

Ancient Woodland Restoration. Features Plan.

Woodland Name: Big Wood – Llethrau Farm

Nearest Town/Village: Felindre

Date: Nov 2016.



Report by:

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WHAT ARE ANCIENT WOODLANDS IN THE UK

Our ancient trees, forests and woodlands provide us with a unique link to our past. They give us intriguing insights into how we used to live and are steeped in our cultural history. Ancient woodland is also our most precious habitat. It is scarce and irreplaceable and supports 232 of our rarest and most vulnerable species.

Ancient woodland is land that has been continually wooded since at least 1600AD. Some ancient woodland may even be a link back to the original “wildwood” that covered the country around 10,000 years ago after the last ice age. Today, it contributes substantially to our natural and cultural heritage. However, ancient woodland is under increasing threat and today covers only 2% of the UK making it a priority for preservation and restoration. Almost half of the ancient woodland we have left has been planted with exotic trees, which can significantly denude its biodiversity value and ultimately be responsible for the demise of certain woodland specialist species subject to management and perpetuation of conifer rotations.

In the years following World War II much of our ancient woodlands were felled and replaced with non-native conifers. This coniferisation was carried out on a large scale by the public and private sectors as a result of a policy drive to replenish the national timber reserve and to improve the economics of ancient woodlands. At the time there was a lack of understanding of the biodiversity value of these important forests. Dense shade-casting conifers often smothered the remaining ancient woodland fauna and flora, resulting in the decline of any of these species.

ANCIENT WOODLAND INVENTORY (AWI).

The ancient woodland inventory for Wales was produced in 2011 and records the likely ancient woods, based on old maps overlaid with recent aerial photography. It categorises ancient woodlands as follows:-

Plantation on Ancient Woodland (PAWS): Sites which are believed to have been continuously wooded for over 400 years and currently have a canopy cover of more than 50% non-native usually conifer tree species.

Restored Ancient Woodland (RAWS): Woodlands which are predominately broadleaves and are believed to have been continually wooded for over 400 years. They will have gone through a phase when canopy cover will have been more than 50% non-native tree species. The term restored ancient woodland does not mean that the woodland is necessarily fully restored or that it is in a good ecological condition. Woodland management and further active restoration work may well be essential to consolidate the improvement in condition.

Ancient Semi Natural Woodland (ASNW): Broadleaf woodlands comprising of mainly native tree and shrub species which have been in existence for over 400 years.

SITE INTRODUCTION.

Woodland Name: Big Wood Llethrau Farm

Location Grid Ref: SO140835

Altitude: 420m

Total Woodland Area: 7.06Ha

Designations:

- Llethrau Camp at 150 -200m off site from southern boundary ((Refer to photograph below, right)

Rights of Way: Adjoining to the north.

Way Leaves: /

Ownership: Mr Thomas Stael von Holstein



Owners Objective: Full restoration to a woodland, dominated by native broadleaves.

National Vegetation Community type: This woodland has remnant of the original woodland type - W7 Alder with ash woodland along the stream corridor. Wet woodland is recognised as an important diminishing habitat within many Local Biodiversity Action Plans.

The following report is a brief assessment of the remnant ancient woodland features found within this woodland, which has in part been incorrectly recorded within the Ancient Woodland Inventory 2011 (Refer to ancient woodland features plan in appendices). The Tithe maps of circa 1840 would indicate that an area known as the '*Coppy*' was the only woodland in existence at that time within the current boundary of the woodland (Refer to tithe map and transcript in Appendices). By the 1st edition Epoch maps of 1868-1892 it would seem a mix of conifers and broadleaves had been planted (Refer to Epoch maps in Appendices). Therefore there have been several rotations of conifer on this site. Due to the wet nature of the stream banks and their undulating and steep nature these seems to have been left unplanted with remnant mature alder with hazel.

The woodland has undergone a significant phase of restoration with the sitka spruce plantation (planted 1975) having been felled in 2001-2003, following issues with wind blow (failure of the root plate due to wet ground conditions and wind).

Anecdotally red deer have been spotted although thought to be in low numbers with limited browsing damage noted on the site. Sheep are also gaining access currently in low numbers. Squirrel damage was noted on the young/early mature broadleaves which are starting to reach an age where they can support squirrels and the damage will no doubt increase. Whilst it's not the objective of the owner to grow quality timber and the site does not lend itself to this, squirrels will potentially damage the future broadleaved seed trees required for the long term survival of the broadleaved woodland.

Survey & Report.

Ancient woodland assessments have been derived as a way of identifying the remnant ancient woodland features where non -native tree species (usually conifers) have or had been planted. Due to the brief nature of this assessment it cannot be regarded as a full ecological survey or a comprehensive woodland management plan. However, it does aim to influence the management of this woodland in light of the owners' objectives to improve its habitat value and as an amenity value for both themselves and as a place for quite recreation for a proposed green tourism venture.

ANCIENT WOODLAND FEATURES.

The ancient woodland features surveyed, are split into four main categories:-

- 1.) Ancient woodland indicator species (primarily ground flora).**
- 2.) Ancient & veteran native trees.**
- 3.) Broadleaved deadwood (Inc. old dead stumps).**
- 4.) Historical features.**

The status of these ancient woodland features can be categorised as follows (this is not a reflection of the timber quality of the stands):

- **Secure:** likely to remain the same or improve given current conditions.
- **Threatened:** unlikely to be lost in the short term, given current conditions, but long term survival is doubtful without intervention.
- **Critical:** need urgent action to avoid irreversible, loss or serious deterioration.

ANCIENT SOILS.

An often overlooked and significant component of ancient woodland is the soil habitat.

The soil of primary woodland is rarely completely undisturbed although historic woodland management activities such as the creation of drainage ditches and boundary banks would only have caused localised disturbance and these are unlikely to have fundamentally changed the character of the soils. They are unlikely to have experienced significant historical disturbance events such as ploughing, fertilising, liming and remain relatively undisturbed and tend to be complex, supporting distinct species communities of fungi, insects, microbes and worms. Prolonged intensive management operations such as implementing coppice systems, may have resulted in reduced fertility. Therefore soils have the ability to provide the long term evidence base of historical land usage and vegetation coverage etc. The soils in themselves are also important carbon stores.

ANCIENT & VETERAN NATIVE BROADLEAVED TREES.

