (to the south), are distinguished by a sequence of Regency villas (SH48206249 and SH48216309), substantial nineteenth century houses, often making use of brick, and suburban villas the further one moves away from the centre (SH48246325C and SH48336130C). The Regency buildings in particular have been allowed to decline and have become shabby. Those adjacent to the Royal Hotel and the former Christ Church preserve some attractive wrought-iron work verandahs. The row of three- or four-storey houses along the Bangor Road are built in a striking yellow brick; many are now B&Bs or old people's homes. Further along this road is a run of very attractive 1930s houses, most of which have unfortunately had modern windows inserted over years. Plas Coch (SH 4900 6432), at the limit of the area on the Bangor road, is a substantial late nineteenth century industrialist's dwelling, and is proposed for refurbishment along with the adjacent Plas Brereton (area 26).

There is extensive provision of social housing to the east of the town, mainly dating from the 1950s. On the southern periphery of the town is a hospital complex, built around a substantial

workhouse, adjacent to the Morfa Common park, established between 1866 and 1889. This is included in the Cadw/ICOMOS *Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens*.

The outstanding dock-landscape along the Seiont remains largely neglected (SH 4796 6257 C). This includes the operational Brunswick Ironworks and the buildings of DeWinton's Union Ironworks, in re-use for light industry. This area has now become the northern terminus of the revived Welsh Highland Railway, a development which may introduce new pressures and opportunities. Ambitious plans to redevelop the Victoria Dock area include a proposed auditorium.

#### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of medieval structures and post-medieval town houses within walled area; sympathetic conservation of nineteenth-century structures elsewhere; support for preservation and appropriate re-use and adaptation of industrial and dock buildings, particularly in view of the possibilities of inward investment and European grant-aid. Appropriate re-use of chapels as they become vacant.

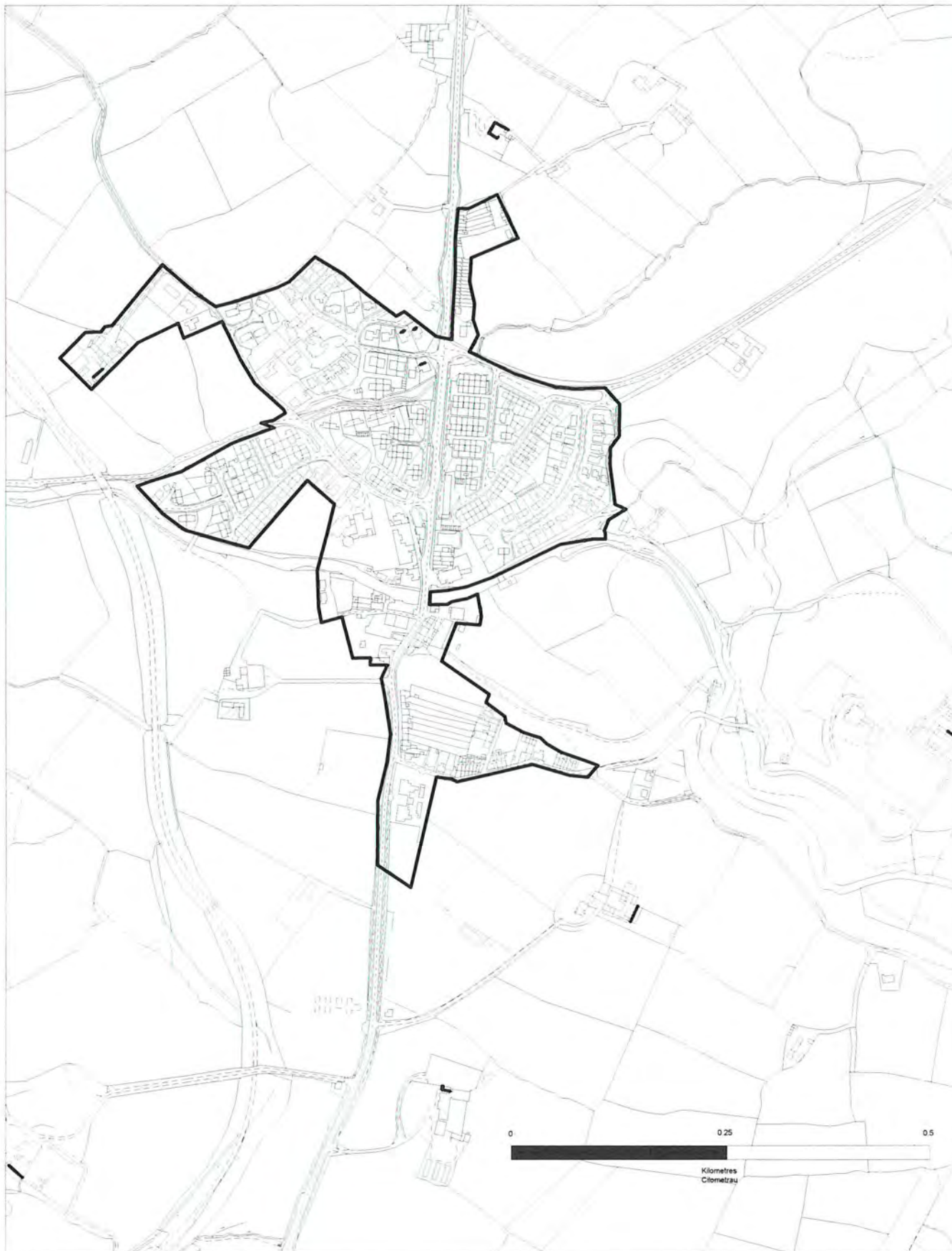


HLCA number 01 Caernarfon (PRN 15700)

Aerial view of the town looking south, with the Victoria Dock in the foreground, the medieval castle and walled town to the right and the nineteenth and twentieth century expansion extending into the distance.

*Photo. ref. no. F1 00/01-109*





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
02 - Bontnewydd

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## **02 Bontnewydd (PRN 15701)**

### ***Historic background***

A nineteenth-century ribbon development established along the Caernarfon to Porthmadog road on Newborough estate land.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Ribbon settlement***

The nucleus of the village is the early nineteenth-century stone bridge over the Afon Gwyrfaï and the Newborough Arms public house nearby (SH48315989), established pre-1815, a building which retains some polite architectural features. Later buildings include a late nineteenth century brick-built terrace alongside the road, an interesting mill complex, Capel Siloam, a 'German-church' Calvinistic Methodist chapel dating from 1866 (SH48315993), and a local design of mid-twentieth century prefabricated house, apparently built on a timber frame with a slate roof, as well as more recent social housing and suburban estates as Caernarfon overspill.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

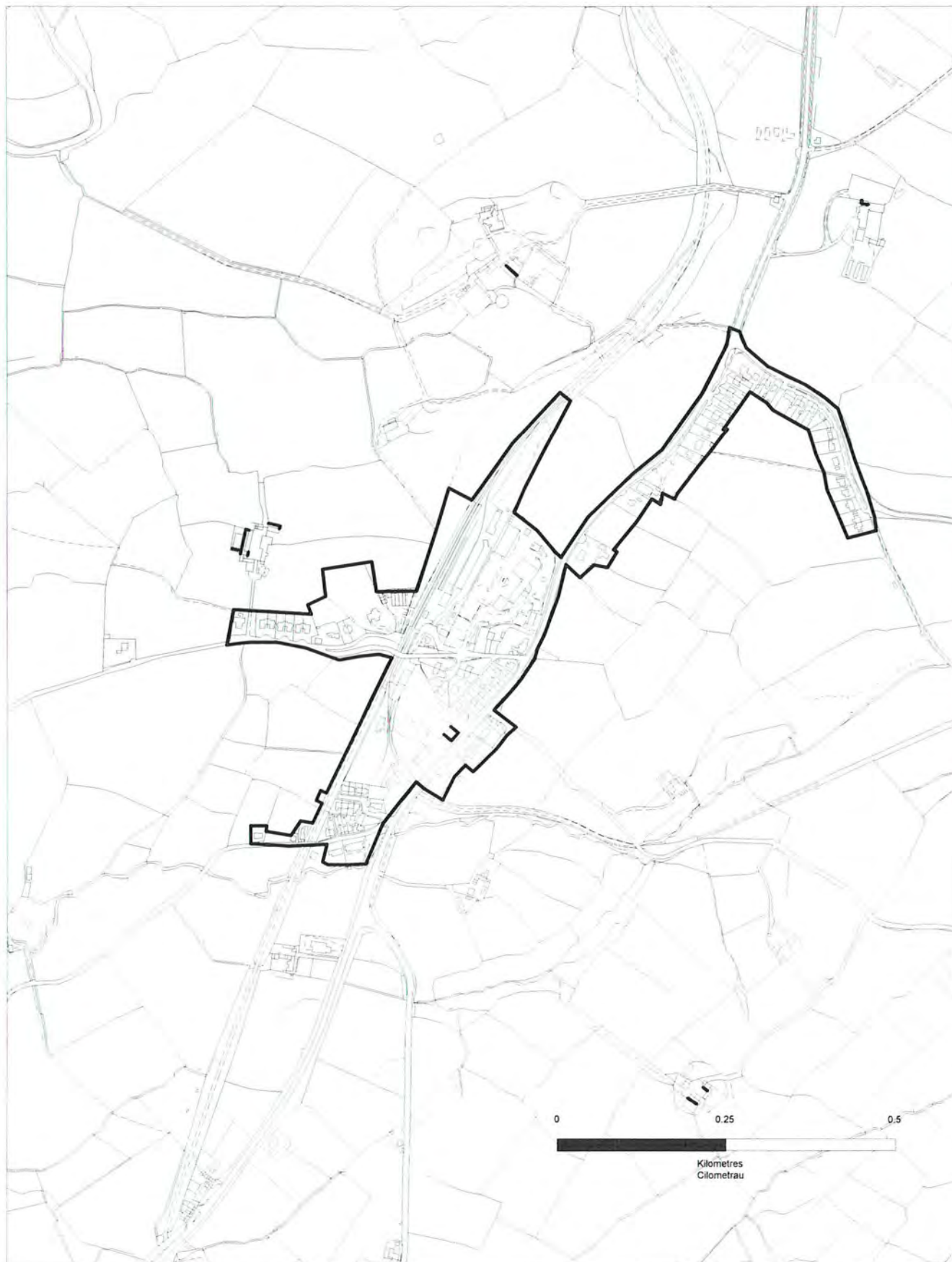
Preservation of the historic character of the settlement, including details such as the Newborough estate windows in the Newborough Arms; sympathetic amelioration of facilities, including mill complex. Preservation of chapel if faced with closure.



HLCA number 02 Bontnewydd (PRN 15701)

Aerial view of this nineteenth century ribbon development looking east, showing twentieth century housing estates added and the Welsh Highland Railway in the foreground.

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/02-20*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
03 - Dinas-Llanwnda

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### **03      Dinas-Llanwnda                      (PRN 15702)**

#### ***Historic background***

An early nineteenth-century road junction and a late nineteenth-century rail junction around a (probable but unlocated) medieval core. The settlement appears to have developed after the rerouting of the road in 1805, and subsequent development of the turnpike and its associated infrastructure in the 1820s. The opening of the Carnarvonshire Railway in 1866 and of the North Wales Narrow Gauge Railway in 1878 (reconstituted as the Welsh Highland Railway in 1922) led to further building to house railway staff, and there has been some twentieth century suburban development.

#### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

##### *Settlement, transport junction*

The substantial taverns, the Mount (SH47715845), still open, and Tafarn Hen (SH47815863), now a private house, form surviving elements of the turnpike system. Other dwellings were constructed to house railway workers. The re-opening of the Welsh Highland Railway as a visitor attraction and as a local passenger facility has been carried out by an organisation which scrupulously respects the historic railway infrastructure. Gentry influence, in the form of the Newborough family, is evident in the spire attached to Glanrhyd chapel (CM – SH47585834) at their insistence. There are some twentieth-century buildings, mainly of the suburban villa type.

#### **Conservation priorities and management**

Preservation of historic character of village; preservation of detail and character of transport (road and rail) infrastructure.

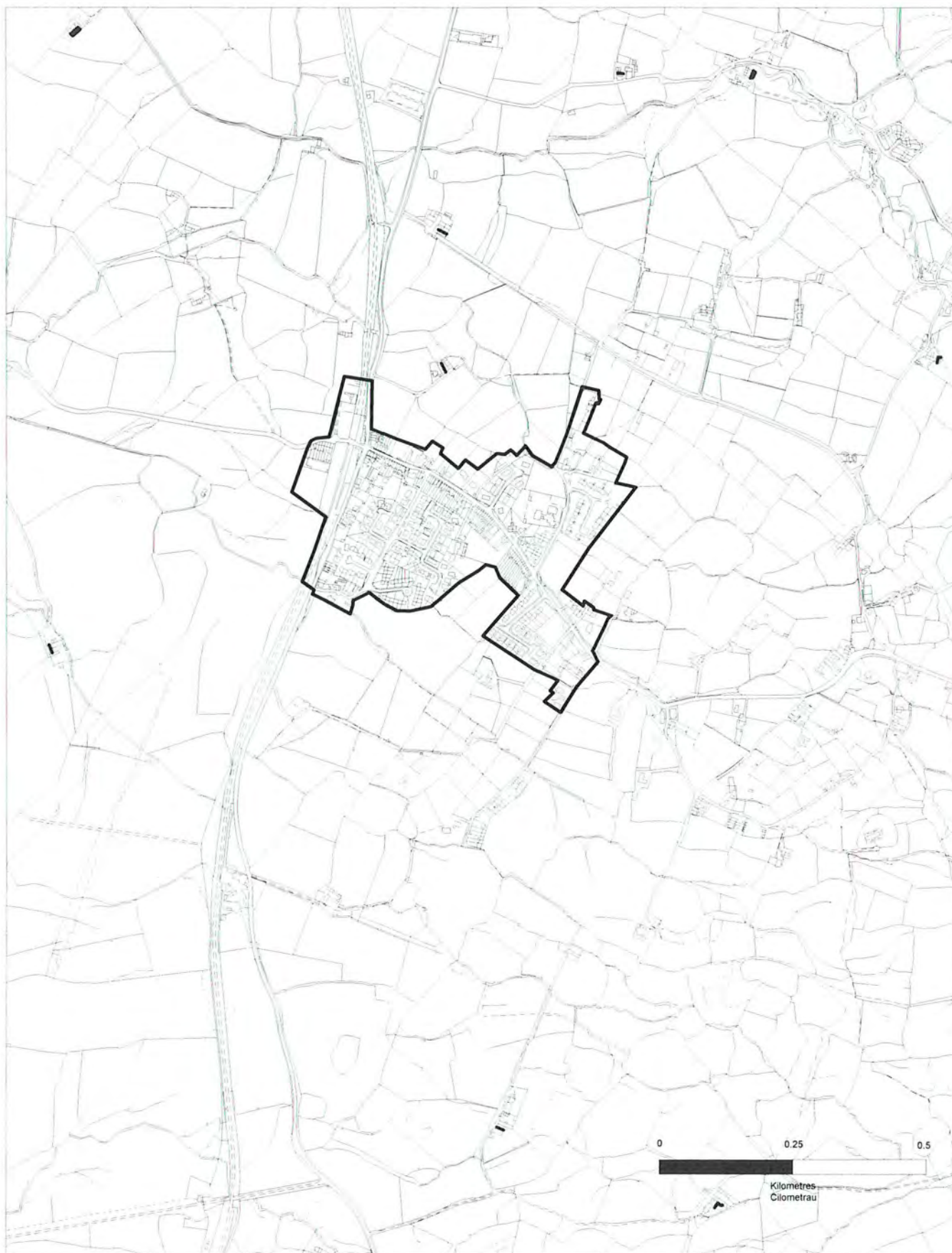




HLCA number 03 Dinas-Llanwnda (PRN 15702)

Dinas is shown on the right side of this aerial view which looks west, while the small settlement of Llanwnda lies to the left of the shot along the upper of the two roads. One of the small hill fort 'ring' enclosures, mentioned in the text (area 36) is below the farm in the foreground.

*Photo. ref. no. F1 00/02-36*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
04 - Groeslon

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## **04 Groeslon (PRN 15703)**

### ***Historic background***

A nineteenth-century village which takes its name from the point where the Llandwrog to Moel Tryfan road (Lôn Cefn Glyn) crosses the Porthmadog to Caernarfon road and the Nantlle railway and its successors. The earliest buildings appear to have been a smithy and a public house/railway station, established in the 1840s or '50s, shortly followed by other buildings along the road. In the 1870s and 1880s more substantial buildings were constructed according to the specification of the Newborough estate, mainly on the Lôn Cefn Glyn.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### *Settlement, railway junction*

The earlier buildings are largely stone-built. The later ones include some brickwork, variously yellow, red or polychromatic, either as quoins or as chimneys or in some cases as the major building material. Particularly marked are the impressive late nineteenth-century yellow-brick shops, 'Gladstone House' and 'Rathbone House' (SH47495586). The work of the Dolydd-based architectural practice is evident here in the later nineteenth-century buildings. There has been considerable modern estate development. The construction of the by-pass (scheduled for completion late 2001) will relieve the present main road of much of its traffic.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of the historic character of the settlement, including use of building materials and colour; encouragement for, and liaison with, local heritage initiatives.

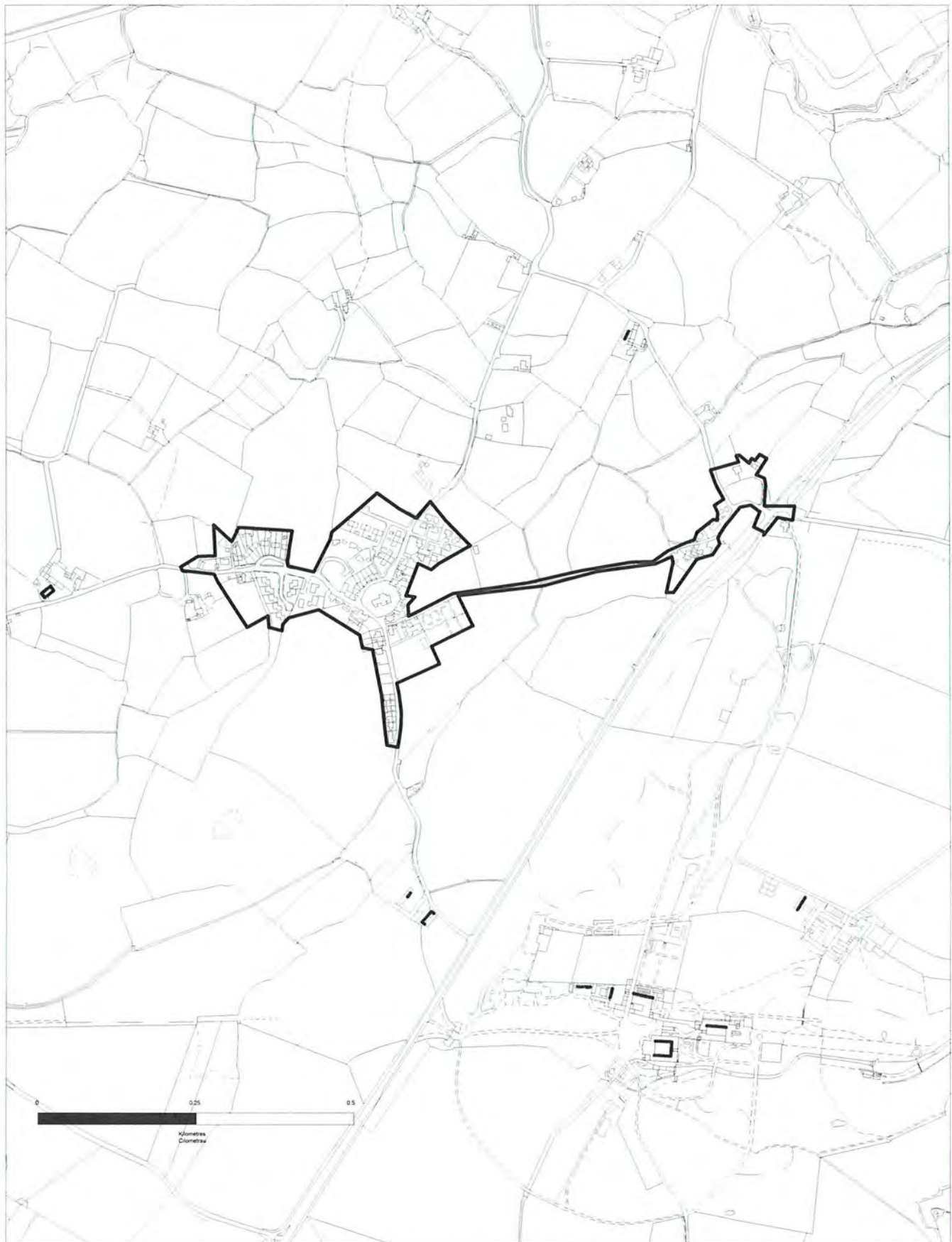




HLCA number 04 Groeslon (PRN 15703)

Aerial view of the village looking south-east showing the two main roads along which the settlement developed. The road up to Carmel is clearly shown, as is the subsequent estate development concentrated to the right (south). The new (2000) A487 Llanllyfni-Penygroes by-pass (alluded to in the text) is under construction in the foreground.

*Photo. ref. no. F1 00/02-73*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
05 - Llandwrog

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## 05 Llandwrog (PRN 15704)

### *Historic background*

A gentry-sponsored estate village, dominated by its large Victorian church, built on the site of an early Christian foundation. The Ty'n Llan (Harp) hotel appears to date from the early nineteenth century, and follows the distinctive local hotel pattern, also exemplified on a much larger scale at the Oakeley Arms, Maentwrog, of a main range from which three parallel ranges extend towards the street. The row of *tai unicorn* on the road from Llandwrog to the main Caernarfon to Pwllheli road are believed to have been constructed in the early nineteenth-century, possibly after the second Lord Newborough assumed his majority in 1823, but the most other buildings, including the large Kennedy-designed church of 1860, are later.

### *Key historic landscape characteristics*

*Planned settlement, with distinctive tai unicorn and cottage ornée styles*

The village is built around the large Kennedy-designed church of 1860, and appears to have housed Glynllifon estate staff and pensioned servants. The almshouses and public house shows marked 'polite' influence, and the row of *tai unicorn* (one-chimney houses) is typical of Glynllifon architecture; an adaptation of a renaissance gentry design, deriving in Welsh terms from Bachegraig, as a *cottage ornée*, with deliberate rustic features and grouped together in a row. Recent housing developments have increased the size of the village to the west. The village has a distinctly non-Welsh feel to it, not least in the absence of a nonconformist chapel, though ironically it has become a stronghold of Welsh nationalism.

### *Conservation priorities and management*

Preservation of ornamental and polite character of settlement, particularly through conservation of individual buildings, as well as of general atmosphere and sense of place.





HLCA number 05 Llandwrog (PRN 15704)

The public house (Ty'n Llan or The Harp) in the centre of the village, with the churchyard wall to the right and the end of one of the terraces of houses just visible in the background.

*Photo. ref. no. G1627.78*



HLCA number 06 Pen y Groes (PRN 15705)

Aerial view of the settlement looking southwards showing the restricted concentration of buildings around the crossroads, and the sweep of the Nantlle railway and the new industrial estate beyond. Area 34 forms the foreground.

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/02-61*

## 06 Pen y Groes (PRN 15705)

### *Historic background*

A nineteenth-century village established along the course of the medieval road from Caernarvon to Clynog, and along the 1820s road that partly superseded it. The nucleus of the community, and the feature from which it takes its name, is the junction between the pre-1820s road and the road to Cloddfa'r Coed, and the smithy established thereon c. 1801. The village expanded as a local retailing, banking and administrative centre throughout the nineteenth-century, and saw further expansion in the later twentieth-century with the provision of social housing and the industrial estates in response to the decline of the slate industry and its consequent social upheaval.

### *Key historic landscape characteristics*

#### *Nineteenth-century settlement*

The earliest buildings are situated on the main (1820s) road through the village - High Street/Heol y Dwr (SH47045320). Hen Bost and Siop Griffith, which are coeval with the road, are substantially constructed from local stone. The row known as Treddafydd (SH47125351), constructed in 1837, is one of the earliest long industrial rows in Gwynedd, and is roofed with coarse mottled slates from Cloddfa'r Lôn. Later housing on County Road follows the course of the Nantlle Railway, operational from 1828 to 1872; these dwellings preserve an attractive variety of ornamented porches and wrought-iron fencing (SH47175317C).

Building material of later houses, such as those on Allt Doli, Victoria Road and Snowdon Street, is often small field stones, presumably used in the absence of more substantial material. The stucco applied to the majority of these structures is probably an attempt to conceal the poor quality of construction. Many of these buildings were, in some cases still are, shops, and several comparatively ornate nineteenth-century shop-fronts survive.

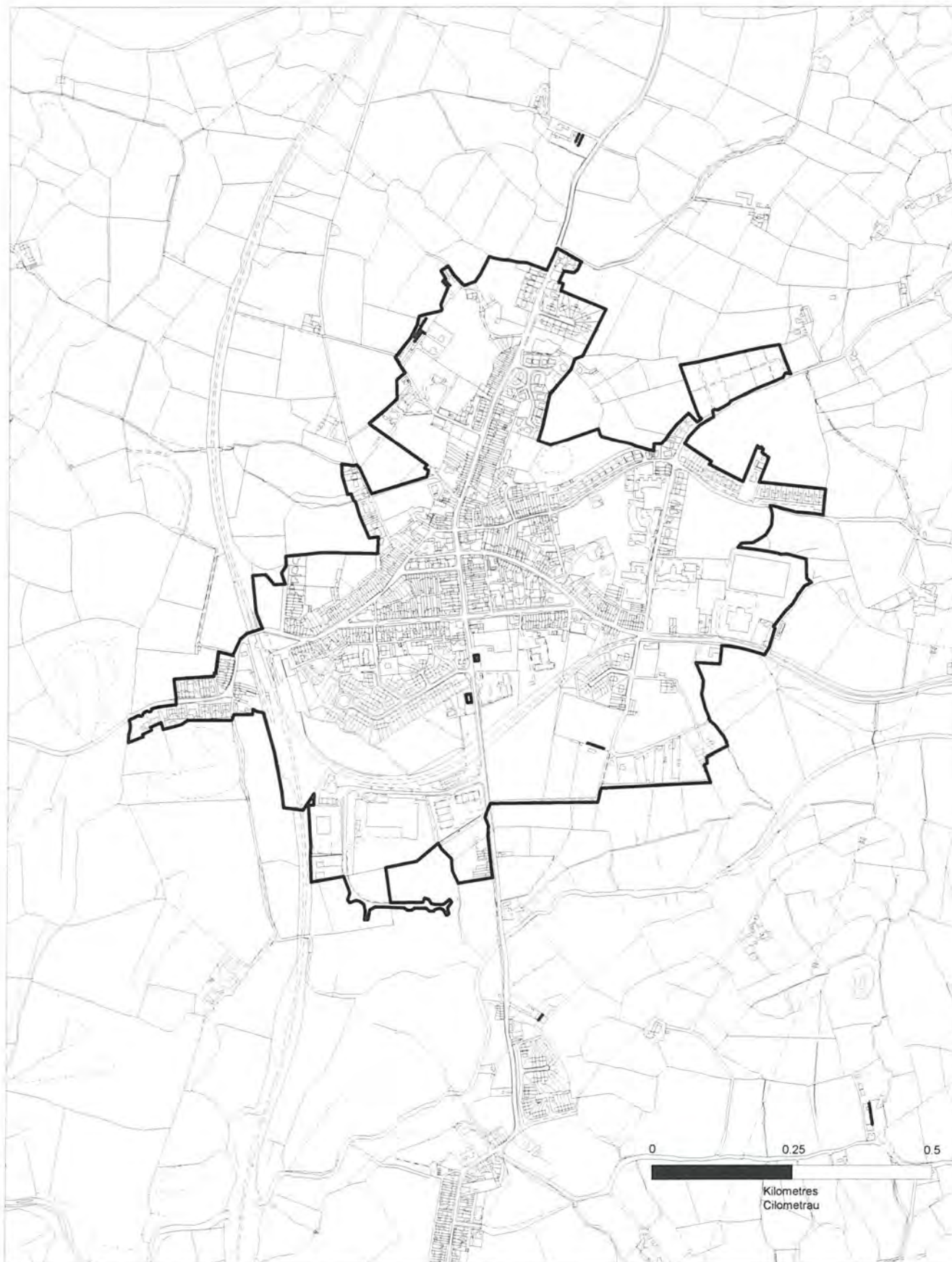
Alien architectural influence is evident in the row known as the *tai American* ('American houses' – SH47365305), constructed in a mid-west Prairie idiom, possibly the work of a returning emigrant.

The area includes a number of substantial late-nineteenth century buildings including the former county school (1896 – SH47435314), the former post office, now the HSBC bank and the Commercial Inn, now in a poor state of repair. The patterned slate roofs on the former offices of the Riley Quarry company at the junction of Victoria Road and County Road are worthy of note (SH47215311). A similar pattern is found on the gate-house on the road to Tal y Sarn. The industrial estate on the southern edge of the area consists of a number of large steel prefabricated sheds and smaller office buildings.

### *Conservation priorities and management*

Preservation of historic character of the core of the village; preservation and amelioration of Victorian shopfronts; preservation of course of Nantlle Railway; encouragement to appropriate regeneration initiatives in the light of the opening of the Llanllyfni by-pass; preservation of open spaces around the village; liaison with, and encouragement for, local heritage initiatives.

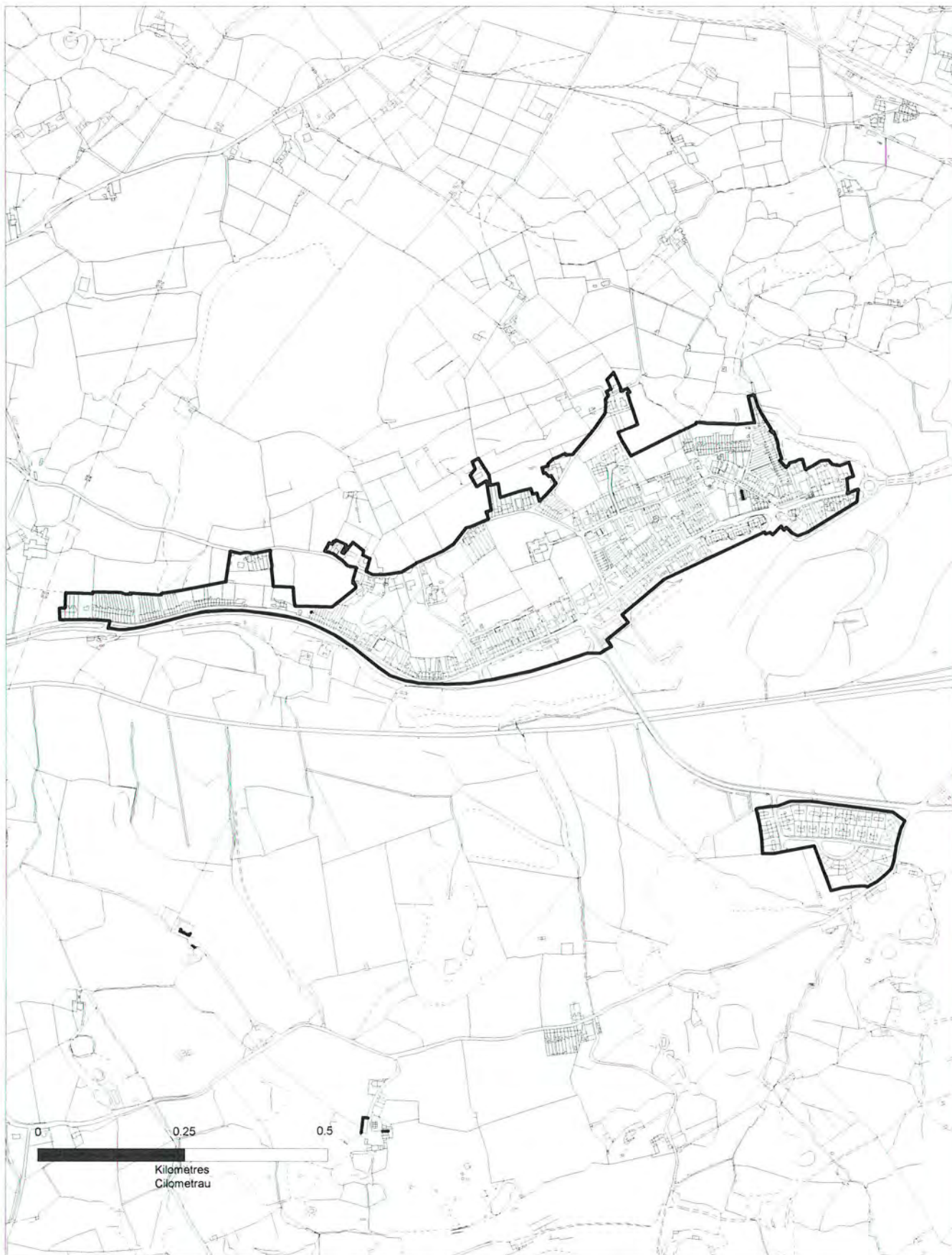




## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
06 - Penygroes

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## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
07 - Tal y sarn

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## 07 Tal y Sarn (PRN 15706)

### *Historic background*

Although there had been some intermittent development probably from the end of the eighteenth-century, associated with the prosperity of the slate workings at Cloddfa'r Coed, the village is largely a development of the period 1850 and 1870, built to house slate quarrymen and their families on the lands of Coedmadog farm, laid out along the course of the turnpike roads and of the Nantlle Railway. The village is associated with the preacher John Jones and with the bard Robert Williams Parry.

### *Key historic landscape characteristics*

#### *Quarry settlement, speculative builder*

Tal y Sarn essentially consists of two convergent ribbon patterns of development, one along the turnpike built in the 1840s at the foot of the slope alongside the railway, the other along the *hen lôn* higher up. These join at the eastern end of the village, in what was an early focus of settlement near Cloddfa'r Coed and the area known as Pen y Bont.

Though there are a number of traditional vernacular buildings, the dominant house-type is the standard two-up two-down design, albeit built out of local stone. Some buildings are constructed from quarry rags, though most are constructed of field stones, at least where the construction material is visible, with possibly some use of rags or poorer quality stone in side-walls and back-walls. Many have been rendered or pebble-dashed. Several impressive chapels survive, though all are now closed or face immediate closure. The Nantlle Vale Hotel, a substantial building erected in the 1860s (SH49045320), vies for prominence with the chapels (*e.g.* Capel Mawr [CM] – SH 49215319). Tal y Sarn is an excellent example of a speculative builder's village.

### *Conservation priorities and management*

Preservation of the historic character of the settlement, notably the uses of different building materials. Encouragement to appropriate heritage and regeneration initiatives. Appropriate re-use of redundant chapels.

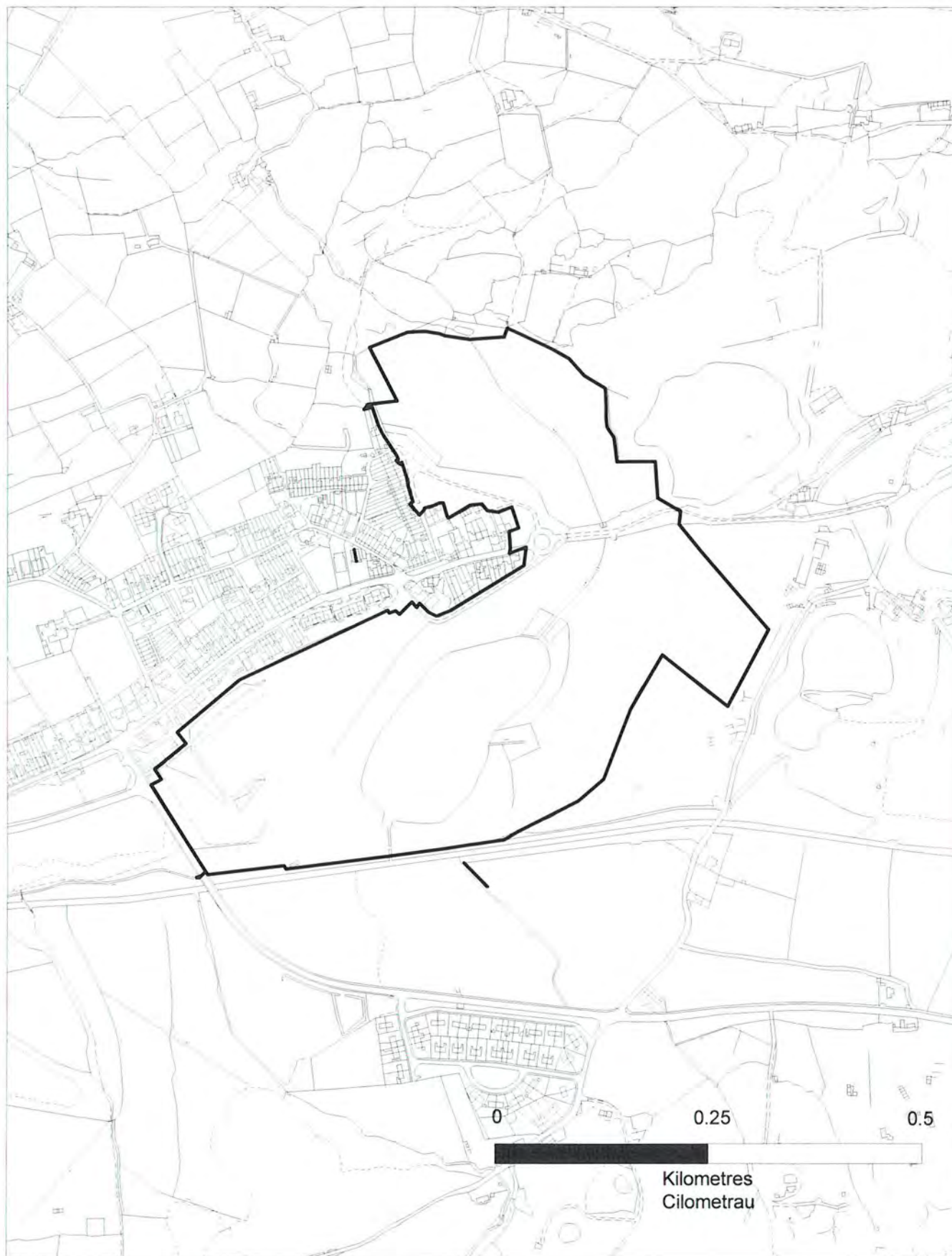




HLCA number 07 Tal y Sarn (PRN 15706)

The 'ribbon' nature of this quarrying settlement is evident in this photograph which looks north, as it stretches from upper left to centre right, mainly following the line of the turnpike and the Nantlle railway. Some of the quarries are shown to the right of the photograph.

