

THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Dyffryn Tanat Historic Landscape

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION



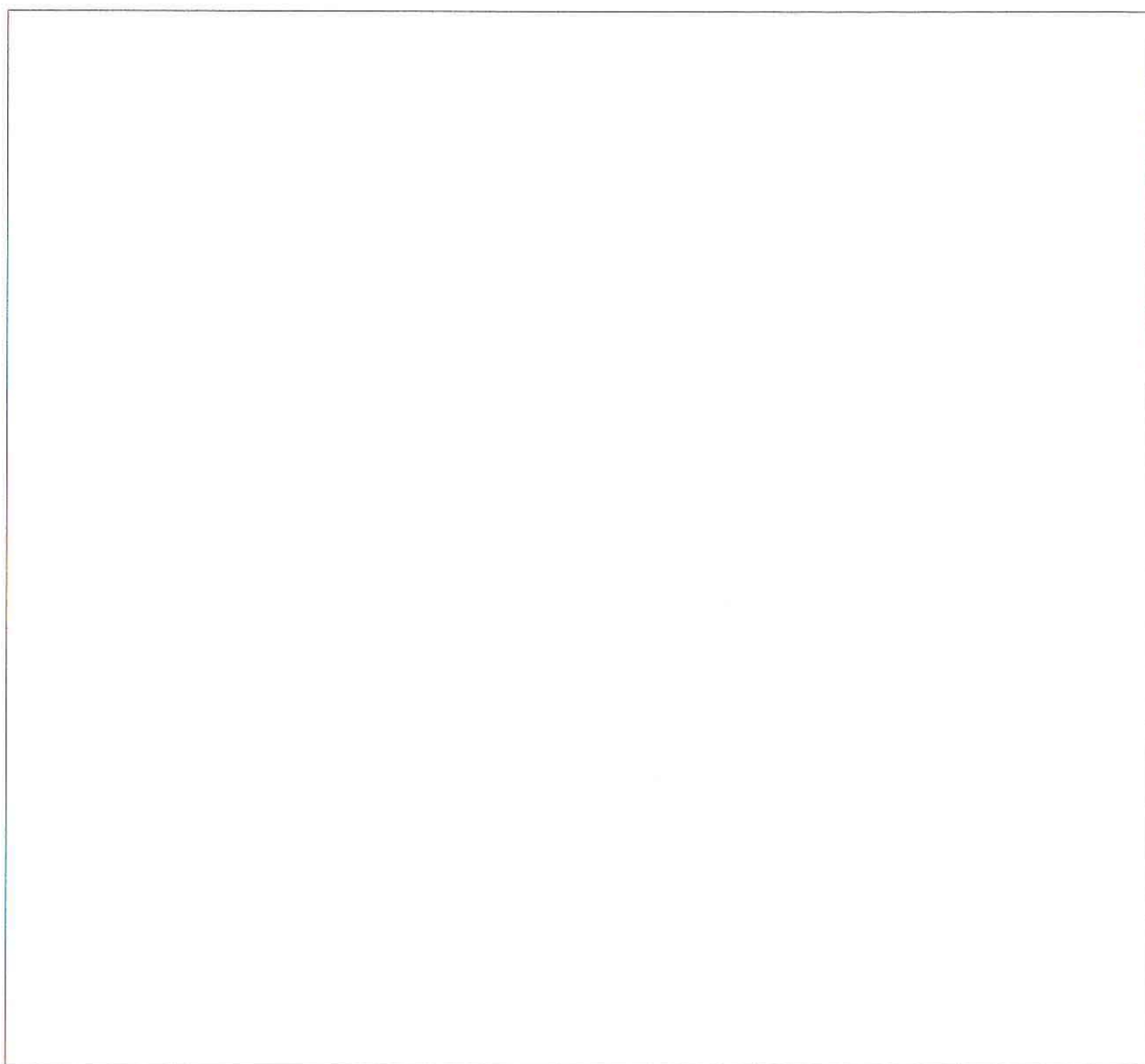
Sychnant, at the entrance to Cwm Maengwynedd, to the north of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant. Photo: CPAT 805.4

CPAT Report No 319

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by W J Britnell and C H R Martin
May 1999

The study was undertaken during the 1998/99 financial year (project CPAT 761) with funding provided by Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments. It was carried out with the help of OS digital map data made available to the Trust by agreement with Powys County Council for the purposes of maintaining the County Sites and Monuments Record

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Preface

Natural forces and human activity acting together over the last six thousand years have contributed 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.

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.

The *Historic Landscapes Register* provides a first step, a 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, the 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 historical features and the main types of historical 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.

This report is one of 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 to the 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.

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.

Richard Avent

Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments

Richard Kelly

Countryside Council for Wales

Introduction

The purpose of the present study

This study is one of number being undertaken throughout Wales as part of historic landscape initiative currently being funded by Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments, the Countryside Council for Wales and ICOMOS UK.

The Countryside Commission's *Views from the Past* (1996) argues that as managers we should be concerned with the historic character of the present-day landscape rather than with simply the study of the past for its own sake. It places the idea of 'historic landscape character' at the centre of these ideas. The principal aim of this study is therefore to provide information to help with the management of the historic landscape, particularly with regard to the following:

- Planning, including large-scale intrusions such as roads, windfarms, mineral extraction, large-scale landfill/waste disposal, reclamation, water schemes, major settlement schemes, and major industrial developments
- Landscape management by large corporate landowners, farmers, industrial companies, water and electricity companies, the forestry industry, and the National Trust
- Advice to conservation bodies such as Cadw, the Countryside Council for Wales, the Environment Agency, local authorities, national parks
- Local landscape conservation initiatives and management agreements by Cadw, Countryside Council for Wales, local authorities
- To enhance our understanding of the historic aspects of landscape, stimulating further research, raising public perception of the landscape, and the preparation of policy statements by public bodies

Methodology

Historic landscape characterization is a process of identifying and defining the particular characteristics which make each area distinctive, by identifying the principal historic components within the current landscape. It is the great depth of human activity which underpins much of which we feel is important and helps give an area its local distinctiveness.

At present there is no standard, accepted methodology for establishing the historical characterization of landscape, but recent work in Wales has suggested a practical approach based on considering the evidence as a series of themes which may provide an answer. At a landscape level, what is significant in historical terms includes field boundary patterns (whether they are irregular or regular, their size, their date etc); settlement patterns (whether they are scattered, nucleated, their date of origin etc); the visible remains of earlier periods; the effect of 18th- and 19th-century estates on the landscape; the impact of industry and military installations.

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 the definition of character areas which combine to make up the historic landscape area as defined in the *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales*. The concept of 'character areas' thus differs from the 'historic landscape types' defined in a number of comparable studies elsewhere in

the United Kingdom, which are based on the predominant form of the present landscape represented principally by patterns of enclosures. The process of characterization adopted here can be summarised as follows:

one or more <u>dominant patterns</u>	→	<u>coherent character</u>
<u>coherent character</u> with definable limits	→	<u>character area</u>
one or more <u>character areas</u>	→	<u>historic landscape area</u>

Characterization is a practical tool intended to aid management in its broadest forms. It is essential, therefore, that the key historic landscape characteristics are features and/or patterns to which can be applied management prescriptions whose success or otherwise can be measured for monitoring purposes.

Summary of work undertaken as part of the project

The study has also taken full advantage of computer-based GIS (geographical information system) resulting in the creation of a dynamic digital model which combines a wide range of historic landscape information which can be interrogated at a variety of levels, and which it is hoped will be maintained and updated as new information becomes available.

This paper report fulfills a number of ancillary purposes. It acts as a source work which supports and amplifies the historic landscape description given in the *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales*; it provides an indication of scope of the data contained within the digital model, together with background information, often of a kind which cannot be readily mapped; and it provides a bibliography.

Individual entries in the database created for the project from the Regional SMR were checked and amendments made where necessary. A number of major historic landscape themes were identified from the data in the SMR, and various gaps were noted.

Desk-based study was undertaken for the capture of further landscape information not held in the regional Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) maintained by CPAT. Of primary importance were the more readily available text-based sources such as the *Montgomeryshire Collections* and the *Denbighshire Historical Society Transactions*, as well as a number of other published works, particularly in areas in which the SMR is deficient (eg communications and transport, industrial history, vernacular architecture, land-use histories (see bibliography). Over 200 new records relating to the historic landscape were added to the SMR as part of the project.

A review was made of the available historic cartography for the area including tithe maps for various parishes, road maps, and a single enclosure award. Graphical data was collected from these sources relating to the extent of enclosed land at different periods together with the identification of significant field and settlement patterns. A record was also made of a number of significant selected field and place-names recorded in the tithe apportionments. A comprehensive search was also made of landscape information on the relevant Ordnance Survey 1st edition 6-inch maps.

Other relational databases available to the project included a database of Listed Buildings from Cadw and, at a late stage in the study the Montgomeryshire Place-Names Database from the Powysland Club, although the latter has not been fully utilised as part of the project.

Other graphical data gathered as part of the project from various mapped sources included the lines of the Vyrnwy aqueduct, turnpike roads, the course of the former railway, the extent of modern common land, land utilization categories, the extent of nucleated settlements, historic gardens, ecclesiastical and administrative boundaries, modern administrative boundaries, monastic holdings, the extent of enclosure since the tithe, and

the extent of scheduled ancient monuments. Significant historic landscape thematic areas were defined on the basis of either the point data on the SMR, available air photo transcriptions or published ground surveys.

The digital model is currently maintained in a MapInfo Professional v 5.0 workspace, running in conjunction with SMR and place-name data held in FoxPro relational databases running on a PC-based system under Windows 95. Other software used as part of the study has included AutoCad 13 for the capture of some graphical data, Excel, and Vertical Mapper v 2.

Fieldwork was undertaken to help in the definition of character areas, the boundaries of which were subsequently mapped and added to the digital model of the historic landscape. It also enabled photographic recording to be undertaken as well as the recording of field boundary types and building materials and the recording of some new sites added to the SMR.

Some limitations of the present study

The present study is intended to identify the major historic landscape components of *Dyffryn Tanat* and the processes by which they have come into being, rather than providing a total landscape history. There are therefore various important landscape features which have still to be studied and mapped. Tithe maps and tithe apportionments have been found to be a valuable source of information for settlement, place-name, and land-use information from the area. It has only proved possible to make use of selective material from the parishes of Pennant Melangell, Llangynog and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, and unfortunately similar evidence is not available to the study from the three parishes on the eastern boundary of the historic landscape area — Llanarmon-mynydd-mawr, Llansilin and Llangedwyn. The study also suffers from limited information available on local vernacular building styles, building materials, farmyard plans. Relict settlement evidence in the form of records of abandoned farmsteads and house platforms is only available for very restricted parts of the area and this has consequently not been included in the study. In addition, no systematic rectification of aerial photographic evidence of cropmark or earthwork sites has yet been undertaken.

Only random information is available on a number of other aspects of land-use, such as palaeoenvironmental history, the incidence of ridge-and-furrow cultivation, historic woodland management, hunting, game management, peat and peat cutting, valley bottom deposits, river meanders and water management, and this information has also largely been excluded from the study. It has not proved possible to include a study of craft industries such as smithying and the manufacture of flannel and woollen cloth, or various aspects of social and economic history, such as schools and education, law and order, postal and telephone services, all of which have a surviving physical presence in the landscape, or historical data relating to population statistics or agricultural production, rural depopulation, all which would serve to explain various landscape aspects.

Finally, it has not proved possible to make a more comprehensive study of topographical prints or illustrations or to gather oral evidence relating to the historic environment, or to seek local views on which aspects of the historic environment are considered to be important.

Conventions used in this report

Dyffryn Tanat is used as a shorthand in the following text to denote the area of the Tanat Valley historic landscape area. The historic landscape character areas are given unique names and numbered according to an agreed Welsh national numbering scheme. Site names are given as they appear in the Regional Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) maintained by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) — SMR record numbers, where quoted, normally being given in bold type in brackets.

Managing historic character

Rural land-use change

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.

Currently, due to agricultural overproduction 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 range of such agri-environment schemes (such as Environmentally Sensitive Areas and Tir Cymen) include provision for the conservation of certain habitats as well as for the protection and enhancement of stone walls and boundaries, although the protection of archaeological sites *strictu sensu* is less of a priority for the schemes. It is expected that this aspect of rural management will be enhanced by the new Tir Gofal scheme.

However, the present schemes do not cover the whole country (as the Tir Gofal scheme is intended to), and even where they do apply not all farmers take them up for various reasons, 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. The next step will be to ensure delivery of sound historical landscape management via a number of management initiatives and strategies.

Two of the principal advantages of an approach using character areas are that firstly it is able to identify and map both local distinctiveness and national importance; and secondly, by identifying physical features which can be managed it can feed directly into land management and development planning strategies. It can assist in management plans by setting priorities for management and enhancement, highlighting intrinsic values, and encouraging links to multipurpose management.

Characterization 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 (ie 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).

General considerations

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.

One of the basic tenets underpinning management is that we should be aiming to continue (rather than halt) the past 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.

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.

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, as a whole, rather than an isolated, unrelated activity.

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

management of <u>components</u> boundaries, buildings, archaeological sites etc	→	retain <u>character</u>	→	conserve <u>diversity</u> and <u>character areas</u>
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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.

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.

General mechanisms

It is envisaged that characterization has many potential applications to management including the following:

- 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;
- assisting in determining planning applications, especially large-scale developments such as roads, windfarms, 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 new 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, Countryside Council for Wales, 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.

Specific mechanisms

Tir Gofal, which has recently been launched, will be 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 will allow archaeological management strategies sensitive to the character of the landscape as a whole to be integrated with farming practices. Characterization 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.

Unitary Development Plans address 'land use' issues and are currently being compiled by unitary authorities in Wales and England.

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, of implementing development plan policies. In Wales, such strategies are supported by Countryside Council for Wales and in England by the Countryside Agency.

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.

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

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 archaeological features not individual sites which give landscape 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 characterization work of the kind being carried out by the Trusts provides historic environment audits, from which decisions of this kind can be made.

Biodiversity Action Plans Local Biodiversity Action Plans (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 characterization 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.

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 government has recently announced proposals to provide greater access to open areas of the countryside and issued a *Framework for Action*. As many of the best-preserved and most fragile palimpsest archaeological sites and landscapes lie within these areas, this has potential implications for archaeological management.

Historic landscape characterization 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.

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

Leisure strategy Historic Landscape Characterization may have a bearing on local authority leisure strategies.

Tourism The Tourist Boards for Wales and England have 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 characterization 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

from those which are particularly fragile.

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).

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

Forestry Commission Information from characterization projects will be invaluable in contributing to new 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.

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 characterization can provide.

Other bodies Historic landscape characterization information can be used to educate and inform a wide range of organisations and individuals including statutory agencies, voluntary bodies (RSPB, Woodland Trust, Wildlife Trusts, 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 characterization, 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 characterization cannot be emphasised too strongly.

David Thompson
Dafydd Gwyn
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

Historic landscape themes in Dyffryn Tanat

Summary

The Tanat Valley historic landscape (distinguished by its Welsh name — *Dyffryn Tanat* — in this report), is an historically important, diverse and well-preserved landscape covering an area of 101km² in northern Powys. The following description, taken from the *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales* (Cadw 1998, 128–31), identifies the essential historic landscape themes in the historic character area that are described in greater detail in the sections which follow.

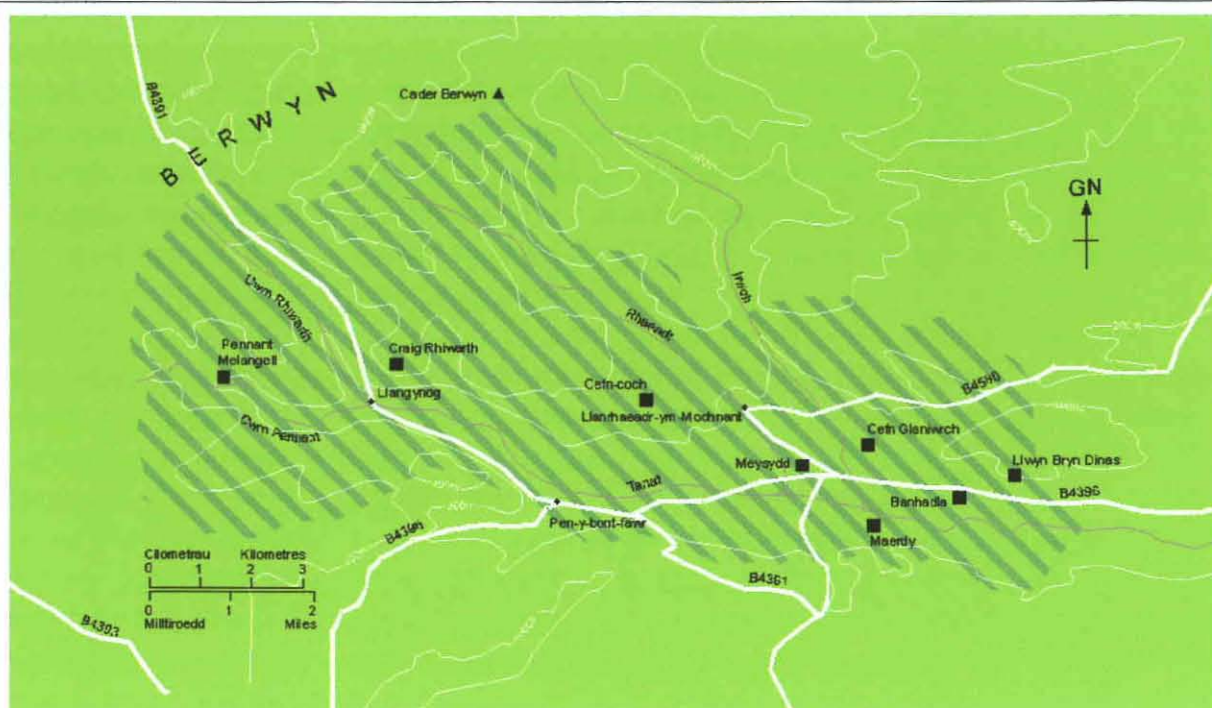
The River Tanat and its dendritic tributaries dominate this narrow valley landscape running east to west in north Powys. The Tanat separates the Berwyn Mountains, to the north, from the rolling Montgomery Hills, to the south. It occupies a valley less than 1km wide whose floor is nowhere more than 150m above OD and with both sides rising steeply to about 300m above OD.

Cwm Rhiwarth and Cwm Pennant, the source of the River Tanat, are two deeply glaciated valleys cut into the south eastern slopes of the Berwyn Mountains. From their confluence at Llangynog, the River Tanat flows east through a broader valley surrounded by low hills. The Berwyn Mountains, which rise to 827m above OD at the summit of Cader Berwyn, present a formidable barrier to communications to the west, and as a result, the area has closer links with the borderlands to the east. The influence of man in this area has been present from prehistoric times and has not been confined to the valley floor. Consequently, the area presents a landscape of great diversity with evidence of landuse and settlement patterns from several periods and of varied nature.

The earliest evidence for occupation in the valley consists of a series of Bronze Age monuments now only visible from the air as crop-marks. The individual sites are often small and discrete, but together they comprise one of the best surviving groups of this type of archaeological evidence in Wales. They include a probable henge and pit circles at Meusydd and ring ditches, and ploughed out burial mounds, at Banhadla. More tangible remains survive from the later prehistoric period in the form of two large and impressive Iron Age hillforts at Llwyn Bryn-dinas and Craig Rhiwarth, each dominating the visual prospects of their respective halves of the valley. Excavations at the former have revealed evidence for early metalworking and might suggest that the size and location of the fort is the result of the importance of local ore which was more fully worked during the 19th century. The remains of prehistoric workings can also be seen at the upper end of Cwm Orog, north of Craig Rhiwarth hillfort.

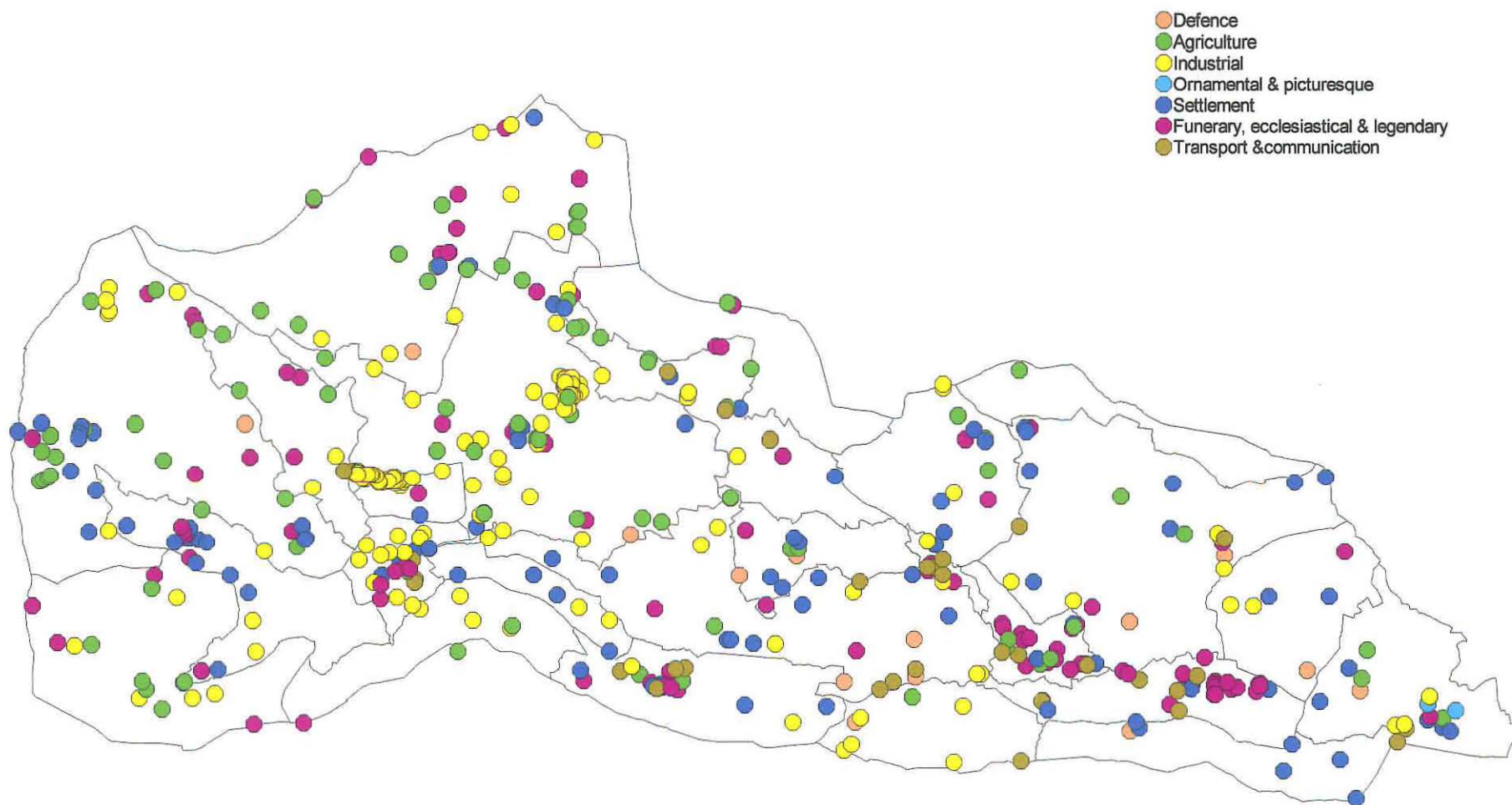
The principal historic settlements of the area, Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant and Pennant Melangell, are both the result of medieval religious foundations. Pennant Melangell, located in a secluded and tranquil valley, is associated with the 8th century legend of St Melangell. The existing church, which in parts can be dated to the 12th century, was supposed to have replaced a nunnery founded by Melangell, and contains the remains of a shrine which may once have held the saint's remains. Llanrhaeadr was an important ecclesiastical site and a clas foundation (a unit of administration based on monastic settlement) dedicated to St Dogfan. It is one of the 'Welsh churches, with the villages and churchyards' burned by the English in 1165, as recorded by Giraldus Cambrensis, and was the incumbency of William Morgan when he completed his Welsh translation of the Bible in 1587. Earlier medieval, secular settlement in the valley is evidence by the mottes at Cefn-côch, Cefn Glaniwrch and Maerdy.

While the landscape of much of the valley is the result of medieval and post-medieval agriculture, the upper reaches of the valley around Llangynog bear the marks of an industrial past. The mining of lead, phosphate and slate, together with granite quarrying had a significant effect on the landscape and economy of the area. The early origins of mining around Llangynog have already been mentioned, and it is possible that similar workings existed during the Roman period. However, it is not until the 16th century that the main period of exploitation began and continued until relatively recent times. Today, the remains of the mine workings are still evident, consisting of ruined buildings, levels, tramways, inclines, filter beds and spoil tips, much of which is readily identifiable. The mines and quarries were served by the Tanat Light Railway which was in operation from 1904 until 1960. The track has been removed, but much of the line and the ruins of the stations are still discernible.



Summary

Ref number	HLW (P/C) 1
Index map no.	34
OS map	Landranger 125
Former county	Powys, Clwyd
Unitary authority	Powys, (Denbighshire)
Principal area designations	The north western side includes part of the Berwyn National Nature Reserve. The area includes: Craig Rhiwarth hillfort Scheduled Ancient Monument: Llangynog, Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant and Penybontfawr Conservation Areas.
Criteria	3, 4
Contents and significance	A narrow lowland river valley situated between the Berwyn Mountains and the Montgomery Hills, containing diverse evidence of land use from prehistoric to recent times. The area includes: significant crop-marks of hidden prehistoric ritual and funerary sites; large, well-preserved Iron Age hillforts; prehistoric to recent mining remains; medieval mottes; settlements and Pennant Melangell Church.



Historic landscape themes in Dyffryn Tanat

Sites listed in the Sites and Monuments Record, classed by theme

See also map of character areas

THE NATURAL LANDSCAPE

The topography of *Dyffryn Tanat* is extremely diverse. It includes wild upland moorland areas, mostly in the north and west and generally between about 500–600m OD, steep hillsides on the valley sides, undulating hill country between about 200–250 metres, flat low-lying ground on the valley bottom, between about 100–200m OD. There is often a sharp and dramatic transition from valley bottom to mountain top, particularly in the west.

The Tanat Valley is broader in the west and terminates in the west in three narrow and deeply glaciated valleys cut into the Berwyns — Cwm Pennant with its offshoot Cwm Llêch, Cwm Rhiwarth, and Cwm Blowty. The entrance to a fourth valley — Cwm Maengwynedd — falls just within the historic landscape area, to the north of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant. There are also a number of distinctive hanging valleys, including Cwm Dwygo to the south-west and Cwm Glan-hafon to the north-east of Llangynog.

The principal mountains are Mynydd Mawr, Moel Sych and Y Glogydd to the north, Bryn Ysbio and Cynriau Nod to the west, Cynriau, Dâs Eithin and Allt Tair Ffynnon to the south. One of the best vantage points is Tomen Cefn-côch motte (SJ 10472625) from which practically the whole of *Dyffryn Tanat* can be seen, with the exception of the recesses of the western valleys.

The principal rivers and streams are Afon Tanat and its tributary Afon Goch, Afon Eirth (joining the Tanat at Llangynog), Afon Rhaeadr and Afon Iwrch (both joining the Tanat at to the south-east of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant). There are a number of waterfalls including Pistyll Rhaeadr at the head of the Rhaeadr and Pistyll Blaen-y-cwm at the head the Tanat.

The solid geology comprises Ordovician mudstones, shales and slates of the Caradoc series with bands of acid lava and tuff and some intrusive fine-grained dolerites and rhyolites (Smith & George 1987; NERC/British Geological Survey 1994). Depths of over 150 feet of glacial and post-glacial gravel and clay have been recorded in the bottom of the valley during the course of mining at Llangynog (Williams 1985, 55, fig. 13).

Soils on the valley bottom comprise alluvial gley soils of the Conway series and brown earths of the Denbigh 1 and Rheidol series. Soils of the hill land comprises Cambrian stagnogley soils of the Cegin series. The mountain soils are a combination of brown podzolic soils, largely of the Manod series, and ferric stagnopodzols of Hafren series (Soil Survey 1983).

In terms of land-use potential the uplands of *Dyffryn Tanat* are classed as Grade 5, the hill-slopes, western valleys and hill land are classed as Grade 4, with restricted areas of Grade 3 land on the valley floor between Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant and Llangedwyn (Ordnance Survey/ADAS 1972).

Mochnant was renowned for its trees, but historical aspects of its woodland have yet to be studied in any detail. The rate at the native woodland was cleared is poorly documented though no doubt the poorer ground and particularly the steep-sided valleys and hillsides were the last to retain the woodland. The name of the cantref of Mochnant itself suggests a wooded environment suited to pigs. In the legend of Melangell prince Brochwel came across the virgin in a thicket, and her shrine is decked in foliage. The late medieval poet Llywarch ab Llywelyn spoke of the beautifully wooded environs of Mochnant — *Am Fochnant cain amgant coedawg*. In the early 14th century the greater part of parish of Llangedwyn is said to have continued to be wooded (Pratt 1990, 24, fig. 6).

As late as the mid 19th century the tithe apportionments for parishes in *Dyffryn Tanat* abounded with place-name and field-name elements denoting woodland now lost, as in the following examples: holly (*celyn*) in Garthgelyn-fawr; birch (*fedw*) in Llety'r Fedw Ucha; willow (*helig*) as in Tyddyn yr Helig; bush or shrub (*perth*) as in Gwaith Gwr y Berth; wood (*coed* and *gwydd*) as in Coed Ffridd, Cae Gwydd Ucha, and Tanycoed.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE LANDSCAPE

The complex history of political and ecclesiastical boundary changes which *Dyffryn Tanat* has undergone since at least the 12th century has an important bearing upon its landscape history. The area falls within the ancient kingdom of Powys, which gained a stronger political identity from the later 11th century, following a period of several centuries during which it fell under the competing influences of the Welsh kingdom of Gwynedd and the English kingdom of Mercia, English cultural influence already being apparent in the period between the 9th to 11th centuries (Davies 1982, 116).

Until the death of Madog ap Maredudd in 1160 *Dyffryn Tanat* formed part of the cantref (hundred) of Mochnant, formed of the commotes of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr and Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr (Mochnant, above and below the Rhaeadr), divided by Afon Rhaeadr. A greater proportion of the better, lower-lying agricultural land is to be found in Mochnant Is Rhaeadr, to the east of the Rhaeadr, and it is this commote which is more likely to have held the *caput* or early seat of government and administration within the cantref (Richards 1964–65, 13).

Following the death of Madog, the political and administrative history of the parts of the valley to either side of the Rhaeadr took different courses for a period of over 800 years, until the local government reorganisation of 1996. Madog's sons inherited the northern part of Powys including Mochnant Is Rhaeadr, which later became known as Powys Fadog. Southern Powys, later to become known as Powys Wenwynwyn and including Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr, was inherited by his brother's family, thus separating administratively the two constituent commotes of the cantref of Mochnant. Following the Edwardian conquest of Wales in 1282–83 Powys Wenwynwyn continued under Welsh rule, but Powys Fadog was divided between two of Edward's English supporters, Mochnant Is Rhaeadr becoming part of Marcher lordship of Chirk held by Roger Mortimer. Southern Powys, which had supported the king in the war against Llywelyn, remained in the hands of its native ruler, under allegiance to the English crown. The inhabitants of Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr no longer owed their services to a native lord speaking their own language and with a hereditary claim on their loyalty (Jones 1932, x).

At the Act of Union of 1536, the boundary between the two commotes became the county boundary between Denbighshire and Montgomeryshire, Mochnant Is Rhaeadr forming part of the hundred of Chirk and Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr forming part of the hundred of Mechain (Rees 1972; M. Richards 1969).

Dyffryn Tanat occupies parts of five medieval ecclesiastical parishes — including substantial portions of Pennant Melangell, Llangynog, and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant and lesser portions of the parishes of Llansilin and Hirnant. Churches at Llanarmon-mynydd-mawr and Llangedwyn were initially dependent chapels of Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, but subsequently formed separate parishes. The boundaries of the medieval parishes of Pennant Melangell and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant in particular were extremely irregular. At the time of the tithe Pennant Melangell comprising six detached portions, four in Montgomeryshire, one in Denbighshire and one in Shropshire (Britnell 1994a). The parish of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant was again unusual in being divided almost equally between Denbighshire and Montgomeryshire, a consequence of the division of the cantref of Mochnant in 1160.

During the medieval period the commotes Mochnant Is Rhaeadr and Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr were units of local government and political administration, each divided into townships upon which services, dues and rents were assessed. By the time of the tithe, in the 1830s and 1840s, Pennant Melangell and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant were multiple township parishes and Llangynog was formed of a single township of Tre'r-llan. All or part of seven of Pennant Melangell's twelve townships fall within *Dyffryn Tanat* — Tre'r-llan, Cwm Llêch, Pengwern, Cwm Blowty, Garthgelynen-fawr and Garthgelynen-fechan, and Peniarth. Likewise, all or part of fourteen of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant's sixteen townships fall within *Dyffryn Tanat* — Glanhafon-fawr,

Glanhafon-fach, Tre'r-llan, Cefn-côch, Castellmoch, Brithdir, Henfache, Banhadla-ucha, Banhadla-issa, Banhadla Hamlet, Trebrys-fach, Trebrys-fawr, Trewern, Gartheryr, and Trefeiliw. Llangedwyn and Llanarmon-mynydd-mawr, having originally formed part of the parish of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, were each formed of single townships, parts of which fall within *Dyffryn Tanat*. Llansilin was again a multiple township parish of which the township of Lloran falls within *Dyffryn Tanat*.

During the course of the later 19th century and the 20th century parts of Pennant Melangell were absorbed by the parishes of Llangynog, Llanwddyn, Hirnant and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, the civil community eventually disappearing altogether. Since local government reorganisation in 1996 *Dyffryn Tanat* falls wholly within the county of Powys, being split between the communities of Llangynog, Hirnant, Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Llangedwyn and Llansilin.

SETTLEMENT LANDSCAPES

Prehistoric to Roman settlement

The earliest evidence of human activity in the region rests on a chance find of a Late Upper Palaeolithic barbed point from Porthywaen, at the eastern end of the Tanat Valley, dated to about 12,000 BC (Britnell 1984; Bonsall & Smith 1990, 359). The find came from a lowland mire near the mouth of the Tanat Valley and probably indicates the existence of temporary hunting settlements in the valley during the Late Glacial period. Temporary seasonal settlement by nomadic hunter-gatherer groups is likely to have taken place in *Dyffryn Tanat* during the subsequent Mesolithic and earlier Neolithic periods.

Increasing human activity in *Dyffryn Tanat* is represented by funerary and ritual monuments probably representing permanent settlement between the later Neolithic and middle Bronze Age periods, between about 3,000–1,200 BC. The distribution of sites on the valley floor and in the uplands suggests that a wide range of topographic areas were exploited for hunting, animal grazing and arable agriculture, and it is probable that seasonal patterns of land-use and settlement developed during this period. No settlements of these periods are known within the area but evidence from elsewhere in the region suggests that the principal building type at this time were wooden roundhouses of a type which has left little visible evidence, probably grouped in undefended settlements (Britnell 1982; Britnell *et al.* 1997).

Defended settlements of the later Bronze Age and Iron Ages are known, belonging to the period between about 1000 BC – AD 100, including both hillforts and lowland enclosures. It is uncertain whether the hillforts were permanently occupied and also what proportion of the population they may have housed, but the lowland enclosures were probably farmsteads occupied by extended family groups throughout the year. The hillforts had most probably ceased to be occupied by the beginning of the Roman period but some of the enclosure sites may have continued in occupation during the subsequent Roman and early Medieval periods, between about AD 100–1000.

It is uncertain whether a significant proportion of the population may have occupied enclosed settlements by the end of the Roman period, or whether most people lived in unenclosed settlements of a kind which have yet to be identified. It seems probable, however, that by the early Medieval period a pattern of settlement had emerged which was characterised by clusters of permanently occupied farmsteads belonging to extended family groups on the better, lower lying ground, together with seasonally occupied dwellings in the uplands. Large nucleated settlements were probably unknown at this time, though it is possible that smaller nucleations, possibly of no more than a handful of houses, had begun to develop around a number of the early religious sites, such as in the vicinity of the possibly 9th-century *clas* church at Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant.

Medieval and later settlement evidence

The model for medieval rural settlement and administration in Wales is set out in the Welsh laws. In the early medieval period each of the commotes of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr and Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr would have been divided into a number of townships, one of which would have been the commotal capital and held the *llys* (court), the lord's demesne or personal estate within the commote, and the *maerdref* (the bailiff's township or village) inhabited by bondsmen who undertook work on the lord's demesne under the supervision of the *maer*. Lands in other townships within the commote were held by freemen.

Applying this model to *Dyffryn Tanat* is far from straightforward, however. It is tempting to equate the capital of each commote with the lowland motte known within each commote, especially since the lowland motte in Mochant Is Rhaeadr is named Tomen y Maerdy, suggesting a direct association with the *maer*. However, all of the mottes appear to be sited for defensive purposes in places convenient for either a nucleated bond settlement or as the centre of the lord's demesne, and there appears to be little other direct evidence of where *llysoedd* or *maerdrefi* in either commote may have been sited. The distribution of medieval parish churches in *Dyffryn Tanat* might at first sight appear to offer some help in defining medieval settlement patterns in the area, but the evidence they provide is again ambiguous, since with the exception of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant it seems possible that each church served dispersed rural communities rather than forming the focus of a nucleated settlement. In the absence of other evidence it is necessary to work back from the earliest mapped evidence of settlement within *Dyffryn Tanat*, most notably the tithe maps of the 1830s and 1840s, in order to gain further insight into the evolution of settlement patterns in the early post-medieval, late medieval and even medieval periods.

The settlement types represented on the tithe fall into four basic categories — scattered farmsteads occupying the better farmland, smallholdings around the margins of the enclosed land, smaller crofts and squatters' cottages on some of the poorer higher ground recently enclosed from the upland waste, and finally a number of the present-day nucleated settlements, notably Llangynog, Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Penybontfawr, and Penygarnedd. Each of these settlement types have their own history, and between them they represent various stages in the evolution and decay of the medieval, late medieval, post-medieval and modern settlement landscapes. One element that is almost wholly missing from the settlement pattern evident from the tithe, however, is the *hafod* (summer house), representing the practice of transhumance from the lowland farmstead or *hendref* which had all but died out by the later 18th century. This question is further considered in the following section on agricultural landscapes.

Dispersed settlement

As noted above, dispersed settlement in *Dyffryn Tanat* is represented by scattered larger farmsteads, smallholdings, and cottages. The 19th-century farmsteads shown on the tithe are typically spaced less than 500 metres apart though in places two, three or four are set quite close to each other. At that date the farms were generally about 50 acres with a farmhouse and other buildings generally set within their own fields, below the less fertile hospitable higher ground and above the damper lower-lying ground or land liable to flood. The farmhouses often still survive, only a proportion are still working farms today whilst others are now used simply as farm-buildings or have disappeared altogether.

The farmsteads are generally fairly evenly distributed across the better land, although the concentration is noticeably less dense to just to the east and south-east of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, suggesting that some of the land here may at one time have been worked from farms based in the town. Many of the farmsteads are also paired by names with suffixes meaning upper or lower (*uchaf/isaf*), larger or smaller (*fawr/fach* or *fechan*), middle (*ganol*) (eg Cefn-uchaf/isaf; Cefnhirfach/fawr; Cileos/-isaf; Garthgelynen-fawr/fechan; Glanhafon-fawr/ucha/uchaf; Glantanat-isaf/uchaf; Lloran-isaf/ganol/uchaf; Maesmochnant-isaf/uchaf; Peniarth-isaf/uchaf;

Trewern/-isaf). Some of the farmsteads linked in this way have given their name to the township in which they fall, and there is also a tendency for these farmsteads to occupy the better, lower-lying ground. Both of these factors suggest that some of these farms have developed directly from an early medieval and medieval pattern of rural settlement originally based on the shared occupation of well-defined areas of better-grade land by 'tribal' or extended family groupings (D.W. Williams 1993). This process was probably already breaking down by the amalgamation and consolidation of holdings during the later medieval period, considered further in the section on agricultural landscapes below.

A different pattern is also represented on the tithe by many of the smaller farms which tend to be sited on the slightly more marginal land, on the fringes of the upland area and valley sides. Many of these incorporate *tyddyn* ('smallholding') as a the place-name element, often abbreviated to *ty'n*. The siting of many of these smallholdings strongly suggests that they represent an expansion away from the earlier 'tribal' lands onto more marginal land by independent farmers intent on exploiting lowland, mountain edge and mountain top. As a further expression of their independence these farms have normally not adopted the suffixes such as *uchaf* and *isaf* and often have their own distinct name. A significant proportion of both these more peripheral farmsteads and the larger lowland farms had cruck-built buildings (see below), indicating that significant elements of the settlement pattern evident from the tithe in the mid 19th century was already in existence by the 15th and 16th centuries.

The scatter of independent farmsteads in the countryside is thus a combination of different processes — remnants of the early medieval and medieval free *treffi* associated relatively small areas of open-field arable followed by an expansion of independent consolidated farms onto the slightly less favourable land around the margins of the medieval farmed land during the late medieval and early post-medieval periods, followed by the abandonment of many of the more marginal farms and amalgamation of smaller holdings during the course of the 19th and 20th centuries.

A systematic survey of historic farm plans and buildings in the entire area of *Dyffryn Tanat* has yet to be undertaken and consequently relatively few are well dated (Wiliam 1982, 26–8). 18th-century Montgomeryshire estate surveys show that at that time the range of farm buildings in the west was often limited to a small barn and cowhouse, but that the lowland farms included a wider range of buildings including cart or 'wain' houses, stables, pigsties and dairies (Humphreys 1996, 12). Two basic farmstead layout types are represented in Alwyn Rees's classic study of Llanfihangel yng Ngwynfa, just to the south, which in general terms also seems to hold true for *Dyffryn Tanat* (Rees 1950, 47–54). An earlier arrangement is characterised by a linear arrangement of farmhouse and outbuildings of longhouse type which faces onto the farmyard. In a later or in some instances more developed type the farmhouse, generally of a post-medieval rectangular style, stands apart from the farmyard and faces away from it. In *Dyffryn Tanat*, as in Llanfihangel yng Ngwynfa, there is a preference for sheltered, sunny southward-facing slopes, giving rise in the post-medieval period with names such as Bronheulog and Lletty Heulen.

This general pattern is also borne out by a further study which has shown that farm plans with a single line of buildings or with two lines either parallel to each other or set in an L-shape are amongst the most frequent forms in the Berwyn foothills generally (Wiliam 1982, 35–42). These kinds of plans are most likely to arise in the case of farms with very few buildings and consequently farmsteads of this type would be likely to develop into more elaborate forms as additional buildings were added in the wake of the agricultural reforms which took place during the 18th century. Little study has been carried out on the ways in which farmsteads have developed, but there are some instances in which there is clear evidence of the more elaborate types having developed from a single original multi-functional longhouse. Building recording and excavation have shown that the farmstead at Tyddyn-llwydion, just to the west of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, began life in the 16th century as a cruck-built longhouse with farmyard to one side. In the early 17th century a new timber-framed

farmhouse with a western stone gable was built at one end, forming an L-shaped plan, with an additional range of brick and stone buildings erected parallel to the longhouse in the early 19th century.

As noted below, by at least the early post-medieval period common grazing rights were already being determined by the number of livestock which could be kept on the *hendref* or home farm during the winter months. It is within this context that the longhouse with human accommodation at one end and animal accommodation assumes an even greater significance. As late as the 18th century it is likely that only oxen and suckler cows — the vital stock for traction and breeding — were in-housed and fed regularly during the winter (Humphreys 1996, 17). The important elements in the equation were the quantity of hay that could be gathered and the amount of sheltered accommodation for stock that the longhouse provided.

The 18th- and 19th-century smallholdings, crofts and squatter's cottages represent a further distinct element of the rural landscape, their distribution on the margins of the moorland and having the effect of linking the areas taken by the independent late medieval and early post-medieval farmsteads which as we have seen were established during the course of the 15th to 17th centuries. Two characteristic examples of this kind of cottage landscape fall within *Dyffryn Tanat* — Cefn-côch on the hill just to the west of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, and Mynydd-y-briw north of Llangedwyn, with closely-spaced cottages and smaller fields scattered along the road. In both these cases the piecemeal encroachment of the common probably began during the 18th century and was still actively taking place during the earlier 19th century, as evident on the tithe apportionment. In both cases the development is on the fringes of the upland area and significantly close to the parish boundaries of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant and Pennant Melangell respectively. The size of the holdings at about the middle of the 19th century ranged from smallholdings with about 15 acres of land to cottages with a garden and possibly no more than about 3 acres.

As elsewhere in Wales, the growth of Nonconformity during the later 18th and 19th centuries, the proliferation of chapels, the growth of schools, and road improvements were all important in helping to sustain the pattern of dispersed rural settlement.