- **Veteran tree:** “that is of interest biologically, aesthetically or culturally because of its age, size or condition” (Read, 1999).
- **Ancient tree:** Ancient is an age-class characterised by particular physiological processes and developmental stages. ‘An ancient tree is one that is old for its species and, while all chronologically ancient trees have veteran features sufficient to qualify them as veteran trees, all veteran trees will not necessarily have entered into the ancient age class’ (Neville Fay 2007).

The site has a number of mature trees which are maidens and also derived from lapsed coppice stools, most notably the alder along the stream corridor (photo, right: early **veteran**, mature alder lapsed coppice stool). These mature trees are important seed sources for natural regeneration and vestiges of the original tree cover and genotype. Several of the surviving mature broadleaved species are within the PAWS (conifer stand) and are suppressed as a result being out competed for light. (Refer to photographs below).





DEADWOOD & OLD STUMPS.




There is limited large diameter fallen or standing deadwood (Photo left, suppressed broadleaf in western hemlock stand that has died due to the shading and competition from the conifers. It would seem the original broadleaved stumps following felling were seemingly removed (grubbed out) during the creation of the conifer woodland. The land was also ploughed in preparation for planting.




Dying and dead wood provides one of the greatest ecological resources in a natural forest either having fallen or still standing. It provides a niche habitat for lower plants, insects and fungi in particular providing an important food source for bats, birds and other animals. The major groups




that thrive and require such niche habitats include beetles, flies, solitary bees, insectivorous birds, bats, fungi, mosses, lichens and liverworts. They include some species such as woodpeckers, stag beetle and hoverflies. In the UK many red – listed invertebrate species are confined to decayed wood within ancient standing trees.




ANCIENT WOODLAND INDICATOR SPECIES.


Ancient woodland flora is noted throughout the Ancient Semi Natural Woodland and Plantation on Ancient Woodland, although the timing of the survey (November) is not an ideal time of year for flora surveys.

Ancient Woodland Indicator - Flora	
Bluebell	
Common cow wheat	
Climbing corydalis	

Ancient Woodland Indicator - Flora	
Yellow Pimpernel	
Scaly Male fern	
Common dog violet	

Ancient Woodland Indicator - Flora	
Wood sedge	
Wild strawberry	
Bilberry	

Ancient Woodland Indicator - Flora	
Opposite golden leaved saxifrage	 A close-up photograph of Opposite golden leaved saxifrage (Saxifraga oppositifolia). The plant features small, rounded, green leaves with prominent veins. A pink pencil is placed horizontally above the plant to provide a sense of scale.
Water avens	 A close-up photograph of Water avens (Filipendula vulgaris). The image shows large, deeply lobed, green leaves with serrated margins. A reddish-brown flower head is visible in the upper left corner.
Wavy Hair grass	 A close-up photograph of Wavy Hair grass (Deschampsia flexuosa). The image shows a single, slender, arching stem with small, white, spike-like flowers. The background is dark and out of focus.

Ancient Woodland Indicator - Flora	
Wood sorrel	

HISTORICAL FEATURES

There are no obvious man-made historical structures, but the coppiced trees are a remnant of past management as are the two banked field boundaries (Refer to ancient woodland features plan in Appendices and photo of an ancient banked hedge, below).



WOODLAND DESCRIPTION

The woodland has been compartmentalised into 4 distinct areas; 1a) the ancient remnant woodland along the stream corridor; 1b) the restored ancient woodland with young broadleaves having replaced the former sitka spruce plantation; 1c) conifer plantation on ancient woodland; 1d) Secondary woodland that has been planted onto former pasture and arable land sometime in the later stages of the 18th century (Refer to Tithe maps in Appendices) and have had a history of mixed broadleaves and conifer cover since (according to the Epoch maps in Appendices).

Sub compartments 1a, 1b & 1d are briefly discussed as they are either not ancient (1d) or in the case of 1a & 1b they are **secure** i.e. no threat is posed to the survival of the remnant ancient features. 1c is discussed in more detail as it is in a **critical** condition in terms of the risk posed to the remaining ancient woodland flora and broadleaved trees.

Sub Compartment 1a.

Ancient semi Natural Woodland.

Threat Status: **Secure**

This is a wet woodland corridor along the stream banks that is dominated by mature lapsed coppice stools of alder and hazel on the drier enclaves. The alder was probably coppiced as a firewood source for the farm.

An ancient banked hedge occurs along its northern boundary supports mature standard ash. Wet flushes are common in this compartment as they are across the woodland as a whole and support notable carpets of opposite golden leaved saxifrage. This area of woodland is the most important as it's an ancient woodland remnant and is likely to have supported broadleaved cover for a continued period of time due to its inaccessibility for agricultural 'improvements' and conversion to a conifer plantation. It is likely to host a number of notable lichen and bryophytes due to the humid conditions and mature tree growth.



Approach & recommendations

- Retain generally as a non-intervention area and conservation refuge, in order to maintain the humid conditions, shade levels and mature tree growth required for specialist lichens and

bryophytes. Some light coppicing interventions could be considered on a small areas where the tree growth is becoming very dense or where access is considered.

- The woodland has developing standing deadwood that should be retained as an important niche habitat.

Sub compartment 1b.

Restored Ancient Woodland.

Threat Status: Secure

Noted within the Tithe map as wooded and subsequently planted with sitka spruce and Japanese larch, which was clear felled in early 2000 and planted with a native broadleaved mix. Naturally regenerated birch has been successful and is often the dominant species in the

mix. There are several areas where trees have not established and bracken with rosebay willow herb dominate. Ancient woodland indicator flora is sparse in this compartment and often restricted to the corridors along spring lines.



Recommendations and Approach.

- Maintain the ancient woodland flora along the spring lines by avoiding disturbance including grazing by sheep.
- Respace the dense birch regeneration to create 2-3m stem spacings and where other native species occur (planted) favour them and release them by thinning the birch and coppicing the goat willow from immediately around their crowns. Goat willow is a significant component and this can be coppiced where it competes with other species and will regrow from stump and contribute to an understorey layer. This work will aim to create a more mixed species woodland and start to diversify its structure. **Priority 4.**
- Consider enrichment planting onto the gaps dominated by bracken and willow herb. Avoid the use of herbicides to control these species due to the presence of spring lines and ancient woodland flora. Cut the willow herb and bruise the bracken when its stems are soft and pliant in

late March/April. Use an ATV with a bracken basher or drag a large section of square timber behind it. Alternatively use bamboo canes and whip the stems manually. Repeat in August/September. Plant at 2m spacings with larger tree stocks than usual with 80-100cm bare root stock and use canes and hessian ties to support the planting. Attach spiral or easy start guards to protect from small browsing mammals. The hessian ties will rot in 3 years and the guards can be removed in year 5. Suggested species: 30% Sessile oak, 15% common alder (wetter areas), 15% rowan, 20% hazel, 10% blackthorn, 10% guelder rose. **Priority 5**

Sub compartment 1c.