*Photo. ref. no. F1 00/02-92*



### Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
08 - Cloddfa'r Coed

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## **08 Cloddfa'r Coed (PRN 15707)**

### ***Historic background***

The site of one of the earliest Nantlle slate quarries, operational by the middle of the eighteenth century, and for a while the most profitable and productive in the area. Closed following rock-falls in the 1820s, and revived in the later nineteenth century.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Reclaimed industrial land***

Completely landscaped in 1978-9, removing everything of historical interest (at least on the surface).

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

As this is an entirely constructed (reclaimed) landscape, no conservation priorities are suggested.

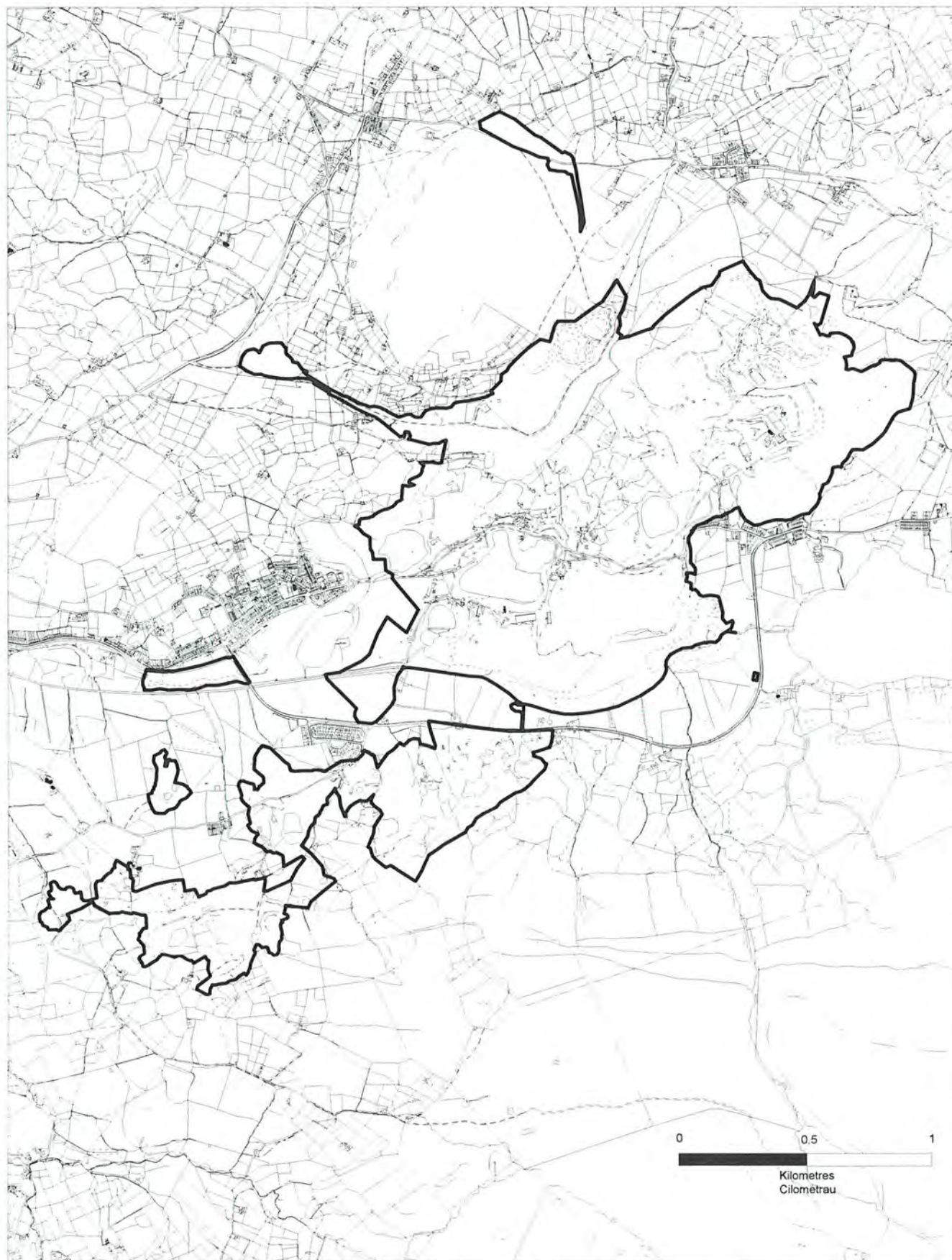




HLCA number 08 Cloddfa'r Coed (PRN 15707)

This recently 'reclaimed' area of former slate quarrying and tips is clearly visible as an unnatural scar in the centre of this photograph which looks north.

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/02-93*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
09 - Nantlle slate quarries

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## **09 Nantlle slate quarries (PRN 15708)**

### ***Historic background***

An area of extensive slate quarrying, active from at least the medieval period to the late twentieth century. Proprietary constraints meant that the slate had to be worked in many separate quarries rather than in one gigantic site as at Penrhyn and Dinorwic, and geology and topography meant that the dominant method of extraction was from open pits on the side or the floor of the Nantlle valley.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

*Slate quarries, mills, pyramids, engine houses, tips*

An outstanding landscape of relict industrial archaeology, exemplifying the industry's technical development from the mid nineteenth-century to the twentieth. Some of the surviving machines are built on such an impressive scale as to form landscape elements in their own right, such as the Cornish pump-engine at Dorothea Quarry and the blondin rope-systems at Pen yr Orsedd. Reworking of tips and some very limited primary extraction threatens the integrity of these landscapes, and the recent attempt to establish Dorothea as a commercial diving centre has resulted in the destruction of historic features without any recording. The massive slate bastions for the chain inclines at a number of quarries are at risk from progressive dilapidation and possible collapse.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of integrity of quarry landscapes, parts of which are scheduled; encouragement to appropriate and responsible adaptive re-use of sites and to heritage initiatives; discouragement of inappropriate development; monitoring of proposals to exploit slate tips for secondary aggregate.

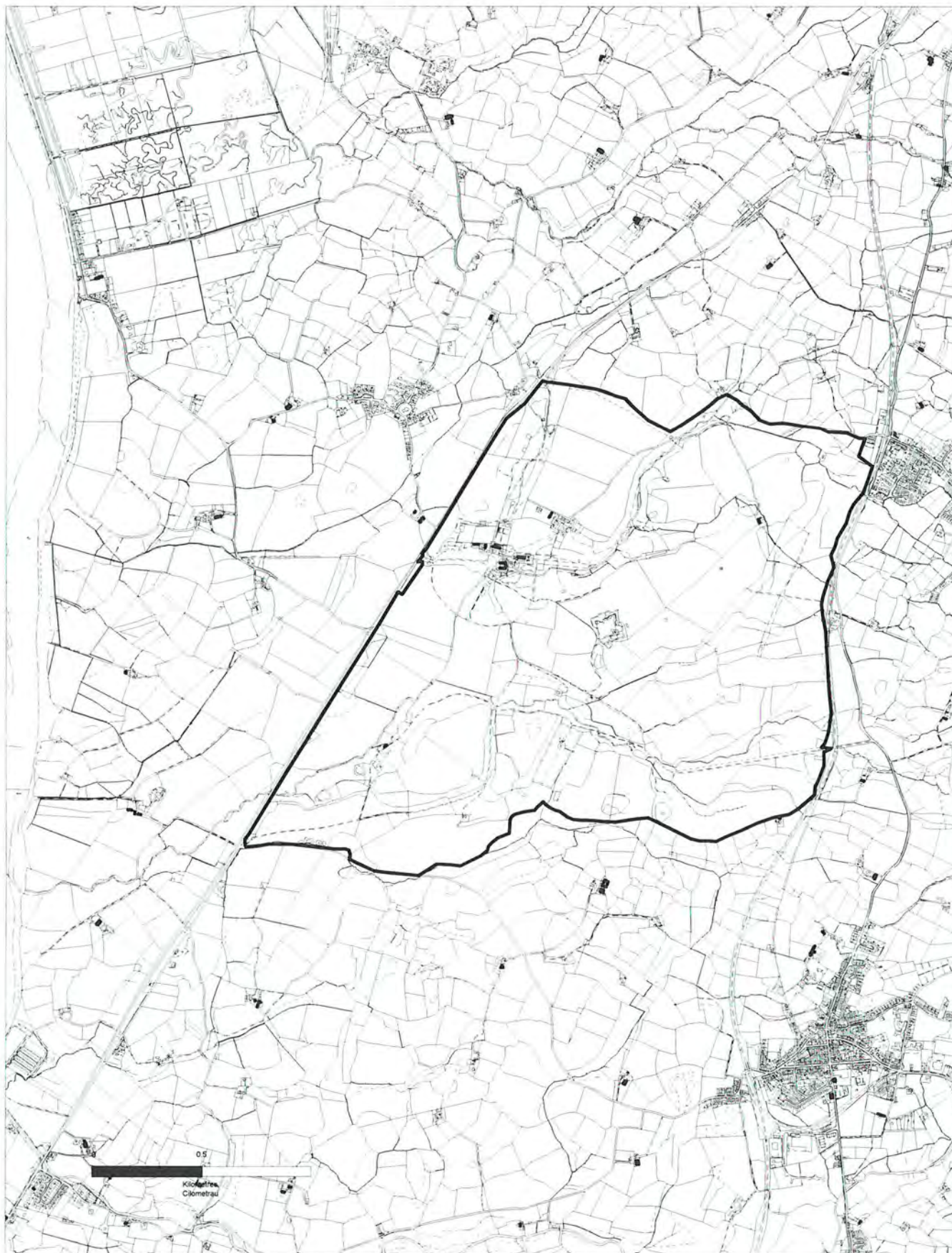


HLCA number 09 Nantlle slate quarries (PRN 15708)

This aerial view, which looks south, shows Pen-yr-orsedd, the only operational quarry in Dyffryn Nantlle, in the foreground, with part of Dorothea to the right. The village of Nantlle (area 13) lies just beyond, set between the quarries and the valley floor (area 49).

Photo. ref. no. F1 00/02-51





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
10 - Glynllifon demesne

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## **10 Glynllifon demesne (PRN 15709)**

### ***Historic background***

The former seat of Lord Newborough of Glynllifon, centred on the house of 1836-48, which includes some elements of the house designed and built by Sir Thomas Wynne in 1751. The associated structures include a large stable block of 1849 and an estate workshops complex of the 1850s. The present park is based around the Afon Llifon, partly canalized and rerouted between 1826 and 1832. It includes part of the former Orielton estate, centred on Plas Newydd, built in 1632 by Thomas Glynne and restored by the Hon. Frederick Wynn between 1887 and 1914.

The substantial wall which encloses the demesne was built in the 1830s, when some small farmhouses on the periphery of the existing gardens were demolished. The Llifon formerly powered a corn-mill, later adapted to provide power to the estate workshops in nineteenth century, and a possible *pandy*, converted into an ornamental ruin. The bijou fort (Williamsburg) was constructed in the 1760s, with later additions.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### *18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>-century parkland and gardens*

The grounds and house are included in the Cadw/ICOMOS *Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens* at Grade I as 'an outstanding, extensive eighteenth- and nineteenth-century park and pleasure ground' preserving many of its Victorian and earlier features.

Their future is uncertain, not least because of the fragmented nature of the ownership of various parts of the parkland. The greater part of the demesne and the house itself remain in local authority hands, but have been unsuccessfully offered for sale. The estate workshops area, which contains much original machinery, is now restored and open to the public as a visitor attraction under the care of Cyngor Gwynedd, though its future is uncertain. Fort Williamsburg is in poor condition and closed. Parts of the grounds are used as an agricultural college, along with the home farm. Other parts of the walled enclosure are in private ownership.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Encourage appropriate use of nineteenth century house. Preservation of character of estate workshops and associated buildings; conservation of eighteenth century military features as outstanding examples of their type; appropriate management and amelioration of gardens, which have listed grade I; encourage extension of conservation area; liaison with Cyngor Gwynedd and Coleg Meirion-Dwyfor, as well as local groups and initiatives; maintenance of footpath through site.



HLCA number 10 Glynllifon demesne (PRN 15709)

A close-up aerial view, looking east, of the core of the Glynllifon estate, showing the main house at the top, the stables just below and the walled kitchen gardens to the left. The Home Farm is to the top left.

*Photo. ref. no. SMR CS 4412.5*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
11 - Drws y Coed

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## **11 Drws y Coed (PRN 15710)**

### ***Historic background***

A mining complex, possibly bronze age in origin and almost certainly medieval, but actively exploited from 1768 to the early twentieth century. Remains include a miners' village, now largely deserted, dating from *c.* 1830. The farmhouse at Drws y Coed Isaf is traditionally associated with the Moravian connection, and with the Griffith family. Drws y Coed farm was owned by Vaynol, and other lands in this area formed part of the Garnons estate.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Industrial remains (adits, tips, dam), relict archaeology, settlement***

There is considerable relict industrial archaeology, including a largely deserted village (SH 5414 5341), believed to date from the 1830s, made up of two-room single-storey dwellings, identified by Jeremy Lowe as exemplifying an important early stage in the evolution of industrial housing. These have been recommended for scheduling but are mostly roofless and in poor condition. Water-supply systems, extraction points and processing sites associated with the mines, dating from the mid eighteenth-century to the early twentieth, survive in a number of locations; some of these are scheduled. These include the eighteenth-nineteenth century Fronfelen workings at SH 5441 5339. These survive as elements in a landscape that is partly industrial, partly agricultural.

The area also contains a major prehistoric hut circle settlement (also scheduled), situated on a ledge above the valley floor near the end of the valley, a situation mirrored locally in Nant Gwynant, although there are no obvious field system remains connected with this.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of the integrity of the surviving industrial/agricultural landscape, including water-catchment systems, the miners' village, barracks buildings and farmhouse; encouragement for adaptive re-use of redundant dwellings; consolidation of scheduled village features. Support for appropriate conservation and regeneration initiatives through liaison with local groups. Conservation of relict (prehistoric) archaeology, possibly through SAM management plan.





**HLCA number 11 Drws y Coed (PRN 15710)**

This view, which looks north west, shows some of the extensive industrial remains on the valley floor in the foreground, while the scheduled hut group settlement is located on the level area at the foot of the mountain which shows as a green patch in the centre of the photograph.

*Photo. ref. no. G1047/16*





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
12 - Llanllyfni

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## **12 Llanllyfni (PRN 15711)**

### ***Historic background***

Largely a late eighteenth-century to late nineteenth-century ribbon development extending from a medieval core.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### *Settlement (medieval core with nineteenth-century ribbon development)*

A ribbon development built along a steeply climbing road, including not only of dwellings but also chapels, shops, a pub and a disused smithy. The medieval core of the village is believed to have been centred around the church and the village well at the foot of the slope at SH47075209. Although most of the dwellings are stone-built two-up-and-two-down quarrymen's houses, there are some more substantial dwellings, some of eighteenth-century origin, and some with an attempt at ornamentation. Two post-war council estates have been built (at SH46905181C and SH47205223C).

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Sympathetic and appropriate amelioration of housing stock and facilities in the light of the imminent opening of the Llanllyfni by-pass (2001).

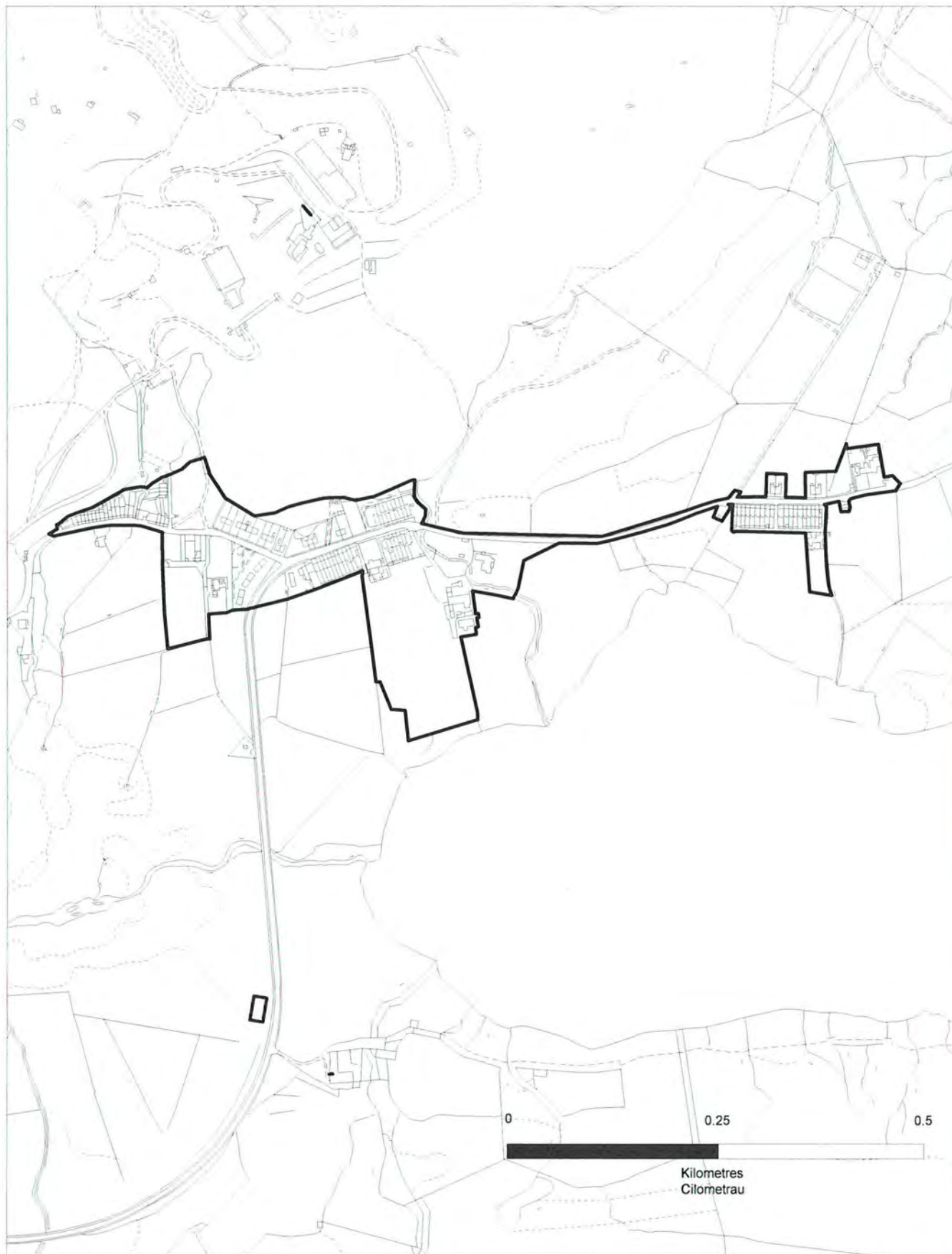


**HLCA number 12 Llanllyfni (PRN 15711)**

An aerial view, looking south east, which shows the ribbon nature of the main settlement to the right of the photograph, with a twentieth century estate added behind the western side. The medieval core of the settlement is probably towards the left (north) end of the street, close to the river. Penygroes (area 6) is to the left, and the A487 Llanllyfni-Pen y Groes bypass is under construction in the foreground. Most of the rest of the foreground is area 34, while the western end of the Afon Llyfni valley (area 27) is visible centre bottom.

*Photo. ref. no. F1 00/02-84*





### Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

#### Historic Landscape Character Area 13 - Nantlle village

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### **13 Nantlle village (PRN 15712)**

#### ***Historic background***

Set on the site of a medieval *llys* site, of which some elements may remain visible in the modern landscape around the sub-medieval house Ty Mawr, this settlement is principally a distinctive mid- to late nineteenth-century quarry village. It was built as a ribbon development along the turnpike between the 1850s and 1890s, in part by the socially-concerned Unitarian management of Pen yr Orsedd Quarry.

#### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

##### *Industrialists' village (terraced housing), literally in shadow of tips*

The earlier dwellings are those to the west, believed to date from the 1850s, and are standard terraced houses, built out of field stones and quarry rags, generally stuccoed. The main part of the village is of later construction, from the 1860s to the 1880s, and though made largely of terraced housing, shows some attempt at ornamentation, with in some cases a pattern of decorated barge-boards facing the street.

The house Ty Mawr (SH50865334) and the mill (SH50775341) may represent the site of the medieval nucleation, the site of a Welsh royal *llys*. In the grounds of Ty Mawr is an 1860s quarry barracks complex (SH 5083 5339), the only surviving example within a village, currently being adapted by the Welsh Development Agency for use as offices and a community centre.

#### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of the different ornamental characters of dwellings; sympathetic conservation of existing housing stock as an example of a philanthropist's village; preservation of surviving elements of the pre-industrial landscape.





**HLCA number 13 Nantlle village (PRN 15712)**

This ground view, looking north, shows the position of Nantlle village literally overshadowed by the quarries behind.

*Photo. ref. no. G1627.26*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
14 - Moel Smytho/Tryfan/Cilgwyn

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## **14 Mynydd Cilgwyn-Moel Tryfan-Moel Smytho (PRN 15713)**

### ***Historic background***

Crown commons, too high to merit extensive cultivation, and used largely as sheep-walks. The summit of Mynydd Cilgwyn is the traditional burial place of St Twrog.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

*Unenclosed uplands, parciau, empty cottages, disused slate quarries*

Moorland largely beyond the limits of nineteenth-century cultivation, though with some *parciau* (enclosures) as individual islands of settlement. Some of the dwellings have been abandoned, others rebuilt, and they are often surrounded by trees. There are extensive slate quarries here, all now disused. The rail access systems include both inclines and sinuous contour railways, illustrating the evolution of this particular technology in the period 1860-1880. Tradition connects the paths that run east-west over the area with cattle droving.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of open character and atmosphere of area; preservation of pattern of field boundaries; preservation of archaeology of transport links and of quarry sites.

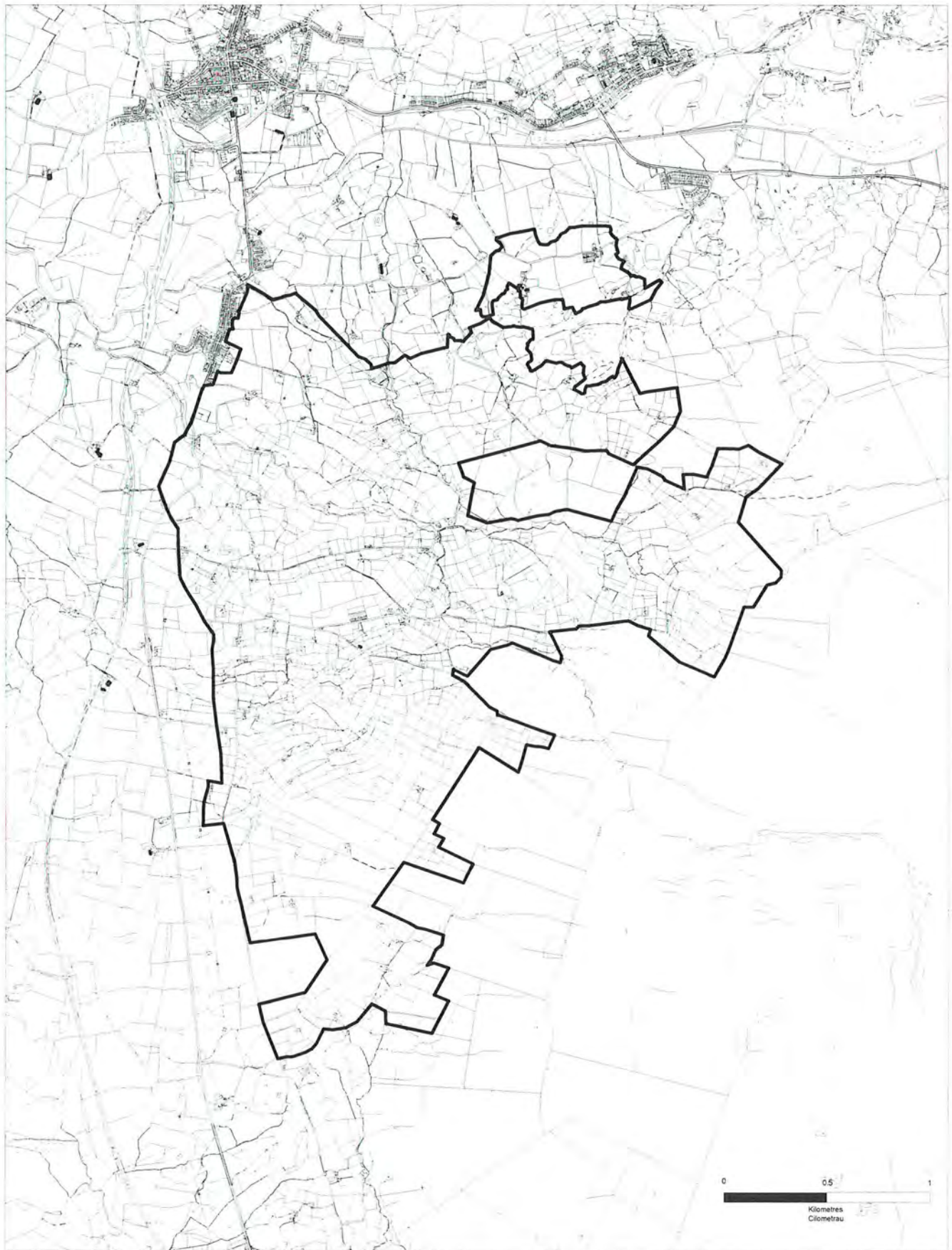




**HLCA number 14 Mynydd Cilgwyn-Moel Tryfan-Moel Smytho (PRN 15713)**

This aerial view, looking north east, shows the unenclosed tops of Mynydd y Cilgwyn, in the foreground, and Moel Tryfan, in the distance, separated by part of area 20, Moel Tryfan enclosures, and Fron (area 21).

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/02-24*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
15 - Nebo

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## **15 Nebo (PRN 15714)**

### ***Historic background***

An area of early nineteenth-century enclosures on what was previously common land. Many of the settlements were abandoned during the great depression owing to the difficulties of obtaining dole for anyone who had any agricultural land.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Nineteenth-century enclosures, dispersed settlement***

Within the enclosed landscape there has evolved a distinctive pattern of vernacular dwellings, usually a *crog-lofft*, often rebuilt or surviving adjacent to, or contiguous with, a substantial late nineteenth-century farmhouse. There are some short rows of terraced housing. Building material is generally field stones. Several of the dispersed dwellings are second homes, and many have been altered by the addition of porches and conservatories. Horses are kept on many of the smallholdings, and in some cases wooden fences have been built on the stone field walls giving the area a quite distinctive character.

The area includes one small nucleation, the hamlet of Nebo, centred on, and deriving its name from, a nonconformist chapel. The buildings are here substantially constructed.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

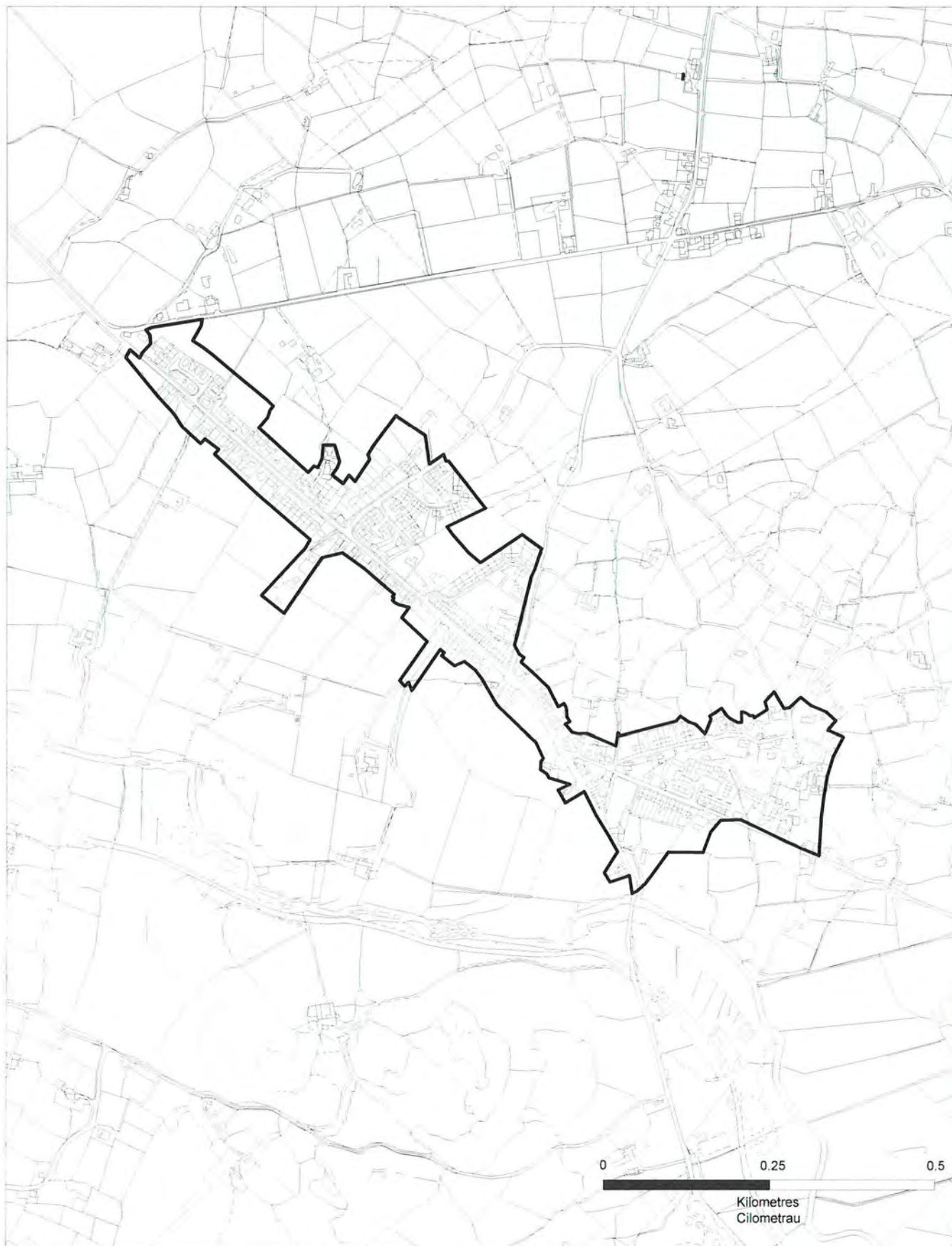
Preservation of field-wall pattern, of open spaces and dispersed/vernacular character of the settlement.



**HLCA number 15 Nebo (PRN 15714)**

The principal characteristics of this area, regular stone-walled fields with dispersed cottage/farm settlements on sloping ground, are evident in this view which looks south west.

*Photo. ref. no. G1627.05*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
16 - Waunfawr

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## **16     Waunfawr     (PRN 15715)**

### ***Historic background***

Part of Waun Fawr Treflan, a common where the tenants of Treflan had the right to graze their animals. The present village is a nineteenth-century ribbon development reflecting the development of slate quarrying and also the opening of the North Wales Narrow Gauge Railway in 1878, which made possible the development of a nucleated community. The area is associated with the bard Dafydd Ddu Eryri (David Thomas, 1759-1822), and with John Evans (1770-1799), who explored the source of the Missouri.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Enclosure, ribbon settlement***

A largely late nineteenth-century ribbon development along the Caernarfon to Beddgelert road, reconstructed *c.* 1802, fronting onto an earlier, more dispersed area of settlement (area 17). The lengthy Glyn Afon terrace (SH52395943), constructed in perhaps the 1880s, is stoutly built of coursed stone. Many of the houses preserve ornamental ironwork in the front gardens. The substantial garages and warehouses reflect the village's role in the development of small road haulage firms in the area after 1918, particularly the Whiteways company (SH52315946). The cluster of houses towards the bridge may represent an earlier small nucleation. These include Pen y Bont, the home of Dafydd Ddu Eryri (SH52645909).

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of historic character of the community; preservation of historic character of nineteenth century dwellings, including wrought-iron work, etc., and of twentieth century structures.





**HLCA number 16 Waunfawr (PRN 15715)**

The ribbon nature of the settlement, set along the main road which runs from left (Beddgelert) to right (Caernarfon) across this photograph (looking south west), is clearly visible here. Later settlement has been added to the east of the road which runs along the edge of a drop in to the river valley. The enclosures of area 17 are visible in the foreground.

*Photo. ref. no. F100/02-15*



**HLCA number 17 Cefn Du Enclosures (PRN 15716)**

The regular, small patterning of these distinctive fields and the dispersed settlement pattern, set out either side of the road, are what makes this area distinct.

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/01-66*

## **17 Cefn Du Enclosures (PRN 15716)**

### ***Historic background***

Formerly part of the Waun Fawr, where tenants of Treflan had the right to graze their animals. An area of late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century squatter enclosure originating in the development of the slate quarries at Cefn Du and Cilgwyn.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

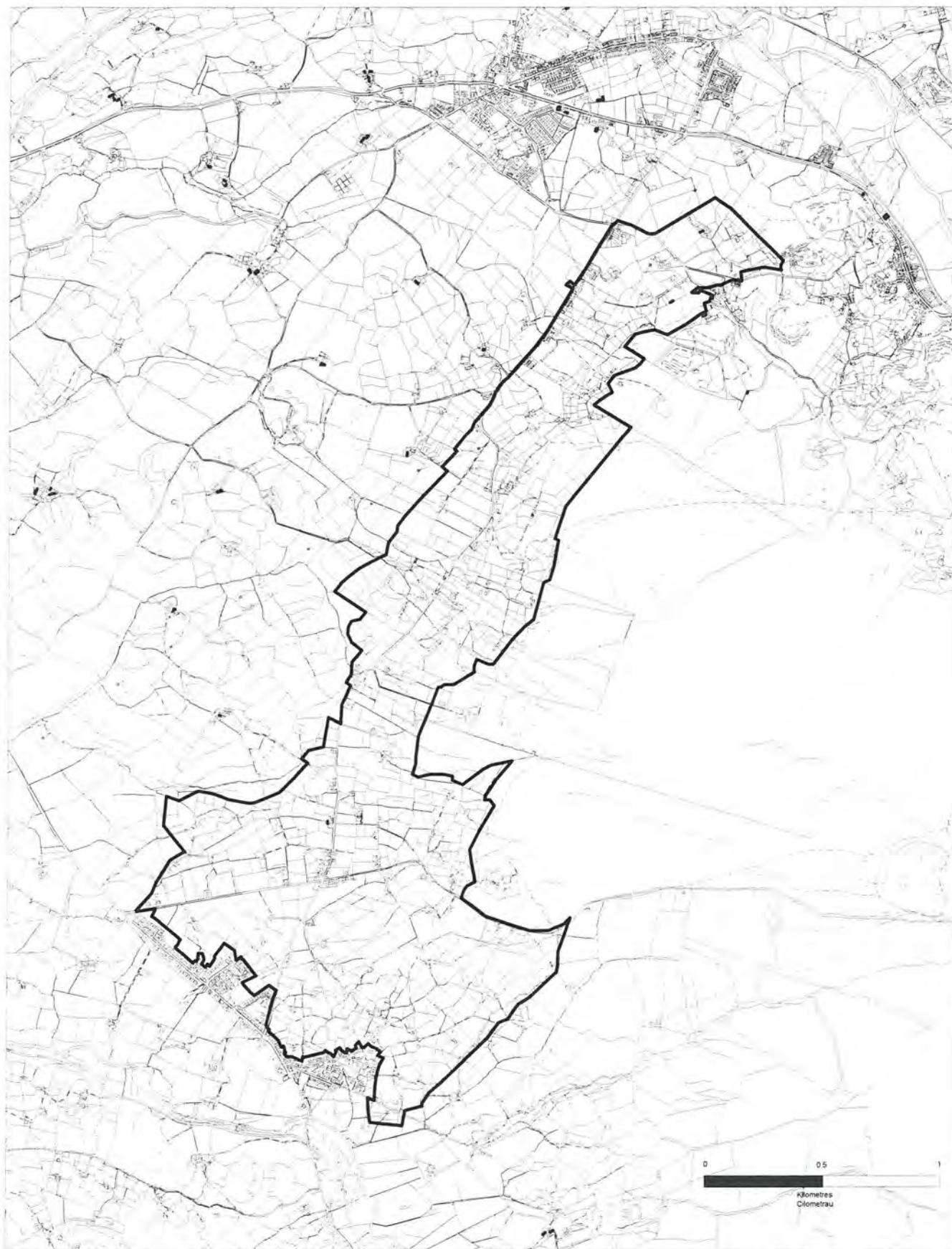
#### ***Irregular enclosures with dwellings***

An ad-hoc arrangement of largely vernacular dwellings set in small irregular enclosures, sometimes no more than a garden or vegetable plot, is evident at the south-western end, with larger dwellings and more regular patterns predominating towards Llanrug. There are some shops and chapels along the Waunfawr to Llanrug road, and the area also includes the approach road to Guglielmo Marconi's wireless station on the common.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of open character; preservation of vernacular/nineteenth-century character of buildings; discouragement of inappropriate new building.