Nucleated settlement

Medieval churches were built in *Dyffryn Tanat* at Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Llangynog, Pennant Melangell, Llanarmon-mynydd-mawr and Llangedwyn, but it is only at Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant that there is any clear evidence for nucleated settlement during the medieval period.

The early history of the settlement which grew up around the *clas* church at Llanrhaeadr is poorly documented, though it seems likely to have become a centre of administration for the *cantref* of Mochnant and the commote of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr at a fairly early date, the church having been established by at least the 9th century and patronised by royalty (Evans 1986, 74). The earliest substantial history of the settlement follows hard on the heels of the Edwardian conquest and the granting of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr to Roger Mortimer as part of the lordship of Chirkland. The right to hold a market and fairs was granted in 1284, the main purposes of which were to foster trade and raise revenue (Pratt 1985). From this developed the tiny market focused on the open triangle near the church which attracted merchants from Oswestry and Shrewsbury dealing in specialised goods as well as peasant farmers from Mochnant acting as both buyer and seller. The remoteness of the area within the lordship meant that various administrative functions also needed to be carried out here, but the success of the market was ultimately to be determined by its limited hinterland, and from the later 14th century the market tolls frequently yielded nothing 'for want of farmers' (Pratt 1985, fn 56; Pratt 1990, 17). By the mid 19th century a relatively small and compact settlement had developed particularly on the northern or Denbighshire side of Afon Rhaeadr, by which time corn mills, several inns, shops, chapels, and a market hall had been erected.

The remaining nucleated settlements in *Dyffryn Tanat* are largely of late 18th-century and 19th-century creations. Llangynog is one of the outstanding examples of where extractive industries have radically altered the pattern of rural settlement — its rows of terraced houses, its chapels and the New Inn of 1751 owing their existence not to the existence of a medieval church but rather to the mining and quarrying interests which dominated its existence from the mid 18th century and to the presence of the turnpike road built across the hills to Bala later in the century (Jenkins 1990, 95). The terraced houses, school and bridge at Penybontfawr are all 19th-century in date (Haslam 1979, 184–5), the settlement here owing its existence almost exclusively to the presence turnpikes, lying at the crossroads of routes to Oswestry, west Wales, Shrewsbury and Bala. The church and vicarage are again close in date were built anew in the mid nineteenth century to serve an expanding roadside community far removed from but soon to eclipse its parish church at Pennant Melangell five miles to the west (Britnell 1994a). Indeed, Penybontfawr is unique within the county in being a relatively recent roadside hamlet that was subsequently elevated to the status of an independent civil community (Sylvester 1955–56, 9). The clusters of houses at Pencraig along the turnpike to the north of Llangynog also owes its existence to the mines (cf. Trinder 1982, 48–9). The cluster of houses at Commins is a further example of the kind of changes to the rural landscape which came in the wake of the turnpikes (Sylvester 1955–56, 26) and the consequent shift in settlement foci. Other smaller settlements such as Efail-rhyd again sprang up along the turnpikes from the later 18th century next to the corn mill and smithy. The Tanat Valley Light Railway, constructed between 1899–1904 and finally ceasing in 1964, largely served existing settlements and had little direct impact upon the settlement pattern.

Population

Population densities are difficult to assess with accuracy before later 17th century, when figures from the St Asaph *Notitiae* and the Hearth Tax returns indicate densities of between about 9–38 people per square mile, figures for Pennant Melangell and Llangynog being the lowest recorded in the county of Montgomeryshire (Jenkins 1990, Table III). The Census of 1801 indicates that densities continued to be relatively low, with densities of between about 25–50 per square mile (Thomas 1963, 101). The agricultural community gradually increased but there were various local fluctuations to the mining community during the 18th century and 19th centuries due to the unpredictable fortunes of mining industry: the rural dean's report for 1710 mentions in the case of Llangynog that 'a new colony of miners settled in . . . their numbers increase daily' (Jenkins 1990, 94), whereas only thirty years later the mines were described as 'like a dying man' (Williams 1985, 29). There was an overall decline in population during the later 19th century with the migration of industrial areas outside *Dyffryn Tanat*, but the abandonment of dwellings was less marked than in some other parts of Wales.

Building styles

The earliest surviving medieval architecture in *Dyffryn Tanat* is represented by parts of the 12th-century church at Pennant Melangell, a relatively plain Romanesque structure with an eastern apse, undivided chancel and nave and a simple round-headed doors and windows, which would originally have been thatched (Britnell 1994b; Heaton & Britnell 1994). Most of the early fabric is of rounded boulders from the local stream bonded with clay, indicating that both stone quarrying and lime-producing industries had yet to be established in the region, although sandstone dressings for window and door openings as well as for the Romanesque shrine were imported from a specialist workshop some distance away, somewhere in the borderland to the east (Britnell & Watson 1994).

The oldest domestic building style in *Dyffryn Tanat* are the cruck-framed half-timbered houses which show a marked concentration in this part of the Welsh borderland (Smith 1988, 395, Map 12) and which are such a distinctive feature of the local vernacular building tradition. About 20 cruck-framed buildings of this type are known within *Dyffryn Tanat*, the majority of which probably date to the later 15th and earlier 16th centuries

and were built as farmhouses. A number of buildings have sadly been lost during the course of the 20th century, including both Tyddyn-Ilwydion and Cileos-isaf and no doubt many others were lost in previous centuries. Some of the buildings have only been identified during the 1980s and 1990s and there is a high probability that other examples remain to be discovered. Many of the buildings clearly had a central hall of one or two bays, open to the roof, with a central open fireplace. Most of these cruck-framed hall houses were probably occupied by yeoman farmers of reasonable means, working their own estates, and at least two of the buildings — Tyddyn-Ilwydion and Cileos-isaf — were built as longhouses, their lower bays having been used as animal byres.

All the cruck-framed buildings have been modified or adapted in one way or another. Some are still inhabited, though a number of buildings which probably started life as houses had been converted into barns, as at Glanhafon-fawr and Henblas. In some cases the outer walls were replaced in stone as the original panels failed, as in the case of Tan-y-graig. At Tyddyn-Ilwydion a new timber-framed house with a stone gable was built as a cross-wing at one end, with the hall house being converted to agricultural use and its wall eventually converted to stone. Buildings like Tyddyn-Ilwydion and Cileos-isaf were probably typical of later medieval and early post-medieval farmsteads in *Dyffryn Tanat*, and were almost certainly once much more common in the region. Cruck-framed longhouses of this type with its linear arrangement of living accommodation, hall and cattle byre was a single multifunctional building, parts of which probably also used for threshing and other tasks at different seasons, which by the 17th and 18th centuries typically evolved into or were being replaced by a group of separate buildings, each with more specialised functions. As late as the 18th century it is likely that only horses, oxen and suckler cows were in-housed and fed regularly during the winter months (Humphreys 1996, 17), the number of animals that individual farms could over-winter governing an owners rights to common land and hence the wealth and status of the establishment.

Nothing is yet known of the form of the early medieval and medieval buildings which preceded these late medieval and early post-medieval cruck-framed hall houses in *Dyffryn Tanat*, since none have survived or are known from archaeological excavations. Excavations at a number of local urban sites, including the medieval borough of Montgomery suggest that in about the 14th century there was locally a change in construction techniques from post-built buildings to ones which like the cruck-framed halls were of sill-beam construction set on stone sills (Britnell & Jones 1989). It seems likely that traces of earlier houses of this type are to be found beneath or alongside the late medieval farmhouses described above, which in some cases still remain in use today. Interestingly, the only excavated cruck-framed hall house in *Dyffryn Tanat* has been shown to be superimposed upon an earlier ploughed field (Britnell & Suggett forthcoming), perhaps suggesting an expansion away from earlier settlement areas.

From the later 16th century onwards the vernacular building traditions within *Dyffryn Tanat* appear to have become more diverse, with no evident emergence of distinctive or dominant local styles. A number of half-timber farmhouses of box-frame construction were built in the later 16th and earlier 17th centuries, some like Tyddyn-Ilwydion with stone gables. The evidence from Pennant Melangell church shows that the local stone quarrying industry had become well established at some time during the late 16th to early 17th century at the very latest (Heaton & Britnell 1994) and no doubt lime was by now commonly available for mortar. From the mid 17th century a variety of new two-storey farmhouses were commonly being rebuilt or built anew in stone, as in the case of Glantanat-uchaf with a date-stone of 1646 and Ty-ucha with a date-stone of 1665, together a number lesser one and two storey cottages. Few grand Tudor or Renaissance buildings were to be built in *Dyffryn Tanat*, with the possible exception of Llangedwyn Hall, a late 17th- or early 18th-century remodelling of late 16th- or early 17th-century building inherited by the Williams-Wynns in 1718 (Hubbard 1986, 215). More modest houses were nonetheless inhabited by families of some distinction or pretension — Glanhafon-fawr belonging to the Lloyd family, or Lloran-uchaf of the Maurice family who would trace their ancestry back to the Roman period (Williams 1993). The owners of a small handful of farms would be sufficiently confident to add *Plas* as a prefix to the name ‘although some of them seem ridiculously small’ (Hancock 1871, 230–1),

as in the case of Plas-criafol (SJ 114312) which lies towards the head of Cwm Maengwynedd. Cadwaladr Roberts (d. 1708/9), poet and farmer, would live at Ty-ucha, tucked away at the farthest recesses of Cwm Llêch (Richards 1934a; *Dictionary of Welsh Biography*). The owners of Tyddyn-llwydion would have a Latin epigram painted on the walls of their modest 17th-century parlour (Britnell & Suggett forthcoming).

Many of the buildings from the later 16th century onwards were probably roofed in slate. The early history of local slate production is poorly documented, although there are suggestions that the quarries at Llangynog may have been in production by the 1530s (North 1943, 90; Williams 1985, 117; Richards 1995, 13). Local quarries were producing stone flags for flooring by at least the early 18th century (Heaton & Britnell 1994, 119, fn. 85), replacing earlier earthen floors. The use of brick is unrecorded in *Dyffryn Tanat* before the second or third decade of the 18th century, as in the stylish houses at Ty-nant and Henblas, Llangedwyn and also in industrial structures at Llangynog lead mine, where its use is recorded in the 1730s. A number of field-names such as 'Brick Field' and 'Kiln Bricks' in the Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant area are probably evidence of small-scale local production of bricks in the late 18th or early 19th century. Later 18th- and 19th-century building styles are predominantly a feature of the nucleated settlements.

AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES

The modern agricultural economy of *Dyffryn Tanat*, in common with much of the Welsh borderland is based on a number of basic and dependent elements, clearly recognisable within the landscape — unenclosed upland pastures and the enclosed pasture and arable on lower-lying ground. Arable production today is relatively slight although fodder crops are still essential for over-wintering. This basic pattern of land-use had probably already begun to develop by the late 14th and early 15th centuries, the disintegration of Welsh medieval system of tribal holdings — the *gwelau* and *gafaelion* — enclosure and the amalgamation of holdings ultimately giving rise to a landscape of scattered farms worked by a class of peasant farmers and lesser gentry. Medieval inheritance customs had a considerable impact upon the landscape, the system of *cyfran* or division between all male heirs giving rise to intakes around the older tribal centres — a process later superseded by population pressure. Old customs die hard, however, and as late as about 1560 Maurice ap Meredith avoided the Tudor innovation of primogeniture by dividing the small estate of Lloran-uchaf in the north-east corner of *Dyffryn Tanat* among his eight surviving sons (Wiliam 1986, 4; D.W. Williams 1993, 41). The 17th and 18th centuries saw the development of large estates, the major landowners in *Dyffryn Tanat* including the Herberts of Powis Castle and the Williams-Wynns of Wynnstay. Major improvements were made in agricultural practice, the 'land hungry' years of the later 18th and early 19th centuries witnessing the establishment of smaller tenements and squatter's cottages. The agricultural depression of the later 19th and earlier 20th centuries saw the abandonment of some of the smallholdings on the more marginal land, and the beginning of the 20th century saw the break-up of a number of estates and an increase in the number of owner-occupiers.

It is probably significant that in this part of *Dyffryn Tanat* there is a sharp transition here between valley bottom and mountain top. Once the finite agricultural land in the adjacent valley bottoms had become fully utilized, most probably during the medieval period, the valley sides are so steep that it would have been necessary to leap to the mountain top to take in more agricultural land. A different picture is evident in the eastern parts of *Dyffryn Tanat*, where the transition between valley bottom and mountain top is less dramatic and where intakes of more marginal land were continuing to take place around the immediate margins of the enclosed land well into the 19th century. The extent of the present-day upland common in *Dyffryn Tanat* represents only a small proportion of the unenclosed wastes and commons that survived as late as the earlier 19th century, as shown on the tithe, and it is clear that walls were still being built and hedges planted during the later 19th century.

Upland commons

As in many parts of Wales, the exploitation of the summer pastures of the upland commons have been an important and integral part of the rural economy for many centuries, considerably enhancing the economic potential of lowland farms of modest acreage, and of particular importance in terms of cattle husbandry. Transhumance, or seasonal migration from the *hendref*/*hendref* or permanent lowland farm to the *hafod*/*hafoty* or upland summer dwelling (*haf*, summer + *bod*, dwelling or *ty*, house) also played an important part in the annual agricultural cycle by keeping stock away from open arable and common hay meadows in the lowlands. Regular contact would have been maintained with the *hendref* throughout the summer months, bringing dairy produce home, and peat cutting. There is every likelihood that transhumance in *Dyffryn Tanat* has its roots at the earliest period of settled agriculture, probably beginning locally at some during the Neolithic period. Indeed, there have been suggestions elsewhere in Britain that it had its roots in the practice of hunter-gatherer groups during the Late Glacial and early post-Glacial following in the train of herds of the larger herbivores such as elk and deer migrating into the uplands to feed on the summer pastures. The presence of prominently-sited upland burial cairns of the later prehistoric period may also be related to the seasonal rather than year-round exploitation of upland pasture.

By at least the early post-medieval period common rights were highly prized, being determined by the number of livestock which could be kept on the *hendref* during the winter (Powell 1967–68a, 72), by the 18th century the ‘stint’ or allocation of animals that a farmer was permitted to graze on the commons generally being proportional to size of the lowland farm (Humphreys 1996, 11) and emphasising the vital and age-old linkage between the upland pastures and lowland farms. Transhumance is probably of considerable antiquity in *Dyffryn Tanat*, but there is as yet tantalisingly little evidence of the practice apart from the place-name evidence. The tithe maps generally only show the extent of the enclosed land, and although an occasional *hafod* can be identified on the margins of the uplands where it had become engulfed by piecemeal encroachments of the upland commons taking place during the 18th and 19th centuries, most of the uplands of *Dyffryn Tanat* were first mapped in detail on the relevant maps of the first edition of the Ordnance Survey 6-inch, published between 1879–92. These maps, published a century or more after many *hafodydd* were abandoned, are the first record of most place-names in the uplands of *Dyffryn Tanat*. The relatively small number of *hafodydd* names recorded on tithe and on the first edition of the 6-inch Ordnance Survey are largely found on the margins of the enclosed land and it seems likely that other similar place-names within the upland moorland areas have been lost.

Interestingly, one of the few *hafod* names which lies towards the centre of moorland can be directly associated with an identifiable *hendref* or lowland farm. *Hafoty Arllen-fawr* at a height of 450m on the moorland to the south-west of Pennant Melangell was clearly the summer house of *Arllen-fawr*, a farm on the valley floor near *Penybontfawr*, about 9km to the north-east, which can be traced back to at least the second half of the 16th century (Britnell 1994a, 3). The *hwylan* or byroad was a vital means of communication between the lowland farms and the upland commons (Pryce 1961–62, 24). Intriguingly, the *hendref* and *hafod* of *Arllen-fawr* are linked by public road and then by the path called *Ffordd Gefn*, one of a small number of major tracks linking the valley farms with the uplands in the west. The place-name *Hafoty Arllen-fawr* can be traced back to the 1st edition of the Ordnance Survey 6-inch, published in 1890, and still appears on modern maps. The same name, but in the form of *Garthgelynen-fawr*, was that of one of the principal townships in the parish of Pennant Melangell, which raises the possibility that the farm and its association with an upland *hafod* might have its origins in the early medieval period. Today, *Hafoty Arllen-fawr* is a group of sheepfolds, but recent fieldwork suggests traces of earlier walls beside the sheepfold as well as a number of other building platforms and possible abandoned *hafodydd* in the vicinity (Silvester 1994). A similar picture may be represented at *Hafoty Cedig*, a further group of sheepfolds further to the west. The remains of a number of other possible *hafodydd* have also been identified in the vicinity, but due to the lack of systematic fieldwork elsewhere in the uplands of *Dyffryn Tanat* the full distribution of possible *hafodydd* is unknown.

Sheepfolds are the most widespread historic farming structures visible in the uplands, their distribution is generally marginal to the commons and are important in showing the customary routes of access to the mountain top. A majority of the sheepfolds probably belong to the later 18th and 19th centuries, coinciding with the increasing importance of sheep farming during this period. Most of the sheepfolds in existence today are shown on the first edition of the Ordnance Survey 6-inch, published between 1879–92, though a number seem to first appear on maps published early in the 20th century. Some of the sheepfolds show evidence of building at different periods, and as we have seen there is the possibility that some overlie earlier *hafodydd*.

A number of other place-name elements may have had a similar meaning to *hafod* which occur less frequently locally, their occurrence not been fully researched within *Dyffryn Tanat*. The place-name element *meifod* (May dwelling) appears, for example in the name Gwernfeifod, a farm at a height of 380 metres just north of Cwm Blowty, though two of its associated fields are confusingly called Gwern Hendre and Buarth y Hendre on the tithe. *Lluest* ('hut') also occurs occasionally, though less frequently in some other parts of Wales. The place-name 'Lluest yn Hafod-y-maen' recorded in 1636 in the parish of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant associates the meaning of *lluest* with that of *hafod* (Richards 1959–60, 117). *Bwthyn* ('booth') is a further place-name element which may be relevant here.

Various changes were taking place from at least the 17th century onwards, which gave rise to the demise of the summer migration throughout north Wales by the end of the 18th century (Kay 1794; Sayce 1957–58, 83). Firstly, the growth of the importance of sheep farming at the expense of dairy cattle meant that there was less need to supervise the grazing of upland stock on a day-to-day basis than there had formerly been. Sheep farming became so important that the traveller, John Aikin, claimed in 1800 that 'the riches of Montgomeryshire proceed from its sheep and wool and the flannels and other coarse cloths manufactured from it' (Humphreys 1997, 16). Secondly, due to increasing encroachment many of the summer houses on the margins of the upland commons were being turned into permanent farms, occupied all the year round (Smith 1988, 144).

The rate of enclosure that must have been taking place during the course of the 17th and 18th centuries is poorly documented, but the Tithe Apportionment of 1841 for Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant for example, gives details of over 2,200 acres of common land which had been unofficially enclosed in the previous 20 years. By at least the 18th century Montgomeryshire was also famed for the rearing of 'wild horses upon the hill' (Humphreys 1996, 14). Small ponies bred on the Berwyn range were traditionally sold at the stock fairs held in July and November at Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, but this had declined by the later 19th century due to enclosure (Hancock 1871, 229). The process of upland enclosure since the 17th century appears to have taken one of three principal forms (cf. Thomas 1957; Powell 1968–68, 79): intakes from the common of land adjacent to existing enclosed farmland; isolated enclosure of fields surrounding an upland *hafod* subsequently used for year-round occupation; and small-scale squatter encroachments of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. A tenement in the parish of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant called Bache'r Nefoedd, now disappeared, was on land so high that to describe it as being 'near heaven' was not inappropriate (Richards 1936, 146). A tradition of setting up house overnight (*tyunnos*) and claiming ownership to surrounding lands, popularly supposed to be legal, had died out by the early 19th century (Sayce 1942), and no substantial evidence of the practice has been identified in *Dyffryn Tanat*, there being only one occurrence as a place-name in the tithe, that of 'Cae un nos', in the township of Glanafon, in the parish of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant.

Lowland enclosure

As in the case of settlement evidence the earliest comprehensive mapped evidence of field boundaries is relatively late in date, being that given on the tithe maps of the 1830s and 1840s. It is possible to identify some of the processes by which this mid 19th-century landscape had developed, but detailed analysis and interpretation

of this and the present-day field pattern is beyond the scope of the present study.

Study of the settlement evidence above suggests that the mid 19th-century landscape represents an amalgamation of various different processes superimposed upon each other. Firstly, there appear to be the larger farms on the lower-lying ground, often grouped in twos or threes by name and giving their name to the older core townships, which it seems likely arose during the later medieval period by a process of consolidation and amalgamation of earlier landholdings shared by extended family or tribal groups. Secondly there are the smaller farms, sometimes to be dated by cruck or box-framed buildings, representing an expansion of farming onto slightly less favoured ground during the later 15th to 17th centuries. Thirdly, there was further encroachment of the upland commons in certain areas by cottages and smallholdings during the 18th and 19th centuries.

Clear examples of each of these processes can be identified in the present-day field patterns within *Dyffryn Tanat*. Traces of medieval arable open fields can be identified in a number of places, as for example in Cwm Pennant and Cwm Rhiwarth, represented by areas of strip fields in multiple ownership. Both of these open fields are very small, being less than 5–10 acres in extent, and it is probable that they have only survived because of their relative isolation towards the margins of the settled area. An almost identical pattern has been studied in a similar setting at Pennant, south of Llandrillo (Jones 1973, 457–8) which likewise, at the time of the tithe, was ringed by a group of three or four farms. Similar evidence has probably generally been lost elsewhere within *Dyffryn Tanat* as a result of the amalgamation and consolidation of landholdings during the later medieval period, though some indication of its prevalence appears to be given by field-name evidence. The strips in the Cwm Llêch and Cwm Rhiwarth open fields are either called quilllets or *maes* in the tithe apportionment — both names being indicative of open arable of this kind. The distribution of *maes* field-names within *Dyffryn Tanat* indicates the location of some of the perhaps one or more areas of open arable on the better soil within each of the townships. This basic pattern appears to be distorted within the vicinity of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, with a concentration of *maes* place-names and field-names to the south-east of the town, in the area of Maes Mochnant, which probably represent the ‘town fields’ belonging to the market settlement. There is a wealth of other field-name evidence relating to land-use in *Dyffryn Tanat*, including a number references to structures such as a field kiln (*odyn*), probably for corn drying, which are no longer visible.

Evidence from elsewhere indicates that the Welsh systems of land tenure was beginning to break down during the 14th century and that by the later 15th and earlier 16th centuries a pattern of independent farmsteads had emerged by the consolidation and amalgamation of shared lands. As noted in an earlier section a *tyddynodd* settlement pattern had developed by the later medieval period of scattered farms characteristically sited on the valley edge, just below the lower margins of the enclosed *friddoedd* or unenclosed upland. Much of this general pattern appears to have survived to the mid 19th century, though had to varying degrees had begun to be overtaken by an acceleration in the enclosure of the upland commons probably from at least the beginning of the 18th century. This also affected the *gweirgloddau* or hayfields, which like the arable had also traditionally been unenclosed and partitioned into strips. In *Dyffryn Tanat* the main areas of meadowland were sited on the damper land to either side of the rivers and streams, enclosure of this land again continuing into the 19th century.

This is the predominant pattern that can be seen in *Dyffryn Tanat* on the tithe maps drawn up in the 1830s and 1840s — most of the low-lying ground already enclosed, and independent farmsteads set within their own arable fields and meadowland. The landscape of the upland margins was evidently still in a reasonably dynamic state at that date, however. As noted above, encroachment took a number of different forms, which often overlapped each other (cf Thomas 1957), a number of examples of which can be identified in *Dyffryn Tanat*. In Cwm Glan-hafon are several small isolated intakes of the common, probably representing smallholdings belonging to miners or quarrymen, a similar pattern being evident near Tyn-y-graig, on the west end of Craig

Orllwyn. Elsewhere, particularly near Mynydd-y-briw and Cefn-côch, landscapes characterised by closely spaced cottages and small fields were created by the piecemeal encroachment of the common. More frequently, farms near the upland margin, took in a number of small additional fields from the common. Since the mid 19th century large areas of sheepwalk in the west and north of *Dyffryn Tanat*, some of it still common land, have been enclosed by stone walls, which as noted below were spinal walls probably along estate or parish boundaries.

Enclosure boundary types

A variety of different historic field boundary are represented in the *Dyffryn Tanat*, including hedges, banks with hedges or fences, and stone walls.

Hedges are most characteristic of valley bottoms and the lower lying parts of the valley sides together with some of the later 18th- and 19th-century enclosures of the commons in the north and east of *Dyffryn Tanat*. A number of hedges are no longer managed and are now represented simply by an irregular line of larger trees or by tree stumps. Many of the lowland hedges comprise multiple species (eg hawthorn, hazel, field maple, oak, holly etc). Many of these likely to be of some antiquity and represent residual woodland or piecemeal enclosure in the later medieval and early post-medieval periods, though there is only rarely good dating evidence. The more recent hedges enclosing marginal areas of the upland commons are invariably single species (eg hawthorn).

Broad, low stone banks surmounted by hedges or fences are most characteristic of a swathe of mid altitude land running between Llangynog and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant. Most of these banks appear to include in their construction rounded boulders and probably represent field clearance of glacial erratics, of harder stone than the underlying solid geology. The dating of these banks has not yet been fully established, but there is a possibility that in some cases they belong to a period of expansion of settlement into these areas in the 15th and 16th centuries onwards.

Stone walls are most characteristic of parts of the deeply glaciated valleys in the west — Cwm Pennant, Cwm Rhiwarth and Cwm Blowty, where glacial boulders were used — and the enclosed sheepwalks created from the common land in parts of the northern and western of *Dyffryn Tanat*, and dating from the late 18th and early 19th centuries onwards. A comparison between the 1st and 2nd editions of the Ordnance Survey 6-inch suggests that many of the walls were under construction during the second half of the 19th century. A variety of building materials are evident and include both freshly quarried stone and stone gathered from field clearance. In some instances there are spinal walls probably along estate or parish boundaries from which subsidiary walls have been set out. Early boundaries of upright slabs can be seen in parts of Cwm Pennant and Cwm Blowty.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

Ancient highways and byways

The first tracks and footpaths in *Dyffryn Tanat*, were probably established during the prehistoric period. The principal routes, determined by natural topography and by river crossings, are to Bala on the north-west via Llangynog, to Llansilin and Oswestry on the north-east via Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, to Shrewsbury on the south-east via Llangedwyn, to Llanfyllin and Welshpool on the south via Penygarnedd, and to Hirnant and Llanwddyn via Penybontfawr on the south-west. The western end of the valley seems to have been very much a dead-end until the second half of the 18th century, no roads being shown crossing the area, for example, on Robert Morden's map of North Wales of 1695 (Harley 1972), although another route, said to have been used by

drovers, ran northwards from Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, up the valley of Afon Iwrch and across the watershed into the valley of the Dee at Llandrillo yn Edeirnion (Pratt 1985, 80).

Most of minor roads and lanes are first mapped on the tithe maps of the 1830s and 1840s, forming a network linking individual farms, tenements and cottages. A number of these routes have survived as green lanes, sometimes forming distinct hollow-ways, up to 4–5m deep in places, which formed in the centuries before road drainage was installed. Some of these roads and lanes are probably of early medieval, medieval and late medieval origin and are of importance to our understanding of the economic and social history of individual communities and their interaction with neighbouring communities and more distant markets. Most if not all of these roads would have been impassable to lightly wheeled vehicles and would have been more appropriate to walking, travelling on horseback, the movement of goods by waggon, or the movement of livestock on foot. Indeed, wheeled vehicles for the carriage of people were said to have been scarcely known until the close of the 18th century (Hancock 1871, 208). The replacement of oxen by horses as draught animals for ploughing and hauling was taking place as late as the 18th century on ordinary Welsh farms (Humphreys 1996, 15) and from early times only the wealthy could afford to travel even on horseback. The status of prince Brochwel out hunting, as depicted on late 15th-century rood screen at Pennant Melangell church (Ridgway 1994, fig. 6.4), was no doubt greatly enhanced in contemporary eyes by his representation on horseback. Considerable prestige continued to be attached to the ownership of horses until the early 20th century, the adoption of the horse by ordinary farmers being seen as part and parcel of the adoption of English and anglicised Welsh cultural attitudes (Rees 1950, 58).

Before the 20th century most journeys were on foot — to work, market, school, shopping and visiting — leaving the legacy of green-lanes, hollow-ways and footpaths which crisscross the enclosed land between farms and smallholdings *Dyffryn Tanat*. Though perhaps exceptional, Hancock (1872, 324) recalled that Robert Thomas walked every Sunday to chapel in Hirnant, a round trip of 17 miles from his home at Blaen-y-cwm in Cwm Maengwynedd. Thomas's journey is likely to have taken him as the crow flies, on the footpath across the uplands of Godor, between Cwm Maengwynedd and Cwm Blowty, then by footpath across the uplands of Y Garn to *Dyffryn Tanat*, and thence up Cwm Hirnant. These and other cross-ridge footpaths must have been important since the earliest times in helping communities in the deep isolated valleys in the west of *Dyffryn Tanat* to remain in contact with each other. Farms less than a mile from each other across the hills between the head of Cwm Pennant and Cwm Rhiwarth are over five miles apart by road.

Footpaths and tracks up onto the hills from the valley bottom were also of considerable economic importance for bringing down peat from the upland turbaries (see below) and in giving access to upland pastures. The exploitation of upland grazing as today is always likely to have been seasonal, involving the movement of stock onto the uplands in the spring and bringing them down again in the autumn, and probably from prehistoric times until the 18th century involving transhumance between the lowland *hendref* and upland *hafod*. As noted above in the section on settlement there is good evidence in the western part of *Dyffryn Tanat* that some of the major upland paths are known to link particular farms and their upland *hafod*.

The sides of the valleys in the western part of *Dyffryn Tanat* are so steep that most of the paths onto the unenclosed mountain tops here are necessarily confined to the gentler slopes cut by mountain streams along the sides or at the heads of the valleys. The distribution of sheepfolds indicates many of the easier routes up onto the hills, and it is probable that many of many of these routes were used since the earliest times. As noted in an earlier section a *tyddynodd* settlement pattern had developed by the later medieval period of scattered farms characteristically sited on the valley edge, just below the lower margins of the sea of unenclosed upland. The tithe maps of the earlier 19th century often show unenclosed tongues of common land stretching down the streams through the enclosed land, from the uplands down towards the valley floor, allowing access to the uplands by the more landlocked farmsteads at greater distance from the mountain edge.

These funnel-like paths leading up onto the higher ground still remain an important feature of the upland edge and often appear as hollow-ways worn away by the passage of animal and human feet as well as other forms of unwheeled transport. Peat, the major source of fuel until at least the first half of the 19th century (Lewis 1833, under entry for Llangynog; Evans 1873) was brought down from mountain turbaries by sledge, locally known as 'drages' in the 18th century (Wren 1968, 23–4; Heaton & Britnell 1994, 117, fn. 76). Building stone and slates were also brought down the mountain by this means, Lewis noting that slates from the Llangynog quarries were brought by sledge 'with extreme danger to the persons employed in this arduous task' (Lewis 1833). The sledges were no doubt of types known elsewhere in Wales (Jenkins 1962, 15–19), and were sometimes restrained and steered by human rather than animal power (Williams 1985).

The turnpikes

The earliest turnpike in *Dyffryn Tanat* lay between Llangedwyn and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, with the passing of the passing of an act of Parliament in 1756 for the repair of the road from Knockin to Llanrhaeadr. Following an act of 1769 all the turnpike trusts in Montgomeryshire were brought under a single system, with a system of major roads with toll gates falling within the area at Llangynog and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant (Anthony 1995, 122). The trusts lasted until 1879, when roads were freed of toll, and responsibility fell to the individual counties. Prior to the mid 18th century the responsibility fell to individual parishes. The turnpike roads undoubtedly had a considerable impact on the agricultural and industrial exploitation of the valley, a leading figure in their creation locally being Dr William Worthington, vicar of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant between 1748–78 (Dodd 1925, 129). The turnpikes also had the effect of opening up the landscape to visitors from other parts of the country.

Under the terms of the turnpike acts, the Trustees were empowered to take materials for repairing roads from 'any Waste Ground Common or River without paying anything for them' (Pritchard 1961–2, 14), and it is probable that many of the smaller, isolated, and poorly documented stone and gravel quarries on common land adjacent to turnpike roads began at about this period. Many of the earlier turnpikes simply represent an improvement to an existing road rather than the construction of an entirely new road, but in places it is still possible to see the line taken by the old road where the turnpike took a slightly different route, as for example the line of the old road to Penybontfawr, just to the north of Penygarnedd. Communications were also considerably improved at this time by the construction of stone bridges along the turnpikes across the Tanat and its tributaries, replacing earlier timber bridges or fords.

Links to the river, canal and railway networks

The cost of transport had always been particularly critical in the financial viability of mining operations, and the lack of good communications was a constant burden to the mining industry in *Dyffryn Tanat* both before and following the introduction of the turnpikes. The remoteness of the valley was the primary difficulty, which posed difficulties in transporting the processed ore from the mines at Llangynog, Cwm Orog (on the north side of Craig Rhiwarth), and Craig-y-mwyn (at the head of Cwm Rhaeadr) to smelteries sited more conveniently elsewhere. The vast quantity of *Dyffryn Tanat*'s mineral wealth was to be taken eastwards, an exception being the phosphates mined intermittently between the 1860s and 1880s at sites in the Llangynog area were carted across the Berwyns to Llandrillo where the nodules were converted to fertilizer (Williams 1985, 114).

Lead mining in *Dyffryn Tanat* had begun in earnest by the Herberts of Powis Castle in about 1705, production rising to a peak in 1737 when it became one of the richest contemporary mines in the country, when a total of almost 3,000 tons of ore were produced (Williams 1985, 27–9). Smelting of ore from this section of the Llangynog mine was undertaken at 'the Marquess's cupola' on the Severn at Pool Quay, which began production in 1706, a convenient point for bringing in fuel and shipping out lead pigs by water. The marquess's tenants were forced

into providing the necessary transport 15 miles away across the hills via Llanfyllin to the south-east, being threatened with eviction in they refused. The ore was originally carried in sacks but later loose in carts — the task being particularly unpopular since the best season for moving the ore also coincided with harvest time (Murphy 1997, 94).

In the 1730s ore from the Chirk section of the Llangynog mine was carted 12 miles by cart to Llandrinio, transferred to barge and shipped down river to smelthouses at Benthall, Coalbrookdale (Williams 1985, 3). River transport was always unpredictable, however, and a load of lead pigs to be shipped from Pool Quay being held up on their journey to Bristol for over two months in 1761 due to low water above Shrewsbury (Hughes 1981, 111). Various other goods were also moved by road and then by water: Llangynog slates being carted to the Clawdd Coch Wharf on the Vyrnwy near Llanymynech and from thence downstream via the Severn to Shrewsbury in the 1770s; a new bell for the church a Pennant Melangell purchased from Rudhall's Foundry, Gloucester, in 1754 arrived by way of the river Severn (Ridgway 1994, 138, fn. 35).

A considerable quantity and variety of goods had also to be imported into the valley in support of the mining industry — coal, gunpowder, candles, timber, iron and steel, lime (Williams 1985, 33–41). The production of lead ore from Llangynog declined rapidly in the 1740s, the Pool Quay smelthouse finally closing in 1762. A small smelter had been built at Llangynog in the 1750s but in the 1780s and 1790s the smaller quantities of lead ore that were being produced were being sent to Minera (Williams 1985, 31–4).

Following the completion of the Montgomeryshire Canal in 1797 the main outlet for goods was via the canal system although river trade continued long after the opening of the canal since it was not to become a major carrier to central and southern England until it was linked to the main canal system in 1833 (Hughes 1981, 33). By the 1860s slates from the Llangynog and Cwm Rhaeadr quarries could be taken to the railhead at Porthywaen, with some of the lighter traffic using the railhead at Llanfyllin (Wren 1968). Getting the goods to the point of outlet continued to be a problem, however, the Cwm Maengwynedd slate quarries being forced to close in the 1870s because of damage to roads caused by hauling the slate to Porthywaen by traction engine (Wren 1968, 54; Williams 1985, 117).

The Tanat Valley Light Railway

The Tanat Valley Light Railway was finally built between 1899–1904 joining the railhead at Porthywaen which linked to the national rail network at Oswestry (Baughan 1980, 183–5; Wren 1968). The desirability of constructing a Tanat Valley line had been discussed since the 1860s but various proposals, including rival bids by the Oswestry and Llanfyllin corporations foundered partly due to the costs involved. The Light Railway Act of 1896 provided an opportunity for a less costly project. Stations or halts called were built in *Dyffryn Tanat* at Llangedwyn, Llanrhaiadr, Pentrefelin, Pedairffordd, and Penybontfawr, with a terminus at Llangynog. Animal pens were constructed next to a number of the stations and special facilities for off-loading aqueduct pipes for the Lake Vyrnwy reservoir were built at Penybontfawr Station and Llanrhaiadr Station.

It had been hoped that the railway would stimulate the local mineral industry which had fallen to a low ebb by the time the railway was opened. In the event, much of the outward traffic in the early years was agricultural produce — livestock, timber, cereals and dairy produce — with incoming goods including coal, lime, animal feedstuffs and fertilizers, as well as a passenger service. Despite some reinvigoration of the metal mines including renewed workings at the Cwm Orog lead mine between 1908–11, and the Llangynog mine which was worked for lead on a small scale between 1900–12, the Craig-y-mwyn lead mine worked on a small scale from 1900–11, the railway had reached Llangynog too late to have much impact on the mining of lead ores — after the major seams had been exhausted. The railway gave some stimulus to the quarrying industry, however, including Cwm Maengwynedd slate quarry until 1910, the Llangynog mine which was worked for barytes in

1916, West Llangynog slate quarry until 1937, and the Craig Rhiwarth slate quarry at Llangynog.

The Llangynog roadstone quarry became the mainstay of the railway in the 1920s and 1950s, helping it to survive much longer than it would otherwise have done, the stone originally taken by horse and cart to the station, but replaced in the 1920s by tipping lorry (Williams 1985, 63). The increasing use of road rather than rail transport for stone in the 1940s and livestock from the 1950s eventually led to the demise of the railway. The passenger service ceased in 1951. All services west of Llanrhaiadr Station ceased in 1952 and the entire line to Blodwel Junction was finally closed in 1964.

The railway played an important though short-lived part in the history *Dyffryn Tanat*. The track has now been lifted but most of the course of the railroad is still represented in the landscape by field boundaries, cuttings or embankments and the sites of most of the individual stations and holts can still be identified. Special engineering works were needed where the railway crossed the line the Lake Vyrnwy aqueducts to the west of Penybontfawr and part of the course of the river Tanat was straightened just to the east of Llangedwyn to prevent it from undermining the railroad (Wren 1968).

Vyrnwy Aqueduct

The aqueducts carrying water a day from Lake Vyrnwy to Liverpool was constructed across the valley for the reservoir constructed between 1881–92 (Rowlands undated). It crosses the valley floor near Penybontfawr and then runs north of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant and Efail-rhyd on the north-east of *Dyffryn Tanat*. The aqueducts is largely hidden from view although there are a number of visible surface features including air valves, the Cileos valve house, the Parc-uchaf balancing reservoirs, and a deep cutting to the west of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant. In terms of the history of roads in *Dyffryn Tanat* it is interesting to note that complaints were made about damage to local roads during the construction of the Lake Vyrnwy reservoir (Wren 1968, 59)

INDUSTRIAL LANDSCAPES

Extractive industries

The mining and quarrying industries have had a long and significant history in *Dyffryn Tanat*, lead ores, barytes, phosphates, gravel, slate and roadstone having been extracted at one time or another, and in some instances mining for metal ores and quarrying for stone were carried out successively on the same site. There is some evidence that the mining for metal ores first began during the prehistoric or Romano-British periods, but the main period of exploitation of lead ore was during the 18th and 19th centuries, and the main periods of slate and roadstone quarrying during the 19th and earlier 20th centuries, none of which survive to the present day.

The principal mines and quarries were all in the immediate neighbourhood of Llangynog, most of which are reasonably well known, but there is a wider distribution of smaller workings or trials for metal ores, slate stone generally throughout the western part of *Dyffryn Tanat*, many of which are poorly documented. A number of important and distinctive mining and quarrying landscapes can be defined within *Dyffryn Tanat*, taking into account the visible extraction and processing areas and associated landscape features including ancillary buildings, trackways, boundaries, reservoirs and leats — most notably at Llangynog, Craig-y-mwyn and Cwm Orog.

Lead mining

Lead mining at Llangynog has an early and distinguished history. Probable evidence of early mining activity of prehistoric, Roman or medieval date is represented by early workings (opencuts and stopes) on the south side of Craig Rhiwarth above Llangynog, in Cwm Orog on the north side of Craig Rhiwarth and Craig-y-mwyn. The earliest documentary evidence of working, however, is provided by a lease of 1656 covering the mining of lead ores in ‘all the commons and waste grounds . . . within the several townships of Kanen Cloach [Cefn-côch] and Rhiwarth in the Manor of Mochnant’ — which encompassed the areas of the what were to become important mines at Craig-y-mwyn, Cwm Orog (Williams 1985, 16).

Post-medieval mining in the Llangynog district witnessed a rapid rise early in the 18th century, followed by a long decline to the end of the 19th century. Production reached its peak during the first half of the 18th century, however, unlike other famous mines of mid Wales such as Van and Dylife which flourished during the 19th century, and at one time ranked as the most productive lead mines in mid Wales (Williams 1985). Accounts of the discovery of one of the major rich vein of lead ore at Llangynog have a certain romantic air to them, reputedly having being found in 1692 ‘by a shepherd running after his flock, and treading upon the slippery surface of a flake or ore, the moss giving way under his wooden shoe, the glossy ore appeared’. Other accounts attribute the discovery to a shepherdess (Williams 1985, 16, 26).

The earliest mining in the South Llangynog, Cwm Orog and Craig-y-mwyn mines was undertaken with local capital, having begun by about 1705 by the Herberts of Powis Castle estate, continued on some scale for about 50 years, production at South Llangynog reaching a peak in 1737, and when Llangynog briefly became one of the largest lead producing operations in Europe (Murphy 1997, 93). An adjacent section of the South Llangynog and other mines in the area were worked during this period by the Myddletons of Chirk Castle estate.

The influx of English-speaking mine workers in the early decades of the 18th century, gave rise to a number of social problems, and the church in Llangynog had difficulty in providing services other than in Welsh (Williams 1985, 28). The whole community became absorbed in the work for period: miners’ wives were engaged as ore washers and local tenant farmers, often against their wishes, were forced to transport ore by road to smelteries at Pool Quay and elsewhere or face eviction (Williams 1985, 29, 38).

The Powis section of Llangynog mines had made a total profit of £121,000 over the period 1724–44, much of which went to paying off their debts, the Marquess of Powis calculating that a total of over £171,000 had been spent in discharging his daughters debts resulting from her disastrous speculation on the Paris stock exchange and in unprofitable investments in the Spanish mines at Rio Tinto. In 1740, £4,500 was owed in wages to workers in 1740, in 1741 the Marquess’s manager, James Baker, wrote that Llangynog was ‘like a dying man’, yet the demands upon the mine and its workforce increased (Murphy 1998, 67–9).

Mine drainage and the cost of transport of ores to smelteries outside *Dyffryn Tanat* were always important to the economic viability of the Llangynog mines. Following a decline in production later in the 18th century the earl of Powis began granting leases to outsiders, the industry from the second half of the 18th century onwards becoming increasingly dependent upon venture capital provided by outside speculators rather than by local landowners.

Mining continued on a low scale during the period between the later 18th and later 19th centuries, with short and intermittent bursts of activity at various mining sites by various different lessees often following fluctuations in the market price of lead. Some substantial investments were made during this period, including for example the construction of the Llyn y Mynydd reservoir with a substantial stone and earth dam constructed in about 1864 above Cwm Llêch, joined by a system of leats to the South Llangynog mine, about 4km to the east. There were also various scandals such as those at Bwlch-greolan, south of Penygarnedd, and Craig-y-mwyn

grossly misleading information (Williams 1985). Most mining had ceased by about 1900, and although there was a brief revival in the Cwm Orog and Craig-y-mwyn mines following the opening of the Tanat Valley Light Railway in 1904, both of these enterprises had folded by 1912.

Most of the ores from the mined in the Llangynog district were smelted at either Pool Quay where a smelter was built by the earl of Powis in 1706, or Benthall, Coalbrookdale, and later to Minera, although a smelter was in operation on a smaller scale at Llangynog itself in the 1750s (Williams 1985, 31).