Ancient woodland status: **Plantation**

on Ancient Woodland

Threat Status: **Critical**



This area is dominated by a stand of thinned, mature western hemlock (non-native conifer). Western hemlock casts dense shade and as a result suppresses ground flora

development/survival and also in the right conditions can profusely regenerate by seed. It is generally regarded as a fairly wind firm species and even on this north facing bank with wet flushes, may explain why they were retained in favour of the spruce, that was clear felled due to wind blow. The tree starts to bear viable seeds at 20-30 years of age. There are remnant mature sitka spruce and Japanese larch to the eastern end of the compartment. These tend to be wider spaced having had a greater level of thinning which permits a greater level of light reaching the woodland floor, thus resulting in patches of ancient woodland indicator plants. There are a number of mature ash and hazel within the stand and these are important seed sources as is the broadleaved edge adjoining the stream.

Woodland Layer Coverage.

(AWI = Ancient Woodland Indicator)

Upper: 80%. Dominant mature western hemlock. Occasional – sitka spruce & Japanese larch (east end).

Lower: 5%. Rare – ash, alder, downy birch.

Understorey: 5%. Occasional – mature hazel, young western hemlock. Rare – sitka spruce.

Natural Regeneration: Occasional – western hemlock ((Refer to photograph below, right). Rare – sitka spruce.

Large Diameter Deadwood.

Standing: Rare

Fallen: NA

Stump: NA

Ancient & Veteran trees: NA

Notable Trees: Several mature ash and hazel.

Recommendations & Approach.



- As the western hemlock is seeding into the surrounding woodlands and they occupy a relatively small area, consideration should be given to their complete removal in one operation (to include the Japanese larch and sitka spruce). The area is surrounded by broadleaved seed trees and although some replanting with native broadleaves should be undertaken anticipated natural regeneration will supplement this. Plant - 30% Sessile oak, 15% common alder (wetter areas), 15% rowan, 20% hazel, 10% Guelder rose, 10% grey willow (wetter areas). **Priority 2.**
OR
- As these are the main mature trees on site other than several mature ash the owner may prefer from an amenity point of view to thin them out gradually and crown lift them to 3m in order to make the area more accessible. This will require maintenance of the western hemlock natural regeneration although some could be retained as winter cover but removed before they start to seed in year 20+. When thinning, favour the existing broadleaved trees to ensure their crowns have space to develop and any broadleaved regeneration. **Priority 2.**
- Remove (pull/ cut) western hemlock regeneration from the surrounding woodland.
- Where possible it may be worthwhile considering using the felled timber on site and converting it in situ. This will limit extraction damage and remove the cost of haulage (long haulage route). In

addition if extraction is required horse logging or extraction with small scale low impact equipment maybe considered. More info can be sought from British Horse Loggers Association: <http://www.britishhorseloggers.org/>. You may wish to approach the following horse loggers for quotes (please note the Woodland Trust is not recommending these contractors and the woodland owner is advised to seek references and undertake their own assessment as to their suitability and insurance coverage for such work).

- Nick Burton. Powys forest horses. Ceunant Farm, Llanfair Caereinion. Welshpool. SY21 0HB. Email: powysforesthorses@yahoo.co.uk. Tel: 01938 811809.
- Barbara Hedrill. Llanrhaeadr. Webpage: <http://www.carnog.co.uk/>. Mob: 07901 741217
- Kevin Taylor. shirexlogging@outlook.com . Mob: 07795 262818
-

Sub compartment 1d.

Secondary Woodland.

Threat Status : **Secure.**

This woodland is secondary having been planted into pasture land as recorded in the Tithe maps (Appendices). The Epoch maps of 1868-1892 would indicate that conifers were included in this plantation from early on. As such this has no ancient



woodland remnant features but still has value as a woodland habitat with potential to improve as broadleaves develop. The western end has a high percentage of young broadleaves with Japanese larch becoming dominant to the east.

- Line thin the Japanese larch. Monitor for the presence of Phytophthora ramorum (disease) **Priority 5.**
- Respace the broadleaved dominated areas to create 2-3m spacings, favouring native species where possible. **Priority 5.**

General Recommendations All Areas.

- **Squirrel control:** Undertake squirrel control primarily in the late winter / early spring in the form of trapping (live or spring) and supplementary shooting if of interest. Retain damaged trees as 'fodder' during respacing operations. **Priority 2**
- Monitor **stock trespass** and its impact upon the ancient woodland flora and natural regeneration of woody species. **On-going.**

Improving Access (possible owner objective)

- The creation of tracks can be damaging within ancient woodland especially to the flora and if greater access is required as is the case here, care should be taken with the location of routes to avoid ancient woodland remnants. Some general advice is offered below:
 - Avoid piling soil around the stem of trees as this restricts the gaseous exchanges, through the bark and can lead to bark dieback and even tree mortality.
 - Avoid piling spoil material on areas where ancient woodland flora exists.
 - Install culverts along wet flushes and install sediment pits on the upper side of the track to reduce sediment reaching the stream below.
 - Avoid sediment run-off during construction operations where they may reach the stream.
 - Temporarily place small hay bales along watercourses running down slope if there is a risk of sediment run-off.
 - Excavate the track to hard formation if possible otherwise construct a corduroy track over the wetter areas. Ideally lay a geotextile such as Teram, lay flat branch wood in a criss- cross pattern. Sections of corduroy track should be at least as long as the wet area being crossed. The upper layer can be constructed of logs laid perpendicular to the route. If flat surfaced slab wood can be sourced / cut, use that in preference to logs especially as it's for pedestrian access. Inspect and maintain as required.