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
17 - Cefn Du enclosures

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**HLCA number 17 Cefn Du Enclosures (PRN 15716)**

The regular, small patterning of these distinctive fields and the dispersed settlement pattern, set out either side of the road, are what makes this area distinct.

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/01-66*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
18 - Pen y graig

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## **18 Pen y Graig (PRN 15717)**

### ***Historic background***

An area of higher ground, which includes the well of Ffynnon Faglan.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

*Farmland, enclosures, lanes*

An outcrop which shares many of the characteristics of the surrounding area but in which topography has dictated smaller fields, less regular than those in the surrounding area, the lowlands of the Arfon coastal plain (area 36), and winding lanes. The area includes the site of the holy well associated with the church of Llanfaglan.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of the undeveloped, rural character and atmosphere of the area.

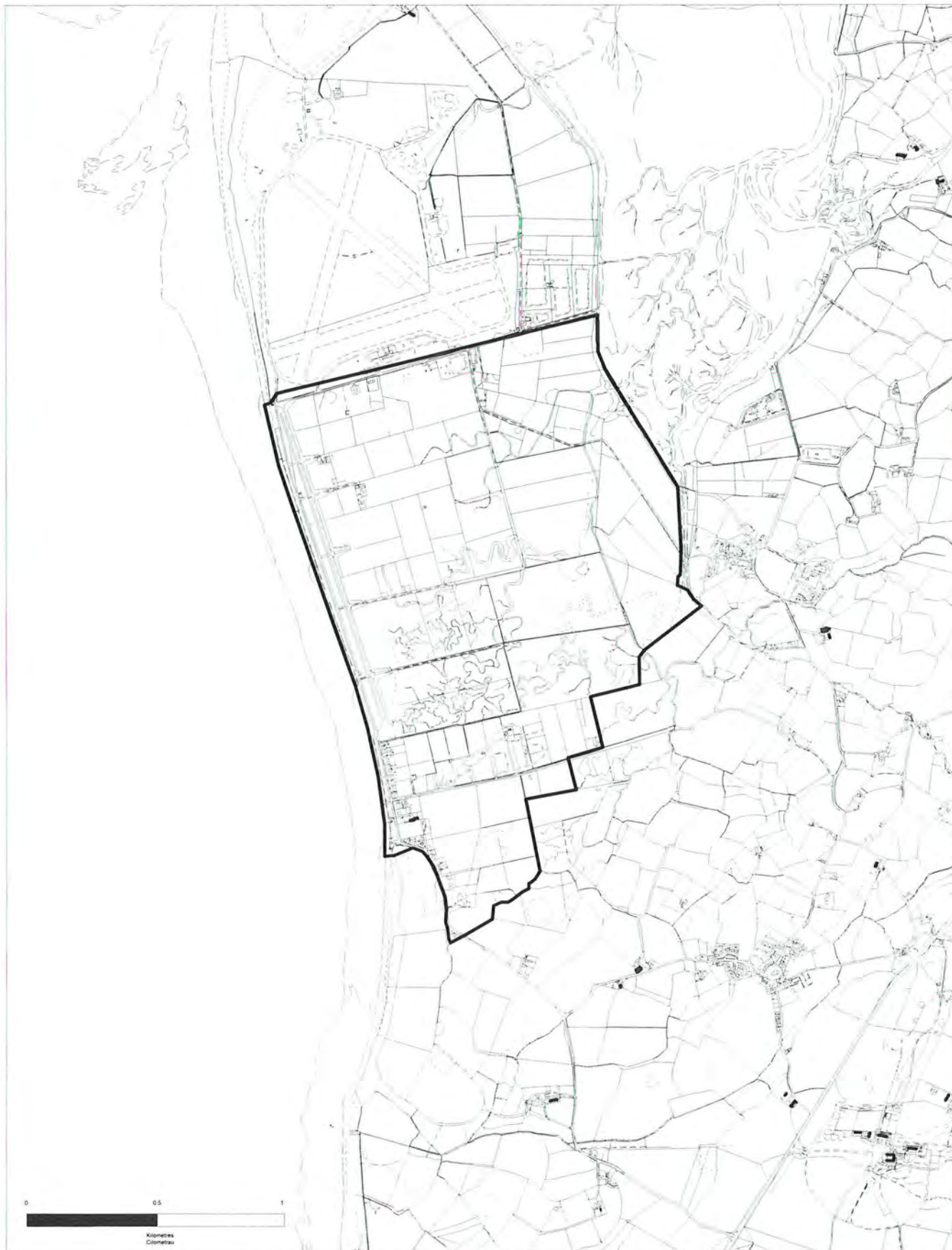


HLCA number 18 Pen y Graig (PRN 15717)

This small area, marked out by the underlying rock outcrop which has produced a distinctive pattern of small fields and winding lanes, is visible in the centre of this photograph which looks south west.

*Photo. ref. no. F1 00/02-124*





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
19 - Traeth Dinlle

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## **19      Traeth Dinlle                      (PRN 15718)**

### ***Historic background***

A drained area of former marshland, enclosed by act of 1806 and an award of 1831, and developed in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century by the erection of a number of hotels and guest-houses.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

*Regular enclosures, waterways, caravan parks*

A flat area of open fields, with a row of late nineteenth- and twentieth-century hotels, guest-houses and souvenir shops along the front. The sea shore has been strengthened recently by the deposition of stone and gabions.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of open character; appropriate amelioration of buildings and facilities; liaison with, and encouragement for, members of local heritage initiatives.

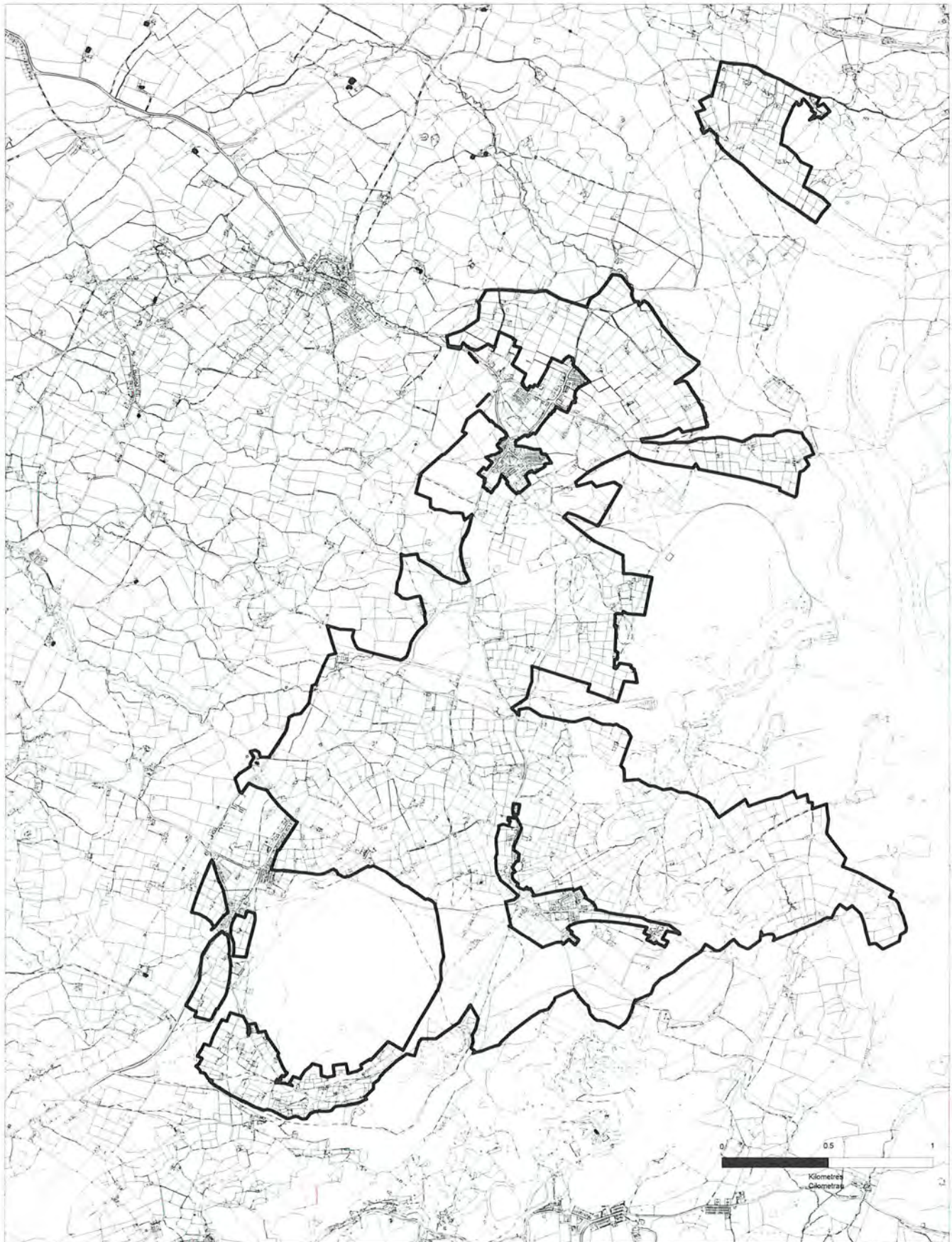


**HLCA number 19 Traeth Dinlle (PRN 15718)**

Part of this flat area, characterised by regular enclosures, waterways and (holiday) caravan parks is visible towards the bottom of this photograph, which looks south towards Dinas Dinlle and area 47.

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/01-123*





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
20 - Moel Tryfan enclosures

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## 20 Moel Tryfan enclosures (PRN 15719)

### *Historic background*

An area of crown common enclosed without legal sanction by quarrymen-cottagers from 1798 onwards, which lay at the centre of the only successful resistance to aristocratic enclosure in nineteenth-century Gwynedd in the 1820s. The development of the slate industry also led to the construction of a number of industrial roads and railways within the area.

### *Key historic landscape characteristics*

#### *Small enclosures, dual economy settlement*

A patchwork of small fields and their associated dwellings. Some of these are *tyddynod* within a dual agricultural-extractive economy, established on the crown commons from 1798, others are *tai moel*, houses unassociated with land. In places these coalesce into semi-nucleated or ribbon development villages. There is a considerable variety of dwellings. Some are pure vernacular, generally *crog-lofftydd*, perhaps dating back to the earliest phases of enclosure, often with lateral extensions of later date. Building material is almost invariably field-stones. A distinct type is a clearly later double-fronted single floor or *crog-lofft* type dwelling with markedly large windows, sometimes with some use of brick in the quoins – suggesting that they were constructed after the arrival of the railway system in the 1860s-70s. It is also possible that the large windows represent cheaper fuel, perhaps a transition from locally-dug peat to coal brought in by rail. These may represent the work of one local architect or jobbing builder.

Several short rows of two-up-and-two-down houses were also noted, though invariably making use of local materials. There are some modern dwellings, and other twentieth-century structures. There is much ‘make-do-and-mend’ building, using timber and corrugated iron as well as more traditional materials.

The pattern of small, regular and geometrically laid out fields survives. In some instances these are now used to pasture horses, and timber rails have been added to the stone or slate walls.

The rail systems to the quarries, which continue into the unenclosed mountain, include both inclines and sinuous contour railways, illustrating the evolution of this particular technology in the period 1860-1880.

### *Conservation priorities and management*

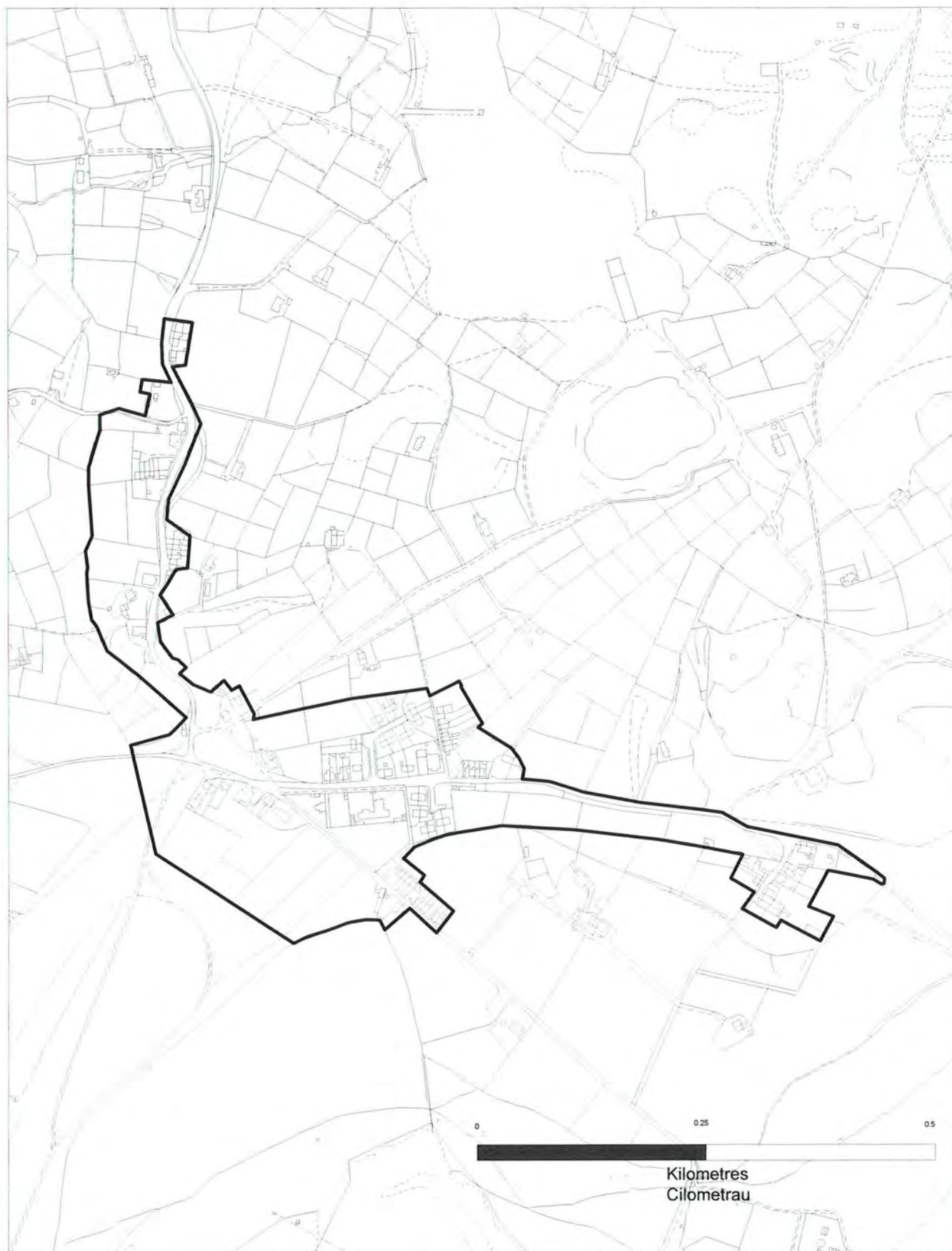
Preservation of open character; preservation of dispersed character of settlement. Preservation of the variety of nineteenth-century architectural styles, and discouragement to inappropriate modern construction. Support for appropriate heritage initiatives.



**HLCA number 20 Moel Tryfan enclosures (PRN 15719)**

The very distinctive pattern of small, stone-walled fields and dispersed cottage settlement is clearly visible in the centre of this photograph, between the tops of Mynydd y Cilgwyn (foreground) and Moel Tryfan (background) (area 14), both of which bear the traces of slate quarrying and tips.

*Photo. ref. no. Fl 00/02-23*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
21 - Fron

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## **21 Fron (PRN 15720)**

### ***Historic background***

A mid nineteenth-century ribbon development partly along a road of c. 1809 to Pen yr Orsedd Quarry and an industrial railway of c. 1864 leading to Chwael y Fron.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Industrial ribbon development, open spaces***

The village is characterised by substantial shops and chapels and a variety of buildings illustrating the evolution of architecture from the vernacular tradition through to the 'industrial vernacular', yet without progressing beyond the intermittent ribbon pattern of settlement. Capel y Fron (SH50875487) is a substantial halo-arch chapel of the later nineteenth century; Capel Bwlch y Llyn (SH50545501) is a rare example of a architect-designed chapel built after the *diwygiad* of 1904, and includes a considerable amount of brick in the construction. The school dates from the early nineteenth century (SH50815481).

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of distinct character as a ribbon development; appropriate amelioration of housing stock and infrastructure; preservation of nineteenth century character of buildings, including distinctive 'open' nature of settlement centre (almost a 'village green').

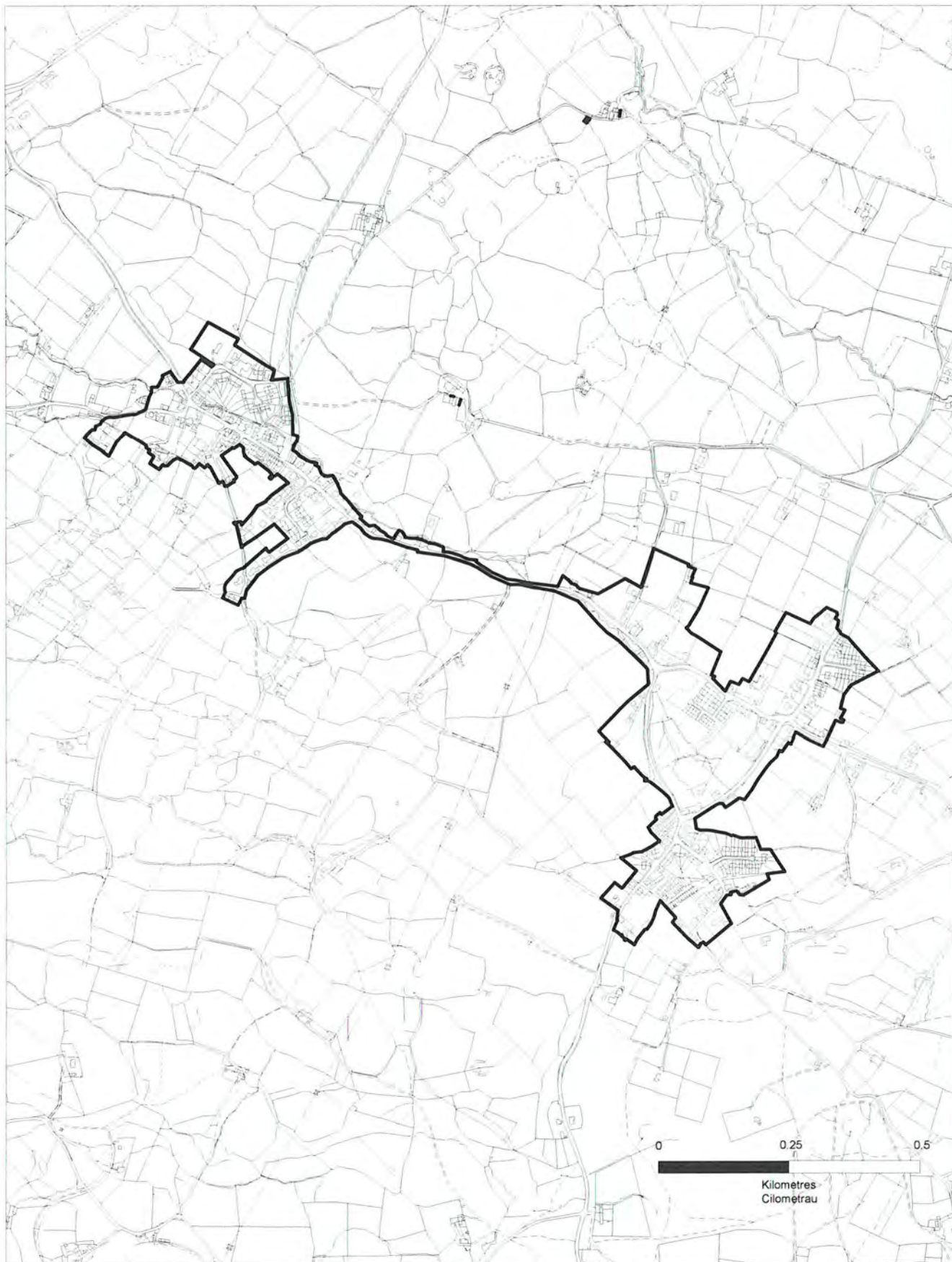




**HLCA number 21 Fron (PRN 15720)**

The open, nucleated settlement of Fron is visible in the centre of this aerial view which looks north east. In the foreground is part of the impressive Cilgwyn tip railway, built to gain height and access to wider tipping space for the quarry.

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/02-25*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
22 - Rhostryfan-Rhosgadfan

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## **22 Rhostryfan-Rhosgadfan (PRN 15721)**

### ***Historic background***

Two nucleations arising from the dual economy of quarry and *tyddyn*, established on crown commons from 1798 onwards. Rhosgadfan is associated with the novelist Dr Kate Roberts.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Industrial settlement, ribbon development***

These associated settlements are made up of a variety of traditional vernacular and 'industrial-vernacular' dwellings, as well as standard late nineteenth-century terracing, shops and chapels, with some decorative ironwork, and twentieth-century social housing. The ad-hoc nature of these two communities and their development is evident in the topography.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of distinct character, including decorative wrought-iron work; appropriate amelioration of housing stock to preserve historic character of buildings; appropriate re-use of chapels and redundant community infrastructure.



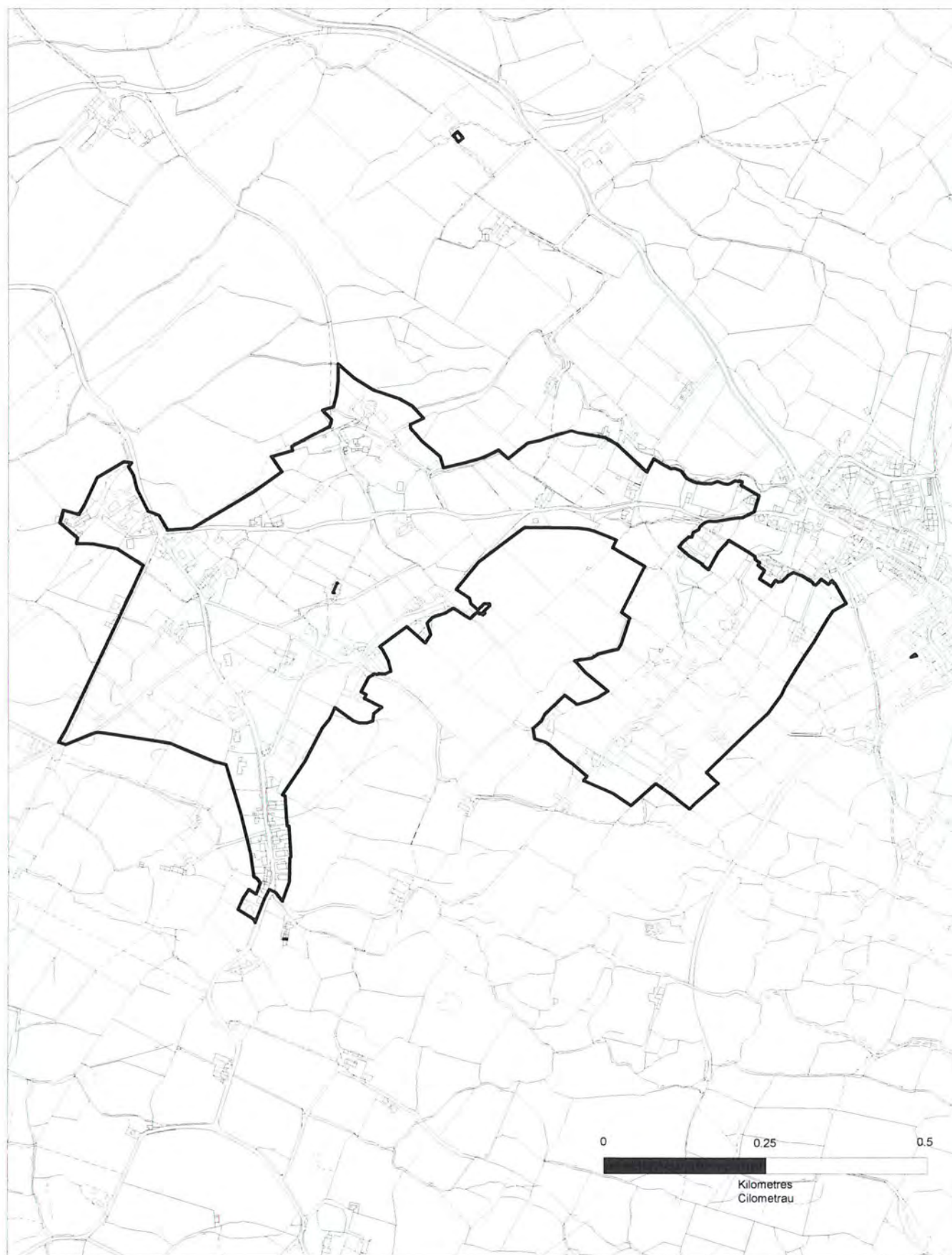


**HLCA number 22 Rhostryfan-Rhosgadfan (PRN 15721)**

This aerial view of Rhostryfan, looking east, shows the relatively dense nucleation of the settlement, again set mainly along the road, and surrounded by the marginal fields of area 25 which contain so much important relict archaeology.

*Photo. ref. no. SMR CS SH4957.5*





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
23 - Rhos-isa

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## **23 Rhos Isa' (PRN 15722)**

### ***Historic background***

A low-lying area of common land which includes the first part to be colonised by squatters, from 1798 onwards.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

*Enclosures, rhos grazing, small ribbon developments*

A pattern of small, geometrically laid-out fields, typical of early nineteenth-century squatter colonisation. The houses are generally vernacular in character though very many have been gentrified by the addition of porches and conservatories. Building material is generally local field stone.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of historic character of area, including still open areas of *rhos* as well as distinctive buildings.

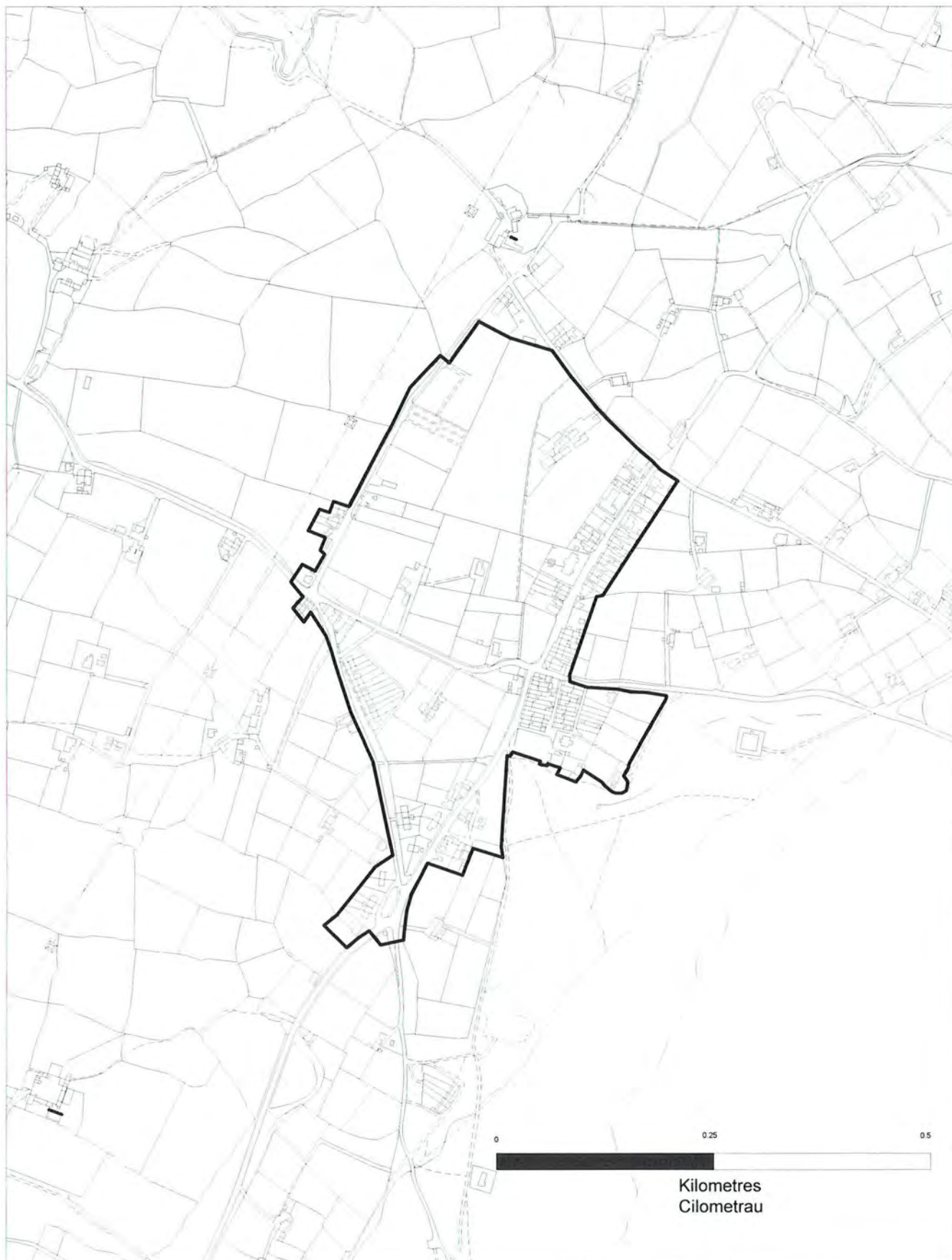


**HLCA number 23 Rhos Isa' (PRN 15722)**

This fine chapel exemplifies the eclectic building styles of this low-lying area.

*Photo. ref. no. G1627.88*





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
24 - Carmel

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## **24 Carmel (PRN 15723)**

### ***Historic background***

A concentration of *tai moel* (landless houses) on the road from the Arfon coastal plain to the commons, immediately above the site of the gate on the former mountain wall. The village takes its name from the Calvinistic Methodist chapel established here in 1827.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### *Industrial settlement, roads*

This settlement is made up of a variety of traditional vernacular and 'industrial-vernacular' dwellings, as well as standard late nineteenth-century terracing, shops and chapels, with some decorative ironwork, and twentieth-century social housing. The ad-hoc nature of this community is evident in the topography and in the narrow streets, based on a main street with a cross-roads at one end.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of character of nineteenth-century settlement; appropriate amelioration of facilities; encouragement to appropriate local heritage initiatives.

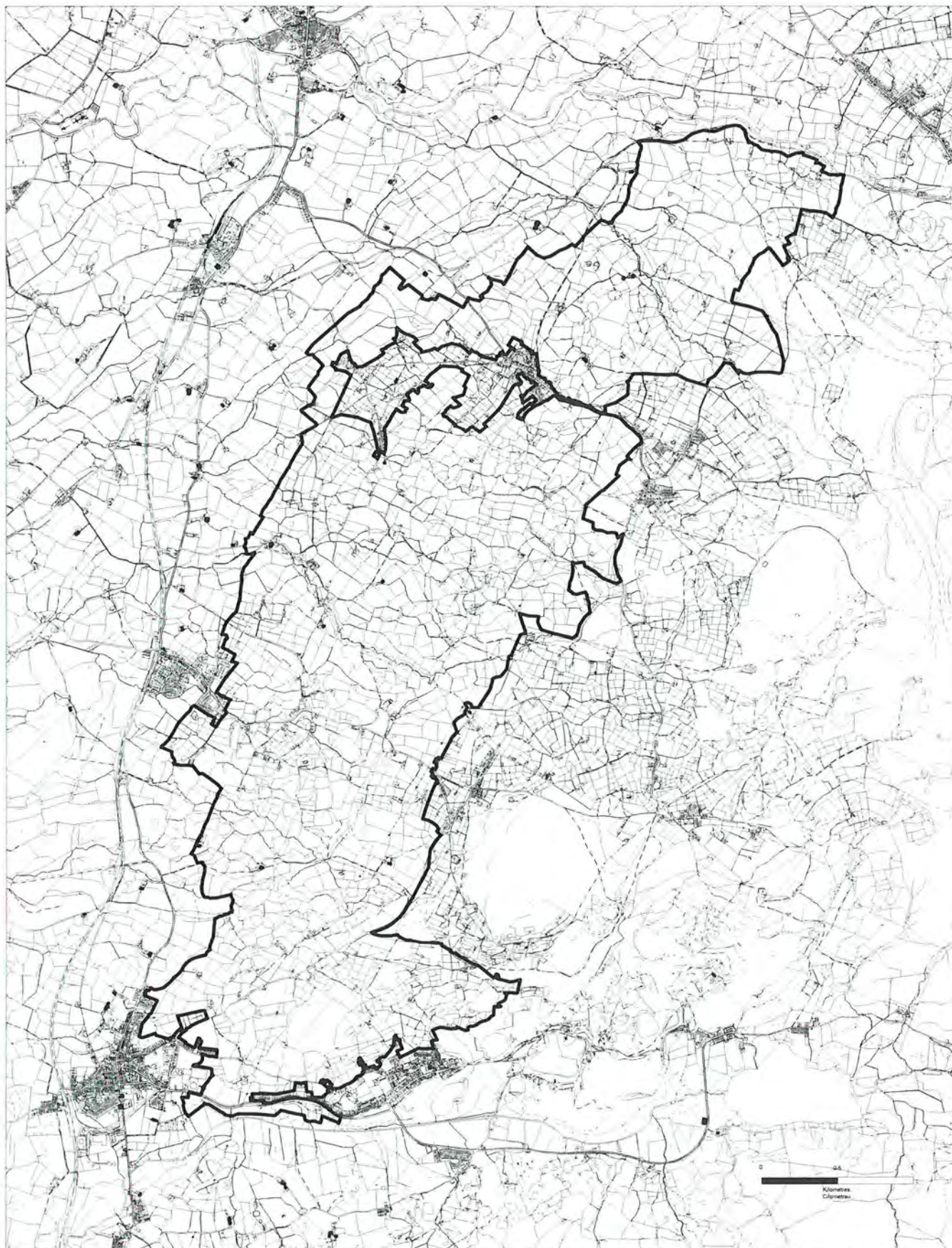


**HLCA number 24 Carmel (PRN 15723)**

The generally run-down condition of the main street of this settlement is evident in this view of its southern side.

*Photo. ref. no. G1627.81*





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
25 - Moel Tryfan, lower slopes

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## **25 Moel Tryfan – lower slopes (PRN 15724)**

### ***Historic background***

The field patterns show origins in the late prehistoric period, and there is substantial evidence for settlement and farming of that period. Interestingly, relatively few 'long huts' survive in the area and there is little evidence for medieval activity, and much of the settlement and many of the field walls which characterise the current landscape date from the nineteenth century.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

*Irregular and curvilinear enclosures, relict archaeological sites, scattered settlement*

The west-facing lower slopes of Moel Tryfan, below the mountain wall which formerly demarcated the commons here. This landscape is made up largely of pre-modern field systems, whose irregular pattern contrasts markedly with the geometric organisation of the post-1798 enclosures on the commons, though in a number of places there is evidence for much smaller fields laid out in the nineteenth century on surviving patches of common land on these lower slopes. Buildings are a mixture of estate-built farmhouses and vernacular rural dwellings, with some short 2-storey rows. Construction material is local field stone though there is some use of yellow brick as quoins, becoming less prevalent further away from the site of the former Groeslon station.