Slate and stone quarrying

The early history of local slate production is poorly documented, although there are suggestions that the quarries at Llangynog may have been in production by the 1530s (North 1943, 90; Williams 1985, 117; Richards 1995, 13), and local quarries were producing stone flags for flooring by at least the early 18th century (Heaton & Britnell 1994, 119, fn. 85), replacing earlier earthen floors. Slate quarrying in the Llangynog district was already thriving by the later 18th century, taking up the lull in the metal mining industry. In the 1770s slates were exported by road and then by river to Shrewsbury, but after 1797 material was also exported by means of the Montgomeryshire canal. By the 1860s slates were being produced in a number of quarries including Llangynog, Cwm Rhaeadr and Cwm Maengwynedd and were at that stage exported via the railhead at Porthywaen (Wren 1968). The industry declined towards the end of the 19th century, again due to the high cost of transport and the lower market price of slates produced elsewhere. It revived following the opening the Tanat Valley Light Railway in 1904, but had ceased again by 1941 (Williams 1985, 116–7).

The demand for building stone was increasing from the late 16th and particularly from the early 17th century onwards as vernacular building styles for perhaps first houses and then barns placed greater emphasis upon stone rather than timber construction, but was not to essentially remain a local industry supplying a local market.

A local demand for suitable roadstone increased with the construction of the turnpikes during the later 18th century, it having been noted elsewhere that a number of the smaller quarries along the roadsides belong to a period during which trustees of the turnpikes were empowered to take materials for constructing and repairing roads from waste ground and common land (Pritchard 1961–2, 14). Quarrying for roadstone on a more commercial scale began at a number of sites in the immediate neighbourhood of Llangynog in about 1910 and became the mainstay of the Tanat Valley Light Railway and employing German prisoners of war during the first World War. The industry declined during the 1930s and eventually ceased in the 1950s.

Phosphate and limestone quarrying

Black nodules containing 40–60% calcium phosphate were mined for a short period at Nant Calch to the west of Llangynog and at Penygarnedd between the 1870s and 1880s, material from Nant Calch being transported across the Berwyns to Llanderfel for processing into agricultural fertilizer. The industry eventually ceased to be profitable, however, due to high transport costs, the low value of the material and as a result of cheap imports from abroad (Williams 1985, 114). Limestone was quarried at Penygarnedd and processed two adjacent limekilns, worked before the 1870s.

Processing and craft industries

A number of distinct processing industries associated with agricultural production are represented in *Dyffryn Tanat* including individual structures such as corn mills, saw mills, fulling mills and their associated leats, millponds and reservoirs and limekilns, and smithies and forming small yet significant elements within the historic landscape. Earlier mills, fulling sites and smithies are in some instances also indicated by the scat-

tered occurrence of place-name elements such as *melin/felin* (mill), *pandy* (fulling mill), *deintur/deintir* (the tenter racks used in fulling), *efel/efail* (smithy).

DEFENDED LANDSCAPES

Three groups of defensive earthworks of distinctly different dates fall within *Dyffryn Tanat* — later prehistoric hillforts, defended enclosures of Iron Age and Romano-British type, and medieval earthwork castles. The significance of these monuments within the landscape has been both functional and symbolic, and some are sufficiently prominently sited that they form major components of historic landscape character areas in their own right, taking their essential landscape setting into account.

Later prehistoric hillforts

Two major hillforts fall within *Dyffryn Tanat* — Craig Rhiwarth hillfort and Llwyn Bryn-dinas hillfort. Craig Rhiwarth hillfort, defended by a single stone rampart, on the large and imposing crag on the southern edge of the Berwyns overlooking Llangynog, towards the western end of *Dyffryn Tanat*. Little excavation has been undertaken within the hillfort and there is consequently little known about its history. The interior of the hillfort is unique within the region in containing a large number of circular stone structures which seem to represent late prehistoric houses. General comparison with Llwyn Bryn-dinas and other hillforts in the region suggest that the settlement may have begun life in the later Bronze Age period and possibly continuing into the Iron Age. It has been suggested that, possibly like the hillfort at Llanymynech, to the east of the Tanat Valley, that one of the functions of the hillfort may have been to control copper resources. Prehistoric mining is possibly represented by early opencuts on the southern side of the hill, just above Llangynog (Walters 1993).

Llwyn Bryn-dinas hillfort is defended by a single stone rampart, enclosing an area of just over 3ha on the summit of a distinctive conical hill, at the point where the valley narrows, just to the east of Llangedwyn. Small-scale excavations at the hillfort (Musson *et al.* 1992) have indicated that the hillfort was defended by an impressive stone-faced rampart constructed in the later Bronze Age, in the period between about 1100–800 BC. There is evidence that the hillfort was also occupied during the Iron Age, in the period between about 400–0 BC, at which time there is evidence of both iron and copper alloy technology being undertaken, the latter possibly using a distinctive type of copper ore which may have been mined at Llanymynech. The hillforts in the region appear to have ceased to be used as defended settlements following the Roman conquest in the later first century AD.

There is no certain evidence that either of the hillforts represent permanent settlements that were occupied for very extensive periods. They might both have been constructed or reoccupied for protection or to control resources in response to relatively short-term emergencies or contingency arrangements at particular times of unrest, and there is no certainty that the two were contemporary. It seems probable that they were constructed by distinctive tribal groupings under the authority of a military elite and that they represent only one element of the contemporary settlement pattern, parts of which are represented by the defended enclosures noted below.

Defended enclosures of Iron Age and Romano-British type

Five single or double ditched enclosures are known from *Dyffryn Tanat* which belong to types which are generally considered to be of later prehistoric or Romano-British date, although there is a possibility that some of the sites may be of either Neolithic to Bronze Age date or alternatively of early medieval date. Four of the enclosures are cropmark sites which have been identified by aerial photography and are no longer visible at

the lower hills or on the valley bottom. One of the sites, Plas Uchaf, lies on a low hillock at the foot of Llwyn Bryn-dinas and in this instance traces of the banks thrown up from the enclosing ditches are still visible, giving the appearance of a small hillfort. Soil from the ditches of the cropmark enclosures most probably formed enclosing banks intended to provide some defence for buildings, property and stock retained within the enclosure. Excavations elsewhere within the region have shown that enclosures of this type are likely to represent farmsteads occupied by socially elite, extended family groups and associated with a mixed arable and pastoral economy (Britnell 1989; Britnell & Musson 1984; Musson 1991).

Earthwork castles

Three certain and one possible mottes fall within *Dyffryn Tanat* — Tomen Cefn Glaniwrch, Tomen y Maerdy, Tomen Cefn-côch, and possibly Castellmoch, although little physical evidence survives of latter. The sites form part of the concentration of timber castles built in the Welsh borderland following the Norman Conquest, in the period between about AD 1100–1300 (Higham & Barker 1992, fig. 2.23). Little is known of the history of these sites in *Dyffryn Tanat* (Spurgeon 1965–6, 3), but a little can be gleaned from their siting and form, and from place-name evidence.

Dyffryn Tanat fell beyond the extent of the marcher lordships until the 1280s and it is possible that all the mottes may have been built by native lords shortly before or following the partition of Mochnant in 1166. Two of the mottes fall within the commote of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr and two within Mochnant uwch-Rhaeadr. There are other suggestions of deliberate pairing. All the sites are reasonably equidistant from the boundary of the two commotes and in each case one of the sited on the valley bottom, next to the Tanat, the matching pairs lying on higher ground to the north between 1.5–1.8km the north. The patterning evident here is not commonly paralleled elsewhere, however, and it is therefore uncertain how much it is safe to read into it.

As noted above, there is little surviving evidence of the original form of Castell Moch. In the case of Tomen y Maerdy, the matching motte near the banks of the Tanat, some trace of an outer bailey is possible (Richards 1948, 47), though is not clearly visible today. By contrast, the large mottes at Tomen Cefn-côch (Musson 1994, 147) and Tomen Cefn Glaniwrch both appear to be without accompanying baileys. Unlike Castell Moch and Tomen y Maerdy they are both prominently sited, with commanding views of the valley — so much so that Tomen Cefn-côch provides one of the most comprehensive views of the valley as a whole. To this extent, these two mottes have the appearance of outposts or watchtowers for the two lower-lying mottes. Each of the mottes would originally have been encircled by a broad ditch approach by means of a timber bridge, and would have been surmounted by a timber palisade, tower and/or other buildings capable of housing and protecting a small force in times of emergency. Being costly to build they would each no doubt have been symbolic representations of lordly power, wealth and authority of a kind still evident in the late 14th century, captured in Iolo Goch's description of Owain Glyndwr's residence at Sycharth (Higham & Barker 1992, 144–6), a matter of a few miles to the east.

Castell Moch and Tomen y Maerdy may have been the principal mottes within their respective commote each associated with a lord's *llys* (court) even before partitioning of Mochnant, and thus centres of civil administration and justice within each commote., Castell Moch — for *Castell Mochnant* — possibly being the senior of the two and possibly the caput or seat of power of the undivided commote (Richards 1948, 45–8; Pratt 1985, 70). Indeed, the name 'Maerdy' may show that the house (*ty*) of the lord's steward (*maer*) — one of the principal officers of the commote — lay at or near the site. There is no evidence that the marcher lordship of Chirk was ever administered by officers bearing the name of *maer*, which may either confirm that the motte was built before the 1280s or that the *maer* referred to was of lower office, that of *maer* of the lord's demesne (Jones 1932, xxx, fn. 5).

Each of the mottes would have been sited within the lord's demesne or personal holding (Richards 1948, 48), but there is no clear evidence that any of the mottes represented a focus for nucleated settlement at any stage, and indeed this seems unlikely — Castell Moch being sited in poorly drained land on the brink of the Tanat and Tomen y Maerdy hidden from view at the foot of a narrow ravine, with no good farming land in the immediate vicinity, and the two subsidiary mottes being sited on high and possibly at that stage unenclosed land. The evidence that the mottes provide about settlements is therefore strictly limited. More specifically, there is no clear evidence that they were directly associated with native bond settlements (*maerdrefi*) which probably existed within each commote. Any administrative functions that the two mottes in Mochnant Is Rhaeadr Tomen (Cefn Glaniwrch and Tomen y Maerdy) might ever have had was undoubtedly transferred to Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant as this developed as a market town in the 13th century (Pratt 1990, 29).

The importance of the two principal mottes had almost certainly waned by the later 13th century at the latest, at the time when Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant received its market charter and would have become the administrative centre of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr (Pratt 1985, 70).

FUNERARY, ECCLESIASTICAL AND LEGENDARY LANDSCAPES

Legendary landscapes

It is little surprise that the dramatic landscape of *Dyffryn Tanat* has inspired numerous legends involving dragons, giant's, serpents, fairies brigands, princes and saints. Many of the legends were first recorded in the late 19th and earlier 20th centuries but seem likely to reflect much earlier folklore and traditions, such as Craig Rhiwarth, Cwm Blowty, and Cwm Pennant. The association with objects and places within the landscape which in a later age were held to be of antiquarian, picturesque or romantic interest is significant.

The origin of the name Mochnant (Welsh 'pig-stream' or 'pig valley'), the commotal name, which survives in a number of modern place-names, such as Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Maes Mochnant, and Castellmoch, is fancifully explained the tale of Math son of Mathonwy in the *Mabinogion* as one of the places that Gwydion spent the night whilst bringing swine to Math from Pryderi, king of Ceredigion.

By tradition the Maes Mochnant standing stone (*Maenhir y Maesmochnant*) was raised in order to stop the devastation being caused in the surrounding country by a dragon or serpent — the beast eventually being killed by dashing itself against the stone which was also known as *Post Coch*, *Post y wiber* (Hancock 1871, 236; Sayce 1930, 750). Penygarnedd was held to be 'infested by dragons' (Richards 1934, 169), one of the places in which they lurked being known as *Nant y Wiber* near Penygarnedd. Mischievous fairies were said to haunt Craig Rhiwarth, a spot which it was said should be 'avoided at all costs' (Richards 1934, 168-9).

The giant known as *Cawr Berwyn* is associated with both Cwm Blowty and Cwm Pennant. The three enormous boulders at the foot of Pistyll Rhaeadr, at the head of Cwm Blowty, are said to have been hurled by the giant, his wife and his maid when they were crossing the waterfall on their way to Pennant Melangell (Richards 1934, 172) — the boulders being known as *Baich y Cawr* (Giant's Burden), *Baich y Gawres* (Giantess's Burden), and *Ffedogaid y Forwyn* (Maid's Apronfull). On another occasion *Cawr Berwyn* is said to have taken a mighty leap from the top of the Moel Dimeoel, the most prominent mountain towering above Cwm Pennant, landing in a field said to be called Wern Blaen y Cwm (possibly synonymous with the field known as 'Weirglodd Blaen y Cwm' listed in the tithe apportionment) on the opposite site of the valley opposite the farm of Tyddyn yr Helig (Richards 1934, 171). The spot was said to be marked by a spring of clear water which issued forth as soon as his heel touched the ground, the hillside behind the farm being called 'Baich y Cawr'. In another version the giant jumped into the farmyard of Rhyd y Felin, one of the farms at the foot of Moel Dimeoel.

The large whale bone mounted on the wall of nave of Pennant Melangell church is known variously as *Asen y Gawres* ('Giant's Rib') and *Asen Melangell* ('Melangell's [the patron saint's] Rib'). One account reports that it 'was found in the grave where Melangell was said to have been buried' but an earlier and probably more reliable account says that it was found on the mountain between Bala and Pennant Melangell (Ridgway 1994, 138), though its presence here is unexplained.

Various places in Cwm Pennant and the surrounding area are associated with *Gwylliad Cochion*, a legendary, 15th- and 16th-century band of brigands of Dinas Mawddwy who were said to have frequently raided *Dyffryn Tanat* and associated with other neighbouring places (Silvester 1997, 75). Thus a number of rings and coins are said to have been found beneath a large flat stone known as *Bwrdd y Gwylliad Cochion* ('Table of the Red Bandits') somewhere near the head of Cwm Llêch (RCAM 1911, 110). According to local tradition, the grooves on natural boulders near the head of Cwm Llêch and on the top of Y Gribin, on the opposite side of Cwm Pennant showed where *Gwylliad Cochion* had sharpened their swords.

Later Prehistoric funerary and ritual landscapes

Prehistoric funerary and ritual monuments of later prehistoric date are widely distributed throughout *Dyffryn Tanat*, many of which are important landscape features in the present-day landscape, particularly on the higher ground in the western part of the area. None of the monuments within the historic landscape have been investigated by means of modern techniques, but comparison with those which have been studied elsewhere suggests that they are mostly likely to represent burial monuments of the later Neolithic to middle Bronze Age periods, during the period 3,000–1,200 BC. Only a proportion of the original number of such sites have survived to the present day. Excluded from the present study are some recorded sites have either been destroyed or can no longer be located on the ground, and a number which may be signified by place-name evidence.

A majority of the sites on the higher ground can be classed as round barrows, ring cairns, and standing stones. The round barrows, built of either earth or more frequently of stone, are predominantly burial monuments associated with either inhumation or cremation burials. Excavations elsewhere in Britain have shown that barrows or cairns in some instances overlie the grave of a single individual of high status within a tribal group, though in other cases the mound may have been used for multiple interments, over a period of hundreds of years. In some cases burial mounds have been shown to have a complex internal structure consisting of rings of stones, kerbs, with burials set in stone-lined cists. It is uncertain what proportion of the Neolithic and Bronze Age population were buried in this way, but there is good evidence which indicates that this form of burial practice ceased during the middle and later Bronze Ages, in favour of the kind of cremation cemetery discovered at Pennant Melangell (see below).

Ring cairns are a second monument type of this period which have been found to be associated with burials, with token burial deposits, and also with activity which appears to be ritual in nature. Standing stones have likewise been associated with Bronze Age ritual activity, though there is the possibility that some of them represent much later boundary markers. The standing stones are largely all on higher ground, with the notable exception of the magnificent 3.65m high Maes Mochnant standing stone which lies on the floor of the valley to the south-east of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant. Bronze Age ritual activity is also represented by an important complex of sites represented by the Rhos-y-beddau stone circle and stone row and the Cwm Rhiwiau stone circle near the headwaters of Afon Rhaeadr, above Pistyll Rhaeadr.

The other important classes of monuments include ring-ditches, a probable henge monument and two pit circles, all of which are located on the valley floor. All of these monument types are cropmark sites that have been discovered by aerial reconnaissance, and do not generally survive as earthworks that are visible at ground level. The ring-ditches probably mostly represent burial mounds similar to the upland round barrows and

cairns noted above. Most of them probably originally had earthen mounds which have since been levelled by ploughing, though unusually, a possible large round barrow still survives as a mound near the Maesmochnant standing stone. The probable henge monument and the two pit circles all lie in close proximity to each other to the south-east of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant and probably represent a lowland ritual complex similar to the upland complex noted in the vicinity of Rhos-y-beddau. The probable henge monument is a type of monument, named after Stonehenge, enclosed by a circular bank, the two pit circles possibly originally having been timber circles.

As noted above, our knowledge of the distribution of these sites within *Dyffryn Tanat* is both partial and fortuitous. It is probably that the upland sites, which lie in areas of marginal agriculture, have survived due to the less intensive land-use in these areas, whilst the intensive cereal cultivation on the lighter and better-grade agricultural land on the valley floor has aided the formation of cropmarks by which the sites have been identified. The distribution of upland sites is also to a certain extent dependent upon areas in which more intensive fieldwork has been carried out — the focus of upland fieldwork in recent years having been in the south-western corner of the area. An illustration of the selective survival of sites is given by the chance discovery of an unusual type of prehistoric funerary or ritual site found during excavations at Pennant Melangell church. This comprised part of a middle Bronze Age cremation cemetery, dating the period about 1,200 BC (Britnell 1994b, 90–1).

Although there is little settlement evidence of this period, the general number of monuments indicates that *Dyffryn Tanat* was widely settled by this period. The distribution of monuments, on the valley bottoms and on the mountain tops indicates that a broad range of different habitats were being exploited at this date, possibly already reflecting the pattern of transhumance between permanent settlements in the lowlands and temporary upland settlements in the uplands which is known to have existed in the region until about the 18th century.

The ritual complexes at Rhos-y-beddau and near Maesmochnant suggest that at this early date particular areas were designated as ritual landscapes. Likewise, the apparent concentrations of round barrows the uplands in the south-west corner of historic landscape and on the valley floor in the south-east corner seem to designate certain areas as funerary landscapes. At least in the case of the valley-bottom complexes there is a parallel with the later prehistoric ritual complexes and cemetery areas which it has been suggested existed in other parts of the upper Severn watershed (Warrilow *et al.*; Gibson 1994; 1995; 1998). In the case of both complexes in *Dyffryn Tanat* there are clear suggestions that their siting within the landscape is significant — Rhos-y-beddau being lying near the headwaters of Afon Rhaeadr, above the well known falls at Pistyll Rhaeadr, and the Maesmochnant complex lying within the broadest part of the valley floor of the upper Tanat, between its confluence with Afon Rhaeadr and Afon Iwrch.

Although it is likely that upland cairns and lowland ring-ditches had a similar function as funerary monuments there are indications that the monuments in different locations had a different significance in terms of landscape. Many of the upland round barrows in the north-western part of the area, for example, are isolated monuments set on hilltops or in other prominent positions. So much so that some of them have been taken to demarcate various political and administrative boundaries. The cairn at Moel Sych, for example, at a height of nearly 830m near the northern tip of *Dyffryn Tanat* has marked the junction of the county boundaries of Merionethshire, Montgomeryshire and Denbighshire since their creation at the Act of Union in 1536, and in the centuries prior to that had probably marked the junction of the medieval commotes of Edeirnion, Mochnant Is Rhaeadr and Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr. Indeed, prominently-sited upland prehistoric cairns may have formed territorial markers since the time when they were built — the act of interring the remains of tribal ancestors within a cairn helping to mark the boundaries of a territory to which that tribal group laid claim.

A different pattern is clearly represented in the case of some of the lowland burial monuments. At Banhadla, to

the east of Llangedwyn several linear settings of up to five or six ring-ditches are evident. Each of the groupings may represent the burial grounds of different tribal groupings, linear settings in some cases possibly indicating that they were set out along a boundary or along the edges of fields, as suggested by evidence elsewhere in Powys (Britnell 1982).

Apart from their intrinsic importance, various of the prehistoric funerary and ritual monuments are also important in preserving deposits such as buried ground surfaces below round barrows and buried soils in ring-ditches which contain important and well-dated evidence relating to the early environmental and land-use history of *Dyffryn Tanat*.

Later prehistoric and Romano-British funerary and ritual activity

There is little surviving evidence of funerary or ritual activity during the later Bronze Age or through the Iron Age and Romano-British periods (700 BC – AD 400). Indeed the only evidence of religious activity which might fall within this period are the three ‘Celtic’ heads of uncertain date or function built into the facade of the mid 17th-century house at Glantanat-isaf, in the south-east corner of *Dyffryn Tanat*.

The absence of evidence of funerary activity in *Dyffryn Tanat* during this period is by no means exceptional, since there is little evidence elsewhere within the region, and it consequently appears that burials of these periods and indeed those of the later Bronze Age took form which is not represented in the archaeological record.

Ecclesiastical landscapes

A possible and potentially important early Christian inhumation of cemetery of forty or more graves arranged in rows is known from cropmark evidence at Meusydd, about 1.5km to the south-east of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant. Little else is known of this site, however, and although it is strictly undated it possibly belongs to belong to the early Christian period and possibly pre-dating the establishment of the clas church and burial ground at Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, and therefore possibly dating to the period between the 5th and 9th or 10th centuries. Due to the proximity of the cemetery to the prehistoric funerary and ritual complex at Maesmochnant (see above) there is a possibility, as at Pennant Melangell church, noted below, of some form of continuity or reuse of a pre-existing pagan burial ground.

Five medieval churches are known at *Dyffryn Tanat* — St Dogfan’s or St Doewan, Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, St Cynog’s, Llangynog and St Melangell’s, Pennant Melangell, St Garmon’s, Llanarmon-mynydd-mawr and St Cedwin’s, Llangedwyn. The churches at Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Llangynog and Pennant all lie within townships called Tre’r-llan (for *tref yr llan*, or ‘church township’) — probably the principal township in within each of the medieval parishes, but as noted elsewhere there is only clear evidence at Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant that the church formed part of a nucleated medieval settlement.

On the evidence of sculptured stonework an ecclesiastical site at Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant was established by at least the 9th century on the northern bank of Afon Rhacadr. It was clearly an important church early on and although little is known about the early history of the site it is set within a large curvilinear churchyard and having associations with royalty and preserving fragments of a Romanesque shrine possibly dedicated to the patron saint, St Dogfan (Evans 1986, 74). Pennant Melangell likewise has the remains of a Romanesque shrine and an early foundation date, possibly of about the 8th century, associated with the legend of Melangell. Though poorly dated and historically unreliable, the legend is important for the questions it raises about the early structure of the Christian church in *Dyffryn Tanat*. The earliest surviving written version is a Latin text of the early 16th century but seems likely to be based on written or oral sources dating back to at least the 13th

century (Pryce 1994). The story is also depicted on the elaborately carved 15th-century rood screen in St Melangell's church.

The legend tells of Brochwell, prince of Powys, hunting at a place called Pennant and alighting upon a beautiful virgin Melangell (Monacella) in a thicket, the folds of her skirts giving protection to a hare being pursued by the prince's hounds. Upon enquiry Brochwell learnt that she had lived alone in this wilderness for many years, having fled from Ireland, her native land, to escape marriage to a nobleman her father, the king, had wished to force upon her. Brochwell donated the lands to her as a perpetual sanctuary, a nunnery being established there by Melangell.

The legend provides us with a number of early and important symbolic images of the landscape which appear to be integral to the original legend and which are firmly rooted Cwm Pennant — the royal hunting grounds, the wilderness and the wildwood (*rubum quendam et spinosum*), the latter possibly also depicted by the exuberant late Celtic foliage which embellishes the Romanesque shrine (Britnell & Watson 1994, 165). Further threads running through the legend are those of the rights of sanctuary (Pryce 1994, 31) and of continuity, a place set apart from the world as a perpetual asylum (*perpetuum sit asylum*). The church at Pennant, like St Dogfan's at Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, lies within a relatively large curvilinear churchyard, traditionally held to demarcate the *noddfa* or sanctuary, and is also set within a ring of large and yew trees of some antiquity. The earliest surviving elements of the church are of 12th-century date built as a place of pilgrimage and housing Melangell's shrine, possibly under the patronage of the nobleman (*uchelwr*) Rhirid Flaidd described in an *englynion* of Cynddelw, the greatest of the Welsh bards of the latter half of the 12th century, as 'Proprietor of Pennant' (*Priodawr pennant pennaf*). Cynddelw also links Rhirid with Dinmawr or Moel Dimoel, the prominent hill on the southern side of Cwm Pennant, a hill linked with the legend of the giant *Cawr Berwyn* (Jones 1959).

The legend of Melangell has also become projected into the surrounding landscape — a rock ledge several hundred metres to the south of the church is known as *Gwely Melangell* (Melangell's Bed) first noted by Thomas Pennant (1784, 361) and inscribed with the words 'St Monacella's Bed' probably some time in the later 19th century (Evans 1994, 15–16). The association is probably the result of folk etymology and probably derives its name from a nearby field called *Cae Gwelu*, which refers to a medieval Welsh system of landholding by a family group (Jones 1990).

The shrine of Melangell at Pennant became a significant centre during medieval period, it being evident from the poems of Guto'r Glyn that by the 15th century it drew pilgrims from far afield seeking a remedy for their ailments and was also seen as a final resting place for former pilgrims (Allchin 1994, 13; Chapman 1994; Heaton & Britnell 1994, 103–4). During the medieval and early post-medieval period the church, as elsewhere in Wales, formed an important focal point for the dispersed rural community which it served. Various parish affairs such as the maintenance of roads, apprenticeships and the administration of poor relief were discussed at church vestry meetings.

The *llan* — in the sense of the area around the church as well as the church enclosure — became a centre for various communal activities including ball-games, fairs and the *gwylmabsant* — the annual patronal festival. The small green just beyond the megalithic lychgate at Pennant Melangell has a cockpit and was used until perhaps the end of the 18th century for theatrical performances. Much of this activity was suppressed with the rise of Puritanism during the 18th and early 19th centuries, and the focal importance of the parish church waned due to population shift and the proliferation of nonconformist chapels throughout the countryside.

There is still much to learn about the early parochial landscape of *Dyffryn Tanat*. Parish churches were already in existence by the middle of the 13th century at Pennant Melangell, Llangynog and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant.

Llanrhaeadr was a *clas* or mother church governed by a lay *abad* (abbot), and until perhaps some time between the 9th to 11th century may have been the principal or sole church within Mochnant, at the hub of a large ecclesiastical parish synonymous with the *cantref*. By the later 13th century and following the subdivision of Mochnant into its two constituent commotes, Llanrhaeadr was a rare instance of a single parish corresponding to the entire commote (Pratt 1985, 70) — that of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr — the churches at Llanarmon-mynydd-mawr and Llangedwyn at this stage being dependent chapels (*capellae*) of Llanrhaeadr and only later becoming independent parish churches in their own right.

The story in Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr seems to have been more complex. A substantial part of the commote formed part of the parish of Llanrhaeadr, the remainder being split between the parishes of Pennant Melangell and Llangynog, as well as Hirnant and Llanwddyn, possibly representing the fragmentation of a larger ecclesiastical district based on the *clas* church at Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant. Indeed, there are suggestions that churches such as St Melangell's at Pennant Melangell may have started life simply as enclosed cemeteries, to which a church only became established as late as perhaps the 11th or 12th century. There is further evidence to suggest that the history of Pennant Melangell may have been even more complex, for in an apparently remarkable demonstration of continuity within the landscape, perhaps paralleled at Meusydd (noted above), the early Christian cemetery appears to have been established above a pagan cemetery originating in the middle Bronze Age (Britnell 1994, 91–4).

Other sites with ecclesiastical associations

Other sites with important ecclesiastical associations within *Dyffryn Tanat* include two holy wells — St Dogfan's well on the hills above Cwm Rhaeadr and Ffynnon Cwm-ewyn on the hill above Pennant Melangell and a medieval grange at Gwernfeifod belonging to Valle Crucis Abbey, which perhaps significantly includes the site of St Dogfan's well. In some instances religious observances of which little other evidence survives have been captured in place-names. The farm of Tyn-y-cabld near the source of the Afon Tanat, at the head of Cwm Pennant, takes its name from *Dydd Iau Cabld* (Maundy Thursday) the day upon which traditionally those of high degree washed the feet of and distributed gifts to the poor (Evans 1994, 13). No doubt this and many other traditions associated with other parts of the landscape were lost with the rise in Protestantism, from the 16th century onwards.

There is was relatively little early nonconformist activity in *Dyffryn Tanat* and the surviving archaeological evidence of nonconformism follows the early 19th-century Methodist revival, consisting of numerous chapels belonging predominantly to the Wesleyan Methodists, Calvinistic Methodists, and the Independents. As elsewhere in Wales two trends are evident in the distribution of nonconformist chapels within the landscape. Firstly, chapels were erected in the relatively few nucleated settlements Llangynog, Penybontfawr and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant. Secondly, there was a marked increase in the number of places of worship in the countryside and on the higher ground away from the valley bottoms, typically no more than 2–3km apart, representing a process which has led to the general observation that in the Welsh borderland 'the population of the uplands is one of Dissenters rather than Churchmen' (Thomas 1965, 483).

ORNAMENTAL AND PICTURESQUE LANDSCAPES AND CULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS

Ornamental landscapes

The principal ornamental landscape within *Dyffryn Tanat* is the Llangedwyn Hall garden listed in the *Register of Parks and Gardens in Wales* (Cadw/ICOMOS 1995; see also Hubbard 1986, 215–6). This important garden was created by Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn of Wynnystay, constructed in the early 18th-century date, around Llangedwyn Hall, by far the most prestigious house within the valley. The house, which is of late 17th to mid

18th-century date, was inherited by the third baronet, one of the major landowners in the Tanat Valley, from his father-in-law, Sir Edward Vaughan in 1718. The complex retains elements of the original layout including formal terraces set out on the sloping grounds, together with a kitchen garden, managed woodland on the hillside above, and with significant views across the meadows to the south, all shown in a contemporary bird's-eye view painting (Cadw/ICOMOS 1995, 153). Ancillary buildings within the complex include a stable block and a notable octagonal structure with loose boxes in a paddock to the east of the house. Notable guests of C. W. Williams-Wynn MP, bart., at the house in the early 19th century included Robert Southey (1774–1843), Poet Laureate and one of the romantic Lakeland Poets, and Reginald Heber (1783–1826), prelate and hymn writer ('From Greenland's Icy Mountain', and 'Holy, holy, holy'). Guests were taken to visit local sites of interest such as the church at Pennant Melangell, the site of the residence of the princes of Powys at Mathrafal, and Owen Glyndwr's principal residence at Sycharth, as well as being entertained in the gardens of the house (Thomas 1881), as recorded in the following lines by Southey:

When on Llangedwyn's terraces we paced
Together to and fro
Partaking there its hospitality,
We with its honoured master spent
Well pleased the social hours

Picturesque landscapes

The Welsh landscape became generally more accessible to travellers from the later 18th century, following improvements to the turnpike roads, coinciding with a fashion for the picturesque, an aesthetic movement which valued rugged and irregular landscapes. Although *Dyffryn Tanat*, the Berwyns and the area of the eastern borderland in general were less popular with 18th and 19th-century travellers and artists than the more rugged landscapes of north-west Wales, one of the notable attractions was Pistyll Rhaeadr and Cwm Blowty, at the head of Afon Rhaeadr, descriptions of which appeared in various tours from the later 18th century. The waterfall became so well known at this date that it became considered as one of the 'Seven Wonders of North Wales' in the traditional rhyme:

Pistyll Rhaeadr, and Wrexham Steeple,
Snowdon's mountains without its people,
Overton's yew trees, Gresford bells,
Llangollen bridge and St Winifrid's Well.

Anon, 18th century

Investment was made in catering for an influx of visitors to the falls. The Revd Worthington, vicar of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant between 1748–78 was instrumental in getting the turnpike road built from Llanrhaeadr to the falls, the room he caused to be built for sheltering visitors being replaced in the early 19th century by Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn by a rustic picturesque cottage 'for tea drinking'. Thomas Pennant's *Tours in Wales*, 1770, (Pennant 1783, vol. 2, 363–4) records the provision he made for visitors to Pistyll Rhaeadr waterfall:

I must speak with due respect of the memory of the late worth vicar, Dr *Worthington*; to whose hospitable house I was indebted for a seasonable reception, the wet evening which fortunately preceded my visit to the celebrated cataract *Pistill Rhaeadr*. It terminates the precipitous end of very narrow valley, and, as it were, divides a bold front to the *Berwyn* mountains When I visited it, the approach was very bad; but that is not only effectually by the late benevolent vicar, but, as I am informed, he has besides erected a cottage, as a retreat to the traveller from the fury of a storm.

The custom continued into the following century, and indeed to the present day. George Borrow noting that having visited the waterfall he was invited to take some refreshment and sign the visitors' book 'which contained a number of names mingled here and there with pieces of poetry' (*Wild Wales*, 1862).

Other rugged landscapes came to be seen as picturesque during the course of the following century, especially those at the head of the deeply glaciated valleys towards the western side of *Dyffryn Tanat*. Landscapes which are described in this way include 'Rhwnng-y-creigiau' at the entrance to Cwm Maengwynedd, north of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant (Hancock 1871, 212–3), and Craig Rhiwarth above Llangynog is described by Lewis 1833 as 'abounding with features of picturesque beauty, and of rugged grandeur'. Both Lewis and Thomas Pennant (1784, vol. 2, 361–2) considered Cwm Pennant to be 'exceedingly picturesque':

The upper end is bounded by two vast precipices, down which, at times, fall two great cataracts; between them juts out the great and rude promontory of *Moel ddu Mawr* [Moel Dimoel], which almost divides the precipices into equal parts: and all together formed a fine and solemn retreat for devotees.

Cultural associations

Dyffryn Tanat has attracted strong cultural associations, some from native inhabitants and some from travellers which are considered below under the following headings — literary, artistic, antiquarian and topographical, theological, musical and theatrical.

One of the earliest literary associations of *Dyffryn Tanat* is with the legend of St Melangell, which provides a 'literary presentation and elaboration of the saint's cult', the early transmission of the legend with its strong associations with the landscape of Cwm Pennant probably local and originally primarily oral and visual (Pryce 1994, 33–4). *Dyffryn Tanat* has a number of later literary associations, particularly in the late 17th and 18th centuries. Cadwaladr Roberts (d. 1708/9), was a native of Ty Ucha, Cwm Llêch, his poem begging a harp of Wiliam Llwyd, Llangedwyn, being noted for its social interest (Lloyd & Jenkins 1959). The following anonymous verse in praise of Cwm Pennant which appears on the flyleaf of the Parish Register of 1720–92 is probably also a local composition.

Cwm Pennant galant gweli, Cwm uchel
I ochel caledi
Cwm iachus nid oes i chwi,
Ond cam i Ne o'n cwm ni

(Behold the fine Cwm Pennant, a high cwm/ to avoid hardship/a healthy cwm, there is not for you/but a step to Heaven from our cwm). Most of the later literary associations are with visitors however, such as the poem about Pistyll Rhaeadr, celebrated by Dewi Wyn, one of the first Welsh descriptive poets (Hancock 1871, 214).

By the early 19th century *Dyffryn Tanat* appealed the romantic sensibilities of English *literati* such as Robert Southey (Pryce 1994, 35). Whilst a guest of the Williams-Wynns at Llangedwyn Hall he made visits to Mathrafal, Sycharth and Pennant Melangell, his visit to the latter in 1820 being to 'observe what vestiges/Mouldering and mutilate/Of Monacella's legend there are left' (Thomas 1881, 2).

Melangel's lonely church —
Amid a grove of evergreen's in stood,
A garden and a grove, where every grave
Was deck'd with flowers, or with unfading plants
O'er grown, sad rue and funeral rosemary

The legend of Melangell together with its dramatic and mysterious setting continue to inspire introspection, Cwm Pennant like Cwm Rhaeadr terminating in a dramatic though less well-known waterfall — Pistyll Blaen-y-cwm.

The lane had given way to a farmyard. Lydia skirted it and took to a mountain path which meandered nonchalantly between rowan and hazel trees before stopping to present the traveller with a view of the valley's close. The hill that faced her was bearded like a prophet with a wild white waterfall. The boulders which God had flung about at the time of the creation had, to Lydia's eyes, a patriarchal air, and the pebbles which littered the stream seemed like little children confidently at rest in this fatherly presence.

Alice Thomas Ellis, *Unexplained Laughter*, 1985

Relatively few artists appear to have visited the Berwyns, many more being drawn to the more rugged landscapes or north-west Wales (Moore n.d., 37). Moel Dimoel and Pennant Melangell church in Cwm Pennant were sketched by John Ingleby in 1795 (for the church see Heaton & Britnell 1994, fig. 5.7). Pistyll Rhaeadr was sketched by in primitive style by J. Lewis between about 1735–40 (Joyner 1997, fig. 54, commissioned by the Williams-Wynns), by John Evans in 1794 (Joyner 1997, fig 31) and by Francis Nicholson 1810, and general views of the Berwyns were sketched by Revd John Parker in about 1825 (National Library of Wales). Watercolours were made of a number of the larger houses, most notably one of Llangedwyn Hall by S. Leighton in 1872 (National Library of Wales). Sketches of antiquities were made again by John Parker in the 1830s (Ridgway 1994, 131; Parry 1998, 89), by the local architect R. Kyrke Penson in the 1840s (Heaton & Britnell 1994, 111, 115), and by the illustrator Worthington G. Smith in the 1890s (Britnell 1994a, 17; Britnell 1994b, 46).

The earliest antiquarian associations are with local scholars, notably with Thomas Sebastian Price of Llanfyllin who recorded various aspects of the cult of St Melangell in the late 17th century (Pryce 1994, 35). A number of notable antiquarians and topographers travelled through *Dyffryn Tanat* during the period 1750–1850 in pursuit of antiquarian and topographical interests. Richard Fenton, Sir Richard Colt Hoare and Thomas Pennant visited the area during this period, Thomas Pennant drawn to visit Pennant Melangell church in 1773 (Rhys (ed.) 1833, 163–5), and also made some record of the cult of Melangell. The clerical scholar and antiquarian, Walter Davies (*Gwalter Mechain*) was vicar of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant from 1837 until his death in 1849.

Dr William Morgan, translator of the Bible and one of the most important figures of the Reformation in Wales was the vicar of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant (1578–1588) and rector of Pennant Melangell (1588–1595) before being elected to the see of Llandaff in 1595 and the see of St Asaph in 1601. His closest associations are with Llanrhaeadr, however, where his translation described as ‘the greatest gift the Welsh people ever had’ is generally held to have been undertaken.

This is where he sought God.
And found him? The centuries
Have been content to follow
Down passages of serene prose.
. . . The smooth words
Over which his mind flowed
Have become an heirloom. Beauty
Is how you say it, and the truth
Like this mountain-born torrent,
Is content to hurry
Not too furiously by.

R.S. Thomas, ‘Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant’, 1968

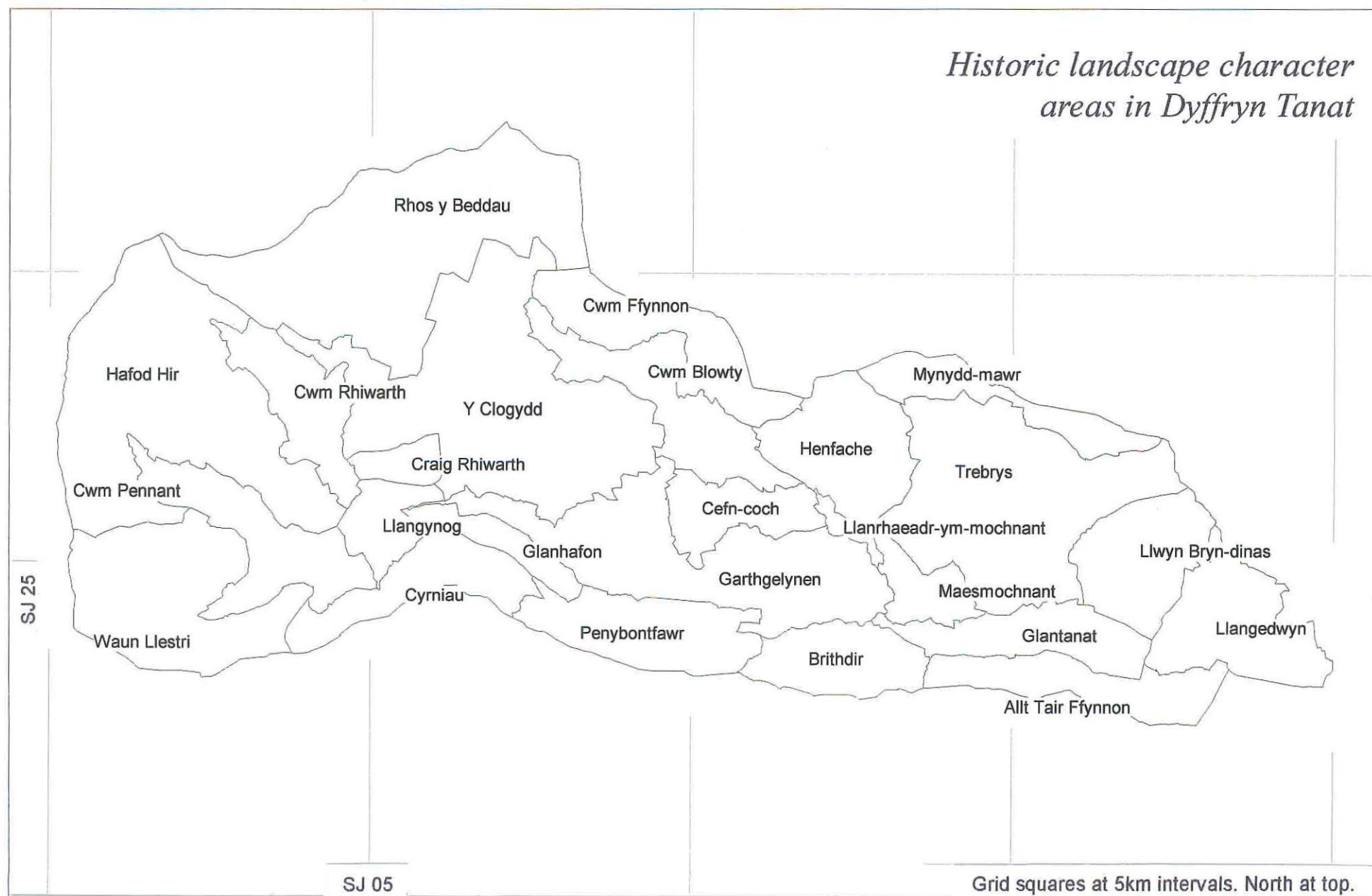
Historic landscape character areas in Dyffryn Tanat

For the purpose of this report the *Dyffryn Tanat* historic landscape has been divided into the 24 character areas listed below and shown in the map on the following page. These have been defined subjectively, on the basis of a number of key historic landscape characteristics, including the natural landscape, settlement and agricultural history, communications, industry, spiritual associations and ornamental landscapes.

In such a topographically diverse area it is inevitable that there is a close correspondence between historic landscape character areas and topography. A number of the areas are broadly similar in character, as follows: nucleated settlements are represented by Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Llangynog, and Penybontfawr character areas; narrow glaciated valleys with evidence of early enclosed landscapes is represented by Cwm Rhiwarth, Cwm Pennant and Cwm Rhiwarth; late medieval and early post-medieval enclosed agricultural landscapes are represented by Trebrys, Garthgelynen, Henfache, Brithdir; 19th-century enclosure of low-lying meadow land is represented by Glantanat and Glanhafon, and 19th-century enclosure of upland commons is represented in Mynydd Mawr, Y Clogydd, Cwm Ffynnon and Cyrniau, Hafod Hir, Llwyn Bryn-dinas and Allt Tair Ffynnon, which in the case of Cefn-côch is associated with cottage encroachments and at Waun Llestri is now substantially converted to coniferous woodland; unenclosed upland common is represented by Rhos y Beddau. A number of character areas are more individual in character. Maesmochnant an area of enclosed open arable fields associated with Llanrhaeadr, with important buried prehistoric archaeology. Craig Rhiwarth is an isolated hilltop dominated by a prehistoric hillfort. Llangedwyn is a predominantly wooded and ornamental landscape.

The following list gives the historic landscape character area number, the name of the historic character area and the page on which the landscape is described.

1000	Llwyn Bryn-dinas	41	1013	Cwm Rhiwarth	78
1001	Llangedwyn	44	1014	Waun Llestri	81
1002	Maesmochnant	47	1015	Hafod Hir	83
1003	Glantanat	50	1016	Rhos y Beddau	85
1004	Trebrys	53	1017	Y Clogydd	87
1005	Craig Rhiwarth	56	1018	Mynydd-mawr	90
1006	Garthgelynen	58	1019	Cyrniau	92
1007	Cefn-côch	61	1020	Penybontfawr	94
1008	Allt Tair Ffynnon	64	1021	Henfache	95
1009	Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant	67	1022	Cwm Ffynnon	100
1010	Llangynog	69	1023	Brithdir	102
1011	Cwm Pennant	72	1024	Glanhafon	104
1012	Cwm Blowty	75			



1000 *Llwyn Bryn-dinas*
Llangedwyn, Powys

Steeply sloping hill land with rocky outcrops, prehistoric hillfort, and late 18th- to early 19th-century encroachment of commons, and areas of ancient semi-natural woodland and modern plantations.