- Create an inward slope o tracks , so as to allow for water run- off. Construct a french drain or ditch on the upper side of the track in order to intercept water and direct it into a sediment pit and culverts at varying points along the track to avoid sediment run-off and erosion issues. Maintain culverts, sediment pits and ditches in order to keep them free of debris.
- Avoid damaging the roots of the notable trees (as marked on the Notable tree plan in the Appendices) during excavation creating a construction exclusion zone (root protection area) at least 10-15m radially from the stem. In addition, do not place the spoil within this root protection area.

TREE HEALTH

Ash dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) is present in the UK and therefore replanting with ash is not advised and the planting stock not available. The current advice is that existing ash should be retained as should natural regeneration.

Japanese larch has a significant threat from a wide spread disease – *Phytophthora ramorum* and is not suitable for wide scale retention or planting.

FELLING LICENCES, GRANTS & CUSTOMER REFERENCE NUMBER

Tree felling & coppicing operations will require a Felling License (Forestry Act 1967) subject to the volume of timber that you are intending to remove and the stem diameter of those trees. There are a few exemptions and you can fell a certain amount without a license. Application forms and guidance can be found on line - <https://naturalresources.wales/forestry/tree-felling-and-other-regulations/tree-felling-licences/?lang=en>

HOW WE WILL USE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS.

We will keep you updated on news and events about ancient woodland restoration and you can contact us at any time if you do not want any further mailings.

We are working in partnership with Coed Cymru on this project and occasionally share information with them – again contact us if you would prefer us not to.

SOURCES OF FURTHER INFORMATION.

Contact Organisation	What they do
<p>Woodland Trust - Ancient Woodland Restoration Project Laura Shewring - AWR Manager (Wales) Tel: 08437 705 533 Email: laurashewring@woodlandtrust.org.uk Nigel Douglas – AWR Officer Clwyd. Tel: 08437705604 Email: NigelDouglas@woodlandtrust.org.uk Alastair Hotchkiss – AWR Officer Mid-West Wales. Tel: 08452 935 543 Email: alastairhotchkiss@woodlandtrust.org.uk Vaughan Lewis – AWR Officer Powys. Tel: 07768 505124 Email: vaughanlewis@woodlandtrust.org.uk Website: www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/restoration</p>	<p>Through HLF funding we offer free advice, guidance and support to landowners and forestry professionals. If you own plantation woodland and think it is on an ancient woodland site, we can help you discover its history and classification.</p> <p>For planted ancient woods, we provide free and impartial advice on useful topics including: How restoration can complement your ongoing woodland management and objectives. Signposting potential sources of grant funding, further assistance, restoration training and networking events.</p>
<p>The Woodland Trust (Wales) 3 Cooper's Yard Cardiff South Glamorgan CF10 5NB Tel: 08452 935860 (General Enquiries) Email: wales@woodlandtrust.org.uk</p>	<p>Established in 1972, the Woodland Trust is the UK's leading woodland conservation charity. Over the last 40 years or so, we have acquired more than 1,000 woodland sites covering over 20,000 hectares (50,000 acres).</p> <p>Objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect: Manage over 1000 woodlands for habitat and access. • Create: Native woodland planting on our estate and small grants to landowners. • Restoration: Restoring our irreplaceable ancient woodland on our estate and working with woodland owners.
<p>Coed Cymru Tel: 01686 650 777 Website: www.coedcymru.org.uk</p>	<p>Gives free help and advice to landowners on the sensitive management of woodlands and the sustainable use of woodland products. It covers the whole spectrum from the growth of new trees through to high quality Welsh timber products.</p> <p>Only partial Wales coverage.</p>
<p>Glastir. Llandrindod Wells, Tel: 01597 823777. Carmarthenshire Office Tel: 01267 225300 Dolgellau Office Tel: 01341 422199. Llandudno junction Office Tel: 0300 062 5034</p>	<p>Glastir is designed to support land managers who wish to create new woodland and/or manage existing woodlands. It aims to provide beneficial outcomes for a range of woodland type, species, soils and water.</p> <p>Expression of interest can be registered at your local agricultural office.</p>

Contact Organisation	What they do
E mail: agriculture.llandrindod@wales.gsi.gov.uk	
Natural Resource Wales Woodland Officers. Lajla Cash – North Wales Ken Smith – Powys Simon Mead – West Wales Nick Fackrell – South East Wales. Tel: 0300 0680 300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administering the Glastir Woodland Creation scheme and the Better Woodlands for Wales scheme (this is now closed to new applicants) • Administering regulatory case work (including Felling Licence applications, Environmental Impact Assessments and reports of Alleged Illegal Felling) • Managing all issues relating to tree health
Llais y Goedwig Unit 6, Dyfi Eco Park Machynlleth Powys SY20 8AX Tel: 0845 456 0342 Tel: 01654 700061 Email: info@llaisygoedwig.org.uk	Llais y Goedwig Aims Since its creation, Llais y Goedwig has had two simple aims, as set out in the Articles of Association: 1. To promote and represent community woodland groups (CWGs) in Wales 2. To provide assistance and support to local community woodland groups and initiatives. Llais y Goedwig Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support NETWORKING among community woodland groups and other agencies – sharing knowledge and experience and problem solving • Develop RESOURCES to meet CWG needs, including advice, publications, signposting, case studies • Raise the PROFILE of CWs within the wider woodland community and with the general public • Engage in DIALOGUE with policy makers to bring about greater community involvement with woodlands in Wales

Contact Organisation	What they do
Tir Coed Elan Valley Office Elan Visitor Centre Elan Valley Rhayader Powys LD6 5HP Phone: (01597) 810880	Tir Coed is a charity and social enterprise that engages people with woodlands through volunteering, training and bespoke activities that develop skills and improve woodlands for the benefit of everyone
Small Woods Association Small Woods Station Road Coalbrookdale Telford TF8 7DR Tel: 01952 432769 Email: office@smallwoods.org.uk	We are the national organisation for woodland owners, workers and supporters. We stand for living sustainable woods: alive with wildlife, people and work. Our vision is to see small woods in the UK valued for the many benefits they bring to a sustainable society, and to help achieve their better management to make the most of these benefits. We do this through:- Membership – Sustainable woodlands – Training – Projects and consultancy

This list is not exhaustive and was correct at the time of production, with details taken from the relevant organisations, web site.

APPENDICES.

Woodland Compartment assessments

Work recommendations: Recommendations have been given within the report and are prioritised ranging from 1-5, this is based on the threat posed to the relevant ancient woodland feature and does not take into account other objectives that may influence management:

Priority 1. Critical works to offset an immediate risk e.g. halo thinning of dying pollards – Immediate action as is reasonably possible.