### **Conservation priorities and management**

Preservation and interpretation of relict archaeological sites and traditional field boundaries which display great time-depth. Preservation of nineteenth-century and vernacular character of buildings and dispersed nature of settlement

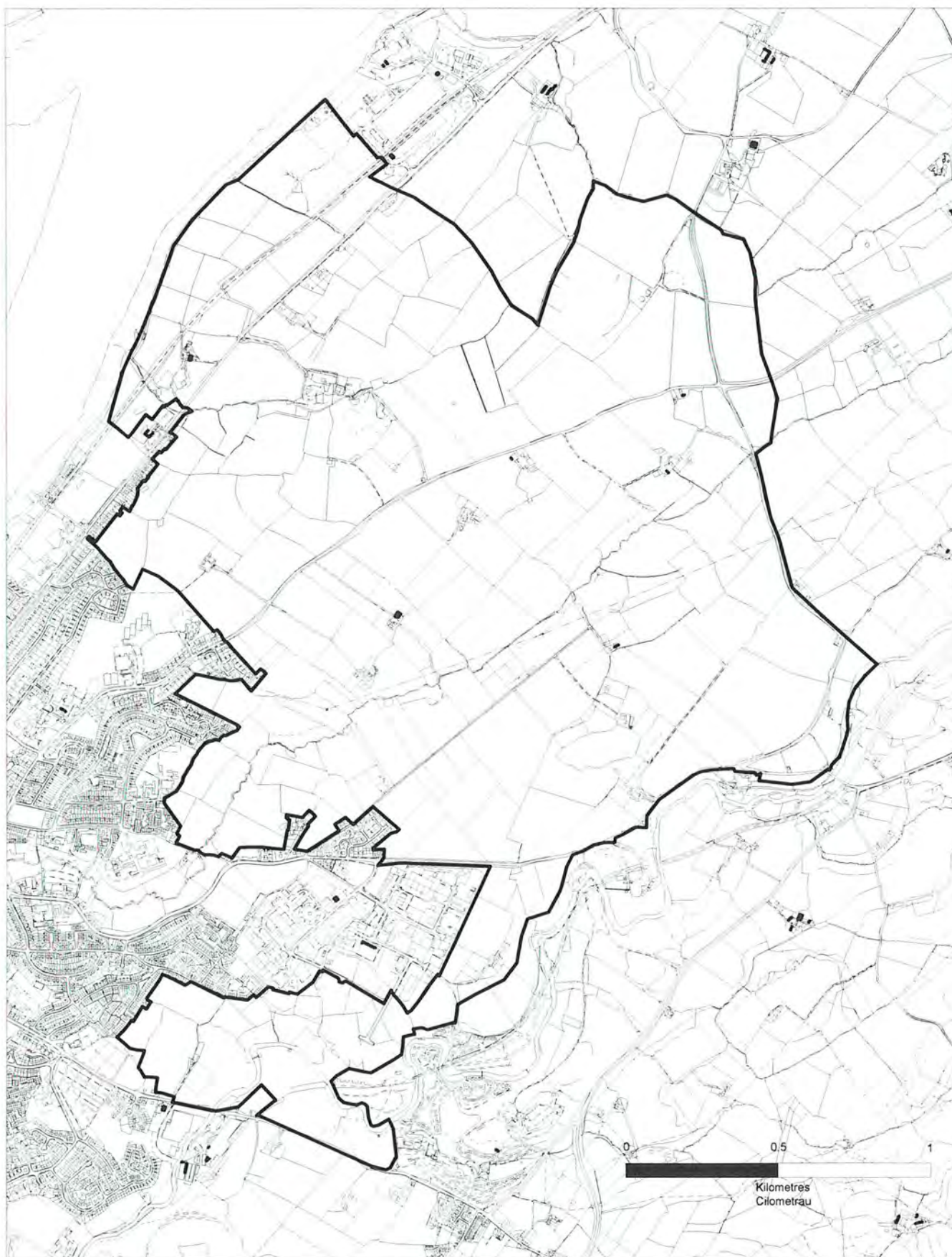




**HLCA number 25 Moel Tryfan - lower slopes (PRN 15724)**

The prehistoric origins of this fieldscape are clearly visible in the irregular patterns centred on the excavated concentric-circle settlement of Llwyn-du bach (centre, under bracken).

*Photo. ref. no. SMR CS PRN 580.9*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
26 - Arfon plateau (Parciau Pen-y-gelli)

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## 26 Arfon plateau (PRN 15725)

### *Historic background*

This is a rolling landscape, principally comprising fields of improved pasture, many of which, especially in the west, belong to one of several independent, smaller estates. These include Plas Brereton and Parciau (Parkia), the homes of minor gentry and gentleman-industrialists like Samuel Holland and William Turner. The dwellings associated with these estates are substantial late eighteenth-century or early nineteenth century residences. The farmhouses and outbuildings of this area are also built on a substantial scale, set amidst large regular enclosures. Plas Brereton is associated with Elizabeth Gaskell, who stayed there with her cousin Samuel Holland.

### *Key historic landscape characteristics*

*Lowland plain, extensive fieldscape, substantial gentry houses, some relict archaeology*

A managed landscape dominated by a number of large houses, their home farms and larger tenant farms. Plas Brereton, an attractive example of a late eighteenth/early nineteenth-century minor gentry dwelling as the idiom was interpreted locally, is currently proposed for re-opening as a luxury hotel, which has resulted in some cosmetic changes to the building and alterations in the grounds, including the removal of the perimeter wall. The adjacent Ty Coch is of later date, and is also intended for refurbishment. These buildings, their gardens, and their lodges, gates and walls along the Bangor to Caernarfon road, form an excellent example of a minor gentry and industrialists' landscape, although they have recently undergone considerable renovation. Parkia, the home of Sir Llywelyn Turner, was demolished during the second world war, and the gardens have become overgrown, although the gatehouse still exists.

### *Conservation priorities and management*

Preservation of historic character, including field patterns; appropriate redevelopment and re-use of gentry dwellings, and of farm buildings in the event of changes in agricultural practices.

(Same as G1584: area 23)

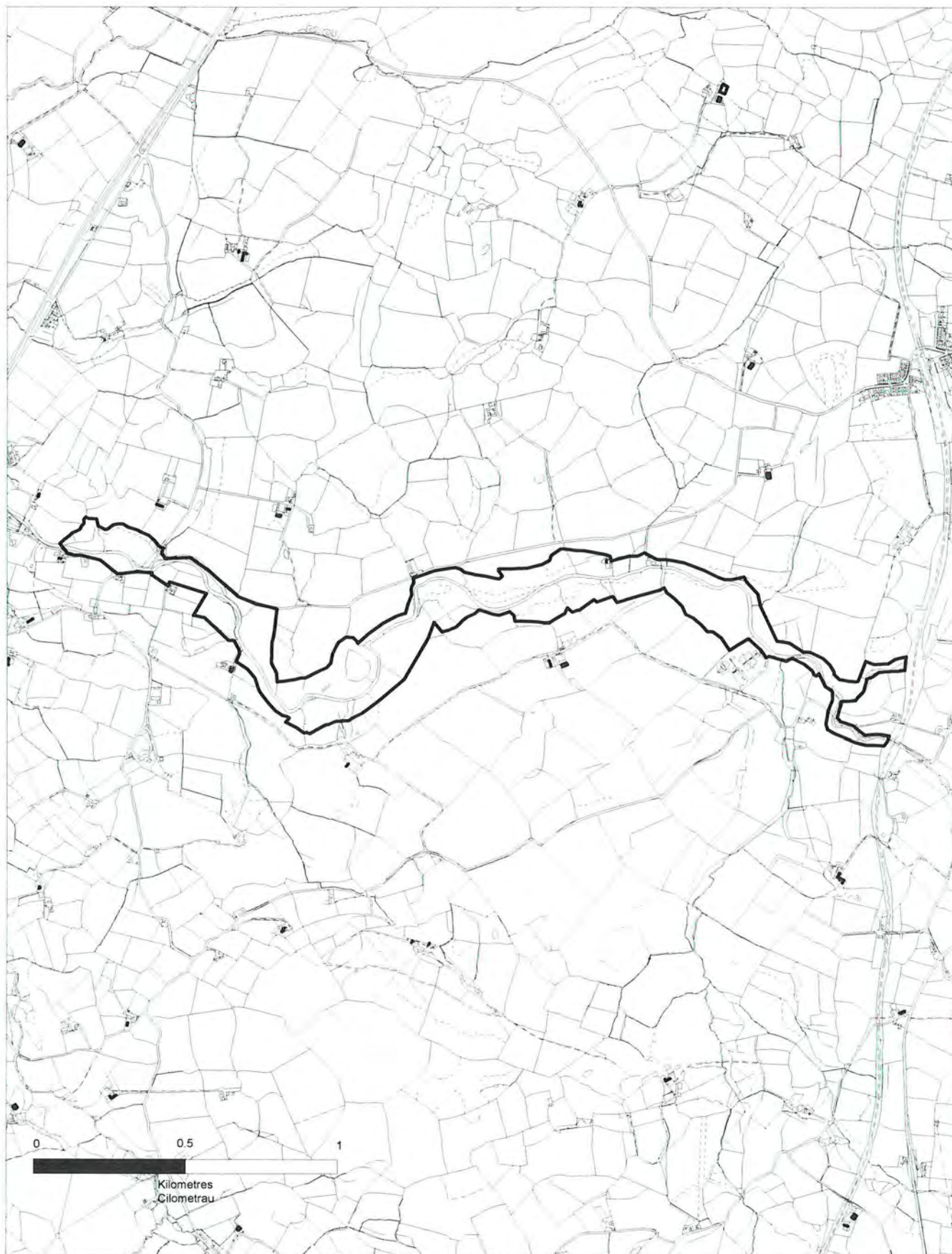


**HLCA number 26 Arfon plateau (PRN 15725)**

The large fields, mainly improved pasture, which characterise this area along the Menai Strait are clearly visible in this view, which looks south east, along with some of the substantial dwellings built along the main road to Bangor.

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/01-101*





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
27 - Llyfni river

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## **27 Llyfni river valley (PRN 15726)**

### ***Historic background***

An area which was traditionally dominated by the small Lleuar estate, whose last squire, Captain William Ridsdale, sold it to the Wynnes of Glynllifon before his death at Dettingen in 1743.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

*River valley, some industrial and relict archaeology*

A narrow river valley within the rolling landscape of area 34, which contains a writing slate mill, re-used as a dwelling, and which is dominated by the earth banks of the hill-fort of Craig y Dinas which occupies a bend in the river. The splendid scheduled bridge, Pont y Cim, lies to in the western part of the area.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of intimate character of area, and especially the scheduled ancient monuments.

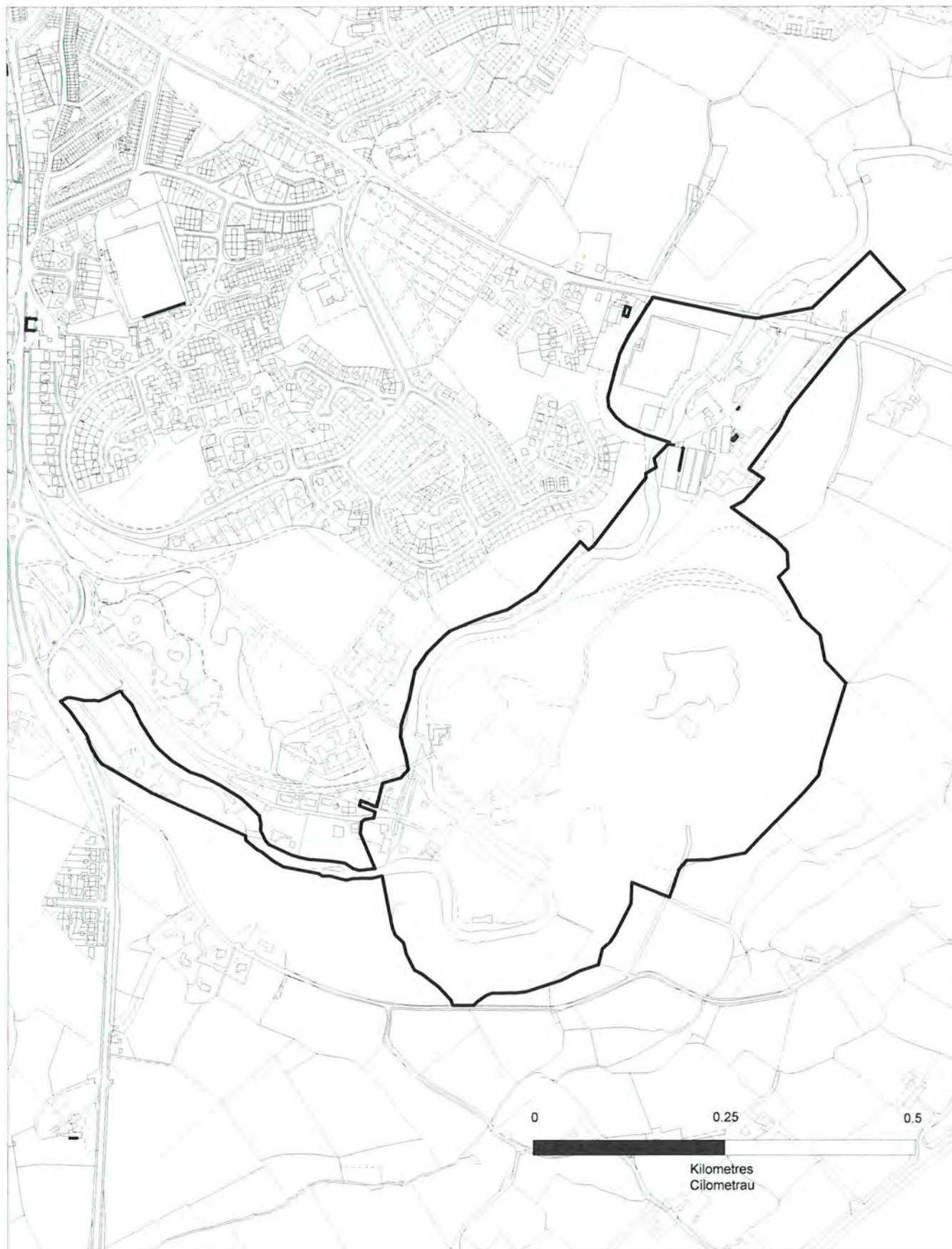


**HLCA number 27 Llyfni river valley (PRN 15726)**

The narrow river valley is clearly shown winding across the centre of this slide which looks north. For a stretch it is dominated by the scheduled hill fort of Craig y Dinas (centre right). Area 34 lies below and beyond it.

*Photo. ref. no. F1 00/02-96*





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
28 - Caernarfon industrial area

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## **28 Caernarfon industrial area (PRN 15727)**

### ***Historic background***

An area along the banks of the Seiont, where several industrial sites, some still functioning, were built along the river from perhaps the sixteenth-century onwards, and where clay extraction and brick manufacture, established c. 1850, still continue.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Relict industrial archaeology***

Apart from the clay-pit itself, which has now grown to considerable size, the area is dominated by industrial structures and features, the majority of which are constructed of red brick. It is clear that the possibilities the river offered both as a power-source and as a cleansing agent has led to the establishment of a variety of industrial sites in succession to each other, and that these include corn-milling, slate-sawing, a tannery and brick manufacture.

The nineteenth-century brickworks complex, established c. 1850, has been largely demolished, including the Hoffman kilns, though a number of derelict houses survive on site. The manufacture of bricks now takes place in a large centralised facility set up in 1968 which includes grinders, pug-mills, kilns and sorting equipment. A saw-tooth-roofed range to the north-east of the area remains in use for the manufacture of tissue-paper. These buildings were erected during the war for the manufacture of Lancaster bomber fuselage noses, and were adapted for the manufacture of furniture and washing machines after hostilities ceased. They were constructed on the site of the Peblig brickworks, operational from 1880 to the 1920s.

Other industrial buildings are being re-used, such as the Glan-Morfa slate works, now an office supplies warehouse, and a stable block associated with the Seiont corn mill. Several nineteenth century water-courses survive and continue to carry water, and the site of the standard-gauge rail access from the Llanberis branch line is evident.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

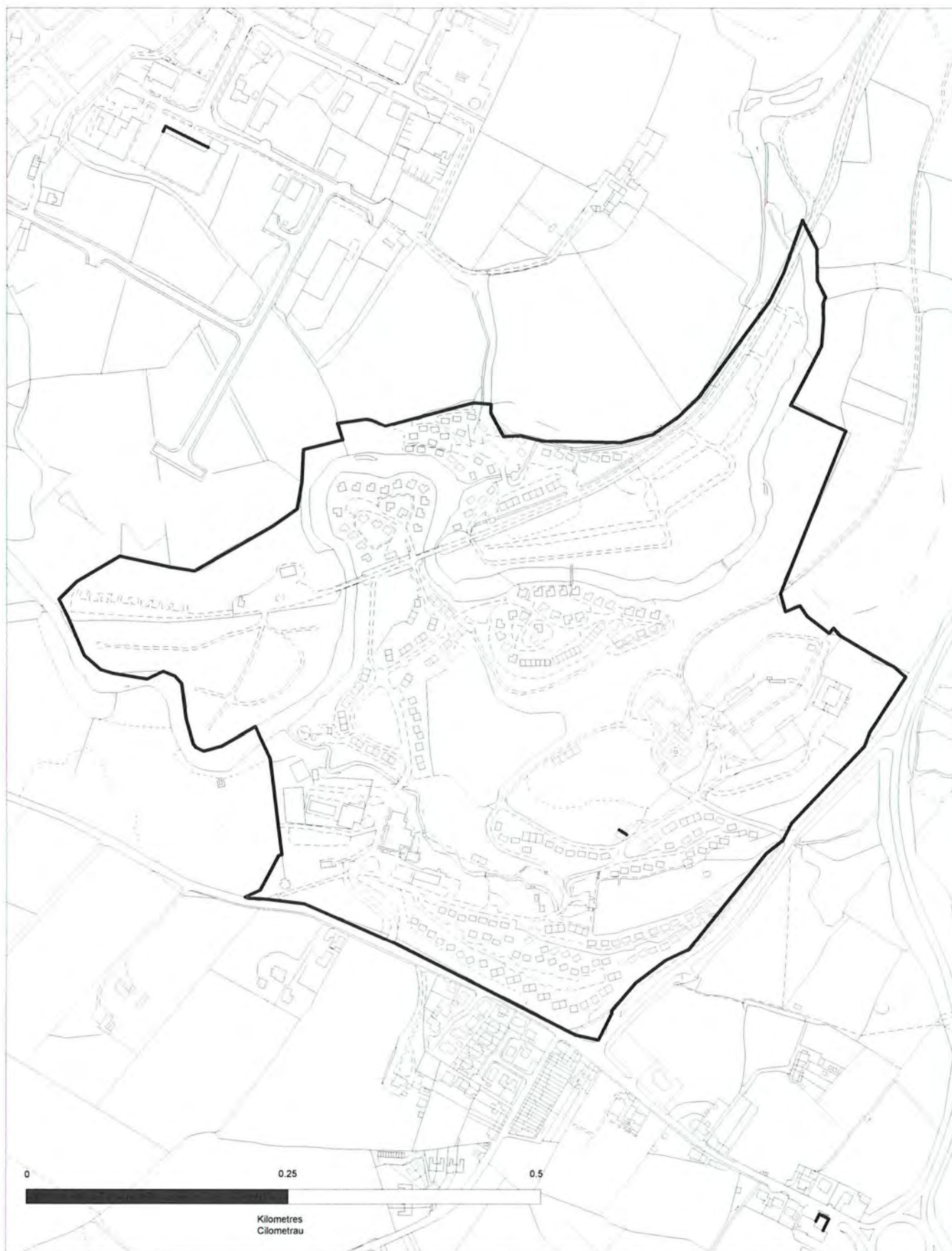
Adaptive re-use of industrial sites.



**HLCA number 28 Caernarfon industrial area (PRN 15727)**

The industrial area of Caernarfon can be seen towards the top left corner of this view which looks south east.

*Photo. ref. no. SMR CS SH4862.7*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
29 - Glan Gwna

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## **29      Glan Gwna holiday village (PRN 15728)**

### ***Historic background***

One of the smaller local estates, now a holiday village and caravan park. The garden may date from the early nineteenth century; Fenton in 1813 states that the grounds and their 'winding walks' were laid out by Arthur Wyatt, nephew of Benjamin. 'Plantations' and a small house 'handsomely fitted up' are mentioned by Hyde Hall in 1809-11, when it was owned by Thomas Lloyd of Shrewsbury. It was inhabited at one stage by a Mr Greaves, probably the tenant of various slate quarries who came to develop Llechwedd Quarry in Blaenau Ffestiniog, who is believed to have moved to Aberglaslyn Hall. Hyde Hall also confirms that the area included a fulling mill and a paper mill.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Estate and gardens, now caravan park***

The area is dominated by chalets, mobile home and caravans laid out along the Afon Seiont. The course of the former Caernarfon to Llanberis railway line passes through the estate. The grounds are wooded. The water features probably pre-date the grounds and may originally have been constructed for an industrial purpose: a fulling mill, of which the site is no longer apparent, is marked on Hyde Hall's sketch map of 1809-11. The area includes the site of the Bodrhual mill, attested in 1597.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Character established as caravan park: no particular priorities.

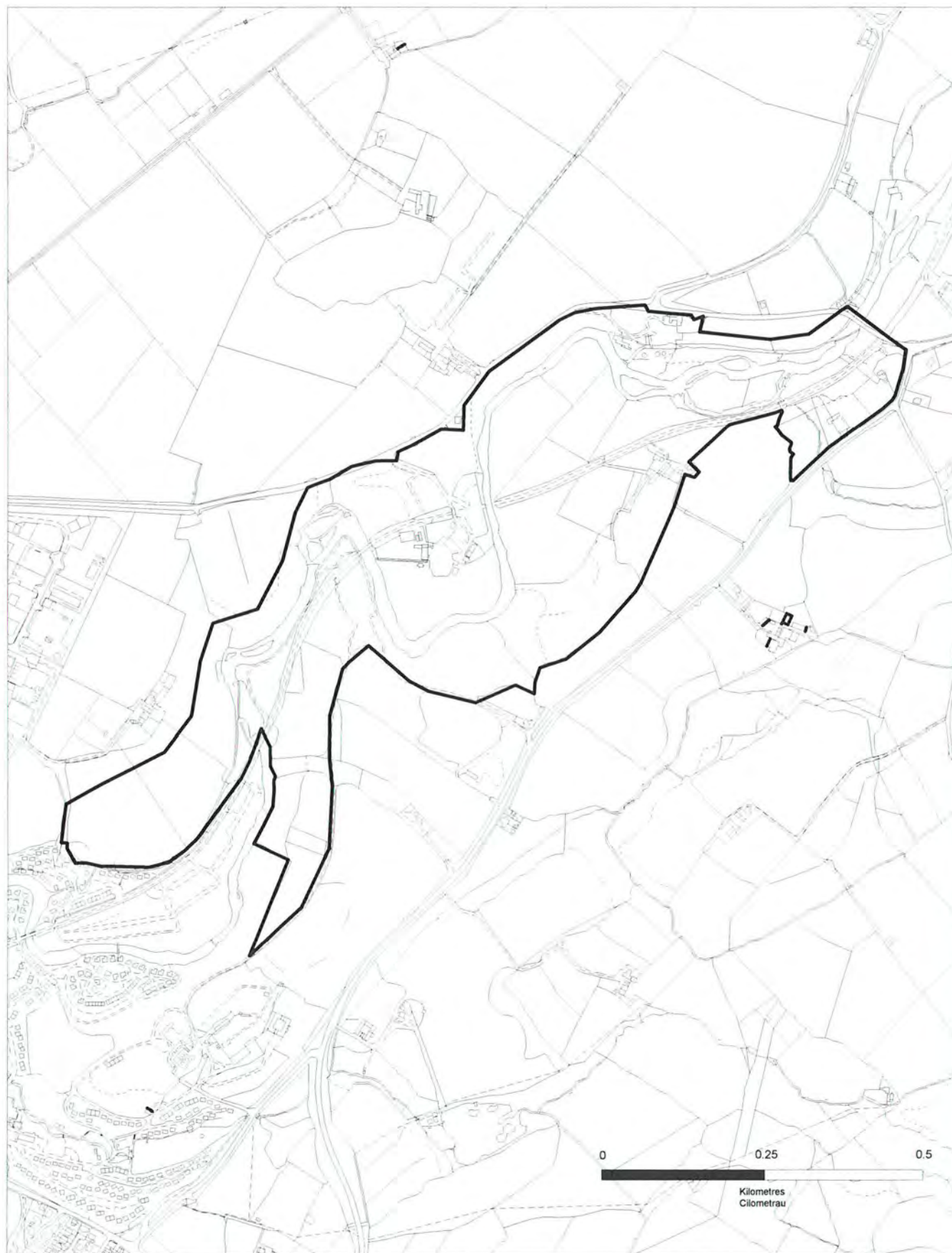




**HLCA number 29 Glan Gwna holiday village (PRN 15728)**

A view of the entrance to this caravan park.

*Photo. ref. no. G1627.9*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
30 - Hen Felin

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### **30      Hen Felin (Glan Gwna)      (PRN 15729)**

#### ***Historic background***

A river valley which has lent itself to the use of water power. The mill at Felin Wen is recorded in 1475, and the area also includes the site of a nineteenth-century mill (though identified as a bacon factory on the 25inch Ordnance Survey map of 1914, and now the Seiont Nurseries and garden centre) and a woollen factory. The land here was owned by the Vaynol estate by the eighteenth century.

#### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

##### *River valley with mills*

The immediate area is made up of the floor of the valley of the Afon Rhythallt and its slopes. The substantial mill building at Seiont nurseries is a box-like structure with hipped roofs, typical of late nineteenth-century local milling practice and very similar to the mill at Bontnewydd. It is likely to have been rebuilt from the remains of an earlier building, probably a corn mill. The area also includes the site of the mill known as Felin Wen, now a nineteenth-century building by the side of the road from Caernarfon to Llanberis but attested in 1475, and a woollen factory, probably the one attested in 1812. The area also includes the mill race for Melin Bodrhual.

#### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of open character; preservation of historic mill landscape.





**HLCA number 30 Hen Felin (Glan Gwna) (PRN 15729)**

The Afon Rhythallt is visible towards the top of this view (which is to the south east) which shows part of one of the former mill complexes, now a garden centre.

*Photo. ref. no. SMR CS SH5062.1*





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
31 - Foryd

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### **31 Foryd (PRN 15730)**

#### ***Historic background***

A coastal strip on which there was established a shipping point for Nantlle slate: there is now little trace of the original site.

#### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

##### *Low-lying former shipping area, farmhouses*

An exposed coastal strip, whose salient points include the isolated part-medieval church of Llanfaglan (SH45546069), a few substantial farmhouses, and the cluster of buildings at Hen Foryd (SH 4531 5878) at the mouth of the Gwyrfai, the traditional shipping point for Nantlle and Moel Tryfan slates in pre-railway days. A number of houses and a lime-kiln survive here, but there is no evident trace of the larger settlement with its pubs and shops that is believed to have flourished here in the eighteenth century. The Llwyn Yn (sic) brickworks was established at Morfa Cwtta in the 1850s and continued to function until the twentieth century. A medieval fish-trap, probably associated with the church at Clynnog, extends out across the mud flats towards the deep water channel. Part of the area now forms an RSPB reserve.

#### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of open and deserted character of this coastal area. Discouragement of inappropriate adaptation of existing buildings.

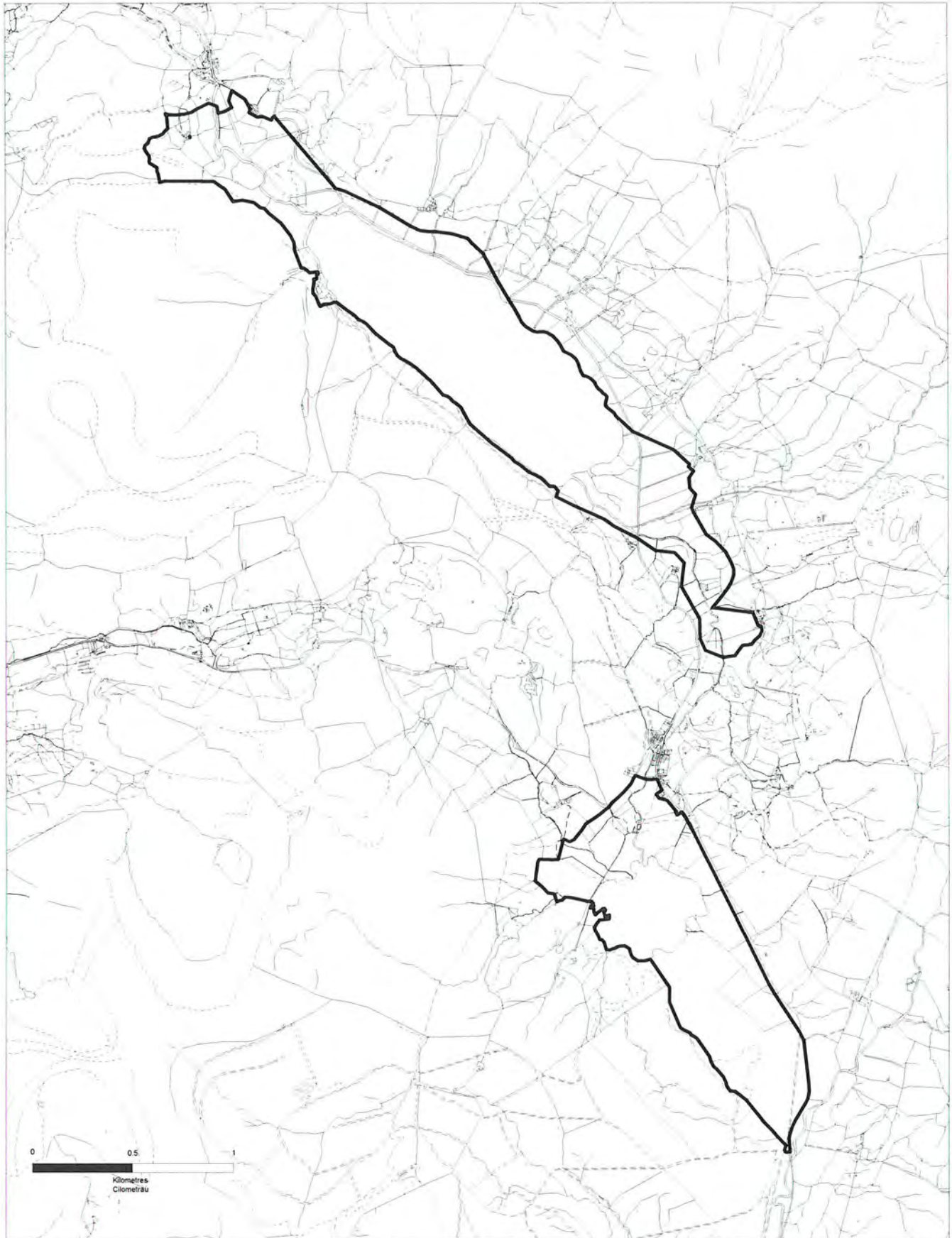


**HLCA number 31 Foryd (PRN 15730)**

The coastal strip which comprises this area is shown to the left of this view (which looks south), with the Foryd itself in the centre (the fish weir is just visible in the centre towards the bottom).

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/01-113*





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
32 - Llynnau/Nant y Betws

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## **32     Llyn y Gadair     (PRN 15731)**

### ***Historic background***

A low-lying area, part of Drws y Coed farm. Llyn y Gadair slate quarry was taken over by the Union during the Penrhyn Strike, but was unsuccessful.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### *Slate quarry, lake*

A low-lying area forming a hollow in which is situated Llyn y Gadair. The area contains a mill (SH56845257), in re-use as a dwelling, a number of transport features and the rock 'Pitt's Head', which resembles Pitt the Younger in profile (SH57625150).

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of historic character of small quarry.



**HLCA number 32 Llyn y Gadair (PRN 15731)**

The remains of the slate quarry by the side of Llyn y Gadair are clearly visible, with some of the tips extending into the lake (view looks north east).

*Photo. ref. no. (SMR CS PRN 20191.1)*



### Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
33 - Rhyd Ddu

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### **33 Rhyd Ddu (PRN 15732)**

#### ***Historic background***

A nineteenth-century slate quarry village, associated with the bard T H Parry-Williams.

#### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

##### ***Industrial ribbon settlement***

A community which grew up, principally along the road, to serve the slate quarries at Glanrafon, Clogwyn y Gwin, and Llyn y Gadair, and which formed a station on the North Wales Narrow Gauge Railway/Welsh Highland Railway, now in process of revival. Buildings are mainly nineteenth-century terraces, with some larger houses for teachers and ministers. The village, and the Cwellyn Arms public house in particular, forms a popular starting-point for climbers and walkers tackling Snowdon and the Nantlle ridge.

#### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Appropriate development of community infrastructure in the light of re-opening of Welsh Highland Railway.

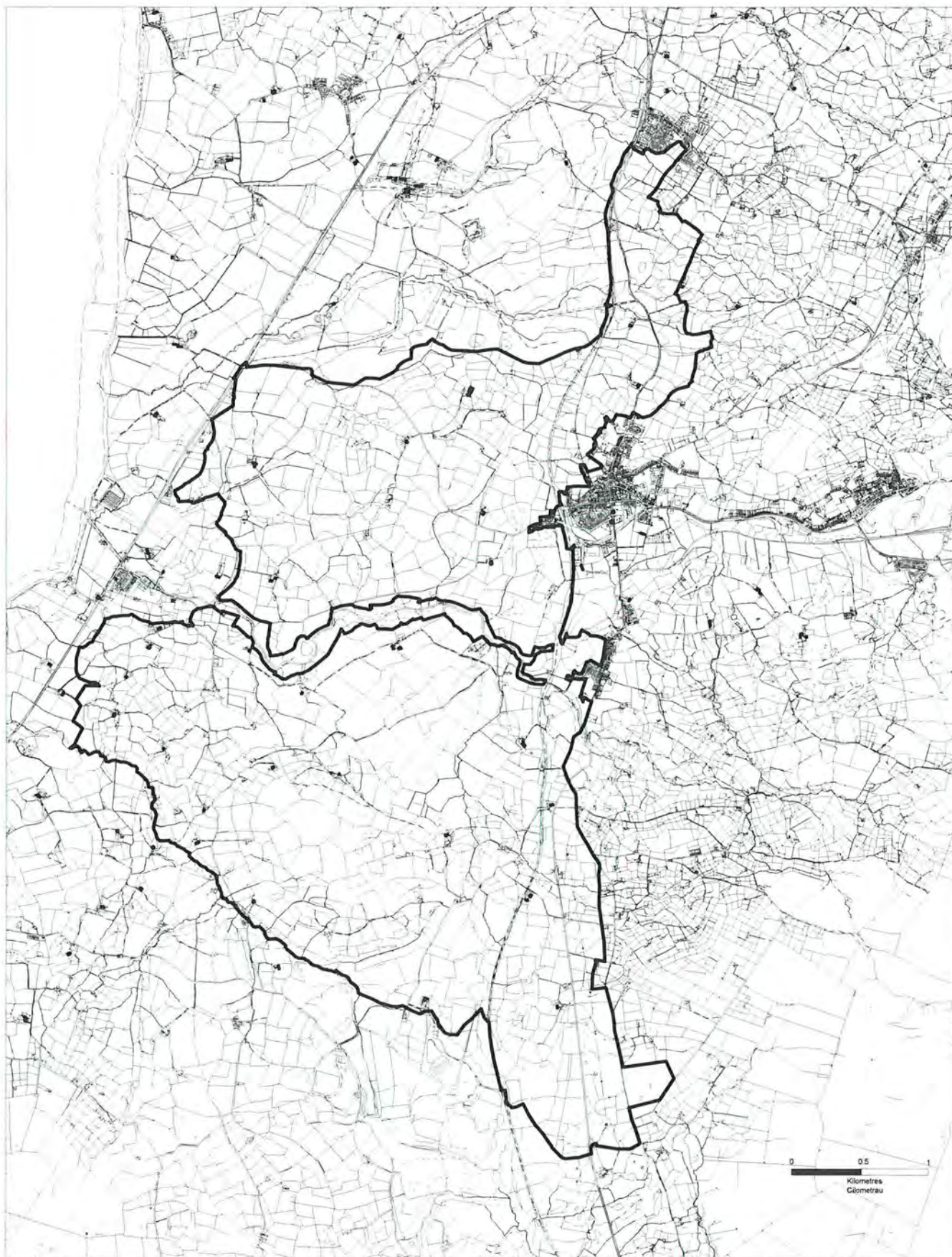


**HLCA number 33 Rhyd Ddu (PRN 15732)**

The Cwellyn Arms stands in the centre of this nineteenth century settlement, described by Stephen Gregory in the novel *The Cormorant*.