Historic background

The character area falls within the medieval ecclesiastical parishes of Llangedwyn and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, with a small area within the parish of Llansilin, and formerly lay within the ancient commote of Mochnant Is Rhacadr, Denbighshire.

The most prominent archaeological monuments in the character area are the spectacular hillfort on the summit of Llwyn Bryn-dinas where small-scale excavations have shown that its stone-revetted rampart was first constructed in the later Bronze Age, and that it was also occupied for at least periods during the Iron Age. The relationship of the hillfort with the smaller earthwork enclosure near Plas-uchaf in the adjacent character area of Llangedwyn is intriguing.

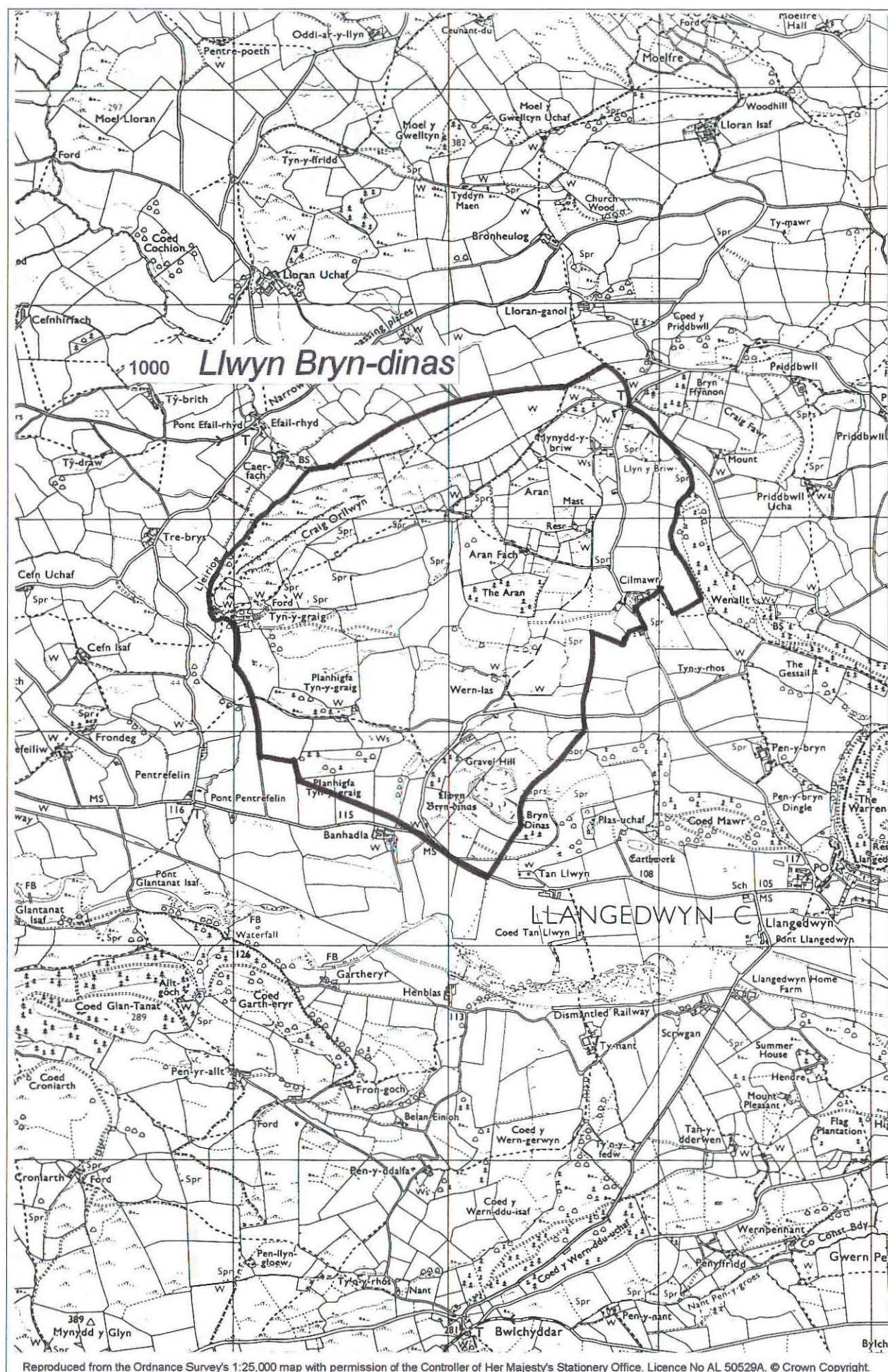
Key historic landscape characteristics

Diverse but topographically distinct area with predominantly west-facing slopes, and rising from a height of about 110m OD near the valley floor on the south, to the summit of Llwyn Bryn-dinas at 271m and the summit of Aran at 341m OD. Prominent shaley outcrops on the summit of Llwyn Bryn-dinas and along Craig Orllwyn. Natural upland lake in area of impeded drainage at Llyn Briw.

Llwyn Bryn-dinas itself is a prominent landmark within the valley, considered by George Borrow to be 'an exceedingly high and picturesque crag' (*Wild Wales*, 1862).

Settlement is largely limited to a number of widely-spaced probably post-medieval farms such as Wern-las and Tyn-y-graig, set in their own fields, and 19th-century stone farmhouse and outbuildings at Cilmawr, on the line of the public road, though there are early 19th-century cottage encroachments near Tyn-y-graig and in the area of Aran and Mynydd-y-briw, strung out along trackways and roadways, mostly near natural springs, the cottages being of quarried shale with brick dressings. Many of the least accessible cottages around Aran are now ruinous, most of the surviving one being on or near the made-up public road running northwards from Llangedwyn.

Areas of improved pasture on the gentler slopes and unimproved pasture elsewhere with patches of gorse. Relatively large and irregular fields over much of the area, with curving field boundaries indicating progressive and piecemeal woodland clearance, land improvement and enclosure probably largely during the 17th and 18th centuries, the older field boundaries marked by low field banks and with mixed species hedges and more recent boundaries by single species hawthorn hedges. Roadside hedges generally low-cut, many other hedges now overgrown though formerly laid. Some former boundaries marked by lynchets and lines of spaced shrubs, trees or tree-stumps, where a number of smaller fields have been run into one. Early 19th-century enclosure of common land on the sides of Llwyn Bryn-dinas and Craig Orllwyn marked by straighter boundaries at right-angles to the slope, in gridded fashion, with either single-species hedges, invariably of hawthorn, some of which are grown out, and some by post and wire fences, some of which have subsequently been abandoned. Drystone walls on boundaries between Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Llansilin and Llangedwyn parishes.



Small fields around Aran, associated with the early 19th-century cottage encroachment, with banks and lynchets indicating former ploughing. Hedges here now overgrown and seemingly deliberately planted with mixed species, including blackthorn, hazel, oak and hawthorn, some boundaries here having stone-revetted clearance banks.

Areas of semi-natural oak woodland and modern coniferous plantation on the steepest slopes, with scattered mature trees elsewhere.

Network of probably post-medieval lanes and footpaths links the farms, cottages and smallholdings, often along the contour or along a ridge, the public road running north from Llangedwyn partly running in a rock-cut hollow-way. Modern telecommunications mast near the summit of Aran.

Linear quarrying is visible across the western slopes of Llwyn Bryn-dinas, the purpose and dating of which is uncertain.

The cluster of cottages in the area of Mynydd-y-briw was served by a stone chapel with brick dressings built in 1894 and replacing an earlier structure of 1835.

Sources

Musson *et al* 1992

Key historic landscape management issues

- Llwyn Bryn-dinas hillfort, the integrity of its archaeology and its visual amenity
- the archaeology of 19th-century cottage encroachment of commons in the Mynydd-y-briw area, including buildings and boundaries
- waterlogged areas which might have palaeoenvironmental potential

1001

Llangedwyn

Llangedwyn, Powys

Hilly, wooded and ornamental landscape, with large houses and gardens and estate farms with rolling pasture.

Historic background

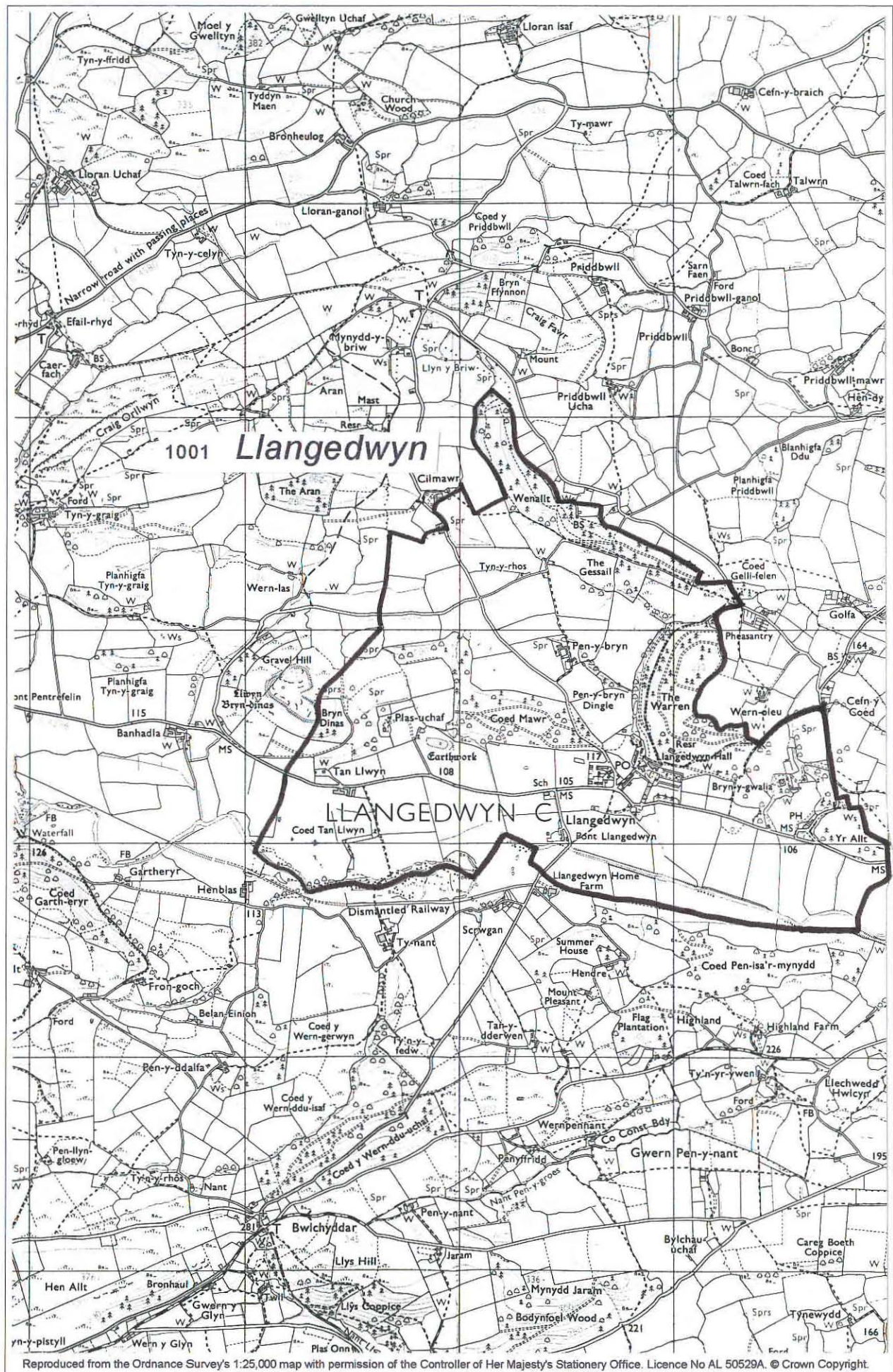
Early settlement and land-use is indicated by several cropmark enclosure sites and a pit alignment on the valley bottom and by an earthwork enclosure on the small hillock near Plas-uchaf which possibly represent Iron Age farmsteads. Llangedwyn was a single township in the commote of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr, Denbighshire, having originally, like Llanarmon-mynydd-mawr, been a dependent chapelry within the ecclesiastical parish of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant. Despite this, there is no clear evidence for the existence of early nucleated at Llangedwyn during the medieval period, and most the surviving settlement evidence belongs to the 17th-century onwards. The present church of St Cedwin's church, Llangedwyn, was rebuilt under the patronage of the Williams-Wynn family in 1869–70, but evidence of early medieval activity is represented by a decorated cross slab, set up against the eastern end of the church.

Key historic landscape characteristics

Broken, hilly landscape, predominantly south-facing, between about 100–250m OD. As late as the early 14th century the greater part of parish of Llangedwyn is said to have continued to be wooded and still today the area includes large areas of semi-natural mixed deciduous woodland and coniferous plantation on the steeper slopes including Coed Mawr, The Warren, Wenallt and Yr Allt, balanced by the extensive mixed woodland of Coed Pen-isa'r-mynydd outside the historic landscape area on the southern side of the river Tanat. The meadow land alongside the river is similar to the Glantanat character area but is included here because of its visual importance to the ornamental aspects of the Llangedwyn character area, a feature enhanced by the scattered mature oaks and the plantation at Coed Tan Llwyn, which give this low-lying area a park-like character.

Present-day settlement is dominated by Llangedwyn Hall, probably the only grand Tudor or Renaissance building to be built in *Dyffryn Tanat*, being a late 17th- or early 18th-century remodelling of a late 16th- or early 17th-century building, inherited by the Williams-Wynns in 1718, with walled gardens, estate buildings, stable block and the octagonal structure with loose boxes in a paddock to the east of the house. Other large houses include Bryn-y-gwalia in woodland to the east and Plas-uchaf, the imposing early 18th-century brick house with sandstone dressings on the lower slopes of Llwyn Bryn-dinas on the western side of the character area — Plas Uchaf ('Place Xcha') being incidentally one of only two places in *Dyffryn Tanat* named on Robert Morden's map of North Wales published in 1695. Other settlement includes the Pen-y-bryn has a 19th-century stone and brick farmhouse with brick outbuildings which include elements of a model farm, and the house and estate cottages at Tyn-y-rhos in the hills to the north, and the mid and later 20th-century housing estate on the main road, with its red-brick school of 1897 and rendered and red-brick village hall of 1907.

The area includes substantial areas of improved pasture as well as woodland. On the hills to the north are large rolling fields of pasture with low-cut single-species, hawthorn hedges, probably representing post-medieval woodland clearance and subsequent 18th/19th-century enclosure of pasture, with scattered mature oaks within some fields lending a park-like character. The large, flat and low-lying rectangular fields alongside the river Tanat to the south, are similar to those in the Glantanat character area to the west. The field boundaries are of low-cut hawthorn hedges, and represent 19th-century enclosure of former common meadow. Squared stone gateposts to field entrances on the main road.



The principal road running through the area is the mid 18th-century turnpike from Knockin to Llanrhaeadr, observing and observed by the gardens and entrance drive to Llangedwyn Hall. The lane linking the farms to the north of Llangedwyn appears to represent a more ancient route, and runs for part of its course in substantial hollow-way that has been cut through shaley outcrops in places. The large 19th-century stone road bridge at Pont Llangedwyn and the site of the halt on the dismantled Tanat Valley Light Railway also fall within the character area, the present course of the river Tanat just to the east of Llangedwyn having been straightened to prevent it from undermining the railway.

Industry is limited to the 18th/19th-century complex at Llangedwyn Mill.

Ornamental landscapes are an important feature of the Llangedwyn character area, and notably including the listed gardens at Llangedwyn Hall created by Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn of Wynnstay, constructed in the early 18th century, and including terraces set out on the sloping grounds (featuring in the verses of Robert Southey, Poet Laureate, in the early 19th century), walled kitchen garden as well as the managed woodland on the hillside above. Also of importance are the prominently sited gardens and parkland with mature deciduous and conifer trees around Plas-uchaf, framed by the picturesque backdrop of Llwyn Bryn-dinas whose prehistoric ramparts enhance its craggy skyline.

Sources

Cadw 1995;1999

Hubbard 1986

Musson *et al* 1992

Thomas 1881

Wren 1968

Key historic landscape management issues

- low-lying prehistoric cropmark and earthwork enclosure sites
- park-like character and setting of Llangedwyn Hall and Plas-uchaf
- industrial archaeology associated with Llangedwyn Mill and the Tanat Valley Light Railway
- archaeology of public bridges and turnpike road
- traditional buildings, particularly those associated with the Llangedwyn Hall estate

1002

Maesmochnant

Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Powys

Large rectangular fields with hedge boundaries on flat terrace slightly raised above the valley bottom, with complex of cropmark prehistoric and funerary monuments and standing stone.

Historic background

The character area falls within the medieval ecclesiastical parish of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, and falls within the ancient commote of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr, Denbighshire.

Probable late Neolithic and early Bronze Age activity in the character area is represented by a probable henge monument and two timber circles and the large Maesmochnant standing stone, which represent an important prehistoric ritual complex in the area between Meusydd and Maesmochnant-uchaf. The complex also includes a number of ring-ditches which probably represent ploughed-down burial mounds. A large mound just to the east of the Maesmochnant standing stone, near the edge of the terrace, appears to represent a large burial mound which has partly survived ploughing. Also in the Meusydd area, to the north-west, coincidentally to the west of the modern cemetery, aerial photography has also revealed a cemetery of no less than about 40 inhumation graves aligned approximately east-west. The historic context for this cemetery is uncertain, given that the church at Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant appears to have been founded by at least the ninth century, but a date in the early medieval period seems most likely. A number of other cropmarks are known in the area which appear to indicate a pattern of enclosures or field boundaries pre-dating the present field pattern, although their date is uncertain.

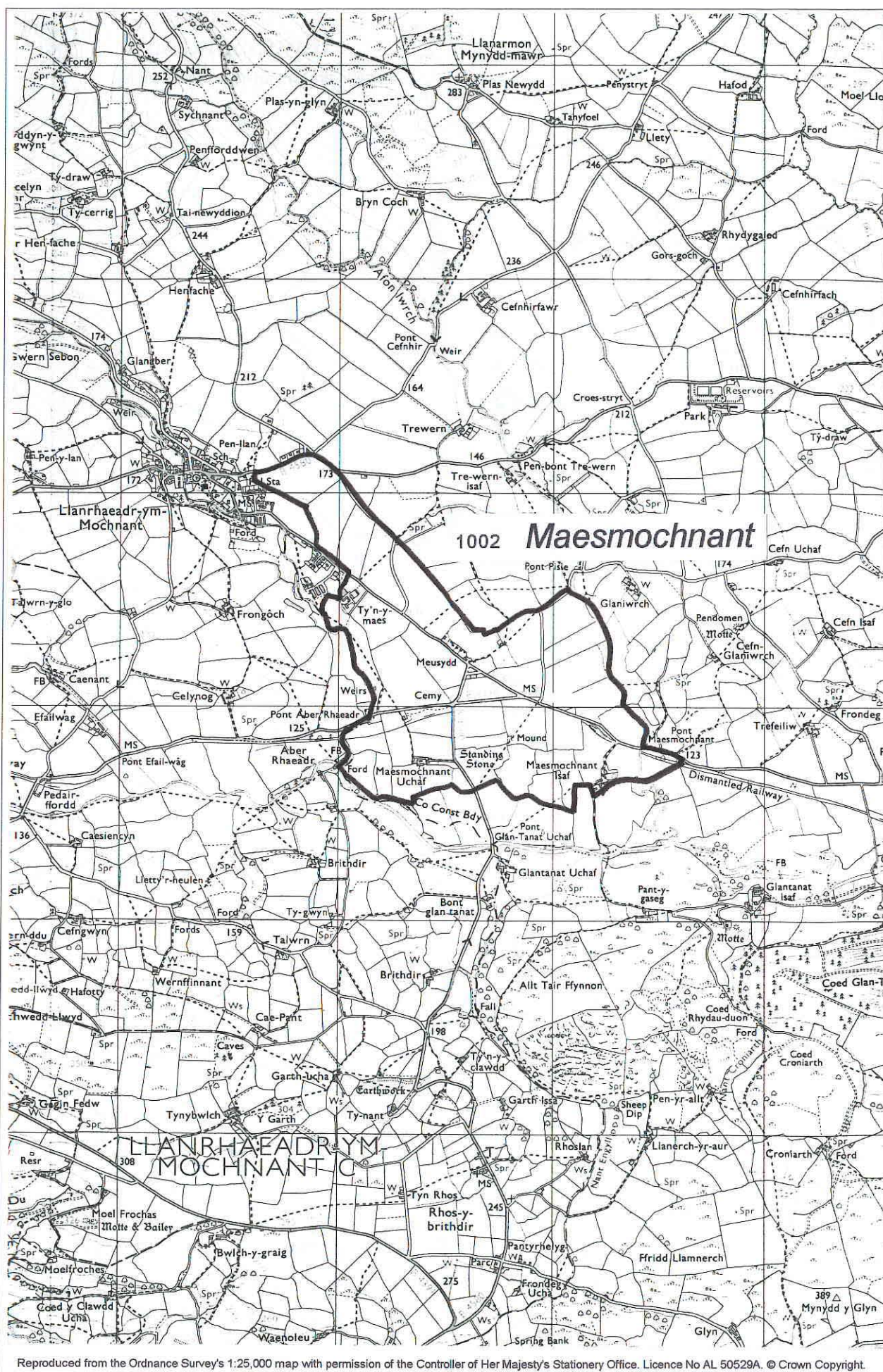
Key historic landscape characteristics

Flat and gently undulating flat terrace slightly raised above the valley bottom, between about 120–50m OD. The area is largely well-drained and underlain by gravel with numerous braided palaeochannels of probable late glacial or early post-glacial date visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs.

Present-day settlement in the area principally limited to the two farms of Maesmochnant-uchaf and Maesmochnant-isaf, just under 1km apart. Maesmochnant-uchaf has an 18th-century stone farmhouse with 18th/19th-century stone outbuildings and 20th-century brick outbuildings. The stone buildings are of rounded boulders, probably from field clearance and river-beds, with brick and ashlar dressings. Ty'n-y-maes has a 19th-century stone farmhouse and outbuildings, some of brick. The modern housing at Meusydd lies just outside the character area.

Large rectangular fields bounded by generally low-cut mature mixed-species hedges including hawthorn, hazel, ash. Scattered mature oaks in field boundaries and taller alder trees on the banks of the Afon Iwrch and Afon Rhaeadr. It seems probable that during the early medieval and medieval period the area included the open arable field or town fields belonging to the small market town of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant which lies about 1km to the north-west. A number of fields have 'maes' names, indicative of open arable, as well as the three farms on the margins of the area — Ty'n-y-maes, Maesmochnant-isaf and Maesmochnant-uchaf. The fairly regular present-day field pattern therefore appears to represent 18th-century enclosure of the former medieval town fields.

Some squared stone gateposts to field entrances on the main road.



The major road junction where the Llangedwyn to Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant splits off from that which goes on to Llangynog lies at the heart of the area. These main roads are late 18th-century turnpike roads; they are slightly raised above the level of the surrounding fields and cut across a number of earlier field boundaries. The other minor roads in the area run in slight hollow-ways. The area is crossed by the line of the Tanat Valley Light Railway the course of which is visible in places, some areas of which are now have invasive trees and shrubs. The station yard of the former 'Llanrhaiadr Mochnant' station, to the north of Maemochnant-uchaf, is still partly used as a storage depot.

By tradition the Maes Mochnant standing stone was raised in order to stop the devastation being caused in the surrounding country by a dragon or serpent — the beast eventually being killed by dashing itself against the stone.

Sources

Britnell 1991

Hancock 1871

Sayce 1930

St Joseph 1979

Richards 1934b

Wren 1968

Key historic landscape management issues

- buried archaeology of henge monuments, timber circles, ring-ditches, linear boundaries or ditches, inhumation cemetery known from aerial photography and potentially vulnerable to plough erosion.
- upstanding archaeology including the Maesmochnant standing stone and its visual amenity, the possible adjacent round barrow still surviving as an earthwork
- late glacial and early post-glacial palaeochannels in gravel surface known from aerial photography, of potential palaeoenvironmental importance
- archaeology of the Tanat Valley Light Railway
- traditional farm buildings

1003

Glantanat

Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant and Llangedwyn, Powys

Large rectangular fields with hedged boundaries on valley bottom in eastern area of Dyffryn Tanat.

Historic background

The character area falls largely within the medieval ecclesiastical parish of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant and partly in the parish of Llangedwyn, and administratively within the ancient commote of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr, Denbighshire. A thin slip of land to the west of Glantanat-uchaf fell within the Montgomeryshire portion of the Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant parish.

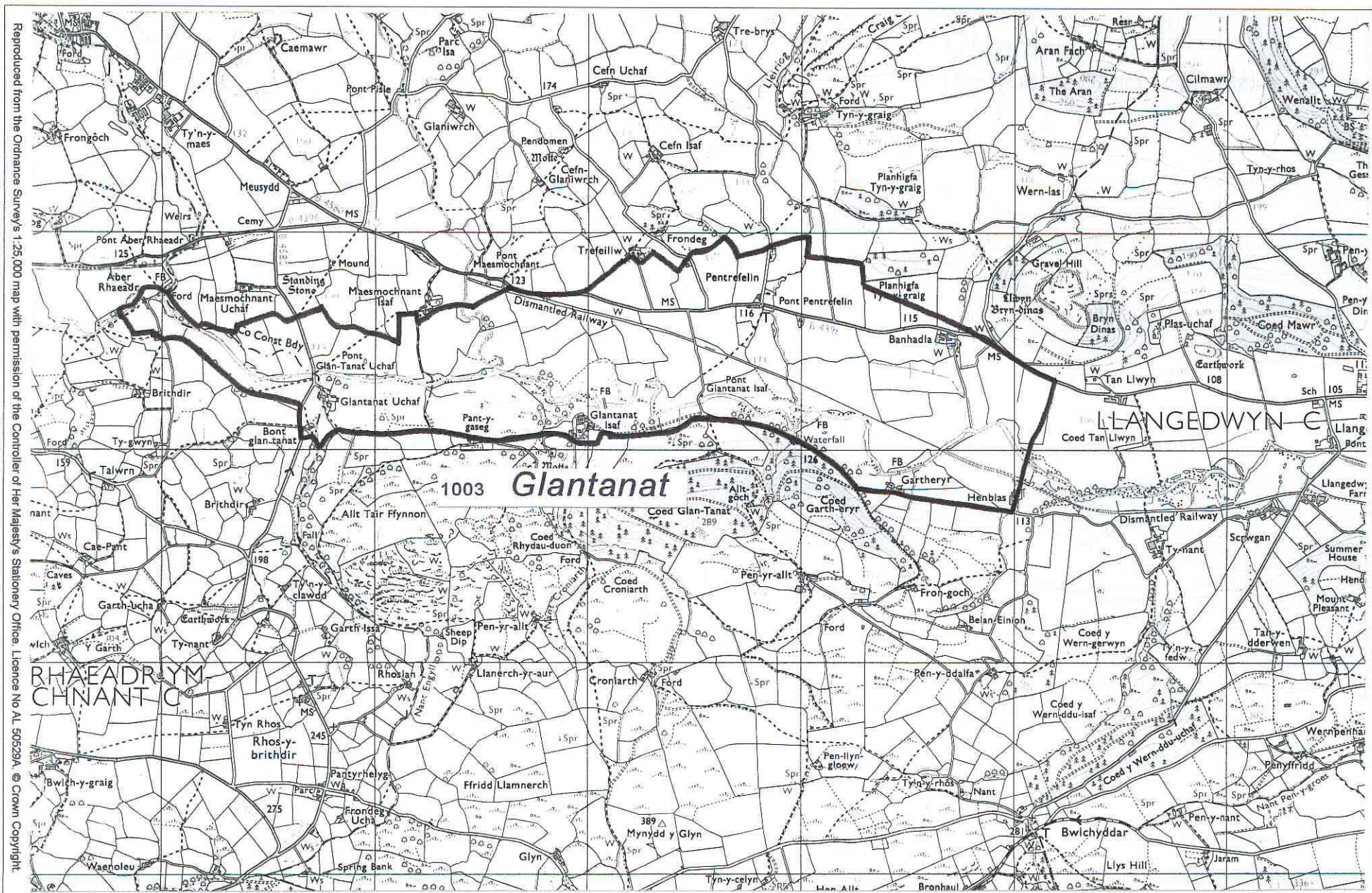
Probable late Neolithic and early Bronze Age activity in the character area is represented by at least two linear settings of up to five or six ring-ditches of ploughed-out burial mounds, recorded as cropmarks by aerial photography. The broader context of the monuments is uncertain, but it can be assumed that at least some clearance of woodland had already taken place by this date. Indeed, the linear settings of ring-ditches may indicate that they were set out along pre-existing boundaries or along the edges of fields.

Key historic landscape characteristics

Flat valley-bottom land, alongside the Afon Tanat, between about 105–120m OD, with slight river terraces in places towards the margins of the area. Confluences with the Afon Rhaeadr and Afon Iwrch fall within the western end of the character area. The land lies on gravels and alluvium and is generally well drained, though old river meanders are represented by fairly extensive areas of waterlogging and standing water alongside the river as well as by dry palaeochannels represented by undulations in the surface. The meadow land continues further to the east but has been included within the Llangedwyn character area because of its visual importance to that landscape.

Settlement is confined to a number of scattered, large and well-established farms of probable late medieval or early post-medieval origin on narrow strip of flatter ground to the south of the river, often 1km or more apart, together with a number of post-medieval farms and houses along the turnpike road between Llangedwyn and Llanrhaeadr, including a row of 18th-century stone cottages with brick dressings and slate roofs at Pentrefelin. The older farms include Gartheryr, the two large farmhouses at Glantanat-uchaf and Glantanat-isaf, which are of mid 17th-century date, and Henblas where a late medieval cruck-built barn probably represents the earlier house, replaced a brick farmhouse in the 18th century. 17th/18th-century stone outbuildings at Glantanat-isaf, stone-walled yard and some stone outbuildings at Glantanat-uchaf. Rendered ?18th-century stone farmhouse at Banhadla with 18th/19th-century stone outbuildings, some with weatherboarding, 18th-century stone farmhouse and outbuildings, some again with weatherboarding, at Bont Glantanat Farm.

The predominant land-use is as pasture and meadow. Large, rectangular and irregular pasture fields, generally with low clipped hedges and occasionally subdivided by post and wire fences. The boundaries are generally single species hedges, invariably hawthorn, and often supplemented by post and wire stock-proof fencing, with occasional laid hedges on roadsides. Scattered mature oaks in hedgerows and taller alders and ashes along the river edge and along streams and watercourses. Occasional stone gateposts on field gates on public roads. A majority of the field boundaries appear to be set out in relation to the turnpike road between Llangedwyn and Llanrhaeadr, and it therefore seems likely that they represent 18th-century enclosure of formerly unenclosed meadow in a number of townships bordering the river.



The main road between Llangedwyn and Llanrhaeadr is a turnpike road built in the later 18th century and probably replacing a route which ran across higher ground to the north. The principal crossings of the Afon Tanat, by means of the stone bridges at Pont Glantanat-uchaf at the western end of the character area and Pont Llangedwyn at the eastern end, together with Pont Pentrefelin across the Lleiriog and Pont Maesmochnant across the Afon Iwrch, are also of this date.

The course of the former, early 20th-century Tanat Valley Light Railway is still visible as either an embankment or cutting, running at an angle across the earlier field pattern. There was originally a railway bridge across the Afon Tanat, just to the east of Gartheryr. The platform and sidings at the former station at Pentrefelin are still visible.

Sources

Hubbard 1986

Wren 1968

Key historic landscape management issues

- buried archaeology of ring-ditch complex known from aerial photography and potentially vulnerable to plough erosion
- river meanders, of potential palaeoenvironmental importance
- archaeology of public bridges, turnpike roads and Tanat Valley Light Railway
- traditional farm buildings

1004

Trebrys

Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant and Llansilin, Powys

Landscape of scattered larger farms of late medieval and early post-medieval origin generally set within their own medium- to large-sized semi-irregular fields.

Historic background

Early activity is represented by the find of a Bronze Age socketed axe near Bronheulog in 1949. The character area falls within the medieval ecclesiastical parishes of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Llanarmon and Llansilin, and also falls within the area of the ancient commote of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr, Denbighshire. One of the most prominent archaeological monuments in the character area is the probably 12th- to 13th-century Tomen Cefn Glaniwrch, one of a number of similar sites in *Dyffryn Tanat*. Like the Tomen Cefn-côch motte about 4.5km to the west, in the adjacent commote of Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr, Tomen Cefn Glaniwrch is prominently sited, on the edge of the lower hills. There is no evidence of medieval settlement or land-use in the immediate vicinity of either of these two mottes, suggesting that both of them probably had a purely military function.

Key historic landscape characteristics

Uneven, broken landscape of low hills, with a general slope downhill from the north-east to the south-west, and ranging in height from between about 130–330m OD. The area is bounded by upland areas on the north, and east, by the Afon Iwrch on the west and the Lleiriog stream on the south-east. On the east is the distinct valley between the hills followed by the Lleiriog, with areas of flatter ground along the banks of the stream.

Settlement is confined to numerous scattered, large and well-established farms of probable late medieval or early post-medieval origin often set within their own fields and generally up to about 0.6km apart. New fields were probably being actively cleared from woodland and waste during the Tudor period. The demand for land at this time is illustrated by the fact that as late as about 1560 Maurice ap Meredith of Lloran-uchaf, a small estate on the eastern side of the character area, was still continuing the earlier custom of dividing his estate between his eight sons.

A majority of the farms have 17th- to 19th-century stone farmhouses and outbuildings with slate roofs, as at Trewern, Trewern-isaf, Cefn-isaf, Caer-fach, Cefnhirfach, Tyn-y-celyn, Lloran-uchaf and Bronheulog, the farmhouses being rendered or partly rendered in the case of the two latter farms, and with weatherboarding employed on outbuildings at Tyn-y-celyn and Cefnhirfach. There are similar traditional buildings at Trebrys and Trefeilw, (the farmhouse at the latter being rendered), both of which are accompanied by stone-walled gardens and farmyards. Most of the building stone is of locally quarried shale, but a number of buildings, including older outbuildings at Trebrys and parts of some buildings at Lloran-uchaf, for example, are of rounded stones probably resulting from field clearance. A number of early farmhouses have now been completely replaced by modern buildings, as in the case of the modern brick farmhouse at Lloran-ganol and Caemawr. A number of the farmhouses no longer belong to working farms.

Efail-rhyd by contrast is a small nucleated settlement on a road junction along the Llanrhaeadr to Llansilin turnpike road which evidently developed from a corn mill and smithy and represented by a cluster of 18th/19th-century buildings built of quarried stone with some brick dressings, and possibly reused rounded boulders from earlier structures.

The present-day land-use is predominantly pasture though the widespread occurrence of lynchets, especially

on the more sloping ground, indicates that ploughing was much more widely practiced in the past. It is evidently this landscape that was described in the following words by George Borrow in about the mid 19th century:

The valley was beautiful and dotted with various farm-houses, and the land appeared to be in as high a state of cultivation as the soil of my own Norfolk, that county so deservedly celebrated for its agriculture.

Wild Wales, 1862

Medium- to large-sized, semi-irregular fields, bounded by often thick, mature mixed-species hedges, including hazel, ash, hawthorn, maple, and holly with scattered larger oaks, some of which have been traditionally laid in the past. Different phases of enclosure appear to be indicated by the field pattern in some areas, as for example in the Lloran-ganol and Bronheulog area, where various groups of fields are strung out along the contour.

Some former hedges have disappeared, being marked by slight banks, lynchets or spaced lines of trees. Some earlier boundaries have been replaced by post and wire fences though in other instances a number of smaller fields have now been amalgamated, or run into one. This has particularly affected the fields on the areas of flatter ground towards the tops of the hills rather than the more steeply-sloping ground, which have generally remained smaller. Occasional boundaries include glacially rounded boulders, resulting from field clearance. Occasional stone gateposts to field entrances along the public roads and abandoned milkstands at some farm entrances.

Some of the lower-lying areas are poorly drained, and in some instances there is visible evidence of ridging, as in the case of a field next to Pont Maesmochnant. There are also occasional areas of ridge and furrow on higher ground, as for example near Ty-brith.

Small areas of woodland including semi-natural oak woodland and a number of small conifer plantations on steeper ground and rocky outcrops. Scattered taller trees and shrubs elsewhere, along field boundaries and streams.

There is a complex network of lanes, green lanes and footpaths between individual farms. Some of the lanes run in substantial hollow-ways, up to 1–2.5m deep formed by erosion before drainage road metalling were laid, and are therefore evidently of some antiquity. A number of the deeper hollow-ways are partly revetted in stone, as for example near Lloran-ganol, where rounded boulders probably from field clearance have been used. The most major route crossing the area, the public road between Llansilin and Llanrhaeadr, was a turnpike road created in the later 18th century, probably at least in part by the improvement of a pre-existing track, and involving the construction of new stone bridges at Pont Efail-rhyd across the Lleiriog and Pen-bont across the Afon Iwrch.

Sources

Richards 1943–44; 1945–46

Spurgeon 1965–66

William 1986

Key historic landscape management issues

- medieval Tomen Glaniwrch motte, erosion and any potential medieval settlement archaeology in its vicinity, and its visual amenity
- surviving industrial archaeology associated with corn mill at Efail-rhyd, including buildings, leats
- archaeology of public bridges, turnpike roads
- old field boundaries and trackways, particularly that associated with medieval, late medieval and early post-medieval agricultural expansion
- traditional farm buildings

1005

Craig Rhiwarth

Llangynog, Powys

Prominent craggy mountain with prehistoric hillfort, dominating Llangynog.

Historic background

The mountain falls within the medieval ecclesiastical parish of Llangynog, and fell within the ancient commote of Mochnant Uwch Rhacadr, Montgomeryshire.

The hill is crowned by the large prehistoric hillfort also known by the name of Craig Rhiwarth. It is one of two major hillforts within *Dyffryn Tanat* and amongst the highest of such forts in Wales. The hillfort is defended by a single stone rampart and entrance on the northern side of the hill enclosing an area of about 24ha, the remaining three sides being so precipitous that artificial defences are not needed. Little excavation has been undertaken within the hillfort and there is consequently little known about its history.

The interior of the hillfort is unique within the region in containing a large number of circular stone structures. At least some of these appear to represent late prehistoric houses, though it has been suggested that others may be pingos, of periglacial origin. A comparison with other hillforts in the region suggest that the settlement may have begun life in the later Bronze Age period and possibly continuing into the Iron Age. It has been suggested that, possibly like the hillfort at Llanymynech, to the east of the Tanat Valley, that one of the functions of the hillfort may have been to control copper resources — prehistoric mining being possibly represented by early opencuts on the southern side of the hill, just above Llangynog. Like other hillforts in the region, it probably ceased to be maintained as defended settlement following the Roman conquest in the later first century AD, if not earlier. A probable Bronze Age ring cairn is also known on the summit of the hill. Possible medieval or early post-medieval seasonal settlement on and near the summit of the hill seems to be represented by a number of rectangular drystone *hafodydd*.

Key historic landscape characteristics

Prominent mountain with precipitous crags and screes and boulder-strewn slopes on all sides except the north, with numerous rocky outcrops on the summit, the land within the character area falling between about 200–532m OD. It remains common land, and the present-day land-use is almost exclusively rough grazing. Scattered shrubs and small isolated pockets of semi-natural mixed deciduous woodland including oak and birch. The mountain was said to be the haunt of fairies which it was said should be ‘avoided at all costs’, a feature no doubt attributed to its by its dramatic topography, described in Lewis’s *Topographical Dictionary of Wales* as ‘abounding with features of picturesque beauty, and of rugged grandeur’.

Sources

Forde-Johnston 1976

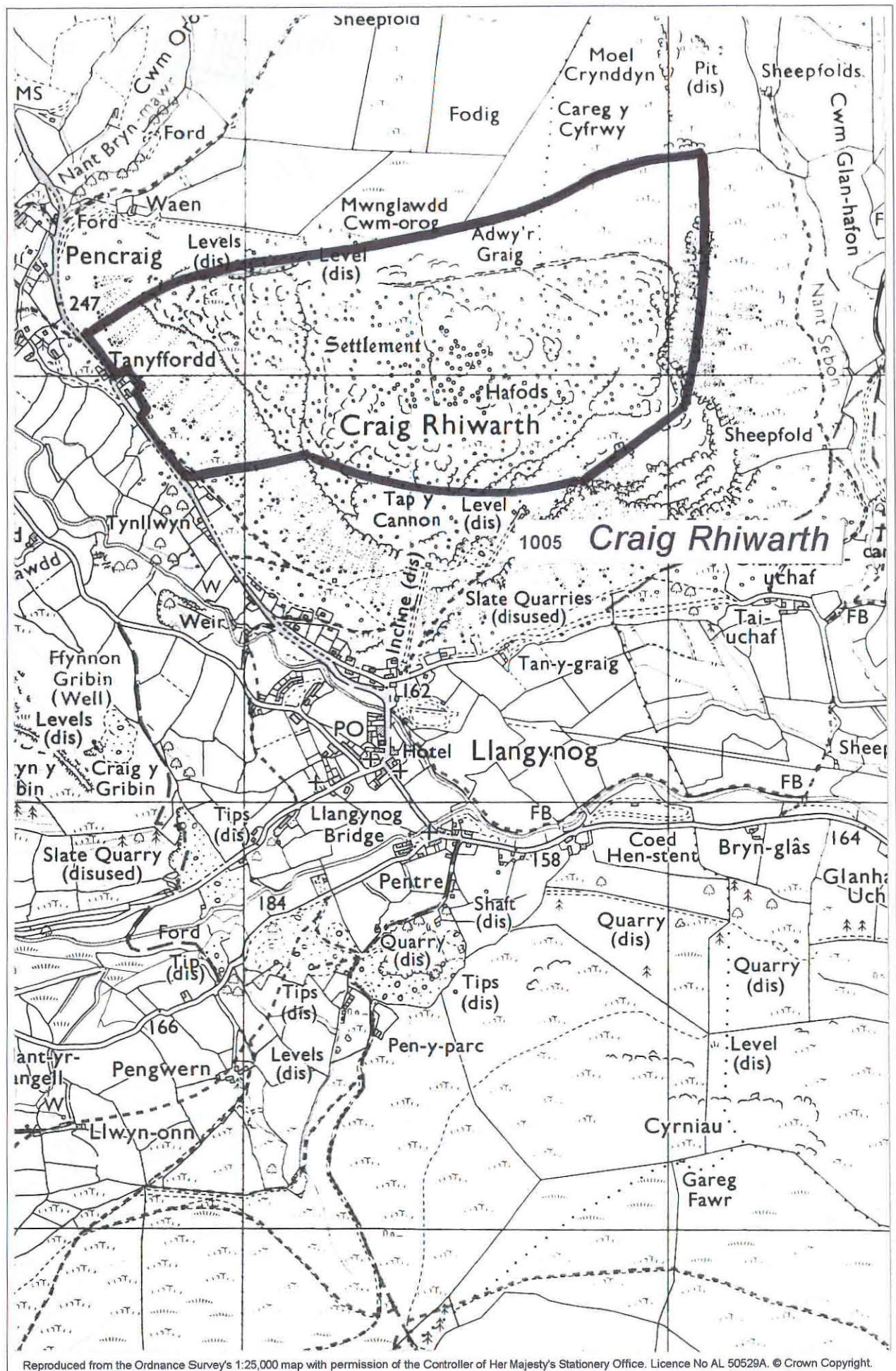
Lewis 1833

Richards 1934

Walters 1993

Key historic landscape management issues

- Craig Rhiwarth hillfort, rampart and associated structures including ring cairn and late medieval or post-medieval *hafodydd*, and the visual amenity
- waterlogged or peaty areas of potential palaeoenvironmental importance



1006

Garthgelynen

Llangynog and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Powys

Closely-spaced, small and medium-sized farms and fields, representing piecemeal expansion and enclosure of lower hill-slopes between the early 16th and 18th centuries.