Priority 2. Pressing work to threatened areas – Under take within 1 year

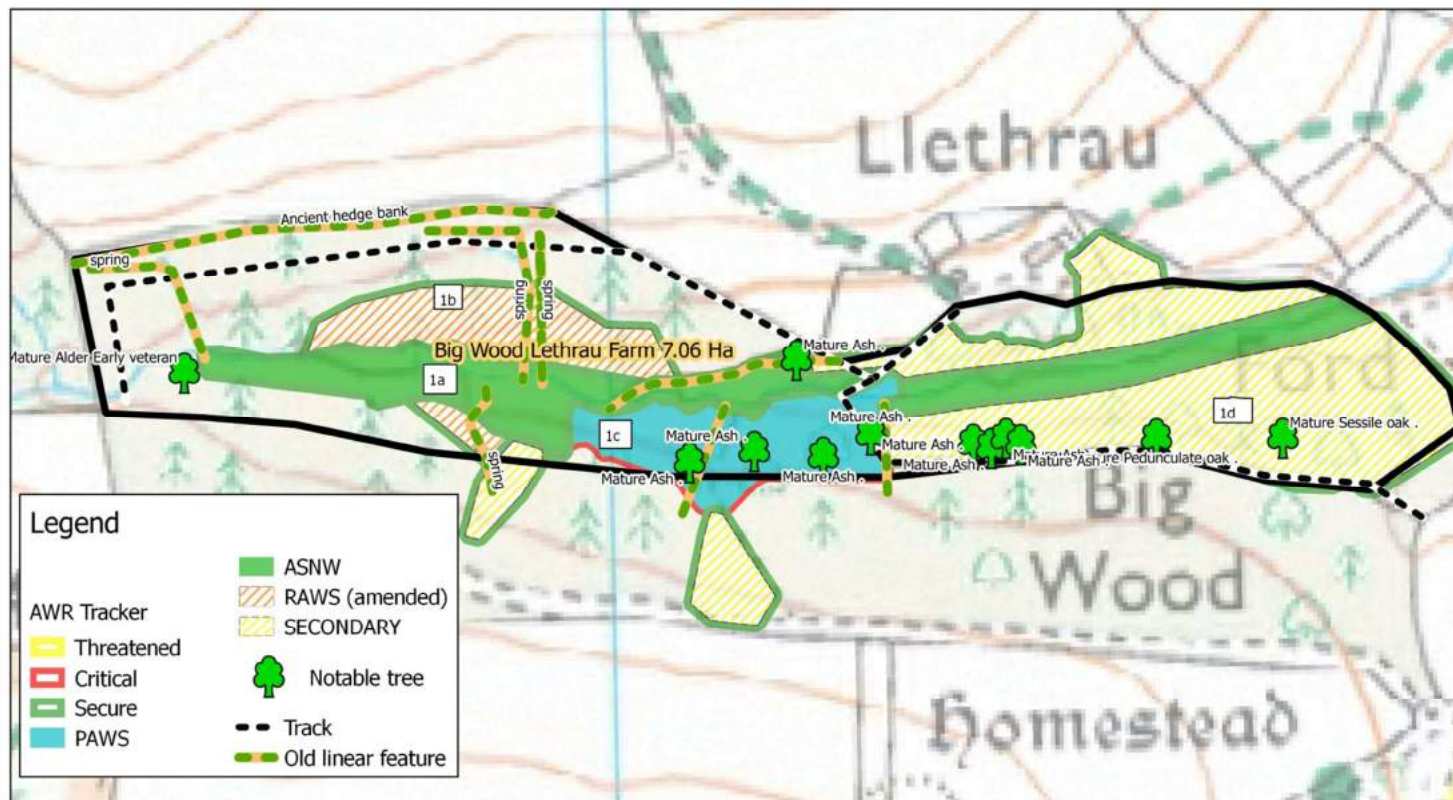
Priority 3. Works definitely to be completed in plan period – Undertake 1-3 years.

Priority 4. More medium term work priority might carry over into next plan period – Undertake 3-5 years

Priority 5. Longer term priorities e.g. thin to remove the last 10% of conifers on the site – Undertake 5-10 years.

- Within the report the DAFOR scale has been used to quantify the amount of plant cover i.e. **Dominant**>75%; **Abundant** 51-75%; **Frequent** 26-50%; **Occasional** 11-25%; **Rare** 1-10%.
- For reasons of simplification common names as opposed to scientific names have been used for plant species within the report.

ANCIENT WOODLAND FEATURES PLAN



Supported by
The National Lottery
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Title: Big Wood Scale:
Drawing No: VL/BW1
Date Surveyed NOV 2016

