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17<sup>th</sup> October 2003

Our ref: 1017ns49

Your ref: MPP 10

Simon Mead  
Woodland Officer Ceredigion and South Powys  
The Forestry Commission

Dear Mr Mead,

## **WOODLAND MANAGEMENT PLAN: Parc yr Ynys, MPP 10**

### **INFORMATION TO WOODLAND OFFICER (ARCHAEOLOGY CONSULTATION RESPONSE)**

#### **INVENTORIES AND OUTLINE MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND FEATURES**

Thank you for sending us details concerning the above woodland.

### **SITE GAZETTEER, RECOMMENDATIONS AND HISTORICAL / ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUMMARY**

#### *GAZETTEER OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES*

According to our records, there are no known sites of archaeological or historical significance located within the above woodland.

#### *MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:*

We would recommend that any new preparation work and tree planting avoid any stone walls, sheepfolds, buildings, earthworks, banks, ditches or other landscape features which exist within the area as laid out in Forestry Commission's *Forests and Archaeology Guidelines* on new planting.

The conservation and management priorities identified for this area during the Historic Landscape Characterisation process include the preservation of the historic character of the quarry settlement itself, and the preservation of the character of the historic woodlands, the mills and the Telford road

#### *BRIEF HISTORICAL / ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUMMARY:*

The woodland falls within the area of Mynydd Llandygái, as identified in a recent Historic Landscape Characterisation project. It was part of the ffridd in the late eighteenth century, and was subsequently enclosed by the Penrhyn estate. During the Napoleonic wars the quarrymen were encouraged to grow potatoes here, and the rows of dwellings were established in stages between the 1830s and 1870s.

The key historic landscape characteristics of the area are the industrial settlement associated with the slate quarry, slate fencing, and crog-loffydd. The village itself is a distinctive nineteenth century workers' settlement.

**Cadeirydd - D. Hannah, F.C.A. - Chairman      Cyfarwyddwr - D.M.T. Longley, B.A., F.S.A., M.I.F.A. - Director**

Mae Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd yn Gwmni Cyfyngedig (Rhif Cof. 1180515) ac yn Elusen (Rhif Cof. 508849)  
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Immediately to the north east of the woodland is the scheduled ancient monument of Felin Fawr slate mill and quarry workshops complex. The earliest slate mill was opened here in 1803 as the first point where the quarry railway, opened in 1801, crossed a fall of water sufficiently strong to operate a water-wheel. New mills were subsequently constructed (in the 1830's and 1840's), and two mill reservoirs on the Galedffrwd were constructed upstream from Coed y Parc in 1846 and 1848. The present mills were constructed between 1863 and 1868.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century site also comprised an oil house, a foundry, a pattern shop, and a brass foundry. Stables had been built by 1801, but were later converted to housing, the present Tai'r Stablau, in 1875 when the first locomotive facilities were established on the southern perimeter of the site. These housed the locomotives which operated the quarry's main line to Port Penrhyn until its closure in 1962, and provided repair facilities until the closure of the quarry's internal railway in 1965, when the mills and workshops also ceased to function.

*RECOMMENDATION FOR FURTHER SURVEY:*

Having considered the criteria set out by GAT, we feel that a detailed survey of the woodland is not required in this instance.

We should emphasise that there may be hitherto unknown sites and features within the wooded areas. In the event of features of possible archaeological interest being discovered during the implementation of the proposed woodland management plan, we would be pleased to provide advice over the 'phone, or to attend a site meeting to advise accordingly,

Yours faithfully,

Nina Steele  
Sites and Monuments Record Archaeologist