Historic background

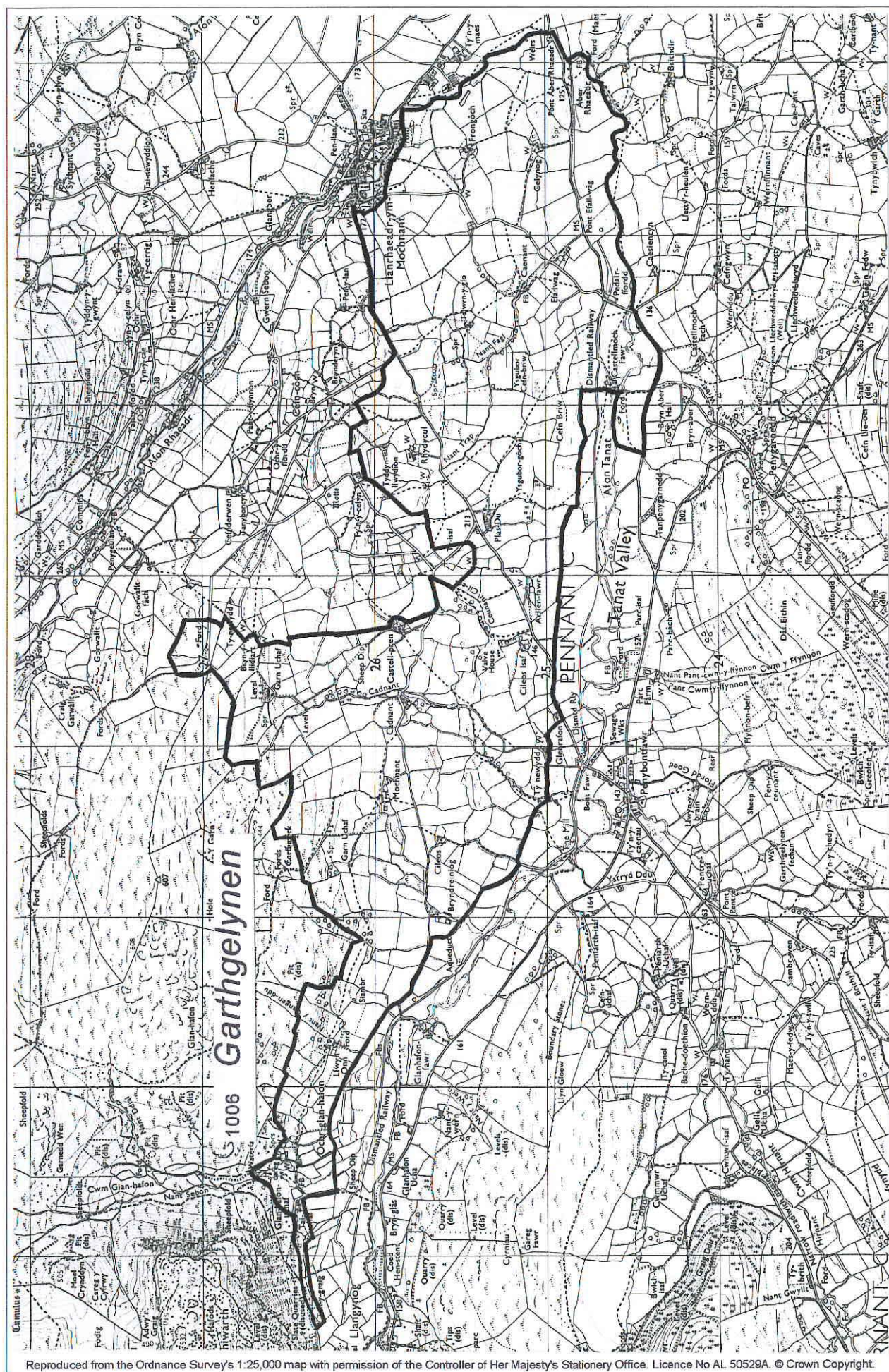
Early activity in the area is represented by the hoard of nine Bronze Age torcs found on Bryndreinog farm in the 19th century. The area lay within the former ecclesiastical parishes of Llangynog, the lower detached portion Pennant Melangell and the Denbighshire portion of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant parish, and administratively fell within the commote of Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr.

Key historic landscape characteristics

The area mostly occupies the lower hill-slopes and flatter ground above the valley bottom on the northern side of the Tanat valley between Llangynog and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, but also includes a stretch of valley-bottom just to the west of Aber Rhaeadr. Broken by occasional steep-sided stream valleys. Predominantly south-facing slopes, between about 130–400m OD.

Reasonably closely-spaced, medium-sized farmsteads, characteristically sited near springs and on the edge of the higher ground, and generally set within their own fields rather than on the public road, with occasional roadside cottages and smallholdings. A significant portion of the farms in the character area have or had cruck-framed hall houses or box-framed timber farmhouses of late 15th- to early 17th-century date, including Tyddyn-llwydion, Cileos-isaf, Tan-y-graig, Trap House and Llwyn-onn, generally subsequently encased in stone, of which many had a secondary use as outbuildings. Sadly, a high proportion of these buildings, including the first three listed here, have disappeared during the later 20th-century. Other farmhouses that have been abandoned and are now in ruins include Siambr. Some of the buildings have been lost due to disrepair and others to as the result of the amalgamation of holdings during the 20th-century. The foundations of timber buildings and the earlier stone buildings tend to be of rounded field-clearance stone, the later 18th-century buildings onwards normally being of quarried stone. Drystone walled farmyard at Llwyn-onn and small walled farmyard and enclosures partly of quarried and partly of field clearance stone at the abandoned farm of Tan-y-graig. 17th to 18th/19th-century stone farmhouses and outbuildings at Arllen-fawr, Plas-Du, Cadnant, Castell-pren, Rhydycul, Glanhafon-uchaf, and Llwyn-onn. Low stone cottage with datestone of 1734 to east of Rhydycul. Late 18th- to early 19th-century century brick farmhouses at Celynog (Clynog) and Efail-wâg, both with stone outbuildings with some weatherboarding, the farmhouses in both instances probably replacing earlier stone-built farmhouses. 19th-century stone farmhouses at Frongôch and Bryndreinog, the latter partly rendered and with brick dressings. Cluster of 18th/19th-century cottages and smallholdings near mouth of Cwm Glan-hafon, to the east of Llangynog.

Irregularly-shaped, small and medium-sized fields predominantly down to pasture, with boundaries generally either along or at right-angles to the contour. Some older, mature, mixed species hedges, including maple, elder, hazel and hawthorn, others single species, hawthorn hedges. Some hedges low-cut, others overgrown, and some evidently formerly laid. Various field boundary changes including some abandoned boundaries represented by slight banks, lynchets or tree stumps or intermittent lines of trees and shrubs. Occasional newly-planted hedges. Scattered larger oaks and sycamores in field boundaries. Lynchets on sloping ground indicating that ploughing was once much more widespread than it is today. Post and wire stockproof fencing is now widespread. Some stone clearance banks up to 2m across and almost 1m high made of rounded glacially-



derived boulders on the shelf of higher ground running westwards from Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant towards Llangynog. In some cases there are larger enclosures defined by clearance banks, subdivided by single-species hawthorn hedges. Some areas with dilapidated drystone walls, as near Castell Pren and Llwyn-onn. Some fields on higher slopes of upland area to the north and north-west have now been abandoned. Small areas of semi natural mixed deciduous woodland on steeper slopes. Interestingly, the farm at Arllen-fawr, which can be traced back to at least the second half of the 16th century, is one of only a small number of instances in the area where a lowland farm can be directly linked to a probable upland summer dwelling known as Hafoty Arllen-fawr on the moorland about 9km to the south-west at a height of 450 metres OD.

Public roads, green lanes and trackways running in hollow-ways evidently, occasionally stone-revetted, particularly on steeper slopes. Some of the hollow-ways are up to 4m deep and are evidently of some antiquity, having been formed in the centuries before the installation of road drainage during the 20th century. Some of the green lanes between farms are now abandoned and overgrown. The now dismantled Tanat Valley Light Railway cuts a distinctive course across the southern side of the area, partly on the flat, partly in a cutting and partly on an embankment and including the site of the former station at Pedairffordd. Occasional surface evidence of the Vyrnwy aqueduct which cuts across the area, including the Cileos Valve House and the deep cutting west of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant.

Sources

Britnell 1994a

Britnell & Suggett forthcoming

Hancock 1877; 1878; 1879

Haslam 1979

Key historic landscape management issues

- traditional farm buildings
- old field boundaries and trackways, particularly that associated with medieval, late medieval and early post-medieval agricultural expansion
- abandoned medieval and later farmsteads
- archaeology of public bridges, turnpike roads and Tanat Valley Light Railway

1007

Cefn-côch

Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Powys

Landscape of cottages and tenements and small fields with stone walls and banks, representing late 18th and early 19th-century encroachment of the commons.

Historic background

The character area falls within the medieval ecclesiastical parishes of Pennant Melangell and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant and lay within the ancient commote of Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr, Montgomeryshire.

The principal archaeological monument in the character area is the probably 12th- to 13th-century Tomen Cefn-côch motte, one of up to four similar sites in *Dyffryn Tanat*. Like the Tomen Cefn Glaniwrch about 4.5km to the east, in the adjacent commote of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr, Tomen Cefn-côch is prominently sited, on the edge of the lower hills, and provides one of the best view points in *Dyffryn Tanat*. There is no evidence of medieval settlement or land-use in the immediate vicinity of either of these two mottes, suggesting that both of them, sited on the edge of the commons, had a purely military function. A number of mining levels of unknown date are recorded in the area of Garn Uchaf, on the western edge of the character area.

Key historic landscape characteristics

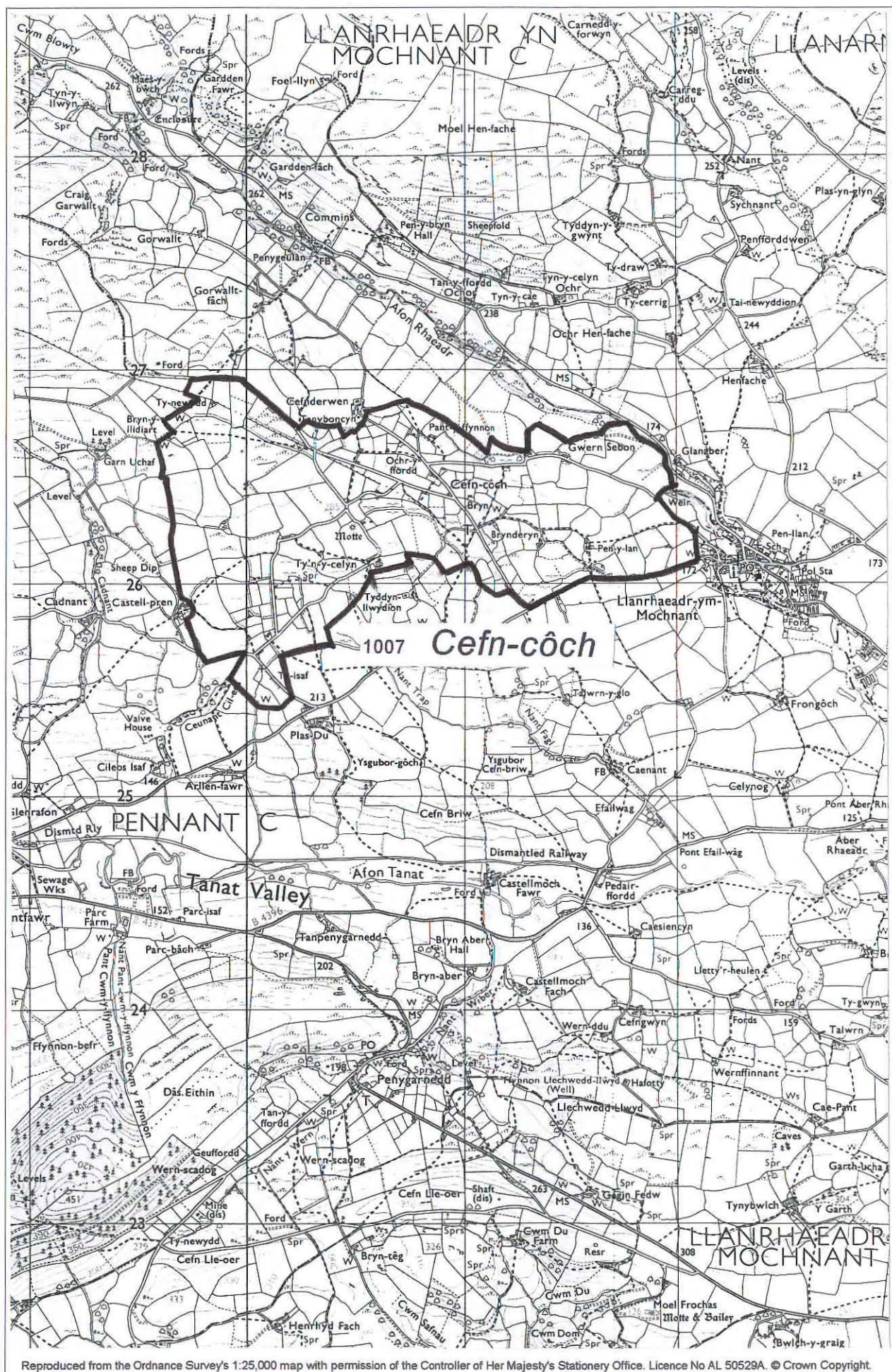
Ground sloping to the north, west and south, with flatter areas on the hilltops, ranging in height from between 210–420m OD, overlooking the valley of the Afon Tanat to the south and the valley of the Afon Rhaeadr to the north.

Settlement consists of scattered late 18th- and early 19th-century small stone cottages and small-holdings with slate roofs. The houses are generally set on or near the roadside, the small-holdings generally only associated with sheds rather than with extensive outbuildings. The houses are mostly built of split rounded boulders probably collected from field clearance from the surrounding fields during the period of colonization. The walls of a number of cottages have been rendered, and some cottages have been subsequently enlarged. A number of the cottages have names of some pretension, including that of Plas Newydd, on the western side of Cefn-côch. Some of the cottages marked on the Tithe have now disappeared.

The predominant present-day land-use is as pasture. Small fields and paddocks defined by either walls and banks and to a lesser extent by hedges. The walls and banks are built of rounded boulders, up to 1m across but generally smaller, resulting from surface clearance probably when the land was first enclosed, probably in the later 18th and earlier 19th century. Surviving hedges are generally of mixed species such as hawthorn, maple and holly, and were formally laid, though some former hedges are now represented by banks and scattered shrubs, occasionally replaced by post and wire fences. Some of the land in the character area with reeds is seasonally waterlogged and consequently there are artificial drainage ditches along some road and field boundaries.

Network of small lanes, unmade-up green lanes and footpaths. Some of the fields are set with regard to the straighter lanes, which consequently appear to represent early tracks across the unenclosed common.

The Elim Calvinist chapel was built on the western side of the character area in 1839 to serve the cottages in the area. The small stone chapel is typical of the chapels built to serve the new dispersed rural settlement that sprang up in *Dyffryn Tanat* during the course of the 19th-century.



Sources

Hancock 1871; 1872; 1873; 1875

Richards 1943–44; 1945–46

Spurgeon 1965–66

Key historic landscape management issues

- medieval Tomen Cefn-côch motte, erosion and any potential medieval settlement archaeology in its vicinity, and its visual amenity
- the archaeology of 19th-century cottage encroachment of commons, including buildings and boundaries, particularly stone banks and drystone walls

1008

Allt Tair Ffynnon

Llangedwyn, Powys

Diverse, steeply-sloping area with north-facing slopes on south side of Dyffryn Tanat, part wooded and part 19th-century enclosure of upland common.

Historic background

The area formed part of the medieval ecclesiastical parishes of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant and Llangedwyn and administratively fell within the ancient commote of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr, Denbighshire. One of the major archaeological sites in the character area is Tomen y Maerdy, one of four possible medieval earthwork castles in Dyffryn Tanat, which lies at the foot of a narrow ravine cut into the side of the hill south of Glantanat-isaf. The *maer* was one of the chief officials within the medieval commote and the association with this official in the place-name suggests that the motte may have been an administrative centre during perhaps the 12th century. The site is hidden from view, however, and has no good farming land in the immediate vicinity and seems unlikely to have provided a suitable nucleus for early settlement, and any administrative function it may ever have had was probably transferred to Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant as this developed as a market town in the 13th century.

Key historic landscape characteristics

Steeply, north-facing slopes on south side of Dyffryn Tanat, between a height of between about 110–310m OD, with rocky outcrops and prominent rock spines on the western slopes of Allt Tair Ffynnon.

Early settlement is represented by the medieval motte at Tomen y Maerdy and by the late medieval cruck-built house at Pen-y-graig. Buildings are otherwise largely limited to a small number of dispersed post-medieval farms on the lower-lying ground to the east and former 19th-century tenements and cottage encroachments on the higher ground. Large, 18th-century brick-built farmhouse replacing an earlier stone farmhouse and outbuildings at Ty-nant, and 19th-century farmhouse at Scrwgan.

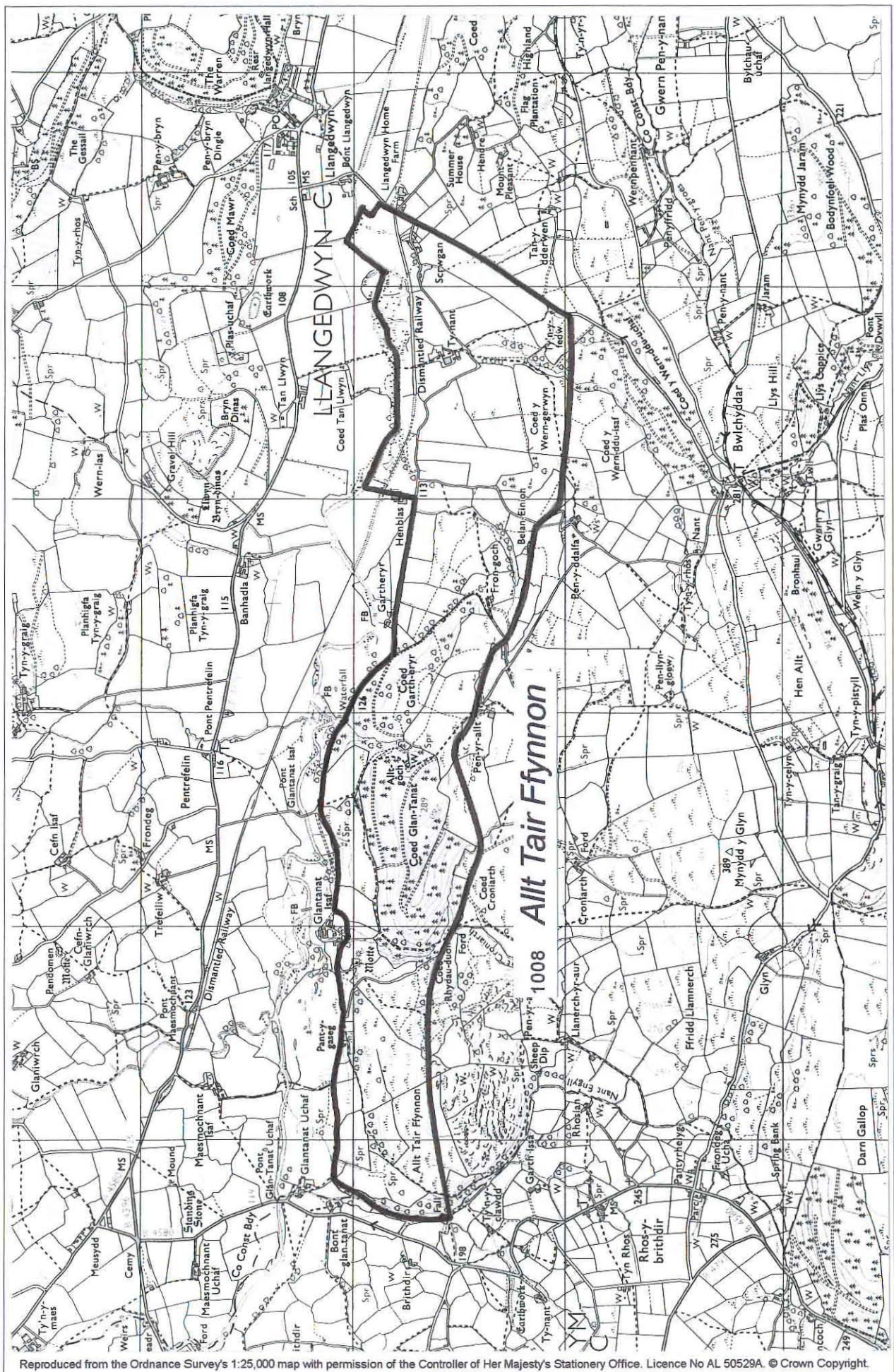
Unimproved grazing with gorse and bracken with some improved areas on Allt Tair Ffynnon and with areas of semi-natural woodland on the lower slopes bordering Nant Engyll, with large irregular enclosures marked by overgrown hedges, now largely replaced by post and wire fences, representing 19th-century enclosure of common grazing. Extensive areas of improved pasture on the gentler north-facing slopes south of Henblas, towards the eastern end of the character area, with large rectilinear fields bounded by intermittent and overgrown hedges with low banks and occasional slight lynchets on steep slopes, again largely representing 19th-century enclosure of common pasture. Extensive areas of semi-natural oak woodland, mixed deciduous and coniferous woodland, and coniferous plantation on steeper at Coed y Wern-gerwyn, Coed Garth-eryr and Coed Glan-Tanat, and semi-natural mixed woodland in steep-sided stream valley south of Ty-nant.

The area is crossed by a number of lanes, trackways and footpaths linking valley bottom farms with mountain top pasture. A number of these run in hollow-ways and are probably of some antiquity.

Sources

Richards 1943–44; 1945–46

Spurgeon 1965–66



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Key historic landscape management issues

- medieval Tomen y Maerdy motte, erosion and any potential medieval settlement archaeology in its vicinity, and its setting
- traditional farm buildings

1009 *Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant*
Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Powys

Small former market town around early medieval clas church, with 18th- and 19th-century stone houses, inns, shops, chapels, and former mills, huddled in narrow valley of the Afon Rhaeadr.

Historic background

The earliest settlement probably developed around the *clas* church at Llanrhaeadr, established by at least the 9th-century. It later became the centre of administration for the cantref of Mochnant within the kingdom of Powys. In the later 12th century the cantref was divided administratively along the Afon Rhaeadr, splitting the village and dividing the ecclesiastical parish into two. The division was to be followed by the later county boundaries, the north bank of the river falling within Denbighshire and the south bank in Montgomeryshire. With the local government reorganization of 1996 the two elements of the settlement were finally reunited in the county of Powys. The Denbighshire portion of the village had become part of the Marcher lordship of Chirkland following the Edwardian conquest of Wales in the later 13th century. The right to hold a market and fairs was granted in 1284, and from this developed the tiny market focused on the open triangle near the church, though because of its relative isolation it remained only of local importance. By the mid 19th century a relatively small and compact settlement had developed particularly on the northern or Denbighshire side of Afon Rhaeadr, by which time corn mills, several inns, shops, chapels, and a market hall had been erected.

Key historic landscape characteristics

Flat and narrow valley bottom, banks of river, and lower steep slopes along valley sides, between about 130–80m OD.

‘The village, though not large, has an urban air’. The existing buildings, including much of the fabric of the medieval church, is predominantly of late 18th- to 19th-century date, including terraced cottages, shops, inn, chapels, vicarage. Large and imposing late 19th-century houses of locally-quarried slate with sandstone dressings, with drives and gates on south-facing slopes along the turnpike road to Pistyll Rhacadr. Mid to late 20th-century houses and housing estates on south-east of earlier, medieval core. Some former shop-fronts redecorated for filming in the 1990s.

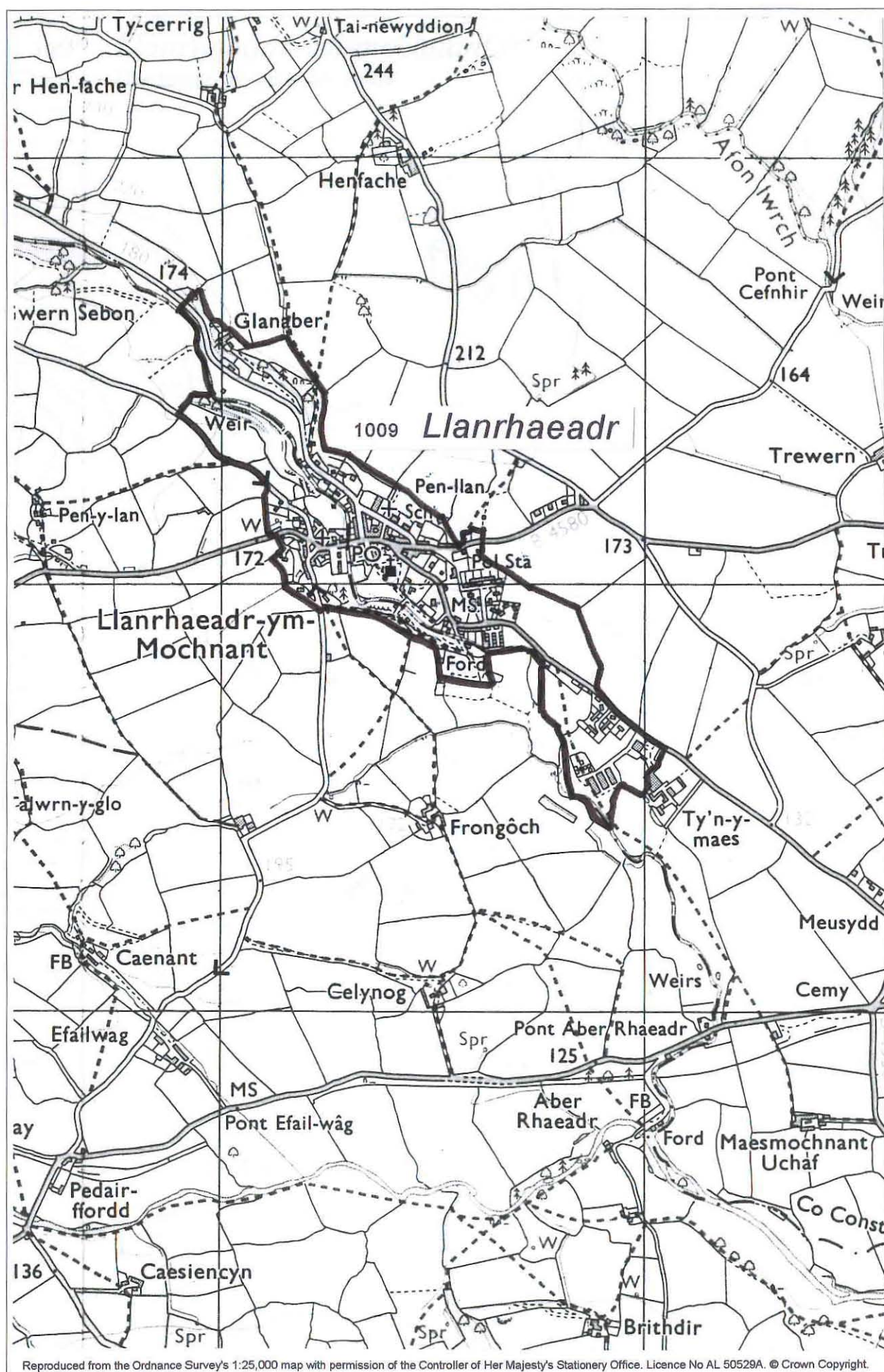
Communications were considerably enhanced during the second half of the 18th-century when turnpike roads were built from Llangedwyn and across the hills from Oswestry, with former toll-booths in the village. Stone bridge of 1770 across the Afon Rhaeadr replacing one washed away in a flood.

Sources

Evans 1986
Hancock 1871; 1872; 1873; 1875
Haslam 1986
Pratt 1985; 1990
Richards 1969
Silvester 1995

Key historic landscape management issues

- archaeology of the early church and market town
- archaeology of public bridges, turnpike roads, mills
- later buildings both for individual and group value



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1010

Llangynog

Llangynog, Powys

Medieval church site, mining village with 18th/19th-century cottages, inn and chapels, associated with lead mining, slate quarrying and roadstone industries.

Historic background

Early activity is represented by a Bronze Age bronze axe found in the 19th century. The area lay within the medieval ecclesiastical parish of Llangynog and in the ancient commote of Llanrhaeadr Uwch Rhaeadr, Montgomeryshire. The church, dedicated to St Cynog, is first recorded in the 13th century but as in the case of a number of other medieval churches in *Dyffryn Tanat* there is any clear evidence of the nature or form of a nucleated settlement that it might have been associated.

The history of the settlement effectively begins with the development of the lead mines which witnessed a rapid rise early in the 18th century, followed by a long decline to the end of the 19th century. Production reached its peak during the first half of the 18th century, much earlier than many of the other famous mines of mid Wales, and at one time ranked as the most productive lead mines in the region. Probable evidence of early mining activity of prehistoric, Roman or medieval date is represented by early workings (opencuts and stopes) on the south side of Craig Rhiwarth above Llangynog.

Tourism is now an important industry and there is a caravan park just to the east of the village.

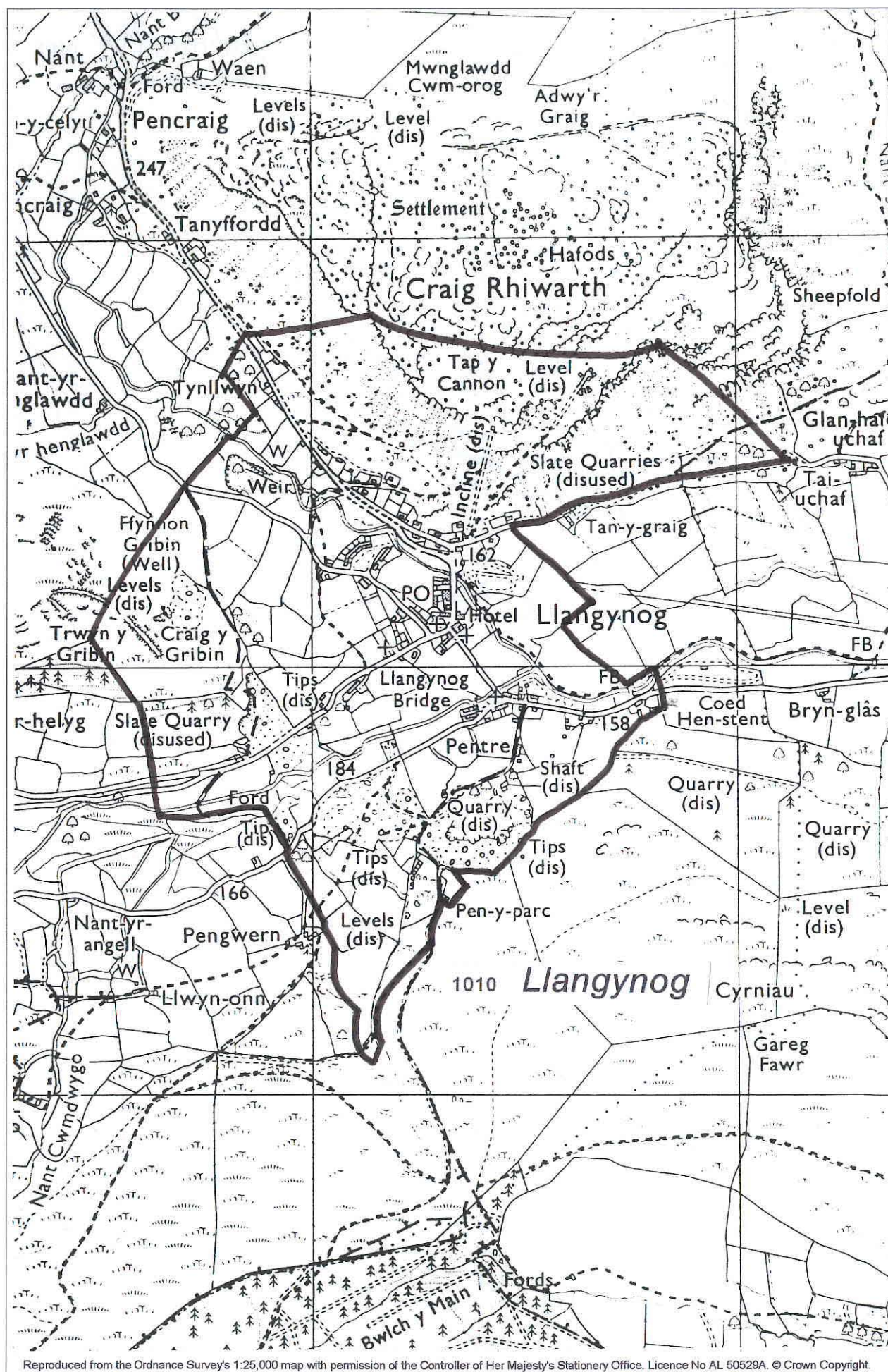
Key historic landscape characteristics

The character area includes the valley-bottom and valley sides at the junction of the Tanat valley with Cwm Pennant, Cwm Rhiwarth, and the southern slopes of Craig Rhiwarth, and ranges in height from between about 160m at Llangynog to a height of about 450m north of Craig Rhiwarth.

The nucleus of the village around the church and across the river at Pentre includes 18th/19th-century terraced cottages, 19th chapels, the New Inn of 1751, 19th-century school and church rebuilt in 1791–92 and greatly renovated in 1894, with mid and later 20th-century housing estates on west side and miners' cottages with small walled gardens on the hillside to the north-west, strung out along the road to Bala.

Problems of communication continually beset the early development of extractive industries though this was to some extent improved by the construction of the turnpike roads through the valley and across the hills to Bala in the second half of the 18th-century. The opening of the terminus of the Tanat Valley Light Railway at Llangynog in 1904 came too late to revitalize the local mineral industry, but gave some stimulus to the quarrying industry, however, including mining at Llangynog for barytes in 1916, and slate quarrying. The increasing use of road transport in the 1940s and 1950s eventually led to the demise of the railway, the terminus at Llanrhaeadr eventually closing in 1951.

Important and in some instances well-preserved remains of the extraction and processing of lead ore at Llangynog survive on the south side of the village, much destroyed by later stone quarrying. Most of the ores from the mined in the Llangynog district were smelted outside the valley, at either Pool Quay where a smelter was built by the earl of Powis in 1706, or Benthall, Coalbrookdale, and later to Minera, although a smelter was in operation on a smaller scale at Llangynog itself in the 1750s. Production declined dramatically during the second half of the 18th century, though small-scale working continued intermittently until 1912.



Significant remains of slate quarrying survive on the side of the hills to the west of the village and again on the southern slopes of Craig Rhiwarth to the north of the village. Slate quarrying appears to have begun in the late 16th-century, thrived during the later 18th-century and declined towards the end of the 19th century, finally ceasing in 1941. Stone quarrying probably began at Llangynog from the late 16th. Quarrying for roadstone began on a more commercial scale began at a number of sites in the immediate neighbourhood of Llangynog in about 1910 with the impetus of the Tanat Valley Light Railway, declining during the 1930s and eventually ceasing production in the 1950s.

Sources

Haslam 1979

Silvester 1992

Walters 1993

Williams 1985

Wren 1968

Key historic landscape management issues

- the medieval church and any early nucleated settlement in its vicinity
- the lead mining and slate industry of all periods
- the development of the 18th/19th-century mining village and its setting
- public bridges, turnpike roads and Tanat Valley Light Railway

1011 *Cwm Pennant*
Llangynog, Powys

Remote and isolated, deeply glaciated valley with clustered small farms with small enclosed fields on lower slopes and valley bottom, medieval church and legendary associations with St Melangell, abandoned farms.

Historic background

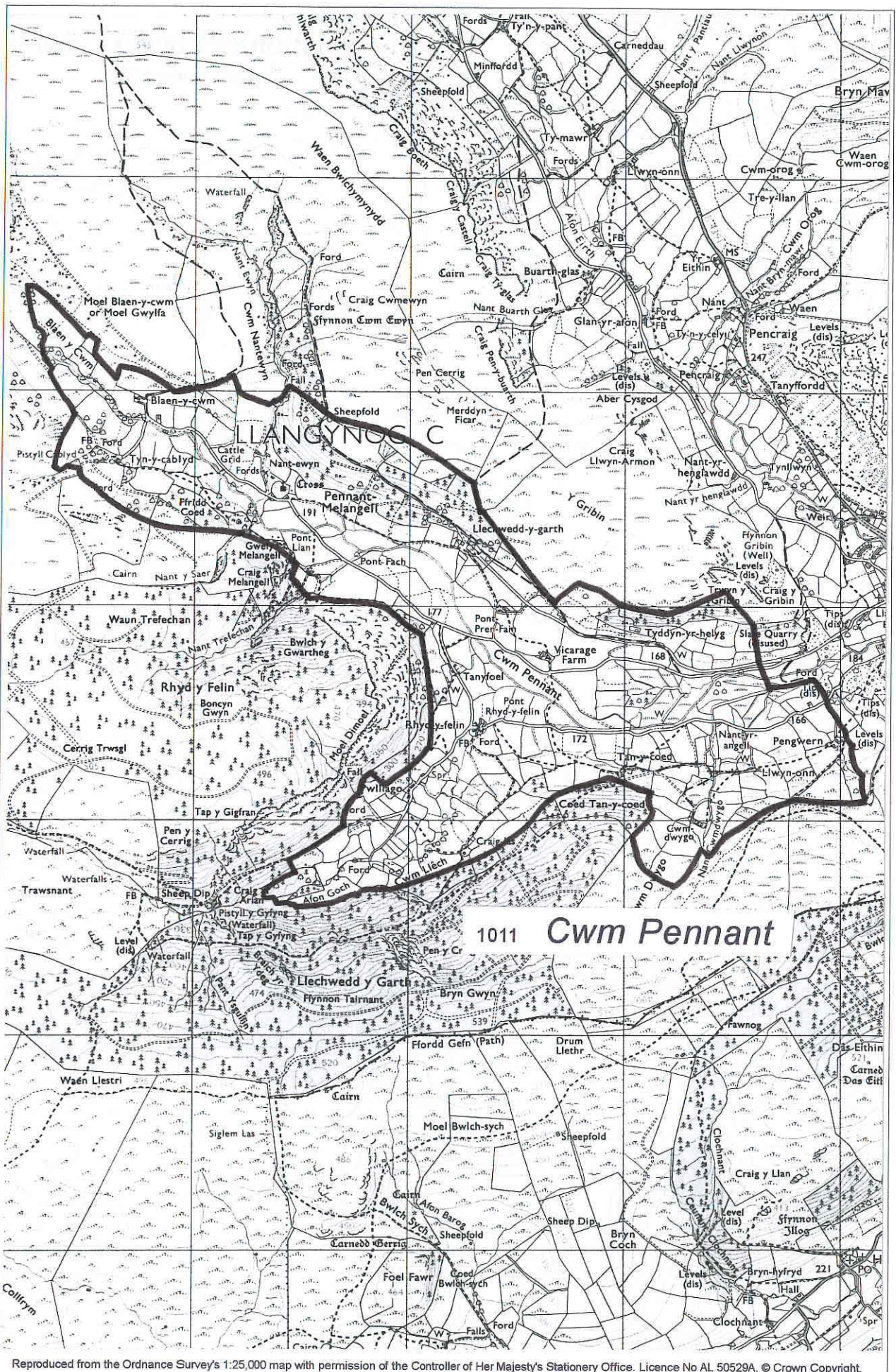
The area fell within the upper portion of the medieval ecclesiastical parish of Pennant Melangell, and fell administratively within the ancient commote of Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr. The medieval church at Pennant Melangell, towards the head of the valley, is first recorded in the mid thirteenth century but is possibly on a Christian site established by about the 8th century on the basis of the legendary associations with Melangell. Archaeological excavations have shown that the church overlies a middle Bronze Age cremation cemetery, dating the period about 1200 BC, which suggests some form of continuity from or reuse of a pre-existing pagan burial ground. As yet, there is no clear evidence of whether the medieval church lay at the focus of a nucleated settlement or whether it was isolated in the landscape. The church had become an important centre for pilgrims visiting the shrine of Melangell from the 12th century, until the suppression of the cult at the time of the Reformation, in the mid 16th century.

Key historic landscape characteristics

Deep, glaciated Cwm Pennant, valley of the Afon Tanat, together with the even narrower Cwm Llêch, valley of the Afon Goch each with precipitous sides and each terminating in a waterfall, the valley floor lying between about 180–220m OD. The floor of each valley is about 300–400m across, yet up to about 300m below the tops of the surrounding hills, which has the effect of isolating them from each other and from the rest of the world. The enclosed land is predominantly either flat and poorly drained land on the valley-bottom or generally better-drained, sloping and steeply sloping land on the lower sides of the valley, the sides of the valleys tending to become steeper higher up. Rock outcrops and screes on sides of valleys, notably on Moel Dimoel. Rivers and streams embanked with pebbles, their beds often raised above the surrounding level.

Present-day settlement comprises a number of medium-sized scattered working farms and other cottages, including a number of holiday homes. Possibly older farms appear to have been on the principal routes lower down in the valley, with later farms set in their own fields higher up. Of the farms, Graig-lâs has an 18th-century farmhouse and outbuildings, Tan-y-coed has an 18th-century stone farmhouse with remnants of earlier outbuildings, and Rhyd y Felin, Pwll Iago and Blaen-y-cwm have 18th-century stone outbuildings with modern farmhouses, the now ruinous 18th-century stone farmhouse surviving at the latter. Pengwern and Tanyfoel have late 18th to early 19th-century stone farmhouses and outbuildings. 18th-century stone cottage and attached sheds of tenement at Nant-yr-angell. Deserted 17th/18th-century farms with stone farmhouses and outbuildings at Llwyn Onn, Ty Ucha, Ty Issa Cwmllech, Nant y Gwern, Ty'n-y-cabld. Deserted and ruinous 18th-century or earlier cottage near church and to the east of Rhyd-y-felin. Large 17th/18th-century stone house with drive and gardens at Llechwedd-y-garth. The traditional stone buildings are largely of locally-quarried slate and shale though in some instances houses and barns have foundations of rounded boulders derived from field clearance, suggesting that some may once have been cruck-built or timber-framed buildings, subsequently converted to stone. Barns with weatherboarding at Pwll Iago and Tanyfoel. Elements of late medieval cruck-framed houses have been recorded at Trefechan and Ty'n-y-cabld, and there was once a timber-framed house at Ty Ucha, rebuilt in stone with a datestone of 1665. Occasional holiday caravans.

Land-use now predominantly pasture, but there are numerous deep lynchets especially on the sloping fields on



the sides of the valley which indicating that ploughing for arable was much more widely practiced in the past. Small fields with boundaries tending to be either up and down the slope (sometimes alongside fast-flowing streams) or set out along the contour, with some older curving and irregular boundaries indicate a sequence of early, probably medieval enclosure in some areas. Field names, patterns and 19th-century ownership patterns suggest areas of relict medieval open field in several areas, including a distinctive pattern of strip fields to the south of Pwll Iago. Elsewhere, the present-day field pattern is probably of 16th to 18th-century in date. Fields on valley sides generally have stony clearance banks up to about 1m high, with mixed-species hedges including birch, oak, maple, ash and hawthorn. Roadside hedges are low cut, other hedges generally overgrown. Many hedges were formerly laid and a few have been laid recently. Damp, low-lying reedy valley-bottom meadows characteristically with overgrown willow or alder hedges. Occasional dilapidated drystone walls along lower field boundaries or alongside roads or tracks. Traces of early boundaries made of upright slate slabs near Ty Ucha. Taller alders and alder groves lining watercourses. Small areas of semi-natural oak and birch woodland on some steeper slopes. Small conifer plantations on higher slopes, with more extensive coniferous forestry on the hilltops above. Extensive area of abandoned fields on the south-facing hillside above Llechwedd-y-garth, included in the Hafod Hir character area.

The modern winding roads follow ancient tracks running in hollow-ways here and there. Modern road bridges across rivers and culverts for streams though in some instances these appear to have more ancient abutments, the name of Pont Pren Fain indicating a former narrow wooden bridge.

The farm name Rhyd-y-felin indicates a former mill, of which there is no surviving evidence.

The valley is associated in legend with Melangell, the patron saint of Pennant church, whose legend, possibly based on medieval oral tradition, but first known from a late 16th-century text, alludes to its remoteness from the world. Like Cwm Blowty, the valley is also associated with the exploits of the giant known as *Cawr Berwyn*, especially the prominent rocky hill known as Moel Dimoel on the southern side of the valley.

Sources

Britnell 1994a; 1994b
 Evans 1994
 Hancock 1877; 1878; 1879
 Lloyd 1934
 Pryce 1994
 Richards 1934a; 1934b
 Sylvester 1992

Key historic landscape management issues

- the medieval church and any early nucleated settlement in its vicinity
- holy well
- early bridges, hollow-ways and trackways
- medieval and later farms and farmsteads
- medieval field systems
- waterlogged or peaty areas of potential palaeoenvironmental importance
- old field boundaries and trackways, particularly that associated with medieval, late medieval and early post-medieval agricultural expansion
- traditional farm buildings

1012

Cwm Blowty

Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Powys

Remote and isolated, deeply glaciated valley with clustered small farms, some abandoned, with small enclosed fields on lower slopes and valley bottom, dramatic waterfall, associations with the giant Cawr Berwyn.