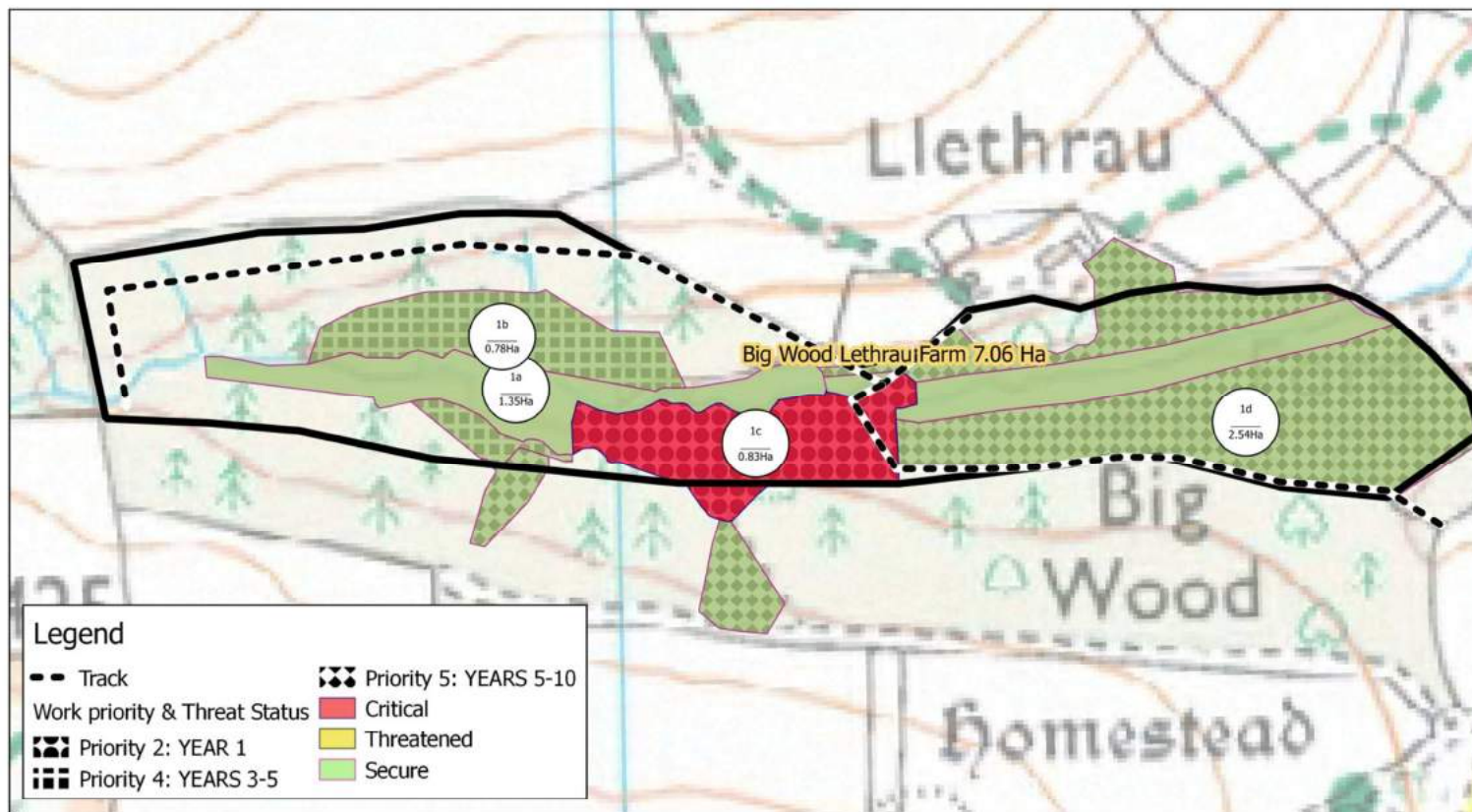
Scale 1:4750



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WORK PRIORITY & THREAT STATUS PLAN



Supported by
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Title: Big Wood Scale:
Drawing No: VL/BW2
Date Surveyed NOV 2016