*Photo. ref. no. G1627.36*





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
34 - Lleuar

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## **34      Lleuar            (PRN 15733)**

### ***Historic background***

An area which was traditionally dominated by the small Lleuar estate, whose last squire, Captain William Ridsdale, sold it to the Wynnes of Glynllifon before his death at Dettingen in 1743.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Field patterns, farms, relict archaeological sites***

A low-lying pastoral area, formerly part of the Lleuar estate, in which the dominant building type is a substantial nineteenth-century farmhouse. In some cases there is an older dwelling immediately adjacent, often converted into a store or shed. Field boundaries are variously dry-stone walls or stone-faced banks, in some cases with hedges. There are several 'isolated' relict archaeological sites (hut group settlements, small hillforts) which make an interesting comparison with the higher, marginal areas and which are vulnerable to damage from agricultural activities.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

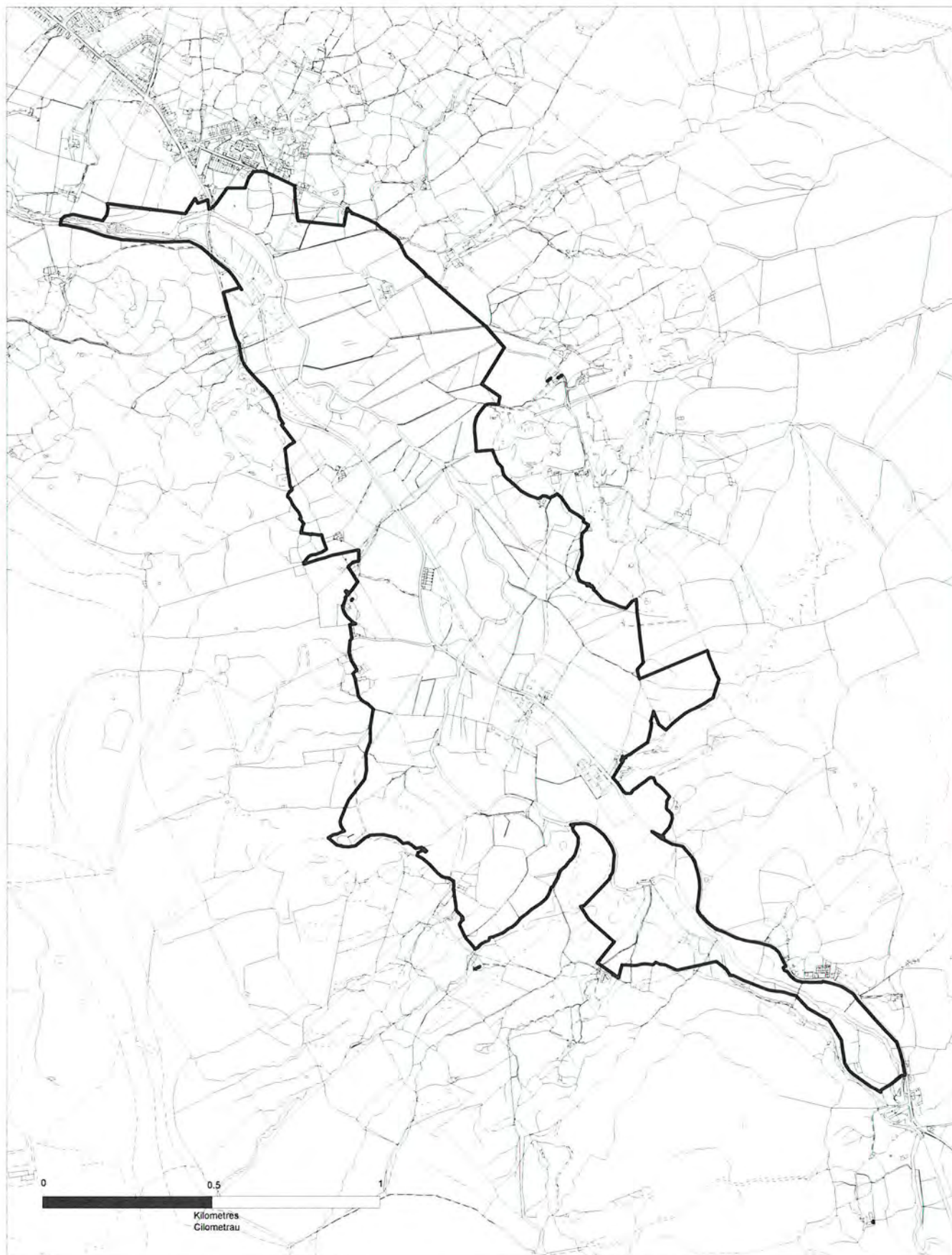
Preservation of historic character of area, focussing particularly on the the field systems and the distinctive pebble-built field walls, as well as the relict archaeological sites which, due to their isolation and fragility, may be at risk.



**HLCA number 34 Lleuar (PRN 15733)**

The gentle landscape of this low-lying area of fields to the west of Pen-y-Groes is shown in this view which looks south. The enclosed hut group at Penbryn mawr is visible towards the centre, just left of the farm, while the Nantlle railway is just visible in the top left corner.

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/02-64*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
35 - Gwyrfai valley

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### **35      Gwyrfai valley      (PRN 15736)**

#### ***Historic background***

A low-lying area alongside the Afon Gwyrfai, formerly a part of Treflan medieval township.

#### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

##### *Waterlogged area with drains, railway*

A small area lying either side the Afon Gwyrfai, east of the present main road, which stretches up to improved farm pasture on the eastern side and which is largely waterlogged. There are no buildings, but the area is crossed by the Welsh Highland Railway which is currently (2001) being reinstated.

#### ***Conservation priorities and management***

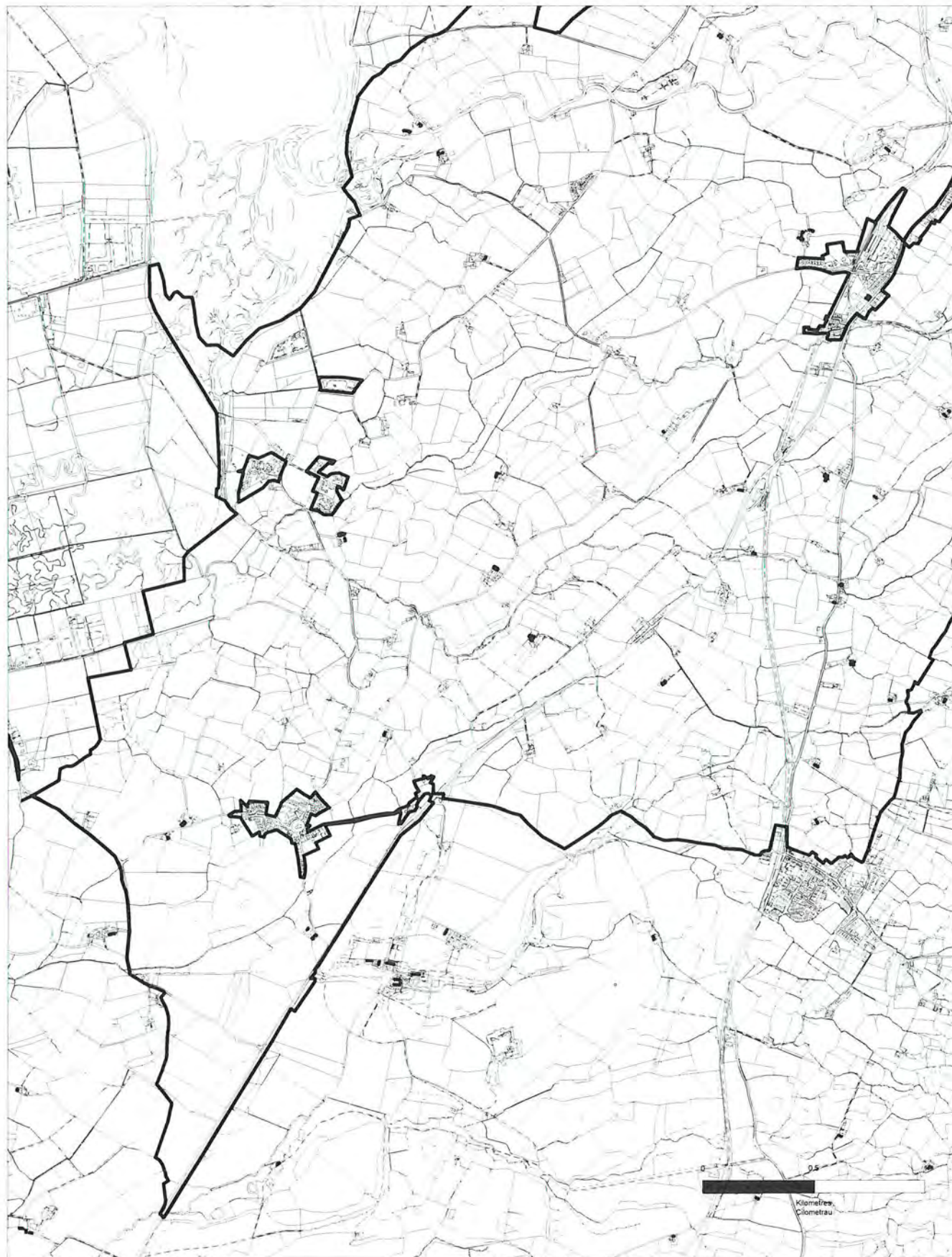
The infrastructure of the Welsh Highland Railway is being preserved within the scheme currently under way. Preservation of the waterlogged area and associated archaeological potential.



**HLCA number 35 Gwyrfai valley (PRN 15736)**

The view demonstrates the flat, waterlogged nature of the valley bottom. This view, which looks north east, shows the Welsh Highland Railway under reconstruction.

*Photo. ref. no. G1627.57*

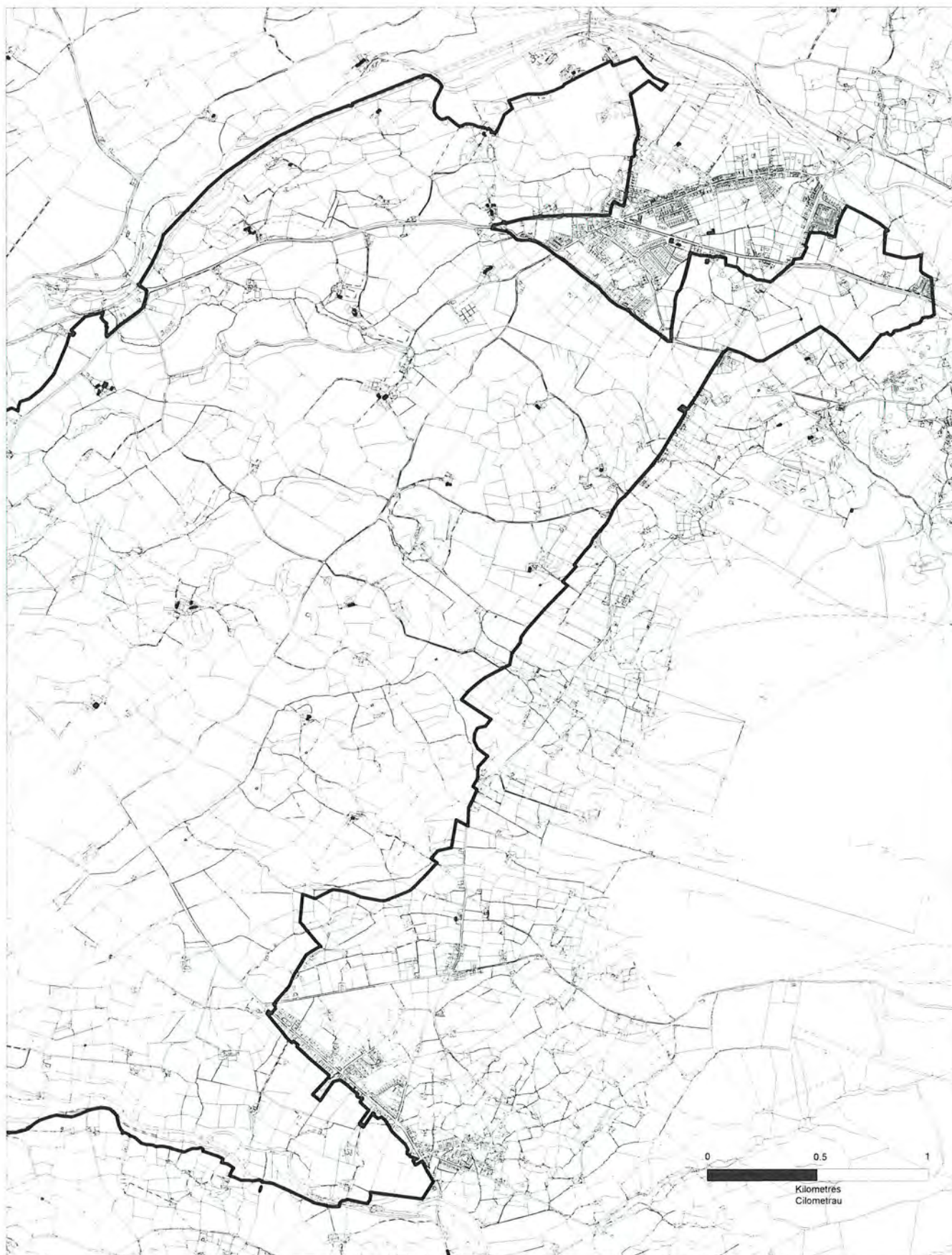


### Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
36 - Arfon Plateau (south-west)

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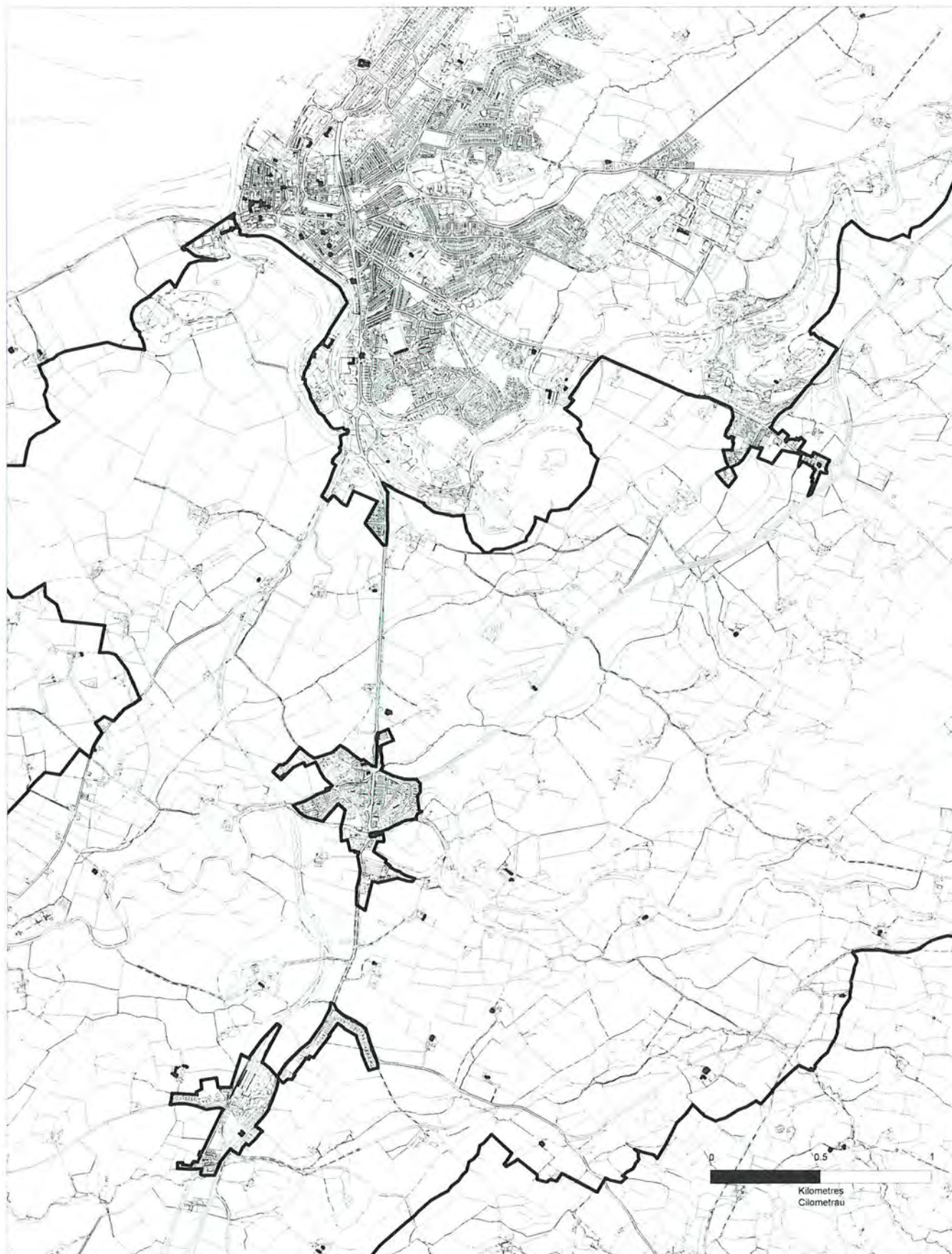


## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
36 - Arfon Plateau (north-east)

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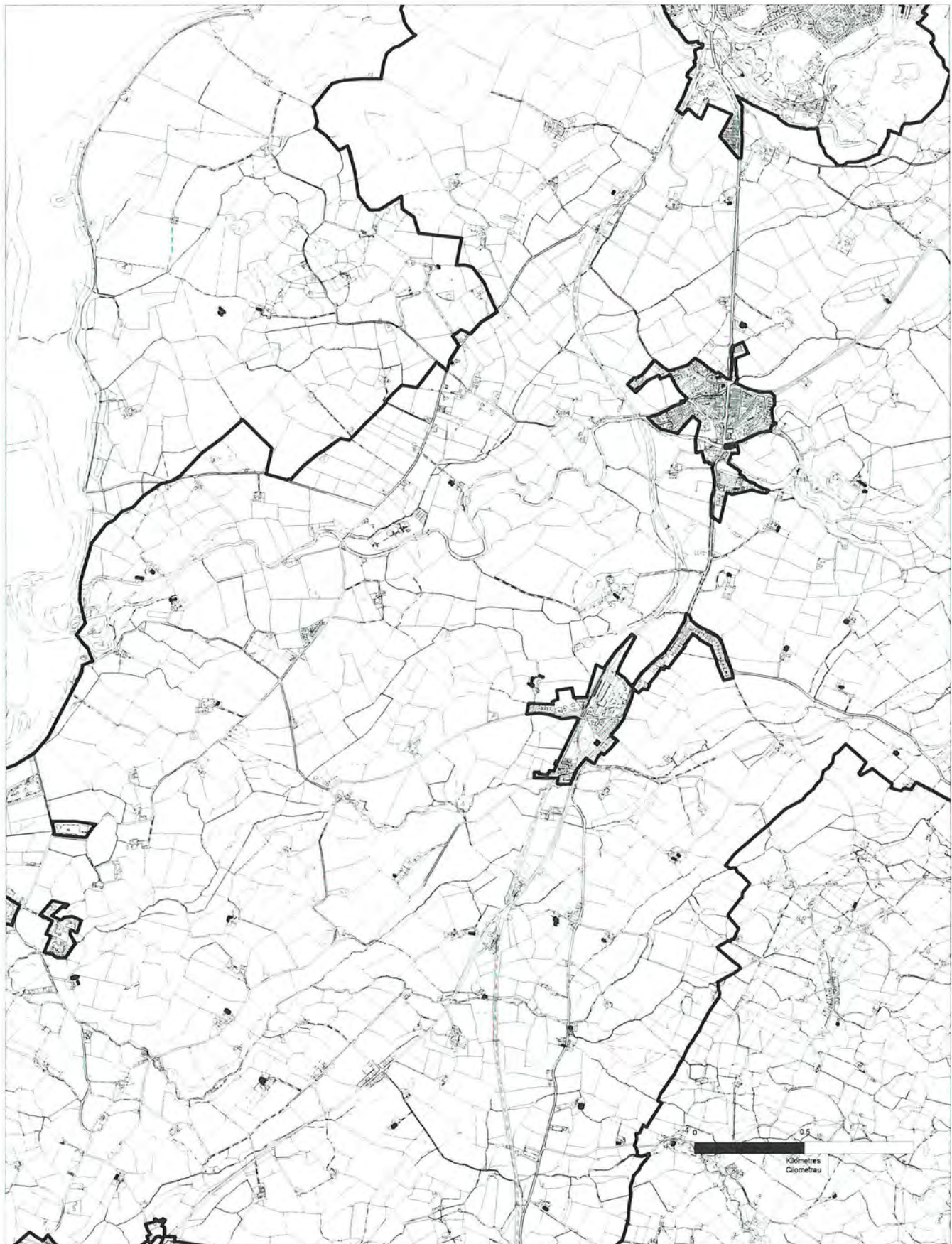


### Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
36 - Arfon Plateau (mid b)

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## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
36 - Arfon Plateau (mid a)

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## **36      Arfon plateau                      (PRN 15735)**

### ***Historic background***

The rolling landscape of the Arfon plateau is made up of largely improved pasture, most of which was formerly Vaynol land. The pattern of substantial nineteenth-century farmhouses and outbuildings is typical of the estate. Relict prehistoric settlements (hut groups and small forts) are dotted across the landscape, usually in the corners of fields, and some fields display a curvilinear pattern characteristic of this period.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

*lowland plain, some relict archaeology*

A wide area of disparate character, with the most prominent features being large enclosures and scattered farmsteads. Farmhouses and outbuildings are mostly nineteenth-century estate construction, soundly built. The farm buildings are in many cases arranged on the courtyard plan.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of the surviving relict archaeology (some of which is vulnerable within a farming landscape), the field patterns and boundaries as well as the settlement pattern of dispersed farms; preservation and appropriate re-use of farm buildings in the event of changes in farming patterns.

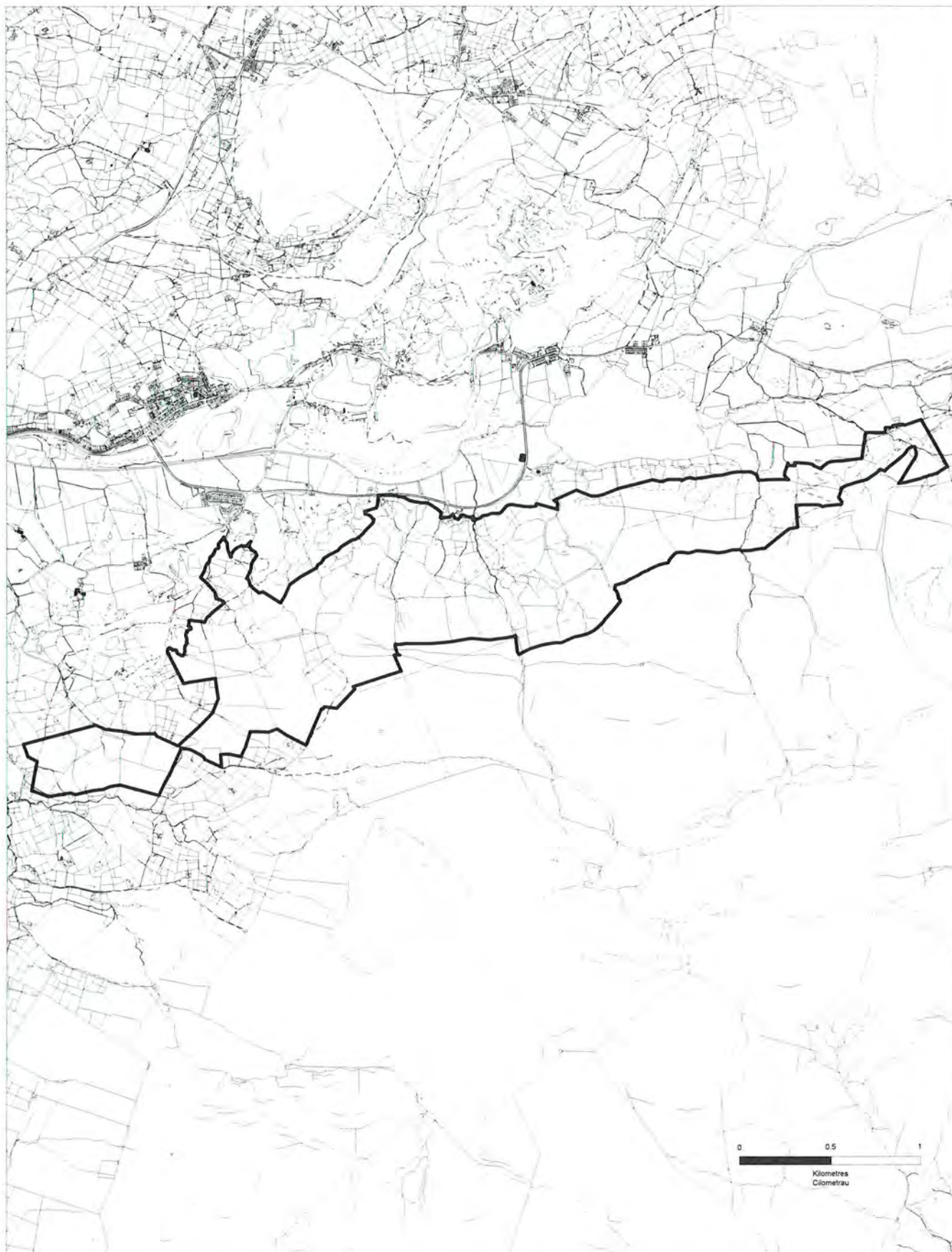
(forms part of G1584: area 23)



**HLCA number 36 Arfon plateau (PRN 15735)**

This aerial view, which looks south, gives a good impression of the mosaic of fields and scatter of small farms which characterise this low-lying, flat area. Bontnewydd (area 20) is on the left edge of the shot, with the mountains behind.

*Photo. ref. no. SMR CS SH4660.1*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
37 - Nantlle valley lower slopes

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## **37 Nantlle valley lower slopes (PRN 15736)**

### ***Historic background***

An area dominated by the farms of Taldrwst, Ty Mawr, Dol Pebin, Gwernor and Ffridd. Dol Pebin is mentioned in the fourth branch of the *Mabinogion*.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### *Relict medieval archaeology (settlement and agriculture), farmhouses*

The farmhouses, which are largely substantial nineteenth-century structures, are typically situated at the break of the slope. There is some afforestation, and a small copper mine at Gwernor, with other trials likely as well. The principal interest of the area, however, is the substantial, extensive and well-preserved evidence of medieval settlement and field systems in the form of long huts and ridge and furrow cultivation, especially on the ridge mid-way down the area. These should be fully recorded as they appear to be largely undisturbed by any later activity.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

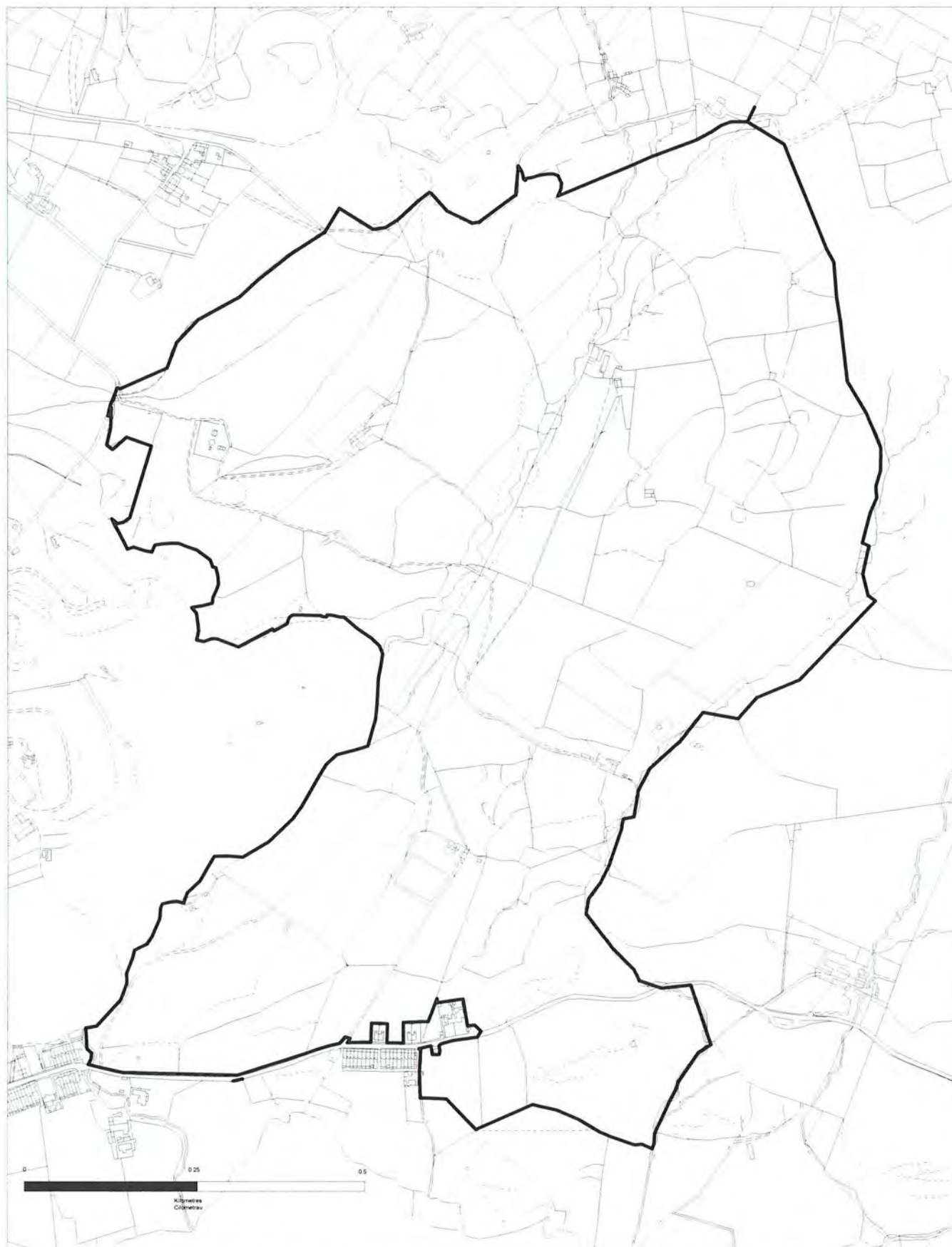
Recording, interpretation and preservation of important and extensive relict (medieval) archaeology, including platform sites and field system-related features, possibly as part of a Tir Gofal farm scheme. Discouragement of inappropriate reconstruction of existing building stock.



**HLCA number 37 Nantlle valley lower slopes (PRN 15736)**

This view, which looks south, shows a part of the lower slopes of Nantlle valley which are characterised by relict archaeology and the open, unenclosed nature of the land. The upper slopes of the valley (area 42) are visible beyond).

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/02-52*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
38 - Cae Rhonwy, Gelli Ffrydiau

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## **38 Cae Rhonwy and Gelli Ffrydiau (PRN 15737)**

### ***Historic background***

An area which contains extensive evidence of late prehistoric settlement and associated field systems. By the late eighteenth century the area formed part of the estate of Hughes of Llysdulas, a family whose fortunes derived from the Parys copper mines. Colonel Hughes was ennobled as Lord Dinorben in the early nineteenth century. Cae Rhonwy is associated with the satirist Siôn Caeronwy (John Jones, fl. 1784).

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Relict archaeology (settlement and lynchets)***

The pattern of fields evident at the time of a survey carried out in 1809 is still largely evident in the present landscape, which overlies an extensive (presumably late prehistoric) field system. Unlike the sea-facing slopes around Rhostryfan, the main field boundaries here are preserved as grassed-over lynchets which don't have walls or banks overlying them and have largely fallen out of use. There are several (contemporary?) settlements within the field system, and a small hillfort on the eastern edge. None of the sites has been excavated, and there is not a reliable, accurate plan. Most of the area is scheduled.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

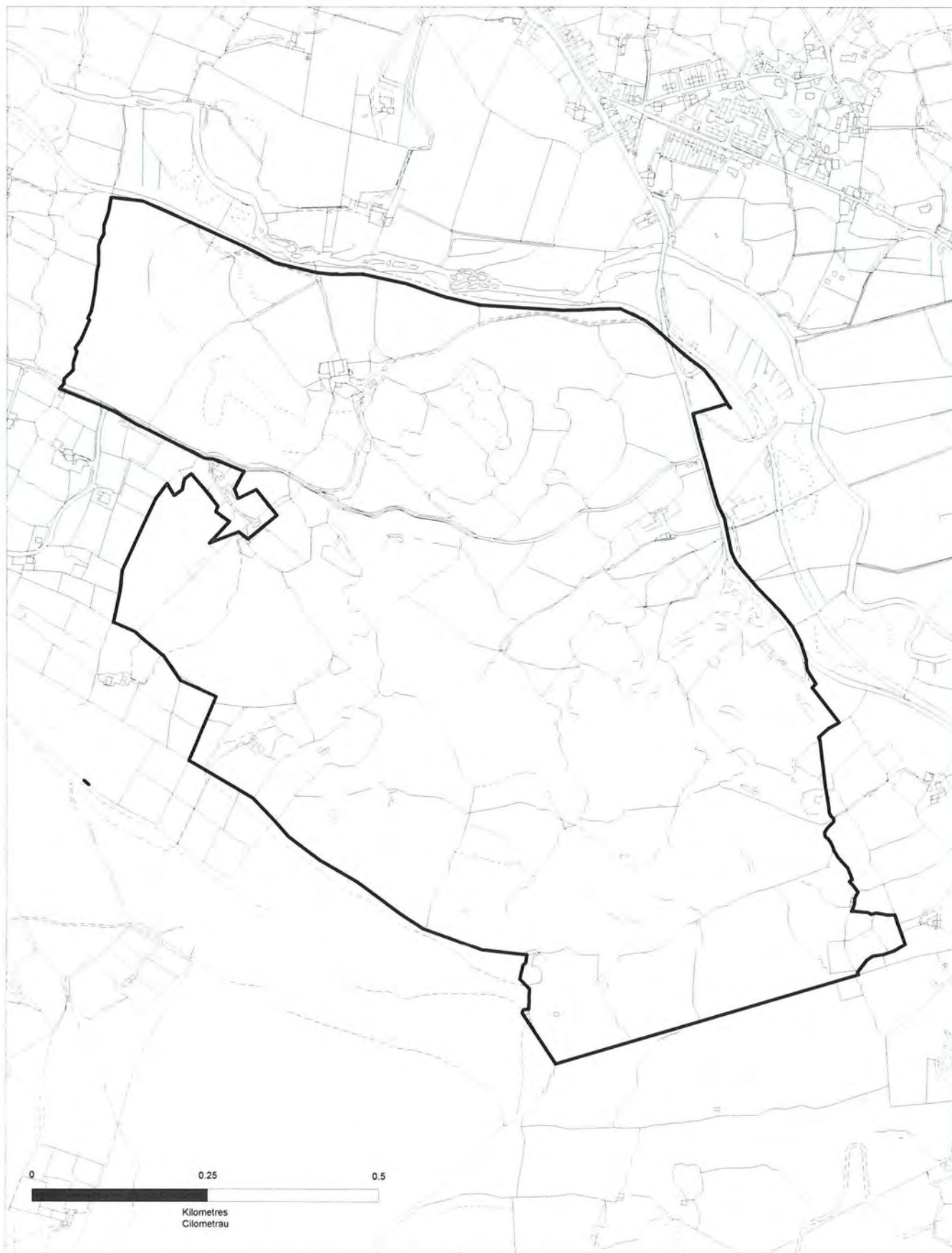
Interpretation and preservation of the whole area of relict remains, preferably as part of a Tir Gofal farm scheme or an SAM management agreement.



**HLCA number 38 Cae Rhonwy and Gelli Ffrydiau (PRN 15737)**

This aerial view, which looks south, clearly shows some of the relict field boundaries (lynchets) which are the most significant historic features in this area, a relatively level shoulder below Mynydd Mawr. The sparsely scattered settlement pattern is also notable.

*Photo. ref. no. Fl 00/02-48*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
39 - Cilfechydd

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### **39 Cilfechyd/Cyrnant (PRN 15738)**

#### ***Historic background***

Cyrnant farm formed part of the Glynllifon estate in the early nineteenth century, and may later have been sold privately to the tenant.

#### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

##### *Irregular enclosures, relict archaeological sites*

A small and anomalous area whose character is very much dictated by the topography (rocky outcrops on a north-facing hillside). There are several large, curvilinear, irregular enclosures, some of which have underlying lynchets on the steep slope and contain a number of relict archaeological sites (the general appearance of the area gives the impression of a prehistoric origin). On top of this, there is also some later (nineteenth-century) enclosure, with dispersed cottage dwellings. A narrow road (again ancient in origin) runs steeply downhill through the area. There is also a fairly extensive tract of ancient woodland along the steep hillside, which is unusual in the locality generally.

#### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Conservation of the field walls and patterns, the relict archaeology and the woodland.  
Preservation of intimate and remote character of area; appropriate management of footpaths.



**HLCA number 39 Cilfechyd/Cyrnant (PRN 15738)**

The hidden, atmospheric nature of this area, which lies towards the top of this view (which looks south west), is evident here.