Historic background

Part of the valley fell within the Denbighshire portion of the medieval ecclesiastical parish of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, but the township of Cwm Blowty formed a detached portion of the parish of Pennant Melangell, Montgomeryshire. Administratively, it lay within the commote of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr, Denbighshire. Gwernfeifod, a farm at a height of about 380m OD in Cwm-ffynnon, branching from the northern side of Cwm Blowty, was formerly a medieval grange belonging to Valle Crucis Abbey. Significantly, perhaps, the farm includes St Dogfan's well, the holy well dedicated to the patron saint of the parish church at Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, in whose parish it lay. The name of the farm includes the place-name element *meifod* (May dwelling) suggesting that at an earlier period it was a summer dwelling.

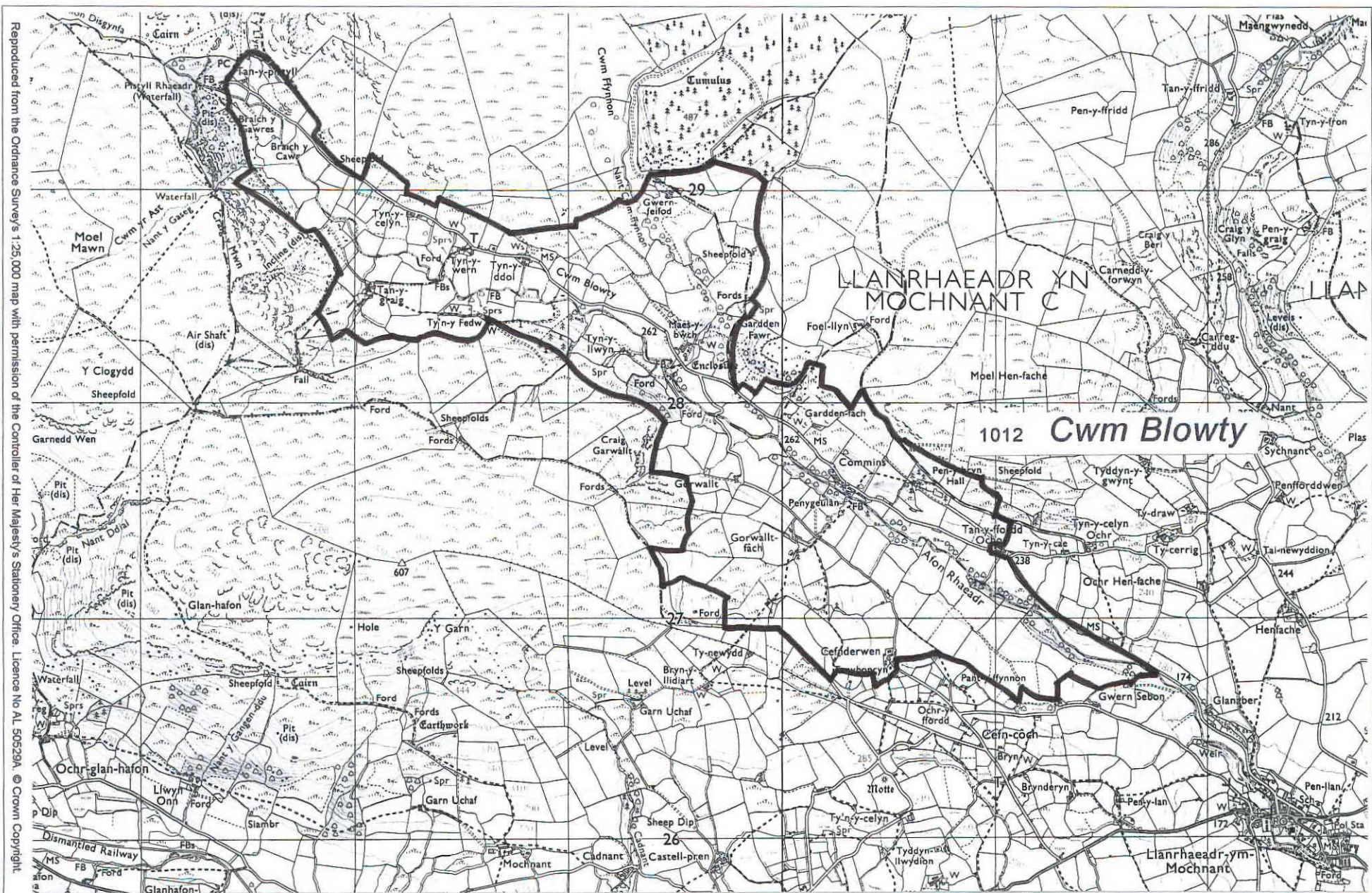
Key historic landscape characteristics

Deeply glaciated valley with the Afon Rhaeadr running along its floor, extending in an unbroken line for about 6km to the north-west of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant. The valley is narrow and constricted at its mouth, just outside Llanrhaeadr, its floor broadening to about 400m across towards the head of the valley. The valley floor rises from a height of about 170m OD near Llanrhaeadr to about 300m near the foot of the waterfall, the hills around the edge of the valley rising precipitously to a height of over 500m OD. Some poorly-drained areas on valley bottom.

Clustered small and medium-sized farms generally on the lower sides of the valley bottom, often near the roadside, including the 17th/19th-century stone farmhouse and outbuildings at Cefnderwen, 17th/18th-century complex of farmhouse and outbuildings at Maes-y-bwch, the farmhouse now dilapidated and replaced by a modern brick farmhouse, 18th-century stone farmhouse and outbuildings at Tyn-y-ddol and Gorwallt, Tyn-y-wern, Tan-y-graig and Tyn-y-celyn. A number of the more less accessible farms on sloping ground on the southern side of the valley are now deserted, including Tyn-y-llwyn, and abandoned cottage at Gardden-fâch on the northern side of the valley. Cluster of late 18th- to early 19th-century cottage encroachments on former common land in the narrow and steep-sided portion of the valley at Commins, the buildings being of quarried as well as rounded boulders, with Carmel chapel built in 1836 and rebuilt in 1861, now converted to house.

Present-day land-use is exclusively pasture. Some mixed-species roadside hedges, with evidence of former traditional hedgelaying. Occasional, roughly-hewn stone gateposts on some field entrances. On the gentler slopes on the south-east side of the valley are medium-sized rectilinear fields and some earlier fields with curving boundaries defined by stone banks and drystone walls up to 1.5m across and 1m high formed from stone clearance, many of which are now dilapidated, probably representing 17th/18th-century enclosure. Some of the banks and walls support low-cut hedges, overgrown hedges or either intermittent trees and shrubs and in some instances. In some cases here and on the northern side, towards the head of the valley, larger enclosures defined by stone clearance banks have been subdivided by single-species (hawthorn) hedges without banks. Clearance cairns of uncertain date on sloping ground in some stonier areas. Relict field banks in some instances where several fields have been run into one.

Small, irregular fields with drystone walls of probable medieval and late medieval fields date on the valley



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floor and sides in the area from the west of Commins to the head of the valley, some with lynchets indicating former intensive ploughing. The walls, some of which are dilapidated, are of rounded boulders and derived from the clearance of stone in the valley bottom. Several upright slate slab walls towards head of valley. The flatter areas of farmland and field-names including the element *maes* in the neighbourhood of Maes-y-bwch farms suggest the presence of former areas of medieval open arable sharelands in this area.

Numerous sheepfolds towards the margins of the enclosed land. Access to the surrounding upland grazing is principally up the stream courses at the head of the valley and along a number of other lateral stream valleys including Cwm-ffynnon north of Maes-y-bwch. A modern upland access road zigzagging across the hillside west of Tan-y-graig follows the course of a probably more ancient route partly represented by a braided trackway.

Areas of semi-natural mixed deciduous and oak woodland on steeper slopes along the valley sides and in Cwm-ffynnon, with stands of alders along stream banks and along the banks of the Afon Rhaeadr. Small coniferous plantations and scattered larger trees.

Ornamental conifers and box shrubs around Pen-y-bryn Hall and its drive, high on the north side of the valley.

The valley is most famous for Pistyll Rhaeadr, the impressive waterfall at the head of the valley and one of the attractions on the itinerary of visitors to North Wales since the later 18th century. The road along the valley was a turnpike built to assist tourists at this time, its construction involving the erection of the single-arched stone bridge across Nant Cwm-ffynnon at Maes-y-bwch. The public road is generally scarped into the slope, and is revetted in places by rounded boulders. Gravestone-shaped slate milestones on northern side of road erected by Wrexham District, Denbighshire County Council in 1903. The three enormous boulders at the foot of the waterfall are associated with the legend of the giant *Cawr Berwyn*, his wife and his maid.

Sources

Britnell 1994a

Evans 1994

Hancock 1871; 1872; 1873; 1875

Haslam 1979

Richards 1934b

Williams 1990

Key historic landscape management issues

- medieval grange
- holy well
- medieval and later farms and farmsteads
- medieval field systems
- old field boundaries, lynchets and trackways, particularly that associated with medieval, late medieval and early post-medieval agricultural expansion
- traditional farm buildings
- 19th-century cottage encroachment of commons
- bridges, turnpike roads, milestones

1013

Cwm Rhiwarth

Llangynog, Powys

Remote and isolated, deeply glaciated valley with clustered small farms with small enclosed fields on lower slopes and valley bottom.

Historic background

The character area falls within the medieval ecclesiastical parishes of Llangynog and formerly lay within the ancient commote of Mochnant Uwch Rhacadr, Montgomeryshire.

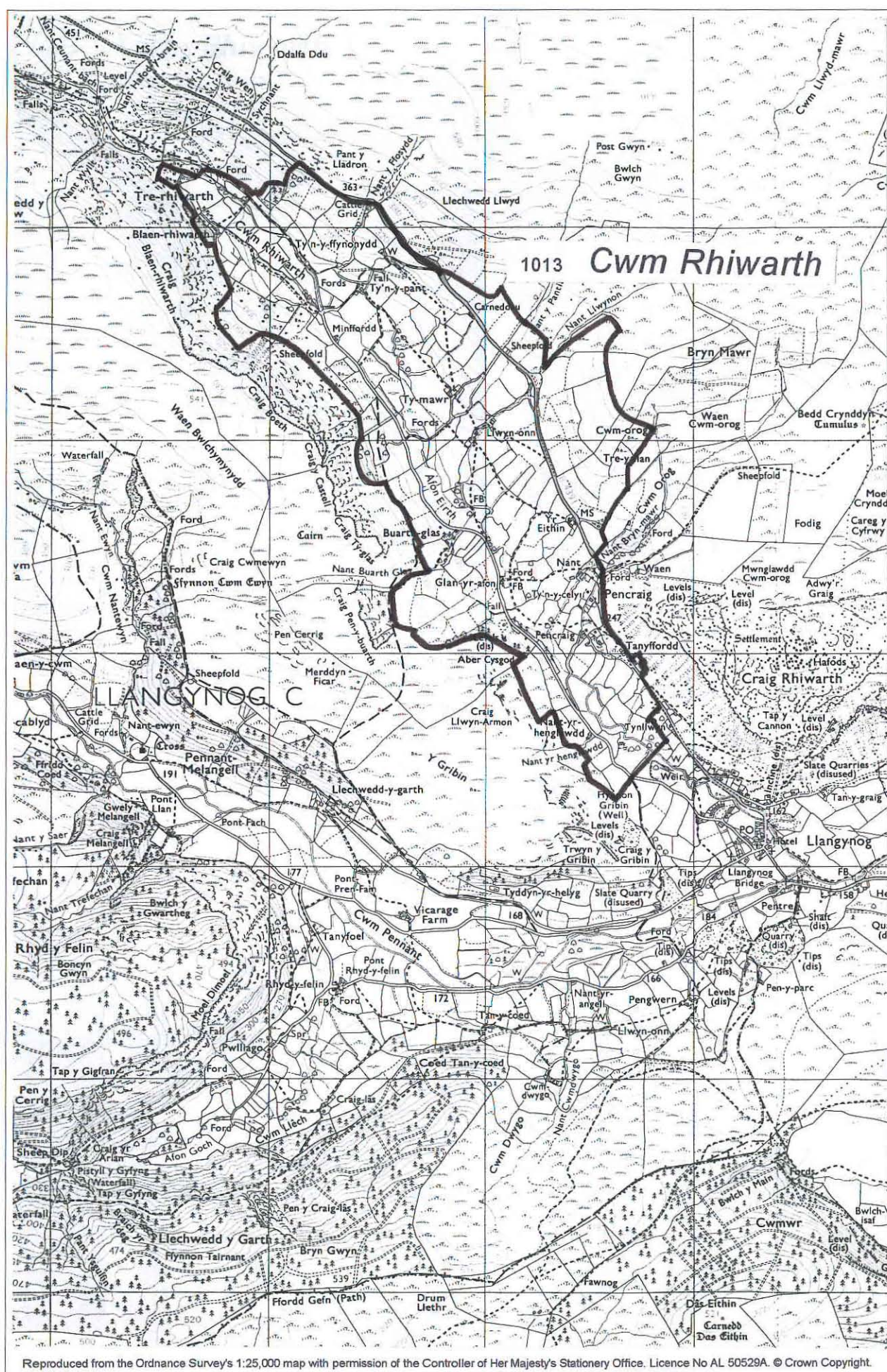
Key historic landscape characteristics

Gently sloping and flatter land on the lower valley sides and along the banks of the Afon Eirth, between about 205–350m OD, enclosed by the steep and dramatic crags and screes on the higher sides of the valley, particularly on its western side. The valley is constricted just to the west of Llangynog, lower ground being less than 0.5km wide here, with slopes of mixed woodland including birch, willow and maple. Further to the north-west the valley broadens out to between 0.8–1km across, before narrowing to between 0.3–0.4km across towards the head of the valley. Steeply wooded erosion scarps intermittently along river edge. Braided river course and intermittent waterlogged areas with rushes in places, the river-bed being raised and embanked by boulder banks in places. Dry, seasonal stream-beds, towards head of valley. Numerous fast-running streams and ravines, cutting across the contour.

Fairly dense scatter of small farms and cottages, appearing to form several distinct clusters at various points along the valley and often set alongside streams. Relatively small 18th/19th-century farmhouses and outbuildings of local stone, some with stone-walled yards at Pencraig (with attached barn), Nant, Glan-yr-afon, Eithin, Llwyn-onn, Ty'n-y-ffynonydd and Tre-rhiwarth, most of which are still working farms, the farmhouses at Buarth-glas and Ty'n-y-pant being rendered. Rebuilt, ?late 19th-century farmhouse at Ty-mawr. Deserted 18th-century farmhouses and outbuildings at Nant-yr-henglawdd, Tyn-y-celyn (with ruinous barn attached). Scattered holiday caravans.

Small, gently sloping and flat fields, now mostly pasture, with boundaries predominantly either along the contour or up and down the slope. Lynchets along field boundaries on steeper ground indicate areas more frequently ploughed in the past. Some fields with low field-clearance banks and often over-grown hedges, with spaced trees and larger shrubs, and now supplemented by stockproof post and wire fencing. Drystone wall boundaries, as in the Pencraig and Tre-rhiwarth areas where abundant stone available from surface clearance and screes. Occasional boundaries of upright slate slabs in the area of Tre-rhiwarth, at the head of the valley.

Some clusters of small strip fields, notably between Buarth-glas and Glan-yr-afon (where field boundaries have been recently levelled) seem to be rare survivals of medieval open arable fields. Other larger enclosures appear to represent late medieval and early post-medieval enclosed pasture, including some larger parcels defined by stone walls and clearance banks, subsequently subdivided by single-species, hawthorn hedges, now often overgrown. Mixed-species roadside hedges, including sycamore, ash, hazel, blackthorn and hawthorn, with some former and some recent, grant-aided, hedge-laying on roadside and other hedges. Rough-hewn stone slab roadside field gateposts. Small remnant areas of semi-natural oak woodland on steeper rocky slopes and outcrops and blackthorn scrub on some wasteland areas, and small conifer plantations on steeper slopes. Stands of alder and willow along the river and stream banks and watercourses.



The more ancient routes in the valley is the narrow winding lane linking the farms along the western side of the valley and the network of footpaths and green-lanes linking farms on the eastern side of the valley, the main road on the eastern side being the turnpike road between Llangynog and Bala, constructed in the late 18th century. These older lanes run in hollow-ways or terraces cut into the side of the hill, the sides of which are revetted in stone in places, some of the un-made up lanes also acting as seasonal streams. Communication between farms on either side of the valley was originally by fords though there are now a number of modern farm bridges and timber footbridges. A low bridge of flat stone slabs survives across one of the watercourses south-east of Tre-rhiwarth. The sides of the valley are generally so steep that communication with the surrounding hill land is restricted to a number of paths along the larger stream valleys along the sides and at the head of the valley. Carefully-designed 18th-century turnpike road from Llangynog to Bala, terraced into slope, revetted with drystone walling.

Key historic landscape management issues

- medieval and later farms and farmsteads
- medieval field systems
- old field boundaries and lynchets, particularly that associated with medieval, late medieval and early post-medieval agricultural expansion, including drystone walls
- stone slab bridges, hollow-ways and trackways
- traditional farm buildings
- turnpike roads
- waterlogged or peaty areas of potential palaeoenvironmental importance
- sheepfolds

1014

Waen Llestri

Llangynog, Powys

Forestry plantation on upper valley edge and upland to south and west of Cwm Pennant, with mining reservoir and leats.

Historic background

The area formerly formed part of the upland commons of the medieval parish of Pennant Melangell, and fell within the commote of Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr.

Key historic landscape characteristics

Broken upland landscape and steep upper valley sides, with crags and rocky outcrops, between a height of about 250–560m OD. Predominantly north and east-facing slopes. Boggy areas.

Extensive modern conifer plantation covers most of the area, overlying former upland commons and rough grazing of the farms in Pennant Melangell parish. A number of footpaths and forestry roads lie on earlier trackways, particularly up the head of Cwm Llêch and the valley of Nant Trefechan, overlie earlier routes between lowland farms and areas of upland summer grazing, with sheepfolds, some now overlain by forestry.

The lower margins of the forestry above Cwm Llêch and Cwm Pennant overlies a number of abandoned fields, some with field banks and lynchets, of late medieval to 18th-century date. Pre-afforestation boundaries on the uplands above the valley edge represent 19th-century partitioning of the upland common, the boundaries being principally of post and wire.

Scattered disused trials and levels in the forestry. The unplanted area on the western side of the character area surrounds Llyn y Mynydd, a reservoir with a substantial stone and earth dam constructed at great cost in the 1860s, together with an extensive system of leats, to provide water-power for the South Llangynog mine, about 4km to the east.

Moel Dimoel and the head of Cwm Llêch have legendary associations with the exploits of the giant *Cawr Berwyn* and the *Gwylliaid Cochion*, a legendary, 15th- and 16th-century band of brigands.

Sources

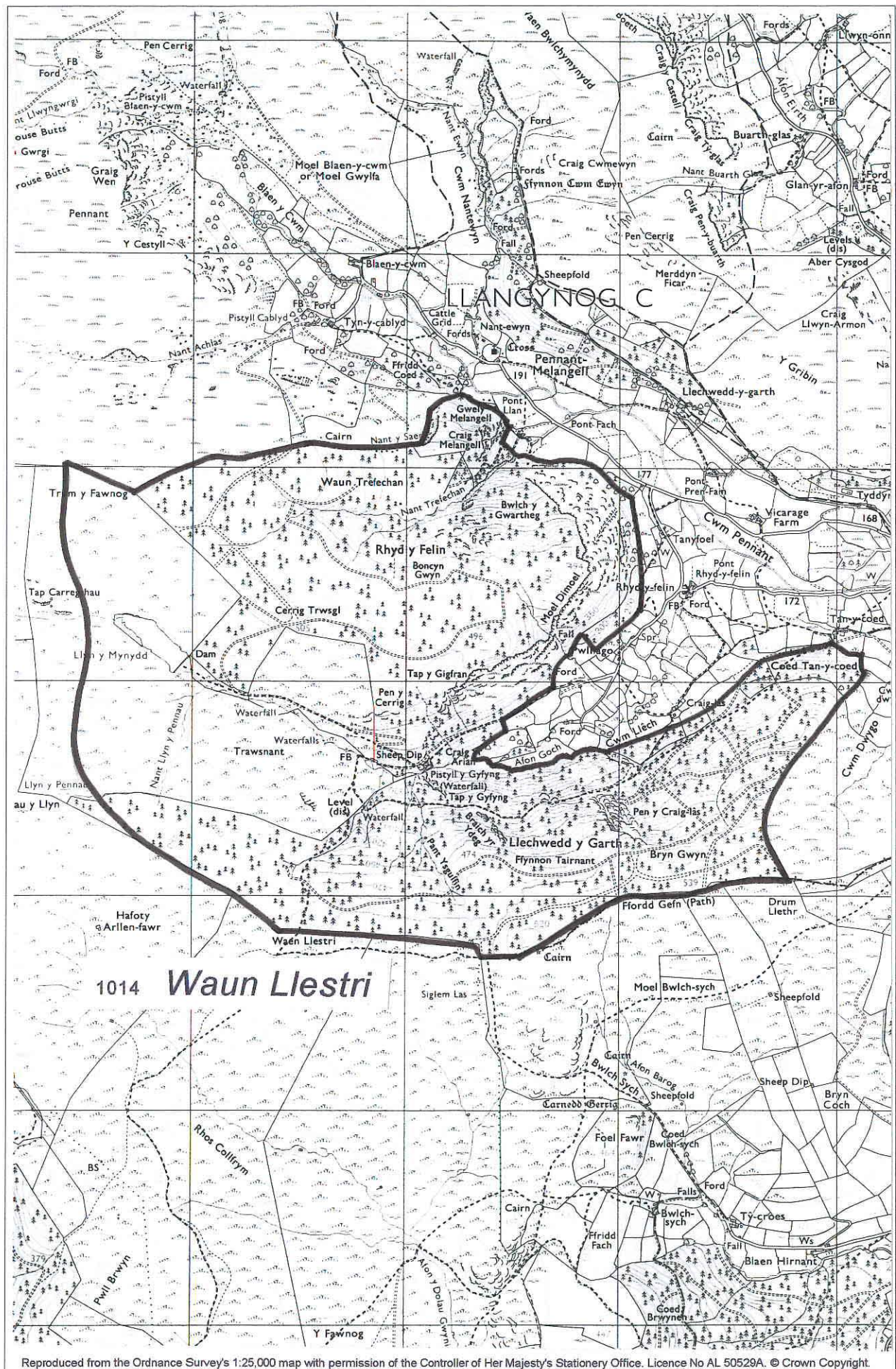
Walters 1993

Williams 1985

Wren 1968

Key historic landscape management issues

- old field boundaries
- 19th-century mining reservoir and leats
- waterlogged or peaty areas of potential palaeoenvironmental importance
- sheepfolds
- mining trials and levels



1015 *Hafod Hir*
Llangynog, Powys

Steep slopes and crags and rocky hilltops above and between Cwm Pennant and Cwm Rhiwarth, with abandoned fields on lower slopes and flatter land higher up, 19th-century partitioning of upland commons, sheepfolds.

Historic background

The area formed part of the upland commons of the medieval ecclesiastical parishes of the Llangynog and the upper portion of Pennant Melangell, which were merged in the 19th century. It fell within the commote of Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr, Montgomeryshire. The precise boundaries between these two boundaries are not fully recorded but probably ran along the axial mountain wall running along the summit of the ridge between Cwm Pennant and Cwm Rhiwarth, along Waen Bwlchymynydd.

Key historic landscape characteristics

Dramatic spines of upland between deeply glaciated valleys, together with steep upper sides of valleys with crags and screes in places, between a height of between about 250–580m OD.

Present-day land-use is predominantly rough upland grazing, with extensive bracken. Stone sheepfolds towards the summit of the hill and on the trackways leading up from the lowland farms, particularly up Cwm Nantewyn near the head of Cwm Pennant and the stream valleys at the head of Cwm Rhiwarth. Some sheepfolds are probably of early date, the one at the top of the hill-slope overlooking Cwm Pennant at Merddyn Ficar (vicar's ruin) is first mentioned in a church terrier of 1772 when a stone structure at the site was already ruinous. It lies at the top of a remarkable, extensive area of bracken abandoned fields and scattered long-huts on the south-facing slopes of Cwm Pennant, above Llechwedd-y-garth, represented by field banks and lynchets, of possible late medieval to early post-medieval date.

Religious associations include the Ffynnon Cwm-ewyn holy well, on the hillside just over 0.5km to the north of the church.

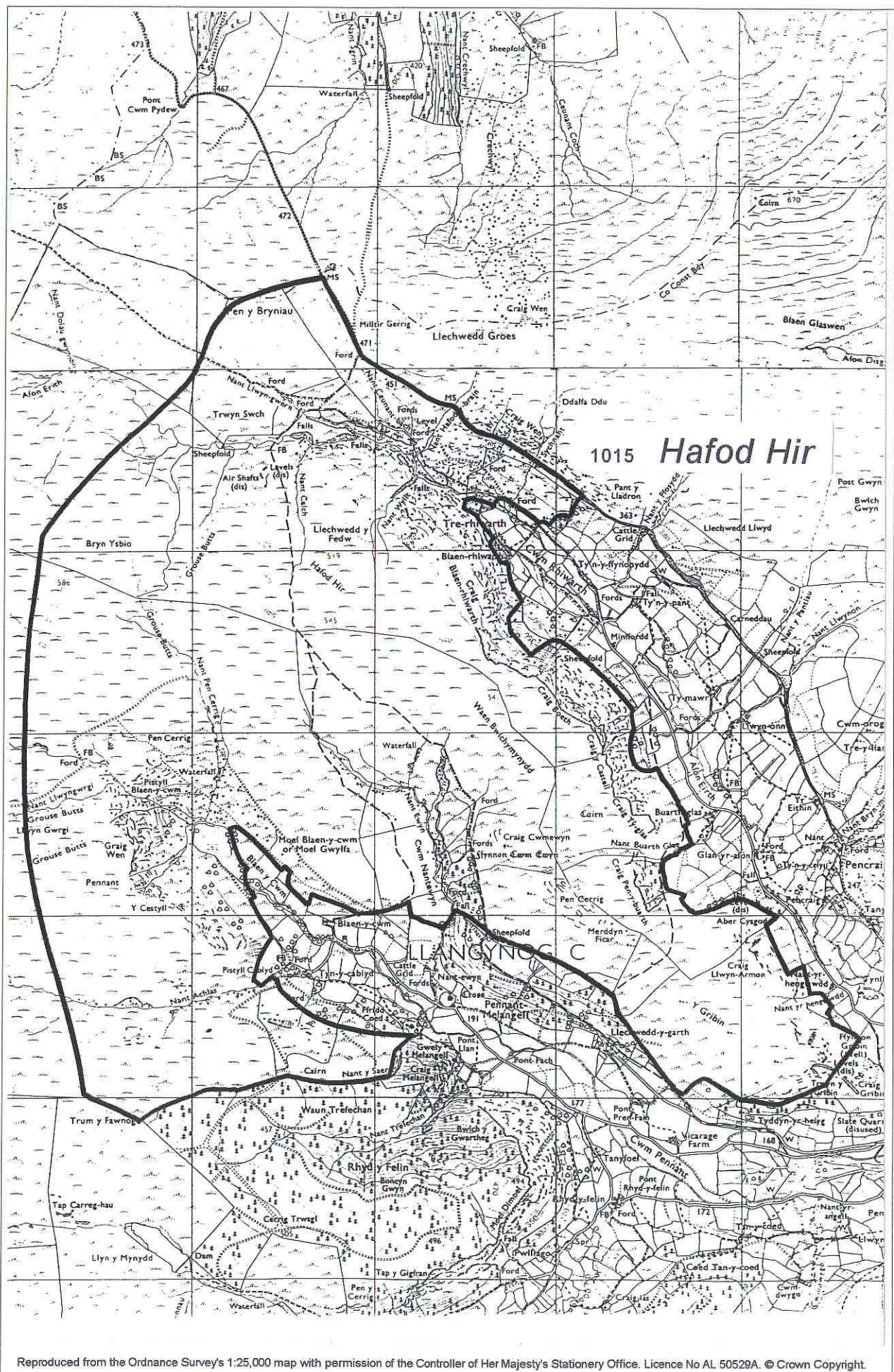
Sources

Britnell 1994a

Evans 1994

Key historic landscape management issues

- prehistoric funerary and ritual sites including cairns and standing stone
- medieval and later long-huts on upland margins
- holy well
- old field boundaries, lynchets and trackways, particularly associated with medieval and later farming on marginal uplands
- sheepfolds
- mining trials and levels



1016

Rhos-y-beddau

Llangynog and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Powys

Unenclosed moorland on Berwyns, common land, with scattered sheepfolds and prehistoric funerary and ritual monuments..

Historic background

Unenclosed common land within the medieval ecclesiastical parishes of Llangynog and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant.

Practically the only visible evidence of human activity is represented by occasional stone sheepfolds and mineral trials around the mountain edge, and Bronze Age funerary and ritual sites, notably including the complex comprising the Rhos-y-beddau and Cwm-rhiwiau stone circles, stone avenue and burial cairns on the moorland above Pistyll Rhaeadr.

Key historic landscape characteristics

Unimproved moorland accessed by roads trackways and footpaths from the head of Cwm Rhiwarth and Cwm Blowty with waterlogged, boggy areas and extensive heather, between a height of about 350–800m OD. Topographically, the mountaintop is the remnant of a peneplain with a flattened skyline, broken by the deeply glaciated valleys to the south, the steep and unenclosed upper sides of which are included in the character area. The bleak and dramatic scenery has greatly impressed travellers: George Borrow taking a short cut from Pistyll Rhaeadr across the Berwyns to Bala described it as follows:

Here I turned and looked at the hills I had come across. There they stood, darkly blue, a rain cloud like ink, hanging over their summits. Oh, the wild hills of Wales, the land of old renown and of wonder, the land of Arthur and Merlin.

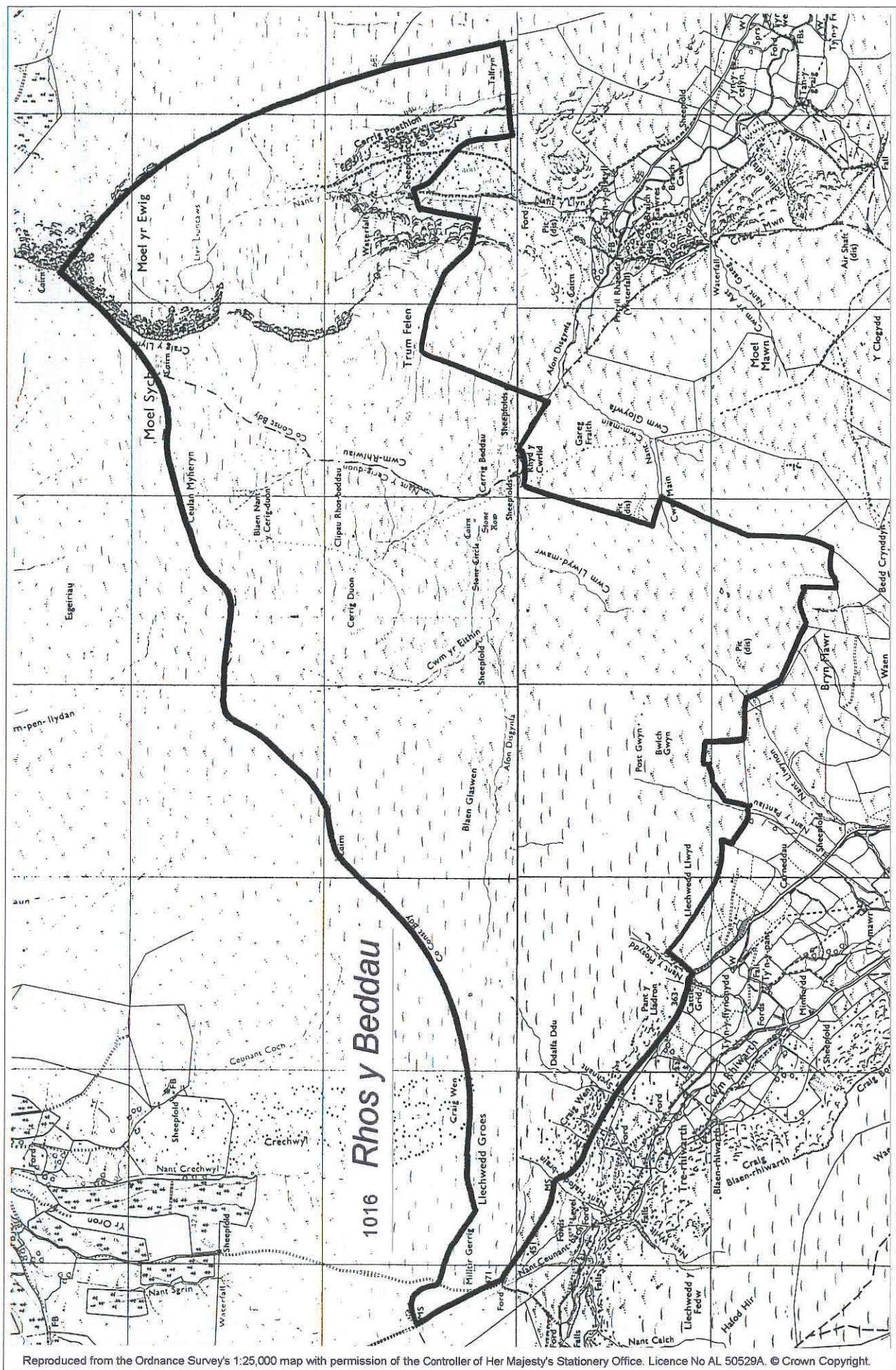
Wild Wales (1862)

Sources

Grimes 1963

Key historic landscape management issues

- prehistoric funerary and ritual monuments
- medieval or later house platforms
- stone sheepfolds
- waterlogged or peaty areas of potential palaeoenvironmental importance



1017 *Y Clogydd*
Llangynog and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Powys

Extensive area of 19th-century enclosure of common land with sheepfolds and metal mining remains on southern edge of Berwyns.

Historic background

Early activity is represented by prehistoric funerary and ritual sites. The area fell within the medieval parishes of Pennant Melangell, Llangynog and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant and fell administratively within the commote of Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr.

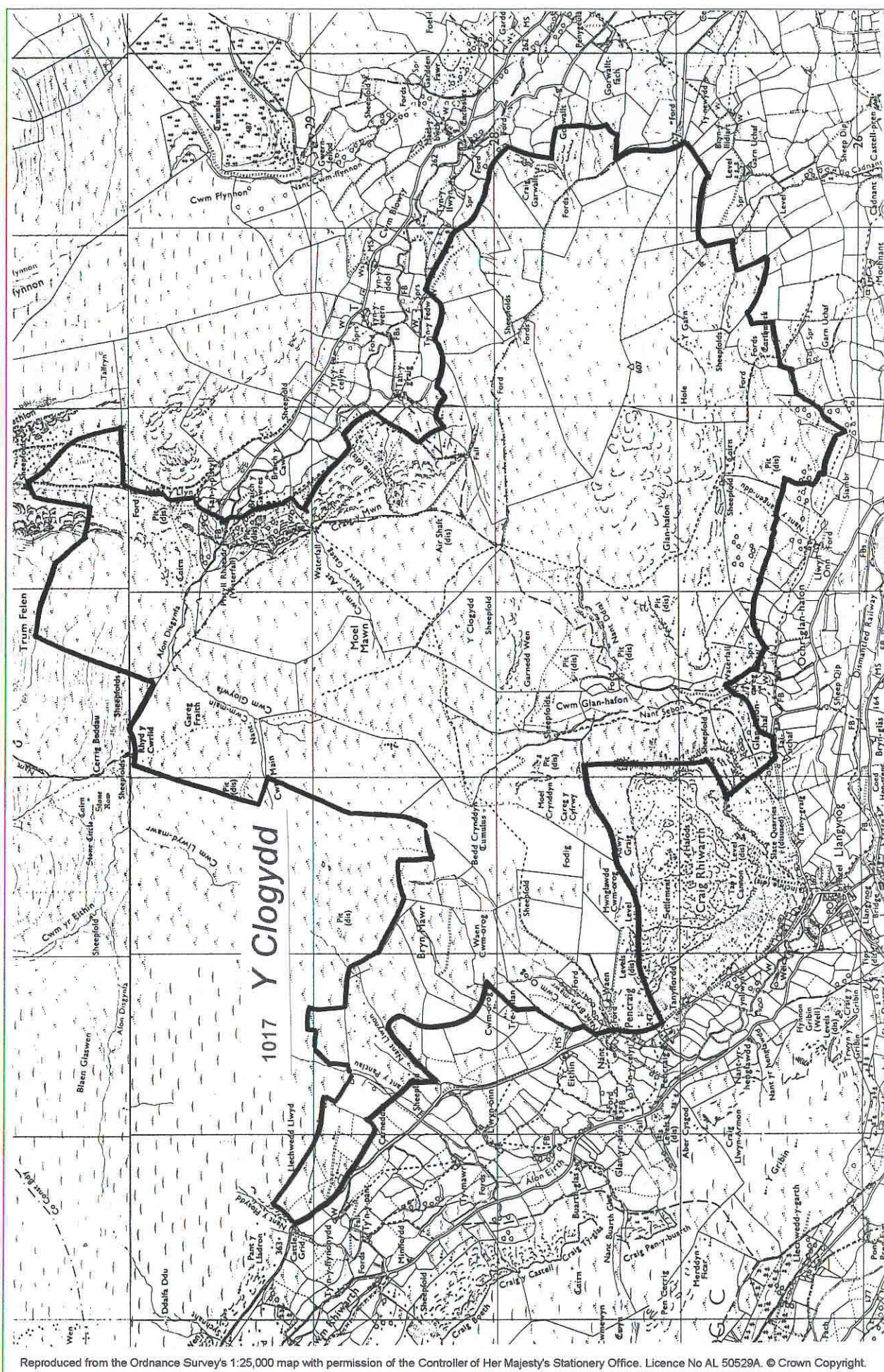
Key historic landscape characteristics

Hillside land on southern edge of Berwyns, between a height of about 300–600m OD, with more gentle slopes to the east and with steeper slopes into the valley of the Afon Tanat with crags and screes at Garnedd Wen, Glan-hafon and Y Garn on the south, and steeper slopes into the valley of Afon Rhiwarth on the north-east with crags at Craig Garwallt and Craig-y-mwyn. Extensive boggy areas.

The gentler slopes are predominantly improved and semi-improved pasture and rough grazing with bracken, gorse, low trees and shrubs on boulder strewn steeper slopes. Large straight-sided enclosures, often irregularly triangular or polygonal in shape largely defined by post and wire fences with some abandoned fields with grown out hedges on lower slopes. Occasional low dilapidated drystone walls. Large, scattered modern clearance cairns. Some high up boundaries show lynchet formation indicating former ploughing. Drystone sheepfolds around the margins of the area and more scattered ones higher up the hill. Small conifer plantations.

The hill is criss-crossed by footpaths and tracks linking isolated communities at the heads of Cwm Rhiwarth and Cwm Rhiwarth and providing access for upland grazing for the farms which skirt the lower fringes of the hill.

There are extensive and important remains primarily of lead mining at Craig-y-mwyn at the head of Cwm Blowty, Mwnglawdd Cwm-orog, and on a lesser scale in Cwm Glan-hafon, to the east of Craig Rhiwarth. The visible remains are primarily of 18th- to 19th-century in date, but there are suggestions of medieval or possibly earlier mining in some cases. Workings at Cwm-orog and Craig-y-mwyn probably began during the late 17th-century, continuing intermittently with varying fortune during the 18th and 19th-centuries, backed initially by the Herbert's of Powis Castle and the Middletons of Chirk Castle and subsequently by outside capital, Craig-y-mwyn becoming involved in scandal between the 1850s and 1880s when it was alleged that mine leases were sold at a huge profit on the basis of grossly misleading information. Production had mostly ceased by the end of the 19th century, though the arrival of the Tanat Valley Light Railway was partly responsible for a small-scale revival in the fortunes of the mining industry up to about 1911, a total of 42 people being employed at Cwm-orog in 1908 for example. At Craig-y-mwyn are extensive mining remains including leats, dams and hushing earthworks above the main opencast, linear trial trenches, levels and shafts, tramways, inclines and evidence of dressing floors, the remains of an incline winding house and crusher house, and the remains of miners' cottages, a powder magazine and a small mine office and workshop or smithy, trackways and boundary stones. Similar remains are present at Cwm-orog, also including ore-chutes and bins. This mine is unique in Wales in showing a sequence of three successive systems of transporting the ore to the foot of the hill — contour tramways connecting to long oreslides, being superseded firstly by an incline tramway and later by an aerial ropeway. Small-scale mining remains in Cwm Glan-hafon, the hanging valley to the east of Craig Rhiwarth,



and also said to include evidence of later 16th- to 18th-century smelting.

Sources

Jones & Frost 1995

Walters 1993

Williams 1985

Wren 1968

Key historic landscape management issues

- prehistoric funerary and ritual sites
- stone sheepfolds
- old boundaries, including drystone walls
- the lead mining and slate industry of all periods including more extensive remains at Mwnglawdd Cwm-orog and Craig-y-mwyn and in Cwm Glan-hafon and other scattered trials and levels
- waterlogged or peaty areas of potential palaeoenvironmental importance

1018

Mynydd Mawr

Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Powys

Early post-medieval to 18th/19th-century piecemeal enclosure of isolated upland area on southern edge of the Berwyns.

Historic background

The area fell within the parish of Llanarmon-mynydd-mawr, which during the medieval period was a chapelry within the parish of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, falling with the commote of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr.

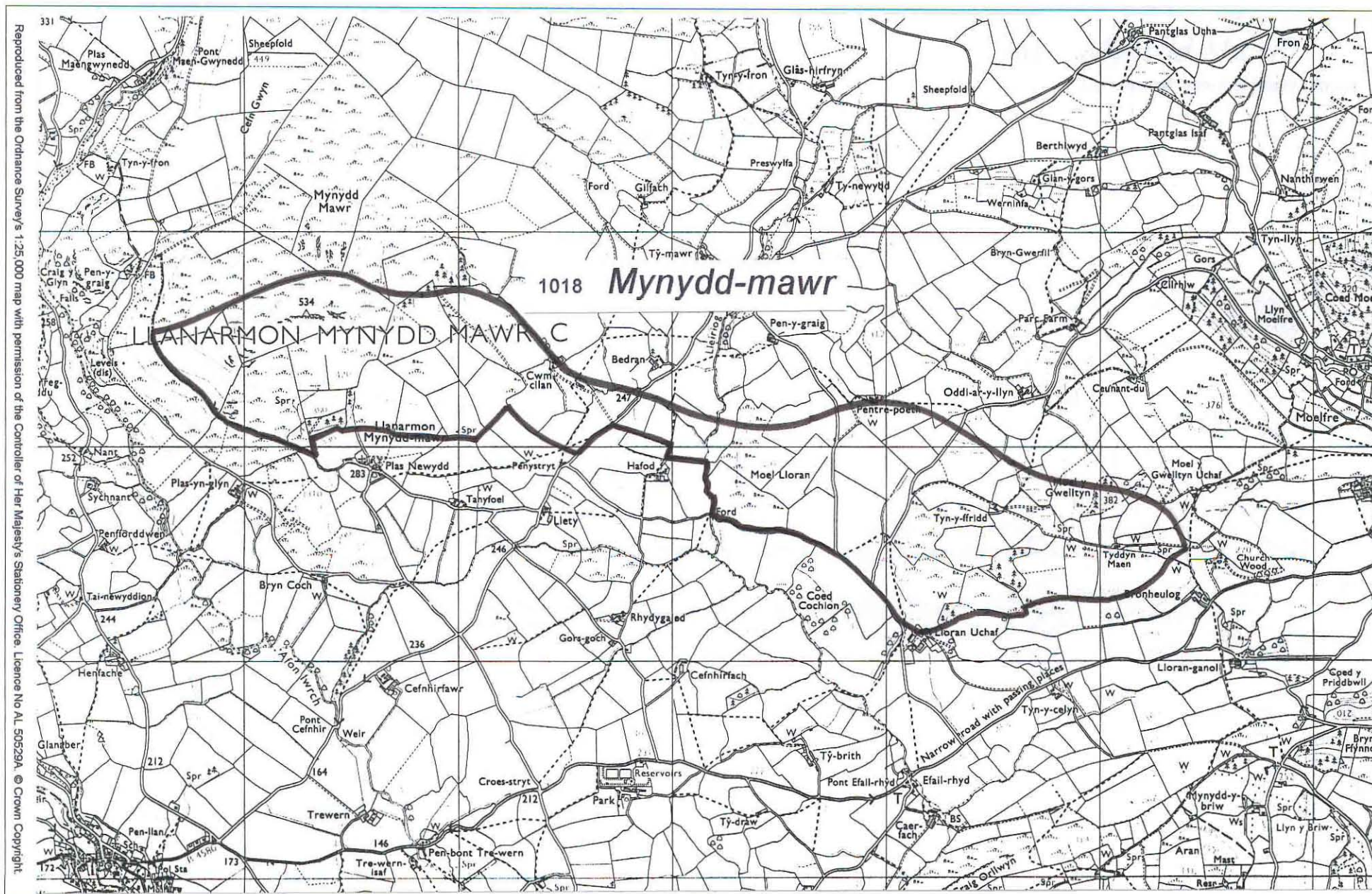
Key historic landscape characteristics

Upland area on southern edge of the Berwyns with predominantly south-facing slopes, ranging in height from between about 330–530m OD, with small rocky outcrops and screes.