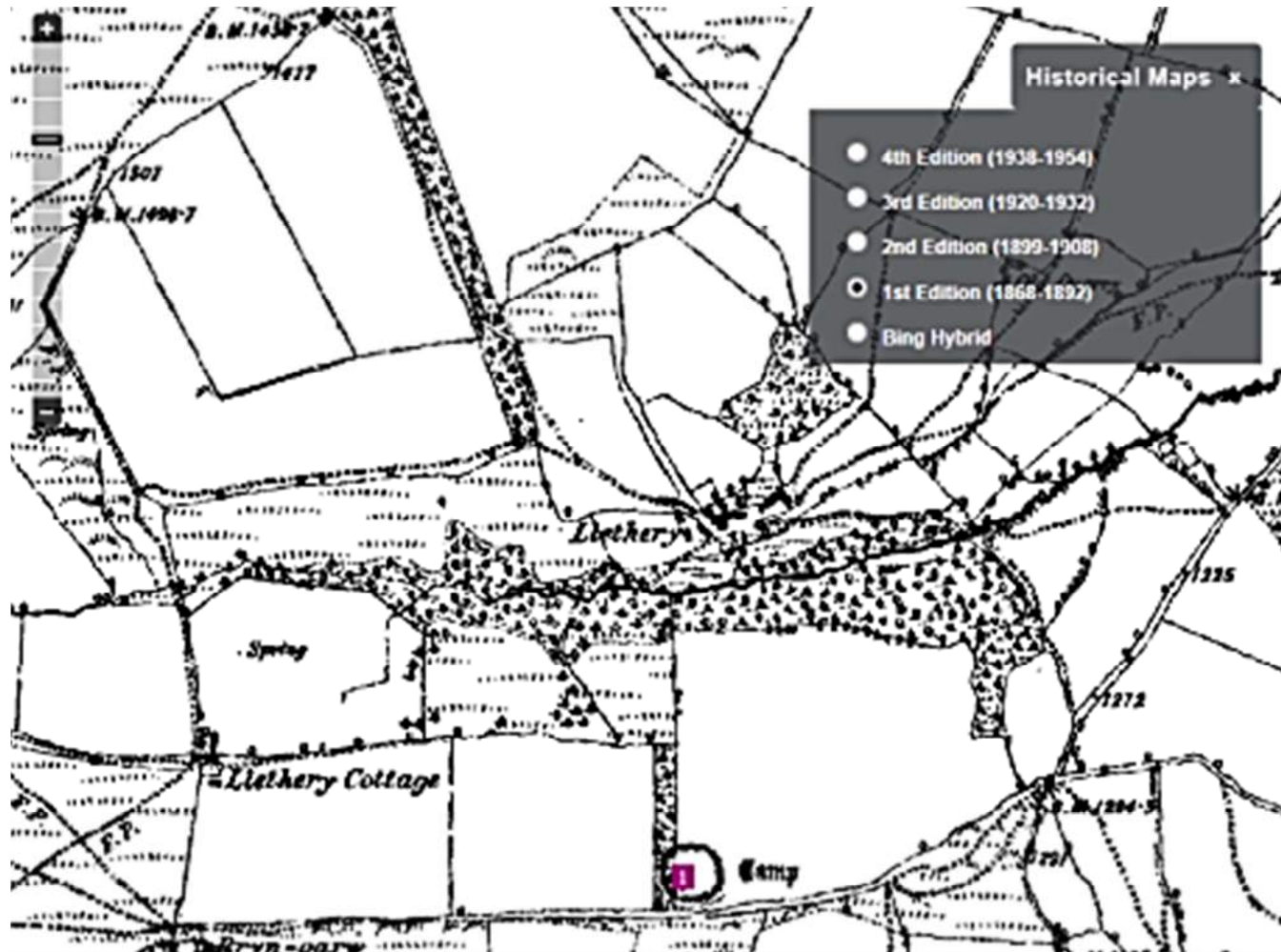
Scale 1:4750



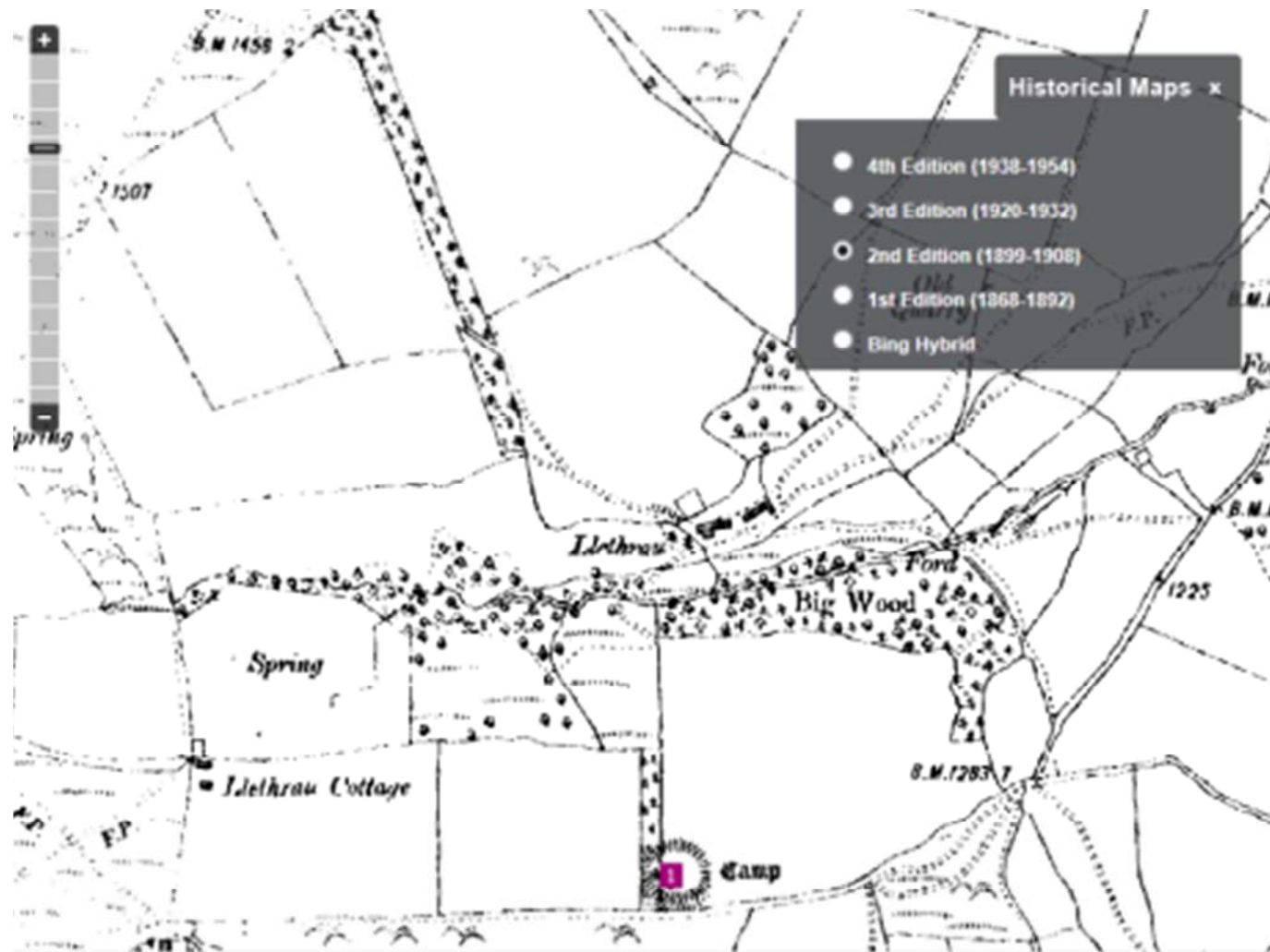
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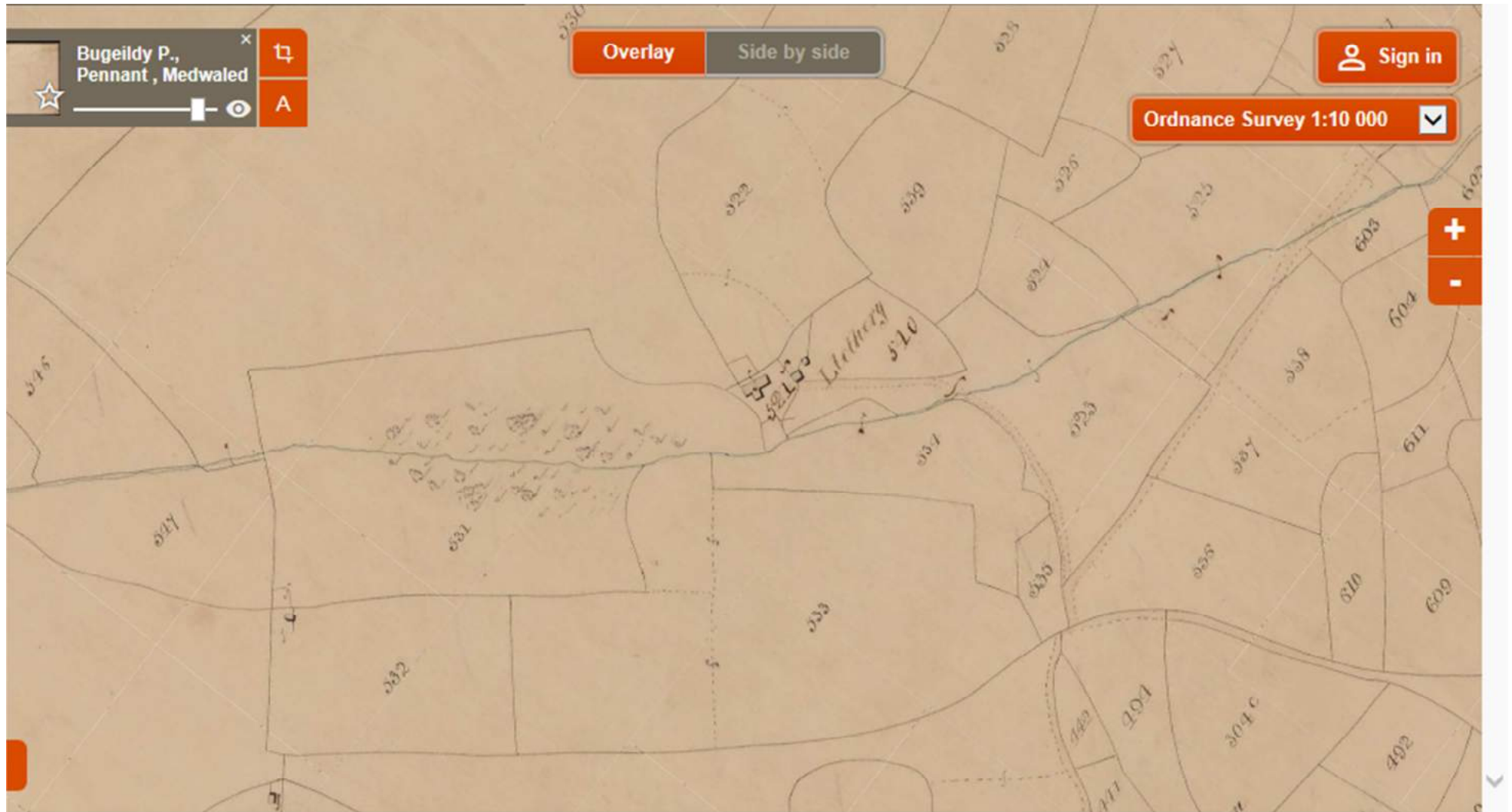
EPOCH MAPS 1ST EDITION (1868-1892)