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/02-49*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
40 - Treflan

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## 40 Treflan (PRN 15739)

### *Historic background*

This area includes the site of a medieval township, and was latterly part of the Wynnstay estate. The smallholdings of Ty Ucha'r Ffordd, Pentre Uchaf, Pentre Isaf, Bryn y Pistyll, Ty'n y Gerddi, Bryneithin and Hafod Oleu were all in existence by the 1740s. A woollen mill was active by 1730, providing clothes for the Drws y Coed miners. In 1803 the estate was sold to the partnership working the Cilgwyn and Cefn Du Slate Quarries. In 1819 the Company sold a quarter of the estate to John Evans, and the remainder in 1825. It was again disposed of (by auction) in 1845, and was sold to the occupier.

### *Key historic landscape characteristics*

#### *Relict and industrial archaeology, field pattern*

The area is quite distinctive, lying below open mountainside and above the river floodplain. It contains a number of disparate elements, which together make for an interesting (and potentially informative) historic area. These elements include the place-name element of a medieval township (one of the most inland of such in this area), several deserted rural settlements, several farmhouses, a small chapel, the remains of a slate quarry (which includes an incline) and more recent settlement. It is apparent that many of the farmhouses, although substantially built, have field names rather than names which indicate a complete holding, for instance, Gwastadfaes and Ty'n y Wern. There is also a large caravan park here.

### *Conservation priorities and management*

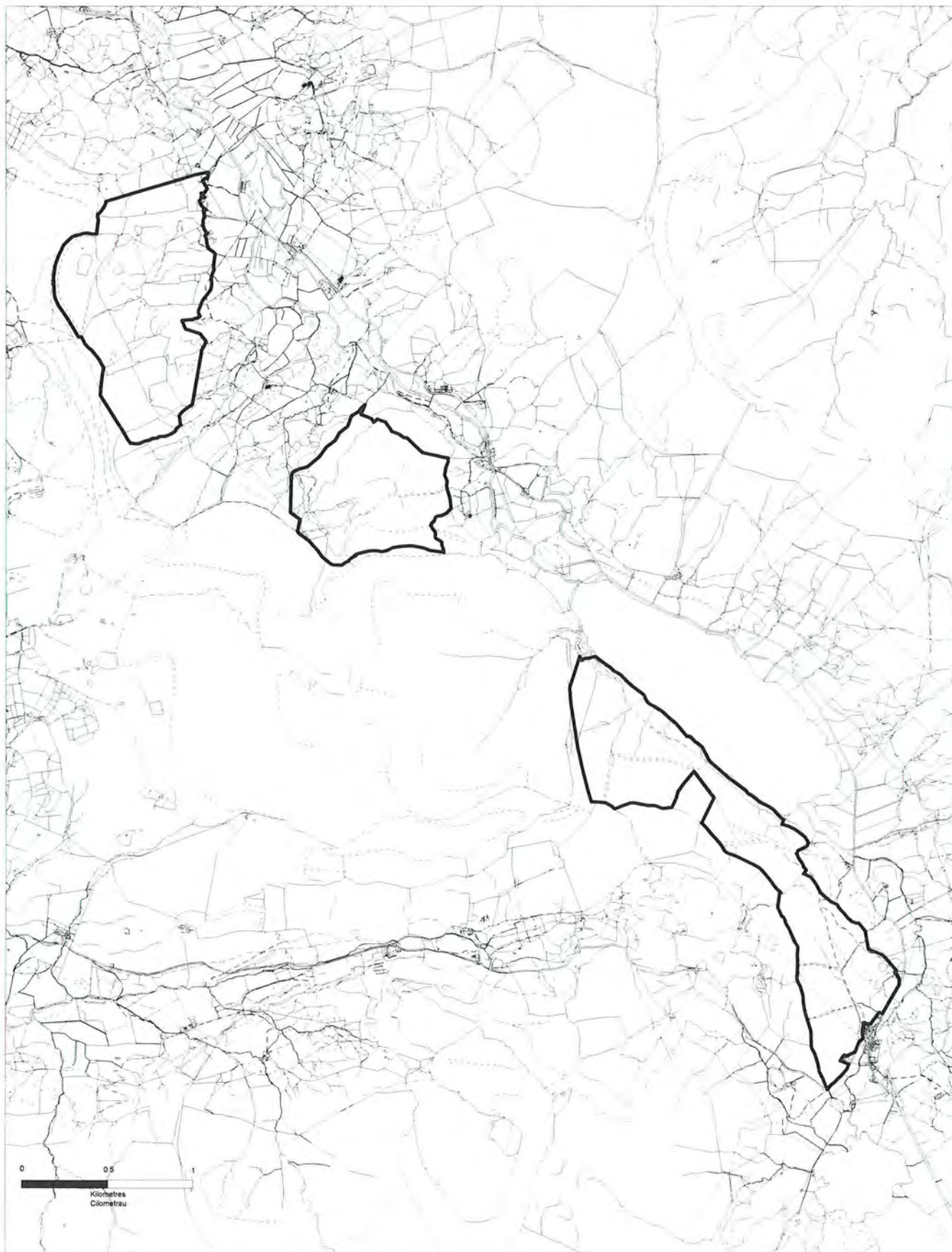
Preservation of disparate elements which make up the area's unique character.



**HLCA number 40 Treflan (PRN 15739)**

This view, which looks north east, is centred on the remains of the disused slate quarry, while one of the farms and some of the irregular enclosures are visible on the mountain side above the valley bottom (area 35).

*Photo. ref. no. G1627.53*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
41 - Gwyrfai valley

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## **41      Gwyrfai valley afforested areas      (PRN 15740)**

### ***Historic background***

These probably form part of the same area, historically, as area 40, but they are now covered by modern forestry.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Twentieth-century forestry***

Areas on the southern valley slopes of the Gwyrfai valley which are now given over to commercial forestry.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

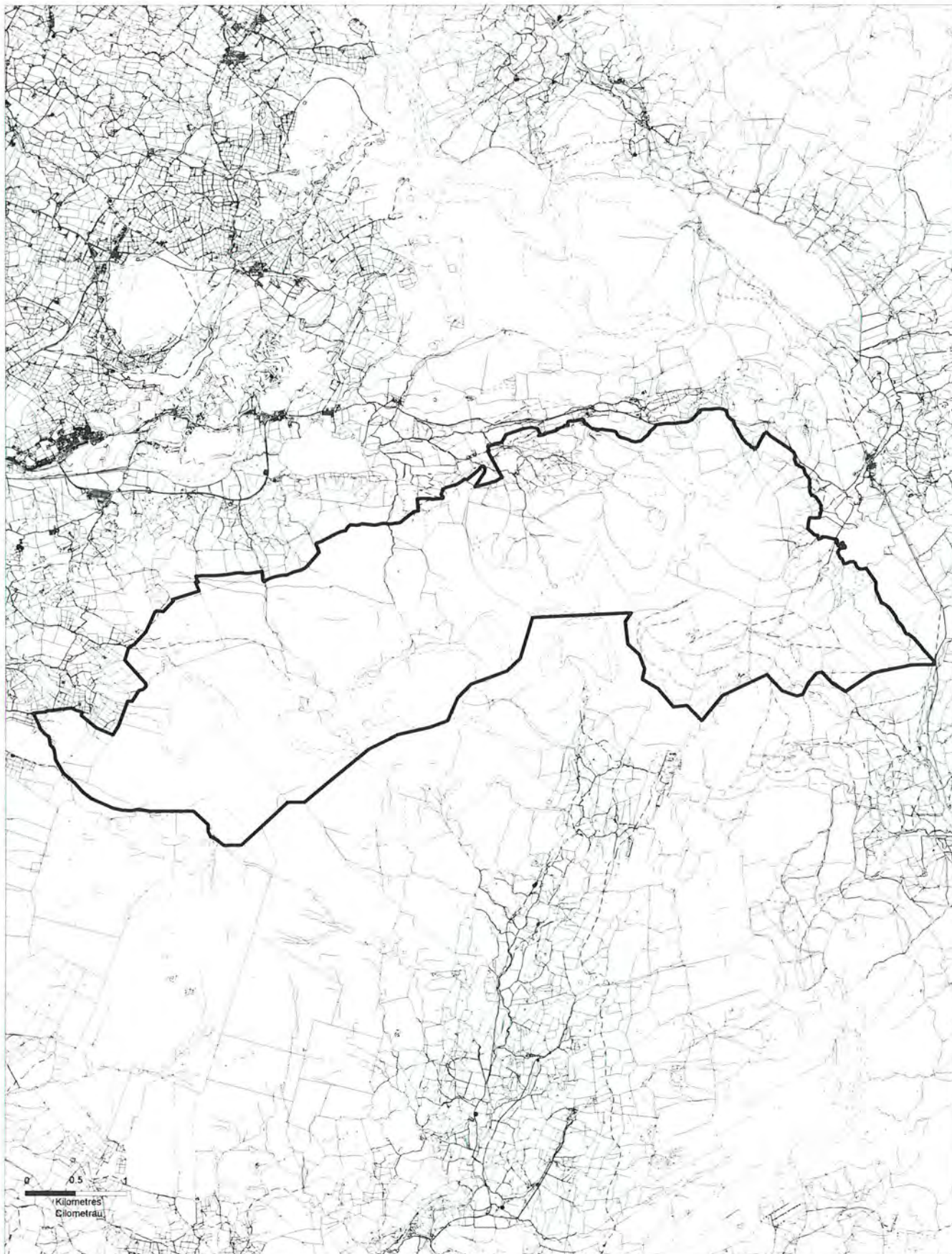
These areas have been covered by twentieth-century afforestation: area should be monitored when felling or thinning takes place.



**HLCA number 41 Gwyrfai valley afforested areas (PRN 15740)**

This view shows the forestry plantation on the southern side of the valley being removed.

*Photo. ref. no. G1627.50*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
42 - Nantlle valley upper slopes

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## **42      Nantlle valley upper slopes                      (PRN 15741)**

### ***Historic background***

Largely unenclosed mountain land reaching up to the Nantlle ridge. Walter Davies, 'Gwallter Mechain', refers to a plantation of 2,000 oaks 'in a very high situation' on Talmignedd farm in 1810.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### *Relict archaeology (settlement and cultivation)*

This area comprises unenclosed mountain, beyond the margin of modern cultivation, although in some ways it is a continuation of area 37, particularly in the presence of extensive and well-preserved remains of medieval settlement and field systems (long huts and ridge and furrow cultivation). In addition, a number of nineteenth- and twentieth-century features survive, including mineral trials and grenade-throwing practice areas from WWII.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

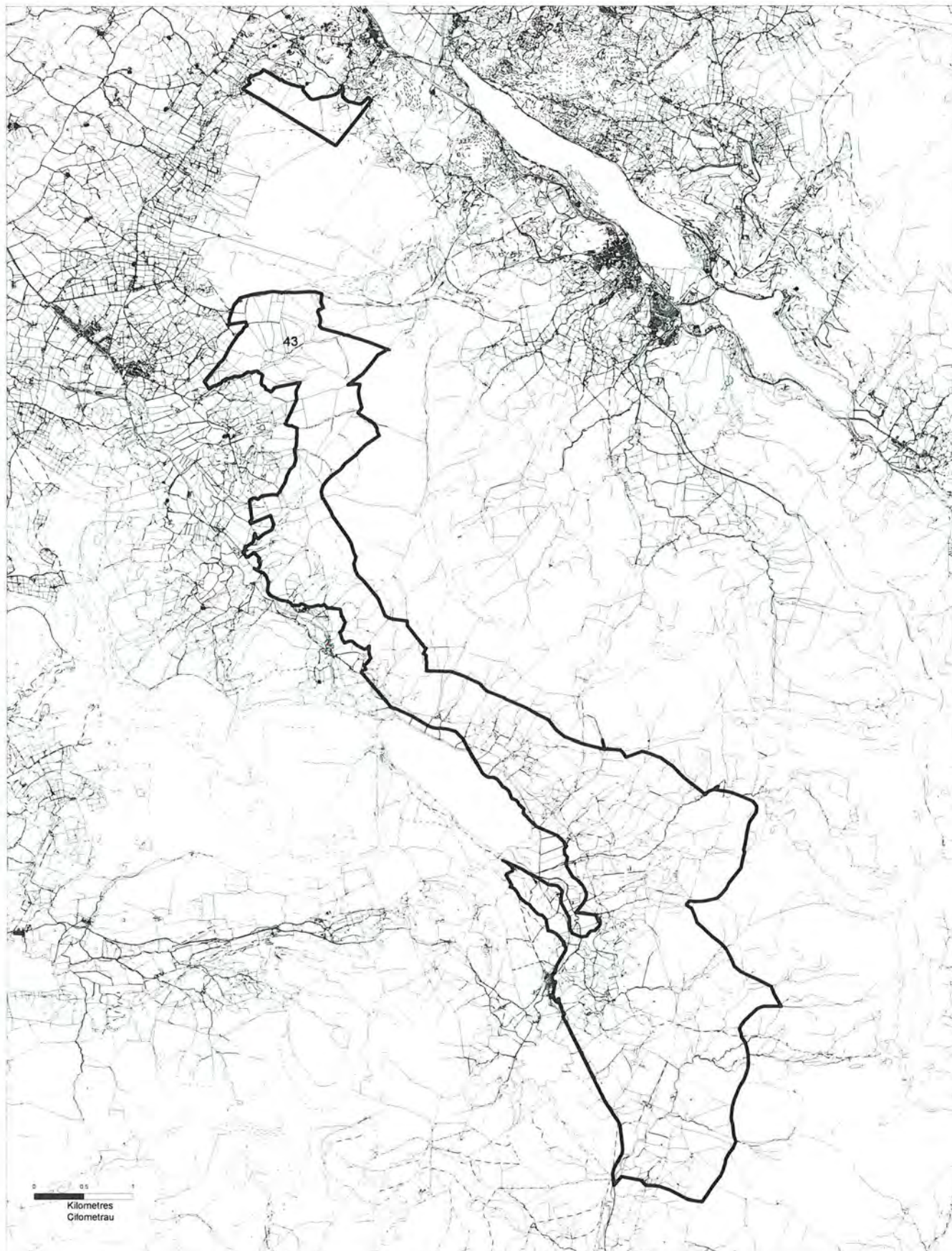
Preservation of open, unspoiled character of the area; appropriate management of footpaths, especially along the Nantlle ridge.



**HLCA number 42 Nantlle valley upper slopes (PRN 15741)**

This view, which again looks south, is similar to that of area 37, where the upper slopes and Cwm Silyn ridge are visible above the lower 'shoulder' (area 37) which contains most of the relict archaeology.

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/02-54*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
43 - Gwyrfaï valley slopes

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## **43      Gwyrfai Valley slopes      (PRN 15742)**

### ***Historic background***

An area in which the Vaynol estate owned much of the land. Previously entirely rural in character, it was developed for slate quarrying after the opening of the North Wales Narrow Gauge Railway in 1878-81.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Large farms, slate quarries, woodland***

This large, open area is characterised by substantial tenant farms of nineteenth-century construction, built at the break of slope, with stone-built field barns and other agricultural structures on the lower parts of the holdings. The slopes are dominated by the well-preserved landscape of the Glanrafon Slate Quarry and its extensive tips; there is also a smaller slate quarry at Clogwyn y Gwin. The course of the railway, particularly the substantial dry-stone embankments, is a noticeable feature. Remarkably, there is little relict archaeology (either prehistoric or medieval) known in the area, which would otherwise seem to have good potential for their preservation, although no systematic fieldwork has been undertaken.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

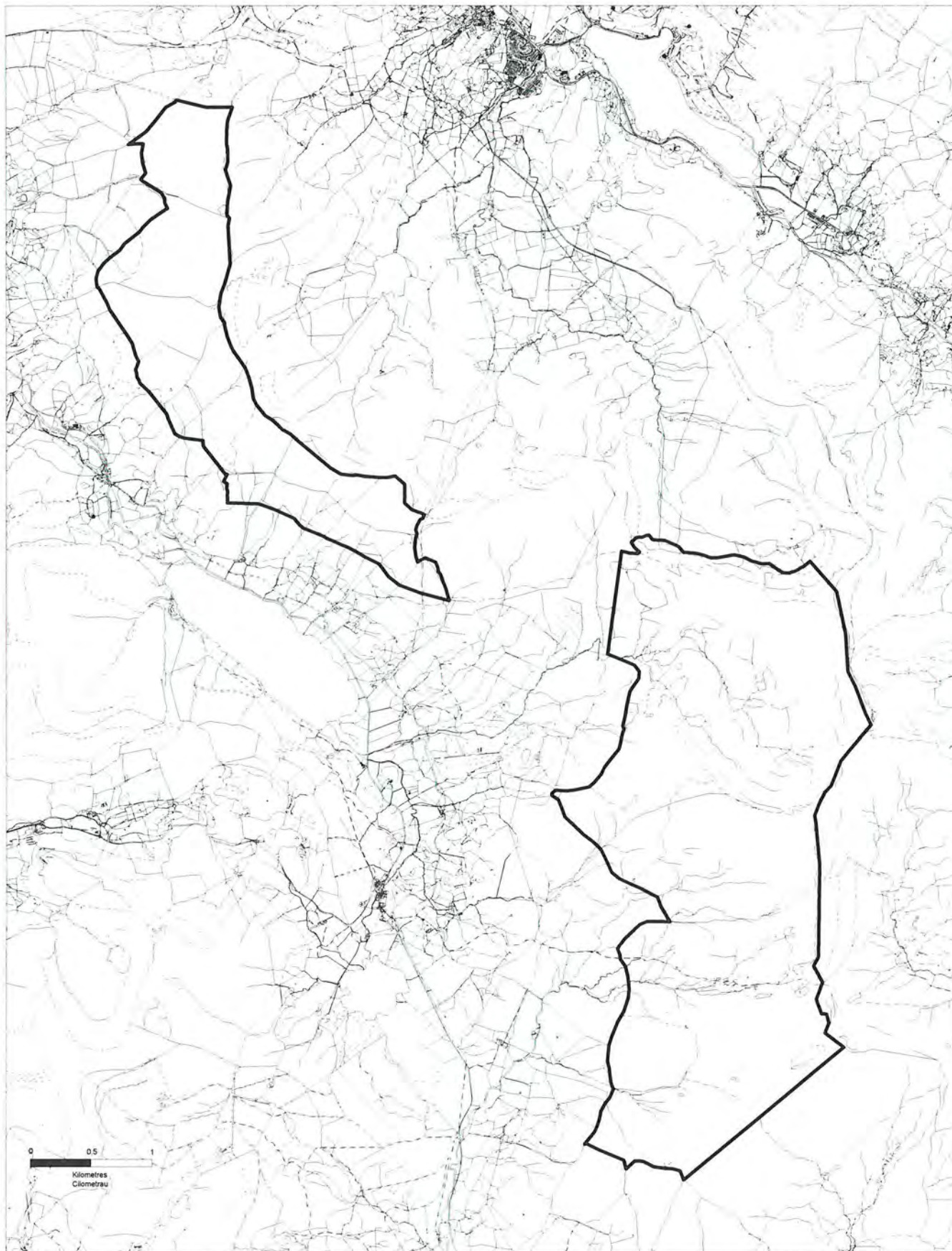
Preservation of historic agricultural character, of large enclosures and substantial farms, particularly in the light of the re-opening of the railway (projected for 2002). Detailed archaeological survey would confirm the apparent dearth of relict remains.



**HLCA number 43 Gwyrfai Valley slopes (PRN 15742)**

This view, which looks north east, shows a farm characteristically set at the foot of the mountain side, with the large irregular enclosures behind, and the unenclosed mountain tops (area 44) above those.

*Photo. ref. no. G1627.38*



### Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
44 - Unenclosed mountain

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#### **44      Unenclosed mountain      (PRN 15743)**

##### ***Historic background***

An upland area, given over to sheep pasture. A cart road from Rhyd Ddu to the slate quarries at Bwlch Cwm Llan runs through the area.

##### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

###### ***Unenclosed mountain***

Open pasture on the slopes of Snowdon. The cart road to the quarries is an engineered feature and is popular with walkers. Relatively free of evidence of past human inhabitation.

##### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of open character; appropriate management of path along quarry road.



**HLCA number 44 Unenclosed mountain (PRN 15743)**

This aerial view shows the open, (almost) untouched mountain tops around Snowdon.

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/02-190*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
45 - Bryn Bras

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## **45     Bryn Bras Castle     (PRN 15744)**

### **Historic background**

A neo-Norman mock castle, built between 1829 and 1835 for Thomas Williams, a Bangor solicitor, on the site of a farmhouse, Coed Goleu. The architect is thought to have been Thomas Hopper, who was currently working on Penrhyn Castle, though it is possible that Provis, Hansom and Welch were involved. Apart from a spell as a country club and hotel between 1956 and 1965, it has been a private house throughout its history. It is unusual in that its original owners made no effort to acquire any land beyond the 81 acres surrounding the house itself. The house and gardens are included on the *Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales*.

### **Key historic landscape characteristics**

#### *Nineteenth-century mock castle*

This area is dominated by the castle, which shares many of the architectural characteristics of Penrhyn, though on a smaller and less forbidding scale. It also includes the present Brynteg caravan park and the ornamental lake to its south-east. The gardens remain basically unchanged since they were laid out in the 1830s and 1840s, though they include buildings from the earlier twentieth century. The area is situated on the boundary of the present study.

### **Conservation priorities and management**

Preservation of historic character; preservation of picturesque nature of gardens which are on the Cadw Garden Register; discouragement of inappropriate development within immediate area of the gardens and of the castle.



**HLCA number 45 Bryn Bras Castle (PRN 15744)**

This aerial view, which looks south east, shows the nineteenth century castle in the foreground amongst the trees, and the huge caravan park which now dominates the local area (at least from the air), and the lake behind.

*Photo. ref. no. SMR CS PRN 4406.3*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
46 - Fort Belan/Caernarfon Airport

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## **46 Fort Belan/Caernarfon Airport (PRN 15745)**

### ***Historic background***

An area given over to defensive sites. Fort Belan was constructed at the extreme northern point of the area to guard the western entrance to the Menai Straits. It was originally built in 1776 to repel a possible invasion from Revolutionary America, was garrisoned during the Napoleonic Wars, and was extended in 1824 and again at a later stage in the nineteenth century. Caernarfon Airport has its origins in RAF Llandwrog, operational from 1941 to 1945 when it was the largest airfield in Wales.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### *Docks, fort, airfield*

This low-lying spit of sand contains a disparate mix of historical elements. The fort is an oblong structure with salients in the shorter sides, north and south. The tidal dock forms part of the later nineteenth-century work.

The airport was laid out with the common triangular pattern of runways, of which one remains in use. A considerable number of buildings from the 1940s survive in a semi-derelict state either within the curtilage of the present airport itself or in the immediate vicinity (RAF Llandwrog was the largest airfield in Wales during the war). The former sick quarters and WAAF site have been heavily re-adapted as a studio and offices by Sain Records, and a second-hand furniture outlet occupies the former site No. 1, which is less altered. A small museum is maintained at the airport.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of historic air force, military and marine features. Encouragement for appropriate development/re-use/interpretation of WWII features.



**HLCA number 46 Fort Belan/Caernarfon Airport (PRN 15745)**

This aerial view of Abermenai, which looks south, shows Fort Belan and the docks on the northern spit of mainland sand in the centre, with Foryd bay behind, and one of the runways of the airfield just visible to the top right. The southern-most tip of Anglesey intrudes into the bottom of the shot.

*Photo. ref. no. F1 00/01-115*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
47 - Dinas Dinlle - Aberdesach

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## **47 Dinas Dinlle-Aberdesach (PRN 15746)**

### ***Historic background***

An area traditionally dominated by the Glynllifon estate and its antecedents. It includes the hill-fort of Dinas Dinlle. The area has a number of associations with the fourth branch of the *Mabinogion*.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

*Dominant hillfort, large fields, farms*

A coastal strip extending from the eroding hill-fort at Dinas Dinlle to the limit of the study area at Aberdesach. The dominant form of architecture is the substantial estate-built farmhouse and associated outbuildings, of which there are several in the area, though there is a nucleated settlement at Pontllyfni (mainly comprising twentieth-century housing set in estates) and small clusters of (late) houses along the main Caernarfon to Pwllheli road. The fact that the area is coastal and low-lying means that the fields are large and irregular, and many of the boundaries are drains.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

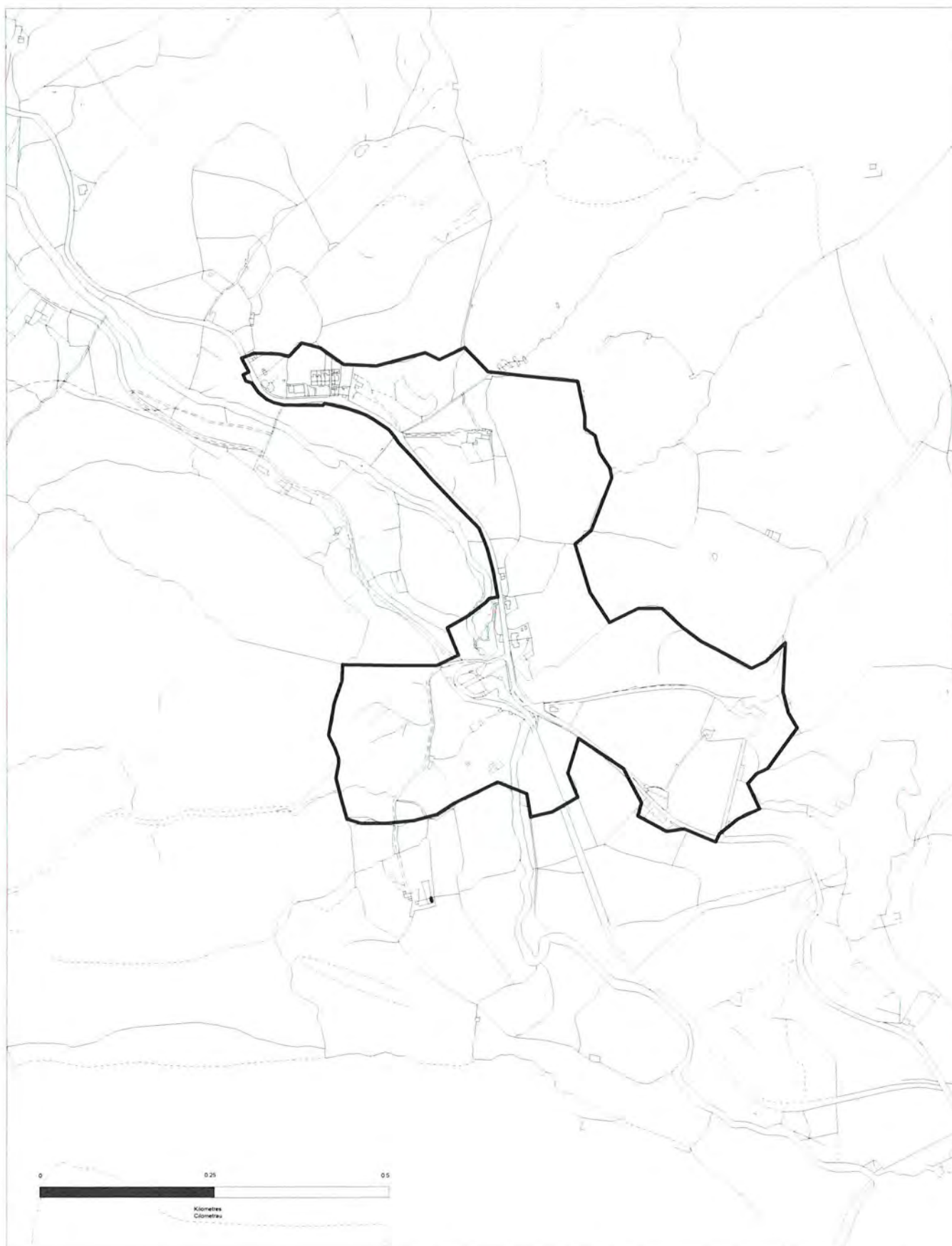
Preservation of historic character of the area. Preservation of traditional farm buildings especially in the light of possible changes in farming practices.



**HLCA number 47 Dinas Dinlle-Aberdesach (PRN 15746)**

This view, which looks south, shows the hillfort of Dinas Dinlle in the centre, with area 47 and its large fields and scattered settlement stretching out beyond. The foreground is part of area 19.

*Photo. ref. no. F1 00/01-122*



## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
48 - Salem/Plas y Nant

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## **48 Salem/Plas y Nant (PRN 15747)**

### ***Historic background***

An area apparently developed by hoteliers in the late nineteenth century. Hyde Hall comments on the picturesque nature of the area in 1809-1811, with its 'florid plantations' in an otherwise treeless area. It was then owned by the Williams family of Marle in Creuddyn. A corn mill and a scythe-grinding mill were established here. Two small slate quarries also operated in the nineteenth century.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Picturesque, tourist landscape***

A narrow pass in the Gwyrfaï valley in which there are several substantial late nineteenth-century hotel buildings, in continued use, as well as some older farmhouses. Plas y Nant may be an adaptation of the house of the Williams family. This development appears to have been caused by the opening of the North Wales Narrow Gauge Railway through the area in 1877, though there was no station here until 1922. There has also been deliberate planting of Alpine trees and of rhododendrons, which partly cover the slate tips. The area conforms to a late nineteenth-century notion of the picturesque.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of the nineteenth-century picturesque character and atmosphere of the area, which includes the planting element as well as the buildings, particularly in the light of the projected re-opening of the Welsh Highland Railway.



**HLCA number 48 Salem/Plas y Nant (PRN 15747)**

This view is of one of the bridges of the North Wales Narrow Gauge Railway (now being reconstructed as the Welsh Highland Railway), and one can see from the trees and plantings how the whole area conformed to a late nineteenth notion of the picturesque.

*Photo. ref. no. G1627.47*





## Historic Landscape Characterisation - Caernarfon-Nantlle

Historic Landscape Character Area  
49 - Floor of Nantlle Valley

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## **49 Floor of Nantlle Valley (PRN 15748)**

### ***Historic background***

A flat valley floor, much altered and restricted by the extensive dumping of slate waste in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The area has traditionally been in the hands of a number of lesser local landowners, and represented the lowland holdings of farms situated just above the break of slope. The lower part of the area is dominated by the hill-fort of Caer Engan, associated with Caer Dathyl in the fourth branch of the *Mabinogion*. The upper part includes the Baladeulyn of the *Mabinogion*, and forms the foreground setting for Richard Wilson's painting of Snowdon.

### ***Key historic landscape characteristics***

#### ***Canalised river, road***

A mixture of pasture and marsh, with smaller fields on the sides of the hill-fort at Caer Engan. The only major dwelling in the area is Ty Mawr, a farmhouse recently reconstructed after a fire on an inappropriate scale and in an inappropriate manner. The principal historical interest in this flat area of irregular pasture fields are the various communication routes. The river was extensively canalised in the early twentieth century. The area includes the diverted Pen y Groes to Nantlle road and the substantial reinforced concrete bridge at Tal y Sarn, completed in 1929, as well as the course of a tramway and a number of permissive footpaths.

### ***Conservation priorities and management***

Preservation of the open character of the area. Preservation of traditional farm-buildings especially in the light of possible changes in farming practices.



**HLCA number 49 Floor of Nantlle Valley (PRN 15748)**

This aerial view, which looks north, shows the one lake remaining (of an original two) on the valley floor, with the village of Nantlle (area 13) just beyond and the working quarry of Pen-yr-orsedd ( area 9) beyond that.

*Photo. ref. no. FI 00/02-36*

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## 10.2 Cartographic sources

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#### **10.4 Visual material**

##### *National Library of Wales*

John Thomas Photograph Album  
Cornelius Varley, *Snowdon from Llanllyfni*

##### *Caernarfon Record Office*

XCHS collection.

##### *Lady Lever Art Gallery, Port Sunlight*

Richard Wilson, *Snowdon from Nantlle*.

#### **10.5 Archive sources**

These are appended as a separate data-base on the following pages.



## HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISATION

### Archival sources

#### Abbreviations:

Location ('Loc') is variously:

CRO = Caernarfon Record Office

NLW = National Library of Wales

UWB = University of Wales, Bangor, Manuscripts Department

PRO = Public Record Office, Kew

The presence or absence of plans within a particular collection is indicated by 'y' or 'n'

The likely value of the collection is indicated by 1, 2 or 3, with 1 as the desirable state.

#### LOC CRO COLLECTION Abandoned Mines Plans

INITIALNO X/AMP/Maps ENDNO X/AMP/Maps

START DATE 1850 END DATE 1930

PARISH Llanheblig, Llandwrog, Beddgelert

DOCUMENT Mining plans PLAN y VALUE 2

*NOTES This collection includes plans of Ystrad Iron Ore Mine (18), Benallt Lead Mine (21) and Drws y Coed Copper Mine (28).*

#### LOC UWB COLLECTION Bangor

INITIALNO 0000000908 ENDNO 0000000908

START DATE 1809 END DATE 1811

PARISH All

DOCUMENT Survey PLAN y VALUE 1

*NOTES The manuscript of Edmund Hyde Hall's 'Notes on Caernaryonshire,' drawn up between 1809 and 1811, published in book form in 1952.*

#### LOC CRO COLLECTION Breese Jones Casson Additional

INITIALNO X/BJC/331 ENDNO X/BJC/345

START DATE 1721 END DATE 1948

PARISH Llanllyfni

DOCUMENT Legal papers PLAN y VALUE 2

*NOTES Papers relating to Llwydcoed farm, Llanllyfni.*

#### LOC CRO COLLECTION Cae Terfyn

INITIALNO X/M/759/1 ENDNO X/M/759

START DATE 1790 END DATE 20

PARISH Llanwnda, Betws Garmon, Llandwrog

DOCUMENT Estate papers PLAN n VALUE 3

*NOTES Includes papers relating to the Glangwna estate.*

LOC **CRO** COLLECTION **Caernarfon Harbour Trust**

INITIALNO **XD/15/1/1** ENDNO **XD/15(Add)**  
START DATE **1793** END DATE **1970**  
PARISH **Llanbeblig**  
DOCUMENT **Harbour records** PLAN **y** VALUE **1**

*NOTES Papers relating to the harbour at Caernarfon.*

LOC **UWB** COLLECTION **Carter Vincent Further Additional**

INITIALNO **4254** ENDNO **4254**  
START DATE **1880** END DATE **1880**  
PARISH **Llanllyfni**  
DOCUMENT **Mortgage** PLAN **n** VALUE **3**

*NOTES Mortgage of properties in Chapel Road, Pen y Groes*

LOC **UWB** COLLECTION **Carter Vincent II**

INITIALNO **2524** ENDNO **2533**  
START DATE **1769** END DATE **1856**  
PARISH **Llandwrog**  
DOCUMENT **Deeds** PLAN **n** VALUE **2**

*NOTES Deeds relating to properties in the parish of Llandwrog.*

LOC **UWB** COLLECTION **Carter Vincent II**

INITIALNO **2538** ENDNO **2539**  
START DATE **1836** END DATE **1850**  
PARISH **Llanfaglan**  
DOCUMENT **Deeds** PLAN **n** VALUE **2**

*NOTES Deeds relating to properties in the parish of Llanfaglan.*

LOC **UWB** COLLECTION **Carter Vincent II**

INITIALNO **2620** ENDNO **2638**  
START DATE **1826** END DATE **1935**  
PARISH **Llanfair Isgaer**  
DOCUMENT **Deeds** PLAN **n** VALUE **2**

*NOTES Deeds relating to properties in the parish of Llanfair Isgaer.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Carter Vincent II

INITIALNO 2827                      ENDNO 2839  
START DATE 1779                  END DATE 1899  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Deeds                      PLAN n              VALUE 2

*NOTES Deeds relating to properties in the parish of Llanllyfni.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Carter Vincent II

INITIALNO 2842                      ENDNO 2856  
START DATE 1829                  END DATE 1881  
PARISH Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Deeds                      PLAN n              VALUE 2

*NOTES Deeds relating to properties in the parish of Llanrug.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Carter Vincent II

INITIALNO 2857                      ENDNO 2875  
START DATE 1797                  END DATE 1870  
PARISH Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Deeds                      PLAN n              VALUE 2

*NOTES Deeds relating to properties in the parish of Llanwnda.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Carter Vincent II

INITIALNO 2986                      ENDNO 2987  
START DATE 1847                  END DATE 1848  
PARISH Llanwnda, Llandwrog, Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Deeds                      PLAN n              VALUE 3

*NOTES Deeds relating to Rhedynog Felen (the first site of the Cistercian house, later re-established at Aberconwy), Pen y Gelli and Tyddyn Bocha.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Coed Helen Papers

INITIALNO XD/5/00001              ENDNO XD/5/00282  
START DATE 1675                  END DATE 1938  
PARISH Llanrug, Caernarfon, Llanbeblig, Betws Garmon  
DOCUMENT Estate papers              PLAN n              VALUE 1

*NOTES The papers of one of the smaller local estates. XD/5/205 to XD/5/211 is correspondence between Rice Thomas of Coed Helen and the Nantlle Railway.*



**LOC CRO      COLLECTION County Architect's Plans**

INITIALNO **XCA/128**      ENDNO **XCA326**  
START DATE **1882**      END DATE **1946**  
PARISH **All**  
DOCUMENT **Architectural plans**      PLAN **y**      VALUE **2**

*NOTES Plans of schools, hospitals, prisons and other institutions erected or altered under Caernarvonshire County Council's auspices.*

**LOC CRO      COLLECTION County Gaol Records**

INITIALNO **XQA/G/1**      ENDNO **XQA/6/557**  
START DATE **1793**      END DATE **1881**  
PARISH **Llanbeblig**  
DOCUMENT **Prison records**      PLAN **y**      VALUE **3**

*NOTES Documents relating, inter alia, to the design and construction of Caernarfon gaol.*

**LOC CRO      COLLECTION County Highways**

INITIALNO **XCH/Plans/**      ENDNO **XCH/Plans/**  
START DATE **1888**      END DATE **1897**  
PARISH **All**  
DOCUMENT **Road plans**      PLAN **y**      VALUE **2**

*NOTES County Highways Department road plans.*

**LOC PRO      COLLECTION Crown Estates**

INITIALNO **CRES/6/165**      ENDNO **CRES/6/165**  
START DATE **1837**      END DATE **1837**  
PARISH **Betws Garmon**  
DOCUMENT **Estate map**      PLAN **y**      VALUE **2**

*NOTES Map of slate quarries in Betws Garmon.*

**LOC CRO      COLLECTION Dorothea**

INITIALNO **X/Dor/1**      ENDNO **X/Dor/1488**  
START DATE **1850**      END DATE **1970**  
PARISH **Llandwrog**  
DOCUMENT **Quarry records**      PLAN **y**      VALUE **1**

*NOTES Papers relating to Dorothea Quarry from its take-over by the Welsh company in 1850 to its final demise in 1970.*

LOC NLW COLLECTION Drawing (or map) vol. 23

INITIALNO 2                      ENDNO 8  
START DATE 1767              END DATE 1767  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate records              PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES Plans of the properties of the Rev. William Griffith, rector of Llandwrog.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Drawing (or map) vol. 29

INITIALNO p90                      ENDNO p92  
START DATE 1856              END DATE 1856  
PARISH Llanbeblig, Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Estate records              PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES Plan of Cae Mur in Llanbeblig parish and of Rhydllydan in Llanllyfni.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Drawing (or map) vol. 4

INITIALNO p2                      ENDNO p20  
START DATE 1813              END DATE 1813  
PARISH Llanbeblig, Llanwnda, Llandwrog, Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Estate records              PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES A survey of the Garnons estate.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Drawing (or map) vol. 50

INITIALNO 1                      ENDNO 19  
START DATE 1856              END DATE 1856  
PARISH Llanbeblig, Llanwnda, Llanfair Isgaer, Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate records              PLAN y      VALUE 3

NOTES Though dated to 1856, these appear to be copies of the 1813 Garnons survey and do not show any of the developments of the intervening years. The estate by this time was in the hands of J.W.M. Gwynne Hughes esq.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Drawing (or map) vol. 50

INITIALNO p4                      ENDNO p6  
START DATE 1856              END DATE 1856  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate records              PLAN y      VALUE 3

NOTES Plans of properties in Llandwrog.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Drawing vol. 410

INITIALNO p24                      ENDNO p24  
START DATE 1830                  END DATE 1854  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Visual record                  PLAN n          VALUE 3

NOTES A painting by a French amateur of the quay at Caernarfon.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Garreg Fawr Deeds

INITIALNO 1                      ENDNO 47  
START DATE 1810                  END DATE 1933  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Quarry/mine records          PLAN y          VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to ironstone mining and slate quarrying at Treflan and Garreg Fawr.