The more sheltered, south-facing slopes on the eastern side of the character area are predominantly improved grassland, the steeper and more exposed western slopes being rough grazing with bracken and gorse. Large irregular fields probably representing piecemeal enclosure of upland common from the early post-medieval period to the 18th/19th century. Mixture of boundary types including grown out hedges with spaced trees and shrubs, stony clearance banks, dilapidated drystone walling, and post and wire fencing.

Key historic landscape management issues

- old boundaries, including drystone walls



1019	<i>Cyrniau</i> Llangynog and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Powys
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Isolated upland area with screes and rocky outcrops, former common land enclosed in 19th century.

Historic background

The character area falls within the medieval ecclesiastical parishes of Pennant Melangell, Llangynog and Hirnant. It lay within the ancient commote of Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr, Montgomeryshire.

Key historic landscape characteristics

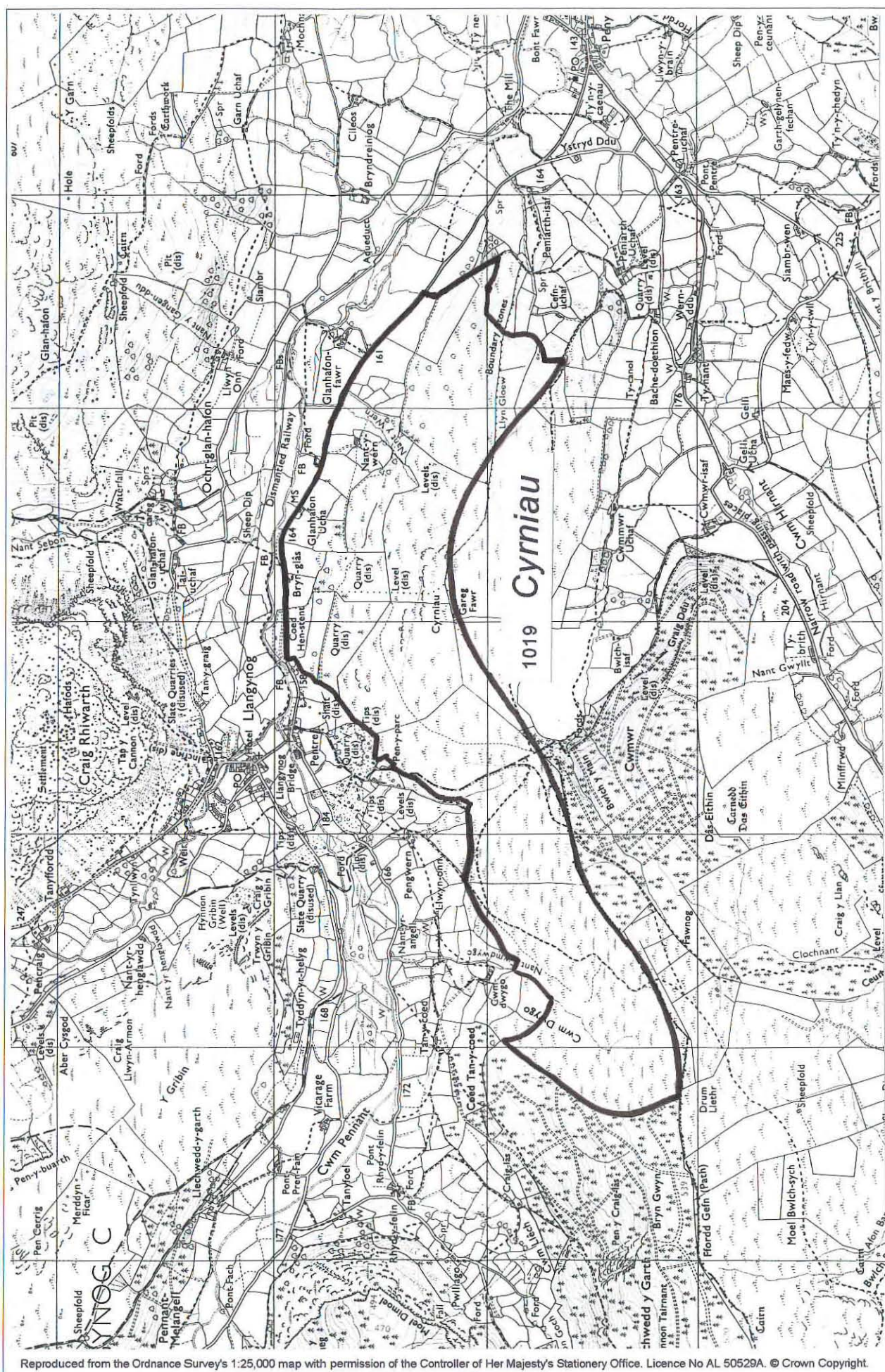
Isolated upland area with steep, north-facing screes and rocky outcrops, between about 200–480m OD, the pointy rock outcrops on the skyline being the probable origin of the place-name *cyrniau* ‘horns’.

Predominantly unimproved pasture with low shrubs and heather, with some improved areas on flatter ground with scattered clearance cairns, probably of recent date. 19th-century enclosure boundaries almost exclusively of post and wire fencing though a number of earlier banks representing earlier land divisions are also evident.

The eastern side of the area is crossed by several footpaths and trackways probably of some antiquity giving access from the lowland farms in the Llangynog area up to extensive areas of upland grazing on the moorland of Bwlch Sych between Hirnant and Llanwddyn. The northern slope of the hill is crossed by a number of tracks leading up to disused quarries and levels visible by scree waste heaps, as well as a number of modern, scarped, agricultural access roads.

Key historic landscape management issues

- old boundaries, including drystone walls
- mining trials and levels



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1020 *Penybontfawr*
Penybontfawr, Powys

19th-century village and surroundings, with church, chapel, school and inn which grew up junction of turnpikes, and superseding more remote medieval parish centre.

Historic background

Administratively, the area would have fallen within the commote of Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr, Montgomeryshire. It formerly lay within a detached portion of the medieval ecclesiastical parish of Pennant Melangell whose parish church lay in Cwm Pennant about 7km to the west. St Thomas's Church was built at Penybontfawr in the mid 19th-century to meet the needs of the expanding population in the lower portion of the parish. It later became the parish church of Pennant Melangell, when the upper portion of the parish was merged with Llangynog parish. The village of Penybontfawr, (formerly known as Bont Fawr) is almost exclusively of 19th-century date, being unique in Montgomeryshire in being a relatively recent roadside hamlet that went on to become an independent civil community.

Key historic landscape characteristics

The character area is defined to include the village of Penybontfawr on the flat low-lying valley bottom, together with the enclosed farmland on gently sloping ground near the mouth of Cwm Hirnant and Cwm Fedw to the south. Predominantly north-facing slopes, generally between about 130–230m OD. Also included in the area is part of the upland area of Dâs Eithin with crags and rocky outcrops, with rises to a height of about 360m within the character area.

The settlement of Penybontfawr owed its existence to communications, lying at the crossroads of the turnpike between Oswestry, west Wales, Shrewsbury and Bala. The terraced cottages, bridge, old chapel (1835), church (1855), school, chapel (1867), inn (Railway Inn), vicarage, and former mill, are all 19th-century in date. 20th-century housing estates towards north, east and south of original core. Some of the farms in the countryside around the village are older, including Peniarth-uchaf with a late 15th to early 16th-century cruck-built building, the early 17th-century stone farmhouse at Penybont Farm, though the buildings at others are more recent, including the 18th-century stone farmhouse at Parc Farm and the 19th-century stone farmhouse with brick dressings at Peniarth-isaf, with stone and brick outbuildings. 18th/19th-century stone farmhouse and outbuildings at Bryn Aber also with brick dressings, with earlier timber buildings possibly indicated by building foundations of rounded boulders with walls of quarried stone above. Bryn Aber Hall is a mid 19th-century rendered 'villa', formerly with a Tuscan porch, built by Maurice Powell Bibby, attorney, poet and harpist, with mature planted trees in the field to the north and east giving the effect of parkland.

Medium-sized and often irregularly-shaped fields, predominantly pasture, within the southern part of the character area, probably representing a combination of early enclosure of the higher sloping ground, associated with farms such as Peniarth-uchaf, and 18th- to 19th-century enclosure of the valley-bottom meadow-land. There is a tendency for the boundaries, often overgrown hedges, to be set out along the contour, some being associated with lynchets. Some ridging in lower-lying fields near river.

Penybontfawr also lay on the now dismantled Tanat Valley Light Railway, in operation to the west of Llanrhaeadr between 1904 and 1952, the site of the station to the north of the village, on the far side of the Afon Tanat, having recently been built over. The aqueduct carrying water from Lake Vyrnwy passes invisibly, below ground, just to the west of the village. The bridges at Penybontfawr across the Hirnant and across the Tanat replaced

earlier fording points on the roads and tracks which linked the older farms in the valley bottom with areas of summer grazing on the hills to the south and south-west.

Sources

Britnell 1994a

Hancock 1872

Haslam 1979

Silvester 1992

Smith 1988

Sylvester 1955–56

Thomas 1911

Key historic landscape management issues

- the 19th-century roadside village and its setting
- medieval and later farms and farmsteads
- traditional farm buildings
- old field boundaries
- bridges, turnpike roads and Tanat Valley Light Railway

1021

Henfache

Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Powys

Large, widely spaced farms on lower ground and more closely spaced, medium-sized farms on lower hill-slopes, late medieval cruck-built halls and field systems.

Historic background

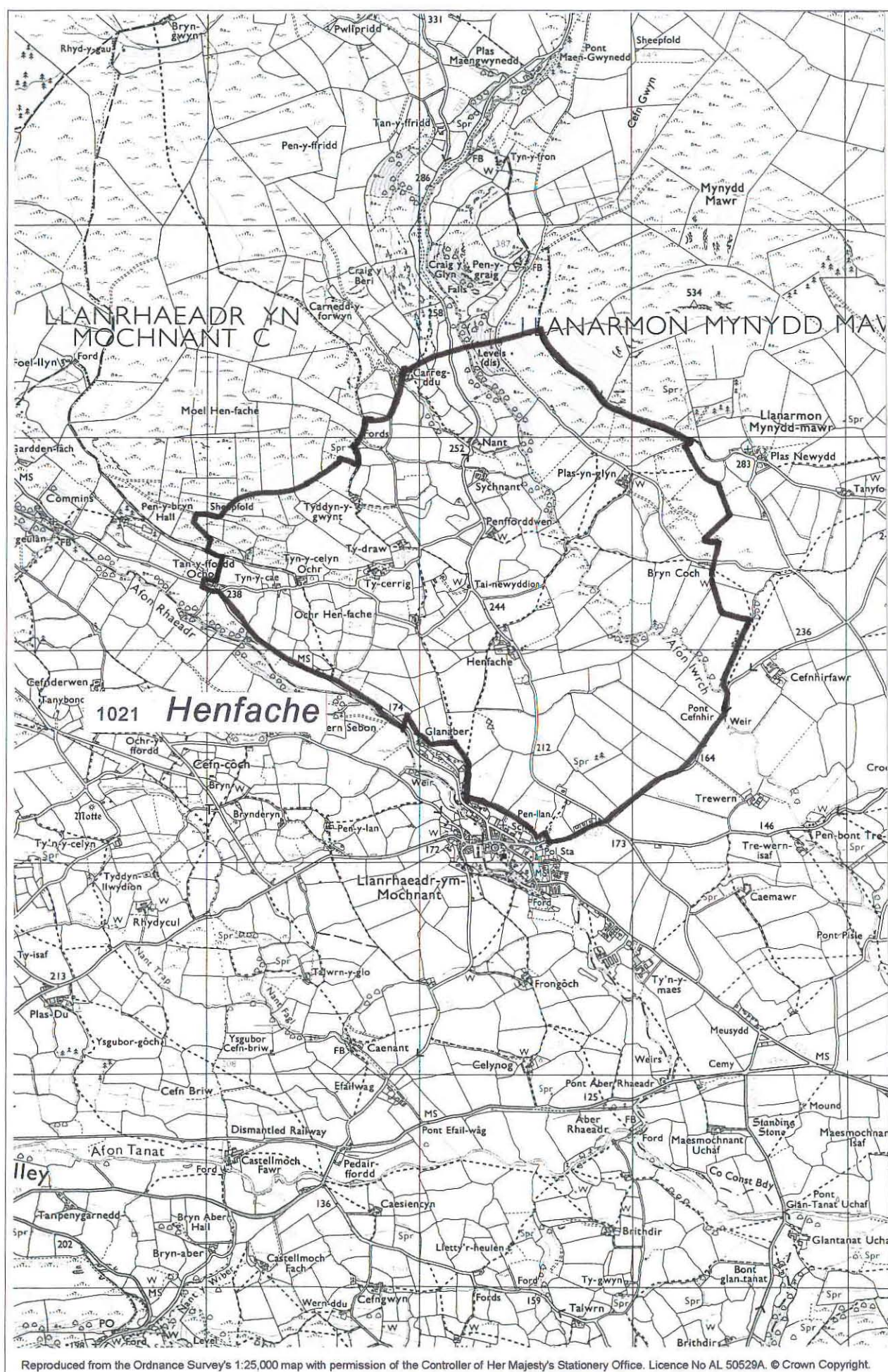
Early settlement, possibly of Iron Age date, is indicated by a cropmark enclosure on sloping ground to the north of Henfache and a second possible site further south. The area falls within the medieval ecclesiastical parish of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant and also includes a narrow portion of the parish of Llanarmon-mynydd-mawr, which was formerly a dependent chapelry within the parish of Llanrhaeadr. Administratively, the area fell within the commote of Mochnant Uwch Rhacadr, Denbighshire.

Key historic landscape characteristics

Relatively well-drained undulating lowland between the Afon Iwrch and Afon Rhacadr, including the lower edge of Moel Hen-fache and Mynydd Mawr, on the southern edge of the Berwyns, varying in height from about 170m to 360m OD. The steep-sided, wooded valley of the Afon Iwrch cuts through the eastern side of the area, with waterlogged areas on lower-lying flatter ground on the south-east side of the character area.

Roadside farms and smallholdings. Larger, low-lying farms, including Henfache with a large, stone farmhouse with datestone of 1702, and later 18th-century brick extension, 18th/19th-century quarried stone outbuildings, brick dressings and weatherboarding, stone-walled yard, 'megalithic' stone gateposts and 19th-century squared stone gateposts. Converted 19th-century roadside cottages at Tai-newyddion and Penfforddwen, of rounded clearance boulders. 18th/19th-century rendered stone farmhouse and stone outbuildings at Sychnant, of quarried and field-clearance stone, some weatherboarding on outbuildings. The older buildings survive on the sides of the hills around the margins of the character area. Stone farmhouses with and outbuildings at Bryn Coch and Plas-yn-glyn, the farmhouses incorporating respectively a cruck-framed late medieval hall house and a possibly 17th-century timber-framed house. Slightly to the north is the former cruck-framed hall house (Ty-draw, Llanarmon-mynydd-mawr), converted to a barn and now dilapidated. Slightly further to the north again is a stone-revetted platform probably representing a further cruck-built building. This remarkable line of series of late medieval and early post-medieval structures all lie on a trackway running round the contour on the western slopes of Mynydd Mawr. These are associated with the distinctive field system noted below and indicate the amalgamation of earlier smaller holdings. Cluster of 18th/19th-century medium and small quarried stone farmhouses and outbuildings on lower slopes of Moel Hen-fache, including Ty-draw with rendered farmhouse, Tyn-y-cae and Tan-y-ffordd Ochor with brick dressings. Some evidently represent late medieval farms since one of the stone outbuildings at Tan-y-ffordd was a cruck-built hall house, surviving as farm building at Tan-y-ffordd Ochor. Traces of earlier stone buildings in the modern farm complex at Ty-cerrig.

Present-day land-use predominantly pasture. Mixed-species roadside hedges, including holly, hawthorn and maple, with evidence of former hedge-laying. Medium-sized irregular fields over much of the lower-lying ground with boulder clearance banks up to 2m wide and 1m high in places with overgrown or patchy hedges. Some larger enclosures defined by clearance banks, subdivided by single-species hawthorn hedges. Linear fields with clearance banks and drainage ditches on wetter ground north-west of Pont Cefnhir. Ridging in some poorly-drained low-lying fields. Low banks and lynchets on more sloping ground, the latter showing that arable land was formerly much more common. Distinctive field system on western slopes of Mynydd Mawr, with some more rectangular fields with boundaries along the contour and at right-angles to the slope, some



fields now run into one, and some abandoned fields on the higher slopes above. The field system here is associated with the series of late medieval and early post-medieval cruck and timber-frame buildings north of Bryn Coch, noted above, and represent late 15th- to early 16th-century enclosure. Scattered mature oaks and ashes in hedgerows and around farms. Semi-natural woodland on steeper slopes and taller willows and alders along watercourses.

Winding roads and trackways generally running along the contour with hollow-ways, revetted with rounded field clearance boulders on the lower-lying ground and rock-cut on higher ground. Green lanes and trackways between farms, some now abandoned.

Sources

Hubbard 1986

Smith 1988

Smith & Hague 1958

Key historic landscape management issues

- prehistoric cropmark enclosures
- abandoned medieval and later farmsteads
- traditional farm buildings
- old field boundaries, lynchets trackways and hollow-ways, particularly that associated with medieval, late medieval and early post-medieval agricultural expansion
- waterlogged or peaty areas of potential palaeoenvironmental importance

1022	Cwm Ffynnon Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Powys
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19th-century enclosure and improvement of upland common on southern edge of the Berwyns.

Historic background

Evidence of possible early Bronze Age activity is represented by fragments of pottery from an area overlooking the Nant y Llyn stream near the head of Cwm Blowty. The area fell within the ecclesiastical parish of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Denbighshire and also fell within the ancient commote of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr.

Key historic landscape characteristics

Broken upland area north of Cwm Blowty, on the southern edge of the Berwyns between a height of about 330–630m OD, with sloping and steeply sloping predominantly south-facing slopes.

Areas of unimproved and improved upland grazing with, gorse, heather, shrubs and trees on steeper unimproved slopes. Field boundaries partly of post and wire but with a grid of drystone, field-clearance walls in parts of the western side of the area overlooking Cwm Blowty. Conifer plantation on eastern side of Cwm Ffynnon.

Key historic landscape management issues

- old boundaries, including drystone walls

1023

Brithdir

Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Powys

Small irregular fields and close-set farms on southern slopes of Dyffryn Tanat.

Historic background

The area fell within the ecclesiastical parish of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, Denbighshire and within the ancient commote of Mochnant Is Rhaeadr.

Key historic landscape characteristics

North-facing gently sloping land, on the southern side of the Tanat valley, at a height of generally between about 130–200m OD, but with a small area of more steeply sloping upland to the south, reaching a height of 300m OD. Steep-sided stream valleys such as the Nant y Wiber with semi-natural oak and mixed deciduous woodland. Some poorly-drained areas with rushes.

Clustered, close-set 17th/18th-century stone farmhouses, outbuildings and smallholdings, generally sited towards the edge of the higher ground, and often set within their own fields, as at Castellmoch-fach and Caesiencyn, and part-rendered or rendered farmhouses at Brithdir, including some low stone farmhouses, such as Dderwen Fawr, now rendered, and Wernffinnant, with stone outbuildings. Older buildings are of rounded, field-clearance stone and quarried stone, with more recent buildings of quarried stone. Castellmoch-fach 18th/19th-century stone farmhouse and outbuildings. Some abandoned farms and smallholdings, such as Lletty'r-heulen, resulting from the 20th-century amalgamation of holdings. Area of small 19th-century roadside cottages near Rhos-y-brithdir, towards south-east corner of area.

Small and irregular fields, now predominantly pasture, with mature, mixed-species hedges including ash, hazel and holly, some now overgrown and intermittent, supplemented with post and wire fencing, but with some traditional hedge-laying. Low hedge banks and some field lynchets and some ridge and furrow, in field to east of Caesiencyn. Scattered mature oaks in hedges. Dilapidated drystone walling on some higher ground. Occasional boundaries removed. Redundant stone, concrete, and building-block milkstands at farm entrances. The lower-lying land mostly represents late medieval and early post-medieval piecemeal enclosure. Grid of larger rectangular fields on the more steeply-sloping ground towards the southern edge of the character area, represent 19th-century enclosure of upland commons, now with grown-out hedges, and with late 18th to early 19th-century smallholdings at Hafotty and Cae Pant.

19th-century industry is represented by possible phosphate mine and a number of small quarries. Public roads in hollow-ways up to 4–5m deep, with stone-revetted sides in places, road drains and culverts replacing former fords. Network of footpaths, trackways and green lanes between farms.

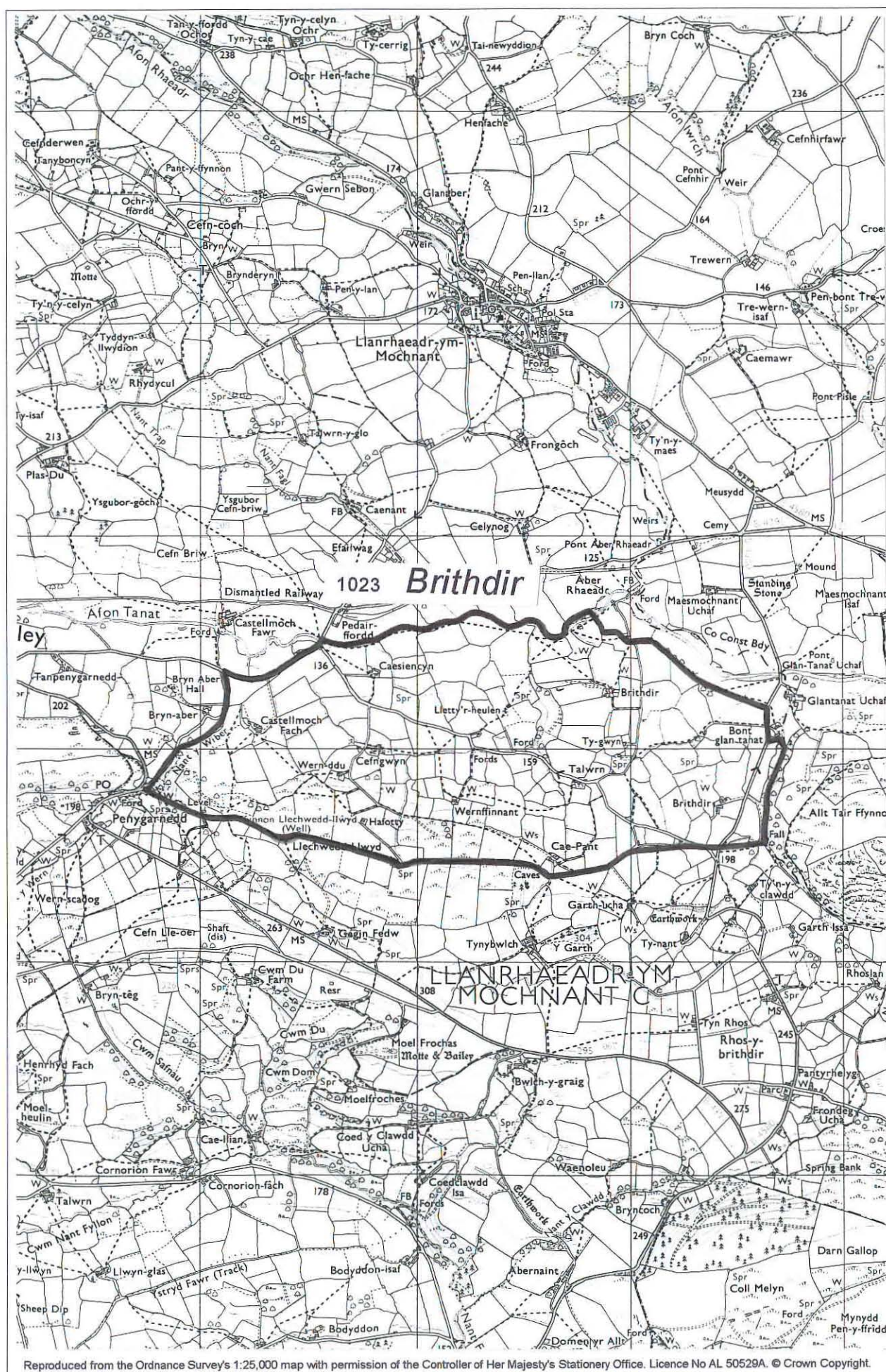
Sources

Haslam 1979

Richards 1934

Key historic landscape management issues

- medieval and later farmsteads
- traditional farm buildings
- old field boundaries, lynchets trackways and hollow-ways
- waterlogged or peaty areas of potential palaeoenvironmental importance



1024 *Glanhafon*
Llangynog, Powys

Narrow tract of low-lying, valley-bottom meadow and marsh towards the eastern end of Dyffryn Tanat.

Historic background

The area falls within the medieval ecclesiastical parishes of Pennant Melangell, Llangynog and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, and also falls within the area of the ancient commote of Mochnant Uwch Rhaeadr, Montgomeryshire.

Key historic landscape characteristics

Narrow tract of generally flat, low-lying, valley-bottom meadow between 0.3–0.5km across, between about 120–50m OD together with a narrow strip of sloping ground on the southern slopes of Cynriau which carry up to a height of about 250m OD. The area includes the course of Afon Tanat and cut-off loops, with confluences of several streams including the Hirnant at Penybontfawr and the Afon Rhaeadr at Aber Rhaeadr. A number of the streams joining the river, such as the Nant Sebon to the east of Llangynog, are slightly raised and are embanked with boulders where they cross the valley bottom. Glanhafon-fawr being sited on the brink of a deep river scarp eroding through glacial deposits on the floor of the valley.

Settlement included within the character area includes the riverside farms and a number of other smaller farms on the southern slopes of Cynriau. Late 18th- to early 19th-century stone farmhouses and outbuildings at Glanhafon-fawr, Glanhafon-ucha and Nant-y-wern.

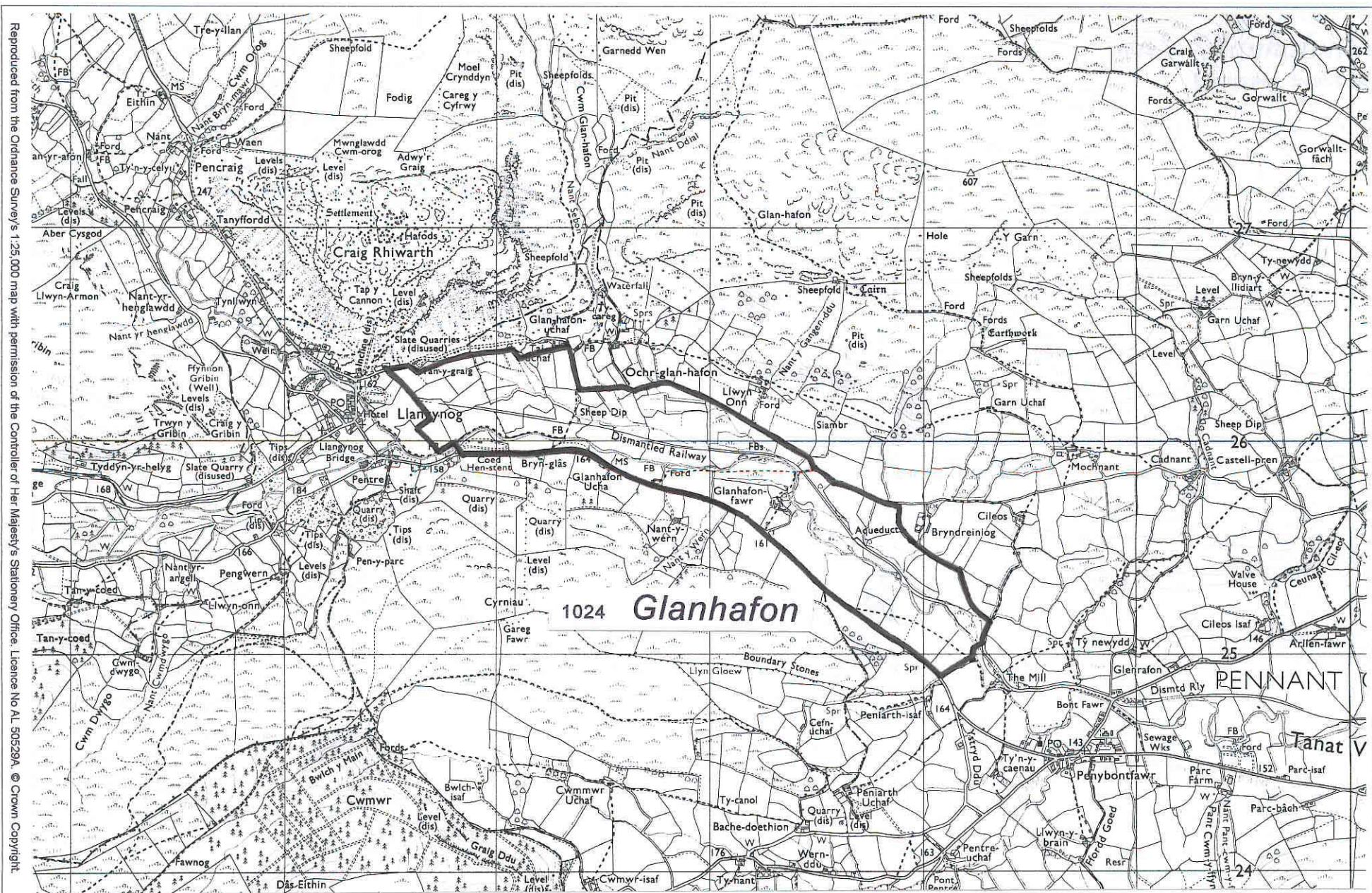
There are extensive networks of drainage ditches in the waterlogged areas towards the western end of the area, some lined with mature willow and coppiced alder, representing overgrown hedged boundaries, the ditches and hedges possibly representing 18th-century or earlier improvement and enclosure of former common meadow. Low-cut generally single-species (hawthorn) hedges elsewhere, though there are a number of boundaries with drystone walls just to the east of Llangynog where surface stone was more readily available. In some instances several former fields have been run into one, hedges having become overgrown or reduced to intermittent lines of trees and shrubs. Occasional traces of ridging to improve drainage. Small sloping fields on the higher ground to the south, some with low-cut and some with overgrown multiple-species hedges including maple, oak, ash and hazel, with low banks and some lynchets on more steeply sloping ground. Remnant semi-natural woodland on steeper slopes.

The line of the dismantled Tanat Valley Light railway cuts a distinctive course along the floor of the valley, on the northern side of the river, running partly in a cutting but largely on a slight embankment.

Parkland effect given by mature confers near Glanhafon-fawr.

Key historic landscape management issues

- traditional farm buildings
- waterlogged or peaty areas of potential palaeoenvironmental importance
- Tanat Valley Light Railway





1000 Llwyn Bryn-dinas character area. Llwyn Bryn-dinas viewed from the west, with the B4396 in the foreground, the former turnpike road between Knockin to Llanrhaeadr, improved in 1756. The field boundaries are mostly single-species hedges, now generally overgrown, representing 19th-century enclosure of common land. The ramparts of the prehistoric hillfort, established in the later Bronze Age, are visible on the skyline. *Photo: CPAT 803.1*



1001 Llangedwyn character area. Plas-uchaf, the imposing early 18th-century brick house with sandstone dressings on the lower slopes of Llwyn Bryn-dinas, set in parkland with recent coniferous plantation beyond, viewed from the south-east. The probable late prehistoric enclosure at Plas-uchaf lies on the small hillock on the lower right foreground. The rampart of the prehistoric hillfort on Llwyn Bryn-dinas is visible on the skyline to the right. *Photo: CPAT 803.0*



1002 *Maesmochnant* character area. The large, flat rectilinear fields characteristic of the character area are visible in the middle distance, viewed from the north-east, which probably represent the enclosure of the open fields belonging to the medieval market town of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant. In the foreground is Glaniwrch farm, in the Trebrys character area. On the horizon is part of the Brithdir character area. Photo: CPAT 805.12



1003 *Glantanat* character area. Large, flat, low-lying fields, looking westwards towards Tan Llwyn farm. The valley floor at this point is only about 600m across, most of the fields, with low-cut hawthorn hedges, representing 18th- to early 19th-century enclosure of former common meadow. Photo: CPAT 803.4



1004 *Trebrys* character area. Looking north-east towards Lloran-uchaf, one of the substantial farms dispersed farms of late medieval origin in this character area, characteristically with small to medium-sized irregularly shaped fields. New areas were being cleared and enclosed to meet the demand for land during the Tudor period, leading to the creation of a number of substantial farms. In 1560, Maurice ap Meredith of Lloran-uchaf was able to divide his small estate amongst his eight surviving sons. *Photo: CPAT 803.18*



1005 *Craig Rhiwarth* character area, viewed from the south-east. The prehistoric hillfort lies on the summit of the distinctive hill overlooking Llangynog near the head of the Tanat valley. The hill is defended by natural cliffs and crags on all sides except the north, which is defended by a single stone rampart. The hillfort is undated, but is likely to have been first built in the later Bronze Age or early Iron Age, possibly in order to defend the lead and copper ores which occur at various points on the hill, that were worked from at least the late Tudor period up until the early 20th-century. *Photo: CPAT 806.17A*



1006 Garthgeyllyn character area. Cileos and Mochnant farms, seen from the south-west, with part of the Y Clogydd character area beyond. The clustering of medium-sized farms set in their own often irregularly-shaped and medium-sized fields is characteristic of the character area. A number of the farms in the character area have late medieval origins, with late 15th- to early 16th-century cruck-built farmhouses. Photo: CPAT 806.0A



1007 Cefn-côch character area, a 19th-century cottage landscape of on the edge of the more marginal land at the boundary between the ecclesiastical parishes of Pennant Melangell and Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant. In the foreground is the Elim Calvinist Methodist chapel built in 1839, viewed from the south-east. Each of the cottages had its own small fields, gardens and paddocks enclosed often without permission from the common grazing. In the background is part of the Y Clogydd character area, a large area of common upland grazing enclosed during the later 19th century. Photo: CPAT 804.19A



1008 *Allt Tair Ffynnon* character area. Coed Garth-eryr and Coed Glan-Tanat, the wooded hills on the north-facing southern slopes of the Tanat valley opposite Llangedwyn, with the flat valley-bottom land in the foreground. The woodland is partly semi-natural oak woodland and part conifer plantation. The hill called Allt Tair Ffynnon, at the extreme right, is unwooded except around its lower slopes. Photo: CPAT 803.2



1009 *Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant* character area. An early settlement probably grew up around the early medieval clas church on the east bank of the Afon Rhaeadr. The settlement, granted a market charter in 1284, continues to be of local importance as a commercial centre to the present day. As a consequence of the division of the kingdom of Powys in the late 12th century, the houses in the background, on the east side of the river, fell within Denbighshire, whilst those in the foreground fell within Montgomeryshire, until local government reorganisation in 1996. Photo: CPAT 804.22A



1010 Llangynog character area. Mining village with worker's cottages, inns, shops and chapels, viewed from the west, overshadowed by Craig Rhiwarth to the left. At its core is St Cynog's medieval church, but the origins of the present village lie in the early 18th-century when lead ore was discovered. It suffered from poor communications early on, though this improved when the turnpike road to Bala was built in the late 18th century, followed by the railway in the early 20th century. *Photo: CPAT 804.12A*



1011 Cwm Pennant character area. The river Tanat begins at the waterfall at the top of the deeply glaciated valley. The valley is associated with the 8th-century legend of St Melangell whose church near the head of the valley became an important medieval cult centre. The valley, which formed the upper part of the large and complex parish of Pennant Melangell. The parish was split up due to population shift in the second half of the 19th century, portions being transferred to Llanrhacadr-ym-mochnant, Llangynog, Llanwddyn and the new parish of Pennant Melangell created at Penybontfawr, almost 7km to the east. *Photo: CPAT 806.24A*



1012 Cwm Blowty character area. Early fields with field-clearance boundaries of rounded boulders on the floor of the valley. The medium-sized farms, as here at Tan-y-graig on the northern side of the valley, are characteristically sited on springs or streams on the valley sides. The boundaries of 19th-century enclosures extend onto the higher ground, on the slopes of the Y Clogydd character area beyond. A modern farm track cuts across the slope of the hill to the right. *Photo: CPAT 808.16*



1013 Cwm Rhiwarth character area, looking eastwards towards Llangynog, showing the narrow tract of flat enclosed land along the floor of the valley. Some of fields extend onto the gentler slopes along the sides of the valleys, although a number of these have now been abandoned and have now become invaded by bracken and gorse. The medium and small-sized farms within the valley are often in small groups and in a number of instances there are suggestions that they were clustered around small open arable fields, probably of early medieval or medieval origin. *Photo: CPAT 807.14*



1014 *Waen Llestri* character area, looking south-westwards up towards Pen y Craig-lâs with regenerated deciduous woodland on the lower slopes and the modern conifer plantation of Llechwedd y Garth above. The lower edges of the forestry overlie abandoned fields probably of late medieval or early post-medieval date running on boundaries marked by the overgrown hedges towards the left. Photo: CPAT 806.22A



1015 *Hafod Hir* character area. The extensive flat and monotonous uplands end abruptly in steep crags and screes on the edges of the deeply glaciated valleys of Cwm Rhiwarth and Cwm Pennant, the view here being of the edge of Cwm Pennant, to the west of Pennant Melangell church. Access to the upland grazing is limited a number of paths and trackways following gentler stream valleys, which were probably jointly shared by the low-lying farms in the valleys from early times. Photo: CPAT 807.10



1016 Rhos y Beddau character area. Flat and gently undulating moorland, characteristic of the Berwyns, seen here looking eastwards towards Cadair Berwyn, the chair of the giant Berwyn on the far horizon. These were the hills that George Borrow described — ‘darkly blue, a rain cloud like ink, hanging over their summits. Oh, the wild hills of Wales, the land of old renown and of wonder, the land of Arthur and Merlin’. Photo: CPAT 807.19



1017 Y Clogydd character area, looking westwards towards Y Garn, from a point to the north of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant, with some of the fields forming part of the Cefn-côch character area in the foreground. Large areas of the upland pasture were enclosed during the 19th-century and continue to be improved by stone clearance and grassland management. Photo: CPAT 805.10



1018 *Mynydd-mawr* character area, looking northwards, with fields forming part of the *Trebrys* character area in the foreground. The irregular hedged boundaries probably represent piecemeal clearance and enclosure of the upland pasture probably from the early post-medieval periods onwards. Many of the upland hedges are no longer regularly maintained, resulting in a number of fields being now run into one. Photo: CPAT 803.23



1019 *Cynriau* character area, viewed from the east. The distinctively pointed hills probably gave rise to the name, meaning 'horns', a place-name element found elsewhere in the Tanat Valley area. The steeper slopes of the hill generally remain as rough grazing, but the lower slopes and flatter areas towards the summit have been improved by stone clearance and grassland management. Photo: CPAT 806.13A



1020 *Penybontfawr* character area. Penybontfawr, seen here looking westwards with the hills of the *Cyrniau* character area beyond, is a late 18th- and early 19th-century settlement built at the crossroads of two turnpike roads linking the borderland with west and north-west Wales. The village is unique in Montgomeryshire in being a relatively modern settlement that became an ecclesiastical parish and civil community in its own right. *Photo: CPAT 806.3A*



1021 *Henfache* character area, looking eastwards, with part of the *Mynydd Mawr* character area beyond. The farm to the right is *Plas-yn-glyn*, which includes a 16th/17th-century timber-framed hall, now encased in stone. Along the same trackway to the right is *Ty-draw*, a dilapidated barn that preserves the remains of a late medieval cruck-built hall house. The buildings, trackway and fields on the lower slopes of the hill represent a late medieval enclosed landscape created by yeoman farmers. *Photo: CPAT 805.2*



1022 Cwm Ffynnon character area. Fields with boundaries formed by drystone walls on the northern slopes of Cwm Rhiwarth, probably of late medieval to early post-medieval date. Many of the walls have now become dilapidated and have been strengthened by the addition of by post and wire fences. Photo: CPAT 808.12



1023 Brithdir character area, on the north-facing slopes of Dyffryn Tanat to the south of Llanrhaeadrym-mochnant. The landscape is characterized by small irregular fields with mixed species hedges and tightly clustered small to medium-sized farms and smallholdings, which appears to have been created by gradual woodland clearance during the late medieval and early post-medieval periods with agricultural expansion following the gradual breakdown of medieval systems of land ownership. Photo: CPAT 808.1



1024 Glanhafon character area. Lines of mature trees represent a hedges belonging to the post-medieval enclosure of the low-lying and poorly-drained meadows alongside the Tanat, to the east of Llangynog. Once a number of fields have been run into one in this way there is a tendency for the hedges to eventually disappear, as the older trees die and fail to be replaced by younger saplings. Photo: CPAT 804.16A

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Hirnant

Tithe map and apportionment

Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant

Tithe map and apportionment

Enclosure award 1844, including land in parishes of Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant (townships of Trebrys, Banhadla Ucha, Henfache, Trellan), Hawarden QSD/DE/18, PD/72/1/88-9

Llanarmon-mynydd-mawr

Tithe map and apportionment

Enclosure award 1844, including land in this parish, Hawarden QSD/DE/18, PD/72/1/88-9

Llangedwyn

Tithe map and apportionment

Llangynog

Tithe map and apportionment

Llansilin

Tithe map and apportionment

Pennant Melangell

Tithe map and apportionment

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Gazetteer of Sites and Monuments Records

The following pages give a summary of the Sites and Monuments Records for each of the historic landscape character areas in *Dyffryn Tanat*. The entries, ordered by site name, have the following fields: Primary Record Number (PRN); Name; Period; Site Type; Grid Reference. Further details of each site are held in the Sites and Monuments Record maintained by CPAT, to which additional sites are added as new information becomes available.