EPOCH MAPS 1ST EDITION (1868-1892)



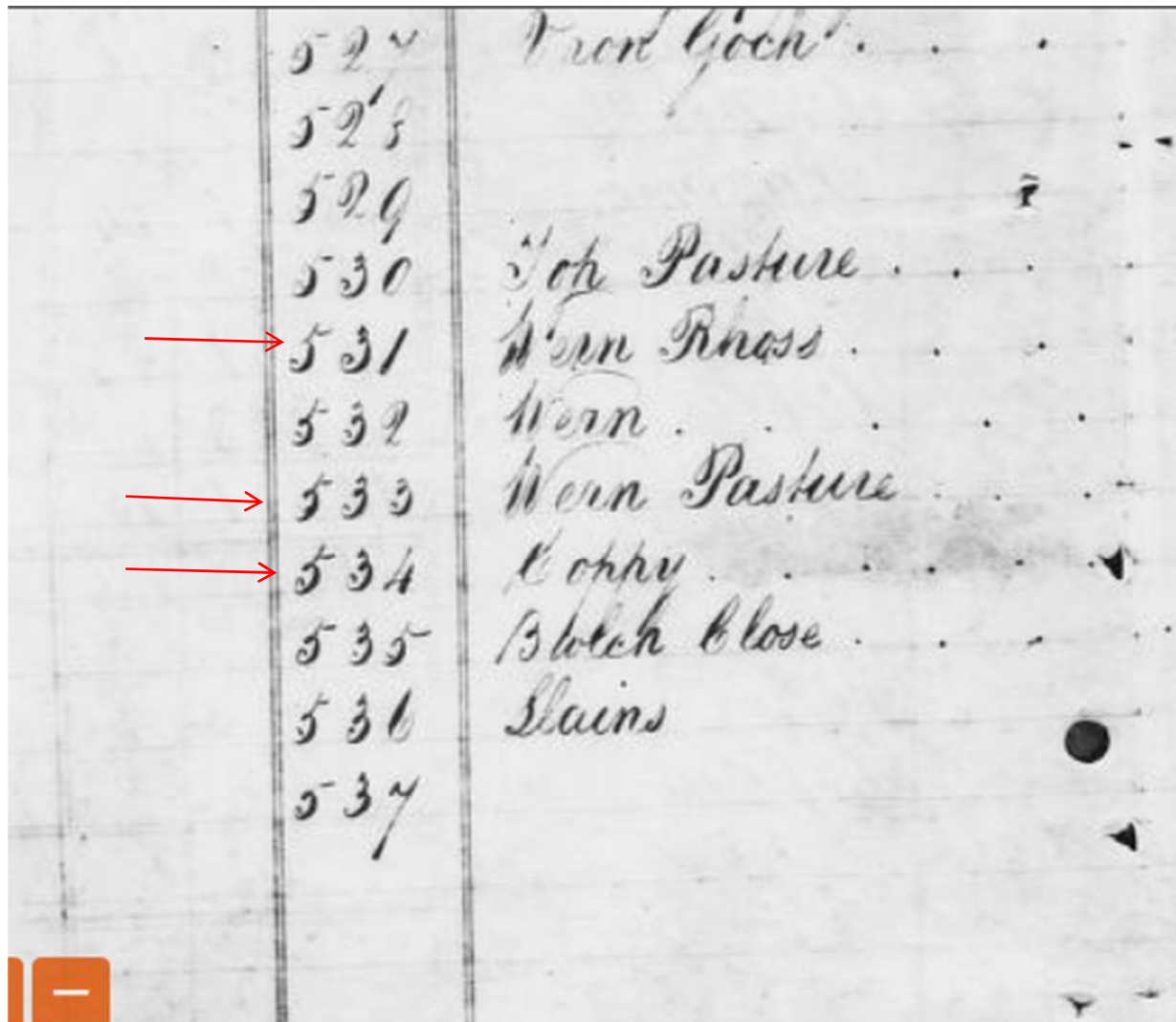
TITHE MAPS



TITHE MAP TRANSCRIPTS

Arable	2	0	14
Meadow & Arable	6	3	15
Arable	2	0	30
Arable	16	2	32
Pasture and Arable	11	3	0
Meadow	21	1	5
Arable	5	3	
Pasture	24	1	3
Wood	16	3	27
Arable	1	0	29
Arable	6	0	30
Pasture	4	1	28
Carried forward	253	1	22

TITHE MAP TRANSCRIPTS



A photograph of a handwritten tithe map transcript. The document is divided into two columns by a vertical line. The left column contains numerical entries, and the right column contains descriptive text. Three red arrows point from the left margin to the entries 531, 533, and 534. The handwriting is in cursive. There are some dark spots and a small orange square in the bottom left corner of the image.

524	Vron Goch.
525	
526	
530	Ich Pasture
→ 531	Wern Rhass
532	Wern
→ 533	Wern Pasture
→ 534	Coppy
535	Blach Close
536	Slains
537	