LOC CRO COLLECTION GCC/Deeds

INITIALNO XCG/57                  ENDNO XCG/58  
START DATE 1897                  END DATE 1913  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Deeds                      PLAN y          VALUE 3

NOTES Deeds relating to Gwynedd County Council property in Llanllyfni.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Glynllifon

INITIALNO 8356                      ENDNO 8356  
START DATE 1815                  END DATE 1815  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Estate maps                  PLAN y          VALUE 1

NOTES A survey of the Glynllifon estate.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Griffith Jones, Caernarfon

INITIALNO XD/118                      ENDNO XD/122  
START DATE 1895                  END DATE 1899  
PARISH Llanfair Isgaer  
DOCUMENT Industrial records                  PLAN n          VALUE 3

NOTES Papers relating to Parkia brickworks at Griffiths Crossing.



LOC CRO COLLECTION Gwynedd Aerial Survey

INITIALNO XD/80/A1      ENDNO XD/80/E/15  
START DATE 1981      END DATE 20  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Photographic record      PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES Aerial photographs from Mary and Capel Aris's survey of North Wales.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Gwynedd County Council Deeds

INITIALNO XCG/111      ENDNO XCG/114  
START DATE 1786      END DATE 1923  
PARISH Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Deeds      PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES Deeds relating to Gwynedd County Council property.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Gwynedd County Council Deeds

INITIALNO XCG/146      ENDNO XCG/257  
START DATE 1829      END DATE 1927  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Deeds      PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES Gwynedd County Council deeds relating to property in the town of Caernarfon.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Gwynedd County Council Deeds

INITIALNO XCG/65      ENDNO XCG/110  
START DATE 1786      END DATE 1946  
PARISH Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Deeds      PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES Deeds relating to Gwynedd County Council property in Llanrug.

LOC NLW COLLECTION H.Rumsey Williams Deeds and Docs

INITIALNO 1      ENDNO 2742  
START DATE 1634      END DATE 1842  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Legal records      PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES The papers of Henry Rumsey Williams, the leading Tory attorney in Caernarvonshire in the early nineteenth century, a man whose influence matched that of John Evans of the Porth yr Aur practice. He was involved in the administration of a number of local estates.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Ivor H. Jones, Pen y Groes

INITIALNO XM/2474/1      ENDNO XM/2474/50  
START DATE 1838      END DATE 1950  
PARISH Llanllyfni, Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Research notes      PLAN n      VALUE 3

NOTES *A family collection which includes research notes on the development of Pen y Groes and the area.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Ivor H. Jones, Pen y Groes

INITIALNO XS/1412/1      ENDNO XS/1412/49  
START DATE 19      END DATE 20  
PARISH Llanllyfni, Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Photographic collect      PLAN n      VALUE 2

NOTES *A collection of photographs of the Nantlle area, mostly taken towards the end of the nineteenth century and the early part of the twentieth.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION John Williams

INITIALNO XJW/Maps/2      ENDNO XJW/Maps/1  
START DATE 1847      END DATE 1878  
PARISH Llanrug, Llanbeblig, Llanwnda, Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Research collection      PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES *Plans of, inter alia, a graveyard extension at Llanrug, 1847-1876 (XJW/Maps/2), and plans of Caernarfon timber quay, 1858 (XJW/Maps/5), of Bwlch Derwyn, Clynog (XJW/Maps/8), of Glanrafon farm in 1864 (XJW/Maps/8), of the abortive Llynvi (sic) Vale Harbour Co. of 1858 (XJW/Maps/9) and of the Foel Slate Quarry, Clynog in 1878 (XJW/Maps/10).*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Kimmel

INITIALNO S1755      ENDNO S1755  
START DATE 1853      END DATE 1853  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES *Papers relating to the holdings of the Kimmel estate in Llandwrog.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION L.N.W.R. Plans

INITIALNO 0000000001      ENDNO U/k  
START DATE 1846      END DATE 1922  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Railway plans      PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES *Plans of the London and North Western Railway and of the earlier companies which it absorbed, including the Chester and Holyhead Railway. The original plans for the North Wales coastal main line are preserved here, as are the various branches and siding alterations.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION L.N.W.R. Plans

INITIALNO 3                      ENDNO U/k  
START DATE 1856              END DATE 1954  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Railway plans              PLAN y      VALUE 1

*NOTES This includes not only the plans of the Nordon and North Western Railway but also of the railway companies which it took over and of its successors, the L.M.S. and B.R.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Land Tax Assessments

INITIALNO XQA/LT/5/1      ENDNO XQA/LT/5/5  
START DATE 1746              END DATE 1830  
PARISH Clynnog, Llandwrog, Llanllyfni, Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Taxation records              PLAN n      VALUE 1

*NOTES These papers preserve an extensive and detailed record of land-holding within the hundred of Uwchgwyrfai.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Land Tax Assessments

INITIALNO XQA/LT/6/5      ENDNO XQA/LT/6/1  
START DATE 1746              END DATE 1830  
PARISH Betws Garmon, Llanbeblig, Llanfaglen, Llanfair Isg  
DOCUMENT Taxation records              PLAN n      VALUE 1

*NOTES These papers preserve an extensive and detailed record of land-holding within the hundred of Isgwyrfai.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Land Tax-Quarter Sessions

INITIALNO 0000000004      ENDNO 0000000006  
START DATE 1745              END DATE 1830  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Taxation documents              PLAN n      VALUE 1

*NOTES Land Tax assessments for the Hundreds of Arllechwedd Isaf and Isgwyrfai.*

LOC NLW COLLECTION Liverpool Libraries

INITIALNO 24                      ENDNO U/k  
START DATE 1864              END DATE 1880  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Quarry records              PLAN n      VALUE 3

*NOTES Documents concerning Coedmadoc Quarry in Tal y Sarn.*



LOC NLW COLLECTION Llanfair Brynodol Deeds and Docs

INITIALNO 1                      ENDNO 594  
START DATE 1413              END DATE 1880  
PARISH Llanrug, Caernarfon  
DOCUMENT Estate papers              PLAN n      VALUE 1

*NOTES Papers relating to the estate united by the marriage of Hugh Griffith of Porthaml and Mary Wynn of Taltreuddyn.*

LOC NLW COLLECTION Llanfair Brynodol Deeds and Docs

INITIALNO B1                      ENDNO B124  
START DATE 16              END DATE 1783  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Borough papers              PLAN n      VALUE 1

*NOTES Caernarfon borough records.*

LOC NLW COLLECTION Llanfair Brynodol Deeds and Docs

INITIALNO D1                      ENDNO D184  
START DATE 1452              END DATE 1673  
PARISH Llanfair Isgaer, Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Estate papers              PLAN n      VALUE 1

*NOTES Papers relating to the Griffith family of Porthaml and their property, mainly in the parish of Llanfair Isgaer; one document (D14) records Felin Wen in Llanrug parish as in existence by 1475.*

LOC NLW COLLECTION Llanfair Brynodol Deeds and Docs

INITIALNO D185                      ENDNO D561  
START DATE 1564              END DATE 1864  
PARISH Llandwrog, Llanrug, Llanfair Isgaer  
DOCUMENT Estate papers              PLAN y      VALUE 1

*NOTES Though these papers deal mainly with the centre of the Llanfair-Brynodol estate in Tudweiliog on Llyn, some refer to properties within the study area.*

LOC NLW COLLECTION Llanfair Brynodol Deeds and Docs

INITIALNO D562                      ENDNO D663  
START DATE 1761              END DATE 1785  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers              PLAN n      VALUE 2

*NOTES Deeds of Thomas of Coedhelen properties in the parish of Llanbeblig.*

LOC NLW COLLECTION Llanfair Brynodol Deeds and Docs

INITIALNO D916                      ENDNO D966  
START DATE 1380                  END DATE 1840  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                  PLAN n          VALUE 1

NOTES A run of deeds relating to properties in the parish of Llanbeblig.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Llanfair Brynodol Deeds and Docs

INITIALNO D967                      ENDNO D1128  
START DATE 1570                  END DATE 1842  
PARISH Llanbeblig, Llandwrog, Llanfaglen, Clynnog  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                  PLAN n          VALUE 1

NOTES A collection of deeds relating to properties in the parishes identified.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Llanfair Brynodol Deeds and Docs

INITIALNO M1                        ENDNO M216  
START DATE 1365                  END DATE 1819  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Crown papers                  PLAN n          VALUE 1

NOTES Ministers' accounts for the county, 1365, and later crown documents dealing mainly, though not exclusively, with the study area.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Llanfair Brynodol Deeds and Docs

INITIALNO R123                      ENDNO R133  
START DATE 17                    END DATE 1717  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                  PLAN n          VALUE 1

NOTES An important source for one of the smaller estates.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Llanfair Brynodol Deeds and Docs

INITIALNO R144                      ENDNO R144  
START DATE 17                    END DATE 17  
PARISH Llanrug, Llanfair Isgaer, Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                  PLAN n          VALUE 2

NOTES The rental of the Glascoed estate.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Llanfair Brynodol Deeds and Docs

INITIALNO R149                      ENDNO R163  
START DATE 1671                  END DATE 1783  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                  PLAN n          VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Spicer, Bodfel, Mills, Glynllifon and Glanrafon estates.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Llanfair Brynodol Deposit

INITIALNO p13                      ENDNO p13  
START DATE 1800                  END DATE 1800  
PARISH Llanbeblig, Llandwrog, Llanfair Isgaer, Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Estate records                  PLAN y          VALUE 1

NOTES Plans of properties in Caernarfon and of the tenement Tyddyn Dafydd Du near Groeslon in the parish of Llandwrog.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Map

INITIALNO 7072                      ENDNO 7072  
START DATE 1771                  END DATE 1771  
PARISH Llanrug, Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate records                  PLAN y          VALUE 2

NOTES Plan of Pen y Gelli, the property of Hugh Griffith of Brynodol.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Map

INITIALNO 7073                      ENDNO 7073  
START DATE 1815                  END DATE 1815  
PARISH Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Estate records                  PLAN y          VALUE 2

NOTES Plans of the properties of F. Griffiths.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Map

INITIALNO 7119                      ENDNO 7119  
START DATE 18                      END DATE 18  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate records                  PLAN y          VALUE 1

NOTES A map of Caernarfon, pre-1776, showing the properties of Hugh Griffith of Brynodol.



LOC NLW COLLECTION Maps

INITIALNO 10056                      ENDNO 10056  
START DATE 1860                      END DATE 1860  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate records                      PLAN y                      VALUE 3

NOTES Plans of Treflan in the southernmost part of the parish of Llanbeblig, near Waunfawr.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps

INITIALNO XM/Maps/50                      ENDNO XM/Maps/50  
START DATE 1865                      END DATE 1865  
PARISH Llandwrog, Llanbeblig, Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Railway records                      PLAN y                      VALUE 2

NOTES A plan of the proposed Caernarvonshire Railway, showing Pant station.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/13                      ENDNO XM/Maps/13  
START DATE 1817                      END DATE 1848  
PARISH Llandwrog, Llanwnda, Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN y                      VALUE 1

NOTES A copy of a map preserved in the Crown agent's office, showing the process of encroachment on the crown commons of Moel Tryfan and Moel Smytho between 1827 and 1848 and Clogwyn Melyn, Llanllyfni.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/24                      ENDNO XM/Maps/24  
START DATE 1913                      END DATE 1913  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Estate plans                      PLAN y                      VALUE 2

NOTES Plan of holdings in Llanllyfni.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/25                      ENDNO XM/Maps/25  
START DATE 1960                      END DATE 1960  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN y                      VALUE 3

NOTES A land-utilisation plan.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/28 ENDNO XM/Maps/29  
START DATE 1918 END DATE 1918  
PARISH  
DOCUMENT Estate plans PLAN y VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the sale of Plas Tirion.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/29 ENDNO XM/Maps/29  
START DATE 1845 END DATE 1845  
PARISH Beddgelert  
DOCUMENT Mining papers PLAN y VALUE 3

NOTES A 'Horizontal plan' of Drws y Coed copper mine.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/40 ENDNO XM/Maps/40  
START DATE 1852 END DATE 1852  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Town plan PLAN y VALUE 3

NOTES A plan of Caernarfon.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/41 ENDNO XM/Maps/41  
START DATE 19 END DATE 20  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT PLAN y VALUE 3

NOTES Papers relating to properties in Llanllyfni.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/43 ENDNO XM/Maps/43  
START DATE 1767 END DATE 1865  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Estate papers PLAN y VALUE 1

NOTES Photocopies of estate maps in NLW; these include the property of the Rev. William Griffith in Llanfaglen and elsewhere, surveyed by John Foulkes in 1767(1), the Garnons estate, one of the lesser gentry estates based within the study area, compiled in 1813 (11), the Erw Wen estate in Clynog, compiled in 1832 (20), the Pant Du estate in Llanllyfni, compiled in 1865 (28), and Brynodol properties in Caernarfon, dating from the eighteenth century (31).

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/46    ENDNO XM/Maps/46  
START DATE 1751    END DATE 1751  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate papers    PLAN y    VALUE 1

NOTES *A map of the Glynllifon demesne at an early stage of its development, coinciding with the construction of the new house, believed to have been designed by Sir Thomas Wynn.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/46    ENDNO XM/Maps/46  
START DATE 1948    END DATE 1948  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate plans    PLAN y    VALUE 2

NOTES *A map of the Glynllifon demesne, drawn up when it became an agricultural college.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/47    ENDNO XM/Maps/47  
START DATE 1675    END DATE 1675  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Road map    PLAN y    VALUE 1

NOTES *Ogilby's road map, showing the course of the main north-south road through the study area.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/52    ENDNO XM/Maps/52  
START DATE 1869    END DATE 1869  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Quarry records    PLAN y    VALUE 3

NOTES *Plan of steam winding engine for Dorothea Quarry by DeWinton's Union Ironworks, Caernarfon.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/65    ENDNO XM/Maps/65  
START DATE 1769    END DATE 1769  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Town plan    PLAN y    VALUE 2

NOTES *Sketch of Caernarfon.*



LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/67      ENDNO XM/Maps/67  
START DATE 1891      END DATE 1891  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate plans      PLAN y      VALUE 3

NOTES *A plan of the area around the Seiont mills in Caernarfon.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/75      ENDNO XM/Maps/75  
START DATE 1879      END DATE 1898  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES *A map of Felingerrig, the area between the villages of Llanllyfni and Pen y Groes, showing the writing slate mill.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/8      ENDNO XM/Maps/8  
START DATE 1836      END DATE 1836  
PARISH Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Transport papers      PLAN y      VALUE 3

NOTES *Map of a public highway in Llanwnda parish.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/84      ENDNO XM/Maps/84  
START DATE 1820      END DATE 1826  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Town plans      PLAN y      VALUE 3

NOTES *Plans drawn up by Robert Williams, son of the surveyor, bard and historian William Williams Llandygai, of a proposed water scheme for Caernarfon.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Maps and Plans

INITIALNO XM/Maps/91      ENDNO XM/Maps/91  
START DATE 1845      END DATE 1973  
PARISH Beddgelert  
DOCUMENT Mining records      PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES *Plans of Drws y Coed copper mine.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Nantlle

INITIALNO 1                      ENDNO 23  
START DATE 1816              END DATE 1908  
PARISH Llanllyfni, Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Quarry papers              PLAN n      VALUE 2

*NOTES Papers of John Lloyd Jones, son of the preacher John Jones, and others, which contain, inter alia, documents relating to the Nantlle slate industry.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO 0000005055      ENDNO 0000005103  
START DATE 1855              END DATE 1863  
PARISH Llandwrog, Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Estate papers              PLAN n      VALUE 3

*NOTES Papers relating to the Coed Helen estate for the period in which it was owned by the Lords Newborough of Glynllifon. These should be read in conjunction with the Coed Helen collection, also in the Caernarfon Record Office.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO 0000006863      ENDNO 0000006892  
START DATE 1741              END DATE 1791  
PARISH Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Estate papers              PLAN n      VALUE 3

*NOTES Deeds of title of the Newborough family of Glynllifon to two properties, Tyddyn Mawr and Tai Newyddion, in the parish of Llanrug.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/10186      ENDNO XD2/12601  
START DATE 1676              END DATE 1909  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Estate papers              PLAN y      VALUE 1

*NOTES Papers relating to the management of the Newborough estate.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/12906      ENDNO XD2/12906  
START DATE 1823              END DATE 1826  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Quarry records              PLAN n      VALUE 3

*NOTES Papers relating to the small Llwydcoed slate quarry.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/12991      ENDNO XD2/13328  
START DATE 1810      END DATE 1913  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Transport papers      PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES *Papers relating to the Caernarvonshire Turnpike Trust (13090-13134), the Nantlle Railway and the Caernarvonshire Railway (13216-13235), and the London and North Western Railway (13315-13328)*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/14343      ENDNO XD2/14629  
START DATE 1799      END DATE 1941  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Sale catalogues      PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES *These contain references to properties within the study area.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/15014      ENDNO XD2/19910  
START DATE 1658      END DATE 1842  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN n      VALUE 1

NOTES *The estate's correspondence - a remarkably detailed and vivid picture of the evolution of one of the 'second rank' Welsh estates.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/5055      ENDNO XD2/5103  
START DATE 1855      END DATE 1863  
PARISH Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN n      VALUE 2

NOTES *Papers relating to the Coed Helen estate.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/6286      ENDNO XD2/6358  
START DATE 1428      END DATE 1900  
PARISH Clynnog  
DOCUMENT Deeds      PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES *Deeds relating to properties in Clynnog.*



LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/6439      ENDNO XD2/6614  
START DATE 1629      END DATE 1918  
PARISH Llabeblig  
DOCUMENT Deeds      PLAN y      VALUE 1

*NOTES Deeds to property in Caernarfon.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/6621      ENDNO XD2/6727  
START DATE 1556      END DATE 1890  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Deeds      PLAN y      VALUE 1

*NOTES Deeds to properties in Llandwrog.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/6733      ENDNO XD2/6745  
START DATE 1775      END DATE 1918  
PARISH Llanfaglen  
DOCUMENT Deeds      PLAN y      VALUE 1

*NOTES Deeds to properties in Llanfaglen.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/6763      ENDNO XD2/?  
START DATE 1822      END DATE 1892  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Deeds      PLAN y      VALUE 2

*NOTES Deeds to properties in Llanllyfni.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/6863      ENDNO XD2/6892  
START DATE 1741      END DATE 1901  
PARISH Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Deeds      PLAN y      VALUE 2

*NOTES Deeds to properties in Llanrug.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/6893      ENDNO XD2/6950  
START DATE 1724      END DATE 1891  
PARISH Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Deeds      PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES Deeds to properties in Llanwnda.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/7407      ENDNO XD2/7423  
START DATE 1679      END DATE 1895  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Castellmai estate.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/7424      ENDNO XD2/?  
START DATE 1757      END DATE 1824  
PARISH Llanwnda, Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 3

NOTES Papers relating to the Cefnhengwrt estate.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/7441      ENDNO XD2/7458  
START DATE 1808      END DATE 1916  
PARISH Llandwrog, Llanwnda, Llanfaglen  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES Papers relating to the Chatham and Belan Las estate.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/7459      ENDNO XD2/7500  
START DATE 1721      END DATE 1920  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Collfryn Mawr estate.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/7527      ENDNO XD2/7549  
START DATE 1761      END DATE 1812  
PARISH Clynnog and Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN n      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Hafod y Wern estate.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/7550      ENDNO XD2/7640  
START DATE 1666      END DATE 1729  
PARISH Clynnog  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN n      VALUE 1

NOTES Papers relating to the Lleuar estate.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/7641      ENDNO XD2/7649  
START DATE 1636      END DATE 1686  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN n      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Llewenni'r Green estate.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/7655      ENDNO XD2/7686  
START DATE 1725      END DATE 1824  
PARISH Llandwrog, Llanbeblig, Clynnog, Llanfaglen  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Caernarvonshire outpost of the Pembrokeshire Orielson estate.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/7689      ENDNO XD2/7709  
START DATE 1707      END DATE 1819  
PARISH Llandwrog, Clynnog  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN n      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Tyddyn Ednyfed estate.



LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2/7710      ENDNO XD2/7727  
START DATE 1686      END DATE 1730  
PARISH Clynnog, Llanllyfni, Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN n      VALUE 2

*NOTES Papers relating to the Ty Mawr (Lloyd) estate.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2A/1036      ENDNO XD2A/1056  
START DATE 1895      END DATE 1958  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 2

*NOTES Plans relating to properties in the parish of Llanllyfni.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2A/1076      ENDNO XD2A/1087  
START DATE 1900      END DATE 1916  
PARISH Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 3

*NOTES Plans relating to properties in the parish of Llanrug.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2A/1089      ENDNO XD2A/1122  
START DATE 1842      END DATE 1918  
PARISH Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 2

*NOTES Plans relating to properties in the parish of Llanwnda.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2A/1564      ENDNO XD2A/1613  
START DATE 1771      END DATE 1919  
PARISH Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 2

*NOTES Plans relating to properties in the parish of Llanwnda.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2A/1616      ENDNO XD2A/1617  
START DATE 1845      END DATE 19  
PARISH Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 3

NOTES *Papers relating to the creation of Lord Newborough's private dockyard at Fort Belan.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2A/1643      ENDNO XD2A/1649  
START DATE 1772      END DATE 1824  
PARISH Llanwnda, Llanrug, Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Transport papers      PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES *Road plans including one by W.A. Provis, Telford's assistant, for the Llanwnda to Pwllheli road past the Glynllifon demesne (XD2A/1646), and one of the road to Cilgwyn quarry c. 1799, showing the very early stages of enclosure on the Moel Tryfan commons (1648).*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2A/1653      ENDNO XD2A/1664  
START DATE 1850      END DATE 1904  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Transport papers      PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES *Plans of the Bangor and Caernarvon Railway, the Nantlle Railway, the Carnarvonshire Railway, the Carnarvon and Llanberis Railway, the Portmadoc, Beddgelert and South Snowdon Railway and the North Wales Narrow Gauge Railway.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2A/249      ENDNO XD2A/362  
START DATE 1817      END DATE 1908  
PARISH Clynnog  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES *Plans relating to properties in the parish of Clynnog.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2A/466      ENDNO XD2A/498  
START DATE 1816      END DATE 1911  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES *Plans relating to properties in the parish of Llanbeblig.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2A/508      ENDNO XD2A/988  
START DATE 1793      END DATE 1930  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES Plans relating to properties in the parish of Llandwrog, the estate's focus and the site of the Glynllifon demesne.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Newborough (Glynllifon)

INITIALNO XD2A/996      ENDNO XD2A/1012  
START DATE 1864      END DATE 1951  
PARISH Llafaglen  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES Plans relating to properties in the parish of Llanfaglen.

LOC CRO COLLECTION North Wales Quarrying Museum Coll

INITIALNO XD/40/23/3      ENDNO XD/40/23/3  
START DATE 19      END DATE 20  
PARISH Llandwrog, Llanllyni  
DOCUMENT Estate plans      PLAN y      VALUE 2

NOTES A plan of the Moel Tryfan commons, showing the leat from Llyn Ffynnhonnau, and a plan of the geology of Dyffryn Nantlle.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Official Maps and Plans

INITIALNO 0000000B14      ENDNO 000000B140  
START DATE 1820      END DATE 1853  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Bridge records      PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES Plans and specifications for bridges on roads that fell within the county's jurisdiction. This sequence of papers contains a number of documents that do not relate to the study area.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Official Maps and Plans

INITIALNO 0000000R8a      ENDNO 000000R139  
START DATE 1843      END DATE 1880  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Railway records      PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES Plans of the public railways built or proposed within the study area, beginning with the Chester and Holyhead plans.



**LOC CRO     COLLECTION Official Maps and Plans**

INITIALNO 000000B141     ENDNO 000000B227  
START DATE 1788     END DATE 1923  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Bridge records     PLAN y     VALUE 2

*NOTES These documents mainly consist of bridge specifications, though some have plans included.*

**LOC CRO     COLLECTION Official Maps and Plans**

INITIALNO 000000RD1     ENDNO 000000RD94  
START DATE 1809     END DATE 1934  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Road records     PLAN y     VALUE 1

*NOTES Plans of diversions to roads which formed part of the county's responsibilities.*

**LOC CRO     COLLECTION Parish records**

INITIALNO XPE/Reel22     ENDNO XPEReel36  
START DATE 1602     END DATE 1997  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Parochial records     PLAN n     VALUE 3

*NOTES Registers of baptisms, marriages and deaths within the area.*

**LOC CRO     COLLECTION Plas Brereton**

INITIALNO XM/923/1     ENDNO XM/923/453  
START DATE 1797     END DATE 1906  
PARISH Llanfair Isgaer  
DOCUMENT Estate papers     PLAN y     VALUE 2

*NOTES This collection includes (XM/Maps/923/2) a plan of Plas Brereton, the substantial gentry dwelling outside Caernarfon.*

**LOC UWB     COLLECTION Porth yr Aur**

INITIALNO 0000012780     ENDNO 0000012787  
START DATE 1803     END DATE 1820  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Enclosure documents     PLAN n     VALUE 3

*NOTES Papers relating to the only enclosure by consent to take place within Caernarvonshire, at Rhosbodrual and Morfa Seiont.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 0000012788      ENDNO 000013003a  
START DATE 1806      END DATE 1827  
PARISH Llanbeblig and Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Enclosure documents      PLAN n      VALUE 3

*NOTES Papers relating to enclosure within the parishes of Llanbeblig and Llanrug.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 0000020309      ENDNO 0000020337  
START DATE 1817      END DATE 1827  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Survey records      PLAN n      VALUE 3

*NOTES The papers of Robert Williams, son of William Williams Llandygai, agent of the Penrhyn estate, and himself a surveyor.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 13231      ENDNO 13260h  
START DATE      END DATE  
PARISH  
DOCUMENT Enclosure papers      PLAN      VALUE 1

*NOTES Papers relating to the enclosure of Morfa Dinlle in pursuance of the act of 46 Geo. III c. 79.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 13261      ENDNO 13278  
START DATE 1827      END DATE 1827  
PARISH Llandwrog and Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Enclosure papers      PLAN n      VALUE 2

*NOTES Papers relating to the only successful resistance to an enclosure bill in Caernarvonshire, and one of the few in Wales, when the quarryman-cottagers of Moel Tryfan defied Lord Newborough, with the assistance of the Porth yr Aur office.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 13279      ENDNO 13298  
START DATE 1804      END DATE 1807  
PARISH Llanllyfni, Clynnog  
DOCUMENT Enclosure papers      PLAN n      VALUE 2

*NOTES Papers relating to the enclosure of the area which became Nebo.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 14311                      ENDNO 14324  
START DATE 1772                      END DATE 1826  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate records                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

*NOTES Papers relating to the Benallt estate, Llandwrog.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 14334                      ENDNO 14343  
START DATE 1793                      END DATE 1820  
PARISH Betws Garmon  
DOCUMENT Estate records                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

*NOTES Papers relating to the Bronfedw estate.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 14461a                      ENDNO 14461f  
START DATE 1570                      END DATE 1637  
PARISH Caernarfon  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

*NOTES Papers relating to properties in Caernarfon.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 14475                      ENDNO 14492  
START DATE 1768                      END DATE 1807  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 3

*NOTES Papers relating to the Caerhengan estate.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 14493                      ENDNO 14559  
START DATE 1757                      END DATE 1823  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 3

*NOTES Papers relating to the Cefn Hengwrt estate.*



LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 14559a      ENDNO 14559e  
START DATE 1685      END DATE 1741  
PARISH Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN n      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Collfryn estate.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 15811      ENDNO 16322  
START DATE 1735      END DATE 1828  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN n      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Glanrafon estate.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 16789      ENDNO 16801  
START DATE 1762      END DATE 1802  
PARISH Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN n      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Glanrhyd estate.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 16801a      ENDNO 16842  
START DATE 1639      END DATE 1861  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN n      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Hafod Boeth estate.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 16843      ENDNO 16901  
START DATE 1789      END DATE 1807  
PARISH Caernarfon  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN n      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Garddrafon properties in Caernarfon.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 16902                      ENDNO 17158  
START DATE 1811                      END DATE 1826  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Bryncir estate when under the ownership of the Huddarts, one of the 'arriviste' families.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 17159                      ENDNO 17195  
START DATE 1803                      END DATE 1814  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to James Owen's estate.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 17227                      ENDNO 17273  
START DATE 1626                      END DATE 1704  
PARISH Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Morris estate.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 19068                      ENDNO 19105  
START DATE 1723                      END DATE 1821  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Plas Brereton estate.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 19829                      ENDNO 19971  
START DATE 1802                      END DATE 1843  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Treflan estate, part of the Wynnstay estate until the early nineteenth century when it was purchased by the Cilgwyn and Cefn Du Slate Company.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 19829                      ENDNO 19971  
START DATE 1802                      END DATE 1843  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 3

*NOTES Papers realting to the Treflan estate near the present village of Waunfawr, and the lawsuits which surrounded it. The estate was purchased from Sir Watkin Williams Wynne by John Evans on behalf of the Cilgwyn and Cefn Du Slate Company, and was the scene of much early squatter enclosure, recorded by Hobley in his Hanes Methodistiaeth Arfon.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 19977                      ENDNO 19987  
START DATE 1810                      END DATE 1810  
PARISH Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

*NOTES Papers relating to Tyddyn Bisle.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 19992                      ENDNO 20017  
START DATE 1697                      END DATE 1825  
PARISH Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

*NOTES Papers relating to Tyddyn Heilyn.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 20046                      ENDNO 20270  
START DATE 1756                      END DATE 1827  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 1

*NOTES Papers relating to the administration of the Vaynol estate under Hugh Ellis and later John Evans of the Porth yr Aur practice.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 20271                      ENDNO 20308  
START DATE 1800                      END DATE 1814  
PARISH Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

*NOTES Papers relating to Owen Gethin Williams's estate.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 20360                      ENDNO 20393  
START DATE 1819                      END DATE 1831  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the Quellyn estate.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 25485                      ENDNO 25575  
START DATE 1820                      END DATE 1826  
PARISH Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Legal papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to a Chancery Action concerning the liability of potatoes for tithe; these documents contain terriers, agreements and notices for the parishes, and illustrate the growing importance of potato cultivation in Caernarvonshire in the early nineteenth century.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 25602                      ENDNO 25647  
START DATE 1798                      END DATE 1816  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Parish documents                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the administration of Llanllyfni parish

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 27035                      ENDNO 27068  
START DATE 1810                      END DATE 1832  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Quarry papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to Braich Rhydd Quarry, on Crown lands but part of John Evans's empire.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 27201                      ENDNO 29075  
START DATE 1789                      END DATE 1829  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Quarry papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to John Evans's administration of the slate quarries on Ochr y Cilgwyn, in the early eighteenth century the largest and most productive slate quarries in Britain, beginning with the battle between the crown and Lord Newborough for the right to work the pits.



LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 29479                      ENDNO 29714  
START DATE 1798                      END DATE 1828  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Quarry papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 3

NOTES Papers relating to the Hafodlas (Cloddfa'r Coed) Quarry, a site which has now been completely landscaped.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 29838                      ENDNO 29890  
START DATE 1823                      END DATE 1830  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Quarry papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the opening and development of Moel Tryfan Slate Quarry.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 30029                      ENDNO 30100  
START DATE 1866                      END DATE 1871  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Quarry papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 3

NOTES Papers relating to the operation of Gallt y Fedw Slate Quarry.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 30173                      ENDNO 30201  
START DATE 19                      END DATE 19  
PARISH Llandwrog, Betws Garmon  
DOCUMENT Quarry papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

NOTES This part of the Porth yr Aur collection includes fugitive documents relating to a number of different slate quarries including Cloddfa'r Lon, Llandwrog parish, Treflan in Llanbeblig and the unidentified 'Cornal'.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 30704                      ENDNO 30840  
START DATE 1786                      END DATE 1837  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Turnpike papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to the administration of the turnpike in Caernarvonshire.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 30841                      ENDNO 30853  
START DATE 1813                      END DATE 1832  
PARISH Llanbeblig, Llanwnda, Llandwrog, Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Railway papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

*NOTES Papers relating to the prehistory and early operations of the Nantlle Railway, the first public railway in the area, opened in 1828.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 30854                      ENDNO 30856  
START DATE 1861                      END DATE 1865  
PARISH Llanbeblig, Llanwnda, Llandwrog, Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Railway papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 3

*NOTES Documents relating to the construction of the Carnarvonshire Railway, the standard gauge line that connected the LNWR at Caernarfon with the Aberystwith and Welch Coast Railway at Afonwen.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 3418                      ENDNO 3573  
START DATE 1808                      END DATE 1833  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Road papers                      PLAN n                      VALUE 2

*NOTES A collection of legal papers from the Porth yr Aur practice in Caernarfon, relating to the administration of the County highways. The Porth yr Aur legal practice was at one time the most extensive in Caernarvonshire, particularly when it was run by John Evans (1766-1827), a wily lawyer who acted on behalf of most of the Arfon estates and had extensive business interests of his own.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur

INITIALNO 35712                      ENDNO 35752  
START DATE 18                      END DATE 19  
PARISH Llanrug, Llandwrog, Clynnog  
DOCUMENT Estate maps                      PLAN y                      VALUE 1

*NOTES Maps and plans from the Porth yr Aur collection. These include (35714) a map of lands in Llanrug, (35725) a plan of buildings by the river in Caernarfon, including a lime kiln, (35728) a plan of Morfa Dinlle, (35729) a plan of Gweirglodd Muriau house, Clynnog, by John Edwards for William Roberts of Llanllyfni, (35735) a plan of premises in Caernarfon, (35736) a map of the road from Bontnewydd through Rhostryfan and Rhosgadfan to Pen yr Orsedd quarry, showing possible improvements in its alignment, (35750) a map of Nantlle farm dated 1801 by R. Owen and (35752) a plan of the Treflan estate. All apart from the Nantlle map are undated but were probably drawn up in the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century.*

LOC **UWB** COLLECTION **Porth yr Aur**

INITIALNO **35720**                      ENDNO **35720**  
START DATE **18**                      END DATE **19**  
PARISH **All**  
DOCUMENT **Bridges**                      PLAN **y**                      VALUE **2**

*NOTES Papers and plans relating to the county bridges.*

LOC **UWB** COLLECTION **Porth yr Aur**

INITIALNO **3574**                      ENDNO **3789**  
START DATE **1796**                      END DATE **1809**  
PARISH **All**  
DOCUMENT **Bridge papers**                      PLAN **n**                      VALUE **2**

*NOTES Porth yr Aur papers relating to the County's bridges.*

LOC **UWB** COLLECTION **Porth yr Aur**

INITIALNO **4054**                      ENDNO **4124**  
START DATE **1772**                      END DATE **1828**  
PARISH **All**  
DOCUMENT **Land tax papers**                      PLAN **n**                      VALUE **1**

*NOTES Papers from Porth yr Aur relating to the administration of the Land Tax. This includes details of tenements, owners and occupiers for the turn of the eighteenth and nineteenth century for many Caernarvonshire parishes, and as such constitutes a valuable source.*

LOC **UWB** COLLECTION **Porth yr Aur**

INITIALNO **4712**                      ENDNO **12473**  
START DATE **1790**                      END DATE **1834**  
PARISH **All**  
DOCUMENT **Parish papers**                      PLAN **n**                      VALUE **1**

*NOTES A remarkably comprehensive set of papers, outlining the development of settlement in Caernarvonshire at a crucial period in its history.*

LOC **UWB** COLLECTION **Porth yr Aur Addit.**

INITIALNO **0000001867**                      ENDNO **0000001867**  
START DATE **19**                      END DATE **19**  
PARISH **Llanwnda**  
DOCUMENT **Legal papers**                      PLAN **n**                      VALUE **3**

*NOTES Papers concerning Dolydd Birion and Tryfan, parish of Llanwnda.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Additional

INITIALNO 1                      ENDNO 1  
START DATE 1422              END DATE 1423  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Royal records              PLAN n      VALUE 1

NOTES *Bailiffs' accounts for the commote of Isgwyrfaï (membrane 3), Uwchgwyrfai (membrane 4), the Borough of Caernarfon (membrane 8), the County of Caernarfon (membranes 9 and 10), and the County of Caernarfon's escheator's accounts (membrane 11).*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Additional

INITIALNO 1894                      ENDNO 1895  
START DATE 1826              END DATE 1826  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate records              PLAN n      VALUE 3

NOTES *Release and conveyance of Benallt Isa' and Benallt Ucha' and deed of lease of Hafod y Coed.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Additional

INITIALNO 1906                      ENDNO 1906  
START DATE 1812              END DATE 1812  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Road record              PLAN y      VALUE 1

NOTES *A plan of a road diversion which shows Hafodlas Slate Quarry and its machinery.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Additional

INITIALNO 1907                      ENDNO 1907  
START DATE 1813              END DATE 1813  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Estate records              PLAN y      VALUE 3

NOTES *Purchase deeds of Braich Trigwr.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Additional

INITIALNO 1912                      ENDNO 1912  
START DATE 1825              END DATE 1825  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Estate records              PLAN n      VALUE 3

NOTES *Conveyance of land.*



LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Additional

INITIALNO 1934                      ENDNO 1936  
START DATE 1903                  END DATE 1903  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Harbour records                  PLAN n                  VALUE 3

*NOTES Papers relating to litigation between the Caernarfon Harbour Trust and Thomas Assheton Smith.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Additional

INITIALNO 1937                      ENDNO 1953  
START DATE 1812                  END DATE 1817  
PARISH Llanllyfni, Clynnog, Llanfaglen  
DOCUMENT Enclosure documents                  PLAN n                  VALUE 3

*NOTES Papers relating to various enclosures, including the Foryd and to building compensation.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Additional

INITIALNO 2026                      ENDNO 2034  
START DATE 1812                  END DATE 1824  
PARISH Llanllyfni, Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Legal papers                          PLAN n                  VALUE 3

*NOTES Papers relating to properties in the parishes of Llanllyfni and Llanwnda.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Further Additional

INITIALNO 2114                      ENDNO 2121  
START DATE 1684                  END DATE 1852  
PARISH Llanbelblig  
DOCUMENT Legal papers                          PLAN n                  VALUE 3

*NOTES Papers relating to properties in Caernarfon.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Further Additional

INITIALNO 2122                      ENDNO 2137  
START DATE 1695                  END DATE 1793  
PARISH Clynnog  
DOCUMENT Legal papers                          PLAN n                  VALUE 3

*NOTES Papers relating to properties in the parish of Clynnog.*

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Further Additional

INITIALNO 2138                      ENDNO 2157  
START DATE 1712                  END DATE 1851  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Legal papers                  PLAN n          VALUE 3

NOTES Papers relating to properties in the parish of Llanbeblig.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Further Additional

INITIALNO 2158                      ENDNO 2158  
START DATE 1801                  END DATE 1801  
PARISH Llandwrog  
DOCUMENT Lease                          PLAN n          VALUE 3

NOTES Lease of the Bryntirion estate's Llwyn y Gwalch farm to the Cilgwyn Slate Company as a stage on the journey from the quarry to the Foryd.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Further Additional

INITIALNO 2165                      ENDNO 2165  
START DATE 1737                  END DATE 1737  
PARISH Llanllyfni  
DOCUMENT Mortgage                      PLAN n          VALUE 3

NOTES Mortgage of 'Coytu Du'.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Further Additional

INITIALNO 2166                      ENDNO 2166  
START DATE 1748                  END DATE 1749  
PARISH Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Estate records                  PLAN n          VALUE 3

NOTES Papers relating to messuages in Llanwnda.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Further Additional

INITIALNO 2170                      ENDNO 2185  
START DATE 1685                  END DATE 1859  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Legal papers                  PLAN n          VALUE 2

NOTES Papers relating to estates in various parishes.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Further Additional

INITIALNO 2190                      ENDNO 2220  
START DATE 1827                  END DATE 1867  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Railway documents          PLAN n          VALUE 3

NOTES Papers relating to the Nantlle Railway and to the Carnarvonshire Railway.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Porth yr Aur Further Additional

INITIALNO 2249                      ENDNO 2254  
START DATE 1805                  END DATE 1841  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Leases                      PLAN n          VALUE 3

NOTES Leases for the construction of nonconformist chapels.

LOC UWB COLLECTION Sale Catalogues

INITIALNO 196                      ENDNO 1012  
START DATE 1808                  END DATE 1984  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Sale catalogues              PLAN y          VALUE 1

NOTES Sale catalogues.

LOC NLW COLLECTION Solander - case C

INITIALNO /                      ENDNO /  
START DATE 1800                  END DATE 1810  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate records              PLAN y          VALUE 2

NOTES Map of Caernarfon.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Tithe maps

INITIALNO 0000000001              ENDNO U/k  
START DATE 1838                  END DATE 1841  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Tithe maps                      PLAN y          VALUE 1

NOTES Photostat reproductions of the tithe maps for parishes in the study area, together with microfiches of the tithe returns. These form a valuable record of land-ownership and tenancy within the study-area.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Vaynol

INITIALNO 0000000001      ENDNO 0000004053  
START DATE 1696      END DATE 1968  
PARISH Llanberis, Llanddeiniolen, Llanrug  
DOCUMENT Estate records      PLAN y      VALUE 1

*NOTES The papers of the Vaynol estate, the second largest estate, after Penrhyn, to be based in the study area. The core of the estate was granted by William of Orange to Smith, the Speaker of the House of Commons, and remained largely intact until 1968, when much of the land was sold off.*

*The papers include documents relating to the mines at Llanberis and Clogwyn Goch (5045-6872) and a map of Dinorwic Quarry in 1836 (4190).*

*The surveys and valuations (4054-4275) are particularly useful, especially the large format maps 4193 and 4194 which show the parts of the estate which fell within the study area. These were surveyed in 1869, and show the estate as it was when the process of enclosure had been largely completed.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Vaynol

INITIALNO 0000004194      ENDNO 0000004195  
START DATE 1869      END DATE 1869  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Estate map      PLAN y      VALUE 1

*NOTES The detailed estate maps prepared for the Vaynol estate in the late 1860s and completed in 1869, which show the estate at the height of its importance and extent.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Vaynol

INITIALNO 3743      ENDNO 4010  
START DATE 1696      END DATE 1925  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN n      VALUE 1

*NOTES The rentals of the Vaynol estate, one of the largest estates in the former Caernarvonshire.*

LOC CRO COLLECTION Vaynol

INITIALNO 4019      ENDNO 4053  
START DATE 1843      END DATE 1878  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Estate papers      PLAN n      VALUE 3

*NOTES Corporation rentals.*



LOC CRO COLLECTION Vaynol

INITIALNO 4054                      ENDNO 4314  
START DATE 1776                  END DATE 1929  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Estate maps                      PLAN y              VALUE 1

*NOTES* Surveys and valuations of the Vaynol estate; 4055-6 is the survey of 1777 undertaken by Wiliam Williams Llandygai, 4067-73 is the survey of 1832, 4194-6 is the survey of 1869, which forms, even by the standards of nineteenth century estate cartography, a remarkably comprehensive and meticulous document.

LOC CRO COLLECTION Vaynol

INITIALNO 4100                      ENDNO 4018  
START DATE 1820                  END DATE 1838  
PARISH Llanbeblig  
DOCUMENT Estate papers                      PLAN n              VALUE 3

*NOTES* Vaynol papers relating to properties in Llanbeblig.

LOC CRO COLLECTION X/W.G.Williams Papers

INITIALNO XD4/1/1                  ENDNO XD4/17/5  
START DATE 1866                  END DATE 1940  
PARISH Llandwrog, Llanwnda  
DOCUMENT Research papers                      PLAN y              VALUE 1

*NOTES* The papers of W. Gilbert Williams of Rhostryfan, a noted local scholar and historian.

LOC CRO COLLECTION XM/Maps

INITIALNO 0000010029                  ENDNO 0000010029  
START DATE 1846                  END DATE 1860  
PARISH All  
DOCUMENT Railway map                      PLAN y              VALUE 3

*NOTES* Chester and Holyhead Railway plans, and plans for the Bangor to Caernarfon branch.

Records printed: 196

## **Appendix I**

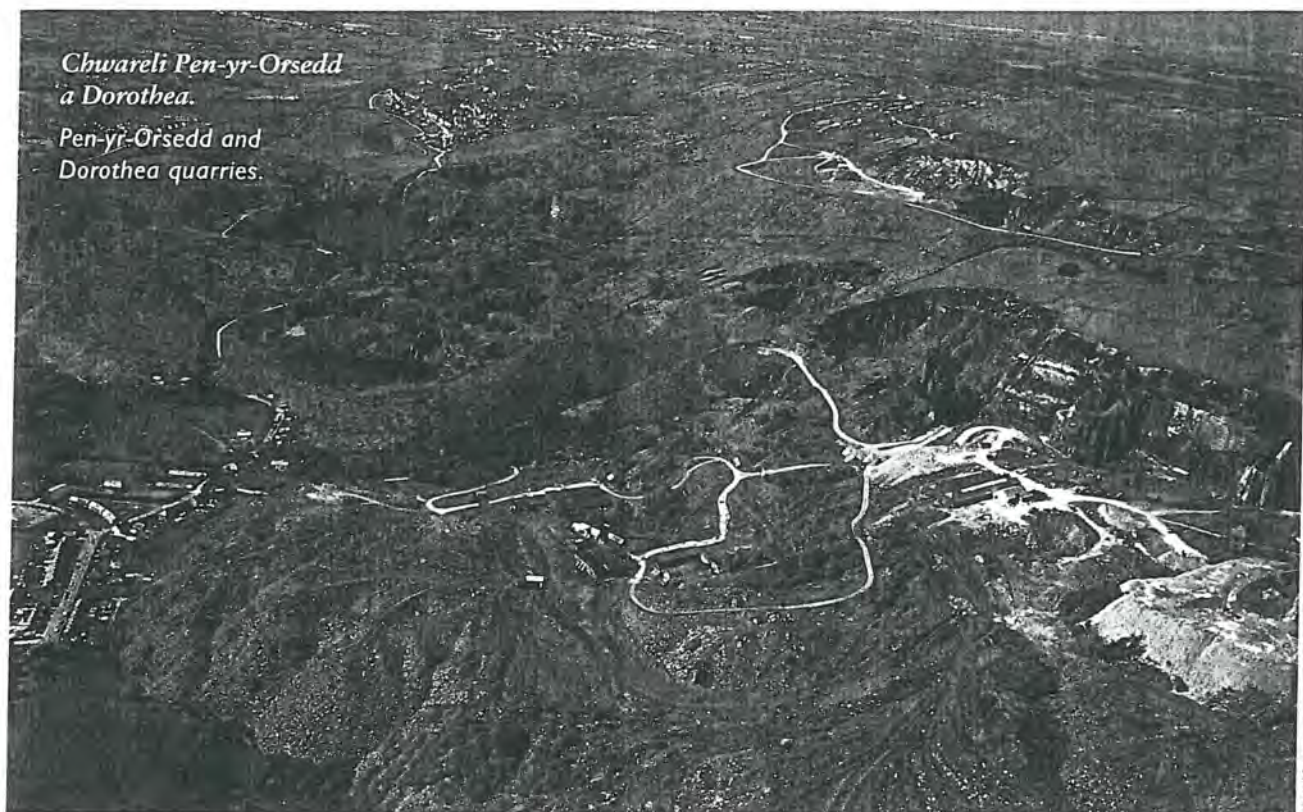
Extracts from the  
Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales

Dyffryn Nantlle HLW (Gw) 9

## DYFFRYN NANTLLE NANTLLE VALLEY

*Chwareli Pen-yr-Orsedd  
a Dorothea.*

*Pen-yr-Orsedd and  
Dorothea quarries.*



Hawlfraut y Goron: CBHC/Crown Copyright: RCAHMW.

### Disgrifiad o'r tirwedd

Mae'r ardal hon ar ochr orllewinol massif Eryri ac yn ei chanol mae Dyffryn Nantlle sy'n ddyffryn rhewlifol nodweddiadol siâp U gydag ochrau'n codi'n serth o lawr gwastad sydd tua 100m uwchben SO. Mae crognentydd, sydd hefyd yn llednentydd, ar y ddwy ochr, ac ymestyn yr ardal hyd at y copaon cefn deuddwr uwchben y crognentydd hyn, o Foel Tryfan yn y gogledd sy'n 427m uwchben SO hyd at Fynydd Mawr yn y dwyrain sy'n 698m uwchben SO, ac ar hyd y rhes o gopaon hyd at 700m uwchben SO yn y de ddwyrain, o'r Garn cyn belled â'r Garnedd Goch. Yn y gorllewin, mae'r ardal yn cynnwys Penygroes a Llanllyfni, sy'n aneddiadau chwarela yng ngheg y dyffryn.

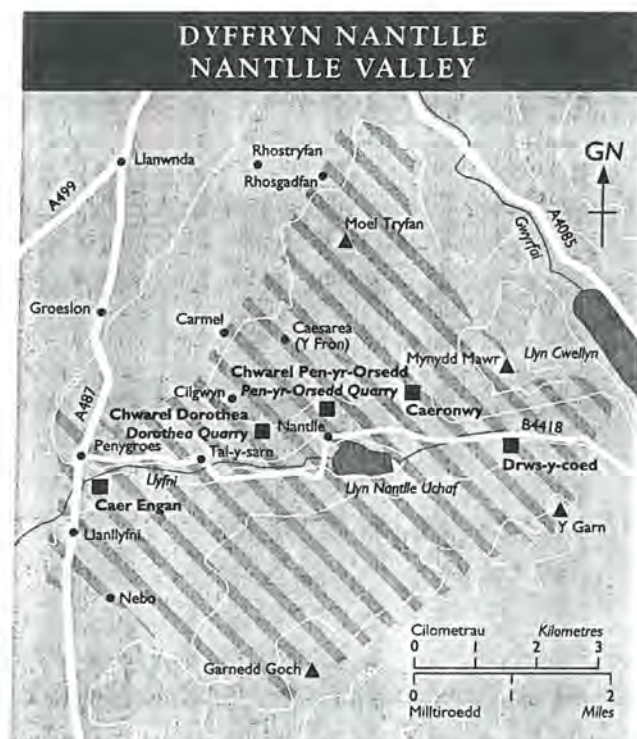
Mae'r ardal yn cynnwys gweddillion helaeth, wedi'u cadw'n dda, yn gysylltiedig, â chloddio llechi ar raddfa ddiwydiannol sydd, oherwydd y modd y trefnwyd y chwarela, wedi creu tirwedd sy'n bendant yn wahanol ei gymeriad i rai'r ardaloedd llechi eraill ym Methesda (Dyffryn Ogwen tt. 105–108), Dinorwig (tt. 88–91) a Blaenau Ffestiniog (tt. 77–80). Hefyd, mae gan yr ardal gysylltiadau â'r chwedlau Mabinogi Cymreig cynnar, ac yn y 1770au yr oedd yn ysbrydoliaeth i un o astudiaethau gorau Richard Wilson o dirwedd Cymreig, Yr Wyddfa o Lyn Nantlle. Mae'r ardal hefyd yn hanesyddol bwysig o safbwynt daearegol, a bu'n destun un o ddadleuon mwyaf tanbaid y 19edd ganrif, rhwng y 'Dilywiolwyr' a oedd yn credu yn y dilyw Beiblaidd, a'r 'Rhewlifegwyr', a oedd yn cefnogi'r Ddamcaniaeth Rewlifol, a sefydlwyd yn sylweddol drwy astudiaethau o'r gwaddodion drifft ar Foel Tryfan.

### Landscape description

This area on the west of the Snowdonian massif is centred on the Nantlle valley, a typical U-shaped, glaciated valley with steeply rising sides above a flat floor about 100m above OD. On either side there are hanging tributary valleys, and the area extends to the watershed summits above these, from Moel Tryfan in the north at 427m above OD to Mynydd Mawr in the east at 698m above OD, and along the line of summits up to 700m above OD in the south east, from Y Garn as far as Garnedd Goch. On the west, the area includes the quarrying settlements of Penygroes and Llanllyfni at the entrance to the valley.

The area contains extensive and well-preserved remains associated with the industrial extraction of slate, which, because of the way in which the quarrying was organised, has created a landscape of distinctly different character to those of the other slate areas of Bethesda (Ogwen Valley pp. 105–108), Dinorwig (pp. 88–91) and Blaenau Ffestiniog (pp. 77–80). The area also has associations with the early Welsh Mabinogi tales, and in the 1770s provided the inspiration for one of Richard Wilson's best studies of a Welsh landscape, *Snowdon from Llyn Nantlle*. The area is also historically important geologically, and featured in one of the most contentious disputes of the 19th century, between the 'Diluvialists' who believed in the Biblical flood, and the 'Glacialists', who supported the Glacial Theory, which was substantially established by studies of the drift sediments on Moel Tryfan.





Gwelir y dystiolaeth fwyaf eang o breswylad cynnar yr ardal yn yr amrediad helaeth o aneddiadau a chaeau creiriol o'r cyfnod cynhanesyddol diweddar ar lethrau'r dyffryn yn wynebu'r de oddi amgylch Caeronwy tua'r dwyrain o'r ardal chwareli llechi. Mae pedair prif ran yn cynnwys caer fach o Oes yr Haearn, nifer o aneddiadau sy'n grwpiau o gytiau, amgaeadau a chylchoedd cytiau a'r cyfundrefnau caeau yn gysylltiedig â hwy, yn ymestyn dros lawer o hectarau. Tua'r gorllewin ac yn ymestyn o dan y tomennydd rwbel llechi mae ardal arall o gaeau creiriol, o'r un adeg mae'n debyg. Nodwyd gweddillion tebyg yn ddiweddar ar ochr ddeheuol y dyffryn mewn ffotograffau o'r awyr ac mae grŵp arall ym mhen uchaf y dyffryn, ychydig uwchben mwyngloddfeydd copr Drws-y-coed, a saif caer fach o Oes yr Haearn, Caer Engan, ar gnwc naturiol ger Afon Llyfni yn amddiffyn y fynedfa i'r dyffryn.

Er hynny, ychydig a wyddom am breswylad cynnar llawr y dyffryn er efallai fod gweithfeydd a thomennydd llechi diweddarach wedi cuddio llawer o'r dystiolaeth. Ar un adeg yr oedd dau lyn yn Nyffryn Nantlle, ond sychwyd yr isaf ohonynt ym 1893-5. Credir mai'r isthmus rhwng y ddau (bala) yw lleoliad y Baladeulyn (neu Llynbaladoylen ar fap Saxton ym 1578) lle'r oedd maerdref a chanolfan weinyddol cwmwd Uwch Gwyrfaï yn y Canol Oesoedd, ac hefyd, mae'n debyg, y Baladeulyn a enwir ym mhedwaredd cainc y Mabinogi, sef y man lle dilynodd Gwydion hwch i 'Nantlleu' lle'r oedd derwen yn tyfu rhwng dau lyn, wrth chwilio am Lleu.

Mae'n bosibl mai uwchben dyffryn Nantlle yr oedd y chwareli llechi cyntaf yng Ngogledd Cymru. Awgrymwyd bod llechi a ganfuwyd yng Nghaer Rufeinig Segontium yng Nghaernarfon wedi dod o Gilgwyn. Yn yr ardal â'i chanolfan ym mhentref Tal-y-sarn pyllau yw bron y cyfan o'r chwareli, a'r tirlun yn frith o olion cloddio a thrin llechi. Yr oedd y gwaith yno ar raddfa lai nag ym mhrif ardaloedd cloddio llechi Eryri tua'r gogledd ddwyrain, ac mae'r nodweddion sy'n parhau hyd heddiw yn fwy gwasgarog, yn rhannol oherwydd fod nifer o berchnogion tir yn ymwneud â'r gwaith (yn hytrach na stadau mawr fel y Penrhyn a'r Faenol). Gosodwyd llawer o

The most widespread evidence for early occupation is to be found in an extensive range of late prehistoric, relict settlements and fields on the south facing slopes of the valley around Caeronwy to the east of the slate quarrying area. There are four principal areas including a small Iron Age fort, a number of hut group settlements, enclosures and hut circles with their associated field systems covering many hectares. To the west, and continuing under the slate waste tips, is a further area of relict fields, presumably of similar date. Similar remains have recently been noted on aerial photographs on the south side of the valley, and a further group lies at the top of the valley, just above the Drws-y-coed copper mines, whilst the entrance to the valley is guarded by a small Iron Age fort known as Caer Engan, sited on a natural knoll next to the River Llyfni.

Little is known however, of the early occupation of the valley floor, although much may have been buried by the later slate workings and tips. There were formerly two lakes in the Nantlle valley, the lower having been drained in 1893-5. The isthmus between the two (bala) is presumed to have been the location of Baladeulyn (or Llynbaladoylen on Saxton's map of 1578) which was the maerdref and administrative centre of the commote of Uwch Gwyrfaï in the medieval period, and also, presumably, the Baladeulyn in the fourth branch of the Mabinogi, to which Gwydion, in his search for Lleu, followed a sow to 'Nantlleu' where there was an oak growing between the two lakes.

Perhaps the earliest slate quarrying in North Wales took place above the Nantlle valley. It has been suggested that slate found at the Roman fort of Segontium in Caernarfon came from Cilgwyn. The area centred on the village of Talysarn consists almost entirely of a series of pit quarries, the remains of slate winning and working. The scale of working was smaller than in the main slate working regions of Snowdonia to the north east, and surviving features are more widespread, due partly to the fact that several landowners (by contrast to the large estates of Penrhyn and Vaynol) were involved. Many quarry leases were let, and space for working was confined. There were considerable difficulties involved in raising slate from the pits and in keeping them free from water, and the ingenious ways which were found to solve these problems, including blondins, chain inclines and vast revetments, are some of the principal reasons why the slate quarrying remains in this area, many of which are unique, are so important. Some of the principal features include the 1906 Cornish beam-engine at Dorothea, a unique survival in Wales, the mill and a number of pyramids, also unique, and the blondins at Pen-yr-Orsedd. Today only one quarry, Pen-yr-Orsedd, continues in operation, the most successful, Dorothea, having finally closed in 1971.

Slate was originally taken out from the valley by cart, initially to Foryd, to be shipped to Caernarfon, and later straight to Caernarfon, but from 1828 the horse-drawn Nantlle tramway went direct to Caernarfon quay. This was also the first public line in North Wales. Although a sub-branch of the London and North Western Railway was laid from Penygroes to Talysarn in 1872, the section from Talysarn to Pen-yr-Orsedd survived until 1963 as the only British Railways horse-drawn line.

The smaller scale of many of the enterprises in this district, and perhaps differing land tenure arrangements, produced a distinctive landscape of dispersedcrofting settlements on the slopes above the valley, very different in some ways from that around Bethesda in the Ogwen valley. On the southern slopes



*Peiriant-traws Cernywaidd a phyramidiau  
chwarel Dorothea.*

*Dorothea quarry Cornish beam-engine and pyramids.*

chwareli ar brydles, a dim ond lle cyfyng oedd ar gael i'w gweithio. Cafwyd anawsterau sylweddol gyda codi'r llechi o'r pyllau a chadw dŵr allan ohonynt, ac mae'r dulliau celfydd a ganfuwyd i ateb yr anawsterau hyn, yn cynnwys y ffordd gebl, inclein gadwyn a waliau cynnal anferth, yn rhai o'r nodweddion pennaf sy'n gwneud y gweddillion chwarela llechi yn yr ardal hon mor bwysig, gyda rhai o'r nodweddion hyn yn unigryw. Ymysg y pwysicaf ohonynt mae'r peiriant-trawst Cernywaidd o 1906 yn Dorothea, yr unig un i oroesi yng Nghymru, a'r felin a nifer o byramidiau, sydd hefyd yn unigryw, a'r ffyrdd cebl ym Mhen-yr-Orsedd. Y dyddiau hyn dim ond un chwarel, Pen-yr-Orsedd, sy'n parhau i weithio, a chaeodd yr un fwyaf llwyddiannus, Dorothea, o'r diwedd ym 1971.

Ar y dechrau, cludwyd llechi o'r dyffryn ar droliau i'r Foryd ac ar y môr i Gaernarfon, ond ymhellach ymlaen aed â hwy'n syth i Gaernarfon, ac o 1828 ymlaen yr oedd tramffordd geffylau, sef tramffordd Nantlle, yn rhedeg yn uniongyrchol i'r cei yng Nghaernarfon. Hon hefyd oedd y lein gyhoeddus gyntaf yng Ngogledd Cymru. Er y gosodwyd is-gangen o Reilffordd Llundain a'r Gogledd Orllewin o Benygroes i Dal-y-sarn ym 1872, parhaodd y darn o Dal-y-sarn i Ben-yr-Orsedd i weithredu hyd 1963 fel yr unig lein yn eiddo i'r Rheilffyrdd Prydeinig lle'r oedd ceffylau'n gwneud y gwaith tynnu.

Oherwydd bod llawer o'r gweithfeydd yn yr ardal hon yn rhai bach, ac efallai hefyd am bod y trefniadau deiliadaeth tir yn wahanol, crëwyd tirwedd arbennig o aneddiadau o dyddynnod ar y llethrau uwchben y dyffryn, sy'n wahanol iawn mewn rhai ffyrdd i'r hyn welir o gwmpas Bethesda yn Nyffryn Ogwen. Ar lethrau deheuol Cilgwyn yn enwedig, mae gweddillion hynod caeau bach â waliau cerrig sych o'u cwmplas, yn closio'n dyn ar ei gilydd, i'w gweld hyd heddiw ac yn cynrychioli, mae'n debyg, y drefn ddeiladaeth tir yn gynharach, yn ystod y 18fed ganrif. Wrth i'r galw am lechi gyrraedd ei anterth yng nghanol y 19edd ganrif, tyfodd aneddiadau newydd yn gysylltiedig â'r chwareli, gydag enwau Beiblaidd fel Carmel, Cesarea (Fron), Nebo a Nasareth, ond mae rhai o'r rhain tu allan i'r ardal a ddisgrifir yma. Ni fu cynllunio ar y mwyafrif o'r aneddiadau hyn gan eu bod fel arfer ddim ond rhesi o dai ar hyd y ffordd.

Mae gweddillion mwyngloddfeydd copr Simdde-dylluan a Drws-y-coed yn llai o faint na'r chwareli llechi ymhellach i lawr y dyffryn ac yn llai enwog na Mynydd Parys ym Môn (tt. 70-72), ond maent er hynny yn bwysig gan orchuddio llawr cul ac ymestyn i fyny ochrau pen dwyreiniol Dyffryn Nantlle. Mae gweithfeydd mwyngloddio a phrosesu Drws-y-coed wedi'u cofnodi'n dda o'r 18fed ganrif ymlaen er eu bod efallai wedi'u dechrau yn y Canol Oesoedd neu'n gynharach, ac mae eu gweddillion yn cynnwys sylfeini peiriannau malu cerrig, adfeilion adeiladau, lefel, cronfa a thŵr i gyfeirio dŵr i olwyn, y pwll lle safai'r olwyn honno a'r wal oedd yn ei gwarchod. Gerllaw mae gweddillion dwy felin falu cerrig o'r 18fed ganrif yr hyn a elwir y Stamp Mill a'r Level Stamp. Ar y llethrau tua'r de mae amrywiol siafftiau a lefelau a llochesi bach ar gyfer prosesu'r mwyn. Yr oedd gweithfeydd helaeth o dan y ddaear, yn debyg i rai Mynydd Parys i raddau, ac yn gorwedd yn bennaf tua'r de o'r ffordd trwy'r dyffryn.



Hawffrains y Corom: CMC/Crown Copyright: RCAHFW.

of Cilgwyn in particular, the tightly-packed remains of very tiny fields with drystone-walls are a remarkable survival, probably representing tenure of land during the preceding 18th century. As the demand for slate reached a peak in the mid-19th century, a spread of new settlements grew up associated with the quarries, with Biblical names such as Carmel (Fron), Cesaraea, Nebo, Nasareth, although some of these fall outside the area described here. For the most part, these settlements were unplanned, usually just rows of houses strung along a road.

Although overshadowed physically by the slate quarrying further down the valley and historically by the fame of Parys Mountain in Anglesey (pp. 70-72), the remains of Simdde-dylluan and Drws-y-coed copper mines nevertheless are significant and cover the narrow floor of the valley and spread up its sides at the eastern end of the Nantlle valley. The remains of the Drws-y-coed complex of mining and processing installations, well-documented from the 18th century onwards, although possibly medieval or earlier in origin, includes foundations for crushing machines, the ruins of buildings, a level, a reservoir and a tower directing water to a wheel, the large pit for which remains as does a protecting wall. Nearby are the remains of what are referred to as the 18th century Stamp Mill and Level Stamp. On the slopes to the south are various shafts and levels and small ore-processing shelters. The underground works were extensive, reminiscent of Parys Mountain, and mainly to the south of the road through the valley.

Lower down the valley are the remains of the Simdde-dylluan mining complex. Buildings and other workings near the



Ymhellach i lawr y dyffryn mae gweddillion mwynloddio Simdde-dylluan. Mae'r mwyafrif o'r adeiladau a'r gweddillion eraill ger y ffordd wedi'u chwalu'n llwyr, ond mae'r gefnen greigiog sy'n arwain i fyny o'r ffordd yn frith o olion gweithfeydd, yn cynnwys Siafft Garnon, a gerllaw honno cylch lle cerddid ceffyl i droi drwm wrth ei ddirwyn â'r raff, a bonyn capstan. Tua'r gogledd, ac ar draws y dyffryn cul, mae'r twneli i fwynglawdd Benallt, gwaith anghyffredin a oedd efallai'n achos o dwyll, a fu'n mynd ymlaen o ganol hyd tua diwedd y 19edd ganrif. Ym mhen isaf y dyffryn, lle'r oedd cloddio am lechi, mae hefyd ychydig olion mwynlawnedd copr Gwernor, yn cynnwys twnel, ffos ddŵr a phont ddŵr, tu cefn i ffermdy Gwernor.

Tu allan i'r dyffryn ei hun, mae'r gweddillion chwareli llechi yn ymestyn tua'r gogledd tu cefn i Fynydd Cilgwyn a throsodd i Foel Tryfan. Yn ogystal â'r chwareli eu hunain, yn cynnwys Alexandria a Moel Tryfan, mae'r rhan ogleddol hon o'r ardal yn cynnwys enghreifftiau hynod o'r aneddiadau tyddyn y soniwyd amdanynt yn gynharach, yn ogystal â rhan o Rosgadfan, tirwedd a anfarwolwyd yn ystod y ganrif hon gan yr awdures Kate Roberts yn ei hunangofiant *Y Lôn Wen*, ac a fu'n ysbrydoliaeth i'w nofelau a'i straeon byr niferus hi.

road have been largely razed, although the rocky escarpment up from the road is riddled with workings, including Garnon's Shaft with a nearby horse whim circle and capstan base. To the north, and across the narrow valley, are the adits of Benallt mine, an unusual, possibly fraudulent, undertaking of the mid-to-late 19th century. Down at the slate end of the valley, there are also slight remains of Gwernor copper mine, including an adit, leat and aqueduct, behind Gwernor farmhouse.

Out of the valley itself, the slate quarrying remains extend northwards behind Mynydd Cilgwyn and over to Moel Tryfan. In addition to the quarries themselves, including Alexandria and Moel Tryfan, this northern part of the area includes fascinating examples of thecrofting settlements mentioned earlier, as well as part of Rhosgadfan, a landscape immortalised in this century by the authoress Kate Roberts in her autobiography *Y Lôn Wen*, and providing the inspiration for her numerous novels and short stories.

#### CRYNODEB

<i>Rhif cyf</i>	HLW (Gw) 9
<i>Rhif map mynegai</i>	27
<i>Map AO</i>	Landranger 115
<i>Sir flaenorol</i>	Gwynedd
<i>Awdurdod unedol</i>	Gwynedd
<i>Prif ddynodiadau belaeith</i>	Mae ochr dde ddwyreiniol yr ardal o fewn Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri a'r ymyl gorllewinol o fewn Ardal o Amgylchedd Arbennig Llŷn. Mae'r ardal yn cynnwys: Safle o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol Arbennig Moel Tryfan; aneddiadau cytiau a chyfundrefnau caeau Gelli Ffrydiau a Geulan sy'n Henebion Cofrestredig.
<i>Meini prawf</i>	2, 5
<i>Cynnwys ac arwyddocâd</i>	Dyffryn rhewlifol ar ochr orllewinol massif Eryri, gyda thystiolaeth wrthgyferbyniol o ddefnydd tir cynhanesyddol a diweddarach creiniol, a thostynt weddillion cloddio llechi yn ddiwydiannol ar raddfa fawr yn ystod y 19edd a'r 20fed ganrif. Mae'r ardal yn cynnwys: bryngaerau, aneddiadau a chyfundrefnau caeau belaeith o Oes yr Haearn; mwynloddffeydd copr o'r 18fed ganrif ac ar ôl hynny; gweddillion chwareli llechi, pryllau a thomennwydd rubel a'r adeiladauwaith, cyfundrefnau cludiant ac aneddiadau cysylltiol, oll wedi'u cadu'n dda ac yn ddramatig yr olwg; cysylltiadau hanesyddol chwedlonol, artistig a llenyddol.

#### SUMMARY

<i>Ref number</i>	HLW (Gw) 9
<i>Index map no.</i>	27
<i>OS map</i>	Landranger 115
<i>Former county</i>	Gwynedd
<i>Unitary authority</i>	Gwynedd
<i>Principal area designations</i>	The south eastern side of the area is within the Snowdonia National Park and the western edge is within the Llyn Environmentally Sensitive Area. The area includes: Moel Tryfan Site of Special Scientific Interest; Gelli Ffrydiau and Geulan hut settlements and field systems Scheduled Ancient Monuments.
<i>Criteria</i>	2, 5
<i>Contents and significance</i>	A glaciated valley situated on the west side of the Snowdonian massif, having contrasting evidence of relict prehistoric and later land use, superimposed by the 19th and 20th centuries remains of the large-scale industrial exploitation of slate. The area includes: Iron Age hillforts, settlements and extensive field systems; 18th century and later copper mines; well-preserved and visually dramatic remains of slate quarries, pits, waste tips, associated structures, transport systems and settlements; historic legendary artistic and literary associations.

## Ffynonellau detoledig / Selected sources

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G.P. Jones, 'The Slate Quarries of the Nantlle Valley', *Stationary Power*, 2 (1985), 13-35.  
K. Roberts, *Y Lôn Wen* (Gwasg Gee: Denbigh 1960).  
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