1000 - Llwyn Bryn-dinas

101065	Llwyn Bryn Dinas hillfort	Iron Age	Hillfort	SJ1721324742
15321	Mynydd-y-briw Chapel	Modern	Chapel	SJ177263
101059	Tan-y-graig spindlewhorl finds	Prehistoric ?	Find	SJ16702570
15318	Ty'n y graig mill leat	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ16202559
15322	Ty'n y graig mill pond	Post Medieval	Mill pond	SJ16502558
101058	Ty'n y graig whetstone find	Prehistoric ?	Find	SJ17502570

1001 - Llangedwyn

105977	Llangedwyn	Multiperiod	Settlement	SJ188241
16867	Llangedwyn Church (St Cedwyn)	Multiperiod	Church	SJ18832414
101363	Llangedwyn Church (St Cedwyn), church	Post Medieval	Church	SJ18832414
101768	Llangedwyn Church (St Cedwyn), stone	Dark Age	Inscribed stone	SJ18832414
19738	Llangedwyn Church (St Cedwyn), yard	Post Medieval	Churchyard	SJ18832414
15317	Llangedwyn corn mill	Post Medieval	Mill (corn)	SJ18492404
19737	Llangedwyn enclosure I	Prehistoric ?	Enclosure	SJ1896424075
19736	Llangedwyn enclosure II	Prehistoric ?	Enclosure	SJ19102395
105902	Llangedwyn Hall	Post Medieval	House	SJ188243
33859	Llangedwyn Hall, 'Stallion House'	Post Medieval	Stable	SJ19172422
25802	Llangedwyn Hall, barn	Post Medieval ?	Barn	SJ188243
22961	Llangedwyn Hall, garden	Post Medieval	Garden	SJ188243
25639	Llangedwyn Hall, gatepiers and gates	Post Medieval	Gate	SJ188243
15316	Llangedwyn mill leat	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ18372403
101828	Llangedwyn pit alignment	Bronze Age ?	Pit alignment	SJ19002412
15323	Llangedwyn saw mill	Modern ?	Saw mill	SJ18822440
17085	Mochnant forest	Medieval	Forest	SJ1825
38230	Plas Uchaf earthwork	Unknown	Linear earthwork ?	SJ1792724635
101068	Plas Uchaf enclosure	Iron Age	Hillfort	SJ1791024479
25640	Plas Uchaf house	Post Medieval ?	House	SJ17762477
25615	Pont Llangedwyn bridge	Post Medieval	Bridge	SJ1851123984
15385	Tan-y-llwyn barn	Post Medieval	House ?	SJ17382434
101069	Warren spindlewhorl finds	Prehistoric ?	Find	SJ1924

1002 - Maesmochnant

15265	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant railway station	Modern	Railway station	SJ13402494
7948	Maes Mochnant cropmark	Bronze Age ?	Ring ditch ?	SJ135248
101061	Maes Mochnant Isaf 'road'	Roman ?	Road ?	SJ14292482
101063	Maes Mochnant Isaf barrow	Bronze Age	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SJ1378324845
101699	Maes Mochnant Isaf cropmark	Unknown	Field system ?	SJ13692482
106398	Maes Mochnant Isaf ring ditch	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1422624820
38220	Maes Mochnant linear cropmarks	Unknown	Field system ?	SJ1382724894
101827	Maes Mochnant ring ditch II	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1388524886
38221	Maes Mochnant ring ditch IV	Bronze Age?	Ring ditch	SJ1408524755
38222	Maes Mochnant ring ditch V	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1390925016
13083	Maes Mochnant spinlewhorl find	Iron Age	Find	SJ1364724897
101060	Maes Mochnant standing stone	Bronze Age	Standing stone	SJ13692482
102775	Meusydd 'cemetery'	Dark Age	Cemetery	SJ132253
38214	Meusydd enclosure	Prehistoric ?	Enclosure	SJ1412925347
101071	Meusydd henge	Neolithic	Henge ?	SJ1343725207
38215	Meusydd linear cropmark I	Unknown	Field system ?	SJ1413425308
38216	Meusydd linear cropmark II	Unknown	Field system ?	SJ1326525144
38217	Meusydd linear cropmark III	Unknown	Field system ?	SJ1324325044
101724	Meusydd pit circle I	Bronze Age	Pit circle	SJ13442522
101725	Meusydd pit circle II	Bronze Age	Pit circle	SJ13462513
101479	Meusydd ring ditch I	Bronze Age ?	Ring ditch	SJ13182535
101733	Meusydd ring ditch II	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ13542516
102652	Meusydd ring ditch III	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1416825338
38213	Meusydd ring ditch IV	Bronze Age?	Ring ditch	SJ1411625285
15402	Pont Aber Rhaeadr bridge	Post Medieval	Bridge	SJ13182498
101064	Pont Maes Mochnant macehead find	Neolithic	Find	SJ14422483
70537	Pont Maesmochnant bridge	Post Medieval	Bridge	SJ14312481

1003 - Glantanat

26763 Aber-rhaiadr mill	Post Medieval	Mill (corn)	SJ129247
101781 Banhadla ring ditch I	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1656724554
101782 Banhadla ring ditch II	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1658624557
101783 Banhadla ring ditch III	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1658924536
38209 Banhadla ring ditch IV	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1659424570
38210 Banhadla ring ditch V	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1658524545
38211 Banhadla ring ditch VI	Bronze age	Ring ditch	SJ1654124471
101067 Banhadla spindlewhorl find	Prehistoric ?	Find	SJ167245
20000 Glan Tanat Isaf house	Medieval	House	SJ14962408
101917 Glan Tanat Isaf ring ditch	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ154243
101841 Glan Tanat Isaf stone heads	Roman ?	Stone head	SJ14962408
15384 Glantanad-uchaf house	Medieval ?	House	SJ13792423
102553 Henblas house	Medieval	House	SJ17012378
38212 Maes Mochnant ring ditch III	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1484924698
15319 Pentrefelin Chapel	Modern	Chapel	SJ15862491
101482 Pentrefelin enclosure I	Prehistoric ?	Enclosure	SJ1561024548
106069 Pentrefelin enclosure II	Prehistoric ?	Enclosure ?	SJ1568324506
15264 Pentrefelin railway station	Modern	Railway station	SJ15502448
106399 Pentrefelin ring ditch I	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ160246
101483 Pentrefelin ring ditch II	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ15702457
38201 Pentrefelin ring ditch III	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1599424501
38202 Pentrefelin ring ditch IV	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1599424524
38208 Pentrefelin ring ditch IX	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1599724432
38203 Pentrefelin ring ditch V	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1599824558
38204 Pentrefelin ring ditch VI	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1598424556
38206 Pentrefelin ring ditch VII	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1616424586
38207 Pentrefelin ring ditch VIII	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1598224427
70532 Pont Glan Tanat Isaf	Modern	Bridge	SJ15522422
25641 Pont Glan Tanat Uchaf bridge	Post Medieval ?	Bridge	SJ1371224348
5989 Pont Glan Tanat Uchaf stones	Dark Age ?	Decorated stone	SJ13722435
70531 Pont Pentrefelin	Post Medieval	Bridge	SJ15762467
102648 Pont Pentrefelin ring ditch I	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1628724518
101713 Pont Pentrefelin ring ditch II	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ1621324500
101805 Swan Inn ring ditch	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ15582470
15262 Tanat Valley Light Railway	Modern	Railway	SJ15002462

1004 - Trebrys

101057	Bron Heulog axe find	Bronze Age	Find	SJ17042723
20284	Bron Heulog house	Medieval ?	House	SJ17452730
15358	Bryn-coch house	Medieval	House	SJ13552739
101045	Cae Mawr spindlewhorl find	Prehistoric ?	Find	SJ136259
15392	Caer Fach brick kiln	Post Medieval	Kiln (brick) ?	SJ16112608
101361	Caer Fach fieldname	Medieval ?	Castle ?	SJ16122625
101831	Coed Cochion enclosure	Prehistoric ?	Enclosure ?	SJ1543927217
15320	Efail-rhyd Baptist Chapel	Modern	Chapel	SJ16092642
15404	Efail-rhyd bridge	Post Medieval	Bridge	SJ16122648
15324	Efail-rhyd corn mill	Post Medieval	Mill (corn)	SJ16072649
15325	Efail-rhyd corn mill leat	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ16032655
35794	Glanirwch Chapel	Medieval	Chapel ?	SJ1437425562
105963	Llanarmon Mynydd-mawr	Multiperiod	Settlement	SJ135279
19777	Llanarmon Mynydd-mawr building	Post Medieval ?	Building	SJ13482794
16807	Llanarmon Mynydd-mawr Church (St Garmon)	Multiperiod	Church	SJ13552794
19775	Llanarmon Mynydd-mawr Church (St Garmon), church	Medieval	Church	SJ13552794
19776	Llanarmon Mynydd-mawr Church (St Garmon), yard	Medieval	Churchyard	SJ13552794
101480	Maes Mochnant ring ditch I	Bronze Age	Ring ditch	SJ14782473
15403	Pont Cefnhir bridge	Post Medieval	Bridge	SJ13412665
15310	Pont Pisle saw mill	Modern ?	Saw mill	SJ14132565
15390	Rhydygaled pound	Post Medieval ?	Pound	SJ14752704
101043	Tomen Cefn Glaniwrch motte	Medieval	Motte	SJ1486825372
15391	Trewern Issa brick kiln	Post Medieval	Kiln (brick) ?	SJ13302590
70533	Ty-brith ridge and furrow	Undated	Ridge and furrow	SJ15592654
101053	Tybrith quern find	Prehistoric ?	Find	SJ15402661

1005 - Craig Rhiwarth

15253	Adwy'r Graig trial level	Post Medieval	Level (barytes)	SJ058274
1466	Craig Rhiwarth barrow	Bronze Age	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SJ05482709
1467	Craig Rhiwarth hafotai	Post Medieval ?	Hafod	SJ055268
1465	Craig Rhiwarth hillfort	Iron Age	Hillfort	SJ05502680
18402	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ05182723
18401	Cwm Orog Mine, stopes	Post Medieval	Stope	SJ05272724
18405	Cwm Orog Mine, trackway	Post Medieval	Trackway	SJ05242719
18406	Cwm Orog Mine, trials	Post Medieval	Mine trial	SJ05282725

1006 - Garthgelynen

15306	Aber-rhaiadr mill race	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ12852470
3904	Cae Garn placename	Bronze Age ?	Barrow ?	SJ08602555
3954	Cae y Garreg Lwyd placename	Bronze Age ?	Standing stone ?	SJ11262500
1475	Castell Moch Fawr castle	Medieval	Motte and bailey ?	SJ11102460
4998	Ceunant mound	Unknown	Non antiquity	SJ12022515
20237	Cileos Isaf house	Medieval ?	House	SJ09602515
8694	Cileos Isaf house site	Post Medieval	House	SJ09562515
70535	Cileos ridge and furrow	Modern	Ridge and furrow	SJ09392532
15258	Cwm Glan-hafon slate quarry	Post Medieval	Quarry (slate)	SJ064265
70574	Fron Goch Llanrhaiadr-yn enclosure	Medieval ?	Enclosure	SJ1247725448
1471	Garn clay finds	Iron Age ?	Find	SJ0826
15247	Garn-uchaf trial levels	Post Medieval	Level	SJ09212640
15248	Garn-uchaf trial levels	Post Medieval	Mine (lead)	SJ09432664
15379	Garthgelynen Fawr house	Post Medieval	House	SJ099251
15297	Garthgelynen-fawr clay pits	Post Medieval	Clay pit	SJ10192509
25616	Henblas house	Post Medieval ?	House	SJ1226
101051	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant monastery	Dark Age	Monastery ?	SJ1226
101402	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant stones	Bronze Age ?	Standing stone ?	SJ1226
25921	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, almshouses	Post Medieval ?	Almshouse	SJ1226
26762	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, mill	Post Medieval	Mill (corn)	SJ124259
15371	Llwyn-onn house	Medieval	House	SJ07252622
1480	Nant Fagl mound	Unknown	Non antiquity	SJ12042466
15266	Pedairfordd railway station	Modern	Railway station	SJ11752460
153592	Pont Efail-wag bridge	Post Medieval	Bridge	SJ12042476
15303	Pydffald quarry	Post Medieval ?	Quarry	SJ11222577
8446	Tan y Graig house site	Post Medieval ?	House	SJ05622635
15375	Tan-y-graig house	Medieval	House	SJ05622636
15383	Trap house	Medieval ?	House	SJ10552560
15389	Ty Newydd sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ09602703
15348	Ty-newydd sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ09602702
34371	Tyddyn-llwydion house	Medieval	House	SJ1075925954

1007 - Cefn-coch

3955	Cae y Garreg placename	Bronze Age ?	Standing stone ?	SJ09802660
1588	Castell Pren placename	Iron Age	Hillfort ?	SJ09722599
4995	Gwernen Lydan platform	Post Medieval ?	Platform	SJ10282583
8695	Pen y Wern house site	Post Medieval	House ?	SJ10132597
70536	Pen-y-lan cutting	Modern	Aqueduct	SJ11302591
15296	Plas-du Chapel	Modern	Chapel	SJ10072560
38223	Tomen Cefncoch cropmark I	Unknown	Field system ?	SJ1039226348
38224	Tomen Cefncoch cropmark II	Unknown	Field system ?	SJ1049526348
38226	Tomen Cefncoch ditch	Unknown	Ditch	SJ1050426445
38225	Tomen Cefncoch enclosure	Unknown	Enclosure	SJ1043526499
1474	Tomen Cefncoch motte	Medieval	Motte	SJ10472625

1008 - Allt Tair Ffynnon

15369	Pen-y-graig house	Medieval	House	SJ16902343
101070	Pentrefelin axe find	Prehistoric	Find	SJ1524
101062	Tomen y Maerdy motte	Medieval	Motte	SJ14882396
104530	Tŷn-y-fedw house	Post Medieval	House	SJ17862306
15360	Ty-nant house	Post Medieval	House	SJ17652358

1009 - Llanrhaeadr-ym-mochnant

15727	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant	Multiperiod	Settlement	SJ124260
101046	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant Church (St Dogfan)	Multiperiod	Church	SJ12382602
101047	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant Church (St Dogfan), church	Medieval	Church	SJ12382602
101048	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant Church (St Dogfan), cross	Dark Age	Cross	SJ12382602
33856	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant Church (St Dogfan), stone	Medieval ?	Decorated stone	SJ124260
19793	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant Church (St Dogfan), yard	Medieval	Churchyard	SJ12382602
101044	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant standing stone	Bronze Age ?	Standing stone ?	SJ12542590
15378	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, bridge	Post Medieval	Bridge	SJ12292610
37005	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, chapel I	Modern	Chapel	SJ1220626046
37006	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, chapel II	Modern	Chapel	SJ1223126100
7635	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, former inn	Post Medieval	House	SJ12222607
33855	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, milestone	Modern	Milestone	SJ124260
15307	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, New Mill leat	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ12202645
31850	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, telephone kiosk	Modern	Telephone kiosk	SJ124260
15397	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, toll gate I	Post Medieval	Toll Gate	SJ124260
15399	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, toll gate II	Post Medieval	Toll Gate	SJ122261
15398	Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant, toll gate III	Post Medieval	Toll Gate	SJ124262
3953	Waterloo Stone	Post Medieval	Inscribed stone	SJ12252615

1010 - Llangynog

3900	Cae Garn placename	Bronze Age ?	Barrow ?	SJ04982568
15285	Capel Carmel	Modern	Chapel	SJ05372608
15284	Capel Penuel	Modern	Chapel	SJ05182605
8430	Craig Rhiwarth Mine ; North Llangynog Mine	Modern	Mine (lead)	SJ05552656
23385	Craig Rhiwarth Mine, house	Modern	House	SJ053263
15200	Craig Rhiwarth quarry	Post Medieval	Quarry (slate)	SJ055265
15242	Craig Rhiwarth roadstone quarry	Modern	Quarry (stone)	SJ05212653
15207	Craig y Cribin quarry	Post Medieval	Quarry (slate)	SJ047262
18668	Cwm Orog Mine, building platform	Post Medieval	Platform	SJ04992627
4993	Glyn Du ridge and furrow	Medieval ?	Ridge and furrow	SJ0534326050
15722	Llangynog	Multiperiod	Settlement	SJ0524426174
1469	Llangynog axe find	Bronze Age	Find	SJ0526
70528	Llangynog Bridge		Bridge	SJ05432590
16482	Llangynog Church (St Cynog)	Multiperiod	Church	SJ05302610
17686	Llangynog Church (St Cynog), bells	Modern	Church bell	SJ05302610
7629	Llangynog Church (St Cynog), church	Post Medieval	Church	SJ05302610
7628	Llangynog Church (St Cynog), yard	Multiperiod	Churchyard	SJ05302610
15261	Llangynog granite quarry	Modern	Quarry (stone)	SJ048264
15286	Llangynog Independent Chapel	Modern	Chapel	SJ04992587
8437	Llangynog Mine, dressing floors	Modern	Dressing floor	SJ052257
8435	Llangynog Mine, engine house	Modern	Engine house	SJ052257
26335	Llangynog Mine, horse whim circle	Modern	Horse whim ?	SJ052257
8434	Llangynog Mine, wheelpit	Modern	Wheel pit	SJ052257
15268	Llangynog railway station	Modern	Railway station	SJ05402620
15241	Llangynog stone quarry	Modern	Quarry (stone)	SJ05402560
7630	Llangynog, derelict houses	Post Medieval	Shrunken settlement	SJ05442633
7634	Llangynog, New Inn	Post Medieval	Public house	SJ05342610
26780	Pandy 'r Felin mill	Post Medieval	Mill (corn)	SJ051263
13153	Pont Farrog bridge II	Post Medieval	Bridge	SJ0544025942
5926	Ty Newydd gunpowder magazine	Post Medieval	Magazine	SJ052257
15208	West Llangynog quarry	Modern	Quarry (slate)	SJ049259

1011 - Cwm Pennant

18 Gwely Melangell	Medieval ?	Cave	SJ02472623
15240 Llangynog Mine, leat	Modern	Leat	SJ03342500
32672 Llechwedd y garth house	Post Medieval	House	SJ0326
32672 Llechwedd y garth house	Post Medieval	House	SJ033263
15279 Pen Cerrig sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ02632687
15744 Pennant Melangell	Multiperiod	Settlement	SJ0243826541
19470 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell)	Multiperiod	Church	SJ02422654
50677 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), BA cremation	Bronze Age	Cremation	SJ02422654
50681 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), bells	Post Medieval	Church bell	SJ02422654
50679 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), Cell-y-Bedd	Post Medieval	Shrine	SJ02422654
14 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), church	Medieval	Church	SJ02422654
15 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), cockpit I	Post Medieval	Cockpit	SJ02412656
16 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), cockpit II	Post Medieval	Cockpit	SJ02492651
17 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), cross site	Medieval	Cross	SJ02452656
50678 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), Dark Age phase	Dark Age	Ditch	SJ02422654
50683 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), effigy 1	Medieval	Effigy	SJ02422654
50684 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), effigy 2	Medieval	Effigy	SJ02422654
50682 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), font	Medieval	Font	SJ02422654
50680 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), lychgate	Post Medieval	Lychgate	SJ02362665
6342 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), preaching mound	Dark Age ?	Preaching mound ?	SJ024266
50686 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), pulpit	Post Medieval	Pulpit	SJ02422654
50685 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), rood screen	Post Medieval	Rood screen	SJ02422654
50687 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), shrine	Medieval	Shrine	SJ02422654
7624 Pennant Melangell Church (St Melangell), yard	Medieval	Churchyard	SJ0238926585
13 Pennant Melangell monastery	Dark Age	Monastery	SJ0226
3774 Pennant Melangell shrunken village	Medieval ?	Deserted settlement	SJ024265
7625 Pennant Melangell, building	Post Medieval ?	Building	SJ02462649
7626 Pennant Melangell, building	Post Medieval ?	Building	SJ02592648
7627 Pennant Melangell, building	Post Medieval ?	Building	SJ02692644
37014 Pennant Melangell, structure I	Unknown	Dwelling ?	SJ0227226444
37015 Pennant Melangell, structure II	Unknown	Dwelling ?	SJ0246526635
13312 Rhydyfelin mill, farmwheel	Post Medieval	Farmwheel	SJ033254
37508 Rhydyfelin placename	Post Medieval	Mill (fulling) ?	SJ033254
6203 Tan y Foel enclosure	Iron Age ?	Enclosure ?	SJ03242577
3908 Tir y Maen placename	Bronze Age ?	Standing stone ?	SJ02622475
15376 Trefechan house	Medieval	House	SJ02552616
15204 Ty Ucha house	Post Medieval	House	SJ02842477
15377 Ty'n-y-cabld house	Medieval?	House	SJ01642667

1012 - Cwm Blowty

15357	Braich y Cawr sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ07622925
15356	Braich y Gawres sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ07542924
15349	Commings Independent Chapel	Modern	Chapel	SJ10292760
70527	Gardden-fach milestone	Modern	Milestone	SJ10122780
15347	Graig Garwallt quarry	Post Medieval ?	Quarry	SJ09692760
15351	Gwern-feifod sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ09872870
100858	Gwernfeifod enclosure	Medieval ?	Enclosure	SJ09722819
35793	Gwernfeifod Grange (Valle Crucis)	Medieval	Grange	SJ0947428988
70525	Maes-y-bwch bridge	Post Medieval	Bridge	SJ09532817
15350	Maes-y-bwch sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ09552820
18993	Nant-y-blaidd Mine	Post Medieval	Mine (lead)	SJ09032833
100855	Pant y Garreg Fawr stone heap I	Post Medieval ?	Clearance cairn ?	SJ08522883
100856	Pant y Garreg Fawr stone heap II	Post Medieval ?	Clearance cairn ?	SJ08512879
15362	Pistyll Rhaeadr cottage	Post Medieval	House	SJ074295
101576	St Dogfan's Well	Medieval	Well	SJ094290
15361	Tan-y-ffordd house	Medieval	House	SJ10982732
15326	Tan-y-pistyll sheepfold I	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ07412952
15355	Tyn-y-celyn sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ07882911
100860	Tyn-y-ddol stone hammer find	Bronze Age	Find	SJ088286
15354	Tyn-y-llwyn quarry	Post Medieval ?	Quarry	SJ09042839
70526	Tyn-y-dol milestone	Modern	Milestone	SJ08772866

1013 - Cwm Rhiwarth

15283	Buarth-glas Chapel	Modern	Chapel	SJ03852759
1587	Carneddau placename	Bronze Age ?	Barrow ?	SJ03922859
15400	Craffe Du toll gate	Post Medieval	Toll Gate	SJ045274
15254	Eithin trial	Post Medieval	Mine trial (lead)	SJ044276
3899	Erw'r Garnedd placename	Bronze Age ?	Barrow ?	SJ03752865
15220	Glanyrafon quarry	Modern	Quarry (slate)	SJ04092717
15282	Nant y Pantiau sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ04292837
15275	Tre-rhiwarth sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ02572922

1014 - Waun Llestri

15273 Cerrig Trwsogl sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ01172509
45 Craig yr Arian hoard	Unknown	Hoard (gold)	SJ02382460
15293 Craig yr Arian sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ02402461
15225 Cwmllech level	Modern	Level	SJ01802440
41 Ffrord Gefn cist	Bronze Age	Cist ?	SJ03312406
15239 Llangynog Mine, leat	Modern	Leat	SJ02802446
7878 Llyn y Mynydd Mine dam	Post Medieval	Dam	SJ00952508
7862 Llyn y Mynydd standing stone	Bronze Age ?	Standing stone ?	SJ00722512
15292 Nant Tre-fechan sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ01972582
15251 Nant Tre-fechan trial level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ023257
15288 Pant Ysgulfin sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ02102426
19471 Pennant Melangell, former parish	Medieval	Parish	SJ0226
15289 Pistyll y Gyfyng sheepfold I	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ01892452
15290 Pistyll y Gyfyng sheepfold II	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ01842462
7875 Tap Careg-hau mound	Bronze Age ?	Round barrow (cairn) ?	SJ00392560
15238 West Llangynog Mine	Modern	Mine (lead)	SJ025244

1015 - Hafod Hir

6804	Berwyn mine	Modern	Mine (phosphate)	SJ01382943
7910	Blaen y cwm platform I	Post Medieval ?	Platform	SJ01232713
7911	Blaen y cwm platform II	Post Medieval ?	Platform	SJ00902740
15257	Blaen y cwm trial	Modern	Mine trial (phosphate)	SJ014266
15277	Craig Boeth sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ03122842
15278	Craig Pen-y-buarth sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ03732702
12	Craig Ty Glas cairn	Bronze Age	Round barrow (kerb cairn)	SJ03262758
3915	Craig y Castell placename	Iron Age ?	Hillfort ?	SJ032280
35054	Cribin hut	Medieval ?	Hut	SJ03992648
7005	Cribin settlement	Medieval ?	Platform settlement ?	SJ03952666
15276	Cwm Rhiwarth sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ02902915
11	Ffynnon Cwm Ewyn well	Medieval ?	Well	SJ02542736
7914	Graig Wen shooting butt I	Modern ?	Shooting butt	SJ00492726
7916	Graig Wen shooting butt II	Modern ?	Shooting butt ?	SJ00602731
7917	Grain Wen shooting butt III	Modern ?	Shooting butt ?	SJ00632734
7915	Grain Wen standing stone	Post Medieval ?	Marker stone ?	SJ00542728
6206	Gribin cairn	Bronze Age	Round barrow (cairn)	SJ03822659
19	Gribin cist	Bronze Age	Cist ?	SJ03952647
5953	Gribin cropmarks	Unknown	Non antiquity	SJ040265
35053	Gribin hafod	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ03882638
9	Hen Eglwys Pont Dwr church site	Medieval ?	Church ?	SJ02502940
15291	Llechwedd-y-garth quarry	Post Medieval ?	Quarry	SJ03452632
15271	Moel Blaen-y-cwm sheepfold I	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ01752800
15280	Moel Blaen-y-cwm sheepfold II	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ02122754
7909	Nant Achlas hut	Medieval	Hut ?	SJ01142658
15219	Nant Calch Mine	Modern	Mine (phosphate)	SJ01402946
15274	Nant Ceunant-bach sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ02022973
15246	Nant Hafod-y-brain levels	Post Medieval	Level	SJ023297
10	Nant Llwyn Gwern cist	Bronze Age ?	Cist	SJ02542931
8	Nant Llwyngwern inscribed stone	Post Medieval	Memorial	SJ01912968
7783	Nant Pen Cerrig hut	Medieval	Hut	SJ01192790
7786	Pen Cerrig enclosure	Post Medieval	Enclosure	SJ00632786
7784	Pen Cerrig fold	Medieval	Fold ?	SJ01072794
7785	Pen Cerrig hafod	Post Medieval ?	Hafod	SJ01042796
7787	Pen Cerrig hut	Post Medieval	Hut	SJ00512801
7788	Pen Cerrig platform I	Post Medieval ?	Platform	SJ00202791
7792	Pen Cerrig platform II	Post Medieval ?	Platform	SJ01022788
7793	Pen Cerrig platform III	Post Medieval ?	Platform	SJ01002783
7791	Pen Cerrig standing stone	Bronze Age ?	Standing stone	SJ00392782
7912	Pistyll Blaen y Cwm cairn	Post Medieval ?	Cairn	SJ00702759
35902	Pistyll Blaen y Cwm fold	Post Medieval	Fold	SJ00522766
7913	Pistyll Blaen y Cwm house	Post Medieval	House ?	SJ00522766
15269	Trwyn Swch gravel pit I	Post Medieval	Quarry (gravel pit)	SJ01402976
15270	Trwyn Swch gravel pit II	Post Medieval	Quarry (gravel pit)	SJ01362960
6803	Trwyn Swch sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ01162958

1016 - Rhos y Beddau

6800 Afon Disgynfa sheepfold I	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ05213020
6801 Afon Disgynfa sheepfold II	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ05723003
6802 Afon Disgynfa sheepfold III	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ06113001
102693 Berwyn axe find	Bronze Age ?	Find	SJ0732
15209 Bwlch Gwyn quarry	Post Medieval	Quarry (slate?)	SJ042291
3 Cerig Beddau barrow	Bronze Age	Round barrow (kerb cairn)	SJ05883023
4593 Cerrig Beddau cairn	Unknown	Non antiquity ?	SJ05873022
15330 Cerrig Beddau sheepfolds I	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ06123000
15328 Cerrig Doethion sheepfold I	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ07583057
15329 Cerrig Doethion sheepfold II	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ07593077
23628 Ceulan Meyhern environmental site	Multiperiod	Environmental site	SJ063318
15334 Clipau Rhos-beddau sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ05793086
6827 Cwm Llwyd-Mawr sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ05602984
6055 Cwm Rhiwiau stone circle	Bronze Age ?	Stone circle	SJ05983055
15332 Cwm yr eithin sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ05223020
6824 Ddalfa Ddu sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ03402946
6825 Llechwedd Llwyd sheepfold I	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ03902928
2 Moel Sych barrow	Bronze Age	Round barrow (cairn)	SJ06623186
23626 Moel Sych environmental site	Multiperiod	Environmental site	SJ067319
100852 Moel y Ewig barrow	Bronze Age	Round barrow ?	SJ076312
15203 Nant Llwynon quarry	Post Medieval ?	Quarry (slate)	SJ051289
105061 Nant Llyn sheepfold I	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold ?	SJ07573076
105062 Nant Llyn sheepfold II	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ07563057
3914 Pen y Bryniau mound	Post Medieval	Boundary marker ?	SJ01753056
1 Pen y Garnedd barrow	Bronze Age	Round barrow ?	SJ04103092
101660 Pen y Garnedd cairn site	Bronze Age	Barrow	SJ04823148
34358 Post Gwyn aircraft crash site	Modern	Aircraft Crash Site	SJ05402893
4 Rhos y Beddau stone circle complex	Bronze Age	Stone circle	SJ05773021
7083 Rhyd y Cwrlid farmstead	Medieval ?	Farmstead ?	SJ06153005
7082 Rhyd y Cwrlid hafod	Post Medieval ?	Hafod ?	SJ05753005
4436 Sgynfa cairns	Bronze Age	Barrow cemetery ?	SJ0631
23623 Trwm Felin environmental site I	Multiperiod	Environmental site	SJ067310
23624 Trwm Felin environmental site II	Multiperiod	Environmental site	SJ073305
23629 Y Godor environmental site I	Multiperiod	Environmental site	SJ078317

1017 - Y Clogydd

100853	Afon Disgynfa cairn	Bronze Age	Round barrow (kerb cairn)	SJ07042971
34357	Bedd Crynddyn boundary stone	Post Medieval	Boundary stone	SJ0584928196
1468	Bedd Crynddyn Moel Cerrig Gwynion barrow	Bronze Age	Round barrow (cairn)	SJ058280
15252	Bryn Mawr trial level	Post Medieval	Level (lead)	SJ054283
3903	Carreg y Cyfrwy stone	Post Medieval	Boundary marker ?	SJ05732767
15331	Cerrig Beddau sheepfolds II	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ06583005
15343	Craig Rhiwarth sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ06352682
8438	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine	Multiperiod	Mine (lead)	SJ07422852
23431	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine (Earlier Post Medieval Phase)	Post Medieval	Mine (lead)	SJ07422852
23432	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine (Later Post Medieval Phase)	Post Medieval	Mine (lead)	SJ07422852
23433	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine (Modern Phase)	Modern	Mine (lead)	SJ07422852
23430	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine (Roman Phase)	Roman ?	Mine (lead)	SJ07422852
18381	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, boundary	Post Medieval	Boundary bank	SJ07422858
18382	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, boundary	Post Medieval	Boundary bank	SJ07472828
18380	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, boundary bank	Post Medieval	Boundary bank	SJ07472833
18394	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, boundary bank	Post Medieval	Boundary bank	SJ07402818
18674	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, boundary bank	Post Medieval	Boundary bank	SJ07422852
18360	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, building	Post Medieval	Mine building ?	SJ07452846
15346	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, cottages	Post Medieval ?	Mine housing ?	SJ07902861
18363	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, enclosure	Post Medieval	Enclosure	SJ07502834
18362	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, enclosure	Post Medieval	Enclosure	SJ07472843
18378	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, enclosure	Post Medieval	Enclosure	SJ07452833
18379	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, enclosure	Post Medieval	Enclosure	SJ07472833
18361	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, hushing channel	Post Medieval	Hushing channel	SJ07452849
18392	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, hushing channel	Post Medieval	Hushing channel	SJ07452816
8441	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, incline	Post Medieval ?	Incline	SJ076285
18385	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, leat	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ07422847
18374	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, leat	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ07432845
18373	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, leat	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ07502858
18372	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, leat	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ07522845
18387	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, leat	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ07442833
18389	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, leat	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ07542835
18390	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, leat	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ07542835
18384	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, leat	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ07222828
18370	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ07512836
18369	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ07512835
18388	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, Lower Miners' Pool	Post Medieval	Reservoir	SJ07102800
8443	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, office	Post Medieval ?	Mine office	SJ076285
18355	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, open-cast	Post Medieval	Mine opencast	SJ07502850
18356	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, platforms	Post Medieval	Platform	SJ07352860
8442	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, powder magazine	Post Medieval ?	Magazine	SJ076285
18358	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, reservoir	Post Medieval	Reservoir	SJ07482847
18357	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, reservoir	Post Medieval	Reservoir	SJ07422856
18364	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, reservoir	Post Medieval	Reservoir	SJ07532847
18359	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, reservoir	Post Medieval	Reservoir	SJ07462845
18368	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, reservoir	Post Medieval	Reservoir	SJ07482844
18365	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, reservoir	Post Medieval	Reservoir	SJ07542843
18367	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, reservoir	Post Medieval	Reservoir	SJ07482836
18366	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, reservoirs	Post Medieval	Reservoir	SJ07532845
18375	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, shaft	Post Medieval	Shaft	SJ07412832
8445	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, stables	Post Medieval	Stable	SJ076285
18391	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, track	Post Medieval	Trackway	SJ07452819
18395	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, track	Post Medieval	Trackway	SJ07402818
18393	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, trackways	Post Medieval	Trackway	SJ07452833
18377	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, tramway	Post Medieval	Tramway	SJ07622840
18376	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, trials	Post Medieval	Mine trial	SJ07402847

1017 - Y Clogydd*continued*

18371	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, trials	Post Medieval	Mine trial	SJ07542835
18386	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, Upper Miners' Pool	Post Medieval	Reservoir	SJ07002840
8439	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, wheelpit	Post Medieval	Wheel pit	SJ076285
8444	Craig-y-Mwyn Mine, workshops	Post Medieval	Mine workshop	SJ076285
18530	Craig-y-Mwyn sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ07492812
15333	Craig-y-Mwyn sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ07452833
6828	Craig-y-pistyll slate workings	Post Medieval	Quarry (slate)	SJ073293
18319	Cubil smelter	Post Medieval	Smelter	SJ06302680
26336	Cwm Glan-hafon building	Post Medieval	Building	SJ06352683
15211	Cwm Glan-hafon mine	Post Medieval	Mine (lead)	SJ06542757
5059	Cwm Glan-hafon platforms	Post Medieval	Spoil heap	SJ063278
15249	Cwm Glan-hafon quarry	Post Medieval	Quarry (slate)	SJ062272
15342	Cwm Glan-hafon sheepfolds	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ06222766
15259	Cwm Glan-hafon slate quarry	Modern	Quarry (slate)	SJ06602735
15250	Cwm Glan-hafon trial	Post Medieval	Mine trial (lead)	SJ066266
15213	Cwm Main quarry	Post Medieval ?	Quarry	SJ05952939
5925	Cwm Orog Mine	Multiperiod	Mine (lead)	SJ05202730
23417	Cwm Orog Mine (Medieval Phase)	Medieval ?	Mine (lead)	SJ052273
23418	Cwm Orog Mine (Post Medieval Phase)	Post Medieval	Mine (lead)	SJ052273
23415	Cwm Orog Mine (Prehistoric Phase)	Prehistoric ?	Mine (lead)	SJ052273
23416	Cwm Orog Mine (Roman Phase)	Roman ?	Mine (lead)	SJ052273
18441	Cwm Orog Mine, aerial ropeway bottom station	Post Medieval	Aerial ropeway station	SJ04682736
18408	Cwm Orog Mine, aerial ropeway top station	Post Medieval	Aerial ropeway station	SJ05152732
18676	Cwm Orog Mine, barytes workings	Post Medieval	Mine (barytes)	SJ05092726
18404	Cwm Orog Mine, building	Post Medieval	Mine building ?	SJ05212726
18403	Cwm Orog Mine, building	Post Medieval	Mine building ?	SJ05172726
18643	Cwm Orog Mine, building	Post Medieval	Mine building ?	SJ05032729
18420	Cwm Orog Mine, building	Post Medieval	Mine building ?	SJ04942730
18423	Cwm Orog Mine, building platform	Post Medieval	Platform	SJ04942731
18443	Cwm Orog Mine, crusher house	Post Medieval	Crusher house	SJ04662737
18442	Cwm Orog Mine, crusher house wheelpit	Post Medieval	Wheel pit	SJ04662737
18444	Cwm Orog Mine, dressing floor	Post Medieval	Dressing floor	SJ04662738
18396	Cwm Orog Mine, early workings	Post Medieval	Mine (lead)	SJ05402730
18409	Cwm Orog Mine, incline	Post Medieval	Incline	SJ05152731
18438	Cwm Orog Mine, leat	Post Medieval	Leat ?	SJ04632740
18439	Cwm Orog Mine, leat	Post Medieval	Leat ?	SJ04702738
18435	Cwm Orog Mine, leat	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ04692738
18397	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ05302727
18398	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ05252727
18399	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ05182728
18400	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ05202726
18415	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ05082728
18414	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ05082725
18416	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ05032728
18419	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ04982729
18425	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ04862733
18426	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ04792733
18428	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ04782728
18417	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ05012725
18418	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ05002724
18433	Cwm Orog Mine, level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ04672735
18422	Cwm Orog Mine, ore-bin	Post Medieval	Ore bin	SJ04932732
18424	Cwm Orog Mine, ore-bin	Post Medieval	Ore bin	SJ04882733
18430	Cwm Orog Mine, ore-bin	Post Medieval	Ore bin	SJ04712736
18427	Cwm Orog Mine, ore-bin	Post Medieval	Ore bin	SJ04762735
18652	Cwm Orog Mine, ore-bin	Post Medieval	Ore bin	SJ04682735

1017 - Y Clogydd*continued*

18644 Cwm Orog Mine, ore-chute	Post Medieval	Ore chute	SJ04962725
18645 Cwm Orog Mine, ore-chute	Post Medieval	Ore chute	SJ04742729
18421 Cwm Orog Mine, ore-slide	Post Medieval	Ore slide	SJ04962724
18429 Cwm Orog Mine, ore-slide	Post Medieval	Ore slide	SJ04742729
18432 Cwm Orog Mine, ore-slide	Post Medieval	Ore slide	SJ04692734
18661 Cwm Orog Mine, ore-slide	Post Medieval	Ore slide	SJ04812735
18445 Cwm Orog Mine, pier base	Post Medieval	Pier base	SJ04672737
18712 Cwm Orog Mine, pier base	Post Medieval	Pier base	SJ04922734
18713 Cwm Orog Mine, pier base	Post Medieval	Pier base	SJ04872735
18714 Cwm Orog Mine, pier base	Post Medieval	Pier base	SJ04852735
18715 Cwm Orog Mine, pier base	Post Medieval	Pier base	SJ04812735
18431 Cwm Orog Mine, platform	Post Medieval	Platform	SJ04712736
18434 Cwm Orog Mine, quarry	Post Medieval	Quarry	SJ04652735
18437 Cwm Orog Mine, settling pits	Post Medieval	Settling pits	SJ04622738
18436 Cwm Orog Mine, smithy	Post Medieval	Smithy	SJ04682741
18664 Cwm Orog Mine, tailrace	Post Medieval	Leat ?	SJ04642739
18407 Cwm Orog Mine, tramway	Post Medieval	Tramway	SJ05182732
18440 Cwm Orog Mine, trackway	Post Medieval	Trackway	SJ04602739
18410 Cwm Orog Mine, tramway	Post Medieval	Tramway	SJ04972724
18411 Cwm Orog Mine, tramway	Post Medieval	Tramway	SJ04752729
18412 Cwm Orog Mine, tramway	Post Medieval	Tramway	SJ04692734
18413 Cwm Orog Mine, tramway	Post Medieval	Tramway	SJ04692735
5118 Garn Uchaf enclosure	Iron Age	Hillfort ?	SJ08282654
3901 Garnedd Wen cairn	Bronze Age	Round barrow (kerb cairn)	SJ06732790
5055 Garnedd Wen clearance cairn I	Prehistoric ?	Clearance cairn	SJ07042781
6381 Garnedd Wen clearance cairn II	Prehistoric ?	Clearance cairn	SJ07062782
6382 Garnedd Wen clearance cairn III	Prehistoric ?	Clearance cairn	SJ07072781
23182 Garnedd Wen hofodty	Post Medieval ?	Hafod	SJ06852795
6064 Garnedd Wen hut I	Iron Age ?	Hut	SJ068278
5054 Garnedd Wen hut II	Iron Age ?	Hut	SJ06792793
15341 Garnedd Wen sheepfolds	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ06802800
5056 Glan Hafon cairn I	Bronze Age	Round barrow (ring cairn)	SJ07152776
5057 Glan Hafon cairn II	Post Medieval ?	Peat stack ?	SJ07062776
4427 Glan Hafon Uchaf platforms	Post Medieval ?	Platform settlement	SJ06252665
15210 Glan-hafon quarry	Post Medieval ?	Quarry (slate?)	SJ06952704
15344 Glan-hafon sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ07582675
6826 Llechwedd Llwyd sheepfold II	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ04252884
100859 Maes-y-bwch quern find	Prehistoric ?	Find	SJ0928
15212 Moel Crynddyn quarry	Post Medieval	Quarry (slate)	SJ06102777
15340 Moel Gloywfa sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ06852986
15281 Nant Bwch-gwyn quarry	Post Medieval ?	Quarry	SJ04902870
15202 Nant Ddial quarry	Modern	Quarry (slate)	SJ06602730
5058 Nant y Gangen Ddu cairn	Bronze Age	Round barrow (cairn)	SJ07692673
15217 Nant y Gangen-ddu quarry	Post Medieval ?	Quarry	SJ07642648
15214 Tan-y-pistyll quarry	Post Medieval ?	Quarry	SJ07452974
15327 Tan-y-pistyll sheepfold II	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ07452960
101420 Tan-y-pistyll spindlewhorl find	Prehistoric ?	Find	SJ07262955
15345 Y Garn sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ08442676
15388 Y Garn sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ08692671

1018 - Mynydd-mawr

15312 Mynydd Mawr sheepfold

Post Medieval ? Sheepfold

SJ13412868

1019 - Cynriau

15222	Bryn-glas quarry	Post Medieval ?	Quarry	SJ06032572
15221	Bryn-glas trial	Post Medieval	Mine trial (lead)	SJ06032572
15223	Cynriau level	Post Medieval	Level	SJ062254
8433	Llangynog Mine	Multiperiod	Mine (lead)	SJ05502555
15224	Nant-y-wern levels	Post Medieval	Level	SJ067253
15387	Nant-y-wern sheepfold	Post Medieval ?	Sheepfold	SJ06722533

1020 - Penybontfawr

4994	Bont Fawr gorsedd circle	Post Medieval	Gorsedd circle	SJ08802473
15380	Bryn Aber Hall	Modern	House	SJ10872428
17963	Cae Pistyll spearhead find	Bronze Age	Find	SJ07622475
17990	Capel Erw'r	Post Medieval ?	Chapel ?	SJ089245
4366	Cefn Tair Garreg placename	Bronze Age ?	Standing stone ?	SJ07662462
37018	Dolafron ridge and furrow	Medieval ?	Ridge and furrow	SJ0896724614
26781	Felinfach mill	Post Medieval	Mill	SJ083248
15372	Parc-bach house	Medieval	House	SJ09792430
16933	Pennant Church (St Thomas)	Multiperiod	Church	SJ08552459
17708	Pennant Church (St Thomas), bells	Post Medieval	Church bell	SJ08552459
31085	Pennant Church (St Thomas), church	Modern	Church	SJ08552459
16456	Pennant Church (St Thomas), yard	Medieval	Churchyard	SJ08552459
15745	Penybontfawr	Multiperiod	Settlement	SJ0868824573
13147	Penybontfawr bridge I	Modern	Bridge	SJ0887724770
70529	Penybontfawr bridge II	Post Medieval	Bridge	SJ08632452
15302	Penybontfawr Independent Chapel	Modern	Chapel	SJ08752455
15267	Penybontfawr railway station	Modern	Railway station	SJ09002478
4996	Penybontfawr ridge and furrow	Medieval ?	Ridge and furrow	SJ08402470
37016	Penybontfawr, cottages	Modern	House	SJ0869824537
37017	Penybontfawr, houses	Modern	House	SJ0858124551
70530	Penybontfawr, old chapel	Post Medieval	Chapel	SJ08822453
15300	Penygarnedd quarry I	Post Medieval ?	Quarry	SJ10422408
13148	Pont Farrog bridge I	Post Medieval ?	Bridge	SJ0863024519
3993	Ystrad Fawr road	Roman ?	Road	SJ08152474

1021 - Henfache

70523	Bryn-coch ridge and furrow	Undated	Ridge and furrow	SJ130274
101072	Erw Garn fieldname	Bronze Age ?	Barrow ?	SJ127278
101049	Hen Fache enclosure	Iron Age ?	Enclosure	SJ1241326568
102623	Henfache house	Post Medieval	House	SJ12382698
101426	Llanarmon Mynydd-mawr barrow	Bronze Age	Round barrow	SJ1327
101806	Pen-lan cropmark	Prehistoric ?	Enclosure ?	SJ123264
18110	Pen-y-graig Mine ; Blaen-y-glyn Mine	Post Medieval	Mine	SJ12402845
15395	Plas Henfache kiln	Post Medieval ?	Kiln ?	SJ12552709
25636	Plas-yn-glyn	Post Medieval ?	House	SJ12962781
25637	Plas-yn-glyn, barn	Post Medieval ?	Barn	SJ12962781
15386	Plas-yn-glyn, house	Post Medieval ?	House	SJ12962778
101050	Ty draw cruck hall	Medieval	House	SJ12812792
70524	Ty draw platform	Medieval	Platform	SJ126281

1022 - Cwm Ffynnon

100854 Nant y llyn urn find

Bronze Age

Find

SJ07512967

1023 - Brithdir

15305 Brithdir quarry	Post Medieval ?	Quarry	SJ12672428
15309 Cae Pant quarry	Post Medieval ?	Quarry	SJ12552355
70534 Caesiencyn ridge and furrow	Undated	Ridge and furrow	SJ12002440
1481 Castell Moch Fach motte	Unknown	Non antiquity ?	SJ11252408
15308 Castell Moch Fach quarry	Post Medieval ?	Quarry	SJ11322413
3806 Pen Ystryd placename	Unknown	Road ?	SJ13442356
15233 Penygarnedd Mine	Modern	Mine (phosphate)	SJ11102371
15304 Penygarnedd quarry II	Post Medieval ?	Quarry	SJ11202379
15401 Pont Pedair-ffordd bridge	Post Medieval	Bridge	SJ11572450

1024 - Glanhafon

15393	Bryndreiniog corn-drying kiln	Post Medieval ?	Corn drying kiln ?	SJ08002540
6053	Bryndreiniog Hoard; Glanafon Hoard	Bronze Age	Hoard (bronze)	SJ0825
15294	Felin Fach mill leat	Post Medieval	Leat	SJ07602557
1472	Glanhafon Uchaf quern find	Iron Age ?	Find	SJ0626
20238	Glanhafon-fach house	Medieval	House	SJ07312573
32673	Llwyn-Can farmhouse	Post Medieval ?	House	SJ0726